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HATHRAS DALIT TEEN'S DEATH: HEARING OCTOBER 12

Day after police rushed her cremation, HC steps in, asks officials to explain

Bench wants victim's family to appear so it can hear their version



The bench referred to *The Indian Express* report on Oct 1

ASAD REHMAN
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 1

THE ALLAHABAD High Court on Thursday took suo motu cognizance of the fatal assault and alleged gangrape of a Dalit woman in Hathras, especially her hurried cremation, and directed senior officials of the state government and police, including of the district, to be present at the next hearing on October 12.

A two-judge Bench said family members of the deceased would also be present that day so that the court could hear their version of the cremation organised by the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi fell down during a scuffle with police when he was stopped on the Yamuna Expressway, in Greater Noida on Thursday. PTI

Stopped on way, Rahul, Priyanka make a point — helped by police

SOMYA LAKHANI,
JIGNASA SINHA
& MANOJ CG
HATHRAS, GREATER NOIDA,
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

HITTING THE streets for the first time since the Covid-19 lockdown was imposed in March, Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra were prevented Thursday from going to the village of the Hathras Dalit teenager, who died after she was brutally assaulted and allegedly gangraped by upper caste men. Their cavalcade was stopped en route, after which they began to walk, only to be arrested by the Uttar Pradesh Police.

Dramatic visuals of Rahul walking with over a hundred party workers, falling during a scuffle with police personnel, and both him and Priyanka — the Congress general secretary in charge of Uttar Pradesh — being taken away in a police vehicle were a strong signal, meant for both the ranks of the grand old

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

COVID ECONOMIC DISTRESS

From PM economic council to Niti Aayog, growing disquiet over Govt tight fist

Advisors urged fiscal push in form of wage subsidy, rural infrastructure

PVAIDYANATHAN IYER
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

SPEAKING TO *The Indian Express* on September 26, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that she is open to "the need for further stimulus" and its timing.

That may not be much of an assurance given the growing sense of disquiet in expert bodies including the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, the Niti Aayog and the Chief Economic Advisor's office.

Several policy-influencers in these bodies are befuddled at the Central government's aversion to spend more now despite their unanimous view that a fiscal stimulus — sooner than later — will place India better to take advantage of the major reforms being pushed in agriculture and labour.

In at least four meetings that

EXPLAINED
E Why govt is hesitant to spend

THE FINANCE ministry is not convinced about the need for a large fiscal stimulus. Policy advisors, however, are of the view that the unprecedented shock needs a counter-cyclical response, and only large government spending will sustain a recovery till private sector demand picks up.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired over 10 days between the end of June and early July, *The Indian Express* has learnt, members of his EAC, Niti Aayog and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

GST collections up: Rs 95,480 cr for September

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

MARKING THE first instance of a year-on-year increase in the financial year 2020-21, gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections rose 3.9 per cent to Rs 95,480 crore in September, for sales in August, reflecting a pick-up in economic activity with the easing of Covid restrictions, according to data released Thursday by the Finance Ministry.

The rise, however, also partly reflected the impact of a low base effect from September 2019, when GST revenues had contracted 2.7 per cent to fall to a 19-month low of Rs 91,916 crore — the second instance since the July 2017 rollout of the indirect tax regime.

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BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



Forensic report shows teen was not raped: Police

AMIL BHATNAGAR
HATHRAS, OCTOBER 1

THE UTTAR Pradesh Police Thursday said that a forensic report had shown that the 19-year-old Dalit woman killed in Hathras, allegedly by four upper caste men, had not been raped. On September 22, a week before she died, the woman had given a statement saying she had been

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

IN THE MIRROR OF HATHRAS

BY NANDITA RAO & ITI PANDEY PAGE 10

sexually assaulted.

Addressing a press conference, Prashant Kumar, ADG (Law

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EXPRESS NETWORK

11-YEAR-OLD DALIT GIRL KILLED IN BHADOHI, TWO HELD
BALRAMPUR DEATH: AUTOPSY SHOWS AT LEAST 10 INJURIES
PAGE 8

In Covid time, freeze on new food security beneficiaries in Rajasthan

DEEP MUKHERJEE
JAIPUR, OCTOBER 1

FOR THE past several months, Durga Ram, a labourer in Jaipur, has been trying to enroll for free foodgrains under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013. "Each time, people at the e-mitra kiosks say new names are not being added, and the portal is shut," he said.

Ram, who is in his mid-40s and belongs to the nomadic Banjara community, said work has been scarce since the lockdown was imposed, and he makes only Rs 300-400 on the days that he gets any. "Getting some wheat would have helped my family," he said.

The father of two children is among many poor people who have been seeking grain under the NFSA and Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), but the state government has stopped adding new beneficiaries.

The government had announced 5 kg of wheat per person and 1 kg of gram per family under NFSA as pandemic relief every month until November. Since NFSA beneficiaries are entitled to the same amount of free grains under PMGKAY, they would effectively get 10 kg of wheat (or 5 kg each of wheat and rice) per person and 2 kg of gram per family every month.

Officials at the Rajasthan Food and Civil Supplies Department, and e-mitra operators who are supposed to facilitate online applications, said the addition of new names to the NFSA list has been on hold for the past several months.

"Online applications for inclusion in NFSA are closed. People keep coming to us, and we turn them away," Deepak Verma, the owner of an e-mitra kiosk in Hanumanagarh district told *The Indian Express*.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

In Hyderabad, caste turns love story into a story of hate and murder

Parents of techie, hired killers among 14 held so far: police



The couple met Cyberabad Police Commissioner three months ago

the phone calls, with bills running upto Rs 1,500 a month. And finally, on June 10, they got married. "Hemanth and I were so much

in love. Every evening, we used to sit together and make plans about the future," says Avanti Reddy, 23. Until September 24, when this tale of two people from two castes in one big city came to an abrupt, and brutal, end.

The Hyderabad home of computer engineer Avanti may be a world away from Hathras in UP — roiled by a Dalit girl's assault and murder allegedly by upper-caste men — but that evening, the distance seemed to disappear.

Two of Avanti's uncles reached their house, called the couple out and forced them into

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THE IDEAS PAGE

THE WAR WITHIN AMERICA

BY BHASKAR CHAKRAVORTI
PAGE 11

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday quashed the Gujarat government's notifications granting temporary "relaxations" to employers on certain conditions related to working hours and payment of wages under the Factories Act, 1948.


The court called the notifications "an affront to the workers' right to life and right against forced labour".

"The 'right to life' guaranteed to every person under Article 21, which includes a worker, would be devoid of an equal opportunity at social and economic freedom, in the absence of just and humane conditions of work. A worker's right to life cannot be deemed



contingent on the mercy of their employer or the State. The notifications, in denying humane working conditions and overtime wages provided by law, are an affront to the workers' right to life and right against forced labour that are secured by Articles 21 and 23 of the Constitution," a Bench of

Justices D Y Chandrachud, Indu Malhotra and K J Joseph ruled.


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“जय जवान - जय किसान”
भारत रत्न श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री के
116^{वें} जन्म दिवस
के उपलक्ष्य में
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शुक्रवार, 2 अक्टूबर, 2020 को सायं 5:00 से 6:00 बजे
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इस लाईव कार्यक्रम में सम्मिलित होने के लिए
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ARMENIA-AZERBAIJAN CONFLICT: A USSR RELIC SIMMERING FOR A CENTURY

For almost four decades, Armenia and Azerbaijan have been battling over a piece of land situated in the mountainous region of south Caucasus. The dispute over Nagorno Karabakh that began in 1988 has over the years caused massive human rights violations, a severe refugee crisis and impacted both economies.

EXPLAINED

WHO ARE THE PROUD BOYS?

The far-right group was mentioned by Trump in the presidential debate



FULL COVERAGE

HATHRAS RAPE CASE LIVE UPDATES

Rahul, Priyanka Gandhi taken away by police in Uttar Pradesh



EXPRESS AUDIO

The Hathras gang rape and India's entrenched caste system

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

We take a look at the Hathras case and discuss the problems that the Dalit community faces when trying to deal with the police and the judicial system.

FROM PAGE ONE

Rajasthan

A senior Food and Civil Supplies Department official said no names were being added to the list because the number of beneficiaries had crossed the ceiling imposed by the Centre.

The addition of new NFSA beneficiaries in the state is currently closed as we have already exceeded the limit set by the Government of India. The government's ceiling is 4.46 crore people for Rajasthan, while we already have around 4.82 crore people covered under the NFSA," Ashok Kumar Sankhla, deputy commissioner and deputy secretary (I), Food and Civil Supplies Department, said.

Some 52 lakh people who are not covered under NFSA have been given free foodgrains once, and the government plans to repeat the exercise, the officer said.

Durga Ram had been a beneficiary of this one-time relief from the government. Chandrakala Sharma, state coordinator, Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan, which works for unmarried, widowed, divorced, and abandoned women, said: "People such as labourers, those in the unorganised sector, or single women from economically weak backgrounds, who are sole breadwinners in their families, are in dire need of government assistance."

Rahul and Priyanka were taken to a guest house in Greater Noida, as Congress workers sat on a dharna. About an hour later, released on bail, they were sent back to Delhi, escorted by police. Talking to reporters, Priyanka asked why the BJP that claims to be the custodian of Hindu religion did not allow a father to light the funeral pyre of his daughter. "I am angry. I am a woman, I have an 18-year-old daughter... Every woman, every daughter, every sister of the country should be angry."

"Jungle raj in UP has come to such a pass that even meeting a family which is immersed in grief scares the government. Don't be so afraid, Mr Chief Minister," Rahul tweeted. The Congress, which has lost a lot of ground in UP, sees a space vacated by parties like the BSP. The Hathras incident also strengthens its criticism of the Yogi Adityanath government over the law and order situation, voiced by Priyanka daily in tweets. Neither the BSP nor the Samajwadi Party has taken up the Hathras death yet.

Rahul, Priyanka

party and others, who have been urging the Gandhis to take on a more hands-on role. The UP Police offered them that opportunity on a platter on Thursday. Several opposition leaders rallied behind the Gandhis, and slammed the state government, even as the BJP called it a photo-op.

The Opposition, particularly the Congress, has been accused of not being visible on the ground. Many in the Congress too have been arguing that it is high time the leadership "came out of the Twitter world" and hit the streets. During the lockdown, Rahul had come out only once to meet migrants.

Rahul and Priyanka set off for Hathras around 12.30 pm, along with senior Congress leaders Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and Randeep Surjewala and party women's wing chief Sushmita Dev among others, after a meeting with Sonia Gandhi. "We knew we would not be allowed. We were prepared," a top leader told *The Indian Express*.

At 1.30 pm, the cavalcade was stopped on the Yamuna Expressway, and the Gandhis said they would walk to Hathras, over 140 km away. "That message had to be given, that we will not back out," a leader who was part of their team said.

The UP Police physically stopped them from moving forward around an hour later, and Rahul fell to the ground in the melee. He demanded to know under what rule he was being arrested. When a police officer cited Section 188 of the IPC (disobedience to order promulgated by a public servant), Rahul asked him to explain the provision.

When the police officer said Section 144 was in place, he said, "I am not going to violate 144. I want to go alone." He told reporters, "I want to ask, can only Modiji walk in this country? Can't a normal person walk?"

Noida ADPC Ranvijay Singh later said a case under IPC Section 188 and the Epidemic Diseases Act had been registered against Rahul and Priyanka. He denied there was a lathicharge, and added that they couldn't have let the Congress leaders proceed to Hathras due to Section 144 being imposed there. On Rahul's statement that he was ready to go alone to Hathras, the ADPC said, "Rahul Gandhi cannot go anywhere

without his security cover, which means there will be more than five people."

The teenager's village was completely barricaded by the police starting Thursday morning, with no outsiders — including mediapersons — allowed till late night. Only the SIT formed to investigate the case, the DM and SDM were inside the village with the family.

Around 4 pm, Rahul and Priyanka were taken to a guest house in Greater Noida, as Congress workers sat on a dharna. About an hour later, released on bail, they were sent back to Delhi, escorted by police.

Talking to reporters, Priyanka asked why the BJP that claims to be the custodian of Hindu religion did not allow a father to light the funeral pyre of his daughter. "I am angry. I am a woman, I have an 18-year-old daughter... Every woman, every daughter, every sister of the country should be angry."

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The Congress, which has lost a lot of ground in UP, sees a space vacated by parties like the BSP. The Hathras incident also strengthens its criticism of the Yogi Adityanath government over the law and order situation, voiced by Priyanka daily in tweets. Neither the BSP nor the Samajwadi Party has taken up the Hathras death yet.

Among the Opposition leaders who criticised the UP Police's actions was NCP chief Sharad Pawar. "It is reprehensible for those who are supposed to uphold the law to trample upon democratic values," he said. JD(S) leader H D Deve Gowda, the RJD's Tejashwi Yadav and Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan all called the protest and Rahul's demand to visit the Hathras village "a democratic right". Congress leader Ramesh Chennithala said never before in the country had the police dared to manhandle national leaders.

In a statement, the Gautam Buddha Nagar Police said Rahul and Priyanka's cavalcade had comprised 200 party workers and 50 vehicles. "Congress party workers pushed police personnel around. Both Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi started walking with their party workers, which led to a massive traffic jam in which ambulances also got stuck."

Gujarat orders

The court also invoked its powers under Article 142 to do complete justice and directed that all workmen who had worked overtime be paid overtime wages at double the ordinary rate of wages as provided under Section 59 of the Act.

The Supreme Court said it "is cognizant that the 'state' aimed to ameliorate the financial exigencies that were caused due to the pandemic and the subsequent lockdown".

"However, financial losses cannot be offset on the weary shoulders of the labouring worker, who provides the backbone of the economy," it said.

The court was hearing a petition by two labour unions against the notifications issued by the Gujarat Labour and Employment Department under Section 5 of the Act on April 17, 2020, and extended on July 20, 2020.

The notifications increased daily working hours from 9 to 12 hours, and required employers to pay overtime wages at a rate proportionate to the ordinary rate of wages, instead of what was mandated by Section 59.

The state sought to justify the changes saying "the Covid-19 pandemic is a 'public emergency' as defined in Section 5 of

HC steps in, asks officials to explain

police in the middle of the night, and wondered if the authorities acted thus because of their economic status. It also said that it would decide "as to the necessity of monitoring the investigation or getting it conducted through an independent agency as per law".

The Bench of Justices Rajan Roy and Jaspreet Singh, that quoted extensively from a report by *The Indian Express* that appeared on Thursday, said that while four accused had been arrested and an SIT set up to probe the matter, "However, for the moment, we are concerned with what has happened thereafter. The incidents which took place after the death of the victim on 29.09.2020 leading up to her cremation, as alleged, have shocked our conscience, therefore, we are taking *suo moto* cognizance of the same."

The court said the matter is of "immense public importance and public interest" as there are allegations of "high-handedness by the state authorities resulting in violation of the basic human and fundamental rights not only of the deceased victim but also of her family members".

The judges said, "As it is, the deceased victim was treated with extreme brutality by the perpetrators of the crime, and what is alleged to have happened thereafter, if true, amounts to perpetuating the misery of the family and rubbing salt in their wounds."

The court said that it would like to examine "whether the economic and social status of the deceased's family has been taken advantage of by the state authorities to oppress and deprive them of their Constitutional rights".

Quoting from *The Express* report, the Lucknow Bench of the High Court that took up the matter added, "In this regard we have taken note of a news reported in *Indian Express*, Lucknow edition dated 01.10.2020, with the headline 'U.P. Police out in full force to cremate Hathras women, away from family'... As per the said report, 'From the moment the body of the deceased victim left Delhi's Safdarjung

Hospital at 9:30 pm on Tuesday to a hurried cremation in a Hathras village 200 kilometers away at 3:30 am on Wednesday, it was marked by a disregard to protocol and high handedness by a police force that did not let her family perform her last rites'."

The court mentioned that the report quoted the father as saying that the woman's body was released from hospital without them being informed, and denying the police version that the family had said that the timing of the cremation would not matter. The court also cited other media reports regarding the matter.

The Bench instructed officials to ensure no pressure was exerted on the family members of the deceased victim.

The court said that according to reports, the cremation was done "around 2-2.30 am". It said the family of the deceased follows Hindu traditions, "according to which last rites are not performed after sunset and before day break".

The judges went on to cite Mahatma Gandhi, saying, "This

is a time to strengthen our resolve to live up to the ideas which 'Bapu' stood for, but, unfortunately, ground realities are very different from the high values propagated and practised by the Father of our Nation."

The court said the suo motu PIL would be heard by an appropriate Bench and a record kept of all news items referred by it. It said the media organisations concerned would be requested to produce the relevant material and content on the basis of which they had reported the matter.

The officials summoned by the court on October 12 include the Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary (Home), the DGP, Additional Director General (Law and Order), the Hathras District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police. The officials have been told to present their version of the events with supporting material, and an update on the status of the probe. The Bench also sought a report from the District Judge, Hathras.

Forensic report shows teen was not raped: Police

& Order), said, "As per the FSL (forensic science laboratory) report, no semen or semen excretion was found in the viscera sample. The post mortem report states that the cause of death was due to trauma caused by the assault. Despite the statements by officials, some wrong information was circulated in the media."

The 19-year-old had been admitted to hospital in an unconscious state on September 14. She regained consciousness on September 22 and recorded a statement before a magistrate saying she had been raped.

The woman's post mortem report, by Safdarjung Hospital, puts the cause of death as a cervical spine (neck) injury, caused by indirect blunt trauma. Four men have been arrested — Sandeep, 20, his uncle Ravi, 35, and their friends Ramu, 26, and Luv Kush, 23.

The police have maintained that in their initial complaint based on which an FIR was filed on September 14, the family had only said that the woman had been assaulted and no rape was mentioned. Hathras SP Vikrant Vir had said they had waited for

the woman to regain consciousness. "During her admission (to hospital), there were times she was awake but was not in a fit state to give a version. On 22nd, she gave a statement alleging that she had been gangraped and it was recorded in front of a magistrate. We added the relevant actions of gangrape and two persons were arrested."

The ADG reiterated this at the press conference: "The family, in their initial complaint, had only mentioned *maar peet*, and no rape was mentioned."

He alleged an attempt "to create caste tensions and cause social disharmony". "Those people were trying to cause caste-based violence by putting out twisted facts in the media. The police, since day 1, has been carrying out due investigation which will continue to be carried out. There is also an attempt to defame the department and we will initiate action against such persons who do so."

The post mortem report, by the Department of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology, Vardhaman Mahavir College and Safdarjung Hospital, says the woman died due to "injury to the cervical spine (neck) produced by indirect blunt trauma and its resultant sequelae (condition due to a previous disease or injury)". "The ligature mark on the neck is consistent with strangulation but it did not contribute to death in this case."

The report also notes that a medical examination by the Aligarh hospital where she was taken first, dated September 22, had noted the ligature mark on her neck consistent with strangulation, and had found evidence of rape inconclusive. The Aligarh hospital had sent a sample for forensic tests. Safdarjung Hospital has also preserved viscera for forensic analysis.

The death summary, by the Department of Neurosurgery at Safdarjung Hospital, says there was an alleged history of rape and strangulation on September 14. The cause of death is provisional till the chemical analysis of the viscera is done, the report says. The woman had been brought to Safdarjung Hospital

after two weeks at Aligarh's JNM Medical College, when her condition deteriorated. The victim died at 6.55 am on Tuesday, and was cremated at 3 am by the police, without the presence of her family, on Wednesday.

As a video surfaced on social media of him purportedly telling the woman's family members in Hindi not to lose their "vishwasniyata (credibility)", and that while it was up to them to change their statements, "kabhi hum bhi badal jayen (the administration could change as well)". District Magistrate Praveen Kumar Laxkar told ANI, "I met with six family members of the victim yesterday and we spoke for about an hour-and-a-half. I met with them again today to see their point of discontent. I deny the negative rumours which are rife about my interactions with them... Their main point of apprehension is that the convicted be punished and hanged to death. I tried to allay their fears and told them that the matter would be tried in a fast-track court."

The DM did not respond to calls and messages sent by *The Indian Express*.

to the idea of... in case, there is any need for further stimulus." While more than three months have passed, there has been no action. "What we did was relief, what we need is stimulus," said a policy expert, who also did not want to be named.

What is worrying the government's advisors is that the window to execute a counter-cyclical policy in 2020-21 is closing. "The borrowing calendar for the second half announced Wednesday hasn't changed; the government plans to stick to its target," the expert said, pointing out this was an indicator of the Centre's aversion to increase spending.

Senior finance ministry officials said discussions were still on about the stimulus. One official said, "We will spend; it may not be a big stimulus, but one which will give us the maximum bang for the buck. The non-salaried middle class and the small businesses who have been hit hard, but have not got any support so far, may be recipients of this."

Another official said that the various proposals made by the experts were still being discussed. "For instance, if we con-

sider wage subsidy, how do we distribute it, whom do we distribute it to - workers in the formal sector, or the informal sector too... These require careful deliberation," the official said. A section of officials are also sanguine that the production and capacity utilisation in the manufacturing sector has more or less reached pre-Covid-19 levels, making them ponder if a big stimulus was indeed required. "Economy is recovering faster. Why do we need a stimulus? Further, fiscal space is limited too... Rating agencies are already issuing veiled warnings," said the official.

But policy advisors note that growth in itself acts as an antidote and ensures debt sustainability in the medium to long term when growth rates are higher than interest rates. In a presentation to the PMO, they have pointed out that given the current crisis which has led to a collapse in demand, focusing too much on fiscal deficit at the cost of growth may be short-sighted. This is especially so for countries like India which have a high growth potential (of 7-8 per cent).

GST collections

Also, GST revenues this September includes those from small businesses with turnover up to Rs 5 crore for whom the filing and tax payment deadlines were extended for May, June and July to September 12, 23, 27 and September 15, 25 and 29, depending on the categorisation of states. No such extension was granted for businesses with turnover over Rs 5 crore.

Finance Secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey said that over 5.74 crore e-way bills were generated in September, pointing to a "very affirmative sign of economic recovery with increased business activities". He said that major industrial states have shown a positive growth in GST collection, which indicates that economic recovery is on track. "With the festive season coming in the next month, we are much confident of better recovery in GST collection," he said.

According to Pandey, the generation of e-way bills rose 9.3 per cent year-on-year in September, with a record increase of 26.19 lakh on September 30.

Sequentially, the GST revenue in September recorded a 10.4 per cent increase from Rs 86,449 crore collected in August. Cumulatively, the GST revenues have recorded a 25 per cent decline during April-September for sales in March-August. "The revenues for the month are 4% higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year. During the month, the revenues from import of goods were 102% and the revenues from domestic transactions (including import of services) were 105% of the revenues from these sources during the same month last year," the Finance Ministry said in a statement.

Out of Rs 95,480 crore collected in September, Rs 17,741 crore is Central GST; Rs 23,131 crore State GST; Rs 47,484 crore Integrated GST, including Rs 22,442 crore collected on import of goods; and, Rs 7,124 crore Cess, including Rs 788 crore on import of goods, the statement said.

The government settled Rs 21,260 crore to CGST and Rs 16,997 crore to SGST from IGBT as regular settlement. After this, the total revenue earned by Centre is Rs 39,001 crore as CGST and by states is Rs 40,128 crore as SGST, the Ministry said.

Hyderabad story

a car before speeding away, according to police. On the way, while they switched cars, Avanti managed to escape and alert the police, who later found 28-year-old Hemanth Kumar's body about 20 km away from the

house — he had been strangled to death.

Police say it's a clear case of caste killing. And they have since arrested 14 people, including the two uncles, Avanti's father D Laxmi Reddy and mother Archana, and three alleged hired killers.

Today, all that Avanti is left with are the memories.

"After we got married, we did not spend even a few minutes away from each other. When he went to his work sites, I went along with him and sat in the car, waiting," says Avanti.

Their story goes back to their teenage years, to that lane behind Madhuri Hospital in Chandanagar where Hemanth's father C Murali Krishna moved in with his family 12 years ago. By then, Avanti's family was well established there. Both the families were well-off, involved in construction and real estate, but there was a wall: Avanti's family were Reddys and Hemanth's Vysyas, lower down the caste hierarchy.

"It started as a friendship and turned into love as I started my intermediate course and Hemanth was pursuing his BSc in Chemistry. We did not meet often, only occasionally near my college. We used to exchange a 'Hi' or a 'Hello' in the street. Then, we discovered Facebook," says Avanti.

"It was then that some of my lecturers saw us and informed my father. We decided to become more secretive. After two years, when I started pursuing a B.Tech in Computer Science, I got a mobile phone and we started talking for hours. But my father grew suspicious when my phone bills started reaching Rs 1,400-Rs 1,500. He warned me again," she says.

According to Avanti, despite the obstacles, life began to look up. Hemanth got a job in the interior walls department of a paint manufacturer. Two years later, she says, he signed up with an online service provider. "Last March, he opened his own office as an interior designer," she says.

Hemanth's father, Murali Krishna, says he referred his son to his friends who were builders. "Hemanth impressed them, he was doing very well," says Krishna.

Avanti, meanwhile, completed her engineering in 2018, and started an internship with education portal Byju's. By then, they had begun to dream of marriage. But they also saw the storm clouds gathering.

"Last November, someone sent a photo on WhatsApp to my father of Hemanth and I together. There was a showdown and on November 27, my father sent a resignation letter to my office, confined me at home, and took away my phone," says Avanti.

It was only their "love for each other" that pulled them through, she says. "Finally, on June 9, we eloped and got married the next day at an Arya Samaj temple. That was when Hemanth's family came to know about us," she says.

Despite the backlash at home, Avanti thought they were safe when they got the marriage certificate on June 10 and met Cyberabad Police Commissioner V C Sajjanar two days later. Says Sajjanar: "I instructed the Chandanagar police station to summon the woman's parents and counsel them. As per the Inspector's report, the woman's parents agreed to leave the couple alone."

The couple took a house on rent in Gachibowli, about 12 km from Chandanagar. "The last three months were the best days of my life," says Avanti. "Hemanth took me to his village in Guntur, and I loved listening to him reminisce about his childhood, the anecdotes. Then, we went to Vijayawada to visit a few temples."

FULL REPORTS ON
www.indianexpress.com

		Total	Vacant
TOTAL CASES	2,82,752	15,831	9,724
		HOSPITAL BEDS	VENTILATORS
		1,320	514
		Daily cases	Recoveries
		Deaths	Tests
Sep 30	3,390	3,965	41
Oct 1	3,037	3,167	40
Total	26,738*	2,50,613	5,401
		59,807	55,423
		31,35,388	

*Total active cases

3,037 CASES, 40 DEATHS ON THURSDAY

Status quo on unlock 5 guidelines by govt, theatres, schools to remain shut in capital

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

THE DELHI government has deferred the decision on implementing the relaxations offered under unlock 5.0 guidelines of the Ministry of Home Affairs, with Chief Secretary Vijay Dev ordering "status quo".

The "status quo", which will continue to keep schools and cinema halls shut among other restrictions, will be in force till October 31 "or further orders, whichever is earlier", according to the chairperson of the state executive committee of the Delhi Disaster Management

Authority (DDMA).

The trial run of allowing bars and weekly markets, which was launched on September 9, has been extended till October 31. Under the prevailing arrangements, two weekly markets are allowed per day per zone in all three municipal corporation areas. The Delhi government had previously ordered that all schools in the capital will remain shut till October 5.

The order stated that all social, academic, entertainment, cultural, religious, political functions and other gatherings and large congregations will continue to be prohibited across the city. "However, maximum 50 people will be allowed in marriage-related gatherings and



A worker sanitises seats at PVR Promenade in Vasant Kunj in July. Archive

maximum 20 people are allowed in funeral and last rites-related gatherings subject to so-

cial distancing," the order said.

On Wednesday, the MHA issued its unlock 5.0 guidelines under which states and UTs have been authorised to take a call on whether to open schools from October 15 and also allow cinemas and multiplexes to open with 50% capacity from the same date.

"The DDMA will take a considered decision on whether to implement the MHA guidelines soon. For now, the Delhi government had suggested that all weekly markets be allowed to open but L-G Anil Baijal has turned down the request. So two markets per zone will continue open as usual," a Delhi government official said, requesting anonymity.

The MHA has also relaxed limits on gatherings, both outdoor and indoor. "Now State/UT governments have been given flexibility to permit such gatherings beyond the limit of 100 persons outside containment zones, after October 15, 2020," the MHA said. However, for indoor spaces, gatherings can't exceed 50% of the hall capacity or 200 people.

Meanwhile, cinema owners called the latest guidelines optimistic. "... We are hopeful that the state governments will give us the green signal and allow us to resume operations within the specified guidelines," said Alok Tandon, CEO, INOX Leisure Ltd.

The Multiplex Association of India (MAI) said in a statement,

"An urgent permission from the state governments to reopen cinemas in their states would go a substantial distance in ensuring that the cinema exhibition sector is able to quickly recover from the dire economic and financial impact of the epidemic."

On Thursday, Delhi reported 3,037 fresh Covid cases. The death toll increased to 5,401, with 40 new deaths reported.

Umar Khalid arrested in another riots case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

Khalid has been booked in connection with the violence at Khajuri Khas

DELHI POLICE Crime Branch has arrested former JNU student leader Umar Khalid in another case related to the February Northeast Delhi riots. Khalid has been booked in connection with the Khajuri Khas violence and taken into three days police custody by the Crime Branch, which has been probing riot-related cases, a senior officer said.

A case of rioting was registered at Khajuri Khas police station in which 15 people, including former AAP councillor Tahir Hussain,

were arrested for their alleged role in the riots that occurred at 2.15 pm on February 24 outside Hussain's house in Chand Bagh.

Khalid has been in judicial custody in Tihar after he was arrested on September 13 under UAPA in a separate riots case. A Delhi court had sent him to judicial custody till October 22.

Metro struggles with social distancing during peak hours

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

DELHI METRO is struggling to maintain social distancing inside trains during peak hours, particularly on five stretches, DMRC said in an advisory Thursday, requesting people to stagger their travel timings.

It said stretches on Red, Green, Violet and Blue lines are witnessing 100% occupancy during morning and evening peak hours under the current arrangements where alternate seats are left vacant and a limited number of people allowed to commute while standing. "By 100% occupancy, we do not mean coaches are getting occupied like before. What is happening is that during peak hours, trains plying on these stretches are carrying maximum number of passengers possible under prevailing standard operating procedure," said a Delhi Metro spokesperson.

Metro operations resumed on September 7 after remaining suspended for over five months due to restrictions imposed to curb the spread of Covid-19. Services opened in a graded manner, and full scale operations were restored on September 12. However, services are governed by a new SOP which mandates several restrictions to ensure social distancing inside trains and station areas. Consequently, passenger capacity has come down significantly.

"In recent days, it has been observed that certain sections of the Metro network are showing a



'CROWDED' STRETCHES

1. Dilshad Garden to Shastrri Park
2. Mundka to Kirti Nagar
3. Kirti Nagar to Mandi House
4. New Bus Adda to Dilshad Garden
5. Escorts Mujesar to Badarpur

trend where occupancy is touching the 100% mark during morning and evening peak hours. During off-peak hours, occupancy in the same sections is in the range of 30-50% only, leaving ample scope for people to stagger their travel from peak hours to the extent possible and have hassle-

Commuters line up outside Central Secretariat station.

Prem Nath Pandey

free travel with social distancing in place," the DMRC advisory said.

Metro said that such instances of crowding may increase travel time as authorities will have to impose further restrictions on entry to stations.

Delhi Metro has been running trains at peak hour frequency through the day, doing away with the concept of off-peak hour frequency, which used to be in place between 11 am to 4 pm. So, between 8 am and 8 pm, trains are available at peak hour frequency range of 2 mins 45 secs to 6 minutes. "Therefore, general public is once again requested to 'break the peak' by staggering their travel timings to decongest peak hours, and avail additional capacity available during off-peak hours for their own convenience and safety amidst the pandemic," said DMRC chief spokesperson Anuj Dayal.

EXPRESS
Careers

RECRUITMENT OF GRADE-C, GRADE-B AND GRADE-A OFFICERS IN OIL

OIL INDIA LIMITED (OIL), a Navratna Public Sector Undertaking, invites online applications from eligible Indian Nationals, to fill up the following posts:

A. In 'Grade C' in the pay scale of Rs.80,000 to 2,20,000:

POST
Superintending Engineer (Drilling)
Manager (Accounts) / Manager (Internal Audit)
Superintending Medical Officer (ENT)
Superintending Medical Officer (Pathology)
Superintending Medical Officer (Ophthalmology)
Superintending Medical Officer (Orthopedic Surgeon)
Superintending Medical Officer (Radiology)
Superintending Medical Officer (Physician)

B. In 'Grade B' in the pay scale of Rs.60,000 to 1,80,000:

POST
Senior Medical Officer
Senior Security Officer
Senior Officer (Electrical)
Senior Officer (HR)
Senior Officer (Legal)
Senior Officer (Mechanical)
Senior Officer (Instrumentation)
Senior Officer (Geophysics)
Senior Officer (Reservoir)

C. In 'Grade A' in the pay scale of Rs.50,000 to 1,60,000:

POST
Physiotherapist
Confidential Secretary

The last date of receipt of Online Application is 23:59 Hours on 30.10.2020

For details visit: https://oil-india.com/Current_OpenNew.aspx

Wrestler who shot dead taekwondo player last Nov held

SAKSHI DAYAL
GURGAON, OCTOBER 1

ALMOST 11 months after a 25-year-old district level taekwondo player was shot dead, police arrested a wrestler she had met during one of her matches in another district for the crime. Police said he had murdered her after she refused to marry him.

The incident took place on November 12 last year, when the victim, Sarita, was shot dead at her home. In her complaint to police, Sarita's mother had accused a wrestler, Sombir, who hails from Jhajjar, of the crime, alleging that her daughter had become acquainted with him during one of her visits to another district for a match.

"The complainant had alleged that Sombir had started pestering her daughter to marry him and, when she refused, had taken to threatening her family and her," said Subhash Boken, PRO of Gurgaon Police.

On November 12, the accused, police said, went to Sarita's home at 4 am. He pointed a pistol at Sarita and demanded she marry him. When she refused, he allegedly opened fire, shooting her in her chest and threatening to murder the rest of the family when they started to call for help. Sarita was rushed to Rockland

Hospital, Manesar, and succumbed to injuries on the way.

Police had been conducting investigations and raids at multiple places since last year to nab the accused. A reward of Rs 25,000 had also been declared for his arrest. He was finally arrested from Rajasthan on the basis of a tip off. "During questioning, he confessed to shooting the victim as she refused to marry him. Two cases had also been registered against him prior to the murder last year for harassing and threatening Sarita. He had been arrested in these but was out on bail," said the PRO.

"The accused also revealed that after the murder, he kept hiding in different places in Rajasthan and Haryana to evade arrest. However, a tip off from a source finally led to his arrest from Ganeshpura village in Dausa tehsil of Rajasthan," said Boken.

Police said the accused, along with another person, was also involved in a case of mobile theft in September this year. He used the stolen device to demand Rs 50 lakh from a shopkeeper. An FIR has been lodged regarding the matter at Bilaspur police station, said police, adding that the stolen phone has been recovered and the second accused arrested. "Both accused have been produced in court today and taken into police remand," said Boken.

2 October

Nation pays tributes to

Mahatma Gandhi & Lal Bahadur Shastri

on their birth anniversary

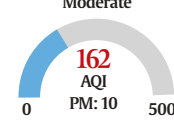
Revered Babu's life reminds us to ensure that our every action should be such that it leads to the well-being of the poor and deprived. Likewise, Shastri Ji's life imparts to us the message of humility and simplicity.

- Narendra Modi

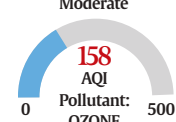
Scan the QR Code to participate in the quiz on Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri



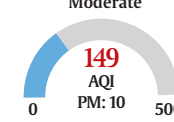
0-50 Good

ANAND VIHAR
Moderate

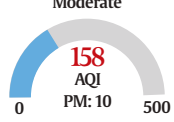
51-100 Satisfactory

SIRIFORT
Moderate

101-200 Moderate

SHADIPUR
Moderate

201-300 Poor

ITO
Moderate

301-400 Very Poor

401-500 Severe

BRIEFLY

'Fourth sero survey to start in 10-15 days'

New Delhi: The fourth round of sero surveillance in Delhi will start in the next 10-15 days, said Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain Thursday while announcing the results of the third survey which were submitted to Delhi High Court Wednesday. "This time, the sample size was divided in 282 wards and was geographically spread among the city due to which the prevalence rate has changed a bit. The next survey... will be conducted in the same format," said Jain.

New office bearers in Delhi BJP

New Delhi: Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta Thursday announced names of new state office-bearers, including Kuljeet Chahal, Dinesh Pratap Singh and Harsh Malhotra as general secretaries. The new team will face the next big electoral task in the 2021 MCD elections.

Panel to look at exploitation of domestic workers

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has constituted a high-level committee to prepare an action plan for enforcement of regulations framed in 2014 to prevent exploitation of domestic workers engaged through private placement agencies, noting that the Delhi Private Placement Agencies (Regulation) Order, 2014, was not being prima facie implemented.

'Install flow meters on all networks'

New Delhi: Delhi Jal Board Vice-Chairman Raghav Chadha Thursday directed officials for 100% installation of flow meters across the Board's water network by October 30.

Couple held for cheating

New Delhi: Delhi Police has arrested a husband-wife duo, who allegedly ran away with the money invested by people in a local chit fund run by them.

IIT startup gets govt funds for N95 mask unit

New Delhi: An IIT-D startup, Nanoclean, has got government grants to set up what it claims to be the largest government-funded N95 mask manufacturing plant in the country, in Greater Noida. **ENS**

'PUSA DECOMPOSER' TO BE USED IN UP, HARYANA, PUNJAB, ON TRIAL BASIS

Farmers in stubble burning states to get new tech, says Javadekar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

MICROBE-BASED "Pusa Decomposer" capsules, developed by ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) to manage paddy stubble in fields, will be used on a trial basis in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi this year, Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar said Thursday.

The announcement was made after a review meeting chaired by Javadekar with ministers and officials from four NCR states and Punjab for tackling air pollution in the region during winters, which worsens due to stubble burning.

Javadekar said, "ICAR through its Pusa Institute has developed a decomposer. Trial of this decomposer will be done in

all (stubble burning) states. After the trial on thousands of hectares, it will be scaled up in the next year based on results."

On September 26, Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal had urged the minister in a letter to encourage stubble burning states around Delhi to use the IARI technology for decomposing paddy straws left in the field after harvest.

Union Ministry officials said the trial will be done on 100 hectares of land in Punjab and Haryana, 800 hectares in Delhi, and 10,000 hectares in UP which has been experimenting with such technology since three years.

The 'Pusa Decomposer' can rapidly degrade paddy straws in the field and convert them into compost, which then does not pose any issues for the sowing of wheat crops, as per IARI scientists.

Institute director A K Singh has said the capsules, containing



Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar

seven strains of fungi, are to be mixed with water, 150 gms of jaggery and 50 gms of besan, to prepare a 25-litre solution that can be sprayed on 1 hectare of field.

It costs Rs 300 per acre and was licensed to four companies in 2019 and two in 2020.

To quickly clear their fields

before planting wheat crops in October and November, farmers in Punjab and Haryana — two main stubble burning states — usually set fire to crop residue left after harvest of paddy. IARI scientists said farmers have about 20-25 days between clearing their fields of paddy straws and sowing wheat crops — enough time for the decomposer solution to work.

Javadekar said as a result of several steps taken by the Centre and states, pollution levels in Delhi have come down and 'good' air quality days have increased from 108 in 2016 to 182 in 2019.

He said this year, NCR states have been asked to focus on air pollution hotspots and address problems there. In the meeting, suggestions were given to states on how they can address these problems: "All states were told that Covid affects our lungs, and

air pollution also has a bad impact on them. Therefore, air pollution can make (Covid-19) situation more serious. Punjab was told it should educate farmers in high stubble burning areas that their families would be affected first."

He said the Centre has provided funds worth Rs 1,700 crore to Haryana, Punjab and UP in the last three years for stubble management. Javadekar added that 50 teams of the Central Pollution Control Board will monitor the stubble burning issue this year and review the situation with the states every day.

"There has been reduction in stubble burning in three years, but we have to reduce it further. But this is not the only source of pollution... Even on days when its contribution is 40%, the remaining 60% is from sources, including unpaved roads, waste burning, etc," he added.

In Central Ridge area, questions on tree plantation

SHINY VARGHESE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

COURT-ORDERED compensatory plantation in Central Ridge has come under cloud with environmentalist Pradip Krishen raising objection to non-native trees being planted in the eco-sensitive area, which has been taken over by the invasive *vilayati kikar*.

The environmentalist, who has worked on native and non-native trees in different parts of the country, said *jamun*, *gular*, *sirus*, *kasod* and *maulshree* trees being planted in the Ridge are water guzzlers and non-adaptive to the ridge ecosystem. He also raised concerns on the use of excavators to help plant the saplings and has written to the Delhi Environment Department. Trees like *jamun* and *gular* are found along perennial streams, and *kasod* isn't from the region.

As one walks into the Central Ridge, past *kikar* and the polo grounds, resilient *dhaun* trees, native to the region, stand tall. A few metres in, however, tracks left behind by excavators can be spotted.

In a written clarification to Krishen's reservations, the department has defended its decision. "The scheme of the plantation has been such that Ridge species can adapt to the Ridge environment easily and accelerate ecological restoration... for creating a wonderful and completely sustainable natural forest in this area," it said.

The *Indian Express* also reached out to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ishwar Singh, who said, "The trees are being planted as per the HC's order. The court had specified that the saplings should be more than six feet high and three-and-a-half years old. Accordingly, pits of appropriate depth were dug for



Track marks left behind by the excavators

tall saplings... manually, but at a few places where soil was hard and rocky, the excavator machine was used. Efforts were made not to damage any ground flora."

Forest officials said the court had asked for 140 lakh trees to be planted in the area. The saplings are being brought by individuals on whom penalties have been imposed by the court. However, due to a lack of space, only 32,000 saplings have been planted in the last year-and-a-half; the court has been informed. It has ordered for plantation of a further 9,000 saplings, said officials.

Krishen, meanwhile, called it a result of "misguided planting": "These mistakes have been made... since 1911, when the British thought *Prosopis juliflora* was the most useful, evergreen vegetation for the Ridge. Today, more than 90% is only *kikar*. It outperforms every other species and discourages anything from growing too close. In the process, ephemeral flora, the understorey of the forest floor and native planting is compromised. If planting has to be done, there are numerous degraded sites across the city. It can be done there..."

Delhi's environment ministry in its clarification also said the plan for ecological restoration of the Central Ridge (for 423 hectares) is awaiting Cabinet's nod.

With Inputs by Shivam Patel

Civil defence staff booked for beating up cop

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

DELHI POLICE has booked six civil defence personnel for allegedly beating up a head constable, after a scuffle broke out between them over issuing a challan for not wearing mask properly. A purported video of the incident, which took place in West Delhi's Naraina, shows the group physically assaulting the policeman.

Police said the complainant, HC Naresh, posted in Connaught Place police station, sustained injuries. Additional DCP (West) Sameer Sharma said a case has been registered against the civil defence personnel on the complaint of the head constable.

In the video, the group can be seen holding Naresh and thrashing him. One of them holds the head constable by his collar and drags him while another man hits him on his face. Another man beats him with a baton.

According to police, the incident took place on Wednesday evening at a traffic signal in Naraina Vihar, when HC Naresh who was on his bike, was stopped by civil defence personnel for allegedly not wearing a mask properly. Later, an argument broke out between them over it and they physically assaulted Naresh. "Our initial investigations suggests the head constable was wearing a mask but he had lowered it and was stopped by civil defence staff. When confronted, a scuffle broke out," said a senior officer.

However, there are also allegations that the HC had pushed a woman civil defence personnel when she stopped him for not properly wearing mask, and that led to the argument, police said.



A grab from the video



GANDHIAN MESSAGE

Workers cleaning a statue of Mahatma Gandhi on the eve of Gandhi Jayanti, at the Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra in Rajghat on Thursday. **Amit Mehra**

Child homes linked to Mander raided, NCPCR says routine

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

SOCIAL ACTIVIST Harsh Mander Thursday said the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) conducted a "surprise raid" on two children's homes with which he was once associated, demanding to know — among other things — if the children had participated in the anti-CAA protests. "I learnt today that NCPCR descended on a surprise 'raid' on two children's homes in Delhi with which I have been associated in the past, Ummeed Aman Ghar and Khushi Rainbow Home, on October 1. This was led by chairperson of the NCPCR himself," Mander said in a statement.

NCPCR chairperson Priyank Kanoongo said he wasn't aware the homes were associated with Mander. "It's only after reading his statement that I have got to know about it. There are more than 7,000 such homes, and we had gone to them as part of our routine audits," he said.

On whether the NCPCR asked about children's participation in anti-CAA protests, he said, "I can only tell you once I have the report in front of me."

Mander said the body had "four central focuses" in its raids. "The most important was if the children participated in anti-CAA protests. The second was about my association with the homes... The third was on foreign funding. As it happens, Ummeed is entirely funded from Indian donors. Khushi also is largely supported by Indian donors, but has some foreign donors as well. The fourth question was if we had given shelter to any Rohingya children. My colleagues said... we don't focus on the identity of any child; the only thing important for us is that she or he is homeless and in need of care and protection," he said, adding that he was no longer "formally associated" with these homes.

On Mander's allegations that his association with the homes was probed, Kanoongo said, "He can say whatever he wants."

Faridabad man held for 'sexual assault' of 8-yr-old neighbour

SAKSHI DAYAL
GURGAON, OCTOBER 1

A 22-YEAR-OLD man has been arrested by Faridabad Police for allegedly sexually assaulting an eight-year-old girl who lived next door to him.

According to police, the incident took place around 1 am on the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday. In her complaint to police, the child's mother has stated that she and her husband were sleeping on the terrace of their home while their two daughters — aged five and eight — were sleeping in the room downstairs. She said her younger daughter came upstairs and told them that her sister was crying.

"When the woman went to check on the child, she saw a man running from the room and immediately alerted her husband and other neighbours. The accused however, managed to flee," said Sube Singh, PRO of Faridabad Police.

The child, meanwhile, was

The victim has been referred to Safdarjung hospital where her condition is stable: cops

rushed to BK Hospital, from where she was referred to Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi. Her condition is stable, said police.

Sources in the police said she had been referred to Safdarjung due to the "superior facilities available there", and that she did not have any serious injuries. "An FIR was immediately registered regarding the matter under sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, and the accused was identified and arrested within half an hour. He is a neighbor of the victim's family and hails from Bihar," said the PRO.

"Further investigations will be conducted in the matter and every effort will be made on the part of police to provide justice to the victim," he said.

'OUR FIRST PERFORMANCE IN THE NEW NORMAL ERA'

Sanitiser, masks in lead roles as NSD preps for first show post lockdown

DIPANITA NATH
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

THE SANITISER is being sprayed everywhere — on costumes, props, light and sound equipment, chairs for the audience and the grass of the open-air theatre — as the National School of Drama (NSD) in Delhi prepares to stage its first play since the country closed all theatres and went into total lockdown in March. *Pehla Satyagrahi*, written by Ravindra Tripathi and directed by Suresh Sharma,

Director-in-charge of NSD, traces the transformation of M K Gandhi from a lawyer in South Africa to one of the strongest forces against colonial rule in India. The play will mark the birth anniversary of the Mahatma with a shows on October 2, 3 and 4.

"This is our first performance in the new normal era. Our process of making the play as well as preparing for the show is different from before. For the first time, we will have sanitisers at the gate, temperature checks and the audience will be seated

with a space of six feet," says Sharma.

The novel methodology began on September 8, when artistes were allowed in for a reading of the script after their Covid status was checked and found to be negative. "We made a roster, with half the 18-member cast coming in on alternate days. The pandemic also resulted in the longest gap in the careers of the performers and we needed to recall the story and bring back the pace and rhythm of the show," says Sharma.

Pehla Satyagrahi, a 2019 play,



has famously been performed to an audience of 3,500 at a ghat in Varanasi but every other performance has been in halls, such as Sankh in the NSD campus. Now, the actors, who rehearsed for the 27x30 ft space at Sankh, are working in a 40x36 space in the open air.

To make it more challenging, audiences will be wearing masks that conceal facial expressions so that actors will be unable to

From an earlier performance of the play at NSD

"read the hall" as they perform. "There will be a barrier to the communication and exchange of energy that happens between actors and audiences during a performance," says Sharma, a veteran actor who has played Maulana Azad in Tripurari Sharma's *Azad Maulana*.

As the performers rehearse overtime for the play, Sharma is waiting to see if the audience will show for live performances and if their expectations have changed during the pandemic.

Across the country, the pandemic has dealt a body blow to

artistes who have been deprived of their livelihood and the medium of expression. Play readings and performances began online but most lacked the vibrancy of a live show.

People who come to NSD to watch *Pehla Satyagrahi* will be treated to a new song, depicting a conversation when Gandhi is about to leave South Africa and come to India. "I am optimistic that the show will go on. We would like to keep the theatre buzzing with plays, such as *Taj Mahal ka Tender*, every alternate Saturday," says Sharma.

CLEAN GREEN Uttarakhand

ADVERTORIAL An initiative by RED*
Read. Engage. Deliver.



TODAY, Rishikesh is being recognised as Yoga Capital. At the international level, Rishikesh is maintaining its own identity. In such a situation it is the responsibility of all of us to make our invaluable contribution in keeping the city clean and tidy.

The Municipal Corporation of Rishikesh is running a massive campaign to make the city clean under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. There has been a significant improvement in the ranking of the city in the Swachhata survey.

ANITA MAMGAIN (MAYOR)
Municipal Corporation, Rishikesh

OUR honourable Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi on October 2, 2014, launched Swachh Bharat Mission, a massive mass movement to clean India on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. Mahatma Gandhi devoted his life to attain Swarajya for our country. Now the time has come to devote ourselves toward "Swachhata".

Keeping that in mind, Nagar Nigam Dehradun has also taken the initiative of Swachh Bharat Mission and its various aspects such as people awareness, making city open defecation free, segregation of waste etc.

To keep our country clean Swachh Survekshan Drive/competition is being conducted every year in which Nagar Nigam Dehradun has been participating and doing better every year, because of which we were able to achieve 124th Rank out of 382 among all other Nagar Nigam, and 1st rank in Uttarakhand. This is done by the support of each citizen of Dehradun.

Like every year, this year too we are participating in Swachh Survekshan-2021. In which we need your support. You can help us by doing some work like-

- Keep your surrounding clean by giving your garbage to Nagar Nigam door to door collection vehicle.
- Segregate your home waste into dry, wet and hazardous waste.
- Don't use single use plastic.
- Don't leave your construction and demolition waste on road sides/street.
- By coming together we can make our Doon 'Clean Doon, Green Doon'!

SUNIL UNIYAL "GAMA" (MAYOR)
Nagar Nigam Dehradun



IN Swachh Survekshan-2020, municipal corporation Dehradun achieved 1st rank among all Nagar Nigam in Uttarakhand by the support of doonist which is 124th out of 382 cities. In the previous year we were ranked 384. And in upcoming Swachh Survekshan-2021 we are trying to achieve our best and come under top 50 cleanest cities in India.

To achieve our goal/target we (Doonist) need to make sure that:

- No garbage should be visible in our surrounding.
- Give all your garbage to Nagar Nigam Dehradun's waste collector.
- Segregate your waste into dry, wet, and hazardous.
- Don't use single use plastic and don't leave your construction and demolition waste on road sides/street.
- By coming together we can make our city 1st in SS-2021.

Clean Doon, Green Doon!

VINAY SHANKAR PANDEY (IAS)
(Municipal Commissioner)
Nagar Nigam Dehradun

Moving up the ladder

MAHATMA Gandhi said "Sanitation is more important than independence." He made cleanliness and sanitation an integral part of the Gandhian way of living. His dream was total sanitation for all.

Dream of a clean India is still unfulfilled. To complete this dream of Gandhiji and to increase the awareness of citizens, on October 2, 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a nation-wide cleanliness campaign on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary. The concept of Swachh Bharat is to provide sanitation facilities to every family, including toilets, solid and liquid waste disposal systems, village cleanliness, and safe and adequate drinking water supply.

The performance of Uttarakhand's urban bodies in the Cleanliness Survey 2020 has been impressive. Uttarakhand has received three National Awards this time:

- Municipal corporation Dehradun achieved 1st rank among all Nagar Nigam in Uttarakhand
- Uttarakhand got third prize for best performing state in cleanliness

■ Nagar Panchayat Nand Prayag ranked first in the country in citizen feedback category

■ Almora Cantt Board got third place in Citizen Feedback category

Improvement in performance of big cities of Uttarakhand

The cities of Uttarakhand have performed much better than last year. Last year, Dehradun reached the rank of 124 from 384. This year, Roorkee has reached 231 from 281, Kashipur from 304 to 139, Haldwani from 350 to 229, Haridwar has reached from 376 to 244 and Rudrapur from 403 to 316, Uttarakhand has been ranked third in the Best Performing State nationally in the awards announced by



the Cleanliness Survey 2020. On the other hand, in the category of bodies with population less than one lakh, Nagar Panchayat Nand Prayag has won the first prize in the country in the Citizen Feed Back category and Almora Cantt Board has received the third prize.

Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat, while congratulating the awarding bodies in the cleanliness survey, said that the bodies will have to work beyond this spirit. There is still a lot of improvement in the area of ??cleanliness. He said that in the category of cities with more than one lakh population, the sanitation ranking of six bodies of the state has im-

proved. With the help of cleanliness, we can prevent many diseases.

GANGA CLEANLINESS GOT A BIG BOOST FROM NAMAMI GANGE MISSION

A total of six mega projects through video conferencing were inaugurated under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Namami Gange Mission' in Uttarakhand. These projects include upgrading the existing 27 MLD STP at Jagtiptur, development of 68 MLD sewage treatment plant (STP) as well as construction of 18 MLD STP at Sarai in Haridwar. Apart from this, 'Ganga Darshan' was also inaugurated by PM Modi, which is the first

museum to show the biodiversity, culture and rejuvenation activities carried out in the river. The museum, Ganga Avalochan, is situated on the Chandi Ghat of Haridwar.

The inauguration of the 68 MLD STP project at Jagtiptur by PM Modi also marks the completion of the first sewerage project which was taken on the hybrid annuity public-private partnership (PPP) model. In Rishikesh, PM Modi also inaugurated 26 MLD STP at Lakkadghat. About 80% of the wastewater in the Ganges is contributed by the Haridwar-Rishikesh region and the inauguration of these STPs in the state of Uttarakhand will play a major role in keeping the holy Ganges river clean.

The 7.5 MLD STP at Chandreshwar Nagar in Muni Ki Reti City will be the first four-storey STP in the country. This STP developed over an area of ??less than 900 square meters, which is about 30% of the area requirement for an STP of such capacity. In Uttarakhand, a total of 30 projects to take care of pollution from 17 cities near the Ganges River are now fully completed, which is a historic achievement.

आकर्षक शर्तों और न्यूनतम पेपरवर्क के साथ तुरंत होम लोन पाएं

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को प्रोसेसिंग शुल्क नहीं

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नगर निगम, ऋषिकेश, देहरादून

- पर्यावरण संरक्षण के लिए शहर में पॉलीथीन एवं प्लास्टिक का प्रयोग न करें।
- खुले में कचरा न फैलाएँ एवं खुले में शौच न करें।
- स्वच्छ सर्वेक्षण-2021 लीग में नगर निगम ऋषिकेश को नं0-1 बनाने हेतु अपना ऑनलाइन फीड बैक देने में अपना सहयोग करें।
- गंगाजी के घाटों पर साबुन का प्रयोग न करें एवं गंगाजी में फूल आदि की प्रवाहित न करें।
- माँ गंगा की निर्मलता व अविरलता को बनाये रखने में अपना अमूल्य सहयोग प्रदान करें।
- कुड़े को घर पर ही अलग-अलग (जैविक-अजैविक) करें तत्पश्चात की कूड़ा निगम की कूड़ा गाड़ी में डालें।
- बाहर भी दिखाएँगे अपने घर वाले संस्कार, तभी होगा स्वच्छ भारत का सपना साकार।
- गीले कुड़े का होम कम्पोस्टिंग को बढ़ावा दें।
- घरेलू परिसंक्रमण कूड़ा तथा ई-वेस्ट को पृथक कर ही नगर निगम के वाहनों में डालें।
- साफ-सफाई का सपना था बापूजी के ध्यान में, आओ मिल सब हाथ बँटाये स्वच्छ भारत अभियान में।

श्रीमती अनिता ममगाई महापौर नगर निगम ऋषिकेश

नरेन्द्र सिंह वीरियाल नगर आयुक्त नगर निगम, ऋषिकेश

स्वच्छता है तो स्वास्थ्य है, स्वास्थ्य है तो समृद्धि है

गोला कूड़ा
सूखा कूड़ा
घरेलू परिसंक्रमण

कृपया घर का गोला, सूखा व घरेलू परिसंक्रमण कूड़ा पृथक पृथक कर नगर निगम के कूड़ा वाहन में डी दें।

सफाई से संबंधित शिकायत के लिए स्वच्छता ऐप डाउनलोड करें या आप नगर निगम के संतुष्टि सेल 08039236380 पर शिकायत दर्ज करने हेतु कॉल कर सकते हैं।

सिंगल यूज प्लास्टिक का प्रयोग न करें।

मयन निर्माण अपशिष्ट आदि को सड़कों/ गलियों में न डालें।

हम सब को यह संकल्प लेना है, देहरादून को स्वच्छ सर्वेक्षण-2021 में नं0 1 बनाना है।

निर्देशक: नगर निगम, देहरादून

6 GOVT & POLITICS

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



RALLY PLAN

HOME MINISTER Amit Shah, who has been keeping away from public meetings due to health reasons, is expected to address a public rally in north Bengal soon. According to BJP sources, Shah is likely to visit the state between October 10 and 20, and it will probably be his first public appearance since his hospital stay. Shah's rally could also launch the BJP's campaign ahead of next year's Assembly election. Shah had an almost four-hour-long meeting with BJP leaders from Bengal on Thursday to discuss party strategy for the poll-bound state. The party has also sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's time so that he can visit the state during Durga Puja.

TAKEN BY SURPRISE

THERE WAS speculation all through Wednesday that Priyanka Gandhi Vadra may go to Hathras. But Rahul Gandhi's plan to go to Hathras came as a surprise to many Congress leaders. Some were told about the plan only when they reached Sonia Gandhi's 10 Janpath residence in the morning. Interestingly, the UP Police, which arrested Rahul, Priyanka and other Congress leaders, did not just release them from the Buddh International Circuit guest house but also escorted them all the way to 10 Janpath. The idea was to ensure that Congress leaders don't proceed to Hathras after their release. With Rahul set to embark on a kisan yatra from Saturday, it will be Priyanka who will take forward the Hathras campaign.

BIDDING FAREWELL

LATE UNION minister Suresh Angadi's absence was palpable at the monthly retirement function of Railways. Minister Piyush Goyal said that continuing to work for the good of railways and society even after retirement would be a fitting homage to Angadi. Several top-level retirees said it felt strange to not have Angadi at the event. During the pandemic, such functions have shifted to video-conference and Angadi rarely missed any of those. Along with two Railway Board members, around 2,100 officials retired on Thursday in the Indian Railways, and the VC platform made sure all of them could be part of the function.

India to provide debt service relief to Myanmar

SHUBHAJITROY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

INDIA ON Thursday reached out to Myanmar and agreed to provide debt service relief under the G-20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative and hoped that this would further help mitigate the impact of COVID-19.

This was conveyed by Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla, who held Foreign Office consultations with a Myanmar delegation led by Permanent Secretary U Soe Han through virtual mode.

The Permanent Secretary reaffirmed Myanmar's commitment to strengthen its time-tested partnership with India for mutual benefit of the two countries. He also expressed appreciation for COVID-related and development assistance extended by India. He thanked India for providing debt service relief under the G-20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative for the period May 1 to December 31, 2020.

"We are meeting in exceptional times that have thrown up challenges but also avenues and opportunities to collaborate in divergent and multifaceted areas.

India is prepared to continue to extend all possible support to Myanmar in mitigating the health and economic impact of COVID-19," Shringla said at the meeting.

With respect to the COVID vaccine, he told Myanmar that New Delhi stands committed to sharing its capabilities with its strategic partners, including Myanmar.

On the issue of Rohingya refugees, he said, "Our work under the Border Area Development Programme and Rakhine State Development Programme continues apace. Recently, we have entered into a trilateral cooperation with Japan on the Rakhine State under which we will create soft infrastructure for 15 schools. Our efforts towards ensuring an early, safe and sustainable repatriation of internally displaced persons to Myanmar will continue."

India's assistance to Myanmar is around \$1.4 billion. Despite the challenges caused by the pandemic, they are working towards operationalising Sittwe Port by the first quarter of next year. With respect to the 69 bridges on the Trilateral Highway, he said they will soon be moving forward with the tendering process.

CONTEMPT CASE

Bhushan moves SC, seeks review of its Re 1 punishment

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

ADVOCATE PRASHANT Bhushan on Thursday moved the Supreme Court seeking review of its August 31 judgment imposing a token fine of one rupee after finding him guilty of criminal contempt of court.

The top court, while sentencing him, had ordered that he will undergo a simple imprisonment for a period of three months and further be debarred from practising in the SC for a period of three years if he does not pay the fine within a specified date.

Bhushan, who said he had paid the fine as directed, stated in



Prashant Bhushan

the review plea that the court had indicated the possibility of barring him at any point during the hearing on sentence. He contended that the verdict is per incuriam passed without due regard to the law, as the court had not followed the procedure.

Bhushan said he was not fur-

HC HEARING PLEA TO QUASH FIR OVER TWEET AGAINST UDDHAV, AADITYA

'Free speech can't violate constitutional rights of others'

OMKAR GOKHALE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 1

THE BOMBAY High Court on Thursday said that in a democracy citizens are free to express their views, but they have to ensure that while exercising their right they don't violate someone else's constitutional rights.

The court also observed that criticism of persons holding public posts has become rampant on social media, adding that such persons should have the capacity to bear it. However, it added that citizens should also exercise restraint to the extent that the dignity of the post is not abused.

A division bench of Justice S S Shinde and Justice M S Karnik

was hearing a plea filed by 32-year-old Nagpur resident Sameet Rakesh Thakkar, through advocate Abhinav Chandrachud, seeking to quash an FIR registered against him over his tweets against Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and his son and minister Aaditya Thackeray. Thakkar had also sought interim protection from arrest, pending hearing in the case.

The FIR was registered against Thakkar after Mumbai-based advocate Dharmendra Mishra, a legal consultant for Shiv Sena, filed a complaint before V P Marg police station on July 2 over his two tweets on June 1 and June 30.

Thakkar, who is followed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Twitter handle, had referred to



Uddhav Thackeray, Aaditya Thackeray

Uddhav Thackeray as 'Aurangzeb' and Aaditya Thackeray as 'Penguin beta', as per the complaint.

Thakkar was booked under Sections 292 (punishment for obscene acts or words in public), 500 (punishment for defamation) of the Indian Penal Code and provisions of Information

Technology Act.

Advocate Chandrachud said the persons holding public posts can let go of these comments at times. When he referred to Justice V R Krishna Iyer, former Supreme Court (SC) judge who had famously observed, "the dogs may bark but the caravan will pass", Justice Karnik responded, "But everybody's sensitivity to such abuse is different. What you are saying is the ideal way of looking at it. One may be very weak hearted and sensitive. Sometimes we also receive very harsh criticism. We know that if we ignore it, everything will pass. But can we expect everyone to react in the same manner? Someone holding a public office might be very sensitive." Further, Chandrachud said

that the SC had once observed that those who occupy power, should have 'thick skin' while reacting to criticism and also argued that mere abuse was not 'obscenity' as charged against his client.

Justice Shinde said, "It is not just up to the individual holding the post of PM or CM, the dignity of public offices should also be maintained by citizens." To this, Chandrachud said, "The post will not be affected by someone on the streets wanting something to say (criticise)."

When Chandrachud sought relief for his client, the court said, "Sometimes the tweets are abusive. The rights of your client cannot violate someone else's constitutional rights. Responsible citizens should

know they have rights, but to what extent?"

Justice Shinde said, "Everyone knows these rights are not absolute. Sometimes if criticism is fair then the person who occupies public office should have the capacity to bear it. But criticism can't be unfair, abusive. Citizens must restrain themselves to ensure someone else's rights are not violated because of this abusive language."

The court directed Thakkar to appear before the investigating officer on October 5 and asked the police to inform it on the additional charges to be levelled against him that would warrant his arrest during the next hearing, and posted the matter to October 8.

Cong readies model draft law for Oppn states to bypass farm laws

MANOJ CGG
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

HAVING ASKED states ruled by it to explore the possibilities of passing legislation to "bypass" and "negate" the provisions of the farm laws passed by the central government, the Congress is readying a draft Bill which it believes will serve as a model for Congress and other non-BJP-ruled states to enact.

The "core" of the proposed draft law is to declare that anything "inconsistent" in any of the three central laws with the existing state Acts shall be "null, void and inoperative" in the state and that no farmer shall be paid any price below the Minimum Support Price.

Sources said Rajya Sabha MP and lawyer Abhishek Singhvi has approved the draft of the proposed model law, which can be passed by Congress and non-BJP ruled states "if they choose to nullify the three central anti-farmer laws".

The Congress is preparing to step up its protests against the farm laws, with Rahul Gandhi set to lead a "kisan yatra" from Badli Kalan in Punjab to Delhi through Haryana from October 3 demanding withdrawal of the laws.

The draft of the "model Bill" says it is a Bill to "restore the agricultural safeguards including Minimum Support Price mechanism ensured through the regulatory framework of the APMC laws in order to secure and protect the interests and livelihood of farmers and farm labourers as also all others engaged in agriculture and related activities".

Congress president Sonia Gandhi had last week directed Punjab, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Puducherry to explore the possibilities of passing laws under Article 254(2) of the Constitution "to negate the anti-agriculture central laws, encroaching upon the states' jurisdiction".

The main clause of the draft model Bill says "no Farming Agreement for the sale or purchase of a crop shall be valid unless the price paid for such agricultural produce is equal to, or greater than, the Minimum Support Prices announced by the Central Government for that crop".

The draft Bill makes it clear that the "direct consequence" of

EXPLAINED

Making a political statement

UNDER ARTICLE 254(2), a state can make changes to a central legislation on a subject in the concurrent list provided its law gets Presidential assent. The Congress does not expect President Ram Nath Kovind to clear legislation circumventing the new farm laws, but believes that party-ruled states passing a law would be a strong political statement, given the controversy over the passage of the central laws.

the farm laws "would be to nullify the minimum support price mechanism guaranteed through the existing structure of APMCs... and introduce several other infirmities and distortions operating to the grave detriment and prejudice of agriculture and the communities associated with it".

Quoting the Agriculture Census of 2015-16, the draft says 86.2% of farmers own less than five acres of land. They "consequently have limited or no access to multiple markets with an inherent handicap of bargaining power... hence needing proper protection by the State Government to ensure a level playing field, prevent exploitation and an optimum guarantee of fair market price for the agricultural produce".

"...The Central Acts fail to take into account this imperative and this object of the Indian Constitution. And whereas agriculture, agricultural markets and land is the primary legislative domain of the State falling under Entries 14, 18 and 28 of List-II of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India; and 'production, supply and distribution of goods' is also a State Subject under Entry 27 of List-II read with Entry 33 of List-III of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India," it says, listing the reasons for the states to bring a legislation.



Former Union minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal was briefly detained on Thursday while protesting against the new farm laws at the Zirakpur (Punjab) border. Jaipal Singh

SAD 'kisan march' cut short, UT cops detain Sukhbir, Harsimrat

NAVJEEVAN GOPAL
CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 1

SHIROMANI AKALI Dal chief Sukhbir Badal and former Union minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal were detained by police at separate places while trying to lead party's 'kisan march' to the Raj Bhavan in Chandigarh to submit a memorandum against the Centre's new farm laws to Punjab Governor V P Singh Badnore. Both leaders were later released, and had to turn back from the Punjab-Chandigarh border without submitting the memorandum.

Before the Badal couple was detained, Chandigarh Police also came-charged protesters led by Harsimrat at the Chandigarh-Zirakpur border and by Sukhbir at the Mullanpur border late in the evening. Water cannons were also unleashed in Mullanpur, before the duo were detained.

Calling the three agriculture Acts as "black laws", SAD leadership Thursday started 'kisan marches' from three Takhts of Sikhs in Punjab.



Sukhbir Singh Badal, who was detained and subsequently released, at a Chandigarh police station. Kamleshwar Singh

Sukhbir led the march from Akal Takht, Amritsar, while Harsimrat led one from Takht Damdama Sahib in Talwandi Sabo. Senior Akali leader and former Lok Sabha MP from Anandpur Sahib, Prem Singh Chandumajra, led the march from Takht Keshgarh Sahib.

"We are against the government which has passed anti-Punjab legislations," Harsimrat told supporters at the Zirakpur-Chandigarh border, where she was stopped by the Chandigarh Police and Rapid Action Force.

SAD leader Charanjit Singh Brar said that UT administration was "under the control of Centre" and its "high-handedness" against protesters will "cost the Centre government dearly".

After the march was stopped at the border, Harsimrat who led the sit-in before police took her away said, "We will take the agitation to Delhi."

Meanwhile, Sukhbir said SAD was a BJP ally for last the "25 to 30 years" but this was "a fight of principles".

Record high of 6 crore households availed of NREGA since April

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

SHOWING A continued rise in demand for unskilled work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak and subsequent lockdowns, the number of households that worked under the scheme crossed 6 crore between April and August this year, which is the highest ever, according to the official data.

The number of households—over 6 crore, according to the latest data available on the MGNREGA portal — that availed of MGNREGS till end of September

is not only higher than last fiscal's figure of 5.48 crore, but is also the highest since the inception of the scheme in 2006.

The previous high was recorded in 2010-11, when 5.5 crore households worked under the MGNREGA.

Out of 6 crore households that availed of MGNREGS this financial year, Uttar Pradesh accounted for the maximum (80 lakh), followed by Rajasthan (65.76 lakh), West Bengal (64 lakh), Tamil Nadu (58 lakh) and Andhra Pradesh (49 lakh).

The data also show that the number of individuals that availed of MGNREGA crossed 8.6 crore in just six months of FY 2020-21.

Ahead of bypolls in MP, Cong readies seat-specific manifestos

IRAM SIDDIQUE
BHOPAL, OCTOBER 1

AHEAD OF the November 3 bypolls to 28 seats, the Congress has prepared separate manifestos for each of the 28 constituencies.

The manifestos, each addressing region-specific issues, are set to be released next week.

In a note prepared for Dimani constituency—one of the 16 seats in Chambal-Gwalior region which is a stronghold of Jyotiraditya Scindia—the Congress has focused on opening the Kolaser sugar factory to enable sugarcane farmers to sell their produce at a higher rate. They have also promised a university and medical college in Chambal region, toilets for women, restrooms on major roads



Kamal Nath

and a bridge over Chambal river.

In the manifesto for Sanver constituency in Indore, the Congress has assured an industrial township and women self-help groups. They have also promised that the area surrounding two Hanuman temples will be identified as pilgrimage sites. They have assured electricity at subsidised rates.

The region-specific manifestos were the brainchild of former Chief Minister Kamal Nath, according to district president for Gwalior-Chambal regions KK Mishra. "The

geography of the state differs greatly across regions, so the problems vary as well. This is why different manifestos for each region were formulated," said Mishra.

The Congress adopted a similar strategy, though on a smaller scale, for the 2018 election.

The Congress has declared its candidates for 24 of the 28 seats. The ruling BJP is yet to announce its candidates, but sources said that 25 of its nominees would be those who had defected from the Congress.

The Congress has also announced that it will give jobs to a family member of a person who has succumbed to COVID-19. "If we come to power, we will ensure a job for one member of the family," said Congress spokesperson Bhupendra Gupta.

Chirag meets Shah, NDA seat formula almost final

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

A MEETING between top BJP leaders, including Home Minister Amit Shah, and BJP president Chirag Paswan on Thursday hinted that the NDA's seat-sharing formula for the upcoming Bihar election is close to being finalised, BJP sources said. Party sources said the BJP's Central Election Committee is likely to meet Sunday and release the first list of candidates. Chirag, who has been under pressure from his party leaders to go it alone in 143 constituencies, met BJP President P Nadda for the second time this week. "Chirag's meeting with Shah indicates that the BJP would be a part of the NDA in the October-November election," a BJP leader said.

While the BJP and JD(U) are continuing their discussions in Patna over the seat-sharing formula, party sources said both sides could agree to keep aside the share of smaller allies from their quota — the BJP would have to provide the BJP seats from its share and the JD(U) would keep aside seats for HAM (S).

This would make the JD(U)'s position more advantageous as the BJP is demanding 25-30 seats while the HAM's requirement is less. "Keeping this in view, the BJP would like to have the bigger chunk in its seat-sharing with the JD(U)," said a BJP leader.

The three-phase elections to the 243-member Assembly will begin on October 28. Results will be declared on November 10.

After loyalty 'warning' from Lalu, RJD not ready to give Cong more than 60 seats

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, OCTOBER 1

WHILE THE nomination process for the first phase of Bihar Assembly elections got under way on Thursday, the Opposition Grand Alliance appears to be stuck over seat-sharing, with RJD national president Lalu Prasad reportedly having given a clear message to son and the party's chief minister face Tejashwi Yadav not to offer the Congress more than 60 or 61 seats.

The Congress has sought to contest on around 70 seats. The CPI(M), which had been offered 15 seats by the RJD, has said no to the offer and declared a list of 30 candidates.

CPI(M)'s Bihar office secretary Kumar Parvez said: "We are not ready to accept the kind (number) of seats RJD is offering us. We have put forward our demand; now it is up to RJD to take a final call. Meanwhile, we have released our first list of 30 candidates."

On seat arrangement with the Congress, an RJD leader elaborated, "As the Congress can easily shift its loyalty to the other camp [Nitish Kumar's JD-U, in case the results throw up a hung Assembly] after the election results, Lalu Prasad wants RJD to contest on the maximum number of seats. Besides, it is always easy for smaller parties to split



Lalu Prasad

when a majority of its legislators want to shift their loyalty."

The RJD said RLP leader Upendra Kushwaha was let go because his "loyalty to the Grand Alliance was wavering".

Bihar Congress spokesperson Rajesh Rathore, however, rounded confidence of stitching up things soon. He told *The Indian Express*: "We will share seats amicably. It might take a day or two."

According to the RJD leader quoted above, the party is looking to contest on 150-plus seats. "We had offered three Left parties and JMM [Jharkhand Mukti Morcha] 25 seats altogether. While CPI and CPI(M) looked keen to take our offer, CPI(M) wants 20 seats. Our leadership has decided against compromising with allies and potential allies beyond a point," the leader said.

The RJD leader added that Vikashli Insaan Party (VIP) is trying to bargain hard with the main opposition party in the state.

Former CM Jitan Ram Manjhi's Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular) and RLP have so far left the Grand Alliance, ostensibly due to the RJD's tough stance on the seat-sharing formula.

Another RJD leader said alliance partners had not been able to transfer their votes to RJD, which failed to open its account in last year's Lok Sabha polls, down

EXPLAINED

RJD wary of Cong-Nitish show in hung House

AFTER ITS dismal show in last year's Lok Sabha polls, in which it drew a blank, the RJD has decided on not giving enough leverage to allies at its cost. The party also feels the Congress will always be open to a post-poll alliance with Nitish Kumar in case of a hung Assembly. So the fewer seats the Congress contests on, the lesser leverage it will have after the results, according to RJD's scheme of things.

from four seats won in 2014. "We will not allow any extra baggage this time. We will fully test our strength," the leader said.

The RJD has 81 seats in the present Assembly. Asked about RJD's tough stance, Congress's Rathore said senior leaders from both RJD and Congress had been working it out.

Mix of virtual, physical campaigning, says CEC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PATNA, OCTOBER 1



Warned of action over social media misuse

Arora said the EC would take stringent possible action over misuse of social media if anyone is found provoking caste or communal violence. "Our law is still not very strong. But we would take all possible action," Arora told a press conference as a team from the Commission wrapped up its visit to the poll-bound state.

AMNESTY INDIA ISSUE Expect other countries not to condone flouting of Indian laws 'by any entity': MEA

SHUBHAJITROY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

WITH A senior official from the US, apart from the UK, the European Union (EU) and the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), raising the issue of Amnesty India shutting down its operations, New Delhi on Thursday said that it expects other governments to "not condone contravention of Indian laws by any entity".

Ministry of External Affairs' official spokesperson Anurag Srivastava on Thursday said that the Union Home Ministry, which deals with FCRA-related issues and foreign funding of NGOs, has said that "NGOs are expected to adhere to all our laws, including in respect of foreign funding, just as they presumably would, in other countries including in the US, and in the European Union".

He said, "We also expect that other governments would not condone contravention of Indian laws by any entity."

Earlier on Thursday, a senior US State Department official told journalists in Washington DC that Amnesty International shutting down its operations in India, after its bank accounts were frozen, "has received attention at the highest levels" in the US government.

Asked about New Delhi's action against Amnesty International, the official said, "We've been focused, we've been very, very closely following this issue... It has received attention at the highest levels of our government. We look forward to a response, and a resolution to a situation that's consistent with international principles and the rule of law."

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CIN: L64200HP1987PLC007466
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Web: www.hfcl.com Email: secretarial@hfcl.com Tel: 91-1792-230644 Fax No.: 91-1792-231902

NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015, that a meeting of the Board of Directors of HFCL Limited is scheduled to be held on **Saturday, 10th October, 2020** at New Delhi, to consider and approve, inter-alia, the un-audited Financial Results of the Company for the 2nd quarter and half year ended on September 30, 2020, of the financial year 2020-21, both on Standalone & Consolidated basis.

In compliance of the provisions of the SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 and the Company's "Code of Internal Procedures and Conduct for Regulating, Monitoring and Reporting of Trading in Securities by Designated Persons", the Trading Window for dealing in the securities of the Company for all the Designated Persons including Insiders, had already been closed w.e.f. **October 01, 2020**, and the same shall re-open on **October 13, 2020**.

The said Notice is also available on the website of the Company at <http://www.hfcl.com> as well as on the websites of Stock Exchanges - The BSE Limited at www.bseindia.com and The National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.nseindia.com.

for HFCL Limited
(formerly Himachal Futuristic Communications Limited)
Sd/-
(Manoj Baid)
Senior Vice-President (Corporate) & Company Secretary

Place : New Delhi
Date : 01.10.2020

INSTITUTE OF HUMAN BEHAVIOUR & ALLIED SCIENCES
(Hospital based autonomous academic Institute, under Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, dealing with "Brain - Mind Problems & their Solutions")
Dilshad Garden, Delhi-110095 (India)
Phone: 22130135 Fax: 22114066 Email: admoffice@ihbas@gmail.com Website: www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in
No. F.2/4100/2020/Estt./IHBAS/ Dated: 26.09.2020

CORRIGENDUM
Against the Advertisement No. 8/2020/Estt/IHBAS for filling up the Faculty post in IHBAS, the following corrigendum is issued:-

- The applications should reach IHBAS latest by 12.10.2020 as already mentioned in the earlier advertisement "the application should reach within 30 days from the date of publication of advertisement in Employment News" Applications received after 04:00 PM on 12.10.2020 will not be accepted.
- Age Relaxation of 5 years will be applicable for the government employees as per GOI guidelines Further relaxation will be at the discretion of the Appointing Authority.
- The "Annual Promotion Scheme (APS)" may be read as "Assessment Promotion Scheme".
- The posts advertised have been grouped as under:-

Sl	Category of post	Post mentioned at Sl. No.
I	Medical discipline	1 to 7; 10 to 13; 16 to 21; 25 to 30
II	Non Medical discipline	8, 9, 14, 15, 22, 23 & 31 to 36
III	Nursing discipline	24 & 37
Post under Centre of Excellence Scheme of Government of India		
IV	Medical discipline	1 & 5
V	Non Medical discipline	2, 3, 6, 7
VI	Nursing discipline	4 & 8

Note: The details of the eligibility criteria for the different categories of posts applied should be checked from IHBAS Website as per the clarification of discipline.

Sd/-
Prof. (Dr.) Nimesh G. Desai
Director

DIP/Shabdarth/0335/20-21

INCREASE IN FREQUENCY OF POORVA EXPRESS SPECIAL

This is notified for the information of all concerned that railways have decided to increase the frequency of train no. 02303/02304 Howrah Jn.- New Delhi Poorva special (via-Patna) & 02381/02382 Howrah Jn.- New Delhi Poorva Special (via-Dhanbad) as per following details:-

Train No. & Train Name	Days of Run	Date(s) from originating station
02303 Howrah Jn. - New Delhi Spl. Poorva Express (via-Patna)	From Howrah Mon, Tue, Fri & Sat	From 05.10.2020
02304 New Delhi Jn. - Howrah Spl. Poorva Express (via-Patna)	From New Delhi Wed, Thu, Sat & Sun	From 08.10.2020
02381 Howrah Jn. - New Delhi Spl. Poorva Express (via-Dhanbad)	From Howrah Wed, Thu & Sun	From 07.10.2020
02382 New Delhi Jn. - Howrah Spl. Poorva Express (via-Dhanbad)	From New Delhi Mon, Tue & Fri	From 06.10.2020

Note:- For any kind of information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in.

Integrated Helpline No. 139 and Security Helpline No. 182

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MARIANA INFRASTRUCTURE LTD.
(CIN No: U70102DL2007PLC169538, Website: <http://www.indiabullsrealestate.com>)
C/o Juventus Estate Ltd.
448-451, Udyog Vihar, Phase - V, Gurugram - 122001

PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas, Director Town and Country Planning, Haryana ("DTCP") vide Memo Nos.- i) 10514 dtd. 22.06.2020, ii) 15495 dtd. 02.09.2020, iii) 15498 dtd. 02.09.2020 & iv) 16510 dtd. 17.09.2020 has granted respective in-principle approvals for Transfer of licenced land measuring i) 0.25 acres in Lic. Nos. 43 dtd. 16.06.2014, ii) 1.9625 acres in 44 dtd. 16.06.2014, iii) 3.875 acres in 56 dtd. 23.06.2011 & iv) 4.00 acres in 37 dtd. 22.04.2012 respectively, total 10.0875 acres, out of 34.0229 acres group housing colony, Sector - 104, Gurugram, from Mariana Infrastructure Ltd. to Juventus Estate Ltd., who is developing the group housing colony ("said Colony") named "One Indiabulls, Gurugram" under the terms and conditions of granted licences and RERA registration Certificate No. 160(A)/2017 dtd. 21.11.2017.

And Whereas, several individuals ("existing allottees") have made bookings for allotment of Flats/Units in the said colony. And whereas, before grant of final permission for transfer of licenced land, the office of DTCP, RERA Act / HRERA rules require seeking of objection(s), if any, from the existing allottees. Accordingly, vide this Public Notice objections are hereby invited from any of the existing allottees in the said Group Housing colony on the proposed Transfer of 10.0875 acres licenced land. A copy of the in-principle approval for transfer of licenced colony area has been hosted on the website of the company i.e. <http://www.indiabullsrealestate.com> and also kept in the office of Senior Town Planner, Gurugram at HSVP Complex, Sector -14, Gurugram for perusal of the existing allottees.

Any existing allottee(s) having any objection on the proposed licence transfer, may file his/her/their objection in the office of Senior Town Planner, Gurugram or in the office of the undersigned within 30 days of the publication of this Public Notice, failing which it shall be assumed that there are no objections to the proposed Transfer of licenced land and also accordingly the previous written consent of the existing allottees will be considered deemed received, as required under Section 15(1)(2) of the RERA Act for final approval of transfer of licence.

Place: Gurugram (Authorised Signatory)
Date: 02.10.2020 Mariana Infrastructure Ltd.

SPECIAL TRAIN BETWEEN LUCKNOW JN. AND JABALPUR

For the convenience of passengers, Railways have decided to run a Special Train between Lucknow Jn. and Jabalpur Jn. w.e.f. from 05.10.2020 as per schedule given below :-

05205/05206 Lucknow Jn. - Jabalpur Jn. - Lucknow Jn. Special Train (Daily)

Train No. 05205	STATIONS	Train No. 05206	
ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.
-	17:30	09:30	-
18:23	18:25	Unnao Jn.	08:27 08:29
19:05	19:15	Kanpur Central	07:55 08:05
20:31	20:33	Ghatampur	05:42 05:44
21:15	21:17	Bharuwa Sumerpur	05:02 05:04
21:32	21:34	Ragaul	04:44 04:46
22:25	22:35	Banda	03:50 04:00
23:07	23:09	Atarra	02:28 02:30
23:45	23:55	Chitrakutdham Karwi	01:50 01:55
03:20	03:30	Satna Jn.	23:40 23:50
03:55	04:00	Maihar	23:03 23:05
05:10	05:15	Katni Jn.	22:00 22:05
06:03	06:05	Sihora Road	21:20 21:22
07:10	-	Jabalpur Jn.	- 20:50

Days of Run: 05205 Ex. Lucknow Jn. Everyday from 05.10.2020 & 05206 Ex. Jabalpur Jn. Everyday from 06.10.2020.

Accommodation: 1st AC, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & Reserved Second Seating.

• This special train shall run fully reserved.

REVISED TIMINGS OF TRAIN NO. 02441 BILASPUR JN. - NEW DELHI SPECIAL EXPRESS TRAIN AT NAGPUR STATION FROM 01.10.2020

STATION	Existing Timing		Revised Timing	
	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.
Nagpur	20:35	20:45	20:25	20:35

The passengers shall adhere to the COVID-19 related safety norms & guidelines issued by Government of India from time to time.

Beware of Touts Always buy Train Tickets from Railway Counters/Authorized Railway Travel Agents only

Note : For any kind of information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in

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Chaturshringi, Savitribai Phule University Road, Pune-411 007
020-25701000/ 25701311; Fax 020-25537735
email: cme@vamnicom.gov.in

Invites Application for the ACADEMIC ASSOCIATE position in Centre for Management Education on CONTRACT BASIS

Last date of application: 21.10.2020
Please visit: www.vamnicom.gov.in for details

DIRECTOR

COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (CSIR)
Anusandhan Bhawan, 2, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001
Advt. No. 02/2020

Applications/nominations are invited for the positions of DIRECTOR of CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR), Lucknow

CSIR invites applications/nominations for the positions of DIRECTOR of CSIR-Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR), Lucknow in Level 15 of pay-matrix (Rs.1,82,200-2,24,100) plus allowances as applicable in CSIR.

For eligibility criteria and other conditions, please see the detailed/ complete advertisement No. 02/2020 on CSIR website www.csir.res.in. Applications/nominations may be sent alongwith complete bio-data and list of publications/patents etc. through email on email ID drc@csir.res.in or by post to Director Recruitment Cell, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Anusandhan Bhawan, 2, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001 on or before **23.10.2020**.

davp 36202/11/0011/2021

SPECIAL TRAIN

In order to clear extra rush of passengers Railways have decided to run the 05220/05219 Delhi- Bapudham Motihari Delhi Express Special Train as per schedule given below:-

05220/05219 Delhi- Bapudham Motihari Delhi Express Special Train				02 Trips		
Train No. 05220	STATIONS	Train No. 05219	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.
-	23.40	Delhi	18.30	-	-	-
00.23	00.25	Ghaziabad	17.43	17.45	-	-
01.10	01.15	Hapur	16.50	16.52	-	-
02.52	03.00	Moradabad	15.00	15.15	-	-
03.55	04.00	Chaundasi	13.57	14.02	-	-
08.20	08.30	Sitapur	08.15	08.25	-	-
11.00	11.10	Gonda	05.05	05.15	-	-
11.35	11.37	Mankapur	04.32	04.34	-	-
12.40	12.43	Basti	03.40	03.43	-	-
14.15	14.30	Gorakhpur	02.30	02.40	-	-
15.35	15.40	Kaptanganj	01.10	01.15	-	-
17.19	17.22	Bagaha	23.07	23.10	-	-
17.43	17.45	Harinagar	22.42	22.44	-	-
18.03	18.13	Narkatiaganj	22.23	22.28	-	-
18.40	18.42	Bettiah	21.46	21.49	-	-
19.02	19.04	Sagauli	21.30	21.32	-	-
20.00	-	Bapudham Motihari	-	21.10	-	-

Days of Run: 05220 Ex Delhi Jn. on Sunday (04.10.2020) and 05219 Ex Bapudham Motihari on Friday (02.10.2020).

Accommodation: AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & Reserved 2nd seating

The passengers shall adhere to the COVID-19 related safety norms & guidelines issued by Government of India from time to time.

Beware of Touts Always Buy Train Tickets from Railway Counters/ Authorized Railway Travel Agents only

Security Helpline No. 182

Integrated Helpline No. 139

Note : For any kind of Information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in

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2126/2020 **NORTHERN RAILWAY**
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AWARD CATEGORIES

- BIRAC SITARE-Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Award Grant (SITARE-GYT)
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Who can apply:

- Students pursuing Masters/PhD in any discipline
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Upto INR 15 lakhs Funding support

Proposal submission
Starts: 2nd October, 2020
Closes: 30th November, 2020 (5:30 pm)

Apply online only through BIRAC website (www.birac.nic.in)

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For further queries: spedo2.birac@nic.in

3 soldiers killed, 4 injured in Pak firing

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JAMMU, OCTOBER 1

THREE SOLDIERS were killed and four others injured as Pakistani troops initiated firing and mortar shelling on Indian positions along the Line of Control in Naugam sector of Kupwara district and Krishna Ghati sector of Poonch district.

"Pakistan initiated an unprovoked ceasefire violation along the LoC in Naugam sector, Kupwara on Thursday morning by firing mortars and other weapons," Defence Spokesperson Colonel Rajesh Kalra said. "Two soldiers fatal and four soldiers injured and being evacuated," he said.

On Thursday morning, the Pakistani army started indiscriminate firing on the Indian positions in the Naugam sector. Pakistani troops later fired mortars and other weapons targeting Indian positions, resulting in the killing of two soldiers and injuries to four others.

The Army has not identified the deceased soldiers pending information to their families.

Meanwhile, another soldier, Lance Naik Karnail Singh, was killed Wednesday night as Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked small arms fire and shelling along the LoC in Krishna Ghati sector of Poonch district.

BRIEFLY



Kashyap arrives at the police station. PTI

MAHARASHTRA Kashyap questioned in rape case

Mumbai: Filmmaker Anurag Kashyap was questioned for over eight hours by the Mumbai Police on Thursday in connections with allegations of rape levelled against him by an actor. Kashyap reached Versova police station in Andheri West shortly after 10 am and left a few minutes past 8 pm. An official at Versova police station said the filmmaker has denied the allegations against him. **ENS**

MAHARASHTRA Kidnapped baby found dead in well near home

Pune: A 10-month-old baby, allegedly kidnapped two days ago from his home in a Maharashtra village, was found dead in a well near the house on Thursday, the Satara police said Thursday. The parents had gone to work in the fields leaving the child in the care of his siblings. "The children told us a man and a woman had taken the baby away," said the Satara SP. **ENS**

BENGAL

Woman found with siblings' bodies at home

Kolkata: The police found a 60-year-old woman living with the corpses of her brother and sister inside their house at Belur in Howrah on Wednesday. The police said it seemed like Anita Sen was mentally challenged and had sent her to a mental institute. They are yet to find out how her brother, Manoranjan (80), and sister, Pratima (75), died. **ENS**

Head 'smashed with brick', girl found dead in Bhadohi village

2 arrested, minor in custody; police say family enmity murder motive

ASAD REHMAN
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 1

AN 11-YEAR-OLD Dalit girl was murdered, her head "smashed with a brick", at a village in Uttar Pradesh's Bhadohi district on Thursday afternoon when she had gone to a field to relieve herself, the police said.

The police ascribed an old enmity between the families of the victim and the accused as the murder motive.

According to an officer, the police are awaiting the autopsy report to ascertain whether she was sexually assaulted, and that the victim's family did not allege rape in their complaint.

Police officers said two persons from the same village, also belonging to the Dalit community, were arrested and one minor boy was taken into custody in connection with the murder on Thursday evening.

Circle Officer (Gyanpur) Bhushan Verma told The Indian Express, "The body was found in a field in the village. The girl had left home around 12.30 pm, and after she failed to return for some time, family members started looking for her. The family later found her body and informed the police...around 3 pm."

He added, "The girl's head was smashed with a brick."

Two parts of a brick, allegedly used in the murder, have been

recovered, the police said.

Late Thursday evening, Verma said, "The accused and the victim belong to the Dalit community. There has been no confirmation of rape till now. We have lodged a case under IPC Section 302 (murder). The family has not alleged rape in their complaint."

In a statement, the police said two persons were arrested, and a 16-year-old boy was detained in connection with the murder. The two arrested are the teen's father and a relative (names withheld to protect boy's identity). "All of them belong to one family," Bhadohi SP Ram Badan Singh said.

The police's statement said: "There was old enmity between the two families over which the accused had abused the victim's family and threatened to ruin their lives. This is why the girl was murdered...the accused have confessed to killing the girl over old enmity."

The police said the accused will be presented in court, and the minor in front of a Juvenile Justice Board, on Friday.

The SP told the media from the crime spot that details of the murder will emerge after the police get the postmortem report. Asked about allegations of rape, Singh said, "Once investigation and postmortem is done, it will become clear if such an incident happened with her..."



Police personnel stationed at the village of the gang rape victim in Hathras. Gajendra Yadav

Addl Chief Secy of UP Info Dept shunted out

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 1

AT A time it faces heat over the Hathras incident, the Uttar Pradesh government Thursday replaced the Additional Chief Secretary of the Information Department.

Naveet Sehgal, Additional Chief Secretary, micro, small and medium scale industries department, has been given additional charge of the information department, replacing Awanish Kumar Awasthi, sources said.

Besides Sehgal, the government has also appointed a Principal Secretary for the Information Department. The additional charge of this post has been given to Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister, Sanjay Prasad. Sehgal will officially take charge on Friday, sources said.

Maya to PM: Replace Yogi or impose President's rule

MAULSHREE SETH
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 1

CITING RECENT cases of rape and murder of women in Uttar Pradesh, BSP chief Mayawati Thursday asked the BJP leadership to either replace Yogi Adityanath as Chief Minister with a "capable person" or impose President's rule in the state.

Referring to the deaths of two women in Hathras and Balrampur, she said the incidents are reminiscent of the 2012 Delhi gangrape and murder.

"I want to tell the Central government that Yogi Adityanath is not capable enough to control the law and order... It would be better that Adityanath is sent back to his math in Gorakhpur... If he does not like it there, then he can be sent to oversee the construction of Ram Temple in Ayodhya," Mayawati said, alleging that Adityanath was made the Chief Minister under pressure from the RSS.

"I want to say to Yogi Adityanath that you are born from the womb of a woman. You should consider sisters and daughters of others as your own. If you are unable to protect them, you should resign," she said.

Asking BJP to "free itself from the clutches of RSS for the welfare of the state", the former chief minister reminded Prime Minister Narendra Modi that he is an MP from Varanasi and therefore has to keep in mind the welfare of the people of the state.

"I want to tell the PM that he has been elected from Varanasi and therefore he should at least see into it... When Adityanath is unable to handle the state, either someone else should be made CM or it would be better for the people of UP that President's rule is imposed," she said.

Explain hurry to cremate body: NCW to UP cops

New Delhi: The National Commission for Women Thursday asked the Uttar Pradesh Police to explain its "urgency" in cremating the body of the Hathras gang rape victim.

The police had brought the body from Safdarjung Hospital in the National Capital to her village 200 km away, before burning it in the dead of the night—keeping the family away from the last rites.

The NCW said the incident "underlines the grim state of women in the society". In a statement, it termed the late night episode that unfolded in the victim's village as "disturbing".

The commission has written to the state's DGP, seeking an explanation on "the urgency to cremate the body of the victim". It also sought a reply on the matter at the earliest. **ENS**

Balrampur victim had 10 injuries on body: postmortem report

AVANEESH MISHRA
BALRAMPUR, OCTOBER 1

TWO DAYS after the death of a 22-year-old Dalit woman, who was allegedly raped by two men in Gaisri area of UP's Balrampur district, the postmortem report said there were at least ten antemortem injuries on her body—eight contusion wounds on her cheek, chest, elbows, left thigh and two abrasions on her left leg and knee.

The cause of death has been mentioned as haemorrhage and shock due to the antemortem injuries. *The Indian Express* has a copy of the postmortem report.

While the doctor, who conducted the postmortem, did not give an opinion on sexual assault, the report mentioned that there was mild haemorrhagic clot in her private parts. Vaginal swabs of the woman have been taken for tests.

The woman was cremated on Wednesday night in the presence of her family members. Police have arrested the two accused—Shahid (26) and his nephew Sahil.

According to the FIR filed on the basis of a complaint by the woman's brother, she left for work around 10 am on Tuesday. When she did not return by 4 pm, he called her on her cellphone,

but there was no answer.

"Around 7 pm, my sister returned home unconscious in a rickshaw. The rickshaw puller soon left. When questioned, we found that the two accused had called Dr Ziaurrehman Khan to treat her at their home but the doctor refused and informed the residents of the area," the FIR quoted the brother as saying.

As per the complaint, Shahid and Sahil abducted her and then raped her. "When her condition worsened, they sent her home in a rickshaw. She died on her way to hospital," the brother said. The two have been booked under IPC sections 366 (kidnapping, abducting), 376D (gangrape) and

302 (murder) along with sections of SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

The victim's mother said her daughter, who was to appear for her BA final exam this year, was returning from college after submitting the admission fee when she was allegedly abducted by the accused and taken to a general store run by Shahid, around 2 km from the victim's house.

The victim's father is a farmer. Dr Ziaurrehman Khan, who was called by the accused to treat the woman, said, "The youth, identified as Sahil, came to call me around 5.15 pm. I went to the general store run by Shahid. Shahid was there. He said there is a pa-

tient in his house. When I saw none of their family members present, I inquired. I refused to treat her in the absence of any woman or elderly. I came out and asked residents if they have the phone number of the woman's father. They did not. Meanwhile, the accused asked me to return to my clinic, saying they will bring the girl there along with her father. I don't know what happened after that." Asked about the woman's condition when he saw her, Khan said she was lying on a sofa. She said she was having severe stomach ache and asked for medicines, Khan said.

A local resident, who has a jewellery shop in front of Shahid's

store, said he was at his shop the whole time, but did not see any woman being brought. However, one Amresh Kumar, who lives next to Shahid's store, said a relative of his saw someone carrying an unconscious girl on his shoulder from the back door of the store which has an attached room. At Shahid's house, about 200 m from the store, his family members refused to speak.

Police said a sum of Rs 6,18,750 has been given to the victim's family by the DM and the SP as compensation. Family members said they would not demand more money, but want the government to give a job to a family member.

BABRI VERDICT

Accused not named in depositions, top officials say could not hear speeches, cite noise and dust

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

■ HEARD SLOGANS of "Babri Masjid tod do", but cannot prove who raised the slogans.
■ Could not hear the speeches given by the political leaders (who sat 800 metres away).
■ There was noise and dust, could not hear anything.

These are some of the depositions made by police officers, local intelligence officials and the CRPF listed as key witnesses by the CBI to prove a conspiracy angle in the Babri Masjid demolition case. Few named any of the high-profile accused, while two officials testified about provocative speeches given by BJP leaders, including Uma Bharti. On Wednesday, all 32 were acquitted by a Special CBI court.

The CRPF was in-charge of security arrangements at the mosque.

CBI special judge SK Yadav rejected the testimony of the officials naming BJP leaders, saying there were contradictions in their statements. "PW (prosecution witness) 57 (Farooque Ahmed, Police officer) also for the first in the court testified that Acharya Dharmendra Dev, Sadhvi Ritambhara, and Uma Bharti gave the provocative speech. PW 58 (Jagveer Singh, CRPF Constable)

& PW 57 have not identified the accused and those who were identified, it is for the first time in the court they made mention of the accused," the court said.

However, the two were exceptions. Top officials to Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) personnel, who gave details on kar sevaks getting "aggressive", didn't identify or name any of the accused charged by the CBI.

CRPF

■ PW 62 (Jeevan Singh), IG-rank officer, on duty at the spot: He did not name any of the accused as being involved in the demolition.
■ PW-259 (Satish Chandra Chauhey), IG, CRPF: Accepted that it was "anti-social element and terrorists, who were disguised as kar sevaks, because of whom the disputed structure was demolished".

The order went on to say, "... some Muslim youth, indulged in vandalism of some graves on December 1-2, with the intention to communally charge up the atmosphere... The evidence also shows that on December 5, an intelligence report was taken up, during the high-level meeting taken up by the Inspector General AK Sharan, that those who associated with the Pakistani intelligence could also attack."

■ PW-151 (Rajendra Kumar Swami), CRPF Deputy Commandant: Said volunteers were present to



Two officials said BJP leaders gave provocative speeches

complete the task of kar seva.
■ PW 127 (Kanwar Jorawar Singh), on duty at the sanctum sanctorum: Testified that he did not have any information about what happened outside.
■ PW 121 (Mohammed Latif), CRPF officer: Testified about the kar seva being performed; not about any accused.

PAC

■ PW-269 (Jagmohan Yadav), former PAC commandant: Said that as the crowd swelled up, it became uncontrollable. The court said his testimony couldn't prove

involvement of the accused.
■ PW-234 (Veer Singh), PAC officer, on duty at the Ram Chabutra: Said that due to noise and dust, he could not see or hear anything.
■ PW-113 (Kumar Rana), PAC officer: In connection with the kar sevaks, said they were behind stone-pelting. Didn't name any of the accused.
■ PW 162 (Devdutt Singh) and PW-167 (Rajendra Prasad Shukla): Testified that the crowd became uncontrollable, and that they put in all efforts to bring the situation under control.
■ PW 185 (Kewal Vas Tiwari):

Testified that kar sevaks were not deterred by tear gas or by an order to open firing by a circle officer. Said they had obstructed officials from performing their duties.

Police and Local Intelligence

■ PW-176 (Nagendra Prasad Pandey), on LIU (local intelligence unit) duty: Testified that kar sevaks got aggressive, and raised slogans like 'Ek dhakka aur do, Babri masjid todh do'. However, the court said, he could not authenticate which specific slogan was raised by which accused.
■ PW-68 (Akhilesh Mehrotra), Additional SP: Said that many political leaders were part of the jan sabha being held 800 metres away, but added that he could not hear what they said in their speeches as he was busy with law and order duty.
■ PW-9 (Ram Bahadur) Police: Said that several of the accused gave speeches and gestured towards the disputed structure. However, during cross-examination, he accepted that on December 5, 1992, at a meeting, the IG Zone had informed that Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI could launch an attack disguised as kar sevaks. He also said that on March 26, 1993, one of the accused, L K Advani, looked very worried.

IB reports on demolition plot were placed before SC, says ex-home secy

MANOJ MORE
PUNE, OCTOBER 1

FORMER Union Home Secretary Madhav Godbole and former Supreme Court Justice PB Sawant on Thursday expressed surprise at the verdict by the special CBI court, which acquitted all 32 surviving accused in the Babri Masjid demolition case on Wednesday.

Describing the verdict as unexpected and surprising, Godbole told *The Indian Express*, "When I heard that all the 32 accused have been acquitted, I could not believe it. This is because we had placed all facts before the Supreme Court, which was hearing the case even before the Babri Masjid was demolished. The hearing was on a day-to-day basis and we were updating the court regarding what was happening on the ground."

Godbole said, "The reports of the Intelligence Bureau were placed before the Supreme Court. The reports had said there was a conspiracy to demolish Babri Masjid. Yet, the court says there was no conspiracy...". He said the Supreme Court had also appointed an observer. "The SC had allowed 'kar seva' after an undertaking was given that no damage will be caused to the Babri Masjid...".

Godbole said he had urged then Union Home Minister

TEJPAL CASE

Bailable warrant issued against 8 prosecution witnesses

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PANAJI, OCTOBER 1

THE FAST-TRACK court at Mapusa in Goa, which is hearing the rape case against Tarun Tejpal, has now issued bailable warrants against eight prosecution witnesses who include colleagues and relatives of the victim.

The court is on a deadline set by the Supreme Court to finish the trial.

With the pandemic affecting the functioning of courts, the trial last heard the matter in March 2020 and the witnesses were initially called in the first week of September.

The bailable warrants were issued on separate dates through this week, with the witnesses now expected to attend the hearing starting October 6.

Earlier, the victim approached the High Court of Bombay at Goa after a bailable warrant was issued against her for not attending the hearing. The victim has cited health concerns and difficulty to travel during the pandemic.

The other witnesses have cited reasons ranging from expensive flight tickets to unsafe travelling options when summoned to appear in person.

Change in composition of SC bench hearing Sudarshan case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

THE PETITION pending in Supreme Court against Sudarshan TV's show "UPSC Jihad" will now be heard by a three-judge bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud, Indu Malhotra and Indira Banerjee.

The case status, as displayed on the SC website, shows the case listed before this bench on October 5. The case was last heard on September 24 by a bench of Justices Chandrachud, Malhotra and KM Joseph.

This week, there has been a change in composition of some benches, with Justice Banerjee coming into the Justice Chandrachud-led bench and Justice Joseph moving to another bench. Calling it a "routine exercise", officials pointed out that the cause list reflects that compositions of at least eight benches have changed.

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Top court accepts DGCA suggestions on lockdown ticket refunds

70% infected people don't transmit virus, reveal data from TN, Andhra

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

AMITABH SINHA
PUNE, OCTOBER 1

THE SUPREME COURT Thursday accepted the suggestions of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation on refunding passengers for flights booked during the lockdown for travel during the period.

A bench of Justices Ashok Bhushan, R Subhash Reddy and M R Shah, which was seized of a petition by NGO Pravasi Legal Cell, said the plea stands disposed of in terms of the DGCA proposal.

The DGCA has said that companies are required under the law to refund passengers for flights cancelled during the lockdown, but forcing them to do so may prove counterproductive.

The watchdog came up with what a "workable solution keeping in view the interests of both" the industry and passengers. Among others, it suggested that airlines should "immediately" refund tickets booked during the lockdown from March 25 to May 3 during the period, but those facing "financial distress" be allowed to set up a transferable credit shell with life up to March 31, 2021. If it still remains unutilised, the same shall be refunded.

OVER 70 per cent of individuals infected with Covid-19 in India may not be transmitting the virus to others, a first of its kind study has found. The disease could be spreading in the country only through a small set of infected people, the study suggests.

A study has analysed data from over 85,000 confirmed infections in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu until August 1, and over 5.75 lakh of their contacts who were identified and traced.

Researchers found that no infection was detected in the contacts of nearly 71 per cent of the confirmed positive cases. In other words, over 60,000 of these 85,000 infected persons did not give the virus to any one.

However, a small set of infected people, less than 10 per cent of the total, accounted for much as 60 per cent of secondary infection, the study found. These individuals passed on the virus to maybe 20, 30, or 40 others.

The study, which has been published in Science magazine, was carried out by Ramanan Laxminarayan of the Department

of International Health at the John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and others including researchers from Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and the United States.

Transmission was most effective within the same age group, the researchers reported. This was especially true among children and the elderly, the study showed.

Importantly, the fatality rate among older individuals in the study was found to be lower than in developed countries like the United States. Among the older population, females were found to have significantly lower mortality than males.

"Some of these findings are not very surprising. The fact that only a few people are mainly responsible for spreading the disease, for example. This is fairly well established for a number of other infectious diseases as well, and is called the 80:20 rule. About 20 per cent of infected people are responsible, roughly, for 80 per cent of secondary infections. The study suggests this may be true for the present epidemic in the Indian setting," Gautam Menon, professor of physics and biology at Ashoka University, said.

A major reason for this is that

OTHER FINDINGS

TRANSMISSION: Most risk when people travelled in same vehicle; most efficient transmission in similar age groups, i.e., children to children, elderly to elderly

MORTALITY: Men much more vulnerable than women; diabetes most common co-morbidity, followed by hypertension, coronary artery disease, renal disease

a large number of confirmed infected people, or those showing symptoms, are isolated, and do not come in contact with others. But there could be biological reasons as well.

"Some individuals tend to shed greater viral load, and thus have a greater capacity to infect. But you also need to interact with people to be able to infect them. Isolation reduces that opportunity. So, it is a combination of both these things," Menon said.

The small set of 'super-spreaders' are usually people

A small set of infected people accounted for much as 60 per cent of secondary infection

who are unaware of their infection, and interact with large numbers of others as they go about their lives - vegetable vendors or street hawkers, for example. The Koyambedu market cluster in Chennai was responsible for transmitting the disease to thousands of people, who then carried the virus to faraway districts in Tamil Nadu.

Menon said the most interesting finding was the relatively low death rate in the older population compared to the US and countries in Europe. The case fatality ratio (CFR), or the percentage of people who died out of those who were confirmed infected, was 9.58 per cent among 65-74-year-olds, 13 per cent in the 75-84 age group, and 16.6 per cent for 85 years and older in the study. Across all ages, CFR was 2.06 per cent. Older people were more vulnerable, but less so than their counterparts in other countries.

"In the US and European

countries, the fatality numbers rise very sharply in the 65 and older age groups. That doesn't seem to be happening here, which is very revealing. Because if this is true, it conveys something very interesting about the nature of the disease in the Indian population. There has been this debate on whether we are accurately reporting our death numbers... Assuming the data is correct, this is extremely significant," Menon said.

A possible reason for this could be that people who live longer in India are usually from the socially and economically better-off sections, with better access to health services. This phenomenon is more pronounced in India than in other countries, the study said.

The mortality rate among older women was several percentage points lower than in older men in the study. In the 65-74 age group, for example, the CFR for women was 6.67 per cent, compared to 11.5 per cent for men. In the 75-84 group, these numbers were 8.56 per cent and 16 per cent respectively. In the still older group, mortality for women was only 11.1 per cent, while for men, it was 20.5 per cent.

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

213 DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN
CASES: 63,12,584
RECOVERED: 52,73,201
DEATHS: 98,678
TESTS: 7,56,19,781
DOUBLING RATE: 51.93**



KEY STATES TO WATCH	TOTAL CASES	SURGE IN 24 HOURS	7-DAY AVG GROWTH*	DOUBLING TIME**
■ Maharashtra	13,84,446	18,317	1.31%	54.92
■ Andhra	6,93,484	6,133	1.01%	71.53
■ Tamil Nadu	5,97,602	5,659	0.98%	73.14
■ Kerala	1,96,106	8,830	4.09%	17.61
■ Delhi	2,79,715	3,390	1.23%	58.58

* Compounded Daily Growth Rate over last 7 days ** Calculated over 7-day growth

CASE FATALITY RATIO	POSITIVITY RATE	DAILY IN, DAILY OUT
7 DAYS EARLIER: 1.59 NOW: 1.56	7 DAYS EARLIER: 8.50 NOW: 8.35	DETECTED TODAY: 86,821 RECOVERED TODAY: 85,376

Deaths as a ratio of positive cases (in %); indicator of progress in averting deaths
Positives against number tested (in %); indicator of the spread of disease
Becoming sick vs recovering; more recoveries for 14 days may signal the peak
Data as on September 30, released by Union Ministry of Health, ICMR and states. Often daily numbers include data from previous days. As such, trends based on daily numbers are indicative, not definitive

TMC MLA who tested positive dies

Kolkata: Trinamool Congress MLA Gurupada Mete, who tested positive for Covid-19 last month, died in a private hospital on Thursday evening, officials said. The 51-year-old two-time MLA of Indus constituency in

Bankura district was admitted to the hospital in Howrah district after he was infected with the virus in September. He was also suffering from complications of heart and kidney diseases, officials of the hospital said. PTI

Quad meet to focus on global order after Covid

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

AS EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar heads to Japan next week and participates in the foreign ministers' meeting of the Quadrilateral grouping on October 6, New Delhi on Thursday said it will be focused on the "post-Covid-19 international order" as well as the "need for coordinating responses to the challenges emerging from the pandemic".

As the first such meeting of Quad foreign ministers' grouping is taking place amid the tension between India and China over the border standoff, Delhi also said that there will be a discussion on "regional issues".

In response to questions at the weekly briefing, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said on Thursday, "The second meeting of the India-Australia-Japan-US Ministerial will be held on October 6 during the visit. In this meeting, foreign ministers of the respective countries will be participating."

"The agenda will be broadly focused on the post-Covid-19 international order as well as the need for coordinating re-

sponses to the challenges emerging from the pandemic. There will also be a discussion on regional issues. The foreign ministers are expected to collectively affirm the importance of a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific," the MEA spokesperson said.

Jaishankar will also hold separate bilateral meetings with US Secretary of State Michael R Pompeo, Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi and Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne.

The MEA had on Tuesday announced Jaishankar's visit. Amid the pandemic, this will be one of the few in-person meetings, at a time when most meetings have taken place through virtual mode.

Jaishankar will be in Tokyo on October 6-7 for bilateral consultations with the Japanese foreign minister. "The two ministers are expected to discuss bilateral and regional issues of mutual interest," the MEA statement said.

This is the second Quad foreign ministers' meeting, as the first such meeting had taken place in New York in September last year, on the margins of the UN General Assembly.

Last week, senior officials of Quad grouping had met through virtual mode.

As cases rise, Kerala bans gathering of more than 5 people

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 1

AS COVID-19 cases continue to surge, the Kerala government Thursday announced a ban on the assembly of more than five persons. The ban under Section 144 of the CrPC comes into effect from Saturday and will continue till the end of this month.

This, in effect, will halt all social and political events in the state in October. It would also nullify the directive in the latest unlock guidelines allowing gatherings of up to 100 persons outside containment zones.

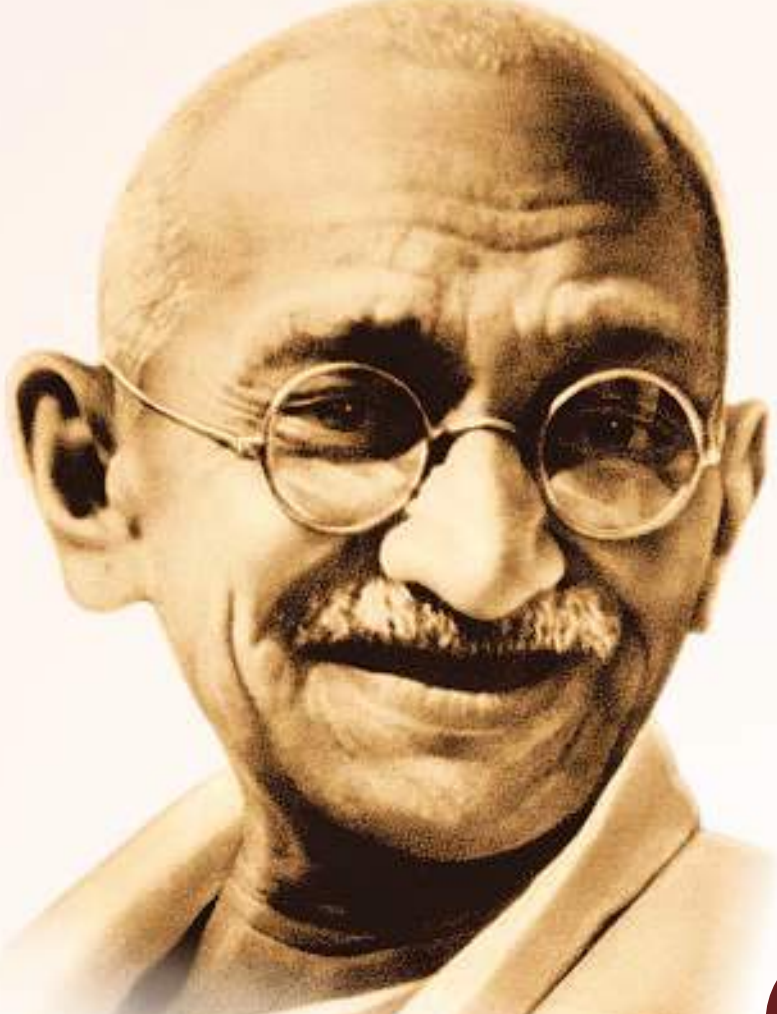
District Magistrates were directed to use the relevant provisions and orders under Section 144, CrPC to control the spread of the disease. Strict restrictions shall be im-

posed in containment zones and in specific areas where the spread of the disease is apprehended.

On Thursday, the total number of Covid-19 cases reported in Kerala crossed two lakh, with 8,135 fresh cases on Thursday. The state has now 72,339 active cases—the third highest number among all states.

Among the states which have 2 lakh-plus Covid-19 cases, Kerala is in the ninth slot. The share of active cases is at 34 per cent and still climbing. For comparison, the national average figure is 14.9 per cent.

Last week, Chhattisgarh and Jammu and Kashmir had the largest share of active cases among states and Union Territories, but the active case share in both places have now fallen to 27 per cent and 23 per cent, respectively.



“ एक राष्ट्र की संस्कृति, उसमें रहने वाले लोगों के दिलों में और आत्मा में रहती है। ”
- महात्मा गांधी



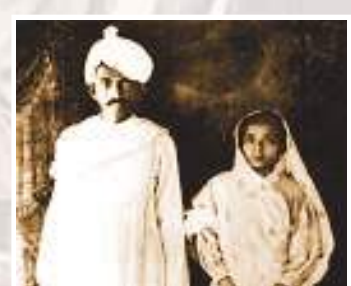


गांधी जयंती

2 अक्टूबर, 2020

के अवसर पर

कोटि-कोटि नमन

- योगी आदित्यनाथ, मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

कीटना से बचाव के उपाय



2 गज

सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग का पालन करें

फेस कवर/ मास्क अवश्य लगाएं

हाथों को साफ रखने हेतु साबुन/ सैनेटाइजर का प्रयोग करें

छींकते और खांसते समय अपना मुंह व नाक रुमाल से ढकें

आरोग्य सेतु एवं आयुष कवच एप का प्रयोग करें

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

सबका साथ-सबका विकास-सबका विश्वास



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

In the mirror of Hathras

Brutality of crime, brazen police abdication, have shaken and shamed us all. Court must step in



NANDITA RAO AND ITI PANDEY

PEOPLE WHO DIED of the plague or some other contagious disease were carried out of the village and their bodies were burnt without the dignity of a proper cremation. This indignity to our loved ones was accepted as a public health necessity. But Wednesday night, when images streamed in on social media and news channels, of a sobbing mother in Hathras being denied her young daughter's body, followed by the images of police personnel, deployed in full force, burning this young girl's remains, without any right in law, in a lonely field outside the village, it was an injustice that was morally and legally too much to bear. It was a reminder of a time when, in this country, a person relegated by oppressors through the unscientific and inhuman caste system as an untouchable, could be treated worse than animals are — with social and legal impunity.

A young woman, only 19 years old, hailing from the Valmiki community, was denied the promise of the Constitution of India of equality before the law and equal protection of the law, in both life and death. Ironically, she may have had a better chance of justice in British India, because all Indians were unequal to the coloniser and yet equal to each other as their subjects. Sadly, the Constitution which we the people of India chose to rid ourselves of caste and communal plague is being flouted brazenly.

The sequence of events that saw the unforgivable forced burning of the body of the young woman in Hathras is as horrifying as the end that she met. As per media reports, the mother of the victim described how she had found the body of her daughter on September 14: "My daughter was lying naked with her tongue protruding from her mouth. Her eyes were bulging out and she was bleeding from her mouth, her neck and there was blood near her eyes. I also noticed bleeding from her vagina. I quickly covered her with the pallu of my saree, and started screaming." It was further reported that the brother and mother drove the victim to the Chandpa police station on their motorcycle and the brother alleged that "the police kept saying, 'Just take her from here.'" The family took the victim in an ambulance to a local hospital where she was kept for two hours before being referred to the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical

College and Hospital, Aligarh. Statements by Dr Shahid Ali Siddiqui, principal of the JNM College and Hospital, in the media, reportedly stated that "due to spinal cord damage, the victim was suffering from quadriplegia", meaning complete paralysis in all four limbs. And the injuries on her neck, he added, were causing her "breathing problems". Thirteen days after the victim had been admitted to the hospital, the doctor said that they were yet to confirm if sexual assault had taken place. "The girl is serious but we cannot confirm sexual assault as of yet. A sealed report from our end has been sent to the district administration". According to an article published in *The Indian Express*, the four upper-caste men, charged with gang rape and attempt to murder, apart from charges under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, were arrested on a statement given by the victim on September 23, after she briefly regained consciousness. There is no explanation for the nine-day delay. On September 29, the victim succumbed to her injuries at Safdarjung Hospital, where, as per the media reports, the family states she was taken without their consent.

As if it wasn't bad enough that the entire investigation of the dastardly violence against this young Dalit woman had been compromised, and her health and medical condition had been neglected, the actions of the UP police officials after she passed away seem unfathomable. The same police force which had till now not had enough manpower to lodge a timely FIR, or to take the victim to the hospital, or to ensure timely collection of medical evidence, emerged in full force to lock up her family members, deny them the body of their daughter without any legal right to do so, and carried her body to the wilderness to be burnt in the middle of the night.

The question of whether it is obligatory for the police to register an FIR on information given by an informant has been answered in the affirmative by the five-member bench of the Supreme Court in *Lalita Kumari v. Govt. of U.P.* It has been categorically ruled that the provisions of Section 154(1) CrP are mandatory and the officer concerned is duty-bound to register the case on the basis of information disclosing commission of a cognizable offence.

The Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2013, emphasises examination as well as treatment of the victim, both physical and psychological, in addition to mere evidence collection. As per MOHFW guidelines, it is mandatory for a doctor to inform the jurisdictional police (local police station) regarding a case of sexual violence, unless the survivor does not give consent, in which case such fact is written on the MLC by the examining doctor. The victim should have been taken for medical examination immediately and an MLC would have clearly stated all the injuries on the person of the victim, which then could have directed the sections to be added in the FIR and guided further investi-

gation. However, in the present case, the ambiguity as to whether or not there was sexual assault, does not seem to inspire confidence in either the investigators or the doctors.

As if it wasn't bad enough that the entire investigation of the dastardly violence against this young Dalit woman had been compromised, and her health and medical condition had been neglected, the actions of the UP police officials after she passed away seem unfathomable. The same police force which had till now not had enough manpower to lodge a timely FIR, or to take the victim to the hospital, or to ensure timely collection of medical evidence, emerged in full force to lock up her family members, deny them the body of their daughter without any legal right to do so, and carried her body to the wilderness to be burnt in the middle of the night. Not only is this action completely without the sanction of law, but its haste and timing also create further suspicion that it was done to suppress the medical evidence of sexual assault. Seeing the keepers of the law conduct themselves in a manner that appears inhuman and illegal, with impunity, has a chilling effect on the law-abiding citizens, especially women, while simultaneously no doubt emboldening the "anti-social elements" to view themselves as above the law.

As citizens of India, when we gave ourselves our Constitution, we cast upon our judiciary the duty to protect our fundamental rights against any encroachment from the executive, irrespective of the religion we espoused or the caste forced upon us. And today, as we stand shaken and humiliated by the brazen inhumanity perpetrated on the most vulnerable of Indians in complete violation of the rule of law, we hope that our judiciary will exercise its immense constitutional power to lead and supervise a free, fair and speedy investigation into the heinous allegation of brutal rape and the completely illegal forced cremation and illegal detention by the UP police. All Indians today need to be reassured that our Constitution, its spirit, and the idea of India it promised to us all, is protected by the bravest and the mightiest.

The writers are lawyers practising at the Delhi High Court

BORROW TO SPEND

Despite pick up in economic activity and tax collections, Centre may need to borrow more than anticipated

ON WEDNESDAY, THE Controller General of Accounts (CGA) released data on central government finances for the first five months (April-August) of the current financial year. Five broad trends emerge. First, after contracting for four consecutive months, the Centre's gross tax revenues grew marginally in August. Second, this uptick in tax revenues was driven by indirect tax collections, as direct tax collections continue to contract. Third, collections from disinvestment and non-tax sources remain depressed. Fourth, despite the clamour for greater government support, government spending during this period grew at a much slower pace than what was projected in the budget. And fifth, even though government revenues, both tax and non-tax, are likely to pick up as economic activity gains traction, the Centre may need to borrow more than what it has anticipated so far in order to meet its expenditure priorities.

At the aggregate level, the Centre's gross tax collections during this five-month period contracted by 23.7 per cent over the same period last year, reflecting the economic hit from the pandemic. However, the pace of contraction has eased in each subsequent month, and tax collections grew by 2 per cent in August. This uptick was driven largely by higher excise collections, and a favourable base effect owing to the settlement of the integrated GST (IGST). On the other hand, non-tax collections and disinvestment proceeds continue to remain depressed. The Centre's non-tax revenues stood at Rs 86,146 crore during this period, or 22 per cent of the budgeted target, as compared to 63 per cent last year. Slippages on account of dividends and proceeds from the telecom sector will have a bearing on its ability to meet the target this year. Similarly, the Centre's ability to meet the Rs 2.1 lakh crore disinvestment target for the year is also questionable. Equally worrying is the second straight month of decline in central government capital expenditure, and the slowing pace of its revenue expenditure.

Leading indicators suggest a continued pick up in economic activity, despite COVID infections spreading. On the production side, the Nikkei's Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index expanded at the fastest pace in eight years in September, while on the consumption side, GST collections in September stood at Rs 95,480 crore, up 4 per cent over last year. However, despite this, the shortfall in the Centre's overall revenue measured against its budgeted expectations and its expenditure priorities suggest that even the additional borrowings it has planned for — the Centre had raised its borrowing from Rs 7.8 lakh crore to Rs 12 lakh crore — may not be enough. Given the continuing uncertainty over the pandemic, continuing stress on its revenues, and demand for greater support than what has been provided so far, the Centre may well need to borrow more in order to finance its spending.

BACK TO FOREIGN HAND

Government wielding of FCRA as a blunt instrument makes it look insecure, shrinks vital space for NGOs, civil society

IN THE PAST eight years, since the twilight of the UPA regime and especially after the NDA assumed office at the Centre in 2014, the environment for civil society activism has seen a marked constriction. The government has raised the spectre of "western funders' interests" — like the "foreign hand" of an earlier era — and wielded the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) like a blunt instrument to shrink the space for NGOs that campaign for environment protection, human rights advocacy groups, outfits that speak for the rights of marginalised sections or take up workers' and farmers' causes. On Tuesday, India joined Russia in an ignoble league — of nations from which the global human rights organisation, Amnesty International, has ceased operations. That Amnesty claims it was forced to shut shop because the Enforcement Directorate has frozen its accounts while the Union Ministry of Home Affairs accuses the outfit of financial impropriety only speaks of the acute trust deficit between civil society groups and the government.

The FCRA is an Emergency-era law — in its 1976 avatar, it was used to "regulate" foreign funding of political parties, electoral candidates, judges, newspaper publishers, cartoonists. In 2010, the ambit of the law was expanded to include "any organisation of political nature". This definition — embracing an array of groups, including trade unions, women's and civil rights outfits, farmers' groups, even youth forums — allowed the government to scrutinise any foreign-funded organisation that could be critical of it. In 2012, at least three NGOs lost their licence in the wake of the protest against the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant. Then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's criticism that foreign-funded NGOs are "not fully appreciative of the country's development challenges," has taken on a sharper edge after the NDA assumed office. Armed with changes in the FCRA law — an amendment in 2016 made it incumbent on NGOs to renew FCRA licence every five years, it was permanent earlier — and by deploying the false binaries of development vs environment, civil rights vs national interest, the Centre has increased its stranglehold on civil society activism. At least 10,000 NGOs have, reportedly, lost their licence. Now, changes introduced to the law last week place further restrictions on the use of foreign funds by non-profits.

Their involvement in grass roots activities means NGOs can raise the uncomfortable questions, hold government to account, enforce corporate responsibility. The government needs to engage with civil society groups — not label them as opponents or disruptors.

KING AND THE GHOST

The death of Sankar, creator of Vikram-Betaal, marks the passing of a glorious moment in storytelling for children

AS WASHBUCKLING KING dressed in red and gold, sword in hand, corpse swung over his shoulder — before digital distractions cut into the business of children's magazines, several generations of young readers grew up with this image of King Vikramaditya and Betaal from the *Vikram-Betaal* series in the *Chandamama* comics. The man behind this iconic image, artist Karatholuvu Chandrasekaran Sivasankaran, 96, passed away in Chennai this week.

The last of the original team that had built up the hugely popular children's magazine, the death of Sivasankaran, or Sankar as he was popularly known as, marks the end of a glorious chapter in children's magazines in India. When it was launched in 1947 by Telugu film producers B Nagi Reddy and Chakrapani, *Chandamama* was an instant success. From folktales to mythology, epics to parables, the monthly magazine was the first of its kind to put together a selection of original and retold children's stories, whose popularity ensured a surge in readership across the newly-independent country. At its peak and over its seven-decade journey that culminated in 2013, *Chandamama* was published in 13 languages, and it was Sankar's vivid visuals that ran like a unifying thread around its diverse readership. Sankar came to *Chandamama* after a five-year stint with another prominent Tamil magazine, *Kalaimagal*, but, at the children's magazine, he finally found a home. His initial line drawings would soon be replaced by full-blown illustrations, the near monochromes exchanged for vibrant water colours. In tone, texture and sensibility, Sankar's illustrations were deeply rooted in the contemporary Indian ethos. Together with Chithra, the chief illustrator of the magazine, Sankar would create a template that would survive the vicissitudes of time and commerce.

In the twilight of his career, Sankar had moved to a religious magazine, but his work at *Chandamama* remains his legacy. For fans of *Chandamama*, and of the *Vikram-Betaal* series, the image of a dashing king looking over his shoulder in an eerie crematorium will forever remind them of the man whose artistry held them in thrall in their wonder years.



K K RAGESH

LAST WEEK, THE Narendra Modi government pushed through three pro-corporate bills — Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020, Farmers (Empowerment & Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020 and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill — in Parliament. All three Bills were interconnected. The first two give corporates opportunity to trade in agricultural commodities while entering into agreements with farmers without any government intervention. The third provides corporates the opportunity to stock as much as they wish agricultural commodities that come to them through procurement and contracts. The government has created opportunities for corporates to procure commodities at cheap prices, hoard the stock and create artificial shortages, and possibly sell them later at exorbitant prices. The three laws will facilitate looting of farmers and consumers; the Centre has legitimised hoarding and black market with them.

This is why the entire Opposition stood together to support the stand taken by the Left and other opposition parties against the Bills in Parliament. The Left parties also submitted a statutory resolution motion to refer the Bills to the select committee and proposed 12 amendments to the Bills. The clause for ensuring minimum support price (MSP) for agriculture commodities was the

HIJACKING THE HOUSE

Rules, precedent were ignored to push through anti-farmer Bills in Rajya Sabha

In the RS TV footage, my voice can be heard thrice soon after the voice vote, demanding a division vote on the motion to refer the Bill to the select committee, which was raised from my seat. What was the justification of the chair's refusal to admit my demand? And when my name is referred to in the context of an amendment on Clause 2, the video visual reveals that I demanded division at 1.11 pm, which was neglected.

most important among these amendments. The Chair announced a voice vote on the statutory resolution and declared it is negated. He refused to consider repeated demands by members for a division vote on the statutory resolution.

The Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha has told the media that "the amendment moved by CPI(M) MP K K Ragesh was negated by voice vote at 1.07 pm on September 20 as he was in the well of the house and not on his seat in the gallery at that point of time". But I was nowhere in the well as per RS TV footage captured at 1.07 pm! The precedent is that the division vote is demanded by the member soon after the voice vote. At around 1.08 pm, after the chair's announcement that the statutory resolution and motion for amendments were negated in the voice vote, I raised my demand for a division vote. I had followed the rules of the House.

Even the motions to refer the Bill to the select committee were rejected in the most undemocratic manner. In the RS TV footage, my voice can be heard thrice soon after the voice vote, demanding a division vote on the motion to refer the Bill to the select committee, which was raised from my seat. What was the justification of the chair's refusal to admit my demand? And when my name is referred to in the context of an amendment on Clause 2, the video visual reveals that I demanded division at 1.11 pm, which was neglected.

The deputy chairman's argument that "for

a demand for division, it is equally important that there should be order in the House" is just an excuse to justify his undemocratic actions. Even if order in the House is disrupted, it is the duty of the Chair to ensure it (Rule 259). There are several accepted ways to do it, including adjourning the House and convening it after some time.

Besides, the Chair's argument that the members should demand for a division from their seats makes no sense considering the seating arrangements. How is it possible when the members have taken part in this session by sitting even in the Lok Sabha chamber, in accordance with the social distancing norms? Yet again, the RS TV footage shows there were many members raising demand for division vote by sitting in their seats. Once a motion is presented in the House, any member who is present could demand a division vote. Why did the Chair insist that division vote is admissible only when the mover of the motion is in his seat? According to the rules, the vote should be conducted even if a single member of the house demands to do so.

The anti-farmer laws are out there and the people are judging the intent of the government that hurriedly rolled them out. The Narendra Modi government's anti-farmer and pro-corporate stand is clearer now than ever.

The writer is a Rajya Sabha MP and a leader of All India Kisan Sabha, the peasant wing of the CPI(M)



OCTOBER 2, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

IRAN-IRAQ WAR

IRAQ AND IRAN reported tank battles raging on their war front as Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini slammed the door shut to a ceasefire, vowing to fight to the end. Iran declared it intends to keep the Strait of Hormuz open to shipping and claimed its ground forces in street-to-street fighting had pushed Iraqi invaders out of key city in oil-rich Khuzestan province. The Iraqi news agency said that the smoke still curling over Baghdad was from the Dora Hilla natural gas line juncture that fed the power plant attacked by Iranian Phantoms. Iraq claimed its infantry had captured all approaches to the strategic army garrison town of Dezful.

ZIA ON KASHMIR

PAKISTAN PRESIDENT GEN Ziaul Haq, in his wide-ranging speech to the UN General Assembly said the process of normalisation of relations between India and Pakistan could be "further accelerated" with a peaceful settlement of the question of Jammu and Kashmir. Without naming the countries, he spoke about discrimination against 300 million minorities in the world. The principal focus of the address was on Islam and Islamic virtues, Afghanistan and Palestine. But he also referred to the inability of the UN in dealing with the "rights" of the Palestinian people or "redeeming its promise to the people of the Jammu and Kashmir

state to enable them to decide their future in accordance with its relevant resolutions".

INDIA-SOVIET TALKS

PRESIDENTS LEONID BREZHNEV and Sanjiva Reddy have expressed hopes that Iraq and Iran will abandon the path of war and strive for a peaceful settlement of their problems. In their extensive talks in Moscow, the Soviet side reiterated its fear that continuation of the armed conflict in the Gulf would encourage further American interference in the area. The Soviet side reiterated its position on Afghanistan and expressed appreciation of India's position and understanding in relation to developments in south and southwest Asia.

11 THE IDEAS PAGE

The war within America

Battle over Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's legacy, her Supreme Court seat, may overtake all other issues — pandemic, economic collapse, fires and floods — in US presidential polls



BHASKAR CHAKRAVORTI

THE UNITED STATES is at war with itself. With that start, I could take the next thousand words in many directions. I could write of the unmasked contempt that incumbent Donald Trump and challenger Joe Biden had for each other through the most unrepresentative of presidential debates. I could write about the marches for racial justice taking place for months across the country, aptly described as the largest protest movement in the nation's history. I could speak of the unspeakable — America's botched handling of everything from coronavirus to climate change.

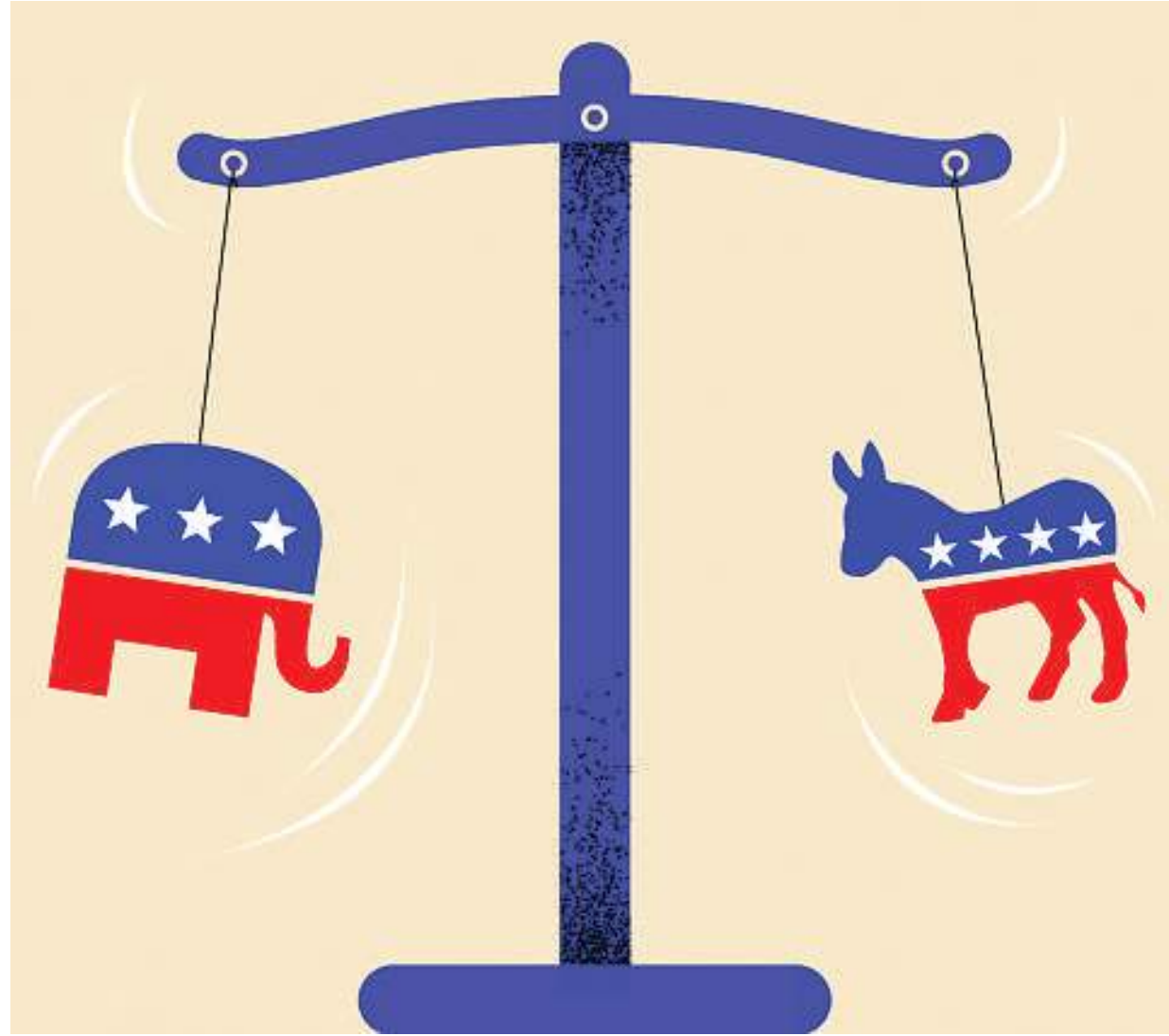
Let me put those subjects aside and take the space here to focus on a war about to erupt in Washington DC over a seat vacated by an 87-year-old woman. At 5 feet and an inch, she was a towering presence on the nation's Supreme Court, champion of gender, civil and voting rights — and a pop icon memorialised in t-shirts and tattoos. I speak, of course, of the Notorious RBG, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who finally succumbed to cancer. In the coming days, the war over her legacy, her Supreme Court seat, may overtake all other issues — a pandemic still raging, an economy in collapse and fires and floods of biblical proportions.

The US Senate has a Republican majority and with the party's leader, Donald Trump, in the White House, it can replace the left-leaning liberal, RBG with a conservative judge before the election. The effects would be long-lasting, as this would firmly tilt the highest court in the land to the right for decades to come and overturn fundamental laws that could affect a woman's right to an abortion or the sweeping affordable healthcare act, known as Obamacare, among others. Trump has, in fact, selected an ultra-conservative, Judge Amy Coney Barrett, as his nominee and is aiming for a Senate confirmation before Election Day on November 3. The Democrats have the cards stacked against them, since the bodies that can make this happen, the Senate and the White House, are currently in Republican control. With enough Republican senators lining up to support ramming a new justice in before the elections, the prospects for blocking such a move look bleak.

Oddly, this may help the Democrats on the Election Day. Sometimes, the most powerful strategies emerge when you have your back against a wall.

To my mind, the Democrats and their presidential candidate, Joe Biden, have a clear option that dominates all others: Go nuclear. By this I mean they must commit to a credible threat, promise that if they were to win the White House and Senate, they will abolish the filibuster — a tactic that blocks or delays Senate action on a Bill, usually by talking endlessly — and expand the size of the Supreme Court by adding more seats. The laws allow such a possibility. This way, if Judge Barrett is installed, they can rebalance the political makeup of the Court by adding seats and "packing" it with their hand-picked liberal justices.

The idea comes with some retaliatory risk; it sets a precedent for a repeated game



CR Sasikumar

of tit-for-tat Supreme Court expansions when the shoe is on the other foot and the other side is in power. However, such a retaliation would happen further out into the future and endless court expansions could be unpopular among voters. So it is a risk worth taking for now. This nuclear option is beginning to get some adherents already. Kamala Harris, Joe Biden's running mate, has hinted she is warm to the idea. Biden has in the past been concerned about the tit-for-tat precedent this might set, but is now keeping his mouth shut on the topic. When asked in the debate about whether he would push to pack the court in the event of a Democratic win, he deflected and didn't answer.

I feel he shouldn't hold back and come out and say, heck yes, that option is on the table. For Democrats, this is a no-lose strategy, as it will maximise voter energy around a galvanising cause. The issue would bring more voters to the polls and bring more support to the party. The signs of such momentum are already apparent. In the first hour after RBG's passing, a key organisation that tracks fundraising for the Democrats raised more money in an hour than in any other one-hour timeframe since it had launched 16 years ago. It broke its all-time record in money raised in a single day.

Nationwide polls suggest that fast-forwarding Judge Barrett's appointment to the Supreme Court pick is unpopular with a majority of voters; so this should help with the momentum favouring Democrats.

Why did Trump and the Republicans execute a pre-emptive strike? They had two options. One was to forge ahead and install a conservative judge. In the coming weeks, the headlines will be dominated by the bitter confirmation process. This might take some attention away from other is-

To my mind, the Democrats and their presidential candidate, Joe Biden, have a clear option that dominates all others: Go nuclear. By this I mean they must commit to a credible threat, promise that if they were to win the White House and Senate, they will abolish the filibuster — a tactic that blocks or delays Senate action on a Bill, usually by talking endlessly — and expand the size of the Supreme Court by adding more seats. The laws allow such a possibility. This way, if Judge Barrett is installed, they can re-balance the political makeup of the Court by adding seats and "packing" it with their hand-picked liberal justices.

sues: Trump's disastrous handling of COVID-19 or his monstrous debate performance or that he has masterfully avoided paying income taxes by running failed businesses and taking \$70,000 deductions for hair-styling. And then, of course, Trump would boast of having appointed three conservative Supreme Court judges as his campaign pitch. That said, any benefits would be neutralised if the Democrats were to successfully use voter fury of having Judge Barrett pushed through in an election year — an act that Republicans themselves had argued against back when Obama had a similar chance to fill a Supreme Court seat in 2016. Alternatively, Trump could have campaigned on a promise to appoint a conservative judge after he gets re-elected. Such a move would have disappointed the "bird in the hand" voters eager to confirm a right-leaning judge while Trump is still in office; but it could have fired up the campaign to re-elect him and giving it a renewed rationale. By jumping the gun now, Trump may, ironically, pull off a Supreme Court win, but has added fuel to the Biden campaign and set a potential retaliatory strike in motion.

Thus my advice to Biden: Go nuclear. You have nothing to lose at this point. My advice to Trump: Accept the election outcomes if you lose and then quietly disappear. Unless, of course, there is a subpoena that requires your appearance in front of a judge in a court to answer some questions about years of tax dodging and \$70,000 haircuts. Count yourself lucky, that the judge is not RBG.

The writer is Dean of Global Business at the Fletcher School at Tufts University, and founding executive director of Fletcher's Institute for Business in the Global Context

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

One unmistakable winner emerged from Tuesday's presidential debate: Xi Jinping. The loser was the American public — and anyone else unfortunate enough to have sat through the grim 90-minute spectacle.

— THE GUARDIAN

Gandhi's freedom

He is appropriated by all. But his true legacy could help address the democracy deficit in today's world



RAM MADHAV

ON JANUARY 30, 1948, the flag of the United Nations Organisation was lowered to half-mast. For the first time, the UN had set aside a day's session to honour the man just murdered in Delhi. "Not the head of a state, a general or a king, but a lone man who without an army, riches, or political alliances, has been called the most powerful man of the 20th century. Who was this man that all the world should mourn over?" — *Encyclopedia Britannica's* documentary on Gandhi begins with this description. Gandhi's greatness is universal. For Gandhians, he is an eternal inspiration. Gandhi never hated anybody, but some Gandhians do. Incidentally, for those whom Gandhians hate, too, Gandhi is iconic. For, Gandhi fits into all shapes and sizes. His legacy can be appropriated by anyone. As is famously said of leaders, Gandhi too can be "loved or hated but not ignored".

Gandhi had optimistically predicted that he could be killed but not his Gandhism. Seventy-two years after his death, Gandhism remains, but it is largely about externals. Cleanliness, khadi, cow protection and swadeshi became chic in Gandhi's name. Gandhi emerged as a "trendy fashion icon". These are not unimportant. But Gandhism is much more than these externals.

Gandhi's core message was about freedom, which Tagore described in his poem as "where the mind is without fear". Enlightenment thinkers emphasised on human freedom from the material standpoint. Gandhi gave this a spiritual dimension. From South Africa to India, Gandhi relentlessly fought for freedom and equality. He aligned freedom with responsibility and equality with dignity and love. "I am not interested in freeing India from merely English yoke. I am bent on freeing India from any yoke whatsoever", Gandhi declared. Biographer Louis Fischer quipped that the Englishman who pushed Gandhi out of the railway carriage in South Africa didn't realise that in a few decades, the same fragile man would push the English Raj out of India.

Nat Turner, the African American slave-preacher too was born on October 2 in 1800. Turner was the first to rebel against slavery in America. His rebellion was crushed and he was hanged. Like Gandhi, Turner too trod the spiritual path like a mystic. He too was austere in his lifestyle and fasted and prayed regularly. Like Gandhi, he also believed that his mission was divine.

Gandhi carried forward Turner's mantle in South Africa, fighting against apartheid. Later, in India, he led the struggle against the British rule on the one hand and against social evils on the other. He described the movement for swaraj as one of "self-purification".

Gandhism lies in the commitment to freedom and self-purification. Dictators thrive on yokes like brute state power, a pli-

ant media and incessant propaganda. Gandhi respected his critics. But dictators can't stand dissent. They live in their cocoons, surrounded by henchmen and yes-men. That has been the story, from Hitler to Stalin. Once the Third Reich was formed in 1933, Hitler declared that the party had no more role in the government. He surrounded himself with "experts". Leaders who came before him were erased from the historic memory. Stalin undertook the "Great Purge", eliminating his competitors and rivals in the party starting with the killing of Sergei Kirov in 1934 and ending with the killing of Leon Trotsky in 1940. In all these campaigns, both Hitler and Stalin depended on state power and a submissive media.

Gandhi was the antithesis of such dictatorial tendencies. Gandhi lived an open life, never surrounded by a coterie. He was fearless in truth. He rushed to Noakhali when riots broke out in early 1947 in which a large number of Hindus were killed. For four months, he went from village to village persuading Muslims to embrace their Hindu neighbours. He admonished Huseyn Suhrawardy, the Bengal Premier, for his inaction. But then, he refused to accept the chief minister's version about the communal situation in Bihar and rushed to Patna to offer succour to Muslims who were victimised by Hindus. He admonished the Congress government in equally harsh words for its failure.

That's what Gandhi called Ram Rajya or Dharma Rajya — a state of righteous freedom. Deen Dayal Upadhyay later explained Dharma Rajya in the terms of democracy. Democracy is understood as the government "by the people, of the people and for the people". While "by the people" and "of the people" represented elections and government, "for the people" meant Dharma Rajya, Deen Dayal averred. Rama Rajya, for Gandhi, meant people being free from every type of yoke.

Gandhi's saga inspired many. Authoritarian regimes fell in many countries after India. The last to fall in the last century was the Soviet Union. The Soviet regime's anthem used to describe the country as the "indestructible union of free republics". Those republics were barely free under the Soviet regime. The myth of indestructibility remained only until Mikhail Gorbachev became the President in 1986. All that was needed for the indestructibility to go was his policy of Glasnost — openness. The Kazakhs were the first to take to the streets in 1986. Gorbachev used brute military power, but the movement for freedom spread like a wildfire, destroying one of the last surviving dictatorships of the 20th century. Horrific details of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant were carried by the recently "freed" Russian media far and wide, further precipitating the downfall.

There is a growing democracy deficit in the world today. People's freedoms are at stake. The Gandhian agenda was always about more openness, freedom and a life of dignity and respect. A benevolent state and a free media are mandatory for people's freedom. "I will be gone saying what I am saying, but one-day people will remember that what this poor man said, that alone was true", Gandhi pleaded once. Realising that Gandhi was right is real Gandhism.

The writer is Member, Board of Governors, India Foundation



RAMIN JAHANBEGLOO

FOR GANDHI, violence was a sign of the failure of a legitimate political power. At the core of Gandhi's political theory is the view of politics as shaped by internal moral power, rather than from the standpoint of rational violence. Consequently, for Gandhi, the modern state contained forces that threatened, rather than enhanced, liberty. Therefore, he did not consider democracy as a political regime but as a value, which needed to be created and cherished. His defence of institutions of the liberal constitutional state did not mean that he justified them in terms of his political philosophy. To the contrary, politics for Gandhi was an act of consciousness, not a mode of living taken for granted.

Gandhi did not see the goal of political action as the immediate capture of office. According to him, the basic condition of political action was the elimination of violence. His principal aim was to civilise modern politics from within, by shorting the circuit of resentment, hatred and coercion. His politics of non-violence was a method to mobilise collective power in a manner that attends to its own moral education in an exemplary and innovative way. Excellence is the end that we have to set before ourselves as political beings. Gandhi showed that a life of excellence is an agency and a transformative force, an experi-

Moral is political

Gandhi's morality was not denial of politics. His idealism was completed by realism

ence of conscience underpinning the harmony between ethics and politics.

An "ethic of responsibility" underlined Gandhi's non-violent politics. He argued for a dedicated and committed political ethos, which did not accept the necessity of "dirty hands" in politics. As he affirmed on July 3, 1940, "I have always derived my politics from ethics or religion and my strength is also derived by my deriving my politics from ethics. It is also because I swear by ethics and religion that I find myself in politics. A person who is a lover of his country is bound to take a lively interest in politics."

Gandhi was thinking in terms of long-term social stability among nations. So, he wanted to put his hands on the wheel of history through non-violent politics. Ultimately, what was important for him was to move from violence to politics. This transition could not take place without the intervention of the ethical in the political. In a speech at All-India National Education Conference on January 13, 1930, he observed: "There are some who think that morality has nothing to do with politics. We do not concern ourselves with the character of our leaders... If swaraj was not meant to civilise us, and to purify and stabilise our civilisation, it would be worth nothing. The very essence of our civilisation is that we give a

paramount place to morality in all our affairs, public or private."

The Gandhian appeal to the ethical in politics was not only a way to seek Truth, but also of coming to know oneself in ever-greater depth. The Gandhian effort for non-violent politics was a cultivation of one's capacity for ethical citizenship. That is to say, Gandhi considered politics as a work of the heart and not merely of reason. This recalls French philosopher Blaise Pascal, who said: "The heart has its reasons which reason itself does not know." In the same manner, Gandhi believed that the heart, and not reason, is the seat of morality. He wrote in *Harijan* (June 8, 1940): "Morality which depends upon the helplessness of a man or woman has not much to recommend it. Morality is rooted in the purity of our hearts." Gandhi believed that next to constructive work, a society needs also to be inwardly empowered, since human beings are capable of love, friendship, solidarity and empathy.

On January 5, 1907, Gandhi wrote in *Indian Opinion*: "It is the moral nature of man by which he rises to good and noble thoughts. The different sciences show us the world as it is. Ethics tells us what it ought to be. It enables man to know how he should act. Man has two windows to his mind: Through one he can

see his own self as it is; through the other, he can see what it ought to be." Consequently, Gandhi insisted on the autonomous nature of the moral act. His view of morality was not a denial of politics. On the contrary, Gandhi's moral idealism was completed by a political realism, which sought the construction of a democratic society. He wrote: "I feel that political work must be looked upon in terms of social and moral progress."

From Gandhi's perspective, non-violence was an ontological truth that followed from the unity and interdependence of humanity and life. Therefore, he advocated an awareness of the essential unity of humanity. That awareness called for critical self-examination and a move from egocentricity towards a "shared humanity." This "shared humanity" cannot exist if it is not aware of its shortcomings. It needs to strive to remove its ethical imperfections in order to be able to live with global challenges. In an age of increasing "globalisation of selfishness", there is an urgent need to understand and practise the moral leadership of Mahatma Gandhi and re-evaluate the concept of politics.

The writer is director, Mahatma Gandhi Centre for Nonviolence and Peace Studies, OP Jindal Global University

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

INJUSTICE IN UP

THIS REFERS TO the report 'UP Police out in full force to cremate Hathras woman, away from family' and the editorial 'Impunity in Hathras' (IE, October 1). The incident is an addition to chronicle foretold by B R Ambedkar, who while describing the vice and viciousness of caste hatred in Hindu Society, has said: "To the 'Untouchables', Hinduism is a veritable chamber of horrors". Recently, the Calcutta High Court (HC) while disposing a PIL on the dignified disposal of dead bodies of COVID victims observed that "the right to dignity and fair treatment under Article 21 of the Constitution is not only available to a living person but also to his mortal remains after his demise. Disposal of a human body, whether or not the person dies of Covid-19, whether by cremation or burial, should be done with due respect and solemnity". The intriguing police ham-handedness over the gang-rape, brutalisation and cremation of the Dalit woman victim, sends a chilling message — not only do Dalits have no control over their lives, but not even after death.

LR Murmu, Delhi

NO DUE PROCESS

THIS REFERS TO editorial "The Demolition" (IE October 1). It lays bare the stark reality of what the justice system has become. The demolition was a public spectacle that hardly required any

IDEAS ONLINE

ONLY IN THE EXPRESS

● A MOMENT FOR REGENERATION AND INSPECTION: ADVAITA KALA

● A GANDHI IN OUR MIDST: KELSANG DAUKATSANG

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proof. The reaction of Justice Liberhan, carried by the newspaper, underlines the mockery of the judicial process. The charge that the judiciary is increasingly beholden to the ruling dispensation is strengthened further with the verdict.

Harish Joshi, Pune

POLITICS NEEDED

THIS REFERS TO the article 'Good students, bad students' (IE, September 30). Pupils must not be dissuaded from partaking in political discourse. The higher education institutions across the nation should seek to mould students into proactive citizens, who are always willing to take up the baton.

Varun Das, Zirakpur

DEFAMATION CASE
Amnesty India's former head surrenders iPad

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SURAT, OCTOBER 1

BENGALURU-BASED journalist and former Amnesty International India head Aakar Patel appeared before the Surat Crime Branch on Thursday, in keeping with the anticipatory bail conditions, and surrendered his iPad, which he had used to tweet on the Ghandi community in June.

The tweets led to defamation complaint against him, filed by Gujarat BJP MLA Purnesh Modi. Patel told *The Indian Express*, "I have obeyed the bail conditions laid (down) by the court and also surrendered police in their investigations and submitted my iPad to the Surat Crime Branch. I have full faith in the justice system. I have also deleted the tweets made by me, after the controversy started. I have submitted my passport and provided my present address and permanent address to the police so that they can contact me when they require."

Assistant Commissioner of Police, Surat City Crime Branch, R R Sarvaiya said, "We have taken custody of the iPad used by Aakar Patel for posting the tweets on Ghandi community. The tweets were deleted by him. We will send it to the Forensic Science Laboratory to retrieve the deleted data."

NCRB REPORT

Sedition cases up in 2019 but conviction at all-time low

DIPANKARGHOSE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

CASES OF sedition and under the stringent UAPA showed a rise in 2019, but only 3 per cent of the sedition cases resulted in convictions. Data for the year 2019 released by the National Crime Records Bureau also show that sedition cases rose even as the category under which they come — 'Offences Against the State', which includes charges under the UAPA and Official Secrets Act (OSA) — saw a steep fall of 11.3 per cent from the year before.

As per the Crime In India Report, this decline, however, was largely explained by the drop in cases registered under the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act — from 7,127 in 2018 and 7,892 in 2017 to 6,079 in 2019. The UAPA cases formed the second largest chunk under this category, after the property Act.

The 'Offences Against the State' category includes cases filed under the UAPA, the damage to property Act, OSA and under IPC Sections 124A (sedition),

121 (waging, or attempting to wage war against the State), 122 (collecting arms, etc., with the intention of waging war against the government of India), 123 (concealing with intent to facilitate design to wage war), and 153B (imputations, assertions prejudicial to national integration).

The conviction rate for sedition cases saw a sharp decline even as the numbers registered under it rose. The NCRB data show that 93 sedition cases were filed in 2019, up from 70 in 2018 and 51 in 2017. Karnataka saw the maximum sedition cases last year (22), followed by Assam (17) and Jammu and Kashmir (11).

Under the UAPA, 1,226 cases were registered in 2019 — compared to 1,182 in 2018 and 901 in 2017. The maximum UAPA cases were seen in Manipur (306), followed by 270 in Tamil Nadu, and 255 in J&K.

Forty cases were registered under the OSA in both 2019 and 2018 — much higher than 18 in 2017.

Under the sub-head on court disposal of 'Offences Against the State', the NCRB data note that 35.7 per cent of the cases in which trial was over, saw convictions. The UAPA charges had among the highest conviction rates in 2019 (29.2 per cent),

while sedition the lowest (3.3 per cent).

This is a big drop from the 33.3 per cent conviction rate for sedition cases in 2016, 16.7 per cent in 2017, and 15.4 per cent in 2018. The conviction rate in UAPA cases saw a rise from 27.2 per cent in 2018, but remained almost half of 2017 (49.3 per cent) and much lower than 2016 (33.3 per cent).

The sedition numbers were also up from 2018 in terms of people arrested — from 56 held under Section 124A that year to 96 in 2019. However, in 2017, as many as 228 people had been held for sedition, a nearly five-time rise from 48 in 2016.

Under the UAPA, 1,948 people were arrested in 2019, up from 1,421 in 2018, 1,554 in 2017, and 999 in 2016.

The number of people held under the OSA has largely been constant — 30 in 2019, compared to 35 in 2018, 36 in 2017 and 41 in 2016.

Given the low conviction rates, the numbers of those acquitted or discharged remained largely higher than those sentenced. In 2019, for instance, only two people were convicted of sedition, while 29 were acquitted. Under the UAPA, there were 34 convictions, but 16 people were discharged, and 92 people

were acquitted.

In 2018 too, only two people had been convicted for sedition, while 21 were acquitted. Under the UAPA, there were 35 convictions, 23 people were discharged and 117 acquitted. Similarly in 2017, four people were arrested and seven acquitted under 124A while 39 were convicted, two discharged and 42 acquitted under the UAPA. In 2016, one person was convicted, one discharged and one acquitted under sedition, while under the UAPA, 24 people were convicted, 19 acquitted and eight discharged.

On the cases falling under 'Offences Against the State', the NCRB report notes: "A total of 7,569 cases have been registered in 2019 as compared to 8,536 cases in 2018, showing a decrease of 11.3%. Out of 7,569 cases, 80.3% of cases were registered under the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act (6,079 cases) followed by 1,226 (16.2%) cases under the Unlawful Activities Act (UAPA)." In 2017, the total cases under this category numbered 9,013.

UP saw 2,017 of the 7,569 cases (27.8 per cent), a drop from 2,503 last year. Tamil Nadu ranked next, with 1,311 cases (17.3 per cent), followed by Haryana with 572 cases.

Army to get upgraded communication network for forward areas

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

AMID THE stand-off with China, the government has moved to upgrade the Army's communication network at a cost of Rs 7,796.39 crore. The Defence Ministry Thursday said it has signed an agreement with state-run IIT for this project that will involve use of optical fibre cable, satellite and microwave radio for communications in forward areas. The project has an implementation schedule of 36 months.

It will "augment the communication network of Indian Army in the sensitive forward operational areas which in turn will provide a major boost to the operational preparedness of the Indian Army especially keeping in view the current operational situation at LAC," the ministry

said in a statement. This comes as China lays optical fibre cables in the Pangong Tso region, close to its current positions near Finger 4 on the lake's north bank.

The Defence Ministry said the Indian project, once completed, will provide "better survivability, responsiveness and high bandwidth in any operational scenario and enhance the communication coverage of network" close to the international border, the Line of Control, and the Line of Actual Control. "The network will extend the high bandwidth communication to the remote operational areas in Central and Eastern Sectors and enhance communication reach to the forward locations in the Western border too," the statement said.

"Optical Fibre Cable (OFC), Microwave Radio and Satellite will be used as communication media," it said.

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE
Open Tender Notice No. - SPJ-ST-S-10-2020
DRM (S&T)/Samastipur invites open e-tenders on behalf of president of India for following work.

(1) Name of work with its location: Signalling Work in connection with Different CTR/TRR/TRR work in different sections of SPJ Division. (2) Approx. cost of the work: Rs. 3,24,68,371/- (Rupees Three Crore Twenty Four Lakh Sixty Eight Thousand Three Hundred Seventy One Only). (3) Earnest Money to be deposited: Rs. 3,12,400/- (Rupees Three Lakh Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Only). (4) Date & Time for Submission of tender: 16.10.2020 (Up to 16:00 Hrs. 16.10.2020 at 16:30 Hrs (5) Particulars of website where full details of tender may be seen : www.ireps.gov.in For further details please visit the website www.ireps.gov.in. Divisional Rail Manager (S&T), Samastipur PR/0701/SPJS & T/17/20-21/32

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice
E-OPEN TENDER NOTICE No. - ECR/CAO/CONTS/2020-21/04
E-TENDER NO. 05/20/0266/TS (e-open)
SEALED OPEN TENDER IS INVITED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA FOR THE UNDERMENTIONED WORK.

Name of work with its location for OPEN TENDER NO. 05/20/0266/TS (e-open): Manufacture & Supply of 610 mm Long Fish Plate for BG 60 Kg Rails to RDSO's Drg. No. T-1898 with alteration-4 and IRS specification T-1-2012 (Provisional) with corrigendum no. 1 of Sept 2018 (Latest alteration to RDSO Drg No. T-1898 and latest corrigendum to IRS specification as applicable 10 days before the date of closing of e-tender will be applicable). Approx. cost of the work for OPEN TENDER NO. 05/20/0266/TS (e-open): Rs. 8,88,63,840.00. Earnest money to be deposited for OPEN TENDER NO. 05/20/0266/TS (e-open): Rs. 17,77,280.00. Date and time of closing of e-tender: At 15:00 hrs on 20.10.2020. Website particular, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and addressed of the office from where the tender form be purchased etc.: The complete details of tender document is available on website http://www.ireps.gov.in CAO/Con/South, E.C. Rly, MHX, Patna PR/0696/CONS/Engg./T/20-21/44

INDIAN RAILWAYS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)
E-TENDER NO.2020RS11743TC
CORRIDGEMENT NO. 3
1.0 Tender will be closed at 15:00 hours on 20.10.2020 instead of 01.10.2020.
2.0 All other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged.
Director, Railway Stores (W), Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, New Delhi. for and on behalf of the President of India. 21/22/2020
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

U.P. Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Ltd.
(ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company)
Vishweshwaraiya Bhawan, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow
Notice No.: 2721/G.M./Ayodhya Zone/NIVIDA/RNM/20 Dated : 26.09.2020
TENDER NOTICE
On behalf of U.P.R.N.N. LTD, E-Tenders are invited on two bid system for Construction of Government Polytechnic College, Haryana at District Basti. Detail can be downloaded from e-tender.up.nic.in in an U.P.R.N.N. Website www.upnrm.co.in from 28.09.2020. GENERAL MANAGER, VARANASI ZONE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDERING
OPEN TENDER NOTICE NO. NIT-18/UMB-2020-21 DATED 01.10.2020
Open tenders through E-tendering are invited by Sr. Divisional Engineer/Coordination, Northern Railway, Ambala from the willing contractors for following work upto 15:00 hrs, on the date of closing shown against the work and will be opened thereafter.

S. No.	Name of Work	Approx. Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Period of Completion	Date of closing & opening
1	Provision of RPF Barracks (Jawans=10 bed, Sub Officers=4 bed, Lady Const.=4 bed, 01 mess, Dining hall etc. EACH STN) at RPJ	10130137	200700	06 Months	28.10.2020
2	Supply of 40000 cum 65mm gauge nominal size machine crushed stone ballast duly stacked & loaded in to Rail borne Trucks/BOB's for B G Track in the Ballast depot at Yamunanagar Jagadhari at Ambala-Saharanpur Section in the section of DEN/Track/Ambala	31158400	305800	08 Months	28.10.2020
3	Provision of seven short term facilities for Divyanjan at CJL, MOT, SAG, SFM, HMI, JPS, LHA & PJK stations over UMB Division in the section of SF/DEN/II/UMB.	4448830	89000	06 Months	28.10.2020
4	Miscellaneous track maintenance works in UMB yard, Through fitting renewal 17.616km from km. 254.23 to 256.18 (UP), 256.182 to 260.70 (UP) & 250.0 to 261.184 (DN) in c/w Ambala Division - TFR 130.857 km & TFR (Rubber Pad & Liner Only) -123.942 km and TFR - 35.816 km, Rag picking of tracks 100m away from platform ends to advance starter (21.6kms) on all approaches of UMB yard for one year and cold weather patrolling in the section of SSE/P/Way/UMB under ADEN/HQ/UMB.	8268963	165400	10 Months	28.10.2020
5	Pre & Post Attention work in c/w Deep Screening of track with BCM (50.0 KM) on UMB-LDH section in the section of ADEN/RPJ under SR. DEN-IV/UMB	12974377	214900	06 Months	28.10.2020
6	MAKING ETP CONNECTION WITH SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT IN RAILWAY COLONY, JAGADHRI WORKSHOP IN THE SECTION OF SSE/WI/JUDW	4999813	100000	03 Months	28.10.2020

NOTE : 1. Tenderers are required to upload scanned copies of all related eligibility documents including PAN/TIN/GST as per conditions. The required Earnest Money & Tender document cost will be acceptable On-line payment through Net Banking/ Payment Gateway payment only well before & upto 15:00 hrs. of closing date & time of tender. 2. Tenderers should have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in E-Tendering of works tenders. 3. For detail, please log on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in. 4. GST will be levied as per GST Act, 2017. 2129/2020
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Week after houses vandalised in 3 Bastar villages, no FIR filed

GARGI VERMA
KONDAGAON, OCTOBER 1

IT HAS been a week since crowds reportedly vandalised 11 houses belonging to minority community families in three villages of Chhattisgarh's Bastar division. Complaints have been submitted by Christian tribal families against tribal villagers over the incidents of September 22-23, but no FIR has been filed yet.

More than 20 of the 40 Christian tribal families in the villages of Kakrabela, Singanpur and Tiliyabeda have since left their homes.

Additional police forces have been deployed for about a week in five villages, around 20 km from the Kondagaon district collectorate.

District Collector Pushpendra Meena said the situation is peaceful, and the families who left would return as per their convenience. "Both parties have agreed to keep peace. But as a precaution, we have deployed policemen," Meena told *The Indian Express*.

When contacted, Bastar IGP Sundarraj P said, "The situation is very sensitive and we have to tread carefully. Legal action will be taken, but the priority is to avoid any untoward incident. Police deployment will continue."

Most villages in Bastar have some Christian families. While there has been friction and clashes in the past, this is the first time houses have been vandalised and families have left the villages.

Shivram Poyam (27), a resident of Kakrabela, was the first to alert the police on September 22 afternoon, hours before the incident. "I knew something was afoot when villagers started gathering. I went to the police station and asked them to come to the village," he said.

Seven houses in Kakrabela were damaged, including Poyam's. "A crowd of 500 people trampled upon vegetable crops," he said.

Poyam said his mother and wife were in the house when the



Seven houses were damaged in Kakrabela village last week

crowd barged in and broke utensils. "A man threw my wife out of the house." His family ran away into the forests, he added.

"The villagers believe that by following Christianity, we have defiled their rituals and customs. We are untouchables. They want us to quit Christianity or the village," Poyam said.

He said that despite appealing to police, no FIR was registered. Of 11 families belonging to the community in Kakrabela, 20 members have left the village. Bhaktin (49), another resident, said the problem with followers of "Ishu Dharm" (Faith of Jesus) was that they didn't participate in village rituals.

Vijay Sori (32), a resident of Singanpur, a gram panchayat 6 km from Kakrabela, disagreed. "After I started following Christianity, I tried to invite the village elders for my wedding. Not a single person came. They say we don't come for rituals, when in reality, if we do, we are charged hefty fines for 'polluting' the event," he said.

Singanpur saw a similar incident on September 23. Five houses were damaged in two villages under the gram panchayat allegedly by the same crowd, even as police tried to control the situation. Sori left his house just as it was attacked.

"We called the police station, but nobody responded. We finally

went to the SP, who came to the village," Sori said. Policemen reportedly tried to control the crowd for over an hour. Videos of the incident showed police vandalising houses while police officers asked them to leave.

The villagers said they submitted multiple letters to the police station and collector. "The collector has been pleading with the people who attacked us to understand, while asking us to compromise. Why? Because we are just 11 against 500 of them?" asked Ayaturam (58), another Singanpur resident.

Surajwati Netam, sarpanch of Chipawand village under which Kakrabela falls, said she was unaware of the incident, which happened 3 km from her house. "I know police were called, I really don't know what happened," she said.

According to members of Sarva Adivasi Samaj, a tribal body comprising smaller groups like Gondwana Samaj, etc, the issue is politically motivated. A member of Sarva Adivasi Samaj from Bastar said, "The presence of extreme fringe groups is possible only by making enemies out of neighbours."

"There is an attempt to polarise the adivasi community for political gains," said Vinod Nagvanshi, another member of Sarva Adivasi Samaj.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

GRSE's fast patrol vessel commissioned

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, OCTOBER 1

'ICGS Kanaklata Barua', a vessel built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE), Kolkata, in the series of five fast patrol vessels (FPV) for the Indian Coast was commissioned on Wednesday.

GRSE, a Mini Ratna Category 1 company and a leading shipyard, delivered the vessel to the Indian Coast Guard on June 9, taking the organisation's delivery count to 105 warships, according to a release issued by the company.

The FPV, ICGS Kanaklata Barua,



One of the five Fast Patrol Vessels, 'ICGS Kanaklata Barua', for the Indian Coast Guard was commissioned Wednesday. Express

was commissioned at GRSE FOJ Unit through video-conferencing by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Jijesh Nandan. Among others who attended the ceremony were Rear Admiral V K Saxena (ret), chairman and managing director, GRSE; Commodore Sanjeev Nayyar (ret), director (shipbuilding); Cmde.PR Hari (ret), director (personnel); R K Dash, director (finance) and other senior officials of the Indian Coast Guard and GRSE.

The FPVs are medium-range surface vessels with a length of 50 m, a width of 7.5 m and displacement of around 308 T, according to the release.

"These powerful, fuel-efficient platforms are designed to perform multipurpose operations like patrolling, anti-smuggling, anti-poaching, and rescue operations," the GRSE stated. "The vessels are designed for a maximum speed of 34 knots with an endurance of more than 1,500 nautical miles."

It stated that the vessel is equipped with three "main engines of MTU make and built at GRSE with advanced control systems, 'Water Jet' units and an 'Integrated Bridge System' integrating all communication and navigation systems". The ship is fitted with 40/60 gun as the main armament, it added.

SALUTE THE SOLDIER
CAPT DILIP KUMAR JHA, KC (POSTHUMOUS)
(20 JAN 1977 - 02 OCT 2020)
Capt Dilip Kumar Jha, Kirti Chakra laid down his life while fighting against an infiltrating terrorist column during "OPERATION RAKSHAK" on the Line of Control in J&K while on attachment with 7 JAT. In the truest tradition of the Indian Army, Capt Dilip Kumar Jha led from the front displaying exemplary courage and conspicuous bravery by killing three terrorists before making the supreme sacrifice. He will always be remembered and missed by all of us in the Army Ordnance Corps for the gallant act beyond his call of duty.
DG OS & Colonel Commandant and All Ranks of the AOC

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
e-Tender Notice
Tender No: 68 & 70/2020-21, 53, 54 & 55 /20-21(RT1)/KWA/PHC/D2/TVM 0. Jaljeevan Mission-Thiruvananthapuram District- Providing functional house hold tap connection and allied works in Vilappil, Balaramapuram, Kattakkada, Maranalloor and Kunthathal Panchayath in Thiruvananthapuram District. EMD : Rs. 2,00,000/-for each tender fee : Rs. 10000/- (Each) Last Date for submitting Tender : 28-10-2020 03:00:pm Phone : 04712322303 Superintending Engineer PH Circle Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in www.etenders.kerala.gov.in KWA-JB-GL-6-442-2020-21 Thiruvananthapuram

The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport Undertaking
(Of The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation)

TENDER NOTICE
e-tenders are re-invited for the supply of following items.
(1) 68399, (2) 68425, (3) 68541, (4) 68680, (5) 68607.
Note : For more details, log on to website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>.
PRO/AAM(M)/53/2020. GENERAL MANAGER

IISER
भारतीय विज्ञान संस्थान एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान बरहामपुर
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Berhampur
Established by the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India

Tender No.	Date	Description	Mode of submission	Last date for submission of bids
IISERBpr/S&P/2020-21/25	01.10.2020	Accessories for upgradation of Raman Microscope	E tender	08.10.2020

Complete detail and the tender document is available on Institute website i.e. <http://www.iiserbpr.ac.in/tender.php> and <https://eprocare.gov.in>. Any corrigendum etc will be notified on the above websites only.
क्रय एवं वाहक अधिकारी

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER BATCH No. 45/20 Date: 30.09.2020
E-Tender Notice for supply of materials. - "Participation in through" web portal of IREPS - www.ireps.gov.in offers are invited for supply of the following materials : The closing time for all tenders is at 14.00 hr.

Sl. No.	Tender	Brief Description	Quantity	Published on/time	Closing on	Fund
1	17176607A	8 WAN Ports Router	50 Nos.	09.09.20/00.00.00	27.10.20	Fund is Available
2	17185155A	2 WAN Ports Router	110 Nos.	09.09.20/15.23.31	27.10.20	Fund is Available
3	04200330	Kit for Air Cleaner	209 Nos.	24.09.20/11.45.10	29.10.20	Fund is Available
4	04201042	B Check kit	50 sets	28.09.20/22.47.50	29.10.20	Fund is Available
5	17176538B	Terminal Server	170 Nos.	21.09.20/00.00.00	02.11.20	Fund is Available

Participants are required to submit their offer only on-line through the web portal of IREPS www.ireps.gov.in before the closing date and time. Other details regarding Consignee, and detailed description of stores are available in tender document in tender notice on the above portal.
PR/0697/HQ/Store/T/20-21/56 Principal Chief Material Manager

SOUTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Office of the Executive Engineer (Pr.-II)/Central Zone Under Sewa Nagar Flyover, New Delhi - 110003

PRESS NOTICE FOR NOTICE INVITING TENDER

FOR ONLINE/MANUAL, TENDERING UNDER TWO BID SYSTEM TIME TABLE PLEASE REFER www.tenderwizard.com/SOUTHDMCETENDER. NIT No. EE (Pr.-II)/CNZ/TC/2020-21/04 Dated: 29.09.2020.

1. Construction of automated puzzle parking system for 86 ECS including supply, installation, testing & commissioning and operation & maintenance on the piece of the land/ road margin along slip road of Lodhi Road Flyover on Lala Lajpat Rai Marg, Nizamuddin Basti, Ward No. 55-S/Central Zone, New Delhi. Estimated Amount: Rs. 1542.58 Lac. Earnest Money: Rs. 30.90, Lac, H/A K-154-3018, Tender Cost: Rs. 10,000/- For details and further development, please refer SDMC website regularly i.e www.tenderwizard.com/SOUTHDMCETENDER, mcdonline.gov.in. Last Date of Download /Purchase Tender Document: 29.10.2020 02:00 P.M. Closing of Bid: 29.10.2020 03:00 P.M. Opening of Technical Bid: 29.10.2020 03:30 P.M. For online tendering, bidders (not registered in SDMC) are required to get registered themselves on tender wizard website before submission of bid.

E.E.(Pr.-II)/Central Zone
Ro. No. 43/DPI/South/2020-21

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of work Schedule maintenance & repair contract of Generator Cars including A,B & C checks of Diesel Engine and their operation to extend power supply during maintenance of Rajdhani, Garib Rath, Duronto and other primary EOG trains at Hazrat Nizamuddin & Anand Vihar Coaching Depots of Delhi Division for three years.

Tender No. 30-Elect-4T-Chg-2020-21

Approx. cost of the work in (Rs.) Rs. 5,75,73,664.16

Cost of tender form Rs. 11,800/-

Address of the office Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/Chg/Northern Railway, New Delhi.

Earnest Money Rs. 4,37,900/-

Period of completion of work 36 Months

Last Date & time of submission of tender 27.10.2020 up to 15.00 Hrs.

And Opening of tender 27.10.2020 at 15.01 Hrs.

Website & notice board www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. DEE/Chg/DLI

2116/20

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

ODISHA RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
Under the Department of Energy
Government of Odisha
(ISO 9001:2008 / ISO 14001:2004)
S-3/59, MANCHESWAR INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,
BHUBANESWAR-751010, ODISHA
Website : www.oreada.orissa.com, E-mail : ceoreada@oreada.orissa.com

CORRIGENDUM Dated 01.10.2020

The Department's name appearing therein as "Department of Science and Technology" in the top of the office letter pad may be corrected and read as "Department of Energy" vide Advertisement No- 8246 Date 21.09.2020.

Sd/- Additional Secretary to Govt.

दक्षिणोत्तर विद्युत वितरण निगम लि०
जहाँ भवन, 220 कै.वी. विद्युत उपकरण,
बार्ड-पास रोड, मिन्दरा, अजमेर -282007
(CIN No.U31200UP2003GSC027440)
(GSTIN No. 09AACCD0695D125)
ई-निविदा सूचना 1, विद्युत वितरण
सं० डीवीवीएनएल-एमएम/3038-
2020: जनपद-फर्रुखाबाद के अन्तर्गत
33/11 के०वी० विद्युत उपकरण, पहला
(1x5 एम०वी०एफ०) एवं दससम्बन्धित
33/11 के०वी० लाईनों के निर्माण का कार्य
विजयस प्लान में टर्नकी आधार पर कराये
हेतु, धरोहर राशि: ₹ 3,40,00,00/-,
निविदा शुल्क: ₹ 5,90,00/- (जी.एस.
टी. सॉल्ट), निविदा खुलने की तिथि:
28-10-2020. निविदा शुल्क केवल
ऑनलाइन, DVVNL, AGRA की वेबसाइट
www.dvvn.org के माध्यम से ही
स्वीकार किया जायेगा। विवरण के लिए
कृपया निविदा प्रपत्र ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ लें।
1. उपरोक्त निविदाएं निर्धारित दिनांक
27.10.2020 को 13:00 बजे तक
ऑनलाइन अपलोड की जा सकेंगी एवं
निर्धारित दिनांक 28-10-2020 को संपूर्ण
16:00 बजे खोली जायेंगी। निविदा प्रपत्र
₹ 500 साखन के ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल
https://etender.up.nic.in पर
अपलोड की जायेंगी, जहाँ से निविदा प्रपत्र
डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। 2. भविष्य
में यदि कोई संशोधन अथवा निविदा शिथिल
विस्तार होता है तो उसकी सूचना ई-टेंडर
पोर्टल https://etender.up.nic.in पर
दरम्यान कराये जायेंगी। इत्यादि।
अधीक्षक अभियन्ता (सा०प्र०)-1,
अधिक जानकारी हेतु कृपया https://
etender.up.nic.in को लॉग-इन
करें। "राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचाये"
पत्रांक:8332/अधी०अभि०(सा०प्र०)-1/
आगरा, विज्ञापन/दिनांक:30.09.2020

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement System
Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

S.No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
01	14200857D	DISSOLVED ACETYLENE GAS FOR INDUSTRIAL USE	84155 CUM	26.10.2020
02	07201487	AUXILIARY RESERVOIR 200 LITERS	892 NOS	26.10.2020
03	07203450	PRIMARY SPRING (OUTER) FOR GENERATOR CAR	260 NOS	28.10.2020
04	09202591	SECONDARY BRAKE BEAM ASSLY	356 NOS	28.10.2020
05	09202541	CROSS BAR	1827 NOS	28.10.2020
06	09202407	PULL ROD MAIN SLACK ADJUSTER SIDE FOR 'B' CAR	3776 NOS	28.10.2020
07	01191026	HELICAL SPRING (CENTRE LESS GROUNDED) AXLE BOX	400 NOS	29.10.2020
08	02201668	HIGH VOLTAGE FUSE, CURRENT RATING 125 AMP	72 NOS	30.10.2020
09	09202369	TWIST HEAD SHAFT FOR AUTOMATIC TWIST LOCK	4374 NOS	30.10.2020
10	07201133	WEARING PIECE	5115 NOS	30.10.2020
11	09203262	DOOR HINGE FOOT	14884 NOS	31.10.2020
12	07201024	THERMOPLASTIC POLYESTER ELASTOMER	41773 NOS	02.11.2020
13	09203052	ALUMINIUM PAINT FOR GENERAL PURPOSES	44681 LTR	02.11.2020
14	07201580	BREAK HEAD ASSLY	6768 NOS	02.11.2020
15	07200029	SILENT BLOCK FOR ANCHOR LINK	6904 NOS	03.11.2020
16	07201057	MIRROR ASSEMBLY DRG NO.-ICF/STD-6-3-008	5360 NOS	16.11.2020
17	07200377	WATER TANK (2X685 LITERS) ASSEMBLY	69 NOS	16.11.2020
18	07200086	TWO PIECE GLASS SHUTTER COLOUR-SATIN BLUE	4564 NOS	16.11.2020
19	07201077	REAR COVER FOR AXLE BOX	6750 NOS	20.11.2020
20	02201807	BRUSHLESS DC RAILWAY CARRIAGE FAN	7689 NOS	09.12.2020

Note: 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details.
2. No Manual offer will be entertained.
Tender Notice No. : 27/2020-2021 Dated 01.10.2020 2125/20

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

H.P. POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(A State Government Undertaking)
HIMFED BHAWAN, PANJARI, SHIMLA-5
CIN:U40101HP2008SGC030950
Ph:-0177-2633784, FAX:-0177-2831284 Web:www.hpptcl.com

Invitation for Bids (ICB)

Loan No. : 3733 - IND: Himachal Pradesh Clean Energy Transmission Investment Program - Tranche - 3

Contract No. : 44 - JCC/ADB/HPPTCL/ JOINT CONTROL CENTRES.

Deadline for Bids : 30-10-2020 at 15:00 hours (local time)

- India has applied for a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of Himachal Pradesh Clean Energy Transmission Investment Program - Tranche 3 and it is intended that part of this loan will be used for payments under the contract named above. Bidding is open to Bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.
- The HP Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (HPPTCL) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for:
"Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Joint Control Centre (Main and Back Up) for remote operation and control of various substations of HPPTCL on Turnkey Basis (Complete Package)"
Completion period is 300days.
- International Competitive Bidding** will be conducted in accordance with ADB's Single - Stage - Two - Envelope Bidding Procedure and is limited to Bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.
- To obtain further information and inspect the Bidding Document, Bidders should contact the Deputy General Manager (Contracts) at the following address during working days starting 01/10/2020 to 29/10/2020.
The Deputy General Manager (Contracts)
HP Power Transmission Corporation Limited (HPPTCL)
Himfed Bhawan, Panjari,
Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, India - 171005
Tel. No.: +91- 0177- 2633784, Fax No.: +91-177- 2831284.
Email: dgcontracts@hpptcl.in
Website: www.hpptcl.com
- The Bidding Document can be purchased from the above address on all working days from 01/10/2020 to 29/10/2020.
- To purchase the Bidding Document, eligible bidders should:
● Pay a non - refundable fee of **INR 11,800 only** (INR Eleven thousand eight hundred only) or **US\$ 165** (US Dollar One sixty five only) through demand draft in favour of Managing Director, HP Power Transmission Corporation Limited payable at Shimla (HP).
● The Bidding Document will be sent via courier for an additional fee of **INR 1,000** (INR One Thousand Only) for domestic delivery and **US\$ 100** (US Dollar One Hundred Only) for overseas delivery. **No liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery of the Bidding Document.**
- A pre - bid conference will not be held.
- Bidders must deliver their bids to the address above on or before **15:00 hours, on 30/10/2020** together with a Bid Security as indicated in the Bidding Documents.
- Bids will be opened at **15:30 hours on 30/10/2020** in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address above.
- HPPTCL will not be responsible for costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the delivery or preparation of bids.
(Er. B.L. Kaundal)
Deputy General Manager (Contracts)

JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Indira Circle, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur-302004

No.: JDA/EE&TA to Dir.Engg.-II/2020-21/D-228 Date: 01.10.2020

NOTICE INVITING BID

NIB No.: EE & TA to Dir. Eng-II/13/2020-21

Bids are invited for works given below in various zones as per details given :-

S. No.	Zone	Job No.	Name of Work	Amount (Rs. in Lacs)	Last Date Bid Invited Online
1.	Executive Engineer-11	136 2014-15	Construction of 30 Mtr. Wide Road From Jaisinghpura Bass Bhankota to Madau, Zone-11, JDA Jaipur. (UBN No.: JDA2021WSOB00195)	260.00	24.10.2020 Up to 6.00 PM

Details may be seen in the Bidding Document at concerned Executive Engineer's office or the website of State Public Procurement Portal website www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and www.jda.urban.rajasthan.gov.in

To participate in the bid, bidder has to be :- 1. Registered on JDA website www.jda.urban.rajasthan.gov.in for participation in the Bid, the Bidder has to apply for the Bid and pay the Bidding Document Fee, RISL Processing Fee and Bid Security Deposit, online only.
2. Registered on e-Procurement Portal of Government of Rajasthan www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in for online e-Bid submission.

Executive Engineer & TA to Dir. Engg.-II
Raj. Samwad/C/2020-21/5137

DELHI JAL BOARD GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CENTRAL)-II
ANDHA MUGHAL, PARTAP NAGAR (NEAR METRO STATION)
DELHI-110007
PRESS NIT No. 18 (2020-21)

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Tender Fee (Rs.)	Date of release of Tender ID.	Last date/time of receipt of tender
1.	Hiring of cycle rickshaws for supplying water in the area (Karol Bagh) AC-23 under EE(Central)-II.	Item Rate	52,700/-	500/-	01.10.2020	14.10.2020 Upto 3.00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 169(2020-21)

Sd/-
(Priti Pant)
EX. ENGINEER (Central)-II

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता
विद्युत निर्माण खण्ड, केस्को, आरपी.एच., कानपुर
अल्पकालीन/ई-निविदा सूचना

ई. निविदा सं.	विवरण	धरोहर धनराशि	निविदा धनराशि	ई. निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि व समय	ई. निविदा के प्रथम भाग खुलने की तिथि व समय
26/का.पा. / 2020- 21	विजयस प्लान-2020-21 के अन्तर्गत 33/11 के.वी. विद्युत उपकरणे निर्माण में एक नया 10 एम.वी.ए. पावर परिवर्तक स्थापित कर उक्त परिवर्तक द्वारा अतिभारित पोषकों का भार विभाजित करने हेतु एक नया 11 के.वी. इनकर तथा दो नए 11 के.वी. आउट गोंडिंग पैनल स्थापित करने का कार्य।	15,500/- (NEFT/RTG S/BG/FDR) के रूप में।	3540/- (NEFT/RTGS) के रूप में।	16.10.2020 समय 12.00 बजे तक	16.10.2020 समय 03.00 बजे से
27/का.पा. / 2020- 21	विजयस प्लान-2020-21 के अन्तर्गत 33/11 के.वी. विद्युत उपकरणे दादा नगर में एक नया 10 एम.वी.ए. पावर परिवर्तक स्थापित कर उक्त परिवर्तक द्वारा अतिभारित पोषकों का भार विभाजित करने हेतु एक नया 11 के.वी. इनकर तथा दो नए 11 के.वी. आउट गोंडिंग पैनल स्थापित करने का कार्य।	14,600/- (NEFT/RTG S/BG/FDR) के रूप में।	3540/- (NEFT/RTGS) के रूप में।	20.10.2020 समय 12.00 बजे तक	20.10.2020 समय 03.00 बजे से
28/का.पा. / 2020- 21	विजयस प्लान-2020-21 के अन्तर्गत 33/11 के.वी. विद्युत उपकरणे सी.एस.ए. एवं 33/11 के.वी. विद्युत उपकरणे कमनीया, केस्को कानपुर को 33 के.वी. दोहरी विद्युत आपूर्ति प्रदान करने हेतु 220/33 के.वी. प्राथमिक विद्युत उपकरणे आर.पी.एच. से 33 के.वी. भूमिगत केबिल विद्युत का कार्य।	48,000/- (NEFT/RTG S/BG/FDR) के रूप में।	3540/- (NEFT/RTGS) के रूप में।	20.10.2020 समय 12.00 बजे तक	20.10.2020 समय 03.00 बजे से
29/का.पा. / 2020- 21	विजयस प्लान-2020-21 के अन्तर्गत 33/11 के.वी. विद्युत उपकरणे विकास नगर केस्को कानपुर को 33 के.वी. दोहरी विद्युत आपूर्ति प्रदान करने हेतु 33/11 के.वी. विद्युत उपकरणे केसा कालीनी से 33/11 के.वी. विकास नगर विद्युत उपकरणे से भूमिगत केबिल विद्युत का कार्य।	18,500/- (NEFT/RTG S/BG/FDR) के रूप में।	3540/- (NEFT/RTGS) के रूप में।	20.10.2020 समय 12.00 बजे तक	20.10.2020 समय 03.00 बजे से

उपरोक्त ई. निविदा को पूर्ण प्रक्रिया एवं समस्त शर्तें उ.प्र. सरकार की ई. टेंडरिंग वेब साईट <https://etender.up.nic.in> के माध्यम से ही जायेगी, एवं भविष्य में यदि कोई संशोधन अथवा निविदा खुलने की तिथि में विस्तार होता है तो इसकी सूचना ई-टेंडरिंग वेब साईट पर ही उपलब्ध होगी। ई.निविदाओं में निर्धारित ई.निविदा शुल्क एवं धरोहर धनराशि जो केस्को के बैंक खाता सं.-628805018266 आई.एफ.एस.सी.- ICIC0006288 में ऑनलाइन (आर.पी.एच./एच.पी.एच. ई.के.के.के.के.के.के.के.) के माध्यम से जमा कराई जायेगी। केस्को प्रबंधन के पत्र विना कोई कारण बताए किसी एक अथवा समस्त निविदाओं को स्वीकृत/ अस्वीकृत करने के सर्वाधिकार सुरक्षित हैं।

"राष्ट्र हित में ऊर्जा बचाए"
अधिशासी अभियन्ता (निर्माण खण्ड)
पत्रांक: 1104/ वि.नि.ख.के.के.का.टी.02 दिनांक 01.10.2020

PATRACHAR VIDYALAYA
DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION
BL-BLOCK SHALIMAR BAGH, NEW DELHI-110088
CBSE Affiliation Number : 2758042
(website : www.edudel.nic.in)

No. F.10(30)/PV/Adv/19/ Dated 01.10.2020

The students who are residents of Delhi & fulfil the criteria/ guidelines mentioned in the prospectus 2020-21 may apply for admission for class IX, X, XI and XII in Patrachar Vidyalaya (CBSE Curriculum) for the session 2020-21 from 23.09.2020. The prospectus and online admission form are available on the official website of Directorate of Education www.edudel.nic.in (Patrachar Vidyalaya Icon) w.e.f. 23.09.2020.

Sl. No.	Criteria	Class IX	Class X	Class XI	Class XII
1.	Eligibility Criteria A valid date of birth proof is mandatory	i) Students who have passed for failed in any class from a recognized school are eligible for admission. ii) Students who have studied privately at home are eligible on submission of affidavit by parents/guardians.	i) Students who have passed for failed in any class from a recognized school are eligible for admission. ii) Students who have studied privately at home are eligible on submission of affidavit by parents/guardians.	Class X pass-out students	Class XI Passed/failed or after a gap of one year of passing class-X.
2.	Minimum age required	13 years as on 31st March 2020	14 years as on 31st March 2020	----	----
3.	Maximum age	No maximum age restriction	No maximum age restriction	No maximum age restriction	No maximum age restriction
4.	Date of admission without late fee (Phase-I)	23.09.2020- 10.10.2020	23.09.2020- 10.10.2020	23.09.2020- 10.10.2020	23.09.2020- 10.10.2020
5.	Date of admission without late fee (Phase-II)	16.10.2020 - 25.10.2020	16.10.2020 - 25.10.2020	16.10.2020 - 25.10.2020	16.10.2020 - 25.10.2020

Note: Patrachar Vidyalaya, BL-Block, Shalimar Bagh is the only Patrachar institution working under the Directorate of Education GNCT Delhi and affiliated to CBSE. It has no branch or Institutions or Agents. Students should be careful with the institutions having similar names.

CERTIFICATE FOR COMPLIANCE OF CONTENT REGULATIONS OF GOVERNMENT ADVERTISEMENT.

This is to certify that the above proposed advertisement (Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu & English) is in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its judgment dated 13.05.2015 on the guidelines of content Regulation of Govt. Advertisement.

As per direction Advertisement (quarter page of newspaper / 12x15 SQC DAVP Sq Cm Bw) regarding Advertisement notice in respect of Admission to Classes IX, X, XI & XII in Patrachar Vidyalaya for the Academic Session 2020-21 is to be published in the leading two Hindi newspaper and three in English, one in Punjabi and one in Urdu language newspapers.

The Content of advertisement is verified and are in order.

Sd/-
DIRECTOR
Director of Education
DIP/Shabdarth/0338/20-21

verka
Phulo Phalo, Pure Khao Phyo.

THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD. SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX NO. 0172-5041812-66

Notice Inviting Tender

Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items -

Sl. No.	Name of the Item	Contract Period/ Quantity	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D (Rs.)	Date & Time for Sale/Opening of e-tenders online	Last Date & Time of Submission of e-tenders	Date & Time of opening of e-tenders
1.	Hiring of Insulated road milk tanker for transportation of Milk from MOC's to various Milk Plants in Punjab etc. on annual rate contract. Cap-15000Ltr. Double chamber Cap. 10000Ltr. Single/Double Chamber	03 Nos. 01 Nos.	Verka Faridkot Dairy (Ph. No. 01639-500029, 500028, 500032)	500/-	1,00,000/- per Tanker	03.10.2020 From 10:00AM	17.10.2020 Upto 5:00 PM	Technical Bid 19.10.2020 at 10:00 AM Financial Bid 23.10.2020 at 10:00 AM
2.	Providing Un-skilled, Semi-skilled and High-skilled Labour etc.	Annual Rate Contract	Verka Mohali Dairy (Ph. No. 0172-2271754, 020.5039350-351)	100/-	50,000/-	05.10.2020 at 3:00 PM	19.10.2020 at 5:00 PM	Technical Bid 20.10.2020 at 12:00 PM Financial Bid 26.10.2020 at 12:00 PM
3.	Job Contract for the production & packing of Sterilized Flavourd Milk	30,000 to 50,000 bottles per day or as demand	Verka Parliha Dairy (Ph. No. 805498633, 805498654)	500/-	75,000/-	05.10.2020	19.10.2020 Upto 11:00 AM	Technical Bid 21.10.2020 at 11:00 AM Financial Bid 23.10.2020 at 12:00 PM
4.	Hiring of Vehicles for transportation of Panji to C.D.P.O.'s of Punjab and other milk products to Punjab and other states.	For Entering into rate contract.	Verka Jalandhar Dairy (Ph. No. 7355556749, 7355661750)	500/-	50,000/-	05.10.2020 From 3:00 PM	12.10.2020 Upto 5:00 PM	13.10.2020 at 1:00PM
5.	Supply of Rice Husk	600 MT	Verka Dairy Hoshiarpur (Ph. No.011882-238157)	200/-	40,000/-	06.10.2020 After 5:00 PM	21.10.2020 Upto 3:30 PM	22.10.2020 after 11:30 AM
6.	Lifting of Rice Husk/ Coal/ Firewood from the husk/ coal yard to the boiler furnaces	N.A.	-do-	200/-	15,000/-	06.10.2020 After 5:00 PM	21.10.2020 Upto 3:30 PM	22.10.2020 after 11:30 AM
7.	Hiring of Insulated Vehicles for supply of pecked milk and fresh milk products in Bathinda City	01 MT -4 vehicle, 03 MT-01 Vehicle, Period of Tender contract 01.12.2020 to 30.11.2021	Verka Bathinda Dairy (Ph. No. 0164-2214825)	500/-	50,000/-	02.10.2020 From 2:00 PM onwards	17.10.2020 upto 5:00 PM	Technical Bid 20.10.2020 at 2:00 PM Financial Bid 22.10.2020 at 2:00 PM
8.	Hiring of Insulated Road Milk Tankers Cap. 9 Ton	01 Nos.	-do-	500/-	1,00,000/-	05.10.2020 From 5:00 PM	20.10.2020 upto 5:00 PM	Technical Bid 21.10.2020 at 11:30 AM
9.	Hiring of Utility Vehicle Five Seater Tata Xenon/ Mahindra Bolero Pickup or equivalent Vehicle with driver.	01 No.	Verka Chandigarh Dairy (Ph No. 0172-5041901, 5041928, 5041917-19)	200/-	5,000/-	05.10.2020	16.10.2020 upto 12:30 PM	16.10.2020 upto 3:00 PM
10.	Hiring of Passenger Vehicle Toyota Innova (Diesel) or equivalent vehicle with driver	01 No.	-do-	200/-	5,000/-	05.10.2020	16.10.2020 upto 12:30 PM	16.10.2020 upto 3:00 PM
11.	Supply of 100gm Butter Cartons (IFC) (Machine Packable)	Annual Rate Contract	Verka Luchiana Dairy (Ph No. 0161-5203300-5203301, 5203334)	500/-	15,000/-	06.10.2020 from 11:00 AM	19.10.2020 upto 12:00 PM	Technical Bid 20.10.2020 at 2:30 PM Financial Bid 20.10.2020 at 3:00 PM
12.	Diesel Mahindra Camper/Tata Xenon Isuzu DMax (Double Cabin)	01 No. 2019 & above	Verka Seed Processing Plant Bassi Patna (Ph. No. 6284717504)	200/-	5,000/-	06.10.2020 3:00 PM onwards	17.10.2020 9:10:00 AM	17.10.2020 at 11:00 AM

Bidders shall have to pay required Tender Processing fee through online mode only i.e. through debited card for getting registered for e-tendering system. EMD should be made only through online mode i.e. Credit/Debit card, NEFT/RTGS, Internet Banking. For participating in the above e-tender, the parties shall have to get themselves registered with our e-Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in and get USER ID and Password well in time. For downloading tender through e-tendering, process flow, please contact e-Procurement help desk on given Nos. 0172-2970263, 2970284 immediately so that process of timely registration and downloading the tender is completed in time by the date of tender opening. For additional details regarding e-tendering please visit website eproc.punjab.gov.in. Tender processing Fee is Non-Refundable.

Section - B
Sealed Tenders are hereby invited on the prescribed Proforma for the purchase of following items:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Item	Qty/Contract Period	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D (Rs.)	Last Date of purchase & submission of tenders forms	Date of Display of list of eligible bidders	Date & time of receipt and opening of tender
1.	Hiring of double cabin Pickup Jeep (AC) Passenger Vehicle for purchase, Marketing and Engineering etc for all India area (Jeep Imperio, Xenon, Bolero, or Equivalent)	01 Nos.	Cattle Feed Plant, Ghania-46-Bangar (Ph. No. 01871-266741)	100/-	5000/-	-	-	19.10.2020
2.	Outsourcing of Milk Booths at Municipal Corporation Jalandhar Campus Airport Authority of India, Amampur Airport	Three Years	Verka Jalandhar Dairy (Ph. No. 7355556749, 7355661750)	200/-	25,000/-	14.10.2020 Upto 2:00PM	15.10.2020 at 11:00AM	16.10.2020 at 11:30 AM

Interested parties may obtain detailed Tender Documents from the office of Consignee where tender is to be opened on any working day from (9AM to 5PM). If any clarification is required may contact on Phone Numbers given above. The Tender Notice may also be seen at Verka Website (www.verka.coop) TENDER (S) WITHOUT EARNEST MONEY ARE LIABLE TO BE REJECTED. The Consignee reserves the right to accept/reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.

General Manager (PLM/PURCHASE)

Government of India
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
Through
Government of Karnataka
Public Works, Ports & Inland water transport Department (NATIONAL HIGHWAYS)
Office of the Executive Engineer, National Highway Division, Vishweshwarnagar, Hubballi Tele/Fax : 0836-2357420 & 0836-2357577
Email : eenhd_hbl

WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION**CORRIGENDUM**

Subject:- Provision of Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for three years of Passenger Information System i.e. Coach Guidance Display Boards, Train Arrival/Departure Display Boards, Auto Announcement System & Digital Clocks, etc. at various stations (09 nos) of Ahmedabad Division.
Reference : Tender Notice No. DRM-SNT-ADI-Tele-07 of 20-21
In connection with above mentioned tender work, following amendments have been incorporated.

1) Amendment to Clause 2.16 of Chapter 2a Technical Specification:-
Replacement of all unserviceable defective parts of the Coach Guidance Display, At a Glances Single/ Double Face Train indicators boards, Computerized Announcement Amplifier, GPS clock, UPS, TV Monitor etc with mechanical structure and other associated fitting components.
(Note:- The UPS batteries will be provided by Railways if GPS Clocks, Batteries in CDC Rack UPS etc)

2) Amendment to Clause 2.16 of Chapter 2a Technical Specification:-
If any cable damages in field by any means then all types of cable laying/restoration work shall be done by vendor and trenching/digging and materials required for restoring the same will be provided by Railways.
3) Amendment to Clause 2.24 of Chapter 2a Technical Specification:-
There is provision for penalty if any/all Coach Guidance Display, At a Glances Single/Double Face Train indicators boards, Computerized Announcement Amplifier, Digital clock, TV Monitor etc. remains faulty without a proper substitute for more than 06 hrs after intimation of failure to the contractor then a penalty will be levied which will be calculated as follows:-
"After six hours, for each hour of unavailability of any/all Coach Guidance Display, At a Glances Single/Double Face Train indicators boards, Computerized Announcement Amplifier, Digital clock, TV Monitor will be @ Rs.250/- per hour per station."
Above changes have been incorporated in the tender document to be uploaded on IREPS portal.
AD-110

Like us on Facebook.com/WesternRly - Follow us on Twitter.com/WesternRly

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Palak

General Public is hereby informed that one girl Namely: Palak, D/o: Laxmi Banjara, R/o: Jhuggi No. 06, Anant Ram Dairy, Sector 13, R.K. Puram, New Delhi has been missing since 25.09.2020 from the area of P.S. Sarojini Nagar, Delhi. In this regard a case FIR No. 320/20 u/s 363 IPC dated 26.09.2020 has been lodged at PS Sarojini Nagar, Delhi. The description of the missing girl are as under: Age: 15 years, Sex: Female, Height: 4' 5", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Build: Normal, Wearing: Blue colour T-shirt and black colour jeans. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

E-Mail ID - cic@cbi.gov.in

Fax No. 011-24368639

Ph. Nos.: 011-24368638, 24368641

DP/319/SW/2020

SHO

P.S. Sarojini Nagar, Delhi

Ph.: 011-24671281,

7065036230

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि., आगरा**ई-निविदा सूचना**

अद्योद्देश्यकरता द्वारा निम्नलिखित सामग्री को आपूर्ति/कार्य कराने हेतु ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा के संबंध में विस्तृत नियम व शर्तें निम्नलिखित अधिलेखों में उल्लिखित हैं जो उ.प्र. शासन के ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि. की वेबसाइट www.dvvn.org पर उपलब्ध है। क्रम संख्या, निविदा संख्या, सामग्री/कार्य का विवरण, निविदा खुलने का दिनांक, निविदा शुल्क, धरोहर राशि (रूपये में) क्रमानुसार

- ई.एस.सी./ए./टी-11 (2020-21), (अल्पकालीन निविदा) विद्युत भण्डार मण्डल, आगरा के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न प्रकार की स्टेनरी को आपूर्ति एवं कार्टिज रिफिलिंग का कार्य 12.10.2020, रू. 1,180,000 रु. 4,000.00
- ई.एस.सी./ए./टी-12 (2020-21), विद्युत भण्डार खण्ड झांसी के अन्तर्गत विद्युत भण्डार केन्द्र, झांसी ललितपुर एवं उर्दई पर पड़े अप्रयोध्य/निष्प्रयोध्य वितरण/पवर परिवर्तकों, सी. टी./पी.टी. यूनित एवं अन्य सामग्री का स्टीपिंग का कार्य, 31.10.2020 रु. 1,180,000 रु. 10,000.00

निविदा में यदि कोई संशोधन अथवा निविदा खुलने की तिथि में विस्तार होता है तो इसकी सूचना ई-टेंडर वेबसाइट etender.up.nic.in पर तथा निगम की वेबसाइट www.dvvn.org पर उपलब्ध करा दी जायेगी

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता

विद्युत भण्डार मण्डल, आगरा

दिनांक: 30.09.2020

"राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचाये"

CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar

(Established by Parliament Act 16 of 1970)

Tender Notice

CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar is inviting Tender for following equipments/items :-

- Purchase of Multiple Water Quality Analyzer for the COFS, CCSHAU, Hisar
- Purchase of Water Purification system and storage tank (Chiller) for Dean, COBS&H, CCSHAU, Hisar

For detail information and e-tendering schedule, please visit the website <https://etenders.hry.nic.in> and University website <http://hau.ac.in>

Date of start of bid preparation and submission 05.10.2020 (09:00 hours) and Closing on 25.10.2020 up to 17:00 hours. Opening of Technical Bid on 26.10.2020 at 11:00 A.M. & Financial Bid on 27.10.2020 at 11:00 A.M.

Note: 1. All updates, amendments, corrigenda etc. (if any) will be posted only on the CCS HAU Website/Tender website. There will not be any publication of the same through Newspapers or any other media.
2. Interested bidders are advised to deposit bid security/EMD on or before 48:00 hrs of expiring date and time of bid online so as to get the payment verified.

Sd/-
Director (Store & Purchase)

CCSHAU, Hisar

HAU-835

GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION**Bus Route Roads Department**

BRR.C.No.B3/3142/2020

Short TENDER NOTICE - e-tenders are invited for the following works in Two Cover System as per details furnished below.

Name of the work	No. of Package	Approx. value of the work Rs.	E.M.D. Rs.	Eligible Class
Improvements to the Bus Route Roads BT Roads in various zones (Capital Fund)	1 & 2	Lowest work value Rs. 533.00 Lakhs Highest work value Rs. 544.00 Lakhs	1 % of the work value	Class - 1

- Tender last date and time of submission: 20.10.2020 upto 3:00 pm
- Bid document will be available in website <https://tenders.gov.in>
- Tender open date and time: 21.10.2020 upto 3:30 pm.

Superintending Engineer (BRR)

DIPR/3706/Tender/2020

UJVN LIMITED

H.O.: "UJJAWAL" Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006

Telephone: 0135-2763006, Fax: 0135-2763509

CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

प.सं. 594 e-Tender Notice दिनांक 30.09.2020

Office of the Executive Engineer (P&C) Ganga Bhawan, Dehradun invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below: Tender No. 03/EE(P&C)/2021. Name of work/ supply / services etc. Procurement of different stationary items for various offices of UJVN Ltd. Located at Dehradun. Estimated Cost : Rs. 1858340.00 (Exclusive of Taxes). Date of availability of bid document on website : 30.09.2020 from 16:00 Hrs. Last date for submission of bids on website : 23.10.2020 upto 17:00 Hrs. For fuller & further details , kindly visit e - procurement portal <http://uktenders.gov.in>

Executive Engineer (P&C)

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION**Buildings Department**

B.D.C.No.81/203/2020

e - RE-TENDER NOTICE

Tenders are invited for the Superintending Engineer (Buildings)

for the following work as per details furnished below

Smart vending carts 900 Nos. of size 2.2 m x 0.80 m x 2.10 m with stainless steel for the street vendor in Marina Beach in Zone - 9 in Greater Chennai Corporation

For more information see <http://tntenders.gov.in> & www.chennaicorporation.gov.in

Works Value approx. EMD Amount

Rs.16.47 Crores (including 18% GST) Rs.16,47,000/-

Tender Date and Time: 09.11.2020 upto 3.00 P.M.

Tender Open Date and Time: 10.11.2020 at 3.30 P.M.

DIPR/3702/Tender/2020 Superintending Engineer (Buildings)

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Date: 29-09-2020

GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN**DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND GEOLOGY**

Email: bidgingeell@rajasthan.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 10B of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, its subsequent amendments and in accordance with the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 as amended from time to time notified thereunder, the Government of Rajasthan has notified the following mineral blocks for the purpose of grant of Mining I case for mineral limestone and hereby invites bids in digital form only from eligible bidders through electronic auction.

The interested and eligible bidders, upon registration on MSTC website <<https://www.mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/mle/index.jsp>> will obtain login ID and Password. After successful registration, the eligible bidder can purchase the Tender Document online on Payment or a non-refundable tender document fee and can participate in the e-auction process.

The details of mineral blocks and last date of submission of bid is as summarized below:-

S. No	Block	Tender document fee excluding GST	Lease	Start Date of Tender Document on MSTC website	Last Date of Sale of Tender Document on MSTC website	Bid Due date and time
1	Parewar B Block Tehsil & District Jasamer	Rs. 2,00,000	Mining Lease	29-09-2020	14-10-2020 upto 1700 Hrs (IST)	03-11-2020 upto 1300 Hrs (IST)
2	Khnyaa -II (A (KH-II A) Block Tehsil, Smt. Mohangarh & District Jasamer	Rs. 2,00,000	Mining Lease	29-09-2020	14-10-2020 upto 1700 Hrs (IST)	03-11-2020 upto 1400 Hrs (IST)
3	4G Ila Block Tehsil Khimsar & District Nagaur	Rs. 2,00,000	Mining Lease	29-09-2020	14-10-2020 upto 1700 Hrs (IST)	03-11-2020 upto 1500 Hrs (IST)

All the blocks mentioned above are being put up for first attempt of auction. The GST at the rate of 18% is applicable on the purchase of tender document. The prospective bidder shall be solely responsible for remitting the GST as per applicable law and statutory liability in this regard will be responsibility of prospective bidder and no liability whatsoever shall be borne by the DMGR/MSTC.

Detailed terms and conditions, deadlines etc. for participation in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. The Model Tender Document and Mineral Blocks Summaries are available free of cost in electronic form and can be downloaded from the website of MSTC Ltd. <<https://www.mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/mle/index.jsp>> and Department of Mines & Geology <www.mines.rajasthan.gov.in> for the purpose of information only. Timelines, notifications, updates and other details for the e-auction process are available on the website of <<https://www.mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/mle/index.jsp>>.

Any revision, clarifications, addendum, corrigendum, time extensions, etc. to the above tender documents will be hosted on websites <<https://www.mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/mle/index.jsp>> and <www.mines.rajasthan.gov.in> only and no separate notifications shall be issued in the press.

Sd/-
Director

Department of Mines & Geology

Rajasthan, Udaipur

R.O. No. DIPR/C/7763/2020

U.P.R.V.U.N.L. E- TENDER NOTICE**HARDUAGANJ THERMAL POWER STATION, KASIMPUR (ALIGARH) SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, O&M-III, DTSP.****1. E-TENDER****Notice No.ET-09/O&M-III/C&IMD-I/DTSP/HTPS/2020-21, Online e-**

Bids are invited for the "Maintenance work of C&I field equipments, installed for Fire Detection & Protection System of Unit 8 & 9". E-tender has been published on 22.09.2020 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>. Estimated cost of work Rs. 1038000 only. Time Period: 01 year, E.M.D. Cost Rs. 21000, Last date of tender: 05.11.2020 up to 14:00 hrs. 2. E-TENDER Notice No.ET-10/O&M-III/C&IMD-I/DTSP/HTPS/2020-21, Online e-Bids are invited for the "Maintenance work of C&I field equipments, installed in Boiler Turbine and B.O.P area of Unit 8 & 9". E-tender has been published on 28.09.2020 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>. Estimated cost of work Rs. 574900 only



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If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

EXPLAINED YOUR MONEY

Should you buy a house now?

Falling prices and low interest may be tempting, but those whose incomes have fallen should ideally not rush. For those paying rent, it makes sense to look at the property's rental yield before taking the plunge



SANDEEP SINGH

DECLINE IN property prices and prevailing low interest rates may entice someone who has been either looking to buy his/her first house or looking to upgrade to a bigger house. However, the decision to buy a house needs careful consideration, especially at a time when income levels are falling, property prices are expected to remain at lower levels and rental yields are on a decline. Individuals must also understand that in the pandemic-induced slowdown, it is important to hold on to liquidity and not go for additional liability.

Should you buy or stay on rent?

At least for those who have their jobs and salary levels intact, and who have been looking to buy a house of their own for quite some time, it may be one of the better times to buy a house. If the price correction over the last 4-5 years and a sharp decline in interest rates are factors that favour such a decision, the fact that there is an ample ready-to-move inventory in the market and that buyers hold the negotiating power in the current market situation only makes it more tempting to take the plunge.

"It is an opportune time for those who have been waiting to buy for a long time. For the first time in around 15 years, the real estate market has turned a buyer's market as over the last 10-15 years builders and suppliers dictated terms. One can bargain hard and get the house at a lower-than-quoted price," said Pankaj Kapoor, founder and MD, Liases Foras, a real estate research firm.

For those who are experiencing some financial stress, the decision to buy a home can be deferred until they see stabilisation in cash flows, and they could be better off staying on rent or renegotiating their monthly rent.

With the economy under stress on account of the pandemic, growing joblessness in the economy and outward migration from



For those who have their jobs and salaries intact, this may be the right time to buy the house. Those under financial stress should wait. Express Archive

cities, a scenario is developing where both rental rates and property prices may continue to remain under pressure, so staying on rent may be a smart decision.

Buy versus rent — what are the factors to consider?

Even for those who can buy the house, there needs to be a careful consideration before taking the plunge. A drop in rental yields means that the property may be overvalued and future capital appreciation may be limited, and so a property in the location of your choice may be available at the almost the same price over the next few years at least.

Experts say that if the rental yield of the property that someone is looking to buy is more than 3.5%, then one should buy the house as, besides giving a sense of security, it will also mean future capital appreciation.

"If the rental yield of the property to be bought is less than 2.5%, one should simply stay on rent because lower and declining rental yields mean low capital appreciation going forward. And given the current sce-

nario, yields will decline further on account of rising joblessness and outward migration of people from cities," Kapoor said.

Consider this: if you are looking to buy a house which is priced at Rs 1 crore and you take a loan of 80 lakh. At an interest rate of 7.5% for a 20-year loan, your monthly EMI would come to around Rs 65,000, which means an annual EMI outgo of Rs 7,80,000.

By comparison, if you stay on rent in a similar property and location, a 5% rental yield would mean an annual rental outgo of Rs 5 lakh and a 2.5% rental yield would mean an annual rent of Rs 2.5 lakh. What it also means is that if the rental yield is 5%, the property would see capital appreciation. On the other hand, if the rental yield is 2.5%, it means that the property is overvalued and may not see much capital appreciation going forward.

So, homebuyers would be better off not buying a house which has a rental yield of 2.5% or less, and should instead stay on rent.

It is important to note that while those paying home loan EMI can claim deduction of up to Rs 2 lakh on the interest component

of the home loan in a year, those staying on rent will see their HRA component of the salary exempted from tax.

Should you buy realty for investment?

Amid the prospect of declining rental yields, low capital appreciation over the last 10 years and real estate being not a liquid investment, retail investors would be wise not to buy real estate purely for investment purposes.

While an HNI (high net-worth individual) investor can go for real estate investment in the current times and get a property at a discount of 20-30%, a retail investor would be better off putting that money in a more liquid asset.

One must remember that in case of economic stress, real estate is the first to lose value and turn illiquid. If gold preserves its value and turns more precious in times of economic crisis, real estate does just the opposite. Real estate investments are not for bad times — in bad times, you may end up doing a distress sale.

Another important factor is that one should not take a loan to buy real estate for investment, as you may be paying an interest of around 8% on the loan and earning 2.5-4% as rental yield.

Should you keep the pandemic and slowdown in mind?

At a time when the economy is undergoing a slowdown, individuals both salaried and self-employed are witnessing a dip in cash flows, and there is uncertainty about the future, it must be understood that an additional liability will only add to stress levels. With no medical breakthrough yet on Covid-19 and daily cases rising, individuals must look to keep liquidity with them for any contingency.

The purchase of a house in current times would mean utilising one's own liquidity for the down payment besides adding a huge liability in the form of a loan in an environment where income levels are falling and future cash flows remain uncertain. The big decision of buying a house should ideally be made when the pandemic is behind us and there is reasonable certainty over revival of the economy.

So, only individuals who are not impacted much by the Covid-induced slowdown and are comfortably placed should buy a house. Others can wait until the situation improves.

CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

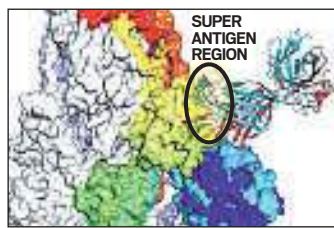
In coronavirus spike protein, clues to why some patients have runaway inflammation

WHY DO some people with Covid-19 develop severe inflammation? A new study addresses this question by looking at the molecular structure and sequence of the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, the key part of the virus that causes Covid-19. The study uses computational modelling to zero in on a part of the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein that may act as a "super-antigen". It proposes that this part kicks the immune system into overdrive leading to inflammatory syndrome. The study is published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Symptoms of a newly identified condition in paediatric Covid-19 patients, known as Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C), include persistent fever and severe inflammation that can affect a host of bodily systems. While rare, the syndrome can be serious or even fatal.

Researchers Moshe Arditi (Cedars-Sinai Medical Center) and Ivet Bahar (University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine) searched for features of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that might be responsible for MIS-C. They created a computer model of the interaction between the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein and the receptors on human T cells. These T cells are part of the immune system and normally help the body fight off infection, but when they are activated in abnormally large quantities, they produce massive amounts of inflammatory cytokines, leading to a "cytokine storm".

The computer model identified a specific region on the spike protein with super-antigenic features — which can lead to an abnormal immune response. The researchers compared



A 3D structural model of the spike protein. The super-antigenic region is circled, with a T cell receptor bound to the it. Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

this region to a bacterial protein that causes toxic shock syndrome and found striking similarities in both sequence and structure. Also, the proposed SARS-CoV-2 super-antigen showed a high affinity for binding with T cell receptors — the first step towards a runaway immune response.

The discovery of protein-level similarities between SARS-CoV-2 and the bacterial structure that causes toxic shock syndrome, the researchers said, may have opened up new avenues for treating not only MIS-C patients, but also adults with Covid-19 infection experiencing cytokine storm.

The researchers also collaborated with scientists studying adult Covid-19 patients in Germany and found that those who experienced severe symptoms had a T cell response similar to what is seen in people exposed to super-antigens and very different from the T cell response in patients who had only mild symptoms.

Source: Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

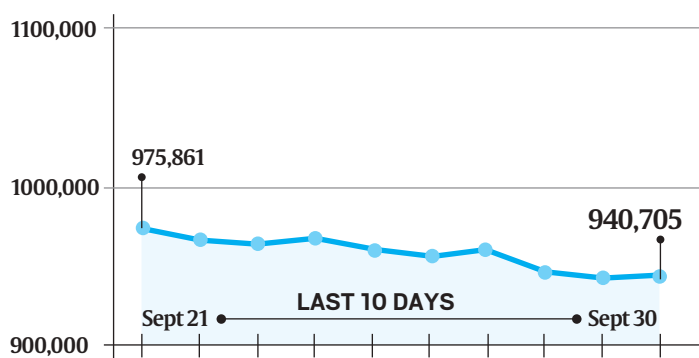


PAPER CLIP

NEW RESEARCH

INDIA ACTIVE CASES

940,705



Note: The Sept 30 figure is based on the government update on Oct 1

INDIA TOTAL CASES
6,312,584WORLD TOTAL CASES
34,080,123

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, updated at 11 pm on Oct 1

Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated at 11 pm on Oct 1

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SNC-Lavalin: the case, Vijayan's discharge

SHAJU PHILIP

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 1

ON WEDNESDAY, the Supreme Court deferred until next week the hearing of a CBI appeal challenging a Kerala High Court verdict upholding the discharge of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan in the decades-old SNC-Lavalin corruption case

What is the SNC-Lavalin case?

It dates back to 1996-97, when Vijayan was Electricity Minister in the then government. It concerns an agreement between Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) and Canadian firm SNC-Lavalin for renovation of three hydel power projects. Although the MoU for a consultancy was signed towards the end of the Congress regime from 1991-96, it was during Vijayan's tenure as Electricity Minister in 1997 that the MoU was converted into a fixed-price deal (at Rs 239.81 crore) for supply of equipment and engineering services for the renovation of the projects.

Though renovation was to be completed by September 2001, it was done only in February 2003, at a cost of Rs 250.40 crore, apart from a financing liability of Rs 69.83 crore. KSEB failed to get technology transfer and training of personnel as envisaged in the contract. The equipment supplied by Lavalin was later found to be defective, and some of it was unusable.



Vijayan's discharge challenged

Lavalin had agreed to mobilise Rs 98.30 crore for construction of a hospital, Malabar Cancer Centre, in north Kerala. But the actual contribution made up to February 2001 was only Rs 8.98 crore. The government did not receive the rest; these funds were an integral part of the agreement.

When did these come to light?

In 2001, the Assembly Subject Committee found the deal with Lavalin had led to huge losses for the government. A year later, the Congress government ordered a Vigilance probe, but it failed to make any headway.

In 2005, the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) said the state had lost Rs 374.50 crore in the deal. Subsequently, the Vigilance probe was revived and in 2006 a

preliminary probe report was submitted in court, arraigning eight people as accused — all KSEB officials. Amid allegations that the police had let politicians off the hook, then Chief Minister Oommen Chandy announced that the case would be handed over to the CBI.

What did the CBI find?

In May 2006, the LDF government assumed office. Vijayan was CPM state secretary then. When a public interest litigation came up in the High Court demanding a CBI probe, the government objected, but in 2007 the court allowed the CBI to probe the case.

In January 2009, the CBI submitted its final report, arraigning Vijayan as an accused. The CBI sought the Kerala Governor's sanction to prosecute Vijayan as he had been a minister. In June 2009, Governor R S Gavai accorded sanction to prosecute Vijayan. It was also the first time a politburo member was being prosecuted for corruption.

The CBI final report named 11 accused. Except Vijayan and a senior executive of SNC-Lavalin, the rest were bureaucrats then associated with KSEB and the power department. All of them had retired by then and a few had died.

What are the charges against Vijayan?

Vijayan was charged under sections 120B, 132 of the IPC along with sections 13(1) and 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act. The CBI found that Vijayan had shown unusual en-

thusiasm in the deal. "The final contract with Lavalin was entered into without Cabinet consent; he held direct discussions with a senior manager of the SBI to get exemption of bank guarantee for the amount promised to the MCC; he finalised the contract without the formal approval of the KSEB; and that he had been keen to retain the Malabar Cancer Centre under the KSEB," the CBI report said.

How did the case proceed?

In 2013, the CBI trial court in Thiruvananthapuram allowed the discharge petitions of Vijayan and six others. The CBI challenged the decision in the Kerala High Court, which partially granted the revision petition; Justice Ubaid set aside the discharge of three accused including Vijayan.

Then on August 24, 2017, when Vijayan had become CM, the High Court upheld the verdict of the CBI court that had allowed his discharge. The court observed that the prosecution does not have sufficient and satisfactory material to work out a prima facie case against the accused. Justice Ubaid said, "I find that despite material showing failure and inaction on part of many ministers who succeeded him (Vijayan), the CBI wrongly picked and chose the seventh accused for prosecution on an allegation of conspiracy without the support of any material."

The CBI challenged this in the Supreme Court in 2017 itself.

Armenia vs Azerbaijan: old regional conflict, interested neighbours

MEHR GILL

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

OVER THE last one week, military action in Nagorno-Karabakh, a region disputed between Armenia and Azerbaijan, has resulted in the death of at least 100 civilians and Armenian combatants. While the two countries have fought over the region for decades, the current conflict is being seen as one of the most serious in recent years. Azerbaijan has not released information on its casualties.

What is Nagorno-Karabakh?

Straddling western Asia and Eastern Europe, Nagorno-Karabakh is internationally recognised as part of Azerbaijan, but most of the region is controlled by Armenian separatists. Nagorno-Karabakh has been part of Azerbaijan territory since the Soviet era. When the Soviet Union began to collapse in the late 1980s, Armenia's

regional parliament voted for the region's transfer to Armenia; the Soviet authorities turned down the demand.

Years of clashes followed between Azerbaijan forces and Armenian separatists. The violence lasted into the 1990s, leaving tens and thousands dead and displacing hundreds of thousands. In 1994, Russia brokered a ceasefire, by which time ethnic Armenians had taken control of the region.

While the area remains in Azerbaijan, it is today governed by separatist Armenians who have declared it a republic called the "Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast". While the Armenian government does not recognise Nagorno-Karabakh as independent, it supports the region politically and militarily.

Even after the 1994 peace deal, the region has been marked by regular exchanges of fire. In 2016, it saw a Four-Day War before Russia mediated peace. The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group, chaired by

France, Russia and the US, has tried to get the two countries to reach a peace agreement for several years.

What is the fresh conflict about?

It began on the morning of September 27, since when each country has claimed to have inflicted serious loss on its opponent. What's different about the current flare-up is that this is the first time that both countries have proclaimed martial law.

According to the Warsaw-based Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW), the current escalation was "most likely" initiated by Azerbaijan. Media reports have noted that the clashes were possibly a fallout of Azerbaijan's bid to reclaim some territories occupied by separatist Armenians.

The chairman of Azerbaijan's National Council has said in a statement that the "military operation of the Azerbaijani army continues to clear the territories occupied by the enemy for almost 30 years". He said



September 27 was a "day of exhaustion" and alleged Armenia has occupied regions around Nagorno-Karabakh with the "direct support" of Russia to create a "security zone".

What are the stakes for Russia, and other countries?

The conflict is getting worldwide attention because of the involvement of regional rivals Turkey and Russia. Muslim-majority Turkey

backs Azerbaijan, and recently condemned Christian-majority Armenia for not resolving the issue through peaceful negotiations. Turkey recently declared unconditional support to Muslim-majority Azerbaijan.

Russia and Turkey also back opposite sides in the civil war playing out in Syria and Libya and Turkey's support for Azerbaijan may be seen as an attempt to counter Russia's influence in the region of South Caucasus.

Russia's role is somewhat opaque since it supplies arms to both countries and is in a military alliance with Armenia called the Collective Security Treaty Organisation. In a statement released on Monday, Dmitry Peskov, the Press Secretary of the President of the Russian Federation, said Russia "has always taken a balanced position" on the matter and has "traditionally good relations" with both countries. He added that Russia is in contact with Turkey regarding the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Other countries, including the US, have

limited their participation to appeals for maintaining peace so far. For all countries, the region is an important transit route for the supply of oil and natural gas to the European Union.

What next?

As of now, both sides are standing their ground. The Russian state news agency TASS quoted Azerbaijan President Ikhram Aliyev as saying that for the fighting to stop, Armenia must unconditionally leave Nagorno-Karabakh.

On Monday, the Armenian government lodged a request with the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) for an interim measure (applicable only when there is imminent risk of irreparable harm) against Azerbaijan. It requested the court to indicate to the Azerbaijani government to "cease the military attacks towards the civilian settlements along the entire line of contact of the armed forces of Armenia and Artsakh".

TOP OF THE WORLD



Prince Harry and Meghan Markle

UNITED KINGDOM

Harry, Meghan start campaign against racism

London: Prince Harry has spoken about his "awakening" to race issues as he and his wife, Meghan, launched an anti-racism campaign to mark Black History Month in the UK. In a video interview with the *Evening Standard* newspaper published Thursday, Harry said London sometimes "doesn't feel as diverse as it actually is". "For as long as structural racism exists, there will be generations of young people of colour who do not start their lives with the same equality of opportunity as their white peers," wrote the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, as Harry and Meghan are formally known. AP

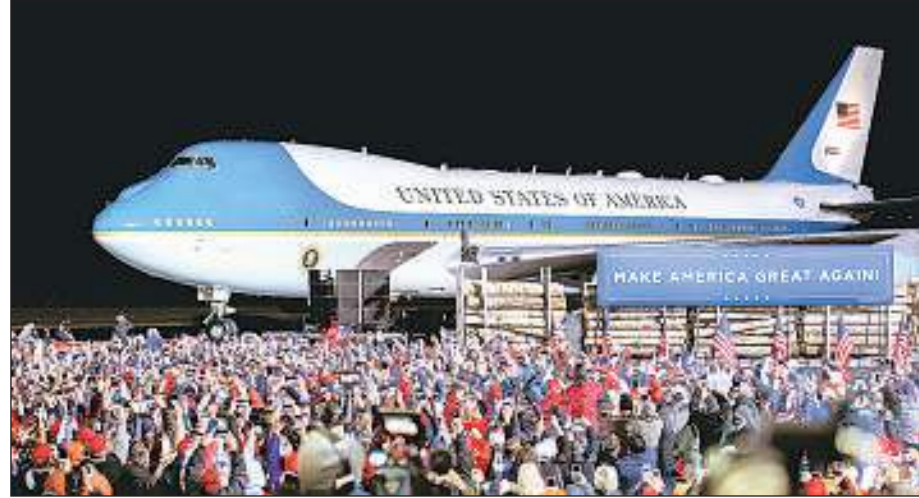
Trump's call for followers to monitor poll raises voter intimidation fears

THE NEW YORK TIMES
NEW YORK, OCTOBER 1

THE GROUP of Trump campaign officials came carrying cellphone cameras and a determination to help the president's re-election efforts in Philadelphia. But they were asked to leave the city's newly opened satellite election offices on Tuesday after being told local election laws did not permit them to monitor voters coming to request and complete absentee ballots.

On social media and right-wing news sites and in the presidential debate on Tuesday night, President Trump and his campaign quickly suggested nefarious intent in the actions of local election officials, with the president claiming during the debate that "bad things happen in Philadelphia" and urging his supporters everywhere to "go into the polls and watch very carefully".

The baseless descriptions of the voting process in Philadelphia were the latest broad-brush attempt by the Trump campaign to undermine confidence in this year's election, a message delivered with an ominous edge at the debate when he advised an extremist group, the Proud Boys, to "stand



Air Force One arrives with Donald Trump at Duluth International Airport on Wednesday, with supporters of the US president in attendance. AP

back and stand by" in his remarks about the election.

Thea McDonald, a spokeswoman for the Trump campaign, said the operation was needed because "Democrats have proven their lack of trustworthiness time and again this election cycle". She added, "President Trump's volunteer poll watchers will be trained to ensure all rules are applied equally, all valid ballots are counted, and all Democrat rule-

breaking is called out."

In recent weeks, the Trump campaign has distributed carefully lawyered training videos to prospective poll watchers around the country describing what they can and can't do while monitoring the voting process, imploring them to be courteous to "even our Democrat friends". The poll watchers will challenge ballots and the eligibility of voters, but they are not supposed to interact with voters themselves.

Voting rights groups fear that effort could veer toward voter intimidation. But the question is how far Mr. Trump's supporters will take the exhortations to protect a vote the president has relentlessly, and baselessly, described as being at risk of widespread fraud.

The Republican National Committee has been allowed to participate in poll watching only because the courts in 2018 lifted a consent decree that had barred

them from doing so for three and a half decades, after the party undertook an operation to intimidate New Jersey voters in 1981.

Now, poll watchers are being instructed in specific detail. In Michigan, for instance, they are being told to record when any paper jams occur, while those in Arizona are being given a detailed breakdown of the state's voter identification requirements.

But while the official poll watchers are being schooled in legal procedures, Mr. Trump and some of his closest surrogates, including his longtime confidant Roger J. Stone Jr. and his son Donald Trump Jr., have recently floated conspiracy theories that also sound like calls to arms.

During a recent appearance on *The Alex Jones Show*, a far-right radio program that peddles conspiracy theories, Mr. Stone said that ballots in Nevada should be seized by federal marshals, claiming that "they are already corrupted" and that Mr. Trump should consider nationalizing the state police. Mr. Stone, a felon whose sentence was commuted this year by the president, has ties to the Proud Boys.

In a video imploring Trump supporters to join a poll-watching brigade called "Army for Trump", Donald Trump Jr. made similarly evidence-free claims of fraud.

EU begins legal action over UK's Brexit plan

STEPHEN CASTLE & STEVEN ERLANGER
NEW YORK, OCTOBER 1

THE EUROPEAN Commission announced on Thursday that it was pressing ahead with legal action against Britain over Brexit legislation that the government in London has said would permit it to break international law.

The commission, the European Union's administrative arm, gave Britain an ultimatum last month, threatening to take it to court unless it dropped plans to override parts of an agreement on withdrawal from the bloc that Prime Minister Boris Johnson struck last year.

With the deadline having expired, the commission said in a statement that it had sent the British government "a letter of formal notice for breaching its obligations under the Withdrawal Agreement".

Britain has 30 days to respond and any legal action could take months to unfold. That gives the two sides the opportunity to resolve their standoff if they can strike a deal in wider Brexit talks on a trade agreement.

Despite Thursday's move, talks on a trade agreement between Britain and the European Union are still underway. If those are successful, they could resolve many of the points at the center of the legal action and pave the way for a compromise.

The standoff comes less than 100 days before Britain is scheduled to leave the European Union's trade zone. Britain formally quit the bloc on Jan. 31 but remains under its economic rule book until the end of this year.

Maros Sefcovic, a vice president of the European

EXPLAINED
The Irish problem

AT THE heart of the dispute between Brussels and London over Britain's Brexit legislation are parts of the withdrawal agreement designed to prevent the creation of a "hard border" between Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom, and Ireland, which will remain in the European Union. There are currently no border controls between the two, allowing for the free movement of goods and people.

Commission, warned this week that Brussels would not hesitate to use legal remedies in the withdrawal agreement against Britain if it refused to drop the contentious legislation.

On Thursday, the commission's president, Ursula von der Leyen, said that Britain's legislation was a "full contradiction" of previous commitments over how a hard border in Ireland should be avoided.

The British government said it would respond later to the EU move. "We have clearly set out our reasons for introducing the measures," it said in a statement.

"We need to create a legal safety net to protect the integrity of the U.K.'s internal market, ensure ministers can always deliver on their obligations to Northern Ireland and protect the gains from the peace process."

MALAYSIA

Court to hear ex-PM's 1MDB appeal in Feb

Kuala Lumpur: A Malaysian court will begin hearing on February 15 an appeal by former prime minister Najib Razak against his conviction on graft and money-laundering charges linked to the state fund 1MDB, a prosecutor said on Thursday. Najib was sentenced to 12 years in jail and fines of nearly \$50 million in July on seven charges over illegally receiving \$10 million misappropriated from SRC International, a former unit of 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB). The sentence was stayed pending the appeal. REUTERS

PAKISTAN

Teen kills herself after blackmail by rapists

Karachi: A 17-year-old Hindu girl committed suicide in Pakistan's Sindh province after she was reportedly blackmailed by three men accused of sexually assaulting her, a media report said on Thursday. The girl ended her life by jumping into a deep well in Tharparkar district on Wednesday, *Dawn* reported. According to an FIR registered in 2019, the three men forcibly took the girl to a house where they raped her and filmed the ordeal. The trial in the case was delayed due to the pandemic. PTI

AFGHANISTAN

Suicide bomber kills 9 at military checkpoint

Kabul: An Afghan official says at least nine people including four civilians were killed when a suicide car bomber attacked a military checkpoint in southern Afghanistan. Omer Zwak, a spokesman for the provincial governor in Helmand, said Thursday a small child and three security personnel were wounded in the late Wednesday night attack in Nahri Sarah district. Zwak said civilians were in a vehicle passing by when the attacker targeted the checkpoint. Two women were among those killed. AP

US Congressional report accuses China of violating other nations' sovereignty

LALIT K JHA
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 1

A US Congressional report has sought decisive action against China, accusing Beijing of increasing military buildup, violating other nations' sovereignty and engaging in fatal skirmishes to conduct a land-grab on the Indian border.

In its report unveiled on Wednesday, the China Task Force of the House Republicans also supported the proposal of British Prime Minister Boris Johnson for the creation of a new D-10 group of leading democracies, including India, for addressing both 5G mobile communications and vulnerable supply chains.

In just the past year alone, the China Communist Party (CCP) has violated an international treaty and dismantled Hong Kong's civil liberties; continued its oppression of ethnic minorities, including Uyghurs and Tibetans; increased its military buildup, conducted increasingly belligerent provocations, and violated other nations' sovereignty at sea; engaged in fatal skirmishes to conduct a land-grab on the Indian border; and asserted new territorial claims over Bhutan, the report said.

India and China are locked in a nearly five-month-long border standoff in eastern Ladakh. China unsuccessfully attempted to occupy Indian territory in the southern part of Pangong lake in the last week of August.

China is also engaged in hotly contested territorial disputes in both the South China Sea and the East China Sea. Beijing has built up and militarised many of the

islands and reefs it controls in the resource-rich region.

Praising the State Department's July 2020 statement which said that China's territorial aggression in the South China Sea is illegal, the report said that the administration could take similar action regarding the CCP's illegal conduct in other areas, including around the Senkaku Islands and along India's border.

The US, it said, should improve predictability of arms sales with allies and partners, and expand military training with allied and partner nations. Doing so will improve interoperability with the US, support and protect American values, advance US national security and foreign policy interests, and promote the US as the partner of choice, it said.

It pushed for coordinating a whole-of-government offensive information statecraft campaign to counter the propaganda machine of Chinese Communist Party by using truth and American values to undermine CCP's "lies and malign" ideology.

Further, the US should expand forward presence and improve interoperability with allies and partner nations through the use of joint training and exercises, including by bringing together and regularising multilateral exercises with like-minded nations such as Australia, Japan, India, and other interested nations, the report said.

The China Task Force, comprised of 15 House Republicans representing 11 committees, including several Armed Services Members, was formed in May to assess the threat of China and come up with legislative solutions on how to combat the risks. PTI



NAGORNO-KARABAKH FIGHTING WORSENS

Armenians volunteer recruits gather at a center where they receive their uniforms and weapons before being dispatched to the frontline amidst heavy fighting between Armenian and Azerbaijani forces over the separatist region of Nagorno-Karabakh. Reuters, quoting an Armenian government source, reported that two French journalists working for newspaper *Le Monde* are in a grave condition after being shelled by Azeri forces. AP

Pakistan court orders seizure of Sharif's assets over graft case

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, OCTOBER 1

A PAKISTAN anti-corruption court on Thursday ordered the seizure of assets of deposed prime minister Nawaz Sharif for his failure to appear in the Toshakhana graft case, days after he was declared an absconder in the matter that allegedly caused a heavy loss to the national exchequer.

An anti-corruption court on September 9 indicted former president Asif Ali Zardari and ex-prime minister Yusuf Raza Gillani, while declared Sharif an absconder in the case.

The Islamabad-based accountability court was hearing



Nawaz Sharif

the case filed by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB), which submitted a detailed record of Sharif's movable and immovable properties.

The accountability judge ordered the authorities to freeze Sharif's national and international bank accounts and seize his 206 acres of agricultural land

in Lahore and 12.75 acres in Sheikhupura, as well as his house in Murree.

The Toshakhana graft case is about alleged relaxation of rules by Gilani for the benefit of Zardari and Sharif to buy vehicles gifted by foreign countries.

Sharif is accused of obtaining luxury cars from the treasury house by paying just 15 per cent of the price of these vehicles. Zardari and Gilani, are also accused of receiving luxury vehicles and gifts from the treasury house.

Last month, the court declared him a proclaimed offender after he failed to present himself before the court as he is in London for treatment for several health complications. PTI

Navalny works with CIA, claims Kremlin

REUTERS
BERLIN, MOSCOW, OCTOBER 1

THE KREMLIN accused opposition politician Alexei Navalny on Thursday of working with the CIA, after Navalny said he believed President Vladimir Putin was behind the suspected poisoning that put him in a coma in Germany.

The accusation from Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov appears to be the first time the Russian authorities have directly accused Putin's highest-profile critic of working with a foreign intelligence agency.

It raises the stakes should Navalny return to Russia, and may add pressure on Western leaders, especially German Chancellor Angela Merkel, to take action over his case.

Navalny responded by saying he would sue Peskov over the accusation, challenging him to present evidence to back it up.

Navalny, 44, emerged in recent weeks from a coma after suddenly falling ill in a drama that sent him to Berlin for treatment. German doctors say he was poisoned with novichok, a rare Russian nerve agent.

"I believe that Putin is behind the crime and I don't have any other versions of what happened," Navalny told Germany's *Der Spiegel* magazine in an interview published on Thursday.



Alexei Navalny has accused Vladimir Putin of being behind his poisoning.

Peskov said Navalny's allegations against Putin were unacceptable, groundless and insulting. "It's not the patient working with western intelligence, it's western intelligence working with him. That would be more accurate. There is such information. I can even say definitely - specialists of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency are working with him currently," the Kremlin spokesman told reporters on a conference call.

In response, Navalny wrote in a post on his website: "Firstly, I am suing Peskov... Secondly, I demand the publication of proof and facts, demonstrating my work with CIA specialists". Show it on television at prime time. You have my permission."

Navalny has tormented the Kremlin for years with online videos in which he details the lavish lifestyles and undeclared wealth of senior officials he castigates as "swindlers and thieves".

'THEY SUCCESSFULLY STRENGTHEN HUMAN RIGHTS, EMPOWER CIVIL SOCIETIES'

Belarus activist, Iranian rights lawyer among winners of 'Alternative Nobel'

DAVID KEYTON
STOCKHOLM, OCTOBER 1

A PROMINENT Belarus opposition figure and an imprisoned Iranian human rights lawyer on Thursday were awarded the Right Livelihood Award, sometimes referred to as the 'Alternative Nobel', together with activists from Nicaragua and the United States.

Ole von Uexkull, the head of the Swedish Right Livelihood Foundation behind the prize, said that it "highlights the increasing threats to democracy

globally. It is high time that all of us supporting democracy around the world stand up and support each other".

The foundation cited 58-year-old human rights activist Ales Bialiatski and the non-governmental organization Human Rights Center Viasna which he heads, "for their resolute struggle for the realization of democracy and human rights in Belarus".

In 2014, Bialiatski was released nearly three years into his prison sentence, ahead of schedule. He was convicted of tax evasion and sentenced to 4 years in



Ales Bialiatski and Nasrin Sotoudeh

prison in November 2011. Western governments criticized the trial as politically vindictive. Bialiatski was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2012 and received an array of interna-



tional awards while imprisoned. His group has provided legal assistance to thousands of Belarusians arrested or imprisoned for challenging President Alexander Lukashenko's rule.

Iranian lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh, who has defended activists, opposition politicians and women prosecuted for removing their headscarves, was given the award "for her fearless activism, at great personal risk, to promote political freedoms and human rights in Iran."

Earlier this month, Sotoudeh was transferred from a prison cell to a hospital north of Tehran following a hunger strike for better prison conditions and the release of political prisoners amid the pandemic. She has since ended her hunger strike that began in mid-August.

The 57-year-old Sotoudeh was arrested in 2018 on charges of collusion and propaganda against Iran's rulers and eventually was sentenced to 38 years in prison and 148 lashes.

Created in 1980, the annual Right Livelihood Award honors efforts that the prize founder, Swedish-German philanthropist Jakob von Uexkull, felt were being ignored by the Nobel prizes.

The foundation also gave its 2020 award to Milton, Delaware-born U.S. civil rights lawyer Bryan Stevenson, 60, "for his inspiring endeavor to reform the U.S. criminal justice system and

advance racial reconciliation in the face of historic trauma".

The fourth winner was 61-year-old rights and environmental activist Lottie Cunningham Wren of Nicaragua "for her ceaseless dedication to the protection of indigenous lands and communities from exploitation and plunder".

"Defying unjust legal systems and dictatorial political regimes, they successfully strengthen human rights, empower civil societies and denounce institutional abuses," said von Uexkull, the foundation's executive director and nephew of the founder. AP



GOLD

₹51,389



RUPEE

₹73.13



OIL

\$40.40



SILVER

₹61,423

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market; gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Brent crude as of 22/09/20

SENSEX: 38,697.05 ▲ 629.12 NIFTY: 11,416.95 ▲ 169.40 NIKKEI: 23,185.12 ▲ 0.00 HANG SENG: 23,459.05 ▲ 183.52 FTSE: 5,897.87 ▲ 31.77 DAX: 12,778.90 ▲ 18.17

International market data till 1900 IST

SECTOR WATCH
ONLINE MEDIA

Google plans to pay publishers \$1 bn over 3 years for their news

REUTERS
BRUSSELS, OCTOBER 1

ALPHABET'S GOOGLE plans to pay \$1 billion to publishers globally for their news over the next three years, its CEO said on Thursday.

News publishers have long fought the search engine for compensation for using their content, with European media groups leading the charge. CEO Sundar Pichai said the new product called Google News Showcase will launch first in Germany, where it has signed up German newspapers including *Der Spiegel*, *Stern*, *Die Zeit*, and in Brazil with *Folha de São Paulo*, *Band* and *Infobae*. It will be rolled out in Belgium, India, the Netherlands and other countries. About 200 publishers in Argentina, Australia, Britain, Brazil, Canada and Germany have signed up.

"This financial commitment — our biggest to date — will pay publishers to create

GOOGLE NEWS
SHOWCASE SOON

Google News Showcase will launch first in Germany. It will also be rolled out in Belgium, India, the Netherlands and other countries.

and curate high-quality content for a different kind of online news experience," Pichai said. German publisher Spiegel Group welcomed the product.

The European Publishers Council (EPC), whose members include *News UK*, *The Guardian*, *Pearson*, and *The New York Times*, however, was critical. "By launching a product, they (Google) can dictate terms and conditions, undermine legislation designed to create conditions for a fair negotiation," said EPC executive director Angela Mills Wade.

CONSUMERS TRYING TO AVOID PUBLIC TRANSPORT PROPEL SEPT NUMBERS

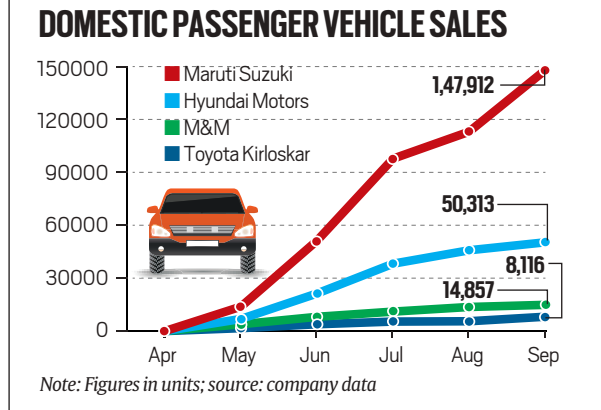
Auto sales in fast lane on rising rural demand, first-time buyers

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

DRIVEN BY demand for small cars from first-time buyers, rural consumers and additional purchase from families looking to avoid public transportation amid the Covid-19 pandemic, the Indian automobile industry continued to show improvement in production and dispatch numbers in September. Maruti Suzuki India announced a 33.9 per cent jump in its passenger vehicle sales in the domestic market last month. The company sold 1,47,912 units, which is the highest monthly sales in 24 months, i.e. since September 2018.

With sales of 50,313 units in the domestic market, Hyundai Motors, too, announced a 23.6 per cent jump in sales over the corresponding month of last year.

Among other players, while Mahindra & Mahindra announced a 3.5 per cent rise in domestic PV sales in September at 14,857 units, Honda Cars India registered monthly domestic sales of 10,199 units last month, a growth of 9.7 per cent over sales of 9,301 units in September 2019. Toyota Kirloskar Motors witnessed a 20



per cent decline in sales at 8,116 units last month, but the company continued to show rise in month-on-month sales.

Even in the two-wheeler segment TVS Motor registered a growth of 3.8 per cent with sales of 327,692 units in September. Hero MotoCorp announced sales of 7,15,718 units and registered growth of 16.9 per cent over the same quarter of last year.

Industry insiders say the rise in wholesale numbers for September is also on account of the fact that dealers are looking to stock up in anticipation of festive season

demand, which should pick up about mid-October. The companies also witnessed near normalisation of production, with lockdown restrictions being relaxed.

A look into sales data over the last six months shows that while April saw nil sales by automobile manufacturers on account of a complete lockdown, slow revival was seen in May and June, following some relaxations in lockdown curbs. However, the recovery has been strong in July, August, and September as most of the manufacturers witnessed y-o-y growth in sales. A closer look into the last

month's sales of MSIL shows the mini segment (Alto& S-Presso) and compact segment (WagonR, Swift, Celerio, Ignis, Baleno and Dzire) accounted for 75 per cent of total units sold. By comparison, the two segments accounted for 70 per cent of its sales in September 2019. While sales of mini segment jumped 35.7 per cent to 27,246 units, sales in compact segment rose 47 per cent to 84,213 units.

"While there is demand from first-time buyers and from rural areas, we have also seen that additional car purchase has gone up because people want to avoid public transportation. People are moving from conspicuous consumption to conscious consumption and since it is driven by the utility factor, people are going for smaller cars," said Shashank Srivastava, ED marketing and sales at MSIL.

While automobile manufacturers have seen fast recovery in production and sales over the last three months and they are hoping that the demand would be good in the festive season, industry insiders are cautious when it comes to future expectation as they feel that car sales have a strong correlation with economic growth and rise in per capita income.

Restrictions on Defence Ministry spending removed

KRISHN KAUSHIK & SUNNY VERMA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

AS THE Defence Ministry has forced to line up the purchase of ammunition and equipment through the emergency buying route amid the five-month long military standoff with China in eastern Ladakh, the Finance Ministry has moved to remove the curbs on capital outlay for defence services and revenue for defence services that were put in place due to Covid-19 during the current fiscal.

A senior defence establishment source said that with the new development, there are "no restrictions on expenditure unlike" the first two quarters of this financial year. The source said that "not bound by quarterly expenditure plan now", it "facilitates procurement". In the current scenario, it "impacts all, operations, maintenance and sustenance".

In its latest set of cash management measures, the government has removed spending curbs on defence services and fertilisers, while retaining the restrictions for most other categories. According to a latest Finance Ministry order, for October-December, spending for Department of Fertilizers, and capital outlay on defence services and defence services (revenue) have been moved to Category A. The Category A includes departments and ministries without any spending curbs. The ministries of Rural Development, Railways, Civil Aviation, and departments of Pharmaceuticals as well as Health and Family Welfare are among other ministries in Category A.

Department of Fertilizers, and capital outlay on defence services and defence services (revenue), were earlier in Category B, where spending was restricted to 20 per cent of the budgeted expenditure in a quarter. Ministries and departments in Category C have to limit the overall expenditure within 15

The curbs were put in place due to Covid-19 in the current fiscal

per cent budget estimates in FY21. The Finance Ministry also said that amounts that remain unspent in a month or a quarter will not be available for automatic carry forward. Ministries and departments need to seek specific approval of the Expenditure Secretary to utilise these unspent amounts. "In this time of acute cash crunch, utmost care may be taken to avoid releases that can contribute to idle parking of funds," the ministry stated in its order.

With the Centre's fiscal position deteriorating after Covid-19 struck, the Finance Ministry placed expenditure curbs in the first two quarters on various ministries and departments, which will now continue in the third quarter too. In the 2020-21 budget, an amount of Rs 1,13,734 crore has been estimated for capital expenditure on defence services, while defence services revenue expenditure is pegged at Rs 2,09,319 crore.

Sources suggested that removing these curbs will help in easing the defence expenditure, as the Army is not only fast-tracking buying of certain weapons and ammunition, it will also help in acquiring the equipment needed for the winter deployment of additional troops in eastern Ladakh.

As chances of disengagement and eventual de-escalation fade, the Army is preparing to keep additional troops in the brutal winters of Ladakh, for which specialised equipment is needed. In some positions, troops are situated over 16,000 feet on certain heights. Unlike the troops on Siachen, where proper infrastructure has been in place for decades, these new positions would require equipment like arctic tents, special clothing, fuel etc to help the troops sustain the winters.

AMID COVID-19

'Exports snap six-month losing streak, rise 5.27% in Sept'

After contracting for six months in a row, the country's exports grew by 5.27 per cent to \$27.4 billion in September, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said on Thursday

SITUATION IN SEPT 2019:

Exports at \$26.02 billion

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Since March, the country's outbound shipments were recording negative growth due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant fall in global demand



KEY SECTORS such as petroleum, leather, engineering goods and gems and jewellery were registering negative growth

'RAPID RECOVERY': Goyal said this is an indicator of the "rapid recovery" of the Indian economy Source: PTI

BRIEFLY
UTI AMC IPO
subscribed
2.31 times

New Delhi: The IPO of UTI Asset Management Company was subscribed 2.31 times on last day of bidding. It received bids for 6,31,02,348 shares against 2,73,50,957 shares on offer. PTI

Sensex gains
629 pts, rupee
zooms by 63p

Mumbai: The benchmark Sensex gained 629 points to 38,697.05, while the NSE Nifty 169 points to 11,416.95. Meanwhile, the rupee strengthened by 63 paise against the US dollar to close at 73.13 Thursday.

Mubadala to
invest ₹6,247 cr
in RRVL

Mumbai: Abu Dhabi-based sovereign investor Mubadala Investment Company will invest Rs 6,247.5 crore in Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL), translating into a 1.40 per cent stake on a fully diluted basis. ENS

Google unveils
latest Pixel,
new TV service

via Twitter: @madebygoogle

San Ramon: Google will try to make a bigger splash in the smartphone market, unveiling the Pixel 5 which will be available at \$700 from October 15. It also aims to expand its presence with a new TV service. AP



TOUCHDOWN BY AIR INDIA ONE

First of the two specially modified Boeing 777 aircraft, which will fly with the call sign Air India One, arrived in Delhi on Thursday afternoon. The aircraft, to be used to fly the President, the Vice President and the Prime Minister, is equipped with missile warning sensors and countermeasures dispensing defence system, as part of the large aircraft infrared countermeasures (LAIRCIM) self-protection suites (SPS) provided by the US. ANI

'Covid impact: Corporate credit profiles hit; collective fiscal deficit of 18 states rises'

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

THE ECONOMIC impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has led to corporate credit profiles hitting the lowest in a decade, with the stress likely to continue in the remaining part of financial year 2020-21. The adverse impact of the pandemic is also visible on the state finances, with the collective fiscal deficit of 18 states rising to 40.7 per cent in April-June from 13.4 per cent a year ago, two rating agencies said.

CRISIL Ratings said credit outlook for fiscal 2021 is negative with

downgrades likely to outnumber upgrades significantly. The proportion of upgrades to downgrades reached 0.54 times, with 161 upgrades, as against 296 downgrades in the first half of the fiscal, with 60 per cent of the overall rated debt in sectors with low resilience and 40 per cent in highly resilient ones, it said, adding timely restructuring support from lenders will be crucial to credit quality.

India Ratings flagged the spike in fiscal and revenue deficits of states. Eighteen of the largest states have reported a collective revenue deficit of 285 per cent of BE in April-June as against 12.9 per cent

a year ago, it said. Revenue expenditure of the 18 states grew 11.7 per cent in Q1, with 18 states reducing their spends on salary and pension by 10.5 per cent and on subsidies by 39.9 per cent, but expenditure on public health/administrative measures pushing up 'other expenditure' by 40.1 per cent, it said. Capital expenditure of the 18 states declined by 41.9 per cent in the quarter. Among the major states, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala maintained capex growth even amid the pandemic, it added.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

'Manufacturing PMI in Sept at highest since Jan 2012 on faster rise in new orders'

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 1

56.8

The headline seasonally adjusted PMI in September. It rose from 52.0 in August, signalling back-to-back improvements in the health of the sector.

AFTER RETURNING to expansion territory in August, manufacturing sector growth gathered momentum in September with the IHS Markit India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) reaching its highest mark since January 2012, supported by accelerated increases in new orders and production.

The headline seasonally adjusted PMI increased from 52.0

in August to 56.8 in September, signalling back-to-back improvements in the health of the sector. The latest reading was the highest in over eight-and-a-half years.

Concurrently, there were renewed expansions in export sales and input stocks as well as an improvement in business confidence. Output prices rose for the first time in six months, reflecting uptick in input costs, the survey said.

Bio E, ICMR develop antisera for Covid treatment, prevention

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

HYDERABAD-BASED VACCINE maker Biological E, in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), has developed "highly purified antisera" that can be used in prevention and treatment of Covid-19.

Antisera are blood sera that contain antibodies against a spe-

cific viral toxin or antigen and are injected to help in the treatment or prevention of the diseases associated with that virus.

"Such measures have previously been used in medical science to control many viral and bacterial infections such as Rabies, Hepatitis B, Vaccinia virus, Tetanus, Botulism and Diphtheria," tweeted ICMR on Thursday.

While plasma recovered from Covid-19 patients could serve a

similar purpose, ICMR said the profile of antibodies, their efficacy and concentration keep varying from patient to patient. These factors, therefore, make plasma an "unreliable" clinical tool for patient management, it added. "Standardisation achievable through equine sera based treatment modality thus stands out as yet another remarkable public health initiative supported by ICMR in the time of Covid," said ICMR.

What Unlock 5.0 means for international flights?

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 1

FOLLOWING THE Unlock 5.0 guidelines issued by the Home Ministry, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has extended the ban on scheduled international commercial flights till October 31. However, there are a number of countries to which flights are being operated and Indian citizens can take flights.

Why has the DGCA extended the ban on foreign flights?

The Unlock 5.0 guidelines have not allowed international flights to resume yet and the DGCA's decision is in line with the Home Ministry's norms.

What are the options for those wanting to fly abroad?

India has established air bubble arrangements with 15 countries. These are the US, the UK, Canada, the UAE, Qatar, Nigeria, Maldives, Kenya, Japan, Iraq, Germany, France, Bhutan, Bahrain and Afghanistan. Airlines from both countries under an air bubble arrangement fly between the two jurisdictions carrying passengers from either points. Indian carriers are operating certain flights under Vande Bharat Mission — few of which are carrying people on outbound flights from India.

Are visas being issued for these international destinations?

As per visa outsourcing firm VFS Global, visa applications for 25 countries have been resumed, with a few countries opening application process for select categories. For example, most countries in Europe's Schengen region are only accepting Category D visa applications, which is granted to individuals studying, working or residing permanently in one of the Schengen countries. Certain countries like Germany and Estonia are allowing Category C visas, which are meant for short visits. Similarly, the US is accepting visa applications for emergency cases, student visas, work visas of 'H' and 'L' classes, etc.

EXPLAINED

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
e-Tender Notice
Tender No: 71/2020-21/KWA/PHC/D2/VM Jal Jeevan Mission - Providing functional hose hold tap connection and related works in Pallichal panchayaths in Thiruvananthapuram Districts. EMD : Rs. 2,00,000/- Tender fee : Rs. 10,000/- Last Date for submitting Tender : 28-10-2020 03:00:pm
Phone : 0471-2322303 Superintending Engineer PH circle
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in Thiruvananthapuram
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
KWA-JB-GL-6-429-2020-21

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED.
(Corporate Identity Number (CIN) U40109RJ2000SGC016485)
(Regd. Office: Vidut Bhawan, Jan Path, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur-302005)
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (PROC. II)
(MM Building of RVPN, Old Power House Premises, Near Ram Mandir, Bani Park, Jaipur)
Web: http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpnl, Email: se.ssp@rvpnl.co.in, Telephone: 0141-2208924; Fax: 0141-2208924
NOTICE INVITING e-BID'S
SE/(PROC-II)/NIB-03/2020-21/BN-901602007 to BN-901602008
Online e-bids are invited for Supply of Power Transformers on Open Bid basis:
BN-901602007, UBN- VPN2021GLOB00984 supply of 4 Nos. 160 MVA 220/132/111 KV Auto Power Transformers on open bids basis.
BN-901602008, UBN- VPN2021GLOB00985 supply of 32 Nos. 400/550 MVA 132/33KV Power Transformers on open bids basis.
The detailed NIB and Bid document/specification are available for viewing/downloading on the website <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>. Details of NIB are available on website energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpnl. The bidder will have to procure Digital Signature Certificate (D.S.C.) as per IT Act-2000 to sign their electronic bid. The offers which are not digitally signed will not be accepted. The interested bidders shall submit/upload the bids online in electronic format on the website <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> for participating in the bidding process. Any extension in bid submission/opening date (if any) will be floated/uploaded on <http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpnl>, <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> & <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>
Raj. Samwad/C/5078/20-21 RRVPNTR-4980/20 Superintending Engineer (Proc-II)

MOTHER DAIRY
G.K.V.K. POST, YELAHANKA, BANGALORE-560065
(A Unit of: Karnataka Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Ltd)
e-mail: enggpur@motherdairykmf.in
Ph: 080-22179055 / 22179084. Fax: 080-28462652

Date: 02-10-2020
TECHNICAL CUM COMMERCIAL TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF VARIOUS EQUIPMENTS THROUGH e-PROCUREMENT
<https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>

TENDER NOTIFICATION
SECTION 1. INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT)

1) Mother Dairy, Bangalore invites tenders from manufacturers / dealers / eligible tenderers for supply / Service of the following Equipments.

Sl.No.	Details of Equipments	Qty
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-70/2020-21/CALL-2		
1	Supply, Installation & commissioning of Nitrogen Flushing Chamber for Powder Plant.	01 Set
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-74/2020-21		
2	Replacement of passenger Lift for Powder plant.	01 Set
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-75/2020-21		
3	Supply, Installation & commissioning of 3 KL capacity Jacketed type Ghee storage tank at product section.	01 No.
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-76/2020-21		
4	Supply, Installation & commissioning of 2 KL capacity Ghee Boiler at Product section.	01 No.
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-77/2020-21		
5	Supply, Installation & commissioning of 3 KL capacity Butter melling VAT at Product section.	01 No.
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-78/2020-21		
6	Supply, Installation & commissioning of 2 KL capacity single circuit CIP system for pre processing equipments at UHT section.	01 Lot
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-79/2020-21		
7	Supply, Installation & commissioning of Water flow meter with monitoring system and replacement of Pipe line header.	01 Lot
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-80/2020-21		
8	Supply and Laying of 3.5*300 sq mm XLPE LT UG cable with associated accessories from Electrical section MCC panel to ETP MCC panel.	01 Job
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-81/2020-21		
9	Supply, Installation & commissioning of 800KVAR capacity Automatic Power factor correction (APFC) with Active harmonic filter (AHF) panel for electrical section.	01 Lot
Tender No: MD/ENGG/PROJ/T-82/2020-21		
10	Supply, Installation & commissioning of linear type 6000 cups or cone/hr capacity Ice cream filling machine.	01 No.

2) Tenderers are advised to note the qualification criteria specified in Section VII to qualify for award of the contract.

3) Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement website. Interested tenderers may obtain further information at the same address. Mother Dairy will not be held responsible for the website problems if any, last date submission or non-receipt of the same.

4) Tenderer should pay the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), and tender processing fee, which shall be Paid online through e-Procurement Portal.

5) Other details can be seen in the tender documents.
Date of commencement of Tender Download: 05-10-2020.
Pre bid meeting at Mother dairy, date & time: 19-10-2020 at 11.00 AM.
Last date for submission of Tender on or before 03-11-2020 upto 17.00 Hrs.
Date of opening of Technical Tender: on 05-11-2020 at 11.00 AM.

Sd/-
Director, Mother Dairy

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,km Veena Rani,W/O Munish Chhoker R/O-D-63A,Main Madhuban-Road Dayanand Block Shakarpur,Delhi-110092,has changed my name to Veena Rani Chhoker.
0040550211-1

I,Sanjana Nischal W/O Paras Surya R/O-A-43, Bhalswa Dairy,Delhi-110042,after marriage,has changed my name to Sanjana Surya,for all purposes.
0040550191-8

I,Yogesh Sharma S/o-Shri.Virender Nath Sharma,R/O-RZ-10/145-A,Mohan-Nagar,Pankha-Road,New Delhi-110046,inform that Yogesh Sharma,Yogesh Nath Sharma and Yogesh Nath all,are the same person.
0040550173-5

I,Swatantra kumar S/o Ram Krishan R/O 1104, Antriksh Green,koushambhi, Ghaziabad 201010 has changed my son Aaryan Kumar's name Aaryan Dharia.
0040550163-1

I,Sarabjeet Singh,S/o,Late Tejinder Singh R/O-F-32A,3rd-Floor,Mansarovar-Garden, N,Delhi-110015,has changed my minor son's name Yuv Singh Jubbel to Jaspreet Singh,permanently.
0040550197-1

I,SUNITA RANI,W/O Sh.ADITYA VIR,H.No.2506, Sector-2, Bahadurgarh,Distt Jhajjar(Haryana)-124507,has changed my name to SUNITA DALAL,for all official purposes,in future.
0040550173-3

I,RANI W/O MR.MOHD SHAHID R/O-61, MASJID COMPOUND, VASANT-KUNJ ROAD, MAHIPALPUR,NEW DELHI-110037,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MISKINA.
0040550173-1

I,Poonam,W/o Shri Anil Kumar R/o-C-78,First-Floor,Kalkaji,New Delhi-110019,has changed my name to Poonam Drall for all purposes.
0040550191-9

I,NO.14636080F HAV MISAL SHRIHARI RAMHARI DECLARE THAT MY DAUGHTER,OID-NAME CHANGED,FROM SHRADHA TO NEW-NAME IS SHRADHA SHRIHARI MISAL & MY SON OLD-NAME CHANGED,FROM OM MISAL TO NEW-NAME IS OM SHRIHARI MISAL AFFIDEVIT-NO IN-DL860579481589885. DATED-28-SEP-2020,NOTARY SER.NO.1468, DATED-28-SEP-2020.(O.P. CHAUDHARY),DELHI.
0040550191-10

I,Munish S/O Kartar Singh Chhoker,R/O D-63A, Main Madhuban-Road Dayanand Block Shakarpur Delhi-110092,has changed my name to Munish Chhoker.
0040550211-2

I,Kallumkathra Velappan Sagini W/O, Sathosh R/O C-74 Pocket-11,Janta Flats Jasola Vihar,New Delhi-110025,has changed my name to Sagini Sathosh for all purposes.
0040550197-8

I,HITESH KUMAR S/O SHAM GROVER R/O C-6/44B,LAWRENCE ROAD,KESHAV PURAM,ONKAR NAGAR,DELHI-110035. CH,ANGED MY NAME TO HITESH GROVER.
0040550173-6

I,DEVENDER PATHAK,S/O CHHITAR MAL SHARMA, H.NO-561,JANTA-FLATS NEAR-IDEA-TOWER,G.T.B-ENCLAVE,DELHI-110093,HAVE changed my name to DEVENDER KUMAR SHARMA.
0040550173-7

I,Ashlish Kumar Singh, father of GUNGUN(Minor daughter)/R/O WZ-123-D-59, Rajnagar Part-II,Palam Colony,New Delhi-110077,changed name,from GUNGUN to GUNGUN SINGH.
0040550197-5

I,Anita W/o Yudhister Kumar,R/O 40-C / 1, Mehrauli, Delhi-110030 has changed my name from Anita to Anita Madan for all future purposes.
0040550185-1

I,Aditya Goel S/o Rajendra Prasad R/O-D-13 A/10,Model Town-II Delhi-110099,changed my minor son's name Viraj Goel to Veraj Goel.
0040550173-4

I,Renu Gupta W/o Rajiv Gupta R/O H-18-18 Block -H Pocket-18 sector -7 Rohini Delhi 110085 declare that before marriage my name was Renu Mathur daughter of Late Dr. Bhupendra Nath Mathur R/o 1 GA 8 Vaishali Nagar Ajmer (Rajasthan) and after marriage with Rajiv Gupta I have changed my name from Renu Mathur to Renu Gupta. I shall be known as Renu Gupta in the future. Both the names pertain to one and the same person.
0040550128-1

I,ANITA SHRIHARI,W/O OF ARMY NO.14636080F HAV AUTO TECH 'A' VEH MISAL SHRIHARI RAMHARI,RESIDENT OF,VII-PATSANGAVI,PO-PATSANGAVI DIST-OSMANABAD WALI, KUCHA-Chelan, Daryaganj, Delhi-110002,has changed my name to Anita Khatoon.
0040550197-2

I,Narandhar Verma S/o Kavrajseth Son/R/O H.No.530, Harora-Road,Gali.No.2, Mohammdpur Khudalia, Hapur,UP 245207,has changed my name to Narandhar Singh.
0040550191-3

I,Nafisa Rehman w/o-Anisur Rahman R/O-2641, Gali Khajoor Wali, Kucha-Chelan, Daryaganj, Delhi-110002,has changed my name to Nafisa Khatoon.
0040550197-2

I,Monoronjon Nomosudra S/o Surendro Nomosudra R/o Manipuribosti, PO/PS-Manja, Dist- Karbi Anglong (Assam) Pin-782461, have changed my name andshall hereafter be known as Ankit Roy.
0070715873-1

I,Manmeet Singh S/o Surendra Singh Chawla,R/O New.No.F-24, Street.No.6, Panchsheel-Garden,Naveen-Shahdara, Delhi-110032,changed my name to Manmeet Singh Chawla.
0040550208-2

I, Mahender Singh S/o Faquir Chand R/O-F-4/49, Sector-15,Rohini,Delhi-110089,have changed my name to Mohinder Singh.
0040550191-7

I, Karyanand Singh S/o Adhik R/O S/O-90, School Block, Shakarpur Delhi-110092 have Changed my name to Karyanand Kumar.
0040550135-1

I, Jitender Singh S/o Surinder R/O-F-137 Vishnu Garden, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi 110018, have changed my name from Jitender Sonkar to Jitender Singh for all purposes.
0070715887-1

I, HARSHIT RAWAT, S/O SHRI ANUP SINGH RAWAT R/O C-8/78-B, KESHAV PURAM, DELHI-110035, have changed my name from HARSHIT RAWAT to REYANSH RAWAT for All future Purposes.
0040550145-1

I,Devki Nandan Aggarwal S/o Amar Singh R/O B-79, CC Colony, Near Rana Pratap Bagh, Delhi-110007, have changed my name to Devki Nandan Garg
0070715867-1

I, Beena Devi W/o-Narendra Sony R/O.H.No.530, Haroda-Road,Gali.No.2,Mill, Hapur UP-245207,have changed my name to Beena Sony.
0040550191-2

I, Baldev Singh-S/o Satnam Singh R/O-Sarary Khader,Tarapur,Meerut,Uttar-Pradesh,have changed my name to Gurmeet Singh.
0040550191-5

I, Ashish Oberoi S/o G.L. Oberoi R/O-A-1-B/127-B Janakpuri,Delhi-58 have changed my Minor daughter name Mishka Oberoi to Mishhka Oberoi.
0040550134-1

I, Amanpreet Chawla W/o Manmeet Singh Chawla,R/O New.No.F-24, Street.No.6, Panchsheel-Garden, Naveen-Shahdara, Delhi-110032,changed my name to Amanpreet Kaur.
0040550208-3

I, Pratibha Sharma W/o Aditya Kumar Sharma,R/O,House No.15-B,Block-B,Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019,have changed my name to Tripta Sharma,for all purposes.
0040550191-6

I, Aditya Kashyap S/o Krishan Gopal Sharma R/O 346/24 Tirth Market, Gur Mandi, Sonipat Haryana,131001,have Changed my name to Aditya Sharma.
0040550138-1

I, Abhishek Gattani S/o Rom Krishna Gattani R/O 106, Ground Floor, Pocket-1, Jasola, Jamia Nagar, Delhi-110025, have changed my name to Abhishek Kumar Maheshwari.
0070715863-1

I, Rima, W/o Ajay Kumar, R/O-3778,Kuncha-Mohattar Khan,Mori Gate,North,Delhi-110006,changed my name old-name is Radhika Correct-name is Sonia,for all, future purposes.
0040550211-5

I, Rameshwar Nath Kapoor S/o Ganpat Rai Kapoor R/o Y 34 Hauz Khas New Delhi 110016 declare that Rameshwar Nath Kapoor and R.N.Kapoor both are my name and Ganpat Rai Kapoor and G.R.Kapoor both are my father's name.
0040550183-1

I, Prem Lata W/O Late Shri Amit Kumar R/O H.No-354, Saini Mohalla, Nanngli, Delhi-110041, have changed my name to Pinki.
0040550180-1

I, Panshul S/O Shri Hitesh Kumar R/O B-6, Shani Bazar, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Panshul Kalra.
0040550180-2

I, Navdeep Singh S/o-Narendra Sony,R/O H.No.530, Harora-Road, Gali.No.2, Mohammdpur Khudalia, Hapur,UP-245207,has changed my name to Navdeep Singh Sony.
0040550197-6

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0040550180-2

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to all that my clients Shri Bhagat Singh S/o Sh. Jagdish Singh S/o Sh. Leela W/o Sh. Sh. Bhagat Singh Both R/o. H.No. 487, Vill. Mundka, Delhi-110041, have severed all their relations with their son Shri Gurbachan because of his ill behaviour towards my clients and my clients have also debarred him from all their movable and immovable properties for all purposes in future. Any body dealing with him shall be doing so at his/her own risk and responsibilities and my clients shall not be responsible for any act of the aforesaid person.
Sd/- (NARENDER SHARMA) ADVOCATE
Ch.No. 634, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE
BE IT KNOWN TO GENERAL PUBLIC THAT MY CLIENTS SH. SANJAY AGGARWAL AND HIS WIFE SMT. BINDU AGGARWAL, B-79, PASTORAL VILAS, NEW DELHI-110063, HAVE DISOWNED AND SEVERED ALL RELATIONS WITH THEIR SON - PRADEEP AGGARWAL AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW BARKHA AGGARWAL FROM ALL MOBILE AND IMMovable PROPERTIES AND SEVERED ALL RELATIONS DUE TO SHASHI RATHI'S UNLAWFUL BEHAVIOUR AND HER TENDENCY TO LIESE DISCREDITATION OF THE ENTIRE FAMILY. Whosoever deals with them in any matter, shall do at his/her own risk and consequences and my clients shall not be held liable for that.
Sd/- S.R. GOYAL ADVOCATE
OFF- PO-10B, PITAMPURA, DELHI-110088

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to all that my clients Shri Pawan Kumar son of Randhir Singh, and his wife Smt. Beena, both R/O H.NO. 314 WPO, KARLA, NORTHWEST DELHI 110081 have severed all relations with his son both being known as RAJESH with his son SHI SAHIL, MATURJ and his wife Smt. SHASHI RATHI namely and have disownd and severed them from all their movable and immovable properties due to SHASHI RATHI'S unly and behavioir and her tention to lise discreditation of the entire family. Whosoever deals with them in any matter, shall do at his/her own risk and consequences and my clients shall not be held liable for that.
Sd/- Deepa Dogra (Advocate)
OFFICE - Chamber No. 307, 3rd Floor, Lawyers Chamber Block, Rohini Courts, Delhi-110085

PUBLIC NOTICE
My client, SUMAN MEHENDRATTA, WIFE OF SHRI VIKRAM KUMAR MEHENDRATTA, RESIDENT OF HOUSE NO. 6, GROUND FLOOR, BHAI PARAMANAND COLONY, DELHI-110008, declares that she purchased 478.5 SQ. METERS, area measuring 80 Square Yards, situated at BHAI PARAMANAND COLONY, DELHI-110008, in the said property file of which her name has been mentioned as SUMAN RATHA and her husband's name as VIKRAM KUMAR RATHA instead of VIKRAM KUMAR MEHENDRATTA. She further declares that SUMAN MEHENDRATTA and SUMAN RATHA is the name of one and the same person, who is wife and the actual owner of the said property and her husband's name is VIKRAM KUMAR MEHENDRATTA.
Sd/- PANKAJ SRIVASTAVA ADVOCATE
Ch. No. 71, Old Court Compound, Kashiernagar Gate, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Vikram Dutt Sonami S/o. Nand Kishore Sonami R/o. B-12, Gopal Nagar, Azadpur, Delhi -110033 hereby inform declare to the general public that (1) My full name is "VIKRAM DUTT SOMANI" and my short/other name are "VIKRAM SOMANI" and "V.D. SOMANI", (2) "Vikram Dutt Somani", "V.D. Somani" and "V.D. Somani", Rajouri Garden, N Delhi-110027, has disowned and debarred her son Amanpreet Singh from her entire movable and immovable properties due to his behaviour towards my client. My client has severed up all relations with him will do so at his/her own risk.
Sd/- TUSHAR SINHA ADVOCATE
En. No. D-192/2011 Chamber No.466, Lawyers Block, Saket, District Court, Saket New Delhi-110017

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public at large is hereby informed that my client Smt. Davinder Kaur W/o Sh. Charanjeet Singh R/O H. No. J-1 (11th Floor), Rajouri Garden, N Delhi-110027, has disowned and debarred her son Amanpreet Singh from her entire movable and immovable property due to his behaviour towards my client. My client has severed up all relations with him will do so at his/her own risk.
Sd/- (RAVINDER SINGH) ADVOCATE
Ch. No. B-91, B.G.S. Block, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to all that my clients Mr. Anjali Sharma, Laxmi Gupta and Anup Gupta children of late Shri Raja Ram Gupta and Smt. Sneha Lata Gupta are the owners of Flat No. 70-B, DDA Flats (NCT), Rajput Canton, New Delhi-110027. The relevant original papers of the above Flat have been lost/misplaced and we have applied for issuance of duplicate papers of the aforesaid property to DDA. The online FIR to this effect has also been lodged on 29/01/2020 in P.S. Crime Branch, Delhi vide LR NO. 103746/2020. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest having any objection or found in possession of original documents may write/contact with above named persons (Atul Gupta Mob. 9910058079) at above address within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice and can personally contact Deputy Director (LAB) Housing of Director(H), D-Block 3rd Floor, Vikas Sadan INA, New Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
My client ICICI Bank Ltd., 308, Udyog Vihar, Phase-2, Gurgaon, Haryana, is in the process of advancing a loan against mortgage of Property No.1053-FD, urban 313.50 Sq. Mtrs., Sector-22, Arim Estate, Gurgaon, (Haryana) which as on date is owned by Mr. Anushek Yadav, Mr. Abhishek Yadav & Mrs. Hema Yadav (owners) and their names stands mutated/substituted in the records of Haryana Urban Development Authority. They have represented that they are the absolute owners of this property being inherited from Mr. Randhir Singh Yadav and surrender of inheritance rights by Mrs. Sonam Yadav & Mrs. Swetha Rajkumar (daughters of deceased Mr. Randhir Singh Yadav), in their favour. If anybody, person, body corporate has any right, lien or claim on the said Property, whatsoever then he/she/it may contact the undersigned with documentary proof of claim within 10 days of publication of this notice, otherwise it shall be deemed that either there are no claims or the same have been waived off. No claim shall be entertained in future and my client shall proceed to advance the loan by mortgaging the said property.
Prachi Narang, Advocate
GNA & Associates
D-28, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi-110014.

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the general public that I had appointed Sh. Manghoth Chhikara S/o Lt. Sh. Manger Ram R/o H. No. 534/23, Jhajjar Road, Mohan Nagar, Bahadurgarh, Distt. Jhajjar, Haryana, as my General Power of Attorney with respect to my share in land measuring 137 sq yards/5 marlas Khasra No. 156/136, Khatoni No. 207 Khairi No. 19/82 village Bakoni, Tehsil Bahadurgarh, Distt. Jhajjar, Now I have withdrawn cancelled the said power of attorney & said Sh. Manghoth Chhikara is no longer authorized to deal with my aforesaid land in any manner whatsoever. General public is hereby cautioned not to deal with said Sh. Manghoth Chhikara with respect to my aforesaid land.
Saroj wo Lt. Virender Singh, Mr. 83, Bangad, Mohan Nagar, Bahadurgarh, Distt. Dabab, Delhi-110081.
Sd/- RAHUL DASRA (Advocate)
CHAMBER No. 128B, LAWYERS CHAMBERS BLOCK, ROHINI COURTS, DELHI 110085

PUBLIC NOTICE
"That my client Mrs. Reeta Sah W/o Sri Ashok Kumar Sah is owner of property bearing no. 153 B, L-Extension Part-1, D.K. Mohan Garden, West Delhi-59 has debar her son Rohit Kumar and his wife Sanjana Kumari from his moveable or immovable properties from 15th September, 2020. Any person / company or anybody dealing with Rohit Kumar and his wife Sanjana Kumari in any manner, he / she shall be doing so at his / her own risk, responsibilities, cost and consequences. This notice issued in the interest of family.
B.S. Rajesh Agrajit (Advocate)
D/1870/99

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known my clients (1) LAJBE BASTI S/O SH. HARBHAIAN SINGH (2) SUBHASH RANI MEHTA W/O SH. LAJBE MEHTA BOTH RESIDENT OF BASTI, RANI BAGH, SHAKUR BASTI, DELHI-110034 have disowned and severed all their relations with their son named SUNNY MEHTA AND HIS WIFE SHRADHA CHAWLA and debarred them from all their movable and immovable properties' assets due to their misbehavior, unfamily activities, misdeedable act, misconduct and going against my clients. Anybody dealing with them in civil and criminal matter shall be doing at his/her own risk, cost and responsibility and my clients family shall not be liable for that. Any act.
KAMAL SINGH (Advocate)
Enr. No. D/748/14

PUBLIC NOTICE
This Notice is hereby given to general public that Sh. Vinod Kumar Goel, who is claimed to be owner and in possession of Residential Property Bearing No.1193, area measuring 160 Sq. Yards, situated at Dr. Mukerjee Nagar Re-Development Scheme, Delhi and same was purchased from Sh. Vinod Bagji by virtue of Sale Deed dated-15.03.2015, Doc. No.5776, duly Regd. in SRO-VI-A, New Delhi. And now Sh. Vinod Kumar Goel has approached to Axis Bank Ltd. for financial assistance and therefore shall be mortgaged with the said Bank. All person's having any claim against in respect of the said property or any part, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to undersigned with supporting documentary evidence at the address mention below within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice. failing which, claim, if any, of such persons will be considered to have been waived and/or, abandoned and our client shall proceed with the mortgage and subsequent creation of Mortgage in respect thereof.
Sd/- Sunil Parsad (Advocate)
Sd/- Jyotsna Saxena Law Offices
E-56, Greater Kailash Enclave Part-I, New Delhi-110048

PUBLIC NOTICE
To be known to all that I Suresh Kumar Sharma S/O Shri R.P. Sharma R/O C-4/52, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085, 9811774427, lost my original Property documents in the way while I was coming after making the photocopy from a shop near by my office details of the documents, (1) Original receipt of a recommendation of a plot measuring 250 Sq Yds (Dwarka) duly signed by the above Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma in favour of D/Sr. 2019 (2) original agreement of sale of a plot no-135, block & pkt - B, Sector-26, Rohini Delhi between Shri Varun Thakur and Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma of Dt. 28/9/2019. FIR-to this effect has been lodged in the Police station on Dated 28/9/2020. Any Person(s) claiming my rights, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above name person at above address.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public is informed on behalf of my client Smt. Preet Kaur W/o Sh. Gurpreet Singh Sachdeva, R/O B-1/45 (Ground Floor), Ashok Vihar, Phase-I, New Delhi-110052 That though my client has legal rights and is in possession of the above mentioned property yet her husband Sh. Gurpreet Singh Sachdeva in collusion and connivance with his mother Smt Aji Kaur with mala-fide intentions and baseless motives are manipulating 2019 FIR to this effect to sell the said property in case any body indulges and tries to deal in respect of the said property, shall do so at its own risk and will face the consequences and liabilities.
R. K. Bansal Advocate, C. No. 292, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public at large is hereby informed that I, Mahesh Mittal, S/o. Sh. Brij Bhushan Mittal and my wife, both R/O C-52, First Floor, Gali No. 6, Malis Park, Adarsh Nagar, North West Delhi-59, have disowned our son Shivam Mittal from all immovable and movable properties due to his unruly behaviour which is unbecoming of a son and thereby have severed all relations with him. Any one dealing with above mentioned disowned person in any manner whatsoever will be at his personal risk and liability. In no case shall any liability incurred by Shivam Mittal be fulfilled by me or any of my family members.
Sd/- SHEKHAR GEHLOT (Advocate)
B-561-62, SECTORS, ROHINI, DELHI-85

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to all concerned that my clients (1) RAJU BHATAM S/O LATE SHRI DEVI RAM AND (2) Mrs. RAJU W/O RAJU BHATAM S/O R/O 16422, DDA FLATS, MADANGIR, NEW DELHI-110062, have severed all relations and disowned their son RANJAN and his wife ANITA KATHUN from their all moveable-immovable properties due to their disobedience and bad behavior. My clients & their other family members shall not be responsible and liable for their acts.
Sd/- TUSHAR SINHA ADVOCATE
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Narendra Modi
Prime Minister



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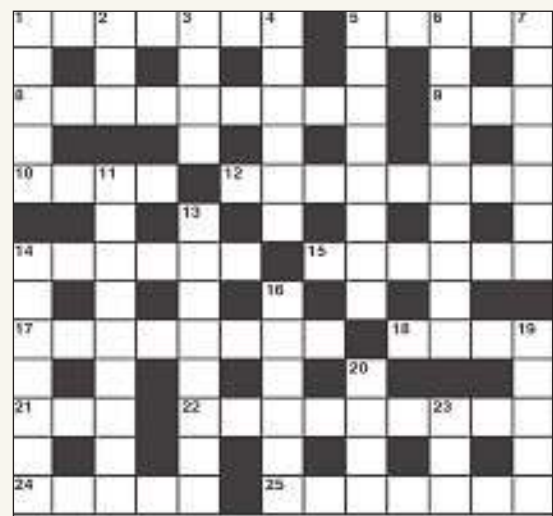
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MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NCUI Building, Khel Gaon Marg, 3 Siri Institutional Area, Hauz Khas, New Delhi - 110 016

CROSSWORD 4239



- ACROSS**
- All hands to mow the crop (4,3)
 - It follows the cat back without comment (5)
 - They make up the family accounts (9)
 - Drink that helps to produce a merry evening (3)
 - Has now moved south (4)
 - When father returned by himself the rift was obvious (8)
 - Spirit a priest might conjure up (6)
 - Sally is kind, that is the end of it (6)
 - An essentially boring occupation (8)
 - Coming from an enemy this shouldn't be believed (4)
 - Firm's salad maker (3)
 - Spider natural at spinning (9)
 - Breaks support (5)
 - Nurse in bizarre sex case holds out (7)
- DOWN**
- Without us being inquisitive is something rare (5)
 - Fish found in creels (3)
 - Turncoat old Roman (4)
 - Performers tore up in disarray (6)
 - One who leaves willingly (8)
 - Complain about a record made for the trade (9)
 - It has wings and flies (7)
 - The bloom of youth (9)
 - They make the least and the most effort on the track (8)
 - A cider's mixed in a cocktail (7)
 - Disloyal unit I have left with regret (6)
 - Warms up for the opening races (5)
 - This month in Westminster (4)
 - Badly run vessel (3)

Solutions Crossword 4238: Across: 1 Excepted, 5 Isla, 9 Penal, 10 Airport, 11 Cabinetmaker, 13 Ensign, 14 Stroll, 17 Narrowscape, 20 Inmates, 21 Iene, 22 Eats, 23 Stands by. Down: 1 Espy, 2 Canvass, 3 Polling booth, 4 Enamel, 6 Shock, 7 After all, 8 Prompt action, 12 Meantime, 15 Orpheus, 16 Tea set, 18 Remit, 19 Dewy.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

A pen is to me as a ___ is to a ___. J. R. R. Tolkien (4,_,_)

NTVEE AOTXBH

EKWAN ACERYK

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

- ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**
If you could ever find the balance between home and family life and your worldly ambitions, it would be a breakthrough of epic proportions. Now you must put your special aspirations at the top of the agenda, go for broke and accept no limitations whatsoever.
- TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**
You want the best and why not? To reach the goals you are now so keen to achieve, will take a good deal of effort, but the results and rewards may eventually outstrip your expectations, especially if you plan properly. Legal and ethical issues deserve your full consideration.
- GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**
You may imagine that a financial choice has been satisfactorily delayed. However, nothing could be further from the truth. Important developments over the next few days could substantially affect your future prosperity, and I suspect it will be for the better.
- CANCER (June 22 - July 23)**
I would be the first to admit that emotional security is vital to your happiness but, as the days pass, amazing events will alter your outlook on a pattern you thought was so predictable. Don't rely on long-term plans, for everything is up for grabs over the next couple of weeks.
- LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)**
If you haven't already got the bit between your teeth, you probably have plenty of spare time left. You have perhaps four or five weeks to prepare your ground, whether it's a personal goal that's at stake, or a professional coup. But you should be aware that partners may take some persuading.
- VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)**
Spontaneity, joy and pleasure are yours for the asking. The Moon's passage from one part of your chart to another makes it apparent that you must have a clear head and work out exactly what it is that you want. After all, you can't expect other people to satisfy you if you don't even know what to ask for.
- LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**
You can take a series of slow but significant steps down the street of success, but there'll be a number of sharp bends along the way. Don't be surprised if the ground is swept from under your feet at home and watch out for electronic machines and explosive gadgets.
- SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)**
You may believe that the last word has been said, but if that is the case you are very wrong. You will soon discover that your mind has changed, and that others are likely to come back with some surprising news. What you hear may also have a surprising effect on your affections.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)**
There are some things that cannot be changed, no matter what you do. Yet perhaps you can say enough to reassure people that past slights were unintended or that future goals are good for everyone. Get your thinking cap on and work out the best way to persuade partners that you're right.
- CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)**
It is time to set yourself new goals, adopt different priorities and leave behind the lost opportunities of recent times. But do keep a very open mind and be prepared for last-minute changes, particularly where very close partners are concerned.
- AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)**
Venus and Mercury are moving towards one of their periodic uncertain celestial patterns. It is therefore very likely that you will actually encounter someone you thought had disappeared — perhaps for ever. Also, be prepared for a true, magical, romantic mystery.
- PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**
Excellent celestial prospects await you, but you really must wear that thick skin you have started to grow over the past year or so: it is no use being vulnerable and sensitive. Maintain your right to spend some time pottering around at home, and don't be pressurised.

SUDOKU 4249

Difficulty Level 2s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

1	7	8	6	3	9			
	3				4			
	5	3	4	1				
8			5				6	
	9			8				
7			3				1	
	4	2	7	9				
	9				8			
5	6	9	1	2	4			

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4248

7	5	4	6	9	8	1	3	2
8	6	2	7	3	1	4	5	9
9	3	1	2	4	5	8	7	6
3	1	9	8	2	7	6	4	5
6	4	5	9	1	3	2	8	7
2	8	7	4	5	6	3	9	1
5	7	6	3	8	2	9	1	4
4	2	3	1	7	9	5	6	8
1	9	8	5	6	4	7	2	3

Lakers' first step, James's giant leap



THE STORY of the NBA in the playoffs for the past decade can be summed up in one line – you have to go through LeBron James to win the championship. And if Game 1 of the 2020 Finals was any indication of what's to come, the Miami Heat are in for a rough series and James is winning his fourth NBA championship. The Lakers, back in the Finals for the first time in a decade, won 98-116 on the back of some excellent first half shooting, a Miami team that couldn't catch a break and the evergreen James intent on winning his first Game 1 since 2011.

17 YEARS OF LEBRON JAMES

How many athletes can truly perform at their peak in the 17th year of their profession? Maybe, one. James played for 36 minutes, dropped 25 points, grabbed 13 rebounds and made 9 assists, stamping his mark in a way only he could, in his 10th NBA Finals appearance. In the 50th Finals game of his career, James made it to 2nd on the All-Time Finals 3s made. Normally associated with Game 1 woes, James finally got an easy one – winning his first since 2011.

NO ANSWER FOR DAVIS

The Heat had no answer for Anthony Davis. The former No 1 Kentucky draft pick, in his first ever Finals appearance, dropped 34 points and had three blocks on the other end of the court. With two players who are consensus top 5 in the NBA right now, the firepower that the Lakers have in Davis and James is reminiscent of the time of Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal. In fact, both James and Davis recorded 25 points apiece, a first for the Lakers since Game 2 of the 2004 NBA Finals when Bryant and Shaq did the same.

LAKERS SHOOT THEIR SHOT

The Lakers are 21-3 this season when they make more than 14 three-pointers. For a team that relies on their bigs and forwards, this was a clinical job. In the final 16 minutes of the first half, the Lakers went 9-11 from 3s. This, after being 21st of 22 teams in the NBA bubble in Orlando in terms of three-point shooting (33.6% at Disney, according to an Associated Press report).

INJURY WOES

Two of Miami Heat's influential players in Goran Dragic and Bam Adebayo could only play 15 and 21 minutes respectively in the first game and had to be pulled out because of injuries. Dragic was averaging almost 20 points a game through the NBA Playoffs, before a foot injury prevented his return to the game. Bam Adebayo on the other hand suffered a shoulder injury which resulted in Miami's rebounding and scoring suffer. According to reports, Adebayo plans to play in Game 2 but has also been carrying a wrist injury. **SHASHANK NAIR**

Mumbai firepower humbles Kings

Death bowling is Kings XI Punjab's bugbear again as Rohit's men put on an all-round professional display

SYNOPSIS

Princely Rohit, fiery Pollard tame KXIP

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
OCTOBER 1

AFTER THE Super Over heartbreak in their last game, Mumbai Indians bounced back with a bang. A princely Rohit Sharma and a fiery Kieron Pollard – honourable mention Hardik Pandya – laid the foundation for their 48-run victory against Kings XI Punjab. Their bowlers, then, put in a disciplined performance. Kings XI were in the game till 15 overs of the first innings but after that, as MI raised their game, KL Rahul's team fizzled.

Princely Rohit, fiery Pollard

The game had a subplot to the main story – Rohit versus Mohammed Shami. Before the two leading men from either side entered the scene, Sheldon Cottrell had already bowled a beauty to castle Quinton de Kock in the first over.

Shami's first ball to Rohit was a loosener, dispatched through the covers for a four. The boundary took Rohit to the 5,000-IPL run club, alongside Raina and Kohli. Rohit then hit a gorgeous back foot drive past cover point for another four. Shami's response was a ripper that came back after pitching. Rohit was adjudged leg-before, a decision that DRS overturned. Shami returned for his second spell after seven overs. In between, Suryakumar Yadav was run out by a direct hit from Shami, while Ishan Kishan, unlike the last match, got stuck. But Rohit was in for the long haul. A run rate below seven wasn't bothering him. He played out the over. MI, in fact, planned their innings very well. Kings XI were seemingly caught in a death overs quagmire, understandable after their back-end bowling implosion against Rajasthan Royals. Cottrell bowled three overs upfront and came back to bowl his fourth midway into the MI innings. Kings XI only had Shami's pace to fall back on in the slog overs.

After 15 overs, Mumbai were 102/3 – time to push the accelerator. Rohit's cultured aggression accounted for two fours and as many sixes off a Jimmy Neesham over. He had raced to 70 off 44 balls before Shami dismissed him on the first ball of his final spell, thanks to a lovely assist from Maxwell at the long-off boundary, with Neesham completing the catch. Pollard and Pandya then laid into the Kings XI bowling.



Mumbai Indians' Kieron Pollard (47* off 20) and Hardik Pandya (30* off 11) hit a combined six sixes and as many boundaries in their 77-run partnership. **BCCI**

Neesham's medium pace followed by K Gowtham's off-spin at the death against Pollard (47 off 20 balls) and Pandya (30 off 11 balls) was an accident waiting to happen. Pollard, in fact, damaged Shami's figures also with three consecutive fours. Gowtham conceded 25 runs in the final over. MI scored 89 runs in the last five overs to post 191/4.

KXIP tamed

For the last two matches, Kings XI batting had been all about their openers – Rahul and Mayank Agarwal. Chasing 192 for victory, the duo started briskly. Agarwal looked to be in fabulous touch, but Jasprit Bumrah breached his defence with the ball of the match. Rahul was bowled around his legs by leggie Rahul Chahar, leaving the team's middle order to rise to the challenge. In Nicholas Pooran and Maxwell, Kings XI had the firepower to take the attack to the opposition. Pooran showed intent, but Maxwell struggled. The asking rate was steadily climbing and once James Pattinson dismissed Pooran in the 14th over and Chahar put Maxwell out of his misery, only the formalities remained.

BRIEF SCORES: MI 191/4 in 20 overs (R Sharma 70 off 45, K Pollard 47 not out off 20, H Pandya 30 not out off 11) bt KXIP 143/8 (N Pooran 47 off 27, R Chahar 2/27, J Bumrah 2/18, J Pattinson 2/28) by 48 runs.

Chennai bank on Rayudu's return

PREVIEW: CSK VS SRH

Win/Loss (CSK: WLL; SRH: LLW)

CSK will be back in action after a week, during which they slipped to the bottom of the points table. The biggest talking point was MS Dhoni's batting position. The popular opinion was that Dhoni was coming in too late. The batsmen around him, with the exception of Faf du Plessis, have been unable to make much of an impact. Without Suresh Raina, the batting lacks firepower. The expected return of Ambati Rayudu, who played a key role in their opening day win over Mumbai, will be a relief. In Rayudu's absence from the middle order, the batting lacked impetus. Another problem area for CSK is the opening slot with Murali Vijay looking out of form. There aren't any ready-made replacements so the team management can either keep their trust in Vijay or slot Rayudu at the top.

7:30 pm, Star Sports network



EMOTIONAL ROLLER COASTER

Hot heads, calm minds and everything in between at the game.

Rohit, a riot of emotions

Rohit Sharma is most expressive when he is in the middle of a struggle, which he was in an over against Ravi Bishnoi. It seemed he wanted to take the 20-year-old leg-spinner to the cleaners straightaway, but laboured to read him. Just the second ball he faced he shaped up for the lofted drive over mid-on before he checked his stroke at the last moment. He grimaced. The next ball, he attempted the big slog-sweep, but only managed an under-edge that ended up nutmegging him. He was foxed by Bishnoi's flipper. He was gutted and hurled a mouthful of abuse at himself. His anger only swelled when Mohammed Shami effected the run out of Suryakumar Yadav next ball. When the latter was walking back, he seemed to gesture why he called for that run (it was Yadav's call only). Rohit was spraying emotions all over. The lapse in focus continued, as he missed a cut off Krishnappa Gowtham next over. More self-reproach. But



two boundaries—both gorgeously timed—helped reclaim the focus. Thereafter, he hardly wore any emotion on his face—he was mostly blank-faced, and did not even smile when he completed his half-century—until the ball the got out. He shook his head in dismay at the lack of timing in his stroke.

Little joys of Neesham

Jimmy Neesham did what he always does. Bristle in, pound the deck and expend all his variations. Yet, he had neither respite nor luck. He snared Rohit Sharma's edge with a lovely leg-cutter, but for the non-existent first slip. He induced several false strokes, but a wicket proved elusive. Towards the end, the always cheery Neesham turned downcast, even petulant at times. Then came a rare moment to rejoice, when he grabbed a simple catch parried by Glenn Maxwell near the long-on boundary. Neesham was cock a hoop, but Maxwell seemed barely amused. Neesham leapt in joy and punched his fists in the air, and finally it took a calm-down gesture from fielding coach Jonty Rhodes to stop his celebrations. Then that solitary slice of joy for Neesham who endured an agonising day as his match analysis of 4-0-52-0 suggests.

Bumrah, the balm for nerves

Jasprit Bumrah wasn't coming off a great game against Bangalore. He had gone wicketless in regulation time and conceded 42 runs. In the Super Over, with just seven to defend, Bumrah attempted two well-directed yorkers and even made AB de Villiers lose shape with the short ball but had nothing to show for it. Mumbai had enough on the board, but the Punjab openers Mayank Agarwal and KL Rahul had seen off the first three overs from Trent Boult and James Pattinson and made 37 in quick time. Mumbai were itching for a wicket, Rohit Sharma was a boundary away from chewing his nails. Bumrah, the first-change bowler, bowled short of length to Agarwal before nailing him with a full-length beauty, which moved in and went through the batsman's defence. Bumrah let out a scream. India's strike bowler had tasted blood and eased the collective tension of the fielding side. **ENS**

Sammy's 6 sense: How Pollard stays back and smashes

SRIRAM VEERA

MUMBAI, OCTOBER 1

FOR A few years now, the old visceral thrill of watching a six has been replaced with a quiet-admiring nod. The first 13 games of this IPL has seen 191 sixes as the science of hitting the maximum has been understood by most batsmen. You could see the method in Pollard's four sixes, a hattrick of them came in the final over, against Kings XI Punjab. With his weight on the back foot, he waits for the ball to be released and then drives through the line. The stance, bat-lift, bat-swing, weight shift, knee-bend – every little detail is now deconstructed and reassembled in a batsman's technique. Former West Indies skipper Daren Sammy, who has launched 237 sixes in domestic T20s and 149 sixes in international games, gives a masterclass on the art of clearing the boundary.

Your bat was almost up vertically-straight, the base pointing towards the sky before you got it down, why is it such an important element of hitting a six?

I remember back in 2002, when I was in

academy, the Australian coaches there would say there was something common in Sir Garry Sobers, Sir Viv (Richards) and Brian Lara. They all had the wrist-cocked before the ball was delivered, getting ready for the set-up. I am nowhere in that category – let's set that record straight – but I know where my bat lift came from. In childhood backyard cricket, it was a six over the fence. Since it was under-arm, there was no power or much bounce.

You had to get under the ball and generate power with one full swing of the bat. Like Andre Russell. I held the bat high and with that high bat-lift, it was one full flow to make the ball disappear. The head has to be still, and the base stable. You could have the bat-swing and all the rest of it but without that still head and solid base, you would be hitting the ball straight up.

In the subcontinent, you stay a touch lower for hitting sixes. Why?

I remember a game against Australia in Bangladesh. We needed 12 runs to win in the last over and James Faulkner bowled me two yorkers. I realised that I couldn't get under the



If you look at Kieron Pollard or Andre Russell, you can see them take that step back deep in the crease and waiting. That's something that works. On bouncer tracks too this technique can come useful."

DAREN SAMMY
FORMER WEST INDIES CAPTAIN

ball. It doesn't bounce that much there and it skids. Having spoken to the guys who have played there and even with RCB and Sunrisers Hyderabad, you always try to stay lower so that the invariable bounce doesn't affect you. So if you are already in a (low) position, and if the ball stays a touch low you are better positioned to hit. So when Faulkner bowled me the first two balls, my stance was upright and I couldn't get under. So I decided to make my stance lower and I was able to get under the ball and hit two sixes. In Australia, you stand more upright.

Would you tinker the stance according to the conditions?

I would open up the stance, widen to bring my centre of gravity closer to the ground if the pitch is true like in India. But in conditions like Australia, I would be a little bit more upright.

You also changed your stance with the slower ones, hanging on that back foot a little longer, almost delaying your reaction. Why?

Yes. Against the slow bowlers who change their pace, you didn't want to commit. So I

would deliberately keep my weight on the back foot. You can adjust better. When they bowl that slower ball, you are not committing early. If you look at Kieron Pollard or Andre Russell, you can see them take that step back deep in the crease and waiting. That's something that works. On bouncer tracks too this technique can come useful. You don't want to commit early on the front foot and be caught at gully or something. You don't want to come too early and get hit on the splice of the bat or gloves. There you use the crease more, go back.

Do you remember your first six of your life?

Oh yes, I remember. It was probably 1997. It was the first time I played for my school in St. Lucia. I am playing for Vieux Fort Comprehensive School and I am 13-14 years. This kid bowled me a short ball, I played that pull shot and the ball went outside! Everybody was like 'yeah this kid could hit the ball'. There is a feeling about playing a pull shot. Just like taking a catch at slip. I remember that feeling. Up to this day, when I sit with friends, we always talk about that moment.

Ron's Juve gets Messi's Barca in Champions League group stage

ASSOCIATED PRESS
GENEVA, OCTOBER 1

CRISTIANO RONALDO and Lionel Messi will face each other in the Champions League group stage for the first time.

Messi's Barcelona was drawn from the pot of second-seeded teams Thursday into the group where Ronaldo's Juventus team was already placed as a top seed. The group was later completed by Dynamo Kyiv and Ferencvros.

The 35-year-old Ronaldo and the 33-year-old Messi had a nine-year rivalry in the Spanish league when the Portugal star was with Real Madrid. However, they could never face each other so early in the Champions League then because clubs from the same country are separated in the draw.

They did meet in the 2009 final, when Messi scored as Barcelona beat Ronaldo's Manchester United 2-0.

Juventus and Barcelona were paired in the group stage of the 2017-18 season – Ronaldo's last in Madrid when he helped Real win a

fourth Champions League title in five seasons. Messi scored twice in a 3-0 home win over Juventus, before the teams drew 0-0 in Italy.

The stellar clash of superstars still left space for intriguing draws in the other seven groups. Defending champion Bayern Munich was grouped with Atletico Madrid, Salzburg and Lokomotiv Moscow.

Paris Saint-Germain, the beaten finalist last season, was reunited with Manchester United which it lost to in the round of 16 in 2019 and Leipzig, which it beat in this year's semifinals. Newcomer Istanbul Basaksehir is also in that group.

Liverpool, the 2019 champion, is topped in a group of teams with reputations for playing open attacking soccer. Ajax, Atalanta and Midtjylland of Denmark, another Champions League debutant.

Six-time European champion Liverpool and four-time winner Ajax have met only once before in the competition, in 1966. Ajax eliminated Liverpool from the European Cup second round after a 5-1 first leg win in Amsterdam.

It's business as usual for ruthless Djokovic

REUTERS
PARIS, OCTOBER 1

TOPSEED Novak Djokovic barely broke sweat in reaching the French Open third round with a 6-1 6-2 6-2 thrashing of outclassed Lithuanian Ricardas Berankis on Thursday. Some rare sunshine bathed the Court Philippe Chatrier but it was dull viewing for the few spectators allowed in to watch the 33-year-old glide effortlessly through.

The opening set was done and dusted in 22 minutes as Djokovic won the last 10 points and the second set was only marginally more competitive.

Berankis, ranked 66th, needed court-side treatment on his back before the start of the third set but got back to his feet to endure more punishment from the clinical Serb.

Djokovic, bidding for his second French Open crown and 18th Grand Slam title, has dropped 10 games in two rounds so far and occasionally looked bored on Thursday, taking the opportunity to practise his drop shot on numerous occasions.

He finished it off after only 83 minutes

with his 10th ace. It was a carbon copy of the pair's only other Grand Slam clash when Berankis also managed only five games, at the 2013 U.S. Open.

It was Djokovic's 70th victory at the French Open, moving him into joint second place on the all-time list with Roger Federer.

Ostapenko ousts Pliskova

Former French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko ousted second seed Karolina Pliskova 6-4 6-2 in the second round at Roland Garros on Thursday after her Czech opponent produced a performance riddled with mistakes.

The 28-year-old Pliskova had also struggled with unforced errors in her opener against Egyptian qualifier Mayar Sherif but managed to get through that match using all her experience. Latvian Ostapenko, who won the 2017 title as an unseeded player, remained solid throughout and did not allow a sluggish-looking Pliskova to get a foothold in the match.

"I was just trying to play my game, but I knew I had to return well today because she obviously has, like, one of the best serves on



Novak Djokovic beat Lithuanian Ricardas Berankis 6-1 6-2 6-2 to reach the third round of the French Open. AP

tour, Ostapenko told reporters.

"I think I was returning very well today. Also, I had to hold my serve, which I did pretty good. Also to use some drop shots, because it's a very good shot in these conditions." The 23-

year-old Ostapenko, ranked 43rd, was aggressive from the start as her strangely subdued opponent struggled to rein in the mistakes under the closed Court Philippe Chatrier roof.

Pliskova, known as one of the biggest servers in the women's game, committed three unforced errors and a double fault in the opening game of the match to be broken to love. The script did not change much for Pliskova for the rest of the afternoon.

Ostapenko went on to break three times in the first set and twice in the second to seal victory in 69 minutes. She converted her third match point when Pliskova, who had 25 unforced errors, sent a forehand long. The Latvian painted the red clay with 27 winners against her opponent's nine while keeping her unforced errors to 19.

PTI ADDS: India's Divij Sharan and his South Korean partner Kwon Soon-woo were ousted from the French Open following a hard-fought opening-round loss in the men's doubles event here.

The unseeded Sharan and Kwon Soon-woo lost 2-6 6-4 4-6 to the 16th seeded Croatian-American pair of Franko Skugor and Austin Krajicek on Wednesday.