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## THE EDITORIAL PAGE

**TIME HAS COME  
FOR INDO-PACIFIC  
CONCORD**  
BY ARUN PRAKASH  
PAGE 10**Trump calls  
India air  
'filthy', is not  
entirely off  
the mark****US President Donald Trump  
at the presidential debate. AP****ESHA ROY**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

IN HIS debate against the Democrat presidential candidate Joe Biden on Thursday, US President Donald Trump, while talking about his administration's track record on checking carbon emissions, referred to pollution levels in other countries, including India, and called their air "filthy".

Responding to a question on how the candidates proposed to combat climate change while supporting job growth, Trump claimed the carbon emission numbers in the United States under his administration have been the best in the last 35 years. "Look at China, how filthy it is. Look at Russia, look at India... the air's filthy. I took us out of the Paris Accord because we were going to have to spend trillions of dollars, and we were being treated very unfairly," said Trump.

Trump's comment on India's air quality might have been unpalatable, but it is true that over the last few years, Indian cities have been recording some of the highest pollution levels in the world.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**TRUMP-BIDEN FINAL  
SHOWDOWN**  
PAGE 16**Bharat Biotech says its  
ICMR-backed vaccine  
set for June 2021 launch****PRABHA RAGHAVAN**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

BHARAT BIOTECH, which has received approval for late-stage human trials for its Covid vaccine candidate, expects to have it ready by June 2021 — unless the government advances its launch through emergency use authorisation, according to a top company official.

The Hyderabad-based firm plans to test over 20,000 volunteers across 12-14 states for Covaxin, its indigenous candidate, Sai Prasad, executive director, Bharat Biotech International

**SAYS OPPOSITION CAMPAIGN AGAINST FARM BILLS FAVOURS BROKERS****Nitish by his side, PM kicks off campaign  
citing Galwan, Art 370 and 'naya Bihar'****Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in Sasaram; Rahul Gandhi with Tejashwi Yadav in Nawada district on Friday. PTI****PM: Opposition parties anti-reform,  
with forces trying to weaken India****AMITABH SINHA  
& HARIKISHAN  
SHARMA**  
GAYA, NEW DELHI,  
OCTOBER 23

KICKING OFF his election rallies in Bihar on Friday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi contrasted the NDA's work on a "naya Bihar" with the "misrule" of the 1990s,



while accusing the Opposition of being anti-reform, and of siding with "dalaal" (brokers), Naxalites and "forces out to weaken the country".

At three brief halts in Sasaram, Gaya and Bhagalpur, the Prime Minister spoke of the Galwan clash with China in June, in

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BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY

**Rahul attacks PM, Tejashwi  
keeps focus on Nitish, Bihar****MANOJ CG**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

BEGINNING HIS campaign for the dead-heat Bihar Assembly elections, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Friday addressed a joint rally with RJD leader and the Opposition alliance's chief ministerial face Tejashwi Yadav, but their

speeches reflected a striking contrast in approach and style.

Gandhi, addressing the joint public meeting in Hisua in Nawada district, launched a blistering attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi — in fact, referring to him by name or as Prime Minister some 20 times — on issues such as demonetisation, Chinese incursion, GST and his

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**Won't contest polls till J&K  
special status back: Mehbooba****Says will raise  
Tricolour when  
J&K flag restored****NAVEED IQBAL**  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 23

DECLARING THAT she will have "nothing to do with elections" till J&K's special status under the Constitution is restored, PDP president and former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti said Friday that she will raise the Tricolour only when the J&K state flag is also restored.

**Mehbooba Mufti at a press  
conference in Srinagar on  
Friday. Shuaib Masoodi**

Following the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, the J&K state flag, which used to fly

along with the Tricolour atop the civil secretariat building in Srinagar, was removed.

"My flag is in front of me. When this flag is restored to us, we will raise the other flag (Tricolour) also. But until that happens, we will not hold any other flag in our hands. Hamara uss jhande se rishta is jhande ne banaya hai, it is not independent of this flag," Mehbooba Mufti told reporters, pointing to the flag of the erstwhile state placed before her along with the PDP flag.

In her first press conference following her release from over 14 months of detention under

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**Again, Mumbai police  
book Republic, channel  
says it's a witch-hunt****EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 23

MUMBAI POLICE Friday booked the executive editor, an anchor, two reporters and other editorial staff of Republic Media Network for broadcasting alleged defamatory news content against the police department.

Police said Republic channel aired news that would incite disaffection among police personnel against Commissioner of Police Param Bir Singh. The channel, police said, claimed Mumbai police personnel were rebelling against Param Bir

Singh, and that his orders were not acceptable to them.

The channel, in a statement, said the "booking of all journalists of a news media organisation, left unchecked, will have a chilling effect on democracy, especially within the state of Maharashtra".

This is the fourth case against Republic channel. Its editor-in-chief Arnab Goswami is facing two FIRs, registered at Pydhonie and NM Joshi Marg police stations, for allegedly inciting communal tension. A case relating to alleged fudging of TRPs is being probed by the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**Bluetooth tracker for terror attacks finds  
new use in pandemic time — at the IPL****PAGE 1  
ANCHOR****MIHIR VASAVDA**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

NOT SO long ago, Botan Osman was designing technology to track and trace people after terror attacks, industrial accidents or natural calamities. But now, as chief executive of British tech firm Restrata, he is adapting the same systems to protect cricketers from Covid — and help organisers bring the crowds back to stadiums.

"Factories, offices, oil fields, power plants... we have been helping a lot of people day-to-

**Everyone inside IPL bio-bubble has been given the Bluetooth  
device, worn around their necks. Delhi Capitals/Instagram**

day. But our sports-related work gets a lot of press because, well, sport is interesting," says Osman, speaking to *The Indian Express*

from London.

Since the IPL got underway in the UAE in a bio-bubble last month, Restrata's Bluetooth

tracker is being worn by the cricketers — around their necks — at all times, except while playing or training, to ensure that nobody steps out of the bubble unnoticed. The technology was also used for England's home Test series against the West Indies and Pakistan earlier this year.

In the IPL, the location and movement of each player, support staff and others involved in the games, is monitored in real-time with sensors placed across 13 hotels, three stadiums, training grounds and buses ferrying the players.

If social-distancing rules are broken — or if a person enters a non-designated zone — an alert is triggered. Restrata then

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**Pak remains on  
terror grey list,  
watchdog says  
deadlines over****Strategic deficiencies, non-compliance,  
Pak has to act by Feb 2021, says FATF****SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

CITING "STRATEGIC deficiencies" and non-compliance with six key markers in its 27-point action plan on terror-financing and money-laundering, Paris-based global watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Friday said Pakistan will continue to remain on its grey list.

The decision was announced by FATF president Marcus Pleyer after a three-day virtual plenary session. "To date, Pakistan has made progress across all action plan items and has now largely addressed 21 of the 27 action items. As all action plan deadlines have expired, the FATF strongly urges Pakistan to swiftly complete its full action plan by February 2021," the FATF said in a statement.

Pakistan also needs to work on four areas to "address its strategic deficiencies", it said. Listing the deficiencies, the FATF said that Pakistan needs to:

EXPLAINED

**Why Pak needs  
to move now**

THE FATF has asked Pakistan, which has been on its grey list since 2018, to get its act together by February 2021. With the Imran Khan-led government battling a severe economic crisis, Delhi is hoping that this will prompt Islamabad to take more action against terror groups and their leaders.

■ "Demonstrate that law enforcement agencies are identifying and investigating the widest range of terror financing activity which target designated persons

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## ECONOMY

**FORMER NCLAT  
CHAIRPERSON JOINS  
ADVISORY BOARD  
OF GROUP HE ONCE  
HAULED UP****U.S. FDA APPROVES  
FIRST COVID-19  
DRUG: ANTIVIRAL  
REMDESIVIR  
PAGE 17**

## SPORT

**KAPIL DEV SUFFERS  
HEART ATTACK, 'ON  
ROAD TO RECOVERY'  
AFTER ANGIOPLASTY  
PAGE 20**

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Laxmi Nagar ☎ 9625318941 • Lajpat Nagar ☎ 011-41015155 **Faridabad** Neelam Chowk ☎ 9318490048  
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TOTAL CASES		Total		Vacant
		HOSPITAL BEDS	15,737	10,501
		VENTILATORS	1,264	516
	Daily cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Oct 22	3,882	2,727	35	58,770
Oct 23	4,086	3,296	26	58,568
Total	26,001*	3,16,214	6,189	42,59,878

\*Total active cases

**MAN HELD FOR 'RAPING' 3 FOREIGN NATIONALS**

## Accused posed as a woman on FB, claims rape survivor

**JIGNASA SINHA**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

"HE SHOWED me videos of him supporting acid attack survivors, refugees... I thought he was genuine, but he forced me to get intimate with him. While we were staying in Jaipur, he raped me inside my room. He would say it's spiritual healing but I was not comfortable," alleged a 27-year-old UK-based woman about Rupak Chatterjee (37), who allegedly posed as a businessman and NGO owner.

On October 1, Chatterjee was arrested from a Mumbai hotel after three women, all foreign nationals, alleged he had raped them.

Two FIRs were registered in Jaipur South and West district, and one FIR at Karol Bagh police station. The UK national is one of the three women who filed FIRs against Chatterjee. While she is in Delhi, the other women are in Jaipur.

On Friday, she spoke to *The Indian Express* over the phone on the allegations against Chatterjee.

"Two years ago, I was contacted by a woman, Emily, a UK national, on Facebook. She claimed to be in India, and spoke highly of Chatterjee and his work for acid attack survivors," said the woman. When she met Chatterjee in Rishikesh, she realised he was pretending to be Emily on Facebook and was using the profile to contact foreign travellers, she claimed.

She claimed Chatterjee roped her in for a project on acid attack survivors in Rajasthan in August. "I was raped inside a hotel in Jaipur, and since I didn't know anyone,

I contacted two other women from the Netherlands and UK, who I met in Rishikesh... We all met in Jaipur and tried to confront Chatterjee but he fled. I was shocked to know the women too claimed they had been raped by him," claimed the UK national.

The women came to Delhi in September and filed a complaint at a police station. Since two of them alleged the incidents took place in Jaipur, their complaints were transferred to Jaipur Police.

Jaipur Police said the accused is involved in multiple cases of cheating and sexual assault. Pradeep Mohan Sharma, DCP (West Jaipur), said, "The accused has cheated a lot of women. He told them he sold ethnic products. We found there are other cases registered against him in Jaipur and Delhi."

In 2015, a few women created a Facebook group, which now has 150 members, where they shared their allegations against Chatterjee, how he called himself "Vishnu" and "Karma", and targeted foreign nationals coming to India.

The accused was running several groups on Facebook such as Varkala digital backpackers, Crafts without Borders and Sristi Shala. He also has a YouTube channel wherein he posts videos promoting his projects with local communities and orphans.

A senior Delhi Police officer said, "The accused has refuted rape allegations. He said he is a graduate from Kolkata and runs an NGO. It has come up in the probe that he is involved in several such incidents. We are looking into the rape case for now."

**IN SOME AREAS, PM CONCENTRATION 7 TIMES ABOVE ACCEPTABLE LIMIT**

## Stubble burning, calm winds push capital's AQI to 'very poor', no respite over weekend

**SHIVAM PATEL**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

DELHI'S AIR quality slipped to the 'very poor' category, with a 24-hour average AQI reading of 366 as per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), for the second time this season. Parts of the city also saw air quality turn 'severe'. AQI of neighbouring NCR towns was also 'very poor' — 344 at Ghaziabad, 369 at Noida, 334 at Gurgaon and 360 at Faridabad.

As per government agencies, calm surface level winds — wind speed below 3 kmph — around Delhi and an increase in share of pollutants from stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana was behind the dip in air quality. A report from the Centre's System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research said share of PM 2.5 pollutants from stubble burning in Delhi's air was 17% Friday, higher than Thursday's 8%.



By 2 pm, 8 out of 36 monitoring stations in Delhi saw AQI in the 'severe' category. *Amit Mehra*

Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA) member Sunita Narain said, "Our recommendation is that we must ensure enforcement on ground to check all

polluting sources. We are also reiterating advice given to be safe from Covid — go out when absolutely necessary, wear masks."

Light winds and stagnant meteorological conditions will continue till Monday and air quality over Delhi-NCR is likely to remain 'very poor' over the weekend, as per the Ministry of Earth Sciences' Air Quality Early Warning System (EWS) for Delhi. "Large increase in

fire points was observed over Punjab, Haryana, UP, which are likely to impact air quality of Delhi-NCR," it said.

Data from Haryana State Pollution Control Board showed 101 fire counts Friday, while data from the Punjab Remote Sensing Centre showed 1,341 fire counts Thursday. Haryana and Punjab have recorded 3,470 and 10,775 fire counts so far.

A Delhi government official said mixing depth over the city — vertical height available for dispersion of pollutants — reduced significantly Thursday onwards due to cloud cover: "Mixing depth increases in sunlight and there is dispersion of pollutants... Wind speed is around 1 kmph (as of 6 pm), which is very low to help disperse pollutants."

As of 2 pm Friday, 8 out of 36 monitoring stations in Delhi were in the 'severe' category (AQI above 400) including Anand Vihar, Mundka, Wazirpur and Alipur,

while others were in 'very poor' range, except Lodhi Road which was 'poor'. By 5 pm, the number of 'severe' stations was four.

In some parts, concentration of particulate matter pollutants reached nearly seven times their acceptable limit, data from DPCC shows. Concentration of PM 10 peaked at 719 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at East Delhi's Anand Vihar at 9 am and at 915 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in North Delhi's Alipur, against the 24-hour acceptable limit of 100 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. PM 2.5 levels in West Delhi's Mundka peaked at 523 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and at 350 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in India Gate at 10 am, against the 24-hour acceptable limit of 60 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

Environment minister Gopal Rai said DPCC is closely monitoring 13 air pollution hotspots. He added that a campaign to encourage people to turn off their vehicles at traffic signals to reduce vehicular pollution would begin at all 70 assembly constituencies from October 26.

Durga Puja - 2020 : Guidelines for Idol Immersion

# THIS YEAR IMMERSE IDOL OF MAA DURGA ONLY AT HOME

In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, immersion of Maa Durga's Idol in Yamuna River, water bodies or any artificial ponds is strictly prohibited

Delhi Pollution Control Committee's directions on idol immersion for Durga Puja 2020 are available at [www.dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in](http://www.dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in)



Immerse Maa Durga's idols at home



Idols should be made of traditional clay and painted with natural colours



Do not immerse idol in River Yamuna, water bodies or artificial ponds etc.



Do not throw worship material like flowers in River Yamuna, water bodies or artificial ponds etc.

### DOs

- Use only eco-friendly pooja samagri/ natural flowers etc. in prayers
- Use only natural colours for painting idols

### DON'Ts

- Do not use idols made of Plaster of Paris (PoP) / baked clay and toxic / chemical colours
- Do not use thermocol or plastic in decorations.

**Note:** Violations of directions issued under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 are punishable under section 15 of the said act, which include imprisonment upto 5 years and/or with fine which may be extended upto to ₹ 1 Lakh or with both

**"Wish you a very happy Durga Puja ! Stay Healthy, Stay Safe"**

**-Arvind Kejriwal**  
Chief Minister of Delhi

## Daily Covid cases cross 4k mark after a month

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

ON FRIDAY, Delhi recorded 4,086 new coronavirus cases, the highest single-day spike in 34 days, while the death toll rose to 6,189 with 26 new deaths. The positivity rate also rose to 6.98%, after remaining low for the last few weeks.

Total cases in the city are now at 3,48,404. A total of 58,568 tests were conducted - 16,874 RT-PCR and 41,694 rapid antigen tests - in a day.

The previous highest single-day spike — 4,071 — was recorded on September 19. Since then, fresh cases were reported below the 4,000-mark until Friday.

The death rate, based on the last 10 days, however, dropped below 1% and was recorded at 0.89% on Friday. With festivals around the corner, experts have warned of a

spike in the number of daily cases. The high-level expert committee formed by the Home Ministry to assess the Covid-19 situation in Delhi and suggest ways to control it, in its recent report to the Delhi government, had said the city may see 15,000 cases per day with the change in weather and upcoming festivals.

Health Minister Satyendar Jain had also requested people to follow social distancing rules and wear masks to ensure there is no spike. "The situation in Delhi has improved over the last one month. I still request people to follow social distancing and wear masks and not take the disease lightly, especially during the festive season," he said.

At the moment, there are 15,739 beds earmarked for Covid patients in the hospitals, of which 10,557 are vacant. Of the 26,001 active cases in the city, 15,483 are under home isolation.

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BRIEFLY

Take decision on banning firecrackers: HC to govt

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Friday directed the Delhi government and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to treat a petition seeking fresh orders at the earliest regarding putting a strict ban on bursting of fire-crackers and effigies, as a representation and take a decision in accordance with the law and the directions passed by the Supreme Court.

Affluent colonies seek regularisation

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Friday issued a notice in a petition challenging the decision to exclude colonies such as Sainik Farms and Sainik Farms Western Avenue from regularisation under the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Recognition of Property Rights of Residents in Unauthorised Colonies) Act, 2019 and the regulations framed under the law. The petition filed by the residents contends that they have been arbitrarily and illegally denied the benefits by identifying them as Affluent Unauthorised Colonies.

Student jumps from 9th floor, dies

Noida: A college student committed suicide allegedly after an argument with her parents. Police said the victim jumped from the 9th floor of a residential society in Greater Noida. **ENS**

CM LAYS FOUNDATION STONE

1,500 more beds at Lok Nayak by 2023, to be biggest in city

ASTHA SAXENA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

WITH PLANS afoot for a new block having 1,500 beds and state-of-the-art indoor facilities for patients, the Delhi government-run Lok Nayak hospital will soon be Delhi's biggest medical facility and one of the largest in the country. On Friday, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal laid the foundation stone for construction of the 25-storey block. "With the new state-of-the-art block having 25 floors, fully air-conditioned with modular OTs and other facilities, the bed strength of the hospital will grow to 3,500. An additional block coming up will have 300 more beds. So, with a total of 3,800 beds, the hospital will be one of the biggest facilities in the country," he said. Located in Central Delhi, Lok Nayak, now a Covid-only facility,



CM Arvind Kejriwal with Health minister Satyendar Jain (L) and MLA Shoaib Iqbal at the foundation stone laying ceremony at Lok Nayak hospital on Friday. Prem Nath Pandey

has 2,000 beds. The new block will be completed by April 2023. Now, AIIMS, with a capacity of around 2,500 beds, is the largest medical facility in a government setup. Calling it a "world-class facility", Kejriwal said the new 1,500-bed block will be built at a cost of Rs 450 crore, with a per bed cost of Rs 30 lakh. "This is lesser than similar projects done by the Centre or any state government, where the average cost turns out to be Rs 1.25 crore to Rs 1.5 crore per bed. We will save money and use it for the public," he said. The new block will have a

medical section, maternity ward, advanced paediatric department, advanced lab facility and an advanced molecular lab. "Today marks the beginning of a healthcare revolution in the city... With 25 floors and best healthcare available under one roof, this will be an inspiration to all," said Health Minister Satyendar Jain. Expanding on the facilities, Lok Nayak medical director Dr Suresh Kumar said, "There will be two ICUs each for neonatal, paediatric, emergency and gynecology. We will be setting up a research lab in the building and a separate radiological and investigation lab. It will also have a hi-tech advanced teaching room with audio-video facility for our MD and MS students. One floor of the building will house offices and rest will have indoor wards." Established in 1936, the hospital started off with 350 beds.

Subsidies for e-vehicles to be disbursed in 3 days

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

SUBSIDIES AND incentives for buying electric vehicles in the city will be disbursed to applicants within three days. The entire process will be online and vehicle dealers will help buyers with the paperwork and application process, Delhi transport minister Kailash Gahlot has said. Under the Electric Vehicle policy, the Delhi government will give an incentive of up to Rs 30,000 for two-wheelers, autos, e-rickshaws and goods carriers, while a subsidy of up to Rs 1.5 lakh will be provided for purchase of electric cars. Vehicles priced up to Rs 15 lakh will be eligible for both the purchase incentive and exemption in road tax and registration fee; vehicles priced above Rs 15 lakh will not get the incentives. The government has approved over 100 Electric Vehicle models which will be eligible for subsidy, and 36 manufactures have registered with it. The gov-

The process

Customer buys the EV and gives all details necessary (sales invoice, Aadhaar, a copy of cancelled cheque) to the EV dealer to get the incentive. EV dealers will login to [ev.delhi.gov.in](http://ev.delhi.gov.in) and file claims. The entire approval and disbursement process is online, paperless and will be completed within 3 days.

ernment has also registered 98 dealers so far. The approved models include 12 four-wheelers, 14 two-wheelers, and 45 makes of e-rickshaws, among others. Gahlot has launched the website [ev.delhi.gov.in](http://ev.delhi.gov.in), which has details of the approved models, dealers, subsidy disbursement process as well as the network of 70 charging stations across the city. The Delhi government passed the EV Policy in August and has since waived road tax and registration fee for these vehicles. It is

part of the state's long-term action plan to reduce air pollution. "We have ensured that the buyer is well-informed about the progress and status of her/his claim application — they would be getting information through regular SMS updates. The transport department too will have a dashboard to track how many applications have been received and how many are pending for approval. Real time tracking shall be facilitated," Gahlot. Jasmine Shah, vice chairperson of Dialogue and Development Commission, said Delhi has the lowest EV high tension charging rates. "EV tariff charges are Rs 4.5 per unit for low tension and Rs 5 per unit for high tension charging (plus charges depending on the facility)... we have the best charging facilities," he said. The subsidy will be applicable from August 7, 2020. Road tax and registration fee exemptions will be applicable from October 10 and 15, when the respective notifications were issued, Gahlot said.

Cop kidnapped by bus staff, beaten, dumped at Firozabad

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

A CONSTABLE was allegedly kidnapped and beaten up by the driver of a private bus and its staffers after he stopped them near Kashmere Gate Wednesday night. Police have detained the bus owner and his son in connection with the case. Constable Sachin, posted at Kashmere Gate police station, was on patrol duty when he spotted a bus and heard a woman screaming from inside around 11 pm. DCP (North) Anto Alphonse said: "He rushed to the bus and asked the driver to stop. Two staff members stepped out and began arguing with him. Sachin told us he suspected something and

boarded the bus to check, but the attendants and driver held him." Police said the attendants beat up Sachin, drove with him to UP's Firozabad and dumped him there. They took away his phones, e-beat book, service pistol and wallet, said police. Passengers in the bus reportedly objected but the driver and staffers threatened them. A case has been filed under IPC sections 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of his duty), 353 (assault to deter public servant), 365 (kidnapping), 392 (robbery) and 397 (robbery with the attempt to cause death or grievous hurt) on a complaint by a sub-inspector from Kashmere Gate police station, who said he received a call from Sachin around 4 am Thursday. "They got him down near Mathura, tore his uniform and dragged him by his feet... and threw him from the bus in Makhanpur, Firozabad," said the complainant. Sachin was brought to Delhi and admitted to a hospital. During investigation, police found the bus was operated by a man called Rajeev Chaurasia and his son Ankit. The bus was traced to Madhya Pradesh's Bhind. A raid was conducted at Chaurasia's house in Bhind and he and his son were detained. Police have recovered the service pistol and e-beat book from their house. A senior officer said, "Ankit was in the bus. He was speaking to his father over the phone on where to take the vehicle." Investigation is on to look for Ankit's associates, police said.

5 Hindu Rao doctors begin hunger strike for salaries; MCD, govt blame each other

ANANYA TIWARI  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

DEMANDING THEIR pending salaries and a fixed payment date every month, five doctors of the North-MCD run Hindu Rao Hospital began a hunger strike at the premises Friday. Dr Siddharth Taara (32), a Diplomat of National Board (DNB) student and one among the five, said, "We want two things — our salaries be paid, and since the irregular payment of salaries has always been a problem, a date be fixed when salaries will be credited every month. We don't care about the politics behind this." Others on the hunger strike include Dr Manish Choudhary (25),



Doctors at Hindu Rao hospital protesting on Friday. Amit Mehra

Dr Nilachakra Sahu (29), Dr Tejas Chaudhari (26), all DNB students, and resident doctor Mayur (24). On Thursday, resident doctors of Hindu Rao and Kasturba Gandhi hospitals held a protest

at Jantar Mantar over non-payment of salaries for over three months. Hindu Rao RDA president Abhimanyu Sardana said, "We want written assurance of a date when we will be paid."

Meanwhile, Delhi BJP chief Adesh Gupta and North MCD Mayor Jai Prakash at a press conference alleged the Delhi government hasn't been releasing funds. "The Delhi government had assured support when Hindu Rao became a Covid hospital. They owe MCDs funds worth around Rs 13,000 crore. They owe North MCD Rs 2,090.52 crore and have given only Rs 612.02 crore," claimed Gupta. Prakash added, "We will take to the streets to fight for this issue." Reacting to the claims, senior AAP leader and MCD in-charge Durgesh Pathak said: "The BJP is running away from their responsibility. If BJP cannot run the MCD, it should resign immediately. AAP will run it on the same budget."

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Noida

The Economic Nerve Centre of UP

Noida and Greater Noida are the next economic growth centres

The upcoming Jewar International Airport and Film City will certainly have a major economic multiplier effect on the local economy, especially with regard to luxury real estate, commercial real estate and residential real estate markets

If the claim that "all roads lead to Rome" was the key indicator of Rome's economic greatness in ancient times, a modern city's equivalent claim would have to be "all airlines land here." Just as in the past shipping, railway and then highway systems have played vital roles in determining a city's economic power, air transportation systems do so in the future for cities, regions and countries. To become an international hub, a city must first have an international airport, the right geographic location and a highly developed infrastructure to handle passengers and freight. The cities of Noida and Greater Noida fit this description very well, as the upcoming Jewar International Airport on Yamuna Expressway give both the cities every possibility to become well-known economic nerve centres in the future. The upcoming Jewar International Airport on the Yamuna Expressway has paved way for the requirement of infrastructure facilities like housing complexes, shopping centres, residential and business centres, hospitals and hotels. This demand is soon going to witness a huge surge in near future as the date of opening of the Airport approaches near. The phase 1 of the airport is slated to be completed by 2024. It is often seen that development of an airport in an area often leads to the development of that particular area or region. This certainly rings true with the UP Government's recent initiative for the Noida region. The Uttar Pradesh government has recently announced the construction of a 1,000-acre film city in Noida, along the Yamuna Expressway.



MANY DEVELOPERS HAVE ALREADY ACQUIRED LAND NEAR THE UPCOMING AIRPORT, AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FILM CITY IS FURTHER GOING TO BOOST THE DEMAND FOR LAND IN THE REGION

With this, the city moves ahead to be developed as the biggest entertainment hub in North India. Once completed, "the project is expected to not only revive the city's fortune but also facilitate real estate growth in terms of price and demand appreciation."

A lot of developers have already acquired land near the upcoming airport, and the announcement of the Film City is further going to boost the demand for land in the region. As opined by industry experts, "the city will emerge as one of the most robust markets for luxury real estate in the coming years as people from the entertainment industry would want to look for projects that can meet their standards and requirements. The demand for commercial real estate will also rise as several production houses will look forward to opening their satellite offices in the city." There's no doubt then the cities of Noida and Greater Noida will be the next economic nerve centres of North India. Blessed with good connectivity and its proximity to the twin cities, the Yamuna Expressway is now truly open for great investment opportunities for real estate developers and other stakeholders, given the recent developments.

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# Noida The Economic Nerve Centre of UP

## Building a city with world-class infrastructure

**How do you see the upcoming film city and the Jewar International Airport changing the face of Yamuna Expressway? What kind of changes the buyers and investors should expect in this region?**

The upcoming Film City and International Airport at Jewar would be huge drivers of growth not just for areas around Yamuna Expressway, but their positive impact would be felt strongly in the entire Noida, GNIDA & YEIDA region. Since the announcement and finalization of the Zurich International AG as Master Developer for Jewar Airport, the region is witnessing an increase in demand in all sectors, especially in sectors like industry, real estate, commercial and hospitality. With the airport, projects like MRO/ Cargo complex and aerotropolis are also likely to come up. Similarly, the film city is likely to attract production houses and editing studios in the region. Various industrial parks like MSME Park, Apparel Park, Handicraft Park and Toy Park are also proposed in the region. These parks alone are expected to bring investment worth Rs 40,000 crores and employment of around 2.5-3.0 Lakh.

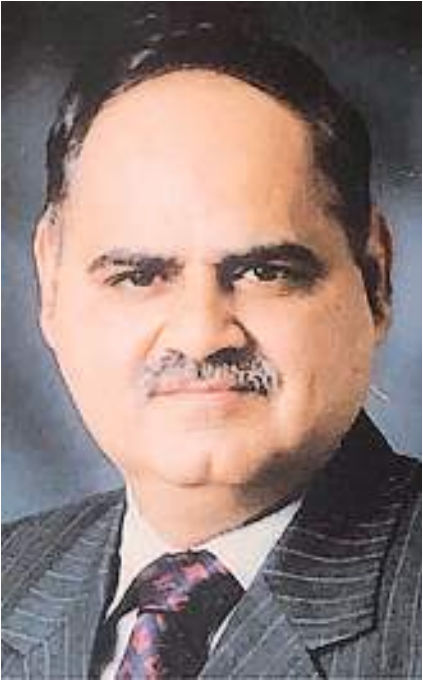
**You have set the target to complete the film city project in three years, but the experience says acquisition of land is the biggest hurdle. How you will ensure the smooth execution of this project with regards to the land acquisition process?**

There is not much requirement of additional land acquisition for Film City, as more than 500 acres land is already purchased by YEIDA, and is in process of acquiring additional balance land, which the farmers are selling to the Authority readily as the market price of the land in the region is less than the rates fixed by the Authority.

**Developers are facing unreasonable interest rates from the authorities (Noida and Greater Noida) that make it somehow unviable for them. The SC has also passed the judgement in this regard giving relief to developers. Have you implemented this order? Do you have any plans to pass the penal interest benefit to homebuyers as well?**

It may not be correct to state that developers are currently facing unreasonable interest rates from Authorities (Noida/Greater Noida). Based on discussions with Noida, GNIDA & YEIDA, decision has been taken by the

*Speaking on the recent developments in Noida and Greater Noida regions, Alok Tandon, I IDC, Government of UP, Chairman, NOIDA; Chairman, YEIDA; Chairman, Greater Noida; and Chairman, PICUP Lucknow, says, "The upcoming Film City and International Airport at Jewar would be huge economic growth drivers not just for areas around Yamuna Expressway, but their positive impact would also be felt strongly in the entire Noida, GNIDA & YEIDA region. The region is currently witnessing a surge in demand for sectors such as real estate, commercial and hospitality. Similarly, the Film City is likely to attract production houses and editing studios in the region."*



NOIDA/GNOIDA region and has positively impacted 1,00,000+ houses/flats. The primary intention of this policy was to give benefit to the home buyers.

**As an authority, how are you addressing several bottlenecks faced by real estate developers today, ranging from the issues of reduction of interest on project loans, waivers of interest on land cost dues if civic amenities are delayed, financial dues de-linked from occupancy certificate issuance, the postponement of financial dues on housing projects, a waiver in stamp duty for one year, and to the reduction of prevailing impractical circle rates (property cost at which flats or plots are sold) to boost sales, among many others.**

I would firstly like to point out that one of the main reasons why the real estate sector has seen bottlenecks in this region was that many builders, in the past, had taken up projects beyond their overall financial capacity and hence couldn't deliver the projects on time. However, the Authorities have given multiple incentives to address the lagging real estate sector in the region. Several initiatives have been taken such as interest rates have been reduced, builders have been allowed to pay land dues in easy installments, penal interest has been waived off till possession in Yamuna authority, OC is granted on the basis of land payments already made and accordingly proportionate partial completions are being issued. Circle rates have not been revised in the last 3-4 years in the District.

**How far has the NBCC been successful in its work to revive the Real Estate sector in Noida and Greater Noida?**

Regarding insolvency case of Jaypee Infratech, the case is in final stage of hearing at Hon'ble Supreme Court and we expect a verdict/ direction very soon for speedy completion of delayed Housing Projects. NCLT has already approved the Resolution Plan submitted by Consortium Participants and NBCC. There is no doubt that the involvement of NBCC in the stalled projects has brought a new positivity into the entire regional real estate sector.

**What are the various projects in Noida and Greater Noida which is currently under NBCC? By when can buyers associated with these stalled projects expect the possession of their properties?**

There are 19 projects (Amrapali) with NBCC. All of these projects are in various stages of completion. NBCC has stated that they would require from 9 to 36 months to finish construction. Work on some projects has already started, and by the end of October 2020, work is expected to start in all 19 projects. In total 43,518 flats are to be handed over to buyers. NBCC has started handing over keys to buyers since July 2020 and till the end of September, has handed over 463 flats.

**Finally, how is the work progressing on the Jewar International Airport?**

The Concession Agreement of International Airport, Jewar has been signed on 7th of October 2020. All NOCs and Clearances have already been obtained, and project is set to take off. It will take 3 years to get the airport operational.



Mahesh Gupta, Chairman Kent RO

**I WOULD** like to congratulate the Noida Authority for the recent signing of the concession agreement with the Swiss firm for the upcoming Jewar International Airport. I'm sure this new world class airport and the upcoming film city will bring in a greater economic prosperity in the Noida and Greater Noida region, as well as provide a great impetus to the other industries in the region. In times to come, I'm sure the Noida and Greater Noida region will attract new investments, especially around the Yamuna Expressway. We believe that this massive-scale development will surely boost employment generation, infrastructure development in the region and also encourage entrepreneurs to source locally to help India become international manufacturing hub and contribute to the Atmanirbhar India vision.

ADVERTORIAL

## Reaping rich dividends

**N**OIDA real estate is going through a new phase where the development is lead by the apt infrastructural support. Be it the widening of NH 24 or Jewar Airport or the announcement of Film City; these developments are ensuring that Noida keeps on scoring high on the novelty factor.

After Jewar Airport, the announcement of the Film City was the most significant one that will help real estate reap rich dividends not only for the Yamuna Expressway but for the projects falling within 30-35 km periphery. Commercial and high-end residential segment will benefit the most. Recently, Noida has started attracting HNIs, and with this development, the flow of super-rich people will increase.

The demand of plotted developments, especially after COVID-19, is increasing due to the inherent nature of these developments to help the owners follow the new norms of living that kicked-in recently. If developed by reputed developers, these colonies offer the best of amenities apart from the usual flexibility that such abodes offer. The potential of good returns in areas that are witnessing infrastructural developments is also making the buyers lap up the opportunities. We have Gaur Yamuna City, an integrated township spread over 250 acres, on the Yamuna Expressway that offers plots, apartments, retail shops, studio apartments, themed villas, and a lot more. We have four plotted development projects here out of which two—2nd Park View and 32nd Parkview -- have been completed, and two—Krishn Villas and Victorian Villas 6th Parkview -- are getting tremendous response. The scope of plotted developments here is enormous as the area has a well-planned highway with flyovers and a proposed metro that will



Manoj Gaur, Managing Director Gaur Group, Chairman, Affordable Housing Committee, CREDAI (National), Chairman PHDCCI - UP Chapter

further enhance the connectivity.

Improvement in connectivity has always lead to real estate development of a region, and the same is happening to Noida real estate. A few years back, Yamuna Expressway was the only news for the areas falling in the vicinity, and now the airport will change the whole scenario once again. All the infrastructural development taking place in and around Noida is going to help every segment of real estate, including commercial projects like malls, shopping centres, restaurants, office spaces etc. In the last couple of years, several group housing societies have been delivered in Greater Noida including those in Gaur City as well as in neighbouring Crossing Republik. We feel the region needs world-class retail and commercial projects like Gaur City Mall and Gaur World Street. The scope of commercial developments, too, is tremendous in Noida.

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# Amid power tussle in DU, Education Ministry considers removing V-C

RITIKA CHOPRA & ARANYA SHANKAR  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

DU Vice-Chancellor Yogesh Tyagi's position in the institution has become untenable after the ugly power tussle between him and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor played out publicly this week. The Ministry of Education, *The Indian Express* has learnt, is keen on the V-C's ouster and is considering several options — from a forced leave to seeking his resignation (informally) and, in the worst-case scenario, even invoking the General Clauses Act to fire him.

The General Clauses Act, 1987, can be invoked to remove a central university V-C if the varsity Act does not have a provision for removing the institution's head. Section 16 empowers the appointing authority — under any central Act or regulation — to "suspend or dismiss any person appointed". The government had fired former Visva-Bharati V-C Sushanta Dattagupta in 2016 under this provision. Tyagi could not be reached for comment.

The ministry, sources said,



DU V-C Yogesh Tyagi has been on leave since July

has made attempts in the past to build a case for Tyagi's removal. Among the occasions when this was informally discussed was when he did not heed repeated reminders for filling up faculty posts lying vacant for years, and his handling of last year's teachers' protest over reappointment of ad hoc teachers. The government had intervened to resolve the crisis. "All the V-C had to do was to clarify that the clarified ad hoc faculty can continue teaching till permanent appointments are made. But it wasn't done till the ministry forced him to," said a ministry source.

"His term is marked by inaction. It's challenging to find irregularities when you've hardly done any work in the office," said a former ministry officer on condition of anonymity. The high drama this week has given the

government a firm ground for his dismissal. "Given his health condition, we had been ignoring a lot of things, but what happened this week was embarrassing," the ministry source added.

Tyagi Wednesday had gone head to head with Pro V-CPC Joshi over appointing a new Registrar. On Thursday, the government issued a strongly-worded order snubbing Tyagi, declaring his contentious appointments to the Registrar's post as invalid.

Not backing down, PC Jha, appointed registrar by Tyagi, wrote to the Ministry. Citing the Ministry's letter Thursday, he said, "The letter has been addressed to Shri Vikas Gupta as Registrar, University of Delhi... It is informed that Professor PC Jha, in addition to his responsibilities as Director South Campus, is acting as Registrar, University of Delhi as an interim arrangement."

He also said Dr Geeta Bhatt was appointed Pro V-C in place of Prof P C Joshi and that Tyagi had taken the decisions in "due compliance with the Act, Statutes and Ordinances of Delhi University". Tyagi has been on leave since he was admitted to AIIMS on July

2 under "emergency medical condition". The government had given Joshi charge of V-C on July 17 until Tyagi resumed office.

There has been complete communication breakdown between the V-C and government since the drama erupted this week, said sources. Tyagi's term ends in five months. "A search committee is formed to suggest names for the next DU V-C, and the Executive Council gets to pick at least some of the members... It becomes important who is in the EC," said an Academic Council member. The Registrar is the EC secretary.

Teachers across political groups, despite their allegiance, agree that "inaction" is what characterises Tyagi's tenure.

A K Bhagi, from RSS-backed National Democratic Teachers' Front said, "Not just promotions and appointments but there has been no academic growth either. Administrative posts were either left vacant or the same person was appointed on multiple posts."

"He may be on official leave but for all practical purposes, he has been on leave since the beginning," said EC member Rajesh Jha.

## GRANTS BAIL

# No offence under UAPA made out against riot accused: HC

Accused first to get bail on merits after anti-terror law added to FIR

SOFIA AHSAN  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

THE DELHI High Court on Friday granted bail to an accused in the case registered by Delhi Police for "larger conspiracy" behind the Northeast Delhi violence, saying the investigating agency's own record against him does not disclose the commission of offences under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

Accused Faizan Khan, a SIM card provider, is the first to get bail on merits in the matter after stringent provisions of the anti-terror law were added to the FIR under investigation of Delhi Police's Special Cell.

He is accused of providing a SIM card on a fake ID to co-accused and Jamia Millia Islamia student Asif Iqbal Tanha and activating it. The SIM card was allegedly used by Jamia Coordination Committee, a group which the police say organised the protests against the enactment of Citizenship (Amendment Act), 2019.

Observing that there is also no allegation that he engaged in any form of terror funding or any such activity, Justice Suresh Kumar Kait in the order said it is not alleged that he was privy to or part of organising protests against the CAA. The case of the investigating agency is that the SIM card was provided on the allurements of extra money, the



The accused allegedly provided a SIM card on a fake ID

court said.

However, it added that for invoking the provisions of UAPA against Khan, it is the duty of the investigating agency to show he had "actual knowledge" that the SIM card would be used for organising the protests.

The court also said there was no proof such as CCTV footage, video or Khan's chats with any of the groups and the only allegation is that he provided a SIM on fake ID in December 2019 against a "small amount" of Rs 200.

"It was imperative for the investigation agency to demonstrate that the petitioner had 'active knowledge' about the utilisation of the said SIM card. It is not alleged that the petitioner was party to any such conspiracy to organise protests," the

court said further.

Police filed a chargesheet in the case last month against 15 accused for "larger conspiracy" behind the Northeast Delhi violence. Former municipal councillor Tahir Hussain, former JNU student Umar Khalid, Pinjra Tod's Devangana Kalita and Natasha Narwal and Tanha have also been arrested in the case, among others.

Student activist Safoora Zargar is the only one to have been granted bail in the case but on humanitarian grounds. Three other accused have also been granted bail in the case, prior to the invocation of UAPA.

Additional Solicitor General S V Raju had earlier argued before the court that Khan had "deliberately" issued the SIM card and was "well aware about

the conspiracy of riots" since inception.

Senior Advocate Salman Khurshid, who represented Khan, had argued the UAPA provisions have been wrongly invoked against the accused.

Justice Kait said the transaction relating to the SIM card had allegedly taken place in December 2019 whereas the violence erupted around February 23-24 in 2020. "There is no proximate nexus between the afore-said alleged incidents nor is it alleged that the SIM card was provided, on the pretext or with the intention/objective, to be utilised for organising protests, etc," the court said, adding the investigating agency's case is not that he was part of any WhatsApp groups which were allegedly used to coordinate the protests.

While granting bail to Khan, the court also took note that he had fully cooperated with the probe. Justice Kait said the "onerous conditions/embargo under section 43D (5) of the UAPA, 1967" will not be applicable in the case against Khan as the investigating agency's status report did not disclose the commission of offences under UAPA, 1967. Section 43D (5) of the UAPA states that an accused shall not be released on bail if the court is of the opinion that "there are reasonable grounds for believing the accusation against such person is prima facie true".

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**SALE PROCLAMATION**

**R. C. No. 200/2015**  
**EDELWEISS ASSET RECONSTRUCTION CO. LTD.**  
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CD# 1:- M/s Rana Heavy Engineering Ltd. Having registered office and work at:- 7th Kms, Meerut Road, Muzaffar Nagar-2510032, U.P. Through its Director, Shri Zakir Ali Rana  
CD# 2:- Sh. Saddam Rana, Director,  
CD# 4:- Shri Zakir Ali Rana, S/o Late Smt. Amna Begum, Director,  
CD# 6 Smt. Amna Begum, Since deceased, who stood as personal Guarantee for loan facility provided to M/s Rana Heavy Engineering Ltd. And Represented by following legal heirs- (I) Shri Haji Kamrujjan Rana, S/o Late Smt. Amna Begum, (II) Shri Qadir Rana, S/o Late Smt. Amna Begum (iii) Smt. Noorshahar Rana, S/o Late Smt. Amna Begum, (iv) Shri Noorsaleem Rana, S/o Late Smt. Amna Begum, (v) Smt. Noorkamar Rana, D/o Late Smt. Amna Begum  
All R/o House No. 786/3, New Rana House, Meerut Road, Muzaffar Nagar-251003, U.P.  
Whereas as Per Recovery Certificate No.200/2015 Dated 01.05.2015 Drawn by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Delhi mentioning a sum of **Rs.40,42,72,317/- (Rs. Forty Core Forty Two Lacs Seventy Two Thousand Three Hundred And Seventeen Only)**, CDs are to pay the Amount of **Rs.40,41,22,317/- (Rs. Forty Core Forty One Lacs Twenty Two Thousand Three Hundred And Seventeen Only)** with simple interest @ 17.75% per annum from 03.03.2013 onwards until recovery with cost of Rs. 1,50,000/- from the Certificate Debtors (CDs) # 1 to 6 jointly and/or severally. The liability of LR of CD#6 shall be restricted to the extent of the property inherited by them from CD#6.  
2. And whereas the undersigned has ordered the sale of property mentioned in the Schedule below in satisfaction of the said Recovery Certificate.  
3. Notice is hereby given that in absence of any order of postponement, the said property shall be sold by **e-auction and bidding shall take place through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website https://drt.auctiontiger.net on 27.11.2020 between 03.00 p.m. to 04.00 p.m.** with extensions of 5 minutes duration after 12.00 noon, if required.  
4. The sale shall be of the property of the CD(s) above-named as mentioned in the schedule below and the liabilities and claims attaching to the said property, so far as they have been ascertained, are those specified in the schedule against each lot.  
5. The property shall be put up for the sale as specified in the schedule. If the amount to be realized by sale is satisfied by the sale of a portion of the property, the sale shall be immediately stopped with respect to the remainder. The sale will also be stopped if, before auction is knocked down, the arrears mentioned in the said certificate, interest costs (including cost of the sale) are tendered to the officer conducting the sale or proof is given to his satisfaction that the amount of such certificate, interest and costs have been paid to the undersigned.  
6. No officer or other person, having any duty to perform in connection with sale, however, either directly or indirectly bid for, acquire or attempt to acquire any interest in the property sold.  
7. The sale shall be subject to the conditions prescribed in the Second Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961 and the rules made thereunder and to the following further conditions:-  
7.1 The particulars specified in the annexed schedule have been stated to the best of the information of the under signed, but the undersigned shall not be answerable for any error, mis-statement or omission in this proclamation.  
7.2 **The Reserve Price of the properties mentioned at Serial Nos. (i) to (xix) in the above list is Rs. 9.00 crores (Rupees Nine Crores Only) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): Rs.90,00,000/- (Rupees Ninety Lacs Only)**  
**The Reserve Price of the properties mentioned at Serial Nos. (xx) in the above list is Rs. 1.58 Crores (Rupees One Crores and Fifty Eight Lacs Only) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): Rs.15,80,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Lacs and Eighty Thousand Only)**  
**The Reserve Price of the properties mentioned at Serial Nos. (xxi) in the above list is Rs. 26,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Six Lacs Only) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): Rs.2,60,000/- (Rupees Two Lacs Sixty Thousand Only)**  
**The Reserve Price of the properties mentioned at Serial Nos. (xxii) in the above list is Rs. 50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lacs Only) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): Rs.5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lacs Only)**  
7.3 The interested bidders, who have submitted their bids not below the reserve price, alongwith documents including PAN Card, identity proof, address proof, etc., latest by **25.11.2020 before 4.00 PM** in the Office of the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, shall be eligible to participate in the e-auction to be held from **03.00 PM TO 04.00 PM on 27.11.2020**. In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes.  
7.4 **The bidder(s) shall improve their offer in multiples of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lac Only).**  
7.5 The unsuccessful bidder shall take the EMD directly from the **Office of Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi/CH, E., Edelweiss Assets Reconstruction Company, immediately on closure of the e-auction sale proceedings.**  
7.6 The Successful / highest bidder shall have to prepare Demand Draft/ Pay Order for 25% of the bid/sale amount favoring Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, A/c **R.C. No. 200/2015 by next bank working day before 04.00 PM** with this Tribunal.  
7.7 The successful/highest bidder shall deposit, through Demand Draft / Pay Order favoring Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi, A/c **R.C. No. 200/2015**, the balance 75% of the sale proceeds before the Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi on or before 15th day from the date of auction of the property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day be Sunday or other holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day alongwith the poundage fee @ 2% upto Rs. 1,000 and @ 1% on the excess of such gross amount over Rs. 1000/- in favour of Registrar, DRT-II, Delhi. (In case of deposit of balance amount of 75% through post the same should reach the Recovery Officer as above).  
7.8 In case of default of payment within the prescribed period, the property shall be re-sold, after the issue of fresh proclamation of sale. The deposit, after defraying the expenses of the sale, may, if the undersigned thinks fit, be forfeited to the Government and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claims to the property or to any part of the sum for which it may subsequently be sold.  
8. The property is being sold on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"**.  
9. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids if found unreasonable or postpone the auction at any time without assigning any reason.

**SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY**

Lot No.	Description of the property to be sold	Revenue assessed upon the property or any part thereof	Details of any other encumbrance to which the property is liable	Claims, if any, which have been put forward to the property, and any other known particulars bearing on its nature and value
1.	i. Plot on part of Khasra Nos. 58, 65 and 69 situated in Village Nara, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP vide Sale Deed No. 7253 dated 17.06.2010, admeasuring 5085.00 sq. mtrs. ii. Plot on part of Khasra No. 1837 M situated in village Mauja Jaroda, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP vide Sale Deed No. 7484 dated 15.06.2010 admeasuring 111.22 sq. mtrs. standing in name of M/s Rana Heavy Engineering Ltd. iii. Plot on part of Khasra No. 1832 situated in Village Jaroda, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, Vide Sale Deed No. 8598 dated 15.07.2010 admeasuring 171.65 sq. mtrs. iv. Plot on part of Khasra No. 72/2 situated in Village Nara, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, Vide Sale Deed No. 2895 dated 16.07.2007 admeasuring 305.55 sq. mtrs. v. Plot on part of Khasra No. 58, 65 and 69 situated in Village Nara, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 7249 dated 15.06.2010 admeasuring 127.00 sq. mtrs. vi. Plot on part of Khasra No. 72/2 situated in Village Nara, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 2896 dated 15.03.2007 admeasuring 127.90 sq. mtrs. vii. Plot on part of Khasra No. 1837 M situated in Village Jaroda, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 18 dated 01.01.2008 admeasuring 329.76 sq. mtrs. viii. Plot on part of Khasra No. 72/2 situated in Village Nara, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 2925 dated 19.03.2007 admeasuring 175.45 sq. mtrs. ix. Plot on part of Khasra Nos. 52 and 57 situated in Village Nara, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 15987 dated 27.12.2008 admeasuring 404.11 sq. mtrs.. x. Plot on part of Khasra No. 1832 situated in Village Jaroda, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 8597 dated 15.07.2010 admeasuring 81.28 sq. mtrs. xi. Plot on part of Khasra Nos. 58, 65 and 69 situated in Village Nara, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 7248 dated 17.06.2010 admeasuring 2542.50 sq. mtrs. xii. Plot on part of Khasra No. 1830 situated in village Jaroda, District. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 2476 dated 8.3.2002 admeasuring 13,390.00 sq. mtrs. xiii. Plot on part of Khasra No. 1829 situated in village Jaroda, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 7557 dated 8.8.2002 admeasuring 4350.00 sq. mtrs. xiv. Plot on part of Khasra Nos. 58, 65 and 69 situated in Village Nara, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 4980 dated 15.05.2006 admeasuring 10,170.00 sq. mtrs. xv. Plot on part of Khasra No. 1834 situated in Village Jaroda, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 7220 dated 29.06.2006 admeasuring 7740.00 sq. mtrs. standing in name of M/s Rana Heavy Engineering Ltd. xvi. Plot on part of Khasra No. 56 situated in Village Nara, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 7518 dated 5.08.2002 admeasuring 670.00 sq. mtrs. xvii. Plot on part of Khasra No. 72/2 situated in Village Nara, Distt. Mizaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 7533 dated 18.08.2005 admeasuring 3610.00 sq. mtrs. xviii. Plot on Khasra No. 71, situated in Village Nara, District Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 10198 dated 15.12.2005 admeasuring 11,470.00 sq. mtrs. xix. Plot on part of Khasra No. 1832 situated in Village, Jaroda, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 5869 dated 07.05.2007 admeasuring 4,645.00 sq. mtrs.	Not Known	Not Known	Not Known
2.	xx. Plot on part of Khasra No. 1201/21 situated in Village Nara, Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 4789 dated 16.07.1997 admeasuring 14,840.00 sq. mtrs.			
3.	xxi. Plot on part of 4, Khasra Nos. 52 and 57 situated in Village Nara, UP Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 7558 dated 08.08.2002, admeasuring 2,480.00 sq. mtrs.	Not Known	Not Known	Not Known
4.	xxii. Plot on part of Khasra Nos. 1061/5, 1117, 951 and 1061/3 situated in Village Sandhawali, Tehsil & Distt. Muzaffar Nagar, UP, vide Sale Deed No. 6939 dated 11.07.2002 admeasuring 27,460.00 sq. mtrs	Not Known	Not Known	Not Known

Given under my hand and seal on 08.10.2020

Sd/-  
(Dattatreya Bajpayee)  
Recovery Officer-II  
DRT-II, Delhi

## Court directs Tihar to ensure Khalid allowed time outside cell

ANAND MOHAN J  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

A DELHI court while directing Tihar jail authorities to ensure former JNU student Umar Khalid is allowed adequate time out of his jail cell, following allegations that he was kept in solitary confinement, observed that the reply filed by authorities on Khalid's prison conditions was "bizarre".

Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat made the observations while going through the reply filed by jail superintendent Avadeshwar Kant, who was summoned to explain Khalid's allegations. Khalid claimed he was not allowed outside his jail cell and on one occasion, he was allowed outside for 10 minutes.

Furthermore, the court also extended Khalid and JNU student Sharjeel Imam's judicial custody till November 20. Imam and Khalid's lawyers told the court that the application for extension of judicial custody had identical portions lifted from previous police custody applications, carrying even "same spelling mistakes". They submitted that police was moving applications "without any new grounds or application of their mind".

In their three-page reply, Tihar authorities stated Khalid had been provided facility for



The court termed Tihar's reply on Khalid's jail conditions as 'bizarre'

legal interviews, phone call with his parents, books from the jail library and outside, clothes, headphones to be used during legal interview, and daily newspapers.

However, one reply which caught the court's attention read, "The cell where the inmate is being kept is located at such a place from where more than half of the ward movement is visible."

ASJ Rawat told Kant, "...I am quite amazed by para number 6. What is the purpose of this?... It's a very strange and bizarre reply to say." Kant replied, "From inside, he (Khalid) can also see others so that he doesn't get bored. He can see others walking around."

Khalid's lawyer Trideep Pais also told the court, "Is he a zoo animal on display? That others can see him and he can see others when he is locked up? Why this discrimination?"

## Devotees not allowed at puja pandals, bhog makes the journey to their homes

ASHNA BUTANI  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

LIKE EVERY year, a team of cooks prepare *bhog* in a firepit in a temporary shed behind the Kali Mandir in Chittaranjan Park during Durga Puja. But for the first time, this year, *bhog* is not served to thousands of people seated inside the pandal, but personally delivered by e-rickshaws — the designated 'bhog delivery vans'.

On Saptami morning, the aroma of pulao and shahi paneer filled up the shed. Cook Sushant Dev Sharma (41), who heads a team of six, said the preparations are the same as every year. "But this time, it is not directly served. We send it a room where the *bhog* is first packed," he said.

Three workers, who waited outside the shed with trolleys, carried the cooked dishes to the Vivekananda Centenary Library, inside the temple premises, where the food is then packed in metal tiffin containers having



Kali Mandir society has bought 2,000 tiffin boxes. Abhinav Saha

separate compartments for pulao, paneer, kheer, dal, and chutney. The packing started at 8 am.

Sreebhash Bhattacharjee, Secretary, Kali Mandir Society, said, "Since we are not allowing people to enter the premises, we decided to send the *bhog* to their homes. People register on our website and give us their address so that we can get them delivered. Today, there are 850 deliveries."

The cost of *bhog* has also gone up — from Rs 1,200 last year to Rs 1,500 now. Bhattacharjee attributed this to cost of the tiffin boxes. The society has purchased 2,000 tiffin boxes from a company in Mumbai.

Around 30 e-rickshaws were lined up inside the mandir, each with a capacity to carry 25 tiffins.

Organisers said that most of the deliveries are to nearby areas.

## HC stays order to pay salaries from student fund

*New Delhi:* Delhi High Court has stayed the state government's order to 12 Delhi University colleges to pay staff salaries staffers from the Students Society Fund.

These 12 colleges are fully funded by the Delhi government and staff members have not been paid for several months. Justice Navin Chawla passed the order on a plea by Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) which said funds meant for students can only be used for student welfare.

"The State government should pay money from its own pocket, rather than from students' funds," Justice Chawla observed, placing a stay on the operation of the October 16 order.

The 12 colleges have been unable to pay salaries to their staff and have attributed this to the government not releasing requisite funds. The government, however, began a special audit in six colleges and accused them of misappropriating funds, stating the colleges have funds in their student society accounts and that it should be used to pay salaries.

On October 16, the government issued an order instructing colleges to release all outstanding staff salaries from student society funds within two weeks. The DU Principals' Association, however, called the order "irrational, arbitrary and illegal". **ENS**

However, some people, who stay far away, will come and pick it up from a nearby market place.

Prasad (52), an e-rickshaw driver, said he did many deliveries on Sashti too. "A boy with a list of names and addresses accompanies me... Yesterday, we delivered around 20 and came back with four since nobody opened the door in a few houses," he said.

Meanwhile, at the temple gates, many who hoped to enter and have the *bhog* inside like before, were left disappointed.

Jayanti Ganguli (72), who came from Patparganj, said, "Nobody informed us that the temple gates are shut. I did not know about the *bhog* registration either. This is the first time in years that I will not be able to pray to the Goddess..."

However, Rumi Mitra (48), a resident of CR Park received the *bhog* with a smile. She said, "Covid situation has given us all a reason to introspect and worship from home. Maybe Maa wanted us to celebrate this way for a change."





## PHULWARI

# Once Nitish bastion, women ask tough questions: govt distanced from poor

Women loyalists of the CM are turning away, battered by lockdown, angry at prohibition's failed promise

DIPANKAR GHOSE

PHULWARI SHARIF, OCTOBER 23

"LOOK," SHE says angrily. Mamta Devi's right arm is outstretched, her fingers balled into a fist. Just above the two bangles on her wrist are two bruises — left by her drunk husband as she came between him and their two young children. "Show these wounds to anyone who claims there is prohibition in Bihar," says the 32-year-old.

Over 15 years and three electoral victories, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has counted on women voters, who have stood by him for his schemes, including cycles for girl students, the expansion of women self-help groups under the Jeevika programme, reservation of 50% of seats for women at the panchayat level, and of course, the prohibition law, introduced in April 2016.

Come 2020, this support is showing signs of fracture, under the blows of a parallel alcohol economy and the economic distress left by the lockdown.

Mamta Devi's opinion of her husband is unequivocal: "He is a useless drunk... He is a daily wage earner but did very little work even earlier." The house runs on the money she makes selling onions and garlic at the Mithapur mandi, around Rs 100 a day.

Out of that, her husband spends some on his daily drink. "Despite prohibition, alcohol is available everywhere. When I tell him to stop, he beats me," Mamta says. "Alcohol is sold not just in shops now. What sold for Rs 20 sells for Rs 50... the middlemen have bought cars. *Aur ab toh home delivery hota hai* (Now liquor is even supplied at home)."



Dina, Mamta, An ita and Rekha at their Dalit basti in Phulwari Sharif. Dipankar Ghose



She and the three other women sitting with her at the Dalit *basti* in Parsa bazaar, on the outskirts of Patna, say they voted for Nitish in 2015. Shyam Rajak, the JD(U) candidate who won from the Phulwari reserved seat under which their *basti* falls, has since crossed over to the RJD.

Rekha Devi, a mother of four, says her

husband used to earn Rs 400 a day taking up house painting jobs before the lockdown — working for about half the month, spending the rest of the days passed out. For six months, from March to August, he had no work. Now, they are facing "*bhukhmari* (starvation)", Rekha says, as the others nod.

Fuming at the government for "killing the poor with the lockdown", Rekha adds, "I went begging but was mostly turned away. The children slept hungry many nights." Her biggest worry is a marriageable daughter.

Anita Devi, who has two daughters, 11 and 10, tears up recalling the lockdown. "When there is no money in the house, *sabse zyada dard maan ko hota hai* (a mother feels the most pain). I would feed them one time, the next meal they would sleep hungry."

The 33-year-old says they got no support bar 5 kg of ration, asking how is it enough.

Her children's school in Nathupur didn't give ration either in lieu of mid-day meals, though an order to this effect was issued in July, Anita says. "*Kuchh nahin mila* (We didn't get anything). Everything is eaten up by middlemen. This government has stopped working for the poor."

Butts in Rekha, "*Lalu ke samay mein gareeb ka izzat toh hota tha* (In Lalu's time, at least there was respect for the poor)." She says everything is "private" now, there are threats to cut off their electricity supply over non-payment of bills, while a promise of 3-decimal plots for the landless was never kept.

Dina Kumari says she has not been able to even access her PDS supply as someone else has been picking up the quota on her ration card, though it is linked to her Aadhaar number. "I went to meet block-level officials but they told me they couldn't do anything just now as elections were on."

One of the people Dina reached out to is Pratima Kumari Paswan, who has been working in the area on women and children's rights for many years and is fighting as an Independent from Phulwari. Paswan says she knows she has slim chances of winning, but contesting was important. "Only women understand the pain of women and children, their issues like security and self-dependence. The lockdown has made things worse. A child doesn't ask the father for food."

Which is why Mamta Devi has taken matters into her own hands. She took a loan recently at 10% interest per month — she won't say how much — to ensure that her children can continue their tuitions. "I will go hungry, will take loans, sell my jewellery," she says. "So that they can study."

## On rise, women voters outnumber men

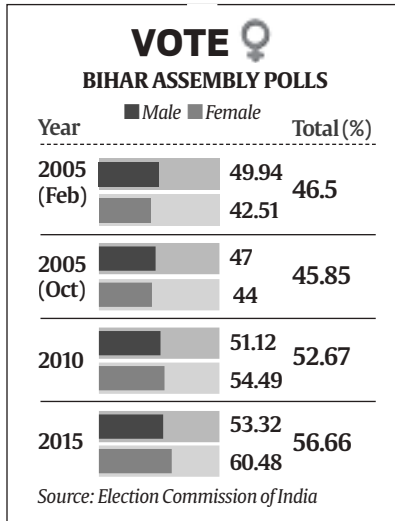
HARIKISHAN SHARMA

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

OVER THE past four Assembly elections in Bihar, women voters have seen a steady rise. In 2015, they overtook their male counterparts by a huge margin, with 60.48% of them turning out to vote compared to 53.32% men.

The turnout among women in 2015 was the highest in Bihar going as far back as 1962. In terms of overall numbers though, the total men voters (1.9 crore) was slightly more than women (1.89 crore) in 2015. The overall voter turnout that year was 56.66%.

Since Jharkhand was carved out in 2000, Bihar has seen Assembly elections in February and October in 2005, 2010 and 2015. In February 2005, an analysis of election data shows, the share of women who voted stood at 42.51% (1.04 crore in all) — showing that in the next 10 years, there was a jump of nearly 20%. In comparison, 49.94% of the men (1.40 crore) turned out to vote in



February 2005, with the needle moving barely 4% for them till 2015. The overall voter

turnout in February 2005 was 46.5%.

Due to the fragmented result in that election, Assembly polls were necessitated again in October 2005. Despite expected voter exhaustion, more women turned out to vote, at 44% (1.06 crore), compared to earlier that year, while the figure for men fell.

That election brought Nitish Kumar to power. And it is since then that the women voter numbers have seen a striking rise. The 2010 Bihar Assembly polls saw women voters jump more than 10% to 54.48% — surpassing the men at 51.12%. In the 2015 elections in which Nitish again formed government, the woman voter share crossed the 60% mark even as the men saw a slight 2% increase.

With the JD(U) leader taking several measures seen as pro-women, the trend sustained into the 2019 Lok Sabha polls. While 59.58% of the women voters (1.99 crore in all) turned out, 55% (2.08 crore) of the men did.

The overall voting percentage in the Lok Sabha elections was 67.09% (67.01% for men; 67.18% for women).

## FIRST DAY, FIRST SHOWS



Crowd at rallies of PM Narendra Modi in Sasaram (right); and Rahul Gandhi in Hisua, Nawada (above), as they launched their campaigns for Bihar on Friday. PTI



## BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



## I HEREBY DECLARE



**CHANDRIKA ROY (A.K.A. CHANDRIKA RAI)**  
Janata Dal (United), Parsa (Saran)

## TOTAL ASSETS

**₹11.21 CRORE** (with spouse)  
83% increase since 2015 (Rs 6.14 crore)

## MOVABLE ASSETS

**₹2.08 CRORE**

Assets	2015	2020
Cash in hand	19.4 lakh	5.02 lakh
Bank balance	7.06 lakh	23.14 lakh
Stocks & bonds	NIL	2 lakh
Other investment	30,440	NIL
Jewellery	3.01 lakh	11.2 lakh
Vehicle	3.86 lakh	11.7 lakh
Other	41,070	1.5 crore
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34.05 lakh</b>	<b>2.08 cr</b>

## IMMOVABLE ASSETS

**₹9.13 CRORE**

Assets	2015	2020
Agri land	15 lakh	48 lakh
Non-agri land	2.75 cr	1.5 cr
Commercial	2.4 cr	3.3 cr
Residential	50 lakh	3.85 cr
Other	32,000	NIL
Total	5.8 cr	9.13 cr
<b>Total</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1.8 cr</b>

## LIABILITIES Rs 70.44 LAKH

**CRIMINAL CASES**  
Three pending, related to electoral offences, including the violation of Model Code of Conduct

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## ● KEY PLAYERS



**BIJENDRA PRASAD YADAV**  
**THE YADAV FACE ON**  
**NITISH KUMAR'S SIDE**

**EXPRESS**  
**explained.**

LEFT ROLE IN POLL MATHS

## ● WHO'S WHERE TODAY

TEJASHWI YADAV IN BHAGALPUR, BANKA, JAMUI; ASADUDDIN OWAIISI IN KURTHA, BHABUA, ARWAL; J P NADDA IN NALANDA, LAKHISARAI

## HASHTAG POLITICS



## ● Didn't know 19 is less than 10: Chidambaram on NDA job talk

Senior Congress leader @PChidambaram\_IN tweeted: "After making fun of RJD's promise of 10 lakh jobs, the NDA has promised to create 19 lakh jobs in Bihar. I didn't know 19 was a smaller number than 10. I think I should go back to primary school."

7.6K LIKES, 1.5K RETWEETS IN 9 HOURS



## ● Thank you, PM: Chirag Paswan

LJP chief @iChirag Paswan tweeted: "Like a true companion, Narendra Modi came to Bihar and paid tribute to my father. That he was by Papa's side till the very end, makes me emotional. As a son, it felt nice to see the PM's affection towards Papa. Thank you." He also tweeted about implementing same-work-equal-pay under his #BiharFirstBihariFirst scheme.

12.9K LIKES, 1.3K RETWEETS IN 8 HOURS

## PHASE I HAVE IT, SHOW IT

(Income-Tax Returns Declarations)



## DECLARED

Candidates with high income/ high assets	Kiran Devi	Rakesh Ranjan	Kaushal Kumar Sharma
Party	RJD	Independent	RLSP
Constituency (district)	Sandesh (Bhojpur)	Paliganj (Patna)	Banka
Total Assets (in ₹)	17+ crore	29+ crore	17+ crore
Total Income shown in ITR (₹) (self + spouse + dependent)	3+ crore	2+ crore	2+ crore
Self-income	1+ crore	64+ lakh	2+ crore
Last financial year of ITR filing	2020-21	2018-19	2020-21

## CANDIDATES WITH HIGH ASSETS, RETURNS NOT DECLARED

Candidates	Party	Constituency (district)	Assets (in ₹) *
Bawan Yadav	Independent	Nawada	6+ crore
Dr Vinay Kumar	Independent	Mokama (Patna)	3+ crore
Suman Devi	RLSP	Mohanias-SC (Kaimur)	2+ crore

Source: Association for Democratic Reforms; \* As per poll affidavits

## LOOKING FOR: MISA BHARTI

## MI(s)A

The power struggle has been settled, and Lalu's eldest seems reconciled



RJD leader says: "No details as yet regarding Misa campaigning"

SANTOSH SINGH

PATNA, OCTOBER 23

THE POWER struggle has been settled, and the brief claim of Lalu Prasad's eldest child, Misa Bharti, to his political legacy has been stamped out. As brother Tejashwi Yadav, 22 years younger than her, is projected as the chief ministerial candidate of the Mahagathbandhan, Misa has not much of a role other than as star campaigner of the RJD.

Having been nominated to the Rajya Sabha, the 44-year-old has reconciled to sticking to Delhi, leaving the stage for Tejashwi.

Named by Lalu after the infamous MISA (Maintenance of Internal Security Act) under which he was held during the Emergency, Misa first came to attention when her father had to step down following fodder scam charges and Rabri Devi took over as CM. With sons Tej Pratap and Tejashwi less than 10 years old at the time, Rabri turned to her eldest for support and advice.

An MBBS, though she has never practised medicine, Misa impressed with her speaking skills. However, once the brothers came of age, the parents made their choice clear. Sources say it wasn't just the question of

choosing sons over the daughter, one logic was that there were five other daughters who could lay a claim.

Still, Misa, married and a mother of two, did fight back. In the 2014 Lok Sabha polls, she wrung for herself a ticket from the Pataliputra constituency, thwarting Lalu aide Ram Kripal Yadav. An angry Ram Kripal not just crossed over to the BJP but also defeated Misa from Pataliputra by about 26,000 votes.

While Misa was sent by the RJD to the Rajya Sabha in July 2016, in 2019 she again managed a ticket against Ram Kripal from the same seat. She again lost. In July 2017, the Enforcement Directorate raided three premises in Delhi of Misa Bharti and her husband Shailesh Kumar in a moneylaundering case.

When Tej and Tejashwi were battling it out for the power stakes, Misa had been seen as backing Tej, with the tacit support of Rabri.

With this election Tejashwi's coming-out polls, in which his advisors are keeping even Lalu in the background, Misa is likely to be pushed further into the sidelines. RJD spokesperson Mrityunjay Tewari said: "Misa Bharati has been one of our star campaigners. As of now, we have no details of her campaigning. She may come at a later stage."

## Cong high command keeps a tight rein, message: go local

MANOJ CG

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

IN HIS first rally for the Bihar Assembly elections on Friday, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi focused on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his government's policies. However, there is a concerted effort by the Congress this time to ensure the election in Bihar remains about local issues.

A large team of leaders from the high command is stationed in Patna micromanaging the campaign and coordinating with allies RJD and the Left parties from behind the scenes — but that's almost the extent of the Delhi connect.

Congress sources said the local leaders are not even keen on too many names from outside barring Rahul Gandhi and the party's chief ministers coming for campaigning, to ensure that the focus is not diverted from local issues. There is a clear instruction to leaders specifically to not raise divisive issues or react to controversial or emotive topics thrown up by the BJP.

The Congress appears to have learnt a lesson from Jharkhand where the JMM and Congress ran a strictly localised campaign which bore results.

The party's campaign committee, for the 70 seats it is contesting, is headed by AICC communication department in-charge Randeep Surjewala, and includes its social

media head Rohan Gupta, national spokesperson Pawan Kherra and leaders such as former AICC general secretary Mohan Prakash, former Union minister Subodh Kant Sahay who belongs to the region and Captain Ajay Yadav from Haryana, whose son is married to one of RJD leader Lalu Prasad's daughters.

Besides, three-six observers have been appointed per constituency, with a war room in Patna taking updates round the clock and processing the requirements of the candidates.

A coordination committee of the allies is in place which meets every day at 8 pm. From the Congress, the meeting is attended by Mohan Prakash, Sahay or Ajay Yadav.

From the RJD, either Manoj Kumar Jha or Shivanand Tiwari is present.

The overbearing presence of names from outside has led to some disgruntlement among party leaders in Bihar that they are being "sidelined". However, on other matters, the Congress is keeping local sentiments in mind. "We are not asking outside leaders to hold rallies. So far Raj Babbar has addressed some rallies. He will address some more. Shatrughan Sinha is a local favourite. He will address rallies too," a high command leader told *The Indian Express*.

Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel is arriving on Saturday and will be addressing three meetings.

"We are largely running a local campaign.

So far we have managed not to get dragged into jinnah or Pakistan kind of controversies. We are ignoring controversial statements made by BJP leaders and issues thrown at us. Our candidates are more particular that the campaign should be local... We are not planning any public meetings by outside leaders. They will come and address press conferences in Patna and leave," another senior leader said.

In a reference to the "*neech*" remark by Mani Shankar Aiyar regarding Modi in the middle of the Gujarat elections, which had overtaken the discourse, a senior Congress leader said, "Some of our leaders are capable of springing such surprises on us. We hope and pray that they don't."



## 8 GOVT &amp; POLITICS



## DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



## RALLYING ON

WITH HOME Minister Amit Shah, usually one of the top election campaigners for BJP, not on the field, it seems Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has become one of the busiest campaigners for the party in Bihar. Singh has been asked to spend more time in the poll-bound state. As the BJP state unit demanded more time from him, Singh had to rejig his commitments to accomplish campaign work for the party. While Shah is trying to amplify the party's communications through his media interviews, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, like her predecessor, was assigned the task of releasing the party's election manifesto – in 2015, Arun Jaitley had released BJP's vision document in Patna. Party chief J P Nadda is also expected to touch every region of Bihar with his rallies.

## HIGH INTEREST

THE ELECTION Commission last week announced elections to 10 Rajya Sabha seats in Uttar Pradesh and one in Uttarakhand which are falling vacant on November 25. The BJP is expected to win at least eight of the seats in UP given its numbers in the state Assembly. Curiously, there is some interest in the Congress on the BJP candidates' list. The buzz in Congress circles is that BJP may field a leader who had quit the Congress and joined it some time back. The BJP has already sent Jyotiraditya Scindia to Rajya Sabha. It is to be seen whether it will give another former Congress leader a place in the Upper House.

## STRANGER ALERT

SINCE MANY key meetings are taking place through video-conferencing these days, one concern has been that of secrecy of information. Earlier this week, during a review meeting of an important ministry, it was discovered that one participant among the officials present was, in fact, was not an insider and had no business being in that video conference. Corrective measures were taken and a policy-level message sent out to ensure that from now each participant in such should be placed on record with designation and name, and inclusion will only be on a need-to-know basis.

## AHEAD OF KERALA CIVIC POLLS

## Minority votes in mind, CPM flays Cong understanding with Jamaat wing

**SHAJU PHILIP**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
OCTOBER 23

THE CPI(M), the leading constituent of ruling LDF in the state, on Friday accused opposition Congress of “surrendering” its secular stance before the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML), stating that it is now “led by Jamaat-e-Islami ideology”.

This comes on a day the Congress-led UDF decided on local-level electoral adjustments with organisations such as Welfare Party of India (WPI), political arm of Jamaat-e-Islami, for the coming local body elections in the state.

CPI(M) Politburo member and party's state secretary Kodyiyeri Balakrishnan told the media that IUML had “strongly opposed” Jamaat-e-Islami in the past. “Now, IUML has abandoned that stand and has no reservations to work with Jamaat-e-Islami, which wants to establish Islamic country. It is parallel to the stand of RSS, which aims at Hindu Rashtra. The decision of Congress to work with WPI would have far-reaching consequences,” he said.

The Jamaat, he said, has “supported reconversion of Istanbul's Hagia Sophia museum into a mosque. Stating that IUML had endorsed Jamaat's stand on Hagia Sophia, he said, “The Congress has surrendered its secular outlook before IUML for a few votes. In the past, UDF had been led by leaders like Oommen Chandy (former CM), P K Kunhalikutty (of IUML), and K Mani (of Kerala Congress). But it is now led by leaders such as M M Hassan (UDF convener), P K Kunhalikutty and Jamaat-e-Islami amir.”

Hassan had recently held discussions with Jamaat's Kerala

amir, M I Abdul Aziz, sparking a debate in political circles about UDF's electoral understanding with WPI in the civic body polls.

The CPI(M)'s critique comes a day after the LDF welcomed the Jose K Mani faction of regional Christian party Kerala Congress (M). Balakrishnan's remarks are seen as an attempt to woo Catholic votes mainly in central Kerala districts. In Kerala, minority Muslim and Christian voters have traditionally backed the UDF. But with the Jose Mani faction in LDF now, the CPI(M) is seen as trying to divide this traditional vote-bank and winning over a section of Christian voters.

Besides, CPI(M) hopes to exploit an anti-IUML stand which has developed recently in Kerala Catholic Bishops' Council (KCBC) mainly on two issues. The Council had criticised IUML when the latter hailed conversion of Hagia Sophia into a mosque, and also IUML's attempt to enter into a local-level alliance with WPI for local body polls.

The powerful bishops' organisation, traditionally pro-Congress, called the development a “growing influence of pan-Islamic politics”.

Opposition leader Ramesh Chennithala of the Congress said UDF will not forge any alliance with any party outside the coalition. “However, in civic body elections, UDF local leaderships can decide on local-level electoral adjustments. Such parties should have anti-fascist approach. It is up to the local leadership of UDF to decide on such moves,” he said.

Jamaat-e-Islami and WPI have backed LDF in the past. A few panchayats in north Kerala are governed by LDF with the backing of WPI. But the Jamaat shifted loyalty towards UDF in 2019 General Election.

## 108 tribal villages to boycott polls over ‘police crackdown’

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

THE RESIDENTS of 108 villages in Bihar's Kaimur plateau have announced that they will boycott the forthcoming Assembly polls to protest an alleged police crackdown on the area's tribal population last month. The police action came when the tribals were protesting, among other issues, the declaration of the area as a tiger reserve.

The protests were led by Kaimur Mukti Morcha (KMM), which alleged that 25 activists from the area were arrested on false charges. The villagers accused the Forest Department of forceful evictions and bulldozing of crops, despite a Supreme Court stay on evictions.

KMM has demanded that the government declare Kaimur a scheduled area. The creation of a tiger reserve in the region must be done only after consent by the gram sabhas and approval of the tribal population, it has said.

A report on this by a four-member panel from Delhi was released Friday. CPI(M) politburo member Brinda Karat, who released the report, told *The Indian Express*, “In this instance, there has been criminal negligence by the Bihar government that hasn't implemented the Forest Rights Act.”

According to the report, on September 10, thousands of activists from the 108 villages mobilised peacefully in front of the Forest Department office at Adhaura. The police then “unleashed a crackdown”, in which seven activists were fired upon, lathi-charged, and picked up by the police. On October 16, all seven were released on bail. The report alleged that Prabhu, an adivasi, was killed by a police bullet that went through his ear.

## Khadse, kin join NCP; Pawar scotches speculation on cabinet berth reward

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 23

FORMER BHARATIYA Janata Party (BJP) leader Eknath Khadse was inducted Friday into the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) in the presence of party chief Sharad Pawar, who immediately scotched speculation that he would be rewarded with a cabinet berth in the Maha Vikas Aghadi government.

The NCP leader was categorical that there was no plan of a cabinet reshuffle anytime soon. Khadse, who resigned from the BJP on Wednesday blaming former Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis for his decision, continued with his tirade against the former chief minister as he joined the NCP.

“I was hounded and humiliated. In 40 years of my political life I have not backstabbed anyone. Never in my political life



## THIRD FRONT STEPS UP

**BSP chief Mayawati, whose party is contesting the Bihar polls as part of a third front, at a rally at Jagjiwan Ram Stadium in Rohtas district of Bihar on Friday. Upendra Singh Kushwaha, president of RLSP—an alliance partner—was also present. P71**

## MP BJP leader moves top court over HC curbs on bypoll rallies

**Election Commission moves separate plea citing Article 324**

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

MADHYA PRADESH BJP leader Pradyuman Singh Tomar has moved the Supreme Court against a Madhya Pradesh High Court order imposing limits on physical campaigns for the forthcoming state bypolls.

Tomar, contesting from Gwalior, contended that the October 20 order violates the right to organise election campaigns through physical gatherings as permitted by election rules and sought a stay on it.

The Election Commission, too, has approached the top court against the high Court order, citing Article 324 of the Constitution which vests in it the authority to conduct the elections and oversee the electoral process.

The commission has contended that this is against its di-

rections regarding gatherings as well as the state's Covid-19 protocol that lays down the limitations for allowing such congregations.

The High Court order came on a PIL which pointed out that various political parties were holding physical campaigns ignoring the Covid-19 risk and that authorities were turning a blind eye to this.

The High Court said: “In a contest/clash between right to campaigning and right to health and life, it is obvious that the right to health and life takes precedence. Right to health and life is comparatively more exalted, sacred and precious right when compared with the right to canvassing & campaigning. Thus, the right of candidate to campaign has to yield to the right to health and life of the electorate.”

It asked District Magistrates not to grant permission for phys-

ical congregations for election campaigns unless it can be proved that conduct of a virtual campaign is not possible, subject to EC approval.

The High Court added that even in the event such approval is granted, “the holding of physical congregation.. can take place only after the political party/candidate intending to hold a congregation deposits money with the District Magistrate which is sufficient to purchase double the number of masks and sanitizers required for protecting and sanitizing the number of persons expected in the congregation and also when candidate files an undertaking on affidavit that he shall be personally liable to distribute masks and sanitizers to all the members of the congregation before the meeting/congregation starts”.

The bypolls to 28 seats are scheduled for November 3.



**Former BJP leader Eknath Khadse (left) with party chief Sharad Pawar at the NCP office in Mumbai. Ganesh Shirsekar**

have I used women to attack my opponents. However in the last five years I have had to face all this including a false case of molestation by my opponent. Before quitting the party I was warned that the ED would be sent behind me. All that I have to say is if you have ED then I have

a CD,” Khadse said while giving a cryptic warning during his speech post induction.

Along with Khadse, his wife and daughter, and 70 of his supporters also joined the NCP.

Khadse's NCP joining function was delayed by about 90 minutes. Sharad Pawar was huddled in a one-on-one meeting with Housing Minister and close confidante Jitendra Awhad at Y B Chavan Centre as senior NCP ministers and leaders waited at the party office for over an hour for the party chief to arrive for Khadse's induction. The Pawar-Ahmad meeting triggered speculation about a cabinet reshuffle to accommodate Khadse. But giving him a berth would have meant dropping a minister.

Eventually, as he welcomed Khadse into the party, Pawar said the ex-BJP veteran had joined without any pre-conditions and there were no plans of a cabinet reshuffle anytime soon.

“There are talks that he demanded a place in the cabinet. I would like to clarify during our meeting he has not laid down any expectations from the party. While joining us all that he said was that he was planning to serve the state without any expectation,” Pawar said.

## FB gets 2 weeks to reply to House panel, Amazon to skip hearing

**MANOJ CG**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

FACEBOOK INDIA'S Public Policy Director Ankhi Das was among its representatives who appeared Friday before Parliament's Joint Committee on the Personal Data Protection Bill.

It is learnt that the panel, headed by Lok Sabha MP Meenakshi Lekhi, has given Facebook India two weeks to furnish written replies to the questions posed by its members.

Meanwhile, e-commerce giant Amazon has declined to appear before the committee on October 28, and the panel has taken strong exception to this.

Amazon, Twitter, PayTM and Google have been directed to appear before the committee at its next sitting.

News agency PTI quoted Lekhi saying “Amazon has refused to appear before the panel on October 28 and if no one on behalf of the e-commerce company appears before the panel, it amounts to breach of privilege.”

The panel, she said, is unanimous in its opinion that coercive action can be suggested to the government against the e-commerce company.

It is learnt that panel members questioned Facebook India representatives on its advertisement model, how it targets audiences, their earnings out of India, the tax paid by them, the data storage model and transfer of data.

In December 2019, Parliament approved sending the Personal Data Protection Bill to the committee headed by Lekhi.

Commonly referred to as the “privacy Bill”, it is intended to protect individual rights by regulating the collection, movement, and processing of data that is personal, or which can

## EXPLAINED Data localisation debate

Officials have long argued that data localisation will help law-enforcement access data for investigations and enforcement. Currently, much of cross-border data transfer is governed by mutual legal assistance treaties, a process that almost all stakeholders agree is cumbersome. Civil society groups have criticised the open-ended exceptions given to the government in the Bill, saying it will allow surveillance.

identify the individual.

The Bill gives the government powers to authorise the transfer of certain types of personal data overseas, and has given exceptions allowing government agencies to collect personal data of citizens.

It also makes way for government-led technological solutions. One example is the power given to the central government to direct any entity to provide “non-personal” or anonymised data “to enable better targeting of delivery of services or formulation of evidence-based policies”.

It also requires companies and social media intermediaries which are “significant data fiduciaries” – based on factors such as volume and sensitivity of data handled as well as their turnover – to enable users in India to “voluntarily verify their accounts” resulting in a “demonstrable and visible mark of verification, which shall be visible to all users of the service”.

## ED summons Amarinder son over FEMA ‘violation’

**ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHABA**  
JALANDHAR OCTOBER 23

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED), Jalandhar, has summoned Raninder Singh, the son of Chief Minister Amarinder Singh, to appear before it on October 27 in connection with the alleged violation of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA).

Raninder had already appeared before the ED in 2016 and had stated then that he would cooperate with the investigating agency. The ED officials said they needed some more information from Raninder because of which he was summoned now.

The development is being seen as the fallout of the three agricultural Bills passed by the Punjab government led by Amarinder to negate the three Central farm laws. Congress leaders called it vendetta politics by the BJP.

“After 2016, what has happened now that the CM's son was summoned just three days after passing the Punjab agri Bills?” asked a senior Party leader.

The ED had filed three applications in a Ludhiana court in August this year where income tax cases are going on against Punjab CM and his son—two against Raninder and one against the Chief Minister.

The agency sought inspection of new records filed by the income tax department. The case is still pending in the Ludhiana court.

A senior ED officer said they had initiated an investigation against Raninder under FEMA following a complaint by the Income Tax Department that he had misled the department about the trusts owned by him in the British Virgin Islands.

Raninder could not be reached for comment.

## IN NEW STRUCTURE, MORE COMFORTABLE SEATING, DIGITAL INTERFACES, SEPARATE OFFICES FOR MPs

## New Parliament construction to begin in Dec, end by Oct 2022

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

THE CONSTRUCTION of the new Parliament building will commence from December this year and is likely to be completed by October 2022, the Lok Sabha Secretariat said on Friday.

The timeline regarding the construction of the building was disclosed during a review meeting chaired by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and was attended by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Housing & Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri and senior officials.

It was also informed that the existing Parliament building will be suitably retro-fitted “to provide

more functional spaces for parliamentary events, to ensure its usage along with the new building”.

“During the meeting, Shri Birla was informed that the construction of the new Building will commence in December 2020 and is likely to be completed by October 2022,” the Lok Sabha Secretariat said in a statement.

Birla was briefed about the progress made in the shifting of facilities and other infrastructure from the area proposed for the construction of the new building, the statement said. It was decided to constitute a monitoring committee to oversee the day-to-day execution of the construction work of the new building.

“The Monitoring Committee



**The existing building will be retro-fitted 'to provide more functional spaces for parliamentary events'. File**

will include, among others, officers of Lok Sabha Secretariat, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, CPWD, NDMC and architect/designer of the project,” said

the statement.

Birla stressed on the smooth coordination and resolving issues between various agencies involved on a regular basis. He em-

phasised that there should be no compromise in ensuring quality-control and timely completion of the work, said the statement.

The statement said that the new building will have separate offices for MPs. Besides, each seat for members in the chambers will be “comfortable” (with blocks of two seats) and equipped with digital interfaces, “which will be a step forward towards a paperless office”.

It said that besides the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Chambers, the new building will have a grand “Constitution Hall”, which will house, among other things, the original copy of the Constitution and digital displays for showcasing India's democratic heritage, said the statement.

The new building will also have a MP's lounge, a library, six committee rooms, dining areas and parking space, the statement added.

It said that visitors will be given access to the hall “to help them to appreciate and understand India's journey as a parliamentary democracy”.

“The barricading plan and the various mitigating measures to control the air and noise pollution during the construction process were elaborated. The officers of the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs further briefed Shri Birla about the proposed movement plan of VIPs and staff during this period, including during the Parliament Sessions, it said.



2008 GUJARAT SERIAL BOMB BLASTS CASE

HC rejects accused’s plea to examine news reporters, editors

SOHINI GHOSH  
AHMEDABAD, OCTOBER 23

AN AHMEDABAD special court conducting the trial of the 2008 Gujarat serial bomb blasts case on Thursday rejected an application by the accused that had sought that the defence be permitted to examine editors, reporters and photographers of certain newspapers at the time.

The 26 July, 2008 blasts are alleged to have been carried out by the Indian Mujahideen across several sites in Ahmedabad and Surat, in which 58 people were killed and more than 200 were injured.

According to a source, the accused had prayed before the special designated judge to examine reporters so as to authenticate their sources for the reportage published in the period following the commission of offence and prior to the arrest of the accused.

As recorded in the order of October 22 by Judge Ambalal R Patel, who has been specially designated for the speedy trial of the bomb blast cases, the reporters and photographers

whom the defence wanted to examine included those from vernacular dailies *Sandesh* and *Divya Bhaskar*, and English dailies *The Indian Express* and *Ahmedabad Mirror*, pertaining to reportage involving alleged purchase of timers (for bombs) and site of alleged training of the accused, in editions of these dailies in the period of six to 12 days, prior to the arrest of the accused on August 16, 2008. As per the accused’s application, the reportage in these dailies pointed out inconsistencies in the case.

The application was opposed by the state government through its public prosecutors on the ground that similar applications had been filed earlier which had been rejected by the trial court.

The court while rejecting the application, stated in its order that any information that is disseminated in daily newspapers is provided by the reporters who “manage to bring information from somewhere and by some means and editors publish stories brought by reporters and it may be the case that the said information may not be true...”

Yogi launches women help desks at all police stations

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 23

UTTAR PRADESH Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday launched women help desks at the 1,535 police station in the state under the government’s Mission Shakti campaign.

Adityanath said the government would strive to ensure that respect for women is inculcated as a “sanskar” (culture) and thus awareness campaigns would be organised in schools, colleges and institutions across the state. He emphasised that during morning prayers or cultural events, people should be made more

aware of women’s security and asked women and intellectuals, too, to participate in the initiative.

A government spokesperson said the CM has directed that a “secret glass room” should be readied at every police station, providing a separate space to aggrieved women for speaking to female police personnel at ease and without any hesitation.

After the virtual launch, Adityanath said, “*Mahilaon ke samman ko sanskar banana hoga*” (We must inculcate respect for women a culture). He directed that all the helpline numbers, including 1090, 181, 112, 1076, 1098 and 102, should be prominently displayed.

Govt imposes stock limits on onion to check prices; traders doubt its impact

HARIKISHAN SHARMA & PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS  
NEW DELHI, PUNE, OCT 23

WITH RETAIL prices of onion reaching nearly Rs 100 per kg in some cities, the government on Friday invoked provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 2020, and imposed onion stock limits of 25 metric tonnes (MT) for wholesalers, and 2 MT for retailers.

The stock limit, which comes into effect immediately, will continue until December 31.

But the decision may not have much effect on prices, according to market sources. Most of the produce is still with farmers, who are in no hurry to liquidate their stock, traders across wholesale markets in Maharashtra said.

“The stock limit is applicable for us, traders. There is no such limit on farmers. And since the next crop is delayed, most are holding on to their stock in the hope of better prices,” said a trader operating out of



Traders said most of the onion is still with farmers, who are in no hurry to liquidate stock. File/Narendra Vaskar

Lasalgaon’s wholesale market in Maharashtra’s Nashik district.

With the new kharif crop being delayed by several weeks, prices are also unlikely to see a drastic drop in immediate future, they said.

The move comes barely a month after the government amended Essential Commodities Act, 1955, to exclude onions, pulses, potatoes, edible oils and oilseed from the list of essential commodities.

Addressing the media digitally, Consumer Affairs Secretary Leena Nandan said the government had to invoke the Essential Commodities (Amendment) law, which allows it to regulate perishable commodities in an extraordinary situation of price-rise, and called it a “decisive step”.

Under provisions of this law, any action on imposing stock limit will be based on price-rise, and an order for regulating stock limit may be issued only if there is “hun-

dered per cent increase in retail price of horticultural produce; or fifty per cent increase in retail price of non-perishable agricultural foodstuffs”, over the price prevailing immediately preceding 12 months, or average retail price of last five years, whichever is lower.

Exemptions from stock-holding limits will be provided to processors and value chain participants of any agricultural produce, and orders relating to the PDS, the law states.

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution said in a statement, “The all-India average retail price variation of onions as on 21.10.2020 when compared to last year is 22.12% (from Rs 45.33 to Rs 55.60 per/kg), and when compared to last 5 years average is 114.96% (from Rs 25.87 to 55.60 per/kg). Therefore, prices have increased by more than 100% when compared with the average of the last 5 years and thus the price triggers under EC Act have been reached.”

Retail prices of onion were

over Rs 100 per kg in Bengaluru and Puducherry this week.

Earlier this week, the government had relaxed the import norms for onions. It had also said that an estimated kharif crop of 37 LMT is also likely to start arriving in mandis, which will add to the availability of onions.

While the decision on stock limit has evoked strong reactions among farmers and farmers’ leaders, most traders feel this would not see any drastic effect on prices. This summer, farmers in Maharashtra, one of the country’s largest onion-growing states, had stored around 27 lakh tonnes of their summer crop in on-field storage structures, called ‘kanda chawl’. Sources in wholesale markets said that till now farmers have 10 lakh tonnes in storage, which they are selling in tranches.

Lasalgaon, the country’s largest onion market, has reported an average traded price of around Rs 60 to Rs 65 per kg since the last few weeks.

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Uddhav declares Rs 10,000-crore relief for those hit by heavy rain

VISHWAS WAGHMODE  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 23

MAHARASHTRA CHIEF Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Friday announced a Rs 10,000 crore relief package for those affected by the heavy rainfall, including farmers. He said directions have been given to district administrations to provide assistance to farmers and villagers ahead of Diwali.

Incessant rain last week damaged crops in Western Maharashtra and Marathwada. Crops on over 10 lakh hectares have been destroyed this month with areas in Solapur, Pune, Satara and Osmanabad being the worst hit. Earlier this week, Thackeray visited the areas in Solapur and Osmanabad district to assess the damage.

Thackeray also pointed out the delay on the part of the Union government in releasing Rs 38,000 crore, which is due to the state towards compensation of GST and devolution of taxes, and said that amount could have been used for the relief package.

Out of labour board, Uttarakhand minister says won’t contest 2022 polls

LALMANI VERMA  
DEHRADUN, OCTOBER 23

UTTARAKHAND LABOUR Minister Harak Singh Rawat on Friday said that he will not contest the 2022 Assembly elections. Rawat’s announcement came three days after he failed to find a place in the reconstituted Uttarakhand Bhawan Evam Anya Sannirman Karmkar Kalyan Board, a board for construction labourers under the state Labour Department.

Before its reconstitution, Rawat had been the chairman of the board.

Speaking to reporters at his residence, the minister said, “I

have taken the decision to not contest the Assembly election in 2022. I have informed the party high command and party state general secretary (organization) Ajay Kumar.”

The minister did not give any reason for his decision to not contest the 2022 polls. However, sources said that he is upset because he was not consulted before the Uttarakhand Bhawan Evam Anya Sannirman Karmkar Kalyan Board was reconstituted.

Considered a heavyweight politician in the state, Rawat, a six-time legislator, also holds the Forest and Wildlife, Environment, Employment Generation, Skill Development and AYUSH portfolios.

Mumbai couple awarded life term, NCB approaches Qatar authorities

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 23

THE NARCOTICS Control Bureau (NCB) has approached authorities in Qatar through diplomatic channels in the case of a Mumbai-based couple sentenced to life imprisonment by a court in Qatar. The couple was convicted there for carrying 4.1 kg of hashish.

NCB DG Rakesh Asthana reviewed the case when he visited Mumbai on Thursday.

The couple identified as Mohammad Shareeq and Oniba Kausar were on their honeymoon and reached Hamad International Airport in Qatar on July 6 last year. On checking a baggage provided to them by Shareeq’s aunt

Tabassum Qureshi, the authorities found hashish and the couple was placed under arrest. A fast track court sentenced them to life imprisonment.

However, on September 29 last year, Oniba’s father Shakeel Qureshi filed a complaint with DG, NCB alleging that his daughter and son-in-law were deceived by the aunt and her associate Nizam Kara.

Under the garb of a honeymoon package the accused had sent the couple to Qatar, also giving them a bag to carry with contraband concealed in it, Qureshi said in his complaint. He also provided NCB with relevant documents and a CD containing the audio recordings between his son-in-law and Tabassum.

The NCB began a probe and

found that a well-organized drug trafficking syndicate was being allegedly run by Kara involving Tabassum and others. A close surveillance was mounted against these drug syndicate members by NCB.

In December 2019, both Kara and Tabassum were arrested by Mumbai police in another narcotics case.

After Kara was released on bail, the NCB recorded his statement on October 14. An official said that he admitted that the couple were sent to Qatar by him and his associate Tabassum.

An official said, “We are in the process of sending the necessary paperwork to Qatar to show how the couple were innocent and had been cheated by their relative.”

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# Festive shopping is here

With the arrival of festive season, it is time to go out shopping for your festive essentials such as apparels, jewellery, home decoration pieces, gifting sets and much more while taking all the necessary precautions against COVID-19

WITH the festive season ringing in with Navratri and Durga Puja celebrations and the country already in UnLock 5.0, it is clear that the government is keen on providing respite to businesses to spur economic activities in the country. Now, slowly and slowly, life is trying to come to terms with the COVID-19 crisis. Seeing the enthusiasm of customers for shopping-related activities, the Indian business community has geared up to serve their customers during this festive season. Obviously, the celebrations will be different this time, given

the current situation the country is in. However, this will not dampen the festive spirit of people. With the government affirming that the coronavirus has passed its peak in September, this certainly brings in a renewed hope for the entire economy.

With the PM Modi’s clarion call for Atmanirbhar Bharat gaining momentum, the Indian business community is taking a new approach towards conducting their businesses. The idea now is to manufacture locally, buy locally and stay in tune with the ‘Vocal for Local’ initiative.

People are now moving away from Chinese products, and this certainly presents a great opportunity for our local business community to manufacture festival-related products, such as fancy lights, home decoration goods, kitchenware and appliances, idols of Indian Gods, toys, wall hangings, lamps, home furnishing items, footwear, garments and apparels, gifting sets, electrical gadgets and other items, to provide stimulus to our indigenous market.

Both standalone retails stores and shopping malls have revamped their whole

shopping experience, wherein all government guidelines are being followed. The stores have placed disposable gloves, sanitisers, and masks for customers entering their shops. Stores have also been encouraging cashless transactions and, at some places, even the POS machines and cards of customers are also being sanitised after every use.

Currently, there’s a restriction on the number of guests who can attend a wedding. Consequently, the budget required for a wedding has decreased because the size of

the wedding has decreased. Therefore, family members are currently investing a lot of money on expensive gifts and jewellery sets. This has led to a surge in the demand for jewellery sets and gifting items.

Moreover, do follow the mandatory precautions as per the government-issued guidelines then shopping will not only be fun

but also safe. The shopping stores are also following government-mandated guidelines to ensure a safe and happy shopping experience for shopaholics. However, the onus of following the safety guidelines also rests heavily on people who need to depart from their pre-COVID-19 shopping habits to shop worry free in times of COVID-19.

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# THE IDEAS PAGE

## Lockdowns don't work

Lockdowns were an unnatural experiment and, around the world, they have not worked in achieving their major health objective of less infections or slower pace of infections



SURJIT S BHALLA

IT IS NOW slightly more than 300 days since COVID-19 exploded on an unsuspecting and unprepared world. The second wave is upon us and we are again faced with Lenin's existential but practical question: "What is to be done?" The previous time around, in mid-March, epidemiological experts advised whoever was willing to listen, and the world did listen with rapt attention, that schools, businesses, etc. should close shop and the virus will be contained.

January 22 was the first unnatural experiment — Wuhan, China entered into a lockdown. On March 10, Italy went into a lockdown, and, over the next month, the world followed.

On the advice of experts, the world confronted the virus in an unprecedented manner — closures of schools and workplaces and lockdowns became commonplace. The effectiveness, or lack thereof, of lockdowns in containing the spread of the virus is examined in a detailed paper entitled, "Lockdowns vs. COVID-19: Covid Wins", a preliminary version of which is available on my website [ssbhalla.org](http://ssbhalla.org). Herewith, some highlights about the lockdown crisis that deserve mention.

WHO director Tedros Adhanom said as early as March 11 that history does not have a precedent for controlling a pandemic. Yet, lockdowns were recommended. By end March, 170 countries had closed their borders, 140 countries had several WHO containment measures, as compiled by OxGRT (border closures, restrictions on gatherings, etc) in place, and there were 8,81,000 COVID-19 cases and 43,000 deaths. With lockdowns, cases were expected to reach their terminal level, perhaps, 10 times higher at 8.8 million? Today, cases are 40 times, and deaths 24 times higher. This has occurred during the most intense period of lockdowns and controls around the world. These are not statistics about even partial success; rather, indicators of massive failure.

The world has gone through many pandemics since the Spanish Flu of 1918. In the six month October 1957–March 1958 period, excess deaths in the US numbered 62,000. In the three-month February–April period in 1963, excess deaths numbered 57,000. In these two instances, excess deaths were 36 and 30 per cent higher than "normal". In the US, at the peak of the crisis March–May, excess deaths were 1,22,300 and COVID-19 deaths around 9,50,00. Expected deaths —around 6,60,000, so excess deaths about 18 per cent. Eighteen per cent too many deaths, but what did the US do to confront the nearly double excess death crisis in both 1957–58 and 1963?

It did absolutely nothing. It is worth quoting a paper by David Henderson and his colleagues, published in 2009 — *Public Health and Medical Responses to the 1957–58 Influenza Epidemic*. The late Dr Henderson had a major surveillance for setting up the CDC influenza surveillance programme in the US: His stature as an authority was similar to Anthony Fauci today. The paper explicitly rejects even partial lockdowns and states: "The 1957–58 pandemic was such a rapidly



CR Sasikumar

*spreading disease that it became quickly apparent to US health officials that efforts to stop or slow its spread were futile.* Thus, no efforts were made to quarantine individuals or groups, and a deliberate decision was made not to cancel or postpone large meetings such as conferences, church gatherings, or athletic events for the purpose of reducing transmission." (*Public Health and Medical Responses...*, p. 7, emphasis added)

More evidence against the unexpected and unprecedented world and WHO response to the crisis in 2020 is provided in this 91-page 2019 WHO report entitled "Non-pharmaceutical public health measures for mitigating the risk and impact of epidemic and pandemic influenza". The word "lockdown" (one form of a non-pharmaceutical intervention or NPI) does not appear in this report. Nor does the WHO report even recommend masks (a favourite 2020 NPI) in case of an epidemic, though it does advocate their use for symptomatic individuals.

On the effect of NPIs, the report stated: "The evidence base on the effectiveness of NPIs in community settings is limited, and the overall quality of evidence was very low for most interventions. There have been a number of high-quality randomised controlled trials (RCTs) demonstrating that personal protective measures such as hand hygiene and face masks have, at best, a small effect on influenza transmission, although higher compliance in a severe pandemic might improve effectiveness" (emphasis added). Yet, for COVID-19, NPIs were recommended in bundles by WHO and other experts.

As is universally acknowledged, the WHO is the apex body for advice and guidance for health problems. It houses leading epidemiological experts and before COVID, they were advocating policies reminiscent of earlier confrontations with viruses.

Given this history, it remains a mystery as to why the world entered into a lockdown. In my paper, I report the result of various studies on the effectiveness of lockdowns; except for a few, most of these studies report that the lockdowns were highly successful in saving hundreds of thousands of lives. Since the average death rate from COVID is 2.5 per cent, these results imply that somewhere between 10 to 20 million less infections resulted from this unnatural experiment.

Examination of the contradiction between the observed reality of 40 million cases, and the experimental reality of lockdown research, is the purpose of my above-mentioned paper. We replicate the variety of tests available in the literature and add the following impor-

Given this history, it remains a mystery as to why the world entered into a lockdown. In my paper, I report the result of various studies on the effectiveness of lockdowns; except for a few, most of these studies report that the lockdowns were highly successful in saving hundreds of thousands of lives. Since the average death rate from COVID is 2.5 per cent, these results imply that somewhere between 10 to 20 million less infections resulted from this unnatural experiment

tant test of lockdowns — a before-and-after comparison for over 150 countries, and for one, two, and three months from the date of lockdowns. No matter what the test, the dominant result is that not only lockdowns were not effective, but that, in a large majority of cases, lockdowns were counter-productive i.e. led to more infections, and deaths, than would have been the case with no lockdowns. My analysis stops in end-July and, therefore, ignores the post-July second wave of infections. If these data are included, the fate of lockdowns would be a lot worse.

My analysis makes a small contribution towards documenting what did not work. Unfortunately, there are no answers to the question of what would have worked in confronting a virus without a vaccine. Note that in the late 1950s, influenza vaccines were available in the US and yet excess deaths were higher than the 2020 episode of no vaccine.

It is not as if no scientist forecast that lockdowns would be a disaster. Sweden, for one, followed the herd-immunity approach, the same approach that was followed by the US (and all other nations) in all previous epidemics. An epidemic is like an earthquake — it hits you hard, and then you do the best you can, and live with it.

John Ioannidis, professor of medicine at Stanford University, has shouted himself hoarse against the advocates of lockdown. In a short piece (with colleagues, entitled 'Forecasting for COVID-19 has failed'), they write: "Failure in epidemic forecasting is an old problem. In fact, it is surprising that epidemic forecasting has retained much credibility among decision-makers, given its dubious track record. Modelling for swine flu predicted 3,100–65,000 deaths in the UK... Eventually only 457 deaths occurred." Another example of prediction failure: Up to 10 million animals were slaughtered because 1,50,000 deaths were expected from foot-and-mouth disease — eventually only 50 deaths occurred.

It is likely that post-COVID, epidemiological experts will suffer a worse fate than economists did after their Waterloo in 2008. In the iconic movie *Jerry Maguire*, a talented player asks his agent to "show him the money" in order to retain the contract to manage him. The world is now asking the lockdown experts — show me the evidence.

*The writer is executive director, IMF, representing India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Bhutan. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the IMF, its Executive Board, or IMF management*

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"If a genuine peace agreement is to work, all of Afghanistan's neighbours, regional powers as well as global actors must pledge not to interfere in the country's internal matters, and leave the Afghans to chart out a peaceful future for their battle-scarred motherland."  
— DAWN

## Freeing the farmer

Farmers' Produce Trading and Commerce Act only threatens rent-seeking by APMC mandis under the cover of regulation



RAMESH CHAND

THE DEBATE ON the Farmers' Produce Trading and Commerce Act 2020 (FPTC Act) has seen some misinformation and qualms among stakeholders, especially farmers in some states. It is imperative to understand the background and intentions underlying the new farm laws and put their implications and scope in perspective rather than being guided by the imaginary, ideological and vested narratives.

From the 1960s, there have been concerted efforts to bring all wholesale markets for agricultural produce in various states under the Agriculture Produce Market Regulation (APMC) acts. All states, except Kerala, Jammu and Kashmir and Manipur, enacted such laws. The APMC Acts mandated that the sale/purchase of agricultural commodities is carried out in a specified market area, and, producer-sellers or traders pay the requisite market fee, user charges, levies and commissions for the commission agents (*arhtiyas*). These charges were levied irrespective of whether the sale took place inside APMC premises or outside it and the charges varied widely across states and commodities.

In the initial years, APMC acts helped remove malpractices and freed the farmers from the exploitative power of middlemen and mercantile capital.

The golden period for APMC markets lasted till around 1991. With time, there was a palpable loss in growth in market facilities and by 2006, it had declined to less than one-fourth of the growth in crop output after which there was no further growth. This increased the woes of Indian farmers as market facilities did not keep pace with the increase in output and regulation did not allow farmers to sell outside APMC markets. The farmers were left with no choice but to seek the help of middlemen. Due to poor market infrastructure, more produce is sold outside markets than in APMC mandis. The net result was a system of interlocked transactions that robs farmers of their choice to decide to whom and where to sell, subjecting them to exploitation by middlemen.

Over time, APMC markets have been turned from infrastructure services to a source of revenue generation. In several states, commission charges were increased without any improvement in the services. And to avoid any protests from farmers against these high charges, most of these were required to be paid by buyers like the FCI. In Haryana and Punjab, mandi fees and rural development charges for wheat and non-basmati rice purchased by FCI are four to six times the charges for basmati rice purchased by private players. This not only results in a heavy burden on the Centre but also increases the logistics cost for domestic produce and reduces trade competitiveness.

These drawbacks were recognised by experts and stakeholders and pressure

started mounting for changes in market regulations. Successive governments at the Centre made repeated attempts to persuade the states to make appropriate changes in their APMC acts. But for 18 long years, the progress in reforms remained slow. The only choice for the Union government was either to ignore its responsibility towards farmers or use the constitutional route to address long-pending issues of market reforms.

The FPTC Act gives farmers the freedom to sell and buy farm produce at any place in the country — in APMC markets or outside the mandated area — to any trader, like the sale of milk. The Act also allows transactions on electronic platforms to promote e-commerce in agriculture trade.

The effect of the FPTC Act on APMC mandis will depend on the treatment meted out to the mandis and the charges and levies therein. Out of the 25 states with APMC acts, no commission is levied under the Act on notified crops in 12 states. Service charges like mandi fees on major crops in these states vary from zero per cent to one per cent in nine states and it is two per cent in Madhya Pradesh and Tripura. There is no threat from the FPTC Act to APMC mandis and their business in these states as private traders and sellers will get benefits commensurate with the mandi charges.

The second category of states — Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Telangana — is where service charge for mandis is one per cent of the value of produce and commission varies from one to two per cent. Uttarakhand also comes in this category. Karnataka follows these states closely, with total charges at 3.5 per cent. These states can easily bring down mandi charges to 2 per cent or less.

The third set of states includes Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh, where the total charges, including commission, varies from five to 8.5 per cent, the highest being in Punjab followed by Haryana. Punjab and Haryana will not face any challenge from sale outside of mandis as long as paddy and wheat are the dominant crops and are procured by the government. It is in the long-term interest of these states to bring down market charges and commissions to 2 per cent or less to enable APMC mandis to compete with sales outside their premises.

The real threat in some states to APMC mandis and their business is from excessive and unjustified charges levied under the APMC acts. The FPTC Act will only put pressure on APMC markets to become competitive. Discussion with mandi officials reveals that a maximum 1.5 per cent of total charges, distributed between market fee and commission, are adequate to maintain and run mandis. This will not wean away traders from APMC markets as they will receive the benefits of mandi infrastructure, bulk produce available in one place and save costs required for individual transactions outside the market. The states which are actually interested in farmers' welfare should keep mandi charges below a reasonable level of 1.5 per cent. This will ensure the co-existence of APMC mandis and private channels permitted under the new Act in a true competitive spirit.

*The writer is member, Niti Aayog. Views are personal*



SAUD BIN MOHAMMED AL-SATI

RELATIONS BETWEEN the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of India are rooted in history, mutual trust and bilateral cooperation that has withstood the test of time. Our two nations have shared trade and cultural links dating back to the third millennium BCE. Today, these foundations remain as strong as ever. These historic bonds were further reinforced during HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's first state visit to New Delhi in February 2019. The visit paved the way for unparalleled decisions, heralding a new dawn for the ties between our two formidable economies. With Saudi Arabia's G20 presidency, we are at the cusp of another transformation in our strategic cooperation, one that will reap benefits for the global community.

Mutual respect and continued international cooperation are values at the heart of the Saudi G20 presidency — a presidency that has coincided with a delicate global period and that is determined to lead global actions to address the common global challenges. Across the world, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought innumerable challenges to families and communities. It has plunged the global economy into one of the worst recessions in decades, exacerbating existing gaps.

As major global economies, the G20 member countries have a responsibility to lead collective action for a coordinated global response to the ongoing crisis. Saudi Arabia's presidency

## A leader for difficult times

G20, under Saudi Arabia's presidency, is working towards a more resilient world

is up to this task. Having proved its mettle in dealing with social and economic hurdles back home through its transformative Vision 2030, the Kingdom now has an opportunity to replicate this forward-looking approach on a global scale. Not only has Saudi Arabia been ranked the top reformed and top improver among 190 countries by the World Bank's Women, Business and the Law 2020 report, it is also the most improved country in the world for doing business, having implemented a record number of reforms.

It is with this intent of all-inclusive prosperity that the Saudi G20 Presidency is seeking to deepen global cooperation with the theme of "Realising Opportunities of the 21st Century for All". The Presidency is working with G20 members on three essential pillars which are vital to the world's progress: Empowering people with a focus on youth and women, and tackling inequalities; safeguarding the planet by fostering collective efforts to protect our natural resources and putting sustainability at the heart of the agenda; and, finally, shaping new frontiers by adopting long-term and bold strategies to share the benefits of innovation and technological advancement to build a resilient future for the world.

The Saudi G20 Presidency believes that everyone, especially women, should have the required access and tools to take advantages of the opportunities ahead of us. The

Private Sector Alliance for the Empowerment and Progression of Women's Economic Representation (EMPOWER), a forum constituted by G20, is developing an action plan to identify key focus areas and conduct global research to advocate for the advancement of women in leadership positions in the private sector.

The use of innovation and technological advancements to shape new frontiers, such as deploying artificial intelligence to improve health outcomes and the education system, has been at the forefront of discussions and has found unequivocal relevance as the world grapples with an unforeseen pandemic.

Under Saudi Arabia's presidency, G20 has been resilient and spearheaded global action needed to deal with the pandemic. The G20 Leaders' Summit held in March was instrumental in developing a consensus among G20 countries to contain the spread of the pandemic and laid a foundation to the subsequent G20 ministerial meetings. A landmark outcome of these deliberations was the G20 finance ministers and central bank governors agreeing to the historic Debt Suspension Service Initiative for the world's poorest countries. This benefited 46 countries, providing an estimated \$14 billion of immediate liquidity relief by the bilateral official creditor in 2020. The G20 is also working with international organisations to complement these

efforts, including multilateral development banks, who are planning to commit \$75 billion for DSSI-eligible countries between April–December 2020, part of their \$230 billion commitment for emerging and low-income countries as a response to the pandemic. Together, G20 countries have contributed over \$21 billion to support health systems and the hunt for a vaccine and injected an unprecedented \$11 trillion to safeguard the global economy.

We see India as an important partner in this journey to ensure a better tomorrow for all. India is carrying out ambitious reforms to modernise the country. As leading economies, Saudi Arabia and India can leave a mark on the global community through synergies and contribute to the roadmap for a prosperous future for all.

Hosting the Presidency of G20 this year marks a historic step for Saudi Arabia. Many more battles and uncharted paths lie in front of us and we are determined to work closely with the government and people of India, who share the same sense of responsibility towards the global community. As India prepares to hold the Presidency in 2022, we are certain that this mutual counsel will help us realise opportunities of the 21st century for all.

*The writer is the ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to India*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### WORST JUMLA

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'The wrong dose' (IE, October 23). Of all the freebies offered by political parties during elections, the promise of a free corona vaccine by the BJP to Bihar's electorate is the most opportunistic and dim-witted. Aware that such a selective benefit will be thrashed by the courts on grounds of unnatural division, it has tried to play on the emotions of people. Besides, going by the growing awareness about the impracticability of application of election *jumlas* voters of Bihar are unlikely to be swayed.

YG Chouksey, Pune

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'The wrong dose' (IE, October 23). The vaccine promise may be a self-serving desperate bid for a party to win the election, but it reflects cynicism because until now Bihar has fallen short of complying with the national guidelines of COVID-19 management. The promise is also at odds with the national vaccine policy of priority allocation to frontline health workers, and people with co-morbidities.

LR Murmu, Delhi

### OPEN TO CHANGE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'A question of survival' (IE, October 22). Reforms in agriculture were long overdue given the sorry state of four farmers. Unfortunately, the protests against them are patchy and ignore small farmers. It is only well-off farmers who've made fortunes, especially in Punjab and Haryana. The farm bills could indeed do better but the fear

### IDEAS ONLINE

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that MSPs will be hit certainly is unfounded. We must march forward and be open to change.

Garima Tanwar, hhhh

### MILLETS FOR MASSES

THIS REFERS TO the article 'Healthy and wise' (IE, October 23). The institutional support like public procurement and marketing for coarse grains has been anything but encouraging. As a result, the total area under millets in India has shrunk over the years. The private sector has been able to market millets as a premium superfood by cultivating a niche segment within health-conscious urban consumers. The premium tag has made it out of bounds for a large section of the urban middle-class. There is a need for a campaign to popularise millets.

Sudip Kumar Dey, Kolkata



PUNJAB CM ORDERS PROBE

6-yr-old raped, killed, body set on fire; 2 held

ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHABA  
JALANDHAR, OCTOBER 23

A SIX-YEAR-OLD girl was allegedly raped, killed and then set on fire in a village in Hoshiarpur district. Police said her half-burnt body was discovered on Wednesday evening. She was cremated on Friday amid tight security.

A 21-year-old youth and his grandfather have been arrested in connection with the case. The victim's body was found in their house, said police.

The duo were booked on charges of murder, rape and other relevant sections of the IPC, relevant sections of the POCSO Act as well as provisions of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, police said. The grandfather has also been booked for allegedly helping erase evidence. Medical reports of the duo are awaited, police said.

On Friday, Chief Minister Amarinder Singh directed the state's DGP to conduct a swift investigation in the case. "Extremely sad and shocking incident of rape & murder of 6-year-old in Hoshiarpur. Though police have arrested the accused, I have directed DGP to ensure proper investigation & that challan is presented speedily. Call for fast trial & exemplary punishment to the guilty by the court," he tweeted.

LUDHIANA WOMAN  
RAPED IN CAR, 2 HELD

**Ludhiana:** A 30-year old woman was allegedly raped in a moving car in Ludhiana in the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday, police said. The woman said in her complaint that she was invited by a friend to celebrate the birthday of his acquaintance. She said she was pushed into a car and raped by the acquaintance while her friend drove the vehicle. She was then dumped on a road. Accused were arrested Friday. **ENS**

The victim's father is a migrant labourer. He said the 21-year-old accused allegedly took the girl to his home where he raped her. Then, the man and his grandfather allegedly killed her and tried to burn the body, he said.

At the funeral on Friday, the family demanded capital punishment for the accused.

The government has announced a compensation of Rs 8.25 lakh for the family. A delegation of Congress MLAs on Friday handed over a cheque of Rs 4 lakh to the family. Teams of the state's Commission for Scheduled Castes and the Women's Commission also met the family.

BODY FOUND BURIED IN FIELD, SAY POLICE

UP: 20 held for murder of woman missing for a year

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 23

THE POLICE in Unnao district have arrested two men in connection with the murder of a 26-year-old woman missing since October 2019. The duo, along with a third person, allegedly buried her body in a field in Pandit Khara village.

One of those arrested was identified as Suraj, whose wedding to the victim, Shalu Rawat, had been fixed. The second accused is Suraj's neighbour Sunil. Police are now looking for Suraj's friend Ashok, who is on the run.

Suraj told the police that he was in a relationship with Shalu

and their marriage had been fixed. On October 2, Shalu came to meet him and allegedly started pushing him to marry her at the earliest. According to the accused, they argued after he told her that he would tie the knot only after his elder brother gets married.

At the time, Sunil and Ashok were reportedly passing through the area. Suraj said that on his request, Sunil decided to drop him and Shalu to Makhi. The couple again argued in the vehicle, police said. "In a fit of anger, Suraj killed her," said Aagain SHO Santosh Kumar.

The duo were produced in a local court and sent to judicial custody, police said.

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

**235** DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN  
**CASES:** 77,61,312  
**RECOVERED:** 69,48,497  
**DEATHS:** 1,17,306  
**TESTS:** 10,01,13,085  
**DOUBLING RATE:** 97.18\*\*



KEY STATES TO WATCH	TOTAL CASES	SURGE IN 24 HOURS	7-DAY AVG GROWTH*	DOUBLING TIME**
■ Maharashtra	16,25,197	7,539	0.54%	132.31
■ Andhra	7,96,919	3,620	0.46%	155.14
■ Karnataka	7,88,551	5,778	0.84%	86.00
■ Tamil Nadu	7,00,193	3,077	0.53%	136.09
■ Kerala	3,69,323	7,482	2.16%	33.28

\* 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: <b>1.52</b> NOW: <b>1.51</b>	7 DAYS EARLIER: <b>7.99</b> NOW: <b>7.75</b>	DETECTED TODAY <b>54,366</b> RECOVERED TODAY: <b>73,979</b>
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 October 22, 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

Police make 9th arrest in 'TRP scam' case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 23

THE MUMBAI Police crime branch on Friday arrested one more person in connection with its ongoing investigation into alleged manipulation of television rating points (TRP), taking the total arrests in the case to nine. The police have also added sections of forgery to its FIR in the case.

Chandvili-resident Harish Patil (45) was arrested for allegedly helping an accused wanted in the case, the owner of a small media house, to evade arrest, police said. The two are friends, police claimed.

"We have found some monetary transactions between Patil and the accused wanted in the case. We are interrogating him to find out where the accused is," an officer said.

Meanwhile, police have added sections of forgery to its FIR in the case. "We have found several forged documents being used by the accused. Accordingly, those sections have been added," an officer said.

So far, the police have made nine arrests in the case which included former Hansa Research Group employees. It has also named five channels, including Republic TV, for allegedly paying money to boost their TRPs.

SUSHANT SINGH RAJPUT DEATH CASE

Media highly polarised now; was responsible in past: Bombay HC

OMKAR GOKHALE  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 23

THE BOMBAY High Court on Friday remarked that the media has become "highly polarised" and that journalists were neutral and responsible in the past.

A division bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice Girish S Kulkarni was hearing PILs by eight former police officers from Maharashtra, as well as activists, lawyers and NGOs, seeking restraining orders against "media trial" in the Sushant Singh Rajput death case.

Additional Solicitor General Anil Singh — representing CBI, NCB and ED — said the petitioners' claims that the central agencies were leaking information from the investigation into the suicide and allied cases to select media was "misconceived".

On October 21, the HC had sought to know from Republic TV how its statements asking viewers who should be arrested in the actor's death case amounted to investigative journalism. It also asked the News Broadcasters Federation (NBF) why no suo motu action could be initiated for "irresponsible coverage" of sensitive criminal cases and media trial.

MUMBAI

Missing for 14 days, Covid patient found dead in hospital toilet

SAGAR RAJPUT & TABASSUM  
BARNAGARWALA  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 23

THE BODY of a 27-year-old tuberculosis patient who had tested positive for Covid-19 was found in a toilet in TB Hospital, Sewri, 14 days after he went missing.

The body had gone unnoticed for 14 days even though the block toilets are supposed to be regularly cleaned and were being used by other patients. The BMC has ordered a high-level inquiry and issued notice to at least 40 hospital staffers who worked in the ward.

The body was so badly decomposed that initially, the hospital could not identify the gender of the person. They looked into their records and found a 27-year-old patient, named Suryabhan Yadav, missing from the same ward since October 4. "We had filed a missing report

then. But it is common for TB patients to go absconding from hospital," said Superintendent Dr Lalitkumar Anande. Yadav had come to the hospital with a positive Covid-19 positive on September 30, after being referred by a medical official in Goregaon. A doctor from the hospital said Yadav did not give his proper address while getting admitted. The hospital has 11 Covid positive patients. Yadav was kept on the first-floor ward for male patients. It is suspected that on October 4 he went to the toilet and collapsed due to breathlessness.

Hospital management said no patient or staffer complained of a foul smell until October 18 when a ward boy realised one of the three locked cubicles was stinking. He climbed in the next cubicle to look over the wall and found a lifeless form on the toilet floor. The hospital then informed police and sent the body to KEM hospital for a post-mortem, they said.

When asked why no staff member discovered the locked cubicle while cleaning, Anande said, "The toilets are cleaned thrice in a day. Sometimes it is occupied by patients so the cleaner goes away. But patients use those toilets regularly, and should have smelt the body. We have issued notices to all staffers on duty in ward," Anande said.

One of the doctor's at the hospital said the staff is apprehensive of entering the Covid-care ward. When a missing report was filed, a police official said they also refrained from entering the ward or checking the toilets as it was a Covid ward.

Dr Harish Pathak, head of forensic department at KEM hospital, said Yadav died due to natural causes.

Senior police inspector Sunil Sohoni of RAK Marg police station said, "We will call hospital staffers for questioning to understand how this happened. We initiated an investigation to determine if there is any foul play."

HC restrains Republic TV from using 'Newshour'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

THE DELHI High Court on Friday restrained Republic TV from using the trademark 'NEWS HOUR', or any other mark deceptively similar to it, but declined to pass any interim order to stop the use of the tagline 'Nation Wants to Know' by the channel.

The court passed the order in a suit filed by the Bennett Coleman & Co. Limited against ARG Outlier Media Pvt Ltd, seeking a decree of permanent injunction against Republic TV from using the trademark and the tagline.

In the suit, the Times Network had argued that 'THE NEW-SHOUR' is its registered trademark and 'Nation Wants to Know' was coined by its teams.

Goswami, in reply, had questioned registration of the trademark granted to Times Now, saying it lacks distinctiveness, and that the tagline has been used by him frequently and consistently.

Court said marks like 'Arnab Goswami's Newshour', prima facie would be deceptively similar to the trademark. It also said that whether 'The Nation Wants to Know' was used as trademark or a form of speech by Times Now is an aspect that has to be gone into after evidence is completed.

BRIEFLY



M Sangeetha. ANI

TAMIL NADU

Employee held for killing trans entrepreneur

**Chennai:** Two days after the killing of a well-known transgender entrepreneur and activist in Coimbatore city, the police arrested a 23-year-old man working in her restaurant in connection with the crime. They said the accused, R Rajesh, killed M Sangeetha, 59, after sexually harassing her. "Initially he claimed the murder happened when she tried to sexually assault him. He later admitted that he sexually harassed her and murdered her when she told him she would go to the police," said a senior officer probing the case. Sangeetha was also the head of a trans association in Coimbatore district. Police said the accused stole Rs 20,000 from her house after the killing and bought a phone. **ENS**

MAHARASHTRA

Man held for 'killing four siblings, rape'

**Mumbai:** The police Friday arrested a 20-year-old man who allegedly raped a 13-year-old girl at her home before killing her and her three siblings in Jalgaon district. The accused allegedly entered the house on the night of October 15 when the parents were away. He struck the necks of the two girls (13 and 6) and two boys (11 and 8) with an axe, said Jalgaon SP Pravin Mundhe. The police filed an FIR under relevant sections of POCSO Act. **ENS**

GUJARAT

Two more held in BJP leader 'murder' case

**Vadodara:** Dahod police arrested two more people from Madhya Pradesh late on Thursday in connection with the alleged contract killing of Jhalod councillor and BJP leader Hiren Patel. One of the arrested, Balram Bhuvanji, is the owner of an eatery in MP's Mahidpur. He allegedly facilitated the accused to meet on his eatery's premises to allegedly plan the "staged" September 27 "hit and run". Bhuvanji also allegedly helped the accused procure the SUV through a local acquaintance, Salim Bajji Shaikh alias Kala, who has also been arrested. **ENS**

उ० प्र० पावर ट्रान्समिशन कार्पोरेशन लिमिटेड ई-निविदा सूचना निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु ई-निविदायें दो भागों में (जी०एस०टी०) में पंजीकृत, प्रतिष्ठित एवं अनुभवी ठेकेदारों/फर्मों से ऑनलाइन ई-निविदा पोर्टल बेबसाइट 'http://etender.up.nic.in' पर आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा मूल्य जीएसटी सहित तथा धरोहर राशि आर०टी०जी०एस०/एन०एफ०आई०टी० के माध्यम से अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत 400 के०वी० उपकेन्द्र खण्ड, उ०प्र० पावर ट्रान्समिशन कार्पोरेशन लि०, मुरादाबाद कार्यालय के बैंक खाता स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इण्डिया, सिविल लाईन्स, मुरादाबाद में खाता संख्या- 10896364236, बैंक आईएफएससी कोड- SBI0000682 (MICR No. 110024101) में निर्धारित समय तक जमा करें। अन्य नियम एवं शर्तें विभाग के निर्धारित नियम एवं शर्तें उ०प्र० पावर कार्पोरेशन लि० के फार्म ए/बी के अनुसार होंगी जिन्हें किसी भी कार्यदिवस में अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में देखा जा सकता है। विस्तृत विवरण ई-निविदा पोर्टल वेबसाइट पर निविदा खुलने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय तक उपलब्ध रहेगा। निविदा में किसी भी संशोधन या तिथि विस्तार ई-निविदा पोर्टल पर अवश्य देख लिया जाए। ई-निविदा संख्या-06/2020-2021: विद्युत 400 के०वी० उपसंस्थान मुरादाबाद के कन्ट्रोल रूम में क्षतिग्रस्त डिजिटल मीटरों को बदलने से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि रू० 2000/- मात्र। निविदा शुल्क रू० 500.00 + 18% जीएसटी० मात्र। खुलने की तिथि 24-11-2020. हस्ता./- (अधिशासी अभियन्ता) विद्युत 400 के०वी० उप संस्थान खण्ड, उ०प्र० पावर ट्रान्समिशन कार्पोरेशन लि० मुरादाबाद "राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचावें" www.etender.up.nic.in पत्रांक 1009/वि. 400 के.वी.उप.स.ख.(मु.) टी. दिनांक 23/10/2020

**STATE BANK OF INDIA**  
LOCAL HEAD OFFICE, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna - 800001

**TENDER NOTICE**  
State Bank of India, LHO, Patna, invites sealed tenders from the interested Government Registered Travels Agencies. (i) For hiring of 3 (Three) TATA HARRIER XE NEW (Silver) (Petrol A/C Car) on monthly rental basis. (ii) Forms (Financial Bids & Technical Bids) and other details are available from 27.10.2020 to 04.11.2020 on our official website: [www.sbi.co.in](http://www.sbi.co.in) (under the head Procurement news) The last date of submission of bid is 04.11.2020 (iii) Bank reserves the right to cancel the tender at any time without assigning any reason. For any details, please contact Liaison Deptt. On 0612-2209044. AGM (Administration)

**DELHI JAL BOARD**  
**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR (REVENUE)**  
**VARUNALAYA PHASE-II, KAROL BAGH,**  
**NEW DELHI:05**  
**“STOP CORONA: Wear Mask,**  
**Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene”**  
**NIT/RFP No. 02/DJB/DOR/Rev.(HQ)/2020-21/ dated: 23.10.2020**  
On behalf of Delhi Jal Board, Director (Revenue) invites online tenders for Selection of Agencies for Online spot- reading, capturing of image of water meter, billing and distribution of Bill & Other activities of Water/Sewer Connections under the jurisdiction of Delhi Jal Board for the zones mentioned below.

S. No.	Name of Zone	Tender Fee	Earnest Money	Date of release of tender on e-procurement portal	Period	Last date / time of receipt of e-tender through e-procurement portal
1.	Subhash Nagar (WZ1)	Rs. 1500/- for all 12 zones	Rs. 307100/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID 2020_DJB_195978_1
2.	Kewal Park (NW4)		Rs. 413400/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID 2020_DJB_195978_2
3.	Yamuna Vihar (WE2)		Rs. 413000/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID2020_DJB_195978_3
4.	Dwarka		Rs. 118000/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID 2020_DJB_195978_4
5.	Giri Nagar (SZ2)		Rs. 177100/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID 2020_DJB_195978_5
6.	Vasant Kunz (SW2)		Rs. 236200/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID 2020_DJB_195978_6
7.	Sarita Vihar (SZ4)		Rs. 236000/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID 2020_DJB_195978_7
8.	Preet Vihar (EZ1)		Rs. 366200/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID 2020_DJB_195978_8
9.	Mandawali Zone (EZ1)		Rs. 259700/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID 2020_DJB_195978_9
10.	Rohini (NW-II)		Rs. 554900/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID 2020_DJB_195978_10
11.	Janakpuri (WZ1)		Rs. 519600/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID 2020_DJB_195978_11
12.	Tibiyi College (CZ)-II		Rs. 330700/-	23.10.2020	02 Years	23.11.2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tender ID 2020_DJB_195978_12

The RFP document can be downloaded from Delhi Government e-Procurement website (<https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>) and DJB website ([www.delhijalboard.nic.in](http://www.delhijalboard.nic.in))

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)  
Advdt. No. J.S.V. 203 (2020-21)

Sd/-  
**Dy. Director Revenue (HQ)-I**

Bombay HC directs TV Today Network to deposit Rs 5 lakh fine imposed by BARC

**Mumbai:** The Bombay High Court has directed TV Today Network Ltd to deposit with it the Rs 5 lakh fine imposed on

it by the Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) in lieu of protection from possible coercive action.

A division bench of Justice Nitin M Jamdar and Justice Milind N Jadhav was hearing TV Today's plea against a July 31 BARC order and warning letter imposing the fine on the network and alleging "viewer-ship malpractice" and violation of the Council's code of

conduct. The BARC order was based on a showcase notice to TV Today alleging that there was 'a significant abnormal jump' in the daily average reach of its channels without any distribution improvement. It had said that the same may be due to influencing the panel households which was strictly prohibited.

Counsel for TV Today said BARC failed to produce evi-

dence to prove allegations.

The bench noted, "It will be open to TV Today Network without prejudice to its rights and contentions to deposit the amount of Rs 5 lakh as directed by the BARC's Disciplinary Council in the registry of this court. If this amount is deposited no coercive steps will be taken... in the meanwhile."

The court will hear the case next on November 5. **ENS**

Rajasthan man hacks into four schools, says not following RTE rules

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
JAIPUR, OCTOBER 23

ALLEGING HARASSMENT of students enrolled under the Right to Education Act, an unidentified man in Sikar allegedly accessed computer systems of four schools and issued transfer certificates of 130 students "to teach the schools a lesson."

In a letter sent to district authorities, the man, identifying himself as a "common man", claimed that he is a retired government official aged between 50 and 70 years and is a resident of Palsana in Sikar.

He said two months ago, he read in the news that the government would release RTE funds in 15 days, and most schools got the funds. "However, despite receiving funds, the management of multiple schools were troubling parents of children enrolled under RTE, saying that the government has not re-

leased funds and the parents should pay up," the letter says. The man said he studied the RTE rules and found that students are entitled to free textbooks, uniform, etc, but the schools have been charging fees under various pretexts and troubling parents of poor children, who are not aware of the rules.

The man claimed he took the help of a computer expert to gain the school identity and password used for accessing the Private School Portal (PSP) of the Rajasthan government. He said he posed as a parent wanting to enrol his child under RTE. At the time of enrolment, he allegedly recorded the identity and password used by the operator to login to the PSP website.

The local association of private educational institutions has approached the district authorities, and Sikar's Ranoli police station lodged an FIR under relevant sections of the Information Technology Act.



## Three held for assault, threat on Dalit man in Meerut

AMIL BHATNAGAR  
NOIDA, OCTOBER 23

THREE PEOPLE have been arrested in Sikhera village of Meerut, in western UP, for allegedly assaulting and threatening a Dalit man from the same village.

According to police, the victim, Sandeep, 32, stated that the incident took place on October 16 after he had objected to the beating of a dog. As the row escalated the accused allegedly threatened him and asked him to leave the village.

The FIR was registered four days later, on October 20.

"Initially there was no complaint following the incident of assault. The accused were challaned under Section 151. In the following days, a panchayat was held and there was pressure put on the victim. On October 20, a complaint letter was received and an FIR was filed immediately," Circle Officer, Sadar Dehat, Brijesh Kumar said. "It also came to our notice that the victim was being threatened to leave the village. We will ensure there is no migration from the village," Kumar said.

Three other accused persons are absconding, the police said.

'ANTI-RELIGIOUS TEACHINGS', SAYS OUTFIT, WANTS 'ACTION IN 24 HOURS'

## ABVP seeks action against Goa professor, many profs back her

SMITANAIIR  
PANAJI, OCTOBER 23

A LAW college in Panaji has initiated an inquiry through its grievance committee against Shilpa Singh, an assistant professor of Political Science, after members of ABVP, the students' wing of RSS, complained that she "promotes socially hateful thoughts about a particular religion, community and group of people".

In a letter to VM Salgaocar College of Law, ABVP's Konkani unit joint secretary Prabha Naik has asked the college to "take action within 24 hours", failing which the outfit will be "forced to start a severe agitation against the institution" and approach the police.

In reply to ABVP, the college authorities said that "it's not possible".

On Friday, Political Science professors from across Goa colleges met online; supporting Singh and "academic sanctity inside a classroom", they have sent a resolution to the college to con-

sider her explanation before arriving at any decision.

Singh, 31, who has been given time to respond, told *The Indian Express*: "This is muzzling academic freedom. For me, doing humanities is to shoulder some social responsibilities, especially being a woman. If you curtail this freedom, it's equivalent to me dying."

Confirming that the letter was sent, ABVP's Naik said, "We have evidence. In her lectures, she was teaching many anti-religious things."

Singh, however, said ABVP members verbally conveyed four topics which they found offensive. "I was informed that they had issues with my teachings of Manusmriti and were not comfortable bringing Rohith Vemula, M M Kalburgi and (Narendra) Dabholkar into my teachings. They also objected to my stand on beef."

Prof MRK Prasad, one of the three members of the grievance committee who will now hear Singh, said: "This is a law college and we have to follow rules. The professor has been given a copy

of the letter and we will wait for her response. We do not know what has been said, and the context and the background of each thread. We will have to hear both sides before we come to a conclusion.... In the letter, they have not expressed what was anti-religion."

Since Monday, Singh has begun to record her online classes—as they now form "evidence of her style of teaching".

The college is also probing how virtual classroom footage was recorded and leaked. "Only the medium has changed. Classroom still is the same, so is its sanctity," Prasad said.

On Political Science teachers from different colleges supporting Singh, Prof Rahul Tripathi, HoD, Political Science, Goa University, said: "We came together to support the idea of a classroom. A classroom is a sacred space. What a Political Science teacher discusses in classroom is as per norms, which have evolved through so many procedures, in which many academics have contributed. A non-expert has no local stand to what

is discussed inside a classroom."

"In this particular case," Tripathi said, "what disappointed the most was that we did not hear a student directly but through a third party—a politically-affiliated group using a language which is highly intimidating. Critical politics and conservative politics is taught in classrooms all over the world. We have a strong reason to believe that the point was not academic, and was to scare (the teacher)."

Singh said she was teaching 120 first year LLB students through Google Meet, and had begun with a chapter on nature, scope and significance of political theory.

Singh said trouble began when she started lectures explaining "perspective on power". She used reading materials of D D Kosambi, Devi Prasad Chattopadhyay and other scholars to explain Manusmriti's views on women in a specific context, as it "used superstitious idealism as a tool for social control to suppress women".

## IMD launches guidance system for South Asia to tackle flash floods

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PUNE, OCTOBER 23

THE INDIA Meteorological Department (IMD) Friday launched the South Asian Flash Flood Guidance System (FFGS) to help disaster management teams and governments formulate timely evacuation plans ahead of flooding.

India, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal will share their hydrological and meteorological data to help forecast flash floods. India's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the Central Water Commission, too, have partnered in this system.

An FFGS centre will be established in New Delhi where weather modelling and analysis of rainfall data from member countries will be carried out.

"Based on the rainfall and potential flooding scenario, flash flood warnings will be issued to respective nations. Flash flood threat warning will be issued 6 hours whereas flood risk warning will be issued 24 hours in advance. Warnings at watershed level will be issued 12 hours in advance," said IMD director general Mrutyunjay Mohapatra.

An estimated 80 per cent of natural disasters in all these countries are due to erratic weather. "Among these, flash floods have significant contribu-

**EXPLAINED**  
**No robust system in place**

World Meteorological Organisation statistics suggest that world over, about 5,000 people die annually due to flash floods. Despite such high mortality, there is no robust forecasting or warning system for flash floods available.

tions, which incur heavy loss of lives and to property. In addition, the impact over South Asia increases many folds due to varying topography—mountains, oceans, Eastern and Western Ghats, Myanmar hills and others," said Mohapatra.

Ministry of Earth Sciences Secretary M Rajeevan, who launched the system at an online event, said the frequency of extreme rainfall events has increased due to climate change, and that South Asia is highly prone to flash floods.

Recently, Hyderabad was battered by heavy rain, resulting in massive flooding that led to the death of around 70 people. In the following days, districts in Maharashtra also faced intense rain and flooding that killed over 30 and damaged standing crops.

ISHRAT JAHAN ENCOUNTER CASE

## Court rejects discharge pleas of four officers


EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
AHMEDABAD, OCTOBER 23

A SPECIAL CBI court in Ahmedabad, presiding over the trial of the extra-judicial killing of Ishrat Jahan on Friday, disposed the discharge pleas filed by four accused officers—JG Parmar, Tarun Barot, GL Singhal and Anaju Chaudhary—with a direction to the CBI to seek sanction from the state government to prosecute the accused officers. Of the four, JG Parmar passed away on September 21 and hence, abated from the case.

Ishrat Jahan, Pranesh Pillai and two others who were said to be Pakistanis—Amjad Ali Rana and Zeeshan Johar—were killed near Kotarpur waterworks on the outskirts of Ahmedabad on June 15, 2004 by officers of the Ahmedabad Detection of Crime Branch, then led by DG Vanzara. The DCB had claimed the four were operatives of Lashkar-e-Taiba and out to kill the then Gujarat chief minister Narendra Modi.

The CBI had originally filed the case in 2013 against seven policemen, three of whom now stand discharged — P P Pandey, DG Vanzara and NK Amin.

At the time of making submissions before the CBI court, the present accused had pointed out that CBI was expected to obtain sanction to prosecute them prior to framing of charges. In the case of the earlier accused DG Vanzara and NK Amin, it was only owing to the court's instructions that the CBI had sought sanction for their prosecution, both of whom had filed discharge pleas at the time. The sanction was later declined.



**HEADQUARTERS**  
**EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION**  
**PANCHDEEP BHAVAN: C.I.G. ROAD: NEW DELHI- 110002**  
**(http://esic.nic.in)**  
**(A Statutory Body established under the ESI Act, 1948)**


ESI Corporation invites application from Officers with outstanding track record to the post of Additional Commissioner on deputation (including short-term contract) basis:

Sl. No.	Name of Post	Method of Recruitment	Level in the Pay Matrix	No. of Posts
1.	Additional Commissioner	Deputation (including short-term contract)	Level 13A (Minimum Pay Rs. 1,31,100/-)	12


The advertisement giving full details has been published in the 3rd-9th October 2020 issue of Employment News. Those who are interested may go through the issue for details or can log on to ESIC website [www.esic.nic.in](http://www.esic.nic.in) for details and downloading Bio-data/Curriculum Vitae proforma.

**P. B. Mani**  
**Insurance Commissioner (P&A)**

davp 23111/11/0009/2021



**ICAR-INDIAN VETERINARY RESEARCH INSTITUTE**  
**IZATANGAR -243 122, BAREILLY (U.P.)**




**Online/Walk-in Interview**

An Online/Walk-in Interview is scheduled for engagement of purely temporary position of one **Junior Research Fellow (JRF)** under DBT project on "Development of early pregnancy diagnostic assay through discovery of biomarkers in cattle and buffalo".

**Selection procedure:** Candidates fulfilling essential qualifications may submit their advance application along with CV with personal details to [singhsk2032@rediffmail.com](mailto:singhsk2032@rediffmail.com). Eligible candidates will be informed and called for Interview 'Online or Walk-in' on **03/11/2020 at 11.00 AM in Committee room of Division of Animal Reproduction, ICAR-IVRI, Izatnagar-243 122 (UP)**. For more details regarding desirable qualification, experience, eligibility, remuneration etc. candidates may log on to Institute website [www.ivri.nic.in](http://www.ivri.nic.in).

**No TA/DA will be given for appearing in the interview.**



Regd. Office: 3rd Floor, Maker Chambers IV, 222, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021  
Phone: 022-3555 5000 • E-mail: [investor.relations@ril.com](mailto:investor.relations@ril.com)  
CIN: L17110MH1973PLC019786

**NOTICE**


Pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (Listing Regulations), notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on **Friday, October 30, 2020** *inter alia* to consider and approve the standalone and consolidated unaudited financial results of the Company for the quarter and half-year ended September 30, 2020.

The said Notice may be accessed on the Company's website at <http://www.ril.com> and may also be accessed on the Stock Exchange websites at <http://www.bseindia.com> and <http://www.nseindia.com>.


For Reliance Industries Limited  
sd/-  
Savithri Parekh  
Joint Company Secretary and Compliance Officer

Place : Mumbai  
Date : October 22, 2020

[www.ril.com](http://www.ril.com)



**AGRA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**



**NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**

Sealed Applications are invited for "Selection of consulting firm to provide advisory Services, for design, implementation and monitoring of integrated solid waste management system to achieve objectives of SWM Rule-2016 and other related activities in accordance to Swachh Bharat Mission and Swachh Survekshan-2021 under jurisdiction of AMC." in conformity with the Terms & Conditions of the detailed RFP notice in a two cover system i.e. Technical and Financial proposal from intending applicants fulfilling the terms of eligibility laid down in the RFP document. Please refer to Website [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) for complete details and downloading the document. The document shall be available on the website from 27.10.2020. The Last date & time of submission of proposal is 04.11.2020 till 05:00 PM.

**Municipal Commissioner**  
**Agra Municipal Corporation**

## MORE FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2020

In order to clear extra rush of passengers during forthcoming Festival Season, Railways have decided to run the following additional Festival Special Trains as per details given below:-

09803/09804 Kota-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra- Kota Express Special (Weekly)					
TRAIN NO. 09803		STATIONS		TRAIN NO. 09804	
ARR.	DEP.			ARR.	DEP.
—	14:30	Kota		23:50	—
14:55	—	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra		—	21:55

**Days of Run :** 09803 from Kota on every Saturday from 24.10.2020 till further advice and 09804 from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra on every Sunday from 25.10.2020 till further advice.

**Accommodation :** AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & Second Seating (Reserved).

**Stoppages:** Indargarh, Sawai Madhopur, Ganganagar City, Hindaun City, Bayana Jn., Bharatpur Jn., Mathura Jn., Faridabad, New Delhi, Bahadurgarh, Rohtak Jn., Jind Jn., Narwana Jn., Tohana, Jakhal Jn., Sangrur, Dhuri Jn., Malerkotla, Ludhiana, Phagwara Jn., Jalandhar Cantt., Mukerian, Pathankot Cantt., Kathua, Jammu Tawi, & Udhampur stations.

09805/09806 Kota-Udhampur-Kota Express Special (Weekly)					
TRAIN NO. 09805		STATIONS		TRAIN NO. 09806	
ARR.	DEP.			ARR.	DEP.
—	14:30	Kota		11:10	—
12:15	—	Udhampur		—	14:20

**Days of Run :** 09805 from Kota on every Wednesday from 28.10.2020 till further advice and 09806 from Udhampur on every Thursday from 29.10.2020 till further advice.

**Accommodation :** AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & Second Seating (Reserved).

**Stoppages:** Indargarh, Sawai Madhopur, Gangapur City, Hindaun City, Bayana Jn., Bharatpur Jn., Mathura Jn., Faridabad, Hazrat Nizamuddin, New Delhi, Sonapat, Panipat, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Ambala Cantt., Ludhiana Jn., Jalandhar Cantt., Pathankot Cantt., Kathua & Jammu Tawi stations.

02183/02184 Bhopal-Partapgarh Jn.-Bhopal Express Special (Tri-Weekly)					
TRAIN NO. 02183		STATIONS		TRAIN NO. 02184	
ARR.	DEP.			ARR.	DEP.
—	19:15	Bhopal		08:50	—
09:00	—	Partapgarh		—	19:10

**Days of Run :** 02183 from Bhopal on every Tuesday, Friday & Sunday from 25.10.2020 till further advice and 02184 from Partapgarh on every Monday, Wednesday & Saturday from 26.10.2020 till further advice.

**Accommodation :** AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & Second Seating (Reserved).

**Stoppages:** Vidisha, Bina Jn., Lalitpur, Jhansi Jn., Orai, Kanpur Central, Lucknow, Rae Bareilly Jn., Jais & Amethi stations.

01449/01450 Jabalpur-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra - Jabalpur Express Special (Weekly)					
TRAIN NO. 01449		STATIONS		TRAIN NO. 01450	
ARR.	DEP.			ARR.	DEP.
—	07:10	Jabalpur		07:15	—
14:55	—	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra		—	21:55

**Days of Run :** 01449 from Jabalpur on every Tuesday from 27.10.2020 till further advice and 01450 from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra on every Wednesday from 28.10.2020 till further advice.

**Accommodation :** First AC, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & Second Seating (Reserved).


**Stoppages:** Katni Murwara, Damoh, Saugor, Khurai, Malkheri, Jhansi Jn., Gwalior, Morena, Agra Cantt., Mathura Jn., Faridabad, Tuglakabad, Okhla, Hazrat Nizamuddin, New Delhi, Delhi Kishanganj, Shakurbasti, Bahadurgarh, Rohtak Jn., Jind Jn., Narwana Jn., Jakhal Jn., Sangrur, Dhuri Jn., Ludhiana, Jalandhar Cantt., Pathankot Cantt., Kathua, Jammu Tawi & Udhampur stations.

04321/04322 Bareilly-Bhuj - Bareilly Festival Special Express					
TRAIN NO. 04321		STATIONS		TRAIN NO. 04322	
ARR.	DEP.			ARR.	DEP.
—	06:35	Bareilly		20:35	—
09:30	—	Bhuj		—	17:05


**Days of Run :** 04321 from Bareilly on every Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Sunday from 25.10.2020 to 29.11.2020 and 04322 from Bhuj on every Wednesday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday from 28.10.2020 to 02.12.2020.

**Accommodation :** AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & Second Seating (Reserved).

**Stoppages:** Mirak, Rampur, Moradabad, Amroha, Gajraula Jn., Hapur, Pilkhuwa, Ghaziabad, Delhi Jn., Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Delhi Cantt., Palam, Gurgaon, Garhi Harsaru, Pataudi Road, Rewari Jn., Khairat, Alwar, Malakhera, Raigarh, Bandikui Jn., Dausa, Gator Jagatpura, Gandhinagar Jaipur, Jaipur, Phulera Jn., Naraina, Kishangarh, Ajmer Jn., Beawar, Marwar Jn., Falna, Abu Road, Palanpur Jn., Disa, Bhildi, Diodar, Radhanpur, Santalpur, Samakhiali, Bhachau, Gandhidham, Adipur & Anjar stations.



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पद सं. / Post No.	रिक्तियों की संख्या / No. of vacancies	अनिवार्य अपेक्षाएं / Essential requirements	
736	02* (कुल दो रिक्तियों में, एक पीडब्ल्यूबीडी-ओएच/ पीडब्ल्यूबीडी-एच/अनारक्षित के लिए आवेदनित है।) (Out of 02, one vacancy is reserved for PWBD-OH/ PWBD-HH(Un-Reserved))	यांत्रिक / यांत्रिक इंजीनियरिंग में कीर्ति/वी.टी.के. या समतुल्य + विद्युत्समीपरा इंजीनियरिंग / गृहयुत्तरा प्रबंधन में एम.ई./एम.टेक या समतुल्य B.E/B.Tech or equivalent in Mechanical/Aerospace Engineering + M.E/M.Tech or equivalent in Propulsion Engineering/ Mechanical Engineering with Specialisation in Propulsion/Aerospace Engineering with Specialisation in Propulsion	● कुल न्यूनतम 65% अंक (सभी सेमेस्टर्स का औसत) या 10 स्कूल में सीजीपीए 6.84 के साथ प्रथम श्रेणी में कीर्ति/वी.टी.के. या समतुल्य B.E / B.Tech or equivalent should be in First class with an aggregate minimum of 65 % marks (average of all semesters) or CGPA 6.84 on a 10 scale.
737	01	यांत्रिक इंजीनियरिंग में कीर्ति/वी.टी.के. या समतुल्य + विद्युत्समीपरा इंजीनियरिंग / गृहयुत्तरा प्रबंधन में एम.ई./एम.टेक या समतुल्य B.E/B.Tech or equivalent in Mechanical Engineering + M.E/M.Tech or equivalent in Reliability Engineering/ Quality Management	● कुल न्यूनतम 60% अंक या सीजीपीए/ सीपीआई अंक 10 स्कूल में 6.5 या उसका समतुल्य के साथ प्रथम श्रेणी में एम.ई./ एम.टेक या समतुल्य M.E / M.Tech or equivalent should be in First class with an aggregate minimum of 60% marks or CGPA/ CPI grades of 6.5 on a 10 scale or equivalent.
738	03	इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स एवं संचार इंजीनियरिंग में कीर्ति/वी.टी.के. या समतुल्य + पीएलएसआई एवं अंतः स्थापित प्रणाली में एम.ई./एम.टेक या समतुल्य B.E/B.Tech or equivalent in Electronics & Communication Engineering + M.E/M.Tech or equivalent in VLSI & Embedded Systems	
739	01* (पीडब्ल्यूबीडी-एच/पीडब्ल्यूबीडी-ओएच/ अनारक्षित।) (PWBD-HH/ PWBD-OH / Un-Reserved)	यांत्रिक इंजीनियरिंग में कीर्ति/वी.टी.के. या समतुल्य + मशीन अभियंता/एम.ई./एम.टेक या समतुल्य B.E/B.Tech or equivalent in Mechanical Engineering + M.E/M.Tech or equivalent in Machine Design	

\* पद 736 एवं 739 में उल्लिखित पीडब्ल्यूबीडी रिक्तियों के संबंध में, उल्लिखित अधिमान के क्रम में रिक्तियां भरने हेतु प्रयत्न किया जाएगा। अगर उपर्युक्त अस्थायी उपलब्ध नहीं है तो, भारत सरकार के आदेशों के अनुसार इस पद को सामान्य अस्थायी द्वारा पद भर दिया जाएगा। / In the case of PWBD vacancies identified in Posts 736 & 739, effort will be made to fill up the vacancies in the order of preference mentioned. If no candidates are found suitable, the same will be filled by General candidates as per Govt. of India orders issued on the subject.

[पीडब्ल्यूबीडी-ओएच: निर्वैशिक (बैचमार्क) आंगना-यांत्रिक रूप से अपंग यांत्रिक, पीडब्ल्यूबीडी-एच/एम: निर्वैशिक (बैचमार्क) आंगना-श्रवण/आंगना] [PWBD-OH : Persons with Benchmark Disabilities - Orthopaedically Handicapped, PWBD-HH : Persons with Benchmark Disabilities - Hearing Handicapped]

09.11.2020 को आयु सीमा 35 वर्ष है। पूर्व सैनिक, विभागीय अस्थायी तथा निर्वैशिक (बैचमार्क) आंगना यांत्रिक (पीडब्ल्यूबीडी) भारत सरकार के नियमानुसार उपरी आयु की सीमा में ढील के पात्र हैं। आवेदन ऑनलाइन के माध्यम से ही प्राप्त किया जाएगा। इच्छुक अस्थायी विस्तृत जानकारी एवं आवेदन प्रपत्र भरने हेतु वेबसाइट [www.lpsc.gov.in](http://www.lpsc.gov.in) देखें। ऑनलाइन नवीं पोर्टल 27.10.2020 को 1400 बजे से 09.11.2020 को 1400 बजे तक उपलब्ध होगी। Age limit as on 09.11.2020 is 35 years. Ex-Servicemen, Departmental candidates and Persons With Benchmark Disabilities (PWBDs) are eligible for upper age relaxation as per Govt. of India orders. Applications will be received only through on-line. Interested candidates may visit the website [www.lpsc.gov.in](http://www.lpsc.gov.in) for detailed information and filling-up on-line application form. The on-line recruitment portal will be available from 1400 hrs on 27.10.2020 to 1400 hrs on 09.11.2020.

04311/04312 Bareilly-Bhuj - Bareilly Festival Special Express					
TRAIN NO. 04311		STATIONS		TRAIN NO. 04312	
ARR.	DEP.			ARR.	DEP.
—	06:35	Bareilly		20:35	—
12:05	—	Bhuj		—	14:05

**Days of Run :** 04311 from Bareilly on every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday from 27.10.2020 to 01.12.2020 and 04312 from Bhuj on every Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 26.10.2020 to 30.11.2020.

**Accommodation :** AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & Second Seating (Reserved).

**Stoppages:** Mirak, Rampur, Moradabad, Amroha, Gajraula Jn., Hapur, Pilkhuwa, Ghaziabad, Delhi Jn., Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Delhi Cantt., Palam, Gurgaon, Garhi Harsaru, Pataudi Road, Rewari Jn., Khairat, Alwar, Malakhera, Raigarh, Bandikui Jn., Dausa, Gandhinagar Jaipur, Jaipur, Phulera Jn., Naraina, Kishangarh, Ajmer Jn., Beawar, Sojat Road, Marwar Jn., Falna, Abu Road, Palanpur Jn., Mahesana Jn., Ambli Road, Viramgam Jn., Dhrangdhra, Halvad, Samakhiali, Bhachau, Gandhidham, Adipur & Anjar stations.

REROUTING OF CLONE EXPRESS					
09065/09066 Surat-Chhapra-Surat Clone Superfast Special will be re-routed as under:-					
TRAIN NO. 09065		STATIONS		TRAIN NO. 09066	
ARR.	DEP.			ARR.	DEP.
—	08:30	Surat		13:45	—
Pass	12:40	Paldhi		Pass	09:00
13:10	13:15	Bhusaval Jn.		07:35	07:40
Pass	15:30	Khandwa		Pass	06:10
17:40	17:50	Itarsi Jn.		03:45	03:55
21:20	21:30	Jabalpur Jn.		00:05	00:15
Pass	01:30	Manikpur		Pass	19:55
03:05					









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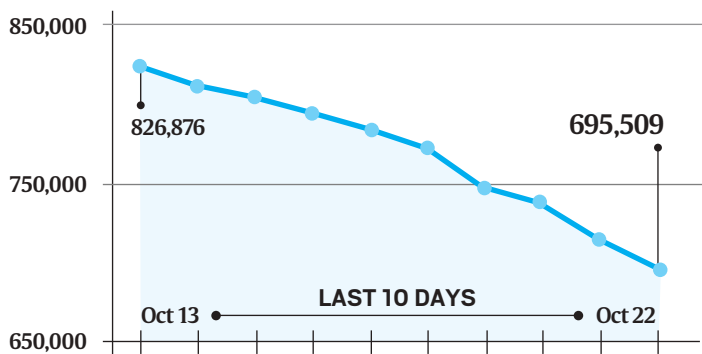
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If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to [explained@indianexpress.com](mailto:explained@indianexpress.com)

## CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

### INDIA ACTIVE CASES

695,509



Note: The Oct 22 figure in this graph is based on the government update on Oct 23

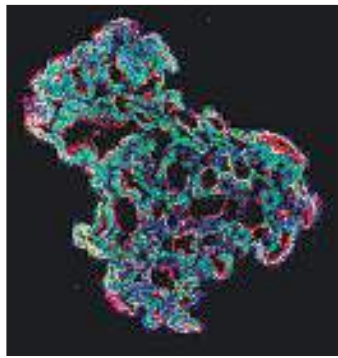
**INDIA TOTAL CASES**  
**7,761,312**

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, updated at 11 pm on Oct 23

**WORLD TOTAL CASES**  
**41,982,448**

Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated at 11 pm on Oct 23

## Scientists grow 'mini-lungs' in lab, infect them with coronavirus and watch battle in real time



University of Cambridge



Duke University

(Left) Representative image of 3D lung organoid showing alveolar stem cell marker; (right) image by Arvind Konkikimalla shows how a single lung stem cell copied itself to generate thousands of cells and generate a structure resembling breathing tissues.

THE NOVEL coronavirus is known to attack primarily the lungs, but how the attack unfolds is still a subject of research. Now, two studies have thrown light on these processes by using the same approach. Scientists have developed lung models in the lab, infected these with SARS-CoV-2, and watched the battle between the lung cells and the virus.

Both papers are published in the journal *Cell Stem Press*. One study is by South Korean and UK researchers, including from the University of Cambridge; the other is by researchers from Duke University and University of North Carolina.

In both studies, scientists observed how the virus damages the alveoli in the lungs. Alveoli are balloon-like air sacs that take up the oxygen we breathe and release the carbon dioxide we exhale. Damage to alveoli causes pneumonia and acute respiratory distress — the leading cause of death in Covid-19.

Both teams developed the model using "mini-lungs" — or lung organoids. The organoids were grown from the stem cells that repair the deepest portions of the lungs where SARS-CoV-2

attacks. These are called AT2 cells.

The UK and South Korean team reprogrammed the AT2 cells back to their earlier "stem cell" stage. They grew self-organising, alveolar-like 3D structures that mimic the behaviour of key lung tissue. When the 3D models were exposed to SARS-CoV-2, the virus began to replicate rapidly. In six hours, cells began to produce interferons — proteins that act as warning signals to neighbouring cells. After 48 hours, the cells started fighting back. And after 60 hours from infection, some of the alveolar cells began to disintegrate, leading to cell death and damage to the tissue.

In the other study, led by Duke University cell biologist Purushothama Rao Tata, the team got a single lung cell to multiply into thousands of copies and create a structure that resembles breathing tissues of the human lung. Once infected with the virus, the model showed an inflammatory response. The team also witnessed the cytokine storm — the hyper reaction of immune molecules the lungs launch to fight the infection.

KABIR FIRAQUE



## SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

# What determines onion prices

In back-to-back moves aimed at controlling onion prices, the government has relaxed import norms and now reintroduced stock limits. Why have prices been rising, and how far can these moves check the rise?

**PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS**  
 PUNE, OCTOBER 23

WITH LESS than a week to go for the Bihar elections, the Centre on Friday reintroduced the stock limit on onions — a move aimed at controlling rising prices, which crossed Rs 80 per kg in many cities on Friday, including nearly Rs 100/kg in Mumbai.

Barely a month ago, Parliament had amended the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to exclude onions — besides potatoes, edible oils, oilseed and pulses — from the list of essential commodities, thus freeing them from stock limits. Since then, possibly with the Bihar elections in mind, the government has acted twice towards controlling onion prices; it relaxed import norms on Wednesday, followed by Friday's reintroduction of the stock limit.

A look at the dynamics of onion prices and the impact of the government intervention:

### Why have onion prices been rising?

They have been rising since the last week of August, as reports started coming in of massive losses to kharif onions caused by heavy rainfall in north Karnataka. This crop was meant to arrive after September and was expected to feed the markets until the arrival of the kharif crop from Maharashtra towards the end of October.

There are three main onion crops — kharif (June-July sowing, post-October harvest), late kharif (September sowing, post-December harvest), and rabi (December-January sowing, post-March harvest). The rabi crop has the least moisture content, making it amenable to storage. Farmers, especially in Maharashtra, store it in on-field structures called *kanda chawls* to protect it from moisture and light. This crop feeds the markets till the next one arrives.

The heavy rain in September not only destroyed the new crop in Karnataka but also took a toll on stored onions in states like Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. Farmers in Maharashtra alone had marketable onions, having stored around 28 lakh tonnes at the start of summer. But even Maharashtra farm-



At APMC market in Navi Mumbai on Friday. Narendran Vaskar

### ONION RETAIL PRICES, OCT 23

Delhi	₹ 58/kg
Mumbai	₹ 97/kg
Chennai	₹ 83/kg
Kolkata	₹ 80/kg

Source: Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs

ers, in fact, have suffered more than their usual storage losses — 50-60% as against 30-40% normally. Rain in the onion belt of Ahmednagar, Nashik and Pune had caused water seepage into the structures.

Also, agriculture officers say, the shelf life of the onion is lower this year due to overuse of urea by farmers. "Last year, onion prices were good and farmers were extra-indulgent with urea to increase yield. Unfortunately, this reduces the shelf life of onions," an officer said.

The national acreage for rabi onions last season was 10 lakh hectares as against 7 lakh hectares of 2018-19. But the additional wastage has constrained supply.

Of the 28 lakh tonnes stored in

Maharashtra, around 10-11 lakh tonnes remain now. The yearly consumption of onions in India is slated to be 160 lakh tonnes with Maharashtra alone consuming around 4,000-6,000 tonnes per day.

### How has the government reacted to this?

The Centre applied the first brakes on rising prices on September 14, when it banned the export of onions. This was done when the amendment to Essential Commodities Act 1955 took away the power of the government to put stock limits on onions and a few other commodities. Stock limits have been a potent weapon for controlling prices. But even after the export ban, prices continued to rise due to a supply-demand mismatch. Last week, income tax officers from Pune inspected the books of nine principal traders in Nashik.

This was followed by the relaxation of import norms on Wednesday, to allow easy shipping in from Iran, Turkey and other onion-producing nations. In Mumbai, the Vashi wholesale market got 600 tonnes of onions, which made its way to markets in South India.

And on Friday, the government reintroduced the stock limit. Wholesale traders are

# Is death in Brazil a blow to AstraZeneca vaccine?

**PRABHA RAGHAVAN**  
 NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

A PARTICIPANT in the late-stage clinical trials of AZD1222, the Covid-19 vaccine developed by The University of Oxford and Swedish-British drugmaker AstraZeneca, has died in Brazil. What does this mean for the closely watched vaccine candidate — a version of which is at the forefront of India's own Covid-19 vaccine race?

### What happened at the trial, and why is it important?

The volunteer for the trial in Brazil died this week, according to the country's health surveillance agency, ANVISA. While the regulator, University of Oxford and AstraZeneca did not elaborate further, a report by CNN Brasil said the volunteer was a 28-year-old man living in Rio de Janeiro and had died of Covid-19 complications.

The vaccine uses a weakened common cold chimpanzee virus to carry instructions to create the spike protein of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, like a Trojan horse. The spike protein is the part of the virus that allows it to infect

humans in the first place. The body's immune system is expected to recognise this spike protein as a threat, and develop antibodies to fight it, so that it will be ready to attack the real virus if infection happens.

Brazil is among the major sites for testing this vaccine globally, with phase 3 human trials there enrolling around 5,000 volunteers. The participants were either given the Covid-19 vaccine or were administered doses of a previously approved vaccine against meningitis — a viral, bacterial or fungal infection that causes inflammation of the brain and spinal cord membranes.

### Does the death mean the vaccine is unsafe?

From the information available so far, it does not mean the vaccine is unsafe. According to reports, the participant was not given AZD1222, which would mean that his death was not a result of the vaccine.

AstraZeneca has said that this issue, like all significant medical events, was "carefully assessed" by trial investigators, an independent safety monitoring committee, and regulatory authorities.

"These assessments have not led to any


**Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine given to a volunteer in trial in Pune.** Express Archive

concerns about continuation of the ongoing study," the company has said in a statement.

### But have there not been other issues at trials with this vaccine?

This is the first reported death during this trial. Previously, the vaccine candidate had hit a roadblock in September, when a participant in the UK reportedly given the Covid-19 vaccine developed a serious adverse reaction. The trials were put on pause across the world as a result.

Following reviews that led investigators, a safety monitoring board and the UK government to conclude that the reaction was not caused by the vaccine, trials have resumed at most sites except in the US. The US Food and Drug Administration is still looking into this adverse event and is yet to approve the restart of the trials there.

### How are trials in India progressing?

Pune-headquartered Serum Institute of India (SII) has an agreement with AstraZeneca to manufacture this vaccine for low- and middle-income countries. It is currently conducting late-stage trial of the candidate in India targeting around 1,600 participants. The UK incident had led to a brief pause in the trial in India, too, but it has now resumed.

### What happens to the trial in Brazil?

Brazil's regulator has said that the trial will continue. Testing would have been suspended if the participant had been vaccinated with the Covid-19 candidate. However, as it has been suggested that this person was part of the meningitis vaccine control group, there is no question of the trial being halted as a result of this death.

# Tocilizumab: initial excitement, disappointing trials, yet trusted by many

**TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA**  
 MUMBAI, OCTOBER 23

A STUDY published this week suggests that the drug tocilizumab may not prevent mortality in Covid-19 patients. It is the second such study on this drug. And tocilizumab is the second drug, after hydroxychloroquine, that had quickly earned global popularity as a Covid-19 treatment before its efficacy came under question in the wake of poor trial outcomes.

Between May and July, tocilizumab was widely used across India for moderately ill Covid-19 patients. Even today, doctors are divided on its efficacy against Covid-19.

### What is tocilizumab?

It is an immunosuppressant, commonly used for rheumatoid arthritis, and marketed as Actemra by Swiss pharma company Roche. It was repurposed in January to fight severe lung infection in Covid-19 patients. Once it reached India by April-end, many Indian doctors initially reposed faith in the drug, some even calling it a "miracle drug". At one point, demand was so high that patients had to wait for days to get a vial.

Roche supplied it to Cipla, which supplied to distributors and hospitals. Mumbai

had three distributors and each witnessed a queue of 200-300 people daily to buy the drug. Then came the two study results.

### What are the latest findings?

On October 21, the *New England Journal of Medicine* published a study on 243 patients that found tocilizumab was not effective in preventing death in moderately ill, hospitalised Covid-19 patients. At the end of 14 days, those given tocilizumab had no significant clinical improvements, except fewer serious infections, compared to those not administered the drug. While 18% of the patients in the tocilizumab group had worsening of disease against 14.9% in the placebo group, 24.6% were still on oxygen support in the tocilizumab group against 21.2% in the other group.

### What were the previous findings?

On July 29, Roche published results of a phase-III trial, called Covacta, which found that tocilizumab did not meet the primary endpoint of clinical improvement or the secondary endpoint of reduction in mortality. Since then, the drug's demand has plummeted. The trial was on severely infected Covid-19 patients with pneumonia. At the end of four weeks, it found no significant difference between outcomes in the group

given tocilizumab and in the placebo group, or in the percentage of people who had died. There was, however, a faster discharge rate in patients administered tocilizumab.

On September 18, Roche published results of another phase III trial, Empacta. These results were slightly more encouraging: 44% of patients given tocilizumab are less likely to progress into ventilation requirement, but there was again no difference in mortality rates.

### To what extent is it still being used?

In a web seminar of the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations in September, Dr Severin Schwan, Chief Executive Officer of Roche, said the company has not reduced supply of tocilizumab after the July 29 trial results. "We are using it in combination with other drugs and trial results are awaited. There is enough supply," Dr Schwan said.

While some doctors continue to give it to patients, others have ceased to do so after the trial results. J B Mantri, Joint Commissioner in Maharashtra's Food and

Drug Administration (FDA), said demand for the drug has plummeted since August. Until July-end, 12,000 vials of tocilizumab had been consumed in Maharashtra. "After that, there is negligible demand for Covid-19 patients," Mantri said.

Dr Gunjan Chanchalani, Head Intensivist in Mumbai's Bhatia Hospital, said, "I have reduced use of tocilizumab. And the patient outcome has not got affected much in its absence." Doctors also point to the cost — a 400-mg dose costs Rs 40,500, and not every patient can afford multiple doses.

And yet, one section of doctors continue to prescribe tocilizumab.

### Why are some doctors continuing with tocilizumab?

Roche has partnered with Gilead Sciences for another trial, of tocilizumab in combination with the antiviral remdesivir, manufactured by Gilead. Although the results of the trial, which began in June with 450 patients, are not yet out, doctors are optimistic based on their anecdotal experience.

Pulmonologist Dr Jalil Parkar said remdesivir-tocilizumab combination has



"turned around patients if used in the nick of time". "One must understand that trials look for a specific outcome and select a specific pool of people. We can't say the drug failed because the specific outcome was not achieved. I have treated more than 1,000 patients and clinical acumen has taught us better use of tocilizumab now," he said.

In April, Dr Parkar was the first in India to use tocilizumab, on a 52-year-old Covid patient in Lilavati Hospital. Then in short supply, the drug was imported. The patient died despite plasma therapy and three doses of tocilizumab. But Parkar insists that only a delay can render the drug ineffective.

Dr Mohan Joshi, Dean of Sion Hospital, mentioned favourable outcomes in patients given tocilizumab as part of a trial study in Nair Hospital. Dr Balkrishna Adsul, Dean of Seven Hills Hospital, said he has treated 900 patients with tocilizumab. "Whatever the trial results say, if given on time this drug helps improve oxygen saturation level in 24 to 48 hours." Dr Adsul agreed that the drug is not useful in all patients, and said he uses it in just 3-4% of hospitalised Covid-19 patients along with remdesivir. "The key is using it at the right time for the right person," Adsul said.

### What are the alternatives?

Remdesivir has not yet fallen out of

favour, although results of the World Health Organization (WHO) Solidarity trial found this drug — and a few other treatments including hydroxychloroquine — were not effective in preventing mortality. On Thursday, remdesivir became the first drug to get US FDA approval for Covid-19 treatment. Until now US FDA has only given emergency-use authorisation to treatments for Covid-19. Many doctors find remdesivir effective if used early.

Plasma convalescent therapy too remains under debate. An Indian Council of Medical Research trial (PLACID) on 464 patients in 39 hospitals has found this therapy ineffective in preventing mortality. Experts have, however, questioned these results as the donors were not selected on the basis of neutralising antibodies present in their plasma.

Dr Jayanthi Shastri, Head Microbiologist in Mumbai's Kasturba Laboratory, said ever since the test became available, they are now selecting donors based on antibody titres and history of symptoms to ensure good-quality plasma. Several hospitals also insist on testing donors before extracting their plasma to ensure the antibodies are effective.

The steroid dexamethasone and the blood thinner heparin too are being used for treatment of Covid-19.



TOPOF THE  
WORLD

Edward Snowden

RUSSIA  
Snowden gets permanent residency in Russia: lawyer

FORMER US security contractor Edward Snowden has been granted permanent residency in Russia, his lawyer said Thursday. Snowden, a former contractor with the US National Security Agency, has been living in Russia since 2013 to escape prosecution in the US after leaking classified documents detailing government surveillance programs. "Today, Snowden was handed a residency permit for an unlimited period of time," his Russian lawyer Anatoly Kucherena told Russia's state Tass news agency. Kucherena said the application was submitted in April, but because of the pandemic, it more time to consider it. **AP**

AUSTRALIA  
Nationwide child exploitation probe: 44 held

AUSTRALIAN POLICE said on Friday they charged 44 men with possessing and producing child-abuse material after a year-long investigation into dissemination of abhorrent content on the internet. Police also removed 16 children from harm in an operation that saw arrests in almost all of the country's eight states and territories, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) said in a statement. The AFP said it began the investigation after receiving a report that thousands of people were using an unspecified cloud storage platform to spread child-abuse material. **REUTERS**

GERMANY  
Hitler speeches sell at auction despite objection

HANDWRITTEN SPEECH notes by Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler sold at auction in Munich on Friday despite concerns from Jewish groups they could encourage neo-Nazis. The Hermann Historica auction house defended the sale of the manuscripts, all dated before the outbreak of World War II, saying they were of historical significance and belong preserved in a museum. The documents all sold to anonymous bidders for well above their starting prices. **AP**

## In final Trump-Biden showdown, less chaos but plenty of clashes

Candidates offer starkly divergent views on Covid, health care, climate

ALEXANDER BURNS  
& JONATHAN MARTIN  
OCTOBER 23EXPLAINED  
Little has changed for candidates

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump and Joe Biden delivered starkly divergent closing arguments to the country in the final presidential debate Thursday, offering opposite prognoses for the coronavirus pandemic and airing irreconcilable differences on subjects from rescuing the economy and bolstering the health care system to fighting climate change and reshaping the immigration system.

The debate was, on the whole, a more restrained affair than the first encounter between the two candidates last month, when Trump harangued Biden for most of an hour and a half and effectively short-circuited any policy debate. But if the tenor of Thursday's forum was more sedate, the conflict in matters of substance and vision could not have been more dramatic.

From the opening minutes, the two candidates took opposing stances on the pandemic, with Trump promising, in defiance of evidence, that the disease was "going away" while Biden called for much more aggressive federal action in a "dark winter" ahead.

Trump, who badgered Biden with increasing aggression over the course of the debate, appeared determined to cast his opponent as a career politician who was, as he jabbed toward the end of the debate, "all talk and no action." And the President used the event as his most prominent platform yet for airing unsubstantiated attacks about the finances of Biden and members of his family.

Trump, however, did little to lay out an affirmative case for his own re-election, or to explain in clear terms what he would hope to do with another four years in the White House. He frequently misrepresented the facts of his own record, and Biden's. And on his most important political vulnerability — his mismanagement

of the pandemic — Trump hewed unwaveringly to a message that happy days are nearly here again. Biden, for his part, stuck to the core of the argument that has propelled his campaign from the start, denouncing Trump as a divisive leader who botched the federal response to the pandemic. Though Trump pushed him onto the defensive repeatedly, Biden also laid out a fuller version of his own policy agenda than he managed in the first debate, calling for large-scale economic stimulus spending, new aid to states battling Covid-19 and a muscular expansion of health care and worker benefits nationwide. **NYT**

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## Sri Lanka Parliament votes to strengthen presidential powers

WARUNA KARUNATILAKE  
COLOMBO, OCTOBER 23

Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

SRI LANKAN lawmakers approved amendments to the constitution that strengthened the powers of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and took away Parliament's role in making key appointments such as judges and the police chief.

The new amendments were passed by Parliament late on Thursday with a two-thirds majority after a raucous two-day debate.

Rajapaksa, a former defence chief who oversaw the military defeat of Tamil separatists a decade ago, swept to power last November and has since consolidated control.

In August, his party overwhelmingly won a parliamentary

election on an election plank that included doing away with a previous constitutional amendment in 2015 that had put more power in the legislature's hands.

The government has argued that strengthening the president's powers was required for better governance.

Under the new law, Sri Lanka's President will have the power to dissolve the legislature any time after it crosses the halfway mark of its five-year term.

The opposition has criticised the move, and some wore red arm-bands in protest. **REUTERS**

Trump and Biden during their last presidential debate in Nashville, Tennessee, Thursday. *Reuters*

## KEY QUOTES: 'WE'RE ROUNDING THE CORNER' vs 'DARK WINTER'

## ON COVID-19

**TRUMP:** "We're fighting it and we're fighting it hard... We're rounding the corner. It's going away."

**BIDEN:** "Anyone who's responsible for that many deaths should not remain as president of United States of America... We're about to go into a dark winter, and he has no clear plan."

## ON OIL INDUSTRY

**BIDEN:** "I would transition from the oil industry... Because the oil industry pollutes, significantly."

**TRUMP:** "Will you remember that, Texas? Will you remember that, Pennsylvania?"

## ON RACE

**TRUMP:** "(I've done) the

criminal justice reform bill, prison reform, opportunity zones, I took care of Black colleges and universities."

**BIDEN:** "(Trump) pours fuel on every single racist fire. He started off his campaign coming down the escalator saying he's getting rid of those Mexican 'rapists'. He's banned Muslims because they're Muslims."

*Reuters*

## Putin most likely directing election interference to aid Trump, says CIA

JULIAN E BARNES  
& DAVID E SANGER  
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 23

Russian President Vladimir Putin

PRESIDENT VLADIMIR Putin of Russia is most likely continuing to approve and direct interference operations aimed at raising President Trump's re-election chances, a recent CIA analysis concluded, a signal that intelligence agencies continue to back their assessment of Russian activities despite the President's attacks.

The assessment was disseminated in support of sanctions imposed this month on Andriy Derkach, a pro-Russian Ukrainian lawmaker who has spread information critical of Joe Biden. It is consistent with intelligence officials' warning to lawmakers in January that Russia was interfering on Trump's behalf, a briefing that outraged Republicans and eventually helped oust Joseph Maguire from his post as acting director of national intelligence.

The CIA has moderate confidence in its analysis, a lower degree of certainty than its 2016 assessment of Putin's preferences, in part because the intelligence community appears to lack intercepted communications confirming his direction of Derkach's efforts. Putin, a former intelligence agent, is careful not to use electronic devices. **NYT**

## TALKS ON FOR WIDER AGREEMENT ON LASTING END TO YEARS OF BLOODSHED

## Warring Libyan rivals sign ceasefire deal

REUTERS  
GENEVA, OCTOBER 23

LIBYA'S WARRING sides signed a permanent ceasefire deal on Friday, but any lasting end to years of chaos and bloodshed will require wider agreement among myriad armed groups and the outside powers that support them.

Acting UN envoy Stephanie Williams said the ceasefire

A first commercial passenger flight in over a year crossed frontlines from Tripoli to land in Benghazi on Friday

would start immediately and that under the agreement all foreign fighters must quit Libya within three months, while a

new joint police force would patrol disputed areas.

As a first commercial passenger flight in more than a year crossed frontlines from Tripoli to land in the eastern city of Benghazi on Friday, Williams hailed both sides for reaching a deal.

"The road was long and difficult at times. Your patriotism was your way forward and you were able to reach a ceasefire agreement," she said after the

signing ceremony.

The talks came after the internationally recognised Government of National Accord in June beat back Khalifa Haftar's eastern-based Libyan National Army following its 14-month assault on the capital. Since then, front lines have stabilised west of the central city of Sirte and eastern forces ended an 8-month blockade of Libyan oil output and exports that was strangling state finances.

## Xi takes jabs at US in Korean War anniversary

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
BEIJING, OCTOBER 23

Chinese President Xi Jinping

CHINESE LEADER Xi Jinping condemned "unilateralism, protectionism and extreme egoism" in a jab at the United States made during a rally Friday to mark the 70th anniversary of China's en-

try into the 1950-53 Korean War. Although fighting ended in a stalemate, the war established

China as a major player on the world stage and Friday's commemorations closely fit with Xi's drive to promote patriotism and the unquestioned leadership of the ruling Communist Party.

"In today's world, the pursuit of unilateralism, protectionism and extreme egoism leads nowhere," Xi said.

"Arrogance, always doing as one pleases, acts of hegemony, overbearing or bullying will lead nowhere," Xi said, according to comments released by the official Xinhua News Agency. The anniversary comes as China's relations with the US have sunk to their lowest level in decades. **AP**

going to be able to offer live instruction five days a week.

This infuriated many parents, who believed that their high tuition fees ought to serve as a hedge against inconvenience during a global crisis.

During the seven months the pandemic has had us by the scruff, millions of people have been propelled into crises of joblessness, grief, fear, faith, poverty, dislocation. But even as the rich have managed to accelerate their gains in a perpetual war against fairness, the victories have become more complicated. This has become especially obvious at the level of urban policy, where the disparity is the most pronounced. **NYT**

They are accused of favouritism and illegal use of vehicles, causing a loss of over Rs 1,952 million to the exchequer. **PTI**



Sudan PM Hamdok thanked Trump for removing Sudan from the terrorism list ahead of normalisation of ties with Israel

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump announced Friday that Sudan will start to normalise ties with Israel, making it the third Arab state to do so as part of US-brokered deals in the run-up to Election Day.

The deal, which would deepen Sudan's engagement with the West, follows Trump's conditional agreement this week to remove the North African nation from the list of state sponsors of terrorism if it pays compensation to American victims of terror attacks. It also delivers a foreign policy achievement for Trump just days before the US election and boosts his embattled ally, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Recently, the US brokered diplomatic pacts between Israel and the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain.

"This is one of the great days in the history of Sudan," Trump said, adding that Israel and Sudan have been in a state of war for decades.

"It's a new world," Netanyahu said over the phone. "We are co-operating with everyone. Building a better future for all of us."

Trump's announcement, the morning after the final presidential debate with Democrat Joe Biden, came after Sudan followed through on its pledge to deliver \$335 million to compensate American victims of past terror attacks and their families.

The removal of the terror designation opens the door for Sudan to get international loans and aid needed to revive its battered economy and rescue the country's transition to democracy.

Sudan's PM Abdalla Hamdok thanked Trump for removing Sudan from the terrorism list and said he hoped to complete the process in a "timely manner". **AP**

## New US Covid cases in single day near record

LISA SHUMAKER  
& MARIA CASPANI  
CHICAGO, OCTOBER 23

THE NUMBER of new Covid-19 cases reported in the United States on Thursday was the second highest on record, coming in just short of their midsummer peak as the spread of the novel coronavirus accelerates in nearly every region of the country.

Cases, hospitalisations and deaths are all accelerating as cooler weather descends on much of the country. With 76,195 new cases on Thursday, the United States was approaching its one-day record high of 77,299 new cases on

July 16, according to a Reuters analysis.

US Health Secretary Alex Azar attributed the increase in cases to behavior of individuals, saying household gatherings have become a "major vector of disease spread."

Asked about an assertion by President Donald Trump during Thursday night's presidential debate that the United States is "rounding the turn" on coronavirus, Azar told CNN that Trump was trying to provide hope to Americans waiting for therapeutics and a vaccine. "But we do need to acknowledge, and he does acknowledge, that we're in a very serious moment right now," Azar said. **REUTERS**



Nawaz Sharif

## Pak's anti-graft body slaps fresh corruption case on Nawaz Sharif

SAJJAD HUSSAIN  
ISLAMABAD, OCTOBER 23

PAKISTAN'S ANTI-CORRUPTION body has slapped a fresh corruption case on former prime minister Nawaz Sharif, compounding the legal woes of the embattled Opposition leader who has frequently attacked the powerful military as well as the government.

Sharif, the 70-year-old supremo of the Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) who was ousted from power in 2017 by the Supreme Court on corruption charges, is currently in London for medical treatment.

The National Accountability Bureau also approved cases against Sharif's ex-personal secretary Fawad Hasan Fawad, former federal minister Ahsan Iqbal, former foreign secretary Aizaz Chaudhry and former Intelligence Bureau (IB) chief Aftab Sultan, Dawn newspaper reported.

On Thursday, a total of 11 cases were approved at NAB's Executive Board Meeting (EBM) presided over by its chairman, retired Justice Javed Iqbal.

According to the NAB, a fresh case was approved against Sharif along with Chaudhry, Sultan and Fawad for "illegally" purchasing 73 high-security vehicles for the security of foreign dignitaries.

They are accused of favouritism and illegal use of vehicles, causing a loss of over Rs 1,952 million to the exchequer. **PTI**

## THE PANDEMIC SENT INEQUALITY SOARING, BUT THE RICH NOW FIND THEY CAN'T BEND THE WORLD TO THEIR WILL

## The rich in New York confront an unfamiliar word: No

GINIA BELLAFANTE  
OCTOBER 23

ON MONDAY, a group of Upper West Siders who had organised against the placement of 235 homeless men in a residential hotel in their neighbourhood received some unwelcome news. On the morning the men were supposed to move far downtown, a judge ruled that they could remain where they were. Relocating would be too disruptive and traumatic to people piecing their lives back together amid a pandemic.

Until that point, it seemed the antagonists had civic power on their side; self-interest was com-

ing up ahead as it so often does. Last month, Mayor Bill de Blasio agreed to get the homeless men out of the complainants' way — removing them from the Labradoodle serenity of the area, where a vocal minority was maintaining that their lives had been upended by ugliness and disorder.

The idea that it would take at least a month before the homeless men could be relocated prompted rage in a closed Facebook group, where little effort was made to conceal the most unsettling prejudices.

As one woman, a corporate executive, theorised, the men probably sought to stay in the neighbourhood, not in pursuit of

Homeless advocates painted slogans at the townhouse of the lawyer leading the charge to remove homeless men from a hotel in New York's Upper West Side. *NYT*

some stability but rather because there are "lots of stores to shoplift from" and "unmanned

vestibules they can vandalise." In fact, the overall crime rate in the neighborhood over the past

month is down from the same period last year; there have been no murders, no shootings.

The anger among some of those opposed to the temporary shelter wasn't just that they hadn't been given what they wanted but that they didn't get what they paid for. In this instance, they had hired an expensive lawyer, Randy Mastro, a former deputy mayor to Rudy Giuliani, to help them get the unhoused out of view. Now in their private social media postings they wondered where he was and what he had really done for them.

Clearly his contributions were sufficient enough to ignite the fury of protesters, who defaced Mastro's townhouse this week.

The fight over sheltering exemplifies just one of the ways the pandemic has deepened the class divide, while paradoxically revealing that old-style transactionalism no longer reliably yielded the same gifts. The privileged were now playing on a game board that had changed.

This bewildered entitlement is not confined to those hoping to buy their way to a version of the Upper West Side that felt like Westchester. It was echoed by parents in New York's private-school world, as plans for re-opening were announced in August. Many schools — because of teacher resistance, building constraints and so on — were not



## 17 ECONOMY



GOLD

₹51,069



RUPEE

₹73.61



OIL

\$41.53



SILVER

₹62,933

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market; gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Brent crude as of 2300 IST

SENSEX: 40,685.50 ▲ 127.01 NIFTY: 11,930.35 ▲ 33.90 NIKKEI: 23,516.59 ▲ 42.32 HANG SENG: 24,918.78 ▲ 132.65 FTSE: 5,876.61 ▲ 90.96 DAX: 12,694.28 ▲ 151.22

International market data till 1900 IST

## GST COMPENSATION DEFICIT: BORROWING AT 5.19%, TENOR LIKELY TO BE 3-5 YEARS

## Govt kickstarts market borrowing, transfers ₹6K cr to 16 states, 2 UTs

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

BEGINNING THE process of market borrowing to meet the compensation deficit under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, the Centre has borrowed and transferred Rs 6,000 crore to 16 states and two union territories, including Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir, the Finance Ministry said on Friday. Out of these 16 states and 2 UTs, five states did not have any shortfall on account of GST compensation, it said.

The borrowing has been done at an interest rate of 5.19 per cent, implying the same rate for states in the back-to-back loan arrangement. Tenor of borrowing is likely to be 3-5 years, it said.

Twenty one states and two

## FINMIN INTENDS TO RELEASE ₹6K CR EVERY WEEK

■ Of these 16 states and 2 UTs, five states did not have any shortfall on account of GST compensation.

■ Twenty one states and two union territories have opted for this special window involving back-to-back borrowing coordinated by the Ministry of Finance.

■ The Ministry intends to release Rs 6,000 crore to the states every week.

■ The Finance Ministry had last week said the Centre would borrow from the market and then act as an intermediary to arrange back-to-back loans to pay the GST compensation shortfall of Rs 1.1 lakh crore to state governments. This arrangement will not reflect in the fiscal deficit of the Centre and will appear as capital receipts for state governments.

union territories have opted for this special window involving back-to-back borrowing coordinated by the Ministry of Finance. The ministry intends to release Rs 6,000 crore to the states every week.

"Today, the central government borrowed and transferred Rs 6,000 crore as first tranche to 16 states namely Andhra Pradesh,

Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and two union territories: UT of Delhi and UT of Jammu and Kashmir," it said.

In a sharp retraction of its earlier position, the Finance Ministry

had last week said the Centre would borrow from the market and then act as an intermediary to arrange back-to-back loans to pay the GST compensation shortfall of Rs 1.1 lakh crore to state governments. This arrangement will not reflect in the fiscal deficit of the Centre and will appear as capital receipts for state governments.

Some states such as Kerala, Punjab and Chhattisgarh have insisted on further clarifications and a no-strings attached borrowing mechanism along with asking to include the balance compensation deficit amount beyond the proposed borrowing of Rs 1.10 lakh crore also under the ambit of the back-to-back loan mechanism. Kerala's Finance Minister Thomas Isaac on Thursday had said, "Having reached a consensus on who should borrow, centre and states can reach a consensus on how much to borrow. Extend

to all states additional 0.5% unconditional borrowing in the 2% borrowing already permitted. Let the GST Council meet and continue the dialogue."

The total GST revenue shortfall for the current fiscal was estimated to be Rs 3 lakh crore, of which compensation cess collection was estimated to be Rs 65,000 crore, leaving a compensation deficit of Rs 2.35 lakh crore. Of this Rs 2.35 lakh crore, Rs 1.1 lakh crore shortfall has been estimated on account of GST implementation, while the rest of the amount is being estimated as the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In August, the Centre gave two options to the states — either borrow Rs 97,000 crore from a special window facilitated by the RBI or borrow Rs 2.35 lakh crore from the market. The options have since been revised to Rs 1.10 lakh crore and Rs 1.8 lakh crore, respectively.

## Former NCLAT Chairperson joins advisory board of the group he once hauled up

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

FORMER NATIONAL Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) Chairperson and retired Supreme Court judge Justice SJ Mukhopadhyaya has been appointed to a 17-member global advisory board of the Gupta Family Group (GFG) alliance. The new board will help the alliance "in delivering its strategic priorities and achieving best practice in environment, social and governance", the alliance said in a statement.

During his tenure as the NCLAT Chairperson, Justice Mukhopadhyaya had presided over some cases of insolvency and bankruptcy, in which the Liberty House group was a bidder for insolvent companies.

The GFG Alliance which has the Liberty Steel Group, the Alvanco Aluminium Group and the SIMEC Energy Group under its umbrella, had announced the appointment of these 17 experts on October 13. Justice Mukhopadhyaya is the only appointee from India on the global board.

Mails sent to the GFG Alliance, seeking details about what would be the scope of work of Justice Mukhopadhyaya and his tenure re-

**During his tenure as NCLAT Chairperson, Justice SJ Mukhopadhyaya had presided over some cases of insolvency and bankruptcy, in which Liberty House group was a bidder for insolvent companies**

mained unanswered. Justice Mukhopadhyaya, who was appointed as the first chairperson of NCLAT in 2016, had retired on March 13 this year, having completed his tenure.

The NCLAT has remained without an appointed head ever since. Justice Bansi Lal Bhat, a former judge of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court, took over as the acting chairperson of NCLAT on March 15 and has been heading the appellate tribunal since then. He is likely to continue as the acting chairperson until at least December 31 this year, senior officials said.

Officials at the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), the nodal ministry for appointment of members to the NCLAT as well as

the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), said they were not aware of Justice Mukhopadhyaya's appointment to the GFG Alliance board. The officials, however, added there was no rule which mandates MCA being informed. "There is no prescribed cooling-off period or the requirement of informing the MCA as such. Once a member retires after their tenure, what they do is none of our concern. There is no rule for informing the MCA either," a senior official said.

One such company, for which the Liberty House had bid and then withdrawn its offer was Amtek Auto.

The corporate insolvency resolution process of the company, which remains pending more than three years after it was initiated, had seen Justice Mukhopadhyaya pulling up the Liberty House group for not following through with its resolution plan.

"You are a failure party... all the time dragging your feet. You are in bad reputation. We will not allow you to take advantage of the appellate tribunal," a two-member Bench of the NCLAT, then headed by Justice Mukhopadhyaya had observed.

Full report on [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## Eye on offline market, Flipkart buys 7.8% in Aditya Birla Fashion

PRANAV MUKUL  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

WALMART-OWNED E-COMMERCE company Flipkart has picked a 7.8 per cent stake in Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd (ABFRL) for Rs 1,500 crore in a deal that comes at a time when the retail sector has witnessed an uptick in M&A transactions, with several analysts expecting more such deals to be announced in the near future.

Flipkart Group runs e-commerce platforms Flipkart and Myntra, and is the market leader in the online fashion category, while ABFRL houses lifestyle brands such as Allen Solly, Peter England, Van Heusen in addition

to the Pantaloon chain of multi-brand stores. The deal is part of a trend where online retailers are entering into financial and strategic partnerships with offline retailers to expand their presence.

"As far as India is concerned, the penetration of online is very small. So for them to grow their business and get customers experience their products, they need physical presence and the FDI regulations come in their way," said Arvind Singhal, CMD of retail consultancy firm Technopak.

Sources in know of the deal also pointed out that Flipkart and ABFRL will need to find a way around India's foreign direct investment (FDI) norms, which bar any entity in which an e-com-

merce firm or its group companies have a stake from selling on their online platform.

"Through this transaction with ABFRL, we will work towards making available a wide range of products for fashion-conscious consumers across different retail formats across the country," said Kalyan Krishnamurthy, CEO, Flipkart Group.

In a statement, ABFRL said that it plans to use this capital to strengthen its balance sheet and "accelerate its growth trajectory". "This deal also provides a tremendous opportunity to build scale of existing brands and expand its brand portfolio into emerging consumer segments," said Ashish Dikshit, MD, ABFRL.

## COVID-19 IMPACT

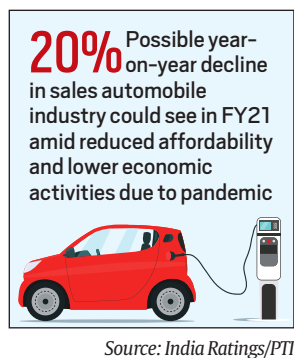
## 'High cost, low priority to hit sales growth of electric vehicles'

The pandemic is likely to delay the penetration of electric vehicles (EVs), as low affordability and the government's priority to revive conventional auto industry takes the focus away from EVs in the interim, rating firm Ind-Ra said

**DOUBLE WHAMMY FOR PV SEGMENT:** The passenger vehicles (PVs) segment of e-mobility will face a double whammy, as

■ Consumers would be wary to buy a costlier EV than an internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle

■ Original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) would refrain from incurring high capital expenditure

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 23

THE MONETARY Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has indicated that it "may take years" to regain the lost GDP output. On the other hand, the RBI panel, according to the minutes released on Friday, has signalled that there's "space for future rate cuts" if the inflation evolves in line with expectations.

"There exists space for future

**EXPLAINED** **Output recovery key**

THE OUTLOOK for growth and inflation for the next 3-4 quarters suggests the need for a policy environment enabling recovery of output.

rate cuts if the inflation evolves in

line with our expectations. This space needs to be used judiciously to support recovery in growth," RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said. The ongoing transmission of past monetary policy actions would help ease financial conditions further, Das said in the minutes released by the RBI.

Meanwhile, the RBI's central board Friday held a meet to discuss, among other things, the economic situation. The meeting deliberated on issues concerning financial stability.

## BRIEFLY

## PM to interact with CEOs of oil and gas firms

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will interact via video conference with CEOs of leading global oil and gas companies on Monday at an annual event organised by the NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

## Govt to sell up to 15% stake in RVNL via OFS

New Delhi: The government is planning to sell up to 15 per cent stake in Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd (RVNL) and has invited bids from merchant bankers for managing the share sale process.

## India gets Chairmanship of ILO body

New Delhi: After a gap of 35 years, India assumed the Chairmanship of Governing Body of International Labour Organization (ILO), with Labour Secretary Apurva Chandra being elected to the post from October 2020 to June 2021, a Labour Ministry statement said Friday. **PTI**

## Veggie burgers are still burgers, rules EU

Brussels: Voting to reject proposals backed by farmers, the European Parliament said on Friday that restaurants and shops in the European Union should be allowed to label products as 'veggie burgers' or 'vegan sausages', while calling for more curbs on labelling of plant-based dairy substitutes. **REUTERS**

## Gilead's remdesivir first drug to get Covid treatment nod in US

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 23

THE UNITED States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Thursday approved Veklury (remdesivir), an antiviral developed and patented by Gilead Sciences, for Covid-19 treatment of hospitalised adults and children above the age of 12 years. This is the first and only treatment so far to receive the American drug regulator's approval for Covid-19.

The nod, coming a week after interim results of a global trial sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) said remdesivir was ineffective in preventing Covid-19 deaths in hospitals, was given on the basis of other trials.

Remdesivir, like other repurposed drugs, had been administered to patients across the world on the basis of emergency use approvals by regulators in various countries, including India. Veklury has been approved or authorised for temporary use as a Covid-19 treatment in nearly 50 countries, according to Gilead Sciences.

"The approval of Veklury was supported by the agency's analysis of data from three randomized, controlled clinical trials that included patients hospitalized with mild-to-severe COVID-19," said a US FDA release on the matter.

The trials taken into account include the ACTT-1 randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial conducted by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. This trial looked at 1,062 hospitalised patients with mild-



The future of the drug is still being assessed in India, especially after the interim results of a WHO-sponsored trial last week. *Express file*

to-severe Covid-19 to evaluate how long it took them to recover within 29 days of being treated.

"The median time to recovery from Covid-19 was 10 days for the Veklury group compared to 15 days for the placebo group, a statistically significant difference. Overall, the odds of clinical improvement at Day 15 were also statistically significantly higher in the Veklury group when compared to the placebo group," stated the release.

Over five drug makers here, including Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Cipla and Hetero Healthcare, have signed agreements with Gilead to make and supply generic versions of the patented drug in India as well as many low- and middle-income nations. However, the future of the drug is still being assessed in India, especially after the interim results of the WHO-sponsored Solidarity Therapeutics trial last week that said remdesivir and other repurposed drugs under study seemed to have "little or no

effect" on hospitalised patients.

"This trial has just been put up (made public), their interim results have been put up on the website. This has not yet been peer-reviewed, however, we find that these drugs are not performing as we had expected," Dr Balram Bhargava, Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research said on October 20, during a briefing on the actions taken by the government to tackle Covid-19.

"So, debate and discussion is ongoing at the national task force and the joint monitoring group and we will take into cognisance results of these trials and issue the advisories accordingly," he said.

Meanwhile, some Covid-19 doctors said they found the drug beneficial in cutting down treatment timelines in some cases. Others are waiting on the final results of the trial to take a call on if and how they will use this drug.

The size of the remdesivir market in India was pegged at around Rs 121.29 crore in the 12 months ended September, according to estimates by pharmaceutical market research firm AIOCD Awacs PharmaTrac. However, these calculations were made using data available for only four of the several remdesivir brands — Desrem (Mylan), Remdac (Zydus Cadila), Cipremi (Cipla) and Covifor (Hetero), which means the size of the market may actually be much higher.

Sales of remdesivir here have risen substantially — nearly 96 per cent in July-September for the four aforementioned brands — PharmaTrac data showed.

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

**TENDER NOTICE**

**e-tender is invited for the supply of following item.**

(1) Request for Proposal (RFP) For "Procurement of Services for Implementation and Support of ERP Software for Electricity Billing, Customer Care & allied activities".

Note : For more details, log on to website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>.  
**PRO/AM(M)/63/2020. GENERAL MANAGER**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MH&FW, DGHS BCG VACCINE LABORATORY No.110,33 Feet Road, Mount Road, Guindy, Chennai-600 032. Tamil Nadu TENDER NOTICE		
Sealed tenders are invited from the Manufacturers / Dealers in the prescribed form ON or BEFORE 17.11.2020 01:30 PM for supply of the following item. Technical Bid will be opened at 03:00 PM on 17.11.2020 at the above said office address. The date and time of opening of Financial Bid will be informed to the bidders who are qualified in the Technical Bid.		
Sl.No	Description of the item	Quantity
1	No.D.21016/01/2020-21(Stores) LIGHT AMBER COLOUR TUBULAR 2R VIALS WITH FLAT BOTTOM, TYPE 1, NEUTRAL GLASS VIALS AS PER DRAWING AND SPECIFICATION ENCLOSED IN THE TENDER FORM AS ANNEXURE - I	30 lakhs
2	No.D.21016/02/2020-21(Stores) Aluminium Flip Off - Suitable for 2R Vials, Plastic Button to be pale yellow colour with glossy finish enabling for sticking VVM as per Drawing and Specification enclosed in the Tender Form as Annexure - I	20 lakhs
3	No.D.21016/03/2020-21(Stores) BIFID SILICONISED RUBBER WADS 13MM BROMO BUTYL LYO, GREY COLOUR SUITABLE FOR 2R VIALS - READY TO WASH AS PER DRAWING AND SPECIFICATION ENCLOSED IN THE TENDER FORM AS ANNEXURE - I	10 lakhs
Drawing with specification, Tender Forms and Vendor Qualification forms can be downloaded from the CPP Portal / BCGVL website - <a href="http://dirbcglab.gov.in">dirbcglab.gov.in</a> <b>DIRECTOR</b>		

**adani**  
Electricity

## NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT No.	Brief Works Description	Estimated Cost (INR, Lakhs)	Cost of EMD (INR, Lakhs)	Prebid Meeting Date	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Bid Opening
AEML/DTPS/2020-21/06	Refurbishment of Fire Tender MH 04 DT 548	42.18	0.50	29.10.2020 10:30 Hrs	04.11.2020 16:00 Hrs	11.11.2020 16:00 Hrs
AEML/DTPS/2020-21/07	Renovation of Coal Yards	98.00	1.00	29.10.2020 10:30 Hrs	04.11.2020 16:00 Hrs	05.11.2020 16:00 Hrs

Cost of each tender - Rs. 1180 /- All Materials & Services will be as per AEML-Dahanu Specifications / BOQ. All Prebid Meetings will be done electronically / telephonically due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

For details with respect to Service/ Material, Qualifying Requirement, Terms & Conditions, Services / Submission of Tender Documents, etc., please visit our website : [www.adanielelectricity.com](http://www.adanielelectricity.com) Tenders > Open Tenders. The Tender document will be available on the above link from 24<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020.

Tenderer must submit their bids online / electronically. Vendor should visit the website [www.adanielelectricity.com](http://www.adanielelectricity.com) in for any Corrigendum / Amendments; no separate information regarding Corrigendum will be published in newspapers.

Date: 24/10/2020

Central Procurement Group



Classifieds

PERSONAL

**I,VINOD BUDHRAJA S/O**  
**KRISHAN LAL BUDHRAJA R/O B-111,THIRD-FLOOR,DERAWAL NAGAR,DR.MUKHERJEE- NAGAR,DELHI-110009.**  
**CHANGEDMY NAMETO VINOD KUMAR BUDHRAJA.**

0040552371-3

**I,Siddharth S/o Satya Pal Hora R/o 50-D,3rd Floor,Block-BW SFS Flats,Shalimar Bagh,Delhi-110088,have changed my name to Siddharth Arora**

0040552392-8

**I,Santosh Kumar,S/o Devendra Prasad Singh,R/o-72, Kumhar Mohalla Jasola-Village, Okhla,Delhi-25,chgabged my minor daughter's name to Manaswi to Manasvi Kashyap,for all Purposes.**

0040552392-6

**I,Sanskriti D/o Naveen Kandpal R/o, 4/2912, Gali.No 1-A,Bihari Colony Shahdara Delhi-110032, have changed my name to Sanskriti Kandpal for all purposes.**

0040552392-7

**I,Sangeeta W/o Umesh Chand Sethi R/o House.No.E-182, Krishan Vihar, Delhi-110086,declare that name of mine has been wrongly-written as Sangita in my Delhi Police Service-Record (PISNo)- 28892862) and as Sangeeta SR in my 10th-Class Educational Documents.Correct name is Sangeeta.**

0040552361-8

**I,SONALI D/O MANOJ KUMARH.No-496, SAWANI ESTATE, ALPHA-2, GREATER-NOIDA, UP-201310, changed my name to SONALI YADAV,all future purposes.**

0040552352-4

**I,SHIV KUMAR,S/O-DARSHAN LAL R/o-504/9,JANTA-COLONY,CIRCULAR ROAD,SHAHDARA,DELHI-110032,HAVE CHANGED THE NAME OF MY MINOR DAUGHTER NIKKI(AGED-11YEARS)AND SHE SHALL HEREAFTER BE KNOWN AS NANDNI.**

0040552392-4

**I,Rinipreet Saini W/O-Ranjeet Singh Randhawa R/O-1440/586,Block-B,Surdas Colony,village-Tilpat Amarnagar Faridabad-121003,Haryana,have Changed my Name to Rinipreet Kaur Randhawa.**

0040552361-3

**I,RAJIB LOCHANA ACHARYA S/O-KARTICK CHANDRA ACHARYA,R/o-V, EKTA-APARTMENT, FLAT-1A, MUNDKA,WEST/DELHI,DELHI-110041,changed my name to RAJIB LOCHAN ACHARYA,all future,purposes.**

0040552352-5

**I,No-14704194N,Nalrk Updesh Sharma,S/o Late Shri Suraj Kumar Sharma,C/P-56 APO, 2 NAGA Regt, PIN-910372 do hereby declare that my mother name is wrongly-recorded in my service-document as Sangita Sharma instead of the correct-name Sangeeta Devi. I am applying for correction. Objection,if any may be conveyed to concerned authorities within seven days.**

0040552371-10

**I,Neetu W/o-Pushkar Vashisht,R/o-A-18/93C,Krishana Appt.,Vishal-Bharti Public-School,Paschim-Vihar,Delhi,inform that in school-documents of my son Dhruv Vashisht name has been wrongly-mentioned as Dhruv Vashisht and Dhruv Vashisht.The actual-name of my son is Dhruv Vashisht.**

0040552371-5

**I,Mahesh Kumar S/o Suraj R/o A-3/49, Sector-17, Rohini,Delhi-110089, have changed my name to Mahesh Kumar Mathur for all purposes.**

0040552352-3

**I,Mukul D/o Gopal Singh Jamwal R/O H.No.863/1 Raja Garden Sector-19, Kheri Kalan, Faridabad,Haryana-121002,have changed my name to Mukul Jamwal.**

0040552371-4

**I,Krishnakumari A w/o- Rajendramenon R/O- Ambreyeth-Veedu, Chendangadu,Kottayam-1, Chennangad, Palakkad, Kerala-678573,Have Changed my Name to Krishnakumari Ambreyeth.**

0040552371-1

**I,Krishna Mohan Pandey,S/o,SitaRam Pandey,R/o,E-155/1,52/Floor,Dr. Ambedkar Nagar,Phase-2,M.B.Road,New.Delhi-110080, have changed my minor Son's name from Divya Pandey to Divya Kumar Pandey for,all purposes.**

0040552361-1

**I,Ishitwa,D/o Sharanad Chandra,Resident of,E-23,Type VB,Sector-10,Nivedita-Kunj, R.K.Puram,New Delhi-110022,have changed my name to Ishitwa Chandra,for all,future purposes**

0040552352-9

**I,Hari Ram Haldwani S/O-Deewan Chand,H.NO-430, Gali No-15, Chandan-Vihar Sant-Nagar,Burari,Delhi-110084 have changed my name to Hari Ram.**

0040552352-2

**I,Fazeel Ahmad Khan,S/O Shakeel Ahmad Khan,R/O 1-B,FF,DDA,Flat Sarai Jullena,New Delhi-110025,have changed my name to Fazeel Ahmed Khan.**

0040552371-6

**IAnkita Om Prakash Jha W/O, Abhishek Kumar Jha R/o C 242, 1st Floor, Sector 19, Noida have changed my name to Ankita Jha for all purposes**

0040552313-1

PERSONAL

**I,Chitwan,D/o Sharanad Chandra,Resident of,E-23,Type VB,Sector-10,Nivedita-Kunj, R.K.Puram,New Delhi-110022,have changed my name to Chitwan Chandra,for all,future purposes**

0040552352-8

**I,BibikhusHumud,W/o-Islamuddin,R/o-H.No.A-2, Priyadarshini Vihar, Road.No.64,Tahirpur, Delhi-110095,have changed my name to Khushnuda Khatoun for all purposes.**

0040552371-8

**I,Vijay Kumar R/o Village Chira, PO Lower Ghalloor, Tehsil-Jawalamukhi, Distt. Kangra, Himachal Pradesh-176031. In my Army Record My Wife's name is wrongly written as Aradhana Sharma But Correct Name is Aradhna Sharma.**

0040552323-1

**I,Trilok Singh S/o-Jagat Singh R/o-H.No.76-C, Gali.No.7-C,Munirka Kunj,Dinarpur, Najafgarh, New Delhi-110043,inform that above.address is my Permanent Address.My Aadhar.No is 766508503824.**

0040552361-9

**I, Sweety W/o Vinay R/o 4/1482, Gali.No-14 A,Pandav Road, Vishwas-Nagar,Delhi-110032,have changed my name to Gauri.**

0040552352-1

**I,Shama Gupta W/o Late Vinod Gupta R/O D-29,Harit Niketan, West Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-34,have changed my name to SHYAMA GUPTA.**

0040552361-4

**I, Sanjay Raj S/O Kalyan Mal, H.No.105, GF,Kishan kunj part-1, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, changed my name to Sanjay Raj Meena.**

0040552352-1

**I, Raj Kushal S/o,Kehar Singh R/O-1188, Sector-37, Arun-Vihar, Noida, Gautambuddha Nagar, U.P.-201303, have changed my name to Raj Kushal Singh Rathour.**

0040552392-5

**I, Rabiya W/O Sadiq Hasan R/O E-11/71 2nd Floor, Khirki Enclave, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017 Have Changed My Minor Son Name from Mohd Salman Ansari to Abdul Ahad Hasan. Both Are Same Person The Correct D.O.B Is 20/09/2006.**

0040552312-1

**I,OMKAR BANSAL S/O-Late Sh. Gyan Chand Bansal, R/O-CA-187, Gali No.2/1, Netaji Gali,Thana Road, Bhajanpura, Delhi-110053,J,confirm that name ONKAR BANSAL and OMKAR BANSAL both name are same person.**

0040552355-1

**I,Anita devi,W/o Vinod kumar, Address-Subhash gali bichla bazar bhiwani haryana-172021,have changed my name to Anita rani.**

0040552352-7

**I, Mahouria Ummi,D/o-Abdul Rashid Khan,R/o-35/36,Block R3-A2,Mohan Garden,Uttam Nagar,New Delhi-110059, have changed my name to UME Akhter for all purpose.**

0040552371-7

**I, Kranti Anand W/o Anand R/O B-200, SPS Apartment Phase-I,Radhey Shyam Park,Sahibabad,Ghaziabad, have changed my name to Kranthi Bandi.**

0040552392-2

**I, KALLUKALAYIL THOMAS S/O SH. THOMAS CALLUKALAYIL MAMMEN R/O-21-G, POCKET-A-3,MAYUR VIHAR-3,DELHI-110096,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO KALLUKALAYIL THOMAS THOMAS FOR ALL PURPOSES.**

0040552371-2

**I, Jasvirind Singh R/o 106a/2 Govindpur Kalka Ji New Delhi 110019 have changed my minor son's name from Rajindra Singh to Rajender Singh for all purposes.**

0040552314-1

**I, Gagan Kumar Chachan,S/o Shankar Lal Chachan R/O-D-2, T-4,Bharat Apartment, ChanderNagar,Ghaziabad,hav e changed my name to Gagan Kumar.**

0040552392-3

**I, Dinesh Kumar, S/o- Tarachand,R/o-Flat-No-114, 2nd-Floor,Lampur-Road, Opp.MCD-Hospital, Narela, Delhi-40, that name of my son wrongly-written,in his Aadhar-card as OM instead of OM ARYA.**

0040552392-1

**I,Sunita W/O, Hari Pal Dabas R/o House Number 553,Village Kanjhawala, Delhi-110081 have changed my name to Sunita Devi for all purposes**

0040552316-1

**I,Som Vati W/o-Sh.Sudhir Vats, R/o-H.No.756/2, NearSankat Modern School,Mundka, Delhi-110041,have changed my name Som Vati to Somwati for all purpose.The same and same person.**

0040552309-1

**I,Savitri W/O, Ramesh Chander R/O H.No.139, Village Kanjhawala, Delhi-110081 have changed my name to Savitri Devi for all purposes.**

0040552315-1

**I,Rekha Chauhan w/o Arvind Kumar resident of C-419, gokal puri, delhi-110094, have changed my name from Rekha Chauhan to Rekha Rani for all future purposes.**

0040552321-1

**Bhagwanti w/o Mr.Narain Das Arora d/o Hari chand Arora r/o 8A/20 Geeta Colony, Delhi-31, hereby change my name to Bhawna Arora for all future purpose.**

0040552305-1

PERSONAL

**I Rana Sohail Salim Kazi S/o Salim Kazi, R/o 8073, Gali No.8, Multani Dhandha, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi-110055, have changed my name to Rana Sohail Kazi, permanently**

0040552346-1

**I Navjot Singh s/o Jatinder Singh R/o A4/68 Cottage Enclave Paschim Vihar New Delhi-110063 I have changed my miner daughter name from Krishveen to Krishveen Kaur**

0040552328-1

**I Gaurav Bharti (D.O.B-15/11/2004) S/o-Sanjay Kumar R/O-D-9-71, Gali-No-7, Shardhanand Colony,Bhalswa Dairy,Delhi-110042 declare that my Mother & Father name wrongly-written in my School-Record as Pushplata & Sanjay Gupta.The actual name of my Mother & Father is Pushplata Devi & Sanjay Kumar respectively, which may be amended accordingly.**

0040552334-1

**I Dharmender Kumar S/O-Sh.Man Singh R/O-A-176-A, Block, Gali-No.9, Nasirpur Colony,Palam Village,South Delhi-110045 have changed my Daughter's Name Nandini Kain to Nandani Singh for all purpose.That Nandini Kain & Nandani Singh is the one and same person.**

0040552310-1

**I,Ranjeet Singh S/O-Sukhwant Singh R/O-1440/586,Block-B,Surdas Colony,Village-Tilpat,Amarnagar Faridabad-121003,Haryana,have Changed my Name to Ranjeet Singh Randhawa.**

0040552361-2

**I Dharmender Kumar S/O-Sh.Man Singh R/O-A-176-A, Block, Gali-No.9, Nasirpur Colony,Palam Village,South Delhi-110045 have changed my Son's Name Mrdulul Kain to Mrdulul Singh for all purpose.That Mrdulul Kain & Mrdulul Singh is the one and same person.**

0040552311-1

**I, Madhu spouse of Sudesh Pal Singh resident of VPO- Gwarauli Tahsil-Khurja Dist Bulandshahr Up have changed my name from Madhu to Madhu Singh vide Affidavit dated 05.08.2020 before Notary, Khurja, Dist Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh-203131.**

PERSONAL

**It is hereby informed to the public at large that my client namely Smt. Sarawati Sharma waleed Vinod Kumar Sharma R/o C-36, DDA Flats Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, being purchase A-150, First Floor, DDA Janta Flats, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, from its owner Shri Sunit Kumar Mittal Son of Jai Narain Mittal, if anyone has any objection, claim, rights, title, interest, ownership, possession, lien, encumbrances, mortgage, gift, assignment or any nature whatsoever in the above said property or any sort of disqualification or otherwise has any objection for its sale/transfer to my client then such person/ bank/ NBFC/FI, or entity should forthwith contact or notify the undersigned in respect of the same along with valid documentary proof within 15 days from the date of this publication, failing which it shall be presumed that the above said property is absolutely free from all sorts of encumbrances, charges, claim, disputes etc of any nature whatsoever the above named owner is vested with absolute, clear and marketable title of the property and is fully empower to sell the said property to my client, the same shall proceed further to complete the sale transaction.**

**AUGUST KUMAR (Advocate)**  
18813, Gindra Pad Edit, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019

**My client, Sh. Shiv Kumar Jindal S/O Ch. Jagu, Ram and his wife, Leent, Santosh Jindal Both R/O H. No. 229 230, Upper Ground Floor, Pocket 2, Sector 22, Rohini, Delhi-110086, has severed all connection with their daughter Ms. Neha Jindal as she is out of their control and living separately at unknown place for the last about one year. She has taken car No. DL 12 C Q9221 registered in the name of Smt. Santosh Jindal with her and using it without the permission of Smt. Santosh Jindal. My clients have debared their daughter Ms. Neha Jindal from all of their movable and immovable properties. Henceforth my clients are not responsible for any act/deed done by their daughter Ms. Neha Jindal.**

**Sd/- (S.S. RATHEE) ADVOCATE**  
Ch. No. C-77A, CL Joseph Block  
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

**General public is hereby informed that the original chain of title deeds including the Sale Deed in respect of Kharsara No. 1833, Rangpur, Basant Kunj, New Delhi in favour of Smt. Shashi Sankhla W/o Shri D.C. Sankhla R/o 27, Rajpur Road, Delhi have been lost miserably. If any body found the same please return the valuable documents to the undersigned and not to misuse the same in any manner. If anyone misuses the said lost documents and deals with respect to said property then the undersigned shall not be liable or responsible for the same.**

**Smt. Shashi Sankhla**  
Mob.No. 9871232222

**My client (1) Sh. Harish Kumar S/o Late Sh. Rishi Kumar H.No. 5503, New Chandrawal, Delhi R/o H.No. 5504, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 is the owner of property No. 5342001, 5343X01, 5346X01 and property No. 5342001, 5343X01, 5346X01 and property No.5357X01, Gali No.6, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 situated in Kharsa No. 276. (2) My client Sh. Lalit Kumar S/o Late Sh. Prem Raj R/o H.No. 5504, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 is the owner of property No. 5343001, 5344X01, 5346X01 and property No.5357X01, Gali No.6, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 situated in Kharsa No. 276. (3) My client Late Sh. Rajesh Kumar S/o Late Sh. Prem Raj (represented by his son Anil Kumar) R/o H.No. 4296, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 is the owner of property No.5350X01, 5351X01, 5352X01, 5353X01, 5354X01 and 5355X01, Gali No.6, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 situated in Kharsa No.276. If any person will sale or purchase any part or portion of the above mentioned properties, in any manner whatsoever, such action will be illegal and my clients will take stern legal action against such person(s).**

**R.S. SRONI (Advocate)**  
Ch. No. P.O.3, Post Office Lane,  
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

**My client Sh. Bhim Singh Bhardwaj S/o Late Ram Kishan Bhardwaj R/o 5265 Kolkapur Road, Kolkapur House, Kamla Nagar, Delhi-07 has severed his relations with children of his real brother Late Sh. Satya Narayan Bhardwaj, Namely Gaurav Bhardwaj, Saurav Bhardwaj and Ruchika Sharma (G) Ruchika Bhardwaj (G) Ruchika Dixit (G) Ruchika Ali R/o Flat No 1803, Plot No.5, Sector 4, New Jai Bharat Apartment, Dwarka, New Delhi with immediate effect due to their misdeeds and misconduits. My client is not responsible for any acts and deeds done by him in past present/future. Manish Bhardwaj is the only legal heir of my client.**

**Sanjay Padam Jain (Advocate)**  
Ch. No. 463 A&B, Western Wings,  
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-54.

**GENERAL PUBLIC IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT MY CLIENT MR. CHANDRA DUTT SHARMA, R/O PATE PT. VIDYA RATAN RESIDENT OF D-7, Kirti NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110015 IS ONE OF THE CO-OWNERS AND IN LAWFUL POSSESSION OF THE SAID PROPERTY AND THAT MY CLIENT HAS THEREIN ENTERED INTO ANY AGREEMENT OF SALE OR AUTHORISED ANYONE INCLUDING MR. SANJEEV WADHWA PROP. MS. NEEV NEFTA F-48 KIRTI NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110015 EITHER TO DEVELOP THE SAID PROPERTY OR TO SELL THE SAME OR ANY PORTION THEREOF (IN ANY PERSONS) DEALING WITH THE SAID MS. NEEV NEFTA OR ANY OTHER PERSON IN CONNECTION WITH THE AFORESAID PROPERTY OF MY CLIENT SHALL BE DOING SO AT HIS ENTIRE RISK, COSTS AND RESPONSIBILITY AND MY CLIENT SHALL NEITHER BE BOUND BY ANY SUCH DEAL, NOR RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAME, IN ANY MANNER.**

**Sd/- PANKAJ MALHOTRA (Advocate)**  
(DORR302019) MS. LAWYER'S CHAMBERS, DELHI COURT COMPLEX, NEW DELHI-110003

**It is publicly notified that my client Mrs. Rachna Sharma W/o Sh. Rajesh Kumar Sharma while returning from copying the title deeds in the compound of Sub Registrar, Noida pertaining to flat No.193-A, GF-D-1, Sec-52, Noida, the original HPTA Dt. 20. 02. 2003, Document No.1315-1316 in favour of Sh. Suresh Kumar Shah and original Lease Deed registered Doc. 2239 Dt. 27.08. 2009 in the name of Suresh Kumar Shah in S.R. Noida. She lost some where she has lodged a complaint with the Police Station: Sec-24,Noida regarding loss of these deeds. If any one has got these deeds is informed to handover these deeds to the undersigned and if any one has any objection or claim pertaining to said property or deeds, he/she may submit his/her objection in writing with the office of the undersigned alongwith sufficient proof within 07 days of the publication of this notice.**

**(Rabi Narayan Rout, Advocate)**  
Kalkish Plaza, A-7, Acharya Niketan Mayur Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi-110091  
routadvocate@gmail.com  
centaurlegal123@gmail.com  
9814243989

**Be it known to the public at large that Our Clients, Shri Chander Prakash Khanna S/o Shri Amar Nath Khanna, and Smt. Sarita Khanna W/o Shri Chander Prakash Khanna, both residents of D-2, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi have severed all their ties and relations with their elder son, Kuldeep Khanna, owing to certain irreconcilable issues and therefore, our clients hereby specifically disown their said son Kuldeep Khanna from all their assets, both moveable and immovable. He shall have no right, title or interest in any of the properties owned by our clients. Any person dealing with Kuldeep Khanna in respect of any matter shall be so doing in his own individual capacity and/or at his/her own responsibility for which our aforesaid clients would incur no liability.**

**Rajat Anuja For Anuja & Anuja Advocates ENRL. NO. D-860/95**

PUBLIC NOTICE

**It is hereby informed to the public at large that my client namely Smt. Sarawati Sharma waleed Vinod Kumar Sharma R/o C-36, DDA Flats Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, being purchase A-150, First Floor, DDA Janta Flats, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, from its owner Shri Sunit Kumar Mittal Son of Jai Narain Mittal, if anyone has any objection, claim, rights, title, interest, ownership, possession, lien, encumbrances, mortgage, gift, assignment or any nature whatsoever in the above said property or any sort of disqualification or otherwise has any objection for its sale/transfer to my client then such person/ bank/ NBFC/FI, or entity should forthwith contact or notify the undersigned in respect of the same along with valid documentary proof within 15 days from the date of this publication, failing which it shall be presumed that the above said property is absolutely free from all sorts of encumbrances, charges, claim, disputes etc of any nature whatsoever the above named owner is vested with absolute, clear and marketable title of the property and is fully empower to sell the said property to my client, the same shall proceed further to complete the sale transaction.**

**AUGUST KUMAR (Advocate)**  
18813, Gindra Pad Edit, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019

**My client, Sh. Shiv Kumar Jindal S/O Ch. Jagu, Ram and his wife, Leent, Santosh Jindal Both R/O H. No. 229 230, Upper Ground Floor, Pocket 2, Sector 22, Rohini, Delhi-110086, has severed all connection with their daughter Ms. Neha Jindal as she is out of their control and living separately at unknown place for the last about one year. She has taken car No. DL 12 C Q9221 registered in the name of Smt. Santosh Jindal with her and using it without the permission of Smt. Santosh Jindal. My clients have debared their daughter Ms. Neha Jindal from all of their movable and immovable properties. Henceforth my clients are not responsible for any act/deed done by their daughter Ms. Neha Jindal.**

**Sd/- (S.S. RATHEE) ADVOCATE**  
Ch. No. C-77A, CL Joseph Block  
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

**General public is hereby informed that the original chain of title deeds including the Sale Deed in respect of Kharsara No. 1833, Rangpur, Basant Kunj, New Delhi in favour of Smt. Shashi Sankhla W/o Shri D.C. Sankhla R/o 27, Rajpur Road, Delhi have been lost miserably. If any body found the same please return the valuable documents to the undersigned and not to misuse the same in any manner. If anyone misuses the said lost documents and deals with respect to said property then the undersigned shall not be liable or responsible for the same.**

**Smt. Shashi Sankhla**  
Mob.No. 9871232222

**My client (1) Sh. Harish Kumar S/o Late Sh. Rishi Kumar H.No. 5503, New Chandrawal, Delhi R/o H.No. 5504, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 is the owner of property No. 5342001, 5343X01, 5346X01 and property No. 5342001, 5343X01, 5346X01 and property No.5357X01, Gali No.6, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 situated in Kharsa No. 276. (2) My client Sh. Lalit Kumar S/o Late Sh. Prem Raj R/o H.No. 5504, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 is the owner of property No. 5343001, 5344X01, 5346X01 and property No.5357X01, Gali No.6, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 situated in Kharsa No. 276. (3) My client Late Sh. Rajesh Kumar S/o Late Sh. Prem Raj (represented by his son Anil Kumar) R/o H.No. 4296, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 is the owner of property No.5350X01, 5351X01, 5352X01, 5353X01, 5354X01 and 5355X01, Gali No.6, New Chandrawal, Delhi-110007 situated in Kharsa No.276. If any person will sale or purchase any part or portion of the above mentioned properties, in any manner whatsoever, such action will be illegal and my clients will take stern legal action against such person(s).**

**R.S. SRONI (Advocate)**  
Ch. No. P.O.3, Post Office Lane,  
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

**My client Sh. Bhim Singh Bhardwaj S/o Late Ram Kishan Bhardwaj R/o 5265 Kolkapur Road, Kolkapur House, Kamla Nagar, Delhi-07 has severed his relations with children of his real brother Late Sh. Satya Narayan Bhardwaj, Namely Gaurav Bhardwaj, Saurav Bhardwaj and Ruchika Sharma (G) Ruchika Bhardwaj (G) Ruchika Dixit (G) Ruchika Ali R/o Flat No 1803, Plot No.5, Sector 4, New Jai Bharat Apartment, Dwarka, New Delhi with immediate effect due to their misdeeds and misconduits. My client is not responsible for any acts and deeds done by him in past present/future. Manish Bhardwaj is the only legal heir of my client.**

**Sanjay Padam Jain (Advocate)**  
Ch. No. 463 A&B, Western Wings,  
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-54.

**GENERAL PUBLIC IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT MY CLIENT MR. CHANDRA DUTT SHARMA, R/O PATE PT. VIDYA RATAN RESIDENT OF D-7, Kirti NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110015 IS ONE OF THE CO-OWNERS AND IN LAWFUL POSSESSION OF THE SAID PROPERTY AND THAT MY CLIENT HAS THEREIN ENTERED INTO ANY AGREEMENT OF SALE OR AUTHORISED ANYONE INCLUDING MR. SANJEEV WADHWA PROP. MS. NEEV NEFTA F-48 KIRTI NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110015 EITHER TO DEVELOP THE SAID PROPERTY OR TO SELL THE SAME OR ANY PORTION THEREOF (IN ANY PERSONS) DEALING WITH THE SAID MS. NEEV NEFTA OR ANY OTHER PERSON IN CONNECTION WITH THE AFORESAID PROPERTY OF MY CLIENT SHALL BE DOING SO AT HIS ENTIRE RISK, COSTS AND RESPONSIBILITY AND MY CLIENT SHALL NEITHER BE BOUND BY ANY SUCH DEAL, NOR RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAME, IN ANY MANNER.**

**Sd/- PANKAJ MALHOTRA (Advocate)**  
(DORR302019) MS. LAWYER'S CHAMBERS, DELHI COURT COMPLEX, NEW DELHI-110003

**It is publicly notified that my client Mrs. Rachna Sharma W/o Sh. Rajesh Kumar Sharma while returning from copying the title deeds in the compound of Sub Registrar, Noida pertaining to flat No.193-A, GF-D-1, Sec-52, Noida, the original HPTA Dt. 20. 02. 2003, Document No.1315-1316 in favour of Sh. Suresh Kumar Shah and original Lease Deed registered Doc. 2239 Dt. 27.08. 2009 in the name of Suresh Kumar Shah in S.R. Noida. She lost some where she has lodged a complaint with the Police Station: Sec-24,Noida regarding loss of these deeds. If any one has got these deeds is informed to handover these deeds to the undersigned and if any one has any objection or claim pertaining to said property or deeds, he/she may submit his/her objection in writing with the office of the undersigned alongwith sufficient proof within 07 days of the publication of this notice.**

**(Rabi Narayan Rout, Advocate)**  
Kalkish Plaza, A-7, Acharya Niketan Mayur Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi-110091  
routadvocate@gmail.com  
centaurlegal123@gmail.com  
9814243989

**Be it known to the public at large that Our Clients, Shri Chander Prakash Khanna S/o Shri Amar Nath Khanna, and Smt. Sarita Khanna W/o Shri Chander Prakash Khanna, both residents of D-2, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi have severed all their ties and relations with their elder son, Kuldeep Khanna, owing to certain irreconcilable issues and therefore, our clients hereby specifically disown their said son Kuldeep Khanna from all their assets, both moveable and immovable. He shall have no right, title or interest in any of the properties owned by our clients. Any person dealing with Kuldeep Khanna in respect of any matter shall be so doing in his own individual capacity and/or at his/her own responsibility for which our aforesaid clients would incur no liability.**

**Rajat Anuja For Anuja & Anuja Advocates ENRL. NO. D-860/95**

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Notice is hereby given that my client Mrs. Indereet Kaur W/o Late S. Bhupinder Singh is the legal heir of property 24/44B Titik Nagar New Delhi-18. Notice is hereby given public at large that we are not selling aforesaid property to anyone. Some people are trying to sell said property without permission of my client. If anyone is buying the said property he/she will be responsible. If anyone need any clarification he/she can contact**

**Praveen Rastogi (Advocate)**

**General Public is informed that my client Sh. Chander Gupta Maurya aged 59 years s/o Sh. Narak Chand Maurya, R/o H. No. 4788, Gali No.45, Rajpur Pura, Kirti Bagh, New Delhi-110057 hereby notify to the public that I have severed and disconnected all my relations with my son Lokender Maurya and his family and have disowned / disinterested from all my movable and immovable properties and have no link or connection with them. Anybody dealing with them in any manner shall be doing so at his / her own risk and responsibility.**

**Sd/-**  
**Rajeev Khanna**  
**Advocate**  
Enrl. D856-1836  
Chamber no.752, Saket Lawyers Block,  
Saket Courts, Saket New Delhi-17.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known that my client Mrs. Ruma Taneja, W/o Mr. Narendra Taneja, R/O 1957/151, Ganesh Pura, Tri Nagar, Delhi- 35 had severed all relations with her son Munish Taneja & daughter-in-law, Deepesh Taneja by a publish in daily newspaper details of which are presently not known herein. Currently, Mrs. Ruma Taneja & her husband both are having cordial relations with them. Therefore, my client willingly revoke & cancel all the previous publication(s) published by her in newspaper(s) or any other such information or any other document which debars her son &/or daughter-in-law from their right in her property.

**Pulkit Narang (Advocate)**  
Ch. No. D-149,  
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

**"IMPORTANT"**

Whilst case is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION

**REPLACEMENT OF WATER COOLER**  
E-Tender Notice No. Sr.DEE/AD/12/20-21, dttd. 19-10-2020. Tender No. EL-50-1-ADI-T-06-2020-21R (1) Name of Work: Ahmedabad Division: Repairs/Replacement to defective parts of water coolers at various location for the period of three years. (2) Estimated cost: ₹ 49,66,223.48 (3) EMD: ₹ 99,300/- Tender No. EL-50-1-ADI-T-15-2020-21R (1) Name of Work: Replacement of water coolers on age cum condition basis of Ahmedabad division. (2) Estimated cost: ₹ 29,44,060/- (3) EMD: ₹ 58,900/- For all tenders: (4) Date and Time of Submission and opening: Not later than 15:00 Hrs of 17-11-2020 and 17-11-2020 at 15:30 Hrs (5) Address of the office and Website details: Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, D.R.M. Office (W.R.), Nr. Chamunda Bridge, Opp. G.C.S. Hospital, Naroda Road, Amdupura, Ahmedabad-382345. Website: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) AD-126

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NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY PATNA

(An Institute under Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)  
**ASHOK RAJPATH, PATNA - 800 005 (BIHAR)**

**Advertisement No. NITP/Rect./ 2 /2020**

(c) Walk-in-Interview for the recruitment of Temporary Faculty will be held on 5th and 6th November, 2020 at NIT Patna. The interested and eligible candidates may appear in the Walk-in-Interview with the duly filled form which may be downloaded from the website of the Institute.

(d) Walk-in-Interview for the post of Project Assistant under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan will be held on 8.11.2020 at 9 AM.

For further details regarding qualifications, schedule etc. please visit Institute Website [www.nitp.ac.in](http://www.nitp.ac.in)

**Registrar**

UJVN Limited

H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006  
Telephones: 0135-2783895, Fax: 0135-2781508  
CIN No.U40161UR2001180C029866 Website:[www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com)

Letter No. 668 "e" Procurement Notice Date: 22.10.2020

Office of Executive Engineer (M&G), Dhalpur Power House invites online tender No.e-19/EE/M&G/DLR/2020-21

Name of the Work: Major Repairing of 01 Nos. 132/11 KV, 20 MVA Generator Transformer

Estimated Cost: Rs 74.75,000/- (GST Extra)

Date of availability of bid document in the portal: 23-10-2020, 17:00Hrs

Last Date for receipt of bid in the portal: 18-11-2020 up to 17:00 Hrs

Details of subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from the website [www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com). Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in"

(Executive Engineer)

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
**HASDEO CANAL W/M DIVISION, JANJGIR-CHAMPA DISTT. JANJGIR-CHAMPA (C.G.)**

**e-Procurement Tender Notice**

**eProcurement Portal:<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>**

**(FIRST CALL)**

**System Tender No. 68441 NIT No.:04/SAC/2020-21, Dated:-20.10.2020**

Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 10-11-2020 at 17.30 Hour

**Name of Work- CONSTRUCTION OF TOE WALL IN FILLING REACH FROM R.D. 300 M. TO 700 M OF KIRARI DISTRIBUTARY OF HASDEO BANGO PROJECT.**

**Probable Amount of Contract:-Rs. 230.80 Lakhs**

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from date 27-10-2020 at 17.31 Hours (IST) onwards.

Note:- All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-Procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under Centralized Contractor/Supplier Registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

**sd/-**  
**Executive Engineer**  
**Hasdeo Canal W/M Division Janjgir-Champa**

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लिमिटेड

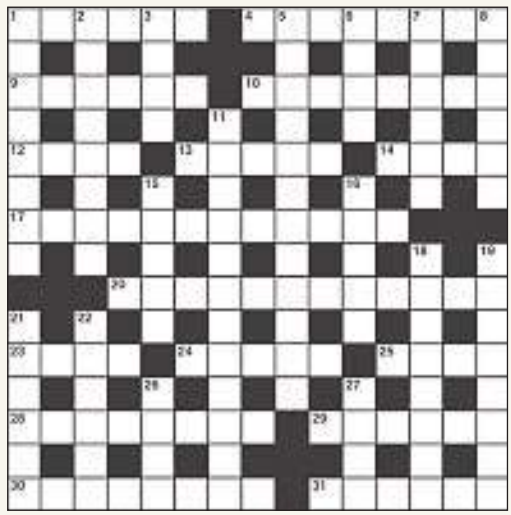
CIN:U31200UP2003SG0027460

**री-टेंडर सूचना**

इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित ई-निविदा संख्या –45/SE/EDCH/2020-21 जो दिनांक 04.10.2020 को 12:00 बजे तक ई-निविदा के माध्यम से स्वीकार की जाती थी तथा जिसके खुलने को नियत तिथि 04.10.2020 को 15:00 बजे तक की है, में किसी भी निविदाकार द्वारा भाग नहीं लिये जाने के कारण उस ई-निविदाओं को री-टेंडर किया जाता है। अब उस ई-निविदाएं दिनांक 02.11.2020 को 12:00 बजे तक ई-निविदा के माध्यम से स्वीकार की जायेगी तथा इन ई-निविदाओं का तदानीकी भाग (ग्रहण भाग) दिनांक 02.11.2020 को 15:00 बजे अयोध्याबाग द्वारा ई-निविदा को वेबसाइट पर



CROSSWORD 4258



ACROSS

DOWN

1

Told untruth about the street being in the directory (6)

4

Type of porcelain food container (8)

9

Sort of hats we put bands round (6)

10

Extremely difficult and not properly finished (8)

12

Capture a scene on film (4)

13

It may appear this writer won't get credit for his work (5)

14

A North African doctor gets nothing right (4)

17

The chairman of the directors could be in deep water (3,9)

20

With pathology Ron turns to the study of man (12)

23

Disorientated Indo-European god (4)

24

Load the vehicle and leave (5)

25

A quarter refuse to bathe (4)

28

Goes and returns (8)

29

Light breeze round the West (6)

30

Time soon modifies feelings (8)

31

Barney moved close (6)

1

Mislay one's watch and get held up? (4,4)

3

Fine form of punishment (8)

3

Classical maid who always had the last word (4)

5

Painter wins town in local elections? (12)

6

Told to go north in a group (4)

7

Conversion is done by inventor (6)

8

Lehar composition about love set in Pakistan (6)

11

It gives a long smoke for the parochial representative (12)

15

Uniform the leader required for an occasion (5)

16

Vicar has no head for crime (5)

18

Not so enthusiastic about an item of kitchen equipment (8)

19

How road travellers go, incidentally (2,3,3)

21

Type of car to hold fifty two (6)

22

A book Kipling wrote on love-popular in Japan (6)

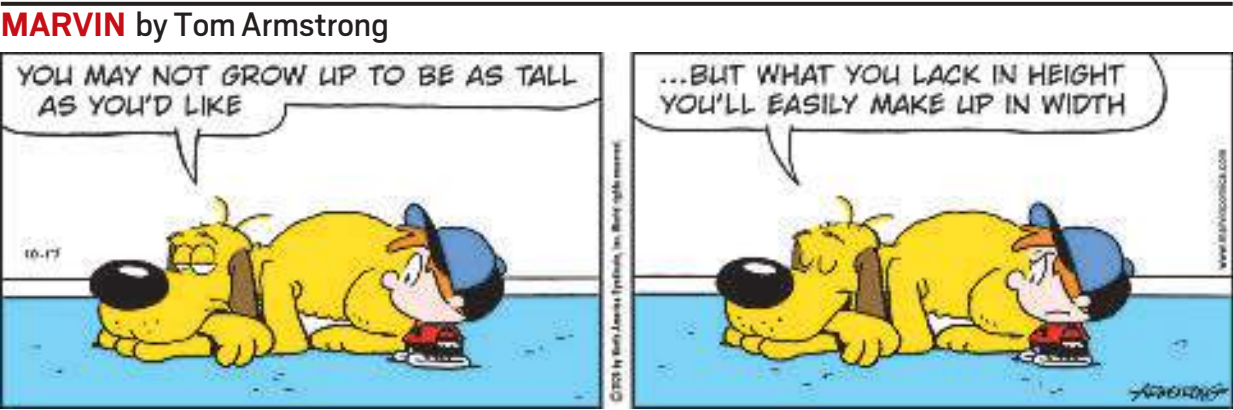
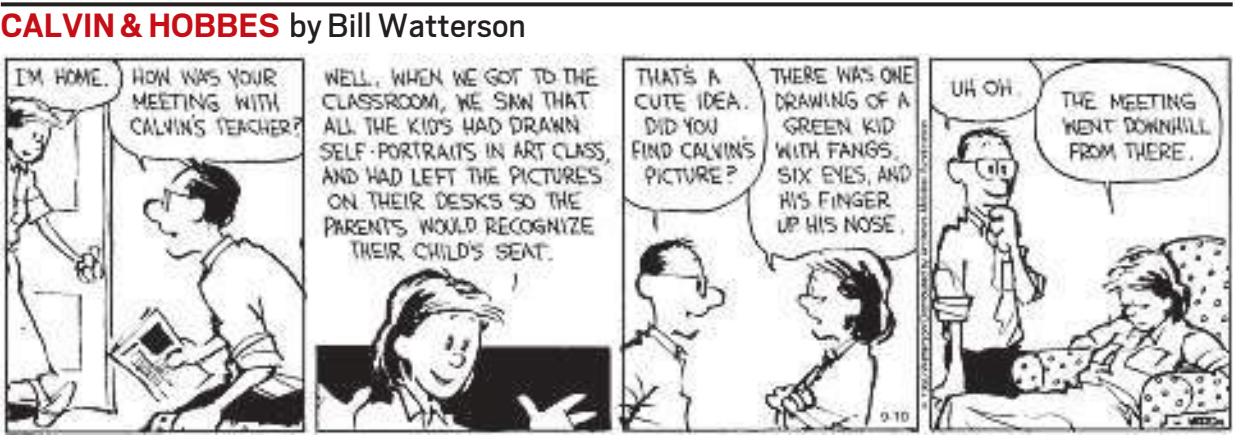
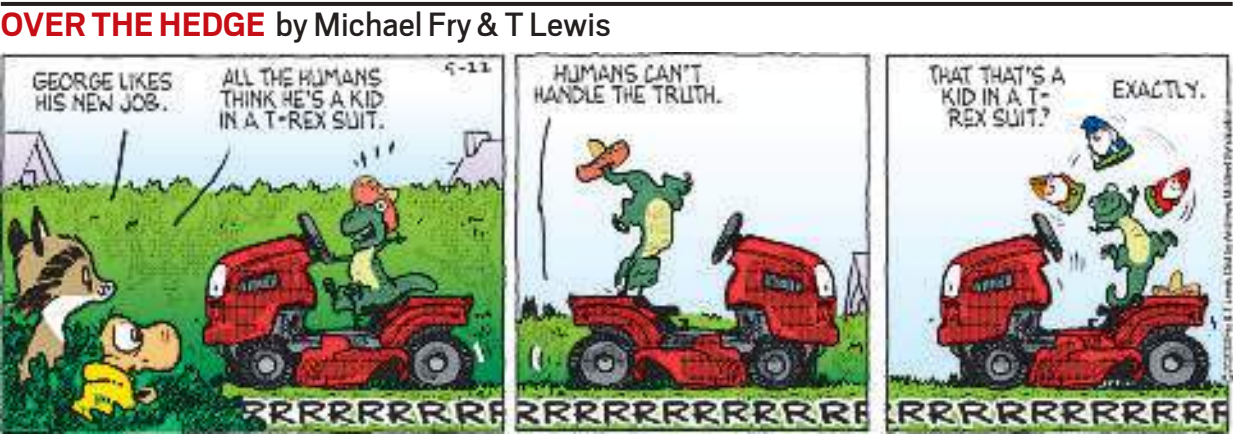
26

Still one unresolved Himalayan myth (4)

27

Unusual item, something very small (4)

Solutions Crossword 4257: Across: 1 Nudge, 4 Umpteen, 8 Ear, 9 Telephone directory, 10 Laconic, 11 Lobby, 13 Drogue, 15 Ground, 18 Trust, 19 Freedom, 21 Deferment, 23 Egg, 24 Subedit, 25 Rises. Down: 1 Needled, 3 Eaten, 4 Unlock, 5 Popular, 6 Ego, 7 Needy, 12 Boundless, 14 Uttered, 16 Damages, 17 Affect, 18 Tides, 20 Enter, 22 Fib.



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.

What is originality? Undetected \_\_\_\_ - William Inge (10)

LTAAR

EIPWLM

ENIIS

EHLMP

Answer: What is originality? Undetected \_\_\_\_ - William Inge (10)

SUDOKU 4272

Difficulty Level 3s

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

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4271

2	8	6	3	5	9	1	7	4
5	4	7	6	8	1	9	2	3
3	1	9	7	2	4	8	6	5
1	3	4	8	9	2	6	5	7
8	7	5	4	3	6	2	9	1
6	9	2	1	7	5	3	4	8
4	2	1	5	6	8	7	3	9
9	5	3	2	1	7	4	8	6
7	6	8	9	4	3	5	1	2

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(SECTION 82 Cr.Pc.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused persons (1) Subey Singh S/o Dalip Singh (2) Renu W/o Subey Singh both R/o H.No. 254, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 1426/2014 u/s 323/341/506/509/34 IPC at P.S. Mehrauli, New Delhi and it have been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused persons (1) Subey Singh, (2) Renu, cannot be found and whereas it have been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused (1) Subey Singh, (2) Renu have absconded (or is concealing themselves to avoid the service of said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said (1) Subey Singh, (2) Renu, FIR No. 1426/2014 u/s 323/341/506/509/34 IPC at P.S. Mehrauli, New Delhi are required to appear before the court on or before 27.11.2020.

By order

Sh. Bhupesh Kumar ASJ

Special Judge NDPS, Room No. 505, Saket Courts Complex, New Delhi

DP/295/SD/2020

SEARCH OF MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo), Namely: Ishrat, D/o: Md. Anwar, R/o: H.No. 115, Mahatma Gandhi Camp, Shashi Garden, Delhi, Aged: 14 years, has been missing/ kidnapped from the area of P.S. Pandav Nagar, Delhi from her house since 09.09.2020. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 430/20 u/s 363 IPC, Dated 12.09.2020, has been lodged at P.S. Pandav Nagar, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:

Height: 5'4" feet, Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Physique/Build: Medium, Clothing: Green Colour Suit and Salwar.

Any person is having any information/clue about this missing/kidnapped girl, may inform SHO, Pandav Nagar, Delhi at E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.nic.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.nic.in) or website : <http://cbi.nic.in> Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641

S.H.O  
P.S. Pandav Nagar, Delhi.  
Ph: 011-22780100, 22780090

DP/210/ED/2020.

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT ANDHRA PRADESH RURAL ROAD CONNECTIVITY PROJECT (APRRP) PRIOR NOTICE OF INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB) IFB NOS: 1 to 24/APRRP/PRED/2020-21 Dt. 20-10-2020

The Government of Andhra Pradesh, Panchayat Raj & Rural Development Department has implementing A.P. Rural Road Project (APRRP) for Connecting the habitations having 250+ population by BC and CC roads including CM/CD works & bridges as required, funded by Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) vide Loan No. 0063A.

The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj will invites 1st call tenders through online percentage rate e-bids from any eligible bidder, to be registered to Government of Andhra Pradesh or any other State Governments/Government of India, or State/Central Government under takings for the construction of road & bridge work packages through website of Central Public Procurement Portal <http://eprocure.gov.in> (Organization name Government of Andhra Pradesh) of National informatics centre. The IFBs from 1 to 21 are expected to be available from 19-10-2020 (tentative) onwards and IFB Nos. 22 to 24 are expected to be available from 02-11-2020 (tentative) on wards at the website [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in)

Sd/- Engineer-in-Chief, AP PR, Vijayawada  
DIPR No.403PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2020-21, Dt.23/10/2020

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE (QC&PD) DIVISION, HMT, SRINAGAR.

Phone: - 0194- 2496307, E-Mail: [xenmandp@gmail.com](mailto:xenmandp@gmail.com)

Corrigendum Extension of dates

Subject: - Extension of dates for Supply of 1200 Metric Tons of ISI Marked Stable Bleaching Powder Grade-I Conforming to IS: 1065/89, (with upto date amendments)

Ref: 1. This notice NIT No: PHE/QC&PD/21/2020-21/e-Tender Dated: 15-10-2020.

2. Representation made by the firm for extension of said e-NIT.

Due to poor response, the above referred e-tender is hereby re-scheduled as follows:

1	Tender Notice No.	PHE/M&P/ 21 of 2020-21/ e-Tender Dated: 15-10-2020.
2	Date of Inviting online Tender	08-10-2020.....10.00AM
3	Clarification End Date	26-10-2020.....01.00PM
4	Document Downloading End Date	26-10-2020.....02.00PM
5	On Line Document Submission End Date	26-10-2020.....6.00PM
6	Date of opening of Cover 1st.	27-10-2020.....2.00PM

No: PHE/QC&PD/4393-96

Dated: 22-10-2020

DipK -7904/20

Executive Engineer,

Jal Shakti PHE (QC&PD)

HMT Srinagar

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD

O/o Chief General Manager (Engg), O&M Circle-III, Goshamahal, Hyderabad, Telangana State.

e-Tender Notice No. & Date	Name of Work	Estimate Contract Value, Ranging from
188, 189 & 190/ CGM/ EV O&M.C.III/D3, D4 & D5/ NO OPEN MANHOLE COVERS/2020-21, Dt. 23.10.2020	No Open Manhole Covering sub roads in GHMC for Raising/ Lowering/ Damaged constructions of sewer manholes under O&M Dn.III, IV & V.	Rs.139.57 lakhs to Rs.145.82 lakhs

(1) Tender Documents will be available online from dt. 23.10.2020, 7.00 P.M onwards and the last date for receipt of tenders is dt. 29.10.2020, 3.30 P.M. (2) Name & address of Chief General Manager (Engg), concerned - Chief General Manager (Engg), O&M Circle-III, HMWSSB, Goshamahal, Hyderabad - 500012. (3) The Contractors / firms are requested to upload the information in the 'ZIP' format preferably. (4) Further details can be seen @ <http://www.eprocurement.gov.in>

Sd/- Chief General Manager (Engg), O&M Circle-III, Goshamahal, Hyderabad, Telangana State.

राष्ट्रीय डिज़ाइन संस्थान National Institute of Design

(An Institution of National Importance under the DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India)

Acharpura, Eint Khedi, Post- Arwalia, Bhopal (MP) 462038

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Title	Published on CPPP/Website	Tender Ref No.	Closing Date
Tender for supply, installation & commissioning of IT Equipment	21.10.2020	NIDMP /1-80 / IT Eqpt/ 2020 / 02	11.11.2020
Tender for providing turnkey solution towards supply and development of RFID & EM based system	16.10.2020	NIDMP/1-30/01/ RF/2020	05.11.2020

Detailed terms & conditions can be viewed on the institute's website- [www.nldmp.ac.in](http://www.nldmp.ac.in) and CPP Portal [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in)

Registrar

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

DRM/WJ's Office, Bhopal • Tender CORRIGENDUM Notice • Date: 23.10.2020

The tender for the following work was invited on 15.10.2020, which is due to be opened on 09.11.2020, for which the name of work should be read as under:

Tender No.	Name of work including Location	Revised Name of work
20-21/HQ-19-107	ADEN (Works) Itarsi - White wash, colour wash, distemping, emulsion etc. for all residential and service buildings under the jurisdiction of SSE/Works/ET as per USSOR 2011, costing upto ₹ 5 lakhs each for the year 2020-21.	ADEN (Works) Itarsi - White wash, colour wash, distemping, emulsion etc. for all residential and service buildings under the jurisdiction of SSE/Works/ New yard ET as per USSOR 2011, costing upto ₹ 5 lakhs each for the year 2020-21.

Other details of the tender published will remain unchanged.

DRM (W), West Central Railway, Bhopal

रेल खाता के नीचे दिखाया हेतु 138 पर एवं चुकाया हेतु 182 पर संदर्भ करें।

NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED (A Govt. Of India Undertaking)

SIBIAN ROAD, BATHINDA - 151 003 (Pb)

Ph. 0164-2270261, 2760262, FAX: 0164-2270463

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-tenders in two-part bid system are invited from experienced and financially sound contractors for the following annual rate contract work

NIT No.	Work Description	Estimated Cost of Work (₹)	Period of contract	Cost of Tender (₹)	EMD (₹)	Tender issuing Authority/ Last date
NFB/PUR/SD/200010	ARC for Supply of Urea Fertilizer Troughing Agent (Approx. Qty: 2,00,000 KG)	*	One year	*	₹ 1 Lakh	09.11.2020 15:00 Hours CM (MTLS.)

For further details and corrigendum, if any visit our website: [www.nationalfertilizers.com](http://www.nationalfertilizers.com), [www.tenders.gov.in](http://www.tenders.gov.in) and CPP portal [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in)

Follow us: @nationalfertilizers, @NFL\_Kisan, @nationalfertilizers Limited

DAY TODAY BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Venus is bound to feel slightly uncertain, if not unsettled. It's a useful moment to spend some time alone, day-dreaming and letting others carry the can. Just make sure that you cope with practical chores that absolutely can't be delayed. Otherwise you'll annoy people you rely on.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Venus, the planet which represents your relationships, is now forming a distant alliance with Jupiter, the symbol of generosity. Could a lover be in a particularly generous mood? This is certainly one possibility. At all times remember that change is desirable, but stability is essential.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

It's time to contemplate the professional future, although it is uncertain whether it is you or a partner who is under the spotlight. Plus, don't imagine that career is everything. There are many other ambitions worth pursuing! Improvements at home are long overdue, so put your suggestions forward now.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Travel plans should form a central part of your thinking right now. Your need to get away is not pure escapism, more a matter of finding out what the rest of the world has to offer. Even short trips are likely to satisfy your expectations, at least partially.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

There's passion aplenty in the air today, and you're liable to be extremely busy. And if you don't like that prospect, then stay away from the action! Once you have dealt with financial questions and routine chores, you can turn to personal relationships. Take differences of opinion in your stride.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

The Moon presents you with significant personal challenges, and quite possibly a degree of confusion. The way to highlight today's positive potential is to emphasise every activity which is inspired, imaginative and romantic. That sounds like an excellent policy.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Venus is currently bringing emotional reassurance, but its intriguing relationship with Mars could upset a number of your preconceptions today. It's important not to hang on to the past, but to see that people who have come into your life recently can offer you all the support you need.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

You could be having qualms about one particular emotional tie, and you may be concerned that a partner or colleague doesn't feel about you the way you feel about them. It's one of those rare moments when absolute honesty is called for. You never know — you might be pleasantly surprised.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

You probably feel pulled in two directions, and you may imagine that there can be no solution to an emotional quandary. However, all things must pass, and if you face up to the issues now, the tension will dissipate. All you need is a dose of additional confidence.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

It is time for a little sensitivity. You may even have a telepathic feeling or two, and your intuitions certainly seem to be functioning in top gear. Mind you, it could be difficult to distinguish true facts from vague fantasies, and news which arrives very soon could be a mite confusing.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

There may be little you can do to straighten out personal finances at the moment, but you must pay very close attention indeed to all joint business affairs. This is where prosperity lies. Could a loved one offer better advice than the experts? Perhaps — so listen well and judge carefully.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

The Moon marks today out as a very special moment, if only because it's offering you the chance to expand your horizons. Even small events which take place now could have very positive and powerful repercussions over the next six months. And that has to be good news.

SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON



Naseem Ahmed

In this regard a DD No. 12-A dated: 14.08.2020 has been lodged at PS Gazipur, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the person, but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) S.H.O.,  
Ph: 011-23011334 P.S. Gazipur, Delhi  
Fax: 011-23014046  
011-23015218 Ph.: 011-22610068, 22610094

DP/231/ED/20

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TENDER NOTICE : D-07/2020-2021

Tenders are invited online from reputed Manufacturers/formulators/ direct importers for Purchase of Tablet-Capsule, Injection, Miscellaneous & Surgical Items on rate contract basis and details of specification, quantity is available on <https://gmscl.gujarat.gov.in> and [www.statetenders.com](http://www.statetenders.com). All tender documents can be downloaded free on the website: <http://gmscl.nprocure.com> & Tender Notice. Interested bidders are requested to submit the tender through e-tender process.

Duration of downloading of tender document (online):- 26/10/2020 to 20/11/2020 upto 18.00 Hrs.

Last date for Submission (online): 20/11/2020 upto 18.00 HRS

Last date for submission of physical document: 21/11/2020 upto 18.00 HRS.

Opening of Technical Bid Date (online): 23/11/2020 at 15.00 HRS.

INF/1152/20-21 MANAGING DIRECTOR

RITES LIMITED (A Government of India Enterprise)

Notice Inviting e-Tender

GGM/MSM, invites on behalf of RITES Limited online lump sum bids on single packet system for the following goods:-

1) NIT No: 2020/RITES/MSM/04/MOZ/DA/Rebid, Name of Goods: Supply, Installation, Commissioning and testing of Diesel Alternator set 500 KVA (336 KW), 750V, 3 ph for Power Cars for export to Mozambique Railways, Qty 4 coach sets (8 DA sets), Earnest Money: INR 10,65,000/-, Cost of Tender Document: INR 7,000/-, Period of Completion: 20 Weeks, Last Date & Time of Submission of Bids: 03.11.2020 (11:30 Hrs).

Details can be obtained from RITES website "[www.rites.com](http://www.rites.com)" or CPP portal i.e. "[www.etenders.gov.in](http://www.etenders.gov.in)". Addendum/Corrigendum, if any, shall be hosted online only.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/ PS, Northern Railway, Delhi division, New Delhi invites e-tender for the following work:

1	Name of work with its location	Allotment of 9 Unreserved Catering Stalls (General Minor Units) (including 3 Catering Stalls reserved for Women) at New Delhi & Delhi Jn. Railway Stations over Delhi Division for a period of five (5) years. (Ctg. GMU 01 to 09-2020)
2	Name of tender on IREPS	23/AC/Ctg/GMU A-1/2018
3	Approximate cost of work	As per NIT on ireps.gov.in
4	Date of opening of Tender	19/11/2020 at 1500 hrs
5	Cost of Tender document & 18 % GST	As per NIT on ireps.gov.in
6	Earnest Money Deposit	As per NIT on ireps.gov.in
7	Website particulars where complete details of tender document can be seen	<a href="https://ireps.gov.in/">https://ireps.gov.in/</a>

No: 23/AC/Ctg/GMU A-1/2018 Dated: 23.10.2020 2342/2020

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ई-प्रोक्युमेंट निविदा सूचना

क्र./निर्माण/2020 दिनांक:- 19.10.2020

एकीकृत पंचायत प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंचायत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु (Online) ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

क्र. कार्य का विवरण अनुमानित लागत (रु. लाख में) निविदा डालने की अंतिम तिथि

1	परिवहन नगर जैन अंतर्गत यातायात बाईपास रोड से स्वीयर मोहल्ल तक आर.सी.सी. नाला का निर्माण कार्य। (द्वितीय निविदा) (जिला खनिज न्यास मंद)	198.48	03.11.2020 (T.No. 68479)
2	बाई क्र. 02, 03 अंतर्गत पावर हाउस रोड से डी.डी.एम. स्कूल तक आर.सी.सी. नाला का निर्माण (द्वितीय निविदा) (जिला खनिज न्यास मंद)	198.17	03.11.2020 (T.No. 68481)

उपरोक्त कार्यों की निविदा की जानकारी ई-प्रोक्युमेंट वेब पोर्टल <http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है, साथ ही निगम के वेबसाइट [www.korbamunicipal.in](http://www.korbamunicipal.in) पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

॥ स्वच्छ भारत निर्माण में योगदान दें ॥

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# 20 SPORT

## BRIEFLY

### England cricket team takes 15% pay cut

**London:** The England cricket team agreed to take a 15 per cent pay cut Friday as the sport deals with lost revenue during the coronavirus pandemic. Players with contracts from the England and Wales Cricket Board will get reduced income in "retainers, match fees and win bonuses" for one year, the governing body said in a statement. The pay cut backdated to October 1 was "in view of the substantial shortfall in the ECB's revenue as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic." England recently hosted tours by the West Indies, Pakistan, Ireland and Australia, playing in mostly empty stadiums.

### Big guns win in Europa League

**London:** Gareth Bale had a quiet first start for Tottenham since return while Carlos Vinicius made a more impressive debut by setting up two goals in a 3-0 win over LASK in the Europa League. North London rival Arsenal on Thursday opened its fourth straight Europa League campaign with a 2-1 come-from-behind win at Rapid Vienna in an opening round of games affected by the coronavirus pandemic. On a good night for Premier League clubs, Leicester earned a comfortable 3-0 home win over Zorya Luhansk. AC Milan earned a 3-1 away win at Celtic, while Roma came from a goal down to win 2-1 at Young Boys - as did Granada to upset PSV Eindhoven away.

### Madrid striker flouts norms, faces prison

**Belgrade:** Real Madrid striker Luka Jovic faces a six-month prison sentence in Serbia for flouting the country's coronavirus isolation rules, state prosecutors said Friday. Jovic briefly returned home from Spain in March and was seen on the streets of Belgrade and pictured at his girlfriend's birthday party despite being ordered to self-isolate for 14 days. Prosecutors are now taking the case to court and saying he should be sentenced to a six-month prison sentence after he refused to pay 30,000 euros for humanitarian purposes in exchange for dropped charges.

### Asian online team chess: India in semis

**Chennai:** The top-seeded Indian women's team stormed into the semi-finals of the Asian Nations Online Cup 2020 Championship, while the men eked out a fighting win over Mongolia to secure the last four berth. The Indian women made short work of Kyrgyzstan in the last-eight round, winning the two match-ups easily — 4-0 and 3.5-0.5 — after having topped the preliminary Swiss system phase. The Indian women will face Mongolia in the semifinal on Saturday. The Indian men won both matches 2.5-1.5. They will take on Iran in Saturday's semifinal.

**AGENCIES**

## Listless CSK's season goes from bad to worse as they suffer a 10-wicket loss to MI in a one-sided match

### SYNOPSIS

**Hostile bowling by Mumbai Indians proved to be the proverbial last nail in CSK coffin**

**SANDIP G**  
OCTOBER 23

MIDWAY through an inky Friday night in Sharjah, an era of Chennai Super Kings' invincibility ended without a fight, but with a sense of inevitability. There was no better proof of CSK's calamitous season, and a desperate need for renewal, than this night. They were helpless, and beyond it, hopeless in preventing a disastrous exit from the tournament.

It was the most un-CSK performance of all times. They huffed and puffed to 114 for 9, and what rubbed salt into their festering wounds was the fact that Mumbai Indians won with 10 wickets to spare in just 12.2 overs.

What would rattle them and their feverish supporters is the sheer abjectness of their defeat. Seldom have they surrendered so meekly ever in the league that they have won thrice and reached at least till the knockouts. Worse, there was a sense of foreboding about the impending disaster. There was a sense of resignation even in MS Dhoni's reactive decision to ring in three changes—snuffing out the underwhelming Kedar Jadhav, Shane Watson and Piyush Chawla and replacing them with Ruturaj Gaikwad, N Jagadeesan and Imran Tahir. Changes, that seemed, for the sake of changing, as it had been for most of this season.

There was an unusual tentativeness in their approach. Sinking shoulders, drooping eyes, and dejected faces manifesting in a muddled thought process. Nothing more symbolic than Faf du Plessis's mode of dismissal. Rather than drive a full-length ball, he just threw his hard hands at the ball, the front-foot stuck and static at the crease, hands stabbing at the ball. It was clear that Trent Boult's in-swing was spooking his mind, and hence over-conscious of not thrusting his front-foot. The shot selection was perfect, but the execution far from it.

He was not alone in lack of clarity. So was his colleague Ambati Rayudu. He attempted to pull Jasprit Bumrah. The stroke was on, as the ball was relatively shortish. But his stroke seemed half-hearted as if he wanted to pull away from the stroke at the last moment. Bumrah is the last bowler you want to face half-



Sam Curran's resilient knock ended when he was clean bowled by Trent Boult. BCCI/ IPL

POINTS TABLE						
Team	Matches	Won	Lost	NR	Points	
MI	10	7	3	0	14	
DC	10	7	3	0	14	
RCB	10	7	3	0	14	
KKR	10	5	5	0	10	
SRH	10	4	6	0	8	
KXIP	10	4	6	0	8	
RR	11	4	7	0	8	
CSK	11	3	8	0	6	

heartedly and Rayudu's indecision sufficed.

### Hostile bowling

No doubt, Boult and Bumrah bowled hostilely, mixing their lengths and angles smartly. There was barely a blade of grass, but they are masterly in producing movement off the seam. Boult especially was menacing—he would slide the ball across the right-handed batsmen, before skidding one onto the pads. CSK batsmen lived in the constant fear of inward-bending delivery. The unsure feet-movement stemmed from it. Boult resembled a psychoanalyst, hyp-

notising batsmen and reading their minds.

But as superbly as they bowled, CSK lost the plot completely. It was a matter of seeing off Boult and Bumrah, like Manish Pandey had negotiated Jofra Archer on Thursday. Or they could have ventured on a no-holds-barred counter-attack. They chose neither, but the fatal middle path. Like Ravindra Jadeja, who sashayed down to Boult and tried to heave him over mid-wicket. Mistake. There are times, even in T20 cricket, when you have to prioritise safety over aggression. Jadeja's departure plunged them to 21/5 in 5.2 overs, CSK's worst-ever score in the power-play overs. Their last hope was Dhoni, and he did raise hopes with a couple of thundering strokes, before he tried an expansive drive off Deepak Chahar. A stroke out of frustration than anything else.

### Wilting skipper

The captain could pinpoint a lot of reasons behind their worst season. Injuries, form, deflection, fortune, and what not. But he can't shirk away from responsibilities himself. His numbers reinforced his decline, which has been overstated—just 181 runs at a strike rate of 122 in 11 innings. There were times he could have

walked in at No.3 or 4, but he didn't. There were times his intuitions and reflexes failed him too.

As much as his influence as a batsman, his leadership was strangely jaded, bereft of inspiration, a definite caginess that had marked his last days as Test captain. For example, he introduced as influential a match-winner as Imran Tahir too late into the campaign, more so as Dwayne Bravo was injured for most of the series. N Jagadeesan had shown immense promise in his first match, but then was omitted for the next two. They seemed a team drifting away from the nucleus, their wheels coming off. Like on Friday evening, he looked defeated.

### Lack of planning

Blatantly evident was a lack of planning. It seemed, they had no plan B, C, or even D. They lost Suresh Raina as soon as they landed in the Emirates, and they had no back-up plan. They kept experimenting with the No.3, but none quite glued in. Dhoni alleged that the youngsters were not showing spark; then neither did the old warhorses. Likewise, the bowling was over-dependent on Bravo's trickery. The rest were at best utilitarian in this format. Josh Hazlewood is a high-class Test bowler, but ill-suited to T20 cricket. Sam Curran can be a reliable third seamer in a trifecta, but incapable yet of single-handed demolition. Deepak Chahar is one-dimensional, Shardul Thakur is limited while the trusted spin pair of Piyush Chawla and Kam Sharma are metronomes of neither discipline nor destruction.

Superior planning and shrewd strategising could have glossed over some of their flaws, but with neither, they unravelled. The margins of defeat throws ample signs of their disintegration. Barring a seven-run defeat at the hands of Sunrisers, most of the rest have been pretty comprehensive—16 runs, 44 runs, 10, 37, 5 wickets, 7 wickets. The defeat at hands of Mumbai was just the final twist of the dagger into the hearts. These are signs that suggest it was not a case of one freakishly bad season, or an aberration, rather a case of deep-set rot.

A lot of focus would be shed on the age factor. It was not age alone that hampered them, but acumen, adaptability and planning too. The very factors that have stood by them for much of this decade. Or maybe, it was the game's reminder that their era of invincibility had ended. And slipped into the inky skies of Sharjah.

**BRIEF SCORES:** CSK 114/9 in 20 overs (S Curran 52; T Boult 4/18, J Bumrah 2/25, R Chahar 2/22) lost to Mumbai Indians 116/0 in 12.2 overs (I Kishan 68\*, Q de Kock 46\*)

# Hamilton poised to take over Schumacher's record at Portuguese GP

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
LISBON, OCTOBER 23

ON A circuit hosting its first Formula One race, Lewis Hamilton can finally stand alone among F1 greats by beating Michael Schumacher's record for wins. Victory at the Portuguese Grand Prix on Sunday would move the British driver onto 92 race wins, and surpass the German great's mark of 91 that for so long had been considered untouchable.

"I remember sitting at home watching the Grands Prix and watching Michael win," Hamilton said. "I remember going upstairs with my brother afterwards and we would play computer games together and I would be Michael. So it's very, very surreal."

A win would also take Hamilton a step closer to matching Schumacher's record of seven F1 championship titles. He leads the championship by 69 points ahead of his Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas after winning seven of the first 11 races, and with only five remaining after Sunday's contest at the Autodromo Internacional do Algarve.

When Hamilton moved level with Schumacher on 91 wins at the Eifel GP in Germany two weeks ago, Schumacher's son Mick Schumacher—who leads the F2 championship—presented a visibly moved Hamilton with one of his father's racing helmets from his time at Mercedes. "I was really honored by Michael's family when they presented me with this helmet," Hamilton said.

It was Schumacher's retirement from

**I remember sitting at home watching the Grands Prix and watching Michael win. I remember going upstairs with my brother afterwards and we would play computer games together and I would be Michael. So it's very, very surreal."**

**LEWIS HAMILTON**  
FORMULA ONE WORLD CHAMPION

Mercedes - and F1 itself - which opened the door for Hamilton to make what was then considered a risky move when he left McLaren to join the Silver Arrows.

Bottas led the Eifel GP after taking pole

position, but then ceded first place to Hamilton after a clumsy braking error. A despondent Bottas had to retire the car after 12 laps due to a failed electrical component in the engine. "Seeing Lewis cross the line in Germany and take his 91st victory was a very special moment. Valtteri's race, however, could not have gone much worse," Mercedes' head of motorsport Toto Wolff said. "But one of Valtteri's biggest strengths is his resilience and his ability to bounce back."

Still even a win in Portugal would do little for Bottas' chances of catching Hamilton, unless his teammate endures some bad fortune of his own in the handful of races remaining.

Portugal's 4.65-kilometer (2.9-mile) circuit - known as Portimao - is an undulat-

ing one with frequent elevation changes and where overtaking is expected to be difficult. It is the second new race of a coronavirus-hit campaign after the Tuscan GP at Mugello last month.

If Sunday's race is as intense as that crash-marred one at Mugello, then F1 fans will be in for a treat.

For Haas drivers Romain Grosjean and Kevin Magnussen it represents a chance to put themselves in the market for a seat next season. The U.S.-owned team with Ferrari engines announced on Thursday that the duo will be replaced next year, having scored only three points between them so far. "The last chapter is closed and the book is finished," said Grosjean, the veteran French driver.

For Hamilton, the story continues.

# In isolation and mourning his brother's demise, Brazil legend Pele turns 80

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
SAO PAULO, OCTOBER 23

BRAZILIAN GREAT Pele turned 80 on Friday, but the celebration will have to wait.

The three-time World Cup winner spent the day isolated with a few family members outside Sao Paulo, where he received a flood of tributes from players, fans, celebrities and politicians.

His long-time spokesman, Pepito Fornos, said Pele will spend his birthday at his mansion in the beachfront city of Guarujá, on the coast of Sao Paulo state, where he has been since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. He also has residences in Santos and Sao Paulo. "He will only stay with his family. No party at all," Fornos told The Associated Press. "That has been the case all his life."

Fornos said Pele isn't speaking publicly because he is still mourning his brother Jair, who died of cancer in March. Pele is Brazil's all-time leading scorer with 77 goals, although Neymar is closing in on that record with 64. But the Paris Saint-Germain striker trails far behind when it comes to World Cup titles, which Pele won in 1958, 1962 and 1970.

No other player has accomplished that feat. Pele also collected a slew of trophies for Brazilian club Santos from 1956-74, including 10 Sao Paulo state league titles, which was a top tournament at the time, six Brazilian championships, two Copa Libertadores titles and the Intercontinental Cup in 1962 and 1963.



Fans take a selfie in front of Pele's mural in Sao Paulo. Reuters

The Brazilian ended his career with the New York Cosmos, where he played from 1975-77, winning one national title and attracting sports greats like boxer Muhammad Ali to watch him play as soccer took root in the United States. Pele was also Brazil's sports minister from 1995-98. Two years later, he shared the FIFA award for player of the century with Argentina great Diego Maradona. The Brazilian received the most votes from members of the soccer body, while the Argentine prevailed in an online vote.

Since 1992, Pele has done charity work as a U.N. goodwill ambassador. He stopped his career as a businessman in 2004 after failed attempts in the sports marketing field.

Pele has had mobility problems since a failed hip replacement surgery in 2012. He has also been admitted to hospitals in recent years for kidney and prostate procedures. The celebrations in Brazil for Pele began on Feb. 20, but he didn't attend the unveiling of a life-size statue of him at Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro that day.

## Real problems at Madrid ahead of *El Clasico*

**SHASHANK NAIR**  
OCTOBER 23

ZINEDINE ZIDANE has never lost as a manager at the Camp Nou, a record that comes under the microscope today as Barcelona host the champions at a time when Real Madrid are reeling from a couple of shock defeats. The reversals—one each in La Liga and the Champions League—have prompted questions over whether Los Blancos can have another successful season.

### Historical anomaly

A glaring statistic hits out at Real Madrid and their history. They may have the highest number of league titles and been continental champions 13 times, but they have only retained the La Liga once in the last 30 years. On paper at least, it looks too early in the race to make a call—one point off the top with a game in hand makes it seem like things aren't that bad at Madrid. But their previous two results and how they've played in those matches are a cause for concern as they prepare to face a Barcelona team that has had its own set of issues.

### Shock losses

The start of this season for Real Madrid has not been the best one. They have played six matches and won three, lost two and drawn once. In the post-match conference after the Champions League defeat to Shakhtar Donetsk, Zidane accepted the blame for the loss that came despite the



**We lacked a bit of everything. Above all confidence, which is the most important thing... We know the situation we're in."**

**ZINEDINE ZIDANE**  
MANAGER, REAL MADRID

Ukrainian club missing 10 first-team regulars on the back of positive Covid tests.

"We lacked a bit of everything," said Zidane. "Above all confidence, which is the most important thing... We know the situation we're in. It's our second bad game. Now we have to prepare for our next game. It's clear that I'm responsible."

### Toothless attack

There are some statistics that Zidane would be shaking his bald head over. The key one being Madrid, in their last two games, have taken 28 shots with only six on target—with only two resulting in goals. They have made 57 crosses in these two games and attempted 97 long balls. Against Cadiz, in particular, was a shocker as Madrid could only manage one shot on target, despite having 74 per cent possession and making close to 700 passes with an 85 per cent accuracy rate. Another stat that should hurt Madrid is how the goals have dried up. In their last 14 games, they have scored two or more only three times, a number that might not be the biggest confidence-booster as they head for the first *El Clasico* of the season.

These two defeats followed a similar script. Madrid have been slack despite enjoying the lion's share of possession. They've relied on an overload of long balls and crosses with very little success to show for it.

### Rumour mill

Such is the pressure of being the Real Madrid manager that two losses and an upcoming *El Clasico* sets rumour-mongers about. French publication L'Equipe wrote that Zidane has been given a two-match lifeline to change course or get the sack. The head of a manager who has won a league title and three Champions Leagues is said to be on the chopping block of the most successful club in the world after just six games into the new season.

**Live on Facebook Watch, 7.30pm**