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TABLIGHI MATTER: GOVT SAYS CAN'T GAG

Freedom of speech most abused: SC; slams Govt for its 'evasive' affidavit

ANANTHAKRISHNANG
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

"FREEDOM OF speech and expression may be the most abused freedom in recent times," the Supreme Court observed Thursday as it took exception to what it called an "evasive" affidavit filed by the Centre in response to a petition alleging discriminatory news coverage of the Tablighi Jamaat issue.

Chief Justice of India SA Bobde made this remark when Senior Advocate Dushyant Dave, appear-

ing for petitioner Jamiat-Ulami-Hind which said the Tablighi issue was reported in such a manner that it spread communal hatred, submitted that the government affidavit accused it of trying to muzzle freedom of speech. At this, the CJ said, "they are entitled to make any argument like you people are. This freedom of speech may be the most abused freedom in recent times". The bench, also comprising Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, made evident its displeasure over the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Mumbai Police allege TRP fraud by Republic and 2 other channels

4 held, says Commissioner; Republic threatens criminal defamation

MOHAMED THAYER
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 8

MUMBAI POLICE on Thursday said they had busted a "racket" of "fraudulent" manipulation of Television Rating Points (TRPs) involving three channels including Arnab Goswami's Republic TV.

"So far three channels including Republic, Fakt Marathi, and Box Cinema have been found to be indulging in such malpractices," Mumbai Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh said at a press conference.

Four persons — the owners of the Fakt Marathi and Box

EXPLAINED
What TRP data show

TRPs CLAIM to show how many people, from which socio-economic categories, watched which channels for how long over a particular time period. TRP data are usually released weekly, and form the basis of claims by channels to being the "most watched".

EXPLAINED
PAGE 15



'I'M SPEAKING'

Kamala Harris and Mike Pence at the US vice-presidential debate, at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, on Wednesday. "Mr Vice President, I'm speaking," Harris said, when Pence interrupted her. Pence let her finish. Reuters

REPORT, PAGE 13

Pelting stones, egging on mob: Delhi govt flags 'police complicity' videos

Delhi Police says analysing two clips, taken action on one

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

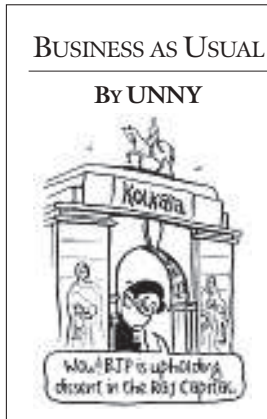
ON OCTOBER 5, the Delhi Government's Home Department flagged a set of seven videoclips to the Delhi Police that include two of policemen pur-

portedly throwing bricks alongside rioters and egging them on during the Northeast Delhi riots. A third shows policemen purportedly making five injured men, lying on the ground, sing the national anthem.

Two days later, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (North

East) has replied that action has been taken on three of the videos, while the rest "are being analysed and report regarding the same will be submitted in due course of time after ascertaining location, and exact date and time".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY

Accused claims he was friends with Hathras teen, family denies they beat her

JIGNASA SINHA & AMIL BHATNAGAR
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

THE FOUR men accused in the Hathras assault and gangrape case have written to the Hathras Superintendent of Police, claiming they are "innocent" and that

the 19-year-old woman was beaten up by her brother and mother on September 14, the day of the incident.

The 19-year-old Dalit woman had died 15 days after the incident, for which the four upper caste men have been booked. In a statement recorded before a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

SON TAKES OVER IN POLL-BOUND BIHAR

Veteran Dalit leader, Minister with six PMs, Ram Vilas Paswan dies

50 yrs in public life, blending principle with realpolitik

RAVISH TIWARI & MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

"Rashtrapati ka beta ho ya chaprasi ka ho santaan, Birla ya garib ka beta, sabki shiksha ek samaan (Whether it's the President's son or the son of a peon, Birla's son or that of the poor, all should get equal education)."

Ram Vilas Paswan liked to recite these lines, which he had picked up when he started his political career — they were part of a socialist slogan used by the then Samyukta Socialist Party (SSP). And the passion with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



RAM VILAS PASWAN | 1946-2020

Weather vane who worked for Dalits, friends across divide

COOMI KAPOOR
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

RAM VILAS PASWAN'S fellow Bihar politician Lalu Prasad Yadav once angrily called him a

Mausam Vaigyanik (weather vane) since Paswan had the uncanny knack of sniffing out the winning side in politics.

Because of his shrewd political judgment, Paswan had an

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

J&K L-G visits families of labourers killed in Shopian, assures 'justice at all costs'

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, OCTOBER 8

IN A visible outreach effort, Jammu & Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha walked over half-a-kilometre across mountainous terrain to meet the family members of the three Rajouri labour-



Manoj Sinha with the family members in Rajouri. Express

ers who were killed in a fake encounter by the Army in Shopian on July 18 this year.

"Rest assured, you will get justice at all costs," the Lt Governor told the grieving families who had gathered at Tarkasi village in Rajouri district, at the house of Mohammad Yusuf,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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WEB EXCLUSIVE



WHY A NEW CRAB SPECIES WAS NAMED AFTER ARUNACHAL'S NAMDAPHA FORESTS

The latest among the species named after Arunachal's pristine forests is an invertebrate found scuttling on the edge of a small stream in Namdapha Tiger Reserve. The name of Abortelphusa Namdaphensis, a freshwater crab species, is a tribute not just to Namdapha, but also to the Abor Hills, another biodiversity hotspot.

VIDEO OF THE DAY



BIHAR POLLS: OXFORD ALUMNUS IN FRAY

Manish Barriar says the people of Bihar have limited options

TECH



POCO'S REBRANDED REDMI DEVICES

The rebranded phones are better versions, says POCO's country director

EXPRESS AUDIO

Quad meet with eye on China, CBI on Sushant, UAPA charge on scribe

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

How the Quad can help India, what the AIIMS report reveals about Sushant Singh Rajput's death, and why a journalist and three others were booked under UAPA

FROM PAGE ONE

Weathervane

unmatched record of being a central minister in practically every government from 1989 to 2020, with only occasional periods of being out of power.

He served as a minister in the governments of V P Singh, H D Deve Gowda, I K Gujral, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Manmohan Singh and Narendra Modi. The portfolios he held included Railways, Labour and Welfare, Food. The 74-year-old was Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution at the time of his death.

His detractors sometimes said Paswan punched much above his weight in New Delhi, simply because he was a convenient senior Dalit leader for a party like the BJP to hold up as a showpiece. They said he was not a mass leader in terms of vote-pulling ability. His party, Lok Janshakti Party, usually garnered only around 6.5 per cent of the vote in his home state though it could, on occasion, tip the balance.

But this is a facile underestimation of a very shrewd politician whose mastery of realpolitik is reflected in his long survival in a cut-throat game. He was the best known Dalit politician from Bihar after Jagjivan Ram.

Even as Paswan lay in a hospital in New Delhi, his young son Chirag, who once tried to make a name in Bollywood but failed, kept his father's tradition of ensuring that the LJP remains relevant in the forthcoming Bihar assembly polls.

Chirag has been regularly criticising Nitish Kumar, much to the chagrin of the Bihar Chief Minister who is furious that the BJP has made little effort to rein in its ally. In fact, in a curious state of affairs permitted by the BJP leadership, the LJP remains an ally of the government at the Centre while its candidates contest against the J(D)U at the state

level in the assembly polls.

Paswan's strength lay partly in his very pleasant, accommodating and helpful nature. If he could oblige a fellow politician, even if the person were from the opposing side, or assist a journalist in trouble, he would go out of his way to help. His doors were always open and he never stood on ceremony.

As a minister in Vajpayee's government, Paswan still kept very cordial relations with neighbour Sonia Gandhi who lived down the road in New Delhi. When he quit the Vajpayee's government in 2002 over the Gujarat communal riots, Gandhi was only too happy to welcome him into the UPA fold.

Similarly, Narendra Modi did not seem to hold it against Paswan that he left the NDA ostensibly because of the Gujarat government's failure to protect minorities. When he returned to the NDA fold, Paswan was rewarded by being made a minister in the Modi I and Modi II governments.

As a minister, Paswan's most memorable achievement was getting the Mandal Commission report implemented in 1990 during the term of the short-lived V P Singh government. Paswan was then Minister of Welfare and was among the first to insist firmly that there would be early implementation of reservations on the lines suggested by the Mandal Commission, despite nationwide protests from upper caste youth opposed to the reservation policy.

Although Nitish Kumar and Lalu Yadav, his rivals in his home state, have dominated Bihar politics for the last five decades, Paswan in fact entered politics much before them.

He came from a poor Dalit family but worked his way up to complete MA and LLB. In 1969, he was elected to the Bihar assembly from the Samyukta Socialist Party (SSP). He was imprisoned during the Emergency

and, when it was lifted in 1977, he joined the Janata Party.

He won from his home seat Hajipur with the largest margin at that time, entering the Guinness Book of Records. He was to win from this reserved constituency eight times. Last year, for the first time, he let his brother contest from Hajipur, while he was elected to Rajya Sabha in a deal worked out with the BJP.

Of the six LJP MPs in the current Lok Sabha, two are Paswan's brothers and another is son Chirag. In fact, Paswan wanted Modi to make Chirag a minister, but the Prime Minister insisted on retaining the senior Paswan in his cabinet.

J&K L-G

whose son Abrar Ahmed, 25, was among the three youth killed in Shopian.

When Yusuf asked that the guilty be punished, the L-G said, "The Modi government is known for ensuring justice. Let the inquiry be completed, strict action will be taken against the guilty."

Sinha, who reached Yusuf's home around 5.30 pm, also assured them that a member from each of the three families would be given government jobs, besides cash assistance.

Hathras teen

magistrate, she had said she had been raped by the four.

The letter, written by prime accused Sandeep, carries the thumb prints of all four of them, including Luv Kush, Ram Kumar and Ravi, and was sent to the SP late on Wednesday evening. It surfaced in social media on Thursday morning. Alok Singh, the Senior Superintendent of Aligarh Jail, where the four are lodged, confirmed the four had sent the letter.

In the letter, Sandeep says he and the woman were "friends" who often spoke over the phone. "I was arrested on September 20 under a false case. My relatives Ram and Ravi were also arrested along with a local, Luv Kush. The woman (victim) was my friend. We would meet each other and also talk over the phone. Her family was against our friendship," he says.

The woman's family called the allegations by Sandeep and the letter another attempt to malign them. "She (the 19-year-old) didn't have a cellphone and didn't know how to use one... Sandeep had been harassing her for months," the victim's sister-in-law said.

On September 14, Sandeep says in the letter, he had met the woman in the fields, where her mother and brother were present. He alleged that he "left the place when she asked him to do so". According to him, the villagers later told Sandeep the woman's family had beat her up because she was friends with him.

"Her mother and brother beat her up. She sustained severe injuries, which later caused her death. I have never hit the woman or done anything wrong. Her mother and brother registered a false case. We are innocent. Please investigate this matter and get us justice," says Sandeep.

Aligarh Jail's Alok Singh said, "They gave us a letter addressed to the Hathras SP on Wednesday. As per law, we forwarded the letter to the Hathras police in the evening."

Hathras SP Vineet Jaiswal, brought in after his predecessor was removed over the handling of the case, said he had received the letter. "I have been told that the letter has been written by the accused in which they are alleging their version of the case. The requisite legal proceedings will take place," he said.

The lawyer of the accused said the police had no proof against his clients.

"We don't expect there to be a chargesheet. If they file a chargesheet under pressure, it

Ram Vilas Paswan dies

which he did even 50 years into his public life spoke eloquently about what he deeply believed in ever since his first election win as an MLA from Bihar in 1969.

On Thursday evening, the 74-year-old breathed his last in a Delhi hospital, following cardiac ailments and a kidney shutdown, leaving behind a legacy that spanned two of the biggest churning points of post-Independent politics—Mandal and Dalit. Paswan, in fact, was a Dalit leader long before Dalit empowerment and social justice became an irreversible force in mainstream politics.

From his socialist training of the 1960s to anti-Congressism to quitting a Cabinet position in the A B Vajpayee government over the 2002 Gujarat riots to joining the Congress-led UPA-1, Paswan stepped over several lines to remain politically relevant since the turn of the century.

So much so, that his last assignment was as Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was the Chief Minister of Gujarat during the 2002 riots.

His ability to gauge the political wind once made his rival from Bihar, RJD founder Lalu Prasad, describe him as "mausam vigyani" (weather scientist). Yet, there were some instances when he did miss the political current, for instance during the 2005 Bihar elections and the 2009 Lok Sabha elections.

But the fact that he worked with six Prime Ministers—V P Singh, H D Deve Gowda, I K Gujral, A B Vajpayee, Manmohan Singh and Narendra Modi—spoke of his endurance. From the Third Front to the Congress and to the BJP, he traversed easily

through portfolios like Railways, Coal, Communications, and Chemicals and Fertilisers.

And yet, today, it is the imprint of Paswan's political journey that will be hard to match.

"Shri Ram Vilas Paswan ji rose in politics through hard work and determination. As a young leader, he resisted tyranny and the assault on our democracy during the Emergency. He was an outstanding Parliamentarian and Minister, making lasting contributions in several policy areas," the Prime Minister posted on Twitter.

"I am saddened beyond words. There is a void in our nation that will perhaps never be filled. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan ji's demise is a personal loss. I have lost a friend, valued colleague and someone who was extremely passionate to ensure every poor person leads a life of dignity," he posted.

"He was the voice of the oppressed, and championed the cause of the marginalised," said President Ram Nath Kovind in a condolence message.

"A towering personality, who stood with the cause of social justice and empowerment of the most marginalised, Shri Paswan will be forever remembered for asserting the cause of social and political equity," Congress president Sonia Gandhi said.

Hailing from the Paswan community, he turned away from a job in the state police to join politics. Much later, he would often recount how a senior socialist once asked him whether he wanted to become a government servant or be the one to get government servants to work for the people. It was this line, he said, that helped him make up his mind.

Soon, he embarked on a career mostly centred on anti-Congress politics. A product of the JP movement—his death today coincided with the death anniversary of Jayprakash Narayan—he was arrested when Emergency was proclaimed and spent that entire period in jail.

But then, he was elected to the Lok Sabha in 1977 from Hajipur with a then record margin of 4.2 lakh votes and moved to national politics. Although those margins got him the headlines—he set a new record in 1989 with a margin of over 5 lakh votes—it was his stint during the V P Singh government that made him a front-ranking national leader. In all, he was elected to Lok Sabha nine times and Rajya Sabha twice.

Having started as a socialist, Paswan had sensed the impending wave of Dalit politics in the Hindi heartland in the early 1980s itself, when BSP founder Kanshiram had begun moving in that direction.

Paswan would fondly recall how, as Welfare Minister under V P Singh, he worked to ensure that the Bharat Ratna went to Dr B R Ambedkar. That government also rolled out the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. These two decisions have since become the political touchstone for those reaching out to Dalit sentiments and aspirations.

Paswan was also the first of the block to get Prime Minister Modi to take the legislative route to counter the Supreme Court ruling that had, in effect, diluted provisions of the SC/ST Act. By then, Paswan had earned enough goodwill and leverage while being part of a government that, because of its num-

bers, had appeared immune to political pressure.

After V P Singh, Paswan carried similar weight in the HD Deve Gowda government during which he was Leader of the Lok Sabha as Gowda had taken charge without yet being an MP. The divisions within the Janata Dal, however, forced him to seek his own perch in national politics.

In 2000, he floated the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) to carve his political space in Delhi despite being a relatively smaller force in Bihar. He leveraged his command over a section of the Dalit votes in Bihar to remain sought-after by major alliances at the Centre.

One of his big-ticket announcements in his last assignment was the rollout of 'One Nation, One Ration Card' in all states by March-end 2021. The ambitious scheme enables beneficiaries to withdraw their foodgrain quota from any ration shop in the country.

And although he was ill during pre-poll alliance negotiations for the Bihar polls starting October 28, the developments over the last two weeks—the LJP under Chirag exited the NDA in Bihar while remaining in the alliance in Delhi—show that his son has taken up the mantle.

As Paswan's favourite slogan goes: "Sansopa (SSP) ne bandhi gaanth, pichhda pave sau mein saath; raj-path hai kiske haath, angrez aur unchi jaat; unchi jaat ka kya pehchan, git-pit boli kare na kaam; angrez yehan se chale gaye, angrez ko bhi jana hai; rashtrapati ka beta ho ya... (SSP has taken a pledge; backwards will get their share; power is with those who know English and are upper-caste; one sign of the upper-castes is glib talk, lit-tle work; the British have left, it's time for English to go...)

Freedom of speech most abused: SC

affidavit filed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

The CJI told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, "...Mr Mehta, you cannot treat the Court the way you are treating it in this case. You have filed an affidavit by a Junior Officer. We find it extremely evasive. It mentions nothing about bad reporting. How can you say there's no incident?"

Mehta said he would file a fresh affidavit. The bench said it must be filed by the Secretary of the department concerned

and that it must reflect on the instances complained about.

Defending freedom of the press, the Centre's affidavit said spread of Covid-19 among attendees of the Tablighi Jamaat convention at the Nizamuddin Markaz, attacks on health workers by some sections etc, were all matters of fact and that "news reports based on facts... cannot be censored".

The affidavit said the reports complained about "do not encourage or incite violence or contain anything

against maintenance of law and order and/or which promotes anti-national attitudes".

The affidavit said the plea raised grievances against "certain section of media" without naming any, and "certain news reports" without producing these reports, and "merely relied upon certain fact check news reports" to contend that entire media is perpetrating communal disharmony and hatred towards Muslims, and is therefore required to be censored/gagged".

Maintaining that no relief

should be granted on the basis of such "general assertions", the affidavit said that "attempt to seek a blanket 'gag order' against the entire media in respect of Markaz Nizamuddin will effectively destroy freedom of the citizen to know about the affairs of the respective sections of the society in the nation & the right of the journalist to ensure an informed society".

The bench asked Mehta for information on laws under which the government had exercised similar powers in the past.

will not stand in court. The family members are involved in the case and the accused have nothing to hide," said Munna Singh.

Advocate M S Arya, who belongs to the Bhim Army and is providing the family legal aid, called the letter fake. "A fake narrative is being built by the authorities and locals... Why would the victim lie? I spoke to the family over the phone. They told me that the letter is false. We have requested the court to constitute a special committee headed by a retired judge to investigate the matter."

The victim's cousin told *The Indian Express* the police have put up CCTV cameras outside the family's house, and are not letting anybody in or out. "They are scared of the police, authorities and media now."

TRP fraud

Cinema channels, and two former employees of the market research agency that collects the TRP data—have been arrested. They will be produced before a court on Friday.

Police said they were in the process of issuing summons to

some senior employees of Republic, including their promoters, to establish if they were aware of the alleged manipulation.

Later in the evening, Republic claimed it was not named in the FIR registered by the police; rather another channel was. In response, the police issued a clarification stating that the names of Republic and the other two channels had come up during interrogation of the suspects in the case. A senior police official said the FIR was only the beginning of the investigation.

Some 30,000 "BAR-ometers", which measure TRPs, are placed in homes across the country, including in about 1,800 homes in Mumbai, Commissioner Singh said. To prevent the data from being manipulated, the locations of these "panel homes" are kept secret. The data is used by the Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC), an industry body owned by advertisers, ad agencies, and broadcasting companies, to calculate the TRP of each channel.

"We found that some channels were paying former employees of agency Hansa Research

Group, which is contracted by BARC to carry out the research, to manipulate TRPs in their favour. This is mainly in the Mumbai region," Singh said. "They in turn were paying certain households selected for putting up BAR-ometers to keep certain channels like Republic switched on to show higher TRPs," he said.

Singh said some households were being paid Rs 500-600 per day to keep a particular channel on. "In some cases, people who do not understand English were keeping English-language channels such as Republic on through the day. We have recorded their statements," he said.

The "unsual trends" in TRPs were first spotted by Hansa and BARC, who complained to police, Singh said. The Crime Branch registered an FIR at Kandivali police station on charges of cheating and criminal breach of trust, and arrested two former employees of Hansa—Vishal Bhandari, 21, and Bompally Rao Mistry, 44, on Wednesday. The owners of Fakt Marathi—Shirish Pattanshetty, 44—and Box Cinemas—Narayan Sharma, 47—were arrested on Thursday.

Both Hansa employees had left the company in June. One of them had Rs 20 lakh in his bank account, and Rs 8.5 lakh in his locker. The money "was to be paid to people to keep particular channels on", Singh said. During interrogation, these men had said they had been paid by the three channels, Singh said.

Republic TV rubbished Singh's claims. Editor-in-chief Goswami said: "Mumbai Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh has made false allegations against Republic TV because we have questioned him in the Sushant Singh Rajput case investigation. Republic TV will file a criminal defamation case against... Singh. There is not a single BARC report that mentions Republic TV."

On Republic TV's claim that India Today, and not Republic, was named in the FIR, Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime) Milind Bharambe said: "In the FIR, the name of India Today is mentioned; however, it is not substantiated by any of the accused or witnesses. On the contrary, the accused and witnesses are specifically mentioning the names of Republic TV, Fakt Marathi and Box

Cinema. Thorough investigations are going on."

No official comment from India Today was available until press time.

Singh said "the money earned through advertisements by these channels through fake TRPs will be considered as the proceeds of crime. Once we find the accounts where the money was transferred, we will get them frozen".

Republic has accused the Mumbai Police and its chief personally for allegedly not carrying out a fair investigation in the Sushant Singh Rajput case. After the Supreme Court allowed the CBI to take over the investigation, Goswami had demanded Singh's resignation.

After two *sadhus* and their driver were lynched in Palghar, Republic had alleged—wrongly, as it turned out—a communal angle in the attack, and accused the government of failing to protect the Hindu holy men. Mumbai Police had registered an FIR against Goswami after receiving complaints by Congress workers that he had made objectionable remarks against party president Sonia Gandhi with reference to the Palghar case.

In a statement, BARC India said it "continues to follow its established vigilance and disciplinary guidelines". It said "BARC remains steadfastly true to its purpose to accurately and faithfully report 'What India Watches'", and "appreciates the efforts of the Mumbai Police and will provide the support asked of it".

Hansa Research CEO Praveen Nijhara said in a statement: "Hansa Research and BARC conducted an investigation into the matter over the last few weeks, the conclusion of which resulted in Hansa Research filing an FIR against an ex-employee who was engaged in some wrongdoing. Hansa Research has always been vigilant about these issues and has been proactive in informing BARC and the law enforcement agencies as and when such cases have come to our notice. We would continue to cooperate with BARC and with the authorities as and when called upon to do so."

'Complicity'

On the national anthem video, the Delhi Police has said that "investigation is being carried out by special investigation team of the Crime Branch".

One of the videos purportedly shows groups of policemen carrying arms and batons throwing portions of bricks alongside alleged rioters. The faces of the policemen as well as the rioters are visible. A police outpost seen in the video indicates the site of the incident. This incident, the police response said, is being analysed.

Another video shows policemen standing alongside alleged rioters. A few seconds into the clip, they are seen purportedly ordering the rioters to charge towards the opposite direction, following which both policemen and civilians start throwing bricks.

Several faces are visible, as well as several shop hoardings with their addresses. This incident, too, as per the police response, is being analysed.

The third video is of the men purportedly being made to sing the national anthem. One of the men, identified as Faizan (24), had later died. In this incident, a case been lodged under Sections 147, 148, 149 and 302 (murder) of the IPC at the Bhajanpura Police Station, the police response said.

The four other videos flagged by the Home Department feature men making open threats and calling for violence meant to target a particular community. Police have replied that they have taken action in two of these videos, and are analysing the other two.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

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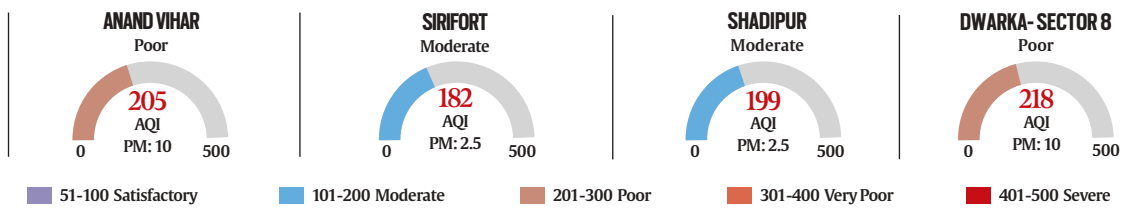
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UNDER THE GRADED RESPONSE ACTION PLAN

Air emergency measures from Oct 15, diesel gensets banned in Delhi-NCR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

DIESEL GENERATOR sets will be banned October 15 onwards in Delhi and neighbouring National Capital Region towns with the implementation of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) to check worsening air pollution.

Directions were issued Thursday to the chief secretaries of Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan on implementing pollution control measures under GRAP by the Supreme Court-mandated Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority (EPCA).

A GRAP taskforce, led by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), has advised EPCA that the NCR has slipped into 'poor' air category as weather conditions were turning adverse.

EPCA chairman Bhure Lal told the chief secretaries in a letter, "The winter period sees worsening air quality because there is less dispersion, and lower temperatures trap pollutants close to the ground. It is, therefore, necessary to ensure that the levels do not rise further."

GRAP is a plan to tackle air pollution in the NCR, which was notified by the Union environment ministry in 2017. It lists the measures that need to be taken by authorities based on the region's air quality.

From October 15 onwards, some measures under 'Very Poor/Severe' air category will come into force, and the taskforce and EPCA will direct for additional measures to be taken if

Tackling air pollution

PRESCRIBED MEASURES UNDER GRAP

FOR 'MODERATE' TO 'POOR' AIR

1. Stop garbage burning in landfills
2. Periodic mechanised sweeping on roads with heavy traffic. Water sprinkling on unpaved roads every two days
3. Stop plying of visibly polluting vehicles
4. Enforce dust control in construction activities

'VERY POOR' AIR

1. Stop use of diesel generator sets
2. Enhance parking fee by 3-4 times
3. Increase bus and Metro services
4. Stop use of coal/firewood in hotels and open eateries



GRAP is a plan to tackle air pollution in the NCR. It was notified by the environment ministry in 2017. Tashi Tobgyal

MEASURES IN PLACE FROM OCT 15

1. Ban on DG sets in NCR
2. Large construction projects to comply with dust control measures
3. Industries to use only authorised fuels
4. Night patrolling to check waste burning, industrial and dust emissions
5. Mechanised sweeping of roads day and night, and water sprinkling to control dust

'SEVERE' AIR

1. Close brick kilns, hot mix plants, stone crushers
2. Maximise generation of power from natural gas-based plants, reduce operation of coal-based power plants
3. Increase public transport services

4. Increase frequency of mechanised cleaning of roads and sprinkling of water on roads

'SEVERE+' OR 'EMERGENCY' AIR

1. Stop entry of all trucks, except essential commodities, into Delhi

the need arises.

"The use of diesel generator sets will be banned, other than for essential or emergency services, in Delhi and in vicinity towns — Ghaziabad, Noida, Greater Noida, Faridabad and Gurgaon," EPCA chairman said in the letter.

Large construction projects, including highways and Metro, and industries, particularly in the red and orange categories, will be required to give an undertaking to state pollution control

boards to ensure adherence to dust management norms, and in case of industries, using only authorised fuel and operating with prescribed pollution control measures.

States have been asked to take these actions in addition to those that EPCA has already directed them to take. These include enforcement of action plans for controlling emissions in air pollution hotspots, mechanised sweeping of roads both at day and night, sprinkling of wa-

ter on roads to control dust, night patrolling to check waste burning and dust emissions, and ensuring long-term solutions to solid waste dumping.

If weather conditions and air pollution levels turn adverse, more measures would be directed, including closure of power plants that do not adhere to 2017 emission norms, restrain on use of private transport and ban on construction activities.

"We recognise that the economy is already under stress post-

lockdown, and therefore, our combined effort is to ensure that there is no further disruption," Lal said in the letter to the chief secretaries.

He added, "However, we also recognise that co-morbidity is a huge challenge in the pandemic as there is enough evidence that pollution will make Covid-19 more dangerous. Therefore, we must have zero tolerance for air pollution in this period as it will come at huge human health cost."

War room to monitor air pollution, stubble burning

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

DELHI ENVIRONMENT Minister Gopal Rai Thursday launched a war room to monitor air pollution levels in real-time and stubble burning in neighbouring states. A 10-member expert team will operate from the war room under two senior scientists of the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC).

Speaking at the Delhi Secretariat, Rai said the room is equipped with high-end technology and has three large screens on which concentrations of different pollutants, the status of 13 air pollution hotspots in Delhi, and satellite images from NASA and ISRO of stubble burning will be monitored in real-time.

He said, "We will also monitor complaints filed by the people through the Green Delhi application, which the Chief Minister will launch in the coming days. We will monitor the complaints and implement strict action. We will also monitor road sweeping and water sprinkling



Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai and team at the war room launched at the Secretariat on Thursday. Tashi Tobgyal

work done by the MCDs through GPS. Daily reports will be sent to the CM, myself, and the Environment Secretary."

At the launch, officials informed the minister that the air quality of Delhi at the time was in the 'poor' category, and that it will worsen with a rise in the concentration of particulate matter of 2.5 micrometres (PM 2.5) from stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana.

The 24-hour average air qual-

ity index (AQI) of Delhi was 'poor' for a second consecutive day on Thursday with a reading of 208, as per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). On Wednesday, the AQI was 215.

The concentration of PM 2.5, emitted through combustion activities, was 89.6 micrograms per cubic metre (µg/m³) as of 5 pm in Delhi-NCR. Concentration of PM 10, comprising dust and smoke, was 224.3 µg/m³.

2 MPs write to PM over Kerala journalist booked under UAPA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

A DAY after a Delhi-based journalist hailing from Kerala, who was detained by UP police along with three others, was booked under the UAPA, two MPs from the state Thursday wrote to PM Narendra Modi seeking his intervention to ensure his release.

In their letters, Congress Lok Sabha MP from Chalakudy Benny Behanan and CPI's Rajya Sabha MP Binoy Viswam argued

that UP police has flouted all guidelines laid out by the Supreme Court regarding arrest in the case of Siddique Kappan, secretary of the Delhi unit of the Kerala Union of Working Journalists and who is associated with various Malayalam news outlets, including website azhimukham.com.

Pointing out that Kappan was doing his duty as a reporter, Behanan said UP police has given a clear message to the media that "objective reporting will not be allowed in the state." Viswam said:

"Freedom of press is a cornerstone of a healthy democracy and arrest of a reputed senior journalist like Kappan on terror charges is a direct attack on this freedom..."

According to the FIR filed in Maant police station, Kappan, along with Campus Front of India office-bearers Atiq-ur-Rahman and Masood Ahmed, and a man identified as Alam, were booked for alleged "conspiracy behind their visit to Hathras". The FIR alleged they were trying to invoke riots and threaten law and order and social harmony.

Girls display coding skills, Sisodia announces plan to expand programme to several Delhi govt schools

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

Good-touch-bad-touch, protecting the environment, the importance of school education for girls, the need to use masks and sanitisers to protect against Covid-19 — these were among the topics on which six middle school students of Delhi government schools created animated videos using coding skills they picked up over the last few months.

The six girls were among 1,000 who had been enrolled into a coding programme for girl students, 'She Codes', initiated by the Delhi government in January. On Thursday, Education Minister



Manish Sisodia at the event on Thursday

Manish Sisodia announced his plan to expand the programme to as many students of Delhi government schools as possible.

"These are things missing in our education system... Our teachers work very hard but things connected with the future

and technology are missing. How can we prepare our children for a future hi-tech world? It is necessary to prepare them now... We will gradually start teaching all children in all our schools how to code even though it will take some time. Very few of these children are likely to have computers at home and their interaction with technological programmes might be limited to things like YouTube and WhatsApp," he said.

Though the programme had begun with 1,000 girls, it ran into an obstacle with the nationwide lockdown. After that, the programme went online with 870 girls who had smartphones and internet connections at home, where they learnt how to make

animated videos using Scratch, a block-based visual programming language and website.

This limitation was even pointed out by Hena, a class VII student from Madangir, who had created a video on 'good-touch-bad-touch'. "We could do it but there are many children who do not have these kinds of phones. It would be very good for other children if you could help out with this," she said, adding that she wants to be a software engineer.

Rupinder Kaur, founder of She Codes, said from October, the same set of girls will be taught loops and logics of coding, and the organisation would be providing 30 GB internet data free of cost to them for the purpose.

Chadha: Centre purchased no crops from Delhi in last 5 years

New Delhi: AAP spokesperson Raghav Chadha Thursday alleged that the Centre had not purchased crop produce from Delhi farmers at MSP in the last 5 years. "After 2015, the Centre has not purchased a single crop from farmers of Delhi, let alone on MSP. Farmers of Delhi were left to get plundered by private players," Chadha said.

He alleged that officials, mandi presidents and ministers had written to the Centre to procure produce through the FCI but got no response. ENS

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REGISTRAR

	TOTAL CASES		HOSPITAL BEDS		VENTILATORS		Total	Vacant
	Daily cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests	16,141	1,353	10,727	563
Oct 7	2,871	3,370	35	51,505				
Oct 8	2,726	2,643	37	53,322				
Total	22,232*	2,72,948	5,653	34,75,795				

*Total active cases

BRIEFLY

DJB to open innovation centre

New Delhi: The Delhi Jal Board (DJB) on Thursday approved construction of a 'DJB Innovation, Design and Research Centre' at the Chandrawal Water Treatment Plant. The approval was given in a board meeting on Thursday chaired by water minister Satyendar Jain. A statement from the DJB said, "This innovation centre will carry out activities necessary for execution of non-conventional projects, pilot studies and allied works, like onsite pilot testing, surveys, micro analysis, expert visits..." The Board also approved construction of a lab equipped with machines to perform advanced tests, including virus detection tests, and detection of pollutants like pesticides, heavy metals and antibiotics.

Four wanted criminals held

New Delhi: The Special Cell of Delhi Police have arrested four wanted criminals after an exchange of fire in Rohini. The accused are members of Kala Jhatri Lawrence Bishnoi gang and are involved in multiple cases of murder, attempt to murder and extortion. All four accused sustained bullet injuries during the exchange of fire.

'MCDs to desal 3,000 properties'

New Delhi: The BJP ruled three municipal corporations will complete desalting of over 3,000 properties in residential areas of the city by Diwali. Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta said on Thursday. Gupta accompanied by North Delhi mayor Jai Prakash earlier in the day launched the desalting exercise at Todapur area. He said 1357 properties in North, 700 in South MCD and around 1000 in East MCD will be desalting under the ambit of SC ruling providing relief from sealing drive undertaken by the monitoring committee in recent years.

DFS evacuates 4 people stuck in hotel lift

New Delhi: A team of five Delhi Fire Service (DFS) personnel evacuated a restaurant lift in West Delhi Thursday night, after four people were stuck in it. DFS chief Atul Garg said, "We got a call from AIR restaurant in Punjabi Bagh at 12.10 am that due to technical fault, the lift had stopped working and people were stuck inside. A fire tender was dispatched and four people were removed from there. They were stuck inside for 30 minutes." **ENS**

HC grants bail to riot accused, says witnesses against him seem planted

SOFI AHSAN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

THE DELHI High Court has granted bail to an accused in a Delhi riots case, observing that the witnesses against him seem to be planted. The accused, Irshad Ahmad, was booked in an FIR registered against people alleged to have used former AAP councillor Tahir Hussain's house for attacking houses of the other community.

Justice Suresh Kumar Kait, in an order, said there is no electronic evidence such as CCTV footage or photos to implicate Ahmad in the case. The FIR was

registered at Dayalpur police station on February 28. "As per the statement of Constable Pawan and Constable Ankit (both are eyewitnesses and present at the spot), they had identified the petitioner and other co-accused. However, they have not made any complaint on the date of incident, i.e. 25.02.2020, whereas FIR was lodged on 28.02.2020. Thus, the said witnesses seem to be planted," the order said.

Opposing the bail, police had argued that Ahmad's name was disclosed by co-accused Hussain and that they are associates. Police had submitted that around 100 people were standing on the terrace of Hussain's house and

throwing petrol bombs on the houses of other community.

The court was also told one of the eyewitnesses, Rohit, has confirmed Ahmad's role and identification, and that mobile phone location of the accused also shows his presence at the spot.

However, the court said the chargesheet has already been filed in the case and trial will take substantial time. "Without commenting on the merits of the case, this court is inclined to grant bail to the petitioner," it said.

The HC bench, in the order dated October 7 said, "He shall be released on bail on his furnishing a personal bond in the

sum of Rs 25,000 and with one surety in the like amount to the satisfaction of the trial court/duty judge."

"The trial court shall not get influenced by the observation made by this court while passing the order," said the bench.

The trial court, while dismissing Ahmad's application in August, said that at this stage, it cannot be said with certainty that he did not have a common object with the other persons of "unlawful assembly".

The court had also noted that at the time of search of Hussain's house, "a number of acid pouches, petrol bombs, stones and catapults were recovered".

Man who lost arm during NE Delhi riots got Rs 20K as relief

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 7

THE EXTENT of the injury can be gauged from the fact that his right arm had to be amputated at the elbow and a finger removed from the left palm, which was severely disfigured. The Northeast Delhi riots in February turned Akram Khan's (22) life upside down, as an explosion left him permanently incapacitated, entitled to be granted a compensation of Rs 5 lakh from the Delhi government.

But all he received was Rs 20,000 as his inquiry was termed "minor" after medico-legal assessment at the Delhi government-run GTB Hospital, which received and treated the largest number of riot victims.

Top officials of the Delhi administration, including Delhi Health Secretary Padmini Singla and the sub-divisional magistrate of Yamuna Vihar, admitted Wednesday that the assessment in Akram's case was inadequate and should be reviewed, said officials after a meeting of the Delhi Assembly committee on welfare of minorities where the issue came up.

"I was going to an *ijtima* on February 24. Our bus came to a halt near Mohan Nursing Home at 1 pm as clashes broke out and we boarded. As I waited with others, something fell on my hand and exploded. The next day,



Akram Khan

my right arm was amputated at GTB Hospital," Akram told *The Indian Express*.

The area in and around Mohan Nursing Home is among the areas which saw the most violence during the riots, which claimed 53 lives.

He remained hospitalised for the next 32 days. Doctors tried to reconstruct his left arm through skin grafting, but Akram, who worked in a jeans manufacturing unit, will be unable to carry out any such task now. "I am getting treated at a private facility now. I don't understand how they assessed my injuries as minor. I have been rendered jobless. My brother lost over six months of income as he had to take care of me," Akram, a resident of Mustafabad who hails from UP's Bulandshahr, said.

The committee, headed by Okhla MLA Amanatullah Khan,

flagged at least six such cases of allegedly wrong medico-legal assessments at the meeting, which was also attended by Principal Secretary (Vigilance) Rajeev Verma, acting as link officer of Principal Secretary (Home) BS Bhalla.

As per the Delhi government's compensation policy, those who suffered minor injuries are entitled to get Rs 20,000, victims of serious injuries are to get Rs 2 lakh, and those who suffered permanent incapacitation are entitled to get Rs 5 lakh.

A senior official of the GTB Hospital told the committee that medico-legal cases were carried out and injury assessment reports shared with the revenue department in 285 out of 364 persons treated during the riots.

Singla said cases like that of Akram's, where errors have been committed in assessment of injuries, can be reassessed on a case to case basis after reviewing the records. The meeting was also told that the Cabinet has approved the revenue department's proposal to release the relief amount in pending cases.

In terms of false rejections of claims under the head of property damage, also flagged by the House panel, the department has so far identified 25 such cases under the Seelampur subdivision, 74 under Karawal Nagar subdivision and 19 under the Yamuna Vihar subdivision.

Court pulls up police, points to 'defects, violations' in probe

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

INVESTIGATING officer recorded the complainant's statement to cover up a defect, recovery of stolen air compressor tank from the house of the accused was a "gross violation", and the accused seen carrying a stick in a video did it "probably with an intention" save his family from rioters — these are some points that a Delhi court raised while pulling up Delhi Police during the bail hearing of a 25-year-old man.

The man, Sumit, has been accused in two complaints — setting a shop on fire as well as for stealing a scooter, auto wheel parts worth 7 lakh and a Rs 2.5 lakh air-compressor from a tyre/puncture repair shop during the Northeast Delhi riots.

Sumit was granted bail even though he was seen carrying a stick and walking around the fire

on February 24. In his order, Additional Sessions Judge Vinod Yadav wrote that from the video, his behavior was "cool, calm and composed... He simply appears to be walking around the fire with a rod/stick in his hand, probably thinking of some way(s) to douse the fire. Admittedly, applicant did not go to any other street/gali with said rod/stick... instead he is just seen roaming/strolling around his shop, probably with an intention to save it from rioters, as his family resides on the first floor."

Sumit's counsel R K Kochhar had argued that the complainant in the second case, Yakub, used to be Sumit's tenant and that relations between them were strained as he was asked to vacate for not paying his electricity bill. He argued that the IO manipulated Yakub's statement in his "zeal to work out the case".

In this case, two complaints were clubbed into one as police said they were of the same date.

The court said, "There is no eyewitness who has given evidence in this regard... If complaints of both complainants could be legally clubbed... is again debatable as they were of two dates. However, IO tried to cover up the defect by recording statement of complainant Yakub on 18.03.2020 to the effect that incident in his case took place on 25.02.2020 instead of 24.02.2020..."

On recovery of air compressor tank from Sumit's house, the court said without taking independent witnesses and taking only police witnesses to the discovery would "render the discovery, at least, not free from doubt". "It is noted that the same has been recovered in absence of any independent public witness(es)... Investigating agency has neither bothered to join any independent public witness(es) while effecting recovery... to lend some credibility... nor given any cogent explanation for failure to do so..." the order read.

Order declining plea seeking FIR against MoS Thakur, Verma challenged

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

CPI(M) LEADER Brinda Karat Thursday challenged an order passed by an Additional Chief Metropolitan magistrate in the Delhi High Court, in which the prayer for registration of a First Information Report against Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur and MP Parvesh Verma for their alleged hate speech was declined.

Following a hearing, the single-judge bench of Justice Yogesh Khanna asked the counsel representing Karat to submit copies of the judgments being cited by him in support of the contentions.

The counsel representing Delhi Police challenged the maintainability of the petition, and submitted that the same arguments can be raised in a revision case too.

The court has now listed the case for hearing on November 2.

On August 26, ACMM Vishal Pahuja had dismissed the complaint filed by Karat and CPI(M) leader K M Tewari in February for registration of an FIR against Thakur and Verma for their alleged hate speech in relation to the anti-CAA protests.

'INCREASING TESTS SHOULD REFLECT IN CASES'

No more posters outside homes of Covid patients

ASTHA SAXENA & SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

THE PRACTICE of putting up home isolation posters outside houses of those who have tested positive for Covid will end in the city, officials have decided. The move comes a week after the Delhi High Court sought the state government's response on a plea asking officials to do away with the practice. The poster mentions the number of people in a household that have tested positive and the duration of home isolation. Existing posters will also be taken down.

According to sources, the decision has been taken after it was found out that several people, even those with symptoms, were not coming forward to get tested fearing that a poster will be put up outside their homes. A senior government official said: "Due to the stigma attached with the disease, not many people were voluntarily coming forward to get tested. The move has been taken to motivate people. In several cases, patients have reached the hospital in a severe stage which leads to complications. We do not want that scenario."

There are 22,232 active cases as of now, out of which 12,890



According to officials, people were not getting tested fearing such posters outside homes

are under home isolation. Total cases in the city crossed the 3-lakh mark on Thursday with 2,726 fresh cases being reported. The total cases touched 3,00,833 while the death toll is 5,653 with 37 new deaths reported on Thursday.

Meanwhile, a revised containment strategy prepared by an expert committee led by NITI Aayog member Dr VK Paul has suggested to the Delhi government that testing should not be geared towards targets but towards surveillance. "Increase in number of tests should be reflected in increased case finding. Merely increasing the number of tests to reduce positivity rate would not be appropriate," the report said.

The committee said that more than 80% tests have been conducted by rapid antigen test and in a few districts, it is up to 90-95%. Positivity rate is 4.3% by RAT and 20.33% by RT-PCR as on September 24.

The committee has also said that city hospitals should be prepared for a surge of 15,000 positive cases per day with the change in season and movement of patients from other states.

Expressing concern over mortalities reported in under 15 (1.5% approx) and young age groups 16-44 years (17%), it suggested a regular death audit review of Covid and non-Covid mortalities in coordination with the National Centre for Disease Control.

5-yr-old, assaulted by stepdad, mother, rescued in Faridabad

SAKSHI DAYAL
GURGAON, OCTOBER 8

FOR A five-year-old child residing in Faridabad, a visit from his maternal grandparents last week brought an end to an ordeal he had been undergoing for the last one month, after his mother got married again. Her second husband allegedly inflicted burns on the child's body, beat him with a belt, and attempted to sexually assault him on one occasion. The child's mother, in whom he had confided about the violence, allegedly beat him with a stick and

deprived him of food. Police have arrested them.

Police said they were alerted to the matter Sunday by a member of the Child Helpline in Faridabad, who had received information that the child had been admitted to BK Hospital with injuries inflicted on him by his stepfather.

The latter, a 26-year-old divorcee, had married the boy's mother, also a divorcee, last month. Prior to that, the child and his mother had been living with his maternal grandparents.

The FIR, registered based on a complaint by the Child Helpline

member, indicates that the child's ordeal began hours after reaching his new home when, on his asking for food, his stepfather allegedly began beating him with a belt. When the child cried, his stepfather allegedly put his hand over his mouth and threatened to kill or burn him.

"The stepfather was inflicting burns on different parts of the child's body using a matchstick, and had also tried to sexually assault him last week," said a police officer.

Police said the child has been discharged from hospital and is staying with his grandparents.

Video moves web, many turn up at aged couple's Malviya Nagar dhaba for a bite

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

TILL WEDNESDAY, 80-year-old Kanta Prasad would have to take home most of what he cooked for customers at his small blue kiosk in Malviya Nagar. On Thursday, he had to shut shop before noon as he ran out of food.

A video on social media, which went viral on Wednesday, showed Prasad and his wife Badami Devi talk about how they were barely getting any customers at their kiosk called 'Baba ka Dhaba' since the lockdown. Prasad, with tears in his eyes, spoke about how he is unable to sell even the small quantity of food he cooks each day.

Gaurav Wasan, who shot the video, put it up on Instagram and asked people to come and eat at the kiosk to support the couple.

On Thursday, customers were lined up outside the kiosk since 8



The crowd outside Baba ka Dhaba on Thursday. (Right) Kanta Prasad and his wife Badami Devi. *Abhinav Saha*

am and did not disperse even when they ran out of food.

Area MLA Somnath Bharti visited the kiosk. "Visited 'Baba Ka Dhaba' and have done the needful to bring a smile on their faces as promised. Will take care of them and I am starting a drive to take care of similarly placed people," he tweeted.

Delhi BJP chief Adesh Gupta

also met the couple and their son, Azad Hind, and handed over an envelope full of cash.

But he wasn't the only one as people kept coming not only to eat but also to donate money and dry rations to the family.

"I had never imagined the video would bring me so much help. Till yesterday, we were struggling. Now, we have hope,"

said Prasad, who does not have a bank account yet.

The couple have three children — a daughter who lives with her husband and two married sons who live with them in a jhuggi at Jagdamba Camp.

By evening, the dhaba was listed on Zomato which also asked users to point out similar people in need of help.

WATCHING SC JUDGMENT FROM GROUND ZERO

At Shaheen Bagh, graffiti only sign of protest that spread across the country

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

AT THE site of the Shaheen Bagh sit-in on the Kalindi Kunj road to Noida, all signs of the over 100 days protest are gone. Shops on the road are buzzing once again, the tent sheltering the protesting women has disappeared along with most of the artwork and sculptures, including the 40-foot iron map of India. All that remain are some slogans graffitied on a nearby foot-overbridge — Inquilab

zindabad, No CAA, No NRC. "Nobody here talks about the protest or is willing to talk about it anymore. They're scared," said Bilkis Bano, the 82-year-old 'Dadi of Shaheen Bagh'.

On Wednesday, in reference to the Shaheen Bagh protest, a Supreme Court bench of justices S K Kaul, Krishna Murari and Hrishikesh Roy stated, "Public places cannot be occupied indefinitely. Dissent and democracy go hand in hand but protests must be carried out in designated area... Such kind of occupation of pub-

lic place for protests is not acceptable."

Back in Shaheen Bagh, many of those who were an active part of the sit-in said the protest had taken that form in an organic manner. "There were so many people part of it who had always been known as housewives before that, who were protesting in their own area, in Shaheen Bagh... When the Supreme Court inter-locutors (Sanjay Hegde and Sadhana Ramachandran) had come there, it was very positive and many thought it would be



Shops on the road are buzzing once again

best to meet at a middle ground. However, the movement and the protest had grown too large, in a way that it becomes difficult to tell people what to do," said Shaheen Kausar, one of the participants of the sit-in.

But she is quick to state that it was the people of the area who had ensured the protest remained peaceful. "There were attempts from all quarters to provoke people, but the people here were sensible and did not allow the slightest bit of violence. And the fact remains that at the end,

no one from the government engaged with the protesters even after everything," she said.

Everyone said they respect the Supreme Court's observations. However, social activist Bahadur Abbas Naqvi, a resident of Shaheen Bagh, said, "As for shifting the protest to an alternate designated site, what site had we been given? There were lakhs of people protesting, while Jantar Mantar has a capacity for 1,000 and Ramlila Maidan for 25,000. If there can be no alternative, can people's constitutional right to

protest be taken away?"

The form of sit-in protest, with women taking the lead, had spread from Shaheen Bagh to over 12 locations in Delhi itself and to other cities such as Mumbai, Allahabad, Lucknow, Kolkata, Gaya and Kota.

On the future of anti-CAA and NRC protests against the backdrop of the Supreme Court's observations, Bilkis said, "The hope is that in the future, we won't have to go out on the roads and that the government engages and talks to us."

IEC Greetings on WORLD EGG DAY #WorldEggDay

Eggs are much more than protein

Often called the powerhouse of protein, eggs are veritable energy bombs packed with 14 essential nutrients including vitamins A, B and E, as well as folate, iron and zinc

EGG HAVE been recognised as a protein powerhouse for many years as they contain the highest quality protein naturally available. However, the benefits of eating eggs are far more wide-ranging than protein alone, with eggs offering a healthy and sustainable source of essential nutrients needed for all stages of life. Containing the majority of vitamins, minerals and antioxidants required by the human body, eggs are often referred to as nature's 'vitamin pill', and for good reason. Eggs contain 14 essential nutrients, including vitamins A, B and E, as well as folate, iron and zinc. Eggs provide one of the highest amounts of choline in any natural foods source, an often under consumed but critical nutrient for neurocognitive development and health throughout the lifespan. This has resulted in eggs being recognised as an important food group in many regions around the



pressive health-boosting credentials, eggs are high on nutritional content, with both egg white and egg yolk being rich in nutrients. The yolk also "contains cholesterol, fat-soluble vitamins (such as vitamins D and E) and essential fatty acids."

Across the globe, many countries participate in World Egg Day celebrations, hosting a huge variety of events and activities, including distributing free eggs, promotional and educational broadcasts across social media, school fun days, and cooking demonstrations and competitions. To celebrate World Egg Day, "Australian Eggs are hosting a social media campaign to crown Australia's favourite egg dish." The Latin American Egg Institute (IHL) is "carrying out a media campaign in several countries within the region to educate consumers on the benefits of eggs."

Egg Farmers of Alberta, in Canada, "are hosting a virtual #TourDeOeuf. Throughout the global culinary adventure, they will be sharing 12 of their favourite egg dishes from around the world. In the United States, "Centre Fresh will be undertaking an Omelette Breakfast giveaway. In Spain, the Instituto de Estudios del Huevo is celebrating 'Egg Week' with a host of activities. Similarly, South Africa, Mexico, Latvia, Nigeria, Brazil and many more countries are also celebrating World Egg Day to highlight the many nutritional benefits of eating eggs.

world. Another essential nutrient which can be found in eggs is vitamin D, which is key to strengthening healthy bones and teeth. Around 1 billion people are estimated to have low vitamin D levels, and eggs are one of the few foods which naturally contain this essential nutrient. However, it is not just the substantial health benefits that make eggs a great food choice to support healthy diets, eggs have notable sustainability credentials too making them a great



The World Egg Day was established at the IEC Vienna 1996 conference, where it was decided to celebrate World Egg Day on the second Friday of October each year.

choice to feed the growing global population. Eggs are considered a low environmental impact protein source owing to new efficiencies and ongoing commitments made both on-farm and in the egg supply chain. They require very little water use, and the overall footprint of the egg has significantly reduced over the last 50 years. Eggs are playing a significant role in the eradication of malnutrition around the world, thanks to their affordability combined with their nutrient density, helping to dramatically improve the health outcomes of children in nutritionally vulnerable areas. The egg offers a host of unique benefits in our diets and plays a valuable role in supporting the growing global population.

Imbued with im-

QUICK FACTS ABOUT EGG INDUSTRY

- India stands in 3rd position in egg production in the world.
- The annual egg production is about 95 billion.
- The size of the poultry industry is about Rs 1,20,000 crore out of which egg contributes about 33% of market.
- The poultry industry is growing at a healthy rate of about 8-10% year on year. The egg market is growing at a CAGR of about 6-7%.
- The demand is growing at about 7-8% in volumes and about 4-5% in value.
- The largest market for eggs are the Metropolitan cities which consumes about 180 eggs per capita.
- The total egg consumption in India is about 93 billion.
- Highest egg consumption is in the southern states whereas lowest consumption is in the northern India. Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have per capita egg consumption of about 130, 120 and 110 respectively.
- The per capita egg consumption in Haryana and Rajasthan is about 30 and 20 respectively.
- Egg consumption in India is quite low — 73 eggs per capita compared to 180 as recommended by Indian Medical Council.
- The per capita consumption of egg in Japan is about 370 eggs.
- Egg consumption has a correlation with respect to GDP per capita and it shoots up at GDP of USD 3,000 per capita. The Egg consumption in India will be growing at rapid pace in next decade due to growing economy and increasing population of middle class.



THE IEC was established at the second International Egg Conference held in Bologna, Italy in 1964.

The IEC delivers a unique platform for sharing information and developing relationships by bringing together key industry players. We put you in touch with the brightest and most innovative minds; from industry leaders to the national representatives that comprise our global network, all are vital to the success of the industry as a whole — and ultimately to your business.

The IEC provides representation to both international and intergovernmental organisations, with the aim of promoting the egg industry worldwide as professional, dynamic and responsible; and being actively involved in providing information and helping with global policy formation on key issues of importance.

As the global voice of the egg industry, the IEC has the responsibility to discuss industry issues as well as to maintain links with other international organisations. The IEC is able to act as a communication link between industry and international regulators/decision makers, and therefore takes positions on a range of issues, once agreed by IEC members and approved by the IEC Council.

Suresh Chitturi is the first Indian and Asian to be elected "Chairman of the International Egg Commission (IEC)." An avid promoter of the nutritional benefits of the egg, Suresh is



Suresh Chitturi, Chairman of the International Egg Commission (IEC)

driven by the mission of eliminating nutritional deficiencies of women and children in India. He passionately advocates poultry as a vehicle of transformation and empowerment. His work has been recognised at a global level and is engaged in advocacy for the poultry industry.

Adopting a farmer first philosophy, he is passionate about ensuring that the poultry industry is healthy and sustainable through adoption of latest technologies, good rearing practices and welfare of the livestock.

Suresh wants to see that there is an active engagement from the Asian industry, as in the past, the focus was more on Europe and North America. Also, the low consumption in India is a concern, which is below the global average. Mexico, Japan, China and Co-

lumbia are consuming in the range of 300-340 eggs per year. Urban India is consuming around 180-190 eggs per year while rural India consumption is very low. India ranks 114th in egg consumption globally, which is also reflected in the global child health index where India ranks 116th.

It is time to focus more on education, particularly in rural areas about the benefit of eggs. The state governments in India, which have included eggs in mid-day meal schemes in schools and anganwadis have witnessed the impact of nutrition on the health and education of the children.

Opportunity also exists in creating new ways of consuming egg, for instance, snackification could be an answer. Millennials will prefer snacks made of eggs rather than having them in the current form. Indian masalas and taste can make the snacks successful. Europe, Australia and the US are already doing this, which is increasing the consumption of eggs by over 40 per cent.

Suresh's focus is on broad-basing the membership, particularly from the developing world — from Asia, Africa and South America. IEC is setting up scientific committees to spread the knowledge on nutrition benefits, globally.

The focus is on sustainability and welfare of the industry to create a clear distinction from the meat industry. Promoting environment-friendly practices in the less developed world along with rural entrepreneurship.

Gartech Equipments

An industry that is waiting to be tapped

INDIA IS one of the world's largest producers of eggs with annual growth of 8%. But how many egg brands are available in India today that can truly be called premium quality?

A premium egg brand — like any other perishable or FMCG brand — has to guarantee its customers with certified assurances good yolk color and strong viscosity of yolk, freshness, shape and size, minimal or no shell faults and delivery of micronutrients with option of omega-3 fatty acids, essential vitamins and it has to land on your table within 24 hours of it being laid.

None — hand on heart — can truly call themselves premium. There are several reasons for it, but primary among these is the paucity of investors willing to be part of this huge untapped segment which requires innovative go-to-market strategies, intense advertising & PR campaigns, refrigerated facilities, refrigerated transport and above everything highly automated AI-driven production infrastructure.

The delivery of fresh premium eggs is similar to that of newspaper, bread, or milk infra-



structure. Which means the fresh premium eggs, technically has to reach retail outlets every morning.

The production of premium egg brands needs a farm strength of 5-10 lakh birds. This is just 2-3% of present daily consumption of large metros. However, this calls for a robust, ultra-modern, farming infrastructure. It also calls for a consistent quantity and quality of

feed, bird hygiene, environment control housing with proper ventilation, egg grading and packing, manure processing, on-site refrigerated storage, and refrigerated transport facilities.

The project-task is huge, which possibly is the reason why this segment unfortunately remains untapped unfortunately. Every city in every part of the world boasts at least 4-5 local premium egg brands produced by local farmers who believe in providing fresh premium quality eggs within a day of them being laid to their end consumers who know they are getting exactly what they want.

This business model — premium quality eggs produced and distributed by robust infrastructure and logistics support — is not for large corporate houses. Like all over the world, egg farming is done by families which mean they know the community they are serving.

The Covid-19 pandemic has fortunately created a strong consumer awareness for premium egg brands and this segment is awaiting entrepreneurs to join this lucrative bandwagon.

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24 HOURS

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GARTECH WISHES EVERYONE A HAPPY WORLD EGG DAY!

Power in Delhi, heart in Bihar

State's politics will be poorer for losing the last of Dalit socialists

He made political waves in his very first election, defeating veteran after campaigning on a cycle

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, OCTOBER 8

WHEN RAM Vilas Paswan came to Patna after winning his first election from Alauli (Khagaria) in 1969 as a Samyukta Socialist Party candidate, he did not know what his leader Karpoori Thakur looked like. Thakur would grow to respect Paswan as much as the young MLA admired the man who as CM in 1977 ushered in social and political change by enforcing reservations.

Paswan, who would go on to set a Guinness Record for the largest ever victory margin, had made political waves in that very first election – defeating Congress veteran Misri Sada, while campaigning on a bicycle he had bought with some of the money his father Jamun Das gave him to buy a health drink to tone up his lanky stature.

Paswan, who went on to form the Lok Janshakti Party in 2000, was a Union minister at the time of his death at the age of 74 following illness. The biggest Dalit leader of Bihar after Jagjivan Ram, his other claim to fame was this uncanny ability to pick the winning side, of whatever hue, and retain a place in the Union Cabinet.

Back in 1990, Paswan once told this reporter, he had come close to becoming the Bihar CM. He said he was the first choice of V P Singh who had become the Prime Minister defeating Rajiv Gandhi, but Singh ultimately chose another Dalit leader, Ram Sundar Das. Finally, it would be Paswan's junior Lalu Prasad who would become the CM for the first time, stealing a march on him as the tallest leader in the state. Paswan would hold the consolation of trouncing Das almost all the half-a-dozen times they faced each other in elections.

In 2005, Paswan got another shot at CMship when the LJP got 29 seats and held keys to government formation in a hung House. He would claim to have also been discussed as a possible PM after H D Deve Gowda resigned in April 1997. "It was an outside chance but still a huge honour for a boy from a non-descript village of Khagaria," he would say.

While not a direct product of the 1974-75 JP Movement, unlike other Bihar leaders such as Lalu, Nitish Kumar and Sushil Kumar Modi, he was close to Jayaprakash Narayan. In the 1977 Lok Sabha elections, where Indira Gandhi was ousted as a byproduct of the JP Movement, Paswan called himself "a candidate of JP" in the Hajipur seat. He would go on to represent the constituency several times. When unable to campaign in 2019 due to illness, he delivered an impassioned speech. The saying went that Hajipur was famous for two things – its bananas and Ram Vilas Paswan.

An affable leader known to court friendships and for his large heart, at a time when politics has grown bitter and visceral, Paswan was never close to Lalu or Nitish, despite sharing a socialist background, as they fought



RAM VILAS PASWAN
1946-2020

TRIBUTES

He was among the most active and longest-serving members of Parliament. He was the voice of the oppressed, and championed the cause of the marginalised...

RAM NATH KOVIND
PRESIDENT

"Whether it was struggling against the Emergency in 1975, or strengthening the goal of poverty alleviation during the COVID pandemic in the Modi government, he has played an unparalleled role..."

AMIT SHAH
HOME MINISTER (TRANSLATED FROM HINDI)

"A towering personality... will be forever remembered for asserting the cause of social and political equity..."

SONIA GANDHI
CONGRESS PRESIDENT

"The death... has caused me personal hurt... (it) is an irreparable loss to Indian politics..."

NITISH KUMAR
JD(U) CHIEF (TRANSLATED FROM HINDI)

"... The political, social struggles fought with him are before my eyes. Ramvilas bhai, you left too early..."

LALU PRASAD
RJD LEADER (TRANSLATED FROM HINDI)

for the same space at the Centre. Another of his claims was that he was denied the Railway Ministry at the last moment in 2004 as the UPA had committed it to Lalu Prasad.

When he rejoined the NDA in 2014, 10 years after parting with it over the 2002 Gujarat riots, he had told The Indian Express he had no choice as the alliance had started giving more preference to Nitish. And while Paswan liked being in the limelight at the Centre, he ensured his hold in the state, remaining the third angle of Bihar politics after Lalu and Nitish. His LJP continues to command at least 5-7% of the vote share, with Paswan virtually its only bankable name.

Paswan had grown to favour a long overcoat in the winters, but Bihar will remember him as a leader rooted to his origins. The state's politics will be poorer for losing the last of the Dalit socialists the country has known.



(Clockwise from top) Paswan smiles as son Chirag greets PM Narendra Modi at an event in Delhi in 2019; with then PM Manmohan Singh and SP leader Mulayam Singh Yadav in Delhi in 2011; with then PM I K Gujral and Cabinet colleagues at swearing-in ceremony in June, 1997; on the occasion of the 50th Republic Day during the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government in 2007; with then Prime Minister V P Singh and Dr B R Ambedkar's wife Savita Ambedkar in Delhi in April 1990. Express archives

His death will cast a shadow on Bihar elections

SANTOSH SINGH & DIPANKAR GHOSE
PATNA/NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

A FORTNIGHT ago, as Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan was being admitted to a Delhi hospital with multiple complications, he had tweeted that he would stand by any decision son Chirag took on Bihar. It was a strong signal from the LJP patriarch that put to rest all speculation about whether he was uneasy over Chirag's aggressive posturing against Bihar CM Nitish Kumar.

Paswan's death on Thursday, days before Bihar votes in the first phase on October 28, will inevitably cast a shadow on the polls, and have a bearing on almost every political

move. While BJP has handled Chirag with kid gloves so far even as he has walked out of NDA in Bihar and openly taken on Nitish, with the death of long-time ally Paswan, the saffron party will be even more cautious about any overt criticism of the LJP.

As for LJP president Chirag, who has taken a leap of faith by fighting the elections alone, his father's death leaves him in an extremely delicate position. Four days ago, a senior LJP leader had described the father-son's politics as complementing each other. "Even though he is unwell, the mere presence of Ram Vilas-ji reassures the Dalit voter, especially the Dusadh (Paswans). He won his first election in 1969. Since then, he has always been a man of the people, making phone

calls, keeping old relationships... He is the tallest Paswan leader ever. Chirag is the boy who went to Bollywood, but now is creating his own space. He speaks English well, and can pull in the youth and is positioning himself as such. They complement each other," the senior leader had said.

Now, with one pillar of that edifice gone, political leaders in Bihar say there could be consequences for the LJP.

A senior JD(U) leader said Paswan's death has left all of Bihar, even his political opponents, in grief. "That is how big he was. His death will have no effect on votes the LJP wanted from anti-incumbency. But the question is of the core Dalit voter... Will the core Dalit voter trust Chirag," this leader said.

There was never, however, any doubt in Paswan's mind over Chirag being his political heir. He always played the indulgent father as his son spoke of rebooting LJP's politics. Paswan had proudly claimed that the LJP's Anglicised political slogan, "Bihar First, Bihar First", was Chirag's idea. In fact, Paswan had started transferring power to his son soon after the 2014 Lok Sabha polls. After the LJP won six of seven seats it contested that election, he made Chirag chairman of the party's parliamentary board.

When Chirag starts campaigning in Bihar, emotions will inevitably run high. It remains to be seen whether the sympathy factor will translate into votes for LJP.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Calculations did not work out: Ex-DGP on not getting ticket

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, OCTOBER 8

FORMER BIHAR DGP Gupteshwar Pandey, who opted for VRS four months before he was to retire and joined the JD(U), did not get a ticket to contest the Bihar Assembly polls.

He had looked set to contest from his hometown Buxar. But, the seat, held by the Congress in the outgoing Assembly, went to the BJP quota in the seat-sharing arrangement within NDA.

According to sources, JD(U) did not press much for swapping Buxar with any other seat from BJP, as it did in the case of Jhajha for former minister Damodar Rawat and gave Jamui to BJP. JD(U) also managed to take Paliganj from BJP to accommodate Jayvardhan Yadav, who had crossed over to JD(U) from RJD.

Sources said neither the JD(U) pressed Pandey's case much nor the BJP looked too keen to oblige him. "Unlike another retired DGP (home guards) Sunil Kumar, who got a JD(U) ticket from Bhoire, Pandey was perhaps too vocal. His over-enthusiasm to become a popular politician too soon could have marred his chance to contest from Buxar," said a source in the NDA.

Sources said Pandey went "overboard" in the Sushant Singh Rajput case and that could



Gupteshwar Pandey was the Bihar DGP before he opted for VRS and joined Nitish Kumar's JD(U), four months before he was to retire

have hurt his chances to get a ticket. "No Bihar minister or NDA politician spoke as aggressively in favour of the Bihar government as he did. He was behaving like a politician but it would not have gone too well with the CM," said a retired IPS officer, recalling how he had cautioned Pandey against taking a VRS in 2009 when he was reportedly eyeing a BJP ticket from Buxar, but did not get it.

Pandey dismissed such theories. "It is true that I had taken VRS to contest polls. *Lekin samikaran nahi bana* (calculations did not work out). I am a loyal soldier of JD(U). If JD(U) and BJP want me to campaign in this election, I would do so," he said. The former DGP also defended his stand in the Sushant case. "I have no regrets about the stand I took in the case."

LJP list of 42 has 5 BJP ticket-seekers, 1 from JD(U)

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, OCTOBER 8

THE LJP's first list of 42 candidates included five unsuccessful ticket-seekers from the BJP and one from the JD(U).

The LJP has also fielded several of its district presidents and sought to maintain a social balance by giving tickets to Scheduled Caste Paswan, upper caste and OBC candidates.

Top state-level BJP leaders Rajendra Singh, Rameshwar Chourasia and Usha Vidyarthi, who recently quit the party, will be contesting as LJP nominees from Dinara,

Sasaram and Paliganj, respectively. Chourasia said: "I got a call from BJP national president J P Nadda to reconsider my decision, but decided to go with LJP because of my supporters."

Another BJP rebel, Ravindra Yadav, will contest as an LJP nominee from Jhajha. Mrinal Shekhar, who was the BJP runner-up from Amarpur, will contest the same seat as an LJP nominee.

Another BJP leader, Indu Devi Kashyap, will contest as LJP candidate from Jehanabad. JD(U) rebel Bhagwan Singh Kushwaha will contest as LJP nominee from

Jagdishpur. Imam Gajali (Shekhpura) is the only Muslim candidate on the LJP list. Nine candidates on the list are women.

Other LJP candidates include Krishna Kabir (Nokha) and Muneshwar Pathak (Kurtha).

In a message to the candidates, LJP president Chirag Paswan earlier said: "It is very important to win to shape our future. Voting for the JD(U) means damaging Bihar. I am not able to go to the people because of my father's illness but I will be soon among people."



RLSP, BSP, AIMIM open new front in Bihar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PATNA, OCTOBER 8

THE RLSP, BSP and AIMIM have joined hands with two other parties to announce a front called the Grand Democratic Secular Front.

The Jantantrik Party and Samajwadi Janata Dal Democratic are other constituents of the front, which has announced Kushwaha as its Chief Minister face.

The RLSP is likely to contest on the maximum number of seats, followed by BSP and AIMIM. While Kushwaha would field candidates across the state, the BSP would focus on constituencies bordering UP and the ones with



Kushwaha, Owaisi in Patna

a sizeable Dalit population. The AIMIM would focus on the Seemanthal belt of Kishanganj, Araria, Purnea

and Katihar and some seats of the Mithilanchal region of Darbhanga Madhubani. The Samajwadi Janata Dal Democratic, led by former MP Devendra Yadav, would field candidates mainly in Madhubani and Darbhanga. The Jantantrik Party would field candidates in areas bordering UP.

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi said at a joint press meet on Thursday, "Lalu Prasad and Nitish Kumar and BJP have wasted 30 years of the state. Socio-economic condition and the education system needs an overhaul."

RLSP chief Kushwaha yet again stressed on overhauling the education system of Bihar. "Lalu Prasad and Nitish Kumar failed to revamp the education system," said Kushwaha.

Centre allows bigger political gatherings in Bihar, bypoll constituencies

New Delhi: Ahead of the Bihar elections and bypolls in 11 states, the Ministry of Home Affairs has allowed political gatherings in poll-bound constituencies before October 15 and also relaxed the ceiling on the number of attendees.

In guidelines issued on September 30, the government had allowed the attendance of 100 persons at such gatherings.

According to the order, the relaxation will be subject to the condition that in closed spaces, no more than 50 per cent of the hall capacity will be occupied with a ceiling of 200 persons. In open spaces, the size of the gathering is to be decided based on the size of the venue so that distancing norms can be maintained. Wearing of masks and thermal scanning of those attending such events will be mandatory, the order said.

However, the relaxation does not apply to containment zones.

"Election Commission has announced holding of general elections in the state of Bihar... and by-elections in 11 states for assembly and parliamentary constituencies. Now therefore... it is decided that the state governments concerned may permit political gatherings, outside the containment zones, beyond the existing limit of 100 persons on any date before October 15 in those assembly/parliamentary constituencies only where elections are to be held," stated the order. ENS

SPEAKING HIS MIND

ON CASTE SYSTEM

■ The caste system has ruined this country. We all are against it. Time and again we say that to end the caste system, we need to find a solution for roti (food) and beti (women). We have tackled the food problem to some extent, but there has been no solution to the issues that women face in the country. We still have khap panchayats, honour killings continue... Changing this mentality is important.

ON PM MODI

■ When I write a book towards the end of my life, then I will write about these experiences. All I can say is that Narendra Modi is all about work, and no one can deny this. Work means Narendra Modi and Narendra Modi means work. In five days, he travels from Saudi Arabia to Mexico and the USA. He works all day, forgets about food, addresses international gatherings... He obviously has some charisma.

ON ATROCITIES ON DALITS

■ Dalit ministers and MPs, such as me, are pained by the atrocities against members of our community. There is a law to handle such cases, the SC and ST Prevention of Atrocities Act. But then I keep saying that the Act is different, fact is different and tact is different. The Act needs to be implemented strictly.

ON RESERVATION

■ Our party has been demanding reservation in the private sector. We have also sought reservations in promotions. We want the SC/ST atrocities Act to be implemented strictly. Dalits and Adivasis constitute the most downtrodden sections of the society. Today, many members of the Adivasi community have become Naxals because they feel that they are not getting justice.

Excerpts from The Indian Express Idea Exchange programme on Aug 7, 2016

ELGAAR PARISHAD CASE

NIA takes 83-year-old rights activist Stan Swamy into custody

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 8

THE NIA on Thursday took into custody 83-year-old Jharkhand-based activist Stan Swamy from his Ranchi home in connection with the Elgaar Parishad case. This is the 16th arrest in the case.

Swamy, a Jesuit priest, was questioned by the NIA in July and August and summoned to the agency's office in Mumbai this week.

In a statement, Swamy said he is not in a position to undertake the journey, given his age and the pandemic. He said he had told NIA that there was a Jharkhand government directive that those above 60 years of age may not appear in public and



Swamy has said he was falsely linked with Maoists

that he could be questioned over video-conference.

"...what is happening to me is not unique. Many activists, lawyers, writers, journalists, student leaders, poets, intellectuals and others who stand for the rights of Adivasis, Dalits and the marginalised and express their dissent to the ruling powers of the country are being targeted," Swamy's statement said.

The NIA has claimed that the accused had links with CPI (Maoist).

Swamy said the NIA falsely

implicated his connection with Maoist forces. He said he has been working for Adivasis and questioning the government over issues of land rights, representation of community members and forest rights. "This, I believe, is the main reason why the State is keen to put me out of the way..." his statement said.

Condemning the arrest, People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCI) said: "...the arrest of Fr. Stan by the NIA is malicious and spiteful as Fr. Stan has consistently denied any link with extremist leftist forces or Maoists. He had also clearly told the NIA that some so called extracts allegedly taken from his computer shown to him by the NIA were fake and fabricated and that he disowned them."

CBI books rebel YSRCP MP, kin for 'Rs 826-crore bank loan fraud'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

AMID SPECULATION about Andhra CM Jagan Mohan Reddy-led YSRCP joining the NDA, the CBI has booked the party's rebel MP Kanumuru Raghu Ramakrishna Raju and his wife in connection with alleged bank loan fraud.

Raju has been named along with his wife Kanumuru Rama Devi and nine others in an FIR that alleges that a consortium led by Punjab National Bank (PNB) had been defrauded by him and his company of Rs 826 crore of loans.

The agency carried out



Ramakrishna Raju

searches at around 11 locations in Hyderabad, Mumbai and West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh on Thursday in connection with the case.

Last month, Raju had criticised his party, calling it anti-Hindu. During Zero Hour in Lok Sabha, the MP from Narsapuram had on September 19 said, "In Andhra Pradesh, as of now a constructive destruction is happening with regard to Hindu temples."

Despite protests from his party MPs, Raju continued to speak on the issue and demanded a Hindu commission, saying that despite being the majority Hindus were being treated like the minority. The party later initiated disciplinary proceedings against him and issued a showcause notice.

Apart from Raju and his wife, the CBI has booked his daughter Kotagiri Indira Priyadarshini, Ind Bharat Thermal Power Ltd (of which Raju is director) and seven others who had held positions in the company. The case was registered after a complaint by PNB. **FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com**

NIA arrests 2 over 'recruiting for IS, funding travel to Syria'

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

THE NATIONAL Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested two men from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka for allegedly recruiting for the Islamic State (IS) and funding the travel of the recruits to Syria.

Ahamed Abdul Cader, 40, from Ramanathapuram in Tamil Nadu and Irfan Nasir, 33, from Bengaluru, were arrested on Wednesday after their names cropped up during investigations in a case related to the terror group.

NIA sources said Cader is a business analyst in a bank in Chennai, while Nasir is a rice merchant in Bengaluru. The NIA, which registered a case in the matter on September 19, calls it the "Bengaluru-ISIS module".

NIA said it arrested the two "for having affiliation with the banned terrorist organization ISIS/ISIL/Daesh and for entering into a conspiracy to radicalize and motivate Muslim youth of Bengaluru to join ISIS, and for raising funds to facilitate their travel to Syria".

The agency said that the names of the duo surfaced during its probe into the March 2020 arrest of Kashmir residents Hina Bashir Beg (39) and her husband Jahanzaib Sami (36) from Jamia Nagar in Delhi.

The agency conducted searches at the residence of Both Cader and Nasir and claimed to have recovered "incriminating material"

Both were produced before a Special NIA Court in Bengaluru and remanded in 10 days' NIA custody.

राष्ट्रीय कोशिका विज्ञान केंद्र, पुणे
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CELL SCIENCE, PUNE
AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTE OF DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY,
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, GOVT. OF INDIA
NCCS COMPLEX, S. P. PUNE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS,
GANESHKHIND, PUNE - 411 007.

Website: www.nccs.res.in e-Mail: admindept@nccs.res.in
Ph:020 25708000

Advt. No. Admin/03/2020, Dt. 08.10.2020

National Centre for Cell Science, Pune is a premier Autonomous Institution established by the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, for Research, Development & Training.

The Institute invites applications from Indian nationals for the Scientist 'G'(UR-1), Scientist 'D'(UR-1,OBC-3, SC-2, ST-1), Scientist 'C'(SC-1) possessing excellent academic records and relevant work experience.

For detailed advertisement, prescribed application format, relevant terms and conditions & last date for receipt of application please see our website https://www.nccs.res.in/index.php/careers /staff (Under staff in career tab). The application along with all the necessary certificates and Demand Draft should reach to the Director, NCCS, Pune on or before the last date as mentioned in detailed advertisement.

- DIRECTOR

Restoration of Lucknow Jn.-New Delhi Tejas Express

For the convenience of rail passengers, Railways have decided to restore regular train No. 82501/82502 Lucknow Jn. - New Delhi Tejas Express w.e.f. 17.10.2020 as per details given below:-

82501/82502 Lucknow Jn.-New Delhi Lucknow Jn. Tejas Express (6 Days a Week)

TRAIN NO. 82501	ARR.	DEP.	STATIONS	ARR.	DEP.	TRAIN NO. 82502
—	06:10	—	Lucknow Jn.	22:05	—	—
07:20	07:25	—	Kanpur Central	20:35	20:40	—
11:45	11:47	—	Ghaziabad	16:09	16:11	—
12:25	—	—	New Delhi	—	15:35	—

Days of Run : Six days in week except every Tuesday
Accommodation : AC Chair Car & AC Executive Chair Car

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

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

Follow us on :- **NORTHERN RAILWAY**
Your Convenience - Our Concern
Visit us at - www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

Integrated Helpline No. 139 and Security Helpline No. 182
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

कार्यालय नगर विगम, देहरादून
(फ़ोन-0135-2714074, फ़ैक्स-0135-2851060, ई-मेल- nagarnigam.ddum@gmail.com)

अभिरुचि की अभिव्यक्ति (EOI)

नगर निगम, देहरादून की नगरीय ठोस अपशिष्ट प्रबंधन के अन्तर्गत नगर निगम के सीमा विस्तार उपरान्त नव सम्मिलित 31 वार्डों में घर-घर से पृथकीकृत कूड़ा एकत्रीकरण एवं एम0आर0एफ0/स्वच्छता पार्क तक परिवहन, एम0आर0एफ0/स्वच्छता पार्क का निर्माण एवं कूड़े का वैज्ञानिक विधि से जीरो वेस्ट मॉडल (न्युवावाला पैटन आधारित) निस्तारण हेतु अभिरुचि की अभिव्यक्ति आमंत्रित की जाती है। अतः इच्छुक कम्पनी, संस्थायें अपने अनुभव प्रमाण पत्र, कम्पनी/संस्था के रजिस्ट्रेशन तथा योजना का प्रस्तुतीकरण (पीपीटी) आदि प्रपत्रों के साथ नगर निगम, देहरादून के स्वास्थ्य अनुभाग में दिनांक 27.10.2020 को अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक जमा कर सकते हैं, जिसका प्रस्तुतीकरण भी कराया जा सकता है। उक्त विवरण एवं शर्तें नगर निगम, देहरादून की वेबसाईट www.nagarnigamdehradun.com पर भी उपलब्ध रहेगा। सम्पर्क नम्बर-7536804949

नगर आयुक्त, नगर निगम, देहरादून।

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION - 2020 (OJEE - 2020)

NOTICE REGARDING WEB COUNSELLING

No: OJEE/295 Date: 08.10.2020

NOTICE

OJEE web-based Counselling process for B.TECH/ B.ARCH/ Int. MSc is going to start from 12th October 2020. For detailed schedule, seat position and counselling brochure, please go through OJEE website www.ojee.nic.in/ www.odishajee.com. Schedules for other courses will be published soon.

Sd/-
CHAIRMAN, OJEE, ODISHA

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T.No.	25-2020-21-W-V
1	Name of work with its location Rag picking work and removal of muck removal & between DKZ-DEE, DEE-DEC, DEC-PM, PM-BWSN in the section of SSE/P/Way/DEE under ADEN/DEE. Similar nature of work:- Any civil work other than track work.
2	Approx. Cost of work Rs. 23538029.89
3	Earnest Money (It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. Note:- FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 201025/CE-I/C/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) Rs. 267700.00
4	Completion period of Work 12 Months
5	Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender Upto 15.00 hrs on 30.10.2020 Opening of tender at 15.00 hrs. On 30.10.2020.
6	Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

128-W/280/e-Tender Notice/2020-21-W-V/NIT-25 Dated: 08.10.2020 2167/2020
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India
Branch Office: Doctor's Colony, Malahi Pakri Chowk, Lohiya Nagar, Kankarbagh, Patna-800020, Ph-0612-2364422-2364423, cb1714@unionbankofindia.co.in

[Rule 8 (1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Union Bank of India, Doctor's Colony Branch (Erstwhile Corporation Bank) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 27/01/2020 calling upon the borrowers: **M/s Sunilam Hospital Private Limited and Guarantors Shri. Sunil Kumar Singh, Dr. Neelam Verma and Smt Rama Singh** to repay the amount mentioned in notice being **Rs. 64,34,906** (Rupees Sixty Four Lakh Thirty Four Thousand Nine Hundred and Six Only) as on 14.01.2020 alongwith interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and also the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described hereunder in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on this 6th day of October of the year 2020.

The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor in particular, and public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Union Bank of India, Doctor's Colony Branch (Erstwhile Corporation Bank), for an amount of **Rs. 64,34,906** (Rupees Sixty Four Lakh Thirty Four Thousand Nine Hundred and Six Only) as on 14.01.2020 and interest thereon. The Borrower's/Guarantor's/Mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of Immovable Properties: EMG of 4.46 Decimal (2025 sqft) land alongwith house in the name of Smt Rama Devi, W/o Shri. Bhubuneshwar Singh, situated at Mauza-Dumra Salempur, Thana No:10, Tazui No:5296, Khata No: 150, Survey Plot No: 336 (P), Samiti Plot No:C/51, Indrapuri, Patna-800026, Bihar

Place : Patna Date : 06.10.2020

Authorised Officer Union Bank of India

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India
Branch Office: Chunni Plaza, Complex - A, Near NMCH, Kankarbagh, Patna-800026, E-mail: cb3274@corpbank.co.in, Tele : 0612- 2344318, 2344324

[Rule 8 (1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas:

The undersigned being the Authorised officer of Union Bank of India (Erstwhile Corporation Bank), under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the following borrowers, guarantors and mortgagors, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the said notice

The borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Act rule 2002, on this the 3rd Day of October of the year 2020.

The borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Union Bank of India (Erstwhile Corporation Bank) for an amount mentioned as stated below and interest thereon.

The borrower's/guarantor's/mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

(a) Name of the Borrower	(b) Name of the Mortgagor/Guarantor	(c) Name of Branch	Description of the Secured Assets	(a) Amount of Demand Notice (b) Date of Demand Notice (c) Date of Possession
(a) M/s. All Fashion Point, Prop. All Asgar Khan S/O Md. Hazi Akhtar Khan Shop No. 10, Budha Plaza, Near Ashok Cinema, Budha Marg, Patna-800001, Permanent Address: All Asgar Khan S/O Md. Hazi Akhtar Khan, R/O Bakshi House, ICE factory lane, Near Bank of India, Karbhaghia, Patna- 800001	(b) P. S. Parsa Bazar, Town & District Patna. Bounded as under North: Kadai Gop South: 9 feet wide Road 33 East: Md. Aftab Alam West: Alang, Near Bank of India, Karbhaghia, Patna- 800001. 2. Md. Shabbir Khan S/O Md. Hazi Akhtar Khan, R/O Bakshi House, ICE factory lane, Near Bank of India, Karbhaghia, Patna- 800001. 3. Najma Khatoun W/O Hazi Akhtar Khan, Bakshi House, ICE Factory lane, Near Bank of India, Karbhaghia, Patna- 800001	(c) Chunni Plaza, Kankarbagh Branch	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of: 1. Registered Mortgage of immovable landed property along with building measuring an area of thousand two hundred ninety six only (2722 sq. ft. residential land) under Thana no. 98, Tazui No. 5533, Khata No. 143, C S Plot No. 586 (P) situated at Mauza Rahimpur, P. S. Parsa Bazar, Town & District Patna. Bounded as under North: Kadai Gop South: 9 feet wide Road 33 East: Md. Aftab Alam West: Alang, Near Bank of India, Karbhaghia, Patna- 800001. 2. Landed property along with building measuring an area of bearing total land of 577 sq. ft. under Thana no. 137, Sheet no. 16, Circle no. 8 M. S. Plot no. 282, Holding no. 99A/71, Situated at Mohalla Karbhaghia, P.O. - GPO, P.S. Jakkampur, Town & District Patna. Bounded as under North: M S Plot no. 282(P), Ashraf Zeyauddin & Arif Sahabuddin South: Khurshid Anwar & Jamal Anwar East: Road thereafter Binny cold storage godown West: Municipal lane thereafter Binny cold storage godown.	(a) ₹25,64,296.00 (Rupees Twenty five Lakh Sixty four thousand two hundred ninety six only) (b) 02/07/2019 (c) 03/10/2020

Place : Patna Date : 03.10.2020

Authorised Officer Union Bank of India

ಅಜಲ ಭಾರತ ವಾಕ್ ಶ್ರವಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು-೫೭೦೦೦೬
ಅಖिल भारतीय वाक् श्रवण संस्थान, मैसूरु - 570 006
All India Institute of Speech and Hearing
(An autonomous Institute under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India)
Naimisham Campus, Manasagangothri, Mysuru - 570 006, Karnataka
Ph: 0821-2502000, 2502100. Website: www.aiishmysore.in

ADMISSIONS 2020-21

Advertisement No. 02/Academic/2020-21 Date: 06.10.2020

All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysuru invites applications for admission to M.Ed. Spl. Ed. (HI) program for the year 2020-21.

Sl. No.	Programme	No. of Seats	Duration
1.	M.Ed. Spl. Ed. (HI)	22*	2 years

Admission Eligibility:

- Candidates with a B.S.Ed. (Hearing Impairment) / B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (HI) degree of the University of Mysore or any B.Ed. (HI) recognized by RCI of any other University considered as equivalent thereto with an average of not less than 50% (45% for SC/ST) of marks in the qualifying examination are eligible.
- Only those candidates who have not completed 35 years of age as on 01st July of the academic year in which admission is sought are eligible for admission. Age relaxation of up to 5 years can be considered for candidates on deputation/in-service with the approval of the University of Mysore.

* Admissions based on the reservation norms of AIISH.

The application and Prospectus can be downloaded from institute's website www.aiishmysore.in. For queries please contact Ph: 0821-2502172 / 2502228. Application Fee: ₹ 750/- (₹ 575/- SC/ST/PWD)

Application along with the relevant documents should be submitted on or before 06th November, 2020.

Sd/- निदेशक / Director

Government of NCT of Delhi
Department for the Welfare of SC/ST/OBC/MIN.
B-Block, 2nd Floor, Vikas Bhawan, I.P. Estate, New Delhi
e-mail:- dscstschschemes.delhi@gov.in, Website: www.scstwelfare.delhigovt.nic.in

Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-Cum-Means based Scholarship Schemes for 2020-21

Applications are invited from the Delhi students belonging to six minority communities notified by the Government of India for availing Scholarships under three Scholarship Schemes, sponsored by Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India, viz. Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-Cum Means based Scholarship Schemes for 2020-21.

Timeline activities are as under:

Activities	Date
Last date for submission of Online applications for Pre-Matric Scholarship (Fresh and Renewal)	Upto 31st October, 2020
Last date for submission of Online applications for Post-Matric and Merit-Cum-Means Scholarship (Fresh and Renewal)	Upto 31st October, 2020

Eligibility

- The applicant should belong to any one form the notified Minority communities' viz. Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Zoroastrians (Parsis) and Jains.
- The applicant should be pursuing studies in India in Government or Private Universities/Institutes/Colleges/ Schools.
- The course being pursued should be of Minimum one year duration,
- The applicant should have secured 50% marks in the last annual Board/Class examination.

INSTRUCTIONS

For Applicants

- Applicants are advised to apply online against any one of the scholarship schemes on the Website of National Scholarship Portal at www.scholarships.gov.in (a link to the site is also available at www.minorityaffairs.gov.in) or Mobile App- National Scholarships (NSP);
- Detailed 'Instructions' for filling in online application and 'Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)' are available on the National Scholarship Portal homepage.
- Applicant is advised to give only that bank account details which remains in active mode or compliant as per bank's instructions so that payment of scholarship does not fail.

For detailed information, visit the website of Ministry of Minority affairs i.e. www.minorityaffairs.gov.in

Samadhaan Helpline (Toll Free) - 1800-11-2001 (Timing 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM, Monday to Friday, Except Holidays)

DIP/Shabdarth/0347/20-21

Principal Secretary

Office of the CEO & Dean Shyam Shah Medical College Rewa (M.P.)
No. 18004/Estt./Gazz/M.C./Adv/2020 Rewa, Dated. 25.09.2020

REVISED ADVERTISEMENT

Advertisement No. 12627/Estt./Gazz/M.C./Adv/2020 Rewa dated 06.07.2020 was published to fill the vacant post of Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Superintendent and General Duty Medical Officer, considering the 27% reservation for OBC. Letter No. 1178/4/Pravesh/Court case/dme/2020 dated 25.07.2020 from Director Medical Education MP Bhopal mentioned that there is a stay on 27% reservation for OBC. Therefore, the above mentioned advertisement is revised with 14% reservation to OBC and invites applications for various vacant posts (with backlog) of teaching cadre for direct recruitment. The details are as follows:

S. No.	Subject	Professor				Associate Professor				Assistant Professor			
		UR	ST	SC	OBC	UR	ST	SC	OBC	UR	ST	SC	OBC
1	Anaesthesia	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Anaesthesia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
2	Anaesthesia (CVTS)	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
3	Anaesthesia (Neurosurgery)	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
4	Neurology	2	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	3(1F)	1	1	1
5	Neurosurgery	2	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	1	1	1
6	Electrophysiology Cardiology	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
7	Paediatric Cardiology	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
8	Interventional Cardiology	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Nephrology	2	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	3(1F)	1	1	1
10	Urology	2	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	1	1	1
11	Neonatology	2	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	3(1F)	1	1	1
12	Cardiac Surgery	2	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	1	1	1
13	Radiodiagnosis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
	Total	18	6	-	-	18	6	-	-	19	12	6	6
	Superintendent	1	-	-	-								
	General Duty Medical Officer (GDMO)	3	1	1	1								

Note -

- Appointment and allocation of reservation is subjected to final decision of Hon'ble High Court Jabalpur.
- The last date for submission of application form is 14.10.2020. Dates of Interview shall be announced separately on the College Website. The name of the eligible/not eligible candidates shall be displayed on the college website.
- Number of posts may be increased or decreased.
- Application fees for Unreserved category is Rs 1000/- and Rs 750/- for Reserved category.
- The candidates who have applied earlier, need not to apply again. In case of change in category, they have to submit fresh application without any fees.

For details of advertisement and application form visit www.ssmcrewa.com.
Approved by Commissioner Rewa division Rewa.

Sd/-
CEO & Dean
S.S. Medical College Rewa (M.P.)

G-14786/20



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



PENNING A PAEAN

MINORITIES AFFAIRS Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi's latest blog is a paean to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The nearly 1,500-word blog, titled "Shri Narendra Modi's 20 glorious years of good governance", talks first about Modi as the Gujarat Chief Minister and then as the Prime Minister. Naqvi calls Modi's tenure a "crown of thorns", the thorns being the natural calamities: earthquake in Bhuj, Gujarat, and now Covid-19. The blog details how Modi has tackled every crisis with efficiency and grace, finally lacing India firmly on the world stage.

SEE-SAW SIGHT

ON THE 88th Air Force Day, the celebration at Hindan Air Force Station featured, for the first time, the recently arrived Rafale fighter jets. Of the five planes that have arrived, two were present at the ceremony: one for display, and another as part of the flypast show. However, the aero show turned out to be a bit of a dampener due to reasons beyond IAF's control. The increasing levels of pollution in the NCR over the last few days made tracing the aircraft acrobats tougher than expected.

TRIBUTE TO A PIONEER

AS THE world waits for a Covid-19 vaccine, the French mission in Delhi is celebrating vaccine pioneer Louis Pasteur. With a world-famous Pasteur Institute of India in Tamil Nadu, the French cultural institute in India is coming out with a Tamil translation of Pasteur's biography.

Rajasthan: Circular asks officers to 'stand up in respect' for MPs, MLAs

DEEPA MUKHERJEE
JAIPUR, OCTOBER 8

THE RAJASTHAN government has instructed its officials that they should stand up to welcome MPs and MLAs during their visits, and also when they leave, as a gesture of respect.

This is part of detailed directions/instructions issued by the state government to all officials regarding taking swift action on issues raised by public representatives, and replying to their letters. The directions were mentioned in a circular issued by the state's Administrative Reforms Department on September 23, signed by Chief Secretary Rajeev Swarup.

The circular states: "Whenever MPs/MLAs write letters or contact a government depart-

ment for public welfare works, they should be behaved with humility and with respect. The officials should be right and courteous. Whenever MPs/MLAs come to meet them, they should stand in respect during the welcome and farewell of the members, and also take swift action after giving due diligence to problems/solutions intimated by them (public representatives)." Copies of the circular have been sent to all department heads, district collectors, divisional commissioners, district SPs and other officials and departments across the state.

Among others, the officers have been directed to send acknowledgment of letters received from public representatives, and giving the latter updates on issues raised in those letters.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

MEA: 7 Indians kidnapped in Libya, efforts on to secure release

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

SEVEN INDIANS, hailing from Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh, were kidnapped in Libya last month and India is in touch with authorities in the African nation to secure their release, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Thursday. The Indians were kidnapped at a place called Asshweri on September 14 when they were on their way to the Tripoli airport to catch a flight to India, MEA spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said at a media briefing.

"The government is in touch with their family members and would like to assure them that we are making all possible efforts in consultation and coordination with Libyan authorities and the employer to trace our nationals and secure their release from captivity at the earliest," he said.

Srivastava said the Indian nationals were working at a construction and oil field supplies company. "The employer has been contacted by the kidnappers and shown photographs as proof that the Indian nationals were safe and keeping well," he said. He said the Indian embassy in Tunisia has reached out to the Libyan authorities and the international organisations there, seeking help in rescuing the Indian nationals.

GOVT LAUNCHES COVID AWARENESS DRIVE

Jan Andolan campaign begins, film industry lends support

ENS & PTI
NEW DELHI, MUMBAI, OCTOBER 8

THE UNION government on Thursday launched a public awareness drive as part of its fight against Covid-19, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his ministerial colleagues asking people to take precautions like wearing masks and maintaining social distancing. The 'Jan Andolan' campaign comes ahead of festivals and the winter season and amid the opening up of the economy.

Modi tweeted, "We have to continue the momentum and protect our citizens from the virus."

"Let us #Unite2FightCorona! Let us always remember: Wear a mask. Wash hands. Follow social distancing. Practice 'Do Gaj Ki Doori.' Together, we will succeed. Together, we will win against COVID-19," he said.

Home Minister Amit Shah said the pandemic can be fought only when all countrymen come together.

The film industry extended support to the Jan Andolan, with Modi's message being retweeted by film personalities including Salman Khan, Kriti Sanon, Ranveer Singh, Varun Dhawan and Tiger Shroff. Khan wrote, "... In difficult times mein, only do three things: 6ft ka distance, mask peheno & wash & sanitise ur hands.

ABDULLAH ABDULLAH MEETS MODI

'Energised and re-energised by India's support'

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

AFTER MEETING Prime Minister Narendra Modi and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval over the last two days, the visiting chairman of the High Council for National Reconciliation in Afghanistan Abdullah Abdullah said on Thursday that he was "energised and re-energised" that the Indian leadership was "supportive" of the efforts of the Afghan people to achieve a "dignified, durable, and sustainable peace".

Abdullah, who arrived in India on Tuesday, met Modi on Thursday, and will meet External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Friday. NSA Doval, who met Abdullah on Wednesday, was accompanied by Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin

Rawat, Army Chief Gen M M Naravane, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla, and Joint Secretary (Pakistan-Afghanistan-Iran) in the Ministry of External Affairs, J P Singh, among others.

During a speech at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) on Thursday, Abdullah said: "We are counting on your support, your understanding and your continued friendship for a better future between our two nations, and our greater region. During my discussions with (the) Indian leadership here, we were energised and re-energised, that the leadership here is supportive of the efforts of the people of Afghanistan for achieving peace, dignified, durable, sustainable peace."

He said, "The principle that you have laid the foundation of



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with top Afghan negotiator Abdullah Abdullah in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

your foreign policy towards the future of our country - Afghan-led, Afghan-owned, and Afghan-controlled, is welcomed by our people."

In his virtual address to the inaugural ceremony of the Intra-Afghan negotiations in Doha,

Jaishankar had "expressed his support for the efforts of the Afghan people, which we are thankful for...", Abdullah said.

Abdullah expressed gratitude for the support that India has extended "in many ways" to Afghanistan over the past 20 years, in-

cluding the connectivity projects that were important not just for Afghanistan, India, and Central Asia, but "all across South and Central Asia and Afghanistan all together". New Delhi's support for the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline, and the projects in Chabahar, Iran, will help the future of the region's people, he said.

The MEA said that during his meeting with Abdullah, Prime Minister Modi had "reiterated India's commitment towards sustainable peace and prosperity in Afghanistan and welcomed efforts towards a comprehensive and permanent ceasefire in Afghanistan."

"In keeping with the government's policy of Neighbourhood First, the Prime Minister reaffirmed India's long term commitment to further deepening the his-

torial ties between India and Afghanistan. The two leaders discussed issues of bilateral and regional interest," the MEA said. "Dr Abdullah Abdullah briefed the Prime Minister on the Afghan peace process and the ongoing talks in Doha."

Bilateral issues, including India's development cooperation with Afghanistan, were also discussed, the statement said. Abdullah appreciated India's developmental commitment of \$3 billion, projects under which are benefiting Afghans across the country's 34 provinces, it said.

According to the statement, Doval and Abdullah discussed the Afghan peace process and related issues, including "increased levels of violence across Afghanistan and peace and security in the region".



At the Air Force Day ceremony at Hindan air base on Thursday. Praveen Khanna

IAF showed resolve during standoff with China: Air Chief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
HINDAN AIR FORCE STATION (UP), OCTOBER 8

APPRECIATING THE quick response of Indian Air Force in deploying its assets facing the northern borders in the backdrop of the standoff with China in eastern Ladakh since early May, Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria on Thursday said the force has shown its resolve and capabilities to the adversary.

He asserted, "We have clearly demonstrated our resolve, operational capability, and the will to effectively engage the adversary, should the need arise."

Speaking at the Air Force Day ceremony at the Hindan air base, in Ghaziabad, on the 88th anniversary of IAF, he said, "I would like to commend all warriors for the quick response in the recent standoff on our northern frontiers,



IAF chief Bhadauria at the ceremony. Praveen Khanna

when we deployed our combat assets at short notice to handle any eventuality, and provided proactive support to all requirements of deployment and sustenance for the Indian Army."

He said, "(The) emerging security scenario mandates a greater need to have a strong Air Force, to fight across domains

across the entire spectrum of warfare." He said the vision "for this decade, is to continue to comprehensively scale up our combat capability, and be a force to reckon with across the entire sphere of influence; through careful force structuring, modernisation, operational training, and acquisition of indigenous equipment to achieve substantial self-reliance".

The evolving threat matrix in the region, he said, "is becoming complex, ranging from aspirational adversaries with huge investments in military arsenal, to those collusively supported by non-state actors, apart from growing sub-conventional threats from terrorism and cyberspace".

He mentioned that "disruptive technologies and easy access to low-cost options like drones, are increasingly demanding greater attention to the sub-conventional domain".

KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

CONFIDENT THAT the armed forces can meet a two-front threat should it arise, the military brass say there's no evidence yet of China and Pakistan being in collusion while the Ladakh standoff continues. Yet the security establishment has been keeping an eagle eye because there's increasing intelligence on the Chinese helping Pakistan improve its military infrastructure, especially in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

This, sources said, suggests that their militaries are attempting "better integration". Late last month, the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), sources said, provided intelligence on China helping Pakistan set up a new missile system in PoK.

The input, sources said, conveyed that PLA and Pakistan Army personnel were carrying out construction work for installation of a surface-to-air missile (SAM) system near Lasadanna Dhok in PoK. It said approximately 130 Pakistan Army personnel and 25-40 civilians were working at the construction site. The control room for the system, sources quoted the intelligence report saying, would be located at the Pakistani Army's brigade headquarters in Bagh district.

Ten PLA personnel, including three officers, will be stationed at the control room, the report stated.

E.
EXPLAINED
Areas key to CPEC, BRI

PAKISTAN'S DEEP ties with China is no secret, but greater economic and military cooperation in PoK and Occupied Gilgit-Baltistan also point to Beijing's vested interest there. Because these areas are key to the CPEC and BRI, projects at the heart of Chinese expansionism.

The R&AW, sources said, mentioned that similar construction had also been reported at Chinari in Helium district, and Chakothi in Hattian Bala district of PoK.

Earlier, in June, intelligence agencies said Pakistan had posted a senior Army officer at the PLA headquarters in Beijing for "better integration" of the two militaries. On February 5, the Indian Coast Guard sighted a Chinese warship in Pakistani waters. The frigate Jiangwei-II was spotted not very far from Porbandar, around 11 nautical miles inside Pakistani waters.

The Pakistani and Chinese navies conducted a bilateral exercise in January. Sources said China is also helping Pakistan acquire

naval assets. At the moment, Pakistan is waiting to receive eight Yuan class submarines and four Type 054A frigates.

Three days ago, IAF chief Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria said India is "aware that China and Pakistan are cooperating closely, and Pakistan now is increasingly dependent on China for their defence supplies, and they are doing a lot of exercises together... this activity in terms of their bilateral exercises is on the increase".

While he ruled out a "collusive threat" saying "there is no such indication", he said India is prepared for a two-front threat and is "observing all the activities across".

On September 3, Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat warned of the two-front threat from China and Pakistan, but said Indian armed forces were fully prepared to deal with it.

Speaking at the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) conclave, General Rawat said China and Pakistan have been collaborating militarily, economically and diplomatically.

"Chinese economic cooperation with Pakistan, in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, along with continued military, economic and diplomatic support mandate high levels of preparation by us," he said. "This also poses the threat of coordinated action along the northern and western fronts, which we have to consider in our defence planning," he said.

Under Covid shadow, medical tourism begins a slow recovery

TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 8

TWENTY DAYS after she landed in Mumbai with almost zero sensation in her left arm and a degenerative spine, Canadian national Sanna Kattelus on Thursday finally bid goodbye to her sea-facing room in Taj Lands End Hotel where she had been recuperating for the last few days.

The 43-year-old had obtained an emergency medical visa to undergo surgery in Mumbai under a strict Covid-19 protocol.

"This is my first visit to the city. There was so much to see, but I didn't leave the hotel except for my trips to the hospital. Maybe next time," she said. A black brace that she used for two years to support her spine, lay discarded in the hotel room.

According to the Ministry of Tourism, the country got 6.97 lakh foreign patients on medical visa in 2019, accounting for 6.9 per cent of foreign tourist arrivals. While there are no official numbers yet for 2020, by all estimates, Covid brought the medical tourism sector to a halt in mid-March, when international travel froze and major centres such as Delhi and Mumbai turned into hotspots.

But now, with the country



Sanna Kattelus, 43, in Mumbai. Tabassum Barnagarwala

slowing opening up its skies through air bubbles with select countries, private hospitals have gradually restarted admitting emergency cases from abroad.

"Because Mumbai has so many Covid-19 cases, several of our international patients had put their surgeries on hold," said Dr Santosh Shetty, executive director at Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani hospital.

Over the last month, however, the hospital has been getting its first set of patients from abroad, especially to its Centre for Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. Recently, two patients from Oman flew in in a private air-ambulance for stroke-rehab.

In Nanavati hospital, a foreign national, a sea farer, was flown in

with chronic kidney disease.

Any visit involves a lot of paperwork. In Kattelus's case, she said she submitted over 150 pages with references and tests to the Indian consulate in Vancouver to obtain a visa. She arrived in Mumbai on September 18, and had to apply for special permission to cut down the seven-day quarantine to two days, before undergoing a surgery on September 21 in Lilavati hospital.

"In her case, we simply could not wait further," said her treating neurosurgeon Dr Atul Goel, adding that Covid tests were done beforehand.

Kattelus had met with a car accident in November 2017, leading to craniocervical insta-

bility in the area where the skull meets the spine. She had gradually lost sensation in her left arm and had to eventually give up her career as a physiotherapist.

Kattelus visited over 20 specialists in Canada and USA before being referred to Goel, who is renowned for his surgical technique on the craniovertebral junction.

Kattelus was supposed to fly to India in May but the surgery got indefinitely postponed due to the pandemic. Over the last few months, she started having blackouts and suffered intermittent hearing loss. Besides, the numbness spread from her left arm to the other limbs.

So when flights resumed between Canada and India in early August, Kattelus decided to take the risk.

Once in Mumbai, doctors visited Kattelus at the hotel for a check-up and decided that she needed an immediate surgery.

"The technique I use is not performed anywhere else and that is why she decided to fly all the way to India. We corrected the deformity in the spine, and now she can walk straight," neurosurgeon Goel said.

On October 3, her stitches removed, Kattelus celebrated her birthday in the hotel room, watching the Bandra sea stretch out from behind her glass window.

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

220 DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN

CASES: 68,35,655 RECOVERED: 58,27,704 DEATHS: 1,05,526

TESTS: 8,34,65,975 DOUBLING RATE: 62.95**

KEY STATES TO WATCH	TOTAL CASES	SURGE IN 24 HOURS	7-DAY AVG GROWTH*	DOUBLING TIME**
■ Maharashtra	14,80,489	14,578	0.96%	74.78
■ Andhra	7,34,427	5,120	0.82%	87.50
■ Tamil Nadu	6,35,855	5,447	0.89%	80.87
■ Kerala	2,53,405	10,606	3.73%	19.30
■ Delhi	2,98,107	2,871	0.91%	78.78

CASE FATALITY RATIO	POSITIVITY RATE	DAILY IN, DAILY OUT
7 DAYS EARLIER: 1.56	7 DAYS EARLIER: 8.35	DETECTED TODAY: 78,524
NOW: 1.54	NOW: 8.19	RECOVERED TODAY: 83,011

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 7, 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

Let's implement PM Modi's - Jan andolan against covid. Come on buck up india! Jai hind!!!...

Ranveer Singh retweeted the PM's post with the message: "Let us #Unite2FightCorona".

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Bihar on the Move

Food processing, dairy, sugar, manufacturing and healthcare are some of the fast-growing industries in the state

Development potential in Bihar

BIHAR, AN eastern Indian state and the place that gave birth to Buddhism and Jainism and helped in the growth of Sikhism and Hinduism, has a past that is unmatched anywhere in the world. It was the center of the first republic in the world at Vaishali and the city of Pataliputra was largest and grandest in the world at the height of its glory. Even today, the state is the largest mineral producing region in India and contributes immensely in national wealth creation. There is an array of tourist destinations of diverse interests in the state, though their potential has not been exploited fully till now. The state that represents everything good and bad within the country is waiting to be explored and rediscovered.

Bihar is indeed a land of monasteries. Hindu, Buddhist, Jain, Muslim and Sikh shrines abound in this ancient land where India's first major empires rose and fell. Where the ruins of the world's earliest university slumbers in the void of time. The passage of Ganga, flowing wide and deep, enriches the plains of Bihar before distributing in Bengal's deltaic zone.

Among all Indian states, Bihar is the one most intimately linked to the Buddha's life, resulting in a trail of pilgrimages which have come to be known as the Buddhist circuit. The Buddhist trail begins at the capital city, Patna, where a noteworthy museum contains a collection of Hindu and Buddhist sculptures, as well as a terracotta urn, said to contain the ashes of Lord Buddha.

Bihar is one of the strongest agricultural states. The percentage of population employed in agricultural production in Bihar is around 80 per cent, which is much higher than the national average. It is the fourth-largest producer of vegetables and the eight largest producers of fruits in India. Food processing, dairy, sugar, manufacturing, and healthcare are some of the fast-growing industries in the state. The state has planned initiatives for the development of other sectors such as education and tourism and also provides incentives for information technology and renewable energy.

The state has a large base of cost-effective industrial labour, making it an ideal destination for a wide range of industries. Total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) for Bihar and Jharkhand stood at



US\$ 119 million between April 2000 and March 2020. In 2019, eight investments were filed in the state worth Rs 671 crore (US\$ 96.01 million). During 2019-20 (up to Dec 19), export from the state stood at US\$ 1,260.15 million.

TESTIMONIALS

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Ajay Singh, MD
Ashirwad Engicon Group, Boring Road, Patna

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BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

In defence of commons

Permission Raj looms over public spaces, right to protest.
SC order on Shaheen Bagh fails to recognise this



T M KRISHNA

FOR PEOPLE LIVING in the city of Chennai or followers of Tamil cinema, the word *poromboku* is not new. An often-heard abuse, it is used to shame an individual, implying that he is good for nothing, useless, unproductive, and valueless. In reality, *poromboku* is a beautiful expression; a word that means “the commons” referring to everything that we — as a society — own collectively and share with one another. Rivers, lakes, grazing lands, mangroves, marshlands and forests are *poromboku*. In the context of the urban, it is our streets, parks, beaches, graveyards and playgrounds that all of us have free access to. These spaces are not privately owned and, in a democratic country, everyone irrespective of religion, caste, gender or even nationality, participates in their use. But we also know that this is not entirely true. More often than not, the commons are guarded by religious bigots, caste armies, or the moral police. Yet, we fight doggedly for our shared rights hoping to push back the parochials.

Shaheen Bagh stands tall as a battleground to save our *poromboku*. But the commons that the women protesters and friends in Shaheen Bagh fought for were not spatial — they were abstract. They were the foundations on which we have built our entire nation. Equality, equity, fundamental rights, liberty, justice and secularism are our shared conceptual *poromboku*-s. They are not the private properties of a single individual living in this land; neither are they owned by the executive or judiciary. These are the principles of our democracy that we cherish and the values that we defend. The Shaheen Bagh protests were necessary to push back a government that is bent on demolishing our constitutional soul, using every Machiavellian trick in the book.

But the question often asked is whether such protests are also a public nuisance to those who do not share the same opinion or just want to go ahead with their everyday routine. This is a fair question, but needs a nuanced response. Society is not a level-playing field and every institution, including the judi-

ciary, does not treat every protest with the same yardstick. Hence, public order and social tranquillity are not objective notions and are often manipulated by the state.

While the argument that public movement and normal life should not be affected by protests has value, how can we not factor in the utter inequality in the way every institution views public protest and protesters? Within this labyrinth lies social discrimination. Public protests or processions by Dalits, minorities, women, trans people are viewed with disdain but none will dare question protests by powerful caste lobbies, political parties or the religious majority.

The incongruities do not stop here. In every city, we are asked to obtain police permission for a protest. Inevitably, if the protest is against the government, police or any state institution, the permission is rejected or delayed until the very last moment forcing the organisers to cancel or rush to the court for relief. Constantly challenging the police in the courts is tiresome, leading citizens to just give up. In effect, protests are crushed by the state.

The courts do not seem to be interested in addressing this serious countrywide use of permission raj. It is not just protests; we struggle to obtain permission even for performances in public spaces. The police informally question us about the content of the plays or songs. On one occasion in Chennai, the Casteless Collective band was forced to stop singing a song because it contained the word “Modi”. Since the Jallikattu protests of 2017, there is a blanket denial for permission for any gathering at Chennai’s famed Marina beach. “Maintenance of law and order” is used by the state to stifle public questioning. At the very same time, large corporations buy their way into public spaces, erect stages, hoardings and destroy the environment with impunity and without a whimper from our public bodies. Does the esteemed court expect us to come to its doorstep every time these things happen?

Even the idea of designated locations for protest needs to be challenged. Who designates these spaces and on what basis? In a coun-

try like India, where the political class does not appreciate being questioned, especially when in power, how does the court expect any fairness in protest space allocations? The consideration will always be: How can we limit its growth, effect and keep it under our control? There is little value in speaking about public inconvenience without addressing the limitations that are placed on our right to protest.

It is also essential to realise that protesting is often a spontaneous act and cannot be bottled by allocations and permissions. A vital quality of protest is public awareness and participation; consequently, public roads cannot be off-limits. Unless we are shaken awake from our slumber by slogans, cheers, demands, songs and hundreds walking the streets, those of us who complain of disruption will never notice the farmer or labourer.

Yes! We are now a democratic country; yet how can we be blind to the lack of freedom and independence and the pervading fear in the hearts of so many? The state is an enormously powerful machine and, in order to force a just response, common people need to apply collective pressure. In this tussle, public spaces are crucial to empower people, make them heard, and bring some parity into the discourse. Therefore, the occupation of highways by citizens whose lives have been torn apart by sexual, corporate and political violence is an important tool and to treat it as a public annoyance is majoritarian browbeating.

There is no doubt that social media plays a huge role in bringing people together and giving power to the collective. But unless public spaces are freely available for demonstrations, we will remain a mute democracy. The Supreme Court had the opportunity to expand the contours of its order keeping in mind reality with all its unevenness, but it remained silent and forgot that democracy thrives in the *poromboku*!

Krishna is a musician and author of Sebastian and Sons: A Brief History of Mridangam Makers

ENSURE FAIR PLAY

Google vs Paytm lays out the challenge: Competition policy should safeguard competition, not particular competitors

OVER THE PAST Few weeks, founders of Indian start-ups have begun to rally against the dominance of US tech companies such as Google in the Indian market. The immediate provocation was Google’s decision to levy a 30 per cent commission for all in-app purchases of digital goods in its near ubiquitous app system. Notwithstanding Google’s assertion that less than 3 per cent of the developers had sold digital goods over the last year, and of these nearly 97 per cent were already paying the fee, the move triggered outrage across the broader start-up ecosystem in India. Paytm launched its own app store to compete with Google’s Play Store. While Google has subsequently deferred its plan, these developments raise several tricky issues.

A recent report by the US House of Representative has said that Amazon, Apple, Google and Facebook have exercised and abused their monopoly power, with US lawmakers saying that these companies “had abused their dominant positions, setting and often dictating prices and rules for commerce, search, advertising, social networking and publishing.” In India, the smartphone market is dominated by Google’s Android platform. This places it in a unique position to dictate terms. Its products, such as Google Pay, are also in direct competition with Indian firms such as Paytm. Thus there are legitimate concerns over possible conflict of interest and abuse of its dominant market position. The fundamental question is: Has Google abused its market dominance? Are there barriers to entry? Is competition being thwarted? And what should be the deterrents to ensure that Google does not favour its own companies?

It must also be pointed out that this is not a licence-driven monopoly, but one driven by network effects. However, while barriers to entry may not exist, it is difficult for new players to enter, and grab market share, simply because there is not much space for multiple networks. But couching this debate in terms of self-reliance or Atmanirbharta, or erecting barriers or intervening to put in place price caps on commissions is not the answer. Policy should be driven by the principle of protecting competition, not competitors.

JOURNEY AND THE PRIZE

Nobel for chemistry speaks of irrepressible ambition of science. And tells a story of two women scientists

IN A YEAR WHEN a virus has laid waste to human hubris and capability, the Nobel prize in chemistry to French microbiologist Emmanuelle Charpentier and American biochemist Jennifer Doudna is a reminder of the irrepressible ambition of science. In 2012, the two scientists collaborated to create the CRISPR/Cas9 scissors — a sharp gene-editing tool that has turned out to be more of a Swiss knife, given its precision in changing the DNA of plants and microorganisms and wide applicability in medical science.

This story began in Charpentier’s lab, with a microscopic view of the bacteria *Streptococcus pyogenes*. What the scientist saw was a bacterial immune system that repeatedly went to battle by shearing off invasive viruses with a sharp bit of RNA. The French scientist collaborated with Doudna to replicate this natural defence mechanism in a test tube, and ended up with a tool to edit gene sequences. The implications for cancer research, in finding cures of genetically-transmitted diseases as well as the murky possibilities of it being hijacked by eugenicists dreaming of designer babies, were mind-boggling.

The mind also struggles to come to grips with another fact: That only seven women have been awarded the Nobel prize for chemistry since 1901, including this year’s awardees. In an interview last year, Doudna described herself as “a budding feminist”, who had gone from believing that she did not want “advan-tages or disadvantages based on my gen-der” in her 40s, to realising in her 50s that the formidable prejudice loaded against women would not go away without systemic changes. Indeed, the last revolutionary breakthrough involving the gene was built on the work of Rosalind Franklin, a British woman scientist whose work was written out of history and science, as the Nobel for medicine went to James Watson and Francis Crick. From Franklin to Charpentier-Doudna, the tide is, hopefully, turning.



ELIAS GEORGE

THE STORY OF public-private partnerships (PPPs) in India has been a chequered one. While we have had some notable successes, the landscape is also littered with troubled projects, ranging from ones where unfair risk allocation by government entities has upended the fortunes of the private partner, to ones where the private investor has managed to extract more than a fair share of benefits from the project.

Currently, the quantum of private financing flowing into the infrastructure sector has ebbed to around 20 per cent of the total funding, for reasons that are well known — the crisis in the non-banking finance sector, the financial challenges faced by infrastructure companies, and the inadequately developed Indian market for infrastructure financing. The Economic Survey 2017-18 has assessed India’s infrastructure financing needs at \$4.5 trillion by 2040. Reviving private investment flows into infrastructure creation to more sustainable levels of around 40 per cent will be key to attaining this threshold.

The challenge of ramping up private investments in infrastructure will need action on two fronts: Refreshing institutions and policies for channeling financing; and providing a stable, durable, and empowering ecosystem for private players to partner with government entities in the task of infrastructure-creation.

Learning from the past mixed experience of PPPs, we need to reimagine and redesign the PPP ecosystem along many fronts. The Vijay Kelkar committee had put out a timely, practical, and balanced report in 2015 on overhauling the PPP ecosystem, including governance reform, institutional redesign, and ca-

REIMAGINING THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE

Reviving private investment in infrastructure will be key in post-COVID recovery

capacity-building. This report is laden with eminently sensible plug-and-play recommendations which can radically improve the PPP environment, if implemented with consistency and firm purpose.

Among the most difficult, but necessary initiatives, is the need to overhaul the culture and attitude towards the conjoining of government entities and private partners for creating specific pieces of infrastructure. As the Kelkar committee has stated, there needs to be an approach of give and take, instead of government interlocutors trying to adopt a purely transactional approach without adequate focus on outcomes, while also trying to minimise risk to themselves by passing on uncertain elements in a project — like the land acquisition risk — to the private partner. This attitudinal change can be facilitated if laws like the Prevention of Corruption Act are further amended to encompass modern-day requirements, including factoring in the need for government agents to take calibrated risks while engaging with the private sector. The private partners also need to be incentivised to focus on project outcomes, with guard-rails in place to discourage rent-seeking behaviour. In sum, risk avoidance by the public entity and rent-seeking by the private partner are the twin challenges that need to be carefully addressed.

On the regulatory front, a compelling need would be to promulgate a PPP legislation which can provide a robust legal ecosystem and procedural comfort to the various actors and stakeholders. Such legislation should encompass the need for fostering innovation and global best practices, factoring in the requirements of diverse infra sectors ranging from

water-supply to telecom and also enabling flexibility in project design and execution.

Infrastructure projects typically have long-duration profitability cycles. The key to a successful PPP is to provide stable revenue flow assurances and a settled ecosystem to investors over long periods by means of policy stability, assurances possibly secured by law. PPP contracts also need to provide for mid-course corrections given that the ecosystem surrounding the infrastructure piece, including utilisation patterns, as well as the creation of competing infra assets may necessitate a dynamic approach to aspects like risk and revenue sharing. Given the complexity surrounding the creation of infra projects, and the difficulty of predicting the stability of revenue flows over long periods of time, government partners in PPP arrangements need to ensure that open-ended arrangements that might entail unforeseeable risk are minimised for the private investor, including aspects such as land availability and community acceptance.

After we emerge out of this pandemic, a focus area for public policy has to be the creation of a modern-day, sustainable and resilient infrastructure that not only improves the ease of living for all Indians, but also absorbs a majority of the millions of young people who enter the workforce every year. Designing a fresh approach and creating a stable policy environment that provides comfort and incentives to private investors will be key to attaining this goal.

The writer is partner and national head, Infrastructure Government and Healthcare, KPMG



OCTOBER 9, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

POLICE IN HOUSE

THE POLICE AND PAC entered the Vidhan Parishad in Lucknow to help the council guards eject members of the newly formed United Opposition Front (UOF). The House had to be adjourned four times for a total of two-and-a-half hours. One platoon of the PAC consisting of about 30 men, police superintendent S N Singh, with a posse of 13 policemen, six guards of the council and 18 guards of the the secretariat ejected the protesting members. The process came to a halt when Janata member Sarju Prasad became “unconscious” and had to be attended to by doctors. Members of the ruling Congress (I) sat silently watching the scene,

as did members of the Lok Dal, whose de-recognition as the main Opposition party was being demanded by the UOF.

INDIANS KILLED IN IRAN FIVE INDIAN SEAMEN were killed at Khorramshahr docks during fresh flare-up of fighting between the Iranians and Iraqis around the docks. The first engineer of a Romanian ship, Valentin, said that the seamen were killed by Iranian machine gunfire while they were trying to swim to safety across the Shatt-al-Arab from their ship, which came under attack last night. One survivor said he and 29 other crew members of his ship ‘Olaneste’, which was also attacked,

reached the Iraqi side safely.

BESIEGED CITY

IRANIAN FORCES CONTINUED to hold out in the besieged town of Khorramshahr as Iraqi artillery maintained its steady bombardment of the battered city and the nearby blazing oil complex of Abadan. The crack of small arms fire could be heard from Khorramshahr, where Iraqi troops and tanks seized control of the important docks on the banks of the disputed Shatt-al-Arab waterway four days ago. But eyewitnesses said Iranian forces control pockets in the northern part of the town and most of the south side.

The Hathras dead-end

What does the UP government so ferociously seek to protect — after having violated every possible fundamental right of its people?



K T S TULSI AND
TANESSA PURI

THIS ARTICLE SHALL neither delve into whether a rape happened or someone simply went missing while going into the field, nor the atrocity of dragging someone by their dupatta while injuring their neck and spinal cord. The authors shall not devote space to how abominable the incident is. Protestors shall be buried under pandemic law violation litigation. A fundamental right to protest peacefully under Article 19 exists. Despite being lawyers, we fail to understand the legal violation in a wish to offer condolence and support to the victim's family. We foresee being framed as anti-national, seditious, systemic dismantlers of the Uttar Pradesh government. We wonder what the government so ferociously seeks to protect — after having violated every possible fundamental right of its people?

The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act is a product of *Vishaka v. Rajasthan*. Underneath this case, lies buried a Dalit female victim. Bhanwari used to work for the Women's Development Programme in Rajasthan. While campaigning against child marriage, Bhanwari identified families in her village who engaged in the practice. She was successful in preventing a marriage in the family of dominant-caste Gujar men. This led to her rape at her "workplace" — in a field. She identified Gyarsa Gujar and Badri Gujar as responsible for raping her. Bhanwari's husband, Mohan, was also physically assaulted by the same men. The Supreme Court chose to expand the definition of sexual harassment to make it universally applicable at all sorts of workplaces. However, the only homage we offer to Bhanwari is a singular mention of her in the *Vishaka* judgment.

A 19-year-old Dalit was woman allegedly gangraped by four men. The incident occurred while the victim was accompanying her mother to the field. She sustained injuries and died eventually. The police deny the occurrence of rape.

"Intersectionality" is about facets of a person's identity such as gender and caste, which construct privilege and aid discrimination. On deconstructing each facet of the victim's identity that makes her more vulnerable as a recipient of violence, her caste stands out. Kimberlé Crenshaw's traffic analogy can be superimposed here. If the victim from Hathras stood at a traffic intersection and each of her identities were separate roads, it is impossible for us to decipher whether she was hit by a truck from the road for "caste" or "gender". On a ladder of oppression, being female puts the victim at the bottom — but then being Dalit shoves her down further.

The victim's body was cremated by the police hurriedly. Videos show relatives throwing themselves at the ambulance begging to see the victim. Opposition MPs have cases against them for violating pandemic laws, merely because they led a protest march to meet the victim's family. An MLA from the ruling party claims that rape does not occur if parents teach their



C R Sasikumar

daughters good values. Which lessons on good values did Bhanwari Devi and the Hathras victim forget? An ex-MLA from the ruling party held a meeting in support of the accused. Some lessons on good values seem skipped here.

Q. What was the urgency behind cremation? Was it to prevent a second post-mortem?

The hasty and forceful cremation is a violation of the victim's right to dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution. This is supported by the cases of *Pt. Parmanada Katara vs Union of India* (1995) and *Ramji Singh v. Uttar Pradesh* (2009)

Q. Why was the district magistrate himself threatening the victim's family?

Video clips show the district magistrate pressuring the family to change their statement. He is seen threatening and intimidating the family. His role and interests in speedy disposal of the victim's body need to be probed under Section 201, Penal Code.

Q. Why were 11-day old worthless samples sent to the forensic laboratory?

Instead of taking medical exam samples of the rape victim within 24 hours under Section 164A, Criminal Procedure Code, the samples were taken 11 days later. The time lapse between the alleged rape's occurrence and the time of carrying out the medical examination renders these samples worth-

The victim's body was cremated by the police hurriedly. Videos show relatives throwing themselves at the ambulance begging to see the victim. Opposition MPs have cases against them for violating pandemic laws, merely because they led a protest march to meet the victim's family. An MLA from the ruling party claims that rape does not occur if parents teach their daughters good values. Which lessons on good values did Bhanwari Devi and the Hathras victim forget? An ex-MLA from the ruling party held a meeting in support of the accused. Some lessons on good values seem skipped here.

less. The state's role behind this delay elicits investigation. Policing aside, seminal stains in a victim's body are inessential to prove rape based on *Uttar Pradesh v. Babulnath* (1994).

If the above fails to prove rape, then under Section 32(1), Evidence Act — solely based on the victim's dying declaration — the rape must be upheld. There is a presumption that on imminent fear of death, every word uttered by a dying person is true. Nobody wants to meet the maker with a false foot forward. This is one of the rare cases where the dying declaration is available on an audiovisual platform and captures every single question and answer put to the victim by the police officer. The dying declaration does not need to be corroborated based on *Ashabai v. Maharashtra* (2013). Minor discrepancies in the declaration can be overlooked due to pain and suffering of the victim based on *Abbar v. Uttar Pradesh* (2011).

And then, I reached a fork/I didn't know which needle hurt more/the one that read "DALIT" or another that read "WOMAN"/I'm sure I was not as pathetic a human being, as I was rendered in my life and even after/I am not India's daughter/I am what no daughter in India wants to be/I am the violence your mother's pillow hides/and the silence into which no law confides.

Tulsi is a Senior Advocate and MP, Raja Sabha. Puri is an associate at Tulsi's chambers

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"The Rohingya have faced enough hardships and are already living a difficult life in the camps in Cox's Bazar as they cling on to hope of being repatriated to their homeland some day. The last thing they need are incidents of violence within the camps threatening their safety." — DHAKA TRIBUNE

Bill of exclusions

Assisted Reproductive Technology Bill raises constitutional, medico-legal, regulatory concerns. It needs a thorough review



PRABHA KOTISWARAN

UNION HEALTH Minister Harsh Vardhan introduced the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill, 2020 (Bill) in the Lok Sabha on September 14. Its aim is to regulate ART banks and clinics, allow safe and ethical practice of ARTs and protect women and children from exploitation. The Bill was introduced to supplement the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019 (SRB), which awaits consideration by the Rajya Sabha after review by two parliamentary committees. Fifteen years in the making, the ART Bill is unsatisfactory and fails to respond to the needs of the 27 million infertile Indian couples.

The first concern is who can access ART. The Bill allows for a married heterosexual couple and a woman above the age of marriage to use ARTs. It excludes single men, cohabiting heterosexual couples and LGBTQI individuals and couples from accessing ARTs. This violates Article 14 of the Constitution and the right to privacy jurisprudence of Puttaswamy, where the Supreme Court held that "the sanctity of marriage, the liberty of procreation, the choice of a family life and the dignity of being" concerned all individuals irrespective of their social status and were aspects of privacy. In Navtej Johar, Justice Chandrachud exhorted the state to take positive steps for equal protection for same-sex couples. Unlike the SRB, there is no prohibition on foreign citizens accessing ARTs. Foreigners can access ART but not Indian citizens in loving relationships. This is an illogical result which fails to reflect the true spirit of the Constitution.

The ART Bill does not do what it says on the label. It does little to protect the egg donor. Harvesting of eggs is an invasive process which, if performed incorrectly, can result in death. The Bill requires an egg donor's written consent but does not provide for her counselling or the ability to withdraw her consent before or during the procedure (unlike for commissioning parties). She receives no compensation or reimbursement of expenses for loss of salary, time and effort. Failing to pay for bodily services constitutes unfree labour, which is prohibited by Article 23 of the Constitution. The commissioning parties only need to obtain an insurance policy in her name for medical complications or death; no amount or duration is specified. The egg donor's interests are subordinated in a Bill proposed in her name. The Bill restricts egg donation to a married woman with a child (at least three years old). Even here, egg donation as an altruistic act is possible only once a woman has fulfilled her duties to the patriarchal institution of marriage.

Children born from ART do not have the right to know their parentage, which is crucial to their best interests and protected under previous drafts. The Bill requires pre-implantation genetic testing and where the

embryo suffers from "pre-existing, heritable, life-threatening or genetic diseases", it can be donated for research with the commissioning parties' permission. These disorders need specification or the Bill risks promoting an impermissible programme of eugenics. Prior versions of the Bill regulated research using embryos, which must be brought back.

Although the Bill and the SRB regulate ARTs and surrogacy, respectively, there is considerable overlap between both sectors. Yet the Bills do not work in tandem. Core ART processes are left undefined; several of these are defined in the SRB but not the Bill. Definitions of commissioning "couple", "infertility", "ART clinics" and "banks" need to be synchronised between the Bills. A single woman cannot commission surrogacy but can access ART. The Bill designates surrogacy boards under the SRB to function as advisory bodies for ART, which is desirable. However, both Bills set up multiple bodies for registration which will result in duplication or worse, lack of regulation (e.g. surrogacy clinic is not required to report surrogacy to National Registry). Also, the same offending behaviours under both Bills are punished differently + punishments under the SRB are greater. Offences under the Bill are bailable but not under the SRB. Finally, records have to be maintained for 10 years under the Bill but for 25 years under the SRB. The same actions taken by a surrogacy clinic and ART clinic (likely to be the same entity) attract varied regulation.

Previous versions of the Bill required independence between ART banks and ART clinics. There is no such distinction now. Where gamete donation is not compensated, how will ART Banks be economically viable? Perhaps clinics are allowed to operate banks and subsidise them through ART services? In previous drafts, gametes could not be gifted between known friends and relatives. Has this changed since the Bill has shifted to an altruistic model of gamete donation? Either way, gamete shortage is likely. Further, the Bill's prohibition on the sale, transfer, or use of gametes and embryos is poorly worded and will confuse foreign and domestic parents relying on donated gametes.

The Bill requires clinics and banks to maintain a grievance cell but these will be one-sided. Clinics must instead have ethics committees. Mandated counselling services should also be independent of the clinic. The SRB and the Bill impose high sentences (8-12 years) and hefty fines. The poor enforcement of the PCPNDT Act, 1994, demonstrates that enhanced punishments do not secure compliance — lawyers and judges also lack medical expertise. Patients already sue fertility clinics in consumer redressal fora, which is preferable to criminal courts. Unusually, the Bill requires all bodies to be bound by the directions of central and state governments in the national interest, friendly relations with foreign states, public order, decency or morality — being broadly phrased, it undermines their independence.

The Bill raises several constitutional, medico-legal, ethical and regulatory concerns, affecting millions and must be thoroughly reviewed before passage.

The writer is professor of law and social justice, King's College, London



DEEPAK GUPTA

Justice, after Hathras

Widespread, daily crime against women needs more urgent, purposeful response

ONCE AGAIN, the conscience of the nation has been stirred by the horrific brutalisation and murder of a young Dalit woman in Hathras. The crime has been compounded by the folly of a midnight cremation by the police without the family's permission and attendance. Every now and then, the country witnesses such acts. Civil society erupts in rage. There are protests and candle light marches. Visual, print and social media record these outbursts of pain. Politicians blame each other depending upon where the incident takes place. Instant justice is demanded and promised. SITs are constituted. Fast track courts are promised to be set up.

We then go back to normal only to return to another scene of this never-ending drama. It has become a spectacle of which we should be collectively ashamed.

While individual and isolated events cause an uproar, we are missing the widespread and daily nature of this assault and the immense suffering it is causing. The promise of quick justice is not met. National Crime Records Bureau statistics show that in 2019, 1,62,741 cases were pending for trial, an increase of about 17,000 from 2017. During the year, 18,333 cases were disposed of, of which 5,822 resulted in conviction. The rate of conviction is about 27 per cent. 45,536 cases were pending for investigation. In 2017,

331 cases were of rape/gang rape/murder. These have not made headlines but are hidden away in the statistics.

Several practical questions arise. How will the police investigate such a large number of cases given that their strength is limited, there is no separation of the investigative wing with that tasked with maintenance of law and order, heavy inroads have been made by protocol and security functions and resources are simply not enough. There is no examination of what is needed to ensure proper and timely investigation of rape cases.

How will the fast track courts fast track trials? Reports suggest poor implementation on setting up of fast track courts, anomalies and shortages in both creation of infrastructure and staff as well as funds. This includes the availability of forensic labs. The same police personnel will serve these courts as well. The same investigation and judicial procedures will apply. Specific studies must be done on delays in investigation and trial of rape cases, particularly the more heinous ones. There is need for clear earmarking of fast track procedures for investigation and trial — the presence of witnesses; examination of police personnel; issues of fixing dates/adjudgments/cross-examination etc. Since these cases will not be many, why can't a trial be completed in a month? The appel-

late/review procedure will also require short circuiting. The case of the December 16 gangrape in Delhi 2016 saw repeated opportunities provided to the accused in the name of natural justice. The crime took place in 2012. The accused were hanged in 2020.

Delays in dispensation of justice were said to have contributed to the Hyderabad Police shooting down four accused last year. There was an outpouring of public support for such vigilante justice. More such cases will happen, and will be justified in the public domain, if we continue to delay matters that must be brought to a lawful end quickly.

Many cases are not reported in this country because of various reasons — victim shaming, fear of the family knowing, and fear of reprisals. Concern about law enforcement is also cited as a factor. Rape is not only a social stigma, the legal procedures are very lengthy, costly, time intensive. How many have the mental strength and resources to report and follow up? Cases will either not be reported, or if they are, they will not be followed up. The charade of investigation and trial will go on, where the victim will often be the bigger loser.

Social reform is, of course, necessary. And we have to collectively strengthen all the ways in which the position of women in society can be improved. In an overwhelming majority of the cases, the victim is attacked

by known persons. In India, the position is made worse when the victim belongs to the SC/ST group, like in the Hathras case.

It has often been suggested that to tackle rape cases, a complete overhaul of the police machinery is necessary. But such general statements do not help. We have to list out specific steps, at each stage.

As a first step, we would be able to identify the more serious cases, where witnesses are available, conviction appears likely. Such cases, possibly 30-40 per cent of the cases, should be specially fast tracked. The ministries of home and law and justice receive quarterly reports. What is done to them, what reviews take place and what actions are taken are not known. They should monitor, through a special template, on a weekly basis, the cases which have been prioritised. The chief ministers of states, chief justices of high courts, chief secretary, DG Police should be given the feedback so that they can take steps, or issue instructions, to expedite investigation/trials. The Chief Justice could head a committee in the state to review regularly. This will take some of their time but not only will a strong message go to all concerned, but quick disposal would take place, and that will have its own impact.

The writer is former chairperson, UPSC

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

OPEN OR SHUT?

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Back to School' (IE, October 8). Since the Centre is mulling the reopening of schools, school administrations should call students in batches as schools cannot operate at their full strength due to the pandemic. The government should ensure that parents who still have not paid school fees should get enough time. The ground reality is that many private schools are asking for full fees from parents. All this should be kept in check.

Ayushi Singh, Agra

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Back to School' (IE, October 8). The SOPs issued for a partial reopening of schools for classes IX to XII are so detailed that it will be the in the best interest of the schools not to announce the reopenings. The elaborate manner in which the SOPs have been issued is clearly to burden school establishments, as well as the students and their parents. Given that the pandemic is reaching new heights, this is an exercise in futility. The on-line system is working, and it should not be disturbed until the festival season is over.

Ravi Bhoolechand Jain, via email

CENTRE MUST PAY

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Spirit of mutuality' (IE, October 7). State fiscal policies are complex matters and cannot be decided through a "high command whip". The GST compensation imbroglio has exposed the shallow rhetoric of "co-operative federalism" and exacerbated the politicisation of the GST Council. It

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SHRUTI JARGAD

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can still be salvaged if the Centre can shed its cussedness and end this impasse by committing to raise resources to plug the GST compensation gap.

SS Paul, Nadia

FIGHT TOGETHER

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'Quad meet: Eye on China, India seeks respect for territorial integrity' (IE, October 7). The second meeting of the foreign ministers of the Quad — India, Japan, US and Australia — in Tokyo saw a further movement towards formalisation of the platform in light of growing Chinese assertiveness. While China's economic rise has certainly given a fillip to regional economies, it is Beijing's desire to rewrite the rules of engagement that is creating tensions. What's needed is an effective regional counterbalance to China.

Vandana, Chandigarh

PRESS NOTICE INVITING PERCENTAGE RATE e-TENDER Executive Engineer (C), Postal Civil Division, Lucknow invites on behalf of The President of India, online percentage rate (CPWD-7) e-tenders for the following work: N.I.T. No.: 44/EE/PCDL/2020-21

The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport Undertaking (Of The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation) TENDER NOTICE e-tenders are re-invited for the supply of following items. (1) 68347, (2) 68402.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED General public is hereby informed that a girl named Kajal, D/O Inderkant Jha, R/O D-256, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 25.09.2020 from the area of PS New Ashok Nagar, Delhi.

12 EXPRESS NETWORK RLD holds mahapanchayat in Muzaffarnagar AMIL BHATNAGAR MUZAFFARNAGAR, OCTOBER 8 A mahapanchayat was held by RLD leader Jayant Chaudhary in Muzaffarnagar on Thursday, days after he was lathicharged by UP Police on his way to meet the Hathras victim.

UTTAR PRADESH JAL NIGAM OFFICE OF THE PROJECT MANAGER, GANGA JAL PROJECT UNIT, U.P. JAL NIGAM, PRATAP VIHAR, GHAZIABAD Letter No. 1879/IN/IVAD/111 Date 07-10-2020

Government of Gujarat Narmada Water Resources, Water Supply and Kalpasar Department Tender Notice No. 05 of 2020-21 ONLINE Tender is invited for the work of Supply of Water Quality Equipment along with consumables including comprehensive Operation and Maintenance, Service for Water Quality Monitoring using Mobile Vans and other allied services, for 3 years period in Gujarat State, under National Hydrology Project by The Executive Engineer, W.R.I. Division, Ahmedabad.

BSES BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi TENDER NOTICE Date: 08.10.2020 Sealed tenders are invited for Banking of power by BRPL from all bidders

E-Tender Notice U.P. Jal Nigam, E-tenders are invited on two bid system for "Maintenance of Horticulture works at Primary Treatment Plant Campus under O&M of 50 Cusec and 100 Cusec Ganga Jal Water Supply Project at Dasna, Ghaziabad."

Odisha Skill Development Authority (OSDA) Niyogan Bhawan, Sriya Square, Unit-3, Bhubaneswar-751001 Country: India Telephone/Fax: +91-674-2391320 Website: www.empmissionodisha.gov.in

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-Tender Notice E-Tenders are invited for execution of the following works by Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), E.C. Railway, Dhanbad: Dhanbad, dt. 06/10/2020 SI.No. 1. E-Tender No. 104-DHN-2020-21

Invitation for Bids No.: OSDA/WSC/Goods/M-3/2020 Date: 09 Oct 2020 Loan No. & Title: 3539-IND: Odisha Skill Development Project (OSDP) Contract No. And Title: Package No. Packages under National Competitive Bidding (NCB) : Pkg. 0025(Lot- 1 to 4), Pkg-0026, Pkg-0027 (Lot-1 to 4), Pkg-0028 (Lot- 1 to 5), Pkg-0029 (Lot- 1 to 5), Pkg-0030, 0031, 0032, 0034 & 0035.

JUNAGADH MUNICIPAL CORPORATION Water Works Branch JMC/WWW/NO.462 Eoi Notice No.11/2020 Dt.05/10/2020 Junagadh Municipal Corporation invites expression of interest (Eoi) for IN-SITU treatment of waste water flowing in Narsinh Mehta Lake, Lo & Sonraikh Natural drains and vaghshwari catchment area located at Junagadh City.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU FISHERIES DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING NO.9 JDB/F.114 N/2020 Dated: 08.10.2020 LS FORM (RATE TENDER SYSTEM) (TWO COVER SYSTEM) For and on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu sealed tenders are invited by the Chief Engineer, Fisheries Department, Integrated Office Complex, Animal Husbandry & Fisheries Department, Nandanam, Chennai - 35, for the following works from the registered Civil contractors of Govt. Departments.

Office of Superintending Engineer, Moradabad Circle, P.W.D. Moradabad E-Procurement Short Terms Notice Inviting Tenders No. E-Tender/MBD Circle/20-21 Dated: 08.10.2020 On behalf of the Government of UP tenders for following work are invited by the Superintending Engineer, Moradabad Circle, P.W.D. Moradabad on website http://etenders.up.nic.in

SPECIAL BRANCH POLICE HEADQUARTER, M.P., BHOPAL Dated 03.10.2020 NO. SB/Store/2020-25(410), Bhopal, "ONLINE E-TENDER NOTICE" (Third)

Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering) East Central Railway, Dhanbad. PR/72/DHN/ENG/G/120-21/112

Government of Himachal Pradesh RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ DEPARTMENT e-PROCUREMENT NOTICE RE-INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer (HQ) Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department SDA Complex Block No. 27 Kasumpti Shimla-9 (H.P.) on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh Re-invites the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system, in 2 cover system on HPPWD form 8 for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD Department.

Tender Activity Date & Time i Submission of written queries- through e-mail: sec24-sb@mpolice.gov.in 08.10.2020 up to 1700 hrs. ii Pre Bid Meeting along with written queries 12.10.2020 at 1200 hrs.

TAMIL NADU SLUM CLEARANCE BOARD PIU Circle, Salem NOTICE INVITING TENDER Form of Contract : Lumpsum (Two cover System) Tender Notice No.SCB/3588/DB/SE/PIU Circle/2020 Dated : 08-10-2020

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU FISHERIES DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING NO.8 JDB/F.114 N/2020 Dated: 07.10.2020 LS FORM (RATE TENDER SYSTEM) (TWO COVER SYSTEM)

"IMPORTANT" Whilst care 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.

Executive Engineer (RD & PR), Block No. 27, SDA Complex, Kasumpti, Shimla-9

SI No Name of work Work Value GST Tender value EMD (in Rs.) 1 Construction of 836 Inlets adopting Type Design No. 14/2020, 14B/2020, 14C/2020, 14E/2020 (G+5) including internal water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with all development works at Thideer nagar Salem Corporation in Salem District under HFA CER/HFA/3/2020-2021

Supreme Court sets aside HC order on giving statement of complainant to Chinmayanand

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8 STATEMENTS RECORDED under Section 164 of CrPC cannot be furnished to the accused until the court trying the case passes appropriate orders after taking cognizance, the Supreme Court ruled on Thursday.

With the order, the court set aside an Allahabad High Court order allowing former Union minister Chinmayanand's request for a copy of such statement of a woman who had levelled sexual harassment charges against him.

"In our view, the High Court completely erred in appreciating the directions issued by this court, especially in a matter where the offences alleged against accused are of sexual exploitation. In such matters utmost confidentiality is required to be maintained," the bench said. FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

HC seeks report on detention centres from Assam govt

ABHISHEK SAHA GUWAHATI, OCTOBER 8

THE GAUHATI High Court has asked the Assam government to submit an action taken report on steps taken to set up detention centres outside jail premises.

Assam has six detention centres to hold 'illegal foreigners' - all inside jails. As per state data, the six centres together hold 425 detainees at present. Following an SC order to prevent congestion, 350 detainees had been released on bail.

In an order dated October 7, Justice A M B Barua stated if suitable government accommodations are not available, authorities may rent private premises. The order comes in response to a batch of petitions on to detention of 'foreigners'. FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-Tender Notice OPEN TENDER Batch No: 45A/20 dated: 06.10.2020, E-Tender Notice for supply of materials-"participation in through" web portal of IREPS - www.ireps.gov.in offers are invited for supply of the following materials:

MP अंतर प्रदेश पावर टर्नसिशन कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड निम्नलिखित ई-निविदा अधिष्ठा एवं अनुषंगी कार्यवाही संस्थाओं/फर्मों से, जो जो.पा.स.टी. में पंजीकृत हो, ई-टेंडर के माध्यम से आमंत्रित की जाती है। विस्तृत विवरण प्रतियुक्त समारचन पत्रों में प्रकाशन के उपरान्त ई-टेंडर को वेबसाइट www.blender.up.nic.in एवं विभाग को वेबसाइट www.upptcl.org पर उपलब्ध रहेगा।

RITES LIMITED (Schedule 'A' Enterprise of Govt. of India) Notice Inviting e-Tender The Group General Manager (Electrical), RITES Ltd. invites on behalf of NUPPL, Ghatampur online percentage rate bids on two packet system for the following work: NIT No. RITES/CV/RP/EE/OHE/NUPPL/Ghatampur. Name of Work: Design, Drawing, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 25kV, 50Hz single phase OHE, SSP and SCADA for Private Railway Sidings of NUPPL at Ghatampur District-Kanpur, North Central Railway, Jhansi Division, Uttar Pradesh, India. Estimated Cost: ₹29,67,51,043.69 without GST. Earnest Money: ₹25,00,000/-

TOP OF THE WORLD



Kuwait's Sheikh Meshal al-Ahmad Al-Jaber al-Sabah Reuters

KUWAIT

New crown prince takes oath before parliament

Dubai: Kuwait's new crown prince took the oath of office on Thursday, according to Kuwaiti state TV, ascending to the post after the country's parliament unanimously approved the ruling emir's choice of successor. Sheikh Meshal Al Ahmed Al Jaber, the 80-year-old deputy head of Kuwait's National Guard, offered brief remarks to lawmakers and ministers, promising to safeguard the country's "constitution and democratic approach" as well as its "platform of peace and humanitarian work," experts say. Sheikh Meshal's promotion to crown prince entrenches the traditional ranks of the royal family. AP

HONG KONG

Valuable stolen Mao scroll found cut in half

Hong Kong: A stolen Chinese calligraphy scroll written by Chairman Mao Zedong and estimated to be worth millions of dollars has been found in Hong Kong, police said on Thursday, after it was stolen from an art collector's home in September. The 2.8 metre scroll had been cut in half as it had been deemed too long to display, police told a news conference Wednesday. It was looted on September 10, along with stamps, coins and other pieces of calligraphy worth HK\$5 billion (\$645 million), said senior superintendent Tony Ho. REUTERS

GREECE

Ex-Golden Dawn lawmakers to be sentenced

Athens: A Greek court was expected Thursday to sentence the 18 former lawmakers of the extreme right-wing Golden Dawn party, including its leader, a day after the three-member panel of judges delivered a landmark verdict deeming the party a criminal organisation. Golden Dawn, founded as a neo-Nazi group in the 1980s, rose to prominence during Greece's brutal near decade-long financial crisis that began in 2009, and became the country's third largest party. It was often considered a model for many extreme-right groups in Europe and beyond. AP

THE NETHERLANDS

Court convicts six of plotting jihadi attack

The Hague: The Rotterdam District Court convicted six men on Thursday of plotting a large-scale jihadi attack on a public event and sentenced them to prison terms ranging from 10 to 17 years. However, intelligence agencies tipped off police and an undercover operative was able to infiltrate the gang and ultimately thwart their preparations in 2018 before any attack took place. AP

Covid-19 takes centre stage as Pence, Kamala spar in debate

ALEXANDER BURNS & JONATHAN MARTIN
NEW YORK, OCTOBER 8

US VICE-PRESIDENT Mike Pence and Senator Kamala Harris clashed over the Trump administration's handling of the coronavirus pandemic on Wednesday night, with Mr. Pence defending the White House's record without addressing its fundamental failures, while Ms. Harris accused him and President Trump of presiding over a catastrophic failure in public-health policy.

Ms. Harris, the California Democrat who is Joseph R. Biden Jr.'s running mate, delivered a comprehensive denunciation of the Trump administration's policies, ranging from the economy and climate change to health care regulation and taxes.

The vice president made misleading or plainly false claims about White House policies on a range of subjects weighing down Mr. Trump in the presidential race. Mr. Pence claimed that the president had a plan to protect people with pre-existing medical conditions though he does not, hailed the "V-shaped recovery" of the economy in defiance of the latest government data and repeatedly claimed that Mr. Trump would always "follow the science" on climate change though he has spent his term denying the scientific consensus on global warming and dismantling environmental regulations.

After Mr. Trump's belligerent performance against Mr. Biden last week, the Harris-Pence forum in Salt Lake City mostly stood out for how different it was from that debate. Still, Mr. Pence repeatedly attempted to interrupt Ms. Harris — usually without success — and also talked over the moderator, Susan Page of USA Today.



Kamala Harris, her husband Doug Emhoff, US Vice-President Mike Pence and his wife Karen Pence at the end of the debate on Wednesday. Reuters

FLY ON PENCE'S HEAD STEALS THE SHOW

Washington: The vice presidential debate on Wednesday had plexiglass barriers to prevent the spread of COVID-19, but they couldn't stop the night's most talked-about intruder — a giant stray housefly that perched on Vice President Mike Pence's cropped white hair.

On social media, the fly, which sat atop Pence's head for 2 minutes and 3 seconds, became the biggest star. On

Twitter, an account named @MikePenceFly swiftly gained thousands of followers.

Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden, posted a picture of himself with a fly swatter on Twitter, asking supporters to "Pitch in \$5 to help this campaign fly." His campaign set up a website, flywillvote.com, to register voters. Within the hour, it was selling a "Truth over Flies" fly swatter for \$10. PTI

Ms. Harris used the debate to pursue two goals: to reassure voters that she and Mr. Biden are not as liberal as Republicans claim, and to carry out a persistent set of attacks against the Trump administration.

On no topic was Ms. Harris more assertive in confronting Mr. Pence than the coronavirus: She opened the debate by calling the White House's response

to the disease "the greatest failure of any presidential administration in the history of our country" and saying Mr. Pence and Mr. Trump had "forfeited their right to re-election."

"They knew, and they covered it up," Ms. Harris said. "The president said it was a hoax. They minimized the seriousness of it."

In a pattern that would en-

sure throughout the debate, Mr. Pence sought to rebut Ms. Harris's criticism by picking and choosing components of the administration's response that he could cast in a relatively favorable light, including Mr. Trump's imposition of a travel ban on China, while talking around the fundamental issue — that the disease has killed hundreds of thousands of Americans and shattered the country's economy.

He credited Mr. Trump with leading "the greatest national mobilization since World War 2" and attempted to minimize the differences between the two presidential tickets going forward where the coronavirus was concerned. "When you look at the Biden plan," he said, "it reads an awful lot like what President Trump and I and our task force have been doing every step of the way."

Ms. Harris rebutted Mr. Pence's swipes. "Clearly, it hasn't worked," she said of the administration's strategy, citing "over 200,000 dead bodies" as evidence. NYT

Trump pulls out of virtual debate with Biden, calls it 'waste' of time

REUTERS

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 8

President Donald Trump on Thursday rejected plans for a virtual debate on Oct. 15 with Democratic rival Joe Biden, a format switch intended to reduce the risk of spreading Covid-19 in light of Trump's infection, and said he feels well enough to resume campaign rallies.

The first debate between the two, held last week before Trump disclosed that he had tested positive for the novel coronavirus, descended into chaos with the Republican U.S. president interrupting both Biden and the moderator throughout.

Trump expressed concern that the new virtual format announced by the nonpartisan commission in charge of presidential debates could lead to his microphone getting cut off during the encounter.

"I'm not going to waste my time on a virtual debate, that's not what debating is all about," Trump said on a phone interview with Fox Business. "You sit behind a computer and do a debate — it's ridiculous and then they cut you off whenever they want."

Trump's decision marked the latest whiplash development in the presidential race ahead of the November 3 election. Biden leads in nationwide opinion polls but they show a tighter race in many of the battleground states that may decide the election.

Nigerian, S Korean candidates in race to give WTO its first woman chief

STEPHANIE NEBEHAY
GENEVA, OCTOBER 8

FORMER NIGERIAN finance minister Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and South Korean trade minister Yoo Myung-hee are the final candidates to head the World Trade Organization, ensuring the 25-year-old WTO will have its first female leader.

The WTO said on Thursday that the two women were the remaining candidates for director-general after the field was cut from five to two.

The winner will replace Brazilian Roberto Azevedo, who stepped down a year earlier than expected at the end of August.

"Both of the women that are in the final round are remarkably well-qualified. This is something on which everyone has agreed," WTO spokesman Keith Rockwell told reporters, making the announcement at WTO headquarters in Geneva.

Okonjo-Iweala, 66, a former Nigerian finance and foreign minister, is an economist and development specialist now serving as board chair of global vaccine alliance Gavi. She has said the WTO should play a role in helping poorer countries access COVID-19 drugs and vaccines.

Yoo, 53, South Korea's trade minister, is pitching herself as an experienced operator on trade in challenging times.

Kenyan sports minister



Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and Yoo Myung-hee

EXPLAINED
Tough task ahead

THE WINNING candidate to head the WTO will face formidable challenges, with rising global tensions and protectionism during a Covid-induced slowdown, most obviously between China and President Donald Trump's U.S. administration, as well as pressure to drive reforms.

Amina Mohamed, Saudi royal court adviser Mohammad Al-Tuwajri and British ex-international trade minister Liam Fox dropped out of the race after failing to get sufficient backing from the WTO's 164 members.

The WTO will hold a third and final selection round on Oct. 19-27, with a view to having a director-general in place by early November. REUTERS

Ex-cop charged in George Floyd's death freed on \$1m bond

AMY FORLITI

MINNEAPOLIS, OCTOBER 8

THE FORMER Minneapolis police officer charged with murder in the death of George Floyd posted bail Wednesday and was released from prison, leading Minnesota's governor to activate the National Guard to help keep the peace in the event of protests.

According to court documents, Derek Chauvin posted a \$1 million bond and was released from the state's facility in Oak Park Heights, where he had been detained. Hennepin County jail records show he was released shortly before 11.30 am.

Floyd, a Black man in handcuffs, died May 25 after Chauvin, who is white, pressed his knee against Floyd's neck for several minutes as Floyd said he couldn't breathe. Floyd's death was captured in widely seen bystander video that set off protests around the world. Chauvin and three other officers were fired. Chauvin is charged with second-degree murder, third-degree murder and manslaughter; Thomas Lane, J. Kueng and Tou Thao are charged with aiding and abetting both second-degree murder and manslaughter.

Upon news of Chauvin's release, Governor Tim Walz activated the National Guard to help local law enforcement. Walz said the Guard was mobilizing 100 soldiers and providing equipment and facilities "out of an abundance of caution" in light of public safety concerns. Walz said 100 state troopers and 75 Department of Natural Resources conservation officers were also mobilized to help local authorities.

Floyd family attorneys Ben Crump and Antonio Romanucci released a statement saying Chauvin's release "is a painful reminder" that the family is far from getting justice.

"The system of due process worked for Chauvin and afforded him his freedom while he awaits trial. In contrast, George Floyd was denied due process, when his life was ended over a \$20 bill. There was no charge, no arrest, no hearing, no bail. Just execution," the attorneys wrote.

It was not immediately clear where Chauvin got the money to pay his bond.

The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association, which has a legal defence fund, did not provide any money for bail, a spokeswoman said. Bob Kroll, president of the Minneapolis Police Officers Federation, said his union was not involved. AP



Derek Chauvin

Protests against new labour law turn violent across Indonesia

NINIEK KARMINI
JAKARTA, OCTOBER 8

PROTESTS IN many Indonesian cities turned violent on Thursday as thousands of enraged students and workers criticized a new law they say will cripple labour rights and harm the environment.

Clashes between rock-throwing demonstrators and riot police broke out near Jakarta's presidential palace as police tried to disperse the protesters, including workers and high school and university students.

President Joko Widodo is visiting Central Kalimantan province and was not in the palace.

Police fired tear gas at the protesters from several high schools and universities as they tried to approach the palace compound, turning roads into a smoke-filled battleground. The protesters fought back, hurling rocks and bottles.

An angry mob burned a traffic police post at an intersection near the palace, while other protesters set fires to tires and fibre-glass road barriers. AP

Similar clashes occurred in large cities all over the country, including Yogyakarta, Medan, Makassar, Manado and Bandung, the capital of West Java province, where police arrested 209 people during two days of violent protests.

Organisers have called for a three-day national strike starting on Tuesday demanding that the government revoke the legislation.

The Job Creation Law approved by Parliament on Monday is expected to substantially change Indonesia's labour system and natural resources management. It amended 79 previous laws and was intended to improve bureaucratic efficiency as part of efforts by Widodo's administration to attract more investment to the country.

The demonstrators say the law will hurt workers by reducing severance pay, removing restrictions on manual labour by foreign workers, increasing the use of outsourcing, and converting monthly salaries to hourly wages. AP



The aftermath of shelling at Stepanakert in Nagorno-Karabakh. Photolure via Reuters

Azeris and ethnic Armenians fight as Russia, US and France seek ceasefire

REUTERS
YEREVAN, BAKU, GENEVA, OCTOBER 8

AZERBAIJAN AND ethnic Armenians fought with artillery and heavy guns on Thursday as the US, France and Russia stepped up efforts to secure a ceasefire and avert a wider war in the South Caucasus.

Azerbaijan said the city of Ganja had come under fire, deep inside its territory. Ethnic Armenians at Nagorno-Karabakh inside Azerbaijan said Stepanakert had been shelled by Azeri forces.

In a sign of growing alarm in the region, the head of a six-country military alliance that is led by Russia and includes Armenia warned that the group could intervene if Armenian sovereignty were threatened.

Azeri Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov was due to attend Thursday's talks, but no direct meetings have been scheduled between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Armenian Foreign Minister Zohrab Mnatsakanyan is expected to hold separate talks with U.S., French and Russian officials in Moscow on Monday.

SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH JOINS COUNCIL OVERSEEING THE PRIZE

Prince William launches new prize aimed at 'repairing' planet

ELIAN PELTIER
LONDON, OCTOBER 8

PRINCE WILLIAM on Thursday announced the establishment of an environmental prize worth 50 million pounds, or \$65 million, that will reward climate change solutions over the next 10 years, saying it was an effort to "turn the current pessimism surrounding environmental issues into optimism."

Sir David Attenborough, the naturalist behind dozens of documentaries chronicling the planet's biodiversity, has joined a council overseeing the prize and helped promote its launch through promotional videos and joint interviews with Prince

William. Prince William said the "Earthshot Prize" was inspired by President John F. Kennedy's launch in 1961 of a decade-long research program, "Moonshot," to send the first person to the moon.

It will comprise five awards of £1 million each for each of the next 10 years, centered on "earthshots," or goals — fixing the climate, cleaning the air, protecting and restoring nature, reviving oceans, and tackling waste.

"We have to have a decade of change, a decade of repairing the planet so we can hand it on to the next generation and future generations," Prince William said, adding that he didn't want to "let down" his children by not



Prince William with naturalist Sir David Attenborough at the Kensington Palace in London. AP

acting. "They don't want to inherit a world that is full of doom and

gloom," he said. The prize joins a long list of distinctions aimed at rewarding

initiatives to tackle climate change. Michael R. Bloomberg, the former mayor of New York, promised to donate \$500 million last year to close every coal-fired power plant in the United States.

Prince William launched the prize through the Royal Foundation, which supports charitable initiatives engaged in by him and his wife, Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge. It will be supported by a network of donors that include the Aga Khan Development Network, Bloomberg Philanthropies, and the Jack Ma Foundation, among others.

The Royal Foundation declined to offer additional information on the amount offered

by each donor to fund the prize, and did not say whether the British royal family would be donating any of its own money to the award.

In addition to Mr. Attenborough, other high-profile figures have also joined the prize council, including Christiana Figueres, the former United Nations climate chief, the actress Cate Blanchett, the Brazilian soccer star Dani Alves and the Colombian singer Shakira.

The prize comes amid growing concerns over climate change worldwide. Droughts have intensified in regions like the Middle East and Africa, and many areas keep registering their hottest months on record. NYT

N Korea may show new missiles at weekend parade

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SEOUL, OCTOBER 8

FOR MONTHS, North Korea has been relatively uncombative, as leader Kim Jong Un grapples with the coronavirus pandemic, natural disasters and the deepening economic pain under years of tough US-led sanctions.

But ahead of the 75th founding anniversary of his ruling party this weekend, speculation has risen that Kim may hold a massive military parade and unveil newly developed, powerful missiles. The goal, experts say, would be to bolster internal unity and draw US attention amid deadlocked nuclear diplomacy between the countries.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Kiran Maurya D/o Ram Adhar Maurya W/o Rajesh Kumar Maurya R/o Flat No-G-1 Plot No R-182, Near Colony Gate No-04, Pratap Vihar Sector-12, Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh-201009, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known As Kiran Saini. 0070716368-1

I, Amandeep Singh F/o Harshene Kaur Anand, R/O 15/45 B, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi 110018, have changed my minor daughter's name from Harshene Kaur Anand to Harshene Kaur. 0040550781-2

I, Karan Nandwani, S/o Jitender Kumar Nandwani R/o-47-A, Jhang-Appartment, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed name to Karan Kumar Nandwani. 0040550791-3

I, Amandeep Singh F/o Kian Aman Singh Anand, R/O 15/45 B, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi 110018, have changed my minor son's name from Kian Aman Singh Anand to Kian Aman Singh. 0040550781-3

I, Gaurav Papney S/o Shri Prem Chand R/o C-305A, Sector-19, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, UP have changed my name from Gaurav Papnai to Gaurav Papney for all future purposes. Gaurav Papnai to Gaurav Papney both are one and same person. 0040550772-2

I, Poonam Kumari, spouse of W/O, Ranjit Prasad Singh, residing at House No.585/1, Sector-13, Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat-382016, have changed my name, from Poonam Kumari to Poonam Singh vide Affidavit dated-07.10.2020, before Patiala-House Court, New-Delhi. 0040550784-7

I, Dhiraaj Kumar S/o Raj Kumar Suman, R/O E-2/43 sector -16 Rohini Delhi 89 have changed my name to Dheeraj Kumar for all purpose 0070716369-1

I, Nooran Dastgir, S/o Gulam Dastgir Khar R/O-29-B, First-Floor, Vishwakarma-Park, Kishan Kunj, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Nooran Dastgir Khan. 0040550797-1

I, Devender Kumar, S/o-Dori Lal, R/o-H.No. B-205, Janta-Market, New-Gautam-Colony, Narela, Delhi-40, declare that, my name is mistakenly entered, in my daughter "SONI KUMARI"Aadhar-Card- No.848058689198) as "PAPPU SINGH" instead of "DEVENDER KUMAR" 0040550797-9

I, Nooran Dastgir, S/o Gulam Dastgir Khar R/O-29-B, First-Floor, Vishwakarma-Park, Kishan Kunj, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Nooran Dastgir Khan. 0040550797-1

I, Babbu S/o late Sh. Anandram R/O Flat no. F-1, plotno-30, Maa Hingla Nagar Lalarpura Panchayawala, Jaipur, Rajasthan-302034, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ayush Soni. 0070716366-1

I, Vinod Kumar, S/o Chamam Lal, R/O C-214, Madipur, JJ Colony, New Delhi-110063, have changed my name from Vinod Kumar to Vinod Kumar Dayma for all future purposes. 0040550784-4

I, Bhani SAHAI SHARMA S/O CHIRANJU LAL R/O 293, Pocket E-21, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085 declare that name of my wife has been wrongly written as RAM PYAGRI in my service record with Indian Navy. The actual name of my wife is RAM PYARI for all future purposes. 0040550765-1

I, Sunny S/o Balvir Chand R/o VPO Mukandpur Distt. SBS Nagar Punjab-144507, have changed my name to Sunny Singh. 0040550810-1

I, Anjali Dhar W/o Amit Maini R/o KP-42 Maurya-Enclave Pitampura Delhi-110034, have changed my minor son's name Dhruv to Anirudh Maini Dhar. 0040550810-3

I, Veenu Nagpal W/O- Mr. Gaurav Julka R/O S-457, Greater Kailash, Part-1, New Delhi, have changed their Name to Radhika Julka for allfuture Purposes. 0040550829-4

I, Umma Rani D/o Late Sh. Surya Bhanu W/o Sh. Atul Kaur R/o 1218, Gali Kashmiryan, Kucha Patli Ram, Sita Ram Bazar, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Shivani Kaul for all purposes. 0040550741-2

I, I, Veek Kumar Singh, son of W/O, Ranjit Prasad Singh, residing at Hostel, No.18, Room, No.118, AIIMS, New Delhi-110029, have changed my name, from Veek Kumar Singh to Vivek Kumar, vide Affidavit dated-07.10.2020, before Patiala House Court, New-Delhi. 0040550784-6

I, Siraj Ahmed S/o Sh. Nasir Ahmed R/o 176/12, Mirza Apartments, Zakir Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi have changed my name to S.Nasir Ahmed for all purposes. 0040550740-2

I, I, Tanvi Kathuria W/o Manish Sachdeva R/O A-1/300A, Sector-6, Rohini, Delhi-85, after-marriage, have changed my name Tanvi Sachdeva, for all purposes. 0040550791-5

I, Shweta Negi D/o Sh. Bachan Singh Negi W/o Sh. Vaibhav Tyagi R/o H.No.D-27, Patel Nagar 2nd, Near Bus Stand, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201001 have changed my name after marriage to Shweta Tyagi for all purposes. 0040550741-3

I, I, Surrender Kumar Dogra S/o Major Singh, changed my daughter's name from Manya Manhas to Manya Dogra vide affidavit dated 6.10.2020 for all purposes. 0040550665-1

I, Samina Gulzar W/O, Ashfaq Ahmed Bhat R/O D-103, Parasvntn Prestige, Sector 93A, Noida, 201304 have changed my name to Samina Ashfaq for all purposes. 0040550820-1

I, I, Tanvi Kathuria W/o Manish Sachdeva R/O A-1/300A, Sector-6, Rohini, Delhi-85, after-marriage, have changed my name Tanvi Sachdeva, for all purposes. 0040550791-5

I, Rishimalya Chakravorty alias Rishimalya Chakravarty S/o Late Sh. Uma Shankar Chakravarty R/o House No.G-214, Flat No. 4, Dilshad Colony, Delhi-110095 have changed my name to Rishimalya Chakravarty for all purposes. 0040550741-1

I, I, Santosh Kumar S/o Dewendra Kumar Gupta R/O-206, 1st Floor, Sector-1, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, have changed my name to Santosh Gupta. 0040550802-1

I, Pardeep Kumar S/O, Arjun Dev Dawra R/O F-91, 1st Floor, Mangal Bazar Road, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi have changed my name to Pradeep Dawra 0040550769-1

I, I, SATISH d/o RAVIKANT HASIJA and W/O RAKESH KUMAR R/o Flat No-31, Parmarth Apartments, D-Block, Vikas Puri, Delhi-110018 have changed my name to SAMRITI. 0040550773-1

I, Meenu W/o Kamaljit Singh R/O House No-991/5, Patel Nagar, Gurgaon-Haryana-122001, have changed my name to Rajbala 0070716380-1

I, I, SANTOSH KUMAR S/O DEWENDRA KUMAR GUPTA R/O-206, 1st Floor, Sector-1, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, have changed my name to Santosh Gupta. 0040550802-1

I, Kaushal Kaur R/O 138-B, Red Mt Flats, Rajouri Garden, Tagore Garden, West Delhi, Delhi-110027 have changed my name to Alfaaz Azaad for all purposes. 0040550835-1

I, I, SUDHA MISHRA, W/O- NO.1468091X NK RAJU MISHRA, R/O-VILL.DONPAH, POST-SUKHDEHRA, BHAWARKOL, DIST.GHAZIPUR, PIN-232321, UTTAR-PRADESH, CHANGED MY NAME, FROM SUDHA DUBE TO SUDHA MISHRA VIDE AFFIDAVIT, DATE-07-10-2020, BEFORE MANDAN LAL GUPTA (DELHI). 0040550797-6

I, Harleen kaur W/o Amandeep Singh, R/o 15/45 B, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi 110018, have changed my name from Harleen kaur to Rimpy. 0040550781-1

I, I, Raj Basoya W/o Ram Kishan Basoya, R/O-382, Joorbagh, Trinagar, Delhi-110035, have changed my name to RAJENDRI BASOYA for all future purposes. 0040550829-2

I, Anupriya D/o Bal Vinod Prasad Singh R/O House No-199, Bosco Nagar, Road No-2, Latma Road, Singh More, Hatia, Hatia, Ranchi, Jharkhand-834003, have changed my name to Anupriya Anand 0070716395-1

I, I, Pavan Kumar S/o Lala Ram R/o Village Parsaura, Post khonda, District-Pathras, UP-281307, have changed my minor daughter's name from Poorvi Singh aged 5 years to Kiara Singh forever. 0070716378-1

I, Rao Hansraj, S/O Shri K S Yadav, R/O G & JU-117-D, Green Apartments, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Rao Hans Raj. 0040550791-1

I, Naveen Kumar Jain S/o Joginder Kumar Jain R/O E-21, Sector-15, Second-Floor, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi, have changed my minor son's name, from Hardik Chhajjar to Hardik Jain, for all purposes. 0040550791-4

I, RAVI PRAKASH S/O, SHANKAR SAHNI, H.NO E-73, MANSAR RAM PARK NEAR KALI MATA MANDIR UTTAM-NAGAR D.K.MOHAN GARDEN, DWARKA, DELHI-110059, changed my name to RAVI PRAKASH SEHNI, permanently. 0040550777-7

I, Meva W/o Lt. Karan Singh R/O H.No.188 Village Paprawat Post Office-Najafgarh, New, Delhi-43, have changed my name to Mewa Devi for, all purposes. 0040550797-5

I, Amandeep Singh F/o Kian Aman Singh Anand, R/O 15/45 B, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi 110018, have changed my minor daughter's name from Harshene Kaur Anand to Harshene Kaur. 0040550781-2

I, Kunwar Mohammad Ghizali R/O-D-906 First-Floor, New Friends-Colony, Delhi-110025, Have Changed My Son's Name From Ehab Mohammad Ghazaly To Ehab Mohammad Ghazali. 0040550777-1

I, Nooran Dastgir, S/o Gulam Dastgir Khar R/O-29-B, First-Floor, Vishwakarma-Park, Kishan Kunj, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Nooran Dastgir Khan. 0040550797-1

I, Krishna Prasad S/o Late Dhodha Shah R/O-Plot.No.41-42D, KH.No.43/20, Gali.No.48, Block-C, Indraprastha-Colony Village-Burari Delhi-84, changed my minor son's name from Harshit Kumar to Harshit Kumar Gond. 0040550810-2

I, No.6936919P Hav Ramiwasi My Unit OD Shakurbasti New-Delhi, c/o 56APO inform that my daughter name is wrongly written as K Anshu Yadav in my Army documents. But correct name is Anjali Yadav. 0040550784-5

I, Krishan Mohani, S/o Tahal Ram Mohani, R/O-165, Kailash Hills, New Delhi-110065, have changed my name, from Krishan Mohani to Krishan Lal Mohani, for all purposes. 0040550784-5

I, Sunny S/o Balvir Chand R/o VPO Mukandpur Distt. SBS Nagar Punjab-144507, have changed my name to Sunny Singh. 0040550810-1

I, JATIN SINGHAL, S/O-UMA SHANKAR SINGHAL, R/O-A-86 LOK-VIHAR PITAM PURA DELHI-110034, changed my name to JAATINN SINGHAL 0040550802-5

I, I, Veenu Nagpal W/O- Mr. Gaurav Julka R/O S-457, Greater Kailash, Part-1, New Delhi, have changed their Name to Radhika Julka for allfuture Purposes. 0040550829-4

I, I, KRISHAN MOHANI, S/O TAHAL RAM MOHANI, R/O-165, KAILASH HILLS, NEW DELHI-110065, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM KRISHAN MOHANI TO KRISHAN LAL MOHANI, FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040550784-5

I, Vinod Kumar S/O CHAMAN LAL R/O C-214, MADIPUR, JJ COLONY, NEW DELHI-110063, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO VINOD KUMAR DAYMA FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES. 0040550784-4

I, Fardeen Ahmed Majumder, S/o Naem Ahmed Mozumdar, R/O Flat No.704 V5, Yamuna-Apartment, Sector-D6, Vasant Kunj, N.D.-110070, have changed my name to Fardeen Ahmed Majumdar, permanently. 0040550791-2

I, Umed Sharma S/o Late Shri Sawal Ram, R/O 127/22 Gurnanakh Colony, Nehru Park, Bahadurgarh Jhajjar, Haryana hereby declare that I have changed my name from Umed Sharma to Umed Singh for all purposes. 0040550757-1

I, DRAKSHA, W/o Mohammad Jun R/o H.No. 45, Block-F, Vishwakarma-Colony, Delhi-110044, have change my name to GULDRAKSHA. 0040550797-2

I, Umed Sharma S/o Late Shri Sawal Ram, R/O 127/22 Gurnanakh Colony, Nehru Park, Bahadurgarh Jhajjar, Haryana hereby declare that I have changed my name from Umed Sharma to Umed Singh for all purposes. 0040550757-1

I, USHA RANI W/O VINOD AGRAWAL, D/O SHYAM LAL R/O F-76 INDRAPRASTHA-APARTMENT SECTOR-14 ROHINI DELHI-85, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO USHA AGRAWAL. 0040550784-1

I, I, Surrender Kumar Dogra S/o Major Singh, changed my daughter's name from Manya Manhas to Manya Dogra vide affidavit dated 6.10.2020 for all purposes. 0040550665-1

I, DHIRAJ NEGI/ D.S.NEGI /DHEERAJ NEGI, S/O GANGA SINGH NEGI, R/O H.NO.123, SECTOR-1, R.K.PURAM, NEW-DELHI, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO DHIRAJ SINGH NEGI. 0040550797-3

I, I, Tanju S/O Rajendra Prasad Sharma R/O G-22/192, Sector-7 Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Tanju Sharma. 0070716379-1

I, DEEPIKA KANOJIYA D/O-CHOTE LAL KANOJIYA R/O-14E/7 DABAULI KANPUR UTTAR PRADESH-28022, CHANGED MY NAME TO DEEPIKA KANOJIA. 0040550802-4

I, Sunil Kumar Vinod AGGARWAL, VINOD KUMAR AGGARWAL, S/O JAGDISH KUMAR, R/O-F-76, INDRAPRASTHA-APARTMENTS SECTOR-14, ROHINI, DELHI-85, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO VINOD AGRAWAL. 0040550784-3

I, ANIL KUMAR, S/O PURSHOTAM DASS NANDA, R/O-146D, POKKET-A, MAYUR-VIHAR-II, DELHI-110091, declare that in some of my records my name has been wrongly-written as VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA instead of VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA and VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA and BIKRAM KUMAR are both same and one person. 0040550784-10

I, I, Surrender Kumar Dogra S/o Major Singh, changed my daughter's name from Manya Manhas to Manya Dogra vide affidavit dated 6.10.2020 for all purposes. 0040550665-1

I, ANIL KUMAR, S/O PURSHOTAM DASS NANDA, R/O-146D, POKKET-A, MAYUR-VIHAR-II, DELHI-110091, declare that in some of my records my name has been wrongly-written as VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA instead of VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA and VIKRAM KUMAR are both same and one person. 0040550784-10

I, I, Santosh Kumar S/o Dewendra Kumar Gupta R/O-206, 1st Floor, Sector-1, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, have changed my name to Santosh Gupta. 0040550802-1

I, Ajay Kumar Jain S/O Mr.Omprakash Jain-H.No-2415, Arvahal Vihar, Sector-49, Faridabad, Haryana, Declare that that Ajay Garg has been mistakenly mentioned in the birth-certificate of my daughter Muskan Garg. While my correct-name is Ajay Kumar Jain. In future, for all kinds of works/formats, I should be known and recognized by this name. 0040550777-9

I, I, SUDHA MISHRA, W/O- NO.1468091X NK RAJU MISHRA, R/O-VILL.DONPAH, POST-SUKHDEHRA, BHAWARKOL, DIST.GHAZIPUR, PIN-232321, UTTAR-PRADESH, CHANGED MY NAME, FROM SUDHA DUBE TO SUDHA MISHRA VIDE AFFIDAVIT, DATE-07-10-2020, BEFORE MANDAN LAL GUPTA (DELHI). 0040550797-6

I, I, NAIM AHMAD SAIFI, S/O Late. Mustaq Ahmad Khan R/O-C-912, Jahangirpuri, Delhi-110033, have changed my name to Naem Khan, permanently. 0040550797-4

I, I, Raj Basoya W/o Ram Kishan Basoya, R/O-382, Joorbagh, Trinagar, Delhi-110035, have changed my name to RAJENDRI BASOYA for all future purposes. 0040550829-2

I, ANJLI MARY JOHN, D/O ANTHONY JOHN, Resident of H.NO.D-138, room, no-1first-floor Munirka, New Delhi-110067. Have changed my name ANGELINA MARY JOHN, for all future purposes. 0040550777-8

I, I, PREETI D/O VINOD AGRAWAL W/O F-76 INDRAPRASTHA APARTMENTS SEC-14 ROHINI DELHI-85 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PREETI AGRAWAL. 0040550784-2

I, ANJLI MARY JOHN, D/O ANTHONY JOHN, Resident of H.NO.D-138, room, no-1first-floor Munirka, New Delhi-110067. Have changed my name ANGELINA MARY JOHN, for all future purposes. 0040550777-8

I, I, Pavan Kumar S/o Lala Ram R/o Village Parsaura, Post khonda, District-Pathras, UP-281307, have changed my minor daughter's name from Poorvi Singh aged 5 years to Kiara Singh forever. 0070716378-1

I, Niranjn Prasad Sharma S/o Sh. Raghuvar Dayal Sharma R/O B-96 Gali No.2, Gazipur, Delhi declare that my name in some document mentioned as Nirjan Prasad. Niranjn Prasad Sharma and Nirjan Prasad is one person. 0040550807-1

I, NISHA, D/O- AMEER CHAND, H.NO-21, 3RD-FLOOR, CHURCH LANE JANGPURA BHOGAL NEW DELHI-110014, changed my name to NISHA CHAUHAN, permanently. 0040550777-5

I, Mr. Ajith Kumar Father of Mr. Adwait.A.Kumar R/O 20B/9, Mehala Apartment, Flat No-1, 1st Floor, Sector-A, Pocket-B&C, VasantKunj, New Delhi-70, have changed my son's name to Mr. Adwait Kumar. 0040550814-1

I, Mohd Wasim S/o Rahisuddin R/O H.No-e-128, Street No-11, Chand Bagh, North East, Delhi-110094, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Wasim. 0070716375-1

I, MOHD ZAHEER R/O E-265, Gali No. 9, Shastripark Delhi-53, hereby affirm that my son name is wrongly mentioned as MABASSIR in his school record but his correct and actual name is MOHD MUBASSIR for all purposes. 0040550584-1

The original allotment letter of House.No.87, Block-D, Sector Alpha-1, of M/S Sai Investment Consultants Pvt Ltd., has been lost somewhere. Narayan Babu Varshney (Director)/R-30,303,Jagdamba Tower-13, Preet Vihar, Commercial Complex, Delhi-110092 0040550829-5

My original Lease Hold Property-Document of Flat-No.13, Akriti-Apartments, Okhla Co-operative Group Housing-Society Limited, Patparganj, Delhi-110092, have lost finder contact: Sushil Kumar Bansal S/o-Bal Mukund Bansal Mobile-No.9873334405. 0040550797-10

Smt Santosh Sahni & Tarun Sahni R/O 165 Jagriti Enclave Shakarpur East Delhi-110092 have lost our original property papers of property no.91 pleasure Garden New Lajpat Rai Market Delhi-110006. Finder contact no. 9810691924 0040550794-1

Lost DDA Mutation Letter against my Plot-No.574, Pocket-C-1, Sector-37, Rohini, Delhi-110085. Finder my Contact-Vidya Devi, C-565, Gali-No.7, Majlis Park, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi-110033 0040550766-1

I, BIKRAM KUMAR, S/O PURSHOTAM DASS NANDA, R/O-146D, POKCKET-A, MAYUR-VIHAR-II, DELHI-110091, declare that in some of my records my name has been wrongly-written as VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA instead of VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA and VIKRAM KUMAR are both same and one person. 0040550784-10

I, ANIL KUMAR, S/O PURSHOTAM DASS NANDA, R/O-146D, POKCKET-A, MAYUR-VIHAR-II, DELHI-110091, declare that in some of my records my name has been wrongly-written as VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA instead of VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA and VIKRAM KUMAR are both same and one person. 0040550784-10

I, Antara Anil Diwadkar, W/O Udayan Biswas R/O D-598/D-2415, Arvahal Vihar, Sector-49, Faridabad, Haryana, Declare that that Ajay Garg has been mistakenly mentioned in the birth-certificate of my daughter Muskan Garg. While my correct-name is Ajay Kumar Jain. In future, for all kinds of works/formats, I should be known and recognized by this name. 0040550777-2

I, ANIL KUMAR, S/O PURSHOTAM DASS NANDA, R/O-146D, POKCKET-A, MAYUR-VIHAR-II, DELHI-110091, declare that in some of my records my name has been wrongly-written as VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA instead of VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA and VIKRAM KUMAR are both same and one person. 0040550784-10

I, ANIL KUMAR, S/O PURSHOTAM DASS NANDA, R/O-146D, POKCKET-A, MAYUR-VIHAR-II, DELHI-110091, declare that in some of my records my name has been wrongly-written as VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA instead of VIKRAM KUMAR NANDA and VIKRAM KUMAR are both same and one person. 0040550784-10

I, Madhu Lodhiwal D/o- Ramesh Kumar Lodhiwal R/O E-328, Sector-15, Noida, UP have changed my name to Madhu Lodhiwal. 0040550802-2

I, Naim Ahmad Saifi, S/O Late. Mustaq Ahmad Khan R/O-C-912, Jahangirpuri, Delhi-110033, have changed my name to Naem Khan, permanently. 0040550797-4

I, Abhishek Kumar, son of W/O Ranjit Prasad Singh, residing at House No.585/1, Sector-13, Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat-382016, have changed my name, from Abhishek Kumar to Abhishek Kumar vide Affidavit dated-07.10.2020, before Patiala House-Court, New-Delhi. 0040550777-11

I, ANJLI MARY JOHN, D/O ANTHONY JOHN, Resident of H.NO.D-138, room, no-1first-floor Munirka, New Delhi-110067. Have changed my name ANGELINA MARY JOHN, for all future purposes. 0040550777-8

I, ADITYA RAJ SINGH, S/O NO.14670880MH, HAVDHANANJ AY KUMAR WILH-POTHAHI POST- BASHUHAR, DIST-PATNA, STATE-BIHAR, PIN-804453, CHANGED MY NAME FROM ADITAY RAJ SINGH TO ADITYA RAJ SINGH, VIDE AFFIDAVIT, DATE-07-10-2020, BEFORE MANDAN LAL GUPTA (DELHI), 0040550797-7

PUBLIC NOTICE My clients Smt. Parvati Devi wife of Sh. Ram Kaur R/O 12/18, East Sagarpur, New Delhi-110046 and his wife Smt. Sonia W/O Sh. Kamlesh Kumar from her movable as well as immovable properties belonging to my client in Delhi and her native village at Balah U.P. My client also severed all her relations with my client in Delhi and her native village. My clients are responsible for their past and future acts and consequences. Sd/- (Ramesh Thakur) Advocate D-710902008 Off. A-139, Basement Chauraha Complex, Mathura Vihar, U.P. Distt. DDU-82

PUBLIC NOTICE It is hereby informed/ intimated to the public at large that my client Sh. Vishnu Dutt S/o Late Shri Kishan Chand, C-27, Plot No. 15, East Sagarpur, New Delhi-110046 and his wife Smt. Indrawati have severed all kinds of relations with his son Ramesh Sh. D, Dwarika, New Delhi-110085 and his wife Smt. Mansi, as they do not have any respect for my client and his wife and my client has debarred them from all his movable and immovable properties. If any person deals with them, he/she/they shall be doing so at his/her/their own risk, costs and consequences. Sd/- SATISH KUMAR TOMAR (Advocate) Ch.No. 511, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE Take notice that my client that my client Sh. Sagar, S/O Sh. Laxmi Narayan, R/O No.88, 80 yards, Tis Hazari, New Delhi has severed all his relations with his mother, Smt. Shashi, Wife of Sh. Laxmi Narayan and his brother, Sh. Sandeep, Son of Shri Laxmi Narayan and her sister-in-law (shabti) Smt. Rakhi, Wife of Shri Sandeep. All R/O WZ-168, 80 yards, First Floor, Tis Hazari, New Delhi. My said client has disowned and disinherited the said persons from all his movable and immovable properties dealing with the said persons shall be doing so at his/her own risks, consequences and my said client shall not be held responsible for any of his acts. Sd/- ALOK KUMAR PANDEY (Advocate) Chamber: Chamber No. 362, Civil Wing, Tis Hazari Office: R-99 Near Western Wing, New Delhi-110060

PUBLIC NOTICE The public at large hereby informed that my clients Vashali Singh Jadon and Smt. Nisha Jadon W/O Yaspal Singh, Both R/O X/2519, Gali No. 8, Raghubarpara-2, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi have disowned their son Gaurav Kumar and daughter in law Jyoti Rajput and their daughter from all their movable and immovable properties because of their bad conduct towards my clients. My clients already debar their son and his wife on dated 02.01.2020 now they debar their Grand Daughter. My clients shall not be responsible for any acts, deeds and things whatsoever done by them, if anybody dealing with them shall be at their own risk. BHUWAN JI PATHAK ADVOCATE Chamber No. 233, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi- 110054

PUBLIC NOTICE General Public is hereby informed that my clients Sh. Kamal Kishore Popli S/o Sh. R. D. Popli aged 62 years and Mrs. Neeraja Popli W/o Sh. Kamal Kishore Popli R/O of 111 UGF Meera enclave, Chauhaukdi, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018, have severed all their relations with their son Mr. Ishan Popli and his wife Mrs. Pallavi Popli (maiden name Pallavi Dhingra) as they have become disobedient and disloyal to my clients for last two months. Whoever deals with them in any manner shall do so at their own risk and responsibilities. My above clients and their younger son Mr. Rudresh Popli shall not be responsible for them. Sd/- DEEPAK ARORA (Advocate) Enrt No. D-237/1997

PUBLIC NOTICE My Client Smt. Guddo Devi W/o Sh. Mahesh Chand R/O H.No. 452-453, Block & Pkt. B-5, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085 Severe Relations and Debar her son Ajeet Singh and his wife Monika D/o Sh. Subhash from all movable, immovable properties due to their hostile & cruel behaviour. My Client will not be responsible for their any acts. Sd. Vasudev Goswami (Advocate) En. No. D/609/1992 585, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54 Date 07-10-2020

PUBLIC NOTICE All general public is hereby informed that my clients Sh. Vijay Kumar Malhotra and Smt. Probha Malhotra R/o H.No. 4701, Plot No.5, Ashoka Enclave, Sector-11, Dwarika, New Delhi-110075 disowned and debarred his son and daughter-in-law namely Sh. Madhav Malhotra and Smt. Ishani Sethi Malhotra from all his movable and immovable properties due to their misbehavior and disobedience towards my clients. Anybody dealing with them shall do the same on their own risk and perils. My clients shall not be liable for any loss caused as a result of their misbehavior. Sd/- VISHWANATH KUMAR (ADVOCATE) Enrt No. F/18, Laxmi Market, Block, Rohini Court, Delhi-110085 Mob. : 9213907555

PUBLIC NOTICE It is for general information that I, Manj Kumar Mishra S/o Anind Mishra, residing at A-30 Block Raghuvir Enclave Najafgarh Dakshin Paschim New Delhi-110043, declare that name of mine and my wife name has been wrongly written as Manoj and Rukmani in my minor daughter's NANCY aged 14 years in her school Records. The actual name of mine is Manj Kumar Mishra and my wife actual name is Rukmani Mishra, which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE Public at large is hereby informed that my client Ms. Malki Buldon through



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

EXPLAINED YOUR MONEY

Retiring in 3-5 years? Here's what you should know

If your resources are limited, you need to have investments that are safe, liquid, generate above-inflation growth, and are enough for 20-30 yrs after retirement



SANDEEP SINGH

THE CURRENT situation of falling fixed income returns, rising inflation, and volatile equity markets are of special concern for those in their mid-50s, perhaps 3-5 years from retirement. This group of investors would like to maximise their retirement corpus by parking funds in safe liquid instruments that offer high returns over the next few years, and high interest yielding monthly income schemes post retirement.

Should you choose debt instruments or equity?

The Covid-19 uncertainty is impacting most financial instruments, and those approaching

retirement must take a judicious call on where to keep the corpus invested. If your resources are limited, you need to have investments that are safe, liquid, generate above-inflation growth, and are sufficient for 20-30 years after retirement. The income required for basic household expenses will grow every year with inflation — so what will be sufficient for you at age 60 will no longer be enough when you are 70. While debt instruments are safe, equity holds the key to growth of your corpus.

"Debt instruments alone would not be able to fund your retirement needs and you need to keep some part of the corpus in equities so that it expands your corpus in the meantime. Also, you may have to break and utilise a part of your corpus because interest income may be insufficient to meet your retirement needs after a point. One must be mentally prepared to dip into the principal," said Vishal Dhawan, founder and CEO of Plan Ahead Wealth Advisors.

Should you go for capital preservation, i.e., focus on preventing loss in a portfolio?

It is of utmost importance for those ap-

proaching retirement to start consolidating their portfolio. Equity investments across mid-and small-cap schemes should be diverted towards index funds, large cap funds, and in part towards debt schemes. Individuals in the highest tax bracket should move fixed deposits with banks into debt products that yield better interest, such as tax-free bonds, debt schemes of mutual funds investing in AAA-rated papers of high quality firms, etc.

Investors must plan to redeem equity investments when the market is at a high in the near term, in order to maximise their returns.

Should those who have a second home liquidate it?

If you invested in a second home for rental income, it is time to evaluate the investment and returns. If you bought for Rs 50 lakh 10 years ago (now valued at Rs 70 lakh), and are getting a rental income of Rs 15,000 a month (or Rs 1.8 lakh per annum), the rental yield of the property is 3.6%. If you sell for Rs 70 lakh and invest the proceeds in a debt instrument earning 5%, you will get an annual interest income of Rs 3.5

lakh — almost double. If you split the sale proceeds into debt and equity, and are able to generate 8% compounded annual growth rate over 10 years, your annual return would be Rs 5.6 lakh — over three times the rental income.

Remember, the cost of maintaining the house will eat into your retirement income, and that almost 90% homes in India have no property insurance, which puts the asset at risk.

"Real estate can't be easily liquidated, and can't be sold in pieces. In equities, one can liquidate the required amount of units. Also, it is easier to distribute financial assets among successors," Dhawan said.

How should you plan for retirement?

Say you are 55, and will retire at 60. If your current monthly household expenditure is Rs 50,000 (Rs 6 lakh per annum), at an inflation of 5%, your annual expenditure in the first year of retirement would be Rs 63,814 per month (Rs 7.65 lakh p.a.); at 6% inflation, it will be Rs 66,911 per month (Rs 8.02 lakh p.a.).

While annual household requirement may rise every year at the pace of annual inflation,

lifestyle inflation is a bit higher. So at 5% inflation, if you need Rs 7.65 lakh p.a. in the first year of retirement, you would need Rs 12.46 lakh p.a. after 10 years of retirement.

The next step would be to figure out a corpus that can earn you Rs 7 lakh-8 lakh p.a. At an average annuity rate of 5%, you would need at least Rs 1.6 crore to earn an annual interest income of Rs 8 lakh. As interest rates are falling, at a lower annuity rate of 4%, the corpus needed to earn Rs 8 lakh p.a. would rise to Rs 2 crore.

EPF is a key part of your corpus growing at 8.5% p.a.; you can also invest in Gol bonds offering around 7.1%, tax-free bonds offering around 4.5%, and debt schemes of mutual funds for growth. While the debt and equity portions must add up to between Rs 1.6 crore and Rs 2 crore to fund your post-retirement monthly expenses in the next 5 years, you must not forget the equity play to boost your corpus during the retirement period.

Suppose you invest Rs 20 lakh (10-20% of overall corpus) in index funds or large-cap funds (at age 55) for a period of 10 years, at 10% CAGR it will grow to close to Rs 52 lakh by the

time you are 65. At 9% CAGR it would grow to over Rs 47 lakh. It is important to meet a financial planner to better understand this.

Where should you invest for an annuity income?

For regular income, two schemes to consider are Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY), and Senior Citizens Saving Scheme (SCSS). They are available to those over 60; the investment limit is Rs 15 lakh; interest is around 7.5% now. PMVVY offers a monthly payout up to around Rs 9,000; SCSS gives a quarterly payout. If spouses invest Rs 15 lakh each in PMVVY, the monthly income can be Rs 18,000. A part of the retirement corpus can be used to buy an annuity plan with an insurance company; a part can be invested in a systematic withdrawal plan of debt mutual funds that offer better returns and provide tax arbitrage. Go for debt schemes that invest in AAA-rated papers of high-quality companies. Debt hybrid schemes that invest 65-90% in government bonds and AAA corporate papers are a good option.

CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

Kerala crosses 10,000 cases in a day as surge continues

KERALA AND Karnataka each reported more than 10,000 new cases of coronavirus infection on Wednesday. Karnataka has reported over 10,000 cases on three earlier occasions as well, but Kerala went past that number for the first time.



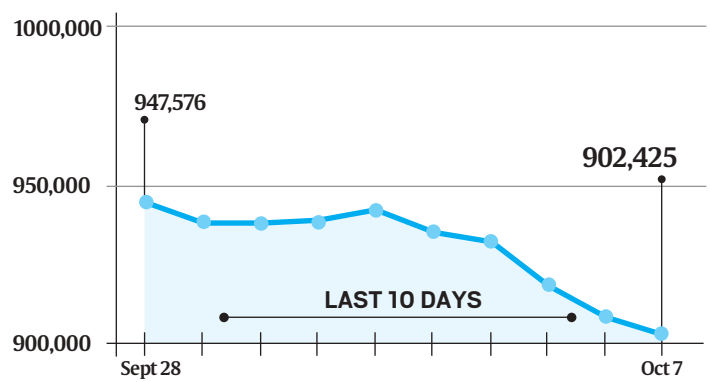
number of people found positive out of those tested, has been increasing. It was about 4.5% at the start of September, and is above 7.5% now.

There has also been a small rise in the number of deaths being reported from Kerala. For more than two weeks now, the death count has been over 20 every day. Kerala still has a comparatively low case fatality ratio of 0.37%, and this is declining because the cases are rising much more rapidly. The state has so far had 940 coronavirus-related deaths.

Kerala has been in the midst of a major surge for the last three weeks. Until the start of September, the highest number of cases it had reported in a day was about 2,500. In the last three weeks, the average number of daily new cases has been nearing 7,000.

The positivity rate in Kerala, or the

AMITABH SINHA

INDIA ACTIVE CASES**902,425**

Note: The Oct 7 figure in this graph is based on the Health Ministry update on Oct 8

TOTAL CASES**6,835,655****SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER**

How the TRP system works

Mumbai police are looking at alleged manipulation of Television Rating Points. How do channels score TRPs? What are the ways in which manipulation is possible, and how often has it been alleged in the past?

KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

MUMBAI POLICE Commissioner Param Bir Singh said on Thursday that police are looking into a scam about manipulation of TRPs (Television Rating Points) by rigging the devices used by the Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) India, which has the mandate to measure television audience in India.

What is TRP?

In simple terms, TRPs represent how many people, from which socio-economic categories, watched which channels for how much time during a particular period. This could be for an hour, a day, or even a week; India follows the international standard of one minute. The data is usually made public every week.

A consultation paper about television audience measurement and ratings in India floated by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in 2018 defined its importance as: "On the basis of audience measurement data, ratings are assigned to various programmes on television. Television ratings in turn influence programmes produced for the viewers. Better ratings would promote a programme while poor ratings will discourage a programme. Incorrect ratings will lead to production of programmes which may not be really popular while good programmes may be left out."

A FICCI-EY report on India's media and entertainment industry for last year said the size of the TV industry was Rs 78,700 crore last year, and TRPs are the main currency for advertisers to decide which channel to advertise on by calculating the cost-per-rating-point (CPRP).

What is BARC?

It is an industry body jointly owned by advertisers, ad agencies, and broadcasting companies, represented by The Indian Society of Advertisers, the Indian Broadcasting Foundation and the Advertising Agencies Association of India. Though it was created in 2010, the I&B Ministry notified the Policy Guidelines for Television Rating Agencies in India on January 10, 2014 and registered BARC in July 2015 under these guidelines, to carry out television ratings in India.



TRPs represent how many people are viewing at which time, and serve as the main currency for advertisers in choosing channels. Express Archive

How is TRP calculated?

BARC has installed "BAR-O-meters" in over 45,000 empanelled households. These households are classified into 12 categories under the New Consumer Classification System (NCCS), the so-called "new SEC" adopted by BARC in 2015, based on the education level of the main wage earner and the ownership of consumer durables from a list of 11 items ranging from an electricity connection to a car.

While watching a show, members of the household register their presence by pressing their viewer ID button — every person in household has a separate ID — thus capturing the duration for which the channel was watched and by whom, and providing data on viewership habits across age and socio-economic groups. The panel chosen to capture TRPs must be representative of the country's population, and the methodology must be economically viable for the industry.

How can TRP data be rigged?

If broadcasters can find the households where devices are installed, they can either bribe them to watch their channels, or ask cable operators or multi-system operators to ensure their channel is available as the "landing page" when the TV is switched on.

For TRPs, it does not matter what the en-

tire country is watching, but essentially what the 45,000-odd households supposed to represent TV viewership of the country have watched. Broadcasters can target these households to fudge actual viewership data.

In the 2018 consultation paper, TRAI said: "One of the biggest challenges has been the absence of any specific law through which the agents/ suspects involved in panel tampering/infiltration could be penalised". It noted that BARC "has filed FIRs in various police stations against the agents/ suspects involved in panel tampering/infiltration" but its efforts "to mitigate panel tampering/ infiltration have been hampered due to absence of any legal framework".

How does panel tampering affect TRPs?

TRAI mentioned "panel infiltration has a significant impact when the panel size is smaller" and "with the increase in panel size, infiltration of panel homes becomes challenging".

A senior industry insider said BARC has filed multiple FIRs in the past "as it tracks unusual viewership behaviour and takes action". In the current case, the insider said an FIR was filed against employees of Hansa Research, which BARC hires for certain field jobs like going to panel households. BARC hires multiple agencies so that no single agency has the entire map

of panel households across the country. The source cited the example of English TV news, which has a small share of the national viewership pie at around 1.5%, which means that for around 45,000 panel households, around 700 households will contribute to the viewership. "What actually happens is that while your sample is around 700, not all of them are watching English TV news every day. Actual watching will be around 350 homes." In such a scenario, the source said, "if you manage to rig 10 among the heavy viewing homes, then you can swing the needle big time".

When the sample is smaller, "manipulation becomes easier". In a genre like English news, "because fewer homes will have larger weightage, change in behaviour of one home gets amplified at a much larger scale nationwide".

Additionally, as each channel tries to project itself as a market leader in a particular segment, it slices the data into socio-economic brackets on the basis of NCCS, age, gender, time slots (primetime) etc to find the perfect data slice. This too increases relative error in the data, because of the small sample size.

How often have allegations been made?

For over a decade, questions have been raised by people from within the industry. In a letter to the BARC chairman in July, News Broadcasters Association president Rajat Sharma, who owns India TV News, complained against the ratings of TV9 Bharatvarsh, and said "several news broadcasters have written to BARC drawing their attention that every week's ratings are not in correlation to the basics of television" and "the manipulated data is being released week after week without taking any remedial action". Sharma had said that "these are corrupt practices, which are being done with complete connivance with BARC and the broadcaster".

Two years ago, the I&B Ministry had raised concerns that BARC was under-reporting viewership of Doordarshan, and floated the idea of chip-based activity logs through all set-top boxes. The idea was finally rejected.

In 2017, the editor of one of the top five English news channels had written to BARC about how a few households from Gujarat were contributing heavily to a rival channel's overall viewership.

Louise Glück, Nobel winner, for poetry that celebrates the individual

PAROMITA CHAKRABARTI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

IN A year that has pitched the world into disarray, it seems only befitting that the Nobel Prize for Literature has gone to the bard of desolation — the American poet and essayist, Louise Glück — "for her unmistakable poetic voice, that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal." The 77-year old is only the second woman poet to win the award after the Polish writer Wislawa Szymborska, who won the Prize in 1996. Glück is also the second American to win the award since Bob Dylan in 2016.

The poet

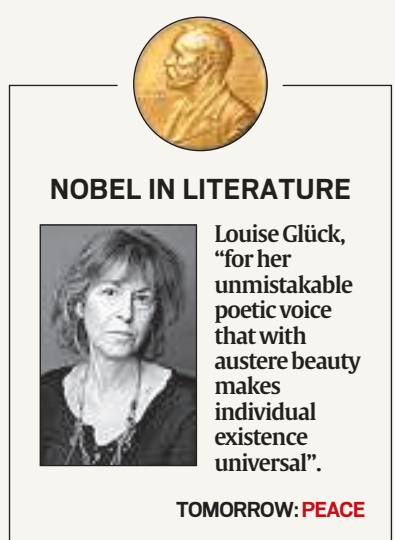
One of America's most well-known contemporary poets, Glück, professor of English at Yale University, began writing in her teens; her first collection of poetry, *Firstborn* (1968), was published when she was only 25. *Firstborn* gained favourable reviews for the poet's unique style, marked by an econ-

omy of words and emotion. Her second collection, *The House on Marshland*, seven years later, would establish her as a poet of reckoning. Since then she has written 12 collections of poetry, including *Descending Figure* (1980), *The Triumph of Achilles* (1985), *The Wild Iris* (1992) and *The Faithful and Virtuous Night* (2014).

All of these focus almost exclusively not on the monumental chaos of historical events but on the inner lives of individuals — on separation, loss, death and loneliness and the impact of frayed childhoods and family lives on them. While critics have compared her work to that of Rainer Maria Rilke and Ezra Pound, Glück herself has acknowledged the influence of Puerto Rican-American poet, writer, and physician William Carlos Williams and American poet George Oppen on her work.

Her poetry

Born in 1943 in New York City, Glück spent much of her childhood and adolescence in trying to win her mother's approval, an experience that would prove a fulcrum in her poetic

**NOBEL IN LITERATURE**

Louise Glück, "for her unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal".

TOMORROW: PEACE

career. "Why do I suffer? Why am I ignorant? Cells in a great darkness. Some machine made us; it is your turn to address it, to go back asking

what am I for? What am I for?" writes Glück in *Mother and Child* (2001, *The Seven Ages*).

In poem after poem, Glück returns to these questions of identity and purpose, in particular that of a woman, constricted by gender roles and societal conventions about body image. Glück herself suffered from anorexia as a teenager that would take her several years to overcome through psychoanalytic treatment. "It begins quietly/ in certain female children/ the fear of death, taking as its form/ dedication to hunger/ because a woman's body/ is a grave; it will accept/ anything," she writes in *Dedication to Hunger* (1980, *Descending Figure*).

This preoccupation with form is also the hallmark of Glück's poetry, characterising it with sparseness and an intensity that comes only from distilling that which cannot be spared. Or, as she puts it in *Wild Iris*, "whatever returns from oblivion returns/ to find a voice."

Despite the bleakness at their core, Glück's poems are also imbued by a lyrical rhythm that lends symmetry to the austerity of her form. If Glück's early poems are characterised

by her examination of failure — in love, familial relationships and in life in general — her later poems return their focus more intensely to identity and its many crises, evolved now within a more elaborate framework of Greek and Roman mythologies.

Announcing the Nobel Prize, the Swedish Academy also paid tribute to the poet's search for the universal in this classical world, noting how "she takes inspiration from myths and classical motifs, present in most of her works". It hailed her 2006 collection *Averno* as "a masterly collection, a visionary interpretation of the myth of Persephone's descent into Hell in the captivity of Hades, the god of death."

Awards won

Glück is no stranger to fame. Besides several Guggenheim fellowships, she has won the Pulitzer Prize in 1993 for *The Wild Iris*, the National Book Award in 2014 for *The Triumph of Achilles*, the Bollingen Prize in 2001, and a host of other awards.

At the Nobel Museum in Stockholm, with each winner's citation, there is a personal item

of belonging on show, intended to offer visitors a glimpse into the unique personality of each recipient. Oversized glasses and a chunky wristwatch show off 1982-Literature Prize winner Gabriel Garcia Marquez's larger-than-life persona; a dog-eared copy of *The Portable Chekhov* is Canadian writer Alice Munro's gentle offering (2013); Svetlana Alexievich, the 2015 winner's favourite dictaphone that recorded the stories that went into her *Voices from Chernobyl* (1997), finds a pride of place here. It remains to be seen what Glück offers to the museum, but, in a reader's imagination, it could well be a page of one of her lesser-known poems — *The Undertaking* (1971): "The darkness lifts, imagine, in your lifetime/ There you are — cased in clean bark you drift/ through weaving rushes, fields flooded with cotton/ You are free/ The river films with lilies/ shrubs appear, shoots thicken into palm. And now/ all fear gives way; the light/ looks after you, you feel the waves' goodwill/ as arms widen over the water; Love/ the key is turned. Extend yourself — / it is the Nile, the sun is shining/ everywhere you turn is luck."

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male **Age** : About 50 years, **Height** : 170 cm., **Face** : Oval, **Complexion** : Dark, **Built** : Thin, wearing white colour dhoti, was found unconscious on 22.09.2020, he was admitted in Safdarjung Hospital by security supervisor of Safdarjung Hospital vide MLC No. 230889/20. During the treatment he died. In this regard a DD No. 55-A dated 22.09.2020 has been lodged at P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi. The dead body has been preserved in the mortuary of Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on following address or telephone nos.

SHO : P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi
Tel. No. : 011-24106345, 24106346

DP/340/SW/20

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

निविदा सूचना
M-05-2020-C&W-Ajmer date 06.10.2020
वर्षिक मण्डल यांत्रिक इंजीनियर (स्वमा) अजमेर, भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु दिनांक 28.10.2020 को 15.00 बजे तक ई-निविदा (Single packet system) आमंत्रित की जाती है। 1. कार्य का नाम:- Comprehensive Annual Maintenance and operation contract (AMOC) for IR-DRDO Bio toilets of Madar and Udaipur based trains for the period of one year. 2. कार्य की अनुमानित लागत:- Rs 3913656.09 (Rs. Thirty Nine Lakh thirteen thousand six hundred fifty six and Nine paise only). 3. निविदा दस्तावेज की कीमत:- 3,000/- 4. बयाना राशि:- 78300.00 (Rs. Seventy Eight Thousand Three Hundred only). 5. ई-प्रस्ताव का वेबसाइट पर अपलोड करना एम सुलना- दिनांक 06.10.2020 को अपलोड करना एम दिनांक 28.10.2020 को 15.30 बजे सुलना। 6. Web site particulars:- www.ireps.gov.in 785-DT/20
Please join us on NWRRailways

2164/2020

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

The Chief Administrative Officer/Const/Northern Railway, Kashmir Gate, Delhi, for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tender under Two Packet System for the under noted work:-

1. Full Name of work	Construction of RUB at Km.204/33-35 in Kalanaur Yard and LHSs/RUBs in lieu of L-xing No. 97-A, 99-C, 103-C, 112-C & 124-C on SRE-UMB-UBC section and LHSs in lieu of LC No. 83-C & 100-C on DL-UMB section by normal pushing method & balance work of LHS in lieu of LC No. 121-C by cut & cover method on SRE-UMB section.
2. Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 4746.48 Lakhs
3. Completion period of the work	18 Months
4. Earnest Money to be deposited	Rs. 25,23,300/- (Rs. Twenty five lacs twenty three thousand three hundred only).
5. Sale/availability of tender document on Rty. Website	Tender documents will be available on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 12.10.2020 to 02.11.2020 upto 11:30 hrs.
6. Last date/Time of upload of tenders	02.11.2020 upto 11:30 hrs. Tender document can be uploaded by the tender on IREPS website w.e.f. 19.10.2020 to 02.11.2020.
7. Date and time of opening of tender	02.11.2020 at 11:30 hours (Immediately after close of uploading of tender (D2). In case of two packet system, Financial bids of the eligible tenders would be opened subsequently on the date and time to be notified later on. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of the above office.

Tender Notice No. 74-W-1-1-511-WA-UMB Dated: 07.10.2020 2164/2020
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

Sr. DME acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No. MC-9-ST-CAMC-CE-SPARMV-20 Closing Date/Time 29.10.2020, 15:00. Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Information regarding this tender is available on web site www.ireps.gov.in on internet & can be seen/downloaded.

Department	C&W	Tender No.	MC-9-ST-CAMC-CE-SPARMV-20
Name of Work	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (CAMC) of Cummins Engines (NTA14R 02 Nos. and 6BTA5.9G 02 Nos.) of HS-SPARMV for three years at Moradabad depot on single tender basis through OEM.		
Tender Type	Single	Bidding System	Single Packet System
Tender Closing & Date Time	29.10.2020 15:00 hrs		
Advertised Value	Rs.60,91,709.15/-	Tender Doc. Cost (Rs.)	5000/-
Earnest Money (Rs.)	Rs.1,21,800/-	Validity of Offer (Days)	45 Days

No. MC-9-ST-CAMC-CE-SPARMV-20
Date : 07.10.2020 2166/2020
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. MSG-2020-21/204 to 209 dated 06/10/2020

E-Tender No.: M-SG-2020-21/204.
Name of work: Shifting of starter signals to the boundary of the track circuit ahead to mitigate the risk at remaining 33 stations over Chennai Division. Approx. Cash Value (Rs.): 83.48 Lakhs. Period of Completion: 12 Months.
E-Tender No.: M-SG-2020-21/205
Name of work: Signaling and Telecom works in connection with LUS work at 10 LC gates in Chennai - Gudur section of the Chennai Division. Approx. Cash Value (Rs.): 111.30 Lakhs. Period of Completion: 15 Months.
E-Tender No.: M-SG-2020-21/206
Name of work: Signaling and Telecom works in connection with LUS work at 11 LC gates in Chennai - Gudur section of the Chennai Division. Approx. Cash Value (Rs.): 139.80 Lakhs. Period of Completion: 16 Months
E-Tender No.: M-SG-2020-21/207.
Name of work: Signaling and Telecom works in connection with LUS work at 12 LC gates in Chennai - Gudur section of the Chennai Division. Approx. Cash Value (Rs.): 140.49 Lakhs. Period of Completion: 18 Months
E-Tender No.: M-SG-2020-21/208.
Name of work: Provision of Double Distant signals in ARAKKONAM - RENIGUNTA section in Chennai Division. REACH - 2 between ARAKKONAM and NAGARI portion of work only. Approx. Cash Value (Rs.): 153.47 Lakhs. Period of Completion: 8 Months
E-Tender No.: M-SG-2020-21/209.
Name of work: Provision of Double Distant signals in ARAKKONAM to RENIGUNTA section in Chennai Division; REACH - 2 between NAGARI to PUTTUR portion of work only. Approx. Cash Value (Rs.): 119.43 Lakhs. Period of Completion: 6 Months.
The Complete details of the tender can be downloaded from the e-tender portal https://www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Signal and Telecom Communication Engineer / Signal Chennai Division, Chennai - 600 003 (For and on behalf of the President of India)
Follow us on GMSRailway

BARAMATI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, BARAMATI PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

E-Tender Notice No. 14/2020-21(Online) Parent Portal: http://mahatender.gov.in

BNP/WS-17/633/2020-21 Dated: 07/10/2020
The Chief Officer, Baramati Municipal Council, Baramati invites e-tender (online) for work mentioned below, on percentage rate basis in form B1, from the registered contractors from PWD, MJP, CPWD and Irrigation Department in appropriate class or who are experienced in similar type of work and having bidding capacity and from those who can fulfill the qualification conditions. The detailed tender notice and qualification conditions are available on http://mahatender.gov.in, which can be downloaded free of cost.

E-Tender Work No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost of Work	Earnest Money	Time limit	Cost of e-tender document (non refundable)	Class of Registration
1.	Proposed Construction of 165 ML Capacity R.C.C. balancing tank at G.No.362 & 363 For Baramati Municipal Council, Baramati, Dist.Pune. Sub Work:-R.C.C. work and alide works	15,22,96,074/-	15,22,960/-	12 Months (Including monsoon)	10,000/-	As mentioned above

It is essential that the documents required as per minimum eligibility criteria should be duly signed by the competent authority. The schedule regarding sale of tenders, submission and opening, tender download and upload of tenders is as below.

	Start Date	Hrs	End Date	Hrs
1 Publication of tender	12/10/2020	-	-	-
2 Document Download	12/10/2020	11.00	06/11/2020	15.00
3 Prebid Meeting	26/10/2020	11.00	-	-
4 Bid Submission	12/10/2020	11.00	06/11/2020	15.00
5 Opening of Technical Envelope	11/11/2020	11.00	-	-
6 Opening of Financial Envelope	20/11/2020	11.00	-	-

Note :
a) It is mandatory on all interested bidders to enroll on parent portal of e-tender system; http://mahatenders.gov.in for downloading tender documents and to participate in tender process.
b) For any queries regarding online submission and obtaining digital signature, interested parties may contact -National Informatics Centre (NIC)-Help Desk Toll Free No 18002337315.
c) It is mandatory to submit the tenders online. The cost of e tender document and earnest money deposit shall be paid online, the receipt thereof shall be submitted in sealed envelope in the office of the Baramati Municipal Council alongwith attested copies of documents required as mentioned in another envelope within 72 hours after bid lock.
d) The Chief Officer has reserved the right to reject one or all e-tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.
e) E-tender notice of above work is available on NIC's website http://mahatenders.gov.in

Sd/-
Chief Officer
Baramati Municipal Council, Baramati

GOVERNMENT OF UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DEPARTMENT, JAMMU. OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) CITY DIVISION NO. 1, JAMMU

RFP No. JSD/PHE/JM/NABL/LAB/PHCD-I/2020-21/01 Due Date: 28.10.2020

NOTICE INVITING PROPOSALS
The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No. 1 Jammu (J&K) invites proposals through electronic means (E-Tendering Mode) for engagement of NABL approved Consultant/firm to be engaged in NABL Consultancy Services for NABL accreditation as per the details, terms and conditions of this proposal document, on lump sum basis to acquire NABL accreditation for its existing Testing Laboratory at Sillee in Jammu, a District Headquarter of Jammu District and also the winter capital of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

The intended proposal is to be taken up through electronic mode (e tendering) and the Consultants are requested to note the following instructions for submission of e-bids. The potential Consultants are required to visit the website i.e. www.jktender.gov.in for downloading the comprehensive proposal.

Online proposals in prescribed Application form are invited from eligible consultants till 28.10.2020 upto 15:00 hrs along with Earnest Money Deposit of Rs. 15000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand only) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No. 1 Jammu and the requisite proposal document cost of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand only) non-refundable, also in the form of Demand Draft drawn in favour of The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No. 1 Jammu.

The Proposal document containing Application Form, Scope of Work and other Terms & Conditions can be obtained from the office of undersigned on all working days from 06.10.2020 to 27.10.2020 10.00 A.M. to 16.00 P.M. on payment of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand only) through treasury chalan (under MH 0215 Rev Misc) in original. Alternatively, the proposal document can be downloaded from website indicated.

The proposal is of Single Stage Two Cover system i.e. Technical & Commercial proposals to be submitted separately. The selection of the Consultant shall be purely on the basis of Price based System - Least Cost Selection (LCS). The technical proposal will be opened at 16:00 Hrs. on 28.10.2020 online by the designated Tender Committee (TC) of the Division i.e. The Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No. 1 Jammu or on any convenient date thereafter. The Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No. 1 shall not be responsible for the delay, if any, due to any reason whatsoever be for the receipt/submission of proposal. The Technical proposal along with other documents should be duly filed. The price bid proposal of only technically qualified Consultants shall be opened. No cash transaction shall be acceptable.

Proposal Validity: The validity of Proposal shall be 90 days from the date of opening of the Proposal.
Proposal Selection Criteria: Least Cost Selection (LCS)
Pre-bid Meeting during currency of bidding process (Optional): 15.10.2020 at 12:00 Hrs. in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No. 1 Jammu, J & K
Last Date of Submission/Receipt of E-Proposal documents through online submission: The e-Proposal can be submitted upto 15:00 Hrs. at 28.10.2020 through website indicated.
Sd/-
(Er. Hari Bhusan)
Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti (PHE) City Division No. 1, Jammu

No. PHCD-I/4037-4083
Dated: 05.10.2020
DIPJ-5533

Water Resources Department

Tembhu Lift Irrigation Project Management Division, Ogalewadi

e-TENDER NOTICE No. 06 for 2020-21

Main Tender Portal: https://mahatenders.gov.in
CIRCLE : SANGLI IRRIGATION CIRCLE; SANGLI

DIVISION : TEMBHU LIFT IRRIGATION PROJECT MANAGEMNT DIVISION OGALEWADI

Online electronic bids in B-1 form for below mentioned works is invited by Executive Engineer, Tembhu Lift Irrigation Project Management Division, Ogalewadi Water Resources Department Maharashtra Government from non registered or registered contractors with Public works department, Government of Maharashtra contractors. Tender documents are download from Government website https://mahatenders.gov.in. Executive Engineer, Tembhu Lift Irrigation Project Management Division, Ogalewadi reserves the right to reject / accept of tender. Tender is not accepted with any condition.

- Name of Work** : Tembhu Lift Irrigation Project Construction of Chitali Direct Minor No1 off taking @22800 m (IP side), Direct Minor No 2 off taking @26570 m (IP side), Direct Minor No 3 off taking @26570 m (SR side) on Link Canal II by closed Pipe Distribution Network and its repair, Maintenance & operation for 5 Years and then handing over to water user Association work Tal Khatav Dist Satara
- Cost Put to Tender** : Rs, 3,06,05,393/-
- e-Tender period** : Dt. 09/10/2020 to 03/11/2020
- e-Tender Opening** : Dt. 06/11/2020

All information of above E tender is available on below link.
1. https://mahatenders.gov.in
2. Any changes in E Tender will inform on above website
3. Name of Officer and Address: Executive Engineer, Tembhu Lift Irrigation Project Management Division Ogalewadi Tal- Karad, Dist-Satara Ph, No. 02164-271327 E-mail-eetliphdn2@gmail.com

Sd/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
Tembhu Lift Irrigation Project Management Division,
Ogalewadi, Karad

(dgpjr/2020-2021/914)

NOTICE BOARD

BARODA KISAN PAKHWADA "BY BANK OF BARODA ON 07.10.2020"

Bank of Baroda is observing "Baroda Kisan Pakhwada" starting from 1st October till 15th October 2020 and culminating on 16th of October by Celebration of "Baroda Kisan Diwas" which coincides with "World Food Day". This entire period the Bank is observing as "Baroda Kisan Diwas" at every nook & corner of the country. On 07.10.2020 the Bank have arranged a Mega Credit Camps at Vill- Shilampur, Kanksha Gram Panchayat, PANAGARH, PURBA BARDHAMAN to make credit available to farmers by way of disbursement of agricultural loans besides exhibiting various agricultural products, banking facilities and setting up credit linking of Self Help Groups, these are informed by Mr. Shantanu Mukherjee, Dy. General Manager and Regional Head, Burdwan Region under Kolkata Zone. The function was graced by Mr. P. K. DAS, Dy. General Manager and Dy. Zonal Head, Kolkata Zone, Mr. Shantanu Mukherjee, DGM and Regional Head, Burdwan Region, Mr. Indranil Banerjee, Asst. General Manager, BH of Durgapur Main Branch, Mr. Prabhath Ghosh, Chief Manager, PS Dept. Burdwan Region, Mr. Sashi Chaurasiya, Sr. Manager, EVB-Durgapur Branch. One of the key highlights of the programme was presentation on Agriculture and Priority Sector loan by Shri. Prabhath Ghosh. The presentation was comprehensive in nature and it covered all popular products extensively, including recently launched Baroda Kisan APP (An Integrated Farmer Engagement Platform).



AVALARA INC.

Avalara Inc., leading provider of cloud-based tax compliance automation for businesses of all sizes, today announced the availability of Avalara India GST e-invoicing, an end-to-end solution that helps companies manage e-invoicing requirements and comply with India's e-invoicing reform. The new offering builds on Avalara's range of technological solutions available to improve the Goods and Services Tax (GST) compliance experience for businesses in India by validating, storing, and managing invoices, and providing the option to automate GST returns and e-way bills.

TECHNOCHEM WATER SOLUTIONS

TECHNOCHEM is one of the fastest growing ISO 9001-2015, MSME and FSSAI certified company for manufacturing, supplying, assembling & a service provider of various range of water treatment projects. Our Company is one of the largest manufacturer of water treatment projects in the pan eastern region of the country. We have been providing all types of support & various requirements of Small, Medium & Large government, private and corporate houses with there utmost satisfaction in terms of quality & delivery within the stipulated time. We are serving the esteemed clients like Bengal Fisheries, Ordinance Factory, PHED, Various zilla parishads, Municipal Corporations, Coal India, Hi tech Industries, World Vision (NGO), Indian Oil, Indian Rail & various other corporate entities. We have a large infrastructure to facilitate our business operation with large production unit. equipped with highly advanced machinery and necessary tools to execute the desired assignments. These machines are managed by an able team of professionals who gives their best to execute our projects.



LAUNCHES NEW PRODUCTS AND SOLUTIONS WITH DEACTIVATION TECHNOLOGY (VDT)

Air conditioning and commercial refrigeration major Blue Star Limited announces the launch of a wide range of new products and solutions with Virus Deactivation Technology (VDT).

Virus Deactivation Technology (VDT)

Blue Star's new range of products and solutions with Virus Deactivation Technologies (VDT) has the capability to deactivate viruses including COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) with upto 99.9% efficacy, when air passes through these systems. VDT will be a part of the Company's new range of solutions specially designed for the new reality. Most of the VDT components have also been designed to be easily retrofitted into existing AC systems, both central and unitary, in the field. These VDT solutions will be useful for all air conditioning applications, be it at homes, ATMs, showrooms, restaurants, offices, or large commercial spaces like malls, cinema theatres and airports.

UCO BANK REDUCES ITS MCLR RATES:

UCO Bank has reduced its Marginal Cost of Funds Based Lending Rates (MCLR) by 5 basis points, across all the tenors, with effect from October 10, 2020. The revised one-year MCLR will be 7.30%, down from 7.35% existing. The revised Overnight, One-month, Three-months and Six Months tenor MCLR now stands at 6.70%, 6.85%, 6.95% and 7.20% respectively, 05 basis points, lower than their existing levels. As a result, all MCLR linked loans will also become cheaper now.

BAJAJ FINSERV LTD

Bajaj Finserv Ltd, India's leading financial services conglomerate, today announced the launch of its fully owned subsidiary Bajaj Finserv Health Ltd., (BFHL), a health-tech solutions business, aimed at improving the health outcomes of Indian consumers through smarter, connected and holistic care plans. With this new venture, the company has now forayed into the healthcare ecosystem, aiming to disrupt the health segment and make healthcare experience convenient and all-inclusive for consumers. The new venture, Bajaj Finserv Health, brings to the market its core offering - 'Arogya Care', an industry first product, providing Preventive, Personalized, Prepaid health care packages to consumers.

FIT INDIA FREEDOM RUN CONDUCTED ON THE OCCASION OF GANDHI JAYANTI

As a mark of respect to Mahatma Gandhi on the auspicious occasion of his 151 birth anniversary, N F Railway, Construction Organization conducted "Fit India Freedom Run" from its HOrs to Maligaon gate no.3.

Sri HS Yadav, Chief Administrative Officer-I, N F Railway, Construction Organization took led from the front of the campaign in which all the officers and a large number of employees took part with great enthusiasm in order to maintain their fitness, to get freedom from obesity, laziness, stress etc. Earlier, Shri Yadav administered Swachhata pledge to staff & officers of HOrs and addressed the gathering where he said that keeping cleanliness is not the responsibility only of safai karamcharis or the government but of all the employees and Officers. Shri Yadav made appeal to employees, Officers and their family to implement the vision and philosophy behind Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan launched by the PM of India to abandon single used plastic and to maintain hygiene and sanitation. Speaking on the occasion he added that cleanliness and sanitation should not be a one-time activity but should become a part of our daily life.



FINANCE MINISTER, SMT NIRMALA SITHARAMAN LAUNCHES INDIAN BANK'S 'MSME PRERANA'


MSME Prerana, an online Business Mentoring Programme for MSMEs, an initiative by Indian Bank was launched today by Hon'ble Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs, Nirmala Sitharaman, at the Bank's Corporate Centre in Chennai. Shri Debashish Panda, Secretary, Financial Services, MOF participated by VC in the launch.

MSME Prerana is a first of its kind initiative by a Bank in the country for the MSME sector. This is for empowering entrepreneurs through skill development and capacity building workshops in the local language. The program is in collaboration with M/s Poornatha & Co, a firm that designs Entrepreneurial Development Programs in vernacular using online web based interactive sessions and case studies.


Spread over 12 sessions, "MSME Prerana" program enables MSME entrepreneurs to acquire expertise in handling Finance and Managerial skills, capacity to handle crises in business, understand the dynamics credit rating and risk management. While the sessions on Managerial and Financial skills will be handled by M/s Poornatha & Co, the Banking related topics will be handled by faculty from Indian Bank. On successful completion, all participants would get a Certificate, issued jointly by Indian Bank, Poornatha & Co and MADE (Michigan Academy for Developing Entrepreneurs), USA. Launching the programme, Hon'ble Union Minister of Finance, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman said that Indian Bank has taken an out-of-the-box initiative in launching MSME Prerana which will handhold the entrepreneurs through a mentoring program. This novel initiative shall further inspire others in the banking sector to adopt similar measures. She appreciated the fact that the amalgamation process of Allahabad Bank into Indian Bank did not distract the Bank from the care for customers. The Finance Minister complimented the Bank's leadership and management for this unique initiative.

CEE AMPAI & AMPAI MASTERS' ENTRANCE EXAM SCHEDULED ON 18TH OCTOBER


Five colleges under JIS Group will conduct the entrance exam of CEE AMPAI 2020 and CEE AMPAI Masters' 2020 for minority students through the proctored online exam on 18th October 2020 as per guidelines of the Department of Higher Education, Govt of West Bengal. The candidates who could not appear for their respective State Joint Entrance Examination or JEE Main in 2020 will get another chance for pursuing Engineering & Pharmacy through these exams. The last date of applying for both the exams has been decided as 14th October, 4 pm for a fee of Rs 200 only. As per the directions issued by the Supreme Court, CEE AMPAI & CEE AMPAI Masters' exams have been conducted under five reputed colleges of JIS Group namely JIS College of Engineering (Kalyani), Narula Institute of Technology (Agarpara), Guru Nanak Institute of Technology (Sodepur), Guru Nanak Institute of Pharmaceutical Science & Technology (Sodepur) and Dr. Sudhir Chandra Sur Degree Engineering College (DumDum) since 2014. These exams will be conducted for admission in 11 subjects of B.Tech and B.Pharm, 8 subjects of M.Tech & 3 subjects of M.Pharm, MBA and MCA respectively. The total number of seats available for B.Tech and B.Pharm are 722 and for M.Pharm, MBA and MCA are 117. Due to the early commencement of the State Joint Entrance Exam, students from several states like Bihar, Jharkhand, Tripura, Assam & North-East could not appear for it. "This is one of the major reasons for conducting the exams for providing those candidates with a fair chance to appear, without wasting a year, added the convener of CEE AMPAI Mr. Bidyut Majumdar. Candidates will be able to fill up the application form in both online or offline mode. For detailed information and other conditions, students are requested to visit www.ampai.in.




GOLD
₹51,153



RUPEE
₹73.24



OIL
\$43.12



SILVER
₹62,159

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

SENSEX: 40,182.67 ▲ 303.72 NIFTY: 11,834.60 ▲ 95.75 NIKKEI: 23,647.07 ▲ 224.25 HANG SENG: 24,193.35 ▼ 49.51 FTSE: 5,973.10 ▲ 26.85 DAX: 13,006.52 ▲ 77.95

International market data till 1900 IST

RED-FLAGGED IN US

28 Indian banks asked if they alerted watchdog at home

RITUSARIN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

THE FINCEN Files investigation by *The Indian Express* (September 20-September 26, 2020) has set off a major exercise within the government to find out if Indian banks whose transactions were red-flagged as "suspicious" — by the US regulator — brought these to the attention of the Indian financial watchdog.

The FinCEN Files, a global investigation led by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) and BuzzFeed News, scrutinized over 2,000 Suspicious Activity Reports (SAR) filed to the top US financial watchdog, Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), for suspected money laundering, terrorism, drug dealing or financial fraud.

These related to transactions between 1999 and 2017 worth \$2.09 trillion.

Officials told *The Indian Express* that on publication of the FinCEN Files in India and details of individual transactions being uploaded by ICIJ, work began to determine if Indian banks and their branches filed STRs (Suspicious Transaction Reports) with FinCEN's counterpart in India, the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU).

To begin with, a database has been prepared based on ICIJ's findings of 406 transactions involving 28 Indian banks.

Initially, the banks are being sent the date and value of the transactions listed in the SARs and are asked to verify

details. Sources said several banks have replied confirming that these transactions were, indeed, conducted through their local branches or correspondent branches abroad.

The next stage, currently on, sources said, will involve questioning the banks whether they had red-flagged these transactions and, if not, asking them why.

Officials have calculated that the listed 406 transactions involving Indian banks contain incoming remittances worth \$482.18 million and outgoing transfers worth \$406.27 million.

Among banks which have the largest number of transactions under scrutiny are: State Bank of India, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank and IndusInd Bank.

As reported by *The Indian Express*, 44 Indian banks figured in multiple transactions listed in SARs which became part of the global media investigation.

The SARs are, in themselves, not evidence of illegality. They reflect views by watchdogs within banks, known as compliance officers, reporting past transactions that bore hallmarks of financial crime, or that involved clients with high-risk profiles or past run-ins with the law.

'INDIA'S GROWTH LIKELY TO REBOUND 5.4% IN 2021-22'

World Bank slashes FY21 GDP estimate, likely to shrink 9.6%

Sharp cut from earlier forecast of 3.2% contraction due to lockdown impact

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

INDIA'S GROSS domestic product (GDP) is estimated to contract by 9.6 per cent in 2020-21, a sharp cut from the June forecast of 3.2 per cent contraction due to the impact of the national lockdown against the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and the income shock experienced by households and small urban service firms. The World Bank said in its South Asia Economic Focus report released on Thursday.

The Bank said India's growth is estimated to rebound 5.4 per cent in 2021-22, mainly reflecting base effects and assuming that Covid-related restrictions will be completely lifted by 2022.

"The slowdown in India is expected to depress manufacturing and exporting industries, and the construction sector (which relies

EXPLAINED Risk of rising poverty

THE WORLD Bank said that the earlier downturns were mainly due to falling investment and exports but this time, private consumption — traditionally the backbone of demand in South Asia and a core indicator of economic welfare — will decline by more than 10 per cent, further spiking poverty rates.

on Indian migrant workers) is also likely to experience a protracted slowdown due to a limited pipeline of public sector infrastructure projects," the report said. The entire South Asia region is

set to plunge into its worst-ever recession as the "devastating impacts" of Covid-19 on the region's economies linger on, with regional growth estimated to contract by 7.7 per cent in 2020, after topping 6 per cent annually in the past five years. South Asia's growth is projected to rebound to 4.5 per cent in 2021. Factoring in population growth, however, income-per-capita in the region will remain 6 per cent below 2019 estimates, indicating that the expected rebound will not offset the lasting economic damage caused by the pandemic, the report said.

Among other South Asian countries, Maldives is estimated to record a 19.5 per cent contraction and Sri Lanka is estimated to clock a 6.7 per cent contraction in calendar year 2020, it said. Pakistan's economy is estimated to grow 0.5 per cent in 2020-21, Bangladesh at 1.6 per cent and Bhutan at 1.8 per cent (all esti-

mates for July-June).

Highlighting the difference in this pandemic-induced recession from previous recessions, the World Bank said the earlier downturns were mainly due to falling investment and exports but this time, private consumption — traditionally the backbone of demand in South Asia and a core indicator of economic welfare — will decline by more than 10 per cent, further spiking poverty rates. A fall in remittances is also expected to accelerate loss of livelihoods for the poorest in some countries.

"The collapse of South Asian economies during Covid-19 has been more brutal than anticipated, worst of all for small businesses and informal workers who suffer sudden job losses and vanishing wages," said Hartwig Schafer, World Bank Vice President for the South Asia Region.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

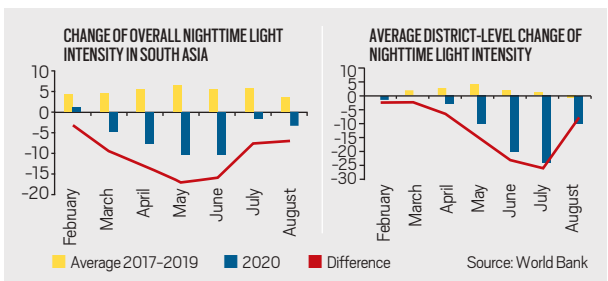
'South Asia becomes darker since March; cities impacted first, then rural areas'

Nighttime light intensity declined in over three quarters of South Asia's districts between March and August, indicating economic disruption due to Covid-19

22% and 10%: Lower average nighttime light intensity across South Asia districts in July and August, respectively, as against year-ago levels

IN INDIA, nighttime lights declined less in districts with higher previous out-migration

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT: In its South Asia Economic Focus report, the World Bank said that during the national lockdown,



districts in India with more recorded Covid-19 infections per capita experienced larger declines in mobility and nighttime lights
Compiled by ENS Economic Bureau

Sensex reclaims 40,000-mark after 7 months

URVASHI VALECHA
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 8

WITH IT stocks on fire, the Sensex on Thursday rose for the sixth straight session, surging to a seven-month high.

The benchmark index rallied 303.72 points (0.76 per cent) to close at 40,182.67, the highest levels since February 25; it is now just 1,770 points or 4.2 per cent away from its January peak. More than half the gains in the last six sessions have come from the rise in prices of HDFC Bank, HDFC and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS). FE

BRIEFLY

Worst is behind us, says Parekh



New Delhi: Asserting that the "worst is behind us", HDFC chairman Deepak Parekh, at the virtual conference by Canada-India Business Council, said India's growth will be in positive region in the fourth quarter.

Soon, 75% of pre-Covid flights

New Delhi: Airlines may be permitted to operate at least 75% of their pre-Covid scheduled domestic flights soon, Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said.

Infy to acquire Blue Acorn iCi

New Delhi: Infosys said it will acquire digital analytics services provider Blue Acorn iCi for up to \$125 million. PTI

Titan to exit JV with Montblanc

Mumbai: Titan Company Ltd has decided to exit from the joint venture partnership Montblanc of Germany. ENS

Morgan Stanley to buy Eaton Vance

Bengaluru: Morgan Stanley will buy investment management firm Eaton Vance Corp for about \$7 billion in a cash-and-stock deal.

IBM to split into two companies

Bengaluru: IBM will split into two companies to focus on cloud computing. REUTERS

Clix Capital makes amalgamation offer to Lakshmi Vilas Bank

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 8

THE CLIX Capital group, promoted by Pramod Bhasin and Anil Chawla, has made a non-binding offer for amalgamation of Lakshmi Vilas Bank with the former.

While the Chennai-based bank's board will evaluate the offer, any amalgamation or takeover can happen only with the concurrence of the Reserve Bank of India. "Further to the process of considering and evaluating the proposed amalgamation with Clix Capital Services Private Ltd, Clix Finance India Private Ltd and Clix Housing

According to sources, the amalgamation will need the RBI approval as equity ownership of over five per cent will change in the LVB case

Finance, we are glad to inform that the bank has received an indicative non-binding offer from Clix Group," the bank said in an exchange filing. As per banking sources, the amalgamation will need the RBI approval as equity ownership of over 5 per cent will change in the LVB case.

Outflows from equity MFs slow in Sept

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 8

DESPITE THE rally in the stock market, equity mutual fund (MF) schemes — led by multi-cap funds — posted an outflow for the third month running in September, though the pace of outflow from equity schemes slowed. MFs saw outflows of Rs 52,090 crore last month, with liquid funds accounting for a bulk of the outflows.

As per data released by Association of Mutual Funds in India Thursday, net outflows from equity schemes were at Rs 734 crore in September. However, outflows were lower from Rs 4,028.83 crore and Rs 3,845.41 crore in August and July, respectively.

Valli Arunachalam sends legal notice to holding co of Murugappa Group

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
CHENNAI, OCTOBER 8

VALLI ARUNACHALAM — who has been fighting for representation in the Murugappa Group holding company Ambadi Investments Ltd (AIL), or an amicable settlement — on Thursday said she has issued a legal notice to AIL, family members of the Murugappa Group and others.

Valli is the daughter of the conglomerate's late executive chairman MV Murugappan. Following his death in 2017, she, her sister and their mother hold an 8.15 per cent stake in AIL. "We have decided to seek legal remedies with

respect to our ongoing efforts to settle my father's will," she said in a statement. Valli's repeated requests for a board seat or an amicable settlement, with the assistance of independent mediators, have been ignored by the family.

She had offered the 8.15 per cent stake to the other branches of the family asking them to buy it. Last month, AIL shareholders comprising largely family members, voted against a resolution to appoint the US-based Valli a non-executive director of the company.

"With the family voting unanimously to reject appointment to the AIL board, we have seemingly reached the end of the road for an amicable settlement," she said. FE

PM: India playing role of pharmacy to the world

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Thursday said that India's manufacturing sector was running at "full steam" and the country was playing the role of "pharmacy to the world".

Addressing the Invest in India conference in Canada via video conferencing, Modi encouraged Canadian investors to invest in India, as it was the place to be for



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the Invest in India event on Thursday. PTI

investments in manufacturing and services.

Google must talk to French publishers about paying for their content: Court

Paris: Google must open talks with publishers in France about paying to use their content, an appeals court confirmed Thursday, paving the way for an industry-wide deal in the country, which has possible implications outside the nation.

It differs from last week's pledge by Alphabet's Google to pay \$1 billion to publishers globally for their news over the next three years, because the French arrangement would involve finding a sustainable methodology to remunerate publishers and news agencies for news. REUTERS



Google's headquarters in California. AP file

SAI LONGOWAL INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY
(Deemed to be University under MCI)
Langowal-148106, Distt. Sangrur, Punjab
Tender Notice No.: PUR/28/2020-21
Engagement of Advertising Agency
Sealed applications are invited on behalf of the Director, SLET, Langowal for engagement of Advertising Agency. For tender document please visit Institute website: www.slet.ac.in
Registrar, SLET
(प्राप्त संख्या के अधीन सब विवरित/संख्या)

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NOTICE INVITING BIDS
Sl. No. Material Description Due Date
1 Supply of 11 KV Slip Ring Induction Motor for Raw Mill Main Drive in LSM Plant 23.10.2020
Detailed Terms & Conditions, Tender Fee, EMD etc., are available in tender document at our websites: www.tnpl.co.in / www.tenders.tn.gov.in
DIPR/3772/Tender/2020 TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper

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E-mail: hdsmaterials@nmdc.co.in; hdsmaterials@gmail.com; bmial@nmdc.co.in
Corporate Identity Number : L 13100A1958G01001674 // GST Regn # 22AAACN7325A1Z5

NOTICE FOR INVITING TENDER
Tender is invited for the following items for Bachel Complex Post Bachel- 494553 Dist. Dantewada (CG) as per details furnished in the Tender documents.

Description of Item	Display & Download of Tender document	Last Date/Time for submission of offer	Tender Fees in Rs.	EMD (in Rs.)
Open Tender Ref. No. NMDC/Bachel/209/20-21/ET/517 Date 03.10.2020 (PI # 11C203 dt. 09.06.2020)	From 03.10.2020 to 23.10.2020	upto 10.30 AM	Rs. 5,900/- (Rupees Five Thousand Nine Hundred) (Non Refundable)	75,000/- (Seventy Five Thousand)
Design, Manufacture, Supply, Supervision of Erection & Commissioning of 02 Nos. Heavy Duty Double Deck Primary Vibrating Screen Circular/Elliptical Motion (8'x20') Complete with all accessories, auxiliaries Mechanical & Electrical fittings as per specification given in Tender required for Screening Plant 10& 11A Bachel Complex	From 01.10.2020 to 27.10.2020	upto 12.00 PM	Rs. 5,900/- (Rupees Five Thousand Nine Hundred) (Non Refundable)	2,00,000/- (Two Lakh)
Supply of Non Drive HT Pulleys & Drive Pulleys (05 items) required for Conveyor 28 & 29 at Down Hills & Screening Plant 10& 11A Bachel Complex.	From 01.10.2020 to 27.10.2020	upto 12.00 PM	Rs. 5,900/- (Rupees Five Thousand Nine Hundred) (Non Refundable)	2,00,000/- (Two Lakh)

The detailed information of the tenders can be obtained from our website <http://www.nmdc.co.in> under Tender section, Central Public Procurement (CPP) portal www.eprocure.gov.in; and MSTC portal www.mstcundercommerce.com/eprocure/nmdc/buyer_login.jsp. Bidder may submit their offer through ON-LINE Tender only.
THE PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS SHOULD DOWNLOAD THE TENDER DOCUMENTS AND SUBMIT THE ONLINE OFFER THROUGH MSTC PORTAL ONLY WITHIN THE DUE DATE AS MENTIONED ABOVE.
Note: Any addendum/corrigendum/bid clarifications/time extension shall be issued on the above said websites only & will not be published separately. Prospective bidders should visit the above websites from time to time to note the corrigendum, if any. Contact for further query on 07857-230751, 94060 06585
Dy. General Manager (Materials)

COVID-19 VACCINE CANDIDATES

Dr Reddy's, Bharat Biotech, Bio E told to revise proposals for human trials

PRABHA RAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

AN EXPERT committee set up under India's top drug regulatory body has directed Dr Reddy's Laboratories (DRL), Bharat Biotech and Biological E (Bio E) to revise their proposals to conduct human trials of their Covid-19 vaccine candidates — a move that may see at least one of the firms revise the number of volunteers they would require for clinical trials of their vaccine candidates.

While DRL had sought permission to conduct late stage trials of the Russian candidate, Sputnik V, Bio E had submitted an application to conduct early stage trials for the vaccine candidate it was developing with Houston's Baylor College of Medicine, Bharat Biotech, which has been testing its inactivated vaccine Covaxin, is also seeking permission to move to late stage trials.

The Subject Expert Committee (SEC) studying these requests this week said that the safety and immunogenicity data in the overseas trials of Sputnik V are "small" and that there is "no data available on Indian subjects". It has recommended that DRL revise its proposal for a phase 3 trial and instead conduct phase 2/3 trials, according to minutes of the SEC meeting on the proposals held on October 5.

"They have to submit a revised protocol now, which means the details of the number of partici-

pants and sites would also have to change," said a senior government official close to the development, on condition of anonymity.

In Bharat Biotech's case, the SEC said that the design of the phase 3 trials for Covaxin were satisfactory "in principle", except for their clarification on certain definitions like "asymptomatic" participants.

"However, the study should be initiated with appropriate dose identified from the phase 2 safety and immunogenicity data," said the SEC in the minutes, adding that the firm should submit this data from the second phase of its trial "for consideration".

The expert panel has told Bio E to conduct animal challenge studies in parallel to its phase 1/2 trials — testing that includes dosing an animal and later "challenging" it with the virus to test the effectiveness of the vaccine in providing immunity. It has also directed Bio E to submit "complete" non-clinical toxicity data from testing the vaccine on rabbits.

"Firm should carry out ascending dose safety study starting with 15 mcg dose, 25 mcg dose and 50 mcg dose before proceeding to Phase II study," the minutes read.

This means Bio E's safety testing on humans may include different groups of participants being injected with different doses of the vaccine to narrow down an appropriate dosage when moving to the next stage.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

Future Group to go for mediation over Amazon notice on deal with RIL

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

AMAZON.COM INC has slapped a legal notice on Future Group, alleging that the retailer's Rs 24,713 crore asset sale to Future Retail Industries violated an agreement with the e-commerce giant. A source who is advising Future Group in this matter said it intends to settle this matter amicably, either through mediation or arbitration.

"We have initiated steps to enforce our contractual rights," a spokesperson for Amazon said. "As the matter is sub-judice, we can't provide details."

The Seattle-based e-commerce giant last year bought a 49 per cent stake in one of Future's unlisted firms, Future Coupons Ltd, with the right to buy into flagship Future Retail after a period between 3 and 10 years. Future Coupons owns a 73 per cent stake in Future Retail. In August this year, Future reached an agreement to sell its retail, wholesale, logistics and warehousing units to Reliance.

The deal is awaiting regulatory approvals. The Future Group source told PTI that Future Coupons received the notice from Amazon. E-mails sent to RIL and Future Group did not solicit any response.

Office of the Addl. Chief Engineer Water Resources Zone, Jaipur
Sinha Bhawan, J.L.N. Marg, Jaipur - 302017
No.: 1108 Date: 30.09.2020
INVITATION OF E-TENDER NO 8 YEAR 2020-21
On behalf of Government of Rajasthan, invites e-tender from eligible contractor for civil works under RWISLP Scheme, estimated cost of 5 works is Rs. 5847.00 Lacs. The details are available in the following websites :-
UBN No.: WRD2021WLOB01306, WRD2021WLOB01307, WRD2021WLOB01308, WRD2021WLOB01309, WRD2021WLOB01310
1. www.eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in
2. www.dipr.rajjasthan.gov.in
3. www.sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in
Sd/-
Addl. Chief Engineer
Water Resources Zone, Jaipur
DIPR/C/7984/2020

Bureau of Investment Promotion
Bid reference: BIP/Info/876 dated 17.09.2020
Notice Inviting Bid (Date extension for bid submission)
The date for submission of Bids for Procurement of Services of Knowledge Partner for Industries Department, Government of Rajasthan has been extended upto 2:00 PM of 20.10.2020. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state.
UBN: BIP2021SLOB00007
DIPR/C/7980/2020 Commissioner (Inv. & NRIs)

pstcl PUNJAB STATE TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033814
O/o Dy. CE/Communication, M-96461-18008, 96461-18025, www.pstcl.org
E-mail: se-comm-1dh@pstcl.org, ase-comm-design@pstcl.org
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Tenders are invited through e-tendering for the supply of the following material as per tender specifications STQ-8043:-
Tender Notice Description & Quantity 1.5 Ton 5 Star Window AC with Stabilizer-94 Nos.
EMD ₹ 58,000/-
Last Date for Downloading of Tenders 10.11.2020 upto 11.00 Hrs
Last Date of Receipt of Tenders 10.11.2020 upto 11.00 Hrs
Last Date of Opening of Tenders 12.11.2020 at 11.00 Hrs
1. Detailed specification may be downloaded from PSTCL e-tendering website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in/nicpeg/app>.
2. It is informed that in case tender process is not completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in newspapers. Details regarding corrigendum may be seen on official/ PSTCL website. www.pstcl.org.
Sd/-
Dy. CE/Communication,
PSTCL, Ludhiana.
87330/Pb

PHILANDER'S BROTHER FATALLY SHOT

A brother of South African cricketer Vernon Philander was fatally shot in a street in Cape Town, his family said. Tyrone Philander, a younger brother of Vernon, was killed meters from the family home in the neighbourhood of Ravensmead on Wednesday. He was shot while delivering water to a neighbour, South African media reported.

AP

BRIEFLY

France beats Ukraine 7-1 in friendly

Saint-Denis: On a night when youth and experience aligned, striker Olivier Giroud scored twice on his 100th appearance for France and teenager Eduardo Camavinga celebrated his first start by scoring an acrobatic goal in a 7-1 thrashing of Ukraine in a friendly game. Giroud's brace moved the Chelsea striker onto 42 international goals, one more than Michel Platini in France's all-time scorers' list, which Thierry Henry tops with 51. The 34-year-old Giroud gave the world champions a 2-0 lead in the 24th minute following Camavinga's opener, with a superb left-footed strike from outside the box into the top corner.

Bhawanipore FC, Md Sporting win

Kolkata: Bhawanipore FC defeated FC Bengaluru United 2-0 in the opening match of I-League qualifiers played behind closed doors here on Thursday, marking the resumption of sporting activity in the country after a seven-month coronavirus-forced hiatus. In the day's second match, fancied Mohammedan Sporting had to work hard for a last-gasp 1-0 win over a spirited Garhwal FC. Pankaj Moulia and Philip Adjah scored for Bhawanipore while full-back Munmun Lugun scored a long-range goal in the penultimate (90+3') minute to win the match for Mohammedan Sporting.

SAI approves shooting camp

New Delhi: The Sports Authority of India (SAI) on Thursday approved a two-month coaching camp for the Olympic core group shooters from October 15 to December 14, a move that was welcomed by the sport's apex body. The camp, which will be held at the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range in the national capital, will comprise 32 shooters (18 men and 14 women), eight coaches, three foreign coaches and two support staff at a total cost of Rs 1.43 crore, according to a statement issued by SAI.

Coe supports right to take knee at Olympics

Tokyo: Dressed in a blue suit and speaking in a light drizzle, Sebastian Coe stood at the edge of the track at Tokyo's new National Stadium on Thursday and repeated his support for the right of athletes to advocate for social or racial justice at next year's postponed Olympics. Coe spoke out in direct opposition to Rule 50 of the Olympic Charter. "I've been very clear that if an athlete chooses to take the knee on a podium then I'm supportive of that," Coe said, giving a boost to Black Lives Matter protests and other social- and racial-justice movements that are determined to use Tokyo as a stage.

PTI & AP

Month after awards, winners waiting for cash prize, trophy

MIHIR VASAVDA & NITIN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 8

IT'S BEEN more than a month since the country's premier sports awards were presented to 74 sportspersons, coaches and institutions from across the country in a virtual ceremony -- with the President joining online and a huge hike in prize money. But several winners told *The Indian Express* they are yet to receive the money or the trophy.

The reasons: the last-minute announcement of the hike for a larger pool of winners that has left the Ministry scrambling for funds, time taken to update the winners' KYC details for direct transfer, and a software glitch.

Confirming the delay, a Sports Ministry official told *The Indian Express* that the cash prize "should be transferred in the coming three or four days".

On the morning of August 29, before the

awards were presented online with a link-up to Rashtrapati Bhavan, Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju announced a massive hike in prize money: from Rs 7.5 lakh to Rs 25 lakh for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award and Rs 5 lakh to Rs 15 lakh for the Arjuna Award.

"The hike, along with a substantial increase in the number of award winners (from around 30 to 74), meant that the funds earmarked at the start of the financial year did not prove to be sufficient. Since the budget allotment got exceeded, we had to get the money from other existing heads," the official said.

The official also said that there were "technical glitches" in the government's online direct benefit transfer software. "This year, there was a directive that everyone should get the prize money from the online direct benefit transfer software of NIC (National Informatics Centre). We had to request all winners to provide KYC details...the technical glitches have been sorted now," the official said.

It felt awkward when I arrived in Jammu without a trophy. The wushu students in Jammu and now in Srinagar, where I have come, were eager to see the trophy. Some of my friends were teasing me, saying 'have you actually received the award or not?'

KULDEEP HANDOO,
WUSHU COACH

Speaking to this paper, several sportspersons said there has been no communication from the government on the reasons for the delay or when they would get the trophy and prize money.

"It should not be delayed like this in the age of digital payments. There are some athletes who need the money for training," said

multiple Winter Games Olympian and this year's Arjuna Award winner Shiva Keshavan.

Some of the other Arjuna Award winners, such as wrestler Rahul Aware and boxer Lovlina Borgohain, said that they haven't got cash or the trophy, either. "I have provided all the relevant details to the Ministry. But I am yet to receive the money as well as the trophy," said Aware.

Dronacharya Award winner and wushu coach Kuldeep Handoo, and boxing coach Shiv Singh who won the award in the lifetime category, were among the others who confirmed the delay.

"It feels strange to be a Dronacharya winner without a trophy. I understand the problems that have come up due to Covid, but it felt awkward when I arrived in Jammu without a trophy. The wushu students in Jammu and now in Srinagar, where I have come, were eager to see the trophy. Some of my friends were teasing me, saying 'have you actually re-

ceived the award or not,'" Handoo said. "Then I showed them the certificate, and they started clicking selfies with that. Until I get the trophy, the certificate will be like a trophy," he said.

The awards are handed over by the President at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. But this time, due to the pandemic protocols, the winners had assembled at various centres of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) nearest to their base or residence and were given the certificate in the online presence of President Ram Nath Kovind.

According to the Ministry official, the government is exploring the possibility of holding another function at a later date for the physical handover of the trophy. "There have been several requests from winners to have a ceremony once the pandemic subsides. They want a photo opportunity while receiving the trophy with the Sports Minister and the President, if possible. So the trophy presentation has been put on hold," the official said.

Pole star

Poland's Swiatek becomes youngest player to reach the French Open women's final in 19 years

REUTERS
PARIS, OCTOBER 8

POLISH TEENAGER Iga Swiatek became the youngest player to reach the French Open women's final in 19 years when she powered past Argentine qualifier Nadia Podoroska 6-2 6-1 on Thursday.

The 19-year-old will on Saturday meet Australian Open champion Sofia Kenin, who beat twice Wimbledon winner Petra Kvitova 6-4 7-5, in her maiden final appearance at a major. World number 131 Podoroska, who was looking to become the first qualifier to reach a final at a major in either the men's or women's singles draw, had no answer to Swiatek's powerful groundstrokes and sleek movement on court. Swiatek had broken serve 27 times en route to the last four stage and added five more to that count before finishing off the one-sided contest on Court Philippe Chatrier in 69 minutes.

"I'm kind of surprised, really. I always knew that if I would be in a Grand Slam final, it would be at the French Open," Swiatek said on court after becoming the first Polish woman to reach the Roland Garros final in 81 years and the first at any major since Agnieszka Radwanska at Wimbledon eight years ago. "I wanted to play this match as a first-round match, I didn't want to think of it as a semi-final otherwise I would have been too stressed. I just wanted to be aggressive like previous matches. I'm feeling good and like nothing hurts me."

Swiatek, the youngest player to reach the women's final at Roland Garros since Kim Clijsters in 2001, looked to impose herself on the match early and jumped to a 3-0 lead.

She managed to hit through the court well, both off the forehand and backhand, and painted the red clay with winners. Unable to put up much resistance, Podoroska decided to show more aggression and started coming forward more to cut down the time for Swiatek to hit her big shots. That helped her hold two service games but was not enough to derail Swiatek, who faced just a single breakpoint in the opening set. Podoroska, who earned more than she had in her entire career by reaching the semi-finals, would have hoped for the tide to turn in the second set but there was no respite.



Iga Swiatek, 19, defeated Argentine qualifier Nadia Podoroska 6-2 6-1 in the French Open semifinals on Thursday. Reuters

WHY THE ROAD TO FINAL MIGHT NOT BE STRAIGHTFORWARD FOR NADAL, DJOKOVIC

EXPLAINED THE FRENCH Open seems poised for a third Rafael Nadal-Novak Djokovic title clash in Paris. But at the semi-final stage, the push to the final will not be easy. And with the way their opponents, Diego Schwartzman and Stefanos Tsitsipas respectively, have been playing, an upset may just be in the offing.

NADAL VS SCHWARTZMAN

Head to head: Nadal leads 9-1. The Spaniard has an impressive record against the diminutive Argentine. But Schwartzman's sole win came just two weeks before the French Open, in a straight-set win in the semi-final of the Rome Masters. In the quarterfinal in Paris, he pulled off another upset win,



Djokovic beat Carreno Busta 4-6 6-2 6-3 6-4 in the quarterfinals. AP

this time against good friend and US Open champion Dominic Thiem. It was an epic five-set battle that saw Schwartzman register a famous 7-6(1), 5-7, 6-7(6), 7-6(5), 6-2 win, and move into his first Grand Slam semi-final.

Nadal, meanwhile, for all his complaints against the conditions in Paris, on court, he's lived up to his moniker of being the 'King of Clay.'

DJOKOVIC VS TSITSIPAS

Head to head: Djokovic leads 3-2. Tsitsipas lost the opening two sets of his campaign in Paris, but has barely put a foot wrong since. He overcame the challenge of former World No 3 Grigor Dimitrov, before shrugging off a shaky start to win his quarterfinal against the talented Andrey Rublev -- avenging the loss he was handed by the Russian in the Hamburg Open final a day before the French Open. His opponent on Friday, the 2016 champion Djokovic has just lost one set so far. **Live on Star Sports 2, 6.20pm onwards** SHAHID JUDGE

Hyderabad openers shut the door on Punjab

SYNOPSIS

Bairstow and Warner tee off for SRH while Poooran is the lone bright spot with the bat for Kings XI

VISHAL MENON
OCTOBER 8

A SENSATIONAL opening partnership between Jonny Bairstow and captain David Warner helped Sunrisers Hyderabad to a formidable 201/6. Then their bowlers and fielders clinched a comprehensive 69-run win over Kings XI Punjab. However, it was not before a scare from Nicholas Poooran's onslaught. But two run-outs and a match-defining spell from their talisman Rashid Khan - who finished with figures of 3/12 - made it a night to savour for the Sunrisers.

Poooran lone bright spot

During Kings XI Punjab's opening game against Delhi Capitals, Sunil Gavaskar had said in commentary that of all the international players, he was most excited to see how Nicholas Poooran would fare this season. It was not surprising to know why. The Trinidadian has been quite a revelation in the Caribbean Premier League and his exploits in the shorter formats for West Indies are well documented. However, barring a scarcely-believable fielding effort at the boundary against Rajasthan Royals, Poooran had hardly caught the eye this season so far.

But on Thursday, the elegant left-hander finally stamped his class with a knock that had the potential of numbing opposition at-



Jonny Bairstow's knock of 97 (55 balls) comprised 7 fours and 6 sixes. BCCI/IPL

Rajasthan hope to end losing streak

Preview: RR vs DC

RR: WWLLL; DC: WWLWWW

Struggling to figure out their best eleven, Rajasthan Royals will need to come up with some quick-fix measures to snap their three-match losing streak when they take on a formidable Delhi Capitals unit in an IPL match here on Friday. The Royals were off to a flying start, winning both their games at Sharjah but they have struggled to adjust to the bigger grounds of Dubai and Abu Dhabi, slipping to three successive defeats. Now back to the Sharjah Cricket Stadium, Rajasthan will take inspiration from their two big wins here to turn things around against a dominant Delhi, who have four out of their five matches.

Live on Star Sports Network, 7:30 pm

in the 15th over to Rashid Khan effectively snuffed out Kings XI's hopes.

Bairstow, Warner tee off

One of the most fascinating aspects of the IPL is the grand alliance between Warner and Bairstow for Sunrisers. An Englishman and an Australian in the same dressing room can often lead to discord, but their camaraderie is almost surreal. Last year, they were involved in four century opening partnerships, and accounted for close to 60 per cent of the team's total runs. It's been a hit-and-miss this season.

It took a featherbed Dubai pitch and a ragged Kings XI Punjab bowling to get their partnership going. It was a rollicking start, one that immediately threw a spanner in Rahul's plans. Over the course of these two seasons, Warner and Bairstow have complemented each other beautifully. Despite an effervescent start from Warner, there was a phase when he was struggling with his timing. Sensing that, Bairstow cut loose. The feature about his batting on Thursday was the nimble footwork and the ease with which he came down the track to spinners and medium-pacers alike. The Yorkshireman targeted the straight boundaries and, to a large extent, refrained from playing across the line.

Bairstow's belligerence eased the pressure on Warner, who maintained the intensity by running hard between the wickets. The duo raced to their fifth 100-run stand in the IPL, even as Bairstow continued playing the role of the aggressor to a nicety. In the interim, when Warner brought up his ninth fifty against Punjab, Sunrisers' dashing openers were well on course to overtaking their previous best stand of 185. But when Warner departed for a 40-ball 52, they had notched up a score of 160 in 15 overs. Bairstow exited in the same over for 97 that resulted in a stutter towards the end. Leggie Ravi Bishnoi and rookie medium-pacer Arshdeep Singh took five wickets between them as Sunrisers managed just 41 runs in the final five overs. **BRIEF SCORES:** Sunrisers Hyderabad 201/6 in 20 overs (J Bairstow 97, D Warner 52; R Bishnoi 3/29, A Singh 2/33) bt Kings XI Punjab 132 all out in 16.5 overs (N Poooran 77; R Khan 3/12, K Ahmed 2/24, T Natarajan 2/24) by 69 runs

Star TV chief Uday Shankar to quit at the end of this year

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 8

A HIGHLY influential figure in world cricket and the head of India's leading media and entertainment conglomerate has decided to move on. Uday Shankar, it was announced on Thursday, will be stepping down as president of The Walt Disney Company (Asia Pacific) and chairman of



Star and Disney India at the end of this year. The official statement said that Shankar, over the next three months, will help to "identify his successor to ensure a smooth transition".

Widely credited for Star TV's virtual monopoly over the broadcast rights of cricket games involving India, both at home and abroad, Shankar hasn't spelled out his future plans but mentioned "mentoring a new generation of entrepreneurs" by partnering "global investors and pioneers" as his likely endeavours. Commenting on his decision to step down, Shankar said, "As I look back on this journey, I take pride in having set ambitious goals in my professional career, and achieving all that we set out to do."

Known to take unpopular decisions and back innovative ideas, Shankar's legacy at Star would be about his successful ascents on slippery slopes. Taking over Star India in 2007, his first big splash was Aamir Khan-hosted talk show Satyamev Jayate that stood out in the crowd of soap operas that dominated the enter-

tainment space at that time.

However, Shankar's time at Star will also be remembered for his decisions - often described as audacious - that changed the entire sporting ecosystem. Under him, Star launched multiple domestic sports leagues but it was the kabaddi enterprise that went on to become the 'big idea' story that drew attention of global sports promoters. This was followed by Star's deep dive into cricket and they winning the telecast rights of the world's most famous cricket tournament -- the Indian Premier League. Once again, the decision wasn't a straightforward one. "I was told IPL had plateaued," Shankar often says.

Another leap of faith which gave Star a headstart was his keenness to own Indian cricket's digital space. In a recent interview to *The Indian Express*, Shankar had spoken about this. "When we were launching Hotstar, our streaming service, a million people told me: 'What are you doing? The experience of live sports on a small mobile phone, this doesn't work. More than 100 million watch one game on Hotstar now,'" he had said.

Having interacted with Shankar extensively, former BCCI CEO Rahul Johri calls him the most successful media professional of our generation. "He has always been on the front foot of every path-breaking media innovation," Johri says.

Like always, even during the ongoing pandemic, doubts were raised about the TRP IPL could muster. Months before the delayed IPL, Shankar had said: "It (empty stands) is not a concern at all. I don't buy it when people say, 'oh, the experience will be incomplete.'" For the record, the opening game of the IPL broke viewership records.

Uganda

58th National Day

**HER EXCELLENCY Ms GRACE AKELLO
HIGH COMMISSIONER OF UGANDA TO NEW DELHI**

Uganda and Asian Partners Kick Out Corona Blues



In the six countries of accreditation for the Uganda Mission based in New Delhi, COVID-19 statistics as of 7th October show that these countries carry the burden of one fifth of the global infections by the virus. They also account for 10.6 per cent of global deaths from the pandemic. Apart from the loss of the valuable human resource in each of these countries, economic ravages unleashed by COVID-19 have wiped off billions of dollars from the gross national products of these countries. The statistics make as grim a reading as the daily death toll of thousands of people in what was a vibrant economic region on a growth path which led to transformational change in this part of Asia.

Uganda and the countries to which the Mission is accredited have rejected the bleak scene of death and desperation which COVID-19 is keen to paint all over the world. Despite the lockdown, Uganda and her partners in this part of Asia have stood shoulder to shoulder to provide and care for each other in much the same way they did before the coronavirus outbreak.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was only a phone call away when President Museveni needed to talk to him about the COVID-19 situation in Uganda. After that call, Uganda got an emergency kit of essential medical supplies to strengthen her fight against the global pandemic. In all the countries of accreditation, officials worked despite the lockdown to address a wide range of issues to do with migration: organising repatriation flights for nationals stranded in their respective countries. This was reciprocated by Uganda which, despite the lockdown of its space, allowed special repatriation flights to and from Uganda for nationals similarly stranded. In Bangladesh, the Honorary Consul ensured that Ugandan nationals were fully briefed of the situation; and their personal needs attended to during the lockdown. In Singapore the authorities dealt with an impostor carrying a Ugandan passport in as humane a manner as possible; deporting him to the country of origin only after his claims to Ugandan citizenship had been found to be false.

In Uganda as in all the countries of accreditation, the human spirit of resistance and resilience was depicted by the efforts each country made to circumvent the economic despoliation wrecked by the virus. Opening the annual Chamber of Indian Industry, Prime Minister Modi called for India's industrialists to look into the strengths and opportunities within the country in order to nurture self-reliant growth. Sri Lanka which prior to COVID-19 had a highly developed marketing system for its teas, including home auction, found new ways to overcome restrictions put on a physical tea auction. The country beat the virus by going digital in its tea auctions, setting up a virtual e-auction system.

On 15th July 2020, Maldives decided to open its airspace since the 27th March lockdown, despite global concerns about the increase of coronavirus infections; putting in place stiff preventive measures to protect all actors in this vital industry. Uganda has always been keen to learn how the Maldives captured and sustained its miracle tourism industry. With the creation of 12 new cities in Uganda in July, the country has been taking lessons on urban planning and economic growth from Singapore; which hosted three webinars on the same matter.

Despite COVID-19 and its ravages, Uganda and India have continued to work together in areas covering international cooperation such as International Solar Alliance (ISA) preparations for the 3rd ISA Assembly; to areas covering entrepreneurship training and business incubation by the Indian entrepreneurship training institution Lemon Entrepreneurship Training. The Uganda Mission in New Delhi is also working with a wide range of prospective investors who are getting their plans polished in readiness for opening of international air space.

Pursuing Economic Diplomacy Despite COVID-19

THE COMMERCIAL DESK IN NEW DELHI HAS BEEN ABUZZ WITH ACTIVITY DESPITE COVID-19.

Held on 29th September, its latest activity in conjunction with Indian Industries Association (IIA), was driven by the outstanding need to balance the trade between Uganda and India. Over 100 participants from India and Uganda attended the three hour webinar which was opened by the IIA President, Mr Pankaj Kumar. The conference benefited from a comprehensive briefing on trade issues by Uganda's Commissioner for external trade in the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Co-operatives, Emmanuel Mutuhunga. Responding to matters raised by the IIA Senior Vice President Manmohan Agarwal, the trade commissioner discussed the well known concept of free trade zones explaining its implementation in the Ugandan setting. He also touched on matters of taxation, highlighting tax holidays and other investment incentives for Uganda's foreign investors. Members of the IIA learnt about markets available for goods produced in Uganda which included the ready market within the country, the East African Community market, the Common Market for Central, Eastern and South African States (COMESA) and other international markets such as the market in the United States of America available through the African Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA).

It was a vibrant meeting moderated by Ashwani Khandelwal, the Secretary of IIA. Winnie Lawoko - Olwe the Director of the SMEs, Technology and Innovations desk at the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) provided information on UIA; the country's one stop investment centre. She also elaborated on Uganda's attempts at promoting her home-based industries in a drive towards self-reliance. Lawoko-Olwe clarified that this was the backbone of the government's



Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi received at Entebbe airport



Sophie Birungi, Commercial Officer, Uganda High Commission

flag ship policy of **Buy Uganda, Build Uganda**. Others on the Ugandan team included Joshua Ntambi, a senior Ministry official who highlighted Government's move to adopting the Indian model of SMEs and making it an important element in its industrialisation drive. One of the bridging people of the Indian community in Uganda who is a Ugandan national, Mr Sanjiv Patel, called for Indian investment in Uganda in order to enhance production avenues and increase

ABU MWESIGWA

pany with an interest in manufacturing masks for Uganda. Another company operating in the Indian Garment Manufacturing City of Solapur won a tender to supply a specific segment of Ugandan government agencies with coronavirus masks as soon as the virus appeared, in March 2020.

In mid-September 2020, the Global Cane Sugar Delegation led by Dr. G.S.C Rao discussed modalities for doing business with Uganda which would help reduce the spread of pandemic. As the beginning of its journey to explore such opportunities in Uganda, the company submitted sample masks known as Med Nile FFP2 Particulate Respirator to the officer in charge of Commercial Diplomacy; who forwarded the same to appropriate agencies including the Ministry of Health.

INVESTORS ASKED TO CONCENTRATE ON UGANDA

In another activity featuring a-300 delegates webinar on 18th of August, and jointly organized with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the Mission focused on the critical imperative of reviving Indian investment interest in Uganda after corona. Chaired by E B Rajesh, Director Africa Region of the CII and by Gideon Badegawa, the Executive Director of the Uganda Private Sector, the webinar sought to gain ground against many competing demands from other countries on Indian companies and investors. Accordingly top level Ugandan technical officers were invited to give an overview of investment opportunities in different sectors of the economy to the august membership of CII.

The webinar involved background preparations which were meticulously done by Ms Indriani Mulay, CII Deputy Director for Africa Region, and a team of dedicated officials at the CII Secretariat.

marketable quantities which would have the effect of balancing trade between the two friendly countries. Other speakers at the forum included the Deputy Director, Federation of Indian Export Organization, Dhananjay Sharma.

INDIAN COMPANIES BID TO PRODUCE CORONA MASKS FOR UGANDA

The Global Cane Sugar Limited is one of the companies in India which sought collaboration with the Mission in Delhi expressing interest in making masks for Uganda. This becomes the second com-

UGANDA: the Pearl of Africa boasts of some of the world's most beautiful fauna and flora. The country for instance has a population of over 450 mountain gorillas, which is more than half of the world's mountain gorilla population! That aside, Uganda also registered seven new gorillas born this year, and this is almost four times greater than the annual record of the world! On the same note, the Ziwa Rhino sanctuary also registered baby number 27, bringing the total number of white Rhinos to 32 in the sanctuary! These are all incredible numbers to the once listed endangered species in the world, and what a site it would be for one to do gorillas and rhinos tracking in Uganda.

From the game drive to view tree climbing lions in Queen Elizabeth, to the boat cruise in Murchison Falls to view the magnificent waterfalls along River Nile! Hiking

Uganda has reopened for tourism



Tonny Kikomeko Galabuzi
Finance Attache
Uganda High Commission

Mt Rwenzori, or water rafting along River Nile in Jinja. Tracking, white rhinos and chimpanzees! A boat cruise on Lake Victoria, the biggest lake in Africa. Kampala's original seven hills, rich history with the old churches and cathedrals, the Gaddafi Mosque (2nd largest in Africa) the Buganda



Palace, the Bahai Temple, Namirembe Cathedral, Lubaga Cathedral, Namugongo Martyrs Shrine, Owino Market (largest market in Uganda), Mulago Hospital (biggest hospital in Uganda), Makerere University (one of the best Universities in Africa). All these surely portray Uganda as the

pearl of Africa!

The COVID-19 outbreak interrupted tourism in Uganda but could not kill the country's tourism allure.

Six months down the road, the President of the Republic of Uganda His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, lifted the re-

strictions on the closure of airports and borders. This meant a breakthrough for the tourism sector. As of 1st October 2020, the airport and borders were open to receive tourists again. The National parks are now open for tourism. Tourists, both local and foreign, are advised to follow the Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) which were issued by the Ministry of Health. The measures are; wear a mask, wash your hands with clean water and soap or hand sanitizer, adhere to temperature checks and keep a social distance of at least 2 meters. On top of these guidelines, tourists coming in should have a negative COVID-19 test taken 72 hours prior to their arrival in Uganda. Foreign tourist are also required to apply and obtain a tourism visa from the Ministry of Internal Affairs Uganda. This can be done online.

(<https://visas.immigration.go.ug/>)

South-east Asia: rich educational opportunities for Uganda

THE six countries to which the New Delhi Mission is accredited in this part of south-east Asia provide a rich field of education and skills training for Uganda. Education in its broadest sense includes any learning and the Mission couldn't be in a better environment from which to tap this soft technology transfer than in its six countries of accreditation. With countries such as Singapore which has realized socioeconomic transformation in one life time; Sri Lanka selling its teas on the international tea exchange; Nepal hosting millions of tourists to Planet Earth's highest point: where else could such fantastic opportunities rise! As for India, the host country for the multiple accreditation Station in her capital city of New Delhi, India is a deep fountain of knowledge for Uganda. This country through its Ministry of External Affairs over the years has offered Uganda thousands of opportunities for students in a wide range of fields of study.

Today under the Commonwealth Scheme Uganda gets 30 full-time scholarships annually from the Indian Centre for Cultural Relations (ICCR) covering undergraduate, post-graduate and doctoral programmes of study. There is another set of



Balunywa Baker N.
Education Attache,
Uganda High Commission

scholarships offered under her flagship India Technical Education Cooperation (ITEC) programme; short term courses ranging from one to nine months of study in a wide range of fields. A recent addition to these two major programmes is the Study In India

Programme offering full and partial scholarships to Ugandan scholars.

Uganda-India cooperation in education is long-standing; spilling into the area private sponsorship by universities. The web and warp of future collaboration promises to be rich: both countries working towards twinning their institutions.

Collaboration in the area of education training and skill acquisition or enhancement is not tied to the youth or government officials alone. India and other countries of accreditation also offer training to Ugandan security forces, including the Police and military. Sri Lanka's offer to train the Ugandan Police Force, other relevant security forces, on anti-terrorism is on the agenda for discussion; even as Uganda reaches to Singapore for training in areas of Marine security. Makerere University in Kampala has a collaborative programme with the tourism department in Nepal in which tourism and filming are key areas of focus. The area of education is therefore one which is bound to see ever increasing and stronger collaboration between Uganda and the countries of accreditation in this part of South Asia of which New Delhi is the home base for the Mission.

From the Consular Desk

AS we celebrate Uganda's 58th anniversary as an independent and sovereign state, the Uganda High Commission New Delhi delights in, and celebrates the cordial relationship that exists between the people of Uganda and of India. Uganda and India's people-to-people relationship goes beyond the diplomatic relations established between Uganda and India in 1965. As a matter of fact, the people-to-people relationship between the two friendly countries is over a century old. It is no wonder that today, Uganda hosts numerous business men and women from India and also has a large population of Ugandans of Indian Origin.

The consular section at the Mission in New Delhi's dedication to providing timely, efficient, relevant and realistic assistance to the various Ugandan citizens and legal residents greatly played out during the Covid -19 Global pandemic. In commemoration of Uganda's independence, we would therefore like to celebrate the various consular assistance the High Commission rendered despite the brutality of the Covid-19 global pandemic.

Ugandan citizens and residents who found themselves in distress in India and our other areas of accreditation namely Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Maldives and Nepal were accorded the much needed

consular services once they reached out to the High Commission.

Like the entire world, the High Commission is still grappling with the effects of the corona virus. The outbreak of the pandemic in India ushered in an unprecedented range of issues to the Consular Desk. The Mission became a hive of activity: organizing and coordinating repatriation flights; providing guidance and counseling to hundreds of stranded Ugandan nationals and residents; liaising with country headquarters as well as Kampala on matters of testing and standard operating procedures for COVID-19; counseling our own staff and making sure they were kept up-to-date on COVID-19 developments; visiting Ugandans in places of custody; etc, etc. This process enriched officers with information and experience that they would ordinarily never acquire.

As we celebrate the Pearl of Africa's independence this year, we would love to celebrate everyone in their individual endeavors to protect themselves and their families from the Covid -19 Virus.

One by one, they say, makes a bundle. That is the only way we will defeat the Covid-19 Virus.

For God and my Country



Joanith Among, Consular Officer
Uganda High Commission