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## Under fire, facing heat within, Kerala govt holds back social media law

**MANOJ CG & SHAJU PHILIP**  
NEW DELHI,  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
NOVEMBER 23Will discuss  
in Assembly:  
CM Vijayan

FACING A hailstorm of criticism from across the political spectrum, including the ruling CPM and its LDF alliance, the Kerala government Monday said it will "not go ahead with implementing" the controversial amendment to the Kerala Police Act to mandate a jail term for any "offensive" social media post.

Taking a U-turn within 24 hours of claiming that the law would not be used against "free speech" or "impartial journalism", Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said: "The amendment evoked varied responses from several corners. Apprehensions were aired by those who support the LDF and profess to defend democracy. In these circumstances, the government will not go ahead with implementing the amendment."

Vijayan said that "a detailed discussion" will be held in the Assembly on the ordinance and "future course of action will be decided after duly considering opinions from all quarters".

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



The Congress and BJP had slammed the LDF for the "harsh and draconian" move to "gag the media". The move had also led to unease within the CPM's central leadership, and ally CPI had expressed concern.

On Monday, sources told *The Indian Express*, CPM general

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



## BACK ON TRACK

In Ludhiana on Monday. The Railways resumed services in Punjab nearly two months after farmers in the state began a blockade to protest against the new farm laws. The Centre has called farmers' representatives for another meeting on December 3. *Gurmeet Singh* REPORTS, P7

## Bank licences for corporates: RBI group ignored advice of experts

Rajan, Acharya note that most said no, warn of 'disaster'

**ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU**  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 23

IN ITS proposal recommending entry of business houses into the banking sector, the Reserve Bank of India's Internal Working Group (IWG) ignored the advice of financial experts it consulted.

On Monday, former Reserve Bank Governor Raghuram Rajan

and ex-Deputy Governor Viral Acharya criticised the proposal, saying that all the experts consulted by the IWG except one "were of the opinion that large corporate/ industrial houses should not be allowed to promote a bank". "Yet it recommends change," they said, in a note posted on Rajan's LinkedIn site.

The two said that the proposal to let industrial houses into bank-

ing will lead to "connected lending" which, according to them, is "invariably disastrous" and would further "exacerbate the concentration of economic (and political) power in certain business houses".

The IWG, which released its report last week, admitted that "all the experts except one were of the opinion that large corporate/ industrial houses should

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## SIT probe into 'love jihad' rules out conspiracy angle, outside funding

UP: Three said they were forced to get married, three said forced to convert

**MANISH SAHU**  
LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 23

A SPECIAL Investigation Team (SIT) set up in September to probe alleged cases of 'love jihad' has ruled out any conspiracy angle in the 14 such cases it investigated and also found no evidence that the Muslim youths involved

got any funding from abroad. The SIT, which submitted its report on Monday, also dismissed charges that the youths had the backing of any organisation.

The SIT's findings come two days after the Uttar Pradesh government announced that it would bring an ordinance to check unlawful conversions in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## COVID-19 VACCINE HUNT IN HOME STRETCH

# Oxford vaccine 'highly effective'; Pune lab says in India very soon

Will seek special emergency marketing authorisation in 45 days: Serum Institute founder

**ANURADHA MASCARENHAS & KAUNAIN SHERIFF M**  
PUNE, NEW DELHI, NOV 23

The Serum Institute of India, which is conducting the trials in India, in Pune on Monday. *Arul Horizon*

OXFORD-ASTRAZENECA on Monday announced that interim trial data from the crucial phase 3 trials have shown that its Covid-19 vaccine candidate is 70.4 per cent effective, indicating a high level of protection against novel coronavirus infection.

In Pune, Dr Cyrus Poonawalla, founder of the Serum Institute of India (SII), which is testing and manufacturing the candidate under licence, said the vaccine would be available in India "very soon".

"A vaccine against the coronavirus disease will be available very soon in our country. We are going to ask for special emergency marketing authorisation in 45 days from today," the 79-year-old chairman of the Poonawalla Group told *The Indian Express*.

Scientists at the University of Oxford and the British-Swedish pharma giant AstraZeneca made three important announcements about the "highly effective"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## 1 crore health workers to get first dose; PM to hold meeting with CMs today

**KAUNAIN SHERIFF M**  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

AHEAD OF a crucial meeting on vaccine administration that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hold Tuesday morning with Chief Ministers, top government sources told *The Indian Express* that one crore frontline health-care workers have been identified to receive the first dose of whichever vaccine is available against the novel coronavirus infection early next year.

The sources, who are part of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**EXPLAINED**  
For India, special promise

THE TRIAL results of the Oxford-AstraZeneca candidate hold special promise for India. Not only is the vaccine based on a proven technology, it is being manufactured in India, and is likely to be abundantly available to the mass of Indians at a reasonable price.

## PROBE INTO ROSHNI LAND SCAM

# Former ministers, officers in list of illegal land deal beneficiaries in J&K

Have all papers, charges rubbish: Haseeb Drabu

**DEEPTIMAN TIWARY**  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

FORMER PDP leader Haseeb Drabu and three of his relatives; Congress treasurer KK Amla and three of his family members; and four National Conference

Clockwise  
from left:  
Drabu;  
Wani;  
Kichloo

leaders, including Sajjad Kichloo and Haroon Chaudhary, figure in a list of around 400 alleged illegal beneficiaries prepared by the J&K administration in relation to the Roshni land scam.

Under the Act, undue concessions were allegedly given for regularisation of land conversion at rates far below those stipulated and the cut-off year kept getting shifted.

The list, prepared on the directions of the Jammu and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Three-time CM, he was the voice of Assam in Delhi

Suffered post-Covid complications after testing positive in August



TARUN GOGOI  
1936-2020

**PAGE 1**  
**ANCHOR****ABHISHEK SAHA**  
GUWAHATI, NOVEMBER 23

TARUN GOGOI, former Union MoS, three-time chief minister of Assam, six-time Congress MP, and one of the Northeast's most prominent political leaders, died Monday of post-Covid health complications. He was 84.

"He left this world at 5.34 pm," announced Assam's Health Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma outside the Guwahati Medical College and Hospital, where Gogoi had been undergoing treatment after testing positive on August 26.

Gogoi was administered plasma therapy when his condition worsened, and he went on to test negative. But he continued to suffer from health complications,

and was on non-invasive ventilation since November 2 and invasive ventilation from Saturday.

A lawyer by education and training, Gogoi, who was born in April 1936 in Jorhat district of eastern Assam, was elected for the first time to the Lok Sabha in 1971. In the 1990s, he served as Union Minister of State. In 2016, in what turned out to be his final election, he was elected as MLA from Titabor.

"Tarun Gogoi was a colossal politician not only for Assam and the Northeast but also the whole country. From 1971, he became the voice of Assam in Delhi," said Wasbir Hussain, author of Gogoi's authorised biography *Tarun Gogoi: The Inside Story of a Blunt Politician*.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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ARRANGED: THE ASSAMESE SHORT FILM IS A DISARMING TAKE ON SECOND CHANCES AND HOPE

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TECH



THE RISE OF ASSISTIVE DEVICES

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PHOTOS



LONGEST SERVING CM OF ASSAM DIES

Remembering Tarun Gogoi: His rare pics from Express archives

EXPRESS

AUDIO

The first official assessment of the fallout of the pandemic

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Today on the 3 Things podcast, we talk about the details of the report that has assessed the response of the government to contain the COVID-19 pandemic

## FROM PAGE ONE

### First dose

(Accredited Social Health Activists) workers and ANMs (Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery)".

"However, within the main group, there is no further priority. Once we start immunising front-line healthcare workers, will do it for the entire 1 crore people, from start to finish," a source said.

Students of medicine and nursing students and faculty members will also be involved in the training and implementation of the immunisation programme.

### Bank licences

not be allowed to promote a bank". The experts consulted by the IWG included Bahram Vakil (Partner, AZB & Partners), Abizer Diwanji (Partner, EY India), Sanjay Nayar (CEO, KKR India), Uday Kotak (MD & CEO, Kotak Mahindra Bank), Chandra Shekhar Ghosh (MD & CEO, Bandhan Bank), and P N Vasudevan (MD & CEO, Equitas Small Finance Bank).

The IWG also consulted experts like former Deputy Governors Shyamala Copinath, Usha Thorat, Anand Sinha and N S Vishwanathan "for sharing their deep insights with the group".

In an annexure to its proposal, the IWG, headed by P K Mohanty, noted the objections raised by experts, including that a business house's non-financial activity may spill over to its bank. "The corporate houses may either provide undue credit to their own businesses or may favour lending to their close business associates. They may influence lending by the bank, to finance the supply and distribution chains and customers of the group's non-financial businesses, thereby creating unreported risk to the bank," it said.

The annexure noted that with the prevailing governance culture in corporate houses not up to standard, "it will be difficult to ring fence the non-financial activities of the promoters with that of the bank".

The note added, "There are various ways of circumventing the regulations on connected lending and due to complex structures of entities, cross holding of capital, the disbursement/diversion of funds to group concerns is difficult to check... It is difficult to prevent influence of corporate houses on the Board in such banks. Assessing 'fit and proper' status of the promoters and its large number of group entities is very difficult."

In their note, Rajan and Acharya said, "Even if banking licenses are allotted fairly, it will give undue advantage to large business houses that already have the initial capital that has to be put up. Moreover, highly indebted and politically connected business houses will have the greatest incentive and ability to push for licenses... That will increase the importance of money power yet more in our politics, and make us more likely to succumb to authoritarian cronyism."

Rajan and Acharya said, "The rationales for not allowing industrial houses into banking are then primarily two. First, industrial houses need financing, and they can get it easily, with no questions asked, if they have an in-house bank. The history of such connected lending is invariably disastrous – how can the bank make good loans when it is owned by the borrower?" The second reason to prohibit corporate entry into banking was further concentration of power in certain business houses, they said.

They noted that even an independent regulator finds it difficult to check poor lending. "Can the regulator not discriminate between 'fit and proper' businesses and shady ones? It can, but it has to be truly independent, with a thoroughly apolitical

## Pune lab says vaccine in India very soon

vaccine candidate, AZD1222: first, two different dosing regimens had demonstrated efficacy, with one showing a better profile; second, the candidate met the primary efficacy endpoint in preventing infection; third, no hospitalisations or severe cases of Covid-19 were reported in participants who were given the vaccine candidate.

"An independent Data Safety Monitoring Board determined that the analysis met its primary endpoint showing protection from Covid-19 occurring 14 days or more after receiving two doses of the vaccine. No serious safety events related to the vaccine have been confirmed. AZD1222 was well tolerated across both dosing regimens," AstraZeneca said in a release.

The interim analysis, which included 131 Covid-19 patients, indicates that one dosing regimen showed a 90 per cent efficacy when the vaccine was given as a half dose followed by a full dose at least one

month apart; another regimen showed 62 per cent efficacy when given as two full doses at least one month apart.

"The combined analysis from both dosing regimens resulted in an average efficacy of 70 per cent. All results were statistically significant. More data will continue to accumulate and additional analysis will be conducted, refining the efficacy reading and establishing the duration of protection," the release said.

The pooled analysis included data from the phase 2/3 trial in the United Kingdom, and phase 3 trial in Brazil. Over 23,000 participants are being assessed following two doses of either a half-dose/full-dose regimen or a regimen of two full doses of AZD1222 or a comparator (MenACWY).

Oxford University said it will now support AstraZeneca in submitting both the interim phase 3 efficacy data and the extensive safety data to all regulators "across the world, including in the UK, Europe and Brazil for independent scrutiny and product approval, including for emergency use". Also, the release said, "the company will seek an Emergency Use Listing from the World Health Organisation for an accelerated pathway to vaccine availability in low-income countries."

Poonawalla told *The Indian Express* that "Forty million doses (of the vaccine candidate) have already been produced and definitely we should be able to produce another 60 million doses in a minimum of 45 to 60 days."

Following the announcement of the trial results by Oxford, SII CEO Adar Poonawalla tweeted that he was "delighted to hear that Covishield – a low cost, logistically manageable and soon to be widely available Covid-19 vaccine, will offer protection upto 90 per cent in one type of dosage regime and 62 per cent

in the other dosage regime".

Covishield is the name for the AZD1222 candidate in India. SII, which was founded by Poonawalla in 1966 and which is now the world's largest vaccine maker by doses, has multiple Covid-19 vaccine partnerships, and is carrying out the Indian trials of the Oxford-AstraZeneca candidate.

Emergency authorisation for the vaccine by the Indian regulator will be the first step in ensuring its administration based on a priority list, starting with front-line healthcare workers.

SII scientists are, in fact, hopeful of being able to roll out the vaccine before the year is out. Poonawalla said: "We hope the government will give the go-ahead for vaccinating persons at highest risk – doctors, nurses, and healthcare workers at hospitals." In anticipation of receiving regulatory clearance, 100 million doses will be ready through special licensure in one and a half months, he said.

abducting or inducing woman to compel her marriage, etc) and other charges. In eight cases, it was established that the victims (the girls) were minors.

In three of the 14 cases, the SIT found that police had filed closure reports after the Hindu women, all above 18 years, had given statements in favour of the accused, stating either that they had married Muslim men or been with them of their own free will, said Agarwal.

Of the 11 cases in which action was taken against the accused men, the SIT found that in three cases, the youths had allegedly used false identities, including preparing fake documents, to impress the girls. In these three cases, police have added charges of fraud against the accused, said the IG.

While probing the 'conspiracy' angle in these 11 cases, the SIT found that only four of the Muslim youths, against whom cases were lodged, were known to each other. But that, the SIT found, was because they lived in the same locality – Juhi colony in Kanpur.

"The conspiracy part could not be established. The inquiry team also did not find any organisation to be behind the youths (accused). Also, they were not being funded from abroad," said Agarwal.

Roshni Act. "With the grace of the Almighty, I have not committed such illegal things. However, I lawfully purchased a piece of land at Nowabad, Sunjwan (Jammu), in 1994." While the phone of NC leader and former Kishtwar MLA Kichloo was switched off, a call to party colleague's Goni's number reached a message saying the incoming facility was not available.

The Roshni Act proposed that ownership rights be given to persons holding state land unauthorisedly till the cut-off year of 1990, on payment equivalent to the market rate prevailing that year, as "eviction of these lands is very difficult". In 2005, the PDP government led by Mufti Mohammed Sayeed relaxed the cut-off year to 2004, which was further moved to 2007 under the Congress government led by Ghulam Nabi Azad (the Congress and PDP were in alliance at the time).

The objective of the Act was to raise resources for hydro-electric projects. While the government expected to realise over Rs 25,000 crore as regularisation fees, a 2014 CAG report noted that only Rs 76 crore had been realised from the transfer of encroached land between 2007 and 2013.

Investigations have revealed irregularities such as undervaluation of land, vesting of ownership without any payment, and regularisation of prohibited encroachments such as those on forest lands. In 2007, sources said, there were instances of agricultural land being given away literally free, and urban land being transferred at huge discounts. Rules were framed to allow change of use of agricultural and forest lands to commercial, sources said.

NC leader Mohammad Sayeed Akhoo, whose name is in the list prepared by the government of beneficiaries, said, "I have only a plot of land in Jammu. I purchased it from a resident in 1993-94 when I left the Valley following militancy. It was then a deserted area. When the Roshni scheme was announced, I paid the price fixed by the government."

Retired IAS officer Mohammad Shafi Pandit said the land in question had been leased to his mother-in-law in 1953. The lease was renewed again in 1976 and was valid till 2016. But before that the government came up with the Roshni scheme... The government was not renewing the lease and we had to pay for it. We paid decent rates, which were 25 per cent of the market price. This is higher than the price the government paid for land acquired for its own projects. Also this is a norm in almost every state and land is given to people at 10-15 per cent of the market value."

In 2011, a retired professor, S K Bhalla, filed a PIL on the matter. In 2014, following the CAG revelations, Bhalla filed another PIL, seeking a vigilance inquiry. On November 28, 2018, the State Administrative Council under then Governor Satyapal Malik repealed the Act and cancelled all pending applications. The Anti-Corruption Bureau registered 17 FIRs in the matter.

On October 9 this year, the High Court passed an order on Bhalla's PIL directing a CBI inquiry and cancelling all allotments "ab initio" (from the beginning)". The court also declared the Roshni Act "unconstitutional, contrary to law and unsustainable", and ordered the UT administration to recover all land given away under the legislation.

The court further ordered the administration to publish all information related to the Act on a website. It also asked the government to publish details of all influential persons and those holding *benami* land for them, who benefited.

WITHENS, SRINAGAR, JAMMU  
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02091/02092 Kathgodam-Dehradun-Kathgodam Jan Shatabdi Exp	24 & 27.11.2020
04887/04888 Barmer-Rishikesh-Barmer Special	23, 24 & 27.11.2020
04113 Prayagraj Jn. - Dehradun Special	23.11.2020
04114 Dehradun-Prayagraj Jn. Special	24.11.2020

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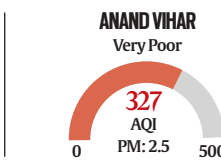
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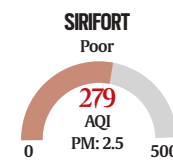




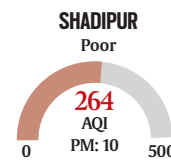
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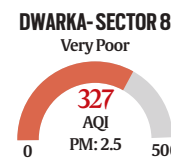
51-100 Satisfactory



101-200 Moderate



201-300 Poor



301-400 Very Poor

401-500 Severe

NAND NAGRI

# BJP worker shot dead by 4 men, son stabbed to death trying to save him

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

A 57-YEAR-OLD BJP worker was gunned down, allegedly by four men who also stabbed his 22-year-old son to death as he attempted to save his father. Police said the incident took place around 6.45 am Monday when the two were at a mosque in Northeast Delhi's Nand Nagri for morning prayers.

The victims have been identified as Zulfikar Qureshi, former secretary of the minority cell morchha (Eastern unit) of the Delhi BJP, and his son Janbaz.

DCP (Northeast) Ved Prakash Surya said Qureshi was shot in the head, while his son was attacked with a sharp-edged weapon: "The two were taken to a nearby hospital, where Qureshi was declared dead on arrival. He sus-



Zulfikar Qureshi (57) and his son Janbaz (22)



tained more than six bullet injuries. His son succumbed to injuries during treatment." He said a case of murder has been filed at Nand Nagri police station, and the accused have been identified. Police said Janbaz in his dying declaration named them.

Said a police officer: "Initial investigation revealed that a plot to eliminate Qureshi was hatched by a man who faced financial

losses after the victim filed a complaint against him with local police over disposing stolen vehicles at the Sunder Nagar scrap dealing market. He had also filed a complaint with the National Green Tribunal over illegal handling of scrap." So far, police have detained one accused, an associate of the man, and looking for the others.

Qureshi's wife Reshma said

she saw the incident unfold from the entrance of their home: "The mosque is 50-100 metres away from our house in Block-O of Sunder Nagri. My husband was walking towards the mosque and Janbaz was inside. Suddenly, four men intercepted him and opened fire near the mosque. Janbaz rushed out to help but the accused stabbed him. The men also locked the mosque gate from outside so my husband and son don't take shelter inside.. They stood near my husband to ensure he died."

Qureshi's brother-in-law Mohd Kamruddin said he was an RTI activist, who was earlier secretary of the BJP minority cell of Northeast Delhi. "Before his death, he was president of the eastern unit of the Himalaya Pariwar, founded by RSS leader Indresh Kumar. He was constantly threatened by all scrap dealers but he was doing his

work with honesty," said Kamruddin.

Investigation also revealed that Qureshi had a personal security officer around five years ago after his younger brother Munna allegedly killed their father over a property dispute. Initially, police were also probing the role of Munna for this crime. "This changed after Janbaz gave a statement before he died. Investigation revealed the accused were staying in the victims' neighbourhood," said a police officer.

The officer said that during questioning, the detained accused said Qureshi would file complaints against several shopkeepers of Sunder Nagar scrap market. While some moved to Mayapuri market, he continued filing complaints.

## Defence Ministry buildings to be completed by Feb 2021

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

THE TWO new office buildings of the Ministry of Defence in KG Marg and Africa Avenue will be completed by the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) by February 2021 — a record eight months — using pre-engineered building technology, said officials.

At the Africa Avenue site Monday, CPWD chief Vinit Kumar Jayaswal said, "As we are using dry methods of construction, no dust will be generated."

Officials said the fabrication is done elsewhere, and only assembling will be done at the site. As much as 80% of the building comprises pre-engineered components like structural steel columns and beams, that are being transported from Haridwar, Indore and Bawal. Officials said no welding operations will be done at the site, and nuts and bolts will be used for



A graphic representation of the buildings. Photo Credit: CPWD

construction.

An official said, "As 30% of air pollution is caused by construction, we decided to employ this method." Though its not the first time pre-engineered building technology is being used, officials said it has never been done on such a large scale. The KG Marg building will have eight storeys with a build-up area of 44,000 square metres while the building at Africa Avenue will be seven storeys and have a build-

up area of 49,000 square metres.

The buildings are estimated to cost around Rs 500 crore. Officials said the terracotta tile facade of the buildings will reflect the aesthetics of Lutyens' Delhi, while also providing good insulation, and reduce the need for air conditioning and heating.

After foundations were laid in March, full-fledged construction began only in August due to the lockdown. About 30% of the work has been completed, officials said.

SUPPLEMENTARY CHARGESHEET FILED

## NE riots conspiracy case: Hearing on cognizance deferred

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

A DELHI court Monday deferred the hearing on cognizance of the supplementary chargesheet filed in the "conspiracy" case related to the Northeast Delhi riots, against former JNU student Umar Khalid and JNU student Sharjeel Imam, in the wake of a recent Delhi High Court order staying the trial in the matter.

Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat deferred the hearing for Tuesday, saying the court's order has to be correct in terms of the HC's directions. The judge asked the counsel for the accused if the court can take cognizance of the supplementary chargesheet and if orders for providing its copies to the counsel can be passed since the trial has been stayed in the matter.

In the supplementary chargesheet filed on Sunday, Imam and Khalid were booked under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and other sections of the Indian Penal Code, Arms Act and Prevention of Damage to Public

Properties Act.

On November 10, the High Court had stayed the trial in the conspiracy case after a plea was filed by police challenging the order of the city court that directed them to supply physical copies of the chargesheet to all accused. However, the trial court is at liberty to decide any application whatsoever, as per the order.

During the hearing, counsel for the accused said the grievance of the prosecutor was with supply of hard copies of the bulky main chargesheet and soft copies can be supplied now.

Special Public Prosecutor Amit Prasad, appearing for police, said police was willing to provide soft copies of the supplementary chargesheet to the accused but orders have to come from the court.

The trial court had on October 21 refused to grant time to police to obtain funds' sanction to provide to the accused hard copies of the voluminous chargesheet and directed them to provide the same. Police has challenged the order before the HC.

## Custody extended mechanically, illegally: Umar Khalid to court

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

FORMER JNU student leader Umar Khalid told a Delhi court Monday that his custody in a case related to the Northeast Delhi riots was extended "illegally" and "mechanically". The submissions were made before Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Dinesh Kumar, who has put up the matter for further hearing on November 27.

Advocate Sanya Kumar, appearing for Khalid, alleged that since the beginning of his arrest in the case, his lawyers were not given copies of the remand applications and denied information about when and before which judge he would be produced. "Time and time again, remand was mechanically granted. Case diaries were not signed; we were not supplied a copy of the remand application," she claimed.

The application, moved by advocates Trideep Pais and Kumar, sought directions to the investigating agency and jail authorities to provide a copy of the application seeking remand/extension of remand to Khalid's counsel in advance.

It also sought directions to police to intimate the counsel about the time, place and manner of all future remand proceedings for Khalid one day in advance.



Former JNU student Umar Khalid

It requested the court to clarify that proceedings for remand or its extension cannot be carried out "mechanically" and that Khalid's counsel be permitted to participate effectively, either physically or through video conferencing, in all such proceedings in the future.

Kumar also said they were told there was no material required for extension of judicial custody. "It is absolutely against settled principle. Umar Khalid's custody was extended illegally and mechanically. This is a serious issue. The logistical difficulties due to Covid-19 pandemic cannot come in the way of the rights of an accused or their counsel," she told the court.

Special Public Prosecutor Manoj Chaudhary, appearing for police, said that as per the CrPC, moving an application every 14 days for extension of judicial custody was not by law but by precedent.

## High Court seeks reply on nod to cut, transplant 315 trees

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Monday sought the Centre and Delhi government's response to a plea challenging the permission granted by the forest department to cut and transplant 315 trees to redevelop Ayur Vigyan Nagar at August Kranti Marg. The division bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice Prateek Jalan issued

notice in the plea filed by SDMC councillor Abhishek Dutt, and listed the case for December 11.

The plea said the authorities granted permission to NBCC on September 14 to cut and transplant trees and "allowed large-scale destruction of vegetation, ignoring air pollution, serious environmental concerns", **ENS**



**RAIL VIKAS NIGAM LIMITED**  
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

Registered office: 1st Floor, August Kranti Bhawan, Bhikaji Cama Place, R. K. Puram, New Delhi, South Delhi - 110066, E-mail: [investors@rvnl.org](mailto:investors@rvnl.org)  
Website: [www.rvnl.org](http://www.rvnl.org); CIN: L74999DL2003GD1118633

**NOTICE OF 17TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, BOOK CLOSURE, RECORD DATE AND INFORMATION ON E-VOTING**

The 17th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the Company will be held through Video Conferencing ("VC")/Other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM"), on **Wednesday, 16th December, 2020 at 11:30 AM (IST)**, in compliance with all the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and the Rules made thereunder and the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") [Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements (LODR)] Regulations, 2015, read with applicable circulars issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs ("MCA") and SEBI (collectively referred to as "relevant circulars"), to transact the business set out in the Notice of the AGM. Members will be able to attend the AGM through VC / OAVM through NSDL link at <http://www.evoting.nsdl.com>. Members participating through the VC/OAVM facility shall be reckoned for the purpose of quorum under Section 103 of the Companies Act, 2013.

In compliance with the relevant circulars, the Notice of the AGM alongwith Annual Report 2019-20, have been emailed on 23rd November, 2020 to the Members of the Company whose email addresses are registered with the Company/Depository Participant(s). The aforesaid documents are also available on the Company's website at <https://www.rvnl.org>, the websites of the Stock Exchanges i.e., BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at <http://www.bseindia.com> and [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com), respectively and on the website of NSDL at <http://www.evoting.nsdl.com> (agency for providing the E-Voting/remote e-voting facility).

The documents referred to in the Notice of the AGM are available electronically for inspection without any fee by the members from the date of circulation of this Notice upto the date of AGM. Members seeking to inspect such documents can send an email at [investors@rvnl.org](mailto:investors@rvnl.org).

**Closure of Register of Members and Share Transfer Books**

Pursuant to Regulation 42 of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015 read with Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rule 10 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules 2014, the Registers of Members and Share Transfer books of the Company will remain closed from **Thursday, 10th December, 2020 to Wednesday, 16th December, 2020 (both days inclusive)** to determine entitlement of the members for **Final Dividend @ Rs. 1.14/- per share (11.40% of paid-up share capital)** for the financial year ended March 31, 2020, if approved at the AGM, would be paid to those members, whose name appears:

**a)** As Beneficial Owners as at the end of working hours on **Wednesday, 9th December, 2020** (Record Date) as per the list to be furnished by NSDL/CDSL in respect of shares held in electronic form.

**b)** As Members in the Register of Members of the Company after giving effect to all valid share transfers in physical form lodged with the Company on or before **9th December, 2020**.

**Instructions for Remote E-Voting/E-Voting at the AGM**

**a)** The Company is providing to its members facility to exercise their right to vote on resolutions proposed to be passed at AGM by electronic means ("**remote e-voting/e-voting at AGM**"). The Company has engaged the services of **National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL)** (as the agency to provide e-voting facility. CS Arun Kumar, M/s AKU & Associates, Company Secretaries has been appointed as **Scrutinizer** for the Voting Process.

**b)** A person, whose name is recorded in the Register of Members or in the register of beneficial owners maintained by the depositories as on the **cut-off date i.e. 9th December, 2020** only shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting or for participation at the AGM and voting at the AGM.

**c)** Information and instructions including details of user ID and Password relating to e-voting have been sent to the members through e-mail. The same login credentials should be used for attending the AGM through VC/OAVM.

**d)** The remote e-voting facility would be available during the following period:

Commencement of remote e-voting **Sunday, 13th December, 2020 (09.00 AM IST)**

End of remote e-voting **Tuesday, 15th December, 2020 (05.00 PM IST)**

**e)** The remote e-voting facility is available upto **5.00 p.m. (IST) on Tuesday, 15th December, 2020**. Thereafter, the remote e-voting module shall be disabled by NSDL.

**f)** Any person, who acquires shares of the Company and becomes a member of the Company after dispatch of the Notice and holds shares as on the cut-off date, may obtain the User ID and Password by sending a request at <http://www.evoting.nsdl.co.in>. However, if the person is already registered with NSDL for remote e-voting then he/she can use their existing User ID and Password for casting the vote. Such members may cast their votes using the e-voting instructions, in the manner specified by the Company in the Notice of AGM.

**g)** The procedure for e-voting on the day of the AGM is same as the instructions mentioned above for remote e-voting.

**h)** Only those Members/shareholders, who will be present in the AGM through VC/OAVM and have not casted their vote on the Resolutions through remote e-voting and are otherwise not barred from doing so, shall be eligible to vote through e-voting system in the AGM.

**i)** Members who have voted through Remote e-voting will be eligible to attend the AGM. However, they will not be eligible to vote at the AGM.

**j)** The manner of remote e-voting and voting at the AGM by members holding shares in dematerialized mode, physical mode and for members who have not registered their email addresses is provided in the Notice of the AGM and is also available on the website of the Company: <https://www.rvnl.org> and on the website of NSDL at <http://www.evoting.nsdl.com>.

**k)** The results of voting on resolutions shall be declared within 48 hours of the conclusion of the AGM of the Company.


**Members are requested to carefully read all the Notes set out in the Notice of the AGM with respect to instructions for joining the AGM, manner of casting vote etc.**

**Contact Details:**

In case of any queries, you may refer the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Shareholders and e-voting user manual for Shareholders available at the download section of [www.evoting.nsdl.com](http://www.evoting.nsdl.com) or call on toll free no.: **1800-222-9990** or send a request at [evoting@nsdl.co.in](mailto:evoting@nsdl.co.in) or contact **Ms. Pallavi Mhatre, Manager, National Securities Depository Limited, Trade World, 'A' Wing, 4th Floor, Kamala Mills Compound, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400013**, at the designated email id - [evoting@nsdl.co.in](mailto:evoting@nsdl.co.in) or [pallavi@nsdl.co.in](mailto:pallavi@nsdl.co.in) or at telephone nos.: **+91 22 24994545, +91 22 24994559**, who will also address the grievances connected with the voting by electronic means.


For Rail Vikas Nigam Limited  
Sd/-  
(Kalpana Dubey)  
Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

Place : New Delhi  
Dated : 23.11.2020



**National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited**  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

**Corporate Office: 3rd Floor, PTI Building, 4 - Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001**



**BHARATMALA**  
ROAD TO PROSPERITY

**F.No. NHIDCL/2(7)/Rectt Tech & Fin/2020/HR**

National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited has been set up by the Government of India as a Corporation under the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways to fast pace construction/ up-gradation/ widening of National Highways in the North-Eastern Region and areas that share International boundaries with neighboring countries. Applications are invited from dynamic, effective and experienced eligible retired Officers from Central Government Ministries/ Departments, Army, Navy, Airforce, BRO (GREF), Autonomous Bodies, Public Sector Undertakings, State Government Departments and State Government Public Undertakings on Engagement on Contract basis. Short Service Commission Officers (SSCO) who have been released from the Armed Forces or are likely to be released in next three months are also encouraged to apply. The Terms & Conditions for Engagement/ Deputation are as indicated below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Posts & place of postings	No. of Vacancy*	Pay matrix Level in CDA pattern
1.	Executive Director (T/P) [Regional Offices of NHIDCL located in North Eastern States, A&N Islands etc.]	02	Pay Matrix Level-14 of 7th CPC [Pre-revised PB - 4 of Rs.37,400-67,000/- plus Grade Pay Rs.10,000/-]
2.	General Manager (T/P) [Regional Offices of NHIDCL located in North Eastern States, A&N Islands etc.]	20	Pay Matrix Level-13 of 7th CPC [Pre-revised PB - 4 of Rs.37,400-67,000/- plus Grade Pay Rs.8,700/-]
3.	Deputy General Manager (T/P) [Regional Offices of NHIDCL located in North Eastern States, A&N Islands etc.]	20	Pay Matrix Level-12 of 7th CPC [Pre-revised PB-3 of Rs.15,600-39,100/- plus Grade Pay of Rs. 7,600/-]
4.	Manager (T/P) [Regional Offices of NHIDCL located in North Eastern States, A&N Islands etc.]	20	Pay Matrix Level-11 of 7th CPC [Pre-revised Pay Band-3 of Rs.15,600-39,100/- plus Grade Pay of Rs. 6,600/- in CDA Pattern]
5.	General Manager (Land Acquisition & Coordination) [For NHIDCL HQrs]	01	Pay Matrix Level-13 of 7th CPC [Pre-revised PB- 4 of Rs.37,400-67,000/- plus Grade Pay Rs.8,700/-]
6.	Deputy General Manager (Fin) [Regional Offices of NHIDCL located in North Eastern States, A&N Islands etc.]	06	Pay Matrix Level-12 of 7th CPC [Pre-revised PB-3 of Rs.15,600-39,100/- plus Grade Pay of Rs. 7,600/-]
7.	Manager (Fin) [Regional Offices of NHIDCL located in North Eastern States, A&N Islands etc.]	12*	Pay Matrix Level-11 of 7th CPC [Pre-revised PB-3 of Rs.15,600-39,100/- plus Grade Pay of Rs. 6,600/-]

\* The number of vacancies in the Posts may vary, depending upon the requirement. Further, NHIDCL reserves the right to prepare Panels (one for Roads Sector and another for Infrastructure Sector) of selected Candidates for filling up the indicated and future vacancies that may arise in NHIDCL. Panel would be valid for a period of 12 months, unless further extended.

**Last date for submission of Application: 16.12.2020 (Wednesday) up to 18.00 hrs.**

**For detailed Terms and Conditions please visit-www.nhidcl.com.**

**NOTE 1:** Officers presently serving in the Central Government Ministries/ Departments, Army, Navy, Airforce, Autonomous Bodies, Public Sector Undertakings, State Government Departments and State Government Public Undertakings and satisfying the prescribed eligibility criteria may also apply for the post on Deputation basis in the prescribed proforma along with copy of ACRs/APARs for last five years, No Objection Certificate (NOC) and Vigilance Clearance (VC). **Those applying for appointment on deputation basis can be of any age. Subsequent to their retirement they may be allowed to continue in NHIDCL on contract basis subject to both party agreeing to it. If their parent organisation need them to revert back for retirement formalities, they may be allowed to do so for a period up to one week. Thereafter they can continue on contract basis on the terms and conditions applicable to Contract employees.**

**NOTE 2:** Any change or amendment in this Vacancy Circular will be posted on the NHIDCL Website only.

**NOTE 3:** Incomplete applications or those received after the prescribed date shall be summarily rejected.

**Dy. General Manager (HR)**

**BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE, BUILDING THE NATION**



TOTAL CASES <b>5,34,317</b>			Total	Vacant
	HOSPITAL BEDS		<b>17,898</b>	<b>8,396</b>
	VENTILATORS		<b>1,413</b>	<b>138</b>
	Daily cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Nov 22	6,746	6,154	121	54,893
Nov 23	4,454	7,216	121	37,307
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,329*</b>	<b>4,88,476</b>	<b>8,512</b>	<b>58,53,278</b>

Total active cases

## BRIEFLY

## Hindu Rao to be Covid hospital again

**New Delhi:** The North MCD is planning to restart the Covid facility at Hindu Rao Hospital by converting its 20-bed ICU ward for the same, but will keep the OPD open for the general public this time. North MCD Mayor Jai Prakash said the civic body has informed the Delhi Disaster Management Authority of the decision. He said a 200-bed Covid-care centre at Balak Ram Hospital can also be readied and handed over to them. The number of beds can be increased depending on the need, he added. The decision was taken at a recent meeting with the Home Ministry, in which it was suggested that MCD hospitals could be used as Covid centres in the wake of the recent surge in cases in Delhi. The hospital was earlier converted into a Covid facility in June, before it was removed from the list after a request from the MCD.

## HC junks plea seeking lockdown

**New Delhi:** The Delhi High Court on Monday declined to entertain a petition seeking imposition of lockdown in the capital in wake of the surge in Covid-19 surge here. While observing it was a policy decision which can only be taken by the state, the court asked whether lockdown was the only solution and asked the petitioner counsel whether they had considered the studies showing ineffectiveness of lockdown. The Delhi government counsel also submitted that no such decision can be taken by it without the Central government's permission.

## BYPL donates 3 ambulances

**New Delhi:** The BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) Monday donated three ambulances and 50 hand sanitiser-cum-thermal scanning machines to the Health Department to aid the Delhi government's fight against Covid-19. The donations were handed over by BYPL officials to Delhi Health and Power Minister Satyendar Jain, who thanked BYPL's continued support during the pandemic.

## Dr Brij Mohan Mishra new NDMC secy

**New Delhi:** Dr Brij Mohan Mishra, an IAS officer of the 2008 batch of AG-MUT cadre and who was the district magistrate of South Delhi district, assumed charge as Secretary of NDMC on Monday. **ENS**

## 121 NEW DEATHS ON MONDAY

## Pollution from stubble burning behind Delhi's high Covid death rate, says Jain

## EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

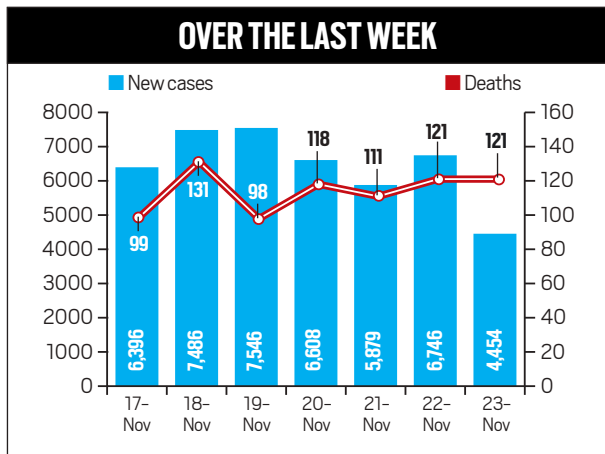
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

HEALTH MINISTER Satyendar Jain Monday attributed the high Covid-19 death rate in the city to pollution caused by stubble burning, and said a downward trend is expected in the next two-three weeks.

Delhi recorded 4,454 fresh Covid-19 cases on Monday and a positivity rate of 11.94 per cent, while 121 more fatalities pushed the death toll due to the virus to 8,512. This was the sixth time in 12 days that the daily number of deaths crossed the 100-mark in the national capital. The daily fatality rate was recorded at 1.83%.

"There was heavy pollution due to stubble burning amid the Covid-19 pandemic and it came as a double attack... Its effect on the city's Covid-19 death rate will go away in the next two-three weeks since pollution due to stubble burning has lessened in the last few days," he said.

Jain further said pollution



caused problems in breathing and those who had Covid-19 inhaled the smoke, which aggravated the seriousness of the disease.

The city reported 111 deaths on Saturday, 118 on Friday, 131 on November 18 — the highest till date — and 104 on November 12.

Delhi has reported a death rate of 1.83 per cent among Covid-19 patients as compared to the national fatality rate of

1.46 per cent. As per data released by the Union Ministry for Health and Family Welfare on Sunday, the national capital is at the top among 10 states and UTs where 77% of new cases and 76% of new deaths have been reported.

Jain said the number of fresh cases as well as the positivity rate are gradually going down in Delhi, showing that the situation is improving.



Jain inside an ALS ambulance which was handed over to GTB Hospital on Monday. Prem Nath Pandey

"Since November 7, when the positivity rate was more than 15 per cent, it has come down to over 12 per cent now. The number of fresh cases was over 8,500 on November 10, which reduced to 6,746 on Sunday," he said.

The health minister said 9,418 hospital beds are occupied by Covid patients, whereas 7,900 are still vacant.

Meanwhile, members of a

Delhi Assembly panel on environment met the newly-constituted commission on air quality and demanded strict action against Punjab and Haryana governments over stubble burning. The panel, headed by AAP MLA Atishi, also requested the commission to order Punjab and Haryana to resolve the issue using the bio decomposer technology developed by the PUSA institute.

## Man rams car into Safdarjung Tomb's gate

## DIVYAA

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

A MAN rammed his car into the main gate of Safdarjung Tomb in Central Delhi, and also damaged a notice board, around 3 am Monday. Police said the driver, Vijay Bahri (32), a resident of Rampura in Northwest Delhi, lost control of the vehicle as he was allegedly in an inebriated state.

The car, which came from the direction of Lodhi Road, rammed into the main gate of the UNESCO World Heritage site. It also hit the stone notice board and damaged it, said a senior police officer, adding that there was no damage to the main monument.

Bahri was rushed to Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, police said, adding that he did not sustain any serious injuries.

Police have lodged an FIR after receiving a complaint from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), which takes care of the monument, under IPC Section 279 (rash driving), Section 3 of the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, 1984, and Section 185 of the Motor Vehicles Act.

An ASI official told *The Indian Express* that repair work will be taken up soon and they will press for the cost of damages to be paid by the errant driver, since the FIR includes charges under damages to public property act.



The damaged gate. ASI



## PICK YOUR COLOUR

Masks being sold outside Nangloi Metro Station, Monday. Praveen Khanna

## Scheme for kids of parents in prison 'unsatisfactory', panel suggests changes

## SUKRITA BARUAH

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

THE DELHI child rights panel has submitted a special report to the Women and Child Development ministry recommending amendments in the Delhi government's scheme for support to children of incarcerated parents, after finding that the existing form and implementation of the scheme is "unsatisfactory, inaccessible and lackadaisical".

The Delhi Commission for the Protection of Child Rights had reviewed the Scheme for Financial Sustenance, Education and Social Welfare of Children of Incarcerated Parents, 2014, on a suo-motu basis, highlighting that these children are among the most vulnerable and "end up as victims of not just the crime but also the punishment".

"Their inability to process grief is often compounded by the fact that they are under constant

**The body found that since its introduction in 2015, the scheme has benefited very few children. In 2019-20, 50 children each received financial assistance through half-yearly disbursements**

pressure to maintain secrecy about the incarceration due to the stigma attached to it. They often drop out of school, experience varied periods of educational cessations and multiple school transitions. In the majority of the cases, incarceration of the parent(s) is followed by financial instability and economic hardships," the report reads.

The body found that since its introduction in 2015, the scheme — which is to provide financial

and non-financial support to children whose only surviving parent is, or both parents are, in jail for at least 30 days — has benefited very few children. In 2019-2020, 50 children each received financial assistance through half-yearly disbursements.

It also asked that the quantum of financial assistance be increased from Rs 3,500 per month to Rs 4,000 per month for the first child, and from Rs 3,000 to Rs 3,500 for the second child.

The child rights body further recommended a complete revision on the eligibility criteria, submitting that the scheme should be made available to children if only one of their parents have been incarcerated. It stated that "there is considerable research that establishes the devastating effect of incarceration of even one parent, and this effect is more pronounced when the incarcerated parent is the bread-winner of the family or the mother in case of very young children".

It also asked that the clause that the scheme only be available to children whose parents have been residing in Delhi for five or more years be removed: "The Commission has not come across a single cogent argument to deny basic welfare and sustenance to those children who shifted to Delhi two, three or four years ago. The scheme treats these children as lesser, and simply ignores their plight, suffering and vulnerability."

The report also recommends that District Child Protection Officers be given responsibility to ensure that these children continue their education for the academic year and get admitted to the nearest government school if the family can no longer afford private school fees.

It recommends that instead of revoking assistance immediately after the incarcerated parent is released, it should be made available till at least three months after that.

## Order to close two markets in West Delhi revoked

## EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

WITHIN HOURS of ordering closure of two markets citing violation of social distancing norms, the Delhi government lifted the shutdown from West Delhi's Punjabi Basti Market and Janta Market late Sunday, saying not all traders were at fault.

The order to shutdown the markets, issued by Additional District Magistrate (West) Dharmendra Kumar, had come at a time when rumours about an imminent shutdown are rife among the city's trading circles. The Delhi government maintains it has no such plans.

In his order, Kumar wrote, "It has come to the notice of District Disaster Management Authority, District West, that directions issued with regard to wearing of masks, maintaining physical distancing etc issued by Govt of India/GNCT of Delhi are being flouted by vendors/visitors in Punjabi Basti Market and Janta Market, Nangloi, Delhi, despite various instructions issued by the district administration from time to time."

The shutdown was ordered under Section 30 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005. However, Kumar issued another order late

Sunday, withdrawing the closure order with immediate effect.

Asked about the quick rollback, Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain told reporters that the order was issued in haste. "We are keeping a close watch on all markets. Instead of sealing entire markets, shops not following guidelines should be sealed," he said.

Jain added that the Delhi government's proposal, floated last week, on shutting down markets flouting guidelines is pending with the Union government. "It (social distancing in markets) is a challenge. But compliance rate of wearing face masks has gone up drastically over the last few days," he said.

Officials said the order to shut the two markets had to be reversed also because these are mostly made up of street vendors, selling various items ranging from winter garments to mobile accessories. "Under the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014, a vendor cannot be removed before a survey is carried out by town vending committees, which are to be formed under the law, in the particular area. All vendors are to be allotted alternative vending zones in case removal is necessary," an official said.

## Bands face the music as UP govt lowers guests cap

## AMIL BHATNAGAR

NOIDA, NOVEMBER 23

WITH THE UP government imposing a 100-member cap on wedding celebrations and gatherings, bands and DJs find themselves facing the music amid the wedding season as families are now cancelling bookings in an effort to bring down the number of guests. While the guidelines have no specific order for wedding processions, families are now wary of including DJs and band processions as part of the function.

"...only 50% of the capacity or 100 persons will be allowed to gather in any indoor facility... Similarly, for outside gatherings, only 40% of the field area will be utilised for gathering," read an order issued by the UP government on November 23.

The guidelines have led to confusion among west UP residents who had made arrangements keeping in mind the earlier 200 person limit on guests. This has impacted music bands that were already facing a crunch during the lockdown.

For several such bands, since celebratory events had not been held the entire year, wedding season was the only way to earn.

"It's slowly coming to a point where we are better off dying than living in debt. We understand that one must not gather without a reason since there is Covid but weddings are our bread and butter. For the last two days, we are getting calls from people wanting their advance.

The fresh guidelines have compounded that fear... the lack of clarity will render us bankrupt," said Raja, who runs the 22-member Raja Band in Noida's



UP govt reduced the cap on guests at weddings, gatherings to 100. Archive

Hoshiyarpur.

According to other such bands, many bookings were made a month in advance after guidelines were relaxed. Since the advance was forwarded on credit to vendors, the cancellations have disrupted their finances, said band members.

"For every *baraat*, there is usually a horse required apart from lights and music. When we take advance, we pay it to the charioteer, the one who brings the light and many others. With customers cancelling, the money we paid to them is unlikely to be returned. Some say that rules do not apply to processions on road and only indoor gatherings. But the mere confusion is making people apprehensive..." said Ravi who runs a 12-member wedding band in Ghaziabad.

DJs and other music bands for indoor functions are also facing lower demand. "People do not want to waste the limited permissions on things like music even though they were once an integral part of the functions. There is an alternative of virtual DJ sessions but it's unlikely that people will warm up to the idea," said Dhruv, a Noida-based DJ.

## PROCESS USUALLY BEGINS IN LATE NOVEMBER EVERY YEAR

## Parents anxious as city schools await directions on nursery admissions

## SUKRITA BARUAH

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

WITH DIRECTIONS awaited from the education department on nursery admissions for the next academic session, several private schools across the city said queries from anxious parents have begun coming in. Admissions have been delayed this year as the academic calendar has been disrupted by the pandemic.

Last year, the Delhi Directorate of Education had re-

leased the schedule for admissions to Nursery, KG and class I — whichever might be the entry-level in a particular school — by mid-November, and the application process had begun on November 29. Every year, starting from late November, the city begins buzzing with the rush for these admissions.

"The matter is under submission with the government and we too are waiting for directions but it is clear that the timeline is very likely to be altered this time," said an official in the edu-

cation department.

The Indian School principal Tania Joshi said, "We began getting queries from parents around a week ago, on whether they will have to come to school to collect forms or if they will be available online. As of now, we haven't begun with the process at all because when the directorate issues the schedule, they also release 'dos and don'ts' on the criteria that we can set for admission."

She also referred to a large advertisement that appeared in newspapers Monday, on a com-



mon platform through which parents can apply to multiple schools through one form: "I was surprised when I saw it, I wondered if I had missed something on admissions starting."

There are around 1,700 private schools in the city recognised by the Delhi government's education department which conduct their nursery admis-

**There are 1,700 pvt schools which conduct admissions as per education dept norms**

sions in accordance with the schedule and guidelines laid down by the department.

Meanwhile, The British School — which is independent of this process — is set to begin registrations for admission Tuesday, closing on November 27 for nursery, December 18 for the primary level and January 31 for the secondary level.

Similarly, admissions to private schools in NCR cities such as Noida and Gurgaon, which are not governed by a streamlined process as in Delhi, have also

been taking place.

Third parties which assist parents with the highly competitive admission process said they have been receiving regular queries. Ayush Agarwal, who runs a platform called Schoolling, said he is receiving 5-6 queries per day, while Sumit Vohra, who runs a large online community for nursery admissions, said he is receiving 50 queries a day.

"One issue is that the admission process had not successfully moved online completely. There

are only some schools in which you can download and submit the form online. There are some in which you can download the form online but have to go to the school to submit it, and others where you have to go to the school just to collect the form," said Vohra.

In the meantime, EWS/DG admissions to private schools are yet to conclude for the year 2019-2020. A fresh round of applications will begin Tuesday since 838 of these seats continue to remain vacant.





# Russia’s BRICS Chairmanship in 2020



H.E. MR NIKOLAY R. KUDASHEV  
Russian Ambassador to India

COOPERATION IN BRICS is the permanent priority of the Russian foreign policy. The motto of the Russian BRICS Chairmanship in 2020 — “BRICS Partnership for Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth” — reflected not only the main goal of Russia’s year in BRICS, but also the entire multifaceted collaboration in the BRICS format, which aimed to contribute into raising living standards and quality of life of the peoples of our five countries.

Making traditional emphasis on the continuity of the BRICS process, Russia was aiming to ensure a harmonious transition from the Brazilian Chairmanship, while all ideas endorsed by the Leaders at the XI BRICS Summit in November 2019 were also part of the 2020 agenda. In this regard Russia continued to promote all three pillars of the BRICS strategic partnership — policy and security, economy and finance, culture and people-to-people exchanges.

Despite extraordinary conditions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the BRICS countries continued proactively expanding their cooperation in all key areas and managed to maintain the momentum to produce concrete results. Over 150 events, including 25 ministerial meetings, were held in-person and via videoconferences, ensuring further progress in mutually beneficial and pragmatic cooperation. Among them were the XII BRICS Summit held on November 17, two Meetings of BRICS Foreign Ministers on April 28 and September 4, the X Meeting of the BRICS High Representatives for Security on September 17, and many more, including regular dialogue between finance, trade and economy, health, energy, science, tourism agencies, etc.

One of the main BRICS priorities for Russia was to coordinate collective measures to combat the pandemic and to intensify collaboration between epidemiological services of the five countries and protect the lives and health of citizens. BRICS already had a solid basis for that. Back in 2015, the BRICS Ufa Declaration included an agreement to enhance cooperation in addressing the challenges to health and human well-being including through developing effective joint responses to the continuing spread of major diseases (HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, etc.), as well as the emergence of new infections with a pandemic potential. Pursuant to that agreement, Russia suggested to create an early warning system for infectious diseases outbreaks. Efforts of BRICS countries to combat the COVID-19 were also supported by the New Development Bank, which decided to reserve USD 10 bn for these purposes.

The Russian Direct Investment Fund signed agreements with Indian and Brazilian partners on clinical trials of the Sputnik V vaccine and with pharmaceutical companies in China and India on the production of this vaccine. Our scope of cooperation in this area will grow further, as we have the second coronavirus vaccine registered recently in October in Russia — EpiVacCorona, and the third one is coming soon.

Besides, in the Moscow Declaration (full text: <https://bit.ly/3kDlbeI>) adopted at the XII BRICS Summit, the Leaders reiterated their commitment to establish the BRICS Vaccine Research and Development



November 17, 2020: The XII BRICS Summit held via videoconference



From left: Venkatesh Varma, Ambassador of India to Russia, and Boris Mashtaler, Executive Director of the National Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences of Russia, hold the Indian flag and pose for a photo after the Award Ceremony of the 5th BRICS Film Festival (October 1-7, 2020)



Centre mentioned in the Johannesburg Declaration (2018), and encouraged timely and effective implementation of this initiative.

Maintaining close coordination on the G20 agenda, the BRICS countries are dedicated to support comprehensive measures to overcome the impact of the pandemic to restore global value chains and the openness of international trade. Russia’s initiative on the green corridors free from wars and sanctions, primarily with regard to humanitarian supplies of food and vital medicine, is envisioned along the same lines.

This year the pandemic forced BRICS countries to take emergency measures to support national industries, finance and the social sphere, to revive their economies and return them to a trajectory of sustainable growth. The Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership for the period until 2025 adopted at the XII BRICS Summit (full text: <https://bit.ly/2IGaCnM>) is aimed to assist countries in that goal. The document defines a development path of BRICS and sets the framework for cooperation in accordance with current economic trends and conditions. By adopting the BRICS Strategy, the countries demonstrated their determination to jointly address new global challenges, including macroeconomic shocks and financial volatility, and draw up a positive, balanced and clear economic agenda.

It also comes in line with the aspiration

to stimulate strong economic growth by the support of the multilateral trading system based on the rules and principles of the World Trade Organization (WTO), and to resist emerging global uncertainty caused by a number of factors, including unilateral and protectionist measures.

More to say, the grouping confirmed its will to embrace the digitization wave, as well, which opens the floor for raising effectiveness and economic competitiveness, improving quality of life, addressing digital divide (also by promoting the Partnership for the New Industrial Revolution), overcoming cumulative social, economic, infrastructure imbalances, all being factors of sustainable growth in BRICS. It is further provided for an increased use of national currencies in mutual trade.

The New Development Bank (NDB) is in great demand in such circumstances. Its overall portfolio of infrastructure investment projects exceeded USD 20 bn. As many as 62 large projects are already being implemented in the BRICS countries. The NDB just recently opened its third regional office in Moscow and is about to open another one in India next year. Prospects of expansion of stakeholders would further increase its capacity and relevance as well-reputed global financial institution. Currently the Bank enjoys AA+ long-term credit rating by Fitch and S&P as well AAA by Japan Credit Rating. The BRICS Contingent Currency Arrangement is also fully operational.



October 27, 2020: BRICS Parliamentary Forum



BRICS Foreign Ministers Council online meeting, Moscow, April 28, 2020



Among the major achievements of the Russian Chairmanship — successful implementation of the Energy Research Cooperation Platform initiative (expert reports have been prepared on the projected development of the fuel and energy sectors in the BRICS countries until 2040), the launch of the BRICS Women’s Business Alliance. The five countries continued enhancing cooperation in science, technology and innovation. The next round of the BRICSMATH competition for schoolchildren was held along with contests for young scientists and innovators and their research projects. Intensive contacts have been underway between our academic and scientific centres. Their coverage is truly impressive — from ocean and polar research to astronomy and artificial intelligence. The BRICS Film Festival was aired online. A strong impetus was given to the tracks of sports, tourism, agriculture, urban development, environment protection.

Throughout this year the BRICS countries have been closely coordinating their efforts on a wide range of the current international and regional matters, expanding their cooperation on combating terrorism, drug trafficking and corruption, as well as on international information security.

This success is largely due to our coinciding or similar approaches to the central role of the United Nations and international law, as well as to a positive, unified and forward-looking agenda. The core of

the BRICS activities is based on the principles of international relations enshrined in the UN Charter such as nonintervention in the internal affairs of states, resolution of disputes by peaceful means, inadmissibility of the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, etc.

Proceeding from the fact that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any act of terrorism, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever motives and purposes, deserves to be condemned, the Leaders endorsed the BRICS Counter-Terrorism Strategy (full text: <https://bit.ly/35Afu6W>). It would further allow to work out common measures and more closely coordinate in the UN and other fora, promote implementation of the UN Global CT-Strategy as well as early adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. It is also aimed to complement and strengthen the existing bilateral and multilateral ties among the BRICS countries, and to make a meaningful contribution to the global efforts of preventing and combating the threat of terrorism.

Russia’s Chairmanship in 2020 coincided with the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War and the foundation of the United Nations. In the Moscow Declaration the Leaders emphasized that the Victory in the WWII is the common

legacy, and they paid a tribute to all those who fought against fascism, tyranny and militarism, colonialism as well as for freedom of nations, and stressed the importance of preservation and inadmissibility of desecration or destruction of monuments erected in their remembrance.

They also noted the duty to remember contributions made by all countries, including loss of lives of soldiers and civilians during the WWII, as well as reinforced commitment to a world of peace, stability and prosperity, mutual respect and equality. It was also stated that born out of the horrors of the Second World War, the United Nations, as a common endeavour for humanity, was established to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war and since then has helped to shape the very structure of relations between nations in the modern age. The BRICS Leaders urged for a resolute stand against the rehabilitation of Nazi ideology, racism, xenophobia, colonialism and the distortion of history, and many countries including India became co-sponsors of Russia-proposed relevant UN GA resolution.

That is exactly the reason why we should proceed towards multipolarity and the reform of global governance institutions, including the UN, based on maximum broad consensus and respect of interests of all nations keeping in mind the need to preserve the central role of the UN system. Sovereign states are encouraged to cooperate to maintain peace and security, advance sustainable development, ensure the promotion and protection of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all with the aim to build a brighter shared future for the international community based on mutually beneficial cooperation.

BRICS global agenda is widely supported by other nations as well, and that motivated us some years ago to establish the BRICS Plus and BRICS Outreach formats, which along with the interested states takes onboard international and regional organizations as well. That makes us also guided by the so-called “Integration of integrations” concept. Such dialogue is also very important to promote global governance reform to make it more inclusive, representative and democratic with meaningful and greater representation of developing countries in international decision-making. Due to the pandemic and eventual prevailing of videoconferencing interaction, these formats were not convened this year. However, we remain committed to continue such kind of partnership in the future with the hope to resume it during the Indian Chairmanship if the epidemiological situation permits.

In general, we believe that despite the pandemic the Russian Chairmanship managed to keep BRICS on its track in proceeding to the goal of a constructive polycentrism and expanding multidimensional practical cooperation. With obvious big results and benefits achieved and forward-looking agenda ahead, the Forum would further reiterate its growing relevance as a crucial mechanism supplementing global efforts aimed at the establishment of a truly just and multipolar world.

We highly appreciate the constructive contribution of our Indian friends to the Russian BRICS Chairmanship in 2020!

Keeping in mind this solid common ground, we wish the Indian Chairmanship in BRICS in 2021 every success, and extend our full support in ensuring further continuity and enriching the five-parties cooperation with new interesting projects and ideas!





# 6 GOVT & POLITICS

## DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



### FINALLY CHECKING IN?

HOME MINISTER Amit Shah was in Kolkata earlier this month to review BJP's preparations for next year's Assembly elections in West Bengal. The Trinamool Congress, too, is gearing up for what is expected to be a bitterly contested election, fielding its leaders to hold daily media briefings. The Congress, on the other hand, is yet to take stock of the situation. While the CPI(M) is ready for an electoral tie-up, the Congress's central leadership is yet to discuss the matter. Its state unit, interestingly, is ready for the alliance. Now it is said that Rahul Gandhi will have a virtual meeting with West Bengal Congress leaders later this week to review poll preparations and hear their views on the situation on the ground.

### IDEAL SWAP

INDIA WILL host the G-20 summit in 2023, instead of 2022, which marks the 75th year of independence. The official explanation is that Indonesia wanted to swap, since it did not want to do two big events in 2023 — the country will chair the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in 2023. So, Jakarta asked New Delhi for the swap. India's target for making arrangements for hosting the G-20 summit has fallen behind due to Covid-19 pandemic. Also, the buzz is that the G-20 summit will take place months before the Lok Sabha polls in 2024. So it was, as they say, a marriage of convenience.

### RESPONSE HURDLE

A SECRETARY of a ministry recently missed responding, on more occasion that one, to what the minister asked during meetings over video-conferencing. In the last two video conferences, the minister asked the secretary whether he could hear what he (minister) had instructed. But the secretary remained non-responsive. To other officers, it left the impression that the officer was deliberately not responding. However, if was later pointed out that there perhaps was a network problem due to which the secretary could not hear what the minister was saying.

## NIA questions PDP youth wing chief

**New Delhi:** The NIA Monday questioned PDP's youth wing president Waheed Parra in connection with a case related to separatism in Jammu and Kashmir.

Parra, who recently filed his nomination form for the upcoming District Development Council elections in the Union Territory, appeared before the

NIA at its headquarters here.

Parra, who was instrumental in the revival of the PDP in south Kashmir, especially in militancy-affected Pulwama, told PTI that the NIA asked him about his political career and PDP's soft politics. He expressed ignorance about the case for which he was questioned by the agency. **PTI**

## AIMIM MLA replaces 'Hindustan' with 'Bharat' while taking oath in Bihar

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
PATNA, NOVEMBER 23

BIHAR UNIT president of AIMIM and newly elected MLA from Amour, in Purnia, Akhtarul Iman replaced the word "Hindustan" with "Bharat" while taking oath as legislator in the Legislative Assembly on Monday, triggering criticism from a BJP member.

Congress MLA from Kadvwa Shakil Ahmad Khan, meanwhile, took oath in Sanskrit, calling it the mother of all languages.

As Akhtarul Iman replaced "Hindustan" with "Bharat" while taking oath, Protem Speaker Jitan Ram Manjhi suggested that there should have been no issue with using the word "Hindustan", but Iman insisted on using only "Bharat".

BJP MLA Neeraj Singh Bablu



AIMIM Bihar president Akhtarul Iman

later told reporters, "Those averse to using Hindustan can leave for Pakistan." Iman hit back, saying that India is not a "fiefdom of some people" and the country belongs to everyone.

Kadvwa MLA Shakil Ahmad, who took oath in Sanskrit, said: "Those bickering over use of language in oath taking are fools. I preferred to take oath in Sanskrit over Hindi or Urdu because it is the mother of all languages. My idea was to give a subtle message that language has nothing to do with one's religion."

## 'When Cong fares weakly, it's discussed...when we win, it's not'

CHHATTISGARH CHIEF Minister **BHUPESH BAGHEL** speaks to **MANOJ C G** on the state's fight against Maoism, its relations with the Centre and the rumblings within the Congress. Excerpts:

**You had a meeting with Home Minister Amit Shah recently. You urged him to increase employment opportunities in the Bastar region to end the Maoist problem. How are you tackling the issue? There is surely a dip in attacks.**

Naxalism has not ended. Its impact is still there. But there has been a decrease in the number of incidents.... And some big Maoist leaders have either been arrested or killed in encounters... At the same time, there is a need to provide job opportunities and

other facilities like road connectivity, electricity, mobile towers, health and educational facilities to the people there... There is a need for more resources and I brought all those issues to the attention of the Home Minister. His response was very positive...

**You said his response was positive. But there have been tensions between the Centre and Opposition-ruled states on a number of issues, the recent being Bills passed by Congress-ruled states to negate the Centre's farm Bills**

Problems arise when you try to curtail rights and powers of states... They called it agriculture Bills but brought agriculture marketing Bills. So it becomes a central subject. But the farmers are affected and impacted. So the

## Jaish bid on DDC polls: India briefs envoys on 'Pak hand'

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

IN A playbook adopted after the Uri and Pulwama terror attacks, New Delhi on Monday began a diplomatic offensive against Pakistan over the four Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorists killed in Nagrota district of Jammu while reportedly on their way to Kashmir to disrupt the coming District Development Council (DDC) polls. Sources said the Foreign Secretary briefed envoys on "the implications of the November 19 incident on security, diplomacy and the battle against terrorism".

Given the Covid-19 situation, the Ministry of External Affairs will be holding several small briefings for envoys, and the first batch included Heads of Missions of the US, UK, Russia and Japan, among others.



**Envoys were also given information about a tunnel believed to have been used by four Jaish terrorists**

Sources said the foreign envoys were provided "a detailed information docket giving details of the incident as well as the list of items and munitions that were recovered from the terrorists, clearly indicating their Pakistani origins", and also about the discovery of an underground tunnel that is believed to have been used by the four to come across the border. "Preliminary investigations by

the police and intelligence authorities, markings on the recovered AK-47 rifles and other items lead us to believe that the terrorists belonged to the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad," the sources said.

India has blamed the Jaish for the Uri and Pulwama attacks as well, and the envoys were given details of the terror outfit's involvement in similar incidents. The DDC polls, starting November 28, mark resumption of political activity in J&K after the scrapping of its special status, and officials said they believed that the plan was to sabotage the polls and carry out "the biggest terror attack in India since Pulwama in February 2019", coinciding with the anniversary of the 26/11 Mumbai attacks.

The envoys were "sensitised about our concerns regarding Pakistan's sustained efforts to destabilize the situation in J&K and to subvert local elections and

democracy". "It was pointed out how the incident is part of Pakistan's ongoing terror campaign in J&K and that in 2020 itself we have seen 200 incidents of terrorist violence and neutralisation of 199 terrorists," a source said.

The four men were intercepted and killed in an early morning encounter on November 19 on the outskirts of Jammu city, by a joint team of the J&K Police, CRPF and Army. The police said 11 AK-47 rifles, three pistols, 29 grenades, explosives and other devices, including mobile phones and medicines, with Pakistani markings, were recovered from them, making it one of the largest such hauls in recent years in Jammu.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had praised security forces for foiling the "nefarious plot" to target democracy in J&K, while on Saturday the MEA had summoned Pakistan's acting envoy to lodge a protest.

### BJP SLAMS 'HABIT OF POLITICS ON EVERY ISSUE'

## Mamata: Shah's lunch at tribal home cooked at 5-star hotel

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 23

WEST BENGAL Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday described Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to a tribal household for lunch as a "show off" and claimed that the food items served to the BJP leader were cooked at five-star hotels.

Addressing a gathering at Khatra in West Bengal's Bankura district, the TMC supremo also hit out at Shah for apparently mistaking a statue of a tribal hunter for that of freedom fighter Birsa Munda. She went on to target the Centre over the farm Bills and the NRC issue. "A few days ago, our honourable home minister had come (here), which was a show off. Food items like Basmati rice, postor bora (poppy seed fritters) cooked in five-star hotels were taken to the Dalit household. One Brahmin was also brought in," the Chief Minister said.

Shah, during his visit to Bengal



Mamata Banerjee in Bankura district on Monday. *Express*

earlier in the month, visited a tribal household in Bankura, and a Matua home in Kolkata.

The family members were shown chopping vegetables prior to the lunch, but none of the ingredients were actually used to prepare the meal, the CM said.

Banerjee announced several welfare measures for the tribal community during her visit.

BJP national secretary Anupam Hazra said, "The TMC has a habit of playing politics on every issue. The food our party leader Amit Shah ji ate was cooked at that very house."

### AIMIM leader joins Trinamool

**Kolkata:** AIMIM's West Bengal convener, Anwar Pasha, and some of his colleagues joined the TMC on Monday, claiming that the AIMIM was acting as a polariser of votes to help the BJP.

This came even before the party officially announced its intentions to contest next year's Assembly elections. AIMIM spokesperson Syed Asim Waqar said Pasha was already "engaged in anti-party activities". **ENS**



Prakash Javadekar

## Journalism is a responsibility, not a tool to mislead people, says Javadekar

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

"JOURNALISM IS a responsibility, not a tool to mislead people", Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar told students of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) when he virtually inaugurated the orientation programme for the academic session 2020-21.

The I&B Ministry, which overlooks the autonomous mass communication institute, said in a statement that Javadekar "advised the media students not to be trapped in sensational or TRP-centric journalism and imbibe the skills of healthy journalism ensuring that anything good happening in society should also become news".

Javadekar said the meters installed in around 50,000 households that measure television viewership "cannot measure the opinion of 22 crore" people and "we would expand its circumference so that we know what the people watch and what they wish to watch".

"The freedom of the press has value in democracy and it has to be preserved at any cost. But we should keep in mind that freedom comes with responsibility... you understand both the aspects of the story, but your reporting should lead society in the right direction. TRP-centric journalism is not good."

"There is no need for any drama or sensation if your story is based on facts. There are plenty of constructive stories in society, but sadly nobody in the media has time to publish them," he said.

support our candidate, there is little chance of us fielding our candidate," a source in the party said.

A source in JD(U) said there is no question of the party supporting LJP after it "hurt JD(U) on many seats" in the recent Assembly polls.

**FULL REPORT ON**  
**www.indianexpress.com**

## EXPLAINED BJP chance to show LJP not its 'B-team'

SINCE THE bitterly contested Bihar elections between NDA constituents JD(U) and LJP, with some questions being raised on the BJP's role on the LJP's rebellion against CM Nitish Kumar and his party, the saffron party has got its first opportunity to showcase in the forthcoming Rajya Sabha bypoll that it has no extra soft corner for the Chirag Paswan-led outfit. The BJP may use this opportunity to further crystallise its relationship with the JD(U) and keep the LJP guessing for some more time.

seat — the alliance has 125, besides the solitary LJP seat.

The Election Commission of India has said that the bypoll will be held on December 14.

Sources in LJP said the party might not field its candidate until the BJP gives it a go-ahead. "Since it is quite unlikely that the JD(U) will



**THE EXPRESS**  
**INTERVIEW**

WITH  
**BHUPESH BAGHEL**  
CHHATTISGARH CM (CONG)

there have been many instances when they (the other parties) remain silent and at times oppose and walk out... so they all are also feeling the pressure... Who is able to talk openly?

**What is your view on plans by some BJP-ruled states to bring laws against "love jihad"? Such laws can have inter-state ramifications.**

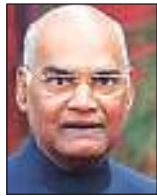
I cannot say much unless I see the provisions of these Bills... But I would like to know in which category will those BJP leaders and the children of those BJP leaders who have married people from other religions fall. Will they come in the love jihad category?

**Talking about Congress...the party performed poorly in Bihar and in Assembly bye-**

### REMEMBERING TARUN GOGOI



1936 - 2020



He will always be remembered for the development of Assam and especially towards his efforts to improve law and order and fighting insurgency in the state. His passing away marks the end of an era... condolences to his family, friends and supporters.

**RAM NATH KOVIND**, PRESIDENT

I am saddened by the death of former Assam chief minister and former Union minister Tarun Gogoi. In his long public life, he has faithfully served the people of the nation and the state in various capacities.

**VENKAIAH NAIDU**, VICE PRESIDENT

Tarun Gogoi ji was a popular leader and a veteran administrator, who had years of political experience in Assam as well as the Centre. Anguished by his passing away. My thoughts are with his family and supporters...

**NARENDRA MODI**, PM



Tarun Gogoi was one of the tallest leaders of the Congress... I know in what great regard Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi held him... No wonder he was Assam's most universally loved and venerated public figure...

**SONIA GANDHI**, CONGRESS PRESIDENT

The state has lost a great leader. He set high moral standards with his selfless service... I feel like having lost a father...

**SARBANANDA SONOWAL**, ASSAM CM

Tarun Gogoi was an intensely people's man, focused on progress and enjoyed support of all... He rescued Assam from a period of darkness and led it for 15 years ensuring a new phase of development.

**HIMANTA BISWA SARMA**, ASSAM MINISTER

In his death, our country, especially... Assam, has lost

a very good leader who always worked for the betterment of the poor...

**MANMOHAN SINGH**, FORMER PM

The nation and the party has lost a statesman whose vision and dedication transformed the lives of millions... His political journey is testament to his stature as a leader who shaped modern Assam... I saw him as a mentor and teacher and will miss his profound understanding and deeply thought out perspective...

**RAHUL GANDHI**, CONGRESS LEADER

## Congress hits out at senior leaders for speaking out, Bishnoi slams Azad

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

THE CRISIS within the Congress deepened on Monday with the party choosing to hit out at "senior leaders" for speaking out in public after its poor performance in Bihar and the Assembly bypolls even as CWC member and Haryana leader Kuldeep Bishnoi launched a no holds barred attack on Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha, Ghulam Nabi Azad, accusing him of betraying the Gandhi family and indulging in a conspiracy with the opposition parties to break the party.

Addressing an AICC press conference, Congress spokesperson Pawan Khara said "as regard to the comments made by some senior leaders, I would say as a young man in the party that these senior leaders, who we have grown up learning from, should teach us the right lesson of not going public with any of their concerns particularly when they can just pick up the phone and talk to anyone."

"Particularly when they are members of the CWC... nominated members of the CWC, particularly when they have occupied important positions of power in the government and in the party... in the party well nominated positions... raising such concerns publicly, I would certainly feel that it needs to be avoided because there are fora available within the party and these fora are acceptable to these leaders."

Senior leaders such as Azad, P Chidambaram and Kapil Sibal have spoken out in the last one week, analysing the party's defeat in Bihar and Assembly bypolls and talking about the party's revival. Azad and Chidambaram are members of the CWC. It is not known who Khara was referring to when he mentioned "nominated members of the CWC".

Khara said, "The responsibilities that our colleagues have... each one of them should just look



Kuldeep Bishnoi, Ghulam Nabi Azad

within instead of just talking about the others... just talk about oneself." He said it was also condemnable that some party leaders are responding to these senior leaders in public.

Without naming Azad, who has demanded party elections at various levels, Khara said, "I will not discuss whether the demand is right or wrong... but they should also say what is their view on internal elections in the Youth Congress... It can't be that elections in one place is wrong and right in other places."

In a video posted on his Twitter account, Bishnoi said Azad's comments have troubled and angered him. "How can such a senior leader give such an irresponsible statement... Azad saab is saying that elections should be held from lower rung to the top... but he should answer why did he not say all this when he was appointed Youth Congress president of J&K and president of all India Youth Congress. Today he is indulging in a conspiracy with the opposition parties to break the party... we will not let the conspiracy succeed. What is your past? In your whole life... you have won elections only thrice and you are advising the party... and you are talking against the same Gandhi family who had nominated you to Rajya Sabha five times... You were appointed in charge of Haryana... and you sank the party there... had any other leader been in charge... we would have been in power in the state." He also accused Azad of betraying the Gandhi family.







COVID SPIKE

SC seeks status reports from states, Centre

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

THE SUPREME Court on Monday called for “immediate steps” to deal with the spike in Covid-19 cases, and sought status reports from Delhi, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Assam, as well as the Centre regarding the action taken to mitigate the situation.

“We are of the view that immediate steps are required to be taken by all the States as well as by the Union of India”, a Bench of Justices Ashok Bhushan, R Subhash Reddy and M R Shah said, giving the governments two days to file status reports.

In June, the court had taken suo motu cognizance of the situation in government hospitals and the handling of bodies of those who had died of Covid-19. While hearing the matter on Monday, the Bench expressed particular concern over the situation in Delhi and Gujarat.

“Things have worsened in the last two weeks in Delhi. We need a status report to understand bottlenecks if any with regard to Covid patients management,” Justice Bhushan told Additional Solicitor General Sanjay Jain who appeared for the Government of the NCT of Delhi.

When Jain said the government had already filed a report in compliance with the court's earlier directions, Justice Bhushan said: “The question is what more efforts are you taking with the present condition?”

Jain sought to assure the court that all steps were being taken, and pointed out that with the rise in demand for beds in private hospitals, the government had reserved 80 per cent beds in all 115 private hospitals in Delhi for Covid-19 patients. Beds had been reserved in 33 of these hospitals earlier; a revised notification had been issued extending it to all 115, Jain said.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who appeared for the Centre, told the Bench that the Union Home Minister had taken certain steps to improve the situation in Delhi, but added that the NCT needed to do more.

The court asked Mehta to file an affidavit on the status of Covid-19 cases in the country, and especially in Delhi. It also asked counsel for Maharashtra to inform the court about the steps taken, and assistance, if any was required, so that remedial actions can be pursued. The Bench will hear the matter again on November 27.

Kumbh: Pilgrims entry to ghats only after Covid test

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
DEHRADUN, NOVEMBER 23

PILGRIMS WILL be allowed to enter the ghats of Ganga to take the holy dip during the upcoming Kumbh Mela in Haridwar only after a Covid-19 test. Facilities of antigen testing will be set up at the entry points in the Kumbh Mela area.

The decision was taken on Monday at a meeting called by Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat to review preparations for the Kumbh Mela – from January 1 to April 30 next year.

At the meeting, Rawat directed officials to issue a detailed advisory for the pilgrims. He

asked them to make arrangements for registration of visitors on a portal and antigen testing at all the entry points. He directed the officials to ensure that people can come for the *kumbh snan* (holy dip) only after the Covid-19 test.

The Chief Minister also asked them to ensure availability of masks for the pilgrims with support of self-help groups, and make arrangements for health facilities at all entry points.

The meeting held discussions to prepare a plan in consultation with other states to control the number of pilgrims attending the Kumbh Mela. Seven million devotees attended the last Kumbh Mela in Haridwar in 2010.



CLASSES WITH CAUTION

Students maintain distancing outside a school in Maharashtra's Chandrapur district. Express

ASSCHOOLS reopened in about 25 districts of Maharashtra, approximately five per cent of the students turned up. As per state School Education Department guidelines, 50 per cent students have been allowed to attend a class at one time.

OFFICIALS expect attendance to improve, but school principals have cited challenges in ensuring students catch up with studies. Besides Mumbai, Palghar, and Thane, schools in Jalgaon, Hingoli, Nanded, Nashik, Dhule, Nagpur and Parbhani remain shut.



Home Minister Amit Shah during the launch of mobile RT-PCR lab, in Delhi. PTI

Free tests: Shah inaugurates mobile RT-PCR lab in Delhi

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

UNION HOME MINISTER Amit Shah on Monday inaugurated a mobile Covid-19 RT-PCR lab at the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in New Delhi. The mobile lab, which can give a result within six to eight hours without any cost to public, has been jointly launched by SpiceHealth and the ICMR.

“This testing lab and more such labs, which are planned to be set up, shall help in adding more capacity to Covid-19 testing... RT-PCR tests are most decisive and crucial for Covid-19 testing. These tests will cost Rs. 499 and the cost of testing will be borne by the ICMR. The people of Delhi will not have to bear any cost. This initiative is a step in making Covid-19 testing affordable and more accessible to the common person,” an MMA statement said.

The test report would be available within 6 to 8 hours from the time of sample collection compared to the average 24 to 48 hours taken by similar test reports, an MMA official said.

Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh schools to stay shut this year

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
BENGALURU, SHIMLA, NOVEMBER 23

THE KARNATAKA government on Monday ruled out reopening of schools in the state following advice of a technical experts' panel in view of the Covid-19 situation.

The Himachal Pradesh government, on the other hand, reintroduced night curfew in four districts and decided that government schools and colleges will remain shut till the year-end. The decisions were taken after the state saw a sharp spike in Covid-19 cases.

Following a meeting with school officials, Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa said, “A meeting was held to consider the reopening of schools in the current year. Based on the advice of the technical experts' committee, a decision has been taken to adopt a wait-and-watch approach on the

Covid-19 situation till the end of December before deciding on reopening schools.” The situation will be reviewed at the end of December to decide on a possible date for reopening schools in 2021, he said. The state government allowed degree colleges to reopen on November 17 with precautions in place.

In Himachal, night curfew from 8 pm to 6 am has been reintroduced in Shimla, Mandi, Kangra and Kullu districts till December 15. For the next three weeks, occupancy in buses and attendance in government offices has been restricted.

On November 2, schools in the state were allowed to reopen for students of Classes IX-XII, but they were shut from November 11 to 25 following a spike in cases. The state cabinet has now decided that all state-run educational institutions will remain closed till December 31.

Foreign secy in Kathmandu on Nov 26-27

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

IN WHAT is being seen as a reciprocal gesture to Nepal Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli's August 15 phone call to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla is headed to Kathmandu for the first high-level diplomatic visit since the map row erupted in May this year.

While New Delhi is not changing its stance on the boundary issue, the visit is aimed at bringing the relationship back on track.

Shringla will be on an official visit to Nepal on November 26-27, the Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement Monday. This will be the first visit of the Foreign

Secretary to Nepal since he assumed charge.

The statement said the visit is in keeping with the tradition of regular high-level exchanges between the two countries and the priority India attaches to its relations with Nepal. The Foreign Secretary will meet his counterpart and other dignitaries in Nepal to discuss cooperation between the countries, it said.

Sources, however, pointed out that Shringla's visit is not to be conflated with the Foreign Secretary-level talks on the boundary issue. New Delhi, sources said, has already made its position clear.

The two sides, sources said, are going to focus on connectivity and infrastructure. The border dispute between

Maharashtra: Travellers from Delhi, 3 other states must show Covid report

VISHWAS WAGHMODE  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 23

STARTING NOVEMBER 25, people arriving in Mumbai and elsewhere in Maharashtra from Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Goa by air and train must have a negative Covid-19 RT-PCR test report. The test must have been conducted not more than three days before arrival.

The order has been issued by Chief Secretary Sanjay Kumar.

As per the norms, passengers coming from airports in Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Goa shall have an RT-PCR negative test report and are required to show it on arrival. Air passengers are required to have undergone the test not more than three days before arrival in Maharashtra, the guidelines state.

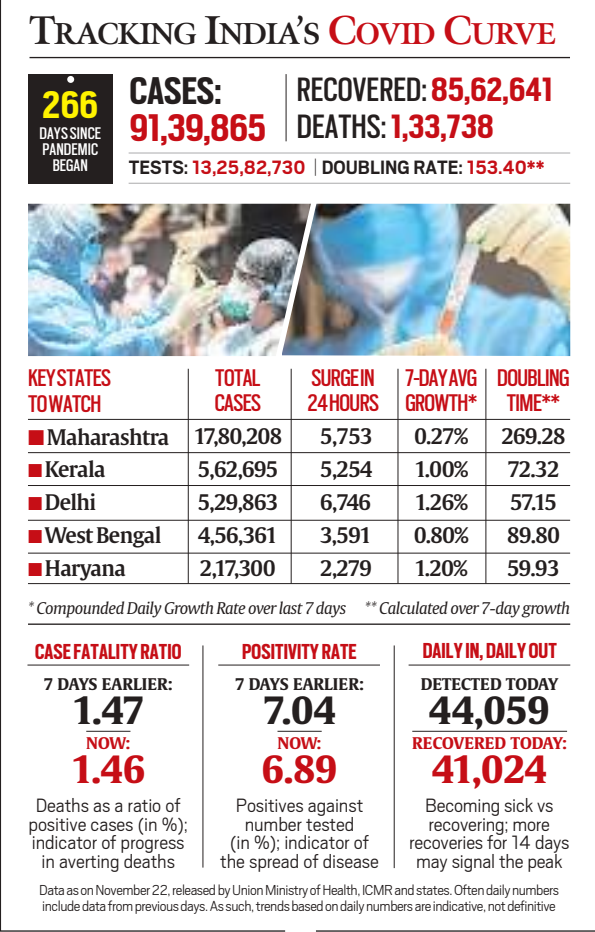
Passengers without a test report will have to undergo the RT-PCR test at the airport at their

own cost. Airports shall arrange testing centres.

“If they test positive, they will be put in institutional quarantine as per norms,” said Kumar.

An official said that those with a Covid negative report can leave the airport rightaway. Those without a report will be allowed to leave after testing. “They will be contacted if they test positive, and treated as per the protocol,” said the official.

Rail passengers coming in trains originating or halting at stations in Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Goa are required to carry RT-PCR negative test report. Train passengers are required to have undergone the test four days before arrival in Maharashtra, as per the norms. Rail passengers without a negative report would be screened for symptoms. Those who show symptoms will have to undergo an antigen test.



BRIEFLY



Sushila Devi

ODISHA Governor's wife dies at 74, tributes pour in

**Bhubaneswar:** Sushila Devi, wife of Odisha Governor Prof Ganeshi Lal, died at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar on Sunday night. She was 74 and had tested positive for Covid-19 on November 1 along with the Governor and four other family members. While the others had been discharged from the hospital after recovery, she was suffering from post-Covid complications and other comorbidities. CM Naveen Patnaik expressed grief and described her as a warm and pious person. Union Minister Pratap Sarangi, too, expressed condolences. **ENS**

MADHYA PRADESH Web series row: Two Netflix execs booked

**Bhopal:** A day after Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra issued a probe over a kissing scene at a temple in a web series, the state police on Monday registered a case against two Netflix executives for hurting religious sentiments and religious belief. The case was registered against Netflix India vice-president of content Monica Shergill and director of public policies Ambika Khurana after a BJP youth leader submitted on Saturday a complaint to Rewa SP Rakesh Kumar Singh, saying the scene shown in a *A Suitable Boy*, a web series based on the novel by Vikram Seth, "promoted Love Jihad". **ENS**

CHHATTISGARH 3 Maoists killed, SSB man hurt in encounter

**Raipur:** Three Maoists were shot dead in a gunfight with security forces in Chhattisgarh's Kanker, police said. Police have recovered an X-95 weapon looted in 2018 by Maoists after they ambushed a BSF party. The three, including a woman, were members of People's Liberation of Guirella Army companies and carried a combined bounty of Rs 18 lakh on their heads, police said. Bastar IG P Sundarraaj said SSB and police personnel were out for combing operations Monday. "Around 8:00 am, three bodies were recovered by us after exchange of fire. They have been identified as PLGA company number 5 members Jyoti, Badru and Guddu," he said. SSB Head Constable Aman has sustained minor injuries. **ENS**

MAHARASHTRA Bharti Singh, her husband granted bail

**Mumbai:** Actor Bharti Singh and her husband Harsh Limbachiya were granted bail by a metropolitan magistrate's court on Monday. They were arrested by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Saturday following alleged seizure of ganja from their house. The court Sunday sent them to judicial custody till December 4 and adjourned their bail plea to Monday. NCB had said Singh had told them that she consumed ganja procured by her husband. NCB said a search at their Versova home had led to recovery of 65 gm of ganja and 21.5 gm of cannabis was recovered from another residence. **ENS**

Avoid Plastics Save Rain Water Create Rain Water Harvesting Structure

**TIRUCHIRAPPALLI CITY CORPORATION**

Tender Notice No. : 139 / 2020-2021

**TENDER NOTIFICATION EXTENSION NOTICE** Dt. 20.11.2020

Receipt and submission of tenders as per Tender Notice No. 139/2020-2021 is postponed due to administrative reason as detailed below.

Details	Date already notified	Date postponed
Last date for download of Bid documents	24.11.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours.	08.12.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours.
Submission of bids through e-submission	25.11.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours.	09.12.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours.
Tender Opening Date and Time	25.11.2020 Upto 16.00 Hours.	09.12.2020 Upto 16.00 Hours.

Other terms and Conditions remain unchanged.

Commissioner, Tiruchirappalli City Corporation.

DIPR/ 4355 /TENDER/2020

उ० प्र० पावर ट्रांसमिशन कार्पोरेशन लि०  
ई-निविदा सूचना निम्नलिखित कार्य/आपूर्ति  
हेतु ई-निविदाये दो भागों में जी०एस०टी० में  
पंजीकृत, प्रतिष्ठित एवं अनुभवी ठेकेदारों/फर्मों  
से ऑन लाईन ई-निविदा पोर्टल बेबसाईट  
'http://etender.up.nic.in' पर आमंत्रित  
का जाती है। निविदा मूल्य जी०एस०टी० सहित  
तथा धरोहर राशि आर०टी०जी०एस  
०/ए०एफ०आई०टी०/बैंक गारण्टी के माध्यम  
से अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत परीक्षण खण्ड,  
अमरोहा के भारतीय स्टेट बैंक, शाखा-जोता  
(जिला-अमरोहा) में संचालित चालू खाता  
सं० (Current Account)-  
30723557626, IFSC Code-  
SBIN0007413, MICR No.  
244002026 में टेंडर खुलने की दिनांक से  
एक दिन पूर्व तक जमा करें। अन्य नियम व  
शर्त विभाग के निर्धारित नियम व शर्त  
उ०प्र०पावर कारपोरेशन के फार्म ए/बी के  
अनुसार होगी जिन्हें किसी भी कार्यदिवस में  
अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में देखा जा  
सकता है। विस्तृत विवरण ई-निविदा लि०  
पोर्टल बेबसाईट पर निविदा खुलने के अन्तिम  
निर्दिष्ट एवं समय तक उपलब्ध रहेगा। निविदा में  
किसी भी संशोधन या तिथि विस्तार ई-निविदा  
पोर्टल पर अवश्य देख लिया जाए। ई निविदा  
खुलने की दिनांक-22.12.2020 1. ई-निविदा  
संख्या- 141/ई०टी०सी०डि०/एम०/2020 विद्युत  
परीक्षण खण्ड, अमरोहा के अन्तर्गत ईएफयू  
गुराली टिस्टा, कन्नौज से 220 के०वी०  
उपकेन्द्र गजरीला एवं अमरोहा पर स्टील  
स्टक्चर लाने का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रू०  
1000/-निविदा प्रपत्र का जी०एस०टी० सहित  
मूल्य रू० 295/ 2. ई-निविदा संख्या-  
142/ई०टी०सी०डि०/एम०/2020 विद्युत परीक्षण  
खण्ड, अमरोहा के अन्तर्गत 132 के०वी०  
उपकेन्द्र कोठीखिदमतपुर पर मल्टी फंक्शन  
एवं एमवीएआर मीटर की आपूर्ति एवं लगाने  
का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रू० 2000/-निविदा

प्रपत्र का जी०एस०टी० सहित मूल्य रू० 590/  
3. ई-निविदा संख्या-143/ई०टी०सी०  
डि०/एम०/2020 विद्युत परीक्षण खण्ड, धामपुर  
के अन्तर्गत 132 के०वी० उपकेन्द्र नजीबाबाद  
(AIS Type) का वार्षिक अनुरक्षण का  
कार्य। धरोहर राशि रू० 8000/-निविदा प्रपत्र  
का जी०एस०टी० सहित मूल्य रू० 1180/- 4.  
ई-निविदा संख्या-144/ई०टी०सी०डि०  
/एम०/2020 विद्युत परीक्षण खण्ड, बिजनौर के  
अन्तर्गत 220 के०वी० मेट्रो-नहटौर लाईन  
(AIS Based) का वार्षिक अनुरक्षण का  
कार्य। धरोहर राशि रू० 9000/-निविदा प्रपत्र  
का जी०एस०टी० सहित मूल्य रू० 1180/ 5.  
ई-निविदा संख्या-145/ई०टी०सी०डि०  
/एम०/2020 विद्युत परीक्षण खण्ड, धामपुर के  
अन्तर्गत 220 के०वी० मेट्रो-नहटौर लाईन  
पर टॉवर लोकेशन सं० 49-50 के मध्य  
क्षतिग्रस्त कंडक्टर बदलने एवं टॉवर न० 50  
के क्षतिग्रस्त हिस्से की री-इंरक्शन का कार्य।  
धरोहर राशि रू० 2000/-निविदा प्रपत्र का  
जी०एस०टी० सहित मूल्य रू० 590/ 7. ई-  
निविदा संख्या-147/ई०टी०सी०डि०  
/एम०/2020 विद्युत परीक्षण खण्ड, धामपुर के  
अन्तर्गत 220 के०वी० उपकेन्द्र नहटौर पर  
नहटौर-मैटोर लाईन हेतु जम्पर कॉन का  
आपूर्ति। धरोहर राशि रू० 1000/-निविदा  
प्रपत्र का जी०एस०टी० सहित मूल्य रू०  
295/- "राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचाये"  
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत परीक्षण मंडल  
द्वितीय उ०प्र० पावर ट्रान्स कार्पोरेशन लि०  
मुरादाबाद पत्रांक: 2512 - वि०प्रा०मं०  
डि० मु०/ ई-निविदा / 2020 दिनांक:  
23/11/2020

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU - PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

PRE QUALIFICATION & PRICE TENDER (TWO COVER SYSTEM)

TENDER NOTICE NO.14/ 2020-2021 (BOMI MWI TRY) Dated : 23.11.2020

FORM OF CONTRACT : LUMPSUM / ITEM WISE RATE TENDER

For and on behalf of the Governor of TAMILNADU, sealed Tenders are invited from the PWD Registered contractors in the field, for the following work and the same will be received upto 3.00 PM on the respective date mentioned (column 6) and will be opened on the same day at 3.30 PM in the presence of those tenderers or their representatives who choose to be present:

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Approx. value of work (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (In Rs.)	Schedule available Date	Tender Date
1	2	3	4	5	6
KARUR DISTRICT					
1	Construction of Additional New Building in Government Hospital at Pallapatti in Karur District	Rs.617.50	Rs.3,18,750/-	27.11.2020 to 28.12.2020 upto 5.45 PM	29.12.2020

Note : 1. The evidences on the minimum qualification criteria mentioned in the Pre Qualification Application should be furnished in Cover-I without any omissions at the time of submission of prequalification tender itself. Any Omissions in this regard will be summarily rejected.

2. The tender notice & other details can be seen & downloaded from the website [www.tenders.gov.in](http://www.tenders.gov.in) ([or](http://or)) [www.tenders.tn.gov.in](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in)

Superintending Engineer, P.W.D., Buildings (C & M) Circle, Medical Works, Trichy.

DIPR/ 4362 /TENDER/2020

TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD

INVITATION OF BIDS - TWO COVER - ITEMWise TENDER SYSTEM

Second call (Short Term Tender)

IFB No.	F.Sivagangal CWSS /DO I / CW /2020 /Dt : 21.11.2020		
Fund	Loan under NABARD NIDA (Year 2020-21 to 2022-23) & State Share (under MNP)		
Eligibility	Registered Class I Bidders		
Tender Invitee	The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, No.1/1,Sambakulam, Ganesh Nagar, Mattuthavani, Madurai - 625007		
Sale of Bid & Place of Sale	24.11.2020 to 07.12.2020 upto 17.45 hours at O/o the Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, RWS Division, Sivagangal, Tamilnadu by cash or by Demand Draft Rs.1000+ GST in favour of Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, RWS Division, Sivagangal payable at Sivagangal.		
Downloading website	(Free of cost) at <a href="http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in">www.tenders.tn.gov.in</a> and <a href="http://www.twadboard.tn.gov.in">www.twadboard.tn.gov.in</a>		
Pre Bid meeting	01.12.2020 at 11.00 hours at the office of the Tender Invitee		
Bid Submission	09.12.2020 before 15.00 hours at the office of the Tender Invitee in person or through post. This office will not be held responsible for postal delay, if any.		
Bid opening	09.12.2020at 15.30 hours at the office of the Tender Invitee		
Sl. No.	Name of work	Approximate value of work (Rs.in Crore including GST)	Bid security (Rs.in lakh)
CWSS to 3 Municipalities, 8 TP and 2452 Rural Habitations in Sivagangal District with river Cauvery as source including maintenance for a period of 5 years. (Period of completion - 30 months)			
1	Package – III - Gravity Feeder Main - I and allied works	391.50	196.00
2	Package IV - Gravity Feeder Main - II and allied works	350.50	176.00

Chief Engineer (I/c), TWAD Board, Madurai

DIPR/ 4364 /TENDER/2020

SAVE WATER, CONSERVE WATER, EVERY DROP COUNTS

WESTERN RAILWAY-AHMEDABAD DIVISION

Tender Advertisement

SMM(DL) SBI on behalf of the President of the India invites following electronic open tenders for supply of material.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description of material	Qty.	Date & time of E-tender closing
1	72-20-5305	Strip Rubber	70 Nos.	10/12/2020, 11.00 hrs

Regarding details tender notice containing purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website [www.treps.gov.in](http://www.treps.gov.in) Manual offers will not be considered.

Like us on: [Facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly) Follow us on: [Twitter.com/WesternRly](https://twitter.com/WesternRly)

NEW OKHLA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida G.B. Nagar,(U.P)  
Website : [www.noidaauthorityonline.com](http://www.noidaauthorityonline.com)

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from firms/contractor registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bld can be uploaded and same shall be opened/ downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The detail and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official websites : [www.noidaauthorityonline.com](http://www.noidaauthorityonline.com) and <https://etenders.up.nic.in>. Please ensure to see these website for any changes/ amendment and corrigendum etc.

Sl. No.	Job No.	Name of Work	Amount	Tender Publication
1.	10/AdvT./ (Tehsilidar) /2020-21	Advertising rights on unipole on Sector-16A & Sector-16B (for one year) Noida.	69,12,000.00	Fourth Time
2.	11/AdvT./ (Tehsilidar) /2020-21	Advertising rights on unipole on Expressway from Irrigation drain to Mahamaya Flyover, Noida.	75,53,088.00	Fourth Time

Which can be uploaded by date 01-12-2020 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 02.12.2020 at 11.00AM.

R.M. Sexena  
Tahsilidar, Noida

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA





@ieExplained

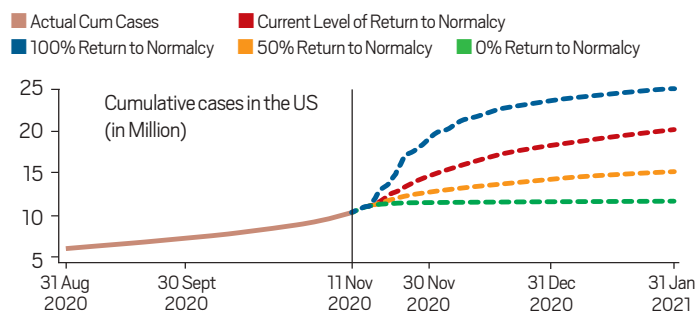
#ExpressExplained

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

## CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

# What will be US caseload when Biden takes charge?

## CUMULATIVE CASES IN THE US BY REOPENING LEVELS



This chart shows projected cases in the US by January-end 2021, in four different scenarios. University of Washington at St Louis

TWO MONTHS ahead of Joe Biden's scheduled inauguration as US President, researchers have published a study modelling the growth of the pandemic by then. Based on a forecasting model developed by researchers the University of Washington at St Louis, the study is published in the journal *Scientific Reports*.

According to the model, the number of confirmed Covid-19 cases (12 million on November 23) is likely to increase to 20 million by end-January. In a statement, Washington University said the same model had accurately forecast the rate of Covid-19 growth over summer 2020. The model was developed by researchers Meng Liu, Raphael Thomadsen and Song Yao.

The model accounts for the fact that people live in interconnected social networks rather than interacting mostly with random groups of strangers. "This allows the model to forecast that growth will not continue at exponential rates for long periods of time, as classic Covid-19 forecasts predict," Thomadsen said on the University website.

The model also accounts for different levels of social distancing and their impact on the spread of Covid-19. The

current social distancing reflects an approximate 60% return to normalcy, as compared with the level of social distancing before the pandemic. This is the scenario that projects 20 million cases before the end of January 2021. On the other hand, going back to a 50% return to normalcy would likely result in 5 million fewer cases by the end of January, according to the model.

"We could effectively squash out the Covid growth within a few weeks if we went back to the levels of social distancing we experienced in April," Thomadsen said.

However, the researchers caution that this is likely a conservative estimate due to increased testing and the upcoming holidays. According to Song Yao: "In our model, we assume that only 10%

of cases are ever diagnosed, meaning that we will start to hit saturation. However, more recently, testing has increased, and probably more like 25% of cases are diagnosed. In that case, total Covid cases would increase beyond 20 million in the next few months unless we, as a society, engage in more social distancing."

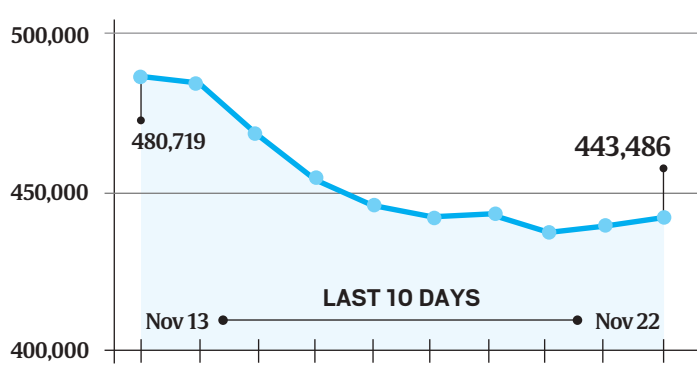
Source: Univ of Washington at St Louis



PAPER CLIP

NEW RESEARCH

## INDIA ACTIVE CASES



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

INDIA TOTAL CASES  
9,139,865

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

WORLD TOTAL CASES  
58,900,313

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

# In Team Biden's recent statements, a sense of US approach to India

SHUBHAJIT ROY

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

ANTHONY BLINKEN, US President-elect Joe Biden's closest foreign policy adviser, was on Monday nominated for Secretary of State, and Jake Sullivan a National Security Advisor.

Blinken, 58, a former Deputy Secretary of State under President Barack Obama, began his career at the State Department during the Clinton administration. Sullivan, 43, succeeded Blinken as Vice President Biden's National Security Adviser, and served as the Head of Policy Planning at the State Department under Hillary Clinton.

A look through Blinken's statements in the last few months gives a sense of his approach towards India.

## High priority relationship

On July 9, Blinken spoke at the Hudson Institute, Washington DC. "Strengthening and deepening the relationship with India is going to be a very high priority. It's usually important to the future of the Indo-Pacific and the kind of order that we all want; it's fair, stable, and hopefully increasingly democratic and it's vital to being able to tackle some of these big global challenges," he said.

"By the way, I think this has been over Republican and Democratic administra-

tions' success story, going back to the Clinton administration, the Bush administration and then the Obama-Biden administration," he said.

**BIDEN'S CONTRIBUTION:** "During the Bush administration, then Senator Biden partnered with that administration to help get the peaceful nuclear cooperation agreement, the 123 agreement through the United States Senate, usually important to solidifying our relationship," Blinken said.

**DEFENCE COOPERATION:** Blinken talked about the Obama administration making India a "major defence partner". This epithet was the first time a US administration gave anyone outside its traditional partners. "In our own administration, during the Obama-Biden administration, there was concrete progress across a whole series of initiatives and efforts under both Prime Minister Singh and then under Prime Minister Modi. There was this defence technology and trade initiative. The idea there was to kind of strengthen India's defence industrial base and that then paved the way for American and Indian companies to work together to produce important technology. We made India a so-called major defence partner," Blinken said.

**PARIS PACT:** "Having sort of set that foundation and made the relationship stronger, guess what? We then worked hard to per-



Antony Blinken (left) as Secretary of State; Jake Sullivan as NSA



suaide India that it would be more prosperous and more secure if it's signed on to the Paris Climate Agreement. We succeeded... It was a challenging effort but Vice President Biden was one of the leaders of the effort to convince our partners in India and they did. I think that's a reflection, again, of the fact that we cannot solve common global challenges without India as part of the deal," Blinken said.

## Kashmir & CAAs

Blinken flagged concerns on the human rights situation in Kashmir and the Citizenship Amendment Act. "Now, we obviously have challenges now and real concerns, for example, about some of the actions that the government has taken particularly in

during times of stress and uncertainty as investors look to protect their capital from significant erosion. At a time when the world is battling the Covid-19 pandemic and interest rates in developed markets across Europe are much lower, investors are looking for relatively better-yielding debt instruments to safeguard their interests.

## Why is there a huge demand?

The fact that the 10-year and 15-year bonds are offering positive returns is a big attraction at a time when interest rates in Europe have dropped significantly. As against minus -0.15% yield on the 5-year bond issued by China, the yields offered in safe European bonds are much lower, between -0.5% and -0.75%.

Also, it is important to note that while the majority of the large economies are facing a contraction in their GDP for 2020-21, China is one country that is set to witness positive growth in these challenging times: its GDP expanded by 4.9% in the third quarter of 2020.

cracking down on freedom of movement and freedom of speech in Kashmir, some of the laws on citizenship but you're always better engaging with a partner and a vitally important one like India, when you can speak frankly and directly about areas where you have differences even as you're working to build greater cooperation and strengthen the relationship going forward," Blinken said.

## India role in UN

On August 15, Blinken again participated in a panel discussion on Indo-US ties, and flagged the issue of UN reforms. "In a Biden administration, we would be an advocate for India to play a leading role in international institutions and that includes helping India get a seat on a United Nations Security Council," he said.

## China challenge

"We have a common challenge which has to deal with an increasingly assertive China across the board, including its aggression toward India at the Line of Actual Control but also using its economic might to coerce others and reap unfair advantage," Blinken said. "I think you'd see Joe Biden as president investing in ourselves, renewing our democracy, working with our close partners like India, asserting our values and engaging China from a position of strength. India has

While Europe, the US and other parts of the world are facing a second wave of Covid-19 cases, China has demonstrated that it has controlled the spread of the pandemic and is therefore seen as a more stable region. Many feel that European investors are also looking to increase their exposure in China, and hence there is a huge demand for these bonds.

## What is the key factor driving this demand?

It is the massive amount of liquidity injected by the global central banks after the pandemic began that has driven up prices of various assets including equities, debt and commodities. Banking industry sources said many investors could also be temporarily parking money in negative-yielding government debt for the purpose of hedging their risk portfolio in equities. In case the fresh wave of the Covid-19 pandemic leads to further lockdowns of economies, then there could be further negative pressure on inter-

to be a key partner in that effort," he said.

## Cross-border terrorism

Blinken also addressed New Delhi's concern of cross-border terrorism, without naming Pakistan. "We would work together to strengthen India's defence and also I might add its capabilities as a counterterrorism partner. On the question of terrorism, specifically, we have no tolerance for terrorism, in South Asia or anywhere else: cross-border or otherwise," he said.

## Biden's vision 2020

Blinken quoted Biden from 2006 — just before he was going to take charge as the chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in 2007-2009 — "My dream is that in 2020, the two closest nations in the world will be India and the United States." He said, "We are not quite there, but it's a terrific vision... Joe Biden sees the United States in India as natural partners, and that's the vision he would help to make real as President."

## Sullivan on India

In an interview to *The New Yorker* in February 2019, Sullivan was asked about dealing with the Narendra Modi government. He made the point that the US needs to engage with the Modi government, balancing American interests and values.

\$25 to \$37 a dose for different governments — making it prohibitive for countries like India, according to experts.

Russia's Sputnik V vaccine uses a technology similar to AZD1222 and Covishield — a non-replicating viral vector. The Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) said it had an efficacy of around 92%. This vaccine is stored at -18°C in its liquid form and around 2°C to 8°C in its freeze-dried form, which might make it easier to transport across large geographies. RDIF has said its cost will be "much lower" than the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

In India, SII CEO Adar Poonawalla has said that Covishield, which can also be stored at temperatures between 2°C and 8°C, will be priced at around \$3 a dose for the government and nearly \$7-8 for the "general public".

## What questions remain unanswered?

Experts say the biggest question about any Covid-19 vaccine is the uncertainty surrounding how long the immune response it generates will last.

"We still do not know the duration of protection. We have reasonable information on efficacy, but it's not complete and not scrutinised by the regulators. We also have partial information on safety, because some of the delayed effects of the vaccine are still not known," said Dr Srinath Reddy.

## How soon can India get this vaccine? Will everyone get it?

While SII has already begun stockpiling doses of Covishield — it announced this month that it had already manufactured around 40 million doses for India — the firm has also clarified that the vaccine will be limited to priority groups like frontline workers and the elderly to start with. It would likely be available for the general population by April, according to Poonawalla.

Last week, he said the firm would apply to the Drug Controller General in India for emergency use authorisation, likely in December; if AZD1222 received such approval in the UK and Europe following positive results.

While it is aiming to ramp up monthly production from 50-60 million doses to 100 million by February, experts like Dr Reddy caution that access will also depend on aspects like whether there are enough trained personnel to administer the vaccine to a larger population.

est rates, pushing yields down further, and leading to profits even for investors who put in money at the current juncture. Global central banks have injected an estimated more than \$10 trillion of liquidity through various instruments in the financial system — which is finding its way into various assets in the economy.

"There is an expectation that the new US government may impose fresh lockdowns in the economy as Covid cases are picking up in various US states and European countries, whereas China seems relatively safe now from that perspective. This is expected to lead to volatility in the financial markets in coming days, pushing up demand for safety of capital alongside flows into risk assets," a senior financial sector analysts said. He said institutional investors would look at the overall returns after factoring in the sharp gains from equities and commodities and discounting the negative returns on capital being used for the purpose of hedging.

"I might nitpick a word here or a word there, but the basic idea that we're going to deal with the Prime Minister of India, despite the horrific acts that he had overseen in his home state when he was the Chief Minister, I cannot disagree with that policy decision. I don't believe that it was tenable for the American President to simply say, 'We ban him from coming to the US. We don't like him and we will not deal with him.' I don't think that's tenable," Sullivan said.

"Therefore, in my view, the way the United States should talk about these issues is to say not that we perfectly live up to our values in every circumstance but that we always work to take them into account in our decision-making, in a sincere and real way, and that alone, in my view, for a great power, is impressive enough. As long as we are sincere and real in doing that and actually having the hard conversations internally. How do we handle this Modi thing? This does bother us. This is a problem. What is the best balance? As long as that is baked into the serious, sober reflection of how best to manage our interests and values, then I think American foreign policy is on the right track. It's when we just say we're setting that aside because it doesn't even matter that I think we start to head down a dark path, and that's the path that I think the Trump Administration has put us on," he said.



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THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2020

## THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE

THE DOG IS A GENTLEMAN; I HOPE TO GO TO HIS  
HEAVEN NOT MAN'S. — MARK TWAIN

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

## SECULAR'S SCAPEGOAT

By casting AIMIM as saboteur, non-BJP parties seek to avoid looking in mirror — and acknowledging limits of their politics

IN THE LULL after an important assembly election and before the drumroll for the next crucial state poll, the rise of a political player is sparking controversy and consternation. The All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen and its leader, Asaduddin Owaisi, are in the spotlight after the party won five seats in the Bihar assembly — it had drawn a blank in the last Bihar election in 2015, and after Maharashtra, this is only its second notable success outside of its backyard in Hyderabad. But the AIMIM is not just drawing attention for being the new entrant in Bihar, and potentially in West Bengal 2021 and UP 2022 — though, given the high entry barriers in Indian politics, a new player crossing the electoral threshold is significant. It is touching off conversation and concern because it is seen as a “Muslim” party. In the wake of the Bihar outcome, it has been accused of letting down the “secular” side, by “splitting” the “Muslim vote” thereby denying victory to the RJD-led Mahagathbandhan, even of being the BJP's “B-team”. Whether or not electoral data confirms that the AIMIM made the critical difference between the Mahagathbandhan's victory and defeat in a close election is not the question. AIMIM's Bihar tally and the rumblings it has set off are laying bare some of the complacencies and conceits of the upholders of “secularism” in India's polity.

Of course, the rise of an exclusivist Muslim political platform in a country where, since Independence, Muslims have overwhelmingly reposed their trust and their vote in non-Muslim leaders who also enjoyed the confidence of the majority community raises important questions. But by casting Owaisi in the role of saboteur, secular politics seeks to avoid, once again, looking in the mirror. The Owaisi phenomenon draws support, in part, from the distortions and silences of this politics. Its discontents, building for a long while, are shown up most starkly in these times of BJP dominance. Despite the rhetoric of “sabka saath sabka vikas”, the Modi-BJP has unsuitably devoted its energies towards a consolidation of the “Hindu vote”. Non-BJP parties have responded to the majoritarian challenge, however, by playing the game by the BJP's rules, taking the “Muslim vote” for granted and doing little beyond tokenism when it comes to ensuring representation. At the Centre and in state after state, the BJP's greatest success has been in remaking the political field, and shifting its centre to the right. In the process, as the nation-wide protests against the discriminatory citizenship law showed, it has been left to non-party voices to make visible Muslim fears and anxieties.

It is not surprising that Owaisi's party should make headway in this climate. Having said that, it would be wrong and unfair to see it only as the symptom of a secular malignancy. If the notion of Muslim voters being an undifferentiated block is deeply reductionist, imposing straitjackets for what a Muslim politics can and cannot say is a denial of agency, and diversity. Those who fear the AIMIM's politics will deepen the communal divide must build a bridge, counter it politically.

## PIECES OF PEACE

PM Imran Khan's visit to Afghanistan has drawn attention to the challenges still to be met to remove mistrust, bring stability

IT SAYS A lot about Pakistan-Afghanistan relations that Prime Minister Imran Khan's visit to Kabul was his first in the two years that he has been in office. Its timing was clearly linked to the stalled intra-Afghan talks and the transition in the White House. The visit appeared aimed at sending messages to multiple audiences — to the incoming Biden Administration that Pakistan is sincere about its desire for peace in Afghanistan; to the government in Kabul that Islamabad is a friend, and is making its best efforts toward this end; and to the Taliban, who Islamabad claims to have brought to the table for talks with the US, that they need to stay the course.

The “intra-Afghan” talks in Doha between the Taliban and the delegation of the Afghan Republic have been stuck for weeks with the two sides unable to agree on an agenda or a time frame. Both sides will be watching the transition in the White House, and what changes, if any, President-elect Joe Biden might make to the US policy on Afghanistan. Meanwhile, on his way out of the White House, President Donald Trump, who cut a deal with the Taliban without the involvement of the Afghan government for the departure of foreign militaries from the country, has ordered a further drawdown of troops. This, even as the Taliban, who have ruled out a ceasefire before reaching an agreement with their compatriots, step up attacks against civilian and non-civilian targets in Afghanistan.

Imran Khan and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani declared their determination to make a “leap of faith” to remove mistrust between their two countries. Both sides know that the Pakistan-Afghanistan relationship is linked to peace in Afghanistan, and vice versa. But peace-loving Afghans do not trust the Taliban. They know that the generals in Rawalpindi have influence over the Taliban leadership, and provide patronage and safe haven to them and others like the Haqqani Network who wreak havoc within Afghanistan. They also know that for Pakistan, the Taliban are a hedge against the building of a cross-border Pashtun solidarity, and against the irreconcilable Pakistan-Afghanistan views on the Durand Line. It cannot have helped that two days before the visit, the Pakistan government chose to attack India for purportedly using Afghan soil to launch alleged terrorist attacks in Pakistan, by extension implicating Kabul. Unsurprisingly, the Ghani government has rejected these allegations outright.

## PUPPY EYES

Turkmenistan's leader unveils a golden statue of a beloved dog breed. He is not the first leader to use animals for political ends

ASHGABAT, TURKMENISTAN'S CAPITAL, has come a little late to the puppy party. Since the very beginnings of social media, dog (and cat) videos have ruled the world wide web — an uncontroversial dose of unadulterated cuteness in a polarised, often abusive space. But under the animal-loving leadership of President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, the country has now made quite a splash. Not content with a mere video, Berdimuhamedov unveiled earlier this month a gigantic golden statue of an Alabay — a shepherd dog breed that is held in high esteem in the country. Under the statue, an LED screen constantly plays videos of Alabays doing dog-like things, quite endearingly.

This is neither the first time Berdimuhamedov, an authoritarian ruler who allegedly suppresses press freedom and on whose watch dissidents “disappear”, has tried to woo his countrymen in this manner; nor is he the first of his kind to do so. Adolf Hitler was famously enamoured with Blondie, a German Shepherd and Vladimir Putin has Pasha, Verni, Yume, Buffy and Koni. Verni, in fact, was a birthday gift to Putin from Berdimuhamedov. The puppy, clearly, presents the human side of strong men, allowing them to be likeable by association, displaying a streak of emotion, while still being intimidating. Donald Trump not having a dog makes him a rarity in this league and among US presidents.

Turkmenistan, like India, has an almost reverential relationship with some animals — prominently, Alabays and Akhal Teke horses. It may or may not be a coincidence that Berdimuhamedov has written books about both animals. Perhaps there is a silver lining in the political manipulation of animals — dogs, horses, elephants, cows and sometimes, avian fauna, such as peacocks. Maybe they aren't merely props for the Great Leader who thinks fundamental human rights are a legal technicality but cannot resist puppy eyes. Or, more likely, some politicians prefer pliant pets to a critical citizenry.



SHAHID JAMEEL

AS THE GLOBAL toll of Covid-19 touches 58 million confirmed infections and almost 1.4 million deaths, events of the past week have infused new optimism about the possibility of using vaccines to control the pandemic. The BioNTech-Pfizer vaccine and the one from Moderna reported about 95 per cent success in large Phase 3 efficacy trials. Though Russia's Sputnik V vaccine also claimed 92 per cent interim efficacy, it was largely ignored as the data was based on only 20 infections — the BioNTech-Pfizer and Moderna results were based on 170 and 95 infections, respectively. Finally, results from the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine Phase 2 trial published in The Lancet showed robust anti-viral immunity, even in those over the age of 70. The interim Phase 3 results for this vaccine released on November 23 showed 90 per cent efficacy for a lower dose and only 62 per cent efficacy for the higher dose, but still crossed the threshold of 70 per cent overall efficacy.

These results bode well for other vaccines in the development pipeline. They tell us that a vaccine based on just a small part of the virus, the Spike Protein, will effectively protect from infection. It does not matter whether a piece of ribonucleic acid (RNA) is delivered to human cells to be “translated” into the Spike Protein, as in the BioNTech-Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, or a viral vector is used to deliver the DNA for this protein into human cells as in the Oxford-AstraZeneca and Russian vaccines. It used to take 10-20 years to develop and test vaccines in pre-Covid times. But in less than a year, there are 164 candidate Covid-19 vaccines in pre-clinical evaluation and 48 in clinical evaluation, of which 11 are undergoing Phase 3 efficacy testing. This requires coordination at multiple levels — nationally and internationally, between funders, researchers, manufacturers, trial managers and regulators — something that has also happened at great speed and sets the benchmark for developing vaccines against future diseases.

But there is also a need for caution. High levels of safety and efficacy in a large and diverse volunteer population are still based on short-term analyses, without having gone through either a longer follow-up or the scrutiny of peer review. For various reasons, efficacy usually drops when vaccines move out from controlled conditions of a trial into the field. One important reason for this is the inability to maintain cold chains. The BioNTech-Pfizer vaccine requires ultra-low

News on Covid vaccine is encouraging. But issues related to efficacy and access remain

## Before the cure

Based on various sero-surveys, India may already have an estimated 135 to 150 million infections, a majority of them asymptomatic with most not even aware of their status. This brings in the element of testing for antibodies before administering vaccines. This cost must also be factored into the cost of vaccination. The Serum Institute plans to sell the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine for Rs 225 per dose. Antibody tests in India are currently priced in the same range — this effectively doubles the cost of vaccination.

storage temperatures of minus 70-80 degrees Celsius; that poses a significant storage-transport-delivery challenge. The Moderna vaccine claims to be stable for up to 30 days in the refrigerator at 2-8 degrees Celsius but would still require shipping and long-term storage in the freezer at minus 20 degrees Celsius. This would be a challenge for most countries. Almost all the Covid-19 vaccines under development will face this challenge. The longevity of protection is another unknown due to the short duration of follow-up in all trials.

There are also questions of access and equity. How much vaccine can be produced, for whom and at what cost? Pfizer has indicated that it can supply 50 million doses by the end of the year and another 1.3 billion doses in 2021. The US government's Operation Warp Speed has promised Pfizer \$1.95 billion to provide 100 million doses, which means the company's entire capacity for 2020 and another 50 million, possibly in early 2021. Moderna has said it would increase capacity to make 500 million to 1 billion doses from 2021. It received development funds from the US government and a \$1.5-billion order for 100 million doses, which includes 20 million doses by the end of 2020. Several high-income countries have pre-booked an estimated 8.8 billion doses of Covid-19 vaccines, in some cases several times of their population size. For example, for a 66.8 million population UK has pre-booked 325 million vaccine doses, including 100 million doses of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine. For its 25.5 million population Australia has pre-booked 33.8 million doses.

Where does this leave India with a high population density and high numbers of infections? Fortunately, India is in a good position, largely due to its vaccine manufacturing capacity — about 3 billion doses of which 1 billion is used domestically and 2 billion exported. Though there are no agreements to test or manufacture the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines here, India is currently testing three other vaccine candidates — the indigenously developed inactivated vaccine, Covaxin, from a partnership between the Indian Council of Medical Research and the Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech, a DNA vaccine from Ahmedabad-based Zydus Cadila, called ZvCyov-D, and the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine manufactured in India by the Pune-based Serum Institute. Clinical trials on two viral vector vaccines are also set to start — one from Russia to be manufactured by

Hyderabad-based Dr. Reddy's Labs and another developed by Johnson & Johnson to be manufactured by the Hyderabad-based Biological E.

The Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare has stated that India will vaccinate 250 million people by 2021, which would mean 500 million doses. The prioritisation should be based on three aims — protect front-line workers, reduce mortality and control the pandemic by way of herd immunity. So, the priority should be healthcare, security and sanitation workers, the elderly and those with comorbidities. If 60 per cent coverage is needed for herd immunity, India will have to vaccinate about 800 million people, requiring 1.6 billion doses. Bharat Biotech has stated that it has an annual capacity of 300 million doses that can be increased to 500 million. The Serum Institute is estimated to have an annual capacity of about 800 million doses, of which 50 per cent would be available for India, with the rest heading to COVAX, the international alliance that provides vaccine access to low-and-middle-income countries. With an annual contribution of 400 million doses from Serum Institute, 300 million from Bharat Biotech and 100 million from Zydus Cadila, India would have enough to cover 60 per cent of the population in two years.

Since a vaccine is not expected to offer better protection than natural infection, it would make no sense to vaccinate those already infected — this would waste precious doses. Based on various sero-surveys, India may already have an estimated 135 to 150 million infections, a majority of them asymptomatic with most not even aware of their status. This brings in the element of testing for antibodies before administering vaccines. This cost must also be factored into the cost of vaccination. The Serum Institute plans to sell the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine for Rs 225 per dose. Antibody tests in India are currently priced in the same range — this effectively doubles the cost of vaccination. India would need up to Rs 22,500 crore to Rs 72,000 crore to vaccinate 250 million to 800 million people. To put this in perspective, in 2020-21 the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare received a budgetary allocation of Rs 67,112 crore.

While news from the past week is encouraging, the devil remains in the details.

The writer is a virologist and director, Trivedi School of Biosciences, Ashoka University



RAMIN JAHANBEGLOO

BY THE time he killed himself by seppuku (harakiri) at the age of 45 on November 25, 1970, Yukio Mishima had been recognised at home and abroad as Japan's greatest post-war writer. His dramatically staged suicide was preceded by a speech in which he addressed Japanese soldiers at the army headquarters in Tokyo. Unlike many writers and poets who took their lives without writing about it, Mishima had started meditating on the Japanese suicide ritual as early as the 1950s.

The presence of death can be traced alongside the idea of beauty in Mishima's writings. The cult of the male body, glorified and reinforced by the samurai sword, was a dominant symbol in Mishima's art. He posed as Saint Sebastian, the Christian martyr whose body was pierced by arrows, and played the role of an army officer who committed *seppuku*, in the 1965 film *Patriotism*.

Thus, for Mishima, suicide was both an aesthetic and a heroic action. He considered true beauty as an erotic and sensual expression of death. By identifying with his tragic heroes, Mishima, through his words and deeds, transformed the suicide of the samurai into a noble action. However, he approached the act of suicide as the final gesture of a suffering shared in a brotherhood of warriors, where the individual sacrifices himself for the community.

Mishima's creation of the Tatenokai or the

## BODY OF ART

In life and work, Yukio Mishima sought to reconcile beauty and death

Shield Society in 1966, in order to defend the Emperor of Japan against attacks from the left, was more a romantic quest for an exemplary death than a political and military adventure. Mishima had been planning his suicide for years — he had trained his body with intensive physical exercises, including military training with the Tatenokai. The acute awareness of his body allowed him to find a harmonious balance between the power of creativity and physical strength. For admirers, his suicide can be considered as the culmination of his life project, the unification of action and art.

From a man of letters, Mishima became a man of sword, blurring the line between the writer and the samurai. For him, the synthesis between the Japanese philosophy of Bushido (the way of the warrior) and the Greek idealisation of physical beauty was only possible in the heroic act of death. His quest for purity could only be glorified through the act of *seppuku*. In accordance with his aesthetic vision of reality, he preferred the dramatic and heroic death of a beautiful and powerful body to the slow death of an ageing and sick body.

Mishima delivered his last manuscript to an hour before his death. In his suicide letter, Mishima wrote: “Human life is limited, but I want to live forever.” He wanted to live and die as a man of ideas and a man of action. Death was a matter of knowing when and how to renounce life, and seizing that moment.

Mishima believed in the deep wisdom of the Bushido, which from his point of view, had been undermined by post-World War II Japan. His aesthetic dissent turned into an elitist and self-valorising spirit, a confrontation with the passivity and mediocrity of the surrounding world. The forcefulness of his aesthetic dissent was reinforced by his alertness to what was happening around him and to Japanese heroic values. This is perhaps more noticeable in Mishima's book *The Sun and the Steel*, where he praises the aesthetic value of the body and the Greek concept of beauty. His response to the existential hopelessness and despair in Japan was to overcome it by the power of words and body — he transformed himself into a master of the realms of creativity and physicality.

Mishima maintained a harmonious balance between beauty and death. He chose to die in a theatrical manner in order to give meaning to life in a meaningless world. Many were repelled by his *seppuku*, others were deeply moved. He knew that many will not understand the true meaning of his death. Perhaps, he was reminded of what his favourite philosopher, Friedrich Nietzsche, had said: “He who has a why to live can bear almost any how.”

The writer is Noor-York Chair in Islamic Studies, York University, Toronto.

## NOVEMBER 24, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

## UP FARMER STIR

A FARMERS' AGITATION, led by the Lok Dal, will be launched in Uttar Pradesh from December 7 to secure higher prices for cane, paddy and potato. Ram Saran Das, general secretary of the UP Lok Dal told a press conference in Lucknow that the party had directed all its units in the districts to launch the agitation, which would include picketing, Dharna, gherao, blockade of roads and defiance of prohibitory orders to secure a price of Rs 30/quintal for sugarcane. Das said that the cane supplies to sugar mills would be completely stopped until the growers' demands for remunerative prices were conceded. He said farmers were also demand-

ing a price of Rs 150/quintal for paddy and Rs 125/quintal for potato.

## ASSAM TENSION

AS TENSION ESCALATED all over Assam following the proposed state-wide indefinite non-cooperation movement by state and central government employees, the blockade committee of the AAGP and AASU announced its decision to intensify squatting to prevent the movement of jute, bamboo, timber and cane outside the state. However, the coordination committee of the All-Assam Employees Parishad had exempted teachers, most essential services employees connected with the production and distribution

of foodgrains from the purview of the agitation. The Assam government warned its employees that abstention from duties in the name of a “non-cooperation movement” would be a violation of the terms of service.

## CHARLES ON INDIA

PRINCE CHARLES, WHO arrives in Delhi on November 24 on a 12-day official visit, has said that as one of the senior-most members of the Commonwealth and a founder of NAM, India had made a large contribution to world affairs. He said in a radio and TV interview in London India's spiritual and religious contribution “perhaps one of the greatest effects India has on the rest of the world”.



# Time to bridge the Gulf

The Indian establishment must discard outdated perceptions and seize the new strategic possibilities in the region



EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER S Jaishankar's visit to Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates this week is a good moment to reflect on the structural changes taking place in the Gulf and the region's growing influence in the Indian Ocean. One of the contributions of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's foreign policy over the last six and a half years has been to elevate the Gulf and the Indian Ocean in India's strategic priorities.

For decades, India's mercantilism saw the Gulf as a source of oil and a destination for labour exports. Delhi's narrow bureaucratic approach to the Gulf was incapable of a political engagement with the region's interests. Although the Gulf kingdoms were eager to build strong and independent political ties with Delhi without a reference to Islamabad, Delhi viewed them through the prism of Pakistan.

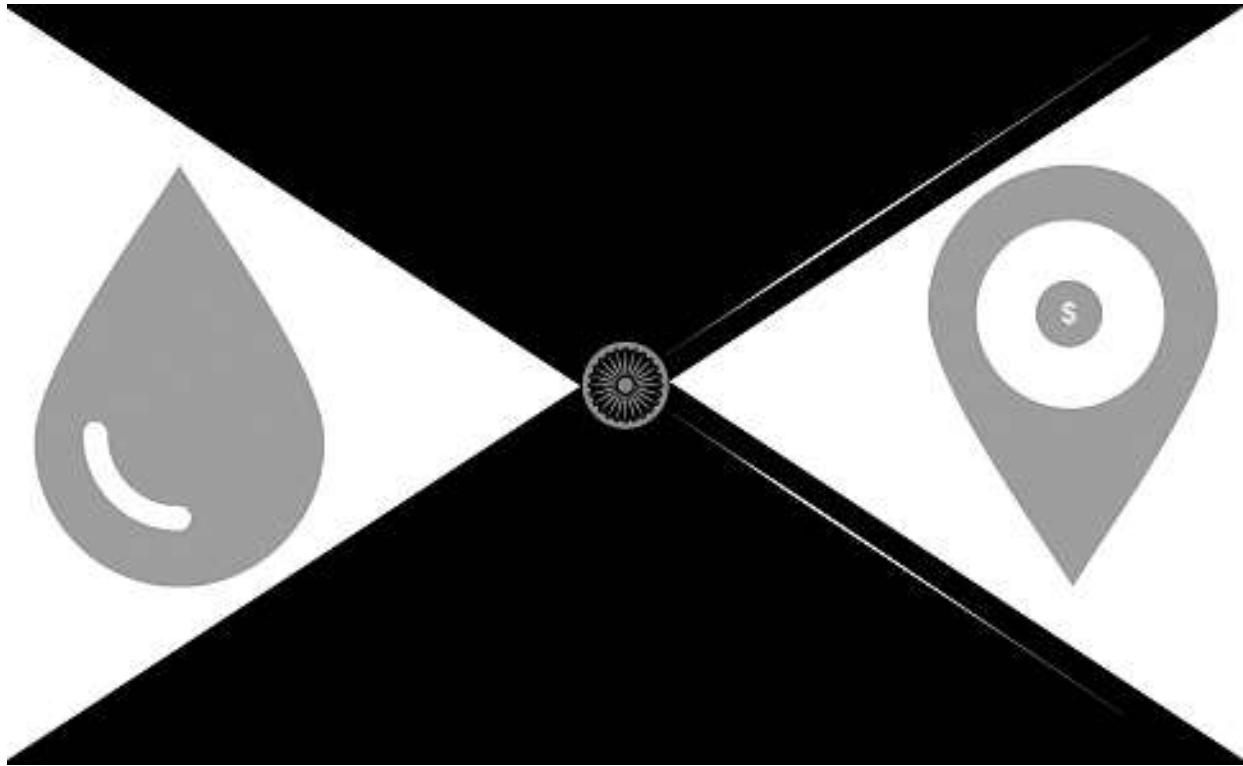
Over the last few years, Delhi's mercantilism has morphed into a strategic embrace. Modi's personal outreach to the Gulf rulers has helped crack open immense possibilities for political and strategic cooperation. But India has barely come to terms with the significant rise of "Khaleeji" or Gulf capitalism.

The Indian elite has long viewed the Gulf as a collection of extractive petro-states run by conservative feudatories. Delhi needs to get real and recognise the impressive structure of finance capital built on the massive accumulation of oil revenues over the last few decades.

Adam Hanieh, a scholar based in London's School of Oriental and African Studies, has developed the concept of "Khaleeji Capitalism" by tracking the rise of large conglomerates and sovereign wealth funds in the Gulf that today dominate several regional sectors — from banking and finance to infrastructure and logistics, from agribusiness and real estate to retail to telecom. The growing financial clout of the Gulf has also begun to translate into expansive geopolitical influence in the Middle East and the Indian Ocean.

During the last six years, India's perspectives on the Western Indian Ocean too have changed. Delhi's traditional focus was riveted on Mauritius and the large Indian diaspora there. Modi's visit to Mauritius and Seychelles in March 2015 saw the articulation of a long-overdue Indian Ocean policy and an acknowledgement of the strategic significance of the island states. Since then, South Block has brought Madagascar and Comoros along with Mauritius and Seychelles into the Indian Ocean Division. India also unveiled a maritime strategic partnership with France, a resident and influential power in the Western Indian Ocean.

Earlier this year, Delhi became an observer at the Indian Ocean Commission — the regional grouping that brings France's island territory of Reunion together with Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, and Seychelles. India has also become an observer to the Djibouti Code of Conduct — a regional framework for cooperation against piracy between the states of the Gulf, the Horn of Africa and East Africa.



CR Sasikumar

During his visit to the Gulf, Jaishankar's task is five-fold. First is the immediate need to shield India's interests in the post-pandemic turbulence that is enveloping the region. The threat to the region's economic stability is real, and as the Gulf considers cutting back on foreign labour, Delhi would want to make sure its workers in the region are insulated. The UAE alone hosts nearly three million Indian expatriates. Delhi is also eager to improve the working conditions of its large labour force — close to eight million — in the Gulf.

Second is to focus on the new and long-term possibilities for economic cooperation with the Gulf, which is looking at a future beyond oil. The Gulf states have embarked on massive economic diversification and are investing in a variety of new projects including renewable energy, higher education, technological innovation, smart cities, and space commerce. Delhi must get its businesses to focus on the range of new opportunities in the Gulf.

India also needs to tap into the full possibilities of Gulf capital for its own economic development. The big gap between the investments that the Gulf is ready to offer and India's ability to absorb needs to be reduced. When PM Modi travelled to UAE in 2015, Abu Dhabi committed to invest \$75 billion in India. Delhi is a long distance away from facilitating that scale of investments.

Third, the Gulf's financial power is increasingly translating into political influence and the ability to shape the broader political narrative in the Middle East. The influence has been manifest in their successful transformation of the debate on Arab relations with Israel. Jaishankar will be all ears in the UAE and Bahrain, which have normalised relations with Tel Aviv earlier this year and are laying the basis for a massive economic and technological engagement with Israel.

Fourth, less noted in India but equally significant is the growing ability of the Gulf to influence regional conflicts from Afghanistan to Lebanon and from Libya to Somalia. Khaleeji capital's new weight in the Indian Ocean is reflected in several ways. The Gulf today delivers economic and security assistance to friendly states, builds ports and infrastructure,

Delhi has long seen the Gulf as the source of extremist religious ideology that destabilised the Subcontinent and beyond. India now has every reason to support the Gulf rulers who are trying to reverse course and promote political and social moderation at home and in the region.

acquires military bases and brokers peace between warring parties and states.

The UAE currently chairs the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and has been eager to work with India in developing joint infrastructure projects. Delhi needs to bring scale and depth to its regional initiatives on connectivity and security in the Indian Ocean. The UAE is a natural choice for it.

Fifth, Delhi pays insufficient attention to the significant reforms unfolding in the Gulf that seek to reduce the heavy hand of religion on social life, expand the rights of women, widen religious freedoms, promote tolerance, and develop a national identity that is not tied exclusively to religion. The UAE has been the leader in this regard.

Earlier this month, the UAE announced a series of legal changes that make the Emirates an attractive destination for foreign workers. The reforms include the decriminalisation of alcohol use, permission for cohabitation among unmarried couples, criminalisation of honour crimes against women, and the institution of long-term visas.

These reforms can be seen as an inevitable consequence of the rise of Khaleeji capitalism that cannot be sustained in a restrictive religious framework. Meanwhile, the pandemic and the shifting global currents have added unprecedented urgency to reinventing the Gulf economies.

Delhi has long seen the Gulf as the source of extremist religious ideology that destabilised the Subcontinent and beyond. India now has every reason to support the Gulf rulers who are trying to reverse course and promote political and social moderation at home and in the region.

As it seeks to recalibrate India's ties with the Gulf, the real challenge for South Block is to get the rest of the Indian establishment to discard outdated perceptions of the Gulf and seize the new strategic possibilities with the region.

The writer is director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore and contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“The fate of the global economy next year will rest on how much substantive progress is made in defeating the pandemic. There is no time to play political games in the fight against the pandemic.” — GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

# Verdict most unfair

Unjust criticism of Supreme Court ignores its stellar contributions, undermines public trust in institutions



BIRENDRA SARAF

DESPITE THE HIGHEST regard I hold for Pratap Bhanu Mehta, I wish to express strong disagreement with his views expressed in the article, 'Their Lordships and Masters' (IE, November 18). My opposition stems from not only the deepest respect I have for the judiciary, but also from an awareness of the limitations and burdens with which our judiciary is dispensing justice. I am alarmed by the unfounded blanket criticism and find it an unwise and rash attempt to diminish the faith of the public in an institution, which is the strongest pillar on which the edifice of Indian democracy stands.

Mehta's term — “judicial barbarism” — is an extremely unjust and unfair description of the conduct of the Supreme Court. It implies a cruel, harsh and brutal behaviour, devoid of any culture and civilisation. India ranks in the top one-third of nations in efficiency of the legal framework to challenge regulations and in judicial independence. The Indian judiciary must be hailed for the rapid strides it has made, bringing positive changes in every sphere of the citizens' life. At the cost of being criticised for over-interference, the courts have strained to protect the life, liberty and the quality of life of citizens. Any implication that the SC is barbaric displays a disregard for the social responsibility that accompanies freedom of speech.

Mehta draws a parallel to the judicial crises in Poland, Hungary and Turkey. Such a comparison is unjustified and unfounded. In Poland, a legislative proposal aimed to ban judges from obeying the orders from their own Supreme Court making them liable for prosecution. The situation prompted the judges of nearly 20 European countries to join Polish judges and lawyers in a silent march across Warsaw. In Turkey, President Erdogan sacked thousands of judges and prosecutors and replaced them with government loyalists. By a new law, most of the 711 judges of the two highest courts will also be removed. Hungary is planning to create a government-influenced court system, apart from the ordinary courts, to establish direct political control over the judiciary. These situations are not comparable to the Indian scenario and any allusion to the same is far-fetched.

Critics have also expressed reservations over a recent statement by Chief Justice S A Bobde expressing the intent of the SC to discourage the use of Article 32. This statement is being misread to claim that the courts are declining to protect the fundamental rights. The words of the Chief Justice of India were clearly intended to discourage frivolous petitions and reduce the immense backlog in the SC. Justice Bobde also said since the high courts are equally suited to deal with such issues, it would be

apposite to approach them first. This, by no means, is an indication that the SC has shut its doors to deserving and meritorious Article 32 petitions.

No institution is perfect, the Supreme Court is no different. Criticism is the hallmark of a thriving democracy, but unfounded and unrestrained armchair criticism is detrimental rather than contributive. It demoralises and destroys institutions. It is this Supreme Court that has so fiercely guarded the fundamental right to privacy. This same SC directed a floor test within 24 hours in Maharashtra that led to the resignation of Devendra Fadnis as chief minister. It upheld liberty by defending LGBTQ and transgender rights, ruled in favour of women in the Army, guaranteeing them the same terms of employment as men, and upheld the supremacy of the RTI Act over the Official Secrets Act. This SC brought India's most polarising case to a peaceful close through its Ayodhya judgment. To call such a judiciary barbaric and, in a subsequent supporting article (Navroz Seervai, 'Giving up the good fight,' IE, November 20), describe the judges as “savagely cruel and harsh, shorn of any vestige of a judicious temperament” is most imbalanced and prejudiced.

India's overworked judiciary has, despite all odds and limitations, been an epitome of a free and independent judiciary worldwide. Since comparison is being drawn with other countries, let us be aware that the US Supreme Court only accepts 100-150 of the more than 7,000 cases it is asked to review annually, declining to hear even sensitive cases like a constitutional challenge to the California law that prohibited state authorities from assisting federal immigration agents, which was upheld by the court of appeals. Between 2007-2019, the US SC decided only 991 cases, an average of 76 cases a year. In 2016-2017, only 92 cases were heard by the UK SC. A comparison of these numbers with the burden on the Indian SC reveals the unfairness of the criticism that it has not heard expeditiously some cases perceived by some as most urgent or going “to the heart of institutional integrity of democracy”.

The eminent jurist, Upendra Baxi, has put forth eloquently that the endeavour to judge our justices “is a socially responsible task which may not be performed by indignation entrepreneurship”. His observation that the Supreme Court has been able to uphold the principles of human rights that even the Constituent Assembly could not guarantee holds true.

The critics of the Court have displayed an increasingly disturbing trend — to focus purely on the negatives and conveniently brush past any of the accomplishments, referring to them as isolated instances of relief or an attempt to create a “veneer” of respectability for the institution. Such caustic criticism “strips the tree of both caterpillars and blossoms”. Let us try and strengthen institutions with balanced and constructive critique and not slowly nibble at their foundation by constant badgering and berating. Let us not undermine people's confidence and faith in the rule of law.

The writer is a senior advocate and Secretary, Bombay Bar Association



HARINI NAGENDRA

# A new green deal

Politics must link climate action to economic and societal progress

IN THE LAST year alone, India has witnessed an acceleration in the impacts of climate change. Devastating floods in Assam, Bihar, Kerala and Mumbai, widespread damage by cyclones Amphan and Nisarga, locust swarms and forest fires — these are warning signs that climate change has already begun to impact Indian lives and economies. Climate change is a notoriously difficult challenge to crack. Its effects are local, but the cause is global, needing all countries to get on board for action.

It is in this context that Joseph Biden's success in the US presidential elections is being celebrated by climate activists across the world. The US is the world's second-largest emitter of carbon dioxide, and a major contributor to global warming. Without their active cooperation and commitment, the world has no hope of being able to make any progress on climate change.

In December 2015, 196 countries signed the Paris Agreement on climate change, currently our best shot to keep the worst effects of climate change in check. The agreement commits all countries to keep global warming within 2 degrees Celsius. Even 2 degrees of global warming can lead to catastrophic effects — as the tropical storms, floods, droughts, forest fires and locust swarms of 2020 tell us. In reality, what we need is far more aggressive action — but the Paris Agreement provides at least a partial pathway.

Within six months of becoming president

in 2017, Donald Trump announced that the US would be pulling out of the Paris Agreement. On 4 November this year, just a day after the US presidential elections, the US formally withdrew from the agreement, making it the only country to do so.

For the first time in history, in a country where the climate change agenda has been dominated by denial, the issue made it to the national elections, pushed to the forefront by young climate activists. The Sunrise Movement, a political movement led by young Americans, organised across the US to make climate change one of the defining issues of the 2020 US elections. Middle-school children, too young to vote, but worried about their future in a climate-impacted world, held up signs outside political rallies saying, “Youths need a Green New Deal”. Sunrise supports the ambitious Green New Deal that young Democrats like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Rashida Tlaib and Ilhan Omar advocate. This differs from Biden's position in several critical ways. For one, the Green New Deal has an ambitious goal of making the US carbon-neutral by 2030 — emitting only as much as can be locked up in oceans and forests. That's just 10 years away. Biden says this is impossible. He plans to make the US economy net-zero by 2050, 20 years later than the Green New Deal targets.

Biden has also announced that he has no plans to ban fracking on private lands in the

US. Two US states, Pennsylvania and Texas, sit on top of massive shale fields, which have recently been exploited via fracking to produce “clean energy” via natural gas. This is one of the fastest growing job sectors in the US. But fracking emits methane, which is an even more powerful driver of climate change than carbon dioxide. Climate activists have called for a ban on fracking, and recent research has shown that methane leaks from shale fields have had a major global impact. Given that this is a politically sensitive issue, Biden has been hesitant to announce any restrictions on fracking.

The young people in the Sunrise movement say his plan is not ambitious enough. And they are correct. By 2050, a number of irreversible changes in the world's ecology and environment will take place. Biodiversity loss threatens global food security. By 2050, unless we do something, most of the world's coral reefs will be lost, impacting the ocean food system. Reversing climate change after that will not help India's fisherfolk. Nor will such a plan save Indian islands and coastal areas from going under water — recent projections indicate that much of Mumbai's financial and business core will be underwater by 2050.

Nevertheless, Biden's election provides significant cause for optimism on climate action, not just for the US but for the rest of the world. His plans for combating climate change are linked to his other objectives of reviving the economy and promoting racial justice.

One of the first things he is likely to do after assuming office is to ensure that the US rejoins the Paris Agreement, and reinstate a number of environmental legislation and institutions that Trump dismantled. He plans to spend five trillion dollars to combat climate change, creating millions of “green jobs” in the process in the renewable energy sector, energy efficiency and climate resilient infrastructure.

Converting these ideas into action will prove challenging. The Senate is still in control of the Republicans, and the fossil fuel lobby plays a prominent role in shaping political decisions in the US. Biden's key to success may lie in the way his campaign has framed climate change — not as a stand-alone environmental issue, but one that is linked to the creation of millions of planet-friendly green jobs in the automobile industry and renewable energy sector, in the support of climate-friendly farming, in the clean-up of polluted air and water in the country's poorest and most marginalised areas. This, above all, should be the lesson for India. If we are to tackle climate change, our political debates and legislative action must move away from the false rhetoric that pits environmental action against economic and societal progress. There are ways to forge alternative versions of the Green New Deal that work for India. Our clock is ticking too.

The writer is a professor of sustainability at Azim Premji University

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### IRRATIONAL SOPS

This refers to the article, 'Paying for poison' (IE, November 23). It is difficult to locate the area where the “stubble burning” and the “farm subsidies” meet. But it is beyond doubt that the current farm subsidies end up in the misappropriation of our limited resources, whether it is fertiliser prices, free electricity or no income tax on agri-income. This needs a sensible stop. When the present government is single-minded about labour reforms, it should not be hard for it to rationalise farm subsidies through the Direct Benefit Scheme. Good economics is not always bad politics.

Naval Langa, Ahmedabad

### REPRESSIVE LAW

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Iron in velvet' (IE, November 23). The regressive Kerala ordinance is of a piece with other archaic laws, which are often used to construct free speech on social media platforms and to stifle voices of dissent. It does not augur well for our democracy.

Varun Das, Zirakpur

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Iron in velvet' (IE, November 23). The opposition against Section 118-A in the Kerala Police Act comes from the fact that it gives unbridled powers to law enforcement agencies to curtail the freedom of the press and arrested anybody on the charges of exploiting social media to target individuals, especially women and children. People's right to freedom of expression can't be encroached by the

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SS Paul, Nadia

### NAIVE PROPOSAL

This refers to the article, 'A world to win' (IE, Nov 23). The history of humanity flies in the face of the proposed utopian dream of a world government. Erstwhile imperial powers in a sense were mini world governments. As surmised by Emanuel Kant, human nature is so crooked that nothing entirely straight can ever be built out of it. A practical solution may lie in exactly the opposite direction. If nations become one-tenth of their size, their potential for mischief will stand reduced. The Principality of Monaco will always be more amenable to reason than China.

HN Bhagwat, Chiplun



# 12 THE WORLD

## TOP OF THE WORLD



Joshua Wong after his arrest. *Reuters*

### HONG KONG Activist Joshua Wong detained for 2019 illegal assembly

HONG KONG pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong was remanded in custody on Monday after pleading guilty to charges of organising and inciting an unauthorised assembly near the police headquarters during last year's anti-government protests. Wong, who was just 17 years old when he became the face of the 2014 student-led Umbrella Movement democracy protests, faces a maximum three-year jail term. The sentence will be delivered by Dec 2 at 2.30 pm. Before being taken away, Wong shouted "Everyone hang in there! Add oil" in the courtroom, using a Cantonese expression of encouragement often used at protests. **REUTERS**

### PAKISTAN Pak to close educational institutions again

A LITTLE over two months after students across Pakistan returned to classes, authorities on Monday decided to close all educational institutions again from November 26 to January 10 to contain the Covid-19 pandemic that has claimed nearly 7,700 lives and infected over 3.7 lakh people in the country. The decision was taken at a meeting of Pakistan's education ministers. Federal Education Minister Shafqat Mahmood chaired the meeting of ministers of all four provinces. **PTI**

### MEXICO President denies he made deal with US for return of former minister

MEXICAN PRESIDENT Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador on Monday denied that Mexico had agreed to capture a cartel leader for the United States in order to secure the return of ex-defense minister Salvador Cienfuegos from US custody. Reuters reported last week that Mexico agreed with US Attorney General William Barr to seek the arrest of a high-level Mexican drug cartel leader as part of a deal to get US drug trafficking charges against Cienfuegos dropped. "There is no deal in the shadows," Lopez Obrador said. **REUTERS**

### ANTONY BLINKEN TO BE NOMINATED FOR U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE

## Biden picks first woman to lead intel, first Latino to run Homeland Security

**MICHAEL CROWLEY**  
WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 23

US PRESIDENT-ELECT Joe Biden plans to name several top national security picks Tuesday, his transition office said, including the first Latino to lead the Department of Homeland Security, the first woman to head the intelligence community and a former secretary of state, John Kerry, to be his climate czar.

At an event in Wilmington, Delaware, Biden will announce plans to nominate Alejandro Mayorkas to be his secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, his transition office said, and Avril Haines to be his director of national intelligence. He intends to name Kerry as a special presidential envoy on climate. The transition office also confirmed reports Sunday night that Biden will nominate Antony J. Blinken to be secretary of state and Jake Sullivan as national security adviser.

Biden will also nominate Linda Thomas-Greenfield to be ambassador to the United Nations and restore the job to Cabinet-level status, giving Thomas-Greenfield, an African American woman, a seat on his National Security Council. Kerry will also be given a seat on the council, although his job is not a Cabinet position and does not require Senate confirmation.

The emerging team reunites a group of former senior officials from the Obama administration, most of whom worked closely together at the State Department and the White House and in several cases have close ties to Biden dating back years. They are well

### BIDEN NOMINEES FOR KEY ROLES



Antony Blinken  
Secretary of State



Jake Sullivan  
National Security Adviser



Alejandro Mayorkas  
Secretary of Homeland Security



Avril Haines  
Director of National Intelligence



Linda Thomas-Greenfield  
US Ambassador to the UN



John Kerry  
Special Presidential Envoy for Climate

known to foreign diplomats around the world and share a belief in the core principles of the Democratic foreign policy establishment — international cooperation, strong US alliances and leadership but a wariness of foreign interventions after the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The racial and gender mix also reflects Biden's stated commitment to diversity, which has lagged behind notoriously in the worlds of foreign policy and national security, where white men are disproportionately represented.

The slate of picks also showed Biden's determination to push forward with setting up his administration despite President Donald Trump's continuing refusal to concede or assist him, even as a small but growing number of Republicans lawmakers and supporters of the president are calling for a formal transition to begin.

If confirmed, Mayorkas, who served as deputy Homeland

Security secretary from 2013 to 2016, would be the first Latino to run the department charged with implementing and managing the nation's immigration policies.

In Blinken, 58, Biden chose a confidant of more than 20 years who served as his top aide on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee before joining his vice-presidential staff, where he served as Biden's national security adviser, then principal deputy national security adviser to Obama and then deputy secretary of state from 2015 to 2017.

Blinken is widely viewed as a pragmatic centrist on foreign policy who, like Biden, has supported past US interventions and believes that the United States must play a central leadership role in the world. Biden likely calculated that the soft-spoken Blinken, who is well regarded by many Republicans, will face a less difficult Senate confirmation fight than another top contender, former national security adviser Susan Rice. **NYT**

### US admiral visits Taiwan, says report; Beijing vows response

**REUTERS**  
BEIJING/MANILA, NOV 23

CHINA WILL respond to the reported visit of a US Navy admiral to Taiwan and firmly opposes any military relations between Taipei and Washington, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said on Monday as a senior US official praised their ties with Taipei.

A two-star Navy admiral overseeing US military intelligence in the Asia-Pacific region has made an unannounced visit to Taiwan, two sources told Reuters on Sunday. Neither Taiwan nor the United States has officially confirmed the trip.

The Trump administration has ramped up support for Taiwan, including with new arms sales, alarming China, which views the democratic island as one of its provinces with no right to state-to-state ties.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said China "resolutely opposes" any form of exchanges between US and Taiwanese officials or the two having military relations.

China urges the United States to fully recognise the extreme sensitivity of the Taiwan issue, Zhao told a news briefing.

"The Chinese side will, according to how the situation develops, make a legitimate and necessary response," he said, without elaborating.



Zhao Lijian, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson, said Beijing hopes the US withdrawal will be in an "orderly and responsible manner"

Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit, the US troop pull-out will exacerbate a "power and military-security vacuum".

The gap could be filled by terrorist groups and Taliban fundamentalists angered by China's repressive policies towards ethnic Muslim minorities in Xinjiang, Motwani told the Hong Kong-based *South China Morning Post*.

Motwani said: "If Afghanistan spirals out of control in terms of security, the spillover effects of that conflict would be felt in China." He added that while ETIM was at present "severely constrained" in its ability to attack China, this could change if Taliban increased its control over Afghanistan. **PTI**

### USA

## MAN LEAVES \$3,000 TIP FOR A BEER

A customer left a \$3,000 tip for a single beer as a restaurant voluntarily closed because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The man walked in Sunday, ordered the beer and asked for the check, which came to \$7.02. Nighttown owner Brendan Ring wrote on Facebook. Ring said the man wished him well and told him to share the tip with the four employees who were working brunch service.

# In a first, Israeli PM flies to Saudi, meets Crown Prince: reports

Saudis deny, but Israeli Cabinet minister hails meeting

**DAN WILLIAMS**  
JERUSALEM, NOVEMBER 23

PRIME MINISTER Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel met the Saudi Crown Prince in Saudi Arabia, Israeli media and a Cabinet minister said on Monday, in what would be the first publicly confirmed visit there by an Israeli leader as the countries close ranks against Iran.

Earlier, Israel's Army Radio and Kan Radio both reported that Netanyahu had secretly flown on Sunday to the Saudi Red Sea town of Neom for talks with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

Reports of the meeting between the crown prince and Netanyahu were denied by Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud.

Saudi Arabia has traditionally championed the Palestinian cause and shunned all official contacts with Israel.

Netanyahu, speaking publicly after the Saudi denial, was circumspect about any clandestine travel.

Asked at a meeting of his right-wing Likud faction about a Saudi visit, Netanyahu replied: "Are you serious? Friends, throughout my years I have never commented on such things and I don't intend to start doing so now." **AP**



Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu. *Reuters file*

Spokesmen for Pompeo declined comment.

Israeli Defence Minister Benny Gantz, in a speech, condemned "the irresponsible leak of the secret flight to Saudi Arabia".

Education Minister Yoav Gallant, a member of Netanyahu's security Cabinet and Likud party, confirmed the Saudi meeting had taken place, describing it as an "amazing achievement".

"The very fact the meeting happened, and was outed publicly, even if half-officially right now, is a matter of great importance," Gallant told Army Radio.

The Saudi government's media office did not respond to Reuters queries on the issue.

As Trump's term winds down, Pompeo has been trying to coax Saudi Arabia, the Gulf powerhouse, to follow its neighbours, the United Arab Emirates and

### EXPLAINED E. Worries over Iran after Biden's win

WHILE ISRAEL and Saudi Arabia have not officially normalised ties, they both share a deep distrust of Iran. Trump has had good relationships with both Mbs and Netanyahu, and has also been very antagonistic towards Iran, pulling out of the 2015 nuclear deal and reimposing crippling sanctions. But with Biden's election win, it is expected that he may consider re-entering the Iran deal, which was signed when he was US vice-president. Israel and the Saudis fear that this could strengthen Iran, and the leaders' reported meeting may signal closer cooperation between the two regional heavyweights amid uncertainty over future US policy towards both their countries as well as Tehran.

Bahrain, in establishing formal diplomatic relations with Israel.

As well as wanting to contain Iran, Trump and Pompeo are also concerned about a possible review of US policies in the region by the incoming Joe Biden administration. **REUTERS**

### Two killed in stabbings at Baptist church in California

**YONETTE JOSEPH & YAN ZHUANG**  
NOVEMBER 23

TWO PEOPLE were stabbed to death and others injured on Sunday night at a church in San Jose, California, police said.

There were "multiple stabbing victims," police said in a post on Twitter. No services were being held at the time of the attack at Grace Baptist Church, which was first reported at 7:53 p.m., reports said. The police added that "unhoused individuals" had been taken to the church to get them out of the cold.

The church is near the campus of San Jose State University, according to local news reports. It runs a winter shelter program to get homeless people shelter when the temperature drops, and houses up to 50 men and women at a time, according to its website.

The program usually runs from January to April but was extended this year to help people during the coronavirus pandemic, the website said. It is unclear whether this is the same programme referred to by the police.

The city's mayor, Sam Liccardo, initially said on Twitter that a suspect was arrested, before deleting the post. The police later said they had made no arrests, and would release a statement later. **NYT**



Former French President Nicolas Sarkozy arrives to attend his trial on charges of corruption and influence peddling, at a Paris courthouse on Monday. *Reuters*

## An heiress, a judge and a job: Sarkozy goes on trial for graft

**RICHARD LOUGH**  
PARIS, NOVEMBER 23

FORMER FRENCH president Nicolas Sarkozy goes on trial on Monday accused of trying to bribe a judge and of influence-peddling, one of several criminal investigations that threaten to cast an ignominious pall over his decades-long political career.

Prosecutors allege Sarkozy offered to secure a plum job in Monaco for judge Gilbert Azibert in return for confidential information about an inquiry into claims that Sarkozy had accepted illegal payments from

### The former French president is accused of influence-peddling and trying to bribe a judge

L'Oreal heiress Liliane Bettencourt for his 2007 presidential campaign.

Sarkozy, who led France from 2007-2012 and has remained influential among conservatives, has denied any wrongdoing in all the investigations against him and fought to have the cases dismissed.

Investigators had from 2013 been wiretapping conversations

between Sarkozy and his lawyer Thierry Herzog as they delved into allegations of Libyan financing in Sarkozy's 2007 campaign.

As they did, they learned that Sarkozy and his lawyer were communicating using mobile phones registered under false names. Sarkozy's phone was registered to a Paul Bismuth.

Prosecutors have said the wiretaps revealed that Sarkozy and Herzog had on multiple occasions discussed contacting Azibert, a magistrate at the Cour de Cassation, France's top appeals court for criminal cases, and well-informed on the Bettencourt inquiry. **REUTERS**

### 10-YEAR-OLDS AMONG THOSE ACCUSED OF 'DEFENDING TERRORISM'

## France's dragnet for extremists sweeps up some schoolchildren, too

**NORIMITSU ONISHI & CONSTANT MEHEUT**  
ALBERTVILLE, NOVEMBER 23

ARMED WITH assault rifles and wearing balaclavas, dozens of police officers raided four apartments recently in a sprawling complex in Albertville, a city in the French Alps. They confiscated computers and cellphones, searched under mattresses and inside drawers, and took photos of books and wall ornaments with Quranic verses.

Before the stunned families, the officers escorted away four suspects for "defending terrorism". "That's impossible," Aysegul

Polat recalled telling an officer who left with her son. "This child is 10 years old."

Her son — along with two other boys and one girl, all 10 years old — was accused of defending terrorism in a classroom discussion on freedom of expression at a local public school. Officers held the children in custody for about 10 hours at police stations while interrogating their parents about the families' religious practices and the recent republication of the caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad in the magazine *Charlie Hebdo*.

The fifth grade classmates are among at least 14 children and teenagers investigated by police in

recent weeks on accusations of making inappropriate comments during a commemoration for a teacher who was beheaded last month after showing the cartoons in a class on freedom of expression.

As France grapples with a wave of Islamic attacks following the republication of the *Charlie Hebdo* caricatures, the case in Albertville and similar ones elsewhere have again raised questions about the nature of the government's response. It has already been criticised, inside and outside France, for actions and statements that have risked conflating ordinary French Muslims with people accused of extremism.

President Emmanuel Macron



Emira Yildirim, 10, with her mother. Emira was one of four children questioned by the police in Albertville, France, this month on suspicion of "defending terrorism". *NYT*

has fiercely rejected this criticism, blaming some Muslim and Western nations for failing to understand France's deep-rooted

secularism, known as *laïcité*. In an interview with a media columnist for *The New York Times*, Macron complained about what he saw as

the world's lack of support for France amid recent attacks and accused the American news media, including the *Times*, of "legitimising this violence".

The incidents in Albertville and elsewhere underscored the breadth of the government's strong security response to the attacks, which has extended into the classroom and has drawn the criticism of organisations like the Human Rights League, one of the nation's oldest rights groups. Calling the response disproportionate, the group asked, "Do children still have the right to speak?"

While the four children in Albertville are now back in school, the experience has left them trou-

matized, parents said. The children are expected to follow an educational programme under the Justice Ministry's youth protection division. One of the boys, Sohbi Harid, wet himself in his sleep after the raid and said he was now afraid to talk in school. "If I talk," he said, "there will be the police."

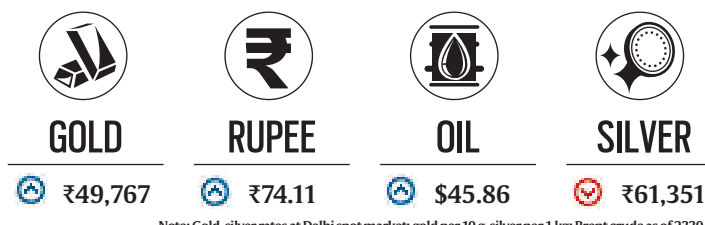
The children and teenagers got into trouble for speaking during classroom commemorations and discussions of Samuel Paty, the middle school teacher who was beheaded last month in a crime that shocked France and reopened the psychological wounds of attacks by Islamic terrorists that have left more than 250 dead in recent years.

In one classroom discussion, the teacher asked the pupils whether he, too, could be beheaded if he showed caricatures of Prophet Muhammad, according to interviews with two of the children, four mothers and two fathers.

Emira Yildirim, one of the children, said she had expressed regret for the slain teacher, but added that "if he had not shown the caricatures, it wouldn't have happened".

The parents said that their children's remarks contained no threat, but simply did not fit with what education officials wanted to hear in the current politicised climate. **NYT**





## BUSINESSES FACING A RESET IN EXISTING PRACTICES: NIRMALA SITHARAMAN

## Reform momentum to continue, more active steps being taken up, says FM

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

FINANCE MINISTER Nirmala Sitharaman said on Monday the government will continue the momentum on economic reforms that has gathered pace during the times of the Covid-19 pandemic. She said the financial sector is being professionalised and the government will continue with disinvestment agenda.

“Even at the time (of) COVID pandemic, the Prime Minister has not seen the light of the day over the decades... The momentum for reform shall continue. Several more active reform-related steps are being taken up,” she said while addressing the National MNCs conference organised by industry

chamber Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

The National Infrastructure Pipeline, announced by the government, has attracted attention of large global sovereign wealth funds, who would also get tax concession on their investments. The incentive applies to income earned as dividend, interest or as long-term capital gains on long term investments in a company carrying on the business of infrastructure development.

Sitharaman said the government, as part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, encouraging the setting up of dedicated special manufacturing zones for the production of pharma, medical devices and APIs in several states. The government would continue its focus on disinvestment and privatisation. “Disinvestment agenda continues. We shall go with greater momentum in getting pri-

**EXPLAINED**  
**E** Assuring investors

LEADING GLOBAL investors have expressed interest in bringing long-term capital into India, especially in the infrastructure sector. The Finance Minister assured investors that continued reforms push along with tax incentives make India an attractive investment destination.

atisation—that which has been cleared by the Cabinet—to go forward,” she said.

The government has set a target of Rs 2.1 lakh crore of receipts through disinvestments, includ-

ing the initial public offer of LIC and stake sale in IDBI Bank. As part of the privatisation plans, the government has cleared plans for complete sale of its equity in Air India, BPL, Shipping Corporation of India Ltd, while approving majority stake sale in Container Corporation of India along with transfer of management control.

Most companies are facing a reset in existing practices as the pandemic has changed the ways of business. The government has also opened up many of the sectors including defence, nuclear energy and space for private sector as well as foreign investments. She said the thrust on policies will be to promote investment activity in the economy.

“We will have to make sure that policies are right to make India an attractive investment destination,” she said.

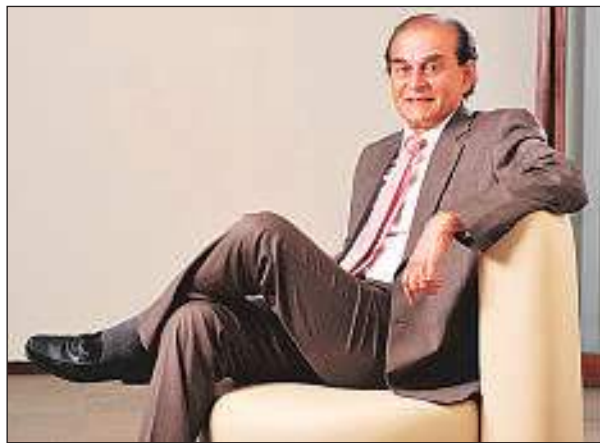
## CEA: Recent measures to push job growth

*New Delhi:* Changes in agricultural sector, MSME definitions, labour laws and the PLI scheme will help in job creation in the economy, Chief Economic Adviser Krishnamurthy Subramanian said. He added India is likely to post a current account surplus in this fiscal as there is moderation in imports due to under-heating of the economy triggered by Covid-19.

“If you take the agricultural reforms, the MSME definitional changes, the PLI scheme, the labour reforms, all these together, it is an attempt to change the macro configuration of the economy towards those sectors that are more employment intensive,” he said at a CII conference. **ENS**

## INTERVIEW WITH MARICO LTD CHAIRMAN &amp; ASCENT FOUNDATION FOUNDER

## ‘Things turning positive for economy; lot will depend on discipline against Covid’



Harsh Mariwala

At Ascent Foundation, our role has been to advise all our members on how to meet this crisis, starting from safety measures to addressing their anxiety around business, cutting cost, mental health and so on.

## Do you think the government's support for MSMEs was enough or more could have been done?

As for the government, there is always expectation that more could have been done but one must realise that government has to also meet their ways and means situation and, presently, the overall situation, as far as the fiscal deficit is concerned, is not in a good shape. It has happened when the government finances were under stress, compared to many other countries where government finance has been much better. So, we need to look from that perspective that we did not have a very strong economy.

However, you can't blame government for everything. Ultimately, the entrepreneur has to create business opportunities. Yes, the environment is bad and that will have an impact.

## Over the last few years we have seen a lot of entrepreneurs coming up, but we see most of them selling out and not scaling it to the next level. What stops them from doing that?

To take your business to global scale, you need to have something that is very innovative, has a right to win and offers something unique. If the business doesn't have it, you can't scale it up to that level. However, sometimes you may have all this but still you are not able to grow. That is because of reasons such as leadership style, business not able to attract and retain good talent, does not have a right culture or a combination of things.

This is where Ascent comes in as these issues cut across all businesses. Ascent provides a support system where they learn from each other, bring up their issues and resolve them.

## What was your thought behind setting up Ascent?

The larger philosophy was to do something where I can add value to others and somewhere I can offer my personal strengths, viewpoints and am able to make a difference. I focussed towards entrepreneurs because I believe they add a lot of value to all the stakeholders — customers, employees, shareholders, associates and finally the society. I also see it as personal social responsibility. We are having our conclave between 25th and 28th and are doing it virtually where we will have some phenomenal speakers such as Dr Raghuram Rajan, Deepak Parekh, Dr Kiran Majumdar Shaw, Sourav Ganguly, among others, along with panel discussions, which I think will benefit over 1,000 entrepreneurs who have registered to participate from across the country.

## How can we have a more vibrant entrepreneurial environment?

We need to promote entrepreneurship and the starting point is how they are viewed in the society.

How risk is viewed in the society is a very big issue in India. If as a society, we promote it and say that it is okay to fail, people will start taking risk.

## There is a sense that over the last few years the risk taking ability in India has gone down following actions of enforcement and tax authorities. How do you see that?

The fact that the government wants businesses to do well, I think they are trying to improve the environment. It takes time to change the mindset of the tax authorities but I think there is a realisation that entrepreneurs play an important role in driving growth. One must also note that there are some entrepreneurs who don't follow ethical practices or governance practices and they need to be punished. We can't turn blind eye to such entrepreneurs.

## Apple contract manufacturer Pegatron okays ₹1,100 cr investment for India unit

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

APPLE'S CONTRACT manufacturer Pegatron Corporation's board of directors has approved an investment of Rs 1099.8 crore in India through its wholly-owned subsidiary Pegatron Technology India Private, the filings made by the company with the Taiwan Stock Exchange showed.

Pegatron Corp, the parent company, will put in the funds raised fully through its internal resources as part of its “long term investment”, the company said, without elaborating what those plans were. The company is one of three major assembly partners of Apple, along with Foxconn Technology Group and Wistron Corporation.

Its Indian subsidiary, Pegatron Technology India in-

## Pegatron Corp, the parent company, will put in the funds raised fully through its internal resources as part of its “long-term investment”

corporated in July this year, is among the 16 global and Indian mobile handset makers given the government go ahead to in October this year to start manufacturing under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme.

Apart from the three contract manufacturers of Apple, other global companies such as Samsung and Rising Star have also been given approval for making mobile phones in the Rs 15,000 and above value segment.

*The Indian Express* had, in July, reported that Samsung, Pegatron, and Rising Star were the first global applicants for the government's PLI scheme. The Centre had, in April, notified the new PLI scheme, under which companies that set up new mobile and specified equipment manufacturing units or expanded their present units would get incentives of 4-6 per cent on incremental sales from goods made in India.

Among the domestic players, companies such as Lava, Micromax's parent company Bhagwati Products, Padget Electronics, UTL Neolyncs, and Optimus Electronics have also been granted approval by the government.

The PLI scheme, open for a total of five years, aims to give out incentives worth Rs 5,334 crore in total in the first year, to be divided among all the successful applicants.

## AMID COVID-19

## ‘IT spending in India to grow 6% in 2021 to \$81.9 bn’

*Led by growth across segments like enterprise software and IT services, information technology spending in India is likely to rise 6% to \$81.9 billion in 2021, research firm Gartner said*

**\$79.3 billion:** IT spending in 2020, down 8.4 per cent from 2019

**Pandemic a wake-up call:** The pandemic situation was a wake-up call for many organizations to relook and revive their IT strategies and increase their spending on IT in 2021

**Segments that raised expenditure:**  
■ **Enterprise software:** 7%  
■ **IT services:** 3.7%  
■ **Communication services:** 4.9%



**Segments that recorded highest growth:**  
■ **Enterprise software:** 13%  
■ **Data centre systems:** 8.3%

Source: Gartner/PTI

## ‘Allowing corporates to own banks a potential risk’

REUTERS

MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 23

## RISK OF FUND DIVERSION: S&amp;P

■ **Corporate ownership of banks raises the risk of inter-group lending, diversion of funds and reputational exposure, S&P Global Ratings said in a note.**

ers, meaning they could take a major stake in a lender.

“The working group's concerns regarding conflict of inter-

est, concentration of economic power, and financial stability in allowing corporates to own banks are potential risks,” S&P Global Ratings said in a note.

Corporate ownership of banks raises the risk of inter-group lending, diversion of funds and reputational exposure, S&P said, adding that contagion risk from corporate defaults would also rise significantly if industrial houses were at the helm of a bank.

Last week, Lakshmi Vilas Bank was placed under moratorium for a month due to a “serious deterioration” in its finances.

Non-performing assets within the corporate sector remain elevated even though they fell from 18 per cent in March 2018 to 13 per cent in March 2020, said S&P. Former RBI governor, Raghuram Rajan and former deputy governor Viral Acharya, too, criticised the proposal, calling it a “bad” idea.

The panel's recommendations included allowing shadow banks to convert into lenders, which could improve financial stability, the ratings agency said. The RBI has invited comments on the committee's report, which can be submitted until January 15, 2021.

## Sebi paper proposes dilution of promoter reclassification norms

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU

MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 23

## MINIMUM THRESHOLD REQUIREMENT 10% NOW



**SEBI** said the reclassification on shareholding should be amended so that the promoter and related persons seeking reclassification should not together hold 15 per cent or more of the total voting rights in the listed entity. The minimum threshold requirement is 10 per cent now.

The Sebi paper said relaxation from existing requirements on a case-to-case basis has been given by Sebi and the existing provisions should be revisited to minimise the number of exemptions provided on a case-to-case basis.

This is subject to the condition that such promoters seeking reclassification should not remain in control of the listed entity, it said. Further, exemption from the procedure for re-classification should be granted to existing promoters in cases where such re-classification is pursuant to an open offer.

It further suggested that exemption should be granted in cases where, pursuant to an open offer, a listed entity intends to re-

classify erstwhile promoter group entities but such entities are not traceable or not co-operative. Exemption under the open offer cases are subject to certain conditions, including that the intent of the existing promoter to re-classify should be disclosed in the letter of offer.

The regulator has suggested that all entities falling under promoter and promoter group should be disclosed separately even in case of ‘nil’ shareholding.

Further, listed entities have been proposed to obtain a declaration on a quarterly basis from their promoters on the entities or persons that form part of the ‘promoter group’.

## Covid testing at ₹499: Mobile labs launched

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

SPICEHEALTH HAS launched mobile laboratories doing RT-PCR tests for Covid-19 starting at Rs 499. The company, run by Spicejet CMD Ajay Singh's daughter Avani, claims it will provide results of the test within six hours of sample collection, as against the average 24-48 hours. The first such laboratory was launched at Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), AIIMS, here by Home Minister Amit Shah.

SpiceHealth said it plans to open 20 such ICMR-certified laboratories in phase one of its launch and each lab will be able to process 3,000 test reports per day. The company has earlier launched a ventilation device for those suffering from mild-to-moderate breathing issues and a fingertip pulse oximeter. “By offering this test at a fraction of the current price... and deploying mobile laboratories... to the remotest areas, we hope to significantly scale up testing across the country,” Avani Singh, CEO, SpiceHealth, said.

## Vaccine injects hope: Dow gains in choppy trade, crude rises 2%

REUTERS

BENGALURU, NOVEMBER 23

THE DOW Jones rose in choppy trading on Monday as hopes of a Covid-19 vaccine fuelled demand for economically-sensitive stocks such as energy and industrials.

Kicking off a trading week shortened by the Thanksgiving holiday on November 26, the Dow was up 240.87 points, or 0.82 per cent, at 29,504.35 as of 1:12 pm EST. The S&P 500 was up 0.32 per cent, while the Nasdaq Composite rose 0.20 per cent.

Elsewhere, British stocks rose on optimism over the vaccine, although gains in the FTSE index were curbed by a fall in shares of AstraZeneca after the drugmaker's candidate was less effective than others in trials. The mid cap index added 0.4 per cent, while the FTSE 100 fell 0.3 per cent.

Oil prices surged 2 per cent, extending last week's gains as the latest report of encouraging coronavirus vaccine trials had traders anticipating a recovery in demand. Brent crude rose 91 cents, or 2.02 per cent to \$45.87 a barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate crude gained 51 cents to \$42.93 a barrel, a 1.3 per cent gain.



A volunteer is administered the Covid-19 vaccine developed by AstraZeneca and Oxford University, in Oxford, England. AstraZeneca said its vaccine was up to 90% effective. *Reuters*

## NBFC shares rise up to 18%

*New Delhi:* Shares of non-banking finance companies on Monday zoomed up to 18 per cent after an internal RBI panel suggested conversion of big NBFCs into banks.

Ujjivan Financial Services shares jumped 18.43 per cent, Equitas Small Finance Bank rose by 12.84 per cent, Bajaj Holdings & Investment gained 8.15 per cent, Shriram Transport Finance Company 4.32 per cent and Bajaj Finance 1.95 per cent on the BSE.

An internal RBI panel has proposed that large corporates may

be permitted to promote banks after requisite amendments to the Banking Regulations Act, as well as raising cap on promoters' stake in private banks to 26 per cent.

Meanwhile, equity benchmarks ended with gains amid positive results from another Covid-19 vaccine candidate. The BSE Sensex rose 194.90 points, or 0.44 per cent, to 44,077.15, while the Nifty gained 67.40 points, or 0.52 per cent, to close at 12,926.45. The rupee gained 5 paise to settle at 74.11 against the US dollar. **PTI**



# Classifieds

## PERSONAL

**I,Lucky Kumar Chadha** alias Lucky Kumar alias Jitender Kumar Chadha alias Jitender S/o Late Sh. Ram Lubhaya R/o 8605, Roshnara Road, Near Palace Cinema, Sadar Bazar, Malka Ganj S.O., North Delhi, Delhi-110007,have changed my name to Jitender for all purposes. 0040555808-4

**I,Baljeet Singh Arora** S/o Late S. Harbans Singh Arora R/O D-51, Ground Floor, Street No.6, Krishna Park, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018, have changed my name to Baljeet Singh 0040555867-1

**I,Kunwar Bhadur Singh,S/o Harjinder Singh,R/o-16/1688 36 Nai-Wala Karol-Bagh,Delhi-05,**have changed my name to Kunwar Singh. 0040555874-6

**I,Harjinder Singh Ahluwalia,S/o Mohinder Singh Ahluwalia R/o-16/1688 36, Nai Wala, Karol-Bagh,Delhi-05,**have changed my name to Harjinder Singh. 0040555874-7

**I,Geeta Devi W/o Devender Kumar R/o-79 Lohiya Camp Haiderpur Delhi-110088** have changed my name to Geeta. 0040555881-4

**I,kamlesh,w/o-sanjeev** Kumar,R/o-60,Bankey lak market,Badarpur,New-Delhi-110044,have changed my name to kamlesh Kaur Bharot,permanently,in my minor daughter Simran Kaur Bharot school-record. 0040555885-7

**I,hitherto** known as Shubham Gupta daughter of Vijay Gupta and wife of Shivam Gupta residing at E-8,Model Town-2,Delhi-110009,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Shivanshi Gupta.I is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection. 0040555881-8

**I,Vinod Kumar,S/o Jage Ram,R/o Flat-308,Pocket-2, Sector-19,Dwarka New Delhi-110075,**changed my name to Vinod Bharti,for all future purposes. 0040555875-4

**I,Usha Kushwaha,W/o Yogendra prasad R/o,House.no.102,Raza-Bazar, Motihari,East Champaran, Bihar-845401,**Have Changed My Name/From Usha kushwaha to Usha kumari,Vide Affidavit, Dated-23/11/2020,Before NCT-Delhi. 0040555875-7

**I,Suhani,D/o Hemant Gautam, R/o C-16 Budh-Vihar Badapur Jaitpur New Delhi,**have changed my name to Suhani Gautam. 0040555874-2

**I,SRILOGANATHAN .V.S/O N.P.Vashudhevan,Presently R/o-F/7, New Wellington-Camp, Race-Course,New Delhi-110003,**have changed my name from SRILOGANATHAN .V to VA AJITH,wide-affidavit, Dated-19-11-2020. 0040555875-5

**I,SANJEEV KUMARR/SANJEEV KUMAR ARORA,S/O,INDER LAL,ADD-E-19, JAWAHAR-PARK, LAXMI-NAGAR,EAST DELHI-110092,**changed my name to SANJEEV KWATRA,permanently. 0040555883-2

**I,Pravesh** Prapajati S/o Vikram R/o-81,Balmiki,Mohalla,Village,Ba dli Delhi-110042,inform that my father name,wrongly-mentioned Vikram Singh in my 10th-12th,Certificate but Correct name is Vikram. 0040555881-5

**I,Pradeep** Kumar,S/O Suresh Kumar,R/O BU-191, 3rd-Floor Pitampura Delhi-110034,changed my name to Pardeep Kumar. 0040555875-2

**I,Kanika Malik w/o-Hemant Malik h.o-286,sector-15, part-1,Gurgaon,**have changed my name to Kanika Dagar. 0040555885-1

**I,PinkI Aneja/Pinky Aneja D/o Bhawani Das Satija W/o Kailash Pati Aneja R/o 5, Shri Nagar-Extension, Ashok Vihar Road, Delhi-110052,**have changed my name to Anita Aneja. 0040555874-8

**I,Parminder** Singh s/o Gulzar Singh Saini, R/o B-345, Hari Nagar, Delhi-110064,have changed my name to PARMINDER SINGH SAINI 0040555832-1

**I,Padam** singh Dagar,s/o Ram pat h.o-286, sector-15,part-1, Gurgaon,have changed my name to Padam singh. 0040555885-4

**I,PARVEEN** w/o-Jalil khan,R/o,H.no-14 st.no-4,B Aram park shastri-nagar,Delhi-31,inform that name of my and father and mother has been wrongly-written as parveen begum and saied Ahmad and Jumya in my all passport documents. The Actual name my is parveen father name is Saeed Ahmad mother name is Jumiya.for all,future purposes. 0040555874-10

**I,AMAN KUMAR YADAV,father of,SUHANI Presently R/o Flat.No.15/188, Arjan-Vihar, Delhi/Cantt.-110010,**New Delhi,have changed my minor daughter's name,from SUHANI to SUHANI RAO, vide affidavit,date-19-11-2020. 0040555875-6

**I,ALKA BUTAIL W/O SANDEEP CHOPRA R/O BLB-182,THE BELAIRE APARTMENTS,DLF-PHASE-V,GURGAON 122009,HARYANA,**HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ALKA CHOPRA. 0040555885-5

**I,surinder pal singh S/O Kartar Singh R/O VPO Jharsa, Gurgaon** have changed my name from surrender pal singh to surinder pal singh for all future purpose. 0070721692-1

**I,Suman Ahuja W/O Rajesh Kharbanda R/O GH2/10 A, Orchid Garden Sector-54 Gurgaon** have changed my name to Suman Kharbanda after marriage 0070721668-1

**I,Sonia Tanwar W/o Amit R/O DS-54/1,Near Bal Bhawan,Bada Mohalla, Palwal,Haryana-121102,**have changed my name to Soniya for all future purposes. 0040555879-3

**I,Sonia Devi W/o Surinder pal singh R/o VPO Jharsa, Gurgaon** have changed my name from Soniya to Sonia Devi for all future purpose. 0070721693-1

**I,Shama Khan d/o Sh Abrar Ahmed Khan, R/o 41F, Sector-8, Jasola Vihar, New Delhi-110025,** declare that my name changed from Shama Afroz to Shama Bari in October 2011 and that my name for all future purpose is Shama Bari. 0040555822-1

**I,Sanchit Chugh S/o-Gurdayal Arora R/o-8B, Shiv Vihar, Delhi Road, Saharanpur,Uttar Pradesh-247001,** Have Changed My Name to Sanchit Chug. 0040555864-4

**I,Sangeeta Garg,W/o Mukesh Garg,R/o H.No.68, 3rd-floor, Block-A, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi-110085,**have changed my name from Sangeeta Rani, to Sangeeta Garg,for all purposes. 0040555879-2

**I,Jayanth S/o Ashwani,R/o RZL-20/287,Geetanjali Park,Gali No.-5,West-Sagarpur Nangal Raya Delhi-110046,**have changed my name to Jayant for,all purposes. 0040555878-2

**I,Jalil ahmad,S/o Mohammad Umar R/o H.no-157,Block-E,Vijay-Vihar,phase-I, Rohini,Delhi-110085,**have changed my name to Jaleel Ahmad,for all future purposes. 0040555875-3

**I,Hanuman Parsad,S/O Kishan Lal R/O-F-167, Vijay-Vihar Phase-1,Rohini Delhi-110085,**changed my nameto Hanuman Prasad. 0040555875-1

**I,Gurneet** Kaur bagga,w/oPrabhangd singh h.no-3614, Dlf-phase-4, Gurgaon,have changed my name to Gurneet Kaur. 0040555885-3

**I,FEHMIDA BEGUM,W/O-MOHD YASIN,ADDRESS-6707, GALLI-CHATTEY WALI AHATA KIDARA BARA-HINDU-RAO NORTH DELHI-110066,**changed my name to FEHMEDA BEGUM, permanently. 0040555883-4

**I,Deepika** Kumar Chaudhary D/o Nau Nihal Krishan Chaudhary R/o-CP-119,Maurya-Enclave Pitampura,Delhi-34,changed my name to Deepika Chaudhary. 0040555881-6

**I,Davinder** Kumar S/o Gyani Ram R/o-79 Lohiya Camp Haiderpur Delhi-110088 have changed my name to Devender Kumar. 0040555881-3

**I,Chander** Mohan S/o A.P.Marwaha R/O-C-65, Shri Radha Apartments, Plot-3, Sector-9, Dwarka, N.Delhi-77 have changed my name to Chander Mohan Marwaha. 0040555879-10

**I,BALRAJ SINGH,S/O RAM NARAYAN R/O HNO.127,FIRST-FLOOR,SBI NAGAR,PASCHIM VIHAR,DELHI-110063,**CHANGED MY NAME TO BALRAJ KUMAR. 0040555874-5

**I,Avinash** mehnidiratta/Avinash Kaur mehnidiratta w/o-chaterbir singh r/o-C-16, old-DLF colony,sector-14, Gurgaon,have changed my name to Avinash Kaur. 0040555885-6

**I,Anand Jindal S/O-Raghnundan Shorewala R/O-302B,Pocket-N,Sarita Vihar, Delhi-110076,**have changed My minor Daughter's Name Somya Shorewala to Somya Jindal for all,future purposes. 0040555879-6

**I,Anand Jindal S/O-Raghnundan Shorewala R/O-302B,Pocket-N,Sarita Vihar, Delhi-110076,**have changed My minor Daughter's Name Anyanya Shorewala to Anyanya Jindal for all,future purposes. 0040555879-8

**I,Aman** Kumar,S/o-Dinesh Kumar Singh,R/o-RZ1/218, J-BLOCK,West Sagar Pur,Delhi-110046,have changed my name to Aman Kumar Singh for all future purposes. 0040555881-1

**I,Alemyim Isaac,D/o Kezhangulie Isaac Angami,Resident of 15,Empire Estate,Suitanpur,Mehrauli-Gurgaon-Road, New Delhi-110030,**have changed my name to Alemyim Isaac Solo,permanently. 0040555874-3

**I,Aakash** Dweep S/o Indrajit Kumar R/o,H.No.671,Street.No.-2,Jharoda Ext. Part-02,Post-Burari Delhi-110084,have changed my name to Aakash Deep for all,purposes. 0040555878-3

**I,Amit Saxena,S/o Diwan Chand Saxena,R/o, Plot.No.123, 2nd/Floor,Nitikhand-2, Indirapuram,Ghaziabad-201014,** have changed my name to Amit Saxema from Amit Diwan Chand Saxena for all purposes. 0040555864-2

**I,Ajay Singh S/o Azad Singh, residing at VPO Silani, District & Tehsil Jhajjar, haryana-124103,** inform that name of my wife has been wrongly written in my service record as Shiksha Devi instead of Shiksha Rani. 0040555836-1

**I,(JC-802026P) Sub. Dhruv Kumar Srivastava (Retired) (AEC) S/o Late Oudh Behari Lal R/o Mohalla Sepah (Kayasthana), PO Sadar, Jaunpur, UP** declare that in my Army documents/PPO date of birth of my wife Madhu Bala Srivastava was inadvertently mentioned as 20/01/1963 whereas her correct date of birth is 20/01/1964 as per her Aadhaar and PAN. 0040555844-1

**I,Vishal Sinha** alias Vishal Kumar alias Vishal S/o Late Vinod Kumar R/O Khasra No.53/4, E-Block, Gali No.4, Pradhan Enclave, Near Fauji Builder, Burari, Delhi-110084 have changed my name to Vishal Vinod Habil for all purposes. 0040555808-6

**I Shruti D/o Sh. Ravinder Bhatia R/o H.No.F-8, Mansarovar Garden, New Delhi-110015** have changed my name to Shruti Bhatia for all purposes. 0040555808-5

**I, Shiv Kumar S/O Shri Rajkumar Sharma R/O E-18/191, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085,** have changed my name to Shivam Sharma. 0040555798-1

## LOST & FOUND

**Lost** Original Documents i.e. DDA Possession-Latter, Water and Electricity NOC of DDA-Flat No.DG-III/140, Vikas-Puri, New Delhi-110018, favouring Davinder Kumar Bakshi S/o.late Sh.Bhan Prakash Bakshi FIR-Lodge Vide- R/O.No.750136,2020 Founder-inform at above address or Ph-9810013457. 0040555840-1

**I,ASHISH** Bharti S/o-Karan singh,R/o p-361,st.no-3 phase-4,shiv-vihar, karawal-nagar,Delhi-94,have lost my original-certificate class-10th year-2014 ROLLNO-8131772,CBSE-DELHI. 0040555878-5

**I,Alayab** Singh,s/o Uttam Singh,r/o,F-2,Naraina vihar,kair,delhi-110028,have lost original property-documents such as share-certificate and Allotment-cum-possession-slip of plot.no-130,sector.G.panchsheel co-operative house building society Ltd.,Ajit garh zirakhpur,Distt.-Mohali,punjab,membership.n o-795,if found contact-above Address. 0040555881-9

**I,CHANDER** Shekher khorwal,S/o Bansilal khorwal,R/O-A-157 sudarshan-park moti bagh N-D-15,have lost my original-certificate class-10th year-1980 Rollno-70195,CBSE-DELHI. 0040555875-9

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### THE public in general hereby informed that

M/s. SHAHI Exports Pvt. Ltd, housing its regd. Office at F-88, Okhla Industrial Area, phase-I New Delhi - 110023, is negotiating to sell my client property bearing no is 30722CCA, Khasra No 38246, land measuring 193 sqyds situated in the abadi of Ranjit Nagar New Delhi-110008 claims that they are the present owner of the said property and is free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, claims or interest in the said property by way of sale, mortgage, Possession, succession, mortgage, lien, lease, gift, or otherwise howsoever in respect of the objection same shall intimate the objection in writing to the undersigned with supporting documents thereof within 14 days from the date of publication of this notice or else any such claims by anyone shall not be considered and shall be deemed to have been waived any/or abandoned any my client shall proceed to conclude the negotiations and no claims shall be entertained thereafter.

Sd/- RAJAN CHAUDHARY (Advocate) Chamber No. 408-A, Western wing Tis Hazari courts, Delhi-110054 Mob:- 9312052152, 8700441229

### Public at large is hereby informed

my client Sh. Sahil Kumar Singh S/o Late Mrs. Kusum Singh R/o House No. 1035, Sector-3, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad-201012 have severed all his relations with his father Sh. Bhagwant Kumar Singh S/o Late Jodh Raj Singh and his associate Ms. Shuchi Rathi D/o Subhash Gosain R/o House No. 119, Shastri Park, Krishna Nagar, New Delhi-110051 and other related family member. That by way of this public notice is hereby informed that my client has ceased all his relations with his father, his other family members and her associate due to several personal reasons. Any person dealing with Sh. Bhagwant Kumar Singh, his other family member and his associate shall be doing so at his/her/their own risks, costs, responsibilities without holding his client liable for anything for any loss, claims or damages.

Sd/- Raj Kapoor & Associates, Advocates, Ch. No. 194 Patiala House Courts, New Delhi. M:9699901557

### My client Smt. Shanti Devi W/o

Late Shri Ram Swarup R/o J-51, Sani Niwaspur, New Delhi-65, was debarred her son Madan Lal and his wife and children from her all movable and immovable properties by Public Notice dated 21/11/2019, and now my client Smt. Shanti Devi declare her son Madan Lal and his wife and children as her legal heirs in her all movable and immovable properties

Sd/- Pradeep Kumar Advocate E.No. D/592/2018 Ch. No. 116, Patiala House Court, New Delhi-110001

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
I, hereby inform to the Public at large that my client (1) Shri Mukul Mahto son of Shri Ram Narayan Mahto resident of R-3, 47/A, Gali No. 3, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 and (2) Smt. Raj Kumari wife of Shri Mukul Mahto have disowned their son Chandan Mahto from their all movable and Immovable assets and also disconnected / severed all their relation/connection with them. If anybody deals with them regarding any transaction, they will do so at their own risk, cost and consequences.

Ashok Garg, Advocate  
7A/F-14, Dist Centre, Janakpuri, New Delhi. M:9811162274

**सार्वजनिक सूचना**  
मैं सार्वजनिक को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेरे मुकदमा की सुनार चर्चा करवाए हुए श्री चरनदेव साखरा व श्रीमती सविता साखरा अपने श्री सुनार चर्चा करवाए निम्नलिखित सुनार चर्चा-बी-127, गौरीनगर नार्डन नई, सवितासाखरा, गौरीनगर, उत्तर प्रदेश- 201011 ने अपने पुत्र श्री निमित्त साखरा पुत्र श्री सुनार चर्चा करवाए और पुत्रवृत्त श्रीमती चर्चा करवाए श्री निमित्त साखरा को अपने पालन पोषण / पुत्रवृत्त के कारण अपने सभी स्वयं निम्नलिखित कर निवेदों में अपने पालन पोषण चर्चा करवाए सम्पत्तियों से वेदखल कर दिया है निम्नलिखित में यदि कोई व्यक्ति इनसे कोई भी सम्बन्ध करता है या कोई लेन-देन करता है या इन पर कोई पुलिस केस / कोई केस करता है तो मेरे मुकदमा या उसके परिवार के किसी और व्यक्ति की किसी भी प्रकार की कोई निम्नलिखित नहीं होगी। समीर सिंह (सविताका) बी.ए.122, तिलक निवास, टीक कानपुर कोट, दिल्ली

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that 132 shares with Folio No. 1362 as per following details of Pliani Investment & Industries Corp Ltd. registered in the name of Late Prayag Das Rajgarhia, have been reported lost/ stolen and that an application for issue of Duplicate Share Certificates and its transmission has been made by legal heir Mrs. Anita Rajgarhia to the Company. If anyone has any objection against the above, the same should be made within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice to the Company.

Cert. No.	Distinctive No.	No. of Shares
From	To	
4475	1741000	59
2082	5066544	29
3203	7369995	44

**सार्वजनिक सूचना**  
मेरे मुकदमा संबंधित चर्चा पुत्र किशन लाल नेत्र निवासी बी-77, खिलिमि कालोनी, दिल्ली-110095 ने अपने पुत्र रिंशु व ने मेरे मुकदमा की अनुमति के बिना वह मैंने अपने कर के कारण इससे सम्बन्ध-विच्छेदक अपनी चर्चा अलग सम्पत्ति से वेदखल कर दिया है। इसके लेन देन व्यवहार/कागजी के लिए मेरे मुकदमा संबंधित रिश्तेदार नहीं होंगे।

एनन चौधरी  
प्रकाशोदय  
En.D 2235/2004

## 6<sup>TH</sup> STATE FINANCE COMMISSION, HARYANA Yojana Bhawan, Bays No. 21-28, Sector-4, Panchkula E-mail: info-6sfc@hry.gov.in

Application ar invited for post of Advisor in the field of (a) Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and (b) Municipal Affairs/Administration (ULBs) to be engaged for One Year or the balance period of 6th State Finance Commission, Haryana. The Terms of Reference and other details are available on the website of 6th State Finance Commission, Haryana at [www.sfc.haryana.gov.in](http://www.sfc.haryana.gov.in).

**Administrative Officer  
6<sup>th</sup> State Finance Commission,  
Haryana**

83956/HRY

**BRIDGE & ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD.**  
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)  
CIN No.U27310WB1920GO1003601  
"KANKARIA CENTRE", (4TH & 5TH FLOOR), 21, RUSSEL STREET, KOL-71  
Notice Inviting eTender (eNIT) NO.: B&R / HO / 40087 / NIT / SUPPLY, ERECTION OF BARRICATING STRUCTURE / NIT / 01, DT. 24.11.2020.  
ONLINE ITEM RATE OFFER(S) IN TWO PART SYSTEM ARE INVITED FROM REPUTED, RESOURCEFUL AND EXPERIENCED PARTIES MEETING PRESCRIBED QUALIFYING CRITERIA FOR 'DESIGN, SUPPLY & ERECTION OF PREFABRICATED BARRICADING STRUCTURE & GI SHEETING WORK ON SUB-CONTRACT BASIS IN CONNECTION WITH LSTK-2 PACKAGE FOR STORAGE TANKS AT IOCL PARADIP REFINERY, ODISHA, INDIA'.  
INTERESTED BIDDER(S) WILL HAVE TO BE ENROLLED & REGISTERED WITH THE GOVERNMENT E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM, THROUGH LOGGING ON TO <http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>  
LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF OFFER IS 08.12.2020 UP TO 16:00 HOURS.  
ADDENDUM / CORRIGENDUM IF ANY, SHALL BE HOSTED IN COMPANY'S WEBSITE: [www.bridgeroof.co.in](http://www.bridgeroof.co.in) and CPP portal: <http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> only.

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER GENERATION  
DIVISION USHP-II KANGAN**  
Email: [xenekangan@gmail.com](mailto:xenekangan@gmail.com), Phone : 01942418229  
**CORRIGENDUM**  
Sub: Re-tendering of E-NIT  
Ref: E-NIT No: USHP/II/GD/ 15 of 2020-21 Dated 16-09-2020 for Replacement of Damaged Limb by new one for 15MVA, 11/132KV Generator Transformer of USHP-II Kangan.

Due to poor response and requests by bidders to re-tender, the above mentioned e-NIT is hereby re-tendered. The bidders who have already participated in the bid are requested to upload only BOQs online. The hard copies already submitted are valid and need not to be re-submitted. However, the new interested bidders are requested to re-submit hard as well as upload new BOQs online. The revised critical dates for the above mentioned e-NITs are given as under:

Revised Critical Dates	
1. Date of issue of tender notice	21.11.2020
2. Period of downloading of bidding documents	22.11.2020 to 03.12.2020
3. Bid submission start date	22.11.2020
4. Bid submission end date.	03.12.2020
5. Deadline for receiving the hard copies (CDR&EMD)	04.12.2020
6. Date & time of opening of Online tenders (techno commercial)	05.12.2020

The price bids needs to be uploaded online only and do not send price bids in the form of hard copies. Moreover, there have been few amendments in the SBD clauses which may kindly be read as under:

**14.0. Inspection**  
Inspection call shall be given by the Executing agency to the Engineer in-charge during execution of work and final inspection prior to re-commissioning of machine at the time of tests. The expenses of the designated official nominated by Engineer-in-charge shall be borne by the executing agency in case the workshop/testing facilities are located/carried out outside the union territory of J&K.

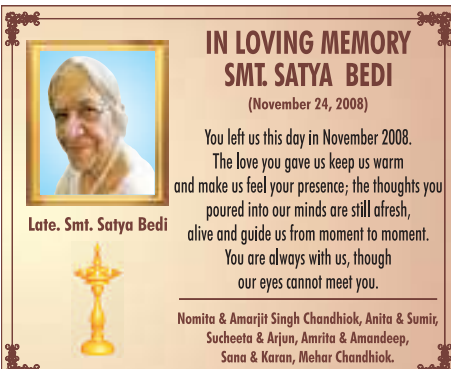
**25.0. Re-commissioning Tests**  
All the relevant tests as per IS / IEC (Di-electric , Induced over-voltage withstand test, Impulse voltage withstand test , PI value etc.) wherever referred shall be performed at worksite/workshop by the contractor in presence of designated representatives of JKSPDC who shall authenticate that the test results are in consonance with IS/IEC Standards.

Sd/-  
**Executive Engineer  
Generation Division,  
USHP II Kangan**

No: GD /USHP-II/278-37  
Dated: 21.11.2020  
DIPK-NB-4076/20

## OBITUARY

## REMEMBRANCE



## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified to General Public that my client Sh. Purnam Chand S/o Late Sh. Ram Paul Sharma and his wife Lalita Sharma both Rio C-5, 1st Floor, Ganesh Nagar, Tiaik Nagar, Delhi-18, disowns and disinherits, their younger son Sh. Rajiv Sharma and his wife namely Smt. Vandana along with their daughter namely baby Pan and all at their family members. Anyone dealing with them shall do so at his own risk and responsibility and my client shall not in any manner be liable for any act and deed of the said persons.

Sd/- Man Mohan Goel (Advocate)  
Office: B-39-40, B.G.S. Block, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-110054

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Known all general public that my client Mohd. Faisal S/o Mohd. Irfan Rio H.No. 1801, Kalam Mahal, Darya Gani, Delhi-110002 is the owner of P/G, Shop No.2, on Ground Floor (Middle Side Portion) part of property bearing number No. 59 & 60, area measuring 14.22 sq. yds. size (8'x16'), Khasra No. 132 Min. Gali No. 3, Village Wazirabad, Delhi-110084. That the property documents like payment Receipt, GPA, S.P.A., Agreement to sell, Will, Affidavit & Possession Letter have been lost. Whoever found above said documents kindly contact us.

Name of the owner - Mohd. Faisal  
Contact No. 925078554  
Rajiv Gajjar (Advocate)  
Chamber No. K-50, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054 Mob : 8178757173

## सार्वजनिक सूचना

मेरे मुकदमा गीता पत्नी से: श्री राखी सिंह पता: बी-79/17, गली नं. 10, अरोक नगर, शाहदरा, दिल्ली-93 ने अपने पुत्र स्याम मोहन व पुत्रवृत्त अरुणा को लानत अग्रच व्यवहार के कारण अपनी सभी चर्चा-अलग सम्पत्ति से वेदखल कर सम्बंध विच्छेद कर लिए है। निम्नलिखित में किसी भी कृत्य के लिए मेरे मुकदमा व अन्य परिवार के लोग निम्नलिखित नहीं होंगे।

हस्ता/-  
ललित कान्त शर्मा  
अधिकृत

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Informed to General Public, that my clients Sh. Jyoti Luthra S/O Sh. Gyan Chand Luthra and Smt. Sunita Luthra W/O Sh. Jyoti Luthra both Rio D-111, Piam Pura, Delhi-110088, have severed all the relations from their son Shri Manik Luthra and his wife Smt. Priyanka as they are disobedient, rude and not under the control of my clients otherwise. From hence my clients has debarred his son and his wife from their movable and immovable properties. If any person, organization, institution does any transaction with them does so at their own risk, for that my clients shall not be responsible in any manner whatsoever.

Sd/- Sachin Kumar (Advocate)  
Enr. No. 0209089  
Office: R-4, DDA MARKET, PITAM PURA, DELHI-110088

## NATIONAL DESIGN CENTRE (NDC) Hall No. 1, Rajiv Gandhi Handicrafts Bhawan, Baba Khark Singh Marg, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001, Contact no.: +91-23341273, 23341262 Email: [ndc@nationaldesigncentre.org](mailto:ndc@nationaldesigncentre.org), Website: [www.nationaldesigncentre.org](http://www.nationaldesigncentre.org)

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

NDC invites EOI from reputed / experienced Consultant / Consultancy Organization for consultancy services towards the work to be done under SFURTI Scheme, M/o. MSME. Interested consultant / consultancy organization having experience in similar work may submit their EOI. The detailed TOR for the same can be downloaded from [www.nationaldesigncentre.org](http://www.nationaldesigncentre.org) or can collect from the above address. The last date for submission of EOI shall be within 7 days from this publication.

## ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION (A STATUTORY BODY OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA) Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110 070 Ph. No. 011-29581524, 011-29581312 Website: [www.aicte-india.org](http://www.aicte-india.org)

RFP No. 01/AICTE/FDC/STUDIO/2020-21 Dated: 23-11-2020

### NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Setting up of State-of-the-Art Studio at AICTE HQs as a Turn Key Project on Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning Basis (SITC)  
AICTE invites online e-bids from the eligible Bidders for setting up of **State-of-the-Art Studio** at its Headquarters, Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kun



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Solutions Crossword 4283: Across: 1 Play the lead, 9 Oversee, 10 Voter, 11 Palm, 12 Designed, 14 Reams, 16 Pursues, 18 Literary, 19 Epic, 22 Tacks, 23 Confine, 24 Tennis court. Down: 2 Level, 3 Yard, 4 Healed, 5 Live it up, 6 Attends, 7 Copperplate, 8 Trade secret, 13 Impression, 15 Article, 17 Precise, 20 Prior, 21 Undo.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis

CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson

MARVIN by Tom Armstrong

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

He who does not understand your \_\_\_\_ will probably not understand your \_\_\_\_ - Elbert Hubbard (7,...5)

NPEER AANLNS

TOPIS AORCDW

SUDOKU 4302

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4301

DAY TODAY BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23)

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sept 23)

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LTD.

The Chief Accounts Officer (B & R)

Corporate Identity Number (CIN) - U40109RJ2000SC016483

Regd. Office: New Power House, Jodhpur- 342003

E-mail: [caorevenuejodhpur@gmail.com](mailto:caorevenuejodhpur@gmail.com) Web site: [www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvn](http://www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvn)

Phone No: 0291-2742232; Fax No: 0291-51060

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

Techno-commercial and Price E-Proposal is invited from eligible bidders against TN-05/2020-21 for "Providing Online Payment Gateway And Electronic Payment Services" for Jodhpur Discom against TN-05/2020-21 The UBN No. are UBN No. JVV2021SLRC00272

Details regarding TN-05/2020-21 cost, earnest money, date of TN-05/2020-21 opening etc. are available at our website <http://sppp.raj.nic.in> / [www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvn](http://www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvn). The applicant, in their own interest are requested to read very carefully the TN-05/2020-21 documents before submitting their bid only through on line on website [www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in).

Raj, Samwadi/020/6996

Chief Accounts Officer (B & R)

बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045

UJJAIN SMART CITY LIMITED

सहस्र उन्नत उद्योग, उज्जैन

Mela Office, Kothi Road, Ujjain (M.P.) 456001 Ph. 0734-2525856

NIT No.: USCL/54/Tender ID-2020\_UAD\_114381\_1 Dated: 17-11-2020

Ujjain Smart City Limited invites proposal for Investigation, survey, detailed design and execution of retrofitting & reconstruction of roads consisting of up-gradation, augmentation, retrofitting of existing water supply, connection of drinking water supply, underground storm water drains & retrofitting of existing open storm water surface drains, construction of footpath, utility ducts, underground electrification with allied infrastructure, road markings, traffic signage in ABD Area under Ujjain Smart City Project Package-3. Interested bidders may purchase and submit their proposals online at [www.mptenders.gov.in](http://www.mptenders.gov.in).

Probable Amount of Contract:	Rs. 37,90,04,962-00
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 19,00,000/-
Cost of Document	Rs. 50,000/-
Pre bid Meeting Date	28/11/2020 15:00 hrs.
Last Date for submission of Technical and Financial Bid (Online)	17/12/2020 up to 17:00 hrs

For more details please visit <https://www.mptenders.gov.in>. Any Corrigendum or amendments shall be uploaded on this website only.

For, Ujjain Smart City Limited

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

MARTYR OF CISF ON 24TH NOVEMBER 1979

HC/GD BHARDUL SINGH IOC BARAUNI

CISF proudly remembers the supreme sacrifice of this brave-heart. On this day, he laid down his life at the altar of duty while fighting with criminals. His courage and bravery would remain an abiding source of inspiration for the force. The force will remain eternally indebted to him for this noblest deed.

CONSORTIUM FOR EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATION

I.U.A.C. Campus, Aruna Asaf Ali Marg, New Delhi - 110067

Phone : 011-24126418-19-20, Fax : 011-24126416

Website : [www.cec.nic.in](http://www.cec.nic.in)

F. No. CEC/JD(H/W)/Building/2019

Notice Inviting Tender for Miscellaneous Electrical Work

Sealed tenders are invited only from reputed firms. The tender documents with terms and conditions and technical specifications can be obtained from the CEC website [www.cec.nic.in](http://www.cec.nic.in) and CPP Portal Govt of India. Tender document may be downloaded from the website [www.cec.nic.in](http://www.cec.nic.in). Sealed tender should be addressed to the "Chief Administrative Officer", Consortium for Educational Communication, IUAC Campus, Aruna Asaf Ali Marg, New Delhi- 110067, may be sent by Hand / Speed Post / Registered Post, or may be dropped in tender box placed at Reception CEC, New Delhi at the above mentioned address before the stipulated date and time. The tenders received after the due date and time will not be accepted. CEC reserves the right to accept or reject any tender, fully or partially without assigning any reason whatsoever. Tender documents complete in all respect must reach this office on or before 15.12.2020 upto 2:30 p.m. The tender will be opened on the same day at 3:00 PM.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

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

1.	Name of work with its location	S.N.	1	Annual operation and maintenance of sand filter, disinfection system, and valve operation at HN2M complex, in the section of DENW-W/IDLI
2.	Approx. Cost of work	1	Rs. 1,49,64,749/-	
3.	Earnest Money	1	(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. 2015/CE-ICT/5/1 dated: 31.08.2016)	Rs. 2,24,800/-
4.	Cost of tender	1	(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. 2015/CE-ICT/5/1 dated: 31.08.2016)	Rs. 0/-
5.	Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	1	Upto 15.00 hrs. on 18.12.2020 Opening of tender at 15.00 hrs. on 18.12.2020	
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.	1	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>	

No.: 128-W/280/e-Tender Notice/NIT-27-2020-21/Works Dt. 20.11.2020 2616/2020

Serving Customers with a Smile

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PETROCHEMICALS ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY (CIPET)

CENTRE FOR SKILLING AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT (CSTS), BHUBANESWAR

8-3/78, Sector-A, Zone-B, Mancheswar Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-75

Phone No.: +91-0674-2588203/2587374, FAX : 6674-2588187

Email: [cipetsat@gmail.com](mailto:cipetsat@gmail.com) / [nicmcl@cipet.gov.in](mailto:nicmcl@cipet.gov.in), Website: [www.cipet.gov.in](http://www.cipet.gov.in)

CIPET-CSTS/BBSR/Mould Base/2020-21/ 05

INVITATION FOR QUOTATION

Sealed quotations are invited from reputed Manufacturers/Suppliers/Distributors/ Authorized Dealers for the supply of Injection Mould Base at CIPET: CSTS Bhubaneswar. Interested bidders may submit their quotation on or before 03.12.2020 at the above address. The other details are available at CIPET website - [www.cipet.gov.in](http://www.cipet.gov.in). Dy Director & Head, CIPET: CSTS Bhubaneswar reserves right to accept or reject any/all quotations without assigning any reasons thereof.

Dy. Director & Head

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

Bid No. E-58/2020-21 E-TENDERS Dated: 13.11.2020

E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the president of India for the supply of following items. Only e-tenders will be accepted for which vendors must have class 16 Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence: S.No. - Tender No (Due Date), Description and Quantity: (1) 0120153 (02/12/2020) Exhaust Drive Assembly PL No. 16360160, 328 Nos. (2) 02201341A (07/12/2020) Spare. Hardware items kit for LAS PL No. 2940489, 313 Set. (3) 05205348, (11/12/2020) Wheel sub assembly, 1 Set. (4) 05205349, (11/12/2020) Electric Chain Saw, 3 Nos. (5) 05205350, (11/12/2020) Petrol Operated Chain Saw, 3 Nos. Note: For Complete details of EMD and downloading of tender documents and Host Version also available at website [www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in) and [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) Corrigendum Notice Date: 19.11.2020 (S.No. 1) Tender No.: 05201680A Bid No. E-57 Rev: 01 Existing Due Date: 04.12.2020 Revised Due Date: 11.12.2020 Note: All other terms & condition shall remain unchanged. Corrigendum Notice Date: 19.11.2020 (S.No.2) Bid No. E-25 Tender No.: 05201133 Set of Cable Tie (Other than panel section) PL No. 29816303, Rev: 01 Details of Corrigendum: The date of opening of tender has been revised and now the same will be opened on 05.02.2021 instead of 24.11.2020. Note: All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged for above tenders.

P.R.O./BLWS-64 PCMM

f /banaraslocomotivk \* Website:- [www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in)

TAMILNADU MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.

(A Government of Tamilnadu Undertaking)

No. 417, Pantheon Road, Chennai-600 008.

Phone : 044-2819 1890, 2819 0259 / Mobile : 09940188236

Website : [www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in](http://www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in), E-Mail : [mngprudrug.tnmsc@tn.gov.in](mailto:mngprudrug.tnmsc@tn.gov.in)

Sealed Tenders are invited for the supply of Disposable Sterile Gloves by TNMSCL Ltd., Chennai - 600008 from the Manufacturers or Direct Importer or Loan Licensees having Valid Loan License having three years Market Standing.

Tender Reference No.	006/M(P)/GLOVES/TNMSCL/2020, Dated 25.11.2020
Tender Document Sale Period	25.11.2020 to 04.12.2020
Last Date and Time for receipt of tender	05.12.2020 upto 10.30 AM
Date and Time of opening	05.12.2020 at 11.00 AM

The tender document can be downloaded from the websites of [www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in](http://www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in) and [www.tenders.tn.gov.in](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in) on free of cost.

DIPR/4360/Tender/2020 General Manager (Drugs)

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, PHED, REGION, BHARATPUR

Phone: 05644-222731, e-mail: [rj\\_acebha@nic.in](mailto:rj_acebha@nic.in)

Corrigendum No. 03, NIT Nos. 20/2020-21

The following corrigendum is hereby issued for the NIB No. 20/2020-21 of this office for "Rate Contract for the work of Construction of Sources, Rising main pipelines, CWRs, Pump houses, ESRs, Internal village distribution pipeline and FHTC including one year Defect Liability period of SVS & MVSs and thereafter O&M of works up to village boundary for five years for MVS including preparation of DPR of above works under JJM in the jurisdiction of PHED Region Bharatpur".

Activity	Existing Provision	Amended Provision
Date & time for downloading of bid document	Up to 10.00 AM, 23.11.2020	Up to 11.00 AM, 09.12.2020
Date & time for online submission of bid document	Up to 11.00 AM, 23.11.2020	Up to 11.00 AM, 09.12.2020
Deposition of Bid Security (remaining part in the form of BG)	Up to 2.00 PM, 23.11.2020	Up to 1.00 PM, 09.12.2020
Date & Time for Opening of Technical bid.	3.00 PM, 23.11.2020	3.00 PM, 09.12.2020

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as mentioned in original NIT. UBN No.: PHE2021WLRC05931

Sd/- (Mukul Bhargava) Addl. Chief Engineer PHED, Region Bharatpur

DIPR/C/9128/2020

WESTERN RAILWAY-AHMEDABAD

Office of Chief Engineer (CPOH) ADI

REPAIRS RELATED TO POH OF TRACK MACHINES

E-Tender Notice No.4 of 2020 Dated, 20.11.2020. 1. Name of the Work: Repairs related to POH of Track machines at CPOH ADI, Approximate NIT Cost : ₹1938729.69/- EMD Cost: ₹ 246700/- Tender No.: W641/CPOH/20-21/3/A, Date of opening of the tender: 15.12.2020 at 11:00 Hrs. Date of closing of the tender: 15.12.2020 at 11:15 Hrs. Date of uploading of the Tender on IREPS: 20.11.2020

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NORTHERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. 82205012 date :- 23.11.2020

Invitation of Tenders through E-procurement system

Principal chief materials manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

S. No.	Tender No.	Brief description	Qty.	Closing date
1	83205012	Diode Laser	1 Nos	15.12.2020

Note: 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS websites i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained. 2619/2020

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FROM WHOLESALE/PRODUCERS/VENDORS/SUPPLIERS FOR EMANELMENT WITH HAFED FOR SUPPLY OF PULSES AND SPICES

The complete EOI Document containing eligibility criteria, terms & conditions and procedure of selection of suppliers can be downloaded from Hafed website i.e. <http://hafed.gov.in/> and interested Agencies should submit their documents at Hafed Corporate Office, Sector-5, Panchkula-134109 (HR) on or before 15.12.2020 upto 02.00 PM.

MANAGING DIRECTOR, HAFED CORPORATE OFFICE, SECTOR-5, PANCHKULA-134019

83952/HRY

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, SOUTHERN (R&B) CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR

Phone : 0680-2281582, e-mail : [secspw@yaho.co.in](mailto:secspw@yaho.co.in)

1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. SE, SC (R&B)-BAM-08/2020-21 vide Office Order No. 2782 dt. 03.11.2020

No. 2976 / Dated : 17.11.2020

The following modifications have been made in the Bid Identification No. SE, SC (R&B)-BAM-08/2020-21.

Availability of Bid document : From 23.11.2020 10.00 AM to 07.12.2020 4.00 PM instead of 17.11.2020 10.00 AM to 02.12.2020 4.00 PM

Bid shall be received only online upto 4.00 PM on 07.12.2020 instead of 4.00 PM on 02.12.2020.

Date of Opening of Bid : 08.12.2020 at 11.30 A.M instead of 03.12.2020 at 11.30 Hrs.

All other terms and conditions of the DTGN shall remain unchanged.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer Southern (R&B) Circle, Berhampur OIPR-34103/11/0009/2021

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-IV, Northern Railway, Delhi Division for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tender on prescribed form for the following work.

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

1.	Name of work with its location	1. Elimination of Manned by providing LHS on L-xing no. 65,198, 209 & 219 on DLI-BT1 section. (NIT 34-W-V-20-21)	2. Elimination of Manned by providing LHS on L-xing no. 65,198, 209 & 219 on DLI-BT1 section. (NIT 35-W-V-20-21)
2.	Approx. cost of work	(1) Rs. 11,47,52,959.27 (2) Rs. 11,47,52,959.27	
3.	Earnest Money	1. Rs. 7,23,800.00 2. Rs. 7,23,800.00	
4.	Date and Time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Bidding Start date for work no. Up to 15:00 hrs. on 04.12.2020 opening of e-Tender at 15:00 hrs. on 18.12.2020.	
5.	Website particulars, published e-tender, notice location etc. complete details of tender can be seen and web site where the tender form can be downloaded	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>	

No. 128-W/260/Tender Notice/34&35/20-21/W-V Date: 23.11.2020 2620/2020

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



## SHORT STORIES

[ Tracing the rise of talented game changers who are primed for their time in the sun during this Australian summer ]

## Making of the Hulk

Blessed with immense talent and imposing physique, all-rounder Marcus Stoinis had to overcome personal loss and on-field setbacks before realising his potential

SIRIRAM VEERA  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 23

THAT AFTERNOON in 2015, Marcus Stoinis was about to catch a flight to India for a cricket tour. The previous night, his cancer-stricken father Chris felt dehydrated and went downstairs for a drink. Weak and dizzy, he passed out on the floor, where Stoinis, his sister, and mother found him six hours later, lying with a broken nose in a pool of blood.

"I spend two hours in the hospital, go home, pack my bags, and flew to India that afternoon. 100 per cent I didn't want to go to India, I didn't want to be on that plane. But I know if I am going, I have to make it really worth it. I did really well personally and proved a lot to myself. That's when true mental toughness comes in, your ability to lock into a task, ability to get most of yourself when you feel like you can't," Stoinis shares in a podcast, hosted by kids from his old school, Hale, this April.

There had been many such moments with his father, who battled cancer for a decade before he died in November 2017. Stoinis was playing in a domestic match when his cousin landed up at the ground. He immediately sensed what had transpired, and his team-mate Adam Zampa embraced him, and both sat outside the boundary for half an hour in a quiet daze of camaraderie.

His father, his hero, was also the man who shaped Stoinis' career, from infusing a love for the game to making important choices along the way. Like making him meet a sports psychologist. Like helping him shift states to further his career.

Stoinis, who had made his debut for Western Australia as a 19-year-old, had lost his contract. After meandering over a year with WA, he told his father in 2012 that they need to do something. His father suggested a switch in scenery.

The father and son first landed in Adelaide to try out at South Australia where former first-class player Darren Berry was coach. Stoinis was told that he can train with the first-class team but won't get a contract for a while.

As the duo stepped out of the room, the two looked at each other, and the father went, "F\*\*k that! you are not going to live in Adelaide!" Stoinis tells in the podcast. "And yeah, am not going to live in Adelaide. He goes, 'where do you want to live' and I say, either Sydney or Melbourne". Stoinis ended up in Melbourne to play for Victoria, a decision which changed his career for good.



"Oh, you can't make it in cricket ... He is going to be a personal trainer in a gym ... He is going to a university and end up in accounts." Voices from peers around the time of the switch that still ring in Stoinis' ears, a decade later.

"I swear to god I still remember them," the face wrinkles into a smile, "I still use that as motivation now."

It's impressionable kids he is speaking to,



Suvajit Dey

not just the two who are asking the questions, but the podcast's targeted audience is children across schools, and Stoinis shares his mantra.

"If you are competitive, don't let anyone say you are." That's something it seems he had heard a bit too often in his formative years. "Don't let anyone tell you otherwise. If there is anything I have seen in people who are successful in what they do, it's that they are unbelievably competitive.

"I always want to win; I always want to keep going. That's me."

Unshackling the mental chains seems to be Stoinis' thing. "100 per cent" says Dave Diggle, his psychologist, an international gymnast in UK in his previous vocation. "Marcus' dad saw me on TV and hunted me down. And I have been with him nearly a decade now, from around the time he shifted to Victoria."

A lingering state of frustration can push one to find out what one really wants. Stoinis had two such long frustrating phases, first

when he was out of contract with Western Australia, and again more than a year of being out of contract and not allowed to play in the second XI or even train with the main team in Victoria. "That was the most important time of my career. It was the first time I turned towards the mental side of things."

Like setting goals, why he wants to be a better cricketer, what were his core values, what he wanted out of life.

"I have played 12 years of cricket now and if you don't have those things, you can lose motivation quickly, it's too easy to go off track. I was forced to learn all that through that period where I was probably lost as I have ever been in my life, but it ended up as being the best thing for me."

It was a lack of consistency that was threatening to set back Stoinis' career. "Why is there inconsistency? Because most performers perform on emotions," says Diggle. "We look at his natural behavioural trait and we built a framework around it. That's why you see a tremendously passionate guy on

**Stoinis had two long frustrating phases, first when he was out of contract with Western Australia, and again more than a year of being out of contract and not allowed to play in the second XI or even train with the main team in Victoria.**

the field but someone who knows his way around those emotions, knows how to make them work for him."



When Stoinis the batsman breaks free and discovers what he can be, like in his most famous knock of 146 against New Zealand in an ODI or in the numerous Big Bash games and a few IPL matches, we get a glimpse of that world where he makes the rules, where he is boss. It's quite an un-Australian technique. At first glance, it does seem Australian enough with the expectation arising from the beefed-up physique that he could be all arms, but the lingering after effect is that of the surprising wristiness in his shots. It's the big shoulders, the broad chest, the chiselled jawline that we first see. Stoinis looks imposing just before he gets into stance.

But then he almost shrivels up as if he doesn't want to show off his physique. He sort of doubles up, curls up in his stance and squeezes into as tiny a space as his big body would allow. One can sense why he does it; as everything that happens after the bowler releases the ball is a recoiling reaction from him, a release of pent-up energy. Stoinis springs out and explodes as if that stance allows him to conserve all his energy which he then dissipates in an explosive recoil.

There is a certain nonchalance to his leg-side play, especially the pick-up and swat behind square that he plays after a tiny side-step to his right. The left leg hangs relaxed in the air even as he transfers his weight on to the back-foot and lets his wrists shoo away the ball.

That ease has to stem from some inner trust in his ability. "When you are under pressure at the crease, you revert to the most familiar thing to you," says Diggle. So, the idea is to then make that familiar thing a mental pattern for performance. "So that he knows how to bat under pressure rather than react."



In one of those quarantine evenings of team-bonding at the hotel, Delhi Capitals captain Shreyas Iyer does an impression of Stoinis. The swaying walk and the wide drop-jaw smile. In the background, one can hear Stoinis continuously guffawing. Both the drop-jaw smile and guffaw can raise impressions of artificiality in most, but don't seem out of place with Stoinis. "What you see is how he really is. We have worked to achieve a state where he doesn't need a facade, where he can be himself," Diggle says.

## AFRICAN FOOTBALL CHIEF BANNED FOR 5 YEARS

African football confederation president Ahmad Ahmad was banned for five years by FIFA on Monday for financial misconduct. The ban was announced during the Madagascan officials campaign to be reelected for four more years as the head of African soccer. His position also makes him a FIFA vice president.

## Rohit, Ishant uncertain for Tests in Australia

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY  
KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 23

ROHIT SHARMA and Ishant Sharma are unlikely to board a flight to Australia in the next three-four days, *The Indian Express* understands. Also, it is learnt that the Indian team management hasn't yet received any communication from the National Cricket Academy (NCA) or BCCI as regards to when the two are joining the squad. And if that's the case, then going by Indian team head coach Ravi Shastri's comment, both might miss the entire Test series.

Rohit (hamstring injury) and Ishant (ribcage injury) are currently at the NCA for their rehab and on Sunday, Shastri expressed apprehension on the two players' participation in the upcoming Test series unless they fly out in the next "three to four days".

A 14-day quarantine period is mandatory upon reaching Australia and the first Test in Adelaide commences on December 17. But it's a four-Test series and both Rohit and Ishant could be available for the Boxing Day Test onwards even if they don't fly out in the next few days. It's not clear if Shastri has put a question mark on their recovery; whether they can sustain the rigours of a Test series. Or it could be that the two need to prove their match fitness ahead of the Test series, during India's second and final tour game, against Australia A in Sydney (December 11-13).

"If you need to play in the Test series or any red-ball cricket, you've got to be on the flight in the next three or four days. If you aren't, then it's going to be tough," Shastri told *ABC Sport* on Sunday.

In his interview, the head coach spoke about Rohit and Ishant being assessed by the NCA medical team. "But things could get difficult if he's (Rohit) asked to wait for too long, (because) then you're talking of the quarantine again, which might make it really tough for even him to come just in time for the Test series," Shastri said.

The national selectors had left Rohit out of the Australia tour after he suffered a hamstring injury playing for the Mumbai Indians in the IPL.

Rohit, however, returned to play for his franchise after missing four matches and was eventually included in the Test squad.

While updating the squads for the Australia tour, the BCCI had said: "The BCCI Medical Team has been monitoring Rohit Sharma's fitness and has briefed All-India Senior Selection Committee on the same. In consultation with Mr Sharma, it has been decided to rest him for the ODIs and T20Is in Australia to regain full fitness and he has been included in India's Test squad for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy."

Shastri reiterated that the BCCI and the team management knew all along that Rohit would miss the limited-overs leg of the tour, which starts with an ODI in Sydney on November 27. "He (Rohit) was never going to play the white-ball series, they were just looking to see how long he needed the rest, because you can't afford to be resting for too long," the head coach said.

If indeed Rohit misses the Test series, as per Shastri's apprehension, it would be a big blow for India, more so because skipper Virat Kohli is returning home after the first Test. The team has a back-up opener in KL Rahul, but given Rohit's quality, experience and a solid backfoot game, the Aussies might have a considerable upper hand if the batsman doesn't make it.



Last week, Rohit Sharma said he was confident of playing the Test matches but going by Ravi Shastri's comments it could be a difficult race against time.

**It is learnt that the Indian team management hasn't yet received any communication from the National Cricket Academy (NCA) or BCCI as regards to when the two are joining the squad. And if that's the case, then going by Indian team head coach Ravi Shastri's comment, both might miss the entire Test series.**

Rohit has scored 556 runs, including two centuries and a double century, in his last five Tests after he started opening the innings. Two years ago, during India's triumphant tour of Australia, he had scored 106 runs in two Tests, but was yet to cement his place in the Test side then.

As far as Ishant is concerned, the BCCI advisory had said: "The senior Indian fast bowler has been undergoing his rehab at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru. Once he fully recovers and gains sufficient match fitness, he will be added to India's Test squad."

If "sufficient match fitness" are the operative words here, Ishant has to reach Australia early enough to be available for India's second tour game. He, along with Rohit, will not be available for the December 6-8 India A versus Australia A fixture even if they fly out in the next three-four days.

It's (Ishant's) a similar case to Rohit," Shastri said in the interview, adding: "You don't really know how quickly he'll be available to fly out. Like I said, if anyone has to play in the Test series, he has to be on the flight in the next four or five days. Otherwise, it's very difficult."

Ishant sustained a "left internal oblique muscle tear" during Delhi Capitals' training session on October 7, which ruled him out of the IPL.

The senior-most bowler in the Indian team is on the cusp of the 100-Test landmark (97 Tests), and had a pretty decent tour of Australia in 2018-19, returning with 11 wickets at 23.81 in three Tests.

## Like luxury prisons: Rabada on bio-bubbles

South Africa fast bowler Kagiso Rabada compared bio-secure bubbles to "luxury prisons", having been in one during his IPL stint but reminded that they are "still lucky" in a COVID-19 world where millions lost their livelihood. The 25-year-old fast bowler ended as the highest wicket-taker in the IPL (with 30 scalps) while playing for eventual runners-up Delhi Capitals. Now, he is set to enter another bio-secure bubble against visiting England in a white-ball series starting Friday.

"It can be quite tough. You can't interact. You've basically lost your freedom. It's almost like luxury prisons we are in. But we have to remind ourselves that we are fortunate," Rabada said in a virtual series eve press conference.

## BAI wants rules eased for Open

The Badminton Association of India (BAI) requested the Sports Ministry to relax the mandatory 14-day quarantine period for foreign players participating in next year's Yonex Sunrise India Open. BAI general secretary Ajay Singhania met sports minister Kiren Rijiju to chalk out a plan for conducting the \$ 400,000 India Open event, which is scheduled to be held from March 30 to April 4 at the Indira Gandhi Stadium. "I met the honourable sports minister today and requested him to consider the current international practice of accepting a negative RT-PCR test report taken 72 hours before departure on arrival in the country instead of 14-day quarantine," Singhania said. With the 2021 India Open being an Olympic qualifier, the world's top players are expected to play. **PTI**

ference. "People have lost their jobs, people are struggling at the moment, so we must be grateful for the opportunity we have been given to make some money and to do what we love," he said, according to *ESPNcricinfo*. Rabada likened the players inside a bio-secure bubble as "spoilt kids not getting what they want at the candy store".

"We don't get treated too badly. We stay in great hotels. We get the best food. (But) it can be quite tough because you are surrounded by four walls the whole time and that can be a factor mentally. But just remind yourself of all the good things that are happening and once we start playing, it will take away from the desolate times." **PTI**

## Liverpool beat Leicester 3-0

Liverpool cruised to a 3-0 win over Leicester City at Anfield on Sunday as they set a new club record of 64 straight unbeaten home league games. An own goal from Jonny Evans and headers from Diogo Jota, continuing his streak of scoring in his first four league games at Anfield, and Roberto Firmino were enough to give Juergen Klopp a victory over his predecessor Brendan Rodgers. The result moves defending champions Liverpool level on 20 points with leaders Tottenham Hotspur while Leicester are fourth, level on 18 points with third-placed Chelsea. Reds were without Mohamed Salah, who had tested positive for COVID-19, and the injured Jordan Henderson and Trent Alexander-Arnold. **AP**

## Medvedev's ATP Finals title isn't a change-of-guard win

GAURAV BHATT  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 23

ANOTHER ATP Tour Finals, another first-time winner. On Sunday, Daniil Medvedev defeated Dominic Thiem 4-6, 7-6 (2), 6-4 to lift the year-ending trophy; becoming the fifth player in as many years to win the tournament for the first time. While Andy Murray was a made man when he won in 2016, the champions since — Grigor Dimitrov, Alexander Zverev, Stefanos Tsitsipas and now Medvedev inevitably triggered talks of changing guards and hopes of a new world order.

This time around, the hype is two-fold. During the group stages not only did champion Medvedev beat Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal this week, the runner-up Thiem did so too. The results though haven't come out of the blue. Medvedev has now won three of the last four meetings with Djokovic. And while the win over Nadal on Saturday was the Russian's first, he pushed the Spaniard to three sets in London last year and to five in the US Open final.

Thiem too has beaten Djokovic thrice in the last four matches. All four contests stretched to deciding sets and Austrian's only loss came in the Australian Open final in January. Against Nadal, he is 6-9 overall, with wins on indoor and outdoor hard courts as well as clay in the last two years.

Is it really surprising then that the top dogs of the men's tour lost to the third and fourth-ranked players? And what exactly do Medvedev's title win, and Thiem's second runner-up finish, say about tennis' future?

## Where does the tournament fit?

Played since 1970, the year-end tourna-



Medvedev (L) beat Thiem to become the 5th player in 5 years to win the title. Reuters

ment has undergone several revisions; namely the 'Masters Grand Prix', 'ATP Tour World Championships', 'Tennis Masters Cup', 'World Tour Finals' and now ATP Finals. The concept though has remained largely consistent.

Top eight players converge in a season-finales of sorts and an undefeated champion can rake in \$1,564,000 in prize money and 1500 ranking points.

Roger Federer says he will go to the moon to play the Tour Finals. Djokovic calls it "the most challenging tournament of the year or of the season" because it "makes us all go into this competitive mode right away, from the first point."

But despite the high-octane tennis and a bevy of stars, the tournament isn't even regarded as the fifth Slam — that distinction is reserved for the Indian Wells Masters — and is generally placed between the Grand Slams

and Masters titles in terms of prestige.

Thiem's wins over Nadal and Djokovic, Medvedev's win over the latter were highly competitive clashes, drawing praise from losing veterans. But these were still three-set matches. It is in the best-of-five world of Grand Slams that men's tennis years for breakthroughs. Also, the top players are physically, if not mentally too, winding down by November. The prominent narrative thread this week was whether Nadal would be able to win his first Tour Finals.

The 34-year-old has competed at ten Tour Finals, finishing runner-up twice in 2010 and 2013. Six times, however, Nadal qualified for the event but withdrew after taxing year-long efforts. The round-robin format, and the fact that a player can walk away with a title despite an early loss, also dissociate the event from the do-or-die stakes of other events.

EXPLAINED





ADVERTORIAL

# A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

*The University has emerged as a premier institution to inspire, motivate and nurture professional excellence during these years*

**G**URU Jambheshwar University of Science & Technology, Hisar; formerly Guru Jambheshwar University erstwhile a Regional Centre of Kurukshetra University, was established on October 20, 1995 by an Act of Legislature of the State of Haryana. The University was established with an aim to facilitate and promote studies and research in emerging areas of higher education with focus on new frontiers of Science & Technology, Engineering Studies, Environmental Studies, Media Studies, Pharmaceuticals Science and Management Studies with an objective to achieve proficiency in these related fields. It was formally inaugurated on November 01, 1995. The University has been named after Guru Jambheshwar Ji Maharaj; a saint & environmentalist of 15th Century. It is situated in Hisar.

## VISION:

To develop the University as a centre of Excellence for quality teaching, research and extension services, to produce the dynamic and competent human resources and act as a knowledge powerhouse capable of contributing to national development and welfare of the society.

## MISSION:

The University aspires to be a globally recognized centre of excellence in the field of technical education and research. It strives to achieve this objective by introducing innovative and job oriented courses, employing competent and motivated faculty, developing state-of-the-art infrastructure, striking purposeful linkages with industry and professional bodies and promoting quality life on campus. The University focuses on the student community to imbibe them with passion for knowledge and creativity and to promote sustainable growth in academic resources, student placements, and holistic human development with a strong conviction for professional, ethical, social and environmental issues.

The University has been recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) under Section 2(f) for recognition of degrees on 11.01.1996 and under section 12(B) of the UGC Act to be eligible for central assistance on 07.02.1997. The University was accredited with 'A' grade with CGPA 3.26 in 2009 and in 2014 was Re-Accredited with 'A' Grade with CGPA 3.28 in 2014 and this accreditation is valid up to 09.12.2021.

NAAC has reviewed the Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC) as Front Runner Performer with highest score.

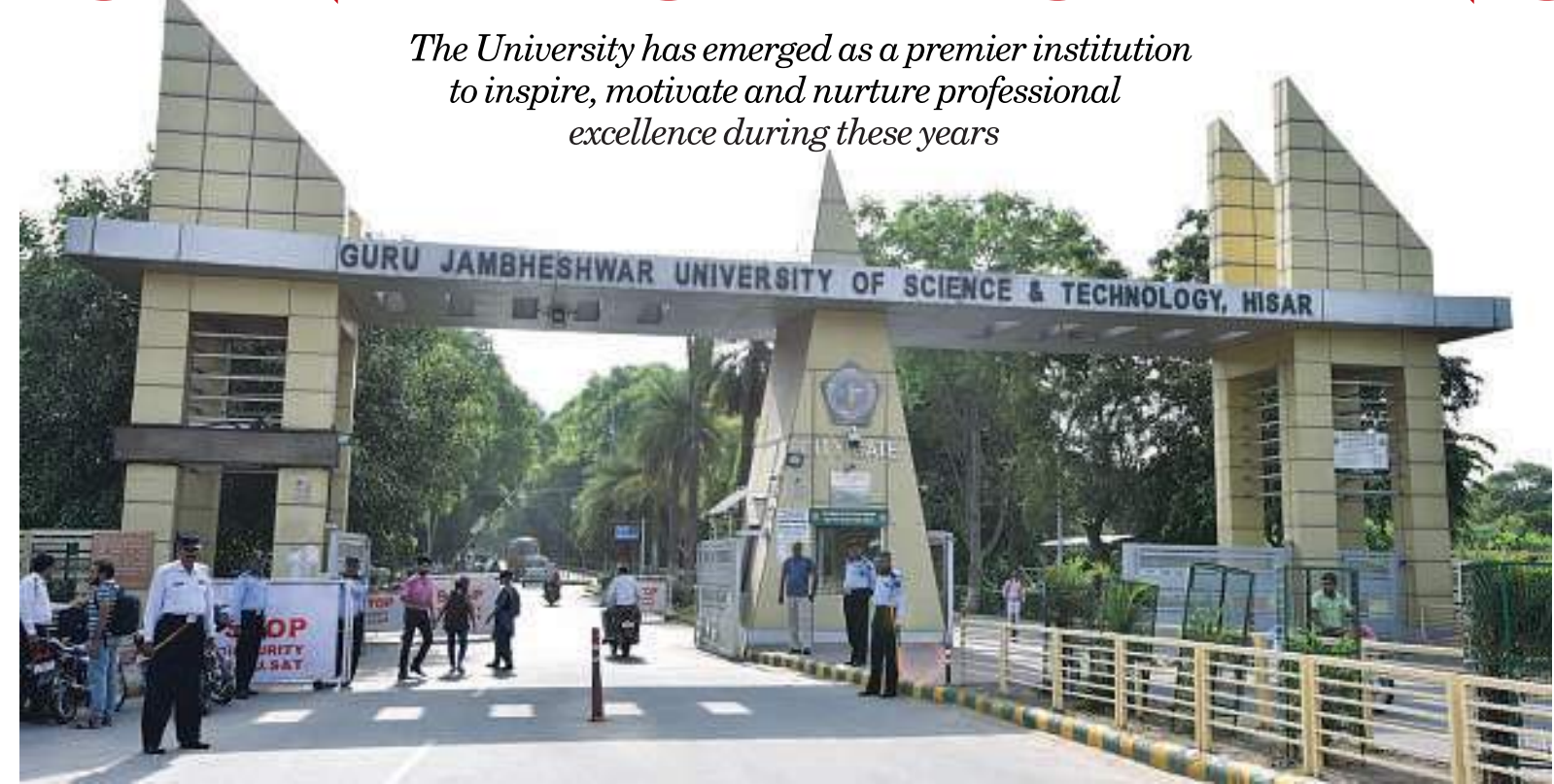
The University has been graded Autonomy Category-II by UGC in 2018 for continuously improved NAAC score.

The University was ranked 24th in the National Institutional Ranking Framework- 2016 (NIRF) and has been ranked 94TH in the University category in the NIRF-2020. It has secured 31st rank in the Pharmacy category in the NIRF-2020 and has ranked 195th in the Engineering category in NIRF-2020.

Adding international rankings to its cap, the university has secured 6th rank in UI Green Metric. The University of Jakarta, Indonesia, has recognized GJUS&T as the World's most sustainable University. The University was ranked 321st in the International ranking.

GJUS&T, Hisar is known as a recognized Social Entrepreneurship. Swachhta & Rural Engagement Cell (SFS REC) institution by Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India

The University has successfully framed the SES REC action plan and constituted ten working groups for improving facilities in the campus and the community adopted villages in the areas of sanitation & hygiene, waste management, water management, energy conservation



## MESSAGE



**PROF. TANKESHWAR KUMAR**

Vice-Chancellor

Guru Jambheshwar University

*It gives me immense pleasure to apprise that Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar, which was established as a technical University on October 20, 1995 under Haryana State Legislative Act No. 17 of 1995 at Hisar, Haryana, is celebrating its Silver Jubilee Year and completed an outstanding academic journey of 25 years on October 19, 2020.*

*The University has emerged as a premier institution to inspire, motivate and nurture professional excellence during these years. The dedication of this University has enabled it to shine high in the modern era of Science & Technology. The University has taken a number of steps to promote quality technical education and has already made a mark in certain areas that contribute to promote quality education in the present global competitive environment.*

*During its journey, the University has been accredited 'A' Grade by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), in 2002 for five years and has been re-accredited as grade 'A' with CGPA 3.26 in 2009. Thereafter, the University has also been re-accredited third time as 'A' Grade with CGPA 3.28 by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) for a period of five years from 10.12.2014 to 09.12.2019 and further extended for seven (five plus two) years i.e. upto 09.12.2021. Recently, the University has ranked between 6-25 in the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation and Achievement (ARIIA) 2020. The University has also got international rank 801-1000 in Times Higher Education World University Ranking, UK-2021. It has been ranked at 94th position in NIRF by MHRD in the year 2020, 21st in Pharmacy and 195th in Engineering. I extend my sincere best wishes to all the faculty members, students and non-teaching staff on this joyous occasion. I wish that Almighty may continue to shower his blessings on this University in contributing towards the technological world of our dreams. I feel proud to be a part of the successful journey of this university.*

*The University faculty members have more than 780 Ph.D. degrees in their credit. The h-index of the Scopus Research Publications is 87 which is the highest in the region with more than 2,700 research publications of international repute in Scopus.*

and greenery post COVID-19, along with the observation of three; environment, entrepreneurship and community engagement related days to inculcate in facility students and community and practices of mentoring, social responsibility, Swachhta and care for environment and resources.

Social Justice and Empowerment Department, Govt. of Haryana has awarded the University with 1st Prize for the Best Awareness Drive for conducting best awareness campaigns in the field of prevention

of alcoholism and substance abuse for the year 2019-20 under the state scheme.

The University in the journey of 25 years of academic and research excellence has signed many Foreign Research collaborations with the following Universities:

- University of Manitoba Educational and Academic Exchange Programme (12.02.2006)
- University of Maryland

Joint Academic and Research Programmes


- George Washington University Promotion of Research & Extension in Bio-Sc. (24.07.2007)
- Cartegana Technical University, Spain (02.02.2017)
- Beijing Graphic Communication Institute, China (17.05.2016)
- Zabolotny Institute of Microbiology and Virology, National Academy of Science, Ukraine (22.05.2016)
- Wolkite University, Ethiopia (16.03.2017)
- Michigan Technological University, Houghton, Michigan, United States.
- Prof. Giovanna Marrazza, Department of Chemistry, University of Florence, Italy
- Prof. Ki-Hyun Kim, Atmospheric Environment & Air Quality Management Lab, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering.
- Hanyang University, Seoul, South Korea
- University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada

The University stands at 801-1000 Rank Band in the globally prestigious Times Higher Education World University Ranking 2021, by Great Britain. The University holds 461st rank in teaching in the World Ranking and received 25th Rank at National Level out of 63 selected Indian IT's Universities. The University has claimed 51st rank in Research and 18th Rank in Citations.


Guru Jambheshwar University of Science & Technology, Hisar has been categorized as 'Bank A' institution (rank between 6-25) in category of 'Govt. and Govt. Aided Universities in Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievement (ARIA) 2020 announced on 18th August, 2020 by Ministry of the Human Resource Development, Govt. of India

Our University was ranked 15th by India Today-MDRA Best Technical University ranking-2018 and improving two positions, we secured 13th Rank in the same year 2019. Competing with all IIT's and all other Universities of the country we secured 21st rank in the India Today-MDRA 2021.





**GURU JAMBHESHWAR UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, HISAR**  
(Established by State Legislature Act 17 of 1995 & Recognized by UGC Act 1956 up to 12-B & 2 (F))  
(A' GRADE NAAC ACCREDITED)



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Approved Programmes by DEB - UGC (vide letter no. 86-2/2017 DEB-IV, dated 29.10.2020)  
*Transforming Minds Through Distance Learning*

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- ◆ Bachelor of Arts (Mass Communication)
- ◆ Bachelor of Commerce (B. Com.)
- ◆ Master of Arts (Mass Communication)
- ◆ Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- ◆ Master of Commerce (M. Com.)
- ◆ Master of Science (Mathematics)
- ◆ Master of Computer Applications (MCA)

**ONLINE ADMISSION OPEN**

**— UNIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENTS —**

- ◆ NAAC 'A' Grade Accredited with (CGPA 3.28) University Since 2002.
- ◆ Graded Autonomous University by UGC-2018.
- ◆ Twice Ranked among the top 100 Universities of the country by NIRF.
- ◆ Only University from Haryana ranked between 801-1000 Universities of World by Times Higher Education World University Ranking, UK-2021.
- ◆ Ranked between 6-25 in Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation and Achievements (ARIIA) 2020.
- ◆ h-Index: 87 (Scopus).

**Online Admission**  
Last Date: 25th Nov, 2020 (without Late Fee)  
30th Nov, 2020 (With Late Fee of Rs. 500/-)

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- ★ E- Prospectus and online application form is available at [www.ddegjust.ac.in](http://www.ddegjust.ac.in) Admission 2020-21.
- ★ The Form is to be submitted online with requisite fee of Rs. 400/- (for General Category) and Rs. 100/- for (SC/BC/EWP).

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## Academic Excellence is TMU's Pride!

Corona's impact has left the education domain to struggle greatly to provide excellence in the education system. Due to which UGC has implemented certain guidelines for the universities to abide. Teerthanker Mahaveer University (TMU), Moradabad has implemented all the necessities to ensure safe conduct in the university owing to the safety of the campus and the need to follow the guidelines.

TMU with its student-oriented policies has been dominating the education sector of the region and soon became a recognized institution through its nineteen years-long journey of imparting education on a national & international scale. TMU's academic excellence, infrastructural amenities, and commendable student placement have made it a desirable educational hub for students of India & overseas.

A small dream of Chancellor Suresh Jain & Vice-Chairman Manish Jain today stands in a wide campus stretched across 140 acres of land wherein all the amenities are made available for the students academic, sports & fitness, food, and utility purposes. The university never falls short to accommodate any form of advancement that's beneficial for the growth of the students. The university has more than 14000 students passed out and is rapidly growing its community through the great work it puts into shaping the students for their desired future with a multitude of growth through various professional backing for the students like soft skills training, harnessing their talents through various platforms like clubs, courses, workshops, etc.

The university doesn't just focus on nurturing the students through academic knowledge but also aims to provide an overall development that is supported by its world-class amenities.

### WORLD-CLASS AMENITIES AT TMU

The campus is well equipped for facilitating any requirement for the students of the college in terms of security & safety with its CCTV camera surveillance, security team inside the campus; Elite infrastructure of colleges equipped with smart classrooms, online & offline library facility with 2 lakh and more books and journals for students; 4600+ capacity hostels for students with both AC & Non AC facility; Indoor Sports complex, sports pavilion, gym, etc for sports enthusiasts; Air-conditioned auditorium with 550 capacity; Mess, cafeterias, eateries, utility shops, general stores; Bank with multiple ATMs installed inside campus; Jinalay for Jain students; TMU Multi super specialty hospital with 1000+ beds with renowned reputation; Not just that the campus



**TMU'S** success lies in the extremely placement driven programmes it features. Moreover, our battalion of faculty

members, trainers, mentors that are more than 950 in number guide the students by keeping up with the industry demands hence proving much more beneficial for the students. With a practice-based & industry worthy approach, TMU's students have become an unstoppable force that's been conquering the professional goals they have set for themselves.

TMU believes in growth and advancement and to achieve that it keeps updating its curriculum and teaching methodologies, industrial exposure, etc so that it brings a revolutionary change in shaping its students.

**SURESH JAIN, Chancellor,**  
Teerthanker Mahaveer University (TMU), Moradabad

is Ragging free, but also have multiple student grievances committees for the student welfare. Due to such qualitative establishments, TMU became a nodal center for Wipro.

### AWARDS & RECOGNITION

TMU in competition to 36 other private universities of U.P. has won 3 awards recently in the year 2020 for 'Excellence in Qualified Faculty,' 'Excellence in a residential facility,' 'Excellence in Courses Offered.' Moreover, Hindustan Times also awarded 20 good universities in the state among which TMU was one that received the award through online ceremony. In 2016, TMU also ranked amongst the top 100 universities in India. TMU has also bagged the award of UP Brand Leadership.

The university has many feathers in its cap and is keeping on upping its standards by bettering the best.

### SCHOLARSHIP

The university appreciates the hard work of talented students and owing to it provides scholarships to such individuals for their merits. Through this scholarship, the students are given a rebate on their hostel and college fees. Up until now 50 crores and more scholarship benefits have been provided to the accomplishing students along with Jain students.

### ONLINE CLASSES AT TMU

Due to the smart classroom facilities, TMU has

been way ahead of the rest of the universities in the means of technological advancement. The university even under the stress of pandemic was having a qualitative and uninterrupted educational advancement through the means of online classes ensuring no academic loss for the students. The university provided the students with study materials by email, WhatsApp, video conferencing, online library facility, etc.

1700+ online study material was uploaded by the university which benefitted more than 10,000 students from various streams and programs.

### PROGRAMMES AT TMU

UGC approved more than 140 programmes, courses are available at the university for students, through the 16 colleges spread across the campus. The programmes featured in the university follow the main agenda to be a demand-oriented programme where students can easily fetch jobs or pursue their entrepreneurship journey or practice goals.

- Medical College & Research Centre
- Dental College & Research Centre
- College of Nursing
- College of Pharmacy
- College of Paramedical Sciences
- Department of Physiotherapy
- College of Computing Sciences & Information Technology
- Faculty of Engineering
- College of Management & Commerce
- College of Physical Education
- Faculty of Education
- College of Agriculture Sciences
- College of Fine Arts
- College of Law & Legal Studies
- University Polytechnic
- College of Jain Studies

Apart from that Sports academy and research for (PhD) are also excessively pursued in the university.

### PLACEMENT

TMU shows great placement records as promising as it's other amenities; the latest placement from 2019-20 got more than 2600 students at more than 70 eminent MNC companies with valued packages up to 28 Lakh annually.

Even amidst this difficult time of the pandemic where people were losing their jobs, students of TMU have been receiving offers. TMU's placement wagers opportunity to students from Medical, Nursing, dental, paramedical, pharmacy, engineering, polytechnic, management, law, BCA, BBA, agriculture, etc. Due to it, TMU's alumni network has been growing stronger by day with its students working not just in India but overseas too at countries like Dubai, USA, UK, etc by following their professional careers extremely well.

## ADVERTORIAL

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(Admissions through UP NEET Counselling)

**M.Sc. (Medical)**  
9568116000, 863094411

• Anatomy • Physiology • Biochemistry  
• Pharmacology • Microbiology

**DENTAL 9808723156, 9410095005**

• BDS • MDS (All Specializations)  
(Admissions through UP NEET Counselling)

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• B.Sc. Nursing • M.Sc. Nursing (All Specializations)

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7351318000, 9568319000

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• B.Pharm. (2nd Yr. Lateral Entry) • B.Pharm. (Practice)  
• Pharm.D (Doctor of Pharmacy)  
• Pharm.D (Post Baccalaureate)

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9568718000**

• B.P.Ed. • M.P.Ed.  
• PGDyEd. (Post Graduate Diploma in Yoga Education)

### SCHOLARSHIPS

→ **FOR JAIN STUDENTS** : Exemption of Maximum 50% & Minimum 10% in Tuition fee and 40 % to 10% in Hostel fee (rooms with common bath only) for entire duration of the programme. (These scholarships shall not be applicable to programmes like MBBS, MS, MD, MDS & Collaborative programmes)

→ **FOR SPORTS ASPIRANTS** : Exemption upto 100% in Tuition fee for meritorious sports aspirants.

→ **FOR OTHER STUDENTS** : Exemption upto 50% in Tuition fee for meritorious students at entry level only.

(The above scholarships shall not be applicable for D.El.Ed. (BTC), collaborative, Dental, Medical & allied programmes)

**☎ : 9012944444, 9012955555, 9068199970, 📞 9837163111 | Email : [admission@tmu.ac.in](mailto:admission@tmu.ac.in)**