



The lockdown to contain the coronavirus outbreak has disrupted supply chains. One crucial chain is delivery of information and insight — news and analysis that is fair and accurate and reliably reported from across a nation in quarantine.

A voice you can trust amid the clanging of alarm bells.

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indianexpress.com



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EXPRESS
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From 26/11 to Covid19 INDIA FIGHTS BACK



A special memorial, tonight at 8.30 pm on Star Plus



JAMNALAL BAJAJ
FOUNDATION

PRESENT

26/11 *The Indian* **EXPRESS**
Stories of Strength

POWERED BY



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BROADCAST



Guest of Honour

Dr Harsh Vardhan

Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare,
Science & Technology, Earth Sciences

Chief Guest

Shri Uddhav Thackeray

Chief Minister of Maharashtra

Featuring

Shri Amitabh Bachchan

A musical tribute by

The Kings

Directed by

Nitesh Tiwari

TV news partner



Also on

Monday, Nov 30, 10.30 pm

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ADVERTORIAL

Fight Against Pollution

Prabhaav Foundation – The True Earth Saviours!

TAKing ITSname from the Hindi word "Prabhaav", literally meaning "impact" or "effect", the Delhi-based NGO Prabhaav Foundation aims to create a pollution-free environment in Delhi-NCR through two of its ingenious projects, namely PROJECT PRAVAH and PROJECT SAFAR, whilst creating a positive "impact" on our society as well as on our planet.

The toxic air is back in Delhi NCR. We long to see a clear blue sky but Alas! all we can see is a permanent haze, and when we close our eyes, we taste and smell the pollution. It's like a nasty chemical burning through our senses. Let's stop this. WHO deems air pollution as one of the world's largest health and environmental problems. Daily more than 6000 people in India die due to air pollution and studies revealed more than 80% people suffer health issues due to the increased smog. Annually crores are also spent on the treatment for ailments caused due to this stubble burning.

Prabhaav Foundation is an NGO registered in 2011, directly benefiting thousands of lives through multiple welfare projects in the realms of Education, Healthcare, Environment and Road Safety across many states of India. With an objective to make a difference and create a positive impact, Prabhaav undertakes and executes projects to promote overall welfare of the communities, addressing various concerns and issues prevailing within the society. We understand that a society will grow only when people move ahead and adapt themselves to the changing times.

The entire ecosystem makes up our environment and multiple environmental issues are known to be primary causes of diseases, health issues and long-term livelihood crisis for India. Prabhaav in its role as earth sav-



Ms. Parul Kumar & Ms. Vandana Lakhnarpal

Benefits of the pots

Society:- An initiative to prevent stubble burning, a major cause of the harmful air pollution. The farmers get a fair price for the stubble which discourages them from burning the crop.

Water conservation - These stubble pots require very little watering as the water gets trapped by the stubble thus keeping the plant moist. This saves the excess water that always drains out after watering the pot.

Personal Gains:-

Using cow dung provides plants a healthy nutrition.

Maintenance of plants in these pots would require a minimalistic care.

Good health of the plants:-

Cow manure in these pots is packed with high levels of minerals - including the best known fertilizers for organic gardening – nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. Addition of cow dung increases the porosity of soil by increasing aeration and creating a favourable condition for plant growth. Stubble in the pots gives soil advantage to fertility and productivity to the soil, decreases soil erosion and increases soil water content. Stubble also improves soil structure and water-holding capacity. It increases the carbon content of the soil which combined with nitrogen in manure increases the vitality of the soil, thus making plants in these pots healthy.

Positive Consumer Impact

Many customers have already benefited from using these pots. We take pride in sharing that one of our customers recently committed to replacing regular pots with stubble pots which enabled her to save time in plant maintenance and supplemented the plant's growth and development and we are sure that many others will join this journey of ours.

ours, has undertaken multiple tasks. The greatest one is to address air pollution as this is killing us. Such initiatives are the need of the hour to make a healthy today or there will be no tomorrow.

PROJECT SAFAR

A collaboration between Prabhaav Foundation and Enactus - Shaheed Bhagat Singh College.

This project was started with the efforts of Team Prabhaav (Ms. Parul Kumar, Ms. Vandana Lakhnarpal, Ms. Ritu Suneja, Mr. Manas Swain & Mr. Nitin Dahiya) & Team Enactus (Ms. Ananya Arora Bansal & Mr. Uttkarsh Sachdeva)



"Often when you think you're at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else." - Fred Rogers.

Our role as earth saviours becomes bigger when we talk of taking forward the goal of a "Zero waste India". Prabhaav Foundation, a Delhi-based NGO working in multiple welfare projects, joined hands to mutually work on a project with Enactus SBSC, a student-run organization that works with leaders in business to bring about considerable societal change. Our Project "Safar" is aimed at finding sustainable solutions to the problem of chronic pollution as we envision a brighter, cleaner, greener and sustainable future. We believe that even individual actions, such as increasing recycling or learning about greener ways to dispose, can have a big and positive impact on our planet. "Safar" was born seeing the potential in the concept of creating value out of waste. In our country, the Waste Management sector is highly unorganized and there is a presence of an untapped market of scrap, and up-cycling could bring pragmatic solutions.

We decided to reuse old tyres to make furniture and other useful products like planters. We adopted a dual-faceted approach of developing aesthetic products for the niche



markets and utility-based products for the mass markets. Furniture made from recycled tyres are eye-catching, cost-effective and eco-friendly with guaranteed longevity. They are resistant to all kinds of weather changes, and are rust proof, termite proof and can be used both outdoors and indoors. Except for repainting the external portion at regular intervals, other costs to maintain it are very few.

Safar aims at creating livelihood alongside ensuring to make the space around us creative, unique and trash free in the most innovative way possible. We believe combined strength, will and spirit can surmount any challenge. Alone, we can do so less; together, so much more.

This is our community, this is us!

Prabhaav Foundation

A-9, Green Park Main, New Delhi-110016

Contact: 011-41036265, Email: Info@prabhaavfoundation.org,

Web: www.prabhaavfoundation.org, Facebook: www.facebook.com/mepabhaav

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/prabhaavngo

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, भोपाल

क्रमांक - 810 पशु चि./ए.बी.सी./ 2020-21 दिनांक 26/11/2020

ऑनलाईन निविदा क्रमांक:-2020 UAD 112745_2 **द्वितीय निविदा सूचना**
(आमंत्रण)

नगर निगम भोपाल द्वारा भोपाल शहर में श्वान नसबंदी केंद्र स्थापित कर आवारा कुत्तों (श्वान) का नसबंदी एवं एंटी-रेबीज टीकाकरण कार्य तथा चलित कैम्प लगाकर एंटी-रेबीज टीकाकरण कार्य ठेका प्रणाली से कराये जाने हेतु शासन द्वारा पशु चिकित्सा कार्य एवं पशु कल्याण गतिविधियों हेतु पंजीकृत एन.जी.ओ. (गैर सरकारी संगठनों) से निविदा में दिये गये कार्य के विवरण एवं शर्तों के अनुसार ऑनलाईन निविदाओं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं, जो निर्धारित दिनांक व समय को ऑनलाईन खोली जावेगी। सक्षम, पात्र निविदाकारों द्वारा निविदा फार्म की कोमत एवं अमानत राशि ऑनलाईन जमा करनी होगी। निविदा का विवरण निम्नानुसार है :-

क्र.	ऑनलाईन निविदा क्र.	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित व्यय	अमानत राशि	निविदा फार्म की कोमत	कार्य की पूर्णता की अवधि
1.	2020_UAD_112745_2	अ. आवारा कुत्तों (श्वान) को पकड़कर नसबंदी. एवं एंटी-रेबीज टीकाकरण कार्य ब. चलित कैम्प लगाकर आवारा श्वानों में एंटीरेबीज टीकाकरण कार्य	1,49,99,200 रुपये	74,996 रुपये	12,500 रुपये	12 माह

नोट — निविदा वेबसाइट www.mptenders.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है। Sd/- पशु चिकित्सा अधिकारी नगर निगम भोपाल

नि.क्र.1316/020/021

JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT, JAMMU
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, JAL SHAKTI (PHE), DIVISION REASI
Fax: 01991-244323, E-mail: phereasi001@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER Date: 23.11.2020

e-NIT No. PHERSI/82 of 2020-21

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of UT of J&K e-tenders (Two cover System) Item Rate basis are invited from reputed and resourceful Contractors/Firms/Companies/Joint Venture of repute, which should be uploaded on the e-Procurement web portal <http://www.jktenders.gov.in> up to last bidding date:- 15-12-2020 up to 1630 hrs for the subject work referred below and as per the details mentioned in this e-tender notification, and to whom all the terms and conditions of detailed NIT (Tender Documents/ PWD Form No:- 25 double are applicable. The detailed tender document and Specifications etc. can be downloaded on the e-procurement Portal <http://www.jktenders.gov.in>. The cost of tender documents (Non-refundable/ Non-Transferable) should be in the shape of e-challan/Treasury Receipt to be deposited in MH:0215-WSS (Revenue Head) or through RTGS in J&K Bank Branch REASI in CD Bank Account No. 002901020000829, IFSC code JAKA0REASSI in favour of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE), Division REASI and the proof of having made such payment shall have to be uploaded in Cover-1.

S. No.	Name of Work	Adv. Cost of work in Lacs	Earnest Money In Rs.	Class of Contractor	Cost of Document	Period of Completion	MH of Account
1.	A. RETROFITTING AND AUGMENTATION OF WATER SUPPLY SCHEME GAJORE UNDER JAL JEEVAN MISSION INCLUDING CIVIL, CONDUCTING COMPLETE NECESSARY SURVEY, SOIL TESTS & DESIGN AS REQUIRED AT SELECTED SITE, AS PER THE PARAMETERS/ SPECIFICATIONS	142.00	284000/-	"A"	5000/-	6 Months	JJM
	B Operation & Maintenance of critical components as per SBD for a period of three years.	Inclusive in A)	----	----	----	1st year 2nd year 3rd year	

No: PHER/7415-7463 Dated: 23.11.2020 For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of UT Jammu & Kashmir Sd/- Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Reasi

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Tender Notice No.:TMC/CPDH/PRJ/20-21/06 Executive Engineer/CPDH North Central Railway, Prayagraj

Dated: 23.11.2020

E-TENDERING TENDER NOTICE

CWM / CPOH/North Central Railway / Prayagraj, for and On behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders on prescribed form for the following work upto **15:00 hrs. on 24.12.2020**. The details of the Tender are as under:-

SN	Tender No.	Name of Work	Approx Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money
1	TMC-CPOH-PRJ-07-20-21	Provision of new flooring after dismantling old flooring fabrication, installation, testing and commissioning of EOT cranes CPOH workshop, Prayagraj.	Rs. 6245867.67	Rs. 124900.00

Completion Period: 6 Month **Date of Opening of tender:** 24.12.2020 (1) The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders are available on Website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> upto **15:00 hrs.** on the due date of tender opening. (2) Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. (3) Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form / letter head if attached by vendors shall be straightway ignored and shall not be considered. (4) The tenderers shall submit a notarized affidavit on a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs. 100/- as given in tender document in standard format, without which their tender will not be considered and may be rejected. (5) The supplier / contractor of goods and / or services would be subject to GST Act and Rules as applicable from time to time. (6) Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. (7) This tender notice has also been uploaded on <http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in>. (8) Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & Tender Document Cos (TDC) in respect of E-Tendering shall be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. (9) In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. (10) Tender online can be submitted up to **15:00 hrs. on 24.12.2020**. 1264/20 (P)

North central railway www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in **@ CPONCR**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding Publication of Public Notice for E-tender for hiring services on smart card based RCs and DLs in RLA and STA under the Transport Department.

In this regard it is informed that the office of Registering & Licensing Authority is in process for E-tendering for hiring services on smart card based RCs and DLs in RLA and STA under the Transport Department.

1. Date of Publication of R.F.P. **26.11.2020.**
2. Last date of submission of RFP by Bidders: **18.12.2020 (2:00PM).**
3. Last date of submission of queries: **01.12.2020 till (2:00PM).**
4. Pre-bid meeting date, time, place to be decided by the competent authority: **03.12.2020 at (4:00PM).**
5. Date, time, place for technical bid opening to: **18.12.2020 at R&LA (4:00PM).**
6. Date, time, place for opening of financial bid of technical qualified bidders. **22.12.2020 at 3:00PM.**

Sd/- Registering & Licensing Authority, U.T. Chandigarh

WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HAND, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE

झारखण्ड सरकार
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता स्वर्णरेखा शीर्षकार्य प्रमंडल, राँची

अल्पकालीन ईप्रोक्वैमेंट नोटिस
(द्वितीय आमंत्रण)

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण संख्या-DWSD/HEADWORKS/- O&M- 01(ii) /2020-21
दिनांक:-28.11.2020

1	कार्य का नाम	Operation and Maintenance services of 280 MLD WTP (Av. water supply 180MLD approx.) at Rukka, Ranchi, Intake works at Getalsud Dam, Raw water rising mains 1200 mm Dia M.S/CI pipe 3 kms from Rukka Dam Intake well to WTP, Clear water rising mains Rukka to Booty C.I./ M.S pipe of different dia about 50 kms and rising main Rukka to Booty 700 mm new D.I. pipe line 13km, Clear water distribution mains 80mm to 1200mm dia 500.00 kms in Ranchi City, water supply from 12 nos. of existing ESR under Ranchi Water Supply Scheme for the year 2020 -21, 2021 -22, & 2022-23. (Excluding the energy cost and Raw water cost and including GST, Labour cess).
2	प्राक्कालित राशि (रुपये में)	2840.51 लाख (अट्वाइस करोड़ चालीस लाख एकान्न हजार रुपये)
3	अग्रचन की राशि (रुपये में)	28,41,000.00 (अट्वाइस लाख एकालीस हजार रुपये)
4	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	36 माह
5	परिमाण विवरण का मूल्य (रुपये में)	10,00,00 (दस हजार)
6	वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय	02.12.2020 को अपराह्न 04:00 बजे
7	प्री बीड बैठक की तिथि एवं समय	07.12.2020 को पूर्वाह्न 11.30 बजे अभियंता प्रमुख, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, नेपाल हाउस झारखण्ड, राँची के कार्यालय कक्ष में। 16.12.2020 को अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक।
8	वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	(क) क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, राँची प्रश्रं, राँची / दि 16.12.2020 को अपराह्न 03:00 बजे तक। (ख) अधीक्षण अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता नागरिका अंचल, राँची / दि 16.12.2020 को अपराह्न 03:00 बजे तक। (ग) कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता स्वर्णरेखा शीर्षकार्य प्रमंडल, राँची। 16.12.2020 को अपराह्न 03:00 बजे तक।
10	निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	16.12.2020 को अपराह्न 05:00 बजे।
11	विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता	कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता स्वर्णरेखा शीर्षकार्य प्रमंडल, राँची।
12	बिनाई द्वारा निविदा खोली जायेगी का पदनाम एवं पता	कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता स्वर्णरेखा शीर्षकार्य प्रमंडल, राँची।
13	प्रोक्वैमेंट कार्यालय का सम्पर्क नं०	9470309779
14	ईप्रोक्वैमेंट सेल का सहायता केंद्र सं०	E-Mail ID:- eedwsd.headworks@gmail.com 0651-2480345

नोट:-1. केवल ई निविदा ही स्वीकार किया जायेगा।
2. विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु वेबसाइट <http://jharkandtenders.gov.in> पर देखें।
3. निविदा बिना कारण बताये कभी भी संशोधित या रद्द किया जा सकता है।

जल ही जीवन है।

PR.NO.236431 Drinking Water and Sanitation (20-21):D

WESTERN RAILWAY - RAJKOT DIVISION

VARIOUS ENGINEERING WORKS

E-Tender Notice No. 18 OF 2020-21 Date : 25-11-2020

Sr. No.	e-Tender No.	Name of work	Approximate NIT Cost (₹)	EMD Cost (₹)
01	DRM-RJT-20-E44	Outside painting and inside whitewash, distemping of service building between Wankar-Vani Road station including service buildings and offices under Senior Section Engineer (Works) Surendranagar's Jurisdiction.	31,91,505.08	63,800.00
02	DRM-RJT-20-E45	Outside painting & inside distemping of staff quarters between Vani Road - Lunsariya station under Senior Section Engineer (Works) Surendranagar Jurisdiction.	50,60,911.60	1,01,200.00
03	DRM-RJT-20-E46	Colour Wash, distemping and painting of staff quarters and service building under jurisdiction of Senior Section Engineer (Works) Morbi.	35,64,340.95	71,300.00

Date and Time of Opening of Tender: 23-12-2020 at 15:00 Hrs. Office Address: Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), Western Railway, Kothi Compound, Rajkot, Gujarat-360 001. Website: www.ireps.gov.in RJT-075

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

Karnataka Residential Education Institutional Society, Bangalore
(A Government of Karnataka Institutions)
O/o The Assistant Executive Engineer , Morarji Desai Residential School at Tumbarige, Mandya District.

No: KREIS/AEE/Tender-28/2020-21 Date: 26.11.2020

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through E-Tendering Only)

The tenders have been invited for Construction of Pre Metric Boys Hostel in Mandya District (Tender Indent No.2832) through e-Portal vide website: <http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> on 27.11.2020 & 30.11.2020. The last date for receipt of tender is 29.12.2020. The details may be viewed at above website.

Sd/- Assistant Executive Engineer, KREIS, Mandya

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APHAMITRA ON 14410

Wear Mask 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing Maintain Hand Hygiene

Social Welfare Department
O/o Commissioner, 5th Floor, MS Building, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-01.

NO:SWD/PETC/CR-22/JEE/NEET/2020-21 Dated:27-11-2020

Notification Of Tender (Through e-tendering only)

Social Welfare Department, Government of Karnataka is invited tender (2nd time) from Reputed Training Institutes through E-Procurement Portal, to Provide Long term Residential pre-examination training for JEE (Mains & Advanced) & NEET entrance exams to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes Candidates till the exam started during 2021. Tender Notification number is given below.

NO:SWD/PETC/CR-22/JEE/NEET/2020-21/CALL-2

For more details please visit website <http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>

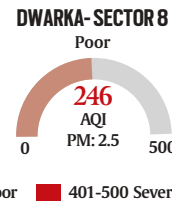
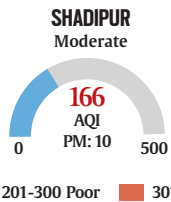
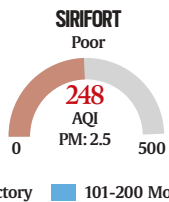
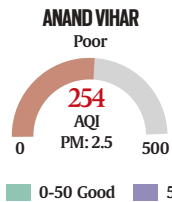
The last date for receipt of tender is 04-12-2020 at 5.30 PM

Sd/- (Commissioner) Social Welfare Department, Bengaluru.

DIPR/DDU/SHIRDISAI/1876/2020-21

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.

Wear Mask 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing Maintain Hand Hygiene



0-50 Good 51-100 Satisfactory 101-200 Moderate 201-300 Poor 301-400 Very Poor 401-500 Severe

SKY WATCH
FORECAST
Partly cloudy.
Mist in the morning

MAX: 26.0 MIN: 9.0
0.4°C above normal 0.9°C below normal

BRIEFLY

Denied bidi, three men kill labourer

New Delhi: A 49-year-old labourer was allegedly killed by three men in Shaheen Bagh after he refused to give them a 'bidi'. Police said the deceased, Siddiqui, was sitting with his friend when the accused approached him asking for a bidi. According to police, when he refused, the accused thrashed Siddiqui and his friend, and later took skewers from a restaurant and stabbed him. Police said they have arrested all three accused.

Gopal Rai's condition stable

New Delhi: Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai, who was found Covid-19 positive and admitted to Max Saket Hospital Thursday, is now stable, an official in his office said. Rai's oxygen saturation levels are normal, the official added.

14,000 fined in Faridabad

Gurgaon: Faridabad Police has penalised nearly 14,000 people for violating Covid norms, with officials saying that 13,958 people have been fined and a sum of Rs 69,79,000 collected from them. **ENS**

2 arrested for duping

New Delhi: Two men have been arrested from southeast Delhi for allegedly posing as employees of a finance company and taking away motorcycles from people on the pretext of non-payment of installments of their loan, police said on Saturday. The accused, Vijay Kumar (22) and Satpal Singh (28), worked briefly for a finance company but six months ago, they quit their jobs. They used customer data from the firm to target those who had missed loan installments.

Recruitment racket busted, 2 Delhi cops among 9 held

Noida: Nine people, including two Delhi Police constables, were arrested on Saturday for allegedly being part of a racket involving impersonators of candidates for various government recruitment exams, officials said. **PTI**

FARMER PROTEST

After push and pull, wait and watch

As farmers from UP join march, protesters choose to stay put at borders instead of heading to Burari

AMIL BHATNAGAR, SUKRITA BARUAH, JIGNASA SINHA & SUKHBIR SIWACH
NEW DELHI, CHANDIGARH, NOVEMBER 28

FARMERS STAYED put at the gates of the capital Saturday, choosing to wait instead of pushing forward, unlike a day earlier when they had been involved in clashes with police personnel trying to stop their entry into Delhi. Despite police eventually granting permission to the farmers to move their protest to Burari's Nirankari ground, most remained averse to the idea. While some said they would wait for their numbers to swell and leaders to join them before moving forward, others wanted permission to protest at the higher profile Ramlila Ground or Jantar Mantar.

On the third day of the protest, apart from Singhu and Tikri where farmers from Punjab have gathered, farmers also arrived at Ghazipur border with Uttar Pradesh. Affiliated with the Bharatiya Kisan Union, most hailed from Western UP villages.

At 3:20 pm, this number increased to a few hundred with the arrival of tractors and cars. Even as the first few lines of tractors broke through barricades, the gathering eventually decided to sit under the Ghazipur flyover.

Many said their aim was to assemble at Jantar Mantar.

"Farmers of this country are the *annadata*. What has been happening for the last two days is brutality by the government. We have gathered in solidarity with them and our destination is Jantar Mantar," said Alok Singh, who had come from Amroha.

The leader of this group of



At Ghazipur, Saturday. Farmers from Western UP also joined the protests. *Gajendra Yadav*

farmers, Rakesh Tikait, said they would remain at Ghazipur border "until further developments".

At Singhu, which saw lathi charge, water cannons and tear gas shelling on Friday, Saturday was a sharp contrast.

Among the protesters, who numbered more than 4,000, were some from as far as Wagah and Atari borders, who said it took them three days to reach the capital's doorstep. They said they had supplies to last them months.

Said 72-year-old retired Armyman Balkar Singh from a border village in Tarn Tarn: "We will stay till we are heard. Be it Armymen, farmers or any other profession, this government has gone after everyone."

Unlike on Friday when police and farmers came face to face, Saturday saw the protest shifting further away from police barri-

acades — a barbed wire was placed on the road by farmers themselves to demarcate a protesting area. Five-six men managed the passage of people to prevent anyone from moving towards the police so things remained peaceful.

Around 5 km away, at Nirankari ground, just 200 farmers had gathered until Saturday afternoon. "If the farmers are within Delhi jurisdiction, we will make arrangements for them and ensure facilities are provided. At Nirankari ground, toilets have been readied and arrangements for food are being made. The central government should not take this on their ego," said AAP MLA Raghav Chadha, who visited the ground Saturday.

At the Tikri border area too, farmers chose not to move forward, unhappy with the protest location offered to them.

Said Nasib Singh (66), a farmer from Punjab, "We know there are a lot of us but we didn't come here to be treated like animals. Police misbehaved with us and tried to shift us to Burari. We requested police to take us to Jantar Mantar or Ramlila Maidan but they refused and barricaded the area again." More than 300 trucks and tractors remained parked on the Haryana side of the border as farmers waited for more to join them.

Said a senior police officer, "We are ready to open barricades and escort them to Nirankari. They don't wish to go and have decided to protest here till their leaders come and guide them. Yesterday, they removed the barricades and roadblocks and also pelted stones at us. Now, they are not doing any such thing."

During the day, some farmers

rested in their trucks while others shouted slogans against the farm laws and the Centre. A group of farmers also helped commuters cross the border by removing roadblocks.

"There are a lot of people who have to go for work or reach home. We have removed two-three roadblocks and are helping people cross the border," said Manpreet, a farmer from Moga.

Meanwhile, Haryana Deputy CM Dushyant Chautala's Jananayak Janata Party (JJP) Saturday urged the Centre to hold talks with farmers immediately instead of waiting until December 3.

"Not December 3 but the talks should be held today (Saturday) itself by calling all the farmer organisations and their doubts should be cleared. And all the problems of the farmers should be resolved," said Digvijay Chautala, younger brother of Dushyant and a senior JJP leader.

"The episode we saw during the past two days through TV channels has caused hurt in the heart of almost every citizen of Hindustan," he said. "For the past two days, the farmers especially from Haryana and Punjab are marching towards Delhi. By coming on the roads, thousands-lakhs of farmers are presenting their demands before the government. There's intense cold in the evening. There should not be further delay in the talks as you have shown positivity for talks so farmers don't face difficulties."

"This government is sympathetic to the farmers. That's why I hope from the Union Agriculture Minister, the central government and Modi ji that the central government will resolve this entire matter very soon," Digvijay said.

New hockey turf at govt school

New Delhi: Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia inaugurated a new hockey astro-turf at a West Delhi government schools on Saturday.

The astro-turf at Sarvodaya Bal Vidyalaya in Ashok Nagar is one of four such hockey turfs being constructed by the Delhi government, with two previously built in Ghumanhera and Jhilmil.

Sisodia said the project to

build the turf cost Rs 5.78 crore. "If the players get an opportunity to play on this ground, then I'll consider this money recovered. But if no talented player plays here, or emerges out of here, then it's all in vain. This is why I believe it is the responsibility of the school and sports officials to ensure players are able to use this ground and its facilities," he said at the inauguration. **ENS**

Lawyer points to 'vicious media campaign', court allows Umar to get chargesheet earlier

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

A DELHI court has allowed former JNU student Umar Khalid's application to supply his lawyers with a soft copy of the chargesheet on Saturday, instead of the designated date on December 2.

Khalid's lawyer, Trideep Pais, had moved the application and told the court that there has been a vicious media campaign

against his client in various newspapers and media channels, claiming that these outlets are quoting from the chargesheet in its reports against Khalid.

He pointed out that he is yet to receive a copy of the same "to either defend himself in the media trial or the narrative being built".

Special public prosecutor Amit Prasad told the court that he does not accept any of the allegations made by Pais but



At Azadpur Mandi Saturday, Amit Mehra

Azadpur Mandi feels pinch, traders hint at fruit and vegetable prices going up

ASHNA BUTANI
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

FARMER PROTESTS at Delhi's borders began to have a ripple effect on Azadpur Mandi, the city's largest, Saturday as arrival of fresh fruits and vegetables saw a dip.

With border curbs in place and fewer trucks entering Delhi, traders cautioned that if the situation were to continue, prices of fruits and vegetables could go up.

With a two-day-old stock of Kashmiri apples, Sahil Ali (20) said: "Since apples come from Kashmir via Haryana, we have not been getting new stock for the past two days." He explained that as the product gets older, his profit margin reduces. After selling 5 kg of apples at noon, he said, "On days like these, we are not trying to make profits. We are just trying to sell whatever we have."

Though trucks carrying food items were allowed into Delhi, some were wary of the journey fearing blockades or traffic snarls. Rahul (27), a truck driver, said, "We transport onions from Alwar to Delhi and come via the Kapashera border. Our journey normally takes 1 hour at night but for the last two days, we have been getting stuck for 4-5 hours." Another truck driver said that drivers are apprehensive of being stopped at the border for long, which could risk the stock rotting.

On Friday and Saturday, the mandi recorded slightly fewer arrivals. According to Azadpur

Agriculture Produce Market Committee data, 8,983 tonnes of fruits and vegetables entered the mandi Friday, while on Saturday, it recorded 8,542 tonnes. Earlier in the week, the mandi saw over 11,000 tonnes of fruits and vegetables every day.

Among vegetables, sellers worried most about potato supply. Vishal Bhagat (21), a vendor, said, "What we are selling now is from our old stock since fresh stock hasn't arrived. We do not know if they are stuck at the border or if supply is short because of the protests. The potatoes come from Punjab."

The average daily quantity of potatoes received in the last four days was 1,263 tonnes, while on Saturday, 783.5 tonnes arrived.

The arrival of fruit and vegetable sellers from NCR who visit the mandi to make purchases also appeared to have slowed down. With 75 bags of cauliflower, each with 25-30 kg, Ravinder Sharma (42) waited for buyers. He said, "Individuals and shopkeepers from other markets buy products from us. I do not know if it is because of a rise in Covid cases or the situation at the border, but no-body has been buying in the last two-three days." Similarly, Sheikh Arman, 25, who sells imported dates, said, "We depend on other sellers to buy from us. When people are not coming to buy potatoes and onions, who will come to buy dry fruits? The problem will only be solved if the farmers' demands are heard."

NEAREST GOVT FACILITY WAS AN HOUR AWAY EARLIER

For Pataudi's pregnant women, a boon: Hospital closer home now offers C-section

SAKSHI DAYAL
GURGAON, NOVEMBER 28

WHEN 23-YEAR-OLD Manisha, a resident of Pataudi's Khor village, gave birth to her first child in 2018, the delivery was preceded by hours of worry and a 20-km journey to a private hospital in Rewari on a bike. When she gave birth to her second child Tuesday, the process was smoother as she became among the first few women to give birth by caesarean section at Pataudi's Civil Hospital. The caesarean operation facility was started at the hospital this week.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Manisha said, "When I approached my due date in 2018, my husband took me to the Civil Hospital to consult the doctors and admit me. However,



The caesarean operation facility was started this week

when they examined me they said I would need an operation because the baby was not moving and I had reached my due date. Since the Pataudi hospital did not have that facility, they referred me to the Civil Hospital in Gurgaon."

Since that was over an hour away, Manisha and her husband

Joginder, a daily wage labourer, decided to drive to Rewari instead, located 40 minutes away. They spent their family's savings on the operation at a private hospital to bring their first daughter safely to the world.

"This time, the doctors had told me earlier that I would need to undergo an operation but the

big relief was I would not have to go anywhere else. I was in great discomfort when we had to travel to Rewari the last time, and also very worried about my child and what would happen because of the delay. The process was much smoother this time; I gave birth to our second daughter without any problems," said Manisha.

Manisha is one of the four women who have given birth at the hospital using the newly commenced facility this week. According to officials, despite the hospital having been around for more than 50 years, residents had to travel to either private hospitals in Rewari or the Civil Hospital in Gurgaon to undergo the surgery.

"We started preparing for this facility in August. The hospital had an operation theatre

but we had to procure accessories such as OT table, OT lights, equipment and medicines. The hospital also lacked an anaesthetist, who we have now hired," said Dr Jyoti Dabas, gynaecologist and Lady Medical Officer (LMO) at the Civil Hospital.

In the same hospital, another woman undergoing a caesarean was 25-year-old Kajal, a resident of Pataudi, whose husband Yogesh works at a private company in Manesar.

"The doctors told us there would be some complications since there was not enough space for my wife to deliver the baby naturally. They recommended a surgery as the safest way, and fortunately for us this facility was available at the hospital itself," said Yogesh, whose daughter was born on Tuesday.

Man shot at after row over bench

New Delhi: A 23-year-old man was severely injured after a group of three men allegedly fired a bullet at him in a park in Janakpuri. Police said the victim was sitting on the bench when the accused fought with him over it. He is currently stable, police said. **ENS**

Col. Sanjay Kishore (Retd.)
26.05.1957 – 26.11.2020

With a sense of profound grief and sorrow we inform you the demise of our beloved Col. Sanjay Kishore (Retd.) of the Mechanised Infantry.

He is survived by his
Nirupama Kishore (Wife)
Shriya Kishore (Daughter)
Divij Kishore (Son)
Dheeraj Mehta (Son-in-Law)
Forever loved...

Deeply missed & Mourned by family and friends.

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EXTENSION IN DATE of ADMISSION/ENTRANCE TEST (for Ph.D. PROGRAMME)

Last date for receipt of Applications for Admission to Ph.D. Programme in Microbiology/Anatomy/Biochemistry/ Pharmacology/Physiology (Medical) has been extended upto 16-12-2020 and ENTRANCE TEST in ONLINE mode shall be held on 18-12-2020 at 11 AM followed by ONLINE interview on 19-12-2020. Availability of PROSPECTUS as already notified on 8-11-2020.

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Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Devendry Sharma W/o Om Prakash Sharma R/o- G04 Tower-D2, Spring Meadows, Techzone-4, G.Noida, UP have changed my name to Devanderi Sharma.

0040556374-2
I, Manoj Kumar S/o Late Ram Swaroop residence-179B, Pocket-C-2, Mayur Vihar, Phase-3, Delhi-96, have changed my name Manoj Kumar to Manoj Kumar Ghidivali for all purposes, in future.

0040556374-1
We Ritika Dhawan, W/o Sumit Keshri, R/o- S-99, Backside, Param-Puri, Uttam-Nagar, New-Delhi-110059, have changed our minor son's surname, from Jaksh Singh to Jaksh Keshri, for all, future purpose.

0040556375-8
It is for general information that I, Viren Chand, S/o- Radhey Lal, R/o- H.No.2889, Gali.No.4, Raghubar pura No.2, Gandhi-Nagar, Delhi-110031, declare that name of mine has been wrongly-written as Bran Chand in my Arms Licence- No.EDGN/9/1999/88 (S.N.Licence EDGN-090088). The actual-name of mine is Viren Chand which may be amended accordingly. I have no proof of Bran Chand.

0040556375-7
I, Vijay S/o J P Sharma R/o-3, Sangam vihar, Gali.No-8, Dharampura Ext., Najafgarh, Delhi-110043, have changed my name to Anil Kumar for, all purposes.

0040556375-6
I, Ramesh Chand S/o Sadhu Ram R/o Sirohi Bahali, Narnaul, Distt-M.Garh Haryana-123001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known As Ramesh Sherawat

0070722330-1
I, Neha D/o Late Shri Sat Pal Budhiraja R/o-B-9, Guru, Nanak Apartment West- Enclave Pitampura Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Neha Budhiraja for all purposes.

0040556375-4
I, Maheshwari D/o Sunil Kumar, W/o Sumit Kumar Daga, R/o H.No-46-A, Kh.No.139/13(F.F.), Gali.No.16 A-1-Block Bengali-Colony Sant-Nagar Burari, Delhi-110084, have changed my name to Yogita Daga.

0040556375-3
I, Muhammad Ibran Ansari S/o Mohd. Usman R/o-Village- Chotpur Colony, Post-Parthia Khanjarpur, Tehsil-Dadri, G.B.Nagar, UP-201304, have changed my name to Mohd Imran.

0040556374-3
I, KULDEEP Singh, S/O Sukhdev Singh, R/o-665, Sunlight-Colony no-2, hari-nagar, ashram, New Delhi-14, inform that name of my and my mother has been wrongly-mentioned as kuldev Singh and Guddi in my class-10th educational- documents. The Actual my name is Kuldeep Singh and my mother name is Sukhvinder Kaur. Which may be amended Accordingly.

0040556375-5
I, Dinkar kumar Bindal, S/o Ravindar Kumar Bindal, R/o-308, Bankey Lal market, Badarpur, New Delhi-110044, have been changed my name in my minor son Meet Bindal school-record wrongly-written as Dinkar Bindal my correct-name is Dinkar kumar Bindal.

0040556375-2
I, Parveen Kumar Kundra S/O Late Balbir Singh, Jalandhar-1, Punjab -144001. I, declare that Name of Mine and My wife has been wrongly written as Parveen Kumar Kundra and Suman Kumari Kundra in my PASSPORT No-E :9549680. The actual name of Mine and My wife are Parveen Kundra and Jyoti Kundra, which may be amended accordingly.

0070722331-1
I, Bhagirath, s/o guman singh, R/o village- Bhondsi Tehsil-sohna, District- Gurgaon, have changed my name to Bhagirath Raghav.

0040556369-1
I, Rajkumar S/O Ved Singh R/O 563, Bagranagar New Vikas Nagar, Loni, Ghaziabad, U.P. declares that In my service Book/Office record my name has been written as Rajkumar and in my All documents my name mentioned as Rajkumar Singh. That my actual name is Rajkumar Singh.

0040556375-1
I, Krishna Chowdhury, W/o Madhab Kanti Chowdhury R/o-B-2-B, Block-South Ganesh Nagar Delhi-92, have change my name to Krishna Devi.

0040556375-1
I, PRATIPURNA DHIBAR S/O Dilip Dhibar, R/o Narayangar Alias Karka, Puruliya, Phanchakotraj, West Bengal-723132, I, declare that Name of Mine has been wrongly written as PRATIPURNA DHIBAR in my educational certificate. The actual name of Mine is Pratipurna Mahato, which may be amended accordingly.

0070722329-1
I, Mohd. Khairul Husein (Advocate) Ch.No.214, 2nd Floor, Old Lawyers Chamber, Delhi High Court, Sher Shah Road, New Delhi (M)- 801031672

PUBLIC NOTICE

SALE OF BUILT UP PROPERTY BEARING NO. 181 AREA MEASURING 100 SQ. MTRS. IN A BLOCK- B SECTOR-8, DWARKA, DELHI
Notice is hereby given for information to the General Public by my client that M/s Risecon Buildwell Pvt. Ltd. is the owner of the above said property vide Sale Deed dated 04.04.2019 registered vide no.2691. The original notary attested GPA dated 01.03.2008 executed by Randhir Singh in favour of O.P Sharma in respect of above referred property has been lost. Now the said M/s Risecon Buildwell Pvt. Ltd. intends to sell the above referred property. If any person including banks, financial institutions or any other person, relative, organization, company, firm or government authority having any claim, right, title or any interest of any nature whatsoever into or upon the above-referred property, is hereby called upon to make the same known, in writing with documentary evidence by registered AD Post to the undersigned at the address mentioned herein below within 7 (seven) days of publication of this notice to the undersigned on the below mentioned address, failing which the same shall be deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned. In the event of no response being received to this notice, the purchase and mortgage of this property shall be completed by our client without any reference to and without in any manner being affected by any such right title, interest or claim whatsoever.

MANISHA CHAUDHARY, ADVOCATE
JUS LEGALS 210, VARDHMAN STAR CITY MALL, (NEAR RAMPAL CHOWK) SECT-7 DWARKA, NEW DELHI-110075
011-4506363, 9899006723

I, Vidya Verma, W/O Hansraj Verma, H.No.213, Sector-7, Housing-Board Colony, Gurugram-122001, (HR) have lost my property-documents i.e. Allotment-letter, dated-14.10.1986, Transfer permission memo.no.13737, dated-24.10.1996, Transfer-letter memo no.14928, dated-31.12.1996 and Possession-letter (Original). If anybody found, please return it to the above address.

0040556389-5
Rajat Khurana S/o Krishan Khurana R/O 153, FF, D12, Sec-7, Rohini, Delhi-85, have lost my all original documents (Form No.11212) of DSIIDC- 2nd Rajiv Gandhi Housing Scheme. Finder contact 9899917700

0040556372-2
I, MOHD AMJAD, S/O Mohd Ali, R/O A-364, Krishna basti nabi karim paharganj N.D-55, Have lost my original-certificate class-10th, year-2013 Rollno-8816840, CBSE- DELHI.

0040556389-2
I, Rahul Khurana S/o Krishan Khurana R/O 153, FF, D12, Sec-7, Rohini, Delhi-85, have lost my all original documents (Form No.11212) of DSIIDC- 2nd Rajiv Gandhi Housing Scheme. Finder contact 9899917700

I, Sukhnanand Singh, S/o Shri. Nirpat Singh, R/o 84 Ram Nagar, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, officially renounce that I have discarded my son Mr. Hirdesh Kashyap A.K.A Sachin Kashyap. He is not to be considered as my legal heir and has no say in my movable immovable properties or business anymore.

Anurag Narayan Parashar (Adv.)
Supreme Court (Delhi)
Mobile: 8383811392

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to members of general public that my clients namely Sh. Ram Khilad and his wife Smt Mali both R/o Jhuggi no. 235, road no. 6, Indra camp Andrews Garh Delhi-110049, from all their movable and immovable properties' assets. My clients have severed all their relations with said persons due to their misbehavior/ misconduct towards my clients and have broken all relations with them as all of them are out of control, disrespectful and creating trouble to my clients. If anybody is dealing with them, my clients shall not be held responsible for any kind of act done by them and He/she shall be responsible for the same and his/her their own risk and consequences and my clients shall not be responsible for the same in any manner, whatsoever.

Sd/- Wagar Ahmed
ADVOCATE
Enrolment No. D5761998 (R)
Chamber No. 339, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110001, Mob. 9811274358

PUBLIC NOTICE
FREEHOLD PROPERTY BUILT UP FLAT C/88, 7TH FLOOR, SHAHNAJA COLONY, DELHI, PRESENTLY KNOWN AS EDEN TOWER, PLOT NO. 20, SECTOR-5, DWARKA, NEW DELHI

Public at large is hereby informed that the captioned property is subject matter of Equitable/Registered Mortgage with State Bank of India, Delhi owned by my client Smt. Rajeshwari Khanna wife of Shri Kiran Kumar Khanna by virtue of Conveyance Deed, duly registered vide Regd. No. 20298, dated 30.07.2012. It is further informed to public at large that the said Smt. Rajeshwari Khanna executed a WILL in favour of her younger brother Shri Umesh Chandra son of Late Shri Mukund Lal in respect of the captioned property duly registered vide Regd. No. 583, dated 16.09.2016. It is hereby notified that any person or entity, firm/ company, Bank, beneficiary of WILL, financial institution having claim any charge, interest or lien or claim on basis of documents mentioned above or otherwise and/ or objection thereof, he/she/they may lodge/ notify the same to the undersigned with documentary proof within 15 days from the day of publication, failing which the title shall be deemed to be clear and marketable without any defect, encumbrance, flaw and impediment and my client is free to create Equitable/ Registered Mortgage in respect of the captioned property with any financial Institution/ Bank

Sd/- Amit Chaudhary (Advocate)
Chamber No. 561, 5th Floor, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi-110015
Mobile-9810147876
Email: amitlawyer2007@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large that Ms. Stuti Kamal Wadhwa, D/o Vijay Kumar Kapil, Ms. Aashita D/o Tara Chand Batra & Shri. Hiranand Wadhvani S/o Shri K.C. Wadhvani R/O E-129, Ashok Vihar Phase-1, Delhi-110052 (Purchasers) are purchasing Entire Plot no B-224, with Built-up Ground, 1st & 2nd Floor, Block-B, Ashok Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi-110052 (Said Property) from Smt. Vidya Gupta W/o Late Shri Radhey Shyam Gupta (Seller) who had acquired Freehold rights of said property vide Conveyance Deed dated 20.10.2020 executed by DDA, and confirmed that said property is free from all sort of Encumbrances, Lien, Charge, Mortgage, Sale, Gift, Agreement, Succession etc. and no third party interest whatsoever has been created in respect of said Property in favour of any person(s). This public notice is being issued on behalf of the purchasers in view of the intended sale/purchase w.r.t. said property inviting any claim or objection of any right, title, interest etc. whatsoever, on the Said property to be raised supported with documents to be delivered to the undersigned within 15 days of this publication otherwise, the same shall be treated as null & void and it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all sort of encumbrances, charges, lien, mortgage, claims, any third party interest etc. whatsoever.

Rajendra Gupta (Advocate)
Ch. No. E-516, 5th Floor, Karkardooma Court, Delhi-110032
Mob-9811417690, 9311417690

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Clients namely Ramesh Chander Talwar S/o Late Shri Hans Raj Talwar aged about 80 years and Mrs. Savita Talwar w/o Mr. Ramesh Chander Talwar aged about 75 years both R/o 14 Ganga Nank Market Lajpat Nagar-1 New Delhi - 110024, have disowned their son Rajesh Talwar, his wife Sonia Talwar, their children Shyam Talwar and Raghav Talwar. Henceforth the above said Rajesh Talwar, her wife and their children shall not have any right in any of the movable and immovable properties of my clients Sh. Ramesh Chander Talwar S/o Late Shri Hans Raj Talwar and Mrs. Savita Talwar. Anybody dealing with Sh. Rajesh Talwar, his wife Mrs. Sonia Talwar & their children Shyam Talwar and Raghav Talwar will do so at his own risk and consequences.

Sd/- Atul K Bandhu (Advocate)
Office : 141 Lawyers Chambers, Delhi High Court, New Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby notified that my clients Sh. Jay Prakash Saini S/o Sh. Raghuvar Singh and Smt. Laxmi Devi W/o Sh. Jay Prakash Saini R/o H.No. 15A, Village Kushnah, Hiranki Delhi-110036, disown their son Mr. Ranjan Kumar Saini and his wife Ms. Preeti from all their movable and immovable properties, due to their misbehaviour, disregardful & disrespectful attitude and illegal activities. My clients have severed all their relations from them, henceforth they are not responsible for their any act, deed and thing, if anyone deals with them, he will do so at his own risk. My clients are not responsible for them for anything in anyway.

R.S. CHAUHAN (Advocate)
Ch.No. 619, Rohini Courts, Delhi-85

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to General Public that my client Mr. Surbir Singh Senwal S/o Sohan Singh Senwal R/o A-474, Main Market, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092 has disowned his son Sunil Senwal and has severed his relations and disown him from all their movable and immovable properties, anyone dealing with them shall be doing so at his/her own risk and my client shall not be responsible for the same.

Surjeet Singh (Advocate)
0477/2012
Chamber No. T-45A, Tehsil Road, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-110054.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to public at large that my clients Smt. Ishwar Devi Ranjan, Wife of Late Shri Om Parkash Ranjan Resident of A-208/2, 3rd Floor, Sector-18, Mayapuri, New Delhi-110028, have severed all their relations with their son Mr. Ranjan Kumar Saini and his wife Ms. Preeti from all their movable and immovable properties. Anyone dealing with them shall be doing so at his/her own risk and consequences and my clients shall not be responsible for it.

Sd/- Anil Kumar Advocate
Chamber No. 1016, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Court Complex, Delhi-110085

सार्वजनिक सूचना

मेरे मुनिकल गन वॉच पुत्र वृत्त, मानसिक निवासी-4/2286, गली नं. 3, 4, बिहारी कालोनी, सादर, दिल्ली-32 ने अपने बेटे विनय कुमार गन वॉच बिट्टर के अपराध व्यवहार के कारण इसी सीमा सम्बन्ध- निवेदनकर्ता इसे अपनी समस्त चल-अचल सम्पत्ति से वेस्टवॉल कर दिया है। अपने कार्यालयेन्द्रण का वह स्वयं निम्नोक्त होगा, मेरे मुनिकल गन वॉच बिट्टर का कोई अन्य सदस्य निम्नोक्त नहीं होगा।
एन.डी. 2235/2004

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the general public information that my client Suresh Kumar Chawla S/o Late Ram Chand Chawla & his wife Smt. Lalita Chawla both R/o F-100, Third Floor, Kirti Nagar, Ramesh Nagar, West Delhi, Delhi-110015, severed debarred disowned and break down all the relationship from their movable and immovable properties situated in India to their sons namely Jatni Chawla alongwith his wife Komal Chawla & Ankit Chawla alongwith his wife Manya Kaur Chawla due to their misbehavior and misconduct, my client have no concern with his above said sons and their wives in any manner whatsoever if anybody will deal with them in any manner they will be held responsible for the same and they have no right to claim in future.

B.B. Pradhan, Advocate
Ch. No. 488, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110001
M.No. 9891351195

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that my Client SH. Mani Ram S/O Late Sh. Mani Chand R/o 444, Pocket-4, Sector-22, Rohini Begumpur Delhi-110086, have Disowned his son namely VIJAY KUMAR from all movable and immovable Properties due to his misbehavior. In future whosoever deals with him shall deal on their own risk and my Client will not be responsible for their actions.

Sd/- KAMAL SINGH Advocate
Regn. No. C-748/14
Chamber No. 512, Fifth Floor, Distt. Court, Rohini, Delhi-85

"IMPORTANT"

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POSITIVITY RATE LOWER THAN 7% FOR FIRST TIME IN NOV
Hope trend continues, says CM
as cases, positivity rate dip

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

WITH THE city recording 4,998 cases with less than 7 per cent positivity rate for the first time in November, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Saturday said the national capital was on course to tide over the third wave of infections if the trend holds.

At the same time, the government has also drawn up a plan, in accordance with the latest guidelines of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, to allow at least 50 per cent of its employees to work from home until December 31. The plan has received the approval of Lt-Governor Anil Baijal.

According to Saturday's medical bulletin, 69,051 tests were conducted, out of which 33,147 were done through the more reliable RT-PCR method while 35,904 were rapid tests. The case positivity rate stood at 7.24 per cent, while 89 more people succumbed to the virus.

Delhi has so far recorded



Delhiites and Delhi govt together will win over this third wave also. Please continue to observe all precautions

CM ARVIND KEJRIWAL

561,742 cases and 8,998 deaths. There have previously been four days this month when the capital recorded below 5,000 cases. However, on November 1, when Delhi recorded 4,001 cases, the positivity rate was 10.91 per cent; on November 14, 3,235 cases came up with a positivity rate of 15.33 per cent; 3,797 cases on November 15 with a positivity rate of 12.73 per cent; and 4,454 cases with a positivity rate of 11.94 per cent on November 22.

Farm fires down but capital's air quality set to turn 'very poor'

SHIVAM PATEL
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

EMISSIONS FROM farm fires have reduced significantly over the last week, bringing Delhi-NCR's local sources of air pollution into focus as air quality is forecast to turn very poor by Tuesday.

In the past two days, Delhi's air quality index (AQI) had improved significantly, reaching moderate on Friday from severe on Wednesday, owing to strong winds which flushed out pollutants.

Prior to last week, smoke from agricultural residue burning in Punjab and Haryana had contributed up to 42% to Delhi's PM2.5 levels — fine particles suspended in the air — over October and November, as per the Ministry of Earth Sciences' (MoES) air quality monitor SAFAR.

Since November 23, the share of pollutants from farm fires in Delhi's air has remained between 1% to 6% and was 4% Saturday.

V K Soni, head of IMD's Environment Monitoring and Research Centre (EMRC), said,




Since November 23, the share of pollutants from farm fires in Delhi's air has remained between 1% to 6%

"The reason behind deterioration of Delhi-NCR's air quality, as forecast, includes local meteorological factors and local emissions along with reduction in wind speed and low temperatures. External sources of emission are almost nil by now."

Data from the Punjab Remote Sensing Centre showed over 76,000 fire counts were recorded this stubble burning season in the state as of November 24, highest since 2016 when there were over 81,000.

Besides the annual post-monsoon crop residue burning in northwest India, studies have

CORONAVIRUS IN THE CAPITAL



TOTAL CASES		Total	Vacant	
5,61,742	HOSPITAL BEDS	18,397	9,900	
	VENTILATORS	1,482	253	
Daily cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests	
Nov 27	5,482	5,937	98	64,455
Nov 28	4,998	6,512	89	69,051
Total	36,578*	5,16,166	8,998	61,73,209

**Total active cases*

*Total active cases

"Hope this trend continues. Delhiites and Delhi govt together will win over this third wave also. Please continue to observe all precautions," Kejriwal tweeted.

Health Minister Satyendar Jain, meanwhile, told reporters that the situation in hospitals has improved, with more than 9,500 beds being available, out of which 1,200 are ICU beds.

"At present, more than 50 per cent beds are available in hospitals. Total beds available are more than 9,500. The occupancy rate is therefore steadily decreasing. In terms of ICU beds, more

than 1,200 are available," Jain said. According to a revenue department plan, government employees ranked below Grade 1, which form the bulk of the staff strength of the administration, will be allowed to work from home until December 31.

The Head of Departments have been tasked with preparing the roster of employees to execute the plan. However, the plan will not be applicable on employees attached with emergency services such as health, civil defence, water supply, among others.

Govt didn't add enough hospital beds, says Cong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

CONGRESS spokesperson Pawan Khara Saturday claimed the Aam Aadmi Party's manifesto promise for the 2015 assembly elections to add 30,000 beds to hospitals in Delhi was not met.

Khara said the AAP-led Delhi government has added 776 beds to government hospitals in the last five years, whereas beds in private hospitals were increased by 7,326 in the same period.

Khara also set up any hospital on its own and has only completed building hospitals that were commissioned by the previous Congress government.

"They have been beating their drum in the entire world about mohalla clinics as if a revolution has come in health services through these... During the pandemic, the need for Covid testing facilities was high and only six mohalla clinics were functioning as testing centres," he said.

3 office buildings to come up at IGNCA plot

ANANYA TIWARI
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

THREE BUILDINGS of the Central Secretariat will come up at what is currently the plot of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), which will be demolished for the ambitious Central Vista Project (CVP), officials have said. The plot is spread over approximately 25 acres.

The Indian Express had reported that the IGNCA will be

temporarily shifted to the Janpath Hotel, which is currently undergoing renovations, expected to be completed by February-March next year.

Ten office buildings or complexes will constitute the Central Secretariat, as per the CVP plan, and three of these will come up on the plot where IGNCA currently is. Located on Rajpath, it is among the capital's most prime locations.

"The planning and construction of the project is being done in

a phased manner. Once the ministries shift to these new buildings, the older Bhavans there will be demolished for construction of new buildings. Therefore, offices will not need to shift to alternative areas," said an official.

The three office buildings will have ground-plus-six floors and two basements. As per the initial plan submitted by the HCP Design, Planning And Management Pvt Ltd, the office buildings were to be either G+7 or G+8 floors. In the initial plan,

the offices were to have glass and steel interiors to allow light to enter, a courtyard, and an exterior facade matching that of the Central Vista area, with heights lower than the India Gate.

The IGNCA was launched in 1985 by the late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. A design competition was held for its design, and Professor Ralph Lerner, an American architect, won the award. The competition had received 194 entries from across the world.

Office of Executive Engineer Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan
Ring Road, Jogiwal, Dehradun-248001, Email:-eeujrsaipur@gmail.com, Phone No:- 0135-2672069, Website : eera-ujj-uk@nic.in

Letter No: 749/E-TENDER NOTICE/PERI URBAN/Nathanpur/2020-21
Dated: 28.11.2020

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
E- Tender Notice

On behalf of the Chief General Manager, Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan, Dehradun, E- tenders in **Two Bid System**, on item rate contract basis (inclusive of all material), are invited for the construction of following works for Improvement of Nathanpur Water Supply Scheme in District Dehradun (Uttarakhand) from technically and financially capable bidders, registered with Central / Any State Government / Central or Any State Government Undertaking Department / Government Institution up to prescribed time & date and on the portal as mentioned in terms and conditions given below:-

Bid No.	Particular of work	Earnest money Rs. (In Lakh)	Period for downloading the Bidding Document	Period for Online Submission of Bids	Time & Date of Opening of Bids	Last Date & Time of submission of pre-bid queries	Last Date & Time for physical/ offline submission of documents	Tender document Cost in Rs.	Time, Date and Place of Pre – Bid Conference
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Supply of all materials, labour and T&P for construction of following works for improvement of Nathanpur water Supply Scheme complete in all respect, including commissioning, testing, trial, defect liability and Operation & maintenance of water supply scheme including billing and collection of water charges for five years. With its appurtenant works, in Nathanpur (Zone I, II, III, IV & V) Distt. Dehradun Uttarakhand As-Construction of 03 Nos. of Tube wells & Pump Houses, 02 Nos. of R.C.C. O.H.T. Rising main, Distribution System, House Service Connection with AMR Metering, Auto chlorination dosing system, Automation of Tube wells & Pressure transmitters (SCADA) and Related Works.	65.00	28.11.2020 (Saturday) at 17:00 hrs. to 14.12.2020 (Monday) at 17:00 hrs.	28.11.2020 (Saturday) at 17:00 hrs to 14.12.2020 (Monday) at 17:00 hrs.	16.12.2020 (Wednesday) at 11:00 hrs.	04.12.2020 (Friday) at 14:00 hrs.	15.12.2020 (Tuesday) at 17:00 hrs.	5000+ GST @18%	07.12.2020 (Monday) at 11:00 hrs. Office of the General Manager (TRM), Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan, B-Block, Nehru Colony Dehradun

All information and conditions related to e-tendering can be seen at Uttarakhand e-Government Procurement System (e-GPS) portal i.e. <http://www.uktenders.gov.in>.

GOVT & POLITICS

‘4 CMs from NC, 2 from PDP, they need to answer for development...’

BJP LEADER **SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN**, who has been appointed the party-in-charge for the elections to the District Development Councils in Kashmir, was in Srinagar last week to campaign for the party. He spoke to **NAVEED IQBAL** on the BJP's election plank, and the lack of development in the region.

What is the BJP's primary election plank? What message are you talking to the people?

This election is for District Development Councils and we are seeking votes from the people in the name of development. However, the Gupkar Gang right from the start, have never even said the word development and made no mention of progress.

Sometimes they speak of China's intervention, as Farooq Abdullah said. Other times, Mehbooba Mufti says 'talk to Pakistan'. Why should these things be said in a district election? Then they say, 'we will restore Article 370'... We also want that the parties here should give an account of what they have done here. For the PDP and NC, the "qaum" meant themselves and their families. Four CMs came from the National Conference and two from the PDP. So six from this alliance — they need to answer for



“
THE EXPRESS
INTERVIEW
WITH
SHAHNAWAZ
HUSSAIN
BJP IN-CHARGE OF
J&K DDC ELECTIONS

the development of this region. I went to many places that did not have roads and electricity. Bihar, a state that was so backward, has 24-hour electricity in every village. Look at the interiors of North-East, even there *bijli paani sadak* has reached but who stopped these from reaching Kashmir?... I will not speak of any national or international issues in this election. Our focus is on district development.

Bedlam in House as Odisha Oppn seeks dismissal of minister

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BHUBANESWAR, NOVEMBER 28

THE OPPOSITION BJP and Congress MLAs disrupted the proceedings of the Odisha Assembly for the fourth consecutive day on Saturday over the kidnapping and murder of five-year-old girl even as the state government clarified that the SIT probe will be court monitored.

The issue was raised in the Assembly by Congress Legislature Party leader Narasingha Mishra as soon as the House assembled for the day.

The BJP members reiterated their demand for removal of Sahoo from the Cabinet as his role in providing protection to the main accused in the case is not clear.

They said the police has not been able to arrest any accused person in the case even though over four months have passed since the incident.

Leader of Opposition P K Naik of BJP accused Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik of shielding the Agriculture minister instead of giving justice to the victim's family. His party has been demanding a CBI probe into the incident and dismissal of Sahoo from the Cabinet.

Naik said his party's demands of a CBI probe into the matter and dismissal of the agriculture minister were yet to be met. The BJP members will continue to agitate in the Assembly and outside till the victims family gets justice.

BJP members also rejected the SIT probe into the July 14 incident.

Eye on minority vote, Rajasthan BJP cites civic poll seats, Urdu teachers to call Cong govt ‘anti-Muslim’

DEEP MUKHERJEE
JAIPUR, NOVEMBER 28

HOPING To capitalise on its recent overtures to minority communities during the recently-concluded civic polls in three cities of Rajasthan, the opposition BJP has accused the Ashok Gehlot-led Congress government in the state of being 'anti-Muslim' in its policies.

While the BJP has cited instances such as the party recently fielding more than four dozen Muslim candidates in the civic elections as an example of it raising issues related to minority communities, the Congress has slammed the saffron party for levelling baseless allegations.

Earlier this week, the minority wing of the BJP submitted memorandums to the administrations in every district of the state, with the office-bearers maintaining that this protest

was warranted because of the Congress government's 'activities against Muslims' since the past two years.

"During the last Assembly elections, more than 95 per cent of the minority community voted in favour of the Congress. But despite that, several issues pertaining to the minority community remain unattended because of the Gehlot government's anti-Muslim policies. The state government stopped scholarships for minority students and higher education loans and did nothing when it comes to issues impacting the community such as increasing pay scale of madrasa para teachers and starting online classes in madrasas," said M Sadiq Khan, president, BJP Minority Wing, Rajasthan.

In a letter addressed to Chief Minister Gehlot, the BJP minority wing mentioned issues such as the government not including any minority community candi-

This is not an election for 370 restoration. This is not a referendum on anything except the *naakaami* of the political parties of Kashmir. Narendra Modi is a symbol of development.

The Centre does not seem to have had any tangible impact on development in J&K since August 5 last year? What has been achieved in the time since?

Since then, first there was a lockdown for some time. Then the Coronavirus spread everywhere, so development projects have remained stuck. Lt Governor Manoj Sinha has been given the responsibility to work with more speed in Kashmir than at any other place. The scale at which we are working on the development of Kashmir will also be amplified, because this is an agnipariksha for us as well.

There are allegations that the BJP is luring candidates from other parties or offering money to candidates.

Our party worker in Kashmir is respected in the party because they are risking their lives and working for us. Three of our workers were killed in Kulgam recently and so many attacked earlier... Those who have looted

Kashmir have money, we are a party of the chaiwallah. Whatever the workers pool together, we use that to contest elections.

When the Home Minister terms a multi-party alliance a gang, does that not seem like a pushback for the political process that the Lt Governor-led administration here is keen to take forward?

When have these parties come together in the past? They understand the might of the BJP and that's why they have ganged up. Mehbooba and Omar Abdullah have realised the party's strength. So they are a gang that has looted J&K over the years. We have no objections to them fighting elections. HM's comments were aimed at the Congress joining this gang, they are still with them though not up front.

You are in charge of the 140 seats in the Valley. How many do you think you would be able to secure this time?

I do not want to talk in specifics but we are hoping to get a good number. I have been visiting districts and asking people to vote for the development and progress of Kashmir.

FULL INTERVIEW ON
www.indianexpress.com



Pritam with his nephew Mangat Ram, who left his marriage ceremony halfway to vote.

In Jammu, DDC polls bring hope, a sense of belonging

ARUN SHARMA
AKHNOOR, NOVEMBER 28

THE LINK road connecting the Kotgarhi panchayat in Jammu district's Akhnoor tehsil to the main Akhnoor-Jourian road is in a dilapidated condition. However, Pritam Lal, a refugee from West Pakistan, has still travelled to cast his vote and elect his representative for Jammu and Kashmir's first District Development Councils (DDC).

"I have come to cast my vote as it makes me feel that I too matter in Jammu and Kashmir," he said, adding that though his family has been living in Jammu for 73 years, they had no right to the land. "At least now my four chil-

dren, all of whom are post-graduates but are still unemployed, can now apply for a government job in the Union Territory," he said.

Lal was accompanied by his nephew, Mangat Ram, a Seema Suraksha Bal (SSB) personnel. The 31-year-old had left his marriage ceremony halfway to cast his vote. "My ancestors had been craving for this privilege and now, when I have got this opportunity, I must cast my vote," Ram said.

Like Lal and Ram, many refugees from West Pakistan along with Gorkhas and Valmikis living in two DDC constituencies in Jammu district — Maira Mandrian and Bhalwal Brahmana — were casting their votes in the local body polls for the first time. Prior to abrogation of Article

370 on August 5, 2019, these people, though living here for generations, were only allowed to cast their vote in the Lok Sabha elections.

In Sohal panchayat, Kaku Ram brought his 100-year-old mother Ambo Devi to vote. His village Kangral (Nud) has no pucca road and the much-promised toilet scheme has not been implemented. He, however, hoped that the DDC elections would give elected local body members the authority to initiate development works.

"Today is a historic day as Hindu-Sikh refugees from Pakistan, along with Valmikis and Gorkhas, are exercising their right to vote for the first time in 73 years," said Hari Om, a retired Jammu University professor.



Ashok Gehlot, Minority Affairs minister Shale Mohammad

date when appointing members of the Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC) last month, reducing the importance of Urdu as a third language in schools and the government not constituting boards and commissions pertaining to minority issues.

Khan claimed that the BJP has been raising issues pertaining to Muslims and cited the recent civic body elections as an example.

"We gave tickets to several Muslim candidates in the elec-

tions for the six municipal corporations in Jaipur, Jodhpur and Kota. The fact that people voted for them shows that the minority community is receptive to our party. We are planning state-wide agitations in December against the Congress government's neglect of minority issues," claimed Khan.

Party sources said the minority wing of the BJP has taken up long-standing issues such as that of Urdu teachers, about which several people were already protesting.

The BJP had fielded more than four-dozen Muslim candidates in the civic elections the results of which were declared earlier this month.

The Congress rubbished the BJP's allegations and said the Narendra Modi-led NDA government at the Centre should instead focus on formulating policies favourable to the minority community.

UP conversion law gets Governor's nod

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 28

UTTAR PRADESH Governor Anandiben Patel on Saturday promulgated the ordinance against "forced" or "fraudulent" religious conversions, four days after the Yogi Adityanath government had approved the draft of the law.

Chief Minister Adityanath had earlier announced that his government will bring a law to check such conversions for marriage — terming it "love jihad".

In recent weeks, BJP-run states like Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh had expressed their wish to enact laws to counter alleged attempts to convert Hindu women to Islam in the guise of marriage, which Hindutva outfits refer to as "love jihad".

The Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance 2020 provides for a jail term of up to 10 years for any violation. All the offences under the ordinance shall be cognizable, non-bailable and triable by the court of sessions.

The ordinance states that no person shall convert or attempt to convert, either directly or otherwise, any other person from one religion to another by use or practice of misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, allurement or by any fraudulent means or by marriage, nor shall any person abet, convince or conspire such conversion. If any person reconverts to their immediate previous religion, the same shall not be



Governor Anandiben Patel, CM Yogi Adityanath

deemed to be a conversion under the ordinance. Any aggrieved person, parents, brother, sister, or any relative may lodge an FIR over such a conversion.

The burden of proof as to whether a religious conversion was not effected through misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, allurement or by any fraudulent means or by marriage lies on the person who has caused the conversion and, on any such person where such conversion has been facilitated by them.

The court can also grant appropriate compensation payable by the accused to the victim of such conversion which may extend maximum to Rs 5 lakh and shall be in addition to fine.

For any conversion, three forms need to be submitted to the District Magistrate, or the Additional District especially authorised by the District Magistrate — two of them by the person in the district where he/she originally lives and the third by the person who will oversee the conversion ceremony in the district where the ceremony will take

place. The DM shall get any enquiry conducted through police regarding the intention, purpose and cause of the proposed conversion.

The first form needs to be submitted by the person who wishes to convert at least 60 days in advance, in a prescribed format, stating free consent. The second form needs to be submitted by the person who will perform the ceremony, to give a notice one month in advance. And the third by the convert, within 60 days of the conversion, as a declaration.

Any marriage which is done for the sole purpose of unlawful conversion or vice versa, by the man of one religion with the woman of another religion either by converting himself/herself before or after marriage or by converting the woman before or after marriage may be declared void by the family court, according to the ordinance. Where the family court is not established, the court having jurisdiction will try such a case on a petition presented by either party against the other party, it states.

If any institution or organisation violates the provisions, the person or persons in charge shall be subject to punishment. The registration of the organisation or institution under any law for the time being in force may be cancelled by the competent authority upon a reference made by the DM. The state government shall not provide any financial aid or grant to such institution or organisation violating the provisions of this ordinance.



Akhilesh at the SP office in Lucknow. Vishal Srivastav

SP will oppose conversion law in House, says Akhilesh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 28

REACTING To the UP government's ordinance on forced or fraudulent religious conversions, Samajwadi Party (SP) national president Akhilesh Yadav on Saturday said his party was not in favour of any such law and will "fully oppose" it in the Assembly. Slamming the BJP, he extended support to the ongoing farmers' agitation and asked when the government will bring a law to help increase the income of farmers.

"The Samajwadi Party is not in favour of any such law and will fully oppose the Bill in the Assembly. We will also ask the government when they are bringing a law that helps increase the income of farmers. The government is running a scheme that when you do an inter-caste marriage then an award of Rs 50,000 will be given, and the same is for inter-religion marriage. If such a scheme is already there, then what is the rule of this new law," said Akhilesh, adding that the government should also consider Article 21 of the Constitution, which talks of protection of life and personal liberty.

AS STATE CONSIDERS 'LOVE JIHAD' LAW

In Karnataka, IPC Sec 366 already in use against interfaith marriages

JOHNSON T A
BENGALURU, NOVEMBER 28

IN OCTOBER 2019, a 25-year-old software engineer in Bengaluru told a trial court that an engineering college mate had not coerced her into marrying him in 2014. She said she had married him of her own accord, and that she never gave a statement to police of being kidnapped or being coerced into marriage.

The statement came after the woman's now-estranged husband was charged under IPC Section 366 of kidnapping and coercing her into marriage by the trial court on the basis of a complaint lodged at a police station in central Bengaluru. The complaint was filed at the time of their wedding by the woman's family, who were opposed to their inter-caste marriage.

Even as Karnataka has followed other BJP-ruled states in claiming the need for a special law to stop what Hindutva outfits call "love-jihad" — inter-religious marriages involving Hindu women — an existing provision in IPC is often used in Karnataka to stop interfaith, inter-caste relationships between adults.

Forty-one cases filed under



CM Yediyurappa had said his govt will soon bring a law to end conversions due to 'love jihad' in Karnataka

Section 366 over the last five years are currently pending trial in Bengaluru. The cases involve elopement and marriage of young adults, with 35 cases featuring Hindu couples and six cases featuring interfaith couples, according to court and police records for the cases.

IPC Section 366 deals with kidnapping, abducting and coercing a woman into marriage. It states: "Whoever kidnaps or abducts any woman with intent that she may be compelled, or knowing it to be likely that she will be compelled, to marry any person against her will, or in order that she may be forced or seduced to illicit intercourse, or knowing it to be likely that she will be forced or seduced to illicit intercourse, shall be pun-

ished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine."

In normal course, the section is applied in conjunction with the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 — when minors are involved — but is often also applied in cases involving women above the age of 18 in complaints of elopement.

"If the woman is a major in a case filed under Section 366, the prosecution of the case will depend on statement she makes in court about charges against the accused. If the woman says she went of her own volition and she is a major, then there is no case for prosecution in such a situation," a divisional police officer in Bengaluru said.

If cases where Section 366 has been invoked along with POC SO Act is considered, 422 cases from the last five years are pending trial in Bengaluru, with 357 cases of Hindu couples, 54 involving Muslim-Hindu couples, and 11 with Christian-Hindu couples, according to court records.

While proposed anti-"love jihad" laws — UP Governor Anandiben Patel on Saturday gave assent to an ordinance aimed at

curbing forcible or fraudulent religious conversions, including those for marriage, with the new law providing for jail term of up to 10 years for violations — aims to tackle inter-religious conversions for marriages, some legal experts say existing sections of the IPC — such as 366 — are already being used as tools by the police in interpersonal relationships — when these relationships are opposed by family members.

Former state public prosecutor BT Venkatesh said, "The police are enforcing the IPC section on kidnapping to intervene in relationships. There is no necessity for a new law that will outlaw ties between two consenting adults. A law to curb inter-religious relationships will be virtually untenable. It will not have legs to stand. It will go against principles of the Constitution."

The Indian Majority Act of 1875 says a person is an adult at the age of 18 and that she/he can enter into contracts (marriage is considered a contract), while Article 25 of the Constitution guarantees freedom of conscience, freedom to profess, practice, and propagate religion to all citizens, Venkatesh said.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

BJP tweets video of Cong MLA's 'claim of payment'; BTP MLAs deny

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAIPUR, NOVEMBER 28

IN A video tweeted by Rajasthan BJP president Satish Poonia, a Congress MLA from the state is purportedly heard saying in a public meeting that two MLAs from the Bharatiya Tribal Party (BTP) took Rs 10 crore each to support the Ashok Gehlot-led Congress government during the Rajya Sabha elections and the political crisis earlier this year.

Strongly reacting to the video clip, BTP MLAs have termed the allegations "baseless". One of them said that he will file a defamation case against Mahendra Jeet Singh Malviya, the Congress legislator from Bagidora Assembly constituency, who is allegedly seen speaking in the video.

The Sunday Express could not independently verify the authenticity of the video clip.



Rajasthan BJP chief Satish Poonia

"Ashok Gehlot ji, whether its horse trading or in your words bakra mandi, whatever it is, please throw light on it. The top leader of the Congress giving this speech is confirming the questions which I raised during your herding (of MLAs)," Poonia tweeted on Friday with the video. Malviya is a senior Congress MLA from Banswara district and a former minister.

BTP MLA from Sagwara, Ramprasad Dindor told The Sunday Express on Saturday, "Whatever allegations Malviya is seen making in the video are absolutely baseless. During the political crisis, it was actually Malviya who was in favour of

bringing down the government while on the other hand it was us who saved the government. I will be filing a defamation case against him. These leaders are panicking because they know that they have lost support in southern Rajasthan and the entire public is with BTP. That is why they are levelling baseless allegations."

Dindor said that the BTP will win maximum seats in southern Rajasthan districts in the ongoing panchayat elections.

"We offered support to the Congress conditionally based on certain issues... Nothing is happening about the issues and we will reconsider it in the future," said Dindor.

When The Sunday Express contacted Malviya for his comments on the video, he said he was busy with the elections and disconnected the call. Further phone calls and messages to him remained unanswered.

EXPRESS NETWORK

BRIEFLY



Soumitra Chatterjee

WEST BENGAL

Govt to construct 'Apu Sansar Park'

Kolkata: The West Bengal government has decided to construct a park themed on actor Soumitra Chatterjee's debut film 'Apu Sansar' in New Town area on the northeastern fringes of Kolkata, a senior official said on Saturday. The West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (HIDCO) has invited an expression of interest (EOI) from bidders for deciding on how to execute the theme by retaining the flavour of the film, its CMD Debashis Sen said. Chatterjee had essayed the role of 'Apu' in the 1959 film — part of the Apu trilogy directed by filmmaker Satyajit Ray. **PTI**

TRIPURA

Outfit blocks highway, seeks 'love jihad' law

Agartala: A right-wing outfit blocked a national highway in Tripura on Friday to demand a law against "love jihad" on the lines of recently passed legislation in MP and UP. Hindu Jagaran Mancha Pradesh chief Uttam Dey claimed several instances of "love jihad" took place during the lockdown. A police officer clarified that no such allegation had cropped up in the state over the past several months. Over 300 members of the Hindutva outfit on Friday afternoon blocked NH8 near Subhash Bridge at Udaipur in Gomati district. **ENS**

ODISHA

Third bid to die by suicide outside House

Bhubaneswar: A mother-son duo attempted to set themselves on fire near the Odisha Assembly on Saturday, the third such incident in less than a week. Sulochana Das and her son Subrat Das, of Jagatsinghpur district, attempted to set themselves on fire close to the assembly premises, officials said. An alert security staffer immediately intervened, they said. Sulochana's other son Ambrut Das was allegedly killed in 2019 and police closed the investigation into the matter after registering a case of unnatural death, she said. **PTI**

RAJASTHAN

Molestation accused forced to eat faeces

Dholpur: A youth was allegedly beaten up and forced to eat human faeces for having reportedly molested a minor girl in Dholpur district, police said Saturday. The incident occurred on Thursday when the youth allegedly molested a girl in a house. "He was caught by the family members and assaulted by them. They also forced him to eat faeces," a police officer said. Two FIRs were filed in connection with the case. "In the case of molestation, the accused has been arrested while seven others were arrested for thrashing him," he said. **PTI**

Khattar says Punjab didn't respond to calls; Amarinder denies, seeks apology

SAKSHI DAYAL
GURGAON, NOVEMBER 28

HARYANA CHIEF Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Saturday accused political parties in Punjab of "sponsoring" the farmers' movement that has led to scores of protesters descending upon border areas of the national capital over the last three days and added that his Punjab counterpart, Amarinder Singh, has not responded so far to efforts for a dialogue.

Reacting to Khattar's remarks later in the day, Amarinder condemned the violence that broke out between police and protesting farmers in Haryana and demanded an apology from the Haryana CM.

Speaking to the media in Gurgaon after presiding over a meeting of the the district grievance committee, Khattar said, "This movement is primarily being sponsored by political parties in Punjab and some organisations there. I have tried several times to talk to the Chief Minister of Punjab over the last 3 days regarding the movement, but he did not speak to me. We dialed 6-7 times, but each time his staff just kept saying we will get it done now, we will get it done in some time."

"Such a situation has occurred for the first time that a Chief Minister is trying to talk to

Farmers at the protest site at Singhu Border, New Delhi on Saturday. *Praveen Khanna*

another and is not able to do so. In the last 6 years, this has happened for the first time. Earlier, when we called, if he (Amarinder) was busy, we would be able to talk in an hour or so..." he said.

Khattar alleged a political conspiracy in the name of farmers, and termed this "unfortunate and condemnable".

Meanwhile, Amarinder lashed out at Khattar and said he would not forgive him till the latter issued an apology. "Khattar is lying that he tried calling me earlier and I did

not respond. But now, after what he has done to my farmers, I will not speak to him even if he calls me 10 times. Unless he apologises and admits that he did wrong with Punjab's farmers, I will not forgive him," Amarinder said.

Pointing out that he had held several discussions with the Prime Minister as well as Union Home Minister about the issues of farmers, Amarinder said there was no reason for him to avoid phone calls from a neighbouring state's Chief Minister.

He also slammed allegations

of his involvement in instigating farmers saying, "I am a nationalist to the core, I run a border state and will never do anything to create a law-and-order problem of any kind."

"I will not take this nonsense from Khattar. Don't I have better things to do than to incite farmers?" Amarinder said, adding that "sometimes they say it's Khalistanis who're managing the protests and sometimes they accuse me of doing it...let them make up their minds".

—WITH ENS, CHANDIGARH

Farm leaders driving the protest

AS THOUSANDS of farmers from Punjab and Haryana descend on the national capital to protest against the farm laws, **ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHABA** profiles some of the leaders behind their mobilisation:

JAGMOHAN SINGH, 64
General secretary, Bharti Kisan Union (Dakaunda)



Jagmohan Singh is one of the most respected farmer leaders of Punjab. A small farmer who became a full-time activist three decades ago, he is well-versed in farming issues and policies. Leaders of other farmers and farm labourers' outfits also look up to him for chalking out agitations. Initiated into activism at a tender age, Jagmohan went behind the bars before turning 18.

A postgraduate and diploma holder, he is an expert in acupuncture therapy. He joined Bharti Kisan (BKU) Ekta in 1993 after leaving his government job in the Department of Cooperatives. BKU (Dakaunda) was formed around 15 years ago and is one of the most active farmers' unions of the state. A small farmer, he owns nearly 5 acres that he has given on lease, and says he has been able to devote his time to the union because his wife has an assured job in the postal department.

GURNAM SINGH CHADUNI, 64
President, BKU, Haryana



Chaduni is among farmer leaders of the region who started mobilising farmers against the three farm Bills be-

fore these were passed. Hailing from Chaduni Jatan village in Kurukshetra district, he shot to fame when he led an agitation for farm loan waiver in 2008. After that, he has led many successful agitations, always opting for unique ways such as shirtless protest marches and throwing of potatoes on state highway. In 2019, Chaduni and other farmers climbed an 80 feet water-tank demanding purchase of entire crop of sunflower. He came down only after the government agreed to purchase the entire produce. Haryana Police booked him for attempt to murder on Friday.

MAHINDER SINGH, 50
General secretary, Mansa district BKU, Dakaunda



Singh is a farm activist for the last 23 years. He has 18 cases against him in connection with farmer protests such as rail roko, jail bharo, because of which he was lodged at nine different jails, including in Delhi. A matriculate and a farmer himself, he along with his two brothers farm on 21 acres at his native village — Bhiani Bagha in Mansa district. "My life is dedicated to farmers and it does not matter even if I am booked in 100 cases," he told The Indian Express.

BHUPINDER LONGOWAL, 35
State convener, youth wing, Kirti Kisan Union



Active in the union for the last two years, Longowal, a postgraduate in Political Science, has been a farm activist

since his student days and was a member of the Punjab Students Union and Nuajwan Bharat Sabha before joining Kirti Kisan Union. With a family debt of Rs 7.50 lakh, the marginal farmer with 2 acres of land is fully dedicated to the farmers' cause.

Bhupinder's education and rapport with the students has helped in mobilising a large number of youngsters for the Delhi Chalo agitation.

SUKHDEV SINGH KOKRIKALAN, 70
General secretary, BKU, Ugrahan



A retired school teacher, Kokrikalan is general secretary of the biggest farmers' union in Punjab, which has been against confrontation with police during the Delhi Chalo agitation. Kokrikalan comes from a poor family, which owned 2.5 acres in Kokrikalan village of Moga district. He did his BSc, BEd and appointed government teacher in 1972. Despite being a regular and permanent teacher, he participated in a protest led by temporary teachers in 1978, demanding regularisation of jobs, and went to jail for 75 days. He resigned from his job at the age of 48 to work full time for farmers' cause.

Dr Pal's outfit is among the 10 most active farm organisations in Punjab. A MBBS, MD (Anesthesia), PCMS doctor, he took premature retirement from his Punjab Civil Medical Service job and became an agriculturist as his family owned 15 acres. He started participating in farmers' programmes in 2007 and joined BKU.

SATNAM SINGH PANNU, 65
President, Kisan Mazdoor Sangarsh Committee, Punjab



Pannu has been taking a hard line in protests against farm laws for the beginning. His union continued dharna on the tracks at Jandiala

Guru near Amritsar even after others agreed to call off the protest last week. Formed in 2000, the outfit is now active in 10 districts of Punjab, including four of Majha region, and three each of Doaba and Malwa regions.

The organisation has both farmers and khet mazdoor as its members. This is considered the most aggressive farm organisation of Punjab. Pannu had launched the outfit in 2000 when the then SAD-BJP government was not lifting paddy from mandis. It was due to their agitation that farmers managed to get paddy lifted. Hailing from Piddi village in Tarn Taran district, Pannu is a graduate and is active since his student days.

DR DARSHAN PAL, 70
Member, working group, All India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee; president, Krantikari Kisan Union Punjab



Dr Pal's outfit is among the 10 most active farm organisations in Punjab. A MBBS, MD (Anesthesia), PCMS doctor, he took premature retirement from his Punjab Civil Medical Service job and became an agriculturist as his family owned 15 acres. He started participating in farmers' programmes in 2007 and joined BKU.

In 2016, when Krantikari Kisan Union was formed, he became its member and was appointed the president of the union during the Covid pandemic. A very articulate leader, he had been very active in talks with central and state leaders. His union is quite active in half a dozen districts of the Malwa region.

cheating took place earlier too, it is much more desperate in on-line mode. "It is almost obsessive, and is being done rampantly. To put it conservatively, almost 95 per cent students cheat," another professor from IIT-Bombay said.

The brunt of these practices is faced by students who had been scoring good grades. Due to the relative marking system at IITs, even students who had been consistently scoring well have scored less compared to before. The administration has tried to intervene by laying down several measures.

Remote proctoring is a method where an invigilator oversees the examination on live cameras. On the invigilator's discretion, cameras can have a full-

8 oppn parties call on govt to address farmers' concerns; Cong not signatory

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

EIGHT OPPOSITION parties in a joint statement on Saturday said the attempts by police to stop the farmers' march towards Delhi by using tear gas, water cannons and by digging up roads were like "waging a war" and asked the government to address the "concerns" of the protesting farmers.

"Braving severe repression, tear gassing, heavy water cannoning, roadblocks, police barricades and digging up the national highways surrounding Delhi akin to waging a 'war' on our farmers, tens of thousands of farmers have successfully reached the National Capital of Delhi. We salute their determination and courage in this massive protest demanding the withdrawal of the retrograde anti-kisan agri laws," the leaders of eight parties said in a joint statement.

The signatories include NCP chief Sharad Pawar, DMK leader T R Baalu, CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury, CPI's D Raja, RJD leader Manoj Kumar Jha, CPI(M) general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, RSP general secretary Manoj Bhattacharya and Forward Bloc general secretary Debabrata Biswas.

However, the main opposition Congress was not part of the statement.

"We reiterate our opposition to these new agri-laws.... The Central Government must adhere to the democratic process and norms and address the concerns of the protesting farmers," the statement said.

Haryana Police submits status report in HC

JAGPREET SINGH SANDHU
CHANDIGARH, NOVEMBER 28

THE HARYANA Police has submitted a status report in the High Court on the farmers' protest, saying farmer organisations "have history of indulging in criminal activities, creating law and order problem and disturbing public peace and order".

The report was submitted by Haryana DIG (Law and Order) in reply to the petition filed by Haryana Progressive Farmers Union — Sabka Mangal Ho. The petitioner had filed a habeas corpus plea seeking directions to the state to release the detainees allegedly picked up at midnight by the police across Haryana.

In reply, the Haryana Police has submitted, "The farmer organisations, including the petitioner, recently held a protest march on 10.09.2020 in which serious law and order problem was created by some of the agitators, including committing serious crime." They submitted that six persons mentioned in the list provided by the petitioner have not been detained or arrested, and no person mentioned is in illegal custody, thus seeking dismissal of the petition.

Amid farm protests, MP govt unveils plan to boost mandi structure, revenue

IRAM SIDDIQUE
BHOPAL, NOVEMBER 28

THE MADHYA Pradesh government is planning boost infrastructure at mandis in the state by setting up shops for subsidised agricultural products and malls similar to Army canteens within their premises, state Agriculture Minister Kamal Patel said Saturday.

According to the proposal, at least 25 petrol pumps will also be opened on a pilot basis inside the premises of mandis.

His announcement—made after a meeting with Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar—comes as farmers in the state protest the three controversial farm laws and seeking a separate legislation to ensure functioning of mandis.

Patel refused to give a written assurance to the state's farmers on mandis, saying: "When we have assured that the mandis will not cease to function, there is no need to give the same in writing. We are saying that mandis will continue to function."

Shivkumar Sharma, a state farmer leader, said the announcements made by Patel were an attempt to mislead farmers. "The government is trying to portray a picture that mandis will not eventually shut down through these announcements so that we don't protest. But the ground reality is that nothing will change through these sops, nor will they bring any benefit to farmer."

The state minister, meanwhile, said the shops will help increase mandi revenue.

At the malls and stores, farmers can use smart cards to make purchases. A survey to identify the availability of land has been initiated. The mandis will also be equipped with ATMs, banks, restroom and canteens, with the model first being implemented in five mandis, Patel said.

The state minister claimed that many of the protesting farmers were paid. He also al-

33 films in environmental fest from Dec 5

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

THE FIRST edition of the All Living Things Environmental Film Festival was announced recently with a line-up of 33 films, selected from over 100 films submitted from over 14 countries.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the festival will be organised online between December 5 and 13.

The films to be showcased during the festival include features, documentaries, animation and shorts, and will cover a variety of topics — ranging from climate change, biodiversity, habitats, urban life and food systems to energy, sustainability, wildlife, conservation, social justice, protection and restoration of wildlife places.

Kunal Khanna, who founded the festival with Neha Shreshtha, Marie Schega and Rudransh Mathur, said, "In the coming years, the festival will include virtual reality, as well as a youth and a local engagements programme."

EXPLAINED Reinforcing its stand amid public discontent

THOUSANDS OF farmers from across Madhya Pradesh have participated in protests against the three farm laws, with at least 713 arrested and several others detained by the Government Railway Police across various police stations. Amid the rising discontent against the controversial laws and fears of closure of mandis, the state government has tried to re-enforce its stand that the market-places will continue to remain operational and will have no dearth of funding—which will be generated through other mechanisms as well.

leged that the protests against the farm bills was backed by an "arthiya (middlemen) lobby". "If the farmers would have been against the farm bills, the Bharatiya Janata Party would not have won with such overwhelming vote share in the by-elections on 28 seats in Madhya Pradesh and assembly elections of Bihar," he said.

He also claimed that the farm loan waiver scheme of the Kamal Nath-led Congress government had failed to benefit the farmers, with many given letters showing that their loan had been waived but with the money not being credited into their account.

"We will be filing a cheating case against Nath and Rahul Gandhi for fooling farmers," said Patel.

He added that the government is working on a proposal to procure vegetables from farmers on Minimum Support Price and enable two Farmer Producer Organisations with 300 farmers each at block levels to set up cold storage units.

Mumbai: 5-yr-old boy crushed to death by lift

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

A FIVE-YEAR-OLD boy was crushed to death in a lift accident in Mumbai's Dharavi on Saturday afternoon. The boy, identified as Hozefa Shaikh, had taken the lift to his fourth floor home and while getting out of it, got stuck between its outer and inner doors.

The incident took place around 12:45 pm on Saturday. Hozefa was with his sisters in the lift, in a building in Shahu Nagar area of Dharavi.

As the lift reached the fourth floor, the two sisters, one elder, the other younger, stepped out of the lift's sliding grill and a wooden door. Before Shaikh could step out of the lift, he got locked between the wooden door that shut on him and the grill.

At that point, the lift was called down and as it moved, it crushed the five year old.

An local police officer said that an Accidental Death Report has been filed in the matter.

With 'cheat-sheet' in online tests, IITs try out measures to raise honesty bar

AKSHARA SRIVASTAVA
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

WHILE ONLINE teaching was a boon for educational institutions scrambling to adapt to the new normal of a pandemic, students may have emerged with an upper hand in the set-up, finding new ways to cheat and indulge in academic dishonesty in online examinations, including in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT).

Several reports of student forming WhatsApp groups to discuss question papers, collaborating on calls, or surfing the internet on a separate device during an exam have emerged from various IITs, prompting the government to step in.

The Ministry of Education

last month set up a 10-member committee, headed by IIT-Madras director Bhaskar Ramamurthi, for suggesting measures for "developing a common protocol for online internal examinations" in centrally-funded educational institutions and ensuring "security and sanctity" of such exams. Directors of IIT-Kanpur, IIT-Bhuwaneswar, IIT-Delhi, IIT-Bhilai, NIT-Suratkal, NIT-Durgapur, IIT-Sri City, IIT-Guwahati and IISER Mohali are other members of committee.

Due to Covid-19, all IITs had by July decided to hold only on-line classes until year-end. However, academic integrity became an issue thereafter.

At IIT-Delhi, for instance, some students taking online exams formed WhatsApp groups where

solutions to questions are shared and answers are confirmed. At IIT-Bombay, a professor, on the condition of anonymity, said students sometimes take advantage of bio breaks during exams. "In a normal semester, we can ask students to visit the washroom before the exam starts; books and notes hidden there (in bathroom) are removed. But that has changed in the online semester," the professor said. "Not allowing students to visit the washroom is against their personal liberties, and they could have health concerns. We cannot ask them to pan cameras across their rooms; that's intrusion of privacy."

Similar reports have emerged from IIT-Kharagpur and IIT-Ropar, too.

While professors accept that

body view where the answer script is not visible, or a view of students' faces, where surroundings are not visible. In both these manners, students have indulged in academic malpractice, using a camera's limited field of view to their advantage.

At IIT-Delhi and IIT-Ropar, professors have given lengthy question papers in lesser time, to ensure students have no time to discuss answers. Some take VIVAs after the written exam to ensure students know what they write.

However, these measures are continuously surpassed. "Even though professors set lengthy papers for lesser time, students share solutions in groups," said a student from IIT Delhi on the condition of anonymity.

Shantanu Roy, dean, aca-

ademic programme, IIT-Delhi, said faculty members have been taking measures at their own level to deal with such complaints. "It is only when a faculty member decides to escalate the matter to the dean, that we can set up a disciplinary committee," he said. "We have to be approached by a student or faculty member to do something. Until now, members have dealt with such issues at their own."

However, sources said when the concern was raised at one IIT, the students were asked to 'manage' in a way that teachers are not questioned.

The IIT-Bombay professor said it is not possible to cover everything with technology. Giving an example of western universities, he said how having

an honour code for exams prevents cheating at most Ivy League colleges. "The penalty for breaking the honour code is so high, it prevents students from taking the risk of indulging in such malpractice," he said.

In a similar incident from 2012, the Harvard Cheating Scandal had come to light when a teaching fellow noticed similarities in answer scripts in a take-home exam. It was brought to the notice of the course professor and the administration on charges of plagiarism. In February 2013, almost 70 per cent of the investigated students were 'forced to withdraw' from the course. The institute drafted and adopted an Honour Code in 2014.

—WITH INPUTS FROM RITIKA CHOPRA

EXPRESS NETWORK

Be ready to hit streets, Suwendu tells supporters

TMC maintains talks still possible

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 28

A DAY after he resigned from the state Cabinet, it was learnt on Saturday that dissident Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Suwendu Adhikari has told MLAs and party leaders backing him to be ready to hit the streets. This came even as the ruling party said the door for dialogue was still open.

"After he resigned, we have been told to be ready to hit the streets in campaign mode. We are waiting for his green signal. We have been preparing for this for the past six months. Our separate organisation and followers are ready in more than five districts in Bengal," said a TMC leader close to Adhikari.

TMC MP Saugata Roy said doors were still open for talks with Adhikari. Roy has been leading the party's efforts to keep Adhikari in its fold.

"Doors are still open for talks with Suwendu. There should be discussions with him. I am hopeful of dialogue between Suwendu and the party leadership," Roy told reporters, adding, "Suwendu's mother is unwell, so the talks may have to wait till she gets well."

TMC sources said the party called up the rebel leader's father Sisir Adhikari, who is an MP, to ask his son to come to Kolkata for a meeting. Sisir informed the party that his wife was unwell and Suwendu would not be able to go to Kolkata, ruling out any meeting between the two sides in the coming days.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee will address a rally in Medinipur on December 7, and then embark on a series of public meetings in various districts. Medinipur is considered to be a stronghold of Adhikari, who has not only quit the Cabinet but has also stepped down as the chair-

TMC will cease to exist in a month, says Dilip Ghosh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 28

BJP LEADERS on Saturday continued to target the Trinamool Congress (TMC) over Suwendu Adhikari's resignation as state transport minister.

State BJP president Dilip Ghosh predicted that the ruling party would be finished in a month as its MLAs and MPs would desert it one by one.

"Didi [CM Mamata Banerjee] has become a 'Didi of promises'.

Group of lawyers sends sipper, straws for Stan Swamy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

A GROUP of lawyers on Friday sent a sipper and a packet of straws to Talaja central jail for 83-year-old Stan Swamy, arrested in the Bhima Koregaon case last month.

The parcel sent by the lawyers from Delhi also had a letter addressed to the Superintendent of jail. "We, the under signed lawyers, feel that above all detention must be humane. To that effect, we urge you to make arrangements for all inmates as per the jail manual who have special needs," the letter said.

It urged the jail authorities to "facilitate his dignified drinking of water" and allow access to the sipper and paper straws stating that the objects would be permissible as per the jail manual since they "cannot cause any harm".

The Maharashtra government and authorities in Mumbai's Talaja central jail say Swamy was provided with all basic facilities, including a straw and sipper cup, after he was



Suwendu Adhikari resigned from the West Bengal cabinet on Friday. File

person of the Hooghly River Bridge Commission and the Haldia Development Authority. He is scheduled to address an event in Mahishadal in Purba Medinipur district on Sunday in memory of freedom fighter Ranajit Kumar Boyal.

According to sources, Suwendu is in regular touch with his own followers, TMC MLAs and other grassroots party workers and leaders in at least five districts.

"He told us first to be self-reliant and have a separate organisation ready. At least he is not a person who will depend on others. He has a mass base and we have built up a system to channelise the mass base during the upcoming elections. As a leader, he has his own fan base," said the leader close to Adhikari.

As the rift between the TMC and the dissident leader turned into a chasm in the last few months, posters and banners of an organisation calling itself "Amra Dadar Anugami [We are our elder brother's followers]" appeared in different parts of the state such as Purba and Paschim Medinipur, Howrah, Hooghly, Kolkata, Birbhum, Jhargam, and Siliguri. Sources close to Adhikari said he and his followers had successfully formed an organisation in parallel to the TMC.

She is promising everything to everyone now before the elections. Had she done this 10 years ago such a bad situation would not have arisen. People would not have left the party like this. MPs are leaving, MLAs are leaving, and ministers are leaving the party. What is left of such a party? In a month, the party itself will cease to exist," Ghosh told reporters in Kolkata.

Asked about Adhikari, Ghosh said, "What can I say? He is still in the party. It is up to him to decide on what he will do."



Stan Swamy, 83, is in Talaja Jail

taken to the hospital ward within weeks of his arrival in prison.

Swamy's lawyers had on Friday moved an application before the special court seeking that instructions should be given to the jail authorities to allow him to receive winter wear and a straw and sipper. The straw and sipper were sought since he suffers from Parkinson's disease and finds it difficult to hold a glass due to tremors in his hands. The court has sought a report from the jail and posted the case on December 4.

The court on Friday also rejected an application filed by the lawyers seeking that the National Investigation Agency (NIA) be directed to return the sipper cup and straw seized from Swamy at the time of his arrest month. The NIA said that it had conducted a personal search of Swamy and no such articles were found.

Apni Party spokesman in list of Roshni Act 'beneficiaries'

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY & ARUN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, JAMMU, NOVEMBER 28



Apni Party chief Altaf Bukhari

THE NEWLY-FORMED Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party led by Altaf Bukhari in the erstwhile state has now found itself in the crosshairs of the Roshni Act investigations. The party's spokesperson Bikram Malhotra has been mentioned in one of the two fresh lists of alleged beneficiaries — in Samba and Nazoor — published by the Union territory administration on Saturday.

In the Samba list, Bikram Malhotra and his brother Aditya Malhotra have been mentioned as alleged beneficiaries of over 17 kanals of land each in Palth village. The list mentions him merely as "Son of Ex Chairman Legislative Council" — his father Amrit Malhotra is an old-timer in the Congress and had been elected as the Chairman of the Legislative Council in 2015.

Apni Party came into being in

March, 2020 with blessings from Delhi, which, after the decisions of August 5, 2019 and long-term detention of all key politicians, wanted political engagement to begin on the ground. Led by former PDP leader Altaf Bukhari with over 20 former MLAs from PDP, NC and the Congress, the party was expected to take Centre's governance and developmental narrative for Kashmir to the people. It is also contesting the ongoing District Development Council polls in the UT.

"We had bought agricultural land from someone over 20 years ago. While most part of it was his ownership land, the revenue department had entered khasra Girdawari in his name for a portion as he was growing agriculture produce on it. As had

been the usual practice at that time, we bought the entire land, including the portion for which khasra Girdawari was entered in his name by the revenue department. When government came up with a scheme for vesting ownership rights of land to its occupants subject to payment of costs, we too applied for it," Malhotra told The Sunday Express. "It was an agricultural land and we are also using it for agricultural purposes. It was a government scheme of that time and we followed all the rules prescribed under it."

Other key names in the new list are former MLC and PDP leader Nizamuddin Khatana and former Congress MLA Parkash Chand Sharma's son Sanjeev. While Khatana is alleged to have encroached upon eight kanals of land in Jammu's Sunjwan, Sharma is an alleged beneficiary of three kanals in Nandini area of Samba.

Khatana and Sharma were not available for comment.

Other alleged beneficiaries include businessman Sajjad

Chaudhary, who allegedly got 20 kanals in Jammu, and Mohammed Majid, who as a government employee allegedly availed of 17 kanals under the scheme. Businessman Sudhir Khurana (25 kanals) and Sahil Mahajan (20 kanals) are also mentioned in the Samba list.

Names of retired DIG Khalid Durani, retired forest officer Sultan Ali, retired DFO Qumar Ali and Lambardar Jamat Ali have figured in the list of alleged land encroachers in Jammu.

The administration had earlier mentioned ex-PDP leader Haseeb Drabu and three of his kin as alleged beneficiaries apart from Congress treasurer KK Amla and four NC leaders. On Tuesday, it alleged that the residence of Omar and Farooq Abdullah was built on encroached forest land. It also claimed that a patch of land in had been encroached by PDP for its office. Both parties denied the charge. UT administration officials, however, say that the revenue records show otherwise.

UP journalist, friend die after house fire; cops probe cause

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 28

A 37-year-old journalist and his friend died of burns under mysterious circumstances after the former's house at Kalwari village in Balrampur district caught fire on Friday night. Three men, who were drinking with the duo the same night, have been detained. They have identified as Ravi Chaudhary, former village head Ram Surat and Babu Mishra.

The journalist, Rakesh Singh Nirbhi, used to work with Hindi daily Rashtriya Swaroop while another deceased, Pintu, was employed as a DJ.

Police have lodged a case under various IPC charges, including murder. Balrampur SP Dev Ranjan Verma said Rakesh's father has alleged some people were involved in a blast at his house.

"We have lodged a case on this, but till now, no evidence of the blast has been found. As per our findings, there was no blast there. There is a bed in the house which probably caught fire first. One wall has been broken from outside. The house is severely burnt," said Verma.

ECL OFFICER DIES AFTER SEARCH OPS

Kolkata: A security officer with the ECL fell ill after the CBI searched his residence in Asansol's Jamuria on Saturday. Dhananjay Rai was in charge of security in Kunustoria area in Raniganj. He fell sick after CBI sleuths searched him home and was taken to a local hospital, where he was declared brought dead. **ENS**



A location searched by the CBI in Kolkata. Express

Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 relating to criminal conspiracy, criminal breach of trust by public servant, criminal misconduct by public servant, etc.

The FIR names Maji, along with former ECL general manager (Kunustoria area) Amit Kumar Dhar, general manager (Kajora area) Jayesh Chandra Rai, chief of security (Asansol) Tanmoy Das and security in-charge (Kajora) Debashish Mukherjee, among others.

The FIR also states that during a joint inspection conducted by the Vigilance Department and ECL task force on several

leasehold areas under ECL, evidence of extensive illegal mining on leasehold areas under ECL and its transportation was found. During these inspections a large number of vehicles and equipment used in illegal coal mining /transportation and illegally excavated coal have been seized.

The BJP welcomed the CBI searches. "For years, the illegal coal scam has been happening in Bengal and other areas. CBI investigation will bring out the truth. There are big names behind the illegal coal racket," Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh said.

Statue of Unity seaplane service suspended again

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, NOVEMBER 28

THE SEAPLANE service between the Statue of Unity at Kevadia in Narmada district and Sabarmati riverfront in Ahmedabad has been suspended for 15 days after the Twin Otter 300 aircraft flew to its home country, Maldives, for a maintenance schedule on Saturday.

The service, run by the SpiceJet under the banner of Spice Shuttle, will be resumed after the seaplane returns to India by December 15,



The service was launched by PM Modi on October 31. File

officials said.

On Saturday, the seaplane took off for Male in the Maldives,

where it is set to undergo "major maintenance" at a hanger in an aerodrome facility, Gujarat government officials said.

This is the second time since its inauguration on October 31 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi that the seaplane service has been suspended for maintenance. The first "routine maintenance" of the aircraft was carried out three days after its inauguration when the services were suspended for two days.

Captain Ajay Chauhan, the Director of Civil Aviation, Government of Gujarat, told The

Sunday Express the seaplane had to be sent to the Maldives as it is registered in that country and because India does not yet have a hangar facility for maintenance of seaplanes.

"The seaplane has to mandatorily undergo maintenance at various levels, depending on its flying hours and distance covered. This is a major maintenance and occurs after every stipulated flying hours. Since its arrival, the seaplane has flown for a significant number of hours, including its journey to reach India," Chauhan said.

BJP won't field Muslim for Belagavi bypoll: minister

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BENGALURU, NOVEMBER 28

KARNATAKA RURAL Development Minister K S Eshwarappa on Saturday said the BJP will not field a Muslim candidate for the by-election to the Belagavi Lok Sabha seat.

The senior BJP leader said state and national leaders will select a candidate who can win by gaining the trust of the people. "In BJP there is no question of Kuruba, Lingayat, Vokkaliga or Brahmin community. We will all sit together and discuss. This is the system, a democratic way. In no party other than BJP there is no democratic system," he said.

Eshwarappa said, "Whether we give (ticket) to Kurubas or Lingayats or Vokkaligas or



Rural Development Minister K S Eshwarappa

Brahmins, we will not give to a Muslim. Belagavi is one of the centres of Hindutva, there is no question of us giving tickets to Muslims here. We will give tickets to Hindutva proponents, I don't know whether we will give it to followers of Sangolli Rayanna, Kittur Chennamma (freedom fighters) or Shankaracharya."

The Belagavi Lok Sabha seat recently fell vacant following the death of Union Minister of State for Railways Suresh Angadi from Covid-19.

Karnataka CM's political secy hospitalised after 'suicide' attempt, doctors say stable

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BENGALURU, NOVEMBER 28

KARNATAKA CHIEF Minister B S Yediyurappa's political secretary and relative N R Santosh, who was hospitalised following an alleged suicide attempt, is "stable and cheerful" and may be discharged in a day or two, doctors treating him said Saturday.

The state Congress demanded an investigation into the incident and claimed that some confidential matters are linked to it.

An FIR has been registered against Santosh for allegedly attempting to kill himself, police sources said.

Santosh is said to have attempted suicide by consuming

sleeping pills on Friday night.

On finding him unconscious in his Dollars Colony residence here, family members rushed him to the Ramaiah Memorial Hospital.

Santosh (31) was brought at about 8.30 pm with an alleged history of consumption of sleeping tablets at around 7 pm, the Hospital President Dr Naresh Shetty said in a statement.

Noting that on admission he was drowsy, the doctor said appropriate treatment was administered immediately and all investigations were carried out.

"He has been taking sleeping tablets occasionally for his sleep disturbance as per past history. This morning, the patient is stable. He had his breakfast and is cheerful. The plan is to shift the

Rape case against Chandy conspiracy by actor-MLA, says kin now in Cong

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, NOVEMBER 28



Oommen Chandy

THE SOLAR scandal which rocked the previous Congress government in Kerala has got a twist with a former Kerala Congress (B) leader alleging that the rape charge by the accused against former chief minister Oommen Chandy was a conspiracy at the behest of former minister K B Ganesh Kumar, who did not want his relationship with the woman exposed and had a "grudge against Chandy" for not re-inducting him into the Cabinet.

Despite repeated attempts, Kumar was not available for comment.

Former state secretary of Kerala Congress (B) Manoj Kumar alias Saranya Manoj, who is a close relative of Left-backed legislator and Kerala Congress (B) leader Kumar, recently joined the Congress. Talking to the media on Saturday, he said Kumar had intervened several times after the arrest of the accused to change the statement of the woman. "Kumar had a long standing relationship with the complainant woman. When the solar scam cropped up, he wanted that relationship not exposed. As his close relative, I had urged the complainant and her advocates not to name Kumar anywhere in the case," he said, adding that Kumar had a grudge against Chandy after he was forced to quit the Cabinet over the domestic violence case moved by his wife.

Addressing an election meeting in Kollam on Friday, Manoj said, "There was no allegation against Oommen Chandy. His name was added in the letter, purportedly written by the woman, at the behest of Ganesh Kumar. When the solar case emerged with the arrest of the woman... Kumar knew that he would be an accused. He pleaded with me to help. Kumar wanted the woman to name Chandy and his name was deliberately added in her letter."

Manoj also alleged that Kumar's office secretary Pradeep Kottathala had also intervened to tutor the woman to repeatedly change her statement. Incidentally, Kottathala was arrested last week on charges of threatening a prosecution witness in the case pertaining to the abduction and sexual assault of a woman actor.

The solar scam came up in 2013 when a con woman and her partner were arrested on charges of cheating several prospective investors in the solar sector. In a letter purportedly written by her, the woman had alleged that several Congress leaders had sexually abused her, claiming that the then chief minister had subjected her to unnatural sex at his official residence in 2012.

The woman had repeated the allegation before a judicial panel which probed the scam. The panel in 2017 had recommended that a case of sexual abuse be registered against Chandy and other Congress leaders. But the government got adverse legal advice and did not pursue it. Chandy moved the high court and got the FIR against him quashed.

Missing fishing boat, which sparked fears of 26/11 repeat, found

SRINATH RAO
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

A FISHING boat carrying four crew members was found off the coast of Palghar district two days after its disappearance sparked fears of a hijack and possible repeat of 26/11 on its 12th anniversary.

The fishermen—Dyaneshwar Tandel (51), Dilip Tandel (55), Jagannath Tandel (61) and Praveen Dhanu (38)—had set out from their home in Palghar's Satpati village at 6 am on Thursday. They were expected to return with the day's catch by 5 pm.

However, their boat, Agnimata, failed to return that night. With no sight of the vessel even on Friday morning, the village's fishermen's society held a meeting. Dyaneshwar Tandel's wife Sujata registered a missing person's complaint at Satpati police station.

The vessel's disappearance deeply worried the district administration. The small vessel

was not equipped with an Automatic Identification System transponder—which allows the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard to keep track of vessels in Indian waters—or a GPS. "The way the boat disappeared without a trace, we were afraid it may have been hijacked by someone," said Palghar Police spokesperson Sub Inspector Sachin Navadkar.

Worried that events of exactly 12 years ago, when Pakistani terrorists hijacked an Indian fishing boat on their way to Mumbai, may repeat themselves, the district police alerted the Navy, Coast Guard, Maharashtra Anti Terrorism Squad and police.

On Thursday, a fisherman discovered the vessel with its engine dead, sail unfurled and crew intact. He left, promising to return. But the Agnimata would this time be swept away by strong winds.

Finally, on Saturday, four boats discovered the vessel some nine nautical miles from shore. Its crew was unhurt.

They have recorded his wife Jahnavi's statement. Jahnavi said there was some "political imbalance," which he had taken to heart. He was upset since morning (yesterday), he had gone out in the evening and came back around 7 pm," she said.

Santosh, who is Yediyurappa's grand nephew, was appointed as the Chief Minister's political secretary in May this year. He had also served as Yediyurappa's personal assistant when he was Leader of Opposition and BJP state President.

Recently, there were reports that Santosh may resign from the post of Chief Minister's political secretary, citing differences with a few in Yediyurappa's inner circle.

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

271 DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN

CASES: 93,51,109

RECOVERED: 87,59,969

DEATHS: 1,36,200

TESTS: 13,82,20,354

DOUBLING RATE: 153.94**

KEY STATES TO WATCH

Maharashtra

18,08,550

6,185

0.32%

225.82

Kerala

5,87,708

3,967

0.91%

79.28

Delhi

5,56,744

5,482

1.06%

68.12

West Bengal

4,73,987

3,489

0.77%

93.21

Haryana

2,28,746

2,135

1.07%

67.43

* Compounded Daily Growth Rate over last 7 days

** Calculated over 7-day growth

CASE FATALITY RATIO

7 DAYS EARLIER: 1.47

NOW: 1.46

Deaths as a ratio of positive cases (in %); indicator of progress in averting deaths

POSITIVITY RATE

7 DAYS EARLIER: 6.93

NOW: 6.77

Positives against number tested (in %); indicator of the spread of disease

DAILY IN, DAILY OUT

DETECTED TODAY: 41,322

RECOVERED TODAY: 41,452

Becoming sick vs recovering; more recoveries for 14 days may signal the peak

Data as on November 27, released by Union Ministry of Health, ICMR and states. Often daily numbers include data from previous days. As such, trends based on daily numbers are indicative, not definitive

Haryana schools to remain shut till Dec 10
Chandigarh: Haryana Minister Anil Vij announced Saturday that private and government schools would remain shut till December 10. Meanwhile, The state tested over 1.21 lakh samples in a single day, which officials said was a record. **ENS**

DAY AFTER 5 COVID PATIENTS DIE IN RAJKOT HOSPITAL

A mock fire drill held at SSG Hospital in Vadodara on Saturday, a day after the blaze incident at Rajkot hospital. *Bhupendra Rana*

Fire could have started from humidifier, says probe officer; Rupani orders judicial probe

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
RAJKOT, NOVEMBER 28

THE FIRE in the ICU of a private hospital in Rajkot that killed five Covid-19 patients and injured six others on Friday could have been caused by an overheated humidifier of a ventilator, said AK Rakesh, additional chief secretary (ACS) of Panchayat, Rural Housing and Rural Development department, who was sent from Gandhinagar to investigate the incident.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Vijay Rupani ordered a judicial inquiry into the incident by Justice (retired) KA Puj of the Gujarat High Court.

Talking to media persons in Rajkot on Saturday, Rakesh said, "Prima facie it appears that the fire started from some equipment... A number of equipment are used for treating Covid patients. One of them is humidifier. In this humidifier, if the temperature goes up and if there is oxygen supply, the gas becomes combustible... So, it is possible that the fire started from there."

The ACS is conducting an inquiry into the incident that took place in the ICU of Uday Shivanand Covid Hospital in

Mavdi area of the city. The fire, which broke out around 12.30 am on Friday, also left six patients who were undergoing treatment in the ICU and a few members of the hospital staff injured before firefighters doused the flames and rescued 28 patients.

The ACS added that the possibility of the fire having been caused by an electric short-circuit was also not ruled out. "That is also a possibility. The exact cause would be known once we get reports from FSL (Forensic Science Laboratory) and electrical inspector... Prima facie, the electric wiring was of required capacity," Rakesh said.

Hours after the fire was doused on Friday, the electrical inspector inspected the hospital run by Gokul Life Care Private Limited, a private entity that runs a chain of hospitals under brand name Gokul. A team of forensic experts also inspected the facility in the afternoon.

Dr Tejas Karamta of Uday Covid Hospital had compared the intensity with which the fire spread in the ICU to a fire caused by a blast. However, Rakesh said that there was no blast in the ICU. "According to primary details, there was no blast. At least CCTV footage doesn't confirm any

blast," he said. Uday hospital doctors said that after it started, the fire engulfed the entire ICU in no time, affecting evacuation of patients. Rakesh had said on Friday that the hospital staff attempted to switch on the firefighting system in the hospital but were not successful.

Meanwhile, an official release from the government stated that Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has decided to assign to Justice (retired) KA Puj of the Gujarat High Court for a judicial inquiry into the fire incident. "Justice Puj Commission was also assigned inquiry into the fire at Shrey Hospital in Ahmedabad in the recent past," it stated.

Joint teams of Rajkot fire brigade as well as officials from the health and electrification departments of the Rajkot Municipal Corporation on Saturday conducted inspection in more than 20 Covid hospitals to check their preparedness to respond to disasters.

The ACS said that he would wind up the inquiry within two-three days and submit the report to the state government. He held a meeting with senior district and police officials on Friday morning.

Ola declined to comment, saying it was part of an ongoing investigation. "After we explained the manipulation to the Ola CTO earlier this month, they are looking at the earlier version of the app to find out how drivers were adding extra kilometres on trips. We were told that tampering the app was not easy as it would mean making changes in the server as well. We are awaiting their report," said Crime Branch Inspector (Unit I) Vinayak Mer.

He added, "We also informed that when we did a dummy run with the current app last week by switching the app on and off, there were some changes in the total distance covered on this one as well, although not as extreme as the ones found in the earlier

PM wants vaccine out at earliest: Cyrus Poonawalla

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS
PUNE, NOVEMBER 28

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi, who carried out a three-city visit to "understand the process of vaccine production and distribution" on Saturday, spent an hour at the Serum Institute of India (SII) in Pune, the last of his three stops.

Serum Institute of India has partnered with AstraZeneca and University of Oxford to manufacture the Covishield vaccine.

"It was an excellent visit. The Prime Minister was highly impressed with the manufacturing facility at Serum Institute and asked us to come out with the vaccine at the earliest," 79-year-old Dr Cyrus Poonawalla, chairman of the Poonawalla Group, told *The Indian Express*.

Dr Cyrus Poonawalla, his son Adar, the CEO of SII, and his daughter-in-law Natasha welcomed the Prime Minister to the institute. Modi interacted with the scientists and visited the vaccine manufacturing facility at Manjari.

"While the Prime Minister

(L-R) Dr Cyrus Poonawalla, his son Adar, and his daughter-in-law Natasha welcome PM Narendra Modi to the Serum Institute of India, Pune, on Saturday. *Express*

lauded the efforts to come out with the vaccine as soon as possible, he spent one hour at the facility, understanding in great detail what we are doing and how we are taking things forward. He told us to employ someone intelligent to educate the people... that they must take the vaccine... otherwise, there may be reluctance in some ignorant population who are not aware of the advantages," said Dr Poonawalla.

The Prime Minister inter-

acted with top scientists at the SII, to better understand how the scale-up is done and what the production capacity is. He also asked questions on the status of the trial. "He asked us if the government can help in the effort," said Dr Poonawalla.

Dr Rajeev Dhere, executive director at the Serum Institute of India, said the Prime Minister was very simple and asked to-the-point questions. "It was a very positive experience," Dr Dhere told *The Indian Express*.

WADIA INSTITUTE OF HIMALAYAN GEOLOGY
(An Autonomous Institution under Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India)
33, GENERAL MAHADEO SINGH ROAD DEHRADUN – 248001
No.: Gen. Rec./WIHG/2019-20/Estt. **NOTICE** Dated: 27.11.2020
The written examination for various **Group-C** posts in Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun scheduled on **05th & 06th December, 2020 (Saturday & Sunday)** at St. Jude's School, West Canal Road, Dehradun is hereby cancelled due to unavoidable reason. The next date will be intimated to the candidates in due course. Inconvenience is regretted.
REGISTRAR

ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION
(A STATUTORY BODY OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)
Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110 070
Ph. No.: 011-26131578, 011-26131580, 011-29581000 Website: www.aicte-india.org
PUBLIC NOTICE
The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in case of Bharathidasan University & others Vs AICTE & Others has interpreted the provisions of the AICTE Act and has held that although universities do not require prior approval of AICTE to commence a new department course and programmes in technical education. Universities have obligation or duty to confirm to the standards and norms laid down by the AICTE. For the purpose of ensuring coordinated and integrated development of technical education and maintenance of standards, AICTE may cause an inspection of the university, which has to be as per the provisions under relevant rules/regulations of the AICTE. Further, all institutions running technical education programmes in collaboration with any university requires prior approval of AICTE.
It is observed, that some of the Central / State / Private Universities are taking approval from AICTE for some of the selected Technical Course(s)/ Programme(s) only, which is creating confusion to the students. Therefore, the Universities, which are interested in obtaining AICTE approval shall have to obtain approval for all the Technical Course(s)/ Programme(s) and not in few selected Technical Course(s)/ Programme(s) only, after fulfilling the mandatory requirement of AICTE norms from the academic session 2021-22.
As regards, Deemed to be Universities, it is mandatory to have AICTE approval from the Academic Year 2018-19 in compliance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 03-11-2017 passed in CA No.17869-17870 /2017. It is observed that some of the Deemed to be Universities have yet to take the AICTE approval or taken partial approval in few selected Technical Course(s)/ Programme(s). Therefore, the Deemed to be Universities who have never taken approval from the AICTE are also advised not to run any Technical Course(s)/ Programme(s) without approval of AICTE.
All Students are advised to look on AICTE website before taking admission in any of the Deemed to be University for its status of approval.
Prof. RAJIVE KUMAR
Member Secretary, AICTE
Advt. No: Approval Bureau/2020

F.No. A.12023/1/2020
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi-110 067
VACANCY NOTICE-02/2020
The National Institute of Health and Family Welfare an Autonomous Institute under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, is an apex technical Institute for promoting health and family welfare programmes in the country through Education and Training Research and Evaluation, Consultancy, Advisory and Specialized Services.
Applications are invited by the Director, NIHFW, from the citizens of India, for the following posts.

Sr. No.	Name	No. of Post/s	Scale of pay/ Pay Level	Reservations
1	Professor (Reproductive Bio-Medicine)	01	Rs. 37400-67000 + AGP 10000 (pre-revised) + NPA/ Matrix Pay Level-14	UR
2	Professor (Epidemiology)	01	Rs. 37400-67000 + AGP 10000 (pre-revised) + NPA/ Matrix Pay Level-14	UR
3	Reader (Reproductive Bio-Medicine)- Medical	01	Rs. 15600-39100 + AGP 8000 (pre-revised) + NPA/ Matrix Pay Level-12	UR
4	Reader (Reproductive Bio-Medicine)- Non-Medical	01	Rs. 15600-39100 + AGP 8000 (pre-revised)/ Matrix Pay Level-12	UR
5	Reader (CHA) -Medical	01	Rs. 15600-39100 + AGP 8000 (pre-revised) + NPA/ Matrix Pay Level-12	UR
6	Assistant Professor (Education & Training) Medical	01	Rs. 15600-39100 + AGP 6000 (pre-revised) + NPA/ Matrix Pay Level-10	*Reserved for PwD
7	Assistant Professor (Reproductive Bio-Medicine Clinic)	02	Rs. 15600-39100 + AGP 6000 (pre-revised) + NPA/ Matrix Pay Level-10	1 UR, 1 OBC
8	Research Officer (HG)	01	Rs. 15600-39100 + GP 5400 (pre-revised) Matrix Pay Level-10	UR

* (a) Locomotor disability (OA, OL, BL, OAL) including leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victims. (b) Low Vision (c) Hard of hearing. (d) Multiple disabilities from amongst (a) to (c). The post requires taking decisions, teaching, training, demonstration, focused group discussions with stakeholders, field visits and research activities. The incumbent shall be considered with aids and appliances wherever necessary.

For details, including Hindi version of this advertisement, please visit Institute's website: www.nihfw.org. Completed applications should reach **Dy. Director (Admn.)**, NIHFW at the above address before **11.1.2021**.

davp 17153/11/0009/2021

Director

INSTITUTE OF HUMAN BEHAVIOUR & ALLIED SCIENCES (IHBAS)
Hospital based autonomous academic Institute, under Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, dealing with "Brain - Mind Problems & Their Solutions"
Dilshad Garden, Delhi 110095 (India)
Tel.: 22597750 Fax: 22114066, E-mail: jdadminhbas@rediffmail.com Website: www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in
Date 17.11.2020
Advt. No.: 11/2020/Estt./IHBAS/9948
Recruitment Notice
Applications are invited for the posts of Senior Resident as per Residency scheme on Regular/Tenure basis from the Citizens of India for the recruitment Year 2020 as per details given below:

S. No.	Name of Post	No. of vacant posts	UR	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	Pay Matrix Level
1	Sr. Resident (Psychiatry)	10	---	03	---	05	02	Pay Matrix Level-11 (Rs. 67700-Rs. 208700) + NPA
2	Sr. Resident (Neurology)	05	02	01	---	01	01	
3	Sr. Resident (Neurosurgery)	04	01	01	---	01	01	
4	Sr. Resident (Pathology)	01	01	---	---	---	---	
5	Sr. Resident (Microbiology)	01	01	---	---	---	---	
6	Sr. Resident (Neurochemistry)	01	01	---	---	---	---	
7	Sr. Resident (Neuro-Radiology)	03	02	---	---	01	---	
8	Sr. Resident (Neuro-Anesthesia)	05	02	01	---	02	---	
9	Sr. Resident (Neuro-psychopharmacology)	01	---	01	---	---	---	
10	Sr. Resident (Emergency Laboratory)	03	02	---	---	01	---	
Total posts		34	12	07	---	11	04	

Three vacancies (including one backlog vacancy) of Senior Resident are reserved for Person With Disabilities [PWD's] OH(OL) candidates as per Government rules.
For details of eligibility criteria i.e. Qualification, Experience, Age & Application Format and all other details, please visit our website (www.ihbas.delhigovt.nic.in). Upper age limit is relaxable for Schedule Caste, Schedule Tribe and other Backward Classes and PH candidates as per rules. However, OBC certificate issued by the Authority of Delhi Govt. only will be accepted. Institute reserves the right to increase/decrease, fill or not to fill any/all the vacancies.
Last date of submission of filled in application : 31.12.2020.
List of candidates eligible for interview as well as date of interview will be published on the Notice Board and website of IHBAS.
Sd/-
(Dr. Nimesh G. Desai)
Director, IHBAS
DIP/Shabdarth/0457/20-21

INTRODUCTION OF ADDITIONAL FESTIVAL TRAINS-2020 AND EXTENSION OF DATES OF RUN OF EXISTING FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS

In order to clear extra rush of passengers during post festival season, Railways have decided to introduce following additional festival special trains. In addition to it, Railways have also extended the dates of run of existing festival special trains as under:-

INTRODUCTION OF NEW FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS						
Festival Spl. No.	Station From	Dep. Time	Station to	Arr. Time	Frequency / Day	Period
02422	JAMMU TAWI	18:10	AJMER JN	12:20	DAILY	01.12.20 to 31.12.20
02421	AJMER JN	14:05	JAMMU TAWI	08:15		02.12.20 to 01.01.21
02237	VARANASI	12:40	JAMMU TAWI	11:05	DAILY	01.12.20 to 31.12.20
02238	JAMMU TAWI	14:00	VARANASI	12:30		02.12.20 to 01.01.21
04041	DELHI JN	22:25	DEHRADUN	08:25	DAILY	01.12.20 to 31.12.20
04042	DEHRADUN	21:20	DELHI JN	07:25		02.12.20 to 01.01.21
02231	LUCKNOW	22:25	CHANDIGARH	10:05	DAILY	01.12.20 to 31.12.20
02232	CHANDIGARH	21:05	LUCKNOW	08:30		02.12.20 to 01.01.21
02248	H. NIZAMUDDIN JN	20:10	MANIKPUR JN	08:30	DAILY	01.12.20 to 31.12.20
02447	MANIKPUR JN	17:25	H. NIZAMUDDIN JN	05:25		02.12.20 to 01.01.21
04321	BAREILLY	06:35	BHUJ	09:30	Mon, Wed, Fri & Sun	30.11.20 to 30.12.20
04322	BHUJ	17:05	BAREILLY	20:35	Wed, Fri, Sat & Sun	02.12.20 to 01.01.21
04311	BAREILLY	06:35	BHUJ	12:05	Tue, Thu & Sat	01.12.20 to 31.12.20
04312	BHUJ	14:05	BAREILLY	20:35	Mon, Tue & Thu	01.12.20 to 31.12.20
02331	HOWRAH	23:55	JAMMU TAWI	13:10	Tue, Fri & Sat	01.12.20 to 29.12.20
02332	JAMMU TAWI	22:45	HOWRAH	11:30	Thu, Sun & Mon	03.12.20 to 31.12.20
02323	HOWRAH	18:50	BARMER	07:05	Friday	04.12.20 to 25.12.20
02324	BARMER	15:55	HOWRAH	05:50	Wed	09.12.20 to 30.12.20
03019	HOWRAH	21:45	KATHGODAM	09:00	DAILY	01.12.20 to 31.12.20
03020	KATHGODAM	21:50	HOWRAH	12:40		03.12.20 to 02.01.21
04131	PRAYAGRAJ JN	16:20	UDHAMPUR	13:45	Tue, Sat	01.12.20 to 29.12.20
04132	UDHAMPUR	16:05	PRAYAGRAJ JN	13:10	Wed, Sun	02.12.20 to 30.12.20
04113	PRAYAGRAJ JN	21:00	DEHRADUN	13:10	Mon, Wed & Fri	11.12.20 to 30.12.20
04114	DEHRADUN	14:30	PRAYAGRAJ JN	07:40	Tue, Thu & Sat	12.12.20 to 31.12.20
04185	GWALIOR JN	12:00	BARAUNI JN	12:50	DAILY	01.12.20 to 15.12.20
04186	BARAUNI JN	18:40	GWALIOR JN	21:15		02.12.20 to 16.12.20
04185	GWALIOR JN	12:00	BARAUNI JN	12:50	Except-Mon, Thu	16.12.20 to 30.12.20
04186	BARAUNI JN	18:40	GWALIOR JN	21:15	Except-Tue, Fri	17.12.20 to 31.12.20

EXTENSION OF DATES OF RUN OF FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS RUNNING/PASSING FROM NORTHERN RAILWAY NETWORK

Festival Spl. No.	Station From	Dep. Time	Station to	Arr. Time	Frequency / Day	Extended Up to
09313	INDORE	13:55	RAJENDRA NAGAR	15:30	Mon, Wed	02.12.20 to 30.12.20
09314	RAJENDRA NAGAR	11:00	INDORE	14:40	Wed, Fri	04.12.20 to 01.01.21
09321	INDORE	13:55	RAJENDRA NAGAR	16:25	Saturday	05.12.20 to 26.12.20
09322	RAJENDRA NAGAR	11:00	INDORE	14:40	Monday	07.12.20 to 28.12.20
09057	UDHNA	20:35	MANDUADIH	21:00	Friday	04.12.20 to 25.12.20
09058	MANDUADIH	04:50	UDHNA	05:15	Sunday	06.12.20 to 27.12.20
02397	GAYA JN.	14:00	NEW DELHI	04:10	DAILY	01.12.20 to 31.12.20
02398	NEW DELHI	12:50	GAYA JN.	02:55		02.12.20 to 01.01.21
05097	BHAGALPUR	23:50	JAMMU TAWI	13:10	Thu	Up to 31.12.20
05098	JAMMU TAWI	22:45	BHAGALPUR	10:15	Tue	Up to 29.12.20
02511	GORAKHPUR	06:35	THIRUVANANTHAPURAM CTRL	17:20	Fri, Sun	Up to 27.12.20
02512	THIRUVANANTHAPURAM CTRL	06:05	GORAKHPUR	15:20	Tue, Wed	Up to 30.12.20
05018	GORAKHPUR	05:30	LOKMANYA TILAK T	18:05	Daily	Up to 31.12.20
05017	LOKMANYA TILAK T	06:35	GORAKHPUR	19:10		Up to 02.01.21
05101	CHHAPRA	21:15	CH. SHIVAJI MAHARAJ T	06:15	TUE	Up to 29.12.20
05102	CH. SHIVAJI MAHARAJ T	15:30	CHHAPRA	04:40	FRI	Up to 01.01.21
02597	GORAKHPUR	08:30	CH. SHIVAJI MAHARAJ T	12:20	TUE	Up to 29.12.20
02598	CH. SHIVAJI MAHARAJ T	13:30	GORAKHPUR	18:35	WED	Up to 30.12.20
05045	GORAKHPUR	04:45	OKHA	03:55	THU	Up to 31.12.20
05046	OKHA	21:00	GORAKHPUR	19:25	SUN	Up to 03.01.21
05022	GORAKHPUR	13:40	SHALIMAR	10:05	MON	Up to 28.12.20
05021	SHALIMAR	20:20	GORAKHPUR	16:25	TUE	Up to 29.12.20
05029	GORAKHPUR	17:25	PUNE JN	03:30	THU	Up to 31.12.20
05030	PUNE JN	11:15	GORAKHPUR	20:00	SAT	Up to 02.01.21
05115	CHHAPRA	11:15	DELHI JN	11:20	SAT	Up to 26.12.20
05116	DELHI JN	14:00	CHHAPRA	13:20	SUN	Up to 27.12.20
02587	GORAKHPUR	14:20	JAMMU TAWI	13:10	MON	Up to 28.12.20
02588	JAMMU TAWI	22:45	GORAKHPUR	20:30	SAT	Up to 02.01.21
02581	MANDUADIH	22:30	NEW DELHI	12:15	Daily	Up to 31.12.20
02582	NEW DELHI	22:35	MANDUADIH	11:10		Up to 01.01.21
02530	LUCKNOW JN	05:00	PATLIPUTRA JN	14:50	Except-SUN, THU	Up to 30.12.20
02529	PATLIPUTRA JN	15:50	LUCKNOW JN</			

12 SUNDAY STORY

Winter at LAC

The deployment of more than 100,000 soldiers belonging to two big armies, strung out over 872 km, in some of the harshest climes in the world, is simply without parallel in military history. KRISHN KAUSHIK with NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN on how the Army is staying fighting fit on the Line of Actual Control

General Winter". That is the name historians gave to the adversary who routed both Napoleon and Hitler in Russia, more than a century apart from each other.

As the Indian and Chinese armies deployed at the Line of Actual Control eyeball each other, sometimes separated by just hundreds of metres, they are up against the same formidable foe, in a way that ambitious military campaigners of previous centuries might not have imagined. Eastern Ladakh is no Russia. Here the peaks go up to 18,000 ft and more. The winter deployment of more than 100,000 soldiers belonging to two armies, strung out over 872 km, is simply without parallel in military history.

"The first problem faced by a soldier in Ladakh is survival, fighting the enemy comes next... The peculiar geography has a major impact on the fighting and its outcome" — these are the opening sentences of the Fighting in Ladakh chapter of India's official *History of The Conflict with China, 1962*, that was published more than three decades later.

At this time of the year, the maximum temperature in the forward areas of the LAC is as low as 3 degrees Celsius; minimum can plunge to minus 10 to minus 15 degrees Celsius. December and January will see minus 30 to minus 40 degrees, and snow. Added to this is the wind chill, as the official 1962 history highlighted. "Wind generally starts around mid-day and continues throughout thereafter", and the combined effect "can cause cold injuries similar to burn injuries". "Touching metal with bare hands is hazardous."

With no breakthrough yet on a disengagement proposal from China at the eighth round of Corps Commanders' talks, and no word on the next round, around 50,000 or so Indian troops are set for the long haul, guarding peaks over 15,000 ft through the winter, mirroring the deployment of the People's Liberation Army.

Acute Mountain Sickness, high altitude pulmonary oedema, deep vein thrombosis, cerebral venous thrombosis, psychological illnesses — these are just some of the risks they are up against. With falling temperatures will come frostbite, snow-blindness, chilblains, and peeling of skin due to the extremely dry conditions.

Even now, with the most difficult months still ahead, Army sources say, there is daily attrition due to "cold-related" conditions — with many sent back to duty as soon as they get better. While information on altitude-related ailments is confidential, an official source says the non-fatal casualties are "not alarming" and "within the expected ratio". There have been reported evacuations from the Chinese side too, from the heights of Finger 4.

Major General A P Singh (ret'd), who headed the logistics for XIV Corps deployed on the LAC between 2011 and 2013, says that till about a decade ago, the attrition rate was around 20%, mostly due to medical-based non-fatal casualties. "Attrition is because of snow, health or failure of oxygen," he says, adding that soldiers are much better equipped now.

Singh expects soldiers, most of whom were sent to Ladakh between May and September, to be adequately acclimatised. At these heights, that matters as much as who has the superior fire power. Effectively, the Army is in winter deployment at the LAC, though that term has not been officially used. This is the first time.

The 1962 war document states that "nearly equal number of casualties suffered by the Indians were weather casualties", lauding that it is "a tribute to the Indian soldier that even under such circumstances he fought and fought well".

While this is the first ever time that so many troops are present in Ladakh at this time of the year, Indian military veterans say things have changed exponentially — for the better. Indian troops, with four wars against Pakistan (including Kargil), one against China, plus a three-decade-long experience of guarding Siachen, the highest battlefield in the world, are used now to dealing with both the heights and the winter, perhaps more so than their Chinese counterparts. Several establishments such as the Kargil and Siachen Battle Schools and the High Altitude Warfare School in Gulmarg train soldiers specifically to fight at heights.

"Our soldiers are deployed at 21,000 ft in Siachen, at 14,000-15,000 ft in Kargil and 14,000-17,000 ft in Eastern Ladakh," says Lt

Gen P J S Pannu (ret'd), who commanded the XIV Corps from 2016 to 2017. "In both Siachen and Kargil, we have posts that have no access to the outside world once snowfall begins. In the Kargil region, snow accumulates to 15-20 ft... it is highly avalanche-prone. For five to six months, troops are in lockdown positions... This kind of training and resilience is already there in our troops."

Still, nobody thinks it will be easy.



Counting the elements the soldiers are up against, Major General Singh says, "One is the weather, which includes extreme cold and very high-speed winds. The second is the rarefied atmosphere, which is lack of oxygen and a function of the altitude. The third is of course the enemy. All three are treacherous."

For a soldier arriving especially from a garrison in the plains, the first challenge is the sheer drop of oxygen level. The reduction can range between 25 and 65% — from Leh at 12,000 ft, to Mukhpari heights near Spanggur Gap at over 17,000 ft. On arrival troops undergo a three-stage acclimatisation exercise over 14 days. The first stage involves six days at 9,000 to 12,000 ft, with two days of rest and four days of walks and minor climbs. Stage 2 is four days at 12,000 to 15,000 ft heights, walking and climbing, and carrying loads over short distances. The next stage is four days at 15,000 ft and above, with the same walk-climb routine with and without loads.

In an emergency, this process is cut from 14 to 10 days. But that situation does not exist yet, says an officer. At Siachen in comparison, troops are inducted after a 21-day acclimatisation.

This gap gives the body time to adjust to the low oxygen and not go into hypoxia, which can lead to disorientation, nausea, headache, and if not detected early, more serious complications.

A medical memorandum issued by the Directorate General of Armed Force Medical Services in 1997 said that apart from hypoxia and cold, other factors that can affect performance at high altitudes and cause illnesses are "low humidity, solar and ultraviolet radiation".

Lt Gen Pannu points out that the low oxygen levels mean efficiency reduces by almost 30-50%. "The soldier's weight-carrying capability also goes down when, on the contrary, the requirement to carry weight goes

up due to the lack of infrastructure."

The layers of clothing one wears also cut efficacy, Major General Singh says. Talking of the sheer physical exertion needed, including to construct defences and bunkers, he adds that what can be done in the plains in a single day, "takes five to seven days".

At high-altitude posts, soldiers carry anything between 20 and 45 kg of equipment, says a serving officer who does not want to be identified, depending upon the role the soldier is playing, whether offensive, defensive or on patrol. First and foremost are the weapon and ammunition. The weapon can be a pistol or a carbine, a rifle. If the weapon is heavy like a machine gun, weighing over 20 kg, multiple soldiers help carry it. A company of 60 to 120 soldiers carries at least one Medium Machine Gun, a section (6 to 20 soldiers) a rocket launcher. The ammunition load is divided.

Apart from this, a soldier's gear includes boots, clothing for extreme weather, a set of inners, a multi-layered jacket, face protection from the cold, goggles to prevent snow-blindness and a helmet. Then there is a 'sustenance kit', which includes a sleeping bag, mattress, two pairs of change, toiletries, extra socks, a water bottle, and at least 24 hours worth of emergency, high-calorie cooked rations.

At forward posts, soldiers usually carry tinned food. "You cannot carry logistics to the frontline. Certainly not fresh food and vegetables, and due to low atmospheric pressure, you cannot cook in a pressure cooker for example. But it is not possible to eat large quantities of this (tinned) food. The moment you eat, your stomach pushes the diaphragm up against the lungs and heart, making breathing difficult. Very high calorific value of fruits, dried fruits, chocolates are given to soldiers. He enjoys none, and eats only to survive..." says Pannu.

At the same time, any small movement can mean up to six-10 hours. "If pinned down by enemy fire, a soldier should be able to sustain (on his own)," the officer quoted above says.

Rucksack that includes clothes, emergency food as part of sustenance kit

Soldiers on the front also need to carry communication sets, the size depending on whether needed for company-to-company calls, battalion communication, or for communication between battalion headquarters and brigade or division headquarters. The sets get bigger with the formation.



In the 1962 conflict, the Indian forces across all sectors faced a severe paucity of winter clothing. In his book *India's China War*, British journalist Neville Maxwell calls this "inadequate and in short supply", apart from referring to other problems faced by the men such as the rarefied air, and lack of animals to carry loads. "All supplies, often including water, had to be airdropped."

Elaborating what this means, Pannu says, "Imagine the air-dropped supplies falling a kilometre or even a few hundred meters from the designated dropping zone. It becomes a nightmare for the soldier who might spend the rest of the day fetching a few kilograms of essential supplies."

Nearly 60 years after the India-China war, India still does not manufacture the insulated clothing required for the heights at which soldiers are now deployed in Ladakh. The clothing is imported at steep rates. Last month, at a public event, Vice Army Chief Lt General S K Saini talked of "a lack of viable indigenous solutions".

Clothing has to not just ensure that the soldier keeps warm but also not be too heavy. Pannu warns against "heat load", where the wearer feels hot when he is physically active but not warm enough when he is static.

Referring to the difference between Ladakh, Siachen and Kargil, all of which come under XIV Corps, Singh says that the LAC does not see that much snow, but "is cold, rocky". "Soldiers here will not carry much snow clothing, but will carry warm clothing." In comparison, in Siachen soldiers need alpine clothing and mountaineering equipment.

The winds also mean mere tents cannot be much of a protection, Singh says.

Recently, the Army unveiled some newly constructed heated accommodation for troops deployed behind the LAC; sources say facilities to accommodate all the men are in place. These are "smart camps" with barrack-like structures, and including electricity, water, heating, and other facilities. At the frontline though, where soldiers sit on peaks facing the PLA, they live in "heated tents as per tactical considerations", an officer says.

Pannu notes that in reality a soldier might not spend much time inside the shelters. "He has to patrol, as well as build bunkers and defence work against the enemy's fire and shelling from ground and air... He has to ultimately dig into the earth and bear the consequences of extreme cold directly."



As deployment of this kind has never been required before at the LAC, many of the forward posts in Eastern Ladakh are being newly established, with no military infrastructure in place. This means, says the officer requesting anonymity, carrying material to create "defensive structures", "if occupying a new feature", as the heights on the north bank of Pangong Tso and in the Chushul sub-sector on the southern bank. Digging tools and corrugated galvanised iron sheets are needed to build bunkers and observation posts.

With the road infrastructure patchy, tracks right up to the top exist in only a few places, and soldiers must carry most of the equipment. "We use some amount of animal transport but patrolling is usually carried out on foot, unlike PLA troops who try and reach locations as far as possible by vehicles," says Pannu.

The Chinese have the advantage of a topography that is like a rooftop — flat, with fewer mountains that are far apart, making the valleys on their side much wider, the veteran officer adds. "They have built highways, much easier to build on that side as they don't go through so many mountain passes or tunnels. We, however, need to drill tunnels and build roads over passes. We cannot build very wide roads as that would need cutting mountains. The precipitation level on our side is also much more, therefore



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

LINE OF DEFENCE

NUMBERS: **50,000-PLUS;**
average deployment is **15,000 to 17,000** usually

HEIGHTS: **AVERAGE 15,000 FT,**
going upwards of **18,000 FT**

LAC LENGTH: **OVER 870 KM**
in Eastern Ladakh

WEATHER CONDITIONS:
Temperatures 3 degrees to -15 degrees Celsius currently, will fall to up to -40 degrees; oxygen low by 25% to 65%



Upgraded living facilities for the troops on the border. PTI

ACCOMMODATION: Corrugated galvanised iron sheets for bunkers; heated tents on the frontlines; and new 'smart camps' behind the LAC

Warm cap under hood

Goggles to protect from snow blindness

Extreme cold climate multi-layered jacket with inner lining

Personal weapons. In this case, a SigSauer SIG716 rifle

Multi-layered trousers

■ This is special clothing for 14,000 feet and above. Most of the troops on the frontline in Pangong Tso and Chushul would have a similar kit

■ The soldiers carry enough ammunition (to attack/defend, depending on tasks), water bottle and medicine. As part of the unit, they might also have to carry ammunition for larger weapons, medicines, equipment to build defensive structures

■ The weight a soldier carries can vary from 20 to 45 kg, depending on the role he is playing and location

Multi-purpose/rubber boots depending on the task

ing rotated as quickly as every two weeks. Singh says this is possible given the numbers the Army has there now, with a substantial strength in reserve. "If you come back from the post in two-three weeks, you are recouping yourself."

At Siachen, which has infrastructure in place now at the forward posts as well as the base, a soldier generally spends around 90 days on the front. However, often this rolls over, an officer says, and beyond an acceptable limit, the damage could be permanent. The officer adds that they expect harsher climates in Ladakh, and hence the short rotation times.

"It is not just about maintaining a presence, but also keeping the soldier combat-ready. If you have to fight, you have to keep the health at a certain level. So, an early turnover may be necessitated. He can do a second round after a break," the officer says, stressing this balance between raising defence and sustenance.

It's not just the men either. Tanks, artillery systems and other hardware also need to be protected from the cold. "The equipment needs to be hardened and winterised. Repair and recovery are extremely difficult at sub-zero temperatures. In-situ workshops are equipped with warm canopies with bazooka heaters. The oil and radiators are prepared for the winter. All equipment with water pipes faces the problem of freezing, but certain innovations were made (during my time) to ensure water does not remain static in pipes," says Pannu.

"There are inbuilt SOPs depending on the nature of the equipment, depending on whether they have oil, gas or electronic systems," says another officer.

Whatever the difficulties, as of now, the troops at the border have dug in for the long haul, quite prepared for the eventuality that there may be no breakthrough towards disengagement. At the moment here is no clarity even on when, or if, the next round of senior commanders meeting will take place. There is precedence that a resolution could take years. In Sumdorong Chu in Arunachal Pradesh, a standoff that began in 1986 took seven years before status quo ante was restored.

While no one can predict if the winter deployment at the LAC is going to become an annual feature, there are murmurs that these are the first straws in the icy winds blowing over Ladakh of the "LoC-isation" of the LAC, meaning the border with China may turn into a front that has to be defended in the same way as the one with Pakistan.

And even as nobody wants that, this year could just be the start of a long, cold winter.



New Delhi



Across
THE AISLE



PCHIDAMBARAM

Website: pchidambaram.in
Twitter @Pchidambaram, IN

The effect of low trade volumes, a current account surplus and an appreciating rupee can be devastating on the economy. The first casualty will be jobs. The invisible macro economic effect will be that scarce capital of India will be invested abroad. Imagine a developing country, that is desperately in need of capital, actually exporting its capital to other countries to be invested there! American businesses must be laughing all the way to the bank

A FEW days ago, the Chief Economic Adviser said “India may record a current account surplus in 2020-21”. He also pointed out that in Q1 (April-June 2020) “we had a surplus of USD 19.8 billion and even if we do not see that kind of performance in subsequent quarters, we would still likely have a current account surplus”. The CEA has described the phenomenon as ‘under heating’. It means that demand has collapsed and the so-called stimulus packages (paltry and poorly targeted) of the government have failed to revive demand — at least, so far. Here is a good metric of demand: the Plant Load Factor of thermal plants, according to the power minister, is expected to touch only 56.5 per cent in 2021-22. Despite ‘under heating’, retail inflation has risen to 7.61 per cent and food inflation to 11.07 per cent, placing a cruel burden on the poor.

THE JOBS CHALLENGE

The silver lining is agriculture. We had a bumper *rabi* crop (2020) of 148 million tonnes of food grain and the estimate of the *kharif* crop (2020) is 144 million tonnes. Tractor sales are estimated to grow by 9 per cent this year. According to FMCG companies, rural demand is better than urban demand. Yet, rural wage growth rate has been muted. Therefore, the picture is mixed, with more grey than green, but that should not distort our macro economic assessment.

Slow march backward

The overall economy is in bad shape, policy making is confused, and the claims of a revival are exaggerated. The real benchmarks are jobs and wages/income. According to the CMIE (since government numbers are no longer available), the current unemployment rate is 6.68 per cent. Read that along with the labour participation rate which is a dismal 41 per cent and the female labour participation rate which is 25 per cent. Only 11 out of 100 employed are women; but of 11 jobs lost, four are women’s. Between September 2019 and 2020, about 11-12 million people dropped out of the labour force.

BIAS TOWARDS RICH

‘Under-heating’ of the economy is as bad as ‘over-heating’. When over-heating happens, there is inflation, interest rates are increased to dampen demand, firms are encouraged to step up production and, if there are well-functioning markets and corrective measures are taken, the equilibrium between demand and supply is restored. What do we do when there is ‘under heating’? This is a new challenge for India and one that the present government seems incapable of tackling. The reason is its inclination to pamper corporates rather than help the poor. If I may give one example, a Rs 1,45,000 crore bonanza in the form of tax cuts was given to the corporates. That money ought to have been given to the

poor in the form of free rations or cash transfers. Corporates used the windfall to de-leverage and shore up their cash holdings. They did not invest. If the poor had got the money, they would not have starved — as they did for many days in the week for nearly three months. They would have bought food, milk, medicines and other essential goods and services and boosted overall demand. The current account is in surplus because exports exceed imports, though both are less compared to the benchmarks of the past. The effect of low trade volumes, a current account surplus and an appreciating rupee can be devastating on the economy. The first casualty will be jobs. The invisible macro economic effect will be that scarce capital of India will be invested abroad. Imagine a developing country, that is desperately in need of capital, actually exporting its capital to other countries to be invested there! American businesses must be laughing all the way to the bank.

SELF-RELIANCE OR
AUTARKY

I sincerely hope that the proponents of *Atmanirbhar* did not intend these outcomes. If *Atmanirbhar* means a degree of self-reliance, we must welcome it. But if *Atmanirbhar*, in policy and practice, will mean protectionism, anti-free trade, high

tariffs, autarky, return of licences and controls, and arbitrary and discretionary rules, that will be the surest road to disaster. I fervently hope that Mr Modi will not out-Trump Mr Trump. We live in a strange world where the President of communist China speaks eloquently on the virtues of free trade and globalisation and the President of capitalist United States speaks derisively of trade agreements, WTO, free trade, climate change and the Paris Accord! Is the world being turned topsy-turvy? It took India 30 years to break out of what the economist Prof Raj Krishna dubbed the ‘Hindu rate of growth’, although I believe that Hindu kings of yore like the Chola rulers and the Maurya rulers were visionaries, outward looking and expanded the economic reach of India to as far as China, Indonesia and Rome. They were true globalists, and raised India’s share of the world’s GDP to 25 per cent. In those imperial days — when we did not have trained economists — India embraced free trade, captured new markets and increased the wealth of the many nationalities within India. I shudder to think that we may be turning our back on that rich legacy and adopting policies that will return us to an era of low growth. Oxford Economics has warned us that in the next five years India may witness an average growth rate of 4.5 per cent. It is a wake-up call.

Fifth
COLUMN

TAVLEEN SINGH
Twitter @tavleen_singh



We must
never forget

IT TROUBLED me to see the farmers’ agitation get more media coverage last week than the twelfth anniversary of 26/11. Personally, I make it a point to never forget this grim anniversary for the reason that, as someone who lives in Mumbai, I pay close attention to any improvements that I notice in policing methods. As I have done every year since 2008, I can report that there have been no improvements at all. In this cowardly war that Pakistan continues to wage against India, our frontline soldiers are ordinary policemen. They cannot be expected to fight well unless they are trained in counter-terrorism. This has not yet begun to happen. In the Sonia-Manmohan era it was sort of accepted that national security would remain weak. Manmohan Singh actually weakened it by conceding in Sharm el-Sheikh at his first meeting with Pakistan’s prime minister after 26/11 that ‘terrorism’ in Balochistan should also be discussed. One of Rahul Gandhi’s closest aides, Digvijaya Singh, released a book whose title was ‘26/11: An RSS plot’. Rahul himself famously told an American ambassador that he believed ‘safron’ terrorism was a bigger threat than the jihadist kind. What disturbs me is that in the seven years that we have been ruled by Narendra Modi the same lackadaisical approach to national security continues. If Pakistan’s jihadist Generals decide that they want a repeat of 26/11, they would find it just as easy to succeed. It is astounding that we have allowed Pakistan to continue repeating the lie that the attack was carried out by ‘non-State actors’. How can this be possible when the Lashkar-e-Toiba is itself a creation of the ISI? How can Pakistan continue daring to demand ‘proof’ of its role in 26/11?

The military men who control Pakistan are never going to change. As someone who has had the dubious privilege of meeting many of them on visits to Pakistan, I can say on good authority that their hatred for India motivates their every move. What we need is for the men in charge of our security to realise that the only way to win this horrible war is by strengthening our own defences. Israel should be our role model. It is surrounded by hostile countries whose declared aim is to destroy it and yet it has managed to win against them. How? What are they doing right that we are doing wrong? On last week’s anniversary of 26/11, Narendra Modi announced that we are now fighting terrorism with ‘a new process’. Really? Well, I can report that in Mumbai there is no sign of change. For the first two or three years after the attack when the 26/11 anniversary approached, the streets would be filled for a few days with armoured cars and policemen patrolling in uniforms that had ‘Commando’ written on the back of their shirts. It was pointless melodrama. The city’s hotels, restaurants, hospitals and train stations remain as vulnerable as they were when Ajmal Kasab arrived with his fellow jihadis to spread murder and mayhem until Tukaram Omble died apprehending him. And, until his companions were all killed. The attack only ended after commandos arrived from Delhi. Many lives may have been saved if they had not taken more than 24 hours to get to Mumbai.

The reason why 26/11 must be remembered every year is not just because it was the worst terrorist attack on Indian soil but because it completely changed our relationship with Pakistan. Until it happened it was easy for those of liberal disposition, on both sides of the border, to trot off to Wagah and light candles to convey a warm and fuzzy idea of friendship and goodwill. After 26/11 most Indians see Pakistan as a country with whom there will always be hostilities. This should make it easier for the Prime Minister to demand radical changes in the way that national security is handled. Why has this not yet happened? Why has the Home Minister, who some see as Iron Man 2.0, wasted time hunting illegal immigrants from Bangladesh instead of reforming the methods used to train our police? Why are they forced to work in punishing conditions and live with their families in squalid quarters when they are our frontline soldiers in this ugly war? Every now and then the Prime Minister declares at some international forum that the world needs to come together to combat the menace of jihadist terrorism. These declarations would have more meaning if they were accompanied by real changes on the ground. Islamist terrorism exists all over the world. But, every country has its own particular battles to fight. In India we are dealing with a country that has shown that it will never hesitate to send suicidal jihadis across the border to kill innocent people in the most brutal ways. After 26/11 the lesson we have learned is that it is no longer about Kashmir. It is about harming India in every way possible and the reason why Mumbai has been on target since the synchronized bombings on March 12, 1993, is with the specific aim of weakening India’s economy. It saddens me to say that Mumbai remains as vulnerable today as it was on those awful days 12 years ago when senior police officers sat helplessly in their vehicles unable to understand who the enemy was or where. This could happen again.

My ISOLATION

A WEEKLY WINDOW INTO THE LIVES OF INDIA’S NEWSMAKERS AND IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC ON THEM

‘Time off meant I realised my kid’s sense of humour’

What precautions do you take to stay Covid-free?

I have not been on the sets much during this period. When I do step out, I maintain physical distancing if not social distancing. Since I live in Madh Island and my building society is not very crowded, we don’t have to worry much. However, I am particular about wearing a mask whenever I leave home.

Have you got yourself tested for Covid-19?

I had to get the test done while shooting on three-four occasions. This has become a pre-requisite before any shoot. I had some work remaining for the show *Criminal Justice*. So, I had to shoot for 10 days in August. That apart, I had a one-day ad shoot.

How has your life changed during this period?

For the last three years, I have been shooting round-the-clock. I got a break from that and had the opportunity to spend time at home. Initially, I was not used to video chats so much. Now, I have learnt. My wife and daughter, who are more tech-savvy, help me out when I have any trouble.

When will you resume shooting?

In January, I will shoot for a new film in Mumbai. The project is yet to be announced.

While interacting with people at work, what precautions do you take?

The entire unit goes through Covid test and that’s reassuring. There is a team to ensure sanitisation is done properly. Oxygen level and temperature of everyone in the unit are checked. Still, one has to be careful.

How did you spend this period of isolation with your family?

I have been cooking and enjoying meals with my family. I mostly make simple vegetarian dishes like *dal*, *chawal* and *bhujia*, which is a staple diet in Bihar. I spent a lot of time with my daughter and realised that she has developed a good sense of humour.

Do you take any specific precautions while you travel?

Earlier this month, we travelled to Goa. We were bored and thought of going on a short vacation. Since we travelled in our own vehicle, I didn’t have to worry much.



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

It has been a busy year for actor PANKAJ TRIPATHI, 44, notwithstanding the slowing down of production due to Covid. This includes release of web-series *Mirzapur 2*, marking his return as Kaleen Bhaiya. His performance in recent movies *Gunjan Saxena* and *Ludo* has also been widely appreciated

INTERVIEW BY ALAKA SAHANI

How do you keep your mind off the pandemic?

How is that possible? Anyway, I have been doing yoga for two hours and reading a lot. Recently, I read a book by Praveen Kumar, Anurag Pathak’s *Twelfth Fail*. I have got some new books that have been published by Rajkamal Prakashan and Rajpal & Sons. Since I have read most of the popular titles in Hindi literature, these days I look for books by young and contemporary authors.

What is the first thing you want to do when the pandemic is past?

I want to travel freely, without any fear. I want to explore different parts of India. I can pick any destination — mountains, a desert or a forest.

Dalitality

GOUTHAM RAJ KONDA



CITY-WARD migration for Scheduled Caste (Dalits hereafter) populations is synonymous with social development, as the city life offers socio-economic opportunities, better standards of living, educational and health facilities as compared to rural areas. The National Sample Survey Office’s 2011-12 report showed that the Monthly Per-capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) by Dalits in urban areas was Rs 2,028, compared to Rs 1,252 in rural. The MPCE is a proxy for household incomes and the above data suggest that urban Dalits earn more than their rural counterparts. With intent to unshackle themselves from caste-based poverty and exclusion, many Dalits migrate to cities. Dr B R Ambedkar also urged Dalits to embrace cities for their liberation from caste oppression in rural areas.

Using the 2011 Census data on Dalits and slum population, the spatial marginalisation of Dalits in urban India can be studied by comparing the state-wise percentage of Dalits living in urban areas with 1) the percentage of Dalits in the total slum population; and 2) the percentage of slum-dwellers in the total urban Dalit population.

The nearly decade old 2011 Census data had to be chosen as it is the most recent data on Dalits in urban and slum areas available. The 2011 Census captured data on all notified, recognised and identified slums in urban India.

As per the Census, 37.7 crore people (31.1%) lived in urban India, of whom 4.7 crore (12.6%) were Dalits. In 2001, 79.6% of the total Dalit population in India lived in rural areas, which by 2011 had decreased to 76.4%. During the same period, the percentage of Dalits living in urban areas had increased from 20.4% to 23.6%. These figures suggest that, though slow, there is strong city-ward migration among Dalits.

Much of Indian society follows caste norms to perpetuate birth-inherited caste ‘purity’. Such social norms are strongly persistent in rural India. Is urban India any different for Dalits? Where do Dalits live in urban areas in India? Are they evenly distributed across the urban fabric, suggesting social inclusion and integration? Or are they concentrated in marginalised urban spaces that manifest poverty and exclusion? The data from the 2011 Census proves the latter to be true, suggesting that Indian cities exclude Dalits in their spatial fabric.

The 2011 Census data from several large states suggest that Dalits disproportionately live in slums. The data also highlight that 1) the percentage of Dalits living in slums is more and, in most cases twice their per-

Slum numbers show cities don’t help Dalits shed caste



2011 Census shows proportion of Dalits living in slums is in most cases twice their share in the total urban population, and that most urban Dalits are slum dwellers

age in the total urban population; and 2) a majority of urban Dalits are slum-dwellers. This indicates how a large share of Dalits are compelled to live in inadequate housing, devoid of basic services in urban India.

The 2011 Census showed that 12.6% of the population in urban India were Dalits. However, Dalits constituted 20.3% of the slum population. To put this in absolute numbers, while urban India’s 6.5 crore people lived in slums, 1.3 crore of the slum population were Dalits. However, the worrying figure is that of the percentage of slum-dwellers in the total Dalit population in urban areas — 28% of India’s total urban Dalit population were slum-dwellers. To put in absolute numbers: while 4.7 crore Dalits lived in urban areas, 1.3 crore of these were slum-dwellers. Or, approximately one in every three Dalits living in urban areas was settled in a slum; and one in every five slum-dwellers in urban India was a Dalit. This clearly indicates how Dalits are more concentrated in slums.

In Maharashtra, 11.3% of the urban population were Dalits whereas Dalits in the total slum population were 15.7%. Punjab and Tamil Nadu reported the highest percentage of Dalits among the total slum population, with 39.8% and 31.9%, respectively. The data show that a majority of the slum dwellers in these two states were Dalits and, especially, for Punjab the figure was as high as nearly half of the total slum population.

In Maharashtra, 57.8 lakh urban residents were Dalits and 32.2% of them lived in slums. Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh had the highest level of spatial marginalisation of Dalits as they reported 47.1% and 40.7%, respectively, of urban Dalits residing in slums — nearly half of the total urban Dalits in each state.

The above discussion invariably proves that Dalit urban residents are disproportionately concentrated in slums. Caste hierarchies and identities of the marginalised do not disappear in cities; caste manifests in caste-based housing segregation and discrimination in selling a house or renting it out to an SC/ST despite their ability to pay.

Slum being one of the dominant spatial manifestations of prolonged economic deprivation and social exclusion, the emergence and existence of a slum qualify as social and spatial injustice in a society. The spatial marginalisation of a historically disenfranchised social group like Dalits in urban India shows that the liberation process of the marginalised by the Indian State is subservient to the strong perseverance of caste hegemony in India. Often caste persists even within slums, manifesting in segregated housing, public utilities and endogamy.

The caste question in India’s urban marginality provides an opportunity for the Indian State to strengthen its, recently eroding, socialist promise by extending affirmative action to affordable housing for Dalits in urban areas. For the State to design and implement social policies to uplift Dalits in urban India, it is essential to produce meticulous spatial and socioeconomic surveys and studies on urban Dalit households and ward-level projections on urban Dalit population.

The writer is an urban researcher with a postgraduate degree in Urban Policy and Governance from TISS, Mumbai.

Suraj Yengde, author of Caste Matters, curates the fortnightly ‘Dalitality’ column

On the
LOOSE

LEHERKALA

leherkala@gmail.com



IN THE very watchable fourth season of *The Crown*, Lady Diana’s struggles with bulimia are exposed in unflinching detail, illuminating the tragically wide chasm between appearance and reality. The storyline has reignited conversation on eating disorders, though the subject is no longer trendy. In 2020 especially, admitting to a desire for an idealized shape is distinctly un-woke. When the world is threatened by pandemic apocalypse and race riots have broken in the secure democracy in the world, only a tone deaf narcissist will fixate on tawdry weight gain problems. Nowadays, it’s the Body Positivity Movement that began as a reaction to unrealistic beauty standards that

Acceptance of size, easier said than done

has all the media attention.

A Google search for “first recorded eating disorder” reveals evidence of an upper class Roman girl dieting herself to death in the Hellenistic era, around 323 BC. A narrow silhouette with a protruding collar bone and a fragile long neck has been a standard of beauty in China since the Hun dynasty, 2000 years ago. Not much has changed. China’s luxury brand Shanghai Tang still caters to a scandalously slender frame: anyone slightly off in proportion may only gaze longingly at their elegant designs. Similarly, the corset was indispensable to show off a perfect figure in 19th century Europe. What’s clear is that since the inception of the human race people have tried valiantly to be attractive, and irrespective of the era, attractive meant slim. And throughout history, eating disorders have existed though

the motivations may not have been the pursuit of thinness, but purification or religious reasons, or whatever pressures the socio-cultural climate exerted then.

It is to be marvelled at that it took this long to challenge an aesthetic ideal that so ruthlessly alienates vast swathes of humanity. At its core, the message of Body Positivity is an important one — that whatever one’s size, it should not infringe upon one’s ability to lead a fulfilling life. This less than revolutionary idea has only made headway in the last decade. Currently, BP activists on Instagram are quasi celebrities themselves. By fearlessly revelling in all shapes and sizes they bring truth to the fore, that striving for physical perfection is a torturous aim that occupies way too much headspace. It’s akin to the pressure final year school students are made to feel: anything less than a 99 is

not good enough, and there lies precisely the reason for the mental health crisis facing India’s youth. Similarly, the quest to be a certain size leads to a self-defeating cycle of fad diets that sucks the joy out of so many other pleasures of existence. But can unconditional body acceptance ever be a reality? The truth is if you were to hand most people a magic wand they won’t wish away Covid or ask for world peace but pray, fervently, that they be 10 kilos lighter. I’m not even referring to the morbidly obese who really need to be thinner. Rather, that vast majority who are closer to plump than fat. From what I can see, this obsession with svelteness applies to all (adult) age groups and genders, and cuts across class and caste lines. Point to note, you never meet people who say they are desperate to put on weight. It’s because they don’t exist. A friend

of mine who’s an open, recovered anorexic noted that even her well-wishers, while expressing concern for her health, would invariably end a conversation by asking her for diet tips. In fact, many, if not all women fall in the category of failed anorexics. They aspire to be able to starve themselves and become very thin but they can’t manage it. It’s too hard if you’re not crazy enough.

The BP messaging is right, to prioritise health over looks and get on with life, but I really wonder if anyone genuinely believes it. It may even be worth asking if there is any point trying to bridge these gaps between our limitations and desires — everything is not resolvable. Perhaps, it might be more freeing to accept that conflicting feelings on body image will be the lot of mankind till kingdom come.

The writer is director, Hutkay Films

14 THE WORLD

TOP OF THE WORLD

EMMANUEL MACRON
French President

FRANCE

Images of police beating Black man shameful for France: Macron

PRESIDENT EMMANUEL Macron said on Friday that images showing Paris police beating up a Black music producer were shameful for France, and that government would have to find a way to restore public confidence in the force. Prosecutors are investigating the violent arrest of Michel Zecler, who said he was also racially abused by the officers, after CCTV footage of the incident was released. The police watchdog is also investigating. Four police officers were being held for questioning as part of the investigation, the Paris Prosecutor's office said. **REUTERS**

IRAQ

Cleric's supporters clash with protesters, 5 killed

SUPPORTERS OF a fire-brand Iraqi cleric shot dead five people on Saturday, according to medical officials, in overnight clashes with anti-government protesters in southern Iraq. The anti-government demonstrators attempted to bloc the path of a rally supporting Shia Muslim leader Moqtada al-Sadr. The anti-government protesters were camped out at a main square in the city of Nasiriya, which has been an epicentre of the youth-led protest movement that has sought to sweep aside Iraq's ruling sectarian elite. **AP**

BRITAIN

UK appoints vaccines minister

THE BRITISH government appointed a vaccines minister on Saturday as it prepares to inoculate millions of people against the coronavirus, potentially starting within days. Prime Minister Boris Johnson said Conservative lawmaker Nadhim Zahawi will oversee the country's biggest vaccine program in decades. The UK medicines regulator is currently assessing two vaccines — one developed by Pfizer and BioNTech, the other by Oxford University and AstraZeneca — to see if they are safe and effective. *The Guardian* reported that hospitals have been told they could receive the first doses of the Pfizer shot the week of December 7. **AP**



THAI PROTESTS INTENSIFY DESPITE THREATS

Thai anti-government protesters demonstrated in Bangkok's outskirts on Saturday with a duck parade and speeches demanding the removal of Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, a new constitution and reforms to the monarchy. Protests have been stepped up this week despite threats by Prayuth, a former junta ruler, to use all available laws against protesters who break them and charges of insulting the monarchy against several protest leaders. Protesters are seeking the removal of Prayuth, accusing him of engineering an election last year to keep power that he seized from an elected government in a 2014 coup. He has said the vote was fair and he will not resign. **AP**

Brexit: UK, EU resume trade talks with time running out

JILL LAWLESS

LONDON, NOVEMBER 28

TEAMS FROM Britain and the European Union resumed face-to-face talks on a post-Brexit trade deal Saturday, with both sides sounding gloomy about striking an agreement in the little time that remains.

EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier returned to London to meet his UK counterpart David Frost. Talks have been held virtually for the past week as Barnier completed a spell of self-isolation after a member of his team tested positive for the coronavirus.

Covid-19 is just one complication in negotiations that remain snagged over key issues including fishing rights and fair-competition rules. Barnier said Friday that the remote talks had made little progress and the "same significant divergences persist".

The UK left the EU early this year, but remained part of the bloc's economic embrace during an 11-month transition as the two sides tried to negotiate a new free-trade deal to take effect January 1. Talks have already slipped past the mid-November date long seen as a deadline to secure a deal in time for it to be

Two major points of disagreement

THE DRAWN-OUT negotiations between the UK and the EU regarding a post-Brexit trade deal have seen both sides agree to around 95% of the terms, but there are two major issues that are holding up the deal. The biggest sticking point is the EU's insistence on "level playing field" rules if the UK is to access the bloc's vast market. This would mean that the UK will have to make sure that

EXPLAINED

its regulations in areas such as workers' rights, competition and environmental policy must match the EU's. But

hardline Brexiters say such an alignment would be a betrayal of Brexit. The other point that is holding up the deal is the UK's resistance to continued EU access to Britain's fishing waters. However, there have been signs that the EU maybe willing to compromise on this.

approved and ratified by lawmakers in Britain and the EU.

If there is no deal, New Year's Day will bring huge disruption, with the overnight imposition of tariffs and other barriers to UK-EU trade. That will hurt both sides, but the burden will fall most heavily on Britain, which does almost half its trade with the EU.

While both sides want a deal, they have fundamental differences about what it entails. The 27-nation EU accuses Britain of seeking to retain access to the bloc's vast market without

agreeing to abide by its rules, and wants strict guarantees on "level playing field" standards the UK must meet to export into the EU.

The UK claims the EU is failing to respect its independence and making demands it has not placed on other countries with whom it has free trade deals, such as Canada.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson told Irish leader Micheal Martin on Friday that he remained committed "to reaching a deal that respects the sovereignty of the UK," Johnson's office said. **REUTERS**

WHO says would be 'highly speculative' to say Covid-19 did not emerge in China

REUTERS

GENEVA, NOVEMBER 28

THE WORLD Health Organisation's top emergency expert said on Friday it would be "highly speculative" for the WHO to say the coronavirus did not emerge in China, where it was first identified in a food market in December last year.

China is pushing a narrative via state media that the virus existed abroad before it was discovered in the central city of



Mike Ryan, WHO's top emergency expert

China is pushing a narrative via state media that the virus existed abroad before it was discovered in the central city of Wuhan

Wuhan, citing the presence of coronavirus on imported frozen food packaging and scientific papers claiming it had been circulating in Europe last year.

"I think it's highly speculative for us to say that the disease did not emerge in China," Mike Ryan said at a virtual briefing in Geneva after being asked if

Covid-19 could have first emerged outside China.

"It is clear from a public health perspective that you start your investigations where the human cases first emerged," he added, saying that evidence might then lead to other places.

He repeated that the WHO intended to send researchers to the Wuhan food market to probe the virus origins further.

The WHO has been accused by the Trump administration of being "China-centric", allegations it has repeatedly denied.

Floye Dubois, 19, a juggler at the Zavattelli Circus, practises in a parking lot in Gembloux, Belgium, where the circus has been maintained under lockdown for nearly a year amid the Covid-19 pandemic. **Reuters**



Iran's supreme leader promises retaliation for nuclear scientist's killing

Ayatollah Khamenei vows to continue Fakhrizadeh's work

PARISA HAFEZI

DUBAI, NOVEMBER 28

IRAN'S SUPREME leader promised on Saturday to retaliate for the killing of the Islamic Republic's top nuclear scientist, who the West and Israel believed was the architect of a secret Iranian programme to make weapons.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's top authority who says Tehran has never sought nuclear arms, also pledged in his statement on Twitter to continue the work of Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, who died on Friday after gunman ambushed him in his car near Tehran.

The killing, which Iran's President was swift to blame on Israel, threatens to spark a new Middle East confrontation in the final weeks of US President Donald Trump's term.

It could also complicate any efforts by President-elect Joe Biden to revive a detente with Tehran that was forged when he was in Barack Obama's administration. Trump pulled Washington out of the 2015 international nuclear pact agreed with Tehran.

Khamenei said in his Twitter post that Iranian officials must take up the task of "pursuing this crime and punishing its perpetrators and those who commanded it."

Israel's N12 news channel said Israeli embassies had been put on high alert after the Iranian threats of retaliation. An Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman said the minister did not comment on security regarding its representation abroad.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani told a televised cabinet meeting that Iran would respond "at the proper time".

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Twitter that Iranian officials must take up the task of "pursuing this crime and punishing its perpetrators and those who commanded it". **Reuters**

US sanctions Russian, Chinese firms for links to Iran missile programme

Washington: The US has imposed sanctions on four companies from China and Russia for supporting Iran's missile programme that remains a "significant proliferation concern", Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said.

The announcement was made on Friday as the US continues to take tough measures against Iran for continuing their activities related to nuclear arms.

"The US has sanctioned four entities in China and Russia for their support of Iran's missile programme,

which remains a significant proliferation concern. We will continue to use all our sanctions tools to prevent Iran from advancing its missile capabilities," Pompeo said.

The companies are Chengdu Best New Materials Co Ltd and Zibo Elim Trade Co, Ltd. in China and Nilco Group, which is also known as Nil Fam Khazar Company and SanTERS Holding and Joint Stock Company Elecon in Russia, which have been accused of transferring sensitive technology and items to Iran's missile programme. **PTI**

"Once again, the evil hands of Global Arrogance and the Zionist mercenaries were stained with the blood of an Iranian son," he said, using terms officials employ to refer to Israel.

Israel has declined to comment on the killing. The White House, Pentagon, US State Department and CIA also declined to comment, as did

Biden's transition team.

"Whether Iran is tempted to take revenge or whether it restrains itself, it will make it difficult for Biden to return to the nuclear agreement," Amos Yadlin, a former Israeli military intelligence chief and director of Israel's Institute for National Security Studies, wrote on Twitter. **REUTERS**

In fresh blow to Trump, US court rejects Pennsylvania election case

TOM HALS

NOVEMBER 28

A FEDERAL appeals court on Friday rejected an attempt by US President Donald Trump's campaign to block President-elect Joe Biden from being declared the winner of Pennsylvania, dealing another significant setback to Trump's bid to overturn the November 3 election.

"Free, fair elections are the lifeblood of our democracy. Charges of unfairness are serious. But calling an election unfair does not make it so," wrote Stephanos Bibas on behalf of a three-judge panel.

"Charges require specific allegations and then proof. We have neither here," wrote Bibas, who was nominated by Trump.

The Trump campaign and its supporters have tried and failed to convince judges of election irregularities in Michigan, Georgia, Arizona and Nevada, all critical to Biden's victory.

"Voters, not lawyers, choose the President. Ballots, not briefs, decide elections," said the appeals court opinion.

"On to SCOTUS!" wrote Jenna



The Trump campaign has tried and failed to convince judges of election irregularities in Michigan, Georgia, Arizona and Nevada

Ellis, a Trump campaign attorney, on Twitter after the ruling, referring to a planned appeal to the US Supreme Court. "The activist judicial machinery in Pennsylvania continues to cover up the allegations of massive fraud."

Pennsylvania certified Biden, who won the state by 80,000 votes, as its winner this week. Under Pennsylvania law, the candidate who wins the popular vote in the state gets all of the state's 20 electoral votes.

Trump, a Republican, has re-

fused to concede to his Democratic rival and continues to claim, without evidence, widespread voter fraud.

But as his legal challenges to the results fail, Trump said on Thursday he will leave the White House if the Electoral College votes for Biden when it meets on December 14, the closest he has come to conceding the election.

On Monday, Trump's administration cleared the way Biden to transition to the White House, giving him access to briefings and funding even as Trump vowed to continue fighting the election results.

Biden won the election 306-232 in electoral votes, including Pennsylvania's 20.

While Trump and his supporters continue to wage legal battles, time is running out as states as states have until December 8 to resolve election disputes.

Legal experts have said the cases have no chance of success and may be aimed at undermining confidence in the election. Polls have showed a majority of Republicans believe Trump won the election and many believe the election was tainted, despite a lack of evidence. **REUTERS**

THE ZAVATELLI CIRCUS IS ONE OF 3 FAMILY OPERATIONS THAT DATE BACK TO 1800 AND WAS ONCE KNOWN AS THE CIRQUE DE PARIS

The circus can't leave town: 200-yr-old French show stranded in Belgian car park

YVES HERMAN

GEMBOUX, NOVEMBER 28

THE EXOTIC animals are confined to small paddocks, the acrobats have been grounded, and the clowns aren't able to make an audience laugh anymore.

The coronavirus has brought the curtain down on the Zavattelli Circus, at least for the time being.

Unable to travel or perform across Europe, the French family-run operation is waiting out the pandemic in a car park in the southern Belgium town of

Gembloux - and quickly running out of funds to feed its animals.

"For us, the confinement is very difficult because we are not working. We have no cash flow," said circus director Kevin Dubois.

The Zavattelli Circus typically pitches its 600-seater Big Top in 30 cities each year. But since March, when Covid-19 cases began rising in Europe, it has only been able to perform with a reduced capacity, or not at all during Belgium's spring and autumn lockdowns.

The show features jugglers

and acrobats, a conjuror, clowns and a tightrope-walker, and a menagerie including camels, llamas, buffaloes and ponies.

Now the staff are living in trailers in the car park, stopping their skills from going rusty with outdoor practice sessions in the crisp Autumn air.

The animals are kept in enclosures under red and white striped awnings, with straw strewn over the car park's ground.

"Frankly, it is becoming an issue because we have 60 animals to feed," Dubois said.

The cost of food for the ani-

mals runs to about 500 euros (\$600) per week. There are also 23 circus staff to support.

"We don't know how to make ends meet," he said.

The Zavattelli Circus is one of three family operations that date back to 1800 and was once known as the Cirque de Paris.

The two others, Armanzo and Anderland, owned by the same family, are also on the rented site in Gembloux, about 50 km south of Brussels.

While the circus could return home to France, it would not be permitted to perform there either.

Belgium, like France, is under its second lockdown since the coronavirus epidemic hit Europe in February.

Although shops are expected to reopen soon, cultural operations such as circuses in Belgium must remain closed until further notice.

Dubois lamented the lack of state financial support.

"We have not received any financial assistance (from the authorities). A lot of people gave us bread, carrots, they bring us seeds, hay. But in terms of money, we did not get anything," Dubois said. **REUTERS**

15 ECONOMY

AMID OVERALL CONTRACTION IN ECONOMY

Bank loan outstanding shrinks in FY21 so far; home, industry credit growth fall

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

THE GROWTH rate in credit off-take by home buyers and industry declined during the seven-month period ended October 2020 in the wake of the overall contraction in the economy due to the Covid pandemic, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data. The total non-food bank credit outstanding decelerated by 0.7 per cent during the seven months to Rs 91,46,631 crore from Rs 92,11,544 crore in March, compared to growth of 0.3 per cent in the year-ago period.

The overall outstanding home loans rose by just 2.6 per cent to Rs 13,73,277 crore in the April-October period, as against 9.4 per cent growth in the same period of last year. On a year-on-year basis, the growth rate fell to 8.2 per cent from 19.4 per cent a year ago, according to the latest RBI data.

On the other hand, credit to industry decelerated by 5.7 per cent

OCT: PERSONAL LOANS SEE DECELERATED GROWTH

■ Personal loans registered a decelerated growth of 9.3 per cent in October 2020 as compared with 17.2 per cent growth in October 2019.
■ Within this sector, vehicle loans continued to perform well, registering accelerated growth of 8.4 per cent in

October 2020 as against a growth of 5.0 per cent in October 2019.
■ Credit growth to agriculture and allied activities accelerated to 7.4 per cent in October 2020 from 7.1 per cent in October 2019.

in the seven-month period to Rs 27,39,841 crore from Rs 29,05,151 crore in March, compared to a contraction of 3.4 per cent a year ago. Credit outstanding of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) declined by 5.3 per cent and large industry fell by 6.7 per cent. However, medium sector showed growth of 16.6 per cent, as per the RBI data.

"On a year-on-year (Y-o-Y) basis, total non-food bank credit growth decelerated to 5.6 per cent in October 2020 from 8.3 per cent in October 2019," the RBI

said. Personal loans registered a decelerated growth of 9.3 per cent in October 2020 as compared with 17.2 per cent growth in October 2019. Within this sector, vehicle loans continued to perform well, registering accelerated growth of 8.4 per cent in October 2020 as against a growth of 5.0 per cent in October 2019. Credit growth to agriculture and allied activities accelerated to 7.4 per cent in October 2020 from 7.1 per cent in October 2019.

On a Y-o-Y basis, credit to industry contracted by 1.7 per cent

in October 2020, compared with 3.4 per cent growth in October 2019, mainly on the back of contraction in credit to large industries by 2.9 per cent in October 2020 (4.2 per cent growth a year ago) though credit to medium industries registered a robust growth rate of 16.6 per cent in October 2020 (1.2 per cent a year ago).

According to Union Bank MD and CEO Rajkiran Rai, sanctions and outstanding don't correlate. "We do a lot of investment credit by way of bonds. Corporates raised bonds but these were cheaper and they paid their loan outstanding. Further, working capital utilisation of large corporates came down during the Covid time. As a result, the credit outstanding in the system has come down. But sanctions were quite decent during this period during the comparable period of last year," he said.

"Some segments like MSMEs and large corporates are hiring but disbursements will take some time. We expect that by March,

we will see a growth rate close to double digits," he said.

According to the RBI, within industry, credit to food processing, petroleum, coal products & nuclear fuels, leather & leather products, paper & paper products and vehicles, vehicle parts & transport equipment registered accelerated growth in October 2020 as compared with the growth in the corresponding month of the previous year. However, credit growth to beverage & tobacco, rubber plastic & their products, chemical & chemical products, cement & cement products, all engineering, gems & jewellery, infrastructure and construction contracted.

Credit growth to the services sector accelerated to 9.5 per cent in October 2020 from 6.5 per cent in October 2019. Within this sector, credit to professional services, computer software and trade registered accelerated growth in October 2020 vis-à-vis the growth in the corresponding month of the previous year, the RBI said.

CRUDE WATCH

OIL PRICES POST WEEKLY GAIN

New York: Oil prices were mixed on Friday but posted a fourth straight week of gains ahead of an OPEC+ meeting early next week. Brent crude January futures rose 38 cents to settle at \$48.18 a barrel, while West Texas Intermediate futures fell 18 cents to \$45.53. **REUTERS**

Insider trading case: Sebi bars NDTV promoters, others; Roys to file appeal

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has barred the promoters of New Delhi Television Ltd (NDTV) — Pranjoy Roy and Radhika Roy — from the securities market for two years and also directed them to disgorge "illegal gains of more than Rs 16.97 crore" for alleged "insider trading" over 12 years ago.

The market regulator also barred seven other individuals and entities for insider trading in the shares of the media company for a period varying from one to two years. Some of them have been asked to disgorge illegal gains made from trading in the shares when they were in possession of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information (UPSI). The directions follow a probe conducted by Sebi between September 2006 and June 2008.

According to NDTV, Pranjoy Roy and Radhika Roy have informed the company that their lawyers, led by Fereshte Sethna, senior partner at DMD Advocates, hold that the Sebi order is based on an inaccurate assessment of facts and will not withstand scrutiny in appeal. "The appeal will be filed immediately," it said.

The Sebi order said the amount has to be paid jointly or severally by them along with 6 per cent interest from April 17, 2008, till the

Sebi has directed Pranjoy Roy and Radhika Roy to disgorge 'illegal gains of more than Rs 16.97 crore'

date of actual payment. All the entities have violated Prohibition of Insider Trading (PIT) Regulations, Sebi said in three separate orders passed late on Friday.

The Sebi order noted that Pranjoy Roy and Radhika Roy together made a gain of Rs 16.97 crore while indulging in insider trading in the shares of NDTV while in possession of UPSI relating to the proposed reorganisation of the company. Pranjoy Roy was the chairman and whole-time director and Radhika Roy was the managing director during the period under investigation and were part of the decision-making chain that led to the crystallisation of the UPSI.

It said discussions pertaining to reorganisation of the company started on September 7, 2007, and the disclosure was made on April 16, 2008. Hence, September 7, 2007 to April 16, 2008 was the UPSI period. Pranjoy Roy and Radhika Roy sold shares on April 17, 2008, when the trading window for them was closed and made a profit of Rs 16.97 crore Sebi's order said.

As per Sebi, by doing so, they violated PIT norms and also acted in contravention of NDTV's code of

conduct for prevention of insider trading which prohibited them from trading at least till 24 hours after the information was disclosed to the stock exchanges. The promoters have been restrained from accessing the securities market for two years and directed to disgorge illegal gains along with 6 per cent interest per annum.

Sebi said Vikramaditya Chandra, who was the group CEO and executive director during the relevant period, made a profit of Rs 6.67 lakh, Ishwari Prasad Bajpai, who was senior advisor-editorial and projects, made an illegal gain of Rs 8.82 lakh while director-finance and group CFO Saurav Banerjee incurred a loss of Rs 47,000 while trading in NDTV's scrip during the UPSI period. The shares, which were sold during the UPSI period, were acquired by them pursuant to allotment under ESOPs.

Sebi has, thus, directed disgorgement of respective illegal gains, along with 6 per cent interest per annum, and barred Chandra, Bajpai and Banerjee from accessing securities market for one year. Sanjay Dutt's wife Prenita Dutt and entities connected to him — Quantum Securities Pvt Ltd., SAL Real Estate Pvt Ltd and Taj Capital Partners Pvt Ltd. — had made a wrongful gain of Rs 2.2 crore through insider trading while in possession of UPSI. Sanjay Dutt was an on-call and inhouse advisor/team member of NDTV group.

BRIEFLY

EPFO extends life certificate deadline

New Delhi: The EPFO has extended the deadline for submission of life certificates by pensioners till February 28, a move that will benefit over 35 lakh people who could not submit the document by November due to pandemic.

Retail inflation for industrial workers rises

New Delhi: Retail inflation for industrial workers rose marginally to 5.91 per cent in October from 5.62 per cent in September this year mainly due to higher prices of certain food items.

IndiGrid inks pact to acquire 74% in PKTCL

New Delhi: India Grid Trust on Saturday said it has inked an agreement to acquire 74 per cent stake in Parbati Koldam Transmission Company from Reliance Infrastructure. **PTI**

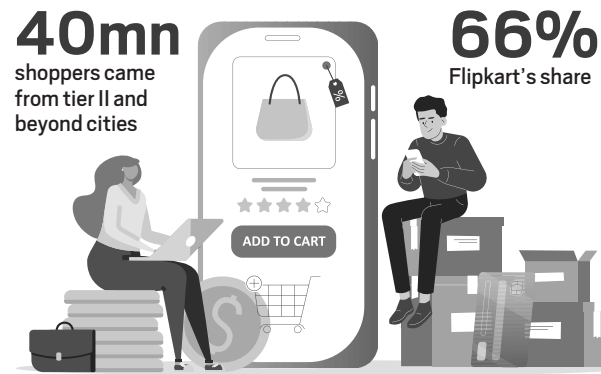
'HSBC considers exit from US retail banking'

Bengaluru: HSBC Holdings is considering a complete exit from retail banking in the US after narrowing options for how to improve performance at its struggling North America business, *Financial Times* reported. **REUTERS**

AMID COVID

'E-commerce festive season gross sales leap 65% to \$8.3 bn'

E-commerce festive sale season from October 15-November 15 delivered \$8.3 billion worth of gross sales for brands and sellers, up 65 per cent from \$5 billion last year, RedSeer said



Mobile phones continued to dominate the percentage share (at 46 per cent) of all products across platforms, owing to a rise in aspiration among new customers. Categories like home furnishings have "done better than anytime before"

Source: RedSeer/PTI

Despite being worst affected in Q1, quite puzzling how manufacturing turned itself around: SBI report

PRESSTRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

THE SURPRISE resilience shown by the manufacturing sector that restricted GDP contraction to only 7.5 per cent in September quarter could be a result of massive purge in costs such as employee cost by corporates and businesses, which could turn a potential headwind in future, economists at SBI wrote on Saturday.

India's July-September (Q2 of 2020-21 fiscal) GDP growth showed surprising resilience with contraction of only 7.5 per cent in real terms, while the market consensus was higher, wrote Soumya Kanti Ghosh, Group Chief

"We believe one possible reason for this could be stellar corporate GVA numbers in Q2 on the back of massive purge in costs"

SBI ECOWRAP

Economic Adviser, State Bank of India, in Ecowrap.

With improvement in manufacturing, due to lifting of lockdown measures GDP contraction has slowed down significantly. Agriculture sector continued to perform well with growth at 3.4 per cent. Services remained in the negative territory, although the decline was contained as trade, hotels, transport, communication

and services related to broadcasting showed recovery.

"The most astonishing number is the positive growth in manufacturing Q2. Despite being the worst affected sector in Q1 (due to lockdown), it is quite puzzling how manufacturing turned itself around," he wrote in the Ecowrap issue. The IIP manufacturing and manufacturing GVA growth are highly correlated (almost more than 0.90) and this correlation collapsed in Q2 when IIP manufacturing declined by 6.7 per cent (average of July-September) while manufacturing GVA grew by 0.6 per cent.

"We believe one possible reason for this could be stellar corporate GVA numbers in Q2 on the

\$3.2 billion

(Rs 22,000 crore) worth of gross sales was registered in September this year, which zoomed to \$8.3 billion in the festive period

\$4.2 billion

(Rs 29,000 crore) was logged in the first event, \$1.2 billion (Rs 8,700 crore) in the second event and \$1.4 billion (Rs 9,700 crore) and \$1.5 billion (Rs 10,300 crore) in other events by e-commerce companies, including Amazon, and Walmart-owned Flipkart.

FLIPKART GROUP (including Myntra) and Amazon accounted for more than 88 per cent of the entire gross merchandise value

(GMV) for the festive month

FESTIVE SEASON sees players holding multiple sale events, timed around Dussehra and Diwali.

OUTLOOK: The overall growth has been bullish this festive season. The actual figures surpassed expectations fairly comfortably, showing how comfortable consumers have become with shopping online even in this pandemic hit year

₹6,600

GMV per customer dropped this festive season from Rs 7,450 in the year-ago period due to affordability schemes increasing the share of users from tier II and beyond cities

MEETING GST REVENUE SHORTFALL

Now, Punjab too accepts Centre's borrowing option

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

CONGRESS-RULED PUNJAB has accepted the Centre's borrowing proposal and will get Rs 8,359 crore through the special window to meet GST revenue shortfall.

"Government of Punjab has communicated acceptance of option 1 to meet the revenue shortfall arising out of GST implementation. The number of states which have chosen this option has gone up to 26. All the 3 Union Territories with Legislative Assembly (i.e. Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir and Puducherry) have also decided in favour of option 1," a Finance Ministry statement said.

The Centre has already borrowed Rs 24,000 crore on behalf of the states in four instalments and has passed it on to 23 states and three Union Territories on October 23, November 2, November 9 and November 23. From the next round of borrowings, Punjab, Kerala and West Bengal too would receive funds raised through this window.

Earlier this week, Kerala and West Bengal had communicated to the Centre about accepting the

HOW MUCH WILL THE STATE GET?

■ Punjab will get permission for additional borrowing of Rs 3,033 crore (0.5% of its GSDP).

borrowing option to meet GST revenue shortfall. All opposition-ruled states had initially opposed joining the borrowing plan opposed by Centre.

Under the terms of option 1, besides getting the facility of a special window for borrowings to meet the shortfall arising out of GST implementation, states are also entitled to get unconditional permission to borrow the final instalment of 0.50 per cent of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) out of the 2 per cent additional borrowings permitted by the Government of India, under 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' mission. This is over and above the special window of Rs 1.1 lakh crore.

So, Punjab will get permission for additional borrowing of Rs 3,033 crore (0.5 per cent of its GSDP), the Ministry added.

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

THE GOVERNMENT is mulling cancelling GST registration for 5.43 lakh taxpayers who have not filed monthly tax returns (GSTR-3B) for the last six months or more, sources in the revenue department said. Additionally, the department would 'persuade' 25,000 taxpayers, who have not filed returns for October that was due by November 24, to comply with tax return deadlines.

Sources said tax officers have been directed to follow up personally with these defaulting taxpayers so that their GSTR-3B returns due for the month are filed by November 30. These assesseees were identified on the basis of last month's statistics, sources said after a high-level meeting held in the revenue department.

The push for better compliance comes on the heels of tax department's nationwide drive against fake invoice scams. It is suspected that fraudsters often register firm under GST but remain mostly dormant on compliance while using the status to claim invalid input tax credit (ITC). **FE**

'More Chinese apps to be banned soon, govt preparing fresh list'

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

THE GOVERNMENT is in the process of preparing a fresh list of Chinese mobile apps that would be banned very shortly. Sources said since there's no comprehensive list of Chinese apps that can be banned in one go, the process adopted is to follow the apps that find traction in app stores and are being downloaded the most. Once this is done, strict monitoring is done and action taken.

There are several apps, which, despite being banned, reappear through proxies and, therefore, continuous monitoring needs to be done.

The strategy of the government is clear. By banning more and more Chinese apps at regular intervals and then providing them the route to present their case before an inter-ministerial panel, the pace of bans would be

RISK OF PROXIES

■ There are several apps, which, despite being banned, reappear through proxies and, therefore, continuous monitoring needs to be done.

far ahead of the redressal mechanism process.

For instance, on November 24, the government banned a fresh set of 43 Chinese mobile apps, including the likes of Alibaba Workbench, CamCard and a host of dating apps among others, by invoking Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, which empowers it to block apps/content that are engaged in activities prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity of the country, its defence, security of state and public order.

This is the fourth instance of the government banning Chinese apps since the India-China border skirmish erupted. The government had first banned 59 apps, including TikTok, WeChat, etc, on June 29, followed by another set of 47 apps in July, which were proxies of the banned apps. On September 2, it banned 118 Chinese mobile apps, which included the popular gaming platform PUBG as well as Baidu, which is China's largest search engine provider.

In all, around 267 apps have been banned since June but the redressal mechanism for the first set is far from over.

In the case of app bans, the law is such that the government does not need to first serve a notice to the companies concerned and wait for their replies. The companies concerned also cannot approach courts for any interim relief. **FE**

Almost 65% of domestic air travel back to pre-Covid level: Kharola

PRESSTRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

NEARLY 65 per cent of the domestic air travel has returned to the pre-COVID-19 level and now there is a need to evolve a strategy to bring back the tourism industry on its feet, Civil Aviation Secretary Pradeep Singh Kharola said on Saturday.

He was addressing a webinar on 'Aviation and Tourism—the Road Ahead' hosted by the Federation of Association of Indian Tourism & Hospitality (FAITH).

Kharola also said in the times of Covid-19 air travel has become a preferred mode of travel for being a safe means of transportation.

Why prefixing '0' will be mandatory for landline to mobile calls from Jan 15?

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 28

THE DEPARTMENT of Telecommunications (DoT) has mandated prefixing "0" for all calls being made from fixed-line or landline phones to mobile phones with effect from January 15. This follows recommendations from the sector regulator TRAI, which had arrived to this conclusion after studying the issue of adequate numbering resources for fixed line and mobile services.

What has been the change?

All calls made from landline to mobile phones will be dialled with the prefix "0" from January 15. Those dealing a mobile number from a fixed line phones without the prefix will hear an announcement. Dialling "0" before the mobile phone number was a practice followed for outstation mobile

numbers before the government allowed inter-circle mobile number portability, which effectively meant that there was no trunk dialling when it came to mobile numbers and all numbers were considered local. However, even from January 15, the dialling procedure for mobile phones to mobile phones will not change.

What was the need to re-introduce the "0" prefix?

Given that India has 10-digit mobile numbering plans, and that series for numbers starting with "0" and "1" are reserved for special purposes, theoretically 800 crore numbers are possible. Till now, mobile numbers were traditionally registered to series starting from "9", and some combinations starting with "8", "7" and "6". Currently, with these combina-

tions a total of 115 crore mobile numbers are available. Even though the "9" series — meaning mobile numbers starting with "9" has been fully used, those starting with other numbers overlap with certain numbering plans issued to landline phones. Therefore, to create sufficient numbering combinations, the prefix "0" has been re-introduced. In addition to subscription of mobile numbers by consumers, SIM cards are also being used for machine-to-machine communication purposes. These include use-cases such as smart meters, for which the government has already allocated a 13-digit numbering system. TRAI had also recommended that all the SIM-based M2M connections using 10-digit mobile numbering series should be shifted to the 13-digit numbering

series allocated by DoT for M2M communication; at the earliest.

What is the impact of this?

As of August 31, 2020 there were already 114.79 crore wireless subscribers in the country. On the one hand wireless subscriptions are gradually increasing, on the other landline subscriptions are recording a decrease in user base. Several series have so far been exclusively allocated to landline operators. For example, "72" has been allocated to landline numbers of BSNL and MTNL, "4" has been allocated to Airtel, "35" and "796" has been allocated to Reliance Jio. The decision to add the prefix will not only clear the overlap between landline and mobile phone numbers carrying the same series but will also free up numbering resources for mobile phones in the future. In the near term itself, the exercise will result in generation of 253.9 crore numbers.

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS MAGAZINE

eye



POINT OF VIEW

Tuesday Once More

History continues to be written within the magical walls of the cabinet room,



SPOTLIGHT

Dressed to Sprint

Behind the rise of women runners in India is a quiet fashion revolution

One of the hallmarks of modern politics is the constant glare of scrutiny that it attracts. In his poignant and measured presidential memoir, former US president Barack Obama examines the weight of expectations riding on him and his efforts to match up to it



PETE SOUZA/THE WHITE HOUSE

LOOKING AT CHANGE

Pratap Bhanu Mehta

HERE IS a moment in Barack Obama's *A Promised Land* (Viking, Rs 1,999), when he goes to meet (Czech statesman) Václav Havel. As he is leaving, Obama thanks Havel for his advice and promises him that America will pursue democratic values. Obama writes, "'You've been cursed with people's high expectations,' he (Havel) said, shaking my hand. 'Because it means they are also easily disappointed. It's something I'm familiar with. I fear it can be a trap.'"

In the case of Obama, expectations from his tenure were unusually high. Here is a politician with a resplendent personality; a sparkling intelligence that shines in almost every utterance, an unusual degree of emotional intelligence that allows him to size up people and situations, enviable powers of articulation, and a character that has remained remarkably unsullied for someone in politics. But *A Promised Land*, a beautifully written, poignant and measured presidential memoir, one of the best in that distinctive American genre, often reads in the overall arc of its narrative, as an answer to the weight of expectations that Havel talks about.

The book has many purposes and many pleasures. It attempts to be an "honest rendering" of Obama's time in office. It is a chronicle of what it is like to be the president. But before we get to the political story, it is worth emphasising the poignancy of Obama's human story, made vivid by novelistic writing. It is a wonderful story of family relationships, the occasional strains and tensions but also the boundless love. His admirably warm interest in people of all kinds, in their individuality, is remarkable. The high point of the narrative thread in this story is Obama's relationship with his grandmother, who had raised him in Hawaii. He writes "in tough spots, I tend to channel my grandmother." But it would be a heartless soul whose eyes do not well up with tears at the paragraphs describing her last days, and what she meant to him as a moral lodestar and as a witness. He looks back to his own childhood with her — "Another time, another life. Modest and without consequence to the rest of the world. But one that had

given me love. Once Toot was gone, there would be no one left who remembered that life, or remembered me in it."

The first half of the book is a riveting account of a fairy-tale political career that sees Obama move from a state legislator to the president. The account of his political rise is probably the strongest and most self-reflective section of the book, more so than his time as president, when the weight of history and the Official Secrets Act takes over. Though there are a share of disappointments early in his political career, there never seems to have been any doubt about his trajectory. As Emil Jones, in the Illinois legislature put it, "Barack's different. He's going places." The personal drama of this part comes from the constant examination of his own motives for going into politics and doubling down on it, especially against Michelle Obama's scepticism. But as always, there is a clinical clarity to his approach to politics, and his sense of timing and political momentum is unerring. His first campaign for political office confirmed what he already knew about himself — "that whatever preference I had for fair play, I didn't like to lose."

In his time in office, politics becomes the tense drama between the audacity of hope and the grim obduracy of power politics. There are three areas where

Obama promised change but also bears the weight of disappointed expectations. The first is political style. All throughout, Obama maintains a studied commitment to reasonableness: a faith in the power of argument, of being above the fray, of building bridges, much to the consternation of his own side. The thing he regrets most is conveying the idea that he disrespects someone's beliefs. And yet, how does this attitude work in a media environment committed to inflammatory propaganda, and in the face of a Republican Party embodying a Mitch McConnell type of attitude, "Like I care"? Literally every single item on the Obama agenda — from the size of the Recovery and Reinvestment Act to Obamacare to racial issues — is hostage to the partisanship. The second tension is between Obama's seeming commitment to economic justice and his deference to a prudence borne out a fear of the power of the financial sector. After the 2009 global financial crisis, Obama resists the calls for what he calls "Old Testament Justice" — the calls for punishing bankers



AP FILE

HOPE AND GLORY

(Top) President-elect Barack Obama backstage at the US Capitol before walking out to take the oath of office, January 20, 2009; with his wife Michelle and two daughters in November 2012

and taming Wall Street. The Recovery Act, a programme of extraordinary economic and political finesse, was a considerable achievement. But this section will give grist to the mills of those who think Obama showed too much New-Testament forbearance towards Wall Street. For Obama, prudence rather than justice is the first virtue.

The third axis of tension is on race. Obama's election was itself epochal. But he has to repress his own depth of feeling on racial issues to get there. The most difficult moments in the book are when Obama has

startling only when you consider the monumental and tragic irony: the most reasonable of presidents subject to the most partisan rancour, a commitment to justice that leaves no one satisfied, and a sophistication on the issue of race that neither assuages white anxieties nor black fears.

But it is on foreign policy that the book is more disappointing. Partly because there is a template quality to his writing: a brief but formulaic history of the part of the world he is writing about, followed by deft character sketches which are brilliant, not least because of his eye for physical detail, and, then, a reiteration of America's role in that part of the world. While he is good at giving many sides of the argument on any issue, his own world view seems to collapse under the weight of constraints, and his own desire to renew the myth of moral America. Take an example — Obama has admitted elsewhere that the intervention in Libya was a mistake. But here, he positions himself once again via a bit of triangulation. On the one hand he distinguishes his position from

Samantha Power's (a Democrat, she served as the US ambassador at the United Nations between 2013 and '17). He remarks that the Responsibility to Protect was a doctrine without defined parameters. Having defused

Power's more expansive ideas of philanthropy by war, Obama, nevertheless, wants to reach out for an American mission. "I considered this a sign of moral progress. For most of America's history, the thought of using combat forces to stop a government from killing its own people would have been a non-starter — because such state-sponsored violence happened all the time; because US policymakers didn't consider the death of innocent Cambodians, Argentinians, or Ugandans relevant to our interests; and because many of the perpetrators were our allies in the fight against communism."

To his credit, Obama is brutally scathing about previous American interventionism, including the bloody CIA-backed coups in Indonesia. But on Libya, that caution fails him. He consults everyone. It is striking in Obama's account how much of the American establishment, from Susan Rice to Hillary Clinton to the incoming Secretary of State Tony Blinken, retained the interventionist instinct. There was significant international consensus on the issue, with both the European and Arab states supporting intervention. There is an assessment of likely causal consequences: the belief that if war started, Muammar al-Gaddafi's instincts for self-preservation would kick in and he would negotiate a safe exit. This is an assumption that turns out to be fatally wrong. Obama was probably also premature in closing off alternatives to war. But hovering in the background is that temptation that American intervention can be the harbinger of moral progress. The contrast between his own position and the old establishment's, however, is a distinction without difference as becomes clear in the case of Libya, Yemen and his use of drone strikes. Obama seems to think he moved the needle on America's foreign-policy consciousness by making it more moral, but, perhaps, he forgets that the previous framework that Obama is scathing about did also cloak itself under the garb of righteousness and the fate of humanity.

It is to Obama's credit that he presents his case as clearly and strongly as anyone can, but does not pronounce it a triumphal success. His only note of self-congratulation, and, perhaps, deservedly, is the ability to stay calm in the face of his own foreboding. There is a telling detail that Obama apparently lowers his voice the angrier he gets. This is, admittedly, only the first volume, and a full case for the prosecution and defence will have to await the second volume.

But, in its own way, this memoir is an ex-

tended reflection on the nature of modern politics. One of the remarkable things about modern politics is that it is conducted under the constant glare of scrutiny. Ironically, it is not actions that are scrutinised as much as words and persona, and literally every word or a misspoken sentence can have political consequences. There is an elective affinity between this kind of politics and Obama's own personal hyperawareness, where he can turn the gaze of the other on himself. But calibrating oneself to that scrutiny can also make one look less authentic, more calculating. Perhaps, part of Donald Trump's appeal was just that put-on refusal of the demands of self-awareness.

Obama appears liberal by conviction and conservative by temperament, in this sense. The moral burden he carries is of the politics of avoiding the lesser evil. This is, at one level, a responsible attitude. But it runs the risk that liberal politics justifies itself always against a lesser evil in relation to which one looks better. It cedes ambition and any risk-taking to the right wing. And, finally, there is the vexed issue of national myths. It is remarkable that Obama has a foreboding as early as 2010, that the global fate of democracy is fragile. Eastern Europe, Turkey look like they are backsliding, and Obama wonders if even India's success is a fluke that can crumble. His faith in America is severely tested by the issue of race. But he has internalised the one lesson that the memoirs of almost any major statesman will exude in full measure: to aspire to leadership you must hold onto the national myth, the story of its exceptionalism and greatness, even in the face of great odds. You have to show that your land is indeed "a promised land".

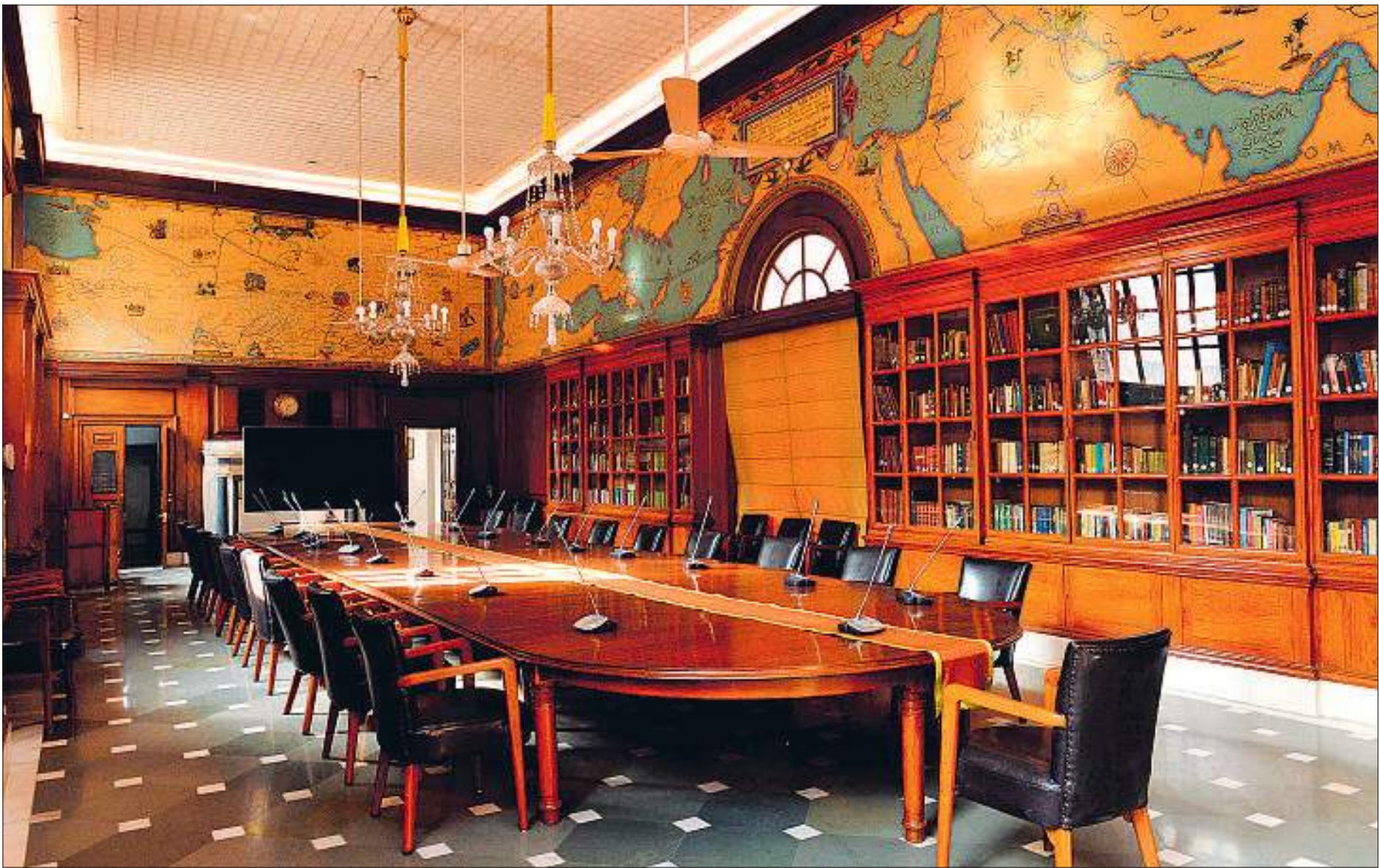
The left will think that Obama is making too many excuses, as if saying, the country was not ready for me; the right will argue Obama is shifting the blame to them. But both might do well to heed the advice of one of the greatest American novelists, John Williams in his novel *Augustus* (1972): "It seems to me that the moralist is the most useless and contemptible of creatures. He is useless in that he would expend his energies upon making judgments rather than upon gaining knowledge, for the reason that judgment is easy and knowledge is difficult." *A Promised Land* is an ode to the difficulty of judgment, even as it makes apparent where it falters.

Pratap Bhanu Mehta is contributing editor, *The Indian Express*



New Delhi





PHOTOS COURTESY RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN

Tuesday Once More

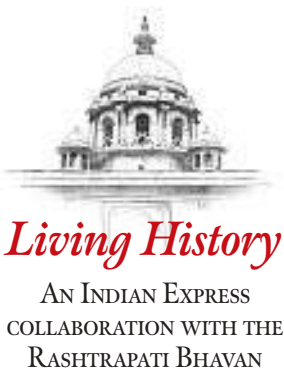
History continues to be written within the magical walls of the cabinet room, where a kaleidoscope of lands and stories await

Praveen Siddharth

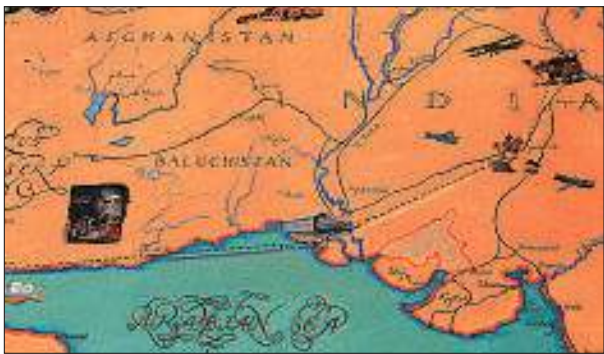
IT IS Tuesday and our weekly afternoon ritual in the cabinet room of the Rashtrapati Bhavan begins. Seated around a majestic rectangular hardwood table that can easily accommodate 50 people, we are gathered for a staff meeting. The agenda for today's meeting is displayed on a large LCD screen placed at the far end of the table. Sometimes, the topic of discussion concerns an upcoming visit of a head of state. But, normally, the discussions are less exciting but equally important, such as administrative issues of the vast President's estate or upkeep of the grand main building and its numerous rooms.

Fifteen minutes into the meeting, green tea and samosas are wheeled in, providing a welcome diversion. The meeting persists with the speaker oblivious to the excitement caused by the entrance of the liveried attendants. The long table soon sees a flurry of activity with the clanging of silverware and clinking of cups. As I sip my tea, I marvel that this was the same table on which history had been written. Or rather, drawn up. In 1947, the cabinet room had served as the final venue for the Radcliffe commission, set up to

demarcate the boundaries between India and East and West Pakistan. At that time, large detailed maps had been laid out in the space now invaded by teacups and plates, holding leftover crumbs. Men sat down in meetings across this table agonising over a thin pencil line, whose shape decided the destiny of millions across the subcontinent. The man in the hot seat then was Sir Cyril Radcliffe, a British lawyer who had never set foot in Asia before. He was brought in by the Viceroy Lord Mountbatten to do the inglorious job of dissecting India. As the poet WH Auden wrote: "But in seven weeks it was done, the frontiers decided; A continent for better or worse divided. The next day he sailed for England, where he quickly forgot; The case, as a good lawyer must" (Partition, 1966). Sipping my tea, I hoped history and the poets would judge us, sitting here today in the same room, more kindly. Meetings are a remarkably enduring aspect of government life. They have been taking place regularly in the cabinet room for almost a century. Previously, this room was known as the council room and had served as the meeting room for the Viceroy's executive council, the *de jure* cabinet. There was rarely an Indian face then. The table in the room was the battleground across which Indians tried to wrest the gov-



Living History
AN INDIAN EXPRESS
COLLABORATION WITH THE
RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN



AN EYE ON THE WORLD
(Top) In 1947, the Rashtrapati Bhavan's cabinet room had served as the final venue for the Radcliffe commission, set up to demarcate the boundaries between India and East and West Pakistan; details from the maps painted on the walls of the cabinet room

ernance of the country inch by inch. Gradually, more Indians were included in the council until 1946, when the interim government began to function with just the Governor-General and the Commander-in-Chief remaining British. Today, only familiar faces are seen in the room and all are assuredly Indian. Like an old warhorse that has seen its share of battles, the table rests, having witnessed the sun set over the empire. As the discussions continue, my eyes wander to the walls of the room. And these walls are like none you would have ever seen. Large maps of the subcontinent are painted on them but not the boring kinds thrust on every schoolchild. These are painted in bright colours with playful cartoons marking out important towns and sights. Sir Edwin Lutyens initially had planned to paint more sedate and ornate maps inspired by the Galleria delle Carte Geografiche (gallery of maps) in the Vatican, painted by geographer Ignazio Danti between 1580 and '83. He proposed the name of MacDonald Gill from London for the job. In a letter to the Viceroy, Lutyens wrote about the British graphic designer and cartographer: "...had a long experience at such work and is now engaged on some of the Empire Rand maps". But MacDonald Gill sent an estimate of Rs 19,000 for the job which was a princely

sum in 1930. Meanwhile, Percy Brown, who had retired as the principal of the Government school of Art in Calcutta in 1927 and was serving as the Curator of the Victoria Memorial hall, offered to paint the room with Indian painters and craftsmen for half the price. Between June and October of 1930, the paintings on the walls of the cabinet room were brought to life by Indian painters hired by Brown, most of whom had never travelled beyond their own country. Yet, I can't help but wonder how many dreams these walls have given wings to.

The walls continue to maintain their magical spell over me and I can't seem to peel my eyes off them. There are magnificent sea dragons, resplendent tigers, moustachioed men peering into the horizon, alluring sea nymphs and fleets of camels. Etched on the north walls of the room is the air route from Delhi to London with halts at Gwadar, Alexandria, Athens and Belgrade. Each of these cities is represented by a charming motif. The maps don't just reveal places, they magically transport me there. One moment I am part of a group of nomads leading their yaks across the Taklamakan and the next I am face to face with a Naga warrior in his tribal attire. Turning my gaze, I heroically escape bandits prowling above the Arabian lands to board a waiting seaplane that flies me over the Sphinx. Just like that, the whole room comes alive with a kaleidoscope of lands and marvels. And I am no longer bound by the agenda of the 3 pm meeting.

Meanwhile, in another world, the meeting draws to a close. Papers are gathered and laptops shut. My small seaplane sputters and smoke billows out of the rotors. As the lights in the cabinet room are turned off, I get out of my seaplane and wait patiently for it to be Tuesday once more.

Praveen Siddharth is private secretary to the President of India

EYE SPY

EVERY FORTNIGHT, WE PICK, YOU WATCH

Liar's Dice



BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nicole Kidman (left) in *The Undoing*

Do we really know the people we love, asks HBO's *The Undoing*

Shubhra Gupta

IF YOU, like me, have been devouring *The Undoing*, the HBO series streaming on Disney+ Hotstar, then this is tenthooks time. The big reveal is right around the corner: who killed the girl in the studio, the husband, the lover, or someone else?

The six-part series, based on Jean Hanff Koretz's 2014 novel *You Should Have Known*, is a racy thriller. And in the deft hands of writer and executive producer David E Kelley and director Susanne Bier, it becomes more than a whodunit: the portraits of people it draws, peeling off layers one after another, shows us that there's no telling with humans. Even if we've loved and lived with each other for years, do we really know someone?

Grace (Nicole Kidman, with a co-producing credit) is a skilled therapist who operates in her tight little wedge of old Manhattan money, hobnobbing with other diamond-dripping mums at the ultra-snobby school her son attends, when not counselling griping couples. Her cosy life turns upside down after a fundraiser evening held in a tony brownstone, accompanied by handsome oncologist husband Henry (Hugh Grant), who rapidly becomes the prime suspect in the brutal murder.

Murder mysteries follow certain tropes. The more innocent you appear in the beginning, the more you will be of interest to investigating agencies. Cops show up, demanding answers to questions Grace has never had to face in her seemingly perfect marriage: is her missing husband really at an out-of-town medical conference? Did he know the victim, a sensuous young woman well aware of her wares? Just how well did he know her?

The irony of a professional, who has so successfully helped mend rocky relationships that she got a best-selling book out of it, being oblivious to the gaps in her own marriage, is not lost on us. Kidman, with her flaming Medusa-like tresses, wearing long colourful trench coats which make her stand out from the other pale-cashmere-clad women that she knows, keeps us riveted. With each passing day, she is discovering ugly new facts: it's not just her husband who has kept his secrets; her beloved art-ficionado billionaire father (Donald Sutherland, excellent) spilling the beans on his own fractured life, is another low blow. Will she be able to survive the circus-like trial, and loud courtroom shenanigans?

During the endless TV chatter this kind of celebrity crime leads to a character says, "No one wants to punish the wealthy". That statement could also be true for the good-looking Grant, best known for his self-effacing, self-consciously gorgeous self in such frothy romcoms as *Four Weddings And A Funeral* (1994) and *Notting Hill* (1999), is a counter-intuitively good choice for a man who may be a vicious murderer. His face, older and more lined than we've seen in a while, reflects his character well: he knows he is a charm magnet, and charmers get away with everything, don't they?

The partnership of Kidman and Kelley has resulted in highly addictive dramas (a certain frantic air about Grace will remind you of her vulnerable-yet-strong character in the 2017 HBO series *Big Little Lies*, also written by Kelley, and co-produced by Kidman) with good production values, and starry actors. The biggest star is the writing, of course: the sixth and final episode lands tomorrow, and we will know everything. Or will we?

Memories of My Father

He was never shy of hope, never short of brilliant and never without a smile

SLICE OF LIFE



Suvir Saran

Suvir Saran is a chef, author, educator and world traveller

PAPA. "DAD" seems too removed and cold for a man with my father's omnipresent charisma. And, so, "Papa" is what naturally comes out of my mouth when I address him, as I sit here, thinking of him with longing that will never be requited.

Almost 10 years have passed since we lost him as we knew him in his human form. Ten years that seem just like yesterday, with pain that is fresh yet far from festering.

Now he is that mystery which lies before, beyond, below, above, inside, and everywhere else that the eyes seem unable to catch what they know they see and does actually exist.

I see him on the other side of the mist, in the dappled magic of the light that comes through the dense woods. He is that silver lining around the darkest, dreariest clouds. In seeing him, I find hope where doom might be easier to grasp.

In the ripples that take shape around the banks of rivers, in those thrilling waves that bring excitement and comfort at the beach — there, too, I find Papa taking a shape, a form, and a familiar note that makes me feel like I belong, even in places and moments where I



SUVIR SARAN

ought to feel lost.

How can one define what once had a shape, scent, voice, look, touch, feel and aura, but is now lost to an intangible presence that lingers perennially?

I find myself painfully painless, mournfully matter-of-fact, and practically hopeful in words as I miss the man I owe my birth to. One

half of the two who brought me into the world on November 29, 1972.

Words that come easily to me, whose weight I never take too lightly, mean so little today compared to the emotions Papa brings forth. They are mere ant lines, and are by no means the outlines that define the man or the memories or the joyous sorrow that he left behind.

As a provider, nurturer, visionary, father, husband, son, neighbour, cousin, uncle, elder, citizen, bureaucrat, and go-to person for all, especially those who were bothered or marginalised by another — Papa was as good a father or champion as one could wish for.

Life is often harshest to the best. Perhaps, it has an uncanny sense that it can test the best with the worst.

Papa battled some of the worst medical outcomes of life with the greatest strength. At every turn for the worse, he showed a new face of strength and courage, a new way to see through the dark, thick haze to the light beyond.

Never shy of hope, never short of brilliant, never without a smile, he was ready to shed tears when they seemed the best medicine to cure whatever ailed him. His was a masculinity at peace with his whole self.

Where others saw umbra and hopelessness, he found light to share and shine towards our shared advantage.

With humour he made the most tedious easy and the easy more meaningful still.

The memories are myriad, the words mortally fractured, the mind numbingly still in pain from a loss now 10 years old. The world is a little less special with his physical absence.

Papa would have not allowed the tempest

to break his will. He willed, and life mostly always smiled and willed his dreams true.

And, so, here I am, mourning his loss as I mark my birth and celebrate my good luck to be his child. I find myself lamenting and smiling, crying but living — mindfully and with awareness. Aware that it is a blessing to be from him and to have seen him in action. Gratitude that it was through my parents that I was placed into this world.

Papa was my champion unlike any other. One side of the caring coin that gave me the currency necessary to see opportunities in myself and all around me, and to then go after those that most make me whole and comfortable in my own skin. If ever I thought out of the norm, he was human enough to show his surprise but wise enough to find himself gliding smoothly into those roles he would have to juggle, with Mom as his partner in crime to ensure my sailing was as smooth as possible.

These special days, my birthday or those of others in the family, make me miss him even more. They get me to that place where I feel I am ready to cry. And then in a flash, Papa comes alive, and I find strength inside me, gleaned from his life and from the strength that is abundant in my peerlessly strong and sage mother.

On my birthday today, as I do when life seems to be at a precarious place, it is their strength that I cling to, their puissance which I use as my muse.

I am but a year older. Nothing much has changed. Papa left us too soon, but his legacy is far from diminished. As I welcome this new year, I hope to grow more in Papa's fashion.

Life will go on; it always does. Papa lives as happily as he always did!

DOWN IN JUNGLELAND



Ranjit Lal

Ranjit Lal is an author, environmentalist and bird watcher

Children in the Wilderness

Teach the little ones to cherish pets as family and admire the wild creatures from a distance

MOST CHILDREN when left to themselves in natural and wild habitats, will sooner or later develop an affinity towards nature. Whether it is a toddler tasting a slug, or a young teen envying and admiring the flight of a hawk, or a pre-teen chewing casually on a grass stem or trying to hook a fish, the animal-kingdom denizens (insect, reptile, avian, mammal, aquatic *et al*) will, at some point, evoke their interest, too. Children's attitude towards them will depend a lot on what adults have told/taught them about these creatures. Alas, even if intended to protect their child, most of the time, the messages being passed down are appalling.

Thus, all dogs will bite, cats will claw, tigers and lions will eat you, snakes are venomous and so are lizards, insects will sting, spiders will suck you dry, bulls will gore you, elephants will trample you, and sharks and crocodiles will rip you to shreds. So, be afraid, be very afraid and stay away from them at all times or take them down. It develops a sense of hostility and fear in them – wild creatures (even the not-so-wild ones) automatically become the enemy to be eliminated. So, stone dogs and cats, shoot tigers and lions (at least in Africa and America), club snakes to death, stomp on or spray at insects, dehorn bulls and deer, trap and brutally train elephants to salute, pounce upon and bind crocs with duct tape, and shoot sharks (see what the great white did in the 1975 film *Jaws*).

Granted, many children these days don't have the opportunity of roaming around in the wilderness, and toddlers must be supervised so they don't eat slugs! A lot of children's interactions with nature come from the plethora of TV documentaries. Some are truly wonderful (BBC's *Round Planet*, 2016), but there are too many of those where the presenters project the view that out there in the wild, in the rainforests, deserts, savannahs, mountains and oceans, in every natural habitat, each and every creature is out to get you. Your personal information is No. 1 on the hit list of every snake and scorpion, every malaria-ridden mosquito, every hungry carnivore,



RANJIT LAL

HERE COMES YOUR MAN

A lion walks away

every bison, elephant, and, of course, crocs hiding in the water. So, inevitably, it's either them or you. Nothing, of course, could be farther from the truth: Most wild creatures want to get away from you as quickly and as far as possible, because they have identified you as their enemy No. 1. If you invade their space – which you are doing by trampling their homes and habitats – if you threaten their babies or mates, they will stand and fight to the death. Well, wouldn't you do the same?

In the West, they have what's called petting zoos, where children can get up close and personal with all kinds of animals – under sensible adult supervision, of course. There, they learn how to interact with (relatively tame) animals. It's tempting to say, we must teach our children to "respect" wild animals, but I find "respect" a hugely overused and very vague word, that doesn't quite spell out exactly how or what a child must be taught while interacting with the animal kingdom.

There are some simple guidelines: Love and cherish your pets, dogs, cats, guinea pigs and on-the-shoulder birds as family members. Firmly discourage any inherent streak of cruelty your child shows (say to them, "How would you like it if someone dangled tin cans from your ears and you couldn't take them off?"); wilder animals, like tigers, lions, elephants, rhinos, crocs, sharks must be admired from a distance (don't be like the rednecks, never cuddle up with big cats, wrangle crocodiles or keep giant pythons as house-pets). Maintain distance from snakes, beehives and wasps' nests! Get amazed by how a spider spins its web; be careful while wading in the shallows on the beach so that you don't tread on a starfish or cone snail or tangle with a jellyfish. And, even if shark attacks are few and far between, stay out of shark-infested water.

The mantra is simple: watch, listen and admire from a distance. Do not interfere in the lives of wild creatures, which, alas, is what far too many television presenters are doing. There's one gross program where heroes deliberately get bitten or stung to see how much pain they can endure.

Yes, if you come across an injured animal or bird, teach your child to help, or to summon professional help for it (since injured and ill animals can be understandably unpredictable). Though, it's debatable whether even this should be done in wild areas where nature ought to be allowed to take its course.

Thus, as the Beatles song goes, "...whisper words of wisdom, let it be!"



COURTESY STRETCHERY

DRESSED TO SPRINT

Behind the rise of women runners in India is a quiet fashion revolution

Shivani Naik

BACK IN 2006, Sayuri Dalvi wondered why, if it was only about putting one foot in front of the other, more women didn't run. When she started training women for marathons a few years later, Adidas' leading run-coach from Mumbai would understand that this inhibition had to do with the running attire. Most women who started road running, she says, had no idea about the liberating power of the right kind of clothing. "They'd come in *salwar kameez*, with a *dupatta* slung across one shoulder, and walk as fast as they could. Many didn't know about sports bras, so you had to explain that running attire could be more comfortable and it was all right to run in shorts and sports bras," she says.

The clean cut, no-nonsense, all-functional science of running apparel has been the buzzword in Indian fashion for the last decade. As numbers of women taking to all manners of athletic activities grew, suddenly it was all about breathable clothing. Marathon running coach Nivedita Samanta says running gear has gone beyond tracks and tees. "Weather on race day determines clothing – heat-ready, light, quick-drying, sweat-absorbing or breathable wear. Even socks are carefully picked," she says.

The single-most crucial piece of clothing that's brought thousands of women into running is the sports bra, according to sports brand Puma. "The right kit and gear are very important elements in the journey of a runner. Women runners, when they start to train, look for comfortable sports bras," says

Abhishek Ganguly, general manager, Puma India and Southeast Asia. Ankita Gaur, who took to running in Delhi before moving to Bengaluru, says, "Not many know just how important a sports bra can be. If you choose the right dry-fit apparel, endurance running can be an absolutely pleasurable activity."

Women's enthusiasm for appropriate running attire is connected to the growing acceptance of athleisure – a hybrid clothing category that combines practicality with style and comfort – as everyday clothing that transitions easily between work, home and other spheres of life. With most people being confined to their homes after the announcement of India's pandemic lockdown on March 24 this year, the resulting drop in consumption affected clothing retail as well. With nowhere to go, no one was dressing up for the workplace or social outings. Athleisure was the one exception. "While every other segment in clothing retail, be it formal, ethnic or occasion wear has seen a 30 per cent contraction in the last few months, athleisure bucked the trend," says Ankur Bisen, who tracks retail as senior vice-president at Gurugram-based consulting firm, Technopak Advisors. Covid-19, it turns out, was the fashion-leveler that blurred the lines between office, gym, high-fashion and even casual wear for women, with athleisure being the clothing of choice for those working from home.

Nirali Mehta and Jeenie Madan, founders of brand Stretchery, which makes organic cotton athleisure, talk about the challenges they faced at the start of the pandemic. "From work to workout, chores to downtime, all activities were reprogrammed, with clothing needing to be not too casual but comfort-



COURTESY ADIDAS

RUN LOLA RUN

(From top) a campaign shoot still of the sportswear brand Stretchery; Sayuri Dalvi

able." Activewear became the day-to-night attire of choice, pushing up sales even if people hardly stepped out, they say.

Athflex, an activewear brand from Surat, has sold about 10,000 pieces bringing in 28-30 lakh in revenues over the last one year. "Sales suddenly surged in lockdown when online e-commerce opened for health-conscious people," founder Andrew Leo says.

Ganguly says even before the pandemic, group classes like aerobics, zumba, calisthenics, yoga, pilates and dance fitness grew phenomenally in India. "Sportswear became a wardrobe essential. Women used sports-

wear and sneakers as an expression of their style – wearing it for multiple occasions like travel, an evening out and even as office wear," he says.

The rising popularity of yoga, too, helped. Malika Baruah, chief executive officer of Proyog, a Bengaluru-based athleisure brand, says, "Good athleisure absolutely lends itself to multitasking." As gyms and yoga classes became more upscale, women sought athleisure looks that would be comfortable and stylish, she says.

According to Mehta and Madan, the rising demand for clothes that show off increasingly fit and strong bodies follows from shifting perceptions about women's bodies. "Women getting muscular physiques took its time to get accepted, but there was a shift from the desire to be 'skinny' to looking healthy, fit and strong," they say. Bollywood played a role, too. Leo reckons Zoya Akhtar's *Gully Boy* (2019) did more for the acceptance of athleisure on Indian streets than any other movie, while many credit fashion designer and stylist Manish Malhotra, who dressed Karishma Kapoor in trendy athleisure in the Hindi film *Dil To Pagal Hai*, for paving the way back in 1997.

Observing that the trend has trickled down to Tier-II and -III cities, Pankaj Renjhen, chief operating officer and joint managing director of Anarock Retail notes: "Athleisure sales broke the shackles of corporate formality," he says.

Deepa Bhat, a Bengaluru-based coach, reckons there are more women running in shorts and sports bras now than when she started in 2012, even if conservative attitudes occasionally interfere with their sartorial freedom. Bhat says that wearing comfortable clothing is a natural progression for any runner. "You run and you lose weight, look fitter and look better. You transition from track pants to three-fourths. Running in shorts is the obvious next step, right?" she asks.

When a Hero Comes Along

Upending superhero tropes, Appupen's Rashtraman returns

Benita Fernando

IN RASHTRAYANA'S second installment, Rashtraman has a big problem. The beefy superhero doesn't have the people's support, without which he could lose his powers. A coterie of lesser superheroes comes to his rescue. They hatch a plan to take over some forested areas, annex the land of Cowrashtra and quieten "a few pockets of dissent" to protect Rashtraman's superpowers.

Thus begins Appupen's latest work, *Rashtrayana II: Divide and Fool* (on www.brainded.in). The dizzying superhero universe of puns and campiness is ruled by Propagandhi's ideological warfare, saffron-clad Vigil Auntie's moral policing, Cowboy the *gau* guardian, and, the leader of the pack, Rashtraman, with his horseshoe moustache, ego pumped by jingoism and a wardrobe inspired by the Phantom's.

Appupen, or Bengaluru-based comics creator George Mathen, 41, grew up in Kerala's culture of satire, amid libraries packed with the subversive *MAD* magazine. In 2016, following the sedition case slapped on students of Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University, who were protesting against the hanging of Parliament-attack convict Afzal Guru in an event on campus, Appupen published *Rashtrayana* on *brainded.in* to make a satiri-

cal commentary on Indian politics. Relentless in its ridicule, the series featured the city Rashtrapolis, in the country Rashtria, with its poster boy Rashtraman – the "rashtra" reiteration mimicking the fervent sloganeering.

It is set in an alternative world, Halahala, named after the poison thrown up from the ocean-churning in the Hindu creation mythology. While he locates his other graphic novels (*Moonward*, 2009; *The Snake and the Lotus*, 2018) there, a superhero series in Halahala had been the last thing on Appupen's mind. "I don't like superheroes. I never thought I'd make a superhero series. But the whole thing is about power and how it's used or misused. To give a superhero this much power is my mistrust of the superhero," he says, citing Captain America, who was created as a World War II soldier, to fight the US enemies, the Nazis and the Communists. "In the readers' minds, war is okay because even Captain America fought in it. When we buy the superhero idea, we're swallowing a lot with it," he says.

Since 2016, there have been two seasons of Rashtraman's adventures and a take on partisan news in the mock newspaper, *The Dystopian Times*. In 2018, he self-published *Rashtrayana: Trouble in Paradesh*, in which the superhero is tasked to bring back the Great Leader's "abducted" wife from Padostan. In the latest adventure,



ILLUSTRATION: APPUPEN

DIVIDE AND FOOL

A page from the comics; (left) creator Appupen's self-portrait

Rashtraman recruits the bat-wielding Bat-Manu, who looks like the love child of Skeleto and Moon Knight, and whose agenda is to divide people by doling out free bats to some, turning the "batlings" against the hockey "sticklings".

In the meanwhile, Rashtraman makes headway into Rashtria's forested lands, where, much to his surprise, people couldn't care less about him. Magical spirits like Pachu the elephant-man keep his bullying in check. Joining him is Rhinosara, a girl raised by hoolock gibbons. "Rashtraman faces resistance from different pockets when the rebels come out. These are no Stan Lee-kind, genetically-engineered beings, but those who've closely bonded with their animal spirits," says Appupen.

Whether the Peter Parker principle ("With great power comes great responsibility") or the near-impossibility of destroying Superman, superhero comics often come with disclaimers about the corrupting influence of power. With Rashtraman, Appupen turns the trope of the all-powerful superhero on itself. Not "some leader with a donkey face" but "a muscular guy who, for the most part, makes you feel you want to be like him," says Appupen, recalling how when "unpatriotic" theatrologers were thrashed/trolled for sitting during the national anthem, a version of Rashtraman was shared on social media posts. Those posts weren't being ironic. Rashtraman is less Phantom, more menace. Is he, then, a superhero or a supervillain? "There are no villains anymore. Only heroes. They are all superheroes," he says with a laugh.

**KIRIT PARIKH**

CHAIRMAN, INTEGRATED RESEARCH AND ACTION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Is the Finance Commission more important than the Planning Commission because it is allocating more funds to the states? Also, how is it that our allocations for education, healthcare, and development have been far from adequate?

Whether there is a permanent institutional mechanism for a dialogue between the Centre and the states is a larger issue. And whether, in the absence of the Planning Commission, the current functions of the Niti Aayog enable this important consultative mechanism between the Centre and the state to be purposefully used, is a much broader issue. About education and health — yes, there can be no doubt that these have been neglected. In fact, the Finance Commission's recommendations on the health sector are important, particularly given the context of the pandemic. The implementation of the new education policy, which has come after 30 years, and the new health policy of 2017, which is relevant particularly in the pandemic context, these past inadequate public outlays need to be rectified. We need to look at both public and private outlays in important areas of health and education.

**JEETU PANJABI**

CEO, EM CAPITAL ADVISORS

For the last five years savings rates are going down when they should go up because there is a new pool of young population contributing to the pool. The implications of this are the draconian policies on tax laws and how a lot of wealthy individuals have become NRIs, no longer adding to the savings pool or creating jobs. Do you see that as a concern and a giant policy misstep for India?

The savings-investment ratio and the incremental capital-output ratio based on total factor productivity and other efficiencies need to significantly go up if India's growth rate is to climb back to what would be necessary to sustain the national priorities and other objectives. There is no question about that. Now, how draconian our tax laws are is a much wider question. Our tax rates, particularly our corporate tax rates are perhaps internationally competitive. There is no doubt that tax administration needs to be based on greater trust and greater friendliness. That is necessary not only to prevent the outflow of talent, but to get more talent into the country and foreign investments.

SAMEER BARDE

CEO, THE ONLINE RUMMY FEDERATION

Since ours is a digital business, we only pay IGST (Integrated Goods and Service Tax), leaving very little interest for the states to support this new business stream. How do you think tax revenues could be shared so that the Centre and state would both be equally motivated to encourage digital businesses?

I think that your suggestions for revenues getting mutually augmented by bringing more activities in the GST is an important question which should be addressed to the Ministry of Finance.



‘The pandemic may make us write a new social contract’

At an e.Adda held last week, NK Singh, Chairman, 15th Finance Commission, spoke on financial and banking sector reforms, being active partners in the gains of trade, privatising state-owned banks and his book *Portraits of Power: Half a Century of Being at Ringside*

P VAIDYANATHAN IYER: In your book, you talk about the Westminster model of parliamentary democracy being de facto replaced by the presidential model...

NK SINGH: The Westminster model is based on one central principle — the Prime Minister is the first among equals. The moment this is altered, you've altered the gene particles of the model. After all, votes are garnered and elections won on the basis of who is going to lead the country; what matters to the voter is who is more likely to deliver on the aspirations. If not de jure, then de facto, it is this unsettled equilibrium, in which the Cabinet Office increasingly takes the traditional role, namely the Cabinet Secretary is the secretary of the council of ministers. The Secretary to the PM is to carry out the orders and initiatives of the PM. Chief Ministers have also adopted a similar model. So, it is the changing voter psychology all over the world, which has been the most important guiding factor in moving away from traditional models of governance.

The pandemic has demonstrated one more thing, namely, the very important role of a central unifying factor in being able to work out social security systems. You may have to, in fact, write a new social contract.

ANANT GOENKA: In your experience, the autonomy given to bureaucrats and the strength of democratic institutions — in which of these models do democratic institutions thrive?

NK SINGH: We need to opt for a hybrid between the two. The permanent bureaucracy is the most important institution, particularly in a federal polity like ours. It lends permanence to any volatilities and uncertainties in the governance rubric, fearlessly being able to put across their point of view, leaving the policy options to the political masters. In this framework, of course, there are other questions — does meritocracy always pay off in the changing dynamics, besides other factors that come into play.

ANANT GOENKA: There is this notion that coalition governments have actually delivered more reform. Do you subscribe to that view?

SHANKAR ACHARYA: I'm not sure that we have got enough data points to really come to a definitive view. Two of the best periods for economic policy were the Narasimha Rao government years — from 1991 to 1996, and the Vajpayee years from 1998 to 2004. Both of them were coalitions. But do you agree with my possibly rather bold characterisation that two of the richest periods for good economic policy were the Narasimha Rao years and the Vajpayee years. This essentially spanned almost 13 years, with a hiatus in between. And what do you think are the things that we should have done better in those 13-14 years, by way of economic policy?

NK SINGH: Suppose we asked ourselves, in case the Narasimha Rao government had been what it was, how much of those reforms were acts of conscious choice, as products of compulsion? I wonder what the reply would be. We seem to be a nation acting with an amazing amount of coordination in moments of crisis but then complacency sets



NK Singh was in conversation with Shankar Acharya, economist and former Chief Economic Adviser (left); Anant Goenka, Executive Director, The Indian Express Group (centre); and P Vaidyanathan Iyer, Executive Editor (National Affairs), *The Indian Express*

in. The Vajpayee government being the first BJP government, which followed thereafter, wanted to naturally prove, both on the economic and the political side, what he had inherited. So on the political side, he took the audacious step, notwithstanding sanctions which it invited, of India becoming a nuclear power. Equally on the economic side, he continued with some far-reaching economic reforms, which were left somewhat incomplete in from 1991 to 1993. To your second question, what did we fail to achieve in the 13 years? Well, again, I want to raise the issue that you and I know, which is that we got out of the fund bank arrangement in 1993. We got off rather lightly. We felt no compulsions to undertake other reforms — structural reforms, reforms in factors of production, in terms of land and labour, financial sector reforms that went on a backburner, which haunt us even today. Issues of labour reforms that continue to be elusive, land has become more complicated, and issues of social reforms, in terms of education and health also did not take priority. Therefore, in the 10 years, where Dr Manmohan Singh, who had led these reforms as Finance Minister, became the Prime Minister, on many of these was far less satisfied.

SHANKAR ACHARYA: To a large extent what happened from the '90s and continued in the 2000s was essentially an opening up of the Indian economy. In the last two to three years, some of our actions appear to have been reversing course, whether it comes to increasing tariffs on goods from abroad, whether it comes to not engaging, as we perhaps might have in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership with the rest of Asia. Now, to me, this is disquieting. Is this a worry that you share?

NK SINGH: Who can disagree that coun-

tries which seek to grow at seven-eight per cent or more must really use trade. Our second issue is, has the world increasingly become more protectionist? Multilateral institutions, including the World Trade Organisation, are languishing. Now, I would like to believe with you that this is a transient phase. And I would like to believe that we will go back to what common sense would tell us, namely the importance of trade and trade policies, and making once

again, trade as an engine of growth. We will have to wait for perhaps January to see how the new policy framework by the United States, in this particular way, pans itself out. Your third important point was that should we not look at trading arrangements with nations where the benefits will be significant? I think that there it would be somewhat naive to forget that geopolitics has an important role to play. While certainly we cannot afford to be a protectionist country, we need to be active partners in the gains of trade.

P VAIDYANATHAN IYER: Proximity to corporate or industry leaders is still seen as something which politicians or bureaucrats want to keep away from.

NK SINGH: Corporates have easier access to top decision making much more freely than it was in my time. This is because there is a greater and easier relationship between them. Also, as we move away from direct controls into the regulatory framework, you have independent regulators in a whole host of activities.

P VAIDYANATHAN IYER: In the book, you talk about bank nationalisation during Indira Gandhi's time. We have come a long way. Do you think we have done

enough in banking or financial sector reforms?

NK SINGH: I feel we have not done enough on banking and financial sector reforms. For instance, trying to give greater autonomy to banks, the fact that the Insolvency Bill was a very major step, the exit process, the culture of 'evergreening', which many banks had begun to follow, has come to wear off. But if you want to ask the question, have we allowed the freedom and flexibility for new entrants to come to the banking and financial sector, the answer is that this was a can kicked down the street. When the crisis of 1991 had come, we appointed this Narasimhan Committee Report, which Shankar was very connected with and then the second version of that. But I don't think that the reforms which have been undertaken are something which really are the best for 21st century India.

P VAIDYANATHAN IYER: If you were the Finance Minister today, what would be the things on the agenda for banking reforms?

NK SINGH: Well, first and foremost, to complete the ongoing reforms, which are there — which is really, banking amalgamation. Then the Indradhanush programme. The main ingredient of that programme needs to be completed in a significant way. We need to have greater accountability of shareholders, we need to accord the banks the necessary autonomy, and then look at rules of transparency and how space can be given for new entrants, who can add to the competitive efficiency of financial intermediation.

SHANKAR ACHARYA: I've long felt that our experimentation with essentially a public sector-owned banking system dominantly, which is still the case 65 to 70 per cent of the total number of assets and liabilities, are held by government banks or government-majority owned banks and it hasn't really worked. I think that no government, so far, has really bitten the bullet. I think the nearest we came was during Vajpayee's tenure when, if memory serves me right, in the finance ministry, a bill was drafted, which would have amended the relevant banking legislation in a way that the minimum 51 per cent ownership would be reduced to 33 per cent. That's the closest we've come to what I would regard as the desirable outcome. Nothing can be done overnight. Let's be realistic. It's not an easy process. But I think the time has come because otherwise we know the cycle. Three years down the road, you know, we capitalise again.

NK SINGH: That's the closest we came, it was at the time of Mr Vajpayee and I must complete the story, because then, there was huge opposition from the Congress party... but who can disagree that the path forward would be at least in the case of one or two banks to move forward, to do away with the kind of present ownership structure, which we have inherited from a decision (of bank nationalisation) and if you look at, historically, maybe that decision may have served its purpose and we need to move on.

For longer version, go to www.indianexpress.com

**ASHOK KHEMKA**

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA

What was the level of the cascading effect of taxes in the pre-GST regime? In the post-GST regime have tax collections improved as a percentage of GDP?

Do I consider GST to be a path-breaking economic reform? Yes. Is this a perfect GST? Surely not. And that is a real issue. The implementation of the GST is an ongoing process. I think three important changes in the GST are necessary. We need to have a greater rate-rationalisation, you need broadbanding into the bulk of it, and move to a regime which is genuinely revenue neutral. We need to get rid of exemptions, improve the quality of invoice matching, quality of technology in terms of ensuring greater compliance.

**SANJAY PUGALILA**

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR, THE QUINT

You have just finished your report on the Finance Commission and spoken to all the states. What are they saying about the spirit of federalism?

It won't come as a surprise if no state government was happy with what the 14th Finance Commission had given — 42 per cent. Each would be happier with a figure like 50 per cent. It's a balancing act of reconciling divergent objectives. And that's what we have endeavoured to do. But I can certainly say that all state governments reiterated their confidence in the working of fiscal federalism.

**VIVEK JAIN**

DIRECTOR, DCW LIMITED

With India's GDP growth declining, is the government thinking of any fiscal measures to revive demand and get the struggling corporate sector back on its feet?

The issue of a fiscal stimulus is one which is under continuing review. Monetary and fiscal policies clearly need to act in tandem for a significant revival of the Indian economy. The sharper the contraction this year, the greater would be the rebound next year. The question is what kind of growth rates do I see going forward? If the ongoing reforms are implemented, I see us getting back to the higher growth trajectory in the latter part — the post-pandemic period.

MUDIT JAIN

MANAGING DIRECTOR, DCW LIMITED

Oxford University teaches a very popular degree course called 'Philosophy, Politics and Economy'. India has exemplary philosophical thinking. Why hasn't this excellence translated into good governance and into a developed nation? Why this disconnect between philosophy and reality?

The course you mentioned at Oxford should be something which we should also consider here. It's a good blend of politics, philosophy and economics. Why hasn't that kind of learning replicated itself in the governance of the country? Well, there are many complex reasons, some of which are based on legacy. These are the kind of issues which I have endeavoured to address in the book.

Eminent guests who participated in the e.Adda include Pawan Goenka, MD, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd; Madhur Bajaj, Vice Chairman, Bajaj Auto Limited; Dilip Piramal, CMD, VIP Industries Ltd; Venkataraman R, Dean, ICFAI Business School, Gurgaon; Vikram Shriram, Vice Chairman & MD, DCM Shriram Ltd; Kamal Meattle, Bhagwati Emeritus, Paharpur Business Centre; Nasim Zaidi, Former Chief Election Commissioner of India; Arvind Paranjpye, Director, Nehru Planetarium; Dr Jaimini Chagwati, Chairman, IDFC AMC Trustee Company; Ajit Ranade, Group Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group; Sanjoy Roy, Managing Director, Teamwork Arts Pvt Ltd; Neelkanth Mishra, Co-Head of APAC Strategy and India Strategist, Credit Suisse; Yugal Sikri, Managing Director, RPG Life Sciences Ltd; Dr Sachchidanand Shukla, Chief Economist, Mahindra Group; Sumeet Nindrajog, Senior Partner, Paragon Partners; Paresh Parasnis, CEO, Piramal Foundation; Anand Shanbhag, Head - Corporate Research, Tata Capital; Satyananda Mishra, Former Chief Information Commissioner of India; Chaitanya Kalbag, Independent Columnist; Raj Chengappa, Group Editorial Director - Publishing, India Today Group,

BRIDGE

Dealer: South, Vulnerable: East-West

NORTH

♠ 106

♥ AK2

♦ Q73

♣ KQJ106

SOUTH (you)

♠ AQ2

♥ 95

♦ AKJ95

♣ 942

WEST

ID

1♣

Pass

Pass

Pass

NORTH

2♣

2♠

3NT

Pass

EAST

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

SOUTH

2♥

2NT

Pass

Pass

West leads the queen of hearts. How many tricks do you expect to make?
The West Hand: S-KJ875H-QJ108D-84C-A7
The East Hand: S-Q43H-7643D-1052C-853

It looks impossible to take less than one spade trick, two heart tricks, five diamond tricks, and four club tricks. You have excellent entries to both hands. What can go wrong?

Everything splits and South will take twelve tricks. North, who has not seen all of South's hand, asked if he should have bid more. South responded that they were high enough. East said that he had hoped for a spade lead. What does happen with a spade lead?

A spade lead would have killed 3NT. South needs club tricks and when he leads clubs, West will take his ace and cash four spades. The point of this hand is to show that bridge is an imperfect game. On this hand, 3NT was a bad contract that was rewarded with the wrong lead. Perfection would have been five of a minor suit. These contracts make easily.

Dealer: South, Vulnerable: None

NORTH

♠ Q76

♥ AK10975

♦ 52

♣ 87

SOUTH

♠ AK53

♥ 42

♦ AQ

♣ QJ643

WEST

1♣

Pass

Pass

Pass

NORTH

1♥

3♥

Pass

Pass

EAST

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

SOUTH

1♠

3NT

Pass

Pass

West's lead of the jack of diamonds was won by South's queen. A friendly start suggesting that West did have the king of diamonds. If so, 4H might not be making. 3NT is not yet home. Where are nine tricks coming from? How do you play the heart suit?

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.

_____ never has been compulsory. - Anthony Eden (10)

IPORR

□

□

□

□

□

□

BEMRNU

□

□

□

□

□

□

OMITS

□

□

□

□

□

□

AMRSCP

□

□

□

□

□

□

Answer: **corruption** never has been compulsory. - Anthony Eden

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office of the Executive Engineer Electric Division, JPDCCL Batote

Email: pddbatote@gmail.com, Website: www.jkppd.gov.in

Telephone No: 01998 –244231 Fax: 01998 –244231

EXTENSION NOTICE-I

Due to poor response, the e-NIT no:-38 of 2020-21 Dated:- 16.11.2020 for SUPPLY, ERECTION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF INFRASTRUCTURE FOR IMPROVEMENT OF HT/LT NET WORK BY WAY OF REPLACING STRANDED CONDUCTOR, BARBED WIRE/ WORN-OUT POLES/TREES ETC AT VILLAGE MANGIT IN BLOCK BANAHAL IN RAMBAN DISTRICT UNDER BARBED WIRE PROGRAMME UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ELECTRIC DIVISION JPDCCL BATOTE is hereby extended upto 30.11.2020 at 14:00 Noon and tender opening date will be 01.12.2020 at 12:00 Noon. All other terms and conditions will remain same as in e-NIT document.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Electric Division JPDCCL, Batote

UJVN Limited

H.O.: 'UJJWAL', Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006

Telephone : 0135-2763808; Fax : 0135- 2763508

CIN No. U40104UR2001SGC025866, Website : www.ujvnll.com

E-Tender Notice

Dated: 28.11.2020

Office of Executive Engineer (M&G) Kulhal Power Station, Kulhal, invites sealed tenders for following work:

Tender No. 19/UJVNL/EE (M&G)/KPS/2020-21" Replacement and strengthening of cover drain, sealing water and dewatering system at Kulhal Power House (3x10 MW)"

Estimated cost : 39,00,000/- GST extra

Date of availability of bid document on website : 28/11/2020 11:00 Hrs

Last date for submission of bids on website : 19/12/2020 17:00 Hrs

For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal <http://ukntenders.gov.in>

Executive Engineer (M&G)

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

Indian Red Cross Society

Haryana State Branch

Red Cross Bhawan, Madhya Marg, Sector- 16 A, Chandigarh

Contact No: +91-0172-2543889, 2546328 (Fax), 2546330, 9855756357

TENDER NOTICE

TENDER REFERENCE NO: Rehab/2020/01

Online E-tender are invited for purchasing of raw material for manufacturing artificial aids and appliances for our rehabilitation centres in Haryana. The E-tender with all detailed terms & conditions are available at <https://etender.hry.nic.in> bearing tender Reference No. Rehab/2020/01 with having Tender ID: 2020_HBC_150407_1.

The last date for receipt of E-tender is 14th December, 2020 upto 4:00 P.M. through online and original documents receipt of E-tender is 15th December, 2020 upto 4:00 P.M. in this office.

Sd/-
General Secretary
Indian Red Cross Society
Haryana State Branch Chandigarh

PSPCL

Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office Building, The Mall, Patiala-147001

Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U40109PB2010SGC033813.

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (THROUGH E-TENDERING)

1. Tender Enquiry No.	239/DIT-1044 Dated 24.11.2020
2. Scope/Short Description	Conducting the Cyber Security Audit of IT Infrastructure of Data Center, Disaster Recovery Center, SCADA System, SAP System and In-house applications including website of PSPCL from CERT-in empanelled agency.
3. Downloading of Specification/Tender Documents from website https://eproc.punjab.gov.in	Start Date Date of uploading of tender (27.11.2020) Last Date 28.12.2020 (05.00 PM)
4. Last date for Bid Submission	28.12.2020 (05.00 PM)
5. Date & time of opening of tenders	30.12.2020 (11.30 AM)
6. Information regarding corrigendum	It is informed that from now onwards, in case tender process is not completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in newspapers. Details regarding corrigendum may be seen on official PSPCL website https://eproc.punjab.gov.in .
7. Tender specification can only be downloaded from website https://eproc.punjab.gov.in and no hard copy of the same will be issued by this office. Further details regarding e-tendering are available. on website https://eproc.punjab.gov.in . Vendors are requested to get their registration on GePNIC well in time.	

NOTE: All tender related documents are to be uploaded on website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> only. No hard copies will be accepted for processing the tender.

Contact E-mail ID's: se-it1@pspcl.in; xen-scada@pspcl.in

Sd/-
Sr. Xen/IT (SCADA)
PSPCL, Patiala

C-359/2020
10583/Pb

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2297

QUICK CLUES ACROSS

1. Bach, Beethoven and Brahms (3,5,2)

6. Excitedly expectant (4)

9. Mass communication (10)

10. Gaming stake (4)

12. Passing of judgement (12)

15. Runner (7)

16. Language of Flanders (7)

17. First-rate, brilliant (7)

19. Christening (7)

20. Reinforced, beefed up (12)

23. Creep along (4)

24. Diminished prestige (4,2,4)

25. Brewery grain (4)

26. Ability to command (10)

DOWN

1. Pack down (4)

2. Hard to hold (4)

3. Hair styling (12)

4. Inflict capital punishment on (7)

5. Court attendant (7)

7. Inflammation of the gums (10)

8. A skill for making plants thrive (5-5)

11. Highly seasoned stew (12)

13. Self-love (10)

14. Pertaining to the stage (10)

21. Tub for soaking (4)

22. Assist or aid (4)

CRYPTIC CLUES ACROSS

1. Cheap buffet casts blame on dessert (5,5)

6. Bunkum from British, hard on the French (4)

9. Is useless and is not a philanthropist (4,2,4)

10. The agony of finding father useless (4)

12. Drinkers cry below deck (4,3,5)

15. Take off toposless bathing-costume (7)

16. Book stand in service (7)

17. Wretched uplift drawing one inside ... (7)

19. A play on words ? (7)

20. Richard shops around for instruments (12)

23. Seize the last thing to be a sailor (4)

24. Having sinister propensities (4-6)

25. Small numbers taking hospital grub (4)

26. They may take control when people fall asleep (10)

DOWN

1. Protection for cricket supporters (4)

2. They vote for seers to be heard (4)

3. A way to get up quickly and have first nod perhaps (4,4,4)

4. Seen around swallowing drink - means to get work done (7)

5. Seedy hotel with bedroom in front becomes house of ill-repute (7)

7. Sort of lady we hate to go before (4,3,3)

8. Overbearing attitude of one surrendering (7,10)

11. In great numbers like a dim-witted runner? (5,3,4)

13. Experience an early spring going down the lane? (4,3,3)

14. Real idiots may produce opinionated articles (10)

18. Wary about Church inducing lust (7)

19. Sauerkraut on piece of fried bread (7)

21. Said differently when belonging to the girl ? (4)

22. Drinks for Ed as different (4)

Solutions to 2296

QUICK CLUES ACROSS: 1 Casterbridge, 10 Hemlock, 11 Taunton, 12 Donna, 13 Comeinto, 15 Versifiers, 16 Asks, 18 Laud, 20 Aardwolves, 22 Overlord, 24 Addle, 26 Abstein, 27 Septic, 28 Letter opener, Down: 2 Almoner, 3 Thoracic, 4 Rake, 5 Retrograde, 6 Deuce, 7 Extends, 8 The devil to pay, 9 Inconsistency, 14 Disarrange, 17 Nota bene, 19 Utensil, 21 Vedette, 23 Least, 25 Oslo.

CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 1 Well informed, 10 Otranto, 11 Tactful, 12 Eliza, 13 Effusion, 15 April fools, 16 Ague, 18 Roll, 20 Hatchet job, 22 Rats-tail, 24 Genus, 26 Fallin', 27 Reigate, 28 Pheasant's eye, Down: 2 Earler, 3 Macau, 4 Neon, 5 Out of place, 6 Lascar, 7 Dousing, 8 Model aircraft, 9 Blunderbusses, 14 Localities, 17 Penguins, 19 Let slip, 21 January, 23 Tripe, 25 Bran.

SUDOKU 4307

Difficulty Level 5s

Instructions

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

6 4 3 2 9 7

2 1 8 9 6

7 9 6

3 1 3 1

5 1 3

6 5 7 3 6 5

2 6 3 6 5

1 7 3 6 5

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4306

8 6 3 4 1 5 7 2 9

1 2 4 6 9 7 3 5 8

9 7 5 2 8 3 4 6 1

7 3 2 1 4 9 6 8 5

4 9 6 3 5 8 1 7 2

5 1 8 7 6 2 9 3 4

3 4 7 5 2 1 8 9 6

6 5 9 8 7 4 2 1 3

2 8 1 9 3 6 5 4 7

SALUTE THE SOLDIER



Lt Col Harsh Uday Singh Gaur, Ashok Chakra (Posthumous), 29 November 1994

We pay homage to Lt Col Harsh Uday Singh Gaur, AC, Commanding Officer, 10 BIHAR, who on this day in 1994 led his Quick Reaction Team against terrorists in Baramula, J&K. Leading his troops from the front, he personally killed four terrorists. During the daring operation, he was critically injured, but refused to be evacuated till success was achieved. His courageous actions inspired his troops, who eliminated the remaining terrorists. We, the fraternity of the Bihar Regiment, salute you.

The Bihar Regiment Association

10 Jul 1989 - 29 Nov 2016

On this day we salute and pay homage to the gallant soldier who laid down his life for the Nation while fighting against terrorists in Jammu & Kashmir during a fideyan attack. You made the supreme sacrifice in the finest traditions of the Indian Army and made the 'Triumphant Third' proud.

May your Soul attain Moksha.



GRENADIER RAGHVENDRA SINGH

5043352 LNK NUN BAHADUR RANA, SM AND 5045078 RFN SHER BAHADUR GT, SM 29 NOV

On this day 5043352 Lnk Nun Bahadur Rana, SM and 5045078 Rfn Sher Bahadur GT, SM of 5/1 Gorkha Rifles made the supreme sacrifice during 'OP RAKSHAK' Jammu & Kashmir in Nov 1997 in a true act of valour. The brave soldiers will always be remembered for their enthusiasm. To these brave heart we pledge that we shall always be guided by their immortal spirit and make their names proud.

CO AND ALL RANKS, 5/1 GORKHA RIFLES

पश्चिमांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि०

ई-निविदा संख्या-77/2020-21/ विनिमन०/मेरठ, विद्युत परीक्षण खाण्ड, मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 200 न० Optical Communication Cord को आपूर्ति करने हेतु ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की गयी है जिससे <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर प्रकाशित किया गया है। कार्य को पूर्ण करने की अवधि 30 दिन है। कार्य को अनुमानित लगत रुपये 2,00,000.00 है। सन्दीर्घत निविदा हेतु धरोहर राशि रुपये 2000.00 है। ऑनलाईन निविदा भरने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 30.12.2020 (12-00 बजे तक) है। कार्य की मूल मात्रा, निविदा विशिष्टीकरण व अन्य नियम एवं शर्तें ई-निविदा पोर्टल पर उपलब्ध है। अयोध्यास्थानी को बिना कारण बताये ई-निविदा निरस्त करने का अधिकार होगा। नियमित तिथि के विस्तार तथा शुद्धि पत्र से सम्बन्धित सूचना यदि कोई होगी, केवल वेबसाइट पर डाकी जायेगी। अतः स्वयं को अपडेट रखने के लिए उपरोक्त वेबसाइट को नियमित देखें। 'राष्ट्र हित मे बिजली बचाये' विद्युत चोरी की सूचना 1800-180-3002 पर दें।

हस्ता./-
अधीक्षक अभियन्ता
विद्युत वितरण मण्डल-मेरठ।

पत्रांक सं. 3619/वि.वि.म./मेरठ दिनांक 28/11/2020

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED

(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)

3rd floor, Pragati Sadan, Kutchery Road, Ranchi-834001, Jharkhand.

Ph No.: +91-651-2225878; e-mail Id:- pdjuidco@gmail.com

CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752

CORRIGENDUM-2

NIT No: - JUIDCO/NIT/E-Gov/2020/350

Tender ID: - 2020 UDD 46212_1

Ref PR No.: - 234713

All the bidders are hereby informed that Corrigendum 2 for the tender "Project for Appointment of Project Management Unit for Consultancy, Design, Development & Implementation of E-Governance Applications and GIS Mapping ULBs of, Jharkhand" has been published on the e-procurement website of Government of Jharkhand.

It is requested to please refer the same before submission of bids.

c-procurement website:- <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

Sd/-
Project Director (Tech.)
JUIDCO Ltd., Ranchi
PR 236420(Urban Development and Housing)20-21st

कार्यालय मुख्य महाप्रबन्धक, निर्माण विग

उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल संसाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम

(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम) 403 / 1 इन्दिरा नगर, देहरादून-248 001

दूरभाष / फ़ैस 0135-2764075 e-mail: cgm@nitrrai.ac.in, gnm@nitrrai.ac.in

PRESS NOTE

Government of Uttarakhand "e" procurement Notice

Bid Identification No. 3061/Nivida(Garhwal)/445 Dated 28/11/2020

1. Name of the Works :- Construction of Proposed 200 Bedded Mother and Child Care Wards in District Hospital, Haridwar.

2. Estimated Cost :- Rs. 3368.45 Lakh (With GST)

3. Period of Completion:- 18 Months

4. Date and Time of Availability of bid documents in the portal:- 01/12/2020 - 17.00 Hrs.

5. Last Date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal:- 14/12/2020 - 17.00 Hrs.

6. Name and Address of Officer Inviting the Bid:- General Manager, Construction Wing, Uttarakhand, Pay Jal Nigam, Dehradun

7. Pre bid meeting details (if required) Date & Place :- 04/12/2020 - 15.00 Hrs.

8. Details of subsequent addendum/ corrigendum / cancellation etc. may be obtained from the website:- "http://www.ukntenders.gov.in"

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<https://tendersuttarakhand.gov.in>"

General Manager

Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency

First Floor, Directorate of Panchayats, Opp-IT Park, Sahasrabhara Road, Dehradun.

Ref. No. 1720/11-02/NTTCN/URRDA/20 Dated : 28-11-2020

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)

e-Procurement Notice (Second Call)

The Government of India has received a loan/credit number 'LN 8864 IN' from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/ International Development Association towards the cost of Rural Roads Project (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana) and intends to apply a part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction of works as detailed in NIT. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the bidding document.

The General Manager (Project), BRIDCUL on behalf of Chief Engineer, URRDA Uttarakhand invites the firm rate bids in electronic tendering system (Second Call) for construction of Roads and Bridges under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Barkot (Uttarakashil) for 01 number of Package with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 122.87 Lakh including their maintenance 2 year for stage-1 & 5 year for stage-2 from the eligible contractors registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent".

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 03-12-2020.

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in www.pmgstylendersuk.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 & (i) of ITB with the Projects related to Garhwal Mandal office of General Manager(P), BRIDCUL, HQ BRIDCUL Opp. Govt. ITI Majra, Mirzapur, Saharanpur Road, Dehradun-248001 submission of all physical documents will be accepted only upto or before the time and date of submission of bids (17.12.2020 (05:00 pm)) after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive.

Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-tendering 17.12.2020 01:00 PM.

For further details please log on to www.pmgstylendersuk.gov.in

Chief Engineer, URRDA, Dehradun.

* Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, The successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

Note : For e-procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2522941 number may be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM in any office days.

LIST OF TENDERS UPLOADED ON WEBSITE							
Sr. No.	Name of Dept./Board/ Corp./Auth.	Name of Work/ Notice/Tender	Opening Date Closing Date (Time)	Amount/EMD (Approx) in Rupees	Website of the Department	Nodal Officer/Contact Details/E-mail	Tender Ref. No./ Tender No.
1.	Pandit Lakhmi Chand State University of Performing and Visual Arts, Sector- 6, Rohtak	Supply, installation, testing & commissioning of new Sewage Treatment Technology i.e. MBBR (Moving Bed Bio Reactor) and dismantling/ replacement of existing technology for 320 KLD STP plant at PLCSUPVA, Rohtak	23.11.2020 (at 15.00 hrs.) and 21.12.2020 (upto 15.00 hrs.)	Rs. 85,00,000/- For Contractor = Rs. 1,70,00,00/- For L&C Society = Rs. 85,000/-	http://plcsupva.ac.in	Sh. Devender Rathhe/ devenderathhe918@gmail.com	2020_HRY_94666-28298/ 151414_1
						84079HRY	

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)



The first half of the week could be an excellent time for travel, but you are also urged to sort out any lingering legal questions. You'll become very much more insistent about asserting your rights after Wednesday, and Thursday and Friday could see you taking the right steps, at last.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23)



Romance seems to be inseparable from travel, so a holiday affair may be revived, or you may find that a hint of far-away places is necessary to get your juices flowing. A deeper look at your chart also indicates that the religious side of your life requires a little attention.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)



You can't afford to be depressed for longer than five minutes. You have too much to achieve to waste any time, and the roots you put down at work, in love and at home will set you off on a new cycle of experience lasting anything up to eighteen months.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23- Dec 22)



Probably the most useful days for achieving your romantic ends are Monday and Thursday, and, if you are so inclined, a spot of emotional blackmail may be permissible. At the end of the week, the intervention of planets aligned with your house of pleasure suggests you can now let your hair down.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23- Jan 20)



To be brief, it's a period for organised fun and games, so enjoy the atmosphere and cast your cares aside. The only problem area could be work, where the storm clouds gather after the middle of the week, with possible flashes of lightning by Friday.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)



You're a perfectionist by nature, and that's why you're always trying to make the world, or at least your corner of it, a better place. Much of your energy this week will be directed towards sorting out other people's little problems, if only because there's no other way you can feel settled.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)



In relationships, two things count: your need for both emotional security and physical satisfaction. Hopefully, you'll find both in the same place. The beginning of the week looks set to be fairly bright and optimistic, especially on the social front.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)



I hope circumstances are on your side, because home is the place to be this week, deep in the bosom of your family. Even if you travel, as you may around the end of the week, the most attractive destinations will be places which have a homely feel about them.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)



The promise of your horoscope is now being pushed forward by leaps and bounds. You might even discover that a loved one or younger relation comes up with just the idea you need to break the bank and set yourself up for life.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)



If you only do one thing this week, see that it is to break with the habits of a lifetime and reform your entire approach to money, setting yourself on a prosperous course. Even love affairs may stumble unless you back your desires with suitable amounts of cash.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)



While the month emphasises work, this week's stars promote changes and you'll become steadily more concerned with personal questions. If you get as much as possible accomplished early on, you'll then have very much more time to throw yourself into the social whirl.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sept. 23)



You should be aware that partners might be in a difficult mood around Wednesday to Friday but, in reality, they're challenging you to change your attitudes and preconceptions. It's time for a few experiments with your lifestyle.

राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान रायपुर

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY RAIPUR

(An Institute of National Importance)

G.E. Road, Raipur - 492010 (CG)

Phone: (0771) 2252700

Fax: (0771) 2253104

Email: registrar@nitrrai.ac.in

Website: www.nitrrai.ac.in

No./ NITRR/S&P/2020/1021 Raipur, Dated 27/11/2020

INVITATION OF E-TENDER

NIT, Raipur invites e-tender for "Open Tender Enquiry for Microsoft Cloud Campus Agreement" in the institute through online mode in e-tendering portal i.e. www.tenderwizard.com/NITRR. Last date & time for submission of bid is on 19/12/2020 till 18:00Hrs and Date of Opening is 21/12/2020 at 16:00 Hrs. Forms & other details can be downloaded from institute's website i.e. www.nitrrai.ac.in, www.tenderwizard.com/NITRR & <https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app>.

ASA -Sd- REGISTRAR

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, निर्माण मण्डल,

उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल संसाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम, नई दिल्ली

दूरभाष : 01376-233911, E-mail: se@hrhipayjal@gmail.com

पत्रांक 3185 / 508 / 55

अत्यकालीन पुरः निविदा सूचना

दिनांक 28.11.2020

1. कार्य का नाम :- निर्माण मण्डल, उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम, नई दिल्ली के क्षेत्रान्तर्गत जनपद टिहरी में जल जीवन मिशन कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत आनन्द चौक ग्राम समूह पश्चिम पेथीया एवं कांडी ग्राम समूह पश्चिम पेथीया एवं अन्य योजनाओं की डीपीआर को गठन करना एवं उत्तराखण्ड सरकार से स्वीकृति प्राप्त करना।

2. धरोहर धनराशि / कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि:- रु० 50,00,000 / -01 माह

3. कोटेशन प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :- दिनांक 11.12.2020, समय 15.00 बजे अपरान्ह निर्माण मण्डल, उपरोपजल निगम, बारांडी, नई दिल्ली में जमा कराय़ा जाना है, जो उसी दिन अपरान्ह 15.30 बजे खोली जायेगी।

4. कार्य के सम्बंध में विस्तृत विवरण हेतु कार्यालय के दूरभाष एवं ई-मेल के माध्यम से पूर्ण विवरण प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता

"उल संघ-जीवन संघ" कृपा जल श्रोतों को प्रदूषित होने से बचाये"

बैधानिक सेवायानी-जल श्रोतों को प्रदूषित करना दण्डनीय अपराध है।

King George's Medical University U.P., Lucknow

E-tender/Re-E - Tender Inviting Notice

Notice No.: 45/PS/FO/e-tender/20-21 Dated : 28-11-2020

Online bid are invited under 02 e-bid systems (technical & financial) for the Purchase of (1) Equipment for COVID Ward (2) R.F.I.D Equipment to secure Books/Journals etc.& subscription of journal (Central Library) (3) Refill of FM 200 Gas in I.T. cell (4) Viral Load Testing in Deptt. of Microbiology (under National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme of NHM) (5) Consumables & other items for Deptt. of Microbiology (6) Different Equipment for Plastic Surgery Deptt.(under NPPM) (7) Repair of Mortuary Cold Room, Deptt. of Anatomy from the original manufacturer/publisher/contractor or their authorized Indian agents on the terms and conditions as per tender document.Short details can be viewed at kgmu.org & detailed tender will be available on etender.up.nic.in.

Executive Director(Procurement)
R.O. NO. SAMWAD/C/7120/2020-2021 RMSCL

10583/Pb New Delhi

BRIEFLY

Seventh Pakistan team member tests positive for COVID-19

Wellington: One more member of the Pakistan cricket team has tested positive for the novel coronavirus, New Zealand's Ministry of Health said on Saturday, taking the tally of infections within the touring party to seven. Six of the 53 members of the group had tested positive for the novel coronavirus upon their arrival in New Zealand, while there was also evidence there had been breaches of bio-security rules. "One additional member of the Pakistan squad has today tested positive during routine testing. The remainder of the results from the squad's Day 3 swab testing - apart from the six who have already returned a positive result, are negative," the ministry said.

Wrestler Narsingh tests positive

New Delhi: Dope-tainted wrestler Narsingh Yadav, gearing up for his first international event after serving a four-year ban, tested positive for the coronavirus on Saturday along with Greco-Roman grappler Gurpreet Singh. Narsingh is scheduled to take part in his first international tournament in four years in the Individual World Cup in Belgrade from December 12 to 18 after being named as Jitender Kinha's replacement in 74kg category. Besides the wrestling duo, physiotherapist Vishal Rai has also tested positive for the deadly virus. "All three are asymptomatic and have been moved to Sonapat's Bhagwan Mahavir Das Hospital as a precautionary measure," the SAI said.

India fined for slow over-rate in first ODI

Dubai: The Indian cricket team was fined 20 per cent of its match fee for maintaining a slow over-rate against Australia in the series opening first ODI in Sydney. India took an unprecedented four hours and six minutes to complete their 50 overs during their 66-run loss in the first ODI. ICC match referee David Boon imposed the sanction after India was ruled to be one over short of the target after time allowances were taken into consideration.

Daruvala pips Schumi to earn first podium

Bahrain: Indian racer Jehan Daruvala earned his maiden Formula 2 podium after pipping championship leader Mick Schumacher in a gripping battle for the third place at the Bahrain Grand Prix support race. "Race was exciting, had a great fun battling at the end with @mickschumacher (sic)" the 22-year-old tweeted after the race. Meanwhile, seven-time Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton stormed to pole position for the Bahrain GP with a record lap in Saturday's qualifying session ahead of team mate Valtteri Bottas who completed a front-row lockout for Mercedes. Max Verstappen took third place for Red Bull.

AGENCIES

Falling apart at the seam(s)

With Hardik Pandya not fit enough for dual duty, lack of fast bowling all-rounder options hurts Team India

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
NOVEMBER 28

COLLECTIVELY, THE Indian bowling attack was put to the sword in the first ODI at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) on Friday. Mohammed Shami was the lone saving grace, although Ravindra Jadeja, too, returned with a decent economy rate – a little over six runs per over – on a flat track. Especially, in the middle-overs, India looked clueless as they struggled to make inroads, while Aaron Finch, David Warner and Steve Smith laid the foundation of a resounding Australian victory.

Under the pump, India badly missed a sixth bowler.

Hardik Pandya's lower-back injury has been preventing him to play as a seam-bowling all-rounder. He is playing as a specialist batsman instead and without his overs, the Indian bowling unit looks crippled. With the likes of Navdeep Saini, Yuzvendra Chahal and even Jasprit Bumrah leaking runs in the first ODI, India didn't have a back-up bowling option to fall back on.

Every bowler can have a day off. Saini was playing his first international match in Australia and going by the BCCI press release on the eve of the game, the fast bowler had complained of "back spasm". He went for plenty, as also Chahal. Between 15 and 40 overs, Australia scored 188 runs for the loss of two wickets before they added another 110 runs in the last 10 overs.

At the post-match press conference, Pandya addressed the issue. "I think, maybe, we will have to find someone who has already played (for) India and groom them and find a way to make them play," Pandya told reporters.

"... more than injury, it is about the sixth bowler's role. If someone is having a bad day, so the other guys get more cushion," he added.

Pandya spoke about working on his bowling and that he will bowl again "when the time is right". Till then, India are likely to be without a seam-bowling all-rounder to get the balance right.

Support cast

The real problem is that beyond Pandya, India's seaming all-rounder cupboard is bare. In fact, Ravindra Jadeja is the only cricketer in the team who is two-dimensional, although he is a spin-bowling all-rounder. Because of the Covid situation, the BCCI has sent a jumbo squad to Australia, but there's apparently nobody who can be groomed into a specialist seaming all-rounder.

The erstwhile selection committee had tried Shivam Dube, but in 13 T20s and one ODI, the Mumbai all-rounder failed to inspire confidence at international level. Tamil Nadu's Vijay Shankar was sent to the 2019 World Cup in England, as the then selection committee felt that he could chip in with a few overs of medium pace in the middle. However, in 12 ODIs and nine T20s he had four and five wickets respectively before falling out of favour. Economy-wise (6.22), Shankar had a decent IPL as a back-up bowler, but international cricket is a different ball game and both he and Dube aren't sharp enough to make an impact unless conditions are assisting them.

India are probably the only elite cricket team at the moment not to have a specialist seaming all-rounder. England boast of Ben Stokes, Australia have Marcus Stoinis, South Africa can fall back on Chris Morris, New Zealand have Daryl Mitchell and Jimmy Neesham, while West Indies bank on

Who can fit the bill of a fast bowling all-rounder? Is there a spinner who can provide more balance?



SPIN ALLROUNDERS

WASHINGTON SUNDAR

He is in the T20I squad. Bowls fastish off-spinners and can handle the new ball. But the youngster needs further improvement both in batting and bowling to graduate to the ODIs.

AXAR PATEL

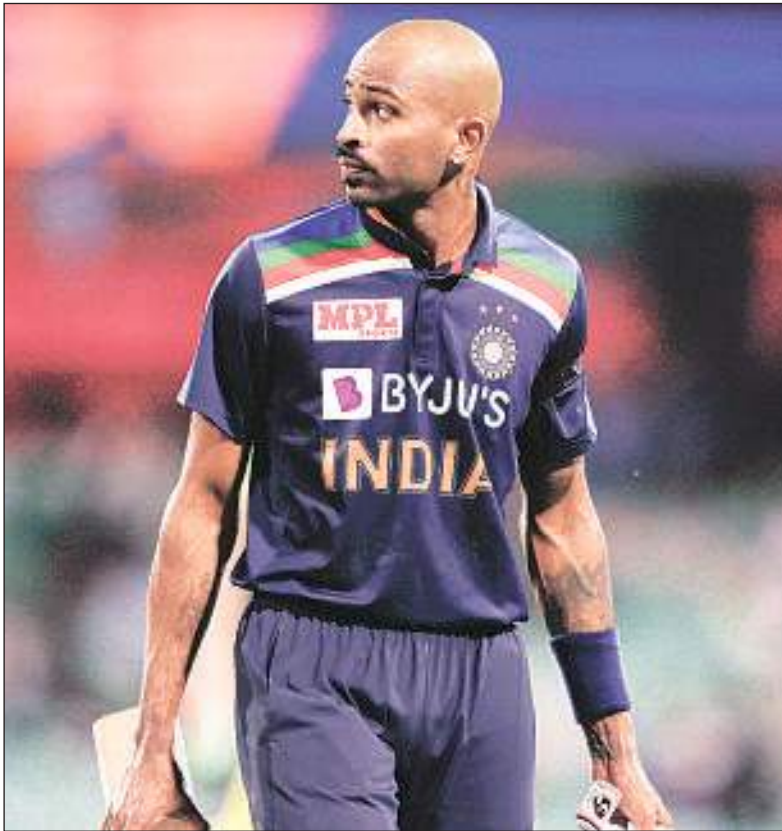
The left-arm spinner topped Delhi Capitals bowling charts in terms of economy rate in this IPL. Can hit the ball hard as a batsman. Has played 38 ODIs and 11 T20Is. At the moment, though, Ravindra Jadeja is occupying the specialist spin-all-rounder slot.

KEDAR JADHAV

Had a forgettable IPL with the bat. Didn't bowl at all. Wasn't picked for the Australia tour. A player who is past his prime.

KRUNAL PANDYA

A decent batsman, who bowls tight left-arm spin. Has 18 T20Is under his belt. But he is not a better option than Jadeja.



With a lower-back injury preventing him from playing as a seam-bowling allrounder, Hardik Pandya is in the team as a specialist batsman instead. AP

SEAMING ALLROUNDERS



DEEPAK CHAHAR Has the ability to bowl in Powerplays. But a batting average of 13.78 in List A cricket and 18.20 in first-class cricket doesn't make him a potential all-rounder candidate.

VIJAY SHANKAR Like Dube, he is also more of a bits-and-pieces all-rounder. Batting is his strength. Bowled a match-winning over in an ODI against Australia at Nagpur last year, taking two wickets. Kept things tight in the IPL, but he needs more pace to start with at international level.

SHIVAM DUBE Can play big shots and bowls medium pace. But he has failed to make an impact in whatever little international cricket he has played. Also, had 129 runs, four wickets and an economy rate north of 8 in 11 IPL matches this term.

Dwayne Bravo and Jason Holder.

As regards to India, if the selectors are to follow Pandya's suggestion – grooming someone who has already played for India – they hardly have anybody apart from Dube and Shankar to choose from. Shardul Thakur is in the squad and he is no mug with the bat. But at 29 years of age, it's probably a little too late to groom him as a proper seaming all-rounder. Amid the influx of talented batsmen and quick bowlers, this is one area in Indian cricket where bench strength is poor.

Back to Dhoni's time

All-rounders formed the bedrock of India's success in limited-overs cricket in the early 1980s. India won the 1983 World Cup in England followed by the 1985 World Championship of Cricket in Australia. Kapil Dev towered over the rest, but both Roger Binny and Madan Lal were pretty decent lower-order batsmen apart from their effective medium pace bowling, while Mohinder Amarnath provided additional options. Ravi Shastri was a genuine spin-bowling all-rounder.

In the late 80s and early 90s, Manoj Prabhakar was the team's premier seaming all-rounder. After Sourav Ganguly's arrival, he and Robin Singh, for a while, shared the responsibility of bowling seamers in the middle-overs. Ganguly wasn't quick but he swung the ball. Sachin Tendulkar bowled both slow-medium and spin, and could be trusted upon as a back-up bowler.

Almost throughout his career as India captain, MS Dhoni, however, was bereft of a seaming all-rounder option. But the master tactician made up for the void by very effectively using the part-time spin of Yuvraj Singh, Suresh Raina and Kedar Jadhav to choke the opponents in the middle-overs, especially in Indian conditions. Sometimes he used Virat Kohli's medium pace as well.

The problem for Kohli is that this Indian team doesn't have multi-dimensional cricketers – batters can't bowl and the bowlers can't bat. Kohli himself seems to have lost confidence in his bowling – he hasn't bowled in ODIs since a two-over spell against Sri Lanka in Colombo in August 2017. Jadhav's

loss of form and the subsequent omission from the Indian limited-overs squad meant that the team doesn't have a part-time spin-bowling option either.

Striking the right balance

Maybe, India missed a trick by not playing an extra bowler on a featherbed in the first ODI at the expense of a batsman. Given that Pandya is in excellent batting form, six bowlers instead of five might have helped. Then again, it was the series opener against a full-strength Australia and the team management probably chose to take a more pragmatic/defensive approach. Rohit Sharma's absence could be another reason why the think-tank decided not to go light on batting. In favourable conditions, India has the potential to run through a side, playing five specialist bowlers. But in a three-match series, if another belter is laid out for the second ODI at the SCG on Sunday, Kohli and Co will have to take a call in terms of striking the right balance.

2ND ODI: Live on Sony Network: 9:10am

Man United latest victim of cyber-attack, ransom calls

SHAHID JUDGE

MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

WHEN MANCHESTER United confirmed they had become a victim of a "sophisticated" cyber-attack, the club asserted the damage had been minimised. That was on November 20. On Thursday, however, the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) announced that they were also working on the case – leading to a belief that the attack was far more sinister than what the club had revealed. So far, United hasn't learnt of any motive and claim the club has regained control of their computer servers.

Sports the favoured target

According to the *Daily Mail*, the NCSC revealed that "70 per cent of sports organisations (in the UK) had experienced cyber incidents" over the last year, which is double than what businesses in the country experienced. An unnamed EFL Championship team had received a ransom demand of £5 million (approximately ₹49 crore) after a cyber-attack last year. A sporting outfit had also paid the sum of £4 million (over ₹39 crore), which is the highest amount to be paid, according to the *Daily Mail*.

United statement

After the attack on November 20, the club stated: "Manchester United can confirm that the club has experienced a cyber-attack on our systems. The club has taken swift action to contain the attack and is currently working with expert advisers to investigate the incident and minimise the ongoing IT disruption."

Possible consequences

At the moment, it has been reported that employees at the club cannot access their official emails. *The Times* (London) reported that experts had confirmed that Manchester United may have to pay the hackers else it could result in sensitive information being published on public forums, including fan information (usernames and passwords on the fansite). The club could face a fine of up to £18 million (approximately ₹177 crore) or two per cent of their total annual worldwide turnover if the attack is found to have breached their fans' data protection, according to the *Daily Mail*.

Not the first for Manchester

Two years ago, United's local rivals Manchester City were alleged victims of a cyber-attack. According to *The Guardian*, Rui Pinto, a Portuguese national, had allegedly hacked and gained access to confidential documents that revealed the club had been flouting UEFA's Financial Fair Play Regulations. Pinto submitted the documents to German magazine *Der Spiegel*, leading to the club being handed a two-year ban from the Champions League – a decision which was later overturned by the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Match day problems

After the unnamed EFL club had refused to pay the amount last year, they could not access their CCTV cameras, nor operate the turnstiles in the stadium ahead of a game.

Transfer money a target

During a transfer window, a Premier League team's managing director's email account was hacked. The club had been in the process of making a £1 million transfer for a player from another European club. The hackers however, attempted to transfer the sum into their own account, but were prevented by the club's bank's anti-virus system.

COUPLE GOALS

From lovers' quarrel to trading tips, newly-weds Deepika, Atanu aim for glory

SHIVANI NAIK

MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 28

MARRIAGE TO champion archer Deepika Kumari – reckons fellow international Atanu Das – is going to be a whole lot of truth-telling in the coming years. Even bitter truths.

Like how Deepika's incredible focus – ("She'll see only the target like in the Arjuna tale," he says) – has its downsides. That taut concentration, apart from filling her with intense nervousness and dread on the big stage, also means she fails to notice things around the target which matter – "the time left, the flags, the wind. She doesn't notice any of it," he says as the two resume their competitive journeys, starting with the national trials.

While completely in awe of the sharp and unwavering focus of the former World No. 1 and World Cup winner, Atanu says the couple trades tips on each other's strengths. "She's told me she likes my shooting stance. I keep asking her about what mental framework is needed to be at the top," he says as the duo wrapped up their training camp at Pune's Army Sports Institute.

The knot of archers, him 28 and her 26, tied the knot this June after having known each other for 12 years, six of which Atanu is accused

by Deepika of having spent "not talking" to her. "*Pakka dushmani thi*," she recalls, in a mock scoff. They were batchmates at the Tata Academy in 2008 when they started, but "he didn't know Hindi then, so wouldn't talk to me."

They would continue to shoot in mixed team events and practice alongside but in 2011, they formally fought. "Random, childish fights blew up. Something as small as 'why did you take my bottle of water?' ..." he recalls. Neither knew what had snapped, neither was willing to relent.

2017, they would reconnect, and swiftly fall in love. "2018, we suddenly decided. Quickly families were also informed, so it became a love-cum-arranged marriage," Deepika says, two years after both went to the Olympics, with the disappointment still raw on certain triggers.

The spotlight of being a precocious talent and pressures of expectation have always unsettled Deepika, rendering her a tad high-strung. Reminding her of previous Olympics-disappointing campaigns after a hyped build-up – still leaves her prickly. "Why do you media want to always compare this with previous times?" she asks. But she's at peace with all the uncertainty of this year with the pandemic postponing the Games, and her pragmatism has rubbed off on Atanu too.



Archers Atanu Das and Deepika Kumari tied the knot this June after having known each other for 12 years.

The self-belief has always been there. The poise and a lightness of being – she laughs out loudly and freely, jokes about her shortcomings when she shoots – is new. "Atanu is

very calm and composed as a person, and patient with others. I'm learning that," she says.

The lockdown post marriage, played its part in calming Deepika down. "My in-laws

had never tasted pancakes," Deepika says. "I really admire Bengali food, so I helped in preparations. But I was very happy when they liked the pancakes, pasta and dosa I made for them," she recalls.

With trials and qualification meets scheduled for May, training had abruptly halted in March. "Olympics got postponed, so we decided we could get married after World Championships. But everything was so uncertain there was no point in long-term plans."

The lockdown brought its broth of emotions. "We are used to being home for a max week or 10 days. Here we could do nothing and it was frustrating. But at the same time, so many migrants were struggling to reach home and there were tragic deaths. At least, we were safe," he says.

Not much was achieved in terms of fitness at home then, he confesses, except yoga and meditation. The archery equipment, meanwhile, fell into disuse. "*Char ka khana thoos thoos ke khaaya*. Naturally, standing, shooting capacity and flexibility went for a toss! Soles of the feet and legs hurt the first few weeks when we returned. *Back ki band baj jaati hai*. Strength issues were big," she explains.

First came bow-control, something Deepika had never reckoned she'd need to re-learn. "Re-familiarising the body with

what shooting feels like took 14 days," she recalls.

The time would also help her understand the team dynamic, and help her think beyond herself. "We shoot individually but a medal only comes if everyone clicks. Coordination and understanding partners and teammates are necessary. You have to be calm and know everyone's temperament – some team members are cool under pressure, some are little scared, others are very scared!" she says. "I've been all three."

Atanu paid for his gluttony over six months on return to training. "It was just 3–4 kg excess weight, but it could ruin bow control and there was body pain the first two weeks. *100/200m runs mein haalat kharab ho jaati thi*. When you hold a bow, though poundage and vibration are the same, there's a break in rhythm and muscles start feeling heavy. Running, flexibility is finished," he recalls.

Atanu would watch Deepika pick up training pace with her usual single-mindedness and gape at her ability to focus on the sport once again. Like the flick of a switch. He reckons he's lucky he can learn all about the mental process of climbing back to World No. 1 – he'll simply ask her. And then brace himself for honest unvarnished feedback on exactly what all is lacking in his effort.

Image rights, fast cars and a ‘tank’: Maradona’s complex inheritance

REUTERS
BUENOS AIRES, NOVEMBER 28

DIEGO MARADONA'S death has triggered an outpouring of grief around the world. Now comes the scramble for a share of the soccer legend's complex financial legacy, ranging from his iconic jerseys to luxury cars, image rights and even an amphibious tank.

Much like during the football idol's life, the inheritance process is likely to be a messy affair between his large family, with eight children from six different partners as heirs to his assets, as well as his intangible heritage.

Maradona, who died on Wednesday at the age of 60 from cardiac arrest, had four children in Argentina, one in Italy from his time at Napoli and three in Cuba when he settled on the island to undergo treatment to recover from his addictions, his lawyer Matias Morla has said.

"In the specific case of Maradona, he is divorced and has eight children, so the estate is divided by eight in an inheritance trial," Buenos Aires-based soccer lawyer Martin Apolo told Reuters. "It will be a complex process."

The process can last 90 days in a normal probate trial, the legal period for the heirs and creditors to present themselves, although Apolo said it could be far longer given the likelihood of "internal disputes" and opportunists seeking a payout. "In cases of this type, it can be eternal," he said.

The estate of the World Cup champion, who at the time of his death was coach of the Argentine club Gimnasia y Esgrima, comprises properties, smart cars, investments and jewels he was gifted in different countries throughout his career.

Maradona played and coached in Argentina, Spain, Italy, the United Arab Emirates, Belarus and Mexico.

There is no established value of the star's fortune. Wealth tracker Celebrity Net Worth estimates his net worth at the time of his death at \$500,000, although it said he had earned millions during his career from contracts with the different teams and sponsorship with brands such as Hublot, Puma and Coca-Cola.

Maradona was gifted two luxury cars in Dubai when he worked as Fujairah Football Club's technical director and a HUNTA Overcomer amphibious "tank," a vehicle which can "float on water," during his time as honorary president of Belarus' Dynamo Brest club. The Argentine playmaker, known as "Dios" for his godlike skills on the soccer pitch and "Pelusa" for his prominent mane of hair, also remains valuable for his image - even after death. "The most important patrimony here could be the image rights, and also all his shirts," said Apolo. "How much is the one he used in the World Cup final worth? How much



Maradona, who died on Wednesday at the age of 60, had four children in Argentina, one in Italy from his time at Napoli and three in Cuba.

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could you pay at auction?"

Maradona's family has been through several disputes in recent years, including a trial with his ex-partner Claudia Villafañe for tax evasion, procedural fraud and misappropriation of 458 objects from his past as a soccer player. His family and children have called for unity in the recent weeks before his death after Maradona underwent brain surgery to remove a blood clot, which he was recovering from. "We have to be more united than ever, hopefully we will do it once and for all now that he is gone," Walter Machuca, one of Maradona's nephews, told Argentina's TyC Sports.

'Hand Of God' shirt could go for \$2mn

THE SHIRT worn by Diego Maradona when he scored his famous "Hand Of God" goal against England at the 1986 World Cup in Mexico could be available for \$2 million following the Argentine's death on Wednesday, says an American sports memorabilia expert.

The shirt is owned by former England player Steve Hodge, who got it from Maradona after the match in which his attempted back pass led to the controversial goal that helped dump England out of the tournament which Argentina went on to win in Mexico.

"I was walking down the tunnel and Maradona was coming in the opposite direction. I just tugged my shirt and we swapped there and then," Hodge, who had been delayed on leaving the pitch doing a TV interview, told British media.

The shirt is currently on display at England's National Football Museum in Manchester.

"It's very difficult to gauge (the value) with the "Hand Of God" jersey, but I know that the owner was looking for a \$2 million private sale," David Amerman of Goldin Auction in New Jersey told Reuters. "It certainly could be a possibility, the values have jumped quite a bit in soccer."

Amerman's firm is currently involved in another auction together with Sotheby's called "A Century Of Champions," which features a Jules Rimet trophy which was presented to Pele by FIFA after he won his third World Cup with Brazil in 1970.

The trophy is expected to sell for up to \$800,000 and that sum could be dwarfed if Hodge finds a buyer for the Maradona shirt or if he puts it up for auction, although the 58-year-old former midfielder may not quite reach his target price.

"It's very difficult to see how it would get to the two million dollar price, but I don't see why an individual who had the money wouldn't want something like that - you can't really put a number on it. If you find the right person in the right place, it's a realistic possibility," Amerman explained.

REUTERS

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Types Of Heart Attack

In the movies, when someone has a heart attack, that person clutches his chest or arm and falls to the ground. Some people have exactly that experience. But it's also important to know that not all heart attacks have the same symptoms or severity. Ultimately, the seriousness of the heart attack is judged by the amount of heart muscle that is permanently damaged. Your cardiologist will assess this damage through use of echocardiography, which is an ultrasound of the heart. Treatment of a heart attack will depend on the type and severity of the heart attack. Several types of heart attacks are discussed below, as well as non-heart-related sources of chest pain. Remember, every minute you delay if it is a heart attack could result in permanent heart muscle damage or increased risk of death.

STEMI Heart Attacks

An ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) is a serious form of heart attack in which a coronary artery is completely blocked and a large part of the heart muscle is unable to receive blood. "ST segment elevation" refers to a pattern that shows up on an electrocardiogram (EKG). This type of heart attack requires immediate, emergency revascularization which restores blood flow through the artery. This revascularization is achieved either with drugs in the form of thrombolytics (clot busters), which are given intravenously, or mechanically with angioplasty - a treatment using thin, flexible tubes called catheters to open the closed artery. These catheters are positioned at the beginning of the coronary arteries (the arteries of the heart), and contrast dye is injected through them to enable the interventional cardiologist to gather images of any blockage in the coronary arteries. Very thin wires (guidewires) are then advanced beyond the blockage and the clot is sucked out and/or a small balloon is opened to push the blockage out of the way. A stent - a metal, mesh tube - is often inserted at the same time to permanently prop the cleared artery open to allow blood to flow through.

NSTEMI Heart Attacks

A non-ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI) is a type of heart attack that does not show a change in the ST segment elevation on an electrocardiogram and that results in less damage to the patient's heart. However, these patients will test positively for a protein called troponin in their blood that is released from the heart muscle when it is damaged. In NSTEMI heart attacks, it is likely that any coronary artery blockages are partial or temporary. Treatment for an NSTEMI heart at-



Dr. Amar Singhal
Senior Consultant, Interventional Cardiology
Action Balaji Hospital, New Delhi

tack consists of medication and evaluation for whether a blockage is present that should be treated with medication only, cleared through angioplasty or treated with cardiac bypass graft surgery.

Coronary Artery Spasm

A coronary artery spasm is when the artery wall tightens and blood flow through the artery is restricted - potentially leading to chest pain, or blood flow is cut off all together - causing a heart attack. Coronary artery spasm comes and goes. Because there may not be a build-up of plaque or a blood clot in the artery, a coronary artery spasm may not be discovered by an imaging test called an angiogram that is typically performed to check arteries for blockages. Treatment for a coronary artery spasm consists of medications such as nitrates and calcium channel blockers.

Cardiac Arrest (not a heart attack)

In cardiac arrest, a person's heart stops beating. Cardiac arrest is not the same thing as a heart attack, but it is worth discussing alongside heart attack. Cardiac arrest can occur due to

a heart attack, but cardiac arrest can also occur as a primary event. In other words, cardiac arrest can also occur for other reasons besides a blockage in the artery. These other reasons include electrolyte disturbances, such as low or high potassium or low magnesium, congenital abnormalities, or poor pumping function of the heart. In a heart attack, a person's heart keeps beating. A heart attack can cause life-threatening arrhythmias (abnormal heart rhythms), like ventricular tachycardia (VT) or ventricular fibrillation (VF). These arrhythmias result in cardiac arrest within a few minutes because the heart is not pumping blood to the lungs to pick up vital oxygen that circulates back to the heart and to the body. Seconds count in treating both heart attack and cardiac arrest. With cardiac arrest, the odds of survival go down by about 10 percent for every minute until the person is resuscitated. After 10 minutes the risk of permanent brain injury is very high. Initial treatment will consist of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and defibrillation - delivery of an electrical shock to restore the heart's rhythm. For people who are resuscitated and have a heartbeat but do not regain consciousness, hypothermia protocols are sometimes used, where the body is cooled for 24 hours then gradually warmed. This has been shown to improve the odds of a good neurological outcome for those patients.

*Issued in Public Interest by Dr. Amar Singhal
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WITH a rich experience of over 35 years, Prof. (Dr.) R P Banerjee perfectly harmonises academic brilliance with industry expertise. A Professor of Finance and Ethics, he had been an integral part of Indian Institute of Management Calcutta for nearly a decade.



Dr. Banerjee is the Member of the Committee for Higher Education Induction Program, University Grants Commission (UGC), Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India and the Board Member of CMD of National Council of Science Museums, Govt. of India. He is the Ex-Vice President at Large of International Association for Accounting Education & Research (IAAER), USA.

He holds a Ph.D. in Management from Calcutta University, and has done his Post Doc Research at Stockholm University. His publications include more than 200 articles/papers in prestigious national and international journals. He has authored 9 books, the latest being a Sage publication entitled Art and Science of Management in the Digital Era. He has co-authored many more.

Prof. (Dr.) R P Banerjee
Chairman & Director
Eastern Institute for Integrated Learning in Management (EIILM), Kolkata



International Webinar Name
"Global Economy: Post Corona Opportunities and Prospects"

Date of Webinar
11.07.2020

Theme of the Webinar: Webinar on Global Economy: Post Corona Opportunities and Prospects

The scale of Corona has reversed the modern living from "Inside Out to Outside In". The seminar identified the ways and means to redeploy the existing potential of human being and re-scale the contents of the learners and the youth across the globe.

Panel Members with Introduction
Prof. (Dr.) Bruce K. Behn, Ph.D., CPA is the Associate Dean for Graduate and Executive Education and Deloitte LLP Professor at The University of Tennessee (UT) Haslam College of Business, USA
Prof. (Dr.) Peter P. Müller, CIO-Vanderbilt International GmbH and MD-GMBP, Germany and Member of various Advisory Board of organizations worldwide.
Prof. (Dr.) R P Banerjee
Chairman & Director, EIILM-Kolkata



National Webinar Name
"Health, Education and Career in India - Post Corona 2020"

Date of Webinar
06.06.2020

Theme of the Webinar

Most of the western countries have focused on a nano-scale on the remedial and preventive measures concerning public health. India has responded squarely by enhancing the investment in the sector to the extent of almost twice of the current level. This would obviously multiply opportunities in health and hygiene sector gradually and would pave the ways to have new enterprises in place across the nation.

Panel Members with Introduction
Prof. (Dr.) Ranjan Chakrabarti, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor - Vidyasagar University
Mr. Rupak Barua
Director & Group CEO
AMRI Group of Hospitals
Mr. S. K. Dutt
President - Leadership & HR, First Equals Global, Alumnus - Oxford University, UK
Prof. (Dr.) R P Banerjee
Chairman & Director, EIILM-Kolkata



International Webinar Name
"World Beyond Corona-Trauma: The New Emergence"

Date of Webinar
17.10.2020

Theme of the Webinar: "World Beyond Corona-Trauma: The New Emergence"

The objective was to provide an overview of the new reality with the hope of Corporate emergence in a new shape that would support human aspiration and need in a new way. According to Prof. (Dr.) RP Srivastava, in hiring people firms need to see the merit and must have qualities like right mindset, right integrity and right ethical values. Prof. (Dr.) RP Banerjee discussed and presented his views from a different perspective basing them on economy, health services, education and work. Digital components in Corporate decision making and execution are going to be the priority. Would be managers require reorientation in profiles to succeed.

Panel Members with Introduction
Prof. (Dr.) R P Srivastava, EY Distinguished Professor of Accounting and Information Systems, School of Business, University of Kansas, Lawrence, USA
Prof. (Dr.) R P Banerjee
Chairman & Director, EIILM-Kolkata



National Webinar Name
"Post CORONA Transformation in Education & Work"

Date of Webinar
13.06.2020

Theme of the Webinar: The learners have undergone a significant degree of trauma because of the pandemic that prevented them from being physically present in their respective institutions. It has actually prompted to have a technological revolution in the world within a span of eight months. The world, therefore is going to take a new shape wherein the artificial will collaborate with the factual.

Panel Members with Introduction
Prof. (Dr.) Saikat Maitra
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology, West Bengal
Prof. (Dr.) R P Banerjee
Chairman & Director, EIILM-Kolkata
Dr. Sanjay Muthal
CEO - Kontempore & Independent Director on the Board of LIC
Dr. D. K. Ghosh
Former Chairman, ZTE, New Delhi & MD - RADIOLINK Communications



National Webinar Name
"Post Corona India - Redesigning Education to Match Career Options in New Realities"

Date of Webinar
20.06.2020

Theme of the Webinar

In the post-COVID world, education would require a matching technology, support and background. However the content needs to be transformed into a new one in accordance with the requirements of the learners. This would help them have a better adaptability and suitability to fit in the corporate designs thereby making them better performers in the corporate world.

Panel Members with Introduction
Prof. Anil Bhumali, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Raiganj University, Govt. of West Bengal
Prof. Kamal Kant Pant, Principal / Secretary Institute of Hotel Management, Catering & Nutrition (IHM), Library Avenue, Pusa, New Delhi
Mr. S. K. Dutt, President - Leadership & HR, First Equals Global, Alumnus - Oxford University, UK
Prof. (Dr.) R P Banerjee
Chairman & Director, EIILM-Kolkata



National Webinar Name
"Pandemic and the Post Covid 19 World-HR's Role and Value Proposition"

Date of Webinar
29.10.2020

Theme of the Webinar: Webinar on "Pandemic and the Post Covid 19 World-HR's Role and Value Proposition"

The recent studies conducted in the context of Europe and North America with special emphasis on the Fortune 500 companies, has brought into focus some of the dominant factors of which a few highlighting are:
1. Adaptability and conformity with respect to the changes in technology and consequent changes in focus and parameters in the corporate context.
2. Quicker process of skill-engineering to suit the emerging situation of the markets and economies.
Corporate leaders have started playing a major role in not only maintaining the balance of the corporate world but also multiply the scopes for a better living.



Eastern Institute for Integrated Learning in Management (EIILM) - Kolkata

H.O: 6 Waterloo Street, Kolkata - 700069, Tel: +91 33 2210 0911/12/13, Fax: +91 33 2210 0909, Website: www.eiilm.co.in, Facebook: eiilmkolkata69