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JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2020, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 22 PAGES

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Govt nod for Covishield in a few days: Serum

MASCARENHAS PUNE, DECEMBER 28

REGULATORY APPROVAL for Covishield, the Indian variant of Oxford-AstraZeneca's AZD1222 vaccine against the novel coronavirus, could come "in a few days", Adar Poonawalla, CEO of Serum Institute of India, said on Monday.

"By January we should have the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine licensed in India," Poonawalla said. Pune-based Serum has been licensed by Oxford-AstraZeneca to test, manufacture, and market the vaccine in India.

"Emergency use authorisation by the UK drug regulator for the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine is expected by December-end or the first week of January. In India too, we are hoping for the regulatory approval for the Covishield vaccine in a few days," Poonawalla told reporters at an online interaction.

"We must respect the process and give the drug regulators in the UK and India enough time to review the data. No one wants to compromise on safety and we hope for some good news in the new year," he said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPRESS NETWORK

UKSTRAIN: FRESH MHA GUIDELINES

PAGE 8

Driverless Metro

PM Modi launched India's first train run without a driver, on Delhi Metro's Magenta Line, Monday. Amit Mehra REPORT, PAGE 4

1 month of UP 'love jihad' law: 14 cases, 49 in jail, woman 'victim' complainant in only two

13 cases involve alleged forcible conversion of Hindu women to Islam

MANISH SAHU LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 28

MONDAY marked one month since the BJP government in Uttar Pradesh passed a new anticonversion law to check what it calls "love jihad". Since the UP Prohibition of

Ordinance, 2020, came into effect on November 28, records show that the UP Police has registered 14 cases and made 51 arrests, of whom 49 are in jail.

Of these 14 cases, 13 involve Hindu women allegedly pressured to convert to Islam. In only two cases is the complainant the woman concerned herself — in the remaining 12, the complainants

Hindu right-wing activists intervened, holding protests at the police station. In all cases but one, the woman involved is an adult. In eight cases, the couple are said to have been either friends or in a 're-

are her relatives. In two of them,

One case involves alleged il-

lationship'; while one couple claim

to be married.

registered against three people in Azamgarh.

In two cases, the women, both married to other people, have refused to have their statements recorded, citing "social pressure". In two others, women have levelled rape charges. Three of the women allegedly pressured for conversion are Dalits. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

WORKING FOR YOU: PM AT KISAN RAIL EVENT

Govt calls for talks on Dec 30, says pressure will not work on PM

Govt sends invite to 40 farmer unions for talks with 'clean intention', 'open mind'; they say will attend

KERALA TO BRING

IN LAW FOR MSP

Prime Minister today."

"Modiji has no selfish inter-

est. His single-point programme

is the development of the coun-

try and the welfare of the people.

He is fully dedicated to the sin-

TO CROPS

PAGE 8

HARIKISHAN SHARMA NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

EVEN AS the government invited 40 protesting farm unions for another round of talks on December 30, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Tomar seemed to draw a hard line on Monday. Stating that Prime Minister was dedicated to "improving the economic condition of farmers", Tomar said "no power could exert pressure and influence (dabaay aur prabhaay)"

Addressing a separate event Modi said the government would "keep marching on the path of strengthening Indian agriculture and farmers".

Speaking to a group of farmers who support the new farm laws, Tomar said: "At the time of UPA government, Manmohan Singhji and Sharad Pawarji also wanted to enact these laws, but they could not withstand the pressure and influence. So they could not legislate these laws. But we are fortunate that Narendra Modiji is our At the Singhu border protest site on Monday. Abhinav Sinha gle-point programme of making **EXPRESS NETWORK** agriculture prosperous and im-

> of the farmers," he said. "Jab uddeshya samarpan ho, desh prati samarpan ho, toh koi bhi taakat apne dabaav aur prabhaav ka istemaal neta par nahin kar paatee (when there is dedication to the purpose, dedication to the country, then no power can exert pressure and influence on the leader)," said Tomar.

Goswami paid lakhs of rupees

to ex-BARC

CEO to boost

TRPs: Mumbai

Police to court

proving the economic condition

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Arya Rajendran, a 21-yr-old college student and CPM leader, took oath as Thiruvananthapuram mayor Monday. Sanjay Mohan

Big win for NREGS workers in Kerala panchayat polls, 90% of them women

SHAJU PHILIP THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DECEMBER 28

RAJINI BALARAJ, 32, from Thirunelli village in Kerala's Wayanad district, has been a worker under the Mahatma National Rural **Employment Guarantee Scheme** (MGNREGS) since 2006. Over the years, she grew to become a "mate", leading other NREGS workers in her ward. Two weeks ago, Balaraj achieved another feat: she is now one of the 2,159 NREGA workers to have emerged winners in the just-concluded local body elections in Kerala.

"The NREGA work and my job as a mate helped me learn a lot. I

also developed a good network among people, and that helped me win," said Balaraj, who belongs to a Scheduled Tribe.

According to official data from the MGNREGS State Mission, of the 15,961 recently elected village panchayats members, 2,007 are MGNREGS workers. Officials sav this is probably the largest representation of NREGS workers in panchayat bodies. Considering women make

up around 90 per cent of NREGS workers in Kerala, it's no surprise that 1,863 of the 2,007 NREGS winners at the villagelevel are women. Besides, 147 NREGS workers

- 140 of them women — have been elected to various block CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Rajouri killings: Captain arranged car, weapons planted, say police

NAVEED IQBAL SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 28

CAPTAIN BHOOPENDRA Singh, an Army officer, had priorarranged an A-Star car, and the "incriminating material", including "illegally acquired illegal weapons" loaded in it, were subsequently planted on the bodies of the three Rajouri youths killed 18, according to the chargesheet filed by the J&K Police.

Captain Singh, who used the alias Major Basheer Khan, is named as an accused in the

chargesheet along with two civilians — Tabish Nazir from Chowgam, Shopian, and Bilal Ahmad Lone from Nikas, Pulwama. The two civilians were arrested on September 28, 2020. more than two months after the killing of the three Rajouri youth.

In the chargesheet, the three have been accused of staging the encounter and the evidence. then destroying this evidence false information" as part of a criminal conspiracy with the motive of grabbing Rs 20 lakh in prize money "earmarked for genuine information".

The document, filed before the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Shopian, on December 26, raises questions on how a single officer planned and executed the encounter without the knowledge of seniors. Also, on where the weapons subsequently planted on the three deceased -

were obtained from. Additionally, call records of one of the numbers used by the J&K police SPO, Fayaz Ahmad. His role in the incident has, however, not been made clear in the chargesheet. The SPO is **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

OTT must duck formula trap: Pankaj Tripathi, star of 2020

ΕΚΤΔΔΜΔΙΙΚ NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

"BOLLYWOOD, IN my personal opinion, is a very democratic space... I could never have believed that an actor who looks like me could have played the protagonist in a Hindi film, like I do in Kaagaz, my upcoming film. This was not possible 10-15 years ago. On a film set everyone, from makeup artist, they are all equal," said actor Pankaj Tripathi.

His comment, coming at the end of a year that saw the Hindi CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



At the eAdda with Shubhra Gupta, Devyani Onial



MUMBAI, DECEMBER 28 IN A remand report submitted before a court on Monday, the

MOHAMED THAVER

TV editor-in-chief Arnab Goswami had paid "lakhs of rupees" to Partho Dasgupta, former CEO of the Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC), to "increase" the Television Rating Points (TRPs) of the two Republic news channels.

..When Dasgupta was the Broadcast Audience Research Council, or BARC, CEO, Arnab Goswami and other accused in the case conspired to illegally increase the TRPs of Republic Bharat Hindi news channel and Republic TV English news channel. In order to do that, Goswami

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPRESS INVESTIGATION PART 3

Toppers say schools stuck to textbook, didn't prepare them for challenges outside

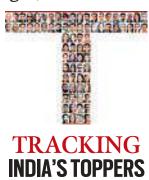
Say curriculum needs refresh, schools must help with colleges, careers

RITIKA CHOPRA

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28 WHEN SHREYAS Sudhaman, 22,

the 2014 ICSE topper, went abroad for his undergraduate education in chemical engineering at Cockrell School of Engineering, University of Texas, Austin, he realised that school hadn't quite equipped him with some key skills.

"I was much more suited to





in public speaking; not just a few. It's a big differentiator in careers"

PUSHPRAJ SHUKLA, WITH MICROSOFT IN SAN FRANCISCO CLASS 10 ICSE TOPPER IN 1999

Lease, don't buy: Carmakers offer a hassle-free option



In school, knew only about engineering colleges around Mumbai. Wish I had known Delhi colleges were better" JANVITHOSANI, CA, CLASS 10

ICSE TOPPER IN 2010

textbook problems than out-ofthe-box thinking," he said. "When I had to do my first-year engineering project with a team, I failed to clearly communicate my ideas for the project... Report and essay writing were much harder for me than for my American classmates who are

> and present it in a clear manner." Years after their high school graduation, like Sudhaman, most of the 86 national Board toppers, tracked down by The Indian Express as part of a fourmonth investigation, say that CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

trained to organise information

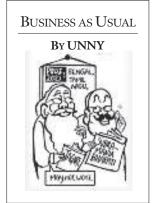
THE WORLD



TRUMP RETREATS SIGNS BILL TO **RELEASE COVID AID**

EXPRESS NETWORK

AYODHYA COLLEGE PROTEST: SEDITION **CHARGES DROPPED** PAGE 10



PAGE 1 ANCHOR

SANDEEP SINGH & **ANIL SASI** NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

INSTEAD OF buying new cars, users in several Indian cities are choosing to 'subscribe' to them – that is, to pay automakers a fixed sum every month for the use of a car for a certain time. The country's two biggest automobile manufacturers, Maruti and Hyundai, are seeing good traction in subscription-based flexible ownership of vehicles.

Hyundai, which had started monthly and yearly subscription plans across its models in association with Gurgaon-based Revv, has seen fresh demand this year from cities such as Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Mumbai. Its smaller cars Grand i 10 Nios and Santro are the most popular among subscribers.

Maruti Suzuki India launched a vehicle subscription scheme for individuals in September in Delhi-NCR and Bengaluru, which allows customers to use a new Maruti Suzuki vehicle without actually owning it. Maruti has teamed up with Orix Auto Infrastructure Services India, a subsidiary of Japan-based Orix Corp, for the subscription programme.



Cars at Maruti's plant in Manesar, Gurgaon. Express Archive



avoid the hassles of buying, selling, and maintaining cars, and those who may not have the money for a down payment, this can be an option to consider. For automakers, the subscription model can be a way to overcome the hurdles of slowing demand.

As an alternative to outright purchase, the subscription model allows customers to drive home a vehicle in lieu of a monthly fee, and without a hefty down payment. The monthly fee is all-inclusive, covering complete maintenance, insurance, and roadside assistance.

The subscription for a Maruti Suzuki Swift Lxi is around Rs 14,500 per month. While this is not cheap, the arithmetic vis-àvis purchasing a car is as follows:

The on-road price of this car is over Rs 5.5 lakh. If a buyer were to take a loan of Rs 4.5 lakh, her EMI on a 9-per-cent-loan for three years would be about Rs

14,300. However, she would have also paid over Rs 1 lakh in down payment, registration, and insurance costs, and would also be required to pay for the annual maintenance and renewal of insurance during the lifetime of the car. If she were to subscribe to the car instead, she would pay around Rs 3.5 lakh over two years, and would then have the option to buy a new subscription. The carmakers say the sub-

scription model is targeted only at certain categories of customers. "There are people who don't want the hassle of buying and selling a car every two or CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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BAYERN MUNICH REACH ZENITH, LIVERPOOL END DROUGHT IN THE TIME OF COVID

What started off like any other run-of-the-mill year, ended with a bag-load of narratives -- intertwined with a bag-load of narrative -- intertwined with a bag-load of narrative -- intertwined with athe themes of the coronavirus pandemic and the quest for social justice — in the world of football.

EXPRESS EDUCATION



AFTER A YEAR OF **ONLINE TEACHING**

Is academia ready to make 2021 the year of online assessment?

TRENDING



'COFFIN DANCE' TO 'BINOD'

Here is a look at the memes that ruled social media in 2020

EXPRESS AUDIO

How farmer protests could change Punjab politics

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

In the latest episode of the 3 Things podcast, we talk about the ongoing farmer protests, and how they are set to change Punjab and its relations with the Centre

Kannauj

Mohammad Taufeeq, 32, was

arrested last week for marrying a 29-year-old woman after al-

legedly concealing his identity

and later forcing her to convert.

The woman's father alleged he

had posed as Rahul Verma, and

that they realised his real identity

only when the two went to

Lucknow around 15 days back,

and the woman left him to return home. In her statement to a mag-

istrate, the woman had supported

the charges, SHO, Gurusaĥaigani,

Three persons were arrested

on December 20 for allegedly try-

ing to convert their neighbours to

Christianity. The accused, Bal

Chand Jaiswal, Gopal Prajapati

and Neeraj Kumar, were holding a

prayer at the house of one

Tribhuvan Yadav when the police

arrested them on a complaint by

neighbour Ashok Yadav. The po-

lice said the three worked as

preachers, having converted to

Christianity. On Monday, a court

sent the three to judicial custody.

statement against the accused, SHO, Deedarganj, Sanjay Kumar

Meeranpur Katra

Police Station,

Shahjahanpur

Singh said.

Tribhuvan Yadav has given a

Mohsin, 22, was booked along

with friend Sadiq on December

17 for allegedly kidnapping a

woman, taking her to Delhi, and

trying to convert her before mar-

riage, on the basis of her uncle's

complaint. The two were arrested

three days later after right-wing

activists held a dharna at the po-

lice station, SHO, Katra, Harpal

Singh Balivan said the woman

had backed the charges in her

Raja Dinesh Singh said.

Deedarganj PS,

Azamgarh

FROM PAGE ONE

Talks on Dec 30,

Tomar's comments are in line with Modi's earlier statement that the government was ready to talk to the farm unions, but the talks would have to be based on "issues, logic and facts."

Flagging off the 100th Kisan Rail from Sangola in Maharashtra to Shalimar in West Bengal via video conference on Monday, Modi said the recent reforms would lead to the expansion of agri-business.

"We will keep marching on the path of strengthening Indian agriculture and farmers with full devotion, with full force," Modi Meanwhile, Union Agriculture Secretary Sanjay Agarwal sent a letter to 40 representatives of farm unions, inviting them for the next round of talks on December 30. He said the government was committed to resolving the "relevant issues rationally" with a "clean intention and an open mind."

All the issues related to farmers, including the three farm laws, will be discussed in detail, Agarwal said in the letter.

Speaking to The Indian Express. Jamhuri Kisan Sabha general secretary Kulwant Singh Sandhu said the farm union leaders would attend the meeting. "But the sequence of discussion of items on the agenda will be the same as has been given in our December 26 letter," Sandhu said.

Covishield Serum has submitted addi-

tional data to India's national drug regulator while seeking emergency use authorisation (EUA). The British Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is also considering the data for grant of EUA to the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine. Approval by the UK regulator can make it easier for the vaccine to get regulatory clearance in India.

"India will be given priority as a majority of the stockpiled 50 million doses at Serum Institute will be for the country," Poonawalla said.

"The first six months of 2021 can see a shortage globally but that can ease by August as other vaccine manufacturers also will be able to supply," he said.

Lease, don't buy

three years. There are others who don't have the money for down payment. This must be seen as an alternative mode of using the car," Shashank Srivastava, FD. Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. said.

So, who's taking this option? According to Srivastava, they fall into three broad categories.

There are senior executives who change their cars every two or three years: and there are those in transferable jobs who spend only a few years in a city and see subscription as a way to escape the hassle of transporting, selling, maintaining, and financing their vehicle.

Then there are the young aspirers who have just entered the job cycle and don't have savings to fund a down payment - but who still want to own a car.

Automobile manufacturers think this will be primarily a big city-driven phenomenon. "We started in September this year with a pilot in Gurgaon and Bengaluru, and have now taken it to eight cities. We have leased more than 9,000 cars through our partners," Srivastava said.

Hyundai, which offers the service in 20 cities, has got more than 4,500 subscriptions since March 2019. "Covid-19 has made the customer more focussed on health, due to which personal mobility is gaining pull over shared mobility," Tarun Garg, director, sales and marketing, Hyundai Motor India, said.

What's in it for the carmak-

With sales coming under pressure following the NBFC crisis in the second half of 2018, companies were looking for ways to get customers. Offering cars on lease eases the process of owning without purchasing, and tying up with a lease partner means the partner is bound to purchase the cars. Also, as leads for such customers are generated at car showrooms, the overall business would

Kerala

panchayats (there are 2,081 members in all at the block panchayat level). According to MGN-REGS State Mission officials, these figures are a sign of grassroot-level empowerment. "It's a sign of the strength of our democracy and panchayati raj system," said an official. Like Balaraj, most of the winning panchayat members are 'mates' - NREGA workers who, by virtue of their experience, end up as team leaders.

Rajouri killings

included in the list of 75 witnesses

in the chargesheet. "During interrogation of the arrested accused (Tabish Nazir and Bilal Ahmad Lone), they disclosed the whole story," the chargesheet said. It said the two were in touch with Captain Singh alias Major Basheer Khan of 62 RR since June. Lone has turned approver in the case.

On July 18 — the day of killing - the two accused "reported at the Army Camp Reshinagri in his (Lone's) car, an ALTO bearing Registration No. JK22B 3365; from there they accompanied Captain Bhoopendra Singh in another white colour private car.'

The "incriminating material" which the Army initially claimed was found on the person of the three deceased – who were then termed "unidentified militants" included two pistols with two magazines and four empty pistol cartridges, 15 live cartridges and 15 empty cartridges of an AK series weapon.

The accused planted the "illegally acquired illegal weapons and material on their dead bodies after stripping them off their identities associated with their non-involvement, tagging them as hardcore terrorists, the chargesheet said.

While the civilians have been arrested and are in judicial custody, the Army officer is "vet to be arrested for procedures under AF-SPA. According to the chargesheet, the three accused drove to Chowgam Shopian, where the Rajouri youth lived in a rented room. The place of their residence was less than 100 meters from the 62 RR camp and about 20 meters across the road from the residence of the co-accused Tabish Nazir. The chargesheet stated they "abducted three persons" — Abrar Khan, Abrar Ahmed and Imtiaz, all belonging to Rajouri – "from their rented accommodation in a residential house using the same car and transported them to the scene of occurrence at Amshipora while also travelling a distance on foot."

Imtaiz had been working with a person, Mohoammad Yousuf, from Chowgam since 2018 and had brought two of his cousins to Chowgam in July.

The chargesheet said the officer did not inform his seniors "till the last moment of design."

From the questioning of the accused Captain Singh "the version stated by accused Tabish Nazir and Bilal Ahmed Lone was corroborated substantially while it has transpired that the deceased were abducted from their rented accommodation at Chowgam near the Chowgam Army Camp by the trio accused while they

used a white colour private car." The car used to "abduct and transport" victims to an unattended shelter in an orchard at Amshipora where they were murdered was obtained by Army personnel a day before the en-

In his statement, Aijaz Ahmed Lone "deposed before the court

that Army personnel of Reshinagri Camp had approached him at his residential house at Reshinagri on 17.07.2020 on the eve before the incident... and took his Vehicle A-Star bearing registration No. DL8CU 0649 with them." The next day, he said that the Army "informed him that the vehicle was lying at Amshipora

Nar in faulty condition." Depositions of four Army personnel have been recorded, stating that Captain Singh "had proceeded alone from camp along with two civilians.

There are records of scores of calls between the two accused

and the one approver. A copy of the SITREP provided to the SIT by 62 RR also records that the cordon was laid after initial firing by the accused himself. "Captain Bhoopendra Singh had claimed to have fired a total of 37 rounds from his service rifle...".

Pankaj Tripathi

film industry embroiled in a debate about nepotism, was made at the Express eAdda on Monday, where the actor was in conversation with national features editor Devvani Onial and The Indian Express film critic Shubhra Gupta.

Tripathi, who has had a stellar year, with widely appreciated performances, spoke on a range of topics, including his early days as a struggler in Mumbai, his motivation for pursuing acting, and the current state of the Hindi film industry.

When asked which "school of acting' he thinks he belongs to, Tripathi, 44, who won a Special Mention at the National Film Awards for his performance in the film Newton (2017), fondly remembered his late colleague Irrfan. "I have not seen a lot of films, and I have almost zero reference of older actors. My training school was the National School of Drama. Irrfan sahab left a huge impression on me though I don't know if I hail from his school of acting," he said. Tripathi and Irrfan worked together in Angrezi Medium.

Tripathi has also established a small-screen presence with web shows like Sacred Games and Mirzapur. At the eAdda, he addressed what he described as the "formula trap" that OTT platforms can fall into, an example of which is the spate of similar gangster stories. Responding to a question about any directorial dreams, Tripathi said, "Yes, some day hopefully." Asked a question about politics, the actor, who dabbled in student politics during his college days in Patna, said, "I have worked so hard to be an actor. It would seem a bit strange if I shifted careers from abhineta (actor) to neta (politician). But politics does have the ability to effect

Mumbai Police

on several occasions paid Dasgupta lakhs of rupees, it has been established in the investigation," the police told the metropolitan magistrate's court while seeking the remand of Dasgupta,"

This is the first time that the police have spelt out Goswami's alleged role in the TRP case. Goswami was not available for comment on Monday.

While the remand report mentions "Republic owners" in the list of accused, it does not name Goswami specifically.

According to the report, Dasgupta used the money to purchase valuables that were seized from his residence. "The purchases include one Tag Heuer watch worth approximately Rs 1 lakh and imitation jewellery and stones worth Rs 2.22 lakh," police

Assistant Police Inspector Sachin Vaze told The Indian Express that Dasgupta, during questioning, said that Goswami had met him at least three times, in separate hotels in Mumbai, and "made payments worth lakhs in cash, including once in US dol-

Toppers admit schools stuck to textbooks, didn't prepare them for what lies outside

while their marks and ranks may have given them a head start, looking back, they see cru-

cial gaps in school education. Many of them downplay their Board exam ranks, and almost all said their school education didn't quite prepare them

for what lay ahead. Pushpraj Shukla, 37, the 1999 ICSE topper who is currently Partner Director of Data Science at Microsoft in San Francisco, says more attention in schools to public speaking and debating could go a long way. "Let the whole class participate in public speaking; not just a few select students. These skills are bigger differentiators in careers than what schools focus on," said Shukla, who moved to the US in 2005 after his Computer Science

Many toppers say they wish someone in school had briefed them better on options available post-school, loan programmes, and helped them with choice of colleges and careers.

BTech from IIT-Kanpur.

Janvi Thosani, 26, has a BCom degree from Narsee Monjee College of Commerce and Economics in Mumbai, an MBA from IIM-Ahmedabad, and is a Chartered Accountant. "CA was mostly choice by elimination because I didn't want to do medicine or engineering. I wish I knew doing economics was an option," she said.

'My parents did their education in Mumbai, so weren't aware of options outside. In school, we were only told about engineering colleges in and around, Had I known how better Delhi colleges were. I would have prepared accordingly," said the ICSE national topper of 2010. Minister of Education

Ramesh Pokhriyal says the new National Education Policy (NEP) "exactly does what these toppers need". "The NEP 2020 aims to discourage rote learning, promotes creative thinking, at the same time imparting 21st

Century skills to these toppers,"

Pokhriyal said in an email response to The Indian Express. Gerry Arathoon, Chief Executive and Secretary of CISCE - the Board whose curriculum 62 of the 86 toppers featured in this series followed in school too says the new NEP is a "unique opportunity". "If our past toppers feel their education was lacking in exposure to other professions or in teaching socialemotional skills, we will look at all their suggestions," he told The

Shashi Tharoor, Congress leader and Minister of State for Human Resource Development (as the Ministry of Education was called until recently) in the UPA government, says such a change is long due. "I have been arguing that our schools must not teach kids what to think, but how to think.

Indian Express.

Many of the toppers also spoke about the need to update curriculum and change the way content is delivered to students

Research scientist Karuna Ganesh, 37, acknowledges that her school life prepared her to "work hard, and be goal-oriented", but the curriculum that she worked hard to "rote learn" in the late Nineties was mostly irrelevant to modern science.

"I remember memorising the names of parts of different subtypes of seeds, flowers etc., but we failed to learn the basic principles of modern Biology that explain how all life works.

The fundamental concepts of DNA, RNA and protein were entirely absent. I first learned about principles of how cells and organisms work once I went to school in the US," said Ganesh, who topped the ICSE exam in 1999, and is now physician-scientist at Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre in New York.

Sixteen years after Ganesh cleared her Class 10, the experience that Sougato Chowdhury, 21, who topped the Class 10 ICSE exam in 2015, had in school wasn't any different. "The essence of science is thinking critically, asking questions and testing out possible answers. This was never promoted," he Anika Agrawal, 23, the 2013

ICSE topper who is studying MS in Marine Biology at Texas A&M University, said, "I don't remember a single thing from Class 10 as it was short-term memorisation. We should have been taught to reason not mug up." The toppers also have a word

of advice for the batch of 2021: Board exam, at the end of the day, is just an exam.

Arkya Chatterjee, 24, who topped the Class 12 ISC Board exam in 2015 and is currently enrolled as a PhD student at MIT. comes up with a football analogy. "The final standings depend on how well you play all the different games; no one game is more important than the other. Likewise, no single exam has the ability to determine exactly where you end up or how well you do in life. But the first game of the league is always special; a good start serves as an indicator of the team's preparation for the rest of the

Like Chatterjee, more than half of the toppers, as this investigation found, are overseas, most of them in the US. That, in itself, isn't as much a problem as it is a pointer, say experts. "At IIT, we are aware of this

problem and this is something that the government and we are trying to address with the Prime Minister's fellowship," said IIT-Delhi Director V Ramgopal Rao. "I feel we should encourage bright students to study abroad by funding them and then bring them back to work here. The country will benefit. China has been doing this for a while." For Manish Sisodia,

Education Minister in the Delhi

government that's credited with bringing in reforms to change the face of public education in the Capital, the high number migrating overseas is a reminder of the challenge to retain talent. "We need to bring a new ecosystem that not only values talent but also compensates it competitively. We cannot stop anyone from leaving the country, but create adequate opportunities here," said Sisodia. "I also feel the selection process in our higher education institutions is outdated. It doesn't recognise potential or talent." Minister Pokhrival said the government is working to retain talent. "A committee constituted under the UGC chairman regarding 'Stay in India' has recently submitted its report. It mainly deals with stemming the tide of students who want to study abroad. Now the situation has changed and worldclass institutions are in India.'

(Concluded)

girl reportedly returned home on

her own then, and her father got

an FIR lodged against Saqib on

various charges, including kid-

napping and under the SC/STAct.

In a statement before a magis-

trate, the girl had supported the

charges, said SHO, Dhampur,

Kanth Police Station, Moradabad

statement.

Rashid Ali, 23, was arrested along with his brother, on December 5, while he was on his way to register his marriage with Pinki, on the complaint of her mother. Pinki was taken to a shelter home. Alleged Bairang Dal activists reportedly assaulted the two brothers before the police arrested them. Two weeks later, after Pinki gave a statement backing the brothers, they were released on bail. While the case is still under investigation, she is back at her in-laws' house. She had claimed to have suffered a miscarriage during her stay at the home, though officials have claimed this is not clear in the medical tests so far. SHO. Kanth. Ajay Kumar Gautam said investigation is on and the statements

of locals are being recorded.

Dhampur Police

Station, Bijnor

Jalesar PS, Etah

Arun Tyagi.

22-year-old woman apriage to Javed, who runs a cloth store in Jalesar. A case was filed against six persons, including three women, on various charges, while 14 people have been arrested, including Javed's relatives and friends. Javed remains missing. The statement of the woman is yet to be recorded, said SHO KP

Kotwali PS, Shahjahanpur

Mohammad Saeed, 32, was arrested on December 18 for allegedly coercing a 42-year-old married mother of two into changing her religion for marriage. The woman filed the FIR saying that they first met around four years back when Saeed came to her house for some work, introducing himself as Sunil Kumar. She claimed they had become friends and he had sexually assaulted her and was pressuring her for marriage. Her statement had been recorded, Kotwali SHO Parvesh Singh said.

Gurusahaiganj PS,

On December 17, the family of proached police saying she had been forcibly converted by her neighbour, Mohammad Javed, 28. The police say the woman had left her home with Javed on November 17 and her family did not file any complaint till she wrote to them informing them about her conversion and mar-

A teenager was arrested on December 14 for allegedly trying

to induce a minor Dalit girl to elope with him with the intention of marrying and convert her. The youth, who claims to be a minor though the police say he is 19, and the girl, 16, are former classmates. Both initially claimed that they were returning after a friend's birthday party when they were chased by a group of men, who beat them and took them to a police station. An FIR was then filed against the teenager by the girl's father, and he was arrested. Speaking to The Indian Express, the girl had denied the charges, while her father had said he had filed the complaint under police pressure.

Circle officer, Bijnor, Ajay Agarwal said the girl's statement had been recorded and she had supported the charges levelled by

FULL REPORTSON www.indianexpress.com

lars." He said Goswami and Dasgupta had worked together at Times Now.

UP law

In one case, the accused has got stay against criminal proceedings. While Bijnor district has seen three cases and Shahjahanpur two, others have been reported from Bareilly, Muzaffarnagar, Mau, Sitapur, Hardoi, Etah, Kannauj, Azamgarh and Moradabad districts. In one case, the police have been unable to find the woman involved.

Deorania Police Station (PS), Bareilly

The case was lodged against Owais Ahmed, 24, the same day as the ordinance came into effect. Ahmed, who is under arrest, was accused of pressuring a married Hindu woman to convert, and threatening her parents. Preliminary investigation has indicated that the two were in a relationship, and had eloped last year, before they were found and brought back, While Ahmed had been arrested then too, the woman had denied in court the charges of kidnapping lodged against him by her father.

Station House Officer (SHO), Deorania, Daya Shankar said the woman, who is at her in-laws' place, had refused to get her statement recorded before a magistrate because of "social pressure".

Mansoorpur PS, Muzaffarnagar

Nadeem, 34, was booked along with a friend, Suleman, on November 29 for allegedly harassing and pressuring the wife of a private contractor to convert and marry him. Both Nadeem and Suleman work as labourers at a factory in Haridwar, where the contractor was based earlier. The contractor, who filed the case, said Nadeem frequented their house for work and gradually developed friendship with his wife, forcing him to shift with his wife and family to Muzaffarnagar. On December 18, the Allahabad High Court stayed criminal proceedings against Nadeem. Suleman was never arrested due to lack of evidence, SHO, Mansoorpur, Kushal Pal Singh said. The woman has refused to record her statement before a magistrate.

Chiraiyakot Police Station, Mau

Shabad Khan, 32, and 10 others, including his friends and relatives, were arrested for allegedly kidnapping a woman, 24, on the eve of her marriage on November 30, with the intent of converting her. The woman's father, who filed the complaint, told the police locals had told him about what Shabad, who is married. was planning. The police said efforts were being made to trace others. Additional Superintendent of Police, Mau, T NTripathi said they had found the woman but had not been able to record her statement as she had tested positive for Covid-19.

Tambor PS, Sitapur

Jibrail, 22, a taxi driver, and six of his family members were booked initially for allegedly kidnapping a 19-year-old woman, on the complaint of her father. A week later, on December 3, her uncle filed a fresh complaint saying he had come to know Jibrail had converted the woman, prompting the police to invoke the anti-conversion law. Jibrail has not been arrested so far, nor the woman found, though 13 others. including librail's friends and relatives, have been arrested, said

Station Officer, Tambor, Amit Singh Bhadouria.

Sahabad PS, Hardoi A case was lodged against

Mohammad Azad, 24, on December 11 by an 18-vear-old woman, alleging rape and attemps to forcibly convert her, leading to his arrest. The teenager said she had been in a relationship with Azad for two years and that he had raped her repeatedly on the promise of marriage, later putting pressure on her to convert first. She also told the police she suspected Azad was planning to take her to Delhi and put her in the trafficking trade. While the woman earlier claimed she was a minor, the police said a medical examination and government documents proved otherwise.

In a statement recorded before a magistrate, she has supported the charges, said SHO, Sahabad, Shiv Shankar Singh.

Kotwali PS, Bijnor

Mohammad Afzal, 22, a labourer, was arrested on December 10 for allegedly kidnapping a 19-year-old and trying to convert her, on the complaint of her father, also a labourer. The woman's family moved recently from Bijnor to Chandigarh, but she had come to Bijnor for a function, when Afzal reportedly abducted her.

She had supported the charges in a statement, said SHO, Kotwali, Rajesh Singh.

Dhampur PS, Bijnor

Mohammad Saqib, 19, was arrested for allegedly concealing his identity to lure a minor Dalit girl into marriage. The police said the two had been in a relationship for a year and he had introduced himself as Sonu, and she came to know his real identity only when they eloped on December 14. The

ADVERTORIAL



ERA'S LUCKNOW MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL LOWEST COVID MORTALITY, HIGHEST RECOVERY

Uttar Pradesh as a state in general and Lucknow in particular has benefited a lot from Era's efforts. A specialised institution like Era's can contribute a lot to the healthcare. Its contributions towards Telemedicine are noteworthy that will help the difficult areas in the state to benefit from the outreach and technology-led healthcare

Sameer Kochhar, Chairman, SKOCH Group



We are a leading L-3 facility with the maximum number of patients in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Era's effective treatment has resulted in a recovery rate of more than 96%; and, a mortality rate of 3.7%, which for an L-3 facility is the lowest in the state and perhaps in the country. We are thankful to SKOCH for recognising our feat

Zaw Ali Khan, Additional Director, ELMC&H

highly trained and devoted faculty supports Era's Lucknow Medical College & Hospital (ELMC&H), where the 850-bed multi-specialty hospital is fully equipped with advanced, world class diagnostic and therapeutic equipment. For nearly two decades, the institution has been functioning as a Centre of Excellence in medical education, healthcare, training and research. ELMC&H is a private medical college and is affiliated with ERA University.

In the wake of COVID outbreak, Era's initiated a ramp up of the existing infrastructure to prepare for handling emerging cases. It included, some initial guidelines for the medical and support staff. Soon there were **PROCESS** central government guidelines New SoPs were formulated, and it allotted 400 beds and allocated additional manpower, new equipments and assessed the inventory. For those needing emergency medical care, hybrid facilities were created.

ELMC&H, in collaboration with Era's Medical Devices, stepped up the development of patient care equipment with the objective of upgrading COVID19 patient management while ensuring safety of healthcare workers.

A Tele-OPD was started for providing medical guidance to patients. One dedicated Tele-OPD was also set-up for stress management counselling attendants and hospital staff.

PROBLEM

protocols

- Ramping up existing infrastructure
- Drawing up treatment, sanitisation
- Adjustment of duty rosters for medical and support staff
- Guidelines compliance
- Ramping up infrastructure, setting up Telemedicine centre
- Protocols for stress management for staff and COVID patients
- Limited availability of PPE kits

SOLUTION

- Set-up one dedicated Tele-OPD
- **Centralised Patient Monitoring system**
- Regular counselling with patients and healthcare workers
- VR-Secure Booth airtight aluminium and glass cabin
- **ICU** Nursing Pod to prevent infectious exposure during CPR
- DigiDoctor Telemedicine app to contact doctors and follow up
- Maintain digital health records

OUTCOMES

- Daily group counselling by psychologists
- Nearly 3,000 patients discharged after recovery
- Level-3 COVID facility, successfully carried out deliveries, dialysis etc
- More than 1,500 doctors and support staff worked in shifts
- More than 7,500 Telemedicine consultations
- Conducted clinical trials of antiviral drug
- Recovery rate more than 96%

SOLUTION

In non-critical wards, patients' vitals are measured through Bluetooth enabled Pulse-Oximeters and BP Machines. These machines automatically transmit the data to the CPMS for control room monitoring.

The VR-SECURE BOOTH, an airtight aluminium and glass cabin prevented the influx of infected air into the chamber and its doublelayer safety gloves ensured a high standard of infection control.

DigiDoctor, a Tele-medicine app was developed and made available for OPD patients who could contact doctors for treatment and follow-up without visiting the hospital.

OUTCOMES

In the absence of the usual inperson OPD, Era's also began $e\hbox{-}Consultations through Digi Doctor.$ More than 7,500 Telemedicine consultations have been done through this app free of cost.

Era's Lucknow Medical College & Hospital, along with King George's Medical University (KGMU) and Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences (RMLIMS) is a part of a Phase III Clinical Trials of Antiviral Drug Umifenovir conducted by Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow.

Era's has treated and discharged more than 3,000 cases and counting. It is a L-3 facility with the maximum number of patients in Uttar Pradesh. Some of these patients were extremely critical and high-risk cases on ventilator that were successfully extubated.

operational plans of all departments were supervised and enforced set up isolation wards, deployed on a war footing and numerous supervisory committees were formed.

For the purpose of real-time remote monitoring, a Centralised Patient Monitoring System (CPMS) was set up to provide doctors with a live-display of all critical patients' vital parameters on computer systems anywhere across campus and on the smartphones.

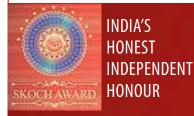
A team of doctors was deployed for round the clock monitoring of this dashboard. The ICU Nursing Pod was used for giving CPR to infected patients thereby minimising the risk of exposure to higher viral loads.

New SoPs were formulated, both admitted patients and their operational plans of all departments were supervised and enforced.









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Professionals, Institutions, Doctors as well as front-line workers from the Healthcare sector have been in a hand-to-hand combat with COVID-19.

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PERFORMANCE







101-200 Moderate 201-300 Poor

MIN: 4

ON MAGENTA LINE

Launching driverless train, PM hails move to 'smart systems'

ASHNA BUTANI

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

THE DELHI Metro's driverless train, the first of its kind in the country, was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi via video conference at 11 am on Monday. "I had the privilege of inaugurating the Magenta Line about three years ago. Today, on the same route, I have the opportunity of inaugurating the country's first fully automated Metro. which we call 'Driverless Metro'. This shows how fast India is moving towards smart systems. Today, the National Common Mobility Card is also being added by Delhi Metro. It started in Ahmedabad last year. Starting today, it will include the Airport Express Line of Delhi Metro," he said.

The PM said in order to prepare the country for the future, the government needs to work today: "When our government was formed in 2014, only five cities had Metro rail. Today, it is present in 18 cities." He said that as every city has different requirements, work revolving around the Metro differs as well. Citing the RRTS and Metro Lite models, the PM said, "The Regional Rapid Transit System will reduce the distance between Delhi and Meerut to less than an hour."

In cities with fewer passengers, work is being undertaken on Metro Lite, which is built at 40% of the usual cost. "Use of modern technology is the need of the hour. Right now, I have the opportunity of inaugurating the Metro Rail without a driver. With this achievement today, India has become one of the few countries in the world where such a facility is available. We are also using a braking system in which 50% of the energy goes back into the grid when

Plastic-free

push at

market in

Gurgaon

GURGAON, DECEMBER 28

GURGAON'S SECTOR 23 market

is likely to soon become the city's

first "polythene-free market",

with the Municipal Corporation

of Gurugram (MCG) making ef-

forts in recent weeks to sensitise

and encourage shopkeepers in

the area to replace polythene

that they expect to declare the

market a "polythene-free mar-

ket" within 15 days. Officials said

the market has around 150

shops, including restaurants,

daily needs shops, and jewellery

stores, and sees over 30 kg of

polythene being used per day.

Express, Dheeraj Kumar, Joint

Commissioner, Swachh Bharat

Mission, MCG, said they are sen-

sitising shopkeepers and placing

boards outside their establish-

ments appealing to people to

avoid using polythene. He added

that they are encouraging shop-

Speaking to The Indian

Officials from the MCG said

bags with cloth ones

SAKSHI DAYAL





Modi flagged off the train through a virtual event. Amit Mehra

the brakes are applied," said Modi. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, and DMRC Managing Director Mangu Singh were also

at the virtual inauguration. "Congratulations, residents of Delhi. Automated driverless metro trains have started running in the city today. Delhi has entered a select group of cities globally. The city is developing

rapidly," Kejriwal tweeted On the first day, five trains out of 26 on the 38-km-long Magenta Line were driverless. Officials said more trains will gradually be fully automated. While trains on the Pink Line will be automated by next June, those under Metro

Phase IV will be driverless as well. A DMRC official explained that the timings and instructions

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

A NEWLY introduced passenger

Delhi's IGI Airport is expected

to reduce waiting time for peo-

ple and better manage crowds

to maintain social distancing,

International Airport Limited

at eight departure gates, all

check-in rows, domestic and in-

ternational security check-

points, and emigration and im-

migration areas. A DIAL official

said, "Based on images com-

puted directly on ceiling-

mounted sensors, passengers

are counted and tracked anony-

mously. The system receives

data streams from the sensors

and provides airport operators

with valuable key performance

indicators (KPIs) such as wait-

ing times, process times and

passenger throughput, etc."

These KPIs are then visualised

on a dashboard, leading airport

officials to act quickly in case of

bottlenecks and crowds.

(DIAL) said Monday.

of the

Sensors have been installed

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

are fed into the system: "Earlier, a train operator would have to wake up two hours early, get to the station and conduct a number of manual checks like checking the AC and brakes. Now, this has been automated; routine checks will take around 10 minutes. The train will only act on what has been fed in. At the end of the day, it will go into sleep mode

at the given time.' In case of snags on a certain Metro line, action will be taken by staff who will be centrally controlling the network from Metro Bhawan, An official said, "The main advantage is that any chance of human error is removed."

A new experience

As the first train started from Janakpuri West and headed to-

New tracking system to reduce

waiting time for fliers at IGI

The tech

IN THE driverless mode trains can be controlled entirely from the DMRC's three command centres without any human intervention. Communication Based Train Control signalling technology also makes it possible to monitor and troubleshoot every aspect of train operations remotely. Manual intervention is required only in cases of hardware replacement.

wards Botanical Garden, several passengers, some excited and some apprehensive, hopped on. An announcement, "Welcome to a driverless train. A train operator will be available for any assistance," was made at each station.

Vijay Wadhwana (74), a marketing consultant who was traveling from Janakpuri to RK Puram for work, said, "A machine is safer than any man. Since it will be centrally controlled, I don't think there's anything to worry about."

Deepak Pangali (29), who was travelling with his wife, son, mother and sister, said, "We had heard about this before, but we didn't think we would be among the first to sit on the first driverless train. Honestly, we could never see the driver before, so it feels the same." His mother Shakuntala Pangali (50) said, "We are heading to Kalkaji Mandir... it is already an exciting day for us."

An official said train operators will still be present inside trains to guide people and build

The students along with the school's MD Ranjeet Kaur at Tikri on Monday. Prem Nath Pandey

Punjab to Tikri: 50 students travel 300 km to join protest

ABHINAV RAJPUT NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

AROUND 50 schoolgirls travelled 300 km from Kishangarh in Punjab and joined farmers at the Tikri border on Monday to extend their support to the protest. Dressed in their uniform, the students, mostly from classes XI and XII of Holy Heart Senior Secondary School, staged a march in the afternoon and

The school's managing director, Ranjeet Kaur, said the students will stay here for at least two-three days after which other batches will arrive: "We will stay

raised slogans such as 'Kisan Ekta

Zindabad'.

in tractors and trolleys like other farmers. We know people here who have made arrangements She said they are children of

farmers sent to the protest site

by their parents, who couldn't come due to financial or health The school has over 600 students. "The boys will also come later via public transport and

girls in a bus," said Kaur, adding that some of the students had been part of the protest in the state earlier too. Ashdeep Kaur, a student of

Class XI, said her family is against the bills "as it will benefit private companies at the cost of farmers and end the mandi system". Another student, Jaspreet Kaur, who is in Class XII, said she decided to come as her father is ill. "We will be here till the law is revoked," she said

When asked if her studies would get hampered by being at the protest, she said, "Being here for farmers is more important as they give food to everyone."

Speaking over the phone, Gurpreet Singh, whose daughter Gurmeet Kaur was part of the team that came to protest, said. "One of my relatives is very sick and needed blood, so I had to stay. I wanted my child to be my voice, to speak about how farmers across the region are against

Saket court advocate held for hit and run that killed 1

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

A 54-YEAR-OLD advocate, who practises in the Saket Court, was arrested in connection with a hit-and-run case, in which a man died, Saturday night.

The advocate has been identified as Rahul Shrivastav. Police said he was coming from his friend's house in Defence Colony and going to his home in Greater Kailash 1 when the incident took place.

DCP (South) Atul Kumar Thakur said that around 10 pm, a PCR call was received from BP Marg that a Toyota Yaris had hit two men who were crossing the road. "The accused was under the influence of alcohol," he said.

A police officer said that Shrivastav's alcohol level was 228 mg per 100 ml of blood over seven times higher than



Mangled remains of the car; Rahul Shrivastav, the accused

the permissible limit of 30 mg spot. Police said the advocate per 100 ml of blood.

The identity of the victim. who was in his 50s, is yet to be ascertained, said police. The second person, a 75-year-old man identified as Kanhaiya Lal, was injured in the accident. "He is recuperating at AIIMS hospi-

tal." said a police officer. Thakur said that after hitting the two men, Shrivastav fled the

parked the car a little ahead and walked away. "Through the car, we could figure out his address. He was arrested the same night," said police.

A case under IPC sections 279, 304A, 337, and under Section 185 of the Motor Vehicle Act, has been registered at Kotla Mubarakpur police sta-

BRIEFLY -

Teen claims molested, belongings robbed

New Delhi: A 17-year-old

girl, who ran away from home, alleged that she was molested by a man who also robbed her money and phone in Chanakyapuri. An FIR has been registered and police are on the lookout for the accused. The victim told police that she left her home in Bihar after her parents scolded her. "She was standing outside New Delhi railway station when she met the accused who assured her help to board a train for Bihar. He took her to an isolated place in Chanakyapuri where he allegedly molested her and robbed her belongings. She approached the police and lodged an FIR," a senior police officer said. ENS

Man held for robbing shopkeeper

New Delhi: A 23-year-old man was arrested for allegedly robbing a shopkeeper on the pretext of getting change of Rs 200 in southeast Delhi's Govindpuri area. Police identified the accused as Vishal, a resident of Saurabh Vihar, Jaitpur. "On Saturday, one Shambhu Kumar lodged a report that he was in his grocery shop in Jalim Mohalla, Tughlakabad Village. Around 3.30 pm, two persons came to his shop and asked him for change of Rs 200. He gave them two Rs 100 notes. After taking the notes, one of them grabbed him from behind and using a sharp object, threatened him from making any noise. Another person took all the cash, around Rs 8,000 to Rs 9,000, following which they ran away," a senior police officer said. ENS

Man arrested for killing grandmother

New Delhi: A 19-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly killing his grandmother by smashing her head with a hammer in East Delhi's Shahdara, police said Monday. PTI

Public transport capacity down 73% since first lockdown, congestion up, finds study

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

THE AVERAGE capacity of public transport has fallen by an average 73 per cent since the first lockdown in the city in March, a report on Delhi's mobility done by the Centre for Science and Environment said.

CSE said congestion is returning to roads at a time when public transport ridership is still low and the transport options inadequate. The report says that service capacity of the public transport fleet reduced by 73 per cent on an average, with variations across different phases of lockdown and thereafter.

"Public transport is expected to be further constrained by social distancing norms. This is already encouraging people to shift to private modes of transport... Delhi cannot meet its clean air targets if overall traffic and vehicle numbers are not controlled. Delhi Master Plan 2020-21 had set a target of 80 per cent public transport ridership by 2020 that

has been missed," the report said. The report also shows that the reprieve from traffic congestion was temporary and that it is near-

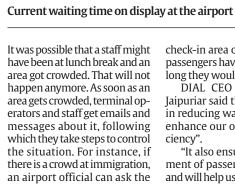
ing pre-Covid levels. The mean travel speed decreased from 46 kmph during the lockdown to 29 kmph after the lockdown was lifted, as per an analysis of the Google Mobility Report done by CSE. The average speed in February was 24 kmph.

"This could not be sustained as the scale and scope of action needed to transform public transportation, walking and cycling options, and vehicle restraint measures like city-wide implementation of the parking management area plan and the notified parking rules have remained limited and inadequate. This is of serious concern as scientific studies in Delhi have shown that vehicles contribute about 40 per cent of the total pollution load," said Anumita Roychowdhury, executive director-research and advocacy, CSE.

The report also says that with work from home norms in place, trips to the workplace reduced by up to 65 per cent.

keepers to purchase cloth bags from the MCG's 'Cloth Bag Bank'. higher authorities are alerted.

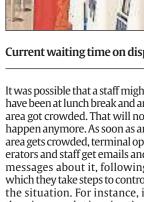
"We are making every effort to make this a success," said Brahma Yadav, head of the Sector 23 market association.



The system generates alerts when crowds or long queues begin to form. And in case the crowd is not managed in 10 minutes,

The official said, "Before this, everything was done manually.

BRIGADIER MOHAMMAD USMAN DIED IN 1947 INDO-PAK WAR



immigration officer to open additional counters.

In addition, the Xovis pas-

senger management system

displays the waiting time at a

number of junctions like the

check-in area or arrival pier so passengers have an idea of how long they would have to wait. DIAL CEO Videh Kumar

Jaipuriar said this would "help in reducing waiting times and enhance our operational effi-"It also ensures that move-

ment of passengers is smooth and will help us in ensuring that physical distancing is not compromised at the terminal. This would help us in providing a safe and secure environment for the passengers in an efficient manner." he said.

Grave of national hero, laid to rest near Jamia univ, falls into disrepair

His grave is in the "VIP section" of the graveyard, one of the largest among the graves of luminaries, such as writers Qurratulain Hyder and Sajjad Zaheer, theatre personality Ebrahim Alkazi and scholars such as Mushirul Hasan and Mujeeb Rizvi

The graveyard itself is an open area, with the Jamia Metro station to one side and openings to low-income residential buildings and the bustling road leading to Batla House. The open area of the "VIP section" of the grave-

yard is used by children of nearby areas to play cricket. "Children play here, people come and go. It can be damaged in many numbers of ways," said a resident of a house bordering the graveyard.

Dr Iqtedar Khan, who is Jamia University's in-charge of the graveyard, said that the maintenance of the grave is usually done by the Defence Ministry.

"The graveyard is a common place and as far as the VIP section is concerned, the family of the deceased or the institution they

were associated with approaches us for permission to use the grounds for burial. The work of making and maintaining the grave is done by them. In this case, it is the defence. They used to come every year and do maintenance work, perhaps this was affected by the Covid situation this year. If they give us the funds for repair, we can do it," he said.

Army PRO Colonel Aman Anand said that the Army has "taken note" of the damage to the grave and will "soon make a decision" on its maintenance.

Brigadier Mohammad Usman, the highest-ranking Army officer to have been killed in the Indo-Pakistani War of 1947, de-

marble covering is conspicuous

SUKRITA BARUAH sions and actions in a newly in-NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28 dependent and conflicted nation led him to be recognised as AMONG THE gravestones of var-"He was commissioned into ious luminaries who lie buried in the graveyard near Jamia Millia Islamia, one with a white

the 5/10 Baluch Regiment, where he served till Independence. During Partition, he was given the option to join the Pakistan Army as Army chief. A true patriot that he was, he declined and chose to serve the country of his birth, an epitome of secularism and patriotism. Brigadier Usman took over command of 50 (I) Para Brigade

tails his life and how his deci-

in December 1947 at Naushera, I & K. Under his command, the brigade halted the advance of Pakistani tribals at Naushera against all odds. He then led the brigade to recapture Jhangar, thereby turning the tide on the

raiders," it reads. Brigadier Usman died on July 3, 1948, when an artillery shell landed close to him. He was posthumously awarded the Maha Vir Chakra, the second highest military decoration, and became known by the epithet "Naushera ka Sher".

Brig Usman has been buried in the graveyard's 'VIP section'

New Delhi



as a significant portion of its front is broken. The epitaph on the grave of

Vacant

5 THE CITY



	TOTAL CASES HOSP			18,774	16,312	
6,23,415 v		VENT	ILATORS	1,525	979	
	Daily	cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests	
Dec 27	7	'57	939	16	75,210	
Dec 28	5	64	959	21	57,463	
Total	6,2	297*	6,06,644	10,474	84,08,511	_

Over 4,400 cops positive for Covid, most from PCR unit; 20 deaths: RTI

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

OVER 4,400 police personnel tested positive and 20 have died due to Covid-19 till October 1, data received under a RTI application filed by The Indian Express shows. The maximum cases (405) were reported among personnel posted in the Police Control Room (PCR), where four lost their lives. Data also shows that 1,274 personnel who tested positive received financial aid of Rs 1 lakh and Rs 10,000 for treat-

Data provided by all 14 districts, specialised units such as Crime Branch and Special Cell, traffic and other units shows that 4,469 cases were reported between March 23 and October 1.

As per the data, after the PCR unit, maximum cases were re-



17 personnel got Rs 1 lakh for treatment. Archive

ported from the security unit with 294, followed by traffic unit with 277. In the districts, 258 cases were reported from Southeast, 242 from Northwest and 219 from Central. The lowest cases were reported from Southwest district at 98. While Dwarka saw 100 cases, 124 cases each were reported among personnel posted in New Delhi and Rohini districts.

Details are still pending from

Your Right to KNOW

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the Outer North district while ACP (Cyber Crime Cell) Aditya Gautam said the information cannot be provided.

DCP (PCR) Usha Rangnani said the unit has the maximum number of police personnel around 8,000 — who are the first responders to any distress calls. "We have taken several precautions and asked our personnel to maintain distance in their vehicles as well. We have asked the van in-charge to sit in the rear seat, and also deployed a separate vehicle in all zones to sanitise patrol vehicles twice a day. We have also asked them to

sanitise their vehicle if they take

any injured person to hospital,' she said.

Of the 1,274 personnel who received financial aid, 17 received Rs 1 lakh. "Initially, the Delhi Police Commissioner had decided to give Rs 1 lakh to those who test positive on duty. But when the number of cases increased rapidly in the force, it was decided to reduce the amount by 90%. The aid was from the Delhi Police Welfare fund; it has now been stopped," said a senior police officer.

"20 police personnel died due to Covid and family members of 15 received aid ranging from Rs 7 lakh to Rs 10 lakh from the department, given from the Delhi Police Welfare fund. Five requests are still pending," the data revealed.

In several meetings, police chief S N Shrivastava has emphasised that every police colony and building has to be sanitised

PANEL SAYS KEEP DEMOLITION PROCESS SHORT

Central Vista project a step closer to green clearance

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

MOVING THE ambitious Central Vista project a step closer to getting environmental clearance, an expert panel under the Environment Ministry has given a go-ahead to the Central Public Works Department to draw up the plans meant to be submitted to the ministry for a final nod.

While granting Terms of Reference to CPWD, the panel, formally called the Expert Appraisal Committee on Infrastructure, asked the department to provide "detailed demolition plan along with mitigative measures (and) include details of proposed strategy for management of construction and demolition waste".

"Efforts must be made for instant demolition of the latest technique in place of extended demolition to avoid air pollution during the demolition process," the panel told the department.

CPWD, along with M/s. Environmental Consultants, had submitted plans



An artist's impression of the proposed Parliament building

to the expert panel for redevelopment of the Common Central Secretariat Buildings and Central Conference Centre, along with the Prime Minister's residence. SPG building and Vice-President's enclave. A revised estimated cost of Rs 13,450 crore had been submitted, up from the earlier estimated cost of Rs 11.794 crore.

The total built-up area proposed is 17,21,500 sq mts, and the area to be demolished is 4,58,820 sq mts. Buildings which are currently operational in the area marked for redevelopment

Krishi Bhavan, Vigyan Bhavan, VP Residency, National Museum, Jawahar Bhavan, Nirman Bhavan, Udyog Bhavan, Raksha Bhavan and the INS Hutments. In their presentation to the

include IGNCA, Shastri Bhavan,

expert panel, the project proponents said the Common Central Secretariat will consolidate all ministries of the Government of India, and improve productivity and efficiency of administration. The buildings will also be connected to the Delhi Metro.

"Modern and secure residen-

tial facilities for the Vice-President and the Prime Minister will be equipped with all necessary spaces and infrastructure, including special protection group. The plan for comprehensively improving and augmenting Central Vista will strengthen governance infrastructure by building an efficient and sustainable Central Secretariat to house all the Ministries of the Government of India, a Central Conference Centre to cater to all conferencing needs across Ministries, well-equipped and adequate residences for the Vice-President and the Prime Minister," states the presentation, adding that the plans foresee a reduction in disruptions caused to city traffic as well.

According to minutes of the expert panel meeting, the CPWD said it will cover the impact of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) in the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report for a holistic coverage of the overall impact, which means a new PMO will also come up under the Central Vista redevelop-

Footwear flies at meeting of East municipal body

ABHINAV RAJPUT

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

CHAPPALS WERE out and blows were exchanged as BJP and AAP councillors clashed during a House meeting of the East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) on Monday. Two AAP councillors, including Leader of Opposition Manoj Kumar Tyagi, were later suspended by Mayor Nirmal Jain.

According to party sources, the dispute started when BJP's Leader of House Parvesh Sharma read out a condolence motion, following which Tyagi and an AAP councillor sought a similar motion to be read for the farm-

ers who died during the protest. Later, a heated exchange took place between councillors when Sharma read the agenda for the day, following which leaders from both parties snatched papers and behaved aggressively, sources present in the meeting said.

In a purported video of the cident, AAP councillor from New Seemapuri Mohini Jeenwal could allegedly be seen taking out her sandals while other councillors from AAP and BIP were also seen engaging in aggressive behaviour.

Mohini said, "The BJP councillors first attacked our leaders. They threw shoes and also abused me. What else should I have done to save my respect?"

Jain said that he has expelled Tvagi and Mohini for 15 days from the House meeting due to their "insensitive and rude be-

Tyagi, however, alleged bias: "He (Jain) did not tell the BJP councillors a single time to even sit even though they were abusing us. He did not discuss the Rs 2,500 crore scam of BIP or pass a condolence resolution on



Two AAP councillors, including Leader of Opposition Manoj Kumar Tyagi, were later suspended by Mayor Nirmal Jain.

farmers who have died. But he suspended us.'

AAP MLA Kuldeep Kumar, who attended the meeting as a nominated member, claimed that BJP leaders became aggressive and abused AAP leaders as "they did not want to pass such a motion for farmers".

Jain hit back saying that AAP councillors did not even wait for the motion to end and started agitating because they had come pre-determined with posters with banners of the alleged Rs 2.500-crore scam. "They wanted to disrupt the house to raise unsubstantiated allegations," he said

The drama lasted for around half an hour after which marshals and security guards had to intervene to control the situation.

Though heated exchanges are common at MCD meetings, this is the third time in the past two years that it has escalated in such a manner.

Last year, a heated exchange between councillors had led to a fight in which mics were broken. In 2018, blows were exchanged at a special North Corporation house meeting called at the Town Hall between AAP and BJP leaders.

Dip in Covid cases but not death rate, experts urge caution

ASTHA SAXENA NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

FOR THE last four days, Delhi has been reporting less than 1,000 cases of Covid-19 per day even as the number of tests being conducted continue to set a new benchmark. Between December 24 and December 28, the city saw a total of 3,797 cases of Covid-19 after testing 3,75,457 people during the same period - a positivity rate of 1%.

On Monday, the city saw 564 new cases of Covid-19, the lowest single-day spike since May 26. The death toll reached 10.474 with 21 new fatalities recorded in a day. The death rate based on the last 10 days has been recorded at 2.95%, higher than the national average of

On May 26, the city had recorded 412 new cases.

With New Year celebrations around the corner, though, experts are urging the public to take adequate precautions and continue following social distancing rules and Covid-appropriate behaviour.

"People should not let their guard down during the celebra-

tions. We had seen a massive spike in the number of cases during November due to Diwali and Dussehra celebrations. The cases, at the moment, are on a lower side and we should continue to maintain that," said Dr Sujeet Singh, head of the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).

A report prepared by NITI Aayog member Dr VK Paul and AIIMS director Dr Randeep Guleria had also warned against a rise due to the coming celebrations. The report submitted to the Delhi government also said that more severe cases of Covid-19 have been observed in the last few days.

The experts said that they are ready to review the situation again on January 15 to understand the impact, if any, of the UK strain and overall impact of the New Year celebrations, which might have settled by that time.

Meanwhile, 31 patients who have either returned from the UK or are contacts of the returnees are undergoing treatment at Lok Nayak Hospital, which has been made the nodal centre for treatment of passengers with a travel history to the



With no patients, the Covid isolation centre at CWG in New Delhi was shut Monday. Praveen Khanna

Florist beaten to death on busy street

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE GHAZIABAD, DECEMBER 28

A 21-YEAR-OLD florist was beaten to death by two men on a busy Ghaziabad street Monday, allegedly over a professional rivalry. According to police, the accused, Govind and Amit, assaulted Ajay while he was travelling in an auto in Loni area.

In a video that went viral, the accused can purportedly be seen beating Ajay on the head



A video of the incident showed two men hitting the victim on the head. They have been arrested

with a steel rod multiple times. The victim was later rushed to a nearby hospital where he was declared dead on arrival. "The incident took place

around 12 pm. The main accused, Govind, had planned to attack the victim since there had been arguments between the two over their flower shops near a temple. The accused spotted Ajay and beat him badly; he sustained fatal injuries. The accused were arrested within three hours," said Iraj Raja, SP Rural, Ghaziabad.

had a flower shop near Mahakali Mandir in Loni for the past 10 years. Prior to the lockdown, Ajay opened a flower shop opposite Govind's. Govind objected to this, say-

According to police, Govind

ing it would cause problems to his shop. The two had allegedly got into a scuffle and approached police. They later settled the issue and did not file an official complaint, police said.

The accused and the victim hail from Sonia Vihar in Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, we are carrying out title due diligence on the immovable properties described below, on behalf of Lender/ SNG and Partners' client.

All persons other than the owners mentioned in the land schedule, claiming an interest in the said property or any part thereof by way of sale, gift, lease, inheritance, exchange, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, possession, easement, attachment or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to make the same known to the undersigned.

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LAND SCHEDULE

Land admeasuring 10 Acres situated in the revenue estate of Village Wazirpur & Hayatpur, Sub-Tehsil Harzaru, Hadbast No. 115, Sector - 93, District Gurugram, Haryana. LAND SITUATED AT VILLAGE WAZIRPUR

SI. No.	Owners	Rect. No.	Killa No.		Area al-Marla)	Area Taken (in Kanal-Marla)		
				K	М	K	М	
1.	B.S. Yadav (267/383 share), M/s Ramprastha Greens Pvt. Ltd. (18/383 share), M/s Ramprastha Estate Pvt. Ltd. (98/383 share)	86 86	13/1 Min 18/2			2 3	11 6	
2.	Sandeep Yadav	85	10	1	15	1	15	
		86	6	7	10	2	15	
		86	15	8	0	6	13	
		86	16	8	0	8	0	
		86	14	8	0	3	13	
		86	4	8	6	0	3	
3.	M/s Ramprastha Housing Pvt. Ltd.	86	23 Min	8	0	1	10	
		•	TOTAL		•	26	86	
						OR 3 787	E ACDES	

SI. No.	Owners	Rect. No.	Killa No.		Area al-Marla)		Taken al-Marla)
4.	M/s Signature Builders Pvt. Ltd	37	25/4	1	9	1	9
		38	21/3	5	18	5	18
		39	1 Min	3	15	3	15
			26 Min	0	5	0	5
		40	5/4 Min	1	19	1	19
			TOTAL			13	6
				•		OR 1.66	25 ACRE
	LAND SITUATED	AT VILLAGE	WAZIRPU	JR			
SI. No.	Land Owners	Rect. No.	Killa No.		Area al-Marla)		Taken al-Marla)
5.	Sandeep Yadav	85	11	8	0	8	0
			40/0	_	۱		4-

LAND SITUATED AT VILLAGE HAYATPUR

						OR 1.66	25 ACR
	LAND SITUAT	ED AT VILLAGE	WAZIRPU	JR			
SI. No.	Land Owners	Rect. No.	Killa No.		l Area al-Marla)	Area (in Kana	Taken al-Marla
5.	Sandeep Yadav	85	11	8	0	8	0
			19/2	0	15	0	15
			20	8	0	8	0
			21	8	0	8	0
			22/1	0	15	0	15
		96	5	8	0	8	0
		97	1/1	2	18	2	18
		'	TOTAL			36	8
						OR 4.5	5 ACRE
	GRAND TOTAL		3.7875	+1.6625+	4.55 = 10.0	ACRES	

New Delhi

Shocked, dismayed by police search at lawyer's office: SC Bar Association

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

THE SUPREME Court Bar Association (SCBA) Monday expressed "shock, deep concern and dismay" over the "search and seizure" conducted by the Delhi Police at the premises of one of its members. The Bar body in a statement called the police action in the case "arbitrary, illegal and a brazen exercise of brute power".

and "contrary to law". The statement said that "a search and seizure conducted by the police at the premises of an advocate in a proceeding not pertaining to or relating to a Member of the Bar is a malicious act which defeats the right of an advocate to practice his profession without fear or favour. Such actions are intimidatory and designed to abuse the due process of law by coercing an advocate to succumb to police threats and methods unheard in legal annals".



Mehmood Pracha's office was searched by police last week

The statement did not name the lawyer, but SCBA president Dushyant Dave told The Indian Express: "I strongly condemn the lodging of FIR against Mr Mehmood Pracha and the raid carried out at his place. While acknowledging that Delhi Police is a fine professional organisation, I must say that their investigations into Delhi riot cases are sadly biased and perhaps motivated at the instance of powers be. Far from catching the real culprits who instigated the riots and who happen to be powerful politicians, innocent people belonging to a certain section are being targeted. The likes of Mr Pracha are helping the vulnerable section of society who are being targeted unnecessarily, and so they find themselves being targeted by the government, I do hope and trust that good sense will prevail amongst the investigating officers and the Judiciary and Rule of Law will prevail as it should and as it generally has." The SCBA statement added

that the Delhi Police action "is in the teeth of the specific provisions of law which recognise the clientlawyer relationship and protects all correspondence between the advocate and his client", and the "encroachment on the rights of an advocate by the police violates the rights of the accused to a fair trial guaranteed under Article 21, and the protection against self-incrimination guaranteed under Article 20(3) of the Constitution of India jeopardising the rights of the client to a free trial".

"Taking serious exception to the conduct" of the Delhi Police, it also called upon the force "to immediately forbear, cease and desist from using the information available on devices so seized".

The Bar body also questioned the grant of warrant by the Magistrate for the search and said the same, done "in a routine mechanical manner, particularly in respect of a lawyer's communication and correspondences, is antithetical to rule of law and constitutes a disturbing violation of this privilege directly affecting the administration of justice".

In the same statement, the SCBA also condemned the "brutal assault of a lawyer in the District of Etah in Uttar Pradesh by local police". It said that the "assault" which happened "in his house when he was with his familv is atrocious and unacceptable". and that "it is a gross and calculated action on the part of the police in total contravention of law".

6 GOVT & POLITICS





BIRTHDAY HIGHLIGHTS

WITH CONGRESS president Sonia Gandhi avoiding attending public events and former party chief Rahul Gandhi out of the country, it was senior Congress leader AK Antony who hoisted the party flag at an event at the AICC headquarters to mark the party's 136th foundation day on Monday. The day was special for Antony, a CWC member and former Kerala Chief Minister, as he celebrated his 80th birthday on Monday. It was a day of double joy for the Congress veteran. In Kerala, his party colleagues, including former CM Oommen Chandy, state Congress president Mullappally Ramachandran and M M Hassan, wrote articles in leading newspapers to celebrate his

FREIGHT THOUGHT

A LOT of thought, it seems, went into deciding which commodities the trains, which would be flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor on Tuesday, should carry. After a lot of deliberation, it was decided that the train from Khurja should carry foodgrain. Some officials were of the view that this is apt considering the current political environment.

SOUND OF MUSIC

GERMAN AMBASSADOR to India Walter J Lindner is no ordinary diplomat. He has launched a music album with 18 musical pieces in which he played all the instruments, and produced a classical music masterpiece. Lindner, who recorded on digital and analog equipment, played Mozart, Handel and Schubert, among others, and stitched them together in a studio.

Your strong voice a source of strength: Amartya to Mamata

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, DECEMBER 28

DAYS AFTER the Visva Bharati University Vice Chancellor accused him of being in "illegal" possession of land on the campus, Nobel laureate Amartya Sen on Minister Mamata Banerjee and thanked her for "reassuring people under attack".

In an email to Banerjee, in which he addressed the CM as "Dear Mamata". Sen wrote. "I am very happy indeed to get your supportive letter. I am not only most touched, but also very reassured that despite the busy life you have to lead, you can find time for reassuring people under attack. Your strong voice, along with your full understanding of what is going on, is, for me, a tremendous source of strength."

Earlier this week, Visva-University Vice-Chancellor Bidyut Chakrabarty, in a letter to the state government, named Sen among those who have "illegally occupied plots on the campus" – a charge denied by the Nobel laureate who has said that the land in question was registered in the records on a longterm lease.

On Friday, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee wrote to Sen and slammed the BJP for "levelling baseless allegations" against



BIP targets Amartya for views

him. "We all salute Amartya Sen. Just because he isn't inclined towards BIP's ideology, they are levelling such allegations against him," she had said.

Sen added in his reply, "May I send you my deep appreciation of the warmth of your extremely kind letter. I also take the liberty of conveying to you my thanks as well as my personal affection and

Speaking to mediapersons after an administrative review meeting in Bolpur, Mamata Banerjee said the Nobel laureate is being attacked by the BJP for his views against the Centre.

"Amartya Sen is being attacked for his views against the Union government. This is completely unacceptable. Just like I am being attacked for my political views," she said.

Meanwhile, members of the Bangla Sanskriti Mancha filed multiple complaints with the Birbhum police against a VBU student for "maligning" Sen on social media.

Cattle slaughter ban ordinance gets Karnataka Cabinet nod

DARSHAN DEVAIAH BP BENGALURU. DECEMBER 28

THE KARNATAKA Cabinet on Monday decided to promulgate an ordinance to bring the Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation of Cattle Bill, 2020, into force. The Bill, which was cleared by the Assembly on December 9, is yet to be approved by the Legislative

The ordinance will be sent to the Governor for his assent. "In a few days, it will become a law no more cattle slaughter in the state. The BJP is firm on protecting cows, so the Bill has been implemented through an ordinance," said Prabhu Chavan, state animal husbandry minis-

The Bill bans the slaughter of all cattle, defined as "cow, calf of a cow and bull, bullock, and he or she buffalo below the age of 13 years". It replaces the less stringent 1964 legislation that prohibited the slaughter of cows

"However, slaughter houses will continue to function and

Dilip Ghosh, Sourav Ganguly

Sourav should

join politics:

Dilip Ghosh

KOLKATA, DECEMBER 28

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

A DAY after Board of Control for

Cricket in India (BCCI) president Sourav Ganguly met Governor

Jagdeep Dhankhar, state BJP

president Dilip Ghosh said a suc-

cessful person like him should

that his party was ready to take

along everyone in its against the

are appealing to all people to

come and join the BJP. He

[Ganguly] has every right to

meet the Governor... He is the

former captain of the Indian

[men's] cricket team and now is

the BCCI president. A successful

person like him should come

into politics. The BJP is ready to

take along everyone and fight

against the state government."

in April-May next year, specula-

tion is rife that Ganguly may join

Sunday, Dhankhar said he inter-

acted with the former cricketer

on "varied issues" and an-

nounced that he had accepted

Ganguly's offer to visit the Eden

speculate about the visit. "I have

come here to invite the Governor

to the Eden Gardens as he has

Ganguly told reporters not to

Gardens.

With Assembly elections due

Following the meeting on

Ghosh told reporters, "We

Trinamool Congress (TMC).

to politics, and added

Successful

people like



Karnataka ministers Prabhu Chavan, J C Madhuswamy

 $beef \, consumption (with \, respect \,$ to buffalo meat) will not be prohibited," said Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J C Madhuswamy after the Cabinet meeting. The Bill defines beef as the flesh of cattle in any "When the new law kicks in,

there will be a blanket prohibition on slaughter of cows in the state," Madhuswamy said. "The anti-cow slaughter law is not new. We have had it for decades. Previously, there was a ban on slaughter of cows until the age of 13 years. We have just extended it with the intention that older cows should not be abandoned Since the prohibition does not extend to (older) buffaloes, there is no ban on beef consumption,"

he said.

"In the earlier law, there was scope for litigation on the age of the cows. The new legislation will put an end to such confusion. The government is also looking at building gaushalas to ensure that older cows don't become a burden to the farmers," Madhuswamy said.

"The cow is the root of India's culture, faith and farmers' livelihood. All of us must rise above politics to help the growth of the state's cattle assets. Opposing this Bill for political reasons and misleading the public is intolerable," said Chavan.

The Bill proposes a maximum of seven years' imprisonment and a fine of Rs 5 lakh for

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra with Digvijaya Singh, Mallikarjun Kharge, A K

the AICC office in Delhi on Monday. Anil Sharma

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

WITH CONGRESS president Sonia

Gandhi avoiding public gather-

ings and Rahul Gandhi abroad on

a personal visit, the Congress's

136th foundation day celebra-

tions at the party headquarters on

As BJP leaders took a dig at

The Congress also stepped up

Rahul for missing the event, the

its attack on the BJP-led govern-

ment over the continuing farmer

agitation, with party general sec-

retary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and

the party's communication de-

partment head Randeep

Surjewala asking the government

to hold talks with farmer unions

without preconditions. Priyanka

said it was wrong on the part of

the government to describe the

agitation as a political conspiracy.

mony, the Congress president

"(At the) Foundation day cere-

Monday was a low-key event.

Congress defended him.

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

Antony and other party leaders at an event to mark the Congress's 136th foundation day at

As Sonia, Rahul miss Cong event,

party slams BJP 'low-level' politics

used to hoist the flag. Because of

Corona, we advised madam Sonia

Gandhi not to come today...

Therefore, senior most leader A K

Antony hoisted the flag. Whenever

the party asked him for a pro-

gramme... without any hesitation

Rahul Gandhi has been attending

all the programmes... Now he has

gone for a personal visit... to see his

grandmother...the BJP is making it

a controversy... their intention is

very clear... to target Rahul

Gandhi... that has been their

agenda... doesn't someone have

the right to go to see his grand-

mother? They are doing low-level

politics...it is quite unfortunate,"

AICC general secretary (organisa-

tion)KCVenugopal told reporters.

"If a family member is

unwell...can't a person go to meet?

Rahul Gandhi is on a short per-

sonal visit to meet a family mem-

ber who is seriously unwell... So

he has gone to meet his family...

should the BJP have any objection

to that too?," he said.

Surjewala echoed Venugopal.

Siddaramaiah asks: Do you need courage to say food habit my right?

Bengaluru: Hitting out at partymen for lacking the courage to speak out on certain issues, senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday remembered his earlier statement that he liked cattle meat, while asserting that food habit was his right.

"I had once said in the Assembly that I eat cattle meat, who are you to ask? It is my right, food habit is my right, who are you to question? If you don't eat, leave it, I'm not going to force you. I eat because I like, who are you to ask? Do you need courage to say this?" Siddaramaiah said.

"...Our people stay quiet creating a feeling that what others are saying is right. You should come out of such confusion, please," Siddaramaiah said, while referring to the anti-cow slaughter Bill, at the Congress foundation day event.

"The question is not who has

gone where. The question is why

the Prime Minister and his minis-

ters are not worried about the

lakhs of farmers... instead of abus-

ing the opposition... why they are

not concentrating their energies

on running the country... why the

Prime Minister and his ministers

can't travel 20 kilometres to meet

and talk to the farmers... these are

Pradesh Chief Minister Shivrai

Singh Chouhan tweeted that

while the Congress is celebrating

its 136th foundation day, Rahul

ternational shooter Vartika Singh

accusing Union minister Smriti

Irani and two others of demand-

ing money to make her a member

of the central women's commis-

sion, Surjewala said, "Had such an

allegation surfaced during the

UPA time, Irani would have sat on

a dharna... why is she not resigning

and facing an impartial inquiry?'

Answering a question on in-

Gandhi has gone missing.

Taking a dig at Rahul, Madhya

the questions," he said.

Amid Opp protests, Assam govt tables Bill to abolish state-run madrassas

ABHISHEK SAHA

GUWAHATI, DECEMBER 28

THE ASSAM government on Monday tabled a Bill in the Assembly to convert all state-run madrassas into regular schools amid objections by a united Opposition. Introducing the Bill in the

three-day session of the Assembly, which began on Monday, senior state minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said it proposes to abolish two existing laws: Assam Madrassa Education (Provincialisation) Act, 1995, and Assam Madrassa Education (Provincialisation of Services of Employees and Re-Organisation of Madrassa Educational Institutions) Act, 2018.

At present, Assam has two kinds of state-run madrasas: 189 high madrasa and madrasa higher secondary schools run under the Board of Secondary Education, Assam (SEBA) and the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council (AHSEC); and 542 presenior, senior and title madrasa and arabic colleges run by the State Madrasa Education Board.

Sarma said in the Assembly, "Madrasa education has been going on since pre-Independence era... What if someone goes to court today and asks if government is spending Rs 600 crore for teaching the Quran, why is it not spending the same in teaching the Bible...(or) the Bhagwad Gita?"

He said the proposed law will in no way attempt to stop spiritual education of any religion, and that no one can go outside the purview of the Constitution and stop educational institutions. "What we can do is modernise those education institutions," he said, clarifying that the Bill is not meant to regulate education imparted by private institutions

The minister said madrassas teach preliminary course of the Holy Ouran and Arabic education, and added that even as madras-

sas are converted to regular schools, education of Arabic language will continue. "That means we are only abolishing the education of the Quran," he said.

Legislators of AIUDF, the party led by MP and perfume baron Badruddin Ajmal, staged a walkout, alleging that the state government was trying to taking political mileage by the move focussing on the word 'madrassa' and polarising voters ahead of next vear's Assembly elections.

The Indian Express had earlier reported that an official note on points approved by the Assam Cabinet earlier this month showed that the government decided to dissolve State Madrassa Education Board after results of the examination of 2021-22 academic year are announced. Thereafter, all records, bank accounts and staff will be transferred to SEBA.

These institutions will admit students from April next year against "relevant courses of SCERT, SEBA and AHSEC as applicable for their institutions". From pre-senior, senior and title madrasas and arabic colleges, subjects such as the Holy Quran, Islamic Studies, Fiqh, Hadith, Usul Al Fiqh, Tafsir, Hadith and Fariad will be removed, even as Arabic will continue to be taught as a language.

The staff will continue to get alaries and allowances, although the account head will change from 'Madrasa education' to 'Secondary education'.

On Sanskrit tolls, the note had stated that the 97 existing provincialised tolls will be converted to "Study Centres, research Centres and Institutions to study the Certificate/ Diploma/ Degree courses to be started by Kumar Bhaskar Varma Sanskrit and Ancient Studies University, Nalbari with effect from 1/4/2022."

"There will not be any fresh admission in the provincialised Sanskrit tolls from 1/4/2021. Students have to take admission in high schools," it had said.



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, DECEMBER 28

THE STATE government on Monday promoted a police officer who was in the middle of its tussle with the Centre earlier this month, and transferred another.

Inspector General (South Bengal) Rajeev Mishra will take charge as Additional Director General of Police (South Bengal) while Diamond Harbour Superintendent of Police (SP) Bholanath Pandey will take over as Home Guard SP.

Mishra, a 1996-batch IPS officer, was IG of the western range for almost three years before being posted to South Bengal.

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs held the two police officers and Deputy IG (Presidency Range) Praveen Tripathi responsible for lapses in the security provided to BIP national president IP Nadda, whose convoy was attacked on December 10 in Diamond Harbour, near Kolkata.



Bineesh Kodiveri has been accused of money laundering

Preliminary chargesheet filed against Bineesh Kodiyeri

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA BENGALURU, DECEMBER 28

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate has filed a preliminary chargesheet against Bineesh Kodiyeri, son of former CPI(M) Kerala secretary Kodiyeri Balakrishnan, and three others in connection with an alleged money laundering case.

The ED, in its 500-page chargesheet submitted to a special PMLA court here on Saturday, said one of the four accused in the case, Mohammed Anoop was a benami holder for Bineesh. The ED has also charged

Bineesh with running Benami hotel in the name of Anoop.

The other accused in the case are Anikha D and Rijesh Ravindran.

The ED had arrested Bineesh, Balakrishnan's younger son, on October 29 in connection with the case.

The Narcotics Control Bureau arrested him on November 17 while he was under judicial custody in the ED case.

The NCB had sought his custody to ascertain his links with the drug trafficking network as he was close to alleged drug peddler Mohammed Anoop in whose bank account he had transferred more than Rs 50

PM FLAGS OFF 100TH TRAIN OF SERVICE

Kisan Rail carried 27,000 tonnes, Devlali-Danapur most popular route

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

KISAN RAIL trains have ferried around 27,000 tonnes of produce so far, and half of the trips made so far were by trains running between Devlali in Maharashtra and Danapur in Bihar.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the 100th Kisan Rail train on Monday, which is also plying between Devlali and Danapur — a popular offering which has now been extended to run between Sangola to Muzaffarpur and has carried over 15,450 tonnes of produce.

The Kisan Rail train carries

vegetables such as cauliflower, capsicum, cabbage, drumsticks, chillies, onion, etc, as well as fruits like grapes, oranges, pomegranate, banana, custard apple. The loading and unloading of perishable commodities will be permitted at all en route stoppages and no minimum or maximum size of consignment. The government has extended a subsidy of 50 per cent on transportation of fruits and vegetables. The multi-commodity train

service has been popular as it also carries relatively small quantities of produce brought in by small, individual farmers. For example, there have been consignments as small as 30 kg of



PM Modi flagged off the 100th Kisan Rail train via video conferencing, in New Delhi on Monday. AN

pomegranate from Nashik to Muzaffarpur, for which Railways charged Rs 124, or of a few dozen eggs sent from Manmad to Khandwa, for which Railways charged a freight of Rs 34.

So far, the Kisan Rail has run regularly on 10 routes. One route between Yeshvantpur and Delhi – exhausted its seasonal demand a while ago. Officials said that the idea is to

assess local demand in a manner that a regular, weekly or biweekly train can be institutionalised without the transporter suffering any financial losses. So far, it has been a money spinner – each parcel van can carry around 23 tonnes and a Kisan Rail train of 10-15 parcel vans makes it financially comfortable for Railways. "Ideally, when we get around

300-350 tonnes to carry over a certain distance, we don't suffer any loss. Officials are constantly speaking to local farmers and cooperative societies to assess this kind of demand -- for example seasonal produce of oranges from Nagpur to be carried to Delhi and suchlike,' said a senior government official.

WHERE THE TRAINS OPERATED

■ Number of trips **Devlali to Danapur**

(now extended from Sangola to Muzaffarpur) ■ 50 trips ■ 15,450 tonnes

Anantpur to Adarsh

Nagar ■3trips ■880 tonnes Yeshwantpur to Hazrat

Nizamuddin

Sangola to Howrah, via Secunderabad ■ 300 tonnes **■3**trips

Nagpur to Adarsh Nagar ■ 1,980 tonnes 9 trips

■ Produce carried

Chhindwara to Howrah 430 tonnes 2 trips Sangola to Shalimar ■ 3.800 tonnes

9 trips

Indore to New Guwahati 5 trips ■ 1.100 tonnes Ratlam to New Guwahati **■5**trips ■ 1,070 tonnes

Indore to Agartala ■ 550 tonnes ■1 trip

EXPRESS NETWORK

Mobile towers vandalised: **Amarinder** directs police to take strict action

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 28

WITH HIS appeal to protesting farmers to not damage telecom towers failing to yield the desired result, Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh Monday directed the police to take strict action against those indulging in such vandalism.

While the Tower and Infrastructure Providers Association (TAIPA), a registered body of telecom infrastructure providers, claimed that at least 1.600 towers have been vandalised in Punjab, the state government, in a an official statement said 1,561 mobile towers of the total 21,306 have been impacted with 25 having been physically damaged by agitators protesting against the farm laws.

Amarinder said he will not tolerate destruction of any private or public property and that he had been forced to toughen his stance as repeated appeals to perpetrators of such acts had been ignored.

"I will not let Punjab be plunged into anarchy at any cost and nobody can be allowed to take law into their hands," Amarinder said, adding that his government had not objected to, or stopped, peaceful protests against the "black farm laws" for the past several months, but damage to property and inconvenience to the citizens could not, however, be endured.

Of the 1,561 towers affected over the past few days, 146 had been impacted since Monday morning as there was a disruption of power supply to 32 towers, which led to the disconnection of services of 114 more. So far, 433 towers have been repaired, according to the official statement.

Amarinder on Friday had appealed to the farmers to not inconvenience the general public with such actions even as such incidents were reported from Mansa, Barnala, Ferozepur and Moga with mobile towers of Jio Infocomm being targeted. Jio has 9,000 plus towers in the state and sources said that around 1500 towers have been impacted.

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM.

THE CPI(M)-LED Kerala govern-

ment is planning to bring in its

own legislation to bypass the

farm laws introduced by the

and CPI leader V S Sunil Kumar

said the state is planning to in-

troduce a new legislation that

would ensure minimum sup-

had issued an order, fixing the

base price for perishable prod-

ucts such as vegetables and

fruits, and 600 markets have

been notified for procurement of

such products as a joint effort of

the agriculture and cooperative

departments. That order would

be made a statutory one with the backing of a legislation, he said.

The minister said that a com-

The government last month

Kerala Agriculture Minister

DECEMBER 28

Union government.

port price for crops.



At the farmers' protest at Tikri border, Delhi, on Monday. Prem Nath Pandey

Hit by vehicle on way back from Tikri protest, farm labourer dies

RAAKHIJAGGA LUDHIANA, DECEMBER 28

A 70-YEAR-OLD daily wager, who thrice faced kurki (attachment orders) of her one-room house in Mansa district for failing to repay a Rs 15,000-loan, died Monday after being hit by car while returning to Punjab from Delhi's Tikri border where she had attended the protests against the central agri laws.

Malkiat Kaur succumbed to her injuries in Haryana's Fatehabad. She is the first woman labourer to have died during the course of farmers' agitation after being part of the Delhi protests. Earlier, two women protesters had died, but both were from farmer families.

Malkiat Kaur, who had gone to the Tikri border on December 26 along with 1,700 others, including 700 women. While returning, at 7.30 pm on December 27 (Sunday), the convoy of protesters she was part of had stopped at Fatehabad for langar. Kaur was hit by a car while crossing the road and rushed to a

mittee has been constituted to

form a draft within a week, "We

would also see the new legisla-

tion introduced by other states

against the Centre's farm laws,

before drafting the new state

law. It would be binding for the

animal husbandry sector also,"

The minister rejected the

Union government's stand that

Kerala would not be affected by

the new laws as the state does

not have APMC and mandi sys-

tem. "Kerala is a consumer state.

Produces to our markets are

coming from these mandis.

When that system collapses or

goes into the hands of corporate

houses, a situation would arise

in which corporate houses fix

the price. That would affect our

market and public distribution

system in the coming years," he

the minister said Kerala is pro-

moting group farming with the

Instead of contract farming,

Kerala plans legislation to

bypass Centre's farm laws



Malkiat Kaur

nearby hospital, where she died in the early hours on Monday.

"Perhaps she sustained some internal head injury due to which she fell unconscious and later died," said Bhagwant Singh Samao, president of Mazdoor Mukti Morcha said.

Malkiat Kaur was a leader of the Morcha, and stayed in Mansa's Bharat Nagar. She was a widow and survived on her old age pension, while her son, Bhola Singh (50), lived separately in Mansa.

In Delhi, she had gone to Tikri border to be part of Samyukt Kisan Morcha's protest.

She had faced kurki thrice for her house when she failed to re-

help of cooperatives and clusters

of farmers. "Kerala has 1,800 pri-

mary agriculture cooperatives,

which would be used for mar-

keting and value addition of

products. Already our paddy cul-

tivation is totally under group

farming. Vegetable cultivation

would be brought under clus-

ters. We have 2,000 clusters of

farmers and the state-run

Vegetable and Fruit Promotion

Council-Kerala has 12,000 self-

help groups with around 2.80

lakh farmers as members. These

would be strengthened and

brought into a single network.

Our aim would be to ensure MSP,

procure the produce and go for

ment has convened a special

Assembly session on December

31 to pass a resolution against

the Union government's farm

laws. The Opposition Congress

has also extended its support for

the resolution.

Meanwhile, the state govern-

value addition." he said.

FARMER DIES AT PROTEST SITE NEAR BJP LEADER'S HOUSE

Ludhiana: Sukhdev Singh Guram (63) died reportedly of heart attack during a dharna near the house of BJP's Barnala district president Yadwinder Singh Shanty. Sukhdev, a resident of Guram village and a member of BKU (Ugrahan), owned four acres of land which he used to give on annual lease. He had also retired as a senior lab assistant from a government high school.

turn Rs 15,000 loan taken from a landlord farmer of village Khokhar Kalan of Mansa district. Her daughter, Rani, said, "She

took a loan due to our poor financial condition about 6-7 years back. But the landlord brought kurki orders from court in 2016, and at that time we were told that the outstanding loan was of

more than Rs 60,000. However, we could not repay the loan. My mother joined Mazdoor Mukti Morcha at that time and because of dharna by morcha members, the kurki was stopped.

Samao said,"Malkiat Kaur and her husband were daily wagers and members of Congress Sewal Dal. Four years ago she became member of our Morcha when we saved her from kurki. Since then, she was associated with us and had become an active leader over the years....Last kurki order came one year ago. We never approached any court but used to protest against the orders."

According to Samao, "Her body was brought at Mansa Monday evening, but cremation will be done on Tuesday if our demands will be met…we want Rs 10 lakh compensation for the family, job to a family member and loan waiver so that no one faces kurki orders yet again."

DC Mansa Mohinderpal said,"We have received the application and have forwarded it to CM's office. We will revert to them as and when reply from CM office comes

export after 3 months

PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS PUNE, DECEMBER 28

AHEAD OF the arrival of the new crop of onions in the markets, the Centre has lifted the export ban on the bulb from January 1. This comes even as the average traded price of onions in various markets of Nashik, in Maharashtra, is hovering around Rs 2.500 per quintal, with retail prices ranging

With the new crop arriving in Maharashtra, this move would give onion growers another avenue to sell their produce and ensure that they do not have to sell their crop at very low prices, said traders. Incidentally, in the last one month, majority of farmers' bodies from the state, have supported the three new

On September 18, the gov-

duce in the markets.

Raut: Not afraid, have all

papers... ED parrot of BJP

Sanjay Raut

NOTICE TO SENA MP'S WIFE

VISHWAS WAGHMODE MUMBAI, DECEMBER 28

SHIV SENA MP and party's chief

spokesperson Sanjay Raut on

Monday said the Enforcement Directorate (ED) notice sent to his

wife pertained to a loan taken by

her for purchasing a house and

said that he had made all the req-

uisite declarations about the loan

including in his affidavit while be-

ing elected to the Rajya Sabha.

Raut added that he had all the req-

uisite paperwork and he was not

afraid of the ED, which he said had

turned into a "parrot of the BIP".

Marathi woman, took a loan of

Rs 50 lakh from her friend to buy

a house. We have shown the

loan in the Rajya Sabha affidavit

and to the Income-Tax. After re-

alising that Maharashtra govern-

ment cannot be toppled, ED has

served her a notice now asking

her to come for an inquiry and to

the ED notice, said that the

agency has been communicat-

Raut, while acknowledging

IIM-Ahmedabad had called for bids to demolish and rebuild

IIM-A may restore its

plans fail, says director

dorms if rebuilding

18 dormitories designed by Louis Kahn. File

RITU SHARMA

thetic call to make".

AHMEDABAD, DECEMBER 29

INDIAN INSTITUTE of

tion of its dormitories if efforts

to rebuild them fail, said the in-

stitute's director, Errol D'Souza,

adding that it would be a "pa-

Express on Monday, D'Souza said,

"Both the building committee

and board members have agreed

that if nothing comes out of the

proposals submitted for rebuild-

ing of dormitories as per the re-

quirements of preserving the

cultural and heritage aesthetics

of Kahn, meeting the budget and

required usage of space, then we

criticism for calling for bids to

demolish and rebuild the 18 stu-

dent dormitories designed by

American architect Louis Kahn.

the possibility of implementing

the suggestions for repurposing

the dorms contained in letters to

him from Kahn's children and

from British architectural histo-

"This cannot happen due to

rian William J R Curtis.

D'Souza, however, ruled out

IIM-A has come under severe

will go back to restoration."

Speaking to The Indian

harass her," Raut said.

Ten years ago, my wife, a teacher and a middle-class ing with his family since the last one and half months over the said loan and they had twice submitted documents sought by the ED pertaining to the loan.

The ED summons to Raut's wife, Varsha, is in connection with a Rs 55 lakh loan taken by her from Madhuri Pravin Raut, wife of Pravin Raut, an accused in the Rs 1,030 crore redevelopment fraud allegedly perpetrated by **Guruashish Constructions Pvt** Ltd, a subsidiary of Housing Development and Infrastructure Ltd (HDIL). Pravin Raut is a director of Guruashish Constructions. HDIL and its promoters are accused of a Rs 6,200 crore fraud at PMCBank. The bank is under reg-

FEMA CASE: PUNJAB **CM'S SON AGAIN SKIPS HEARING**

Jalandhar: Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh's son Raninder Singh again failed to appear before the Enforcement Directorate at its Jalandhar office Monday in an alleged Foreign Exchange Management Act violation case.

Raninder skipped the hearing citing personal reasons, a source in the ED said adding that the agency will now fresh summons to

ulatory restrictions after the Reserve Bank of India found out financial irregularities in its functioning, hiding and classification of loans given to HDIL.

"I have discussed with our party chief Uddhav Thackeray ji. We will go to any level to retaliate. We are not scared and there is no reason to be afraid," Raut said.



The stamp featuring Chhota Rajan and Munna Bajrangi

Rs 5 stamps feature gangsters, Kanpur official suspended

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 28

THE POSTMASTER general of Kanpur on Monday suspended an official, a day after the Kanpur postal department released Rs 5 stamps with the images of gangsters Chhota Rajan and Munna

Bajrangi. Kumar Verma attributed the mistake to a clerical error. He told reporters that an internal investigation was going on to find out how the mistake occurred and why a clerk failed to identify the

The department has suspended the officer in charge of the philately section of the main post office in the district for negligence. The post office's chief postmaster Himanshu Kumar Mishra identified the official as Rajnish Kumar. Mishra said action would be taken against more officials if they were found

stamps each with the photos of the gangsters were released under the "My Stamp" scheme, under which anyone can pay Rs 300 to get stamps printed and released with their photos or those of their family members after providing proper documents and identification. This time, someone provided the photos of the gangsters..."

Relief for onion farmers as Centre lifts ban on

from Rs 30 to Rs 40 per kg.

farm laws.

ernment had banned the export of onions after the average traded price of the bulb at Lasalgaon's wholesale market crossed Rs 30 per kg. Farmers' unions had protested against the ban, which was introduced about a month after the government had amended the Essential Commodities Act, 1960, to take onion off its list.

The export ban had hit onion growers in Maharashtra, with unions threatening to throw onions at the residences of BJP MPs in protest.

This year, heavy rain has taken a toll on the stored onion crop in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra, leading to higher prices across the country. Heavy rain in October had also damaged market-ready kharif crop in Maharashtra, which had delayed the arrival of the pro-

the quality of bricks used... it is technically not viable. I have visited several refurbished buildings put to alternate uses in other parts of the world but it cannot Management Ahmedabad be implemented here," he said.

Asked how long would the IIM-A wait before going back to the restoration plan, D'Souza said, "We would wait and continue trying for at least twothree years. After which you have to admit the failure and take this as a last call.' The IIM-A floated tenders on

December 4 calling for bids for construction of all 18 dormitories on the main campus while in his letter to the alumni, the institute director informed them of retaining four dormitories and bringing down remaining 14. This caused outrage not only

because Kahn's legacy was being undermined, but also that Mumbai-based conservation architects SNK consultants were working on the restoration of the 18 dorms along with the Vikram Sarabhai library, the faculty and administrative blocks and the classroom buildings based on a competition it had won in 2014 and were not aware of the new bid, as one of the founders Brinda Somaya told this paper last week.

to be responsible for the mistake. According to sources, 12

BJP RUSHES TO SOOTHE NERVES, SAYS ALLIANCE UNBREAKABLE

RJD fishes in Bihar's troubled waters, talks of Nitish for PM in 2024

SANTOSHSINGH& DIPANKAR GHOSE

PATNA, NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

AMID SIGNS of a strain in the BJP-JD(U) relationship, senior RJD leader and former Bihar Assembly speaker Uday Narayan Choudhary on Monday said that if Nitish Kumar guits NDA and makes Tejashwi Yadav the chief minister, the Opposition will "try to project the JD(U) chief as the PM candidate" for 2024 Lok Sabha polls".

Maintaining that they are keeping a close eye on the developments in Bihar, senior RJD leaders said it is "clear that the BJP is asserting its authority" over Nitish Kumar in the Bihar alliance as well

Meanwhile, a day after the JD(U) accused BJP of not following the coalition dharma after six of its MLAs in Arunachal Pradesh defected to the saffron party and rejected any possibility of an "antilove jihad" law in Bihar, the BJP on Monday seemed to get into damage control mode. Rajya Sabha MP and former Deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi said that the NDA alliance is "unbreakable", and that Nitish was the NDA's "natural choice" for the Bihar CM post even though "he did not want to be-

come the Chief Minister". Talking to reporters on the sidelines of an event, Sushil Modi said, "Nitish Kumar is right in saying that he did not want to



Nitish Kumar

become CM. But NDA wanted him to take up the job. He was our natural choice for the post, we had projected him as the NDA CM face.'

In a week of significant political developments in Bihar, RCP Singh has taken over as JD(U) national president from Nitish



Nitish under pressure

NITISH KUMAR has been under pressure from the saffron party for a while. Before the Arunachal Pradesh incident, the Bihar CM and JD(U) chief, was targeted for deteriorating law and order situation in the state and asked to hand over the home department. This came on the heels of the JD(U)'s poor performance in the Assembly polls, and subsequent speculation of a rift among the NDA's big partners in the state.

Kumar, while senior leaders like KCTyagi have called the move in Arunachal Pradesh as against coalition dharma, senior JD(U)

leaders have admitted that a "trust deficit exists that cannot

A senior JD(U) leader told The

Indian Express, "If you ask anyone in JD(U) - and this was mentioned in the national executive many times - they will tell you that they feel that (LJP leader) Chirag Paswan was a proxy of the BJP, who led to our defeat in many seats. Now with this Arunachal move, the trust deficit has only increased...there is no danger to the government, but all is not well.

A senior RJD functionary said that from the outside, it seems both BJP and JD(U) are "testing the waters", but the difficulty is clear. "There is no way six MLAs can join BIP without them calculating that reaction in Bihar. The JD(U)'s response has been to call it out verbally, but actually do nothing. So the BJP is testing the

with the RJD started in 2016. So let's wait and watch," a senior RJD leader said. Opposition leaders such as

limits...this is how the unease

Shivanand Tiwari of RJD and Congress's Aieet Sharma have said that it is for Nitish Kumar to make the first move.

Another leader said that the appointment of R C P Singh is a sign that Nitish wants to distance himself from "coalition management" and insulate himself in

An RJD leader said, "If you look at Parliament, of all ID(U) leaders, RCPSingh backs BJP the most." Asked about this, the JD(U) leader said, "That may be reading too much into it."

Meanwhile, congratulating

Singh, with whom "we have a very warm relationship", Sushil Modi said the episode in Arunachal Pradesh will not impact the NDA alliance in Bihar. The BJP's alliance with JD(U) in Bihar is unbreakable. The Arunachal Pradesh matter has nothing to do with our alliance

JD(U) national spokesperson KCTyagi told The Indian Express, "We did speak our reservations against certain things. We still hold that BJP did not follow coalition dharma in Arunachal Pradesh. There was no need for it. We also made it clear that there is no question of any law on love jihad in Bihar... As for our ties with BJP, it is very strong in Bihar.'

KARNATAKA Minister hints at action against untraceable **UK returnees**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA BENGALURU, DECEMBER 28

KARNATAKA HEALTH Minister K Sudhakar Monday hinted at strinturned from the UK but were untraceable and had switched off their mobile phones.

"I request the UK returnees to cooperate with us as responsible citizens. You have to get tested. If you don't get tested and switch off your phone, it's a crime in true sense," Sudhakar told reporters.

Official sources said that around 300 people who returned from the UK, where a new strain of coronavirus has emerged recently, were vet to be traced.

Responding to queries, Sudhakar said he would hold a meeting with Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai after the cabinet meeting because the UK returnees could not be tracked, have switched off their phones and were not responding to requests through media and social media.

To a question whether police cases will be registered, he said. "I am compelled to say that I will discuss with the Home Minister and decide the future course of

Mandatory Covid test for all who entered Nagaland after December 20

Kohima: In the wake of the emergence of a mutated strain of the virus in the UK, all persons who have come to Nagaland after December 20 have been asked to report to their district-level coronavirus task forces for compulsory Covid-19 testing, a senior health official said on Monday.

"Those arriving after the issuance of this circular are to self declare at the point of entry, inform their respective district task for standard testing protocols," Principal Director of Health and Family Welfare, Dr Vizolie Z Suokhrie, said in a press release.

Meanwhile, Nagaland Monday recorded its highest recovery rate of 96.19 per cent. The state has reported 11,911 cases so far. PTI **VIRUS CONTAINMENT GUIDELINES EXTENDED TO JAN 31**

Fresh Covid orders issued amid emergence of UK strain

DEEPTIMANTIWARY

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

THE CENTRE on Monday extended the tenure of Covid-19 containment guidelines to January 31, 2021, in view of the "surge in cases globally, and emergence of a new variant of the virus" in the UK.

In view of rising Covid-19 cases, the government had, on November 25, issued guidelines for containment of the virus in which several relaxations given earlier were rescinded.

The November guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) had allowed states to clamp down night curfews, put any number of "local restrictions", keep gatherings at social events to less than 100, punish people for not wearing masks, and issue orders for local lockdowns with the Centre's approval.

In Monday's order, the ministry said it is extending the "Guidelines for Surveillance" to January 31, 2021. "While there has been a continuous decline in active and new Covid-19 cases, there containment and caution, keeping in view the surge in cases globally, and emergence of a new variant of the virus in the United Kingdom," the MHA said in a statement. The new order has said that as

earlier, containment zones will continue to be demarcated carefully even as prescribed containment measures, including perimeter control, will be strictly followed within these zones. It has also asked states to ensure Covidappropriate behaviour is promoted and strictly enforced; and the standard operating procedures prescribed regarding various permitted activities followed.

"Therefore, the focused approach on surveillance, containment and strict observance of the guidelines/ SOPs issued by MHA and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, as envisaged in the Guidelines issued on 25.11.2020; need to be enforced strictly by States and UTs," the MHA stated.

"Strict vigil is also needed to be maintained to prevent any fresh surge in cases in wake of upcoming New Year celebrations and on-

favourable for spread of the virus. In this regard, appropriate measures may be taken by the State/UT Governments," Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla has said in a letter written to all states.

He also asked states to ensure

support of all authorities concerned in roll-out of vaccine. "The National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NEGVAC) has recommended prioritization of this vaccine during the initial phases to Health Care Workers, Front Line Workers, Persons aged 50 years and above and those below 50 years of age with comorbidities," Bhalla wrote. "States/UTs may instruct the concerned authorities for their active support to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in identification, preparation of database, vaccine delivery, storage, security, shipment and vaccination of beneficiaries."

It also reminded states of the December 18 Supreme Court order, in which states were asked to strictly enforce Covid containment guidelines and take action against violators. "I would like to re-emgraded reopening and progressive resumption of activities is to move ahead." Bhalla stated. "However. there is a concomitant need to exercise due care. States/UTs, based on their assessment of the situation, may impose local restrictions with a view to contain the spread of COVID-19, such as night curfew. However, there shall be no restriction on inter-State and intra-State movement of persons and goods including those for cross land-border trade under Treaties with neighbouring countries.'

Before the November 25 guidelines reimposed few restrictions, the Centre had removed nationwide night curfew through its guidelines issued on July 29. The restrictions had been in place Through five Unlock guide-

lines the Centre had also removed most of the restrictions on public movement and activity, barring international travel by air and use of swimming pools for recreational activity. Even schools had been reopened and social/political/religious gatherings allowed up to a ceiling of 200 persons in a

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

ACTIVE CASES: 2,77,301 CASES: 301 **1,02,07,871** | DEATHS: 1,47,901

TESTS: 16,88,18,054 | RECOVERIES: 97,82,669

RECOVERIES



STATES WITH RISING ACTIVE CASES

	ACTIVE CASES	KISL IIVLAS I WLL
Kerala	65,237	3,576
Telangana	6,579	-11
Bihar	4,924	-53

STATES WHERE ACTIVE CASES ARE DECLINING

West Bengal	13,774	3,997			
Maharashtra	59,214	3,529			
Delhi	6,713	3,435			
STATES REPORTING MAXIMUM CASES					

7,40,517 Maharashtra 19,19,550

ON DEC 27

STATES REPORTING MAXIMUM DEATHS							
ON DEC 27	TOTAL						
67	50,388						
29	9,598						
	ON DEC 27 67						

Vaccine dry run begins: Authorities look for gaps in mechanism

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD, LUDHIANA, AHMEDABAD, DECEMBER 28

AS THE country awaits an expected coronavirus vaccination drive in January, a two-day dry run commenced in four states on Monday. The dry run is being conducted to test laid out mechanisms for vaccination in the states and provide insights into any gaps to be addressed before commencement of the actual vaccina-

The dry run is being carried out in Krishna district in Andhra Pradesh, Rajkot and Gandhinagar in Guiarat, Ludhiana and Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar in Punjab and Sonitpur and Nalbari districts in Assam. The dry run will test the feasibility of using CoWIN, an application that will identify beneficiaries for the vaccine according

tion drive, according to officials.

mentation and reporting mechanism for the vaccination.

As per the checklist shared with the states by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, beneficiaries will be pre-identified and an SMS will be sent to them in advance with the name of the vaccinator and time of the immunisation.

As part of the dry run, SMSes were sent on Monday to some intended beneficiaries in each of the four states who had registered on the CoWIN App, informing them about the time and place of their vaccination under the mock-drill. In Andhra Pradesh, the dry run

is being conducted at Government General Hospital at Vijayawada; Uppuluru PHC, Penmaluru and Prakash Nagar rural PHCs; and Purna Health Institute, Vijayawada. Twenty-five healthcare workers have been identified for



A dry run underway at the Adalaj Community Health Centre in Gandhinagar on Monday. Nirmal Harindran

each site for the test. The dry run went well at all the centres Monday. A second dry run would be conducted on Tuesday.

Assam officials said five hospitals in each of Nalbari and Sonitpur districts have been chosen for

the exercise, the PTI reported. In Punjab, nodal officer for Covid-19 Dr Rajesh Bhaskar said, "We have a total of 4,000 immunisation teams and each can vaccinate about 100 persons per day. We can vaccinate 4 lakh persons

cine. Our teams are getting ready and this trial run was to check if there flaws at any level so that they can be corrected.

West Bengal

In Ludhiana, the dry run is being conducted at seven places — Dayanand Medical College and Hospital, Civil Hospital Ludhiana and civil hospitals in Payal, Jagraon, Khanna, Riakot and Macchiwara subdivisions.

Civil Surgeon, Ludhiana, Dr Rajesh Kumar Bagga said, "On Tuesday, beneficiaries will reach the centres. We have chosen 25 health workers for each centre. In all, 175 health workers are part of the dry run." Adding 125 health workers in Nawanshahr in Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar district, a total of 300 people are part of the dry run in Punjab.

In Gujarat, a dry run was conducted at four places in Gandhinagar district and preparations cise in Raikot district on Tuesday. In Gandhinagar, the trial run

TOTAL

5,47,443

was held at Adalaj PHC, Adalaj CHC, Tarapur sub centre and Aashka hospital, covering both private and government facilities. In Rajkot, health officials said

they have identified five booths -Padmakunvarba Hospital and Shyamnagar Arogya Kendra, both run by Rajkot Municipal Corporation, Sheth High School, municipal school No. 23 and Sterling Hospital, a private hospital.

"The booths will have a vaccinator and four vaccination officers. Each booth has been connected to a vaccine cold-chain point from where batches of vaccine vials will be dispatched to vaccine booths. Health workers have been drafted as dummy beneficiaries," Mitesh Bhanderi, chief district health officer of Raikot, said.

Chouhan: MP to take ordinance route to enforce anti-conversion legislation

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA BHOPAL, DECEMBER 28

THE BJP government in Madhya Pradesh will take the ordinance route to enforce from Tuesday the proposed law on religious conversion that stipulates jail term of up to 10 years for violators, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said on Monday.

The decision comes in the wake of the postponement of the winter session of the Assembly due to the Covid-19 situation.

The Madhya Pradesh Religious Freedom Bill, 2020, which provides for prison term of up to 10 years and fine of Rs 1 lakh for "conversion through marriage or by any other forceful means", was approved by the cabinet on Saturday.

The Bill was slated to be tabled in the Assembly during the three-day winter session, which was scheduled to begin from December 28.

"The Religious Freedom Bill along with other Bills, which could not be tabled in the Assembly due to the postponement of the session scheduled from today, are going to be brought before a special cabinet meeting tomorrow (Tuesday),' Chouhan told reporters. 'By ordinance route we are

going to enforce them. The law will come into force forthwith after the cabinet meeting," he said. The BIP government in Uttar

Pradesh had also taken the ordinance route to notify a similar law. The proposed law in MP will

prohibit religious conversion or such efforts by misrepresentation. allurement, force, undue influence, coercion, marriage or any other fraudulent means.

Abetment and conspiracy for religious conversion will also be prohibited under it. Any marriage solemnised in violation of the proposed law will be considered null and void.

Those willing to convert will need to apply to the district administration 60 days in advance. according to provisions of the legislation. Religious leaders facilitating the conversion will also have to inform about it 60 days in advance, as per the Bill cleared by the state cabinet.

Building Ram temple complex to cost about Rs 1,100 cr: Trust treasurer

VIVEK DESHPANDE NAGPUR. DECEMBER 28

THE total cost of constructing the Ram temple complex at Ayodhya will be about Rs 1,100 crore, out of which Rs 300-400 crore may be spent on the temple. Govinddeo Giriji Maharaj, treasurer of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Nyas told the media Monday.

"The temple will be constructed by Larson and Toubro at a cost of about Rs 300-400 crore and the whole temple complex on the 67acre land will cost about Rs 1,100 crore," he told mediapersons.

Govinddeo Giriii Maharai was in Nagpur as part of the Samarpan Nidhi campaign to collect funds for Ram temple construction. He said, "The Nyas will go on a nationwide fund collection drive, giving coupons of Rs 10 each to Rambhakts. Between January 15 and February 28, we have plans to contact 11 crore people." He said the appeal to donate

for the project will be extended to other countries such as Nepal. Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan. He said so far. Rs 10 crore has been collected in the online drive. "We were approached by some donors, who said they will fund the entire project, but we want this to be a project by all Rambhakts." He added, "The Nyas will not seek government money but will not

refuse if the government offers." Asked about the criticism that the fund collection drive is aimed at helping the BJP, he said, "We are not concerned with any party."

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता,(प्रशासन)

Jaishankar meets Qatar leaders, In Chhattisgarh, Tibetan carpet talks economic and security ties art helps tribals weave a new life

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Minister S Jaishankar on Monday discussed ways to strengthen the multifaceted bilateral relationship with Qatar with that country's top leadership in areas such as energy, trade, investment, food processing, healthcare, education, culture, defence and security.

"They agreed to maintain regular consultations and coordination on all issues of mutual interest at multilateral fora," an official statement by the Ministry of External Affairs said on Monday.

Jaishankar was on a two-day standalone visit to Oatar on December starting Sunday. During the visit he called on and handed over a personal message from Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Qatar's Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, inviting him to visit India and thanking Qatar for taking care of people from the Indian community during the Covid-19 pandemic.



External Affairs Minister S Iai Shankar calls on Tamim bin Hamad, Emir of Oatar, in Doha. PTI

The Amir accepted the invitation to visit India at an early date. He also recalled his telephone conversation with the Prime Minister, during which both leaders had decided to set up task forces on investment and energy.

Both sides are in the process of implementing this decision, the MEA statement said.

Qatar's leader appreciated the contribution of the Indian community in Qatar and recalled his visits to India.

Jaishankar interacted with business leaders from Qatar, including the chairmen and board members of the Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Qatar Businessmen Association. He appreciated their commitment for business partnerships with India and briefed them about new opportunities flowing from Atmanirbhar Bharat.

GARGIVERMA RAIPUR, DECEMBER 28 CHINTAMANI BHAGAT'S eyes are

focused on the movements of her hands as she weaves a carpet at Chhattisgarh's Darima, with motifs of phoenix and dragon, her favourite. "Dragons are magical, they are also symbolic of endless prosperity. When I learnt about them from the Tibbati aunty, I would imagine that every dragon I made was a little bit of magic I could create." she said.

Carpets with motifs of dragon phoenix, flowers and other traditional Tibetan symbology in bright colours are now being made by tribals in Chhattisgarh and sold across the country.

In Chhattisgarh's Sarguja district, Mainpat village, about 365 km from state capital Raipur, has earned the epithet of mini-Tibet. In 1959, when Tibetan refugees started migrating to India, over 3,000 refugees were settled around the village and involved in roadmaking in nearby Sitapur. The Tibetans brought the art

of hand-weaving carpets, according to local residents. Then a part of Madhya Pradesh, the area saw a confluence of cultures as the tribals started learning the techniques from the Tibetans. "It is a labour-intensive work as everything is done by hand. After the government opened training centers in 1995, we were taught by the old Tibetan women, who would then employ us," said Bhagat (40). She added, "The younger generation of Tibetans was more



A tribal woman works at the production centre in Mainpat

focused on getting educated and migrated to metro cities or abroad. So we were hired to provide manual labour that is traditionally done by family members.

After Chhattisgarh was formed, the training centres were neglected and tribals who had learnt carpet weaving started migrating to Bhadohi and Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh. Those who didn't migrate, like Bhagat, started working elsewhere. "There was no work, so I started tailoring," she said.

Dil Prasad Soni (45), one of the weavers, had been working in Uttar Pradesh for more than 10 years, when he learnt in 2019 that the weaving centres in Mainpat are going to be functional again and returned. "Who wants to stay away from family? I make more than Rs 15,000 per month, staying with my family."

Soni believes he got lucky, as he saw several of his friends return in a bad condition during the pandemic. "So many people didn't get paid and had to cycle or hitchhike back home. Now only those who have been cut off from home are there, everyone else who had migrated is back," he said.

The state Gramodyog department is currently running a production centre in Mainpat and two training centres in Darima and Raghunathpur, giving employment to 60-odd people. Bhagat, the master craftsperson at Darima, has seen a growth in the number of people interested to learn or refresh their knowledge. "Several people had come back and were looking for work. Depending on their knowledge, we would train them. Currently, it is a three-month course," she said.

The department sells the carpets through handloom stores across Chhattisgarh, and through e-commerce portals.

Chhattisgarh Handicraft Board general manager Shankar Lal Dhurvey said, "This art form had got rare, with most artisans migrating outside. However, now that we are focusing on it, our tribal artisans are coming back. As of now, 6 looms are functional, but we are looking at increasing the number to 25." Another board member said the market response to cotton-based-woolen carpets has been exceptional. "Our tribals have their own art forms but carpet weaving was learnt from the Tibetans. It is keeping both the cultures alive," he said.

For Shanti Bhagat (26), a widow enrolled in one of the training centres, the carpets are a way to live independently. "It is like sketching on a vertical frame, but with woolen yarn instead of pencil."

EMD (Rs.)

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि० प्रबन्ध निदेशक, द0वि0वि0नि0लि0, आगरा के ई-निविदा सं0-कार्यालय परिसर में (01 वर्ष के लिए) :0वि0वि0नि0लि0—प्रकाशन स्टेशनरी की आपूर्ति हेतु। 10 / 2020-21 प्रबन्ध निदेशक (कैम्प) हेतु वाह्य ऐजेन्सी के माध्यम से किराये पर 11 / 2020-21 01 अदद डीजल चलित एवं टैक्सी परमिट वाहन मय चालक (01 नग स्कॉर्पियो) 24 घण्टे हेतु उपलब्ध कराने सम्बन्धी कार्य । निविदा इलैक्ट्रोनिक टेण्डरिंग के माध्यम से उ०प्र० शासन के ई–प्रोक्योरमैंट पोर्टल nttps://etender.up.nic.in पर ही प्राप्त की जायेगी। निविदा प्रपत्र सम्बन्धी सभी जानकारियां उ०प्र० शासन के ई—प्रोक्योरमैंट पोर्टल https://etender.up.nic.in एवं https://dvvnl.org पर

राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, लोहरदगा (E- Mail – ID – rdsd.lohardaga@rediffmail.com)

/लोहरदगा दिनांक

उपलब्ध है जहाँ से निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है।

शुद्धि पत्र

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 934 दिनांक 19.12.2020 द्वारा आमंत्रित अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या RDD/SD/ LOHARDAGA/E-13/2020-21 जिसका पी0 आर0 सं0 PR237936 (Lohardaga) 20-21:D में प्रकाशित निविदा RE1/RDD/SD/LOHARDAGA/E-13/2020-21 के स्थान पर RDD/SD/LOHARDAGA/E-13/2020-21 अंकित हो

अतः इसे शृद्ध क RE1/RDD/SD/LOHARDAGA/E-13/2020-21 पढ़ा जाए एवं अन्य शर्ती यथावत रहेंगे।

कार्यपालक अभियंता

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, लोहरदगा। PR.NO.238363 Lohardaga(20-21):D

SAGAR SMART CITY LIMITED, SAGAR

Phone:- 07582-242850 CIN:-U75100MP2017SGC044372 Email:- smartcitysagarmp@gmail.com Registered Office:- Sagar Smart City Office 2nd Floor, ICCC Building,

New Collectorate Premises, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh 470002.

No./SSCL/2020/ 584

Sagar Date:22/12/2020

Notice Inviting Tender Sagar Smart City Limited (SSCL) invites Online Bids from eligible bidders for below mentioned Works:

Tender No.	Name of Work	Cost of Tender Form Rs.	Period of Contract Tender	Last date to Purchase (Online)
2020/ SSCL/49	"Selection of Contractor for Construction of Incubation Centre Building (Civil Work, MEP Work and all Type of Interior Work) and Redevelopment of Old RTO Campus (Campus Infrastructure Work with Parking Facility) in Sagar City Under Smart Cities Mission"	30,000/-	12 Months	22/01/2021 At 17:00 hrs.

Tender Document and other details shall be available on: Website-http://www.mptenders. gov.in and https://sagarsmartcity.org Sagar Smart City Limited, reserves the rights to accept reject any/all bid (s) without assigning any reason thereof.

Chief Executive Officer, Sagar Smart City Limited, Sagar (M.P.)

THE COIMBATORE DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCER'S UNION LTD PACHAPALAYAM, KALAMPALAYAM (P.O), PERUR VIA, COIMBATORE - 641010. Ph: 0422 - 2609899 Lines Ref. No: 10920/DE/ Paneer Plant/2020 **TENDER NOTICE** The C.D.C.M.P.U.Ltd., invite **TWO PART TENDERS** for the Design, Supply, Erection, Testing

& Commissioning of 2MT/day capacity Paneer Plant at Coimbatore dairy by way of OFF LINE from the reputed manufacturers / Authorised dealers as detailed below.

NAME OF EQUIPMENT Design, Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning 5,00,000/of 2MT/ day capacity Paneer plant Sale of tender document from 31.12.2020 to 10.02.2021 against payment of Rs.200/- and Rs.100/- extra by post. Last date for submission up to 03.00 PM on 11.02.2021 and opening at 3.30 PM on the same day. Pre-bid meeting on 28.01.2021 at 11.00 AM at the above address.

Document can be downloaded at free of cost at web site www.tenders.tn.gov.in & www.aavinmilk.com for details. The General Manager has rights to cancel / postpone the tender without assigning any reasons **GENERAL MANAGER**

Namami Gange - the rejuvenation of River Ganga



HE river Ganga is more than just a river, it has been and it will be one of the most important rivers of India, not only for its history, rich heritage and culture but also its economic and ecological importance. Considered as the lifeline for millions of people, River Ganga is facing several challenges from high levels of pollution, resulting from domestic and industrial wastes, nonpoint sources of pollution from agricultural run-off containing pesticides etc.

With the objective of restoring the wholesomeness of River Ganga, the Government of India launched the ambitious programme of Namami Gange under the leadership of Prime Minister

Pollution Abatement Ecology and Flow Aviral Dhara (E-Flow) Sewerage Infrastructure Welland Mapping and Conservation Industrial Pollution Flood Plain Protection Wastewater Reuse and Recycle Sustainable Agriculture Afforestation and Biodiversity Conservation Solid Waste Management Research, Policy and People River Connect Knowledge Management River Front, Ghat & Crematoria Community Engagement Ganga Run Ganga Amantran (Rafting Ganga Utsav (Celebrating National Urban River Management Plan Ganga Quest (Online Quiz)

Narendra Modi. It is a flagship programme for rejuvenation of Ganga and its tributaries. The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) is the implementing authority of this integrated programme, launched at a monumental scale of Rs. 20,000 crores with assured funding consisting of multi sectoral, multi-agency and multi-level interventions.

Under Namami Gange, the focus is on the interlinking of Ganga and the cities along the Ganga river. To rejuvenate the river, it is important to focus on the urban agglomeration along the river. Through the Mission, the focus now has been shifted from pollution abatement to urban renewal not only in the sector of water and sanitation but also through providing the open spaces to the cities so that nature and urban population can coexist together. The Namami Gange programme can be placed into four categories ie. Nirmal Ganga, Aviral Ganga, Jan Ganga and Gyan Ganga.

A total of 326 projects have been sanctioned under the Namami Gange programme at a cost of over Rs. 29186 crores. 137 projects have been completed and the remaining are at various stages of execution. Pace of execution and consequently the expenditure has also increased many folds with the expenditure for FY 2019-20 being Rs. 2673.09 crores as compared to Rs. 170.99 crores in FY 2014-15.

Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

country."

"**THE** government moved forward in

four directions simultaneously - Started

laying a trap of sewage treatment plants

to prevent the dirty water falling into

the Ganga, Build sewage treatment

plants that can meet the needs of the

next 10-15 years, Hundreds of big

cities and five thousand villages on the

banks of river Ganga are free from

defecation and to stop pollution in the

river Ganga and its tributaries"

"NAMAMI GANGE is an integrated and a very comprehensive program aiming for Nirmal and Aviral Dhara of the River Ganga. The aim is to minimize the gap between sewage generation and sewage treatment by constructing sewerage infrastructure and keeping it operational complying to the noti-

fied standard by incorporating operation and maintenance component with the projects. In Uttarakhand, there was a significant shortfall in the treatment capacity created and the sewage generation. Namami Gange through its comprehensive approach is working on the urban renewal in the state of Uttarakhand by working on different aspects of river rejuvenation connecting with the urban planning. To prevent sewerage entering into river Ganga from the state, Namami Gange Programme has augmented the treatment capacity of Uttarakhand by many folds. Creating open spaces for the people where they can re-connect with the river is an important step towards making people aware of their role in keeping the natural resources in the best of health. Realizing the necessity of the people river connect, a much-needed public space. Chandi Ghat RFD has been constructed. To attract tourists and make people aware about cultural, ecological importance of Ganga and about the Govt. interventions for rejuvenating the river, a Ganga Museum has been developed."



of connection to the tourists."

"**DEVOTEES** from all around the

world converged at Prayagraj Kumbh

and they experienced the purity of

Ganga. Similar efforts are under way

'Namami Gange' ghats have been

beautified a modern riverfront has

been constructed at Haridwar.

Museum connected with the heritage

of Ganga is going to be a new medium

for Haridwar Kumbh.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi while inaugurating Uttarakhand projects

"HAD the old methods been adopted, the situation would have been equally bad

today. But we moved forward with new approach and new thinking. We have

not limited the Namami Gange Mission to the cleanliness of the Ganga only, but

also made it the largest and comprehensive river conservation program in the

"NAMAMI **GANGE** is a flagship programme of the Government of India for rejuvenation of Ganga and its tributaries. Namami Gange mission has shifted its approach from



Ganga main stem to river basin approach. The efforts of Ganga rejuvenation cannot be achieved until its tributaries are also rejuvenated. Under the Mission, Namami Gange have taken up projects on 12 important tributaries of the Ganga.

Yamuna is an important and second largest tributary of river Ganga which originates from Yamunotri Glacier in Uttarakhand. Out of 38 projects sanctioned on the tributaries of river Ganga under Namami Gange, 20 projects have been sanctioned on river Yamuna alone. Starting from Poanta Sahib in Himanchal Pradesh, Sonipat & Panipat in Haryana, Delhi to Etawah in Uttar Pradesh, projects have been sanctioned all along the Yamuna river to curb the sewage pollution.'

Namami Gange Interventions in Uttarakhand



26 MLD STP, Rishikesh



5 MLD STP, Muni Ki Reti

1 MLD STP, Badrinath



68 MLD Jagjeetpur STP, Haridwar

2 projects on tributaries, Rispana-

There are total 17 cities along the

banks of Ganga river and other holy

rivers Alaknanda and Bhagirathi in

Uttarakhand. STPs have been com-

pleted at Gopeshwar, Joshimath,

Karnaprayag, Tapovan, Muni ki Reti,

Rishikesh, Swargashram and Harid-

war, Badrinath. All STPs are function-

ing smoothly. About 80% of the total

sewage of Uttarakhand in Haridwar,

Rishikesh region is produced here,

so all these STPs are very important

Haridwar - Haridwar-Rishikesh

zone is a major contribution (80%)

of sewage load into the river Ganga.

Haridwar is one of the most revered

pilgrim centres in India. The town

not only attracts Indian pilgrims but

also has a large number of foreign

tourists. In Haridwar, the sewage

generation was 114 MLD (for the

for the cleanliness of Ganga river.

Bindal and Kosi river.

TTARAKHAND state has a deep association with the Ganga River. The entire state falls in the Ganga basin area and all the important cities of the state are located along the banks of the Ganga or its tributaries. Under Namami Gange, a total of 52 projects of sewerage infrastructure, Ghats and crematoria, biodiversity, Afforestation etc. have been sanctioned at the cost of Rs. 1514.34 Crore which are at different stages of implementation. & Queen of Sweden. As a dedication A total of 34 sewerage projects to the nation, Hon'ble PM has inauof Uttarakhand were approved with gurated 27 MLD Jagjeetpur, 18 MLD a total treatment capacity of 165 MLD and 181.72 km of sewer net-Sarai upgradation and 68 MLD STP work under Namami Gange project, at Jagjeetpur on 29th Sep 2020. 68 out of which 32 projects were ap-MLD STP at Jagjeetpur is the 1st proved for the towns on Ganga, sewerage project which is awarded under Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM). Alaknanda and Bhagirathi river and

year 2016) and will be 150 MLD (for cleaned every day in Haridwar, due year 2035), against that the sewage to which the quality of Ganga water treatment capacity present was only has improved significantly. Rishikesh - It is also one of the 45 MLD which also required upgradation. Beneath the comprehensive most important towns on Ganga in approach under Namami Gange, 45 Uttarakhand. Rishikesh is interna-MLD has been upgraded and new tionally famous for Yoga and other STPs of 82 MLD capacity created tourist activities. The sewage generbringing the total capacity to 145 ation for the town was 14.6 MLD MLD. Construction of a new 18 MLD (for the year 2016) and will be about STP at Sarai was completed in 2016 26 MLD (for the year 2035). The and construction of 14 MLD STP at sewage treatment capacity present in the town was only 6 MLD against Sarai was completed in 2019 and the sewage generation of 14.6 MLD. was inaugurated in presence of King Under the Mission new STP of 26

> pleted within two years from the start of work. Muni Ki Reti - The Dhalwala area in Muni ki Reti, has grown very fast due to its proximity to Rishikesh.

MLD capacity has been constructed

and inaugurated by Hon'ble PM as

a dedication to the nation. Though

the allowed working hour at the lo-

cation was only 3-4 hours per day,

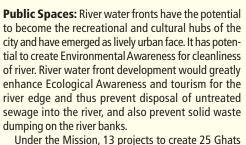
the project was successfully com-

clean the sewage discharged from homes and hotels till 2014 and all the dirty water of the city was directly falling into Ganga River. Tapping of Chandrashwar Nagar Nala, which is major drain in Muni ki Reti has been completed. Due to settlements on the banks of the river, sufficient land was not available for STP. To resolve the land issue the first four-storey 7.5 MLD STP in the country has been constructed. Similarly, construction of a new STP of 5 MLD has also been completed in Chorpani. The sewage treatment capacity in Muni ki Reti city has now increased from zero to 12.5 MLD.

Badrinath - The sewage generation for the town was 0.8 MLD (for the year 2016) and will be about 1.2 MLD (for the year 2035). There was no existing treatment capacity present in the town till 2014. Two STP's with capacity 1.01 MLD have been completed at the sanctioned cost of Rs. 18.23 Cr. in Badrinath and inaugurated by Hon'ble PM.

The Sewage treatment capacity in Uttarakhand in 2014 was limited to only 61.5 MLD. Out of this, 45 MLD capacity needed improvement. Under Namami Gange, 45 MLD STP capacity has been rehabilitated and 153 MLD new capacity has been created. This has improved the sewage treatment capacity to 214.5 MLD, adequate for 15 years

With the commissioning of all these STPs, the water quality of Ganga river has improved, now the water quality of Ganga has become 'A' class in entire Uttarakhand, which is the best river water quality. The results of Namami Gange's efforts have started appearing on



Under the Mission, 13 projects to create 25 Ghats and 26 Crematoria are sanctioned in important towns of Uttarakhand at a cost of Rs 259.83 Crore. A river front has been developed for the people of Haridwar at Chandi Ghat at a cost of Rs 69.18 Cr. Murals and facelift have also been carried out at prominent places in Haridwar like clock tower, Chandi Ghat and Way to Mansa Devi Temple.

Ganga Museum: - A Ganga Museum named 'Ganga Avlokan' has been developed in the building built on Chandi Ghat. This is an effort to make people aware of cultural importance of river Ganga, biodiversity and efforts being made for its conservation. A souvenir shop has also been developed which will also facilitate marketing of products made by trained Ganga Praharis mainly from the Ganga villages at the community level. Such efforts will give us strength in the direction of connecting all Ganga Praharis, Ganga defenders.

Afforestation and Biodiversity: - In Uttarakhand, the magnificence and purity of the Ganga river grows from the forests along its banks. It is believed that when water reaches the Ganga through medicinal plants, it gets medicinal properties. In this direction, progress has also been made in the scheme of scientific afforestation with the help of Forest Research Institute (FRI). A Ganga Aqualife Conservation and Monitoring Center has also been developed at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun for the growth of natural forests and the biological diversity of the Ganga.

Organic Farming: - Realizing that sustainable agriculture is the key for ensuring both Aviralta as well as Nirmalta of Ganga, scaling up the program for organic farming along Ganga has become a part of action plan of states and the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare. Organic farming is done within 5kms on both sides of the river Ganga. The weather and geographical location of Uttarakhand are also suitable for special organic farming. Uttarakhand has been approved for organic farming on more than 50,000 hectares of land in 7 districts, adding from previous years (840 hectares). The products of organic farming of Uttarakhand can get better prices in open markets. Ut-



Ongoing Afforestation Activity



Ganga Museum Haridwar



Chandi Ghat Haridwar

tion and sensitise them about ecological issues through conversations and entertainment. In 2020, Ganga Utsav was for the first time organised virtually because of COVID 19 guidelines. The Utsav was a funfilled occasion with a variety of events which included, in conversation series with eminent personalities like Rajiv Khandelwal, Rajiv Malhotra and Dr. Anil Joshi. Live performances by Kailash Kher, Vasvati Mishra, a kathak dancer and Kabir Café. A special message from Sadhguru and storytelling by Neelash Mishra and Anand Neelkantan were major attractions of the event. Mini Ganga Quest by Tree Craze Foundation saw participation from schools across the country. In Uttarakhand, various events, competitions, cleanliness drives and awareness programs were also organised locally to celebrate Ganga Utsav 2020.



In Haridwar more then 20 drains

have been tapped, these drains also

include the infamous Kasavan Nala.

7.5 MLD STP, Muni Ki Reti, 1st 4 Story Sewage Treatment Plant



STUDENTS' PROTEST AT AYODHYA COLLEGE

Sedition charge dropped, probe to continue: police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 28

THE SEDITION charge invoked against six persons, including students of government-run K S Saket Degree College in Ayodhya district, has been dropped, police said on Monday, adding that their investigation into other charges, including rioting and criminal intimidation, would continue.

The six were booked for sedition after the college principal lodged a complaint accusing them of raising "anti-national slogans calling (for) azadi". The students said they were only protesting against the non-conduct of union elections at the college, and their slogans were directed at the principal and the chief proctor.

"No evidence was found against the students for the sedition charge, and hence it has been dropped. The investigation will continue into the other charges," Inspector (Ayodhya Police Station) Ashutosh Mishra said on Monday.

An FIR was lodged against the six — Sumit Tewari, Shesh Narayan Pandey, Imran Hashmi, Satwik Pandey, Mohit Yadav and Six students were booked for sedition after the principal accused them of raising 'anti-national slogans

Manoj Mishra — on December 18 under IPC Sections 124-A (sedition), 147 (rioting) and 506 (criminal intimidation), apart from charges of obstructing public servants.

calling (for) azadi'

Speaking to The Indian Express on Sunday, the college principal, N D Pandey had said, "Students had raised anti-national slogans that are raised at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi... that they will fight for azadi (freedom). What kind of azadi do they want? They wanted elections, we are still in the process of admissions. How can elections be held?"

Linking the matter to the Ram temple, Pandey added. "This is such a sensitive place in Ayodhya, barely 500 metres from the Janmabhoomi. We need to look out for anti-national activities."

Nearly a year on, Mumbai cops chargesheet 36 protesters

SADAF MODAK

MUMBAI. DECEMBER 28

NEARLY A year after a protest was staged at the Gateway of India against the attack on students at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in New Delhi, the Mumbai police on Monday filed a chargesheet against 36 people over unlawful assembly. The metropolitan magistrate granted bail to 29 of them who were present before the court on furnishing a personal bond. The rest have also been sent notices to remain present.

Those named in the chargesheet are lawyers Mihir Desai, Susan Abraham, Lara Jesani, Lokshahir Sambhaji Bhagat, students and activists, including Suvarna Salve, Bilal Khan and CPI leader Prakash Reddy, among others. While the police in the chargesheet have named activist Umar Khalid as being present at the protest site, he has not been named an accused.

The nearly 80-page chargesheet, filed by Colaba police, claimed that around midnight on January 5, many, holding candles, began assembling at the Gateway of India following violence against students at JNU. The



Protests near Gateway of India against JNU violence. Express file

police said that the number of protesters eventually rose to 400.

"The protesters were informed that they did not have permission to assemble and the designated place to protest was at Azad Maidan. This was ignored and the protest was continued at the spot," the chargesheet stated.

It added that the number of protesters later increased to over 2,000 as various organisations extended their support. The agitators raised slogans against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, Delhi police, Akhil Bharatiya Vidvarthi Parishad (ABVP), Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah among

others. The police have also cited 153 banners used in the protest, CCTV footage obtained from the Taj Hotel, photographs and videos taken by policemen and others during the agitation as evidence.

The 36 referred to as participants in the protest are charged with the same sections as mentioned in the FIR – Section 143 (member of an unlawful assembly), Section 149 (every member of an unlawful assembly guilty of offence committed in prosecution of common object) of the Indian Penal Code, Section 37 (3) of the Bombay Police Act, 1951, which allows the police to "prohibit any assembly or procession whenever

and for so long as it considers such prohibition to be necessary for the preservation of the public order' and 135 of the Bombay Police Act. which authorises arrest and punishment for violations of Section 37. The maximum punishment under these sections is up to one vear imprisonment.

The police had registered two FIRs, one at Colaba and another at MRA Marg, for the protests held to condemn the JNU violence. A chargesheet is vet to be filed in the second case. Multiple cases were also registered across the city on charges of unlawful assembly where protesters gathered to raise their voice against the CAA.

"There were thousands in $cluding\,sitting\,ministers\,who\,had$ gathered in this democratic process which was called spontaneously to uphold constitutional values and rights. It is unfortunate that only a handful of students, lawyers and activists have been chosen and named in the chargesheet among all those who participated. We hope that the cases are withdrawn," said Jesani, who is a part of the delegation, and has been named in the

The case has now been adjourned to March 23.

Key accused in BJP leader's murder says Cong MLA's brother 'ordered' killing: police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE VADODARA, DECEMBER 28

IN A major breakthrough for the Dahod district police investigating the alleged contract killing of **Ihalod Municipal councillor and** BJP leader Hiren Patel on September 27, the Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) has detained key conspirator, Imran Gudala, who has confessed that the "killing was ordered" by Amit Katara, son of former Dahod MP, Babu Katara, and brother of sitting Congress MLA, Bhavesh Katara.

The ATS detained Gudala, accused number seven who was on the run since October, from Mewat in Haryana on Sunday and brought him to Ahmedabad, from where Dahod district police will seek his custody. ATS officials said that Gudala has confessed that Amit Katara had "ordered" the

Speaking to reporters in Ahmedabad on Monday, Imtiyaz Shaikh, Superintendent of Police, Gujarat ATS, said, "Three days ago, home minister Pradeepsinh Jadeja held a meeting with Dahod police officers and also called ATS officers to the meeting to instruct

that the accused must be arrested soon... we received information that he was hiding in Mewat in Haryana... He has said that he handed over the contract to bump off Patel at the behest of Amit Babu Katara.'

Amit Katara's wife, Kinjal, was the president of the Congress-led Municipality from February 2018 to August this year. It was after a high-stakes election of the president and vice-president of the local body that Patel allegedly tilted the scales in favour of the BJP allegedly by orchestrating "cross-voting" from three Congress members.



BJP leader Hiren Patel

Indian Express, "Gudala has named Amit Katara and said that he facilitated the money to be given to co-accused Ajay Kalal for executing the contract. Kalal, in turn, gathered the team of execu-

The ATS team has been searching several locations in the country for weeks. Shaikh added, We had been trying to nab him for days. He eluded arrest for close to two-and-half months. This time, we had a confirmed input of his presence in Mewat in Haryana... We sought help from the local police... and detained Gudala on Sunday. Haryana police apprehended the person who sheltered him... We will now hand over Gudala's custody to Dahod district police.'

Deputy Superintendent of Police, Dahod, Paresh Solanki, who is also the investigating officer in the case, said, "We will bring him to Dahod... and officially arrest him in the case of culpable homicide amounting to murder, in our territorial jurisdiction."

Solanki said that while the district police will question Gudala after formally seeking his remand from the local court, the ATS has informed the Dahod police they Gudala has named Amit Katara in the crime.

On September 27 morning, when Patel stepped out for his morning walk around 6 am, the accused ran a Light Motor Vehicle (LCV) into him at a secluded spot at Muwada junction in Jhalod, which led to his death

3 siblings locked in a room for nearly 10 yrs rescued in Rajkot

EXPRESS NEW

RAJKOT. DECEMBER 28

THREE SIBLINGS in the age rescued from a house at posh Kisanpara Chowk locality in Raikot where they had locked themselves up for nearly a decade after their mother's

Members of Saathi Seva Group, a group of like-minded people working for people living on the streets led by Jalpa Patel, broke open the door of the room Sunday after the siblings -- two brothers and a sister -- stopped responding to the calls of their father, Navin

On opening the door of the room, the volunteers found one of the brothers lying on the floor in a heap of papers and rags and another standing amid a garbage pile. Their sister was the only person in the room with clothes on. Mehta, who was present during the rescue drive, identified his sons Ambrish and Bhavesh and daughter Megha. "The siblings had locked themselves in the room after their mother died around eight to nine years ago. Despite being repeatedly persuaded to come out, they remained locked in the room," Mehta (80), a retired government servant, said. His wife was ill since

According to the NGO volunteers both Ambrish (42) and Megha (39) looked emaciated when they were rescued. while Bhavesh seemed to be in a better physical condition. "Megha claimed she was alright but kept on asking for food every now and then. She seemed to be disoriented. Bhavesh wasn't talking yesterday when we managed to break into their room. However, on Monday, he started speaking in limited sentences," Patel, who also runs an auto-sales and finance business, said.

Mehta said Ambrish had been rendered immobile after he had a fall some time back. While his eldest son had BA and LLB degrees, Bhavesh was an economics graduate and Megha a postgraduate in psychology, he added.

The octogenarian, who draws Rs 34,000 monthly pension, said his sister cooks meals for the family which he delivers tiffin boxes to his three children, "Mehta said he would leave the food outside the door of the room and leave. He also claimed that he lived in the same house which has at least five rooms. However, we didn't find any of his personal belongings anywhere in the house. All that we found were papers, rags, and dirt in all the rooms." Patel told The Indian Express.

Car designer Dilip Chhabria held for 'forgery', 'cheating'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

MUMBAI, DECEMBER 28

THE MUMBAI police crime branch on Saturday arrested Dilip Chabbria, a well known car designer and founder of the DC design. The arrest was made in connection with allegations of cheating and for-

The police remained tight lipped about the exact nature of the complaint. An officer

with a cheating complaint received vis a vis a car designed by him. "A few days back we seized the vehicle and placed him under arrest on Saturday," the officer added. The vehicle was parked at the Mumbai police commissioner office on Monday Chabbria designed and

been registered in connection

manufactured the DC celebrities as his clients.

gery made against him. Avanti, which is considered as India's first sports car. His car modification studio is quite sought after and has several however said that an FIR had



ABOUT 8 LAKH STUDENTS OF CLASSES 1 TO 8 WILL GET

DRY RATION UNDER THE **MID-DAY MEAL SCHEME**

Keeping in view the health and nutritional needs of the children, a dry ration kit will be given to all children until schools reopen. Parents of children studying in Delhi government schools and government aided schools may avail the facility of Mid-Day Meal scheme by collecting dry ration kits from schools on any working day.

DRY RATION KIT DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY

29th December, 2020 at 12 noon Venue: Rajkiya Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Mandawali-3, Delhi

Chief Guest Arvind Kejriwal Chief Minister, Delhi

Guest of Honour Manish Sisodia Dy. Chief Minister, Delhi

All of you are requested to wear your masks when leaving home and follow social distancing.



Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi





Atma Nirbhar——— Madhya Pradesh Roadmap 2023



PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE | GOOD GOVERNANCE **HEALTH AND EDUCATION | ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT**

> **Shri Narendra Modi Prime Minister**

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh



Madhya Pradesh determined to realise the dream of Atmanirbhar Bharat

OR ANY developing country, it is important to have a strong local economy. In our case, it becomes essential that every Indian state focuses on strengthening their local economy by providing a conducive business environment. State governments should focus on leveraging their state's potential to the maximum to turn their states into a hub of economic activities.

Taking a leaf out of PM Modi's ambitious Atmanirbhar Bharat and 'Vocal for Local' initiative, the Madhya Pradesh Government recently launched the 'Atma Nirbhar Madhya Pradesh' campaign to give more focus on strengthening its local economy in every aspect. The roadmap to achieve this vision was recently unveiled by the MP Government after intensive discussions and brainstorming sessions, involving subject specialists, public representatives, and educationists on the themes of Physical Infrastructure, Governance, Health and Education, and Economy and Employment. Even NITI Aayog playing a crucial role came forward in helping Madhya Pradesh draw the roadmap to turn its vision of 'Atma Nirbhar Madhya Pradesh' into a reality by 2023.

In improving Physical Infrastructure, the focus of the Shivraj Singh Chouhan led MP Government will be on improving road infrastructure, promoting travel and tourism



including rural and tribal tourism, ensuring inclusive urban growth and development and housing for urban poor, starting Incubation Centres for Start-ups, ensuring environment-friendly sustainable development, focussing on e-governance, increasing availability of piped water supply in rural areas, ensuring availability of drink-

ing water in 100 percent rural houses by 2024, and overall improvement in Transport & Logistics facilities in the state.

To provide Good Governance, the State

Government will be empowering its citizens by improving public service delivery. Madhya Pradesh was the first state in the country to introduce Public Services Guar-

antee Act. Under the Act, the establishment of Public Services Guarantee Centres or Lok Seva Kendras in the state was an important step towards the service delivery system. The government will develop a Single Portal for Service Delivery.

In Health and Education, the focus of the State Government will be on strengthening and upgradation of health and education facilities, establishing Ayush Super Speciality hospitals in Bhopal and Indore, creating a conducive ecosystem for promoting research in health and education sector, improvement in the quality of education across all sectors. To improve Economy and Employment

in the state, the government will develop world-class industrial infrastructure, establish MP as the start-up development hub, promote higher crop productivity and diversification in agriculture, increase production of certified organic produce, among others. In the recent past, the state government has taken many initiatives that highlight its commitment to development of the state remains a top priority. No wonder then, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's ambitious Atma Nirbhar Madhya Pradesh' campaign will definitely see the light of the day and the government is working continuously with same zeal and effort as it has done in the past.

Physical Infrastructure

Madhya Pradesh, unlike other state of India, has a unique approach of spatially distributed development nodes spread across the state, facilitating the local economy and infrastructural development in the region. The development of physical infrastructure will not only create employment opportunities but also provide a balanced development for which a concrete and outcome oriented action plan has been prepared which will make the state

Road Infrastructure

- ➤ Fast Tracking of Flagship Projects: Chambal Progess Way & Narmada Express
- ➤ Automation of all Toll plaza in the state & implementation of FASTag.
- Road Asset Management System will be constituted to determine the utility of roads & assess the technical condition of roads.

Travel & Tourism

- ➤ Promotion of monsoon tourism through "Buffer mein Sagar" initiative.
- ➤ Developing two Tiger Safaris in Kanha/ Pench/ Bandhaygarh
- ➤To develop "theme based" circuits like Amarkantak,Ramayan circuit, Tirthankar circuit, Omkar circuit, Narmada Parikrama, Rural & Tribal circuit. ➤ Promotion of Rural Tourism and Tribal Tourism.
- ➤ Skill development of 20000 youth living around tourism places.

Urban Development and Housing

- ➤ Ensure inclusive urban growth: ➤ Food Security and Night Shelters, Livelihood, Expansion of DAY- NULM to all
- ➤ Linking of 1,50,000 poor families in Self Help Groups
- ➤ Skill Development and Self Employment-Start up Incubation Centres in 7 cities & skill upgradation of 1 lakh unemployed youths.
- ➤ Housing for Urban Poor: Delivery of 3 lakhs EWS units in 378 cities.
- ➤ Ensure Environment Friendly Sustainable Development
- ➤ Sewerage, Sanitation, Solid Waste Management & Air Quality Management. ➤ Improve Urban Governance Through Legal, Fiscal & Administrative Reforms
- ➤ Improve Delivery of Urban Services ➤ E- Governance- All citizen services to be made online

Water Supply

- ➤ Completion of 100 piped water supply projects & ICT enabled SCADA system for 50 cities ➤ GIS based Storm Water Drainage master plan for all million+ cities for urban
- flood zoning & control.

Public Transport, City Traffic & City Illumination ➤ Expansion of bus base Intra City public transport from 14 to 20 cities.

- ➤ Installation of LED street lights in 100 cities through ESCO/ PPP model.
- **Revive Urban economy through urban planning** ➤ GIS based development plans for all 1+ lakh cities.
- ➤ Implementation of TOD & TDR in 5 cities

Drinking Water:

- ➤ Increasing the availability of piped water supply in rural areas by more than national average by March 21.
- ➤ To ensure availability of drinking water in 100 percent rural houses by 2024.
- ➤ FHTC to 26 lakh households in the current year.
- ➤ To train 50 thousand mechanics for repair of taps, electricity in 3 years.
- ➤ Allocation of 15 thousand crores as off budget loan from NBPCL to competle Narmada Projects in coming 3 years.

- ➤ Development of 600 MW Floating Solar Project at Omkareshwar Dam on Narmada River through TBCB route, with an investment of 3000 crores. This will be the world's largest floating solar project.
- ➤ Installation of 45000 solar pumps.

Transport & Logistics

- ➤ Develop Multi-Modal Logistic Hubs to transform Madhya Pradesh as the Storage & Logistics Hub of the Nation.
- ➤ Develop Digital Platforms for end- to- end integration of Logistics Operations.
- Establish Air Cargo Hubs for Perishable Goods.
- ➤ Streamline transport taxation policies to suit industry

Good Governance

The aim of Good Governance is to empower citizens & improve public service delivery. Notable steps taken by the state

on the matter have been in the form of Chief Minister's Jandarshan Karyakram, Samadhan Online, Samadhan Ek Diwas, CM Helpline among others. Madhya Pradesh was the first state in the country to introduce Public Services Guarantee Act. Under the Act, the establishment of Public Services Guarantee Centres or Lok Seva Kendra's in the state was an important step towards the service de-

- ➤ All Government database to be connected for information exchange (single citizen database).
- ➤ Single Portal for Service Delivery.
- ➤ Develop intelligent BOTS to pull all the relevant information for public service for taking a decision with least human intervention.
- ➤ CM Helpline to CM Citizen Care@ MP
- ➤ Digital verification of required documents for service delivery.
- ➤ Multiple payment options for services. ➤ Strengthen connectivity infrastructure across the state.
- ➤ Implementation of e-Office/centralized dak at Vallabh Bhawan.
- ➤ Dashboards for Districts & Departments to evaluate performance.
- ➤ Delivering education and telemedicine services online.
- ➤ Promotion of Emergent Technology in Government.
- ➤ Improving Transparency- Full digitization of all records- ensuring data accuracy and transparency. ➤ Increased People's Participation.
- ➤ Simplification of Act/ Rules/ Procedures.
- ➤ Ease of Living for Citizens- Centralized Platforms for "Know your Entitlement/ Schemes"
- ➤ Comprehensive Cadre review/ governance resource planning.
- ➤ Compulsorily all government employees to be mapped to HRMIS system.
- ➤ Internal grievance redress system.

Health and Education

To strengthen the Health & Education sector in the state numerous recommendations have been proposed and road map have been designed under the Atma Nirbhar Madhya Pradesh.

- ➤ Achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC).
- ➤ Reducing MMR (per 1lakh live birth) from 173 to 100, IMR (per 1000 live birth) from 48 to 35,NMR from 35 to 25 and TFR to 2.1 by December
- > Strengthening & upgradation of health and education facilities.

- ➤ Establishment of Ayush Super Speciality hospitals in Bhopal & Indore. ➤ Upgradation of established Ayurveda & Unani pharmacies.
- ➤ Reinforcement of network of public and private health laboratories.
- ➤ Reorganization of government departments and creation of coordination mechanism for better service delivery.
- ➤ Better outcomes in health & education programs through integrated deployment of Integrated ICT platforms.
- ➤ Improve quality of health and medical professionals including paramedical
- Creating a conducive ecosystem for promoting research in health and edu-
- ➤ Emphasis on prevention and early diagnosis of illness.
- ➤ Improvement in the quality of education across all sectors.
- ➤ Improving the employbility of students across technical education, skill development and higher education. ➤ Promotion of Private sector participation in the growth of Health and Educa-
- tion sectors. ➤ Better industry and academia interface in Technical and
- Higher education.

Economy and Employment

Madhya Pradesh has adopted a sustainable approach to development and has transformed itself from one of the "Bimaru" states into a performing state and is now striving to become one of the developed states of the country.



The state had taken several concrete steps to attract investment, simplified various procedures to start a business in 30 days and set up an online system for the same. Due to these efforts Madhya Pradesh is ranked 4th in "Ease of Doing Business" list as per the State Business Reform Action

The state is focussing on infrastructure development in agriculture and allied sectors and by developing the infrastructure it is attracting the industries and thereby generating employment.

Agriculture and Allied Sectors

- ➤ Promote higher crop productivity and diversification in Agriculture.
- ➤ Rapid adoption of available Agri technology in improving risk mitigation in Agriculture.
- ➤ Increasing production of certified organic produce.
- ➤ Reforms in Agri marketing to attain the goal of one nation one market. ➤ Agriculture and Horticulture value addition to be promoted.
- ➤ Improve the quality of livestock.
- ➤ Making of "Knowledge Portal" and doing "Yuva Samvad" to attract youth in
- animal husbandry sector.
- ➤ Expansion of dairy business in villages.
- ➤ Fisheries and Sericulture for additional employment. **Industry & Skill Development**
- ➤ Development of world class industrial infrastructure, rendering MP as the most preferred business destination.
- ➤ Establish MP as the start-up development hub.
- ➤ Enhancing the skillset of the workforce in the state. ➤ Increase in contribution of forest based economic activities.
- ➤ Promoting sustainable forest resource ecosystem.
- > Scientific excavation of mineral resources and providing new employment in the morning sector.
- ➤ Enhancing economic activities in trade and commerce sector. ➤ Strengthening business supportive services.





12 THE WORLD



The 'Full House' actor spent 2 months in jail

Lori Loughlin released after prison term in

college scam

'FULL HOUSE' actor Lori Loughlin was released from prison Monday after spending two months behind bars for paying half a million dollars in bribes to get her two daughters into college. Loughlin was released from the federal lockup in Dublin, California, where she had been serving her sentence for her role in the college admissions bribery scheme, the federal Bureau of Prisons said. Her husband, fashion designer Mossimo Giannulli, is serving his five-month sentence at a prison in Lompoc near Santa Barbara, California. AP

NORTH KOREA Mired in crises, Kim to open big

party meeting

CORONAVIRUS RESTRIC-TIONS that have significantly limited his public appearances. Warning signals for an economy battered by pandemic-related border closings and natural disasters. As North Korean leader Kim Jong Un grapples with the toughest challenges of his nineyear rule, he's set to open a massive ruling Workers' Party congress next month to try to muster stronger public loyalty to him. The congress, the first in five years, is the ruling party's top decision-making body. Experts say Kim doesn't have many options other than to further squeeze his populace for more pa-

RUSSIA

Trawler sinks in Barents Sea. 17 feared dead

tience and labour. AP

A RUSSIAN fishing trawler capsized and sank in the freezing waters of the northern Barents Sea on Monday, with 17 of its 19 crew members feared dead. The Emergency Situations Ministry attributed the sinking to a heavy build-up of ice on the trawler, which sank off the coast of the Novaya Zemlya archipelago. It said two crew members had been rescued by another fishing boat in the area and that searches to try to recover the rest of the crew were ongoing **REUTERS**

Trump finally signs Bill to release Covid aid, avoids govt shutdown

Democrats look to push through higher relief payments

SUSAN CORNWELL & STEVE HOLLAND

WASHINGTON, PALM BEACH, DECEMBER 28

 $DEMOCRATS\,IN\,the\,US\,Congress$ on Monday will try to push through expanded \$2,000 pandemic relief payments for Americans after President Donald Trump backed down from a fight with lawmakers that could have shut down the federal government.

In a sudden reversal late on Sunday, Trump signed into law a \$2.3 trillion pandemic aid and spending package, restoring unemployment benefits to millions of Americans and providing funds to keep government agencies running.

Trump, who leaves office on Jan. 20 after losing November's election to President-elect Joe Biden, retreated from his threat to block the Bill, which was approved by Congress last week, after he came under pressure from lawmakers on both sides.

The Republican President, who golfed on Sunday and remained out of public view even as a government crisis loomed, had last week called the Bill a "disgrace" and demanded Congress change it to boost stimulus payments for struggling Americans from \$600 to \$2,000 while also cutting other spending.

It was unclear why Trump, who has refused to concede defeat to Biden, changed his mind on the stimulus package. His surprise, last-minute resistance had threatened to inject further chaos into the final stretch of his presidency.

Despite that, Democratic lawmakers who have a majority in the House of Representatives and have long wanted \$2,000 re-



Trump's motorcade departs Trump International Golf Club as the President returns to his Mar-a-Lago resort in Palm Beach, Florida, on Sunday. AP

NY Post urges Trump to accept loss

THE NEW York Post, a conservative-leaning tabloid that had been one of Donald Trump's biggest backers in the media.

has in an editorial on Sunday urged the US President to accept his defeat to President-elect Ioe Biden and stop perpetuating widelydisproved claims of voter fraud.

The paper's blaring headline - "The Post Says: Mr President ... Stop the Insanity" — accompanied a blunt editorial that urged him to abandon the "dark charade" of a far-fetched effort to overturn the results.

The Post has not put its

lief checks, hope to use a rare point of agreement with Trump to advance the proposal — or at least put Republicans on record against it — in a vote on Monday. Many of Trump's fellow

weight behind Trump's cause. But the paper, owned by Rupert Murdoch, the Fox founder and Trump ally, had been uncharacteristically subtle

> sentiment. Until now. "Sidney Powell is crazy person. Michael Flynn suggesting martial law is tantamount to trea-

about expressing that

son. It is shameful," the Post's editorial board wrote, referring to Trump's lawyer and his pardoned former national security

The paper was long Trump's go-to outlet on gossip and to promote his real-estate and other ventures. NYT

Republicans oppose the higher payments, and Trump may not have the influence to budge them. The issue appears unlikely to gain traction in the Republican-controlled Senate. REUTERS

US President clears

Washington: US President Donald Trump has signed into law a Bill which calls for establishing a US consulate in Tibet and building an international coalition to ensure that the next Dalai Lama is appointed solely by the Tibetan Buddhist community without China's interference.

Bill on Tibet policy

The Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 modifies and re-authorises various programmes and provisions related to Tibet.

It authorises assistance to non-governmental organisations in support of Tibetan communities in Tibet, and places restrictions on new Chinese consulates in the United States until a US consulate has been established in Lhasa, Tibet. PTI

Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative gets nod

Washington: US President Donald Trump signed into law the Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative that, among other things, paves the way for establishing an educational forum between America and India to study the work and legacies of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr.

Written by civil rights icon John Lewis, who died early this year, and co-sponsored by Indian-American Congressman Ami Bera, the new law authorises \$1 million a year through fiscal 2025 for the Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative.

It also authorises \$2 million for just FY 2021 for the Gandhi-King Global Academy, and \$30 million for 2021 for the US-India Gandhi-King Development

NEW VIRUS VARIANT SPREADING FAST

Coronavirus surge in South Africa stretches hospitals

REUTERS&PTI JOHANNESBURG, DEC 28

SOUTH AFRICAN President Cyril Ramaphosa is expected to recall ministers and top officials from their festive season break to seek urgent ways of addressing an unprecedented spike in Covid-19 infections and deaths, with hospitals turning away patients due to a lack of beds and oxygen.

"I can confidently say that the meeting (called by Ramaphosa) will be on Tuesday (to) consider further measures to ensure that we curb this alarming rate of spread," the weekly Sunday Times quoted a government insider.

South Africa's total coronavirus infections since the first case in March crossed a million on Sunday, its Health Ministry said, just days after a new faster spreading variant was confirmed to be present in the The grim milestone comes

nine days after the country, the worst hit in Africa, reported 900,000 cases. The country had taken two weeks to reach 900,000 from the 800,000 seen early in December. The new surge has largely

been attributed to the new strain of the coronavirus and the huge public gatherings and interprovincial travel during the festive season. The new variant, referred to as 501.V2, was discovered by a

network of scientists around South Africa who have been tracking the genetics of the virus. The variant appears to be focused in the south and southeast of the country and has been dominating findings from



South Africa's total coronavirus infections crossed a million on Sunday

Novavax's Covid vaccine to be studied in the US

Washington: A huge study

of another Covid-19 vaccine candidate is getting underway Monday as states in the US continue to roll out scarce supplies of the nations first shot options. The US has authorised emergency use of two vaccines, one made by Pfizer and BioNTech and the other by Moderna, but doses will be rationed for months. The candidate made by Novavax is the fifth to reach final-stage testing in the US Some 30,000 volunteers are needed to prove if this vaccine - a different kind than its Pfizer and Moderna competitors - really works and is safe. AP

samples collected since October, they say.

Several hospitals and medical centres have reported wards overflowing with patients with many healthcare workers cancelling their vacations to tackle a

China court jails citizen-journalist for 4 years over Wuhan reporting

REUTERS SHANGHAI, DECEMBER 28

A CHINESE court handed a fouryear jail term on Monday to a citizen-journalist who reported from the central city of Wuhan at the peak of last year's coronavirus outbreak, on grounds of picking quarrels and provoking trouble," her lawyer said.

Zhang Zhan, 37, the first such person known to have been tried. was among a handful of people whose firsthand accounts from crowded hospitals and empty streets painted a more dire picture of the pandemic epicentre than the official narrative.

"I don't understand. All she did was say a few true words, and for that she got four years," said Shao Wenxia. Zhang's mother, who attended the trial with her husband.

Zhang's lawyer Quanniu said: "We will probably appeal," adding that the trial at a court in Pudong, a district of the business hub of Shanghai, ended at 12.30 pm.

"Ms Zhang believes she is being persecuted for exercising her freedom of speech," he had said before the trial.

Critics say that China deliberately arranged for Zhang's trial to take place during the Western holiday season so as to minimise Western attention and scrutiny



Zhang Zhan

At a protest in Kathmandu on Monday against the dissolution of Parliament. Reuters

China bid to end Nepal ruling party feud gets not-so-warm response

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE

KATHMANDU. DECEMBER 28

YEARS AFTER China emerged as arguably the most dominant external force in Nepal, with substantial impact on domestic politics, its clout seems to have declined.

A high-level Chinese delegation which went to Kathmandu to try to unite rival factions in the ruling Nepal Communist Party that split in the wake of Prime Minister KPSharma Oli's December 15 decision to dissolve Parliament, has met with failure, in what is being viewed as a setback to Beijing.

According to a source with

knowledge of the matter, Nepal President Bidhya Devi Bhandari and Oli not only rejected the Chinese initiative for a "patchup" in the NCP, but they also conveyed to the delegation that Nepal was capable of handling the situation on its own.

Oli had been instrumental in cementing Nepal-China relations in the previous four years of his premiership.

The Chinese delegation is led by Guo Yezhou, vice minister of the International Department of the Chinese Communist Party. Guo landed in Kathmandu on Sunday and has met two leaders of the anti-Oli faction of the NCP-Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'

and Madhav Nepal — as well as President Bhandari and PM Oli.

An aide to Prachanda said that the leader thanked the Chinese delegation for its "positive role" in Nepal politics, but indicated that the there was almost no prospect of unity with Oli. Meanwhile, in Beijing, Chinese

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said on Monday that the CPC upholds principles of non-interference in other countries' internal affairs. He said the Chinese delegation's visit to Nepal was to conduct exchanges regarding epidemic control, governance and other issues.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

RAYA JALABI& MARWA RASHAD DUBAI, DECEMBER 28

A SAUDI court on Monday sentenced prominent women's rights activist Loujain al-Hathloul to five years and eight months in prison, her family and local media said, in a trial that has drawn international condemnation as Rivadh faces renewed US scrutiny.

Hathloul, 31, has been held since 2018 following her arrest along with at least a dozen other women's rights activist.

Hathloul was charged with seeking to change the Saudi political system and harming national security, *Sabq* and *al-Shark*



Loujain al-Hathloul

al-Awsat newspapers said. The court suspended two

Challenge to US-Saudi ties under Biden WITH JOE Biden set to

Saudi women's rights activist gets jail sentence

years and 10 months of her sentence — or most of the time already served since her arrest on May 15, 2018 – with a conditional release to follow, the newspapers and Hathloul's sister said.

She could therefore be released around end of Feb 2021.

WITH JOE Biden set to take office as US
President next month, the imprisonment of the women's rights activist will provide an early challenge to US-Saudi ties under the new administration. Biden has vowed to be tougher on Saudi,

UN human rights experts have alled the charges "spurious", and along with rights groups and lawmakers in the United States and Europe, have called for her release. Rights groups and her family say Hathloul, who had championed women's right to drive and for ending the kingdom's male guardian system, was subjected to abuse, including electric shocks, waterboarding, flogging and sexual assault. Saudi authorities have denied the charges. REUTERS

and has criticised

The two nations are close allies,

and how Biden deals with this

situation is likely to be an im-

portant marker for future ties.

Trump's dismissal of

concerns regarding al-

leged human rights vio-

lations in the kingdom.

Bangladesh sends more Rohingya to isolated island

ABDUR RAHMAN JAHANGIR

DHAKA, DECEMBER 28

OFFICIALS IN Bangladesh sent a second group of Rohingya refugees to an isolated island in the Bay of Bengal on Monday despite calls by human rights groups for a halt to the process.

More than 30 buses carrying about 1,500 refugees left their camps in Cox's Bazar district on the way to the island, a govern-



Some Rohingya leave a camp in an auto rickshaw ahead of their travel to the island called Bhasan Char. AP

ment official involved with the process said.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to talk to the media, said the refugees will stay overnight in a temporary shelter in the southeastern city of Chattogram and are expected to reach Bhasan Char island on nava vessels on Tuesday at noon.

The Prime Minister's Office said in a statement that more than 1,500 Rohingya refugees left Cox's Bazar voluntarily under government management. Authorities say the refugees were selected for relocation based on their willingness, and that no pressure was applied on them. But several human rights and activist groups say some refugees have been forced to go to the island, lo-

The island surfaced only 20 years ago and was not previously inhabited. It was regularly submerged during the monsoon, but now has flood protection embankments, hospitals and mosques. AP

cated 34 km from the mainland.

ANTHONY WARNER BLEW HIMSELF UP ALONG WITH A CHUNK OF DOWNTOWN NASHVILLE ON CHRISTMAS MORNING, OFFICIALS SAY

A quiet life, a thunderous death, and a nightmare that shook Nashville

RICK ROJAS, **ADAM GOLDMAN**

& JAMIE MCGEE NASHVILLE, DECEMBER 28

ANTHONY WARNER had a solitary job as an information technology specialist, stopping in to various offices to fix computers. He was 63. He was not married. His neighbours barely knew him.

He sent an email to one of his clients three weeks ago to say he was retiring. He started shedding possessions: He told his ex-girlfriend that he had cancer and gave her his car. Records show that he signed away his home on the day before Thanksgiving.

But he made sure to hold on to one last thing: His RV, a Thor Motor Coach Chateau that he kept in his backyard.

He parked the vehicle around 1.22 am Christmas morning on Second Avenue North in downtown Nashville, in the heart of a district of honky-tonks, restaurants and boot shops that would often be packed but was quiet in the small hours of a holiday morning. The RV had been rigged with explosives and a speaker set to play a warning and a song: Downtown by Petula Clark, a hit released in 1964 celebrating the bright lights and bustle of a vibrant city.

The lights are much brighter there/You can forget all your trou-





At the site of the explosion in Nashville on Friday. Anthony Warner (right) died in the blast

bles, forget all your cares A few hours later, police officers heard the speaker's message and rushed to clear as many

people out of nearby apartments

and hotels as they could. Just before dawn, the RV exploded, its concussion reverberating for blocks. Debris was flung several blocks away. Warner was inside the RV. It is believed that he was the only person who died.

Investigators said they believe that he acted alone. He was identified through remains found scattered among the wreckage. Hundreds of federal investiga-

tors had flocked into Nashville after the blast, chasing the leads that poured in by the hundreds to locate the culprit. Now that they have found him, they are still trying to make sense of who he was and why he would set off an explosion that shattered a district.

Warner emerged as a person of interest after investigators from the Tennessee Highway Patrol were able to find a vehicle identification number for the RV among the rubble.

That led federal agents to a brick duplex belonging to Warner in Antioch, a community in the Nashville area roughly 11 miles from where the explosion occurred. On Saturday morning, a bomb team swept the duplex to check for explosives. Warner had experience

working with electronics as an information technology contractor for Nashville area businesses. Steve Fridrich, president of Fridrich & Clark Realty in Nashville.

said he hired Warner occasionally

to work on computers. "He's a nice guy, and this seems uncharacteristic of the Tony we know," Fridrich wrote in a text message. "He was very

professional and knew his stuff. The two-bedroom duplex searched by investigators is one of several on a quiet cul-de-sac.

Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives streamed in and out of the house, "It's a quiet neighbourhood," said Diana Hernandez, who lived a few blocks away. "It's very surprising. It's like a movie scene." Just before the explosion, as the warning rang out, police of-

Children played tag nearby and

neighbors looked on as agents

from the FBI and Bureau of

ficer James Luellen called for backup and hurriedly evacuated dozens of people from the surrounding areas. Since Friday, the officers have been held up as heroes, with officials saying that the bombing could have created far more carnage without their quick action. NYT

LeT operative held in Jammu, 2 grenades seized: police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DECEMBER 28

AHEAD OF the oath-taking ceremony of newly-elected members of district development councils across Jammu and Kashmir, a terror suspect was arrested in Bahu Fort area here, police said on Monday

Jammu's Inspector General of Police, Mukesh Singh, identified the arrested man as Mohammad Ashraf of Mahore and said he is associated with terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). He was based in Sunjwan area of Jammu, Singh said.

Two hand grenades were seized from Ashraf at the time of his arrest.

Police said Ashraf was apprehended by a police naka party that was engaged in routine inspection of vehicles on the national highway around 7.30 pm on Sunday. They said Ashraf's movements in the area were suspicious and that he tried to flee upon spotting security personnel.

According to police, Ashraf's Pakistan-based handler was reportedly also in touch with other operatives in the Union Territory and a search is on for

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

UTTARAKHAND IS in talks with

the Madhya Pradesh government

to bring white tigers to Nainital's

Sitabani Wildlife Reserve for a

forthcoming tiger safari project. Uttarakhand Tourism Minister

Satpal Maharaj has written to

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister

Shivraj Singh Chouhan, request-

ing him to send white tiger cubs

from the Maharaja Martand

Singh Judeo White Tiger Safari

17, 2020, Maharaj says: "If a few

white tiger cubs from Madhya

Pradesh could be made available

for Uttarakhand, it will give a new

dimension to wildlife tourism at

Sitabani and add to the state's

Express: "I have directed the

Maharaj told The Indian

PUBLIC NOTICE

aramount Infra-Developers Pvt. Ltd. having its gistered office at UG Floor, Vandana Bulding

, Tolstoy Marg, Connaught Place, New Delhi 0001, is owner of 18 Kanal 03 Marla, Situate

t Village Asawarpur, Tehsil Rai, District Sonipa łaryana, vide registered document(s) No. 9450 ir kddl. Book No. 1 Volume No. 8536 on Pages 49

52 dated 22.02.2008 and 04 Kanal 19 Marla

ituated at Village Asawarpur, Tehsil Rai, Distric

Sonipat, Haryana, vide registered document No. 9451 in Addl. Book No. 01 Volume No. 8536 or

Pages 53 - 55 dated 22.02.2008, and 23 Kana 13 Marla, Situated at Village Asawarpur, Tehsi

ai, District Sonipat, Haryana, vide registere ocument No. 8537 in Addl. Book No. 1 Volum

document No. 8537 in Addl. Book No. 1 Volume No. 8499 on Pages 48-51 dated 18.01.2008. (2) M/s Bhagwati Buildtech Pvt. Ltd. having its registered office at UG Floor, Vandana Bulding, 11, Tolstoy Marg, Connaught Place, New Delhi – 110001, is owner of 18 Kanal Situated at Village Asawarpur, Tehsil Rai, District Sonipat, Haryana, vide registered document(s) No. 9310 in Addl. Book No. 01 Volume No. 8530 on Pages 61 – 63 dated 15.02.2008, and 21 Kanal O7 Marla, Situated at Village Asawarpur, Tehsil Rai, District Sonipat, Haryana, vide registered document(s) No. 9318 in Addl. Book No. 01 Volume No. 8530 on Pages 83 – 85 dated 15.02.2008.

Our above noted 5 original Sale Deeds have bee lost/missing from 04.05.2020, if found send t

IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

(ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION)

IA No. 3233/2020 in CS (OS) 616/2018

Legal Representatives of defendant

Miss Pooja Gupta, W/o Late Sh. Manish

Gupta, R/o 25/41 West Punjabi Bagh, New

2. Ms. Manya Gupta, D/o Late Sh. Manish

Gupta, R/o 25/41 West Punjabi Bagh New

3. Ms. Nitya Gupta, D/o Late Sh. Manish

Gupta, R/o 25/41 West Punjabi Bagh New

WHEREAS the plaintiff above mentioned has noved an application (I.A. No. 3233/2020)

alleging that you the above named persons are Legal Representatives of deceased defendant, Late Sh. Manish Gupta and

whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of this Court that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is

given by advertisement directing you, the

above named Legal Representatives of

deceased defendant, to make appearance

pefore the Hon'ble Court on 21.01.2021 at

Take notice that IA No. 11806/2020 is also

fixed for hearing before the Hon'ble Court on 21.01.2021 at 10.30AM/ through video conferencing. Further THIS COURT DOTH

ORDER THAT, till the next date of hearing,

status quo regarding title, possession

and construction, qua the suit property

Take notice that in default of you

appearance on the day before mentioned, the suit & IAs will be heard and determined in

Given under my hand and the seal of this court on this the 18th day of December,2020.

shall be maintained.

your absence.

10:30AM/ through video conferencing.

1121/4/HRY

M/s Paramount Infra Developers Pvt. Ltd. M/s Bhagwati Buildtech Pvt. Ltd.

thorised Signatory

Sh. Rahul Singla & Anr

Sh. Manish Gupta

Delhi-110026

Delhi-110026

Delhi-110026

In the letter dated December

and Zoo in Rewa

tourism revenue.'

Jharkhand: Many schemes set to be announced today as Soren govt turns one

ABHISHEK ANGAD RANCHI. DECEMBER 28

DOUBLING BENEFICIARIES in the state's old-age scheme, the launch of scholarship scheme for ST students for higher studies abroad, handing of appointment letters to various people, including those who lost jobs due to the pandemic, and loans under the Chief Minister Employment Generation Programme - these are some of the key announcements the Jharkhand government is set to make on Tuesday to mark one year of the Hemant Soren-led government.

"In all, 19 schemes will be launched worth Rs 1458.95 crore, and foundation will done for 11 schemes worth Rs 1091.92 crore." said a source in the Chief Minister's Office (CMO).

The key announcement, the source said, will be expanding the number of the state's pension scheme beneficiaries. The source said: "We will double our beneficiary base from 3.5 lakh old-age pensioners to 7 lakh pensioners. The total cost of this scheme will

The state has also announced its own Jharkhand State Food

Tourism Department officials to

chalk out a plan to promote

tourism for the new tiger safari

park. To make it more attractive

and exciting for the tourists, we

are trying to bring a white tiger

from MP to the safari park." The

project is likely to be completed

by November 2021 and will cost

It was Rewa's Maharaja

Martand Singh who first caught

a white tiger cub on May 27, 1951

from Sidhi district—the cub was

named Mohan and brought back

to Rewa. Today, most white tigers

in captivity across the world trace

their lineage back to Mohan.

the state Rs 150 crore.

Uttarakhand in talks to bring

in white tigers from MP



Jharkhand CM Soren distributes blankets, in Ranchi. PTI

Security Scheme, and under this will add 15 lakh more people to the Public Distribution System net. Some women workers who were stranded during the pandemic in cotton thread mills in Tamil Nadu will also be given appointment letters in textile companies in Jharkhand, officials said.

Another important announcement likely to be made is financial help to sportspersons to buy their equipment in order to compete at the international level.

The state government will also launch Shri Jaipal Singh Munda Overseas Scholarship Scheme to

Rewa also has a White Tiger

Sanctuary, complete with a safari.

Interestingly, Mohena Singh—the

granddaughter of Martand

Singh-is married to Maharaj's

result remains to be seen since

shifting tigers to a new habitat is

a lengthy procedure and has to be

done keeping in mind many pa-

rameters. It also involves the

Central Zoo Authority, which is

supposed to conduct a thorough

analysis of whether the climate

and environment in the new

place would be favourable to the

(कर्गेन्द्र सिंह) सचिव।

उत्तराखण्ड लोंक सेवा आयोग

पत्रांक :: 170/03(09)/ढी०आर०/हिन्री/सेवा-02/2017-18

विनोंक :: 28 दिसम्बर, 2020

विज्ञपित

एवटदारा सचित किया जाता है कि उत्तराखण्ड शासन के उच्च शिक्षा विभाग के अनार्गत राजकीय महाविद्यालयों में असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर (गृह विज्ञान) पद

के सम्बन्ध में मा० उच्च न्यायालय, नैनीताल में योजित रिट याधिका संख्या

160 (एस0/बी0) ऑफ 2020, रीना गर्ब्यात बनाम उत्तराखण्ड राज्य य अन्य

रिट याधिका संख्या 162 (एस०/बी०) ऑफ 2020, प्रीती बर्खाल व अन्य बनाम

रनराजण्य राज्य व अन्य एवं दिन याचिका संख्या ५६७ (एस० /बी०) ऑक

2020. होमी जोशी व अन्य बनाम उत्तराखण्ड राज्य व अन्य में मा० उच्च

न्यायालय, नैनीताल द्वारा पारित अंतरिम निर्णय दिनांक 18.12.2020 के अनुपालन

में आख्यगित 01 पद का चयन परिणाम दिनांक 28 दिसम्बर, 2020 को घोषित

कर दिया गया है। उक्त चयन परिणाम एवं अभ्यर्थियों के प्राप्तांकों की सूची

OFFICE OF THE

CHIEF ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR TO GOVT., HARYANA

SCO 117-118, Sector 17-B, Chandigarh

(E-mail: cei_goh@yahoo.com)

Telephone No. 0172-2704090, Fax No. 0172-2710171

INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR AUTHORISATION OF

CHARTERED ELECTRCIAL SAFETY ENGINEER (CESE) IN

THE STATE OF HARYANA

OPENING DATE OF REGISTRATION OF ONLINE

APPLICATION: 22.12.2020

CLOSING DATE OF REGISTRATION OF ONLINE

APPLICATION: 14.01.2021

LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF FEES: 18.01.2021

authorize them as Chartered Electrical Safety Engineers

under regulation 5A of the Central Electricity Authority

(Measures relating to Safety and Electric Supply)

Amendment Regulations, 2018 and guidelines issued by

CEA. For more detail visit our website: www.ceiharyana.in

ICAR-INDIAN VETERINARY

RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Online applications are invited from eligible Engineers to

आयोग की वेबसाइट www.ukpsc.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।

Whether the effort yields any

younger son, Suyesh Rawat.

provide for scholarship for 10 ST students every year from underprivileged background. The Chief Minister Employment Generation Programme loan disbursement scheme is also in the pipeline.

Another programme to be launched is meant to "transform Industrial Training Institutes' across the state. Besides this, the government

will also start the launch of Jharkhand's own Fasal Rahat Yojna replacing the PM's Insurance scheme and pay for agricultural loans of 10,500 farmers in the first phase.

Day after 3 killed in Maharashtra temple blaze, 1 held, minor detained for murder

SAGAR RAJPUT

MUMBAI, DECEMBER 28

A DAY after three people were killed in a fire in a temple at Charkhop area in Kandivali, the Mumbai Police on Monday arrested a 20-year-old man for

murder. A minor was also detained, said police. According to the police, the fire started at 4.14 am on Sunday when Subhash Khode (28), Yuvraj Pawar (28) and Mahesh Gupta (24) were asleep inside the Saibaba temple. The three could not escape. While Khode and Pawar were declared dead before admission, Gupta succumbed to his burn injuries on Sunday evening, said police.

Mumbai Fire Brigade officials managed to douse the fire by 4.39am.

Fire officials had suspected that a short-circuit had led to the fire and an accidental death report was filed. However, the police later learnt that someone had set the temple on fire. With the help of informants and CCTV footage, the police managed to track down the suspect and brought him in for questioning. During the interrogation, he con-

Bhayesh Chandorkar, a resident of Bunder Pakhadi area in Kandivali, where the deceased also stayed. The police said the incident was a fallout of a grudge that Chandorkar held against

Khode and Pawar were sleeping inside but they did not have any knowledge that Gupta was also present," said an officer.



Office of the Superintending Engineer, Project Monitoring Unit Inclusive, Resilient and Sustainable Housing for Urban Poor Project in Tamil Nadu No.5, Kamarajar Salai, Chennai 600 005, Tamil Nadu, Tel No.: +91 44 29862122 Email: tnscbprocurement@gmail.com; web site: www.tnscb.org

Invitation for Bids No: IRSHUP/NCB/03

ADB Project No. and Title: P53067-004-IND, Inclusive, Resilient and Sustainable Housing for Urban Poor (IRSHUP) Project in Tamil Nadu

Contract Package Number & Name: IRSHUP/VAL/03 Construction of 969 Nos of housing units adopting Type Design No. 02/2020 (G+5) with associated infrastructure works at Ayyanar Kovil (Phase II), Vallam in S.No 207/1, Vallam Vadukku Setthi Village, Thanjavur Taluk in Thanjavur district in Tamil Nadu

The Superintending Engineer, Project Monitoring Unit, on behalf of Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board ("the Employer") invites bids from eligible bidders for the contract package named above. Bids are invited under Open Competitive Bidding (OCB) National procedure of ADB which is open to all bidders from eligible source countries

- 1. Detailed Notice of Invitation for Bids (IFB) and the Bid document for above package would be available at www.tenders.tn.gov.in and www.tnscb.org starting from 28.12.2020. Deadline for bid submission is 16:00 hours
- on 29.01.2021. All required information's are provided in the bid document 2. Online & Offline Pre-bid Meeting will be held at 14:00 hours on 11.01.2021. All the
- prospective bidders are advised to participate in the Pre-bid meeting. 3. Any addendum, clarification to the bidder's queries and corrigendum etc. will be published on the www.tnscb.org web site and will not be published in
- 4. Bidders may contact Superintending Engineer, Project Monitoring Unit, TNSCB for any other information on bidding process

Superintending Engineer, Project Monitoring Unit IRSHUP, TNSCB, Chennai – 600005 DIPR/1333/DISPLAY/2020



NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION (HARYANA)

District Total Gen SC BC BC BSM BSM BSM BSM BSM GEN GEN BC-A BC-B SC DC-A GEN PH

Bays No. 55-58, Sector-2, Panchkula

Advt. No.: 1/2020-21(HWC-CP)/7026

Date: 28/12/2020

The State Health Society (Harvana) invites online applications for 671 posts of Mid-Level Health Providers-cum Community Health Officers (MLHPs-cum-CHOs) on contract basis under National Health Mission (NHM) for providing Comprehensive Primary Health Care Services at Sub Center level "Health & Wellness Centers" being upgraded unde Ayushman Bharat in 15 Districts as per detail given below

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Ibajjar	70	23	3.1	-0	5	6	2	- 2	- 2	- 6	-0	1	1	1.	- 0	1.	
lind	940	30	15	11	-6	-6	- 2	- 2	3	- 8	1	1	1	1	-1	1	
Karmal	27	6	4	-3	2	- 2	0	2	1.	- 25	1	1	0	-0	- 2	1	
Kurukshetra	50	18	7	- 5	- 3	- 3	2	2	2	- 8	0	1	-0	1.	- 0	1	
Mawat	96	4	0	1	-0	0	0	0	0	.0	0	_0	- 0	-0	- 0	0	
Narnual	62	27	13	10	-6	7	2	2	- 3	- 7	.0	1	. 1	1.	- 0	1	
Palwai	59	38	1.2	-8-	4	4	1	1	2	5	1	-0	1	0	1	0	
Pantpat	42.1	3.5	7	3	- 4	- 2	1	- 2	1.	- 4	- 0	1	0	1.	- 0	3.	-
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	6.70	221	106	81	47	-946	16	22	22	5.8	4	1.0	31	19	7	31.	

Eligible Candidates are required to apply online at the website of NHM (Haryana) i.e. www.nhmharyana.gov.in and of ollow the below mentioned schedule for filling of Application Form, Screening Test & Counseling:

ctivities	Date, Time & Venue
ost Code	20671
Opening Date for submission of Online Applications	31 December 2020 by 11:00 AM
Closing Date & Time for submission of online applications	31 January 2021 by 5:00 PM
Pate, Time & Venue for Written Test	Date: 15 to 17 February 2021 Note: Candidate-wise final Date & Venue for Written Exam will be uploaded on NHM Website
Date for Document Verification and Counseling for Surety Stond & Contract Signing	23 to 26 February 2021

Essential Eligibility Criteria:

BAMS or B.Sc./Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing Degree Holders, who have completed their six month Mid-Level Health

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BAMS or B.Sc./Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing Degree Holders, who have completed their six month Mid-Level Health

BAMS or B.Sc./Post Basic B Provider's Bridge Course Programme on Certificate in Community Health for Nurses (BPCCHN) from IGNOU o

B.Sc./Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing Graduates, who have completed their Degree with Mid-Level Health Provider's Certificate Course (BPCCHN) integrated in the curriculum of B.Sc./Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing. B.Sc./Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing Candidates, who appeared in their final year exam with integrated Mid-Leve

Health Provider's BPCCHN Course in their Curriculum; subject to the condition that they have to submit their final year Detailed Marks Certificate (DMC) alongwith copies of all previous year DMCs at the time of document verification. Such candidates, who will not be able to produce final year DMC at the time of Document Verification shall not claim for their final selection Age Limit 18 to 42 years and age relaxation shall be considered for reserved category candidates as per Rule

of Haryana Government. Hindl/Sanskrit language upto Matriculation level.

All candidates shall require to be registered with respective Council of Indian Medicines Haryana/ Haryana State Nurses & Nurse Midwives Council (Panchkula), or Central Council of Indian Medicines/Indian Nursing Council

(New Delhi) by the time of document verification.

Monthly Remuneration and Other Financial Benefits: The post comes under pay band of PB-2-9300-34800-4800-18750 as per Service Byelaws prescribed for employees of NHM Haryana. However, following emoluments

will be given against the current advertisement:
For initial 05 years, monthly honorarium of Rs. 25,000/- (i.e. Rs. 18750/- as per Pay Band-2 + Rs. 6250/- addition

al honorarium) and after completion of 05 years' satisfactory service, salary & all increment/allowances will be given as per pay band only i.e. PB-2-9300-34800-4800-18750. Benefit of Annual Increment of 5% on initial salary after completion of 6 months satisfactory service. Benefit of Dearness Allowance will be given after completion of 5 years satisfactory service.

Benefit of House Rent Allowance will be given after completion of 10 years satisfactory service. Other Important Information and Necessary Formalities: Last date for receiving Online Applications is 31 January 2021 by 5:00 PM.

Candidate can apply only for one District and District-wise merit list will be prepared for the selection.

The post is non-transferable & non-deputationable, and selected candidates shall be posted at Sub Centre level Ayushman Bharat: Health & Wellness Centre in the District, for which she/he has been selected.

District-wise provisional selection will be done on the basis of scoring of marks in the Written Test.

OMR Based Written Test of two hour duration will be conducted in different shifts. Information regarding Shifts will be uploaded on the NHM Haryana Website well in advance of Written Exam.

(vi) All Candidates to ensure their eligibility themselves as per the advertised criteria. If any ineligible candidate apply then her/his Application Form shall be rejected without any information.

Although necessary steps are being taken to avoid ineligible candidate for applying online for the advertiser.

posts. Still if, any ineligible candidates apply or appeared in the Written Exam, she/he shall not be considered eli-

gible for further selection and her/his candidature shall be rejected at any time.
Final Selection will be subject to the Document Verification and District-wise and Category-wise merit finalized on

the basis of marks obtained in Written Test; for which original certificates shall require to be produced to ensure

The basis of marks obtained in whiter less, to which original certaineds shall require to be produced to ensure their eligibility in terms of academic qualification, age, reservation benefit (if any), Haryana Domicile etc.

Reservation benefit in different categories will be considered for bonafide resident of Haryana having valid Haryana Domicile Certificates. Further, in case of candidates claiming reservation benefit for Ex-servicement

(Dependent), Outstanding Sports Person, Other Backward Classes (A & B Category) and Economically Weaker Sections (General Category) are required to upload Valid Eligibility Certificate(s) issued by concerned Competent

Each Candidate shall submit a Self-Undertaking at the time of document verification regarding their eligibility in case. If she/he is claiming the reservation benefit under any particular category. Physically/Visually Challenged candidates shall make their request in advance for necessary facilitation

All Candidates are required to bring printed copy of the online filled Application Form, Roll No. and Identity Proof Selected Candidates are also required to appear for the Counselling; for which Candidates are required to bring (xiii)

self-attested five sets of all Certificates, 5 passport size photos, Blank Surety Bond of Rs. 100/-for agreement of 3 year job, Blank Stamp Paper of Rs. 10/- for Annual Contract with NHM Haryana.

Sample copy of Surety Bond may be seen at NHM Website for advance information of Candidates to understand

Terms & Conditions, which will be printed by NHM SHQ team at time of Counselling.

The selected Candidates are required to serve NHM Haryana for atleast 3 years continuously in the same District.

for which she/he has to be applied/selected and, in case any candidate leave the service before 3 years, she/he

shall be liable to financial penalty as per Surety Bond available at NHM Website. For this purpose, a Service Bond for 3 years has to be signed by each candidates with NHM SHQ. If any candidate fails to attend the Counselling Session as per fixed schedule, her/his candidature will be considered as the considered the counselling Session as per fixed schedule, her/his candidature will be considered to the counselling Session as per fixed schedule, her/his candidature will be considered to the counselling Session as per fixed schedule, her/his candidature will be considered to the counselling Session as per fixed schedule, her/his candidature will be considered to the counselling Session as per fixed schedule, her/his candidature will be considered to the counselling Session as per fixed schedule, her/his candidature will be considered to the counselling Session as per fixed schedule.

ered cancelled for the said post and no further opportunity will be given to such candidates.

(xvii) In case of equal marks obtained in the Written Exam by two or more Candidates in a particular Category, then merit will be considered on the basis of her/his seniority in age. In case of further equal status, final merit will be decided on the basis of marks obtained by them in their qualifying degree.

(xviii) The Community Health Officers (CHOs) already working under NHM Haryana are abide for three years Service.

Bond as per existing norms. Hence, they are suggested not to apply for the current advertisement; if any of them apply, then she/he shall be responsible for administrative action, as per the conditions of the Surety Bond signed

by them with NHM Haryana at the time of their selection.

The existing CHOs already working with NHM Haryana, who will apply against the current advertisement, are required to declare their status in the Online Application Forms for information of the NHM SHQ. In case, any such

CHOs, who hide the fact(s) regarding her/his working with NHM Haryana, her/his candidature will be rejected a Other important Instructions: Please read the instructions & procedures carefully before filling the Online

The candidates are advised to ensure the eligibility criteria that they fulfill all qualification for the said post.

Job Profile and Term of Reference etc. are given in the Concept Note and Operational Guidelines for Comprehensive Primary Health Care, available at NHM Haryana website link i.e. www.nhmharyana.gov.in After applying online. Registration No. and Password will be generated. After successful submission of application

Candidates should take out print of online filled Application Form

Candidate should also take out a print of the Registration No. and Password for future reference of your application status and for reprinting of your online filled Application Form.

Application by post or by hand shall not be accepted and only online application will be considered.

No TA/DA will be paid for attending Screening Test/Counselling.

If it is found that any Candidate has furnished false information/document(s) at any stage of the selection process

her/his appointment/ recruitment will be cancelled/ terminated immediately

Reservations and age relaxation will be given as per Haryana Govt. policy.
List of short listed candidates for written examination will be displayed on the official website of NHM Haryana i.e.

www.nhmharyana.gov.in

No separate admit card or communication shall be sent to individual candidate.

Mobile phones, calculators and other electronics gazettes etc. are strictly prohibited in examination hall.

Number of posts can be increased or decreased as per the requirement of the office. NHM Haryana. reserves the right to cancel the whole recruitment process at any time at any stage without assign ing any reason(s) to the Candidates.

(xiv) Candidates are advised to visit NHM Haryana website i.e. www.nhmharyana.gov.in regularly for latest updates regarding the selection for these posts, as no separate communication will be sent for any update/change. In view of COVID-19 pandemic situation, all candidates shall require to follow the COVID-19 Guidelines; particu

larly for wearing of mask, maintaining social distance, and using of sanitizer etc. at the time of appearing for the

Written Exam and further Counselling. Although NHM Haryana shall make necessary arrangements for sanitization of the Candidates. Even if, Candidates wish, they may carry transparent bottle of sanitizer upto 100 ml at the venue of Written Exam and Counselling Session. Sd/-Mission Director NHM Haryana,

Careers



nus with the project. However, it can be terminated without prior notice at any time.

The details about qualifications, experience, emoluments and other terms onditions may be seen at the University Website: www.sknau.ac.in



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Advertisement No.-01/2020

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Director, Administration & Monitoring

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Advt. No. EX/RECT/2020/01-B Corrigendum: Reference Advt. No. EX/RECT/2020/01 the following

Superintending Medical Officer (ENT)-(MD 03)

Post (Post Code) Senior Medical Officer (MD 09)* Senior Officer (Geophysics) (GP 16)**

The other guidelines contained in the Advt. No. EX RECT/2020/01 remain unchanged.

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Sd/-

Chief Electrical Inspector

to Govt. Haryana,

Chandigarh.

JRF in MoFPI funded project entitled "Development of enzyme based biomarkers for rapid differentiation of fresh and frozen-thawed meat with special reference to poultry meat". The engagement is purely temporary and will be liable for termination at any time in case of unsatisfactory performance. There will be no provision for absorption/reemployment in ICAR/ICAR-IVRI/MoFPI on termination of the

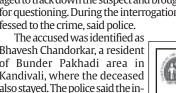
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Selection process through National level examinations conducted by Central Government Departments and their Agencies and Institutions such as DST, DBT, DAE, DOS, DRDO, MHRD, ICAR, ICMR. IIT. IISC. IISER, etc. Selection procedure: Candidate fulfilling essential qualification

may e-mail complete recent bio-data (containing recent photograph name, age, contact details, qualification, experience, etc.), attested copies of qualification certificates and research publications to ashim.biswas@icar.gov.in by 20.01.2021. Eligible shortlisted candidates will be informed by e-mail and called for Interview Online or Walk-in on 23-01-2021 from 11:00 AM onwards. For more details regarding desirable qualification, eligibility, remuneration etc. candidates may log on to institute's website (http://www.ivri.nic.in).

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Pawar, who used to bully him. "The accused were aware that



WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

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THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE

Under the spreading chestnut tree I sold you AND YOU SOLD ME.

—GEORGE ORWELL

The Indian EXPRESS

S FOUNDED BY S

Ramnath Goenka

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

SYSTEMS CHALLENGE

As policymakers give shape to NEP and Atmanirbhar Bharat, they must nurture institutional frameworks that enable research

N SEPTEMBER, SPEAKING on the New Education Policy (NEP), Prime Minister Narendra Modi underlined the importance of the knowledge economy. "We are working to make India a knowledge economy, to tackle brain drain," he said. The policy, indeed, talks of "nurturing creativity", enhancing "employability" and inviting foreign institutions to set up campuses. But these should be seen as only the first steps towards building capacities. As an investigation by this paper — which tracked 86 men and women who stood first in India, between 1996 and 2015, in their Class 10 and 12 exams — has shown, creating an atmosphere that can cater to the aspirations of youngsters wanting to pursue cutting edge research will require addressing multiple challenges. These pertain to funding, academic autonomy, designing robust processes for recruitment of faculty, counselling arrangements for early-career researchers, and systems to help overcome the many barriers to equality and diversity.

The number of universities in the country has grown nearly 40 times since independence. Unfortunately, however, an overwhelming majority of these institutions are veritable rubber stamps for degree certificates. A handful of research institutes, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, the Indian Institute of Science or some of the IITs, for example, do conduct cutting edge research. But these institutes are, by and large, outside the university system. Most Indian universities are too encumbered by regulatory shackles to have the freedom to design courses, find creative ways to raise funds, engage with other institutions -- in the country and elsewhere — and devise mechanisms of collaboration with industry. As this paper's investigation shows, an academic system that does not encourage the free flow of ideas between industry and academia does not fit the bill for several bright minds of the generation that has come of age after the country opened up in the 1990s. A contrasting example is that of the US — the preferred destination for most students interviewed by this paper - where universities have incubated cutting edge research. The role of Stanford University's engineering department in building Silicon Valley's tech-boom is well-known. In return, the university's entrepreneurial alumni have created an endowment system that has strengthened Stanford's links with the information economy. Similarly, the pharma major, Pfizer, and the University of California in San Diego have created systems to combine academic thinking with drug development expertise.

Translating the NEP's emphasis on research to honing creativity will require a fundamental shift in university admission processes. The unrealistically high cut-offs speak of an education system that does not encourage creative learning. For those hobbled by caste, class and gender, this system creates another cycle of deprivation and in so doing, robs academia of the diversity required to create thriving knowledge hubs. Such a milieu is also likely to be at odds with the government's thrust on self-reliance, Atmanirbhar Bharat. In the coming months and years as policymakers finetune the NEP and give shape to Atmanirbhar Bharat they will have to find ways to circumvent several social and institutional roadblocks, shed a lot of baggage.

SQUEEZE IN BENGAL

Left-Congress pitch their alliance as alternative to TMC and BJP. Polarisation will present hurdle for a third front

HE CONGRESS AND CPM have announced that they will jointly contest the upcoming West Bengal assembly elections. The two parties had an informal understanding in some assembly seats in 2016, but they fought the 2019 general elecions separately. The contours of the alliance – from seat distribution to common agenda or manifesto — are still to be worked out, but its leaders evidently hope that voters will view it as a third option to the Trinamool Congress (TMC) and the BJP in the state. This will pose a formidable challenge in a state where increasing polarisation would appear to be turning electoral politics into a direct contest between the TMC and BJP.

The emerging political situation in West Bengal seems not to encourage multi-polarity or offer hospitable ground for a third front. Moreover, both Congress and CPM have been shrinking since 2011, when the TMC ended 34 years of Left Front rule in the state. The TMC repeated the success in 2016 by trouncing the Left and weaning away leaders, legislators and cadres from both the Congress and Left parties. As the CPM and Congress retreated, the BJP, eager to spread its footprint, has moved into the opposition space. Its remarkable rise became evident in the 2019 general election, when it won over 40 per cent votes and 18 of the 42 Lok Sabha seats. Since then, the BJP has mounted a campaign of aggressive outreach with Hindutva rhetoric, predatory politics (inviting leaders from other parties), and intensive targeting of the state government, including through central ministers and the office of the governor. In the process, the BJP has all but turned state politics into a bipolar affair, with the party occupying one pole. The Left, losing cadres and leaders to the BJP, has been unable so far to mobilise on the ground and appears to have ceded space on agendas such as federalism and secularism to the TMC. The Congress-Left tie-up is also complicated by the fact that the two parties will be adversaries in Kerala, where elections are due at the same time.

Ironically, the West Bengal Congress has aligned with the Left against the TMC at a time when the latter has received support from Congress chief ministers in Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan, besides other regional leaders including Sharad Pawar, in its stand-off with the Centre. Legacy issues, local animosities and, perhaps, egos, will present challenges in the consolidation of anti-BJP forces in West Bengal.

LITTLE BROTHERS

Municipal Corporation of Gurugram needs to pause and rethink its plan to make children 'challan' their families

↓ HE GOOD PEOPLE at the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) are lucky, perhaps, that Lieutenant Colonel Frank Slade is fictional. Had he been around, instead of being a character played by Al Pacino in Scent of a Woman (1992), the MCG would certainly have received a tongue-lashing for its Christmas week launch of the "Family Sanitation Challan Book". Essentially, children will be taught, through "play", to inform on their families and friends, "to make them vigilant and to create an atmosphere in households wherein people are aware and keep checking each other," according to MCG Joint Commissioner Dheeraj Kumar. These young "Sanitation Captains" will write up their families if they do not segregate waste, use plastic bags or litter. Clearly, 2021 is a long way from 1984 — Big Brother, going forward, is set to become a cottage industry.

To be fair to the MCG most government entities like to create a citizenry in their own image - bureaucratic, officious, eager to prosecute. After all, why shouldn't children be footsoldiers for the authorities? And isn't it the responsibility of the government authorities to train $good\ citizens, who\ will\ place\ the\ common,\ national\ interest\ over\ more\ prosaic\ loyal ties?$

Here's where Colonel Slade comes in. In the film, he chews out the headmaster of a private elite school for rewarding students who "rat" on their friends, and punishing the only one who doesn't. Integrity, he argues, consists not in pointing fingers at others but in taking responsibility. The character understood that it is in the defence of high ideals — nation, society, swachhta and state — that petty power takes root and innumerable little cruelties are put in place. What Sanitation Captains need to learn, really, is a lesson from a fictional colonel.

The farm law mystery



What made Centre change its approach from incentivising states (February) to forcing down reforms (June)?

Harish Damodaran

IN NOVEMBER 2019, the Fifteenth Finance Commission submitted its interim report, wherein it proposed special "performance based incentives" to states that carried out agriculture sector reforms.

These reforms specifically pertained to their enacting and implementing all features of the Union Agriculture Ministry's Model Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017 and Model Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2018.

"We recommend that State Governments take preparatory action by securing the passage of these Bills in their respective legislatures in 2020-21 to become eligible to avail the grants awarded by us from 2021-22 onwards,"

On February 1, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in the Union Budget for 2020-21 speech, said that the Centre would "encourage those state governments who undertake implementation" of its model farm reform laws.

Note the tone, tenor and language used: Both the Finance Commission's report and the Finance Minister's budget talked about "incentivising" and "encouraging" states to liberalise their agricultural markets by promoting competition and allowing seamless trading of produce. This could be through enacting new or amending their existing APMC (agricultural produce market committee) legislation in line with the Centre's model acts.

Cut to June 5, which was when the Narendra Modi government promulgated the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion & Facilitation) Ordinance and the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, apart from a third Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020. All the three Central ordinances were subsequently passed and enacted by Parliament in

The mystery question: What happened between February and June for the Modi government to discard its earlier plan of incentivising/encouraging states in favour of the so-called constitutional route of forcing reform via Central legislation?

Before answering this, it is necessary first to examine the very basis of the "constitutional route" that was taken.

can encourage, incentivise, persuade and cajole states. However, it cannot legislate on its That's where some creative interpretation of the Constitution has been resorted to. Entry 33 of the Concurrent List covers "trade and commerce" in all foodstuffs, cattle fodder, raw cotton and jute. That includes not just interstate, but also "trade and commerce within the state". While intra-state trade in farm produce is ordinarily under entry 26 of the State List, being a Concurrent subject allows the Centre to also enact legislation. Further, in the event of any conflict between the two, the laws made by Parliament shall prevail over those of the

The Centre is within its

promoting barrier-free trade

of farm produce (inter- as

well as intra-state) and also

dismantling stockholding

only after the farmer has

sold. While the Essential

restrictions. But that can be

Commodities (Amendment)

Act exempting traders and

processors from stocking

limits passes the test, the

Regulation of first sale of

agricultural produce by

farmers — whether in

mandis or via contract

is a 'marketing'

not the Centre.

same cannot be said of the

other two Central farm laws.

cultivation arrangements —

responsibility of the states,

rights to enact laws

Such interpretation is not unproblematic, though. To start with, one must ask what constitutes "agriculture". Agriculture isn't just about field preparation, sowing seeds, irrigation, applying fertilisers and crop protection chemicals, and harvesting. It encompasses everything that a farmer does, from production and harvesting to the sale of his/her crop.

states - their APMC Acts in this case.

Article 246 of the Constitution clearly

places "agriculture" in entry 14 and "markets

and fairs" in entry 28 of the State List. The

Centre has powers to regulate "inter-state trade

and commerce" falling in entry 42 of the Union

List. A simple reading of these would indicate

that laws relating to agricultural produce mar-

keting can only be made by states. The Centre

The act of sale by a farmer — be it at an APMC mandi, private procurement centre, warehouse, silo, cold store, processing plant or even the farm gate — is very much part of agriculture. Such sale amounts to "agricultural marketing", which is distinct from "trade and commerce". "Trade" begins only after the farmer has finished with the "marketing" of his/her produce.

The upshot of this is that the Centre is within its rights to enact laws promoting barrier-free trade of farm produce (inter- as well as intra-state) and also dismantling stockholding restrictions. But that can be only after the farmer has sold. While the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act exempting traders and processors from stocking limits passes the test, the same cannot be said of the other two Central farm laws. Regulation of first sale of agricultural produce by farmers whether in mandis or via contract cultivation arrangements - is a "marketing" responsibility of the states, not the Centre

That brings back the original question: What really changed after February to prompt the Modi government to go for the "constitutional route"? How did the incentive-based push (for a model agricultural produce "marketing" law to be adopted by states) give way to a shove from above (of a farmer' produce 'trade and commerce" ordinance)?

One popular theory is that the pressure for the sledgehammer approach, even at the cost of violating constitutional federalism principles, came primarily from the likes of Reliance, Adani and Amazon.

Truth be told, there was nothing in the existing APMC Acts preventing corporates from opening purchase centres to source produce from farmers, directly or otherwise. Many states issued unified or single licences allowing them to buy from any APMC mandi. All they had to do was pay the market fee applicable within the particular APMC's jurisdiction. While charged even for transactions outside its physical mandi premises, it was never such a big deal.

Nor was it the case that billions of dollars were waiting to be invested in India's agro-processing sector, predicated on the immediate passage of the three reform bills. No such deluge followed Bihar's scrapping of its APMC Act in 2006. Why are corporates and large feed millers even today reliant on middlemen/aggregators there, when they can well procure corn straight from farmers' fields?

It leaves the only plausible explanation for the Modi government's shoving its farm bills through Parliament sans any deliberation or even proper drafting — that too, in the midst of a national pandemic. Remember, it wasn't just the three agriculture bills, but also the three labour codes subsuming 25 existing laws that got passed in September. Both, together, were packaged as historic and pathbreaking re-

The context matters here. COVID-19, coupled with growing global investor interest in diversifying supply chains away from China, was seen as a possibility to convert "challenge into opportunity". The intent and timing of the reforms may have been to market India as the next great investment destination.

But for now, it is angry farmers, more than eager investors, who are knocking on Delhi's

harish.damodaran@expressindia.com



THE 5G GREAT GAME

It is being played strategically by China. Indigenous tech is needed

P I S Pannu

EVEN BEFORE the war with COVID-19 comes to an end, the world may be fighting a new war —the 5G War. Nations ready with 5G technology are on the threshold of beginning an invasion into markets of those who have no clue as to what it is all about. The 5G technology is set to not only bring unimaginable benefits to mankind, but also many hidden hazards to privacy. It may act as a honey pot, difficult to resist. Information and data, as we all know, are the prime movers of the IOT (Internet of Things) and 5G as its most efficient enabler, may have an ability to access and control the data of individuals, groups or even nations.

The recent news of China and Nepal agree-

ing to increase the height of Mount Everest by three metres may look insignificant. But a deeper analysis reveals that it could lead to an invasion by Chinese 5G technology. Such capability has the ability to control Nepal's mountaineering and tourism industry. The launch of 5G in Nepal would mean that Nepal's business interests could pass into Chinese control. Realtime information on weather, routes, map/terrain details, logistics and rescue programmes etc, could be based on Chinese 5G, thus making locals or visitors to Nepal dependent on it. China is also a major stakeholder in Mount Everest since it lies on their common border. A related development of infrastructure along the borders, where most mountaineering sites are, could make Nepal's borders vulnerable and damage its tourism industry. With lower

The good news that India is likely to survive the onslaught of the Chinese 5G invasion if it accelerates the launch of Indian 5G. India is working on technologies that would enable it to launch Indigenous 5G that would run IOT platforms for civilian as well as military applications.

incomes, the tourism industry might get lured into Chinese cheap loans, leading to a strategic debt trap. The ramifications of such developments for India can only be imagined.

Chinese companies have made huge investments across the world to spread a 5G network that will encompass the planet — a "digital encirclement of the world". Combined with the BRI (Belt and Road Initiative), this encirclement would be complete. Intrinsic to the BRI is the fact that Chinese companies will build the digital infrastructure. Militaries who do not have indigenous 5G capabilities for IOT platforms and who allow Chinese 5G, could then become hostage to Chinese technology, as seen during the pandemic. The CPEC (China-Pakistan Economic Corridor) is a clear example of how easy it is to encircle a country. Pakistan is today a virtual vassal state of China.

2020 has been no ordinary year - the Chinese have ensured that the world transits from the physical to a digital domain. The novel coronavirus has pushed people and businesses to "work from home". Internet providers are the busiest — connecting people. Militaries have been pushed to the borders, treaties and agreements are being signed, and a record number of military deals have happened. This year has witnessed the most unprecedented intensification of global military conflicts since the Gulf War. Nations are showing their military intent. AI applications have been at display in warfare, with drone killing machines being advertised.

There is no option left but to get the 5G technology now. The Chinese seem to have cast a die to capture the world virtually.

The good news is that India is likely to survive the onslaught of the Chinese 5G invasion if it accelerates the launch of Indian 5G. India is working on technologies that would enable it to launch Indigenous 5G that would run IOT platforms for civilian as well as military applications. The banning of Chinese apps and blocking of hardware supply chains would be the correct counteroffensive to protect the business and security interests of the country. The problem is India being poor in "implementation".

Our scientists and industry can bring technology at a winning speed, but where India starts losing out is in slow adoption, getting entangled in policy processes and the crosshairs of the bureaucracy. The current dispensation in Delhi realises the importance of winning this war. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been pushing for aatamnirbharta (self-reliance), with the success of Digital India being a priority.

India must get its timing right. The implementation of 5G, though a bit delayed, can make India a good alternative to China. But agreements like RCEP and China's other debt strategies will remain a larger threat to the

The writer is a former Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff and a distinguished fellow of USI. Views are personal



DECEMBER 29, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

BJP's WARNING

THE BIP TODAY warned that the country was heading towards a crisis far worse than that of 1975 as the government had failed on all fronts. "Not only has the government miserably failed in solving any of the crucial issues facing the country but has failed to inspire confidence among the people reading its ability to solve them", goes a stronglyworded statement of the party. Sikandar Bakht, a former Union minister and general secretary of the BJP, moved the resolution of the party on the political situation. He said that those who had promised a "government that works" have only ensured an administration that does not work. The BJP warned of

the "sinister designs" of the ruling party to replace the parliamentary system by the presidential system and push India under an authoritarian yoke.

Assam bandh

THE ASSAM GOVERNMENT will make all efforts to ensure that normal work goes on in government offices during the 24-hour Assam Bandh slated for December 29. It is also the government's intention to see that banks and all establishments remain open and shops and markets do business as usual. the chief secretary Ramesh Chandra said. The bandh call has been given by the AASU and

PANIC IN MANIPUR THE SITUATION IN Imphal and neighbour-

ing areas of the city is one of chaos, confusion and panic in the wake of the grenade attacks by extremists on December 26 and 27. The reports of grenade attacks and firing by the army in retaliation sent vendors and shopkeepers scurrying for cover, Many ran in panic leaving their shops open.

FIRING IN LEH

THE POLICE FIRED four rounds in the air to disperse a violent mob at Leh according to official reports. The police had to take recourse to the action after the mob set fire to

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2020

For some, five nations — the UK, US, Canada,

Australia and New Zealand – are at the core of

the Anglosphere. Others define it more nar-

rowly - the so-called CANZUK group that ex-

cludes the United States. A broader view sees

economic and strategic collaboration with

other states like India, Ireland, Singapore and

Japan as part of rebuilding the Anglosphere.

 $possibilities \, of \, the \, Anglosphere \, -the \, so-called$

"Five Eyes" arrangement for intelligence shar-

ing between the US, Canada, UK, Australia and

New Zealand. Extending the Five Eyes frame-

work to the economic and security domain is

an idea that has gained some recent traction. Some imagine the CANZUK as a commu-

nity that allows free flow of goods and talent

within the core group. Others call for a military

alliance that pools the resources of CANZUK to

play a more influential role in the Indo-Pacific.

world's large strategic entities with a GDP of

nearly \$6 trillion and a defence expenditure of

\$100 billion, which in theory could play a sig-

nificant role in the world. Even if London pur-

sues this vigorously, Canada, Australia and New

Zealand will have to overcome much domes-

In Delhi, the Anglosphere is quickly dis-

missed as a colonial construct. Those who let

India's colonial past overwhelm its current

strategic judgements, however, do great injus-

tice to Delhi's gains in the international system,

in absolute terms as well as relative to Britain.

Five arguments present themselves in favour

Britain a couple of years ago but has fallen a bit

below this year. Britain and India today are at

roughly \$2.7 trillion and occupy the fifth and

sixth places in the GDP rankings. But India is

One, $\tilde{\text{India}}$'s aggregate GDP crossed that of

tic political resistance to this venture.

of the Anglosphere.

A combined CANZUK will be one of the

At present, only one institution reflects the

5 THE IDEAS PAGE

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

Jayant Sinha and Samir Saran

THE COVID-19 vaccines are coming. And

along with this sanjivani comes a new age

of geopolitics. The vaccines are varied, with

different pricing points and affordability.

Nations have secured their vaccine supplies

from countries and companies they trust,

often by forging new alliances. The scepti-

cism over the vaccines from China and

Russia shows that trust is the operating

word in the post-pandemic era - and it is not limited to the choice of vaccines.

century, a multipolar world awaits us. The

US and China — rivals for the top slot till the

pandemic hit the world – will now have to

contend with traditional and rising powers

like the UK, France, India and Brazil. Each

country will engage with others selectively,

not in every arena. We will see the rise of a

New World Order driven by national inter-

est, reliability of partners, and of course,

economic factors. India has to use a "Gated

Globalisation" framework to negotiate this

drive partnerships, but these will no longer

be omnibus alliances. India is locked in a

confrontation with China in the Himalayas.

The US and its traditional allies are ramping

up their presence in the Western Pacific. A

new Great Game is underway in the Indo-

Pacific where the Quad is emerging. The

Middle East is in a deep churn as Israel and

Arabs discover Abrahamic commonalities.

Europe is caught in a struggle to retain its

values amid the diversity it has acquired

quires that India should protect its interests

in these unsettled times. Strong fences are

necessary, but so is the creation of new part-

nerships (like the Quad) based on trust and

common interests. Gated Globalisation has

no place for parlour games like "non-align-

ment"; it will test the tensile strength of

"strategic autonomy". The need for a new coalition was felt after Doklam and has be-

come a necessity post-Ladakh: India needs

Beyond security, like everybody else

India has to make partnership choices on

trade, capital flows and the movement of labour. The WTO's multilateral trading

arrangements have frayed beyond repair.

Whether it is RCEP in the Indo-Pacific, the

new version of NAFTA called USMCA, or the

reconfigured EU, countries will have to de-

cide whether they belong inside these gated

trading arrangements. India has chosen to

stay out of RCEP and the UK has left the EU.

The Gated Globalisation framework re-

over the years.

friends in deed.

The security landscape will continue to

As we enter the third decade of the 21st

"The ideal scenario is that vaccines become public goods for humans to fight against the coronavirus no matter who develops them. They will be used as a 100 per cent scientifically-based tool, rather than for political leverage."

Gated

Globalisation

Amid changing post-pandemic realities, India needs to be swift in identifying partners whom it can trust and who will help further its interests

interests.

– GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

India and the Anglosphere

Idea of English-speaking nations cooperating closely with each other, which is gaining primacy post-Brexit, offers possibilities that India is well-poised to take advantage of



AN ANGLOSPHERE - OR the world of Englishspeaking people bound by common political beliefs, similar legal traditions, and shared geopolitical interests — was among the main ideas that animated the political movement in

Britain that successfully pulled London out of the European Union.

Sceptics have derided the Anglosphere as naive nostalgia for a long-lost empire. But with Brexit done and a trade deal in place with the EU, the Anglosphere is now likely to acquire some gravitas in British foreign policy. It could be a powerful complement to the United Kingdom's continuing commercial engagement with Europe and a new motor for Britain's independent political role in the

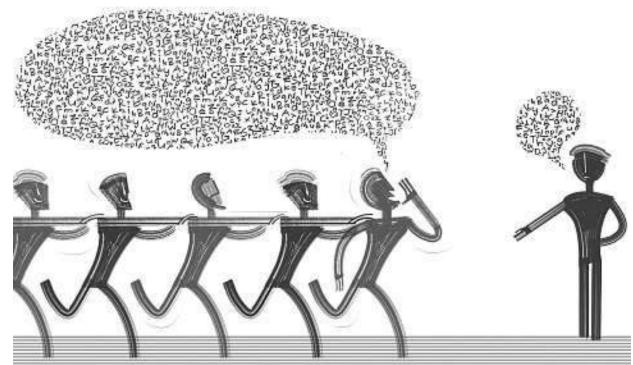
Defining the ambit and mechanics of the Anglosphere will certainly take time. Delhi would want to begin a conversation on the subject when it hosts British Prime Minister Boris Johnson next month as the chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations. Many in Delhi ask why India should have anything to do with the resurrection of an idea that is rooted in London's colonial past. But if Delhi looks to the future rather than the past, it could find the Anglosphere an interesting framework to en-

The idea of the Anglosphere has a long lineage in Britain's history. In the late 19th century, Britain confronted deepening challenges to its global economic primacy and growing threats to the stability of the empire from within and rising powers from without. One response was to build a "Greater Britain" with imperial trade preferences and a common defence system. There were sweeping ideas of a single nation-state for the vast empire governed by a parliament sitting in London. But none of them was realistic. A modest version of this idea passed onto the Commonwealth as Britain's main international vehicle after the Second World War.

As European integration unfolded, Britain could not avoid the gravitational pull next door. It eventually opted for closer ties with Europe in the 1970s and the Commonwealth became less salient. Europe, however, was always a divisive subject in Britain, especially among the Conservatives who did not wish to see London cede its sovereignty to Brussels. And as the European project became more ambitious after the Cold War, a strong group of Eurosceptics resurrected the idea of London returning to its natural terrain — the Anglosphere

The contemporary debate on the Anglosphere encompasses several ideas. One is the notion of a liberal, free-trading Britain that stands apart from the regulatory state and closed market that Brussels was building. Reinforcing this idea was the notion of a "Global Britain" that reclaims its global maritime orientation, and rebuilds its deep linkages with the English-speaking world.

While the idea of an Anglosphere gains ground, there is no agreement on who might constitute such a group and what it might do.



main the preferred Indian destinations for study, work and emigration.

Three, thanks to the relative openness of the Anglosphere, the Indian diaspora is thriving in these nations and is very much part of the political life in the English-speaking world. Kamala Harris will soon be sworn in as US Vice President. Three of Johnson's cabinet rank ministers are Indian and four of Justin Trudeau's ministers are of Indian origin. Indians are among the fastest-growing minorities in Australia and New Zealand.

Besides politics, Indians occupy countless positions in the national bureaucracies, private sector, and universities of the Anglosphere. The diaspora is of course a double-edged sword that cuts both ways as Trudeau's domestic politics reminds us. But here is the reality: India is already tied deeply to the Anglosphere, whether Delhi wants it or not.

Four, two other factors are equally important — the emerging economic complementarity between India and the Anglosphere as well as the shared geopolitical interest in constructing a stable balance of power in the Indo-Pacific. These imperatives have already nudged India into a greater bilateral commercial and security cooperation with the prospective members of the Anglosphere. The question is whether it can be elevated to the collective level. India is already engaged with the Five Eyes on select issues.

Five, the Indian elite could emulate the Chinese in transcending the colonial mindset. The Chinese Communist Party, which never stops talking about Britain's Opium Wars, had come close to winning over Britain and the entire Anglosphere in recent years through the sheer power of its sustained economic investments, political engagement, and elite cultivation. It was Beijing's overreach that has recently put-off large parts of the Anglosphere. Delhi today can deal with the Anglosphere on its own terms and for mutual benefit. Unlike China, India does not have to work too hard to realise the natural potential of its cooperation with the Anglosphere.

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

By imposing restrictions on trade with China, India faces restrictions on capital flows. But this does not preclude enhanced capital flows from new partners. To prevent inflow of illicit funds, India has barred capital from poorly-regulated jurisdictions. India's capital account for investment is largely open while its current account is carefully managed. Similarly, while restricting debt flows, India is open for equity flows from friendly countries. Other nations have similar policies. By managing capital flows in this manner, countries have enabled tighter financial relationships within their gated communities while shutting out those who are inimical to their

India's global diaspora is now over 30 million and sends more through remittances (\$80 billion per year) than foreign capital inflows. The pandemic-enforced work-from-home may see the creation of new pools of skilled workers, living in virtual gated communities, further enhancing income from jobs physically located elsewhere. Moreover, the Indian diaspora is now increasingly impacting policy in countries like the US, UK and Australia where it has contributed politicians and technocrats, innovators and influencers, billionaires and cricket captains.

Finally, technology flows and standards will also define gated communities. The internet is already split between China and everyone else. The Great Firewall of China has shut out many of the big tech players like Google, Facebook and Netflix. Instead, China has its Baidu, Alibaba and Tencent. With the advent of 5G technology, this split will get deeper and wider over issues of trust

The EU-crafted General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is an excellent example of Gated Globalisation. The EU has set the terms of engagement; those who do not comply will be kept out. The Indian law on data protection that is currently being discussed follows a similar sovereign route. However, it remains to be seen whether these norms can checkmate China's massive digital surveillance apparatus.

There are other emerging arenas that will likely become the focus of big power competition. China has moved in all possible directions to develop its global strategies. It has linked its national security interests with its Belt-and-Road Initiative and its debt programmes. It is offering a package deal of 5G technology with new telecom networks. China has learnt well

Amid these rapidly changing post-pandemic realities. India has to be swift in identifying partners whom it can trust and who will help protect and further its national interests. Ambiguity, lethargy and posturing will not do.

Sinha is chairman, Standing Committee on Finance in Parliament, and a Lok Sabha MP from Hazaribagh, Jharkhand. Saran is President, Observer Research Foundation. Views are personal

In Delhi, the Anglosphere is quickly dismissed as a colonial construct. Those who let India's colonial past overwhelm its current strategic judgements,

however, do great injustice to Delhi's gains in the international system, in

well on its way to overtake Britain in the next few years and emerge as the third-largest economy in the world in the next decade. Two, while the Indian elite continues to rant against colonial Britain in public, it relishes, in private, the deep comfort with the Anglo-Saxon elite. There is no such hypocrisy in the Indian middle classes that have unhesitatingly absolute terms as well as embraced the English speaking world. The US, Canada, Britain, Australia, and New Zealand rerelative to Britain.

A screen of our own

COVID

SHADOW,

The pandemic may have brought us closer to our need for stories

Alankrita Shrivastava

IT'S BEEN THE strangest of years. A year that has made us so aware of our aloneness, and also a year that has reminded us that we are, at the end of it all, social beings, I guess making and watching films brought their own experiences of solitariness and the reminder that filmmaking is at its core a collective effort, and film viewing is different without the collective.

I have always lived alone, but my life is full of friends, family and colleagues and many collective experiences. I used to write amidst the frenzy and busy-ness in cafes, on flights and in airports. Now isolated from the world, I found that all the time and all the silence did not lend itself to any writing at all.

I was editing and doing post-production on a series. This entire work was done remotely. It has been an isolating feeling — just me and my many screens. That joy, that thrill of live interaction with your crew in studios spilling into conversations over chais, and coffees — it's been missing. With my editor and me, it was also many days of hanging out on video over editing apps. Some days we would put on the app, stare at each other and just drink our coffee. But we helped each other through many days when we felt low and pessimistic, by discussing the doom and finding sweet joy in discovering new home chefs and, neither of us is the baking banana bread-

That a darkness that falls on humanity will take away the small joy of watching films in the darkened space of a theatre is something nobody could have imagined. Earlier, even

when the world has been at war, the cinema was a source of comfort. The physical, public space for watching films as a community would transport one into another world as a

I believe humanity cannot survive without culture — without books, music, songs, plays, art, cinema. This pandemic, even though it de-AN EXPRESS IDEA SERIES

prived us of the physical cinema theatre, may have brought us closer to our need and love for stories. Just that we were watching on our private

And the big screen, my God, I missed it. To be honest, all of last year, I don't think I watched more than eight to 10 films in the theatre. But that option always ex-

isted. To watch privately now is like reading a book. It's a more solitary, individual experience.

I felt the loss of the big screens most acutely when my new feature film had to skip a theatrical release. It broke my heart in many ways to not celebrate its release with my cast and crew, to not have screenings for friends and contemporaries, to not see it in the darkened space, the images larger than life. Yet, there was something novel about seeing it release simultaneously across the world on private screens.

In the dark shadow of COVID, the private

screen seems to have found a new shine, a dynamic dazzle. It is this private watching that has saved many a film economically in these times, and many a viewer emotionally.

Many a restless, anxiety-driven day we have been comforted and reassured and entertained watching films and series available on screening platforms. In that sense, it is still stories that have been

> dark, shadowy time. In a perverse way, it is this need for stories that drove a majority of Indians to lap up ghastly witch hunt-type "news" stories -- the consumption and production of which proved beyond

doubt that we are a

seeing us through this

NEW YEAR country perhaps unde-LIGHT serving of real stories. The lack of humanity and deep-seated hatred that was revealed in the hearts of Indians was shocking, and sickening. I felt the pulsating frustration and depravity of Indian society in their screams to label a young woman a witch and burn her at the stake. Watching that ugliness made me ashamed and destroyed something inside me. That

> From the debris some hope still finds its way into the sky. 2020 is ending. Have we as storytellers learnt anything? Have we, as the watchers of stories, grown and changed?

heartbreak too was suffered in isolation.

There are so many stories to be told. Somehow the sadness and wretchedness of the last few months have opened up chasms inside of us that we didn't know existed. I think our life experiences have grown. Maybe, just maybe, that means there will be more depth to

our storytelling. As filmmakers, we will have to work harder to keep the attention of people watching on private screens, and also to draw people back into theatres to watch films. I hope and pray both digital and theatrical spaces are accessible for all kinds of stories and all kinds of films. I don't want the theatrical space to only be a space for spectacle and event films. I want all kinds of stories to find both public and private screens. We can't have only "private viewing" for a certain kind of film, and public viewing of

As people who watch films and series, I think our tastes have expanded. I think we may become more open as an audience to different kinds of stories, told differently, from alternative points of view. I hope finally there will be larger audiences for stories that are not just about privileged, upper-caste, heterosexual alpha male heroes. I hope there are more people drawn to a different kind of cinematic universe, and stories that talk about people on the periphery. Where to be human is enough to warrant a story of one's own.

Maybe at the end of the tunnel, there is

Shrivastava is a screenwriter and film director

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A DEAL, AT LAST

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'New Britain' (IE, December 28). The tariff-free trade agreement in goods that the UK and the EU inked days before the post-Brexit transition expires should mitigate somewhat the consequences of Britain's narrow decision in 2016. A catastrophic "no deal" scenario has been averted. Moreover, given the UK's reliance on the EU for about 75 per cent of its food product imports, the significance of zero duty trade for consumers and the retail economy cannot be exaggerated. Brexit's biggest trade-off for the ordinary citizen is perhaps the restrictions on the right to free movement and work.

Sanjay Chopra, Mohali

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'New Britain' (IE, December 28). The politics of nationalism in the UK that stirred the anti-European sentiments culminated in the outcome of the Brexit referendum going in favour of leaving the European Union. The UK is a formidable power in the geostrategic calculus of region and beyond, but short of being one with immense global stature. The geopolitical and geoeconomic aspect of being in a tighter embrace with its European allies gives it more prominence in the global high table. Sudip Kumar Dey, Kolkata

COVID LESSONS

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Journal of a plague year' (IE, December 28). The virus tried to keep us isolated from one another. Yet, we adapted technology to connect with others and show compassion and

IDEAS ONLINE

WHY ATMANIRBHARTA IN

MEDICAL DEVICES NEEDS TRADE: K MADAN GOPAL

ONLY IN THE EXPRESS

●HYPOCRISY AND THE **NEOLIBERAL CONSENSUS: PREM SINGH**

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empathy. The successful development of vaccines is a remarkable story of scientific collaboration across countries and cultures. Paradoxically, the virus has managed to bring humanity closer than ever before. That our success lies in our interconnectedness is a valuable lesson we should never forget.

K Sahasranaman, via email

STILL UNCERTAIN

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Growth positive' (IE, December 28). Some green shoots are visible in the economy after the pandemic shock. However, the spurt in demand may not hold as the festive season comes to an end. One must not forget that uncertainty still looms large. It's not just the consumer, but also companies which are preferring to remain tightfisted, exercising fiscal prudence.

Vijai Pant, Hempur

16 ECONOMY

operations in India by

early 2021, says Gadkari

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market: gold per 10 g, silver per 1 kg; Brent crude as of 2240 IST

③ ₹68,156

SENSEX: 47,353.75 ▲ 380.21 NIFTY: 13,873.20 ▲ 123.95 NIKKEI: 26,854.03 ▲ 197.42 HANG SENG: 26,314.63 ▼ 71.93 FTSE: 6,502.11 ▲ 6.36 DAX: 13,793.58 ▲ 206.35

AMOUNT RAISED THIS CALENDAR YEAR 116% MORE THAN ₹82,241 CR IN 2019 Tesla preparing to start

Covid fails to dampen IPO boom: India Inc raises record ₹1.7 lakh cr

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAI, DECEMBER 28

THE PRIMARY market witnessed an all-time high fund raising of Rs 1,77,468 crore by India Inc in 2020, 116 per cent higher than Rs 82,241 crore mobilised in 2019, despite almost the entire

year being overshadowed by the

Covid pandemic. The previous highest amount raised in a calendar year was Rs 1,60,032 crore in 2017. "Strong retail participation in IPOs, huge listing gains and highest-ever amount raised through QIPs and InvITs and ReITs were the key highlights of the year," said Pranav Haldea, managing director, PRIME Database Group.

According to Haldea, the continuing buoyancy in secondary markets as well as the listing performance of IPOs in the last few months have provided impetus to the primary market. The IPO pipeline continues to remain strong with 28 companies holding Sebi approval, wanting to raise nearly Rs 28,706 crore and another seven companies - wanting to raise nearly Rs 4,410 crore - awaiting Sebi's approval, taking the total mobilisation plan to over Rs 33,000 crore.

Need for caution

> WITH THE bull run on the stock markets taking the Sensex to new peaks, the IPO market is again in the spotlight. At a time when companies are lining up to raise funds from the market amid high valuations in the market, investors should be cautious before investing their hardearned money

Contrary to the despondency due to the pandemic, 15 mainboard IPOs came to the market, collectively raising Rs 26,611 crore. This was an increase of 115 per cent from the Rs 12,362 crore raised through 16 IPOs in 2019. The largest IPO in 2020 was from SBI Cards for Rs 10,341 crore. The average deal size was Rs 1.774 crore. it said. Of the 15 IPOs that hit the market, five had a prior PE and VC investment. Offers for sale by such PE and VC investors at Rs 8,026 crore accounted for 30 per cent of the total IPO amount. Offers for sale by promoters at Rs 7,880 crore accounted for a further 30 per cent of the IPO amount, PRIME Database said

According to Haldea, of the 15 IPOs, 13 companies had anchor investors, which collectively subscribed to 29 per cent of the total public issue amount. The domestic institutional investors played a significant role as anchor investors, with their subscription amounting to 13 per cent of the amount. This was, however, lower than the 16 per cent from FPIs, it said.

The overall response from the public to the mainboard IPOs of the year, according to Prime Database.com. Nine IPOs received a mega response of more than 10 times Mazagon Dock at (156 times) followed by Mrs Bectors Food Specialities (138 times), Chemcon Speciality Chemicals (102 times), Burger King (86 Happiest Minds times), Technologies (82 times), Rossari Biotech (55 times), Route Mobile (52 times), Computer Age Management Services (33 times) and SBI Cards (19 times).

As far as retail investors are concerned, the year witnessed tremendous response from them. The highest number of applications was received by SBI Cards at 26.95 lakh followed by Mazagon

Food Specialities (22.02 lakh), Burger King (19.75 lakh), Chemcon Speciality Chemicals (19.71 lakh), Happiest Minds Technologies (18.62 lakh), Computer Age Management Services (18.57 lakh) and Route Mobile (13.62 lakh).

According to Haldea, response to IPOs was further buoyed by strong listing performance of IPOs of the year. Of the 14 IPOs which got listed, 10 gave a return of over 10 per cent (based on closing price on listing date). Burger King gave a stupendous return of 131 per cent followed by Happiest Minds Technologies (123 per cent), Mrs Bectors Food Specialities (107 per cent), Route Mobile (86 per cent), Rossari Biotech (75 per cent), Chemcon Speciality Chemicals (72 per cent), Gland Pharma (21 per cent), Mazagon Dock (19 per cent), Computer Age Management Services (14 per cent) and Likhitha Infrastructure (14 per cent). Moreover, all 14 IPOs (listed thus far) are trading between one and 220 per cent above the issue price (closing price of December 24, 2020). However, activity in the SME segment further declined in 2020 in comparison to 2019.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

Markets scale fresh peak



The Sensex settled at 47,353.

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

EXTENDING GAINS for the fourth straight session, the Sensex and the Nifty raced to new peaks on Monday, in line with broad-based rally in global equities as investors cheered a \$2.3 trillion US stimulus package and last-minute Brexit deal. The Sensex settled up by 380.21 points or 0.81 percent at its all-time closing high of 47,353.75.

All 3 major US indices opened at record highs. The Dow rose 292.14 points, or 0.97 per cent, to 30,492.01, the S&P 500 gained 33.39 points, or 0.90 per cent, to 3,736.45 and Nasdaq added 70.75 points, or 0.55 per cent, to 12,875.49.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

INDIAN COMPANIES and researchers will be able to develop electric vehicles that will be "equal to Tesla from the technology point of view," Union Minster Nitin Gadkari said on Monday.

Speaking to The Indian Express at the Idea Exchange programme, Gadkari, the Minister of Road Transport and Highways and MSME, said that EV major Tesla would be starting operations in India early 2021.

"Tesla is preparing to start operations in India by early 2021. I am sure that there are a lot of EV which are equal to Tesla from the technology point of view. Indian manufacturers are doing a lot of research and changes. In due course of time you will get electric cars which will be equal to Tesla. I am confident and the cost will be very less," Gadkari said, adding that in due course India would be the "number one manufacturer" of electric vehicles like cars, bikes, trucks, tractors and construction machinery that run on electricity.

During the conversation with The Indian Express editors, Gadkari said Tesla will start operations first with sales and then maybe look at assembly and manufacturing based on the response to the cars.

In October, Tesla CEO Elon Musk had suggested that the company will come to India in 2021 while responding to a tweet from India. "Next year for sure," Musk had replied when a handle called Tesla Club India checked with him about the company's progress in India.

Gadkari said that a lot of small companies have started manufacturing electric scooters and bikes in factories in Uttar Pradesh and other parts of the country. And that there is already a lot of research going on to indigenously develop an alternative to lithium-ion batteries since most lithium-ion batteries are imported from China.

"There are some problems related to lithium-ion. Argentina has got huge reserves of lithium-ion. Our Indian players are also trying



Road Transport and Highways and MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari at the Idea Exchange programme via a weblink. Express

EXCHANGE

to get lithium-ion the world over. But this is also true that the Chinese have already picked up stakes in majority of the lithium on mines," he said, adding that Indian researchers were now trving to invent a better alternative to lithium-ion batteries.

"Take for example ISRO sending satellite, using a different type of batteries. Research is going on and our people are competent and we will get the solution for that. Sodium ion batteries are also in the process of being made. The research is in the final stages. I am very much confident about our IITs and engineering graduates. In this field we will get success. The sodium ion batteries are very cheap. So we may get the solution. We will be the number-one manufacturers of electric bikes, scooters, tractors, trucks, and even construction equipment machinery

of electric in due course," he said. Speaking about the developing ecosystem for electric vehicles. Gadkari said that research is on to invent aluminium-ion batteries also and he has already inaugurated heavy construction machinery that run on electricity.

"We already have electric cars. bikes, vehicles, in the transport sector ... Again we are trying to EV-

based public transport system. Already a lot of people, small companies are making e-bikes and escooters in UP and different states in India. The crucial problem with EV is the lithium ion battery. Now we are encouraging people to make in India and "Made in India". One of the important thing is a lot of research is going on," he said.

"Important thing is already there is a lot of sale of the electric buses, like in Mumbai and Pune, Nagpur etc. They are there in airports also. Even electric tractor is now in the process of being manufactured. One of the leading companies wants to launch electric truck. Just 20 days ago I launched a JCB on CNG. So a lot of change is going on and we are a 100 per cent certain that it is very cost effective, import-substitute, pollution-free and indigenous. We have already in the process of making (vehicle) scrapping policy. With the scrapping policy, I am confident that India will be the number one manufacturing hub in the world," he said.

Talking about how cost-effective EVs can be, Gadkari quoted the example of his son who, he said, took 10 SUVs on lease for Rs 45,000 per car per month for managers of sugar mills. "I asked him why are you taking this? He was telling me that his total expenditure on one car was Rs 1 lakh per month. By purchasing this he was saving Rs 30,000 per month because electric is very cheap. There is charging system in the house and in the office also," he said

BRIEFLY — FinMin releases

₹6,000 crore

New Delhi: The Finance Ministry on Monday released the ninth instalment of Rs 6,000 crore to the states to meet GST compensation shortfall, taking the total amount of fund released to Rs 54,000 crore. The Centre had set up a special borrowingwindow in October 2020 to meet the estimated shortfall of Rs 1.10 lakh crore in revenue arising on account of implementation of GST.

Irdai norms for travel insurance

Regulatory and Development Authority of India on Monday proposed standard guidelines for travel insurance. The guidelines will make available a standard travel insurance product with common coverage and policy wordings across the industry, it said.

Settlement scheme to end

New Delhi: Sebi's one-time settlement scheme for the entities that executed reversal of trades in the stock options segment of BSE during 2014 and 2015 will end this Thursday. After the expiry of the scheme, entities who do not avail the one-time settlement opportunity will be liable for action.

'Gross NPAs of banks may rise'

Mumbai: Banks' gross nonperforming assets (NPAs) and net NPAs are expected to rise to 10.1-10.6 per cent and 3.1-3.2 per cent, respectively by March 2021, Icra said Monday. The agency also expects net NPA to decline to 2.4-2.6 per cent by March 2022. PTI

Oil touches \$52 after US aid bill

London: Oil rose to hit \$52 a barrel on Monday as US President Donald Trump's signing of a coronavirus aid package and the start of a European vaccination campaign outweighed concern about weak near-term demand. Brent crude was up 45 cents, or 0.9 per cent, at \$51.74 a barrel at 1316 GMT, after trading as high as \$52.02 and reversing an earlier decline. **REUTERS**

COVID-19 IMPACT

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU

AN RBI study has said maintaining

4 per cent inflation is appropriate

for India as targeting a lower rate

could impart deflationary bias to

inflation — our preferred trend in-

flation estimates — declined from

above 5 per cent until 02 of 2008

to around 5 per cent by 2009," the

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) paper

said. It eased steadily thereafter

and remained at 4.3 per cent in Q1

of 2020, the paper, authored by RBI

official Harendra Kumar Behera

and Deputy Governor Michael

further disinflations will be-

come costlier in terms of the out-

put foregone. At the same time, the

credibility bonus accruing to mon-

etary policy warrants smaller pol-

"An increase in sacrifice ratio

Debabrata Patra, said.

The weighted average trend

MUMBAI, DECEMBER 28

the monetary policy.

'WFH on the rise, net office space leasing dips 44%'

As corporates deferred expansion plans and adopted 'work from home' (WFH), net office space leasing fell 44% year-onyear in 2020 across seven major cities, a JLL India report said



SEVEN MAJOR CITIES CONSIDERED ■ Delhi-NCR ■ Chennai ■ Hyderabad ■ Bengaluru

■ Mumbai ■ Kolkata

52% Rise in office space demand during

5.43 million saft in previous quarter to 8.27 million sq ft

yet fully anchored to the target but

convergence is underway," the pa-

per said. Underlying this is a de-

cline in the inflation persistence,

indicating that households and

businesses in India are becoming

more forward looking than before

as credibility associated with mon-

the tendency of inflation to con-

verge slowly to its trend is also crit-

ical to fashioning appropriate

monetary policy responses in

terms of the size and timing of pol-

imparts a deflationary bias to

monetary policy because it will go

into overkill relative what the

economy can intrinsically bear in

fixed above trend renders mone-

tary policy too expansionary and

prone to inflationary shocks and

unanchored expectations. Trend

"Analogously, a target that is

order to achieve the target.

"A target set below the trend

icy actions," the paper added.

"Understanding persistence or

etary policy increases, it said.

October-December 2020; from

25.82 mn sq ft: Net office space leased this year, falling from 46.5 million sq ft in 2019

Maintain inflation target at 4% ... if

it ain't broke, don't fix it: RBI paper

20% Impact on office market demand that WFH could have in the medium-to-long term

8.8 mn sq ft: Net absorption of office space during January-March 2020, which plunged to 3.32 mn sq ft during April-June on account of the lockdown

Why is it important: The office real estate market was most hit as lockdown measures disrupted the way we work. Source: ILL India/PTI Corporates had to adopt WFH as an alternative, which brought in its wake, a new set of possibilities and challenges

inflation is an empirical question

and choice of methodology is cru-

cial if the estimate of trend inflation

has to be precise," the paper stated.

Within the proliferation of work on

the subject, there is a loose consen-

sus that none of them can outper-

form the random walk model for

policy, it is necessary to consider

significant changes in the overall

macroeconomic ecosystem in

which monetary policy is con-

ducted. Trend inflation was falling

even ahead of the institution of FIT

and the latter entrenched this ten-

dency, as reflected in rising proba-

bility of trend inflation at 4 per cent

in both filtered and smoothed pos-

terior estimates, it said. "The prob-

ability-weighted 16 average of tre-

nd inflation has come down from

around 5 per cent until 2014 when

the pre-conditions of FIT were be-

ginning to 4.1-4.3 per cent in

Q12020, just before Covid struck."

For the setting of monetary

forecasting purposes, it said.

ITAT quashes order to cancel tax exemptions to three Tata trusts

KHUSHBOO NARAYAN MUMBAI, DECEMBER 28

THE MUMBAI Bench of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) on Monday quashed the March 2019 revision order of the Income Tax Department that sought to cancel tax exemptions to three Tata group Trusts — Ratan Tata Trust, IRD Tata Trust and Dorabii Tata Trust, The I-T Department order had alleged that these trusts invested in shares of companies in violation of tax norms. were not eligible for tax exemption as its trustees had substantial interest in Tata Sons Ltd — where the three trusts have 66 per cent stake — and the trustees received payments from Tata Sons in contravention of the trust deeds.

The ITAT Bench, comprising its President Justice PP Bhatt and Vice-President Pramod Kumar, passed three orders noting that the I-T revision orders in the case of the three trusts are "devoid of any legally sustainable merits".

It said none of the trustees of the trusts had any substantial inThe ITAT Bench said the I-T revision orders are "devoid of any legally sustainable merits"

terest in Tata Sons and the investment in Tata Sons by the trust is not "for the purpose of investment in shares", but "undisputedly for the purpose of sharing the fruits of the success, of the Tata Group, for the benefit of the general public at large". Since the investments by the trusts are in the nature of corpus, it will not make them ineligible for I-T exemption, it said.

The ITAT said the payments made by Tata Sons to trustees of these trusts was for their roles as its former directors and employees and has nothing to do with the benefits given to them. "The pension payments to Ratan N Tata and NA Soonawala, for example, have been held to be wholly and exclusively for the purposes of the business of Tata Sons Ltd, and, therefore, the stand that these payments amounted to benefit to the trustees is ex facie incorrect," it added. The ITAT also said that the I-T revision order is based on documents provided by Cyrus Mistry to the Department eight weeks after his removal from Tata Sons' board on October 24, 2016, adding "the objectivity of the averments" made by Mistry, in such a situation is "extremely doubtful".

"(Mistry) was chairman of Tata Sons Ltd since 2013 and its director since 2006, but apparently, knowing everything very well, he keeps quiet all along. Just as he is expelled from the office of the Chairman of Tata Sons, he gathers copies of the documents accessed by him in a fiduciary capacity and hands these documents over to the Income Tax Department. This kind of conduct is unheard of in the civilized corporate world. The inputs from those engaged in a rivalry with an assessee should be taken with a reasonable degree of circumspection and should not be placed on such a high pedestal so as to relegate all other material facts and accepted past assessment history of the case into insignificance," said the order.

UK: Brexit break from EU faces 'bumpy moments' despite deal

DEFLATIONARY BIAS

aiming for a lower rate

deflationary bias to

the monetary policy.

icy actions to achieve the target.

This points to maintaining the in-

flation target at 4 per cent into the

medium-term. If it ain't broke,

state inflation, the level to which

actual inflation outcomes are ex-

pected to converge after short run

fluctuations from a variety of

sources, including shocks, die out.

trend inflation still remains above

the target under flexible inflation

targeting (FIT), although it is on a

declining trajectory. This indicates

that inflation expectations are not

"It is worthwhile to note that

The concept of trend or steady

don't fix it," the paper said.

■ The study said

could impart

ASSOCIATED PRESS LONDON, DECEMBER 28

FIRST CAME the Brexit trade deal. Now comes the red tape. Four days after sealing a free trade agreement with the European Union, the British government warned businesses to get ready for disruptions and 'bumpy moments" when the new rules take effect on Thursday night.

Businesses were scrambling Monday to digest the details and implications of the 1,240-page



A billboard in London, with a government message advising businesses to **prepare for Brexit.** Reuters file

deal sealed by the EU and the UK on Christmas Eve.

The UK left the EU almost a year ago, but remained within the bloc's economic embrace during a transition period that ends at midnight Brussels time - 11 pm in London — on The agreement, hammered

out after nine months of tense negotiations, will ensure Britain and the 27-nation bloc can continue to trade in goods without tariffs or quotas. That should help protect the 660 \$894 billion in annual trade between the two sides, and the hundreds of thousands of jobs that rely on it.

Alibaba's \$10-bn buyback plan fails to halt stock dip amid regulatory woes

YILEI SUN & JULIE ZHU BEIJING/HONG KONG, DEC 28

ALIBABA SHARES slumped 9 per cent to their lowest since June on Monday, as the firm's upsized \$10 billion buyback programme failed to ease concerns about a regulatory crackdown on cofounder Jack Ma's e-commerce and financial empire. A sharp sell-off over two sessions has knocked almost \$116 billion off the tech giant's Hong Konglisted shares.

The downward spiral intensified when Chinese regulators

FOLLOWS ANTITRUST PROBE BY REGULATORS

THE DOWNWARD spiral intensified when Chinese regulators announced on Thursday the launch of an antitrust investigation into Alibaba Group and said they would summon Ant Group, its fintech affiliate, to meet

announced Thursday the launch of an antitrust probe into Alibaba and said they would summon its Ant Group affiliate to meet



Putting investors more on edge was news that China's central bank had asked Ant to shake up its lending. REUTERS

Maini Group founder passes away

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

MAINI GROUP founder, Sudarshan Kumar Maini, who supported his son Chetan to commercialise India's first electric car Reva. has died, family sources said Monday.

Maini died in Bengaluru at his residence on December 26 after prolonged illness at the age of 87, according to family members. He is survived by wife Reva, after whom he named India's first electric car, and three sons. WITHPTI

BRIEFLY



A street in Shimla after the snowfall

HIMACHAL PRADESH Shimla receives first snowfall of season

Shimla: Many parts of Himachal Pradesh received snowfall on Sunday night, with state capital Shimla receiving the first snowfall of the season. The snow brought cheers to the large number of tourists gathered in the during the Christmas-New Year period, but also blocked roads and caused power outages in parts of the state. Shimla recorded 9 cm of snow overnight, while neighbouring Kufri received 30 cm of snow, meteorological officials said. The meteorological centre said light snowfall was likely to continue on Monday in the districts of Shimla, Kinnaur, Lahaul-Spiti and the higher reaches Chamba, Kangra and Mandi. From Tuesday, however, dry weather is expected to prevail in all parts of the state. **ENS**

UTTAR PRADESH 4 Covid-positive

prisoners escape, 3 re-arrested

Lucknow: Four people arrested in Bulandshahr district for different crimes and later tested positive for the coronavirus escaped from a Level-2 hospital under the Khurja Nagar police station area after removing the hasp of a locked door on Sunday night. Three have been arrested, while one person is absconding, Bulandshahr SSP Santosh Kumar Singh said. The SSP said due to the threat of infection, the police personnel guarding them were

outside the hospital. A fresh FIR under Epidemic

Diseases Act and IPC Sections has been regis-

tered against all four. ENS

Car in marriage procession hits 6 people

Bahraich: A car in a marriage procession here hit six people, leaving them injured, prompting an angry reaction from the locals who damaged five other vehicles in the convoy, requiring a police intervention to complete the wedding ceremony, officials said Monday. They said the incident happened at Khairi Samosa village under Motipur police station Sunday evening. Additional Superintendent of Police (Rural) Ashok Kumar said one of the six vehicles in the convoy suddenly hit six locals not part of the ceremony causing them injuries. The villages damaged the windowpanes of the other vehicles in the

UTTARAKHAND CM Rawat admitted to AIIMS in Delhi

convoy, he said.

New Delhi, Dehradun: Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat, who had tested positive for Covid-19 and was hospitalised in Dehradun after developing fever, was admitted to AIIMS in Delhi on Monday. He was admitted to AIIMS Trauma Centre, which has been converted into a dedicated Covid-19 facility, around 12.30 pm, sources said, adding his condition was stable. Rawat's physician N S Bisht said he has been shifted to AIIMS for necessary tests.

State will buy Nagarnar plant if Centre divestment plan still on, says Baghel

GARGIVERMA

RAIPUR, DECEMBER 28

CHHATTISGARH Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Monday announced that if the central government goes ahead with the divestment of Nagarnar steel plant, the state government will buy it. He was speaking at the Winter Session of the Assembly and his announcement was part of the government resolution to not allow privatisation of the plant, which was passed unanimously.

The Congress-led government proposed a resolution which was being discussed on Monday, the third day of house proceedings regarding the steel plant located in the Left Wing Extremism-affected area

During the discussion, BJP leader Ajay Chandrakar brought up the decision proposed by then Chief Minister Ajit Jogi when the divestment

ment. If the divestment process still continues, the state government will buy and run the Nagarnar steel plant," he said. On Monday, it was unani-mously decided that the state

of Balco was proposed.

Responding to him, CM

Baghel said, "We are against the

divestment and have conveyed

the same to several depart-

ments in the Union govern-

government will buy the plant in case the Centre goes ahead with the privatisation plan. "The question is about the selfrespect of Chhattisgarh and the feelings of its Adiwasi residents," Baghel said. In August, Baghel had written to the Prime Minister, urg-

Committee on Economic Affairs gave in-principle approval to the demerger of Nagarnar Steel Plant from Minerals National Development Corporation in order to pave the way for

ing him to revisit the decision

on privatisation. However, in

Cabinet

October, the

NSP's Rs 23,140 crore new plant in Chhattisgarh by mid-2021.

Tribals in Bastar have been protesting privatisation of the steel plant since it was proposed in 2016, after which the government had to put the plans away in face of heavy opposition. However, on August 27 this year, Centre-owned NMDC demerged the plant, which could be the first step to-

The Sarva Adiwasi Samaj,

wards privatisation.

which has been at the forefront of the protest, has cautiously welcomed the government decision. "We gave our land for the public good as NMDC was a government agency. We are protesting privatisation and we will protest it further. If the state government has passed the resolution of buying it, we welcome it. But it should make public of how they plan on buying it out. No private participation should be allowed," Prakash Thakur, Bastar regional head of the Samaj said.

Army Chief Naravane begins three-day visit of South Korea

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

CONTINUING WITH his series of visits for military diplomacy, Army Chief General MM Naravane began his three-day visit to the Republic of Korea (ROK) — known as South Korea — on Monday. During the visit, he will be meeting the senior military and civilian leadership of ROK, the Army said.

On Monday, Naravane met with South Korea's Minister for National Defence Suh Wook as well as top leaders of the military including the Army chief, Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Minister of Defence Acquisition Planning Administration.

Naravane began his trip however, by visits to the National Cemetery and the War Memorial at Seoul. The trip, to China's neighbourhood, comes even as India and China are involved in a nearly eight-month long military standoff in eastern Ladakh, with around 50,000 troops of each side positioned in the region, and no signs of disengagement.

Bilateral ties between India and South Korea can be traced to the start of the Korean war of 1950 when India deployed an Army medical unit, which played

Chief of Army Staff General M M Naravane with senior South Korean military leaders on Monday. Courtesy: @adgpi

a significant part in various Allied offensives over the course of three years. Military sources mentioned that both the nations "have a convergence of outlook in the strategic and defence realm. India's Act East Policy finds resonance in the present ROK administration's New Southern Policy".

"India considers ROK as a high quality manufacturer of defencerelated equipment in sectors such as aeronautics, ship-building, electronics, missile technologies, miniaturisation and software," an Army source said, and added that South Korea "also has the potential to be the principal partner in developing the Indian defence industry base".

South Korea and India are also signatories to Mutual Logistics Support Agreement between the navies and which can further be expanded to other services as well, sources said.

The Indian Army has also initiated strategic level exchanges with the Army of the ROK, and the first Army to Army Staff talks were held in ROK in August 2018. In 2015, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited South Korea, the bilateral relationship was elevated to the level of Special Strategic Partnership.

Mamata's rally in Nandigram called off after MLA tests positive for coronavirus

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, DECEMBER 28

A PUBLIC meeting to be addressed by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in Nandigram that was to be held on January 7 has been called off. TMC senior leader Subrata Mukherjee said on Monday that the chief organiser of the programme and TMC MLA Akhil Giri has tested positive for Covid-19.

"MLA Akhil Giri from Ramnagar is the chief organiser. He has been hospitalised with Covid-19. In his absence, it is not possible to go ahead with the programme. We have postponed it for now," Mukherjee said.

TMC chief Mamata Banerjee was scheduled to address a public rally on January 7, 2021. The day is observed as Sahid Divas to pay tribute to those who lost lives during anti-land acquisition movement in 2007.

Reacting to the development, BIP state president Dilip Ghosh said, "She (Mamata) will have to cancel a lot of programmes now, just wait and watch. Now, her rallies will be limited to Kalighat."

Telangana cops bust mobile loan racket after 3 deaths 'due to harassment'

SREENIVAS JANYALA HYDERABAD, DECEMBER 28

FOLLOWING THREE deaths by suicide linked to harassment for loan repayment in Telangana, the Cyberabad Police have busted a racket of app-based unauthorised lenders who offered instant personal loans at exorbitant rates through several mobile applications available on the Play Google Store. Unsuspecting customers were coerced into parting with dou-

ble the amount borrowed. Officials said that if a person borrowed Rs 30,000 for seven days, the company charged Rs 24,000 as interest.

"If the customer could not pay the entire amount back, agents from call centres start harassing. Through the app they collect phone numbers of the family members and friends and call them and send abusive messages too," Cyberabad Police Commissioner V C Sajjanar said.

The agents also sent fake FIRs and court summons to intimidate the customers.

Following a complaint, several places linked to the lenders were raided on Tuesday and six people were arrested, including the chief executive officer of Onion Credit Pvt Ltd and Director of CredFox Technologies Pvt Ltd - two firms that had designed seven apps for the purpose and were running three of them after selling four to other firms Asia Inno Networks Pvt Ltd and Blue shield Fintech Pvt Ltd.

The two firms have 1.5 lakh customers of which nearly 70,000 are currently active.

On December 17, K Mounika, an Agriculture Extension Officer in Siddipet town, died by suicide after an app-based lending firm put out her photo, phone number and details of her family on social media and branded her a defaulter using abusive language. Unable to bear the humiliation,

Mounika hanged herself. Last Friday, P Sunil, a techie who lost his job during the lockdown, died by suicide at his home in Rajendranagar.

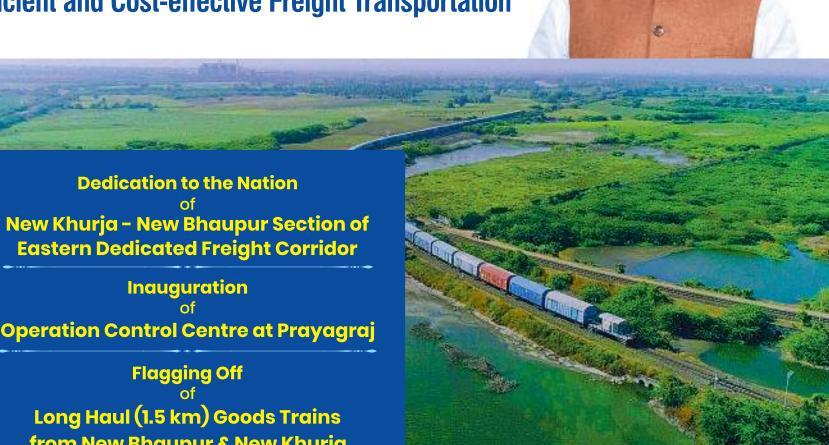
When he was unable to repay the amount, recovery agents threatened to call up his father and friends and reveal his personal details on social media.

In another instance, the app company sent a message to a customer's father saying "chor ka baap. Badnaam karoon

Loans were usually given for a period of 7 days at an interest rate of 35 per cent. After the due date, a flat interest of Rs 3,000 per day is levied, trapping customers in a cycle of debt.

Police have identified 18 bank accounts linked to the firms and froze them, and have also issued notice to Google regarding the apps.

Indian Railways Enters a New Era of Modern, Efficient and Cost-effective Freight Transportation



from New Bhaupur & New Khurja

Dedication to the Nation

Inauguration

Flagging Off

Long Haul (1.5 km) Goods Trains

by Narendra Modi

Prime Minister

(through video conferencing)

✓ In the august presence of ➤

Anandiben Patel

Governor, Uttar Pradesh

Yogi Adityanath

Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Piyush Goyal

Minister of Railways, Commerce & Industry and Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India

29th December, 2020 at 11:00 am

Join the event at https://pmindiawebcast.nic.in/





SALIENT FEATURES New Khurja -New Bhaupur Section

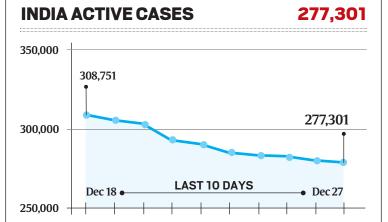
- This section of 351 km length and Rs. 5,750 crore cost, is fit for higher axle load wagons of 25 axle ton and long haul train operation.
- With the new corridor, the average speed of goods trains will increase from the existing 25-30 kmph to 60-70 kmph.
- It will significantly enhance the transportation of freight items like coal, iron & steel, petroleum products, food grains, etc. from Northern India to Eastern and North-eastern regions.
- · With the new section, the farmers of Aligarh, Khurja, Firozabad, Agra and Bhaupur will get access to pan-India markets.
- The section consists of 19 major bridges, 414 minor bridges and 7 rail flyovers to avoid any detention to either road or rail traffic.
- Decongestion of the existing Kanpur-Delhi mainline will significantly increase line capacity for more passenger train services.

Operation Control Centre at Prayagraj

- It is one of the biggest control centres in the world and is equipped with state-of-the-art technology.
- Environment-friendly design with Green Building Rating of GRIHA-4.

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

CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD



Note: The Dec 27 figure in this graph is based on the government update on Dec 28

INDIA TOTAL CASES Source: Ministry of Health & Family

WORLD TOTAL CASES

Source: Johns Hopkins University

India's first indigenously created vaccine against pneumococcal disease

PUNE-BASED Serum Institute of India (SII) unveiled India's first indigenously developed pneumococcal vaccine on Monday. The world's largest vaccine manufacturer by doses, SII is also the maker of Covaxin, the Indian version of the AstraZeneca-Oxford coronavirus vaccine.

SII's pneumococcal vaccine, Pneumosil, was developed through a collaboration spanning over a decade with the health organisation PATH and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The vaccine was launched by Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan. "This is a significant milestone for the country's public healthcare which will ensure that children are protected better against pneumococcal disease with an effective vaccine," Dr Harsh Vardhan said at the virtual launch function. He said the Serum Institute's vaccines are used in 170 countries and every third child in the world is immunised with

one of its vaccines. The vaccine targets the pneumococcal bacterium, which causes pneumonia and other serious life-threatening diseases such as meningitis and sepsis, and is estimated to cause nearly four lakh deaths in children under five years of age each year worldwide.

Pneumococcal disease is a significant contributor under-five mortality rate worldwide. In view of its widespread

fatality, the World Health Organization in 2018 recommended the inclusion of the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) in routine childhood immunisation programmes in all countries.

Serum's first indigenous PCV will be available in the market at an affordable price in single dose (vial and prefilled syringe) and multidose (vial) presentations. While PCVs have



The vaccine, Pneumosil, will be available shortly. SII

helped reduce pneumococcal deaths, they are difficult for many countries to afford. Pneumosil addresses the need for a more affordable option, said Adar Poonawalla, CEO, SII. Dr Rajeev Dhere, executive director, said Pneumosil will be available at an affordable competitive price. The unique feature of the WHO pre-qualified PCV is its composition which is specially tailored to the serotype of

> the bacterium, S penumoniae, in India and other regions of the world, Dr Dhere said.

Pneumosil has been extensively evaluated in five randomised controlled clinical trials and has demonstrated comparable safety and immunogenicity against licensed pneumococcal vaccines across diverse populations of India and

Africa, where Pneumosil was administered to adults, toddlers and infants using different vaccination schedules, officials said. Based on the trials, Pneumosil was licensed by the Drugs Controller General (India) in July 2020.

The vaccine also makes SII the world's third supplier of PCVs under the pneumococcal Advance Market Commitment, and the first developing country vaccine manufacturer to access the global PCV market.

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS

Year of many questions

As Annus Horribilis 2020 comes to an end, there are positives in the economy: signs of a GDP rebound, and buoyant equity markets. But demand is weak, receipts are down, and the employment situation is grim. All eyes are on the Budget — and on the vaccines



Anil Sasi

NATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

IN A little over a month, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will present what she has heralded as "a Budget like never before". As a year like never before ends, there are questions on the way forward - including whether the Budget, or any policy intervention by the government in the coming months, can make up for the underwhelming fiscal stimulus response to the situation brought about by the pandemic. And whether other headwinds might potentially circumscribe the rebound in economic growth.

Even as industrial output picked up as the economy reopened, buoyed by pent-up demand and a festival spending boost, consumer sentiment remains weak. The employment outlook is tepid and household incomes continue to be sub-optimal. Stimulus-fuelled investment flows from the US and Europe have brought back risk appetite, sending a deluge from safe-haven assets into stock markets and emerging market economies. India is a net gainer — in fact, if the financial market optimism were to be conflated with the travails of the real economy, a structural disconnect of epic proportions would appear to emerge the equivalent of an Arnold Schwarzenegger torso on Woody Allen legs, inherently wobbly and likely to come crashing down.

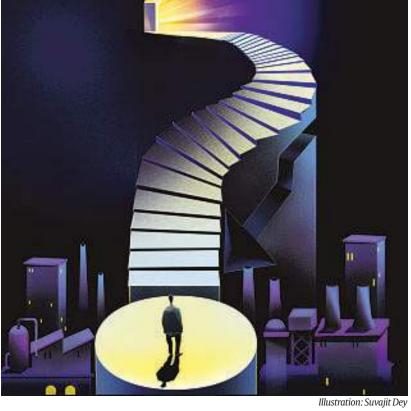
THE TAILWINDS

■ First, the positives: the NSO's GDP data release for the quarter ended October 2020 packed a surprise result — the downturn in Q2 turned out to be shallower, and the pace of recovery beat most predictions, aligning broadly with high frequency indicators that pointed to a pick-up in economic momentum. An update on RBI's economic activity index too projected that real GDP growth was expected "to break out into positive territory in Q3", albeit to a slender 0.1 per cent.

■A sectoral split shows that auto and capital goods, which were hit hard by the lockdown, could be seeing a turnaround in forward earnings. Healthcare, IT and FMCG companies are sighting stronger earnings outlook. Digital technologies are seen as a bright spot.

■ Despite the challenge from a new wave of infections, the outcome of the US presidential election and positive news on vaccines could have a sustaining impact on the prospects of the global economy. A positive outcome of the Brexit negotiations is a plus.

Equity markets, which were vacillating between rallies and sell-offs up to early November, have since surged past previous highs. According to the Institute of International Finance, portfolio flows to emerging market economies or EMEs, including India, stood at \$76.5 billion in November, almost equally shared by equity and debt (\$39.8 billion and \$36.7 billion respectively). Q42020 is projected to be the strongest quarter for EME inflows since Q1 2013 — since just before the taper tantrum. The Indian markets are a big beneficiary — on a year-to-date basis, till December 20, 2020, the S&P BSE Sensex and Nifty50 have surged over 13 per



cent per cent and 12 per cent respectively. fall by over 10 per cent, on top of the 3.4 per ■ Most of all, India is bending the Covid curve: since mid-September, barring localised surges, infections have slanted downward every week, and the recovery rate is near 95 per cent. At least a couple of vaccine candidates have hit not only trial status but also suitability for usage in India, with more in the pipeline.

THE NEW IN

NEW YEAR

ECONOMY & FINANCE

THE RED FLAGS

■ Demand conditions remain weak, evidenced by the decline in exports and imports, which reflect the state of external and domestic demand, according to NCAER. The November RBI Consumer Confidence Survey showed that while consumer sentiment was higher that month than in July and September 2020, confidence was

lower in November compared to the same period a year ago.

■ A looming policy weakness is evident on both the demand and supply sides. On the GDP-linked demand side, the latest data show a 22 per cent contraction in the government final consumption expenditure in Q2,

side, the public administration, defence and other services sector — a proxy for government spending – was down 12 per cent in the second quarter after a 10 per cent dip in the first quarter. The trend points to the reluctance of central and state governments to provide a fiscal spending boost to balance the fall in investment demand.

■ India's growth had been moderating since the beginning of Q4 2018-19. The government's reluctance, or inability, to do the heavy lifting is a concern, both in terms of a sentiment booster and a trigger to catalyse the wider investment drive. This would continue to be a challenge, given that in 2020-21, the Centre's gross tax receipts are projected to

cent slide in 2019-20. Non-tax revenues appear to be bleak. States, saddled with higher expenditure on health and locked in a tussle with the Centre over GST payouts, are unlikely to restart the capex cycle. If demand conditions cannot be rekindled, the private sector is not expected to restart investments or hiring, which would further deteriorate demand conditions. In the absence of a counterbalancing push, the problem could turn cyclical. ■ As the government largely refrained

from providing substantial income support to businesses, jobs were lost as MSME earnings took a hit. The third quarter of fiscal 2020-21 will end with employment of 395 million, which would be 2.5 per cent lower than the 405 million employed in

the December 2019 quarter, as per CMIE data. Given that about 45 per cent of manufacturing happens in MSME units, this sector is key to revival of manufacturing. But only those MSMEs registered under The Factories Act, 1948 are actually being captured by the Index of Industrial Production,

while on the GVA (gross value added) output while nearly half are unregistered manufacturing units. For the GDP data, the methodology that NSO deploys to use the IIP as a proxy to estimate the value of that missing component, is far more distortionary during a situation like the lockdown, which hit the smaller firms especially hard. The real picture will only come in with a lag.

■ Contact service sectors such as hotels. restaurants, airlines, salons, which were doing exceptionally well before the pandemic, are among the worst hit, and will continue to struggle till the time the fear of the virus lasts.

■ The CMIE iobs data point to worrying trends. As the restrictions were lifted, many who did not get jobs went on to leave the labour force. Typically, when more people

find jobs, larger numbers should come looking. But the reverse seems to have happened since September. Also, CMIE surveys up to August show the biggest losses in employment are in quality jobs - salaried employment. Women have been more impacted.

■ Inflation has been a bugbear for policy makers in India. The RBI in its December monthly bulletin highlighted the risks from continued high inflation: "... Efforts need to be redoubled to excoriate the 'worm in the apple' - inflation - before it hurts the impulses of growth that are taking root". According to Nomura, retail inflation is unlikely to come down enough for RBI to cut rates in the whole of 2021. Over the medium term, there are chances of inflation heating up again, and RBI may have to switch to hiking rates as well in 2022.

LOOKING AHEAD

research and development in medicine, biotechnology, and pharmaceuticals are the need of the hour". North Block seems to be readying an infrastructure push, backed by some of the powder that it has kept dry. A production-linked incentive scheme for pushing "self-reliance" is being billed as a template for a manufacturing push. But there are hurdles. Industry is watching the resolution efforts at Wistron's iPhone manufacturing facility in Karnataka, where violence broke out at a time when the limited success in the smartphone assembly sector is sought to be replicated in pharma and automobiles — and when there is continuing labour unrest at Toyota Kirloskar Motors' plant outside Bengaluru.

■Sitharaman has said that "investment in

■ Investors are also watching the government's reactions on the legal setbacks in the Cairn and Vodafone retrospective taxation cases. India has chosen to challenge the Vodafone verdict, and a challenge is expected in the Cairn case as well.

■There are worries about the financial sector. Since April, with the moratoriums kicking in, the recognition of defaults has been pushed down the road. It's a double whammy for the sector - loans have turned bad, even if they're not being recognised as NPAs, but the lender is not getting the interest in cases where firms have folded up. When EMIs stop, banks' interest income is hit, and its net interest margin comes down. The profitability of the financial sector is getting squeezed, and without massive recapitalisation, the sector could end up being a drag on the economy going forward.

■ According to the IMF, the economy is likely to contract by 10.3 per cent in the current fiscal, and then grow by 8.8 per cent in 2021-22. But while real GDP is expected to rebound, it may take almost two years for it to get back to pre-pandemic levels. According to estimates by the Head of Emerging Markets at J P Morgan, Jahangir Aziz, at the end of fiscal 2021-22, the economy could be 10 per cent lower than the pre-pandemic growth path.

■There is a more fundamental issue relat-

ing to the timing of a fiscal stimulus. 2020-21 was the pandemic year, and if India had run up a large fiscal deficit on account of a stimulus, it would have been in line with every other major economy — and rating agencies would not have downgraded India on the size of the spending. According to Pronab Sen, former Chief Statistician of India, any backloading of stimulus spending that stretches into the following year or beyond, would run the risk of India being seen as an outlier.

All eyes on the Budget for now.

TOMORROW: HEALTH & SCIENCE

The signature of Kahn and other foreign architects on Indian cities

SHINY VARGHESE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

A CONTROVERSY has been playing out over the last several days over a decision by the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad to bring down 18 dormitories built by legendary American architect Louis Kahn on the old campus, and replace them with new building. Since then, Kahn's family has written to the IIM Ahmedabad authorities urging them to reconsider.

Kahn, in fact, is one among several foreign architects whose work defines several Indian cities.



Antonin Raymond & George Nakashima



invited to design this space as a universal commune, and Japanese-American woodworker George Nakashima would comings, built between 1937 and 1945. Its façade creates the impression that one could open or shut these concrete blinds, without compromising on privacy, while the ascetic interiors helped provide a meditative atmosphere. Otto Koenigsberger

plete it after Raymond left India. It is possi-

bly India's first reinforced concrete build-

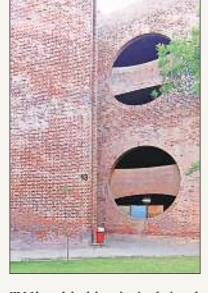
Berlin-bred



Koenigsberger was already working for the Maharaja of Mysore in the late 1930s, when he was commissioned by Tata & Sons to develop the industrial township

of Jamshedpur in the early 1940s. He would later design the masterplan for Bhubhaneswar (1948) and Faridabad (1949). Having seen children and women walk punishing distances to reach schools and workplaces, he planned for schools and bazaars in the city centre and for a network of neighbourhoods. At a time marked by Partition and rioting, his housing plans included people from different social classes and religions.

His friends Albert Mayer and Mathew Nowicki would go on to design Chandigarh. However, much before Koenigsberger, there was the Scottish biologist and geographer Patrick Geddes, who wrote town planning reports, from 1915 to 1919, for 18 Indian



IIM Ahmedabad dormitories designed by Louis Kahn. Nirmal Harindran

cities, including Bombay and Indore.

Frank Lloyd Wright

Though the legendary American architect never built a structure in India, his influence was unmistakable. Two of his students, Gautam and Gira Sarabhai, founders



of Design, Ahmedabad, requested him to design the administration building for Sarabhai Calico Mills in 1946. It would possibly have been the city's first high-

of the National Institute

rise with terraces and a podium. Though the building never got built, Gira remodelled an existing bungalow using Wright's signature cantilever roofs and a strong indoor-outdoor connect. Padma Vibhushan Charles Correa, one of India's finest architects and urban planners, was hugely influenced by Wright.

Le Corbusier



Before Swiss-French painter-writer-architect Corbusier came on the scene in Chandigarh. there was Polish architect Mathew Nowicki, an admirer of Frank Lloyd Wright and

American developer Albert Mayer. Nowicki's death in a plane crash ended the commission, and Corbusier came on board. With English architect Maxwell Fry and his wife Jane Drew, Corbusier with his cousin Pierre Jeanneret would design many of Chandigarh's civic buildings, from courts to housing. Corbusier's modernist approach, without decoration, gave India its brutalist, bare concrete buildings. Many architects thereafter, including Pritzker Prize winner B V Doshi and Shivnath Prasad, would be inspired by him. According to critic-historian Peter Scriver, Corbusier's contribution was "a new cast of mind, not just shapes". He won favour with the Sarabhais of Ahmedabad and built the Sarabhai House, Shodhan House, Mill Owner's Association Building and Sankar Kendra. He is often called the "father of modern Indian architecture".

Buckminster Fuller



Futuristic innovator Fuller is known for his geodesic domes - largespan structures made of a network of triangles. While Wright's Calico administration building never got permission

from the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, its foundation had already been laid. Gautam Sarabhai, inspired by Fuller, designed the Calico Dome in 1962, at the same site that served as a mill shop. Since its recent collapse, it has been in disrepair and neglected.

Joseph Allen Stein

He was invited by Vijayalakshmi Pandit in 1952 to come to India and establish the Department of Architecture and Planning

New Delhi



at the West Bengal Engineering College. Though he also practised briefly in Orissa and West Bengal, it's in New Delhi where Stein left the deepest imprint. From the Triveni Kala

Sangam, with its temple-like repose, the High Commissioner's Residence and Chancery for Australia, where his polygonshaped masonry with local stone made its first appearance, to 'Steinabad' in Lodhi Estate, where many of his buildings stand, including the India International Centre, Ford Foundation and the India Habitat Centre, Stein gave Delhi cultural landmarks that blended Indian craft with international modernism.

Louis Kahn



The importance of being Kahn is never more real than now, as the American architect's only project in India faces bulldozers. The design for IIM Ahmedabad (1962-1974) carried the

essence of learning in the humility of its material, and the way spaces were managed placing the dormitories, the library and classrooms at the same level, or the faculty residences across a waterbody.

INVITATION OF TENDER

The Inspector General, Kashmir Ops Sector, CRPF, Zewan Camp, Pantha Chowk, Srinagar (J&K) invites online and sealed tenders for and on behalf of the President of India under two bid system consisting of Technical Bid and Financial Bid in respect of repair/renovation of Ops Room & Sector (SST(Int.) office work.

Details can be accessed at www.crpf.gov.in

www.eprocure.gov.in

davp 19111/11/0161/2021

The Executive Engineer, Agartala Division No.-III, PWD(R&B), Agartala, Tripura invites e-tender against press NIT No. 15/EE/Divn.III/PWD(R&B)/ 2020-2021, Dated 24th December 2020

For: - "improvement of road from Indranagar to GB Bazaar via ITI (L=2.41 km) under the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure in 2020-21."

With

For

: Rs. 2,41,48,488.00 Estimated cost Earnest Money : Rs. 2,41,485.00 • Time of Completion : 12 (Twelve) months.

Last Date of bidding for bids -15.01.2021 upto 15.00 Hrs.

details

https://tripuratenders.gov.in

Nature of work:

more

ICA-C-2564-20

visit:

Kindly

Retrofitting of Bural Pined water Supply



INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH **E-PROCUREMENT IDENTIFICATION NO:** RWS&S DIVN., PURI - 40 OF 2020-21

★ (06752) 251276 Fax - (06752) 251276 E-mail - eerwss_puri@nic.in

The Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Puri on behalf of Governor

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The Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Puri on Behalf of Governor

The Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Puri on Behalf of Governor

The Executive Engineer Engi of Odisha invites Percentage rate price bids through e-procurement in double cover system according to the norms of e-procurement system in on-line mode from eligible contractors.

31. 140.	Mature of Work.	Hetrofitting of Hurar Fiped water Supply			
1.	No. of works:	02 (TWO)			
2.	Estimated Cost:	Rs 116.84 to 313.70 lakhs (app.)			
3.	Time for completion:	06 (Six) Months			
4.	Cost of bidding document:	Rs.10000/-			
5.	Class of Contractors eligible:	B,A & Special			
6.	Availability of bids on-line:	From 11.00 hour of 30.12.2020 to 17.00 hours of 11.01.2021			
7.	Last date and time for seeking clarification:	17.00 hours of 05.01.2021			
8.	Date & time of opening of technical bids:	On dt 12.01.2021 at 11.30 Hours in the office of the Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Puri (All documents should be submitted in online only. No original documents should be dropped in dropping box before opening of technical bid in Division Office).			
9.	Date and time of opening of financial bids:	To be decided.			

Further details can be seen from the website https://www.tendersorissa.gov.ir Subsequent corrigendum if any shall appear in the web site

> Executive Engineer RWS&S Division, Pur OIPR-25017/11/0024/202

NORTHERN RAILWAY

<u>Auction Notice</u>

No.:LMC/TREE/MB/2020 Dated: 28.12.2020 Auction of Lot No. 1, Km 1 to 13, 187 numbers dangerous trees under Assistan Divisional Engineer/Northern Railway HQ Moradabad will be auctioned in the office of Assistant Divisional Engineer/Northern Railway HQ, Moradabad. All the intereste idders are invited to participate in this auction.

IQ/Moradabad on date 06.01.2021 at 11:00 AM.

All the bidders will deposit cash Rs. 100/- in the office of Assistant Divisiona Engineer/Northern Railway/Bareilly which will not be refunded and shall also leposit Rs. 8,000/- in favour of Sr. Divisional Finance Manager, Northern Railway, Moradabad as a Demand Draft of SBI or Other Nationalized Bank, All the bidders who will take part in the auction will also have proper knowledg

of Auction rules and others allowances Successful bidders will deposit the Demand Draft of SBI or Other Nationalize

Bank in favour of Sr. DFM/MB or station earning in cash on same day with following rate:-

10% amount of selling price or minimum amount Rs. 25,000/- whichever is more than Rs. 1.00.000/-

Balance amount will be deposited within 10 days including the date of auction GST will be deposited as per the standard rate

The work should be completed within 60 days including the date of auction.

Railway has right to close the work any time. In this situation the balance amount will be returned without interest

Complete Details of tree with locations will be available in the Divisional Office

7 Bidders are requested to quote their rates according to the tree locations

Trees will be delivered and handed over in the presence of SSE/w

f the balance amount is not deposited within 10 days including the date o

auction, then initial deposited amount will be forfeited Bidders will not make any Kutcha/Pakka construction in the land of Railway.

11 Bid will not be quoted below the base price.

Demand draft will be deposited in the office of Assistant Divisional Enginee Northern Railway/HQ/Moradabad from 09.00 AM to 10.30 AM. After that n

demand draft will be accepted. 2880/2020

Note:- Each lot will be auctioned separately.

Serving Customers with a Smile

E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE

Executive Engineer, Civil Division No. IV. Irrigation & Flood Control Department Govt. of NCT of Delhi, L.M. Bund Office Complex, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-31 invites on behalf of President of India invites online tenders bids on Percentage rate from eligible firms/contractors from approved and eligible contractors of irrigation and Flood Control Deptt. & any other Registered firm/contractor from any Government Department (CPWD, Railway, MES P&T) of Govt. of India upto 3.00 PM dated on 29.12.2020 for the works: H.O.A.: 2711 NON PLAN (REVENUE) MAINTEANCE DRAINAGE

I. NIT No. 28/ RE/CD-IV/IFC/2020-21 (ID No. 2020 IFC 197632 1) Name of work: Repair of material test lab & CD-IV office building at L.M. Bund Office Complex, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-110031. Estimated Cost of Rs

19,86,047/- period of completion 90 days **H.O.A.**: 2711 NON PLAN (REVENUE) MAINTEANCE DRAINAGE 2. NIT No. 32/ RE/CD-IV/IFC/2020-21 (ID No. 2020_IFC_197630_1) Name of work: Construction of HT Panel and BSES transformer room or Escape Drain No. 1 RD 400m right bank for Sump & Pump House. Estimated Cost of Rs 22,19,143/- period of completion 120 days

H.O.A.: 2711 NON PLAN (REVENUE) MAINTEANCE DRAINAGE . NIT No. 52/ EE/CD-IV/IFC/2020-21 (ID No. 2020_IFC_197633_1) Name of work: Renovation of office cum store at L.F. Bund Sonia Vihar Stor Estimated Cost of Rs 13,21,431/- period of completion 60 days H.O.A.: 2711 NON PLAN (REVENUE) MAINTEANCE DRAINAGE

 NIT No. 53/ EE/CD-IV/IFC/2020-21 (ID No. 2020 IFC 197634 1) lame of work: Restoration of River side parapet wall between RD 1100m to RD 3300m of L.F. Bund Road. Estimated Cost of Rs 8,51,650/- period of completion 45 days

1) The enlistment of the contractors should be valid on the last date of opening of tender. In case only the last date of opening of tender is extended, the enlistment of contractor should be valid on the original date of opening of tenders.

2) The following Scanned copies are required to be uploaded: (i) Scanned Copy of GST Registration. (ii) Scanned copy of Registration of enlistment in the appropriates class. (iii) Scanned Copy of EMD Declaration. (iv) Copy of Pan Number. (v) Valid Mobile Number, WhatsApp Number and E-mail ID. (vi) Scanned copy of ESI and EPF registration.

3) Earnest Money Declaration shall be scanned and uploaded to the eprocurement site within the period of bid/tender submission. The original should be submitted physically/manually in the office of the Executive Engineer cd-iv.I&FC Deptt.) L.M.Bund office complex Shastri Nagar Delhi-110031 within the period of bid submission which will be verified at the time of opening of tender with scanned copy of EMD Declaration. The Detail of above mentioned work can be seen and downloaded from website http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in

 No manual tender shall be accepted; only tender submitted through e-procurement portal shall be considered.

DIP/Shabdarth/0514/20-21 **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER** KMML, The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd. (A Govi- Of Kerala Undertaking) (An ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001 & SA 8000 Certified Company, Sankaramangalam, Chavara -691583. Kollam, Kerala, India Phone: +91-476-2651215 to 2651217, Fax: +91-0476-2680101, 268672 Email:contact@kmml.com, URLwww.kmml.com Competitive Tender are invited for following. For more details please visit the E-Tendering Portal https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmml.com

Items 1 | 2020_KMML_401093_1 | For supply, erection, commissioning and demonstration of performance of turbine and the pump

For the Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

Our products: Titanium Dioxide, Titanium Tetra Chloride, Nano Titanium, Titanium Sponge ICAR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON GOATS MAKHDOOM, P.O. FARAH- 281122, MATHURA (U.P.)

Phone No.: 0565 2970995, 0565 2970997 Dated: 28th December, 2020 F. No. 5-1(5)/CP&C/2020 **NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**

The Director, ICAR-Central Institute for Research on Goats, Makhdoom, P.O. Farah-281122 Mathura (U.P.) invites e-tenders for the purchase of Adult Goat Feeder at ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom.

Details of the Feeders, terms & condition of supply etc. may be seen and download from our Institute website www.cirg.res.in and CPP (Central Procurement Portal; www.eprocure.gov.in). SENIOR ADMIN. OFFICER

B-567

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER JEYPORE (R&B) CIRCLE, JEYPORE INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)

03 (Three) Nos.

Rs. 10,000/- Each

"B" ,"A" & "Special" Class

17.00 hours of 13.01.2021

Bid Identification No. S.E.J.C (R&B)- 15/2020-21 Date. 23.12.2020 No. 5225 **ROAD & BUILDING WORKS**

Name of the work: . Total No. of Works: B. Estimated cost:

4. Period of completion:

. Class of Contractor: . Date & time of availability of

bid document in the portal: 8. Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the Portal

Opening date of Bid: 10. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid:

17.00 hours of 13.01.2021 10.00 hours of 15.01.2021 Superintending Engineer Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore

Rs, 103.88 Lakhs to 391.06 Lakhs.

03(Three) Months to 10(Ten)Months

From 10.00 hours of 01.01.2021 to

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal https://tendersodisha.gov.in Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only

> Superintending Engineer Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore OIPR-34108/11/0013/2021



TRIBAL COOPERATIVE MARKETING DEVELOPMENT FEDERATION OF INDIA LTD. (Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Goyt of India) REGIONAL OFFICE: DEHRADUN

Silk Park, Prem Nagar, Dehradun-248007 Ph: 0135-2771144, 2770024 Email: trifeddehradun@tribesindia.com, trifeddehradun@gmail.com

No. P&A/Tender- LBSNAA Shop/2020-21 28/12/2020 TENDER NOTICE

Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd (TRIFED) is a National Level Federation under the Administrative Control of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt of India. TRIFED proposes to undertake interior decoration work for its retail outlet located at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, Dist Dehradun-248 179, Uttarakhand.

Sealed item rate tenders are invited from interested reputed firms. specialized contractors in the field of interior decoration who hold valid PAN number, GSTIN. Firms/Contractors who have executed at least two such projects worth Rs10-12 Lakhs in past three years of which at least one pertains to the interior decoration of a retail outlet of repute, shall only be eligible to submit their offers.

The tender form containing conditions of contract, layout plans, designs and specifications, format for submission of technical bid, financial bid can be obtained from TRIFED Regional Office, Silk Park, Prem Nagar, Dehradun, Uttarakhand free of cost on all working days (Monday to Friday) from 10:00am to 6:00pm till 03.01.2021 or tender documents can be downloaded from the website www.trifed.tribal.gov, www.trifed.in. The EMD of Rs 20,000 (Rupees Twenty Thousand) is required to be submitted by the tenderers.

The tender must be submitted along with EMD and all relevant documents on or before 04.01.2021 till 2.00 pm and will be opened on the same day i.e. 04.01.2021 at 3.00 PM in Dehradun Regional Office as cited above.

TRIFED reserves the right to accept any Tender or to reject any or all

Regional Manager, TRIFED



Notice Inviting Tender E-tendering mo E-Tender Notice No.: 11/2020-2021/Bio-Medical Equipment/IGIMS/Store Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna invites e-bids from eligible and

alified manufacturers or their authorized distributors / agents for supply, installation and commissioning of Modular OT and supply of Fowler bed for the state cancer institute as per following scheduled. Director, IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Patna -14 P.O.-B.V. College, Patna 800014. Name & address of advertise Date of issue of E-Tender notice

29/12/2020

3.	documen	t only on oc.bihar.gov.in.		2020 to 19/01/2021 hrough above website	
4.	Last Date	of pre bid Clarifications		021 at 15.00 hours in the r, Administrative Bloc	
5.	uploading	& Time for submission / g of complete tender at oc.bihar.gov.in.	19/01/2021	up to 17.00 Hours	
6.	submission Technical Tender Do office, I.G	, time and place for on of hard copy of the bid along with EMD & ocument Fee at Director's J.I.M.S., Patna by Speed / ed post / Courier only.		up to 16.00 Hours, at l a-800014, P/OB.V.Co	
7.	of Techno	e and Place of opening Commercial bid only on oc.bihar.gov.in.	From 21/01/ www.eproc.k	/ 2021 at 15.00 hours oihar.gov.in	on
8.	Date, Tim of price bi	e and Place of opening d	subsequent	vill be communicated to acceptance o id at <u>www.eproc.bih</u>	of techno-
SI. No	Group	Name of Equipment	Cost of Tender Document	Bid processing fees be paid on-line (non refundable In Rs.)	
Sta	te Cance	r Institute			
1.	Group-A	Supply, Installation, commissioning and testing of Modular Operation	Rs. 2500.00	Rs. 1180.00	8-12 Week

Theatre (5 nos.) Group-B Supply Fowler Bed with Rails Rs. 2500.00 Rs. 1180.00 8-12 Week Details of specification of equipment's, terms and conditions can be seen ar ownloaded from Institute **Website**: www.eproc.bihar.gov.in. The undersigned reserves the right to accept / reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason. Prospective bidders are advised to regularly visit www.eproc.bihar.gov.in and www.igims.org for Corrigendum / amendments étc., if any. It will be notified on these portals only and no separate advertisement will be made. Director, IGIMS, Patna

SANCHAYATI SALEARIDABAD

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH. WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT,

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, INDRAWATI PROJECT CIRCLE, JAGDALPUR, BASTAR (CHHATTISGARH)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

eProcurement Portal: https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in (FIRST CALL)

<u>System Tender No. 70041/NIT No.: 18/TC/20-21 Jagdalpur, Dated :- 22.12.2020</u> Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 12.01.2021 at 17.30 Hour

Name of work: Earth work on Bund, Pitching works, Construction of Sluice, C.C. Lining of Canal, Construction of V.R.B. Syphon and Outlets of Bhond Tank Scheme at Basta Block in Bastar District.

Probable Amount of Contract : Rs. 101.84 Lakhs.

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in) from Date 29.12.2020, at 17.31 Hours. (IST) onwards.

NOTE:- All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to gat enrolled on the Integrated e-Procurement porta (https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under Centralized Contractor/Supplier Registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

85854

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER T.D.P.P. Water Resources Division, Jagdalpur For, Superintending Engineer, Indrawati Project Circle, Jagdalpur, Bastar (C.G.)

CONFED, HARYANA NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR OUTSOURCING MANPOWER IN CONFED, HARYANA

The CONFED Panchkula, Haryana invites online e-tender from the eligible registered contactors holding valid license/registration certificate issued by the relevant Competent Authority for supply of Manpower to its offices in the Stat

Sr. No.	Category	No. of Person (Approx.)	Earnest Money
01	Supply of Highly Skilled Manpower i.e. Accounts Person.	30	Rs. 50,000/-
02.	Supply of Skilled Manpower i.e. Data Entry Operator/Salesmen.	66	
03.	Supply of Semi-Skilled Manpower i.e. Driver.	1	
04.	Supply of Unskilled Manpower i.e. Sweeper/Peon-cum-Chowkidar and Security guard.	21	

Bidder must have office in tricity. In absence of no office currently in tricity, the bidder should submit an affidav regarding the opening of office in tricity within one month of award of work.

Detailed terms & Conditions forming part of this Notice are contained in the Tender Document which is available on the E-Tender portal of Haryana Govt i.e. etenders.hry.nic.in.

Turnover of 10 Crores or more from Manpower Services during each of the two financial years 2018-19 and 2019-20. Tender can be submitted on E-Tender portal of Haryana Govt by 14.01.2021 upto 5:00 P.M. No Tender will be accepted after the aforesaid date and time. The tender will be opened by Committee on 15.01.2021 at 11:00 A.M. Tender must be accompanied by Earnest Money through online module. No tenders shall be accepted without Earnest Money. Conditional/incomplete tenders shall not be considered.

The CONFED will not take the responsibility for any delay in uploading bidding document.

The Managing Director, CONFED reserve the right to accept or reject the tender or any part of the bid without

assigning any reason thereof

The tender document fee is Rs. 1000/- non-refundable. Dr. R.S. Dhillon, IAS

1120/7/HRY



CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Govt. Organisations.

Shakthi Soudha, 13th Cross Road, 4th 'B' Main Road, M.C. Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560 040.

No:EE/(GRN)/TN/GL-18/2020-21 Date: 28-12-2020 SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Two Cover Works) (Through GOK e-Procurement portal only) Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the undersigned for the work mentioned below from the registered contractors of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with

SI. No.	Name of work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
1.	Improvements to Road, culverts, drains and footpath at Ranganathapura in Kaveripura Ward No.103.	60.00	1,20,000/-
2.	Re-Asphalting to Roads in MC Layout and surrounding area in Ward No.125, Marenahalli Ward Jurisdictions.	60.00	1,20,000/-
3.	Construction of Auditorium and other Development works near Ganesha Temple at Canara Bank Colony in Ward No.126.	100.00	2,00,000/-
4.	Improvements to Road, drains and footpath at Muneshwara Nagara in Kaveripura Ward No.103.	60.00	1,20,000/-
5.	Providing CC Camera and Lighting Electrification to Parks in Ward No.127, Mudalapalya Area.	98.00	1,96,000/-
6.	Providing Media Center, Repairs to CC Cameras and development and repairs to Parks in Agrahara Dasarahalli in Ward No.105.	65.00	1,30,000/-
7.	Providing CC Camera in Ward No.125, Marenahalli.	70.00	1,40,000/-
8.	Improvements to Road, culverts, drains and footpath at BDA Layout and Kaveripura in Ward No.103.	60.00	1,20,000/-
9.	Resurfacing of bad Roads in Panchasheelanagara and surrounding area in Ward No.127, Mudalapalya.	60.00	1,20,000/-
10.	Construction of Badminton Court in NGEF Layout Nagarabhavi in Ward No.128.	100.00	2,00,000/-
11.	Resurfacing of Asphalt and RCC drains for bad Roads in MC Layout in Agraharadasarahalli in Ward No.105.	60.00	1,20,000/-
12.	Resurfacing of bad Roads in Kaveripura and surrounding area in Ward No.103.	60.00	1,20,000/-
13.	Construction of Dyana Mandira at Kalikamba Temple in Nayandahalli in Ward No.131.	100.00	2,00,000/-
14.	Resurfacing of bad Roads in Chandra Layout 1st Stage and surrounding area in Nagarabhavi Ward No.128.	60.00	1,20,000/-
15.	Resurfacing of bad Roads in ITI Layout Stage 1, 2 and 3 surrounding area in Nayandahalli Ward No.131.	60.00	1,20,000/-
16.	Providing asphalting CC Road and other allied works in Kaveripura Ward Jurisdiction in Ward No.103.	60.00	1,20,000/-
17.	,	100.00	2,00,000/-
18.	Resurfacing of bad Roads in SVG Nagara and Kaveri Layout in Ward No.127, Mudalapalya.	60.00	1,20,000/-
19.	Construction of Anganawadi building at Nayandahalli Ganesh Temple in Ward No.131.	55.00	1,10,000/-
20	Providing CC somers and other improvements works in		

Calendar of Events: (1). Last date for Receipt of Queries 02-01-2021 up to 3:00 p.m. (2). Date of pre bid meeting on 04-01-2021 at 3:30 p.m. (3). Last Date for uploading the Filled proposals is 07-01-2021 upto 4:00 p.m. (4). Date of Opening for Two Cover bid Technical Proposals is 09-01-2021 after 4:30 p.m. (5). Date of Opening for Two Cover Financial Proposals after approval of Technical Proposals through e-procurement. Further particulars can be obtained from the above office during working hours on working days and **website:** https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/-, Executive Engineer, Govindarajanagara Division, BBMP STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.





33.17 LACS

07/01/2021

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etendehry.nic.in

20. Providing CC camera and other improvements works in

21. Providing CC camera and other Improvements works in

Nayandahalli surrounding area in Ward No.131.

Pantarapalya surrounding areas in Ward No.131.





preveeng fod@hry.nic, in

100.00

100.00

2,00,000/-

2,00,000/



BALLABGARH DISTT. - FARIDABAD + 1 NOS OTHER WORK

Office of the Additional Director General of Police Communication, Logistics And Modernization No.1, M. G. Road, Bengaluru-560001, Phone: +91-80-22864626

Tender No: 05/MDN/STS/W/DIGITAL-VHF/2020-21 Date: 22.12.2020

Email: spwireless@ksp.gov.in

Tender Notification (Tender e-procurement portal)

Additional Director General of Police, Communication Logistics & Modernization, Bengaluru invited tender fo Design, Supply, Commissioning and Maintenance of Digita VHF Radio Communication Network for the Districts of Koppal, Chitradurga, Mandya, Udupi Districts and Bangalore City through e-procurement portal. Estimated Bid value: Rs. 946.94 Lakhs. Pre-bid meeting on 12.01.2021 at 11.30 Hrs. The Last date and time for tender submission 21.01.2021, 16.00 Hrs. Further details can be obtained by visiting e-procurement portal https://eproc karnataka.gov.in. For more information, please contact the above office. Sd/-

The Additional Director General of Police DIPR/DDU/SHIRDI SAI/2185/2020-21 Communication, Logistics & Modernization

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE

Follow Physical Distancing



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE

ENGINEER, TRANS. LINE MAINTT. DIVISION-VIII, AMBEDHKAR CHOWK RAILWAY ROAD, JAMMU

e-mail: xentlcd01@gmail.com Tele/Fax: 0191-2451732 No: TLMD-VIII/J/3010-12 Dated: 21.12.2020 **CORRIGENDUM**

Reference to the E-NIT No. TLMD-VIII/J/22 of 2020-21 Dt. 09.12.2020. Kindly read the quan tity of steel mentioned in item description at S no. 17 as Quinta instead of Tonn.

Executive Engineer, Trans. Line Maintt. Division-VIII. Jammu.



Open E - Tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for the following work: Sl. No. [1]. Tender No.: MW/P/73/AMC Grit Blast. Name of Work: Annual Maintenance Contract for 16 W/A Grit Blast Plant No 16/9020/01 at Paint Shop - 16 in CLW, Chittaranjan for a period of 02 (two) years. Tender Value (Rupees):74,90,699.00(Rupees Seventy four lakhs ninety thousand six hundred ninety nine only). Cost of Tender Document (Rupees): 5,000.00 (Rupees Five thousand only). Earnest Money **Deposit** (Rupees): 1,49,800.00 (Rupees One lakh forty nine thousand eight hundred only). Period of Completion: 02 (two) years. NOTE: (i) Date of Closing :14-01-2021 at 13:00 hrs. (ii) Complete details can be seen in the Railway website www.ireps.gov.in. (iii)Tender Calling Authority: Dy. Chief

Dy. CME/Plant CLW/Chittaranjan

Mechanical Engineer/Plant

CLW, Chittaranjan. (iv) Contact

No.: 0341-2525566. (v) Email Id:

dycmeplantclw@yahoo.com



अनुभवी / प्रतिष्ठित ठेकेदारों, जो सम्बन्धि कार्य का अनुभव रखते हो, से निम्नलिखित ई—निविदाए दो भाग में आमत्रित की जाती है 1. निविदा सं0 T-12/EGD/Mzn/2020 21. अपर गंग नहर पर स्थित विद्युत गृह (निरगाजनी, चितौडा, सलावा एवं भोला) र्क दैनिक सफाई एवं रख-रखाव का कार्य धारोहर राशि रु० 20,000/ (RTGS/NEFT/Online के रूप में) निविद शुल्क रु० 1180 / — जी०एस०टी० सम्मिलि (RTGS/NEFT/ Online के रूप में).

2. निविदा सं0 T-13@EGD/Mzn/2020 21. ऊपरी गंग नहर पर स्थापित चारों विद्यु गृहों (निरगाजनी, चितौड़ा, सलावा एवं भोल पर एक वर्ष के लिए ट्रेस रैक जालियों की सफाई का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु0 27,000 / — (RTGS/NEFT/Online के र i) निविदा शुल्क रु० 1652 / — जीoएसoटी सम्मिलित (RTGS/NEFT/Online के रुप में) वेबसाईट पर ई—निविदा स्वीकार कर तथा डाउनलोड करने की अन्तिग तिथि / समय : 27—01—2021 / 17:00 बर्ज

4. ई-निविदा का प्रथम भाग खुलने की तिथि / समय : 28—01—2021 / 12:00 बजे से

नोटः— निविदा सम्बन्धित समस्त जानकार्र विवरण / डाउनलोड / निविदा में प्रतिभागित हेतु वेबसाईट www.etender.up.nic.in पर लाग इन करे। किसी भी प्रकार व संशोधन / विस्तार की सूचना उल्लिखित वेबसाईट पर दी जायेगी। सभी जानकार्र उ०प्र0 जल विद्युत निगम लि0 की वेबसाईट www.upjvn.org पर भी उपलब्ध रहेगी अधिशासी अभियन्ता, जल विद्युत उत्पादन खण्ड, मुजफ्फरगनर के भारतीय स्टेट बैंक मैन मार्किट, मुजफ्फरनगर के खाता सख्य 33722690590 एंव IFSC Code SBIN0002412 में RTGS/NEFT/Online व द्वारा वांछित धरोहर राशि / निविदा शुल जमा कराना होगा। इच्छुक निविदाकार निविदा खुलने की तिथि से पूर्व, किसी भी कार्य दिवस में अनुमति उपरान्त, विद्युत गृह ग कराये जाने वाले सम्भावित कार्यों का निरीक्ष कर सकते हैं। निविदा के प्रथम भाग की विवेचना एवं अनुमोदन पश्चात्, निविदा व द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि सूचित की जायेगी। अद्योहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा बिना कार बताये निविदा को निरस्त करने का अधिका अधिशासी अभियन्त विद्युत उत्पादन खण्ड, नई मण्डी, मुजफ्फरनगर

'राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचायें

New Delhi

https:etenders.hry.nic.in

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, ASHOK KUMAR, S/O OM KAR,R/O-81-82,FIRST-FLOOR, POCKET-9, SECTOR-21.ROHINI.DELHI-110086.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ASHOK

I YUMNAM GUNENDRA SINGHA S/O MADAN MOHAN SINGHA R/O 5720/81 REGHAR PURA KAROL BAGH NEW DELHI HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **GUNENDRA SINGHA FOR ALL** 0040558830-1 PURPOSES.

I Sanjay Kumar S/O, Purshottam Lal Gandhi R/o E 62 Pandav Nagar East Delhi Delhi 110091 have changed my name to Sanjay Kumar Gandhi for all purposes. 0040558857-1

I Rinu Nagpal W/O, Rupesh Nagpal R/o 92, Hig Duplex Flats Chander Ngr Gzb Up 201011 have changed my name to Reenu Nagpal for all purposes.

Neha Phanda W/o-Sameer Hans R/o-LU-57, Vishakha Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Neha Hans for all purposes. 0040558852-1

I Laxmi Devi W/O, Madan Lal Thakur R/o A-201 Dhauladhar Apts Plot No.15 Sector-5 Dwarka New Delhi-110075 have changed my name to Laxmi Thakur for all purposes. 0040558856-1

Manbar Singh R/o:Dhung Dhar, Near Inter College, Tokolikhal, Rikhnikhal Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand, 246179. Change my name as Manbar Singh Negi S/o:Jaman 0130018458-1 Singh Negi.

LYAASRA, D/O MOHAMMAD ASLAM AZHAR R/o-803, F/F HAVELI AZAM KHAN, CHITLI OABAR, JAMA-MAS JID, DEI HI-110006, have changed my name to YASRA. 0040558891-1

I, Vishal S/o Krishan Chand Saini,R/o-604/11,Subhash Nagar, Old Railway-Road, Gurugram (Haryana)-122001, have changed my name to Vishal Saini.

0040558891-5

I,T. Shanti D/O T Vijay Shankar Rao, R/o 2/a M-Pocket Ward 60 Maroda Sector Bhilai, Civic Centre Bhilai, Durg Chhattisgarh, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Sharanya Naidu. 0070725374-1

I,Surjit Singh S/O Harjinder Singh, R/o Mandiani Ludhiana Puniab-141101.declare that Name of My Mother has been wrongly written as Anokh Kaur in my 10th certificate. The actual name of My Mother is Gurjit Kaur, which may be amended accordingly. 0070725377-1

I,Shya Ram Verma,S/O Jag Mohan Verma, R/O F-130, Jailler Wala Bagh Ashok-Vihar Phase-2,Delhi-110052 changed my nameto Siya Ram Verma. 0040558891-6

I.SUNIL KHANAGEWAL S/O ANIL SUSHANT VIHAR. IBRAHIMPUR, DELHIl 10036.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SUNIL KHANAGWAL 0040558885-4

I,Savita Kumari Srivastava,W/O Ajit Kumar Sinha, R/o F-38/A Pipal Wala Road Near Scon Public School Mohan Garden Uttam Nagar West Delhi-110059 have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Seema Sinha. 0070725378-1

I,Sandip KBS/OKG Balakrishnan,R/o Kariatuparambil House Sivagiri Nagar Near Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Poochatty Nadathara Eravimangalam Thrissur Kerala 680751, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Sandip Balakrishnan.

I,SULEKHA DEVIJAIN W/O SUMATI JAIN R/O H-34/42. SECTOR-3, ROHINI, DELHI-110085.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SULEKHA JAIN. 0040558885-5

I.SHIKHA SUMAN CHAUDHRY W/o VIJAY CHAUDHRY,R/O C-2/88B, KESHAV-PURAM, LAWRENCE-ROAD, DELHI-110035, changed my name to SHIKHA CHAUDHARY. 0040558891-9

I,SEHEJ NARULA S/O **GURCHARAN SINGH** NARULA.R/O 9/17.PUNJABI-BAGH EXTENSION, PUNJABI-BAGH, DELHI-110026. CHANGED MY NAMETO SEHEJ SINGH NARULA. 0040558885-2

I.Ravi Shaw S/O Raju Shaw,R/o 396/B,Rabindra Sarani,Orienteal Semineary

School,Beadon Street S.O,Beadon Street,Kolkata,West Bengal,700006,have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Ravi Jaiswal.

I,Rameshwari Sharma,w/o 216, First-Floor, Sector-11D, Faridabad, Haryana-121006, have changed my

Brahma Prakash Sharma, R/o-Sharma, permanently.

0040558891-4 I, Nagender Singh, S/o Chote Lal Singh,R/o H.No.32,E-Block,Jai Naiafgarh.Delhi-110043.have

changed my name to Nagendra Singh.

0040558890-3

I,Munesh Kumari,W/o Rameshwar lal sharma.R/o C-521,LIG-DDA-Flats,East-of-Loni-Road Mandoli, Delhi 110093, Have changed My Name to Meenakshi Sharma, for all purposes.

0040558883-6 I.Mangi lal S/O Girdhari lal Swami, R/o Jasrana Teh Nawa Dist Nagaur, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Mayank Swami 0070725360-1

I.MAIRAJUDDIN.

S/O.SHAHABUDDIN,H.NO.D-178 STREET.NO-14 ZAKIR NAGAR OKHLA DELHI-110025, changed my name to MERAJUDDIN, permanently. 0040558883-3

I.Kirna Devi Mittal D/O Kulwant Rai,W/O Vijay Kumar,R/o 306,Tower 2,LA Prisma,Nagla Road.Zirakpur.SAS Nagar(Mohali)Punjab-140603 have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Kiran Garg.

I,Khusbu Kumari D/O N K Singh,W/O Ajay Kumar Tarlapally,R/o 6-1-72/B304 Sree Mahalakshmi Meadows, Lakidikapul, Saifaba d,Khairatabad, Hyderabad, Telangana-500004 have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Khusbu Singh. 0070725367-1

I,KM Vijay Alias Vijay Sajwan D/O Birbal Singh, R/o A-42/2 A block, Street No-8, West Vinod Nagar, Pin Code-110092,Delhi,India have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Vijaya Sajwan Singh. 0070725362-1

I,KAVITA GOUCHWAL W/o Ravi Tushir R/o N-6,Lane No-W/17.South Avenue.Sainik Farm, Deoli, South Delhi-110062 Have Changed my Name to Kavita Tushir 007072534 0070725347-1

I, Brahampal Dhiman S/o-Mangu Lal, R/o H-16/1272, Sangam Vihar, Delhi-110062, have changed my name to Brahampal Sharma. 0040558890-4

I.Javalakshmi D/O Gurunathan, R/o No-1617th Cross,BDS Gardens,St Michaels School.Geddala halli,VTC Kothanur Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka-56007 have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known

0070725370-1

as Jahnavi. I.HIDAYATULLAH.S/O RAFATULLAH KHAN, ADDRESS-B-155/2, SHAHEEN BAGH OKHLA.NEW DELHI-110025. Changed my name to HIDAYATULLAH KHAN, permanently.

0040558883-5

I,Guru Pyari Loknath Rao,W/o Balaji Loknath Rao,R/o-A-33/15,DLF Phase-1, Gurgaon, Haryana 122002, Have changed my Name to Manju Loknath Rao, for all purposes. 0040558891-7

I,Geeta Roy Alias Anjali Mardi D/O Sidam Mardi,W/O Vishwanath Roy,R/o Bayangbil.Po-Sundarnagar Dist East Singbhum,Pin 832107, Nandup, East Singhbhum have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Anjali Roy. 0070725353-1

I,Geedhu Cheriya Kunhi D/O Cheriya Kunhi,R/o Gokulam Muthanad Chemnad P O Kasaragod have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Geethu Nambiar. 0070725371-1

I,Gautam Kumar Jain S/O Parshan Kumar Jain,R/o Sanieeva Gardens,1st Floor,Flat No-DL 36,Newtown

Aquatica.Newtown.Kolkata North 24 Parganas, West Bengal-700156, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Goutam Jain. 0070725381-1

I.G Raieshwari Alias Govinda Rajan Rajeshwari D/O Bala Sunrahmaniya, W/OSSR Govind Rajan, R/o Flat No-504 Plot No 30-155/15,Geetha Nagar,Sainathapuram,Ramak rishna Puram, Tirumalagiri, Hyderabad, Telangana, 500056 have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as V

L.Firoi Chouhan S/O Babulal Chouhan, R/o 403, Majara Sagaragram Chaldu, Village Chaldu, Tehsil Jeeran, District Neemuch (M.p)-458339, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Akshay 0070725368-1

I,Davinder Kaur,W/o Sh.Sarbjit Singh Bhullar, R/o-J-235, Swami Dayanand-Colony, near-Sarai Rohilla Police-Station.Sarai Rohilla, Delhi-110007, have changed my name to Davinder Kaur Bhullar aftermarriage, for all purposes.

I,Dinesh Saini S/O Prem Chand Saini, R/o 100 Deepali Pitampura Saraswati Vihar North West Delhi-110034, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Dinesh Chuliwal. 0070725363-

0040558891-10

I,CHITVAN S/O DEEPAK R/O A-6-X. A-BLOCK, D.D.A. FLATS. JAHANGIRPURI, DELHI-33 have changed my name to CHITVAN VARMANI. 0040558885-6

I,Brijender Kumar Goswami S/O Late Om Prakash, R/o Type-3/21 L Anupratap colony, Rawatbhata, Chittorgarh .Raiasthan-323307.have changed the name of my minor Son Pranav Kumar aged about 9 Years and he shall hereafter be known as Vivaan 0070725351-1 Goswami.

I,Bal Kumar Singh S/O Parba Lall Biswakarma, R/o Singling Soreng West Sikkim-737121, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Aaron Singh. 0070725361-1

I,Baby Chacko,R/o 140-F,pkt A/2, mayur vihar phase-3,Delhi-110096,have changed $my\,son\,name\,from\,Bennett$ Baby to Bennett Baby Madavana for all purposes. 0040558890-2

I,Arjan Singh,S/o Parvinder Wasu R/o 12E BB Block,Janakpuri,West Delhi.Delhi-110058.Have Changed My Name To Arjan 0040558891-8 Singh Wasu

I,Archana D/O Ram Kanwar,R/o Flat No-424, Tower-12, Motia Heights, Dhakauli, SAS Nagar (Mohali), Dhakauli, Punjab-160104 have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Archana Kataria. 0070725356-1

I,Amit Ramdas Gadekar S/O Ramdas Gadekar.R/o Manjarwadi, Post Mol, Tal Khatav, Dist Satara, Mol, Diskal Mol.Satara.Maharashtra.4155 04, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Amit Hanmant Jagtap. 0070725355-1

I,Ajesh Kancharla S/O Srinivasa Rao,R/o 4-47,Gogulampadu Road, Beside Ramalavam Chakkapalli,Krishna,Andhra Pradesh-521213,I,declare that Name of Mine and My Father has been wrongly written as Ajeesh Kancharla And Sreenivasarao in my 10th Certificate NO-807880.The actual name of Mine and My Father is Aiesh Kancharla And Srinivasa Rao, which may be amended accordingly. 0070725354-1

I.Aiav Kumar Gaur.S/o Ram Kumar Gaur, R/o-B-117/2,Rajendra Farm Chhatarnur-Enclave Phase-2,New Delhi-110074,have changed my name to Ajay Kumar Gaud, S/o Ram Kumar

I,ANJU BALA GARG W/O SATISH BANSAL R/O HNO.213/17, VIJAY NAGAR.JHAJJAR ROAD, ROHTAK-124001.CHANGED MY NAME TO ANJU BANSAL. 0040558885-1

I,ANITA KHANAGEWAL W/O SUNIL KHANAGWAL R/O HNO.96, GALINO.8, SUSHANT VIHAR, IBRAHIMPUR, DELHI-110036.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ANITA KHANAGWAL 0040558885-3

I, deepshikha w/o dilip kumar & d/o sh. Bhupendra kumar roy r/o 1247, street no.6, mahalaxmi garden, tikampur, nearby union bank, rajendra park, gurgaon haryana-122001. Dipashikha devi and kumari dipashikha is one and same person. My name will be written/used as deepshikha for all purposes. 0040558846-1

I, Sushil Kumar Pandey,S/o Lt.Ganesh Pandey, R/o-115-A 4th-Floor, Munirka-Village, Delhi-110067, has changed my minor daughter's name.from Privanshu Pandev to Shivangi Pandey, for all,future purposes. 0040558883-8

I, Sudhir Chauhan S/o Shri Trilok Chauhan R/o D-64, Hindon Vihar, Sector-49. Noida, UP, has lost my which Account No-00159, Khasra No.-1112 located at B-13A, Kalyan Kunj, Barola, Sector-49, Noida, Dadri, GB Nagar, founder contact at 9717720550

I. Sandeep Kumar S/o Sh. Gopi Chand R/o WA-182-A, 3rd Floor, NearCommunity Center, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092 have changed my namefrom Sandeep Kumar to Sandeep Kartar Singh for all future purposes. 0040558862-1

I, SARANSH BUKOLIYA S/O DHARMENDRA BUKOLIYA, R/o Infront of Nisha Ladies Tailor, Khasgi Bazar, Grid, Gwalior, Lashkar, Madhya Pradesh-474001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as SARANSH SHARMA.

I, Rohit S/o. Samarpal R/o-H.No-108,Sandeep Garden, Akbarpur, Behrampur,Ghaziabad UP-201009, declare that my father's name, wrongly written,as Sameerpal in my 10th-class Marksheet. Roll.No.5380759,my father's correct name, is Samarpal for all, future purposes.

0040558877-1 I, Purnima, W/o Sh. Pankaj dass, H.No-507, TowerNo.B-9,Supertech,Eco Village-2, Greater Noida, U.P.-201009, have changed my name Purnima Dass.

0040558883-1 I, Priyanka Nuna,W/o Mr.Anuj Bansal,R/o C-2/25,Safdarjung Development Area, Hauz-Khas, New Delhi-110016, have changed my name to Priyanka 0040558891-3

I, Poonam D/o Raj Bahadur Singh,W/o Manish Rajpoot,R/o 1042,ESI Hospital Sector-9A,Gurgaon (Haryana)-122001, have changed my name to Poonam Tomar 0040558890-5

I, Mohan Verma, S/o Gian Chand, R/o B-127-128, Choukhandi, Delhi-18, have changed my name to Mohan 0040558883-2 I, Ishu sharma S/O Laltesh

Sharma residing at H.N 61A, Gali No16, Block N Dwarka Mor Delhi, have changed my name to Anant Sharma vide affidavit dated 24 Dec 2020 at Delhi. 0050173506-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

Nilothi, New Delhi-110041 have changed my name to HARMEET SINGH CHAWLA. 0040558847-1 I, Harish S/o Sadhu Ram Pundir H/no.67 B. Roshan Pura Extn.Najafgarh, Delhi -110043, have changed my name to Harish Pundir for, all 0040558890-1 purposes.

I, Harmit Singh Chawla s/o

33/11, Guru Nanak Vihar,

Raghubir Singh Chawla r/o H.no.-73A and 73B, Khasra No.-

I, Gulafshan Noor D/o Iqbal Noor R/o 3579 Lal Kaun Hamdard-Marg Delhi-110006. have changed my name to Gulafshan Iqbal, for all purposes. 0040558885-7

L DURGA DEVI. W/O RAMESH THAKUR, H.NO-6, SECOND-FLOOR, BLOCK-5, GALI NO-5 GEETA COLONY DELHI-110031. have changed my name to BHAWNA SINGH. 0040558885-8 I, BAKABHAI KANABHAI

PRAJAPATI S/O KANABHAI BHUDARBHAI PRAJAPATI, R/o athamno was, Chibhda Chibhada, Banaskantha, Gujarat-385330, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as PRAJAPATI RAJKUMAR KANABHAI. 0070725357-1

I, Amit Kumar Saxena S/o K.K Saxena R/o G-23 Laxmi Nagar Delhi-92, have changed my minor Daughter's name Shubhika Saxena to Prisha Saxena DOB-19-9-2013. 0040558891-2

I, Aley Kutty Abraham, W/o Kuruvilla Abraham, R/o JC-37B,LIG-Flats, Hari-Enclave, Hari-Nagar, New Delhi-110064,have changed my name to Aley Kutty Kuruvilla, permanently. 0040558883-7

LOST & FOUND

I,IMRAN,S/O MD IKBAL,R/o 9/4981 F/F.St.no-5.kaushik-puri old seelampur,Delhi-31,have lost my original certificate/marksheet class-10th(2016) Rollno-8608956 CBSE-DELHI, class-12th (2019) RIIIno-0217155 U.P.BOARD. 0040558885-10

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Vishnu Dutt Sharma S/c Sh. Har Sharan Sharma and his wife Roshni Sharma R/o B-9/390 Sector-3 Rohini Delhi-85 disowned and severe relationship with their son Mayank Sharma debarred him from all thei movable and immovable propertie equired or to be acquired become of his misbehaviour anyone persor dealing and relation with him in an nanner shall be at their own risk.

Sub Register office Pitampura Delh **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Surender Kumar (Advocate

Wy client Smt. Promila Wo Sh. Lalitt Kumar Rio C-2/161, Sultanpuri, Delhi, has purchased the property ic. G-5/153, area measuring 25 sq. Yds J.J. Colony, Sultanpuri, Delhi - 110086 from its previous owner Smt. Pooja Wio Sh. Vinod Kumar, through GPA, Agreement to sell, Affidavil, Possession Letter, Will and Receipt all dated 02:12:2020. if anyone has any objection, he/she may raise the objection within 7 days of this publication on address of my client & mobile no. 9650854594, later on, any such objection shall not be entertained in any manner.

Sid/ Vijay Yadav (Advocate)

Manner.
Sd/- Vijay Yadav (Advocate)
Chamber No: 533, 5th Floor,
Lawyers Chamber Block, Rohini
Courts, Delhi- 110085

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
My Clients Mr. Dost Mohammed,
S/o Late Shafi Mohammed and Mrs. Iffat Jahan, W/o Dost Mohamme residing at C1/9. Pocket-11 Jasola New Delhi 110025 have severed all their relations and disowned their son Mr. Mohammad Anzar from all of their Movable and Immovable properties due to their misconduct nisbehaviour. My Clients shall not be responsible for any of his acts leeds/dealings in any way and shal not be liable for anything.

S.A. Akhtar (Advocate) Off.: 147, 2nd Floor Pocket-2, Jasola, New Delhi-110025

PUBLIC NOTICE

It be known to all that my clients Smt Mithlesh Devi W/o Sh. Ram Charan 8 Sh. Ram Charan S/o Sh. Shri Ram bot Sh. Ram Charan Sio Sh. Shri Ram both Flo C-147, Gali No.-3, Swaroop Nagar, Delhi-110042 have disowned and debarred her/his/their son namely Chetender @ Rinku age about 29 Years and his wife Smt. Jyoti @ Anjali age about 22 years on 24.12.2020 from out all immovable & movable prospertiles in Delhio relsswere and also severed her/ Delhi or elsewhere and also severed her his/their relationship with them due peyond control of my clients and if an one deals with there at his/her/their isks and costs and my client will not b esponsible at any extent

Virendra Singh Ch. No. 711, Lawyer's Chamber Bloc Rohini District Court, Delhi-110085

PUBLIC NOTICE Sh. Gyan Chand Sharma and Smt. Laxmi Devi WIO Sh. Pem Chand Sharma both RiO H. No. 783/16, Basal Road, Nayl Bastl, Gurgaon (Haryana)- 122001 have severed their relations and connections with their son namely Yathesht Vashisht previously residing at H. No. 783/16, Basal Road, Nayl Bastl, Gurgaon, (Haryana)- 122001 and present whereabout are not known. They also debarred him from their movable, immovable properties. Anybody dealing with him of shall be doing so at his their own risk and responsibility. Sd/- MUKESH SHARMA (ADVOCATE Ch. No. 1011, Laywers Chambi Block Rohini Court Complex, Rohin Delhi- 11008

PUBLIC NOTICE

NBI Industrial Finance Company Limited 21, Stand Road, Fairlie Place, BBD Bagh Kolkata, West Bengal 700001. Notice is hereby given that the share certificate No. 5212 with Distinctive not(s) 182769 to 182818 in respect of Folio No. M00278 Registered in the name of MULK RAJ Isian reported to be lost and company has received application for issue of duplicate share certificate(s). If no objection from any interest person is received by the any interest person is received by the company's registrar Maheshwari Datamatics Pvt. Ltd., 23, R.N. Mukherjee Road, Kolkata 700001, within 15 days from the publication hereof the company will propend to listed tuplicate share will proceed to issue duplicate shar Certificate(s) to the applicant(s).

Singh, R/o Flat No. 392, Block D-9, Sector-E, Pocket-2, Nea D-9, Sector-E, Pocket-Z, Nea
Ryan International School
Vasant Kunj, South West, Delhi
110070, is the owner of ENTIRE
BUILT-UP HOUSE NO.96
ERECTED ON LANK
MEASURING 100 SQ. YDS MEASURING 100 SQ. YDS.
(DIMENSION 23'41'8'
Approx.), CONSISTING OF
ENTIRE GROUND FLOOR,
FIRST FLOOR, SECOND
FLOOR, THIRD FLOOR AND
HALF FOURTH FLOOR,
COMPRISING WITH KHASRA
NO.38, SITUATED IN THE AREA OF VILLAGE SAIDULAJAIB GALI NO.1, TEHSIL MEHRAULI DELHI-110030

NEW DELHI-110030. (Hereinafter called the Property"). He had executed a General Power of Attorney on Stamp Paper No. DL64569025513032N, dated 29.09.2015 in respect the above said Property in favour of my wife Smt. RENU w/o Sunny Tewathia, R/o HOUSE NO.96, GALI NO.1, SAIDULAJAIB, New Delhi-110030. Now, He has voluntarily cancelled/terminated and revoked the aforesaid voluntarily cancelled/ terminated and revoked the aforesaid General Power of Attorney in all respect and forever. That no power shall be exercised under the aforesaid General Power of Attorney from dated 24.12.2020 (Date of cancellation of GPA) by Smt. Renu w/o Sunny Tewathia. Hence, the aforesaid Smt. RENU w/o Sunny Tewathia shall have no rights of any nature in respect of said General Power of Attorney from dated 24.12.2020 (date of cancellation of GPA) and forever. Public at large is put to notice that no person shall deal with Smt. Renu in respect of the said Property either for rent or any other transaction. of the said Property either for rent or any other transaction. Any sort of any transaction in respect of this Property shall be considered invalid/ null and void and if any person(s) wish(es) to contact and clarify any doubt regarding the same may write/ contact with above named person at above address/mobile No. 8800605299. My client further inform the public at large that not to deal in any arrangement regarding the property with the said Mrs. Renu, w/o Sunny Tewathia and the same shall not be binding on us.

> Abhinav Gar (D/6322/2017)

IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT M LIENT SMT. RADHA SINGH W/O SH KAS SINGH R/O B-9/61, SECTOR -; OHINI, DELHI-110085, IS THE OWNEL F BUILT-UP PROPERTY BEARIN LOT NO. 61, IN BLOCK - B, POCKETS, ITUATED AT SECTOR-5, ROHINI, DELH SITUATED AT SECTOR-5, ROHINI, DELHI, AND SHE HAS MISPLACEDLOST THE ORIGINAL DDA POSSESSION AND SITE POSSESSION IN RESPECT OF ABOVE SAID PROPERTY & HAS LODGED A FIRNCR VIDE LR NO. 849770/2020 DATED 28.12.2020, WITH POLICE STATION, CRIME BRANCH, DELHI, IF ANY BODY FIND THE SAID DOCUMENT, PLEASE INFORM HIM AT THE ABOVESAID ADDRESS OR PH. NO. 9999484827.

9999484827.

F ANY OTHER CLAIMENT HAS AN'
RIGHT IN THE AFORESAID PROPERTY.
RESHE SHOULD FILE AN FIR & GIVEN
TIMATION TO DDALABI(FIO) WITHIN
5 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE OF
THIS NOTICE.

RENU BALA (Advocate RENU BALA (Advocate Fnrl.No. D/4533/201

WESTERN RAILWAY-AHMEDABAD DIVISION SCHEDULE MAINTENANCE OF **DIESEL ENGINE, ALTERNATOR**

AND ACCESSORIES -TENDER - NOTICE No. Sr. DEE/ADI/ 31 (20-21) dtd. 24.12.2020, Tender No. EL-50-1-ADI-T-46-2020-21, Name of vork: Schedule maintenance of Diesel Alternator and accessories nstalled in power cars of Ahmedabad division for 2 years. **Estimated Cost:** ₹ 1,13,65,508.57, **EMD**: ₹ 2,06,800/-, Date and time of submission: Not late han 15.00 Hrs. of 21.01.2021, Date and time of opening: 21.01.2021 at 15.30 Hrs., Address of the office: Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, D.R.M. Office (W.R.), Near Chamunda bridge, Opp. G.C.S Hospital, Naroda road, Amdupura Ahmedabad-382345. Website details

Like us on: f facebook.com/WesternRly

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

NOTICE OF INVITING E-TENDER
No : Carriage-16-2020 Dt. 28.12.2020 Dy. CME/Carriage Workshop, Ajmer Fender no. Carriage-16-2020 Dated 28.12.2020. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are no date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Details are as under. 1. Name of work with its location: "Gas cutting work for modification work for NMG Coaches at Carriage Workshop Ajmer (As per Scope of Work)" 2. Approx. cost of the work of t Submission of E-Tender up to 18.01.2021 at 15.00 Hrs. **5. Website particular** www.ireps.gov.in 6. Eligibility Criteria Not Applicable. Note: Earnest Money to be deposited online through payment gateway facility on the IREPS website

903-AJ/20 हमें 🗜 💆 🖸 /NWRailways 🔘 NWRailways_पर फॉलो करें

NESTERN RAILWAY - RAJKOT DIVISION **IMPROVEMENT TO LEVEL** CROSSINGS

ll not be accepted.
Vikas Shokeen Advocate
hamber No. 1019. Rohini Court,
New Delhi-110085

E-Tender Notice No. 22 of 2020-2 date: 24.12.2020, Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.) Western Railway, Kothi Compound Rajkot, Gujarat-360001, **Website** No. DRM-RJT-20-E-51, Name of work Rajkot Division - Improvement to Leve Crossings under Divisional Enginee (East) Rajkot's jurisdiction. **Approximate NIT Cost**: ₹ 1,29,97,392.47, **EMD Cost**: ₹ 2,15,000.00, Date & Time of Opening of Tender: 21.01.2021

Like us on: f facebook.com/WesternRly

DEPARTMENT OF POST **NOTICE INVITING**

e-TENDER The Executive Engineer (E), Postal Electrical Division Tenth floor, Meahdoot Bhawar New Delhi-01 invites on behal-President of India percentage rate e-tenders or two bids system for following

works. Name of work: SITC of 2000 kg capacity goods lift at Delh RMS, Delhi.; **NIT No.:** 70/ EE

₹ 36,97,500/-Last date and time of

Date and Time

DIPR/ 5020 /TENDER/2020

/PED/ ND/ NIT/2020-21 Dated 28.12.2020; Estimated Cost

submission of bid 12.01.2021 upto 15.00 hours Bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website https://dopcivil.euniwizarde

TIRUCHIRAPPALLI CITY CORPORATION Re-Tender Notice No: 154 / 2020 - 2021 **TENDER NOTIFICATION EXTENSION NOTICE**

Roc. No. E1/7432/2020 (Main) Receipt and submission of tenders as per Retender Notice No. 154/2020-2021 is Postponed due to administrative reason as

detailed below.		
Details	Date already notified	Revised
Last date for download of Bid Documents	28.12.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours	11.01.2021 Upto 15.00 Hours
Submission of bids through e-submission	28.12.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours	11.01.2021 Upto 15.00 Hours
Tender Opening	29.12.2020	12.01.2021

Other terms and Conditions remain unchanged. Commissioner Tiruchirappalli City Corporation

Upto 16.00 Hours Upto 16.00 Hours

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

The general public is hereby informed that an unidentified person namely Ved about 55 years of age whose residence, and family is unknown had been found dead in the jurisdiction of PS Krishna Nagar, Delhi. In this regard, a vide has been registered with DD No: 97-A dated 16.12.2020 at PS Krishna Nagar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to identify the deceased



person, but no clue has come to light so far.

The description of the UIDB is as under: Sex: Male, Age: 55 years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Wearing: Blue colour t-shirt and

If anyone has any information about his relatives, kindly inform the SHO/Krishna Nagar, Delhi. E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in

Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax: 011-24368639 DP/311/SHD/2020

SALUTE THE SOLDIER



PUBLIC NOTICE

has applied for conversion of the aforesaid flat from lease hold to free hold vide application in DBA. Original documents issued by DBA of the above said flat 1.e, DBA fifth and final demand letter, DBA possession letter, Site possession sisp, NGC of electricity and water connection has been lost, File nor F138(D010)88/SFSPA/II AR FI.R-to this effect has been lodged in the Police station on Dated 2771/22/200, Any Person(s) claiming my rights. Interest, having or objection of the possession interest, having or objection or flower interest, having or objection or flower or other possession.

PUBLIC NOTICE

declare that my clients namely

Mrs. Leela W/o Late Shri Kishar

R/o D-46. Gali No. 1, Near

Dispencery Chowk, Bhajan

Pura, Delhi-110053, wants to

disown his/her son namely

Mr. Yogesh Kumar and His Wife

Namely Mrs. Rhumika from self

acquired movable and immovable

property for future all actions. and

above said statements are true

and correct in the best of my

Shama Rani (Advocate

Enrolment No. D-843/1992

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is publicly noticed that the origin conveyance deed, original building sanctiplan and some other documents for t. property bearing addressed at 11174, C. Park has been lost/ misplaced somewher from Chittarnjan Park, in this regard F as been lodged in police station CR Park bear to the NCR NO 841360/202 lated 24 December 2020.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public is hereby informed that Mr.Chander kant Khanna has claimed to be the owner of the Freehold Residential One Builtup Property bearing MPL No. 940/1, Built on Part of Plot no 37, Land area

Built on Part of Plot no 37, Land area admeasuring 100 sq. yrds., Khasra no 624, situated at R.S. Block Gal no. 4 & 5 Village Chandrawali Bholanath Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi and has agreed to sell it to Sanjay Gupta and Abhilasha Gupta, who

Gupta and Abhilasha Gupta, who has approached the Magma Housing Finance Limited Ltd for loan against mortgage of above said property, if any person has any right, claim, title or interest in any manner over the said property then intimate within 7 days to Vikas Shokeen, Advocate, AB-18, Miamwali Nagar, Delhi - 110087, Thereafter any kind of claim will not be accepted.

r Pankaj Sapra Inhile NO: 9319094737

O H 1481 & F-1174 R Park New Delhi

knowledge & belief.

Place: New Delhi

Date: 28.12.2020

JAGTAR SINGH

life of project.

15 March 1988 - 25 Dec 2020 Fraternity of Army Educational Corps expresses profound grief and sorrow on the untimely and sad demise of Capt Jagtar Singh on 25 Dec 2020. Commissioned into Army Educational Corps on 12 Dec 2015, the Officer was posted at Officers Training Academy, Gaya as an Instructor. He will always be remembered for his selfless and dedicated service to the Corps. We pray to the Almighty to bless eternal peace to the departed soul and give strength to the bereaved family

> Mai Gen Devesh Gaur Addl DG AE & Col Comdt

and All Ranks of Army Educational Corps

TIRUCHIRAPPALLI CITY CORPORATION

Tender Notice No : 151 / 2020 - 2021

TENDER NOTIFICATION EXTENSION NOTICE Roc. No. E1/8927/2020 (Majn) Receipt and submission of tenders as per Tender Notice No 151/2020-2021, Sl. No. 1 is Postponed due to administrative reason

as detailed below.		
Details	Date already notified	Revised
Last date for download of Bid Documents	28.12.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours	11.01.2021 Upto 15.00 Hours
Submission of bids through e-submission	28.12.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours	11.01.2021 Upto 15.00 Hours
Tender Opening Date and Time	29.12.2020 Upto 16.00 Hours	12.01.2021 Upto 16.00 Hours

Other terms and Conditions remain unchanged.

Commissioner, Tiruchirappalli City Corporation

NMDC Limited

(A Government of India Enterprise)

Khanij Bhavan, 10-3-311/A, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad-500028 Telangana, CIN:L13100TG1958GOI001674

COAL DIVISION Tender Enquiry No.: HO (Coal Division)/TOKISUD/MDO/2020/22 Dated: 29.12.2020 NMDC Limited, A "NAVARATNA" Public Sector Company under Ministry of Steel, Govt, of India, invites online bids from experienced domestic bidders for Mine Developer-Cum-Operator (MDO) for Tokisud North Coal Mine Hazaribagh, Jharkhand state for period of 25 years and extendable upto

The Bid Documents can be viewed and downloaded free of cost from MSTC portal http://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome/nmdc from 29th December 2020. The e-Tender ref. no. on MSTC portal is NMDC/HO/78/20-21/ET/717. Last Date for submission of tender is up to 14:00 Hours on 15th February 2021 and the same shall be opened at 16:00 Hours on 15th February 2021. For any further information please contact Chief General Manager (Coal), NMDC Limited, Hyderabad, Tel No +91-040-23538778, email: nmdccoal@nmdc.co.in or Naveen Kumar MSTC. Mobile No. 9985626969. The tender documents can also be accessed from NMDC website; www.nmdc.co.in and CPP Portal http://eprocure.gov.in Sd/- Chief General Manager (Coal)

SMDC Limited (A Government of India Enterprise) (A Government of India Enterprise) Khanij Bhavan, 10-3-311/A, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad-500028

Telangana, CIN:L13100TG1958GOI001674 E-Tender Notice (Open Tender Enquiry for Domestic Bidding) RESOURCE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Tender Enquiry No : NMDC / RP /FMS/ 2020 / 02 (MSTC Ref.No.:NMDC / HO / 77/ 20-21 /ET / 707) Dated: 29.12.2020 NMDC invites bids in e-tender mode on MSTC website (NMDC's e-tender service provider): http://mstcecommerce.com for the work of "Implementation of Flee Management System at BIOM-Bacheli Complex and BIOM-Kirandul Complex

For viewing / downloading the schedule of e-bidding and the detailed NIT along with pre qualification requirements and tender document, prospective bidders may visit MSTC website link: https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome/nmdc/ and registe on-line as 'New Vendor'. For further help, the 'Vendor Guide' given therein may be referred. Link to MSTC e-tender platform is also available through NMDC website www.nmdc.co.in. The tender documents can also be accessed from NMDC website

www.nmdc.co.in and CPP Portal http://eprocure.gov.in Any corrigendum to the tender will be uploaded only in above mentioned websites rospective bidders should visit these websites from time to time to take note o

For further clarification, CGM(RP), NMDC Ltd., Hyderabad can be contacted or Fax: 040-23536760, Tel: 040-2353 8778, email: horp_fms@nmdc.co.in

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

The general public is hereby informed that an unidentified person about 28 years of age whose name, residence, and family is unknown had been found unconscious in the waiting area of Lady Hardinge Hospital, Delhi. The unidentified person was admitted to LHMC Hospital, during the treatment he was declared dead by the doctors on 22.12.2020 at 10:47 a.m. In this regard, a vide has been with DD No. 20 A dated



23.12.2020 at PS Mandir Marg, New Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to identify the deceased person, but no clue has come to light so far.

The description of the UIDB is as under: Sex: Male, Age: about 28 years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Oval, Built: Normal, Hair: Black, Wearing: Brown colour sweater and brown colour pants.

If anyone has any information about his relatives, kindly inform the SHO/Mandir Marg, New Delhi.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641

Fax: 011-24368639 DP/180/NDD/2020

P.S. Mandir Marg, New Delhi. Ph. No. 011-23366730, 23341680

EASTERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice No. NIT/02/20/40, dated 24.12.2020. e-Tenders are invited by

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Eastern Railway, Kolkata for supply of the followin

tems: - SI. No. & Tender No., Description; EMD respectively: Tender Opening Date & Time: 06,01,2021 at 13,30 hrs. (1) 01201017; Decorative Thermosettin Synthetic Resin Bonded Laminated sheets etc.; ₹ 5,29,450/-. Tender Opening Date 3 Time : 11.01.2021 at 13.30 hrs. (2) 05201044; Oil machenery; ₹ 0. Tender OpenIng Date & Time: 13.01.2021 at 13.30 hrs. (3) 05201189; Procurement of set of Rolle Bearing NU 2236 & NJ 320 for Traction Motor Type 6FRA6068 for WAP-7 & WAG-3 Phase) Locos. Specification/Drawing No. SKF No. DE=NU2236ECMRD/C4VA301 NDE= NJ320ECM/P64VA3091 + HJ320EC.VA301 FAG type DE=NU2236E, as pe RDSO's approved FAG Drawing No. EDD F-801488.01. NU2236-E 000. NDE=NJ320 -XLM1.F1.J20A-C4+HJ320-EF1., ₹ 0. **Tender Opening Date & Time : 14.01.202** at 13.30 hrs. (4) 05201067: Procurement of compressed oxygen gas to IS:309/2005 4th Revision, Re-affirmed 2010, ₹ 0. **Tender Opening Date & Time : 18.01.2021 a** 13.30 hrs. (5) 10202365; Two Way Horn Valve Assembly; ₹ 1,75,740/-. (6) 20201902 Procurement of 1/2" Drain Cock Assembly etc.; ₹ 0/-. (7) 20205006; Procurement of High Horse Power etc.; ₹ 2,20,750/-. Tender Opening Date & Time : 19.01.2021 a 13.30 hrs. (8) 05201267; Procurement of Cylinderical Roller Bearing NU 330 for Hitach raction Motor type HS 1050 Er/HS 15250A. For PE end for Locos Specification No SKF/Germany/Austria NO-NU 330-ECMAP64VA-301 (Shoulder Guided), M/s Schaeffie Fech/Germany, Romania, Italy (Brand Name FAG) NU-330-EM1A-P-64-F1 (Shoulde Guided), M/s Schaeffier India Limited No. NU330 E.M1A.P64.F1. SKF Tech No NU330ECMA P64V A301/45; ₹ 2,46,730/-. **Tender OpenIng Date & Time : 21.01.202**1 at 13.30 hrs. (9) 11201074; Procurement of kit for Brake Gear Bushes, ₹ 4,95,050 (10) 11201812; Screw Coupling Assembly (enhanced capacity) to RDSO's SK-99001 Item Nos. 1 to 16, Alt No. 4 and RDSO's STR No. C-9505 revised in August 2001 with Amendment Slip No. 1 of September 2016; ₹ 1,91,310/-. Tender Opening Date & Fime: 22.01.2021 at 13.30 hrs. (11) 10201058; Procurement of high current carrying apacity contactor etc.; ₹ 80,950/-. Tender Opening Date & Time: 01.02.2021 a 13.30 hrs. (12) 11201121; Procurement of Non-Asbestos based Organic Brake Pad 7 3,64,280/-. (13) 11201811; Procurement of Double Acting Hydraulic Shock Absorbe or Vertical Application etc.; ₹ 5,48,200/-. **Tender Opening Date & Time : 02.02.202** at 13.30 hrs. (14) 20201072; Procurement of Holding Magnet Valve type EV 208-3 Vt, 100 Volts for EP Brake Unit etc.; ₹ 63,610/-. **(15) 20202140;** Procurement of EMU MEMU Motor Coaches, KPC make Air Compressor type 3HC-55, 36 Month overhauling kit etc.; ₹ 58,440/-. Tender Opening Date & Time : 08.02.2021 at 13.30 hrs **16) 10201084;** Spring Holder Plate Assembly etc.; ₹ 0. **(17) 20201102;** Procureme of Modular Brake Controller complete etc.; ₹ 0. **(18) 20202117;** Procurement of se of Gear Case top and bottom (unmodified) etc.; ₹ 0. Tender Opening Date & Time 15.02.2021 at 13.30 hrs. (19) 20201074; Procurement of kit of spares for EP Uni (M/s Escorts make) Brake Equipment etc.; ₹ 65,720/-. (20) 20201141; Procureme of Metal Oxide Gapless etc.; ₹ 0. **Tender Opening Date & Time : 16.02.2021 at 13.30** hrs. (21) 01201014; Procurement of vinyl coated upholstery fabric artificial leath etc.; ₹ 4,63,360/-. Tender Opening Date & Time: 17.02.2021 at 13.30 hrs (22) 11201623; Procurement of Inter Vehicular Coupler Unit; ₹ 3,82,160/-. Tende Opening Date & Time: 18.02.2021 at 13.30 hrs. (23) 05201040; Oil Hydraulic to I No. : 10522-83 ; ₹ 0. Tender Opening Date & Time : 01.03.2021 at 13.30 hrs (24) 11201051; Procurement of Modification Work to Solo Bar at middle doorwa etc.; ₹ 60,000/-. Note: All the above mentioned tenders are e-tenders and all tenderer are requested to submit their bids online through the IREPS website at https://www.ireps gov.in For more details regarding the above mentioned tenders and other supply enders please visit IREPS website. STORES-42/2020-21 ender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

New Delhi

P.S. Krishna Nagar, Delhi. Ph. No. 011-22093224, 7065006001

Away from the bio-bubbles put in place by those with deep pockets, sport had its lockdown tales of angst, uncertainty and apprehension. THE INDIAN EXPRESS talks to those who missed out on their break-out year or had to delay their retirement.

In the post-PUBG shuffle, it's adapt or perish for esports aspirants

With loss of on-site events and ban on the popular mobile game, Indian esports lost momentum this year

GAURAV BHATT

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

WITH THE world stuck at home, looking for distraction and momentary respite, gaming's

The Covid-19 pandemic accelerated the upward trajectory of the medium in terms of playing hours and sales. According to International Data Corporation, global video game revenue is expected to surge 20 per cent to \$179.7 billion this year, making gaming bigger than film and North American sports industries combined. But in India, where it's not just fun and games but also an active career choice and a way out of obscurity, 2020 was the year of lost momentum.

The burgeoning esports industry was expected to continue riding the PUBG phenomenon, and Indian professional gamers were set to jostle with the traditional heavyweights from East and Southeast Asia. But a quick onetwo to the gut — in the form of the Coronavirus and PUBG ban — left many reeling.

"For Indian esports, the first stage of development was going on. But everything has been washed out by this year," says Lokesh 'Goldy' Jain, owner of Team 8Bit gaming organisation. "Firstly, the pandemic wiped out the LAN (on-site) events. These offline events are a huge boost in terms of sponsors, commercial viability, and media coverage. There were 30-35 such events planned but everything had to be cancelled.'

Then in September, the Information and Technology Ministry banned PUBG on grounds of national security. In turn, Chinese makers Tencent Games cancelled its plans of making India the Asia hub, picking Singapore instead. Indian PUBG players missed the South Asia league, foregoing all hopes of making it to next month's finale in Dubai with a prize pool of \$2mn. "Soon after the news broke on September 2nd, several jobs were lost," says Kamaljeet Singh, former PUBG Mobile team manager at Entity Esports. "There were many new esports organisations which focussed on PUBG as their primary game. When it was banned, the question was where to pay the salaries from? How to pay for the boot camps?'

In the rapidly growing esports ecosystem, professional players are paid entry-level cor-



PUBG poster boy Naman 'Mortal' Mathur has switched to streaming other titles for his 6 million YouTube subscribers

porate salaries by team owners, provided toptier devices to play on and are housed in bungalows called boot camps for training and team-building. Outfits which had teamed up with international bigwigs such as TSM and Fnatic could afford to keep players on the payroll. "There were so many youngsters who wanted to make their career in esports. Sab ke sapno pe paani fir gaya."

Go with the stream

In the post-PUBG world, Team 8Bit pivoted to content creation, led by the poster boy of PUBG Naman Mathur, whose moniker of 'Mortal' has rung out at the KD Jadhav Indoor Hall in New Delhi to arenas in Kuala Lumpur and Berlin. Mathur had been expecting the ban, but the announcement still left him stunned for a good couple of days. "This was our bread and butter," recalls Mathur. "But we had no other option than to move on and explore other things.

The 24-year-old first pacified his 6 million YouTube subscribers, then tried to migrate the audience to other games — from breakout hits 'Fall Guys' and 'Among Us', to other battle royale titles such as 'Free Fire' and 'Call of Duty' to mixed success. Last month, he finished third in the 'Mobile Player of the Year 2020' category at the E-sports Awards 2020. Earlier this month, YouTube ranked him among the most successful live streamers of the year.

With hardcore PUBG lovers deserting, though, sustaining numbers has been a challenge. Mathur's channel gained 70 million

views and 430,000 subscribers in August. The numbers were down to 21 million and 40,000 in November.

But the most successful PUBG player of the country – he has amassed \$40,000 from competitive events alone - makes do with several partnerships and sponsorships as a streamer. He has rubbed shoulders with professional racers Narain Karthikeyan and Arjun Maini to cricketers LBalaji and MAshwin. He was called upon by actors Vicky Kaushal and Manoj Bajpayee when their movies or TV shows

The PUBG ban thus has only been the end of Stage 1 for Mathur. For many others, it spelt Game Over. Udit Kumar — a 23-year-old media professional from New Delhi - was one of the 50 million approx PUBG mobile users in the country, and moonlighted as a competitive player at local tournaments. The pandemic first put an end to those tourneys and soon he was laid off from his primary job. "Two months after my sister's wedding, I was out of a job and the family needed support. Looking at all these players and their videos, I decided to make my mark as a professional PUBG player," he says.

Udit then became a virtual gun for hire, participating in multiple tournaments which paid Rs15-50 for every in-game kill. "I played many such games daily, and started to get 5-6 kills per game. I formed a group with three others and we ran roughshod," says Udit, rattling off tournament wins like a retired batsman recounting centuries. "I also started a YouTube channel and had a decent following.

Then dropped the banhammer. Too chapfallen to switch to a new mobile game, too broke to afford a gaming PC to play fancier titles, Udit swore off video games and has been helping his milk-seller father.

Mathur points out the risks of putting all eggs in one basket. "You're always new to everything. If people really want to win and go to tournaments, they can go for alternatives. We all had to grind as well," he says. "But yeah, that bond everybody had with PUBG mobile, the emotional connect, that will never be there."

Maybe it will be there when PUBG returns. Or if it returns. The seemingly inevitable comeback was supposed to be in November. Then December: Now January... "Wapas toh aayega," Udit is sure. "I will download it again. Par faaltu sapne nahi dekhunga ab."

Siraj ticks all boxes, 'kills it' in a crafty Test debut

SRIRAM VEERA

MUMBAI, DECEMBER 28

"SARAKKU IRUKU paiyan-kitte" ('the kid has great talent, he has the goods)," Bharat Arun, Team India's bowling coach, would often say about Mohammed Siraj. "You suggest something and he has the skill and temperament to produce it perfectly," words to that effect. Arun has been talking up Siraj over the last 14 months or so. Another rave that he would often use was, "Test-match bowler, red-ball bowler releasing soon!'

If Arun's appreciation was genuine, so was the gratitude in Siraj's response. "Arun sir is a farishta, (guardian angel), he came in my life and changed everything. The confidence he gave me was limitless, the way he backs me. He would say, 'Tu tension nako-rey (don't take tension), you will play for India',' Siraj shared in a video-diary put out by his IPL franchise Royal Challengers Bangalore couple of months back.

The short background story of the two is that when Arun was RCB's assistant coach, he was impressed with Siraj, who had come to bowl at the nets in Hyderabad. When Arun took over as Hyderabad's Ranji Trophy coach in the next domestic season, his strike bowler was Siraj, who finished as the thirdhighest wicket-taker in the country. The happiest and proudest person at the MCG at Siraj's crafty debut would have undoubtedly been Arun.

Debuts of bowlers are usually observed for what they do. The tangibles: the outswingers, nip-backers, leg-cutters, reverse swing and such. Also the intangibles: whether they belong at this level. Siraj has ticked that box as well. He came across as a thinking bowler. He bowled to a field, stuck to the team-plan and adapted to the

"Maut daal diyen, miyan," R Sridhar, India's fielding coach, would tell Siraj, in an end-of-day video put out by BCCI on his debut day. ('You killed it!', in Hyderabadi slang). AB de Villiers prefixed the moniker 'Magic to miyan in the most-recent IPL where Siraj became 'MiyanMagic'.

"AB sir gave me that, it's also very good (name)!" says Siraj in that RCB video, where he talks about his family's financial struggles, his love for his father, his hero-worship of Virat Kohli and the life-lesson from Dhoni to 'ignore opinions'.

Conditions in MCG didn't allow Siraj to produce a dream ball like the one he unsheathed to knock out Prithvi Shaw's offstump this IPL, but MiyanMagic certainly



Mohammed Siraj (L) has bowled to a field, stuck to the team-plan and adapted to the situation on his Test debut against Australia at the MCG. Reuters

Injured Umesh taken for scans

Melbourne: Umesh Yadav hobbled off the field after suffering a calf muscle injury during the third day of the second Test against Australia here on Monday and has been taken for scans. Umesh, 33, was in the middle of a fine spell when he experienced pain in his left leg and called for immediate medical attention. He later limped back to the dressing room. Umesh had dismissed opener Joe Burns with a peach of a delivery in only his second over earlier. Debutant pacer Mohammed Siraj completed what was the eighth over of the innings.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

killed it in the spell he bowled to Cameron Green, doing his best to scrub out the halo from Australia's new wonder boy. The plan laid out for him was clear: Go for the lbw.

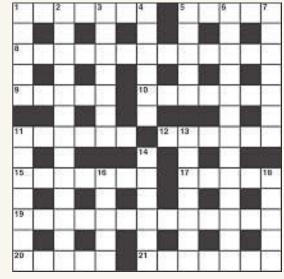
The immediate sequence of the wickettaking over has been understandably talked about - three reverse-swinging balls that tailed away outside off before the in-swinging pad-crasher took Green out - but the effort had started way back. The wicket came in the 62nd over, the process started in the 48th, spread over either side of the tea break. Patience, focus, skill, and the ability to out-

For two full overs at Green before tea, Siraj repeatedly kept bending the ball back in, earning one good lbw shout. Post tea, with a short midwicket and short square-leg, he kept curving them back in. Only at Green, mind you. Whenever Tim Paine came on strike, he moved them away with the shiny side. Already, the control over reverse swing was noteworthy.

Green did well to get his hands ahead of his pad and work the balls to the onside. Again, and again. This is when Siraj decided to mix it up. In the next over, 60th of the innings, he had three balls at Green - all shaping away. The first three balls of the next over, the 62nd, reversed away again. So six in a row, now. It was then the full ball, reversingin, re-appeared at the crime scene to ram into the pad. No wonder Siraj was so thrilled, for the effort had lasted nearly eight overs that included a break for some tea and chips before he could have Green for dessert.

In the interim, he had taken out Marnus Labuschagne with a full ball tailing in, that was flicked to leg-gully. He tried the trick again on Day Three. Five of his first six balls were on the stumps, trying for the lbw, with the aerial flick as a bonus takeaway. The seventh cut in sharply from outside off and led to a very good lbw shout. The next ball was another hat-tip to Siraj's presence of mind and accuracy. A sharp well-directed bouncer arrived and Labuschagne almost holed up just beyond square-leg with a weak pull

CROSSWORD 4314



ACROSS

- A muscle that is unaffected by
- retraction(7)Where the goat goes without corn(5)
- Try as a change some wood

An anti-noise demonstration?

- 10 Time of day for ironing things
- out (7) 11 Goes off for the booty
- 12 See air perhaps? It's not so difficult (6) 15 New crusade for an old
- vehicle (4,3) 17 A temple ornament?
- 19 Ownership in advance is very
- attractive (13) 20 To sack or to fire
- 21 Abone from Munster (7)

Sprays of flowers

- Hold a personal conversation
- A plant holder? (7) Produced the rent
- Near the end (5) The suddenness of rainfall
- Being at home, possibly greet
- 11 A runaway affair on ship?
- 13 The performer rates it

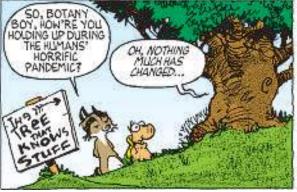
a number (7)

- differently(7) 14 Troubles due to many increases (6)
- 16 Part of a car to take one's
- 18 A number get resin from a biblical tree

Solutions Crossword 4313: Across: 1 Couch, 8 Sparking, 9 Petal, 10 Vigilant, 11 State, 12 Ego, 16 Unison, 17 Unites, 18 Dot, 23 Stage, 24 Londoner, 25 Green, 26 Scramble, 27 Banns. **Down**: 2 Overtone, 3 Chastise, 4 Spring, 5 Drain, 6 Midas, 7 Agate, 12 End, 13 Out, 14 Victoria, 15 Sea-green, 19 O'Neill, 20 Bliss, 21 Angry, 22 Comma.

(5)

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis







CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson









THIS IS **YOUR** SCHOOL PROJECT

MARVIN by Tom Armstrong







JUMBLED WORDS

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

atygnw

Answer: I applied for a server position. I am **still waiting** SOLUTION: CILIA, SIGHT, BULLET, TWANGY

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

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s =

UDOK

Ť	8					2
4		9		8	5	
	9	6	4	5	9	П
3	5	4		6		

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4336 3 4 5 7 6 8 2 3 8 9 4 1 5 2 7 6 2 1 6 3 7 9 4 8 9 6 3 5 2 1 3 5 2 7 4 1 9 6 8 1 6 9 8 2 5 7 4 3 3 5 1 7 4 2 9 6 9 1 6 3 2 8 5 4 6 2 4 5 9 8 1 3 7

DAY TODAY

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) One way or another you must rise above

disappointments and rejections, and the best way to do this is to stop thinking about yourself and see what you can do for others. Do try to be as charming as possible in all situations - and get partners to see that pleasant manners can help

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) Decide whether one particular friendship or emotional

connection is worth maintaining on its present level. Otherwise think about what you can do to make your life more enjoyable and creative. After all, you were put on this planet to relish life's pleasures.

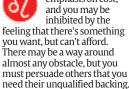
GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) You could not ask for more support from home, even

though family members may not be much use unless you demonstrate to all and sundry that you have a firm direction and that you know exactly what you are doing. You must assert your authority first, and then exercise it with wisdom

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Deeply favourable aspects relate to travel stars and connections with

people in other places. Quite simply it is an excellent moment to pick up your pen, get on the phone and get in touch. You might even be surprised by some of the hidden truths which come to light.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
There's still a strong emphasis on cost,



VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23) You have the advantage, and a

emotional trump cards are still in your hand. Do be aware though, that as money becomes a more important consideration, so you may shift your position over a number of relationships. Give partners

time to catch up.

New Delhi

BY PETER VIDAL

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Give your mystical and spiritual

aspirations a bit of extra space today. There is a great deal to be said for spending some time by yourself, and also in thinking deeply about what exactly it is that makes partners tick. The answers

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23) There is far too

might be surprising.



occupation of your chart makes it clear that at work your best chances come from improving relationships with colleagues. In fact, business and pleasure may merge in an intriguing manner.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22) Even people you have dealt with in the past could turn out to be unreliable but by the same token, people

vou thought untrustworthy will eventually prove their true worth. Don't judge others by appearances. You might even have been wrong in your assessment of a close friend.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20) Solving those daily problems is all a matter of common sense. Check out

legal questions and, in all areas, consider the ethical issues. Establish a sense of moral purpose, free from dogma, and vou'll manage vour practical affairs very much more efficiently in future.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21- Feb 19) You are very likely to find that aspects

of your personal life have changed out of all recognition. You're now entering a period of consolidation which could continue until the next bout of change in about two or three months' time. Prepare your ground with all

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) You may allow life

to take its own ahead with your personal plans, but allowing partners to imagine that everything is going their way. It's all a matter of being as diplomatic as you can. Events will work out in your favour, but perhaps not exactly

as you expect.

India captain Virat Kohli won the Sir Garfield Sobers award for the best male cricketer of the past 10 years. Kohli was also picked for the ODI Cricketer of the Decade award. Former India skipper MS Dhoni won the ICC Spirit of Cricket Award of the Decade', chosen by fans for his gesture of calling back England batsman Ian Bell after a bizarre run out in the Nottingham Test in 2011.

SA take lead over troubled Sri Lanka

Centurion: Faf du Plessis made a career-best 199 in his first Test since giving up the captaincy to take South Africa into a big 160-run lead over a Sri Lanka team stricken by injuries in the series opener on Monday. Off spinner Dhananjaya de Silva was injured while batting on the first day, pace bowler Kasun Rajitha managed just 13 deliveries before limping off on the second day, and fellow frontline quick bowler Lahiru Kumara and legspinner Wanindu Hasaranga hurt themselves on Monday.

BRIEF SCORES: Sri Lanka 396 and 65/2 (Perera 33*, Ngidi 2/28) trail South Africa 621 (du Plessis 199, Maharaj 73, Bavuma 71) by 160 runs

Pakistan avoid follow-on vs NZ

Mount Maunganui: New Test captain Mohammad Rizwan made 71 and Faheem Ashraf 91 to help Pakistan weather a top-order collapse, then fight back to reach 239 before their last wicket fell in the last over on the third day of the first Test against New

BRIEF SCORES: New Zealand 431 lead Pakistan 239 (Ashraf 91, Rizwan 71; Jamieson 3/35) by 192 runs

Jamshedpur beat Bengaluru 1-0 in ISL

Margao: Nigerian defender Stephen Eze's 79th minute strike helped Jamshedpur FC notch up a 1-0 victory over former champions Bengaluru FC in an Indian Super League match, here on Monday. With the win, the Men of Steel leapfrogged Bengaluru to third spot with 13 points from nine matches. BFC stay fourth with 12 points from eight games.

PTI/AP

India poised to land knockout blow

Bowlers expose Australia's batting woes as the hosts find themselves on the ropes in the Boxing Day Test

SANDIPG DECEMBER 28

A BRIEF, run-out-induced stutter lifted Australia's morale in the morning. But a combination of their incompetent batting and India's effective bowling dragged the match away from their grasp, thereby furnishing unstoppable impetus to the visitors' series-squaring ambition. India's first-innings lead was contained to a healthy than unassailable 131, their batting folding up after Ajinkya Rahane was caught short of the crease, but the bowlers responded with a superlative exhibition of craft, cleverness and cunning, reducing Australia to 133 for six.

The sun-baked third-day strip portended a run feast, at least a hearty luncheon for the batsmen. There were only stray signs of indifferent bounce, but hardly any movement off the surface or reverse swing as the ball got older. But this generation of Australian batsmen is not as blessed as some of the preceding ones to blossom in these conditions. Conversely, this batch of Indian bowlers, even without Mohammed Shami and Ishant Sharma, has the knack of blooming in hostile conditions more than some of their predecessors. Rather, they are too skilled to be conditions-bound. They have mastered their craft as well as forged the rare gift of persistence. The spirit of ingenuity and industry shone through Ravichandran Ashwin's setting up or Marnus Labuschagne. The latter thought he had out-thought the off-spinner. The leg-side trap was neatly foiled while sprightly feet movement enabled him to step out and smother the spin. He caressed a beautiful drive through covers to reveal his comfort in quelling the off-spinner.

Then Ashwin came round the wicket. It mattered not to Labuschagne. Unlike in the previous outings, he was making a concerted effort to play straight than across. Ashwin then lulled him with a couple of deliveries into the body, conveying the impression that he was plotting another leg-side snare. But then he angled one across him, the away-drift fooling the batsman into thinking that the ball would go further away. But the ball straightened after



The bail comes off as Steve Smith is bowled around his legs. AP

pitching. Late in judging the ball, Labuschagne offered a hopeful prod, but the ball was designed with laser-guided precision and kissed the outside edge.

Then came Jasprit Bumrah's inevitable, match-influencing moment. He executed what most fast bowlers had dreamt, designed and only failed. He bowled Smith round the stumps. As with any such instance, it will carry a flukeor-freak tag. But the infusion of craft should not be dismissed. First, the delivery seamed in a fraction more than Smith had gauged, it didn't bounce as much he had figured out and, most fatally, was quicker than he had expected. With Smith and Labuschagne gone at the score of 71, Australia disintegrated in expected fashion.

They did show doggedness in the fine Australian tradition. But the limitation of their skills swirled around the majestic arena. Matthew Wade scrapped, scratched and gritted

around for 137 balls, but for only 40 runs, and without ever looking assured. It seemed he could get out any ball, leave alone engineering a memorable, halcyon-day comeback.

Wade at least showed fight, but his fellow opener Joe Burns lasted only 10 balls, an uncertain stay ending with a sharp Umesh Yadav outswinger. The robust pacer, though, limped off midway through his fourth over. But it didn't demoralise the bowling unit. Having five specialists doubtlessly helped, but India did not lose the plot and sustained the intensity. The support cast of Mohammed Siraj and Ravindra Jadeja logged in determined shifts. Unlike in the first innings, there was negligible moisture that benefitted Siraj. But he adjusted accordingly, shortening his length, using the width of the crease and shuffling his angles. He purchased occasional away movement that bargained the wicket of Travis Head.

He departed at a delicate moment of the game, just two overs after Ravindra Jadeja had dislodged Wade's resistance. Again, it owed to Jadeja's perseverance and cunning. He had kept the left-hander on a leash, mixing his pace and trajectory. He realised Wade's back-foot orientation, and made him feel comfortable with good-length balls. Then he bowled one fuller and a tad faster, which crept past his feeble defensive thrust. A typical Jadeja dismissal in the subcontinent, albeit without the ball gripping the surface. The twin blows nailed Australia's looming fate. Jadeja dealt another punch, when he had Tim Paine caught behind with a ball that bounced more than the Australian skipper had anticipated. The DRS-overturned decision would question the accuracy of the review method - the snickometer registered a spike but Hot Spot showed no contact marks — however, it hardly had match-altering potential.

Australia could have been in further abyss $had\,Rishabh\,Pant\,clung\,onto\,a\,straightforward$ Pat Cummins edge off Ashwin, Cummins' lusty blows prevented Australia from an innings defeat, but the fate of the game looks sealed. It was as much a case of Indian bowlers' competence as the incompetence of Australia's batsmen.

Day 4, Live on Sony Sports Network, 5am

SCORECARD

AUSTRALIA vs INDIA 2ND TEST, MCG

Toss: Australia, chose to bat AUS 1ST INNINGS 195 (91.3 ov) **INDIA 1ST INNINGS** 326 (O/N 277/5)

112 (223b, 12x4) R Jadeja c Cummins b Starc 57 (159b, 3x4) 14 (42b) R Ashwin c Lyon b Hazlewood U Yadav c Smith b Lyon 9 (19b, 1x4) J Bumrah c Head b Lyon O(1b) M Siraj not out **■ Extras** (nb 2, w 2, b 12, lb 6)

■ FoW: 6-294 (Rahane, 99.5), 7-306 (Jadeja, 106.5), 8-325 (Yaday, 113.6), 9-325 (Ashwin, 114.4), 10-326 (Jasprit Bumrah, 115.1) ■ Bowling: M Starc 26-5-78-3, P Cummins 27-

9-80-2, J Hazlewood 23-6-47-1, N Lyon 27.1-4-72-3, C Green 12-1-31-0

AUSTRALIA 2ND INNINGS 133/6 M Wade Ibw Jadeja 40 (137b, 3x4) J Burns c Pant b Yadav 4 (10b) M Labuschagne c Rahane b Ash 28 (49b, 1x4) S Smith b Bumrah 8 (30b) T Head c Agarwal b Siraj 17 (46b) CGreen batting 17 (65b, 2x4) TPaine c Pant b Jadeja **PCummins** batting 15 (53b, 1x4) ■Extras (nb3)

■ FoW: 1-4 (Burns, 3.1), 2-42 (Labuschagne, 17.5), 3-71 (Smith, 32.2), 4-98 (Wade, 43.6), 5-98 (Head, 46.1), 6-99 (Paine, 47.4)

■ **Bowling:** J Bumrah 17-4-34-1, U Yadav 3.3-0-5-1, M Siraj 12.3-1-23-1, R Ashwin 23-4-46-1, R Jadeja 10-13-25-2

You can't blame the pitch... it's just been poor batting (by Australia). Very, very poor batting so far."

RICKY PONTING

Shah unveils Jaitley's statue at Kotla



The statue of late Arun Jaitley was unveiled at Feroz Shah Kotla. Praveen Khanna

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 28

HOME MINISTER Amit Shah unveiled the statue of former union minister and DDCA president, late Arun Jaitley, at the Feroz Shah Kotla cricket stadium on Monday in the presence of BCCI president Sourav Ganguly. In his tribute to Jaitley, Shah said: "Some people play sports and the others create a conducive atmosphere for it. The latter's contribution also matters a lot. His pioneering contribution to promoting cricket will never be forgotten."

Ganguly said the former DDCA president had worked tirelessly to promote the game. "He was a cricketer's person," the BCCI chief said.

The run-up to the event had seen former India captain Bishan Singh Bedi demanding the removal of his name from a Kotla stand. In his letter to DDCA president Rohan Jaitley, Bedi had said, "I can't be part of a stadium ... where administrators get precedence over the cricketers". Reacting to the letter, Rohan Jaitley said that he would like Bedi to reconsider his decision. "It obviously matters to the DDCA. I want Bedi sir's name to remain. We have discussed within the DDCA and the view is that we will request him to reconsider it.'









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New Delhi

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