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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2020, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 20 PAGES

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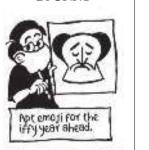
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WORLD



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BUSINESS AS USUAL By UNNY



Days after Karnataka House ruckus, Dy Chairman found dead

DARSHAN DEVAIAH B P CHIKMAGALUR, DECEMBER 29

TWO WEEKS after he was caught in the middle of a ruckus in the Karnataka Legislative Council, JDS leader and Deputy Chairman of the House, S L Dharme Gowda, was found dead on the railway tracks in Karnataka's Chikmagalur district early Tuesday morning. He

is suspected to

have died by

December 15,

as the BJP and

clashed over

who would

control the 75-

suicide.

Congress

Upper House, Gowda, who was ushered to the chairman's seat by BJP members, was pushed off his chair.

According to the railway police, the JDS legislator was found hometown Gunasagara in Kadur taluk of Chikmagalur district. Local police said they found a suicide note near his body.

According to police, on Monday evening, Gowda, accompanied by his driver, had left his farmhouse in Sakkarayapattana **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

IN LETTER TO CENTRE, FARMER UNIONS LIST FOUR-POINT AGENDA

Talks today, farmers to Govt: Will only discuss repeal, MSP legal guarantee

PM appeals against damage to infra, says keep it away from politics

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 29

AHEAD OF the resumption of the Centre Wednesday, farmer unions, protesting at the gates of Delhi against the new farm laws, wrote to the government saying the discussion can only be on a fourpoint agenda including modalities of repealing the laws and providing a legal guarantee on minimum support price.

In a letter to Sanjay Agarwal, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha, representing 40 farmer unions, listed the two other items on the agenda as amendments to the 'Commission Ordinance for Air Quality Management in the National

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates the dedicated freight corridor **via video conference.** PTI

Capital Region and adjoining areas, 2020', and the procedure for withdrawal of the draft 'Electricity Amendment Bill 2020'.

Formally accepting the government's invitation to the talks, the Morcha said. "It is necessary CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 Disquiet in Punjab govt over cell tower vandalism, police seek to control damage

ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHABA, RAAKHIJAGGA & AASHISH ARYAN

JALANDHAR, LUDHIANA, NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

AMID GROWING concern over incidents of around 2,000 cellphone

towers of Reliance Jio Infocomm Punjab being vandalised, allegedly by $protesting \, farmer \, groups, the \, state$ police have fanned out across the affected districts to restore power supply to these towers.

On Tuesday, a day after he issued a stern warning to those vandalising mobile towers,

Chief Minister Amarinder Singh told The Indian Express, "I have directed police to take action against those vandalising the mobile towers. I will not allow anyone to take law in their hands. The situation is under control now.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Farmers in Madhya Pradesh duped by traders, lens on key clauses in farm laws

BHOPAL, DECEMBER 29

CITING THE newly enacted farm laws, Khoja Traders, a trader firm in Dewas owned by brothers Pavan Khoia and Suresh Khoia. duped 22 farmers in Harda dis-

lentil and gram produce worth nearly Rs 2 crore.

The 22 farmers first tried to locate the trader by knocking at Dewas mandi since the Khoja brothers had shown them the trading licence registered by the mandi. But they realised that the

Rs 10 lakh to Hizbul

via Davinder Singh

Para's lawyer declines comment; bail plea

says being framed to settle political scores

duo had cancelled the registration within three months of it being issued by the mandi last year.

They went to the residence of the Khojas in Khategaon tehsil but could not find them. Finally, the farmers filed an FIR with the Khategaon police and also CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Waheed Ur

Rehman

Para was

arrested in

November

connection with its probe into

suspended DySP Davinder

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

PUNE

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New Delhi

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Singh's links with the Hizbul.

OFFICER TO FACE

MILITARY COURT IN

SHOPIAN CASE PAGE 8

Ajinkya Makhan!

6 with UK strain in India; experts say vaccine will remain effective

Unproven therapies can trigger mutation: Govt; 5% positive samples to be sequenced

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M & SREENIVAS JANYALA NEW DELHI, HYDERABAD DECEMBER 29

THE VACCINES developed against the novel coronavirus would remain effective despite the emergence of the new, more contagious strain in the United Kingdom, India's top government

medical experts said on Tuesday. However, they cautioned that injudicious use of unproven therapies against Covid-19 puts "immune pressure" on the virus, which can lead to mutations.

The government on Tuesday announced that at least six persons who have returned recently from the United Kingdom have been found positive for the new "variant under investigation", which is being called VUI-202012/01.

Three of the positive samples were detected at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru, two at the Centre for

INSPIRING INNOVATION

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No cause for worry

WHILE IT is possible that a mutant of the UK or South Africa kind can emerge in India as well, there is no immediate cause for worry as long as effective surveillance and genome sequencing is carried out to detect the new strain early. Prof K Vijay Raghavan, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, has also said that the vaccines being developed will work against this mutant strain as well.

Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad, and one at the National Institute of Virology (NIV). Pune. The Pune sample is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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7 IN TOP 10 SELECTIONS IN CSE 2019

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

DEEPTIMANTIWARY

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

IAMMU & Kashmir Peoples

Democratic Party leader Waheed

Ur Rehman Para allegedly paid

Rs 10 lakh to terror outfit Hizb-

ul-Mujahideen to ensure its sup-

port ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha

polls, an investigation by the

National Investigation Agency

Para in November, just ahead of

the District Development

Council (DDC) polls in J&K, in

The Central agency arrested

(NIA) is said to have found.

SECESSION OF THE SUCCESSFUL

Adelaide hurt fuels resolve, NIA: PDP's Para paid India make history at MCG

SRIRAM VEERA

MOHAMMED SIRAI, the 26-yearold who lost his father last month, was moved to tears in the dressing room as the Indian players toasted his splendid performance in his debut Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, the setting for one of the great comebacks in the history of the game", in the words of coach Ravi Shastri.

India, who were blown away for their lowest score in Test history a week ago in Adelaide. rebounded spectacularly with an eight-wicket win over Australia, led by a character-defining hundred by stand-in captain Ajinkya Rahane. It was a triumph achieved in the absence of Virat Rohit Sharma, and despite losing fast bowler Umesh Yadav in the middle of the game.

The celebration was muted - some laughter and quiet beers - until the Siraj moment came up. "We were celebrating his performance on debut, and the **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



Ajinkya Rahane and Shubman Gill celebrate after winning the India-Australia Test in Melbourne on Tuesday. AP

BY SANJAYA BARU PAGE 12

IAF chief says Chinese air assets fully deployed, flags deepening Sino-Pak ties

KRISHN KAUSHIK NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

UNDERLINING THAT understanding China is "our most important national security challenge" and cautioning against its "possible game plan" and the "deepening and evolving Sino-Pak relationship", Air Chief Marshal R K S Bhadauria said Tuesday that the Chinese have "fully deployed" their air assets



Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria

to support troops along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh. The IAF chief, speaking at an

event organised by the Vivekananda International CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Behind police raid on Pracha, trail of a riot victim and a riot accused

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M & SOFI AHSAN

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

form the basis of Delhi Police's controversial search of advocate Mehmood Pracha's home last week, was accused of rioting and attempt to murder in the Delhi riots. But a month ago, police told the court that Malik's arrest wasn't required.

SHARIF Malik, whose allegations



Mehmood Pracha

connected to the riots filed at Dayalpur police station, with little opposition from the prosecution. Police, in a report submitted

told him that Malik was "witness" to the incident and if he attached Malik's complaint, it would make Ali's case "stronger".

Ali denies Pracha called him. and has told The Indian Express that he went to meet him on his

Ali's case itself is fraught, according to the sequence of events based on police and court records accessed by The Indian Express.

to a Delhi court in August, said Indeed, the court put on that Pracha "called" riot victim record the defence's questioning On November 24, Malik se-Irshad Ali, whose shop had been of the fairness and impartiality cured pre-arrest bail in three FIRs **CONTINUED ON PAGE 14** set on fire during the riots, and All of you killed my parents...now you won't let

PAGE 1

SHAJU PHILIP THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DECEMBER 29

ANCHOR

"ALL OF you killed my father, sir... All of you killed my parents. Now you say I can't even bury them?" cries the distressed young man in the maroon shirt, as he ferociously slams a garden hoe into the ground. A police officer tries to reason with him, telling him to stop digging. A few people stand around watching silently. The viral video has shaken

the conscience of the public and triggered widespread protests in Kerala. It shows 23-year-old Rahul Raj trying to dig a grave for his father, a Dalit man who died on Monday after a week of battling serious burn injuries. Rahul's mother, who was alive at the time, died hours afterward. Like her husband, she too had suffered grievous burns.

Rahul's father, Pongil Rajan, 45, and his mentally-challenged wife Ambili, 36, of Athiyannnor pan-



The couple with their sons

chayat in Thiruvananthapuram district, accidentally set them-

selves on fire on December 22 while resisting attempts by the police to evict them from the three cents of disputed land on which they had built their small home. In his dying declaration to a

local magistrate, Rajan said that he had doused his wife and himself with petrol to bluff the police into backing off. "I had lit the lighter only to keep the police away. I had no plans to end my life. But a police officer swatted at the burning lighter, which fell on us and engulfed us both in flames," he said.

In his statement, Rajan said

that "he was shattered by the thought that his family would be deprived of a roof over their head. Deeply upset over that thought, I took my wife out and held her close, and then put petrol on both of us. I had thought the police would retreat

bestos-roof shed at a Dalit colony where they lived with their two sons, Rahul and Ranjith. A woman named Vasantha had objected to the shed, claiming that she owned the land, which

me bury them: son's grief, anger shake a state from their attempt to evict us." The couple had erected an as-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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TECH REVIEW



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EXPRESS EXPLAINED



INDIA'S ECONOMY IN 2020: QUESTIONS

There are positives but demand is weak and jobs situation is grim

EXPRESS AUDIO

What's killing India's elephants?

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

India has the world's largest population of wild Asian elephants. It also has a colossal human-animal conflict problem.India has the world's largest population of wild Asian elephants. It also has a colossal.

FROM PAGE ONE

Talks today

to conduct our discussion according to this agenda to find a rational solution to relevant issues"

Surjit Singh Phool of BKU (Krantikari) said the meeting agenda they had sent to the government was very clear. "In its letter to us, the government acknowledged our agenda, but did not specifically mention repealing the laws. Their letter lacks clarity, but we believe that their act of asking us for the agenda was a welcome step. Now, we expect something new from them, something that is in the direction of finding the best way to repeal the laws," he said.

While all 40 leaders invited by the government will go for the talks, only five leaders, Phool said, would put forward the views of the farmers. Jagmohan Singh, BKU (Dakaunda) general secretary, said farmers have postponed their tractor march, scheduled for Wednesday, to Thursday.

"If the talks are fruitful, there will be no need for this march and we will spend the New Year with our families. We are at the table to discuss issues. That is what the Supreme Court also wanted," he said.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, referring to the targeting of infrastructure during demonstrations and movements, said this amounts to hurting the country, its "poor and common people". While exercising democratic rights, he said, "we should never forget our obligation to the nation".

Inaugurating the New Bhaupur-New Khurja section and the operation control centre of the Eastern Dedicated Freight

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Corridor, the PM said dedicated freight corridors will allow farm produce to reach destinations faster and benefit everyone, from industry to businesses, farmers to consumers

In an address via a video link, Modi said: "Our past experience tells us that the development of the country's infrastructure should be kept away from politics."

Farmers duped

submitted a written complaint to the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Khategaon.

The incident assumes significance since it touches upon two critical aspects of The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020 — registration of traders in private markets and dispute resolution.

In a written and signed complaint submitted to the SDM on December 26, the 22 farmers said, "Pavan and Suresh Khoja came to us on different days and purchased our produce showing their registered license assuring us that money will be credited into our account. But when that didn't happened, we approached the Khategaon Mandi and realised they are no longer registered. We would request you to help get us the money of our produce."

When contacted, Dewas District Collector Chandramauli Shukla said, "We have formed special teams with help from the police to track the trader and get the farmers their dues. We hope to track him (Khoja) soon."

Kanhaiya Patel, one of the farmers from Harda district who was also cheated said that at least 100-150 more farmers spread across four districts of Hoshangabad, Sehore, Harda and Dewas, have been duped.

It is only after the cheque issued to the farmers by the trader bounced that they realised the fraud. Anand Jat, a farmer from Alanpur village in Harda district, said Pavan Khoja approached him with a proposal to purchase the produce and told him that after the enactment of the farm laws, the government had mandated traders to directly deal with the farmers.

Khoja offered Rs 700 more than the running mandi rate, and gave him a cheque. He sold about 90 quintal of lentils worth nearly Rs 5.5 lakh, but the cheque bounced.

The latest case in Harda — the constituency of Cabinet minister of Agriculture Kamal Patel — is the eight such reported in Madhya Pradesh since the farm laws came into force.

Dewas District Collector Shukla said since the farmers were spread over many districts, he would coordinate with others in the probe.

Disquiet in Punjab

While the CM said "only 4-5 cases of vandalisation have come to light in the past 24 hours", sources said the government has taken serious note of the incidents. "There is a lot of disquiet in the government over this disruption, particularly in light of the continued stalemate between the Centre and the protesting farmers. No one in the state wants the situation to get out of hand," said a senior official.

Though company sources said that apart from around 2,000 towers, several base transceiver stations and fibre optic cables in

the state have also been vandalised, senior police officers maintained that in most cases there was little damage to the towers, with the vandals, allegedly local youth supported by gram panchayat members, only target-

ing power supply lines to the towers.

Police are yet to register any FIR in these cases despite videos and photographs showing youngsters climbing up the tow-

Bhupinderjit Virk, Senior Superintendent of Police of Bathinda, where power supply to 60 towers were snapped, said no FIR has been registered as only electricity lines were cut. "There was no damage reported (to the towers). Hence, we have not lodged any FIR. Power supply to 29 out of 60 towers has been restored, and our teams are counselling villagers against indulging in such acts."

Sources said that on Tuesday, senior Jio executives met government and police officials in the state to seek protection for the tower sites as well as other telecom infrastructure

With power supply to Jio's towers disrupted, the immediate impact is likely to be felt on voice calls originating from and landing on the telco's network.

6 with UK strain

from a man from Chennai, officials in Maharashtra said.

"All these persons have been kept in single-room isolation in designated health care facilities by respective state governments. Their close contacts have also been put under quarantine. Comprehensive contact tracing has been initiated for co-travellers, family contacts, and others. Genome sequencing on other specimens is going on," the Health Ministry said.

Around 33,000 passengers had landed in various Indian airports from the UK between November 25 and December 23, when flights to and from that country were stopped. "All these passengers are being tracked and subjected by states to RT-PCR tests. So far, only 114 have been found positive [for all variants of the virus]," the Ministry said

All samples from UK returnees that test positive in RT-PCR tests will be put through genome sequencing, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan told reporters. Also, as part of extensive surveillance, 5 per cent of positive samples in the general pop-

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ulation of the country will also be subjected

to genome sequencing, Bhushan said.

Prof K VijayRaghavan, Principal Scientific Advisor to Government of India, said that besides testing and sequencing of samples from international travellers, the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) will also carry out sequencing of samples from those being admitted to hospitals. "We are not only sequencing the samples by choosing representative samples but we will also test the samples in laboratories to see whether infectivity has increased and do field studies to see if the transmission of any variant has increased," he said.

Prof Raghavan, however, stressed that vaccines would work against the new strains as well. "Vaccines stimulate our immune system to produce a wide range of protective antibodies. So the changes in the variants are not sufficient to make the vaccines ineffective, which is a positive reassurance," he said.

Prof Balram Bhargava, DG, Indian Council of Medical Research, emphasised that physicians should only use therapies that show benefits. "The question arises why should these variations occur? These variations occur because of immune pressure on the virus. This immune pressure may be related to the environment, the host, treatment, or other modalities," he said. "Therefore, it is important from the scientific community's perspective that we don't put too much immune pressure on the virus. We have to maintain the judicious use of therapies which are going to benefit; if the benefit is not established, we should not use them." Prof Bhargava said.

The Health Secretary said at the briefing that 52 per cent of cases in India were in the 18-44 age group; however, mortality analyses show that 55 per cent of deaths were in the 60 years and above age group.

(WITH ANURADHA MASCARENHAS IN PUNE)

PDP leader Para

Para, who won the polls from his constituency in Pulwama, is in jail.

When contacted, Para's lawyer T N Raina declined to comment on this specific NIA claim. But in his bail application filed before the NIA special court in Jammu earlier this month, Para denied all allegations of Hizbul links and suggested he was being framed "for settling political scores with a political party".

Sources said the money was allegedly delivered to Hizbul operative Syed Mushtaq Naveed alias Naveed Babu through Davinder Singh.

Davinder Singh was arrested on

January 11, travelling in his Hyundai i10 car with Naveed Babu, Hizbul district commander for Shopian and Ganderbal; and Hizbul operative Rafi Ahmed Dar. Sources said that in February 2019,

when Naveed Babu and Mir were staying in a hideout allegedly provided by Davinder Singh in Jammu, Mir allegedly called Para over Signal for financial assistance to help Hizbul.

"Mir and Para have known each other for a long time. Mir told Para that Rs 10 lakh was required for purchase of five AK-47 rifles for Hizbul. Para agreed but put a condition that Hizbul would not create any trouble ahead of the polls and that the outfit would take care of his workers in Pulwama. He also sought Hizbul's support for the polls," an NIA officer said.

Following this, the job of coordinating the deal was given to Davinder Singh who called Para on his phone on February 18, 2019, NIA sources said. He also received calls from Para during this period.

In March that year, Para allegedly

sent a man with Rs 10 lakh in an envelope to Srinagar airport where Singh was then posted. "Singh received the money and asked one of his assistants to put the same in a tiffin box and keep it in his car. It was later delivered to Naveed Babu," the officer said.

In his bail application, Para said that NIA has nothing but confessional statements of accused – and these cannot be considered as evidence.

Adelaide

world knows what he has been through when he struggled to hold his tears. Rahane and a couple of others hugged him, and sat him down. It was an emotional and lovely moment for the whole team, really," a source in the team said.

Siraj's father, an autorickshaw

driver, was a big supporter of his cricket, and saw the cricketing rise of his son as the family's fortunes changed due to his IPL stint.

New Delhi

India's stunning turnaround had begun even as the team's worst ignominy was winding down in the first Test. No soul-stirring speeches were made in the dressing room after the defeat. There were no angry rants. No post mortem was undertaken. "The coaching group decided that it would be pointless. All of us knew what happened. Everyone was hurting. Nothing needed to be said," the source said. Instead, Shastri told the players to go to their rooms, try to clear their heads, stay calm, and come for a meeting the next morning.

The head coach said that it was acceptable to lose the series 0-4, but going down without a fight wasn't. The Australian bowlers were class operators, and India's batsmen needed to do something different to counter them.

Bharat Arun, the bowling coach, asked

the bowlers to force the Australian batsmen to score on one side of the wicket and to make them work hard for their runs.

Regular skipper Kohli had a chat, and so did Rahane later, it is learnt. When they hit the nets next, the batsmen started to work with the throwdowns. Angles were created and lengths bowled by Australians at Adelaide were hit.

Dy Chairman dead

village in his car. When he didn't return for long, his family launched a search for him. Police found his body near the railway tracks the following morning.

IAF chief Foundation, said while the strength of the

Chinese army presence in the region is well known, its air force "deployment has been very strong" and "we have taken every action that we are required to take and cater to such situations".

The Chinese, he said, also "have a large

presence in the second tier, and large presence of radars and surface-to-air missiles, and surface-to-surface missiles in the reconnable area".

Asked about the capabilities of Indian

forces to meet such a challenge, Air Chief

Marshal Bhadauria said, "Whether we have enough today? We have enough. Otherwise, you would have had a different situation in the north."

"The way all three forces have activated and deployed, there is no need to worry whether have enough to do our bit to hold

the situation and to ensure we do not lose territory or sovereignty. So on that issue, we should not have any doubt."

On Pakistan, the IAF chief said it is "increasingly becoming a pawn in Chinese pol-

creasingly becoming a pawn in Chinese policy" and is under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor debt.

Son's grief

she had purchased 16 years ago. After a legal battle at a local civil court, Vasantha got a favourable verdict.

Two months ago, the court ordered Rajan to vacate the land, but he refused. Subsequently, the court designated an advocate's commission to look into the issue. Based on the commission's report, the court again passed an order to evict the family.

On December 22, the police came to the

family's home. By then, however, the couple had obtained a stay on the eviction order from the local munsiff court. This had happened on the same day — however, according to the family, they had not until then got a copy of the order to show the police. "When the police came with the court

authorities to evict us, my father told them about the stay obtained from the court on that very day. It was only a matter of getting the copy of the order," Rahul, the couple's elder son, said.

After Rajan succumbed to his injuries on Monday, the sons insisted that he should be buried on the land for which he had fought and died. So Rahul started to dig himself, but the police intervened. Subsequently, however, Rajan was buried on the premises as per his wish.

As the police action and the Dalit couple's death triggered an uproar and protests, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vljayan on Tuesday said the government would step in to help the orphaned sons. "The government will take up their protection and meet their educational expenses. They will be provided with a house," he announced.

DGP Loknath Behera asked Thiruvananthapuram Rural SP B Ashokan to look into the incident, including police lapses in handling the eviction.

However, the woman who initiated the legal battle against the Dalit couple said she would not relent. "I bought the land 16 years ago. The people of the colony were against me. I have been fighting alone. I won't leave the land. I want to prove that it belongs to me," she said.

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SKYWATCH



At the Singhu border; (below) the protest site at Ghazipur.

At Ghazipur, small farmers from outside Punjab say MSP just a dream

ASHNA BUTANI

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

AMONG THOSE arriving at the Ghazipur border to join the protest against the farm laws is a sizable group of small farmers, mostly from Uttar Pradesh and some from Uttarakhand. Speaking to The Indian Express, many said they are being paid less than the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for their crops, or, in the case of sugarcane farmers, haven't been paid at all for a years.

Farmers from all backgrounds insisted that small farmers, who own two acres or less. will be hit hardest by the laws.

Ram Chand (43), from Pilibhit's Dhakia Natha village, has been forced to sell his yield at a price much lower than the MSP for as long as he can remember. He said, "I have 5 bighas of land (a little less than an acre), in which I alternate between sowing *gehu* (wheat), *dhan* (paddy) and ganna (sugarcane).'

His foremost concern, however, was that he has not been paid for his sugarcane crop for two years. He and other farmers at the border said they are on contract with the Sahkari Ganna



Vikas Samiti, which pays them Rs 325 for a quintal of sugarcane. The FRP (fair and remunerative price) for sugarcane is 285 per quintal.

Chand, who has been at the border for 10 days, said, "I am still waiting for the pending amount. I had to take a loan of Rs 1.5 lakh last year for my son's wedding and for farming. This is the condition when it (farming) is under the government. Imagine the situation if corporates come in and there is no MSP in place..."

Farmers argued that in such a situation, they cannot go to court under the new laws but have to approach the SDM

Non-payment of sugarcane dues was a concern echoed by farmers from Uttarakhand as well. Mandeep Narwal (32), from Bazpur, said he has not been paid for sugarcane for two years: "Since it is the only crop that I grow. I manage to get 800 quintal of sugarcane in a year. But I have not received a rupee from it; I am managing the household by taking

thing else instead of sugarcane, he said, "What else can we grow? The situation is no better for farmers who grow dhan either."

Asked if he can grow some-

loans from local institutions."

While the MSP for paddy is Rs 1,868 per quintal, not a single farmer at the protest site said they received over Rs 1,200.

Premanand Mahajan, an ex-MLA from Udham Singh Nagar in Uttarakhand, who reached the

site on Monday, said, "I got Rs 1,200 for dhan this year, despite having some influence in my area. So you can imagine how it is for smaller farmers. This is why we want a written notice from the government regarding MSP, stating that it will be followed."

Farmers said if MSP as well as

middlemen are removed, they will be paid much less than what they are getting now. Puran Lal (38), from UP's Pilibhit, explained how he is left with only Rs 500 by the end of the year: "Last season, I got 4 quintal of dhan, which amounted to around Rs 4,000. Of that, I spent Rs 2,000 to grow a batch of gehu. After paying labourers, I am left with Rs 500 for six months... if someone falls sick in the family, I can't do anything about it. Four of my children study in a government school. They get a meal a day, but

there is no teaching there." He said that if MSP was assured, he would have been left with Rs 2,000 in hand, which he would spend on sending his children to a private school: "I don't want them to end up like me... but my eldest son, aged 12, helps with farming. That is the only way to cut down on

Singhu border to get free WiFi hotspots so farmers can video call families back home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

AAP WILL install free WiFi hotspots at the Singhu border for the convenience of protesting farmers, party leader and MLA Raghav Chadha said Tuesday. He said it was the initiative of Chief Minister Arvind Keiriwal.

"Any person needs three things to live a life of dignity: roti (food), kapda (clothes), makaan (home). But in today's time, a fourth thing has been added, which is internet. Our farmer brothers and sisters came to Delhi borders, and have been



Raghav Chadha said it was the CM's initiative

fighting for their rights for the past one month," he said at a press conference.

"Sewadar Arvind Keiriwal

with backs to the wall

gave sewa of blankets, langar, toilets and water, and now he will start another sewa of free WiFi at Singhu border," said Chadha.

He said the party had received demands from farmers at Singhu as there are network connectivity issues. Chadha said the radius of one WiFi hotspot would be 100 metres, which will cover an area of 31,000 square feet.

"These farmers at the Singhu border, who have been sitting miles away from their homes and fields, only have one wish after sundown — that they be able to make a video call to their families to speak to their wives, ageing mothers and children. Due to the low signal strength, our farmer brothers and sisters were not able to speak to their families.

"The problems and inconveniences that these farmers are facing due to the three black laws, if we are able to reduce this even a little bit, we will consider ourselves successful. They will also be able to see the lies and propaganda of the Modi government, and gave them a befitting reply

on social media." Chadha said. Asked by reporters why hotspots were not being installed at Tikri border, he said Kejriwal and AAP would try "their level best" to do so if requests came from farmers there

No funds from Centre, DCW, police rescue MCDs find themselves ex-MLA's daughter from family home

ABHINAV RAJPUT NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

BJP LEADERS from Delhi's civic bodies have, over the past few months, reached out to the Centre for financial assistance so they can pay salaries to staff who

haven't been paid in months. But with no money coming their way, the BJP-ruled MCDs have come under attack from the AAP. AAP's MCD in-charge Durgesh Pathak Tuesday said the BIP's top brass has lost all hope in the MCDs. "They asked for fi-

Centre but were not provided any money," he said. In October, North MCD Mayor Jai Prakash had met Union MoS Anurag Thakur, followed by a meeting last month with Union Minister Hardeep

nancial assistance from the

Singh Puri to discuss the issue. The political wing of the South MCD has also sought the Centre's help to resolve the issue, with a former mayor writing to Home Minister Amit Shah and

seeking his intervention. In the letter, he wrote that the local body of Delhi (Union Territory) should be treated on par with local bodies of other states and be included in the ambit of the 15th Finance Commission so that it is eligible for receiving grants from the central government.

Senior leaders in the BJP said several civic body leaders have conveyed to the state leadership that if the present condition persists and the Centre doesn't intervene, a negative perception will hurt their chances in the 2022 municipal elections.

North MCD Mayor Prakash confirmed that he met Puri and told him that arrangements should be made so that funds come directly to MCDs as the Delhi government has allegedly not paid Rs 13,000 crore due to the corporations.

The present financial crisis, meanwhile, has once again led to MCD employees issuing an ultimatum that they will stage a strike from January 7 at the L-G house if salaries are not paid.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

THE DELHI Commission for Women (DCW) and Delhi Police rescued a 44-year-old woman from her residence in Paschim Vihar on Monday night, after she wrote to the Delhi government alleging that her father, former minister and MLA Raj Kumar Chauhan, has held her captive at their home. She alleged her brother and father beat her up mercilessly

ADCW official said, "The letter was addressed to the Chief Minister and was forwarded to us two days ago. We acted on it immediately." Chauhan, who was a minister during Sheila Dikshit's time, did not respond to calls and texts seeking a comment.

The woman told the team that she got married in 1999 and has two daughters, but is separated from her husband. With her husband married to another woman, she had been living with her parents for the past 10 years. A divorce case is pending before a court in Chandigarh, but her family did not want her to get a divorce over "prestige issues", said DCW officials.

The woman told DCW her brother had beaten her up and threatened to kill her. After she was rescued, she was taken to Paschim Vihar police station. where her statement and those of her daughters were recorded. She said she did not want to live with her parents and was shifted to a shelter home, officials said.

DCP (Outer) Dr A Koan said, "A local enquiry revealed she was living with her two daughters, aged 20 and 13, on a separate floor in her father's house. Allegations levelled by the complainant were denied by her daughters." However, the DCW said the fact that she was beaten up was confirmed by her 13year-old daughter.

The DCW said it has written to police, asking why only a DD entry has been registered in the matter. Police, however, said further enquiry is underway.

3,800 HEALTHCARE WORKERS TRAINED

City prepares for Covid shot, those at frontlines say ready

CORONAVIRUS IN THE CAPITAL

TOTAL CASES

6.24.118

Dec 28

Daily cases

ASTHA SAXENA

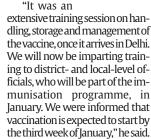
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

MOVING A step closer towards the Covid-19 vaccination programme, training of 3,800 healthcare workers - who will be playing a crucial role in carrying out the immunisation process in the capital — concluded on Tuesday.

As announced by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, the government will vaccinate 51 lakh people in the first phase. The city will need 1.2 crore doses to cover priority categories comprising healthcare workers, police, civil defence volunteers, those aged above 50 and people aged below 50 with associated co-morbidities such as diabetes, heart ailments, among others.

The Indian Express spoke to five healthcare workers who attended the 'Training of trainers' (TOT) session and will now impart training to those in the next level.

Sunil Singhal (49) President. East Delhi branch Medical Association



Dr Ritika Bakshi (30) Senior resident, department of community medicine,

Maulana Azad Medical College "During the training pro-

'No respite

from cold

New Year'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

A COLD wave on Tuesday brought

minimum temperature down to

2.6 degrees Celsius at South

Delhi's Avanagar, as per the IMD.

At Lodhi Road, minimum or

night-time temperature fell to 2.7

degrees Celsius, while the

Safdarjung observatory, which is

representative of Delhi, recorded

3.6 degrees Celsius, the IMD said.

continue until January 1, as per

an IMD forecast. Kuldeep

Srivastava, head of IMD's regional meteorological centre.

said "We have cold winds blow-

ing from the Western Himalavan region towards the plains of

Northwest India, where many places have recorded a cold wave and also severe cold wave in

Maximum or day-time temperature also dipped on Tuesday

to 16.1 degrees Celsius at Southwest Delhi's Jaffarpur, 16.2 degrees at Palam and 17.7 degrees

at Ayanagar. At Safdarjung, the

maximum temperature was 18.1

degrees Celsius, lower than 20.9

Delhi has recorded six cold

degrees recorded on Monday.

wave days so far this month and

more are expected over the next

two days. A cold wave is declared

when the minimum tempera-

ture falls below 4 degrees

The National Council

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT Personal Secretary to NGS - Gradua

Diploma in Office Mgmt; Exp. 15 yrs including 5 yrs. working with senion management; Age 35-50 yrs.

Accounts Assistant-cum-Cashier

B.Com with Diploma in related field, Exp. 5 yrs. with knowledge of Tally, GST, TDS Excel, BRS; Age 30-40 yrs.

Send your application by email

January 15, 2021, mentioning the po

Short-listed candidates will be called t

Salary/honorarium will be commensur

ngsymcaindia2020@gmail.com

an online personal interview. Relaxation in requirements will be mad

Celsius, Srivastava said.

some pockets."

The cold wave is expected to

NEW DELHI DECEMBER 29

wave till

about several vaccine candidates that are in the fray and what level the vaccination process is at. It was a full day-training, with details on Covid cases across the country and a brief background on what measures have been taken so far. We were told how everything related to the vaccination process will be operated through the Co-WIN mobile app. It was an extremely enriching experience," she said. Dr Ashwani Goyal (58)

gramme, we were informed

Member, Delhi Medical

"During the session, we were apprised of the cold chain main-

tenance and how beneficiaries will be pre-registered. The vaccination area will be divided three into rooms - a waiting area, a vaccination room

HOSPITAL BEDS 18,718

1,525

Deaths

28

10,502

VENTILATORS

Recoveries

16,405

943

Tests

57,463

84,889

84,93,400

and an observation room. Training was also provided on how unused vials have to be kept and what are the measures that need to be taken for each beneficiary. We have been informed that healthcare workers will be provided pre-filled syringes that will automatically get locked," he said.

A mural spotted at New Friends Colony. Amit Mehro

Dr Warisha Mariam (30) Senior resident, department of community medicine. MAMC



given a huge opportunity to be a part of the training programme. It was an insightful session on how the government, at the central and state level, is doing micro planning in a comprehensive manner. To vaccinate 51 lakh individuals is a commendable task, we are glad to be a part of it," she said.

Dr Veena Verma (48) District immunisation officer

"We have started training of officers at the district level and are sharing experiences from our session. During our training programme, we have learnt everything about Covid-19 and the vaccination drive,"

EXTENSION OF PERIODICITY OF FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS This is notified for the information of rail passengers that

Railways have decided to extend the periodicity of the run of following Festival Special Trains as under:-

Train No. & Name	Already Notified Up to	Extended Up to
08237 Korba - Amritsar Jn. Express Special	30.12.2020	29.01.2021
08238 Amritsar Jn Bilaspur Express Special	01.01.2021	31.01.2021
08215 Durg - Udhampur Express	30.12.2020	27.01.2021
08216 Udhampur - Durg Express	31.12.2020	28.01.2021
02883 Durg - H. Nizamuddin Superfast Festival Spl.	31.12.2020	30.01.2021
02884 H. Nizamuddin - Durg Superfast Festival Spl.	01.01.2021	31.01.2021
02521 Barauni - Ernakulam Festival Special	30.12.2020	27.01.2021
02522 Ernakulam - Barauni Festival Special	03.01.2021	31.01.2021
02397 Gaya - New Delhi Festival Special	31.12.2020	30.01.2021
02398 New Delhi - Gaya Festival Special	01.01.2021	31.01.2021
05251 Darbhanga - Jalandhar City Festival Special	26.12.2020	30.01.2021
05252 Jalandhar City - Darbhanga Festival Special	27.12.2020	31.01.2021
05531 Saharsa - Amritsar Festival Special	27.12.2020	31.01.2021
05532 Amritsar - Saharsa Festival Special	28.12.2020	01.02.2021
05267 Raxaul - Lokmanya Tilak (T) Festival Special	26.12.2020	30.01.2021
05268 Lokmanya Tilak (T) - Raxaul Festival Special	28.12.2020	01.02.2021
05529 Saharsa - Anand Vihar (T) Festival Special	30.12.2020	27.01.2021
05530 Anand Vihar (T) - Saharsa Festival Special	31.12.2020	28.01.2021
02355 Patna - Jammu Tawi Festival Special	29.12.2020	30.01.2021
02356 Jammu Tawi - Patna Festival Special	30.12.2020	31.01.2021
03255 Patliputra - Chandigarh Festival Special	30.12.2020	31.01.2021
03256 Chandigarh - Patliputra Festival Special	31.12.2020	01.02.2021
05211 Darbhanga - Amritsar Festival Special	31.12.2020	29.01.2021
05212 Amritsar - Darbhanga Festival Special	02.01.2021	31.01.2021
05269 Muzaffarpur - Ahmedabad Festival Special	31.12.2020	28.01.2021
05270 Ahmedabad - Muzaffarpur Festival Special	02.01.2021	30.01.2021
02237 Varanasi Jn Jammu Tawi Express Special	31.12.2020	31.01.2021
02238 Jammu Tawi - Varanasi Jn. Express Special	01.01.2021	01.02.2021
04041 Delhi Jn Dehradun Mussoorie Express Special	31.12.2020	31.01.2021
04042 Dehradun - Delhi Jn. Mussoorie Express Special	01.01.2021	01.02.2021
02231 Lucknow - Chandigarh Express Special	31.12.2020	31.01.2021
02232 Chandigarh - Lucknow Express Special	01.01.2021	01.02.2021
02448 H. Nizamuddin - Manikpur Jn. Special	31.12.2020	31.01.2021
02447 Manikpur Jn H. Nizamuddin Special	01.01.2021	01.02.2021
04321 Bareilly - Bhuj Express Special	30.12.2020	31.01.2021
04322 Bhuj - Bareilly Express Special	31.12.2020	31.01.2021
04311 Bareilly - Bhuj Ala Hazrat Express Special	31.12.2020	30.01.2021
04312 Bhuj - Bareilly Ala Hazrat Express Special	30.12.2020	29.01.2021
02422 Jammu Tawi - Ajmer Superfast Special	31.12.2020	31.01.2021
02421 Ajmer - Jammu Tawi Superfast Special	01.01.2021	01.02.2021
Note: All norms of the State and Central Govern	ment regarding COVID-19 i	ncluding Social

distancing, sanitization etc., may be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations.

All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

For any kind of information such as detailed Time-Table of stations enroute etc., passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or NTES App.

Helpline No. 182







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New Delhi

with qualification and experience.

Bertram Devada

National General Secretar

Two held for killing man

New Delhi: Two men, including a DTC bus conductor, were arrested for allegedly killing a 40-yearold who they suspected a thief in Sonia Vihar. The third accused is on the run. Police said on the intervening night of Friday-Saturday, the accused were drinking in their car at Milan Garden. At 11 pm, they saw the victim roaming around a dairy nearby. owned by one of the accused, and suspected he was a thief. They beat him up, said police.

'Ensure RFID compliance at 13 toll plazas from Jan 1'

New Delhi: Commission Air Quality Management asked the South MCDto ensure compliance of Radio Frequency Identification systems at 13 toll plazas from January 1. An environment ministry statement Tuesday said the system was not being fully implemented at the tolls since August 14. ENS

Turned down by woman, man kills her 15-year-old son

MAHENDERSINGH **MANRAL**

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

A 15-YEAR-OLD boy was allegedly kidnapped by four men from his home in Outer Delhi's Nihal Vihar and murdered, after the victim's mother ended a relationship with one of the accused. The incident took place on December 22.

Police said two of the accused have been arrested - Ankit Prajapati (31), who works for an online food delivery company, and Kapil Singh (23), who runs an eatery in Palwal. Singh's elder brother, Pradeep Singh alias Sonu, is the alleged mastermind, and he and his associate Mahendra Kumar are on the run, police said.

'Kapil told police his brother, who is already married, met the victim's mother two years ago. The two were in a relationship and decided to get married. Kapil said their parents did not approve as Pradeep was already married. While the boy's mother asked Pradeep to divorce his wife, he pressured her to be with him without getting married. She began avoiding him and married someone else three months ago. Angered by her decision, he de-

legedly called her son on the pretext of taking him somewhere in Kumar's car and killed him," an officer said. Police said the teenager was adopted, and his father died two years ago.

Said a senior police officer, "On December 22, the victim's mother received a call demanding Rs 50 lakh for her son's release. She informed police and an FIR was filed. The caller's location was traced to Faridabad." At Faridabad, police found the accused left the boy behind and escaped. "They had strangled the victim. Doctors said the boy was killed a few hours after he was kidnapped," said the officer.

"A car was spotted near the victim's residence, which was traced to Kumar. Police also found the number from which the ransom calls were made was issued on a forged ID to Pradeep," a source said. Pradeep's hideout in Chhatarpur was raided, but he wasn't there. Police then checked his brother's phone location during the incident. "It came to light that Kapil was present with his brother during the crime, and had gone home after the police raided at Faridabad. He was taken into custody, and on his instance, Ankit was detained," the officer said.

LAUNCHED UNDER MID-DAY MEAL SCHEME 8 lakh students will get dry ration kits: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

CHIEF MINISTER Arvind Kejriwal and Deputy CM Manish Sisodia Tuesday flagged off a new initiative to distribute dry ration kits under the mid-day meal scheme to 8 lakh students from Delhi government schools, which shall continue till schools remain closed. The scheme was flagged off at SKV No. 3 at Mandawali, and kits were distributed to parents of 52 students as a start.

"The last nine months have been hard and we don't see it improving in the near future. The worst affected have been school children. Health and nutrition of many children were compromised as, due to the lockdown, a poor man found it hard to earn.' said Kejriwal to teachers and parents gathered at the school. Said Sisodia, "Due to the lockdown, the damage done to education can perhaps not be compensated later. We wish for schools to open; hopefully things will improve once the vaccine comes. Many daily wage earners could not earn, and this negatively impacted their children as well. We



At the launch of the scheme, Tuesday. Prem Nath Pandey

thought of wiring six-months' worth of mid-day meal scheme money to parents' accounts, but decided that giving ration of the same amount would be better."

The dry ration kit comprised 10.425 kg of wheat and rice each, 7.713 kg of pulses and 2 litres of oil. The Akshaya Patra non-profit organisation also distributed an additional kit comprising stationery, soap, sanitary napkins, biscuits and other items. The kits cost the government Rs 4.09 per day for a primary students and Rs 6.14 per day for an upper primary student, as per DoE. Neeru Kanchan from the DoE, who is incharge of the mid-day meal scheme, told The Indian Express,

"In normal times, the government is billed Rs 4.48 per primary student(class I-V) per day, and Rs 6.71 per upper primary student (class VI-XII) per day.'

Anju (35), a single mother from Madhu Vihar whose daughter Sakshi (12) is in Class IV, was one of the first recipients of the ration kits. "When my husband, a mechanic, died in May, finding money to run the household was hard, although my parents did help," she said. Though she has taken a course in cosmetics so she can find a job at a beauty parlour, she said she continues to struggle to find employment: "I am trying to find any job, I will do anything. But there are just no jobs.'

sportspersons Usain Bolt, Milkha

Singh and Sachin Tendulkar. It

also brought Prime Minister

Narendra Modi, Mahatma Gandhi

and Sardar Patel under one roof,

along with freedom fighter

Bhagat Singh and former

they are "certainly looking to ex-

plore other options in the NCR" for

the attraction to reopen. "Public

behaviour will change after the

pandemic. People would like to

visit places that are more venti-

lated and where all safety hygiene

Jain told The Indian Express that

President APJ Abdul Kalam.

Yamuna ammonia up, Delhi blames Haryana for laxity

Ammonia is used as an indus-

trial chemical in the production

of fertilisers, plastics and dyes.

Haryana and Delhi agree on is

the mixing of two drains carry-

ing drinking water and sewage

or industrial waste, or both, in Sonipat. Drain number 8 brings

potable water to the capital and

drain number 6 carries waste-

water. The two drains often mix

due to overflow or damage to

ment is expected to start a ten-

dering process to build a con-

duit pipeline and prevent the

Haryana government offi-

cials also state that

the issue is being

raised frequently by

Delhi because it

wants more water to

be released into the

Yamuna to meet the

city's growing water

demand.

city at present receives "much

less than the share of water we

What is the solution?

Chadha, however, said the

Officials in Haryana and in

the DJB state that the Board

should increase its capacity to

treat ammonia levels in the wa-

Minister Satyendar Jain has di-

rected that ozone-based units

to treat ammonia levels up to 4

ppm should be installed at

In a recent meeting, Water

mixing of two drains, officials

Haryana's irrigation depart-

the wall that separates them.

A specific area where both

SHIVAM PATEL

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

THE DELHI Jal Board (DJB) said water supply to parts of north, central and south Delhi would be disrupted on Wednesday following a spike in ammonia levels in the Yamuna. Blaming the Haryana government for releasing industrial effluents into the Yamuna "despite repeated reminders", DJB vice-chairman and AAP leader Raghav Chadha Tuesday asked the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB) to look into the issue and sternly deal with the state's "irresponsible behaviour".

Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB) member secretary S Narayanan said they have increased vigilance and are carrying out inspections of all industrial

units: "No major violation has been noted so far. We have discussed our position with DJB and the CPCB."

EXPLAINED

The impact of increasing pollution in the Yamuna is being noted in frequent disruption to Delhi's water supply.

The most recent spike was noted on Monday and Tuesday, when ammonia levels shot up to 7.3 parts per million (ppm) at the Wazirabad pond area where DJB draws water from against its acceptable limit of 0.5 ppm.

What happens when ammonia levels increase?

When the concentration rises beyond the DJB's treatment capacity of 0.9 ppm, water production at 3 out of 9 water treatment plants -Wazirabad, Chandrawal and Okhla — have to be stopped or reduced, which impacts supply to parts of the city. The issue is a long-standing one between Haryana and Delhi, with DJB officials stating that the spike in ammonia levels has been more

frequent this year.

water sharing pact between Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi and UP to revive the river by releasing

Chandrawal and Wazirabad The laying of a conduit pipeline to separate drain num-

ber 8 and 6 would also reduce pollution of potable water. However, it is not clear when this would be completed. The National Green

Tribunal-appointed Yamuna Monitoring Committee has also said approvals to build the conduit should be fast tracked.

The panel had also recommended to the Ministry of Jal Shakti earlier this year to remore fresh water into it.

Wax museum feels Delhi heat, Madame Tussauds shuts and the rest were selected from stars Beyonce and Lady Gaga, and

DIVYA A

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

THE DELHI arm of London's famous Madame Tussauds wax museum was "temporarily closed" ever since the lockdown was announced on March 20. Now, the attraction, housed at Connaught Place's Regal Building, will not reopen at all, as its holding company, Merlin Entertainments India, has decided to shut shop.

"Merlin Entertainments can confirm it will permanently close Madame Tussauds Delhi in Connaught Place," Anshul Jain, general manager and director, Merlin Entertainments India, said.

Even though the company had announced an investment of 10 million Euros in India when it launched Madame Tussauds Delhi in November 2017, it had received a tepid response from visitors. Many thought the ticket price of Rs 760 was a dampener, and the outlet kept on piling losses. The premises has now been vacated and the 120-odd wax models packed off.

Jain put the lukewarm response for the central Delhi outlet on the location. "Even though it was a prime location, we realised in due course that there were a lot of issues – encroachment by illegal street vendors, hawkers, parking issues, CP's Outer Circle being a no-stoppage zone, and the place

Cost/

(In Runees)

58100/

PUMPS

Time of

To be

tender on

04.01.2021

05.01.2021

upto 1300Hrs

06.01.2021

upto 1300Hrs

07.01.2021

upto 1300Hrs

06.01.202

upto 2.30PM

Sd/-

APMC. AZADPUR

website

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKETING COMMITTEE

(Market Of National Importanece)

New Office Complex, NFM- Ph.-II, Sarai Pipal Thalla,

Azadpur, Delhi-33

NOTICE OF E-TENDERING

tem rate e-tenders are invited for the under mentioned works on behalf

of Secretary, Agricultural produce Marketing Committee, Azadpur and

opened online in the office of Secretary, APMC, Azadpur

2020_DAMB Re-Construction of Boundary 1,83,79,011/-

Toilet Blocks (9 Nos.) at all floors

of office building (MNI), Azadpur

NSM and NFM APMC, Azadpur

SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS AND

MAINTENANCE OF WATER

SUPPLY SYSTEM IN NSM, NFM

Sale out the New Rear Cooling

https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in and s.no. 5 can be

Date of release of tender through e-procurement solution: 22/12/2020

to 4 details can be seen

PHASE-I and II, AZADPUR

Package loader 2DXL

_197751_1 Wall from Shed No.2 to Shed No.3 along Railway Line, MNI

2020_DAMB Renovation of Officers personnel

2020_DAMB Hiring of two small crane installed

193609 5 on TATA-407 or equivalent for

OPERATION

MAINTNENANCE

Azadpur.

197755 1

_197762_1

2020-0002

www.apmcazadpurdelhi.com.

DIP/Shabdarth/0522/20-21



Launched in November 2017, Madame Tussauds Delhi received a tepid response from visitors. Archive

being overcrowded and unsafe for visiting families with small children," he told The Indian Express. The company had invested a substantial sum in designing the CP outlet and worked out a unique 60:40 model, wherein 60% figures were based on local personalities

among the museum's international galleries. "Generally, we work on a 40:60 model, but the Indian market is different," Jain had told The Indian Express.

The opening gallery had Bollywood actor Salman Khan pulling a cycle rickshaw, wherein visitors could perch on the vehicle and get photographed. There was actor Ranbir Kapoor standing shoulder to shoulder with grandfather Raj Kapoor, who was in his iconic Awara hoon style. Also featured among 50 Indian and international celebrities were comedian Kapil Sharma, actors Hrithik Roshan, Kareena Kapoor and Nicole Kidman, musicians Zakir Hussain and Asha Bhonsle, pop

protocols could be followed." he said, adding that they are currently exploring options at highend malls in Noida or Gurgaon. **DEPARTMENT OF**

Owing to administrative reasons the date and time of submission of bid and opening of bid in respect of following work is hereby extended

Name of work: SITC of 2x500 kVA

Eexutive Engineer (E), Postal

Why is Haryana blamed?

The Yamuna flows into Delhi from Harvana and the state has industrial units in Sonipat, close

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj



INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN BIDDING PASSENGER SERVICE & RETAIL CONCESSIONS AT CSMI AIRPORT Mumbai International Airport Limited ("MIAL") invites parties to

participate in the competitive bidding process for various Food & Beverage, Passenger Service & Retail Concessions at Chhatrapat Shivaji Maharaj International Airport ("CSMIA"), Mumbai. Interested parties are requested to visit the company website www.csmia.aero → Corporate → Partnerships → Business Opportunities -> Commercial Opportunities for downloading

application form for purchase of request for proposal document(s). Please check the website for last date and time for submission of application.

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लि0 कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, ऋषिकेश

निविदा सूचना

www.delagrimarket.nic.in

अद्योहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा अनुभवी प्रतिष्ठित ठेकेदारों / फर्म से जिनके पास विद्युत कार्यों हेतु उत्तराखण्ड सरकार द्वारा प्रदत्त प्रथम श्रेणी का राजकीय विद्युत ठेकेदाँरी लाइसेन्से हो तथा जो आयकर, जी०एस०टी०, ई०पी०एफ० एवं ई०एस०ऑई०सी० के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत, पैन कार्ड धारक से मोहर बन्द निविदाएं दो भागों में (प्रथम भाग में धरोहर राशि, नियम व शर्तें, उत्तराखण्ड विद्युत निरीक्षक द्वारा निर्गत प्रथम श्रेणी का लाईसेंस की प्रमाणित प्रतिलिपि, ऑयकर, जी०एस०टी०, ई०पी०एफ०, ई०एस०आई०सी० पंजीकरण, पैन कार्ड की प्रतिलिपि आदि एवं द्वितीय भाग में दरें जो कि निविदा खुलने की तिथि से कम से कम 6 माह के लिए वैध हों) दिनांक 14.01.2021 को 15:00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है, जो कि उसी दिन 16:00 बजे उपस्थित निविदादाताओं अथवा उनके प्रतिनिधियों के सम्मुख अद्योहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा सार्वजनिक रूप से खोली जायेगी।

निविदा प्रपत्र किसी भी कार्य दिवस में दिनांक 13.01.2021 तक अद्योहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में भुगतान जमा कर कार्यालय से 15:00 बजे तक क्रय किये जा सकते है। निविदा की घरोहर राशि निम्नानुसार किसी भी राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक की एफ.डी.आर., सी.डी.आर. के रूप में अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, ऋषिकेश के पक्ष में बन्धक होनी चाहिए तथा एफ0डी0आर0 / सी0डीं0आर0 निविदा प्रकाशन तिथि के बाद की होनी अनिवार्य है | बिना धरोहर राशि के निविदा भाग-2 नहीं खोली जायेगी | निविदा खुलने की तिथि को अवकाश होने पर निविदाएं अगले कार्य दिवस में विक्रय एवं खोली जायेगी। अद्योहस्ताक्षरी को बिना कारण बताये निविदाओं को निरस्त करने का पूर्ण अधिकार सुरक्षित हैं। विस्तृत नियम व शर्तें निविदा प्रपत्रों में उपलब्ध है।

<u>निविदा संख्या—35 / 2020—21</u> विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड हरिद्वार रोड के अन्तर्गत एन०एस०सी० मद् में सेमी टर्नकी के आधार पर नये विद्युत संयोजन निर्गत करने हेतु एच0टी0 / एल0टी0 लाईनों व सबस्टेशनों का निर्माण कार्य व सामग्री की आूपर्ति ।

निविदा प्रपत्र^{ें} मूल्य 500.00 +GST 12% धरोहर राशि रू0 — 30,000/-<u>निविदा संख्या—36/2020—21</u> : विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड रायवाला के अन्तर्गत एन०एस०सी० मद् में सेमी टर्नकी के आधार पर नये विद्युत संयोजन निर्गत करने हेतु एच0टी0 / एल0टी0 लाईनों व सबस्टेशनों का निर्माण कार्य व

निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य 500.00 +GST 12% धरोहर राशि रू0 — 30,000/-पत्रांक : 5257 / वि०वि०ख०ऋ० / निविदा / दिनाँक : 29.12.2020 **अधिशासी अभियंता**

ाष्ट्रीय हित में बिजली बचायें'

<u>री–टेण्डर सूचना</u> इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमन्त्रित ई–निविदा संख्या

-46/SE/EDCH/2020-21, 47/SE/EDCH/ 2020-21 जो दिनांक 06.12.2020 को 12:00 बजे तक ई-निविदा के माध्यम से स्वीकार की जानी थीं तथा जिनके खुलने की नियत तिथि 06.12.2020 के 15:00 बजें तक की है, में किसी भी निविदाकार द्वारा भाग नहीं लिये जाने के कारण उक्त ई–निविदाओं को री–टेण्डर किया जाता है। अब उक्त ई–निविदाएं दिनांक माध्यम से स्वीकार की जायेंगी तथा इन ई-निविदाओं का तकनीकी भाग (प्रथम भाग) 15:00 बर्ज दिनांक 15.01.2021 को अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा ई—निविदा की वेबसाइट पर खोली जायेंगी।

राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

अधी0अभि०, वि०वि०मं०–हमीरपुर

CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION E-TENDER NOTICE No. 04/DCE/CN/SA/2020 (OT) **DATED 24.12.2020**

05/DCE/CN/SA/2020 (OT)

DATED 24.12.2020 The Deputy Chief Engineer Construction, Southern Railway Salem - 636 005 invites e-tender for the following work as per Notice Inviting tender (NIT) in our portal

www.ireps.gov.in. The tenderers/contractors intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal www.ireps.gov.in. and only online tenders will be accepted. The cost of the tender form and the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) should be made through online payment gateway available in the website by the way of multiple bank's net banking and credit card. SI.No.1: Name of the work: Doubling

of Track between Omalur and Metturdam- Proposed Construction of Foot Over Bridges at Omalur & Mecheri road and Passenger Platfor Shelters at omalur.

Approximate Cash value: ₹1.61,79,634.44/-. Earnest Money Deposit: ₹ 2,30,900/-. Cost of Tender Form: ₹0.00/-. Period of Completion in month(s): SIX. Closing Date @ 15:00 hrs: 18.01.2021

SI.No.2: Name of the work Proposed new BG Line between Chinnasalem and Kallakurichi Housekeeping and maintenance of office, ORH/Camp Office under the control of Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction, Salem for period of One

Approximate Cash value ₹7,59,230.00/-. Earnest Money Deposit: ₹15,200.00/-. Cost of Tender Form : ₹ 0.00/-. Period of Completion in month(s): TWELVE. Closing Date & Time @ 15.00 hrs: 18.01.2021. For Further details refer to website

portal www.ireps.gov.in or contact Office of the Deputy Chief Enginee Construction, Salem - 636 005. **Deputy Chief Engineer**

Construction, Salem - 636 005. ollow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

Delhi Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. An Enterprises of Govt. of NCT of Delhi.

ISBT Kashmere Gate Delhi-110006 **NOTICE INVITING TENDER** The Executive Engineer, DTIDC invite tenders on behalf of MD, DTIDC

Ltd. for the following works through e-procurement solution only. NIT No. 48/2020-21

UPS

Tender ID No. Name of work

2020 DTIDC 197748 1 PURCHASE OF DESKTOP

COMPUTERS, PRINTERS AND

Estimated Cost Earnest Money Time Allowed

Rs. 38,120/-28 Days Last date of receipt of Tenders : 06/01/2021

Rs 19 06 000/-

https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/

The Tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website **Executive Engineer (Elect)**

DIP/Shabdarth/0519/20-21

DTIDC Ltd. ISBT Kashmere Gate, Delhi

Delhi Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. An Enterprises of Govt. of NCT of Delhi.

ISBT Anand Vihar Delhi-110092

NOTICE INVITING TENDER The Executive Engineer, DTIDC invite tenders on behalf of MD, DTIDC Ltd. for the following works through e-procurement solution only.

NIT No. Tender ID No. Name of work 47/2020-21

: 2020_DTIDC_197729_1 Maintenance of ISBT Anand Viha Deployment of computer Operator for operation of RFID System a

ISBT Anand Vihar.

: Rs. 51.05.854/-

: Rs. 2.55.300/-

365 Days

Estimated Cost Earnest Money Time Allowed

Last date of receipt of Tenders: 04/01/2021 The Tender forms and other detail can be obtained from the website https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/

DIP/Shabdarth/0518/20-21

Executive Engineer DTIDC Ltd. ISBT Anand Vihar, Delh

Jharkhand Government Health, Medical Education and **Family Welfare Department**

NOTICE For Extension of EOI Pursuant to the order dated 16.10.2020 of the

Hon'ble Jharkhand High Court, the Department of Health, Medical Education and Family Welfare, Jharkhand has invited eligible research institutions to indicate their Interest in completing a comprehensive assessment of tobacco use, prevalence, pattern and behaviour in the state as well as the implementation of the ban on the Pan Masala on or before 15th December 2020 before 16.00 hrs. IST vide Advt. P.R No. 236345 dated 27.11.2020. Interested organizations may now submit "Expression of Interest" in detailed technical and financial proposal in two separate sealed envelopes on or before 06th January 2021 before 16.00 hrs. IST.

Detail informations regarding the EOI can be seen at the official website of Health, Medical Education and Family Welfare Department of www.jharkhand.gov.in.

Chandra Kishore Oraon PR 238415 Health Med Edu and Family Welfare(20-21).D Special Secretary



indoor dry type substation a Meghdood Bhawan, New Delhi. NIT No.: 55/ EE /PED/ ND/ NIT. 2020-21 dated 18.12.2020. Last date and time of submission of bid is extended to 08.01.2021 upto 15.00 hours. Date and time of opening of bid: 08.01.2021 upto 15.30 hours. All other terms and conditions of NIT shall remain same. Bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website https://dopcivil.euniwizarde.com

Electrical Division, New Delhi

Jharkhand Government

Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department O/o Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (FDA), Jharkhand, Ranchi

Very Short Tender Notice Very Short Tender Notice Number 6/2020/FDA/ Forest Certification

NCCF-FM Certificate for the forest areas in six forest divisions in Jharkhand State

Addl. PCCF (FDA) invites proposals from Certification Bodies (CBs) approved / accredited / provisionally accredited/ Applied for accreditation by / from National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB) to carryout Evaluation of Forest management leading to issuance of

Detailed information and the Tender Document for the tender is available on the website www.forest.jharkhand.gov.in

Technical as well as financial bids shall be opened on 12.01.2021 (Tuesday) at (3.00 PM). Last date and time for submission of bids & EMD is 12.01.2021 (12.00 Noon). For queries: Call office at 0651-2480450/9958387834 or email queries at apccf-fda@gov.in

Addl.PCCF (FDA) Van Bhawar

PR 238413 Forest, Environment and Climate Changes(20-21).D

Doranda, Ranchi-834002. Delhi Agricultural Marketing Board (Govt. of NCT of Delhi)

9, Institutional Area, Pankha Road, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058 Tel:- 28522085, 28525232 Fax:- 011-28522085, Email:- ambdl@nic.in, Website:- www.delagrimarket.nic.in

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

The following item rate e-tender invited through e-tendering on behalf of competent authority:

S. No		Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time of compln.		Tender ID no/NIT No.
1	Engagement of Sanitation agency for Cleaning, Sweeping, Scavenging of Lanes, Bye-lanes, Footpath, Roads of APMC, Keshopur (F & V Market Keshopur) Collection of Garbage from these Spots and Dumping /Disposal of Garbage to Dhallao/ MCD Sanitary Landfill Sites or authorized land fill site of APMC/MCD	1,00,90,692/-	Rs. 2,01,900/-	12 months	14.01.2021 Up to 15.00 Hrs.	2020_DAMB_ 197769_1

(i) To be opened online in the office of Secretary, APMC Keshopur

(ii) Technical Bid opening at 15:30 Hrs. on 14.01.2021. (iii) Terms and Conditions and details can be seen at website

https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in

Sd/-Secretary, APMC Keshopur

(D.K.Tewatia IFS)

New Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/0517/20-21

GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



YOUTH CONNECT

AT 21, Arya Rajendran has found admirers from across the border. In neighbouring Sri Lanka, Namal Rajapaksa – son of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa – congratulated her for being elected the mayor of Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Council. Namal, who is the Sports and Youth affairs Minister in the Sri Lankan Cabinet, said, "No doubt your success story will pave way and inspire more youngsters, particularly women, to follow your path." Namal himself was elected an MP in 2010 at the age of 24.

ANNIVERSARY PLANS

AS INDIA and Bangladesh plan to jointly commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1971 Liberation War, the Congress too has begun parallel efforts to celebrate the event. Congress chief Sonia Gandhi has set up a panel headed by former Defence Minister A K Antony to plan the party's activities to mark the anniversary. The Congress does not want to let go of the occasion since splitting of Pakistan by the Indira Gandhi government had been its counter to the BJP's nationalism plank. The committee includes Punjab CM Amarinder Singh, Meira Kumar and Prithviraj Chavan among others.

PLAYING MEDIATOR

EYES ON Christian votes in Kerala, the BJP seems to be working hard on every posssible opportunity. On Tuesday, Mizoram Governor and former BJP state chief P S Sreedharan Pillai brought the two warring factions of Jacobite and Orthodox church in Kerala to meet PM Narendra Modi. According to representatives of both factions, the PM gave them a patient hearing. While one side complained that their right to worship is being denied, the other side highlighted the 2017 Supreme Court verdict that stated that there could not be a division or separation of churches within the church. The order had given an upper hand to the Orthodox faction over the church's temporal properties, but the Jacobite faction wants the state's intervention to circumvent it. It remains to be seen if the BJP or PM would be able to resolve the decades-long dispute.

MP Cabinet clears Ordinance to stop forced conversions

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICEBHOPAL, DECEMBER 29



Soon after the Cabinet meeting, Home Minister Narottam Mishra told reporters: "To stop our daughters from getting fooled, cheated, and lured into getting their religion converted, a law has been made and approved as an Ordinance and sent to Governor Anandiben Patel. It will soon be approved and become law."

The Ordinance was brought after a special three-day session of the Assembly was called off in view of the pandemic. The Cabinet also cleared an Ordinance stipulating life imprisonment for

was unearthed in Gwalior recently, and there were reports of possible adulteration in the Covid-19 immunisation programme. The Freedom of Religion

Ordinance seeks to sustain the

freedom of religion as assured in

the Constitution by ensuring no

adulteration of medicines and

food items. A fake plasma racket

Shivraj

Chouhan

Singh

individual or an organisation uses allurement, misrepresentation, use of threat, force or undue influence, coercion, marriage or some fraudulent means to carry out conversion.

The Ordinance has put the burden of proof on the accused. It

burden of proof on the accused. It does not identify a person's return to their father's religion at the time of their birth as conversion.

their birth as conversion. Cases can be dealt only by police personnel of rank not lower than that of a Sub-Inspector, and only parents and siblings of the affected individual can file a complaint directly. In case a guardian or a custodian wants to register an offence, they must approach a Sessions Court authorised to deal with the matter, for an order. Those identified as frequent offenders can face jail terms of five to 10 years.

For those carrying out forced conversions, the Ordinance stipulates jail terms of one to five years, with a fine of Rs 25,000. The penalty in case of use of "misrepresentation" or "impersonation" for religious conversion will be higher, including a jail term of 3-10 years and a fine of Rs 50,000.

The Ordinance states that forced marriages done for purposes of religious conversion will be declared null and void by the concerned family court empowered to annul such marriages. But children born out of such marriage will not be illegitimate and will have rights in father's prop-

erty, while the woman would be assured maintenance. The matter of maintenance will be dealt as per Section 125 of the CrPC.

The Ordinance envisages a jail term of 2-10 years in case a person being converted is a minor, or belongs to a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe, with a penalty of Rs 50,000. Those carrying out mass conversions will face a jail term of 3-5 years, with a penalty of Rs 1 lakh. Repeat offenders will face a jail term of 5-10 years.

Like in the UP Ordinance, organisations or priests carrying out conversions have to inform the district administration 60 days in advance, failing which the organisation can have its registration cancelled and the priest or facilitator can face a jail term. But the MP Ordinance stipulates a higher penalty (of Rs 50,000, and 3-5 years' jail term) in such cases.

With the new Ordinance coming into force, the 52-year-old The Madhya Pradesh Dharma Swatantra Adhiniyam, 1968, will be repealed

marry, couple among

FIRST CASE UNDER NEW LAW IN UTTARAKHAND

3 months after Hindu

woman converted to

four people booked

LALMANI VERMADEHRADUN, DECEMBER 29

UTTARAKHAND POLICE on Tuesday booked four people for allegedly violating provisions of the Uttarakhand Freedom of Religion Act, 2018, after it was found that a woman had converted to Islam to marry a man in September this year without following provisions of the law.

The woman and her husband have been booked in the case along with the latter's uncle and a qazi who performed the conversion and solemnised the 'nikah'.

This is seen as the first case under the Uttarakhand Freedom of Religion Act since the law was enacted in 2018.

enacted in 2018.

The FIR has been lodged at Patel Nagar police station of Dehradun against the woman, her husband Samir Ali, his uncle

Shaukeen, and qazi Mufti Salim

Ahmed.
According to police officers, the issue come to light earlier this year when Samir moved the Nainital High Court with a plea seeking protection for himself. The court directed the Dehradun district magistrate (DM) to conduct an investigation. Circle Officer (Sadar) Anuj Kumar was

assigned the probe.
As per a police release, Samir had met the woman at tuition classes in Dehradun around a year and half ago – at the time he was 21 and the woman 19. According to police, they decided to marry this year with mutual consensus, and approached Mufti Salim Ahmed who, as per police probe, performed conversion of the woman and issued her a certificate of her new name

without allegedly completing due process.

The same day – on September 29 – the qazi solemnised their nikah in the presence of Samir's uncle, Shaukeen, ac-

cording to probe.
Circle Officer Anuj Kumar said: "It was found that Samir, the woman, the qazi and Shaukeen have violated the Dharma Swatantrata Adhiniyam, 2018 (Uttarakhand Freedom of Religion Act). On this ground, a case has been registered against them."

Kumar said the nikah was performed without knowledge of the woman's parents. At present, she is living with her husband, the CO said.

The FIR has been lodged under Sections 3, 8 and 12 of Uttarakhand Freedom of Religion Act.

Section 3 of the law relates to prohibition of religious conversion by misrepresentation, force, fraud, undue influence, coercion, allurement or marriage. Section 8 provides that the one who desires to convert should give a declaration at least one month in advance to the DM about his/her wish to convert at free will and without any force, coercion, undue influence or allurement. The religious priest who performs the conversion ceremony is required by law to give one month's notice to the DM, who in turn is required to get a police inquiry done on the "real intention, purpose and cause" of that proposed religion conversion, the law says.

Section 12 relates to people deemed involved in committing the offence by doing the act, or aiding others.

104 ex-bureaucrats write to Yogi: UP is now epicentre of politics of hate, bigotry

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

A GROUP of 104 retired bureaucrats have written to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, expressing "deep disapproval" and concern at the use of the "anti-love jihad" law and citing specific cases of its use.

Demanding withdrawal of the illegal ordinance, and suitable compensation for those booked under it, the letter states: "It has become painfully evident that, in

recent years, UP, once known as the cradle of the Ganga-Jamuna civilisation, has become the epicentre of the politics of hate, division and bigotry and that the institutions of governance are now steeped in communal poison..."

Among the signatories are retired bureaucrats such as Shiv Shankar Menon, Wajahat Habibullah, T K A Nair, K Sujatha Rao, and A S Dulat – they wrote that they have "no political affiliation but share a commitment to the idea of India as defined in our Constitution".

Citing the case of an arrest in Moradabad, the letter states that the police remained mute spectators as vigilantes "harassed the innocent couple and called it the effective murder of an unborn child"

The bureaucrats wrote that this was only one of a series of "heinous atrocities" committed against young Indians "who are simply seeking to live their lives as free citizens of a free country". They wrote: "These atrocities, regardless of the indignation of all Indians devoted to the rule of law, continue

unabated. The anti-conversion ordinance of your State is being used as a stick to victimise especially those Indian men who are Muslim and women who dare to exercise their freedom of choice."

Stating that UP has now become the epicentre of the politics of hate, division and bigotry, the retired bureaucrats wrote: "What is worse is that your law enforcement machinery, with the active backing of your government, is playing a role reminiscent of the secret police in authoritarian regimes..."

ADVERTORIAL

Clean energy major ReNew Power's blanket donation drive gathers steam as cold wave grips Northern India



Ms Vaishali Nigam Sinha, *Chief Sustainability Officer*, ReNew Power and *Founding Chair*, ReNew Foundation

Why do you think corporates have a responsibility to help society?

In today's world, businesses like every other stakeholder have a responsibility towards the society. Social responsibility today is no longer a 'nice to have' agenda, rather it is an integral part of the way of business is conducted. I also feel that in the process of nation building, the government needs wholehearted engagement and support from corporates - in the form of doing responsible business and for giving back to the society, especially in and around their areas of operations.

At ReNew, social responsibility is in our DNA. We are in a responsible business area and generate clean energy and thereby help the country mitigate its carbon footprint. We also actively give back to our communities. Our aim is to contribute to nation building not only through our business activities but also through social responsibility. Whether it is equipping schools to generate clean energy to power education or build the next generation of sportspeople by training the youth or empowering women through self- help groups, ReNew believes in strengthening the society and enriching the lives of the citizens of this country through its various social initia-

How would you characterise the culture of giving at ReNew Power?

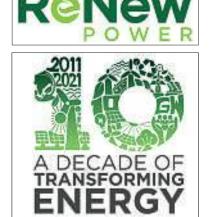
Our social responsibility journey began in 2011 with our inception. We started small with community welfare activities around our sites and eventually streamlined our initiatives in line with the UN SDGs. Over the years we have developed a culture of individual social responsibility where employees at ReNew through volunteering activities engage with the communities across our areas of operations. One such programme which we run during the winter season is Gift Warmth.

What is Gift Warmth? How was this conceptualized?

Gift Warmth is an annual CSR initiative at ReNew Power. As the earth's climate changes due to carbon emissions from fossil fuels, many parts of the world are seeing extreme climatic conditions and unseasonal weather patterns. The Gift Warmth campaign is an attempt to help those, who are impacted the most by these extreme climatic changes. It is a humble bid to bring about a little comfort to those suffering from harsh and long winters, mostly in northern and central parts of India. Our aim is that 'no one in India should suffer due to cold weather' and towards this, we distribute blankets to

the needy individuals who do not have the means to fight the cold. We have been doing this for over 5 years at ReNew Power.

The idea germinated in the year 2015 when we were looking to do something for engaging our employees and giving back. During that period, we read reports that people on the streets of Delhi were dying due to cold and this is when this initiative was conceptualised. It started as an employee engagement activity and has now emerged as our annual flagship programme.





Highlights from the 6th Edition of the Gift Warmth blanket donation drive conducted by ReNew Power in MP, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Delhi – NCR. ReNew Power through its employees is distributing 50,000 blankets this winter to the needy

Is this a pan India Initiative? How do you identify areas for distribution?

Yes, it is a pan India initiative. We started off in Delhi NCR and gradually moved to geographies which are low on HDI and are also cold. We zeroed down on areas in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat, some of them surrounding our areas of operations, and are now focussing on covering districts, blocks, and villages in these identified states. We closely work with the district administration to identify vulnerable populations in the districts and then organize distribution drives through our employees.

How has Gift Warmth evolved over the years?

The initiative began in 2015 when we distributed 5000 blankets on the streets of Delhi NCR. This was solely done through distribution drives by our employees. Over the past 5 years, we not only have scaled up our efforts and distributed over 90,000 blankets, but we have also increased the scope of our geographies by targeting cold regions in Rajasthan, MP, UP, Haryana, and Gujarat. This

year our target is to distribute 50,000 blankets. We not only aim to help them combat the harsh winters but also create awareness in the society towards the climate emergency the world is facing.

How do you visualize this in the next few years? Are there any major stakeholders that you are partnering with?

Our aim is to touch 1 million lives over the next 5 years starting this year. Our idea is to scale up this initiative through a collaborative approach with other members of the India Inc., the government, and other philanthropic organizations. Our programme was in fact appreciated by the erstwhile Secretary to the Honourable President of India, Mr. Sanjay Kothari. His guidance to scale up the initiative has inspired us to grow the 'Gift Warmth' campaign in scale and involve multiple stakeholders through an organized collaborative effort. We thank him whole-heartedly. I would like to invite others to join hands with us and experience this joy of giving.

New Delhi

Given that Gift Warmth addresses an issue which is climate related, what do you think about the climate change situation in India?

The world today is at the brink of a climate emergency which if not addressed now will have catastrophic effects in the future. Over the last few years, we have seen extreme weather calamities in India, be it in the form of floods or extreme cold and heat. We have seen that winters are getting harsher every year and Gift Warmth aims to equip the vulnerable on the streets combat these extremely cold days. Through this initiative, we are also engaging with a range of stakeholders to create awareness around the climate change issue both globally and nationally.

How can one become a part of this initiative?

Anyone who wishes to join this campaign can donate by logging on to www.icharity.in. I would urge everyone to contribute as much as one can and help us reach out to many more needy individuals.





Haryana Government honoured for Good Governance



Hon'ble President Sh.Ram Nath Kovind will honour



Haryana State's Antyodaya Saral Project today with

Digital India Award-2020

The award has been conferred by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology under the category Excellence in Digital Governance - State / Union Territory

Haryana was also honoured for Antyodaya Saral Project earlier with National e-Governance Award, 2019-2020 (Gold)

Features of Antyodaya Saral Project

Benefits of 549 schemes and services of 40 departments, boards, corporations through Online Saral portal.

Antyodaya Saral gets an overall satisfaction rating of 4.3 on a scale of 5 through automated I.V.R.S. feedback call

Antyodaya Saral Platform is completely developed in-house by technical teams of N.I.C. Haryana and concerned departments.

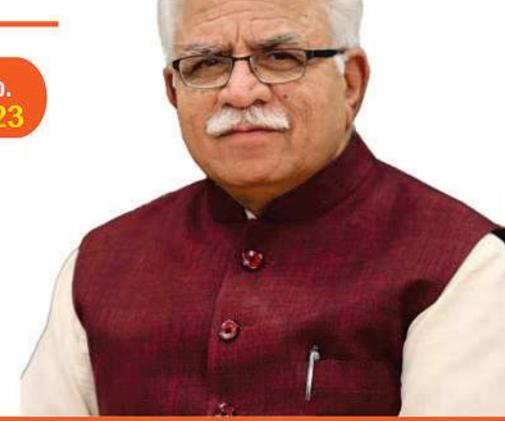
Antyodaya Saral Portal https://saralharyana.gov.in

Toll Free Helpline No. 1800—2000—023

We express our heartfelt gratitude to Government of India for honouring the State with Digital India Award-2020.

Such positive encouragement boosts the morale of the Government and accelerates the development work on a faster pace. Our Government's aim is to bring transparency with Good Governance so that public welfare schemes can reach the grass root level.

- Manohar Lal, Chief Minister, Haryana







Cash squeeze in mind, Navy looks at ways to cut costs

KRISHN KAUSHIK

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

WITH INCREASED commitments and budgetary constraints, the Navy has been looking at various options such as rationalisation of requirements and international cooperation to cope with the challenges, a senior officer of the force told The Indian Express. Cost reduction is crucial, he said, with the Covid-19 pandemic hurting the economy across sectors, including defence.

"The Navy has rationalised its requirements, reduced plans," the officer told The Indian Express, although he asserted that "nobody can come and bully

India anymore" Although the Navy's capital outlay increased from Rs 23,156 crore in 2019-20 to Rs 26,688 crore in 2020-21, the situation arising out of the pandemic may

force changes. With effects of the pandemic expected to remain for some time, the officer said rationalis-

Bharuch MP

quits BJP, set to

resign from LS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

BJP'S LOK Sabha MP from Bharuch

and tribal leader Mansukh Vasava Tuesday resigned from the party

In a letter to Gujarat BJP president

CR Paatil, Vasava stated he will

submit his resignation as a

Member of Parliament to the Lok

Sabha Speaker during the upcom-

meet senior BJP leaders at his

Rajpipla residence Wednesday,

said, "I have resigned due to my

age-related health issues. I have

been nursing some back and

spine issues that are also trigger-

ing migraines. I have told the party

previously that it is difficult for me

to undertake extensive travelling

in the constituency, especially

with so many important elections

coming up at the taluka panchay-

ats and district level. The resigna-

tion is purely for my personal rea-

sons and I do not intend to

withdraw it... I have no grouse

with either the party or the gov-

His resignation comes days af-

ter he wrote to Prime Minister

Narendra Modi seeking the with-

drawal of a Ministry of

Environment, Forest and Climate

Change (MoEFCC) notification de-

claring 121 villages in Narmada

district as an eco-sensitive zone to

"mitigate the protests" by tribal

Vasava, who has raised several

ribal issues in the past, however.

said the issue of the eco-sensitive

zone should not be associated

Meanwhile, senior BJP func-

tionaries, sources said, have rushed

to request Vasava to reconsider his

decision. Paatil told reporters that

the party was hopeful of a solution

soon. "In the letter sent to me,

Vasava only mentioned that he

will quit as an MP during the

budget session. He is unhappy

over some issues and I discussed

them with Chief Minister Vijay

Rupani this morning... We are try-

ing to convince Vasava and I am

confident of a solution on this is-

lier extended his support to the

ongoing opposition of the tribals

to May 5, 2016, MoEFCC notifica-

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - III, DELHI 4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING: PARLIAMENT STREET. NEW DELHI-110001. AND STREET DEBTS AND TARABLE TO STREET STR

. RAJBIR S/O. SHH. SHREE CHAND, R/O. HOUSE NO. 54, NANGLA JAARJABAAD, SOLIYA MOHALLA

GULAWAD, HARYANA-12/107
Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that its not so serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement you to make appearance in this Tribunal on 220/12/21 at 10.50A.W.

mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence. Due to ongoing Pandemic situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose: (I)All the AdvocateLitigants shall download the Cisco Webexapplicationsfolware, (ii) Meeting D and Password for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by RegistrariRecovery Officer-land Recovery Officer-land Pandemic Description of the Advocate Litigans and the Advocate Litigans and the Concerned official are the AdvocateLitigants can contact the concerned official arPh No. 23748469 (Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 14th day of Dec., 2020.

By Order of this Tribunal

By Order of this Tribunal
Assistant Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - III, DELHI 4TH FLOOR, JECVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET.

Notice under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act. 1935 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1936 in CICI BANCTIBER OF TRIBUNAL PROPERTY OF TRIBUN

io, 0-1, anil, kumar giri, s/o, sh. Chandra giri, r/o, House No. 435, krishna nagar, meerut road, shaziabad-201001 19-2 SEEMA giri Wo. Sh. anil kumar giri, r/o. House No. 435, krishna nagar, meerut road, ghaziabad-

A six-term MP, Vasava had ear-

sue soon," Paatil said.

with his resignation.

The BJP leader, who is slated to

ing Budget Session.

VADODARA, DECEMBER 29

ing requirements is important to deal with the downsizing of the budget. For example, he said, the Navy has revised some numbers in key acquisition projects.

It has cut down the requirement of 10 P8i surveillance aircraft to six. For minesweeper vessels, the requirement was slashed from the earlier 24 to 12. And now, the number might be further reduced to eight, although a proposal is yet to be submitted. Similarly, Landing Platform Docks, which are amphibious warfare ships, the requirement is being rationalised from the original four to two, the officer said.

He also cited the induction of unarmed version of SeaGuardian Predator drones from an American firm in November. While the three services have a joint demand for 30 such High Altitude Long Endurance drones, the Navy has taken two drones for surveillance on lease to plug

the critical gaps. "The Navy will do cost-benefit analysis for leasing for every-

Rajinikanth aborts

cites health reasons

The IOR challenge

WITH CHINA investing heavily to become a larger global power, and India placed on the major economic maritime highway in the Indian Ocean from where a major share of China's trade passes through, the Indian Navy's commitment in the Indian Ocean Region is expected to increase. With budget constraints and threats on both eastern and western fronts, the Navy has rationalised its requirements and is focusing on international cooperation to plug information gaps for maritime domain awareness, keeping up with its combat capabilities.

thing, and is willing to explore the option for everything," the

officer said Another project that has seen reduction in the numbers is for deck-based fighter jets. In 2017, the Navy had floated a Request for Information for 57 fighter jets from international manufacturers, but the officer said it is likely

to be revised to 34 now. The induction cycle will be timed in such a way, he said, that by the time the current fleet of Mig29k starts fading out, the gap will be met by indigenously designed Twin-Engine Deck Based Fighter aircraft being developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. The officer said, "The Navy is fully committed to sup-

Engine Deck Based Aircraft." He said international cooperation also reduces costs along with improving own mainte-

KOLKATA, DECEMBER 29

youth leader was shot dead in in

Howrah district's Shalimar area

on Tuesday afternoon, following

which local people vandalised

several shops and buses, and

torched motorcycles, police said.

sonnel were deployed to bring

sailants shot Dharmendra Singh,

acting president of Trinamool

Youth Congress in Howrah's

Ward 39 at point-blank range

while he was returning from

Shalimar on a bike. The gunman

manoeuvred close to his bike

and shot Singh near Shalimai

Gate Number 3 area and sped

off. A person riding pillion with

Singh was injured in the attack,

with multiple injuries, and suc-

cumbed soon. Local residents

Singh was taken to hospital

the situation under control.

Rapid Action Force (RAF) per-

Sources said unidentified as-

porting the HAL for the Twin-

"Instead of having 10 ships, as-

Plan for

maritime

security

National

National

security. ENS

coordinator

New Delhi: Setting up of a

Security Coordinator is be-

ing considered at the top

echelons of the security es-

tablishment, senior Navy

officials told The Indian

Express. This will be in ad-

dition to Navy's proposal,

which is being considered

by the Cabinet Committee on Security, to form a

Domain Awareness Center

a multi-agency forum of

the Navy, Coast Guard,

Intelligence agencies and

state marine police forces

among others for stronger

integration for maritime

Maritime

Maritime

sets of other countries can participate together [in a mission]." Cooperation with like-minded countries is essential, he said. "We tend to economise, try and get the most bang for the buck from partnerships, sharing information with other nations," he said.

The officer said international cooperation helps build maritime domain awareness. Giving the example of the Navy's Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR), which came into existence two years ago, he said there are Naval officers from other nations too.

"Due to the IFC-IOR, we have information available from various sources, to develop a comprehensive picture. The sea is open to all, your friends, your enemies, your neutrals. Now, how do you know who is an enemy, who is a friend. What we are doing is creating maritime domain

awareness," he said. **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

INVOKING TAGORE IN SANTINIKETAN

Mamata takes on Visva-Bharati **V-C, BJP politics**

ATRIMITRA

BOLPUR, DECEMBER 29

CHIEF MINISTER Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday invoked Rabindranath Tagore in her speech at a public meeting here in Birbhum district, and hit out at the BJP saying that the land of Tagore would never allow hate politics to triumph over secularism.

The Trinamool Congress (TMC) chief attended a four-kilometre roadshow before addressing the rally in which she accused the saffron party of enabling communal politics at Visva-Bharati, which was founded by Tagore. She also targeted Visva-Bharati University(VBU)Vice-Chancellor Bidyut Chakrabarty, calling him a "BIP man".

Alleging that the Opposition party had defamed both Santiniketan, the Bolpur neighbourhood where Visva-Bharati is located, and Nobel laureate Amartya Sen, Banerjee said, 'Those who do not respect Mahatma Gandhi and other icons of the country are talking of building 'Sonar Bangla [Golden Bengall', Rabindranath Tagore already created 'Sonar Bangla' several decades ago, all we need to do is to protect the place from the communal onslaught of the BJP."

Last week, the VBU administration wrote to the state government, alleging that Amartya Sen was among the illegal occupants of land it owns. Sen has denied the allegations, and Banerjee has re-



West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee with a portrait of Rabindranath Tagore during a rally in Santiniketan, Birbhum. Partha Paul

peatedly defended the Nobel laureate, saying he is being targeted since he is ideologically opposed

to the BJP. "I feel bad when I see efforts are on to pursue communal politics at Visva-Bharati. The V-C there is a BJP man, he is trying to tarnish the heritage of this institution by practising communal politics,

Banerjee alleged. Reiterating that the BJP is a party of "outsiders", she said, They are blackmailing us in the name of agencies. I would like to tell them today, we will not bow our heads before those who killed Gandhi ji and insulted Rabindranath Tagore.'

Howrah: TMC youth leader shot dead, RAF deployed after violence plan to enter politics, **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

ARUN JANARDHANAN CHENNAI, DECEMBER 29

ACTOR RAJINIKANTH, whose much awaited announcement of a political party was to be made on December 31, issued a statement on Tuesday and clarified that he will not join politics, or form the party, in view of ill-health and the

prevailing pandemic situation. Rajinikanth's statement released on social media said that different people may react differently if he continues to say that he would enter politics but at a later stage. "For that reason, with a heavy heart, let me make it clear that I am unable to form a political party and enter politics. Nobody can understand my pain in making this decision," he said in the

The actor's political entry has been a rumour since 1996, and Raiinikanth himself made the announcement in December 2017. Amid speculations in recent months that he might change the plan due to Covid-19. in view of his vulnerable health status, Rajinikanth had, earlier in December, announced that he would launch the party in

In the matter of OA No. 617/2019

conferencing and for that purpose:-

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-III, DELHI

4" Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110 001. Notice under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institution

HDFC BANK LTD. (Applicant) Vs JV Strips Ltd. & Anr. (Defendants)
D-2 Mr. Jai Bhagwan Bindal, At: - F-227, Antriksh Apartment, Sector 14, Rohini, New Delhi110085. Also At: - 8/1, 8th Floor, Kings Mall, Plot No. 1 B 1, Twin District Centre, Sector-10,

Rohini, New Delhi - 110085. Also At: 12, Deepali Enclave, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034. Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way.

Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal 06.01,2021 at 10.30 A.M. Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Due to ongoing Pandemic Situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video

Meeting ID and Password for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by Registrar/Recovery Officer-I/ and Recovery Officer-II shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. drt.gov.in

(iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 23748469. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 14th day of Dec.,

All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the Cisco Webex application/Softwar

be announced on December 31.

counselled to avoid any activity that increases the risk of contracting Covid-19, triggering rumours in political circles that it was a prelude to his plans to withdraw from the announcement of the party. In his statement on Tuesday, Rajinikanth also stated that he was taking immunosuppressant medicines - seen as a way to com-

January 2021. The date for the launch was to

Nobody can A TRINAMOOL Congress (TMC) understand my pain in making this

Two days ago, after Rajinikanth, 71, was briefly hospitalised for minor fluctuations in blood pressure, the hospital issued an unusual bulletin which not only revealed his health status but also revealed details of medical advice given. Besides describing in detail the doctors' advises, such as complete rest for one week, the bulletin stated that the actor had been

municate how vulnerable his health is. He thanked everyone who stood behind his preparations for the party launch and promised that he would serve people without getting into electoral politics.

went on a rampage in protest. State minister Arup Roy, who visited the hospital, said: "He was our co-worker, he was shot

police said.

from point-blank range. He succumbed to his injuries. The police have been asked to start an inquiry to find out those involved. Anyone found involved will face action. BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - III, DELHI 4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET. NEW DELHI-110001.

VACANCIES IN ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN DELHI **REQUIRED**

Army Public Schools in Delhi require competent, experienced teaching staff. For details of vacancies visit APS Shankar Vihar website Candidates must meet CBSE norms. Qualitative Requirements should be holder of a valid score card based on online screening test conducted by AWES. Proficiency in English and Computer is mandatory. Download the application from the school website www.apsshankarvihar.ac.in. Application forms duly completed along e details of online payment of Rs 100/- need to be uploaded lates by 1400hrs on 15 Jan 2021 as per instructions on the website. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interview at APS Shankar Vihar Tentative date of Interview is 08 Feb 2021 onwards For Queries Email: career.apssv@gmail.com, Phone - 26152559

Motorbikes set on fire on Tuesday evening in protest. Police

out who shot TMC youth leader Dharmendra Singh. Express

said a case has been lodged and investigation is on to find

FORM NO. CAA. 2

[Pursuant to Section 230 (3) and Rules 6 and 7]] BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL, BENCH AT NEW DELHI CA (CAA)-118/ND/2020

In the matter of the Companies Act, 2013

In the matter of section 230 to 232 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013

the matter of Scheme of Arrangement Between Outotec India Private Limited 'Applicant Company 1/Demerged Company') and Metso India Private Limited 'Applicant Company 1/Resulting Company') and their respective shareholders Outotec India Private Limited

(CIN U28113DL2007PTC165536) Read, Off, S-537, 3rd Floor, School Block, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092. PAN: AAACD9433A

... Applicant Company 1/Demerged Company

.Metso India Private Limited ICIN U74899DL1992FTC050834) Read. Off. C-227, Ground Floor, Westend Marg, Near Garden of Five Senses, Paryavaran Complex, New Delhi, 110030. PAN: AAACS3407L

... Applicant Company 2/Resulting Company Notice and Advertisement of notice of the meeting of unsecured creditors lotice is hereby given that by an Order dated the 23rd day of December 2020, the lew Delhi Bench of the National Company Law Tribunal has directed separate meeting: o be held of the unsecured creditors of both the Applicant Companies for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, approving with or without modification, the Schem of Arrangement between the Applicant Companies and their respective shareholders n pursuance of the said Order and as directed therein notice is hereby given that the separate meetings of the unsecured creditors of both the Applicant Company will be reld as under without physical presence of the unsecured creditors at common venue:

A.In relation to First Applicant Company (Outotec India P. Ltd.)

Meeting of unsecured creditors be convened on 1st February 2021 through video conferencing at 2.30 pm, subject to notice of meeting being issued.

. In relation to Applicant Company 2 (Metso India P. Ltd.) Meeting of unsecuted creditors be convened on 1st February 2021 through video conferencing at 11.30 am, subject to notice of meeting being issued.

The above meetings would be held in compliance with the General Circular No. 14/2020 dated April 08, 2020, General Circular No. 17/2020 dated April 13, 2020 and General ircular No. 20/2020 dated May 05, 2020, and other applicable circulars issued by the of Corporate Affairs ("MCA").

copies of the said Scheme of arrangement and the explanatory statement unde ection 230 rw. 232 can be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the espective Applicant Companies or at the office of its authorized representative, Shr Ohritiman Bhattacharyya/Ms. Deeti Ojha, Advocates, Unity Legal 5 369, GK 2, Nev Delhi 110048 (newdelhi@unitylegal.com). Persons entitled to attend and vote at the respective meetings, may e-vote in person or by proxy, provided that all proxies in th prescribed form and duly signed by the person entitled to attend and vote at the said meeting or by his authorized representative are deposited at the registered office of the respective companies as indicated above not later than 48 hours before the

In accordance with the direction of the Tribunal, individual notices of the said meeting s being be sent by the Applicant Companies to the unsecured creditors as per the list filed with the joint application, through email as per record of the respective Applican Company with the date, time and VC details (Link to join the meetings) The Applicant Companies is providing remote e-voting facility. Additionally, the

Applicant Companies would be providing the facility of voting through e-voting system during the meeting, as per schedule mentioned hereinabove The instructions for joining the meeting will be provided in the Notice of the meetings

Unsecured Creditors attending the meeting through VC shall be counted for the purpose of reckoning the quorum as per order dated 23rd December 2020 of the NCLT. Forms of proxy can be had at the registered office of the respective Companies.

Any unsecured creditor requiring any assistance/clarification regarding the meeting may write to the Company on neltconvenedmeeting.outotec@gmail.com (for Applicant Company 1) and nettconvenedmeeting.metso@gmail.com (for Applicant

The Tribunal has appointed Mr. Rajiv Shankar Dvivedi, as the Chairperson, Mr. Somansh as the Alternate Chairperson and Mr. Inderjeet Singh, as the Scrutiniser of all the said neetings. The above mentioned Scheme of Arrangement, if approved by the meeting. will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Tribunal.

Dated this 28 day of December, 2020 Chairperson appointed for the meetings. Inviting Objections/Comments/Suggestions on the Petition filed by M/s. L R Energy Pvt. Ltd. under Section 62 of the Electricity Act, 2003 and all other enabling provisions of

PUBLIC NOTICE

the Act read with the relevant provisions of Haryana **Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions**

HARYANA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Bays No. 33-36, Sector-4, Panchkula-134109 Telephone No. 0172-2582531; Fax No. 0172-2572359 Website: http://herc.gov.in

for determination of Tariff from Renewable Energy Sources, Renewable Purchase Obligation and Renewable Energy Certificate) Regulations, 2017 for determination of Project Specific Tariff of 20 MWp (AC) Solar PV Power Plant located at Tosham, Dt. Bhiwani, Haryana. (HERC/PRO-70 of 2020).

The aforementioned petition can be downloaded, free of cost rom the HERC website. All interested parties may submit ten copies of their objections along with supporting documents, if any, to the Secretary, HERC, Bays No. 33-36, Sector-4 Panchkula-134112 along with an Affidavit and Soft Copy of the same at E-mail ID: secretary.herc@gov.in and dir-trf.herc@gov.in, on or before 25.01.2021. A copy of the Comments/Objections may be directly sent to the Petitioner (Email ID: ceo@Irenergy.in). The objections should carry full name, complete Postal Address and Phone Number/E-mail Address, if any, of the person sending the objection.

In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission will hold public hearing in respect of above case on 09.02.2021 through virtual Court. The link along with its code, will be E-mailed to the stakeholders filing written comments, separately.

Director/Tariff, 1140/4/HRY

HERC, Panchkula.

HARYANA STATE CHILD PROTECTION SOCIETY WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT Phone No. 0172-2580359 **ADVERTISEMENT**

Applications are invited to fill up posts of Chairperson, Child Welfare Committee & Member Child Welfare Committee/Juvenile Justice Board as per provisions under Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act 2015 and Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Model Rules
2016 as per following Qualification, Terms and Condition:

No.	Name of Post	of Posts
1.	Chairperson (Child welfare Committee)	Ambala
2.	Member (Child Welfare Committee)	Bhiwani-1 Post & Rohtak-2 Posts
3.	Member (Juvenile Justice Board)	Faridabad- 1 Post (Reserved for Female) & Sirsa- 1 Post

Qualification of

Tenure:

Honorarium:

Minimum seven years experience of working with Children in th field of Education, Health, or Welfare Activities, or should be practicing professional with a Degree in Child Psychology or Psychiatry or Sociology or in the field of law. Age of JJB Member:

Not less than 35 years on the date of Advertisement. Seven years of experience of working with Children in the field of

Chairperson/ Member of CWC Education, Health, or Welfare Activities, or should be a practicin professional with a Degree in Child Psychology or Psychiatry Social Work or Sociology or Human Development or in the field of law or a retired Judicial Officer.

Age of CWC Chairperson & Member Above the age of 35 years on the date of advertisement

Member of the Juvenile Justice Board, Chairperson and

Member of Child Welfare Committee shall be paid as pe sitting which shall include Sitting Allowance, Trave Allowance and any other Allowance, as the State

Government may prescribe. Applicant will maintain his/her headquarter as the presence is required even a

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Applicant must have a domicile of Haryana

odd hours or on short notice and the appointment will be cancelled if headqu Applicant shall have to submit a Self-declaration/Affidavit on the following point

with application form, All conditions from (i) to (vii) of the following point must be

He/she does not previous conviction record. He/she has not been involved in any immoral act or in the Act or Child abuse o employment of Child Labour.

He/she is not holding such other full time occupation that does not allow him/he

to give necessary time and attention to the work. He/she will give details about his/her Previous/Present post tenure in any District of Juvenile Justice Board and Child Welfare Committee.

No enquiry is pending against him/her in any Agency/Court.
The applicant should not have any past record of violation of Human Rights or Child

The applicant should not have been removed or dismissed from service of th Central Government or a State Government or an Undertaking or Corporation owned or controlled by the Central Government or a State Government. Willing candidates may send/submit their application form on the prescribed formation

on or before 29.01.2021 till 5.00 P.M. along-with supporting documents i.e. Educational Qualification and Experience Certificate etc. in the office of concerne District Programme Officer- Women and Child Development of respective District Direct application received at Headquarter of WCD, will be rejected

partment has reserved the right to reject the incomplete application form with out any prior notice of the candidate. Incomplete Application form in any manner will be rejected.

site www.wcdhry.gov.in. Harvana State Child Protection Society

Women and Child Development Department, Haryana, Panchkula.

2882/2020

... IX. MIS SANYAENTERPRISES, HAVING ITS OFFICE AT B-BLOCK, SURAJPUR, DADRI, NOIDA-201308 JLDEEP SISODIA, SIO, SH. RAJENDRA SINGH R/O EN 0.318, PARSYNATH EDENS SOCIETY ALPHA-II ER NOIDA, KASANA, GAUTAM BUDH NAGAR, NOIDA 3100 NAGAR, NOIDA

.....ApplicantDefendent

ICICI BANK LTD.....Vs. REEMA SISODIA & ANR......

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By Order of this Tribunal
Assistant Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi

सरकार के अवर सचिव

By Order of the Tribunal, Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi झारखण्ड सरकार

स्वास्थ्य, चिकित्सा शिक्षा एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग

झारखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा विज्ञापन संख्या 02 / 2020 के आलोक में चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी (मूल कोटि) के पद पर नियुक्ति हेतु अनुशंसित चिकित्सकों का नियुक्ति पत्र वितरण दिनांक 30.12.2020 को पूर्वोह्न 11:00 बजे स्वास्थ्य निर्देशालय के IPH सभागार नामकुम, राँची में करने का कार्यक्रम निर्धारित किया गया है।

2. प्रेस विज्ञप्ति के आलोक में जिन अभ्यर्थियों के द्वारा मूल प्रमाण पत्रों का सत्यापन करा लिया गया है, वे उक्त निर्धारित स्थान पर नियुक्ति पत्र प्राप्त करने हेतु ससमय उपस्थित होना सुनिश्चित करेंगे।

PR238384 (Health Med Edu and Family Welfare)20-21*D

INDIAN RAILWAYS GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(INDIAN RAILWAYS ORGANIZATION FOR ALTERNATE FUELS)

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) In order to develop Technical specifications for development of fuel cell/battery based hybrid power train along with associated control and suitably designed Energy Management Strategy (EMS) and storage module for retrofitment on 700 HP Narrow Gauge ZDM3 Diesel- Hydraulic Locomotives running on Kalka- Shimla section, EOI (IROAF/CME/BD/FUEL CELL POWERED LOCO) is invited on 29.10.2020.

The date of submission of EOI in the prescribed Format is extended from 31.12.2020 to

Please visit website IROAF https://iroaf.indianrailways.gov.in/→IROAF Tenders→Expression of Interest

Contact person:

Chief Mechanical Engineer/BD,

Indian Railways Organization for Alternate Fuels (IROAF),

Government of India, Ministry of Railways

4th Floor, Railway Office Complex, Tilak Bridge, New Delhi-110002 Telephone no.:- 011-23379107, Fax no.:- 011-23379083

Inertioned day before his 100 author to oppeal the line dynamics of the case will be heard and cededar in you been as.

Due to noping Pandemis situation, all the matters will be taken to prough Yebe Conferencing and for that purpose. (I/all the Advocate (Littigants shall download the Cisco Webersapplications/software; (ii) Meeting I/o and Password for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by Registrar/Recovery, Officer-land Recovery, Officer-land available one day prior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day prior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day prior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day prior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day prior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day prior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day prior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day prior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal is, available one day sprior to the next date of DRT Official Portal Intervention of the next date of DRT Official Portal Intervention of the next da Email: cmebdiroaf@gmail.com By Order of this Tribunal
Assistant Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

New Delhi

Rajiv Shankar Dvivedi

8 EXPRESS NETWORK

Clashes break out in Indore village as rally by Hindu outfits chants slogans outside mosque

IRAM SIDDIQUE

BHOPAL DECEMBER 29

CLASHES ERUPTED in a Muslimdominated village in Indore district when members of rightwing Hindu groups, participating in a rally to collect donations for construction of Ram Temple, stopped in front of a mosque and chanted slogans Tuesday. Until late night, police were trying to bring the situation under control. This comes three days after

similar clashes erupted in Muslim-dominated Begum Bagh neighbourhood of Ujjain when a rally being taken out by Bharativa Janata Yuva Morcha chanted slogans, leading to stone pelting.

Responding to questions on a demolition drive being carried out in Ujjain at the home of a Muslim resident, who was allegedly caught on camera pelting stones during the clashes, Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra said on Tuesday: "Jahan se pathar aaenge, wahin se toh nikale jaaenge (The direction from where the stones come, that decides the eviction)." Tuesday's clash took place in Chandankhedi village under Gautampura police station when the rally of around 200 people stopped outside the mosque and chanted slogans. Senior police officials said this resulted in heated exchanges between members of the two communities leading to stone pelting.

Some local residents claimed that those participating in the rally chanted Hanuman Chalisa outside the mosque while prayers were being offered inside. The situation turned violent when some



A vehicle being overturned during the clash. Screengrab

of them – holding saffron flags and chanting "Jai Shri Ram" slogans climbed atop the mosque and tried to damage the minaret. Videos of the incident showed the Hindu outfit members also trying to burn down a house and damaging several vehicles.

Yogesh Deshmukh, Inspector

PAYING TRIBUTE

ELGAAR PARISHAD CASE

General of Police, Indore, "Twenty-four people, mostly from the village, have been rounded up based on video evidence. There will be more arrests on both sides and people who climbed atop the mosque will be identified and booked under relevant sections." dividual who had resorted to

Senior officials, including Collector Manish Singh and SSP Harinarayan Chari Mishra, were at the spot till late night, trying to defuse the situation.

Meanwhile, in the Ujjain stone-pelting incident, police have booked eight more people.

A total of 15 people have been arrested, of whom five have been booked of under National Security Act and 10 others have been booked for attempt to murder and rioting. All the 15 arrested are residents of Begum Bagh. No one from among those who took out

house that was demolished by the revenue department was of an in-

the rally has been arrested so far. Superintendent of Police Satyendra Kumar Shukla said three or four people were seen pelting stones and they are in the process of being identified. "The

stone pelting," said Shukla. A delegation of five Congress MLAs headed by former minister Sajjan Singh Verma met Chief Secretary Iqbal Singh Bains and DGP Vivek Johri and demanded an impartial probe into the Ujjain clash. Congress MLA Arif Masood said: "If the Assembly session is cancelled because of Covid-19, how is it that permission is granted to carry out rallies. And if these people did not have permission, how is it that no action has been taken against them."



Army set to take over

proceedings against

SHOPIAN ENCOUNTER

NIRUPAMA

tary court.

chargesheet.

SUBRAMANIAN

MUMBAI, DECEMBER 29

THE ARMY is in the process of tak-

Rashtriya Rifles officer in the

chargesheet has been filed against

him, The Indian Express has

officer, an Army Captain, will be

tried in a court martial. A Junior

Commissioned Officer is also to

stand trial in the case in the mili-

in the Shopian Chief Magistrate's

Bhoopendra Singh, who went by

the operational alias Major

Basheer Khan, and two civilians,

Tabish Nazir and Bilal Ahmed

Lone. The JCO is not named in this

two civilians, they could not arrest

the officer "for procedures under

AFSPA". An Army source said

Captain Singh and the ICO were

placed under arrest by the Army

soon after evidence emerged of

wrong doing, and they are in the

Captain Singh and the two civilians of staging the July 18 en-

counter at Amshipora in Shopian

district and setting up the evi-

dence, later destroying this evi-

dence, and "purposefully project-

ing false information" as part of a

criminal conspiracy to claim Rs 20

lakh reward money, which is

given carrying out successful en-

asks the Army in such cases

whether the Army wants to con-

duct the trial or it can proceed as a

civilian trial. The Army has indi-

cated that they will be taking

over." a source told The Indian

Express. The court wrote to the

Army to choose between a civil-

ian or military trial on December

27 when the chargesheet was

filed. "We have to give our consent

in writing, and that is in process,"

"As per procedure, the court

counters.

The chargesheet accuses

custody of military police.

While the police arrested the

against

Police have filed a chargesheet

Captain

The Army has decided that the

Police personnel take the bodies that were exhumed in Baramulla. Express file

a senior Army official said.

The precedent for a transfer of any case involving an Army officer from a civilian court to the military court came with the 2012 Supreme Court judgment in the Pathribal case following the CBI indictment of five officers. The Supreme Court ruled that no cognizance could be taken of any offence committed by a soldier in the course of official duty without prior sanction from the govern-

The Supreme Court also gave the Army the option of choosing the "venue" of the trial between a civilian or a military military. The Army had invoked the Armed Forces Special Powers Act to argue that the men could not stand trial in a civilian court.

civilians The two chargesheeted in the Shopian case cannot be tried by the Army, and their trial will go ahead in the district court, the source said.

The Army has paved the way for a court martial against the Captain and the JCO. A Court of Inquiry, which recorded the evidence, and a Summary of Evidence, a process that collects evidence admissible in a military court, have already been completed. The police chargesheet against the Captain is likely to become part of the proceedings in

the military court. The Summary of Evidence findings, which broadly reflect the findings of the police, are now with the Judge Advocate General branch of the Army for "validation". A second officer said the Army was committed to ensuring iustice in the case. "It is a critical

Chhabria held: Police say multiple

case, and we have acted with great speed as soon evidence came up in a preliminary inquiry that something was amiss about this encounter. On August 11, a Court of Inquiry was ordered. Normally, a Court of Inquiry gets 90 days, but in this case, because of the importance of this case, everything was wrapped up in 30 days, after which the Summary of Evidence process began immediately," he

He also said that unrelated to the trial of the Captain, the Army was planning to investigate if others in the unit were in any way responsible for the Amshipora incident. "When something goes well, everyone up the hierarchy takes credit. When something goes wrong, everyone up the hierarchy gets the stick. That is the Army's internal accountability, and that will go on and is not linked to the trial," this officer said.

A day after the Amshipora encounter, the Commander of 12 Sector RR, Brigadier Ajay Katoch, held a press conference on July 19 to announce that three terrorists had been killed in the encounter, giving detailed account of the "encounter".

He said the officer and two soldiers accompanying him came under heavy fire, they retaliated, and police and CRPF were also rushed to the spot. He also said the 'search party" came under fire from a house and "in the ensuing action, three terrorists were neutralised".

On the bodies of the terrorists recovered by the search team, Katoch said arms, ammunition and IED material were found. He praised J&K Police for preventing stone pelting by villagers.

The story came apart after a family in Rajouri filed a missing person's complaint early in August about three of its family members – Imtiyaz Ahmed, Abrar Ahmed and Mohd Ibrar - who had travelled to Kashmir to look for work and had not been in contact since July 16. From photographs on social media of the encounter, they had identified the bodies as those of the three missing family members.

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE



CASES:

ACTIVE CASES: 268,581 10,224,303 DEATHS: 148,153

TESTS: 169,801,749 | RECOVERIES: 9,807,569

16.432





STATES WITH RISING ACTIVE CASES ACTIVE CASES RISE IN LAST WEEK

Kerala	04,098	3,330
Sikkim	625	171
Puducherry	357	25
STATES WHERE	ACTIVE CASES	SARE DECLINING
	ACTIVE CASES	DECLINE IN LAST WEE
West Bengal	13,161	3,742

Chhattisgarh 3.098 Delhi 2,958 STATES REPORTING MAXIMUM CASES

ON DEC 28 TOTAL 743,564 Kerala Maharashtra 2,498 1,922,048 Chhattisgarh 1,188 276,337

STATES REPORTING MAXIMUM DEATHS ON DEC 28 **TOTAL** Maharashtra 50,440 West Bengal 27 9.625 Chhattisgarh 3,319

Data as on December 28, released by Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Indian Council of Medical as well. As such, trends based on daily numbers are only indicative and not definitive

OBCs constitute 25% of police; STs get better representation: Data

DEEPTIMANTIWARY NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

BACKWARD CASTES, Dalits and tribals constitute almost 67 per cent of India's population, but their representation in police forces in the country is only at 51 per cent. The latest data on police organisations released by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) shows that only Scheduled Tribes have better representation in police forces in comparison to their share in population while all other backward classes fare poorly.

According to the data, 14 per cent of all positions (from constable to deputy superintendent of police) in police forces across the country were represented by Dalits at the end of 2019. According to Census 2011. Dalits make up 16.6 per cent of India's

Tribals, who form 8.6 per cent of the population, have 12 per cent representation in the police forces. placing them at a comparatively better position

The Other Backward Classes (OBCs) fare the worst on the representation front. The data shows against a 41 per cent share in the population, OBCs constitute only 25 per cent of the police forces, causing a deficit of almost 40 per cent in representation.

Notably, the goal of proportionate representation has remained unfulfilled despite all state governments providing reservation to these categories.

While women too continue to be represented poorly, their situation has improved considerably over the past five years. Since 2014, when the actual strength of women in police forces stood at around 1.11 lakh, their represen-

According to data, 14 per cent of all positions in police forces across the country were represented by Dalits at the end of 2019

tation has almost doubled to 2.15 lakh. In fact, over 2018, the strength of women in police forces increased by 16 per cent in 2019. However, at still 10 per cent of the actual strength of the police in the country, women have a long way to go in claiming a representation proportionate to their population share, which is 48 per cent.

It is also reflected in women population per woman police ratio, which stands at 3,026 nationally. At the national level, the actual strength of woman police in other departments such as traffic police is 5,979. In special branches dealing with intelligence collection, it is 3,632, while in special police units dealing with insurgency, extremism and terrorism among others, it is a poor 516.

The data also shows that police-population ratio (number of police personnel per one lakh of population) declined in 2019. From 198 in 2018, it dropped to 195 in 2019. While Andaman and Nicobar Islands have the best police-population ratio at 816, Iharkhand (45) and Bihar (55) have the worst. Odisha (67), Assam (68), Andhra Pradesh (85), Gujarat (87), Uttarakhand (95) and West Bengal (97) are part of

the bottom 10 states. Among larger states, Jammu and Kashmir (399) and Punjab (236) have the best police-population ratio. The UN mandated police-population ration is over 220.



Mumbai Police personnel carry a chadar from Mahim police station to Mahim dargah to pay

tribute to Makhdum Ali Mahimi on the occasion of his Urs or death anniversary. Mahim

dargah is dedicated to Mahimi and Mumbai Police lays the first chadar. Amit Chakravarty

SADAF MODAK

THREE ACCUSED in the Elgaar Parishad case said they were being denied access to books over the past few months in jail. In separate applications made before the special court on Tuesday, Delhi University associate professor Hany Babu and academician Gautam Navlakha said for the past four months, books sent to them by family members were not accepted by authorities of Taloja jail and were returned.

The two have also said they did not get access to newspapers for the past six months stating that it is a violation of their right to remain informed. Lawyer Sudha Bharadwaj, who is lodged in Byculla women's iail, also made a similar plea. While she is being provided newspapers, she too said the prison library does not have enough books and those from

outside are not being allowed. The applications made by the three state that as writers and academicians, they had spent a lifetime reading, studying books

and texts and the denial of books could not be arbitrary. Referring have sought permission to access five books a month from outside with a plea for directions to jail authorities to accept books

sent by their family and lawyers. Kaustubh Kurlekar, Taloja jail superintendent, said, "We are not denying books to prisoners from outside or those in our library... We are in process of taking a decision on delivery of newspapers...

Byculla jail superintendent Sadanand Gaikwad also denied that a court order was sought when Bharadwai approached him. He added that newspapers were being provided to

prisoners. "In view of Rule 13 of the Maharashtra Prison Manual, it is within the province of the superintendent of prison to allow such activities. Hence, the advocate for the applicant is called upon to place on record an affidavit stating that she had approached the prison authorities and that the same had refused to accept the books," the court said on

Five Jharkhand archers to get assistance from state govt

Ranchi: The Jharkhand government on Tuesday announced financial assistance of Rs 2.5 lakh each to four state archers and Rs launched a new sports policy to mark its first year in office.

National level players Krishna Pingua (16), Jagarnath Gagrai (18), Asmita Biruli (20) and Gunaram Purty (23) have been offered Rs 2.5 lakh.

"We can now compete at the international level as we can buy equipment. One day we will bring home medals from the Olympics," said Pingua, who won bronze at the Khelo India Archery Championship in 2017 and gold at the 64th National School Championship Archery Championship in 2019.

The government also announced assistance of Rs 2.7 lakh to 18-year-old Komolika Bari, who won a gold medal in the Youth Archerv Championship, 2018. She has also been selected for the next Olympic games and is currently training in Maharashtra.

"Till now she plays on a rented bow, now she will have our own...I hope the government also gives her a job," her fa-**ABHISHEK ANGAD**

registrations, loans taken on 90 cars **MOHAMED THAVER** MUMBAI, DECEMBER 29



Further, the police said that Chabbria had registered same vehicles twice, at times thrice, with regional transport offices (RTOs) of various states. He then used the registration numbers to obtain more loans, the police added, while claiming that the scam runs into over Rs 30 crore.

Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime) Milind Bharambe said,



Car designer Chhabria

"Nearly 90 DC Avanti vehicles manufactured by Dilip Chhabria Designs Private Limited were used for fraudulent financing, Multiple loans averaging Rs 42 lakh each were availed on these cars. The company would pose as customer for its own manufactured cars, which were later sold to other customers...'

He added that the incident came to light after the police received a tip-off that a DC Avanti with a fake registration number had been seen outside the Taj Mahal hotel in Mumbai. The police laid a trap and found the vehicle outside the hotel on the night of December 18. While the vehi-

cle was registered in Tamil Nadu, its chassis and machine numbers were also found to be registered with the Harvana RTO under a separate number. "The car owner. who hails from Tamil Nadu, had come to know about this... Curiously, the registration address was of the Haryana branch of Chhabria's company," said Assistant Inspector Sachin Vaze.

The police have seized the vehicle and the Tamil Nadu resident has been made a complainant in the case. Vaze said they also found that Chhabria had registered several cars in multiple places and availed loans from NBFCs like BMW Financial Services.

He added: "In some cases, the NBFC had authorised the loan even before a vehicle was registered..." An email sent to BMW financial services did not yield a re-

Numbers Down To Just 150

Conservation plan on table to save bat species in Kolar caves

ESHAROY

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

TILL SEVERAL years ago, the Kolar Leaf-Nosed Bat was found in only two caves in the village of Hanumanahalli in Kolar district of Karnataka. For reasons that are still unknown, the bat became locally extinct in one of the two caves. And now, the Karnataka Forest Department, along with the Bat Conservation India Trust, is on a war footing to save the remaining bats, which are endemic to the area, from ex-

The Bat Conservation Society, which has been entrusted with drawing up a conservation plan,



The Kolar Leaf-Nosed Bat

has also been awarded a grant to conduct further research on this species of bats. Additional Principal Chief

Conservator of Forests in the

Karnataka Government, Vijay

Mohan Raj, says that it was in 2014, after a study conducted by Osmania University, that the state government first came to know of the bats becoming extinct in one of the caves. The government immediately notified the 30 acres around the caves as protected area. "The Kolar Leaf-Nosed Bat is

exclusive to Karnataka and we are very proud of this fact. There has been a lot of focus on the conservation of larger animals like the tiger, but in Karnataka, we have consistently chosen smaller, lesser-known species and made them flagship species for conservation and created awareness around them," said Raj, adding that with the area being notified, any development work here, including construction of new infrastructure, will need the permission of the National Board for Wildlife.

"We know very little about this bat – what ecology it thrives in, what its diet is, its behaviour and what would happen to it if the cropping pattern changes in the area in which it resides," he added.

"Bats are one of the least studied mammals in the country, though there are 130 species in India. They are very adaptable creatures and therefore can often be found near human habitation or even in urban settlements, which makes them vulnerable. They also have a bad

ers of diseases. But the truth is, bats are absolutely vital for the ecology as they are pollinators, their main diet being nectar. The plants that bloom at night are entirely dependent on bats and moths for pollination. Bats also help in insect control and therefore, help in the protection of crops,' said Rajesh Puttaswamaiah of the Bat

image in the public eye, as carri-

Conservation India Trust. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, and the unverified association with bats, there have been incidents in the Western Ghats and in states such as Rajasthan and Odisha, where bats have been attacked or killed.

There are five species of bats

that live in the caves of Hanumanahalli, of which the Kolar Leaf-Nosed Bat is just one. According to recent estimates, there are just 150 Kolar Leaf-Nosed Bats left in these caves.

'There has been very little on-ground monitoring happening so far. We have started a detailed study of these bats. Apart from the caves themselves and the nearby areas, we have to identify and conserve the bats' foraging area. We are running an intensive awareness campaign in the nearby communities and they have come to understand the threat to the species and have started guarding this area from encroachers, he adds.

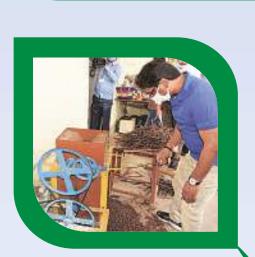


A Year Completed, Fulfilling the Promises Committed













TOURISM

Major initiatives have been taken to rejuvenate the state's hidden natural beauty into a world-class tourist destination.

Employment opportunities through community based tourism

Focused events on Eco-Tourism being planned in 2021

MoU signed with ITDC to take back complete ownership of Hotel Ashoka, Ranchi

Launch of new Tourism Policy 2020

SPORTS

A new Sports Policy is being prepared focusing on welfare of sportspersons and grassroots development of sports

24 District Sports Officers were appointed to ensure development and implementation of sporting activities across the state

Direct recruitment of 38 eligible sportspersons in the State Government.

INDUSTRY

68 industrial units have been established across the state.

4,062 jobs added with total investments worth Rs. 579.79 Cr

Investments worth Rs. 4,951.86 Cr in pipeline with committed 4,860 jobs.

Rs. 164.85 Cr has been invested in the textile sector with 2,550 jobs

Rs. 120.21 Cr has been invested in the Auto component sector.

New Delhi



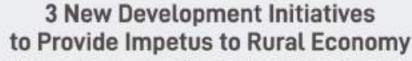
Information & Public Relations Department, Government of Jharkhand



Taking Confident Steps towards Prosperity

LED BY its dynamic Chief Minister Hemant Soren, the state of Jharkhand in eastern India is witnessing all-round development in many sectors. Carved out of the southern part of Bihar on November 15, 2000, Jharkhand is becoming a symbol of positive change that is farreaching with the promise of a healthy and prosperous life to all sections of society living in its geographical area.

Empathetic policies and swift progress are going hand-in-hand in Jharkhand as a result of a strong administration by the government that has constantly kept the welfare of the people at the centre of its decision-making.



In a bid to "revive the rural economy", affected by the pandemic, the Jharkhand overnment recently launched three schemes under the National Rural Employment uarantee Act. The three schemes launched are - the Birsa Harit Gram Yojana for rural dantations, Neelambar Pitambar Jal Sammridhi Yojana for water conservation and the Poto Ho Khel Vikas Scheme for making playgrounds.

Inder the Birsa Harit Gram Yojana, over two lakh acres of land will be used for rural tree slantation drives. Five lakh families would be given nearly 100 fruit-bearing plants, with itial plantation, maintenance, land work and afforestation to be taken up through MNREGA. It is expected that by the third year onwards, each family will receive an annual income of Rs 50,000 from the produce.

Under the Jal Sammridhi Yojna, water storage units will be constructed to store rainwater and runaway groundwater. This scheme will primarily be implemented in the Palamu

economy has been hit badly by the pandemic, and the government is trying to create yment opportunities for those who will return from other states. "In Birsa Harit Gram Yojna, Rs 660 crore will be spent in a year, in which Rs 520 crore will be the only wage component, leading to the creation of employment of 270 lakh person days and assets in 2,20,000 hectares. Under the Jal Yojna, Rs 1,200 crore will be spent with 90% being the wage component. For playgrounds, we will develop 1,000 in one year, rating employment of 850 lakh person days," he said. Speaking about the schemes, Chief Minister Hemant Soren said his focus will be on their proper implementation.

 CM Hemant Soren launched community kitchens in Ranchi and other districts, with an aim to curb

Notable Achievements

The government aims to give a distinct identity to

the Palash brand in the country and across the

 Jharkhand government airlifted 60 migrant labourers stuck in Leh following the lockdown.

hunger during the lockdown. Free food for the poor arranged under the 'Mukhya Mantri Dal Bhaat Yojana'.

 7,000 community kitchens mushroomed across the state in no time, serving free food to the

 Food grain and ration were given for free to the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan

The government adopted a new logo of the state

 CM Hemant Soren is proactive in tapping the limitless potential of Twitter for good governance in the state.

 The recovery rate among COVID-19 patients is above 97% in the state.

81960.8 COVID-19 tests done per million, ahead of

Jharkhand is 7th among the Indian states with



TOURISM

government acts as facilitators.

The potential of tourism can never be undervalued in any economy. Realising the sector's vast offerings, both directly and indirectly, to its economy, the state government launched New Tourism Policy, 2020, aimed at wooing private investments and

provisioned for 30% subsidy on capital investment or up to Rs 10 crore, whichever is lesser. If the investment is in a scheduled area, an additional 5% subsidy will be granted on capital investment. In the earlier policy, the maximum subsidy was Rs 1.5 crore, which did not generate interest among private players. Realising the massive opportunities that the twin industries of tourism and hospitality offer, the Tourism Secretary said the government has now decided to open this

generating one lakh jobs. For the first time, the state has

Under this new tourism policy, the government is hoping to generate anywhere between 75,000 to 1,00,00 jobs. Creation of Tourist Security Force (TSF) has also been provisioned in the new policy. The tourism department has segregated state's tourism activities into different tourist circuits - religious, ecological, cultural, rural, craft, adventure, weekend getaway, film, water sports, recreation, wellness and mines - for segment-specific intervention. There is also a plan to geo-tag all the tourist places, document their significance, and host them at a single-window platform so that all the needs of tourists can be availed at the click of a button.

sector to private players so that they can set up facilities, create infrastructure, whilst the



Government of Jharkhand through Department of Labour, Employment and Training is committed to provide enhanced social security to the aged; to protect the interests of its working class in the organised and unorganised sectors in the fastchanging economic scenario; to effectively implement various labour laws and to produce trained manpower. In order to achieve these objectives, the Jharkhand nment has shown commitment in participating in all major Central initiatives ike Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, Aam Aadmi Bima Yojna, Upgradation of ITIs and Converting ITIs to Centres of Excellence. At least one ITI (General) in all districts & sub-divisions and at least one ITI (Women) in every district would be set up. This will result in training of almost 10,000 youths through them.



Women Empowerment

For the economic empowerment of rural women, the state government has started a livelihood promotion skills ASHA) campaign. Under this campaign, self-employment opportunities related to local resources will be made available to rural women under agri-based livelihoods, animal husbandry, forest produce and processing, and entrepreneurship. Through the livelihood enhancement skills campaign, 17 lakh rural women will be linked with strong means of livelihood. Additionally, the launch of Phulo Jhano Ashirwad Abhiyan and the Palash Brand was unveiled by CM Hemant Soren in September. The main objective of these schemes is to connect rural women with self-employment. In different cities of the state, women have opposed the production of Hadiya-Daru. The Chief Minister has also said that Hadiya-Daru is a curse in the society. Livelihood Promotion programmes such as Hunar Abhiyan, Phulo Jhano Ashirwad Abhiyan and Palash brand have been launched so that women are no longer forced

In order to ensure

Ease of Doing Business

in the state, the Jharkhand

emphasis on strengthening

more efficient and effective.

standard operating procedures and simplification & introduction

of information technology to make

government facilitation of businesses

Believing in the potential of sports as an attractive and viable career option, plans are afoot to promote sports and sportspersons in the state.

available with international capacity standard by creating a database of

or this, a Sports Policy 2020 has also been made. Facilities will be made

layers. A MoU was signed on Monday (28 December) between All India

ootball Federation and Sports Department for the development of botball in the State. Selected players will get appointment letter for lirect appointment. Games library for players and researchers will be

Foundation stone will be laid for the construction of new hockey

astroturf in selected 15 schools across the State. Previously, in October,

the Jharkhand government made a state-level portal-cum-dashboard

nief Minister Hemant Soren at Project Building, the Tharkhand

the state's current and former sportspersons for providing them with

nancial assistance and jobs in future. Besides the portal, the CM has

also launched a state-level website (sports jharkhand.gov.in) which will

disseminate information regarding various government schemes among the state's athletes, budding players and retired sportspersons.

tispersons Registration Portal-cum-Dashboard aims to keep records

government has laid due



and the administrative and police machinery toiled 24x7, sealing borders, creating swareness by ensuring people wore face masks and maintain social distancing Government staff (except for key departments) were asked to stay home while closure of shopping malls, restaurants, cinema halls and other outlets, except essential services, was strictly implemented. The most challenging task before the overnment was to bring back the lakhs of labourers who had ventured out to remote nd distant places such as Andaman & Nicobar and Ladakh and big cities in the south or Mumbai, Delhi, West Bengal, Bihar etc. Against all odds, the government acted with grit and firmness and was able to bring back its people home not only by the Shramik special trains and buses but also by air. The state hence achieved the distinction of being the first state to bring home the first lot of migrants in the entire country. The homecoming did not stop till the last man was in. Under the rural job scheme MGNREGA, a number of projects were launched for sustenance of

rom March 24 onwards, CM Hemant Soren enforced the lockdown very seriously



It is the government's priority to

improve civic amenities and basic

facilities for the people of the state

irrespective of whether they live in

to power, we have been trying our

cities or villages. Since we were voted

level best to address public issues and

focus on bridging the gap between the

- Hemant Soren

Chief Minister, Jharkhand

government and the people of state.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Making efforts to ensure welfare of various sections of the society means successful and meaningful governance. Social welfare is one such important sector that the Jharkhand government has sought to improve earnestly. Welfare of the most inderprivileged sections of the society namely the Schedule Tribes, Scheduled Castes, Backward classes and minorities and the empathetic task of bringing the fruits of development to these sections has been a challenging task that the government has abraced with dedication. The government has quite a few achievements in the areas of nutrition, care for the physically allenged and empowerment of women. Successful campaigns against malnutrition among children between the ages of 0 to ears and successful immunization in children and mothers in Anganwadi Centres has brought new light in the eyes of



WORDLY WISE

I TEND TO THINK THAT CRICKET IS THE GREATEST THING THAT GOD EVER CREATED ON EARTH.

— HAROLD PINTER

The Indian **EXPRESS**

∞ FOUNDED By ∞ RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

TOWARDS JUSTICE

Army takes welcome first step in fake encounter case in Shopian. Process must be completed, and the guilty punished

HE POLICE CHARGESHEET in a civilian court against an army captain of 62 Rashtriya Rifles and two civilians in the fake encounter case in Shopian in July this year has given a disturbing account of the killing of three innocent men allegedly by the officer and his accomplices and the elaborate conspiracy hatched to show the victims as terrorists. The three men, who belonged to the same family in a village in Rajouri district of Jammu division, the youngest just 16 years old, had trekked to Kashmir over the mountains to look for work. They were picked up from their rented room in a village in Kulgam, and taken to Amshipora village in Shopian, where they were allegedly shot in cold blood. The motive appears to have been greed — to claim a Rs 20 lakh reward given by the security forces for information leading to the capture or killing of terrorists. As part of the plan, weapons were planted on the victims, police and CRPF reinforcements were called in, which threw a real cordon around the encounter site. The incident, and its distressing details, call for sober introspection about the reasons for the sense of impunity of an officer allegedly gone rogue. In a place like Kashmir, the soldier's job poses a difficult challenge every day, but that impunity comes, in large part, from the protection granted under the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, which the army has invoked repeatedly to protect its own in cases such as this one.

In this case, commendably, the army has acted promptly after prima facie evidence of wrongdoing emerged. The army followed up the preliminary probe with a formal court of inquiry, followed by summary of evidence proceedings, all of which are understood to pave the way to a court martial. The military's findings so far have been reported to be the same as those contained in the police chargesheet. In the past, the army has been at this point, but mostly, it has been unable to take the tough call required to go further — the 2018 court martial in which three officers, including a major and two colonels, and four soldiers, were sentenced to life imprisonment for a fake encounter of Assam student leaders in February 1994, was a rare instance. The army has refused consent for prosecution in cases of fake encounters, custodial killing and rape - Pathribal 2000, Ganderbal 2007, and Machil 2010. Where it has conducted its own court martial, sentenced soldiers have been able to get the verdict overturned by civilian courts.

The Amshipora fake encounter case is the first time that the army has acknowledged at the preliminary stage that "powers vested under the AFSPA 1990 were exceeded" and that the "dos and don'ts of the Chief of the Army Staff [COAS] as approved by the Supreme Court have been contravened". This is a welcome sign. The army must now go further and ensure that justice is done, and seen to be done.

POWERING UP

Government will need to incentivise shift to electric vehicles. Widespread adoption will require supporting infrastructure

HE ELECTRIC VEHICLES market in India appears to be gaining traction. Companies have not only started to manufacture electric scooters and bikes in states like Uttar Pradesh, but have also begun to research for alternatives to lithium-ion batteries, which are mostly imported from China. EV major Tesla is expected to launch its India operations early next year, signalling the market's attractiveness. In due course of time, with more money flowing into research, India could emerge as the number one manufacturer of electric vehicles like cars, bikes, and tractors, said Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport and Highways, at the Indian Express Idea Exchange programme. These are welcome developments, and signal the long-term attractiveness of the EV market segment in India.

The arguments in favour of a shift towards electric vehicles are straightforward, arising largely as a response to the challenges of pollution and energy security. India has 21 of the world's 30 cities with the worst air pollution as per data from IQAir AirVisual's 2019 World Air Quality Report. And much of the pollution load can be traced to vehicular emissions. As such, the adoption of electric vehicles will reduce overall emissions and also help meet the targets under the Paris agreement. Such a shift would also help lower the country's dependence on oil imports. A NITI Aayog report had earlier pegged the savings in the oil import bill at Rs 1.2 lakh crore (assuming crude at \$70 per litre). Considering such a shift will lead to enormous socio-economic and environmental benefits, a prudent approach would be to channel investment towards facilitating the shift of various modes of public transport, two-wheelers and taxis to electric vehicles. Covering these modes of transport itself would include nearly 80 per cent of vehicles on Indian roads as per the NITI Aayog study. This approach, as an analysis by TERI suggests, would help reduce pollution, lower oil imports, and cut carbon emissions and road congestion. Arguments in favour of subsidising the shift for premium four-wheeler cars ignore that they account for only 2 per cent of total vehicle sales in India.

However, there is the issue of creating the charging infrastructure at the scale required to facilitate its large-scale adoption. Affordable and convenient charging will, after all, increase the segment's attractiveness for consumers. In the US, for instance, President-elect Joe Biden has pledged to build 5,00,000 new EV charging stations. However, while public funding may well be required to incentivise both manufacturers and consumers to shift, governments should be agnostic between various EV technologies.

DECEMBER 29

As the new year approaches,

India's cricket team turns a corner

EITHER PAROCHIALISM NOR jingoism is needed to appreciate India's second Test triumph against Australia. They were blown away for their lowest score in history just a week ago, a shocked nation bearing mute witness. They were hit by numerous jolts to the batting line-up and suffered a crucial blow when they lost Mohammad Shami. It's in this context that this team with a stand-in captain turned in a stand-out performance to achieve a

Why does this team move from one extreme to another? Forty-five minutes of doingnothing in Adelaide, 45 minutes of doing-too-much at Manchester in the World Cup. That question also reveals why so much is expected from this team. If the batsmen get their act together, they have the bowlers to make this team a genuine world beater, especially once Hardik Pandya completes his bowling rehab to tussle with Ravindra Jadeja for the allrounder spot, or even push the third seamer, for that matter. The victory was a triumph of tactics too. From the five-bowlers strategy to the way Ajinkya Rahane used R Ashwin and the pacers. It comes down to the use of left-handed batsmen, a pet theme with the head coach Ravi Shastri. Jadeja and Rishabh Pant changed the tempo of the game in the first innings, encouraging Rahane also to open out more. The debutants, Siraj and Shubman Gill, showed they have the game to blossom at this level.

At the same time, victory should not blur reality. The Indian cricket team is not invincible, or ready for world conquest. This, in fact, was India's first Test win - out of four attempts – this year. But after December 29, there is now a bold hope that they will turn a new leaf in the new year.

Secession of the successful



Overseas Indians cheer government's agenda for India's atmanirbharta, without investing in it

Sanjaya Baru

EVEN AS THE year ends with renewed calls from Prime Minister Narendra Modi for an Atmanirbhar Bharat, India's best and brightest are busy making plans for emigration. This newspaper reported this week the results of its investigation of the academic choices of school-leaving toppers (Indian Express, December 27-28-29) that showed more than half of the first rankers in Class 10 and Class 12 examinations (conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education and the Council for Indian School Certificate Examinations) during the two decades of 1996-2015 had migrated and were studying or employed overseas, mostly in the US. The toppers are the tip of an iceberg of student migration.

More recent data, post-2015, suggest that the trend of out-migration of Indian talent and wealth has accelerated. Data collected by this writer from a couple of highprofile private schools in New Delhi show that while around the turn of the century about 20 per cent of their high school students went abroad for graduate studies, the number shot up to close to 50 per cent by 2010 and to 70 per cent in 2019. If the CBSE and ISC toppers are India's brightest, many of the school-leavers from private schools like these belong to India's wealthiest.

Apart from the CBSE and ISC students, there is now a growing number of International Baccalaureate (IB) students who, in fact, study and prepare only to be able to pursue higher education overseas. Since the 1980s, as many as 176 "world schools" have come up across India that offer IB certificates that help qualify Indian children for graduate education abroad. The fee charged by IB world schools can range from around Rs 75,000 per month to Rs 1,50,000 a month.

While the largest numbers still go to the United States of America, other popular destinations include Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Singapore. Dubai, closer home, has emerged as a major educational hub for Indian students. Other destinations include China, Russia Taiwan, France, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Philippines and Malaysia.

Both Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Prime Minister Modi have invested hope by suggesting that outmigration does not necessarily constitute a 'brain drain', but could help create a 'brain bank' on which India can draw for its own development. However, the data suggests that an increasing number of nonresident Indians (NRIs) have become 'not-returning' Indians, and are contributing more to their host countries than to their home country. For a majority of them, opportunities for work and the quality of life overseas, especially in English-speaking nations, have an obvious attraction. However, there is now an emerging category of Indians migrating out and opting to stay out of India because they feel their motherland no longer wants

As a consequence of the rising numbers of both the bright and the wealthy students going overseas for higher education, the annual total outward remittances under the Reserve Bank of India's liberalised remittances scheme (LRS) for "studies abroad" has increased more than threefold, from US\$ 1.54 billion in 2016-17 to US\$ 4.99 billion in 2019-20. Total outward remittances under LRS have increased exponentially over the past five years, from US\$1.3 billion in 2014-15 to US\$ 18.75 in 2019-20. This "flight of financial capital" signals not just a "flight of human capital" but in fact a "secession of the successful", as I argue in my forthcoming book on India's power elite.

India's wealthy have gone overseas for school and college education for a very long time. After all, even a leader of the national movement like Motilal Nehru sent his son lawaharlal to Harrow school in Britain and many eminent Indians of the Raj were educated in the United Kingdom. Even after Independence, overseas education has had its attractions for those who could afford it, or those who were fortunate to win scholarships. With time, the US became the single most important destination. However, all of this constituted a trickle compared to the rising flood of out-migration from both the middle and the upper classes.

The Indian Express report shows that an overwhelming number of the CBSE and ISC toppers going overseas have a non-metropolitan background. It is one thing for such children, from modest social and economic backgrounds and with excellent academic credentials, to seek educational opportunities overseas; it is quite another when wealthy families from big cities send their children to schools that in fact equip them for further studies and life overseas. The former may represent "aspirational India", but the latter constitutes the "secession of the successful".

Economists are able to quantify the flight of finance capital, but there are no reliable estimates of the flight of human capital. In an early recognition of the problem of "brain drain" for developing economies, trade economist Jagdish Bhagwati proposed, way back in the 1970s, the imposition of a brain drain tax. Despite the very small numbers of the emigrating talent in the 1970s, the social class they represented managed to nix the Bhagwati proposal. Today, given the much larger numbers and the social and economic diversity of the emigrating millions, no political party is likely to have the courage to introduce such a tax.

Both Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Prime Minister Modi have invested hope by suggesting that out-migration does not necessarily constitute a "brain drain", but could help create a "brain bank" on which India can draw for its own development. However, the data suggests that an increasing number of non-resident Indians (NRIs) have become "not-returning" Indians, and are contributing more to their host countries than to their home country.

For a majority of them, opportunities for work and the quality of life overseas, especially in English-speaking nations, have an obvious attraction. However, there is now an emerging category of Indians migrating out and opting to stay out of India because they feel their motherland no longer wants them. This sense of alienation, especially among minorities, is a disturbing trend.

An equally worrying trend is the increasing number of India's super rich who have chosen to live abroad and work from abroad. Indian laws permit an annual outward remittance of up to US\$2,50,000. The law also permits business persons to function from overseas as non-resident entities. The next generation of top Indian business families is increasingly opting for this dual status of owning and managing business in India while living overseas.

While thousands of overseas Indians have cheered Prime Minister Modi at his rallies in New York, Houston, London, Dubai and Singapore, few among them seem to have bought into his "atmanirbharta" agenda. They are quite willing to cheer Modi's plans for India's atmanirbharta, but prefer to invest in their own atmanirbharta overseas.

The writer is former Media Advisor to Prime



LOOKING THE OTHER WAY

It's disingenuous to separate the leader from his followers

APOORVANAND

IT WAS QUITE dismaying to read the appeal, made editorially, by The Indian Express ('Message much needed', IE, December 24' to the Prime Minister's followers to pay heed to his affirmation of the first principle of the republic of India that all citizens of the country are equal in the eyes of the state, no matter what their identity. It would have made more sense if the newspaper had asked itself how many times in the past six years has it been compelled to plead with the followers to listen to their leader. Why is it that they have gotten more and more brazen in their assault on minorities, especially Muslims, after each such appeal? And why is it that the PM keeps following hate-mongers on social media?

It could have been an occasion to hold the PM accountable to his words, to ask him why India has become one of the most violent countries for its Muslims. Why is it that he is enacting laws like the CAA and the antitriple talaq law which put Muslims in an unequal position as compared to their co-citizens?

The editorial expresses thanks to the PM for striking a "note of inclusiveness and accommodation, at the end of a year that began with unprecedented nationwide protests against a citizenship law that was widely seen as discriminating against the country's largest minority, and that has, most recently, seen a troubling criminalisation of Such cruelty could not have been possible without the PM exhorting his people that the protesters could be 'identified by their clothes'. That's why the speech to the campus was disingenuous and insulting. A university is known for the independence of the minds of its members. The university authorities ignored all protestations by its alumni and present student body, who were opposed to the PM's presence.

buses operated. All vehicular traffic was off

inter-faith marriage in Uttar Pradesh." Why did the editorial fail to note that the PM was speaking at the campus at a time when it was marking the first anniversary of violence which left its students bloodied by the UP police? An incident in which the university authorities failed their students. The least one expected was a mention of this atrocity. That of police breaking into the hostels — the same hostels the PM spoke about in his speech - and cracking down on students.

I, along with many, had visited the campus just after the violence and met the iniured students. We could feel the anger and frustration amongst the young students the prime minister was lauding in his speech for their "shero shayari", "hansi-mazak" and their "andaz". In doing this, he was evoking stereotypes about Muslims - shero shavari. andaz, tehzeeb.

The students of the AMU, however, did not fit the bill. They chose to talk plain prose: "We reject the politics of exclusion and inequality and refuse to live as second-class citizens in our own land". And they paid for this simple prose with their blood. Such cruelty could not have been possible without the PM exhorting his people that the protesters could be "identified by their clothes". That's why the speech to the campus was disingenuous and insulting. A university is known for the independence of the minds of its members. The university authorities ignored all protestations by its alumni and present student body, who were opposed to the PM's presence. The students and teachers would tell you that the AMU has now become a favourite playground of the local BJP leaders, who target any dissenting voice -the authorities merely obey their orders, using overt and covert threats to their faculty and students.

The students of the AMU have faced arrests and are fighting criminal charges. The threat of violence against them is a reality. Their crime: They chose to speak out against a discriminatory act. The politics of dominance demands that the violated welcome the one who has brutalised them. He feels bad when reminded of the violence and wants to be seen as inclusive and accommodative. It is bad manners to refuse him salutations for his kindness. The domestication of Muslims is the objective of the politics of the man who has been applauded by the media for his open-heartedness. To separate him, the leader, from his followers is not honest.

India needs to be a questioning nation, a nation which respects independent young minds, not incites hatred or violence against them or puts them in jails.

The writer teaches Hindi at Delhi University



DECEMBER 30, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

Assam in turmoil

LIFE IN ALMOST the entire Brahmaputra THE DELEGATES AT BIP's national conven-Valley and the districts of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar hills was paralysed by the 34hour Assam bandh. The bandh has been called by the AASU and the AAGSP. Work in almost all government offices was at a standstill as employees stayed away, according to reports. However, in the state secretariat, 950 of the 2000 employees were present, according to Assam Chief Secretary Ramesh Chandra. The attendance at the in-depth discussion on the matter. Northeast Frontier railway headquarters was around 75 per cent. In Gauhati, a few shops were open. Only six state-owned

BJP CHURN

tion were sharply divided over the use of the term, "Gandhian Socialism". Several of them wanted the term "socialism" deleted from the party's credo. Chief amongst the objectors was Vijaya Raje Scindia. The delegates were participating in discussions on the economic policy statement moved by Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhairon Singh Shekhawat. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, in contrast, wanted an

Gang of Four trial SHOUTING, "I AM prepared to die," the widow of Mao Tse Tung disrupted her trial again and was dragged out of court. Jing

Qiang, 67, was hauled out of the court by bailiffs. The state-run Xinhua also quoted the prosecutor general as criticising Mao for not apprehending Jing at the time of her alleged crimes. The defendants, the Gang of Four led by Jing, are on trial for the infamous purges of 1966.

AFGHAN IMPASSE

PAKISTAN FOREIGN MINISTER Agha Shahi said his government is ready to open talks on resolving the Afghan problem but that would, in no way, mean a recognition of the current regime in Kabul. Total withdrawal of the Soviet troops is a pre-condition for recognising the Babrak government.

- THE GUARDIAN

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2020

THE IDEAS PAGE

Facts from the field

MSP-APMC system benefits a minority of farmers. To help small and marginal farmers, right approach is through Farmer Producer Organisations, not APMC mandis



BY ASHOK GULATI

pose, including the farmers'.

ONE HOPES THAT the talks between the agitating farmers and the government lead to an amicable solution soon. But if farmer leaders stick to demanding a repeal of the farm laws, then I am afraid the stalemate is likely to continue. In such a charged environment, rationality often becomes victim to anger and hatred, which does not serve anyone's pur-

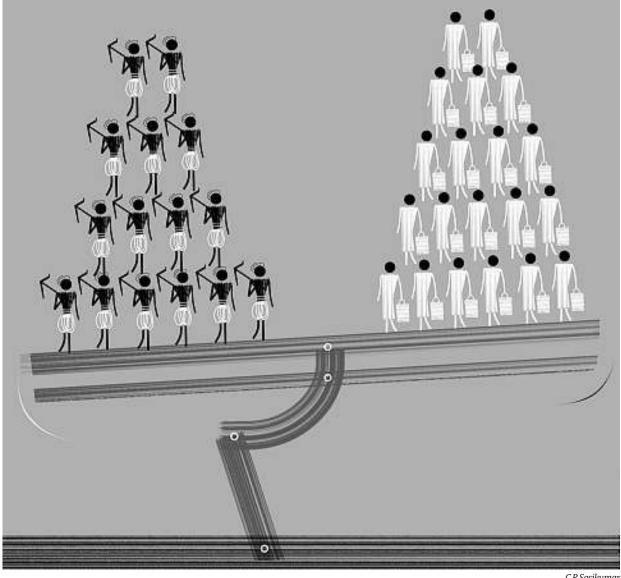
Nevertheless, let me spell out some basic facts about Indian agriculture, which may help negotiators on both sides, with a common objective of benefitting the larger interest of the farming community.

A major study that we at ICRIER conducted with OECD showed that over the period 2000-01 to 2016-17, Indian agriculture was implicitly taxed to the tune of almost 14 per cent of its value. This was primarily due to restrictive trade and marketing policies, ranging from export controls and stocking limits to the restrictive mandi system. The way to improve farmers' price realisation, therefore, was to liberate agriculture from these various controls. The farm laws under discussion are intended to do precisely that. Interestingly, this has been a long-standing demand of one of the tallest farmer leaders, the late Sharad Joshi, since the 1991 reforms. But somehow, a fear has been created that these farm laws will rob farmers of APMC markets, MSP, and they may even lose their lands to big corporate houses through contract farming. These fears, genuine or imaginary, have been blown out of proportion for political reasons.

There is no doubt that APMC markets and MSP will face competition from private markets and out-of-APMC mandi transactions. But will this hurt the farmers or play in their favour? Opinions differ. I believe it will help the farmers at large, especially small and marginal ones. The creation of an additional 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and the promised Agri-infrastructure Fund of Rs one lakh crore will aid this process. But many among the agitating farmers fear losing the MSP for wheat and paddy that they get in Punjab-Haryana.

What is the reality about MSP? The NSSO's Situation Assessment Survey (70th round) revealed that in 2012-13, only 6 per cent of farmers sold their produce at MSP. And of course, a majority of them were from the Punjab-Haryana belt. After that, there is no such survey available in the country. In recent research with my colleague, Ritika Juneja, we worked out the value of agri-produce (paddy, wheat, pulses, oilseeds and cotton) bought by government agencies at MSP for the year 2018-19, and how much that constitutes as a percentage of the total value of agri-produce. Interestingly, the number again comes to about 6 per cent.

So, in all these years since the MSP was given birth to in 1965 through a newly-constituted Agricultural Prices Commission (now renamed as Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, which I had the privilege to chair during 2011-14) and the Food



C R Sasikumar

Corporation of India (FCI), only 6 per cent of farmers and broadly, 6 per cent of the value of agri-produce has benefitted from this system. And remember, the MSP and APMC system primarily helps those who have large surpluses, mainly the large farmers. So, if one really wants to help the small and marginal farmers, the right approach is through FPOs at the village level and not in APMC mandis. And, about 86 per cent of Indian farmers are small and marginal (less than 2 ha), operating roughly 47 per cent of the total operated area in the country. So, those who are arguing for APMC mandis and MSP are basically arguing for those 6 per cent of farmers or 6 per cent of the value of agri-produce.

Given these basic facts, how do we dispel the fears of agitating farmers? First, the government should be ready to give in writing that the existing system of APMC markets and MSP will continue and be strengthened. Second, the government can also give in writing that the contract will be for the produce, not the land. Third, farmers can take disputes to district courts, if they like. Fourth, to add to these written assurances, the government can also commit to creating a fund of Rs 25,000 crores under the Price Stabilisation Scheme, which can be used to support market prices of specified commodities that take a dip of more than 10 per cent below MSP. This is akin to NAFED's operations to support market prices of pulses and oilseeds, or the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) for cotton prices, and can be extended to maize,

Given these basic facts, how do we dispel the fears of agitating farmers? First, the government should be ready to give in writing that the existing system of APMC markets and MSP will continue and be strengthened. Second, the government can also give in writing that the contract will be for the produce, not the land. Third, farmers can take disputes to district courts, if they like. Fourth, to add to these written assurances, the government can also commit to creating a fund of Rs 25,000 crores under the Price Stabilisation Scheme, which can be used to support market prices of specified commodities that take a dip of more than 10 per cent below MSP.

sorghum, pearl millet, etc.

One major question in this approach is how to deal with the losses when these government-procured stocks are unloaded in the market, as they will invariably incur losses. And if stocks keep piling up, as is the case with wheat and rice today, how do we correct this imbalance in demand and supply? In that case, either limit the size of procurement or go for price deficiency payments to those who buy "put options" at MSP for specified quantities at the time of sowing. An expert committee will have to be set up to look into its operational guidelines. A further positive step will be to announce a diversification package for the Punjab-Haryana belt.

I must also say that repealing these farm laws would be like robbing more than 90 per cent of farmers — who never gained from the MSP system and who are largely small and marginal — of their rights. And asking for making MSP a statutory binding even on the private sector will turn out to be anti-farmer as much of the private trade will shun such a system, leading to chaos. It will be worse than repealing these laws.

Finally, one must remember that farmers always want a higher price for their produce, but higher food prices can also bring pains to poor consumers. The art of policymaking is to balance the interest of producers and consumers within reasonable financial resources.

> Gulati is Infosys Chair Professor for Agriculture at ICRIER

A year of fractured memory

"Boris Johnson has a range of political skills, but international diplomacy is not among them. His greatest asset is a campaigning charisma with limited

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

Pandemic has pushed back process of wealth generation, of shifting people from poverty to some kind of comfort and security



Salil Misra

HOW ARE WE going to collectively remember the year 2020? It was a year of unprecedented and unanticipated crisis. It was not an economic crisis, even though it did have an economic dimension. It was a crisis that threatened the collective medical health of the entire humanity.

When was the last time the entire world was gripped by a crisis of such magnitude? The World War II comes to mind. It was a $global\,crisis\,which\,gripped\,all\,of\,humanity.\,It$ was a political crisis brought about by the expansionist drives of the political leaders of . Europe. Over 50 million people died on the battle fronts and in the genocides. Many disappeared and could never be traced. Europe and the rest of the world experienced unprecedented violence and brutality.

But the War also turned out to be a great democratising experience for Europe. It established responsible and accountable governments. It helped to bridge the class divide by bringing different classes closer to one another. It triggered a phase of economic affluence. Interestingly, the maximum benefits

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SHADOW,

NEW YEAR

of the post-War period went to the vanquished in the War -Japan and Germany. The War was followed by decolonisation in Asia and Africa. The world as a whole benefitted as the real threat of a Fascist takeover of the world was averted. A better future burst forth from beneath the thick crust of the War. How

does the current crisis fare in comparison? Unfortunately, the picture beneath the surface is as gloomy and depressing as it appears on the surface. There is, however, a silver lining. Because of the global nature of the crisis, all nation states have come closer. After environment and terrorism, the pandemic has become the third major issue which can be tackled only through global cooperation.

But having blurred the national barriers, the current crisis appears to have sharpened the class barriers. The experience of the current crisis, unlike that of the World War, has been very different across the class divide in India. For the upper crust of the 10-15 million(or so) of the labour-extracting, decisionmaking, institution-heading elite with secure salaries and accessible resources, the experience of the crisis was nothing more than an inconvenience, albeit a huge one, or at best an ethical dilemma. It was a kind of a trade-off between comfort and safety. Letting the domestic help come from outside and do all the work brought about comfort at the expense of safety. Keeping them out was possibly safe, but it brought the nuisance of having to do all the domestic work. Apart from this, the availability of provisions, online supplies, TV, Internet and Wi-fi ensured that there was no existential crisis for the

Indian elite.

Not so for the large majority on the other side of the class divide. For them - unorganised labour, domestic help, daily wagers, street hawkers, migrant labours, nomadic people, rickshaw pullers, urban poor — the pandemic was nothing short of a life-changing experience. For those living below the social equator, the crisis destroyed their whole universe. Those who were hoping to break out of the poverty grid have had their dreams shattered. They had played their part in running a system which let them down badly. The crisis may have been generic and uniform, but the concrete experience of the crisis was not. It was uneven and differentiated, particularly along the line of class.

It was partly for the differentiated nature of the experience that the crisis ended up reinforcing prejudices. Muslims were particularly at the receiving end of it and were stigmatised as the villains of the pandemic. The crisis, instead of creating new solidarities as such events often do, only ended up reinforcing the stereotypes and social prejudices. The whole society took another step backwards.

Then there was the glee of the environmentalist – the feel of fresh air without pollution, clean rivers, peacocks dancing on the street, happy jungle and the contented environment. Finally, we had found the solution to the huge environmental problem. If all human activities can be stalled, and all the humans locked in, pollution can be prevented and we can achieve the pristine purity of the world. Viewed from the vantage point of the

vast majority in India, this glee was in very bad taste. Poverty continues to be our greatest pol-

pandemic clearly had a medical, a socio-economic and an epidemiological dimension. The three ran parallel to one another without any meeting point. They suggested three different prescrip-

tions. The medical prescription was society-neutral and human-blind: Whatever can be done to flatten the curve, should be done. The epidemiological perspective took a certain amount of human loss for granted and worked towards minimising the loss. It is the socio-economic perspective that should have played a greater role in the formulation of the policy. That might have gone some way towards preventing a long-term catastrophe. In the end, the real crisis of 2020 was not so much what happened, but what it has led to, and will lead to.

The real crisis starts now. A transition society, with a precarious grip on resources and economic development, cannot afford to lose time in its march towards affluence. The process of wealth generation, poverty reduction, and of people gradually shifting from poverty to some kind of comfort and security had been going on for the last three decades. That has been pushed back by the pandemic. That is the real

There is going to be no collective remembering of the year and the pandemic. It will be a fractured memory divided across the impenetrable class barrier.

> The writer is a historian at the Ambedkar University Delhi



Double standard on conversion

Outrage misses the point: No community is entitled to be close-minded

DEAR EDITOR,

I DISAGREE

A column in which we

invite readers to tell

us why, when they

differ with the

editorial postions or

news coverage of 'The

Indian Express'

Jagvir Singh

I DISAGREE WITH The Indian Express's editorial on the matter of laws on inter-faith marriages and conversion ('Strike one', IE, December 1). The last couple of months have seen many high courts frowning upon the state's interference in interfaith marriages, being matters of personal choices. Alongside, several BJP-ruled states framed laws to regulate such marriages and any associated conversions. Are these pieces of legislation legally and logically viable? To answer this question, the matter must be viewed through two prisms: One, conversion of a bride before or after marriage; and two, an interfaith marriage without

An interfaith marriage where the bride converts has three key elements: One, a girl has to convert because she has to align with the religion and "culture" of the boy. Does this not reek of male chauvinism and patriarchy, which feminists across the globe have waged war against? They try to rationalise this by using disingenuous sophistry, that women have minds of their own and thus, can make their own decisions. Yes, they can. Women are not being subject to criticism here. Nor are women in traditional households, who eat only after their husbands and/or touch their feet and/or are generally obsequious to them, either out of religious belief, love or devotion. We treat such husbands and the patriarchy surrounding them as criminal. Doesn't a man who expects that his wife should convert to his religion suffer from the same malaise?

Second, when a man has even a slight expectation of conversion, does it not exhibit his discomfort, for whatever reasons, to live with a person of another faith? This is Third, conversion is predicated upon an

abominable notion of the other faith being inferior and thus, comes from a community-level su-

premacist attitude. One fails to understand how the liberals reconcile these facts and do not deem the practice communal. I firmly endorse B R

Ambedkar and believe that to dismantle societal divides such as caste. religion, race and ethnicity, more and more inter-

community marriages must take place and are largely accepted by society. Consequently, should an interfaith marriage, sans conversion, be welcome? As a principle, yes. However, is the religion of the bride relevant? Ideally, not at all. The fact of a girl being from one community in a marriage and the groom being from another

should be coincidental. But it is not. That is what causes the inter-community schism.

Due to a clear ban on the marriage of Muslim women to men of other faiths in their scriptures, and a majority of the community adhering to them and women having been steeped in the religion since childhood, in interfaith marriages involving Muslims, the girls mostly come from non-Muslim communities.

Girls from non-Muslim communities are raised in a more liberal milieu, faith consciousness not being that important for them, especially in nonspiritual matters. Thus, though marriage is fundamentally an act of individual choice, at the macro and communities' levels, marriages involving Muslim men are viewed by other communities as delib-

erate attempts to lure and deceive women from other communities, while restricting their own women from marrying outside pletely devoid of her "agency".

the community. An honest liberal and feminist intellectual shall see this organic mental restraint on a Muslim girl as being com-How are we to deal with these issues? We need laws regulating conversion. One person converting another is a political act under the garb of exercising religious freedom. However, any person's informed decision to embrace another faith out of their free will, untainted by extraneous factors, is and should be welcomed as a fundamental right. Conversely, if the conversion is for other reasons, including as a precondition for or consequence of marriage, it should be outlawed. To ensure that this does not happen, a marriage before and after two years of conversion should be void, irrespective of

the original religion of the convert. In today's era, religion ought to have no role in social, political and economic spheres and should relate only to spiritual aspects. It should be pronounced irrelevant in marital unions. All religious communities should raise their children with a sense of the irrelevance of religion in dealing and communicating with fellow citizens, including while choosing life partners. But, if a religious community deems it impossible to afford its womenfolk the agency to select partners of their choice, for religious compulsions or otherwise, for the sake of communal amity, it should forbid its men from forging an alliance with women of other faiths as well. Honest inter-community dialogue will work

The writer is a senior lawyer based in Delhi

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NECESSARY ALLIANCE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Squeeze in Bengal' (IE, December 29). West Bengal's ground realities require the Left and the Congress to join hands to take on the twin threats of the BJP and TMC. As a matter of fact, there is very little to distinguish the two. Much like the BJP, there is no low to which the TMC would not stoop to to cling to power. The TMC, too, has been engaging in political mobilisation along religious lines. Mamata Banerjee and the BJP have together polarised the electorate along communal lines, a phenomenon never before witnessed in Bengal, Bengal politics is in desperate need to be rid of the amoral influences that have infiltrated it in the past one decade or so. That alone makes the alliance of the Left and the Congress a necessity.

Susobhan Sarkar, Kolkata

EDUCATION WOES

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Systems challenge' (IE, December 29). US universities are flush with endowment funds, which are essentially private in nature. This financial independence gives them the liberty to not only design courses, choose faculty, interact with other private entities for R&D but most importantly, it enables them to keep politicians and bureaucrats out. India needs to al-



LEARNING IN A POST PANDEMIC WORLD:

PUJA TRISAL BREAKING THE IMPASSE IN

FARM PROTESTS: KABEER SRIVASTAVA

www.indianexpress.com

low private capital to come in a big way in the field of education.

HN Bhagwat, Chiplun

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Systems challenge' (IE, December 29). It is an excellent precis of the maladies plaguing our educational system and how illsuited it is to prepare our students to meet the challenges of the future. It supplements a brilliant investigative series, which is tracking the school toppers of the last two decades. I wish the educators would listen to the voices of these 86 yesteryear toppers.

K Sahasranaman, Mumbai

Raid on Pracha

of the Delhi Police in this case.

MARCH 4.2020: On February 24, Irshad Ali complained to police that his rented mattress shop at Moonga Nagar was ransacked and set ablaze by a mob, resulting in a loss of Rs 17-18 lakh to him and Rs 10 lakh to store-owner Rekha

Delhi Police named several people, including councillor Tahir Hussain, former member of the Aam Aadmi Party; Gulfam; Mohd Abid; Arshad Qayyum; Shahdab; Shah Alam; Riyasat Ali and Rashid

accused, Abid and Qayumm both represented by lawyer laved Ali — Additional Sessions Judge Vinod Yadav was told about two subsequent complaints by Irshad

police had falsely implicated the accused in the case and that "the persons who looted his shop are

AUGUST 10: Lawyer Javed Ali included Irshad Ali's complaints in the bail application of Abid and Qayyum. The court asked the DCP (North-East) to file a report on

AUGUST 22: The Delhi Police

and did not identify them in the

Police said that Irshad Ali told them that Pracha -- who was initially representing another accused Gulfam in the same case -called him to his office and told him that he has an eyewitness, namely Sharif Malik. And that if Irshad Ali attaches Malik's complaint to his own. Ali's case would become stronger.

In their report submitted to the court on August 22, the police made two key allegations:

One, the statement by Malik, himself wanted in a similar case registered at Davalpur police station, that he "witnessed the whole incident" of rioting was "false, concocted and fabricated" by Pracha and sent to various offices by him through his email ID.

Two, Irshad Ali's July affidavitconfirming on oath the complaints attached were his -- which was part of Abid and Qayyum's bail petition, was found attested by Notary Public Sanjay Saxena, who had died three years ago.

Saxena's wife Sangeeta Saxena is said to have told the police that she has no knowledge of any document attested by her husband's

ASJ Yadav, in his order on August 22, said the matter should be investigated either by the Crime Branch or Special Cell and asked the Delhi Police Commissioner to pass appropriate directions.

The Special Cell registered an FIR on August 22 alleging false complaint, false evidence and for-

FROM PAGE ONE

AUGUST 27: ASJ Yadav said that Delhi Police Commissioner himself had informed the court that an FIR had been registered and that "progress of investigation shall be submitted" before the court "as and when directed".

NOVEMBER 24: Delhi Police didn't oppose the anticipatory bail pleas filed by Sharif Malik in an rioting and attempt to murder case, and two similar cases registered by Dayalpur police station.

The Public Prosecutor submitted that "the applicant has joined the investigation and for the present, he is not required to be arrested in the matter. However, it is requested that the applicant may be directed to continue to join the investigation," the court said while granting pre-arrest bail to Sharif on separate but similar orders in the three cases

DECEMBER 3:The Delhi High Court granted bail to Riyasat Ali, who had also been named as an accused in the Irshad store looting case. It said that the presence of Riyasat Ali "is not established through CCTV footages/at the spot". "... however, without commenting on the merits of the prosecution case. I am of the view that the petitioner deserves bail." the court said. Similarly, Shah Alam, and Mohd Rehan were also granted bail. On December 9, Gulfam was granted bail by a Delhi

DECEMBER 17: Qayyum and Abid were granted bail on grounds of parity. The Sessions Court of ASJ Yadav put on record three arguments made by the defence on the

court.

handling of the case by the Delhi

That both had been "falsely implicated" by the police; that investigation in the matter "has not been conducted in an impartial and fair manner"; and that persons "belonging to a particular community have been falsely roped in by the investigating agency".

"There is no electronic evidence available against the applicants, either in the form of any CCTV footage(s) or their CDR location, which could prima facie show their presence at the scene of crime on the date of incident," the court noted on the defence argument.

DECEMBER 24: The Special Cell, issuing a notice to Pracha, said: "One complaint... by Sharif Malik... respect to arson and rioting... was drafted under your instruction on your computer in your office and got signature and thumbimpression...in your office itself... Malik has denied having sent any of the copy... but several such complaints have been received in police station bearing name of... Malik.'

"Investigation conducted so far has provided reasonable substance in the allegations, so an order of search and seizure has been obtained... for recovery and seizure of incriminating documents from your office and computers," the police said.

Asked about Malik being granted bail exactly a month before the searches, Ved Prakash Surya, DCP Northeast, said: "We never arrested Sharif. He filed for anticipatory bail and was granted

the same by the court. We don't think there's any connection to

A senior police officer from NorthEast district said. "Granting bail is the prerogative of the court. There might have been complaints against the accused and due to insufficient evidence, Malik was granted bail. The police are not involved here. Also, the district police gave a report to the court. Subsequent searches and investigation is done by Special Cell. The bails aren't linked to the Special Cell investigation."

Following the searches, police said while advocate Javed Ali cooperated, it faced opposition during the searches at Pracha's office.

In his computers, the Special Cell claimed, it was looking for "incriminating documents, allegedly drafted by him/on his instructions maybe" while referring to Malik's complaint and the Section 160 CrPC reply given to police in the name of or behalf of complainant Irshad Ali.

In this reply, Irshad Ali is said to have spoken in favour of the accused persons.

Police have now filed another FIR against Pracha for allegedly obstructing the investigation during the search operation.

Pracha represents at least three accused in the "larger conspiracy case" in the Delhi riots and many other accused in riot cases registered by police. He has called the searches an attack on due process, legal profession and Constitution

Tender No. 132-DRM-MB-20-21

WITHJIGNASASINHA



The farmers were marching towards Raj Bhavan when they were lathicharged. PTI

Farmers lathi-charged in Patna, several injured

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE PATNA, DECEMBER 29

OVER HALF-A-DOZEN farmers suffered minor injuries when police lathicharged them near Dak Bungalow crossing in Patna on Tuesday. Over 2,000 farmers, under the aegis of All India Farmers Struggle Coordination committee, were marching towards Raj Bhavan to submit their memorandum of demands when they were lathicharged. The farmers, however, were not allowed to reach Raj Bhavan. Left parties are also backing the farmers.

All India Kisan Mahasabha's

state secretary Ramadhar Singh said farmers had come to Patna from Purnea, Araria, Gopalganj, East Champaran and Siwan on their own and their protest would only intensify in the coming days. A major segment of these farmers are share-croppers, he added.

Singh said Bihar farmers are in complete solidarity with farmers protesting along the Delhi-Haryana borders. "We want roll back of all the three farm laws. Bihar government did away with the mandi system in 2006 but did not provide any alternative system. Most farmers have to sell their paddy much

below MSP," Singh alleged.

alleged Rs 177-crore J&K Bank loan scam. Ordering his release on bail subject to his furnishing a personal bond of Rs 5 lakh along with two sureties of the same amount, Justice Javed Iqbal Wani after hearing both the sides observed that "deprivation of liberty tanta-

Loan 'scam':

grants bail to

Hilal Rather

THE JAMMU and Kashmir High

Court on Tuesday granted bail to

Hilal Rather, son of former J&K

finance minister AR Rather, who

had been in jail for the past 10

months in connection with an

J&K HC

ARUN SHARMA

JAMMU, DECEMBER 29

mount to punishment". "Prison hell destroys the manifestation of feelings and sensibility of a person," Justice Wani observed, adding that the petitioner has been languishing in iail for more 10 months and he cannot be stopped from preparing his defence, which is of an essence in a criminal trial. The discretion for grant of bail has to be exercised on the well-established propositions and principles laid down from time to time by the apex court, the judge said.

While granting bail, the court also ordered the petitioner to cooperate with the investigating agency as and when required, without fail. He will face trial before the trial court without fail and will present himself before it as and when asked to do so, the order said.

Hilal Rather was arrested by the Anti Corruption Bureau on charges of misappropriation of crores of rupees granted as loan by Jammu and Kashmir Bank for construction of his ambitious Paradise Avenue township project at Narwal Bala in Jammu in

The tenderers willing to submit tenders for various Improvement works

Engineering section, Main office during office hours in working days.

Tender conditions are available in the above said website.

(E1/10452/2020(Main)

DIPR/5023/TENDER/2020

Commissioner, Tiruchirappalli City Corporation

Website: www.tanmag.org/www.tanmag.co.in

Sealed Tenders are invited from the reputed contractors who are having enough Machinery, Vehicles Transp
Own / Lease) Manpower and experience for executing the following contracts for our company for one year perio

Phone No. : 0427 - 2346333, 34 & 2346339. Fax : 0427-2346341. E-mail : tanmag.purchase@gmail.com

Tender Ref.

TAMIL NADU MAGNESITE LIMITED

ce : 5/53, OMALUR MAIN ROAD, JAGIR AMMAPALAYAM POST, SALEM - 636 302. TAMILNADU. CIN No: U27109TZ1979SGC00083

80/AVT/CONTRACT/17E: Excavation with own machinery, Mineral Segragation, Cleaning an Stacking of Raw Magnesite at Mines. Last date and time for issue of Tender Document 12.01.2021, 05.00 p.m.

Last date and time for submission of Tender 13.01.2021, 11.00 am. Opening of Tender 13.01.2021, 12.00 noon

INDICATE TO THE STATE OF THE ST Dy. Manager (Purchase) DIPR/ 5028 /TENDER/2020

JAI PRAKASH MAHILA COLLEGE, CHAPRA

Tender Notice No.- 01/P/JPM /2020-21 Sealed tenders are invited from reputed contractors of appropriate tegories of Firm/Company/Supplier/Printer etc. for the work mentioned below:- 1. Repairing, painting & renovation of auditorium, 2. Supply of food, snacks, coffee & water etc., 3. Decoration of stage & gate, Erection of pandal, supply of chair & table etc., 4. Supply & installation of camera video conferencing system (Live visual streaming system), Smar TV/Screen on rent/purchase etc., **5**. Printing of invitation card, I-Card, Library card, souvenir, prospectus, annual report etc., **6**. Supply of Electrical fixtures etc., **7**. Supply of Sanitary fittings etc. Tender documents are available from 05.01.2021 to 09.01.2021

till 2.30 P.M. at college office. Last date of receipt of sealed tenders 11.01.2021 till 01.00 P.M. Date & time of opening of tender documents is 12.01.2021 at 12.30 P.M.

The competent authority reserves the right to allot or cancel the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

Dated: 29.12.2020

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD

CORRIGENDUM No. 02 NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS is hereby intimated to all concerned that the opening date of E-NIT No. 04/2020-21/O&M DKT dated 02.12.2020 for Procurement of contro cables/electrical accessories for replacement of 65/33 KV, 20 MVA Transformers with 16/20 MVA Transformers at 220 KV Sub Station Dhulkole &

Document download start date & time 1700 Hrs onward on 02.12.2020 Download end date & time Up to 1700 Hrs on 11.01.2021 Last date & time of online Bid submission Up to 1300 Hrs on 12.01.2021 After 1500 Hrs on 12.01.2021 For detailed E-NIT/terms & conditions etc. please visit/download from

Sr. Executive Engineer, O&M Division, BBMB, Dhulkete, Ambala City For your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

NORTHERN RAILWAY

against Tender No 133-DRM-MB-20-21 closing date 14.01.2021 16:00 hrs. Name of work: GIS mapping of Indian Railways off track assets under Sr. DEN/II/MB. Tender closing date/time: 14.01.2021 16:00, Cost of work: Rs 749649.73; Earnest Money: Rs. 15000.00; Tender Cost: Rs.-NIL; Bidding start date: 31.12.2020 and Period of Completion: 01 Month. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. For detail information please log in to www.ireps.gov.in. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed No.: 133-DRM-MB-20-21 Dated: 29.12.2020. 2893/20

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD

Dated: 29.12.2020 Name of office: Chief Engineer, System Operation, Planning & Design (Power Plant) Dte. BBMB (PW), Flat no. 75, SLDC Complex, BBMB, Industrial Area, Phase-I, Chandigarh Name of work: Design, Manufacture, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning

Tender documents download start date & time 30.12.2020 from 1100 hrs. Last date & time of uploading complete 29.01.2021 upto 1700 hrs. prequalifying document Tender document download end date & time 16.02.2021 upto 1700 hrs. 25.02.2021 upto 1100 Hrs. Last date & time of online bid submission Date & time of online bid opening (Part-I) 25.02.2021 from 1500 hrs. onwards The Bids are to be submitted online. For the cost of specification, Earnest Money Deposit and detailed NIT, please visit BBMB website https://bbmbeproc.abcprocure.com 8

402-PR-SO-5 For Your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Sr. DEN/II/MB acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No. 131-DRM-MB-20-21 closing date 28.01.2021, 16:00 hrs. Name of work: Improvement of goods shed at HRI station in the section of SSE/W/HRI unde ADEN/HRI-I. Tender closing date/time- 28.01.2021 16:00, Cost of work Rs. 3683761.80, Earnest Money: Rs. 74000.00, Tender Cost: Rs. NIL, Bidding start date: 14.01.2020 and Period of Completion: 06 Months. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are no lowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. For detail information please log into **www.ireps.gov.in.** Contractors are allowed to mak ayments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only hrough online payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, deb card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. Tender No. 131-DRM-MB-20-21 Dated 2895/2020



STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LIMITED

For and on behalf of State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited sealed tenders are invited under "Two Cover System" for the following work from Class-I State level Civil Contractors registered in TN - State/Central or Quasi Government Organisations having experience in similar nature of works. Tenders will be received upto 3.00 PM or 19.01.2021 and the same will be opened on the same day at 3.30 PM.

Name of Work EMD A)Construction of Solid Waste Disposal Centre at SIPCOT ndustrial Complex, Thoothukudi.

3) Providing Arrangements in the Solid Waste Disposal Centre such as Construction of PCC Compound Wall, Pipe Culvert and Construction of Steel Truss including Formation of Road at SIPCOT Industrial Growth Centre Sangaiknotal ncluding GST @12%)

in the form of Demand Draft drawn in favour of SIPCOT Ltd., payable at Chenna n the Tenderer 's Name only Schedule can be Downloaded at free of cost from the websit

IPR/5041/TENDER/2020 SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, SIPCOT, CHENNAI-8

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH APEWIDC, VIJAYAWADA

National Competitive Bidding e-procurement Notice Inviting Tender e-mail:apewidc.mdpeshi@gmail.com.

Mobile No: 9704701529, 9704701236 & 08645295758 NIT No:107/MD/APEWIDC/VJA/2020-21 Dated: 29.12.2020

Tenders are invited on e-procurement platform for "Construction of ribal Engineering college at Kurupam (V&M) of Vizianagaram District' with an estimated cost of Rs.122.50 Crs.

Submission of Tender through Online: From 30-12-2020 to 12-01 2021 up to 16.00 Hrs and opening on :12-01-2021 at 16.30 Hrs. For al details, visit -procurement Platform @ https://tender apeprocurement.gov.in/

Tenders shall be submitted through Online e-procurement Platform www.apeprocurement.gov.in,

Note: Changes / Modifications if any will be communicated through the above e-Procurement platform only.

Sd/- Managing Director, APEWIDC, Vijayawada

INDIRA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Notice Inviting Tender E-tendering mode only on website- www.eproc.bihar.gov.in. 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

ualified 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. Name & address of advertiser Director, IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Patna -14 P.O.-B.V. College, Patna 800014. Date of issue of E-Tender notice 29/12/2020.

Period for download of tender From 29/12/2020 to 19/01/2021 up to 12.00 hours through above website document only on www.eproc.bihar.gov.in From 05/01/2021 at 15.00 hours in the conference Last Date of pre bid Clarifications Hall, 2nd Floor, Administrative Block, IGIMS, Last date & Time for submission / 19/01/2021 up to 17.00 Hours uploading of complete tender at www.eproc.bihar.gov.in. 20 / 01 / 2021 up to 16.00 Hours, at Director Last date, time and place for submission of hard copy of the IGIMS, Patna-800014, P/O-.B.V.College Patna Technical bid along with EMD & Tender Document Fee at Director office, I.G.I.M.S., Patna by Speed Registered post / Courier only. From 21/01/2021 at 15.00 hours on Date, Time and Place of opening www.eproc.bihar.gov.in www.eproc.bihar.gov.in.

Date & Time will be communicated later on Date. Time and Place of opening of price bid subsequent to acceptance of technicommercial bid at <u>www.eproc.bihar.gov.in</u> Bid processing fees Completion Name of Equipment SI. Group Cost of

Supply, Installation, commissioning and testing of Modular Operation Theatre (5 nos.) Group-A Rs. 2500.00 Rs. 1180.00 8-12 Week 2. Group-B Supply Fowler Bed with Rails Rs. 2500.00 Rs. 1180.00 Details of specification of equipment's, terms and conditions can be seen and

ownloaded from Institute **Website**: www.igims.org & 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 etc., if any. It will be notified on these portals only and no separate advertisement will be made. Director, IGIMS, Patna

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE

Consider:

Saifi as accused in this case. **AUGUST 7-8:** During the hearing of bail pleas of two of these

Ali in May and July. In these, Irshad Ali alleged that

these complaints by Irshad Ali.

filed its report in court that Irshad Ali had now named three residents – Deepak, Navneet alias Nanu, and Mintu — but when called before ACP (Gokalpuri), he said he knew them only by name

> **TIRUCHIRAPPALLI CITY CORPORATION TENDER NOTICE No. 189/2020-2021**

(7 Works) valuing at the cost of Rs. 6800.00 Lakhs, to be executed under the Tiruchirappalli Smart City Mission are requested to submit tenders through E-Tendering procedure in http://tntenders.gov.in as well as through sealed hard copies on or before 03.00 p.m. of 02.02.2021, which will be downloaded and opened at 04.00 p.m. in the same day. If the date of receipt of tender happens to be holiday, then tenders will be received in the succeeding working day at the same time and venue. Other details may be obtained in the

NOTTCE INVITING e-TENDER (Re-Tender) College of Agriculture, Tripura invites electronic Bids through e-Portal of Government (https://tripuratenders.gov.in) from reputed organizations for SUPPLY OF HONEY BEE BOXES AND NUCLEUS HIVES under NBB funded project "Integrated Beekeeping Development Centre/ Centre of Excellence" at College of Agriculture, Tripura, https://tripuratenders.gov.in. Last Date of submission of the e-Tender: 15/01/2021, 2:30 PM.

ICA-C-2581-20

(Dr. D. Sen) Principal In-charge College of Agriculture, Tripura Lembucherra, West Tripura

Government of Uttarakhand

Office of The Director General, Medical Health & F.W.,

lame of the Work: Supply of Dual test kit for HIV and Syphilis Screening for th Government Hospital in Uttarakhand as per details given in tender notice of https://uktenders.gov.in portal.

Date and time of availability of bid documents in the portal: 31.12.2020 at 3:00 PM Last Date and Time for receipt of bids in the portal: 13.01.2021 at 3:00 P

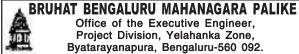
. Name and Address of the Officer Inviting the Bid: Director General, MH & FW

"e" procurement e-tender Notice

5. Details of subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtaining from the website https://uktenders.gov.in
6. Portal Registration: The contractor/bidder intending to participate in the bid is required.

to register in the portal using his/her active personal/official email id as his/her Login id and attach his/her valid digital signature certificate (DSC) to his/her unique login id. or any other queries the bidders are asked to contact through e-mail cmsd.uk@gmail.com

Director Genera



Project Division, Yelahanka Zone. Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru-560 092. No.: BBMP/YNK/EE(Project)/TEND/17/2020-21 Date: 24.12.2020 NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

SHORT TERM TENDER (TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Through GoK e-Procurement Portal Only) The Executive Engineer, Project Division, Yelahanka Zone, BBMP, Bengaluru on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP invites tenders from

elig	ible contractors for the below mentioned of	construction worl	KS.
SI. No.		Amount put to tender (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
1	Improvements to Someshwara Hill and surrounding areas at Attur Ward No. 03 in Yelahanka Satellite Town Sub-Division.	334.96	Rs. 5.03 lakhs
2	Improvements to roads and drains at Harohalli in Ward No. 02, Chowdeshwari Ward (2nd Call).	83.32	Rs. 1.67 lakhs
3	Providing and New Sculpture in Ward No. 10, Doddabommasandra (5th Call).	40.00	80,000/-
4	Maintenance and repair works at Primary Health Center at Agrahara Layout in Ward No. 05.	30.00	60,000/-
5	Maintenance and repair works at Primary Health Center at Jakkur in Ward No. 05.	40.00	80,000/-
6	Construction of Library Building at Agrahara Layout and Kattigenahalli in Ward No. 05.	83.30	Rs. 1.67 lakhs

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from e-Procurement portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in (2) Last date & time for queries (through online): 07.01.2021 upto 3.00 pm. (3) Date & time of Pre-bid meeting: 07.01.2021 at 4.00 pm. (4) Last date & time for receipt of tenders: 08.01.2021 upto 4.00 pm. (5) Date of opening of Technical bid: 10.01.2021 at 11.00 am. (6) Date of opening of Financial bid: 12.01.2021 at 4.00 pm, if possible. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project Division, Yelahanka Zone

Follow Physical Distancing

TIRUPPUR CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION **TENDER NOTICE** Tenders are invited in Two Cover System for 4 Packages of Road

orks to a Sum of Rs. 2000.00 Lakhs under Special Road Programme (SRP) 2020-21 by the Commissioner, Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation upto 03.00 P.M. on 05.02.2021 and the same will be opened by the Commissioner or his authorised person on the same day at 03.30 P.M. in the presence of the contractors or their representatives present at that time. The tender documents can be downloaded from the website upto 2.00 P.M. on 04.02.2021. Any further details will be heard from Engineering Section of the Tiruppur Corporation office in any o the working day if required. Commissioner, Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation reserves the rights to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof. E-Submission of Tender is also

accepted. Web site address : https://tntenders.gov.in

Roc. No. :E1/6680/2020 : Tiruppur :24.12.2020 DIPR/ 5029 /TENDER/2020

> **KUVEMPU UNIVERSITY** Office of the Registrar Jnanasahyadri



Shankaraghatta-577451, Shivamogga District. Ph: 08282-256221, e-mail: kureg14@gmail.com

Commissioner,

Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation

KU/DDE/ELMS/1757/2020-21 Date: 21-12-2020 E-TENDER NOTIFICATION Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta, invites tender for "Setting-up of Fully Managed. Promotable. Scalable E-Learning Management System along

with Development and Supply of E-Content for Kuvempu University" from reputed/ eligible vendors as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act. The tenderers who have registered under e-governance, Government of Karnataka may participate through e-tendering system ender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement Website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. The eligible tenderers shall submit their eender through e-procurement platform as scheduled in e-portal. For more nformation contact The Registrar, Kuvempu University, Jnanasahyadri,

JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

Shankaraghatta, Phone: **08282-256221, 9449825221.**

CIN No. U40108JH2013SGC001702 Regd. Office: Engineering Building, H.E.C., Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004, Telephone: -0651-2400799 & Fax: 0651-2400799 / https://www.jbvnl.co.in **CANCELLATION TENDER NOTICE**

Due to some unavoidable circumstances NIT No. 39/PR/JBVNL/2020-21 is hereby

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचावें। कृपया अपनी शिकायतों को टॉल फी नं० 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज करायें। PRNo.234615 General Manager (IT)

PR 238377 Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd(20-21).D VOIO3

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority ninistrative Building, Sector-6, Noida-201301 (U.P.) bsite : www.noidaauthorityonline.com **E-TENDER NOTICE** E-Tender are invited from firms/contractors registered with UPLC

Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc. (A) 1. 66/NOIDA/GM/SM(WC-9)/ET/2020-21, Name of Work:- M/o

Noida. Cost-Rs. 50.31 Lacs

Road (C/o Footpath & Drain infront of Plot No.-2 in Sector-94).

Land for Safety of land of Different Village and Sector of Work

Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded

and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned.

The details and conditions of all tenders are available on NOIDA

Which can be uploaded by date 12.01.2021 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened / downloaded on date 13.01.2021 at 11.00 AM. (B) 1. 59/NOIDA/GM/SM(WC-9)/ET/2020-21, Name of Work:-Emergency Work (Fencing with RCC Post for Vavant Noida

Circle-9), Noida. Cost-Rs. 51.54 Lacs Which can be uploaded by date 05.01.2021 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened / downloaded on date 06.01.2021 at 11.00 AM. General Manager, NOIDA

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

Sr. DEN/II/MB acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders ainst tender No. 132-DRM-MB-20-21 closing date 28.01.2021 16:00 hrs. **Name o** work: Miscellaneous track work in connection with Electronic Interlocking work in the section of ADEN/HRI-I., Tender Closing date/time: 28.01.2021 16:00, Cost of ork: Rs. 2796498.20, Earnest Money: Rs. 55900.00, Tender Cost: Rs. NIL Bidding start date: 14.01.2021 and period of Completion: 06 months. Bidder will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offe received shall be ignored. For detail information please log into www.ireps.gov.in Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender ocument cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available or IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through

Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. 2894/20 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

66 KV Sub Station Chandigarh is hereby EXTENDED as under :-

Date & time of online Bid opening BBMB Website www.bbmb.gov.in or http://bbmbeorge.abcorgcure.com

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DEN/II/MB acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Notice Inviting E-Tender NIT No.: 484/PHD/Bh-I/476

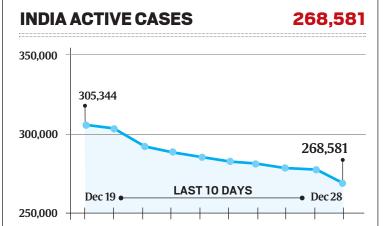
of new Microprocessor based digital type electro hydraulic Governors alongwith ntegration with existing SCADA of 5 no. machines of Bhakra Left Bank Power House.

www.bbmb.gov.in

E-Tender Notice

State Cancer Institute

CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD



Note: The Dec 28 figure in this graph is based on the government update on Dec 29

INDIA TOTAL CASES
10,224,303

Source: Ministry of Health & Family

WORLD TOTAL CASES 81,508,329

Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated at 11 pm on Dec 29

Study: Kids can identify emotions on masked faces







Sadness, anger and fear. Ashley Ruba, UW—Madison

WHEN MASKS cover a significant part of the face, how well can people understand the facial expressions of the people wearing them? Children can still understand, to an extent, the expressions on masked faces, according to a new study published in PLOS One.

"We now have this situation where adults and kids have to interact all the time with people whose faces are partly covered, and a lot of adults are wondering if that's going to be a problem for children's emotional development," researcher Ashley Ruba said in a statement on the research released by

the research released by
the University of Wisconsin–Madison.
Psychologists at UW–Madison
showed more than 80 children, ages 7
to 13, photos of faces that were unobstructed, covered by a surgical mask, or
wearing sunglasses. The faces displayed sadness, anger or fear. From a
list of six labels, the children were asked

to assign an emotion to each face. When the faces were uncovered, the children were correct as often as 66%. This was well above the probability (about 17%) of guessing one correct emotion from the six options. With a mask in the way, they correctly identified sadness about 28% of the time, anger 27% of the time, and fear 18% of the time.

"Not surprisingly, it was tougher with parts of the faces covered. But even with a mask covering the nose and mouth, the kids were able to identify these

emotions at a rate better than chance," Ruba said. Sunglasses made anger and fear difficult to identify, suggesting the

NEW RESEARCH eyes and eyebrows are important to those facial expressions. Fear, often

confused with surprise, was also the trickiest for children to spot behind a mask

The faces were revealed to the children slowly, with scrambled pixels falling into their proper place over 14 stages. This was to simulate the way real-world interactions may require piecing things together from odd angles or fleeting glimpses.

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Source: University of Wisconsin–Madison

Lessons from a pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought rare attention to science, particularly aspects related to healthcare, and India's response has underlined its existing scientific capabilities. In 2021, the country can look forward to improvements in vaccine research, among other scientific achievements



AMITABH SINHA

SCIENCE EDITOR

THANKS TO the Covid-19 epidemic, 2020 brought rare attention on science, particularly on the health sciences. Not only did subjects like public health, the mechanism of spread of viral diseases, or the state of country's scientific research become part of mainstream discussions, a large number of people even became aware of issues like the intricacies of vaccine development, or the difficulties in clinical trials of drugs and vaccines.

Science, and the tools it has gifted, was the primary weapon to be deployed in the fight against the pandemic, whether it related to carrying out of diagnostic tests, or clinical management of more serious patients to prevent deaths, or the search for effective drugs and vaccines

Not as bad as feared

India hasn't fared as badly as many had feared at the start of the outbreak. This is not to belittle the nearly 1.5 lakh deaths that have been attributed to the disease, or the millions whose livelihood has been affected. But, considering India's population and density, the disregard for public hygiene, and the rickety public health infrastructure, much worse had been predicted.

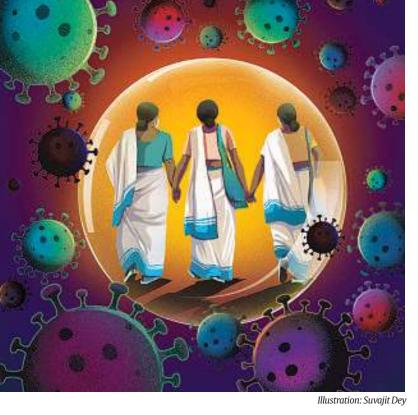
Part of it could be attributed to sheer luck, at least until we fully understand the biological reasons behind the steady decline in the number of cases in the last three months. This decline has survived state Assembly and local body elections, a crowded festival season, and a gradual lifting of all restrictions on movement and assembly of people, and seems irreversible now. This, when most other major countries are struggling to cope with a second or third wave. Relatively speaking, the disease has been much less severe in India, and has caused much fewer deaths on an average.

But the interventions made to reduce the impact of the pandemic have worked as well, some of these more effectively than the others. There was a lot that did not go right, but most of these related to administrative decisions, or the lack of effective communication. For example, most scientists now believe, that the lockdown, though essential, could have been implemented in a better way, and the problem of migrants starting to walk back to their villages should have been anticipated. Similarly, the messaging from the Indian Council of Medical Research, or the Health Ministry left a lot to be desired.

It is the lessons learnt from this crisis that we could see guiding our science and technology policy in the coming years, not just in the realm of health sector, but science in general.

Inherent scientific capacities

After the initial period of confusion, India could benefit from the fairly robust science and technology infrastructure and network it has built over the years. Nothing exemplified this better than the ramping up of number of diagnostic tests that were carried out to detect coronavirus infections. It started with just one laboratory in Pune, but very soon more than 1,500 laboratories, government as well as private, had begun testing samples. At its peak, India was testing 14 to 15 lakh samples every day.



No other country, including some in the developed world, could boast such wide-spread testing network. Increasing the number of people being tested contributed in a major way to restricting the spread of the disease.

Another example was the way in which the initial problem of lack of adequate testing kits, reagents and chemicals, and medical equipment like PPE suits and even sanitisers, was overcome. Most of these used to be imported, not because India could not manufacture them domestically, but probably it was more cost-effective to get it from abroad. But the supply became increasingly uncertain due to travel restrictions, and burgeoning global de-

mand. In a matter of weeks, Indian companies in collaboration with research institutions began producing these at home. New, more economical, diagnostic tests were developed and deployed. PPE kits was no longer in short supply. Similar was the case with

equipment like ventilators and oxygen meters. The private industry, especially small start-ups, contributed in
a big way to filling the demand gap.

the experience of this
pandemic has made the government more
convinced of the need for self-reliance, at least
in the strategic sectors. And that would include

One relatively unappreciated fact has been the utilisation of primary healthcare network, and ASHA and *anganwadi* workers, in contact tracing and awareness efforts. In some cases, more than 100 contacts of an infected person were traced, tested and isolated. It showed that while the primary healthcare network might be weak, and not empowered, it was not entirely broken.

Vaccine development

Vaccines are another area where India's existing capacities are a big asset, and can be leveraged effectively. Notwithstanding who develops the vaccine, India is going to be an important player in the manufacturing and distribution of these vaccines, because of the production capacities that have been built over the years. That would also mean that

India would also get early access to these vaccines, with the government not having to spend large sums of money like the United States or some European countries had to do to pre-book the vaccines.

We are already seeing this uppell. The first

We are already seeing this unroll. The first vaccine is likely to become available not later than a few weeks from now. Early logistical planning for transport, storage and distribution already having been finalised would ensure quick deployment.

Looking ahead

THE NEW IN

NEW YEAR

An event as disruptive as the Covid-19 pandemic invariably turns out to be a blessing in disguise for making systemic improvements, if those in command are

willing to imbibe the lessons that have emerged. Here are some of the things that we are likely to see happening in the science and technology, and health, sectors in the coming months and years.

HEALTH & SCIENCE

ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT: If anything, the experience of this

convinced of the need for self-reliance, at least in the strategic sectors. And that would include the science and technology sector as well. The fact that India was not even producing relatively simple things like ventilators had come as a shock to the government authorities at the start of the outbreak. Going forward, there is likely to be greater encouragement for laboratories and industry to support domestic manufacturing of components and instruments. Scientists and industry expect relevant policy changes in the coming year.

PROMOTING STAR-UP CULTURE: This is related to the atmanirbhar push. The present government had been promising support to start-up ventures long before the outbreak. But the pandemic also showed how important this is. It was these start-ups that filled the supply gaps in medical equipment and instruments. The most reliable information man-

agement systems, providing crucial data about the epidemic, were set up and run by young entrepreneurs, students and researchers.

During the pandemic itself, the government announced a major push for private participation in the space sector, for example. About half a dozen new space-related enterprises have sprung up in the last two years, some of which even had a special audience with the Prime Minister a couple of weeks ago. A similar push is expected for start-ups in the health sector as well.

STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION:

Collaboration between government, academia and industry is again a process that was initiated before the pandemic but is likely to gain momentum. Related to this is this government's belief that there is need to give a 'direction' to scientific research, at least to the scientific output, that comes out of our laboratories and industry. This obviously upsets those who believe that basic research must not be constrained in any way. But the government has been insisting that several scientific facilities could be much more productive if they align their research towards finding technology solutions to the country's needs. The space for institutionalised collabora-

tion between the government, industry and the scientific community is already being created in several new missions, or technology hubs, that are being set up. In most of these missions, or hubs, it is the industry or the academia that is playing the lead role, while the government tries to facilitate an enabling environment.

STRONGER HEALTH SYSTEM: The

dreadful aspect of the pandemic is that it might not be the last one. In the last few years, we have seen outbreaks of several viral diseases. Thankfully, they never became as widespread as the current one. But that is no guarantee that a future one would not be more infectious, or deadly. The current pandemic should prompt a strengthening of the public health infrastructure. A few states are already working on creating, or augmenting, a dedicated surveillance workforce that can detect similar outbreaks in future, and help contain it at an early stage. Greater empowerment of primary healthcare staff is also expected.

Also, while the ICMR, essentially a research organization, was put in the forefront of the fight against the epidemic, the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), set up in 2004 for precisely this purpose, was pushed in the background. As we ramp up our preparedness to deal with similar epidemics in future, scientists say it would be more effective to empower the IDSP, rather than burden ICMR with a job that is not its core expertise.

VACCINE RESEARCH: Though the existing vaccine manufacturing capacity is coming in handy, India has been found wanting in development of its own vaccine. As of now, there are only two Indian candidates in stage three clinical trials. A country the size, and scientific capability of India, should have been one of the front-runners in vaccine research. But that has traditionally been one of the weak points, which some research institutions now want to address.

NEW SCIENCE POLICY: A new Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy is in the final stages of preparation, and is likely to be unveiled in the next three to four months. It is expected to do to the science sector what the National Education Policy, released earlier this year, seeks to do for education. Not unexpectedly, it is likely to be heavily influenced by the lessons learnt during the pandemic.

TOMORROW: GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

Why Dedicated Freight Corridor matters — for Railways, the country

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi inaugurated a 351-km section between Khurja and Bhaupur in Uttar Pradesh for commercial operations of the Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) on Tuesday. He also dedicated to the nation a state-of-the-art Operation Control Centre in Prayagraj.

Centre in Prayagraj.

The total 2,843-km project — billed as the largest rail infrastructure being built in independent India — has been in the making since 2006 with little movement on the ground. It is finally ready to take off, albeit in phases.

What is the DFC?

The DFC consists of two arms. The section launched on Tuesday is part of the 1,839-km Eastern DFC that starts at Sohnewal (Ludhiana) in Punjab and ends at Dankuni in West Bengal. The other arm is the around 1,500-km Western DFC from Dadri in Uttar Pradesh to JNPT in Mumbai, touching all major ports along the way.

The 351-km section stretches between Khurja, the 12th stop after Sohnewal in the North, to New Bhaupur, near Kanpur. Other stretches are Sohnewal to Khurja (365 km), Bhaupur to Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay (Mughalsarai) (400 km), then to Sonnagar in West Bengal (137 km), then to Dankuni via Gomoh in Jharkhand (538 km).

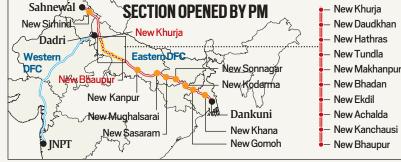
There is also a section under construction between Dadri and Khurja to connect the Eastern and Western arms.

Why is it important?

Around 70% of the freight trains currently running on the Indian Railway network are slated to shift to the freight corridors, leaving the paths open for more passenger trains.

Built at a cost of Rs 5,750 crore through a loan from World Bank (which is funding a majority of the EDFC; the WDFC is being funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency), the new stations in this section are Bhaupur, Kanchausi, Achalda, Ekdil, Bhadan, Makhanpur, Tundla, Hathras, Daudkan and Khurja. This section passes through Kanpur Dehat, Auraiya, Etawah, Firozabad, Hathras, Aligarh and Bulandshahr districts in Uttar Pradesh.

This is like building an entire railway network from scratch, independent of Indian Railways. All the installations are new.



Including the stations, and that's why the names of a majority of its stations are prefixed with 'New', such as New Bhaupur, New

Tracks on DFC are designed to carry heavier loads than most of Indian Railways. DFC will get track access charge from the parent Indian Railways, and also generate its own freight business.

What trains will use the new section?

Freight trains plying on this section from now on will help decongest the existing Kanpur-Delhi main line of Indian Railways, which currently handles trains at 150% of its line capacity. This section currently has over 50 passenger trains and around 60 goods trains jostling for paths daily. The new section means on the Indian Railway main line, more passenger trains can be pumped in and those trains can, in turn, achieve better punctuality. Foodgrain and fertilisers from the north-

ern region are transported to the eastern and Northeast regions. From East and Northeast, coal, iron ore, jute and petroleum products are transported North and West.

What else will change?

There are certain firsts for this section. For instance, 68 existing level crossings have

been eliminated to augment speed, the only major section on Indian Railways that is free from any permanent or temporary speed restrictions. This in a way sets the bar for rest of the DFC to also make stretches free from speed restrictions, or "cautions" as they are termed in Railways.

Freight trains usually suffer from unpredictable running times and low speeds of around 25 km per hour. But on this new section they can run at 50-60 kph.

This section will also catch the freight traffic originating from key centres such as Kanpur Dehat, Aurayia, Etawah, Firozabad, Hathras, Aligarh and Bulandshahr. The existing industrial areas of Aligarh, Khuja, Firozabad, Agra and Bhaupur will become major growth centres of the area, the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation projects in its business development plan.

These areas are agriculture hubs producing potato, paddy and maize. "The agricultural produce will get a pan-India market because of cheaper and faster DFC connectivity," a spokesperson for the DFCCIL told *The Indian Express*,

New Makhanpur (Firozabad) and New Daudkhan (Aligarh) will be opened as common user terminals aimed at local farmers in sending their produce to the larger markets.

What about the rest of the DFC?

More sections will keep getting commissioned in the coming months.

There is 61% progress in the Bhaupur to Deen Dayal Upadhyay section, and 180 km of the 402 km will be complete by December 21, year while 22 km will be done by June 2022. Thereafter the stretch to Sonnagar will see 100 km completed by March next year.

The 401-km Khurja to Sanhewal section has had only 39% progress. It will be done by June 2022.

A 46-km link between Khurja (Eastern) and Dadri (Western) will be ready by March 2021. By December 2021, Kanpur-Khurja area will get connected to the western ports of Kandla, Mundra, and Pipava, via the 127-km Dadri-Rewari section in the Western arm, its target advanced by several months.

In the Western DFC, the section between Rewari (Haryana) and Madar (Rajasthan) has been completed. The subsequent sections are up to Palanpur in Gujarat (to be done in the next three months), then to Makarpura (by March 2022) and finally to JNPT (June 2022).

16 THE WORLD

WORLD US House votes to override Trump's



Ghislaine Maxwell

UNITED STATES

Trafficking case: **British socialite** denied bail

New York: A US judge on Monday denied bail to Ghislaine Maxwell, citing the risk the British socialite might flee from charges she assisted in the late financier Jeffrey Epstein's trafficking of girls. US District Judge Alison Nathan in Manhattan said federal prosecutors persuaded her that Maxwell "poses a flight risk" despite her proposed \$28.5 million bail package, and should remain jailed because "no conditions of release" reasonably assured she would appear in court. Maxwell, 59, has pleaded not guilty to helping Epstein recruit and groom girls as young as 14 years old for sex in the mid-1990s, and not guilty to perjury for denying her involvement under oath.

ETHIOPIA

Journalist held,

no reason given

by police, say kin

Nairobi: A Reuters camera-

man, Kumerra Gemechu,

was arrested in Addis

Ababa on Thursday and

will be kept in custody for

at least two weeks, his

family said. No reason was provided to the family for

Thursday's arrest, and po-

lice did not respond to

Reuters requests for com-

ment. Kumerra, 38, has

worked for Reuters as a

freelance cameraman for

a decade. At a brief court

hearing on Friday, where

no lawyer was present, a judge ordered Kumerra's

detention for a further 14

investigate, the family

magnitude quake

Zagreb: An earthquake of

magnitude 6.4 struck cen-

tral Croatia Tuesday, killing

a child, injuring many peo-

ple, officials said. Rescuers

tried to pull people from

the rubble of collapsed

buildings, TV footage

showed, and army were

sent in to help. Prime

Minister Adrej Plenkovic

said: "We have informa-

tion that one girl was killed.

We have no other informa-

tion..." In neighbouring

Slovenia, the STA news

agency said the sole nu-

clear power plant, which is

100 km from the epicentre,

was shut down as a pre-

REUTERS

CROATIA

strikes

1 killed as 6.4

REUTERS

REUTERS

veto of defense Bill, over to Senate Senate to also wrangle over \$2,000

stimulus cheque amid Democrat push

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 29

THE US Senate was set to grapple on Tuesday with whether to increase payments to Americans reeling from the Covid-19 pandemic and override President Donald Trump's veto of a \$740 billion defense bill.

Democrats, with help from Trump's Twitter feed, are pushing for a vote on the additional money, a step they believe could give them an advantage in two Georgia runoff elections next week that will determine which party controls the Senate under Joe Biden.

The bill faces a tough path in the Republican-led Senate, with many Republicans pointing to hundreds of billions of dollars in added costs of Covid-19 relief.

A combined \$892 billion bipartisan coronavirus relief package and \$1.4 trillion spending bill that Trump signed into law on Sunday contains \$600 cheques for people hit hard financially by the pandemic. The Democraticled House of Representatives on Monday approved the increase in direct payments to \$2000.

Separately, the House on Monday voted to override

What is the NDAA?

THE NATIONAL Defense **Authorization Act** (NDAA), which authorises \$740 billion in spending and outlines Pentagon policy, typically passes with strong bipartisan support as it funds the US's security portfolio. It has been signed into law every year for nearly six consecutive decades.

Trump's veto of the defense policy bill by 322-87. If the Senate seconds the House action, it would be the first veto override of Trump's presidency, which ends on January 20.

A Senate vote on the defense bill veto had been expected on Wednesday but could be delayed until the weekend by political wrangling over the stimu-

With the New Year's Day holiday and a new Congress due to be sworn in Sunday, lawmakers have only a short time to act.

Rohingya refugees disembark a Navy vessel as they arrive at the Bhasan Char island. Reuters

walked off the jetty on the island.

Navy trucks and tractor trailers

took them to multiple rows of

concrete houses with their pink-

the 1,804 Rohingya to the island

in five ships, with the refugees

sitting on wooden benches on

deck, some clutching ducks, pi-

geons and chickens in bamboo

baskets and wearing orange life

vests and masks against the

more than \$350 million of its own

money to ready housing and

other infrastructure to voluntarily

move some 100,000 Rohingya to

the island in an effort to ease over-

crowding in camps near the

Myanmar border, even though

rights groups said many were be-

Bangladesh says it has spent

The Bangladesh navy took

ish-red painted tin roofs.

Bangladesh sends more Rohingya to island

ing coerced or paid to move. The

government denies the charges.

place," one man, a father of six,

exclaimed. "We are so happy

with the accommodation. The

children are so excited to see the

playground," he said, but added:

"We just pray floods don't kill us."

and conflict in the camp," an-

other man said, referring to his

this month that the housing was

built on concrete foundation

which could withstand natural

disasters, noting it withstood cy-

clone Amphan in May which

Bangladesh and eastern India.

reached Bhasan Char with his

killed more than 100 people in

A middle-aged man who

The government said earlier

old refugee-camp home.

"There's so much suffering

"Mashallah! Wonderful

Biden says Trump aides setting 'roadblocks' for transition team

REUTERS

WILMINGTON, WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 29

PRESIDENT-ELECT JOE Biden said on Monday many of America's security agencies had been "hollowed out" under President Donald Trump and the lack of information being provided to his transition team by the outgoing administration was an "irresponsibility." "We've encountered road-

blocks from the political leadership at the Department of Defense and the Office of Management and Budget," Biden said after a meeting with his foreign policy team. "Right now we just aren't getting all of the information that we need from the outgoing administration in key national security areas. It's nothing short, in my view, of irresponsibility.'

After Biden beat Trump in the November 3 election, the Democrat's team only began meeting with administration officials in late November to coordinate the handover.



Construction for the upcoming presidential inauguration ceremony outside the US Capitol Building. Reuters

Trump, a Republican, has refused to concede defeat and his administration only authorized cooperation with Biden on November 23. Biden takes office on January 20.

Earlier this month, Biden's team said they had met resistance to requests for information from some Pentagon officials.

The Pentagon pushed back. In a statement, acting Defense Secretary Christopher Miller said

wife and three children on

Tuesday said his camp leader had

convinced him that they were

better off relocating than staying

back in the dilapidated shelters

on the mainland where one mil-

lion of them live cheek by jowl.

location is voluntary but some

refugees from the first group

have spoken about being co-

erced to go. The human rights

group Amnesty International

safe." Foreign Minister Abdul

Momen told Reuters in the cap-

have shifted there are very

happy with the arrangement.

Some evil groups are spreading

negative propaganda," he said.

"The island is completely

"The Rohingya people who

also expressed concern.

ital, Dhaka

The government says the re-

the Pentagon had conducted 164 interviews with over 400 officials and provided more than 5.000 pages of documents.

But Biden reiterated his team's concerns on Monday. When he takes office, he will inherit a wide range of foreign policy and national security challenges, including China, Iran and North Korea, as well as the coronavirus pandemic raging across the globe.

Russia's jail service tells Navalny to appear or face imprisonment

ASSOCIATED PRESS MOSCOW, DECEMBER 29

RUSSIA'S FEDERAL penitentiary service has given top Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny one day to report to its office or face imprisonment if he comes back to Russia after the deadline.

Navalny is convalescing in Germany after his August poisoning with a nerve agent, which he has blamed on the Kremlin. Russian authorities have denied their involvement.

Service issued a statement on Monday saying that an article by doctors from Berlin's Charite hosnital and nublished in medical iournal The Lancet indicated that Navalny has fully recuperated.

The prison service demanded that Navalny report to its office in line with the terms of a 3 1/2-year suspended sentence he received for a 2014 conviction. If he misses the deadline, he could be imprisoned, the statement said.

Navalny's lawyer, Vadim Kobzev, tweeted that the agency told the politician to show up at its office on Tuesday morning.

Navalny, who previously said that he planned to return to Russia once he fully recovered. scoffed at the demand, saying that the Federal Penitentiary Service's reference to the article in *The Lancet* amounted to the government accepting he was poisoned

"That means that the state has officially recognized the poi-

"And where is the criminal

soning." he tweeted.



Protesters take part in a rally against the dissolution of

Madhav Nepal: Will forget everything if Oli accepts mistake

SHIRISH B PRADHAN KATHMANDU DECEMBER 29

CHAIRMAN OF the ruling Nepal Communist Party's rival faction Madhav Kumar Nepal said on Tuesday that the party could still be united if Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli was willing to accept his mistakes, as thousands of protesters marched through the streets of Kathmandu against the dissolution of Parliament.

Madhav Nepal made the comments while addressing a massive protest rally organised by his faction in Kathmandu, which was attended by former PMs Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' and Jhala Nath Khanal.

"We are ready to forget everything if Oli accepts his mistakes," Madhav Nepal said.

He also accused Oli of practicing anti-democratic activities by making decisions against the Constitution and the general public. "All the political parties, intel-

lectuals, teachers, students and public are on the streets against the unconstitutional move of the Oli-led government. The lower House will soon be revived.' Madhav Nepal was quoted as saying by My Republica newspaper.

Nepal plunged into a politi-

mendation, President Bidya Devi Bhandari dissolved the House the same day and announced fresh elections on April 30 and May 10, sparking protests from a large section of the NCP led by

Prachanda, also a co-chair of the

cal crisis on December 20 after

Oli, known for his pro-Beijing

leanings, in a surprise move, rec-

ommended dissolving the 275-

member House, amidst a tussle

Acting on the PM's recom-

for power with Prachanda.

ruling party. Nepal's Supreme Court on Friday issued a show-cause notice to the Oli-led government, asking it to submit a written clarification over its decision to abruptly dissolve Parliament.

China delegation holds talks with opp leaders

Guo Yezhou, a vice-minister of the Communist Party of China, on Tuesday met the main opposition Nepali Congress chief Sher Bahadur Deuba and discussed the latest political developments in the country following the dissolution of Parliament by Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli.

The meeting also focused on relations between Nepal and China. The Kathmandu Post quoted shadow foreign minister Narayan Khadka as saying. PTI

Nirav Modi's remand extended till Jan 7

The Federal Penitentiary ADITIKHANNA

FUGITIVE DIAMOND merchant Nirav Modi appeared via videolink for a routine 28-day remand hearing on Tuesday before Westminster Magistrates' Court in London, where he was further remanded in custody until January 7 to conclude hearings

in his extradition case. Niray, 49, wanted in connection with the estimated \$2-billion PNB scam case, has been in Wandsworth Prison in London since his arrest last year follow-

ng India's extradition request. The final hearings in the extradition case are scheduled over two days, on January 7 and 8, when District Judge Samuel Goozee is scheduled to hear closing arguments from both sides before he hands down his judgment a few weeks later.

At the last full hearing in the case in November, Judge Goozee heard the arguments for and against the admissibility of certain witness statements provided by the CBI and ED and ruled that the evidence to estab-

his arrest last year lish a prima facie case of fraud

been in a UK

the fugitive diamantaire is broadly admissible. He concluded that he considered himself "bound" by the pre-

and money laundering against

vious UK court rulings in the extradition case of Vijay Mallya.

The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), arguing on behalf of the Indian authorities, had stressed that the evidence, including witness statements under Section 161 of India's CrPC, meets the required threshold for the UK court to determine whether Modi has a case to answer before the Indian judicial system.

That Mallya has a case to answer in India in his fraud and money laundering case has cleared various levels of the UK judicial system and is currently undergoing a "confidential" legal issue before UK Home Secretary Priti Patel can consider signing off

Not content to preside over

an omnipresent global brand,

Mr. Cardin turned his rapacious

attention to theaters and motels.

media and even restaurants, in

1981 buying Maxim's, once the

world's most famous restaurant,

a landmark of the belle époque

protean ambitions nor apolo-

He neither boasted of his

on the Rue Royale in Paris.

Pierre Cardin, designer to the famous and merchant to masses, dies at 98

RUTH LA FERLA

caution.

NEW YORK, DECEMBER 29

PIERRE CARDIN, the visionary designer and licensing pioneer who invented the business of fashion as it is conducted today, has died in France. He was 98.

His death was confirmed on Tuesday by the French Academy of Fine Arts. He died at the American Hospital in Neuillysur-Seine, iust outside Paris, his family said, according to Agence France-Presse.

"Fashion is not enough," Mr. Cardin once told Eugenia Sheppard, the American newspaper columnist and fashion critic. "I don't want to be just a

He never was just that. He clothed the famous - artists, po-

litical luminaries, tastemakers and members of the haute bourgeoisie – but he was also a merchant to the masses with an international brand, his name affixed to an outpouring of products, none too exalted or too humble to escape his avid eye.

BHASAN CHAR, DECEMBER 29

AS A Bangladeshi naval ship an-

chored off a remote Bay of

Bengal island, some of the

Rohingya Muslim refugees

aboard clapped in anticipation

of starting a new life on a piece

of land that did not even exist

belongings, they are part of a

second group of about 1,800

Rohingva that Bangladesh

moved on Tuesday from

cramped refugee camps on the

mainland to the low-lying island

despite opposition from rights

read a banner as the refugees

"Welcome to Bhasan Char,"

Carrying poultry and sacks of

two decades ago.

There were bubble dresses and bath towels, aviator jumpsuits and automobiles, fragrances and ashtrays, even pickle jars. Planting his flag on the Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré in Paris, he proceeded to turn the country's fashion establishment on its head, reproducing fashions for mass, ready-to-wear consumption.

In a career of more than three-quarters of a century, Mr. Cardin remained a futurist. "He had this wonderful embrace of technology and was in love with the notion of progress," said

Andrew Bolton, the head curator at the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York In 1958, Mr. Cardin put mod-

els in crash helmets matched with tiny skirts and colored stockings. He dressed men, and women, in spacesuits. In 1969, NASA commissioned him to create an interpretation of a spacesuit, a signal inspiration in his later work, "The dresses I prefer," he said at the time, "are those I invent for a life that does not yet exist.'

Mr. Cardin drew inspiration from everywhere, be it the pagodas he visited in China, Op Art painting or automotive design.

"I'm always inspired by something outside, not by the body itself," he told *The New York Times* in 1985. Clothing, he said, was meant "to give the body its shape,



Fashion designer Pierre Cardin at the inauguration of the Pierre Cardin Museum in Paris in 2014.. AP file

the way a glass gives shape to the water poured into it." Yet his men's ready-to-wear

designs, introduced in 1960, were

decidedly more faithful to the body's outlines. Built on narrow shoulders, high armholes and a fitted waist, they were stream-

pensing in some cases with traditional collars in favor of the simple banded Nehru, a namesake adaptation of the style worn by the Indian prime minister. Those suits were slow to

lined and somewhat severe, dis-

catch on in the United States until the Beatles appeared in knockoff versions on the Ed Sullivan television show in 1966. Nehru-mania ensued

Mr. Cardin had laid the foundations for a global empire by the late 1950s. At a time when France was fashion's uncontested epicenter, he was bringing his designs to Moscow, Tokyo and Beijing, doing more to erode international boundaries than any designer of the day.

He conceived of himself above all as a prolific ideas man, relishing his role as the overseer

of a realm that encompassed clothing accessories, furniture, household products and fragrances sold through some 800 licensees in more than 140 countries on five continents. "I wash with my own soap,"

he once boasted. "I wear my own perfume, go to bed with my own sheets, have my own food products. I live on me.'

Chocolates, pens, cigarettes, frying pans, alarm clocks and cassette tapes — all bore the Cardin logo, as did shoes, lingerie, blouses, neckwear, wallets, belts and, more recently, an Android tablet. By the mid-1980s, Mr. Cardin stood at the helm of a marketing organization and network of licensees paying him royalties of 5 to 12 percent. "I was born an

artiste," he told The Times in 1987,

"but I am a businessman."

gized for them. "I don't play cards, I don't smoke, I don't drink, I don't like sports," he told Ms. Bender. "I just work. It's marvelous. It amuses me." Unlike many designers today,

whose businesses are operated by global conglomerates, Mr. Cardin had no partners, "I'm the financier, the banker and the creator," he said. "I've always done what I wanted because I've never had a boss."

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market; gold per 10 g, silver per 1 kg; Brent crude as of 0000 IST

⊗ \$51.06

⊗ ₹68,156

SENSEX: 47,613.08 ▲ 259.33 NIFTY: 13,932.60 ▲ 59.40 NIKKEI: 27,568.15 ▲ 714.12 HANG SENG: 26,568.49 ▲ 253.86 FTSE: 6,640.72 ▲ 138.61 DAX: 13,824.19 ▲ 33.90

TATAS' HOLDING IN JV TO RISE TO 83.67%, AIRASIA GROUP'S TO GO DOWN TO 16.33%

Tata Sons to buy 32.67% stake in AirAsia India for \$37.66 million

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

IN A move that is being pegged as the first step in consolidation of Tata Group's aviation portfolio, Tata Sons will purchase 32.67 per cent stake in AirAsia India from Malaysian AirAsia Group Bhd, taking its holding in the joint-venture airline up to 83.67 per cent. In a filing to the Malaysian stock exchanges, the AirAsia Group said that the deal, which is worth \$37.66 million, will see its share in the Indian budget airline go down

As of date, Air Asia held a 49 per cent stake in AirAsia India, while Tata Sons held 51 per cent. In ad-

to 16.33 per cent.

dition to this, Tata Sons also owns 51 per cent stake in full-service airline Vistara, the rest of which it is owned by Singapore Airlines. Tata Sons also placed an expression of interest in the ongoing disinvestment process of Air India. In June, AirAsia had approached the Tata Group to sell its stake, as mandated by the terms of the joint-venture, according to which Tata Sons has the first right to buy out the stake. The Malaysian company, led by Tony Fernandes, had stopped funding the Indian venture following the Covid 19-led slump in aviation businesses. In November, AirAsia said it was reviewing its India and Japan businesses.

Elaborating on the rationale of selling a significant part of its stake

AIRASIA APPROACHED TATA GROUP IN JUNE

■ In June, AirAsia had approached the Tata group to sell its stake, as mandated by the terms of the jointventure, according to which Tata Sons has the first right to buy out the stake.

in AirAsia India to Tata Sons, the Malaysian firm said in the stock exchange filing: "Since the start of the pandemic, the aviation industry has been one of the hardest hit industries. Airlines around the world

have cancelled flights and grounded planes and AirAsia India is no exception. Due to this, the directors expect further capital requirements for AirAsia India. As India is a non-core market for AirAsia (being a non-ASEAN country), the company will continue to regularly re-assess its business strategies and dispose of non-core investments".

"This transaction will reduce cash burn of the company in the short term and allow AirAsia to concentrate on recovery of its key ASEAN markets in Malaysia Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines in the long run," it added. The airline group exited its Japan business earlier this year.

Tata Sons did not offer a com-

The deal values Air Asia India at \$115.27 million. For the month of November, the airline had 6.6 per cent market share in India's domestic air traffic, while the country's largest airline IndiGo had 53.9 per cent share. Air Asia India's revenues fell 69 per cent in the September-quarter. While its losses for the June-quarter weren't disclosed, in the January-March period for 2020, its losses deepened to Rs 332 crore, from Rs 15

crore a year ago. Pointing out that the India venture has been a loss-making one, AirAsia said: "The share of losses over the years have resulted in the carrying value of the investment at the date of transaction to be nil.

during the first three quarters of FY21 to Rs 4 60 400 crore from Rs 2.80.600 crore in FY20

Over 65% of these Rs 5.55 lakh crore borrowing have been lapped up by just five top borrowing states with Maharashtra borrowing

Rs 39,500 crore more, Karnataka Rs 25,900 crore more, Tamil Nadu Rs 16,600 crore more, Andhra an additional Rs 15,300 crore and Telangana drawing down Rs 13,400 crore more during

RBI says write-offs helped banks lower bad loans

Warns of sharp deterioration in asset quality

GEORGE MATHEW MUMBAI, DECEMBER 29

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) on Tuesday said commercial banks managed to lower their bad loans, or non-performing assets (NPAs), largely driven by loan write-offs and warned that the asset quality of the banking system may deteriorate sharply in the coming months due to the uncertainty induced by Covid pandemic.

Commercial banks in India managed to bring down their NPAs to 7.5 per cent of advances as of September 2020 from 8.2 per cent in March 2020 and 9.1 per cent in March last year. Banks wrote off a record Rs 237.876 crore in fiscal 2019-20, enabling the banks to show lower NPAs, the RBI said in its 'Report on trend and progress of banking in India 2019-20'. The central bank has warned that the modest NPA ratio of 7.5 per cent at end-September 2020 "veils the strong undercurrent of slippage". The accretion to NPAs as per the Reserve Bank's Income Recognition and Asset Classification(IRAC) norms would have been higher in the absence of the



The Reserve Bank of India. File

asset quality standstill provided as a Covid-19 relief measure. The RBI had allowed six months moratorium on loan repayments due to the Covid impact. "Given the uncertainty induced by Covid and its real economic impact, the asset quality of the banking system may deteriorate sharply, going forward," the RBI report said.

In absolute terms, gross NPAs declined to Rs 899,803 crore in March 2020 from Rs 936,474 crore in March 2019, "NPAs older than four years require 100 per cent provisioning and, therefore, banks may prefer to write them off. In addition, banks voluntarily write-off NPAs in order to clean up their balance sheets, avail tax benefits and optimise the use of capital," the RBI said. "At the same time, borrowers of written-off loans remain liable for repayment," it said. PSU banks wrote off loans worth Rs 178,305 crore in 2019-20 while private banks had written off Rs 53,949 crore, the RBI report said. Banking

sources said very little is known about the identity of the borrowers and the amount written off in the case of individual borrowers. While banks claim that the recovery measures continue even after loans are written off, sources said not more than 15-20 per cent is recovered and the write-off figures every year are rising, much faster than recoveries and recapitalisation. What's disturbing banking observers is that banks made additions of Rs 378,228 crore to NPAs in March On the other hand, reduction in NPAs was much lower at Rs 155,905 crore during the year.

The central bank's report has warned that an increase in the restructured advances ratio to 0.43 per cent at end-September 2020 from 0.36 in March 2020 may be "indicative of incipient stress".

The RBI said the rapid credit growth during 2005-12, coupled with absence of strong credit appraisal and monitoring standards and wilful defaults are responsible for sizeable asset impairments in subsequent years. "Large borrowal accounts (exposure of Rs 5 crore and above) constituted 79.8 per cent of NPAs and 53.7 per cent of total loans at end September 2020," it said, adding: "The share of special mention accounts (SMA-0) saw a sharp rise in September 2020".

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

PROVIDENT FUND FINANCIAL YEAR 2019-20

Finance Ministry gives nod for 8.5% **EPF** interest rate

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

THE EMPLOYEES' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is learnt to have got clearance from the Finance Ministry for interest rate recommendation of 8.5 per cent for FY20 and is expected to credit it to subscribers in next few days. The retirement fund body is looking at crediting the interest rate in one go of 8.5 per cent instead of a split of 8.15 per cent and 0.35 per cent proposed earlier, a senior official said.

"Officials of both labour and finance ministries held meetings this week regarding the interest rate proposal. The Finance Ministry has raised some concerns regarding the risky investments, for which it has sought more details, but est rate proposal," the official said, adding that it should be credited in a few days. Queries sent by The Indian Express to the Finance Ministry went

unanswered. The Central Board of Trustees of the EPFO had in September recommended splitting payment of the interest rate of 8.5 per cent recommended for financial year 2019-20 into two parts, citing "exceptional circumstances arising out of Covid-19".

TO BE CREDITED IN ONE GO

■The EPFO is looking at crediting the interest rate in one go of 8.5% instead of a split of 8.15% and 0.35% proposed earlier, a senior official said ■ The crediting of the amount to the

subscribers is

The EPFO had then said it will credit 8.15 per cent to its over six crore subscribers for the year immediately and give the remaining 0.35 per cent, which is linked to its equity in-31". This, it had said, was subject to redemption of its units invested in exchange-traded funds or ETFs.

The Finance Ministry had questioned the 2018-2019 interest rate of 8.65 per cent as well, besides the EPFO's exposure to IL&FS and similar risky entities. It has been nudging the EPFO to reduce the rate to sub-8 per cent level in line with the overall interest rate scenario. Small savings rates range from 4.0-7.6 per cent.

'States' borrowing 43.5% more in first 9 months of this fiscal'

At Rs 5,55,900 crore, states have snapped up 43.5 per cent more debt in the first nine months of the fiscal, as per Icra



₹3,87,400 cr borrowed in the first nine months of FY20

₹95,400 cr Fall in redemptions during the first three quarters from ₹1,06,800 cr of

64.1% rise in net issuance

Source: Icra/PTI

AviationMin asks airlines, airports to prepare for vaccine transportation

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

AS THE rollout of Covid-19 vac-

expected to be done in the next few days cine nears, the Civil Aviation Ministry has sounded out airlines, airports and ground handlers to start preparing for the transportation with a special focus on temperature regulation, Civil Aviation Secretary Pradeep Singh Kharola said Tuesday, adding that the exact guidelines holders will be issued closer to the date of transportation.

"All the main stakeholders airports, airlines and ground handlers – have been alerted and asked to draw their plans. The exact SOPs will be formulated with the Ministry of Health and Department of Pharmaceuticals when we know the exact requirements of the vaccine what precautions have to be taken, how it has to be transported and what other measures are required. That has to be factored in and it will be done near



Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri. via @HardeepSPuri

to the date of transportation and details SOPs will be laid down," Kharola said.

At the same event, Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said that India expects to begin administering the Covid19 vaccine in January and by July, it expects administering the vaccine to 30 crore beneficiaries.

Meanwhile. Puri added he expects that the temporary suspension on the UK-India flights, which has been in place since 11.59pm December 22, could be "slightly extended".

Deadline for AI physical bids closes

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

THE FINAL deadline for submission of physical bids for Air India disinvestment closed Tuesday drawing from the race by not submitting a physical bid, sources said. Apart from Interups, Tata Sons and a consortium of Air India's employees had submitted an expression of interest.

Next, the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management and the transaction advisor for the disinvestment process will inform the qualified interested bidders on January 5, after which the process to place financial bids will begin. The government this year kicked off process to divest 100 per cent stake in Air India.

off or been disconnected by **AASHISHARYAN** protesting groups as of Tuesday. NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29 How does this impact Jio

THE DISRUPTION in telecom serv-

ices offered by Reliance Jio Infocomm continued in Punjab as protesting groups cut power connection to additional towers owned by the operator and continued to block the repair of vandalised towers.

What has been vandalised?

Of the 9,000 tower sites that Iio has in the state, power supply to roughly 1,800 had been either cut

Jio towers vandalised in Punjab:

services in the state? With power supply to Jio's

Calls likely to face congestion

towers being disconnected, the immediate impact is likely to be felt on calls and internet data speed in the region. On an average, a mobile cell phone tower can provide connectivity to

users up to 75 km away. However, for the mobile signal to be strong enough, multiple tower sites are installed in a region so that the maximum distance between a cell

site and a mobile phone is kept limited between 25-35 km. Jio has around 14 million subscribers in the state. With about 1,800 of these towers being vandalised, the load of the rest of subscribers of the company is likely to shift on to the other towers in the vicinity of that tower. This, in turn, may impact the quality of calls and the internet data speed in the region. The impact is also likely to be felt on services of other providers since calls landing on and originating from Jio's networks may face congestion due to lesser number of cell sites. Apart from voice calls, the low number of cell sites is likely to hit

CBI chargesheets Parekh Aluminex

probe agencies such as the

credit (LCs). The company, the CBI

KHUSHBOONARAYAN MUMBAI, DECEMBER 29

THE CENTRAL Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Tuesday filed a chargesheet against Mumbai-based listed firm Parekh Aluminex Ltd and 23 others including its directors and chartered accountant for allegedly causing a loss of over Rs 297 crore to Indian Overseas Bank.

Parekh Aluminex has come under the scanner of multiple

Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Mumbai police, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for defaulting on loans of about Rs 2,500 crore to a consortium of 22 banks including State Bank of India (Rs 255 crore), IDBI Bank (Rs 40 crore), Dena Bank (Rs 183 crore), and Corporation Bank (Rs 60 crore). The CBI chargesheet has alleged that the firm has siphoned money by "submitting fake & forged purchase invoices/letters of

has alleged, obtained loans against "false and fabricated balance sheets with inflated sales". As per the chargesheet, the directors of Parekh Aluminex allegedly "floated" shell companies to circulate the loan proceeds "under the guise of LC transactions without doing any actual business". "The company also submitted the alleged false bills and received the LC proceeds and diverted the proceeds to real estate business. The huge amounts were allegedly diverted to various realtors," said CBL

BRIEFLY —

15th tranche of electoral bonds

on Tuesday approved the 15th tranche of electoral bonds which will be open for sale between January 1 and January 10. State Bank of India is the only authorised bank to issue the bonds. PTI

New Delhi: The government

Mobility card for Airport line

Mumbai: Delhi Metro Airport Express Line will accept common mobility card. **ENS**

737 MAX back in US skies

Miami: American Airlines brought back the Boeing 737 MAX to skies on Tuesday. AP

Sebi fines NDTV ₹5 cr

New Delhi: Sebi slapped a Rs 5 crore penalty on NDTV for failure to disclose pricesensitive information about VCPL loan agreements. The company said it will appeal against the ruling. PTI

Former DEA Secretary Chakraborty likely to be **HDFC Bank chairman**

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

ATANU CHAKRABORTY, former Economic Affairs Secretary, is likely to be the next chairman of HDFC Bank. According to sources close to the development, the bank has written to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recommending the name of Chakraborty.

Once approved by RBI, Chakraborty – a 1985 batch IAS officer of the Gujarat Cadre — may take over as the part-time chairman of HDFC Bank in January. The tenure of its current part-time chairperson Shyamala Gopinath will end on January 1.

While HDFCBank declined to comment, Chakraborty, told The Indian Express said, "I do not wish to comment on this matter as it is a communication between two different entities, the bank and RBI. I would like to say that I have not thought about it and as of now there is no job on my mind."

While Chakraborty retired as the Economic Affairs Secretary in April, the office memorandum of Department of Personnel and Training states that any Group A



Secretary Atanu Chakraborty

retired official is required to seek the government's approval if he takes a commercial employment within one year of retirement.

When asked about the same he said, "I haven't thought about any job as of now but there are certain standard rules for civil servants and I would follow them."

Earlier, on Monday, the bank informed the stock exchanges that "the Board of Directors of HDFC Bank Ltd ("the Bank") at its meeting held today, has recommended the appointment of the Part-Time Chairperson of the Bank and has submitted its recommendation to the Reserve Bank of India for approval under Section 35B of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949."

JSHL to merge with Jindal Stainless to form 'India's largest stainless steel co'

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

JINDAL STAINLESS (Hisar) Ltd (JSHL) on Tuesday said its board has approved the company's merger into the country's largest stainless steel maker Jindal Stainless Ltd (JSL). Having a total melting capac-

ity of 0.8 million tonne per annum (MTPA), Hisar-based JSHLis the largest specialty stainless steel producer in India with a diversified value-added product portfolio. In a BSE filing, the company said its "board has considered and approved...amalgamation of JSHL (the amalgamating company into and with Jindal Stainless Ltd".

In a joint statement, the companies claimed the merger will create a mega stainless steel entity that will be among the top-10 stainless steel companies in the world and the largest stainless steel company in India. As per the proposed structure, the mobility business of JSL Lifestyle Ltd, a subsidiary of JSHL, would be merged into JSL. WITH PTI

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises) Office of the Executive Engineer, VJNL, UBP Division No. 3, Ajjampura-577 547 Ph No-08261-245686 E-mail id-eeubp3.1@gmail.com

CIN No: U41000KA2016SG097260 NO:EE/VJNL/UBP/D-03/Ajjampura/PB-1/Tender notificatn/ 2020-21/791 dated: 29-12-2020

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (TWO-COVER SYSTEM) (THROUGH "<u>e-Procurement</u>" ONLY)

SI. No. 1. Name of work: Providing 11KV power supply to 11 no zonal pumping stations coming under Package 2 of Tarikere Lift Irrigation Scheme. (I No: VJNL/2020-21/EL 2020-21/WORK_INDENT 1552) App. amount put to tender (Rs. In Lakhs): 1686.10 EMD (Rs. In Lakh): 16.87 Category of the Agency: KPTCL super grade license contractors and KPWD Class I contractor Time Limit.: 06 Months (Including monsoon)

Further details and information about electronic tendering car be had from https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in/e-procurement Calendar of Events

SI.No. 1. The contractor can access to the e-tender document i.e. the tender schedules, bid documents and other documents. in the web site http://eproc. karnataka.gov.in on payment of transaction fee (nonrefundable) from : 04.01.2021, after 11.30 hours SI.No. 2. Last date & time for tender queries/ clarifications: 15.01.2021 upto 17.00 hours Sl.No. 3. Pre bid meeting will be held at o/o the Chief Engineer, VJNL, UBP Zone, Chitradurga.: 18.01.2021 at 11.30 hours SI.No. 4. The last date for submission of completed tender documents Cover-1 & cover-2) through e-portal.: 25.01.2021 upto 16.00 nours SI.No. 5. Date & time of opening of Technical Bid (Cover -1) by Executive Engineer, V.J.N.L, UBP, Division No.3, Ajjampura.: 27.01.2020 at 11.00 hours

Sd/- Executive Engineer, VJNL, UBP Division No.3, **Aiiampura**

OSBI

IT-Partner Relationships & BNCC Department, State Bank of India, Global IT Centre, Sector-11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400 614.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) State Bank of India has issued a Request for EOI for

Empanelment of Vendors for Supply and Installation of Entry Level Servers, Desktops, Laptops, Printers and Scanners. Please refer 'Procurement News' at Bank's website, https://bank.sbi or https://www.sbi.co.in

Place: Navi Mumbai Date: 30.12.2020

Deputy General Manager (IT-PR & BNCC) Office of the Additional Director



TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through e-procurement Portal) Tender No: 04/MDN/STS/W/DIGITAL-UHF/2020-21 Date: 22/12/2020

Additional Director General of Police, Communication ogistics & Modernization, Bengaluru invited tender for Design Supply, Commissioning and Maintenance of Digital **UHF Radio Communication Network for the Bangalore** City through e-procurement portal. Estimated Bid value: Rs. 1465.70 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.

The Additional Director General of Police

Communication, Logistics And Modernization





New Delhi

IPR/DDU/SSC/2193/2020-21

Follow Physical



Classifieds

PERSONAL

I.hitherto known as Summad Kumar Poonia S/o Late Shri Sheoraj Singh residing at C-112A. Gali.No.11. Khaiuri Khas Colony, Badarpur Khadar, Sabhapur, North East Delhi-110094, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Samved Singh.

0040558941-1

I Gokinapalli Venkanna son of Sh. Muthaiah resident of Q.No.B5-5/4, Door No.117, Thungabhadra, Gowthaminagar Colony,Aswapuram Mandal, Bhadradri Kothagudem District, Telangana inform that my name has been wrongly written as GOKINAPALLI VENKATESWARLU in my service records. The actual name of mine is GOKINAPALLI VENKANNA, which may be amended accordingly.

0040558963-1

I.hitherto known as Dalchand, S/o Sarwan Kumar, Residing at 17/106 TrilokPuri,New Delhi-110091, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Divyansh Chawla. 0040558978-1

I,Vaibhav Yadav,S/o Komal Singh Yadav,R/O-372/H-

3,Camero-Complex Subroto Park, New Delhi-110010, Have Changed My Name, From Vaibhay Yaday To Vaibhay Singh Yadav Vide-Affidavit Dated-29/12/2020, Before NCT-0040558971-9 Delhi.

I,Tarinder Singh,S/o Rajinder Singh Narula House.No.3,Block-L,Pratap Nagar, Delhi-110007. Have Changed My Name to Tarinder Singh Narula, for All, Future 0040558973-2 Purposes.

I,Sumit Singh Rawat,S/o,Birendra singh.R/o.B-126.B-Block Bharat Vihar Kakrola, Delhi-110078, have declare that, name of mine and.my father has been wrongly-written as Sumit Singh $and\,Birender\,Singh\,Rawat$ in.mv.Aadhar-card.no. 215006335136.The actual name, of mine, and my, father are Sumit Singh Rawat and Birendra Singh. 0040558971-5

I,Sonia Maria,D/o Ashok Kumar,W/o Niraj Kumar,R/o Flat.No.202.Sahvoq Apartments, plot.no.53, Sector-56, Gurgaon (Haryana)-122011, have changed my name to Sonia Shah. For all future purposes. 0040558973-1

I,Sonia Gupta W/o Ashish Gupta, R/o Flat. No-10, Prime-Minister Housing Society, Vikaspuri, Delhi-110018, Have Changed My Name To Sonia Mahajan, For

I,Somdev S/o Lal Singh,R/o Lohana Rewari (Haryana)-123411, have changed my Minor Son's name from Mukul to Mukul Yadav. 0040558971-7

I.Shalender Kumar.S/o Shiv Swaroop Saxena, R/o RZF-31A/111.Gali.No.-21 Sadh-Nagar-2,Palam-Colony,Palam Village, Delhi-110045, have Shalender Kumar Saxena.

0040558976-6 I.Samshad Ali, S/o Khurshaid

0040558973-8

Ali,R/o Village-Himmatpur, Garhmukteshwar, Hapur, Uttar Pradesh, have changed my name to Shamshad Ali. 0040558978-2

I.Rishab Chhetri S/o.Mamrai Chhetry R/o-WZ-114-A, Todapur, IARI, Delhi-12, inform that Rishabh and Rishab Chhetri both are one and same

0040558976-2 person. I, Rajesh Kumar Bindra, S/o Sh. F.C. Bindra R/o H.No.6/20, Shivaii Nagar, Gurugram, Haryana, have changed my

name to Rajesh Bindra for all future purposes.

I,Sukhbir Kumar Jindal S/O Ram Richpal R/O 512/22, Prabhu-Nagar Near Gopi Mandi Sonipat Haryana-131001, changed my nameto Sukhbir Jindal. 0040558973-4

I.RUBI D/O RIYAZ KHAN H.NO-427, NEAR-BADI MASJID, MANDOLI-VILLAGE, DELHI-110093. have changed my name to RUBI KHAN.

0040558978-4

I,RAJESH ARORA S/O KISHAN LALR/O G-14/28.SECTOR-15,ROHINI,DELHI-110089.HAVE CHANGED MY NAMETO RAJESH KUMAR.FOR FUTURE PURPOSES.

0040558971-8

I,Preeti D/o Ghore Lal Gupta R/o,H/no.B-17,Gali.no.-13,Om Nagar, Meethpur, Extn.,Jaitpur,Delhi-110044, have changed my name to Preeti Gupta for, all

0040558971-6

I,Poonam Goel,w/o Sandeep Goel,R/o-124, Flat.No-3,UGF, Khasra.No-293, 60-Futa Road, Chattarpur, Delhi-110074, have changed my name to Poonam Gupta, permanently.

0040558977-7 I,Pawan Kumar S/o Om Prakash Dhiman,R/o RZ-16,Street No.14, Tughlakabad-Extn.New Delhi-110019,haveChanged my name to Pawan Kumar

Dhiman.

0040558976-4

,MOHINDER PAUL CHOPRA S/O IHANDA RAM CHOPRA R/O I-5/74 RAJOURI GARDEN NEAR-NEHRU MARKET, DELHI-110027.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHINDER PAL

I,MARGHOOB ULHAQUE,S/O MISBAHUDDINADD-5412.REHMAN STREET CHANDNI CHOWK DELHI-110006,CHANGED my name to MARGHOOB UL HAO. permanently.

I,Khushboo banerjee,D/o subhash Vijay banerjee,W/o iitesh kumar R/o-F-24.G/F. gali.no.9, subhash chowk,laxmi-Nagar,Delhi-110092. Have changed my name to khusbu banerjee.

0040558971-2

I,Jyoti Taneja w/o Sanjay Kawra R/o.H.No.A-14, Duggal Colony, Khanpur, Devli-Road, New Delhi-110062, have changed my name to Jyoti Kawra, 0040558977-9 permanently. I,Inderaj Singh,S/o Sukh

Master Gali, Devli, New Delhi-110062, have changed my name to Indraj Singh Verma.

Ram,R/o 619-20/2, Gupta-

0040558977-6

I.Imran Khan.S/o Mohammad Hanif R/o-621A/21, Zakir Nagar, Jamia-Nagar, Okhla.Delhi-110025.have changed my name to Mohd 0040558976-3

I,Geeta Devi D/o Sh.Khimram,R/o-34/9, Kishangarh, Vasant-Kunj, ND-70, have changed my name.from Geeta to Geeta Devi for all purposes.

0040558977-2

I,GOVIND S/O JAGDISH UPADHAYAY R/O HOUSE.NO.50 BHARAT COLONY OLD-FARIDABAD, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO GOVIND UPADHAYAY PERMANENT.

0040558971-3

I,DILPREET KAUR GILL D/o PARKASH SINGH GILL R/o-79 RADHEY SHYAM PARK DELHI-110051, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO DILPREET KAUR.

0040558973-5

I,DEEPTHI NAIR NEGI,R/o FLAT.NO-701, ETERNIA MAHAGUN MAPLE, SECTOR 50.NOIDA, GAUTAMBUDH-NAGAR, U.P-201301, Changed my minor SON name ABHIMANYU DAS to ABHIMANYU NEGI.

0040558973-3 **I,Bholi** W/O Prem Singh

Near G.T.B-Nagar, Delhi-110009, changed my nameto Kanta. 0040558977-5 I.Aruna Malhotra W/o Parveen Chander Malhotra, R/o G-

15/2A (G.F.) Rajouri-Garden New Delhi, have changed my name to Arun Prabha 0040558977-8 **I,Rajan** Kumar S/O Prem Singh

R/O.H.No-212, Dhakka-Village

R/O.H.No-212,Dhakka Village Near G.T.B-Nagar Delhi-110009.changed my nameto Raian Singh. 0040558977-4 I.Amreen D/o Jalaluddin Ali

No.3. Aram-Park, Shastri-Nagar, Delhi-110031, have changed my name to Amreen

I,Abhishek Beghel,S/o Phool Singh, R/o H.No.3754, Gali.No.102,B-Block Apex Road, Sant-Nagar, Burari, Delhi-84, have changed my name to Abhishek Baghel.

0040558973-6

I,Aarti Virmani,W/O Akshay Bhasin R/O-11/30, Geeta Colony, Park Side Delhi-110031, Have Changed My Name To Arti Vermani For All, Future Purposes.

0040558971-4 I,ARUN KUMAR CHOUHAN,S/O SUWALAL CHOUHAN.R/O-370.FLAT.NO.1.TOWFR-A. VILLAGE-CHATTARPUR TIVOLI NEW DELHI-110074.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ARUN

CHAUHAN, PARAMANENTLY. 0040558973-7 **I,** Zubada,W/o Shamshad

Ali.R/o Village Himmatpur Garhmukteshwar, Hapur, Uttar Pradesh, have changed my name to Zubeda Begum.

0040558978-3 I, SABARA BEGUM, W/O. AKBAR ALI,ADD-118,STREET NO,1 ARAM-PARK SHASTRI NAGAR DELHI-110031, changed my

name to SABRA BEGUM

permanently. 0040558976-7 I, Rahul Kumar, F/o-Ayra Choudhary, R/o-Flat. No. 2151, Sector-D, Pocket-2, Vasant-Kunj, ND-70, have changed my minor daughter's name, from Aayra Choudhary to Ayra Choudhary for, all purposes.

0040558977-3 I, Manoj Kumar Sethia Jain alias Manoj Sethia, S/o Ganesh Mal Sethia R/o-D-180, Ground/Floor, Vivek Vihar,Phase-I, Delhi 110095, have changed my name to Manoj Kumar Sethia for,all Purposes.Confirm That, above all names belongsto same Person.

0040558942-2

I, Kapil Digani R/o C1403 Bptp Freedompark Life Sector 57 Gurgaon have changed my minor daughter's name from Kaavya Digani to Kavya Digani for all purposes.

0040558946-1

I, JYOTSNA SHARMA W/O Mr. JAINENDER SHARMA R/O FLAT NO-640, G FLOOR, METRO VIEW APARTMENT, DWARKA SECTOR-13, SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110078 INDIA, I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM JYOTSNA TO JYOTSNA SHARMA FOR ALL PURPOSES

0040558936-1 I, JAINENDER SHARMA S/O Mr. KAMAL JEET SINGH R/O FLAT NO 640, G FLOOR, METRO VIEW APARTMENT, DWARKA SECTOR-13, SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110078 INDIA, I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM JAINENDER TO JAINENDER SHARMA FOR ALL

PURPOSES. 0040558937-1 I, Diwankar Yadav S/o Dharmender Yadav R/o H.No.27, MB Road, Saidulaiab. Delhi-110030 have changed my name to Diwankarr Yadav permanently. 0040558976-1

I. Ashok Mehra S/o Shri Krishan Mehra R/O E-11, Dakshini Puri, Dr. Ambedkar Nagar, New Delhi-62, do hereby solemnly affirm on 21/12/2020 that Ashok Mehra and Ashok Kumar is the same person. Declared as per the affidavit No. IN-DL20056437183212S sworn before the notary. Now I $\,$ have declared my correct name Ashok Mehra for all future purposes. That it is my true and correct statement.

0040558916-1

I, Anju Devi Sethia Jain alias Aniu Sethia, W/o Manoi Kumar Sethia R/o D-180, Ground Floor, Vivek ViharPhase-I, Delhi-110095, have changed my name to Anju Devi Sethia for, all Purposes. Confirm, That above all names belongs-to same Person. 0040558942-1

I. Surinder Panwar S/o.Late Raja Ram Panwar, R/o.Flat.No-1603B-2. Panchsheel Greens-1. GH-01. Sector-16B, Noida-Extension, U.P-201318, have $changed, my\,name\,to$ Surender Kumar Panwar permanently. 0040558942-3

IVidhi Jain D/O V.K.Jain R/O WZ-344/B Nangal Raya N.D. have changed my son's name from Avi to Vedant Jain for all purposes. 0050173525-1

I Vedo widow of Late Balbir Singh R/o VPO Chhawala, New Delhi-110071 have changed my name to Bed Kaur for all purposes. 0040558926-3

I Stuti Gupta D/o Chetan Kumar Jaiswal and Wife of Ayush Gupta, R/o H.No. 2304, 23rd Floor, Tower 3, Imperial Court, JP Wishtown, Sector 128, Noida, UP -201304 do hereby solemnly inform that I have changed my name from Stuti Jaiswal to Stuti Gupta for all future purposes.

0040558917-1

Sh.Ashok Kumar Sharma R/o Express Garden, 806/3. Vaibhav Khand, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad-201014, U.P. is also known as Mani Sharma. Both names are of one and the same person. 0040558926-4

I,hitherto known as Shaleen Lama.S/o Dinesh Kumar residing at Flat.No.3B, 3rd-Floor, U-136, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092,have changed my name and shall hereafter be

0040558977-10

LOST & FOUND

Lost my CBSE Pass Certificate, class 12 (Name-Amit Kumar Patel s/o Nirmal Prasad Kurmi, DOB-18/09/1992, Roll no-7630005, School-ST Joseph's public school, MSV Nagar, Samastipur, Bihar) from Laxmi Nagar area of Delhi on 11/12/2020.If found please contact 9206908565

I,Saubhagya S/O aradhyadev R/O.HN-611,sangam-vihar, loni-Ghaziabad.up, Have lost my original certificate/marksheet Class-10 Year-2019.Rollno-5399077

CBSE-DEHRADUN.

0040558973-10 It is notified for the information that I have lost my Original 10th Passing Certificate, CBSE Roll No.8210827, Kiranjot Singh, S/o S. Jagdev Singh R/o 18/6 First Floor West Patel Nagar, Delhi-110008, If found Please Call-9810084624

0040558939-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE स्व श्री राकेश नेवासी–मकान न. M-11-12, जे.जे. कॉलोनी, शक्रपुर, दिल्ली– 110034 ने अपने पुत्र कुलदीप राजोरिया को उसके ग ल त व्यवहार व आचरण के कारण अपनी समस्त चल–अचल सम्पत्ति से बेदखल कर दिया है व उससे अपने सम्बन्ध विच्छेद कर लियें हैं। यदि कोई व्यक्ति उससे कोई लेन-करता है व उससे किसी प्रकार का रिश्ता जोड़ता है तो वह उसका स्वयं जिम्मेवार होगा. मेरी मवक्किला नहीं Gunian Kathuria (Advocate)

PUBLIC NOTICE dayah kew belin has debahed he a amely, Akshit Lamba, his wife Tanu a daughter-in-law & son of my client ut of control. My client further deb nem from all his/her movable them from all his/her movable of immovable properties & business. anyone dealing with them in an manner whatsoever shall be doing so a his/her own cost, risk & responsibility My clients shall not held responsible socially morally or legally for their an act

H. Kamal Bec Advocat M-14, Dewan House Comple Ajay Enclave, New Delh

It is for Generel information that I, Rishi Mishra S/o Brahm Dev Mishra R/o D-325, S/F, Front Side, Nawada Housing Complex, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 declare that name of my father has been rongly written Sub Brahm Dev Mishra in 10th class marksheet & certificate. The actual name of my

PUBLIC NOTICE

father is Brahm Dev Mishra respectively which may be mended accordingly. **PUBLIC NOTICE** Be it known to all concerned that m client Smt. Santosh W/o Sh. Jai Chan R/o 1464, First Floor, Street No. 7 Wazir Nagar Opp. Defence Colon New Delhi-110003 has irreconcilable differences and strained relationship. differences and strained relationshi with her son Abhishek Gautam and daughter in law Ms. Anjali Gautam W/ Sh. Abhishek Gautam and grandso

Thus my client is in full state of min has decided to severe / disown a relations from them for all manners an relations from them for all manners and purposes relating to all moveable and immovable property. My client further restrains them from entering the house/interfering the personal life o him and her husband. My client shal not be responsible for their acts conducts and omissions while dealing with anyone in any manner for any purpose and intent.

Yuvaan Gautam who is son o

Abhishek Gautam and Anjali Gautan

purpose and intent. S.C. Sagar, Advocate Ch. No. 913, Patiala House Courts New Delhi-110001

सार्वजनिक सूचना सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेरे मुब्बक्किलो सुभाष चंद्र पुत्र स्वव श्री लाल मन व बिशन देवी पत्नी सुभाष चंद्र निवासी गांव खैरा नजफगढ़ दिल्ली-110043 ने अपने पुत्र ललि कुमार जो उनके कहने से बाहर है व अपनी समस्त चल-अचल सम्पति से सामाजिक रूप से कतई बेदखल कर दिय है जो कोई ललित कुमार से लेन-देन या व्यावहार करेगा वह स्वयं जिम्मेदार होग मेरे मुवक्किलो की कोई जिम्मेदारी नह

Pankaj Kumar - Advocat Z-17. Shvam Vihar. Gali No.-2. Phase-New Delhi- 110043 Enrl. No. D-918/11

PUBLIC NOTICE The General Public at large i hereby informed that Shr Mahesh Kumar Chhabra husband of my client, Neeru Chhabra, aged 64 years Adhal

Card No.8169 9116 7837 and father of Ramit Chhabra & Ms Rachita Chhabra expired or 22.5.2020 intestate. During his life time a Certificate of Probate of Will dated 18.4.2003 was ssued on 21.5.2019 from the Court of Shri Sandeep Chauhan Addl.Civil Judge, Senio Division. Faridabad in favour of _ate Shri Mahesh Kumai Chhabra, Neeru Chhabra, and Ramit Chhabra for the properties at 165, Sector-15 Faridabad and Flat No.4052 Sector-8, Pocket-5 and 6 Vasan Kunj, New Delhi. The legal heirs. successors-in interest of Late Shri Mahesh Kumar Chhabra to succeed to his moveable and mmoveable properties lef behind him are namely Neero Chhabra, wife 64 Years, Rami Chhabra son aged 34 years and

39 years. That except the above named person, there is no other lega neir/ successor-in-interest of _ate Sh. Mahesh Kuma Chhabra son of Late Shr Harbans Lall Chhabra. By this Public Notice all the person of Public/ Banks. . Authorities having any clain

Rachita Chhabra daughter aged

against into or upon the said properties or any part thereof by rirtue of Sale, Inheritance Agreement or otherwise o whatsoever nature is required t notify the same in writing alongwith supporting undersigned within 10 days.

H.L.DAGAR (Advocate (Pb. & Hr. High Court) Seat No.195 South Block Sector-12, Faridabad

PUBLIC NOTICE his Notice is hereby given to generaublic that Sh. Kunal Tiwari to be ownered in possession of First Floor "sai oor" Part of Property Bearin (0.313/90, Plot No.33, area measuring a Sp. Sector of the second in the observation of the second in the second i No.313'99, Priot No.33, area measuring, 350 Sq. Yards, situated in the abadi o Bali No.08, Tulsi Nagar, Inderlok, Delhi John Co. No. 2989 duly Regd. in the SRO-Jolehi. And now Sh. Kunal Tiwari wishes o Sell aforesaid property to Mrs. Shaliha chatoon and she has approached to DFC First Bank Ltd. for financia sistiatane, and therefore shall be ssistance and therefore shall b ortgaged with the said Bank, A mortgaged with the said Bank. All person's having any claim regarding respect of the said property/floor or any part, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to undersigned with supporting documentary evidence at the address mention below within 10 day from the date of publication of this notice, failing which claim, if any, of such persons will be consider to have been waived and/or, abandoned and our client shall proceed with the disbursement of logginatines and property and subsequent creation of Mortgage in respect thereof.

Sunif Parsad (Advocate)
For Juris NextGen Law Offices E-56, Greater Kaillash Englave Part-New Delhi-10048

PUBLIC NOTICE e it known to all concerned tha y client's Sh. Chaman Lal Pawar o Lt. Sh Ganga Ram Pawar & Smt hagwati Devi Wlo Sh. Chaman La awar Rio House No. 7032/1, Mata meshwari, Nehru Nagar, Karo agh, New Delhi-110005 has Rameshwari, Nehru Nagar, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005 handender sended severed all concerns and relations with their son namely Sh. Ritesh Pawar and daughter in law namely Smt. Lata Pawar Wb. Sh. Ritesh Pawar a Grand daughter namely baby Nandani Pawar due to the misconduct of the daughter in law Smt. Lata Pawar towards my client's and hereby disown/debarred/ ousted them from all their movable and immovable assets and for all intents and purposes, My client further declares that they shall not be responsible for any acts, deeds and omissions of their son and daughter in law in any manner in future and if, anybody deals with them hel shel they may do so at their own costs, risks and consequences. Philip Massey (Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, Pawan Jha S/c Kamleshwar Jha R/o C-521 Street No.-6, Wazirpu ndustrial Area Ashok Vihai Delhi-52 declare that m daughter "Kajal date of birth" has been wrongly written as 10/03/2000 in schoo records while actual date o birth of my daughter Kajal is 01/07/2003, Which may be amended accordingly

PUBLIC NOTICE

is ivouce is hereby given to gene-blic that Sh. Vijay Shankar Singh owner and in possession owner and in possession of perty Bearing No.RZ-21, are asuring 150 Sq. Yards, Out of asra No.26/19/9, in the area Alashali Gali No.1, Dabn Palam Road, wew Delhi, by virtue of Relingulshmenl beed dated-08.10.2020, Doc. No.5613 killy Regd. in the SRO-IX, New Delhi And now Sh. Vijay Shankar Singh wishes to Sell aforesaid property to Sh Madan Gopal Gera and he has approached to IDFC First Bank Ltd. for inlandial assistance and therefore shall be mortgaged with the said Bank. All espect of the said property/floor or any ard, are hereby requested to notify the ard, are hereby requested to notify the ard, are hereby requested to notify the part, are hereby requested to notify the part, are hereby requested to notify the part are hereby requested to notify the part are hereby requested to notify the part and the part of the part of the said property/floor or any part are hereby requested to notify the part of par art, are hereby requested to notify the ame in writing to undersigned wi upporting documentary evidence ne address mention below within he address mention below within ays from the date of publication of the totice, failing which claim, if any, uch persons will be consider to have een waived and/or, abandoned ar ur client shall proceed with the isbursement of loan against the sa operty and subsequent creation rtgage in respect thereo

Sunil Parsad (Advocat For Juris NextGen Law Offic E-56, Greater Kailash Enclave Par New Delhi-1100

PUBLIC NOTICE ENTIRE THIRD FLOOR BEARING PVT NO. TF-1, TF-2 & TF-3, WITH ROOF / TERRACE OVER AND ABOVE THIRD FLOOR AS PER THE SHANTI NIKETAN, NEW DELHI Public at large is hereby informed that the captioned property is subject matter of Equitable Mortgage with SBI/ other Bank / FI, which is concluded, subsisting & performance. Further the previous Owner(s) had declare lost of few original title and link documents, thus are not available in original with the previous owner, and informed as missing, lost or mistaid. Will dated 03.11.2006 executed by Dr. B.K. Vohra son of Late Shri G.R. Vohra in favour of Dr. Mrs. P.L. Vohra wife of Dr. B.K. Vohra in respect of his undivided Dr. B.K. Vohra in respect of his undivided

in favour of Dr. Mrs. PL. Vohra wife of Dr. B.K. Vohra in respect of his undivided share in TF-1 of the captioned property, the content of the said WILL & last & final Will of Dr. B.K. Vohra in sconfirmed by his both (1) Dr. Rajeev Vohra & (2) Dr. S an je e v V o h r a. An Online FIR / Lost Report has been registered with P.S. Crime Branch vide L R N O 8 5 2 4 2 1 / 2 0 2 0 lt is hereby notified that any person or entity, Ifirm / Company, Bank, Financial Institution/ HUF/ Member of HUF having claim any charge, interest or lien or claim on the basis of documents mentioned above or otherwise and / or objection on the basis of documents mentioned above or otherwise and / or objection to the Sale Deed thereof, he/ she/ they may lodge/ notify the same to the undersigned with documentary proof within 15 days from the day of publication, failing which any claim shall be rejected and the title / Sale Deed proposed to be executed in favour of my client(s) or in the name of his / her nominees shall be deemed to be observed to be considered to the country of the sale of th the name of his / her nominees shall be deemed to be clear and marketable with out any defect, encumbrances, flaw and impediment and my client(s) shall proceed further and complete the Sale.

Amit Chaudhary (Advocate)
Ch. No. 561, 5th Floor, Saket Courts, New Delhi. Mobile - 9910147876
Email: amittawyer2007@gmail.com

"IMPORTANT"

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2020 Dated 22-12-2029. Works tende brough E-tendering system are invited fro salid electrical licensed for the works a 12/2019-20/NGC, Name of works: Provisio of 11/0, 4 KV transformer including associate electrical equipment for 11 KV Power Sub Station including drawing of 11 KV over hear line for NGC additional pit line with cover shed Tender value: 76.33.69.536- Earnes Money: 74.67,000/- Date and time of closing of tender: 13.00 hrs. of 12-01-2021 hrs. and Opening of tender: 12-01-2021 o 15.00 hrs. The complete information with the tender documents of above e-tender will be available upto 13,00 hrs. of 12-01-2021 i ebstewww.ireps.gov.in

Asstt. Elect. Engineer/Con. Matter HORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY Serving Customers with smile

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लिव ई-निविदा सूचना

अति अल्प–कालीन विशिष्टीकरण सं डीवीवीएनएल-एमएम / 3066-2020: विभिन्न साईजों के Glass Sleeves की आपर्ति मात्रा : 5,60,000 नग, धरोहर राशिः रू0 20,000 / -, निविदा खुलने की दिनांक 06.01.2021, निविदा शुल्क रू0 3,540/ जी०एस०टी० सहित)। विशिष्टीकरण संव डीवीवीएनएल-एमएम/3067-2020: विद्युत कार्यशाला मण्डल, आगरा के अन्तर्गत विभागीय कार्यशाला में 10 नग ओवन एवं 04 नग हाइड्रोलिक ट्रॉली की आपुर्ति, धरोहर राशिः क्त0 54,000 / – , निविदा खुलने की दिनांक 30.01.2021, निविदा शुल्क :रू० 3,540/— (जी०एस०टी० सहित)। निविदा शुल्क केवल ऑनलाइन, DVVNL, AGRA की वेबसाईट www.dvvnl.org के माध्यम से ही स्वीकार किया जायेगा। विवरण के लिए कृपया निविदा प्रपत्र ध्यानपर्वक पढ़ ले। उपरोक्त निविदा निर्धारित दिनांक को समय 13:00 बजे तक ऑनलाइन अपलोड की जा सकेंगी एवं निर्धारित दिनांक को सांय 16:00 बजे खोली जायेंगी। निविदा प्रपत्र उ०प्र० शासन के ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्टल https://etender.up.nic.in पर अपलोड की जायेंगी, जहाँ से निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है।

अधी०अभि०, सा०प्र०-राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें

697

छत्तीसगढ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.)

सर्व संबंधित को सूचना

भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय द्वारा जारी ई.आई.ए. नोटिफिकेशन, 2006 (यथा-संशोधित) के तहत् सर्व संबंधित को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेसर्स दलवीर सिंह एंड सन्स मेड़ेसर र्लाईम स्टोन माईन, ग्राम-मेड़ेसरा, तहसील-धमधा, जिला-दुर्ग (छ.ग.) स्थित खसरा क्रमांक 1198/3, 1199/ 1205/1, 1205/2, 1205/3, 1205/4, 1205/5, 1205/6, 1205/7, 1205/8, 1206/1, 1206/2 1207, 1208, 1210, 1211, 1218, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1224, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1228, 1229, 1230, 1231, 1232, 1233, 1234, 1235, 1236, 1237, 1239/1, 1240, 1669, 1671/2 1672/2, 1673/3, 1677/1, 1677/2, 1678, 1680, 1681, 1682 एवं 1683, कुल लीज क्षेत्र 29.2 हेक्टेयर में प्रस्तावित चूना पत्थर खदान (मुख्य खनिज) उत्खनन क्षमता- 1,00,000 टन प्रतिवर्ष के पर्यावरणीय . स्वीकित बाबत लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 02/02/2021 को समय दोपहर 12:00 बजे स्थल-शासकीय उचित मूल्य की दुकान के सामने, ग्राम-मेड़ेसरा, तहसील-धमधा, जिला-दुर्ग में नियत की गई है। यह भी सूचित हो कि:-

लोक सुनवाई के दौरान सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों के फिजिकल/सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग का पालन करना अनिवार्य होगा। लोक सुनवाई में सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों द्वारा मास्क का उपयोग किया जावेगा तथा समय-समय प सेनेटाईजर का उपयोग किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।

लोक सुनवाई स्थल पर सम्मिलित होने वाले व्यक्तियों की बैठक व्यवस्था कम से कम 02 मीटर की दूरी रखना अनिवार्य होगा। कोरोना वायरस के नियंत्रण एवं रोकथाम हेत् शासन द्वारा जारी समस्त दिशा-निर्देशों का अक्षरशः पालन किय

जाना अनिवार्य होगा। ई.आई.ए. नोटिफिकेशन 14 सितम्बर 2006 (यथा-संशोधित) के अनुसार संबंधित व्यक्तियों र भवलोकन/पठन हेतु ड्राफ्ट ई.आई.ए. रिपोर्ट, कार्यपालक सार हिन्दी एवं अंग्रजी भाषा तथा सी.डी. (साफ्ट कॉपी) डायरेक्टर, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन, जोर बाग रोड, नई दिल्ली, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय (डब्लू.सी.जेड) पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, ग्राउण्ड फ्लोर ईस्ट विंग न्यु सेक्रेटरिएट बिलिंडग, सिविल लाईन, नागपुर (महाराष्ट्र), कलेक्टर कार्यालय कलेक्टर, जिला-दुर्ग, मुख्य कार्यपालन अधिकारी, जिला पंचायत, जिला-दुर्ग, मुख्य महाप्रबंधक, जिला व्यापार एवं उद्योग केन्द्र, जिला-दुर्ग, मुख्य नगर पालिका अधिकारी, नगर पालिका परिषद, अहिवारा, जिला-दुर्ग, सरपंच/सचिव ग्राम पंचायत मेड्रेसरा, जिला दुर्ग, सरपंच/सचिव ग्राम पंचायत पथरिया, जिला-दुर्ग, सरपंच/सचिव ग्राम पंचायत नंदिनी खुंदिनी, जिला-दुर्ग -प्ररपंच/सचिव ग्राम पंचायत पिटौरा, जिला-दुर्ग, सरपंच/सचिव ग्राम पंचायत कोड़िया, जिला-दुर्ग, सरपंच/सचिव ग्राम ांचायत बागडुमर, जिला-दुर्ग, सरपंच∕सचिव ग्राम पंचायत पोटिया, जिला-दुर्ग, सरपंच∕सचिव ग्राम पंचायत सगर्न जिला-दुर्ग, सरपंच/सचिव ग्राम पंचायत परसदा, जिला-दुर्ग, सरपंच/सचिव ग्राम पंचायत गिरहोला, जिला-दुर्ग, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, 5/32 बंगला, भिलाई, जिला-दुर्ग एवं मुख्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावर

प्तंरक्षण मंडल, पर्यावास, भवन, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला-रायपुर में रखी गई है।

हस्ता/-सदस्य सचिव छत्तीसगढ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD. Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-III, Delhi 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building ender Inviting Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001

otice under section 19(4) of the Recovery of

Debts Due to Banks and Financial Instituti

Act. 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debt

ecovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993

In the matter of O.A. No. 672/2019

٧s

D-1 Shri Rakesh Singh S/o Shri Akalesh

Singh, R/o Plot No. 95/20, Ground Floor Block-A, Sector-47, Noida, Gautam Budh

Nagar, (Uttar Pradesh) Also at: Sole

Proprietor of : M/s Kelly Holiday, Shop No

38, Pal Plaza, Karol Bagh, New Delhi

D-2 Shri Alok Kumar S/o Shri Ran

Kishore, R/o House No. D-179, Sector

Whereas the above named applicant has

instituted a case against you and whereas i

has been shown to the satisfaction of the

Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in

ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is giver

by advertisement directing you to make

appearance in this Tribunal 29-01-2021 a

Take notice that in case of your failure t

appear on the above mentioned day before

his Tribunal, the case will be heard and

Due to ongoing Pandemic situation, al

the matters will be taken up through

Video Conferencing and for that

i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall

(ii) Meeting ID and Password for the nex

date of hearing qua cases to be taken by

Registrar/Recovery Officer-I/and Recovery

Officer-II shall be available one day prior to

the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e

(iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocate:

itigants can contact the concerned official

Given under my hand and seal of thi

Tribunal on this the 21st day of Dec., 2020.

By Order of the Tribuna

New Delhi

drt.gov.in under the Public Notice Head.

at Ph. No. 23748469

download the Cisco Webexapplication

(Applicant

(Defendants

BANK OF BARODA

105, Noida-201304

10.30 A.M.

purpose:-

software;

decided in your absence.

RAKESH SINGH AND ANR.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (E-TENDERING PROCESS) Specification No. & Due Date & Tim Name of Work / Material No Authority for submission Mine Operator Developer and for CE/MECH/ Development and Operation Mines Chandrabila Coal Block (10 MTPA) Angul District of Odisha can be downloaded from TANGEDCO website

THE KERALA STATE CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED

MAVELI BHAVAN, P.B.NO.2030, GANDHINAGAR, KOCHI-682020 Ph.No.PABX- 0484-2206775, 2206795, Purchase Section -Ph No: 0484-2207924, 2206786, 2206782. FAX - 0484-2206782, 0484-2206799, E-Mail: agmp@supplycomail.com

TENDER NOTICE

The Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd (Supplyco) intends to purchase Pulses, Spices, Sugar and Wheat through e-auction and e-tender. The e-tender will be accepted upto 12.00 noon on 05-01-2021. For details visit out website <u>www.supplycokerala.com</u> or <u>www.tenderwizard.com/KSCSC</u>. Only suppliers possessing digital signatures will be permitted to participate in

the e-tender. For e-auction please visit https://market.neml.in. <u>neml.in.</u> Sd/-Manager (Purchase)

Date: 29 12 2020

Resumption of e-Auction

E-Auction (ID-69) for 83 plots of 1800 sam size category in IMT Kharkhoda was commenced on 23.11.2020, but stopped on 26.11.2020 after completion of auction of 72 plots. It has been decided to resume this e-auction from 04.01.2021 from

the same for participation in the auction. All other terms &

Haryana State Industrial & Infrastructure **Development Corporation Limited** DC A State Government Undertaking Regd. Office: C-13 & 14, Sector-6, Panchkula, Ph. 8172-2590481-83.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR

(Telefax: 0194-2496089, E-mail ID: xenmhchdk@yahoo.in) **GIST OF E-TENDER** NIT No: MHCHD/TS/2020-21/235/e-Tendering

Dated: 28.12.2020 E-tenders are invited from Original Equipment Manufacturers or their Authorized dealers,

Representatives for the below mentioned work Name of Work Est. Cost Cost of Earnest Time of Position (Lacs of Rs.) Lacs) (in Rupees) (in Days) Fund 2 3 5 6 24.00 1000 0.48 Available Installation, Supply. Testing, Commissioning of Air Compressors of with intending Capacity 275 CFM, Screw type along with maintenance for Three years at Govt. Chest Disease Hospital, Srinagar.

Downloading of Bids: The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 28.12.2020 (18.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 28.12.2020 (18.00 hrs).

Uploading: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web

site 29.12.2020(10.00 hrs) to 07.01.2021 (16:00 hrs) in two (02) covers. Opening of Bids: The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on 08.01.2021 at 14.00 hrs or any date convenient to the department in the office of

No: MHCHD/TS/ 8120-24 Date: 28.12.2020 DIPK-11024

Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar

Sd/-**Executive Engineer,** MHCHD. Srinagar

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is notified for the information of rail passengers that the timings of the following Special Trains will be revised as under:-

Revised Existing 22:30/22:35 22:20/22:25 Ernakulam Jn. 02431 Thiruvananthapuram Central -29.12.2020 23:48/23:50 23:53/23:55 New Delhi Thrissur 'Rajdhani' Superfast Special (Tri-Weekly) Vadodara Jn. 00:01/00.06 23:42/23:52 01.01.2021 02413 Madgaon - Hazrat Nizamudin 23:42/00.02 23:42/23:52 03.01.2021 Vadodara Jn. 'Rajdhani' Superfast Special (Bi-Weekly) Vadodara Jn 17:33/17:38 16:44/16:49 09027 Bandra Terminus -17·12/17 14 with Anand Jn 17:21/17:22 Jammu Tawi mmediate Superfast Festival Special 18:30/18.50 18:45/19:05 Ahmedabad Jn effect (Weekly)

Note: All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 including Social distancing, sanitization etc., may be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

Note: For any kind of Information passengers are requested to contact Railway

Security Helpline No. 182 Integrated Helpline No. 139



Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in. **NORTHERN RAILWAY**

Dtd: 28/12/2020

Visit us at : www.nr.indianrailwavs.gov.in 2890/2020 Please join us on **[84]** Serving Customers with a Smile

NO.SDE/ITI/RFP/604/2020

GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH DEPARTMENT OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

UDYOG SADAN, C-SECTOR-ITANAGAR-791111.

20:19/20:21

Request for Proposal

Arunachal Pradesh Skill Development Mission under the aegis of Department of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Sovernment of Arunachal Pradesh invites "Request for Proposal for Selection of Private Agencies to operate & run three (03) Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in Arunachal Pradesh under PPP"

. The Bidder must furnish details /documents as per the prescribed format.

The hard copy of the RFP document should be submitted on or before 21st Jan 2021 by 5:30 P.M. inside a sealed envelope marked as "Proposal for Selection of Private Agencies to operate & run three Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in Arunachal Pradesh under PPP" along with a Non Refundable Processing Fees of INR 5000.00 (INR Five Thousand only) in the form of Demand Draft to the Director, Department of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, 'C' Sector, Udyog Sadan, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh-791111. The envelope shall clearly indicate the name

and address of the bidder (Private Agency). The soft copy of the proposal should be sent through mail to sdarunachal@gmail.com latest by 19.01.2021, 5:30 P.M. RFP Format and other documents can be downloaded from the

website: http://skillarunachal.nic.in Any incomplete RFP or RFP received after 5:30 P.M of 19th January 2021 shall be summarily rejected. The REP can be rithdrawn/cancelled by the Government at any time without assigning any reason.

(Subu Tabin) Director Skill Dev. & Entrepreneurship

Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar. DIPR No./ARN-14789-92

New Delhi

www.tangedco.gov.in, https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app DIPR/5016/Tender/2020

www.tenders.tn.gov.in, at free of cost. CHIEF ENGINEER/MECHANICAL/Mines

SUPPLYCO -

Website: www.supplycokerala.com.

(ONLY THROUGH ELECTRONIC TENDERING SYSTEM)

of remaining plots of 1800 sqm size category (Auction ID-69) in IMT Kharkhoda

9.00 AM for auction of balance plots. All the registered bidders of this auction may please note conditions of e-auction shall remain unchanged.

GOVERNMENT OF UNION TERRITORY JAMMU & KASHMIR

All square at the G

India keep shadows of doubt at bay to get the job done in second Test; level series 1-1

SANDIPG DECEMBER 29

PULLING NATHAN Lyon for a single, off a fumble, Ajinkya Rahane completed one of India's most memorable moments in Test cricket. The celebrations were bizarrely understated, there were no hugs or high-fives, no leaping or punching in the air. India made the Melbourne victory look utterly humdrum.

The scorecard would agree—what was the fourth-day fuss all about. The visitors bagged the four remaining Australian wickets for 67 runs and then eclipsed the target of 70 in 15.5 overs, trading just two wickets in the process. Easy as a Sunday evening stroll, you would think, but there were times in the game when it seemed more a stagger and stutter than a stroll. Maybe, the anxiety was merely an illusion of the mind, subconsciously spun after what had transpired in Adelaide nine days ago.

This is not the Australia of the old. But still, they would channel the spirit of the Old Australia. After all, 70 is almost 36 doubled. After all, the Indian batting line-up has cracks and crevices. And Australia's bowlers are capable of producing magic. And the strip could crack up and consume the visitors. That's what Australia could conjure, that's what Australia has conjured in the past. Pat Cummins and Mitchell Starc bounding into the ground with the quiet menace of professional assassins, Tim Paine screaming words of encouragement, so ferociously that he seemed to be readying for an ACCA DACCA audition.

The doubt-ridden mind can make everything look tenser and harder than it actually is. So Mayank Agarwal seemed to sweat even before he had faced a ball, Shubman Gill looked lost and nervous. To aggravate the worst fears, India lost Agarwal and Cheteshwar Pujara in the space of seven balls. Agarwal strove to drive with his hands away from his body to a Starc delivery that slanted across him. It was a standard left-arm seamer's delivery. But the stroke was all nerves and uncertainty. So was Pujara, pushing with hard hands at a Cummins length-ball on the fourthstump trajectory and thick-edging to gully. At 2/16, the contest ceased to be one-sided. Australian fielders turned on their volume; their bowlers turned on their aggro and the crowd joined in the chorus, making all sorts of blasé references to the 36ers.

Cummins flung a short ball at Rahane. The Indian skipper pulled it emphatically for a boundary, suggesting he was blow-trading mood. An angered Cummins banged in another short ball that struck his lower abdomen. The message from Cummins was clear: they would fight till the last drop of the blood. The response from Rahane was clearer: he would out-fight them.



Ajinkya Rahane's (left) inspirational leadership provided India the template for the resounding 8-wicket win over Australia. AF

SCGTOHOSTTHIRDTEST

Cricket Australia has decided to retain Sydney as the venue for the third Test against India, ending speculation that the game could move to Melbourne because of stringent COVID-19 border restrictions that would have affected the players' movement for the fourth match in Brisbane. The third Test is to be held from January 7. PTI

Unlike during his epic first innings knock, he was disinclined to churn an innings out. Rather, he would just play all his strokes, even it those entail risks. This was a supreme understanding of the situation. The target not a daunting one, a few boundaries could all but win the game for his team. So he and Gill launched a watchful assault, without embrac $ing\,outright\,risk. They\,attempted\,nothing\,silly$ or outrageous, maintained their poise, but ruthlessly punished even remotely loose balls. A smidgeon of room sufficed for Gill to back cut Starc for an airborne boundary. In the same over, he slapped him for another four. If India's first innings was built brick by brick, this one was dropping slabs, composed boundary by boundary.

Cummins, though, kept persisting. He

tried to set Rahane up by pushing him back with short balls before slipping in off-cutters to trap on the crease. It almost worked but for a chunky inside edge. But it did not deter Rahane from leaning into a drive for three runs in the same over. Starc and Cummins made way for Josh Hazlewood and Nathan Lyon, but Rahane and Gill did not alter their approach and steered India past the finish line with judicious but assertive batting.

In the end, the fears looked utterly misplaced. Just as it was in the first hour of the day, when Cameron Green and Cummins raised faint comeback hopes with unprecedented resistance. Again, fears seemed hollow. Green is playing his second Test, Cummins is at best a handy than an influential batsman. Both seemed to pile than peel away the runs.

Yet, India are uncannily accustomed to seeing lower-order batsmen snatch the game away from them. There were some sweaty signs too-like edges evading fielders and stumps, marginal decisions going the batsmen's way. It could be (mis)construed that taking Jasprit Bumrah off the attack after three was a sign of restlessness. So was a review Ashwin persuaded Rahane to take. And the deeper the partnership progressed the sounder the batting seemed. Then in the fifth ball of the 16th over

India bowled in the morning, they finally dislodged Cummins, a fiendish Bumrah short-ball doing the trick. India heaved a sigh of relief. But Green was still batting

AUSTRALIA vs INDIA 2ND TEST, MCG

326

200

5 (15b)

40 (137b, 3x4)

Toss: Australia, chose to bat

AUSTRALIA 1ST INNINGS INDIA 1ST INNINGS AUSTRALIA 2ND INNINGS

M Wade Ibw Jadeia

J Burns c Pant b Yadav 4(10b) S Smith b Bumrah 8 (30b) 17 (46b) T Head c Agarwal b Sira CGreen c Jadeia b Sirai 45 (146b, 5x4) TPaine c Pant b Jadeja 1(9b) PCummins c Agarwal b Bumrah 22 (103b, 1x4)

M Starc not out 14 (56b) N Lyon c Pant b Siraj 3 (15b) J Hazlewood b Ashwin 10 (21b) **■ Extras** (nb 3.lb 5)

■ FoW: 1-4 (Joe Burns, 3.1 ov), 2-42 (Marnus Labuschagne, 17.5 ov), 3-71 (Steven Smith, 32.2 ov), 4-98 (Matthew Wade, 43.6 ov), 5-98 (Travis Head, 46.1 ov), 6-99 (Tim Paine, 47.4 ov), 7-156 (Pat Cummins, 82.5 ov), 8-177 (Cameron Green, 90.6 ov), 9-185 (Nathan Lyon, 96.4 ov), 10-200 (Josh Hazlewood, 103.1 ov)

■ Bowling: J Bumrah 27-6-54-2, U Yadav 3.3-0-5-1, M Siraj 21.3-4-37-3, R Ashwin 37.1-6-71-2, R Jadeja 14-5-28-2

INDIA 2ND INNINGS M Agarwal c Paine b Starc SGill not out C Pujara c Green b Cummins

27 (40b, 3x4) A Rahane not out ■ FoW: 1-16 (Mayank Agarwal, 4.2 ov), 2-19 (Cheteshwar Pujara, 5.1 ov)

■ Bowling: M Starc 4-0-20-1, P Cummins 5-0-22-1, J Hazlewood 3-1-14-0, N Lyon 2.5-0-5-0, M Labuschagne 1-0-9-0

■ India win by 8 wickets

there, swelling in morale and looking every bit the monster all-rounder he was touted to be. Another brief passage of resistance followed before Mohammed Sirai took out Green with a short ball, soon after he was sumptuously on-driven.

Calm was restored, but was there tension in the first place? Or was it a trick the mind played? Head coach Ravi Shastri emphasised that they were not frazzled at any point, "Our approach was like this: 'think as if you want to take 10 wickets, not four'. We told ourselves to be prepared to be patient even if they batted a session. Be prepared to chase down even 150 if needed. What you saw today was an exhibition of discipline, accuracy and patience," he elaborated.

But it was not until that single off the misfielded pull stroke that the nerves stopped to jangle. Or was it just an illusion?

A match in moments

A comeback of such proportions as seen over the last four days in Melbourne can't be attributed to one reason. There were several instances during India's victory when different individuals in the team took it upon themselves to make a difference



Rahane brought Ashwin in the 11th over of the first innings. AP

Rahane brings on Ashwin early

THE GAME-defining moment came in the 11th over of the first innings with Ajinkya Rahane's move and Ravichandran Ashwin's stirring response. It showed Rahane had nailed two things right: The reading of the conditions and his respect for Ashwin's skills. For a team that has bungled on reading the pitch in the past (hark back to Lord's 2018 when rain meant the toss and team-announcement was pushed to Day 2 and they still went with two spinners), this was refreshing. The faith in Ashwin was also no less significant. The off-spinner might be the joint fastest to 350 Test wickets but by his own admission, he has felt "hurt" with questions over his overseas performances. Rahane's moves cracked both puzzles in a swoop.

Ashwin's response

Ashwin, of course, was more than ready to have a go. Speculation over his commitment in England in 2018 had really hurt him. "I am a proper street dog. If you push me down, shoot me, kill me with a knife, stab me, I will still wake up for a fight," he had told Cricbuzz earlier this year. He is a man with wide interests beyond the game who in the recent past, seems to have reinvented himself as a brand in the Tamilspeaking world with his YouTube shows.

Above everything else, though, he is a spinner who takes great pride in his art; he had meticulously prepared for this series, from chalking out plans for individual batsmen to the amount of over-spin needed on his deliveries. He stubbed out Australia's counter-attacking plans by taking out Matthew Wade before delivering the sucker punch by dismissing Steve Smith. From then on, Australia were

on the back foot.

Jadeja rises to the challenge

Sanjay Manjrekar had called him a 'bitsand-pieces cricketer'. That was during the World Cup in England last year. Coming into the Melbourne Test, Ravindra Jadeja had a long-form batting average of 53.57 over the last two-and-a-half years. The Indian team management knew his quality as a batsman and included him as Virat Kohli's replacement. And if there was any doubt about Jadeja's ability to handle the short ball in Australia, the left-hander quelled it at the stroke of tea on the second day. Mitchell Starc made one rear off a length and Jadeja, on his toes, dropped it down almost at his feet. It was a fascinating piece of cricket; something any top-order batsman would have been proud of. Jadeja's 57 and his 121-run partnership with Rahane took the game away from the

Pant, beyond the numbers

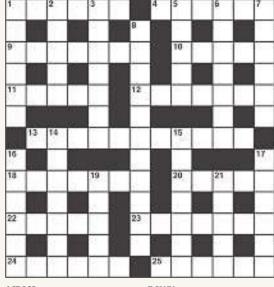
On the second day, with India on 116/4 and the game delicately poised, former Australia fast bowler Merv Hughes was asked on the ABC Grandstand commentary about which team had the edge at that point. "Australia are one wicket away from a commanding position, India are 25 minutes away from a commanding position," Hughes replied. The game indeed started to change in the next half an hour, after the drinks break to be precise.

Rishabh Pant took on Australia's best bowler on the day, Pat Cummins, collecting back-to-back twos and a couple of fours. It wrested the initiative for India. At the post-match press conference, the India head coach Ravi Shastri spoke about the value of Pant's cameo, going beyond the arid numbers - 29 off 40 balls. Behind the stumps, Pant was a livewire, belting out advice to the bowlers and occasionally getting under the skin of Aussie batsmen, especially Wade. ENS



Rishabh Pant was a livewire behind the

CROSSWORD 4315



ACROSS

- Industrial outgoing (6) All the actors or just the star
- The impressions they give aren't upright (7)

 10 One who has no place in a
- 11 Something lifted from a carol at Christmas (5)
- 12 More than master the
- subject?(7) 13 Flexible binder used extensively in offices (7,4)
- 18 Reliable way to stop bleeding
- 20 A Caledonian title of course
- 22 Shudder at some of the cab horses(5) 23 Any evil simply expressed
- 24 Women have many odd
- ideas! (6) 25 A lodge in state of disrepair and ancient (3-3)

- The only word that is an anagram of itself (6)
- Cook a joint of meat, using the
- They can't go straight on board(7)
- Behave awkwardly when you get the bill put up (3,2) Possibly trained to go in for
- part exchange (5,2) The meal's about gone
- Perhaps nothing is as surprising (11)
- 15 What the loser gets is
- punishment(7) 16 A ship taking trouble in attack
- 17 Kept going or didn't (6)
- Outstanding feature about
- the King of Norway? (5) 21 It is sung in church, I believe

Solutions Crossword 4314: Across: : 1 Rotator, 5 Capri, 8 Silent protest, 9 Satyr, 10 Evening, 11 Spoils, 12 Easier, 15 Used car, 17 Tiara, 19 Prepossessing, 20 Rifle, 21 um. Down: 1 Roses, 2 Talk to oneself, 3 Tendril, 4 Ripped, 5 Close, 6 Precipitation, 7 Integer, 11 Scupper, 13 Artiste, 14 Crises, 16 Choke, 18 Algum

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis







CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson









MARVIN by Tom Armstrong





JUMBLED WORDS

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

NPAIO ADEHYY BLNTU AELRKW

Answer: If you want your life to be more rewarding, you have to change the way SOLUTION: PIANO, BLUNT, HEYDAY, WALKER

Instructions To solve a Sudoku puzzle,

DOKU

SU

Difficulty Level 1s

every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level
ls = Very easy; 2s = Eas
3s=Medium; 4s=Hard
5s = Very Hard; 6s =
Genius

				6	2			7
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	3	П	2		8	1		9
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3			9	2				
3				7	5	J.J.	6	1

6

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2	5	7	8	6	9	3	4	1	2
5	6	3	5	2	7	4	1	8	9
2	1	8	7	5	6	9	3	2	4
SOLU ION SUDONU	4	2	9	3	1	8	5	6	7
2	7	9	6	4	8	5	2	3	1
5	3	5	4	1	2	6	9	7	8
7	8	1	2	9	3	7	6	4	5

1 8 4 2 7 5 3

DAY TODAY

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) This is a day for diplomacy, for sharing your feelings, plans and any good fortune with partners. spreading your net to include close friends, but also paying

attention to people, perhaps at

work who could do with some

emotional support. TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)



'Keep busy and stay active' should be your motto over the next two days. The Moon's angle to your sign is one of those which may not bring drama, but can push you step by step to a new and

something that makes you sit up and take notice of an old friend. GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

much more successful state of

being. You might even hear

You may go through the day with a spring in your step, young at heart and

confident that it is indeed possible to shrug off most cares and woes. It might be difficult to alter the attitudes of a lifetime. but you really should give it your best shot.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) It's time to consider

exactly what to do about putting a deep-seated ambition into practice. There's no need for action just vet, but it will do you good to sort your ideas out and check the facts. And then you need to reassure a loved one who is feeling

especially insecure. LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)



afford to take it easy, just as long, that is, as your communication skills are functioning on top form. What I mean is, you need to keep family members informed of your movements.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23) You should pay very careful attention to



New Delhi

purely mundane level it's a fine day for picking up bargains, but what could be more significant is what other people decide about your monetary future — and that may be out of your hands.

BY PETER VIDAL

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23) The Moon is now aligned with your

dictate the pace. Your actions rapidly changing moods, so other people may be bewildered or perplexed when vou alter vour ideas. Perhaps

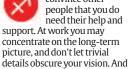
finally afford to

they should be more flexible. SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)



your chart. A momentary lack of confidence will be overcome with renewed effort and determination. And if you do face insurmountable obstacles it might be time to pause

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22) You will finally convince other



you should get on with practical

improvements at home – after

a momentary lapse. CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)



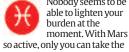
interests, but with the Moon so active you can probably make a success out of playing the diplomat. Realise that it is less important to push your own interests than to get other people to agree.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21- Feb 19) Long-distance



suitable moment to get in touch with family members overseas. The legal situation may also need some attention, so check up on your rights. But that also means you have to be aware of your responsibilities.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) Nobody seems to be



necessary steps to secure an independent future, and that means not relying excessively on partners for emotional support. Stand on your own two feet and your confidence will climb sharply.

AUSTRALIA DOCKED 4 WTC POINTS FOR SLOW OVER-RATE

Australia were fined 40 per cent of its match fee and penalised four ICC World Test Championship points for maintaining a slow over-rate against India in the second Test, which concluded at MCG. PTI

2020 THE LOST YEAR

 $Away from the bio-bubbles \ put \ in \ place \ by \ those \ with \ deep \ pockets, sport \ had \ its \ lockdown \ tales \ of \ angst, \ uncertainty \ and \ apprehension. \ THE \ INDIAN \ EXPRESS \ talks$

to those who missed out on their break-out year or had to delay their retirement.

'Olympics postponement a jolt, but Saurabh will bounce back'

In rampaging form when 2020 started, Olympic postponement posed a speed bump to shooters Apurvi Chandela and Saurabh Chaudhary aiming for Tokyo glory. But nothing insurmountable for the monkish duo, believe coaches

MIHIRVASAVDA NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

ON MARCH 24, moments after the news broke that the Tokyo Olympics had been postponed, Saurabh Chaudhary disappeared into the makeshift shooting range inside his home and did not step out for hours. Chaudhary barely speaks ("he utters 24 words in 24 hours," his coach Amit Sheoran jokes) and never displays any kind of emotions. But in that minute, something inside him snapped. "Bada jhatka laga (It was a big blow)," Sheoran says.

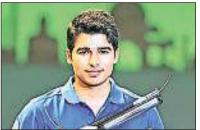
In a normal, non-Covid world, the 18-yearold would have had his sight set on the Olympic podium exactly four months after the Games were rescheduled. July 24, 2020, had all the makings of potentially being a landmark day in India's Olympic history.

After an embarrassing two-medal haul at the Rio Games, an unprecedented seven Indians would have been in medal contention in four events on the opening day in Tokyo. All usual indicators to determine success – form guide, fitness and preparation – pointed favourably towards the Indian archers, shooters and the sole weightlifter in contention, Mirabai Chanu.

The focus, though, was firmly on Chaudhary and rifle shooter Apurvi Chandela. Both of them had been in scarcely-believable form through 2018 and 2019, and were primed to achieve bigger things in 2020.

Chandela won seven World Cup medals, including two individual and one mixed team gold, in 2018 and 2019. She set a 10m air rifle world record, climbed to the top of the world rankings





Apurvi Chandela and Saurabh Chaudhary have been in sensational form and were poised to achieve bigger things in 2020. File

in her pet event and was shooting scores in qualifying that would comfortably take her into an Olympic final.

Chaudhary, on the other hand, has hardly put a footwrong since he arrived on the world shooting scene in 2018, when he became the youngest Indian shooter to win an Asian Games gold medal in 10m air pistol. Like Chandela, he, too, dominated the 2019 season by winning two World $Cup golds, set a world {\it record} {\it and} {\it topped} {\it the} {\it rank-properties} and {\it topped} {\it the} {\it rank-proped} and {\it topped} {\it the} {\it topped} {\it the} {\it topped} and {\it topped} {\it$ ing chart, Both, Chandela and Chaudhary, have also impressed in the mixed team events, which will debut in Tokyo, with partners Deepak Kumar and Manu Bhaker respectively. "From that perspective," national pistol coach Samaresh Jung says, "we can say this year was an opportunity lost because of the kind of form they were in. But you can also say they got more time to prepare and get even better. Earlier, time was just flying. Now they have got a break and some rest."

Jung also underlines the anomalies of shoot-

ing. "Sometimes, everything that happens at the range defies logic. You may dominate an entire Olympic cycle and nail every training session but still, that would not translate to a medal," he says. To drive home his point, Jung cites the examples of Germany rifle shooter Sonja Pfeilschifter, Serbian great Rajmond Debevec and India's Vijay Kumar.

Pfeilschifter, 49, medalled at every World Championship between 1994 and 2010, including three gold medals (one in 1994, two in 1998). She held several world records, won six World Cup gold medals and ruled the European Championships. "But she has been to five Olympics and could not win one medal," Jung says. "Debevec won a medal at the Olympics at his fourth attempt. But then, there have been people like Vijay as well. He was nowhere on the world scene, goes to his first Olympics (in 2012) and gets a silver medal." Chandela understands this peculiarity too well, having finished 34th

overall at the Rio Games. The 'failure', she has admitted, helped her mature and pushed by world-class shooters at home like current world number 1 Elavenil Valarivan and fellow Tokyo medal hopeful Anjum Moudgil, Chandela is now the leader of a world-beating Indian rifle team.

Chandela's coach Rakesh Manpat says they have used this period to fine-tune her technique. During the lockdown, Manpat monitored Chandela's practice from Bengaluru by placing a simulator on the barrel of her rifle, which transmitted all the data from the training sessions.

Chaudhary, who dominated 2019 along with teammate Abhishek Verma, is a better shooter now compared to the start of 2020, his coach attests. "He was living like a prisoner inside his shooting range at home for the majority of this year. Even his family members maintained a distance from him to make sure he did not get sick. So the only thing he has done is practise," Sheoran says. "His average scores have improved by a couple of points. He now shoots 588 routinely, the kind of score that automatically makes him a medal contender."

The question, though, is if the status quo will remain the same when the shooters return to competitive mode at the selection trials, which begin in New Delhi on January 5. "Nobody could predict that the Olympics would get postponed. Nobody can predict what will happen in the next six months," says Manpat. Chaudhary's coach Sheoran, though, is not shy of making a prediction. "Saurabh's mindset is like a yogi, he is quick to overcome disappointment and doesn't focus on material goals. And because of this, I am confident he will bounce back in 2021 and remain a medal hope like he was this year."

Why India's MCG victory is the most significant 'away win' yet

SHAMIKCHAKRABARTY

KOLKATA, DECEMBER 29

GIVEN THE backdrop and the odds that the Indian team faced coming into the second Test in Melbourne, this has to be India's finest Test victory ever. The humiliation of 36/9 at Adelaide, Virat Kolhi on paternity leave, injury to Mohammad Shami before the game and Umesh Yadav during the Test—there was way too much going against India.

Never ever has an Indian tour party been pushed in a corner like this or written off, But in a dramatic turnaround, India didn't just bounce back to win the Test and level the series, they gave the fans a lot to look forward to in the final week of the year. Rahane's captaincy, stunning debuts by pacer Mohammad Siraj and opener Shubhnam Gill being the positives of this historic Test. Read highlights of the Test

What was the backdrop?

The backdrop posed serious challenges. The majority of the players in the team left home in August to enter into the bio-bubble of their respective Indian Premier League (IPL) franchises. This has been an abnormal year that saw Covid-19 ravage lives and livelihoods. From the IPL bio-

bubble the Indian cricketers moved to the Indian team bio-bubble, served their quarantine in Australia without a single breach and then took to the field to play a high-intensity series. For over four months now, the players have been on the road, under Covid-safety restrictions.

What were the odds?

Coming into the second Test, the odds were heavily stacked against the Indian team. They were carrying the ghost of the 36 all out in Adelaide – India's lowest-ever Test total. The team's regular captain, also the best batsman, Virat Kohli, decided to return home on paternity leave. The team's gun bowler Mohammed Shami was ruled out of the series due to an arm fracture. India were already missing Rohit Sharma and Ishant Sharma. On the third day of the second Test, Umesh Yadav left the field after sustaining a calf injury, reducing the side to four fit bowlers. India also had the baggage of being clean swept in the two-Test series in New Zealand earlier this year. At the MCG, they stared

at the possibility of finishing 2020 without a single Test win.

Does this win have competitors?

Quite a few. The win in the second Test against the West Indies at Port of Spain in March 1971 that secured India's first-ever Test series triumph in the Caribbean. The victory at the Oval in the third Test against England in August 1971, which gave India their first-ever Test series success in England. The glorious run chase in the third Test against the West Indies at Port of Spain in April 1976 that saw India score a then world record 406/4 in the fourth innings to pull off an improbable win. The victory in the third Test against Australia at the MCG in February 1981, where India bundled out a batting line-up boasting of Greg Chappell, Doug Walters, Kim Hughes and Allan Border for 83 in the fourth innings to square the series. The wins in the first and the third Test against Pakistan at Multan and Rawalpindi respectively in 2004. Bouncing back from a defeat at Perth to win the third Test at Melbourne in December 2018, which would eventually take India to their first-ever Test series win Down Under.

Why is this 'away win' unique?

The previous wins were achieved with fullstrength sides. Here, to start with, India were severely depleted. Then, to get blown away for 36. It wasn't easy. Sunil Gavaskar in his book *Sunny Days* documented how India's tour of England in 1974 had descended into chaos after the visitors were bowled out for 42 at Lord's. Rahane's team embraced redemption instead.

How significant was Rahane's contribution?

As a captain, from bowling changes to field placements, the stand-in skipper was always ahead of the game. As a batsman, Rahane's century in the first innings was the difference between the two sides. "Ibelieve that this hundred is going to be one of the most important hundreds in the history of Indian cricket," Gavaskar told Seven Network, before adding: "Important because it's showing character, sending a message to the opposition that after being dismissed for 36 in the previous game, to come back in this manner, this Indian team is not going to just lie down and be walked all over."



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