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THE EDITORIAL PAGE

**CHINA & DELHI'S
MAKE-BELIEVE**
BY C RAJA MOHAN
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EXPLAINED

**SIMPLY PUT
IN INDIA-CHINA,
THE RUSSIA ROLE**
PAGE 11

SC clears Puri Rath Yatra, but with no crowds, with distancing

**In Puri on Monday, ahead of the Rath Yatra. PTI****ANANTHAKRISHNAN G**
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

THE RATH Yatra of Lord Jagannath in Puri will go ahead as scheduled from Tuesday, but no congregation will be allowed and steps will be taken to ensure that health and safety are not compromised.

A three-judge bench of the Supreme Court headed by Chief Justice of India S A Bobde on Monday partially modified its June 18 order, by which it had restrained temple authorities in Puri and elsewhere in Odisha from taking out Rath Yatras this year.

The court had cited the "danger" to public health that the Yatra could pose in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, as lakhs of devotees take part in the annual religious spectacle.

In its revised order on Monday, the court directed that all points of entry into Puri — airports, railway stations, bus stands, etc. — should be closed for the duration of the festival.

The bench, also comprising Justices Dinesh Maheshwari and A S Bopanna, asked the Odisha government to impose a curfew starting 8 pm on Monday "in the City of Puri on all the days and

WORLD

**GLOBAL COVID CASES
TOP 9 MILLION, U.S.
EXPECTS SURGE
IN AUTUMN****BRITAIN REELS FROM
TERROR-LINKED
STABBING**
PAGE 12**PAGE 1
ANCHOR****SHAJU PHILIP**
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
JUNE 22

SHAMEER VT, a labour contractor in Kozhikode, is a worried man. Just over three months ago, he was managing about 150 migrant workers, mostly from the Northeast, who were busy at building sites across the northern district. Today, he's left with "just six" — and they want a wage hike.

"Business has become costly. Earlier, an unskilled worker was paid about Rs 700-800 for a day's work. Now, they want Rs 1,000 since there are only a few left," he says.

SECOND MEETING AT MOLDO-CHUSHUL BORDER POINT

Corps Commanders talk well into the night, Army chief reviews situation

India pressing for return to locations before build-up

**SUSHANT SINGH &
KRISHN KAUSHIK**
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

THE MEETING between XIV Corps Commander Lt General Harinder Singh and his Chinese counterpart to reduce tensions on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh continued for more than ten hours Monday in search of a breakthrough.

This was the second meeting between the two senior commanders after the understanding they reached at their meeting on June 6 could not be implemented following the Galwan Valley clashes between the two sides on June 15 that left 20 Indian personnel dead.

Like the first meeting, the meeting Monday was held at the Border Personnel Meeting Point at Moldo on the Chinese side of the LAC, opposite Chushul.

An official told *The Indian Express* that the agenda of the meeting was to build on decisions agreed upon in the previous meeting of the two Corps Commanders.

As with the previous meeting, the agenda centered around the restoration of status quo ante on the LAC as of April, which means disengagement and de-escalation by both sides along the border.

The process decided during the previous meeting for disengagement had started from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh arrives in Moscow for a three-day visit on Monday. Defence Ministry

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



Rajnath reaches Moscow, Jaishankar and Wang Yi meet today at RIC talks

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

A DAY after his meeting with the military brass on the situation along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh reached Moscow Monday night to start a three-day visit.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, meanwhile, will be participating in a virtual meeting of the foreign ministers of Russia, India and China (RIC) Tuesday.

This will be Jaishankar's first face-to-face meeting with Chinese counterpart Wang Yi after the Galwan Valley incident in which 20 Indian Army person-

nel, including the Commanding Officer of 16 Bihar, were killed in violent clashes with Chinese troops on the night of June 15.

As he set out from Delhi, Rajnath Singh, in a Twitter post, said: "Leaving for Moscow on a three-day visit. The visit to Russia will give me an opportunity to hold talks on ways to further

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**ONE OF THE FIRST KILLINGS IN DELHI RIOTS**

Bullets fired by violent crowd hit Metro pillar, struck victim: police

**KAUNAIN SHERIFF M &
MAHENDER SINGH
MANRAL**
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

THE DELHI Police investigation into one of the first killings in the February communal riots in Northeast Delhi has concluded that the victim, 18-year-old Amaan, succumbed to bullets fired by a "violent crowd" at police that ricocheted off the Metro line pillars, according to court documents

**Amaan, 18, was killed in the violence on February 25. File**

reviewed by *The Indian Express*. Amaan died on February 25 near the anti-CAA protest site outside

Father-in-law acquitted, five get life term in Tamil Nadu Dalit killing case

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, JUNE 22

SETTING ASIDE a trial court order that had awarded the death sentence to B Chinnaswamy, the main accused in the Udumalpet honour killing case of March 2016, the Madras High Court on Monday acquitted him of all charges. The court also commuted to life the death sentence against five other convicts in the case.

Chinnaswamy was accused

**Victim Shankar, wife Kausalya: HC set aside trial court order**

of hiring a gang who hacked his son-in-law V Shankar, then 22, at

the Jaffrabad Metro station.

Police arrested 10 men in the case between March 5 and April 13, and named them as accused in the chargesheet filed under IPC section 302 (murder): Mohd Shahid (37), Mohd Shahruckh (24), Mohd Gulfam (23), Mohd Gufran (23), Aqeel (26), Mehfooz Raja (30), Mohd Azad (39), Rifaqat Ali (39), Mohd Faizan (19) and Salman (26).

Court records show that police fired 108 bullets that day at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Covid deaths the key metric, govt to track ambulance response, waiting time for bed

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

BEYOND TESTING and isolation, fatality mitigation has emerged as a new focus area of the government's Covid containment plan, as highlighted by the Centre during meetings with representatives of states last week.

A top government functionary told *The Indian Express* that to keep the fatality rate under control, there have been deliberations with states on three sub-aspects of the clinical management of patients: the time taken for patients to reach the hospital and the call refusal rate of ambulances; the average time the positive patient spends in the triage area before being assigned a bed; and the response of the hospitals in providing non-invasive oxygen to patients. These 'sub-aspects', sources said, often make the difference between life and death for serious patients.

In the June 11 meeting with health secretaries of states,

**EXPLAINED
E** Focus on clinical management

IN THE Centre's deliberations with states, fatality mitigation has been a key focus area. Epidemiologists and experts have also been saying that deaths, not rising numbers, is a key metric to understand the effectiveness of Covid containment plans. The government's focus on clinical management of patients is a step in that direction.

Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba had highlighted that 82 per cent of the deaths were from five states — Maharashtra, Delhi, Gujarat, West Bengal, and Madhya Pradesh; and that 65 districts have a case fatality rate higher than 5 per cent, much higher than the national case fatality rate of 3.22%.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE****LOCKDOWN DAY 90** **CASES:** **4,25,282** **RECOVERED: 2,37,195** **DEATHS: 13,254** **TESTS: 69,50,493** **DOUBLING RATE: 20.10****

KEY STATES TO WATCH	TOTAL CASES	SURGE IN 24 HRS	7-DAY AVG. GROWTH*	DOUBLING RATE**
■ Maharashtra	1,32,075	3,870	2.92%	24.64
■ Gujarat	27,317	580	2.12%	34
■ Delhi	59,746	3,000	5.46%	13.19
■ Tamil Nadu	59,377	2,532	4.15%	17.34
■ Bihar	7,665	162	2.44%	29.51
■ West Bengal	13,945	414	3.33%	21.62

* Compounded Daily Growth Rate over last 7 days ** Calculated over 7-day growth

CONCERN	CAUTION	A GLIMMER
DELHI: Third straight day of 3,000-plus cases Sunday; has second highest case load	TELANGANA: 730 new cases on Sunday, almost 1,800 cases in last three days	SIKKIM: Following spike last week, eight cases on Sunday after zero cases for four days

Based on daily data by Centre, ICMR, state governments

Delhi to send oxygen support to those who fall ill in home isolation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

AS COVID cases continue to surge in the Capital, with Delhi overtaking Tamil Nadu as the state with the second highest caseload in the country after Maharashtra, the Delhi government on Monday said it would help patients under home isolation to monitor their oxygen saturation levels and even send oxygen concentrators, if necessary.

"The biggest issue we have seen is oxygen levels falling suddenly. Some patients require oxygen immediately. Those under home isolation will be given oximeters to monitor their lev-

**Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday. ANI**

els... We will also give them a number they can call if the levels dip. A team will reach your house with a concentrator. The patient can be stabilised while being shifted to the hospital. This

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

As migrant workers leave, Kerala asks: Who will plug the gap?

**TEST
REPORTS
FROM THE
FIELD**
TRACKING THE VIRUS,
LOCKDOWN

Shameer's story, in a nutshell, is Kerala's new migrant crisis. With at least 3 lakh workers leaving the state amid the Covid lockdown, the pillars that propped up its economy — from construction to manufacturing and farming — are crumbling.

The only hope now, say stakeholders, is that the workers will return once the pandemic

subsides. Or, as Labour Minister T P Ramakrishnan believes, Kerala's own migrants returning from the Middle East, could fill part of the gap — nearly 72,000 have returned so far, and over 1 lakh more are expected, many of them having lost their jobs to the pandemic distress.

"All sectors are feeling the shortage as we ease restrictions. After the lockdown, 3 lakh workers left for their home states... many are still going back. Over 5 lakh workers had left before the lockdown. Many are willing to return when normal train services resume, and employers are ready to offer quarantine facilities," says Ramakrishnan, a senior CPM leader.

**Over 3 lakh migrants left during lockdown, state is looking at Gulf returnees. AP file**

"Now, our hope is that at least a section of expats returning from the Middle East will fill the

vacuum for skilled and unskilled work. We are encouraging them to sign up with the skill registry,"

he says.

The construction industry is the worst-hit. "About 90 per cent of unskilled work and 40 per cent of semi-skilled jobs is done by migrants. The crisis will become more severe," warns George Thomas, general secretary, Kerala Builders Association.

For instance, a construction site in Thiruvananthapuram, which had employed 2,000 migrant workers, has only 300 left. Uralungal Labour Contract Co-operative Society, a leading firm engaged in government projects, had 4,000 workers. "Now we have 1,000. We have begun a recruitment drive for local workers, including those who lost their jobs in the Middle East," says

Shaju S, the managing director.

In central Kerala, the sawmill and plywood industry, which had turned Ernakulam district into a migrant hub, is tottering.

"Manufacturing has come down to 40 per cent. Many units had employed workers from a particular state as a group. They have all gone back. Those remaining are demanding higher wages," says Azees Pandiarypillai, general secretary, Sawmill Owners and Plywood Manufacturers Association.

In farming, the clock is ticking because most of the work happens in sync with the monsoon. In Palakkad, which is known as the state's granary, officials expect paddy cultivation to be se-

verely hit. "Most of the rice planting is done by migrants from Bengal and Tamil Nadu. Many have left while others are affected by the curbs on inter-state movement," says a local official.

Pineapple Growers Association president Baby John says that every June, the sector undertakes new planting on around 15,000 acres. "This time, it will not be more than 3,000 acres," he says.

All is not lost yet, says George Mathew, who works among migrants under the Progressive Labour Movement for Justice. "We have started getting calls from workers willing to return because of the better wages," he says.

WEB EXCLUSIVE



WHEN FEAR LEADS TO FAITH: THE DISEASE GODS OF INDIA

Resorting to faith in times of distress has been an inherent human reaction since the beginning of civilisation. In India worship of Goddess Hariti, Sitala, Ola Bibi has been prevalent to ward off diseases

VIDEO OF THE DAY



EXAMINING HOSPITALS IN THE CAPITAL

Delhi's Covi-19 Burari hospital far from ready for any situation

FULL COVERAGE



HOW INDIA, CHINA STACK UP

Present situation has fuelled fears of a military confrontation

FROM PAGE ONE

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The “voice of people firing” was also captured in the recording, police claim, adding that they have asked for CCTV footage from the PWD department.

"Once the patient is assigned a bed, the focus shifts to how responsive the hospital is in providing ventilator or non-invasive oxygen support to the person. In TN and Karnataka, oxygen has saved people, not ventilators," the source said.

THE OUTBREAK

THE CITY

BRIEFLY

17 Mandoli Jail inmates test positive

New Delhi: Two days after the Covid-19 test result of an inmate who had passed away at Delhi's Mandoli Jail came positive, at least 17 inmates who shared the barrack with him have tested positive for the virus. Delhi Prisons DG Sandeep Goel said, "These inmates were tested and their results came on Monday, which showed that 17 have tested positive for the virus. They have been shifted to a separate barrack, and are being closely monitored by the jail doctor. So far, their health is alright."

E-register to enter Haryana

Gurgaon: People coming to Haryana for 72 hours or more will have to now register online before entering the state, as per a direction issued by the Haryana State Disaster Management Authority. "The Authority has decided to control the inter-state movement in view of the protection of health of the common people, due to increasing cases of coronavirus," said Deputy Commissioner Amit Khatri.

District teams strengthened

New Delhi: Delhi government plans to strengthen the district-level surveillance teams, which will now comprise of representatives from Delhi Police, MCD, district surveillance officers, IT professionals for Aarogya Setu, members from medical colleges and department of education and youth.

Protest outside DU V-C office

New Delhi: About a dozen students and teachers protesting against the Delhi University's decision to hold open book exams were detained by police from outside the Vice-Chancellor's office Monday.

Jarwal aide gets bail

New Delhi: A Delhi court granted interim bail to Kapil Nagar, who was arrested along with AAP MLA Prakash Jarwal in connection with the alleged suicide of a South Delhi doctor, noting that his father has tested positive for coronavirus. **ENS**

AFTER COST WAS CAPPED AT Rs 2,400

Pvt labs stop home collection of samples, say too expensive

ASTHA SAXENA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

DAYS AFTER the Ministry of Home Affairs capped charges of RT-PCR tests for Covid-19 at Rs 2,400 in Delhi, several top private labs have stopped home collection of samples. The move could impact the number of RT-PCR tests being performed in the city and add to the hassles of people who don't want to or are unable to visit collection centres. The test used to earlier cost Rs 4,500.

At present, Delhi carries out 20,247 tests per million population.

On Monday, *The Indian Express* spoke to several private labs who confirmed they are no longer taking samples from home. "Lifting a sample from a patient's home requires a separate PPE kit, gown, goggles, mask, gloves, vial transport medium, etc. All this is spent on a single person who is risking his life to attend to a suspected patient, but the rates fixed by the government are not at all cost-effective. We have completely stopped home collection services and are requesting patients to visit the collection centre," said a private lab owner, who did not wish



At present, Delhi carries out 20,247 tests per million population. *Praveen Khanna*

to be named.

A representative from a private hospital in Delhi said the lab is only testing samples sent by the government.

The MHA capped rates on June 17 based on a report by a committee headed by NITA Aayog member Dr V K Paul, which has also fixed treatment charges at private hospitals.

An order by the state health department on June 18 stated, "The rates of Covid RT-PCR test in Delhi has been fixed at Rs 2,400 per test inclusive of GST/taxes, if

any, cost involved in picking up and transportation of samples, documentation and reporting, with immediate effect."

Earlier, as per the rates set by the government, private labs would be paid Rs 4,500 if they collected the sample using their own kits; Rs 3,500 if the government collected the samples and the private labs used their kits to test it; and Rs 2,200 if the government collected the sample and provided the test kit as well.

On May 25, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) had

removed the price cap for Covid-19 tests and wrote to all state governments to fix the costs after consulting stakeholders for RT-PCR testing. In Maharashtra, the government has set different rates—Rs 2,200 for swabs collected and sent to the lab, Rs 2,500 if patient goes to the lab and Rs 2,800 for home collection.

"The revised charges of Rs 2,400 are inclusive of everything. What will we pay our staff who go to collect the samples? We pay Rs 700-800 to the staffer who visits houses... The government should give us some leeway for home collection services. It's no longer feasible for us. We are waiting if slabs will be followed in Delhi like in Maharashtra," said another private lab owner in the city.

At present, 42 labs are authorised to perform RT-PCR tests in the city. To enhance testing capacity, the city's 11 districts have each been assigned labs for exclusively testing samples to ensure timely testing and getting results without delay.

The city has also received a go-ahead from the Centre to start rapid antigen testing.

Till June 22, a total of 3,84,696 tests had been carried out.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

THE DELHI High Court Monday asked the Delhi government to try and increase Covid-19 testing via rapid antigen tests (RAT), in view of rising cases in the capital.

Bench of Justices Hima Kohli and Subramonium Prasad said daily RAT numbers were "abysmal" as they were not reaching 50% of the target of 22,000 tests per day set by the government. "See if you can expand RAT numbers. Looking at the rate the (Covid) numbers are going up, the sooner you do, the better," it said.

The court was hearing a plea by advocate Rakesh Malhotra, who sought directions to the government to ramp up testing facilities for symptomatic and asymptomatic patients.

The city on Monday saw 2,909 new cases, taking the total count to 62,655. The toll is 2,333, with 58 deaths seen in the last 24 hours.

The court's observation came after Delhi government additional standing counsel Satyakam submitted that as of June 18, 15,012 samples were collected — 7,040 samples tested through RAT and 7,972 through RT-PCR test. On June 21, 13,345 samples were collected — 9,356 tested through RAT and 3,989 through RT-PCR.

He also said the government has targeted conducting 22,000

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

THE DELHI High Court on Monday put on hold a trial court order granting bail to the owner of a school who was arrested in connection with the Northeast Delhi riots, ordering that if he is "still in custody, he shall not be released".

Justice Suresh Kumar Kait passed the interim order on a plea filed by the Delhi Police against the trial court's June 20 order, by which Faisal Farooq, owner of Rajdhani Public School, was granted bail.

Since Farooq was still in custody, he was not released.

Granting bail to Farooq, the trial court had observed that the police "chargesheet is bereft of material showing the links of applicant with PFI, Pinjra Tod group and Muslim clerics".

The court also said, "It is prima facie not established that the applicant was present at the spot at the time of incident".

The High Court hearing, which was conducted through the video conferencing, also witnessed strong opposition from Delhi government's standing counsel (criminal) Rahul Mehra, over the petition filed by central government counsel on behalf of the Delhi Police.

Mehra submitted that the central government has no

CORONAVIRUS IN THE CAPITAL



TOTAL CASES: **62,655** | NEW CASES: **2,909**

	Cases	Recovered	Deaths	Tests
June 20	3,630	7,725	77	17,533
June 21	3,000	1,719	63	18,105
June 22	2,909	3,589	58	14,682
Total	23,820*	36,602	2,233	3,84,696

*Total active cases

RATs per day (2,000 tests each in 11 districts). The bench observed, "Figures of testing done from June 18 onwards are abysmal. The Delhi government has not conducted more than 50% of tests."

Satyakam said the court may examine figures after testing has been conducted till June 25.

As per the Delhi government, 19% of cases are being reported from containment zones. Officials said an epidemiological analysis of new cases shows that a majority of them are presenting as isolated sporadic cases and then becoming cluster cases. It said 45% of cases are showing features of clustering.

The government has also issued fresh SOPs for management of Covid positive patients. As per the L-G's order, all who test positive will have to first report to Covid care centres.

Those who test positive in the rapid antigen test will be exam-

ined by the medical officer at the testing site to assess severity of illness. The officer will provide an oximeter and explain home isolation guidelines to patients with mild symptoms/are pre-symptomatic. If such patients cannot home isolate, they will be sent to Covid care centres. Those with moderate/severe illness will be referred to hospitals, and those with mild symptoms and comorbidities like diabetes and hypertension will be shifted to Covid health centres or hospitals.

Those who undergo RT-PCR tests will be tracked by a team of district surveillance officers. If they are under home isolation, the team will make calls for at least 9 days. Another team will work on contact tracing. Officials said patients will be asked for a contact who could be the source of infection in the last 7-10 days. Those who need to be shifted to hospitals/health centres will be taken via ambulances.

Police oppose Safoora bail: Pregnancy is no ground

PRITAM PAL SINGH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

SAFOORA ZARGAR'S pregnancy cannot be grounds to grant her bail, the Delhi Police told the High Court Monday, while opposing the plea by the Jamia Coordination Committee's media coordinator, who has been arrested in a case related to communal violence in Northeast Delhi.

The contention was made in the status report filed by Delhi Police's counsels Amit Mahajan and Rajat Nair before Justice Rajiv Shukhder, who was hearing the bail plea.

The 27-year-old was arrested by the Special Cell on April 10 and is facing a UAPA case in connection with the riots. In her bail plea, she raised her pregnancy as one of the grounds for relief.

Police, in its response, submitted that as many as "39 deliveries have taken place in Delhi prisons in the last 10 years".

"Insofar as ground of pregnancy by the accused to seek bail from this court is concerned, it is respectfully submitted that it is not even the case of the petitioner that she is not being granted proper care during custody."

"It is submitted that... there is no exception carved out for pregnant inmate who is accused of such heinous crime to be released on bail merely because of their pregnancy. To the contrary, the law provides for adequate



Safoora Zargar

safeguards and medical attention during their custody in jail..." police said in their status report.

"It is submitted that the very fact of rearing of life ought to have been a check on activities which had a potential to cause, and which did in fact cause, large-scale destruction of life and property," it said.

The hearing was adjourned for Tuesday.

The hearing also witnessed exchange of words between the Delhi government's senior standing counsel (criminal) Rahul Mehra and additional solicitor general (ASG) Aman Lekhi.

Mehra objected to Solicitor General (SG) Tushar Mehta and ASG Lekhi's appearance in Zargar's bail plea, submitting that unlike other Delhi violence matters — in which requisite approval was sought by Delhi Police to be represented by a team of lawyers led by the SG —

no such procedure was followed in this case.

Mehra submitted that Delhi Police should move for requisite approval from the competent government authority and they will get approval. He said, "Police want different counsel, as they know that I will have a different view. I will have a more humanitarian approach in such matters and will not act as per their whims and fancies."

"Am I supposed to be the mouthpiece of the Delhi Police? I am an officer of the court. As a prosecutor, I don't have to toe the line of the prosecuting agency. I will have to function independently," Mehra said.

ASG Lekhi replied: "The client chooses the lawyer. It is not that the lawyer imposes himself on the client." Lekhi said this controversy would deviate the court from the issue at hand and Mehra's objection can be kept aside in this case.

After both law officers made their submissions, the court said the petitioner is not concerned about who will appear for the Delhi Police. "Settle your battle outside the court," the judge said.

Zargar's counsel Nitya Ramakrishnan, meanwhile, sought interim bail on the ground that her client is in a delicate state and is in a fairly advanced stage of her pregnancy.

After the trial court on June 4 dismissed her bail application, Zargar had moved the HC against the order.

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REGISTRAR

French envoy visits fair price shop with Delhi food minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

FRENCH ENVOY to India Emmanuel Lenain Monday visited a ration shop in the Tughlaqabad assembly constituency with Delhi Food Minister Imran Hussain.

Lenain said the French government was supporting an initiative under which even migrants are covered under the ambit of food security in a state.

"Visited a Fair Price Shop—the core of India's social security system. The €200M funding of the French Development Agency is well spent! France is lending support to ensure that even people who are not registered as residents in a state can avail of subsidised food supplies," Lenain tweeted.

There are 2,030 fair price shops in Delhi under the PDS network, which covers around 71 lakh beneficiaries. Hussain,



Emmanuel Lenain and Imran Hussain at Tughlaqabad

along with senior officials of the government, gave a brief presentation to the French delegates about the various initiatives of the administration regarding food and civil supply.

"The ambassador was appreciative of the efforts undertaken by the Delhi Government and expressed satisfaction that benefits reached targeted sections of the society during the situation arisen due to Covid-19," the government said in a statement.

EXPRESS

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13.	Deputy Manager (Stressed Assets Marketing)	3	MMGS II		
14.	Vice President (Stressed Assets Marketing)	1	-----	Contractual	CRPD/SCO/2020-21/04
15.	Chief Officer (Security)	1	-----	Contractual	CRPD/SCO/2020-21/05
16.	Deputy Manager (IS Audit)	8	MMGS II	Regular	CRPD/SCO/2020-21/06
17.	Manager (Anytime Channels)	1	MMGS III	Regular	CRPD/SCO/2020-21/09
18.	Banking Supervisory Specialist	1	-----	Contractual	
19.	Executive (FI & MM)	241	-----		
20.	Sr. Executive (Social Banking & CSR)	85	-----	Contractual	CRPD/SCO/2020-21/10
21.	Sr. Executive (Digital Relation)	2	-----		
22.	Sr. Executive (Analytics)	2	-----	Contractual	CRPD/SCO/2020-21/11
23.	Sr. Executive (Digital Marketing)	2	-----		
24.	Faculty SBIL Kolkata	3	-----	Contractual	CRPD/SCO-STU/2020-21/17

Eligibility criteria (age, qualification, experience, etc.), requisite fees and other details are provided under the respective detailed advertisement mentioned above on Bank's website <https://bank.sbi/careers> OR <https://www.sbi.co.in/careers> along with a link for online submission of application as well as online payment of application fee. Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement, ensuring their eligibility and other details before applying and remitting fees.

Date For Filing Online Application & Payment Of Fees: 23.06.2020 To 13.07.2020

For any query, please write to us through link "CONTACT US" → "Post Your Query" which is available on Bank's website (URL- <https://bank.sbi/careers> OR <https://sbi.co.in/careers>). Please ensure to mention the Advertisement No. and name of the post in the email subject.

Place: Mumbai
Date: 23.06.2020

General Manager (CRPD)

Woman stabbed to death in Ghaziabad market

AMIL BHATNAGAR
GHAZIABAD, JUNE 22

A 23-YEAR-OLD popular TikTok content creator was arrested by Ghaziabad Police on Monday for allegedly killing a 19-year-old woman. Police said the accused, Sheru Khan, a resident of Delhi, stabbed Naina to death in a Ghaziabad market Wednesday, allegedly for refusing to marry him. Ghaziabad Police has arrested six persons in connection with the case so far.

"A murder had been carried out by Sheru Khan and his accomplices on June 17. Three of his associates had been arrested within 24 hours... On Monday, we arrested the main accused and two of his relatives, who had given him shelter... The accused was carrying a reward of Rs 20,000," said SSP Ghaziabad Kalanidhi Naithani.

The victim's family told police that Naina, along with her parents, had gone to a market in Tila Mor when masked men approached her. Initially an argument broke out, which soon turned violent, and the accused allegedly stabbed Naina multiple times, police said. The accused soon absconded, while Naina was rushed to a hospital, where she was declared dead on arrival, police said.

"Sheru and Naina had possibly become acquaintances on social media a couple of years ago. It appears that Sheru could not digest the fact that Naina was going to get married to another man... In fact, his intention was to convince her to elope with him but when she refused, he got angry and stabbed her," said Keshav Kumar, Circle Officer, Sahibabad.

Naina was pursuing a nursing course and was residing in Vivek Vihar Colony. She was due to get married on June 20, police said. Other accused, Asif (22) and Amir (20), allegedly helped Sheru carry out the murder and were the first to be arrested.

With 4 lakh followers and 40 lakh likes on his videos, Sheru Khan was popular on Tik Tok. On June 13, he uploaded a video in which he plays with a wedding ring over a keyboard and it eventually stops at the letter N, purportedly hinting at Naina's name.

Man posing as doctor willing to donate plasma arrested for duping Delhi assembly speaker

SOMYA LAKHANI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

ON JUNE 19, Vidhan Sabha speaker Ram Niwas Goel transferred Rs 450 cab charge to the account of a man who claimed to be a "Covid-19 survivor, a doctor at RML hospital" and was willing to donate plasma to his neighbour's elderly father at Gurgaon's Medanta hospital — only to be duped.

A day later, Goel submitted a written complaint to police. On Monday, the accused, Abdul Karim (22), was arrested.

DCP (North) Monika Bhardwaj said, "During investigation, he disclosed that he adopted this modus operandi of cheating people on the pretext of donating blood and plasma. He would misrepresent himself



The accused sought Rs 450 from Ram Niwas Goel (R) as cab fare. Once money was sent, he stopped answering calls



as a doctor, pretend to be a plasma donor and ask for money in the guise of travelling expenses to reach the hospital where the patient is admitted. After the online payment, he would stop taking their calls."

Goel said he came to know about Karim, who posed as a Dr

Rahul Thakur, through his nephew, who came to know about him via social media.

The Speaker told *The Indian Express*, "My nephew's father-in-law needed blood plasma as he had contracted Covid-19. He posted about it on social media and was approached by this

man, who posed as a doctor with the medicine department at RML hospital. He said he had recovered from the virus and could donate. Luckily, my nephew managed to get another donor. On June 19, I received a call from my neighbour in Civil Lines who was looking for a plasma donor for his father. My nephew gave me the number of this man."

Goel said he spoke to the accused, who told him that "he is among the four doctors at RML hospital who are willing to donate plasma. He asked for Rs 450 cab fare, which I sent so he could reach Medanta hospital. I found it odd that a doctor was asking for cab money, but assumed he was maybe a junior resident doctor who needed financial help. I sent him the cash transfer receipt via phone but he kept saying that he hadn't received

the payment. After that, he switched off his phone and never showed up."

On June 20, Goel filed a complaint at the Civil Lines police station. On June 22, Karim was arrested from South Delhi's Pul Prahladpur, where he lives, using technical surveillance.

DCP Bhardwaj said, "The accused said he's been doing this for a few weeks. He has no aides. He said he's duped more people; we are investigating the matter."

Goel said the complaint was n't about the money. "In this case, the man played with someone's life. My neighbour wasted four hours, his father's condition deteriorated. Here's a family desperately looking for a plasma donor for 12 hours, and this man chose to fool them. Thankfully, we found another donor and the patient is doing well now."

At protest to burn Chinese goods, some made-in-China links

ABHINAV RAJPUT & SHIVAM PATEL
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

MANY WHO were part of a gathering to burn Chinese goods at Karol Bagh market on Monday have businesses that sell or rely on made-in-China products — though all of them claim they hope to change that going forward.

The protest was held by traders' body Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), led by its secretary general Praveen Khandelwal. Around 10 protesting traders were briefly detained by police.

Khandelwal (59), who had fought the 2008 assembly polls on a BJP ticket from Chandni Chowk, has a hardware and fittings shop in Karol Bagh. He claims he has not sold Chinese goods for four years, and that the body will push to end Chinese products when it comes to FMCG items, consumer durables, builder hardware, kitchen accessories and subsequently technological goods. "Ultimately Chinese will have to go," he said.

But for Rajesh Verma (44), the Delhi vice-president of CAIT, Chinese products are a part and parcel of what he does. Verma



Around 10 traders who took part in the protest at Karol Bagh were detained by the police briefly. Prem Nath Pandey

said he sells boxes for packaging garments in Gandhi Nagar, and raw material such as paper, duplex and lamination material also comes from China — but he is ready to bear the losses. "Business is down due to Covid so this is also an opportunity to start mills that have been closed and manufacture raw material in India only," he said.

Ashish Grover (48), Delhi general secretary of the organisation, runs a wholesale medicine business at Bhagirath Place. He said he does not buy Chinese products, but pharmaceutical companies he deals with do so. He said the Chinese

business environment is more conducive because they give land at cheap rates and technological help, while in India there are bureaucratic hurdles for people trying to enter a business. "The government needs to make the model more conducive for traders," he said.

Mahender Gupta, convener of CAIT's hotel division, owns a hotel in Karol Bagh and also runs an auto parts business there. He is also a BJP karyakarta.

"In hotels, we keep furniture and electronic goods made in China. But we have now vowed that we would not buy any Chinese product. In terms of auto parts, for the last 10 years, I have only been dealing in Indian products," he said.

Gupta said he is in talks with several budget hotels in Karol Bagh to stop taking bookings from Chinese nationals.

Satender Wadhwa, Delhi general secretary of CAIT, owns stores selling wristwatches and garments. On whether his suppliers have China links, he said: "We will initiate dialogue with these companies and our suppliers and discourage them in dealing with China while also trying to persuade them to set up their manufacturing units in India."



BALANCING ACT

A worker loads a bike onto a bus near Laxmi Nagar at Noida-Delhi border. Gajendra Yadav

ICAR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON GOATS
MAKHDOOM, P.O. FARAH-281 122, MATHURA U.P.
Phone: 0565-2763380, 2763327 Fax No. 0565-2763246
F. No. 5-12(3)/CP&C/2020 Dated: 22nd June, 2020

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The Director, ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, P.O. Farah-281122, Mathura (UP), invites e-tenders for the Hiring of JCB and Tractor Trolleys for various works at ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom.

Interested bidders may visit for the details on our Institute's website www.cirg.res.in and CPP (Central Procurement Portal); www.eprocure.gov.in)

ASSTT. ADMN. OFFICER
FOR & ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTOR

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)
Tender Notice No.: 03/2020-21

UMB division of northern railway invites Open tender through E-tendering system from eligible agencies who fulfill qualification criteria as stipulated in tender document for "Implementation & certification of integrated management system as per ISO 9001:2015, 14001:2015 & 45001:2018 at Northern Railway MEMU Car Shed, Saharanpur".

The key details are as follows:

Open Tender No.	30-EL-MEMU-T-03-20-21
Name of works	Implementation & certification of integrated management system as per ISO 9001:2015, 14001:2015 & 45001:2018 at Northern Railway MEMU Car Shed, Saharanpur.
Approximate Cost	₹ 1,85,000/-
Earnest Money	₹ 3,700/-
Completion Period	36 (Thirty Six) Month from the date of issue of the letter of acceptance.
Validity of offer	45 days.
Tender papers issued by	Sr.DEE/MEMU/SRE.
Date of closing/opening	21.07.2020 at 10:30 Hrs./thereafter.
Cost of tender document	₹ 1000/- (Non refundable and not transferable).

NOTE:- 1) The required earnest money and tender document cost will only be accepted through on line payment mode available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. up to tender closing date and time. 2) Manual payments through demand draft, banker cheque, deposit receipt, FDR etc are not allowed. Offers which are not complying above will be considered invalid. 3) Tender must provide validity of the offer for 45 (forty five) days from the date of opening of tender. 4) Public procure order 2017 issued by Rly. Board vide L. No. 2015/RS(G)/779/5 Dt. 16.03.2018 shall be followed. 5) The tender can be seen or upload on web portal as under: <https://www.ireps.gov.in> **1406/20**

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-TENDER NOTICE No. Pub./Media Monitoring/PL1(OT) DATE: 18.06.2020

E-tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India from reputed Advertising Agencies who are presently empanelled with any Zonal Railways/Production Units and reputed film makers who have done these kind of work for any Zonal Railways/Production Units for the following works: SI. No. [01]; Tender No. Pub./Media Monitoring/PL1(OT) DATE : 18.06.2020; Name of the work: "Engagement of agency for work related to Print Media, Electronic Media & Social Media monitoring and preparation of news clippings etc. works on daily basis for a period of 12 months"; Tender value (₹) : Rupees 10,56,000/- (Rupees ten lakhs fifty six thousand) only including GST; Cost of tender document (₹) : Rupees 2,000/- (Rupees two thousand) only; Earnest money (₹) : Rupees 21,100/- (Rupees twenty one thousand one hundred) only. NOTE: (i) Date of closing : 21.07.2020 at 13.00 hrs. (ii) Complete details can be seen in the Railways website www.ireps.gov.in & www.ctw.indianrailways.gov.in (iii) Contact Number : 9163340004

Sr. PRO
AD76-042
CLW/CHITTARANJAN

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JHARKHAND MANTRALYA
DPRD BUILDING
DHURWA, RANCHI-834004.

OFFICE OF THE D.G. & I.G. OF POLICE
Bid Ref. No.: 02/2020-21

IG of Police (Provision), Jharkhand Police Headquarters Ranchi, invites sealed Technical & Commercial Bids on behalf of Office of the D.G & I.G of Police, Government of Jharkhand For "Annual Maintenance Contract" of the IT Equipments To Jharkhand Police.

"Annual Maintenance Contract" of IT equipments as per the given in the bill of materials in the tender documents.

A complete set of Bid Documents may be purchased by any interested eligible Bidder on the submission of a written application to the IG Provision Jharkhand Police Head Quarter, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004 upon payment of a non refundable fee of **Rs. 2500/- (Rupees Two Thousand Five Hundred only)** in the form of Demand Draft in favor of IG Provision Jharkhand Police, Ranchi, payable at Ranchi. The Bid Document may be purchased personally during office hours on all working days from 13.07.2020. Bidder can also download the Tender document from Jharkhand Police Website www.jhpolice.gov.in in case the tender downloaded the bidder has to enclosed a demand draft of Rs. 2500/- (Rupees Two Thousand Five Hundred only) in favour of IG of Police (Provision) along with the tender document.

Interested and eligible Bidders are required to submit the Technical and Commercial Bids in two separate sealed envelopes. The Technical and Commercial Bids should be accompanied by a bid security as specified in this Bid Document. The Bid Security (In the form of Demand Draft or Bank Guarantee) should be included in the same envelope containing the Technical Bid. The Technical and Commercial Bids along with the Bid Security must be delivered to IG Provision Jharkhand Police head quarter, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004 on or before **27.07.2020 till 3.00 pm**.

The envelope containing the Technical Bid and the Bid Security will be opened on the specified date & time in the presence of the Bidders or their authorized representatives who choose to attend. In the event of the date specified for bid receipt and opening being declared as a holiday for the Office, the due date for submission and opening of bids will be the following working day at the appointed times.

The summary of various activities with regard to this invitation of bids are listed in the table below:-

1	Bid Reference No.	02/2020-21
2	Price of Tender Document	Rs. 2500/-
3	Pre-bid Meeting	20.07.2020 at 11.30 am
4	Last date & Time for submission of Bids	Till 3.00 pm on 27.07.2020
5	Date & Time of opening of bids	4.00 pm on 27.07.2020

Bidder can participate or send Pre-Bid inquiry from e-mail on ig-prov@jhpolice.gov.in. Inquiry must receive in specified Time (Till 10.30 am on 20.07.2020).

I.G. of Police (Provision)
Jharkhand, Ranchi.
PR 229753 (Police) 20-21 (D)

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of Work and its location	30-Elect-11-T-2020-21-E3 Electrical work for replacement of lever frames with electronic interlocking of KIY-KLE-PHWR stations of NRW-KKDE section.
Approx cost of the works in	Rs. 22.22 lacs
Address of the office	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
Earnest Money	Rs.44500.00
Date & time of submission of tender	14.07.2020, 15.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender	14.07.2020, 15.00 Hrs.
Website & notice board	www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
	1402/2020

Serving Customers With A Smile

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD
(Power Wing)

CORRIGENDUM-IV Notice Inviting e-Tender
NIT No.: 01/BBMB, PPH Dated 01.01.2020

Name of office: Superintending Engineer, Pong Power House Circle, BBMB (PW), Talwara.

Name of Work: Design, Manufacture, Testing, Supply, Delivery for destination site. Erection site testing & Commissioning of SCADA compatible one No. L.T. Panels & Retrofitting of one No. MCCB Breaker in Existing LT Panel and Dismantling of One No. Existing Panel and Laying of control cable & Power cable (To be provided by BBMB) at Pong Power House, Talwara.

Documents Download Start date & Time	11.06.2020 from 16:00 Hrs.
Documents Download End date & Time	01.07.2020 up to 16:00 Hrs.
Last Date & Time of Online Bid Submission	13.07.2020 up to 17:00 Hrs.
Date & Time of Online Bid Opening	14.07.2020 at 15:00 Hrs.

For detailed NIT & Earnest Money to be deposited please visit BBMB website <https://bbmbproc.abcpocure.com> & www.bbmb.gov.in.

670-PR-Generation-6 For Your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA,
"e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT

E-mail : ceworldbankprojects@gmail.com

Bid Identification No. CE-WBP (O)- 05/2020-21

- The Chief Engineer (World Bank Projects), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE form eligible contractors for Road work as mentioned below :
- Nature of work : Road work
- No. of work : 01 No.
- Tender Paper cost : Rs. 10,000.00 /each
- Class of Contractor : Special/ Super Class as noted against work
- Available of bid document in the website : From 10.00 A.M. of 27.06.2020 to 05.00 P.M. of 13.07.2020.
- Date of opening of Bid : 11.30 A.M on 14.07.2020.
- The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <https://tenderodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (World Bank Project),
Odisha
OIPR-34003/11/0006/2021

LAXMI NAGAR ROBBERY

80-year-old living alone killed at home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

AN 80-YEAR-OLD man was killed in a break-in at his Laxmi Nagar apartment, with the accused, who are yet to be identified, robbing the victim's cash and valuables. Police said the body of K P Agarwal was found on Monday morning.

This is the second case of murder and robbery in the last 24 hours. On Saturday night, an 88-year-old woman was killed, allegedly by a security guard and his three associates, in Safdarjung Enclave. Her 94-year-old husband, a retired MEA official, was also attacked.

Agarwal lived alone and is survived by his son, who is in Dubai, and two daughters, who live in Indrapuram and Bengaluru, said police. His neighbour called police around 10.30 am Monday after finding the front door open and Agarwal on the floor. DCP (East) Jasmeet Singh said, "The police team found him lying there, dead. In his bedroom, the wardrobe was open and some articles were found missing." Police suspect the accused fled with gold jewellery and cash but they haven't been able to estimate the loot.

There were no visible injuries on the man's body. A senior police officer said he may have been smothered to death on Sunday night, but investigators are await-



K P Agarwal was found dead by neighbours

ing the post-mortem report to ascertain the cause of death. Agarwal's neighbours said he ran a washing machine service and repair store on the ground floor of the building.

According to police, Agarwal's son called him on Sunday night and Monday morning. When his father didn't pick up, his son called the store manager to go and check on him. By then, neighbours had found him dead.

Police sources said the door of his office was also unlocked. The family has alleged the accused took valuables from the store and the house.

Police are questioning employees at the store and the domestic help. A senior police officer said, "We are scanning CCTV's and call detail records of the victim and his staff."

Agarwal's nephew, Anil Azad, said, "My uncle has been living alone for the past eight years after his wife died. We had been telling him to shift to Dubai but he told us he didn't want to leave Delhi. I live nearby and would meet him often."

Doctor assaulted in Dwarka clinic

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

A DOCTOR was allegedly beaten up by a group of four-five men at his clinic in Dwarka's Bindapur area Saturday. Police said one of the accused wanted to take "revenge" on the doctor for "telling neighbours that his family is infected" after his father's death due to Covid-19.

In his complaint, Dr Avtar Hansa alleged that he and a patient who was there for consultation were attacked by the group, who also ransacked the clinic and stole valuable documents. "They threatened me to shut the clinic," he further alleged.

Police said the four accused barged into the clinic at 9.20 pm and beat up the doctor and his patient with rods and sharp weapons. DCP (Dwarka) Anto Alphonse said a case was registered on the complaint of the doctor under sections of trespass, violence and criminal intimidation. "We arrested two of the accused and are investigating the matter,"

said the DCP. The accused, Sukhjinder Singh and Jeetender, were arrested from their residence in Bindapur.

Singh told police that his father died last Thursday and Dr Hansa allegedly told his neighbours and others in the area that the entire family is infected and needs to be hospitalised.

A senior police officer said, "Singh was angry because his neighbours and RWA members started harassing him and his family. He told us he wasn't unwell. Later, he decided to teach the doctor a lesson and went to the clinic along with three of his friends." Police haven't been able to verify Singh's allegations and are probing the matter.

Dr Hansa denied the claims: "I was looking after two patients in the area, who were later shifted to a private hospital, where one of them died due to Covid. I was told by doctors about the death. It was my duty to tell the relatives and that's all I did. I called Singh and his brothers and told them about their father's death and asked them about their health."

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of work and its location	30-Elect-12-T-2020-21-E3 Electrical work in connection with construction of multi sports complex at Karnail Singh Stadium.
Approx cost of the works in	Rs. 7.99 lacs
Address of the office	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.
Earnest Money	Rs. 16000.00
Date & time of submission of tender	16.07.2020, 15.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender	16.07.2020, 15.00 Hrs.
Website & notice board	www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.
	1403/2020

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

HARYANA GOVERNMENT
TENDER NOTICE

SR. NO. 1.
NAME OF BOARD/CORP/AUTH: GMDA GURUGRAM
NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER: CONNECTION OF SURFACE DRAIN TO MASTER STORM WATER DRAIN.
OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME): 19.06.2020 26.06.2020
AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES: 85180/-
WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH: <https://www.gmda.gov.in>
NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/E-MAIL: xen2intra2.gmda@gov.in

SR. NO. 2.
NAME OF BOARD/CORP/AUTH: MHU KARNAL
NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER: THE TENDERER, WHO WILL BE AWARDED THE CONTRACT ON THE BASIS OF SERVICE CHARGES & OTHER PRESCRIBED CRITERIA WITH THE APPROVAL OF COMPETENT AUTHORITY.
OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME): 20.06.2020 27.06.2020
AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES: 100 LACS
WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH: www.mhu.ac.in
NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/E-MAIL: 70159-98911@infomhu.hry@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT:
www.haryanaprocmgmt.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

81383/HRY

HARYANA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Haryana Undertaking)

Bays No. 59-62, Sector-2, Panchkula, Phone: 0172-2590608

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (NIT)

HMCSL invites E-tenders for two years Rate Contract for Genexpert Machine along with their Cartridge and Various Items of Gas Manifold Department and B-Type Oxygen Cylinder on the website: www.etenders.hry.nic.in. Please see Corrigendum if any regarding these tenders on the website: www.etenders.hry.nic.in only.

Managing Director,
HMSCL, Panchkula.

81383/HRY



SERVICE FOR THE STATE JUSTICE FOR ALL SPECIAL CARE FOR THE MARGINALIZED SECTIONS

FULFILLING ITS PROMISES THROUGHOUT
CHHATTISGARH GOVERNMENT

CHHATTISGARH EMERGING AS A ROLE MODEL WITH THE WELFARE SCHEMES INITIATED FOR THE LABORERS, TRIBAL FOREST DWELLERS & FARMERS BY **CHIEF MINISTER MR.BHUPESH BAGHEL**. THE STATE OF CHHATTISGARH HAS EMERGED AS AN EXEMPLARY AND EMPOWERED STATE SINCE PAST ONE AND HALF YEAR, SETTING NEW GOALS & BREAKING NEW RECORDS. **CHIEF MINISTER MR.BHUPESH BAGHEL** HAS ALWAYS LED SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE UPLIFTMENT OF THE MARGINALIZED, VULNERABLE AND THE DOWNTRODDEN, THE ONES WHICH ARE NOT ABLE TO RAISE THEIR VOICE.

FARMERS : REVIVAL OF RURAL ECONOMY WITH DBT OF 5750 CRORE RS. INTO THE FARMERS' POCKET.

More than 19 lakh farmers to be benefited by 'Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojna' which will directly inject a sum of 5750 Crore Rs. into their pockets. First installment has already been deposited in the farmers accounts and the second installment will be initiated on 20th August.

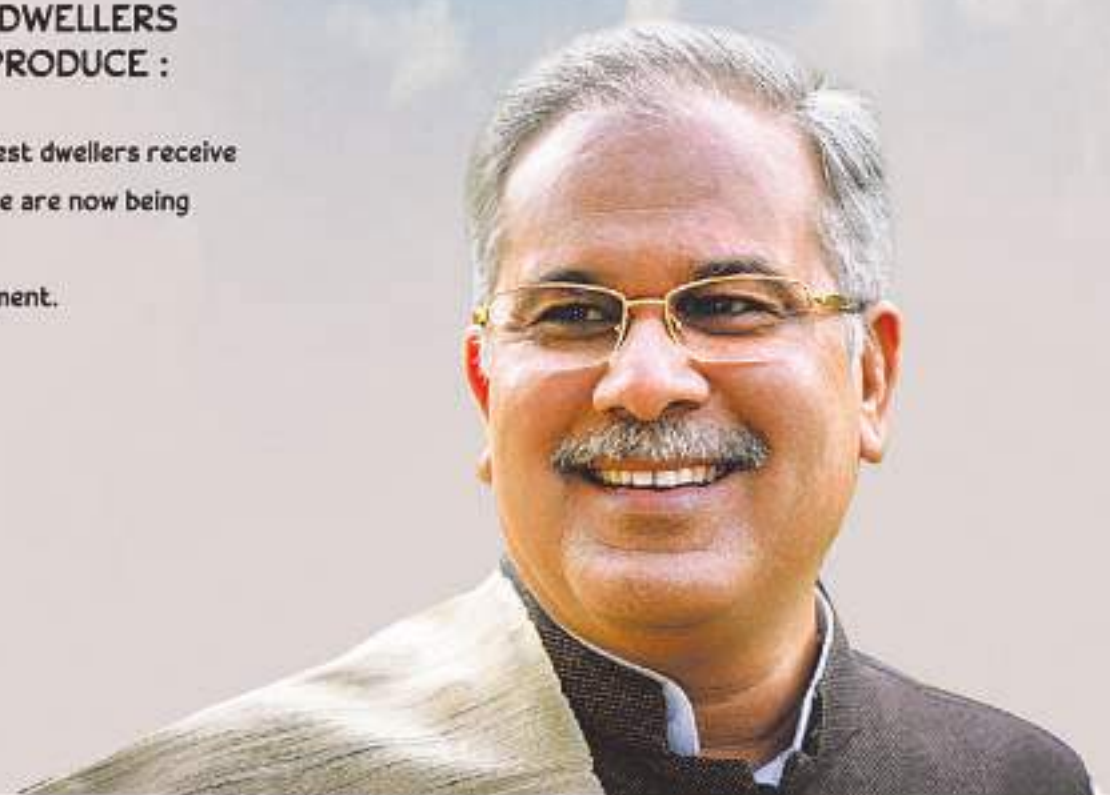
MGNREGA OR INCREASING EMPLOYMENT RATE : CG SETS THE ROLE MODEL:

By providing employment to lakhs of laborers , The state of Chhattisgarh was appreciated for its incredible achievement throughout the nation. Payment of wages worth more than 1400 Crore Rs. initiated for the laborers. 60% work completed out of the set target for the current year. Respectful Return of 5.51 lakh migrant laborers back in their home state.

A WAVE OF PROSPERITY AMONG THE FOREST DWELLERS WITH THE PROCUREMENT OF MINOR FOREST PRODUCE :

Record purchase & procurement of minor forest produce. Forest dwellers receive an income of more than 2500 Crore Rs. 31 minor forest produce are now being purchased at support price. Women being empowered to the fullest with excessive employment.

गढ़बो
नवा
छत्तीसगढ़



LEADING & STANDING WITH THE STATE AMID TOUGH TIMES
BHUPESH BAGHEL GOVERNMENT

6 GOVT & POLITICS



HEARING FROM HOME

THE CRUCIAL hearing on whether the Jagannath Rath Yatra can go on in the middle of the coronavirus pandemic marked a milestone for the Supreme Court. Lawyers are appearing from different parts of the country ever since the court went virtual, but perhaps for the first time the court was seated, even if virtually, away from Delhi. CJI Sharad Bobde heard the case from his Nagpur residence. The CJI has left for his hometown as the Supreme Court is taking a two-week summer break. Senior advocate Harish Salve, who led the arguments for Odisha government, dialled in from London.

(KHAN) MARKET MATTERS

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi may have popularised 'Khan Market Gang', an euphemism for his entrenched detractors in the national capital, ahead of 2019 Lok Sabha elections, but this hasn't deterred the market's popularity even a year after his re-election. Although the upscale market in central Delhi is witnessing much smaller footfall in the middle of the pandemic, it still seems to attract the who's who of the national capital. Latest to be spotted at the market on Monday was Union Home Minister Amit Shah, one of the staunchest critics of the 'Khan Market Gang'. Although a brief visit, it was a welcome change for the market, given the epithet it earned before last year's elections.

HEADLESS NO MORE

AFTER REMAINING headless for months, public broadcasters Doordarshan and All India Radio have got new chiefs. The government's appointments committee on Monday approved to give additional responsibilities of directors-general to two information service officers who were already heading the news divisions there. Ira Joshi has taken over as D-G AIR, and Mayank Agarwal made D-G Doordarshan. For Joshi, the tenure may be short, as she is due to retire at July-end; Agarwal will retain the post for six months, unless replacements for both positions are found in the meantime. Doordarshan hasn't had a DG since October 2019 and AIR since December, as the government wanted to put professionals at the helm.

Manipur situation under control, BJP and allies will show result: Sarma

ABHISHEK SAHA & JIMMY LEIVON
GUWAHATI, IMPHAL, JUNE 22

HIMANTA BISWA Sarma, convener of the North East Democratic Alliance (NEDA), a BJP-led alliance of regional parties in the Northeast, on Monday said the political situation in Manipur is under control and the BJP and its allies will showcase a "good result" in the next two or three days.

Talking to a group of reporters in Guwahati on Monday, Sarma, the BJP's key leader in the Northeast who has been busy with negotiations since the BJP-led government in Manipur suffered a jolt last week with MLAs resigning and allies withdrawing support, said, "Situation is more or less under control. We are consulting with all our MLAs and everything will be resolved nicely. Nothing to worry. All discussions are positive. We are talking to each other. You will see a good result in the next 2-3 days."

Last week, three BJP MLAs defected to the Congress, and four MLAs from the National People's Party (NPP), one of the TMC and an Independent withdrew support to the BJP-led coalition government.

The NPP is part of the NEDA. Despite troubles in the alliance, the BJP won the polls to

CPM MLA suspended for voting for Cong in RS polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAIPUR, JUNE 22

THE CPM Monday suspended party MLA Balwan Poonia for one year over "indiscipline" for voting for a Congress candidate in the recently held Rajya Sabha polls.

The decision came during a State Secretariat meeting at the CPM's office in Jaipur Monday. "We had called a meeting to discuss the MLA's indiscipline in Rajya Sabha polls. We found him guilty of going against the party

the state's lone Rajya Sabha seat on Friday after Speaker Y Khemchand disqualified three Congress MLAs and the state's lone TMC MLA.

Sarma and Meghalaya CM Conrad Sangma, who heads the NPP, visited Imphal on Sunday on a special chartered flight to conduct meetings. Sarma said he might head to Imphal again on Tuesday.

"You cannot say the same picture will be there because after RS polls many people have been disqualified. Anyway, Manipur will go for a major by-election. Basically, architecture could be a little different and more or less we are continuing with the spirit of NEDA and NDA," Sarma said.

Meanwhile, in Manipur, NPP MLA and former health minister L Jayantakumar Singh said that Sangma will support the decision of the NPP MLAs if it is in the party's interest. "Whatever the collective decision taken by the four NPP MLAs, if it is to strengthen the party, our party president is with us."

and suspended him for a year, effective immediately," said CPM State Secretary Amraram.

Poonia, MLA from Bhadra in Hanumangarh district, has also been given a showcase notice seeking his response within seven days.

"He went against the party's decision and voted for Congress. Party had decided not to vote for anyone. BJP's second candidate was losing as he needed over 20 additional votes and Congress had about those many extra votes," Amraram said.

PM should be mindful of what his words imply: Manmohan

MANOJCG

NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

WADING INTO the political row over the death of 20 soldiers in violent clashes with Chinese PLA troops near the LAC in Ladakh's Galwan Valley, former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Monday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to be "mindful" of "implications" his remarks will have on the "nation's security", as also its "strategic and territorial interests".

Referring to Modi's remark at the all-party meet on Friday – that neither has anyone intruded into Indian territory nor has anyone captured any military post – Singh reminded him that "disinformation is no substitute for diplomacy or decisive leadership." He said the PM cannot allow China to "use his words as a



Manmohan Singh

vindication of their position".

The ruling BJP countered, with party president J P Nadda calling Singh's statement "mere wordplay". Nadda said Singh should have worried about Chinese designs "when, as PM, he abjectly surrendered hundreds of square kilometres of India's land to China".

Singh's hard-hitting statement has set the tone for the Congress Working Committee meeting, convened on Tuesday to discuss

the Chinese transgression and the government's handling of the crisis, as also the economic and social fallout of the nationwide lockdown. Asserting that China is brazenly and illegally seeking to claim parts of Indian territory such as Galwan Valley and the Pangong Tso Lake by committing multiple incursions, Singh said, "We cannot and will not be cowed down by threats and intimidation, nor permit a compromise with our territorial integrity."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he said, "cannot allow them (China) to use his words as a vindication of their position, and (he) must ensure that all organs of the government work together to tackle this crisis and prevent it from escalating further. This is a moment where we must stand together as a nation and be united in our response to this brazen threat."

He argued that "the truth cannot be suppressed by having pliant allies spout comforting but false statements."

While he did not elaborate, Singh's mention of "pliant allies" were likely aimed at statements made by the chief ministers of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim and Meghalaya in support of the government after Modi's remarks.

The former PM said: "At this moment, we stand at historic cross-roads. Our government's decisions and actions will have serious bearings on how the future generations perceive us."

He said, "The Prime Minister must always be mindful of the implications of his words and declarations on our nation's security, as also strategic and territorial interests."

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

As CWC readies salvo at PM, an echo of '99 — and Cong's attack on Vajpayee

MANOJCG

NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

UNFAZED BY the BJP's criticism for raising questions on the government's handling of the Chinese incursions and its near-isolation in the Opposition ranks, the Congress, at its Working Committee (CWC) meeting Tuesday, is set to launch fresh fusillade at the government.

Party leaders, sources say, believe that the Galwan Valley bloodbath and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's subsequent statement and clarifications, if used effectively, can provide political ammunition to counter the BJP's jingoistic nationalism. The

party believes Modi is facing perhaps the most difficult foreign policy questions of his tenure so far, a front on which he has invested heavily, with challenges coming from even the otherwise friendly Nepal. And unlike in the case of Pakistan, the Chinese incursions will not provide BJP an opportunity to try and polarise domestically, Congress leaders feel.

After Modi's remarks on Friday, it accuses the government of having surrendered Indian territory.

This echoes the gambit the Congress played in 1999. As the Kargil war was about to reach its climax, the CWC met and issued a statement accusing the then AB Vajpayee government of having "deliberately kept the nation in

the dark" about Pakistani incursion. The CWC, which met in July 1999, also accused the Vajpayee government of "negligence" that would "cost the nation many brave and precious lives".

The Congress may not see a Kargil parallel in Galwan Valley, but then, as now, the dominant opinion in the grand old party is that it should target the Prime Minister over the incursions. The Congress then had to battle Vajpayee's image. It has been battling Modi's charisma since 2014.

The party had then alleged that the Vajpayee government did not show the will to act despite having information about the incursion. At the all-party meeting last week, Congress president

Sonia Gandhi asked whether the government believes there was a "failure of intelligence."

The Congress's move in 1999 could not resurrect its political fortunes. It was trounced in the Lok Sabha elections held months later, down from 141 to 114. But the BJP, too, could not manage to win even a single seat more than what it had won in 1998 – its tally remained at 182.

But elections are four years away now, and Congress leaders say they realise that many opposition parties are backing the Modi government. "That only helps us establish that we are the only alternative to the BJP," a senior party leader said.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

IAF intensifies Combat Air Patrols in Ladakh

VARINDER BHATIA & MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA
LEH, CHANDIGARH, JUNE 22

THE INDIAN Air Force has intensified its Combat Air Patrols (CAP) in Ladakh in the last few days following the LAC faceoff with China that left 20 Indian soldiers dead.

Residents of Leh say that these days they are waking up to the noise of IAF fighter jets flying overhead and increased sorties of transport aircraft and helicopters.

Fighter aircraft have been stationed at advance air bases in Jammu and Kashmir as well as Punjab and Haryana and the CAPs ensure that the IAF maintains a credible deterrence in the skies.

IAF sources said that the Chinese have bolstered the presence of offensive air platforms at



The main market in Leh on Monday. Express

their airfields in Tibet. "The Chinese have also brought in air defence elements at various locations where the standoff is taking place. We have our counter-measures in place and fly CAPs as

per the demand of the situation," a senior IAF official said.

People in Leh recall that May-July 1999, the months of the Kargil War, was the last time Leh's Kushok Bakula Rimpoché

airport saw such air activity.

A retired honorary captain of Ladakh Scouts, Tashi Chhepal, a Vir Chakra awardee of Kargil War, is settled in Leh. "It was in 1999 that Leh airport saw this kind of an aerial activity since the air force it as its base during the Kargil War. Otherwise, the city of Leh is very calm and quiet. For the last couple of months, tourists were also not coming due to coronavirus. The roads are deserted, pin-drop silence prevails in the evenings," he says.

"In 1962, our Air Force was not as strong as it is today. From the kind of fighter jet sorties, one thing is quite evident, that if need be, our Air Force will provide full support to our Army in the Galwan valley or any other place as and when required, and we shall give a befitting reply to the enemy," he adds.

Tsering Wangchuk, a teacher

While in oppn, BJP cornered, questioned UPA govt on China; sent teams to border

LIZ MATHEW

NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

WHILE THE BJP has slammed Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi for raising questions on the killing of 20 soldiers in Ladakh, with party president J P Nadda accusing the Congress of being an "irresponsible" opposition party and its leaders of trying to "demoralise" the nation and the soldiers and Home Minister Amit Shah asking Rahul to rise above "petty politics", as an opposition party during the UPA years, the saffron party had tried to corner the government several times on similar issues.

An analysis of press releases issued by BJP between 2004 and 2014, available on its official website, shows it had issued almost two dozen statements on China, cautioning the then government many a times and seeking explanations.

In its June 2013 Panaji national executive meeting, for instance, the BJP passed a separate resolution on "Suraksha and Swabhiman", which stated: "... boundaries are violated at will umpteen times on Indo-China borders. The latest being the incursion by Chinese troops almost 19 km inside Indian territory... India is being dishonoured, trivialised and its legitimate authority questioned. Our government at the Centre, at best, is only offering platitudes to its citizens."

In its June 2009 political resolution, passed at the national executive in Parliament Annex, the party wanted the government to take China's move on raising claim over Arunachal Pradesh at international forum to be "treated with utmost seriousness."

On September 18, 2009, Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad,

then a BJP spokesperson, pointed out that there had been 233 incursions in 2008, and wanted the government to issue a white paper "on the entire ramifications of Indo-China relationship". He had said, "The cumulative signal is indeed ominous and disturbing and yet the whole attitude of the Government is one of callous negligence. Why is there deliberate attempt to downplay it? Why this drift and confusion?"

On October 14 the same year, Prasad alleged that the UPA was "almost bending backward to deliberately downplay" the "increasing pressure by China" at borders, and asked then PM Singh to convene an all-party meeting.

The BJP had also sent party delegations to the borders. A delegation led by Bhagat Singh Koshiyari (now Maharashtra Governor) constituted by then party chief Nitin Gadkari had "investigated and compiled a dossier on the reported incursions by Chinese PLA on Indian soil."

Briefing the media, Rajiv Pratap Rudy, who was part of the delegation, said, "... BJP fails to understand why the Indian government has to be shy and timid about the whole affairs."

According to the BJP website, in September 2013, Rajnath Singh had delegated a group of BJP leaders to study the situation and submit a report.

While BJP has unleashed an aggressive campaign against Sonia Gandhi's visit to China and Rahul Gandhi's meeting with a Chinese delegation, according to the website, Chinese Ambassador Zhang Yan called on Rajnath Singh, on October 16, 2009. In August 2010, a delegation from China visited Gadkari, who had visited China on CPC's invitation in January 2011.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Goa considers dropping China firm from Rs 1,400-crore bridge project

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PANAJI, JUNE 22

THE GOA government is considering dropping a Chinese consultancy firm from a Rs 1,400 crore eight-lane bridge construction project across the Zuari river in south Goa, officials said on Monday.

The bridge – a prestige project for the BJP-led government – is slated to be named after late chief minister Manohar Parrikar. It is being built by Dilip Buildcon with Shanghai Tonggang Bridge Technology providing expertise on several aspects as well as materials.

Public Works Department Minister Deepak Pauskar on Monday said they will have to re-examine their import policies and need for expertise in light of the standoff. Materials needed for the bridge are presently being imported from China.

"They (Chinese consultants) are expected to arrive as they are supposed to be the experts who are to examine parts of the work. Further, the remaining 35% of the bridge requires material, which for now was to be imported from China," said Pauskar.

"We will be speaking to the Chief Minister on this for instructions. The development in our construction is obviously due to the betrayal by the Chinese army, and the country and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have decided to ban their products," he said. "We will then have to source materials and expertise from elsewhere."

Sources confirmed that the construction would run past its 2019 deadline. They said the PWD is also facing labour issues as many have left the state in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

According to PWD officials, while many labourers have remained in place on specific projects, the state is feeling the pressure on meeting deadlines because of an overall lack of manpower.

Rajasthan announces 'Indira Rasoi Yojana'

DEEPMUKHERJEE

JAIPUR, JUNE 22

RAJASTHAN CHIEF Minister Ashok Gehlot on Monday announced that meals (twice a day) will soon be made available to the poor at a concessional rate under the state government's 'Indira Rasoi Yojana'.

"There is a dearth of nutritious food and it is with the idea that nobody goes to sleep hungry that I am announcing this today, Indira Gandhi was a great leader and the reason behind the creation of Bangladesh, she brought in the Green Revolution, conducted the nuclear tests in Phokran during 1974. In the memory of the great leader, we have decided that Indira Rasoi Yojana will be started soon under which nobody will sleep hungry," Gehlot said on Monday.

Former CM and BJP leader Vasundhara Raje accused the state government of renaming her Annapurna Rasoi scheme.



Hemant Soren

skill of the workers.

"The urban population involved in the informal economy is staring at a crisis unseen before. In Jharkhand, approximately one-fourth of the households in the urban areas (3.5-4 lakh BPL families) are likely to be affected by the extended lockdown," a source in the Chief Minister's Office said.

As per estimates, about 13-14 lakh households in the state are in urban areas, of which around 15 per cent are employed as casual labourers.

The amount will be credited to the bank account of workers, either after work or within seven

days of the completion of work. "At any situation, the payment has to be made within 15 days of the completion of work," the draft proposes. The state government will use its available budget, and if needed, create additional budget for such work.

The workers will be able demand work either in writing or orally for a minimum of seven days and a maximum of 100 days. The draft states that if a worker has a child of five years or less, then a female worker will need to be employed—to take care of the child—and paid the minimum wage. All basic amenities, medical facilities, registration as well as a social security will be provided to them.

The draft also paves way for unemployment allowance where a person who has asked for work does not get it within 15 days. Such persons will be liable to be paid one-fourth of the minimum wage as allowance for the first month, half the wage in the second month, and the full minimum wage amount in the third month of no work.

COUSINS DIE WHILE TAKING UNCLE'S BODY FOR CREMATION

Wearing PPEs in heat, they pushed ambulance along river bank, fell unconscious, say kin

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, JUNE 22

ON THE way to cremate their uncle who died after testing positive for Covid-19, two cousins suffered scorching heat inside of PPE kits for hours, pushed an ambulance across a river bank and fell unconscious while officials refused to help for fear of contracting the virus, relatives have alleged.

Vimal Zadoo (43) and Vipan Zadoo (30) died on the banks of the Tawi near Sidhra on June 18. Both tested negative for Covid-19. Jammu District Magistrate Sushma Chauhan ordered a magisterial inquiry and announced ex-gratia relief of Rs 2 lakh each to the next of kin. Lieutenant Governor GCMurmu on Monday approved ex-gratia of Rs 10 lakh each to the next of kin of both.

Meanwhile, a row erupted over the deaths, with family members and political parties accusing the UT administration of not following Health Ministry guidelines on handling the body of a coronavirus patient.

Vimal and Vipan's uncle, who had a travel history to Delhi, tested positive last Wednesday and died at Government Medical College (GMC) Hospital in Jammu the same day. Following a call from a revenue official, Vimal and Vipan accompanied the deceased's son to the hospital next morning, relatives said. The family said that around

11.30 am, the hospital staff made all three wear PPE kits and go inside the mortuary to identify the body and bring it out. Thereafter, they were made to board the ambulance along with the body and proceed towards Sidhra.

Around 12.15 pm, the ambulance reportedly stopped opposite the entrance of Golf Course at Sidhra. The driver and three cousins sat inside the vehicle for 15 minutes, waiting for an official to guide them to the cremation site, the relatives said. One of them added that it was 46 degrees Celsius and the trio, in PPE kits, appeared restless in the heat.

In the meantime, Amit Zadoo, another relative, arrived in his own vehicle and led the ambulance to the cremation shed beside the Tawi. Upon arrival, one of the ambulance's occupants started vomiting, even as a revenue official called the others to take the body to another location along the riverbank.

By then, police arrived and the ambulance was led towards the riverbed. Five hundred metres on, a tyre got stuck and the family members were allegedly asked to push the vehicle. Vimal was the first to fall unconscious, said a relative. The others asked for water, and soon Vipan and the deceased's son lost consciousness.

With no help forthcoming, Amit picked up the deceased's son and rushed him to hospital and he revived, the relatives said. Vimal and Vipal lay there for

hours, with the family alleging that no revenue officials and police came forward to help for fear of coronavirus infection. Both died of dehydration, a relative said.

The BJP demanded a judicial inquiry, accusing the administration of putting the responsibility of handling the body of a coronavirus patient on relatives, and demanded an FIR against officials guilty of negligence.

NC provincial president Devender Rana sought an NHRC probe, saying that "not only was the necessary protocol ignored, but no compassion or attention was shown by the designated personnel which led to the unfortunate deaths".

When asked why no health worker accompanied the body and how the cremation was left to untrained relatives, GMC Principal Dr Naseeb Chand Dhingra asked *The Indian Express* to contact GMC Hospital Medical Superintendent Dr Dara Singh. The latter did not respond to repeated calls.

Director, National Health Mission in Jammu and Kashmir, Bhupinder Kumar, who is also the designated nodal officer to deal with Covid-19 cases, refused comment in view of the ongoing magisterial inquiry.

L-G Murmu also approved ex-gratia of Rs 10 lakh to the next of kin of Kamal Kumar, a resident of Chhapaki Kalaan who died in administrative quarantine in Kathua on Sunday. The DM has ordered a probe into the death.

'EC will also go to court over false affidavit complaints'



THE EXPRESS
INTERVIEW
WITH
SUSHIL CHANDRA
ELECTION COMMISSIONER

The EC has always encouraged complainants to approach courts directly regarding complaints of candidates filing false affidavits. What prompted the Commission to change its stand?

In a democracy, the voter has the fundamental right to know (the whole truth) about a candidate (contesting elections). Although all election affidavits are (already) referred to CBDT for verification, lately, several complaints of candidates lying in their affidavits have come to our notice... EC cannot be a mute spectator. So it was decided by the Commission that if there is a prima facie case of suppression of information regarding assets or liabilities or criminal antecedents, then we should send it to the respective (investigating) agencies for timebound investi-

gation. If the investigation finds that the candidate has lied in his affidavit, then we will not hesitate in asking our field officer to file a complaint. We can also inform the respective political parties and presiding officer of the Assembly or House that he or she has not filed correct information. But the complainant will have to give us evidence. It should not be a frivolous complaint.

Indore admn invokes NSA against two for cow slaughter

MILIND GHATWAI
BHOPAL, JUNE 22

THE INDORE district administration on Monday invoked the National Security Act (NSA) against two people held for cow slaughter — the first such invocation of the stringent provision since the BJP returned to power in Madhya Pradesh three months ago.

On June 19, the Indore police chased Shahzad Mohammed Sattar, 30, and Shaniid Shakli, 21, who were allegedly carrying meat on a motorcycle. While Sattar was arrested and the meat was seized, Shanil managed to escape. When a laboratory report confirmed that the meat was beef, the police booked them under Sections 5 and 9 of the Cow Slaughter Act and the Arms Act.

Superintendent of Police (East Indore) M C Jain told *The Indian Express* that Shanil was later arrested, and the district collector had confirmed his recommendation for slapping NSA against the two.

The duo will be sent to Bhopal central jail on Tuesday. Jain said they did not have criminal cases in the past but their offence was "severe".

After the nationwide lockdown due to the coronavirus was imposed, the state has invoked the NSA on at least three instances against those who attacked health workers, police officials or sanitation workers.

Amreli resident becomes first govt doc to die of Covid in Gujarat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
RAJKOT, JUNE 22

PANKAJ JADAV, 50, a doctor in at the Amreli district hospital in Gujarat, died of Covid-19 while undergoing treatment at Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay (PDU) Hospital in Rajkot on Monday. His death comes 13 days after his mother died of the virus. This is the first case of a government medical officer dying of coronavirus in the state.

Jadav had tested positive for Covid-19 on June 13 and had been undergoing treatment at Amreli civil hospital since. But as his condition worsened, he was referred to the state government-run PDU Hospital on Monday.

Jadav was posted as nodal officer of antiretroviral therapy department at the Amreli district hospital or Amreli civil hospital. Health officers in Amreli said that he had contracted the infection from his mother. "His mother had tested positive for Covid-19 on June 8 and died the day after. Dr Jadav had contracted the infection from his mother while treating her at his home in Amreli," Dr A P Singh, epidemic officer of Amreli district, said.

TN govt reimposes lockdown in Madurai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHENNAI, JUNE 22

THE TAMIL Nadu government Monday declared an intensified lockdown in several parts of Madurai district, including the temple town, from Wednesday. The number of Covid-19 cases continued to rise in the state with 2,710 reported on Monday — the 12-day lockdown in Chennai and three neighbouring districts is expected to gradually arrest the steady spike.

The state has reported a total of 62,087 Covid-19 cases and 794 deaths, including 37 reported on Monday. Madurai has 849 cases.

"Trace, test and quarantine" maximum cases is our strategy, said J Radhakrishnan, state health secretary. Tamil Nadu has so far tested 8.76 lakh people.

Movement of people in large numbers from Chennai to other districts ahead of the lockdown has triggered more cases. Radhakrishnan said Tiruvannamalai, Madurai and Cuddalore are reporting more cases. "It is not the number of cases but it is all about testing and quarantining them, a strategy to ensure early intervention in maximum cases," he said,

adding that the number of testing per day has increased from an average of 13,000 to 30,000 in the last one week.

Radhakrishnan said medical experts hope the lockdown in Chennai would help to prevent the spread of the virus. "Our focus during this lockdown is to trace people with infection, for which we have mobilised a maximum number of fever camps across the city to find people with symptoms. Transmission of infection to other people will be reduced during the lockdown period in Chennai," he said. Cuddalore, Madurai and Tiruvannamalai districts are following containment strategies in identified zones, he said.

According to the state health department, up to 70% of total cases continue to be asymptomatic while the remaining 20% have mild symptoms and roughly 10% require hospitalisation.

A senior doctor in a government hospital in Chennai city said the number of patients with mild symptoms have increased in the last two weeks. "We have been seeing about 80% of asymptomatic patients in the initial stage. But among those who come to fever clinics, 80% of them are with mild symptoms of fever, cough and throat pain," he said.

Himanta says Guwahati to be locked down ward-wise

ABHISHEK SAHA
GUWAHATI, JUNE 22

NEARLY 150 Guwahati residents without any travel history recently tested positive for Covid-19, sparking fears of community-level transmission and leading authorities to consider locking down the city part-wise as well as turning quarantine camps into makeshift Covid-care hospitals.

State Health Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said Monday Guwahati's situation has worsened in the past few days, with 114 people without any travel history — who voluntarily came to get tested since June 16 — reporting positive. In addition, nearly 40 people without any travel history, among those tested from 141 active containment zones in the city, have tested positive, he said.

Sarma said: "I fear cases in Guwahati will increase. This curve won't be flattened immediately. We will have to rigorously test more and more people, along with measures such as implementing lockdowns and containment zones. So our quarantine centres in the city will be turned into Covid-care centres to treat asymptomatic patients. Symptomatic patients will be treated in hospitals."

He said that keeping the spike in Guwahati in mind, the state

Health Department has recommended Kamrup (Metro) district administration, under which Guwahati falls, should begin total lockdown of wards where the number of cases increase. He said this would be like treating a large area as a containment zone.

"Our focus more or less will be Guwahati now, so that the situation in our city does not turn into what it is in Delhi, Chennai or Mumbai. People have to strictly follow distancing norms and wear masks," the minister said.

He also said sample collecting centres, where residents can voluntarily get tested, will be increased from the existing 12 to 31.

"It will be like a makeshift hospital for rapid Covid response in that area..." the minister said.

Overall, Assam has reported more than 5,500 confirmed cases so far. On Sunday, the state registered its single-day highest spike yet — 331 cases.

आगरा विकास प्राधिकरण
जयपुर हाउस, आगरा

आवश्यक सूचना

आगरा विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा ग्राम महुआ खेड़ा आगरा में प्रस्तावित प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना (शहरी) हेतु रेंरा में पंजीयन कराया गया जिसकी सं0-UPREREPRJ17203 तथा इसके कार्य प्रारम्भ की तिथि 07.09.2018 एवं समाप्ति तिथि 31.10.2018 थी। भवनों को विक्रय किये जाने के सम्बन्ध में पंजीयन फार्म प्राप्त किये जाने हेतु दैनिक समाचार पत्रों में विज्ञापन दिये गये थे, किन्तु नगर क्षेत्र में 5000 वर्ग मीटर से अधिक क्षेत्रफल में निर्माण की अनुमति प्राप्त न होने के कारण से भवनों का निर्माण किया जाना सम्भव नहीं हो सका, जिसके दृष्टिगत स्थल पर कोई कार्य नहीं कराया गया। इस परियोजना के पंजीयन को निरस्त करते हुए पुनः पंजीकरण कराया जाना है। इस सम्बन्ध में आगरा विकास प्राधिकरण की निकट इनर रिंग रोड स्थित, ग्राम महुआ खेड़ा, आगरा प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना (शहरी) में भवन आवंटन हेतु पंजीकरण दिनांक-31.08.2018 को प्रमुख समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित किया गया था, जिसमें पंजीकरण की समयावधि दिनांक-31.10.2018 तक बढ़ा दी गयी थी। यह अवधि इस सूचना की प्रकाशन की तिथि से समाप्त मानी जायेगी।

(सोमकमल सौरीराम) (राजेन्द्र प्रसाद त्रिपाठी)
संयुक्त सचिव सचिव

**IN CHERISHED EVERLASTING MEMORY OF
MAJOR SANJAY SOOD, SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)
(16 JUL 1967 - 22 JUN 2000)**

**YOUR ACT OF VALOUR AND
SUPREME SACRIFICE IN THE JUNGLES
OF RAJWAR REMAINS OUR GUIDING
BEACON. WE SALUTE YOU AND PRAY
TO GOD FOR THE ETERNAL PEACE OF
YOUR SOUL AND EVERLASTING
HAPPINESS OF YOUR LOVED ONES.**

COMMANDING OFFICER AND ALL RANKS, 10 GUARDS

**PUNJAB INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (PIDB)
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND CULTURE AFFAIRS
(THROUGH PHTPB)
PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Upgradation, Operation & Maintenance of Ran Baas, Qila Mubarak, Patiala as Heritage Hotel on PPP mode
PROJECT DETAILS**

Punjab Infrastructure Development Board (PIDB) is the nodal agency of Government of Punjab, for development of infrastructure projects on Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode, in the state of Punjab. Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Pb. through Punjab Heritage and Tourism Promotion Board (PHTPB) has decided to take up the Upgradation, Operation & Maintenance of Ran Baas, Qila Mubarak, Patiala as Heritage Hotel on Public Private Partnership (PPP).

BRIEF PROJECT STRUCTURE

The Private Sector Player (hereinafter referred as the "Concessionaire") shall be required to undertake all the activities pertaining to and incidental to upgradation and Operation and Maintenance of Ran Baas, Qila Mubarak, Patiala as Heritage Hotel with 4-star hotel rating as per Ministry of Tourism (MoT), GoI guidelines. Private Sector Player (PSP) shall upgrade the existing project site and thereby operate and maintain the facility for the entire Concession Period i.e. 40 (Forty) years. PSP shall be required to develop, and operate & maintain all 28 (Twenty eight) rooms. The project shall be awarded to such bidder who shall offer the highest Annual Concession Fee (ACF) payable as per the terms of the RFP document.

PUBLIC NOTICE

As part of the procedure defined in the provisions of Punjab Infrastructure Development & Regulation Act 2002, (PIDRA-2002), before the bidding for the Development of the Project is carried out, a Public hearing is required to be conducted by the Punjab Infrastructure Regulatory Authority (PIRA) inviting objections/ suggestions/ comments from the Public.

Accordingly, Punjab Infrastructure Regulatory Authority (PIRA) has decided to conduct the Public Hearing. The proposed Development of the said (Project) is hereby published for general information. A copy of the Feasibility Report can be obtained by submitting a Demand draft of Rs 2500/- (Rupees Two Thousand and Five Hundred only) in favour of Punjab Infrastructure Development Board (PIDB), payable at Chandigarh, from its office on or before 06.07.2020.

Notice is hereby given to all concerned to file suggestions/ views/comments and objections, if any, on the proposed project, to the Managing Director, PIDB, SCO: 33-34-35, Sector 34-A, Chandigarh within 15 days of the publication of this notice. Besides, a Public Hearing will also be held under the Chairperson, Punjab Infrastructure Regulatory Authority (PIRA) which can be attended by any person including bonafide residents, Non-Government organizations and others, located at the project site of displacement likely to be affected by the proposed Infrastructure Project and other members of Public. Oral and written submission can also be made during the Public Hearing. The time schedule for public hearing is as below:

Sr. No.	Project Name	Timings	Venue
1.	Upgradation, Operation & Maintenance of Ran Baas, Qila Mubarak, Patiala as Heritage Hotel on Public Private Partnership (PPP)	13.07.2020 at 11.00 A.M.	Committee Room, District Administrative Complex, Patiala

No TA/DA will be admissible for attending the Public hearing.
**Managing Director,
Punjab Infrastructure Development Board,
SCO: 33-34-35, Sector 34-A, Chandigarh.**

**PUNJAB INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (PIDB) & DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT, PUNJAB
PUBLIC NOTICE**

Development of Mohali Commercial Complex cum Convention Centre (GMADA), Ludhiana Commercial Complex cum Exhibition Centre (GLADA) and Amritsar Commercial Complex cum Convention Centre (ADA) under Public Private Partnership (PPP) format on DBOFT basis

PROJECT DETAILS

Punjab Infrastructure Development Board (PIDB) is the nodal agency of Government of Punjab, for development of Infrastructure projects on Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode, in the state of Punjab. PIDB and Department of Housing & Urban Development, Punjab for the better utilization and operation of Convention Centre and Exhibition Centre has decided to take up the development of Mohali Commercial Complex cum Convention Centre (GMADA), Amritsar Commercial Complex cum Convention Centre (ADA) and Ludhiana Commercial Complex cum Exhibition Centre (GLADA) through Public Private Partnership (PPP). The broad components shall be construction of new Convention Centres and Exhibition Centre based on each Project Structure.

BRIEF PROJECT STRUCTURE

The Scope or Work for the Private Sector Participant (PSP) shall be to develop the Project within the specified construction period and thereby, operate and maintain the facility for the entire Concession Period. The period of Concession for this Project shall be 99 (Ninety Nine) years (which includes the Construction Period). The Project shall be awarded to such bidder who shall offer the highest Annuity/Annual Concession Fee, payable as per the terms of the RFP document of each Project.

PUBLIC NOTICE

As part of the procedure defined in the provisions of Punjab Infrastructure Development & Regulation Act 2002, (PIDRA-2002), before the bidding for the Development of the projects are carried out, Public hearing is required to be conducted by the Punjab Infrastructure Regulatory Authority (PIRA) inviting objections/suggestions/comments from the Public. Accordingly, Punjab Infrastructure Regulatory Authority (PIRA) has decided to conduct the Public Hearing. The proposed Development of the said (Project) is hereby published for general information. A copy of the Feasibility Report can be obtained by submitting a Demand draft of Rs 2500/- (Rupees Two Thousand and Five Hundred only) in favour of Punjab Infrastructure Development Board (PIDB), payable at Chandigarh, from its office on or before 03.07.2020.

Notice is hereby given to all concerned to file suggestions/views/comments and objections, if any, on the proposed project, to the Managing Director, PIDB, SCO: 33-34-35, Sector 34-A, Chandigarh within 15 days of the publication of this notice. Besides, a Public hearing will also be held under the Chairperson, Punjab Infrastructure Regulatory Authority (PIRA) which can be attended by any person including bona fide residents, Non-Government organizations and others, located at the project sites of displacement likely to be affected by the proposed Infrastructure Project and other members of Public. Oral and written submission can also be made during the Public hearing. The time schedule for public hearing is as below:

Sr. No.	Projects Name	Timings	Venue
1.	Mohali Commercial Complex cum Convention Centre (GMADA).	10th July, 2020 at 11.00 AM	GMADA Office, Mohali
2.	Ludhiana Commercial Complex cum Exhibition Centre (GLADA).	16th July, 2020 at 11.00 AM	Circuit House, Ludhiana
3.	Amritsar Commercial Complex cum Convention Centre (ADA).	17th July, 2020 at 11.00 AM	Bachat Bhawan, Amritsar

**No TA/DA will be admissible for attending the Public hearing.
Managing Director
Punjab Infrastructure Development Board
SCO-33-34-35, Sector 34-A, Chandigarh.**

UP: man beaten up for 'attacking child', dies; faces murder bid FIR

AMIL BHATNAGAR
NOIDA, JUNE 22

A 35-YEAR-OLD man died during treatment at a Deoband hospital after he was beaten by an angry mob in Saharanpur district of Uttar Pradesh for allegedly attacking a minor.

According to the FIR filed at Deoband police station, the victim, Israr, was cornered by a mob on Thursday evening and was beaten with sticks and rods. He was rushed to a nearby hospital in Deoband but died during treatment.

The police maintain there was no case of "lynching", and that the victim was accused of an attempt to murder at the same police station.

SP (City), Saharanpur, Vineet Bhatnagar said: "The police were informed on Thursday evening that a man, Israr, had been attacked by a crowd. On investigation, it was found that this man had, the same day, robbed a motorcycle and had attacked a minor with a sharp object. In retaliation for the attack on the child, a group of villagers attacked the accused. During the assault, the accused sustained injuries (and succumbed subsequently)."

Bhatnagar said Israr's family has named 11 people and that arrests will be made soon.

A purported video of the incident, which was shared widely on social media, shows a man lying in a foetal position as men with sticks surround him.

Bharatsinh Solanki tests positive, 3 days after RS polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
VADODARA, AHMEDABAD, JUNE 22

GUJARAT CONGRESS leader Bharatsinh Solanki on Monday tested positive for Covid-19, three days after participating in the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha elections in the state as a candidate of the party.

Solanki, who began showing symptoms on Saturday, got himself tested on Sunday after he developed high grade fever, Anand district administration officials said. Solanki is currently admitted to a private hospital in Vadodara and his condition is stated to be stable.

Solanki had met several MLAs of the party in Gujarat in the run up to the RS polls.



Devotees pull a chariot of Lord Jagannath in Ahmedabad. Reuters

shorter route. Another petition moved by the state seeking a modification in the HC's earlier move was pending a verdict well past midnight.

On Monday evening, Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, along with wife Anjali and MoS Pradeepsinh Jadeja, went to Jagannath temple at Jamalpur and announced his government, would move an application before HC to conduct the yatra with

whatever restrictions. Another application was moved before the bench, seeking a modification to the order, which was awaiting a decision as of midnight. The NGO had sought that the absolute stay on procession be modified, so as to allow for three chariots to be taken out. The bench headed by Chief Justice Vikram Nath refused to entertain the application and disposed it.

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THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2020

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE

I LOOK TO A DAY WHEN PEOPLE WILL NOT BE JUDGED BY THE COLOUR OF THEIR SKIN, BUT BY THE CONTENT OF THEIR CHARACTER. — MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

STEP UP THE FIGHT

Centre and Delhi government need to work in unison — that's the only way to counter the COVID surge

DELHI'S SHARPLY RISING COVID-19 infection curve raises questions about the containment measures taken by the city's AAP government during and after the relaxation of the lockdown. Now the Centre has lent its weight to the Arvind Kejriwal government. In a series of directives on Sunday, it has asked the Delhi government to revise its strategy to fight the coronavirus. Delhi has been asked to redraw its 242 containment zones, enumerate all households outside these zones and associate every district in the city with a hospital. The Centre has also asked the Delhi government to send a detailed report on every COVID death in the city — this must include when the patient was brought to the hospital, and from where. Such a measure had arguably become necessary in light of reports that the Delhi government's COVID toll figures are not tallying with those of the city's hospitals and municipalities.

With nearly 60,000 cases, Delhi is poised to overtake Mumbai as the city with the highest caseload. Maharashtra's capital has about 67,000 cases but the growth rate of the infection has come down appreciably in the city since last week, when it added 8,000 cases. Delhi, in contrast, added 18,000 cases last week. CM Kejriwal has maintained that the death rate is the key metric in the battle against the pandemic — but even on that yardstick, Delhi's figures are worrying. At 3.65 per cent, Delhi's death rate is above the national average of 3.4 per cent. The city has lost in excess of 2,000 lives to the virus. With the Delhi government projecting 5.5 lakh COVID cases in the city by the end of July, the national capital could be staring at a steepening toll, if urgent measures are not taken.

Sunday's directives were preceded by an order by Delhi's Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal mandating five-day institutional quarantine for all those who have tested COVID-positive. The Delhi government was right to push back and get it revoked. L-G Bajjal has now asked all coronavirus positive patients to report to a COVID-care centre, where their suitability for home isolation will be assessed. Reiterated in the Centre's directive, this requirement could place an additional burden on the patients. Already, there are reports of asymptomatic carriers of the virus being reluctant to visit the COVID care centres. As it redrafts its strategy, the Delhi government shouldn't do anything that further inconveniences patients. Its decision to provide oximeters to monitor the oxygen saturation levels of patients under home isolation is a welcome step. The national capital could also follow the example of Kerala and Karnataka, which have involved the community in tracing the contacts of COVID positive patients. The Centre has assured the Delhi government technical help in redrawing the containment zones. It should continue to play the role of a guiding force, not do anything that could be construed as power play in a time of crisis. In the coming days and weeks, the two governments will need to work in unison — they will be watched for how well they can do so.

IN ALL FAIRNESS

Black Lives Matter exerts an influence from afar, kickstarts a long-overdue process against hard-coded racism in India

FOR DECADES, ENLIGHTENED Indians have railed against fairness creams, and helplessly watched their sales graphs grow. But now this market segment, which feeds off and reinforces the racist binary of light and darkness deeply entrenched in society and reflected in the caste hierarchy, faces the most impersonal correctives — globalisation and commerce. In response to the Black Lives Matter movement, which has spilled out of the US, Johnson & Johnson have exited the face whitening category in Asia and the Middle East and ordered a drastic recall of products which were either sold as or perceived as whitening agents. Neutrogena Fine Fairness and Clean & Clear are the first product lines to be affected, and distributors have been ordered to immediately ship back or destroy their inventories. These products are also being removed from J&J websites.

In the US, corporates which persisted in selling products associated with racism, while welcoming the movement triggered by the killing of George Floyd, are being accused of hypocrisy, and there is a rush to cleanse the stables by erasing, repositioning or updating products. J&J has erased the fairness segment and updated Band-Aid to reflect different skin tones. Last week, PepsiCo's Quaker Oats committed to rebranding its Aunt Jemima line of pancakes and syrups, which are sold with the image of a smiling black woman from the era of segregation, if not of slavery. And meanwhile, a campaign burgeons against Unilever's Fair & Lovely, whose niacinamide inhibits the production of melanin, and which is sold all over Asia.

In half the world east of Eden, the popularity of fairness creams has stood testimony to how deeply ingrained racism is in cultures that are not white, but aspire to be so. It is also reflected in the enthusiasm with which India has rebuffed international attempts to equate race with caste, a concept informed by varna, which literally signifies colour. Who would have thought that markets would be the deal-breaker of an ancient and ugly tacit understanding that pervades so much of the Old World? But outside the segment of fairness creams, racism remains the name of the game. Whether it's carrom or chess, White plays first. In all fairness, to equalise the question of primacy, why not consider the toss of a coin, which only bears the colour of money?

HIS GOLDEN ARM

Rajinder Goel did not get to play for the country. That's a mighty loss for Indian cricket

IN ANY OTHER cricketing era in India, left-arm spinner Rajinder Goel, who died on Sunday, would have played Test cricket. Such was his calibre, but the accident of birth had him competing with some of the finest practitioners of spin bowling ever, like Bishan Singh Bedi, B S Chandrasekhar, E A S Prasanna and S Venkataraghavan. He never complained, but continued his labours on the domestic fields, finding joy in every little accomplishment.

There was a tragic beauty to his narrative, as you would find with a raft of such players across sports. A parallel can be drawn to the Caribbean pace-bowlers from the late '70s to mid-'80s, mean machines as good as Malcolm Marshall or Michael Holding, but who could not break into the team or command a permanent spot. Like the strapping Barbadian tear-away Sylvester Clarke, the only bowler Viv Richards admitted he ever felt "uncomfortable" facing, Graham Gooch had his helmet split down the middle. Or his fiery fellow Bajans, Wayne Daniel and Franklyn Stephenson. Similarly, an army of Australian batsmen was confined to playing county cricket in the mid-aughts, thanks to a brigade of high-quality exponents. Stuart Law batted just once in a Test match — remained unbeaten on 54 — but ended up forever on the fringes, despite gathering 27k runs in domestic cricket. Or Jimmy Maher, Jamie Cox or Michael di Venuto. Similarly, so overflowing was Spain's talent pool in the late aughts that they couldn't accommodate Gabi, and Mikel Arteta.

It's the mischief of golden generations. How West Indies cricket would have pleaded to have someone like Clarke or Daniel in this era, just as Spain would wish they had Gabi or Arteta. Between Bedi and Ravindra Jadeja, India handed Test caps to men whose talents were inferior to Goel's. In German football they have a term: Unvollendeter, an unfulfilled person. It seems harsh, for those who are remembered and revered, as in Goel's case, despite not representing their country. For, there was a glorious dignity to their labours, making them legends nonetheless.



C RAJA MOHAN

THE BRUTAL CHINESE ambush that killed Indian and Chinese soldiers in the Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh last week will hopefully compel Delhi to confront the enduring tragedy of India's China policy. That tragedy is rooted in persistent political fantasies, refusal to learn from past mistakes, and the belief that the US and the West are at the source of India's problems with China.

This is not about blaming one party or another that ruled Delhi in the last seven decades. There is plenty of blame to go around; and the problem predates independence. Each generation has compounded the challenge with the reluctance to discard the illusions that India's China policy has nurtured over the last century.

Let us start with Rabindranath Tagore, who went to China in 1924 with the ambition of developing a shared Asian spiritual civilisation. Tagore returned deeply disappointed as radical groups, including members of the newly formed Chinese Communist Party, turned on the poet and his hosts for conspiring to divert Chinese attention away from the imperatives of modernisation and, yes, westernisation.

Next was the turn of Jawaharlal Nehru, who approached China as a modernist and nationalist. He met a delegation of Chinese nationalists at Brussels in 1927 and issued a ringing statement on defeating western imperialism and shaping a new Asian and global order. But when the Second World War broke out a decade later, the Congress was unwilling to join hands with China in defeating Japanese imperialism. For all the exalted rhetoric of anti-imperialism, Indian and Chinese nationalists could not come together for they were fighting different imperial powers.

As India's first PM, Nehru reached out to the Communist rulers of China, campaigned against the western attempt to isolate them, serenaded Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai at the Afro-Asian conference in Bandung, Indonesia in 1955. Within five years, India and China were at each other's throats and a war broke out in 1962. Atal Bihari Vajpayee traveled to China in February 1979 to re-engage Beijing. Before he could head home, Beijing had launched a war against a fellow communist regime in Vietnam. So much for Asian solidarity! Rajiv Gandhi in 1988 sought to normalise relations with China while continu-

Acknowledging China's rise, scale of challenge it presents, are first steps in crafting a new China policy

ing to negotiate on the boundary dispute.

That defined a template that in the end neither normalised the relationship nor resolved the boundary dispute. To make matters worse, other issues have taken a life of their own — for example, the massive annual trade deficits. If India thought economic co-operation will improve mutual trust and create conditions for resolving political differences with China, it has been in for a rude shock. India's massive trade deficit with China is now a little over half of its total trade deficit. Worse, India is finding it hard to disentangle the deep economic dependence on imports from China and resurrect its manufacturing sector.

As the Cold War came to a close, India bet that political cooperation with China on global issues will provide the basis for better bilateral relations. It could not have been more wrong. P V Narasimha Rao and his successors joined China and Russia in promoting a "multipolar world" — the code for limiting America's power after Washington came out victorious in the Cold War and facilitated the break-up of the Soviet Union.

Nearly a quarter of a century after embarking on a strategy to blunt America's "unipolar moment", Delhi is now struggling to cope with the emergence of a "unipolar Asia" — with Beijing as its dominant centre. China's rapid rise has also paved the way for the potential emergence of a "bipolar world" dominated by Washington and Beijing.

That brings us to the perennial illusion in Delhi about Asian and anti-Western solidarity with China. Despite the failure of the repeated efforts to construct such unity with China — in the interwar years, the decade after independence, and the post Cold War years — the Indian elite persists with the myth.

Linked to this is the unyielding claim that the US is seeking to divide India and China; but for the evil imperialists, the fantasy goes, Delhi and Beijing would be enjoying everlasting peace and friendship. The fact is, we don't need America to divide India and China; our respectable territorial nationalisms and irreconcilable conflicts of interest do that job rather well.

There are other interesting facts, too. The British imperialists, for example, wanted Indian and Chinese nationalists to unite

against Japanese imperialists during the Second World War. London encouraged Chiang Kai-shek to visit India and meet with Mahatma Gandhi; Gandhi met Chiang but refused to cooperate. While the Congress opted out of the war, British India, Great Britain and the US embarked on a massive effort to support the beleaguered Chinese government in Chungking.

China never really bought into the Indian ideas of building coalitions against the West. While India never stopped arguing with the West, China developed a sustained engagement with the US, Europe and Japan. Mao broke with Communist Russia to join forces with the US in the early 1970s, less than two decades after he fought the American forces in the Korean War. Deng Xiaoping promoted massive economic cooperation with the US to transform China and lay the foundations for its rise.

While China has leveraged the deep relationship with the West to elevate itself in the international system, Delhi continues to think that staying away from America is the answer for good relations with Beijing. Beijing sees the world through the lens of power, while Delhi tends to resist that realist prism. India has consistently misread China's interests and ambitions. The longer India takes to shed that strategic lassitude, the greater will be its China trouble.

Delhi needs to come to terms with the fact that a gigantic power has risen on its door step. India must also recognise that China, like the great powers before it, wants to redeem its territorial claims, has the ambition to bend the neighbourhood to its will, reshape the global order to suit its interests. China has certainly not hidden these goals and interests; but India has refused to see what is in plain sight.

Acknowledging China's dramatic rise and recognising the scale of the challenge it presents are the first steps for Delhi in crafting a new China policy. For the Modi government, this should be a valuable opportunity to get back to basics on restoring internal political coherence, accelerating economic modernisation and expanding India's national power.

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



BISHAN SINGH BEDI

OF ALL my contemporaries plying their trade of spinning a web on the cricket pitch, I was fondest of Rajinder Goel. He left us on June 21 without a murmur, which was so much in keeping with his cricketing years. No cribbing or remorse. Just a move to another pavilion to see what the Almighty has in store for him.

I've never been able to figure out the media assessment that it was Bishan Bedi who prevented Goel from donning the India cap. He was my senior by a country mile and lasted much longer on the Indian scene. But yes, I concede I was a trifle luckier than my erstwhile colleague from Rohtak. Beyond that, I ruefully accept that Goel was hugely unfortunate to miss the bus.

However, the courage with which he accepted the verdict and carried on serving cricket most selflessly is exemplary. Much of the time, while in Delhi, we were colleagues at the State Bank of India (SBI). We had a healthy, mutual respect for each other. The one thing I noticed about Goel was that he would always disappear from Delhi as soon as our games would get over. Such was his strong bond with his folks back in Rohtak.

Goel was almost robotic in his bowling pattern, and was a captain's delight. He never asked for any particular end or field place-

SPINNING A MAGICAL WEB

Left-arm spinner Rajinder Goel served cricket selflessly and quietly

ment. "Just give me one over to find my rhythm," he'd say confidently. And then he would go about his job with mechanical precision. The only people who had to be on their toes were the batsmen facing him.

I remember his very brief stint with the Lancashire league. During my county days with Northamptonshire, the West Indian great Rohan Kanhai once asked if there was a first-class left-arm spinner in India willing to try his hand for his old club Blackpool.

I got in touch with Goel and, within days, he was in Blackpool wrecking oppositions as was his wont. Everyone in the League was very pleased with Goel's performance — except Goel himself. In less than a month, he was back in Rohtak. The Blackpool club secretary wrote to me about how he missed Goel. He also sent a few paper clippings about Goel's outstanding bowling feats.

But Goel had to go home. "I've got a telegram, my wife is pregnant" — he had told the club. The club didn't know how to handle the situation. So Goel, in a matter of a few days, went from Rohtak to Delhi to Heathrow to Manchester to Blackpool to Manchester to Heathrow to Delhi, and finally, back to Rohtak. All this without even seeing London. His urge to be with his family was very strong. League

cricket was not for him. He just couldn't take the English social life. Since I had known him for so long, I could understand. But how was I going to convince Kanhai?

In the 1980s, we had set up a Veteran Cricketers' Benevolent Fund on the same lines as the famous Cricketers Benefit Fund Series (CBFS) in Sharjah. We would play the veterans' series with Pakistan in India, Pakistan and Sharjah. Goel was the first beneficiary. I remember he was ever so thrilled and touched. He sobbed like a child hugging me tight. I can never forget that moment of gracious gratitude.

Goel was a self-professed "bania" and as such, was loathe to be a spendthrift. This trait reflected abundantly in his very stingy bowling figures too. Somewhere along the line, I reckon the "ambition" aspect, for him, might have taken the back seat. But he was a contended man, something I observed closely, and with a fair amount of envy, if I may add. Goel was a committed family man. And, of course, he was inseparable from his wife, Sushila. All that seems like a fairytale now. Rest in Peace, Goely. Cricket in the north can never be grateful enough for your awesome contribution.

The writer is a former captain of the Indian cricket team



JUNE 23, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

THE CHINA DEAL
THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT withheld comment on the reported package deal offered by the Chinese vice-premier, Deng Xiaoping, on the Sino-Indian border dispute. Instead, New Delhi has chosen to wait for the return of Eric Gonsalves, secretary in the ministry of external affairs, who is currently in Beijing holding discussions with the Chinese leaders on the entire gamut of relations between the two countries. Xiaoping made the offer in an interview to a New Delhi journal, *Vikrant*, on the eve of Gonsalves' discussions. The operative part of the interview quoted Xiaoping saying that while China "can recognise the present

Line of Actual Control at the eastern sector, India should recognise the status quo in the western sector."

SOVIET WITHDRAWAL
THE SOVIET UNION announced today that "some army units whose stay in Afghanistan is not necessary at present are being withdrawn". The six-line announcement by the official Soviet news agency said the withdrawal of the troops was being made in agreement with the Afghan leadership. The agency did not say how many of the estimated 85,000 Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan were being withdrawn.

ASSAM FLAG MARCH
AS TENSION RAN high throughout the Brahmaputra Valley following violent incidents in North Lakhimpur town in upper Assam yesterday, troops staged flag marches at a number of places including Jorhat, Lakhimpur, Rangiya and Golaghat, to show their presence. Troops continued to be deployed in curfew-bound North Lakhimpur for the second day. The indefinite curfew, clamped on the town yesterday, was not relaxed today. The situation at Tinsukhia, also curfew-bound, was officially stated to be "quiet but tense". Curfew was not relaxed in the town for the fourth day.

THE IDEAS PAGE

Securing the sea lanes

China has used civilian vessels for military purposes. There is a pressing need for India, with like-minded countries, to develop a comprehensive Underwater Domain Awareness strategy



VIJAY GOKHALE

AT A TIME when China's pre-meditated military moves along our northern boundary are drawing the nation's attention, it is important that we don't lose sight of our surrounding seas.

Our navy has interdicted Chinese maritime research and survey vessels that entered our Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and Continental Shelf (CS) without our prior consent in 2018 and 2019. India has legislation (Act No. 80/1976) that requires foreign marine scientific vessels to seek licence prior to undertaking activities. The Chinese claim that they are serving the interests of global scientific research. That may well be one purpose; but it is well-known that China uses civilian research vessels to gather crucial oceanographic data, such as sub-sea and sea-bed conditions, for military purposes. It has done so in the South China Sea without heed to protests by claimant states or international law.

To put this into perspective, one recent survey done by the Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative (CSIS), shows that between April 2019 and March 2020, China deployed 25 maritime survey missions in the Indo-Pacific. This figure is only marginally less than the 27 missions mounted by the next six countries taken cumulatively — US (10), Japan (6), India (4), Australia (3), France (3) and the Philippines (1).

Earlier this year, the Australians voiced concern over the activities of the Chinese vessel Xiang Yang Hong No. 1 in international waters between the Australian mainland and Christmas Island. They suspected that aside from marine science research, the ship was also studying submarine routes from Australia into the South China Sea. This, incidentally, is the same vessel that operated in international waters just south of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands from April 15 to May 21, 2019, presumably with similar objectives. China has mounted at least six survey missions covering the waters between Indonesia and Sri Lanka, in the Bay of Bengal and the Northern Arabian Sea, in 2019-2020.

The Cambodian opposition leader, Sam Rainsy, wrote recently in *Foreign Affairs* that China follows a "pattern of denial and obfuscation" in its military expansion overseas. Beijing initially denied its intention to militarise the Spratly Islands but eventually acknowledged that they serve a military purpose. A similar pattern surrounded the Chinese military base in the Horn of Africa. Nobody any longer accepts China's claim that the Djibouti base is simply a logistics facility. Rainsy has expressed concern over a secret deal that gives China exclusive access to Cambodia's Ream Naval Base. If this report is accurate, it will bring China one step closer to our shores. This is not the only concern to be had. It is also believed that PLAN (PLAN) intelligence-gathering ships have sailed our coast-line to gather information on naval facilities and ships. It will, almost certainly, do so again.

China may well take the position that both activities are legitimate under international



CR Sasikumar

law. The Law of the Sea Convention says that military vessels have "right to innocent passage" to traverse the territorial sea of a coastal state without entering internal waters so long as they are not prejudicial to peace, good order and security of the coastal state. The Convention is also open to different interpretations on the question of scientific surveys in the EEZ of coastal states. The US, for instance, maintains that hydrographical surveys without prior notice or consent are lawful in line with centuries of state practice, customary and international law and Articles 58, 86 and 87 of the Convention. However, it is worth noting that China herself explicitly requires all foreign marine research, and for that matter military, vessels to seek prior permission before they enter China's territorial seas as defined in their Declaration on the Territorial Sea (1958). The question, therefore, is whether China will respect the laws of other coastal states like India. In that regard, recent Chinese behaviour in the South China Sea does not give reason for optimism.

It is a reasonable presumption that the completion of Gwadar and the use of Ream (Cambodia) if such a report is confirmed, will make it easier for China to sustain naval deployments — including submarines — in the Indian Ocean. The collection of vital hydrographical data is critical to their understanding of the sub-surface environment, particularly around the Andaman Islands, which is a choke-point from the Chinese perspective, as well as to monitor our own submarine movements. It should, therefore, be presumed that in the coming 12-24 months, the Chinese could step up their efforts to secure significantly improved data in the seas between the Malacca Straits and Djibouti, especially in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea, through any one, or all, of the following.

First, the Chinese might try to send another survey vessel without our permission into our EEZ, even possibly under naval escort. In May, the Chinese survey vessel Haiyang Dizi No. 8 accompanied by two Chinese coast guard ships and several fishing vessels (probably maritime militia) entered the Malaysian EEZ in the South China Sea for over a month despite Malaysian protests. Such action would contravene Indian law but the Chinese have never been deterred by finer points of the law.

Second, more likely, they might deploy unmanned underwater drones in our EEZ, while the mother vessel remains just outside. A re-

Earlier this year, Australians voiced concern over the activities of the Chinese vessel Xiang Yang Hong No. 1 in international waters between the Australian mainland and Christmas Island. They suspect that aside from marine science research, the ship was also studying submarine routes from Australia into the South China Sea. This, incidentally, is the same vessel that operated in international waters just south of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands from April 15 to May 21, 2019, presumably with similar objectives. China has mounted at least six survey missions covering the waters between Indonesia and Sri Lanka, in the Bay of Bengal and the Northern Arabian Sea, in 2019-2020.

cent *Forbes* report claims that Sea-Wing underwater, unmanned drones were launched from the Xiang Yang Hong No. 6 in mid-December 2019 and successfully retrieved in February 2020. That should be a matter of our immediate concern as during that period this very ship was in the Bay of Bengal from January 27 to February 24.

Third, China might sail PLAN intelligence-gathering ships along our coasts or in the waters off our island territories, just outside the 12 nautical mile limit, on grounds that this is "innocent passage" by naval vessels permissible under relevant provisions of the Convention; in other words the Chinese version of Freedom of Navigation operations.

We have the necessary capacity to monitor and interdict survey vessels well before they enter our EEZ. The need for a comprehensive Underwater Domain Awareness (UDA) strategy is pressing. This will need coordination between our national security agencies, the navy, and the government departments responsible for the marine environment and disaster management, but also collaboration with like-minded countries who share our concerns. Such cooperation includes, inter alia, deepening of real-time information exchange, co-development and deployment of UDA monitoring devices and joint processing of acoustic signatures, and closer coordination in the patrolling of sea lanes to ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific.

The deployment of PLAN intelligence-gathering ships with naval escort along our coasts might also require a new sort of response. We should learn from Chinese tactics. ARAND study describes how they use fishing boats, which are actually "maritime militia", to overwhelm the external adversary with swarm-tactics, supported from the rear by coast-guard or naval vessels. This is below the threshold of a military response, and a successful, albeit crude, way of blocking the PLAN vessel. We have multiple fishing communities that can be provided with the capacity and training for such purposes. Building Maritime Domain Awareness, and especially Underwater Domain Awareness (UDA) capabilities and technology, both domestically and with like-minded partners, should be given the highest priority. There may not be more time to lose.

The writer is a former Foreign Secretary and Indian ambassador to China

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"India cannot replicate the US' overbearing approach to China. India will suffer more losses if it launches a trade war against China." — **GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA**

An indomitable resolve

Syama Prasad Mookerjee's death anniversary is occasion to remember his sacrifice for national unity



PRABHAT JHA

MANY DEATH ANNIVERSARIES are celebrated in the country every year. However, those pious souls are very fortunate, whose supporters or ideals make their "sacrifice" meaningful. Syama Prasad Mookerjee is one such supreme pious soul, who sacrificed his life on June 23, 1953, for the cause of a united India. From the Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS) to now in the BJP, June 23 has had been celebrated not just as the death anniversary of Mookerjee, but also as a day of resolution to abrogate Article 370 from the Constitution. In every manifesto, the declaration of Mookerjee to abrogate the temporary Article 370 was affirmed. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who had travelled with Murlī Manohar Joshi and hoisted the tricolour at the Lal Chowk of Srinagar, Article 370 was abrogated on August 5, 2019. Home Minister Amit Shah worked as a true patriot in passing the Bill in both the Houses of Parliament.

Mookerjee made a significant contribution in the fields of education, politics, society and culture. He became a member of the Bengal Legislative Council in 1929, and was the youngest Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calcutta from 1934 to 1938. Later, he became the finance minister of the Province of Bengal, and was subsequently elected the national president of the All India Hindu Mahasabha, the Mahabodhi Society and the Royal Asiatic Society. Mookerjee was also a member of the Constituent Assembly. He got the opportunity to serve the country as a minister in the first cabinet of independent India. In the first general election, he was elected to the Lok Sabha from South Calcutta.

Mookerjee did not want that Partition should happen. For this, he went to Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhiji said the Congress did not listen to him. Nehru was also in favour of Partition. When it became inevitable, Mookerjee pledged to ensure that the interests of the Hindus of Bengal were not neglected. His efforts ensured that the Muslim League's plan to annex the entire province could not succeed.

Due to Nehru's disregard for the displaced and his own commitment to national interests, Mookerjee resigned from the Union Cabinet on April 8, 1950. He believed that the Nehru-Liaquat agreement was meaningless as it entrusted the responsibility of protecting the interests of minorities on the Indian government, but no such initiative was taken by Pakistan. After resigning from the Nehru cabinet, Mookerjee explored the possibility of forming a political party. He met with the second sarsangchalak (chief) of the RSS, M S Golwalkar (Guruji), and urged him to

establish the BJS. Guruji freed eight pracharaks, and this is where the work of BJS started with the mission of correcting the mistakes of Nehru. The BJS was founded on October 21, 1951, and Mookerjee became its founding president.

The BJS won three Lok Sabha seats in the first general election, held from October 25, 1951, to February 21, 1952. Mookerjee was one of the three MPs. He attacked Nehru's policies in Parliament. During a debate in the House, Nehru once pointed to Mookerjee and said, "Jana Sangh is a communal party, I will crush the Jana Sangh". Mookerjee replied, "My friend Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru says that he will crush Jana Sangh, I say I will crush this crushing mentality."

Even though the problem of Kashmir's special status became visible to the people later, Mookerjee understood its seriousness from the beginning. His speeches in the Lok Sabha in 1952 make it clear that what happened later in Kashmir — terrorism, atrocities and the exodus of Hindus — had been foretold. The separatist tendencies that emerged from Sheikh Abdullah's political activities had begun to take hold by 1952. Due to this, the national mind was disturbed. Mookerjee fully supported the satyagraha of the Praja Parishad, which aimed to make J&K an integral part of India. In support, he raised a strong slogan: "Two flags in one country, two legislations in one country, two heads in one country, unacceptable, unacceptable" (Ek desh mein do nishan, ek desh mein do vidhan, ek desh mein do pradhan, nahi chahenge). At a massive rally in Jammu in August 1952, he expressed his resolve: "Either I will get you the Indian Constitution or I will sacrifice my life for the purpose".

To fulfil his resolve, Mookerjee decided to challenge the Nehru government in New Delhi and Abdullah's government in Srinagar. In May 1953, he set out on a trip to J&K to study the situation there. In those days, permits had to be obtained for entry into J&K. When he was asked for a permit, he said, "I am a member of the Parliament of India, I will not take a permit in Kashmir in my own country". He was put under house arrest. For 40 days, neither medical care nor other basic facilities were provided. He died on June 23 under mysterious circumstances. To realise his resolve, Mookerjee sacrificed his life for the motherland. At his funeral in Kolkata, over two lakh people gathered to pay tribute. Mookerjee's resolve became the resolution of the nation. His sacrifice became the vow to abolish Article 370.

The 70-year-old mission was achieved by the Modi government within 70 days of its second term. Mookerjee was the first Indian to sacrifice his life for Jammu and Kashmir. June 23, the day of supreme sacrifice, should be observed in the country as Ek Nishan, Ek Vidhan, Ek Pradhan Day. With this, the nation will not only remember him on his sacrifice every year, the spirit of national unity and integrity will also be strengthened.

The writer is national vice-president, BJP and a former Rajya Sabha MP



UMA LELE

RATTAN LAL, NATIVE of India and a citizen of the United States, has been awarded the 2020 World Food Prize. He is one of eight persons of Indian origin to have received the prize, established by Norman Borlaug in 1987. Borlaug won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1972 for his work on hybridisation of wheat and rice, which led to the Green Revolution in the mid-1960s. The World Food Prize is often described as the Nobel for research in food. Upon winning the Nobel, Borlaug had tried to convince the Nobel committee to set up a prize for food. When it refused, he set up the award himself.

The awards to eight Indians of the total of 50 given so far are a tribute to the country's agricultural university education and research system. The awardees are perfect role models for India's rural youth. The country should celebrate their achievements unabashedly when 7-10 million new productive jobs need to be created annually, and when it accounts for a third of global undernourishment. The COVID-19 pandemic has made job creation and improved nutrition and health more urgent than ever.

What is common to these scientists is their modest background — almost all are sons of farmers. Each has dedicated his life to the pursuit of agricultural science with integrity and passion, spanning decades of research and making spectacular contributions to environmentally sustainable food production. Their work has benefitted millions of small and marginal farmers throughout the

Celebrating Rattan Lal

Winners of World Food Prize can be role models for India's young

world. They are also role models because they have demonstrated high returns to investment in agricultural education and scientific research.

The awardees all come from the time of the green and rainbow revolutions (of dairy and aqua-culture), when India invested heavily in agricultural science education and research and Indian scientists shone brightly in the global galaxy of science. Government support for state agricultural universities, and research conducted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the departments of science and technology and biotechnology has slipped in recent years. Today, not a single Indian university is counted among the top 100 in the world.

Rattan Lal was awarded for developing and mainstreaming a soil-centric approach to increasing food production that restores and conserves natural resources and mitigates climate change. His research has shown that growing crops on healthy soils produces more food from less land area, less use of agrochemicals, less tillage, less water, and less energy.

Born in Pakistan in 1943, Lal's family migrated to India during Partition. He completed his education from the Punjab Agricultural University — another PAU alumnus, Gurdev Khush, won the prize in 1996 for his research on rice breeding. Other recipients of the prize include M S Swaminathan, Verghese Kurien, Ramlal Barwale, Surinder Vasal, Modadugu Gupta and Sanjaya Rajaram.

Swaminathan's vision transformed India from a "begging bowl" to a "breadbasket" almost overnight, bringing the total crop yield of wheat from 12 million tonnes to 23 million tonnes in four crop seasons and ending India's dependence on grain imports. Kurien, received the prize in 1989 for India's white revolution. Under his leadership, milk production increased from 23.3 million tonnes (1968-69) to 100.9 million tonnes (2006-07) and is projected to reach 187 million tonnes for 2019-20, bringing millions of small and marginal farmers, including women into the marketplace.

Barwale, a small farmer and entrepreneur, received the award in 1996. He made selling seeds of okra and sorghum "hip" and founded the Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company. The Crop Science Society of America has called him father of the seed industry in India. He introduced hybrid rice from China to India and established an eye clinic for the poor in his native town of Jalna.

Vasal was given the prize in 2000 for developing quality protein maize (QPM). Integrating cereal chemistry and plant breeding techniques, Vasal and Villegas of Mexico collaborated to work on "opaque-2" maize variety using molecular biology techniques. In the mid-1980s, they produced a QPM germplasm with hard kernel characteristics and taste like that of the traditional grain, but with much higher quality levels of lysine and tryptophan, thereby enhancing the nutrition

value. Vasal had received his PhD in genetics and plant breeding from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI).

Gupta received the award in 2005 for starting a blue revolution. Educated in Calcutta, he worked as a research associate at ICAR and developed two exceptional approaches for increasing fish harvests among the very poor thereby increasing the protein and mineral content in the diets of over one million of the world's most impoverished families. Gupta's aquaculture technologies boosted Bangladesh's fish yields from 304 kg per hectare to over 2,500 kg per hectare in less than a year — including 1,000 kg per hectare harvests in the dry season.

Rajaram, who won the prize in 2014, succeeded Borlaug in leading CIMMYT's wheat breeding programme and developed an astounding 480 varieties that have been widely adopted by both small and large-scale farmers. Rajaram was born near a small farming village in Uttar Pradesh and received his master's degree from IARI.

Students and faculty at ICAR and state agricultural universities can follow in their footsteps and achieve scientific excellence, if they receive the resources and their work is supported with incentives.

The writer is visiting scholar, Institute of Economic Growth and president elect, International Association of Agricultural Economists

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

REQUEST & PROMISE

OUR COMBINED REQUEST to the public and veterans alike is: Please let us do our job. Rest assured, we will lay down our lives without batting an eyelid if defending the country requires that. But please avoid reasoning every move we make and everything that we do in the battlefield. If there's anything you can do for us, it is just to be appreciative of what we are doing and give strength to our dear ones left behind at home through your words and if possible through your deeds. If that is not possible, we will still be happy, if you avoid trying to analyse 24/7 every move we make or don't make. By the way, while confronting the enemy on the battlefield, we don't look for any political instructions. Our competent commanders on the spot give instructions. They care for us, rub shoulders with us. We look up to them. So, we request you, our countrymen, countrywomen, and our veterans, to kindly avoid analysing our minute to minute actions that too in public. If you are divided, it could shake our confidence, because, your unity, trust, support and belief gives us greater strength than weapons. Trust us, we don't hide facts, but we certainly hold back operationally sensitive information which could help the enemy. In return, we give you the promise of guarding our borders with our life. We salute you and salute our tricolour, the two most precious things that we value most.

Commodore Mediodma Bhada,
via email

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● **MORE THAN MEDICAL HELP: VIKAS BAJPAI AND HARJIT SINGH BHATTI**

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POLITICS VS DIPLOMACY

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'A time for maturity' (IE, June 22). As the propaganda machinery of the government works on rhetoric, the writer's wishful thinking will remain a distant dream. While the Galwan Valley ambush may look like a political and diplomatic disaster, it's an electoral gainer for the BJP.

Shekhar Deshmukh, Mumbai

ANSWER THEM

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Unlike China' (IE, June 22). Questions from the Opposition on the country's sovereignty are intrinsic to a democracy. The government should respond with satisfactory answers.

Azhar A Khan, Rampur

Classified

PERSONAL

I, pankaj Kumar Singh S/o Mahipal Singh R/o 26B, Shipra Sun City, Indrapuram, Dist:- Ghaziabad, UP-201014, Confirm That in My Passport my Father and Mother name wrongly mentioned as Manipal Singh and Sushila Singh instead of Mahipal Singh and Sushila. Respectively. Correct name of my Father is Mahipal Singh and my Mother is Sushila.

0040539961-6

I Abhishek Sharma S/o Rajiv Sharma R/o 197, Dayanand Vihar, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Abhishek Kumar Sharma

0070707127-1

I Ajay Kumar S/O, Sh. Bhagwan Das R/o House No. 3, Block 10 Spring Field Faridabad Haryana have changed my name to Ajay Satija for all purposes

0040539930-1

I Bhupender Singh S/O, Santosh Singh R/o Rz-12 A, Ravi Nagar Extension, Khayala, Delhi-110018 have changed my name to Bhupinder Singh.

0040539935-1

I Johny S/o Narendar Pal R/o 375/23, DLF, Colony Rohtak, Haryana-124001, have changed my name to Jatin for all purpose.

0070707123-1

IKHUSHBOO D/O SWAMINATH YADAV,R/O-D-3/80,SHIV-DURGA VIHAR, LAKKARPUR, FARIDABAD, HARYANA-121009,have changed my name to KHUSHBOO YADAV.

0040539955-5

IKISMAT BHARAJ D/O MANJIT SINGH BHARAJ R/O-D-1/7 FIRST-FLOOR HAUZ-KHAS NEW DELHI-110016 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO KISMAT KAUR BHARAJ.

0040539956-6

I, Versha Rani W/o- Hari Chand R/o-H.No.151, 3rd-Floor, Sector-21-C, Faridabad,have changed my name to Varsha Rani for all future purposes. 0040539955-1

I, Usha Rani@Usha Tayal@Manju Mittal W/o- Mukesh Kumar Mittal and,D/o Trilok Chand Tayal R/o-H.No.-25/120 Gali.No.13 Vishwas-Nagar,Delhi-110032 declare that all names are mine and same person and have changed my name to Manju Mittal,for future,Purpose.

0040539955-3

I, RISHAB KUMAR S/O-JC-331492K SUB DINESH KUMAR R/O-VPO-SELHUPUR, TEH-PUKHARAYAN,DISTT-KANPUR(DEHAT)UP-209112,have changed my name,from RISHAB KUMAR to RISHABH KUMAR,for all,future purposes in my-father's service-record my date-of-birth wrongly-mentioned as-28/06/1997 instead of-28/01/1996. 0040539955-4

I, NEETU BANSAL W/O SANJEEV GLOE R/O-A-2,116, SECOND-FLOOR, SECTOR-3, ROHINI, DELHI-110085. CHANGED MY NAME TO NITU GOEL.

0040539955-8

I, NEERAJ KUMAR, S/O RAJENDER PRASAD, 134, VPO, Sultanpurdabas, DELHI-39,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO NEERAJ KUMAR KAUSHIK PERMANENTLY. 0040539961-5

I, Mohamad Nazir S/o Mohamad Munshi R/o Vill Sateen, At Trotwan, Distt-Pathankot, Sarti, Gurdaspur, Punjab-145022, that name of my wife has been wrongly written as Nazia Malik in my official record GS-194823L, OEM. The actual name of my wife is Nazia Bibi

0070707103-1

I, Kalyan Singh S/o Jagpal Singh, R/o Dankaur, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-203201, declare that name of my daughter and mine has been wrongly written as Lipakshi Singh Sejwar and Kalyan Singh Sejwar respectively in my minor daughter Lipakshi Singh aged 16 years in her School Records. The actual name of my daughter and mine is Lipakshi Singh and Kalyan Singh respectively

0070707126-1

I Bholenath S/o Gama Chauhan R/o Garm Chakiya Bhagawanpur, Post Ialgañi, Azamgarh, UP-276202, have changed my name to Rudra Pratap Singh Chauhan

0070707129-1

I, Vijaya Kumaran.S.S/o Vikram R/O C-1, Police Colony, Shakur Pur, Saraswati Vihar, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Vijay Kumar.

0070707128-1

I, KHALIQUE AHMAD, S/O- CHHUTTAN, R/O-A-1/38 AMAN VIHAR KIRARI SULEMAN NAGAR DELHI-110086, have changed my name to KHALIK AHMED.

0040539955-9

I, Jincy Jaise W/O, Jaise P R/O 85/9 Shanthi Niwas Vasantkunji, kishangarh New Delhi 110070 have changed my name to Jincy George for all purposes.

0040539933-1

I, HIMMAT SINGH chauhan, S/o. Ram autar singh chauhan,Add-H-2-FARM-VIEW APARTMENT SATBARI-SOUTH/DELHI-110074, changed my name to HIMMAT SINGH,FOR ALL,PURPOSES.

0040539955-10

I Parul Chauhan S/o Pratap Singh R/o House No-10/27, Chauhan mohalla, Jasola Village, New Friends Colony, Delhi-110025, have changed my name to Pankaj Chauhan

0070707135-1

PUBLIC NOTICE
MY CLIENT SMT. ANITA W/O JAIPAL & SH. JAIPAL S/O LATE LAKMI CHAND R/O-288/16, CHANDNI MARKET, NAHARPUR SECTOR 7 ROHINI PRASHANT VIHAR NARELA NORTH - WEST DELHI-110085 HEREBY SEVERE ALL RELATIONS & DEBAR HIS SON ASHWANI FROM ALL HIS MOVABLE-IMMOVABLE PROPERTY(S) DUE TO THEIR MISCONDUCT & BEING OUT OF CONTROL. MY CLIENT SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR ANY ACTS IN FUTURE.

Sd/- RAJESH KUMAR (ADVOCATE)
CHAMBER NO. 820 8th FLOOR, CHAMBER BLOCK, ROHINI DISTRICT COURTS, DELHI-110085

PUBLIC NOTICE
My clients Ravi Shekhar and Neelam both R/o H.No. B-1/404, Gali No. 14, Harsh Vihar, Delhi-110083 have severed all their relations from their son Shikhar Suman and his wife Smt. Ambika Sarowa and debarred them from their movable and immovable properties due to their misbehaviour towards my clients. My clients shall not be responsible for their any acts.

Sd/- (Richa Singh) Advocate
Chamber No. E-216, Karkardooma Courts, Shahdara, Delhi-110032

PUBLIC NOTICE
General Public is hereby informed that my client Smt. Gyan Shree Devi wife of Late Shri Kantiya Lal Resident of 13-A, Pocket A-3, Mayur Vihar, Phase III, Delhi-110096 hereby declare that my Son Purushottam Kumar, his wife Radha, and their sons Manish Kumar and Devrat have gone out of control, they neither give any respect to me nor obey my sayings they have left our family home in year 1998, and has since not ever taken care of me or have asked about my well being and health, therefore I hereby with immediate effect disown and disinherit my son Purushottam Kumar, his wife Radha, and their sons Manish Kumar and Devrat from all my movable and immovable properties. That I will not be responsible for any of their acts, debts and debts.

That anyone dealing with them shall do at his/her own risk and responsibility. That I have no relation left with them anymore.

Sd/- Karan Anand (Advocate)
2A, Pocket A-3, Mayur Vihar, Ph. III Delhi-96

WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION
E-TENDER NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF MATERIALS
SMM (DL) SBI on behalf of the President of the India invites following electronic open tenders for supply of materials : **Sr. No. 1, Tender No. : 72-20-5096, Brief Description of Material : Plate Assembly of Air Duct, Qty : 130 Nos., Date & time of E-tender box closing : 11/07/2020 11:00 hrs.** Regarding detailed tender notice containing purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website www.irops.gov.in. Manual Offers will not be considered. **ADI-52**
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In Afghanistan to perform sewa, Sikh man abducted from gurdwara

DIVYA GOYAL & SHUBHAJIT ROY
LUDHIANA, NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

ASEHAJDHARI Sikh was allegedly abducted by four unidentified armed men from a gurdwara in Chamkani district of Afghanistan's Paktia province.

The man, identified as Nidan Singh Sachdeva (55), was allegedly abducted from Thala Sri Guru Nanak Sahib gurdwara in Chamkani. His family is in Delhi. Nidan had gone to Afghanistan three months ago to perform sewa at the gurdwara.

The Indian government condemned the abduction. MEA spokesperson Anurag Srivastava



Nidan Singh Sachdeva

said, "We strongly condemn the abduction of Nidan Singh, a leader of the Hindu and Sikh Community of Afghanistan, by terrorists. The targeting and persecution of the minority community members by terrorists at the behest of their external supporters is a matter of grave concern."

He added, "India is in touch with the Government of Afghanistan for ensuring safety, security and well-being of the minority community in Afghanistan."

MAHARASHTRA

Early sowing, but soyabeen seeds fail to germinate

PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS & KAVITHA IYER
PUNE, MUMBAI, JUNE 22

SOYABEAN FARMERS in parts of Maharashtra have started reporting early germination failure, which has put them in a fix.

Growers in some parts of the state have blamed inferior quality of seed, while in some cases, insufficient soil moisture is being blamed.

Agriculture Commissioner Suhas Diwase confirmed the problem but said it is restricted to some talukas of particular districts.

Timely onset of the monsoons had pushed farmers to hasten sowing activities, especially in Marathwada and Vidarbha. Soyabeen is a major kharif crop, with the state reporting around 40 to 42 lakh hectares of sowing. The oilseed is sown in June and

We hope the Government of Afghanistan would be able to secure safe and early release of Nidan Singh."

Charan Singh Sachdeva (57), Nidan's cousin who lives in Delhi, said: "We belong to Khost province in Afghanistan bordering Pakistan. Our family moved to India in the 1990s, but we keep visiting Afghanistan for the annual fair at Thala Sri Guru Nanak Sahib gurdwara in the month of Saawan. My brother went there in March to get repairs done at the gurdwara. There were also some visa formalities pending as he is still an Afghanistan citizen."

Charan Singh said they are in touch with Sikh community lead-

ers in Kabul. "We cannot say who has done this, but we are very scared." He said the incident happened on Wednesday night. "Since the Sehajdhari Sikh community left Khost, hardly anyone visits the gurdwara... We have deployed a security guard. It is the guard who called and told us that four men with weapons abducted Nidan."

He added: "Nidan's phone is on. When we call him, someone else leaves a voice note on WhatsApp asking about his family. In one of the messages they said they believe Nidan is an Indian spy." He added that there has been no demand for ransom.

Nidan worked as a cook and gurdwara sewadar in Delhi.



Soyabeen is a major kharif crop, with the state reporting around 40 to 42 lakh hectares of sowing. *File*

harvested October with the oil marketing year lasting till next September.

Well before the sowing season, the agriculture department had asked farmers to prioritise usage of their homegrown seeds. Also, the department had conducted around 3 lakh workshops to educate farmers about conducting germination tests and treating their seeds. The lockdown, seed manufacturers said, had put a stop to the process of certifying seeds and as such,

most seeds have been sold as "truthfully labelled". The early sowing, however, failed to help, as in many cases, the seeds failed to germinate. Diwase said complaints came in from some talukas of Yavatmal, Beed, Ahmednagar, Osmanabad and Pune.

"Seeds of some private players and a particular variety of Mahabeej (335) have failed to germinate. Also, there have been germination failures either due to deep sowing (seeds being planted too deep in the soil) or early sowing, wherein the seeds failed to germinate in want of proper soil moisture," he said.

Diwase said the problem has been referred to the agricultural universities, which will form a special team to investigate. "Maharashtra Seeds Corporation Limited has already started the process of investigating and replacing the seeds that have failed to germinate," he added.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

SBI State Bank of India
STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH
2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna- 800 001
Demand Notice u/s 13(2)

A notice is hereby given that the following Borrower/s has defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses, but they have been returned unserved and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Name of the Borrower	Details of Properties/Address of Secured Assets to be Enforced	Date of Notice & Date of NPA	Amount outstanding
M/s Sangita Traders, Prop. Smt. Sangita Devi W/o Sri Ramnath Lal Rastogi, By Pass Road, Ward No.1, Near West Cabin Dhala, Distt.-Kharagaria, (Bihar)	Hypothecation of Movable Properties: Hypothecation of properties viz. Current Assets and Hypothecated Movable Plant and machinery etc. of the borrower mentioned in the documents.	20.02.2020 & 30.04.2017	₹20,83,623.00 (Rs. Twenty lak eighty three thousand six hundred twenty three only) as on 30.08.2017
M/s Balajee Ingot India Pvt. Ltd., Naya Bazar, Lakhisarai-811311, Bihar.	Hypothecation of properties viz. Current Assets and Hypothecated Movable Plant and machinery etc. of the borrower mentioned in the documents.	19.05.2020 & 28.01.2020	₹7,35,97,802.58 (Rs. Seven crore thirty five lak ninety seven thousand eight hundred two and paise fifty eight only) as on 30.04.2020

Administrative Office: Lav-Kush Tower, Exhibition Road, Patna, Distt.-Patna, State-Bihar, Pin-800001

Director: 1. Aditya Kanodia S/o Sir Nirmal Kanodia, Hunger Fort Street, Orbit Enclave, Flat No.-3C, 12/3A, Piccaso Bithli, Circus Avenue, Kolkata, West Bengal, Pin-700017

Director: 2. Sri Ramesh Kumar Daruka S/o Sri Ratan Lal Durka, Naya Bazar, Pachna Road, Near Telephone Exchange, Ward No.22, Lakhisarai, Distt.-Lakhisarai, Bihar-811311

Director: 3. Sri Awadhesh Agrawal S/o Sri Gopal Agrawal, Ramkalia Bhawan, Swaraj Path, Purni, Tilak Nagar, Kankarbagh, Patna-800020.

Government of Tamil Nadu
Tirumangalam Municipality
Roc No: 223/2020/21
NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION (SECOND CALL)
Notice inviting RFQ for Construction of a New Bus Stand Infrastructure Project for Tirumangalam Municipality, Tamil Nadu, on a PPP Mode (DBTOT Basis), including financial management and maintenance for a period of 22 years.
Inviting authority:- The Commissioner, Tirumangalam Municipality, Tirumangalam - 625 706, Tamil Nadu.
Phone: 04549-280757 Email: comm@tirumangalam.tn.gov.in

1. The Government of Tamil Nadu is keen to improve the intercity bus transport infrastructure in the State of Tamil Nadu. As a part of this effort, it is proposed to develop and establish state-of-the-art bus terminals, in the State on public-private partnership basis. These terminals would be operated and maintained at a pre-determined quality standard, rendering cost effective and efficient services to the users.

2. The Tirumangalam Municipality (the Authority) has been authorized by the Municipal Council for construction, development, and management of new Integrated Bus Terminal Infrastructure Project, design, build, finance, operate and transfer (DBFO) mode of PPP ("Project"), in accordance with the terms and conditions, to be set forth in a concession agreement, to be entered into.

3. The Estimated Project cost is **Rs. 21.72 crores**

4. The said Project is for the Concession Period, of 22 years, including the right to develop, design, finance, construct and maintain the Commercial Facility and Amenities, to undertake the marketing and allotment of built up area therein and to demand, charge, collect, retain and appropriate the User Charges and the Premia there from.

4. **The Authority accordingly invites Applications from the eligible developers, to being shortlisted for the issue of Request For Proposal (RFP) Document.**

5. A pre-bid meeting for the prospective Bidders, who are interested in bidding for the above-mentioned project, will be held on **05.06.2020 at 11.00 hrs at Municipal Office, Tirumangalam.**

6. The Eligibility Criteria and other terms and conditions are given in RFP.

7. The RFQ may be obtained the address given above during office hours, on payment of Rs. 10000/- (Rupees Ten thousand only), through Demand Draft, drawn in favour of Commissioner, Tirumangalam Municipality payable at Tirumangalam as processing fees.

8. The **RFQ** may also be downloaded from **24.06.2020** from the Official Website <https://tenders.gov.in>.

9. The last date for submission of RFQ is **15.00 Hrs on 28.06.2020**

DI/PR-2372/Tender/2020

Commissioner (I/c), Tirumangalam Municipality

उ.प्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लि. ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना अनुबंधी फॉर्म/ ठेकेदार/ कार्यदायी संस्थाओं से विद्युत पारेषण मंडल मेरठ के अंतर्गत निम्न कार्यों हेतु मोहरबंद ई-निविदाएं ई-पोर्टल (www.etender.up.nic.in) पर दो भागों में आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। भाग-1 में ई-निविदाओं के प्रपत्र निर्धारित शुल्क आर.टी.जी.एस./ एन.ई.एफ.टी. एवं निर्धारित धरोहर राशि आर.टी.जी.एस./ एन.ई. एफ.टी./ बैंक गारंटी (अलग-अलग) के माध्यम से अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, मेरठ के साथ (S/o State Bank of India, Cantt Branch, Meerut Account No. 11047201099, IFSC Code SBIN0000680 में जमा करायी जायेगी। बैंक जमा की साक्ष्य यथा योज्य यू.टी.आर. संख्या, पे-इन स्लिप मूल की प्रति निविदा के प्रथम भाग के साथ संलग्न किये जायें। ई-निविदा के प्रथम भाग (यू.टी.आर. संख्या, पे-इन स्लिप प्रति, निविदा प्रपत्र, पैन कार्ड, इन्कम टैक्स रिटर्न, जी.एस.टी. प्रपत्र की स्वयं प्रमाणित छायाप्रति एवं तकनीकी अनुबंध आदि) ई-पोर्टल पर स्कैन्ड प्रतियाँ (PDF format) तथा ई-निविदा के द्वितीय भाग (फ्राइजबिड) में दर्े एवं वाणिज्यिक नियम व शर्तें ई-पोर्टल (www.etender.up.nic.in) पर निम्नलिखित तालिका के अनुसार अपलोड की जायेगी। निविदा शुल्क, धरोहर राशि एवं अन्य व्यवसायिक प्रपत्र हार्ड कॉपी में अथवा व्यक्तिगत संवाहक के माध्यम से इस कार्यालय में प्राप्त नहीं किये जायेंगे। ई-निविदा भाग द्वितीय (फ्राइजबिड) खुलने की तिथि हेतु तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जाएगी। ई-निविदा का प्रथम भाग, तालिका में अंकित दिनांक एवं समय अनुसार सार्वजनिक रूप से खोला जायेगा। ई-निविदा खुलने की तिथि पर अवकाश होने की स्थिति में ई-निविदा अगले कार्य दिवस पर निर्धारित समय तक स्वीकार की जाएगी एवं निर्धारित समय पर खोली जाएगी। ई-निविदाओं को बिना कोई कारण बताए ई-निविदा/ ई-निविदाओं को अस्वीकार/ विभाजित करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। धरोहर/ ई-निविदा राशि रहित व शर्तों ई-निविदाएं स्वीकार नहीं की जाएगी। कृपया विस्तृत जानकारी, डाउन लोड, अन्य संशोधनों एवं ई-निविदा प्रस्तुत करने के दिनांक तक, विस्तार आदि के संबंध में कृपया www.etender.up.nic.in पर लॉग इन करें। निविदाओं का विवरण निम्न प्रकार

है:- क्रम सं. 1, निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 49/20-21 अल्पकालिक:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड मेरठ के अन्तर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र परतापुर (जागृति विहार) पर 160 एम.वी.ए. परिवर्तक हेतु N2 Fire Protection System के स्थापित करने से संबंधित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 6000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 1180.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 03.07.2020 सायं 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 04.07.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय वदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 2, निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 50/20-21 अल्पकालिक:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड बडौत के अन्तर्गत 220 के.वी. बागपत- पी.जी.सी.आई.एल. लाईन के टावर लोकेशन संख्या 12 एवं 13 के मध्य क्षतिग्रस्त OPGW की रिपेयरिंग से संबंधित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 2000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 590.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 06.07.2020 सायं 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 07.07.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 3, निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 51/20-21:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड बडौत के अन्तर्गत 220/132 के.वी. उपकेन्द्रों पर स्थापित अग्निशामक यंत्रों की रिप्लेसिंग एवं रिपेयरिंग से संबंधित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 5000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 590.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 23.07.2020 सायं 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 24.07.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, 130-02, "पारेषण भवन" विक्टोरिया पार्क, मेरठ "गृहहित में ऊर्जा बचाव" पत्रांक 1703/ वि.पा.म./ मेरठ/ दिनांक: 22/6/2020

PUBLIC NOTICE
My Clients namely, 11. S. RAMESH KUMAR PAHADIA S/o Late SH. DHANRAJ RAM PAHADIA and 2) Smt. PUSHPA W/o SH. RAMESH KUMAR PAHADIA, both are R/O C-28C, JYOTS Garden, Chatterpur Extension, Delhi-110074. They hereby disown their son namely, SH. VIJAY PAHADIA and his wife namely, Smt. POONAM from all of their Movable and Immovable properties, and severed all their relations with them, due to their disobedient and bad behavior with my clients. My clients have no control over them, thereby if anybody deals with them, their health shall do at his/her own risk and consequences, and my clients shall not be responsible for any of their acts and omissions.

Sd/- Lokesh Balmad (Advocate)
Offices: 36 Lawyer's Chamber, Supreme Court of India

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the general public at large that my client, Sh. Mahavir Singh S/o Late Sh. Zile Singh R/O WZ-98, 80 sq. yds. colony, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018 has severed all his relation for all purposes with his sons namely (1) Sudhir Kumar and (2) Anil Kumar and has disowned & debarred them from all his movable and immovable properties and assets, due to their disrespectful behavior, insulting attitude and humiliating nature. Any person dealing with said (1) Sudhir Kumar and (2) Anil Kumar shall be doing so at his own risks and consequences and my client shall not be liable & responsible for any of acts & omissions of said (1) Sudhir Kumar and (2) Anil Kumar.

Sd/- VINI AND ASSOCIATES ADVOCATES
Ch. No. 405, Civil Side, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE
My client Smt. Sheela Devi W/o Late Sh. Jogi Ram Sharma R/O A-1/15, Sanjaya Enclave, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-59 have disowned/disinherited her son Karan Kumar alongwith his wife Meenu from her movable & immovable properties with immediate effect because of harassment, torture, cruelty & atrocities committed by them against my client. Both of them are beyond of my client's control & supervision. Anybody dealing with them in any manner whatsoever will be doing so at his/her own risk & responsibility thereto & my client shall be in no way responsible for any acts, debts & things done by them.

Adv. Sachin Chawla
703, Dwarka Court, New Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE
My client Mr. Tofiqe Ahmed S/o Late Tufail Ahmed R/o. H.No. D-183, 4th Floor Abul Fazal Enclave, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-25, do hereby by this notice sever all relations with my son Mr. Sohail Ahmed and daughter-in-law Ms. Rubena, from all her movable and immovable properties, for all purposes and sever all relations with them. My client shall have no right, title and interest over the property of my client and anybody dealing with them shall be doing at his/her own risk and my client shall not be responsible for it.

MOHD. BASAR- ADVOCATE
Ch. No. M-16, Near SBI Bank, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54
Mob.: 09891146544

सार्वजनिक सूचना
मेरे मुक्तीगो की अंतिम श्रावण पर संपन्न पति सिंग व श्रीमती रोशनी फनी सेवेड अनल, निवासी नमन नगर 20 दीनदर पर एक्स्टेंडिड ली नवरी 4 नई दिल्ली-110043 (पूर्व निवासी रानी रोशनी सेवेड) से मेरे पुत्र सविन अनल को जो इच्छा है खुले से बाहर है (तात्पर्य सखी और दस्ता है) को अपनी समस्त चल-अचल सम्पत्ति तथा सामाजिक रूप से कोई भी दायित्व वर दिला है।। सविन अनल कोई भी दायित्व वहल है या कोई ज़रूरी सेन-लैड करेगा जो स्वयं निम्नलिखित होगा मेरे मुक्तीगो की कोई निम्नलिखित नहीं होगी।। हूँ पुणेन्दर सिंह दाहिया (उद्योकोट) फेब्रु २०-३१, सुप्रीम कोर्ट, नई दिल्ली - 01 Enrl. No. D/480/13



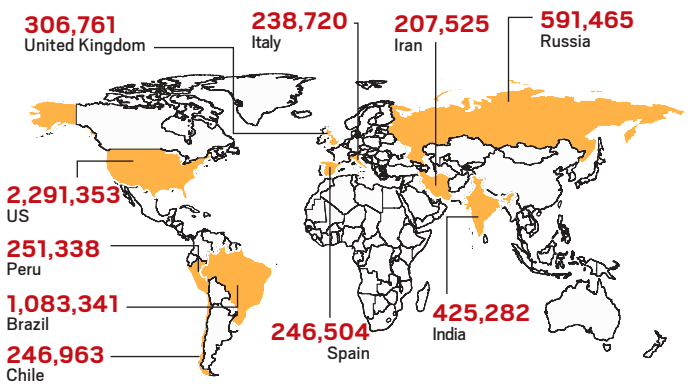
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If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

THE WORLD



TOTAL CONFIRMED: 8,835,095

DEATH COUNT: 465,284

Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated at 11 pm on June 22. JHU's India tally and Health Ministry's tally (below) may not match as these are accounted at different times.

In pandemic months, fewer UK deaths than 5-yr average

SCIENTISTS HAVE analysed mortality statistics in the UK during the initial phases of the Covid-19 pandemic, by analysing the weekly national mortality statistics over the last five years. They found there were fewer deaths recorded during December 2019-March 2020 in comparison to the previous five years — including in the subgroup assessment of respiratory mortality rates. The analysis found that during the first months of 2020, there were consistently fewer deaths each week compared with the previous five years.

The study is published in the *Journal of International Medical Research*.

Researchers have called this the SARS-CoV-2 paradox — and suggested this could be due to early social distancing measures. The scientists propose it could also be due to the emphasised importance of washing hands, staying home when one feels unwell and coughing or sneezing into a tissue. Also, mortality may be reduced as hospital admission numbers have reduced; and there may thus be a reduction in the spread of hospital-acquired infections.

The graph shows that in week 12, (starting March 20) there was an increase in deaths, with 2020 deaths being 10,645, and previous 5-year mean being 10,573. They propose that this could be related to Covid-19, as symptoms such as headaches and loss of taste weren't identified; however, they proposed, it could also be attributed to health-care systems being increasingly selective about which patients to take as lockdown was formally announced that week.

Source: University of Warwick

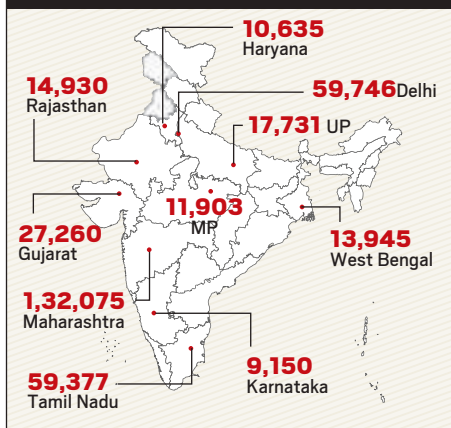


PAPER
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NEW RESEARCH

INDIA COUNT: 4,25,282 (13,699 DEATHS)

TOP 10 STATES



REST OF INDIA

Andaman and Nicobar Islands	47
Andhra Pradesh	8452
Arunachal Pradesh	135
Assam	4904
Bihar	7533
Chandigarh	404
Chhattisgarh	2041
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	68
Dadra	754
Himachal Pradesh	656
Jammu and Kashmir	5834
Jharkhand	1965
Kerala	3039
Ladakh	836
Manipur	777
Meghalaya	44
Mizoram	140
Nagaland	201
Odisha	4856
Puducherry	286
Punjab	3952
Sikkim	70
Telangana	7072
Tripura	1186
Uttarakhand	2301

Union Health Ministry update as of 11 pm, June 22. Some states may have reported higher numbers. Only states/UTs with at least one case listed above. 2,37,196 PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN 34 STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES

Have a question on the COVID-19 outbreak and what you should/should not do? Write to explained@indianexpress.com

SIMPLY PUT

In India-China, the Russia role

Russia has emerged a key player amid tensions between India and China. A look at how Russia's ties with China have grown over the decades, and how New Delhi and Moscow have engaged over the current crisis

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

RUSSIA HAS emerged, all of a sudden, as a key diplomatic player amid the tension between India and China.

■ On Tuesday, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov hosts the Russia-India-China (RIC) trilateral foreign ministers' meeting, which will be the first opportunity for External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi for face-time with each other over videoconference. Jaishankar and Wang, who is also Chinese State Councillor, had an angry phone call on June 17 over the June 15 border clash, in which 20 Indian soldiers were killed.

■ On Wednesday, Moscow will host Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his Chinese counterpart, Wei Fenghe, who will attend the Victory Day parade on June 24, along with Indian and Chinese marching contingents.

While there are ministerial-level engagements, there have been at least two out-reaches between India and Russia through diplomatic channels.

■ Early this month, before the June 6 Lieutenant General-level talks between India and China, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla "updated" Russian Ambassador Nikolay Kudashev on the "recent developments" on the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

■ After the June 15 clash between Indian and Chinese troops in Galwan Valley, Indian Ambassador to Russia D Bala Venkatesh Varma had a conversation with Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Morgulov on June 17. "The officials discussed regional security, including developments on the Line of Actual Control on the border between India and China in the Himalayas," a brief statement by the Russian Foreign Ministry said. The Indian government did not issue a statement on this.

Why it matters

While India and China have been talking at each other — and not to each other — the outreach to Moscow is noteworthy.

It is widely known that Russia and China have grown their relationship in the past few years. The Moscow-Beijing axis is crucial, especially since Washington has been at loggerheads with China in recent months and Russia much more calibrated, even in its response on the Covid-19 outbreak.

New Delhi believes that the approach of Western countries, especially that of the US towards both Moscow and Beijing, has brought them even closer.

Initial friction

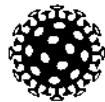
Russia and China have had a rocky start to their relationship, after Mao Zedong founded the People's Republic of China. When Mao made his first visit to Moscow after winning control of China, in 1949, he was made to wait for weeks for a meeting with the Soviet leader. "He spent several weeks cooling his heels in a remote dacha outside Moscow where the sole recreational facility was a broken table tennis table," an article in the *Smithsonian Magazine* said.

During the Cold War, China and the USSR were rivals after the Sino-Soviet split in 1961, competing for control of the worldwide Communist movement. There was a serious



Russia President Vladimir Putin with China's Xi Jinping (then Vice President) in Beijing in 2012. The two countries have grown closer over the last few decades. Express Archive

RUSSIA RESPONSE TO MATTERS AROUND CHINA



COVID-19 RESPONSE

As the US accused China of unleashing the coronavirus, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said the US was increasing pressure on countries with independent foreign policies, as well as criticising the WHO. "We hear baseless accusations against the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation. The calls to suspend unilateral sanctions for the period of the fight against the coronavirus, sanctions that hinder humanitarian deliveries of medicine, equipment and goods, are being ignored," Lavrov said.

HONG KONG

On American criticism of China's legislation tightening its control of Hong Kong, Lavrov has criticised the US for meddling in China's internal matters. "The issues that [the US] is now hyping concerning Hong Kong are related to the internal affairs of China," Lavrov has said, adding that US attempts to create some kind of scandalous situation out of the issue would harm its credibility on any other topics.

HUAWEI

On Huawei's 5G rollout in Russia, Moscow CIO and Government minister Eduard Lysenko as downplayed concerns with the security risks associated with the Chinese company. Alleged to have intelligence ties with Beijing, Huawei has faced roadblocks from the US in its plans for expansion. Lysenko has said: "The Russian Federation has strict information security regulations which we always follow."

possibility of a major war in the early 1960s and a brief border war took place in 1969. This enmity began to reduce following Mao's death in 1976, but relations were not very good until the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Mending fences

In the post-Cold War era, economic relations have formed the "new strategic basis" for Sino-Russian relations. China is Russia's biggest trading partner and the largest Asian investor in Russia. China sees Russia as a powerhouse of raw material and a growing market for its consumer goods.

The West's approach towards Russia after the annexation of Crimea through harsh sanctions in 2014 brought Moscow much closer to China. And India, for its part, has always felt that it was the West which has pushed Russia towards a tighter embrace

of Beijing.

A Sino-Russian quasi-alliance has formed in recent years, and this has been possible due to the anti-Chinese rhetoric from Washington, collapse of oil prices and growing dependence of Russia on Chinese consumption.

Western analysts see this as a "friendship of convenience" between two countries led by strongmen — Russia by President Vladimir Putin and China by President Xi Jinping.

Russia has been extremely calibrated in its statements on issues on which Beijing is most sensitive to: Huawei's 5G rollout, Hong Kong and the Covid-19 pandemic (see box).

Beijing and Moscow, however, do not always see eye to eye with each other. China does not recognise Crimea as part of Russia, and Moscow, formally speaking, takes a neutral stance on Beijing's claims in the

South China Sea.

India and Russia

India has a historical relationship with Russia, spanning over seven decades.

While the relationship has grown in some areas and atrophied in some others, the strongest pillar of the strategic partnership is of the defence basket.

Although New Delhi has consciously diversified its new purchases from other countries, the bulk of its defence equipment is from Russia. Estimates say 60 to 70 per cent of India's supplies are from Russia, and New Delhi needs a regular and reliable supply of spare parts from the Russian defence industry. In fact, Prime Minister Modi has held informal summits with only two leaders — Xi and Putin.

India has made this decision to reach out to Russia not just out of choice, but also out of necessity, since it believes Moscow has leverage and influence to shape and change Beijing's hard stance on border issue.

At this time when there is tension at the border, Defence Minister Singh will discuss supply and purchase of new defence systems — like the S-400 missile defence system — with the Russian top brass in the military and government.

Russia position, then & now

During the Doklam crisis in 2017, Russian diplomats in Beijing were among the few briefed by the Chinese government. At that time, it was kept under the wraps.

While Russia's position during the 1962 war was not particularly supportive of India, New Delhi takes comfort in Moscow's support during the 1971 war.

Tuesday's RIC Foreign Ministers' meeting, which was put off in March, will be the first opportunity for Jaishankar and Wang Yi to engage in that trilateral format.

Asked on the possibility of discussing the India-China tension, Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov had said last week: "The agenda does not involve discussing issues that relate to bilateral relations of a country with another member of this format."

On the events in Galwan, Moscow responded in a very calibrated manner last week. On June 17, Russian Ambassador Kudashev tweeted, "We welcome all steps aimed at de-escalation at the LAC, including the conversation between the two FM's, and remain optimistic." He had said: "The existence of the RIC is an undisputable reality, firmly fixed on the world map. As for the current stage of the trilateral cooperation, there are no indications that it might be frozen."

According to Russian news agency TASS, Presidential Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said that the Kremlin is concerned over a clash between the military on the border between China and India but believes that the two countries could resolve this conflict themselves.

"Certainly, we are watching with great attention what is happening on the Chinese-Indian border. We believe that this is a very alarming report," Peskov said. "But we consider that the two countries are capable of taking necessary steps to prevent such situations in the future and to ensure that there is predictability and stability in the region and that this is a safe region for nations, first of all, China and India."

The Kremlin spokesman emphasised that China and India are Russia's close partners and allies, and "have very close and mutually beneficial relations built on mutual respect".

Why high-altitude warfare is challenging, how soldiers are trained

VARINDER BHATIA

LEH, JUNE 22

THE VIOLENT standoff between Indian and Chinese troops in Galwan Valley of Ladakh region has thrown the spotlight on high-altitude warfare and the challenges that troops face, particularly when advantageous positions on the heights are occupied by the other side.

How is high-altitude warfare fought?

High-altitude warfare is fought keeping the terrain and weather in mind. The kind of infrastructure and training that the troops require for high-altitude warfare are key factors. The evolution of such warfare goes back a long way: European countries had mountain brigades in view of the kind of terrain prevalent in those countries. The harshness of the terrain calls for a specialised kind of training to prepare soldiers in terms of mindset and acclimatisation.

"To begin with, the troops are imparted training in basic and advance training in mountaineering to make them equipped for mountain warfare," said Kargil veteran and Maha Vir Chakra awardee Col Sonam Wangchuk, who is based in Leh.

How is India equipped in such warfare?

Generally, India is considered a hub of mountain warfare skills since most of the country's north and northeast requires such

skills. Ladakh Scouts are considered the best in this kind of warfare. Mountain chop, a tactic involved in such warfare, evolved in India where the mountainous terrain is very difficult to scale.

Colonel Sonam said: "The mindset of the enemy sitting above needs to be assessed. Taking stock of the entire situation, one needs to find out the easiest approaches. Especially when there are vertical cliffs, it is generally perceived that the enemy that has taken defensive positions will be less guarded from the side of difficult approaches... Basically, the most difficult approaches where the enemy is likely to give the least resistance need to be used efficiently".

What are the challenges involved in warfare in a high-altitude place like Galwan Valley?

A big factor is who has taken defensive positions and who is sitting on higher ground. Once troops are sitting on high ground, it becomes very difficult to dislodge them from there. In a place like Galwan Valley, which is absolutely barren, there is not much concealment. The soldier on high ground is absolutely stationary, which makes those on lower terrain easy targets; the enemy can pick them up one by one. Normally in mountain warfare, troops on lower ground use a combat ratio of 1:6, but in circumstances as in Galwan, it may go up to 1:10.

Generally, mountain warfare is fought using the period of darkness to reach the



Jawans patrol an area near Pangong Lake in Ladakh during the Sino-Indian war of 1962. Express Archive

opposing army, engage and overpower them before the first light of day. In case troops do not have the capabilities, fitness or strategies to do so before dawn, then it is a lost cause. Col Sonam said, "Local troops in Kargil proved fantastic since they were fantastic mountain climbers. But without adequate trained troops who are well-versed

with the terrain and are properly acclimatised, it is not an easy game".

What are the other challenges faced by soldiers in high altitudes?

The first major factor is acclimatisation since the oxygen supply reduces drastically. Next, the load carrying capacity of individu-

als reduces drastically. Things move very slow in the mountains and mobilisation of troops consumes time. Thus, time and place need to be kept on top priority when deciding where the troops have to be stationed and how they have to be mobilised.

At every stage when an assault progresses, the troops require access to maintenance. One needs to identify tactical points (which are passes in the current scenario) where troops can build roads and take defensive positions, and where those troops need to be maintained. Normally, advance troops may be able to carry packed rations or other required equipment that can last for 48-72 hours, but then constant supplies are required to reach them. Generally, troops carry a 30-35 kg load including weapons, ammunition, communication equipment, rations etc. It is difficult to negotiate such terrains carrying such loads; it is difficult even to raise one's hand.

What are the logistical challenges in this kind of warfare?

One major challenge is that weapons jam, particularly in high-altitude areas. When a soldier is at a height of 17,000 ft or above, it is very cold, and he needs to grease the weapons and clean the barrels at least once a week to ensure they function efficiently. But at the time of combat, this becomes difficult.

Vehicles do not start when fuel jams. If the fuel is diesel, it won't ignite unless it is

mixed with thinners or other chemicals to make them thin enough to fire the engine. Planning has to be done in advance, with reces carried out, which again is difficult in the mountains. There has to be a contingency plan to first identify the tactical points that need to be used in case of an assault.

In Galwan, which is an extremely tactical area and strategically important, reinforcement plays a vital role, particularly when the Indian troops are not in a position of advantage. For communication equipment, troops need to carry more batteries because they drain very quickly at high altitude. While a battery tends to last for 24 hours in the plains, it will drain in 1-2 hours in these severely cold areas. Transport animals such as mules need to be used to maintain adequate supplies, which is not an easy task. Weather constraints play a major factor.

What kind of training do Indian troops get in mountain warfare?

First, the troops are trained in skilled mountaineering techniques, rock-climb as well as mountain craft. Col Sonam said, "Generally, soldiers of the unit that is going to be inducted get month-long training. It's concerted training with the best instructors placed in every unit. The training continues whenever the units are inducted. Then comes the acclimatisation to avoid non-battle, cold casualties. Almost all units have these trainers who keep troops well-equipped and efficient to meet any contingency."



USA

MUSEUM TO REMOVE ROOSEVELT STATUE

The American Museum of Natural History will remove a prominent statue of Theodore Roosevelt from its entrance after years of objections that it symbolises colonialism and racism, New York Mayor Bill de Blasio said. The statue depicts Roosevelt on horseback, flanked by a Native American man and an African man.

TOP OF THE WORLD



Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic at a rally in Belgrade. *Reuters*

SERBIA

Ruling alliance wins by landslide as many parties boycott polls

A PRELIMINARY official vote count Monday of Serbia's parliamentary election confirmed an overwhelming victory for populist President Aleksandar Vucic's right-wing governing party, the state RTS television said. Election authorities said, after counting more than 60% of the ballots, that Vucic's Serbian Progressive Party won around 61% of the vote, followed by his ally, the Socialists, with around 10%, the report said. The vote was partially boycotted by the main opposition parties who said Vucic unfairly dominated the state-run media.

JAPAN

Fire at hazmat facility on US base in Japan

Tokyo: A fire broke out Monday in a storage building for hazardous materials at a major US air base on Japan's southern island of Okinawa, slightly injuring dozens of personnel who were exposed to smoke or chlorine gas, the US military said. The blaze began in the morning in the building at Kadena Air Base and was extinguished several hours later, the US Air Force said. Japanese TV showed thick gray plumes of smoke billowing from the building, called the 18th wing Hazardous Materials Pharmacy. About 45 people in the area were exposed to smoke and chlorine gas from the fire, but were treated and most have returned to duty, the statement said. AP

SRI LANKA

Govt orders probe into ex-LTTE dy leader's claims

Colombo: The Sri Lankan police has ordered a probe into an alleged statement by former LTTE deputy leader Karuna Amman, claiming that he had murdered over 2,000 security forces, the government said on Monday. Acting police chief Chandana Wickremaratne has directed the Crime Investigation Department to launch an immediate probe into Amman's statement. Speaking at an election rally last week, Amman reportedly said he had murdered over 2,000 government troops during the LTTE's separatist war.

S KOREA SAYS NEW OUTBREAK SPARKED BY HOLIDAY WEEKEND IN MAY

Global coronavirus cases top 9 mn, US expecting a surge in autumn

AGENCIES

SEOUL, NEW YORK, JUNE 22

GLOBAL CASES of Covid-19 surpassed 9 million on Monday as a number of hard-hit countries reported new outbreaks.

The first case was reported in China in early January and it took until mid-May to reach 4.5 million cases. It has taken just five weeks to double to 9 million cases.

Health authorities in South Korea said for the first time that it was in the midst of a "second wave" of novel coronavirus infections focused around its densely populated capital, stemming from a holiday in May.

The Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (KCDC) had previously said South Korea's first wave had never ended. But on Monday, KCDC director Jeong Eun-kyeong said it had become clear that a holiday weekend in early May marked the beginning of a new wave of infections focused in the greater Seoul area.

"In the metropolitan area, we believe that the first wave was from March to April as well as February to March," Jeong said at a regular briefing. "Then we see that the second wave which was triggered by the May holiday has been going on."

At the end of February, South Korea reported a peak of more than 900 cases in a day, in the first large outbreak of the coronavirus outside of China. An intensive tracking and testing campaign reduced the numbers to single digits by late April.

But just as the country announced it would be easing social distancing guidelines, new



YOGA IN A DOME: A yoga class with participants in domes to facilitate social distancing protocols amid the Covid-19 pandemic, in Toronto, Canada, on Sunday. *Reuters*

cases spiked, driven in part by infections among young people who visited nightclubs and bars in Seoul over the holiday weekend.

A top White House official said the US government was working to replenish the national stockpile of medical equipment and supplies in preparation for another surge of the virus this fall.

As the curve of infections begins to bulge again in the United States after flattening in the spring, the Trump administration tried to reset expectations about its efforts to contain the coronavirus and acknowledged that there would most likely be another wave of cases this fall.

Fearing 2nd wave, Europe to train 'army' of medics

Brussels: Europeans are enjoying the gradual easing of coronavirus lockdown measures, but in hospitals they are already preparing for the next wave of infections.

Some intensive care specialists are trying to hire more permanent staff. Others want to create a reservist "army" of medical professionals ready to be deployed wherever needed to work in wards with seriously ill patients.

European countries have been giving medics crash courses in how to deal with

Covid-19 patients, and are now looking at ways to retrain staff to avoid shortages of key workers if there is a second wave of the novel coronavirus.

"We need a healthcare army," said Maurizio Cecconi, president-elect of the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM), which brings together medics from around the world who work in wards with extremely ill patients.

Cecconi said medical staff need to be more flexible in their work, and more mobile. **REUTERS**

Gunmen kill 5, including 2 prosecutors, in Afghan capital

ASSOCIATED PRESS

KABUL, JUNE 22

GUNMEN OPENED fire at a car belonging to the Afghan attorney general's office on Monday, killing all five people inside, including two prosecutors, an official said.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack in the capital, Kabul, but the country has seen a recent spike in violence, with most attacks claimed by a local Islamic State affiliate.

The much larger Taliban insurgent group has scaled back its attacks since signing a peace agreement with the United States earlier this year. It denied any involvement in the shooting and said it would "investigate". Kabul police spokesman Ferdaws Faramarz said the two prosecutors, two other employees and the driver were killed.

Jamshed Rasooli, a spokesman for the attorney general's office, said the prosecutors were members of the team supervising the release of Taliban prisoners as part of the agreement with the US. He blamed the attack on the "enemies of peace".

Since the February 29 peace deal, the government has released over 3,000 Taliban prisoners and the insurgent group has freed 631 Afghan national police and army personnel from captivity.

N Korea vows to dump millions of leaflets and trash on the South

CHOE SANG-HUN

SEOUL, JUNE 22

NORTH KOREA'S printing shops have been working overtime to revive a favorite weapon of Cold War-era psychological warfare: sending millions of propaganda leaflets across the world's most heavily armed border and scattering them over South Korea.

The tit-for-tat move was announced on Monday by the North, which has become incensed by the leaflets that defectors from the North have sent from the South to their Communist home country in recent months, the North's official news agency said.

The pledge by the North to retaliate presents another threat to the fragile détente on the Korean Peninsula.

North Korea said it was preparing 3,000 balloons to carry



North Koreans prepare anti-South propaganda leaflets. *AP*

the leaflets across the border, along with cigarette butts and other trash. The defectors have continued their propaganda efforts despite protests from Pyongyang and inter-Korean agreements to stop them.

"The largest-ever distribution of leaflets against the enemy are almost complete," the North's of-

UK reels from latest terror-linked stabbing, American among dead

PETER NICHOLLS

READING, JUNE 22

THE ENGLISH town of Reading held a minute's silence on Monday for the victims of a stabbing that killed three people including an American in the latest terrorism-linked attack.

Three people were also hospitalised after a man wielding a five-inch knife went on the rampage in a park on Saturday, randomly stabbing people enjoying a sunny, summer evening.

A Western security source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told Reuters that the suspect was a 25-year-old Libyan called Khairi Saadallah.

Calling the incident terrorism, police said a 25-year-old had been arrested but they were not hunting others. "What we saw here on Saturday evening in Reading was the actions of one lone individual," Home Secretary (interior minister) Priti Patel said.

The *Philadelphia Inquirer* said one of the dead was US citizen Joe Ritchie-Bennett, 39, who had lived in Britain for 15 years. US ambassador Woody Johnson sent condolences to families of victims. "To our great sorrow,

Khairi Saadallah, the man arrested for the attack, was in the radar of MI5 last year over intelligence he had aspirations to travel for extremist purposes, although his plans then came to nothing

this includes an American citizen," he said on Twitter.

Teacher James Furlong, 36, who was friends with Ritchie-Bennett according to media reports, was also killed. "He was beautiful, intelligent, honest and fun," his parents said.

The third victim has not yet been identified.

The security source told Reuters that Saadallah had come across the radar of Britain's domestic security agency MI5 last year over intelligence he had aspirations to travel for extremist purposes, although his plans then came to nothing.

Shocked residents of Reading, about 65 km west of London, held a minute's silence at 0900 GMT. **AP**



A police officer lays flowers near to the scene of the stabbings in Reading, Britain, on Monday. *Reuters*

2 dead in shooting at block party in North Carolina

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTE, JUNE 22

TWO PEOPLE were killed and seven others were wounded in an early Monday shooting in North Carolina's largest city, police said, while five others were hit by vehicles.

The shooting happened at an "improvised block party" that was a continuation of June 16th celebrations, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Deputy Chief Johnny Jennings told reporters.

Police responding to a call about a pedestrian hit by a car found hundreds of people in the streets around 12.30 am, a police statement said. As officers arrived, they heard several shots nearby.

"Several shooters discharged dozens of shots into the crowd," a police release said. A female victim was pronounced dead at the scene. Another victim was pronounced dead at a hospital.

Brazil minister flees to US as probes rattle govt

LETÍCIA CASADO, MANUELA ANDREONI & ERNESTO LONDOÑO

BRASÍLIA, JUNE 22

IT WAS the apex of one of the most tumultuous weeks of Jair Bolsonaro's presidency. A flurry of arrests and judicial orders targeting supporters of the

Brazilian leader plunged the capital into crisis as the country's coronavirus caseload surpassed one million.

Then on Friday, Abraham Weintraub, one of the President's most pugnacious lieutenants, made a rushed exit to the US just days after stepping down as education minister. As he departed, he signalled

his concern over Supreme Court investigations targeting him and other officials suspected of orchestrating defamation and disinformation campaigns online.

His hasty departure was a dramatic illustration of how embattled and adrift the Bolsonaro administration has become amid mounting criminal and

legislative investigations and a public health catastrophe attributed in part to the president's cavalier attitude.

Weintraub hopes to assume a senior role at the World Bank in the United States. He gained entry to the country by circumventing a travel ban imposed to limit the spread of the coronavirus. Precisely how is unclear. **NYT**

ALREADY AILING SPANISH TRADITION BATTERED BY PANDEMIC

With Covid-19 halting bullfighting, keepers of the tradition face hard choices

RAPHAEL MINDER

ALMADÉN DE LA PLATA, JUNE 22

EXTREMEÑO, AN imposing black bull who weighs more than half a tonne, was set to fight to death next month in the neo-classical ring of the Spanish city of Valencia.

Instead, the coronavirus gave four-year-old Extremeño an unexpected lease on life. Valencia's fiesta was called off, along with

the bulk of a Spanish bullfighting season that normally runs from March to October.

Although Spain ended its Covid-19 state of emergency Sunday, bull breeders and matadors are continuing to lock horns with a left-wing Spanish government that they accuse of wanting to use the epidemic as an accelerator for bullfighting's permanent removal, in line with the wishes of animal welfare activists.

"I find it deplorable that the

fiesta of the Spanish people has become so politicised," said Aurora Algarra, who owns Extremeño and is among the few women to run a bull farm, which she took over after her father died in 2006. "We now find ourselves under tremendous attack from Spain's government, but at least this crisis has united us in the face of adversity in a way that I had not seen before."

Algarra had been preparing to send 70 bulls this year to fight



At a gathering outside a bullring in Madrid to show support for bullfighting during the pandemic. *Reuters*

in the rings of Spain and southern France. Instead, the coronavirus lockdown had led her to send 30 of them to the slaughterhouse. She is earning about 400 euros, or \$450, for each animal's meat. That is only one-tenth of the cost of its upkeep during the four years in which a bull roams her nearly 2,000 acres of land in the empty countryside of Andalusia, the southern and largest region of Spain.

For now, Algarra is keeping

Extremeño and her other bulls, while hoping bullfighting can restart soon. The world-famous Pamplona festival pays as much as 15,000 euros for each animal, Algarra said. But if that does not materialise, it will get much harder for her to keep running the business she inherited from her father.

The Pamplona festival was among the main events that were scrapped shortly after Spain declared its state of emergency in mid-March.

In recent years, it has also increasingly found itself denounced by activists who see it as publicly torturing animals.

During a corrida, the matador draws the bull toward him, at the risk of getting gored. At the end of a fight, the matador usually plunges his sword deep between the bull's shoulders; then the dead animal is dragged from the ring. In some rare instances, the public spares a bull's life by asking for it to be "pardoned" for its bravery. **NYT**

13 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 34,911.32 ▲ 179.59 NIFTY: 10,311.20 ▲ 66.80 NIKKEI: 22,437.27 ▼ 41.52 HANG SENG: 24,511.34 ▼ 132.55 FTSE: 6,266.32 ▼ 26.28 DAX: 12,251.14 ▼ 79.62

International market data till 1900 IST

COVID-19 WATCH
MOBILE APPLICATIONSPost soft launch on
Aarogya Setu, Swasth
Alliance to release app
for public this weekPRANAV MUKUL &
AASHISHAARYAN
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

AFTER PIGGYBACKING on the Centre's contact tracing app Aarogya Setu, the not-for-profit Swasth Alliance is set to launch its app for the public this week as it targets to ramp up the number of teleconsultations to 1-2 million a day from about 50,000 per day currently. Swasth, a consortium of more than a 100 organisations in the healthcare and technology system space, is aimed at linking patients with doctors.

Speaking with *The Indian Express* ahead of the platform's launch, Swasth's governing council member and MD & CEO of Manipal Education and Medical Group Ranjan Pai said: "The idea is to provide free consultations as far as the corona pandemic is concerned and get as many doctors onboard to make sure that the healthcare infrastructure in the country is not overburdened by leveraging technology".

The platform, which counts health-tech companies such as 1mg, PharmEasy, Practo, and Portea among its members, was soft launched on Aarogya Setu last month as an ancillary service called Aarogya Setu Mitro on the contact tracing app, but was removed less than a month later.

When asked how the Swasth platform was going to be different than what was there on Aarogya Setu Mitro, Pai said: "Aarogya Setu app is not going to be as comprehensive. The app is more about contact-tracing. This is more about trying to give or give the patient a tele-consultation solution. This will be working with the Aarogya Setu app".

Red flags have been raised in several quarters, with the stakeholders behind Swasth Alliance also doubling up as a part of the team building Aarogya Setu for the government. Responding to a question on the potential conflict between Aarogya Setu and Swasth, co-founder and CTO of

The aim is to ramp
up number of
teleconsultations to
1-2 million a day from
about 50,000 currently

online doctor consultation app Practo Abhinav Lal said at that time, Aarogya Setu was looking for such a solution and Swasth was looking for opportunity to get to "as many people as possible".

"For us, Swasth as an alliance, it is important that we are able to reach as many people in this hour of need and provide them healthcare services free of cost. For us to be able to get to as many people as possible, there are various opportunities that have come to be, and one of them, at that point of time, was Aarogya Setu team looking at such a solution. We don't know what's the future of Aarogya Setu and Aarogya Setu Mitro," Lal said.

The coming together of the stakeholders to form Swasth, which counts Bengaluru-based software products think-tank iSPIRT as one of its members, happened in April and, according to Ranjan Pai, the immense demand for teleconsultation was the driving factor behind consortium being formed. The platform is being used by government agencies in at least two districts — Vadodara in Gujarat and Faridabad in Haryana.

Responding to questions on user privacy, banker and Swasth Governing Council Member Nachiket Mor said the app, which will be launched on Google Play Store, App Store, as a direct web link, and interactive voice response system (for feature phones), will itself not hold any medical records. The app will only connect a doctor to a patient and provide other downstream services like e-prescription, online ordering of medicines. The alliance also plans to on-board other healthcare service providers such as insurance companies.

DEALING WITH NON-PERFORMING ASSETS

Centre not keen to fund IBA's bad bank
plan, one-time loan restructuring likelySUNNY VERMA
& GEORGE MATHEW
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, JUNE 22

THE GOVERNMENT is not keen to infuse equity capital into a bad bank, which has been recently proposed by the Indian Banks' Association. The government's view is that bad loan resolution should happen in a market-led way, a senior government official said. The banks demand for a one-time restructuring of loans is being considered by the banking regulator and the government.

While there's no official word from the RBI about the creation of a 'bad bank' or a one-time loan restructuring proposal so far, sources said a loan recast scheme for certain categories of borrowers is likely in the wake of the economic contraction, closure of thousands of units across the country and fears over a spike in bad loans from September this year. "We have studied the banks' proposal (bad loan). The fact is there are already market-led options available for asset reconstruction and it looks better that way," the official told *The Indian Express*.

The banking sector, led by the IBA, was pushing for a 'bad bank' to tackle the menace of non-performing assets. Sources said the proposal of a bad bank was also

EXPLAINED

Govt in favour
of market-led
resolution

EVEN AS the Centre views a market-led resolution of non-performing assets as a better approach than directly funding a bad bank, a one-time restructuring of certain category of loans is seen as favourable in the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic-induced stress for companies and financial institutions. The RBI has provided various regulatory relaxations to banks to tide over this phase and a decision on loan recast proposal, expected by August-end, would provide further relief to corporate borrowers.

discussed at the recent meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC), but it has not found favour with the government. Finance Ministry officials did not respond to an email seeking comments for this story.

Banks and India Inc were also lobbying for one-time restructuring of loans and NPA reclassification norms from 90 days to 180 days as relief measures to tackle the impact of lockdown and the slowdown in the economy due to COVID pandemic. Several private banks and NBFCs have also demanded a loan restructuring scheme as moratorium alone is not sufficient to come out of the crisis situation. These demands

were raised at the recent meetings of the RBI top brass with the chiefs of banks and NBFCs, sources said.

"Any decision on loan recast is likely to come only in August when the moratorium ends. There's a likelihood of a spike in bad loans from September. The loan recast proposal is before the RBI," said a banking source.

According to banks, the RBI needs to give operational flexibility to banks for a comprehensive restructuring of the existing loans and also a reclassification of 90-day norm. As of now, the June 7 circular on loan restructuring is stringent and gives little flexibility to banks. Rating firm Crisil said NPAs are set to rise by 150-200 basis

points this fiscal. "Lockdown will impact collections and resolutions and thus result in higher NPAs. The gross NPA would be between 11-11.5 per cent for the base case and it could rise higher," it said.

There was also demand for easing of bad loan recognition norm from 90 days to 180 days. However, banking sources said the RBI is unlikely to agree to this proposal. Currently, loans in which the borrower fails to pay principal and/or interest charges within 90 days are classified as NPAs and provisioning is made accordingly. Some banks, which are hopeful of an economic recovery, want this to be raised to 180 days to limit surge in NPAs. The central bank had never come out favourably about the creation of a 'bad bank' with other commercial banks as main promoters. Former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan had opposed the idea of setting up a bad bank with a majority stake by banks.

The RBI, when Urjit Patel was the Governor, was initially reluctant to sanction forbearance to small units but relented in the wake of pressure from several board members who pushed for the bail-out of small borrowers hit by demonetisation and implementation of GST. The RBI had recently extended the restructuring deadline for MSME accounts from March 31, 2020 earlier.

Gold prices
rise for fourth
straight day,
hit record peakENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JUNE 22

GOLD PRICES on Monday extended gains for the fourth consecutive day to hit a new lifetime high of Rs 48,289 per 10 grams (24 carat) in the Mumbai bullion market as rising COVID infections across the world prompted investors to accumulate the yellow metal. It later retreated to Rs 48,050 per 10 g during the day. The 22-carat gold was quoted Rs 44,087 per 10 grams.

Gold prices have rallied over 15 per cent during 2020 and nearly 25 per cent in the last one year.

Nish Bhatt, founder & CEO, Millwood Kane International, said, "The dream run of the yellow metal continues as it hit a fresh one-month high earlier in trade today. Gold prices hit a high of 48,289 per 10 g in early trade before cooling off to Rs 48,050 per 10 g. Gold is traditionally used as a hedge against inflation and risk aversion is helping the rally."

Full report on
www.indianexpress.com

Fitch Ratings revises outlook
of nine banks to negative

New Delhi: Fitch Ratings Monday said it has revised the outlook to negative from stable of nine Indian banks, following lowering of India's sovereign rating outlook due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The rating agency revised the outlook for Export-Import Bank of India, SBI, Bank of Baroda, Bank

of Baroda (New Zealand), Bank of India, Canara Bank, Punjab National Bank, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank while affirming their ratings.

Fitch also revised the outlook on Bharti Airtel's Long-Term Foreign-Currency Issuer Default Rating to negative from stable, affirming it at 'BBB-'. PTI

BRIEFLY

Petrol nears
₹80/litre, diesel
at new high

New Delhi: Petrol price in Delhi was hiked to Rs 79.56 per litre from Rs 79.23 while diesel rate was raised to Rs 78.55 a litre from Rs 78.27, as fuel prices were hiked for the 16th successive day.

Delisting plan:
Adani Power
board gives nod

New Delhi: The board of Adani Power has approved a proposal to delist company shares from stock exchanges, the firm said Monday.

UTI AMC gets
Sebi's go ahead
to launch IPO

New Delhi: UTI Asset Management Company (AMC) has received Sebi's go ahead to raise a little over Rs 3,000 crore through its initial public offering (IPO). PTI

Colin Shah is
new GJEPC
Chairman

New Delhi: Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) has announced the appointment of Colin Shah as the Chairman. Vipul Shah has been elected the vice chairman. ENS

ICICI Bank sells 1.5% stake in
life insurance arm for ₹840 cr

New Delhi: ICICI Bank on Monday said it has sold 1.5 per cent stake in its life insurance subsidiary for around Rs 840 crore with an aim to strengthen the balance sheet.

"In line with this intent and pursuant to approval granted by the Board, the Bank has today divested 2,15,00,000 equity shares

of face value of Rs 10 each of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company, representing 1.50 per cent of its equity share capital at March 31, 2020, on the stock exchange for an approximate total consideration of Rs 840 billion (Rs 840 crore)," ICICI Bank said in a regulatory filing. PTI

London Stock Exchange's
Nikhil Rathi to be CEO of
UK financial watchdog

Rathi will help the Financial Conduct Authority to navigate Britain's departure from the EU. File

HUW JONES
PARIS, JUNE 22

NIKHIL RATHI, head of the London Stock Exchange's UK division, has been appointed chief executive of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), Britain's finance ministry said on Monday. Rathi, a former finance ministry official, will play a key role in helping Britain's financial sector to navigate its departure from the European Union, its biggest customer.

"In the years ahead, we will create together an even more diverse organisation, supporting the

recovery with a special focus on vulnerable consumers, embracing new technology, playing our part in tackling climate change, enforcing high standards and ensuring the UK is a thought leader in international regulatory discussions," Rathi said in a ministry statement. The FCA has been led on an interim basis by Christopher Woolard since March, when Andrew Bailey left to become governor of the Bank of England.

"I am confident that Nikhil will bring the ambitious vision and leadership this organisation demands," British finance minister Rishi Sunak said. REUTERS

Digital frauds:
RBI cautions
banks, payment
system operators

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cautioned banks and payment system operators about the continuing menace of digital frauds. "In spite of initiatives, incidence of frauds continue to bedevil digital users, often using the same modus operandi users were cautioned about, such as luring them to disclose vital payment information, swapping sim cards, opening links received in messages and mails, etc," the RBI said in a circular. ENS

Economy to
shrink 3.1% in
2020: Moody's

New Delhi: Moody's Investors Service on Monday projected the Indian economy to shrink 3.1 per cent in 2020 and said clashes with China on the border also suggest rising geopolitical risks in the Asian region where countries are particularly vulnerable to changes in geopolitical dynamics.

However, it expects the economy to register 6.9 per cent growth in 2021. PTI

RBI directs Yes Bank
not to pay interest on
Upper Tier-II bondsENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JUNE 22

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) has directed Yes Bank not to pay interest on its Upper Tier-II bonds, which will be due on June 29 on account of inadequate capital levels.

The bank would not be able to pay interest of 10.25 per cent on the Upper Tier-II Bonds due for payment on June 29, Yes Bank said in an exchange filing. "We would like to inform that Reserve Bank of India has expressed its inability to accede to the bank's request for payment of interest due as on June 29, 2020, since the bank does not meet the minimum capital requirements currently," the bank said.

The bank had earlier sought the RBI approval for payment of interest for the Upper Tier-II bonds. "In terms of Information Memorandum dated June 25, 2012 under which the Upper Tier II bonds are issued, the interest amount due and remaining unpaid shall be accumulated and be paid by the bank later, subject to the bank complying with the stipulated regulatory requirement," the bank had said.

The bank's CET-I ratio and Tier-I capital ratio stood at 6.3 per cent and 6.5 per cent, respectively, compared to the mini-

INADEQUATE
CAPITAL RATIOS

■ The bank's CET-I ratio and Tier-I capital ratio stood at 6.3 per cent and 6.5 per cent, respectively, compared to the minimum requirements of 7.375 per cent and 8.75 per cent respectively.

mum requirements of 7.375 per cent and 8.875 per cent respectively, its auditors report said. The bank was earlier this year bailed out after the lender's financials worsened and bad loans shot up. The bank had received capital from investors amounting to Rs 10,000 crore. State Bank of India had invested Rs 6,050 crore in the capital.

Yes Bank had reported a Rs 1,506-crore net loss for the March quarter as against a profit of Rs 1,179 crore in the year-ago period as provisions soared over nine times. It posted a loss of Rs 18,564 crore for the December 2019 in the wake of a spurt in bad loans. Gross non-performing assets of the bank skyrocketed to Rs 40,709 crore in the December quarter from Rs 5,158 crore a year ago.

Three Chinese projects worth
₹5K cr in Maharashtra on holdMANOJ MORE
PUNE, JUNE 22

A WEEK after signing memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with three Chinese companies for investment worth Rs 5,000 crore in Talegaon of Pune district, the Maharashtra government has put the projects on hold, but has not cancelled them for now.

Of the three Chinese companies, Great Wall Motor had promised initial investment worth Rs 3,770 crore and generation of 2,000 jobs. It had also committed to a phased investment worth Rs 7,600 crore in its proposed factory in Talegaon. Two other compa-

nies, Hengli Engineering and PMI Electro Mobility Solutions, had also planned to invest Rs 1,250 crore. Of the two, PMI had promised to invest Rs 1,000 crore and create 1,500 jobs.

Maharashtra Industries Minister Subhash Desai said the state has decided to wait for instruction from the Centre over the investments. "Until further directives, it would be status quo with regard to the MoUs," he said.

He, however, clarified: "The projects have been put on hold. This does not mean that they have been cancelled. We will wait for further action on them."

The signing of MoUs had taken place on June 15.

	NMDC Limited (A Government of India Enterprise)
	'Khanji Bhavan', 10-3-311/A, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad - 500 028, Telangana, India. CIN: L13100TG1958G0001674
Empanelment of Transaction Advisors, Legal, Tax & Accounting and Technical Consultants	
Proposals are invited for empanelment of the above consultants for Mergers and Acquisitions and expansion of business in India and Abroad.	
The detailed RFE Document can be viewed and / or downloaded from NMDC's website www.nmdc.co.in & Central Procurement Portal www.eprocure.gov.in from 23-06-2020 to 31-08-2020.	
Bidders on regular basis are required to visit the NMDC's website for corrigendum, if any, at a future date. Last date of submission 31-08-2020 at 13:00 hours (IST).	
Email id: bdcpemp@nmdc.co.in Deputy General Manager (NMDC Global)	
हट एक काम देश के नाम इस्पाती ड्रामा	

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT OF NCT DELHI OFFICE OF THE CHIEF WATER ANALYST (W&S)-I WATER WORKS WAZIRABAD, DELHI- 110054 PRESS NIT No. 03/ (2020-21)/CWA(W&S)-I					
S. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Date of release of Tender in e-procurement solution	Last date/ Time receipt of Tender through e-procurement solution
1.	S/I/T of FMS for Chandrawal Water works No. I	Item Rate	3,12,000/-	Tender Id: 2020_DJB_191861_1 Publish Date: 19.06.2020 at 03:26 PM onward	06-July-2020 UP TO 12:00 Noon
NIT along with all terms & conditions is available on DJB website https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in					
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 85/2020-21				Sd/- CWA (W&S) -I	

Bureau of Investment Promotion, Rajasthan
Udyog Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur
Phone : 2227713 / 2227812
Notice Inviting Bid
18th June, 2020

N.I.B. No- 295
UBN No.: BIP2021SLOB0002

Online E-bids under one stage two-envelope bidding process are invited from reputed Exhibition fabrication and development Firms for undertaking work related to exhibition design, fabrication and setting up of pavilion/stall for national events. Complete Bidding Document containing Instructions to Bidders, Technical Bid, Financial Bid, Conditions of Contract, Payment of Price of Bidding Document, Processing Fee, Bid Security etc. may be seen at or downloaded from the website of State Public Procurement Portal <http://spppp.rajasthan.gov.in> or e-procurement portal <http://eproc.raj.nic.in>. Bid Security is Rs. 1,20,000 (In case of eligible MSME Unit INR: 30,000). Last date for submission of online Technical and Financial Bid is 08.07.2020 at 2 pm. Bids will be opened on 08.07.2020 at 4.00 pm. For any further clarification Ms. Divya K Nair, Manager, may be contacted on 0141-2227274, 2227713, 2227812 or an email at bip.raj@nic.in may be sent.

Chief General Manager (F&A)

Bureau of Investment Promotion, Rajasthan
Udyog Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur
Phone : 2227713 / 2227812
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Chief General Manager (F&A)

14 SPORT

Ahead of England tour, 3 Pak players test positive

EXPRESSNEWSERVICE
JUNE 22

THREE PAKISTAN cricketers, rookie batsman Haider Ali, pacer Haris Rauf and leg-spinner Shadab Khan – have tested positive for coronavirus ahead of the team's upcoming England tour, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has informed. As per the PCB release, the players were asymptomatic when they were tested on Sunday. The players have been asked to self-isolate.

"The Pakistan Cricket Board has confirmed three players – Haider Ali, Haris Rauf and Shadab Khan – have tested positive for Covid-19. The players had shown no symptoms until they were tested in Rawalpindi on Sunday ahead of the Pakistan men's national cricket team's tour to England," the PCB release stated.

It added: "The PCB medical panel is in contact with the three who have been advised to immediately go into self-isolation."

It is learnt that the entire squad will not be quarantined as the selected players haven't assembled yet and will meet in Lahore on June 24, four days prior to their departure on June 28. The PCB is doing internal testing of the selected players and support staff, who are turning up individually at their respective centres.

A combined, 29-member Pakistan squad will be travelling to England to play three Tests and as many T20 internationals, starting next month. Upon reaching England, they will go into a quarantine period in Derbyshire. The first Test is scheduled to commence from July 30.

The PCB will take a call on whether Ali, Rauf and Khan will join the squad at a later date or will be replaced. Their press release just stated: "Imad Wasim and Usman Shinwari, also screened in Rawalpindi, have tested negative and, as such, will travel to Lahore on 24 June."

"The other players and team officials, barring Cliffe Deacon, Shoaib Malik and Waqar Younis, underwent tests at their respective centres in Karachi, Lahore and Peshawar on Monday. Their results are expected at some stage on Tuesday, which will also be announced by the PCB through its usual channels."

Super spreader tennis plays spoilsport

Novak Djokovic's stubborn stance to hold an exhibition tournament draws flak after 4, including 2 players, get infected with COVID-19

GAURAVBHATT
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

CROATIAN TENNIS player Borna Coric confirmed he has tested positive for Covid-19 on Monday, a day after Grigor Dimitrov's positive test led to the cancellation of the Adria Tour final in Zadar. Further announcements are expected as national news agencies have quoted the head of Zadar's local crisis response team, Sime Vickovic, saying that four tennis players and two coaches tested positive.

The diagnoses came after the charity exhibition series, organised by world No. 1 Novak Djokovic, was criticised as footage revealed minimum social distancing measures, packed venues, and player trips to night clubs and basketball courts. As a result, the initial optimism of professional sports resuming after the lockdown has been replaced by a fresh threat, as the number of coronavirus infections swells, with cases now reported in other returning sports such as golf.

Adria Tour

At Djokovic's behest, numerous tennis players flew to the Balkans for the tour, which kicked off last week in the Serb's hometown of Belgrade. Other than Djokovic, Dimitrov, and Coric, the tournament included Dominic Thiem (world No. 3), Alexander Zverev (7), and 2014 US Open champion Marin Cilic.

Throughout the weekend, Djokovic and Co were seen hugging, shaking hands and mingling with the crowd. Within a fortnight, Dimitrov had played tennis in two packed stadiums in two different countries, notwithstanding games of football and basketball, and a visit to an indoor cabaret club in Belgrade last week with players.

Three-time Grand Slam semi-finalist Dimitrov then faced Coric in Saturday's semi-final in Zadar, where he was visibly ailing and suffered a 4-1, 4-1 loss.

After Dimitrov's announcement on Sunday, Djordje Djokovic, tournament director and Novak's younger brother, said that "absolutely none (of the players) have symptoms."

"Before coming to Zadar, Grigor was in his country. We don't know if he was infected there, but it is certain that everyone who was in close contact with him will be tested tonight," Djordje told reporters.



Novak Djokovic's Adria Tour was criticised as photos and videos revealed minimum social distancing measures. Players played in front of packed stands, mingled with the crowd, and took part in recreational activities: kids' tennis clinics, pick-up games of basketball and football, and a visit to an indoor cabaret club in Belgrade where they were captured dancing shirtless.

This was after Montenegro called off the third leg of the tournament, scheduled for June 27 and 28 after Croatia and before the conclusion in Bosnia, as it became apparent Serbia did not match strict health guidelines.

Serbia, which has had 12,894 positive cases with 261 deaths, witnessed a near-total lifting of the government restrictions earlier this month. A near-capacity crowd of 25,000 turned out for the Belgrade derby on June 10,

three days before Djokovic's tournament kicked off. Tickets to the Adria Tour were sold out in minutes and fans thronged the stands, with few wearing masks.

"You can also criticise us and say this is maybe dangerous. But it's not up to me to make the calls about what is right or wrong for health. We are doing what the Serbian government is telling us," Djokovic said at the opening ceremony.

Hi everyone, I want to reach out & let my fans and friends know that I tested positive back in Monaco. I want to make sure anyone who has been in contact with me during these past days gets tested and takes the necessary precautions. I'm so sorry for any harm I might have caused...

GRIGOR DIMITROV

Players absent at the invitational tour criticised the tournament as news broke. Chief among them was Australian Nick Kyrgios, who retweeted Coric's positive test announcement with the caption: "Boneheaded decision to go ahead with the 'exhibition' speedy recovery fellas, but that's what happens when you disregard all protocols. This IS NOT A JOKE (sic)."

No-vaxx

The unravelling of Djokovic's charity tournament comes in the aftermath of the Serb appearing to relax his stance on playing at the US Open. After describing the health protocols for the tournament starting August 31 as "extreme" and "impossible", Djokovic on Friday said that he was "extremely happy" by the proposed regulations.

This is the latest episode in what has been an eventful lockdown for the President of ATP Player Council. In April, during a video chat with fellow Serbian athletes, Djokovic said: "Personally, I am opposed to vaccination and I wouldn't want to be forced by someone to take a vaccine in order to be able to travel. But if it becomes compulsory, what will happen? I will have to make a decision."

Former Wimbledon champion Marion Bartoli urged Djokovic to "think about humanity and the rest of your mates on the circuit. There are times in life when certain personal convictions need to be put aside for the common good of the community," she said while former World No. 1 Andy Roddick said, "The bottom line is not whether or not he believes in vaccinations, it's what's safest to bring tennis to the forefront on a global stage."

World No. 2 Rafael Nadal added that if vaccines are made compulsory, "then Djokovic will have to be vaccinated if he wants to keep

playing tennis at the top level." And while support came in the form of 156th-ranked Denis Istomin, who claimed "I wouldn't want to be forced by someone to take a vaccine in order to be able to travel," Djokovic backtracked a bit from his stance. "I am keeping an open mind, and I'll continue to research this topic," he said.

Spirituality over science

Long the epitome of fitness on the tennis tour, Djokovic's 'Live, laugh, love' brand of spirituality and advocacy of alternate medicine has often clashed with sports science. He famously delayed an elbow surgery, and "cried for days" after ultimately going under the knife, feeling "like I had failed myself."

At the 2008 US Open, Roddick had mocked Djokovic as a hypochondriac who was suffering from "cramp, bird flu, anthrax, SARS, and a common cold and cough".

Djokovic's gluten intolerance was subsequently diagnosed after a doctor placed a slice of white bread on his stomach. He believes in telekinesis and telepathy and hired a hug-loving coach Pepe Imaz, who taught levitation.

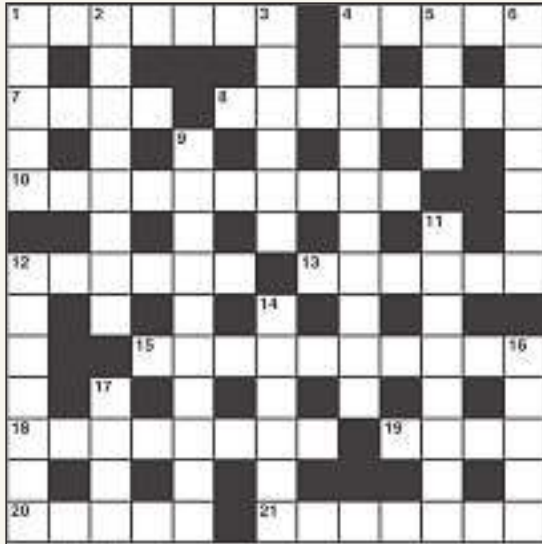
But he came under fire in May for supposedly endorsing a product that claims to stimulate brain cell growth. Djokovic spent three Instagram live sessions with nutritionist Chervin Jafarieh, whose company sells herbal supplements costing Rs 5,000 for 50gm. The pair talked about how humans could change the molecular composition of food and water with their thoughts and emotions.

"I've seen people and I know some people that, through that energetical transformation, through the power of prayer, through the power of gratitude, they manage to turn the most toxic food or the most polluted water, into the most healing water... Because water reacts and scientists have proven that, that molecules in the water react to our emotions, to what is being said," said Djokovic while Jafarieh nodded in agreement.

Player-turned commentator Mary Carillo was "disturbed" by the conversation, adding: "This is dangerous stuff and when I looked at it... it already had half a million hits."

Djokovic's Instagram sessions came a month after wife Jelena shared a video linking 5G technology to the Covid-19 outbreak. Jelena's post, which was viewed more than 115,000 times, was given a "false information" disclaimer by Instagram.

CROSSWORD 4151



ACROSS

- 1 North America's largest meat producer (7)
- 4 After a drink Jack went back to the dance (5)
- 7 The bird is possibly a booby (4)
- 8 American moved secretly (2,6)
- 10 Foreign settlement? (10)
- 12 Spiritual benefit deriving from take-off? (6)
- 13 German doctor returns in a cab (6)
- 15 Refuse to give credit? (10)
- 18 Wholly fair? Not by a long way (4,4)
- 19 It's uphill going to obtain an increase (4)
- 20 Woman unaffected by reversals (5)
- 21 Poet is reserved about French female (7)

DOWN

- 1 Does it call for a costume ornament? (5)
- 2 All too human a story in which evil is overthrown (8)
- 3 Too many flourishes from a tenor (6)
- 4 Concerning a boy competent and sensible (10)
- 5 It changes me in appearance (4)
- 6 What does father make of the RAF? (7)
- 9 The preserve of the motorist (7,3)
- 11 Particular mixture of ale and spice (8)
- 12 Even troops appear in it (7)
- 14 Corrupt practices a sailor employs (6)
- 16 Poem causing wild glee at the end of the day (5)
- 17 Unusually cold part of the earth (4)

Solutions Crossword 4150: Across: 1 In the saddle, 9 Riviera, 10 Caste, 11 Ville, 12 Belabour, 14 Caddle, 16 Posset, 18 Assassin, 19 Bang, 22 Grain, 23 Curtain, 24 Cross swords. Down: 2 Novel, 3 Hies, 4 Shaken, 5 Dictator, 6 Lessons, 7 Grave charge, 8 Secret agent, 13 Dissents, 15 Despair, 17 Discus, 20 Award, 21 Bribe.

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.

Humanity is acquiring all the right technology for all the _____ - R. Buckminster Fuller (5,7)

HMAER



EEUNNS



RONDO



SWINGF

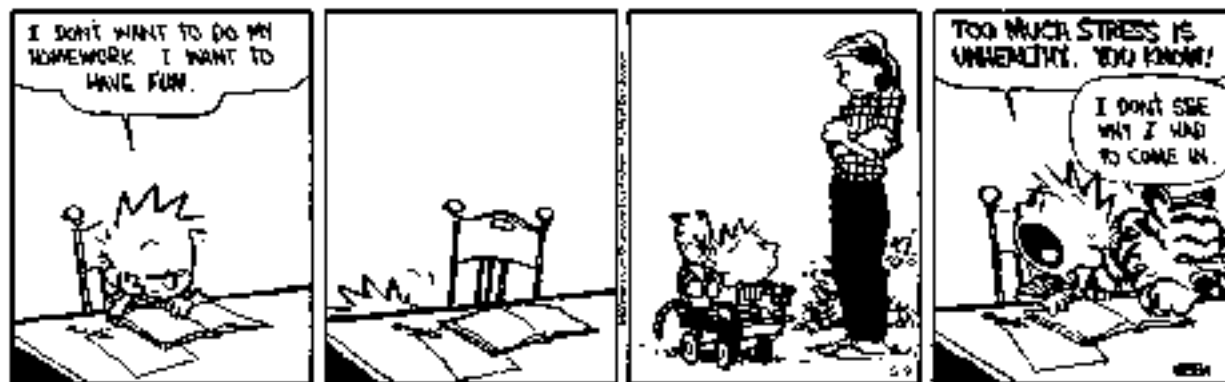


SOLUTION: HUMANITY, DONOR, UNSEEN, SEWING
Answer: Humanity is acquiring all the right technology for all the wrong reasons - R. Buckminster Fuller

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4148

Difficulty Level 1s

Instructions

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 4147



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

The dominant mood of the day is still somewhat emotional, and your nesting instinct may be strong. However, your mood is about to change quite substantially so, please realise that, what seems permanent today, may have completely disappeared before long.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

The best way to deal with family members, or with anyone you live with for that matter, is to talk to them. The more that goes unsaid, the greater the chances that you'll drift into some sort of major misunderstanding. And that would never do. Not after all you've been through.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Cash, including your need for more with the demands on your pocket, is one major issue. However, there's always a psychological dimension, and right now this includes your own need to be valued more in the future. Start by finding ways to boost your self-esteem.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

There is a great deal to be said for pressing ahead with all personal hopes and ambitions as fast as possible. The very best that you can hope for is that little opportunities will drop into your lap, unasked for. Your task will be to make the most of them.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Nothing is quite as it seems, so don't worry if you can't think straight at the moment, but do try to separate fact from fantasy. This is not to say that one is better than the other, just that you should be sure in your own mind whether you're dealing with the real world or not.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

Stress levels tend to build up, but that's not necessarily a bad thing. A love affair will work best if you understand that friendship is more important than passion. You may already sense that emotional changes are on the way, and should realise that they are to be positively welcomed.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

In love, it looks very much as if secrecy is still the order of the day. It may be that other people are not yet ready to understand your feelings, but there could also be a slight lack of confidence on your part. Mind you, perhaps a few doubts are a good thing.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Set your sights high today and go for adventurous options. However, you should keep an eye on authority figures, including employers, who are developing strange ideas, especially if it looks as if they may pass judgment on your behaviour. You don't want to miss out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

Monetary rewards are no doubt overdue, but if you can possibly get financial loose ends tied up today, you'll clear the decks ready for tomorrow. What is ultimately more important, though, is recognition of your talents. It's good to have cash in your pocket, but better to feel that other people honour your achievements, however small.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Partnership is extremely important. This is not necessarily for any wonderfully selfless reason, but because, for sheer self-interest, you must link up with individuals who think and feel as you do. You can do without people who always criticise you, at least for now.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

The dominant daily pattern in your chart is still work, but the possible manifestations are many. Even if you're planning to put your feet up, you may find that the most fulfilling way to spend the day is performing little favours for others. It's good to do good.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

There's an ongoing risk of friction at home. In the past, this has involved simple practical matters but, right now, there seems to be some emotional strain. Use the opportunity to clear the air – and reassure other people that the worst may never happen.