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INDIAN
EXPRESS
GROUP

**MUST STRICTLY RESPECT AND OBSERVE LAC: INDIA**

Diplomats build on military talks: Both need to implement plan on disengagement of troops

Border Affairs group meets as Chinese Defence Ministry asserts Galwan claim**SHUBHAJIT ROY**
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

INDIAN AND Chinese diplomats agreed Wednesday to "sincerely implement the understanding on disengagement and de-escalation" along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh where both sides have massed troops in a faceoff since May.

At the meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC), held two days after Corps Commanders of the two armies reached a "mutual consensus to disengage" troops, the Indian side "conveyed its concerns" on the developments in eastern Ladakh, including the June 15 showdown in Galwan Valley in which 20 Indian Army personnel were killed. The Ministry of External Affairs said it was emphasised that both sides should "strictly respect and observe" the Line of Actual Control.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Satellite images of road construction near Galwan Valley on June 22. Maxar Technologies via Reuters

Satellite catches Chinese structures back at Galwan

KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

AS INDIA and China hold diplomatic and military talks to disengage troops along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh, new satellite images show that the Chinese have built a defensive position at the Galwan Valley site of the June 15 clashes in which 20 Indian Army person-

nel were killed.

Top sources in the Army confirmed that "the tent which was removed on June 15 has been reported back by our ground troops at PP-14 (Patrolling Point 14)". Reached for comment, the Army did not confirm or deny the existence of Chinese structures visible in the satellite images.

The images from Maxar, a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**"GALWAN WAS NEVER DISPUTED.. CHINA BETRAYED..."****AK ANTONY**
SENIOR CONGRESS LEADER & FORMER DEFENCE MINISTER

Closer to strategic DBO, China opens a new front at Depsang

SUSHANT SINGH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

AS INDIA and China grapple with rising tensions in the Galwan Valley, Hot Springs and Pangong Tso on the Line of Actual Control (LAC), the Chinese army has crossed the border in another strategic area to the north, the Depsang plains. This intrusion is seen as another attempt by the Chinese to shift the LAC further west on the disputed boundary.

Around 30 km south-east from the important airstrip of Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO), the Chinese army has moved and deployed in large numbers up to a place called Y-junction or Bottleneck on the Depsang plains. Sources said the Chinese deployments include troops, heavy vehicles, specialist military equipment.

Bottleneck, which derives its name from a rocky outcrop that prevents vehicular movement across the Depsang plains, is the place at which the Chinese had pitched tents after an ingress in April 2013. The standoff between the soldiers on both sides had then lasted three weeks and the status quo ante was restored after diplomatic talks.

Bottleneck is around 18 km on the Indian side of the LAC, even though the Chinese claim line lies

**THE WORLD****PAK FAILS TERROR TEST, SET TO STAY IN FATF GREY LIST****PAGE 16**

another five kilometres further west. This location is seven kilometres to the north-east of Burtse, a Ladakhi town which falls on the 255-km Darbuk-Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldie (DSDBO) road and has an Indian Army post.

When contacted, the Army's media wing declined to comment on the matter, with an officer telling *The Indian Express* that "the report can neither be confirmed nor denied".

Bottleneck is known as Y-junction because the track coming from Burtse forks into two tracks, one going northward along the Raki Nala to Patrolling Point-10 (PP-10) and the other

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Now past Mumbai too at Covid top, Delhi to survey all houses, ramp up testing

ASTHA SAXENA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

WITH 3,788 new Covid-19 cases being reported on Tuesday, Delhi has overtaken Mumbai as the city with the highest case count — 70,390 cases so far. The total case count in Mumbai, which reported 1,118 new cases in the last 24 hours, is 69,528.

While Delhi has done 4.2 lakh tests so far (about 22,142 per million), Mumbai 2.94 lakh tests (22,668 per million). Mumbai's positivity rate (23.2%) remains higher than Delhi (16.7%); Delhi also has fewer deaths (2,365) than Mumbai (3,964).

With the number of cases still

rising, the Delhi government has prepared an ambitious plan — house-to-house screening in containment zones by June 30, and in the rest of the city by July 6.

The revised Covid response plan, which places emphasis on active surveillance followed by rigorous testing, was formulated after a high-level panel, led by NITI Aayog member Dr V K Paul, suggested a series of measures to tackle the virus spread.

In a meeting with the chief secretary, district magistrates were asked to form teams by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**FULL COVERAGE**
PAGE 4

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

LOCKDOWN DAY 92 **CASES: 4,56,183** **RECOVERED: 2,58,684** **DEATHS: 14,476** **TESTS: 73,52,911** **DOUBLING RATE: 19.53****

KEY STATES TO WATCH	TOTAL CASES	SURGE IN 24 HRS	7-DAY AVG. GROWTH*	DOUBLING RATE**
■ Maharashtra	1,39,010	3,214	2.95%	24.44
■ Telangana	9,553	879	8.47%	8.50
■ Delhi	66,602	3,947	5.87%	12.27
■ Tamil Nadu	64,603	2,516	4.33%	16.63
■ Haryana	11,520	495	4.85%	14.86
■ West Bengal	14,728	370	3.08%	23.36

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

CONCERN DELHI: With testing up, cases to rise too. 4,000 on Tuesday — single-day max for any state	CAUTION PUNJAB: State witnessing a resurgence. More than 1,000 cases last week	A GLIMMER UP: Slight slowdown in last one week, but still growing faster than national average
--	--	--

Based on daily data by Centre, ICMR, state governments

INSIDE**CABINET ALLOWS PVT SECTOR IN SPACE; CO-OP BANKS NOW UNDER RBI**
PAGES 9, 17**THE EDITORIAL PAGE****JUSTICE IN THE TIMES OF PANDEMIC**
BY COOMI KAPOOR
PAGE 12

E-comm firms told: Let buyers know country of origin of goods

PRABHA RAGHAVAN & PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

THE DEPARTMENT for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) Wednesday directed e-commerce firms to work out a mechanism that will enable customers to identify the country of origin for all products displayed on their platforms, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

The direction was conveyed during a meeting with representatives of 20 firms, including Amazon, Flipkart, Paytm and Pepperfry, following which the platforms sought around 10 days to work out a system, according

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Explained: A big challenge

THE move could pose complications in case of products with inputs from several countries. Also, e-commerce firms do not own the inventory sold on their platforms, and would need to work out the way forward with a large number of sellers.

Ramdev Ayurvedic 'corona kit': no govt nod, trials that used allopathic drugs

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M & DEEP MUKHERJEE
NEW DELHI, JAIPUR, JUNE 24

A DAY AFTER Ramdev launched an ayurvedic 'Corona Kit' claiming it cured Covid-19, serious questions have emerged over the business practices of Patanjali Ayurved Ltd, the FMCG company that markets Patanjali brand products and Divya Pharmacy, the unit producing the medicines.

On Wednesday, a day after

the Ministry of Ayush ordered Patanjali to stop publicising claims of Covid-19 cure, the Uttarakhand government said its licencing authority did not grant any approval to the Corona Kit, and the Rajasthan government told *The Indian Express* it had no knowledge of clinical trials at National Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (NIMS), a private hospital in Jaipur where Covid-19 patients are admitted.

Most significantly, when mildly symptomatic patients

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**BUSINESS AS USUAL**

By UNNYY

**SHUBHRA RANJAN**
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GIC Re
General Insurance Corporation of India

Gross Premium
₹ 51,030.13 Cr.

Net Worth
₹ 35,425.87 Cr.

Solvency Ratio
1.53

AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Sr. No.	Particulars	2020 Year Ended	2019 Year Ended
		(Audited)	(Audited)
		March 31, 2020	March 31, 2019
1	Premium Income (Gross)	51,030.13	44,238.00
2	Net Profit/(Loss) After Tax	(359.09)	2,224.31
3	Paid Up Equity Share Capital	877.20	877.20
4	Net Worth (including fair value change account)	35,425.87	52,765.05
5	Total Assets	1,16,196.20	1,18,883.57
6	Solvency Ratio	1.53	2.06

Notes:

a) Premium income is Gross written premium, gross of reinsurance and net of applicable taxes.

b) The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly and year to date Financial results filed with the stock exchanges under Regulation 33 and Regulation 52 of SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015. The full format of the quarterly and year to date Financial results are available on the websites of Stock exchanges (www.bseindia.com HYPERLINK "http://www.bseindia.com/" and www.nseindia.com) and the Corporation (www.gicofindia.com).

For and on behalf of the Board Directors

Sd/-
Devesh Srivastava
Chairman-cum-Managing Director

Place: Mumbai
Date: 24th June, 2020

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With a bus, a counter and minimal staff, South Delhi begins aggressive testing

New Delhi

5 GOVT & POLITICS

‘India of today is not India of 1962’

SENIOR CONGRESS leader and former defence minister **A K ANTONY** speaks to **MANOJ C G** about the situation in Ladakh and his assessment of the way forward.

As former defence minister, what is your assessment of the situation in Ladakh?

The Chinese army is still there in the Galwan Valley area. Their constructions are there. Even though they are not doing anything more, their constructions are still there. They are yet to be dismantled. Chinese army is there in the Pangong Tso lake area too and every day they are fortifying. They are there in Hot Springs also. Galwan Valley was never a point of dispute. Over the years, the Indian Army and Chinese army have identified more than a dozen disputed areas. But Galwan Valley was never a disputed area. It is Indian territory. Our sovereignty was undisputed. During UPA II, we started constructing the road to Galwan Valley. At that time, there was no objection from the Chinese side. Suddenly, they have come in large numbers and pushed into the Indian area, which ended in the tragic martyrdom of 20 brave soldiers.

China, you said, did not object to construction of the road. So, what in your view is the reason for the present standoff?

Even though from 1962 on-

wards, all along there had been incursions along the more than 4000-km-long India-China border. Incursions happened during the period of all governments. But 1975 onwards, we also started strengthening infrastructure on the Chinese border. Successive governments strengthened the infrastructure. Infrastructure was strengthened the most during UPA I and II. UPA I and II spent the maximum amount on defence. From 2006 onwards, we more than doubled the defence expenditure. We constructed more roads, more bridges, purchased hundreds of Sukhoi aircraft, MiG 29, we decided to form strike corps based in Panagarh in Kolkata, raised two more mountain divisions in Tezpur and Rangapahar. We bought transport aircraft like C-17 and C-130... Now the Indian armed forces are well equipped and can face any challenge.

There were incursions during the UPA period too.

I told you... incursions had been taking place since 1962 because the border is unsettled. A serious incursion took place during the UPA period in Depsang in 2013 and then in Chumar in 2014. It took 21 days in 2013... they had come in large numbers... put tents and everything... there was face to face scuffle... but after 21 days... after military and diplomatic-level discussions they went back.



THE EXPRESS
INTERVIEW

WITH
A K ANTONY
CONG LEADER, FORMER
DEFENCE MINISTER

“It is the duty of the PM to come out with a categorical public statement that the government will do everything to restore status quo ante”

Status quo ante was restored. In 2014... Chumar also... after military and diplomatic-level discussions... they went back. The status quo ante was restored.

What went wrong this time?

First of all, nobody imagined there would be a betrayal from China in the Galwan Valley area. The whole country was under the euphoria of the Mahabalipuram discussions with the Chinese President. Galwan Valley was never a point of dispute. It is a betrayal by China. It is for the government to see to it that our sovereignty is protected.

What could the government have done to avoid the bloodshed?

When both the armies were discussing disengagement, they attacked us. It is betrayal. Now we have to think about the future. Strengthen the armed forces. The ultimate aim should be that status quo ante should be restored.

BJP president JP Nadda has said that during UPA time, 43,000 km of Indian territory was surrendered to the Chinese and between 2010 and 2013 there were some 600 incursions?

Totally false. Incursions were there all along since 1962. Even before 1962, there were incursions. But this kind of major incursion did not take place during our time. In Depsang and Chumar, status quo ante was restored.

How do you deal with China?

India of today is not India of 1962... Now the armed forces are

well equipped to meet any challenge. In UPA II, I found some change in Chinese priority. That is why in Depsang and Chumar... they came into our territory and after persuasion they went back. At that time, their priority was their conflict in the South China Sea. They were trying to completely bring it under their control. They were more concerned about Taiwan, Hong Kong, Xinjiang. But again, suddenly they have changed their priority. That way this is unprecedented... attack on a territory which is undisputed. During UPA II, whenever there was a dispute they used to go back to their original position... were willing to have a peaceful settlement... but now they have changed their priority suddenly. There is something deep which we have to assess. The government needs to study this deeply.

The BJP says the Congress is against Narendra Modi and not China... how did the Congress sign an MoU with Chinese Communist Party?

Earlier, only the Congress was going for the Chinese Communist Party meetings. After the Modi government came, they (the BJP) also started sending their representatives. Both the BJP and the Congress are friendly with Chinese Communist Party. Everyone forgets that the only chief minister in India who was invited to

China four times was Narendra Modi. He met the Chinese President 18 or 19 times. The Congress has categorically said that we are one with the government and the armed forces when it comes to protecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country. We will do everything to support the armed forces. That has been the Congress tradition.

What next for the government?

The country is watching... whether at the end of the conflict, the government is able to restore status quo ante. And it was the Prime Minister who said there are no outsiders in Indian territory. It was a shock to me and to the whole country. The Chinese army is still in the Galwan Valley and their construction is there. They are there in Hot Springs... They are there up to Finger 4. Every day they are fortifying. Even now the military-level talks are only on Galwan Valley. They are not saying anything about Pangong Tso. The Indian Army has told them that the Chinese must vacate from all the occupied areas and the PM has made such a statement. It is the duty of the PM to come out with a categorical public statement that the government will do everything to restore status quo ante. Let him publicly and categorically say that.

Army Chief awards five soldiers for Pangong Tso, Galwan grit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

FIVE INDIAN soldiers were on Wednesday awarded ‘Commendation Cards’ by Army Chief General M M Naravane for demonstrating exemplary grit and courage in dealing with Chinese troops in two separate clashes in Pangong Tso and Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh, sources said.

The Army Chief visited forward areas in eastern Ladakh to meet the troops and held a detailed briefing in Leh about the situation on ground.

General M M Naravane reached Ladakh on Tuesday, accompanied by Northern Army Commander Lt Gen YK Joshi.

The Army chief is scheduled to visit other forward areas in eastern Ladakh on Thursday as part of his tour to review the on-ground military preparedness. This is his first trip to the region after Indian Army lost 20 soldiers in Galwan Valley on June 15.

The Army Chief reviewed the overall security situation in the region with Northern Army Commander Lt Gen YK Joshi, commander of the 14 Corps Lt Gen Harinder Singh and other senior Army officials on both Tuesday and Wednesday, sources said.

“General M M Naravane #COAS visited forward areas in Eastern #Ladakh and reviewed operational situation on the ground. #COAS commended the troops for their high morale and exhorted them to continue working with zeal and enthusiasm,” the Army said in a tweet.

General M M Naravane’s visit to the region came in the midst of China rapidly increasing number of troops and weaponry along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the eastern Ladakh region, including in Pangong Tso, Galwan Valley and Gogra Hot Spring.

India lost thousands of kms due to misadventures of one family: Nadda

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

A DAY after the Congress Working Committee sought details about the situation along the Line of Actual Control, BJP president JP Nadda Wednesday targeted the opposition party, alleging that India has lost thousands of kilometres of land due to the misadventures of one dynasty, referring to the Nehru-Gandhi family.

In a series of tweets targeting the Congress, Nadda said it is the opposition’s right to ask questions and the all-party meeting with the Prime Minister last week saw healthy deliberations with several opposition leaders giving their valuable inputs. “One family was an exception. Any guesses who?” he tweeted without naming anyone. The BJP president said other parties backed the government.

A day after the CWC sought details about the situation along the LAC and the India-China face-off, Nadda tweeted, “Due to the misadventures of one dynasty: we lost thousands of square kilometres of land. The Siachen glacier was almost gone. And much more. No wonder India has rejected them.”

The ruling BJP and the opposition Congress have been engaged in a public spat over the violent face-off — between the Indian and Chinese side in Ladakh’s



‘A dynast throws tantrums and his courtiers peddle that fake narrative’

Galwan Valley on June 15 — in which 20 Indian soldiers were killed. The BJP government had maintained that there have been no incursions but attempted transgressions across the LAC and they were cleared. But the Congress wanted to know what led to the death of soldiers.

The BJP president further said that a “rejected and ejected dynasty is NOT equal to the entire opposition. One dynasty’s interests are not India’s interests. Today, the nation is united and supportive of armed forces. This is the time for unity and solidarity. Relaunch of the scion and for the nth time can wait”.

In another tweet, Nadda said, “One ‘royal’ dynasty and the ‘loyal’ courtiers have a grand delusion of the opposition being about one dynasty. A dynast throws tantrums and his courtiers peddle that fake narrative. Latest one relates to the opposition asking questions to the government.”

CALLS FOR HOUSE SPECIAL SESSION

Cong questions govt over BJP MP’s claims of Chinese incursion in Arunachal Pradesh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

IN THE wake of the standoff between Indian and Chinese forces in eastern Ladakh, the Congress Wednesday sought to corner the government over claims about Chinese incursions in Arunachal Pradesh by a BJP MP from that state. The opposition party asked the government to come clean on the issue and demanded the convening of a special session of Parliament to discuss issues such as national security.

Facing criticism from the BJP for its attack on the government, the Congress has also decided to observe ‘Shaheedon Ko Salaam Divas’ (martyrs’ day) on June 26. The party will hold candlelight vigils and launch an online campaign called ‘Speak Up For Our Jawans’.

Addressing a press conference, senior party leader Manish Tewari said that Tapir Gao, BJP MP from Arunachal East, has said in a television interview that the ‘People’s Liberation Army, on both sides of the Subansiri river in Asapila and Longju sectors in the upper Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh, have occupied territory on the Indian side of the McMahon Line”.

Tewari said that according to Gao, the Chinese Army had constructed bridges, roads, houses and helipads at Asapila and Majha areas in the district.

“Gao further goes on to say that the PLA has occupied a base of the Indian Army... Remember the Prime Minister of India at the all-party meeting had said that no



Manish Tewari, Tapir Gao

posts of the Indian Army have been occupied by the People’s Liberation Army. Gao seems to contradict the Prime Minister...

“This is the not the first time that Gao has made these revelations... These are extremely serious claims,” Tewari said.

Congress Lok Sabha MP from Assam Gaurav Gogoi asked the government to be more vigilant in the Northeast and borders. “We demand that the Government of India does not look at what is happening in Arunachal Pradesh or Ladakh as isolated incidents. This is a grand design and this needs to be responded...,” he said. He also demanded convening of a special session of Parliament, keeping in mind both social distancing and the importance of national security.

Tewari slammed the government for not allowing Parliamentary Standing Committees to meet virtually. “It is extremely unfortunate while you can have Russia, India, China trilateral summits virtually, while the G-20 can be held virtually and all-party meetings on China can be held virtually, this Government has walked the extra mile in order to hide behind rules, in order to escape Parliamentary oversight...”

made the introductory remarks, said: “There some handmaidens of China who keep justifying Chinese actions here... They try to bring morale of the forces down.”

“WTO agreements are not applicable on people. Today even a small child knows Chinese products are not to be purchased. China has been forced to think that if it does anything more and India’s people go against it, the entire market will go out of its hand and it will be in economic trouble,” he said. **FULL REPORT ON**

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DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



CLAMOUR GROWS

THE CHORUS has begun. Taking a cue from senior leaders like Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, who urged Rahul Gandhi to return as Congress president at the CWC meeting Tuesday, some Congress functionaries Wednesday wrote to Congress president Sonia Gandhi with the same demand. While former Rajya Sabha MP Hussain Dalwai argued that Rahul is the most acceptable face as a leader, AICC secretary Challa Vamshi Chand Reddy said Rahul is that one voice and the right person to represent and address national challenges. Dalwai has written that Rahul has dared to raise many crucial issues while no leader from any other party dared to raise issues that affect the whole country.

CLEAR MESSAGE

WITH THE opposition Congress targeting the government over the LAC issue, the BJP seems to have decided to communicate its position to its supporters. It has asked its leaders to find ways to convince the cadre that the government is doing everything to protect the nation whereas it was the mismanagement of past Congress governments that led to the current problems. On Wednesday, party MP and former Union minister Rajyavardhan Rathore, also a retired Army officer, did a Facebook Live with people in Rajasthan to explain the border situation. He said it was important to know the history, geography, Chinese intentions, why such transgressions are happening and Chinese strategies to understand the situation. He too blamed Jawaharlal Nehru for the troubles at the border.

POLL SEASON

GEARING UP for the Bihar elections, the BJP has taken extra care over caste equations while picking its nominees for MLC polls. The party has named its media co-head Sanjay Mayukh, who belongs to an upper caste, a key support base of the BJP, for the second time. It has also nominated Samrat Choudhary, a former minister in the Rabri Devi government. A Kushwaha by caste, Choudhary is expected to keep the backward caste support base consolidated for the BJP-JD(U) alliance in the state. Kushwaha is an influential OBC community in Bihar. Before joining the BJP in 2017, Choudhary had stints in the RJD, JD(U) and HAM(S).

Probe agreement between Cong and CPC: plea in SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

A LAWYER and a journalist on Wednesday approached the Supreme Court seeking a probe into an “agreement” signed between the Indian National Congress and Communist Party Of China in Beijing on August 7, 2008.

In their petition, advocate Shashank Shekhar Jha and jour-

nalist Savio Rodrigues claimed that despite hostile relations with China, the Congress signed the agreement when it was ruling the country as part of a coalition, and hid the facts and details of the agreement.

Rodrigues alleged that he urged the Congress to make details of the agreement public but “no heed was shown in that respect which shows the malafide intention of the Respondents”.

Chinese aggression at LAC premeditated: US Congressman

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

DEMOCRATIC US Congressman Brad Sherman, who is a senior member of the powerful House Foreign Affairs Committee, on Wednesday described as “premeditated” the Chinese aggression in which 20 Indian troops died in the Galwan Valley on June 15.

This is the strongest statement so far from the US. The US administration had so far just condoned the deaths. US Secretary of State Michael R Pompeo, the senior-most Cabinet minister from the Trump administration, had tweeted “condolences”.

Sherman, who represents California’s San Fernando Valley, on Wednesday tweeted, “Good speaking with India’s Ambassador @SandhuTaranjitS today. I offered my condolences to the Ambassador for the approx. 20 troops who died as a result of premeditated Chinese aggression at the actual line of control in Ladakh last week.”



Brad Sherman

“We also spoke in general re strengthening the U.S.-India relationship,” he said.

Sherman is currently serving his twelfth term in Congress and has served in the House of Representatives since 1997. Over the last few months, he has been very active commenting on Kashmir, the NRC, and had met External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in December last year along with other Congressmen.

In October last year, Sherman chaired a two-and-a-half-hour US Congressional hearing, since he is chairman of the House Subcommittee on Asia, on the topic “Human Rights in South Asia: Views from the State

Department and the Region”.

Several Congress members including Indian-American Pramila Jayapal, Sheila Jackson Lee (who is a member of the Pakistan caucus) and Ilhan Omar questioned Alice Wells, then Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs, and Robert Destro, Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labour.

Sherman, who began the hearing by describing Kashmir as the “most dangerous flashpoint in the world”, had said that he has for years condemned the terrorist attacks in Kashmir and spoken about the Kashmiri pandits. He had said that India’s decision with respect to scrapping Article 370 was not in direct response to these terrorist attacks.

Besides Kashmir, the NRC issue had also come up for discussion, and as Sherman had asked whether it is a serious legislative proposal or a “crackpot idea”, Destro responded: “It is a serious legislative proposal.” When Sherman asked “have we condemned it?”, Destro replied, “We are doing it right here.”

‘Our claim is not just LAC — our claim goes beyond that’

DEEPTIMANTI WARIYAR
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

INDIA WILL assert itself on the ground over its perception of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and continue to claim Aksai Chin even as it engages with China diplomatically, BJP general secretary Ram Madhav said on Wednesday.

Madhav also took on the Opposition, particularly targeting the Congress for not addressing the issue under earlier governments led by the party.

Speaking at a webinar organised by RSS mouthpiece *Panchjanya* on the LAC issue, Madhav said: “India will continue to stand firm on the ground. We want peace, but not of the graveyard. We have close to 60 roads under construction (in the region), and that work will go on. Our claim is not just the LAC — our claim goes beyond that. After J&K and Ladakh were declared Union Territories, their maps include PoK, Gilgit Baltistan and Aksai Chin.

“We continue to claim Aksai



Ram Madhav, Ram Lal

Chin, and we have to be firm on our perception of LAC.”

Madhav argued that India is facing such a situation because people had not tried to understand China from “tactical and

strategic point of view”. He said, “China thinks differently compared to other countries. It has border issues with 13-14 countries. It believes in continuing to gain territory without engaging in war.”

He said: “Today, the Opposition asks about border violations, but it has not started in 2020. In 2013, when the Chinese entered 19-20 km inside and there was standoff, nothing was being done and questions were raised in Parliament. (Then PM) Manmohan Singh merely said there are differing per-

ceptions of the LAC between the two countries. Now we are insisting on our ownership of LAC, as we perceive it.”

He said, “We are engaging with China diplomatically but on ground we are assertive. We are not letting China get away with semi-permanent structures on our territory. Unlike in the past, we are not turning our jeep around and coming back. We are confronting and pushing (them) back.”

RSS leader and former BJP general secretary Ram Lal, who

Classified

PERSONAL

This is for the information of general public at large that my name as Asmat Iqbal Jan, has been changed after my marriage as Asmat Ajaz Bandy W/o Ajaz Ahmad Bandy. Anybody having any objection to this effect shall inform the concerned within seven days of publication, after which no objection will be entertained. 0020407449-1

I, Tolly Mathew W/o Mr.K.K. Siju, R/o-135/11, Pratap Nagar, Gurugram, Haryana, have changed my minor daughter Liya Rose to Liya Siju. 0040540179-2

I, Harish Kumar S/o Late.Bhim Sen Lalit R/o-B-348,2nd-Floor,Mohan Garden,Uttam Nagar,New Delhi-110059, changed my name Harish Kumar Goswami, for all future purposes. 0040540174-3

I,ANIL KUMAR S/o NAWAB SINGH, R/O-1135/2 NEAR DADA BHAIIYA PANA BEGWAN BAWANA DELHI-110039, have changed My name to ANIL. 0040540174-9

I,Bharti Kumari D/O Indershekhar Chaudhary R/O 76 Pocket-C Group-2 Janta Flat Hastals UttamNagar Delhi 110059 Have Changed My Name To Bharti 0040540161-1

I, Anju Goswami W/o Harish Kumar Goswami, R/o-B-348, 2nd-Floor, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059,inform that Anju Goswami and Anju one are the same person. 0040540174-4

I, ARUN KUMAR, S/O VIR PAL SINGH, R/O-J-111 FF/FS DLF-ARE SECTOR-10 FARIDABAD HARYANA-121006,have changed my name to ARUN KUMAR SINGH. 0040540174-2

I, ASHUTOSH KUMAR JHA S/O,SUNIL KUMAR JHA R/O-E-32/44 EAST VINOD NAGAR CHILLA-SARODA KHADAR DELHI-110091, have changed my name to ASHUTOSH KUMAR. 0040540174-1

I, BHANU PRAKASH S/O SURESH CHAND GUPTA R/O FLATNO.99,PKT-3, SECTOR-23,ROHINI, DELHI-110085.CHANGED MY NAMETO BHANU PRAKASH GUPTA. 0040540174-8

I, Bindu Devi@Vidya Devi W/o Sh.Harishankar R/O-95,Banauli Siddharthanagar, Uttar Pradesh-272154,have changed my name Vidya Devi,for all future purposes. 0040540179-1

I, DEEPAK KUMAR SHOKEEN S/O KARTAR SINGH R/O.HNO.270, PANNA TIHAAI, MANGOLPUR KALAN, ROHINI,DELHI-110085. CHANGED MY NAMETO DEEPAK KUMAR. 0040540174-7

I, Imadh Ajaz Bandy wants to convey for the information of general public at large that my mother's name has been changed from Asmat Iqbal Jan to Asmat Ajaz Bandy.Anybody having any objection to this effect shall inform the concerned within seven days of publication, after which no objection will be entertained. 0020407450-1

I, Tolly Mathew W/o Mr.K.K. Siju, R/o-135/11, Pratap Nagar, Gurugram(Haryana), have changed my minor daughter LEONA ROSLIN to LEONA SIJU. 0040540179-3

I, Sumeet Kumar son of A K Shukla, resident of SNCO Mess, MCC, air force station, Basant Nagar, New Delhi-110010 have changed my name from Sumeet Kumar to Sumeet Kumar Shukla vide affidavit dated 22/06/2020 before delhi. 0050165796-1

I, Rambir Singh No 9096582N, Unit 11th, Jakli C/o 56APO inform that my son Pramod correct name & DOB is Pramod Kumar Chhillar & DOB is 10.05.2002 and my wife Rajwanti Devi correct DOB is 09.10.1980. 0040540148-1

I, Khyati Kalra W/o Gourav Kwatra R/O-A-91,Yojna-Vihar Delhi-110092, changed my name to Khyati Kwatra, for all purposes. 0040540174-10

I, Poonam daughter of A K Shukla, resident of SNCO mess, MCC, air force stn, basant nagar, new delhi-110010 have changed my name from Poonam to Poonam shukla vide affidavit dated 22/06/2020 before delhi. 0050165794-1

I, NURJAMILA KHATUN W/O.NO-15204326K HAV MD SARFUR SHAIKH,R/O/VPO-JASOHARI,TEH-KANDI,DISTT-MURSHIDABAD, WEST BENGAL-742147.in my husband's service-record my date-of-birth has been wrongly-mentioned as-10/04/1988 instead of-10/04/1990. 0040540174-5

I, NO-14836415X HAV SARDA KUMAR,S/O RAM SEVAK SINGH R/O/VPO-PANHESA,TEH-SEKHOPUR SARAI,DISTT-SHIKH PURA,(BIHAR)-811103,have changed my name,from SARDA KUMAR to SARADA KUMAR, for all future purpose. 0040540174-6

I, Md Imran s/o-Md Nasteem Ansari R/o-B-55, Sarai-Kale Khan, Near-Ishaq Masjid, Delhi-110013, have changed my name to Mohammad Imran Ansari, permanently. 0040540179-5

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is here given that the Certificate(s) Nos. 000857 for Equity shares Nos. 60, distinct from 56037153 to 56037212 of Philips Lighting India Ltd. standing in the name(s) of Jai Mala Bansal & Ajay Kumar Bansal (now deceased) have been lost or mislaid and undersigned have applied to the Company to issue duplicate certificate(s) for the said shares. Any person who has a claim in respect of the said shares should lodge such claim with the Company at its registered address Philips Lighting India Limited, Mangalam Business Centre, Block B, 6th Floor, 22, CAMAC Street, Kolkata, West Bengal-700016 within 15 days from this date else the Company will proceed to issue duplicate Certificate(s). Jai Mala Bansal E-1/14 Model Town-II Delhi 110009

PUBLIC NOTICE

Inform to General Public, that my client Sh. Satya Parkash S/O Sh. Veerpal Singh and Smt. Minakshi W/O Sh. Satya Parkash Both R/o H.No. F-7, Ph-I, Vijay Vihar, Delhi-110086, have severed all the relations from his son Shri Rahul And his wife Smt. Pooja Singh as they are disobeident, rude and not under the control of my client aforesaid. From hereon my client has debarred his son and his wife from all his moveable and immovable properties. If any person, organization, institution does any transaction with them does so at their own risk, for which my client shall not be responsible in any manner whatsoever. SACHIN KUMAR (Advocate) Enrl. No. D-2092/06

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Jamaluddin S/O Abdul Hamid R/O F-284, Block-F, Abul Fazal Enclave, Part-II, Shaheen Bagh, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-110025 have disowned his son & mentioned Names: Sh. No. 1 to 7 are immovable Properties and severed all relation with him due to his disobedience. My client shall not be responsible for his any acts. Sd/- VENKETESH KUMAR JHA (Advocate) Ch. No. 302 Saket Court, New Delhi

STATE BANK OF INDIA

In the POSSESSION NOTICE published on dated 21.03.2020 in Indian Express, Bareilly Edition in Page No.15 by mistake Borrower Name is Missing, Please read as Borrower Name: M/s Insaaf Rice Mill, Dandi Hameer, Richha, Baheri, Bareilly & mentioned Names: Sh. No. 1 to 7 are Partners of Borrower (M/s Insaaf Rice Mill). Authorised Officer, State Bank of India

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER CONSTRUCTION

CIRCLE, U.P. JAL NIGAM Infront Car Scan Center, Raunhat Road Aligarh-202002 Date:- 23-06-2020

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE

U.P. Jal Nigam, E-tenders are invited for "Making House Connections and Partial Strengthening of various Existing Water Supply Schemes in District Aligarh", on turnkey basis including Defect liability period of 12 months including handing over the said work to concerning Gram Panchayat. Tender document shall be available at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in. Interested contractors may view & download tender document and upload their tender, duly filled, online as per schedule given below: Date for : (i) Uploading bid document at website : 01-07-2020 upto 17.00 Hrs. (ii) Online Submission of e-bids : 07-07-2020 upto 17.00 Hrs. (iii) Opening of pre qualification bid 08-07-2020 at 12.30 Hrs.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Following E- Tenders are invited by DRM (WA) NWR/Ajmer at 15.00 Hrs. on the mentioned date, Tender No. 103/2020, Name of work : Deep Screening work and carrying out ancillary works in connection with deep screening of track by BCM 23.50 Km. in Ajmer-Chittaurgarh Section. Approximate cost: Rs. 57,99,918.44 Earnest money : Rs. 1,16,000.00 Tender Closing Date : 15.07.2020, Tender No. 104/2020, Name of work : Rehabilitation / Rebuilding / Strengthening / Replacement / Repair of various bridges on Haripur-Palanpur section. Approximate cost : Rs. 7,16,85,207.97 Earnest money : Rs. 5,08,400.00 Tender Closing Date : 15.07.2020, Tender No. 105/2020, Name of work : Ajmer - Supply of potable drinking water through road tankers in the jurisdiction of ADEN (HQ) Ajmer for one year, Approximate cost : Rs. 12,12,153.60 Earnest money : Rs. 24,300.00 Tender Closing Date : 08.07.2020, Tender No. 106/2020, Name of work : ADEN-Marwar Jn. Sub Division : Augmen- tation works at RUBS i.e. Height Gauge, improvement of drainage arrangement extension of retaining walls and road approaches for existing RUB No.40,41,44,45,46,47 & 51 in Haripur-Palanpur section. Approximate cost : Rs. 1,97,45,293.92 Earnest money : Rs. 2,48,700.00 Tender Closing Date : 15.07.2020. The detailed information of the above tender is available on website www.ireps.gov.in and Tender Notice Board of DRM Office, NWR/Ajmer. 598-SP/20 Please join us on

"IMPORTANT"

Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

Rajasthan minor tries to kill Congress MLA, detained

Jajpur: A minor boy tried to kill a Congress MLA in Karauli district on Wednesday when the legislator was meeting people

at his residence, police said. The minor attempted to fire at Hinduan MLA Bhariosi Lal with a country-made pistol

but the weapon didn't go off, police said, adding the accused has been detained and is being questioned. PTI

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one man namely Shiv Prakash, S/o Babu Lal, R/o Footpath, Bangla Sahib Road, near Kalawati Hospital, New Delhi, Age: About 48 years, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5' 6", Face: Oval, Built: Medium, Hair: Bald, Wearing: Blue colour T-shirt, dark brown colour pant, has been missing since 05.06.2020 at 3:00 pm. from the area of P.S. Mandir Marg, New Delhi. In this regards a case DD No. 40A Dated 07.06.2020 has been registered at P.S. Mandir Marg, New Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the man but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this man please inform undersigned. Website: http://cbi.nic.in E-mail Id - c/c@cbi.gov.in Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 PS Mandir Marg, New Delhi Fax No. 011-24368639 Ph. No. 011-23366730, 8750870522 DP/63/NDD/2020

G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (NIHE)

(Formerly Known as G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development) Kosi-Katarmal, Almora - 263 643, Uttarakhand TENDER DATE EXTENSION NOTICE No.GBPNIHE/ ISRO-GBP Project /2019-20/25 E-tenders were invited on behalf of the Director, GBPNIHE, Kosi- Katarmal, Almora from eligible reputed and registered firms/suppliers/manufacturers for supply of No-No2-Nox-chemiluminescent Analyzer with Accessories Sample handling system, zero air unit, rack for analyzer under ISRO-GBP Project. The last date of submission of online tender is hereby extended upto 29.06.2020 at 3.00 PM. The documents shall be submitted online at website https://moefce.eunilwizarde.com. Tender fee and EMD in original should reach this office latest by 29.06.2020 at 3.00 PM. The full details of equipments and documents are available in the Institute Website http://gbpihed.gov.in. Administrative Officer Email: ao@gbpihed.nic.in

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, KANPUR INSTITUTE WORKS DEPARTMENT CENTRAL OFFICE

Notice Inviting e-Tender - 05/C/D/1/2020/01 The Superintending Engineer, IWD, IIT Kanpur invites on behalf of Board of Governors of IIT Kanpur invites online percentage rate open bids on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contract basis from eligible/ contractors of repute in two bid system (Eligibility cum Technical bid & Financial Bid) for the following work:-

SL. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Period of Completion
1.	C/o of Hall of Residence for Boys No. 15, consisting 3 Blocks of (Stilt + Five) Stories & 4 Blocks of (Stilt + Six) stored including Internal & External Electrification Works, Plumbing, Fire Fighting, Fire Alarm System, Lifts, Water tanks, Landscape, Roads etc. at IIT Kanpur (U.P.)	Rs. 57,22,76,030/- i/c Civil works : Rs. 46,23,12,903/- Electrical & Lift works: 10,99,63,12	Rs. 67,22,760/-	20 Months

Last date & time of submission of bid on 21.07.2020 upto 5.00 PM. All details are available on website, http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app, www.tenderhome.com or www.iitk.ac.in/iwd/tenderhall.htm. The bids can only be submitted online at https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app. Any corrigendum regarding this tender will be published only on above mentioned websites. Superintending Engineer No. 1112 IWD/CO/2020-21/ Dated: 23.06.2020 Phone No. 0512-259-7725

HARYANA GOVERNMENT

CORRIGENDUM NOTICE

S.R. No.	NAME OF BOARD CORP./AUTH	OLD REFERENCE/NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	HVPNL, PANCHKULA	QDP NO.1225 NIT NO. 1108 DATED 28.02.2020	The last date of online bid submission is extended up to 06.07.2020 upto 17:00 hrs.	https://www.hvpnl.org.in	0172-2583789 xenpanchkula.hsamb@gmail.com
2	HVPNL, PANCHKULA	QDP NO.1223 NIT NO. 1106 DATED 28.02.2020	The last date of online bid submission is extended up to 06.07.2020 upto 17:00 hrs.	https://www.hvpnl.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpnl.org.in
3	HVPNL, PANCHKULA	QDP NO.1224- NIT NO.1107 DATED - 28.02.2020	The last date of online bid submission is extended up to 06.07.2020 upto 17:00 hrs.	https://www.hvpnl.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpnl.org.in
4	HVPNL, PANCHKULA	QDP NO. 1227, NIT NO. 1110 DATED: 23.04.2020	The last date of online bid submission is extended up to 03.07.2020 upto 17:00 hrs.	https://www.hvpnl.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpnl.org.in
5	HVPNL, PANCHKULA	04/PDSC DATED 04.05.2020	Corrigendum-1/ Extension of due date of online bid submission upto 03.07.2020 upto 17:00 hrs. (Estimated cost of Work: 874.61 Lacs)	https://www.hvpnl.org.in	0172-2583789 www@hvpnl.org.in
6	DHBYN, HISAR	NIT NO. 02/CTQ/M&P/2019-20 (ID: 2020_HBC_125793_1)	Extending closing date upto 02.07.2020 & minutes of Pre-Bid meeting added	www.dhbyn.org.in	8059900357 www@dhbyn.org.in
7	DHBYN, REWARI	NIT NO. L/SE/OP./RWR/2020-21.	Date extended up to 06.07.2020	www.dhbyn.org.in	0172-2441033 xendhanuhers@gmail.com
8	LHBVN PANCHKULA	NIT NO GHN-1/2020-21 + 3 OTHERS	Hiring of 1 No Bolero JEEP for the Qto SDO (CP) City S/Division BHBN Ghosia. To extend the date of acceptance of Bids as 29.06.2020 - 1.00 PM & opening of Bids at 3:00 PM on the same day. - +3 07HBC5	www.lhbvn.org.in	9254726389 xensubdivingharyana@gmail.com

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

HARYANA GOVERNMENT

TENDER NOTICE

S.R. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	H.S.A.M. BOARD, PANCHKULA	ANNUAL REPAIR OF HEAD OFFICE BUILDING & CAMPUS, SECTOR-6, PANCHKULA + 6 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 09.07.2020	96.52 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2971280 xenpanchkula.hsamb@gmail.com
2	HVPNL, BHIVANI	AUGMENTATION OF 20/25 MVA 132/33 KV T/F-T-1 WITH 40/50 MVA, 132/33 KV POWER T/F AT 132 KV S/STN. HVPNL, BERLA TENDER ID:- 2020_HBC_132561_1).	CLOSING DATE 27.06.2020	3.67 LACS	https://www.hvpnl.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpnl.org.in
3	HVPNL, PANCHKULA	66/11KV, 25/31.5MVA POWER TRANSFORMER	25.06.2020 24.07.2020	18.42 CRORE	https://www.hvpnl.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpnl.org.in
4	HVPNL, PANCHKULA	PROCUREMENT OF 33 KV VACUUM CIRCUIT BREAKER (2000A)	23.06.2020 22.07.2020	46.38 LACS	https://www.hvpnl.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpnl.org.in
5	HVPNL AMBALA	FOR ARRESTING OF T/F OIL LEAKAGE OF 12.5/16 MVA 66/11 KV POWER T/F T-2 WITH BELZONA POLYMERIC COMPOUND AT 66 KV S/STN MULLANA & 100 MVA, 220/66 KV POWER T/F T-1 AT 220 KV S/STN SONTA.	22.06.2020 30.06.2020	6100 for firms and 3200 for Co-Op Societies	https://www.hvpnl.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpnl.org.in
6	HARYANA SEEDS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED	REPLACEMENT OF OLD AC SHEETS WITH GALVALUME SHEETS OF AT HSOC, CAMPUS, UMRI	24.06.2020 09.07.2020	55.39 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9417669911 hsoc@hry.nic.in
7	DHBYN, GURUGRAM	TENDER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF TOILETS (12 NOS.) FOR GIRLS AT DIFFERENT SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT NUH.	24.06.2020 15.07.2020	26.38 LACS	www.dhbyn.org.in	8059922323 xencivilgn@dhybn.org.in
8	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, GURUGRAM.	CONSTRUCTION OF INDOOR BADMINTON STADIUM AT VILLAGE CHAKKARPUR WARD NO.33, ZONE 03, GURUGRAM, UNDER MCG.	23.06.2020 06.07.2020	132.67 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	941638638 eeb@mcg.gov.in
9	HARYANA LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD PANCHKULA	PURCHASE OF PREGNANT MARE SERUM GONADOTROPHIN (PMSC) FOR VETERINARY USE	23.06.2020 10.07.2020	EMD 1 LAKH	http://pashudhanharyana.gov.in	94161/2558 hdb-hry@nic.in
10	HARYANA LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD PANCHKULA	PURCHASE OF GNRH (GONADOTROPHIN RELEASING HORMONE) FOR VETERINARY USE	23.06.2020 10.07.2020	EMD 1.20 LACS	http://pashudhanharyana.gov.in	94161/2558 hdb-hry@nic.in
11	HARYANA STATE HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	EMANELMENT OF REPUTED FIRMS FOR PROVIDING AND FIXING OF SOLAR FENCING ON SUBSIDIZED RATES UNDER MISSION FOR INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT HORTICULTURE (MIDH) FOR THE YEAR 2020-21	CLOSING DATE 29.06.2020	7 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2587570 mamdharyana@gmail.com
12	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BHADURGARH	CONST. OF SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB IN WARD NO 25 BHADURGARH + 5 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 07.07.2020	8.05 LACS	ETENDERS.HRY.NIC.IN	9350495882 NAVENDHANKHAR@GMAIL.COM
13	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, INDRI	REPAIR OF C.CONC. PAVEMENT DRAIN AND PROVIDING AND FIXING RCC FRAME IN VARIOUS STREET IN WARD NO.10, INDRI	CLOSING DATE 29.06.2020	10700/-	etenders.hry.nic.in	9416435945 seeycm.indri@gmail.com
14	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, KARNAL	CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR INTERIOR FIT-OUT OF OFFICE BUILDING OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, KARNAL	CLOSING DATE 27.07.2020	10/5 LACS	https://etender.hry.nic.in	9813120961
15	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE KALANAUR	PROVIDING OF 1 NO'S MAHINDRA, AC BOLERO JEEP WHITE COLOUR, DIESEL VARIANT WITH DRIVER ON HIRE BASIS INCLUDING FUEL WEAR AND TEAR AND MAINTENANCE COMPLETE IN ALL RESPECT UPTO A MINIMUM PAYABLE LIMIT OF 2000/2500/3000 KM PER MONTH IN M.C. KALANAUR.	23.06.2020 05.07.2020	As per DNIT	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	municipalcommitteekalanaur@gmail.com
16	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, GURUGRAM.	PROVIDING AND LAYING OF RMC M-40 ROAD ALONG WITH POND IN VILLAGE SUKHRALI, WARD NO-6, DIVISION NO-VII, MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GURUGRAM + 4 OTHER WORKS	22.06.2020 03.07.2020	94.67 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9821395213 eeb@mcg.gov.in
17	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, GURUGRAM.	REPAIRING OF WATER SUPPLY LEAKAGE AND CONTAMINATED WATER PROBLEM IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS OF WARD NO-26, ZONE-IV UNDER MCG. +11 OTHER WORKS	22.06.2020 30.06.2020	315.02 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9821395213 eeb@mcg.gov.in

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

4 NPP MLAs to continue to support BJP govt in Manipur: Sarma

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

FOUR NPP MLAs, including Manipur Deputy CMY Joykumar, were brought back to the fold after a meeting with Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP chief J P Nadda on Wednesday, Assam minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said.

The NPP MLAs had withdrawn their support to the N Biren Singh-led government on June 17.

In his tweet, Sarma said, "NPP delegation led by Conrad Sangma and Dy Chief Minister of Manipur Y Joykumar Singh met Honble President of BJP Shri JP Nadda today in New Delhi. NPP will continue to support the BJP govt in Manipur for the development of Manipur."

The exact conditions of the reconciliation were unclear as the NPP leaders, including Meghalaya CM and NPP president Conrad Sangma, were unavailable for comment.

The Manipur government, the BJP's first government in the Northeast which was formed in 2017 after a closely contested election with the Congress, was in turmoil when the NPP MLAs withdrew their support. The same day, three BJP MLAs

resigned to join the Congress while a TMC MLA and an independent MLA withdrew their support from the government in order to support the Congress in its claim to move a no-confidence motion.

On June 18, former Congress CM Okram Ibobi Singh wrote to Governor Najma Heptulla demanding a special Assembly session to move the no-confidence motion.

The BJP flew in its troubleshooter Sarma and Sangma to assuage the disgruntled MLAs. After being taken to Guwahati on Tuesday, the NPP MLAs were taken to New Delhi on Wednesday to meet the Home Minister.

In 2017, the Congress had emerged as the single largest party with 28 MLAs, and the BJP had 21 MLAs. The support of its allies, the NPF (with four MLAs) and the NPP's four legislators were therefore crucial for the BJP to form the government.

The chasm between Chief Minister N Biren Singh and his ministers and own party members has been growing over the past two years.

Bihar Oppn leaders meet amid rumblings in RJD, unease among partners

MANOJ CG & RAVISH TIWARI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

THE DEFECTION of five RJD MLCs to the JD(U) and the resignation of RJD co-founder Raghuvansh Prasad Singh as national vice-president has put a spotlight on the anti-NDA camp in Bihar ahead of Assembly elections. Amid the rumblings in the RJD, senior leaders of the alliance, including senior Congress functionaries, met formally for the first time on Wednesday.

It is an opportunity to dislodge him. But, the impression that Lalu's son (Tejashwi) is the alternative gives Nitish an advantage. There is a lot of baggage with any member of Lalu's family leading the fight," said a top leader in the anti-NDA alliance in Bihar.

The RJD said it was open to discussion but hoped the other parties would understand its view.

"We will discuss it. But the fact is we are numerically the strongest party in Bihar, in terms of seat share or vote share. If the party has decided something, then how can we go back? What



RJD's Manoj Jha (left); and Cong leader Ahmed Patel

will we tell our rank and file? So, it is a question that others will sooner or later understand that issues are far more important. For RJD, it is non-negotiable," RJD leader Manoj Kumar Jha told The

Indian Express.

Though they are not sure whether the RJD will concede this argument, the smaller players in the Opposition alliance are keen to impress "this ground reality" upon the Congress and are asking it to persuade Lalu to change tactics. Sources said they have conveyed this view to senior Congress leader Ahmed Patel. It is learnt that Kushwaha and Manjhi have a meeting with Patel on Tuesday.

Patel attended Wednesday's virtual meeting with Manoj Kumar Jha, Manjhi, Kushwaha and Sahni. AICC general secretary

in charge of Bihar Shaktisinh Gohil, AICC general secretary KC Venugopal, Bihar Congress chief Madan Mohan Jha and Congress legislature party leader Sadanand Singh also joined. Patel and Venugopal attending the meeting signifies the importance the Congress attaches to smooth sailing of the alliance.

Sources said the issue of seat sharing or Tejashwi's projection did not come up on Wednesday as it was a preliminary meeting. Sources said Congress president Sonia Gandhi and Tejashwi would soon meet. "Everything shall be

settled," a senior Congress leader said. But the smaller parties are still not convinced, and this issue is fast emerging as a sticking point in the alliance.

"This handicap (impression of Tejashwi leading) can only be addressed with the consent of Lalu. We hope the Congress realises this and persuades Lalu about an alternative mechanism where the RJD leads the alliance but doesn't give the impression that it's Nitish vs Tejashwi battle," said the Opposition leader, pinning hopes on the Congress to lend its weight.

The Congress, which has a

close working relationship with the RJD and benefited from the alliance in 2015 Assembly elections is yet to make up its mind.

With polls just a few months away, the Covid pandemic has disrupted political activities in Bihar. But action has begun after senior BJP leader Amit Shah held a virtual rally of party workers early this month. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar too has begun political stocktaking within his party. The defection of RJD MLCs, in fact, has virtually kickstarted the political action of leaders shifting camps.

RJD's 3 MLC candidates file nomination

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, JUNE 24

THE RJD'S three candidates for Bihar Legislative Council polls filed their nominations on Wednesday, a day after the JD(U) announced its three nominees.

The RJD has picked Sunil Singh, Farooq Shekh and Rambali Singh. There was a buzz about former health minister Tej Pratap Yadav—MLA from Mahua—getting an MLC berth, but the party reportedly decided against it.

Sanjay Mayukh and Samrat Choudhary filed their nominations from the BJP.

The last date of filing nomination is Thursday.

With five of the RJD's eight MLCs having defected, former CM Rabri Devi is set to lose the Leader of Opposition position in the Legislative Council. Her party is expected to have only six MLCs, two short of the 10 per cent required in the House of 75.

The RJD's MLC nominees are a combination of an upper caste (Sunil Singh, head of Biscomanu), a minority community member (Farooq Sheikh) and an EBC (Rambali Singh).

Although Tej Pratap has not publicly expressed displeasure at not being nominated, an RJD source said there have been heated arguments between Tej Pratap and two top party leaders. "The differences between the two brothers may sharpen as Assembly poll draws close," said an RJD source.

Withdraw corporatnse plan to avoid strike: ordnance workers to PM

SUSHANT KULKARNI
PUNE, JUNE 24

VOICING CONCERN that supply chain of various crucial items to the Army has already been affected due to closure of ordnance factories during the lockdown, three key federations have written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and urged him to withdraw the proposed move to corporatise ordnance factories to "avoid (an) indefinite strike" in the middle of the LAC tension.

The strike ballot called by three workers' federations from 41 ordnance factories against the decision to corporatise the Ordnance Factories Board (OFB) concluded on June 17. In it, the workers voted in favour of an indefinite strike.

But considering the situation along the LAC with China, a date of the strike will be announced next month.

In the fourth tranche of the Armanirbhar Bharat initiative, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had on May 16 announced the decision to corporatise the OFB for "improving autonomy, accountability and efficiency in ordnance suppliers". The three main federations, which represent over 85 per cent of ordnance workforce of 82,000, have unanimously opposed the decision.

A joint press statement by Bhartiya Pratiraksha Mazdoor Sangh, an arm of RSS-affiliated Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh; All India Defence Employees' Federation, a federation of Left unions; and the Indian National Defence Workers' Federation, of the Congress's INTUC, stated, "The federations, after considering the prevailing critical situation in the country and the tension prevailing on the border [LAC] have made an appeal to PM Modi to withdraw the...decision to corporatise Ordnance Factories, so that the employees can contribute in a motivated manner by increasing the production..."

Authorised Officer
For Manappuram Finance Ltd

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below auctions is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 10/07/2020 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other day without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

List of pledges:-

DELHI, BHOLENATH NAGAR DELHI, 121570700010740, 0741, 0766, 0801, 0816, 0846, 121570730004944, 5757, 5758, 5759, 5760, DWARAKA SECTOR 7, 113760700011848, 1849, 113760730004862, 4863, GEETHA COLONY, 107590700021520, 1719, 1783, 1907, 1913, 1934, 1941, 2109, 2121, 2136, 2137, 2141, 2196, 2237, 2245, 2252, 2606, 2794, 2941, 2946, 2949, 2960, 2970, 2974, 2982, 2986, 2989, 2990, 2999, 3003, 3008, 3014, 3030, 3034, 3041, 3044, 3054, 3070, 3079, 3080, 3082, 3083, 3087, 3088, 3096, 3103, 3106, 3107, 3115, 3128, 3129, 3131, 3142, 3145, 3148, 3149, 3153, 3158, 3181, 3183, 3189, 3198, 3199, 3200, 3213, 107590730005071, 5475, KAKARDOOMA, 102760700010673, 0687, 0694, 0697, 0698, 0722, 0723, 0724, 0737, 0754, 102760730007189, 7190, 7191, KALKAJI, 100870700057333, 8805, 9485, 9643, 100870700060072, 0584, 1057, 1060, 1118, 1139, 1291, 1300, 1325, 1375, 1380, 1412, 1434, 1442, 1488, 1492, 1504, 1505, 1506, 1560, 1576, 1725, 1726, 1755, 1757, 1908, 2839, 3028, 3081, 3093, 3109, 3121, 3136, 3146, 3148, 3154, 3156, 3157, 3159, 3174, 3175, 3215, 3224, 3228, 3231, 3258, 3267, 3280, 3292, 3323, 3301, 3312, 3323, 3341, 3345, 3347, 3352, 3356, 3385, 3413, 3420, 3422, 3429, 3438, 3449, 3447, 3455, 3456, 3479, 3480, 3484, 3490, 3491, 3492, 3496, 3520, 3523, 3528, 3529, 3539, 3540, 3542, 3544, 3545, 3554, 3557, 3558, 3570, 3580, 3581, 3584, 3591, 3596, 3610, 3614, 3619, 3622, 3623, 3624, 3625, 3633, 3649, 3659, 3662, 3663, 3667, 3669, 3670, 3671, 3681, 3692, 3693, 3695, 3703, 3704, 100870730017045, 7447, 9200, 9320, 9329, 9435, 9531, 9532, 9593, 9715, 9752, 9852, 100870730020068, KRISHNAN NAGAR, 108530700017164, 7200, 7206, 7207, 7277, 7278, 7293, LAXMI NAGAR, 100890700054112, 4920, 5479, 6541, 6717, 6836, 6858, 6859, 6868, 7321, 8270, 8304, 8353, 8358, 8394, 8403, 8404, 8426, 8462, 8531, 8549, 8550, 8557, 8564, 8599, 8630, 9657, 9666, 9668, 9673, 9676, 9684, 9696, 9699, 9725, 9733, 9739, 9749, 9752, 9780, 9792, 9796, 9798, 9799, 9814, 9818, 9825, 9846, 9854, 9903, 9906, 9907, 9912, 9932, 9943, 9945, 9950, 9952, 9959, 9964, 9972, 9974, 9985, 9990, 100890700060014, 0029, 0030, 0031, 0032, 0041, 100890730016291, 6682, MANGOL PURI, 109040700042420, 2766, 4160, 4324, 4369, 4422, 4476, 4503, 4555, 4559, 4561, 4643, 4660, 4662, 4696, 4698, 4727, 4789, 4834, 4859, 4881, 4886, 4904, 6006, 6135, 6147, 6153, 6161, 6218, 6221, 6266, 6295, 6299, 6304, 6364, 6395, 6398, 6405, 6406, 6478, 6492, 6500, 6508, 6528, 6529, 6545, 6549, 6578, 6579, 6580, 6585, 6587, 6624, 6628, 6634, 6653, 6688, 6691, 6725, 6726, 6745, 6746, 6747, 6749, 6758, 6771, 6784, 109040730007224, 7367, RANIBAGH, 108720700012605, 2607, 2683, 2741, 2751, ROHINI, 109090700715632, 6034, 6035, 6041, 6052, 6100, 6101, 6102, 6105, 6106, 6107, 6108, 6115, 6117, 6134, 109090730006670, 6694, 6695, SHALIMAR BAGH, 102780700014853, 4969, 5320, 5321, 5363, 5377, 5380, 5409, 5410, 5457, 102780730005519, SHASTRI NAGAR, 108450700019148, 9173, 108450700020298, 1367, 1368, 1395, 1446, 2427, 2478, 2501, 2502, 2504, 2505, 2521, 2526, 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2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 217

8 THE OUTBREAK

17 migrants from Bengal who came to Kerala last week test positive for virus

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
JUNE 24

SEVENTEEN MIGRANT workers from West Bengal, who arrived in Kerala last week for a power project, have tested positive for Covid-19.

This is the first time that migrants from other states tested positive for the virus in Kerala, where 90 per cent of cases have been attributed to Keralites returning from other parts of the country or from abroad.

Health Department officials said the 17 were among 35 workers who were ferried to Kerala by a special bus from West Bengal.

With over 3 lakh migrant workers in Kerala returning to their home states, the Pinarayi Vijayan government is desperately looking for migrants to keep moving its construction, service and agriculture sectors, which have almost come to a standstill.

After a review meeting on Wednesday, Vijayan told the media that as migrant workers have begun returning to Kerala, the inspection of their documents and other details would be held at railway stations close to the state borders.

"All those migrant workers would be sent into quarantine, which would be the responsibility of the contractors who bring the workers. Those workers who do not have contractors as sponsors should be sent for institutional quarantine. That facility would be organised at the district levels," the CM said.

Bengal extends lockdown with current relaxations till July 31

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JUNE 24

TO CONTAIN the spread of the novel coronavirus, the West Bengal government on Wednesday extended the lockdown with the current relaxations till July 31 in the state.

The current spell of the lockdown was to end on June 30.

Announcing the decision after presiding an all-party meeting, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said, "Many parties expressed different opinions on tackling the coronavirus pandemic... But we decided to extend the lockdown... We are saying that since the Covid-19 cases are increasing in the entire country, it is our responsibility to help improve the situation..."

Schools, colleges and all other education institutes will stay closed till July 31, she added.

While the government offices will function in a "segregated manner" with 70 per cent attendance and employees following social distancing norms, the Metro and suburban train services will continue to remain suspended.

Shopping malls, restaurants and other similar establishments had resumed services in Bengal on June 8 after a gap of over two months, with the state government allowing relaxations as part of Unlock-1.

West Bengal: Trinamool MLA dies of coronavirus

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JUNE 24

TRINAMOOL CONGRESS MLA Tamonash Ghosh, who tested positive for Covid-19 in May, died at a hospital in West Bengal's South-24 Parganas district on Wednesday. He was 60.

Ghosh is the first MLA in the to have died of the coronavirus.

The three-time MLA from Falta Assembly constituency was admitted to a hospital after he tested positive. Sources said he had several complications related to the heart and kidney, and that he died of multi-organ failure.

Ghosh was a key supporter of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee,

MAHARASHTRA

MSRTC announces 50% cut in May salary for over 1 lakh employees

IRAM SIDDIQUE
MUMBAI, JUNE 24

REELING FROM financial losses, the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) on Wednesday announced a 50 per cent cut in the salaries of over one lakh employees for the month of May. In a circular, the transport undertaking stated the financial burden on it has increased owing to the lockdown, during which movement of buses was completely suspended.

This is the first time the MSRTC has failed to pay its employees.

The circular further elaborated that steps will be taken to ensure that employees get minimum 25 per cent salary in hand. This has been done as many employees have taken loans for co-



Health workers screen residents of a Mumbai housing society on Wednesday. Amit Chakravarty

operatives, which get deducted from salaries. In certain cases, the application of the 50 per cent cut would have led to employees not getting any money at all af-

ter their loan deductions.

MSRTC employees are yet to receive their May salary, even as the transport undertaking faces a cumulative loss of Rs 6,000 crore.



A municipal corporation worker sprays disinfectant at a government school in Bengaluru on Wednesday. The Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board is set to hold the 10th standard exam from Thursday with precautionary measures in place. PTI

Partial lockdown of Bengaluru on cards as Covid cases rise

JOHNSON T A
BENGALURU, JUNE 24

THE KARNATAKA government is contemplating a partial lockdown of Bengaluru in the wake of rising Covid-19 cases, even as the civic body on Wednesday ordered sealing of the old City Market area after 20 fresh cases were reported there.

Forty-one out of Bengaluru's 198 wards may have to be sealed, which would amount to a partial lockdown, sources said.

With Class 10 Board exams scheduled from June 25 to July 8, a full lockdown is not being considered, city officials said.

The doubling rate of the infection in Bengaluru is eight days, as against 18 days for Karnataka and 19 for the country.

Compared to 358 confirmed cases reported in Bengaluru between March 8 and May 31, as many as 1,320 positive cases have been reported since June 1. The presence of 1,124 active cases in the city has put healthcare services on the edge, especially after several healthcare and police personnel were reported infected by the virus across the city.

Infections among staff at two key testing laboratories in Bengaluru has also put them out

of action, thereby increasing pressure on other city labs.

Bengaluru had reported 10 deaths due to Covid-19 up to May 31; there have been 68 deaths since June 1. Case fatality rate for the city is currently 6.9 per cent among Covid-19 patients, compared to 1.6 per cent for Karnataka, which has reported 164 coronavirus deaths in 10,118 cases so far.

With all government hospitals in Bengaluru full, the authorities are scrambling to create separate facilities for nearly 60 per cent patients who are asymptomatic but hospitalised. The government has now opened up Covid-19 treatment at private hospitals.

Visits to big government hospitals in Bengaluru --- Victoria Hospital, Bowring Hospital, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases, C V Raman Nagar General Hospital, K C General Hospital, Jayanagar General Hospital --- which have around 1,000 Covid-19 beds between them, revealed that all beds are full. With only around 100 ICU beds available in these hospitals for coronavirus, and 63 of them in use as of Wednesday, there is concern in the event of a spike in ICU cases.

"There are no beds in our facility. The 100 isolation beds and four ICU beds kept aside for

Covid-19 patients are full," a senior doctor at Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases said.

The government on Wednesday designated an ESI Hospital in east Bengaluru as a dedicated Covid-19 hospital for policemen and stated that asymptomatic police personnel will be admitted on a dedicated floor at a Covid care centre being prepared at Art of Living ashram.

"We have 121 policemen in quarantine in our division alone. Marathahalli police station is shut. Resources are getting stretched," DCP, Whitefield region, M N Anucheth, who is part of a task force to move Covid-19 patients to care facilities, said.

Health Secretary Jawaid Akhtar held a meeting on Wednesday for partnerships with private hospitals and hotels to accommodate asymptomatic patients. "This PPP model will free up more beds in medical facilities for symptomatic and critical patients, while ensuring that 80% asymptomatic patients are kept isolated, reducing the risk of transmission," the Health Department said.

Former CM H D Kumaraswamy on Wednesday requested a 20-day lockdown in the city to control the spread of coronavirus.

Unions have opposed the decision to deduct salaries, accusing the management of not foreseeing the crises and not planning for it.

Shriang Barge, general secretary of Maharashtra ST Kamachari Congress, said, "Those in the lower rung with salary of Rs 20,000 per month will be severely affected. The management should have foreseen the crises and held a consultation with relevant government authorities. Over a lakh employees along with their families depend on the MSRTC for their livelihood."

Barge alleged that despite incurring a loss of about Rs 22 crore per day, the MSRTC depended entirely on Rs 1,600 crore that the corporation received annually from the government as part of the reim-

bursement for paying employees their dues.

With its passenger services completely shut since March 23, it was only on May 21 that the MSRTC entered the freight segment and began transporting goods in its trucks. In the three weeks since, the MSRTC made about Rs 21 lakh by transporting 3,000 tonnes of goods. It transported grains, fertilisers, vegetables along with iron pipes and paints from across 33 divisions in the state. The corporation is hopeful of increasing its earnings through the transportation sector.

Soon after the pandemic struck, the state government had decided to pay salaries of its employees in two tranches for the month of March. Subsequently, salaries have been paid on time without any cuts.

HRD may allow institutes extra year to bring in EWS quota

RITIKA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

THE MINISTRY of Human Resource Development (HRD) is likely to grant centrally-run higher education institutions an extra year to implement the 10 per cent quota for economically weaker sections (EWS), given that many institutions have not been able to create additional infrastructure because of the coronavirus lockdown.

A proposal to this effect was recently moved in the Ministry after the IITs and NITs sought a year's extension to the 2021 deadline to add seats to accommodate the new quota.

A decision on the suggestion, which has been made by senior officers in the Ministry, is expected soon. Several universities and institutes have already begun, or are about to begin, the process of admission.

The Indian Express had reported on June 3 that IITs and NITs had requested an extension of the deadline citing the challenge of ensuring distancing in hostels, and the delay in the construction of new hostels due to the lockdown. The IITs had, in fact, submitted a request for an extension as early as in

EXPLAINED
E First quota on economic deprivation
THE CONSTITUTION (124th Amendment) Bill to grant 10 per cent reservation for EWS was passed by Parliament and became law in January 2019. This is the first time that reservation has been allowed on economic grounds. An EWS beneficiary is a person whose family has a gross annual income below Rs 8 lakh.

September last year, but it was not accepted.

The HRD Ministry had set the 2021 deadline to implement the reservation for EWS by an executive order on January 17, 2019. All centrally-funded educational institutions, including IITs, NITs, IIMs, central universities, IISERs and IIITs, were asked to increase their overall student strength by 25% over two years to accommodate the quota. This was done to ensure there is no reduction in the existing seats for SC, ST, OBC, and general category students.

The IITs have to collectively in-

HRD Ministry asks UGC to revisit exam calendar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

THE RISE in Covid-19 cases across the country has prompted the HRD Ministry to reconsider its alternative calendar for universities and colleges that scheduled examinations for July.

This comes even as a plea on scrapping the remaining Class 12 CBSE exams is being heard in the Supreme Court, a decision on which is expected Thursday.

HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal has asked the UGC to revisit its alternative calendar, released on April 29, according to which the final semester or year-end examinations for graduating students were to be held in July.

"I have advised the @ugc_india to revisit the guidelines issued earlier for intermediate and Terminal Semester examinations and academic calendar. The foundation for revisited guidelines shall be health and safety students, teachers and staff," Pokhriyal tweeted Wednesday.

The "UGC Guidelines on Examinations and Academic Calendar for the Universities in View of COVID-19 Pandemic and Subsequent Lockdown" was drafted on the basis of recommendations by a committee headed by Haryana Central University vice-chancellor RC Kuhad. The higher education regulator has referred the guidelines back to this committee for review, said sources.

FORTNIGHT-LONG CAMPAIGN TO START JULY 1

MP: 'Kill corona' drive to screen all households

MILIND GHATWAI
BHOPAL, JUNE 24

THE MADHYA Pradesh government on Wednesday announced that it will launch a fortnight-long 'Kill Corona' campaign starting July 1 to screen all households in the state.

Ten thousand teams will be formed, and each will cover 100 households every day, said state Health Minister Narottam Mishra. He said Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan had decided to screen the entire population after being encouraged by the state's efforts to contain the spread of the pandemic. The campaign will begin from Bhopal.

The MP government announced the campaign the day its active cases came down to 2,441. With 187 new cases, the total count climbed to 12,448. The death toll mounted to 534 with nine deaths in the last 24 hours. Chouhan said the state has

performed better in containing the pandemic than others. He said that at 1.43 per cent, the growth rate was the lowest in the country. He said there was a time when the state's share of Covid cases was six per cent, which has now come down to 1.3 per cent.

Principal Secretary (Health) Fair Ahmed Kidwai told *The Indian Express* that survey teams will also ask information about malaria, dengue and diarrhoea and upload it on the Sarthak app.

Meanwhile, Mishra said the state has reworked its containment policy of 21 days. Earlier, thousands would be affected for 21 days as entire areas in which a case was detected would become containment zones. Now, if a case is reported, only the houses flanking the affected one will be placed in containment. Another screening will be carried out five days later and if no case is found, the other houses will no longer be part of the containment zone.

Gujarat: 33 migrants held for clashing with police get bail

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, JUNE 24

THE GUJARAT High Court on Tuesday granted bail to 33 migrant labourers, mainly from Jharkhand, who were in jail for over a month for clashing with police in Vastrapur, with the court of Justice Paresch Upadhyay observing that the accused were "victims, and certainly not criminals."

The migrants were in jail since May 18 when the FIR was registered against them.

Nirav Mishra, the advocate representing the accused, submitted before the court that the migrants were without any work, money and even food during the lockdown. "...under these circumstances, they wanted to go back home, which led to the alleged untoward incident of May 18, and registration of the offence in question, wherein as many as 35 people are named as accused."

Largely unopposed by the state through its public prosecutor, the court deemed it fit to exercise its discretion to release the applicants on bail. The court also observed that instead of arranging for their travel back home, they were sent to jail.

Kerala softens NRI rule of Covid-negative certificate

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
JUNE 24

CLIMBING DOWN from its earlier stand that a Covid-19 negative certificate is mandatory for flying to Kerala by special flights from the Middle East, the state government on Wednesday said "all returnees should sincerely try to take the test" in countries which offer that facility.

The move to make the certificate mandatory had triggered protests by NRIs and Opposition parties, which had alleged it was a bid to reduce the return of expatriates to Kerala, where returnees account for a major chunk of Covid-19 cases.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said, "All those who return from countries which have Covid-19 test facility should sincerely try to take the test 72 hours within the journey. Passengers who have not undergone tests abroad should undergo rapid antibody test on their arrival in Kerala airports. If required, they would have to take RT-PCR test also."

The government has, however, put various conditions for passengers depending upon their country of origin, testing facility and status of Covid outbreak. For example, the test will be mandatory for passengers from the UAE as that country subjects all outbound passengers to antibody test.

Rlys floats tenders for 'Covid surveillance' cameras

AVISHKEG DASTIDAR
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

INDIA IS gearing up to install AI-based 'Covid surveillance' cameras that detect body temperatures of individuals and whether a person is wearing a mask.

First off the block is Indian Railways, which has called for tenders to purchase the systems for railway stations and other places expected to see significant footfall, with a few railway zones having already concluded the purchase, such as in Mumbai.

Officials said the cameras were meant for the next phase of containment strategy to go hand in hand with India's gradual return to normalcy.

However, Railways has excluded a crucial specification

called "black body" temperature in the cameras in many cases. While the cameras with black body sensing capability cost upwards of Rs 4 lakh a piece, industry sources said the ones without this feature would be cheaper by around half of that per camera.

Railways' telecom arm Railtel floated a tender to purchase around 800 such camera systems. It initially did not include black body detection as a specification but has now issued a corrigendum to include it.

Tenders called by Central Railway over the past one month --- for installation at large stations in Mumbai and North Frontier Railway in Guwahati --- sought the cameras to have the ability to detect black body temperature, but the latest crop of tenders



People line up outside the Ludhiana station. Gurmeet Singh

called by zones such as Northern, Southern and South Western Railway, have not included this in their specifications, giving mixed signals to the industry.

"In the post-Covid scenario, not having this ability in cameras meant to detect fever in a person may have implications that people with symptoms like fever

might not get detected and enter public places," claimed an industry insider.

In its enforcement policy for telethermographic systems as part of Covid-19 public health emergency recommendations, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) lists "accurate blackbody temperature reference source" as one of the specifications for accuracy of temperature from a Covid point of view in such devices. These thermal cameras can cover large areas, detecting and recording temperatures of multiple people at once.

However, an Indian Railway spokesman said both types of cameras are acceptable, depending on the purpose. "Where mass transit is there, scanners with black body are preferable.

For normal/controlled movement, scanners without black body are acceptable," he said.

The spokesman said the South Western Railway wanted AI-based systems with face detection technology. "Besides the advantage of needing no calibration, this specification will have higher accuracy," he said, adding, "the issue of specification of black body is infructuous. All decisions were taken at zonal levels keeping in view the best needs and solutions in the given circumstances. Both types of devices are efficient and good."

Around 35 companies participated in the tender for North Frontier Railway while 15 competed for the one floated by Central Railway, signifying a growing pie for these businesses in post-Covid India.

9 EXPRESS NETWORK

Shops shut in TN to protest custody death of trader, son; HC seeks report

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHENNAI, JUNE 24

THE MADRAS High Court on Wednesday sought a report from the police on the alleged custodial killing of a man and his son near Thoothukudi district that has sparked outrage across Tamil Nadu.

P Jeyaraj (63) and his son J Pennix (31), both traders, were taken into custody on Friday for allegedly violating lockdown rules. They were later shifted from a sub-jail to a hospital, where they died. Their relatives have alleged that both were thrashed and tortured by police personnel in custody.

The incident, which prompted a strike by traders and shop owners in Tamil Nadu on Wednesday, was being heard in the high court after the family of the victims sought its intervention. On Tuesday, too, several people had hit the streets in Sathankulam, a town near Thoothukudi, to protest the alleged torture and killing.

The Madurai bench of the Madras High Court asked the police to submit its report on Friday. The government has also ordered a judicial probe into the matter. Justices PN Prakash and B Pugalendi of the division bench wanted the state police chief J K Tripathy to appear before the court on Wednesday, despite Tuticorin SP Arun Balagopal and IG South zone K P Shanmuga Rajeswaran, being present. DGP Tripathy was not able to come as he had an urgent meeting in Chennai, the court was told.

The victims' family sought murder charges against two police sub-inspectors, who were

placed under suspension on Tuesday. The kin said they would not accept the bodies till their demand was heeded.

The post-mortem examination was carried out at the Tirunelveli Government Hospital in the presence of a magistrate.

According to senior police officer, the preliminary inquiry has found "serious lapses" by the local officers. "On Friday, a police team visited the victims' shop and warned them about following lockdown timings. They obeyed, but allegedly made some critical remarks. An auto driver overheard their comments and informed a police officer, which led to their custody and severe torture," this officer said on Tuesday.

An officer under the district administration had said both father and son were tortured.

The local officer said an inquiry by the SP office revealed that there were 13-15 officers at the station when the incident happened.

"When the inspector and other officers started beating the father, his son questioned this. There are two versions—one that the son was beaten when he questioned the attack on his father, and another version saying the son tried to stop the inspector from using force to prevent the torture on his father. However, this led to a brutal torture session on father and son at the station. They were remanded in Kovilpatti sub-jail under Sections 188, 383 and 506 (II). Then they were shifted to Kovilpatti government hospital as their condition worsened. The son died on Monday night and father died early Tuesday," the officer said on Tuesday.

CRIME IN BENGALURU, KOLKATA

Man sat his son in car, went to estranged wife's flat, killed her: Police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, JUNE 24

A CHARTERED accountant who allegedly murdered his estranged wife at a flat in Bengaluru on Sunday evening, before returning to Kolkata and killing his mother-in-law and himself the following day, left his 10-year-old son in a car in the apartment block while allegedly executing the murder of his wife, Bengaluru police have found.

Analysis of CCTV footage at Brigade Metropolis apartment complex, in Whitefield area of Bengaluru, has led the police to believe that Shilpi Agarwal, 35, who was also a chartered accountant, was murdered by husband Amit Agarwal, 36, around 8.30 pm on Sunday.

According to a police source, the CCTV footage reveals that Amit sat his 10-year-old son in a car and returned to the 15th-floor flat where his estranged wife lived. "He returned to the flat for around 20-30 minutes after leaving his son in a car. And this was when the murder was committed," the source said.

Shilpi was found strangled to death outside the kitchen on

Monday evening when the police and the estate manager of the apartment complex opened the flat after being alerted by Kolkata Police following the alleged murder of Shilpi's mother, and Amit's suicide there.

Shilpi lived in the Bengaluru flat with their son.

From the flat, Bengaluru police said they found a note, allegedly left by Amit, claiming that his wife and in-laws had caused him misery for 15 years.

Mahadevapura police in Bengaluru have registered a case of murder against Amit on the basis of a complaint filed by the estate manager, M Rajanna.

Amit and Shilpi were separated for nearly two years and were in the process of obtaining a divorce, the police said.

"A note was found in the house where the body of Shilpi Agarwal was found. It was written by Shilpi Agarwal's husband Amit Agarwal and it states that he has killed Shilpi Agarwal," as per the FIR registered in the case.

After the murder, the police believe, Amit returned to Kolkata with his son and, the following day, allegedly shot his mother-in-law and attempted to kill his father-in-law before committing suicide.

Madhya Pradesh: After rise in suicides, police to launch helpline

MILIND GHATWAI
BHOPAL, JUNE 24

THE POLICE in Madhya Pradesh's Khandwa have decided to launch a counselling helpline after a number of suicides and suicide attempts in the district in recent weeks.

From June 1 to June 19 as many as 26 persons died by suicide. The number in the corresponding period in 2019 was 18.

"We are trying to rope in psychiatrists and psychologists who will provide counselling to people," Khandwa Superintendent of Police Vivek Singh told *The Indian Express*.

Psychiatrist at the Khandwa

From June 1 to June 19 as many as 26 persons died by suicide

district hospital, Dr Sanjay Ingle, claimed the number of people trying to attempt suicide has "almost doubled".

He said many of these people are bread-winners. Others were students preparing for competitive examinations.

SP Singh said the trend was a cause for concern. He said the number of suicides in the district from May 17 to May 31 was 11, marginally more during the corresponding period last year



MARCHING IN MOSCOW

Indian servicemen march in the Victory Day Parade at the Red Square in Moscow on Wednesday. Union Minister Rajnath Singh, who is in the city to attend the celebration, tweeted, 'Impressive turnout of the Tri-Service contingent of the Indian Armed Forces at the Victory Day Parade in Moscow is indeed an extremely proud and happy moment for me'. *Reuters*

Cabinet gives nod to private participation in space sector

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI/PUNE, JUNE 24

THE GOVERNMENT on Wednesday approved the creation of a new body that will work towards a greater involvement of private industry, academic institutions and research organisations in India's space sector. The proposed Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre, or IN-SPACE, will act as a single-point interface between Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), and everyone who wants to participate in space-related activities, or use India's space resources.

Briefing reporters after a meeting of the Union Cabinet, Minister of State for the Prime Minister's Office and Department of Space Jitendra Singh said that the proposed body would attempt to "enhance the socio-economic use of space assets and activities, including access to space assets data and activities".

"It will provide a level playing field for private participants to use Indian space infrastructure. It will also guide the private industries in space activities through encouraging policies and friendly regulatory environments," he added.

Activist booked for posting video of her children painting on her semi-nude body

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JUNE 24

POLICE HAVE booked women's rights activist Rehana Fathima after she uploaded on social media a video of her two children painting on her semi-nude body.

Uploading the visuals, Fathima, 33, stated on her Facebook page that women wearing a mere dress are not safe in a sexually frustrated society. The woman's body should be shown and what is sexuality should be openly stated. That

NOD FOR Rs 15,000-CR FUND, UP AIRPORT GETS INTERNATIONAL STATUS

THE CABINET Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by the Prime Minister, approved a proposal of Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying for setting up of Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) worth Rs 15,000 crore.

It was announced as part of the Rs 20 lakh crore Atma Nirbhar Bharat package in response to COVID-19 outbreak. Under this new scheme, eligible

beneficiaries such as Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), MSMEs, Section 8 Companies, Private Companies and individual entrepreneurs will get incentive in form of 3 per cent interest subvention on loans to create infrastructure under this fund.

"There will be 2 years moratorium period for principal loan amount and 6 years repayment period thereafter," said an official statement.

Minister of Information and Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar

said, "The move will help in creation for 35 lakh new jobs."

The Union Cabinet also approved the extension of the term of the Commission, headed by Justice (Retd) G Rohini to examine the issue of Sub-categorisation of Other Backward Classes, by six months till January 31, 2021.

The Cabinet also gave its approval for declaration of Kushinagar Airport in Uttar Pradesh as an International Airport.

An official source said the overall idea was to let ISRO concentrate on essential activities like research and development, planetary exploration, and strategic use of space, while freeing itself from ancillary or routine work which could easily be done by private industry. At the same time, allowing industries and others like students, researchers or academic bodies greater access to space assets would lead to a much better utilisation of India space resources, and more fruitful dissemination of space technologies.

Describing the decision as "historic" and "pathbreaking", Singh said, "This decision of today will allow ISRO to focus more on research and development activities, while this IN-SPACE will augment the Space Commission..."

The minister also announced a new Indian National Space Promotion board would also be set up. "There will be strengthening of the Department of Space. Some new posts will be created, some structures will be created but, in a nutshell, we will have this new board called Indian National Space Promotion and it will take care of what is known as private space entrepreneurs or non-government space entrepreneurs," Singh said.

He added the activities of New Space India limited (NSIL), a public enterprise created last year, will also be extended from a 'supply driven' model to a 'demand driven' model. NSIL was set up for commercial exploitation of the research and development of ISRO and its several centres and laboratories. Much of the work NSIL does will also need to be routed through IN-SPACE now.

"Some of the planetary exploration missions will also be opened up to the private sector through an 'announcement of opportunity' mechanism," read an official statement.

Students posted 'morphed images' of teachers online: Goa school files complaint

SMITA NAIR
PANAJI, JUNE 24

A PROMINENT school based in Panaji approached the police on Wednesday with a complaint that some students allegedly put up "demeaning" morphed images of teachers, clicked during online classes, on social media sites.

The school has suspended all live recordings and recorded sessions for Thursday and will now admit students into Zoom study sessions only after they give written applications. The school management has also asked par-

DD approached for live telecast of Amarnath pooja during Yatra

ADIL AKHZER
SRINAGAR, JUNE 24

THE SHRI Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB), which conducts the annual Amarnath Yatra, has approached Doordarshan for live telecast of morning and evening pooja on DD National during the pilgrimage, which is likely to start next month.

As per the proposal, there would be live telecast of the pooja for half-an-hour each in mornings and evenings on DD National, and it may be telecast on DD Kashmir during the Yatra period, G D Tahir, head programming, Doordarshan Kendra, Srinagar, told *The Indian Express*. "If it (telecast) takes place, it will be a first," he said. "The final decision has to be taken by the headquarters."

Tahir said, "They [SASB] have approached Doordarshan to explore the possibility of conducting the live telecast.... It is at the planning stage. Earlier we ran recorded programmes during the Yatra. This time they are planning live telecast because yatris (pilgrims) are not allowed in bulk (numbers) due to the coronavirus pandemic."

The proposal comes at a time when discussions are on for a shorter version of the Yatra this

year in view of the pandemic. While officials are yet to announce the dates, sources said it has unofficially been informed that it is likely to start on July 21 and end in the first week of August.

The annual pilgrimage may be cut down to 15 days, and take only the shorter Baltal route, sources said. The Baltal trek is 14 km from the base camp at Baltal, in Ganderbal district, although most pilgrims choose the Pahalgam route, which is approximately 30 km from Chandanwari in Anantnag district.

In a statement, the administration informed that "all rituals with morning and evening pooja/arti shall take place with effect from July 5 (Vyas Poonima) to August 3 (Raksha Bandhan), notwithstanding the delay in a formal announcement of the dates.

Ganderbal's Deputy Commissioner Shafiqat Iqbal told *The Indian Express* on Wednesday that work to prepare the trek has been completed. "We have made the preparations from our side and we are waiting for further instructions," he said. Health Department officials in Ganderbal said the department has suggested that pilgrims below 15 years and above 60 years shouldn't be allowed this time.

WITHENS, JAMMU

GUJARAT

Constable suspended, held for 'assaulting bank clerk'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SURAT, JUNE 24

A CONSTABLE attached to the Surat Police has been suspended and arrested for allegedly assaulting a woman clerk and pushing an assistant manager of a bank, reportedly after the latter refused to print the passbook of the constable's relative.

Constable Ghanashyam Ahir faced action after a call from the office of Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to Surat Police Commissioner RB Brahmabhatt, following videos of the incident captured on a CCTV camera, tagging her, went viral.

The NCW also wrote to the DGP, seeking strict action.

Police sources said the incident took place on June 22, when only two employees were pres-

ent at the bank branch in Saroli.

Two persons, including the constable, entered the premises and had a heated exchange with assistant manager Harshad Tiwari. "Clerk Suman Kumari and I were present in the bank on Monday afternoon when the man, who showed me his police identity card, used abusive language. He was not wearing a mask and continued to abuse when we told him to behave properly. He slapped Suman when she started taking a video of the incident on her mobile phone. Suman fell down and she suffered a fracture on her back in the assault..." said Tiwari.

Punagam police inspector, VU Gadaria said, "We registered a non-cognisable offence on Monday and detained Ahir. Later, we added IPC sections... and arrested him on Tuesday evening."

ents to monitor children's online activities and study sessions.

In a statement issued to parents and teachers, the school management wrote, "...a few students have shown disrespect by using social media platform like Instagram in a demeaning manner. Teachers' faces have been clicked during Zoom classes as well as from recorded sessions and morphed into unacceptable and demeaning images and uploaded on Instagram."

Confirming that the school had contacted them, SP, Crime Branch, Pankaj Kumar Singh said on Wednesday, "For now, we

have been intimidated and will meet the school authorities tomorrow to take the details. They have written to us through our online complaints portal. We will probe the allegations."

One of the complaints states that students were found to have mutilated "power point presentations and passing disrespectful comments". Teachers are very demoralised and disheartened at this behaviour of the students, the statement reads.

In May, teachers in Goa were given tutorials on using online portals to reach students in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Assam begins mental health programme to help Covid-19 patients, those in quarantine

ABHISHEK SAHA
GUWAHATI, JUNE 24

THE ASSAM government has started a mental health support programme for Covid patients and quarantined persons in the state to provide emotional support, counselling and treatment.

The programme, called 'Monon', was started on June 17. The team behind it comprises 220 psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, psychiatric social workers, and trained voluntary counsellors. It is led by Dr Mythili Hazarika, an Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology at Gauhati Medical College and Hospital.

In the first six days, the 'Monon' team made a total of 2,543 calls to under-treatment Covid patients or those who have recovered. Out of this, 1,212 persons needed counselling.

According to official figures, out of the 1,200-odd people who needed counselling, 94 were found to be depressed, 139 with symptoms of clinical anxiety and at least nine people suffered suicidal tendencies. But of the diagnosed people, 43 had psychiatric symptoms before the outbreak of the Covid pandemic. Health officials say that further treatment and rehabilitation programmes will be worked out based on the assessments by the

'Monon' team.

"This is a unique kind of a programme, where the mental health professionals are calling those who might need help rather than just waiting for them to call us," Hazarika told *The Indian Express*. She added that each person on the team is allotted to call at least 15 Covid patients per day.

When asked about the primary reasons behind mental health issues that have been found through the programme, Hazarika told *The Indian Express*, "Stress over job prospects and financial issues of the family; anxiety caused by a sense of uncertainty about the near future due to Covid; and for

migrant workers, whether they can go back to where they have come back from."

Samir Sinha, Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, told *The Indian Express*, "These are critical times. A large number of people, from different walks of life, are seeking emotional support and counselling. This programme is our endeavour towards providing people that."

He added that right from the time the programme was conceptualised, it was stressed that the team should be reaching out to people. "Unless we reach out, we will never be able to provide the necessary mental health

support to a vast majority, which will otherwise remain silent about their suffering," Sinha said.

Apart from the calls being made by team 'Monon', there are scores of people calling the government of Assam's 104 helpline from quarantine centres seeking help through the new initiative. Officials plan more promotion of the helpline in quarantine centres.

As of Wednesday, Assam has reported over 6,000 Covid patients, of which over 2,200 are active cases. The numbers have increased sharply in recent weeks, and there are fears of community-level transmission in Guwahati, with large parts of the city under lockdown.



Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Directorate of Construction, Services & Estate Management
Centralized Quantity Division

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
NIT No. : DCSEM / CQD / QSC / GCNEP-II / T-site / Street Lighting / 04 / 06-2020,dt.23.06.2020

Head, Electrical Division, DCSEM, DAE, V.S. Bhavan, Anushaktinagar, Mumbai-94 on behalf of the President of India invites online item rate tender (in two bid) through e-tendering mode, from eligible contractors for the work "Providing Street Lighting and Area Lighting works for Phase-II construction at GCNEP Township site, Bahadurgarh, Haryana." Estimated cost **Rs.189 lakh**, EMD Rs.3,78,000/-, Completion period: 10 months and cost of tender processing fee Rs.5,900/-. Detailed tender notice alongwith documents are available on website; www.tenderwizard.com/DAE. The processing fees shall be paid in the form of e-payment in favour of ITI Limited New Delhi. Tender documents for view / download from 25.06.2020 (11 00 hrs.) to 09.07.2020 (15 00 hrs.). Pre-bid clarifications from 25.06.2020 (12 00 hrs.) to 10.07.2020 (15 00 hrs.). Closing of online submission of tenders up to 17 00 hrs. on 20.07.2020. Receipt of hard copies towards EMD up to 15:00 hrs. on 21.07.2020. Opening of online tender (technical bids) on 22.07.2020 at 15:30 hrs. Financial bids of qualified bidders shall be opened at a later date to be notified separately. Detailed NIT is also available on website www.dcem.gov.in for view only. For further information, please contact on 022-25487416/7414/7464 Fax: 022-25565362.

CHIEF ENGINEER (SHIMLA ZONE) HPPWD NIRMAN BHAWAN
NIGAM VIHAR SHIMLA HP BHARAT NIRMAN
UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJNA (PMGSY)

E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

The Superintending Engineer HPPWD 14th Circle HPPWD Rohru on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the percentage /item rate bids . In electronic tendering system for construction of roads under PMGSY for each of the following works including their maintenance for five year from the eligible and approved contractors registered with HPPWD /CPWD/P&T /Railways /Other state Govt. Central Govt. Agencies , non registered may submit the bid ,. However successful bidder has to register in appropriate class with appropriate authority in HPPWD

Sr. No.	Name of Distt.	Pkg. No.	Name of Work	Period of Completion	Cost Part	Main. Part	Bid Security	Cost of Bid Form
1.	Shimla	HP-09-116	C/O balance work of link road to Villijisoon Km. 0/0 to 8/0 under PMGSY (SH:- F/C and kharanja soling in various reached Km. 4/300 to 8/00)	365 days	7026273	0	141000	2000

- Date of release of invitation for bids through e-procurement 06.7.2020
- Cost of bid from as per package above (non-refundable) only in form of Demand draft in favour of Executive Engineer HPPWD Division Doda Kaur.
- Documentary of bid document and mode of submission :- The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website: www.pmgstenders.gov.in. The bidder would be required to registered in the website which is free of cost. For submission the bids, the bidder is required to have valid digital signature certificate (DSC) from one the authorised certifying authorities (CA) Aspiring bidder who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website pmgstenders.gov.in. Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering bidders already processing the valid digital signature issued from authorised CAs can use the same in this tender . Non registered bidders may submit bids: the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.
- Submission of original documents :- the bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved from and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provision of clause 4.4B(a) (ii) ITB with Superintending Engineer 14th circle HPPWD Rohru address and detail of office where to be submitted on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid either by registered post by hand .
- Last date for receipt of bid through procurement on dated 20.07.2020
- The site for the work is available.
- Only online submission of bids is permitted therefore bids must be submitted online on website: www.pmgstenders.gov.in. The technical qualification part of the bids will be opened at 11.00 on dated 21.07.2020 in the office of Superintending Engineer 14th Circle HPPWD Rohru by the authorised officers. If the office happen to be closed of the date of opening of the bids as specified .The bids will be opened online on the next working day at same time.
- The bidder is not required to quote his rate for routine maintenance .The rates to be paid for routine maintenance are indicated in the bill of quantities .Further the payment for routine maintenance to the contractor shall be regulated based on the performance of maintenance activity.
- The bid for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than ninety days after the deadline date for the bid submission.
- Bidders may bid for any one more of the work mentioned in the table above to qualify for package of contracts made up of this and other contracts for which bids are invited in the same NIT .The bidder must demonstrate having experience and resource sufficient to meet the aggregate of the qualifying criteria for the individual contracts.
- Other detail can be seen in the bidding documents .The Employer shall not be held able for any delay due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates. The Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder it is the bidder's responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender. For further detail please log on to <http://pmgstenders.gov.in>

Superintending Engineer,
14th circle HPPWD Rohru.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DIRECTORATE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING
HIMACHAL PRADESH, SUNDER NAGAR

Invitation for Bids No.: 001/2020 Date: 22.06.2020
 LOAN/GRANT No. AND TITLE: LOAN No.: 3573-IND/ HIMACHAL PRADESH SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.
 DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS: 24.07.2020 UPTO 12.30 P.M.

Contract Package (NCB) No. and Title: Supply of the Machinery & Equipment's for Industrial Training Institutes to enhance Technical and Vocational Skills among the youth of Himachal Pradesh under following packages/lots:

Package No.	Title
HPSPD-DOTE/01	Automobile and related equipment's: Lot-2.1: Engine & engine parts Lot-2.2: Chassis
HPSPD-DOTE/02-R2	Information Technology and related equipment's: Lot-4.1: CAD software Lot-4.2: MS office & Antivirus Software Lot-4.3: Designing software
HPSPD-DOTE/03	Electrical and Electronics related equipment's: Lot-2.1: AC & refrigeration items Lot-2.2: Audio-visual & communication devices Lot-2.3: Electronics Items Lot-3.1: Metering & Measuring Devices Lot-3.2: Electrical Lab equipments
HPSPD-DOTE/04	Mechanical and related equipment's: Lot-2.1: Test equipment & hand operated moulding machines Lot-2.2: Microprocessor/ PLC controller based machines Lot-2.3: Extruding Machines Lot-2.4: Automatic forming & moulding machines Lot-2.5: Stretch Blow moulding machine

- India has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of "Himachal Pradesh Skill Development Project" and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to the payment under the Contract/Package named above. Bidding is open to Bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.
- The Directorate of Technical Education and Industrial Training, Himachal Pradesh, represented by the Director ("The Purchaser") invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for the supply of various equipment's for Industrial Training Institutes.
- National Competitive Bidding** will be conducted in accordance with ADB's Single-stage: Two-envelope bidding procedure and is open to all Bidders from eligible countries as described in the Bidding Document.
- Only eligible Bidders with the following key qualifications should participate in this bidding:

Package No.	Lot No.	Contractual Experience:	Average Annual Turnover:
HPSPD-DOTE/01	Lot-2.1	Successful completion as main supplier within the last three (3) years, of at least One (1) contract with nature, and complexity similar to the scope of supply described in Section 6 (Schedule of Supply).	Minimum average annual turnover as indicated below calculated as total payments received by the Bidder for contracts completed or under execution over the last three (3) years. The Average Annual Turnover of the Lot is indicated below:
	Lot-2.2		
	Lot-2.3		
HPSPD-DOTE/02-R2	Lot-4.1		
	Lot-4.2		
	Lot-4.3		
HPSPD-DOTE/03	Lot-2.1		
	Lot-2.2		
	Lot-2.3		
HPSPD-DOTE/04	Lot-2.1		
	Lot-2.2		
	Lot-2.3		
HPSPD-DOTE/04	Lot-2.4		
	Lot-2.5		

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- The Directorate of Technical Education and Industrial Training, Himachal Pradesh, represented by the Director ("The Purchaser") invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for the supply of various equipment's for Industrial Training Institutes.
- National Competitive Bidding** will be conducted in accordance with ADB's Single-stage: Two-envelope bidding procedure and is open to all Bidders from eligible countries as described in the Bidding Document.
- Only eligible Bidders with the following key qualifications should participate in this bidding:
- However, for complete eligibility and qualification requirements, respective bid document should be referred.
- To obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents, Bidders should contact:
Attention: The Director, Directorate of Technical Education, Vocational and Industrial Training, Circular Road, Lalit Chowk, Sunder Nagar, District: Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, ZIP Code: 175018; Country: India
Telephone & Fax: 01907-266120; 266722, E-mail address: techedu-hp@nic.in
- To purchase the bidding documents in English language, eligible Bidders should write or visit at the office of the Purchaser at address stated above and pay a non-refundable fee of INR 10,000 for each bidding document in the form of Bank Demand Draft.
- In case of written request, the document will be sent by post and no liability will be accepted, for loss or late delivery. The bidders who wish to receive the bidding document by post/courier shall have to pay for each bidding document an additional amount of INR 3,000/- for delivery within India or USD 250 for delivery outside India. The method of payment will be through Bank demand draft payable at Sundernagar, Himachal Pradesh, India.
- The eligible bidders may otherwise download the bidding document for English language from the website: <http://techedu.hp.gov.in>, such bidders shall be required to submit NR 10,000 with their bid for each bidding document in the form of Bank demand draft in the name of the Director Technical Education, HP, Sundernagar towards cost of bidding document.
- Deliver your bid
- to the address above.
- On or before the deadline: 24.07.2020 at 12.30 P.M.
- together with a Bid Security as described in the Bidding Document.
- Bids will be opened on 24.07.2020 at 12.30. P.M. in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- The Purchaser will not be responsible for any cost or expenses incurred by the bidder in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.

Sd/-
Director

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that one male person namely **Unknown S/o Unknown** R/o Unknown. Age about 70 years, Height 5'2", Complexion fair, Face long, Build thin, wearing Blue colour T-shirt, Black colour lower and bare feet has been found unconscious at 2161, D.B. Gupta Road, Near Domino's, Pahar Ganj, Delhi and admitted in LPMC Hospital vide MLC No. 1615/2020 dated 10.06.2020. During treatment he was dead on 15.06.2020.

In this regard a DD No. 55-A dated 15.06.2020 has been lodged in PS Pahar Ganj, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this deceased person may kindly inform to the undersigned at the address or telephone nos. given below.

SHO

PS Pahar Ganj, Delhi

Ph. 011-23520787, 23524746

8750012525, 8750042525

DP/161/CD/2020

NMDC Limited
 (A Government of India Enterprise)
 Donimalai Complex, Post: Donimalai, PIN-583118
 Taluk: Sandur, Dist: Ballari-Karnataka

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Sealed tenders are inviting from the competent and experienced bidder for the following works:

Sl. No	Tender No. & Date	Name of Work	Cost of Work(₹)	EMD(₹)	Sale/ download period	Last date of Submission upto 15.00 Hrs
1.	CE/W/7(260)/2020 Date 24/06/2020	"Repair and Maintenance of Residential and Non-Residential Buildings in Donimalai Township for the year 2020-21"	71.79 Lakhs	72000/-	25/06/2020 To 24/07/2020	24/07/2020
2.	CE/W/8(433)/2020 Date 24/06/2020	"Renovation of NMDC Yashodha Arogyavardhini Hospital/Donimalai (Phase-II)"	73.64 Lakhs	73650/-	27/06/2020 To 27/07/2020	24/07/2020
3.	NMDC/Donimalai/40/20-21/ET/240 Date 25/06/2020	Invites e-tender for Supply of "Safety Items for Dumpers"				14/07/2020
4.	NMDC/Donimalai/41/20-21/ET/241 Date 25/06/2020	Invites e-tender for Supply of "Spare for KAWASAKI 90Z5 FEL's Loader"				14/07/2020

Further clarification, tender related Sl. No. 1 to 2 may contact donimcivil@nmdc.co.in or by fax message to 08395-274644 and the detailed NIT and tender documents [can be viewed and downloaded from NMDC's website <https://www.nmdc.co.in/nmdctender/default.aspx> or Central Public Procurement Portal <https://www.eprocure.gov.in>. Further, for any corrigendum, amendments, clarification etc may please follow the above website.

For Sl. No. 3 & 4 of above work; Prospective bidders may download the tender documents from website <https://www.msccommerce.com/eprocurement/nmdc/> and upload their offer on the portal as per instructions provided in tender document. All prospective bidders are requested to visit above mentioned MSTC website regularly for any corrigendum in this regard. The tender will also be uploaded in CPP portal and NMDC website.

For and behalf of NMDC Ltd.
Jt. GM (Production)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
 SOURA SRINAGAR, J&K-190011
Department of Materials Management (Imports Section)
 E-mail: ammoimports@skims.ac.in, Fax No: 0194-2403404

e-NIT No.: SIMS-324-NIT 08 (IMPORTS) OF 2020

DATED: 23.06.2020

Subject: Abbreviated NIT for Supply/ Installation/ Commissioning of Automated Coagulation Analyzer on reagent rental basis in the Department of CI. Hematology, SKIMS.

On behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir union territory, through Director, Sher-I-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, e-tenders are invited from the original manufacturers/their Indian subsidiaries/Indian Agents on the authorization of principal manufacturers/Indian Subsidiary if 100% subsidiary of foreign principals (for Imported equipment) and manufacturers/their authorized dealers for the J&K (for indigenous equipment) for Automated Coagulation Analyzer on reagent rental basis in the Department of CI. Hematology, SKIMS as per following details:-

Name of the equipment	Qty	Tender fee	EMD
Automated Coagulation Analyzer	02	Rs. 2,000	Rs. 3,00,000

The detailed tender document is available on www.jktenders.gov.in & on SKIMS website www.skims.ac.in. The NIT schedule is as per following:

Last Date for Submission of Online Bids	27.07.2020 upto 4.00 P.M.
Opening of Technical Bids	29.07.2020 at 12.30 P.M.

Complete bidding process will be done online on e-tender portal Error! Hyperlink reference not valid. The tenders should be submitted strictly in accordance with the provisions of the detailed NIT. No Proposal will be accepted in physical form.

Sd/-Asstt. Materials Management Officer (Imports)

For & on behalf of Chief of

Materials Management

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

- The Executive Engineer, Shimla Division No-III, HPPWD, Shimla-3 on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system, in 2 Cover System for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/firms registered with HPPWD. Department.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD	Cost of Tender	Eligible Class of Contractor
1.	S/R to Armsdale Building at HP Sectt. Chotta Shimla(SH:-P/F high pressure laminate and GRC wall Cladding in outer side and P/F UPVC windows,ESS-ESS railing from ground floor to 6th floor in Phase-I front side of Armsdale Building).	Rs. 1,02,42,805/-	Rs. 1,35,000/-	Rs. 5,000/-	Class-A

- Availability of Bid Documents and Mode of Submission:** The Bid document is available online and bid should be submitted in online mode on website: <https://hptenders.gov.in>. Bidder would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPPWD may obtain the same from the website: <https://hptenders.gov.in>. Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.
- Key Dates:**
 - Date of Online Publication: 09.07.2020 17.00 hrs.
 - Document Download Start and End Date: 09.07.2020 17.00 hrs. upto 23.07.2020 17.00 hrs.
 - Bid Submission Start and End Date: 09.07.2020 17.00 hrs. upto 23.07.2020 17.00 hrs.
 - Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of Tender Document: 24.07.2020 upto 11.00 hrs.
 - Date of Technical Bid opening, Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by Opening of Financial Bid: 24.07.2020 11.00 hrs.
- TENDER DETAILS:**

The Tender Documents shall be uploaded online in 2 Cover:

 - Cover 1:** shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical Documents/ Eligibility Information".
 - Cover2:** shall contain "BOQ/Financial Bid", where contractor will quote his offer for each item.
- SUBMISSION OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS:** The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) FDR in original towards bid security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and other Technical Documents in O/O Executive Engineer, Shimla Division No-III, HPPWD Shimla-3, H.P. as specified in Key Dates Sr. No. 4 on Tender Opening Date, failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive.
- BID OPENING DETAILS:** The bids shall be opened on 24.07.2020 at 11.00 hrs. in the office of Executive Engineer, Shimla Division No. III HPPWD Shimla-3 H.P. by the authorised officer. In their interest the tenderer are advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The officer inviting tender shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

"HIM SUCHANA AWAN JAN SAMPARK"

1165/H.P.

Container Corporation of India Ltd.
 (A Government of India Undertaking, Ministry of Railways)
 2nd floor, NSIC MDBP Building,
 OKHLA INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, NEW DELHI-110020

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender No. CON/EP/NCR/DER/P.WAY/2020

CONCOR invites online open e-tender in Single bid system for "Renewal of Existing BG Track and Annual Preventive Maintenance of CONCOR Siding at ICD/Dadri ", Last date of sale is 16-07-2020 up to 17:00 hrs. For more details visit www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL & www.concorindia.co.in

Chief General Manager/NCR

IRCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
 (A Government of India Undertaking)
 web : www.ircon.org, CIN:45203DL1976G0008171

e-Procurement Notice

e-Tender No.: IRCON/2068/HB/Control Room/Tender/2020/04 Dated: 25.06.2020
 e-Tender for and on behalf of East Central Railway is invited from bidders meeting qualifying requirements for the work of "Extension of existing control room complex of divisional office at Sonepur in connection with Hajipur-Bachwara Doubling Project in Sonepur Division of East Central Railway."

Estimated Cost of the work : ₹ 4.98 Crores (Approx)
 Last Date & Time of e-Bid Submission : Upto 15.00 hrs. on 17.07.2020

For further details and updates, visit website <https://www.etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app>. Corrigendum, if any, would be hosted only on the above website.

IRCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
 1st floor, Sone Bhawan, Daroga Prasad Rai Path, Patna-800001, BHAR
 Phone:+91-612-2507777, FAX:+91-612-2506888, Mob.:9065526680, Email: mahboob.alam@ircon.org

Bank of Maharashtra
 नवीन नवरी बाँके
 एक परिवार एक बैंक

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
 Central Office: Lokmangal,
 1501, Shivajinagar, Pune - 411 005

CORRIGENDUM

RFP for Renewal of Master Insurance Policies of our Bank
 Please refer to our RFP dated 17/06/2020 in respect of **Renewal of Master Insurance Policies of our Bank**. Draft of Corrigendum is uploaded on our bank's website. www.bankofmaharashtra.in/tenders.

Deputy General Manager,
Corporate Services Deptt.

Date: 24.06.2020

Gujarat Rural Industries Marketing Corporation Ltd.
 (A Government of Gujarat undertaking)
 Block No. 17, 5th Floor, Udyog Bhavan, Sector -11,
 Gandhinagar - 382011, Tele No. 079-232-27243, 232 23763
 E-mail : grimco_1979@yahoo.com

ONLINE TENDER NOTICE : Project/SolarLoom/01/2020-21 and Project/SolarCharkha/02/2020-21

Gujarat Rural Industries Marketing Corporation Ltd. Invites the Online E-Tender for Semi Automatic Solar Loom (Without Read and Head) with Padle and Solar Kit (Approx. Qty. 120 Nos.) Corporation/ Company/ Firm/NGO/Proprietor and Solar Charkha (Approx. Qty. 440 Nos.) Only KVIC approval manufacturer/ NGO/firm/ Proprietor as per the Demand given by Gujarat Khadi Gramodhyog Board under Annual Rate Contract.

Description	Tender Duration
Online Submission of Financial bid and all Technical documents.	On 24.06.2020 to 14.07.2020 up to 18:00hrs.
Pre - Bid Meeting	On 06-07-2020, 12:00 hrs.

All Physical tender documents can be downloaded free from web site www.nprocure.com & www.grimco.nprocure.com. All Online submitted documents must be submitted physically also.

Managing Director

Delhi Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.

An Enterprises of Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
 ISBT Kashmere Gate Delhi-110006

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

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

1 NIT No.	: 04/DTIDC/2020-21
Tender ID No.	: 2020_DTIDC_191938_1
Name of work	: M/o ISBT at Kashmere Gate
SH	: Painting of Exterior Building of ISBT Kashmere Gate
Estimated Cost	: Rs. 36,73,731/-
Earnest Money	: Rs. 73,475/-
Time Allowed	: Two Months
Last date of receipt of Tenders	: 07/07/2020

The Tender forms and other detail can be obtained from the website : <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/>

Sd/-
Executive Engineer

DTIDC Ltd. ISBT

Kashmere Gate, Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/0107/20-21

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL MANAGER , CTU, DIRECTOR
TRANSPORT UNION TERRITORY, CHANDGIARH
CORRIGENDUM/ADDENDUM

Refer to notice no . CCI-CTU/2020/5341,Dated 08.06.2020 invited e-tender (Tender ID 2020_CHD_55495_1) to Supply, installation of Automatic Vehicle Location System (AVLS) of AIS: 140 standard along with Panic Button and Supply , installation, of 06 new 50" PIS and Design, Development, Implementation and Operation & Maintenance 08 (06 New +02 Old) Passenger Information System (PIS) Design, Development, Implementation and Operation & Maintenance of 213 Buses (173 +40), Supply, Installation, Design, Development, Implementation and Operation & Maintenance for Ultrasonic fuel sensor for 213 Buses on monthly basis appeared in the leading newspaper and also displayed on the website of the undertaking as well as website of the Chandigarh Administration i.e. chdctu.gov.in and <http://etenders.chd.nic.in/> and with respect to pre-bid meeting held on 16-06-2020 certain amendments/modifications are hereby made in the e-tender document /RFP dated 08-06-2020. The addendum as well as replies to the Pre-bid queries are uploaded on website: <http://etenders.chd.nic.in/> and [chdctu.gov](http://chdctu.gov.in). which may be referred to by all prospective bidders.

Sd/- General Manager,
For Divisional Manager ,CTU &
Director Transport,U.T., Chandigarh.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
J&K E-GOVERNANCE AGENCY, IT DEPARTMENT
CIVIL SECRETARIAT, JAMMU

Subject: Notice inviting Tender for "Empanelment and Rate Contract for Scanning and Digitization of Files" of Government of Jammu and Kashmir"

Retired DSP shoots himself in Patna, suicide note found: cops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PATNA, JUNE 24

A RETIRED deputy superintendent of police (DSP), who was known as an encounter specialist during his time in Mokama, near Patna, died in his residence in the city's Mitramandal Colony on Tuesday. The police said he shot himself on the temple with his licensed pistol. He retired in 2012.

The victim, K Chandra, 68, was under treatment for depression for the last 16 years, and took antidepressants, his family has told the police.

The police said Chandra, left a note in which he expressed frustration with the civic system, especially waterlogging and collection of garbage outside his house. The note accuses a neighbour of allegedly causing this waterlogging by dumping garbage and construction material on the road outside.

DSP, Phulwarisharif, Sanjay Kumar Pandey said, "We have found a three-page suicide note. It looks a case of suicide as of now."

Chandra's son Nischay Shrestha, an advocate, said his father was hugely upset and frustrated with continuous waterlogging outside their home – a result of blocked drains and the area's low-lying location. "He had called a neighbour to discuss the problem of waterlogging. He had been very frustrated with our inability to do anything to address this issue," Shrestha said.

Shrestha has told the police that on Tuesday he had seen his father go to the verandah and write something in a notebook. "Before we could comprehend anything, he went to his room, took out his pistol and shot himself on the right temple," the son said. Chandra died on way to hospital, the police said.

Covid protocol row: J&K admin appoints inquiry officer to look into three deaths

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, JUNE 24

THE JAMMU and Kashmir administration Wednesday appointed Jammu Divisional Commissioner Sanjeev Verma as inquiry officer to look into the circumstances leading to the death of two people during the cremation of the body of a Covid patient in Jammu, as well as the death of a person lodged at an administrative quarantine facility in Kathua.



The inquiry officer is to submit the report within 10 days.

The order came a day after Jammu Deputy Commissioner Sushma Chauhan submitted to the government the report of a magisterial inquiry into the deaths at the cremation.

All three deceased had tested negative for Covid-19, raising a controversy over the protocol being followed in handling the bodies of Covid-19 patients and also those returning from other parts of the country.

The Indian Express had on June 23 reported about the death of two cousins at the cremation. On the way to cremate their uncle, who had tested positive for Covid-19, the two cousins suffered scorching heat inside PPE kits, pushed an ambulance across a river bank and fell unconscious while officials refused to help, their relatives have alleged. Family members and political parties accused the UT administration of not following Health Ministry guidelines on handling the body of a coronavirus patient.

Meanwhile, a 47-year-old resident of Hiranagar tehsil's Chapaki Kalan village, who was in administrative quarantine at a private ETI college since June 15 when he reached Lakhimpur from Mumbai by road, died on Sunday.



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

We, SWAL Corporation Limited, Ready Mewal Terrace, 4th Floor, 167, Anand Besant Road, Worli Naka, Mumbai - 400018, have voluntarily transferred the existing Registration certificate of Ethion technical (Registration No.-VI-1512(4)/E-thion-23) in favour of the M/s UPL Limited, Uniphos House, Madhu Park, 11th Road, Khar (W), Mumbai 400 052. We do not have any objection on the same.

VVIP CHOPPER CASE


ED searches premises linked to former Emaar MGF director

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate on Wednesday searched nine locations associated with former Emaar MGF director Shruvan Gupta across Delhi-NCR in connection with the Rs 3,600-crore AgustaWestland scam. Sources said searches



were carried out in Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida. Gupta and Emaar MGF—a joint venture between Emaar and MGF that has now separated—have been under the lens of central agencies over its connection with alleged VVIP chopper deal middleman Guido Haschke. The defence broker had been a non executive director in the company. Sources said ED

searches were based on questioning of accused who provided new information on Gupta's role. In 2016, ED had questioned Gupta in connection with the case. Emaar India stated: "Emaar and MGF had parted ways few years back and Mr Shruvan Gupta has no role in Emaar India and is also no longer on the Board..."

**TATA POWER**
The Tata Power Company Limited
Registered Office: Bombay House, 24, Horni Mody Street, Mumbai 400 001.
Tel: 91 22 6665 8282 Fax: 91 22 6665 8801
CIN: L28920MH1991PLC000567
Email: tatapower@tatapower.com Website: www.tatapower.com

NOTICE OF RECORD DATE
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 that Wednesday, 8th July 2020 has been fixed as the Record Date for the purpose of payment of:
i. Annual interest on the 100 – 9.15% Secured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures aggregating ₹ 1,25,00,000 each and
ii. The redemption proceeds of the Separately Transferable Redeemable Principal Part J of these Debentures (INE245A07218), aggregating ₹ 25,00,00,000.
both due on 23rd July 2020.
For The Tata Power Company Limited
H. M. Mistry
Company Secretary

Place: Mumbai
Dated: 23rd June 2020



HINDUSTAN PETROLEUM CORPORATION LIMITED
Registered Office: 17, Janshedji Tata Road, Mumbai - 400 020
Tel : 022 - 22863900 Fax : 022 - 22872992
Website : www.hindustanpetroleum.com Email : corphqo@hpdcl.in
CIN : L23201MH1952GOI008858


NOTICE OF BOOK CLOSURE
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 10 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and the applicable SEBI (LODR) Regulations, the Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from **Monday, July 06, 2020 to Friday, July 10, 2020** (both days inclusive) for the purpose of ascertaining the eligibility of Beneficial Owners/Shareholders for payment of Final Dividend of Rs. 9.75 per Equity Share of face value of Rs. 10 each, for the Financial Year 2019 - 2020, as recommended by the Board of Directors of the Company at their meeting held on June 16, 2020.
Kindly note that the said dividend, if declared by the shareholders, will be paid within 30 days from the date of its declaration at the ensuing Annual General Meeting, to those Members whose name appears in the Register of Members / BENPOS as at the close of working hours on Saturday, July 04, 2020.
By the Order of the Board,
V. Murali
Company Secretary

Place : Mumbai
Date : 24.06.2020



**भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद्
INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION**
प० ओ० - न्यू फॉरेस्ट, देहरादून 248 006 (उत्तराखण्ड)
P.O. NEW FOREST, DEHRADUN - 248 006 (Uttarakhand)
Advt. No. 1/F.A./Sr. M.O./M.O./A.O./FRO/2020-ICFRE

भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद् भारतीय नागरिकों से प्रतिनियुक्ति आधार पर 01 पद वित्तीय सलाहकार (पे मैट्रिक्स - 13) देहरादून के लिए, 01 पद वरिष्ठ चिकित्सा अधिकारी (पे मैट्रिक्स - 11) देहरादून के लिए, 05 पद चिकित्सा अधिकारी (पे मैट्रिक्स - 10) 04 पद देहरादून व 01 पद जबलपुर के लिए, 02 पद लेखाधिकारी (पे मैट्रिक्स - 8) 01-01 पद कोयंबटूर व जोधपुर के लिए, 02 पद वन राजि अधिकारी (पे मैट्रिक्स - 7) 01-01 पद रांची व जोरहाट के लिए भरने हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित करते हैं। विस्तृत विवरण के लिए मांगवाओरिओन के वेबसाइट <http://www.icfre.org> के मर्तो अनुभाग में रखा गया है। आवेदन प्राप्ति की अन्तिम तिथि 25.08.2020 है।
ICFRE is inviting applications from Indian Nationals for filling up the 01 post of Financial Advisor (Pay Matrix Level-13) at Dehradun, 01 post of Sr. Medical Officer (Pay Matrix Level-11) at Dehradun, 05 posts of Medical Officer (Pay Matrix Level-10) 04 for Dehradun & 01 for Jabalpur, 02 posts of Accounts Officer (Pay Matrix Level-8) one each at Coimbatore & Jodhpur, and 02 post of Forest Range Officer (Pay Matrix Level-7) one each at Ranchi and Jorhat on deputation basis. The detailed advertisement is placed under Recruitment section of ICFRE website <http://www.icfre.org>. Last date of receipt of application is 25.08.2020.
सचिव, भा.वा.अ.शि.प./Secretary, ICFRE



प्रतिभूति कागज कारखाना होशंगाबाद-461005 (म.प्र.)
(भारत प्रतिभूति मुद्रण तथा निर्माण निगम लिमिटेड की इकाई)
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Tel.No.: 07574-286517, E-mail: hr.spm@spmcil.com, Website: http://spmhoshangabad.spmcil.com
No.: HR/1(33)/Consultant (Security)/Advt. No.-12/ Dated : 23.06.2020

Corrigendum
Ref. : Recruitment advertisement No. HR/1(33)Consultant (Security) Advt. No.-61 Dated 02.03.2020
For recruitment of one post of Security Officer and Consultant (Security) on contract basis in Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad, an advertisement No. HR/1(33)/Consultant (Security)/Advt. No. 61 dated 02.03.2020 was published on our website <http://spmhoshangabad.spmcil.com>.
The last date of receipt of the application in the above recruitment was **31.03.2020**, which now has been extended till **31.07.2020**.
Note:- (1) Applications of all the candidates previously sent will be accepted till 31.07.2020.
(2) For detailed description and information related to application kindly visit our website <http://spmhoshangabad.spmcil.com> under the page "Careers".
(3) All other conditions of the advertisement will remain same.
Human Resource Deptt.



NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED
(A Government of India undertaking)
CIN: LT4899DL1974GOI007417
Registered Office: SCORE Complex, Core-III, 7, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Website: www.nationalfertilizers.com

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that in compliance with Regulation 47 read with Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, a meeting of Board of Directors of National Fertilizers Limited is scheduled to be held at Noida (Uttar Pradesh) on **Tuesday, 30th June, 2020**, inter-alia to consider, approve and take on record the Audited financial results of the company for the quarter and year ended **31st March, 2020**, after these results are reviewed by the Audit Committee of the Board.
Pursuant to the SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 as amended and the circular issued by National Stock Exchanges of India Ltd. Vide NSE/CML/2019/11 dated 02nd April, 2019 ("Circular"), the trading Window for dealing in the shares of the Company shall remain closed from 1st April, 2020 till 48 hours after the declaration of financial for the quarter and year ended 31.03.2020 i.e. 02nd July, 2020 for Designated Persons, Designated Employees and their Immediate relatives.
Keeping in view of ending of first quarter for F.Y. 2020-21 on 30.06.2020 read with Circular, the trading window shall continue to be closed from July 1, 2020 till 48 hours after the declaration of financial results for the quarter ended 30th June 2020.
The said Notice may be accessed on the Company's website www.nationalfertilizers.com and on the BSE/NSE website www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com respectively.
Sd/-
(Ashok Jha)
Company Secretary
Place: New Delhi
Date: 23.06.2020
NFL : Farmers' Friend, Nation's Pride



WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)
Registered Office: Vidyut Bhavan, DJ Block, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700091
• CIN-U40101WB2007SGC113474 • web : www.wbsetcl.in


Unaudited Financial Result for the Half Year Ended on 31st March, 2020
Figures in ₹ Lakhs

Sl. No.	Particulars	Half Year ended 31.03.2020	Corresponding half year ended 31.03.2019	Previous year ended 31.03.2020	Previous year ended 31.03.2019
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
1.	Total Income from Operations	73,140.01	70,899.99	146,031.50	142,601.51
2.	Net Profit (+)/Loss (-) for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	22,370.89	22,768.02	47,021.93	51,559.72
3.	Net Profit (+)/Loss (-) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	22,370.89	22,768.02	47,021.93	51,559.72
4.	Net Profit (+)/Loss (-) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	18,462.25	17,861.78	38,806.26	40,472.12
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	13,387.96	20,381.25	36,201.45	44,830.32
6.	Paid-up equity share capital (Face Value of ₹ 10/- each)	110,552.00	110,552.00	110,552.00	110,552.00
7.	Reserve (excluding Revaluation Reserves)	371,592.28	334,298.63	371,592.28	335,390.83
8.	Net worth	457,460.65	422,033.67	457,460.65	423,125.87
9.	Paid-up Debt Capital/Outstanding Debt	326,455.24	326,194.94	326,455.24	326,194.94
10.	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	—	—	—	—
11.	Debt Equity Ratio	0.71	0.77	0.71	0.77
12.	Earning Per Share (of ₹ 10/- each) (For continuing and discontinued operations)				
	1. Basic : (Not Annualised)	1.67	1.62	3.51	3.66
	2. Diluted : (Not Annualised)	1.67	1.62	3.51	3.66
13.	Capital Redemption Reserve	—	—	—	—
14.	Debt Redemption Reserve	16,066.70	14,766.70	16,066.70	14,766.70
15.	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	1.20	1.43	1.20	1.98
16.	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	2.60	3.05	2.60	3.31


Notes:
1. The above financial results have been recommended by the Audit Committee in its meeting held on 24.06.2020 and approved by the Board of Directors in the meeting held on the same day.
2. The financial results have been prepared in accordance with Ind AS as prescribed under section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 3 of the Companies (Indian Accounting Standard) Rules, 2015 and Companies (Indian Accounting Standard) Amendment Rules, 2016.
3. The Company is in the process of segregating its freehold and leasehold land and is hence yet to adopt IND AS 116 "leases" effective 1st April, 2019, as notified by the Ministry of Corporates Affairs (MCA) vide Companies (Indian Accounting Standard), Amendment Rules, 2019.
4. The financial results for the half year ended on 31st March, 2020 have been subjected to Limited Review by the Statutory Auditor.
5. Being an electricity utility, depreciation has been provided under the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms & Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2011 as amended to date and not as per Schedule II of the Companies Act, 2013.
6. The Company has received credit rating of 'CARE BBB+' and 'IND A-' assigned by CARE and India Ratings and Research Pvt. Ltd. respectively.
7. The Company has sufficient asset cover to discharge the principal amount for all Non-Convertible Debt Securities issued.
8. Details of Listed Non-Convertible Debentures are as follows :

Sl. No.	Particulars	Previous Due Date		Next Due Date	
		Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal
1.	9.75% Secured Redeemable and Non-Convertible Bonds, 2019*	16.10.2019	16.10.2019	—	—
2.	10.29% Secured Redeemable and Non-Convertible Bonds, 2021**	26.01.2020	—	26.07.2020	—

Interest and Principal have been paid on the due dates.
*9.75% Secured Redeemable and Non-Convertible Bonds, 2019 is redeemed on 16.10.2019.
**Repayable in a single installment on 26.07.2021.
9. The Company has not received any information from the vendors as to their status under the Micro, Medium and Small Enterprise Development Act, 2006 and hence amount outstanding and interest paid/payable to them under this act is considered to be 'Nil'.
10. Formula used for computation of Ratios : ISCR = Earning before Interest and Tax/Interest Expenses and DSCR = Earning before Interest and Tax/(Interest + Principal Repayment).
11. The company is an essential service provider and as a result does not expect any significant impact in operations due to Covid 19.
12. During the half year the company did not receive any complaints/grievances from investors.
13. The figures of the earlier periods have been regrouped wherever necessary to make them comparable with the current period.

By the Order of the Board

(Santanu Basu)
Managing Director

24th June, 2020
Kolkata



Institute of Infrastructure Technology Research And Management (IITRAM)
(An Autonomous University established by Government of Gujarat)

Admission Announcement for Ph.D. Program : 2020-21 (Autumn Semester)


Applications are invited for (1) Regular and (2) Part-Time Ph.D. Programme from eligible candidates in disciplines of (i) Civil Engineering, (ii) Electrical Engineering, (iii) Mechanical Engineering, (iv) Computer Science & Engineering, (v) Humanities and Social Sciences (English, Sociology, Economics) (vi) Basic Sciences (Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics) for the academic year 2020-2021 (Autumn Semester) online through website: www.iitram.ac.in as per the following schedule:

Description	Date
Opening of Application Portal and Submission of Online Application	25-06-2020 to 18-07-2020
Last Date for submission of scanned Application Form with all necessary enclosures	20-07-2020 (by 1700 hrs)

- Applicants must follow the procedure displayed on the website.
- Incomplete applications are likely to be rejected.
- Applicants are advised to visit institute's website regularly for updates as well as for other details.

– I/c. Registrar

Contact Details: Near Khokhra Circle, Maninagar (East), Ahmedabad-380026, Gujarat.
Phone: 079 6777 5488 / 6777 5499 | Fax: 079 6777 5475
Website: www.iitram.ac.in | E-mail: office@iitram.ac.in



Indian Bank

ALLAHABAD

Zonal Office, Budh Marg, Patna-800001

POSSESSION NOTICE FOR (IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas:
The undersigned being the authorised officer of the Indian Bank (Erstwhile Allahabad Bank) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rules 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice u/s 13(2) on the date noted against the Account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon the borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Indian Bank (Erstwhile Allahabad Bank) for an amount and interest thereon.
The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured asset.

Sl. No.	Name of the Account & Branch	Name of the Borrower/ Guarantor (Owner of the property)	Description of the charged/mortgaged property (all the part & parcel of the property consisting of)	Date of Demand Notice & Date of Possession Notice	Amount outstanding as on the date of demand notice
1.	Md Firoz Khan B/o: RPS Residential Public School	Mortgagor: Md. Firoz Khan S/o Mr. Shamshul Haque	All that part and parcel of alongwith present future construction thereon in the name of Md. Firoz Khan S/o Mr. Shamshul Haque area measuring 07 Dhur or 476 Sq.ft. Sale Deed No.7718 dated 13.03.2009 bearing Book No.01, Zild No.13, Page No.214 to 223, Khata No.835, Khesra No.2124(P), Plot No.1802, Tazui No.303, Thana No.11, situated at Mohalla-Khajurbanna, Ward No.51, Holding No.138/101(O)/143(New), Mauza-Mahal Sandulpur, PS-Sultanganj, Dist.-Patna, Bihar. Bounded: On the North by-12 feet wide Road. On the South by-Khesra No.2124(P), On the East by-Khesra No.2124(P), On the West by-Khesra No.2124(P).	Letter dt: 05.12.2018 & Paper publication dt: 17.02.2019 Letter dt: 20.06.2020 & possession taken on 23.06.2020	₹ 17,97,864/- (Rs. seventeen lac ninety seven thousand eight hundred sixty four only)
2.	Smt. Pinki Kumari W/o Shri Naveen Kumar B/o: RPS Residential Public School	Mortgagor: Smt. Pinki Kumari (Pinki Devi) W/o Shri Naveen Kumar	All that part and parcel of the residential landed property along with present future construction thereon in the name of Smt. Pinki Kumari (Pinki Devi) W/o Shri Naveen Kumar measuring 01 Katha 01 Dhur 10 Dhurki situated at Mouza-Saichak, PS-Phulwari Sharif, under Tazui No.5119, PS No.32, Khata No.96, Plot No.466, bearing Sale Deed No.3816 dated 09.03.2017 recorded at SRO Patna in Book No.01, Zild No.46, CD No.12, Pages 330 to 338. Bounded: On the North: 5 feet wide road after then Late Jawahar Rai & others, On the South-Kishun Rai Hal Jayvansh Prasad Singh, On the East-Road after then Ramsewak Rai Hal Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, On the West-Smt. Pinki Kumari W/o Sri Ajeet Kumar.	05.09.2019 20.06.2020	₹ 21,61,438/- (Rs. Twenty one lac sixty one thousand four hundred thirty eight only)

Date : 24.06.2020
Place : Patna

Authorised Officer
Indian Bank (Erstwhile Allahabad Bank)



हरियाणा शहरी विकास प्राधिकरण
के ई-नीलामी पोर्टल
<https://hsvphry.org.in>
पर


श्री मनोहर लाल
मुख्यमंत्री, हरियाणा

गुरुग्राम, पंचकूला, फरीदाबाद, रोहतक एवं हिसार जोन की शहरी संपदाओं में आवासीय एवं व्यवसायिक स्थानों को खरीदने का सुनहरा अवसर

आवासीय स्थलों की नीलामी की तिथि
07, 08 व 09 जुलाई, 2020
तथा **21, 22 व 23 जुलाई, 2020**

व्यवसायिक स्थलों की नीलामी की तिथि
14, 15 व 16 जुलाई, 2020
तथा **28, 29 व 30 जुलाई, 2020**

ई-नीलामी हेतु पंजीकरण का आरंभ
01.07.2020

ई-नीलामी आरंभ होने का समय
प्रातः 10.00 बजे

नीलामी में रखे गए स्थलों एवं विस्तृत विवरण व शर्तों की सूचना (Brochure) <https://hsvphry.org.in> पर दिनांक : 29.06.2020 से उपलब्ध होगी

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12



THE INDIAN EXPRESS, THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2020

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE

WITHOUT MUSIC, LIFE WOULD BE A MISTAKE.

—FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

DISENGAGE, BUT VERIFY

That talks are taking place is a good sign. China's new claim to entire Galwan Valley highlights challenge ahead

NEITHER DELHI NOR Beijing have given too many details on the “mutual consensus” on military disengagement arrived at in Monday’s meeting of senior military commanders in eastern Ladakh. The talks at the military level are being reinforced by diplomatic consultations between the two governments. Having seen the previous agreement on June 6 break down, Delhi would be wise to be extra cautious this time. Even with the best of goodwill and political trust, demobilising militaries from a line of confrontation is inherently difficult. Questions on the interpretation of the agreement, the sequence of withdrawal, timelines for implementation and the protocols for verification of the steps taken can all be deeply contentious. After the bloody encounter at Galwan on the night of June 15, mutual goodwill at the military level and trust at the political level are unsurprisingly in short supply.

To make matters worse, there has been further mobilisation of military forces on both sides since the Galwan clash. It is also not clear if the two sides fully agree on what the end-state of the disengagement process is. Delhi has repeatedly affirmed that it would like to see complete and unambiguous restoration of the situation in eastern Ladakh before the massive Chinese military mobilisation all across the frontier in early May. While Indian sources seem to suggest China is ready to roll back, Beijing has not publicly confirmed that as a shared goal. Nor is it clear if Beijing agrees with Delhi on what “status quo ante” means on the ground. The story of the China frontier in the last few decades has been the PLA’s small but frequent land grabs across the Line of Actual Control. Delhi has now taken a public position that it will no longer accept an outcome where the PLA walks one step back after taking two steps across the LAC. That China continues to put across a new claim for the entire Galwan Valley highlights the political challenges ahead.

Notwithstanding this structural political tension and the essential complexity of military disengagement, the fact that talks are taking place is a good sign. Equally welcome is the fact that the Indian and Chinese troops marched in Moscow at an international military event to mark the 75th anniversary of Russian victory in the Second World War. The Indian and Chinese foreign ministers also joined the Russian foreign minister in a prescheduled video conference. This is part of the regular trilateral political interaction between India, Russia and China. But Delhi appears to have declined the opportunity for a meeting in Moscow between the visiting defence minister Rajnath Singh and his Chinese counterpart General Wei Fenghe. On balance, then, it is too early to celebrate the presumed agreement on military disengagement in the Ladakh frontier. India must remain vigilant, it’s a long road ahead.

SAFOORA’S TRIAL

Her legal ordeal, stated reason for grant of bail, raise questions. Bail is not charity, it flows from constitutional principles

APPEARING FOR THE DELHI Police, on Tuesday, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said he had no objection to the release of Jamia Millia Islamia student Safoora Zargar on “humanitarian grounds”. The 27-year old was arrested by the Delhi Police’s Special Cell in April and charged under the draconian UAPA for her alleged role in the communal violence in Northeast Delhi in February. In her bail plea, Zargar had listed pregnancy as one of the grounds for seeking relief. Following the SG’s submission, the Delhi High Court granted her bail. But the 27-year old’s more than two-month old ordeal — she was denied bail twice by sessions courts in Delhi — raises fundamental jurisprudential questions. Why was the cardinal principle of criminal justice, “presumption of innocence until proven guilty” — enshrined in Article 11(1) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and invoked by the Indian judiciary in a number of cases — not applied in this case? Why should an accused be compelled to seek bail on humanitarian grounds? Doesn’t the right to life and liberty, guaranteed by Article 21 of the Constitution, offer protection against prolonged imprisonment to an undertrial?

The Code of Criminal Procedure does not define bail. But in *Gurbaksh Singh Sibbia vs the State of Punjab* (1980), the Supreme Court underlined, “The act of arrest directly affects freedom of movement of the person arrested by the police, and speaking generally, an order of bail gives back to the accused that freedom on condition that he will appear to take his trial”. The Court talked about Article 21 and added that “personal liberty of an accused or convict is fundamental, suffering eclipse only in terms of procedure established by law”. More recently, in 2018, in *Dataram Singh vs State of Uttar Pradesh*, the apex court held that “the grant of bail is the general rule and putting a person in jail is an exception”. Delivering the verdict, Justice Madan Lokur lamented: “Unfortunately, some of these basic principles appear to have been lost sight of with the result that more and more persons are being incarcerated and for longer periods.” He, too, invoked Article 21 and said that overcrowding of prisons affects the “dignity” of convicts.

The SC has repeatedly emphasised the “humane” treatment of the accused, including in the *Dataram Singh* case. As the Court pointed out, “conditions for the grant of bail ought not to be so strict as to be incapable of compliance”. It flows from the spirit of the apex court’s rulings, therefore, that bail should not be made to appear as an act of charity, as in the Zargar case — because it emanates from constitutional principles.

ROOTS MUSIC

Barcelona reopens the opera with plants for an audience. Their critical review of the performance is awaited

MUSIC, THE PYTHAGOREAN school felt, has universal resonance. It has been claimed that it improves the yield of milch cows, and that singing to indoor plants is therapeutic, both for the singer and the listener. And Peter Tompkins and Christopher Bird’s controversial book, *The Secret Life of Plants*, became a publishing phenomenon because it suggested that humans and plants could communicate. Now, in Spain, one of the nations hit hard by the pandemic, Barcelona’s Liceu opera has reopened after the lockdown with a botanical performance. There was a potted plant in every seat in the otherwise empty hall. They were no doubt enriched by the music, which reached parts that impersonal industrial fertilisers cannot.

The performance acknowledged a reality that was visible during the lockdown — the rapidity with which nature reclaimed its own when human footfalls became sparse. The human domain which civilisation polices so self-importantly is fragile, and is breached by the wild the moment the human race falters. In the collective unconscious, we have always been aware of this, from the era when sacred groves dotted the world, and it is frequently referenced in popular culture, whether in the chapter of *The Jungle Book* titled “Letting in the Jungle”, or in Jethro Tull’s *Jack in the Green*. But it is carefully ignored in everyday life in the Anthropocene, in which the myth of the world-shaping, omnipotent and sapient species is given free rein.

It is not immediately known if the potted plants in Barcelona appreciated the rendering of Puccini’s “Chrysanthemum”, which was chosen to go with the theme of the show. But really, would it not have been more impressive if the concert had been played in a sacred grove deep in a forest? Because the potted plant spells containment and breeding, and is the very antithesis of the wild.



COOMI KAPOOR

MOST COMMEMORATE THE Emergency on June 26 as a reminder of the bleak 21 months when democracy was derailed. Actually, the Emergency came into effect on June 25 at 11.45 pm when then President, Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, signed the proclamation, even though he was alerted by his secretary that it would be constitutionally untenable. The president is expected to act only on the advice of the council of ministers. Indira Gandhi’s cabinet met the next day at 6 am as a formality.

President Ahmed was the first in a chain of constitutional authorities and autonomous institutions in our democracy that caved in, betraying their oath of office and abandoning professional integrity. While holding Mrs Gandhi, Sanjay and his henchmen guilty for the Emergency, we generally forget to apportion blame to the others who succumbed when push came to shove. Mrs Gandhi’s cabinet fell in line without a murmur. In Parliament, the entire Congress party, barring two expelled dissidents, meekly raised hands to approve, not just the Emergency proclamation, but several illegal laws. Mrs Gandhi demonstrated her contempt for Parliament by doing away with Question Hour and Calling Attention Motions, declaring that henceforth only important government business would be transacted.

The record of the courts, a major pillar of any democracy, was not quite as dismal. Nine high courts had the courage to strike down the draconian Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA), as being ultra vires the Constitution. (Thousands were detained under MISA during the Emergency). Most of these brave judges were later penalised. But when the habeas corpus writ came in appeal to the Supreme Court (*ADM Jabalpur vs S Shukla*) the senior-most judges of the land let down the country. Of the five-judge bench, four upheld the Attorney General’s argument that a person has no legal rights, not even to be produced before the court or be informed of the reasons for his detention, as long as an Emergency is in force. The blemished four included two who projected themselves as champions of human rights and civil liberties. The sole dissenter, Justice H R Khanna, threw away his chance to be the next chief justice. L K Advani’s famous jibe at the media dur-

Ruler alone is not accountable, everyone who succumbs to authority is no less guilty

ing the Emergency, “When asked to bend it chose to crawl” was not untrue. True, censorship laws were in force, but where there was a will there was a way. *The Indian Express* was one of the rare exceptions which defied the censors frequently, especially after elections were called in January 1977. *The Express* founder, Ramnath Goenka, knew that he would have to forfeit his newspaper chain in case Mrs Gandhi returned to power, but he refused to bend.

Mrs Gandhi imposed the Emergency with a sledgehammer. But dictatorships can also creep in slowly, silently and insidiously, without any formal announcement. History shows us that the ruler alone is not accountable. Everyone who succumbs to authority is no less guilty. The oft repeated question as to whether an Emergency could occur in India again is particularly relevant in 2020. A dangerous pandemic has weakened the institutions tasked with upholding the Constitution. The COVID crisis can also provide a screen to keep reality from the public gaze and assist rulers in arming themselves with more powers.

Because of the pandemic, justice has been delayed or diverted in some compelling human rights matters. A telling example is the habeas corpus petition filed by the wife of the 82-year-old leader in Kashmir, Saifuddin Soz. The Supreme Court has put off the hearing till July. Soz was detained in August last year along with many others in Kashmir when Article 370 was nullified. He has yet to be informed of the reasons for his imprisonment.

While the courts are constrained from taking prompt action because of the pandemic, the Delhi Police, on the other hand, was hyper active during the lockdown, arresting protesters against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA). Most of the alleged trouble-makers are students and Muslims. They were charged with “unlawful activities” during the riots in North East Delhi in late February. The arrests are very obviously entirely one-sided. Even those whose inflammatory speeches and actions are a matter of record, such as local BJP leader Kapil Mishra, were not booked. When an arrested student recently approached a Delhi lower court, the court stated that because of the pandemic it

was not in a position to ascertain whether due process of law was being followed. In March, the Supreme Court rejected the anticipatory bail pleas of journalist Gautam Navlakha and professor Anand Teltumbde, both respected civil rights activists, accused of involvement in the Bhima Koregaon violence of 2018. The two have been detained under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act as amended in July 2019. It is a law meant for terrorists which makes securing bail difficult. It is the government’s discretion whom to designate a terrorist, a throwback to the Emergency-era MISA.

The pandemic has delayed the next session of Parliament and there is no indication as to when the Lok Sabha will convene and in what form. Will meaningful debates on issues, such as handling of the pandemic or the Chinese intrusions, be possible? Or will the House meet merely to rubber stamp government decisions, the social distancing norms providing a handy pretext to keep the session brief and business-like?

Another COVID victim is the fourth estate. An unfounded apprehension that newspapers can somehow be carriers of the virus has led to a steep fall in print circulations. Several gated communities and apartment buildings have fuelled ill-informed paranoia. The economic consequences are devastating for the print media, one of the few credible sources of news in an age where social media is flooded with fake news and propaganda. Venerable language publications have shut shop, many newspapers groups have ruthlessly cut down on out-station editions and staff.

A financially debilitated media will struggle for survival after the pandemic. Another disturbing trend of late is for FIRs to be filed on frivolous charges against journalists who ask inconvenient questions to state and central governments. Over-zealous BJP bhakts, who instigate the police to slap such cases, seem to be following in the footsteps of Sanjay Gandhi’s storm troopers during the Emergency. A free media, one should remember, is the touchstone of a democracy.

The writer is consulting editor, The Indian Express and author of The Emergency: A Personal History

THE RIGHT TO DIFFER

Are we willing to place basic moral norms above our political preferences?



RAJNI BAKSHI

ON JUNE 3, there was a nationwide protest against the arrest of those who participated in the anti-CAA agitation or have otherwise raised their voice in dissent. While the Citizenship Amendment Act and National Register of Citizens (NRC) are vital issues there is a deeper question at stake here. Are enough Indians willing to place basic moral norms above their political preferences? For example, it should be possible for someone who is in favour of CAA to also oppose the arrest of protesters.

In a healthy polity, there would be no need to state this — it would be a truism. But today, almost the entire political spectrum judges a person not by their adherence to basic norms but by the “side” on which they stand regarding any specific issue. Therefore, arrests of anti-CAA protesters are a moment of reckoning for all of us.

Making excuses for those who are on “our side” of a political position is an old problem. It afflicts people across the spectrum — from “left” to “right”, though there may be differences in tonality. This partly explains why there is no public clamour for the criminal prosecution of those who openly advocated violence against those opposing the CAA. Many who want the CAA, but not violence, may have kept quiet lest they help the “other” side. Similarly, there was a time when many who were appalled by murders of “class enemies” made excuses for the Naxalite movement because they supported

its struggle for justice.

How can this perennial struggle between means and ends shape our responses today? Those who are opposed to the CAA face a rather complicated challenge. Opponents of the CAA correctly say that the letter and spirit of India’s Constitution are endangered by this law. But this does not mean that all those who want the CAA are necessarily indifferent to the civil liberties guaranteed by the Constitution. Yes, among those who sought to suppress the anti-CAA protests, many openly do not care for human rights. But could they be inspired to care for human rights? Might this become possible if their social and political insecurities were to be empathically addressed?

I have seen this happen in bilateral conversations. For it to be done at a larger level, the human rights and civil liberties movement would have to make room for people who, in many respects, might be deemed to be “politically incorrect”. People with whom we disagree on a specific issue might well be capable of speaking truth to power and standing shoulder-to-shoulder to assert the right to dissent. But this is possible if we don’t treat each other as “political untouchables”.

The moment of reckoning for those who are pro-CAA is relatively straight forward. Suppose you are convinced that the CAA is important to secure the future stability and safety of Hindus in India. You may even have cheered the arrest of anti-CAA protesters. But surely, at the back of your mind, there is a nagging

doubt. Once suppression of protest is validated tomorrow, on some other issue, it could be you or your loved ones who are arrested simply for upholding the Constitution.

Equally crucial is the way in which families have been sharply divided — with some members, mainly young people, passionately creating posters to hold up at anti-CAA rallies, while their siblings or parents or other relatives condemn and lambast them. As long as all sides of the dispute are free and still together as a family, an ongoing exchange, a shifting of perspectives, is possible. When those young enthusiastic protesters are behind bars, uncountable creative possibilities are eliminated.

You may say that all of the above is a pipe dream, that political life is controlled by powerful forces who never put means above ends and thus individuals, families and groups are bound to be swept away. This would be tantamount to saying that the parents, siblings and friends of any of the protesters now languishing in prison, should just sit back and accept their fate.

How many people find this unthinkable and unacceptable because it is anti-life, not just anti-democratic? This will decide the future of our social fabric — that which is deeper and longer lasting than any partisan political agenda or any particular law.

Rajni Bakshi is author of Bapu Kuti: Journeys in Rediscovery of Gandhi

JUNE 25, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

V V GIRI DEAD

FORMER PRESIDENT V V Giri died at his house in T Nagar in Madras. His eldest son Shankar Giri and his grandsons Girinath and Amarnath were at the bedside. The former president is survived by his four sons and seven daughters. He will be given a state funeral with full military honours. Chief Minister M G Ramachandran and his senior cabinet colleagues, in Delhi for Sanjay Gandhi’s funeral, are expected to be back for the former president’s last rites. President Sanjeeva Reddy will be represented by his military secretary. The Union cabinet will meet tomorrow to condole the death of the former president.

ASSAM CLASHES

SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS HAVE been tightened and troops have been asked to stage flag marches in the trouble prone areas of Assam where the overall situation continues to be tense, according to K Ramamurthy, advisor to the governor. He said that five persons were seriously injured in clashes between two groups at Raidanga village in the Nowgong district. The cause of the clash could not be ascertained. In a related development the All Assam Students Union reiterated its willingness to resume dialogue on the foreigners issue but said it was the responsibility of the government, and not the student body, to create a

congenial atmosphere.

PEACE WITH CHINA

A TOP CHINESE Communist Party functionary is confident that the border issue between India and China could be solved in a spirit “of give and take”. Wang Ping Nan, a cabinet minister, told UNI “there is no obstacle between us in developing friendly relations”. Wang, who is also the president of the Association of Chinese Peoples’ Friendship With Other Countries, congratulated Indira Gandhi on her return to power. He said since Mrs Gandhi had returned to power, “we attach the greatest importance to her speeches on foreign relations”.



13 THE IDEAS PAGE

How to play against China

India will need to bring order and alacrity to crisis management. And flexibility and pragmatism to its strategic response



ARUN PRAKASH

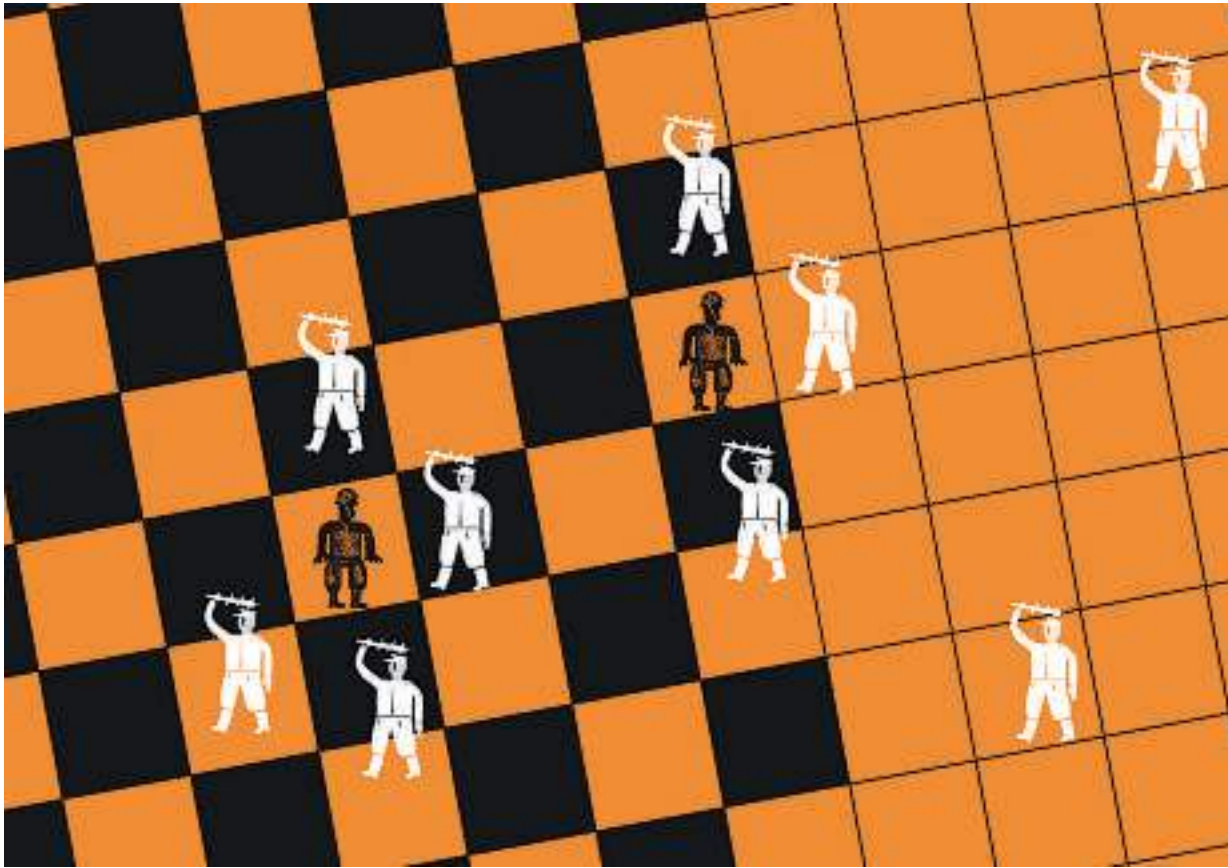
THE SUDDEN AND tragic loss of 20 Indian army personnel in a treacherous ambush by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) in Ladakh's Galwan Valley has caused deep public anguish and anger, mollified, only partially, by the swift retribution visited on the assailants by our gallant jawans. Equally exasperating for the public has been the cavalier inconsistency of statements emanating from government sources in New Delhi on a matter of grave national importance; especially, since the contradictions have given comfort to the adversary and caused confusion at home.

Given that the Sino-Indian territorial dispute has been festering since the late 1950s, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the current lack of clarity amongst our decision-makers is rooted in incomprehension of the long-term strategic aims and objectives that underpin China's belligerent conduct. This is hardly a surprise, considering that we have failed to devote adequate intellectual capital, intelligence resources and political attention to acquisition of a clear insight into China and its motivations. Even when intelligence is available, analysis and dissemination have fallen short.

Consequently, it would seem that from Jawaharlal Nehru's naïve hopes, encapsulated in the "Hindi-Chini bhai-bhai" mantra, to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's prolonged courtship of Xi Jinping, India has been groping in the dark, while grossly misreading China's real intent. As we watch Beijing's sinister border strategy unfold, the absence of a matching counter on India's part becomes painfully obvious.

Indians, as devotees of chess or "shatranj", have been thinking in terms of striking blows, fighting pitched battles and finally, checkmating the opponent. A similar Chinese board game, "weiqi", is described, thus, by Henry Kissinger: "If chess is about decisive battle, weiqi is about a protracted campaign and 'strategic encirclement' where opponents seek to occupy empty spaces and then surround and capture opposing pieces. While chess encourages single-mindedness, weiqi generates guile and strategic flexibility."

Since 1995, China has been issuing a defence white paper (DWP) every two years or so. These thematic public documents articulate China's national security aims, objectives and vital interests and also address the "ends-ways-means" issues related to its armed forces. The 11 DWPs issued so far are a model of clarity and vision, and provide many clues to current developments. It is a measure of our complacency and indifference towards national security that no Indian government since Independence has deemed it necessary to issue a defence white paper, order a defence review or publish a national security strategy. Had we done so, it may have prepared us for the unexpected and brought order and alacrity to our crisis-response.



C R Sasikumar

Historically, China is heir to an ancient system, based not on sovereign equality of states, but on the divine and boundless reach and authority of the Chinese Emperor. Even in the current discourse there are enough pointers to show that an ascendant China sees itself on track to realising its "strong nation dream", of becoming the world's No 1 power by surpassing and then replacing the US. A part of the "China dream" is the establishment of a "unified global system", or empire, termed tianxia ("all under heaven" in Mandarin). Translating its enormous economic gains into coercive military power, China expects neighbouring nations to submit to its hegemony.

In order to show India its place, China had administered it a "lesson" in 1962, and may, perhaps, be contemplating another one in 2020, with the objective of preventing the rise of a peer competitor. For China, the line of actual control or LAC, representing an unsettled border, provides strategic leverage to keep India on tenterhooks about its next move while repeatedly exposing the latter's vulnerabilities.

There is probably no other instance world-wide where two antagonistic neighbours have left such a long border, undetermined, unmarked and unresolved for so long. Our diplomats derive considerable satisfaction from the 1993 Border Peace & Tranquility Agreement, which, according to former foreign secretary, Shivshankar Menon, "...effectively delimited settlement of the boundary from the rest of the relationship". But to a layman, it appears that by failing to use available leverage for 27 years, and not insisting on bilateral exchange of LAC maps, we have created a ticking time-bomb, with the trigger in China's hands. While "disengagement" may soon take place between troops in contact, it is most unlikely that the PLA will pull back or vacate any occupied position in Ladakh or elsewhere; in which case,

It would seem that from Jawaharlal Nehru's naïve hopes, encapsulated in the 'Hindi-Chini bhai-bhai' mantra, to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's prolonged courtship of Xi Jinping, India has been groping in the dark, while grossly misreading China's real intent. As we watch Beijing's sinister border strategy unfold, the absence of a matching counter on India's part becomes painfully obvious.

India needs to consider a three-pronged strategy.

At the ground-level, we need to visibly reinforce our positions, and move forward to the LAC all along, enhancing the operational tempo of the three services as a measure of deterrence. Indian warships should show heightened presence at the Indian Ocean choke-points. Cyber emergency response teams country-wide should remain on high alert. While building-up stocks of weapons, ammunition and spares, the Ministry of Defence should seize this opportunity to urgently launch some long-term "atma-nirbharta" schemes in defence-production.

At the strategic level, the government must moot a sustained process of engagement with China at the highest politico-diplomatic echelons. The negotiations should seek multi-dimensional Sino-Indian modus-vivendi; encompassing the full gamut of bilateral issues like trade, territorial disputes, border-management and security. Simultaneously, at the grand-strategic level, India should initiate a dialogue for the formation of an "Indo-Pacific Concord for Peace and Tranquility", inviting four members of the Quad as well as Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines and Malaysia.

Finally, in 1962, India's Parliament had expressed, "the firm resolve of the Indian people to drive out the aggressor from the sacred soil of India", a resolution interpreted as a pledge for the restoration of Aksai Chin. As a nation, we need to be pragmatic enough to realise that neither conquest nor re-conquest of territory is possible in the 21st century. Parliament should, now, resolve to ask the government, "to establish with utmost urgency, stable, viable and peaceful national boundaries, all around, so that India can proceed, unhindered, with the vital tasks of nation-building and socio-economic development".

The writer is a retired chief of naval staff

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"The consequence is that the country's exit from lockdown in July will be a bigger gamble than it may have been at a later stage."

—THE GUARDIAN

When democracy was shackled

Those who have not seen the dark side of dictatorship, or fought against it, don't truly appreciate the value of freedoms today



RAM MADHAV

AMERICAN NOVELIST David Foster Wallace began his commencement speech at the Kenyon College of liberal arts in Gambier, Ohio, with an instructive story. Two young fish were swimming along and bumped into an older fish swimming the other way. "Morning, boys! How's the water?" asks the older fish. The two young fish continue to swim on, and eventually, one of them asks, "What the hell is water?"

Reality, for many, becomes so obvious sometimes that they fail to appreciate its value. People in many democracies behave like those young fish today. They don't realise that with all its defects, democracy is the best available form of government.

Democracy, a Herodotus-era institution of the "rule of the people", took wing only in the last seven decades. There were 137 autocracies and just 12 democracies in 1945. Bolstered by the victory of the democratic Allied forces, more and more countries turned democratic. By 2001, this number grew to 88 and equalled autocracies. Today, the world has more than a hundred democratic countries while 80 are autocracies.

But democracies are in decline. In the last two decades, more and more countries have become less and less democratic. *The Economist* recently reported that only 22 countries can be called true democracies, while another 53 countries can, at best, be described as flawed democracies. More than half of the countries in the world are either semi-autocracies or downright dictatorships.

Liberal democracies are facing multiple challenges. This pandemic has become an excuse for some leaders to usurp more powers and become more authoritarian. The rise of the far left and left-liberal anarchist forces, wanting to destroy mankind's valuable possession of democracy, is also discernible in many countries. Post-modernist scholars are trying to dub democracies pejoratively as populist. They argue that democracies are posing a "danger" to "our freedom". They seek to pit people against democracy.

It is nobody's case that democracies are perfect. There is no single definition of democracy that is universally acceptable. There are "illiberal democracies" as Fareed Zakaria pointed out and "liberal un-democracies" as Yascha Mounk wrote. But the alternative to democracy, historically, has only been authoritarian dictatorships. When societies fail to appreciate the value of democratic principles, either dictators are created or anarchy reigns. It also happened, albeit just for less than two years, in India.

Forty-five years ago, on this day, June 25, 1975, India's democracy was shackled by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Citing "internal disturbance" and "imminent danger to the security of India" as the reasons, she invoked Article 352 of the Constitution and declared a state of internal emergency. The

country was pushed into a dictatorship that lasted for 21 months. Fundamental rights were suspended. Over 1.4 lakh people were detained, including opposition party leaders. The media was gagged, and even the higher judiciary became a pliant handmaiden of Indira Gandhi. The entire country was converted into a prison of fear. Indira Gandhi's loyalist attorney general, Niren De, had ominously told the Supreme Court that the Emergency gave powers to the government even to take away the life of a citizen — and yet not be answerable to anybody. Citizens' lives and limbs were under threat.

As months passed by, the Stockholm Syndrome set in. Many eminent journalists and writers were singing paeans to the government. "When asked to bend, they crawled," L K Advani, who spent the entire duration of the Emergency in jail along with colleagues such as Atal Bihari Vajpayee, commented wryly: Hitlerian fascism was reincarnated in Indira's Emergency.

Hitler, after getting elected to the Reichstag — the Lower House of the Weimar Republic — in 1933, had made his National Socialist Party redundant. Senior party leaders were made inconsequential in Hitler's Third Reich. Sycophants and courtiers replaced them. Joseph Goebbels, the propaganda chief, became the most powerful leader due to his proximity to the Führer. A systematic campaign against Jews was unleashed, culminating in their genocide towards the end of the Reich.

Something similar had happened in India during those years. Vidya Charan Shukla, minister for information and broadcasting, became the new Goebbels. Sanjay Gandhi emerged as the super prime minister with a coterie of officials running the show. A systematic Islamophobic campaign was unleashed by this coterie. Sanjay and his coterie became infamous for their forced sterilisation programmes. Corruption and sycophancy had reached unforeseen heights. Dev Kant Barooah, president of the Congress during those years, had acquired sycophantic notoriety by coining the slogan "Indira is India and India is Indira", something on the lines of the mandatory "Heil Hitler" salute.

If India's millennials take to the streets today with anarchist slogans, that is because they are like those young fish in the water, who have never seen the dark side of a dictatorship. Thanks to the valiant fight against the draconian Emergency by the forces that are in power today, the country has enjoyed liberal democracy for four-and-a-half decades. We did not have autocrats partly because of the Gulliverisation of our politics for many years, where smaller parties would pull the strings of power. When a stable majority returned after three decades, the country was in the hands of those who were victims of the Emergency regime's excesses and fought for democracy.

The "freedom" that the anarchists and their left-liberal cohorts enjoy in the country's media and public life today is because we have leaders in the government who fought for that very freedom and are committed to liberal democratic values, not just as a matter of compulsion but as an article of faith.

The writer is national general secretary, BJP, and director, India Foundation



SANJAY DHOTRE

THE VIRUS HAS been keeping humanity on its toes for the last few months. Given the situation in many other developed countries, we have shown much success in containing the wrath of this deadly sub-microscopic being. Even so, the world around us is not what it used to be. The uncertainty due to the disease constantly lurking around may lead to fear, anxiety and emotional distress. One of the most vulnerable population groups is our students, especially school students.

Children today are quite vulnerable to mental and emotional stress. This may be due to many factors such as small nuclear families, lack of siblings in many cases, restricted community space, sedentary lifestyle, unhealthy dietary habits, the pressure to become aggressively competitive and exhibit precocity, parental attention deficits, bullying, exposure to violent images and so forth.

We need to organise our school spaces in such a way that these issues are understood with deep empathy and every child's capacity to learn is appreciated and nurtured. It is important that every child is enabled to grow into a self-reliant individual. Yet, mutual interdependence too must be emphatically nurtured. School spaces are to be all-inclusive. Each pupil should feel equally included irrespective of gender, socio-economic class, ethnicity, home-language, disability, parental education, etc. Diversity must be celebrated and used as a

A nurturing place

The school must enable children to be resilient and adaptable in uncertain times

site for children's engagement with the wider world. Collaborative learning and exploration are to be encouraged and the idea of mutually exclusive competition must be actively discarded. Excellence need not be synonymous with being the best, as "best" connotes the exclusion of others. Our schools, and parents too, must work towards achieving a fine balance between self-reliance and interdependence for the children.

As a part of the curriculum, children should be sensitively exposed to a variety of aesthetic experiences — listening to music and appreciating other art forms. They should be helped to develop an affinity with nature and to appreciate its myriad and layered manifestations. Reading is another indispensable activity. The relative solitude of reading enables children to traverse multiple worlds and gain access to a variety of human experiences across time and space. Without a doubt, it nurtures imagination and creativity. Yoga and sports are an essential part of the school curriculum. These should be given a renewed focus as they play a crucial role in physical, mental and emotional well-being. Yoga plays a distinctive role in spiritual rejuvenation, the unleashing of latent energies and their positive channelisation. All the above-mentioned pursuits nurture essential traits — perseverance, resilience, equanimity of mind, quick decision-making, team spirit, ability to ac-

cept failures.

To supplement these curricular activities, we must have remedial measures in place. Counselling, foremost among these, must be treated as an important part of school life. Counselling is essential to discern signs of depression and isolation at an early stage. Remedial measures can then be taken to restore the child's mental health. Counselling for adolescence issues and for careers is also necessary.

We all realise that the use of technology in education has gained more traction and salience during the pandemic. There is no doubt that education technology and digital resources have been put to vigorous use to keep the teaching-learning process on. Some may be led to believe that technology can even replace brick-and-mortar classrooms. But that does not seem to be the case. The stress among students learning in virtual mode during the pandemic has been a matter of concern. Such stress may also partly be due to the overall changed circumstances caused by the disease. But shifting completely to the virtual learning has also curtailed some of the essential features of a wholesome pedagogy, and seems to have contributed to the stress among children. Sooner or later, the collective human will to survive shall prevail and the pestilence will be defeated. Then, we will shift to a blended mode of learning, in which actual classroom and technology

will work in tandem.

We must take this opportunity to understand that technology is a great enabler but it is not an alternative for the whole-some ecosystem called school. During the pandemic, the use of technology in education has been put to test on an unprecedented scale. We need to draw lessons from this period and shape the evolution of educational technology in a manner that it is organically adaptive to our educational philosophy of collaborative and child-centred learning.

Our policy documents are quite eloquent on all the issues discussed above. Yet, ground realities are far less inspiring. If we want holistic development of our children, if we aspire to have a capable and robust future citizenry, then all stakeholders will have to work with renewed vigour and in unison towards these goals. We must also understand that the pandemic or other such crises may not follow a fixed pattern. We can't fathom the uncertainties of the future. Hence, our children should be psycho-emotionally nurtured to show resilience and adaptability. We can achieve a truly sustainable and cohesive society only if our children can grow into fraternal communities of self-reliant and happy individuals.

The writer is Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Communications and Electronics & IT, Government of India

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

DRAGON'S BREACH

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'India, China, the red lines', (IE, June 24). China's move is deplorable as they are breaching every bilateral treaty. We should aim at resolving, not managing, the dispute. Unfortunately, our policymakers do not appear to have drawn up a long-term plan to fix the matter.

Neha Khatri, Sonipat

WRONG CURE

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'This crisis is different' (IE, June 24). In 2008, the financial crisis induced an economic crisis, and the methods to the fight that crisis might not be helpful today, when we have been facing an economic crisis for some time, now amplified by the COVID-19 shock. We need to push consumption. Our fiscal and monetary measures are only inflating asset prices and not addressing the situation on the ground. Inequality of wealth is also playing a major role in aggravating the situation.

Pradeep Kumar, Chandigarh

MUMBAI LESSONS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Mumbai slowdown' (IE, June 24). Kudos to Mumbai's local administration for aggressively tracing and testing the primary contacts of COVID-infected persons. There is no sure-shot formula for success in fighting the pandemic. So, all

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the states need to work closely with each other by putting political differences aside and learn from each other's best practices. Delhi needs to learn a thing or two from Mumbai.

Bal Govind, Noida

CHEAP WORDS

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'To target PM or not: CWC meet shows strains within' (IE, June 24). Rahul Gandhi will do well to listen to some of his party leaders who advised him not to use abusive language against the prime minister. Criticism should differentiate difference between "PM" as an institution and the incumbent as an individual.

YG Chouksey, Pune



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Sd/- Principal,
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Opposite Masjid Ibrahim, Hyderpora Srinagar PIN No.190014
E-mail: **pcd.bypass@gmail.com** Phone-FAX:-0194-2435218

CORRIGENDUM

Subject:- Strengthening of service Road on both sides of NH-44 from Km. 0.000 to Km. 0.600 and Km. 4.500 to Km.11.500 in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir on EPC mode. **Job No.NH-501-J&K-2019-2020/81.** "Regarding **Maintenances Period/ Defective Liability Period Thereof**"

Reference:- This office NIT No NIT No PCD-RnB-18 of 2020-21 Dated: 08/06/2020 issued Vide endorsement No. PCD- 1st/ NIT/824-40 Dtd: 08-06-2020

For the above mentioned NIT pertaining o the above mentioned NIT pertaining to the above work, following corrigendum is issued which is as under:-
"The Defect Liability Period of the work Shall be three (3) Years without maintenance Charges instead of Defect Liability Period of Five (5) Years from the actual date of completion and the same shall be deemed to the modified at all places in the NIT, RFP, Agreement and Schedules including in Article 14, 17 etc accordingly".

Executive Engineer
R&B Project Circle Division 1st.
Srinagar.

No:- NIT/Corr/ Dtd: 06.2020
DIPK-893



JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)
3RD FLOOR, PRAGATI SADAN, KUTCHERY ROAD, RANCHI - 834001, JHARKHAND.
Ph No.:+91-651-2225878
CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752, e-mail Id-juidco limited@gmail.com

NIT No.: JUIDCO/FO/KT-BB/Cons/2020/343
Date: 24.06.2020

Notice Inviting Short Tender National Competitive Bidding

1.	Name of the Work	Request for Proposal for selection of consultant for preparation of Detailed Project Report and providing Project Management Consultancy services for balance work of under construction Flyover from Yogoda Ashram, Bahubazar to Shantinagar, Kokar via Kantatoli Chowk in Ranchi, Jharkhand.
2.	Mode of bid submission	Online Tender
3.	Tender Fee & Bid Security	Cost of Tender Document: Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand) only (Non-Refundable) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) : Rs.8,00,000/- (Rupees eight Lakh) only
4.	Date & Time of publication of Tender on website	26.06.2020 at 15:00 Hrs.
5.	Date & Time of pre-bid meeting	03.07.2020 at 15:00 Hrs.
6.	Last Date & Time for submission of online bids	10.07.2020 at 17:00 Hrs.
7.	Last Date & Time of submission of EMD and Tender fee (Hard Copies)	11.07.2020 at 16:00 Hrs.
8.	Date & Time of bid opening	11.07.2020 at 17:30 Hrs.
9.	Bid submission address	Jharkhand Urban Infrastructure Development Company Ltd, 3rd Floor, Pragati Sadan, Kutchery Road Ranchi-834001.
10.	Helpline no.	+91651 2225878

Note: Only e-tenders will be accepted.
Further details are available on Jharkhand Government e-procurement website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

Sd/- Project Director (Tech)
JUIDCO Ltd. Ranchi.

PR 229901 (Urban Development) 20-21 (D)



U.P. Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Ltd.
(ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company)
Visheshwaraiya Bhawan Gomtingar, Lucknow

Notice Inviting e-TENDER

The Project Manager, Banda Unit, BANDA invites for and on behalf of Managing Director U.P. Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Ltd. online percentage rate bids in two bid system for the following work:
NIT No:02/G.M.(Jhansil Zone)/RNN...../20-21, Dated 22.06.2020, Name of work: CONSTRUCTION OF 02 BLOCK TRANSIT HOSTEL IN POLICE LINE AT DISTRICT BANDA (U.P.) Estimated Bid Value: Rs. 1688.81 Lakh (Civil Works : Rs. 1340.82 Lakh, Electrical Work Rs. 347.99 Lakh) Earnest Money: Rs. 25.00 Lakh, Period of Completion : 18 months including rainy season Last time and date of submission of bid: 05.00 PM on Dt. 13.07.2020.
The bid forms and other details can be obtained / downloaded from the website <https://etender.up.nic.in> The NIT is also available on <http://www.upnn.co.in>.



PUNJAB HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION
E-Block, 2nd Floor, Phase-8, (Sector-62) Punjab School Education Board Complex, Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar (Mohali), PUNJAB
Phone: 0172-2232243 & 2232247
Visit us at: punjabhealth.co.in
Email: procmedicinephsc@gmail.com, managerprocphsc@gmail.com
proc.directorphsc@gmail.com

Bid Ref. No.: e-tender/PHSC/Proc/RC/Computers and peripherals/2020/13
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS FOR ALL IN ONE COMPUTERS, UPS, LASER PRINTERS, BAR CODE READERS, BAR CODE PRINTERS, LAPTOPS & MULTI FUNCTIONAL PRINTERS.
The Punjab Health Systems Corporation, Mohali (Department of Health & Family Welfare, Punjab) invites online bids through <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> for All in One Computers, Laser Printers, UPS, Bar Code Printers, Bar Code Scanners, Laser Printers and Multi Functional Printers as per details enumerated in the tender document available on the Website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>.
Schedule of important activities/Key Data in this regard is as under:-
1. **Date, Time and Venue of Pre-bid Conference:** 02.07.2020 at 11.00 A.M. in the O/o PHSC at above mentioned address.
2. **Closing Date and Time:** 20.07.2020 upto 3.00 P.M.
3. For details log on <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>.
4. Corrigendum/Amendment if any will only be published on website: <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>.

MANAGING DIRECTOR

40016/Pb.



राजस्थान आवासन मण्डल
क्रमांक:-अति.मु.अति.तृतीय/2020-21/50
दिनांक :- 16.06.2020

निविदा सूचना संख्या- 03/2020-21
(1) Construction and Development of "Kota Chaupati" at CHS, Kunhari, Kota.
(2) Remetalling and Carpeting of internal roads at CHS, Kunhari, Kota.
(3) Construction of community center at Aravali Vihar, Ph-II, Bhiwadi.
राजस्थान आवासन मण्डल की ओर से विभिन्न आवासीय योजनाओं के लिये उपयुक्त श्रेणी के राजस्थान आवासन मण्डल में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं "अन्य विभागों में एए एवं ए श्रेणी के पंजीकृत संवेदकों से निष्पत्ति प्रपत्र में ऑन लाइन ई-प्रोक्वायरेमेंट प्रक्रिया से बिड आमंत्रित की जाती है।
निविदा की कुल लागत रुपये 606.30 लाख (03 करोड़)
ऑन लाइन बिड मिलने की दिनांक 25.06.2020 सांय 6:00 बजे से 16.07.2020 तक
ऑन लाइन बिड एवं निष्पत्ति प्रपत्र अपलोड करने की दिनांक 25.06.2020 सांय 6:00 बजे से 16.07.2020 तक
निविदा अनुसार डिमाण्ड ड्राफ्ट व अन्य मूल प्रपत्र मौखिक रूप से कार्यालय में जमा कराने की दिनांक 17.07.2020 सांय 5:00 बजे तक
ऑन लाइन मद संख्या 1 व 2 की तकनीकी बिड एवं मद संख्या 03 की वित्तीय बिड खोलने की तिथि 21.07.2020 प्रातः 11.00 बजे
ऑन लाइन मद संख्या 1 व 2 की वित्तीय बिड खोलने की तिथि 30.07.2020 प्रातः 11.00 बजे
यूनिक बिड नम्बर (UBN) मद संख्या - 1 RHB2021WSOB00087
मद संख्या - 2 RHB2021WSOB 00085
मद संख्या - 3 RHB2021WSOB 00080
तकनीकी बिड एवं वित्तीय बिड आवासीय अभियन्ता - ई-प्रोक जयपुर के कार्यालय में उपपक्वानुसार खोली जायेगी। 'ई-टेंडरिंग प्रक्रिया में विधिलि कार्यों हेतु राजस्थान आवासन मण्डल में समुचित वर्ग के पंजीकृत संवेदक एवं "अन्य विभागों के एए एवं ए श्रेणी एवं विद्युत कार्यों हेतु मण्डल में समुचित वर्ग के पंजीकृत संवेदक ही भाग ले सकते हैं। "अन्य विभागों में "एए" श्रेणी के पंजीकृत संवेदक 1.50 करोड से अधिक एवं "ए" श्रेणी के पंजीकृत संवेदक 1.50 करोड से अधिक एवं 3.00 करोड तक के कार्यों की निविदा में ही भाग ले सकते। निविदा से संबंधित समस्त विवरण एवं शर्तें वेबसाईट www.urban.rajasthan.gov.in/rhb व वेबसाईट <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> पर देखा जा सकता है।
Samwad/C/1412/2020-21 अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता,तृतीय, जयपुर



POLICE HEADQUARTERS JAMMU & KASHMIR JAMMU
Phone/Fax No: 0194-2443031/ 2443032(Sg)
0191-2459029/2459255(Jmu) (Provision Section)
Website: www.jkpolice.gov.in
Email: phqjnk@nic.in

Gist of e-NIT No. 25 of 2020 Dated 19.06.2020
E-tenders are invited from reputed vendors/firms/entities for **Procurement and Installation of Public Addressing System integrated with Video Conferencing system for Conference Hall APHQ J&K Srinagar as per specifications detailed out in Annexure- "A" of e-NIT**. The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, Bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the J&K e-Procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in from **19.06.2020 (1400 hours) to 11.07.2020 upto 1800 hours**. Bidders submitting their bids on-line shall only be accepted and no document other than those mentioned in the e-NIT shall be accepted manually.
The tenders (technical bids only) will be opened online on **13.07.2020 at 1100 hours** at Police Headquarters J&K, Gulshan Ground Jammu/ Srinagar. In case of unforeseen circumstances, the date of opening will be next working day or as notified separately.
The intending bidders shall email their queries pertaining to this e-NIT for clarification at phqjnk@jkpolice.gov.in. The same shall be mailed within 10 days from the date of floating this e-NIT beyond which no query shall be entertained.
Detailed tender documents (SBD) with terms and conditions are available on J&K e-Procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in.

Sd/-
Rayees Mohammad Bhat (IPS)
AIG (Provision & Transport),
For Director General of Police,
J&K Jammu.

No. Prov-H/Elect-05/2020-21/27741-55
Dated: 19.06.2020
DIPK-NB-911



पश्चिमांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि. विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-द्वितीय, बागपत अत्यकालीन-निविदा सूचना

अत्यकालीन-निविदा सूचना: निम्नलिखित कार्यों/ आपूर्ति के लिए अनुभवी, विवरणनीय एवं रजिस्टर्ड ठेकेदारों से मुहबंद अलग-अलग निविदायें दो भागों में आमंत्रित हैं जो दिनांक 11.07.2020 को 12.00 बजे तक प्राप्त की जायेगी और उसी दिन 14.00 बजे सार्वजनिक रूप से खोली जायेगी। निविदा के प्रथम भाग में एग्जेंसी द्वारा पैन कार्ड, आधार कार्ड तथा निविदा मूल्य एवं धरोहर राशि को धनराशि खण्ड कार्यालय के खाते में आर.टी.जी.एस/ एन.ई.एफ.टी. के माध्यम से जमा कराई जायेगी तथा बैंक में जमा का साक्ष्य यू.टी.आर. सख्या/ पे-इन.स्क्रिप मूल की प्रति संलग्न की जायेगी। द्वितीय भाग दरे प्रस्तुत करनी होगी। निविदा खुलने की तिथि पर अवकाश होने की दशा में यह निविदाएं उपरोक्तानुसार अगले कार्यदिवस में खोली जायेगी। अधोहस्ताक्षरी को अपूर्ण, त्रुटिपूर्ण अथवा समस्त निविदाएं निरस्त करने का अधिकार पूर्णतः सुरक्षित रहेगा। अत्यकालीन निविदा सं. 07/ 2020-21 विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड-चतुर्थ खेकड़ा के क्षेत्राधीन 33/11 केवी विद्युत उपकेन्द्र फिरोजपुर पर क्षतिग्रस्त हुए 5 एम.वी.ए. पॉवर परिवर्तक के स्थान पर 33/11 केवी विद्युत उपकेन्द्र खड़ा प्रहलादपुर पर लगे 5 एम.वी परिवर्तक को वाहन द्वारा लाकर 33/11 केवी विद्युत उपकेन्द्र फिरोजपुर पर क्षतिग्रस्त परिवर्तक के स्थान पर स्थापित करने का कार्य समस्त प्रत्येक निविदाओं की धरोहर राशि 2000.00 निर्धारित निविदा शुल्क राशि 500+18 प्रतिगत जी.एस.टी. अप्रतिदेय सहित एवं धरोहर राशि एन.ई.एफ.टी./ आर.टी.जी.एस. के माध्यम से पंजाब नेशनल बैंक, खेकड़ा के खाता सं.- 64440057000000019 आई.एफ.सी. कोड पी.यू.एन.बी.-0644400 में जमा करारकर बैंक जमा का साक्ष्य यथा शीघ्र, यू.टी.आर. संख्या पे-इन रिलफ की मूलप्रति अन्य आवश्यक प्रपत्रों के साथ दिनांक 11.07.2020 को 12.00 बजे तक प्राप्त किये जा सकते हैं। अन्य नियम एवं शर्तें निविदा प्रपत्र के साथ संलग्न हैं। कृपया विस्तृत सूचना निगम की Website: www.pvvn1.org पर देखो जा सकती है। विद्युत हेल्प लाइन 1800-180-3002 (मेरठ), 1800-180-8752 (लखनऊ) राष्ट्रीय हित में बिजली बचावें। हस्ता./- अधिशासी अभियन्ता, पत्रांक- 736/ वि.वि.ख-द्वि. बा./ विज्ञापन, दिनांक: 24.06.2020



NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)
Tender Notice No:-04/2020-21

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 "Fabrication, supply, erection and commissioning of pneumatic pipe lines for compressed air at newly constructed MEMU Car shed KJGY SRE".
The key details are as follows:
Open Tender No. 30-EL-MEMU-T-04-20-21
Name of works Fabrication, supply, erection and commissioning of pneumatic pipe lines for compressed air at newly constructed MEMU Car shed KJGY SRE.
Approximate Cost ₹ 17,08,119/-
Earnest Money ₹ 34,200/-
Completion Period 90 (Ninety) days 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 ₹ 2000/- (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> 1421/20

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida G.B Nagar, (U.P.)
Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors / firms for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened / downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com & <https://etender.up.nic.in>. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes / amendments & corrigendum etc.

S.No.	Job no.	Name of Work	Amount
1	09/SPE/PE(PH) -I/E-T/2020-21	Selection of Management Consultancy Firms for undertaking tasks under Swachh Bharat Mission	4313794.00

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated **01/07/2020 upto 5.00 PM**. Pre-Qualification shall be opened / downloaded on dated **02/07/2020 at 11.00 AM**.
Sr. Project Engineer (Public Health), Noida.

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA



NORTHERN RAILWAY
e-OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

Divisional Engineer-1/Northern Railway, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of India invites e-tender on the prescribed form for the under noted work.

Name of work with location, cost of work and Earnest money	1 Hiring of Truck and multi utility vehicle (MUV) for leading of P-way material, manpower & machinery from station to station in Delhi Division and to out of Delhi Division & other miscellaneous works for Day to day maintenance to Track works in the section of ADEN/Paripat and Hiring of vehicle for day to day inspection & other works for the official use of DEN-1/DLI. Approx. Cost: Rs. 13598470.48. Earnest Money: Rs. 218000.00 Completion Period: 24 Months.				
Date and time of submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15.00 hrs on 17.07.2020 opening of e-tender at 15.00 hrs. on 17.07.2020.				
Website particulars, published-tender, notice location etc complete details of tender can be seen and web site where the tender form can be downloaded	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in				
<table><tr><td>1</td><td>Rs. 11800/-</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Tender cost should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note: FDR or Demand Draft will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter No. 2015/CE-1/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016.</td></tr></table>	1	Rs. 11800/-	Tender cost should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note: FDR or Demand Draft will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter No. 2015/CE-1/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016.		
1	Rs. 11800/-				
Tender cost should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note: FDR or Demand Draft will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter No. 2015/CE-1/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016.					
Similar nature of work	Any Engineering work or transportation work.				
No. 128-W/280(Tender Notice/20-21/NV-1 (NIT-2)(1) Dated: 23.06.2020	1422/2020				

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



CENTRAL ORGANISATION FOR RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION
1, NAWAB YUSUF ROAD, CIVIL LINES/PRAYAGRAJ-211001 FAX No.: 0532-2407797

E-Tender Notice No. CORE-SNS-SEA-01
On behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Material Manager, Central Organization Railway Electrification, Prayagraj, invites following E-TENDER:-
Name of work:- Engagement of freight forwarder cum clearing agent for lifting the imported materials from defferent Europian Ports (Hamburg & Marseille) to Kolkata Port through sea, their clearances and transportation from Kolkata Port to Consignee at Rampurhat (West Bangal)

Bidding Type	Normal Tender	Bidding System	Single Packet System
Tender Type	Open	Date Time of Uploading Tender	22.06.2020, 12:04
Tender Closing Date Time	21.07.2020 15:00	Pre-Bid Query Date Time	Not Applicable
Pre-Bid Required	No	Tendering Section	ELECT MISC
Advertised Value (₹)	1019096.00	Bidding Unit	Validity of Offer (Days)
Bidding Style	Single Rate for Each Schedule Item	Validity of Offer (Days)	90
Earnest Money (₹)	20400.00	Period of Completion	12 Months
Tender Doc. Cost (₹)	2000.00	Contract Category	Expenditure
Contract Type	Service	Are Joint Venture (JV)	No
Bidding Start Date	07.07.2020	firms allowed to bid	Revenue
Ranking Order For Bids	Lowest to Highest	Expenditure Type	

Note: 1) The Complete information of above E-Tender and Tender document are available on IREPS website i.e. <http://ireps.gov.in>. Only E-Bids shall be accepted against above Tender. The e-bids may be submitted before 15.00 hrs on tender opening date.
2) In case of any technical difficulty, helpdesk of CRIS/New Delhi may be approached. The Telephone numbers are: 011-24105180, 24102855, 24100746, 24671469.

PR/421/2020 Adk "Serving Customers with a Smile" www.ireps.gov.in



KASHMIR POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED (KPDCL)
(Fully Owned Government of J&K Undertaking)
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (Planning) PLANNING & PROCUREMENT WING, KASHMIR
Email: apndces@gmail.com
e-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE

e- NIT NO: SE/EPL/e-NIT-06 of 2020-21
For and on behalf of the Managing Director, KPDC, Superintending Engineer, Planning Circle, P&P Wing, KPDC, invites online e-bids from Govt. registered original equipment manufacturers for supply of 33kV Outdoor Vacuum Circuit Breakers for the requirement of KPDCCL as under:

Sr. No.	Material Description	For ECSD Pamproe (Qty. in No.s)
1.	33KV OUTDOOR VACUUM CIRCUIT BREAKERS FOR USE AT 33/11KV SUBSTATION	25

The complete tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidder/tenders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below. Bidding Documents contain Qualifying Criteria for Bidders, Specifications, Bill of Quantities, Terms and Conditions of Contract and other details.

i)	Date and time of downloading/Sale (Start) of Tender Document	22.06.2020; 14:00 Hrs
ii)	Date & Time of Download/Sale (End) of Tender Document	13.07.2020; 15:00 Hrs
iii)	Date & Time of Bidding Queries/Clarifications	25.06.2020; 10:00 Hrs to 27.06.2020; 16:00 Hrs
iv)	Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/End)	29.06.2020; 10:00 Hrs to 13.07.2020; 15:00 Hrs
v)	Submission of Hard Copy (end) Date & Time	15.07.2020; 16:00 Hrs in the office of CE P&P wing, PDD Complex, Bemaia, Srinagar
vi)	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	17.07.2020 at 14:00 Hrs
vii)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders
viii)	Venue of Commercial/Technical Bid Opening	Soft Copy Electronically and Hard Copy in the office of CE P&P wing, KPDCCL
ix)	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.500.00 (Rupees Five Hundred only) for local firms of J&K (UT) Rs.5000.00 (Rupees Five thousand Only) for firms outside the J&K. (Non-refundable)
x)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.5000.00 (Rupees Five thousand only) for local firms of J&K and Rs.18800.00 (Rupees One Lac Eighty Eight Thousand only) for firms outside the J&K.

Supertending Engineer Planning (KPDCL)
DIPK-867



कार्यालय नगर विकास प्रन्यास, उदयपुर (राज.)
No.-F-(01)Acct/Contract/2020/71-73
Date: 24-06-2020

ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या: 15/2020-21
न्यास, उदयपुर द्वारा निम्न कार्य मय डिफेन्ट लाईविलिटी अवधि को कि निविदा प्रपत्र में अंकित है के लिये उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-टेंडरिंग के माध्यम से ऑनलाइन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in से दिनांक 25.06.2020 को प्रातः 10.00 बजे से 15.07.2020 को सांयः 6.30 बजे तक **Download /Upload** कर सकते हैं। निष्पत्ति EMD, Tender Fee & Processing Fee दिनांक: 25.06.2020 को प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक: 15.07.2020 को सांय 6.30 बजे न्यास वेब साईट urban.rajasthan.gov.in/uitdaipur पर **Online** ही जमा करा सकते हैं। प्राप्त ऑनलाईन निविदाएं दिनांक: 16.07.2020 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे (तकनीकी बिड) खोली जायेगी।

क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	तामान (लाखों में)	खण्ड
1.	फिरोला झील के समीप स्थित सौराज्या गांव आबादी क्षेत्र में फिरोला झील से निकलने वाले सौराज्या एवं वेस्ट वाटर से फिरोला झील को त्रुटिगत होने से रोक बने हेतु सौराज्या नेटवर्क का कार्य।	771.71	II

विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाईट urban.rajasthan.gov.in/uitdaipur, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in व www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।
UBN : ITU2021WLOB00007 (संजीव शर्मा)



N M D C Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)
BAILADILLA IRON ORE MINE, KIRANDUL COMPLEX Dist - Dantewada , State - Chattisgarh, Pin- 494 556
BIOM/KDL/PER/ADMN/NIT-HI TECH AMBULANCE/2020/Date: 23.06.2020

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Sealed tenders are invited in two bid system for hiring of Two (02) nos. of Advanced Cardiac Life Support Ambulance with drivers on 24 hours duty for performing out-station and local duty for Project Hospital at Bailadilla Iron Ore Mine, Kirandul Complex, Dist - South Bastar Dantewada, State- Chhattisgarh. Initially for a period of two years. The Management of BIOM reserve the right to extend the contract for further one more year based on satisfactory performance and same terms and conditions thereafter.

Name of the work	Estimated cost (Two years)	EMD	Period	Cost of Tender Document
Hiring of two(C2) nos. of Advanced Cardiac Life Support Ambulance with drivers on 24 hours duty	Rs.61.00 Lakhs (Inclusive of GST)	Rs.30,500/- per vehicle	2 years (extendable for further period of one more year based on satisfactory performance)	Rs.5,900/- (including GST @ 18%) (Non-refundable)

Tender documents can be obtained from Dy. General Manager (Per) on payment of Rs.5900/- (Rupees Five thousand and nine hundred only) by DD (Non refundable) drawn in favour of Dy. General. Manager (Fin), NMDC Ltd, BIOM, Kirandul Complex, payable at SBI, Kirandul on any working day during office hours from **25.06.2020 to 21.07.2020**. The tender documents can also be downloaded from NMDC website i.e. www.nmdc.co.in.The last date of tender acceptance is 03.00 PM on **23.07.2020**. Corrigendum and Addenda if any will be posted on our NMDC website only. The prospective bidder should visit

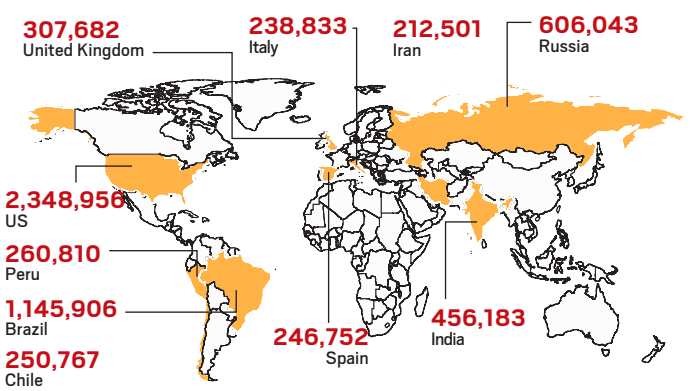


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If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

THE WORLD



TOTAL CONFIRMED: 9,295,365 **DEATH COUNT: 478,289**

Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated at 11 pm on June 24. JHU's India tally and Health Ministry's tally (below) may not match if these are accounted at different times.

Study projects 95k additional TB deaths in India due to Covid

A NEW modelling study has estimated that the Covid-19 pandemic could significantly increase the global burden of tuberculosis due to disruptions to health services, and delays to diagnosis and treatment. In India, it estimates TB will cause an additional 95,000 deaths in the next five years. The study is published in the *European Respiratory Journal*.

Researchers estimated additional TB deaths and cases in China, India and South Africa over the next five years. They hypothesised that social distancing might reduce TB incidence as the bacteria behind the disease is transmitted via droplets — similar to the coronavirus. Even after taking this reduced transmission into account, the most likely scenario was estimated to result in more than 110,000 additional TB deaths (95,000 in India, 13,000 in South Africa and

6,000 in China). In the worst case scenario, this number could rise to up to 200,000 additional deaths, the researchers estimated.

The researchers referred to early anecdotal information from China, India and South Africa that suggests that the number of people being diagnosed and treated for TB has fallen significantly. These three countries make up approximately 40% of the global TB cases. The researchers modelled different scenarios with various implementations of social distancing measures and health service disruption lasting for six months, to come up with their estimates.

The study was conducted by researchers from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and Lancaster University.

Source: London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

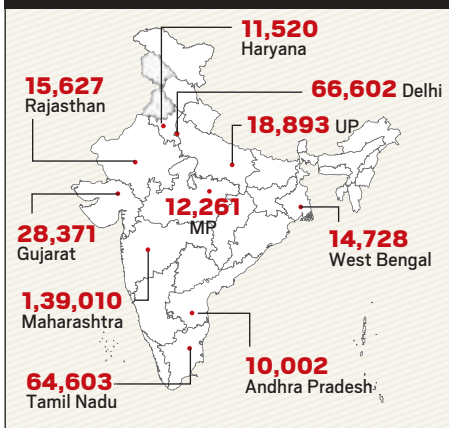


PAPER CLIP

NEW RESEARCH

INDIA COUNT: 4,56,183 (14,476 DEATHS)

TOP 10 STATES



REST OF INDIA

Andaman and Nicobar Islands	50
Arunachal Pradesh	148
Assam	5831
Bihar	8153
Chandigarh	418
Chhattisgarh	2362
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	120
Goa	909
Himachal Pradesh	775
Jammu and Kashmir	6236
Jharkhand	2185
Karnataka	9721
Kerala	3451
Ladakh	932
Manipur	921
Meghalaya	46
Mizoram	142
Nagaland	330
Odisha	5470
Puducherry	402
Punjab	4397
Sikkim	79
Telangana	9553
Tripura	1259
Uttarakhand	2535

Union Health Ministry update as of 11 pm, June 24. Some states may have reported higher numbers. Only states/UTs with at least one case listed above. **2,58,685 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

Evolving strategy on testing

In ICMR's updated strategy, all symptomatic individuals anywhere in India are to be tested for Covid-19. At one stage, ICMR was cautious about testing indiscriminately. A look at how the protocols have evolved

KARISHMA MEHROTRA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

ON TUESDAY, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) made a large shift in Covid-19 testing strategy, calling for "all symptomatic individuals in every part of the country" to be tested. It also urged private hospitals, offices, and public sector units to conduct antibody testing as a surveillance measure.

A look at how ICMR's testing protocols have evolved since the outbreak began:

March: Reserved testing

On March 17, the strategy was far more hesitant than now. "To avoid indiscriminate testing and reducing panic and optimally utilise the resources of the country and scale up facilities for testing," it said, under "Objectives". The strategy focused only on three symptomatic people: international travellers, contacts of a case, and healthcare workers.

"Why should we go on telling people who have no history of travel or any contact with an actual case?" ICMR Senior scientist Nivedita Gupta had said to the Indian Express at the time. "In this process, in a huge country like India, I'm not able to test people who genuinely may need testing because I'm wasting it on futile testing. Though we are maintaining a stringent inventory, we also need to make sure that we are not in a situation where I exhaust all my testing capacity in futile testing and tomorrow, if there is an upsurge in cases, I say that I have exhausted all my tests."

At the time, private players had not yet been roped in to conduct testing, and the ICMR was just instituting processes to expand lab capacity. At the end of March, it gradually expanded testing to include hospitalised patients with severe acute respiratory illness (SARI) as well as asymptomatic contacts of cases. The new focus ran alongside the agency's first surveillance method — testing SARI patients to see if any were positive for Covid-19.

April: New techniques

ICMR advised rapid antibody tests in



A sample collected for rapid antigen test in New Delhi. PTI

hotspots and migrant centres on April 4, leaving the decision to state governments. These tests are not diagnostic, but can determine if a patient has previously had coronavirus. States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Chhattisgarh were eager to undertake this type of surveillance.

Later, the ICMR reversed its decision, given a batch of faulty kits from China. There also was divergence between the World Health Organization and ICMR in the beginning of April, with the former saying antibody testing should be used for research. Subsequent advisories from ICMR detailed antibody testing as "supplementary" to RT-PCR testing.

The ICMR also advised enhanced testing in 20 hotspots, including Nizamuddin and Dilshad Garden in Delhi, Pathanamthitta in Kerala, and Mumbai and Pune.

On April 9, it added symptomatic patients in hotspots, large migration gatherings and evacuee centres to the testing strategy. New ICMR research at the time also found the percentage of random positive samples of Covid-19 among SARI patients across the country has increased incrementally over the past month.

On April 13, the ICMR detailed pooled sampling in areas with few cases or low positivity rates. If any positive sample comes from a pool of samples, then individual testing fol-

lows. States like UP jumped onto the strategy.

The ICMR still faced a backlash for lack of testing. Responding to a question at the daily briefing, Dr R R Gangakhedkar, head of epidemiology and infectious diseases at ICMR, said: "As for testing strategy, your chances of testing positive become less as you near the infection time point. It comes positive when there are symptoms, so keeping in mind the cost effectiveness and risk-based approach, your yield will become less the sooner you test. Even to think about changing the testing strategy now... I cannot say."

May: Expanded protocols

On May 18, ICMR added symptomatic migrants, hospitalised patients, frontline workers to the testing strategy. The inclusion of all "hospitalised patients who develop ILI symptoms" indicated the concern over patients contracting the disease in hospital. And the inclusion of "returnees/migrants", irrespective of contact history or whether they are travelling from a hotspot, signalled concerns about possible community transmission.

Also in May, the Health Ministry decided not to test mild and moderate cases before their discharge or after a home isolation period.

The government also initiated a nation-

wide sero-survey to assess the spread. This was also spurred by ICMR's validation of its own "indigenous" antibody test kit.

On May 30, ICMR reintroduced advice to states to use antibody tests, focusing on workers who have returned from other states, those who live in dense settings or poorly ventilated buildings; people who work in certain sectors; people in containment zones; police and paramilitary personnel, and prison officials, among others.

By May-end, the positivity rate in India had begun to steepen just as the country began testing over 1 lakh samples a day. Along with the expanding testing strategy, facilities and types of kits also gradually increased.

June: rapid antigen tests

The ICMR approved on June 15 a new on-site diagnostic kit for containment zones and healthcare settings, which can give rapid, low-cost results without needing a laboratory.

In containment zones, the rapid antigen test was encouraged for all people with fever and cough and all contacts of a case who are direct, asymptomatic, and have high co-morbidities. In healthcare settings, the test will be used for all patients of influenza-like illnesses suspected of having contracted Covid-19 and asymptomatic patients who are immunosuppressed or have other co-morbidities. The test will also be available for asymptomatic patients undergoing certain procedures such as neurosurgeries, dental work, and dialysis. While positive results will be considered confirmed, in case of negative results, an RT-PCR would be done for reconfirmation.

Maharashtra, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, and UP have procured rapid antigen testing kits. "All the states are gearing up now to start the testing with this and almost all states will eventually buy it. Many hospitals are also inquiring and placing the order for any symptomatic individuals in their hospital with a heavy viral load," said an official from SD Biosensor, which is supplying the test kit.

The advisory on June 23 said: "Despite new types of testing kits being added, access to testing still remains a huge challenge in a large country like India."

How diesel got costlier than petrol in Delhi

KARUNJIT SINGH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

FOR THE first time, the price of diesel in Delhi has surpassed that of petrol: Diesel is up by 48 paise per litre to Rs 79.88, compared to Rs 79.76 for petrol. Diesel prices remain lower than those of petrol elsewhere in the country. The price of petrol has risen by Rs 8.50/litre and that of diesel by Rs 10.50 since June 7, when oil marketing companies (OMCs) began revising prices after an 82-day hiatus during which the international crude price fell below \$20/barrel.

Why has this happened in Delhi?

The price gap between petrol and diesel was Rs 7.30 on May 5 when the Delhi government increased VAT on diesel to 30% from 16.75% and on petrol to 30% from 27%. Diesel also attracts an additional air ambience levy of Rs 250/kilolitre. This brought the diesel

DIESEL PRICE HIGHER ONLY IN DELHI				
STATE/REGION	PETROL		DIESEL	
	Sales tax 30% VAT	Price (₹/lt)	Sales tax ₹250/kl air ambience charges + 30% VAT	Price (₹/lt)
Delhi		79.76		79.88
Gujarat	17% VAT + 4% cess on town rate & VAT	77.26	17% VAT + 4% cess on town rate & VAT	77.18
Karnataka	35% sales tax	82.35	24% sales tax	75.51
Mumbai, Navi Mumbai	26% VAT + Rs.10.12/litre additional tax	86.54	24% VAT + Rs.3.00/litre additional tax	78.22
Tamil Nadu	15% + Rs.13.02 per litre	83.04	11% + Rs.9.62/litre	77.17

Source: PPAC

price within Rs 2 of the price of petrol at the time; the gap has closed since with OMCs hiking diesel prices more than petrol prices. According to experts, there is very little difference between international prices of petrol and diesel currently, leading to taxes becoming the key component in the price

difference. The prices of diesel and petrol are almost equal in Ahmedabad as the VAT on both petrol and diesel is comparable.

While other states have also hiked levies on both fuels, most have maintained lower tax rates on diesel than on petrol, so that diesel has remained cheaper than petrol de-

spite greater hikes in diesel prices than petrol prices over the last 18 days.

Why were prices frozen, and why are they rising now?

OMCs stopped revising prices from March 16 to June 7 when international prices of crude oil hit historic lows. During this time, the only revisions in the prices of diesel and petrol were a result of changes in state taxes.

Representatives of Indian Oil Corporation, India's largest OMC, said they had decided to stop revising prices in line with international prices of petrol and diesel. Had they done so during the fall in the prices of crude in late March and April, it would have led to "negative margins" for the OMCs. Now, the OMCs are revising domestic prices of petrol and diesel are rising in line with international prices of petrol and diesel. And international prices of both diesel and petrol are rising due to increasing demand as countries ease Covid-induced restrictions.

₹ 150,000 cr plus: the govt stimulus for rural areas post lockdown

HARISH DAMODARAN
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

THERE ARE many parallels one can draw between the novel coronavirus-induced lockdown (*gharbandi*) and demonetisation (*notebandi*), in terms of their impact on India's farm economy. Both resulted in the same thing — demand destruction — albeit through different routes.

Notebandi caused a haemorrhaging of liquidity from the predominantly cash-based farm produce markets. In the pre-demonetisation era, it wasn't uncommon for individual traders to purchase produce worth Rs 50 lakh or even Rs 1 crore daily during the peak arrival season and make payments to farmers entirely in cash. With demonetisation, and also restrictions on cash transactions introduced in the 2017-18 Union Budget, wholesale *mandis* were suddenly denuded of liquidity and, thereby, demand.

In *gharbandi*, demand destruction was wrought not by a lack of cash, but of buyers themselves. And these were institutional buyers, as opposed to households. The closure of hotels, restaurants, tea stalls, street food joints, sweetmeat shops, hostels and canteens — in addition to no wedding receptions and other public functions — led to a collapse of out-of-home food consumption. Even household-level food consumption was affected by falling incomes (in respect of poor and lower middle class families sud-

denly finding themselves without work) and reduced requirement due to forced inactivity (as with the rich and better off).

Either way, the outcome was the same. *Notebandi* and *gharbandi* both basically "flattened" farm produce prices, by shifting the demand curves to the left. The demand drop wasn't due to prices going up. Rather, with consumption being limited to homes — manpower shortages forced many food companies to also curtail production in factories and, hence, cut raw material purchases — there was less demand now for milk, potatoes or tomatoes even at the same price. This wasn't, in other words, simply a "movement along the demand curve", but a "leftward shift in the demand curve".

The other similarity between demonetisation and lockdown is that both struck just after farmers had produced a bumper rabi crop — the former in April-June 2017 and the latter barely three years later.



Notwithstanding these and other similarities — both followed overnight 8 pm announcements by Prime Minister Narendra Modi — there are differences between the situations brought about by *gharbandi* and *notebandi*.

To start with, when demonetisation happened, the farm sector had already gone through tough times, with back-to-back droughts in 2014 and 2015 on top of a global

GROWTH IN GROSS VALUE ADDED (% YEAR-ON-YEAR)

	Constant Prices	Current Prices		
	Farm* General	Farm* General		
Apr-Jun 2018	3.84	6.95	6.69	11.92
Jul-Sep 2018	2.54	6.06	2.88	11.06
Oct-Dec 2018	1.98	5.62	2.30	9.66
Jan-Mar 2019	1.62	5.55	6.58	9.45
Apr-Jun 2019	2.96	4.76	8.60	8.00
Jul-Sep 2019	3.51	4.33	8.53	6.23
Oct-Dec 2019	3.60	3.47	13.93	7.02
Jan-Mar 2020	5.87	3.04	12.99	6.85

*Agriculture, forestry & fishing. Source: National Statistical Office.

agri-commodity price crash in 2014-15 and 2015-16. Also, *notebandi* primarily hit agriculture and informal enterprises, while organised manufacturing and services sector firms had actually benefited from demonetisation and the GST regime. The lockdown, by contrast, has affected these industries far more than agriculture.

The table shows that agricultural growth had surpassed overall economic growth during the last two quarters of 2019-20, in real as well as nominal terms after factoring in inflation. Even after lockdown came into effect from March 25, farm-related operations — from harvesting and sale of produce in *mandis*, to their intra- and inter-state movement — were exempted from *gharbandi* restrictions.

The second major difference has been government response. India's imports of pulses and edible oils peaked during 2015-16 to 2017-18. This period, before and after demonetisation, saw the government formally embracing "inflation targeting" and also giving the Essential Commodities Act a new lease of life. Stockholding limits were clamped from time to time on onion, potatoes, pulses and sugar, alongside allowing duty-free imports and placing of export curbs. These measures were persisted with despite consumer food price inflation ruling below general retail inflation since September 2016. Import controls came in only towards late 2017, partly in reaction to growing agrarian unrest.

The government's approach during lockdown has, in comparison, been more proactive. One reason for it might be the realisation that agriculture — apart from being "essential" for supplying food in a public health emergency — offered itself as the

only feasible economic activity under the existing circumstances. All administrative steps were, therefore, taken to permit movement of labourers and machines for farmers to harvest their rabi crop.

It is true that farmers this time round, too, have incurred losses on sales of milk and perishable produce, from tomatoes, carrots, capsicum and gourds to grapes, bananas, watermelons and *totapuri* mangoes. The collapse of institutional demand and out-of-home consumption has further hurt poultry, maize and sugarcane growers, whether through slide in prices or non-payment by mills.

But it's also a fact that government agencies have undertaken record procurement of wheat (38.6 million tonnes of the 2019-20 crop, with minimum support price value of over Rs 74,200 crore) and paddy (74.3 mt, including 15.7 mt after March 31 and worth Rs 28,500 crore). Besides, they have bought about 1.8 mt of *chana* (valued at Rs 8,750 crore), 0.8 mt of rapeseed-mustard (Rs 3,300 crore) and 0.3 mt of *tur/arhar* (Rs 1,750 crore). Add the Rs 16,750 crore direct transfers to 8.37 crore farmer accounts as first-installment payment of Rs 2,000 each under the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, the total liquidity pumped into the farm economy, post-lockdown, by the government works out to more than Rs 133,000 crore.

That isn't small money, given the short time span (less than three months) within which this liquidity infusion has taken place and the sheer logistics involved in physical

purchasing grain from farmers without violation of social distancing norms.



Agriculture's newfound importance is also reflected in the two major reforms that might not have come about in normal times. The first one permits sale and purchase of farm produce outside the physical boundaries of state-regulated *mandis*. That, in theory, gives farmers freedom to sell directly to processors, exporters, wholesalers and retailers both within and outside their states, including through electronic trading platforms. The second reform does away with the imposition of FCA stockholding limits on food-stuffs, save under extraordinary conditions. These were powers that this very government had, ironically, been invoking until recently.

It took an all-round economic crisis, which Covid-19 brutally lay bare, to recognise the value and potential of Indian agriculture. If the Rs 17,622 crore of wage payments made under MGNREG from April 1 is also accounted for, the government's total spend on farmers and rural workers in the past three months will be well in excess of Rs 150,000 crore. With the Covid situation in cities showing little improvement, it is clearly laying all hopes of an economic recovery on Bharat.

(A different version of this article appeared this week in India in Transition, published by the Center for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania.)

TOP OF THE WORLD



Lee Hsien Yang, brother of Singapore PM Lee Hsien Loong

ASIA

Singapore PM's brother joins opposition party ahead of polls

Singapore: Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's family feud has spilled into politics, with his estranged younger brother joining an opposition party ahead of general elections next month. Lee Hsien Yang said Wednesday he has joined the Progress Singapore Party because he is concerned about issues such as governance and transparency, but declined to say whether he will run in the July 10 polls. The party was launched a year ago by former ruling party lawmaker Tan Cheng Bock.

USA

Indian eatery vandalised in New Mexico

Washington: An Indian restaurant owned by a Sikh man in the city of Santa Fe in the US state of New Mexico was broken into and vandalised with hate messages scrawled on its walls, according to a media report. The damage caused to India Palace restaurant is estimated to be worth \$100,000, the Santa Fe Reporter newspaper reported on Tuesday. The vandalism is being investigated by local police and the FBI, it said. The Sikh American Legal Defence and Education Fund (SALDEF), a non-profit civil rights organisation, has condemned the incident.

PAKISTAN

Foundation stone laid for Islamabad's 1st Hindu temple

Islamabad: Pakistan has started the construction process of a Rs 10 crore Hindu temple — the first in Islamabad. The Krishna temple will come up in a 20,000 sq ft plot at the capital's H-9 area. The groundbreaking ceremony for the temple was performed by Parliamentary Secretary on Human Rights Lal Chand Malhi on Tuesday. The Hindu population in Islamabad has increased significantly in the last two decades and, therefore, the temple was necessary, the Dawn News quoted Malhi as saying.



PUTIN HOLDS PARADE ON EVE OF KEY VOTE

Russian President Vladimir Putin with Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko, leader of Georgian breakaway region of Abkhazia Aslan Bzhania, Moldovan President Igor Dodon and Tajik President Emomali Rahmon at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier after the Victory Day Parade in Moscow. The parade was postponed from May 9 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. *Reuters*

■ President Vladimir Putin reviewed the Red Square military parade, which critics said was designed to lift his lower-than-usual ratings on the eve of a nationwide vote that could extend his rule until 2036.

■ Putin watched as intercontinental ballistic missile launchers trundled past, nuclear-capable bombers flew overhead, and columns of tanks and over 14,000 troops marched past under hot sunshine.

■ The parade was held on the eve of a nationwide vote, from June 25 to July 1, on constitutional changes, including one that would allow Putin two more six-year terms as President if re-elected.

Pak to remain on FATF grey list

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

PAKISTAN is likely to remain on the grey list of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for failing to comply with the global terrorist financing watchdog's deadline to prosecute and penalise terrorist financing in the country.

Source said the decision, taken at the third and final plenary meeting on Wednesday under the Chinese Presidency of Xiangmin Liu, will be announced soon.

At the FATF meeting chaired by China in Paris in February this year, Islamabad had been told that "all deadlines" had expired and if they didn't prosecute and penalise terrorist financing by June 2020, the watchdog would take action with financial consequences.

At the Paris plenary, the FATF had expressed serious concerns over Pakistan's failure to complete its 27-point action plan in line with the agreed timelines —

At an FATF meeting in February, Islamabad had been told that 'all deadlines' had expired and if they didn't prosecute and penalise terrorist financing by June, the watchdog would take action

which ended in September 2019. Wednesday's development came on a day when Pakistan expressed its disappointment over the US blocking a proposal to designate an Indian national in Afghanistan as a global terrorist. "We are disappointed that Pakistan's proposal to designate Venumadhav Dongara as a terrorist has been objected to," Pakistan's Foreign ministry said on Wednesday.

But Pakistan expressed hope that the listing requests of other

three Indian nationals would be given due consideration by the UNSC 1267 Sanctions Committee in an objective and transparent manner. Sources said they would mount a diplomatic campaign, with China's help, to convince members of the UNSC.

In Islamabad, the foreign ministry said Pakistan had proposed the designation of four Indian nationals in 2019 under the United Nations 1267 Sanctions List — namely Venumadhav Dongara, Ajay Mishra, Gobinda Patnaik, and Angara Appaji. It alleged that these individuals were financing, sponsoring and organising terrorism inside Pakistan by providing financial, technical and material support to terrorist groups including TTP, Jamaat-ul-Ahrar and others.

As a result of travel restrictions caused by Covid-19, the FATF is meeting virtually. Germany takes over presidency of the FATF in July for a year.

Dubai: Indian couple murdered

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DUBAI, JUNE 24

AN INDIAN businessman and his wife were allegedly murdered by a Pakistani man inside their villa in Dubai during a break-in and robbery bid, according to a report.

Hiren Adhiya and Vidhi Adhiya, both in their 40s, were killed inside their villa at the Arabian Ranches. Dubai Police arrested the Pakistani man in less than 24 hours, Gulf News reported.

Brigadier Jamal Al Jallaf, Director of Criminal Investigation Department at Dubai Police, said the daughter of the couple called police to report the incident.

The police said the suspect broke into the villa on June 18 while the family was sleeping. He went into the bedroom searching for more valuables. "When the man woke up, the attacker stabbed him. The wife also woke up and the suspect stabbed her," Al Jallaf added.

Black school principal set to defeat long-time Congressman in US primary upset reminiscent of AOC

AGENCIES
WASHINGTON, JUNE 24

JAMAAL BOWMAN, a liberal Black middle-school principal, was ahead in early Democratic primary election results Tuesday in his bid to oust long-time US Representative Eliot Engel from a congressional seat representing part of New York.

If Engel, who has served in Congress for more than 30 years, were to lose, it would echo a similar upset in 2018, when Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez defeated Joseph Crowley, then the No. 4 House Democrat.

Ocasio-Cortez was also on course for victory in her contest against a challenger in a neighboring New York district, in races that tested the strength of the Democratic Party's left wing after moderate Joe Biden be-



Jamaal Bowman speaks to supporters in New York. *Reuters*

came the presumptive presidential nominee.

Bowman, 44, was leading Engel, the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, by 59.48% to 35.31%, the New York state elections board said, with 627 of 732 election precincts reporting.

"Eliot Engel used to say he was a thorn in the side of (Republican President) Donald Trump," Bowman told supporters. "But you know what Donald Trump is

more afraid of than anything else? A Black man with power. That is what Donald Trump is afraid of," Bowman said.

On Twitter, Bowman wrote: "I'm a Black man raised by a single mother in a housing project. That story doesn't usually end in Congress. But today, that 11-year old boy beaten by police is about to be your Representative. I can't wait to get to DC and cause problems for those maintaining the status quo."

OVER 35,000 NEW U.S. CASES ON TUESDAY

Virus cases in US rise to highest level since April

THE NEW YORK TIMES
NEW YORK, JUNE 24

MORE THAN 35,000 new coronavirus cases were identified across the United States on Tuesday, according to a *New York Times* database, the highest single-day total since late April and the third-highest total of any day of the pandemic.

As the United States continues to reopen its economy, case numbers are rising in more than 20 states, mostly in the South and West. Florida on Wednesday reported a new daily high of 5,508 cases. Texas reported more than 5,000 cases on Tuesday, its largest single-day total yet. Arizona added more than 3,600 cases, also a record. And in Washington State, where case numbers are again trending upward, the governor said residents would have to start wearing masks in public.

"This is about saving lives," said Gov. Jay Inslee, a Democrat. "It's about reopening our businesses. And it's about showing respect and care for one another."

The elevated case numbers are a result of worsening conditions across much of the country as well as increased testing, but testing alone does not explain the surge. The percentage of people in Florida testing positive has risen sharply. Increases in hospitalisations also signal the virus's spread. Arizona reported its highest number of virus hospitalisations on Monday. In Texas, more than 4,000 people with the virus are hospitalized, more than double the number at the beginning of June.

"I strongly feel we are moving in the wrong direction and we are moving fast," Mayor Sylvester Turner of Houston said. Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo announced on Wednesday that New York and two neighboring states will begin requiring certain out-of-state travellers entering their states to quarantine for two weeks upon arrival.

The restrictions, which also cover New Jersey and Connecticut, will be based on specific health metrics related to the virus, Cuomo said.



Transporting oxygen cylinders in Conakry, Guinea. *AP*

Scarce medical oxygen leaves many gasping for life worldwide

DONALD G MCNEIL JR
JUNE 24

AS THE coronavirus pandemic hits more impoverished countries with fragile health care systems, global health authorities are scrambling for supplies of a simple treatment that saves lives: oxygen.

Many patients severely ill with Covid-19, the illness caused by the coronavirus, require help with breathing at some point. But now the epidemic is spreading rapidly in South Asia, Latin America and parts of Africa, regions where many hospitals are poorly equipped and lack the ventilators, tanks and other equipment necessary to save patients whose lungs are failing.

Although the machinery needed to generate oxygen is relatively simple, it must be sturdy enough to withstand the dust, humidity and other hazards common in rural hospitals in poor countries. The machines cannot come too soon, doctors said.

In May, the Alliance for International Medical Action treated 123 Covid-19 patients in Congo, said Dr Baweye Mayoum Barka, the charity's representative. Fifty-six of them needed oxygen,

E. Economic divide in oxygen supply

THE ECONOMIC divide exposed by Covid-19, both between countries and within them, is highlighted by the scramble for medical oxygen. Administering oxygen is one of the most crucial interventions in Covid-19 treatment, but it's become a rare commodity in poor nations from Africa to Asia. In the West, oxygen supply to hospitals is seen as essential as water and electricity supply and is widely available. But in poorer countries, medical oxygen is something that can be bought at home for a price, or available in VIP hospitals only. According to the Associated Press, half the world's population does not have access to medical oxygen.

but not enough equipment was available. "So, unfortunately, there were 26 deaths, 70% of them in less than 24 hours," Barka said. **NYT**

Court orders dismissal of case against former Trump aide Flynn

REUTERS & NYT
WASHINGTON, JUNE 24

A US appeals court on Wednesday directed a federal judge to drop a criminal case against President Donald Trump's former national security adviser Michael Flynn for lying to the FBI, handing a victory to the Justice Department in another twist to the politically charged case.

In a 2-1 decision, a panel of the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ruled in favor of Flynn and the Trump administration in preventing U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan from exercising his discretion on whether to grant the department's motion to clear Flynn, who twice pleaded guilty.

The ruling prevents Sullivan from hearing arguments at a July 16 hearing from retired judge John

Gleeson, whom he appointed as a "friend of the court" to argue against dropping the case.

Flynn, a retired Army lieutenant general, was one of several former Trump aides charged under former Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation that detailed Moscow's interference in the 2016 US presidential election.

'Stone case politicised'

Meanwhile, senior law enforcement officials intervened to seek a more lenient prison sentence for Trump's friend and ally Roger Stone for political reasons, a former prosecutor on the case is expected to testify before Congress on Wednesday.

"What I heard — repeatedly — was that Roger Stone was being treated differently from any other defendant because of his relationship to the President," the prosecutor, Aaron S.J. Zelinsky, said.

THEY OFTEN DEFEND CHINA AGAINST CRITICS. BUT WHEN THEY TRIED TO RETURN DURING PANDEMIC, THEY BECAME TARGETS

Trapped abroad, overseas Chinese students rethink their country

LIYUAN
JUNE 24

JAMES LIU has always considered himself a patriot.

With a lump in his throat, he watched a military parade on National Day, China's birthday, that showed a once backward nation that had become strong and powerful. He got goose bumps watching *Wolf Warrior 2*, a *Rambo*-like Chinese blockbuster featuring a superhero veteran who single-handedly rescues his

countrymen trapped abroad.

When China came under attack online, Liu was one of the legions of Chinese students studying abroad who posted in its defense. He condemned the pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong, which he saw as an effort to split a uniting China. After Trump called the coronavirus the "Chinese virus," Liu turned to Twitter to correct those who used the term.

"I was a real little pink," he said, using a somewhat derogatory term for the young, Communist-red Chinese nation-

alists who use the internet as a patriotic battleground to fight those who disparage China.

Then Liu, 21, discovered that the country he had long defended didn't want him back.

The fresh graduate from a Midwestern university had become one of an untold number of Chinese people stranded abroad by the coronavirus pandemic. Flights had vanished. Tickets home were outrageously expensive. The Chinese government, fearful that people like him would bring the virus with them, re-



Many Chinese students abroad were told to stay put. *Reuters*

stricted international flights and told its expatriates to stay put.

When overseas students went online to question why they couldn't fly home, people in China told them to stay away. The students, they said, were spoiled brats who could jeopardize China's success in containing the epidemic. Liu and many other countless Chinese people stranded overseas are, for the first time, running afoul of one of their country's bedrock political principles: National interests come before an individual's needs.

In this case, the stranded students and workers have become a minority group that is expected to sacrifice for the benefit of the majority. That puts them among the ranks of government critics and the Hong Kong pro-democracy protesters — people they have long battled online.

Some of the little pinks are rethinking their relationship with the country — which, in the Chinese context, is the nation, the government and the Communist Party all in one.

"My feelings are increasingly

complicated," Liu wrote on the social media platform Weibo in mid-May. "The country I loved doesn't want me back." Reading the many critical social media posts against overseas students like him, he felt as if he had been "beaten up badly," he said.

Their views could someday help shape China's relationship with the world. Some will grow up to be leaders in business, academia or other institutions. They will most likely remain patriots, but they will have a more nuanced view of their country. **NYT**

17 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 34,868.98 ▼ 561.45 NIFTY: 10,305.30 ▼ 165.70 NIKKEI: 22,534.32 ▼ 14.73 HANG SENG: 24,781.58 ▼ 125.76 FTSE: 6,188.65 ▼ 131.47 DAX: 12,303.73 ▼ 220.03

International market data till 1900 IST



GOLD

₹49,352



RUPEE

₹75.72



OIL

\$40.11



SILVER

₹49,840

Note: Gold, silver rates at spot market in Delhi; gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Brent crude as of 2300 IST

COVID IMPACT
THE FISC

Challenge to economic recovery: Govt curbing expenditure to create headroom for this fiscal stimulus package

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

WITH THE Centre rolling out fresh expenditure rationalisation plans for the July-September quarter, the curtailment of government spending to levels far lower than what was budgeted for this fiscal raises fresh concerns that the economic recovery process could get more drawn out. While the cut in budgeted spending is presumably being done to allow enough headroom to dovetail the stimulus package announced last month, economists point to several key elements of the stimulus package such as the distribution of funds to micro, small and medium enterprises under the 100 per cent Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme struggling to take off, thereby worsening the impact of government expenditure compression that is underway.

Alongside the red flags over growth, concerns being raised over the likelihood of debt-GDP ratio breaching the notional red line of 80 per cent from the current level of about 70 per cent is now being questioned by economists, who point to the perils of being so focused on the debt numbers rather than the immediate task of rekindling GDP growth.

Former Chief Statistician of India Pronab Sen said debt sustainability always remains a concern, but holding down the debt levels should not compromise on GDP growth for which government expenditure is essential. "Holding the debt down in a situation where the GDP is low, maybe continues in the negative, doesn't help you. You can still become unsustainable. So it's a call. If I increase my debt stock, not the ratio, then if the GDP starts growing strongly, it will become sustainable. But the whole issue of debt sustainability is a long-term process... People are talking about 80 per cent. There is no such number. The number really has to do what the nominal GDP would be doing over a long period of time. If by holding down the debt, the GDP growth gets compromised, then you may be moving in the wrong direction altogether," he said.

The government's fiscal stimulus in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic has been restrained with limited cash outgo, a factor which economists said has been driven by the concerns of the debt levels, possibility of exceeding fiscal deficit target by a huge margin and the consequent actions by rating agencies. However, the economic costs of reining in debt are being seen as high in terms of unemployment and loss of lives and livelihood.

Schemes that were part of the stimulus package are struggling to take off, with banks managing to disburse a little over 7 per cent of the amount earmarked under this

The govt's fiscal stimulus in the wake of the pandemic has been restrained with limited cash outgo, a factor that economists said has been driven by the concerns of debt levels

head over the last one month.

Government spending has to increase substantially, Sen said, adding once economy recovers and private investment starts picking up, then the government could start the fiscal consolidation. "Then you bring down the fiscal deficit, and start lowering your debt-GDP ratio. But to hang around and hope that the economy bottoms out by itself, it may work in the long term, but the interim costs in terms of employment, people's livelihoods, perhaps even lives could be very large. So, what is more important, debt sustainability which is something which will hit you much later in time or the tragedy that's playing out today," he said.

An aggressive fiscal policy is the need of the hour and since the revenue slippage estimates are already high, fiscal deficit is anyway going to get pushed to significantly higher levels, said SBI's Group Chief Economic Adviser Soumya Kanti Ghosh. "It is not the right time to have discussions about the ideal debt-GDP ratio. Of course it will deteriorate. Now it's around 72 per cent, it could go beyond 80 per cent, a large part of that would be because of GDP decline. We should now instead think about growth numbers," Ghosh said.

Ghosh added the revival of economy is 60-70 per cent of the sub-optimal level that it was already operating at before the pandemic. "There is talk about V-shaped recovery. This could be a statistical artefact, if the country experiences say a 5 per cent contraction this year, next year the economy can grow 6-7 per cent but that will only take it back to what would have been the 2020 level. We expect the economy to undergo a swoosh-shaped recovery," he said.

India's fiscal metrics have worsened sharply, the government's expenditure restraint notwithstanding, due to the impact of the sharp growth slowdown on revenue, public-sector debt numbers and the fiscal deficit. More than the deficit, though, rating agencies are watching the deterioration of India's fiscal metrics in the context of a prolonged or deep slowdown in growth, which "would invite a ratings downgrade", as Moody's warned in their note on May 8. The IMF Wednesday projected a contraction of 4.5 per cent for the economy in 2020.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

CABINET DECISION: 2% SUBSIDY TO 'SHISHU' BORROWERS UNDER MUDRA YOJNA

Govt brings co-op banks under RBI supervision for better regulation

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

IN ORDER to protect depositors' interests, the government approved plans to bring all urban and multi-state cooperative banks under the direct supervision of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), empowering the central bank to regulate these on the lines of commercial banks. The Union Cabinet Wednesday approved promulgation of an Ordinance to this effect.

"In our country there are 1482 urban cooperatives banks and 58 multi-State cooperative banks. They have been brought under RBI supervision process, which is applicable to scheduled banks. Depositors will get more security because of today's decision," Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said

EXPLAINED
RBI gets more powers

CURRENTLY, URBAN and multi-state cooperative banks are regulated by RBI and Registrar of Cooperative Societies, with the central bank not having powers that it has for commercial banks. Direct RBI supervision and regulation will provide comfort to depositors.

while briefing media about the Cabinet decisions.

These banks have a depositor base of 8.6 crore, who have saved a huge amount of Rs 4.84 lakh crore with these banks, and this decision will provide safety on

their deposits he said. The decision comes in the backdrop of the RBI imposing restrictions on deposit withdrawal at the Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Banks and many other cooperative banks failing in recent period.

Unlike in the case of commercial banks, the RBI till now has no powers to draw up an enforceable scheme of reconstruction of a cooperative bank. The Cabinet had in February approved amendment to Banking Regulation Act to strengthen cooperative banks and avoid PMC Bank like crisis after an announcement was made in the Budget 2020-21 to this effect.

Currently, these banks come under dual regulation of the RBI and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, resulting in regulatory and supervisory lapses at many of these banks.

In another decision, the Cabinet approved a scheme to provide 2 per cent interest subvention to Shishu category of borrowers under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), on loans outstanding as on March 31, 2020. Under Shishu category, lenders provide collateral-free loans of up to Rs 50,000. The interest subvention will be for a period of 12 months to eligible borrowers

About 9.37 crore loan accounts under the Shishu category with a total loan amount of Rs 1.62 lakh crore were outstanding as on March 31, as per government data.

The interest relief will be provided only to those Shishu loan accounts which are not NPA (non performing assets). The scheme, estimated to cost government Rs 1,542 crore, will be implemented through the Small Industries Development Bank of India.

Hinduja brothers in UK High Court over letter dispute

ADITIKHANNA
LONDON, JUNE 24

UK-BASED HINDUJA brothers are locked in a legal dispute in the High Court in England over their billion-dollar family assets, it emerged in a ruling in London. The case has been brought by Srichand Parnand Hinduja, 84, described as the "patriarch" of the family, against brothers GPHinduja, 80, PPHinduja, 75, and APHinduja, 69, and revolves around the "validity and effect" of a letter dated July 2, 2014.

The letter includes statements to the effect that the brothers appoint each other as their executors, and that assets held in any single brother's name belong to all four. PTI

'Concerned' over Chinese shipments, India-based US cos seek DPIIT help

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

INDIA'S BORDER dispute with China has become a cause for concern for American firms manufacturing here, who are feeling an impact on availability of components usually shipped from their facilities in the neighbouring country.

In a letter to Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) secretary Gurusadas Mohapatra, a group representing some of these firms said they were "increasingly concerned" that component parts and other inputs "necessary" to their manufacturing operations here were being detained at the ports.

"Members report that DGFT and Customs authorities have abruptly halted the clearance of industry consignments coming in

from China (and perhaps other destinations) at most major ports and airports in India. To the best of our knowledge, no formal orders issued by the government have been shared with the public, neither has any specific reason been provided as to why these consignments are not being cleared," stated US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) president and CEO Dr Mukesh Agni in the letter dated June 23. The lack of transparency in this process "threatens" business continuity and is "disruptive" to manufacturing operations here, it further read.

"Whilst we support India's ambition to expand its manufacturing capability, we are concerned about the repercussions an unanticipated embargo on the import of goods from neighbouring countries will have on the supply chain and manufacturing. This

will send a chilling signal to foreign investors who look for predictability and transparency," it said.

Agni has sought restoration of port operations or, "at a minimum", that the government publish any change in port policy "to provide the business community with the visibility they need to function." The *Indian Express* reported on June 23 that import consignments from China at ports such as Chennai and Mumbai are learnt to be facing hurdles, with clearances being held up by the Indian Customs authorities.

The disruption in clearances is reported to have emerged over the last fortnight, even as there are no written or verbal instructions from the customs authorities or the CBIC. It is understood that the Customs authorities have hinted at delays without citing any specific reason to importers.

'Passengers wanting to fly to Dubai need specific clearance'

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

DAYS AFTER the Dubai administration allowed residency visa-holders and tourists to arrive into the emirate, flag carrier Air India said that the United Arab Emirates (UAE) aviation regulator has not allowed passengers to fly to the country on repatriation flights.

Those who wish to travel on these flights, Air India said, would need a specific approval from the Embassy of UAE in New Delhi and the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

"...all passengers including the

Indian Nationals who are holding valid Residency Permit/Work Permit of United Arab Emirates and have procured approval of the UAE's Federal Authority for Identity and Citizenship-UAE (ICA) of United Arab Emirates or an approval from the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs applicable to Dubai would need to have specific approval from the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in New Delhi and their UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to travel from India to United Arab Emirates (UAE) on these repatriation flights," an Air India spokesperson said.

Emirates to fly A380 from Dubai to London, Paris again

New Delhi: With signs of rising air traffic demand on its network, Dubai-based airline Emirates said it will resume flying Airbus A380 superjumbo aircraft on routes such as Dubai-London and Dubai-Paris, in addition to restarting flights to Dhaka and Munich.

"The A380 remains a popular aircraft amongst our customers and it offers many unique on-board features. We are delighted to bring it back into the skies to

serve our customers on flights to London and Paris from 15 July, and we are looking forward to gradually introduce our A380 into more destinations according to the travel demand on specific destinations," Emirates COO Adel Al Redha said. The move comes close on the heels of the Dubai administration allowing residency visa-holders to arrive into the emirate June 22 onwards and tourists to visit July 7 onwards. ENS

Pandemic pushing digitisation of mobile purchases, experiences: FB-BCG report

NANDAGOPAL RAJAN
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

THE PANDEMIC lockdown in India has unlocked new consumer behaviours that will impact online retail and be pivoted around the smartphone, Facebook India and Boston Consulting Group's (BCG) industry report on Mobile Phones, FMCG, and Apparel has shown. In the mobile segment, there is a clear trend towards larger digitisation of purchases and experiences, the study found.

With the mobile phone becoming more essential in daily lives of consumers, 38 per cent respondents suggested they will spend more on the category in the

The report said there is a clear trend towards a larger digitisation of purchases and experiences

coming months. However, the decreased spending power depressed to 29 per cent to say they will cut spends on phones and maybe opt for a cheaper variant.

The study also found that as consumers were triggered to replace their existing phones, at least "70 per cent of urban consumers for mobiles expected to be digitally influenced", up from a

high of 60 per cent before. Social distancing will also make more of them opt for online research before a purchase, even as the "importance of pricing as a choice driver to go up" by around 25 per cent in what is already a value conscious market.

Even among those looking to increase spends in the segments, 59 per cent "may trade down in their choice of purchase/look for offers and deals".

"Mobile as a category has had as high online affinity and 38 per cent of mobile phones are being purchased online. This will go up further as this thing plays out," Vikash Jain, who leads BCG's Technology, Media & Telecom practice in India, told *indianexpress.com*.

BRIEFLY

PAN-Aadhaar

New Delhi: The Centre extended deadline for linking Aadhaar with PAN till March 31 next year. PTI

Yoga Day at NFL

New Delhi: National Fertilizers Ltd (NFL) observed 6th International Yoga Day.

Pompeo on Jio

New Delhi: US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, on Twitter, called Indian telco Reliance Jio a "clean telco" for rejecting Chinese vendors to deploy 5G, adding that world's leading telcos were becoming "Clean". ENS

TAMIL NADU HOUSING BOARD
SPECIAL PROJECT CIRCLE-1

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE NO: SE/SPC-1/03/2020-2021
Dated: 24.06.2020

Sealed competitive tenders with Pre-Qualification System duly superscribed on the covers with name of work, reference no., due date and name of tenderer are invited for the following works so as to reach the office of the Superintending Engineer, Special Project Circle-1, Tamil Nadu Housing Board No.493, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035 up to 11.00 A.M. (as per office clock) on 10.07.2020, the due date mentioned below. The tenders will be opened by the undersigned at this office at 11.30 A.M. on the same day in the presence of the tenderer or their agent who choose to be present.

Sl. No.	Description of work	Approx. value (in Crores)	EMD (in ₹)	Cost of Tender Schedule in ₹ (Non-refundable)	Period during which the tender schedule available for sale	Last date of receipt and opening of tender
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Providing interior works in Koyambedu CMDA building (Including GST)	11.80	6,00,000/-	15,750/-	Upto 09-07-2020	10.07.2020

CONDITIONS FOR ISSUE OF TENDER DOCUMENTS:

- The Contractors registered (the registration certificate should be reclassified and renewed up to date) under class in TMH, PWD, TNPHC, TNSCB and other Government/Quasi Government Departments with appropriate monetary limit are eligible to participate in the tender.
- The Tender should have executed works of similar nature of work specifically in office, interior works more than 50% of the Value of work put to tender, in a single contract within the last 5 years period. A certificate from the concerned department not below the rank of Executive Engineer/ Superintending Engineer should be furnished.
- Further particulars and tender documents can be had from the Office of the Superintending Engineer (Special Project Circle-1), Tamil Nadu Housing Board, Nandanam, Chennai-35.

Note: (1) The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason therefore. (2) The Tender schedules can also be downloaded from the website www.tenders.in.gov.in at free of cost.

Superintending Engineer
Special Project Circle-I.

DIPR/2396/TENDER/2020



Name and Address of the entity seeking EOI:
Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL)
BIAL Project Office,
Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru
Bengaluru 560 300
Web: www.bengaluruairport.com

NOTICE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Invitation to Design, supply, installation, testing, commissioning (SITC) of Flight Information and Display System (FIDS) with LED screens and videowall for T2 at KIA (the "Project").

The scope of work includes but not limited to SITC of FIDS including software licenses, configuration, programming, media player, interfaces, contents and to meet all the requirements along with other related works for the commissioning of a fully operational Project and handover to BIAL in either of Capex/ Opex/ Concessionaire model.

BIAL invites interested applicants to submit their Expression of Interest ("EOI") to carry out the work and successfully hand over the Project. Consortium/ joint venture participation is not permitted.

Information on the EOI can be obtained from the BIAL website www.bengaluruairport.com (<http://www.bengaluruairport.com/ourBusiness/tender.jsp>) (Information Document). Bidding for this Project is through e-tendering.

Applicants shall view/ download the EOI document from the <https://www.bialtenders.com> between 1400 hrs IST on 25th June 2020 and 1600 hrs IST on 15th July 2020. The EOI must be submitted online at <https://www.bialtenders.com> on or before 1700 hrs IST on 15th July 2020.

Addendum, if any, to this EOI shall be made available on the BIAL website and the <https://www.bialtenders.com>.

Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Ltd
(A Government of India Enterprise-Mini Ratna Category-I)
South Central Zone
#9-1-129/1/302, 3rd Floor, Oxford Plaza, SD Road, Secunderabad - 500003
CIN:L74899DL1999GO101707

Notice Inviting E-Tender
IRCTC, South Central Zone invites the following Open E-Tenders :-

S. No.	E-Tender No. & Date	Item (s)	Supply point
1	IRCTC/SCZ/RNP/BSP/ CAPS/2020 dated 22.06.2020	Alaska 27 mm HDPE Caps	Rail Neer Plant Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)
Last Date & Time of submission of E-Tender : 15:30 hrs of 22.07.2020			
2	IRCTC/SCZ/RNP/BSP/BOPP Labels Rolls/2020 dated 22.06.2020	Pearlised BOPP Label Rolls	Rail Neer Plant Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)
Last Date & Time of submission of E-Tender : 15:15 hrs of 22.07.2020			
3	IRCTC/SCZ/RNP/BSP/LDPE Shrink Film/2020 dated 22.06.2020	LDPE Shrink Film	Rail Neer Plant Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)
Last Date & Time of submission of E-Tender : 15:00 hrs of 22.07.2020			

Tender document view downloading & participation can be done on Website:- < www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC >

In case of any corrigendum/addendum issued on the above advertisement, it will be published only on website www.irctc.com and www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC. No newspaper press advertisement shall be issued for the same.

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER
Public Health Engineering Department
Region Office Pratap Nagar, Dadabari, Kota (Rajasthan)
Telephone No. 0744-2503651 Fax Number 0744-2501551
Email: rj_aceko@yahoo.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
UBN No. PHE 2021 WS0B 02584

1. Online tenders are invited on behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan for the following works from contractors registered/enlisted in Class "AA" or above with the PHED Rajasthan in appropriate Class as per PWF&AR Part II Appendix 16 dated 01.07.1999 and amendment issued by concerned department up to date. Contractors enlisted with other Departments of Government of Rajasthan and enlisted with CPWD/Postal, Telecom, Railway, MES, other State Govt./ Central Govt. undertaking organizations equivalent to appropriate Class of Rajasthan shall also be eligible. The duly notarized copy of Registration Certificate is to be enclosed. Unregistered contractors shall not be allowed. The tenderers meeting eligibility criteria may apply after giving prescribed Earnest Money. The tender documents can be downloaded from the website <http://www.eproc.raajasthan.gov.in> and the interested bidders will have to submit their tender in electronic format on this website with their digital signatures. Details of this tender notification can also be seen in NIT exhibited on website www.dipronline.org.

2. GENERAL DETAIL OF WORKS:

S.N.	NIT No	02 / 2020-21
1	Work Description	Operation & Maintenance of UWSS Baran including intake well, WTP, Pump Houses, OHSRs, Transmision/ Distribution Lines of Baran Town for 03 years (Executed by RUIDP)
2	Estimated Cost	Rs 315.13 Lacs
3	Earnest Money	Rs 6.30 Lacs (@2%) for the contractor not enlisted in PHED. Rs 1.58 Lacs (@0.5%) for contractor in enlisted in PHED "AA" Class. To be deposit in Budget head 8443-00-108-00-00 through e-GRAS portal in favour of 5640-Ex. En P.H.E.D., Baran.
4	Cost of Tender Documents	Rs. 5,000.00 To be deposit in Revenue head 0075-00-800-52-01 through e-GRAS portal in favour of 5640-Ex. En. P.H.E.D., Baran.
5	RISL Charges	Rs 1,000.00 To be deposit in Budget head 8658-00-102-16-02 through e-GRAS portal in favour of 5640-Ex. En. P.H.E.D., Baran.
6	O&M Period	36 Months
7	Availability of tender documents on web site	From 22.06.2020 at 10:00 Hrs to 13.07.2020 (up to 18:00 Hrs)
8	Date & time for online submission of tender	From 22.06.2020 at 10:00 Hrs to 13.07.2020 (up to 18:00 Hrs)
9	Date & time of opening of pre- qualification bid.	14.07.2020 at 14:00 Hrs

"SAVE WATER – SAVE LIFE"

Sd/-
(K. D. Gupta)
Additional Chief Engineer
PHED, Region, Kota

DIPR/C/4604/2020

Recognition for NSFs on hold after HC raps sports ministry

PRITAM PAL SINGH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

THE PROVISIONAL recognition granted to 54 National Sports Federations (NSFs) will be 'recalled' after the Delhi High Court, on Wednesday, expressed its displeasure over the manner in which the sports ministry went about the process.

A bench comprising Justice Hima Kohli and Justice Najmi Waziri confronted the sports ministry's counsel with its February 7 order, in which it had directed the Indian Olympic Federation (IOA) as well as the ministry to not take a decision in relation to the federations without informing the court.

Observing that 'in teeth of the order dated February 7, 2020, MYAS (Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sport) has on its own proceeded to provisionally renew the annual recognition in respect of 54 federations', the bench asked the sports ministry to 'issue a fresh notice within two days intimating all 54 NSFs concerned that its order giving provisional renewal till September 30, 2020, stands recalled.'

The annual recognition from the ministry is of high importance for the federations, especially the smaller ones, as they largely depend on the government for funding to manage their everyday expenses. Citing the coronavirus outbreak and the consequent lockdown as the reason, the sports ministry had renewed the recognition of 54 federations till September 30. The court's direction was based on an application filed by the sports ministry, seeking certain directions. The application was moved in a pending PIL by sports activist and lawyer Rahul Mehra, who sought proper regulation and control in the functioning of numerous federations.

Central government's standing counsel Anil Soni, appearing for the sports ministry, conceded before the court that the said order has not been complied with. The counsel submitted that the ministry may be permitted to withdraw the decision taken along with the present application. Allowing the same, the bench recorded in its order that it is refraining from imposing any costs on the MYAS for the present.

How Bergamo is picking up the pieces

As football returns to Italian city worst hit by pandemic, a citizens' group is helping people share grief

NIHAL KOSHIE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

WHEN BERGAMO-BASED Atalanta played their home game against Sassuolo behind closed doors on Sunday evening, it marked a winning return for the football club from the epicentre of Covid-19 in Italy's Lombardy region. Stefano Fusco, the founder of citizens' group *Noi Denunceremo*, which translates to 'We will report', for bereaved relatives, didn't turn on the television to watch the team's first game in nearly four months.

The 31-year-old went to his best friend's house to catch up over dinner. He admits not being an Atalanta loyalist and roots for Inter Milan. Fusco didn't tune in to see his favourite club beat Sampdoria either.

Every second family in Bergamo, which registered nearly 3,000 deaths, has lost someone to the pandemic. Fusco prioritising time with a close friend over watching a football game was understandable. "I hadn't met my friend for months, so it was good to have got some time with him," Fusco says. Of course, he knows Inter won 2-1. Football isn't a priority for this sales consultant involved in helping people get legal help to petition officials to highlight government negligence.

The spread of the virus in Bergamo is linked to an Atalanta game.

Fans returning after a Champions League match against Valencia at the San Siro in Milan on February 19 are believed to have been carriers. A third of the town of 1.2 lakh residents were reported to have gone to the game where there was no social distancing. Four days later, the first positive case was reported in Bergamo. It took a fortnight for the lockdown to be enforced in the town.

Over 13,500 people tested positive and the match is now called 'Game Zero'. Health experts have referred to it as a 'biological bomb'. Shortly after his grandfather Antonio tested positive for the coronavirus and died within two days of developing a fever and cough in mid-March, Fusco and his family launched *Noi Denunceremo*. His father, sister, mother and aunt were the first members. People started joining in droves, within a day the community grew to 5,000 and currently there are 60,000. Earlier this month, 50 people filed petitions at



(L-R) Players observe a minute's silence before Atalanta's first Serie A match in Bergamo, the epicentre of the pandemic in Italy, after the lockdown was eased; Stefano Fusco with his late grandfather Antonio in happier times. AP/Stefano Fusco



the prosecutor's office in Bergamo and another 220 in different parts of Italy. Top lawyers are working pro bono for members of the Facebook group and prosecutors have questioned the country's prime minister.

The pandemic curve has dipped in Bergamo, yet Fusco believes it is too early for football to return even behind closed doors.

"Well, I disagree with restarting the championships. Football in Italy is not a sport, it is a mix between drugs and a religion. People get very emotional when they speak about football. I am afraid people who weren't touched by the virus can forget very quickly what happened here. The club is playing really well this year. People will start hugging, partying together, drinking beer from the same bottle. I am Italian but I don't trust Italians. I know it would be a very big danger for all of us," Fusco tells *The Indian Express*, worrying about the possibility of social distancing going out of the window at bars and restaurants which are now open.

Sunday's win is being projected as a success to help people in Bergamo overcome the pain caused by the pandemic. Atalanta coach Gian Piero Gasperini, who had himself tested positive for coronavirus, spoke about football's ability to give joy to the people. Entry of spectators at the Gewiss Stadium, Fusco feels, should

not be allowed right away. If he had his say, the Serie A would have restarted only next year.

"There were 30,000 or more people from Bergamo at the stadium that night," he says referring back to 'Game Zero'. "We were already in a pandemic emergency situation since January 31. I don't support Atalanta so I didn't go to the stadium but a friend who went there knew two guys who died because of Covid 19," Fusco says. Haunting memories are too fresh for people in Bergamo to move on without a shudder when thinking about the horrors of the past few months. Fusco, who lives in the countryside, narrates a story about ambulance sirens when the pandemic was at its peak and coffins were being stored in churches around Bergamo because the only cemetery was full.

Counting sirens

"I am still finding a way to describe it. It was like being in the middle of the war and your enemy is bombing you and you don't know where the next bomb will fall. In a normal situation, I hear the ambulance once in three days and during the peak of the pandemic, I counted up to 128 ambulances in one day, and every time you went out, for food for example, you discovered somebody you knew was dead or in hospital," he says. His octogenarian grandfather Antonio was

@indianexpress.com

THOSE MONTHS, THOSE MINUTES

Forced into an unprecedented lockdown, sport is staring at an unfathomable despair. Indian athletes, though, have given the country reasons to rejoice in the past.

JWALA GUTTA and **ASHWINI PONNAPPA** tell Shivani Naik how they made badminton doubles history for India

BRIEFLY

No plan to reduce spending: Rijiju

New Delhi: Sports minister Kiren Rijiju assured the national sports federations on Wednesday that 'there is no plan to reduce spends on any of the verticals'. Rijiju's comment, made on his Twitter handle, came a day after The Indian Express reported about the minister's meeting with federation chiefs where the issue of salary cuts of foreign coaches came up for discussion.

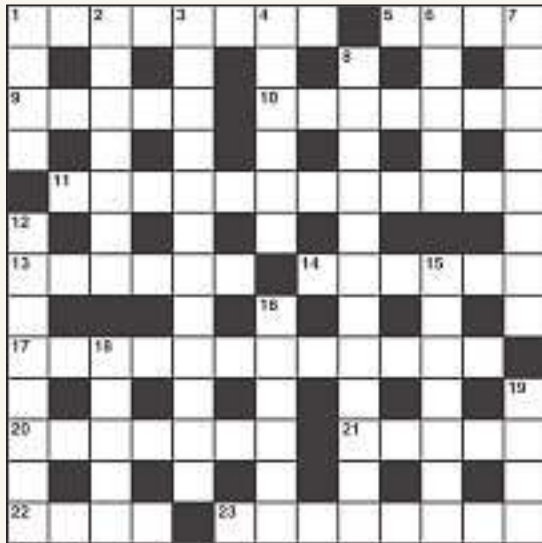
A senior federation representative present at the meeting had told this paper that the idea was put on hold after the federation representatives raised fears that a pay cut might result in a mass exodus of coaches. A Sports Ministry official, present at the meeting, too had confirmed this.

Reacting to the report, Rijiju tweeted: "The news is incorrect. There is no plan to reduce spends on any of the verticals. All future decisions will be made keeping the best interests of all stakeholders in mind & in discussion with NSFs. I conveyed to NSFs in yesterday's VC." **ENS**

Mohd Hafeez tests negative for Covid-19

Karachi: Former Pakistan captain Mohammed Hafeez has tested negative for COVID-19, a day after the PCB found him positive for the deadly virus ahead of the team's much-anticipated tour of England. Hafeez and Wahab Riaz were among the 10 Pakistan players, who tested positive for COVID-19 on Tuesday. The team is due to leave for England on Sunday for a Test and T20 series in August. On Wednesday, Hafeez took to twitter and clarified that he and his family members have tested negative and also posted the medical report to back his claim. The Pakistan Cricket Board said it was very disappointed with the senior player. "I spoke to Hafeez today and I made it clear to him our disappointment at the way he had handled this entire affair," PCB CEO Khan told the *Cricket Baaz YouTube* channel on Wednesday. **PTI**

CROSSWORD 4153



ACROSS

- In which illnesses are warded off? (8)
- They may hold one in affection (4)
- Frosted look seen when I'm in debt? (5)
- Show part of the evidence in court (7)
- See 1 Down
- Room for a variety of provisions (6)
- Lay out a feast (6)
- Fighting man audibly the worse for shouting? (5,7)
- These spectacles give you double vision (7)
- Shares the soup (5)
- Right-minded man's essay about love (4)
- Outlook shows promise (8)

DOWN

- and 11 Across: Rigorous and fleeting reigns? (4,3,4,5)
- Student group of Marines (7)
- Apathy shown in a quarrel (12)
- Maintains a point, though opposed to it (6)
- A revolting individual (5)
- Get hard ideas changed or reject them? (3,5)
- Qualified corn-dealers? (12)
- Every letter is written in it (8)
- It's not pleasant to see a mutilated rose (7)
- It's not as hot in the jug (6)
- Appeal one way or the other (5)
- Take off skirt if it's not right (4)

Solutions Crossword 4152: Across: 1 Headlines, 8 Opera, 9 Freeman, 10 Scheme, 11 Flight, 12 Improved, 15 Optional, 18 Yachts, 20 Accia, 21 Claret, 22 Radii, 23 Nectarine. Down: 2 Enrol, 3 Dredge, 4 Inaction, 5 Soccer, 6 Reserve, 7 Calendars, 11 Put on airs, 13 Polyglot, 14 Strands, 16 Origin, 17 Scorer, 19 Titan.

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.

People seldom become famous for what they __ until after they are famous for what they've __ — Cullen Hightower (3,...,4)

LADEN



OPWOS



EGHIDN



HILMOY

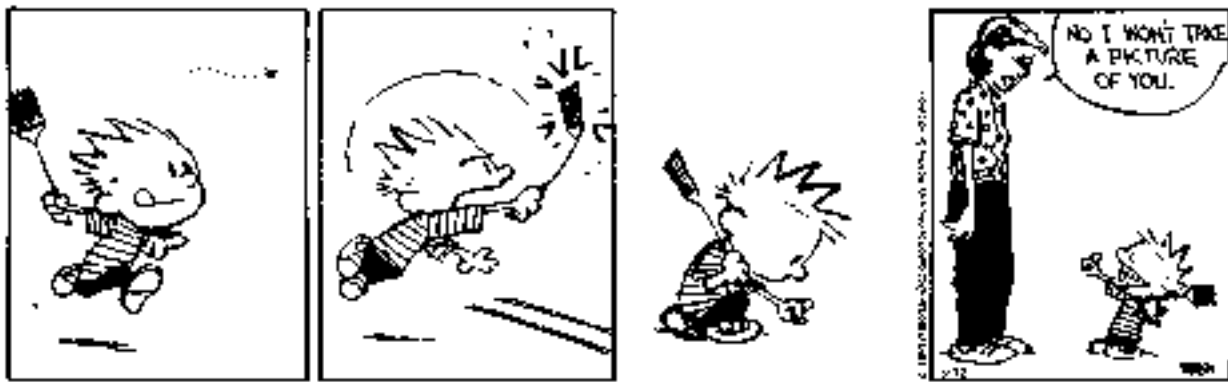


SOLUTION: LADEN: SWORN, HINGED, HOMELY. OPWOS: OPPOSE, OPPOSE, OPPOSE. EGHIDN: EGHIDN. HILMOY: HILMOY. Answer: People seldom become famous for what they **say** until after they are famous for what they've **done** — Cullen Hightower.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4150

Difficulty Level 2s

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 4149



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Don't expect everything to be easy, because it won't be! On the other hand, if you get stuck into life's little problems with the right mixture of compassion and determination, you could settle a series of difficulties at a stroke. Life is like that sometimes.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

The fact that there could be a gradual relaxation of your overall mood doesn't mean that you should let up your guard. While certain people will be all sweetness and light, some individuals will be out to create havoc. Steer a careful course, and avoid the traps set for others.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Everything now focuses on your personal life, and if you know what's good for you, you will nip domestic discontent in the bud. Don't be hard on people, but do be firm, including with yourself. A little bit of discipline and determination will enhance your chances.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Questions of cash drift to the front of your mind. If you wish to spend the day shopping, or even just window-shopping, that's fair enough. Although it looks as if necessities make a better buy than luxuries, the important thing is to pamper yourself — and feel good.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

If you do feel like sounding off at other people, then please make sure you hit the right target. If you are able to be completely saintly, and are in a mood to polish your halo, replace resentment and suspicion with compassion for the human predicament.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

There's a new set of lunar alignments approaching fast and, when it does finally arrive, it will signify an emotional turning-point. This, more than anything, is why you should welcome change rather than digging in your heels. There is nothing to fear, just as long as you keep your eye on the ball.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

You should be just a little more cautious about making social commitments over the next few days, for when it comes to the crunch you would rather be by yourself. It's all a question of picking and choosing, and hanging out with the people who make you feel fine.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Don't be bashful about being self-centred. If you don't promote your own interests when you have the chance, you'll be no use to partners at other times. Romance is the one area where you should put others' feelings first, just as long as you don't let them walk all over you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

It's not what happens to you that's important as much as what action you take on your own behalf. This is therefore one of those times when you can alter the world around you by rearranging your opinions, strange as it may seem. An improvement in attitude now leads to a change in action down the road.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Clear the decks of outstanding emotional business, ready for a positive end to an intimate phase. Deal with personal frustrations and financial passions today, and don't let other people push you into saying anything you'll regret. And if you're waiting for an apology, don't hold your breath.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

There are times when the emotional current knocks you sideways, but you have your feet planted firmly on the ground at the moment. You should therefore be able to pick yourself up — and even feel better for the experience. In the background, by the way, family responsibilities are building up.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

This should be a routine sort of a day, which may not sound terribly exciting. But sometimes it's nice to surround yourself with the familiar. If you can keep your attention focused on essential activities, you'll create space for fulfilling your favourite pleasures later on.