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## Gehlot slams the door, but leadership keeps a window open for Pilot

MANOJ GG & HAMZAKHAN  
NEW DELHI, JAIPUR, JULY 15

EVEN AS Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot Wednesday made a frontal attack on Sachin Pilot, who has been removed as deputy CM and state party president, the party's central leadership is keeping its doors open for him. Pilot reiterated again on Wednesday that he is not joining the BJP.

In his first such remarks against Pilot, without mentioning him by name, Gehlot said the former deputy CM was "involved" in the BJP's "conspiracy" to topple his government and claimed proof of "horse-trading" by him. He also said Pilot had risen in the party ranks without the kind of work leaders of his generation had put in.

Late on Tuesday night, Congress chief whip Mahesh

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



Joshi approached Speaker C P Joshi to disqualify Pilot and the 18 MLAs who have stayed away from party meetings and are believed to be siding with him. Significantly, Gehlot's attack

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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## TO PICK UP 7.7 PER CENT STAKE IN JIO PLATFORMS

# Google to invest Rs 33,737 cr in Jio, to develop entry-level smartphone

Ready for 5G when spectrum is available next year: Ambani

GEORGE MATHEW  
MUMBAI, JULY 15

AFTER INVESTMENTS by a clutch of global tech giants including Facebook, Google has signed up with Jio Platforms, the digital subsidiary of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL), to invest Rs 33,737 crore (or approximately \$4.5 billion) for a 7.7 per cent stake. The strategic deal would likely lead to unveiling of new technology products and solutions in India.



Ambani, Pichai

Making a string of announcements in the digital and telecom market at the company's virtual annual general meeting (AGM),

RIL Chairman Mukesh Ambani said Jio has designed and developed a complete 5G solution that's ready for launch as soon as spectrum is made available next year.

Jio and Google have also entered into a commercial agreement to jointly develop an entry-level affordable smartphone with optimisations to the Android operating system and the Play Store, Ambani said.

On Monday, Google said it has committed \$10 billion

## Amid China chill, US tech giants warm up to Jio

PRANAV MUKUL  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

GOOGLE'S INVESTMENT of Rs 33,737 crore, or \$4.5 billion, in Jio Platforms takes the total money pumped into India's largest telecom company by US-based investors to more than \$16.7 bil-

lion — almost half of what India received from the US as foreign direct investment (FDI) over the last two decades.

Jio's fundraising spree this year has also left behind the cumulative investments made in India's technology sector in the whole of 2019, which stood at \$9.36 billion.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



PM Narendra Modi at the India-EU summit. ANI

## PM briefs EU on LAC, gets backing for talks

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

A DAY after Indian and Chinese Corps Commanders held extensive talks over disengagement of troops along the Ladakh frontier, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday briefed European Council president Charles Michel and European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen on the situation at the Line of Actual Control, including the June 15 incident in Galwan Valley in which 20 Indian Army personnel were killed in clashes with PLA troops.

Speaking to reporters after the 15th India-EU summit over video conference, Michel said, "We had the occasion with the Prime Minister to have some information about this incident."

He said they discussed the developments along the LAC, and "we are in favour of a peaceful solution". He said the EU supports all efforts to find peaceful solutions through dialogue.

Vikas Swarup, Secretary

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

RAJNATH MEETS ARMY CHIEF, HEADS TO LADAKH TOMORROW

## Slated to be next CEC, Lavasa now headed for ADB

RITIKA CHOPRA  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

ELECTION COMMISSIONER Ashok Lavasa, who was next in line to head the poll panel, has been appointed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as vice-president.

Lavasa still has over two years left in his term at the Election Commission of India. He would have retired as the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) in October 2022. As CEC, he would have conducted

Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur and Goa, among other states.

According to sources, Lavasa's appointment to the ADB was finalised with the concurrence of the Union government. ADB spokesperson Ramoncito dela Cruz did not respond to this newspaper's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## AN EXPRESS INVESTIGATION — PART 2

# All of them cleared to get Amphan relief, all unrelated, all have same father — on paper

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA & ATRI MITRA  
HOWRAH, SOUTH 24 PARGANAS, JULY 15

AT KALINAGAR gram panchayat in West Bengal, the final list of beneficiaries cleared to get compensation for houses that were damaged by Cyclone Amphan reads like this: Surajit Sadukhan (Father: Kalipodo Das), Dipali Mondol (Father: Kalipodo Das), Uttam Bera (Father: Kalipodo Das).

The list goes on. But an investigation by *The Indian Express* revealed that Kalipodo Das exists only on paper and these benefi-



(Top) Meena, wife of Surajit Sadukhan; Dipali Mondal; Uttam Bera. All three have concrete houses. (Right) Jahirul with a photo of his father, a beneficiary, who died three years ago.

Partha Paul



aries are all unrelated. And all the three own concrete houses that withstood the cyclone.

That's just one symptom of the string of alleged irregularities in the manner in which these lists have been prepared. Investigation of official

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

135 DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN  
CASES: 9,36,180  
RECOVERED: 5,92,031  
DEATHS: 24,309  
TESTS: 1,24,12,664  
DOUBLING RATE: 21.38\*\*



KEY STATES TO WATCH	TOTAL CASES	SURGE IN 24 HOURS	7-DAY AVG GROWTH*	DOUBLING RATE**
Maharashtra	2,67,665	6,741	3.03%	23.72
Tamil Nadu	1,47,324	4,526	3.15%	22.88
Delhi	1,15,346	1,606	1.65%	43.52
Karnataka	44,077	2,496	7.36%	9.79
Telangana	37,745	1,524	4.57%	15.77

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

CASE FATALITY RATIO	POSITIVITY RATE	DAILY IN, DAILY OUT
7 DAYS EARLIER: 2.78 NOW: 2.60	7 DAYS EARLIER: 7.09 NOW: 7.54	DETECTED TODAY: 29,429 RECOVERED TODAY: 20,572
Deaths as a ratio of positive cases (in %); indicator of progress in averting deaths	Positives against number tested (in %); indicator of the spread of disease	Becoming sick vs recovering; more recoveries for 14 days may signal the peak

Data as on July 14, released by Union Ministry of Health, ICMR and states. Often daily numbers include data from previous days. As such, trends based on daily numbers are indicative, not definitive.

## VIKAS DUBEY CASE

# Youth killed was 16, just cleared 12th, says family

MANISH SAHU  
KANPUR, JULY 15

THE FAMILY of Prabhat Mishra alias Kartikey, killed in an alleged encounter as the Uttar Pradesh Police hunted for gangster Vikas Dubey and his aides, has claimed that he was a minor.

They said Kartikey had cleared his Class 12 Uttar Pradesh school board exams on June 29, 10 days before he was killed. His Class 10 marksheet and an Aadhaar card record his date of birth as May 27, 2004, making him 16 years of age.

Police had launched a hunt for Dubey after his men killed eight of its personnel in a shootout at Kanpur's Bikru village on July 3, during a failed raid to arrest him. Kartikey's family lives next to Dubey's home in Bikru.

Inspector General, Kanpur range, Mohit Agarwal said he had no information on Kartikey's age, and reiterated that the Haryana Police had recovered pistols used in the Bikru shootout from him at the time of his arrest on July 8. The police in Faridabad, from where he was held, had said Kartikey was 19. "Dubey used to have youths in his gang. He would influence them just as terrorists do," said Agarwal.

According to the UP Police, they were bringing Kartikey from Faridabad to Kanpur on July 9, when he snatched the pistol of a sub-inspector and tried to flee. "The encounter took place in the Panki area of Kanpur. The police vehicle had a flat tyre. Taking advantage, Kartikey tried to run. He

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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**7 YEARS OF #BLACKLIVESMATTER: CULMINATION OF OVER A CENTURY OF PROTESTS**

The Black Lives Matter movement, which completes seven years this July, needs to be understood as the continuation of a long journey of fervent struggles that the Black community has undertaken in the United States.

**VIDEO OF THE DAY**



**BIHAR MAN 'BUYS' LAND ON THE MOON**

Businessman, Neeraj Kumar was inspired by Sushant Singh Rajput

**EXPLAINED**



**INDIAN NEWSPAPERS AT MONT BLANC**

Why a melting French glacier has thrown up old Indian papers

**EXPRESS AUDIO**

**Why Bihar is going under a lockdown again**

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Today on the 3 Things podcast, we take a look at the challenges that the state has been facing and the reason it has seen a recent surge in cases.

**FROM PAGE ONE**

**US tech giants**

Between April 2000 and April 2020, cumulative FDI inflows from the US stood at \$29.78 billion, according to Department of Commerce data (not including investments by US-based companies routed through other jurisdictions such as Mauritius, British Virgin Islands etc.).

With Google on board, Jio now has business arrangements with five US technology giants — Facebook for a partnership of its messaging platform WhatsApp with Jio's e-commerce venture JioMart; Microsoft for its cloud computing platform Azure; Google for building an Android-based smartphone operating system; and Intel and Qualcomm for developing new products.

With the exception of Microsoft, all other firms have a stake in Jio Platforms. In effect, 27.61% of Jio is now owned by US firms. This assumes significance when the Indian government has signalled curbs on Chinese technology investments while banning 59 mobile apps with links to Chinese Internet majors such as Alibaba — one of the largest Chinese investors in Indian start-ups.

The first one to step in was Facebook that purchased a 9.99% stake in Jio back in April for Rs 43,573.62 crore, or \$5.7 billion, becoming the biggest minority shareholder in the company.

This was followed by a series of US-based private equity firms like TPG Capital, L Catterton, General Atlantic, Silver Lake, and West Asian sovereign funds like Mubadala and ADIA of the UAE and PIF of Saudi Arabia picking up minority stakes in Jio Platforms.

Reliance Industries, of which Jio Platforms is a unit, has so far divested 32.97% stake in the telecom company for Rs 152 lakh crore. In addition to Jio, other large companies in India's Internet sector have also been flooded with American money. Seattle-based Amazon has invested \$5 billion in India, with a plan of investing an additional \$1 billion in its India operations announced earlier this year.

On Tuesday, US-based retail behemoth Walmart announced funding of \$1.2 billion in its Indian e-commerce unit Flipkart, in which Walmart purchased a majority stake in 2018 for \$16 billion.

**Gehlot, Pilot**

on Pilot came hours after AICC in-charge of Rajasthan Avinash Pande said Congress doors were open for Pilot. After Gehlot's statement, Congress spokesperson Randeep Surjewala reiterated this, adding that Pilot was welcome back provided he left "the Haryana BJP government's hospitality (MLAs backing Pilot are stay-

ing in hotels in Haryana)".

Congress sources claimed the party had learnt that Pilot had a meeting on Wednesday with a BJP leader who had played a key role in the defection of Congress MLAs in Madhya Pradesh. A senior Congress leader said the party is in touch with a couple of MLAs in the Pilot camp and that two-three of them could switch back.

When asked about the matter, Pilot laughed it away.

The contrast between Gehlot and Surjewala's remarks was stark. Sources said Surjewala, who is part of the central team sent by the Congress to Jaipur, met with Gehlot after he attacked Pilot. It was conveyed to him that Rahul Gandhi wants to keep the doors open for Pilot. Sources said Gehlot told Surjewala he was not against that but Pilot would have to "leave the BJP camp".

Sources in Delhi said both Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra are keen to accommodate Pilot, and that Ahmed Patel was talking to him. Asked whether there was a chance of Pilot getting his posts back, a senior leader pointed to Gehlot's harsh words: "It is clear why he said that... Maybe Rahul will take him out of Rajasthan."

Addressing mediapersons, Gehlot referred to the recent Rajya Sabha elections, where he had claimed bid at horse-trading, which was denied by Pilot. "Hamare yahan par deputy CM ho, PCC president ho, woh khud hi deal kar le logon se, 'mobile number dijiye hamein, naam dijiye hamein', shadyantra mein shaamil ho. Woh safai de rahi the... Arre tum to khud hi shadyantra mein shaamil the (Here, the deputy CM, PCC chief was himself making deals, saying give me your number, names, he was a part of the plot. Later, he claimed no horse-trading was taking place)."

Gehlot said he had to secure his MLAs into a hotel as what was happening now would have happened then otherwise. "The same people were being lured then at 2 at night."

He claimed "proof" regarding those held "bandhak (hostage)" by the BJP: "Those who have taken instalments... Money was offered... Many people did not accept... they are sitting with me."

At his press conference, reportedly at Rahul's urging, Surjewala said the Congress leadership had given a lot of opportunities to Pilot, and he had become an MP, central minister, PCC president and deputy CM in 14-15 years, "which was unheard of for any leader in Congress or the BJP".

Repeatedly referring to Pilot as "young", "promising", and as a "family member", Surjewala said, "In the last five days, Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi and Congress

leadership... with a liberal mind have said that, even if a member of the family (leaves) the house by mistake, he still remains a part of the family. The Congress top leadership has spoken to him half-a-dozen times, two senior members of the CWC have spoken to him a dozen times and AICC general secretary, organisation, K C Venugopal has more than once told him that he should place before the party his views."

On Pilot's statement that he is not joining the BJP, Surjewala said he should stop talking through the media. He added that if Pilot wanted to prove his intentions, he should "come out of the Manohar Lal Khattar government's security ring... leave the hotels in Manesar and Gurgaon... stop talking to BJP leaders".

Gehlot hinted that Pilot had risen through the ranks unfairly. "Achchha English, Hindi bolna, achchi byte dena, woh sab kuch nahin hota hai. Achchi handsome personality... sab kuch nahin hota hai (Speaking good English, Hindi, having a handsome personality, none of this matters). What is important is what you feel for the country, your commitment, ideology, policy and intention when it comes to the party."

Gehlot said he himself has been in politics for 40 years, and it was wrong to say the older generation in the Congress was not letting the young rise. "This new generation which has come up... we love them. Tomorrow is theirs... Rahul Gandhi likes them, Sonia Gandhi likes them... Inki ragdai nahin hui thi, isiliye ab tak leaf hoti hai... Agar ragdai hui hoti, aur achche tareeke se kaam karte (They never saw struggle, which is why they are feeling the pain now. If they had, they would have put in better work)."

**PM briefs EU**

(West) in the Ministry of External Affairs, said, "As part of a review of global and regional developments, our relations with China did come up. The Prime Minister shared our views on the India-China relationship in general, and the current situation in the border areas."

India had already briefed EU partners including Germany and France, on the LAC standoff via diplomatic channels and Foreign Minister-level conversations.

Cautious in his public remarks, since efforts are underway to lower the rhetoric while the disengagement process is on, the PM, in his opening remarks, said the India-EU partnership is useful for global peace and stability. This, he said, has become clear in the current global situation.

The joint statement mentioned cooperation on the Covid-19 pandemic, multilateral cooperation at the WHO, UNSC and G-20, 5G, Artificial Intelligence, maritime security and naval cooperation and connectivity projects in third countries in the Indo-Pacific region — all point to China's presence in these areas, and indicates growing convergence between Delhi and Brussels.

Responding to questions, Michel said they also raised the issue of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act during their conversation with the Prime Minister.

"We trust Indian institutions. We understand that the Supreme Court will have a role to play in order to assess this legislation, and we took the decision with the Indian authorities to continue a dialogue on the question of human rights, which is so important for us and for India, in order to exchange good practices, and to have the best possible understanding about how we tackle these important issues for India, and for the European Union," he said.

Asked about this, Swarup said there was a "glancing reference" to the issue.

The leaders adopted the "EU-India Strategic Partnership: A Roadmap to 2025" to guide coop-

**All of them cleared to get relief, all are unrelated, all have same father — on paper**

records and visits to homes in Uluberia in Howrah, one of the worst hit by the cyclone, shows how one man came to be listed as the father of nine beneficiaries from different families and different faiths in a panchayat; how what are dismissed as "typing errors" has left entire villages distressed; and, how the dead come back to life on official records for compensation.

Nearly two months after the natural disaster left the districts of Howrah, North 24 Parganas, East Midnapore, South 24 Parganas and Sundarbans devastated, many of the affected struggle to pick up the pieces.

On Wednesday, The Indian Express reported how relatives of politically powerful members of Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis and Zilla Parishads in these districts were approved for compensation even if there's no damage to their homes while deserving applicants wait. And about glaring irregularities in the way money has been paid — or claims cleared.

In Uluberia's Kalinagar, it's not just about one name. In another series of entries on the official list of beneficiaries — from Masjar Rahaman Mullick to SK Matleb — Tarun Pramanik has been listed as "father". Also on the list of recipients is Sheikh Nazrul, who died in October 2017 at the age of 49.

These are just some of the errors, bizarre and baffling, which, Opposition leaders point out, provide the cover of deniability to recipients in case of

**TOMORROW: HAVES AND HAVE-NOTS: THE BETEL VINE TWIST**

scrutiny.

"My father died three years ago. I don't know how his name came in the list. We have not applied for compensation," says Nazrul's son Jahirul, pulling out his father's death certificate.

Jahirul's mother Ajmira says her husband's passbook was "with the bank" after his death. "After his name came up for compensation, the panchayat member's husband took me to the bank and I got the passbook back. But I am yet to get any money," she says.

Two minutes away, Khodeja Begum is bewildered. "My sister Suraiya Parvin has been listed as a beneficiary at this address. Suraiya died 15 years ago. She used to live at her husband's house, this is her paternal home. I don't know what is happening. We have not applied for anything from the government. Ask the panchayat, they made the list," says Begum.

Cyclone Amphan swept through a slice of West Bengal on May 20, and by the beginning of June, the state government had released relief and reconstruction funds. This included Rs 2,400 crore in house-building assistance to 5 lakh people that covered Rs 20,000 in direct transfers and Rs 28,000 per per-

son as wages equivalent to 100 days work.

In villages across Uluberia, this has left residents dissatisfied and triggered a political firestorm.

Claims former panchayat member and Forward Block leader, Jahirul Alam Mullick: "These errors were done intentionally so that no one can easily identify the beneficiaries. There are no anomalies in the bank account numbers where the money went." Officials are yet to release the list of those who have been paid.

The ruling party says it has taken note. "This type of irregularity is not acceptable. The party will take stern action and root out corruption," says Rajib Banerjee, Forest Minister and Howrah district TMC leader.

The Block Development Officer (BDO) was not available for comment. According to an official at the BDO's office, which processed the lists received from panchayats, the mismatch was a result of "clerical and typographical errors". "We conducted reviews and published fresh lists," says the official.

Back in Kalinagar, standing outside her two-storeyed concrete house, Meena, wife of Surajit Sadukhan, says: "My father-in-law's name is Anil Sadukhan, not Kalipodo Das. I don't know how that name came up, and we don't know any person by that name. I am not aware whether any money has come into my husband's account."

Says another beneficiary Dipali Mondol, who is also the owner of a two-storeyed concrete house: "A tin shade on the roof was damaged and we applied for compensation but I have no idea how my father's name was given as Kalipodo Das." Mondol declined to reveal whether she had received the compensation money.

"The asbestos roof got damaged. But I did not apply for compensation. The panchayat member surveyed the area and may have given my name to the BDO office," says Uttam Bera, a third beneficiary and owner of a single-storeyed concrete house. "My father's name is Nemai Bera, not Kalipodo Das," he says.

In fact, local residents have put up posters of the panchayat member and her relatives, claiming they were the real beneficiaries.

"The panchayat member came here and took pictures of our house. She promised us that we will get compensation. But when the list was published, our names were not there," says Hosenara Begum.

Panchayat member Mahrufa Begum was not available for comment. Speaking on her behalf, her husband Dahijul Mollah directed all queries to the BDO. "There has been a small mistake and the names of dead people have come up. But all genuine people have got their names in the compensation list," says Mollah.

during the Lok Sabha elections in 2019, when he opposed the clean chit given to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and former BJP president Amit Shah on charges of violating the Model Code of Conduct during the Lok Sabha elections.

Soon after the elections, three members of the Lavasa family, including his wife, had come under the scanner of the Income Tax Department for alleged non-declaration of income and disproportionate assets. His son Abir Lavasa's company (Nourish Organic) and Ashok Lavasa's sister Shakuntala Lavasa, a paediatrician, were also served income tax notices. The family members have denied allegations made by the IT department.

**Youth killed**

opened fire on the policemen, injuring two constables. The policemen fired at him in self-defence."

Speaking about the Bikru shootout, Kartikey's mother Geeta Mishra said they had woken past 1 am on July 3 to the sound of firing. "My husband was not in the village at the time, he had gone to a relative's home. There was only my mother-in-law (Rajkali, 72), Kartikey and me. After the firing stopped, I stepped out of the house and saw all the men fleeing fearing police action. I asked Kartikey to leave too for a few days."

She said Kartikey had his cellphone with him. "Later that night the police came and took away my cellphone. I didn't remember Kartikey's number and so could not contact him after he left."

Geeta said she came to know of Kartikey's arrest on July 9, and did not know the two men the police said were with him at the time. "We don't have relatives in Faridabad. Hours later, I heard from the media that police had killed my son. It is murder."

Geeta said the police had told her that its men had been fired upon on July 3 from her terrace. "I don't know the truth because I did not allow anyone to enter my house. I think the police killed my son because the assailants used my terrace and now I fear for my husband's life."

She added that Kartikey's father, Rajendra Kumar Mishra, 49, who works in a private firm in Kanpur, hadn't been home since the shootout due to police fear.

Showing Kartikey's Class 10 marksheet with more than 78% marks, the family said he was a good student. In the Class 12 exams he cleared just before he died, he got 61% marks, they said. "Kartikey was yet to collect his marksheet from his school (Shri Bajarang Higher Secondary School)... He wanted to join the Air Force. The child with such good marks would never take part in criminal activities. The police are falsely blaming him," Geeta said.

Kartikey's elder sister Himanshi, who is a graduate and studying for a Basic Training Certificate, said the police were trying to "frame" Kumar too. "We have come to know that Shashi Kant (a Bikru resident whose arrest for the July 3 shootout was announced by the police on Tuesday), has said my father was also involved." Himanshi was at a relative's house at the time of the July 3 incident.

Additional Director General, Law & Order, Prashant Kumar said Shashi Kant had named "Rajendra Mishra", apart from others. Geeta said she had removed all government documents, including educational qualifications of Kartikey and Himanshi, from their house fearing the police might destroy them in a search.

According to UP Police, five days after the Bikru shootout, Faridabad police had arrested Kartikey along with two other alleged Dabey aides, Shrawan and his son Ankur.

FULL REPORTS ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

**CLARIFICATIONS & CORRECTIONS**

15.07.20, PAGE 1

RESPONDING TO the report "Resentment in Hindus on arrests, take care: Special CP to probe teams", Delhi Police PRO Mandeeep S Randhawa has written, saying "Delhi Police is constantly fed with information obtained through representations from members of public and other intelligence inputs from its own intelligence wings and other agencies. It has to take note of these information in an unbiased manner... The news item conveniently ignores the spirit of the order where it has been specifically stated that 'any arrest', irrespective of any class, community or religious group, be done on the basis of evidence and not give an impression of being arbitrary... This letter was written only to inform the investigating officers about the representations being received from both the communities and to sensitise and guide them through the investigation of these cases... During the incidents of rioting in North East District of Delhi, Delhi Police has acted in an impartial manner as per provisions of law and the victims were rescued irrespective of their caste and religion."

**The Indian Express replies:**

The article accurately reports an order issued by Special Commissioner of Police Praveer Ranjan to senior officers heading teams probing the Northeast Delhi riots. A detailed questionnaire was sent to Special CP Ranjan and PRO Randhawa seeking their response. Both declined to comment.

The Delhi Police's contention in the rejoinder that "the letter was written only to inform investigating officers about the representations being received from both communities" does not find mention in the order, which specifically highlights "resentment among Hindu community" over arrests of "some Hindu youth".

The Indian Express stands by its report.

eration between the EU and India over the next five years.

**Lavasa**

specific question on whether the government was consulted. "As per the ADB Charter, Vice Presidents are appointed by the

Board of Directors on recommendation by ADB President. The appointments are merit based," the spokesperson said in an email.

Lavasa refused to comment on the matter. It is unclear if he has resigned as Election Commissioner, a step he will need

to take if he is to take up his new role. Cruz told The Indian Express that the ADB expects him to assume office in September.

His premature exit from the poll panel — a second in the Election Commission's history — puts his colleague Sushil Chandra

next in the line of succession. In 1973, Chief Election Commissioner Nagender Singh had resigned before completing his term at the Election Commission to become a judge of the International Court of Justice.

Lavasa had made headlines

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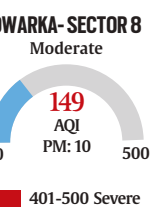
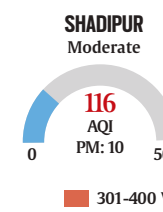
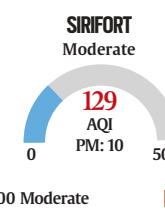
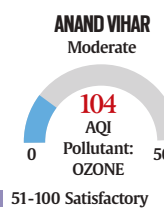
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## CBSE BOARD RESULTS OUT

# Jump in govt school students clearing Class X, cracking maths seems to be key

SUKRITA BARUAH  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

IN A significant improvement from last year's Class X CBSE Board results, Delhi government schools increased their pass percentage by over 10 percentage points to cross the 80% mark this time — fuelled possibly by a focus to push up the number of students passing in mathematics.

Last year, these schools had registered a sobering Class X result with a 71.97% pass percentage. This year, it has leaped up to 81.39% for Delhi East and 84.89% for Delhi West.

Though Delhi government schools continue to lag behind the national pass percentage of 91.46%, as well as that of other Delhi schools such as private ones, Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs), their improved performance is among the country's most significant upward trends.

Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister Manish Sisodia acknowledged the improvement, tweeting: "Our children have made us proud again! After record breaking result of Class 12, upward graph of Delhi Education continues in Class 10. Overjoyed that this year, result improved to 82.61% from 71.58% last year."

Pass percentages of private schools and KVs, meanwhile, dipped marginally from last year.

Private schools went from 93.18% in 2019 to 91.29% in Delhi East and 89.09% in Delhi West; and KVs went from 99.80% to 99.42% in Delhi East and 99.31% in Delhi West.

Delhi's overall pass percentage increased by almost five percentage points from 80.97% to 85.86%. Despite this, Delhi continues to be the second lowest performing amongst CBSE's 16 regions, with only Guwahati region registering a lower pass percentage.

An analysis of last year's board examination results by Delhi government schools had shown that of 1,66,167 students from these schools who had taken the exam, 24,502 had failed in only Mathematics.

Following that, the government's education department focused its attention on helping more students pass the subject. Apart from extra classes and roping in private coaching for 'low-performing schools', one of the significant moves was 'counselling' students weak in mathematics to opt for the CBSE's new 'Basic Mathematics' option, which was offered for the first time in the 2020 board exam.

The *Indian Express* had reported on how almost 73% of Delhi government students had opted for Basic Mathematics. Across all CBSE schools and abroad, this number was much lower at 33%.

"Every year, the subject in which the highest number of students cannot pass has been math-

## HOW STUDENTS FARED IN DELHI, ACROSS THE COUNTRY

## IN DELHI

No of students	
Delhi East	1,94,141
Delhi West	1,26,842
<b>Overall pass percentage:</b>	
Delhi East	85.79%
Delhi West	85.96%

## INSTITUTION-WISE

Govt schools	
Delhi East	81.39%
Delhi West	84.89%
Govt-aided schools	
Delhi East	76.47%
Delhi West	75.92%
Pvt schools	
Delhi East	91.29%
Delhi West	89.09%

JNV	
Delhi East	98.65%
Delhi West	100%
KV	
Delhi East	99.42%
Delhi West	99.31%

Pass percent of	
Girls	88.04%
Boys	81.97%



## No of CWSN students

Delhi East	1,400
Delhi West	817

## CWSN pass percentage

Delhi East	91.79%
Delhi West	95.10%

## Pass percent in Delhi govt schools over the years

2019	80.97%
2018	69.32%
2017	92.44%
2016	89.25%

## ACROSS THE COUNTRY

No of students	Overall pass %
18,73,015	91.46%
% of students scoring	Pass percent of
Above 90%	9.84%
Above 95%	2.23%
Boys	Girls
90.14%	93.31%

ematics. However, this has decreased and my school actually has more children who could not pass science this year. I think the basic maths option has helped many of the children pass, and I

personally think it's a good thing because a student who scored 92% in class XII from my school this year in humanities had struggled a lot with maths in class X," said the head of

a government school in East Delhi. "Last year, our pass percentage was short of 72% but after we coached the students placed in compartment dedicatedly in maths and science, many of these

students passed the compartment exams and the pass percentage increased to around 81%. Prima facie, it appears that teachers took note of this and focused on students who were weak in these subjects, especially maths, which might account for the rise... We will have to analyse and study the results and this is a preliminary assessment," said Shailendra Sharma, principal advisor to the Director of Education.

The head of a government school which saw a jump of over 30 percentage points in the pass percentage said that the option of basic mathematics was squarely responsible for this.

"Last year, my school's pass percentage was in the 60s and most of the students who did not pass had failed in maths, and many had also failed in science. This year, around 70% students from my school took basic maths and all of them have passed. The few students who have not passed this year is because of science," the head of school said.

CBSE controller of examinations Sanyam Bharadwaj said that the board itself too was yet to analyse the result and study the effect of 'Basic Mathematics'. "So far, we have not gone through the results so deeply. However, we hold both 'Standard Maths' and 'Basic Maths' on a par with each other. As a subject, both options are of an equivalent value — there was just a difference in the way questions were designed," he said.

## At city's Schools of Excellence, tales of beating the odds

ARANYA SHANKAR  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

IN THE CBSE Class XII board results declared Monday, three of the Delhi government's premier Schools of Excellence registered a 100% pass percentage. In these upgraded schools, this was the first batch of students who appeared for class XII exams.

Among them is Tushar Upadhyay, a commerce student of the School of Excellence at Kalkaji. While most students take tuitions to score well in their class XII board exams, the 17-year-old prepared by giving tuitions.

His daily routine involved coming back from school in the afternoon and giving back-to-back tuitions till 9 pm to younger students, so he could earn money and support his financially unstable family. It was only at night that he found the time to study. "From 9 pm to 2 am. That is when I studied," he said.

On Monday, when the results were released, Tushar scored 92.16%. "He used to study in a private school but once my business dwindled, I couldn't afford to send him to that school which asked Rs 3,500 per month as fee. So in class XI, we shifted him to the School of Excellence. Tushar was always interested in academics so I knew he'd do well. But to do so well while spending most of his time giving tuitions, and without taking any tuitions himself, is a tremendous feat," said his father Pradeep Upadhyay, who works in a shop selling ceiling fans and earns around Rs 15,000 a month.

Tushar, who now wants to study Maths (Hons) from Hansraj College and ultimately become a Chartered Accountant, said: "I give tuitions to students from classes VIII-X, including those from private schools like Don Bosco. I like it but it is basically to support my family."

Like him, Shameem Ansari (17), a science student at the School of Excellence in Dwarka had also studied diligently and expected to score around 85%. He figured that in the absence of tuitions and lack of re-



(From top left) Tushar Upadhyay, Shameem Ansari, Maitri Sharma

sources due to his working-class background, expecting more marks would be unrealistic. Shameem, however, was in for a pleasant surprise when he found out he had scored 94%.

His daily schedule included studying for four-five hours a day and dedicating the rest to playing puzzles online on a computer bought by his parents. "But I didn't take my studies lightly. I wanted to study hard and do well because it is my dream to become a computer engineer. I will apply for JEE and see where that takes me. I want to buy a house in Delhi someday where my parents, brother and I can stay happily," said Shameem.

His father is a piece-rated worker at a leather factory, who earns roughly Rs 8,000 a month, and his mother is a homemaker.

Shameem scored above 90% in all subjects, except English. "Till class X, I studied in a Hindi-medium school, so studying everything in English is still difficult for me. That's why I couldn't get high marks," he said.

Maitri Sharma (18), on the other hand, joined the School of Excellence in Rohini as her former school didn't offer the Humanities stream. "I decided on this school as they have the best teachers. Ultimately, education is not about government or private, it depends on students and teachers," she said.

Sharma scored 96%. "I want to study Psychology at LSR college or do law," she said.

## 2 panels set up for reforms in education

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

TWO NEW committees were constituted on Wednesday to work towards developing a new state education board for Delhi, as well as for introducing reforms in primary and elementary education in the capital.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia had announced that these committees would be formed in his 2020-2021 budget speech.

"Our government believes that education should play a guiding role in society. This is possible only when we connect education with the contemporary needs of society and the possibilities of tomorrow. For this, we will also have to make changes in our curriculum and examination system so that our students can go beyond book knowledge and gain practical knowledge and use it properly... The aim of the new Board is to establish such a system of education and examination in which children focus on understanding and learning rather [than] score marks by rote learning so that they prepare themselves for the possible challenges of the up-



coming world," he had said, on instituting a separate board while presenting the budget.

He had also announced that an 'expert committee' of expert scholars would prepare a new curriculum for classes from nursery to class VII of all Delhi government schools. Sisodia announced the creation of these two committees on Wednesday.

The committee for the creation of the framework for a Delhi State Education Board includes IIM Ahmedabad faculty Ankur Sarin, director ASER Centre Wilima Wadhwa, and director Alcohn group of schools Ashok Pandey.

The committee for the creation of a new curriculum for children upto the age of 14 includes principal Springdales School Ameeta Watal, CEO Pratham foundation Rukmini Banerji, and education advisor Step by Step School Abha Adams.

## 23-year-old woman cop found dead at home

New Delhi: A 23-year-old constable, who was posted at Tihar Jail, was found dead at her home in Southwest Delhi's Palam village on Wednesday. Police suspect Preeti Beniwal was allegedly killed by a person known to her.

Police said Beniwal joined the force in 2018 and was working with the 3rd Battalion of the Delhi Armed Police. She was posted at the Tihar Jail command centre as a daily diary entry writer. Her family lives in Rewari. DCP (Southwest) Devender

Arya said: "A police team went to the spot and found her unconscious on her bed. She had ligature marks on her body. A case of murder has been registered against unknown persons. We are awaiting the autopsy report to ascertain the cause of death."

An initial probe revealed she had shifted to the house recently and someone had come to visit her two days ago. Police said he left Wednesday and locked the door from the outside. ENS

## BRIEFLY

### Watch out for criminal entry: Faridabad CP

Gurgaon: Faridabad Police chief O P Singh Wednesday directed that a close watch be kept on criminals entering the district from other states, a week after a close aide of gangster Vikas Dubey was arrested from Faridabad, with police discovering that Dubey himself was had hid there briefly.

### Pregnant women need not get tested for Covid: Govt

New Delhi: The Delhi government Wednesday submitted before the HC it is "not mandatory for every pregnant woman to undergo Covid-19 test unless and until she is a confirmed Covid 'contact or suspected' of Covid.

### Tattoo artist arrested

New Delhi: A 32-year-old tattoo artist was arrested from East Patel Nagar for allegedly shooting at his brother-in-law and wife to get custody of his child, police said. ENS

## 55% of Covid patients at Max had no co-morbidities

ASTHA SAXENA  
NEW DELHI, JULY 14

ABOUT 55% of the total number of patients admitted to Max Healthcare hospitals for Covid-19 treatment had no comorbidities while the fatality rate among these patients was 3%, reveals an analysis of 4,900 patients treated at various centres of the chain from April till July 14.

The data has been collated from seven centres from Delhi and Mumbai, with the majority of patients admitted to Max Smart Super Specialty Hospital in Delhi, and Nanavati Super Specialty Hospital in Mumbai.

Of the total patients, 3,900 have been discharged and around 700 are still admitted at the hospitals. The mortality rate among the patients under 45 years was around 1.7%, 9.6% in 45-59 years, 23% in 60-74 years and 40% in the patients above 75 years.

"Comorbid conditions were a major risk factor in all the Covid patients, with over 30% mortality in those with comorbidities, compared to less than 1% in those with none. Of the total number of patients, 56% had no comorbidities. The highest mortality was in patients with comorbidities like complicated diabetes and respiratory diseases," said Dr Sandeep Budhiraja, Group Medical Director, Max Hospital.

The data shows that 30% of patients require ICU admission. Of these, 30% require straight admission to ICU, with 82% of them



## ACROSS SEVEN MAX HOSPITALS

AGE GROUP OF ADMITTED PATIENTS		MORTALITY RATE AMONG AGE GROUPS	
Below 45	486 (45%)	Below 45	1.7%
45-59	312 (29%)	45-59	9.6%
60-74	224 (21%)	60-74	23%
75 plus	48 (4%)	75 plus	40%

CO-MORBIDITIES IN PATIENTS	
None	480 (44%)
One or more	620 (56%)

recovering from the illness. "If a patient directly gets admitted to the ICU, then the mortality rate is higher as either the patient has reached the hospital in a critical condition or has reacted late to the illness," added Dr Budhiraja.

The fatality rate of patients who did not require oxygen was far lower at 5%. The fatality rate was significantly higher — up to six times — in patients with shortness of breath. The highest mortality rate was reported among patients with symptoms

of fever. As per data, 88% of the deceased were symptomatic.

For the last two weeks, there has been a dip in admissions, but the percentage of ICU patients has remained consistent. "In the first week of June, around 20% of total patients were admitted to the ICU. At present, the figure is at 26%. The number of patients in the ward has gone down but patients in the ICU have been almost the same," said Dr Vinitaa Jha, senior vice-president, research and academics, Max healthcare.

## For volunteer's family, concerns about clearing loans

SOURAV ROY BARMAN  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

THE FAMILY of Arun Singh, a civil defence volunteer who toiled for over three months arranging food for the poor during the lockdown and died of Covid on Monday, Wednesday said they were facing financial distress owing to loans taken to meet the expenses during his hospitalisation.

Singh is survived by his wife and two children — a son in class IX and a daughter who cleared class XII boards on the day he passed away at Dwarka's Venkateshwar Hospital.

Taking note of *The Indian Express* report on Singh's death,

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Wednesday tweeted: "Arun Singh ji succumbed to Covid in the course of his duty, feeding thousands of people in the last 3 months. I salute his sacrifice and offer my heartfelt condolences to his grieving family. We stand with them in their hour of need."

Dwarka MLA Vinay Mishra tweeted that he will speak to the CM and make sure that Singh's family gets financial assistance and a job. SDM (Dwarka) Chander Shekhar said he was in the process of putting up a file relating to compensation to Singh's family before the government.

M L Singh, Arun's elder brother, told *The Indian Express*



*The Indian Express* report dated July 15. Arun Singh, a 48-year-old civil defence volunteer, is survived by his wife and two teenage children

that the hospital bill had come to over Rs 4 lakh. The 48-year-old was admitted to hospital in the early hours of July 4 after he

complained of breathlessness, days after he tested positive for Covid-19.

"The private hospital we took him to is barely 2 km from our home. So we had no option. Later, we wanted to shift him to a government hospital but were told by hospital authorities that he was in a critical condition and that we will have to undertake any such move at our own risk."

"Eventually, he stayed on at the private hospital. The bill kept increasing and we took loans to meet the expenses. The final bill was over Rs 4 lakh," M L Singh, who is privately employed, said.

"My primary concern is regarding the two children, one of whom is still in school. My niece just cleared her

boards..." Singh said.

The Delhi government has an honorary compensation scheme of Rs one crore for the family of employees who die of corona while on Covid-19 duty. "Any person including doctor, nurse, paramedical staff, security/sanitation staff, or any other government officer/official including police officer/official, whether temporary or permanent employee or contractual, in government or private sector, deployed for COVID-19 duties by Government of NCT of Delhi, if expires by contracting the disease, during discharge of his/her duty, his/her family shall be compensated with ex-gratia amount of Rs one crore, posthumously," says a health department order dated April 19.

## Tweets rile police, court says not targeted at you

PRITAMPAL SINGH  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

THE DELHI Police Wednesday opposed tweets allegedly describing them as "massive Hindutva machinery" following the arrest of Pinjra Tod activist Devangana Kalita, saying that "it is nothing, but damage to our country".

Referring to various tweets on the social media, Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Aman Lekhi submitted before Justice Vibhu Bakhrur: "What they are saying is that by prosecuting them... the massive Hindutva machinery is at stake for the purpose of making criminals of innocent people..."

"This is reprehensible... Are you going to communalise the police, by presenting in this manner..." Lekhi said, adding that "whatever the opinion may be, the comment has to be civilised. This is an uncivilised comment in the extreme. It is nothing but damage to our country. This has to be checked by both sides..."

Justice Bakhrur expressed that "this is not against any organisation. They are saying narratives of Jihadis, feminist, communist conspiracies are propagated by Hindutva machinery. They are not saying police is this machinery."

The ASG responded, "Whatever issue may arise, few things which I feel should be left untouched."

The judge said, "We are also facing this issue. Social media in one sense is a very unruly horse. You don't know how it picks up. It's not that anybody or everybody is targeted... But this is the animal, the social media is. It is not only to your agency, but other agencies as well."

The ASG, accompanied by advocates Amit Mahajan and Rajat Nair, however, submitted: "It is not our case, as seems to be, that there is any endorsement of media trial. That is absolutely not our case too. It is something, which has to be avoided."

Kalita, 31, had sought directions to the police not to leak allegations about her to the media while investigation was pending. As per her petition, Kalita is accused in four FIRs, including one for allegedly participating in protests in Darya Ganj on December 20 last year and two for her alleged role in the anti-CAA



Pinjra Tod activist Devangana Kalita

Jafrabad sit-in protest in February.

She has also sought directions to police to "forthwith withdraw all allegations" contained in a June 2 "brief note" handed to the media.

ASG Lekhi submitted that the reason for issuance of the press note was not to prejudice her case or to attack her reputation.

Clarifying that it was not a selective leak as alleged, and was sent to 480 persons who are part of the WhatsApp group of the Delhi Police and media persons, the ASG further said that "the only motivation behind the issuance of the press note was the awareness..."

He contended that "being an institution of social control, there is an accountability, which mandates that the trust deficit does not in any way intervene".

"Because this (Delhi Police) is a public body and a public body is accountable for its actions..." Lekhi said.

Lekhi added that Kalita never "dissociated" herself from the tweets.

Justice Bakhrur observed, "You cannot equate (tweets related to her with) State action... Let us take at the worst, that the information on social media and the campaign on social media is being run by the accused or on their behalf. You can't equate the two. It's not a dialogue that is to be played out there. Presumption of innocence is not destroyed by a person who says that I am innocent and runs a campaign to that effect. Presumption of innocence is sought to be destroyed when information contrary to that is leaked in the media. So it is not on an equal footing that you have joined the issue in the public domain."

## Court-monitored probe plea by Pinjra Tod members turned down

ANAND MOHAN J  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

A DELHI court has rejected the application of Pinjra Tod members, arrested in a Northeast Delhi riots case, seeking a court-monitored investigation.

Rejecting the application, Additional Sessions Judge Dharmender Rana observed that accused Devangana Kalita and Natasha Narwal have an "undeniable fundamental right of fair trial which is essentially founded upon the bedrock of fair investigation. However, the apprehension of accused in the instant case seems based more on anxiety generated because of incarceration and less on any substantial basis or sound logic".

Adit Pujari and Tusharika Mattoo, counsel for the accused, had argued that the investigation is not in accordance with accepted tenets of a fair investi-

gation, "since it is likely that the perpetrators of the offences and ensuing riots are hand in glove with the investigating agency".

The lawyers submitted to the court that there were multiple videos of Jafrabad protest site which were taken by the investigating agency and reporters, however "police is deliberately withholding such an important piece of evidence".

"There appears to be a deliberate and willful failure to investigate the existence of pro-CAA rallies and hateful statements made between 22.02.2020 to 26.02.2020 made by pro-CAA persons and pro-CAA leaders of the area..." they submitted.

"I find no valid grounds to saddle the already overburdened investigating agency with additional responsibility in the name of monitoring investigation. Prayer for calling bi-weekly reports stands rejected," the order read.

## Dadri toll plaza manager assaulted after tax row

Noida: A toll plaza manager was beaten up allegedly by a group of men in full public view after he asked them to pay tax. The incident took place at the Dadri toll plaza on the Eastern Peripheral Expressway Tuesday evening.

Police said Jitendra Singh Pawar was at the plaza when a group of men were asked to pay tax for their four-wheeler. An argument took place, which escalated and the men allegedly assaulted Pawar.

CCTV footage of the incident, which has gone viral, shows six men stepping out of a black

Scorpio, a few metres ahead of the toll plaza. The men identify one person from the toll staff and drag him. They can be seen kicking and punching him as he tries to shield himself. Seconds later, the men return to their vehicle without being stopped by passersby. The footage is being examined by police.

"The victim was rushed to a local government hospital. An FIR has been filed against one named and other unnamed accused. Arrests will be made soon," said Akhilesh Dixit, SI, Dadri police station. **ENS**

## 1,647 NEW CASES 2,643 RECOVERIES ON WEDNESDAY

# Trend continues of more recoveries than new cases, CM says under control but stay cautious

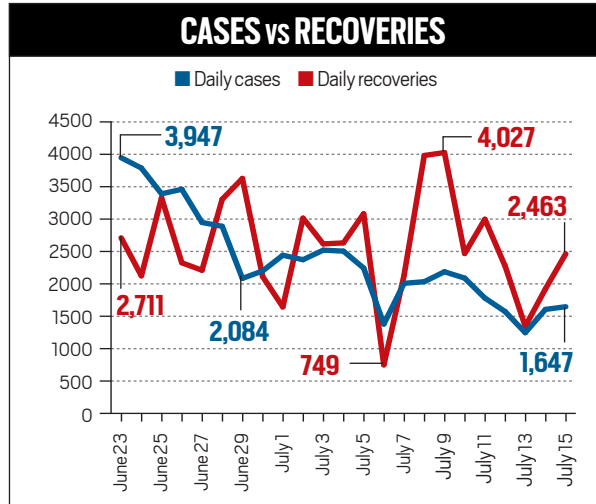
MALLICA JOSHI & SOURAV ROY BARMAN  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

FOR THE past two weeks, Delhi has been on a path with declining active Covid-19 cases and higher recoveries per day as compared to new cases. Between July 2 and July 15, 27,191 people contracted the disease while 35,707 recovered from it, Delhi government data states.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said Wednesday that the capital's Covid-19 growth has slowed, remaining well below previous projections, due to the Delhi government's decision to work in tandem with the Centre, NGOs, spiritual organisations, and its policy of home isolation.

Addressing a webcast on the city's Covid-19 situation, which he said was "under control", the CM, however, cautioned that there was no room for complacency.

"We were expecting 2.5 lakh cases by July 15, as per the Centre's formula based on the previous trend of Covid growth. There were supposed to be 1.34 lakh active



	Total	Vacant
TOTAL CASES	1,16,993	
HOSPITAL BEDS	15,353	11,476
VENTILATORS	1,103	613

	Daily cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
July 14	1,606	1,924	35	21,063
July 15	1,647	2,463	41	22,528
Total	17,807*	95,699	3,487	7,36,436

\*Total active cases



The CM insisted that there was no room for complacency

cases, for which 34,000 beds were required. But due to close coordination between the local administration and the Centre, we have about 18,600 active cases currently. Only 4,000 hospital beds are occupied out of 15,000. The situation is under control but we can't afford to be complacent as cases may go up any time," Kejriwal said.

On Wednesday, the city saw 1,647 new Covid cases and 2,463 recoveries. The total case count in Delhi so far is 1,16,993 and of these 17,807 are active.

The number of active cases, too, has been declining in the city over the past two weeks. A small increase was seen on two days - July 6 and July 7. While the num-

ber of active cases touched 28,329 on June 27 - the highest so far - it dipped to 17,807 on Wednesday. Active cases in the city were below the 18,000 mark in the first week of June before this.

Last month, the state government had projected that Delhi's case count would be 1 lakh by the end of June, 2.5 lakh by July 15, and 5.32 lakh by July 31. It had also said the city will require at least 15,000 beds by June 30, 33,000 by July 15, and 80,000 by July 31.

"We realised that many were not getting tested on time. Not enough ambulances were available. Now, there are enough ambulances and no distress calls are rejected. The lengthy procedural formalities before hospital admissions were also claiming lives. Now, we have created holding areas in every hospital where patients are administered oxygen even as formalities take place. We had 4,100 beds on June 1 and 15,000 beds now. There were 300 ICUs on June 1 which have risen to 2,100 now, out of which 1,000 are occupied. We are also banking on plasma therapy till the vaccine arrives," Kejriwal said.

He also said that the number of deaths had fallen significantly

from around a 100 a day in the beginning of June to an average of 30-35 now. He attributed the high rate of deaths recorded previously to delayed testing, shortage of ambulances, and lengthy formalities before admissions in hospitals.

The Delhi government has created two plasma banks in two hospitals, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences and Lok Nayak.

Kejriwal also said Lok Nayak had made a remarkable turnaround. "When things were going wrong, everyone was pointing out faults. We did not get perturbed and tried to address the shortcomings. Today, Lok Nayak is being praised... We are in a better position as compared to June but that does not mean we have won the war," he said.

Kejriwal said the 'Delhi model', which has been "praised by the Prime Minister as well", is rooted in the principles of collective approach and teamwork.

"The Centre helped us in starting rapid antigen tests, increasing capacity of testing. Home isolation is another pillar on which the Delhi model stands. Even today, in many states, testing is not being done as home isolation facility is not available," he said.

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R.K. Singh  
Minister of State (IC) Power and New & Renewable Energy & Minister of State, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

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### Key Achievements

	Loan Growth of almost 10 times in a Decade.
	A key implementation partner for various flagship schemes of Government like RAPDRP/IPDS, SAUBHAGYA, UDAY, DDUGJY and 24x7 Power for All.
	Implemented wide range of CSR Activities like Swachh Bharat, Safe Drinking Water, Skill Development, Sanitation etc. of ₹ 1000 crore so far including ₹ 200 crore to PM CARES Fund.

## Funding For A Brighter Tomorrow

## 6 GOVT &amp; POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



## MEETING BUZZ

SENIOR CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi's reported remarks at an NSUI meeting on Wednesday sent the party into a tizzy. Speaking to office-bearers of the party's students wing, Rahul is said to have observed that whosoever wants to leave the party will leave and they should not be unduly worried about it. He reportedly added that when a big leader leaves the party, it will open doors for youths like them. The Congress immediately denied he made any such remark, as it was being read in the context of speculation that Sachin Pilot could leave the party.

## TURNING TO PRAYER

WITH SIX NSCN-IM cadres gunned down by security forces in Arunachal Pradesh four days ago and peace talks with the Indian government having reached a stalemate, the NSCN-IM has appealed to Nagas across states to turn to prayer. The group has declared July 19 as a day of fasting and prayer for the Council of Nagalim Churches. It has called upon Nagas to pray for the destruction of all spiritual forces that are "working against" them and for reconciliation so that an early solution can be reached.

## TALKING TIES

RUSSIA IS quite active on the diplomatic channels as India and China are locked in a border standoff for more than nine weeks now. On Wednesday, a telephone conversation took place between Indian ambassador D Bala Venkatesh Varma and Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Morgulov, in which bilateral and regional issues of mutual interest were discussed. A day earlier, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Vershinin met ambassador Varma and they discussed cooperation at international platforms, including in the context of India's election to the UN Security Council in 2021-2022 as a non-permanent member.

## Bengal CM: Almost 99% beneficiaries got govt relief for Amphan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, JULY 15

WEST BENGAL Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday said that almost 99 per cent beneficiaries had received relief for Cyclone Amphan from her government.

"We have no intention to deprive anyone. There were some mistakes in the beneficiary list for Amphan because it was made in a hurry. Some political party wants to politicise it. Some media is also campaigning on this. It creates panic. Don't create panic among the people," she said. Speaking to the media from the state secretariat, Banerjee announced a tribute for those who have died while leading the fight against Covid-19. She announced one government job for their next of kin, apart from the state insurance scheme under which Rs 10 lakh will be given to the bereaved families. At least 12 people associated



Mamata Banerjee

with the state government have died after being infected by coronavirus while on duty.

Banerjee also announced a special gallantry award for all "Covid warriors" and a certificate acknowledging their service. The 'CM Medal for Covid Warriors' and a certificate will be awarded to all frontline workers who have tested positive for Covid-19 and recovered. The award will be extended to private frontline workers, too. The decision was taken at a cabinet meeting.

"We want to salute their spirit and their service. So many of them got infected and they came back to their jobs after getting cured. The Covid warriors are doing the greatest service to the nation," Banerjee said.

## BJP presented distorted facts about MLA death, Mamata writes to Kovind

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, JULY 15

WEST BENGAL Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has written to President Ram Nath Kovind, claiming that the BJP may have presented "distorted facts" to him about the death of an MLA and party member in West Bengal.

This comes a day after a BJP delegation met the President and sought a CBI probe into the death of Hemtabad MLA Debendra Nath Ray, who was found hanging near his home in North Dinajpur district Monday. Ray won the Hemtabad (reserved) seat on a CPM ticket in 2016 but later joined the BJP. He had not resigned from the Assembly.

Meanwhile, Nilay Singh, a resident of Malda, was arrested on Wednesday in connection with the case and produced in a court, which sent him to police custody for 10 days.



Derek O'Brien with the President at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Twitter

The BJP delegation had told the President that Ray's "murder" is another one in a long series of "political killings" in the state and sought dismissal of the Trinamool Congress government.

On Wednesday, a Trinamool Congress delegation led by Rajya Sabha MP Derek O'Brien called on the President and submitted the letter by Banerjee.

The Chief Minister has said in her letter that the "suspected suicide" by the BJP leader was being wrongly portrayed as a "political case" by the opposition party.

## Cong says rebels conspired against Gehlot govt, Speaker issues disqualification notices

DEEP MUKHERJEE JAIPUR, JULY 15

IN PETITIONS filed to the Speaker seeking disqualification of Sachin Pilot and 18 MLAs loyal to him, the Congress cited their absence from legislature party (CLP) meetings, and accused them of conspiring to bring down the party's government in Rajasthan. Statements made by the rebel MLAs to the media indicate that they have "voluntarily given up the membership of the Congress", the petitions said.

Pilot was removed as deputy chief minister and president of the state Congress on Tuesday. Late in the night, the Assembly Secretariat issued notices to all 19 MLAs after Congress Chief Whip Mahesh Joshi submitted disqualification petitions to Speaker C P Joshi.

The notices were pasted at the entrance to the rebel MLAs' homes. They were also sent to the MLAs by email, SMS and WhatsApp, and to their local and permanent addresses.

"...The individual in question has, despite requests, (i) deliberately absented himself from... two successive meetings of the Congress Legislature Party, (ii) conspired to bring down the elected government... in Rajasthan; (iii) conducted himself in an openly hostile and prejudicial manner to the interests of INC and its Government of Rajasthan; (iv) remained mysteriously inaccessible in pursuance of this sinister objective for the last few days; (v) not provided any reasons or explanation for his continued absence; (vi) is admittedly part of a group that is seeking to destabilise the gov-

ernment and members of which have categorically declared this intention... to the media in three separate statements made on the evening of July 13th, 2020," said the petition seeking disqualification of the MLA from Gudamalani in Barmer district, Hemaram Choudhary.

"All of these lead inescapably to the conclusion that the individual has voluntarily given up membership of the Indian National Congress and the provisions of Para 2(1)(a) of the Tenth Schedule are attracted to disqualify him with immediate effect," the petition said. It said Choudhary acted "in concert, as a group headed by Shri Sachin Pilot, and in association with (the) other MLAs".

"These are open challenges to the authority of the party leadership and represent the undeniable expression of a malicious revolt against the party and its ideology. The immediate conclusion that flows from these statements is that Shri Hemaram Choudhary... along with those individuals cited above have all voluntarily given up membership of the Indian National Congress party by conspiring against the party and by acting in a manner prejudicial and harmful to the interests of the party and the Rajasthan Congress government," the petition said.

The notices to the rebel MLAs sought their written submissions within three days, and said the petitions would be brought before the Speaker on July 17 afternoon for appropriate action. If the MLAs failed to send their remarks or submissions, the petition would be disposed of anyway, the notices said.



Disqualification notice outside the residence of Viratnagar MLA Indraj Gurjar, one of the supporters of Sachin Pilot, in Jaipur on Wednesday. Rohit Jain Paras

## As Gehlot accuses Pilot of horse-trading, rebel camp hits back: 'How much did you pay us?'

Party sources say rebellion was in the works, police notice only forced Pilot to play his hand early

HAMZAKHAN &amp; DEEP MUKHERJEE JAIPUR, JULY 15

THE POLITICAL impasse in Rajasthan dragged on for the fifth day, with Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot launching a frontal attack on rebel Congress leader Sachin Pilot, accusing him of "horse-trading", and the rival camp responding by questioning the CM's allegations and saying he was "deluding the public".

Sources in the Congress also claimed that the rebellion led by Sachin Pilot had been brewing for long and that the notice issued to him by the Special Operations Group of the Rajasthan Police—in a probe into an alleged bid to topple the state government—may have forced him to play his hand immediately, without waiting for the required numbers to topple the government.

On Wednesday, Gehlot accused his former deputy of in-

dulging in horse trading and being involved in the BJP's "conspiracy" to topple the government.

Responding to the CM's allegations, two Congress MLAs from the Pilot camp, Murari Lal from Dausa constituency and Ramesh Chand Meena from Sapotra, issued video statements on Wednesday, citing their own past when they had joined the Congress from the BSP.

In a video posted by Lokendra Singh, who manages media relations for Pilot, Murari Lal is seen as saying, "We are hurt at the way he levelled allegations of corruption against us today. I want to ask him: when we came to the Congress from the BSP during his previous government's tenure, how much money did we take from him? Following that, he used to give speeches saying he hasn't seen such honest people and MLAs. Those who were honest then, how did they become corrupt today."

In a similar video, this one



Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot addresses the media in Jaipur on Wednesday. PTI

## Ex-Cong, 10 of 13 'kingmaker' Independents likely to back CM

DEEP MUKHERJEE JAIPUR, JULY 15

WITH THE Congress pushing for disqualification of 19 party MLAs, including former Rajasthan deputy chief minister Sachin Pilot, 13 Independent legislators in the Assembly are set to play a crucial role.

Without Pilot and the other 18 MLAs, the Congress's strength in the 200-member House will go down from 107 to 88—or 89 with support of ally RLD. And this is where support of the Independents becomes crucial in order to reach the majority mark of 101.

Ten of these Independents, already 'associated members' of the Congress, are known to be in the camp of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot. Most of them, originally from Congress, contested the 2018 Assembly polls as Independents after being denied a party ticket given the power struggle between Pilot and Gehlot camps, and as such are mostly Gehlot loyalists.

In the present crisis, they have issued statements in support of

the CM.

"I have been a three-time Congress MLA and was a state minister earlier. In my constituency (Dudu, in Jaipur district), I am Congress party. I was denied a ticket in 2018 only because I am a supporter of Ashok Gehlot," Independent legislator Babul Nagar said.

"I can never think of leaving the Congress. The government in Rajasthan is secure. We will not let BJP destabilise it," said Nagar, who defeated official candidates of both BJP and Congress, and won by over 14,500 votes.

Kanti Prasad, MLA from Thanagazi, in Alwar district, also said he has pledged his support to the Gehlot government. "After I was denied a ticket (by Congress) for the Assembly polls, I won as Independent. All 10 of us—Independents—are with the government. We are all staying at Hotel Fairmont in Jaipur," he said.

Among other Independents supporting Gehlot is Mahadeo Singh, MLA from Khandela in Sikar district and a six-time legislator who was a Union minister in the UPA-2. The veteran

Congressman was denied a ticket from Khandela in 2018 and the Congress fielded Subhash Meel, Youth Congress's then Sikar district president. Meel finished third in the polls.

Alok Beniwal, son of senior Congress leader and former Gujarat governor Kamla Beniwal, won as Independent from Shahpura constituency after he was denied a ticket and is believed to be supporting the government.

The other notable Independent MLAs who are understood to be supporting the Congress government include Sanyam Lodha, once considered close to the Pilot camp but now said to be firmly behind Gehlot, Laxman Meena, Ramkesh, and Raj Kumar Gaer.

Support from most of these Independent MLAs had tilted the power equation for the CM post in Gehlot's favour after the Assembly polls.

Twelve of the 13 Independents were made associated members of the Congress a few months after the Assembly polls. FULL REPORT ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## House panel to explore modernisation of legislation used to fight pandemic

LIZ MATHEW &amp; MANOJ CGG NEW DELHI, JULY 15

WITH THE Central government having invoked the Disaster Management Act and Epidemic Diseases Act to fight the coronavirus pandemic, a parliamentary panel on Wednesday asked the government to see if there is any overlap between the two laws and decided to explore ways to make them futuristic, it was learnt.

The Standing Committee on Home Affairs chaired by Congress leader Anand Sharma, which met for the first time since the lockdown began in March, also observed that a national database of migrant workers and labour should be prepared immediately so that they are not left out of government benefits wherever they are. A similar arrangement for the urban poor was also talked about.

The panel asked the government to furnish details about the number of shelters set up for migrants and the number of people accommodated, it was learnt. On the overlap of laws, the panel asked Home Ministry officials to get back to them on the provisions in both laws that need revisiting. "The members wanted to see if there is a need to correlate the two Acts. They also want to explore the possibilities of strengthening provisions in the laws that enable the government to fight a

pandemic situation and make them futuristic," said a source familiar with the developments.

Wednesday's meeting was cordial and members appreciated the steps taken by the government, it was learnt.

The meeting was scheduled in June, but it was cancelled as many MPs had expressed their inability to be present in the national capital due to the Covid situation. FULL REPORT ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

Department officials, including

Shreya Guha, then principal secretary, Tourism, was known to all.

"Department officials are indifferent towards achieving high tourism growth and introducing new products, despite my constant prodding and initiatives..." Singh had tweeted on June 25. Earlier this month, Guha had been replaced.

## SC Collegium nod for nine permanent judges

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 15

THE SUPREME Court Collegium has approved proposals to appoint nine additional judges as permanent judges in Himachal Pradesh, Calcutta and Punjab and Haryana High Courts.

The Collegium headed by Chief Justice of India S A Bobde met here on July 14 and agreed to elevate Justice Jyotsna Rewal, Additional Judge of Himachal

## In a fix after Pilot's no to joining BJP, saffron party says game 'not concluded yet'

LIZ MATHEW NEW DELHI, JULY 15

FORMER RAJASTHAN deputy chief minister and Congress leader Sachin Pilot's reiteration that joining BJP is not an option for him seems to have thrown the saffron party in a fix, which on Wednesday went back to a "wait and watch" mode. But the fight for the embattled Ashok Gehlot government may not be over still, with Union minister and senior BJP leader from the state Gajendra Singh Shekhawat indicating that it has "not concluded yet".

Party leaders maintained that the BJP, as the main Opposition in Rajasthan, will take "every action to see that the Gehlot government fails to prove (its) majority" in the Assembly.

According to BJP leaders, the party has discussed several plans in case Pilot and Rajasthan Congress MLAs backing him do not vote for the Gehlot government. "But we need to get a final picture on what Pilot wants, and what (kind of support) he has," a party leader said.

"We are waiting and watching, but the BJP will help those who are leaving the Congress camp," a senior BJP leader said. "As an opposition party, we will have to see that the Ashok Gehlot government is defeated (in a floor test)."

While many in the BJP had felt that Pilot would be an asset to the party if he leaves the Congress with a bunch of legislators, and that the BJP could then initiate action to topple the Gehlot government, the former PCC chief's stand seems to have disappointed them.

On Wednesday, Pilot told *The Indian Express* that joining BJP is not an option before him, which seems to have left BJP leaders a little confused.

Party leaders are now criticising Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot for his remark that he had "proof that horse-trading was being committed", and that the "deputy chief minister and PCC president himself (Pilot) was doing the deal".

Union minister and senior BJP leader from the state, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, told *The Indian Express*, "If the Chief Minister had proof that his deputy was involved in horse-trading, why did he and the Congress blame BJP? Where did he get the proof? He should make it public and apologise to the BJP."

Shekhawat said the BJP has said "from day one" that this was an internal issue of the Congress. "We were nowhere in the picture. But the Congress blamed BJP for it (the crisis). Gehlot should speak out now about the allegation he made," he said.

Asked whether the BJP would see that the government is defeated in a floor test, Shekhawat said: "We wish from the core of our heart this corrupt government goes. As an opposition party, the BJP has a role to see that the anti-people government is thrown out."

According to a BJP leader, who is a national office-bearer, the party can get into action if Pilot brings out at least 20-25 MLAs from the Congress camp, including Independents.

# 7 EXPRESS NETWORK

## Apex court seeks J&K reply on HC bar association chief's detention

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

THE SUPREME Court on Wednesday asked the Jammu and Kashmir administration to explain the detention of High Court Bar Association president Mian Abdul Qayoom who was booked under the Public Safety Act, 1978, in August 2019 following the revocation of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

"He is 73 years old. We want to know on what basis you would like to retain him in Delhi's Tihar," a bench of Justices S K Kaul and Indu Malhotra told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta. The court added that his detention period as per order is also about to expire.

Mehta sought time to consider various aspects following which the bench fixed July 23 to hear the matter next.

Appearing for Qayoom, Senior Advocate Dushyant Dave said the detention order was for a limited period, for around a year.

Justice Kaul remarked that was the reason the court issued a notice on the plea on the previous date of hearing. Dave contended that the matter was not listed despite specific directions by the court.

Mehta said Qayoom's ideology "went against national interests".

"His detention period is about to expire. His ideology remains the same," Justice Kaul told Mehta and asked, "In the current Covid scenario, would you still like to keep this pending?"

## 99 doctors have died of Covid across country, says IMA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PUNE, JULY 15

AS MANY as 99 doctors across the country have fallen to the coronavirus while 1,302 have been infected, the Indian Medical Association said Wednesday as it declared a red alert for medical practitioners.

Among those infected are 586 practising doctors, 566 resident doctors and 150 house surgeons, according to a national Covid registry set up by IMA.

Of the doctors who died, 73 were above 50 years while 19 were in the 35-50 age group. Seven were under 35.

IMA national president Dr Rajan Sharma said doctors need to take charge of the situation and ensure the safety of themselves, their families, and their colleagues and staff. "Senior doctors who are decision makers for the institutions have enhanced responsibility of taking care of their flock. Friendly and scientific batch posting needs to be implemented," Sharma said.

Asking health workers to raise their guard, the IMA stressed on maintaining safety and following protocol.

"If Covid mortality has to be lessened, it has to start with doctors and hospitals. This requires intense review and updating of all administrative set ups in the hospitals including the infection control protocols..." the IMA said.

## Lockdown, night curfew in Goa

Panaji: Faced with an alarming rise in Covid-19 cases, the Goa government Wednesday announced that it would impose a lockdown from Thursday night till Monday morning, as well as a night curfew till August 10, to control the spiralling spread.

The government has "no choice left to instil discipline" among the people, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said, adding that those who violate the curbs will be taken into custody.

With the onset of monsoon, Sawant said the government had an estimate of a "possible surge" in cases. "We feel that possibly we have reached that estimate, the highest spike anticipated," he said.

The lockdown will continue till 6 am on Monday (July 20).

The "night janata curfew" will be between 8 pm and 6 am. Only those working in industries in second and third shifts, besides those with medical emergencies, will be allowed to step out, CM said. **ENS**

# LAC talks very positive, PLA ready to discuss Pangong, says official

China Study Group meets, Rajnath heads to Ladakh tomorrow

KRISHN KAUSHIK & DEEPTIMAN TIWARY  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15



Rajnath Singh

A DAY after XIV Corps Commander Lt General Harinder Singh and South Xinjiang Military Region Commander Major General Liu Lin held talks for nearly 15 hours on disengagement of troops along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh, sources said the two sides had been able to "break the ice" on the standoff at Pangong Tso.

A senior official of the security establishment told *The Indian Express* Wednesday: "Earlier, China was not even ready to talk about Pangong Tso. Now we have agreed to discuss not just Finger 4 but Finger 8 too as well... things will be firm up in subsequent meetings. The signs of resolution are very, very positive."

In Pangong Tso, Chinese troops had come 8 km west of Finger 8 which India says marks the LAC. While the PLA has vacated the Finger 4 base area, its troops continue to occupy the ridge line there.

In Beijing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said: "Chinese and Indian border troops held the fourth round of commander-level talks on July 14. Building on the common understanding reached at the previous three rounds of commander-level

talks and corresponding implementation work, the two sides achieved progress in further disengagement between border troops as well as easing the situation at the western sector of the China-India boundary. We hope India will work with China to implement our consensus with concrete actions and jointly safeguard peace and tranquility in the border areas."

Army chief General MM Naravane met Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday morning.

While there was no official statement from either the government or the Army on the talks in Chushul, the China Study Group, the government's apex advisory body on China, met in the evening for deliberations on the future course of action.

The China Study Group, which is headed by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and has top officials of the security establishment as its members, was to take up the outcome of discussions between the Corps Commanders. A meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs is

also expected shortly to take the disengagement process forward.

Rajnath Singh is scheduled to visit Ladakh on July 17, and is likely to visit forward areas to meet the troops. He is also likely to conduct a detailed review of the situation at the headquarters of XIV Corps in Leh. Singh will visit Jammu and Kashmir the next day.

Earlier this month, his visit to Ladakh was deferred and Prime Minister Narendra Modi made an unannounced visit on July 3.

On the meeting of the Corps Commanders — this was their fourth meeting since the standoff began two months ago — sources said the talks began shortly after 11 am Tuesday and continued until 2 am Wednesday.

Chinese troops are also blocking Indian access to traditional patrolling limits on the Depsang Plains, not far from the strategic Indian outpost at Daulat Beg Oldie near the Karakoram Pass in the north.

The patrolling limits have been decided by the China Study Group and Indian forces assert their presence by patrolling till these points.

Meanwhile, the Defence Minister also chaired a special meeting of the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) to empower the Army, Navy and Air Force to make capital procurement up to Rs 300 crore without approaching the DAC, making the acquisition process quicker.

## Chinese state-owned firms new East India Company, says top US official

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

US SECRETARY of State Mike Pompeo said Wednesday he spoke to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and that they talked about "conflict" on the India-China border and "risks" emanating from the Chinese telecommunications infrastructure.

Separately, US Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, David R Stilwell, said Chinese state enterprises are "modern-day equivalents of the East India Company".

"These state-owned enterprises are PRC instruments of abuse, and we should highlight their improper behaviour," Stilwell said. "We should also shine light on how these companies operate around the world..."

He said, "In all our societies, citizens deserve to know the differences between commercial enterprises and instruments of foreign state power. These state enterprises are modern-day equivalents of the East India Company."

In Washington DC, Pompeo described India as an "important partner" of the US and said, "We have a great relationship with my Foreign Minister counterpart



India is a key partner: Mike Pompeo

we talked frequently, about a broad range of issues. We talked about the conflict they had on their border with China. We have talked about the risks that emanates to China from Chinese telecommunications infrastructure there."

"You saw the decision they made to ban some several dozen Chinese software firms from operating. I think the whole world is coalescing around the challenge that we face and the democracies, the free nations of the world will push back on these challenges together," he said.

Stilwell, who was speaking at a virtual conference, said, "When Beijing uses coercion, empty promises, disinformation, contempt for rules, bad-faith diplomacy, and other underhanded tactics in the South China Sea, it is drawing on a playbook that it uses worldwide. We see it in the East China Sea... We see it in the Himalayas, where Beijing recently took aggressive action on its frontiers with India."

# US reverses order, back to flexible rules for foreign students

KARISHMA MEHROTRA  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

LESS THAN a week after it had issued a directive saying international students with online-only classes would not be allowed visas to stay in the US, the Trump administration on Wednesday reversed the order.

The turnaround came on the heels of eight lawsuits from top-tier US universities, technology companies and state governments against the order. In a hearing that lasted less than five minutes on Tuesday US time, a district judge in Massachusetts said the parties had come to a resolution to rescind the directive. It now brings back into effect a March guidance allowing flexible student visa requirements during the coronavirus pandemic.

The order passed by the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) on July 6 required international students in the US to either shift to in-person classes or risk deportation.

Two days later, Harvard University and MIT filed a lawsuit against the government agency. Subsequently, 180 education institutions filed a legal brief in support, stating that they had invested heavily in planning in accordance with the March guidance, and that international students make substantial economic contributions. "The question is whether these students will pursue their education in the United States, where America can reap the benefits — or whether they will attend overseas, to the advantage of foreign nations," the amicus brief said.

Tech giants such as Facebook, Google, and Twitter also lent their support to the legal challenge on Monday, listing the contributions of international students to the US economy and skilled research. They quoted a report by the National Association of Foreign Student Advisers, that, for every seven international students living in the US, "three jobs are supported due to their presence". As well as a National Foundation for American Policy research that had found that "as of October 2018, approximately one-quarter of the private billion-dollar start-up businesses in the US

were founded by individuals who originally entered the United States on an F-1 visa". Los Angeles, Boston and New York municipalities filed briefs against the directive, while lawsuits were also filed by state attorney generals and other universities. Even 15 House Republicans wrote a letter against the ICE directive.

Reacting to the reversal, the Massachusetts attorney general tweeted: "This is why we sue. The rule was illegal and the Trump Administration knew they didn't have a chance. They may try this again. We will be ready."

Not all reactions were positive. "This, unfortunately, is yet another example of the administration caving to the pressure of the business lobby and open borders advocates who continue crafting the narrative that international students are somehow anything more than temporary visitors," said the Federation for American Immigration Reform.

There were around two lakh Indian students in the US in 2019, surpassed only by China, according to a report by the US-based Institute of International Education. International students, often not on financial loans, contribute around \$45 billion, it said, citing the US Department of Commerce. This sum helps the American government subsidise much of the fees for its own students.

Several students enrolled in the US questioned the frequent changes in policy by the Trump government. A third-year undergraduate at UC Berkeley Ankuta Jain said: "It was an unnecessary political move by the Trump administration. It's frustrating that something they didn't care to fight for caused so much stress for international students. But I felt supported by the academic community."

## Bengal officer in charge of migrant quarantine centres dies of Covid

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, JULY 15



Chandannagar Dy Magistrate Debdatta Roy was put on ventilator on Sunday and died the next day. Facebook

ON MAY 5, the first Shramik Special train to West Bengal, carrying 1,186 passengers from Ajmer, Rajasthan — most of them migrants — pulled into Dankuni Junction in West Bengal's Hooghly district. From then to July 1, when she went on leave after developing symptoms of Covid, Debdatta Roy, Deputy Magistrate of Chandannagar in Hooghly district and the officer tasked with overseeing the inflow of migrant labourers, has had her hands full.

On Monday morning, four days after she tested positive for Covid-19, the 38-year-old bureaucrat died, leaving behind her four-year-old son and husband, who has also tested positive and is in hospital.

Family members said Roy underwent a Covid test at B N Bose Memorial Hospital in Barrackpore, North 24 Parganas district. Her report, with the positive status, came last Thursday. However, she chose to go in for home quarantine. But on Sunday, she developed breathing problems and was admitted to Shramajibi Hospital in Serampore, Hooghly, where she was put on oxygen support. On Monday morning, she passed away.

Her colleagues remember Roy as an officer who always took the lead.

"She took charge of managing everything at quarantine centres meant for migrant labourers. She visited the centres several times to ensure that labourers got food and all other support," said a government official in Hooghly.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressed her condolences to the family and wrote a letter to Debdatta's husband,

calling her an "outstanding Covid warrior".

"In the forefront of our fight against Covid-19, Debdatta was an outstanding warrior who fought this crisis with extreme courage and determination. I salute her great spirit and sacrifice for the State," Banerjee wrote.

A 2011 batch officer of the West Bengal Civil Services, Debdatta was Block Development Officer at Purulia before she was moved to Chandannagar as Deputy Magistrate.

Hailing from Motijhil area of Dum Dum in North 24 Parganas district, Roy and her family had been living in her government quarters in Hooghly. Her husband Pabitra is associated with a consulting firm.

On Wednesday, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced that family members of "Covid warriors" who died of the virus would be given government jobs and Rs 10 lakh in financial assistance.

"Covid warriors" include doctors, healthcare officials, police and government employees.

The Chief Minister informed that 268 police personnel, 30 doctors, 43 nurses and 62 government officials in the state had been infected with the coronavirus.



Dr Mary Anitha (left) with six-month-old Elvin and his parents in Kochi. PTI

## Doctor cares for baby for month after his parents test positive

SHAJU PHILIP  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
JULY 15

A KERALA doctor looked after a six-month-old baby for a month after his parents tested positive for Covid-19 and fear of infection kept others from taking care of the infant.

On Wednesday, Dr Mary Anitha handed over Elvin to his parents, who have completed their home quarantine after being discharged from the hospital.

Elvin's parents, hailing from Ernakulam district, are nurses at a healthcare facility in Gurgaon. Last month, his father tested positive for Covid-19 and the mother returned with Elvin to Kerala.

After reaching Kochi, the woman was in home quarantine during which she tested positive. The district child welfare committee looked for people to take care of Elvin, but the fear of infection scared many away. The families of the parents did not turn up either.

Mary said, "On June 14, the child welfare committee ap-

## HC bars dharnas in lockdown

Thiruvananthapuram: Acting upon a PIL, a division bench of the Kerala High Court has directed that political organisations should not conduct protests or dharnas as such activities are against the restrictions on social gatherings issued by the Centre and the state governments during the lockdown. The bench of Chief Justice S

Manikumar said the general precautionary measures issued by the governments in the wake of Covid-19 are applicable to political parties as well. The court directive came in a petition seeking derecognition of political parties which hold protest marches, dharnas and processions violating lockdown restrictions. **ENS**

proached me... By the time the issue reached me, the baby had lived with his mother for several days after she tested positive and his chances of getting infected were very high."

A clinical psychologist, Mary runs an organisation for differently-abled children in Kochi.

The doctor said that without a second thought, she offered to look after the baby. "I discussed the issue with my family only after expressing my willingness to take care of the baby."

Mary has three children of her own. On June 15, she went to the

hospital and took the baby to an empty flat in her apartment complex. Thereafter, her children would take meals to the flat Mary and the baby were staying in and leave the food outside the door.

The doctor made video calls to Elvin's father and mother, who were under treatment in Gurgaon and Kochi, respectively.

Elvin's mother said they were indebted to the doctor. "The doctor was a godsend. Nobody would come forward to take care of a baby of a Covid-19 patient. I respect her as well as her family who supported her decision."

## Bihar allows home quarantine of asymptomatic patients

SANTOSH SINGH  
PATNA, JULY 15

THE BIHAR health department on Wednesday allowed home isolation for asymptomatic patients amid a sudden spurt in Covid-19 cases, especially in Patna, Bhagalpur, East Champaran, West Champaran and Begusarai.

Cases in Bihar have jumped from 10,250 on July 1 to 20,153 on July 15. Of these, 6,482 are active

and people were waiting three to four days to get tested. With Patna and Bhagalpur having 1,113 and 555 active cases, respectively, chaotic scenes were witnessed at two leading Patna hospitals — Nalanda Medical College and Hospital (NMCH) and AIIMS Patna, both Covid hospitals. Relatives of several patients made videos of AIIMS Patna allegedly not admitting patients despite availability of beds.

An AIIMS Patna doctor said: "We have 1,067 Covid beds and

cannot admit all patients. Relatives have to understand that it is a Covid hospital."

NMCH Medical Superintendent Dr NK Singh told *The Indian Express*: "We have about 200 spare beds from our total capacity of 447 beds, but we have been receiving several patients now, mostly referral cases from district hospitals. In a pandemic, we are trying to rise to the challenge. The number of deaths has been going up in recent days."

The state's main concern is

that 10-11 per cent of samples are testing positive as against 5-7 per cent until a fortnight ago.

Bihar Health Minister Mangal Pandey said he had reviewed the situation on increasing isolation beds and oxygen cylinders. The health department has issued an order for home isolation for asymptomatic cases.

Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Yadav accused NDA leaders of spreading the coronavirus by not following safety norms.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Ved Prakash Sharma R/O-449, First-Floor, Sector-37, Faridabad-121003, Haryana, have changed my minor son's name, from Adi Sharma to Aditya Sharma, permanently. 0040541935-6

I, Joffin K Joy S/O Podiyan Kaduvankal Joy R/O Flat No. 281, Pocket-4, Sec-2, Rohini, Delhi-85 have changed my Name To Joffin Kaduvankal Joy For All My Future References. 0040541935-10

I, Dhanender Kumar Gupta S/O Gulshan Kumar Gupta R/O-Flat No.454,Neelkanth Apartment Sector-13 Rohini Delhi-110085,changed my name to Dhander Kumar Gupta. 0040541935-2

I, Amarjeet D/o Jagtar Singh R/O-1231/52 DDA-Flats, Kalkaji Delhi-110019 Have Changed My Name To Amarjeet Kaur, For Future. 0040541940-1

I, Shyam Kishore Mishra S/O Ram Kripal Mishra, Have Lost My Original-Property Paper GPA/ATS of Plot.No-283 Khasra.No-264,Gali.No-10 Lakhat Colony-1,Meethapur Extn. Badarpur,Delhi-110044, Finder contact-9958467266 0040541940-7

I, Meenakshi W/O Shri Rakesh Kumar R/O 12A, Navsena Apartment, West Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi 110034 have changed my name Meenakshi to Meenakshi Chowdhary for all future purposes. 0040541935-1

I, Mona Arora w/o Harish Hasija R/O- 1201, gokul course road, Baisel tower, Salcon verandas, Gurgaon have changed my name to Mona Hasija. 0040541935-1

I, Mujeeb Ahmed S/o Late Nisar Ahmed R/O 1442, 43 Fayyaz Ganj, Bara Hindu Rao, Bahadur Garh Road, Delhi-6 have Changed my Name From Mujeeb Ahmed Shamsi to Mujeeb Ahmed for All Future Purposes. 0040541921-1

I, Neha W/O, Tilak Raj R/O A1b/25b, Krishna Apartment, Panchsri Vihar, New Delhi have changed my name to Neha Khanna for all purposes. 0040541911-1

I, Nisha Rani W/O Jugender Singh Rathor R/O-17/289 Gali.No.5 East Gorakh Park Delhi-110032,have changed my name to Nisha Rathor. 0040541935-4

I, Rajasvi Pundhir D/O, Capt Ashish Singh R/O Flat 001, Tower-2/9 Orchid Petals, Sector-49,sohna Road Gurgaon 122018 have changed my name to Rajasvi Singh D.o.b 15/02/2002 for all purposes. 0040541914-1

I, Sunita Mittal D/O, Satpal Bansal R/O D-4 Milap Nagar, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi have changed my name to Sunita Bansal Agrwal by affidavit dated 14-07-2020 sworn before Notary N K Verma. 0040541935-8

I, Sweety W/o Sonupal Singh R/O 3-A Ayodhya Enclave, Sec 13, Rohini Delhi have changed my name to Sweety walia for all purposes. 0040541935-9

I, Sulabh Jain S/o Sanjay Kumar Jain R/O-197/1C, Gali.No-12, Bholanath Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110032 have Changed my name to Aadvik Jain. 0040541927-1

I, Shivsrijit Ji Maharaj D/O,Aadish Kumar Jain R/O-D-1166,Gali No-6, Ashok-Nagar Delhi-93,have changed my name to Srishiti Jain for all purposes. 0040541935-7

I, Sagar S/o Umed Singh, R/O H.No 171 Pandawala Kalan South West Delhi-110043 have changed my name to Sagar Yadav for all future purposes. 0070708674-1

I, Sachin S/O Late, Sh.Rohtash Jindal r/o A-3/147, Petals-107, Rohini, New Delhi have changed my name to Sachin Jindal permanently. 0070708691-1

I, Rythem Arora D/O Raj Kumar Arora Resident of F-4, House No. 127, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi-110089 have changed my name to Rhythm for all future purposes. 0040541940-8

I, RITIKA SINGHAL, D/O MUKESH SINGHAL, H.NO-S-22, PANDAV-NAGAR DELHI-110092, changed my name to RITIKA SINGHAL, permanently. 0040541940-4

I, POOJA W/O PARMOD KUMAR R/O-472, D.D.A-FLAT KHIRKI MALVIYA-NAGAR DELHI-110017,have changed my name to POOJA KUMAR. 0040541935-5

I, Nitin Prakash S/o late Sh. Sri Prakash R/O House No.4, Jangpura Road, New Ariya Samaj Mandir, Bhogal, New Delhi-110014 have changed my name to Nitin Prakash Shergill. 0070708670-1

I, N Biswas, S/o Late Mr.N C Biswas, R/O 232/B/3, GT.Road PO,Belurmath, Howrah, WB-711202, have changed my name from N BISWAS to NILABH BISWAS, vide-Affidavit No.IN-DL577641868523325,dated-15/07/2020, at New Delhi, for all,purpose. 0040541940-3

I, Mahender Pal R/O H-13/75 Near Health Point Hospital, Ratiya Marg, Sangam Vihar New Delhi-110062 have changed my minor son's name from Jacob to Gaurang for all purposes. 0040541912-1

I, AMAN S/O ABDUL HAQ R/O-313/44 B-22, INDER LOK, DELHI-35, have changed my name to AMAN QURESHI. 0040541940-2

I, Nitin Prakash S/o late Sh. Sri Prakash R/O House No.4, Jangpura Road, New Ariya Samaj Mandir, Bhogal, New Delhi-110014 have changed my name to Nitin Prakash Shergill. 0070708670-1

I, N Biswas, S/o Late Mr.N C Biswas, R/O 232/B/3, GT.Road PO,Belurmath, Howrah, WB-711202, have changed my name from N BISWAS to NILABH BISWAS, vide-Affidavit No.IN-DL577641868523325,dated-15/07/2020, at New Delhi, for all,purpose. 0040541940-3

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I, N Biswas, S/o Late Mr.N C Biswas, R/O 232/B/3, GT.Road PO,Belurmath, Howrah, WB-711202, have changed my name from N BISWAS to NILABH BISWAS, vide-Affidavit No.IN-DL577641868523325,dated-15/07/2020, at New Delhi, for all,purpose. 0040541940-3

PUBLIC NOTICE Public at large is hereby informed that my client Smt. Meena Verma W/o Late Sh. Babul Chandra Singh, 10/115, Street No. 2, Roshan Nagar, Delhi-110085, has changed her name to Meena Verma. 0040541935-10

PUBLIC NOTICE मीसा मुनीकरल शी निरात समवाय सुत्रुय व. महेश समवाय निवासी-209-210 पीकेट-जी-26, सेक्टर-3, रोहिणी, दिल्ली-85 के माना-पिता का देहान्त हो चुका है अतः यह अकेले है। इनके माना-पिता के देहान्त के बाद इनके समस्त विवेकपूर्ण का व्यवहार इनके प्राप्ति ठीक नहीं है। इसीलिए यह अपने समस्त विवेकपूर्ण से सम्बन्ध विच्छेद कर रहे हैं। आज के बाद किसी भी विवेकपूर्ण से निरात समवाय का कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है। निरात समवाय अथ श्रीमती पूनम वर्मानी राकेश कुमार धवन व राकेश कुमार धवन सुत्रुय व. हर्षसिंह सिंह दोनों निवासी चर्चे नं.47, पीकेट-बी-6, सेक्टर-4, रोहिणी, दिल्ली-85 को अपना गतिविधि बना रहे हैं आज से यह दोनों निरात समवाय के सभी सकारों व परी सकारों का गतिविधि होगा। Gaurav Dhameja (Advocate) RU-5, Pitampura, Delhi-34

PUBLIC NOTICE FREEHOLD PROPERTY BEARING NO. 17/152, PLOT NO.72, SHIVAJI PARK, ARE OF VILLAGE OF PUR, ILLAQA SHAHDARA, DELHI. Public at large is hereby informed that the captioned property is subject matter of Equitable / Registered Mortgage with State Bank of India / Other Bank. FI, the present Owner / my client Mrs. Suman Builders Pvt. Ltd through its Director Shri Sh. Satbir Singh S/o Sh. Iqbal Singh, R/O 1615, Street No. 2, Roshan Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi of the captioned property has declared that (1) Sale Deed, Dated on 21.11.1957 (2) Sale Deed executed by Satnam Rai in favour of Shri Kaushya Devi having Regd. No. 3022, Dated 19/04/1962 (3) Sale Deed Dated on executed by Satnam Rai in favour of Shri Bhagwan Das having Regd. No. 11202, Dated 23/12/1963 (4) Will executed by Bhagwan Das Khanra Smt. Premilata Khanna, having Regd. No. 23117, Dated 15/07-2001 (5) Sale Deed executed by Smt. Premilata Khanna in favour of Shri Kumar Khanna, having Regd. No. 1558, Dated 17/07-2001 (6) Sale Deed Dated on 30.04.2012, executed by Shri Kumar Khanna in favour of M/s Mehta Developers Pvt. Ltd. Having Regd. No. 1874, are not available in original & attested as missing as well as Lost, the above said original documents had been lost/misplaced by the present seller some where in Laxmi Nagar, District Centre, Delhi & did not find out its copy of my/our all sincere efforts. An Lost Report was done with Delhi Police. My client is executed Agreement to Sell 06.07.2020, in favour of Sh. Manish Kumar Tiwari & in respect of the First Floor Right of Reserved Rights, with Common Car Parking area measuring 150 sq.ft. of the captioned property. It is hereby notified that any person or entity, firm / company, Bank, Financial institution having claim any charge, interest or lien or claim on the basis of above mentioned 2 original documents of other side and / or objection to the Equitable Mortgage with SBI / Other Bank / FI thereof, He/she/they may lodge a notice to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication, failing which title shall be deemed to be clear and marketable without any defect, encumbrance, law and impediment and my client shall proceed further as per his wish. Further my client / prospective buyer / seller is / are free to create Equitable / Registered Mortgage by deposit of Chain of available title documents with any person/ firm, company, financial institution/ Bank. Mihlesh Kumar (Advocate) 717, Lawyers Chambers, District Courts Rohini, Delhi-85

PUBLIC NOTICE It is notified to the public at large that my client Smt. Hanah Sharma @ Hansi Devi W/o Late Bachu Dutt Sharma R/O WZ-68, A & Block, Ram Dutt Enclave, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-59 has withdrawn the earlier public notice dated 7.05.2020 of disowning her son Laxmi Dutt Sharma and his wife Smt. Kheema vide publication in Indian Express Newspaper at Page No. 5 and henceforth the same shall be deemed to be null and void. Now the above said Laxmi Dutt Sharma and his wife Kheema Sharma are living peacefully and are not having any great animosity and affect. Hence the above said both person shall live together in the house of my client and shall have all right title interest in it. Sd/- RAMBHIR SINGH ADVOCATE Chamber No. C-10, C.L. Joseph Bldg. Te Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given to public at large that my client Smt. Dipi Irani Wife of Shri Jaitra Nand R/O B-57, Maharani Enclave, Vikas Nagar, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi have disowned and divorced her son Shri Puneet Daigther-in-Law Smt. Shanti from all his movable and immovable properties with immediate effect and severed relations, because they are out of control of my client, misbehave with him. Any body dealing with them in any manner whatsoever will be doing so at his/her own cost, risk and responsibilities thereto and my client shall be in no way responsible for any deeds and dealings done by them. Sd/- B. N. DE. ADVOCATE S.R.-11B Campus, Janakpuri, New Delhi-58

PUBLIC NOTICE My client Sh. Jagmohan Gupta and his wife Jagwanti Devi R/O 290/12/16 Vishram Nagar Tri Nagar Delhi have severed all their relations with his elder son Hemant Bindal his wife Asha Gupta and their son Ishan Bindal & Daughter Bhumika Bindal all R/O 290/12/16 2nd Floor, Vishram Nagar Tri Nagar Delhi with immediate effect due to their disobedience & misconduct. My clients disown them from all their movable & immovable properties & shall not be responsible for any acts & deeds done by them in future. SANJAY PADAM JAIN (Advocate) Ch. No. 463 & B, Western Wings, Te Hazari, Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE Notified that my client (1) SARI LAJPAT RAI ARYA S/O LATE SH. THAKUR DAS, do SMT. SARLA ARYA W/O SH. LAJPAT RAI ARYA BOTH R/O 332-A, SRI NAGAR, GALI No. 4, DELHI-110054, has/have severe relation from their son GAGANDEEP ARYA and their daughter-in-law SHIKU ARYA. Due to their cruel and harassing behavior towards my above named client. Now they have no domestic relations with them and has/have disowned them from their all movable & immovable properties. Any person dealing with his/hers/himself will do so at his/hers/himself own cost & risk and my clients shall not be responsible for the same if any. Sd/- KAMAL SINGH (Adv.) Ent. No. D-74814

PUBLIC NOTICE Public at large is hereby informed that my client Smt. Durjan Lal S/O Late Sh. Pragu Lal R/O A-51, Street No. 4, Madhu Vihar, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi has disowned & divorced and disinherited his son Ajit Kumar, Daughter-in-law namely Aruna Devi and grandsons namely Mohit Kumar and Gaurav Kumar from his all immovable and movable assets/properties and have severed all his relations with them, as they are disobedient, ill mannered, working against my client and his family and is not in control of my Clients. Anyone dealing with them in any manner shall do so at his/hers/his own risk, cost and consequences. Sd/- GURBACHAN SINGH (Advocate) J-7/284, Gali No. 7, Sardar Colony, Sector-16, Rohini, New Delhi-89

UJVN LIMITED (An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise) H.O. 'SULBHAL' MAHARANI BLDG. GHS ROAD, BERMUDA, DELHI. CN No. UAPR/103/150/2008088. Tel: 011-2763398, 2763888, Fax: 011-2763307, website: www.ujvn.com Tender No.440 Date : 15.07.2020 TIME EXTENSION NOTICE-1 Due to unavoidable circumstances, the date of following bids invited by office of Executive Engineer (Civil-I), UJVN Limited, Guptkashi, Rudraprayag, are hereby extended:- Tender No.:01/EE (Civil-I)/Guptkashi/2020-21 Name of work- Annual maintenance, cleaning and upkeep of UJVNL Office/Field hostel at Kund (Guptkashi) Distt. Rudraprayag Tender No.: 02/EE (Civil-I)/Guptkashi/2020-21 Name of work- Hiring of one number Light diesel Pool vehicle Mahindra Bolero (Non - AC) or equivalent with driver for one year on rent basis for Kailganga SHP in Distt. Rudraprayag. Last date for downloading of bid document 28.07.2020 from 17:00 Hrs onwards Last date for submission of Tender 30.07.2020 up to 16:00 Hrs Date of opening of tender: 31.07.2020 at 14:30 Hrs For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website "www.ujvn.com" Executive Engineer (Civil-I) Guptkashi, Rudraprayag "Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

NORTHERN RAILWAY EOI (Expression of Interest) 1. Name of the work with location Registration for Panel of Retail Shops/Authorized stockiest located within 5 km of Northern Railway Divisional Hospital, Shyama Parsad Mukherjee Marg, Delhi for supply of Medicines, Surgical items & Laboratory items & other medical store items. 2. Approximate estimate cost Rs. 36,56,200.00 (approximate) per month 3. Cost of tender form Rs. 500/- (Rs. Five hundred only) to be deposited in cash with Divisional Cashier, Cash & Pay office, Old Delhi Railway station building, Delhi or by way of Bank draft in favour of Sr. DFM/Northern Railway. 4. Address of the office website where the tender form can be purchased nr.indianrailways.gov.in 5. EMD to be deposited Rs. 3,69,400/- (Rs. Three lakh sixty nine thousand four hundred only) 6. Completion period of the work Two (02) years from the date of award of work. 7. Date & Time for submission of EOI & Opening of EOI 17.08.2020 up to 11:00 AM and opening 11:30 hrs. same day. 8. Website particulars where complete details of EOI can be seen etc. nr.indianrailways.gov.in No. 43-Med/NRDH/LP(Retail)/AdvT.2020 Dated : 14.07.2020 1559/20 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE The Sr. Divisional Engineer/C, Northern Railway, DRM Office, Delhi Division, State Enclad Road, New Delhi-110055, for and on behalf of the President of India invites sealed open electronics tenders for the under noted work:- S.No. Name of work Approximate Cost of work Earnest money to be deposited Completion period Date of opening 1. Supplying, stacking and loading of 30000CuM, 65 mm gauge stone ballast (Machine crushed) into Railway Wagons including all leads & lift at ballast sub depot No.2 at SSB (Cost is exclusive of GST) Rs. 2,97,51,300/- Rs. 2,98,800/- 09 months 14.08.2020 2. Supplying, stacking and loading of 30000CuM, 65 mm gauge stone ballast (Machine crushed) into Railway Wagons including all leads & lift at ballast sub depot No.4 at SSB (Cost is exclusive of GST) Rs. 2,97,51,300/- Rs. 2,98,800/- 09 months 14.08.2020 Note:- The e-tender is to be submit through railway website 'http:treps.gov.in'. The tenders can be submit on website Up to 15.00 hrs. on 14.08.2020 and shall be opened there after. No. 128-W/Sr.DEN/C/NIT No.4/20-21/WC Dt. 15.07.2020 1556/2020 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Office of the Director, State Forensic Science Laboratory Jharkhand, Ranchi NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT) Tender No.-SFSL/STORE/NIT/2020-21/01Date:15/07/2020 The Office of the Director, State Forensic Science Laboratory, Jharkhand, Ranchi, invites sealed tenders under TWO BID system from the Sellers/Manufacturers/ Distributors/ Suppliers/ firms etc. who are GST registered in Jharkhand for Rate contract and Supply of various items for the Office of the Director, State Forensic Science Laboratory Jharkhand, Ranchi. The following are the different categories (Heads and Sub-heads) of required items for the Rate Contract.

Table with 2 columns: S.N., Category (Heads & Sub-heads) of items. 1. Stationary Items, 2. Cleaning Items, 3. Electricals Items, 4. Surgical Items, 5. Toner Cartridge & Computers accessories, 6. Gas Refilling, 7. General Chemicals, 8. Molecular Biology Grade Chemicals, 9. ICP Grade chemicals, 10. Standard Chemicals (i. Pesticides standards, ii. Narcotic drugs Standards, iii. Explosives chemicals Standards), 11. Glasswares, 12. Essential Lab wares, 13. Plastic Wares, 14. Miscellaneous Consumable Items

Important Dates Date of the collection of Tender Document From the publication of this notice Last Date of Submission of the Two Bid Tender Document 17.08.2020 in two separate covers. Date of Opening the tender document 18.08.2020 Instruction to the Bidders:- 1. Any Bidders can participate for one or more than one Heads/Sub-heads for Rate contract and Supply of materials. 2. The interested bidders can obtain the tender document directly from the Office of the Director, State Forensic Science Laboratory Jharkhand, Near Birsa Munda Central Jail, PO- Hotwar, Ranchi Jharkhand 835217 on any working days or through Mail at sfsstore@gmail.com after the publication of Notice. Director, State Forensic Science Laboratory Jharkhand, Hotwar, Ranchi PR 230721(State Forensic Science Laboratory)20-21'D

Government of India, Ministry of Defence Defence Research & Development Organization (DRDO) SF Complex, Airport Terminal Building, Jagdalpur-494001 Tel : 07867-289461/62/63/64/65, Fax : 07867-289466, Email : mmsgsf@asl.drdo.in Notice Inviting Bid (NIB) The General Manager, SF Complex, Jagdalpur- 494001, invites separate sealed bids in the prescribed format from reputed firms for execution of following work at SF Complex, Jagdalpur. S.No. Bid Reference No. Name of the Work EMD (Rs.) Bid Submission End Date & Time Bid Opening Date & Time 01. SFC/MMG/MTD/D-015/2020-21 Double Acting hydraulic Jack System 7,600/- 28/07/2020 12:30 PM 28/07/2020 04:00 PM 02. SFC/MMG/WRK/D-016/2020-21 Workshop Tools, Accessories & Consumables 8,000/- 28/07/2020 12:30 PM 28/07/2020 04:00 PM The Bid document is to be downloaded from the DRDO website: WWW.eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app. The cost of EMD in the form of demand draft drawn in favour of General Manager, SF Complex, Jagdalpur-494001 payable at Jagdalpur, at the time of submission of the bid, failing which the bid would not be considered. The General Manger, SF Complex reserves the right to reject any or all bid without assigning any reason. Sd/- General Manager SF Complex Jagdalpur

EXPRESS EDUCATION Since: 2001 LAW AMBITION LAW INSTITUTE India's Best Law Institute Launching Online Live Classes JUDICIARY ENGLISH MED. HINDI MED. 20th July, 2020 20th Aug, 2020 IAS CLAT 10th Oct, 2020 18th July, 2020 Salient Features Answers of PYQs (Sub + Obj) Q & A Approach Discussions of Recent Case Laws Mock Test on exam pattern Please call at: 88-00-66-0301 / 88-00-66-2140 Visit our website: www.ambitionlawinstitute.com B-10, 1st Floor, Above Maharashtra Bank, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi - 110009 Contact for Advt. Booking: M/S Friends Publicity Service 23276901, 23282028 (M): 9212008155, 9212665841.

On the run after 'raping minors' in MP, owner of daily held in J&K MILIND GHATAI BHOPAL, JULY 15 A NEWSPAPER owner who allegedly raped four minor girls in Bhopal has been arrested from Srinagar, the police said. A Madhya Pradesh Police team that travelled to Srinagar is likely to bring 68-year-old Pyare Miyan to Bhopal on Thursday. Bhopal ADG Upendra Jain told The Indian Express that the MP Police zeroed in on Miyan late on Tuesday, and in coordination with the local police, took him into custody. On Sunday, a group of girls were found in an inebriated condition in Bhopal by a sub-inspector, and when they could not satisfactorily answer where they were headed, he called Childline. The NGO spoke to them at length and later took them to a police station where they filed an FIR naming Miyan—who has been bringing out the daily Aftab, from Bhopal for several years—as the man who exploited them in his flats after offering them food and drink. Before the case was registered, Miyan reached the police station and claimed to be the grandfather of one of the victims. Later he said he was not the legal custodian and gave the name and details of the grandmother of one of the victims. According to the police, when Miyan realised the police were digging deeper, he fled to Indore, but turned back after learning that the police were looking for him there too. His vehicle was found abandoned at Ashta, between Bhopal and Indore. He said to have taken another vehicle to Rajasthan. On Tuesday, police located him in Srinagar. While Miyan managed to escape, police arrested a 21-year-old woman, who was an alleged associate. The woman later claimed that she herself was a victim. Three others were arrested Tuesday. According to Archana Sahay of Childline, Miyan would take the minors to his properties on the pretext of cleaning them. The grandmother of one of the victims was an alleged partner-in-crime. Meanwhile, the police searched Miyan's flat in a posh locality at Bhopal's Shyamla Hills and reportedly found child pornography, sex toys, antlers and expensive liquor. By all accounts, Miyan has four wives, lived in other flats in the same apartment. Those familiar with Miyan said he started as a compositor in a leading Hindi daily. In the last few years, his Urdu daily had negligible circulation, but Miyan's clout had grown immensely. He regularly brought out an edition on Ijtema, an annual religious gathering in Bhopal. Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan had released some of those special editions, said sources posted in the CM House previously. Apart from provisions of POCSO and rape and conspiracy under IPC, Miyan has been booked under SC/ST Act because two victims belong to those communities.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PD, P.W.D. Bulandshahr E - Procurement Short Term Tender Notice Dated: 4/7/2020 Letter No. 2523/31 The E.E. Provincial Division, U.P.P.W.D., Bulandshahr on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the e-tendering rate bids online from the eligible registered Tender Owners/ Firms' Transports from Date 04.08.2020 to 10.08.2020 upto 12.00 Noon. The Technical bids will be opened online on the same working day that is, on dated 10.08.2020 at 03:00 P.M. in the Office of Executive Engineer, P.D., U.P.P.W.D., Bulandshahr if the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day respectively, at the same time and validity of bid will be considered from the original date. The date and time of opening of the financial bid shall be notified on the website.

Office of the Director, Himachal Pradesh, Sunder Nagar DIRECTORATE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING HIMACHAL PRADESH, SUNDER NAGAR Invitation for Bids No.: 003/2020 Date: 14.07.2020 Loan/Grant No. and Title: Loan No.: 3573-IND/Himachal Pradesh Skill Development Project. Deadline for Submission of Bids: 17.08.2020 upto 12.30 P.M. Contract Package (NCB) No. and Title: Supply of Information Technology and related equipment's for Industrial Training Institutes to enhance Technical and Vocational Skills among the youth of Himachal Pradesh under following packages/lots:

Table with 2 columns: Package No., Title. HPSDP-DOTE/02-R1 Information Technology and related equipment's: Lot-1: Computers

Table with 4 columns: Package No., Lot No., Contractual Experience, Average Annual Turnover. 1. 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, Vocational 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. 3. 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. 4. Only eligible Bidders with the following key qualifications should participate in this bidding:

Table with 4 columns: Package No., Lot No., Contractual Experience, Average Annual Turnover. HPSDP-DOTE/02-R1 Lot-1 INR 318.00 Lakhs INR 794.00 Lakhs

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 INR 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: 17.08.2020 at 12.30 P.M. together with a Bid Security as described in the Bidding Document. Bids will be opened on 17.08.2020 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 1570/HP

## Maratha quota: SC to hold daily virtual hearings from July 27

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

THE SUPREME Court on Wednesday said it would commence virtual day-to-day hearings on a batch of pleas challenging Maharashtra's Maratha quota from July 27.

The top court, which refused to pass an interim stay on the law granting reservation to Marathas in jobs and education, said the chances of physical court seem remote due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

A bench of Justices L N Rao, Hemant Gupta and S Ravindra Bhatt said all parties should sit together and decide on the modalities of hearing, such as who will take how much time, and on repeating arguments.

Senior advocate Shyam Divan, appearing for some petitioners, said cases such as these need to be heard in a physical court. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal said there is also an issue of 10 per cent reservation for Economically Weaker Sections which also needs to be heard, which the bench said it would consider.

## Criteria for invalid pensions in armed forces broadened

New Delhi: The government on Wednesday changed the criteria for invalid pensions for armed forces personnel, allowing it for even under 10 years of qualifying service.

The Defence Ministry said in a statement that the "Invalid pension is granted to the Armed Forces Personnel who is invalidated out of service on account of disability which is accepted as Neither Attributable to Nor Aggravated (NANA) by Military Service". But after Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved the proposal, the benefit "will be available to those Armed Forces Personnel who were in service on or after 04.01.2019", it said. ENS

## Gangrape victim, mother mowed down by accused in tractor, say UP police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, JULY 15

A 17-YEAR-OLD gangrape victim and her mother were killed after one of her rapists ran over them with a tractor in Uttar Pradesh's Kasganj district on Tuesday, police said. The accused, aged 35, was arrested on Wednesday and a murder case was registered against him and his younger brother, they said.

The Kasganj Superintendent of Police said the murder was the fallout of a feud between two families. The teen's father was jailed for allegedly killing the accused's father in 2016 over a financial quarrel.

## Teen raped in Patna hospital toilet

Patna: A guard at Patna Medical College and Hospital (PMCH) was arrested on Wednesday on charges of raping a 15-year-old in the hospital's toilet, police said.

The incident took place on July 8 but the matter came to light on Wednesday, after the victim's statement under Section 164 of CrPC was recorded. Government Railway Police

Around two months later, the son of the murdered man allegedly kidnapped this girl, who was 13 at the time. She was rescued by the police a few days later. In her statement, she had alleged that three men raped her.

The police had then registered a gangrape case and sections of the POCSO Act were also invoked. The three accused were arrested and sent to jail.

"The accused was out on bail and on Tuesday evening, when the mother and daughter were returning from the market, he allegedly crushed both to death by running them over with his tractor...he fled on foot and left the tractor behind," said the SP.

## Baramulla BJP leader abducted, later rescued, says J-K police

SUKRITA BARUAH  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

THE CBSE announced results for its Class X board examinations on Wednesday afternoon, with 91.46 per cent of 18,73,015 candidates clearing the exams.

This year's result reflects an improvement of 0.36 percentage points from last year when the overall pass percentage was 91.10 per cent. For the most part, students of Class X - barring those from North-east Delhi - did not have their exams interrupted as substantially as the Class XII students. Except for North-east Delhi students, Class X students had answered all their major papers before the

Srinagar: A BJP youth wing leader and the vice president of a Municipal Committee in North Kashmir's Baramulla district was kidnapped by unknown men on Wednesday morning. In the evening, police said they had "rescued" the leader.

Police said Mehraj u Din Mallah, a ward member in Sopore's Watergram, was abducted by unknown men at Marazigund Wednesday morning.

Sopore SP Javid Iqbal told The Indian Express Mallah was affiliated with BJP. "He had not applied for security, but had accommodation in Srinagar. We don't know if they were militants, but as per our reports, few people were in a Santro car. A manhunt was launched," Iqbal said.

A relative of Mallah said Mallah had been taken by unknown men in a private car.

By Wednesday evening, IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar said the "person who was abducted in the morning has been rescued". The police is yet to make clear who abducted Mallah and how he was rescued. ADIL AKHZER

## CBSE Class X results out: Uptick in pass percentage, govt schools improve show

SUKRITA BARUAH  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

THE CBSE announced results for its Class X board examinations on Wednesday afternoon, with 91.46 per cent of 18,73,015 candidates clearing the exams.

This year's result reflects an improvement of 0.36 percentage points from last year when the overall pass percentage was 91.10 per cent. For the most part, students of Class X - barring those from North-east Delhi - did not have their exams interrupted as substantially as the Class XII students. Except for North-east Delhi students, Class X students had answered all their major papers before the

board decided to halt pending exams from March 19 onwards. Therefore, the CBSE's modified marking scheme formula of taking averages of best papers has not been applied in a widespread manner among Class X students. This formula had contributed to



At a school in Ludhiana on Wednesday. Gurmeet Singh

high scores in Class XII results. For students from North-east Delhi who missed the exams due to the riots in the area, the papers were rescheduled for July 1-15, but were later cancelled in view of the Covid-19 spread.

The number of students who have scored above 90 per cent and 95 per cent this year is less as compared to last year.

This year, 41,804 students - or 2.23 per cent of the candidates - scored above 95 per cent, which is a dip from last year's 3.25 per cent. Likewise, 1,84,358 - 9.84 per cent of the candidates - scored above 90 per cent, significantly less than last year's 12.78 per cent.

This time too, girls fared better than boys - 93.31 per cent of

girls who appeared for the exams passed as compared to 90.14 per cent of boys. 78.95 per cent of transgender candidates cleared the exams.

While still far behind private schools, Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas, state government schools have improved their performances considerably.

Though they are still behind the national pass percentage with 80.91 per cent, this is a significant increase from last year's 71.91 per cent.

The three regions with the highest pass percentages were Trivandrum, Bengaluru and Chennai with 99.28 per cent, 98.95 per cent and 98.23 per cent, respectively.

## Criteria for invalid pensions in armed forces broadened

New Delhi: The government on Wednesday changed the criteria for invalid pensions for armed forces personnel, allowing it for even under 10 years of qualifying service.

The Defence Ministry said in a statement that the "Invalid pension is granted to the Armed Forces Personnel who is invalidated out of service on account of disability which is accepted as Neither Attributable to Nor Aggravated (NANA) by Military Service". But after Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved the proposal, the benefit "will be available to those Armed Forces Personnel who were in service on or after 04.01.2019", it said. ENS

ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE  
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT GWALIOR  
(An Institute of National Importance under Ministry of MHRD, GOI)

Advertisement No:2231 Date: 14.07.2020  
ABV-IITM invites applications for the post of JRF (on temporary basis) under the SERB-DST, New Delhi sponsored project titled as "Industrial and Domestic monitoring and control using a decentralized cyber-physical system". Details of the advertisement can be found on the institute website www.iitm.ac.in Last date to apply is 31-07-2020.  
Principal Investigator

KALOJI NARAYANA RAO  
UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES  
TELANGANA  
NOTIFICATION FOR  
PG MEDICAL DENTAL (MDS) ADMISSIONS 2020-21  
Application forms online are invited from candidates qualified in NEET UG PG MDS & NEET UG PG MDS 2020 after lowering of the cut-off score for admission into PG Medical, Dental Courses 2020-21 for Management quota seats in colleges affiliated to KNR UHS, Warangal from 16-07-2020 to 18-07-2020.  
For detailed Notification and Prospectus refer to KNRUHS website: www.knr.uhs.telangana.gov.in  
Dated: 13-07-2020 Sd/- REGISTRAR

HAFED  
THE HARYANA STATE COOPERATIVE SUPPLY AND MARKETING FEDERATION LIMITED  
CORPORATE OFFICE, SECTOR 5, PANCHKULA HARYANA (INDIA)  
TEL: 2590520-24, FAX: 2590711 e-mail hafed@hry.nic.in, Website: www.hafed.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE  
EMPANELMENT OF PRIVATE ATTA CHAKKI MILLS/FLOUR MILLS, ON VOLUNTARY BASIS, FOR PRODUCTION OF FORTIFIED WHOLE WHEAT CHAKKI ATTA FOR SUPPLY UNDER PDS, ICDS AND MDM SCHEMES IN THE HARYANA STATE FOR THE PERIOD UPTO 31.03.2021.  
The Haryana State Cooperative Supply and Marketing Federation limited (HAFED) invites applications from reputed Private Atta Chakki Mills/Flour Mills with Chakki situated in the State of Haryana, on voluntary basis, for empanelment for processing of wheat to get Fortified Whole Wheat Chakki Atta (Fortified Atta) with multiple micronutrients as per FSSAI norms for sale/distribution under PDS, ICDS and MDM Schemes in the Haryana State for the period up to 31.03.2021 subject to fulfillment of the terms and conditions and agreeing to the price/rates given as under:

Sr. No.	Size of different packing as per requirement of different variants/ combinations for PDS/ICDS/MDM Schemes	Rate for the complete operations as per the complete scope of work and terms and conditions (in Rs. per quintal of wheat inclusive GST/ taxes for Wheat supplied in Jute bag)	Rate for the complete operations as per the complete scope of work and terms and conditions (in Rs. per quintal of wheat inclusive of GST/ taxes for Wheat supplied in HDPE bag)
1.	50 kg. bags	196	210
2.	10 and 25 kg. bags	215	233
3.	2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 kg. bags	270	275
4.	5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 kg. bags	215	233

NOTE: The above mentioned rates are inclusive of all applicable and relevant expenses like unloading of wheat at Mill, cleaning & grinding of wheat, cost of premix, fortification using vitamins and minerals as per technical specification, packing material, packing charges, storage at mill, loading of Fortified Atta at mill inclusive of all Govt. duties and taxes as applicable, public liability insurance and all other incidental expenses.  
The document containing eligibility criteria and detailed terms & conditions is available at Hafed's website www.hafed.gov.in. The application can be submitted after deposit of Rs. 2000 (non-refundable) as application/professing fee and Rs. 2.00 Lakh as Earnest Money Deposit (EMD). The applications complete in all respects along with the proof of deposit of requisite payment can be submitted through email on hafedflourmills@gmail.com upto 02.00 P.M. on 24.07.2020 along with hard copy of the application to be submitted upto 05.00 P.M. on 24.07.2020. After examination of the applications, the Mills of the technically qualified applicants will be physically inspected by a Committee to verify the milling capacity, infrastructure and other equipments required as per the terms and conditions. Only those Mills will be considered for empanelment, which meet the infrastructural and other requirements as per the terms and conditions. Hafed reserves the right to accept/reject any/all the applications without assigning any reason.  
Managing Director, Hafed, Panchkula.

MIZORAM UNIVERSITY  
No.1-47/Estt./I/15/529 Dated Aizawl, the 14th July, 2020  
Applications are invited for filling up of various Teaching Posts in Mizoram University (Central University). The details of vacant posts and other terms and conditions will be uploaded in the website of Mizoram University www.mzu.edu.in latest by 17th July, 2020. Subsequent addendum/corrigendum in connection with the advertisement shall be posted in the University website only.  
Sd/- Registrar

Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd.  
A Government of India (Ministry of Railways) Enterprise  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
DFCCIL (A Government of India, Ministry of Railways Enterprise) is constructing special Railway Project "Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor" from Sahnewal in Punjab State to Palkhahi in UP. Compensation for the land acquired for the project in the State of Punjab, Haryana and UP has been paid to the concerned land owners. Even though any person/persons has/have any complaint in this regard, to address the complaints of land owners, whose land has been acquired in District Saharanpur (U.P.), the following District Level Grievance Redressal Committee has been constituted:

1. ADM (Finance & Revenue), Saharanpur - Chairman
2. Chief General Manager, DFCCIL, Ambala Cantt - Convener
3. Chairman, Jila Panchayat, Saharanpur - Member
4. Special Land Acquisition Officer, Saharanpur - Administrator (R&R)
5. Dy. Chief Project Manager/Engg., DFCCIL, Ambala Cantt. - Member
6. Dy. Project Manager/Engg., DFCCIL, Ambala Cantt - Member
7. Smt. Rekha Kumar, (R/o 1-Roopali Vihar Opposite Riti Ashram Vidhyalaya) Saharanpur - N.G.O

Project Affected Person/Persons may submit their grievances, if any, to the said committee or can register it on Telephone No. - 0171-2612412 provided in the Grievance Cell at Chief General Manager, DFCCIL, Old Railway Colony, Near Anand Market, Ambala Cantt for the necessary redressal.

उत्तराखण्ड शासन  
धरती, प्रकृति, पर्यावरण,  
स्वास्थ्य, परिवार और  
सुखद भविष्य के लिए  
आओ मिलकर  
पेड़ लगाएँ

हरेला उत्तराखण्ड का लोकपर्व है, जिसमें हमारे संस्कार, हमारी परम्पराएं और पर्यावरण के प्रति हमारा क्या दायित्व है, वह एक साथ हम सब को देखने को मिलता है और हम सब लोग उससे प्रेरित होते हैं। जो प्रकृति का चक्र है उस चक्र को बनाए रखने के लिए एवं संसार के स्वास्थ्य, जल, हिमालय तथा पर्यावरण आदि को बचाए रखने के लिए पेड़ों का महत्त्व हम सब समझते हैं। आईये आज 16 जुलाई 2020 हरेला पर्व के पावन अवसर पर संकल्प लें कि प्रत्येक उत्तराखण्डवासी एक पौधा अवश्य लगाये तभी हरेला पर्व हम सब के लिए अति मंगलकारी हो सकता है। आईये हरेला पर्व से जुड़े और वृहद वृक्षारोपण करें।  
त्रिवेन्द्र सिंह रावत  
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड  
पेड़ लगाकर रखो प्रकृति का मान  
उत्तराखण्ड का है ये अभियान

उत्तराखण्ड का लोकपर्व  
हरेला  
16 जुलाई 2020  
की समस्त प्रदेशवासियों को  
हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं  
हरेला पर्व पर वृक्षारोपण 7 लाख 50 हजार  
पूरे वर्ष वृक्षारोपण 2 करोड़ 46 लाख  
3,14,000 फलदार वृक्षों का भी  
किया जायेगा रोपण  
पौधा लगाते समय सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग का ध्यान रखें  
कोविड-19 के चलते मास्क का प्रयोग करें  
डेंगू से बचाव के लिए पौधों, गमलों और क्यारियों में पानी न रूकने दें।



## The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

# Once, I was in the Congress

Ambition isn't a bad word and introspection won't do.  
Party must listen to voices outside Delhi



PRADYOT MANKYA BIKRAM DEBBARMA

## BETTER LAID PLANS

Government should prepare a comprehensive policy on privatisation, and a medium-term roadmap

THE SLOWDOWN IN economic activities has taken an increasing toll on government finances. While the pace of contraction in revenue collection appears to be slowing down — the central government's gross tax collections were down 37 per cent in May, after contracting by 44 per cent in April — the Centre will face a huge shortfall in both direct and indirect tax collections this year. With non-tax revenue also likely to be under pressure this year — revenue accruing from both dividends and telecom fee is unlikely to meet budget expectations — indications that the government is exploring other options of raising resources, including the sale of its stakes in various public sector companies, are welcome.

This year the government had originally budgeted for an ambitious disinvestment target of Rs 2.1 lakh crore, with the sale of stake in companies such as Air India and LIC on the agenda. However, without proper preparation and planning, achieving this target in the current economic environment will be difficult. In the previous financial year as well, as opposed to an original target of Rs 1.05 lakh crore, later revised downwards to Rs 65,000 crore, disinvestment proceeds ended up at only Rs 50,304 crore. In fact, proceeds from disinvestment have remained almost stagnant at 0.3 per cent of GDP over the past five years. Achieving the ambitious target this year, and generating more revenue consistently, through this avenue, requires a comprehensive privatisation programme along the lines of what was announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in May. According to the broad contours of the policy presented then, a list of strategic sectors would be notified, which require the presence of public sector enterprises. The private sector would be allowed in these areas, but at least one enterprise would remain with the public sector. In all other sectors, public sector firms would be privatised. This was a bold announcement. In addition to the efficiency gains that are likely to materialise from privatisation, doing so at this juncture will help the government raise the much needed resources. The resources raised through this avenue could be ring fenced and used to ramp up spending in infrastructure, especially in the health sector, to aid the economic recovery.

The delay in announcing the details of such a policy is perplexing. The costs of continuing with loss-making public sector entities, especially those in highly competitive sectors such as aviation and telecom, where no public purpose is served, are too high for the exchequer to bear. The government's privatisation programme requires a more considered, thought out process, and better laid plans. The approach of viewing it solely as a means of plugging the revenue gap, especially towards the end of the financial year, needs to be discarded. The government would benefit from drawing up a medium-term road map, listing out the potential candidates, and indicating the period of disinvestment to provide more clarity to investors.

## ACT QUICKLY

The Chabahar project is important for India's regional goals, and for its relations with Iran

IRAN'S DECISION TO drop India from a plan to build a rail link from the strategic Chabahar port to Zahedan on the Afghan border is a wake-up call for Delhi. The development of the port, and the link overland through Iran to the Afghan border, was supposed to be India's answer to Pakistan's denial of the trading route through Wagah to Khyber pass into Afghanistan and beyond, to Central Asia. Delhi rightly made the decision to bypass Pakistan altogether but appears to have lost the staying power to see the plan through. India played its part in developing the port, which is functional now. From Kandla in Gujarat, wheat and other foodgrain is being sent to Afghanistan via Chabahar. Also, it was India's Border Roads Organisation that helped build the 218 km Route 606 in Afghanistan, known otherwise as the Delaram-Zaranj highway, that cut road travel time between Afghanistan and Iran. But India dragged its feet on building the rail link from Chabahar to Zahedan. First, the delays were over contract disagreements, then the fear of US sanctions, and later, after the US provided a "carve-out" to India on the port and the rail link, the difficulty under the sanctions regime in finding international suppliers for material.

Chabahar will not be the first time delays in the completion of ambitious infrastructure projects undertaken by India in the region have inflicted setbacks on India's strategic goals. From Nepal to Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Iran, Delhi has made commitments on building power projects, highways, railways, and other infrastructure. Each proceeds slowly or not at all. The Pancheshwar Dam project in Nepal, for instance, has been hanging fire since 1991. Prime Minister Narendra Modi promised to speed it up when he visited Kathmandu in August 2014, but little progress was made. Instead, India is firefighting to salvage a long-standing relationship with Nepal over claims of territory. A still to be completed trilateral highway between India, Myanmar and Thailand has been overshadowed by a Chinese-built highway that has boosted China-Myanmar border trade. India's better record in Sri Lanka is not without missed opportunities that were once again snapped up by China. Delhi has no choice but to find a more efficient way of getting around these difficulties.

Delhi has indicated that it continues to be part of the the rail link project in Iran. If so, now is the time to get on with it, even if Iran's much touted 25-year strategic partnership agreement with Beijing is not as imminent as Tehran makes it seem. The Chabahar project is important for India's regional goals, and for its relations with Iran. That is reason enough to act quickly.

## ALL THAT GLITTERS

Ownership issue settled. Sree Padmanabhaswamy temple could do with a museum to showcase its treasures and history

THE LEGAL BATTLE over who owns the Thiruvananthapuram Sree Padmanabhaswamy temple, one of the richest shrines in the world, concluded on Monday. The Supreme Court overturned a 2011 Kerala High Court order that had ruled against the Travancore royal family's claims over the shrine and directed the state government to take over its assets and management. The SC order accepted the rights of the royal family and has asked for administrative and advisory committees, with representatives of the Centre, state government, the royal family, to be constituted to manage the temple and its assets.

The Supreme Court, however, did not speak on what has to be done with the temple's treasures — gold coins and ornaments, precious stones and crowns — stored in underground vaults away from public view and valued at over Rs 1 lakh crore. The SC merely asked for the preservation of "all treasures and properties endowed to Sree Padmanabhaswamy and those belonging to the temple", whereas the HC had wanted the treasures to be "exhibited in a museum". The central government offered to set up a high-security underground museum, but the proposal did not take off because the royal family said the treasures belonged to the deity and were not for exhibition.

The SC appointed temple committee ought to revive the HC's suggestion to set up a museum. Unlike most other temples of similar antiquity, the eighth-century Sree Padmanabhaswamy temple is intrinsically linked to the region's political, economic and social history. A museum that celebrates the temple's unique legacy would not be a commercial enterprise, but a space of knowledge and a centre of learning.

IT HAS BEEN over a year since the president of the Congress party resigned after the electoral debacle, saying he felt let down by those who did not stand by him. It is well known that Rahul Gandhi also wrote an open letter where he stated that senior leaders, and possibly Congress chief ministers, were more interested in getting their children nominations for the Lok Sabha and this was one of the reasons why he felt the Congress managed to get just 1 out of 54 seats in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, with Kamal Nath's son being the sole winner from these two states.

Today, seniors in the same party are accusing certain "Young Turks" of being "ambitious". I shudder to think what a party would be if there was no ambition within its leaders to fight it out. It is this lack of hunger that has reduced the Congress to its present position. The party has one of the oldest decision-making bodies, barring perhaps the communists, the Congress Working Committee, but a culture of nomination has ruined this apex body of the organisation. Most of these leaders are largely Delhi-based with little or no relevance in their own regions and yet they continue to enjoy the power to decide the future course of action within the party. The only thing the CWC has ensured is status quo so that they remain relevant to the power mongers within the set-up.

It is indeed sad that when a senior leader like Mani Shankar Aiyar speaks of democracy within the party ("See you later, alligator", IE, July 15), he needs to be reminded that the same party suspended him before the Gujarat election without a show cause notice and a chance for him to reply. The leader speaks of ideology, but forgets we are in power in Maharashtra with a party that proudly claimed to be the first to bring down the Babri Masjid. It is sheer hypocrisy when just before elections we rope in leaders who are criminal and corrupt because they can't

nance the party.

I agree that electability is necessary. But at what cost? It is understood that many decisions are difficult but then in this day and age we cannot hold the moral high ground when everything is in the public domain. The debate has never been about old versus new but about relevance — didn't Indira Gandhi break her father's party to form the Congress (Indira)? Didn't Mani Shankar Aiyar, like so many, also part ways with the Congress during the '90s and at one time joined hands with Mamata Banerjee? Memories may fade but when someone starts preaching to others they should also reflect on their own actions.

I was the Congress president in Tripura and, perhaps because the Northeast is less written about, let me remind everyone that the highest vote jump in the entire country for the Congress was in our state during the Lok Sabha election. But everything changed after Rahul Gandhi resigned abruptly, the same general secretaries who were amenable to new ideas suddenly felt otherwise. My state of Tripura has the distinction of having seen the AICC General Secretary visit for about eight hours combined in the last six years and yet we have always been told to take all decisions after getting it vetted by them. Are leaders like CP Joshi and Luizinho Faleiro even interested in the Northeast because if they were we would not have lost state after state and created a Congress Mukht Northeast.

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My opposition to the CAA was the turning point when the general secretary stated that we had to consider the vote bank in the region. Imagine the betrayal to the people of my state and region when we take one line in Assam and Meghalaya and another in Tripura. I resigned but never moved to the BJP, because, fundamentally, I believe that national parties have stopped bothering about our region, and especially its indigenous population. The resignation was not

because there were greener pastures but because I felt that if I did not stand the ground for our people then I would never be forgiven for this betrayal of trust. I took the right decision and today I can say that we will be the principal opposition to the BJP in our state.

This country needs an Opposition which has the hunger and stamina to fight it out with one of the most aggressive political parties to rule this nation. My simple question is: Can it be done by those who are sitting at the helm of affairs? There have been statements that we should fight it out within the organisation and not quit, but my fundamental point is that a ship without a permanent captain is directionless and therein lies the problem. Where is the redressal mechanism within the organisation?

There are many who would like to see the Congress succeed but for this we need a full time president and a complete overhaul. Sadly, for those who question the young leaders leaving the party, an overhaul stops at introspection (a term we have all grown tired of). People will come and go, whether it is Jyotiraditya Scindia, Sachin Pilot, Ajay Kumar, Pradyot, Himanta Biswa Sarma or Jagan Reddy. But it is important to learn from every voice of dissent.

A debate within the party should not be seen as a duel and it should be across the board. Many leave the party not for lure of power and money but because they feel that they are humiliated, as it was in my case.

If the Congress has to reclaim its glory days it must decentralise and hear voices from across the country. The party which used to hold sway across the country has to be less Delhi centric. Finally, the party must ask its senior leaders why the past seems far prettier than the future. We could ask Mani Shankar Aiyar to introspect.

The writer is chairman, The Indigenous Progressive Regional Alliance



NAVNEET SHARMA

## A FORCE FOR THE FUTURE

A National Curriculum Framework for police education and training is needed

THE CUSTODIAL DEATHS in Thoothukudi and the killing of eight policemen in an ambush in Uttar Pradesh has brought the country's police force under scrutiny. The story of Vikas Dubey and his "encounter" killing almost sounds like a Bollywood film plot. The police's narrative — the car overturning, Dubey snatching the service pistol and attempting to run — does not seem convincing. When the Hindi novelist, Ved Prakash Sharma wrote *Vardi Wala Gunda* (A Goon in Uniform), he probably did not anticipate real life events imitating fiction. The novel sold more than 80 million copies, bringing respect to the world of pulp fiction. The epithet used by the novelist to describe the police rings true in light of the custodial deaths in Thoothukudi and the Vikas Dubey encounter.

The killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis led to a series of protests against police atrocities in the US, culminating into the Black Lives Matter campaign. The Minneapolis council, in fact, has drafted a plan to abolish the police and replace it with a department of community safety and violence prevention. No such outrage has been felt in India. Some people justify police violence in Kashmir and the Northeast as the only solution to the insurgency. People, in fact, rarely object when they see policemen slapping people or asking them to do sit-ups.

The maintenance of law and order is primarily the responsibility of the states — Delhi being an exception. However, police departments are headed by an IPS officer provid-

ing the system an anchor at the Central level. These officers are trained at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy for Administration, Mussorie and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (NPA) at Hyderabad. Lower-level officials and constables are trained at different state police academies. There are also two police universities in the country and the home ministry has recently approved the creation of a national police university. However, at the lower rungs, much of the force uses strong arm tactics that date back to the colonial era.

One needs to be a graduate to become an IPS officer. But for recruitment at the lower levels of the force, only the physical agility of the candidate is tested. An IPS officer is trained for about two years, an inspector-level officer receives an year's training and a constable is trained for nine months. The quality of training varies according to state. But, by and large, officials at the lower rungs only receive basic training for field challenges — human rights issues are not an essential part of their training. This is probably why a remark in dissent by Jayaraj in Thoothukudi led to the gruesome police violence against him.

While "depolicing society" is often discussed in the media and the issue often comes up in political rhetoric, conversations on its nature and scope lack academic rigour. But such conversations are needed because as the satirist Hari Shankar Parsai showed in *Inspector Matadin Chand Par*, policing dehumanises society — including the police force itself. The Bureau for Police Research and

Development was established in 1970 for the "modernisation" of police. The institution has rarely engaged with human rights issues.

Only a few states have in-service training for lower level officers and the constabulary. Police officials work 10 to 16 hours, seven days a week, which takes a toll on the health of several officers. The "Status of Policing in India Report 2019" points out that 70 police stations across 20 states do not have wireless facilities and 214 police stations do not have a telephone. More than 40 per cent of police stations in the country cannot avail the help of forensic technology. All this is bound to affect the functioning of the police and reflect in the ways they engage with the public.

It is high time that we address the infrastructural and organisational issues and concerns related to the police. Moreover, there is a need to evolve a National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for police education and training, like that for teachers, and medical and engineering services. The curriculum must be informed by discussions at different levels — universities, NPA and the society itself. A progressive and democratic society and an aspiring economic superpower cannot be policed by a regressive system. An NCF can help the police act according to its motto, "With you, For you, Always".

The writer is faculty, Department of Education, Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamsala. Views expressed are personal



## JULY 16, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

INDO-PAK TALKS BETWEEN INDIA and Pakistan began with the Prime Minister suggesting to the visiting Pakistan Foreign Minister Agha Shahid that Pakistan should think of setting the Kashmir issue with India peacefully and bilaterally as had been provided in the Simla Agreement. Indira Gandhi's suggestion clearly implied that the Indian government wants Pakistan to give up raising the Kashmir issue in various world forums and instead discuss it with India. It's not clear what exactly Agha Shahi told PM Indira Gandhi in the Kashmir issue. But later in his banquet speech, the Pakistan foreign said: "We are fully committed to the Simla

Agreement in all its provisions and are confident that the process would be carried to its logical conclusion with a just and amicable settlement on Jammu and Kashmir."

### TWO MIZO LEADERS

IN AN EFFORT to accommodate the Mizo National Front Leader, Laldenga, without toppling the elected People's Conference Government of Brigadier Sailo in Mizoram, the Union government is trying to persuade the two to bury the hatchet. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Home Minister Zail Singh are reported to have told the Mizoram government that it can work together with Laldenga. This suggestion is said to have been

made when the Mizoram Finance Minister, Lalthmingthanga called on them. They assured the minister that the Centre has no plans to dismiss the elected government of Mizoram.

### SUGAR PRICES CRASH

SUGAR AND KHANDSARI prices crashed following the reduction in the limits of holding stocks of these items. In most markets, sugar prices tumbled by 20 per cent to 40 per cent and that of khandsari by Rs 15 to Rs 50 a quintal. The steepest fall in sugar prices was in Delhi where it lost Rs 42 while that of khandsari came down by Rs 50 a quintal in Bombay.

# Let's not fail the young

As they step into an uncertain future, Centre needs to stand with youth, not against them. UGC needs to revisit its guidelines on final-year examinations immediately



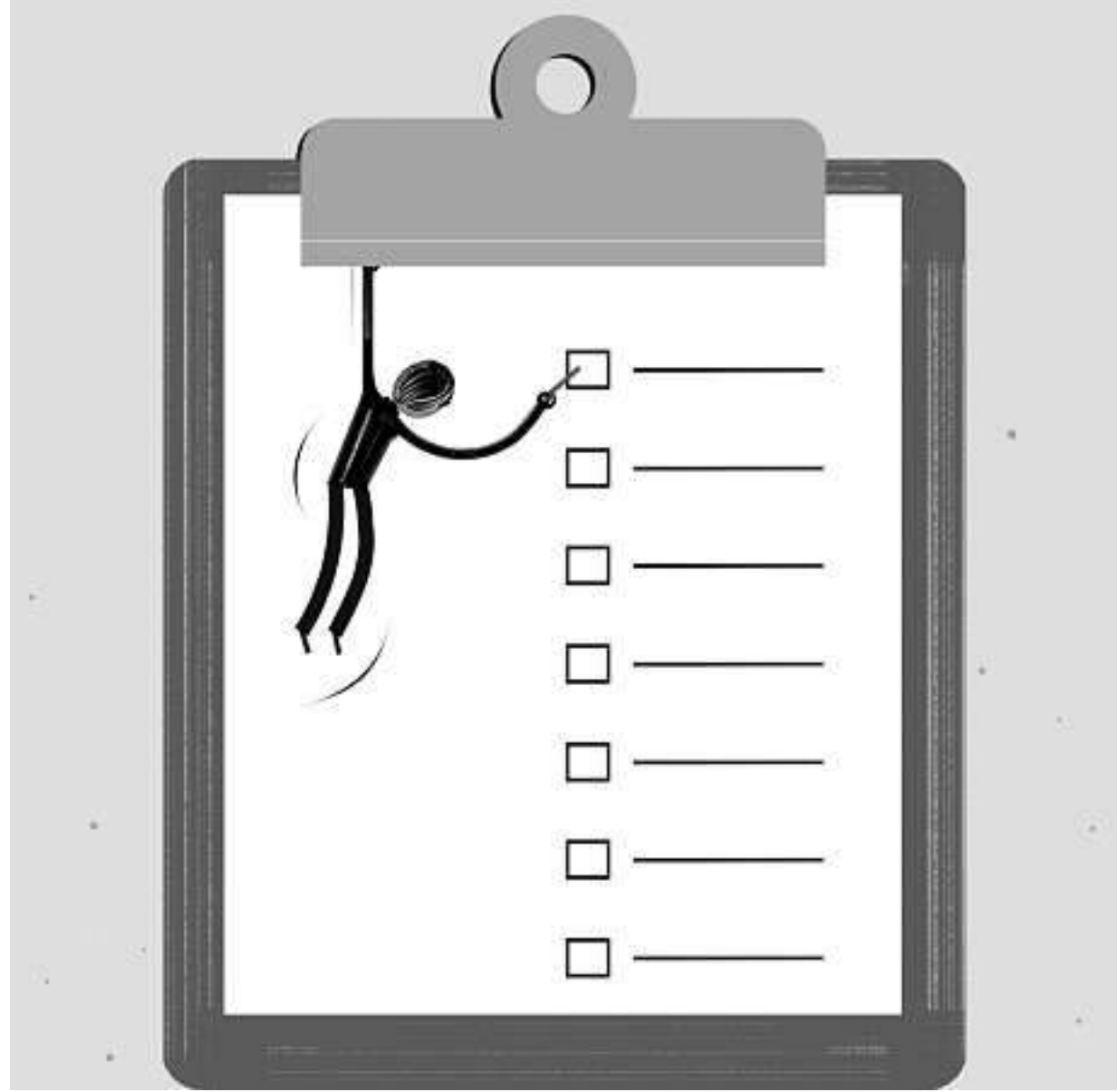
MANISH SISODIA

ONE OF THE core duties of governments during natural disasters like the ongoing coronavirus pandemic is to soften the blow of the crisis. The hardships people have undergone as a result of the pandemic are unprecedented. Governments have taken important measures, ranging from issuing a moratorium on EMI payments and delaying the deadline for filing tax returns, to providing free ration and financial assistance to the underprivileged sections of society. A class of citizens who have also borne a disproportionate burden of this crisis is students in colleges and universities. But they do not appear to have the ear of the Central government.

With university and college classes being almost completely washed out, students have had a raw deal this year. The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development and the University Grants Commission (UGC) are bent on worsening their plight. The worst-hit are final-year students — who would ordinarily graduate in June, but this year, they find themselves at the mercy of the UGC. In its latest guidelines, the central body for maintaining higher educational standards in the country has mandated the conducting of final year examinations, even as it recommended the cancellation of intermediate semester examinations. To circumvent the impossibility of conducting a physical exam during the COVID-19 pandemic, the UGC first recommended online exams. When students pointed out the stark digital divide in the country, the UGC has begun advocating offline or "blended" online plus offline exams.

The UGC's decision to enforce exams for final-year students, while cancelling other semester exams, betrays its poor understanding of the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) adopted by India's universities. Under the CBCS, the academic years are split into semesters that carry more or less equal weightage towards awarding degrees to graduates. Every semester is equal and independent of other semesters. But the UGC's guidelines reveal that it does not understand this simple truth. The Centre believes that final semester exams are "exit" exams and, therefore, more important. Nothing could be further from the truth. The basis for cancelling intermediate semester exams applies just as much to final semester exams.

Technical arguments against exams aside, the fundamental reason we should not hold exams is straightforward. Universities provide education to students, and based on this education, students are assessed through exams. When the coronavirus disrupted the teaching-learning process, it negated the very basis of exams. What will we test our students on? Do we expect them to have deep insights into their final-semester syllabus by birth? The coronavirus pandemic is a once-in-a-century event and if we do not rise to the occasion and respond to it appropriately, we will be



CR Sasikumar

failing our citizens. Extraordinary circumstances call for extraordinary measures.

It is not that examinations are the only way to assess students. The reliance on written, subjective-type exams has already stagnated our university courses and the way they are taught at colleges. The world's finest educational institutions have cancelled exams during the pandemic and chosen to conduct internal assessments. The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and the National Law Universities (NLUs) are India's premier centres of education. They have all completed their evaluation of final-year students through internal assessments and granted them degrees. The Delhi government's Ambedkar University has always followed a system of continuous evaluation, which does not place an undue premium on end-semester examinations.

In this vein, the Delhi government has also directed state universities to scrap exams for final-year students, and devise alternate mechanisms to assess students. But the fate of lakhs of students across the country studying in central universities like Delhi University, or in state universities that have not yet cancelled exams, hangs in the balance.

The UGC guidelines require universities to complete all final-semester exams by the

The Delhi government's Ambedkar University has always followed a system of continuous evaluation, which does not place an undue premium on end-semester examinations. In this vein, the Delhi government has also directed state universities to scrap exams for final-year students, and devise alternate mechanisms to assess students. But the fate of lakhs of students across the country studying in central universities like Delhi University, or in state universities that have not yet cancelled exams, hangs in the balance.

end of September. This timeline is cruel at a time when a poor economic outlook, lack of jobs in the market and a global health crisis are already troubling the youth. They were looking forward to receiving their degrees and moving on from their student lives to looking for jobs so they could begin to support themselves and their households. But now, they will likely finish their exams in September (four months too late), receive degrees by November and their lives will have been set back by several months.

It is a tragedy of our times that during a historic global crisis, the Centre is taking unilateral decisions on student matters without any concern for their mental and emotional well-being. Students are feeling disenfranchised by the utter disconnect between their problems and decision-makers in the Central government. In these difficult times, as they step into an uncertain future, the Centre needs to stand with our youth, not against them. The UGC needs to revisit its guidelines immediately and take a humane and rational approach in this matter. If we force students to carry out this farce, we will have miserably failed our younger generation.

The writer is deputy chief minister of Delhi and also holds the education portfolio

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"UK's decision is obviously the result of heavy pressure from Washington. However, using Huawei or not is ultimately a matter of technology and economy."

— GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

# Neighbourhood challenge

As Chinese influence, ambition expand in the region, Delhi must add PM's principle of 'together we grow' to 'neighbourhood first'



RAM MADHAV

KAUTILYA'S THEORY of Rajamandala — the "circles of kings" — may not be fully relevant in the present-day context. But it should always be kept in mind while dealing with neighbouring states. The Mandala theory suggests that there will be 12 concentric circles of neighbouring states and describes each of them as a friend or a foe. There is a possibility of the immediate neighbours being inimical, while the neighbour of the neighbour, in the second circle, could be a friend.

The Mandala theory is about probability, not certainty. Countries that rub shoulders with each other should make an extra effort to ensure goodwill and friendship. Between Kautilya's period and now, countries have developed the art of diplomacy sufficiently to redefine neighbourly relations. Yet, challenges remain, occasionally reminding us that "your neighbour could become your potential adversary".

India, over centuries, has successfully defied this doctrine by using the soft power of its religion and culture. In one of the earliest attempts, it used Buddhism to cast a "Sanskritik mandala" or "cultural circle" around its geography. The Buddhist circle of influence began during the reign of Emperor Ashoka and included Ceylon, Burma, Nepal, Tibet, Central Asia, China, Japan and Indochina which accepted the Buddha's Middle Path.

Renowned French Indologist and Sanskritist Sylvain Levi described this phenomenon beautifully: "India gave her mythology to her neighbours who went to teach it to the whole world. Mother of law and philosophy, she gave to three-quarters of Asia a god, a religion, a doctrine, an art. She carried her sacred language, her literature, her institutions into Indonesia, to the limits of the known world..."

It was much later, in the 1980s, that Joseph Nye, the American political scientist coined the phrase "soft power", denoting the ability of nations to influence others without using force. Nye's concept is dying a slow death. Countries are becoming suspicious of each other's cultural, academic and even religious engagements. This suspicion is largely the result of countries like China using the "power" aspect of soft power as a tool to spread their dominance. China's "thousand talents" programme, launched in 2008, to spot and attract talent from the world over, and Xi Jinping's campaign codenamed "fox hunt", to locate and neutralise anti-CCP elements in the Chinese diaspora, have led to heightened suspicion about its soft power initiatives. These include the Confucius institutes and collaborative university programmes.

In the US, the Donald Trump administration is going after them. "The Chinese government is engaged in a broad, diverse campaign of theft and malign influence, and it can execute that campaign with authoritarian efficiency. They're calculating. They're persistent. And they aren't subject

to the righteous constraints of an open, democratic society or the rule of law", protested the FBI Director Christopher Wray at a Hudson Institute event recently.

The Chinese will continue the malicious use of soft power. Confucius institutes are a conspicuous presence in India's neighbourhood and Mandarin has found its way into school curricula. But the limitations of soft power are bringing back the assertions of hard power. As the cultural circles are weakening, Rajamandalas are returning with a difference. Neighbours and neighbours' neighbours too are posing challenges.

After Bangladesh's decision last September to hand over the construction of its first submarine base near Cox's Bazar to China, which sold two submarines to it in 2018, came the news of Iran going ahead with the remaining work on the Chabahar port without India's support. Iran's decision should alert India in the light of the ongoing debate in the Iranian parliament over a proposed sweeping economic and security partnership agreement with China.

The *New York Times* was the first to report the details of the 18-page agreement between the two countries. According to *NYT*, the agreement would facilitate China's direct presence in Iran's strategic sectors like banking, telecommunications, ports and railways. China would, in return, get highly-subsidised Iranian oil over the next 25 years. Of particular concern to India could be the military cooperation embedded in this agreement that would facilitate "joint training and exercises, joint research and weapons development and intelligence sharing".

Two aspects of the proposed agreement call for greater attention from India. First, the decision to hand over two ports in the Gulf of Oman to China for development, one of them at Jask just 200 miles away from the Chabahar port. Second, the co-optation of the Central Asian republics into this agreement. This comes as a direct challenge to not only India's traditional ties with these republics but also to the US-led programme of C5+1 under which the US has established multilateral programmes with five Central Asian republics.

India traditionally has strong ties with Iran that withstood several pressures from the West. This time, the challenge comes from the eastern neighbour.

"Neighbourhood First" has been the sheet-anchor of India's foreign policy at least since the inception of the SAARC. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has invested heavily in the neighbourhood in the last six years to create strong diplomatic bonds. He has extensively used his soft power skills to generate enormous goodwill for India and himself. That popular goodwill remains a great advantage.

However, soft power, which includes cultural and civilisational bonding, continues to give diminishing dividends. Nations in the neighbourhood are growing uncomfortable over the over-emphasis of "oneness", as the urge for "uniqueness" is the flavour of the season in each country.

It is time India turns more towards Modi's second principle — "together we grow". Proactive diplomacy together with greater attention to soft developmental needs of the neighbours like connectivity, education, finance and healthcare is the need of the hour for India's foreign policy mandarins.

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

# Theatres of conflict

Counter-terror alignment of China, Pakistan poses a threat to India's interests



ANJU GUPTA

AMIDST MANOEUVRINGS of disengagement along the India-China border and the mechanics of a "two front" war becoming visible, it is vital to assess the China-Pak strategic partnership that has a bearing on national security beyond military matters. Despite being a key ally in the "War on Terror", Pakistan has aligned itself closely with Chinese interests, which are at odds with US/Western interests in the region and beyond. This poses serious threats to regional and global security.

China's assessment of the threat from Af-Pak has not changed for decades. The joint communiqué issued at the end of July 7 China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Trilateral Strategic Dialogue states that, "The three sides agreed to continue to strengthen counter-terrorism and security cooperation, combat the East Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM), and all other terrorist forces and networks posing threats to our common security". China considers any build-up of Uzbek, Tajik and Uighur terrorist/extremist entities in Central Asia and Af-Pak as a direct threat. The threat of ISIS networks to China emanates from these foreign terrorist fighters and their cells across Central Asia, Af-Pak, South East Asia and Europe.

China blames ETIM for the attacks in Xinjiang between 1990 and 2016. Hardly any domestic attacks have been reported since 2016. Historically, ETIM has been, and continues to be, a part of the al Qaeda (AQ) net-

work, especially in Af-Pak, Central Asia and greater Sham (Greater Syria). Most terror groups in Af-Pak are part of AQ's ideological-logistical network, including the Taliban, state-backed Pakistani groups such as AQIS, LeT, JeM, Uzbek-Tajik dominated IMU/IJU and ETIM. In this region, the AQ core has operated through local groups, selectively using its own cadres. It is part of a well-thought-out strategy of AQ for global jihad.

AQ's top leaders and ideologues like Osama bin Laden, Ayman al Zawahiri and Yahya al-Libi have figured prominently in ETIM propaganda. In the past, Pakistani commanders like Asmatullah Muawiya have openly advocated for East Turkistan. However, leaders like Muawiya have all come "over-ground" following deals with ISI. China has used its clout to get Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asian nations to crack down on suspected ETIM/Uighur networks. However, China needs a "reliable" partner for a continuous crackdown, directly or through proxies. Pakistan plays both the roles. Unsurprisingly, Taliban leaders have been visiting China since 2015. Whether or not the peace process yields peace in Afghanistan, the Taliban-AQ network would continue to pose a challenge, as the combine can prop up ETIM and Central Asian groups "at will".

In greater Sham, there is not much evidence of any sizeable ETIM/Uighur cadres having shifted allegiance to ISIS. Thousands

of ETIM cadres continue to train and fight within the AQ network in Syria — earlier as Al Nusra Front (ANF), now morphed into Hayat Tahrir al-sham (HTS) and Hurras al-Din (HaD). The AQ network in Syria is pitted against the regime backed by Russia and Iran. In the region, Turkey is the principal actor with a good degree of control and reach within the AQ network. Post-Caliphate, the AQ network has expanded its reach and strength. Of late, HTS ideologues have been praising the Taliban and Taliban social media has been showcasing the activities of the Amir of HTS, Mohammad al-Joulani.

In the past, China has accused Turkey of supporting Uighur groups, including exiles and political entities allegedly linked to ETIM. Turkey was also accused of issuing fake passports to Uighur suspects for activities in South-East Asia and East Asia. However, in recent times, the two sides have piped down. Pakistan has already used its close connection with Turkey to gain a foothold for its proxies in the Syria-Turkey theatre on the pretext of humanitarian work. Pakistan's direct reach and proxy networks are also useful for chasing ETIM/Uighur networks.

Thus, for China, the close support of Pakistan is necessary, not only in Af-Pak and Central Asia but also in greater Sham. The groups that challenge Pakistan, namely the TTP networks and a few Punjabi Taliban and Baloch groups are, by default, also a threat to

the BRI". Such groups also pose a threat to the Gwadar port, which is critical for China's global economic and military domination. Pakistan has thus gained China's full support across regional and international fora.

While the US designated ETIM as a terrorist outfit in 2002, the US Country Report released in June mentions that "China's CT efforts continue to focus primarily on 'extremists' whom Beijing ascribes to the so-called East Turkistan Islamic Movement, despite a lack of independent evidence that a group by that name is still active". The report also said the "Chinese government has detained more than one million Uighurs, ethnic Kazakhs, and other members of Muslim minority groups in internment camps in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region, using counterterrorism as a pretext".

A new Cold War is building up in every theatre of conflict, riding on real or exaggerated threats of terrorism and extremism. Hostilities between the US and Iran and the China-Iran deal will strengthen it. The duplicitous role of Pakistan is going to cause further instability and violence in the region. Proxy groups may tear the Afghan Peace Process apart. The rise of China, coupled with its near-natural counter-terrorism alignment with Pakistan, has enhanced threats to Indian interests in the region and beyond.

The writer is an IPS officer. Views are personal

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### BIZARRE STATEMENT

THE BIZARRE STATEMENT of Nepal Prime Minister KP Oli that Shri Ram was born in a village in east Nepal and that our Ayodhya is an artificial concept created by India is mind-boggling. This outrageous statement will have hurt the sentiments of a billion Hindus living not only in India and Nepal but around the world. The statement could have been dismissed as the gymnastics of a distorted mind, except it comes on the heels of Oli's unfortunate unilateral action regarding a territorial dispute with India. It would appear he is trying to do whatever he can to widen the distance between Nepal and India. Right-thinking people in both countries should be aware of this ominous policy and do whatever possible to recreate the friendly, age-old ties between the two countries.

Karan Singh, Delhi

### CONGRESS'S LOSS

THIS REFERS TO the article, "See you later, alligator" (IE, July 15). Mani Shankar Aiyar's submission that the Congress can only be run by a family is the reason for the party's current woes. Political parties thrive not on patronage but on an ideological base. By referring to the merit-based achievements of the two young

## IDEAS ONLINE

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leaders in rebellion, he has demonstrated why the Congress has lost both.

Animesh Mohan, Ballia

THIS REFERS TO the article, "See you later, alligator" (IE, July 15). While the writer has made an interesting comparison between Sachin Pilot's departure and those who left the Congress since the Nehruvian era, he fails to explain why young leaders are leaving the party. He will do well to question the top leadership rather than invoking King Lear and the promise of the rose garden.

Seshadri Srinivasan, Delhi

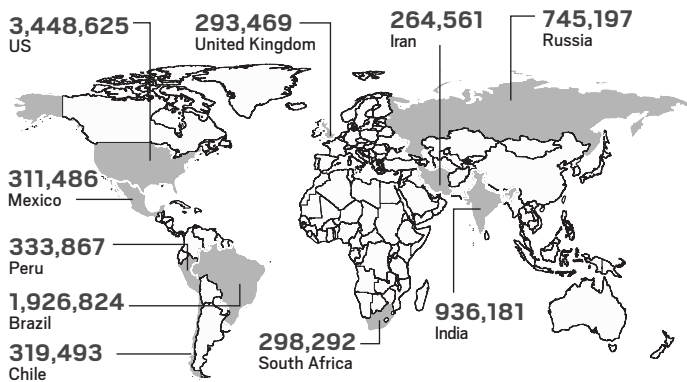


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#ExpressExplained

If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to [explained@indianexpress.com](mailto:explained@indianexpress.com)

## CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

## THE WORLD



TOTAL CONFIRMED: 13,382,020 DEATH COUNT: 580,038

Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated at 11 pm on July 14. JHU's India tally and Health Ministry's tally (below) may not match if these are accounted at different times.

## How to detect coronavirus in diluted gargle samples

SCIENTISTS IN Germany have reported a novel method for detecting SARS-CoV-2. Using mass spectrometry on gargle solutions of Covid-19 patients, pharmacists at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU) succeeded in detecting small amounts of the coronavirus. The novel method is currently undergoing improvements; initial results have been published in the *Journal of Proteome Research*. The researchers suggest the method might supplement conventional tests, and be available as standard diagnostic tool for Covid-19 in the future.

Mass spectrometry allows molecules to be precisely identified based on their mass and charge. Professor Andrea Sinz, a mass spectrometry expert at the Institute of Pharmacy at MLU, and her colleagues developed a method to look for components of SARS-CoV-2 viruses. They measured the proteins of the virus, not the genetic material.

The experiments were done on gargle solutions of three Covid-19 pa-



PAPER CLIP

NEW RESEARCH

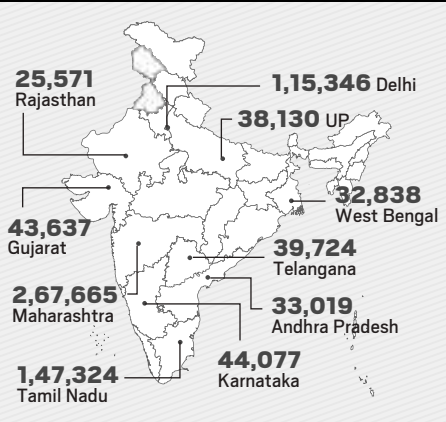
tients. The research group developed a method to detect virus components in these highly diluted samples. The test is highly specific for the virus since the corresponding proteins are only present in SARS-CoV-2. In addition, the test can be used in the early stages of the disease when many viruses are present in the mouth and throat.

The test currently takes about 15 minutes. The research group is now trying to further reduce the analysis time using artificially produced virus components. The novel diagnostic method relying on mass spectrometry will, however, not be available immediately. Sinz said in a statement: "I am in close contact with colleagues worldwide, some of whom have had a far worse experience of the pandemic than we have." She is also a founding member of the COVID-19 Mass Spectrometry Coalition, a research association that relies on mass spectrometry for a better understanding of the disease.

Source: Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg

## INDIA COUNT: 9,36,181 (24,309 DEATHS)

## TOP 10 STATES



## REST OF INDIA

Andaman and Nicobar Islands	166
Assam	452
Bihar	17807
Chhattisgarh	19284
Chandigarh	600
Chhattisgarh	4379
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	520
Goa	2753
Haryana	22628
Himachal Pradesh	1309
Jammu and Kashmir	1173
Jharkhand	4091
Kerala	8930
Ladakh	1093
Madhya Pradesh	19005
Manipur	1672
Meghalaya	319
Mizoram	238
Nagaland	896
Odisha	14280
Puducherry	1531
Punjab	8511
Sikkim	209
Tripura	2170
Uttarakhand	3686

Union Health Ministry update as of 11 pm, July 14. Some states may have reported higher numbers. Only states/UTs with at least one case listed above.

5,92,032 PATIENTS DISCHARGED IN 35 STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES

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

## SIMPLY PUT QUESTION &amp; ANSWER

## Twin hopes on vaccine front

Moderna has reported the immune response in participants of phase I trials for its candidate vaccine against Covid-19. Oxford will reportedly publish its own results soon. A look at the progress made so far

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

IN THE hunt for a vaccine against Covid-19, encouraging news emerged about two candidates on Wednesday. *The New England Journal of Medicine* published an interim analysis describing an immune response generated in participants of phase I clinical trials for a candidate vaccine, developed by US-based biotech company Moderna. Meanwhile, ITV reported that there could be positive news, possibly by Thursday, on initial trials of another candidate vaccine, from the University of Oxford.

## What are these two candidates?

Moderna was the first company to begin a human trial for a candidate vaccine against Covid-19. Called mRNA-1273, the vaccine went into phase I trials on March 16. The vaccine uses mRNA technology, which involves injecting genetic instructions to human cells for creating proteins to fight the virus. The details of the phase I trial come two weeks before Moderna begins phase III on July 27.

Oxford University has developed its candidate vaccine, ChAdOx1 nCoV-19, in partnership with global biopharmaceutical firm AstraZeneca. It delivers a SARS-CoV-2 protein to induce an immune response. The vaccine has already gone into phase III trials, but the results of phase I are yet to be announced.

During human clinical trials, three aspects are assessed: reactogenicity (ability to produce common, adverse reactions), immunogenicity (ability to provoke an immune response), and safety.

## What are the results of the phase I trials on Moderna's candidate vaccine?

The interim analysis found there was a vaccine-induced immune response in all the participants. During phase I, 15 participants received a low dose of 25 micrograms, 15 received a medium dose of 100 micrograms, and 15 received a high dose of 250 micrograms. Two shots were given, one month apart.

The study found that greater reactogenicity followed the second vaccination, particularly in the 250-microgram group. Also, of the three doses evaluated, the 100-micro-



A participant in the phase I trial receives the Moderna vaccine in Seattle. AP/File

gram dose elicited high neutralisation responses and T cell responses, "coupled with a reactogenicity profile that is more favorable than that of the higher dose". In phase III, the participants will be administered the 100-microgram dose.

## Were there side effects?

The study reported fatigue, chills, headache, myalgia, and pain at the injection site, reported in more than half the participants. It said the two-dose vaccine series "was generally without serious toxicity". Systemic adverse events after the first vaccination, when reported, were "all graded mild or moderate".

"After the first vaccination, solicited systemic adverse events were reported by 5 participants (33%) in the 25-microgram group, 10 (67%) in the 100-microgram group, and 8 (53%) in the 250-microgram group; all were mild or moderate in severity," the study said. Adverse events were more common after the second vaccination, "and occurred in 7 of 13 participants (54%) in the 25-microgram group, all 15 in the 100-microgram group, and all 14 in the 250-microgram group, with 3 of those participants (21%) reporting one or more severe events."

## What is the news about the University of

## Oxford's vaccine candidate?

"I am hearing there will be positive news soon (perhaps tomorrow) on initial trials of the Oxford Covid-19 vaccine that is backed by AstraZeneca and supported by tens of millions of pounds of government money," ITV's political editor Robert Peston wrote. "The first data is due to be published in the *Lancet*."

For phase I in April, 1,102 participants were recruited in multiple study sites in the UK. On May 22, Oxford announced that 1,000 immunisations "have been completed and follow-up is currently ongoing". Professor Andrew Pollard, head of the Oxford Vaccine Group, said in a statement: "The clinical studies are progressing very well and we are now initiating studies to evaluate how well the vaccine induces immune responses in older adults, and to test whether it can provide protection in the wider population."

On June 27, Brazil began a phase III trial of the Oxford candidate, with 5,000 healthy volunteers targeted for enrolment. Trials will be conducted in South Africa too.

## How significant are the findings of phase I of a trial?

Phase I of a clinical trial only provides evidence of a vaccine's safety and its ability to generate an immune response. As such, it

gives an indication of what is the ideal dose required to administer in the next stage.

The critical question that remains unanswered in this phase is: how long do the antibodies last to provide immunity against the virus? Also, phase I involves a small number of participants. In phase II, the age range of participants is expanded to see if there is variation in the immune response between older people and children. Phase III, which involves a very large group, investigates how well the vaccine works to prevent a larger community from being infected.

## What is the status of other vaccine candidates that have entered phase III?

Pfizer and its French partner BioNTech, which uses the same mRNA technology as the Moderna candidate, announced an interim report of early-stage trials on July 1. The study, which has not been peer-reviewed, found neutralising antibodies on day 21 of vaccination.

Another major player is the Chinese biopharmaceutical company Sinovac Biotech, which has partnered with Brazil's Butantan to develop CoronaVac, an inactivated vaccine candidate. The company announced earlier this month that CoronaVac was granted approval for the phase III trial by the Brazilian National Regulatory Agency. The trial will recruit 9,000 healthcare professionals from Covid-19 health facilities in 12 sites in Brazil. Enrolment is expected to start this month after ethical approval is obtained from the 12 selected sites.

Brazil's approval came on the basis of preliminary results of phases I and II conducted in Jianguo province beginning April 16, and announced on June 13. The company said there has been no severe adverse event reported in either the phase I, which had 143 healthy volunteers, or phase II trials, which had 600 healthy volunteers. "The phase II clinical trial results show that the vaccine induces neutralising antibodies 14 days after the vaccination..." the company said.

The company said it will be submitting the phase II study report and phase III clinical study protocol to the Chinese regulator in the "near future". "The Company expects to share the full data on our clinical trials with the public through academic publications," it said.

## What next in Rajasthan political drama?

APURVA VISHWANATH  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

RAJASTHAN Speaker CP Joshi has served notices to 19 Congress MLAs including Sachin Pilot asking them why they should not be disqualified. The situation in Rajasthan could in the coming days develop in ways similar to Karnataka in 2019 and MP this April.

## Why the notice?

The notice has been served under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, popularly known as the anti-defection law. The Congress has alleged that the rebel MLAs were attempting to jump parties.

## Must the rebels reply?

Yes, they are bound to reply before the deadline of July 17. If they don't, the Speaker can proceed *ex parte* and disqualify them from the Assembly.

## Can they go to court?

Courts have been extremely reluctant to

interfere with the powers of the Speaker under the Tenth Schedule. These are constitutionally granted powers – and even when challenged, as it was in the case of Karnataka in 2019, the Speaker was given time to decide on the pleas.

In the landmark *Kihoto Hollohan vs Zachillu And Others* (1992) case, the court upheld the sweeping discretion available to the Speaker in deciding cases of disqualification of MLAs. While the Speaker's decisions can be challenged subsequently, the court cannot stay or prevent the process.

## Can the Governor intervene?

If the rebel MLAs tender their resignations to the Governor, he can call for a trust vote if he deems that the Chief Minister has lost the confidence of the House. In April, the Supreme Court clarified this position, ruling that the Governor, in extraordinary circumstances, can call for a floor test even when disqualification proceedings are pending before the Speaker, if he "objectively considers" the government to be on shaky ground. The upholding of the Governor's call for a trust

vote in Madhya Pradesh led to the fall of the Kamal Nath-led Congress government.

## What happens if a trial of strength is held?

Even with the disqualification process pending, the rebel Congress MLAs would have to abide by the party whip – and could be subsequently disqualified if they vote against or abstain. However, their vote, whichever way it goes, will be counted as it is cast.

If the MLAs resign, the strength of the House will be reduced. Irrespective of what happens in the trust vote in the smaller House, these MLAs will have to contest bypolls to re-enter the Assembly. In Karnataka, the Congress and JD(U) MLAs who resigned contested again on BJP tickets. Jyotiraditya Scindia's loyalists are likely to do the same in MP.

## Under what circumstances can the MLAs be disqualified?

There are two conditions on which a Speaker can serve an anti-defection notice to a legislator. The first is when the legislator has voluntarily given up the membership of the party; the second condition is when a legisla-

tor has disobeyed the whip during a vote.

Since the state legislature is not in session and no question has been put to vote on the floor of the House, the second condition does not apply – even though Pilot defied his party and did not turn up at the legislature party meeting. Defying a whip and attracting disqualification under the Tenth Schedule takes place only on the floor of the House.

Although the 19 dissenting MLAs have not resigned from the Congress officially, the Speaker can, under the law, gauge their activities. Any activity that is inimical, prejudicial to the interests of the party would be deemed as giving up membership of the party. This is the point that the Congress has made in its disqualification petitions.

## Do the MLAs have any legal recourse afterwards?

The Speaker's decision can be challenged in court only to a limited extent. In *Kihoto Hollohan*, the Supreme Court said only infirmities based on violation of constitutional mandate, *mala fides*, non-compliance with rules of natural justice, and perversity can be reviewed.

## What forecast of shrinking populations means for India &amp; world

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS  
& KABIR FIRAQUE  
PUNE, NEW DELHI, JULY 15

A NEW analysis published in *The Lancet* has projected that the world population will peak much earlier than previously estimated. It projects the peak at 9.73 billion in 2064, which is 36 years earlier than the 11 billion peak projected for 2100 by last year's UN report World Population Prospects. For 2100, the new report projects a decline to 8.79 billion from the 2064 peak.

For India, the report projects a peak population of 1.6 billion in 2048, up from 1.38 billion in 2017. By 2100, the population is projected to decline by 32% to 1.09 billion.

The study, led by a team of researchers at University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), analysed population trends in 195 countries. It used data from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017 to model future population in various scenarios as a function of fertility, migration, and mortality rates.

## The broad takeaways

IHME director Dr Christopher Murray, who led the research, said the forecasts

highlight huge challenges to the economic growth of a shrinking workforce, the high burden on health and social support systems of an ageing population.

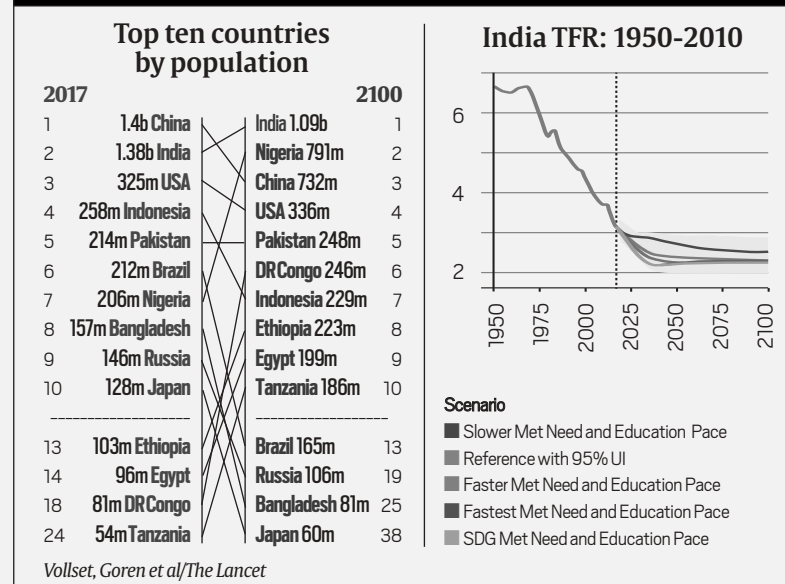
The paper suggests that continued trends in female educational attainment and access to contraception will hasten declines in fertility and slow population growth.

For a generation to exactly replace itself, the replacement-level total fertility rate (TFR) is taken to be 2.1, representing the average number of children a woman would need to have. In the study, the global TFR is predicted to steadily decline from 2.37 in 2017 to 1.66 in 2100. The TFR is projected to fall below 2.1 in 183 countries. In 23 countries including Japan, Thailand, Italy and Spain, it is projected to shrink by more than 50%.

## Key numbers: India

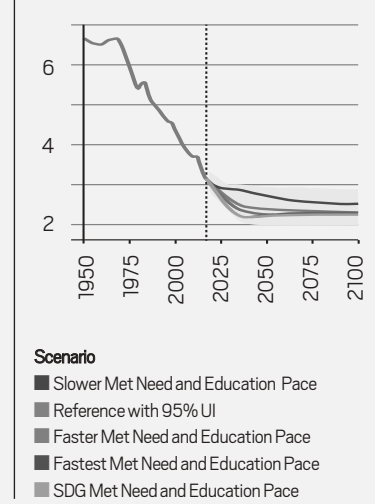
"Trends in India's total population and in the population of working-age adults will follow similar trends," Stein Emil Vollset, one of the lead authors, told *The Indian Express* by email. "The total population will increase and peak just before mid-century, followed by significant declines. Similarly, the working-age population will also increase in the first half of the century, and then decline in the second half. These de-

## POPULATION SHIFTS, DECLINING FERTILITY



clines are driven by fertility rates, which we forecast will continue declining over the next few decades," Vollset said.

## India TFR: 1950-2010



India's TFR was already below 2.1 in 2019. The TFR is projected to have a continue a steep decline until about 2040,

reaching 1.29 in 2100.

The number of working-age adults (20-64 years) in India is projected to fall from around 748 million in 2017 to around 578 million in 2100. However, this will be the largest working-age population in the world by 2100. In the mid-2020s, India is expected to surpass China's workforce population (950 million in 2017, and 357 million in 2100).

From 2017 to 2100, India is projected to rise up the list of countries with the largest GDP, from 7th to 3rd.

India is projected to have the second largest net immigration in 2100, with an estimated half a million more people immigrating to India in 2100 than emigrating out.

Among the 10 countries with the largest populations in 2017 or 2100, India is projected to have one of the lowest life expectancies (79.3 years in 2100, up from 69.1 in 2017).

## The road ahead

In a commentary on the research, Ibrahim Abubakar of University College London's Institute for Global Health, stresses the need for countries to address the potential catastrophic impact of a shrinking working-age population, and suggests measures such as incentives to increase TFR, and using artificial intelligence

as a path towards self-sufficiency.

"Wealthy countries such as the UK and the USA could counteract the impact of these changes through net migration of working-age adults from the countries with growing populations. Unfortunately, the election of nationalist rulers, associated decline in multilateralism, and increasing hostility to migration makes this option unlikely in the short term," Abubakar wrote.

Professor Usha Ram from the Department of Public Health and Mortality Studies at the International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, who was not involved in the study, discussed the impact of migration when contacted.

"Migration, rather liberal migration policies... could be a solution but not permanent. However, what is more important is to look to invest in technological advancements that can compensate for the human shortages. For example, Japan has managed the needs of its greying population with virtually no emphasis on migration," she said.

She said the effect of fertility decline on women's reproductive health rights has to be accompanied by greater economic independence. "This would allow women to negotiate with the system on their own terms and for better support services as well."

## TOP OF THE WORLD



Yves Etienne Rausch

## GERMANY

## 'Forest Rambo' eludes police 3 days into search

THE CALL to the German police on Sunday seemed a bit odd but routine. A man armed with a bow and arrow had been squatting illegally in a small shed outside the village of Oppenau in the foothills of the Black Forest. When four officers arrived, Yves Etienne Rausch, 31, greeted them calmly while seated behind a table in the red shed. He handed over his bow and arrow, and a spear that was by his side. But when officers asked to search him, he drew a gun, threatened a policeman at point blank range and demanded their weapons. Then he ran. For three days, he has evaded capture despite a manhunt involving more than 1,500 officers. The tabloids refer to Rausch as "Forest Rambo".

## IRAN

## Seven ships catch fire at port of Bushehr

AT LEAST seven ships have caught fire at the Iranian port of Bushehr, the Tasnim news agency reported on Wednesday, in what appeared to be the latest in a series of unexplained incidents around nuclear and industrial installations since late June. No casualties have been reported, the agency said. There have been several explosions and fires around Iranian military, nuclear and industrial facilities since late June, including a fire at Iran's underground Natanz nuclear facility on July 2. Natanz is the centrepiece of Iran's enrichment programme, which Tehran says is for peaceful purposes.

## SOUTH KOREA

## Seoul to probe claims against dead mayor

SEOUL CITY Hall officials said on Wednesday that they would create a joint fact-finding team with women's groups and legal and human rights experts to investigate accusations that Mayor Park Won-soon had sexually abused a secretary for four years. The team's members will have no power to subpoena or indict those they want to question because Park, 64, killed himself on Thursday, a day after the secretary filed a complaint against him to the police. By law, the criminal case against Park was automatically closed upon his death.



## PROTESTER STATUE REPLACES TOPPLED SLAVE TRADER

Jen Reid in front of the new black resin and steel statue portraying her entitled "A Surge of Power (Jen Reid) 2020" by artist Marc Quinn in Bristol, England, on Wednesday. The statue was erected on the empty plinth of the toppled statue of 17th century slave trader Edward Colston. Colston's statue was pulled down during a Black Lives Matter protest on June 7 and dumped in the River Avon. AP

## Virus resurgence forces many nations to reimpose restrictions

COSTAS KANTOURIS, VANESSA GERA & ROD MCGUIRK  
PROMACHONAS, JULY 15

COUNTRIES AROUND the world are reimposing lockdowns and implementing new health checks at their borders in an effort to curb a resurgence of the coronavirus before it spins even further out of control.

Starting Wednesday, all travellers arriving in Greece from a land border with Bulgaria were required to carry negative coronavirus test results issued in the previous 72 hours and translated into English. The new rules, which follow an increase in tourism-related Covid-19 cases, triggered an immediate drop in arrivals compared to recent days.

Residents of Australia's second-largest city, Melbourne, were warned on Wednesday to comply with lockdown regulations or face tougher restrictions. Melbourne's 5 million people and part of the city's semi-rural surroundings are a week into a new, six-week lockdown to contain a new outbreak there.

"The time for warnings, the time for cutting people slack, is over," Victoria state Premier



A Covid-19 test at a hospital in Barcelona. Latest coronavirus outbreaks in Spain have prompted new restrictions. AP

Daniel Andrews said. "Where we are is in a very serious and deadly position."

The developments come with more than 13 million cases of coronavirus cases confirmed worldwide, and with over 578,000 deaths, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University.

The actual numbers are thought to be far higher due to a number of reasons including limited testing.

In Serbia, which has been hit hard by a spike in infections, a government crisis team expanded a ban on gatherings of more than 10 people from Belgrade to encompass the entire country. AP

## Mongolian teen dies of bubonic plague: Report

Beijing: A 15-year-old boy had died in western Mongolia of bubonic plague, the country's national news agency reported. The Health Ministry said laboratory tests confirmed the teenager died of plague that he contracted from an infected marmot, according to the Montsame News Agency. The case prompted the government to impose a quarantine on part of the province of Gobi-Altai. Montsame said 15 people who had contact with the boy were isolated. AP

## Patient 206: One man blamed for nearly half Sri Lanka's cases

BHARATHA MALLAWARACHI & EMILY SCHMALL  
COLOMBO, JULY 15

FOR MONTHS he's been anonymous, but now Prasad Dinesh, linked by Sri Lankan authorities to nearly half of the country's more than 2,600 coronavirus cases, is trying to clear his name, and shed some of the stigma of a heroin addiction at the root of his ordeal.

When President Gotabaya Rajapaksa was elected last year, a health unit was created in the intelligence service that sprang



Prasad Dinesh AP

into action when Covid-19 first appeared, according to State Intelligence Service Assistant Director Parakrama de Silva.

After Dinesh, 33, tested positive for the virus in April, navy

sailors raided his village, forcing his contacts into quarantine. But authorities have blamed a melee that ensued on Dinesh — and said the incident led to at least 1,100 additional virus infections.

These cases, they publicly declared, were all linked to a single patient, who they call "Patient 206".

"I can't accept that I am responsible for infecting so many, including the navy sailors," Dinesh said after he had returned home following his release from a monthlong stay at a hospital. "No one gives a job when they realise that I am Patient 206," he said. AP

## MEANWHILE

## NYT To Move Part Of HK Office To SEOUL

The New York Times said on Tuesday that it would relocate its Hong Kong-based digital news operation to Seoul, South Korea, a significant shift by an American news organisation as China has stepped up its efforts to impede the affairs of the Asian metropolis.

## AFTER BEIJING IMPOSES SECURITY LAW

## US ends preferential status for HK, China threatens retaliation

US to impose visa curbs on Huawei over human rights

## REUTERS

WASHINGTON, JULY 15

PRESIDENT DONALD Trump on Tuesday ordered an end to Hong Kong's special status under US law to punish China for what he called "oppressive actions" against the former British colony, prompting Beijing to warn of retaliatory sanctions.

Citing China's decision to enact a new national security law for Hong Kong, Trump signed an executive order that he said would end the preferential economic treatment for the city.

"No special privileges, no special economic treatment and no export of sensitive technologies," he told a news conference.

Acting on a Tuesday deadline, he also signed a Bill approved by the US Congress to penalise banks doing business with Chinese officials who implement the new security law.

"Today I signed legislation, and an executive order to hold China accountable for its aggressive actions against the people of Hong Kong, Trump said.

Under the executive order, US property would be blocked of any person determined to be responsible for or complicit in "actions or policies that undermine democratic processes or institutions



US President Donald Trump at a press conference in the Rose Garden of the White House on Tuesday. AP

## Blow to global business hub

TRUMP SAID his executive order means "Hong Kong will now be treated the same as mainland China". The order revokes licence exceptions for exports to Hong Kong and cancels special treatment to Hong Kong passport holders. The revo-

EXPLAINED  
E cation of special status also means that Chinese goods coming to the US from Hong Kong will no longer be able to avoid tariffs imposed by Washington, dealing a blow to Hong Kong's image as global business hub.

in Hong Kong".

China's foreign ministry said Beijing would impose retaliatory sanctions against US entities in response to the law targeting banks, though the statement released through state media did not reference the executive order.

"Hong Kong affairs are purely China's internal affairs and no foreign country has the right to interfere," the ministry said.

Meanwhile, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the US would impose visa restrictions on Chinese companies like Huawei, which he accused of facilitating human rights violations.

He said the US would "impose visa restrictions on employees of Chinese companies that provide support to regimes engaging in human rights violations and abuses globally".



Apple does not have to pay back taxes, an EU court ruled

## Apple wins EU court case over \$15 billion in claimed taxes

RAF CASERT  
BRUSSELS, JULY 15

A EUROPEAN Union court on Wednesday delivered a hammer blow to the bloc's attempts to rein in sweetheart tax deals between multinationals and individual member countries when it ruled that technology giant Apple does not have to pay 13 billion euros (\$15 billion) in back taxes to Ireland.

The EU Commission had claimed in 2016 that Apple had an illegal tax deal with Irish authorities that allowed it to pay low rates. But the EU's General Court said Wednesday that "the Commission did not succeed in showing to the requisite legal standard that there was an advantage."

"The Commission was wrong to declare" that Apple "had been granted a selective economic advantage and, by extension, state aid," said the Luxembourg-based court, which is the second-highest in the EU. The ruling can only be appealed on points of law.

The EU Commission had ordered Apple to pay for gross underpayment of tax on profits across the European bloc from 2003 to 2014. The commission said Apple used two shell companies in Ireland to report its Europe-wide profits at effective rates well under 1%. In many cases, multinationals can pay taxes on the bulk of their revenue across the EU's 27 countries in the one EU country where they have their regional headquarters. For Apple and many other big tech companies, that is Ireland. AP

## Trump launches into rally-style onslaught on Biden from Rose Garden

JEFF MASON  
WASHINGTON, JULY 15

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump used a White House event on Tuesday to excoriate his expected Democratic presidential rival, Joe Biden, on Tuesday in a rambling diatribe that turned the Rose Garden setting into a substitute rally venue, minus his supporters.

The Republican President, who trails Biden in national opinion polls, has chafed at his inability to hold large political gatherings because of the coronavirus pandemic.

His campaign postponed an outdoor rally scheduled for last Saturday in New Hampshire, citing a storm. An indoor rally he held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, last month featured a partially empty arena.

So on a day when Biden unveiled a \$2 trillion climate plan, Trump took to a podium outside the Oval Office and, after announcing moves to punish China for its treatment of Hong Kong, sought to draw a distinction between their two candidacies.

"Today, Joe Biden gave a speech in which he said that the core of his economic agenda is a hard-left crusade against American energy. He wants to kill American energy," Trump said. Biden's plan, which would

## MORE WHITE PEOPLE KILLED BY COPS: TRUMP

TRUMP PRAISED police and downplayed police violence against Black people, saying "more white people" are killed by police officers. He made the comments during a CBS News interview.

seek to cut carbon emissions from electrical power production to zero in 15 years, signified a more aggressive approach on climate policy than he adopted during the Democratic presidential nominating race in a nod to party progressives who are demanding bolder action.

"When Donald Trump thinks about climate change, the only word he can muster is 'hoax,'" Biden said. "When I think about climate change, the word I think of is 'jobs.' Good-paying union jobs that put Americans to work"

Trump pulled the US out of the Paris climate accord to fight climate change. Biden plans to bring the country back in if he is elected in November. "Yet one more gift from Biden to the Chinese Communist Party," Trump said. He sees the accord as favourable to Beijing. REUTERS

## Banning TikTok takes espionage tool away from China: US NSA

LALIT K JHA  
WASHINGTON, JULY 15

CHINA WILL lose "a big tool" of espionage and surveillance if America and some western European countries ban Chinese apps like TikTok as done by India, US National Security Advisor Robert O'Brien has said.

India last month banned 59 Chinese apps, including TikTok and UC Browser.

O'Brien told Fox News Radio in an interview that the Trump administration was "very seriously taking a look" at TikTok, WeChat and some other apps coming out of China.

"India has already banned those apps, as you know. And if they lose India and the United States, they lose some western European counLalit K Jhatries, that takes a big tool away from the espionage work or the surveillance work of the CCP (Chinese Communist Party)," he said in response to a question on the dangers posed by apps like TikTok.

"The kids who are using TikTok — and it can be a lot of fun — but there are a lot of other social media platforms they could use. TikTok is getting facial recognition on you," O'Brien said. PTI

## TODAY MARKS THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF WHAT'S KNOWN AS THE TRINITY EXPLOSION

## Now I am become Death: The legacy of the first nuclear bomb test

MARIA CRAMER  
JULY 15

It was 1 am on July 16, 1945, when J Robert Oppenheimer met with an Army lieutenant general, Leslie Groves, in the parched landscape of Jornada del Muerto — Dead Man's Journey — a remote desert in New Mexico.

A group of engineers and physicists was about to detonate an atomic device packed with 13 pounds of plutonium, a nuclear weapon that the government hoped would bring an end to

World War II.

Some scientists on the project worried that they were about to light the entire world on fire, according to researchers. Others worried that the test would be "a complete dud."

Oppenheimer, who was tasked with designing an atomic bomb for the Manhattan Project, had not slept. At 5.29 am local time, the device exploded with a power equivalent to 21,000 tons of TNT and set off a flash of light that would have been visible from Mars, researchers said. It was the first nuclear test in

history.

Less than a month later, the United States would drop a nearly identical weapon on the city of Nagasaki in Japan.

The bomb, named Fat Man, fell three days after Americans dropped a uranium bomb, called Little Boy, on Hiroshima. Both weapons immediately killed tens of thousands of Japanese people and forced Japan's surrender on Aug. 14, bringing an abrupt end to the war.

Since the Trinity test 75 years ago, at least eight countries have conducted more than 2,000 nu-



An aerial view of the aftermath of the first atomic explosion at the Trinity test site in New Mexico in 1945. AP

clear bomb tests, said Jenifer Mackby, a senior fellow at the Federation of American Scientists. More than half of those tests have been conducted by the US, a legacy of the Trinity explosion, as the US and several other countries have continued to ratify the treaty prohibiting nuclear weapon test explosions.

"You could say it unleashed the nuclear age, really," Mackby said. "It unleashed a whole new class of destruction."

Many of the scientists who witnessed the blast quickly realised the "foul and awesome"

power they had set free, according to historians.

Oppenheimer said a Hindu scripture ran through his mind at the sight of the explosion: "Now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds."

Kenneth T Bainbridge, the test director, said, "Now we are all sons of b\*\*\*\*s," he said.

The goal of the test was to see if the military could harness plutonium into a weapon that would destroy whole cities, said Alex Wellerstein, a science historian at the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New

Jersey, who studies the history of nuclear weapons.

Officials did not warn any of the residents — many of them ranchers, Navajos, Mexican settlers and their descendants who raised cattle and drank water from cisterns — about the test. Should anyone ask about the blast, officials had proposed several cover stories, including telling the public that a remote ammunition depot had exploded, Professor Wellerstein said. "They took some effort" to protect the public, he said. "Would we consider it adequate today? No, not at all." NYT

**BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD**  
(Power Wing)

**CORRIGENDUM - NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
E-NIT No.: 04/BBMB, PPH Dated: 08.06.2020

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

Name of work: Procurement of Slip Ring & Commutator Carbon Brushes for Pong Units 1 to 8.

Documents Download Start date & time: 10.06.2020 from 16.00 Hrs.

Documents Download End date & time: 03.08.2020 up to 15.00 Hrs.

Last Date & Time of Online Bid Submission: 17.08.2020 up to 15.00 Hrs.

Date & Time of Online Bid Opening: 18.08.2020 at 11.00 AM.

For detailed NIT & Earnest Money to be deposited please visit BBMB website: www.bbmbeproc.abcpurchase.com & www.bbmb.gov.in.

600-PR-Generation-5 For Your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

**BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD**  
(Power Wing)

**CORRIGENDUM - NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
E-NIT No.: 05/BBMB, PPH Dated: 08.06.2020

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

Name of work: Procurement of Fire Hydrants, Flexline Hose Pipes & Galvanized Multipurpose Nozzles for Pong Power House, Talwara.

Documents Download Start date & time: 10.06.2020 from 16.00 Hrs.

Documents Download End date & time: 03.08.2020 up to 15.00 Hrs.

Last Date & Time of Online Bid Submission: 17.08.2020 up to 15.00 Hrs.

Date & Time of Online Bid Opening: 18.08.2020 at 11.00 AM.

For detailed NIT & Earnest Money to be deposited please visit BBMB website: www.bbmbeproc.abcpurchase.com & www.bbmb.gov.in.

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**MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED**  
(A Government of Karnataka undertaking)

Corporate Office, 2nd Floor, MESCOM Bhavana, Kavoor Cross Road, Bejai, Mangaluru - 575004. Ph: 0824-2865795 E-mail: sepmescom@rediffmail.com CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425

No. MESCOM/SEE(P)/EEE(P)/2020-21/4963 Date: 13.07.2020

**TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal Only)**

MESCOM invites tender for Supply of the following material:

Tender No.	Name of the Material proposed for Procurement	Quantity
MESCOM/2020-21/IND698	Universal Type Portable Standard Reference Meter as per Technical Specification	5 Nos

The interested eligible bidders may log on to : [www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in](http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in) on or after 17.07.2020.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele.) (Proc.) MESCOM, Mangaluru

For Power Related Complaint & Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**NOTICE**

Applications on prescribed Performa are invited from Retail Shops/Authorized Stockiest located within 5 Km of Northern Railway Divisional Hospital, Shyama Parsad Mukherjee Marg, Delhi-110006 to register them for the Panel of Retail Shops/Authorized Stockiest for supply of Medicines, Surgical Items & Laboratory Items and other medical store items on day to day basis under Retail Local Purchase for a period of two years from the date of award of work on monthly payment basis in Northern Railway Divisional Hospital, Delhi.

The application form along with copy of terms and conditions can be obtained from and deposited in Room No. 10, between 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM on payment of Rs. 500/- to be deposited in cash with Divisional Cashier Cash & Pay Office, Old Delhi Railway Station Building, Delhi or by way of Bank Draft in favour of Sr. DFM/Northern Railway. The last date for receiving the application form is 17.08.2020 at 11:00 A.M. The application will be deposited in Room No. 10 on all working days between 10:00 am to 05:00 pm.

**Chief Medical Supdt. N.Rly Divisional Hospital Delhi**

1553/2020

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**हिमाचल प्रदेश स्कूल शिक्षा बोर्ड, धर्मशाला-176213**  
क्रमांक: हिशिवो(41)/प्रसूक्त मुद्रण शाखा/2020-2130 दिनांक: 15.07.2020

**निविदा सूचना**

हिमाचल प्रदेश स्कूल शिक्षा बोर्ड द्वारा शैक्षणिक सत्र 2021-22 के लिए पाठ्य पुस्तकों की छपवाई (प्रिंटिंग) हेतु भारत वर्ष की पेपर उत्पादन मिलों से वर्जिन पल्प निर्मित वी.आई.एस.आई.एस. 4658/2019 में निहित विशिष्टताओं के अनुरूप 220 ग्रा.एस.एम. भारयुक्त आर्ट कार्ड (Coated) पेपर की बोर्ड के पेपर गोदाम अंब जिला उना हि.प्र., एन.सी.आर. दिल्ली/जालंधर (पंजाब) में बोर्ड द्वारा चयनित मुद्रकों को आपूर्ति हेतु कामज मिलों से एतद्वारा प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं, जो दिनांक 05.08.2020 दोपहर 1.00 बजे तक सिचिव, हिमाचल प्रदेश स्कूल शिक्षा बोर्ड के कार्यालय में पहुंच जानी चाहिए। प्राप्त निविदाएं उसी सायं 3.00 बजे बोर्ड कार्यालय में इच्छुक निविदादाताओं की उपस्थिति में खोली जाएगी।

निविदा प्रपत्र एवं इस संबंध में निर्धारित नियम एवं शर्तों बोर्ड कार्यालय से किसी भी कार्यदिवस को दिनांक 04.08.2020 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक रूप 5000/- अदा करके प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। यह प्रपत्र बोर्ड की वेबसाइट [www.hpbose.org](http://www.hpbose.org) पर भी उपलब्ध है जिसे डाउनलोड करके प्रयोग में लाया जा सकता है। इस दश में निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क रूप 5000/- का डिमांड ड्राफ्ट जो सिचिव, हिमाचल प्रदेश स्कूल शिक्षा बोर्ड, धर्मशाला को देय हो, तकनीकी निविदा के साथ प्रस्तुत करना होगा।

हस्ता/- सिचिव

7796/HPBS

**सी एस आई आर - केन्द्रीय यांत्रिक अभियांत्रिकी अनुसंधान संस्थान**  
(यांत्रिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परियोजना)

महात्मा गांधी स्टेडियम, दुरगापुर - 713 209 (पश्चिम बंगाल)

**CSIR-CENTRAL MECHANICAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE**  
(Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)

Mahatma Gandhi Avenue, Durgapur - 713 209 (West Bengal)

No.7/12/2020-Rct Date: 14.07.2020

**Advertisement No. 03/2020**  
**Engagement for Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) under CSIR-JRF (GATE)**

CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-CMERI), established in 1958, is the apex R&D institute for Mechanical Engineering and allied disciplines under the aegis of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), which is an Autonomous Body under the Government of India. An interview will be conducted at CSIR-CMERI, Durgapur through Online/VC mode to select candidates for 05 positions of Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) under CSIR-JRF (GATE) having B.E./B.Tech. in Mechanical / Electronics / Electrical / Computer Science and Engineering or equivalent with valid GATE Score. Selected candidates will be required to register for Integrated Dual Degree PhD(IDDP) program in Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research(AcSIR) only AcSIR at CSIR-CMERI, Durgapur conducts IDDP programs. Detailed information regarding AcSIR programmes is available in the admission portal of AcSIR <http://www.acsir.res.in>. As the JRF-GATE fellowship is awarded for pursuing PhD, therefore there will be no automatic exit after M.Tech. Interested eligible candidates, who are Indian national and fulfill the above eligibility conditions, may send scan copy of all their original certificates, mark sheets and recent passport size photograph along with the filled in Application Form in prescribed format available in the Institute website ([www.cmeri.res.in](http://www.cmeri.res.in)), to the email [IDtemp@cmcri.res.in](mailto:IDtemp@cmcri.res.in) within the last date i.e. 2nd August, 2020 at 23:59 Hrs. For detail advertisement and other information the interested candidates may log on to the Institute website : [www.cmeri.res.in](http://www.cmeri.res.in) → Opportunity → Career → Vacancies → Advt. No. 03/2020.

Administrative Officer

www.cmeri.res.in | CSIR-CMERI | CSIR-CMERI Durgapur | [cmcri@cmcri.res.in](mailto:cmcri@cmcri.res.in) | [www.cmeri.res.in](http://www.cmeri.res.in)

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**OPEN TENDER BATCH No. 35/20 Date: 13.07.2020**  
E-Tender Notice for supply of materials - "Participation in through" web portal of IREPS - [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) offers are invited for supply of the following materials: The closing time for all tenders is at 14.00 hr.

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Published on time	Closing on	Fund is Available
1	11195984B	Paint Aluminium	28468 Ltrs	20.05.20/14.43.26	10.08.20	Fund is Available
2	04190673	Speed sensor G16	102 Nos.	17.06.20/21.57.49	10.08.20	Fund is Available
3	04200453	Set of byte fitting for LHB Coaches	30 Nos.	17.06.20/22.00.07	10.08.20	Fund is Available
4	04191048A	Upgraded high capacity draft gear	426 Nos.	08.07.20/13.57.18	10.08.20	Fund is Available
5	04194858	Spring for casubn	4681 Nos.	07.07.20/11.40.05	10.08.20	Fund is Available
6	04200774	PU lining for constant	10932 Nos.	07.07.20/11.30.07	10.08.20	Fund is Available
7	06195490A	Electric point machine	1970 Nos.	09.07.20/15.59	03.08.20	Fund is Available

Participants are required to submit their offer only on-line through the web portal of IREPS [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) before the closing date and time. Other details regarding Consignee, and detailed description of stores are available in tender document in tender notice on the above portal.

PR/0439/HQ/Store/T/20-21/64 **Principal Chief Material Manager**

**TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD.**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (E-TENDERING PROCESS)**

Sl. No	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No.	Total
1	CE/MM	M.09, M.10	2
2	CE/MTPS-II	(06 Due Date Extension)	1

**TAMIL NADU TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD.**

Sl. No	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No.	Total
3	SE/Transmission-II	T-2156, T-2157	2

For details of works/Procurement/Due date of submission/opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites : [www.tangedco.gov.in](http://www.tangedco.gov.in), [www.tntenders.gov.in](http://www.tntenders.gov.in), [www.nicpep/app](http://www.nicpep/app) Email : [www.tantransco.gov.in](mailto:www.tantransco.gov.in), [www.tenders.tn.gov.in](mailto:www.tenders.tn.gov.in), [www.tntenders.gov.in](mailto:www.tntenders.gov.in) [nicpep/app](mailto:nicpep/app) DIPP/2626/Tender/2020

**BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD**  
(Power Wing)

**CORRIGENDUM - NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
E-NIT No.: 04/BBMB, PPH Dated: 08.06.2020

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

Name of work: Procurement of Grinding Wheel, Discs, Depressed cutting Discs, Emery paper, Emery cloth, of different sizes as per (Annexure-II) for the Pong Power House, located in Himachal Pradesh, Bhakra Power House, Nangal, Garguwal & Kolla Power House, Garguwal and Paripal.

Documents Download Start date & time: 10.06.2020 from 16.00 Hrs.

Documents Download End date & time: 03.08.2020 up to 15.00 Hrs.

Last Date & Time of Online Bid Submission: 17.08.2020 up to 15.00 Hrs.

Date & Time of Online Bid Opening: 18.08.2020 at 11.00 AM.

For detailed NIT & Earnest Money to be deposited please visit BBMB website: [www.bbmbeproc.abcpurchase.com](http://www.bbmbeproc.abcpurchase.com) & [www.bbmb.gov.in](http://www.bbmb.gov.in).

606-PR-Generation-5 For Your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

**Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir**  
**Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Kashmir.**

**Subject** : Supply of Trucks for Transportation of Goods.  
**Value of Contract** : Approximate value Of Contract Rs. 40.00 Core(s).

**Period** : 02 (two) years.  
**e-NIT No.** : 01 of 2020-21 dated: 11-07-2020

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory e-tenders in DOUBLE COVER SYSTEM are invited through Director FCS&CA Kashmir from Reputed & Registered Transport Firms/Companies;

1. The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility, Criteria, specification, bill of quantities(B.O.Q) Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of dates given below:-

1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	11th July 2020
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	11th July 2020 from 04 PM to 4th August 2020 upto 4:00 PM
3	Bid Submission Start Date	12th July 2020 from 10 AM
4	Bid submission End Date	04th August 2020 upto 04 PM
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bid (online)	Technical Bid will be Opened on 5th August 2020 at 11 AM in the Office Directorate of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department Shaheed Gunj, Srinagar. The date of opening of Financial Bid shall be declared online. At _____ Pm on the same venue.

2. Instruction of bidders regarding e-tendering process :-

- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "downloads" option as well as from "bidder Manual Kit" on website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) to acquaint bid submission process;
- To participate in bidding process, Bidder has to get "digital signature Certificate (DSC). As per information technology Act-2000 Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendor; The bidder has to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form;
- Bids will be opened online as per the time schedule mentioned in Para-1;
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid. Note:-Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with grey/coloured option;

3. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason;

4. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (bill of quantities) contents in any case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains;

5. Price escalation and Taxes:- The unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include Price escalation and all taxes up to completion of work, unless otherwise specified. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on e-tendering portal to store such documents as are required;

**Director FCS & CA Deptt. Kashmir**

No. DFCS&CA/ ccts/ Bgt/ 881-86 Dated: 11-07-2020 DPKK-2995

**KASHMIR POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER IT & COMMUNICATION DIVISION**  
E-mail: [ceo.rpdpr.a@gmail.com](mailto:ceo.rpdpr.a@gmail.com)

**NIT No. CEO IT & C / 01 of 2020 Dated: 09/07/2020**

**1. INVITATION:**

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-Tenders are hereby invited for Supply, Installation, testing & Commissioning of Two (2) No.) Battery Bank each bank comprising of 204 No. 2 V/ 600 AH (VRLA ) sealed maintenance free batteries of Reputed brand for UPS (Emerson Make 200 KVA) installed in DATACENTER at PDD Complex Bemina Srinagar, Kashmir with buy back of old batteries (Rocket make) from Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) or its Registered Suppliers/Distributors with onsite warranty of 5 Years.

1. Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications by the bidder.

2. The tender document is available on website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online upto the date and time mentioned in the table below:

A	Date of issue of Tender Notice	09.07.2020
B	Date & Time of downloading of Standard Bidding Document	11.07.2020 04.00 PM.
C	Clarifications Start Date	11.07.2020; 04.30 PM.
D	Clarifications End Date	15.07.2020; 02.00 PM.
E	e-Bid submission (start) Date & Time (Submission of e-Tender Fee, EMD and other Supporting Documents in PDF/XLS	15.07.2020; 02.30 PM.
F	e-Bid Submission (end) Date & Time (Submission of e-Tender Fee, EMD and other Supporting Documents in PDF/XLS	04.08.2020; 03.00 PM.
G	Online Technical e-Bid Opening date and Time	06.08.2020; 02.30 PM.
H	Venue of opening of technical Bids	Office of the Chief Executive Officer, IT & C Division, KPDCCL
I	Online Financial e-Bid Opening date and Time	Will be separately communicated to the technically eligible bidders
J	Estimated Cost	Rs. 56 Lakhs (Approx.)
K	Cost of e-Bid document	- Rs. 2,000.00 (Rupees Two Thousand only, Non-refundable)
L	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	- Rs. 11,20,000.00 (Rupees One Lac Twelve Thousand only)
M	Last Date for Submission of Hard Copies	06.08.2020; 02.00 PM.
N	Address for submission of Hard Copies	Office of the Chief Executive Officer IT & Communication Division (Data Center) PDD Complex Bemina Kashmir

3. The bidders need to submit the proof/cost of e-Bid document as stated in the above table through non-refundable Demand Draft (Any Nationalized Bank or Scheduled Commercial Banks) pledged to Chief Executive Officer, Office of the Chief Executive Officer, IT & C division (KPDCCL) and payable at Srinagar. The scanned copy of the Demand Draft should reach the office of Chief Executive Officer, IT & Communication Division Kashmir (Data Center), PDD Complex Bemina upto 06.08.2020; 02.00 P.M.

4. All the e-Bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of EMD in the form of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee only, pledged to the Chief Executive Officer, Office of the Chief Executive Officer, IT & C division (KPDCCL) and payable at Srinagar. No interest would be payable on Earnest Money deposited with the Department.

a. Hard Copy of original instrument of EMD shall be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer, IT & Communication Division Kashmir (Data Center), PDD Complex Bemina upto 06.08.2020; 02.00 P.M.

b. The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified On Web Site <http://jktenders.gov.in>. This shall be conveyed to the qualified bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids shall be opened accordingly online on the same Web Site at the office of the Chief Executive Officer, IT & C Division (KPDCCL).

5. The e-Bids will be electronically opened in the presence of bidder's representatives, who choose to attend at the identified venue on indicated date and time mentioned in the above table or any subsequent day to the convenience of the Tender Opening Committee. An authority letter of bidder's representative will be required to be produced.

6. The Department reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids/ the e-Bid process without assigning any reason thereof. The decision of department will be final and binding.

7. In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being declared a holiday/closed day for department's office then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the appointed time and place.

8. All the required documents excluding Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded by the e-Bidder electronically in the PDF format, whereas Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD.

9. To participate in e-bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) Class III (b) as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding.

10. Hard copy of Technical & Commercial bid documents (complete) must be delivered to the office of Chief Executive Officer, IT & Communication Division Kashmir (Datacenter), PDD Complex Bemina upto 06.08.2020; 02.00 P.M. in sealed covers. The sealed cover shall be super scribed as "Technical & Commercial Bid" against NIT No. CEO/IT & C/01 of 2020 Dated: 09.07.2020. The name of the bidder and NIT No. shall be clearly written on the cover. It may be noted that the hard copy should be an exact replica of the uploaded offer documents. For evaluation purposes the uploaded offer documents will be treated as authentic and final. The hardcopy shall be used only for reference purpose.

11. Other details can be found in the standard bidding document.

No. CEO/IT & C/292-95 Dated: 09.07.2020 DPKK-NB-1369

Sd/- Chief Executive Officer IT & C Division KPDCCL

**verka**  
Philo Philo. Pure Khao Phlo.

**THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD. SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX NO. 0172-5041812-66**

**Notice Inviting Tender** [www.verka.coop](http://www.verka.coop)

Section - "A"  
e Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items -

Sr. No.	Name of the Item	Contract Period/ Quantity	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D (Rs.)	Date & Time for Sale/Downloading of e-tenders online	Last Date & Time of Submission of online e-tenders	Date & Time of opening of e-tenders
1	Job contract for the Production & Packing of Sterilized Flavored Milk	30,000 to 50,000 bottles per day or as per demand	Verka Patiala Dairy Ph No. 0175-230358, 95549-99534-35, 80549-96504	500/-	75,000/-	w.e.f 20.07.2020	17.08.2020 up to 11:00 AM	Technical Bid 18.08.2020 at 11:00 AM Financial Bid 21.06.2020 at 12:00 PM
2	Operation, repair and maintenance of Pouch Filling Machine and Tray washer & coding of Pouches at Verka Patiala Dairy.	35,000 to 50,000 hrs/year or as per demand	-do-	500/-	75,000/-	w.e.f 20.07.2020	17.08.2020 up to 11:00 AM	Technical Bid 18.08.2020 at 11:00 AM Financial Bid 21.06.2020 at 12:00 PM
3	Loading/unloading of different materials at Verka Patiala Dairy	As per requirement	-do-	500/-	20,000/-	w.e.f 20.07.2020	17.08.2020 up to 11:00 AM	Technical Bid 18.08.2020 at 11:00 AM Financial Bid 21.06.2020 at 12:00 PM
4	E-Tender for operation and maintenance of pasteurizer machines and tray washer machines including coding on pouches	Annual Contract	Verka Ludhiana Dairy 0161-5203300-5203341, 5203381	500/-	1,00,000/-	24.07.2020 from 11:00 AM	10.08.2020 up to 12:00 PM	Technical Bid 11.08.2020 at 11:00 AM Financial Bid 14.08.2020 at 11:00 AM
5	E-Tenders are invited for Disposal of the unserviceable material on annual rate contract basis	Annual Rate Contract	-do-	500/-	30,000/-	20.07.2020	03.08.2020 up to 12:00 PM	Technical Bid 04.08.2020 at 11:00 AM Financial Bid 04.08.2020 at 03.00 PM
6	E-Tenders are invited for Disposal of the unserviceable material for one time basis	One Time Basis	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	20.07.2020	03.08.2020 up to 12:00 PM	Technical Bid 04.08.2020 at 11:15 AM Financial Bid 04.08.2020 at 03.00 PM
7	Purchase of LDPE Cases 1/2 Lt. 1 Lit and 2 Lit for Ghee Tins.	Annual Rate Contract	-do-	500/-	20,000/-	20.07.2020 from 01:00 PM	03.08.2020 up to 01:00 PM	Technical Bid 04.08.2020 at 11:00 AM Financial Bid 04.08.2020 at 11:30 AM
8	Manpower required for job contract i.e. for processing, Manufacturing, packing of milk & milk products & perini and loading & unloading of milk products, edible, non edible & packing material	01.08.2020 to 31.08.2021	Verka Bathinda Dairy 0164-2240436	500/-	1,00,000/-	18.07.2020	03.08.2020 up to 05:00 PM	Technical Bid 04.08.2020 at 11:00 AM
9	Hiring of vehicles for transportation of milk products to Punjab and other states	Annual Rate Contract	Verka Hoshiarpur Dairy 0182-238157	500/-	50,000/-	20.07.2020 from 02:00 PM	03.08.2020 up to 04:00 PM	04.08.2020 at 11:00 AM
10	Vehicles i.e. Tata 407 (2.5 MT) Tata 709 (4.5 MT), B MT, 15 MT and 20 MT Truck for the Transportation of Verka Products from Milk Plant, Chandigarh to the Depots i.e. Bathinda, Jalandhar, Ludhiana and Mohali, in the state of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Delhi, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka	14.08.2020 to 13.08.2021 (one year)	Verka Chandigarh Dairy 0172-5041917, 5041919	3000/-	1,00,000/-	18.07.2020 from 12:00 PM	31.07.2020 up to 11:59 AM	31.07.2020 at 02.00 PM

Bidders shall have to pay required Tender Processing fee through online mode only i.e. through debit/credit card for getting registered for e-tendering system. EMD should be made only through online mode i.e. Credit/Debit card, NEFT/RTGS, Internet Banking. For participating in the above e-tender, the parties shall have to get themselves registered with our e-tendering portal i.e. [www.eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in) and get USER ID and Password well in time. For downloading tender through e-tendering process flow, please contact e-Procurement help desk on given No. 0172-2970263, 2970264 immediately so that process of timely registration and downloading the tender is completed in time by the date of tender opening. For additional details regarding e-tendering please visit website [www.eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in). Tender processing Fee is Non-Refundable.

Section - B  
Sealed Tenders are hereby invited on the prescribed Performa for the purchase of following items:-

Sr.No	Name of the Item	City/Contract Period	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D (Rs.)	Last Date & Time of Submission of Tenders	Date & Time of receipt and opening of tender
1	Outsourcing of Milk Booths at different sites of GUDA in Ludhiana City	Three years	Verka Ludhiana Dairy 0161-5203300-51, 5203341, 5203381	200/-	25,000/-	17.08.2020 up to 03.00 PM	23.08.2020 at 11:30 AM
2	Outsourcing of Milk Booths at - MCC Sultanpur Lodhi Milk Bar - MCC Shahkot Milk Bar - Central Cooperative bank Milk Bar - Opposite GPO Jalandhar - Airport Authority of India, Adampur Airport - New Sabji Mandi, Moga, Jalandhar	Three years	Verka Jalandhar Dairy Ph.No. 73555-58748, 73555-01750.	200/-	25,000/-	05.08.2020 up to 11:00 AM	11.08.2020 at 11:30 AM

Interested parties may obtain detailed Tender Documents from the office of Consignee where tender is to be opened on any working day from 9AM to 5 PM. If any clarification is required may contact on Phone Numbers given above. The Tender Notice may also be seen at our Website ([www.verka.coop](http://www.verka.coop)). TENDER IS WITHOUT EARNEST MONEY ARE LIABLE TO BE REJECTED. The Consignee reserves the right to accept/reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Note: Corrigendum if any will be uploaded on website only.

**General Manager (PLM PURCHASE)**

**भारत सरकार / Government of India, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / Department of Space**  
**उत्तर-पूर्वी अंतरिक्ष उपयोग केंद्र / North Eastern Space Applications Centre**  
उजियम / Umiam - 793103, मेघालय / Meghalaya, Tel: 0364-2570774  
Email : [cmd.nesac@nesac.gov.in](mailto:cmd.nesac@nesac.gov.in), [cmdnesac@gmail.com](mailto:cmdnesac@gmail.com)

**ई-निविदा सूचना/ E-TENDERING NOTICE**

निदेशक एनईसैक ने निम्नलिखित कार्य के लिए ऑनलाइन वस्तु-दर आमंत्रित किए हैं /Director, NESAC invites online item-rate tenders for the following work :

कार्य का नाम/Name of work	Providing RR masonry foundation for the proposed compound wall in the newly acquired land at NESAC, Umiam.
एनआईटी संख्या./NIT No.	ई-निविदा सूचना सं./ E-Tender Notice No. NESAC/DIR/CMD/174/2020 दिनांक/ dated 14.07.2020
निविदा दस्तावेज डाउनलोड करने की अवधि / Period during which tender document can be downloaded.	16.07.2020 से 30.07.2020 तक 16.07.2020 to 30.07.2020
बोली स्पष्टीकरण / Bid Clarification	16.07.2020 से 29.07.2020 तक 16.07.2020 to 29.07.2020

**Paschimanchal Viduyt Vitran Nigam Ltd.,**  
Victoria Park, Meerut

**TENDER DATE EXTENSION NOTICE**

The Date of opening of tender specification no. PUVNL-MT/COM/10/20-21 for supply of 1500 nos. 11 KV CTs (Different ratios) is hereby extended from 14.07.2020 to 13.08.2020. Time of opening tender and other terms & conditions shall remain unchanged.

For detailed information please log on [www.puvnl.org](http://www.puvnl.org) & E-Tendering website [www.etenderup.nic.in](http://www.etenderup.nic.in) till the date of submission of bids. Superintending Engineer (Commercial) "Help Line Number for Information of Theft of Electricity: +1800-180-3002 (Meerut) & 9412207451" Remark [www.etenderup.nic.in](http://www.etenderup.nic.in)

Sd/-  
Superintending Engineer (Commercial)  
For Managing Director

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION"

पत्रांक: 5858 दिनांक: 15.7.20

**UJVN LIMITED**

H.O.: "Ujjawal" Maharani, Bagh, GMS Road,  
Dehradun - 248006 (Tel: 0135-2763508 Fax 2763507)

पत्रांक: 435 Tender Notice दिनांक: 14.07.2020

Office of Executive Engineer (M&G), Dhalpur Power House invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:  
Tender No.: 04, 05 & 06/EE/M&G/DLR/2020-21  
Name of the Work: (i) AMC including supply of spares of Litostroj make Governors (ii) Repairing and Overhauling of one number Triple Screw Governor Oil Pump (iii) AMC of colony electrical works including Operation & Maintenance of Tube well  
Estimated Cost: (Rs) 7,70,000/-, 3,00,000/-, 24,17,207/- (GST Extra)  
Date of availability of bid document : 15-07-2020 from 17:00Hrs  
Last Date for submission of tender : 06-08-2020 up to 16:00 Hrs  
For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website [www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com)  
(Executive Engineer)

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

**HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED**  
("A State Govt. Undertaking") CORRIGENDUM -2  
(e-tendering Mode only)  
Tel/FAX :- 01907-262596 | Email - [sedphel@gmail.com](mailto:sedphel@gmail.com)

The date of sale and opening of tender for Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 50 kVA Diesel Generator set for (3x5.65 MW) Andhra Power House, Chirgaon, Distt. Shimla (H.P.) is hereby extended as per the following schedule

Request/Issue for online tender documents	From 06.06.2020 (10.00Hrs.) to 22.07.2020 (17.00Hrs)
Last date of submission of online tender.	Up to 24.07.2020 (11.00 Hrs)
Date of opening of Tender-	24.07.2020 (15.00 Hrs)

The detailed tender notification can be viewed/downloaded free of cost from website: <http://www.tenderwizard.com/hpseb> and tender document can be had after making prescribed payment. Any clarification/amendment shall be uploaded on the above web site.

(Partap Thakur)  
Superintending Engineer(Designs)  
Power House Electrical,  
HPSEB Ltd. Sundernagar  
Distt. Mandi (HP)-175019

Save Energy for the Benefit of Self and Nation

**MAHARASHTRA RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED**  
(Maharashtra सरकार आणि रेलवे मंत्रालयाचे संयुक्त उपक्रम)  
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of Maharashtra and Ministry of Railways)

**Notice Inviting E-Tender**  
**E-Tender No. : MRIDC/PROJ/e-TENDER/EW/2020/67**

MRIDC is inviting e-bids in two packet system from eligible bidders for the work mentioned below :

**Name of Work :** Construction of all Civil works upto formation level including dismantling of existing Narrow Gauge Line, Earthwork, Blanketing, Major & Minor Bridges, Road Under Bridges (RUB) / Limited Height Subway (LHS), Retaining Walls, Drains, Ground Improvement Works, Cement Concrete Lining, Cross Drainage Works, Relocation of Existing Roads & Utilities, Providing & Fixing of Over Head Equipment Mast etc. from Chainage (-) 1.214 Km to Chainage 30.00 Km and all Chord Lines, Shunting, Isolations / Sand Hump / Cross overs etc. in all the station yards in connection with Gauge Conversion work between Nagbhir to Bhiwapur Section in Nagpur Division of South East Central Railway. **Estimated Cost : ₹ 151,57,70,058/- . Completion Period : 300 Days. Last Date and Time for Submission of Bids : 18/08/2020 up to 15:00 hrs.**

The detail e-tender notice is uploaded online. Interested bidders who wish to participate should visit [www.maharail.com](http://www.maharail.com) or [www.tenderwizard.com/MAHARAIL](http://www.tenderwizard.com/MAHARAIL) to bid their offer.

Any corrigendum / addendum to this notice will be uploaded on the above-mentioned websites only.

**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**RAJASTHAN STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

4, Institutional Area, Paryavaran Marg, Jhalana Doongari, Jaipur - 302004 Rajasthan  
Phone : 91-0141 5159802, EPBAX 5159600, 5159699, FAX : 91-0141 5159694-97  
Website: <http://www.rpcb.nic.in>, email: [member-secretary@rpcb.nic.in](mailto:member-secretary@rpcb.nic.in)  
NIB No. F-119(2) RSPCB/LAB-INSTRUMENTS/2020-2101, Dated 09.07.2020

1. Online Bids are invited by Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board, Jaipur from manufacturers/authorized dealers in India and abroad for the supply of Laboratory Instruments / Equipments as mentioned below:-

S. No	Name of Items	Qty
1	Autoclave	12
2	Bacteriological Incubator	12
3	BOD Incubator	12
4	COD Digester with Air Condensers	14
5	Conductivity Meter (Bench Top Model)	12
6	Deep Freezer	16
7	Digital Portable Barometer	17
8	Dissolved Oxygen (DO) Meter	6
9	Filtration assembly with suction system for Suspended Solids	11
10	Flame Photometer	6
11	Fume Hood	21
12	Global Position System (GPS)	17
13	Heating Mantle of 1 kW	32
14	High Volume Air Sampler	34
15	Hot Air Oven	12
16	Hot Plate with Magnetic Stirrer	17
17	Laminar Air Flow	6
18	Muffle Furnace	11
19	Multi Parameter Water Quality Analyzer Kit	16
20	Noise Level Meter	32
21	Orsat Gas Apparatus	17
22	pH meter Bench type	13
23	Portable Petrol Engine Generator (3 KVA)	32
24	Respirable Dust Samplers	40
25	Semi Micro Balance	23
26	Specific Ion Meter (Ion Analyzer)	6
27	Slack Monitoring Kit	21
28	Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen Analyzer (TKN)	6
29	Turbidity Meter (Bench Top Model)	6
30	UV-Visible Spectrophotometer (PC Controlled)	7
31	Visible Spectrophotometer	14
32	Water Bath (Thermostatic)	7
33	Water Double Distillation Unit	11
34	Washer (Laboratory Glassware)	18

Total Quantity = 537 Nos.

2. Important Steps / Dates:-

S. No.	Particulars	Date/Place/Amount in Rs.
1.	Name and Address of Procuring entity	Member Secretary, Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board, 4, Institutional Area, Paryavaran Marg, Jhalana Doongari, Jaipur - 302004
2.	Title of Procurement	Supply of Instrument / Equipments For Central and Regional Laboratories of Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board.
3.	Bid Procurement	Single Stage- Technical Bid in one cover / envelope and financial bid in the other cover / envelope.
4.	Website for downloading bidding documents, corrigendum's, addendums etc.	<a href="http://www.rpcb.nic.in">http://www.rpcb.nic.in</a> , <a href="http://www.etenders.rajasthan.gov.in">http://www.etenders.rajasthan.gov.in</a> . However, bid is to be submitted only through the website <a href="http://www.rpcb.nic.in">http://www.rpcb.nic.in</a> or <a href="https://www.etenders.rajasthan.gov.in">https://www.etenders.rajasthan.gov.in</a>
5.	Estimated Tender Cost	631.67 Lac
6.	Amount in Rs of EMD in DD/Pay Order	12.64 Lac (Rounded)
7.	Date of Availability of Bid Document On Website	10.07.2020, 9.30 am
8.	Bid Submission Start Date	10.07.2020
9.	Last Date of Submission of Bid	10.08.2020, 6:00 pm
10.	Date of Submission of Original Demand Draft for Bid Security and Processing Fees at RSPCB HO.	10.08.2020, 6:00 pm
11.	Time/ Date/Place of Opening of Technical Bid	Date and Time- 11.08.2020 at 3:00 pm
12.	Time/ Date/Place of Opening of Financial Bid	Date and Time- To be communicated later on only to technically qualified bidders through e-mail only.
13.	Place of Opening of Technical Bid/Financial Bid	4, Institutional Area, Paryavaran Marg, Jhalana Doongari, Jaipur
14.	Bid Validity	120 days from the bid submission deadline.
15.	Bid Fee in Favour of Member Secretary, RSPCB, Jaipur	Rs. 5000/-
16.	Processing Fee in Favour of MD, RPSL, Jaipur	Rs. 1000/-

i. The Member Secretary (Procuring Authority), RSPCB, Jaipur reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, and to cancel the bidding process and reject all Bids at any time prior to award of contract, without assigning any reasons.

ii. The detailed terms & conditions with specifications of equipments/instruments and bid document may be downloaded from website. The provisions of RPPC Act, 2012 & Rules, 2013, there to shall be applicable for this procurement, further more, in case of any inconsistency in any of the provision of this bidding documents with the RPPC Act, 2012, & Rules 2013, there to the latter shall prevail.

UBN PCB 2021 GLOB00014 Sd/-  
DIPR/CS248/2021 Member Secretary

**JAIPUR METRO RAIL CORPORATION LIMITED**  
Directorate of Operations & Systems  
Room No. 317, 3rd Floor, Admin Building, Metro Depot, Brijga Path,  
Mansarovar, Jaipur-302029 Tel. No. 0141-2822123, (0) Email: [dgsmr@jaipurmetroail.com](mailto:dgsmr@jaipurmetroail.com)  
No. F2(38)/JMRC/085/587/VRLA BATTERY/2019-20 Date: 13-07-2020

**NOTICE INVITING BID**

JMRC invites bids from the eligible contractors/suppliers for "Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning & Dismantling of Maintenance Free Valve Regulated Lead Acid Batteries for UPS and SMPS Installed at JMRC" with Estimated Cost ₹ 1,27,62,313, UBN No: JMRC2021GLOB00022. Scheduled of Submission: 10.08.2020 at 1500 Hrs. Please visit websites <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> or <http://transport.rajasthan.gov.in/jmrc> for Bid document, Corrigendum/clarification/addendum. DIRECTOR (O&S)  
Taj.Samwal/02/2022

भद्रपूज्य रविंद्र, सरला, सुखविंद एवं चारुमालिका साकर-जायपुर मेदो

**MUMBAI METROPOLITAN REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
(A Government of Maharashtra Undertaking)  
MMRDA New Building, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East),  
Mumbai- 400 051 Website : <http://mmrda.maharashtra.gov.in>

Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority invites application from eligible and experienced candidates for the post of "Chief, Transport & Communications" in the Pay Matrix Level - S-29 Rs.131100-216600 on Selection basis. For detailed advertisement visit. eligibility criteria, Terms & Conditions and other instructions, please visit <https://mmrda.maharashtra.gov.in>

(R.A Rajeev)  
Metropolitan Commissioner  
M.M.R.D.A.

Date : 16/07/2020  
Place : Mumbai

**BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD**  
(Power Wing)

**CORRIGENDUM - NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
E-NIT No.: 03/BMBB, PPH Dated: 06.06.2020  
Name of Officer: Superintending Engineer, Pong Power House Circle, BMBB (P/W), Talwara  
Name of work: Procurement of Single Phase Trip Circuit Supervision Relays (220V/DC)

Documents Download Start date & time: 10.06.2020 from 16.00 Hrs.  
Documents Download End date & time: 03.08.2020 up to 15.00 Hrs.  
Last Date & Time of Online Bid Submission: 17.08.2020 up to 15.00 Hrs.  
Date & Time of Online Bid Opening: 18.08.2020 at 11.00 AM.

For detailed NIT & Earnest Money to be deposited please visit BMBB website : [www.bmbbeproc.abprocure.com](http://www.bmbbeproc.abprocure.com) & [www.bmbb.gov.in](http://www.bmbb.gov.in)  
665-PR-Generation-5 For Your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

**रक्षा सम्पदा कार्यालय**  
आगरा मण्डल, आगरा छावनी

पुनः ई-निविदा सूचना

सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि कार्यालय रक्षा सम्पदा अधिकारी, आगरा मण्डल, आगरा छावनी द्वारा 65 हेरे खड़े वृक्ष जो कि एयर फोर्स स्टेशन दादरी में स्थित है, का निस्तारण (Central Public Procurement Portal Govt of India) [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in) के माध्यम से ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा को शर्त उपरोक्त पोस्टल पर अपलोड कर दी गई है। दस्तावेज डाउनलोड प्रारम्भ करने का दिनांक 15.07.2020 समय प्रातः 10:00 बजे से प्रारंभ होकर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि 05.08.2020 सायंकल 05:00 तक रहेगी। उक्त सूचनाये छावनी परिषद आगरा की वेबसाईट [www.cbagra.org.in](http://www.cbagra.org.in) पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

(ज्योति कपूर)  
रक्षा सम्पदा अधिकारी  
आगरा मण्डल, आगरा छावनी

संख्या: 1/235/Dadri/Tree  
दिनांक: 13/07/2020 1552/20

**NORTHERN RAILWAY PUBLIC NOTICE**

Smt. Seema Gulati, W/o Sh. H.K. Gulati, CG/SBB, whose last known address is V.P.O. is 9/104, Chiranjeev Vihar, Ghaziabad (U.P.) unauthorized absent from her duty w.e.f. year 2012 to till date. She was issued a major penalty charge sheet which was acknowledged on 24.07.2015. Since Smt. Seema Gulati did not attend the enquiry, inquiry officer conducted D&AR Inquiry ex-parte on the basis of evidence available on record. Copy of inquiry report was sent to her above address by speed post on 01.10.2019 for comments on inquiry report followed by a reminder letter dated 20.02.2020, the same was shown delivered at the address but no comments from you received till. Therefore, Smt. Seema Gulati is hereby informed through this public notice that if she desires to say anything about the D&AR proceeding against her, she may do so within 15 days. If she requires any documents for this purpose, she may contact Chief Office Superintendent/ Commercial Divisional Railway Manager Office, New Delhi for the same. If no response is received from her within 15 days, ex-parte decision will be taken by Disciplinary Authority against her on the basis of evidence available on record. 1552/20

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**BY PUBLIC AUCTION**

Two Maruti Sx4 Vxi Car Make 2009 would be sold by public auction at Armed Forces Tribunal (Principal Bench), West Block-8, Sector-1, Opp. Mohan Singh Market, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066 on 06th Aug, 2020 (Thursday) at 1200 hrs.

**Security Deposit - Rs. 5000/- per Car (Refundable).**

Successful bidder shall deposit the full bid amount (including GST) immediately and take delivery of the vehicle, on "as it is where it is basis".

**T&C are available at [www.aftdelhi@nic.in](http://www.aftdelhi@nic.in)**

**Deputy Director (A)**

**GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM**

**TENDER NOTICE**

SR. 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, HESAR	ANNUAL REPAIR OF P.C. PROPERTY IN NIGM AT HESAR (GROUP-A) FOR THE YEAR 2020-21, + 15 OTHER WORKS	13.07.2020 24.07.2020	EMD 15.77 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01862-275612 <a href="mailto:xehsmb.hesar@gmail.com">xehsmb.hesar@gmail.com</a>
2	THE ROHTAK CO-OP. MILK PRODUCERS UNION LTD, ROHTAK	(A) SUPPLY OF MINERAL SALT (B) SUPPLY OF PACKING MATERIAL	17.07.2020 06.08.2020	As per QNT	<a href="http://www.vibanda.org.in">www.vibanda.org.in</a>	<a href="mailto:vitarohatk@gmail.com">vitarohatk@gmail.com</a>
3	MC SONIPAT	PROVIDING & INSTALLATION OF PUMPING MACHINERY NEAR SHANI MANDIR UNDER M.C. SONIPAT.	OPENING CLOSING DATE 22.07.2020	15.88 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	<a href="mailto:seemconesat@gmail.com">seemconesat@gmail.com</a>
4	HVPNL, PANOHULLA	PROCUREMENT OF 132KV CAPACITIVE VOLTAGE TRANSFORMER (CVT)	16.07.2020 17.08.2020	1.27 CRORE	<a href="https://www.hvgn.org.in">https://www.hvgn.org.in</a>	0172-2583789 <a href="mailto:proc@hvgn.org.in">proc@hvgn.org.in</a>
5	HVPNL, FARIDABAD	REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING 220KV PNEUMATIC DRIVE TYPE BREAKER OF 150MVA T/JF AT 220 KV A-3, RAJLA (FARIDABAD)	CLOSING DATE 21.07.2020	3.68 LACS	<a href="https://www.hvgn.org.in">https://www.hvgn.org.in</a>	0172-2583789 <a href="mailto:proc@hvgn.org.in">proc@hvgn.org.in</a>
6	HVPNL	AUGMENTATION OF 132 KV S/STN. CANIT. (HISAR) FROM 3X10/15 MVA, 132/11 KV T/JF TO (3X10/15 MVA, 132/11 KV T/JF) IN FY 2018-19.	CLOSING DATE 20.07.2020	4.15 LACS	<a href="https://www.hvgn.org.in">https://www.hvgn.org.in</a>	0172-2583789 <a href="mailto:proc@hvgn.org.in">proc@hvgn.org.in</a>
7	HVPNL AMBALA	66KV D/C LINE RAJCHHRI- MALJIPUR ONE CIRCUIT LILO OF RAJCHHRI- MALJIPUR AT 66KV S/STN ADHOVA	13.07.2020 25.07.2020	9100 for firms and 4550 for Co-Op Societies	<a href="https://www.hvgn.org.in">https://www.hvgn.org.in</a>	0172-2583789 <a href="mailto:proc@hvgn.org.in">proc@hvgn.org.in</a>
8	HVPNL	CREATION OF 132 KV LINE BAY FOR 2ND CIRCUIT OF 132 KV HURMAWALI - BHATTU SOTTER LINE AT 132 KV S/STN. BHATTU SOTTER.	CLOSING DATE 20.07.2020	3.12 LACS	<a href="https://www.hvgn.org.in">https://www.hvgn.org.in</a>	0172-2583789 <a href="mailto:proc@hvgn.org.in">proc@hvgn.org.in</a>
9	HARYANA ROADWAYS ENGS. CORPN. LTD, GURUGRAM	HIRING OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF PRACTICING CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT ON CONTRACT BASIS	15.07.2020 08.08.2020	6 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in/">https://etenders.hry.nic.in/</a>	9250570002 <a href="mailto:gm.hrcc27@gmail.com">gm.hrcc27@gmail.com</a>
10	HFDIC KARNAL	SUPPLY OF MILD STEEL SQUARE HOLLOW OF 2"x1"(20GAUGE), 2"x1"(16GAUGE) & 1"x1" (14GAUGE) REQUIRED FOR FURNITURE MAKING	14.07.2020 27.07.2020	49 LACS	<a href="http://nfc.gov.in">nfc.gov.in</a>	GENERAL MANAGER
11	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL SIRSA	CONST. OF 03 NOS. IPB STREETS IN WARD NO. 30 UNDER RESOLUTION NO. 34/916, 922 AND 923 + 2 OTHER WORKS	15-07-2020 to 04-08-2020 Opened on 05-08-2020	113.05 LACS	<a href="http://etenderharyana.hry.nic.in/">etenderharyana.hry.nic.in</a>	9416136242
12	MC HANSI	MCH/2020/07/30 + 1 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 22.07.2020	1 LAKH	<a href="http://www.etenderhry.nic.in">www.etenderhry.nic.in</a>	Executive Engineer
13	BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION HARYANA, BHILWANI	E-TENDER NOTICE FOR INTERNET LEASE LINE (100 Mbps)	14.07.2020 28.07.2020	7 LACS	<a href="http://www.bseh.org.in">http://www.bseh.org.in</a>	9410971060 <a href="mailto:asp@bseh.org.in">asp@bseh.org.in</a>
14	UHBVN	HIRING OF 1 NO. VEHICLE (MAHINDRA PICKUP) FOR THE OFFICE USE OF SDO OF S/D/IN UHBVN PINDORE	OPENING CLOSING DATE 30.07.2020	6000/-	<a href="http://www.uhbvn.org.in">www.uhbvn.org.in</a>	93160-65971 <a href="mailto:senopubspnanchhuda@gmail.com">senopubspnanchhuda@gmail.com</a>

81775/HRY

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: [www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER ELECTRICAL CIRCLE (R&B) NIRMAN SOUDHA BHUBANESWAR**  
E-mail [seec.bbsr2010@gmail.com](mailto:seec.bbsr2010@gmail.com)  
Bid Identification No. S.E.E.C (R&B) 6/2020-21.  
No. 1254 /Date 06.07.2020

The Superintending Engineer, Electrical Circle (R&B) Odisha, Bhubaneswar on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids VRF Air Conditioning system and Lift works to be received in online bidding, double cover system as detailed in: <https://tendersorissa.gov.in>. The details of bid documents will be available in the above website from 5.00 P.M. of 15.07.2020 to 5:00 P.M. of 30.07.2020. The bidders must possess compatible Digital Signature Certificate of Class II or III. Bids received online shall be opened at 11:30 A.M. of 31.07.2020 in the Office of the Superintending Engineer, Electrical Circle (R&B) Odisha, Bhubaneswar. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal [www.tendersorissa.gov.in](http://www.tendersorissa.gov.in). Addendum / Corrigendum, if required, will be available only in the Website.

Sd/-  
(Er. Gauranga Charan Sahu)  
Superintending Engineer  
Electrical Circle (R&B) Odisha, BBSR  
OIPR- 34006/11/0008/2021

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION TAWANG ARUNACHAL PRADESH**  
**PRESS RELEASE**

Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division, Tawang invites on behalf of Governor of Arunachal Pradesh sealed item rate tenders from approved and eligible Contractors registered with CPWD/ PWD/NBC C etc domiciled within the territorial jurisdiction of constituency of Lumla, Tawang and Mukto Assembly constituency as per Arunachal Pradesh District Based territorial jurisdiction (Incentive, development & Promotional) Act 2015 for below mentioned works. Subject to availability of Fund from State Government,

Name of work	Cost of Construction	** Earnest Money	Time Allowed for completion	Last Time/ date for submission of bids	Time and date of opening of Technical/ Financial Bid	Cost of Bid Document (non-refundable)	Class of contractor
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
C/o MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL AT GOVT. SEC. SCHOOL, MUKTO IN MUKTO-BONGKAR MCA TAWANG.	Rs. 35,64,700.00	Rs. 35,65,700.00	24 months	04.08.2020 4.30 PM	08.08.2020, 1030 Hrs & 10.08.2020, 1030 Hrs	Rs. 15000.00	Class-I

- The bidders are required to pay the cost of bid document in the form of demand draft/cash towards the cost of bid document drawn in the favour of **EE, RWD Tawang 790104**, payable at **SBI, Tawang** for amount (non-refundable) as shown above scheme.
- Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:** The bid document is available at office of the Executive Engineer Rural Works Division Tawang, PO+PS+Distt. -Tawang Arunachal Pradesh from 15/08/2020 10.30 A.M to 04/08/2020 till 4.30 PM.
- Submission of Original Documents:** The bidders are required to submit (a) Original Earnest Money in approved form (b) original solvency certificate on the letter head from nationalized bank (c) original class Registration and (d) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B.a (ii) of ITB (f) original documents viz. RC book, invoice, sale deed, up-to-date insurance premium paid receipt in support of owning road construction machinaries as stated in the SBD, (g) original certificate on the letter head from nationalized bank as evidence of access to line of credit, (h) original copy of power of attorney (POA) agreement in case project is executed by attorney holderto the Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Rupa, Arunachal Pradesh, two working days before the opening of technical Bid, by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. After verification, original documents of road machinaries class registration certificate and power of attorney (POA) agreement shall be released and the rest documents shall be retained.
- The site for the work is available.
- The bids must be submitted physically in tender box marked for MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, MOKTO, 2020-2021 at Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Rupa. The technical qualification First cover of the bids will be opened at 1030 Hours (time) on 08.08.2020 and if qualifies then Second cover Financial bid will be opened at 1030 Hours on 10.08.2020 (date) by the authorized officers i.e. Chief Engineer(W/Z), Rural Works Department, Itanagar. 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 bid for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period of **90 (ninety)** days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid before the said period the earnest money shall stand forfeited.
- It is compulsory for the Bidder, at his own cost, responsibility and risk, to visit, examine and familiarize himself with the site of works and its surroundings including source of principal materials, earth, water, sand, aggregates etc. before submitting the bid.
- Bidders may bid for any one or more of the works mentioned in the Table above. To qualify for a package of contracts made up of this and other contracts for which bids are invited in the same SBD, the bidder must demonstrate having experience and resources sufficient to meet the aggregate of the qualifying criteria for the individual contracts.
- A bidder shall not be permitted to bid for works in the Circle responsible for award and execution of contracts in which his or his spouse's near relative (defined as first blood relations, and their spouses) is posted as Divisional Accountant or as an officer in any capacity between the grades of Superintending Engineer and Assistant Engineer (both inclusive).
- No Engineer of Gazetted rank or other Gazetted officer employed in Engineering or Administrative duties in an Engineering Department of the State Government is allowed to work as a Contractor for a period of two years after his retirement from Government service, without Government permission. This contract is liable to be cancelled if either the Contractor or any of his employees is found any time to be such a person who had not obtained the permission of the Government as aforesaid before submission of the tender or engagement in the Contractor's service.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The Employer 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.
- The undersigned has right to extend or cancel the tender without declaring any reason.
- Any kind of tempering of BOQ by the bidder will cause his bid to be disqualified and rejected .

Sd/-  
**Executive Engineer**  
Rural Works Division  
Tawang  
Arunachal Pradesh  
for and on behalf of  
**HE Governor of Arunachal Pradesh**

\* To be filled by the authority inviting tender.  
\*\* Earnest money is 1% of the estimated cost, rounded to the nearest thousand for A PST Contractors.

DIPR/ARN-10583-85

**Paschimanchal Viduyt Vitran Nigam Ltd.,**  
Victoria Park, Meerut

**TENDER DATE EXTENSION NOTICE**

The Date of opening of tender specification no. PUVNL-MT/COM/20/19-20 for supply of 500 nos. 33 KV TVM Cat-C Meter is hereby extended from 14.07.2020 to 29.07.2020. Time of opening tender and other terms & conditions shall remain unchanged.

For detailed information please log on [www.puvnl.org](http://www.puvnl.org) & E-Tendering website [www.etenderup.nic.in](http://www.etenderup.nic.in) till the date of submission of bids. Superintending Engineer (Commercial) "Help Line Number for Information of Theft of Electricity: +1800-180-3002 (Meerut) & 9412207451" Remark [www.etenderup.nic.in](http://www.etenderup.nic.in)

Sd/-  
Superintending Engineer (Commercial)  
For Managing Director

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION"

पत्रांक: 5857 दिनांक: 15.7.20

**Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice**  
**WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
Bid Identification No. S.E.K.C., Keonjhar No. 02/2020-21  
e-mail: [sekcipwd\\_keonjhar@yahoo.com](mailto:sekcipwd_keonjhar@yahoo.com)  
Letter No. 1755 dt. 08.07.2020

- No of the work:- 04 Nos Building Works
- Estimated cost:- Rs. 112.19 Lakhs to Rs. 451.84 Lakhs
- Period of completion:- 09 (Nine) Calendar Months to 11 (Eleven) Calendar Months
- Date and Time of availability of Bid document in the portal:- From 11.00 Hours of 21.07.2020 to 16.00 Hours of 04.08.2020
- Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the portal:- 16.00 Hours of 04.08.2020.
- Date of opening of Bid from Portal:- 12.00 Hours on 05.08.2020
- Name and address of the officer inviting Bid:- Superintending Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar- 758001.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<http://tendersodisha.gov.in>"

Superintending Engineer  
Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar  
OIPR- 34033/11/0002/2021

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION TAWANG ARUNACHAL PRADESH**  
**PRESS RELEASE**

Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division, Tawang invites on behalf of Governor of Arunachal Pradesh sealed item rate tenders from approved and eligible Contractors registered with CPWD/ PWD/NBC C etc domiciled within the territorial jurisdiction of constituency of Lumla, Tawang and Mukto Assembly constituency as per Arunachal Pradesh District Based territorial jurisdiction (Incentive, development & Promotional) Act 2015 for below mentioned works. Subject to availability of Fund from State Government,

Name of work	Cost of Construction
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## COVID-19 IMPACT ON GENERAL INSURANCE INDUSTRY

## Insurance: Health overtakes motor biz

GEORGE MATHEW  
MUMBAI, JULY 15

THE COVID-19 pandemic is changing the dynamics of the general insurance industry, with health insurance overtaking the motor insurance business for the first time ever to emerge as the largest portfolio in the first two months of this fiscal year.

The health segment has contributed 36 per cent (30 per cent in the year-ago period) of the domestic general insurance premium with premium income of Rs 9,122 crore during April-May in 2020-21 as against Rs 8,484 crore a year ago, while motor portfolio at Rs 6,753 crore has seen its market share shrink to 26 per cent (37 per cent in the year ago period) in the same period from Rs 10,511

**The health segment has contributed 36% of the domestic general insurance premium with premium income of ₹9,122 crore during April-May in FY21**

crore last year, according to data from General Insurance Council. This comes amid the lockdown-induced slide in car sales during this period, which has impacted fresh premium inflows in the motor segment.

During fiscal 2019-20, the motor business generated Rs 69,208 crore of premium income while health was only Rs 51,637 crore. Vehicle sales fell a massive 75 per

cent in the April-June period of the FY21 due to the lockdown. The health insurance segment, on the other hand, has grown in the June quarter, mainly due to increased awareness level about health insurance amid pandemic, and is set to grow faster in the coming months, said an insurance official.

Insurance regulator Irdai has mandated all the 30 general and health insurers to start offering individual COVID-19-specific standard health policy called 'Corona Kavach'.

As COVID-19 has pushed the sale of health covers in the country, the role of six standalone health insurers and general insurers has been prominent in maintaining the premium growth, both for the month of June and for the June quarter. "These products are timely and will meet the require-

ments of all, especially of the vulnerable population," said Shreeraj Deshpande, COO, Future Generali India Insurance. The recent trends have been positive as economic activity restarted in several parts of the country.

The domestic general insurance industry, led by state-owned New India Assurance (NIA), has returned to positive growth trajectory in premium income in June, after continuously recording negative growth in March, April and May. June witnessed mid and large private sector companies — which had recorded a negative premium growth in the last three months of March, April and May — return to the positive growth path. However, for the first quarter ended June, the industry with 33 players has remained in the negative zone in its premium income.

The industry has seen an 8 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) growth in June (at Rs 13,961 crore) but has recorded a degrowth of 4.24 per cent y-o-y in June quarter (at Rs 39,392 crore), according to data from Irdai.

Leading PSU general insurers, NIA and United India, have gained market share while the two largest private sector general insurers have lost the market share. NIA has seen its market share spurring to 19.11 per cent in the June quarter (Q1) of FY 2020-21 from 17.38 per cent in the year-ago period, while ICICI Lombard General Insurance, the largest private sector company, has seen its market share falling from 8.49 per cent in Q1 FY 2019-20 to 8.40 per cent in Q1 FY 2020-21.

Full report on [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## EPFO Board members raise red flags over lack of info on investment returns, files lost in December fire

AANCHAL MAGAZINE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

THE CENTRAL Board of Trustees (CBT) of the retirement fund body, Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), is locked in an internal tussle. Several members have flagged concerns about the inadequate sharing of information about the Fund's investments, delays in approval for the interest rate for 2019-20, and lack of disclosures regarding a fire incident in the vigilance wing of the EPFO headquarters in Delhi that took place in December last year, three Board members said.

A section of the members are learnt to have demanded a white paper from the EPFO headquarters on the investment pattern of the Fund in the last few months, especially to ascertain the impact on the equity-linked investments after the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. The concerns about the Fund's earnings and surplus have also risen on account of the huge number of withdrawals by the subscribers in the special facility that was announced by the government in March.

A detailed action-taken report about the fire incident has also been sought, with one of the Board

## OTHER DEMANDS

■ Some of the members have sought details about the expenditure under the PM Garib Kalyan Yojana and whether the expenses have been reimbursed by the government to the EPFO.

members having written a letter to the EPFO headquarters expressing displeasure about the non-communication to the Board members about the incident.

"Many members over the last few months have been asking several questions from the EPFO headquarters about the investments, the interest rate, the fire incident and the expenses under the PM Garib Kalyan Yojana. But details are not being shared clearly with the Board members. This is public money and some bit of accountability needs to be there," one of the Board members representing employees said.

With the Finance Ministry not ratifying the 8.5 per cent EPF interest rate for 2019-20, which was recommended by the CBT in March, a rate review is being worked upon,

with the rate likely to be cut, an official said. "The Finance Ministry has not ratified the 8.5 per cent interest rate. The reconsideration of the interest rate requires a meeting of CBT. Due to the pandemic, a meeting could not be convened earlier but will be held soon, wherein a rate review decision will be taken," the official said.

Before the CBT meeting, a meeting of the Finance, Investment and Audit Committee (FIAC) has to take place and it is likely to happen soon, another Board member representing employees said.

Query sent by *The Indian Express* to the EPFO went unanswered.

Some of the members have also sought details about the expenditure under the PM Garib Kalyan Yojana and whether the expenses have been reimbursed by the government to the EPFO. Under the scheme, the EPFO is bearing the 24 per cent contribution for employers and employees for establishments having 100 workers with 90 per cent of them earning a monthly income of up to Rs 15,000. A senior government official said Rs 894 crore has been disbursed under the PM Garib Kalyan Yojana for the months of March and April so far.

## Exports, imports fall for 4th month in June, but trade turns surplus after a decade

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

FOR THE first time in a decade, India clocked a surplus in its merchandise trade, exporting \$0.79 billion more than it had imported in June. Imports experienced a steeper drop than exports, which continued to decline during the ongoing pandemic, as per Ministry of Commerce and Industry data.

"This is the first time in the last decade that India is a net exporter," stated the Ministry.

India's goods exports declined 12.41 per cent to \$21.91 billion in June from \$25.01 billion in the same period last year due to a drop in shipments of major commodities like engineering goods and gems and jewellery. Imports, on

EXPLAINED  
Risk to industrial activity

THE STEEP decline in import of goods used in manufacturing activity may impact industrial activity here.

the other hand, declined 47.59 per cent to \$21.11 billion from \$40.29 billion over the same period.

Imports of petroleum, crude and their products dropped 55.29 per cent to \$4.93 billion from \$11.03 billion. Exports of commodities like gems and jewellery dropped 50.06 per cent, and readymade garments of all textiles around 34.84 per cent.

## Air India to send certain employees on leave without pay for up to 5 yrs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

AIR INDIA has started the process of identifying employees, based on various factors like efficiency, health and redundancy, who will be sent on compulsory leave without pay for up to 5 years, as per an official order.

The airline's board of directors have authorised its CMD Rajiv Bansal to send employees on LWP "for six months or for a period of two years extendable upto five years, depending upon factors like suitability, efficiency, and competence.

## PM: Mantra to stay relevant is to skill, re-skill &amp; upskill

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

STATING THAT "skill, re-skill, and upskill" is the mantra to stay relevant in the rapidly changing business environment and market conditions, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday said it has become more important in times of the COVID-19 pandemic. Modi also said the portal to map skilled workers that has been launched few days ago would help workers to find work opportunities, especially those who returned to villages from cities recently.

"Several people ask me that in today's time, business and markets change so fast that they do not understand how to remain relevant. In this time of corona, this question has become even more important. I have only one answer. The mantra to stay relevant is — skill, re-skill and upskill," the Prime Minister said, while addressing a virtual



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses a digital conclave in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI video grab

event to mark five years of the Skill India Mission. At the same event, Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Mahendra Nath Pandey said the government has approved the launch of the initial phase of its flagship skill scheme PMKVY-III, focused on strengthening of district skill committees and creation of a demand-driven ecosystem for targeted training.

## CSL to construct two autonomous electric ferries for ASKO Maritime

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

INDIA'S LARGEST commercial shipbuilder Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL) Wednesday said it has signed contracts for construction and supply of two autonomous electric ferries to Norway-based ASKO Maritime, with an option to build two more identical vessels.

CSL is already constructing 23 hybrid electric boats for Kochi Water Metro. It won this export order after detailed evaluation of various global shipyards and based on its value proposition to the customer, the Kochi-based shipbuilder said in a release.

ASKO Maritime AS, the subsidiary group of Norgesgruppen ASA, is one of the largest players in the Norwegian retail segment. Congratulating the company, Union

Shipping Minister Mansukh Mandaviya tweeted, "Kudos to CSL for grabbing contract to build world's first fully automatic electric vessel for ASKO Maritime, Norway & laying historic milestone in Shipbuilding Industry! Competing with various global shipyards, CSL grabbed contract with its good credibility & history #MakeInIndia." The project, partially funded by the Norwegian Government, aimed at emission-free transport of goods across the Oslo fjord, CSL said. The 67 meter-long vessels will initially be delivered as a full-electric transport ferry, powered by 1,846 kWh capacity battery. After commissioning autonomous equipment and field trials in Norway, it will operate as a fully autonomous ferry of ASKO that can transport 16 fully loaded Standard EU trailers in one go across the fjords, CSL said. WITH PTI

## Urban telephone subscriber base falls, rural rises for 2nd month running in Mar

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

RISING BY 20 lakh to reach 52.1 crore, the total number of rural telephone subscribers in India increased for the second month in a row in March, while the number of urban telephone users fell by 50 lakh to 65.6 crore during the month, data released by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) showed.

Overall, total number of telephone subscribers in the country fell 0.24 per cent on

month to 117.7 crore users, as per Trai data. In February, the urban telephone subscription had declined to 66.1 crore, while rural telephone subscriber base had risen 1 per cent on month to 51.9 crore users.

The total number of 2G, 3G, and 4G users gained during February were nearly pared in March. While February 2020 saw total number of wireless users rise from 115.6 crore to 116 crore, March saw a reversal with the total number of such 2G, 3G, and 4G users drop back to January 30 levels of 115.7 crore.

## Govt has chosen a staggered approach: Expenditure Secy on relief measures, income support

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

RESEARCH on learnings about India's safety net during the pandemic and economic shutdown. In a video message at the event, Nobel Laureate Abhijit Banerjee argued there is a need to rethink India's entire welfare system and to address issues faced by migrant workers. He stressed that the income support provided by the government to poor needs to be enhanced significantly. "The amounts are wrong, the amount of relief should be bigger, as it's going to be a long and painful recovery," he said.

Former Reserve Bank of India Governor Raghuram Rajan said the Centre should not confuse between relief, repair and stimulus which are required for the economy at this juncture, which necessitates that fiscal response should be larger.

**RIICO E-TENDER NOTICE**

RIICO invites tenders/bids costing more than Rs. 200 lacs through [eproc.rajasthan.gov.in](http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) from registered, reputed and experienced contractors for under mentioned works. As such, this is to inform all the prospective bidders/contractors registered in appropriate class in any department or public undertaking of any state in India/GOI, that they may download & submit online tenders/bids for following works:

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Sr. Regional Manager, Balotra	
1.1	Work of Road & CD work alongwith levelling and plot demarcation pillars including survey works at I/A Borawas Phase-I. औद्योगिक क्षेत्र बोरावास प्रथम चरण में सड़क व पुलिया निर्माण कार्य, लेवelling एवं प्लॉट डिमार्केशन पिलर्स निर्माण (सर्वे सहित) का कार्य। RDC2021WSOB00412	321.40

Udyog Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur-302 005,  
Phone : 0141-2227751, 4593201 Fax : 0141-4593210  
E-Mail : [riico@riico.co.in](mailto:riico@riico.co.in) Website : [www.riico.co.in](http://www.riico.co.in)  
Reg. Samwad/C20/2270

**कार्यालय नगरपरिषद्, बालोतरा (बाड़मेर)**

क्रमांक: नया/राजत्व/2020/2082 दिनांक: 09.07.2020

**ई-निविदा सूचना 2020-21**

सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि नगरपरिषद्, बालोतरा द्वारा प्रदूषण जन्म व्यवसाय कर वसूली के कार्यों के लिये केन्द्र एवं राज्य सरकार के अभियांत्रिकी विभागों द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त सुदृढ़ एवं सक्षम संवेदकों से ई-टेंडरिंग प्रक्रिया से ऑन लाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है। प्रदूषण जन्म व्यवसाय कर (सेक्टर) निविदा प्रपत्र को <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> व कार्यालय की वेबसाइट <http://lsg.urban.rajasthan.gov.in/ulbbalotra> व <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in> से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। इन निविदाओं में भाग लेने वाले संवेदकों को निविदा इलेक्ट्रॉनिक फॉरमेट में वेब साइट <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> पर निविदा जमा करनी होगी।

क्र. सं.	नाम कर	टैका अवधि	टैके की न्यूनतम दर	घरोहर राशि	निविदा शुल्क	ई-टेंडरिंग की तिनांक
1.	प्रदूषण जन्म व्यवसाय कर (सेक्टर)	कार्यदिशतिथि से 31 मार्च 2021 तक	3.65 करोड़ प्रतिमाह	87.60 लाख	5000.00 रुपये	11.7.2020 से 10.8.2020

नोट : टैके संबंधी अन्य शर्तें नगर परिषद् कार्यालय में कार्य दिवस में देखी जा सकती है।  
UBN No. DLB2021WSRC06929

राज. संवेदा/सी/21.52/2020-21

समाप्ति नगरपरिषद् बालोतरा आयुक्त नगरपरिषद् बालोतरा

**BRIDGE & ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD.**  
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)  
CIN No. U27310WB1920G01003601  
"KANKARIA CENTRE", (4TH & 5TH FLOOR), 2/A, RUSSEL STREET, KOL-71

**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (e-NIT)**

Online "Single Percentage Rate" Bid(s) / offer(s) are invited in two part bid system for execution of the following works on Labour-Contract Basis in connection with the Levelling, Grading, Piling Work including Testing of Piles and other Associated Works etc. of Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited (BHEL) of 1x660MW, Unit-5, Sagardighi TPP Extension, West Bengal.

Sl. No.	Name of work:	NIT No. & Date of Hosting	Last date of submission of Offer
A.	Installation of Bored Cast-in-Situ RCC Vertical Pile with Hydraulic Rotary Piling Rigs	B&R / HO / 51195 / TD / PILING WORK / 01 Dated: 16.07.2020	30.07.2020 within 4.00 P.M.

Interested Bidder(s) have to enroll & register with the Government e-Procurement System and download the Tender document through logging on to <http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocureapp> Corrigendum / Addendum, if any shall be hosted in CPP Portal i.e. <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocureapp> and in Company's Website <http://www.bridgeroof.co.in>.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU  
**HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT**  
(CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE) CIRCLE, SALEM  
SHORT TENDER NOTICE  
TENDER NOTICE NO.14/2020-2021/HDO/DATED: 14.07.2020

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamilnadu, Percentage tender through online only will be received upto 03.08.2020 - 15.00 hours by the Superintending Engineer, (H) C&M, Salem Circle for CRIDP 2020-21 works, (Package No. 13 & 23) pertaining Salem (H) C&M Division.

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 17.07.2020 onwards in the Government website <https://tntenders.gov.in>. If any Changes/Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (H) C&M CIRCLE, SALEM  
DIPR/2640/TENDER/2020

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU  
**HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT**  
TRICHY (H) NABARD AND RURAL ROADS, CIRCLE  
TENDER NOTICE  
Tender Notice No.08/2020-21/SDO/Dated 14.7.2020

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamilnadu percentage tender will be received by the Superintending Engineer (H) NABARD & Rural Roads, Circle, Trichy, for Two Road works under Upgradation of Panchayat / Panchayat Union Roads / 2020-21 works in respect of Nagapattinam (H) NABARD & Rural Roads Division upto 14.00 hours on 19.8.2020 through online only.

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 22.7.2020 onwards in the Government website <http://tntenders.gov.in> If any changes / corrections etc in the tender, it will be published on the above website only.

Superintending Engineer (H) NABARD and Rural Roads Circle, Trichy.  
DIPR/2641/TENDER/2020

**TAMIL NADU MAGNESITE LIMITED**  
(A GOVT. OF TAMILNADU UNDERTAKING)  
5/53, OMALUR MAIN ROAD, JAGIR AMMAPALAYAM POST, SALEM - 636 302, TAMILNADU  
CIN No: U27109T21979SGC000834

Phone No. : 0427-2346333, 34 & 2346339 Fax : 0427-2346341.  
E-mail : [tanmag.purchase@gmail.com](mailto:tanmag.purchase@gmail.com) Website : [www.tanmag.org](http://www.tanmag.org) / [www.tanmag.co.in](http://www.tanmag.co.in)

Tender Ref No: 80 / AVT / CONTRACT / 01E - 13 E / 2020-22

Sealed Tenders are invited from the reputed contractors who are having enough Machinery, Vehicles Transports (Own/Lease) Manpower and experience for executing the following contracts for our company for two years period.

- Manual Loading, Transporting and Unloading of Raw Magnesite- from Mines to RKD, SKD to RKD.
- Manual Loading, Transporting and Unloading of Raw Magnesite- from Mines to SKD.
- Packing of DBM at RKD.
- Material Handling work at RKD.
- Crushing of LCM from 0-40 mm Lumps to - 200 Mesh Powder in our own Pulveriser, weighing, packing & stacking at SKD.
- Production, processing of LCM at SKD.
- Raw Magnesite Picking (MRS) from Mines Spoil Banks.
- Drilling, collection (with required machineries) and stacking of Dunite.
- Running of carten for contract workers at Mines and RKD.
- Excavation with own Machinery, Mineral Segregation, Cleaning and Stacking of Raw Magnesite.
- Deep hole drilling on footage basis by using Compressor, Wagon Drilling and Towing Tipper.
- Spill Removal Work: Loading, Transporting and Dumping spoil at Mines Dumping area using Excavators & Tipper.
- Supply of Security Guards at RKD, Mines, SKD, Regd. Office & Guest House

Last date and time for issue of Tender Document	17.08.2020, 5.00 p.m
Last date and time for submission of Tender	18.08.2020, 11.00 a.m
Opening of Tender	18.08.2020, 12.00 p.m.

EMD for each contract as in Tender Document. Cost of Tender Document: Payment by Cash or Demand Draft only Rs. 1000.00 + GST @ 18% in person or Rs. 1100.00 + GST @ 18% by post. Tender Document can also be downloaded from Government Portal [www.tenders.tn.gov.in](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in) and from our website [www.tanmag.org](http://www.tanmag.org) (or) [www.tanmag.co.in](http://www.tanmag.co.in)

The place of Tender document availability, submission of offers and Opening of offers are at our Regd. office at the above address. TANMAG reserves the right to accept fully (or) partially (or) reject any offer without assigning any reason for it.

DIPR/2649/TENDER/2020  
MANAGER (MATERIALS)

# 17 SPORT

## Snehashish Ganguly tests positive for Covid-19

Snehashish Ganguly, Cricket Association of Bengal's secretary and BCCI president Sourav Ganguly's elder brother, has tested positive for Covid-19. Snehashish's swab was tested at a private pathological laboratory in Kolkata on Wednesday and the result has come positive. It is learnt that Sourav celebrated his birthday on July 8 with all his family members.

# Pandemic forces football coaches to sell vegetables and kebabs

DEVENDRA PANDEY  
MUMBAI, JULY 15

ON ANY normal monsoon day, three Mumbai football coaches — Prasad Bhosale, Siddhesh Srivastav, and Samrat Rana — would have been plotting with kids how to win the next game at a school tournament. Instead, in the midst of the Covid-19 outbreak, Bhosale is selling vegetables, Srivastav is making kebabs at home, while Rana works as a delivery man for a restaurant. The pandemic means football academies don't require their services at least until the situation normalises, and the three have been forced to fend for themselves in other ways.

"When I sold vegetables, I did feel awkward for the first few days. I am a Masters in Physical Education, a double graduate, and selling vegetables now. But when your stomach is empty and there are more hungry people at home, you stop thinking all that. I carry grain bags and vegetables on my shoulders, fill my cart, and sell on the streets," Bhosale told *The Indian Express*.

He was told in March that his services won't be required and later his school laid off the physical education (PE) teacher, dance teacher, and the music teacher. Bhosale resorted to selling vegetables in the Mumbai suburb of Kandivali.

Srivastav used to coach kids at two schools in the day and worked with a private football academy in the evening where he worked with more children. He was working with a Bangalore-based company which provides football coaches to schools. In June, he was told the company couldn't afford to pay salaries.

"We were not paid for the last few months," Srivastav said. "We wrote to the company a few times and they replied last month that they can't pay us salaries and have terminated our contracts. My father is retired and I have to take care of my family, so we decided to sell kebabs."

Many school coaches approached Mumbai School Sports Association (MSSA) to persuade schools not to lay off coaches, but it expressed helplessness. Lawrence Bing, a hockey secretary at MSSA, said he had received many calls from coaches across the city. "Till May, around 60-70 coaches were re-



Prasad Bhosale (right) has been selling vegetables in Kandivali for close to a month.

**Till the month of May, around 60-70 coaches were removed and by June the number rose to more than a hundred. As sports is completely shut and no outdoor sports looks possible in the coming months, coaches' livelihoods are badly hit."**

LAWRENCE BING,  
MUMBAI SCHOOL SPORTS ASSOCIATION HOCKEY SECRETARY

moved and by June the number rose to more than a hundred. As sports is completely shut and no outdoor sports looks possible in the coming months, coaches' livelihoods are badly hit," Bing said. Rana was head of football academy CSPI, which had nine centres in Mumbai, and would also coach junior I-League teams. His younger brother was also a school football coach but both have been rendered jobless by the pandemic.

"Now I have become a delivery boy, I tried popular companies like Zomato and Swiggy but there was no vacancy. So, I became a delivery boy for a nearby restaurant. I had small savings and was forced to sell mother's gold. My brother also lost his job. We had nine centres and I was the overall head. I have three brothers (one plays football) and they are all into sports. Now, we have to support our families through other means."



Siddhesh Srivastav used to coach kids at school in the day and work with a private football academy in the evening. He now sells kebabs. Photos: Express

# Squaring off with Root

England captain will look to bolster home batting in second Test against WI's pace quartet

SANDIPG  
JULY 15

BEFORE THE pandemic changed perceptions and priorities of life and sport, the raging debate in England cricket was whether Joe Root should be unburdened off captaincy. Not that his batting had blacked out—he averages a shade under 43 as skipper, streets ahead of his teammates—but at a time when England's batting stocks have worn the thinnest in two decades, they could ill-afford to lose their best-of-the-generation batsman to the rigours of captaincy.

Not that Root wasn't scoring runs, just that he could've scored many more if he was free of responsibility. Post lockdown, they are in no mood to debate. After middling efforts in both innings in Southampton, England are just happy to see Root, who missed the first Test due to paternity break, back again. In his absence burned the abjectness of his colleagues' ineptness. Everything from technique to temperament was laid bare by a resurgent West Indies pace quartet.

Any mention of West Indies and pace quartet invokes equal dread and romance, just as any reference of England's batting capitulation evokes irrepressible jokes and déjà vu. For three decades, it was the oft-repeated theme—from the day Clive Lloyd unleashed four horsemen and apocalypse on them to the dying days of that great fast bowling tradition, from the day England batsmen started copping blows and fearing for their lives to the time they began stacking a crew of world-beating batsmen themselves. Like a vicious cycle, when England batting improved, West Indies fast bowling regressed. And vice versa.

A watered-down version of the once-familiar narrative unfolded in Southampton, where Jason Holder and Co ran Ben Stokes and friends ragged. The England batting firm is not as abysmal as those they fielded in the mid 90s, just as the West Indies' fast bowlers aren't quite Michael Holding or Patrick Patterson. There are other protagonists, England metronome James Anderson, who has collected almost as many wickets as the four Caribbean quicks combined, and his retuning friend Stuart Broad. West Indies's stonewaller Kraigg Brathwaite could furnish England



England captain Joe Root returns for the second Test after a paternity break.

counterparts a crash course on batting time. But invariably, after the Southampton Test, the central theme couldn't waver from the England batsmen versus West Indies pacers trope, whether Root-bolstered England could quell a Holder-inspired West Indies.

## England's Test-batting crisis

That England have a Test-batting crisis has been blowing for a while and now threatening to explode into a full-blown storm. In the last two years, seven times they have been bundled out for less than 150. Trent Boult and Tim Southee swung them out for 58, Kumar Roach and Jason Holder medium-paced them for 77, Aussie quicks blasted them for 67. Even Ireland rolled them up for 85.

The tour to South Africa brought relief. Some youngsters came of age — Ollie Pope struck his maiden Test hundred, Dominic Sibley faced 774 deliveries and Rory Burns showed crab-like tenacity in the fine tradition of England openers. Wiser though were some of the English critics who pointed that the pitches were largely flat, Kagiso Rabada was mostly off-colour, Vernon Philander had aged (and he duly retired after the series) and the new crop was grossly wayward. They weren't scrutinised like predecessors in the Steyn-Morkel pomp. So the successes of these youngsters came with caveats, and hence the English media stayed guarded in their assessment.

After all, their numbers remain middling. Burns averages 33 in 31 innings, his opening partner Sibley's corresponding numbers read 37 in 12, Zak Crawley's 31 in eight, Jos Buttler's

31 from 75 outings, the dashing 'keeper-batsman quickly running out of chances and Ben Stokes's 36. Pope, with 41, is the England batsman other than Joe Root with a 40-plus average. The verdict was reserved till the home summer, where West Indies and Pakistan would descend with a phalanx of quality bowlers.

It's not like England were oblivious to the Caribbean threat. Not after they were walloped 2-1 early last year by the same personnel. Four of the England batsmen featured in that series. Yet, they were utterly helpless in chalking plans to counter them. For Roach, Holder, Shannon Gabriel and Alzarri Joseph, it was just a matter of repeating the same old strategies.

They are a brilliantly devastating team—a devastatingly brilliant unit, their success built on patience and skill than speed and hostility. They don't look to intimidate—even the most imposing of them all, Shannon Gabriel, doesn't threaten your life. They seldom target the ribs or heads, barely striving for blinking pace. When this group dissembles, Roach and Gabriel are already into their 30s, they would not be remembered with as much awe or romance as their heyday stalwarts. But more as honest performers of a difficult trade. And they are the best to have flown out of the islands since Ambrose, Walsh and Ian Bishop.

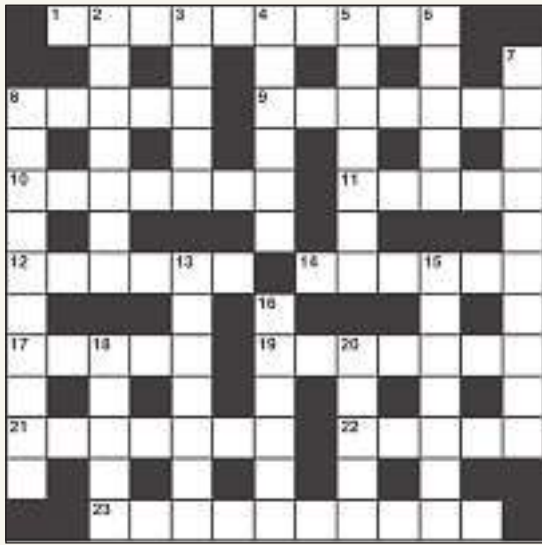
This simplicity makes them all the more dangerous. The awareness that you knew what they could do but couldn't prevent them from ravaging you. Gabriel and Alzarri hitting the deck, Roach and Holder striving for seam and swing. Methods overlapping, this is what they do. It's like going out on a cloudy day without an umbrella and getting drenched.

Terrific as the West Indies bowled, England batsmen showed little preparedness. It's where Root would make the difference. It's why they feel they need him batting with heightened clarity as in the past, why they want him to rightfully reenter the bracket of modern batting greats Kane Williamson, Steve Smith and Virat Kohli. If Root doesn't score runs and England lose the series, the debates would swirl.

Root aside, it's time the next generation of England batsmen stamped their quality. And no better a chance than dousing the most skilful quartet of Caribbean bowlers to arrive in England this century.

England vs West Indies: (Live on Sony Six from 3.30 pm)

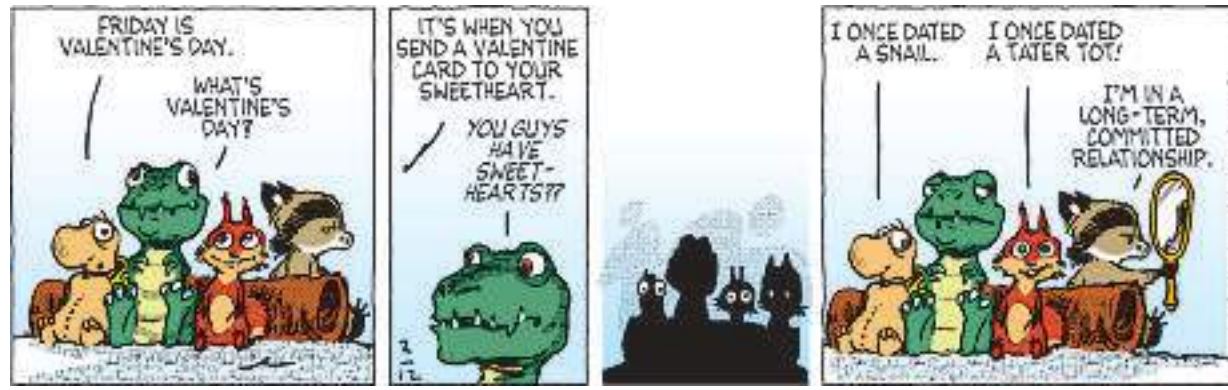
## CROSSWORD 4171



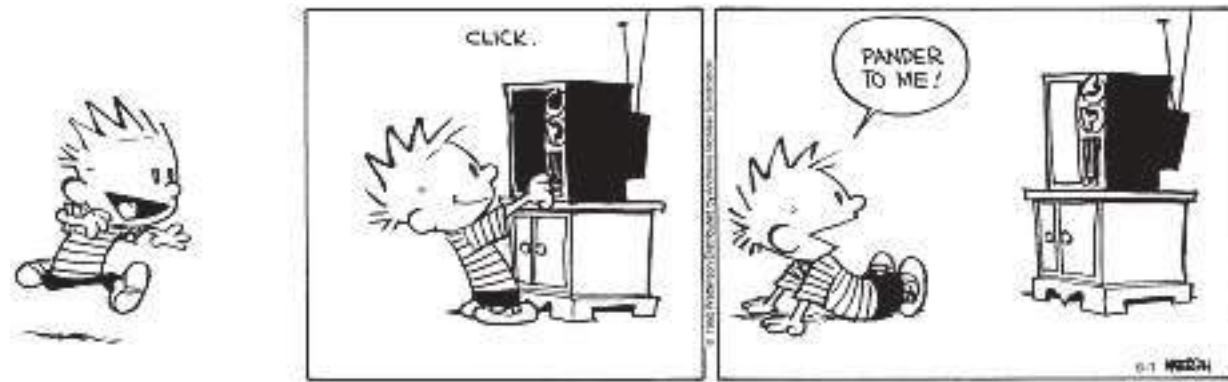
- ACROSS**
- The turn of the tide (5,5)
  - A young animal has it in some measure (5)
  - Strengthen dispute in Japanese currency (7)
  - Screen depicting colour in a variety of rose (7)
  - Consumer items that are cut and polished (5)
  - Join a silent order (6)
  - Rigid habit of the medieval ages (6)
  - Employment exchange? (5)
  - Quite out of order (7)
  - I used to knock about in the open air (7)
  - Uncommon part of British Parliament (5)
  - Church assembly? (10)
- DOWN**
- No mean party? (7)
  - Nominally involved in a court case (5)
  - Most sage is found in the West (6)
  - Winding wind (7)
  - Strip a firearm? (5)
  - Ruined by having ice added? (2,3,5)
  - An improvement in discipline (10)
  - Though particular, the place is in a mess (7)
  - At Rio? No, maybe in Canada (7)
  - Agree it's of small account and give in (6)
  - Greek upper chamber? (5)
  - Sounds much to distribute (5)

Solutions Crossword 4170: Across: 1 Trifle, 4 Lissom, 9 Measure, 10 Learn, 11 Emend, 12 Time lag, 13 Current news, 18 Provide, 20 Regal, 22 Clink, 23 Couples, 24 Denude, 25 Measly. Down: 1 Timber, 2 Irate, 3 Launder, 5 Islam, 6 Swallow, 7 Manage, 8 Rest in peace, 14 Utopian, 15 Nurture, 16 Spiced, 17 Flashy, 19 Liked, 21 Gales.

## OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



## CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



## MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



## DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

**ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**  
Continue to bide time and don't allow other people to pressurise into an early decision. Neither should you allow them to scoff at your ideas. Above all, you must have the courage of your convictions. If you stand up for what is right, your self-esteem can only increase.

**TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**  
Unless a final agreement is reached now, it will be some time before you are prepared to re-open negotiations, perhaps because your ideas no longer seem so wonderful. You're entering a period which can best be described as one of contemplation, and your most interesting ideas will not be for public consumption.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**  
Whatever is currently taking place either at home or at work, remember that you may be required to pay up. So, you should be very cautious and avoid all rash financial commitments. You might now be a good influence on people who have broken the rules once too often.

**CANCER (June 22 - July 23)**  
Some personal pressures are easing, but others are waiting in the wings. You feel as if you should take control, but that is really wise? If you give yourself as long as you need to consider the consequences, you'll decide on the best course of action. Think things through.

**LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)**  
You have become involved in associations which could be helping your self-confidence. Only one question is now outstanding, and that is whether current relationships are based on genuine honesty and understanding. As a matter of interest, it's a suitable moment for telling someone how you really feel about them - in a positive sense, of course.

**VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)**  
You appear to be on the fringes of a rather complex emotional situation, for which there now seem to be two possible outcomes. Either it will all blow over, or it will be removed from your hands. One way or the other, you can afford to be more relaxed.

**LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**  
The only way to form successful partnerships now is to do what you have always done best - compromise and consult. Plus, you can leave people at work to sort out what they want before attempting to reach firm decisions. After all, if they don't see eye-to-eye then joint plans are unlikely to get far.

**SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)**  
What is difficult for other people could be very helpful for you. Therefore, please do concentrate on making the most of any and every opportunity which comes your way, even while you're helping partners out of any difficulty. Consider social arrangements carefully, because by tomorrow your needs will have changed.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)**  
You can still make heavy weather of home and family matters, perhaps because you have been confused, even dumb-struck, by relatives' changes of mood or opinion. It is quite acceptable to press on with practical improvements without waiting for permission.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)**  
Mercury is soon to alter its position so, if you've reached a firm decision, you may have to think again, even if only to confirm your original choice. The time for straight talking will return very soon, but until then you should concentrate on getting the facts straight, and on clearing up misunderstandings.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)**  
Maximum confusion is likely at work and in all routine chores, so if you drop, break or lose vital items, you'll know why: it's all thanks to the muddling effects of Neptune, delicately aligned with Venus and Mercury. Mind you, it's a fine moment for artists and lovers.

**PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**  
You've taken on too much. You may have no choice but to fulfill your promises but, in future, you should learn to say 'no' more often than 'yes' and so avoid such taxing and potentially expensive conditions. You may be able to appeal to a friend for help, but they might want to know how you came to repeat an old mistake.

## JUMBLER 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.

When dealing with the \_\_\_\_, the best method is to pretend to be \_\_\_\_. —Herman Hesse (6,...,4)

NTAEE      AAABNN  
 ENAIS      NOVELS

SOLUTION: FÄTEN, ANISE, BANANA, STOVEN  
 Answer: When dealing with the insane, the best method is to pretend to be sane.

## SUDOKU 4171

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.

1	6		4					
	5			2		6		
		8			4		1	
9		6		8			3	
3	7							
3	4			7				
2		5		7	8			
			7			3	6	

Difficulty Level  
 1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy;  
 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard;  
 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

## SOLUTION SUDOKU 4170

9	4	2	8	7	1	3	6	5
6	3	7	5	9	2	1	4	8
8	5	1	4	6	3	2	7	9
7	8	5	1	3	9	4	2	6
1	6	4	7	2	5	9	8	3
2	9	3	6	8	4	5	1	7
5	2	8	9	4	6	7	3	1
3	1	6	2	5	7	8	9	4
4	7	9	3	1	8	6	5	2

**MARUTI SUZUKI**

**NEXA**

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- ISOFIX
- HEARTECT PLATFORM

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Contact us at  
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