



The lockdown to contain the coronavirus outbreak has disrupted supply chains. One crucial chain is delivery of information and insight – news and analysis that is fair and accurate and reliably reported from across a nation in quarantine.

A voice you can trust amid the clanging of alarm bells.

Vajiram & Ravi and *The Indian Express* are proud to deliver the electronic version of this morning's edition of *The Indian Express* to your Inbox. You may follow *The Indian Express's* news and analysis through the day on **indianexpress.com**



INDIAN
EXPRESS
GROUP



The Indian EXPRESS

JOURNALISM OF COURAGE
SINCE 1932

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 18 PAGES

₹6.00 (₹8 PATNA & RAIPUR, ₹12 SRINAGAR) WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Constitution Bench must hear Bhushan case: ex-SC judge Joseph



'If justice is not done heavens will certainly fall'

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

A DAY before the Supreme Court hears arguments on the quantum of punishment to be awarded to advocate Prashant Bhushan for contempt of court, former SC judge Justice Kurian Joseph on Wednesday said the matter should be heard by a Constitution Bench and called for an "intra-court" appeal in the case.

"Under Article 145(3) of the Constitution of India, there shall be a quorum of minimum five Judges for deciding any case involving substantial questions of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution. In both the suo motu contempt cases, in view of the substantial questions of law on the interpretation of the Constitution of India and having serious repercussions on the fundamental rights, the matters require to be heard by a Constitution Bench," he said in a statement.

"A three-judge bench of the Supreme Court of India has decided to hear a few serious questions on the scope and extent of contempt of court. Certainly, there are more graver issues, involving substantial questions of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution of India. For example, whether a person convicted by the Supreme Court of India in a suo motu case should get an opportunity for an intra-court appeal since in all other situations of conviction in criminal matters, the convicted person is entitled to have a second opportunity by way of an appeal," said Justice Joseph.

"Under Section 19 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, an intra-court appeal is provided where the order is passed by the single Judge of the High Court, and, in case it is by the Division

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BHUSHAN URGES SC TO DEFER HEARING ON SENTENCING P8

INSIDE

HELP US ASSERT RIGHTS NEAR LAC: EX LADAKH BJP CHIEF P6

CABINET NOD FOR NATIONAL RECRUITMENT AGENCY P7

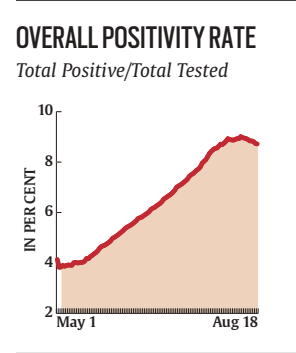
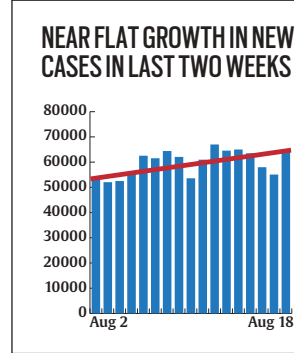
THE WORLD



DEMOCRATS OFFICIALLY NOMINATE BIDEN PAGE 15

STATE OF THE PANDEMIC

Hope in numbers: Daily cases stable for two weeks, tests show fewer positives



New cases range around 60,000; R-value at all-time low

AMITABH SINHA
PUNE, AUGUST 19

SIX MONTHS after the outbreak of the novel coronavirus epidemic — and over 27 lakh cases and 52,000 deaths later — several indicators have begun to suggest that an improvement in the situation might just be round the corner in India. Consider:

For the first time since May, the overall positivity rate in the country has begun to decline. Which means, for the same number of tests, fewer people are now being found infected with the virus.

The positivity rate touched a high of 9 per cent on August 9, and has been declining steadily since. As of Tuesday (August 18), positivity had

fallen to 8.72 per cent. Simultaneously — and not unrelatedly — there is a relative stagnation in the numbers of new positive cases being detected every day. This number has been locked in the mid-60,000s for almost two weeks — much longer than it has remained in any other range of quite some time now.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



MUSEUM MAROONED

Manuscripts being spread out to dry on the floor of Albert Hall Museum in Jaipur Wednesday. As the city saw heavy rain last Friday, water seeped into the basement of the museum, damaging artefacts and files. Rohit Jain Paras



BHUSHAN URGES SC TO DEFER HEARING ON SENTENCING P8

Sushant case: SC okays CBI probe, for 'credible, complete justice'

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

REJECTING THE Maharashtra government's objections, the Supreme Court on Wednesday accorded approval to the ongoing probe by the CBI into the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput, saying that a "fair, competent and impartial investigation is the need of the hour".



Court invoked powers under Art 142

by Rajput's father, K K Singh, against actor Rhea Chakraborty and her family members.

A single-judge Bench of Justice Hrishikesh Roy said that "if any other case is registered on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

SC HAS BACKED OUR DECISION, BIHAR CM PAGE 8

27% Central school kids have no phone, laptop to access classes: Study

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

ABOUT 27 per cent of students don't have smartphones and laptops to access online classes amid the Covid school shutdown. But among those who do, most find online learning either "joyful" or "satisfactory", although mathematics and science are the toughest to learn, a government survey of students has found.

The survey, conducted by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), covers 18,188 students studying

in CBSE-affiliated schools, Kendriya Vidyalayas (KV's) and Navodaya Vidyalayas (NVs).

According to the findings shared by the Education Ministry Wednesday, as part of its 'Students Learning Enhancement Guidelines', about 33 per cent felt online learning was either "difficult" or "burdensome".

Significantly, among those who are able to access online classes, the survey found that almost 84 per cent rely on smartphones to access online classes. Laptops, a distant second, are used by about 17 per cent while TV and radio were the least used

Centre pulls up Gujarat over 'inordinate delay' in river pollution works

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

HIGHLIGHTING THE "inordinate delay" in completion of projects to control pollution in two rivers in Gujarat, the Union Jal Shakti Ministry has pulled up the Vijay Rupani government.

While the project on the Sabarmati river is "yet to be completed" six years after funds were sanctioned in 2014, there has been "practically no progress on the ground till date" in the Tapi project nearly 16 months after Central funds were released, Union Jal Shakti Minister



Work on Sabarmati stuck for six yrs: minister Shekhawat to CM Rupani

Gajendra Singh Shekhawat pointed out in a letter to the CM dated August 4.

The projects were sanctioned for the Sabarmati and Tapi as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Goa's most famous banyan up again, with push from across the world — 'she was not just a tree'

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

SMITA NAIR
ARAMBOL (GOA), AUGUST 19

THE LAST push came when operator Nandan Tiwari from Bihar decided it was time. The Bull Backhoe loader, a machine he usually uses at mining sites or when he is told to pull down trees, went full thrust. And pushed a 200-year-old banyan

tree, ravaged and uprooted by the rain a fortnight ago, till it was up again.

The tree, believed to have been dead, was brought back to life through "community will" — one that saw a fundraiser bring in goodwill and money all the way from Russia, Britain and "from all over the world", had locals and biodiversity groups pitching in with logistics and planning, and a tree expert flying down from Hyderabad.

Several attempts later, with many ropes splintering, Goans



At 3 pm Wednesday, the tree stood up again. Smita Nair

pulling a prayer and foreigners whistling, the main hulk of the tree was pulled from the ground and made to stand again, at 3 pm Wednesday.

Throughout the exercise, a silver snake, whose home is the banyan, stayed inside the trunk, emerging at intervals as machine excavators operated on the tree.

The wide canopy, the venue for the season's "ecstatic dancing" according to Russian dance conductor Anna Marsy, is the "most famous place in Arambol".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

170 DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN
CASES: 27,67,273
RECOVERED: 20,37,870
DEATHS: 52,889
TESTS: 3,17,42,782
DOUBLING RATE: 28.92**



KEY STATES TO WATCH	TOTAL CASES	SURGE IN 24 HOURS	7-DAY AVG GROWTH*	DOUBLING TIME**
Maharashtra	6,15,477	11,119	2.01%	35.90
Tamil Nadu	3,49,654	5,709	1.80%	40.05
Andhra	3,06,261	9,652	3.27%	22.04
Karnataka	2,40,948	7,665	3.56%	20.22
Uttar Pradesh	1,62,434	4,218	3.03%	23.73

CASE FATALITY RATIO	POSITIVITY RATE	DAILY IN, DAILY OUT
7 DAYS EARLIER: 1.98 NOW: 1.91	7 DAYS EARLIER: 8.95 NOW: 8.72	DETECTED TODAY: 64,531 RECOVERED TODAY: 60,091

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 August 18, 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

Hotels to reopen in Delhi, no nod for gyms yet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

HOTELS IN the Capital can finally reopen, with the Delhi government and Lt-Governor Anil Bajjal's office resolving their differences on the issue during a meeting of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) on Wednesday.

A decision was also taken to delink banquet halls from hospitals and allow weekly markets "on a trial basis", officials from the L-G house said. The Chief Minister's Office said gyms will remain shut as of now.

"The corona situation in Delhi is much better. The economy of Delhi has to be brought on track. For this, we had proposed opening all hotels in Delhi, which was rejected by the Central government. We again requested the Central government, and we are happy that the proposal has been approved. Now, all hotels in Delhi will open. At the same time, weekly markets will be allowed to open on a trial basis. In the meantime, everyone must exercise precautions and follow social distancing," Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

\$2.7bn by 2023, big players enter race for e-pharma pie

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

FROM AMAZON to Reliance, major players have entered the race to scale up, consolidate and corner a share of the online pharmacy market, which is expected to swell seven-fold to \$2.7 billion by 2023.

In just the last one week, with Covid numbers yet to flatten across the world, the market saw two significant merger and acquisition deals — Reliance Retail picking up majority stake in Chennai-based e-pharmacy Netmeds, and PharmEasy moving to merge with smaller rival Medlife. And the launch of e-commerce giant Amazon's online drug delivery services.

At the same time, the Centre announced the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM), which envisages a digital health ecosystem on the lines of the Unified

EXPLAINED
E
Long-term plan

THE ONLINE pharmacy segment in India falls right into the playbook of corporates and tech giants planning a long-term digital retail strategy. The sector is following in the footsteps of online commerce, which built a strong presence on the back of deep discounts but called for huge investments.

Payments Interface in the online payment space.
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

INSPIRING INNOVATION

LIVE/ONLINE
Classes Available
www.visionias.in

Heartiest Congratulations To All Successful Candidates

7 IN TOP 10 SELECTIONS IN CSE 2019

from various programs of VISION IAS

2 AIR
JATIN KISHORE

3 AIR
PRATIBHA VERMA

6 AIR
VISHAKHA YADAV

7 AIR
GANESH K BASKAR

8 AIR
ABHISHEK SARAF

52 AIR
YASHINI NAGARAJAN
North East topper

59 AIR
ARANYAK SAIKIA
Assam topper

139 AIR
RICHARD YANTHAN
Nagaland topper

"You are as strong as your Foundation"

Foundation Course

GENERAL STUDIES

PRELIMS CUM MAINS 2021

HOLISTIC COVERAGE OF CURRENT AFFAIRS
Relevant & up-to-date study material such as Monthly Current Affairs magazine, PT 365, Mains 365, News Today - Daily Current Affairs compiled by a dedicated team of experts

LIVE / ONLINE cum Offline classes

DELHI

Regular Batch
25 Aug
5 PM

Weekend Batch
21 June
9 AM

फाउंडेशन कोर्स सामान्य अध्ययन

▶ प्राथमिक, मुख्य परीक्षा और निबंध के लिए महत्वपूर्ण सभी टॉपिक का विस्तृत कवरेज

15 Sept | 1:30 PM लाइव / ऑनलाइन एवं ऑफलाइन कक्षाएँ

ONLINE OFFLINE*

ABHYAAS 2020

ALL INDIA GS PRELIMS MOCK TEST SERIES

4 TESTS
TEST 2: 6 SEPT
TEST 3: 13 SEPT
TEST 4: 20 SEPT

Register at: www.visionias.in/abhyas

#PrelimsIsComing

OFFLINE IN 65 CITIES*

*Subject to Government regulations and the safety of the students. For more details visit the registration page.

DELHI • HEAD OFFICE: Apsara Arcade, Karol Bagh | CONTACT: 8468022022, 9019066066

JAIPUR | PUNE | HYDERABAD | AHMEDABAD | LUCKNOW | CHANDIGARH

901949244 | 8007500096 | 9000104133 | 9909447040 | 8468022022 | 8468022022

New Delhi

DOWNLOAD APP

- VISUAL STORIES
- DAILY BRIEFING
- PODCASTS
- CUSTOMIZABLE NEWS EXPERIENCE

Indian Express
★★★★ 4.6

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE APP



AFTER 470 CASES AT PRISON, KERALA STARTS TESTING ALL INMATES, STAFF
With the risk of contamination in jails especially among elderly prisoners in mind, the state government has ordered de-congestion measures such as releasing those above the age of 65 on self-bond parole.



PHOTO GALLERY
WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY DAY
Our photographers pick their best of this year



EXPLAINED
WHAT IS VACCINE NATIONALISM?
How does it impact the fight against Covid-19?

EXPRESS AUDIO

Decoding MP's push to reserve jobs for local residents

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

In today's episode we're looking at the Madhya Pradesh government's plan to reserve jobs for locals in government jobs and the legal issues that come with it

FROM PAGE ONE

Bhushan case

Bench, appeal lies to the Supreme Court of India. This safeguard is provided probably to avoid even the remotest possibility of miscarriage of justice. Should there not be such a safeguard in the other Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court also, when there is a conviction in a suo motu criminal contempt case," he said.

"Fiat justitia ruat caelum (let justice be done though the heavens fall) is the fundamental basis of administration of justice by courts. But, if justice is not done or if there is miscarriage of justice, heavens will certainly fall. The Supreme Court of India should not let it happen," he said.

"The present contempt cases are not cases involving just one or two individuals; but larger issues pertaining to the concept and jurisprudence of the country regarding justice itself. Important cases like these need to be heard elaborately in a physical hearing where only there is scope for a broader discussion and wider participation. Men may come and men may go, but the Supreme Court of India should remain forever as the court of supreme justice," he said.

Referring to the contempt proceedings against Justice C S Karnan (then a sitting high court judge), Justice Joseph said "it was the collective wisdom of the full court of the Supreme Court that the matter should be heard at least by a bench consisting of the seven senior-most judges".

On August 14, the Supreme Court held Bhushan guilty of criminal contempt for two tweets.

Meanwhile, Senior Advocate Indira Jaising asked if the decision of the three-judge bench was shared by all judges of the Supreme Court. Speaking at an event organised by Indian American groups expressing solidarity with Bhushan, Jaising called for a review of the ruling by a full court of the Supreme Court.

Bhushan also tweeted a statement by Opposition leaders including Digvijaya Singh, Shashi Tharoor and Farooq Abdullah, in which they said that the court's decision had caused "a chilling effect on free speech and expression of dissent". "It is sad that the honourable court has not found it necessary to distinguish between constructive criticism and malicious statement," it said.

Sushant case

the death of the actor... and the surrounding circumstances of his unnatural death", the CBI will investigate that too.

The court was hearing a plea filed by Chakraborty, seeking transfer of investigation in the case from Patna to Mumbai.

The court invoked its powers under Article 142 of the Constitution to approve the CBI probe "to ensure public confidence in the investigation and to do complete justice".

"Sushant Singh Rajput was a

talented actor... and died well before his full potential could be realised. His family, friends and admirers are keenly awaiting the outcome of the investigation so that all the speculation floating around can be put to rest. Therefore a fair, competent and impartial investigation is the need of the hour," the court said.

"The expected outcome then would be a measure of justice for the complainant, who lost his only son. For the petitioner too, it will be the desired justice as she herself called for a CBI investigation. The dissemination of the real facts through unbiased investigation would certainly result in justice for the innocents, who might be the target of a vilification campaign. Equally importantly, when integrity and credibility of the investigation is discernible, the trust, faith and confidence of the common man in the judicial process will resonate. When truth meets sunshine, justice will not prevail on the living alone but after life's fitful fever, now the departed will also sleep well. *Satyameva Jayate*," Justice Roy said in his order.

The court said "the peculiar circumstances in this case require that complete justice is done". It noted that "because both states are making allegations of political interference against each other, the legitimacy of the investigation has come under a cloud".

"... people have taken the liberty to put out their own conjectures and theories. Such comments... have led to speculative public discourse which has hogged media limelight. These developments unfortunately have the propensity to delay and misdirect the investigation. In such a situation, there is reasonable apprehension of truth being a casualty and justice becoming a victim," the court said.

"While the steps taken by the Mumbai Police in the limited inquiry... may not be faulted on the material available... this court must strive to ensure that search for the truth is undertaken by an independent agency, not controlled by either of the two state governments. Most importantly, the credibility of the investigation and investigating authority must be protected," it said.

The court said while police is a state subject in the federal system and a crime would normally be probed by the police of the state where a case is registered, there "can be situations where a particular crime, by virtue of its nature and ramifications, is legally capable of being investigated by police from different states or even by other agencies".

In such a circumstance, the probe can be handed to the CBI, "either with consent of the state or on orders of the constitutional court", it said, adding that "investigation... by multiple authorities transgressing into the other's domain is avoidable".

The court, however, pointed out that transfer of investigation

Hope in numbers: Daily cases stable

As the epidemic spreads, the numbers of new cases detected every day keep increasing – the doubling time, or number of days taken for case numbers to double, is a key indicator of the virulence of the infection. Daily new detections remained in the 50,000s for just eight days before crossing into the 60,000s. Before that, the disease was spreading even faster – daily new case numbers remained in the 30,000s and 40,000s for just about a week each. The doubling time in India overall is about to touch 30 days now.

In fact, over the last two weeks, daily new detections have fallen below 60,000 on a few days, even though this has been mostly after the weekends, when testing numbers usually fall significantly.

Interestingly, the number of new daily detections in the United States and Brazil – the two countries with more confirmed infections than India – have also peaked around the same level. On four days in July, the US detected more than 70,000 cases, but the numbers started to decline thereafter – and is currently in the 40,000-

50,000 range. In Brazil, daily detections peaked at 69,000. Overall, the US and Brazil have seen about 54 lakh and 34 lakh infections, with 1.7 lakh and 1.1 lakh deaths respectively.

In India, a few other indicators too, correlate well with the broad trends of declining positivity rates and plateauing daily case numbers.

The daily growth rate of cases has been declining steadily and, at 2.49 per cent, is at an all-time low. So too, the reproduction number, or R, which describes the number of people who are infected by an already infected person on average.

The R-value for the country as a whole in the period between August 11 and August 15 has been 1.06, meaning every group of 100 infected people are transmitting the virus, on average, to another 106 people. This number, which is a measure of how quickly the disease is spreading in the population, has not been this low since the beginning of the outbreak in March.

When the R-value drops below 1, it usually signals the beginning of the end of an epi-

demic. However, the situation is evolving, and these numbers are as of now only estimates, which are open to change.

The decline in the positivity rate has come about despite a significant increase in the number of tests that are being carried out every day. When the number of new cases first crossed the 60,000 mark in the first week of August, around 6.5 lakh samples were being tested every day. Now, about 8.5 lakh samples are being tested daily. Usually, more tests result in more detections; the fact that daily detection numbers have remained more or less flat in the mid-60,000 range suggests that the spread of the disease could be slowing.

This would certainly be true if the tests were being conducted randomly. Importantly, however, that is not what is happening.

Most states are still relying on targeted testing, meaning only those who are showing symptoms of the disease, or those who are close contacts of an already infected person, are being tested. A move to more random testing could trigger a decline in the positivity rate –

because targeted testing, by its very nature, returns a higher positivity.

But there could be another, more significant, prism through which to look at this decline.

The recent serological survey in Pune, one of the worst-affected cities, found that more than 51 per cent of surveyed people had antibodies for the disease – suggesting that half of the population could already have been infected.

Such a high level of disease prevalence might not be present uniformly across the country, but a series of similar serological surveys indicate that it has been much more widespread in the community than the numbers of confirmed infections suggest.

When the spread of the disease reaches such levels, there are far fewer numbers of people who can potentially get infected. In random testing, therefore, a large number of people who have already been infected but who have never been tested would also get picked up – and these would turn out to be negative, thus bringing down the positivity rate.

Big players enter race for epharma pie

On Tuesday, Reliance Industries announced that its arm, Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd, has acquired a majority equity stake in Vitalic Health Pvt Ltd, the parent company of Netmeds, and its subsidiaries for a cash consideration of around Rs 620 crore. This investment represents 60 per cent holding in equity capital of Vitalic and 100 per cent direct equity ownership of its subsidiaries, Tresara Health Private Ltd, Netmeds Market Place Ltd and Dadha Pharma Distribution Pvt Ltd.

Further, documents filed with the Competition Commission of India (CCI) show that online pharmacies, PharmEasy and Medlife, have requested a merger.

Last week, Amazon said it was starting Amazon Pharmacy in Bengaluru to let its customers order prescription-based medication in addition to over-the-counter medicine, basic health devices and Ayurveda medication from certified sellers.

While the NDHM may prove to be a shot in the arm for the

broader online healthcare market, once it's fully rolled out, experts are of the view that inherent challenges faced by physical pharmacies have given a chance for online counterparts to flourish. However, to challenge the pharmacies, which account for nearly 85 per cent of India's total pharmaceutical sales, the online versions will need to scale up, and this is where consolidation comes into play.

"In smalltown India, the network of chemists is still very primitive. Further, the full range of products that is needed today is available with a very few pharmacies. These include over-the-counter drugs, localised prescription medicines, nutraceuticals, health supplements, alternative medicine products, basic medical devices, etc. Digital pharmacies try to solve these problems from a customer's point of view. All of these things mean the existing pharmacy network is poised for disruption," said Arvind Singhal, chairman, Technopak, a management consultancy.

"Like every other e-commerce business, you need a significant amount of investment to build the delivery infrastructure. This is where consolidation is being forced by the investors," he said. According to a report by EY, e-pharma presents a total addressable market size of around \$9.3 billion as of 2019 and is estimated to grow at a compounded annual growth rate of 18.1 per cent to reach \$18.1 billion by 2023, when the actual market size will reach \$2.7 billion.

The growth, it said, will be driven by an increase in the targetable acute medicine market as a result of more efficient last-mile delivery through collaboration with local pharmacies and partnership with hyperlocal delivery companies resulting in a shorter delivery time.

Further, even as a delay in notification of draft e-pharmacy rules and rigorous opposition from offline chemists have kept a check on investments in the sector, existing companies have flourished amid the lack of a

strict regulatory environment. According to the EY report, Indian regulations for the e-pharmacy segment were the least strict, when compared to the US, Europe and China.

Further, unlike the US, where the top three pharmaceutical distributors have a 90 per cent share in the market, India's is a fragmented market with over 8 lakh pharmacies – this gives online pharmacies an opportunity to capture their space without opposing large traditional retailers.

Currently, companies in the Indian e-pharmacy space mainly operate three business models – marketplace, inventory-led hybrid (offline/online) and franchise-led hybrid (offline/online) – depending on the way the supply chain is structured. In addition to companies like Netmeds, Medlife and PharmEasy, other players in the segment include online healthcare startups such as 1mg, Practo, Myra as well as traditional chemists such as Apollo Pharmacy.

to the CBI "cannot be a routine occurrence but should be in exceptional circumstances", one of which could be "to retain public confidence in the impartial working of the state agencies".

"In the instant case, political interference against both states is alleged... The legal process must therefore be focused upon revelation of the correct facts through credible and legally acceptable investigation. It must be determined whether the unnatural death was the result of some criminal acts," it said.

Maharashtra had objected to the Patna police registering an FIR and handing over the case to the CBI, saying it was already probing the actor's death on June 14.

The court said the Mumbai Police were only carrying out an inquiry under Section 174 CrPc, which "is limited for a definite purpose... to find out the apparent cause of unnatural death... but is not an investigation of a crime under Section 157 of the CrPc."

"Therefore, it is pre-emptive and premature to hold that a parallel investigation is being carried out by the Mumbai Police," it said. Upholding the FIR filed by the police in Patna, the court said "registration of FIR is mandated

when information on cognizable offence is received by the police". At this stage of the investigation, "it cannot be said that the concerned police station does not have territorial jurisdiction".

"The allegation (in the complaint) relating to criminal breach of trust and misappropriation of money which were to be eventually accounted for in Patna (where Rajput's father resides), could prima facie indicate the lawful jurisdiction of the Patna police," said the court.

It added that the Mumbai Police's "obstruction to the Bihar team... could have been avoided since it gave rise to suspicion on the bona fide of their inquiry".

Survey

for online learning. As per the survey, about 28 per cent of a total of 35,000 students, teachers, principals and parents cited intermittent and lack of power as a major hindrance.

The survey also mapped subjects in which children are facing problems at home. "Mathematics contains a number of concepts, which require interaction, continuous support, monitoring from the teacher, and these aspects were lacking in the online mode

of teaching," the survey states.

"Next to mathematics, science was identified as the subject of concern since it contains several concepts and practical experiments, which could only be done in the laboratory under the supervision of the teacher," it states.

The survey was undertaken by the NCERT to "address the issues related to gaps and/or loss of learning among students, during and after the lockdown".

In order to support students with no digital device or limited access to one, the guidelines suggest capacity building of teachers. Since textbooks would be the only resource for children with no digital devices, the guidelines suggest that states and Union Territories ensure that they have the full set available at home. They also suggest that supplementary learning material, such as workbooks, worksheets, projects, quizzes and puzzles, be delivered to students at home.

"In case, the school teachers and heads are staying in the same area where many students who do not have any contact device are also living, the school can create a Shiksha Team with the help of community members. This Team can include teachers from differ-

ent schools and volunteers for arranging safe classes in the community at open spaces," the guidelines state.

If this is not possible, the Ministry suggests teachers form groups of students who stay in nearby locations and are of same or different grades and empower them to help each other and do peer learning and tutoring.

Providing a TV set at the community centre in a village is another suggestion for students to watch educational programmes.

River pollution

as part of the National River Conservation Plan, under which the Central government provides funds for checking pollution in rivers outside the Ganga basin.

The pollution abatement project on the Sabarmati river is in phase 2, and was sanctioned Rs 444 crore in 2014. Pointing this out, Shekhawat wrote, "My Ministry had to extend the completion date of the project... from September 2018 to March 2020, and now again to March 2021... Such an inordinate delay in completion and commissioning of the project is depriving the state of its intended benefits."

Sources in the ministry said

that for the Tapi river, the Centre had sanctioned Rs 971.25 crore, releasing the first Rs 13 crore in March 2019. Under the project – to be funded by the Centre and state in a 60:40 ratio – 37 sewage treatment plants with a total capacity of 250 million litres per day are to be built.

The first instalment was meant to be transferred to the Surat Municipal Corporation, sources said. According to Shekhawat's letter, "I am given to understand that only part of the Central funds amounting to Rs 8 crore were transferred by the state government to Surat Municipal Corporation in November 2019, after a delay of nearly eight months... In addition, there has been practically no progress on ground till date."

The minister pointed out that even tenders for a majority of these works had not been issued as land had not been made available for the STPs.

This is not the first time the ministry has criticised the Gujarat government over the progress of works. Earlier, the Jal Jeevan Mission had questioned the state's planning of tap water connections for the current financial year, saying this showed its "apathy towards weaker sections". At a meeting on June 8 with senior state officials, the Mission authorities had asked Gujarat to review its proposal to cover only 5.84% of the 10.62 lakh SC/ST households in the state without tap water connections in the current year.

Goa banyan

On August 4, when she reached the spot, she saw the trunk was down, its roots uprooted, and the might of the canopy spread out "helpless". "We were always dancing here, and every time ended with a gratitude ceremony for the tree. Across the Internet, it's called The Source. Last season, it reached its highest point... We decided to use the same spirit to revive her as she is not just a tree. People who have found happiness under her, from across the world, felt connected to her. Everyone reached out, from Berlin to London. Someone told us they had saved a banyan tree in Chennai. Word for help went out," Marsy said.

As word spread via Facebook and Instagram, Sebastiana Fernandes, in whose land the tree stood, remained inconsolable. "I thought the banyan will not get up," she said. "I would sell tender coconuts to tourists under it. In the evening, they would dance. The music was plugged to my house, so at 10 pm, I would ask them to go home. I charged a fee but made sure they respected the tree," she said.

As word got around, Marc Francis of Living Heritage, an outfit which undertakes conservation of bio-diversity, and Sanobar Durrani, an environmentalist, reached out to Uday Krishna, a tree expert from Vaata Foundation based in Hyderabad. Soon the tree became a "global SOS" and many like British national Clive Phillips and Finland's Santeri Saahko offered help.

A little over Rs 2 lakh was collected with donations. "When everyone came together, hope rose," Phillips said. Saahko, who volunteers as a dog feeder across north Goa, said he even called his previous employer in Finland, into metal construction, for expertise.

"Cranes were easiest but with narrow stretches, impossible to get. We started a Google sheet and fundraising began," he said of the two-week campaign. Krishna and his men began work soon after they arrived on August 16. "The old tree had died but new roots had taken shape with several trees now merged. We studied the fall, and figured it's best to dig a deeper pit and get her back into it, and make her put an effort to grow roots again, instead of just phasing her back with

support on all sides," he said.

At the site, the fallen "bulk of tree and her roots weighed more than 100 tons". "We tried all permutations and finally clipped 40 tons of canopy to lift her. This is usually done by cranes but since we were underpowered, we had to use four machines to lift her," Group Seon LLP's Sumesh Gawas, who planned the Wednesday action of three excavators and the Bull Backhoe loader, said.

"Usually we are at civil construction sites, the complete opposite of nature. It's the first time these machines have worked together to give life, and that too to a banyan tree," he said.

Krishna will be flying back on Thursday to Hyderabad after taking a "class for the locals" on how to "nurture the tree for the next few weeks as she is still in shock".

Later this week, Francis said, a board will be put up saying "the tree had a bad accident and is now recovering. Please respect her space and co-operate".

The local Dheeriyoo bull finally rested, and the seven stray dogs were back beneath the banyan. Everything was normal again.

Delhi hotels

On July 31, Baijal had overturned a Delhi government decision to reopen hotels, within 24 hours of the announcement, saying the threat from the coronavirus was far from over. On August 6, the state government had sent a fresh proposal.

There are around 55 five-star hotels, 120 four-star facilities, around 1,800 three-star hotels and over 1,500 budget hotels in the Capital. Government estimates show hotels contribute to 8% of Delhi's GDP, the service sector accounts for 60% of all jobs, while weekly bazaars provide employment to 5 lakh families.

Chief Secretary Vijay Kumar Dev was directed to prepare an SOP to ensure social distancing at the weekly markets, held in the city's densely populated neighbourhoods. "We should strictly adhere to all the guidelines related to Covid-19, both at the individual and community level," an I-G house official said.

While welcoming the Delhi government's announcement regarding reopening of hotels last month, the hospitality industry had pointed out that they were up against challenges such as staff crunch and lapsed licences.

As the decision was finally cleared Wednesday, the management of several top hotel chains said they are adopting stringent standards against Covid-19.

"Every team member has undergone mandatory hygiene, safety, sanitisation and social distancing training from training managers and domain experts. We are following all the standard protocols defined by the authorities," Area General Manager, The Park, Rohit Arora said.

Vice-President (Development and Asset Management) InterGlobe Hotels Shwetank Singh pointed out that hotels in other parts of the country had reopened already. "Now hoteliers in Delhi can work out their strategies and work towards revival. With significant reduction in active cases in Delhi and removal of night curfew, we strongly believe hotels can look at improved occupancies and better footfalls over the next two quarters," Singh said.

Reopening of gyms, though, was deferred once again as the I-G expressed concerns over spread of the virus in closed spaces. The Centre had earlier issued guidelines for reopening of gyms, and these are functioning in Delhi's neighbouring satellite towns such as Gurgaon, Faridabad and Noida.

Banquet halls had been linked to hospitals in June following a sharp rise in Covid cases, to meet the demand for beds. However, now, of the 14,112 available beds in Delhi, over 10,500 are vacant.

Classifieds
EXPRESS EDUCATION
GS ECONOMICS
of Ramesh Singh, McGraw-Hill writer
NOW ONLINE
Android app/Desktop/Laptop
Register FREE on android app
Ramesh Singh CLASSES
to join Free/Paid courses
Admission is open in English medium course (HINDI medium course to start shortly)
Contact for Advt. Booking: M/s Friends Publicity Service
23276901, 23282028 (M): 9212008155, 9212665841.

VICTIM ALLEGES HARASSMENT BY ACCUSED, PLAINCLOTHES PERSONNEL

Give protection to riot victim: HC to police

The petitioner and her family are also citizens of India, says court while directing police to provide additional security

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

HEARING A petition filed by a Northeast Delhi riot victim, who has alleged threats by riot accused as well as assault by police personnel and men in plainclothes inside a police station, the Delhi High Court told Delhi Police that "they (the petitioner and her family) are also citizens of India" and asked them to provide additional security.

The observations were made by Justice Yogesh Khanna while hearing a petition filed by a 45-year-old woman. As per court records, the woman had filed a complaint against some persons who pelted stones and fired gunshots at her during the riots. She said she was later intimidated by the same persons, who also attacked her son, grandson and husband, to withdraw the com-

plaint. The petitioner asked the court to direct Delhi Police Commissioner and DCP (Northeast) to initiate disciplinary action against SHO Bhajanpura, and provide adequate protection to her and her family.

The court asked police to file a status report in the matter, and directed the DCP to assess the threat perception and provide additional security to the petitioner, if required.

The petitioner, though her lawyer Mehmood Pracha, had approached the HC earlier seeking directions for registration of FIR and provision of police protection for her family. The HC had disposed of the petition on July 17, with directions to provide her with security and assess threat perception.

Pracha submitted to the court that after the order, on the intervening night of August 5-6, "a



The victim, a 45-year-old woman, had filed a complaint against a few persons who had allegedly pelted stones and fired shots at her and her family during the riots. Archive

crowd of rowdy individuals, several of whom had also participated in the riots, came to the neighbourhood of the petitioners and started raising loud commu-

nal slogans, shouting out filthy expletives... they threatened the residents and asked them to leave the neighbourhood." On August 8, when the peti-

tioner and some women met the SHO, he allegedly dissuaded them from filing the complaints. "After some resilience on part of the petitioners, they were assaulted by plainclothes persons and police personnel inside the police station," alleged Pracha.

Additional Standing Counsel Rajesh Mahajan told the court that the DCP has assessed the situation and concluded that CCTV cameras and beat staff are sufficient at this point in time. He submitted that the beat constable visits the site at least thrice a day and CCTVs have been installed.

Mahajan told the court: "They (petitioner and some other women in the neighbourhood) came to the police station and threatened police officers that if they do not lodge their complaint, they will file a false complaint against them... this was a very sensitive area where riots took

place in the recent past, adequate protection has already been provided. They intend to misuse that and have filed counter complaints against police, saying police are harassing them. They do not want protection, let them get private security... We are giving them protection and... facing their ire."

Justice Khanna said, "If this is the situation which they are complaining in their complaint dated August 10, 2020, then provide them security. They are also citizens of India, why do you not provide them with security if they are (being) harassed?" Mahajan said, "This system is being completely misused..."

Justice Khanna said, "If you provide them proper protection, then why should they complain against SHOs and DCPs? For the time being, raise some security... so they feel secure. I am directing the DCP to look into this aspect."

North MCD postpones proposal for new taxes as AAP opposes bid

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE PROPOSAL by the BJP-ruled North MCD to bring four new taxes - professional tax, house tax, property transfer tax and electricity tax - was postponed amid opposition from AAP leaders who sat on a dharna in the corporation office.

Mayor Jai Prakash said that a decision on new taxes, brought about because of a financial crisis, will be taken after a debate.

Senior AAP leader Durgesh Pathak said, "Before the 2017 MCD election, BJP promised not to hike taxes in Delhi. But they have betrayed the people."

Leader of the Opposition in North MCD Vikas Goel said that putting the extra burden on people is unfair. "They should rather begin by plugging leaks in its own system before levying new taxes. There are lakhs of households

that do not pay taxes. So first the MCD should collect from them."

Prakash said, "On the one hand they (state government) do not give us funds that are due to us in crores. And on the other, they do not allow us to increase our internal revenue. Why did they increase taxes on liquor, wasn't that for more revenue?"

The South MCD had earlier brought professional taxes, and increased commercial property tax and transfer duty.

The North MCD has 3,35,000 taxpayers among 1 million property owners, according to data released by the three MCDs before the last civic body elections in 2017. The North corporation employs around 50,000 people whose salary is mostly delayed due to shortage of funds, forcing the civic body to bring about the proposal.

Pathak pointed out that last month, South MCD increased three taxes.

EXPRESS Careers

Petronet LNG Limited New Delhi

invites applications for the post of

Managing Director & CEO

For detailed advertisement & submission of online application, please visit **Careers** section of our website: www.petronetlng.com

from

20th Aug. 2020, 09:00hrs.

to

9th Sept. 2020, 23:59 hrs

Addendum(s) / Corrigendum(s), if any, shall be notified in above website only.

MIT Art, Design & Technology University, Pune | www.mituniversity.edu.in



Inviting Applications for Ph.D. Admissions

Discipline	*No. of Vacancies	Discipline	*No. of Vacancies
Mathematics	01	Information Technology	01
Physics	03	Architecture	02
Chemistry	02	Food Technology	03
Civil Engineering	01	Management Studies	14
Mechanical Engineering	08	Vedic Sciences	02
Electronics & Communication Engg.	03	Design	03
Computer Science & Engineering	02	Bioengineering Sciences	07

Important Dates : Online Application Starts **20th August, 2020** | Last date of Application **5th Sept., 2020** | Ph.D. Entrance Test (PET) & Online Interview **12th Sept., 2020**

*The Vacancies are subject to change. The University reserves the right to fill all or part vacancies depending upon the eligibility and performance at the PET & online interview. **Call : 9689609051**

✉ admissions.phd@mituniversity.edu.in | www.mituniversity.edu.in

HSIIDC Announces e-Auction of Commercial Booths/Shops

Particulars/Estate	Size (in sq. mtrs./ Dimensions)	Reserve Price (Rs.in Lakh)	Earnest Money Deposit (in Rs.)
IE Karnal, Sec-37 (Triple Storey SCO)	108 (6m x 18m)	114.64	5,73,210/-
IE Karnal, Sec-37 (Double Storey Booth)	75.625 (5.5m x 13.75m)	51.00	2,55,423/-
IE Karnal, Sec-37 (KIOSK)	16 (4m x 4m)	9.26	46,320/-

Date of closing of Registration/Deposit of EMD: 11.9.2020 (upto 23:59 hrs) | **Start of e-Auction: 17.9.2020 (7:00 AM to 9:00 PM)**

Earnest Money Deposit shall be @5% of the reserve price as tabulated above. In case of participation in more than one booth/shop, an intending bidder would be required to deposit EMD for each shop/booth separately.

Note: (1) All details including any proposal due date extensions, clarification, amendments, addenda, corrigenda etc. will be uploaded on the website of the HSIIDC (www.hsiidc.org.in) and will not be published in newspapers. Hence, applicants may regularly visit website of HSIIDC to keep themselves updated about such developments. (2) The Corporation may withdraw any or all the sites from the e-auction at any stage and is not bound to accept the highest bid or any or all the bids even if they are above the reserve price. HSIIDC reserve the right to accept or reject any or all the bids or cancel / postpone the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof.

Haryana State Industrial & Infrastructure Development Corp. Ltd.
A State Government Undertaking
Regd. Office: C-13 & 14, Sector-6, Panchkula, Ph. 0172-2590481-83. Fax: 2590474
E-mail: contactus@hsiidc.org.in | CIN: U29199HR1987SGC034545
Website: hsiidc.org.in | [/hsiidc](https://www.facebook.com/hsiidc)

REACHING OUT TO THE PEOPLE WHO NEED THE MOST

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BHARAT RATNA
Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS BIRTH ANNIVERSARY
Smt. Sonia Gandhi | Shri Rahul Gandhi
Hon'ble Member of Parliament | Hon'ble Member of Parliament

Gracing the Occasion through Video Conferencing
CM HOUSE, 20 AUGUST, 12:30 PM



RAJIV GANDHI KISAN NYAY YOJANA

- Second installment of 1500 cr through DBT into the accounts of farmers
- 19 lakh paddy, maize and sugarcane farmers of Chhattisgarh to be benefited
- Total of 5750 cr to be transferred
- First installment of 1500 cr transferred on 21st May, 2020



GODHAN NYAY YOJANA

- Payment of 4.5 cr in second installment
- Purchase of cow dung from 4341 Gauthans, state has 1,01,919 registered cattle rearers and 76,426 beneficiaries
- 3 lakh quintals dung purchased from 20th July to 15th August
- Chhattisgarh only state in the country monetizing dung
- Sale of Vermicompost at Rs 8/kg to the farmers
- Generating employment opportunities, boosting rural economy

INCENTIVE REMUNERATION FOR TENDUPATTA COLLECTORS

- Disbursement of 233 cr to 11,46,626 Tendupatta collectors
- Remuneration for Tendupatta collection increased from Rs 2500 to Rs 4000 per standard bag
- The number of minor forest produce purchased at support price increased from 7 to 31

Shri Bhupesh Baghel
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh

Pro Active - Pro People



LARGE PARTS OF CITY SEE PROLONGED WATERLOGGING, 62-YR-OLD ELECTROCUTED

After heavy rain, Gurgaon in the deep end

SAKSHI DAYAL
GURGAON, AUGUST 19

CLOSE TO 120 mm of rainfall in Gurgaon on Wednesday morning saw many stretches inundated and underpasses submerged. Rainwater also seeped into homes in several areas, with a 62-year-old man being electrocuted when he tried to turn off the inverter after water got into his house.

According to police, the victim, Ashok Bakshi (62), was a resident of Sector 28. "Investigation showed that the ground floor of his house was wet because of the rain. He went to turn off the inverter and was electrocuted," said inspector Manoj Kumar, SHO, DLF police station, adding that the family has not filed a complaint.

Among the worst affected stretches was the DLF Phase 1 underpass on Golf Course Road, which was submerged, with fire tenders deployed to pump out the water. Satyawan Samriwal, assistant divisional fire officer, said, "Five fire tenders have been deployed to pump out the water... A car is also submerged. The driver abandoned the vehicle once he realised he wouldn't be able to get it out."

A spokesperson from DLF, which handles the underpass, attributed the waterlogging to an obstruction in the drainage system: "The underpasses on Raghavendra Marg have been in use for the last 3-4 years, we have never experienced waterlogging of this magnitude before. The intensity of rainfall received this morning was 6-7 times higher than the designed capacity of Gurgaon's master drainage system."

Several others underpasses had to be closed, including at



An aerial view of the city's upscale Golf Course Road, which saw massive waterlogging; (left) an underpass on the road was submerged, with fire tenders deployed to pump out the water. Praveen Khanna



INUNDATED

Rainfall **118 mm**
Distress calls received **300**
Cops deployed **3,000 to 4,000**
Vehicles towed **Around 100**

Sikanderpur, at IFFCO Chowk and at Rajiv Chowk. Six fire tenders, two at each underpass, were deployed to pump out the water, with officials saying all three structures would be cleared by Wednesday night.

"Flooding was observed at service road of Narsinghpur, IFFCO Chowk underpass, Medanta underpass and Hero Honda Chowk... IFFCO Chowk underpass is already functional and Medanta underpass is likely to reopen by midnight, as cleaning of mud is required," said Ashok Sharma, project director at National Highways Authority of India, which manages the underpasses.

"The problem occurs due to uncontrolled rainwater hitting NH8 at these locations. Until a permanent arrangement is made by local agencies to control this, it will continue," he said.

Officials from the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) stated that "low-lying areas" were most affected and that waterlogging was not due to a lack of preparedness. "The drains have been cleaned; we also deployed around 40 pumps across the city to manage waterlogging. However, we received almost 130 mm of rain — a lot for Gurgaon. The water from the city goes into the Badshahpur and Najafgarh drains, which are at full capacity. So, drainage of excess water became a problem," said Raman Sharma, MCG chief engineer.

"The situation was exacerbated by the fact that rainfall occurred during office hours," said DCP (Traffic) Chander Mohan, adding that around "3,000-4,000 police personnel" were deployed to manage the situation.

MCG Commissioner Vinay Pratap Singh said work was on to rectify the situation.

Part of school wall collapses on cars, owners complain

ARANYA SHANKAR
& ANANYA TIWARI
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

SEVEN CARS in Saket's J Block were damaged when a portion of the Apeejay School wall fell on them, ostensibly due to heavy rain, early Wednesday morning.

Alleging negligence by school authorities and demanding compensation for their losses, the car owners filed a police complaint. DCP (South) Atul Kumar Thakur said, "The wall collapsed, allegedly due to rain. An FIR under IPC section 427 (mischief causing damage) has been filed after a complaint was received by owners whose vehicles were damaged. The matter is being investigated."

The school management denied the allegations. "We have constructed the walls as per government directive for Delhi schools. After the 9/11 attack in the US, the government thought it is better to raise the boundary of schools with barbed wires so miscreants and terrorists don't enter. We're investigating but there is no issue as such," said a school official, adding that the incident was caused as it "has been raining for the past three days".

The seven cars damaged were a MG Hector, Toyota Etios, Honda City, Maruti Swift Dzire, Toyota Innova Crysta, Renault Kwid and Hyundai Santro. They were parked close to the wall, with a drain separating them. On the other side of the wall is a basketball court and a tennis court. The windshields and bonnets were crushed, and tyres punctured due to the weight of the concrete.

The owners, who found out about the incident between 6.30-7.30 am, claimed the wall was of a poor quality.

Ashok Chawla (65), a busi-

nessman, was particularly unlucky as two of his three cars — Innova Crysta and Santro — were damaged. "They are almost completely crushed; I don't think there is any possibility of repair. While I had insurance for Crysta which I bought last year, there was no insurance for the other car," he said.

The newest car belonged to Prashant Agnihotri (50) who works in an advertising company. His Kwid, bought just six months ago, was smashed. However, he has insurance: "We will fight for compensation from the school. They have been constructing on top without any support elements. The wall, grill and even the barbed wire collapsed."

Kunal Bhandari (44) bought his MG Hector last year for Rs 19 lakh. "The school authorities are responsible for this. Today the wall collapsed towards the cars; if it had collapsed towards the basketball court when students were present, there could have been human losses," he claimed.

KP Satyanandan (60), whose Etios was damaged, also said the school was "fully" responsible and that they demanded compensation.

Sandeep Kumar (36), a mechanical engineer who owns the Swift Dzire, claimed, "Initially, the wall height was 6 feet. In the last two years or so, the construction was such that it has become a 12-foot-high wall with barbed wires..."

Manoj Goyal (42), a secretary at a private company, said his car was damaged entirely: "The height and the load of the wall suggests something was wrong with the foundation." But the Residents' Welfare Association president Rajan Malik said owners are at fault as well. "I have told residents many times not to park near the wall, but they refuse to listen. With heavy rain, walls can collapse; the school can't be blamed."



At Saket J Block, Wednesday. Seven cars were damaged in the wall collapse. Tashi Tobgyal

Fired coach takes revenge by 'stealing players' phones'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

FIVE MONTHS after mobile phones of the entire team of the Delhi United Football Club were stolen from their dressing room at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium during the Delhi Football League 2020, police have arrested a former coach of the team for the theft. DCP (South) Atul Kumar Thakur said that the former coach, Shekhar Pathak, allegedly committed the theft to "take revenge for his removal as a coach at the stadium in 2013".

The incident took place on March 13, when the team had a match as a part of the Delhi Football League 2020. "The Delhi United Football Club was allotted a dressing room with cabins where they had kept their phones, bags and purses. After the match, they returned to find the dressing room ransacked. Apart from 12 phones, Rs 10,000 cash was also gone. A case was registered at the Lodhi Colony police station," said the DCP.

Police scanned CCTV footage at the stadium, and questioned several employees. The stolen phones too were put on technical surveillance. "Recently, one of the



Shekhar Pathak

phones was switched on and its location was immediately tracked. The person using the phone said that Pathak had sold it to him," said Thakur. Pathak's house was raided and nine of the 12 stolen phones were recovered.

Police said Pathak had worked as a restaurant manager at hotels such as The Oberoi and The Ashoka. DCP Thakur said Pathak was a district-level football player. "In 2011, he was hired by the stadium, where he worked till 2013, after which he was removed over complaints from another coach about his punctuality and sincerity," said Thakur.

After he was let go, Pathak started his own academy in Preet Vihar but soon shut it down. He then opened a mobile repair shop. "But he wanted to take revenge even after all these years," said police.

Man held for phone theft, extortion

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

AFTER HER friend's phone was stolen from Noida in July, a Delhi-based woman was inundated with calls from an unknown person who threatened to upload her "morphed" photos on social media if she didn't transfer Rs 2 lakh to a Paytm account.

On Monday, a team of 38 police officers from Northwest Delhi's Adarsh Nagar and Jahangirpuri police stations arrested Junaid (22) from a village in Rajasthan's Bharatpur district for the extortion. "Not only did the accused steal a phone, he also used the data to attempt extortion. While going through the phone, he came across the woman's photos in the gallery, found her number in the contact list, and threatened to morph those photos and post them on social media," said DCP (Northwest) Vijayanta Arya.

Police received a complaint from the woman on August 4. The DCP said the information was sought from Paytm and analysed, and the stolen phone was put on technical surveillance. "The location came as village Kawan ka baas in Bharatpur, Rajasthan. A team was dispatched and with the help of Bharatpur police, he was arrested," said Arya.

City's cases at 1,300 a day, focus on testing: HC to govt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE DELHI High Court Monday expressed concern over the fact that Covid cases are still hovering around the 1,300 mark, "which shows that there must be a concentrated focus on ramping up lab testing in Delhi".

A bench of Justices Hima Kohli and Subramonium Prasad were hearing two petitions on Covid testing in Delhi. The court also inquired from the Delhi government whether adequate arrangements have been made at the borders and at other places where industries/ construction sites exist for large-scale testing to detect cases and segregating them without causing inconvenience. The court directed the government to file a status report.

"It is a matter of great concern that though the number of Covid cases were expected to climb down gradually or at least remain stable below 1,000 per day in the month of August, the daily cases that had touched 707 on August 10, 652 on August 16 and 787 on August 17 have shot up to 1,374 on August 18. In other words, it cannot be said that the number of cases have slowly and steadily



Wednesday saw 1,398 new cases and 9 deaths. Amit Mehra

reduced in Delhi. The numbers are still floating around 1,300-odd cases per day, which shows that there must be a concentrated focus on ramping up of lab testing. Satyakam, learned ASC, has assured this court that the Delhi government is doing everything in its power to ensure testing is ramped up to curb further spread of the infection," the court said in its order. The Additional Standing Counsel told the court that results of the second serosurvey undertaken in Delhi will be placed on record well before the next date of hearing.

The capital recorded 1,398 new cases and nine deaths on Wednesday. The total case count is now at 1,56,139 while the death toll touched 4,235.

Frontline workers focus of Humanitarian Day talk

NEW DELHI: To honour frontline workers, NGO Caritas India held a webinar titled "Local frontline workers are local heroes" to mark World Humanitarian Day, Wednesday.

The discussion revolved around addressing challenges frontline workers have faced amid the pandemic.

"We applaud the 98,000 vol-

unteers who have dedicated themselves towards service of the poor during the lockdown," said Father Paul Moonjely, executive director, Caritas India.

The discussion also steered towards future crises, the need for policy-level change to tackle risks posed by the climate crisis, and the need for community participation. **ENS**

'We fought Delhi, Punjab with help of donations, will also fight UP'

THE EXPRESS INTERVIEW WITH SANJAY SINGH AAP RAJYA SABHA MP

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

AAP's RAJYA Sabha MP Sanjay Singh, who has spent the past few weeks trying to make inroads into Uttar Pradesh for his party, on facing FIRs in the state and why his focus appears to be on caste instead of 'kaam'.

What was the extensive tour of

UP all about?

I visited various districts. First, I met families of the eight policemen killed during the raid on Vikas Dubey; families of all those murdered, including journalist Vikram Joshi, trader Brijesh Pal, the Lakhimpuri Khairi minor, the Jaunpur Dalit rape victim's family, the Nishad family in Kanpur, Sudeeksha Bhati's family in Bulandshahr, among others. I tried to gauge the mood of the people and found discontent and anger, especially over crime and the Covid situation. CM Yogi (Adityanath) is sitting on a volcano, waiting for it to explode.

You're suggesting that a government that rose to power flattening traditional caste equations, with an

overwhelming majority, has turned so unpopular within three years?

Whoever raised questions in the past faced oppression. The government of UP hates being questioned. They have lodged nine FIRs against me. I am not the first victim. A journalist at Mirzapur reporting on mid-day meals also faced an FIR. A journalist reporting on the sand mafia in Unnao was killed. And the latest victim was Vikram Joshi. UP mein aaj opposition naam ki koi cheez bachi nahi hai... Only SP and BSP can comment on why they are not questioning the government; what can I say? People in UP believe the government belongs to one community. Is this Ram Rajya?

But are the FIRs not helping



AAP's Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh

you gain the limelight?

He is trying to turn me into a history sheeter. Tomorrow, NSA might be levelled against me, or something worse may happen to me. I am not worried. I have raised my concerns with the Vice-President of India, who is

the chairman of Rajya Sabha of which I am a member. I have taken oath in the name of the Constitution and that bars governments from working for one particular caste or community.

You're saying you feel unsafe

in UP?

Yes, 100 per cent... My only fault is that I am seeking justice for all 24 crore people, be it Brahmins, Mauryas, Rajbharas, Nishads, Pals, Gujjars, Jaats, Yadavs, Khatiks, Kurmis, Lodhs, everyone. I face FIRs. But why are leaders like Sakshi Maharaj, Giriraj Singh, Pragya Thakur not acted against?

What is the basis of your allegation that the UP government works only for the Thakur community?

I have figures to prove that. How many thanedars, DMs, SPs and senior officials come from other communities? This, despite a 2002 order on the need to maintain balance in recruitment. The Brahmins and other communities have clearly been targeted.

In Delhi, AAP talks about politics of work, while in UP the emphasis is on caste?

But where am I not talking about politics of work? I am merely saying that the government should work for every community. I am saying you want to work for the Thakurs, please do, but keep the interest of all 24 crore people of the state in mind as well.

The AAP chief hasn't touched on this issue.

Does PM Modi comment on the activities of all BJP units? In our case, Jarnail Singh has been made in-charge of Punjab, so he will speak on Punjab. I am in charge of UP, so I will speak on UP. If something really major happens, then the CM will also speak.

Can a party like AAP really compete with the BJP in such a large state?

We won't be fighting polls with the support of donations. We brought 22 seats in Punjab through donation-led campaigns. We will also fight UP. Right now, the focus is on the 'oxi mitras' campaign through which we are reaching out to people of UP.

Congress is also making a push in Uttar Pradesh, with Priyanka Gandhi leading the way.

See, we are not facing any threat from any party. We are focusing on organisation building and questioning the government. People will decide base hai ya nahi hai (whether or not our party has a base).

DEPARTMENT OF TRAINING & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi
Muni Maya Ram Marg, Pitam Pura, Delhi-110034

Website- www.tte.delhigovt.nic.in

Extended Last date of online registration : 13.09.2020

On-line applications are invited from 8th pass/10th pass interested candidates for admission in various certificate level Engineering & Non- Engineering trades/courses of one year/two years duration, running under NCVT/SCVT in the Delhi Government, Industrial Training Institutes for the academic session 2020.

☞ **APPLY ONLINE** :- Candidates have to apply ONLINE through www.itidelhiadmissions.nic.in

☞ Fee of Rs. 200/- is payable at the time of online registration. Along with submitting the on-line registration form, the candidates must upload the necessary documents as per the instruction on website.

☞ The detailed information on Trades/courses, eligibility and other particulars are available at Website: www.itidelhiadmissions.nic.in

☞ Candidates are advised to read the instructions/ Prospectus carefully before applying.

☞ The complete admission process (Registration, Verification, Choice filling, and Counseling etc.) will be through online portal only.

REVISED IMPORTANT DATES


- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Date of start of registration, choice filling & verification | : 10.08.2020 |
| 2. Last Date of Registration | : 13.09.2020 |
| 3. Last Date of Online verification | : 18.09.2020 |
| 4. Last Date of choice filling | 20.09.2020 |
| 5. Tentative Rank Display | : 21.09.2020 |

Candidates may visit the department website for other schemes and courses available under the aegis of the department of Training and Technical Education.


[Director]

Department Of Training & Technical Education, Delhi


DIP/Shabdarth/0213/20-21



सत्यमेव जयते
राजस्थान सरकार




#राजस्थान_सतर्क_है



दूरदर्शी

सोच के धनी...



अशोक गहलोत
मुख्यमंत्री, राजस्थान

कोरोना महामारी से प्रभावी मुकाबले में संचार तकनीक की बड़ी भूमिका रही। यह देश में संचार क्रांति की नींव रखने वाले स्व. श्री राजीव गांधी के कारण ही संभव हो पाया। देश का पंचायतीराज तंत्र भी उनकी व्यापक सोच से ही मजबूत हुआ है। आईये, इस सद्भावना दिवस पर हम 21वीं सदी के स्वप्नदृष्टा स्व.श्री राजीव गांधी जी की दूरगामी सोच को नमन करें।

भारत रत्न एवं भारत के पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री

स्व. श्री राजीव गांधी
जन्मदिवस-20 अगस्त (1944-1991)

सद्भावना दिवस पर शत-शत नमन

राजस्थान संवाद

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग



#राजस्थान_सतर्क_है

"कोई भी भूखा नहीं सोए" के संकल्प को साकार करने की दिशा में एक बड़ा कदम

इन्दिरा रसोई योजना

8 रुपये में पौष्टिक एवं स्वादिष्ट भोजन

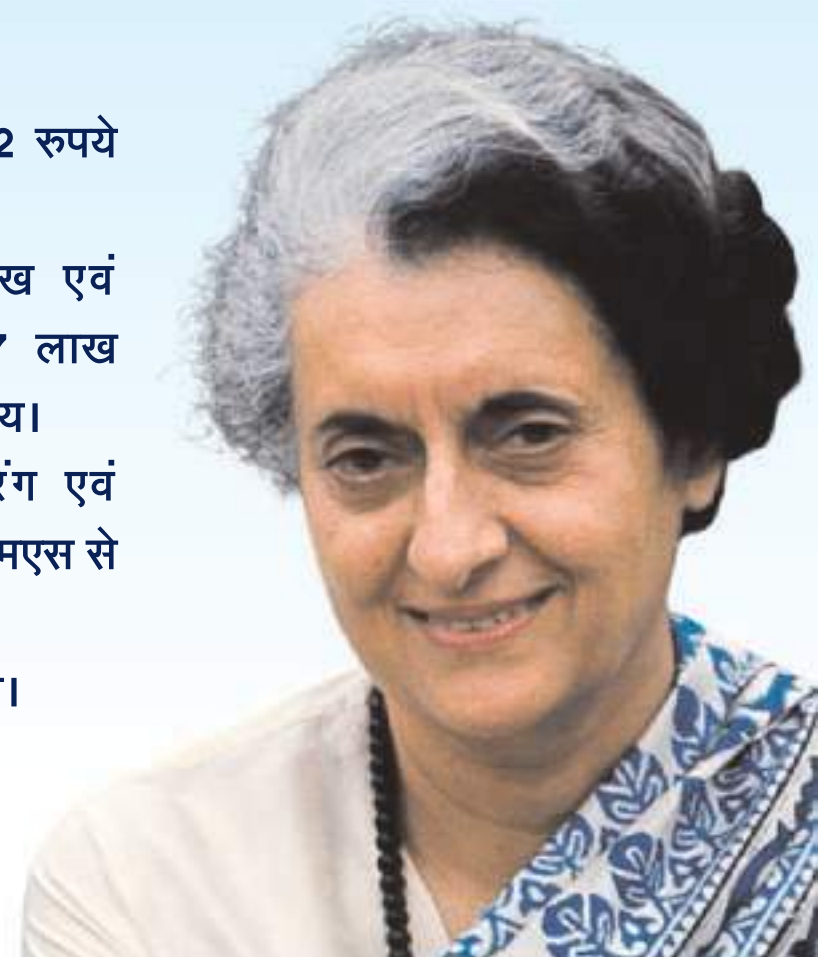
स्व.राजीव गांधी की जयंती से योजना प्रारंभ (20 अगस्त 2020)

योजना की विशेषताएं

- स्थानीय संस्थाओं द्वारा प्रदेश की 213 नगरीय निकायों में 358 रसोई के माध्यम से बैठाकर भोजन की व्यवस्था।
- शहर के प्रमुख स्थान जैसे रेलवे स्टेशन, बस स्टैण्ड, अस्पताल को प्राथमिकता।
- भोजन में मुख्य रूप से दाल, चपाती, सब्जी एवं अचार।
- राज्य सरकार द्वारा 12 रुपये प्रति थाली अनुदान।
- प्रतिदिन 1.34 लाख एवं प्रतिवर्ष 4 करोड़ 87 लाख लोगों को भोजन का लक्ष्य।
- ऑनलाइन मॉनिटरिंग एवं मोबाइल फोन पर एसएमएस से कूपन की सूचना।
- गुणवत्ता का विशेष ध्यान।



अशोक गहलोत मुख्यमंत्री, राजस्थान



स्व. श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी

दोपहर का भोजन - सुबह 8.30 बजे से दोपहर 1 बजे तक
शाम का भोजन - शाम 5 बजे से रात 8 बजे तक

स्वायत्त शासन विभाग, राजस्थान

6 GOVT & POLITICS

Border mechanism meets today, China stand dampens hopes

SUSHANT SINGH
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE WORKING Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) will meet Thursday to try and find a way to resolve the military standoff along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh.

Hopes of a breakthrough are low given the rigid Chinese stance during diplomatic and military talks in the past month.

A government official told *The Indian Express* that the WMCC meeting is taking place Thursday but there are currently no plans to hold the next round of the Corps Commander level meeting. If there is an inclination to move forward during the WMCC meeting, the next engagement will be decided thereafter, the official said.

This was discussed during the high-level consultative meeting on China held on Monday, the official said, adding that the Indian stance and position on the issue were also discussed. While the end-goal remains the restoration of status quo ante as of April, the official said that any process will have to recognize ground realities on both sides.

According to the official, while it is understood that even the

process of de-escalation has to be stepwise, the Chinese insistence on equal rearward movement by both armies is not acceptable. The Chinese have better roads and infrastructure on their side which allows them to mobilise quickly, the official said, and some element of time has to be built in this stepping-back to make it fair to both armies.

This will be the fourth meeting of the WMCC since tensions erupted early May, with clashes between soldiers of both armies. In addition, five rounds of Corp-Commander level meetings, a phone conversation and a meeting between the two Special Representatives, two meetings of the Indian Ambassador to China with top party and military officials, and several division and brigade commander level meetings have taken place during this period.

The response of the Chinese interlocutors in the last few meetings has been very rigid, the official said, and not much has come out of the meetings between the military commanders in Ladakh and at the diplomatic level in Beijing.

According to the official, after the fourth round of Corps Commander level meeting on July 14, there has been no further movement from the Chinese side

on the ground and the situation remains tense.

"After the July 14 meeting, China has added more troops and equipment to all three sections at Depsang and Trig Heights, across PP14 at its base camp, across Hot Springs and Gogra, same at Pangong Tso north and south banks, same at Fukche, and doubled across Chumar and Demchok. There are reports that PLA is building infrastructure at breakneck speed," the official said.

A senior military officer said there has been no new major additional Chinese deployment on the LAC "in the past couple of weeks," and the PLA strength "remains at around three divisions plus, along with a Special Forces brigade".

The Indian deployment, the officer said, is commensurate with the Chinese deployment, with plans having been put in place to keep additional troops on the border during the winter months.

"We have started constructing prefabricated shelters for accommodation of troops and storage of equipment under the Operational Works, for which material can keep moving till the passes close in November. This gives us still some time, as it is clear that we are staying there till the Chinese don't go back," the officer said.

Help us assert grazing rights near LAC, it counts: ex-Ladakh BJP chief

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN
MUMBAI, AUGUST 19

A FORMER J&K minister from Ladakh in the PDP-BJP government has said Indian security forces must help the semi-nomadic people of the area assert traditional rights over the land near the Line of Actual Control instead of preventing them from taking their livestock to graze on these pasture lands as they do now.

Chering Dorjay, who was Minister for Co-operatives and Ladakh Affairs until 2018, and until recently president of the BJP in Ladakh, told *The Indian Express* there was concern among the people of that area that if India does not succeed in getting the PLA soldiers to go back to status quo ante positions, "there will be no end" to how much land Ladakhis may lose.

"As far as we are concerned, there has been no question of our people going to the lands on the Chinese side, but our security forces create problems for us even when we take our animals to graze in pasture lands on our side. This has been a problem from the beginning," said Dorjay.

Demchok in south eastern Ladakh, in military parlance an area called sub-sector south, and Chushul, which is closer to Pangong Tso, are the two places where the graziers experience the most pushback by Indian security forces, mainly the ITBP which mans the border posts.

"From the other side we have seen that their army or border po-

lice follow a modus operandi by which they push nomads from their side to our side. They send them first to encroach, and come behind them later," said Dorjay, who has raised this issue many times with the security forces as well as with the administration of J&K (at the time when Ladakh was part of the former state).

Senior security officials acknowledged that there were problems between the local people and the security forces over permission for grazing, and said the ITBP prevents tribesmen from going into certain areas even on the Indian side because it obstructs their patrolling, with animals and people coming in the way. There is also the "unspoken" suspicion, one official said, that some may be informers for the other side.

However, Dorjay says the main reason that the ITBP stops the graziers is because "they want a peaceful tenure" and fear that permitting people to set up grazing camps may lead to confrontations with the Chinese.

Between December and March, the Changpas, semi-nomadic shepherds of the south eastern Ladakh area, cross over the frozen Indus with their Pashmina goats and yak to a plain called Skakjung, where grazing does not take place in the summer so as to preserve the grass there for the winter. Here, Dorjay said, the Chinese had encroached steadily into traditional Ladakhi pastureland. He recalled an incident from 2008-9, when he was chief executive council-



People fear Chinese won't go back: Chering Dorjay

lor of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (Leh), to show that being assertive is the only way for India to safeguard its territory.

That winter, the Chinese had uprooted some Changpa rebo (woollen tents) in Skakjung and pushed them back, even burning one tent.

"Some people called me, and said I should go to Skakjung to express solidarity with people, which would help their morale. I took the Nyoma SHO and we went in 10 vehicles to meet the affected people. They told me what had happened, and as the migration season was coming to an end, and the grass on that side was also finished, they were planning to return. But I told them to remain there for the next week or 10 days, otherwise the Chinese would get the impression they had succeeded in their plan. I replaced the burnt tent, sent 10 truckloads of fodder for their livestock, and also installed three handpumps. From that year until now, we have had

no problem in that area from the Chinese," he said.

"Our Army and ITBP never do this, they never go and confront the Chinese like this," Dorjay said, observing that it was because of "constantly downplaying incidents" that people in the area had lost winter pasture lands on the north bank of Pangong, where dry grass was plentiful on the south facing ridges, and people would take their livestock until some 15 years ago.

Dorjay, who belongs to the Lakruk area of Ladakh, said people living on the south bank of Pangong could see that Chinese soldiers had not fully withdrawn from Finger 4 to Finger 8, and they could also see building activity on the other side.

"Our people can see dozers, road-building activity is going on. Earlier, we never used to see any Chinese, now they are fully visible to people living in the villages on the opposite side," he said. At night, as the lights come on, their presence becomes particularly visible.

"People have noted this, and they fear the Chinese are not going to go back. They are making permanent structures, they have taken control of that land without firing a shot," he said.

"If they don't go back, our people say there will be no end to it. They are very much agitated, they think now they have come 8 km, next time they will come in more, and one day, they will take the whole of Pangong," he said.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Navy Chief Admiral Karambir Singh at the Naval Commanders' Conference in Delhi. PTI

Rajnath lauds Navy for preparedness

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

ADDRESSING THE Navy's leadership on the inaugural day of the Naval Commanders' Conference, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh expressed confidence in the force's preparedness to meet any challenge through a proactive response in deploying its ships and aircraft.

He also appreciated Navy personnel for their role in protecting the maritime interests of the nation, the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

Mentioning Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "vision of SAGAR (Security And Growth for All in the Region)", Singh said the Indian Navy has effectively carried out Mission Based Deployment to protect maritime interests at major and sensitive locations.

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



AASU, AJYCP announce panel amid talk of new political outfit in Assam

ABHISHEK SAHA
GUWAHATI, AUGUST 19

THE ALL Assam Students' Union (AASU) and Asom Jatiyatbadi Yuba Chatra Parishad (AJYCP) Wednesday came together to announce the formation of an "Assam Advisory Committee", comprising 16 prominent personalities from the state, to suggest the future course of action towards protecting the interests of the state's indigenous people.

The announcement comes amid speculation about the formation of a new regional political party for the upcoming Assembly polls early next year. Talks about the formation of a new party, comprising leaders of the AASU, among others, began following protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act earlier this year.

The 16-member committee — aided by AASU and AJYCP general secretaries Lurinjyoti Gogoi and Palash Changmai, respectively — includes writer and former Rajya Sabha member Nagen Saikia, Padma Shri awardee and writer Arup Kumar Dutta, former Meghalaya Governor Ranjit Shekhar Mooshahary, and National Award-winning filmmaker Jahnua Barua, among others.

AASU's Gogoi told *The Indian Express*, "The committee will decide upon the academic, social, economical and political ways to protect the future of the indigenous people of the state."



Supporters welcome Sachin Pilot in Tonk on Wednesday. Express

Setting up panel within 2-3 days shows Cong seriousness: Pilot

HAMZA KHAN
JAIPUR, AUGUST 19

THE CONGRESS leadership forming a three-member All India Congress Committee (AICC) panel "within 2-3 days" of discussions with party leaders, Priyanka Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi in Delhi shows its "seriousness" to address issues within the party in the state, former Rajasthan Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot said on Wednesday.

Talking to journalists on his first visit to his constituency Tonk following the political crisis, Pilot said, "Like it had been promised, a three-member AICC committee has been constituted... I feel that Sonia Gandhi ji has taken the right decision.

When I had had discussions with Priyanka Gandhi ji and Rahul Gandhi ji in Delhi, then we had decided that a committee will be constituted at AICC level. And its constitution within 2-3 days shows that the party high command and AICC has taken it seriously."

"All our requests, suggestions, changes and how the government and organisation has to proceed (will be decided by the committee). There should be coordination between the government and the organisation.

Thanking Congress president Sonia Gandhi for acting on the concerns without any delay, Pilot said, "The committee will discuss and decide how it has to work. Whatever we have to say we will share it with the party high command through the committee."

come by local residents, party workers and supporters in Tonk, where at least 59 office-bearers have submitted their resignations after his sacking last month. He held meetings with district administration including the District Collector, the Superintendent of Police, and met local public representatives.

Before leaving for Tonk, Pilot said in Jaipur that it is up to the party leadership to decide who works in the government and the organisation.

Asked if the frequent transfers were because he was outspoken and a man of action, the 74-year-old told *The Indian Express*, "I think I have had enough action in J&K. Maybe that's enough for a lifetime and it's time to take rest. Action is not good every time. So let me go to this beautiful place (Meghalaya)."

Asked about his differences with Goa CM Pramod Sawant, Malik said they enjoyed a "good personal rapport".

"But it's true that I used to be

Dhaka raises concern on 'rise in killings at border by BSF, Indian nationals'

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

BANGLADESH ON Wednesday expressed "deep concern" at the rise in killings at the Indo-Bangladesh border by "BSF or Indian nationals" during the first half of this year, a Bangladesh foreign ministry statement said on Wednesday.

This was one of the key points raised by Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen during the meeting with Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla on Wednesday.

"Bangladesh flagged that this is in violation of all bilateral agreements and that the Indian Border Security Force must be duly urged to exercise maximum restraint. The Indian side assured that the BSF authorities have been sensitised of the matter and the issue will be discussed in detail at the DC level talks between BGB and BSF to be hosted by Dhaka next month," the Bangladesh Foreign ministry said.

Shringla met Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina on Wednesday.

Momen also requested Shringla to expedite the return of the Tablighi members from Bangladesh who were impacted by the lockdown in India, the statement said. "Request was also made for early release of the 25 Bangladeshi fishermen who are in custody in Dhubri district of Assam. Indian side assured that



Harsh Vardhan Shringla with Masud Bin Momen, in Dhaka, Wednesday. PTI

the matter has been addressed and the Bangladeshi nationals would be able to return soon," the statement said.

The statement said that both sides expressed satisfaction that even during the pandemic, the two countries have maintained a high level of engagement on various areas of cooperation. Important developments include conducting the first trial run for trans-shipment of Indian cargo through Bangladesh under the Agreement on the use of Chattogram and Mongla port, it said.

Momen stated that Bangladesh is ready to collaborate in the development of Covid vaccine, including its trial, and looks forward to early affordable availability of the vaccine when it is ready, the statement said.

Both Foreign Secretaries agreed that greater attention is required to accord more impetus to the development projects in Bangladesh under the Indian Lines of Credit, the statement said.

Cong leaders call for use of tech for participation in Monsoon Session

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

WITH THE Monsoon Session of Parliament likely to begin in the second week of September, Congress's leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and senior party leader and Rajya Sabha member P Chidambaram on Wednesday called for the use of technology to enable Members to participate either physically or virtually in the proceedings in the two Houses.

Writing to Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu, Chidambaram welcomed the decision to hold the Monsoon Session, saying it is very important that the Houses meet and deliberate on the many issues that



P Chidambaram, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury

concern the nation and the people even during the pandemic.

He said he was aware that "special arrangements" are being made to ensure that the Members are safe and to maintain social distancing inside the House but argued that it is "nearly impossible" to avoid the spread of the virus when nearly 245 members of the Rajya Sabha gather in one place with nearly

300 officers, staff and security personnel in attendance, and a larger number gathers in the adjacent Lok Sabha.

"All evidence points to the conclusion that when people gather in significant numbers in one place, they are vulnerable and are exposed to infection. I am afraid this apprehension will discourage many Members from participating physically in the proposed Session of the House," Chidambaram said.

Chowdhury, in a separate letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, suggested that "an app and link should be provided to Members" like in the Supreme Court and High Courts. "A Member who cannot be physically present should be allowed to speak via an app," he said.



KOSHYARI TAKES OATH

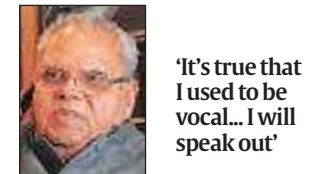
Bhagat Singh Koshiyari took oath as the new Governor of Goa (Additional Charge) at a ceremony held at Raj Bhavan, in Panaji on Wednesday. Chief Justice of Bombay High Court Justice Dipankar Datta administered the oath of office. PTI

Enough action for lifetime, now turn to relax: Malik on way to Meghalaya

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

HE RILED political leaders in J&K by asking militants to kill "those who have looted Kashmir" instead of targeting security officers. He riddled the Chief Minister in Goa, accusing him of "impropriety" and pointing to "shortcomings" in the battle against Covid.

From Bihar to J&K to Goa in two years, and now on his way to Meghalaya, Governor Satya Pal Malik has seen enough action — enough for a lifetime, he says — and it's finally "time for some relaxation".



'It's true that I used to be vocal... I will speak out'

Asked if the frequent transfers were because he was outspoken and a man of action, the 74-year-old told *The Indian Express*, "I think I have had enough action in J&K. Maybe that's enough for a lifetime and it's time to take rest. Action is not good every time. So let me go to this beautiful place (Meghalaya)."

Asked about his differences with Goa CM Pramod Sawant, Malik said they enjoyed a "good personal rapport".

"But it's true that I used to be

vocal and articulate about the things I found wrong. If there's any such matter or corruption or irregularities, I will speak out. Maybe, some people did not like it. Governors usually do not do that," Malik said, speaking over phone from the Guwahati airport on his way to Shillong.

"But the Chief Minister... had invited me home for a meal, I could not go," the Governor said.

Asked specifically about the latest transfer, Malik said: "I had nothing much to do in Goa. Meghalaya is a bigger state. Let me see." Responding to a question on whether his socialist background has become an issue in the current political scenario, he said: "No, nothing like that. The BJP is very comfortable with me."

Cabinet nod for new agency to conduct tests for govt jobs

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE UNION Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday gave its approval for creation of the National Recruitment Agency (NRA) to conduct a preliminary exam - named common eligibility test (CET) - for recruitment of Group B and C (non-technical) staff in the Central government.

The online test will be conducted to screen/shortlist candidates at the first level for vacancies, which are at present filled through different exams conducted by Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Railways Recruitment Board (RRB) and the Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS).

"Based on the screening done at the CET score level, final selection for recruitment shall be made through separate specialised Tiers (II, III etc) of examination, which shall be conducted by the respective recruitment agencies," read a statement issued after the meeting.

The present recruitment agencies - IBPS, RRB and SSC - will remain in place, it was informed. The test will be conducted at three levels: graduate, higher secondary (Class XII pass) and matriculate (Class X pass).

Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said, "Today, youths have to appear in many exams for jobs. There are about 20 recruitment agencies in the government. If one has to appear in four or five exams (for different jobs), he/she will have to appear in different examinations. To end this, a historic decision to set up a National Recruitment Agency has been taken."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted, "The #NationalRecruitmentAgency

Difficult for us to cooperate: Pinarayi on Centre's move to lease out airport

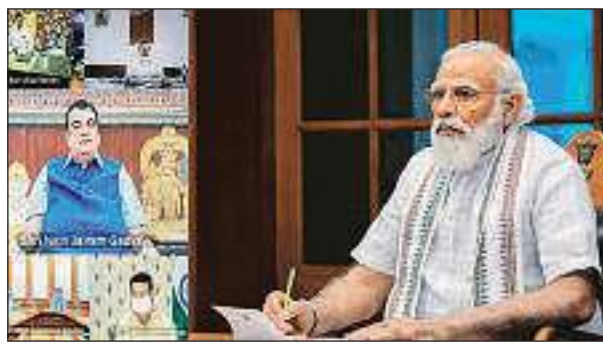
SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
AUGUST 19

KERALA CHIEF Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Wednesday asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to reconsider the Centre's decision to lease out Thiruvananthapuram international airport to the Adani Group.

In a letter to the PM, Vijayan said that in view of the unilateral decision taken by the Union government without giving credence to the argument raised by the state, "it would be difficult for us to offer co-operation for the implementation of the decision, which is against the wishes of the people of the state".

The state government has been of the view that the airport's operations should be entrusted to a special purpose vehicle (SPV), in which the state government should be a major stakeholder. He said the state had transferred 23.57 acre land to the Airport Authority of India free of cost, subject to the condition that the land's value would be reflected as state share capital in the proposed SPV.

RELATED REPORT: P17



Prime Minister Narendra Modi chairs the Cabinet meeting via video conferencing, in New Delhi on Wednesday. P17

will prove to be a boon for crores of youngsters. Through the Common Eligibility Test, it will eliminate multiple tests and save precious time as well as resources. This will also be a big boost to transparency."

Stating CET will be conducted twice each year, Minister of State for Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) Jitendra Singh said, "This reform will bring ease in recruitment, ease of selection, ease of job placement and thereby ease of living..."

Singh also said the CET will be conducted in 12 languages. The NRA will be headed by an officer equivalent to the rank of Union Secretary and will also have representatives from SSC, RRB and IBPS. The Cabinet approved Rs 1,517.57 crore for NRA for three years.

DoPT Secretary C Chandramouli said every year on average 2.5 crore to 3 crore aspirants appear for about 1.25 lakh Group B and Group C vacancies in central government, and more than 50 recruitment tests are conducted each year.

Once the proposed exam is in place, based on CET score a candidate can apply for a vacancy with the respective agency.

Govt hikes cane FRP by Rs 10 per quintal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE GOVERNMENT on Wednesday hiked the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane to Rs 285 per quintal for the sugar season 2020-21.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The FRP for 2020-21 sugar season (October-September), which will be payable by sugar mills to sugarcane farmers, is Rs 10 higher than the current rate of Rs 275 per quintal.

Announcing the decision, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar said, "The decision will benefit 1 crore farmers."

The FRP has been fixed on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), said a statement.

Tharoor, Dubey give breach of privilege notices against each other

LIZ MATHEW & MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE POLITICAL spat over the decision of Shashi Tharoor, Congress MP and chairman of the Standing Committee on Information Technology, to summon Facebook over a report in *The Wall Street Journal* has intensified, with Tharoor and BJP MP Nishikant Dubey giving a notice of breach of privilege against each other.

The office of the chairman of the standing committee had sent a letter to Facebook, seeking an explanation on *The Wall Street Journal* report which stated that a senior public policy executive of Facebook "opposed applying hate-speech rules" to at least four individuals and groups linked with the BJP even after they were "flagged internally for promoting or participating in violence".

In his letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Tharoor said he decided to summon a meeting of the committee to discuss the alleged misconduct of Facebook as part of its discussions on "safeguarding citizens' rights and prevention of misuse of social-on-



Congress MP Shashi Tharoor and BJP's Nishikant Dubey



line news media platforms".

"Despite this, Dubey insultingly criticized my decision to do so stating that 'The Chairman of the Standing Committee does not have the authority to do anything without discussion of the agenda with its member' and accused me of championing my political party's agenda without authorisation by the Committee and Speaker. This amounts to a three-fold breach of privilege," he wrote.

Terming Dubey's remarks against him as "disparaging", the Congress MP said, "...contemptuous words used by Dubey have cast aspersions on the intent and integrity with which I fulfil my duties as an elected representative of people of Thiruvananthapuram in the Lok

Sabha. Second, such words constitute unwarranted vilification of the Committee's name and the manner in which it discharges its functions. Third, his actions have painted an ignominious picture of the revered institution of Parliament by indicating that its functionaries have circumvented the process that they are expected to follow."

He stated the "subject under which the Meeting had been summoned, amongst others, had been unanimously approved by the Committee members and other branches of the Secretariat such as your office and that of the Secretary General..."

"I would urge you to issue necessary directions to initiate proceedings against him for

committing a breach of privilege on multiple accounts and contempt of the House," he added.

Dubey, on the other hand, stated in his notice, "Tharoor has surpassed all limits of decency, ethics and basic tenets of Parliamentary procedure and practice vis-a-vis smooth functioning of Parliamentary Committee by way of committing a grave 'Breach of Privilege', not only in the capacity of an individual honourable Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha but also remaining in the exalted position of Chairperson of one of the most important Departmentally Related Standing Committees, viz., Information Technology."

Dubey said Tharoor had not discussed the move to write to Facebook with members of the committee.

Alleging that Tharoor has committed a serious breach of privilege to use the committee platform "not only to serve his political agenda but also to tarnish BJP and sensationalise a small incident by misusing his official powers", the BJP MP urged Birla to initiate a privilege motion.

Manipur: Five former Cong MLAs join BJP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

FIVE FORMER Manipur MLAs who recently resigned from the Congress and the state Assembly joined the BJP on Wednesday in the presence of Chief Minister N Biren Singh, party general secretary Ram Madhav and Vice President Bajajant Panda.

Welcoming them into the party, Madhav said there is no threat to the Biren Singh government in Manipur now.

"It will not only complete its tenure but will be reelected," he said.

Henry Okram, nephew of former chief minister and senior Congress leader Ibohi Singh, Panoram Broken, Oinam Lukhoi Singh, Ngamthang Haokip and Ginsuanhau Zou were inducted into the BJP by Panda.

Panda said the state government has the support of 34 MLAs in the Assembly, which has an effective strength of 47 as there are 13 vacancies.

The BJP-led government had won a trust vote on Monday by 28-16.

GOVT. OF BIHAR
BIHAR COMBINED ENTRANCE COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION BOARD
I.A.S. Association Building, Near Patna Airport, Patna-14.
POST GRADUATE MEDICAL ADMISSION COUNSELLING (PGMAC)-2020 for MD/ MS/ PGD in Government/ Private Medical Colleges of Bihar
Adv. No.- BCECEB(PGMAC)-2020/24 Dated : 19.08.2020
Important Notice for PGMAC-2020 [Medical]
In continuation to Adv. No. BCECEB(PGMAC)-2020/17 dated 06.08.2020 and 2020/23 dated 17.08.2020, this is to inform all qualified, eligible PGMAC-2020 (Medical) candidates that the seat allotment result of 2nd round counselling has been uploaded on Board's Website. The candidates has to report physically with all original documents and required fees in concerned institution as per revised programme given below :

- Publication of seat allotment result, downloading of Provisional Seat Allotment Order : 19.08.2020
- Publication of common seat allotment list (2nd round) : 20.08.2020
- Date of Physical Reporting / Submission of required Original Documents and required fees of concerned Institution for 1st round admitted & 2nd round allotted candidates : 19.08.2020 to 24.08.2020

Controller of Examination

Enjoy Freedom with TEEVRA SERVICES
Deliver your goods with SPEED, RELIABILITY & AFFORDABILITY
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT UNITS (BDUs) TO ENCOURAGE NON-TRADITIONAL CARGOES
In order to increase the share of rail transportation in non-traditional cargoes exclusive Business Development Units have been set up in the zonal headquarter and in all five divisions i.e. (Delhi, Ambala, Lucknow, Moradabad and Firozpur).
These units have been mandated with Interacting various industries and trading entities and offer suitable rail transportation solutions to find mutually beneficial ways and to facilitate shift to rail.
One major initiative being planned by Northern Railway in this regard is the running of time tabled freight trains for less than full train load consignments. These services have been named as "TEEVRA Services" (Timetabled Efficient and Economically Viable Railway Services) and would be offering timetabled freight transportation services between different Origin - Destination combinations. Freight customers would be able to book up to wagon basis.
This initiative of Northern Railway is aimed at providing affordable timetabled freight services for MSME and other small industries and units.
Interested business entities may contact the following nodal coordinators of the Business Development Units (BDUs) for any enquiry, suggestions or assistance.

SN	Name of Officer	Office	Contact Number
01	Chief Freight Transportation Manager, NR	Northern Railway, Headquarters Office, Baroda House, New Delhi	011-23387643, 9717630903
02	Senior Divisional Operations Manager, New Delhi	Delhi Division, DRM Office, New Delhi	011-23743352, 9717631900
03	Senior Divisional Operations Manager, Lucknow	Lucknow Division, DRM Office, Lucknow	0522-2234520, 9794833900
04	Senior Divisional Operations Manager, Moradabad	Moradabad Division, DRM Office, Moradabad	0591-2412012, 9760534900
05	Senior Divisional Operations Manager, Ambala	Ambala Division, DRM Office, Ambala	0171-2610553, 9729539900
06	Senior Divisional Operations Manager, Firozpur	Firozpur Division, DRM Office, Firozpur	01632-24448, 9779232900

Security Helpline No. 182
Integrated Helpline No. 139
NORTHERN RAILWAY
Your Convenience - Our Concern
Visit us at : www.nri.indianrailways.gov.in
Please join us on [Social Media Icons]
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

महाराष्ट्र रेल इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर डेवेलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड
MAHARASHTRA RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of Maharashtra and Ministry of Railways)
VACANCY NOTICE
MRIDC invites applications from the Contractual Officers / Managers working in Central or State Govt. / Public Sector Undertakings (or SPVs) / Metro Railways / Private Sector etc. for various posts on Contract basis at specified locations as mentioned below:
a) MRIDC/Vacancy Notice - 57 / 2020 - General Manager (Civil) / Chief Project Manager [3 posts each in Mumbai, Pune & Nashik]
b) MRIDC/Vacancy Notice - 58 / 2020 - Dy. General Manager (Civil) [4 posts each in Pune, Nagpur, Chandrapur & Nagbhir]
For details regarding educational qualifications, eligibility criteria, job description, recruitment procedure, pay scale etc. kindly visit our official website www.maharail.com
Applications shall reach by post addressed to Manager (HR) at our Head Office - MRIDC, 2nd Floor, Hoechst House, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400021 on or before 17/09/2020. Also, applicants may email the scanned copies of their applications to hr@maharail.com
Date: 19/08/2020
Place: Mumbai
MANAGING DIRECTOR
MRIDC

एनटीपीसी NTPC Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)
CIN: L40101DL1975GO007966
Regd. Office: NTPC Bhawan, SCOPE Complex, 7, Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110 003.
Tel. no.: 011-24360959 Fax: 011-24360241
Email: csntpc@ntpc.co.in Website: www.ntpc.co.in
NOTICE
In view of prevailing COVID-19 pandemic, Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has, vide circular dated May 5, 2020, allowed Companies to convene their Annual General Meeting (AGM) during the calendar year 2020 through Video Conferencing (VC) or Other Audio Visual Means (OAVM). Further, MCA vide aforesaid circular and SEBI vide circular dated May 12, 2020 had dispensed with the requirement of sending hard copies of annual report to the Shareholders of the Company and permitted Companies to send Annual Report for the financial year 2019-20 containing notice of AGM, Board's Report, financial statements and other documents etc. to its shareholders through emails only.
In view of the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and in accordance with aforesaid circulars, it is hereby informed that the 44th AGM of NTPC Limited will be held on Thursday, 24th September, 2020 at 10:30 A.M. through VC/OAVM and the annual report alongwith notice of 44th AGM will be sent by only email to those shareholders whose email ID are registered with the Company / with respective depository participant.
Notice and Annual Report 2019-20 will also be made available on the Company's website www.ntpc.co.in and websites of the Stock Exchanges, i.e., BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com respectively.
Manner of casting vote(s) through e-voting: In terms of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, the Resolutions for consideration at the 44th AGM will be transacted through remote e-voting and e-voting during the AGM. The Company has engaged services of Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL) for facilitating voting through electronic means. Shareholders who hold shares in physical form or who have not registered their e-mail addresses and wish to participate in the AGM or cast their votes through remote e-voting or e-voting during the meeting can log on to the e-voting website www.evotingindia.com by using their credentials. Shareholders are requested to read instruction contained in the Notice of AGM to be made available on the website of the Company/Stock Exchanges.
Manner of registering / updating email ID & Bank Details: Shareholders who have not registered their email IDs and Bank Account details are hereby requested to register the same in following manner:
For shareholders holding shares in Physical Mode: Please send a request letter with following details to the RTA of the Company by post at M/s Alankit Assignments Limited, Alankit Hosue, 4E/2, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi-110055 or through email at alankit_ntpc@alankit.com with following details/documents:
For updating email ID: 1. Folio No. 2. Name of Shareholder 3. Copy of PAN & AADHAR (Self attested) (Signature shall match with the specimen signature available with the Company/RTA)
For updating Bank account: In addition to details required for updating email, following details/ documents are required: 1. Bank Account details like Bank Account number, Name of the Bank & Branch, MICR Code/IFSC Code, 2. Cancelled Cheque
For shareholders holding shares in Demat Mode: Shareholders can update email IDs, mobile numbers and Bank Account details by contacting their respective Depository Participants as per the process advised by them.
Shareholders may note that in terms of the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961 as amended by the Finance Act, 2020, dividend paid or distributed by a Company on or after 1st April, 2020 is taxable in the hands of the Shareholders. The Company is, therefore, required to deduct tax at source at the time of payment of dividend to the Shareholders. In order to enable us to determine the appropriate TDS rate, as applicable, Shareholders are requested to submit necessary forms/documents in accordance with the provisions of the Income Tax Act, as detailed in the notice of the AGM.
In case of any further assistance in this regard, Shareholders may contact RTA or Company at above mentioned email/address.
Date :19.08.2020
Place: New Delhi
For NTPC Limited
Nandini Sarkar
Company Secretary
Leading the Power Sector

INDIAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY (IMU)
(A Central University, under the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India)
Established by an Act of the Parliament in 2009
www.imu.edu.in
Online Applications are invited for admission of students in the Academic Year 2020-21 for the following Programmes of IMU.
Under-Graduate: B.Tech (Marine Engineering), B.Tech (Naval Architecture & Ocean Engineering), B.Sc (Nautical Science), BBA (Logistics, E-Commerce & Retail), B.Sc (Ship Building & Repair), DNS leading to B.Sc. (Nautical Science).
Post-Graduate: M.Tech (Marine Engineering & Management), M.Tech (Naval Architecture & Ocean Engineering), M.Tech (Dredging & Harbour Engineering), MBA (Port & Shipping Management), MBA (International Transportation & Logistics Management), M.Sc (Commercial Shipping & Logistics).
Research Programme: M.S (By Research), Ph.D.
PG Diploma: Post Graduate Diploma in Marine Engineering.
Last date of registration - 21.08.2020.
For further details, please visit IMU website www.imu.edu.in

8 EXPRESS NETWORK

CAA protests: UP cops move court against bail to 4, including 3 activists

ASAD REHMAN
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 19

LUCKNOW POLICE have moved a local court seeking cancellation of bail granted to four persons in a case related to violence during an anti-CAA protest in Lucknow's Hazratganj area on December 19.

Congress leader and activist Sadaf Jafar, Rihai Manch founder Mohammad Shoaib, Lucknow-based activist Deepak Kabir and one Shavez have been asked to appear before the Additional Sessions court on Thursday.

"In the above-mentioned case, a letter regarding your bail cancellation has been submitted by the district government counsel. You are expected to appear before the given date (August 20, 2020) by yourself or through your lawyer and present your side," read a summons issued by the court of Additional Sessions Judge. The summons was dated August 13.

DCP (Central) Somen Barma said the summons were served to the four because they had "committed repeat offences and violated bail conditions and hence, the bail cancellation has been requested". He said the summons could not be served earlier as court were close.

Kabir told *The Indian Express* he received the summons on Wednesday. "In no way, I have violated any conditions for my bail," he said. Jafar and Shoaib argued they had neither violated any bail conditions nor "hindered the investigation in any way".

Jafar's lawyer Jaideep Mathur said they would contest the bail cancellation on grounds that his client had not breached bail conditions and had cooperated with the investigation.

"There is no ground for cancellation of bail. She has not committed any crime in the intervening period since she got bail," said Mathur. Kabir's lawyer IB Singh said he would also present similar arguments before the court.

In March, the Lucknow administration had put up hoardings with photographs and addresses of those booked in cases of alleged vandalism and arson linked to protests against the CAA in the city on December 19. The three activists were among the 57 people whose photographs were put across the city.

Forest guard held over murder of staff in Porbandar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
RAJKOT, AUGUST 19

THE Porbandar district police has detained forest guard Lakhman Odedra for the murder of fellow guard Hetal Solanki, her husband and a casual labourer of the forest department, who had been found dead inside the Barda Wildlife Sanctuary on Monday.

In his complaint, Solanki's father Vashram Rathod had named Odedra, 32, saying he was with the three at the time they went missing. Odedra reportedly knew Solanki from before her marriage.

Superintendent of Police Ravi Mohan Saini claimed Odedra had led Solanki, who was seven months pregnant, her husband Kirti and Nagajan Agath into the sanctuary on Saturday saying he knew the location of an illegal liquor brewery operating inside. The police said Odedra had first killed Kirti, then Agath and finally Solanki. They have detained him pending his Covid-19 test, and will arrest him if the result is negative.

Saini claimed that around 20 days ago, Solanki and Odedra's wife Manju had an argument, and Solanki had abused her, which had left Odedra angry. The police said Odedra made up the claim regarding the brewery to entice Solanki and her husband, who lived with her in their allotted forest quarters, inside the sanctuary.

Solanki's father had told the police that around 1.30 pm on Saturday, she had talked to her mother and informed her that they were on their way to raid a brewery along with Odedra.

Bhushan urges SC to defer hearing on sentence till review plea is decided

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

ADVOCATE PRASHANT Bhushan, who has been convicted of criminal contempt by the Supreme Court over two of his tweets, Wednesday urged the court to defer the hearing on the quantum of punishment till his review petition against the conviction is "filed and decided".

A bench of Justices Arun Mishra, B R Gavai and Krishna Murari is scheduled to hear arguments on the quantum of punishment on Thursday.

In his application, Bhushan said he "intends" to file a review petition "after studying the order, in detail, and seeking appropriate legal counsel as the ramifications of the said order is of grave constitutional significance, in particular on the right to free speech".

He said he "would file the same within the limitation period of 30 days from date of the judgment, as he is entitled to under...the Supreme Court Rules, 2013".

Bhushan said the deferment



Prashant Bhushan

"would be in the interests of justice in view of the underlying public policy with respect to safeguarding liberty of a citizen under Article 21 till such time as his first appeal (in this case the review application) is considered".

He also said if the court proceeds with the hearing and imposes any sentence, the same may be directed to be stayed till he exhausts the legal remedy of review.

Holding him guilty on August 14, the court had said the tweets were based on "distorted facts", were a "malicious...attack" on the "entire Supreme Court", and had the effect of "destabilising the very foundation" of judiciary.

SC listed 15,596 cases for hearing since lockdown began

New Delhi: The Supreme Court listed more than 15,000 cases for hearing since the lockdown began on March 23, despite about 125 members of its registry and their families being affected by Covid-19, sources in the top court said on Wednesday.

A total of 15,596 cases have been listed since the lockdown, they said, adding this included 10,754 main matters, 3,419 connected matters and 1,523 Registrar Court matters. The SC has been hearing cases only via video-conferencing since March 23. **ENS**

Jaipur rain: Restoration work will go on for a year, says museum

DEEP MUKHERJEE
JAIPUR, AUGUST 19

FIVE DAYS after water from overflowing sewers entered the basement of the Albert Hall Museum in Jaipur, documents of the Rajasthan Archaeology Department going back 70 years are spread out over an entire floor, with staff members using large fans and turning them over several times a day to dry them. The attempt to catalogue the many artefacts that were swept off their racks into the rainwater in Friday's downpour may take longer. Up to a year, as per the estimate of Museum Superintendent Rakesh Chholak.

Water had entered the basement, holding 17,000 artefacts dating back to the 19th century and a 2,300-year-old mummy, one of the museum's most precious possessions, on Friday morning due to a nearby road getting waterlogged in the 130 mm rain that day. "Water entered the basement through the windows. We found the artefacts floating in knee-deep water," Chholak told *The Indian Express*.

While most of the artefacts stored in the basement were "C category", or lowest in the order



Museum workers check a 2,300-year-old Egyptian mummy for damage at the Albert Hall Museum. Rohit Jain Paras

of significance, the Superintendent added. "They are important, including samples of textiles with Sanganer and Bagru prints, laces, old anatomical charts, weapons, ivory, clay toys, furniture and wooden objects. Some of these are permanently damaged."

The mummy, that was rushed out by the staff before water could enter its case, is that of "Tutu", believed to be a girl belonging to a priest family in ancient Egypt, and is estimated to date back to at least 322 BC. It had been found in

SC UPHOLDS BIHAR ORDER FOR CBI PROBE INTO SUSHANT DEATH

Always believed our decision was for justice, says Nitish

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PATNA, AUGUST 19

BIHAR CHIEF Minister Nitish Kumar Wednesday said that he always believed the Bihar Police lodging an FIR in the Sushant Singh Rajput case and the state government recommending a CBI probe was for the sake of justice even though some people were trying to give it a "political colour".

On the Supreme Court upholding the Bihar government's decision to recommend a CBI probe, Nitish said, "The Supreme Court has backed our decision to lodge the case and recommend CBI probe... Now that the apex court has given a go-ahead to CBI probe, we hope the case is investigated fast and family of Sushant Singh Rajput gets justice."

He said he recommended a CBI probe after Rajput's family asked for it.

Bihar Deputy CM and BJP leader Sushil Kumar Modi said, "Our stand stands vindicated now." However, Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Prasad Yadav said the BJP was the first to seek a CBI probe. "We also took up the matter in the Assembly and made the Bihar government recommend the matter to CBI. We now hope Rajput's family gets justice."

Meanwhile, Rajput's family lawyer said the Supreme Court order has given impetus to their "quest for justice".

Describing the verdict as a victory for Rajput's family and fans, senior advocate Vikas Singh told the media, "The Supreme Court has accepted all points. The court

Rhea doesn't have stature to comment on Bihar CM: DGP

Patna: Reacting strongly to actor Rhea Chakraborty's remarks on Nitish Kumar in her affidavit filed before the Supreme Court, Bihar DGP Guptheshwar Pandey Wednesday said, "Bihar ke mukhyamantri pe comment karne ki aukaat Rhea Chakraborty ki nahi hai (Rhea Chakraborty does not have the stature to comment on the Bihar CM.)"

Rhea had said that the case was being blown out of proportion as Bihar elections were approaching and an FIR was filed in Bihar because the CM had gotten involved in the matter.

With his remarks on Rhea stirring up a controversy, Pandey later said, "I had surely said that Rhea did not have such a stature to comment on the Bihar CM. If anyone has reservations about it, I apologise." **ENS**

also clearly said that the FIR registered at Patna was correct."

Minutes later he tweeted: "Well begun is half done. Has been agreeing time listening to experts that Patna had no jurisdiction to register the FIR. Our quest for justice gets impetus with the authoritative decision by Supreme Court."

—WITHPTIINPUTS

Mumbai Police will cooperate with CBI: Maharashtra minister

MOHAMED THAYER & SADAF MODAK
MUMBAI, AUGUST 19

MAHARASHTRA HOME Minister Anil Deshmukh on Wednesday said the Mumbai Police would cooperate with the CBI after the Supreme Court approved its probe into the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput.

"The Supreme Court order says that the investigation carried out by the Mumbai Police was done in a professional manner. We welcome the judgment and will extend support to the CBI," he said.

About the top court's verdict, Deshmukh said it should lead to discussion among constitutional experts over the federal structure of the Indian Union.

"The Constitution drafted by Dr B R Ambedkar speaks about the concept of the federal structure. My belief is Constitutional experts and thinkers need to readdress this in the near future," Deshmukh said.

Citing a paragraph in the Supreme Court order, Deshmukh also did not rule out a parallel probe by the Mumbai Police into the case.

The Supreme Court, however, had also stated that in case the Mumbai Police registers an

FIR, the same will be transferred to the CBI as well.

Deshmukh said that the Opposition had politicised the issue and said the investigation should be guided by facts.

Senior officers of the Mumbai Police told *The Indian Express* that the inquiry being carried out by the Bandra police into the suicide of Rajput is likely to continue. But a senior officer said they would also consult lawyers and senior government officials to confirm their interpretation of the relevant portion of the court order.

Meanwhile on the issue of being castigated by the SC for quarantine enforced on Bihar Police officials in Mumbai, the Mumbai Police passed the buck to the BMC. "The only thing that the court order holds against the Mumbai Police was that the Bihar IPS officer who came to the city to investigate the matter was asked to go into quarantine. This was, however, a decision taken by the BMC following the Covid guidelines and had nothing to do with the Mumbai Police," an officer said.

After the verdict, advocate Satish Maneshinde representing Rhea Chakraborty said that the "truth will remain the same whichever agency investigates the case".

MP-bound bus seized in Agra by 'finance company agents'

Passengers dropped off at Jhansi, kidnapping case filed

AMIL BHATNAGAR
NOIDA, AUGUST 19

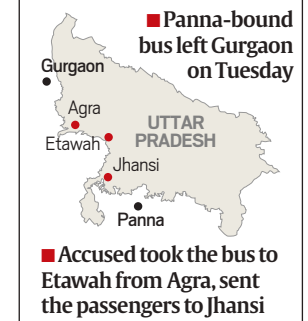
A MADHYA Pradesh-bound private bus, carrying 34 passengers from Gurgaon, was seized in Agra early Wednesday by four men claiming to be finance company agents, police said.

The driver and two conductors of the bus were made to disembark, and one of the four men drove off with the passengers. Hours later, the passengers were dropped at Jhansi, said a senior police officer from Agra. By evening, they had been ferried to their destinations via other buses.

A case of kidnapping has been registered and teams have been formed to look for the accused. No one was injured, the police said. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath took cognizance and issued directions to ensure safe return of the passengers.

Baboo Kumar, SSP Agra, said, "The driver and conductor of a private bus service approached us, saying their bus had been seized by finance company agents. The bus was due to reach Panna in MP this morning. Around 4 am, they were overtaken by a car and the bus was halted near New Dakshin crossing on the highway in Agra.

HIGHWAY HEIST



■ Panna-bound bus left Gurgaon on Tuesday

■ Accused took the bus to Etawah from Agra, sent the passengers to Jhansi

The accused said they were seizing the bus because dues had not been paid. Some of the accused took the driver and conductors in the car while one accused drove the bus. The bus staff told the police that they were later given Rs 200 for food and dropped off.

The accused reportedly told the staff that the bus owner was in debt and had recently died. However, the company that financed the vehicle said the loan had been closed two years ago.

"We checked our records and found that the owner of Kalpana Travels had died. There was a loan against the vehicle taken in 2016 from our Gwalior branch and settled in 2018. At no point did we send any agents to this carry out," said Sanjesh Kumar, UP head of Shriram Transport Finance Co Ltd.

According to Agra Police, Kalpana Travels belonged to Gwalior resident Ashok Arora, who died recently of Covid-19. Following his death, one Pradeep Gupta allegedly approached his son Pawan Arora and threatened him over pending dues.

According to police, CCTV footage showed Gupta and the other accused travelling in a white SUV along with the seized bus.

Village on Tripura-Mizoram border at centre of jurisdiction row

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

A SCENIC village on the Tripura-Mizoram border has found itself at the centre of a jurisdiction dispute between the two states.

Phuldungai, with a predominantly Mizo population of about 1,064 people, is part of a cluster of 10 villages on Jampui Hills. Bettlingchip, Tripura's highest peak, is in Phuldungai and is a key tourist destination.

On August 17, Chandni Chandran, Sub-divisional magistrate of Tripura's Kancharpur -- under which Phuldungai falls -- wrote to DM (North Tripura), stressing that there is an "urgent need to demarcate the exact boundary between Mizoram and Tripura incorporating the entire Phuldungai VC in Tripura".

The SDM wrote that a scrutiny of the electoral roll of Mizoram's Hachek (ST) constituency found

that Phuldungai village council has been shown under Mizoram's jurisdiction.

"130 voters in the electoral roll of Zampui Phuldungai are residents of Tripura. They are present in electoral rolls of Tripura, in ROR of Phuldungai village council and avail ration facility from Phuldungai ration shop under Kancharpur sub-division.

"Traditionally, Phuldungai VC as a whole (despite eastern side falling in Mizoram) has been accepted as a part of Tripura. Hence, the inclusion of the village council and its residents in Mizoram electoral rolls seems to be problematic," Chandran wrote.

The Indian Express has learnt that the highest levels of Tripura administration are looking into the matter.

The attempts to demarcate the boundary between Tripura and Mizoram, which were locked in a dispute over resettlement of Bru refugees for decades, have failed



Phuldungai is on the Jampui Hills, the highest hill range in the state bordering Mizoram. Express

in the past, officials said.

In January, the Centre signed a quadripartite agreement to resolve the Bru displacement crisis in Tripura, and announced that over 33,000 migrants living in six relief camps since 1997 would be settled in the state. There has been

little progress so far.

"The families were identified based on ration cards. However, Bru forums are claiming ration card records were of 1997 and families have split and expanded since then. They are seeking a fresh survey," a senior official said.

Significantly, Bru forums have been demanding that they be resettled at Phuldungai and nearby areas. A dozen forums representing Brus recently wrote to Tripura Chief Secretary Manoj Kumar, identifying themselves as "non-Mizos" and demanding urgent boundary demarcation.

"We, the non-mizo communities under Jampui Hill RD block are in full consent to resettle the Mizoram Bru displaced people permanently at Bettlingchip, Phuldungai as per earlier verification to protect the traditional boundary of Tripura," they wrote.

While the fresh row may have been triggered by the electoral list prepared by Mizoram, records show local officials flagged the matter with the Tripura government in the past as well.

In 2010, A Dewanjee, then BDO of Jampui Hills block, had in a report said a stretch of land "measuring 2.5 kms starting from the Bettlingchip peak up to the ap-

Dubey encounter probe: SC junks plea against commission chair

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE SUPREME Court on Wednesday dismissed a plea by a Mumbai-based lawyer raising objection to the appointment of Justice (retired) B S Chauhan to head the commission inquiring into the encounter killing of gangster Vikas Dubey.

"The enquiry held would be in public domain and the petitioner has already been granted the liberty of participating therein. The report of the enquiry is ordered to be filed in the petitions which were filed before this Court. Therefore, there would be sufficient safeguard to the manner in which the inquiry would be held," a bench headed by Chief Justice of India S A Bobde said, dismissing the petition by Advocate Ghanashyam Upadhyay.

The bench said "we find that the petitioner has been raising unnecessary apprehensions and repeated applications are being filed which in fact is hampering the process of inquiry".

The petition relied on a report in *The Wire* to allege conflict of interest on the part of Justice Chauhan and former UP DGP K L Gupta, who is a member of the commission. It was claimed that Justice Chauhan has kin in the BJP and that Gupta has relatives in the police department.

The bench said, "This Court in a series of decisions has repeatedly held that the newspaper item without any further proof is of no evidentiary value. The said principle laid down has thereafter been taken note in several public interest litigations to reject the allegations contained in the petition supported by newspaper report..."

Covid count in armed forces: 25 deaths, over 12,000 cases

KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE ARMED forces have recorded 12,640 Covid-19 cases among its serving personnel so far, of which 4,744 were still in hospital till Tuesday.

According to data available till August 17, there were 25 deaths (less than 0.2 per cent), while the rest were discharged. While the total number of cases in India is over 27.67 lakh, the case fatality ratio is 1.91 per cent.

The case fatality ratio was higher among retired Armed Forces personnel – 1,233 total cases, 131 deaths (over 10 per cent). While 308 are in hospital, the rest have been discharged.

Among the dependents of serving personnel, a total of 1,870 cases were reported, of which 68 died (3.63 per cent), and 522 are in hospital. The rest have been discharged.

A total of 842 dependents of ex-servicemen have tested positive so far, of which 65 died (7.71 per cent), 191 are in hospital, and the rest have been discharged.

While the break-up of the number of cases for each service is not available, the Armed Forces had conducted about 1.74 lakh tests till August 17.

The Army conducted 1,40,202 tests, of which 11,967 were positive; the Armed Forces Medical College did 20,203 tests, of which 4,787 were positive; the Indian Air Force did 9,900 tests of which 1,428 were positive; and the Navy did 3,513 tests, of which 1,137 were positive.

However, the total number of tests include those on civilians too, including over 3,000 people who were quarantined in various facilities set up by the forces.

While the forces have tried to restrict the caseload by enforcing social distancing and other measures, the movement of troops, due to the standoff with China in eastern Ladakh, posed additional challenges as there was the threat of infecting sol-

diers on the frontline.

An Army spokesperson said "there are two ways of isolation" to protect soldiers. "Because there is no physical isolation possible between soldiers in an operational environment, it is important to protect the full module. You socially isolate the module," he said.

He said "a body of troops" is treated as an individual, but "when there is an entry necessitated, then you have to follow the same system". So, a 14-day quarantine is mandatory for anyone who has changed his/her location.

The spokesperson said that since the "general fitness level" of Army personnel is "very high", there are fewer comorbidities.

IAF spokesperson Wing Commander Indranil Nandi said home isolation or institutional quarantine is mandatory whenever any person/family changes location, depending on the place they come from and the mode of transport.

With the IAF also moving its personnel in view of the standoff with China, Nandi said that "while keeping these common precautions in mind, when people went from Place A to Place B, they were not allowed to mix with others who were already there". He said intermingling of people at bars or the mess was stopped.

"But it was ensured that operational readiness was not compromised," Nandi said.

Since May, the Navy has brought back about 4,000 Indians from other countries as part of its Operation Samudra Setu. Navy spokesperson Commander Vivek Madhwal said apart from the regular protocol to be followed on ships, submarines and establishments, zones were demarcated in the ships involved in Operation Samudra Setu to prevent intermingling of the crew with the evacuees. "The ships were equipped with relief, Covid protection material and medical and administrative support staff," said Madhwal.

Kerala govt changes tack on CDR, says only needs tower details of patients

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, AUGUST 19

UNDER ATTACK from the Opposition for collecting call data records (CDR) of Covid-19 patients, the Kerala government did a volte-face on Wednesday, saying that police required only the tower location of patients for contact tracing.

With Kerala seeing a surge in Covid-19 cases, the state government had earlier this month assigned police with contact tracing of virus cases and management of those under quarantine in containment zones. Subsequently, on August 11, the state police chief had directed the intelligence wing to collect CDR of all Covid-19 patients from mobile service providers for contact tracing. The permission of the patients was not sought before collecting their CDR.

The decision triggered widespread protest, but Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan had justified the police action.

However, the government on Wednesday changed its stand in

the Kerala High Court, which was hearing a petition by Opposition leader Ramesh Chennithala who challenged the government's direction to collect the CDR of all Covid-19 patients.

When the bench of Chief Justice S Manikumar asked the government about the purpose of CDR for location tracking of Covid-19 patients, Additional Advocate-General K K Ravindranath told the court that "police require only tower details where calls are made and received, and not more than that. Call records are erased after 14 days of quarantine".

The court directed the government to file an affidavit on August 21. Senior advocate T Asafali, who appeared for the petitioner, pointed out that collecting CDR of patients is "illegal, unfair, unjust, arbitrary, fanciful and oppressive and is in violation of the fundamental rights of privacy of Covid-19 patients" guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution.

The petitioner said Covid-19 patients are not in a position to have resorted to any legal remedies of their own for the injuries suffered by them on account of the "illegal acts" of the police.

Cheating complaint unearths online gambling scam worth crores

RAHUL VPISHARODY
HYDERABAD, AUGUST 19

IT SEEMED like a regular case of cheating when two persons earlier this month approached the cyber crime wing of the Hyderabad police, complaining of losing Rs 97,000 and Rs 1.64 lakh respectively to a website dealing with online gaming — which is banned in Telangana.

However, the investigation into the complaints unearthed a much larger conspiracy, involving several different websites dealing with gambling, hundreds of crores of rupees and at least one Chinese national.

On August 14, Hyderabad city police commissioner Anjali Kumar announced at a press con-

ference that the total value of the inward transaction on two HSBC bank accounts connected to the online gambling was nearly Rs 1,100 crore, with most of the deposits taking place in 2020. The two accounts were frozen, and police have recovered Rs 30 crore.

Investigations have unearthed at least 15 such bank accounts, from which another Rs 20 crore was recovered as of August 19. Officials are currently verifying the volume of transactions.

According to Kumar, people were lured on to gaming websites via the Telegram app, and new people could sign up only through references. Referring a certain number of players into the group also earned people commission. The case in question required players to place their bets on

Gujarat Police arrest 1, claim bid to kill BJP leader

Police say Chhota Shakeel gang sent 'sharpshooter' from Mumbai to assassinate former minister Gordhan Zadafia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, AUGUST 19

THE GUJARAT Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) claimed to have foiled a bid to assassinate senior BJP leader and former minister Gordhan Zadafia, with the arrest of an alleged sharpshooter of the Chhota Shakeel gang in Ahmedabad early Wednesday morning.

They said Irfan alias Kalia Shaikh, 24, had arrived from Mumbai on Tuesday for carrying out the killing. The arrest was a joint operation by the ATS and Ahmedabad Crime Branch, which claimed they were looking for an "accomplice" of Shaikh's who had come to the city with him.

The ATS said Shaikh had been arrested from Hotel Venus in the Old City around 2:30 am on Wednesday, and was armed and

had fired one round with his pistol in a bid to evade officers. He was being booked under the UAPA, among other charges.

Zadafia, a BJP state vice-president and Y-category protectee, is currently on a tour of Saurashtra with newly appointed state party president C R Paatil. He told *The Indian Express* over phone that he had been told about the arrest and alleged plot by Minister of State for Home Pradeepsinh Jadeja. He said he hadn't been alerted regarding threat perceptions lately.

Deputy Commissioner of Police, Crime Branch, Deepan Bhadrans said they had recovered photos of the BJP state headquarters from Shaikh's phone. "Based on an input, a team of police officials including myself had reached the hotel last night to apprehend the accused... An FIR has been lodged at the ATS Police Station. We are currently interrogating



Irfan was arrested from a hotel in Ahmedabad. Express

Shaikh and a preliminary investigation of his mobile phone has shown he had pictures of BJP leaders and had also done a reconnaissance of the BJP office. It is believed he was working for the Chhota Shakeel gang module and had been given the contract to assassinate BJP

leader Zadafia," said Bhadrans. Officers close to the investigation claimed to have found that Shaikh was in touch with a handler of the Chhota Shakeel gang on WhatsApp. An ATS officer said Shaikh had shared videos showing the BJP office at Kamalam

(Gandhinagar) on Tuesday 3 pm with the said handler. "We have also got hold of the WhatsApp chats where they specifically mentioned Zadafia as the target."

Sources said they were also probing if an "ISI module in Pakistan" was behind the alleged assassination attempt.

Zadafia told *The Indian Express* that around 2012, he had informed the Home Department about three-four unidentified people following him when he was travelling in Navsari. "They had enquired about me at a place where I had just taken lunch. And then when I was at the Tithal beach with my wife and others, they followed me. Getting suspicious, I had asked my commandos to check them out, and they had run away. I had not complained in writing, but informed the Home Department. Since then, I have not experienced any-

thing like that," he said.

The minister of state for home under the Narendra Modi-led state government during the Gujarat riots, Zadafia had been a Z-category security holder till 2013, after which his security was scaled down. He had deposited in-camera before the G T Nanavati and A H Mehta Commissions that had probed the Godhra train burning and the riots. In 2007, he had left the BJP to float his own party, but returned before the 2014 Lok Sabha elections.

Zadafia said he had full confidence in the Home Department to carry out a probe in Wednesday's arrest.

Apart from the UAPA, the police have invoked attempt to murder and charges under the Arms Act against Shaikh. Officers said that following his Covid results, he would be produced before a magistrate and his remand sought.

Trust urges people to donate copper for building Ram temple

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE SHRI Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, set up to construct the Ram temple in Ayodhya, on Wednesday asked people from the community to donate copper strips and 2-inch copper rods for the temple's construction and said the temple is being built in a way to last at least a thousand years.

The Trust's general secretary, Champat Rai, told the media that the temple would be built in 36 to 40 months.

Stating that donating the copper material would be evidence of the "country's contribution" towards the temple's construction, Rai said, "Copper strips have the ability to stay safe even during an earthquake. We need (around) 10,000 such strips — at least 18 inches long, 3 mm in depth, 30 mm wide. We will ask the community to send these strips; names of their villages, temples, or mohallas can be carved on them. This will be evidence of the country's contribution."

He said the temple's columns will have 2-inch rods, and approximately 10,000 such copper rods will be required. "This will be a very big contribution from the country," he said.

On the construction timeframe, he said, "We cannot say when the temple will be built. Even then, at least 36 months — 3 years — (will be required). These 36 (months) can become 40; but 36 (whether it can be) to 35, at least I cannot say. If someone says (an exact time-frame), it will be said that he is being hasty and doesn't know enough. The Prime Minister also considers it (time)



The trust's general secretary Champat Rai in New Delhi on Wednesday. Tashi Tobgyal

to be three years. He does not believe it is less than that... that much patience we must have."

Rai said, "To measure the strength of the soil, they have taken the help of IIT-Madras and are taking samples of up to 60 metres under the ground.... CBRI-Roorkee and a professor from IIT-Madras have taken measurements on its earthquake resistance... this test has also taken place. There will be plain concreting (PCC) at 1,200 places between the depths of 30 and 35 metres under the soil. The CBRI and the IIT-Madras professor are studying it."

The Trust is also considering making "viewing spots", where visitors can look at ongoing construction, including objects found from digging, he said.

On the controversy surrounding the date of bhoomi puja — some have said that August 5 was inauspicious — Rai said, "We had decided that whatever day the PM comes is the most auspicious day... Work should be detailed, according to a plan. In the world, India's, and in India the head of Hindu samaj should be held high. That is the only intention."



Swab testing in Mumbai's Chembur East area on Wednesday. Amit Chakravarty

After sero-survey, study on virus antibodies begins in Pune

AJAY JADHAV
PUNE, AUGUST 19

AFTER A sero-survey in Pune found that half the samples of citizens from five high-incidence areas had antibodies for coronavirus infection, the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER)-led survey has begun a study to detect "neutralising antibodies" to understand how the human body responds to the virus.

"The sero-survey was completed from five areas highly affected by Covid-19. It was found that 51.5 per cent of the 1,664 citizens from whom samples were collected had developed antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 infection, but this does not indicate immunity. Thus, the further study to detect neutralising antibodies that protect from the viral infection," said Prof L S Sashidhara of IISER.

Aurnab Ghose of IISER said the study on detection of neutralising antibodies is a slow process and would take at least six weeks. "The study will be done from the same samples collected during the sero-survey," he said.

Ghose said the sero-survey has been done in many cities in

the country and all of them have been done by ICMR, except in Mumbai and Pune. "We are not aware whether a similar study of detection of neutralising antibodies is being taken up in any other city," he said.

Ghose said the sero-survey has concluded that the infection is prevalent in all types of communities. "There is infection in the hutment, tenement, apartment and bungalow. Also, it is prevalent in all sizes of houses and those with shared or independent toilets. It is important to stress that the infection is widespread and in all categories of accommodations," he said.

On the low prevalence of antibodies in those above 66 years of age, he said there might be various reasons and further study was required on this. Also, there is no information on how long the response of antibodies lasts.

The sero-survey was jointly done by Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC), Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU), IISER, Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) of Faridabad and Christian Medical College of Vellore with funding from Persistent Foundation.

100 VENTILATORS SENT BY US GOVT ARRIVE IN INDIA

New Delhi: The second and final set of 100 ventilators sent by the US government has arrived in India, the US embassy has said.

The US Agency for International Development had coordinated with the Indian government and the Indian Red Cross to complete their second donation, around two months after the first set of 100 ventilators arrived in the country and was distributed among all eight AIIMS. That set was worth \$1.2 million, USAID had said.

In March, US President Donald Trump invoked the Defense Production Act in order to boost the production of ventilators as part of efforts to deal with the coronavirus outbreak.

On Wednesday, US Ambassador Kenneth I Juster in a press release said, "We are very pleased to hand over the final tranche of 100 ventilators to India, fulfilling President Trump's commitment..." ENS

so far that the companies are controlled through a firm called Beijing T Power Company."

Four people have been arrested in the case. Yah Hao, a Chinese national, was apprehended from IGI Airport in Delhi when he was scheduled to board a plane to Europe. Three others — Dheeraj Sarkar of Gurugram, and Ankit Kapoor and Neeraj Tuli of Delhi — have also been arrested.

From Yah, police learned that Beijing T Power has operations in Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, Indonesia, among other countries. "He had been trying to leave the country but could not because of the suspension of international travel owing to Covid-19 lockdown..." a senior official said.

Police said that another three-

Assam's Covid count rises to 84,317; toll at 213

Guwahati: The Covid-19 toll in Assam rose to 213 on Wednesday after 10 more people died, while the state's caseload has gone up to 84,317 with 2,116 new infections, Health and Family Welfare Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said.

Of the fresh deaths, two each were reported from Kamrup Metropolitan, Cachar and Karimganj districts while one each was registered in Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Nagaon and Hailakandi, Sarma said. PTI

6 lakh may have got virus in Hyderabad, finds study

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, AUGUST 19

THERE MAY BE at least six lakh people in Hyderabad who have been infected by coronavirus, a large number of them asymptomatic, a study said on Wednesday.

A study by CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) and CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology has said individuals infected by SARS-CoV-2 shed virus not only through nasal and oral routes but also through faeces.

Scientists of both institutes collected sewage samples from 18 of the 23 sewage treatment plants (STPs) in Hyderabad to estimate the number of people who may have been infected. "Based on our study, we can say that at least 2 lakh people are infected in Hyderabad alone," said CCMB Director Dr Rakesh Mishra.

"The study covers about 80 per cent of the STPs in the city but only about 40 per cent of the Hyderabad sewage reaches STPs, and if this data can be used to extrapolate, the overall number of potentially infected people turned out to be approximately 6 lakh that is around 6 per cent of the city's population, which includes symptomatic, asymptomatic, and also recently recovered individuals in a time window of about 35 days," he said.

The SARS-CoV-2 in sewage samples is non-infectious, thus making them suitable for epidemiological studies.

The findings are posted on preprint server MedRxiv, which is yet to be peer reviewed, said Dr Mishra.

As of August 16, 75,600 cases have been reported in Greater Hyderabad Municipal corporation areas.

Health Minister Etela Rajender said he has asked officials to go through the study. "I have asked senior officials to look into it. I cannot say if so many people are infected in the city as of now. We have increased testing already," he said.

"Our findings clearly indicate that a large proportion of the affected individuals are asymptomatic and did not need hospitalisation," Dr Mishra said.

"Such studies if carried out in coordination with civic bodies to identify the hotspots in the city and monitor the dynamics of the infection rate can assist the system in taking necessary measures," he added.

Of the 1,800 million litres water used daily in Hyderabad, only 40 per cent is processed at STPs. For this study, sewage samples from major STPs were processed for detecting the presence of SARS-CoV-2 viral RNA. While viral RNA is detectable in the inlet samples, the outlet samples of STP were largely free from viral RNA, indicating efficient treatment, the study stated.



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

An American Kamala

The black part of Harris's identity is bound to be bigger, but the Indian part will not be suppressed



ASHUTOSH VARSHNEY

"YOU HAVE BEEN such a regular customer, so I hope you won't mind my question. I know white and I know black — what are you?" Thus spoke my dry cleaner in South Bend, Indiana, in 2000. A small town brought to national attention this year by Pete Buttigieg, the town's former mayor who ran the Democratic presidential primary with distinction, losing finally to Joe Biden, South Bend also houses the University of Notre Dame, a great educational treasure of America's Irish Catholic community. I taught there for two years, 1999-2001.

The dry cleaner's comment was not offensive or prejudiced — it simply embodied conventional wisdom and reflected curiosity. The colour of my skin did not align with her pre-existing understanding of America's great racial binary. Historically, one could either be black or white, but the space in the middle was virtually non-existent in the US. It is this middle space — neither black, nor white — which acquires significance in light of Kamala Harris's vice presidential nomination, although it should also be clear that it cannot compete with the historical charge of black identity, which Harris also simultaneously represents.

In 1790, after independence, the US was roughly 80.7 per cent white and 19.3 per cent black. In 1960, the proportions were 88.6 per cent and 10.5 per cent respectively. After the Immigration Acts of 1917 and 1924, white Europeans were practically the only immigrants into the US (with some Latinos counted as white). Between 1880 and 1960, the Asian proportion of America remained below 0.3 per cent. That is why, once the indigenous Americans were reduced to statistical insignificance, US history for a long time did not have a third race. The Hispanics, now 18 per cent of the country, arrived mostly after the mid-1960s.

How many of the Asians were Indian? In "The Other One Percent", Sanjoy Chakravorty, Devsh Kapur and Nirvikar Singh note that in 1940, there were only 2,405 Indians in the US, and although by 1960, when Kamala Harris's mother came from Delhi to Berkeley, the numbers had climbed, there were still only 12,296 Indians in the US. It is after the 1965 immigration reform, which abrogated national quotas, that the non-white immigration rose rapidly. Indian Americans today number about 4 mil-

lion, a remarkable increase over 1960, but that is still only a little over 1 per cent of the US.

Because their numbers were small and their employment heavily skewed towards the educated and skilled professions, Indians have been invisible in America's mass politics. Engineers, scientists, doctors, business executives and professors, Indians have been present in the middle and upper echelons of America's biggest cities, but not in smaller towns like South Bend. The largest concentrations have been in the metropolitan regions of New York, Chicago, Washington, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Dallas-Houston and Philadelphia. Average Americans in small towns have little direct experience of Indians. Almost certainly, the rise of Kamala Harris will make Indians more visible in America's public life. But how that will happen is complicated, and needs to be understood in its complexity.

For America's mass politics, Harris is primarily black and only secondarily something else. At one level, this is quite a paradox. Harris rarely talks about her father, a black immigrant from Jamaica and a former professor of economics. She often speaks of the strong influence of her Indian mother, who raised her as a single mom after the marriage broke down. But it is noteworthy that in addition to giving her daughter a sense of India, the mother also emphasised Harris's black roots, making it clear that the US would primarily view Kamala as a black woman. Such mixed upbringing was easy in a multi-racial California, but much tougher in a predominantly white Montreal, where the mother accepted a job. Harris lived in Canada for five years, completing her high school education there.

In a move whose wisdom and significance are unmistakable, Kamala went for her BA to Howard University, a black college established after the abolition of slavery in the 1860s. What better way to explore her black identity than being in a historic black college, surrounded by black co-students in a hugely formative period of one's life! In part inherited from her father, Kamala's black identity was thus also socially constructed.

If one has both black and Indian ancestries, as Harris does, the former was always going to play a bigger role in American politics. The

black community is 12 times larger, it has a longer and poignant history, and after the Black Lives Matter movement, its political significance has gone up significantly.

Equally important, research shows that younger Americans are much more racially tolerant than their parents were. As Barack Obama put it, the multi-racial character of protests after the killing of George Floyd in late May was qualitatively different from the overwhelmingly black civil rights movement of the 1960s. Picking a Harris thus sends a message to the black community that its voice is being heard, but many non-black Americans can also readily vote for such a ticket. Her background as a lawyer and her prosecutorial acumen also attract many.

That, however, does not mean that the Indian ancestry of Harris is politically irrelevant. America's president is elected by an electoral college, not by the popular vote. The college can make some small communities electorally critical in the so-called swing states, which often decide the presidency. In 2016, compared to Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton polled 3 million votes more, but she did not win the college. In the three swing states that accounted for Trump's victory — Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin — Indian votes can be hugely important this November, as the Democratic party has already conceded. Clinton lost Pennsylvania by roughly 42,000 votes, Michigan by 11,000, and Wisconsin by 26,000. Pennsylvania has over 1,05,000 Indians, Michigan nearly 1,00,000, and Wisconsin over 25,000. Florida is also expected to be in play. Trump won it by about 1,19,000 votes and over 1,30,000 Indians live there. (The number of Indian voters could be lower.)

In short, the black part of Harris's identity is bound to be bigger, but the Indian part will not be suppressed. The logic of demography and identity, an inescapable part of democratic politics, shows why the Harris candidacy is generating excitement. It is aimed at a multiracial America. It is a 21st century American reality Trump is trying to suppress.

The writer is Sol Goldman Professor of International Studies and Professor of Political Science at Brown University

Delhi's outreach to Kathmandu, Dhaka is welcome. Engagement with neighbours needs to be constant and large-hearted

DELHI HAS BEGUN a long-overdue outreach to two important neighbours, Nepal and Bangladesh, with whom relations have been uneven in recent months. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Nepal counterpart Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli spoke with each other in a prelude to Monday's meeting between officials of both sides to discuss the territorial spat over the Lipulekh-Limpiyadhura-Kalapani trijunction. Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla's two-day visit to Dhaka came at a time when the Sheikh Hasina government is in talks with Beijing for a \$1 bn loan for a project on the river Teesta. India has tended to take for granted neighbours with whom it has had traditionally good relations, so much so that even seasoned foreign policy hands in the Ministry of External Affairs appear to have failed to anticipate that Nepal's concerns about India's new map last year would escalate, or that the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, would provoke problems with Bangladesh. Down the years, the politics of the states on the borders has played an oversized role in setting, and skewing, India's foreign policy towards neighbours. Of late, though, the ideology and politics of the ruling party at the Centre has been a dominant force.

The ruling party at the Centre has sometimes sought to cast foreign policy in the region as an extension of the domestic ideological project, as for instance, in the case of the CAA in Assam and West Bengal, neighbours of Bangladesh on either side. Or in the way Nepal is perceived, by virtue of its Hindu majority, almost as a feudatory state. Bangladesh, on the other hand, must be watched with suspicion for who it might be pushing in over the border. In the strategic community, too, there has been an impatience with the South Asian neighbours for not seeing it India's way. But the neighbours, which have their own vibrant democratic polities, have sized up India's economic vulnerabilities and security pre-occupations, and are confidently leveraging the regional big power imbalance to serve their own interests.

Repairing these ties requires the recognition that each nation is an equal, irrespective of size, and has its own agency. Inversely, as the biggest country in the region, India must show a large-heartedness and generosity that has been missing for too long, replaced by a blunt transactionalism, in which each country is only a prize in an India vs China match. The engagement has to be constant and continuous, not episodic or in reaction to a Chinese loan here or with an eye on an election in a particular state. India and Nepal have had the most progressive relations in South Asia, with open borders and a free intermingling of people, almost European in vision and scope. India helped in the creation of Bangladesh. Delhi continues to have strong political and diplomatic relations with these countries. It must mine its own strengths, the deep people to people connections, and the shared histories of the region, to reset ties, not just with Kathmandu and Dhaka but across the region.

JOB OF THE STATE

Instead of reserving employment for 'children' of state amid economic distress, state governments need to be more creative

WITH THE COVID-19 pandemic aggravating the economic crisis, an already existing insular tendency on employment matters has become more pronounced. On Tuesday, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan went a step ahead of his predecessor in announcing that all government jobs will be given to the "children of the state" — last year, the Kamal Nath government had directed industries in MP to provide 70 per cent reservation to people from the state. The MP chief minister seems to have also gone by the playbook made familiar recently by his counterparts in Haryana and Telangana. In July, the Haryana government approved a proposal for an ordinance reserving 75 per cent jobs in the private sector for local people. And, on August 5, the Telangana cabinet approved a policy to reserve 60 per cent of skilled jobs and 80 per cent of unskilled jobs in "new industries in the state".

Conversations on reserving jobs for local people predate the pandemic, or the current economic crisis — the Shiv Sena's "Marathi manoos" rhetoric is infamous. In the 1990s, the Gujarat government directed industries to employ 80 per cent local people. The state, however, stopped short of enacting a legislation on the issue, anticipating legal problems. A 2008 Maharashtra government policy — still in operation — requires industries that seek subsidies to employ 80 per cent local people. Some other states have used criteria such as language tests to accord preference to local people. But the dearth of jobs in several sectors in the past two years seems to have made the nativist sentiment much more strident and conspicuous.

Exigencies created by the economic downturn and the pandemic are, no doubt, compelling. But state-level protectionism is problematic. "Local", for one, is a contentious category that could add to the country's many fault lines. A long history of jurisprudence dating back to the 1950s makes the salient distinction between domicile and place of birth, between the place of education and work. A significant body of work has also underlined the role of labour fluidity in introducing skills, spurring innovation and enriching the cultural fabric of different regions. Moreover, reserving jobs for local people militates against the citizen's fundamental right to move and work freely within India and the idea of the country as one market. State governments need to talk amongst themselves and with each other to address current insecurities, to keep job flows going — populist solutions to economic woes could end up doing more harm than good.

103 NOT OUT

The determination with which senior citizens are fighting Covid-19 is an inspiration to younger generations

KERALA, FOLLOWING the precepts of the ancients, the novel coronavirus gives due respect to age. Amidst a surge in infections, the state has reported astonishing survival stories of people who are vulnerable due to their age. There was jubilation when a couple aged 93 and 88 recovered and returned to their homes from the Kottayam Medical College. Then Asma Beevi of Kollam, aged 105, told the Grim Reaper where he got off. She is the oldest COVID survivor in the state, but not far behind is Purakkatt Veetil Pareed, aged 103, who has just been discharged from the Government Medical College Hospital in Kochi, emerging in a snappy black sweatshirt of the sort favoured by people one-fifth his age.

There were so many scare scenarios current in the early days of the pandemic, when the spread of the contagion was still poorly understood. Among those anxieties was the very real apprehension about its effect on the elderly, most of whom are compromised by age-related disorders. But the coronavirus is unpredictable, does not seem to respect logic. It has brought low young people while sparing many among the elderly, who were believed to be at maximum risk.

The demographic dividend is attributed to the young, and values energy over experience. The survival of the elderly, including centenarians, reminds us that these attributes are not absolute. Indeed, the ageing need far more grit than the young when they face a foe whose powers remain largely unknown. And every survival in the oldest cohort is an exhortation, reminding us that we must not underestimate our resilience — the human factor which makes all the difference.

THE ROOTED MODERNIST

Forty years later, the art of Ramkinkar Baij remains important and resonant



VANDANA KALRA

THE RATHER GRAINY video of the documentary *Ramkinkar Baij: A Personality Study* has the pioneering modernist dressed in his trademark Chinese straw hat and white bush shirt, being followed by filmmaker Ritwik Ghatak and his crew. He seems oblivious to their presence through most of the filming, sketching profusely even when in conversation with Ghatak. The artist tells him how he uses his larger oil paintings to prevent the damaged roof of his home from leaking when it rains.

Shot in Santiniketan in July 1975, the documentary remained incomplete as Ghatak passed away six months later. Nonetheless, it offers a glimpse into the persona of the enigmatic and eccentric genius who is now considered to be one of India's earliest modernist sculptors. His means were still meagre when the Padma Bhushan awardee died 40 years ago, on August 2, 1980, and it is perhaps only in the last two decades that his achievements and contribution to Indian art and modernism are being recognised.

At a time when art in India was largely centred on the British aesthetic and realism, Baij sought a language that merged social commitment and traditionalism with cubism and abstraction. Though he explored western approaches, his art was rooted in India — in the red soil of Birbhum and the tribal inhabitants of the region, the Santhals, whose simplicity and resilience he celebrated in two of his most iconic sculptures — *Santhal Family* (1938) and *Mill Call* (1956). The former is considered to be the first public modernist sculpture

in India, and the latter is reportedly the last work made by Baij using the technique of throwing concrete inside the armature.

Born into a family of barbers in Bankura, Baij had grown up admiring the terracotta sculptures of the Bishnupur temples and the idol makers in the region. An active participant in the Non-Cooperation movement of 1921, upon seeing Baij's portraits of national leaders, Ramananda Chattopadhyay, editor of the Kolkata-based magazine, *Modern Review*, had suggested that he learn art at Rabindranath Tagore's Visva Bharati. It was here that Baij truly discovered himself. While Tagore and Nandalal Bose were his teachers, his peers included Ramendranath Chakravorty and Binode Behari Mukherjee. After seeing his first environmental sculpture in cement-concrete, *Sujata*, in 1935, Tagore reportedly said that he be allowed to sculpt as he wanted across the campus.

The non-conformist indeed believed in the existence of limitless possibilities. He experimented with medium and subjects alike, from evocative and spontaneous watercolours, to producing arguably India's first abstract outdoor sculpture, *Lamp Stand*. For oil paintings, he would replace expensive canvases with bedsheets and gunny cloths and thinned local packet colours with linseed oil. If there were no iron rods to create a frame for sculptures, he would turn to the humble bamboo sticks.

The artist shared a deep relationship with the communities around him, who were his protagonists as well as audience. His students

recall how when their teacher "Kinkar da" presented plays of William Shakespeare in the Kala Bhavan campus, the local Santhal villagers would be seated before in rapt attention.

Accustomed to autonomy while pursuing his creative ambitions, rather, unfortunately, his unconventional sensibilities were not appreciated and accepted by all. Indifferent to fame and worldly comforts and inept in money matters, he far exceeded the estimated time and budget while working on the seminal Yaksha-Yakshi statues guarding the doors of the RBI building in Delhi. The humongous pieces of Shivalik sandstone used to make them were famously transported in special wagons from Kangra valley's Baijnath to Delhi.

As recently as 2017, his Gandhi statue in Assam was in midst of a controversy when a politician stated that it should be replaced as it presented a "distorted image" of Gandhi. The immediate backlash was similar to one in 1979, when a minister in the West Bengal government suggested that Baij's Tagore bust at Balatonfured in Hungary should be replaced since it didn't "look like" the Nobel Laureate. Responding to him, a rather nonchalant Baij reportedly stated: "Let them smash it, who cares? I didn't ask them to install it."

It was Tagore's words that he had accepted as his command. "When you observe something, grab it like a tiger by the nape of the neck. And then, never look back. Those were his last words to me," the artist shared with Ghatak.

vandana.kalra@expressindia.com

AUGUST 20, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

UP TENSE

CURFEW WAS STAMPED on five police circles in the city of Allahabad and the army carried out a flag march following trouble in Khuldabad. Another setback was received in Aligarh where the police had to open firing resulting in the death of one person. The police resorted to firing when snipers fired at a police party resulting in injury to a constable. The Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh, Ram Bahadur Saxena, said that, but for those two incidents the situation in the state was fast returning to normal. The curfew was relaxed in few police thanas in the town of Bareilly where one person was killed in a stabbing incident

yesterday. A total of 1,100 arrests have been made.

A CONSPIRACY?

THE INCIDENT AT Allahabad, which could have proved another Moradabad but for the timely action taken by the local authorities, seems to support Home Minister Giani Zail's apprehensions of an organised conspiracy behind these events. Almost on the same pattern, a pig was used to create trouble but with a small difference that the animal was slaughtered this time. According to the reports reaching the Union Home Ministry, when the people were coming out of the mosque after offering their prayers,

they found the dead animal hanging at the gates of the place of worship. But when the people had got in, they did not encounter the dead pig. The reports reaching the Home Ministry say that the situation is tense but under control at Moradabad, Bareilly, Allahabad and a number of other places in the state.

ISRAELI ATTACK

ISRAELI TROOPS AND aircraft attacked Palestinian bases in southeastern Lebanon late last night and early this morning, to smash four artillery bases. The attackers killed 40 Palestinians. Israeli casualties were two dead and 11 wounded.

11 THE IDEAS PAGE

Her right to property

Supreme Court order on coparcenary rights is enormously welcome. But overhaul of social attitudes and simplification of litigation processes will be necessary

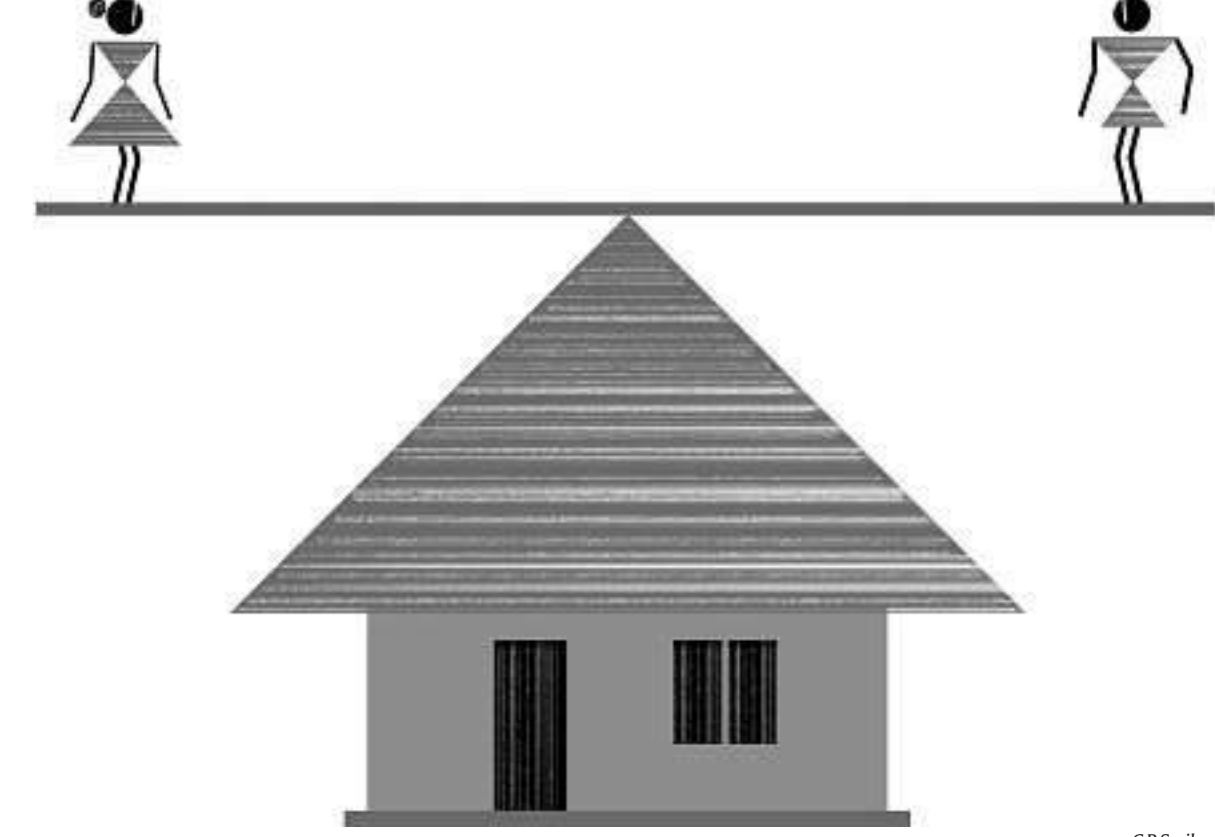


HENA SINGH AND SWATI PARASHAR

DESCRIBING THE IDEA of natural rights as “anarchical fallacies” and “rhetorical nonsense”, English Utilitarian philosopher, Jeremy Bentham, strongly argued in favour of positive/legal rights, both for their comprehensibility and tangibility. Rights for Bentham were fruits of the law and of the law alone. It is difficult to challenge the scope of natural rights in a modern liberal democratic setup without invoking blowback from the votaries of political accountability, individual liberties and those who seek to curb state power. However, it is imperative that in order to gain efficacy, natural rights are dependent on progressive legislative interventions and executive capabilities, and, most significantly, on periodic judicial reviews and decrees. The expansive judicial interpretations of the Right to Life under Article 21 of the Constitution clearly set this out in the Indian context. Further, contestation between morality, legalities, customary practices, social values and norms are characteristic features of all societies; and it may not be that easy to settle these differences without a corresponding change in societal attitudes and social norms. In this context, the Supreme Court’s recent judgment granting coparcenary rights to women requires a nuanced understanding.

The judgment delivered by a three-judge bench of the Supreme Court is praiseworthy simply for reiterating the idea that women are born as equals, and that it is the patriarchal mindset and embedded customary practices and traditions that accord them an inferior status. In real terms, the judgment is progressive on two counts. First, for highlighting the patriarchal practices of the Mitakshara School of Hindu law — the guiding force of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 — and second, for settling the confusion created by two of its own antagonistic judgments in *Prakash vs Phulawati* (2016) and *Danamma @ Suman Surpur vs Amar* (2018) cases. In the first case, it had ruled that the amendments to the Hindu Succession Act (2005) applied only to women whose parents were alive on September 9, 2005, the date of the notification of the act. In the second case, it inferred that coparcenary rights were birthrights. The Supreme Court has now set forth the idea that coparcenary rights are birthrights free from limitations imposed by the dates of any legal notifications. As a natural corollary, property inheritance rights apply to all women retrospectively from 1956, the year of the codification of the Mitakshara laws as the Hindu Succession Act.

What makes this judgment epochal is the progressive change in the attitude of the courts, which now appear to be upholding principles of substantive justice for women both in theory and practice. Indeed, the higher judiciary in India has generally been broad-minded in dismantling patriarchal practices and institutions. In that sense, the



C.R. Sasikumar

judicial sojourn that in a way commenced from the judgment delivered in the case of *C B Muthamma* (1979) or *Nergesh Meerza* (1981) continues to be persistent in breaking stereotypes, be it *Sabarimala* (2018), or granting permanent commission to women officers in the Indian Army.

While the delivery of the judgement is one thing, its proper implementation quite another. Admittedly, this judgment accepts the natural equality of women, but several issues still need to be addressed.

The issue of *stree dhan*, as explained under section 14 (1) of the Hindu Succession Act 1956, is upturned in the light of this judgment. For example, the said section provides that women can acquire property as a full owner, and it can be carried over or retained post marriage as *stree dhan*. There are cases where the movable property may have been given to a daughter by her father as an intentionally undeclared and informal settlement between his descendants. At the same time, it is quite true that *stree dhan* over time gave way to the unethical and illegal practices of dowry, but the issue of *stree dhan* needs to be explained further in the light of this judgment. If women are seen as double beneficiaries of these laws (through lineage and marriage), can we anticipate that the ruling might impact dowry transactions that continue despite stringent anti-dowry laws?

Moreover, the right to possession may not be easy for women who are married and do not reside in their ancestral homes. Property transactions may be more convenient for urban settings. However, it may not be that easy in the rural context, where most of the property is in the form of agricultural land. Most women who may want to claim their share may end up spending the rest of their lives in litigation to get their names on the relevant documents. With patriarchy entrenched, it is doubtful if male heirs will share property-related documents, information or initiate legal processes in the interest of the

The right to possession may not be easy for women who are married and do not reside in their ancestral homes. Property transactions may be more convenient for urban settings. However, it may not be that easy in the rural context, where most of the property is in the form of agricultural land. Most women who may want to claim their share may end up spending the rest of their lives in litigation to get their names on the relevant documents. With patriarchy entrenched, it is doubtful if male heirs will share property-related documents, information or initiate legal processes in the interest of the women family members.

women family members.

Many educated, professional, middle-class women who have otherwise rejected patriarchal controls and demands, and fought against practices such as dowry, have been denied property rights by their own families. Most have chosen not to pursue the legal pathway, which is tedious, lengthy, and expensive. Most importantly, those who seek property rights undergo harrowing emotional abuses from their own families for asking what is rightfully theirs.

On occasion, the law and courts may turn out to be progressive. However, on no occasion can we expect the society to readily accede to progressive reforms. The challenge for economically dependent women in far-flung rural areas who are denied literacy, dignity and, sometimes, even a name and identity, in securing their rights is immense. In parts of Bihar we come from, there are areas where women are still addressed by their village names or more commonly as someone’s wife. Family histories have conveniently wiped out any references to women, and what their lives were like, what became of them, and how they managed to survive in the absence of support from husbands and children.

So even as we welcome the court decision, we remain sceptical about its implementation and its actual benefits to women. Patriarchal attitudes are changing: Women are asserting their rights, both in conjugal and property matters. However, there are significant cultural, religious, educational barriers and caste and class inequalities that require a massive overhauling of social attitudes to overcome. Besides, litigation processes need to be simplified and made accessible, inexpensive and time-bound, for women to claim their coparcenary rights if denied.

Singh teaches Political Science at Miranda House, University of Delhi; Parashar is Associate Professor at the School of Global Studies, Gothenburg University, Sweden

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

In a situation where desperate people will flock to volunteer for the trial given the hefty compensation, trial administrators must ensure participants express genuine consent and are aware of the benefits and risks of vaccination. —DAWN

Lessons from Wangdung

From the pro-active forward positioning of Indian forces against China in 1986, political and military benefits accrued



ASHOK K MEHTA

IN AN ARTICLE 25 years ago, after the resolution on August 20 of the Wangdung intrusion along Sumdorong Chu, I had asked: ‘Why are we quitting our territory?’

The question can be asked again. A study of Wangdung near the infamous Thagla Ridge — 20 km south of McMahon Line and beyond the limit of Indian patrolling — is instructive after the PLA incursions in eastern Ladakh. If only civilian and military officers had examined the earlier intrusion — the rapid reaction of local military commanders, swift concentration of forces, offensive spirit in dominating Wangdung and a firm negotiating strategy — we could have avoided the present *fait accompli*.

On June 16, 1986, the PLA pre-emptively occupied Wangdung, a seasonal post that used to be held by the Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau. 12 Assam and 9 Guards occupied the Lungrola and Hathungla Ridges by early July and by October, with forward elements of 12 Assam establishing posts along four spurs surrounding Wangdung — two forward checkpoints 150 yards from those of the PLA were created. 12 Assam was replaced by 3/5 Gorkhas. Had local commanders not been proactive, the PLA would have sneaked up to Lungrola-Hathungla Ridges, as it did recently in Galwan, Pangong Tso and Depsang. By September 1, Exercise Falcon was launched to deploy and air-maintain two mountain divisions in a more strategic version of India’s 1960 forward policy, like the three divisions posted now. Tawang which had no troops in 1962, was held with five infantry brigades at the peak of the face-off. India was able to exercise, for the first time, control up to its perception of the McMahon Line. Exercise Falcon was followed in 1987 with Exercise Chequerboard when the entire northern front was war-gamed in each of the three northern, central and eastern army commands facing China.

China asked for a mutual withdrawal in late 1986 but the Indian Army rejected it as it needed time to execute a forward policy. In 1993, India proposed a withdrawal to ridgelines separating Sumdorong Chu — the PLA to Zangla Ridge and Indian troops to Lungrola Ridge — but the Chinese feared this would legitimise McMahon Line. The Indian Army’s aggressive deployment was against the advice of the China Study Group and Ministry of External Affairs as PLA encroachment was beyond the Indian limit of patrolling, akin to the present locations of patrolling points.

From the pro-active forward positioning of Indian forces, a slew of political and military benefits accrued: Completion of forward deployment up to McMahon Line; moral ascendancy over the PLA; PM Rajiv Gandhi’s visit to Beijing in 1988 and formation of a Joint Working Group; PM Li Peng’s visit to India in 1991; the Peace and Tranquillity agreement in 1993 and Army Chief Bipin Joshi’s visit to China in 1995. China recognised India as a strong and rising power, which invested up to 4 per cent of its GDP in defence.

Talks on disengagement resulted in a

breakthrough nine years later on August 19-20, 1995, during the eighth JWC at New Delhi. India’s negotiating strategy was firm: The vacation of Wangdung was to be without prejudice to each other’s claim lines; those who advanced first, withdraw first — a PLA principle which was applied at Doklam; forces to withdraw to their original positions; mutual and equal security and mutual understanding and mutual accommodation, both derived from the 1993 border protocol.

Writing in the *Pioneer* on September 3, 1995, former foreign secretary, A P Venkateswaran, called the mutual withdrawal a historic step. On August 29, former foreign secretary, J N Dixit, also called it a positive turn in *The Indian Express*. But Deputy Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, BJP’s Jaswant Singh, asked the government: Why are we withdrawing from our own territory? Similar questions are being asked by Rahul Gandhi today.

Clearly, the terrain and internal lines of communication favoured India at Wangdung while multiple intrusions extending over 250-km in Ladakh recently caught military commanders off guard. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and intelligence and operational failures, India was stunned by PLA intrusions and reacted tardily and timidly. At Depsang (2013), Chumar (2014) and Doklam (2017), India was able to work out a complete withdrawal of the PLA. At Doklam too, though India enjoyed an overwhelming terrain and logistics advantage, it failed to stop PLA from building fortifications after disengagement. The PLA returned a few months later to continue building a strategic road in the disputed territory but India did nothing. After disengaging minimally, the PLA has dug down on the Indian side of the LAC in Ladakh.

India’s negotiating strategy did not factor in the lessons from Wangdung and Doklam. Military commanders, not high-level political engagement, set the parameters for withdrawal. A complex China-dictated template has permitted the PLA’s cosmetic disengagement and unilaterally shifting the LAC westwards, annexing Indian territory while Indian soldiers are quarantined in buffer zones. The Chinese are even refusing to discuss their deepest intrusion at Depsang and the restoration of the April 19 status quo ante is off the table. India failed to front-load the principle of disengagement/withdrawal without prejudice to each other’s claim lines while insisting on de-induction to original positions. Northern Army Commander Lt General Y K Joshi’s statement on July 25 — we shall continue all efforts to restore status quo ante along LAC — confirmed Defence Minister Rajnath Singh’s pessimism on the outcome of talks.

The Wangdung counter-intrusion offensive action was a positive turning point in India-China relations — a case of aggressive border management by 4 Corps. Now, the 14 Corps is stumped by the PLA’s refusal to fully implement disengagement, potentially transforming the LAC in Ladakh into a LOC at immense cost for India. On August 15, PM Narendra Modi was being economical with the truth while describing the situation along the LAC after ordering the taking down of the details about the same from the MoD website. The salvo of “befitting replies” will not impress the Chinese as our ambassador in Beijing pleads with Chinese officials for the restoration of the April 19 status quo ante.

The writer, a retired Major General, was part of the Sumdorong Chu monitoring team as a member of Defence Planning Staff



KAPIL SIBAL

NEP, in fact

Policies matter. But those who implement policies matter more

AN EDUCATED person is one who contributes to the well-being of others and is not driven by self-interest. Any education policy, therefore, must nurture human values that make an individual a contributor to the welfare of society. In this context, let us analyse the mindset behind the new National Education Policy (NEP) recently announced by the government.

First, the school syllabus for the current academic year has been reduced by 30 per cent because of COVID-19. The chapters deleted from the curriculum for Class 9 to 12 include federalism, citizenship, nationalism, secularism and democratic rights. These chapters perhaps were the most important part of the syllabus, which instead of being deleted needed to be emphasised. The NEP talks about innovative thinking for children to learn what they wish. The reality is that this policy is set by mindsets who are opposed to the autonomy of the mind. We have seen recently how voices of dissent are sought to be silenced by this government by unleashing terror on our young students. This mindset is reflected in the way the BJP, in collaboration with the government and with the help of ABVP, has sought to interfere in the university system and victimised those opposed to the dictates of a majoritarian culture. For any education policy to be successful, freedom of the mind for students to express themselves and discover their genius is paramount. The government must not

interfere and impose its party’s ideology that seeks to control rather than celebrate autonomy. Incidents in JNU, Jamia Milia, University of Hyderabad or for that matter, how the heads of higher educational institutions are appointed, are all manifestations of an authoritarian dispensation.

The second important attribute of any education policy is that it must not, in the initial years, be exam-centric. In modern education systems across borders, the teacher is a collaborator in the child’s journey of discovery. The syllabus is not important. Textbooks limit the contours of knowledge. Policies must break down the limits of knowledge and allow children to expand the boundaries of their mind. Textbooks should represent the beginning of the discovery of the self and the universe. The NEP has no roadmap for such discovery.

Third, we need quality teachers who understand their role in building character and careers. Teachers in this country, in terms of both numbers and quality, are not fully equipped to discharge their responsibilities. The reason is there are not enough teacher-training institutions. The roadmap for education has to be firmly entrenched in those institutions, for the teachers alone can deliver on the objectives of an enlightened education policy. In India, teachers are lowly paid and teaching is not a profession of priority. Education being in the Concurrent List makes it difficult to implement policies set out at the

national level unless state governments give priority to this profession. In the absence of quality teacher-training institutions and making education a national priority, none of the roles envisaged in NEP can be realised.

Fourth, in the context of the pandemic, digital connectivity has become an educational imperative. The government should have realised this and put in place the necessary infrastructure at least for institutional connectivity. In fact, the very definition of education must include digital literacy if our children are to be provided with access to sources of knowledge.

It may be instructive to note that in the early years of UPA-II, the government was considering the Akash tablet for our students. What was envisaged was a national digital framework pursuant to the laying of optical fibre cables to provide connectivity to 2.5 lakh gram panchayats under the National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN). The government realised the need for our children to be provided with the necessary connectivity to be able to access knowledge. While we started to implement this roadmap, there was strong opposition to it both from my party and the then Opposition. It was unfortunate that when people cannot look beyond their nose, they wish to oppose for the sake of opposition without realising the benefits of such an initiative. Today, NOFN has been renamed BharatNet and the progress of connectivity is woefully slow. Of the 2.5 lakh

gram panchayats envisaged to be connected under NOFN, only 1.41 lakh have been connected so far.

While there is talk of educational training and skill development starting at the school level, there is very little homework done to standardise the same. It will take a long time before this is put into practice. We could have easily provided alternative solutions by setting up vocational and training centres in collaboration with industry.

In the area of higher education, again the vision is far removed from what we have witnessed since 2014. The NEP may talk about emphasis on research and setting up a research fund but considering what we have seen so far, the funding will only go to institutions which toe the government’s line.

The NEP envisages that public investment in education would be raised to 6 per cent of the GDP. However, under this government, expenditure on education as a percentage of the Union budget has declined from 4.14 per cent in 2014-15 to 3.2 per cent in 2020-21. Expenditure on education by the Centre and states as a proportion of GDP is 3.1 per cent in 2019-20 which remained stagnant at 2.8 per cent since 2014-15.

Policies matter. But those who implement policies matter more. With the present mindset, the NEP may be providing hope but only on paper.

The writer is a former Union HRD minister

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

BLINKERED ATTITUDE

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘New policy, old mindset’ (IE, August 19). Like the other much-touted policies and schemes of the NDA, the National Education Policy 2020 has inherent shortcomings. One problem is that the policy is not clear on how to have qualified teachers to ensure quality education, given the governments’ neoliberal economic policies. This is because it will be difficult to ensure the implementation of the model service conditions mentioned in the policy in private educational institutes. In fact, the NDA’s blinkered attitude could be the bane of quality education.

Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur

NAGA ACCORD WOES

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Peace is precious’ (IE, August 19). Nagaland Governor R N Ravi’s unwarranted encroachment of authority has complicated the long-standing Indo-Naga problem. The Centre needs to take the people’s concerns on board, reiterate its commitment to finalising the Naga accord and re-engage with the NSCN (IM) without giving in to arbitrary demands.

Shib Sankar Paul, Nadia

IDEAS ONLINE

ONLY IN THE EXPRESS

● WHY WE NEED SERO-SURVEYS: VINEETA BAL AND SATYAJIT RATH

● CALLING CONTEMPT BY ITS NAME: HITESH JAIN

www.indianexpress.com

AGE BAR

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Make it same’ (IE, August 19). Increasing the minimum age of marriage for women is an appreciable step. In many rural areas, girls are married off as soon as they turn 18. At this age, a girl is still an adolescent. Girls experience a lot of physical, hormonal and emotional changes during this age. Education is also important to let girls understand what they exactly want in life.

Ayushi Singh, Agra

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Centre set to withdraw 10,000 paramilitary troops

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE CENTRE has ordered withdrawal of 10,000 paramilitary personnel from Jammu and Kashmir, the single-biggest reduction of troops from the Union territory since their presence was stepped up around August 5 last year.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has asked the CRPF, BSF, CISF and SSB to cumulatively withdraw

100 companies. Sources said 40 of these belong to the CRPF. Meanwhile, CISF, BSF and SSB will each see 20 companies withdrawn.

The development comes even as militant activity continues in the Valley, with forces regularly coming under attack.

Sources said the latest order will not weaken the security set-up there as enough forces in the Valley. This, however, is the biggest reduction in one go, they added. In the run up to the revoca-

tion of Jammu and Kashmir's special status last year, and in the days ahead, the Centre had dispatched more than 700 companies (70,000 personnel) of paramilitary forces to Kashmir. These were in addition to the over 60,000 paramilitary personnel stationed in the Valley all year round.

"So, in real terms, the reduction will not make much of an impact on the ground," a Jammu and Kashmir Police officer said. Over the last few months, the Centre has been regularly withdrawing forces from the Valley. These reductions have been in the range of five to 10 companies.

Sources said the reductions are being carried out to meet needs in other parts of the country. "Bihar

elections are coming. Forces will be needed there," a security establishment officer said.

A Home Ministry official said: "Too much force had been deployed in anticipation of law and order situation in the wake of the revocation of special status. This created an accommodation problem and has led to a spike in Covid-19 infections among forces which have been requesting for reduction in deployment."

Another official said forces in such large numbers were not required anymore as the past year had not thrown up any serious law and order challenge. "Forces had been rushed in anticipation of large-scale stone-pelting. Covid has ensured that nobody is on the streets," the official said.

SALUTE THE SOLDIER



LT NAVDEEP SINGH, AC (POSTHUMOUS)
(08 JUN 1985 - 20 AUG 2011)

Lt Navdeep Singh, Ashok Chakra laid down his life while fighting against an infiltrating terrorist column during "OPERATION BAGTOR" in J&K. In the truest tradition of the Indian Army, Lt Navdeep Singh led from the front and displayed exemplary courage and conspicuous bravery. He will always be remembered and missed by all of us in the Ordnance Corps for his supreme sacrifice and gallant act.

DG OS & Sr Col Comdt and all rks of the AOC



CT/Dvr Nilambar Baruah

Sashastra Seema Bal fondly remembers and cherishes the valiant contribution of brave hearts CT/Dvr Nilambar Baruah and CT/Dvr Nabjit Talukdar of 15th Bn. SSB who laid down their life in a militant attack while fighting for the nation on this day in the year 1999 at Lal Chowk, Srinagar. Their courage and valor would continue to inspire generations of personnel in SSB.

We remain indebted to the supreme sacrifice of these brave soldiers. SASHASTRA SEEMA BAL

NORTHERN RAILWAY Tender Notice

No. CIID/SLR/Tender/2020 (Part IV) Date: 19.08.2020
The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Freight, Northern Railway, New Delhi invites E-tender for the contract of leasing of SLR/SLRD space in the following trains originating from various stations over Delhi Division.

S. No.	Train	Station From	Station To	Comptt. (SLR/SLRD)	CC (Tonnes)	Days of operation	R.P. (Rs.)	EMD (in Rs.)	Tender Cost Including GST @ 18% (in Rs.)	Tender No.
1	02310	NDLS (New Delhi)	RJPB (Rajendra Nagar)	FI	3.9	Daily	20511	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02310-Aug20
2	02230	NDLS (New Delhi)	LJN (Lucknow Jn.)	FI	3.9	Daily	8845	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02230-Aug20
3	02392	NDLS (New Delhi)	RGD (Rajgir)	FI	04	Daily	18130	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02392-Aug20
4	02392	NDLS (New Delhi)	RGD (Rajgir)	FI	04	Daily	18130	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02392-Aug20
5	02304	NDLS (New Delhi)	HWH (Howrah Jn)	FI	3.9	Sunday, Wednesday Thursday & Saturday	23184	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02304-Aug20
6	02382	NDLS (New Delhi)	HWH (Howrah Jn)	FI	3.9	Monday, Tuesday & Friday	22385	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02382-Aug20
7	02618	NZM (Hazrat Nizamuddin)	ERS (Emakulam Jn.)	FI	04	Daily	37665	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02618-Aug20
8	02618	NZM (Hazrat Nizamuddin)	ERS (Emakulam Jn.)	FI	04	Daily	37665	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02618-Aug20
9	02182	NZM (Hazrat Nizamuddin)	JBP (Jabalpur)	RI	04	Daily	15352	100000	1180	SLR-RI-02182-Aug20
10	02963	NZM (Hazrat Nizamuddin)	UDZ (Udaipur)	FI	04	Daily	12716	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02963-Aug20
11	02963	NZM (Hazrat Nizamuddin)	UDZ (Udaipur)	RI	04	Daily	12716	100000	1180	SLR-RI-02963-Aug20
12	02284	NZM (Hazrat Nizamuddin)	ERS (Emakulam Jn.)	FI	3.9	Saturday	44491	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02284-Aug20
13	02156	NZM (Hazrat Nizamuddin)	HBJ (Habibganj)	FI	04	Daily	11954	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02156-Aug20
14	02156	NZM (Hazrat Nizamuddin)	HBJ (Habibganj)	RI	04	Daily	11954	100000	1180	SLR-RI-02156-Aug20
15	02418	NDLS (New Delhi)	PRYJ (Prayagraj)	FI	3.9	Daily	10947	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02418-Aug20
16	05956	DLI (Delhi)	DBRG (Dibrugarh)	FI	3.9	Daily	32976	100000	1180	SLR-FI-05956-Aug20
17	04739	DEE (Delhi S Rohilla)	BKN (Bikaner Jn.)	FI	04	Sunday, Wednesday & Friday	11790	100000	1180	SLR-FI-04739-Aug20
18	04739	DEE (Delhi S Rohilla)	BKN (Bikaner Jn.)	RI	04	Sunday, Wednesday & Friday	11790	100000	1180	SLR-RI-04739-Aug20
19	02463	DEE (Delhi S Rohilla)	JU (Jodhpur Jn.)	FI	04	Sunday, Wednesday & Friday	10711	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02463-Aug20
20	02463	DEE (Delhi S Rohilla)	JU (Jodhpur Jn.)	FI	04	Sunday, Wednesday & Friday	10711	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02463-Aug20
21	02463	DEE (Delhi S Rohilla)	JU (Jodhpur Jn.)	RI	04	Sunday, Wednesday & Friday	10711	100000	1180	SLR-RI-02463-Aug20
22	02286	NZM (Hazrat Nizamuddin)	SC (Secundrabad Jn.)	FI	3.9	Monday & Friday	30780	100000	1180	SLR-FI-02286-Aug20

Interested bidders may please visit official website for E-tendering i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for further details and submitting tender.

Important Note:

- Bidders who wish to participate in the e-tendering will have to procure class-3 valid Digital Security Certificate (DSC) as per Information Technology Act, 2000. Bidders can procure this certificate from any of the certifying authority of Controller of Certifying Authorities (CCA) Government of India. Details of certifying authorities can be obtained from www.cca.gov.in.
- The bidder has to register, if not registered earlier with www.ireps.gov.in using DSC to participate in tender process. Detailed procedure for registration, system requirements and bidding are also available on www.ireps.gov.in.
- Railway Administration reserves the full and absolute rights to short terminate these tenders/contracts at any point of time (or for taking any decision regarding the discontinuation/continuation of these tenders/contracts with modified /additional terms and conditions) depending upon the continuation/discontinuation of these special trains or commencement of corresponding regular train services.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

BSY rivals in BJP trying to use Bengaluru violence to topple him, says Siddaramaiah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, AUGUST 19

FORMER CHIEF minister and leader of the Congress in Karnataka legislature Siddaramaiah has alleged that rivals of Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa in the BJP are using the recent violence in east Bengaluru to undermine the chief minister.

"BJP is clearly divided into 2 factions. One that is closer to RSS is trying to take the advantage of Kaval Byrasandra incident to topple BSY's position," Siddaramaiah tweeted.

A protest against a "derogatory" social media post allegedly put out by the nephew of Akhanda Srinivas Murthy, Congress MLA from Pulkeshinagar, turned violent on August 11. The mob, allegedly comprising several supporters of the Social Democratic Party of India, attacked the DJ Halli police station and a house belong-



Siddaramaiah

ing to the MLA. Three youths were killed in police firing during the violence and a fourth died three days later from a non-bullet injury.

The BJP and Congress have blamed each other for the violence. State Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai has said internal differences among Congress leaders and SDPI are behind the violence.

State BJP president Naleen Kumar Kateel has accused the Congress of indulging in vote bank politics. "When the home of a Dalit Congress MLA has been attacked by a group of goondas from

the minority community, Congress leaders, instead of standing up for their own MLA, are speaking in favour of the minority community to protect their vote bank. This shows how much regard they have for social justice," he said.

SDPI activists have claimed that the violence erupted after the DJ Halli police delayed filing a complaint against the MLA's nephew P Naveen Kumar after he allegedly put out the "derogatory" post.

The Congress has accused the BJP of failing on the law and order front. "The investigation should start from the failure of the intelligence department. If this incident, according to BJP is pre-planned then why did this not come to the notice of the intelligence department? What was the reason for the delay in filing case against Naveen?" Siddaramaiah tweeted.

"If SDPI is involved, let them be punished. BJP leaders are using SDPI as a pawn for political rea-

sons to divide Muslim votes... Instead of identifying the actual culprits, BJP leaders are more interested in targeting the Congress party. They see politics in all crises," he added.

Meanwhile, police Wednesday questioned the Congress MLA for over four hours with regard to circumstances surrounding the social media post allegedly put out by his nephew — the MLA claims his nephew is estranged from him. Sources said police questioned the MLA about the whereabouts of one of his associates who has gone missing since the violence. The MLA said the associate may have gone into hiding out of fear, said sources.

Police have also questioned two Congress city councillors from Pulkeshinagar constituency — Sampath Raj, a former Mayor, and AR Zakir over mobilisation of crowds involved in simultaneous violence in different parts of the constituency on August 11.

Medical aspirant dies by suicide in Coimbatore

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, AUGUST 19

A 19-YEAR-OLD woman in Tamil Nadu's Coimbatore city died by suicide Tuesday, the police said, adding that she wanted to pursue a medical course and her entrance examination was coming up shortly.

An officer at R S Puram police station near Coimbatore said R Subhshri locked herself in her room before noon and did not come out for hours. Her parents broke open the door and found her hanging. "Her parents said she was preparing for NEET for the past two years and was also attending classes at a private coaching centre. She was depressed and had severe anxiety about the upcoming exam," the officer said. He added this was her second attempt at the medical entrance.

Her death came a day after the Supreme Court dismissed pleas seeking postponement of JEE Main 2020 and NEET undergraduate examinations — which are scheduled to be conducted in September amid the pandemic. A case has been registered. Police have sent her body for a post-mortem examination.

Govt. of Bihar

BIHAR STATE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LTD, PATNA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP INVITING NOTICE NO. - 07 (Cons.) / 2020-21

Request for proposal are invited for hiring for Desktop Computer with licensed MS Office & Auto Cad Software, Plotter & Operator under two bid system i.e. technical bid and financial bid. Details descriptions of the item and instructions for submitting the offer can be procured from office of Chief General Manager during working hours or can be downloaded from website www.bsbcccl.bih.nic.in.

Bidders may submit their sealed offers to office of Chief General Manager, BSBCCCL Shastrinagar, Patna, 800023 up to 16:00 hrs on 21-09-2020 and the technical bid will be opened before the representatives of the bidders at 16:30 hrs on the same date.

A pre-bid meeting has been organized to clarify terms and conditions, if any, in the office of the undersigned at 16:00 hrs on date 05-09-2020.

The Under signed reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals without incurring any obligation to inform the affected bidders of the grounds.

Chief General Manager
Bihar State Building Construction Corporation Ltd. Patna

PR. No. 005017 (Ni.Ni) 2020-21

नोबल कोरोना क संबंध में बिल्कुल जानकारी एवं सहयोग हेतु Toll Free No.: **104** पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।
साथ सामग्री - संबंधी किसी तरह की जानकारी अथवा सुझाव हेतु दूरभाष संख्या 0612-2217636 पर सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

LONAVALA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
LONAVALA - 410401

Online percentage rate tenders in 'B-1' form are invited by the Chief Officer, LONAVALA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, for the following work from interested any contractors. The name of work, estimated cost, earnest money, security deposit, time limit for completion etc. are as under.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Tender Cost (Rupees)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees)	Time Limit	Tender Form Fee (Rupees)
1.	Construction of Shopping Centre on R.S.No. 66, at Lonavala, Tal. Maval, Dist. Pune for Lonavala Municipal Council	31029557.00	310300.00	24 Calendar Months (Twenty Four)	2500.00

TENDER SCHEDULE

Sr. No.	Stage	Start		Expiry	
		Date	Time	Date	Time
1.	Tender Download	24/08/2020	14:00	17/09/2020	15:00
2.	Bid Submission	24/08/2020	14:01	21/09/2020	17:00
3.	Pre-Bid Meeting at the office of C.O., LMC	10/09/2020	12:00		
4.	Bid Opening	23/09/2020	15:00		

Detailed terms and conditions and other tender documents can be downloaded from website <http://mahatender.gov.in>. Tender by Location Lonavala. Earnest Money and Tender Form Fee should be paid Online only. The Bidder should also submit hard copy of all documents which the have uploaded as per tender at LMC on the last date by 12.00 p.m.

[LMC/PWD/TEN/20-21/1282/Dt. 19/08/2020]

Sd/
CHIEF OFFICER
Lonavala Municipal Council

Another wall at Visva-Bharati triggers protest

SANTANU CHOWDHURY
SANTINIKETAN, AUGUST 19

ANOTHER WALL being built by the Visva-Bharati University inside its campus prompted a protest by residents of Santiniketan and the university's alumni on Wednesday.

The nine-foot wall is being built to separate Sangit Bhavana (Institute of Dance, Drama and Music) and residential areas.

The protesters said the wall ran counter to the institute's legacy and philosophies of Rabindranath Tagore, who founded Visva-Bharati in 1921. They sang Tagore's songs and held placards denouncing the university's move.

Phalguni Mukherjee, an elderly protester, said, "We have always known Visva-Bharati as an open-air institute which never believed in erecting walls. It is a place for free thinking and learning modelled by Rabindranath Tagore. The university did not even intimate the residents before erecting the wall."

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA 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.	HARYANA SEED DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED	E-TENDER AUCTION FOR DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED/SWEEPING OF VARIOUS CROPS.	18.08.2020 25.08.2020	1 LAKH	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416315354 mohsdd@gmail.com
2.	H.S.A.M. BOARD, HISAR	CONSTRUCTION OF LINK ROAD FROM VILLAGE BADHAWAR-SARHARA TO SARHARA-KHARAK PUNTA ROAD (ID-7960) HOW BLE C.M. ANNOUNCEMENT CODE-25013 + 3 OTHER WORKS	17.08.2020 10.09.2020	EMD 9.38 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01662-275612 xnsnemb@hisar@gmail.com
3.	UHBVN	HIRING OF VEHICLES FOR S/D/IN/ WATANAIL BACK SIDE OPEN BODY	OPENING DATE 25.08.2020	500/-	http://u.hbvn.org.in/web/portal/home	xnspsbi@uhbvn.org.in
4.	UHBVN PANCHKULA	HIRING OF VEHICLE I.E. JEEP (MAHINDRA BOLERO) FOR SDO CIVIL CONST. S/DIVISION UHBVN, AMBALA	CLOSING DATE 26.08.2020	EMD FOR CONTR. RS 6000/-	www.uhbvn.org.in	939603248 xenciviluhsnpanchkula@gmail.com
5.	UHBVN	SUPPLY OF UN-SKILLED & SKILLED LABOUR FOR AUG. OF 33 KV S/S/INS. & ERECTION/ W.A.G. OF 33/11 KV LINES ETC. FALLING UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF UHBVN	OPENING CLOSING DATE 07.09.2020	10000/-	www.uhbvn.org.in	0172-2578529 seconduhbvnpanchkula@gmail.com
6.	UHBVN	36 KV ISOLATOR & 36 KV ISOLATOR-CLM-EARTH SWITCHES PER NEGATIVE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION NO CSC-XXIIIR-1/DH/IMP/PROJ/2019-2010 & CONFORMING TO RELEVANT ISS WITH LATEST AMENDMENTS	CLOSING DATE 08.09.2020	74.42 LACS	u.hbvn.org.in etenders.hry.nic.in	8053428343 ccm@uhbvn.org.in
7.	UHBVN, KARNAL	HIRING OF 1 NO. VEHICLE (HALF BODY JEEP MAHINDRA CAMPER) OPEN FROM BACK SIDE FOR THE USE OF S.D.O. (OP) SUB-DIVISION, UHBVN, NILOKHERI.	CLOSING DATE 27.08.2020	7000/-	www.uhbvn.org.in	9315457383 xnspsuikarnal@uhbvn.org.in
8.	HVPNL AMBALA	PROVIDING SUBMERISBLE TUBEWELL WITH 400 FEET BORE AGAINST FAILED BORE AT 66 KV S/STN HVPNL MOHRA	27.08.2020 28.08.2020	3200 for firms and 1600 for Co-Op Societies	www.hvpln.org.in	0172-2583789 PRD@HVPNL.ORG.IN
9.	HVPNL, PANCHKULA	PROCUREMENT OF 33 KV ISOLATOR (6304 AND 12504)	19.08.2020 18.09.2020	EMD 75000/-	www.hvpln.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpln.org.in
10.	HVPNL, PANCHKULA	PROCUREMENT OF 66KV ISOLATOR	20.08.2020 21.09.2020	EMD 1.28 LACS	www.hvpln.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpln.org.in
11.	THE JIND COOP. SUGAR MILLS LTD., JIND	PURCHASE OF ITEMS	CLOSING DATE 22.08.2020	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416058609 ramdhenraj@gmail.com
12.	H.S.A.M. BOARD, PANCHKULA	SHIFTING OF SUB-STATION, 11 KV H.T. FEEDER AND L.T. LINES FROM APPLE MARKET PREMISES, PUNJORE TO H.M.T. PREMISES, PUNJORE, PANCHKULA.	OPENING CLOSING DATE 28.08.2020	13.28 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9612100311 xnslectsp2019@yahoo.com
13.	HSAMBOARD, KARNAL	CONSTRUCTION OF LINK ROAD FROM PANCHKHERA TO VIA RAMGARH KADRABAD (H-9796)-NON BLE C.M. ANNOUNCEMENT CODE NO.20512 + 3 OTHER WORKS	24.08.2020 07.09.2020	92.97 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01842220984
14.	THE ROHTAK CO-OP. MILK PRODUCERS UNION LTD, ROHTAK, A UNIT OF HSDCF LTD.	1 HIRING OF MILK ROUTE VEHICLE (PICKUP-15 VEHICLES, DETAIL IN KIT)2. TOTAL 407 OR EQUIVALENT CHASSIS FOR 2500 LTR MILK BARREL-02 NOS (DETAIL IN KIT)	19.08.2020 05.09.2020	50000/- EACH	www.vtsrnda.org.in	vtsrrohtak@gmail.com

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

ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY) GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ESS-SECTOR, ITANAGAR-791113

No. SC(DBT)-610/2018-19 Dated Itanagar, the 17th August, 2020

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Project Director, DBT-APSCS&T Centre of Excellence for Bioresources and Sustainable Development, Department of Science & Technology, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Kimin on behalf of Director cum Member Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh State Council for Science and Technology (APSCS&T), Department of Science and Technology, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar invites sealed Expression of Interest (EOI) from competent public/private Agencies/Organizations/Companies having expertise in establishing State-of-the-Art Orchidarium / Conservatory for "Establishment of one "State-of-the-Art Ex-Situ Orchid Conservatory (600 sqm)" in DBT-APSCS&T Centre, Kimin-791121, Arunachal Pradesh and another 5 (five) small orchid production units each measuring 80 sqm in different parts of Arunachal Pradesh" on Turnkey basis.

The Agencies/Organizations/ Companies should have the following minimum eligibility criteria;

- Valid Company Registration under Companies Act 1956.
- Expertise and experience in execution of similar research facilities.
- Income Tax Registration
- GST Registration

Last date for submission of EOI in the prescribed format is within 21 days from the date of publication of this notice up to 1400 hrs. Sealed envelope containing EOI mentioning "EOI for Establishment of State-of-the-Art Ex-Situ Orchid Conservatory" on the top cover should be submitted to;

The Director cum Member Secretary
Arunachal Pradesh State Council for Science & Technology
Department of Science & Technology
Government of Arunachal Pradesh ESS-Sector, Itanagar-791113
Arunachal Pradesh

Applicants meeting the qualification criteria may be invited for presentation / proposal before the selection committee. Bid Document will be subsequently issued to the short listed applicants only. For details please visit www.ardst.arunachal.gov.in/advertisement. APSCS&T or any of its designates reserves the right to cancel this request for EOI and/or invite afresh with or without amendments, without liability or any obligation for such request for EOI and without assigning any reason. Information provided at this stage is indicative and APSCS&T reserves the right to amend/add further details in the EOI.

Sd/
Project Director
DBT-APSCS&T Centre
Kimin

DIPR/ARN/11997

**@ieExplained**
#ExpressExplainedIf there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com**CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD****COVID-19 VACCINE TRACKER****Australia to make vaccine free for all its citizens**

AUSTRALIA HAS said once a vaccine for the novel coronavirus becomes available, it will offer it free to all its citizens. Australia has entered into an agreement with pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca for securing access to the vaccine it is developing in collaboration with Oxford University.

"If this vaccine proves successful, we will manufacture and supply vaccines straight away under our own steam and make it free for 25 million Australians," Australia's Prime Minister Scott Morrison was quoted as saying in a BBC report.

So far, a little over 23,000 people have been infected with the novel coronavirus in Australia, and there have been more than 430 deaths.

CHINESE VACCINES: State-owned Chinese company Sinopharm has claimed that a candidate vaccine it is developing for the novel coronavirus would be available in the market by

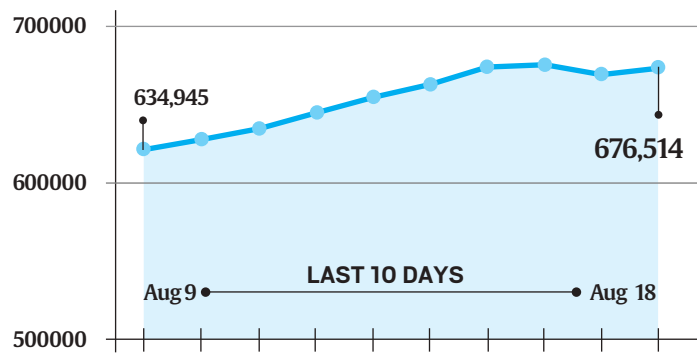
December this year, and would be priced lower than 1,000 yuan (about Rs 10,000) for two doses, according to a report in *The Global Times*.

The vaccine being developed by Sinopharm is in phase-3 human trials which are being carried out in the UAE. It is one of the six Chinese vaccines that are currently undergoing human trials.



In another report, the newspaper said that a vaccine being developed by CanSino Biologicals had been granted a patent by China's National Intellectual Property Administration. The CanSino vaccine has already been approved for use on Chinese soldiers, without undergoing phase-3 human trials. The company is planning to launch phase-3 trials in Saudi Arabia and Mexico.

The newspaper report said the company, in a statement, had claimed that the grant of the patent further confirmed the vaccine's efficacy and safety.

INDIA ACTIVE CASES**676,514**

Note: The August 18 figure in this graph is based on government update on August 19

INDIA TOTAL CASES
2,767,273

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, updated at 11 pm on August 19

WORLD TOTAL CASES
22,205,379

Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated at 11 pm on August 19

In heart cells, clues why Covid is severe in the elderly

RESEARCHERS HAVE published findings that provide one more clue about the reason why Covid-19 infection tends to be more severe with age. Certain genes in the body, which play an important role in allowing the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 to invade heart cells, become more active with age, according to the research published in the *Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology*.

When the novel coronavirus first emerged, it was taken to be primarily a respiratory illness. But as research has progressed, it has become clear that Covid-19 patients, particularly older ones, are also affected by heart problems.

An international team of researchers investigated the link be-

**PAPER CLIP****NEW RESEARCH**

tween Covid-19 and heart failure. Specifically, they examined cells known as cardiomyocytes, which make up the heart muscle and are able to contract and relax. Damage to these cells can lead to heart failure.

The researchers compared cardiomyocytes from five young (ages 19-25) males and five older (63-78) males. They found that the genes that give the body instructions to make key proteins that the virus uses to hijack the cell — including the now well-known ACE2 receptors — were significantly more active in cardiomyocytes from the older males. This suggests that there is likely to be an increase in the corresponding proteins in aged cardiomyocytes.

Source: University of Cambridge

What serosurvey results imply

After Delhi & Mumbai, serosurvey results from Pune suggest Covid-19 is far more widespread than virus tests show. What are the takeaways about the extent of testing, and the extent of immunity in the community?

AMITABH SINHA
PUNE, AUGUST 19

ASEROLOGICAL survey in Pune has provided fresh evidence that the spread of Covid-19 in India has been much larger than what is getting detected through confirmatory tests. In Pune, more than 51% of those who were tested showed the presence of antibodies specific to the novel coronavirus, suggesting that about half the population of this city of 4 million could have already been infected.

At the time the serological survey was carried out between July 20 and August 5, less than one lakh people in the city had been found infected in confirmatory tests. The actual spread could therefore be 20 times larger than the confirmatory tests have detected.

Earlier serological surveys in Delhi and Mumbai have also thrown up similar results. An earlier exercise in Delhi had suggested that the actual spread could be 40 times the number of confirmed cases. A fresh round of survey in the national capital, the results of which are have not yet been officially disclosed, reconfirms that.

What is the takeaway from these results?

That testing has been woefully adequate, despite a huge increase in testing infrastructure. From a capacity to test just a few hundred samples at the start of the outbreak in March to more than eight lakh tests a day now, there has been a massive upgrade in the testing infrastructure. And yet, the serological tests show that a vast majority of the infected people are still being missed out, particularly those who are not showing symptoms.

Adequate testing is crucial to containment strategies. It is the only method to identify, and isolate, infected people and their close contacts. The more the tests, the greater the chance of detecting infected people, including those who are asymptomatic. Timely isolation of these can prevent transmission to other people. A higher number of tests, therefore, has a direct bearing on slowing down the spread of the disease.

Considering how widespread the disease



Sample being taken for a serological survey in New Delhi this month. Praveen Khanna

is now, going by the results of the seroprevalence surveys, the testing capacity would have to be increased several times to make any meaningful difference to the growth of the disease. That is not something likely to happen overnight. So, while it would still be important to continue testing as many people as possible, it is well past the stage where testing was the most effective tool to flatten the growth curve.

What does it mean when so many are likely infected?

There is a silver lining from the lack of adequate testing. Progression towards an infection level where "herd immunity" begins to look plausible, it appears, has been faster than could have been possible if more tests were being conducted and more infected people were getting identified and isolated. The conventional wisdom is that greater testing and isolation slows down disease growth and delays the achievement of widespread immunity in the community. The caveat remains: Scientists still do not know the level of infection in the population at which "herd immunity" would start to play a role. But whatever level it is, India has been moving

towards immunity at a community level at a faster rate than a capability for greater testing and isolation would have allowed.

How do the serological findings relate with confirmatory test results?

The serological survey in Pune has some interesting findings. The ward in which the highest prevalence was detected is also the one that is now growing at the slowest pace in the last couple of weeks. In this area, Lohiya Nagar, more than 60% of the participants were detected with antibodies. It would still be premature to suggest that Lohiya Nagar could be near to achieving immunity at the community level, but scientists can now look at other areas that are approaching that level of infection to see whether the disease is behaving in similar fashion. As of now, there is insufficient data to make any conclusions.

There are a few other indicators as well. Cities with very high prevalence rates, like Delhi, Mumbai or Pune, have already begun to show signs of slowing down. The growth rates in Delhi and Mumbai have been declining for quite some time, while Pune is just beginning to join the trend. The reproductive number, or R, for these cities has gone below

1. R is the number of people who get infected, on an average, by an already infected person. An R-value lower than 1 would mean that, on an average, not every infected person is passing on the virus to others. Usually, the R-value going below 1 signifies the beginning of the decline of the epidemic, although in the present case one needs to be careful about making such conclusions since the pandemic is still on, information is still evolving, and R-values are only estimates.

But the drop in the growth rates, and in R-values, correlates well with what is expected when about half the population has already got the infection. The pool of uninfected people reduces progressively, and therefore the transmission rate goes down because of the availability of fewer people who can potentially be infected.

But is it not understood that immunity across a community is not a certainty?

Indeed, there are important caveats. The serological surveys only reveal the likely extent of disease prevalence in a population group. People who have been infected need not necessarily have developed immunity. As scientists have been insisting consistently, getting the infection and developing immunity are two different things. The serological survey finds out the number of people who have antibodies specific to the disease. The presence of these antibodies is an indication that they were infected at some point of time.

But immunity comes from what are known as "neutralising" antibodies, or "protective" antibodies. The serological surveys do not detect neutralising antibodies. For that, another test is required. And even though no case of re-infection has so far been detected, it is still an open question for investigation.

Immunity at a community level is possible only if those who have been infected also develop immunity to the disease. As of now, we don't know. That is the next step of investigation. Scientists are already preparing to carry out exercises where they would try to assess whether an infected person has developed immunity. Until then, discussions around "herd immunity" would not be substantive.

How useful are saliva tests for Covid-19?**KAUNAIN SHERIFFM**
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

ON AUGUST 15, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved a new method of testing for Covid-19 — processing saliva samples — and termed it "ground-breaking".

Israel's Center for Geographic Medicine and Tropical Diseases, too, has developed a saliva test that it claims will detect the novel coronavirus "in less than a second", Reuters reported. That test, however, is still in the process of getting regulatory approval.

What is a saliva test for Covid-19?

Broadly, there are two types of tests for Covid-19. One type, which detects the virus itself, includes the RT-PCR test and the antigen test. The second is the serological test, which looks for antibodies developed by the body against the virus. This determines if a person has been exposed to the infection, and is used for surveillance of infection in a community.

In the first category of tests, nose and throat swabs are used as the sampling technique. After the swab is removed, the sample is placed in a viral transport media and is preserved for analysis. Researchers have developed the saliva test as a low-cost alternative; the sus-

pected patient has only to spit into a sterile tube and the sample is then sent to the laboratory.

In the last few months, the US FDA has authorised at least five diagnostic tests that use saliva samples. The first was on May 8 — emergency-use authorisation to Rutgers Clinical Genomics Laboratory's molecular test, commercially manufactured by Spectrum Solution. This was after results showed the device could be used for collection, transportation, and storage, following home collection of saliva.

On August 15, the FDA issued emergency-use authorisation to Yale School of Public Health's diagnostic kit, called SalivaDirect. "This is the fifth test that the USFDA has authorised that uses saliva as a sample for testing," it said.

What are the advantages of a saliva test?

First, as noted in a yet-to-be-peer-reviewed study by Yale researchers, saliva "does not require a certified swab and collection receptacle and does not necessarily have to be obtained by a skilled healthcare provider, both of which increase diagnostic-associated costs". Therefore, cost is the biggest advantage.

Second is accuracy: A saliva test is reported to be prone to less error than has been reported in nasal swab collection, which sometimes give false negatives.

Third, the test is less invasive than a procedure that goes to the back of the nose to collect the swab. It is also safer for healthcare workers who collect the swab. Inserting the swab into the back of the nose often results in sneezing and coughing. Spectrum Solution claims that use of saliva kits delivers an over 90% reduction in PPE usage compared to current swab collections for Covid-19 testing.

Fourth, it is a convenient option that does not require travelling to a hospital or lab.

Apart from sampling methods, how is the saliva test different from RT-PCR?

Like RT-PCR, a saliva test too converts the virus RNA into DNA, then amplifies the DNA to detect presence of the virus. What makes the SalivaDirect kit unique is that the Yale researchers have done away with a separate step or specialised equipment to extract the virus RNA.

"Our approach can be broadly implemented as it does not require saliva collection tubes containing preservatives and does not require specialized reagents or equipment for nucleic acid extraction," the Yale study states.

What are the limitations of the saliva test?

In the case of the kit developed by Rutgers, the specimens must be transported and stored

at ambient temperature and tested within 48 hours of collection.

Again, the possibility of false negatives remains. As noted by the US FDA, SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid is generally detectable in saliva specimens during the acute phase of infection. "Negative results do not preclude SARS-CoV-2 infection and should not be used as the sole basis for patient management decisions. Negative results must be combined with clinical observations, patient history, and epidemiological information. Negative results for SARS-CoV-2 RNA from saliva should be confirmed by testing of an alternative specimen type if clinically indicated," the FDA states.

The Yale researchers have also flagged the fact that saliva from patients can contain blood or mucus, which can interfere with testing and results.

Where are saliva tests being used?

Yale's saliva test, even before it got emergency approval, was tested on a group of National Basketball Association players and support staff. "SalivaDirect is being further validated as a test for asymptomatic individuals through a program that tests players and staff from the NBA," Yale University said.

The Rutgers test too has been used by NBA teams and other sportspersons.

Domicile-based job quota: the law, SC rulings, and special cases**APURVA VISHWANATH**
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE MADHYA Pradesh government's recent decision to reserve all government jobs for "children of the state" raises questions relating to the fundamental right to equality.

While domicile-based reservations have been implemented in education, courts have been reluctant to expand this to employment. Although Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has not outlined details of the proposal, reservation solely based on place of birth would raise constitutional questions.

What does the Constitution say?

Article 16 of the Constitution, which guarantees equal treatment under law in matters of public employment, prohibits the state from discriminating on grounds of place of birth or residence.

Article 16(2) states that "no citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them, be ineligible for, or discriminated against in respect or, any employment or office under the State". The provision is sup-

plemented by the other clauses in the Constitution that guarantee equality.

However, Article 16(3) of the Constitution provides an exception by saying that Parliament may make a law "prescribing" a requirement of residence for jobs in a particular state. This power vests solely in the Parliament, not state legislatures.

Why does the Constitution prohibit reservation based on domicile?

When the Constitution came into force, India turned itself into one nation from a geographical unit of individual principalities and the idea of the universality of Indian citizenship took root. As India has common citizenship, which gives citizens the liberty to move around freely in any part of the country, the requirement of a place of birth or residence cannot be qualifications for granting public employment in any state.

But are reservations not granted on other grounds such as caste?

Equality enshrined in the Constitution is not mathematical equality and does not mean all citizens will be treated alike without any distinction. To this effect, the

Constitution underlines two distinct aspects which together form the essence of equality law — non-discrimination among equals, and affirmative action to equalise the unequals.

What has the Supreme Court said on reserving jobs for locals?

The Supreme Court has ruled against reservation based on place of birth or residence. In 1984, ruling in *Dr Pradeep Jain v Union of India*, the issue of legislation for "sons of the soil" was discussed. The court expressed an opinion that such policies would be unconstitutional but did not expressly rule on it as the case was on different aspects of the right to equality.

Despite Article 16(2), "some of the States are adopting 'sons of the soil' policies prescribing reservation or preference based on domicile or residence requirement for employment or appointment... Prima facie this would seem to be constitutionally impermissible though we do not wish to express any definite opinion upon it, since it does not directly arise for consideration..." the court said.

In a subsequent ruling in *Sunanda Reddy v State of Andhra Pradesh* (1995), the Supreme Court affirmed the observation in

Pradeep Jain to strike down a state government policy that gave 5% extra weightage to candidates who had studied with Telugu as the medium of instruction.

In 2002, the Supreme Court invalidated appointment of government teachers in Rajasthan in which the state selection board gave preference to "applicants belonging to the district or the rural areas of the district concerned".

"We have no doubt that such a sweeping argument which has the overtones of parochialism is liable to be rejected on the plain terms of Article 16(2) and in the light of Article 16(3). An argument of this nature flies in the face of peremptory language of Article 16(2) and runs counter to our constitutional ethos founded on unity and integrity of the nation," the court said.

In 2019, the Allahabad High Court struck down a recruitment notification by the UP Subordinate Service Selection Commission which prescribed preference for women who are "original residents" of the UP alone.

What about securing jobs for locals in the private sector?

Such a law will be difficult to implement

even if allowed. Private employers do not go on an annual recruitment drive to fill vacancies identified in advance but hire as and when required. The state can recommend a preference to locals but ensuring that it is followed would be difficult. In 2017, Karnataka mulled similar legislation but it was dropped after the state's Advocate General raised questions on its legality. In 2019, the state government once again issued a notification asking private employers to "prefer" Kannadigas for blue-collar jobs.

How do some states then have laws that reserve jobs for locals?

Exercising the powers it has under Article 16(3), Parliament enacted the Public Employment (Requirement as to Residence) Act, aimed at abolishing all existing residence requirements in the states and enacting exceptions only in the case of the special instances of Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura and Himachal Pradesh.

Constitutionally, some states also have special protections under Article 371. Andhra Pradesh under Section 371(d) has powers to have "direct recruitment of local cadre" in specified areas.

In Uttarakhand, class III and class IV jobs are reserved for locals.

Some states have gone around the mandate of Article 16(2) by using language. States that conduct official business in their regional languages prescribe knowledge of the language as a criterion. This ensures that local citizens are preferred for jobs. For example, states including Maharashtra, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu require a language test.

Beyond MP, have there been other recent moves on domicile-based job reservation?

In April, the Centre issued a notification reserving jobs for J&K domiciles expanding the definition to central government employees who had served in the erstwhile state for over 10 years. Before the abrogation of the special status of J&K in August last year, state government jobs were reserved exclusively for state subjects as per Article 370 of the Constitution.

In Assam, a committee has submitted its report for implementation of a key provision of the 1985 Assam Accord, recommending reservation in jobs for those who can trace their ancestry in the state before 1951.

H.P. STATE CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED
(A STATE GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
Registered Office - Block No. 16 & 17, SDA Commercial Complex, Kasumpti, Shimla-171009 (Himachal Pradesh) (India)
C.I.N. : U99999HP1980SG004263
Phone No. 0177-2621583, Email : himapurfund@gmail.com

GLOBAL E-TENDER NOTICE

Himachal Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited, Shimla invites Global E-Tenders for the procurement of **FORTIFIED MUSTARD OIL for three months supply/six months supply (as the case may be)**. The detailed tender notice, tender documents and other instructions can be downloaded or viewed on-line from the portal <https://hptenders.gov.in>. The last date of submission of sample shall be till 09.09.2020 upto **5.00 PM** and last date of submission of earnest money deposit tender document fee, processing fee and on-line tenders shall be till 09.09.2020 upto **5.00 PM**. The tenders of Fortified Mustard Oil shall be opened on 23.09.2020 at 11.00 AM.

Managing Director

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

The Dy. Chief Engineer/Const.-I, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of India invites open e-tender under Single Packet System for the under noted work:-

1. Name of work and location	Supply and maintenance of Indoor well developed Ornamental plotted plants for the office complex of CAO/Const. N. Ry. & Rest House at Kashmir gate Delhi.
2. Completion period of the work	Rs. 53.63 lakh (Rupees fifty three lakh sixty three thousand only)
3. Approx. cost of work	12 (twelve) Months
4. Earnest money amount (to be deposited Online)	Rs. 1,07,300.00(Rupees One lakh seven thousand three hundred only)
5. Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website	Tender documents will be available on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 27.08.2020 to 10.09.2020 upto 11.30 hrs.
6. Last date/Time of upload of tenders	10.09.2020 upto 11.30 hours. Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS web site w.e.f. 27.08.2020 to 10.09.2020.
7. Date and time of opening of tender	10.09.2020 at 11.30 hours (Immediately after close of uploading of tender (D2). In case of two packet system, Financial bids of the eligible tenderers will be opened subsequently on the date & time to be notified later on

No. 51-G/C/K. gate /DL1 dated: 17.08.2020 1799/20

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

GUJARAT STATE
NARMADA, WATER RESOURCES, WATER SUPPLY AND KALPSAR DEPARTMENT
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 02 of 2020-21

The Tender is invited on behalf of Governor of Govt. of Gujarat by the office of the Executive Engineer, Ambica Division, Navsari for (08) Eight Works "Renovation & Improvement of existing Irrigation Infrastructure works" in B-2 form through online e-tendering system

1. Estimated Cost. Rs. 50 Lac to Rs.138 Lac. (08) Eight - Works	
2. Tender Uploading date & Time	Date 20/08/2020 Up to 18.00 Hours.
3. Tender Downloading date & Time	Date 21/08/2020 To Date 10/09/2020 Up to 18.00 Hours.
4. Physical Documents Submission of EMD Tender fee & other Documents during office hours.	Date 11/09/2020 To Date 19/09/2020 Up to 18.00 Hrs. In the office of the Executive Engineer, Ambica Division, 2 nd floor, Sinchai Bhavan, opp. Tata bag Near Parsi Hospital, Lunsukii, Navsari-396445, Phone No:- 02637-258054
5. Tender Opening date for online tender received	Dt. 21/09/2020 at 12.00 Hrs. In the office of the Superintending Engineer, Surat Irrigation Circle, Near M.T.B. College, Athwalines, Surat (0261 2668760)
6. For Inquiry Contact Office Address	Executive Engineer, Ambica Division, 2 nd floor, Sinchai Bhavan, opp. Tata bag Near Parsi Hospital, Lunsukii, Navsari-396445, Phone No:- 02637-258054

The bid documents will be available on web site www.nprocure.com & www.statetenders.com.

Detail Tender Notice can be seen on office Notice board & www.statetenders.com For more detail Contact office during working days & hours. INFNAV/179/2020

ANDHRA PRADESH INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Andhra Pradesh Undertaking)
O/c. Chief Engineer, APIC Tower, 9, 10 & 11th Floors, CFC-1, IT Park, Autonagar, Mangalagiri, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh - 522 505.
Date: 18-08-2020

INVITATION OF BID FOR PROCUREMENT OF CIVIL WORKS UNDER VCIC

The Government of Andhra Pradesh through the Government of India (herein after called "Borrower") has received financing from Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of Visakhapatnam Chemical Industrial Corridor Project Tranche 2, Part of this financing will be used for payments for the following Civil Works Contract Package of the project.

The details of these CivilWorks package are as given below:-

Civil Work Pkg. No.	Name of Works	Completion Period (in months):
1	Development of Internal Infrastructure for Ph-II of Andhra Pradesh Med-Tech Zone (AMTZ) with the Assistance of ADB under Tranche-2 of VCICDP at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India-(VCICDP-T2-AMTZ/01)	18

The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation, Mangalagiri, Guntur District (Employer), invites sealed bids for Development of internal infrastructure for Ph-II of Andhra Pradesh Med-Tech Zone (AMTZ) with the Assistance of ADB under Tranche-2 of VCICDP at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India. Environmental and Social management aspects also form a component of the project.

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 source countries as described in the Bidding Document.

4. To obtain further information on the Key Qualifications and inspect and acquire the Bidding Document, Bidders can download the bid document from www.apic.in.

5. A complete set of bidding documents in English can be downloaded from www.apic.in. The cost of the bidding document is **Rs. 25,500/- (25,500+GST)** should be enclosed along with bid submission/technical proposal in the form of demand draft in favor of "APIC Ltd., Mangalagiri" which is non refundable.

6. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as described in the Bidding Document

7. Interested Bidders may inspect the Bidding Documents and obtain further information from the Office of the Chief Engineer as per the contact details provided.

8. A pre-bid meeting will be held on **07-09-2020 at 11.30 A.M.** to clarify the issues on any matter that may be raised at that stage as stated in ITB 7.4 of "Instructions to Bidders" of the bidding document.

9. Bids must be delivered in sealed envelopes to the address indicated below on or before **4.00 pm on 30-08-2020**. Late bids will be rejected.

Chief Engineer, APIC Limited APIC Tower, 9, 10 & 11th Floors, CFC-1, IT Park, Autonagar, Mangalagiri, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh-522503, Phone No: 95050 15007, Email : ce.apic@nic.in & tvswisswaraao@gov.in (84998 76661).

Sd/- Chief Engineer,
Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Limited

CHHATTISGARH RURAL ROADS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
VIKASH BHAVAN, CIVIL LINES, RAIPUR (C.G.)

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

NIT No. 548 /TC-T/CGRDA/2020 Dated-18/08/2020
Chief Engineer (Tender Cell), CGRDA, Raipur on behalf of Governor of Chhattisgarh invites package wise bids in electronic tendering system for Construction & Maintenance of Roads Under PMGSY-III (Batch-I, 2019-20) sanctioned for different districts of the state as per B.O.Q. from the eligible contractors / Firms registered with unified registration system(e-registration) for the works mentioned below. Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement:

S. No	NIT No	Work Name	Rate invited
01	548	Construction & maintenance of roads Under PMGSY-III (Batch-I, 2019-20) for 04 number of Roads of length 29.42 kms Total Construction Cost Rs 1394.63 lakhs & Routine Maintenance Cost for five years Rs 117.68 Lakhs.	Percentage Rate Tender

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.

Detailed NIT and other details can be viewed on our <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> from 19.08.2020 from 5:00 PM. In future any related corrigendum would be seen in the notice section of this website.

Chief Engineer (Tender Cell)
Chhattisgarh Rural Road Development Agency
Civil Lines, Raipur (C.G.)
E-mail : pmgsyrc4@yahoo.co.in

26259

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CONSTRUCTION DIVISION, U.P. JAL NIGAM, BAGHPAT
Letter No. 1503/निगम-प्र/168
Date- 14-08-2020

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE

Online percentage rate e-tenders in two bid pattern of Retraining work water supply schemes under "Jal Jeevan Mission" Programme various villages of District- Baghat on turn key basis is hereby invited on behalf of the Chairman U.P. Jal Nigam from the reputed contractors having work experience of similar works & financial capabilities. Tender document shall be available on e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> & <http://www.upse.gov.in> latest by 27-08-2020. Interested contractors may view & download tender document and upload their tender, duly filled, online as per schedule given below:-

Date for:
1) Uploading Bid document at website 27.08.2020 at 17:00 hrs.
2) Submission of E-tender form/ Earnest money would be deposited by RTGS 27.08.2020 to 03.09.2020 at 15:00 hrs. 3) Online submission of e-bids 27.08.2020 to 04.09.2020 at 10:00 hrs. Opening of technical bid for pre-qualification : 04.09.2020 at 12:00 hrs.

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

Electrical Department (TRD Branch), Jabalpur
Tender Notice No. JBP/TRD/Tender/2020/14
Date: 17.08.2020
E-TENDER NOTICE

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD) West Central Railway, Jabalpur and on behalf of the President of India invite sealed tenders from the reputed and experienced contractors having valid Electrical License issued in the name of firm by State Government as required under IE rules, 1956 with one of the partner or in his own name if sole proprietor. **Name of Work:** Elimination of critical implantation in Kanti-Bina section of JBP Division. **Place of work:** Jabalpur Division, Tender value (Cost of the work): ₹ 1,85,72,831.13 I.Rs. One Crore Eighty Five Lakhs Seventy Two Thousands Eight Hundred Thirty One & paise Thirteen only). **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,42,900/- (Rs. Two Lakh Forty Two Thousand Nine Hundred only). **Tender Fee:** ₹ 5,000/- (Rs. Five Thousand only). **Completion period:** 06 months. **Date & Time for submission of tender:** 11.09.2020, 15.00 Hrs. **Website address:** www.ireps.gov.in * Tenders are advised to regularly visit IREPS website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> to note any changes/corrigendum. Minimum eligibility criteria as per tender form shall be applicable for this tender.

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD
West Central Railway, Jabalpur
For & on behalf of President of India

रेल यात्रा के दौरान शिकायतों हेतु 138 पर एच सुधदा हेतु 182 पर संपर्क करें।

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T. No.	S.N.	17 & 18/2020-21-W-V
1	1.	Annual Zone work from PM-GGN section for period ending 30.06.2021
	2.	Rag picking work and removal of muck removal & between DKZ-DEE, DEE-DEC, DEC-PM, PM-BWSN in the section of SSE/P.Way/DEE under ADE/NDVE.
3	1	Rs. 3999806.95
	2	Rs. 23741800.25
4	1	Rs. 80000.00
	2	Rs. 268700.00
5	1	Rs. 3540.00
	2	Rs. 11800.00

6. Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender Upto 15.00 hrs on 11.09.2020 Opening of tender at 15.00 hrs. on 11.09.2020.

7. Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

128-W/280/E-Tender Notice/2020-21/W-V Dated : 18.08.2020 1798/20

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES SOURA, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR
Department of Materials Management (Imports Section)
E-mail: ammimport@skims.ac.in Fax: 0194-2403404

EXTENSION

Subject: 2nd Extension to the eNIT No. SIMS-324-NIT 08 (Imports) 2020 dated 23.06.2020 (Tender-ID 2020_SKIMS_98805_1) regarding Supply/ Installation, & Commissioning of Fully Automated Coagulation Analyzer on reagent rental basis for the Department of Cl. Hematology SKIMS.

The NIT is hereby extended as per following schedule:

Last Date of Submission of Online Bids	07.09.2020 upto 4.00 P.M.
Date of Opening of Technical Bids	09.09.2020 at 12.30 P.M.

Further amendments if any, shall be uploaded separately.

No. SIMS-324-eNIT 08 (Imports) 2020-2573-79-5174-77
Dated: 18-08-2020
SIMS-5176

Sd/-
Asst. Materials Management Officer, SKIMS

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

Bid No. E-35/2020-2021 E-TENDERS Dated : 14.08.2020

E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only E-tender will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence :- S. No. - Tender No. (Due Date), Description and Quantity. (01) 05205254 (31.08.2020), Compressed Air Unit, 03 Nos. (02) 05191062E (10.09.2020), Steel Straight Edge, Part No. 15610457, 13 Nos. (03) 05191078B (10.09.2020), Line Up tooling, Part No. 15630018, 16 Nos. (04) 05191114B (10.09.2020), Try Square 12", Part No. 15610354, 09 Nos. (05) 05201024A (10.09.2020), Dia 34MM Insert Drill Kit, Part No. 72240714, 04 Set. (06) 03202014 (11.09.2020), Kit for Side Sill Assy, PL No.29171052, 34 Set. (07) 02201053E (04.09.2020), Locking Plug for Pivot Ring, PL No.29100434, 470 Set. (08) 06201010 (15.09.2020), Main Compressor with mounting accessories along with motor (Safety sling to be purchased from CLW approved source only) D/RG No.29511008 At Nil. Spec. No. (1) RDSO/2018/IEU/Spec/0137 REV-0 (2) SPEC/E-10/309 Motor with Amendment Nos. 01, 02, 03, 04 and 05 or Latest to PL No.29511008, 516 Sets. (09) 08201113 Advertiser Tender (14.09.2020), Turbo Supercharger 3100/3300 HP with Adaption kits (PL No. 10083479) as per Drg. No. Pt No. 10083479 all as per Spec, as per Drg. 10 Nos. (PL No. 10083479) **Note:** For Complete details of EMD and downloading of tender documents and Hindi Version also available at website www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in and www.ireps.gov.in. **Corrigendum Notice Dated :** 11.08.2020 **Bid Invitation :** E-16 Tender No. : 09201044 **Revision : 2 Details of Correction as under :** Existing Due Date: 14.08.2020 Revised Due Date: 14.09.2020 **Note:** For other terms and condition Please visit on IREPS website: <https://www.ireps.gov.in> **Corrigendum Notice Dated :** 10.08.2020 **Bid Invitation :** E-06 Tender No. : 09201045 **Revision : 1 Details of Correction as under :** Existing Due Date: 30.07.2020 Revised Due Date: 27.11.2020 **Bid Invitation :** E-06 Tender No. : 09201046 **Revision : 1 Details of Correction as under :** Existing Due Date: 10.08.2020 Revised Due Date: 10.09.2020 **Note:** For other terms and condition Please visit on IREPS website: <https://www.ireps.gov.in> **Corrigendum Notice Dated :** 18.08.2020 **Bid No. E-13 Tender No. : 04201259 Revision : 2 Details of Correction:** The tender will open on 25.08.2020 instead of 18.08.2020 **Note:** All other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged. **Bid No. E-21 Tender No. : 04201391 Revision : 1 Details of Correction:** The tender will open on 01.09.2020 instead of 18.08.2020 **Note:** All other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged. **Bid No. E-25 Tender No. : 04201063 Revision : 1 Details of Correction:** The tender will open on 04.09.2020 instead of 14.08.2020 **Note:** All other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged. **Bid No. E-16 Tender No. : 04201392 Revision : 1 Details of Correction:** The tender will open on 04.09.2020 instead of 17.08.2020 **Note:** All other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged. **Corrigendum Notice Dated :** 19.08.2020 **Tender No. : 05198076B Bid Inv. No. : 30 Existing due date : 17.08.2020 Revised due date : 31.08.2020 All other terms & conditions remain unchanged.**

P.R.O./DLWS-40 On the behalf of PCMMI
diesellocoworks "Website : www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in"

For All Advertisement Booking
Call : 0120-6651214

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a boy namely **Shubham**, S/o: Sh Shivanandan, R/o: H. No. A/569, A Block near Gurudwara, Shastri Nagar, Delhi has been reported missing/kidnapped since 13.06.2014 from the area of Deputy Ganj, Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi. In this regard FIR No. 89/14 dated 13.06.2014, U/s 363 IPC has been registered at P.S. Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi. The description of missing/kidnapped is as under:

Name: Shubham, Age: 17 Years, Height: 5', Face: Oval, Complexion: Fair, Built: Thin, Wearing: Light green check Shirt, Sky blue Jeans pant and Black Chappal in feet.

If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped boy please inform P.S. Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi.

Web: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639 SHO
Police Station, Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi
Ph: 011-23528060, 857087125

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one female namely **Pinki Devi with her son Jatit W/o Dinesh Kumar** R/o L-1st, 1/25 Gall No.05, Budh Bazaar Sangam Vihar, New Delhi has been missing/kidnapped from the area of P.S. Neb Sarai Delhi. Since 27.07.2020. In this regard, a vide DD No.109A, dated 29.07.2020 has been registered at P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi The description of the missing female is as under.

Age: 38 Years, Complexion: Fair, Height: 5'3", Face: Round, Wearing: Black Suit Salwar. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing female then please inform P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi following Tel No. /e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Sd/- S.H.O.
Fax No. 011-24368639 P.S. Neb Sarai, Delhi
Ph: 011-29551597

DP/157/SJ/2020

OFFICE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER ELECTRICITY URBAN DISTRIBUTION CIRCLE PASCHIMANCHAL VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED MUZAFFARNAGAR
Tel. No. 0131-2621135, E-mail : seuudcmzn@gmail.com

E-TENDER NOTICE E-Tenders are invited from eligible bidders. Please visit E-tender portal www.etender.up.nic.in for details/download and for any other corrections/ amendments/ extensions till the date of submission of bids. **Sl. No. 1 Tender Specification No.** Short Term E-Tender No. 27/2020-21 EUDC MZN **Name of Works** Repairing work of 33 KV Line and choping of tree branches under EUDSD-II Muzaffarnagar under EUDD-III, Muzaffarnagar. **Earnest Money (Rs.)** 2000.00 **Tender Fee (Rs.)** 1180.00 (18% जी.एस.टी. सहित) **Last Date for online submission of tender document** 07.09.2020 **Date for opening of tender part-I** 07.09.2020 **Sl. No. 2 Tender Specification No.** Short Term E-Tender No. 28/2020-21 EUDC MZN **Name of Works** Repairing work of 33 KV Line and choping of tree branches under EUDSD-III Muzaffarnagar under EUDD-III, Muzaffarnagar. **Earnest Money (Rs.)** 2000.00 **Tender Fee (Rs.)** 1180.00 (18% जी.एस.टी. सहित) **Last Date for online submission of tender document** 07.09.2020 **Date for opening of tender part-I** 07.09.2020 (R.D. Singh) SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER "Save Electricity in the interest of Nation" चर्कितः 1513 दिनांकः 19.08.2020

उप. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लि. ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना अनुभवों फर्मों/ टेकेदार/ कार्यदायी संस्थाओं से विद्युत पारेषण मंडल मेरठ के अंतर्गत निम्न कार्य हेतु मोहरबंद ई-निविदाएं ई-पोर्टल (www.etender.up.nic.in) पर दो भागों में आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। भाग-1 में ई-निविदाओं के प्रपत्र निर्धारित शुल्क आर.टी.जी.एस./ एन.ई.एफ.टी. एवं निर्धारित धरोहर राशि आर.टी.जी.एस./ एन.ई. एफ.टी./ बैंक गारंटी (अलग-अलग) के माध्यम से अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, मेरठ के पक्ष में State Bank of India, Cantt Branch, Meerut Account No. 11047201099, IFSC Code SBIN000680 में जमा कराया जायेगी। बैंक जमा की राशि यथा योग्य यू.टी.आर. संख्या, पे-इन स्लिप मूल को प्रति निविदा के प्रथम भाग के साथ संलग्न किये जाये। ई-निविदा के प्रथम भाग (यू.टी.आर. संख्या, पे-इन स्लिप प्रति, निविदा प्रपत्र, पेन कार्ड, इन्कमेंट टैक्स रिटर्न, जी.एस.टी. प्रपत्र की स्वयं प्रामाणित छायाप्रति एवं तकनीकी अनुभव आदि) ई-पोर्टल पर स्कैन प्रतियाँ (PDF format) तथा ई-निविदा के द्वितीय भाग (प्राइजबिड) में दरे एवं जाणियक नियम व शर्तों ई-पोर्टल (www.etender.up.nic.in) पर निर्मललिखित तालिका के अनुसार अपलोड की जायेगी। निविदा शुल्क, धरोहर राशि एवं अन्य व्यवसायिक प्रपत्र हार्ड कॉपी में अध्याय व्यवसाय संवाहक के माध्यम से इस कार्यालय में प्राप्त नहीं किये जायेगी। ई-निविदा भाग द्वितीय (प्राइजबिड) सुलने की तिथि हेतु तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। ई-निविदा का प्रथम भाग, तालिका में अंकित दिनांक एवं समय अनुसार सार्वजनिक रूप से खोला जायेगा। ई-निविदा सुलने की तिथि पर अवकाश होने की स्थिति में ई-निविदा अगले कार्य दिवस पर निर्धारित समय तक स्वीकार की जायेगी एवं निर्धारित समय पर खोली जायेगी। ई-निविदाओं को अस्वीकार/ विभाजित करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। धरोहर/ ई-निविदा राशि रोकित व कप्त ई-निविदा स्वीकार नहीं की जायेगी। इसका विस्तृत जानकारी, डाउन लोड, अन्य संशोधनों एवं ई-निविदा प्रस्तुत करने के दिनांक तक विस्तार आदि के संबंध में कृपया www.etender.up.nic.in पर लॉग आन करें। निविदाओं का विवरण निम्न प्रकार है:-

क्रम सं. 1, निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 65/19-20 अल्पकालिक:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड-द्वितीय मेरठ के अंतर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र चरला पर 100 एम.बी.ए परिवर्तक की स्थापना हेतु 20 KL क्षमता के ऑयल टैंक को लादना एवं लगभग 100 कि.मी. से लाना तथा उतारने से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 1000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 295.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 28.08.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 29.08.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 2, निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 66/20-21:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड-द्वितीय मेरठ के 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र मोदीपुरम पर स्थापित विभिन्न बे के कम्पैशर की रिपेयरिंग एवं 145 के.वी. सर्किट ब्रेकर की

ऑवरहॉलिंग/रिपेयर करने से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 2000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 590.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 28.08.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 29.08.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 3, निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 67/20-21:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड मेरठ के अंतर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र मोदीपुरम के स्विचयार्ड में पुराने क्षतिग्रस्त विभिन्न प्रकार के विखरे सामान को इकट्ठा कर अन्य स्थान पर सुव्यवस्थित रखने से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 2000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 590.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 21.09.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 22.09.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 4, निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 68/20-21:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड बडौत के अंतर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र कंकरखेडा के वार्षिक आधार पर अनुक्षण से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 10000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 1770.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 24.09.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 25.09.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 5, निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 69/20-21:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड बडौत के अंतर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र कंकरखेडा के वार्षिक आधार पर अनुक्षण से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 10000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 1770.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 24.09.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 25.09.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 6, निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 70/20-21:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड मेरठ के अंतर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र बागपत के वार्षिक आधार पर अनुक्षण से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 10000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 1770.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 24.09.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 25.09.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 7, निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 71/20-21:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड मेरठ के अंतर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र परतापुर एवं कंकरखेडा पर 132 के.वी. लाइन प्रोटेक्शन पैलन एवं डबल फीडर लाइन कन्ट्रोल

पैलन को बदलने से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 1000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 295.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 24.09.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 25.09.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 8 निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 72/20-21:- विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड बडौत के अंतर्गत 132 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र खेकडा (बागपत) के वार्षिक आधार पर परिचालन एवं अनुक्षण से सम्बन्धित कार्य। धरोहर राशि 16000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 1770.00 जी.एस.टी. सहित, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 24.09.2020 सांय 05 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 25.09.2020 प्रातः 12 बजे तक, ई-पोर्टल पर निविदा का द्वितीय भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय तदनुसार वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। क्रम सं. 9 निविदा संख्या एवं कार्य का विवरण टी- 73/20-21:- विद्युत पारेषण खण

SWISS TOWN GETS 'CHOCOLATE SNOW'

Residents of a Swiss town got a bit of a shock when it started snowing particles of a fine cocoa powder after a glitch in the ventilation at a chocolate factory. The Lindt & Sprüngli company confirmed local reports Tuesday that there was a minor defect in the cooling ventilation for a line for roasted "cocoa nibs" in its factory in Olten, between Zurich and Basel.

TOP OF THE WORLD



PRINCE FAISAL BIN FARHAN
Saudi Foreign Minister

WEST ASIA

Saudi cautiously welcomes new UAE-Israel ties

SAUDI ARABIA'S foreign minister on Wednesday cautiously welcomed an agreement between its close ally the United Arab Emirates and Israel to establish full ties and exchange embassies. Prince Faisal bin Farhan said the deal, which also halted unilateral annexation by Israel of West Bank territory sought by the Palestinians, "could be viewed as positive". But he refrained from outright backing the move and stressed Saudi Arabia is open to establishing similar relations on condition that a peace agreement is reached between Israel and the Palestinians. This was the first public comment by Saudi Arabia on the development.

SRI LANKA

Cabinet nod for amending Constitution

SRI LANKA'S new government has decided to roll back the 19th Amendment introduced in 2015 that curtailed the powers of the President and strengthened the role of Parliament, a move the ruling Rajapaksa family-led SLPP had pledged prior to the general election, a senior minister said on Wednesday. Keheliya Rambukwella, the minister for Information and Broadcasting, said, "The Cabinet has decided to amend the 19A by introducing 20A." He did not divulge further details about the proposed change.

THAILAND

Police seek protesters who urged change to monarchy

THAI AUTHORITIES have issued arrest warrants for six activists who took part in a demonstration at which students issued a 10-point call for reform of the monarchy last week, police said on Wednesday as students called more protests. The charges against the six were not over the demands made at the protest by thousands of people at Thammasat University on Aug. 10, but for breaching internal security and measures to stop the spread of the coronavirus as well as computer crimes.

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION: DAY 2

Democrats officially nominate Biden in event showcasing party's diversity

Wife Jill Biden, a teacher, addresses education concerns amid pandemic

ALEXANDER BURNS & JONATHAN MARTIN
AUGUST 19

DEMOCRATS FORMALLY nominated Joe Biden for the US presidency Tuesday night, anointing him as their standard-bearer against President Donald Trump with an extraordinary virtual roll call vote that showcased the cultural diversity of their coalition and exposed a generational gulf that is increasingly defining the party.

Denied the chance to assemble in Milwaukee because of the coronavirus pandemic, Democratic activists and dignitaries cast their votes from locations across all 50 states, and from the American territories and the District of Columbia — from the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, to the iconic welcome sign in Las Vegas; and far beyond to the shores of Guam, "where America's day begins". They offered a grand mosaic of personal identities and experiences, many speaking in raw terms about their personal aspirations and adversities.

Appearing with his wife in a Delaware school after his home state put him over the top, Biden was feted by his grandchildren.

The second night of the Democratic National Convention straddled themes of national security, presidential accountability and continuity between the past and future leaders of the party.

Two tributes by Republicans carried particular symbolic weight for a Democratic candidate seeking to appeal across party lines: Colin Powell, the retired general and former secretary of state in the George W. Bush administration, delivered a message of support for Biden, whom he had previously en-

I know that if we entrust this nation to Joe, he will do for your family what he did for ours. Bring us together and make us whole."

JILL BIDEN

dorsed. And Cindy McCain, the widow of Sen. John McCain, appeared in a video about Biden's relationship with her husband.

Jill Biden, the former second lady, occupied the most prominent speaking slot of the night, the case that her husband understood the urgent challenges facing American families — and that he had the experience and character to meet the moment.

Speaking from a classroom at Brandywine High School, where she once taught English in the 1990s, Jill Biden described how the pandemic has disrupted education in the country, tearing at the fabric of families, communities and the economy nationwide.

"This quiet is heavy. You can hear the anxiety that echoes down empty hallways," she said. "There's no scent of new notebooks or freshly waxed floors. The rooms are dark as the bright young faces that should fill them are now confined to boxes on a computer screen."

"The despair in the lines that stretch out before food banks, and the indescribable sorrow that follows every lonely last breath that follows when the ventilators turn off."

It was a crisis, Jill Biden said, that her husband had been preparing for his entire life.

"I know that if we entrust this nation to Joe, he will do for your family what he did for ours," she said. "Bring us together and make us whole. Carry us forward in our time of need. Keep the promise of America for all of us." NYT



Joe Biden, with his wife Jill and members of their family, celebrate after the roll call vote during the second night of the Democratic National Convention on Tuesday. AP

In historic speech, Kamala Harris expected to train fire on Trump

JAMES OLIPHANT
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 19

US SENATOR Kamala Harris gives the most important speech of her political career on Wednesday when she addresses the Democratic National Convention as presidential nominee Joe Biden's running mate.

The former prosecutor from California, who made history as the first Black woman and Asian-American on a major presidential ticket, is expected to aggressively press the case against Republican President Donald Trump's reelection on Nov. 3.

Harris will likely aim to speak directly to millions of women, young Americans and voters of color, some of the party's most important constituencies if



Harris takes the stage on Day 3 of the DNC

Biden is to defeat Trump.

The proceedings being at 9 pm ET on Wednesday (6.30 am on Thursday in India).

Also speaking on the third night of the party convention are Barack Obama, the nation's first Black president, former Democratic presidential nomi-

nee Hillary Clinton, who lost to Trump in 2016, US Senator Elizabeth Warren and the Speaker of the US House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi.

Harris gained prominence for her exacting interrogations of Trump nominees, Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh and Attorney General Bill Barr, while in the Senate.

It will also give her the opportunity to outline her biography as a child of immigrants from India and Jamaica who as a district attorney, attorney general, senator and now vice-presidential candidate shattered gender and racial barriers.

Biden, 77, selected Harris, 55, for his running mate last week, adding diversity and generational balance to his campaign. REUTERS



Bill Clinton's DNC role shrinks

FEW PEOPLE ever have logged more time on Democratic National Convention stages than Bill Clinton. But his pre-recorded appearance on Tuesday lasted less than five minutes. Clinton didn't mince words. He tore into President Donald Trump repeatedly. But his appearance was tricky for his party, a big factor of which is trying to leave behind the centrist politics of the Clinton era. The #MeToo movement has also forced a re-evaluation of Clinton's history of sexual misconduct allegations. AP



AOC nominates Bernie Sanders

REPRESENTATIVE ALEXANDRIA Ocasio-Cortez used her 90 seconds on Tuesday at the convention to nominate fellow democratic socialist, Senator Bernie Sanders, for the presidency and laud the progressive movement he had helped advance. Performing the procedural role that the DNC asked of her because Sanders received some delegates based on primary results, she hailed "a mass people's movement working to establish 21st-century social, economic and human rights, including guaranteed health care..." NYT

Latest US sailing near Taiwan was extremely dangerous: China

REUTERS
BEIJING, AUGUST 19

CHINA'S MILITARY said on Wednesday the latest US Navy sailing near Chinese-claimed Taiwan was "extremely dangerous" and stirring up such trouble was in neither country's interests.

The US guided-missile destroyer USS *Mustin* sailed through the narrow and sensitive Taiwan Strait on Tuesday, the US Navy said, in what have become relatively routine trips in recent months, though they always anger China.

The Eastern Theatre Command of China's People's Liberation Army said its air and naval forces followed and monitored the US ship throughout its voyage.

"Any words or deeds that... cause trouble in the Taiwan Strait are not in line with the fundamental interests of China and the United States, harm the well-being of compatriots on both sides of the strait, pose real threats to peace and stability in the region and are extremely dangerous", it said.

Chinese forces will remain on high alert at all times to safeguard China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, it added.

Taiwan's defence ministry said the US ship was on an "ordinary mission" and passed through the Taiwan Strait in a southerly direction.



Sunil Kumar Nandeshwar leaves a courtroom in Port Louis, Mauritius, on Tuesday after his arrest. Reuters

Indian captain of ship in Mauritius oil spill arrested

ABDILATIF DAHIR
NAIROBI, AUGUST 19

THE CAPTAIN of the ship that ran aground in Mauritius and spilled about 1,000 tonnes of oil into the Indian Ocean has been arrested, his lawyer said on Tuesday.

The captain, Sunil Kumar Nandeshwar, was arraigned in a district court in the country's capital, Port Louis, on the charge of endangering the safe navigation of a vessel, an offence under Mauritian maritime laws.

Nandeshwar, an Indian national, was arrested alongside the chief officer of the ship, Tilak Ratna Suboda, a Sri Lankan. The two were taken into police custody and will appear again in court on August 25, Ilshad Munsoor, Nandeshwar's lawyer, said.

The island nation is still grappling with how to protect its coral reefs and lagoons after the spill.

The *MV Wakashio*, a Japanese-owned Panama-flagged bulk carrier, went off course and grounded on a coral reef off the coast of Mauritius on July 25. Less than two weeks later, the ship started leaking oil, leading to an ecological disaster that could have far-reaching consequences for the country's food security, economy and tourism. NYT

Man drives into motorcyclists in Germany 'terror attack', 6 injured

KIRSTEN GRIESHABER
BERLIN, AUGUST 19

AN IRAQI-BORN man deliberately drove his car into motorcycles along a stretch of Berlin highway, leaving at least one person in life-threatening condition in what German officials said Wednesday was a terror attack.

"According to the current state of our investigation we assume this was an Islamist-motivated attack," Berlin's senator for the interior, Andreas Geisel, said. "A religiously motivated background cannot be excluded."

Six people were injured, three of them severely, when the 30-year-old man, who was not named by authorities, allegedly drove into several vehicles, intentionally hitting motorcycles, on Tuesday evening, police said.

The crashes at three different locations happened shortly before 7 pm. AP



Police head to a protest site in Minsk. Reuters

Belarus leader orders police to quash protests EU announces sanctions after summit

REUTERS
BERLIN, AUGUST 19

BELARUSIAN PRESIDENT Alexander Lukashenko ordered his police on Wednesday to put down protests in the capital Minsk, signalling an escalation after a week and a half of mass demonstrations against his rule.

The European Union held an emergency summit on the crisis, rejecting Lukashenko's re-election in a disputed vote on Aug 9

and announcing financial sanctions against officials the bloc blames for election fraud and a cracking down on protests.

"Our message is very clear. Stop the violence," said Charles Michel, the EU summit chairman. Lukashenko, facing the biggest crisis of his 26-year rule, blamed foreign countries for stirring the unrest and says the protesters are funded from abroad. "There should no longer be any disorder in Minsk of any kind," he was quoted as saying by state media.

Mali soldiers oust President after armed mutiny, promise elections

President Keita, detained at gunpoint, dissolves Parliament

REUTERS
BAMAKO, AUGUST 19

SOLDIERS WHO ousted Mali's president and government in a coup promised on Wednesday to oversee elections within a "reasonable" time, as calls abroad grew for a swift resolution to an acute political crisis.

President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita resigned and dissolved Parliament Tuesday after the mutineers detained him at gunpoint, further destabilising a country in the grip of a jihadist insurgency and plagued by recent civil unrest.

Fearing Keita's fall after nearly seven years in power could destabilise West Africa's entire Sahel region, the 15-nation Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) suspended Mali from its institutions. The African Union chairman, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, de-

France, US keep a close watch

FRANCE AND the US will be among foreign countries keeping a keen eye on what is happening in Mali. France has maintained a key role in Malian affairs even after the country's independence from the French in 1960. And the US has stationed military advisers in the country, which has seen years of insurgency. Mali has seen coups in the past,

mandated an immediate return to civilian government.

The mutineers have still not identified their leader though the mood in the capital Bamako appeared calm.

A spokesman for the mutineers, calling themselves the

and after one in 2012, a large part of the country was taken over by Islamist militants with ties to Al Qaeda. They were later driven away with French military help, but the insurgency continues amid concern that turmoil in Mali could lead to extremists establishing control of territory that could then be used as a base from which to launch global attacks.

National Committee for the Salvation of the People, said they had acted to prevent further "chaos, anarchy and insecurity."

A French military source in Paris said the Army submitted many options in response to President Emmanuel Macron.

OFFICIALS DENOUNCE THOSE INFECTED AS BIOTERRORISTS

Venezuela deploys security forces in Covid crackdown

ANATOLY KURMANAEV, ISAYEN HERRERA & SHEYLA URDANETA
CARACAS, AUGUST 19

PRESIDENT NICOLÁS Maduro of Venezuela has tackled the coronavirus much as he has any internal threat to his rule: by deploying his repressive security apparatus against it.

Officials in Venezuela's government are denouncing people who may have come into contact with the coronavirus as "bioterrorists" and urging their neighbors to report them. The government is detaining and intimidating doctors and experts

who question Maduro's policies on the virus.

And it is corralling thousands of Venezuelans who are streaming home after losing jobs abroad, holding them in makeshift containment centers out of fear that they may be infected.

In commandeered hotels, disused schools and cordoned-off bus stations, returning Venezuelans are forced into crowded rooms with limited food, water or masks and held under military guard for weeks or months for coronavirus tests or treatment with unproven medications.

"They told us we're contaminated, that we're guilty of infecting the country," said Javier



In July, National Guard officers raided a house in Caracas where people had broken lockdown rules by having a gathering. NYT

Aristizabal, a nurse from the capital, Caracas, who said he spent 70 days in centres after he returned from Colombia in March.

In one major city, San Cristóbal, governing party activists are marking the homes of families suspected of having the

FDA emergency approval of blood plasma treatment put on hold

LAST WEEK, just as the Food and Drug Administration was preparing to issue an emergency authorisation for blood plasma as a Covid-19 treatment, a group of top federal health officials including Dr Anthony Fauci intervened, arguing that emerging data on the treatment was too weak,

according to two senior administration officials. The authorisation is on hold for now as more data is reviewed, according to H Clifford Lane, the clinical director at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. An emergency approval may still be issued in the future, he said. NYT

virus with plaques and threatening them with detention, activists said. In another city, Maracaibo, the police are pa-

trolling the streets in search of Venezuelans who re-entered the country without official approval. NYT

Indian students struggle to access Covid-19 hardship funds in UK, says study

ADITI KHANNA
LONDON, AUGUST 19

SEVERAL INDIAN students have been struggling to access Covid-19 hardship funds set up by universities to help out international students facing financial constraints amid job losses due to the coronavirus lockdown, a study into migrant students has found.

The Unis Resist Border Controls and Migrants' Rights Network found a "woeful lack of support structures" in place within UK higher education for international students in the country on the Tier-4 visa, with many too afraid to seek out help when needed for fear that

this may impact upon their immigration status.

In a survey conducted among students from 28 countries across 31 universities in June at the peak of the pandemic lockdown, 54 per cent of the respondents were from India and many of them reported being rejected for hardship funds and some having to resort to free food banks to save costs. "I've paid my full fees this year but I'm at risk in paying rent and finding money for food because of no job," said one Indian student from the University of Bedfordshire.

"We don't have part time jobs and our family members are unable to support us in this pandemic," he said. PTI

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Greshma C Nair W/o No.15691330N, Rank Hav. Rajesh T.R/o-Manoj Nivas, Kottathara Post, Kottathara Village, Vythiri Taluk, Wayanad Dist, Kerala State, India, Pin-673122, inform that my name wrongly recorded Army record as Greshma Rajesh instead of correct name Greshma C Nair as per affidavit No.18 vol-1/2020, Dt. 25-Jul-2020.

AJAY NEGI S/o Mohan Singh Negi R/o C3/256 Yamuna Vihar Delhi-110085 changed daughter Harshita another name Amita to Amita Rawat.

I Falguni D/o Harvinder Singh R/o B-2/180 Yamuna Vihar, Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Falguni Kapasia, for all purposes

I Army No. JC-220701F Honey, Capt. Hans Raj S/o Late Sh. Keshmir Singh R/o V.P.O. Sansai Tehsil Baijnath, Distt. Kangra-176088 (H.P) disclosed that my daughter name changed from Niyaati Kumari to Niyaati Jamwal also her D.O.B. changed from 03-09-1986 to 17-11-1986 and my son name changed from Vikas kumar to Vikash Jamwal.

I Chhoti Kumari D/o Sh. Mana Ram Mahala R/o 848, 3rd Floor, Rajwanti Garden, Near 17th Jail, Hari Nagar, New Delhi-110064 have changed my name to Avika Choudhary for all purposes.

I Dileep Kumar, S/O Sohan Lal Verma R/O-4/23, Rama-Vihar, Block-D, Mohamadpur Majri Delhi-110081, have changed my name to Dileep Kumar Verma.

I, Sudesh W/o Harvinder Singh R/o B-2/180 Yamuna Vihar Delhi-110053, have changed my name, from Sudesh to Sudesh Kapasia, for all purposes.

I, KUMAR MACHOTRA S/O KISHAN LAL MALHOTRA R/O H.NO. DU-147, VISHAKHA ENCLAVE, PITAMPURA, DELHI-110088. CHANGED MY NAME TO SUNIL KUMAR MALHOTRA.

I, Deepa Jain, W/o Ashok Jain R/o H.No. -61, Yadav Park Extn, Najafgarh Road, Nangloi, Delhi-110041, have changed my name to Geeta Jain, Deepa Jain & Geeta Jain both are the same person.

I, Anjali Joshi, W/O Jagraj Singh, D/O H-2, Joshi, R/O-RZ 24, J-block, gali no. 2, west sagarpur, new Delhi-110046, have changed my name from Anjali Joshi to Aashi Kaur for all future Purpose.

I, Aman Preet Singh Sidana S/o Kanwaljit Singh, R/o C-83, Fateh Nagar, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi, have changed my name to Amanpreet Singh Sidana, Aman Preet Singh Sidana both are the same person.

I, hitherto known as Vikas Khan, S/o Dharamvir, Residing at Ward.No.15, Safidon, Distt. Jind Haryana-126112, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Vikas.

I, Yuvraj Singh S/o Veer Singh R/o WZ-327, Basaidarapur, New Delhi-110015 have changed my name to Nishant Nayk permanently.

I, Vimal Kumar S/o Sahi Ram R/o C-304, Tower-Hights Apartment, Near-TV-Tower, Pitampura, Delhi-14, have changed my minor son's name Vaibhav to Vaibhav Partap Singh.

I, VIPEAN KUMAR KHOSLA S/O PREM DASS KHOSLA, H.NO.F-3/28, KRISHNA NAGAR, SHAHDRA, DELHI-110051, changed my name to VIPIN KHOSLA permanently.

I, VED PARKASH MEHTA, S/O PIARE LAL MEHTA, H.NO-316, DDA-FLATS, VASANT ENCLAVE, VASANT VIHAR, KUSUMPUR, DELHI-110057, changed my name to VED PARKASH, permanently.

I, SHAKUNTALA W/O RAJBIR DAHYA R/O H.NO.47-C-VILLAGE KAKROI, SONIPAT-131001. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SHAKUNTALA.

I, Subhashree Nayak, S/o Jogendra Kumar Nayak R/o Fetapur, PO-Gopiakuda, PS-Kujanga, Distt-Jagatsinghpur, Odisha-754141, have changed my name to Subham Nayak, all purposes.

I, Shubham S/o Jagdish Lal, r/o 3224 Sector 9 A bahadurgarh Distt. Jhajjar (HR)-124507 have changed my name Shubham to Shubham Kashyap vide affidavit dated 19/Aug/2020.

I, Sanampreet Singh, S/O Shri Harvinder Singh Khera R/O-UP-33, 2nd-Floor, Maurya-Enclave, Pitampura Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Sanampreet Singh Khera.

I Prabal Bajaj S/o Sh. Atul Bajaj R/O F-1/59, Sector-11, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Prabal Atul Bajaj for all purposes.

I, Rubi Biswas, spouse of No.15788729P Rank NK, name Himangshu Biswas, a resident of Villi:- Palasha Bari, PO:- Tetelisar, Teh:- Kampur Distt:- Nagoan (Assam) have changed my name from Rubi Biswas now changed to Rubi Dekaraja, vide affidavit dtd.-17-12-2019

I, RADHEY SHYAM S/O JAI BHAGWAN R/O RZ-E/48, B-BLOCK, OLD JANAKPURI, UTTAM NAGAR, DELHI-110059. CHANGED MY NAME TO RADHEY SHYAM GARG.

I, Prashant S/o Late Subhash Manchanda R/o H.NO-106, S.F., Gali-2, Govindpuri, Kalkaji, N.Delhi-19 have changed my name to Prashant Manchanda permanently.

I, No.15788729P Rank NK, name Himangshu Biswas, a resident of Villi:- Palasha Bari, PO:- Tetelisar, Teh:- Kampur, Distt:- Nagoan (Assam) have changed my daughter's name from Astha Biswas now changed to Aastha Biswas vide affidavit dtd.17-12-2019.

I, PUNEET KHOSALA, S/O VIPIN KHOSLA, H.NO F-3/28, KRISHNA NAGAR, SHAHDRA, DELHI 110051, changed my name to PUNEET KHOSLA, permanently.

I, MOHIT S/O SUKHBIR DAYMA ADDRESS- VILLAGE KADARPUR-(84), GURGAON, HARYANA-122101. Have changed my name to MOHIT DAYMA.

I, Harvinder Singh, S/O Shri Jaswant Singh Khera, R/O-UP-33, 2nd-Floor, Maurya Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Harvinder Singh Khera.

I, Dipankar Dhoshal S/O Krishna R/O, H.No.54D, Amar-Colony Phase-3, Kuamrind Nagar, West-Delhi-110041 have changed my name to Dipankar Ghosal.

I, Chitarlekha W/O Ved Prakash R/O H.No.513, Near Shiv Mandir, Tilpat, Faridabad, Haryana-121003, have changed my name to Chironji.

I, Babau Ram Yadav, S/O Shri. Bhothram Jainarayan Yadav, R/O-B-183, Palam-Extn. Near-Ramphal-Chowk, Sector-7, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075, have changed my name, from Babauram Bhothram Yadav to Babau Ram Yadav, for all purposes.

I, BOBBY S/O Mangu Ram R/O E-1433 Jahangirpuri, North West Delhi, have changed my name to Rajender Kumar.

I, BAL RAM GARG S/O JAI BHAGWAN R/O H.NO.RZ-B/48, B-BLOCK, OLD JANAKPURI, UTTAM NAGAR, DELHI-110059. CHANGED MY NAME TO BALRAM.

I, Aqeel Ahmad Qadri S/O Banney Shah R/O-477, Gali No.20A, Zakir Nagar, Jamianagar, N.Delhi-25 have changed my name to Aqeel Ahmad.

I, BAL RAM GARG S/O JAI BHAGWAN R/O H.NO.RZ-B/48, B-BLOCK, OLD JANAKPURI, UTTAM NAGAR, DELHI-110059. CHANGED MY NAME TO BALRAM.

I, Ajeel Ahmad Qadri S/O Banney Shah R/O-477, Gali No.20A, Zakir Nagar, Jamianagar, N.Delhi-25 have changed my name to Aqeel Ahmad.

I, AJIT Kumar Mohan Lal Verma, R/O-Late Shri. Mohan Lal Jai Ram Verma, R/O-S-27, Parampuri, Third-Floor, Uttam-Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Ajit Verma.

I, MONIA W/O HARJEET SINGH R/O HNO.4A/3, TILAK NAGAR, DELHI-110018. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MONIA KAUR.

I, ANNU DEVI/ANNU SACHDEVA W/O ASHOK KUMAR R/O HNO.A-1/333 A, SECTOR-6, ROHINI, DELHI-110085. CHANGED MY NAME TO SUSHIL SACHDEVA.

I, MUSKAN D/O AJAY NEGI R/O C3/256 Yamuna Vihar Delhi-110085 changed my mother name AMITA to AMITA RAWAT.

I, Kshetrimayum Bireshor Singh S/O, Kshetrimayum Lakhibabu Singh R/O H.no 1400/4 2nd Floor, Room 54 Gali No.7, Wazir Nagar Kotla Mubarakpur New Delhi-110003 have changed my name to Bireshor Kshetrimayum

I, Khushi Arora D/o Sh. Kulvinder Singh Arora R/O Flat No.1, Plot No.44, Vasundhara Appt., Sec-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Khushi Kaur Arora for all purposes.

AJAY NEGI S/o Mohan Singh Negi R/o C3/256 Yamuna Vihar Delhi-110085 daughter ASHWARYA mother name changed AMITA to AMITA RAWAT

I, Subhashree Nayak, S/o Jogendra Kumar Nayak R/o Fetapur, PO-Gopiakuda, PS-Kujanga, Distt-Jagatsinghpur, Odisha-754141, have changed my name to Subham Nayak, all purposes.

I, Sanampreet Singh, S/O Shri Harvinder Singh Khera R/O-UP-33, 2nd-Floor, Maurya-Enclave, Pitampura Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Sanampreet Singh Khera.

I Prabal Bajaj S/o Sh. Atul Bajaj R/O F-1/59, Sector-11, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Prabal Atul Bajaj for all purposes.

LOST & FOUND

My original Documents Perpetual Lease Deed of Property-No.C-14,Vishal Enclave, New Delhi, has lost. Finder contact: Rajnish Kukreja, S/o Harish Kukreja R/O-83, West Avenue-Road,Punjabi Bagh,N.D.26, Mobile.No.9810095287.

It is notified for the information that my original-qualifying examination-certificate of main-senior secondary-examination year-1990, and Roll.No.281995, issued by CBSE has been actually destroyed. Name of Candidate, Gursharan Singh Johar, S/O, Ragbir Singh Johar, R/O-200, FARMERS-APARTMENT, SECTOR-13, ROHINI, NEW-DELHI-110085.

I, Umar Jamal S/o-Sh. Shami Ahmed R/o C.-B.-6, Chitrgupt Vihar, Sec-23, Sanjay Nagar Ghaziabad, have Lost Awaraz Vikriya Vilekh-246 Mansi Vihar, Sec-23, Sanjay Nagar Khasra.No.-941 & 953, Bahi-No.-1, Jilnd.No.-454, written in Page.No.47/51 Name of Registry:-Rajesh Kumar Pahuja S/O-Sh. Dharmchand., Finder Contact above address.

I,deepak pal Notified that my Cbse certificate of class 12th, year 2013 roll no-9691986, has been lost plz contact: 8178042951 0050167789-1

I, Abrahm Ahmed S/o-Mohd Hussaini shop address-179 new-sabzi-Mandi khilla Delhi, have lost my shop, allotment-Possession-letter, demand-letter. If anyone finds these papers, please send me; the above address.

I, Mohit S/O SUKHBIR DAYMA ADDRESS- VILLAGE KADARPUR-(84), GURGAON, HARYANA-122101. Have changed my name to MOHIT DAYMA.

I, Harvinder Singh, S/O Shri Jaswant Singh Khera, R/O-UP-33, 2nd-Floor, Maurya Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Harvinder Singh Khera.

I, Dipankar Dhoshal S/O Krishna R/O, H.No.54D, Amar-Colony Phase-3, Kuamrind Nagar, West-Delhi-110041 have changed my name to Dipankar Ghosal.

I, Chitarlekha W/O Ved Prakash R/O H.No.513, Near Shiv Mandir, Tilpat, Faridabad, Haryana-121003, have changed my name to Chironji.

I, Babau Ram Yadav, S/O Shri. Bhothram Jainarayan Yadav, R/O-B-183, Palam-Extn. Near-Ramphal-Chowk, Sector-7, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075, have changed my name, from Babauram Bhothram Yadav to Babau Ram Yadav, for all purposes.

I, BOBBY S/O Mangu Ram R/O E-1433 Jahangirpuri, North West Delhi, have changed my name to Rajender Kumar.

I, BAL RAM GARG S/O JAI BHAGWAN R/O H.NO.RZ-B/48, B-BLOCK, OLD JANAKPURI, UTTAM NAGAR, DELHI-110059. CHANGED MY NAME TO BALRAM.

I, Aqeel Ahmad Qadri S/O Banney Shah R/O-477, Gali No.20A, Zakir Nagar, Jamianagar, N.Delhi-25 have changed my name to Aqeel Ahmad.

I, BAL RAM GARG S/O JAI BHAGWAN R/O H.NO.RZ-B/48, B-BLOCK, OLD JANAKPURI, UTTAM NAGAR, DELHI-110059. CHANGED MY NAME TO BALRAM.

I, Ajeel Ahmad Qadri S/O Banney Shah R/O-477, Gali No.20A, Zakir Nagar, Jamianagar, N.Delhi-25 have changed my name to Aqeel Ahmad.

I, AJIT Kumar Mohan Lal Verma, R/O-Late Shri. Mohan Lal Jai Ram Verma, R/O-S-27, Parampuri, Third-Floor, Uttam-Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Ajit Verma.

I, MONIA W/O HARJEET SINGH R/O HNO.4A/3, TILAK NAGAR, DELHI-110018. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MONIA KAUR.

I, ANNU DEVI/ANNU SACHDEVA W/O ASHOK KUMAR R/O HNO.A-1/333 A, SECTOR-6, ROHINI, DELHI-110085. CHANGED MY NAME TO SUSHIL SACHDEVA.

I, MUSKAN D/O AJAY NEGI R/O C3/256 Yamuna Vihar Delhi-110085 changed my mother name AMITA to AMITA RAWAT.

I, Kshetrimayum Bireshor Singh S/O, Kshetrimayum Lakhibabu Singh R/O H.no 1400/4 2nd Floor, Room 54 Gali No.7, Wazir Nagar Kotla Mubarakpur New Delhi-110003 have changed my name to Bireshor Kshetrimayum

I, Khushi Arora D/o Sh. Kulvinder Singh Arora R/O Flat No.1, Plot No.44, Vasundhara Appt., Sec-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Khushi Kaur Arora for all purposes.

AJAY NEGI S/o Mohan Singh Negi R/o C3/256 Yamuna Vihar Delhi-110085 daughter ASHWARYA mother name changed AMITA to AMITA RAWAT

I, Subhashree Nayak, S/o Jogendra Kumar Nayak R/o Fetapur, PO-Gopiakuda, PS-Kujanga, Distt-Jagatsinghpur, Odisha-754141, have changed my name to Subham Nayak, all purposes.

I, Sanampreet Singh, S/O Shri Harvinder Singh Khera R/O-UP-33, 2nd-Floor, Maurya-Enclave, Pitampura Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Sanampreet Singh Khera.

I Prabal Bajaj S/o Sh. Atul Bajaj R/O F-1/59, Sector-11, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Prabal Atul Bajaj for all purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE General public inform that my client Shri Randhir Singh S/o Shri Nand Lal Singh and his wife Smt. Nirmala Devi R/o B-1132, Top Floor, Chhatrapur Extension, Near Bikar Milk Majali wala, New Delhi-110074 has severed his relations and connections from his son namely Harish Kumar and debar him from all his movable & immovable properties due to misconduct and misbehavior. If anybody dealing with him will do so at his/her own risk and consequences. My client will not be responsible for any deeds and acts of his son. Rahul Sharma (Advocate) Enrol. D/3798/12

PUBLIC NOTICE My client sh. Ravinder chugh along with his wife Smt. Sheela Bala R/O No.2, 3rd floor, Vishnu park, Tikra nagar, Delhi-110018, have debarred/dismisled their son namely Harinder chugh (Humayun) and his wife Sapna chugh due to their Bad Behavior, Violence and harassment. Respectively from their movable and immovable properties and have broken down all their ties and relation due to bad behavior with them. Accordingly, his/her name and public is put to notice that Sh. Ravinder chugh will not be responsible for any debts related to his son/harinder chugh and his wife sapna chugh any of their actions henceforth. MOHIT BHARDWAJ ADVOCATE DELHI HIGH COURT ENROLLMENT No. 92595/18

PUBLIC NOTICE General Public is hereby informed that I, Rakesh Kumar S/o Sh. Nand Gopal R/o C-19, Netaji Road, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi-110033, have lost/ misplaced my original 'Gift Deed' of property No. C-19, Netaji Road, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi-33. In case any misuse of the said Gift Deed been done further I won't be held liable. If anyone find the same may kindly contact me on Mobile No. 9312284658

PUBLIC NOTICE Be it known to public that my client Sh. Rishay Shyam Sharma age 65 years S/o Sh. Hari Bahu Sharma presently residing at L - 1, 2064-A Ground Floor Gali No. 154 Sangam Vihar New Delhi - 110050 have severed all relations with their son namely Nitin Sharma and his wife Shyam and disowned them from all his movable and immovable property due to his misbehavior and bad behavior. My client shall not be responsible for their any acts and deeds in any manner whatsoever. Sd/- HIMANSHU LATWAL Advocate Delhi High Court D-1828/2013

PUBLIC NOTICE Be it known to public that I large that I, Brij Lal s/o Baijnath r/o G-136, Gali No. 2, Sai Enclave, Mohan Nagar, New Delhi-110059, have debarred and disowned my son, Ajay Kumar Yadav from all my movable and immovable properties situated in India, w.e.f. 20.08.2020. Henceforth, my son, his wife, his legal heirs or any person claiming through him will not have any legal title or interest in any of my movable and immovable properties w.e.f. 20.08.2020. Further, from today, I will not be responsible for any acts, actions and deeds committed by him. Manoj Kumar Advocate Chamber No. 620, Rohini Court, Rohini, Delhi-110085

PUBLIC NOTICE Through this Public Notice that my client, Smt. Kamla Devi, Late N.K. Makkar resident of 450, Nehru Nagar, New Delhi has debarred her son namely Indrajit Makkar son of Late Shri N.K. Makkar from all her movable and immovable properties, assets and things, due to his disobedient behavior. Any person dealing with him in any manner who will be sole responsible for all acts, deeds and consequences. Sd/- AJAY SETH ADVOCATE Enrol. No. D/7196 Chamber No. 351, Lawyers Block, Old Rajinder Court Complex, New Delhi-110017 Mobile No.: 9811058685

PUBLIC NOTICE Be it known to the public at large that my client Sh. Pawan Kumar S/o Sh. Yashpal R/O 296, Vipin Garden, Nawada, Uttam Nagar, West Delhi, New Delhi-110059, has debarred, disowned and discard his relationship with his elder son Rahul Yadav S/o Sh. Pawan Kumar, aged about 27 years and younger son Sh. Sh. Pawan Kumar, aged about 25 years and his wife Smt. Neha Sharma W/O Sh. Lalit, aged about 20 years, from all my movable and immovable properties due to their bad behavior and cruel some attitude and not in the control of my client. If anybody deals with them, then he/she will do so at his/her own risks, costs & consequences. My client shall not be responsible for the same in any manner & in future. Sd/- SATISH YADAV Advocate CH. No. B-123, Bawa Block, Opp. Central Hall, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE General public is hereby informed that Smt. Neelam Manchanda and Smt. Yashni Chugh are the joint owners of the Flat No. 10, C-2 Second Floor, Block/Pocket-BG-1, situated at Shalimar Bagh (West), Delhi (Will be called the 'Property'). That a document of chain of the property which is original General Power of Attorney dated 27/09/2003 (Reg. No. 38118) executed by Sh. Ram Nath Nayyar in favour of Smt. Sheetal Punj is misplaced/lost anywhere. An FIR/NCR to this effect has been already lodged in Crime Branch Delhi Police vide LR No. 49631/2020 on 18/08/2020. Any person dealing in any way with the said property on the basis of above lost document shall do so at his/her own peril and the same shall be legal, full and void. Anybody aware of any such persons claiming any rights, interest, title, etc. based on the above lost document or being found in possession of the same may file objection within 15 days from the date of this publication on Email id: rohishas35@gmail.com/underseal. Sd/- Rohit Kumar, Advocate Chamber No. 121, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Court Delhi-110054

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY Open E-Tender Notice Divl. Rly. Manager, Engineering, N.W.Railway, Jaipur for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender for the following works upto 15.30 hours on the date shown as below : Tender No. : ENGG-JP-2020-51, Name of work with location : ADEN-FL sub division-Leftover works such as drain, covering, boundary wall, approach road, plinth protection etc in newly constructed ROH at FL & Leftover works in newly constructed Quarters at SFE & BILA station., Approx. Cost of work : 9094546/-, Earnest Money Rs. : 181900/-, Tender No. : ENGG-JP-2020-51-54, Name of work with location : DEN/E/FL Section : Miscellaneous track works in the jurisdiction of ADEN/BKI., Approx. Cost of work : 21658840/-, Earnest Money Rs. : 254/-, Tender No. : ENGG-JP-2020-51-55, Name of work with location : Jaipur-Repair & Maintenance of Ganpati Nagar cricket ground, K.P. Singh Stadium At Jaipur (for 12 Months), Approx. Cost of work : 533210/-, Earnest Money Rs. : 10700/-, Detail is available on N.W.Rly website www.ireps.gov.in and Notice Board in W section, DRM Office, NWR/Jaipur. Tender No. ENGG-JP-2020-21-53 to ENGG-JP-2020-21-55 is closed on 09.09.20 at 15:30 hrs and opened on 09.09.20 at 16:00 hrs. 715-SP/20 Please join us on NWR/Railways

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY e-Tender Notice e-tender Notice No. 23 of 2020-21 (Open)-Engg/DDU On line (through e-tendering) for the following work is invited by DRM/Engg/DDU for and on behalf of the President of India from experienced and financially as well as technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD, BSNL, MES, PWD and other public sector undertakings. Tender No. 10-DDU-SRDEN-III-20-21 (i) Name of work with its location : Provision of road connecting fly over cabin to NH-2 road under ADEN/ JPL. (ii) Approx. cost of the work : ₹ 4889705.78 (iii) Earnest Money : ₹ 97800.00 (iv) Date & time for submission of e-tender : 09.09.2020, Up to 12:00 hrs. (v) Website particulars of e-tendering : www.ireps.gov.in

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY e-Tender Notice e-tender Notice No. 22 of 2020-21 (Open)-Engg/DDU On line (through e-tendering) for the following work is invited by DRM/Engg/DDU for and on behalf of the President of India from experienced and financially as well as technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD, BSNL, MES, PWD and other public sector undertakings. Tender No. 11-DDU-SRDEN-I-20-21 (i) Name of work with its location : Complete Track Renewal (P) work from Km. 588.00-593.590 = 8.872 Km. and to 593.985-617.00=23.015 Km. REV line under ADEN/II/DDU (ii) Approx. cost of the work : ₹ 34034063.22 (iii) Earnest Money : ₹ 320200.00 Tender No. 12-DDU-SRDEN-I-20-21 (i) Name of work with its location : Construction and repair of cess, widening berms, drain etc. and other ancillary work like store godown/ Restroom in connection with CTR (P) work under ADEN (II)/DDU (ii) Approx. cost of the work : ₹ 9190442.1 (iii) Earnest Money : ₹ 183800.00 (iv) Date & time for submission of e-tender : 11.09.2020, Up to 12:00 hrs. (v) Website particulars of e-tendering : www.ireps.gov.in

E - TENDERING PRESS NOTICE The Executive Engineer, CD-XII, Irrigation & Flood Control Department, GNCTD Opp. ESI Hospital, Basai Darapur Office Complex New Delhi-110027 invites on behalf of the President of India, online Item rate tender from approved and eligible contractors for the following works:- 1. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/01- (ID No. 2020_IFC_193469_1)- HOA-2711-A/R & M/O Drains. SW-Construction of parapet wall on the left side of Niloti Distributory from Keshopur Pump House to Nangloi-Najafgarh Road in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 58,54,122/- Earnest money Rs. 1,17,082/- period of completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 24.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1

2. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/06- (ID No. 2020_IFC_193470_1)- HOA-2711-A/R & M/O Drains. SW-Cleaning of Storm water drain from Niloti Road to KSN Drain in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 8,97,695/- Earnest money Rs. 17,954/- period of completion 30 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 24.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1

3. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/07- (ID No. 2020_IFC_193471_1)- HOA-2711-A/R & M/O Drains. SW-Cleaning of Drain by super sucker machine from Haryana Border to PVC Road at village Tikri Kalan in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 7,63,041/- Earnest money Rs. 15,261/- period of completion 30 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 24.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1

4. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/08- (ID No. 2020_IFC_193472_1)- HOA-2711-A/R & M/O Drains. SW-Construction of parapet wall on the left side of Niloti Distributory and Niloti Minor from Nangloi-Najafgarh Road to Rahnaha Bakkarwala Road in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 55,48,466/- Earnest money Rs. 1,10,969/- period of completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 24.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1

5. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/09- (ID No. 2020_IFC_193473_1)- HOA-2711-A/R & M/O Drains. SW-Construction of parapet wall on the left side of Niloti Minor from Lok Nayak Puram Road to Sub Minor No. 10 in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 45,04,394/- Earnest money Rs. 90,088/- period of completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 24.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1

6. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/10- (ID No. 2020_IFC_193474_1)- HOA-2711-A/R & M/O Drains. SW-Construction of parapet wall on the left side of Niloti Minor from Lok Nayak Puram Road to Sub Minor No. 10 in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 45,04,394/- Earnest money Rs. 90,088/- period of completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 24.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1

7. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/11- (ID No. 2020_IFC_193475_1)- HOA-2711-A/R & M/O Drains. SW-Construction of parapet wall on the left side of Niloti Minor from Lok Nayak Puram Road to Sub Minor No. 10 in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 45,04,394/- Earnest money Rs. 90,088/- period of completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 24.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1

8. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/12- (ID No. 2020_IFC_193476_1)- HOA-2711-A/R & M/O Drains. SW-Construction of parapet wall on the left side of Niloti Minor from Lok Nayak Puram Road to Sub Minor No. 10 in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 45,04,394/- Earnest money Rs. 90,088/- period of completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 24.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1

9. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/13- (ID No. 2020_IFC_193477_1)- HOA-2711-A/R & M/O Drains. SW-Construction of parapet wall on the left side of Niloti Minor from Lok Nayak Puram Road to Sub Minor No. 10 in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 45,04,394/- Earnest money Rs. 90,088/- period of completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 24.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1

10. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/14- (ID No. 2020_IFC_193478_1)- HOA-2711-A/R & M/O Drains. SW-Construction of parapet wall on the left side of Niloti Minor from Lok Nayak Puram Road to Sub Minor No. 10 in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 45,04,394/- Earnest money Rs. 90,088/- period of completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 24.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1

11. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/15- (ID No. 2020_IFC_193479_1)- HOA-2711-A/R & M/O Drains. SW-Construction of parapet wall on the left side of Niloti Minor from Lok Nayak Puram Road to Sub Minor No. 10 in Distt. West. E.C. Rs. 45,04,394/- Earnest money Rs. 90,088/- period of completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 24.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M respectively). AE-1

POWER MINISTER RK SINGH SAYS HIS MINISTRY HAS SUGGESTED OVER 300 UNITS FOR EXTENSION

With most thermal plants likely to miss clean energy deadline, PowerMin recommends breather up to 2 yrs

PRABHARAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

WITH SEVERAL thermal power plants likely to miss the government's 2022 deadline for installing equipment to minimise pollution from their operations, the Ministry of Power is recommending that the deadline be extended by up to two years for over 300 such units. The recommendation was made last week in a letter to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF), said Power Minister RK Singh.

"I believe it (the extension) is necessary," the Minister told *The Indian Express* in an interview, adding the final decision will be taken by the MoEF and, in specific cases, the Supreme Court.

Of a total of 448 units that are planned for flue-gas desulfurization (FGD) systems — which remove sulphur dioxide (SO₂) from exhaust flue gases — the Ministry is recommending 322 with a capacity worth 1 lakh megawatt (MW) for an extension, according to the Minister. The Ministry is "not touching" cases pending at the Supreme Court and instances

Rajiv Gandhi Thermal Power Plant at Khedar (Haryana Power Generation Corporation Ltd) in Hisar, Haryana. *Express file*

where Central Pollution Control Board has imposed penalties.

"We are not recommending two years for everybody. There are some cases where we are not recommending (an extension) where they are already in progress," he said. "Different categories will require different timelines for extension," he added.

The process of commissioning FGD for thermal capacity has been conducted in a "phased" manner that consists of a feasibility study, following which tender specifications are made and Notices Inviting Tenders are issued. Bids are awarded based on this, following which FGD is commissioned.

Of the 448 units comprising

nearly 1.70 lakh MW capacity, feasibility studies were yet to start in around 10 units consisting of 3,560 MW as on August 11. Of the remaining 438, feasibility studies had been conducted on around 416 units (1.57 lakh MW), tender specifications made for 329 (1.31 lakh MW), NITs issued for 294 (1.20 lakh MW) and bids awarded for 130 units (58,000 MW). FGD has been commissioned for four of these units (1,740 MW).

India's green push has been blunted somewhat due to the feeble progress in addressing the environmental damage on account of the country's massive fleet of aging and inefficient coal- and lignite-fuelled thermal power plants,

most of which are highly polluting in terms of carbon dioxide and SO₂ emissions. This move to push the deadline comes at a time newer, cost-efficient and less polluting supercritical thermal plants are struggling to get customers or coal, while the inefficient, highly polluting and aging plants continue to sell costly power under the protection of long-term power purchase agreements to discoms.

In June 2017, the Power Ministry had informed the Environment Ministry that 165.9 gigawatts (GW) of 187.1 GW — or 89 per cent of the country's existing coal-based power capacity — were not in compliance with SO₂ emission limits notified in 2015.

Even though the 2015 norms stated all existing coal-based plants need to follow emission limits by December 7, 2017, the Ministry stated it would take "seven years" to "retro-fit" FGD systems in the existing capacity. It had also stated that the remaining 165.9 GW capacity either does not have "space" or is "not interested" in installing FGD systems.

While progress in getting thermal plants to install FGD systems,

including drawing up the scheme, holding bids and placing work orders, happened after 2017 "in a large number of cases", several thermal units have been facing challenges, as per the Minister.

"One major issue is that of financing. The banks were reluctant to finance...because they said that there has to be a visibility of enhanced tariff on account of the additional investment which is being made, which is almost Rs 55 lakh per megawatt," said Singh.

Another issue relates to the government's Make in India push and the ensuing requirement for a large proportion of value addition in capacity to be domestically sourced. "The COVID-19 lockdown is another major factor...that is about a minimum of six months in which that much extension is necessary," he added.

Paradoxically, while being inefficient, old coal/lignite thermal power plants are operationally inflexible and not capable of quickly changing their output (ramping up or down) in tandem with the RE generations giving varying output each time of the day.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

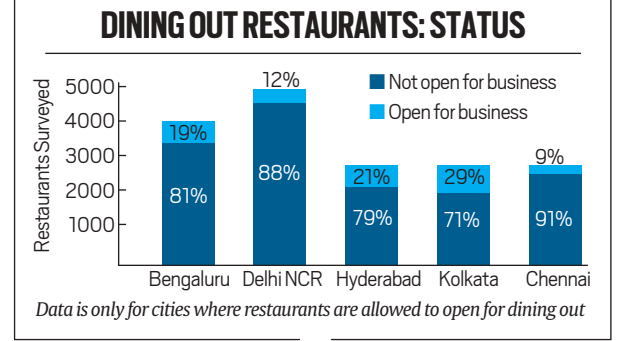
‘Only 17% of restaurants open, industry operating at 8-10% of pre-COVID levels’

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

DESPITE A move towards unlocking the economy, the restaurant industry is only operating at 8-10 per cent of the pre-COVID levels, with the slump largely being on account of markets being in lockdown, consumers not stepping out due to fear of transmission and restaurants not opening up, even if the city is not in lockdown, a report by Zomato said.

Notably, the report pointed out, even in cities where restrictions have been lifted, only 17 per cent dining out restaurants are open for business at the moment, which are also running at low capacity. Among the major cities where restaurants are allowed to open for dining out, only 9 per cent of eateries are open in Chennai, 12 per cent in Delhi, 19 per cent in Bengaluru, 21 per cent in Hyderabad and 29 per cent in Kolkata.

"Of the 83 per cent restaurants that are not open for business, 10 per cent have already shut down



permanently and we anticipate an additional 30 per cent restaurants to not reopen at all. Remaining 43 per cent are closed right now but likely to open, as the situation becomes better," the report noted.

Contrarily, Zomato reported its food-delivery business clocking 75-80 per cent of pre-COVID gross merchandise volumes (GMV). "Some areas in some cities are clocking higher GMV than before (affluent neighbourhoods no longer fear contagion from food delivery, and are combining home entertainment with outside food).

Predictably, residential areas are doing 50 per cent better than commercial areas. Restaurants in and around commercial districts are expected to take the longest to recover," the report said, adding that sporadic lockdowns in some cities disrupt business as usual for a few days but delivery volumes bounce back as soon as these lockdowns are lifted.

It said the number of restaurants offering delivery is at 70 per cent of pre-COVID levels, of which about 5 per cent did not offer food delivery services pre-COVID.

Loans worth ₹8.4 lakh crore may enter recast scheme: Report

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, AUGUST 19

LOANS WORTH Rs 8,40,000 crore, or 7.7 per cent of the total bank credit, of corporates and non-corporates, including retail, agri, micro, small and medium enterprises segments, are likely to get restructured under the Reserve Bank of India's proposed loan restructuring scheme to bring down COVID-related stress, according to an India Ratings report.

At least Rs 2,10,000 crore (1.9 per cent of banking credit) of the non-corporate loans are likely to undergo restructuring, which would have otherwise slipped into non-performing assets, India Ratings said. While the six-month moratorium on loan repayments will end on August 31, the RBI has allowed banks to recast loans which were classified as standard as on March 1, 2020. The RBI-appointed Kamath panel is working out the details of the recast plan.

Total bank credit as on July 31 is Rs 102.65 lakh crore, according to the RBI data.

The total figure could be higher if restructuring in non-corporate segments exceeds 1.9 per cent of the total bank credit.

41ST MEETING SLATED FOR AUGUST 27

GST Council meet: Centre-states tussle likely over compensation

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

THE GOODS and Services Tax (GST) Council will hold its 41st meeting on August 27 to discuss the single-point agenda of compensation to states for revenue losses under the indirect tax regime. Several options including expanding the ambit of compensation cess, market borrowing to fund compensation deficit along with a future plan for rate rationalisation beginning from correction of inverted duty structure for some items are expected to be discussed in the meeting, officials said.

The meeting is expected to see a tussle between states and the Centre, as they have already voiced differing opinions on the proposal for market borrowing. A leg-

EXPLAINED
Some seek hike in rates

THE RESOLUTION of compensation issue has been pending since October last. Some states have suggested that the Council should, sooner or later, consider raising tax rates.

al opinion by the Attorney General of India is learnt to have put the ball squarely in the Centre's court, stating that the Centre does not have the obligation to pay for revenue shortfall and the Council can recommend to the Centre to allow the states "to borrow on the strength of the future receipts from the

central government to take the "final decision in the matter".

States, on the other hand, are of the view that the compensation fund is unlikely to have enough funds, so it won't have enough funds to cover for the borrowing by states. Some of them have instead suggested raising tax rates and bringing more items into the ambit of compensation cess to shore up revenues.

States such as Punjab, Kerala and Bihar are not in favour of being asked to borrow to bridge the revenue gap, which will be then repaid from the compensation cess fund. Punjab has suggested five measures — ad-valorem compensation cess to factor in inflation, subsisting central excise duty on cigarettes and tobacco products in compensation cess,

settlement of pending IGST dues, bringing back certain items into the 28 per cent tax slab, and inclusion of services consumed by rich in the topmost 28 per cent slab — as possible solutions to reduce the revenue gap and hence the burden of compensation to states. The rest of the shortfall in compensation could be then paid by borrowing by the Centre.

Bihar has also said that borrowing by states or the Centre, if to be repaid from the compensation cess fund, is not feasible and that the Council should consider raising GST rates, sooner or later.

On August 1, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the Attorney General's view on GST compensation was sought after consultation with states and a meeting of the Council would be held to discuss the legal opinion.

Minimum wage criteria rules 'ambiguous': ILO paper

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

TERMINING THE current minimum wage fixing criteria in the draft minimum wage rules as ambiguous, the International Labour Organization (ILO) in a discussion paper has called for refining of the rules and suggested relying on the evidence-based approach as suggested by the expert committee on determining the methodology for fixing the national minimum

wage earlier.

"The wage rules do not outline the exact criteria and methods for fixation of floor wage rates by the Central Government, except for stating some broad components such as food, clothing, housing and any other factors... India, with more than 70 years of experience in implementation of minimum wage regulation and 24 years of implementing the NFLMW, cannot afford to leave the floor wage fixation criteria ambiguous in the wage rules," the paper, co-authored

by ILO Wage Specialist Xavier Estupinan, VV Giri National Labour Institute's faculty Anoop Satpathy and Indian Economic Service officer Bikash K. Mallick, said.

The Expert Committee had earlier recommended setting the national floor wage at Rs 375 per day (Rs 9,750 per month) as per July 2018 prices, which if now updated to January 2020 prices, will be Rs 413 per day (10,738 rupees per month), it said.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

BRIEFLY

Bond sale: SBI raises ₹8.9K cr

Mumbai: State Bank of India (SBI) has raised Rs 8,931 crore via Tier-2 bond sale, with 6.80 per cent interest rate.

CCI relief for WhatsApp UPI

New Delhi: The Competition Commission of India (CCI) rejected claims of WhatsApp using its dominant position to gain market in the digital payments sector. **ENS**

NPCI arm for global markets

New Delhi: The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) Wednesday announced launch of a subsidiary NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) for its international growth ambitions.

Trading in G-TAM at IEX

New Delhi: Indian Energy Exchange (IEX) Wednesday said it will launch trading in green term-ahead market (G-TAM) on Friday, as it has received power regulator CERC nod for the same. **PTI**

Sebi proposes tighter relisting norms for CIRP companies

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, AUGUST 19

THE 8,764 per cent rise in the share price of Ruchi Soya Industries, after the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP), has prompted Sebi to propose stringent relisting guidelines. In a discussion paper, Sebi has proposed three options for CIRP companies to increase public float at quicker timelines.

Under option 1, post-CIRP, companies should be mandated to achieve at least 10 per cent public shareholding within six

months and 25 per cent within 3 years from the date of breach of minimum public shareholding norm. The second option proposes post-CIRP, firms should be mandated to have at least 5 per cent public shareholding at time of relisting. Such firms may be given 12 months to achieve public shareholding of 10 per cent and further 24 months to achieve public shareholding of 25 per cent. Option three stipulates post-CIRP, companies should be mandated to have at least 10 per cent public shareholding at time of relisting. Such companies may be provided 3 years to achieve MPS of 25 per cent.

‘Need to treat fixed line services on par with water, electricity’

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

INDIA NEEDS to focus on the growth of fixed line and broadband services as wireless connectivity can have continuity and speed issues, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) Chairman RS Sharma said on Wednesday. The country must treat broadband service connectivity on par with other essentials like water and electricity, Sharma said, adding right of way rules will have to be modified to give better access to fixed line services.

DoT opposes RCom resolution plan, says won't be able to recover its dues

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, AUGUST 19

THE DEPARTMENT of Telecommunications (DoT) has opposed the resolution plan of Anil Ambani's Reliance Communications (RCom) and Reliance Telecom, on the grounds that it will not be able to recover its dues under the current resolution proposal approved by the committee of creditors (CoC).

The National Company Law Tribunal Wednesday asked DoT to submit its objections in writing by August 21. The DoT has claimed adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues from RCom of Rs 25,199.27 crore, and claimed that RCom's deferred liability for spectrum purchased between 2014-2016 amounts to Rs 1,597.68 crore, as on October 2019. The current resolution plan, approved by CoC in March, entails realisation of around Rs 23,000 crore from sale of RCom assets and clawback of money paid to some lenders.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
 TRICHY (CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE) CIRCLE
TENDER NOTICE
 Tender Notice No.26/2020-21/HDO/Dated:19.08.2020
 For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu, Percentage tender through online only will be received up to 07.09.2020, 15.00 hours by the Superintending Engineer (H) C&M Trichy Circle, TVS Tollgate, Pudukkottai Road, Trichy-20 for the works of Package No.18, 26, 31, 34, 39, 45, 47, 50, 54, 61, 73, 74, 111 and Reconstruction of Bridge at Km.4/6 of Kilvelur - Katchanam road pertaining Trichy, Nagapattinam, Pudukkottai and Tiruvuru (H) C&M Division.
 Details of Works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 21.08.2020 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, TRICHY-20
 DIPR/3127/TENDER/2020

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
 TIRUNELVELI (CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE) CIRCLE
TENDER NOTICE
 Tender Notice No.09/2020-21/HDO/ dated:19.08.2020
 For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Percentage tender through online only will be received upto 21.09.2020 at 14.00 hours by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Tirunelveli Circle for CRIDP 2020-21 Works, Package No.27 and 47, 50 pertaining Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli (H) C&M Divisions package No.51, 53 and 57 of Nagercoil (H) C&M Division.
 Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 24.08.2020 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, TIRUNELVELI CIRCLE
 DIPR/3128/TENDER/2020

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

Sl. No	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No.	Total
1	CE/MTS	002	1
2	CE/Hydro	(HE 2388 Due Date Extension)	1
3	CE/MTS-II	(06 Due Date Extension)	1

TAMIL NADU TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD.

4	SE/Transmission-II	T-2163	1
---	--------------------	--------	---

 For details of works/Procurement/Due date of submission/opening Corrigendum, Due date extension, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites: www.tangedco.gov.in www.tantransco.gov.in www.tntenders.tn.gov.in www.nicppcapp.com
 DIPR/3091/TENDER/2020

CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION
 (A Govt. of India Undertaking)
 Corporate Office: 4/1, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016
WAREHOUSING FOR EVERYONE
PUBLIC NOTICE Dated : 19.08.2020
CALLING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
 Central Warehousing Corporation invites Expression of Interests (EOI) for developing Cold Storage Facility/Food Processing units/Packaging units, on Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) basis, in warehouses of Central Warehousing Corporation.
 Interested parties may visit our website www.cewacor.nic.in for complete detail, terms & conditions of EOI Document.
GGM (SP&C), CWC, New Delhi

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
 (A Government of Karnataka undertaking)
 Corporate Office, MESCOM Bhavana, Kavour Cross Road, Bejai, Mangaluru - 575004. Ph: 0824-2885795 E-mail : sepmescom@rediffmail.com
CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425
 No. MESCOM/SEE/PI/2020-21/5987 Date: 17.08.2020
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal Only)
 MESCOM invites tender for Design, Manufacture, Testing, Supply and Commissioning of the following material:

Tender No.	Name of the Materials proposed for Procurement	Quantity
MESCOM/2020-21/IND700	Distribution Transformer Test Bench, suitable for testing of 1 phase and 3 phase, 50 Hz, 11kV/433 volts Distribution Transformers from 5 KVA to 500 KVA.	1 Set

 The interested eligible bidders may log on to : www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 21.08.2020.
 Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele.) (Proc.) MESCOM, Mangaluru
For Power Related Complaint & Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912

Government of Telangana
HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD
 O/o. Chief General Manager (E), PCC-II, Khairatabad, Hyderabad - 04.
e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

e-tender Notice No. and Date	Name of Work	Approximate ECV
EP. No. 03/CGM(E)/PCC-II/Zone-3-Sew-Imp/Pack-11/2020-21, dt: 19-08-2020	Rehabilitation, Strengthening and Improvement of Sewer Network in Zone-III area of core city - Manufacturing, supply, lowering, laying, jointing, testing and commissioning of RCC NP4 Class pipe sewer mains, sub-mains and SWG pipe laterals in N6 & N31 catchments of Zone-III, Core City - Package-II.	Rs. 118.22 Crores

 1. The bid documents download starts online from Dt: 24.08.2020
 2. Name and address of Chief General Manager (Engg), Concerned - Chief General Manager (Engg), Project Construction Circle-II, HMWSSB, Khairatabad, Hyderabad - 500004. 3. The Contractors/firms are requested to upload the information in the 'ZIP' format preferably. 4. Further details can be seen @ <https://tender.telangana.gov.in>
 Sd/- Chief General Manager (Engg), PCC-II, Khairatabad, Hyderabad, TS.

PSG ENTER FINAL

Paris St Germain reached their first ever Champions League final with a 3-0 win over RB Leipzig on Tuesday, inspired by Argentine Angel Di Maria.

Thought & bowled Dhoni

Wrist spinners Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav on how MSD's guidance from behind the stumps was vital for them being able to outwit batsmen time and again

DEVENDRA PANDEY
MUMBAI, AUGUST 19

MAHENDRA SINGH Dhoni's international retirement would leave an empty feeling inside all those who have shared a dressing room with the legendary wicketkeeper-batsman. But perhaps none more so than the wrist-spin duo of Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav, for whom the former India captain was friend, philosopher and guide, all rolled into one package. It was Dhoni who orchestrated their every move from behind the batsman and helped them mature, both on and off the field.

Dhoni showed them what they didn't see. He gave them wings to fly, and made them believe they can soar. On their own. It involved scolding, hand-holding, cajoling, praising, silent nods of appreciation and mentoring, both on and off the field.

An emotional Kuldeep first talks about the presence. He first sets up the scene for us. Picture a rampaging batsman, a big-name of your choice, staring across the pitch as you amble in to bowl, his body language screaming violence is on his mind. What did Kuldeep see at that moment?

"The batsman can be a huge name but the man standing behind him is the most imposing figure (*Batsman kina bhi bada ho, us-sey peechhe khada aadmi sabse bada hai*)," Kuldeep says. Any nervousness ballooning in the mind is punctured. "I always felt as if my coach is standing there and telling me what to do. Chahal and me were like soldiers waiting for Mahi bhai's orders. Whatever he said we just followed without asking anything."

Chahal says trust was the key factor in this guru-shishya relationship. "We used to trust him blindly, because he knew what is happening. He was getting a complete picture (from behind the stumps)," Chahal says.

Both personalise it with on-field anecdotes. The moments when their doubts were cast aside by Dhoni's invisible hand. Kuldeep against the always-keen-to-attack Glenn Maxwell and Chahal vs two left-handers, in theory not so easy for a leg-spinner.

Kuldeep, first. "It was a game in Nagpur January last year. Maxwell was in good form,

batting aggressively." Not to worry, Dhoni ha na. "He kept telling me, keep it away from him, and keep it flat (*"is-sey dur rakhna, leta ke rakhna"*). The idea was that Maxwell should be reaching out for the ball, not to feed him anything too close or too flighty to swing his arms to the leg side. Also, I had to keep it in the same area." Kuldeep played on the patience and ego of the dasher.

Australia needed 129 from little over 26 overs when Maxwell came in. Not much. The required run rate was under five, less than their ongoing run rate, and they had seven wickets in hand. Basically, wickets were what India needed. Maxwell started patiently, choosing to settle in, reaching two from nine balls when Kuldeep was brought back into the attack.

Dhoni is on Kuldeep's ear with his plan. And so, the chinaman bowler starts with three googlies - the quickest hands behind the stumps even whip off the baills once in an aborted stumping appeal. The over ends.

Next over, more of the same. "*Dur rakhna, leta ke rakhna*" (*Away and flattish*). Two more googlies. Then comes the real *leta ke rakhna ball*. And this time, Kuldeep had pulled back the length just a touch and gets it to skid along as a tied-down Maxwell looks to break free with an attempted pull. Mistake. The stumps are pegged back. Kuldeep feels he owes that wicket to Dhoni. "I bowled five balls around the same area and the sixth ball, he went to play across and was bowled." The plan had worked.

Now, Chahal steps in with his stories. February 2018 at Centurion in South Africa. His first five-wicket haul. He cues up the JP Duminy dismissal.

"Duminy was sweeping a lot." Not just against him, but to Kuldeep as well. "When I came to bowl, Mahi bhai said, 'just bowl stump to stump because if he misses, you will get an LBW. Don't worry if he hits. Keep it up.'"

Duminy paddle-sweeps Chahal in his first spell and when he comes back for the second, he almost immediately goes for a sweep off a ball on the stumps. He gets a little bit of wood on leather and Chahal's appeal dies in his mouth. In his next over, then leggie tries a googly from the leg-stump line but it's read by Duminy, who dabs it away. Next over, af-



MS Dhoni celebrating with one of the young spinners after plotting the downfall of a batsman was a common sight in the shorter formats. File

"If he would have been there for two more years, it would have been great for everyone, not only for us. Whenever we came to bowl in tough situations, he cleared our thought process."

YUZVENDRA CHAHAL

ter a couple of deliveries around the off-stump, and after watching Duminy stay back to defend a rather full delivery, Chahal remembers Dhoni's advice - "*Tilli* (matchstick, his nickname) *isko dande pe hi rakhna*" (*keep it on the sticks*) - and whips it full on the middle and leg line. Duminy goes for the sweep but the ball dips and drifts towards the middle, escapes the bat and pings the pad in front of middle stump. Joy, all around.

"It happened just the way Mahi bhai had said," Chahal says.

The trust kept growing. Another fragment of memory drifts in. It's February 2019, and Chahal is in Wellington, New Zealand. He is up against another left-hander, Tom

Latham this time.

It's his first over, the 19th of the innings and perhaps concerned by the sweep, he drops it short to Latham who rams it between square-leg and midwicket for a four.

"Latham was playing the sweep to me on a consistent basis. I wanted to change my line but Dhoni said don't change it as one miss will bring me a wicket," Chahal says now. Back then, he was tempted to change his line as after being swept a couple of times, he had tried shortening the length. The ball was thrown back from the point boundary. "*Line change mat karna, isko aage daal and stumps pey rakh*" (*Don't change the line, keep it full and on the stumps*).

It's Chahal's sixth over in a row now. Another sweep comes out and he drops the length next ball.

Dhoni pipes up with the advice to keep it full. The next ball is full, Latham brings out his sweep but misses; Chahal (and Dhoni) have got their man.

"He keeps on reminding what to do. Many a time, I have felt that the wicket is not coming but suddenly we would get the

GUIDING HAND

■ 2nd ODI, India vs Australia, Nagpur (2019): **GLENN MAXWELL**

AUSTRALIA WERE 132 for 3 in 28 overs, needing 119 runs. Kuldeep Yadav's first two balls to Glenn Maxwell were wrong 'uns. Dhoni asked Yadav to bowl flattish. Yadav delivered a back-of-length ball and got it to skid. Maxwell, looking for a big hit, went back to pull but had his stumps disturbed.

■ 2nd ODI, South Africa vs India, Centurion (2018): **JP DUMINY**

THE HOSTS WERE STRUGGLING AT 107-5 but Duminy had managed to hold fort with an unbeaten 25. In his sixth over, Chahal bowled a googly followed by two deliveries on the off-side. Dhoni then advised him to bowl on the stumps. Duminy blocked the first ball of his seventh over and went for a sweep the next but was out leg before.

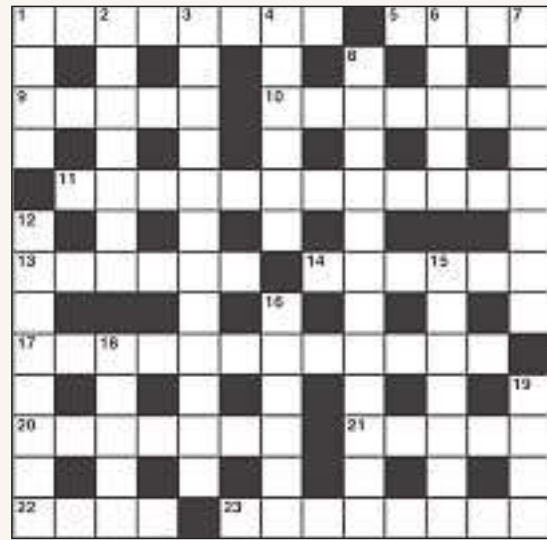
■ 5th ODI, New Zealand vs India, Wellington (2019): **TOM LATHAM**

THE KIWIS WERE 119 for 4, needing another 134 runs to win in 22 overs. Tom Latham was sweeping well. Chahal wanted to change his line but Dhoni asked him to keep it full and on the stumps. On the third ball of Chahal's sixth over Latham went for the sweep but was out lbw.

wicket. Everything is about planning and Mahi bhai was far ahead in planning," Chahal seems awed.

Kuldeep perhaps comes close as any in cracking Dhoni's icy coolness that has enthralled the world. Where does that spring from?

CROSSWORD 4202



- ACROSS**
1 Kind of shirt with frills, very tasteful (8)
5 Matters of give and take between our betters (4)
9 Swear there's nothing out of the way (5)
10 Sack and what may be put in it (7)
11 It is kept from going astray by crooks (5,2,5)
13 Forces the poor back into a back street (6)
14 Still unmarried? It might be a record (6)
17 Lessen stress by sorting out lack of sleep (12)
20 Crafty boxer? (7)
21 Tina returns with a new name (5)
22 Photograph without warning (4)
23 Travellers in South Africa (8)
- DOWN**
1 Staple food (4)
2 Artist takes sick during reorganised tour (7)
3 Finish brilliantly in two languages (6,6)
4 Take on work (6)
6 Avoid an American city (5)
7 Fought against being declared redundant (8)
8 It normally completes the written enquiry (8,4)
12 Makes a personal appeal (8)
15 Rages if source of heat is changed (3,4)
16 His is a very exacting business (6)
18 Where in Nassau naked bathers can be observed (5)
19 The prosecutor is on the platform (4)

Solutions Crossword 4201: Across: 1 Cucumbers, 8 Owing, 9 Missile, 10 Beggar, 11 Demote, 12 Thinking, 15 Distance, 18 Averse, 20 Yonder, 21 Figures, 22 Inert, 23 Stationer. Down: 2 Unite, 3 Unstop, 4 Bulletin, 5 Solemn, 6 Pilgrim, 7 Aggregate, 11 Deadly sin, 13 Idealist, 14 Asunder, 16 Agents, 17 Tenuto, 19 Sieve.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

An artist is he for whom the goal and center of life is to _____ Schlegel (4,3,4)

RSIOR AEJDMM

SUINS EISTFH

SOLUTION: ORRS, SJMMD, EFTSH, IAGS - Answer: An artist is he for whom the goal and center of life is to form his mind

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4206

Difficulty Level 2s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 4205



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
Everything still seems to be confused, yet only when other people come clean will you be able to get a grip on affairs. The trouble is that nobody seems to be clear where fact ends and fantasy begins. But perhaps the two are not so different, anyway.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
Sometimes doing something is worse than not doing anything. If you refuse to listen to partners, or attempt to challenge them on their own ground, you will only magnify your problems. You could do yourself a favour, take an ethical stand, and try to explain the difference between right and wrong to colleagues.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
A splendid relationship between one set of planets aligned with your house of business, and another related to your house of work, means one thing: you must now make one final effort to increase your income. Or at least, you should steer clear of money-wasting activities.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
The Sun relates to magical Mercury, serious Saturn, mystical Neptune and secretive Pluto. You're therefore on a sort of emotional and creative helter-skelter, meaning that, true to character, you will pay very much more attention to your feelings than to the facts.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
Jupiter is now beginning to complete a series of aspects which indicate that you will be one of the first to feel the benefits of changing conditions. If you have a problem over the next couple of weeks then it could be impatience, so see to it that every gain you've made is guaranteed.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sept 23)
An emphasis on serious, deep thought helps students, people attending interviews and anyone with long-term proposals to make. The best approach requires a devotion to the truth and a high regard for colleagues' feelings. A little selflessness goes a long way towards helping you achieve your goals.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23)
You are on the verge of making a major breakthrough, and may finally have the resources, or the courage, to implement a number of significant domestic reforms. Emotionally, you will at last come into your own, but you might have to leave one personal question unanswered.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)
It is now almost time to begin new enterprises, whether romantic, professional or domestic but, according to all the ancient rules of astrology, you may do best if you can pause just a little while longer. You can watch, wait, and pick your perfect moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)
When the Moon changes its position, you should begin to feel much happier, and also to see the truth underlying a number of recent emotional complications. Don't abandon your dreams, but do put them into context. You might realise that you misunderstood somebody's perfectly reasonable suggestions.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
You probably imagine that it's a long time since other people did you any favours, but, in some curious manner, even those who have tried to do you down in the past, will now give you a helping hand. A reversal of fortune should work out to your advantage.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
Powerful stars motivate you to assert yourself and insist that other people obey you, not the other way round. However, never imagine that the person who makes the loudest noise now will win out in the long run. It can be the quiet people, who are never noticed, who come first.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
There is almost nothing in your chart to do with work and responsibility, and a great deal connected with dreams and fantasies. Nobody can blame you if you decide to take some time off, or just look around until you find something else which interests you.