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Doing It All

Accused of

1993 serial

blasts

All designated terrorists on the list will have no direct access

Dawood, who is accused of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

the 1993 serial blasts in Mumbai

among other terror attacks in

India, has long been on India's

to funds, be able to enter or transit through Pakistan, or be able to

rocure weapons.

As the workplace collapses into home, urban working women struggle to find a fine balance

First time, Dawood

denial option open

He is one of 88 named by Pak to duck

FATF blacklist, but not on state terror list

on a Pak list, but

BATTLELINES DRAWN FOR CWC MEETING TOMORROW

First pushback: 23 senior Congress leaders stand up, write to Sonia Gandhi calling for sweeping changes, from top to bottom

M Party's future at stake, nation in crisis, we have taken upon ourselves to be open and frank 🎹



The letter says the Nehru-Gandhi family will remain part of the "collective leadership" of the party

Message for Rahul: youth voted Modi, no honest review of defeat

MANOJCG

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

SIX YEARS after the party's electoral rout pushed it into a continuing downward spiral, 23 senior leaders of the Congress, including five former Chief Ministers, many Congress Working Committee members, sitting MPs, and several former Union Ministers, have, in an unprecedented pushback, sent a letter to party chief Sonia Gandhi calling for sweeping changes, from top to bottom.

Acknowledging the rise of the BJP and admitting that the youth decisively voted for Narendra Modi, the letter points out that the erosion of the support base and losing the confi-

dence of the youth are matters of serious concern.

The letter, learnt to have been sent a fortnight ago, details a reforms agenda that is, in effect, a stinging indictment of the current leadership.

It calls for a "full time and effective leadership" which is both "visible" and "active" in the field; elections to the CWC; and the urgent establishment of an "institutional leadership mechanism" to "collectively" guide the party's re-

The signatories to the letter include Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad; party MPs and former Union Ministers Anand Sharma, Kapil Sibal, Manish Tewari, Shashi Tharoor; MP Vivek Tankha;

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



GHULAM NABI AZAD



ANAND SHARMA

KAPIL SIBAL MP, Rajya Sabha; Ex-Union Minister

PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN.

MLA, Ex-CM



BHUPINDER SINGH Hooda



MUKUL WASNIK



RAJINDER KAUR Bhattal



MILIND DEORA





MANISH TEWARI

CHOWDHURY Ex-Union Minister



SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

IN A bid to escape blacklisting by

the Financial Action Task Force

(FATF), Pakistan has effectively

ended up acknowledging the presence in the country of fugitive terrorist Dawood Ibrahim, one of

the most wanted men in India. Dawood, Lashkar-e-Toiba

chief Hafiz Saeed, Lashkar's op-

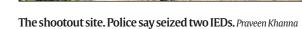
erations head and 26/11 accused

Zaki-ur-Rahman Lakhvi, Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar

figure in a list of 88 names, pub-

lished as a Statutory Regulatory

Order by Pakistan's Ministry of



IS plan foiled, lone wolf from UP held: Delhi Police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, LUCKNOW, AUGUST 22

THE DELHI Police on Saturday claimed to have foiled a terror attack in the national capital by arresting a 36-year-old alleged Islamic State operative following a late-night exchange of fire in Central Delhi's Ridge Road area. The police said they had re-

shop in the village.



1 Fulltime leadership, Lactive and available at AICC, PCC headquarters

2 Independent Election Authority to ensure that internal polls are fair, free, democratic

3 Election of CWC members as per the party's constitution

4 Election of Block, PCC delegates and AICC members

5 institutional leadership mechanism to collectively guide the party's revival

BUSINESS AS USUAL By UNNY

Ex-CM, Karnataka



Create national coalition of like-minded parties to take on BJP, reach out to those who are ex-Congress

Cuts across states, age: why it's hard for party to brush this under carpet

MANOJCG NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

THE UNPRECEDENTED letter by 23 senior Congress leaders has drawn the battle lines in the party like never be-

The first showdown is expected at a meeting the Congress Working Committee

(CWC) called Monday as many leaders across the divide say it will be difficult to brush this under the carpet. Sources said a "major organisational reshuffle'

is being planned as a counter That may not be enough.

For, it is rare for Congress leaders, especially seniors, to put down on record their criticism this has always been seen as a "last resort.'

The letter is also seen by many as a major pushback to the Nehru-Gandhi family, again an unusual move in contemporary Congress history.

The timing, context and the content of the letter is as significant as is the cast of characters. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

vised explosive devices (IEDs) packed in pressure cookers from the accused, Mustakeem Khan alias Abu Yusuf, a resident of village Badhiyaa Bhaisaahi in Balrampur district of Uttar Pradesh. Married with four children, Khan runs a cosmetics

covered a pistol and two impro-

"He was under watch for over a year, and planned to carry CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



The Indian EXPRESS

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'We are not against English...but leave your children free, let them learn ten languages'

INSIDE

MHA TO STATES: LIFT **CURBS ON MOVEMENT OF** PEOPLE, GOODS

Kashmir parties say will fight for Article 370, all else second

NAVEED IQBAL SRINAGAR, AUGUST 22

MAINSTREAM POLITICAL parties of Kashmir, including the National Conference, PDP, and People's Conference, on Saturday issued a joint statement reiterating their commitment to strive for restoration of Articles 370 and 35A, and said all their other political activities would be subservient to that.

The statement was signed by NC president Farooq Abdullah, PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti who remains under detention, People's Conference chairman Sajad Lone, state Congress chief G A Mir, CPM leader M Y Tarigami and Muzaffar Shah of the J&K Awami National Conference — the signatories also of the Gupkar Declaration of August 5, 2019, the day the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Behind move: public mood, eroding base, Delhi's plans

MUZAMIL JALEEL NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

THE COMING together of the Valley mainstream parties and their resolve to fight for the restoration of the special status of J&K is the first major political challenge to New Delhi, after a year of crackdown and large-scale detention of political workers to ensure compliance with the new order in J&K, now a Union Territory following its bifurcation.

This is the first time after August 5, 2019, when the six major mainstream parties — the National Conference, Peoples Democratic Party, Congress, People's Conference, CPM and Awami National Conference have come together. And the most important message of this new amalgam is its declaration that its "political activities will be subservient to the sacred goal of reverting to the status of J&K as it

existed on 4th August 2019". "We unanimously reiterate that there can be nothing about us without us," stated the joint declaration signed by National Conference president Farooq Abdullah, PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti, People's Conference chief Sajad Lone, JK Congress president GA Mir, MY Tarigami of CPM and Muzaffar Shah of Awami National Conference.

This joint declaration to reiterate an agreement that these parties had reached on August 4 2019, hours before the abrogation of J&K's special status and CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



SUNDAY **STORY**

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'WE ARE OPEN' Inside a five-star hotel in Mumbai in a post-Covid world

My ISOLATION

A weekly window into the lives of India's newsmakers and impact of the pandemic

PAGE 10 'Haven't met family in 2 months. Talk to grandchild on video call'

KKSHAILAJA, KERALA HEALTH MINISTER

Tablighis a scapegoat to warn Muslims; fix damage

Bombay HC slams Govt:

OMKAR GOKHALE & **SADAF MODAK** MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

THE AURANGABAD Bench of the Bombay High Court on Friday quashed FIRs filed against 29 foreign nationals and six Indians in connection with a Tablighi Jamaat gathering in Delhi amidst the coronavirus restrictions in end March, saying they had been made "scapegoat", and that the action against them was an "indirect warning to Indian Muslims" after the protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

"A political government tries to find a scapegoat when there is a pandemic or calamity and the circumstances show that there is a probability that these foreigners were chosen to make them a scapegoat," the court said, in its order on three separate petitions

by the 29 foreigners, charged with violating their visa terms and Epidemic Act guidelines, and the six Indians accused of granting them shelter in Ahmednagar

district of Maharashtra. "The material discussed shows that no such nuisance was created by the foreigners or Indian Muslims and only an attempt was made by others to create such (an) atmosphere against them," the court said, blaming "big", "unwarranted' "media propaganda". "An attempt was made to create a picture that these foreigners were responsible for spreading Covid-9 virus in India.

Asking the authorities concerned to "repent" and "repair the damage done by such action", the Bench said, "The government cannot give different treatment to citizens of different religions of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BSF kills 5 intruders from Pak at Punjab border

DEEPTIMANTIWARY NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

THE BORDER Security Force Saturday gunned down five persons who intruded into Indian territory from the Pakistani side at the international border in Puniab.

An AK-47 assault rifle, four Beretta pistols and nearly 10 kg of suspected heroin were recovered from the site in Ferozepur, the BSF said.

Sources said the intruders were "neutralised" after a sixhour operation

BSF IG Mahipal Yadav said: We registered movement near the International Border around 11.30 pm on Friday, and accordingly launched an operation. We kept the intruders under surveillance all night and challenged them around 4 am when they crossed the border. Instead of surrendering, they fired at us. We had a cordon which did not allow them to escape. Around 5.30 am, we spotted them again and challenged them. They fired and we retaliated. Later, during a search of the area, we found five bodies,

arms and contraband." The BSF said its personnel recovered one AK 47 rifle, two AK magazines, 27 live AK rounds, four pistols (9 mm Beretta) with seven magazines and 109 live rounds, and nine packets, weighing 9.9 kg of contraband, suspected to be heroin. Pakistani currency totalling Rs 610 and two mobile phones have also been recovered.

> BSF sources said these have CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Kapil Mishra at launch, Bloomsbury India scraps book on riots links the anti-CAA protests at authors, with participation by accepts all kinds of ideas." parties of whom the publishers Calling the criticism of the

Authors say, 'Publishers had no problem with content... One publisher goes, 10 others will stand'

ABHINAV RAJPUT, ARANYASHANKAR& **SOMYA LAKHANI** NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

PUBLISHING HOUSE Bloomsbury India Saturday announced that it was withdrawing a book on Delhi riots, after backlash over the announcement of a launch event with BIP leader Kapil Mishra among "guests of honour".

Titled Delhi Riots 2020: The Untold Story, the book was due out in September.

The 190-page book, authored by Delhi University teachers Sonali Chitalkar and Prerna Malhotra, and advocate Monika Arora, suggests the riots were orchestrated by "jihadis" and "urban Naxals", had links with the Islamic State, and involved "professional sharpshooters". It also



Kapil Mishra at the virtual launch event on Saturday

Jamia and Shaheen Bagh to the riots, and states that "in key areas", "Muslim mobs" were the instigators Mishra had given a speech in

Northeast Delhi on February 23, seeking that the protesters against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act be removed from a site in the area, a day before the riots broke out. Between February 24 and 26, 53 people were killed in the violence. In its statement, Bloomsbury

India said, "In view of very recent events, including a virtual prepublication launch organised without our knowledge by the

would not have approved, we have decided to withdraw publication of the book. The virtual event, where the

book was "launched" by BJP MP and national general secretary Bhupendra Yadav, went ahead as planned. At the event, Yaday said he agreed with the authors that there should be an independent inquiry into "foreign funding", and criticised the "unnecessary protest" against the book. "It shows that the so-called liberals don't remain liberal when the truth comes out... Liberalism is

actually India's ideology, which

New Delhi

book a "campaign against writ-

ers", Mishra said at the launch, "Freedom of expression ke thekedaar ek kitaab se darr gaye hain, yeh kahin market mein naa aa jaye, kahin publish naa ho jaaye (Those claiming to be custodians of the freedom of expression are scared of a book, that it should not come into the market, that it should not get published)... I would like to congratulate the authors that this is the strength of your book that they are scared." He said no power could the book from CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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KERALA COP ADOPTS PET DOG THAT TRACED 2-YR-OLD'S BODY IN IDUKKI LANDSLIDE

A pet dog that sniffed out the body of a two-year-old landslide victim in Kerala's Idukki district, and subsequently won the hearts of rescue personnel and several others across the state, will have a new home in

IN PHOTOS



A LOW-KEY GANESH CHATURTHI

The Maharashtra govt has urged people to avoid crowding

CORONAVIRUS



HOW COUNTRIES ARE REOPENING SCHOOLS

A growing number of nations is bringing students back to schools

EXPRESS @ AUDIO

A look back at the extraordinary career of MS Dhoni

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

In the latest episode of the Express Sports podcast, we delve into the former skipper's storied 16-year-long career with National Sports Editor Sandeep Dwivedi

FROM PAGE ONE

Article 370

special status of J&K was scrapped. Of the signatories then of a resolution to fight unitedly for the special status, only Shah Faesal, who announced recently that he was quitting politics, was not part of Saturday's statement.

The leaders said, "We are committed to strive for restoration of Articles 370 and 35A, the constitution of J&K and restoration of the state, and any division of the state is unacceptable to us. We unanimously reiterate that there can be nothing about us

Saying that there was "unanimity amongst us that collective institution is the effective way" to fight for rights of the people of J&K, they said, "We want to assure the people that all our political activities will be subservient to the sacred goal of reverting to the status of J&K as it existed on 4th August 2019.

The statement also noted that the signatories had "barely managed to establish a basic level of communication with each other" in the face of the prohibitive and punitive curbs imposed by the government, "aimed at impeding all social and political interactions". NC sources said that a meeting was held at NC MP Hasnain Masoodi's residence on Thursday, attended by Lone, Abdullah and Tarigami, where the decision to issue the statement was taken. Lone and Masoodi then worked on it.

Calling the events of August 5, 2019, unfortunate, the statement issued on Saturday said, "In a spitefully shortsighted and unconstitutional move, Articles 370 and 35A were abrogated and the state was bifurcated and relegated to the status of two Union territories and its constitution tried to be

They said the decisions had "unrecognisably" changed the relationship between J&K and New Delhi. "The measures attempt to redefine who we are. These changes were accompanied by repressive measures meant to silence people."

They also called upon the leadership of the subcontinent to take due notice of the "ever-increasing skirmishes at the LAC and LoC, resulting in casualties on both sides" as well as the violence in J&K, and to work for enduring

peace in the region. On August 5, 2019, the mainstream political leaders had met at Abdullah's residence on Gupkar Road in Sringar and unanimously resolved to stay "united in their resolve to protect and defend identity, autonomy and spe-

cial status of J&K". Following the release of the statement, Lone tweeted his thanks to Abdullah, Mufti and Tarigami. "We firmly believe that a collective mechanism is the only way out." Iltija Javed, Mufti's daughter who operates her Twitter handle, posted, "Ms Mufti appreciates the statesmanship shown by Dr Farooq sahab in forging a collective response to Delhi's onslaught."

Delhi's plans

their detention, is important because it is happening after a year of silence on the issue. It is also significant because the crackdown which accompanied the decision to abrogate the special status hasn't been able to force these mainstream parties to toe New Delhi's line and accept the change in [&K's

status within the Union. It is clear that the efforts made by New Delhi in the last one year which saw mass detentions, raids, cases have not borne fruit. There

are two reasons for that. First, these parties have read the public mood which is completely against any reconciliation with the post-August 5, 2019, status. A vast majority see the abrogation as a "humiliation" and the use of might to disempower the majority population in J&K.

The PDP has already split, leaving a small group still with former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti. The only top mainstream leader to remain under detention, she has made it clear that she and her party won't accept the abrogation of the special status.

There has been churning within the NC too after senior leader and party spokesman Aga Roohullah asked the party to break its silence and express its "principled stand" against the abrogation of the special status. Several top leaders from the NC's old guard have also warned the eadership "against any compromise", saying it will be a "death knell" for the party and its future.

The leaders of these parties, which have their base primarily among the Muslim-majority population of J&K, are worried about what they suspect are plans to engineer a demographic change. They see the decisions to enact a domicile law, notify strategic areas where armed forces can carry out construction etc without any role of the civil administration, the new housing policy, earmarking land for non-local industries and businesses, award of contracts for mining in Kashmir's rivers and streams to non-locals, as steps to disempower the local population.

And there's a second reason for this show of unity and resolve to fight for the special status. Sources say New Delhi has refused to provide any room to these political parties in the last one year. Those who were interested to negotiate a way forward were not given any commitment on restoration of even statehood.

Instead, New Delhi has been planning a complete break from the past, setting up a new mainstream camp which consists of the Apni Party — a group formed by former leaders of the PDP, and individual politicians – and a group of panchs and sarpanchs. In fact, the BJP has been the only party conducting any activity in J&K in the last one year.

This plan may have worked if one or two of these major mainstream parties had agreed to become part of the post August 5, 2019, J&K unconditionally. That hasn't happened. This joint declaration is also a red line that these six parties have drawn for themselves. The declaration that they will jointly fight for restoration of the special status and their political activity will be subservient to this goal has removed any possibility of a compromise.

The most curious case in the formation is Sajad Lone and his People's Conference, Lone had aligned with the BJP even before the 2014 Assembly elections and was seen as its main alliance partner in Kashmir. After being in detention for almost a year, Lone seems to have realised there is no room for his party's politics in the BJP's 'Naya Kashmir'. In fact, the reason why Lone was detained, sources say, was his participation at the first Gupkar Declaration.

There is a growing sense that New Delhi looks at J&K only through the Hindu-Muslim binary. And as new proposals are rolled out, these parties which have their base among the Muslim majority, see complete disempowerment -- political, social and economic

On the ground, however, this ioint declaration may not be enough for them to rustle up public support. These parties are seen as responsible for the abrogation of the special status. Also, if they fail to come up with a programme to build pressure on New Delhi. this unity and the declaration to fight will have no meaning.

HC quashes FIRs countries... Social and religious tolerance is a practical necessity for unity and integrity of India and it is made compulsory by the

Indian Constitution." Under a paragraph marked 'Background of Malice', the court

Message for Rahul: Youth voted Modi, no honest review of defeat

AICC office bearers and CWC members including Mukul Wasnik and Jitin Prasada and former Chief Ministers and Union Ministers including Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Rajinder Kaur Bhattal, M Veerappa Moily, Prithviraj Chavan, PJ Kurien, Ajay Singh, Renuka Chowdhury, and Milind Deora; former PCC chiefs Raj Babbar (UP), Arvinder Singh Lovely (Delhi) and Kaul Singh Thakur (Himachal); current Bihar campaign chief Akhilesh Prasad Singh, former Haryana Speaker Kuldeep Sharma; former Delhi Speaker Yoganand Shastri and former MP Sandeep

Arguing that the revival of the Congress is "a national imperative" fundamental to the health of democracy, the letter, sources said, underlines how the party's steady decline comes when the country faces its "gravest political, social and economic challenges since Independence."

These are listed in the letter, sources said, as a national mood of "fear" and insecurity; the BIP and Sangh Parivar's "communal and divisive agenda"; economic recession, ballooning unemployment; hardships caused by the pandemic; challenges on the border, including the standoff

with China and the drift in for-

eign policy. Their letter calls for a sweeping range of reforms, decentralisation of power, empowerment of state units, elections to the Congress organisation at all levels, from the block to the CWC, and the urgent constitution of a Central parliamentary board.

The leaders, it is learnt, have pointed out that the "uncertainty" over the leadership and the "drift" in the party had demoralised workers and weakened the party. Importantly, they are learnt to have said that the CWC is not "effectively guiding" the party anymore in mobilising public opinion against the BJP government.

While CWC meetings, they felt, are "episodic" and convened in reaction to political developments, the meetings of Congress Parliamentary Party have been reduced to the customary address of CPP chairperson Sonia Gandhi and obituary references. There are no discussions in

CPP anymore, they are learnt to have argued. The CWC, they are learnt to have said, should be a deliberative body for setting the national agenda and for policy initiatives.

The leaders, it is learnt, said that even over a year after the party has not undertaken any "honest introspection" to find out reasons for its continued

Lok Sabha election defeat, the

The leaders are learnt to have given many suggestions among them appointment of a full-time and effective leadership active in the field and visible and available at AICC and state headquarters, constitution of the Central Parliamentary Board for "collective thinking" and decision making on organisational matters, policies and programmes; elections at all levels in a transparent manner and elections to choose of CWC members.

They have argued that it was time to establish an "institutional leadership mechanism" to collectively guide the party's revival. While calling for collective leadership, the letter interestingly said the Nehru-Gandhi family will always remain an "integral part" of it.

While the Congress constitution has a provision for CWC to set up a Parliamentary Board consisting of the Congress President and nine other members, the practice has been discontinued long ago. The letter also talks about the need to unite the Opposition and rally

parties headed by those who had left the Congress in the

Identifying areas of concern, the letter, sources said, has pointed out that key appointments of state Congress presidents and office bearers are unduly delayed and leaders who command respect and acceptability in states are not appointed in time. Besides, state Congress presidents are not given freedom to take organisational decisions

The letter, it is learnt, does not mention Rahul Gandhi but points out that the introduction of elections in the Youth Congress and NSUI — the youth and student wings of the party has created "conflict and division". Several leaders have complained that elections to the Youth Congress and NSUI have resulted in their "capture" at the state level by those with money and political patronage.

The letter, sources said, appreciates the leadership provided by Sonia Gandhi and notes the praiseworthy efforts made by Rahul Gandhi as Congress president and argues the Nehru-Gandhi family will always remain an integral part of the "collective leadership" of

Expressing surprise at the charges, another villager, Mustafa, said, "I know Mustakeem's father Kafil Ahmed well and he is a farmer and a simple man... I never heard of any of Kafil's sons being involved in any wrongdoing."

cated around 55 km from

Balrampur district headquarters,

is Muslim-dominated.

The Uttar Pradesh Police, which sent a team to Khan's village, said they were in the process of collecting details about him. "This includes his criminal background," said Circle Officer, Balrampur, Radha Raman Singh.

DCP Kushwah said Khan was handled at first by Yusuf-al Hindi, an alleged IS operative of Indian origin killed in Syria, followed by a Pakistani. Abu Huzefa, who died in a drone strike in Afghanistan. "Later, another handler instructed him to carry out lone wolf strikes. It is for this that he came to Delhi.' The police said they also seized a motorcycle from Khan, which could be stolen. According to the police, Khan spent between 2005 and 2010 in Dubai, working as a mason, and came in touch with IS commanders in 2015.

BSF kills five

been handed over to Punjab police for further investigation.

"Eamination of the phones will reveal to who was the consignment to be delivered and who in Pakistan the intruders were in touch with," a BSF officer said.

"As of now, there is no evidence to clearly establish whether they were terrorists preparing to launch an attack," the officer said.

Sources said the modus operandi suggested they could have been couriers, often used by Pakistan to smuggle contraband and arms to India. "Had it been preparation for an attack, the intruders would not have been carrving contraband. Also, they would have been carrying food items and medicines. They had only one AK 47," sources said.

BSF sources said the episode also highlights why Pakistan dithers on clearing foliage near the border. "The intruders managed to hide in the tall grass near the border," an officer said.

Dawood

Pakistan governments have de-

nied his presence there. Moving to avoid the FATF blacklist, Pakistan, via the SRO dated August 18, reproduced the terror listing of Dawood by the United Nations Security Council.

In the Pakistan notification, Dawood's details are provided under serial no. QDi.135 — as in the UNSC list of sanctions — and gives out all his details including his passport numbers, and address in Clifton, Karachi.

The entry is the same as the UNSC list, which has his aliases, residential address in Karachi (Pakistan) and his passport details (he has 9 Indian passports and 5 Pakistan passports). In all 5 $Pakistani\,passports, the\,entry\,says$ "misuse" - indicating that Pakistan has not provided them through official means.

"As of August 18, 2020, the 1267/1989/2253 ISIL(Da'esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee has approved the entries specified below to its List of individuals and entities subject to the assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo set out in paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 2368 (2018) adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,' stated the SRO numbered 741(I)/2020, issued by the Pakistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Sources in New Delhi, however, pointed out that this will not mean much since he has not been put on Pakistan's national terror list - National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA-Schedule IV, Proscribed Persons) List.

Sources said Islamabad has reproduced the UNSC list, hoping to get past the FATF in September. Pakistan has been under scrutiny of the FATF, the global terrorist financing watchdog, for the last two years, and has so far fulfilled only half of the 27-point action plan of the FATF.

Kapil Mishra

Chitalkar, who teaches political science at Delhi University's Miranda House college, told The Sunday Express that Bloomsbury India had not sent any official communication to them regarding withdrawal of the publication of the book. She also claimed that the publishing house "knew about the launch"

Chitalkar called the incident "our Charlie Hebdo moment", comparing it to the attack that killed 12 at the French satirical newspaper following the publication of a cartoon on Prophet Mohammed. "The publishers should have spoken to us first. Without even reading, a lobby has pressured the publishers to withdraw a book... We have spoken to both the communities, their people and leaders." Malhotra, who teaches

English at Ram Lal Anand College, said, "If an international publisher like Bloomsbury comes under Left lobby pressure, it's a sorry state of affairs. We have brought out truth in our book. The publishers have no problem with the content; the book underwent several levels of scrutiny.'

Unlike Chitalkar, Malhotra said the event was organised by the authors without collaboration with Bloomsbury, and defended their choice to call Mishra, "He has not been convicted or charged. Personally, I feel whatever he said did not trigger the riots. That narrative was manufactured.'

Co-author Arora said the people targeting the book on social media platforms should not be called liberals. "They can't tolerate Kapil Mishra, they cannot tolerate anyone who doesn't agree with them... This is not the India where the Congress had the political space and the Leftists the mind space... Because the Modi government has come, all narra-

tives are allowed," she said. The book claims the plan for the riots was set in motion in December, when protests against the CAA took place at Jamia Millia Islamia. "There are possibilities that PFI (People's Front of India) or ISIS might have provided the lists of targeted individuals as most of the targets of Islamic mob snipers were individuals who either belonged to security forces --police, intelligence agencies -- or persons belonging to Hindu or-

The authors say, "... in key areas in Northeast Delhi like Shiv Vihar, which saw horrendous violence, the first attack was made by Muslim mobs".

ganisations,"

In its statement saying it was withdrawing the Bloomsbury India said the plan was to release the book, "purportedly giving a factual report on the riots in Delhi in February 2020, based on investigations and interviews conducted by the authors", in September. It added that it "strongly supports freedom of speech but also has a deep sense of responsibility towards society".

In his speech at the launch, Yadav raised the anti-CAA protests, and said the starting point was for people to decide if they believe in the Constitution. "The people of Shaheen Bagh who protested, we have no problem with that, people can stage dharnas anywhere. But tell me one speech in which they said the rights of minorities in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan

should be safeguarded." The BJP Rajya Sabha MP said that, like the book urged, there should be an investigation into foreign funding, their network, and serious thought given to "some people radicalising a particular religion". "People on the ground do not want to fight, people who are outsiders... make them fight.'

Cuts across states, age: Why it's hard for party to brush this under carpet

The signatories include five former Chief Ministers; over a dozen former union ministers and former PCC presidents. Taken together, they cut across states and the age divide and form the biggest grouping of party functionaries in recent times to put on record their concerns about the state of affairs in

The letter and the crisis it signifies is different from earlier crises, Say, in 1969, when Indira Gandhi took on the Syndicate or in the late '80s when V P Singh was expelled; post-Emergency

said it considered what could

have prompted the authorities to

issue such directions. "There were

protests... at many places in India

from at least prior to January

2020. Most of the persons (who)

participated in the protests were

Muslims. It is their contention

(Amendment) Act, 2019, is dis-

criminatory against Muslims...

They were protesting against the

NRC (National Register of

Citizens)... It can be said that due to

the action taken, fear was created

in the minds of those Muslims.

This action indirectly gave warn-

ing to Indian Muslims that action

in any form and for anything can

be taken against Muslims. It was

indicated that even for keeping

contact with Muslims of other

countries, action will be taken

against them... Similar action was

not taken against other foreigners

belonging to other religions," the

On the cases filed against the

Tablighi members for violating

the Epidemics Act, Disaster

Management Act and Foreigners

Act, the Division Bench of Justices

T V Nalawade and M G Sewlikar

noted that there was no restric-

tion against foreigners visiting re-

ligious places, or participating in

normal religious activities or dis-

courses. It said the Maharashtra

Police acted "mechanically" and

filed chargesheets without prima

facie evidence and with "non-ap-

Citizenship

when many like Jagjivan Ram left the party; or the one faced by the Congress in late 1990s when Sitaram Kesri was ousted to make way for Sonia.

This time, the party is at its weakest. There is a widespread perception - even among Congress supporters — that the party is adrift. Many may join the chorus, which may put pressure on the family. The letter, for instance, was written in the first week of August when the Sachin Pilot-Ashok Gehlot tussle was raging. This may not be a revolt yet but the decision of

"It appears that the state gov-

ernment acted under political

compulsion and police also did

not dare to exercise powers given

countries such as Iran, Ivory Coast,

Indonesia and Djibouti, who are

out on bail and in Ahmednagar

according to their lawyer Mazhar

Jahagirder, had pointed out to the

court that they had come to India

on valid visas, to experience

Indian culture, tradition, hospital-

ity and food, and had declared at-

tending the Tablighi gathering as

the purpose of their visit. Several

of them submitted in the court

that they had arrived in February

or before March 10, when there

was no lockdown, and had been

screened for the coronavirus at

airport. They refuted police claims

of violating their visa terms and

said they had come only to partic-

ipate in a religious tour and not to

argued that following the lock-

down, several public announce-

ments had been made asking

people who had attended the

Tablighi event to come forward

for testing, but the petitioners had

The six Indians who moved

court included trustees of

Ahmednagar mosques who had

given the foreigners shelter after

the Tablighi gathering, as the lock-

Opposing the pleas, the police

propagate Islam.

not done so.

The petitioners, belonging to

to them," the judges said.

plication of mind".

these leaders to form a ginger group to draw the attention of the leadership has no parallel in recent Congress history.

The letter does not mention Rahul Gandhi but argues the party must take an informed position on foreign policy, defence and national security matters.

Incidentally, many leaders in the party feel Gandhi's frequent tweets, which draw fierce attacks from the BIP, on issues like the Chinese aggression, have been "immature" and without

haps harbour no intention to switch allegiances. Many have risen up the ranks. So far, the Congress has been packaging dissent in the party as a young versus old faultline. The letter challenges that assumption, signed as it is by Ghulam Nabi Anand Bhupinder Hooda, Veerappa Moily, Kapil Sibal, Mukul

many who have served the

party for a "life time" and per-

any discussion in the party. The signatories include

down started and they couldn't leave due to flight cancellations.

Pointing out that the Tablighis had been holding such gatherings for years, the court said, "The activity was going on for more than 50 years."It said the fact that mosques had given them shelter "could not have been treated as (an) offence", and that gurdwaras too had opened doors for migrants during the lockdown. The court said the authorities had submitted no material to indicate mosques had been opened for general public, in violation of of-

ficial orders. It refused to grant a stay for filing of an appeal, saying the process of granting the Tablighis permission to go home would take time anyway. At the end of the judgment, Justice Sewlikar said that while he agreed with the part of the order quashing the FIRs, he had differing views on a few observations made by Justice Nalawade. Justice Sewlikar's separate judgment, with his reasons, is yet to be made available.

ISI operative

out a lone wolf strike in a highfootfall area," DCP (Special Cell) Pramod Singh Kushwah said. The two IEDs were allegedly "fully ready", and only needed to be activated with a timer.

Later on Saturday, the police detained three persons in Badhiyaa Bhaisaahi for questioning, including one who reportedly provided material to Khan to prepare the explosives "On Friday evening, our team

came to know Khan would be

coming to the Ridge area. A trap

was laid and they arrested him af-

Wasnik and Prithviraj Chavan,

as well as the younger brigade

including Jitin Prasada, Milind

Deora and Manish Tewari.

ter six rounds of firing," a senior police officer said Kushwah said Khan had planned to carry out an attack in Delhi on August 15, but could not do so due to the heavy security arrangements for Independence Day. "He thought security will be

lax now," he added. The police also claimed Khan had prepared a vest so as to carry out a suicide attack and tested smaller IEDs near a burial ground back at his village

As the Delhi Police arrived at Khan's village on Saturday with him, and carried out a search of his house and shop, the residents said they found it hard to believe that the 36-year-old, who kept to himself, could be involved in terror activities. One of four sons of a farmer, Khan studied up to Class 9 and started the cosmetics shop two years ago.

"Mustakeem ran the shop on

rent. He would regularly visit

Lucknow to purchase goods for

his shop. After the lockdown, he did not go to the city for a long time," said a villager, Najibullah, adding that he had seen Khan last at his shop as late as Thursday. Badhiyaa Bhaisaahi village, lo-

DWARKA-SECTOR 8

201-300 Poor

AT RAJIV GANDHI SUPER-SPECIALITY HOSPITAL

Fatigue, breathlessness: New clinic to address issues after Covid recovery

ASTHA SAXENA

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

FROM MOHALI to Delhi, patients are calling the first of its kind post-Covid clinic set up at Delhi government's Rajiv Gandhi Super Specialty Hospital to seek guidance on the several health ailments they are facing after recovering from Covid-19.

In the two days since it became operational, the clinic, which aims to support Covid patients who have recovered from the illness, has responded to over 20 patients from Delhi as well as cities such as Aligarh, Agra, Moradabad and Mohali, who are keen to know the medications for post-Covid issues.

'So far, most of these patients are complaining about breathlessness, mild exertion, weakness, and fatigue. Patients feel that their quality of life is getting compromised as they are unable to get into their regular routine," said Dr Ajeet Jain, nodal officer



The clinic has so far seen over 20 patients from Delhi as well as cities such as Aligarh, Agra, Moradabad and Mohali

of the clinic at the hospital.

The concept of a post-Covid clinic was initiated when, as a regular policy, the hospital administration started contacting patients who had already recovered from the virus, and were informed that they are facing various issues. According to officials, the clinic is in line with Chief Minister Arvind Keiriwal's vision

of providing a helping hand to patients who have recovered. The government is also providing oxygen concentrators to patients who are facing issues in maintaining the oxygen saturation levels even after getting discharged from the hospital.

The clinic has a waiting area alongside the registration counter and centres for counselCORONAVIRUS IN THE CAPITAL

Add the	TOTAL CASES		Total	Vacant
APPROXIMATION .		HOSPITAL BEDS	14,116	10,493
1,60,016		VENTILATORS	1,231	784
	Daily cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Aug 21	1,250	1,082	13	17,735
Aug 22	1,412	1,230	14	19,435
Total	11,594*	1,44,138	4,284	14,12,363

*Total active cases

ing, physiotherapy and yoga. It also has a consultation chamber with an OPD set-up wherein services such as pulmonology, cardiology, psychiatry and neurology are offered. There is also a sample collection area where blood samples, ECG and, if required, investigations like EEG or PFT are conducted.

"We are also learning and understanding the pattern of treatment. This will help us in anticipating the situation and devise a strategy accordingly. Since there is no defined treatment for Covid worldwide, everyone is improvising the techniques. The post-Covid observation will also help us in altering the present treatment for Covid patients," said Dr

The Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality Hospital has discharged around 1,500 patients and the doctors are calling each of them to follow-up. "This will help us have definite data on the

impact of Covid on the human body. Through this clinic, maybe after a month, we might be able to analyse the data which can act as a base for the future treatment," said Dr B L Sherwal, medical director of the hospital.

Delhi recorded 1,412 fresh coronavirus cases on Saturday, bringing the infection tally to 1,60,016, while the death toll rose to 4,284.

In the last 24 hours, the city reported 14 more deaths due to

According to the Delhi government's health bulletin, a total of 19.435 tests - 6.090 RT-PCR/CBNAAT/TrueNat tests and 13,345 rapid antigen tests have been conducted in the last 24 hours.

So far 14,12,363 Covid-19 tests have been conducted in Delhi while the number of tests per million population stands at 74,334 in the capital. The positivity rate stands at 7.26 per cent while the recovery rate is 90.07 per cent.

number of students in a research lab at any given time should not be more than two or three.

Other generic safety precautions they have been advised to take are "social distancing, face mask, sanitisation, etc while entering the academic area and while working in their respective research laboratories".

Earlier this week, the university had also issued a notice allowing for the phased return of PhD students to their hostels, beginning with senior PhD students. The returning students will have to undergo a 14-day mandatory self-quarantine in their hostel rooms, and will be screened by the university's health centre following that.

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Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower and Co orrower(s) namely ROXY AGENCIES, RAJ AHUJA, RISHI AHUJA that the belo described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physica ossession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Capital First Limited no IDFC FIRST Bank Limited, which was supposed to be sold through e-auction of 26.08.2020 (as per the provisions of SARFAESI ACT, 2002 and Security Interes (Enforcement) Rules, 2002) and for which the publication for e-auction was done or

This said e-auction is cancelled in lieu of the terms and conditions of the auction, which rmits the Authorised Officer to cancel the said auction

ALL THE PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE PROPERTY PLOT NO 283, Sainik Cooperativ

Authorised Office (Formerly known as Capital First Limited)

Among 3 arrested for robbery, engineer who lost job in Qatar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

DELHI POLICE have arrested three men, including an engineer who lost his job in Qatar due to the Covid-19 pandemic, for allegedly posing as cops and robbing people in Dwarka's Najafgarh area Saturday. Police identified the accused as Swapnil Lalkishor, the engineer, and his friends Keshav and Ravi.

According to police, the accused, wearing police uniforms and carrying walkie-talkie sets, allegedly posed as policemen and pretended to patrol the streets in Najafgarh on August 18.

Late at night, they allegedly stopped a Verna car, which had a Punjab registration plate. The victims thought they were checking their vehicle, but were The accused, wearing uniforms and carrying walkie-talkies, allegedly posed as policemen

soon abducted. The accused took the two men in their black Creta car and robbed their jewellery, phones, cash and other belongings. They were later dropped off at Singhu border.

A senior police officer said that Lalkishor and his friends allegedly tried to extort more money from the victims by forcing them to call their relatives, but could not get anything.

(Dwarka) Anto Alphonse said, "We received a complaint from the victims and started tracing the route taken by the accused. More than 100

CCTV cameras were checked and the car was traced to Loni. We went there and arrested two men; the third accused was arrested from Rani Bagh.'

During questioning, Lalkishor told police that he returned from Qatar recently and wasn't comfortable with his life here. He wanted money, so he roped in his friend, Keshav Sehgal, a property dealer, and allegedly hatched the plan. Sehgal also asked his friend Ravi, who worked at a call centre and needed money to pay medical bills for his mother's operation, to join them, police said.

Lalkishor took his brother's Creta car and the three ventured on different roads to find a suitable "target".

Police suspect that the trio are involved in more such cases in UP and nearby places, and are questioning the accused further.

DEVI AHILYA VISHWAVIDYALAYA, INDORE (NAAC Accredited "A+" Grade)

ADMISSION NOTICE - Common Admission Procedure (CAP) 2020 Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore announces schedule of its Common Admission Procedure

(CAP)-2020 (programes covered under CET) for admission in the following UG and PG programs being offered at its University Teaching Departments for the session 2020-21.

Programs After Graduation :

Group-A M.B.A. (Financial Administration Marketing Management/Tourism/HR/Advertising & Public Relations/Entrepreneurship/Business Economics/International Business/ Financial Services'e-Commerce/Foreign Trade/Computer Management/Business Analytics Hospital Administration Disaster Management Public Administration and Policy/Rural Development/Media Management) M.A. (Journalism & Mass Communication)

Programs After 10+2:

Group-B M.B.A. (Management Science)-5Yrs. M.B.A. (Tourism)-5Yrs. M.B.A. (e-Commerce)-5Yrs B.Com. (Hons.)-3Yrs M.B.A. (Foreign Trade)-5 Yrs B.Com. (Accounting & Tax Management)/B.A. LL.B. (Hons.)-5Yrs./B.A. (Hons. Economics)/M.Sc. (Electronic Media)-5Yrs /B.A. Journalism & Mass Communication

Group-C M.C.A.-5Yrs.M. Tech. (IT)-5Yrs. B.Pharm.-4Yrs./M.B.A. (Hospital Administration)-5Yrs./M. Tech. (Electronics Spl. Embedded Systems) 5 Yrs./M. Tech. (IoT) 5 Yrs./ M. Tech. (Energy Management) 5 Yrs. M. Tech. (Al & Data Science) 5 Yrs.

Apply online only through davv.mponline.gov.in. A candidate has to indicate the choice of group as per eligibility and can opt for more than one group within UG programs. The application ee is Rs. 1500/- (Non-refundable) + Rs. 50 portal charges. The application fee can be paid through Credit Card/Debit Card/Net Banking/UPI etc.

Last date of online submission of application form is "13th Sept., 2020". The details of eligibility. procedure for filling the application form, number of seats, fee structure, etc. are available on our website www.dauniv.eo.in. M.P. Madhyam/98247/2020

Sanitary napkins for Re 1 — but many don't know about it

ASHNA BUTANI NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

awaits customers.

AT 10 am every day, Pravesh Kumar Dhama opens his Jan Aushadhi Kendra, situated in Ashok Nagar, and patiently

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's announcement of sanitary pads for Re 1 has had little effect in his area, he says, as he points to the boxes of sanitary pads lying around on the shop floor, untouched.

"Sometimes, we manage to sell around 100 sanitary napkins in a day, but that is mostly to NGOs or other such organisations. But on most days, very few people come to buy. People visit the store from areas such as Khora colony and Trilokpuri," he

Since the lockdown, many women who relied on government schools for sanitary napkins, have switched to ordinary

An interaction with women staying just down the road from Dhama's shop revealed that most are still unaware of the cheaper alternative at the Jan Aushadhi Kendra. Most of them said that it has

become difficult to buy sanitary napkins since their daughters stopped going to school.

Class XII student Priti Sharma (19) was among those who used to collect sanitary napkins from school. "Now we have online classes so we don't have a choice but to buy sanitary napkins. I tried using cloth a few times but it was very uncomfortable. So I started buying packets at Rs 30

Her mother, Sushma Devi Sharma (48), has returned to us-



The Jan Aushadhi Kendra in Ashok Nagar

ing cloth like she would when she was younger. "My husband is unwell and I am a housewife. We are financially dependent on my son who works as a tailor. Obviously, we cannot afford pads for two women, so I use old pieces of cloth."

The family was unaware of sanitary napkins being sold at Jan Aushadhi Kendras for Re 1 each.

A few women, however, knew of the Jan Aushadhi Kendra, and had started going there during the lockdown. Suman Kumari (43) said, "I started buying from the kendra since both my daughters stopped attending school due to the lock-

down. It is a cheaper alternative." Dr Surbhi Singh, gynecologist and founder of NGO Sachhi Saheli, said, "It took some time for subsidised sanitary napkins sold by the kendras to pick up. Recently, many people have donated these pads to the NGO. I have distributed them among needy women across the city. Some gave positive feedback, while others said that they are not very comfortable as they are smaller than napkins made by other companies.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ assessment of performance of CMP's. However, the service No.P/CMP/Medi/Agra Dated: 19.08.2020

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR DOCTORS North Central Railway, Agra Division intends to engage 01 (One) General Duty Medical Officer 01 (One) (Gynaecology/GDMO) full-time Contract Medical Practitioner (CMP) on Contract basis for a duration of one year as per details given below-

SN	Specialty	Vacancy	Place of posting
. 1	CMP (GDMO)	01	Health Unit Mathura
	CMP, (Gynecology/ GDMO)	01	Divisional Railway Hospital/AGC
	Total	02	

Reservation will be as Under-SC-NIL, ST-NIL, OBC-01, UR-01 TOTAL-02 The contract is extendable upto Twelve years on a year to year basis. Date, time & venue of Walk-in-Interview & Medical Examination - The interested candidates can appear in the walk-in-interview followed by Medical Examination, at the following venue as per time and date indicated below

date indicated below.				
Walk-in- Interview & Medical Examination	Date 10.09,2020	Time 10:00 AM	Venue Goverdhan Hal DRM Office, Agra Cantt	

Med Medical examination of candidates will be held simultaneously along with walk-in-interview. Note-i) Candidate must submit their applications in duplicate on the prescribed and enclosed proforma latest by 10.00 A.M. or 10.09.2020 at the respective venue mentioned above, ii) In case the number of candidates are more and they cannot be interviewed/medically examined on the nominated day, they will be interviewed/medically examined on the next working day/days. As such, if needed, the candidates should make their own arrangement for stay for a period of two days and come prepared accordingly. Remuneration for other than Retired Railway Doctors - ₹75,000 for General Duty Medical Doctor per month fixed & ₹95,000 for (Gynaecology/GDMO Govt. accommodation is not provided. If Railway accommodation is provided an amount equivalent to the sum House Rent Allowance and License Fee of the accommodation provided will be deducted. Remuneration for Retired Railway Doctors- ₹ 46,000 per month fixed (Subject to the condition that Remuneration + Pension drawn by Retired Railway Doctor should not exceed the last pay drawn), if Government accommodation is not provided. I Railway accommodation is provided an amount equivalent to House Rent Allowance payable to a fresh entrant to Group 'A' junior scale and license fee of the Railway accommodation. so provided shall be deducted from the monthly Remuneration payable to the CMP. Age for other than Retired Rallway Doctors- Candidates should not have completed more than 53 years of age as on 10.09.2020. However, age relaxation of 03 years for OBC candidates is admissible. Age for Retired Railway Doctors- Candidates should not have completed more than 65 years of age as on 10.09.2020. Terms and Condition for other than Retired Railway Doctors- The engagement of Doctors would be on Contract basis initially for a period of 01 year, which is extendable on annual basis up to a maximum period of 12 years as per administrative requirements on the basis of

year after giving 15 days notice on either side. Railway administration will be at liberty to terminate the contract of the Doctor with immediate effect by paying honorarium in lieu of 15 days notice period, if the circumstances, so -warrant. The service rendered as Contract Doctor is a stop gap arrangement and will not have any bearing in respect of consideration of their period in case of their subsequent regular selection through UPSC. It will also not confer upon any right for regularization or permanent absorption in the Railway. No Private Practice is allowed. Terms and Condition for Retired Railway Doctors-The engagement of Retired Railway Doctors as CMP's shall be for a maximum of 02 terms of 01 year each and for each term of 01 year a fresh contract shall be entered. The contract shall be entered in to for a period of 01 year or less from the date of entering into the contract. Period of contract shall not be extendable on any ground. However, the Railway Administration shall reserve the right to enter into fresh contract with the Retired Railway Doctors for another term. The engagement shall purely be on contract basis for a period of 01 year or till the regular incumbent joins or on the Retired Railway Doctor's attaining the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. The Retired Railway Doctors engaged as Contract Medical Practitioner shall not have any claim or right for his/ her continuity in service or automatic extension of the term of contract. During the validity of the contract, the CMP shall be at liberty to terminate the contract for betterment of his/ her areer or on any other grounds by given 15 days notice to the Railway. The contract can also be terminated by the Railway at any time during the contract by giving 15 days notice without assigning any reason whatsoever. Contract shall also be terminated, if the CMP is found to be mentally or physically incapacitated. No Private Practice is allowed. Note- (xiv) The Contract Doctors shall not be entitled to Railway Quarter etc. as a matter of right. However, if such a quarter is available, they will be provided accommodation The detailed instructions with regard to their duties while on contract with the railway, shall be given to them in the event of their selection alongwith the offer of engagement. (xv) Willing candidates should bring their application form with Original and attested copies of all certificates and mark sheets duly filled up on the prescribed format with them. No TA/DA is admissible for this interview. (xvi) The offer of engagement to the selected Candidates shall be issued subject to the availability of vacancy as per requirement in Hospitals/Health Units located at different stations on 'as is where is basis'. Administration has right to change the place of posting as per administrative needs. (xvii) The notification can be downloaded from NC Railway website www.ncrindianrailways.gov.in_>About us> Division>Agra Division>Medical. (xviii) After approval of the panel by competent authority, the panel will be uploaded on same day at NCR's website www.ncrindianrailways, gov.in>About us>Division> Agra Division>Medical. The suitable candidates will be called through speed post/Registered letter, Telephone call and SMS to report to a particular fixed date at Divisional Hospital/ NC Rly Agra for posting. The candidates who do not report at the assigned date and time will forfeit their chance of contract engagement and such engagement will be offered to the next empanelled 894/20 FA Divisional Personnel Officer-II, N.C. Rly, Agra

North central railways @ @CPRONCR

Delhi University will open research labs for PhD students first

301-400 Very Poor

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

DELHI UNIVERSITY will open its research labs in a phased manner for its PhD students, making them the first students to return to the varsity after the lockdown.

"Registered bonafide senior PhD students, whose presence in the research laboratory is essential, may join their research laboratories after obtaining a certificate from their respective supervisors and further endorsed by the Head of the Department or the Director of the Center to this effect," read a notice by proctor Neeta Sehgal on this matter.

According to this, the total

IDFC FIRST

Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022

17.08.2020, the said auction stands withdrawn, hence cancelled

House, building society known as Sainik Vihar, Pitampura Delhi -110034

Date: 23.08.2020



n 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 physical copies of Annual Report to the Shareholders of the Company and permitted Companies to send Annual Report for the year 2019-20 containing notice of AGM, Board's Report inancial Statements and other documents etc. to its shareholders and other persons 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 31st AGM of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited will be held on Tuesday, 22rd September, 2020 at 11:00 A.M. (IST) through VC/OAVM and the Annual Report alongwith Notice of 31st AGM will be sent by email only, 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.powergridindia.com and websites of the Stock Exchanges i.e. National Stock Exchange of India Limited and BSE imited at www.nseindia.com and www.bseindia.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 31st AGM will be transacted through remote e-voting nd e-voting during the AGM. The Company is taking services of KHii Technologies Private Limited (Company's Registrar & Share Transfer Agent "RTA") 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 AGM can log on to the e-voting website https://evoting.com by using their credentials. Shareholders are requested to read instruction contained in he 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 nereby requested to register the same in following manner:

For shareholders holding shares in Physical Mode: To Register / Register / update the E-mail ID by clicking on update the Email ID

writing to the Company with details of Folio
Number and attaching a self-attested copy of PAN
card at investors@powergrid.co.in or to RTA at

einward.ris@kfintech.com

account

Write to the Company's RTA i.e. KFin Technologies Private Limited, Unit: Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Selenium Tower B, Plot 31-32, Gachibowli Financial District, Nanakramguda, Hyderabad – 500 032.

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 ("the Act") 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

For shareholders holding shares in **Demat Mode:** Shareholders can

update email IDs, mobile numbers and Bank Account details by

orms/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. Notice is also hereby given that pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 10 of the Companies Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Regulation 42 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015, the Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from $4^{\rm th}$ September, 2020 to $22^{\rm rd}$ September, 2020 (both days inclusive).

The Board had recommended a Final Dividend of ₹4.04 per share (i.e @ 40.40%) on the paid-up equity share capital of the Company. If the final dividend, as recommended by the Board of Directors, is approved at the AGM, payment of such dividend subject to deduction of tax at source will be made on **Friday**, 9th **October**, **2020** as under:

to all Beneficial Owners in respect of shares held in dematerialized form as per the data as may be made available by the National Securities Depository Limited ("NSDL") and the Central Depository Services (India) Limited ("CDSL"), (collectively "Depositories"), as of the close of business hours on Thursday, 3rd September, 2020; and

i. to all Shareholders in respect of shares held in physical form after giving effect to valid transmission or transposition requests lodged with the RTA / Company as of the close of business hours on Tuesday 22[™] September, 2020.

For Power Grid Corporation of India Limited

(Mrinal Shrivastava) Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED (A Government of India Enterprise) Regd. Office: B-9, Qutab Institutional Area, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi-110016

Corporate Office: "Saudamini", Plot No.-2, Sector - 29, Gurgaon-122001 (Haryana)
Website: www.powergridindla.com CIN: L40101DL1989GOI038121 A Maharatna PSU

THE CITY

627 EWS flats booked under DDA scheme

New Delhi: The Delhi Development Authority's online scheme for disposal of EWS flats at Narela, with 40% concession on construction cost, has so far seen 627 flats being booked. Officials said buyers can download allotment letters online from the DDA website from August 28.

Dispute over land leads to five murders

Gurgaon: Fight over a plot in Basai village has led to five murders over the past year, probe into three murders that took place in the district has revealed. Police said the three murders were allegedly revenge killings, following two murders that happened due to friction over a piece of land. Two people have been arrested so far.

Land pooling policy gets thumbs up

New Delhi: The DDA Saturday said land pooling policy has received an encouraging response and more sectors would be qualified for development under this policy. Under it, owners or groups of owners can pool land parcels of any size for development, and a minimum of 70% contiguous land is required before development can start off. As of date, 1,371 applications have been verified by the Delhi government, said a DDA official. **ENS**

Gym owners protest near L-G office

New Delhi: Police detained nearly a dozen gym owners protesting near the L-G's office for permission to reopen the fitness centres in the capital. PTI

Part of under-construction flyover collapses in Gurgaon, 2 men injured

SAKSHIDAYAL

GURGAON, AUGUST 22

A SECTION of an "elevated road" being constructed on Gurgaon's Sohna road collapsed on Saturday night, with officials saving there were no casualties in the incident.

According to police, the incident toook place around 10 pm. Officials from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) said they were still trying to determine the reason for the collapse.

"The span of that section of the road had already been laid and completed: the casting and stressing had also been completed. We will have to investigate this to find out why it happened. Maybe there was overstressing or understressing of the stretch, but it is too early to say anything decisive on this," said an official from NHAI. adding that the structure fell within the barricaded section of the under-construction project.

The flyover is part of a 5 km

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

propriate if the matter was inves-

tigated by the Crime Branch or

Special Cell, and requested the

has been conducted on the direc-

tions of DCP (Northeast), and it

"Since preliminary enquiry

police chief to look into it.

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

Police claim lawyer

forged documents,

court says investigate



NHAI said they are looking into the reason for the collapse

long stretch that is meant to provide connectivity between Subhash Chowk on Sohna road

and Badshahpur. Construction had started on the structure in 2018, and officials had, at the time, touted it as the second most expensive project for the district, after the Dwarka Expressway. It is being constructed at a cost of Rs 707 crore and is part of a larger project being executed by the NHAI, which

also includes converting the stretch between Subhash Chowk and Sohna into a six-lane road.

"A section of the elevated road collapsed around 10 pm. There were no fatalities, but we know so far that two labourers have sustained injuries. Further investigations are being conducted," said ACP (Sadar) Aman Yadav.

Residents of the area, meanwhile, spoke of an "explosion" and tremors that they felt as the

Abdul Salam, with his wife Pinky

and brothers Abdul Kalam and

Ajju Khan, under the name

'Friends Lucky Draw', police said.

Each investor had to pay Rs 1,000

per month for 15 months to get a

return of Rs 20,000. Later, other

schemes were added to bring in

family fled their residence, police

said. A senior officer said they

have received multiple com-

plaints from people in the local-

ity, who said the accused would

encourage investors to rope in

more people by offering them in-

centives such as kitchen appli-

outside Govindpuri police station

on Thursday and Friday. DCP

(Southeast) RP Meena said a case

Money (in ₹)

63720/-

(₹ Sixtv three

thousand Seven

Hundred Twenty

Only)

② © CPRONCR

The complainants protested

Delivery

90 Days

ances and blankets.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

Tender Notice

For and on behalf of President of India, the Deputy Chief Material Manager (G.S.D.) General Stores Depot, North Central Railway, Jhansi invites online open tender

Qty.: 20 Nos. Closing Date & Time of the Tender: 18.09.2020 (14:30), Open date &

time of the tender: 18.09.2020 (14:30), Availability of Tender: Website

JAMMU & KASHMIR FOREST DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE PR. CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HoFF

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

Notification for Tender No. 01/CAMPA/2020 Dated 20.08.2020

The Jammu and Kashmir Forest Department (JKFD) invites proposals

for hiring of services of reputed solution provider for Designing,

Development and Maintenance of a comprehensive web portal for the

J&K Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning

For details of the RFP, please visit the official website of J&K Fores

The last date for receipt of tender is 14 September 2020 at 1400 hours

E-TENDER NOTICE Office of Executive Engineer (E&M-I), Lakhwar Project Dakpathar

invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is

Name of the work: Repairing & overhauling of 33 KV Lakhwar feeder

No. 3 with installation of covered conductor in densely populated

Last date for submission of bid on website: 15.09.2020 upto 16:00 hrs

For fuller & further details, kindly isisit e-procurement portal

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

Date of availability of bid document on website: 25.08.2020

Sd/-

(Tender Inviting Authority)
Chief Executive Officer, J&K CAMPA

Van Bhawan Forest Complex

Below Gumat Jammu

Executive Engineer (E&M-I)

UJVN LIMITED

Authority (CAMPA) in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

Department at <u>www.jktenders.gov.in</u> and <u>www.jkforest.gov.in</u>

On August 17, Salam and his

more investors.

structure came down.

"I was playing football downstairs with my friends — it was 9.56 pm — when we suddenly heard a loud explosion and felt tremors. Everyone in the building came out into their balconies, and several residents even came downstairs, mistaking the tremors for an earthquake. When we rushed to the main gate of our complex, we saw that an entire section of the flyover had come crashing down," said Junaid Singh Behgal, a 16-yearold resident of Vipul Greens, a gated condominium located

next to the construction site. Haryana Deputy CM Dushyant Chautala offered reassurance that the matter was being looked into. "There have been 2 injuries and both have been admitted and under treatment. NHAI team, SDM and civil defence team are at site," he tweeted.

Razia (29), also a domestic

Kalam every month. His wife and

I have been friends for years. Both

of us have small children. We

bers are scolding me because I

have lost more than Rs 2.5 lakh. I

wanted to save the money for my

child. I thought I was helping

women become independent.

More than 80 women have lost

She said, "My family mem-

trusted them."

Cancel JEE, NEET exams, says Sisodia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

ASTHE dates for the IEE and NEET exams draw nearer amid online protests by aspirants, deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia spoke out against the decision to conduct these competitive examinations in the current circumstances, stating that an alternative should be devised.

While aspirants have been demanding further postponement of these exams, Sisodia demanded their cancellation. "The central government is playing with the lives of lakhs of students in the name of JEE-NEET. I appeal to the centre to immediately cancel both exams and make alternative arrangements for admission this year. In an extraordinary crisis, resolution can be reached only through ex-



'Centre playing with lives of students'

traordinary steps," he wrote on

"Across the world, education institutes are adopting new methods of conducting admissions. Why can't we do so in India? Is it sensible to put children's lives at risk in the name of entrance examinations? The 21st century India can't think of alternative to an entrance examina-

Gurgaon shops say weekend off will spell more doom

SAKSHIDAYAL GURGAON, AUGUST 22

A DAY after the Haryana government directed closure of all offices, shopping malls and shops in the market area, except those dealing in essential goods and services, during weekends, members of various market and mall associations, as well as owners of shops and salons, in Gurgaon said the decision would undo the progress they have made in the last three months. They also warned that this will further increase unemployment.

"On weekends, we get three times the number of customers that we get on a weekday... nobody has the time to go out on weekdays, people were only coming on Saturday and Sunday," said Aman Bajaj, member of the MGF Metropolitan Mall Association.

"Even if they wanted to shut for two days, they could have closed on Monday and Tuesday, or Sunday and Monday, so that it at least leaves us one day of the weekend," he said. Babloo Gupta, president of the

Sadar Bazaar Market Association. said. "After the lockdown, there is almost no business anyway and all shopkeepers and traders are operating in loss... The little bit that things have improved, it will slip again now. This will only increase unemployment. This weekend lockdown is going to



The order directing closure of malls was issued late on Friday

The order directing the closure of offices, shops, and malls was issued late Friday evening, causing confusion in the first few hours of its enforcement.

"At some markets and malls we were informed that we had to remain closed while at others they only told us this morning. We did not know this was for all of Gurgaon... We had appointments scheduled in advance. In some salons we had to request that we be allowed to complete the work being done on customers already inside and then close down. Someone's hair, for example, was being coloured, this cannot just be left halfway," said the director of a salon chain, speaking on condition

"In the last one week, we have again seen a surge in coronavirus infected persons... Keeping this in mind, I appeal to residents of the district to follow the Covid-19 protocol seriously," said Deputy Commissioner Amit Khatri.

Dated: 17.08.2020

is investigated by an independent **SALUTE THE SOLDIER**

5045072L RFN RAM BAHADUR THAPA, 23 AUG On this day 5045072L Rfn Ram Bahadur Thapa of 5/1 Gorkha Rifles made the supreme sacrifice during 'OP RAKSHAK' Jammu & Kashmir in Aug 1998 in a true act of valour. The brave soldier will always be remembered for his enthusiasm. To this brave heart we pledge that we shall always be guided by his immortal spirit and make his name

CO AND ALL RANKS, 5/1 GORKHA RIFLES



TENDER NOTIFICATION Sealed tenders in two packet system (Technical & Financial bid) are invited

from eligible and qualified manufacturers or their authorized distributors agents for supply, installation and commissioning of Broadband Internet facility with Wi-Fi at Boy's Hostel of this Institute. The last date of submission of completed bidding document is

21.09.2020 up to 4 P.M. through Speed / Registered Post / Courier services. The technical bid will be opened on 22.09.2020 at 3 P.M. in the Conference Hall of Auditorium Complex. The details terms & conditions and technical specifications of the system may

be downloaded from Institute official Website: www.igims.org. The undersigned reserve the right to accept or reject any or all the tender without assigning any reasons. Director, IGIMS, Patna

DELHI STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY (Govt. of NCT of Delhi) Dharamshala Block, Dr. BSA Hospital, Sec-6, Rohini, Delhi-110085 Email: delhisacs1@gmail.com

Request for Expression of Interest for Short listing of NGOs/ CBOs for empanelment for providing services for Targeted Interventions (TI) in Delhi

Delhi State AIDS Control Society (DSACS) invites applications from interested civil society organizations (NGOs/CBOs) in all Districts of Delhi for empanelment for providing services to implement HIV/AIDS Targeted Interventions (TIs) with highly vulnerable population groups i.e. High Risk Groups Female Sex Workers (FSW), Men-who-have-sex-with-men (MSM) Transgendered Population (TG), Injecting Drug Users (IDUs) and Bridge Population (Truckers and Migrants). Additional information viz. terms of reference/ scope of work, qualifiying and evaluation criteria may be seen on the website of DSACS (http://web.delhi.gov.in /wps/wcm/connect/doit_dsacs/DSACS/Home). Last

shall be up to 5.30 PM on 15.09.2020. DIP/Shabdarth/0240/20-21 **Project Director**

date of application (Expression of Interest) to DSACS

agency like Crime Branch or

formed the court through its re-

During the hearing, police in-

Special Cell," the order stated.

AFTER THE Delhi Police claimed port that complainant Irshad Ali that a lawyer had forged docuhad appeared before ACP ments and instigated a man to (Gokulpuri) on August 12. depose falsely in a case related to "Ali was enquired about the Northeast Delhi riots, a court Deepak, Navneet and Mintu, as has asked police to investigate. mentioned in his complaint. He Police made the charge said he knows them by name and

does not know anything about against lawyer Mehmood Pracha, who has been appearing them personally. He also said he does not identify the accused in for some of the accused and complainants in riots cases, in its the video," the report said. It stated that Ali alleged that report before the court. Additional Sessions Judge "one lawyer namely Mehmood Vinod Yadav said it would be ap-

Pracha called him in his office and told him that he has a complainant of a similar incident and there was also an eyewitness". "Pracha also said that if that

complaint is attached with your complaint, it will make your case stronger," the report alleged. Pracha said, "This has not

Tender Notice No. JHS/Dy. CMM/2020-21/07

Item Description

Fully Thyristorised based 600 Amps. DC Welding

Rectifier with minimum 10mm, strip of copper wire

vinded of primary and secondary coil. Specification

special terms and condition is attached in 8 pages

Make - ESAB India Ltd., Larsen & Toubro and ADOR

Welding Ltd. KEMPPI or SIMILAR.

f North Central Railways

nttp://www.ireps.gov.in

DIP/J-3634/20

given below:

areas, Dakpathar.

"htttp://uktenders.gov.in".

पत्रांक स0 512/दिनांक 21.08.2020

Tender No. 04/EE(E&M-I)/LP/2020-21

Estimated Cost: ₹30,54,463.00 (taxes extra)

from reputed and experienced Suppliers for the following work

Tender No. 51195692 Dated :- 19.08.2020

has been conducted by ACP come as a surprise. Delhi Police (Gokupuri) and SHO (Dayalpur), it will be appropriate if the matter is filing false cases against me because I am fighting multiple cases in the Delhi riots. This was a risk I am prepared to take to uphold the values of the Constitution."



Family running chit fund

Victims of the fraud outside Govindpuri police station

has been registered. Reena Barua (45), who

worked as domestic help and lives with her children in Govindpuri, said she lost over Rs 3.5 lakh. "I heard about the group two years ago from my friend Most of the families in our locality were investing money to get good returns. Some had even received it. I gave money to Kalam last year and got a return in two months. I was happy with the returns and told my neighbours and children to invest. This month, we were supposed to get Rs 1 lakh but Kalam and his family escaped. My friends and neighbours are fighting with me, my children are upset. We don't

their money because of me." Kalam and his family had been living in the Govindpuri locality for over two decades. Fayeem (24), Kalam's friend, said, "I have known Kalam since we were kids. When he started the group, I was the first person to invest. Now I have lost more than Rs 5 lakh. I encouraged my

> Police said they are compiling the complaints and only then will they have clarity about the magnitude of the scam.

father and brothers to invest.'

E-mail-ld: diragrikmr@gmail.com pmfbvik@gmail.com, developmentdak@gmail.com Telefax No.:0194-2310675 **GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR** Mission Directorate Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and

Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Schme (RWBCIS) Lalmandi, Srinagar, 190008, J&K.

Agricultural Insurance Company of India Limited IFFCO-Tokio. General Insurance Company Limited Bajaj Allianz, General Insurance Company Limited ICICI-Lombard General Insurance Company Limited HDFC-ERGO General Insurance Company Limited

Future Generali India, General Insurance Company Limited

SBI General Insurance Company Limited

Tata AIG General Insurance Company Limited Reliance General Insurance Company Limited Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Company Limited

Universal Sompo General Insurance Company Limited

Shriram General Insurance Company Limited United India Insurance Company Limited National Insurance Company Limited

Oriental Insurance Company Limited New India Assurance Company Limited Bharti Axa General Insurance Company Limited Royal Sundaram General Insurance Company Limited

No.: Agri/Dev-185/2020-21/2208-2235 Dated: 17.08.2020 Ref.: APD'S communication vide no. Agri/PC-17/2019-20.P.F, dated 14.08.2020
Sub: Implementation of Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) in Kashmir Division, UT of Jammu & Kashmir for a period of Three (03) Years w. e. f. Rabi-2020-21 onwards- invitation of Bids/offer

Bids are invited from the empanelled Implementing Agencies (IAs) Insurance Companies (ICs) for submission of District-wise/Crop-wise financia Bids to the office of u/s for carrying out Implementation of RWBCIS in Kashmil Division, UT of J&K. The financial bids on the prescribed format should reach this office by or before 16.09.2020 by 04.00 P.M.

The Scheme is to be implemented for a period of Three (03) Years (Rab The Scheme is to be implemented for a period of intries (us) reads (nam 2020-21 to Kharif 2023) in 10 districts covering 02 (Two) crops viz. Apple and Saffron. The terms and conditions are detailed in the Bid document (enclosed). The IAs can approach the designated/concerned officers (Director Agriculture, Kashmir/Jammu) for technical clarification/data requirement, if any. The information is also available on our websites: www.diragrijmu.nic.in,

www.diragrikmr.nic.in and www.pmfby.gov.in. You are requested to adhere to the timeline as provided in the Bid/Tender document. The division wise/crop wise area for implementation of RWBGIS and PMFBY in the UT of J&K has been notified vide Govt. Order No. 200 and 201-Agri of 2019, dated 25.10.2019 by J&K

The details of Crops/Area coverage/Targeted Area for RWBCIS is give

Crop	Area (ha)	Targeted Area @ 25% (ha)
Apple	142500	35625
Saffron	3665	916.25
	146165	36541.3
	Apple	Apple 142500 Saffron 3665

npanies are being informed through the medium of this communiqué regard ing participation in the process by submitting closed bids in accordance with th rms and conditions mentioned in the Bid document. The IAs shall submit their bids preferably in person/registered or speed post for speedy/timely evaluation of Bids/Offers by the Bid evaluation committee as approved by SLCCCI.

Further it is also to inform that the Scale of Finance/Sum Insured would be

as per the latest SOF decided by the respective SLTC/DLTC. No separate Bio price will be sent to the bidders A generous response thereof is solicited in the interest of farmer welfare

Yours faithfully Sd/- (Altaf Aijaz Andrabi Director Agriculture Kashmi Mission Director, PMFBY/RWBCIS (J&K) E-mail-ld: diragrikmr@gmail.com pmfbyjk@gmail.com, developmentdak@gmail.com

destroy us."

Telefax No.:0194-2310675 **GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR** Mission Directorate Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Schme (RWBCIS) Lalmandi, Srinagar, 190008, J&K.

Agricultural Insurance Company of India Limited

IFFCO-Tokio, General Insurance Company Limited Bajaj Allianz, General Insurance Company Limited.

CICICI-Lombard General Insurance Company Limited
HDFC-ERGO General Insurance Company Limited
Future Generali India, General Insurance Company Limited

SBI General Insurance Company Limited

Tata AlG General Insurance Company Limited
Reliance General Insurance Company Limited
Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Company Limited

Universal Sompo General Insurance Company Limited

Shriram General Insurance Company Limited

United India Insurance Company Limited National Insurance Company Limited Oriental Insurance Company Limited New India Assurance Company Limited

Bharti Axa General Insurance Company Limited Royal Sundaram General Insurance Company Limited No.: Agri/Dev-185/2020-21/2171-98

Ref: APD'S communication vide no. Agri/PC-17/2019-20.P.F, dated 14.08.2020 Sub: Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in Kashm Division, UT of Jammu & Kashmir for a period of Three (03) Years w. e. f. Rabi

2020-21 onwards- invitation of Bids/offers thereof Bids are invited from the empanelled Implementing Agencies (IAs) Insurance Companies (ICs) for submission of District-wise/Crop-wise financial Bids to the office of u/s for carrying out Implementation of PMFBY in **Kashmi**n **Division, UT of J&K.** The financial bids on the prescribed format should reach

his office by or before 16.09.2020 by 04.00 P.M. cheme is to be implemented for a period of Three (03) Years (Rab

2020-21 to Kharif 2023) in 10 districts covering 03 (Three) crops viz. Paddy, Maize and Oilseeds (Mustard & Rape Seed) under PMFBY. The terms and condition: and offised to the Bid document (enclosed).

The IAs can approach the designated/concerned officers (Director Agriculture, Kashmir/Jammu) for technical clarification/data requirement, if any. The

formation is also available on our websites: www.diragrijmu.nic.in, www.dira grikmr.nic.in and www.pmfby.gov.in. You are requested to adhere to the timeline as provided in the Bid/Tender document. The division wise/crop wise area for implementation of FWBCIS and PMFBY in the UT of J&K has been notified vide Govt. Order No. 200 and 201.Agri of 2019, dated 25.10.2019 by J&K Government. The details of Crops/Area coverage/Targeted Area for PMFBY is give

Particular	Crop	Area (ha)	Tentative Area (Ha) @ 25%
Kashmir Division	Paddy	141340	35335
	Maize	80740	20185
	Oilseed	81110	20277.5
Total Kashmir	All	303190	75797.5

In this connection, all the service providers/Empanelled Insurance Companies are being informed through the medium of this communiqué regarding participation in the process by submitting closed bids in accordance with the terms and conditions mentioned in the Bid document. The IAs shall submit their bids preferably in person/registered or speed post for speedy/timely evaluation of

Bids/Offers by the Bid evaluation committee as approved by SLCCCI.
Further it is also to inform that the Scale of Finance/Sum Insured would be as per the latest SOF decided by the respective SLTC/DLTC. No separate Bid notice will be sent to the bidders. A generous response thereof is solicited in the interest of farmer welfare.

Yours faithfully

Sd/- (Altaf Aljaz Andrabi)
Director Agriculture Kashmir,
Mission Director, PMFBY/RWBCIS (J&K)

New Delhi

DIPK-NB-1941/20

5 GOVT & POLITICS

From power to drinking water, PM wants work done in J&K to be 'visible'

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi has laid out a roadmap, with clear deadlines, for carrying out development works in Jammu and Kashmir – ensure electricity and drinking water to every village by March 2022; launch the second phase of the Centre's back-to-villages programme on October 2; and set up a development board in every district with political

leaders as members. Sources said the Prime Minister has made it clear that these development works should win the trust of the people of J&K before elections are held in the

SC extends

deadline

for Babri

verdict

demolition

PRESSTRUSTOFINDIA

THE SUPREME Court has ex-

tended by a month the deadline

for completion of trial in the 1992

Babri Masjid demolition case in-

volving 32 accused, including BJP

veterans L K Advani, M M Joshi

and Uma Bharti, and asked the

special CBI court to deliver the ver-

lier fixed August 31 as the dead-

line for completion of proceedings, including pronouncement of the verdict, took note of the report

filed by special judge SK Yadav in

Nariman, Navin Sinha and Indira

Banerjee said, "Having read the report of Surendra Kumar Yadav, learned Special Judge, and consid-

ering that the proceedings are at

the fag end, we grant one month's

to complete the proceedings, in-

cluding the delivery of judgment."

August 19 and was recently up-

tended by three months the time

for completion of trial in the case

and said that judgment should be

Lucknow has completed record-

ing of statements of the 32 ac-

cused under Section 313 of CrPC

demolished on December 6, 1992.

cial judge S K Yadav to control the

proceedings in accordance with

law so that the time-frame is no

The mosque in Ayodhya was

In May, the SC had asked spe-

The special CBI court in

delivered by August 31.

in the case.

longer breached.

Trust begins

mosque land

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, AUGUST 22

MEMBERS Of the Indo-Islamic Cultural Foundation on Saturday

visited Dhannipur village in

Ayodhya district to take meas-

urements and prepare a topo-

graphic plan of the five-acre land

allotted by the state government

to build a mosque in accordance

with the Supreme Court verdict

in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri

Masiid case. The UP Sunni Waqf

Board has set up the trust for the

quired to start work on the site's

hospital, and a public library,

said Husain.

The topographic plan is re-

construction of the mosque.

measuring

Avodhva

The order was passed on

On May 8, the SC had ex-

time – till September 30, 2020 -

A bench of Justices R F

The top court, which had ear-

dict by September 30.

the high-profile case.

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

In his Independence Day address, Modi had said that Assembly elections would be held after the delimitation exercise was completed.

While the Central government gradually withdraws more forces from the region, the PM wants the **I&K** administration to ensure that over 50 welfare programmes of the Centre are implemented with 'visible results on the ground". He also wants the administration to ensure 10,000 jobs for people in the region.

"The Prime Minister told the UT administration that merely giving out data won't do. Development works should be visible on the ground in every vil-



PM Narendra Modi

lage," said a source. A year after the Centre stripped the state of its special status under Article 370, the BIP-led

government has come under crit-

icism for not carrying any major

nounce major projects, including a 'naya' Srinagar and 'naya' Jammu. Sources said that the Prime Minister wants all development activities to be carried out with the participation of political leaders. 'He is of the view that while leaders of Kashmir parties are still up-

Jammu and Kashmir. On August

14. The Indian Express reported

that the PM was expected to an-

set with the Centre's decision, their rank and file, especially at the lower level, would be keen to see that development works are taking place and jobs are being created. Gradually, the leaders also will be forced to accept it," said the

Sinha's appointment on August 6 as Lieutenant Governor of I&K is also seen as part of Modi's new plans for the region.

Sources said that with the Centre assessing reduced threat from militant attacks, more forces will be withdrawn from the UT in the coming days. The Union Home Ministry believes that security forces and intelligence agencies have successfully curbed the recruitment of youth into militancy and that there is a significant drop in the number of stone pelting instances.

Earlier this week, the Centre issued an order withdrawing around 10,000 paramilitary personnel from Kashmir.

LAC: Govt decides on more military talks with China

SUSHANT SINGH NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

CONTINUING WITH its attempts to restore the status quo ante at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh through peaceful means despite Chinese intransigence, the government has decided to hold more military talks with China to resolve the border crisis.

Official sources told The Sunday Express that the date for these military talks has not been finalised so far, but they will follow the precedent of earlier rounds of military talks in Ladakh. The talks could be held both at the level of the Corps Commander and the Division Commander, sources said.

The decision to hold the talks at the military level, sources said, was taken after a review of discussions during the meeting Thursday of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on India-China Border Affairs.

Sources said the decision to continue the engagement with the Chinese was despite the fact that the last few rounds of diplomatic and military talks have not led to any breakthrough due to the obstinate Chinese stance. New Delhi insists that the restoration of status quo ante as of April is its end goal, but the Chinese side has refused to do so at multiple friction points on the LAC.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held a review meeting Saturday with NSA Ajit Doval, CDS General Bipin Rawat and the three services chiefs to discuss the Ladakh situation

Five rounds of talks at the level of the Corps Commander have been held so far, with no progress on the ground after the fourth round on July 14. The fifth round



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held a review meet on Saturday

of talks was held on August 2, where discussions were centered around the Chinese ingress of around 8 km at Pangong Tso and its continued deployment in the

Gogra-Hot Springs area. The last round of talks at the level of the Division Commander was held on August 8, which discussed ways to resolve the situation at the strategic Depsang Plains, Chinese troops have been blocking Indian patrols from accessing five patrolling points at a place 18 km inside the LAC.

Besides the military talks at various levels, there have been four rounds of WMCC meetings, a meeting and a phone conversation between the two Special Representatives, and meetings $held\,by\,the\,Indian\,Ambassador\,to$ Beijing with top Chinese Communist Party officials.

Failing to achieve a breakthrough after more than 100 days of tensions, India has been preparing for an extended deployment of additional troops on the LAC in This was stated by CDS

General Rawat when he told the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) that the military de-escalation process with China would be a long-drawn issue. In their collective depositions, the CDS and his senior colleagues said that as the process of the PLA's de-escalation and pullback was likely to be an "extended one", the Army was preparing to deploy personnel along the LAC during the harsh

KMSS to launch political wing,

Akhil Gogoi to be its CM face

India rejects J&K reference in Pak-China statement, raises CPEC

SHUBHAJITROY NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

A DAY after the Pakistan-China joint statement mentioned Jammu and Kashmir, India on Saturday categorically rejected the reference and conveyed again its concerns on the China-Pakistan Economic corridor.

Reiterating that Jammu and Kashmir is an "integral and inalienable" part of India, New Delhi said that it expects Beijing and Islamabad to not interfere in the internal affairs of India.

Ministry of External Affairs' official spokesperson Anurag Srivastava Saturday said, "As in the past, we categorically reject the reference to the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir in the Joint Press Release of the 2nd Round of China-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue. The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral and inalienable part of India and we expect the parties concerned to not to interfere in matters that are internal affairs of India... At the same time we also reiterate our consistent position on the so-called China Pakistan Economic Corridor."

India has repeatedly conveyed its concerns to both China and to Pakistan on CPEC projects which are in Indian territory illegally occupied by Pakistan. "We resolutely oppose actions by other countries that change the status quo in Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir," Srivastava said.

The foreign ministers of China and Pakistan held their second annual strategic dialogue on Friday and discussed ways to enhance their all-weather bilateral ties, the Kashmir issue, progress on the CPEC and the Afghan peace process.

टॉ0 कफील खाड upper and contract of the last feet. को रिहा करो

Congress MLAs led by party's Uttar Pradesh unit chief Ajay Kumar Lallu protest the state government's handling of law and order, coronavirus pandemic and other issues outside the Assembly in Lucknow on Saturday. Vishal Srivastav

Those who spoke Tilak-taraju, Rome also chanting Ram: Yogi

MAULSHREESETH LUCKNOW. AUGUST 22

AMID PANDEMONIUM in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly, with Opposition members shouting slogans against the state governation and the Covid-19 crisis, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday spoke at length about Ram and the construction of Ram temple and said that in India any work can be completed only with the name of Ram.

Taking on opposition BSP, SP and the Congress, Adityanath said those who created division in the society in the name of "tilaktaraju", or ordered firing on "Ram Bhakts" are also reciting Ram in the name of "Parshuram" now.

Those who once used to speak the language of "Rome", he asserted, have today started shouting "Ram-Ram" as well, and have realised the power of Ram.

Evidently taking on the BSP and the Samajwadi Party, which have criticised alleged atrocities against Brahmins in the state and



Yogi Adityanath in the LIP **Assembly on Saturday.** ANI

have promised to a construct statue of Parshuram, Adityanath said: "Ram ka naam to aisa hai chahe Ram ke naam pe le lein, chahe Parshuram ke naam pe, ya mara-mara ke naam se. Bharat ke andar Ram naam se hi Baitarani paar honi wali hai (the name of Ram is such that you take it in the name of Ram, Parshuram or even recite mara-mara, in India, Baitarani can be crossed only in the name of Ram).

On atrocities against Brahmins

27 Bills without discussion gation levelled especially by SP, **MAULSHREE SETH** Aditvanath, without naming any

party or leader, said these people

are raising caste-based slogans to-

day but when they were in power,

BJP worker in Kannauj, Neeraj

who would abuse the community

by talking about tilak-taraju and

are again trying to spread venom

in the society. However, it is the

work of Ram and would continue

like this," Adityanath said, appar-

ently targeting BSP Chief

measures undertaken by his gov-

ernment to fight Covid-19. In an

indirect reference of AAP MP

Saniav Singh, he said that a

"namoona" had come from Delhi

and asked questions about coro-

navirus. He asserted that UP, with

a population of 23.78 crore, have

seen 2.700 deaths due to Covid:

the death rate is 1.6 per cent, the

lowest in the country. Delhi, in

contrast, with a population of 1.80

crore, has had 4,235 Covid, with a

death rate of 2.7 percent.

Adityanath also spoke about

Mishra, was beheaded.

Mayawati.

LUCKNOW AUGUST 22

UP House passes

THE STATE Assembly on Saturday tabled and approved 27 significant Bills, including the Uttar Pradesh Recovery of Property Bill, 2020, without any discussion as the Opposition protested against the law-andorder situation in the state and alleged caste-based atrocities.

The day's sitting lasted for about two hours 40 minutes, with over an hour taken up by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's speech. The Opposition's protests forced the Speaker to adjourn the brief monsoon session sine die. The session had started on Thursday, and was scheduled to end on Monday.

Of the legislation approved on Saturday, 17 were ordinances converted to Bills.

The legislation included the Uttar Pradesh Prevention of Cow Slaughter (Amendment) Bill, which provides rigorous imprisonment up to 10 years.

ABHISHEK SAHA

GUWAHATI AUGUST 22

PEASANT RIGHTS group Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti (KMSS) will soon launch a regional political party to contest the Assam fit said Saturday, adding that its founder Akhil Gogoi will be the chief ministerial candidate Gogoi is currently in jail. He

was booked by NIA on charges of sedition and under provisions of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act for allegedly being an overground worker of the banned CPI (Maoist). He and the KMSS had played a significant role in the anti-CAA protests in Assam in December last year.

"We will be forming a political party. The name of the party and other details regarding how we will contest elections will be announced once Gogoi is out of prison," KMSS president Bhasco De Saikia said adding that Gogoi will be the CM candidate. The new party will be made up of people belonging to different ethnic, re-



Booked for sedition, Akhil Gogoi is currently in jail

ligious and linguistic communities from the state, he said in

The announcement comes just after the decision by Congress and AIUDF to enter into an alliance for the elections. It also comes at a time the influential student bodies, All Assam Students' Union (AASU) and Asom Jatiyatabadi Yuba Chatra Parishad (AIYCP) have signalled the launch of a regional political party.

Congress and AIUDF leaders earlier told The Sunday Express that they hoped the KMSS's political front would join them.

such alliance. "We are not allying with any national party or any communal party. We appeal that all regional parties should come together to oust the BJP from Assam," he said. The new outfit will be a non-compromising ponamed after KMSS' earlier venture, Gana Mukti Sangram-Asom, he added.

"Because of our non-compromising position, Akhil Gogoi is still in jail. By October, we hope Akhil Gogoi will be released. We trust the country's judiciary. He will announce the name of the party after coming out of jail. The name... has already been finalised," Saikia told reporters. All intellectual preparation for the new party such as the work agenda and the constitution is ready, he said.

'The work agenda will be known as Asombasir Iativa Karmahuchi... We will send the constitution and the agenda to all district committees and our sister organisations. Then we will make these public and seek the peoples' opinion on them." he said.

AHEAD OF BIHAR POLLS

BJP discusses Ram temple, ban on Nitish 'missing', Tejashwi hits the ground China apps, fight against Covid

SANTOSH SINGH PATNA, AUGUST 22

THE BJP'S Bihar unit Saturday discussed achievements of the Central and state governments on the first day of the two-day state executive meeting online ahead of the Assembly polls.

architectural map. According to The party talked about the BIP's commitment to build the the foundation's secretary and Ram temple at Ayodhya, scrapspokesperson, Athar Husain, a few draftsmen visited the site. ping of Article 370 and how over Once it is complete, the details 90,000 people could benefit will be sent to architects, who from the move, and the ban on will start working on a map. 59 apps with Chinese links. In a Construction will begin after the resolution, the BIP also talked map is finalised. "We have been about the Centre bringing a new given five-acre land, which we education policy and India startwill use for the construction of ing manufacturing of 100 types the mosque along with two cenof arms under the Armanirbhar tres to showcase Indo-Islamic Bharat campaign. Enumerating culture and studies, a charitable doles for migrants and measures to boost healthcare to fight Covid, the BIP criticised RID for



BJP leaders before Saturday's state executive meeting through video conference, at the party office in Patna.

its 15-year "misrule" between 1990 and 2005.

BJP national president I P Nadda will address the meet on Sunday.

BJP state president Dr Sanjay Jaiswal, who held the unit's first state executive meet after becoming the party's state president, stressed on communicating effectively with voters amid the pandemic. The party has designated seven members at booth level, known as 'saptarshi', to galvanise voters and allay apprehensions of Covid infection among them during the voting process. The meeting was virtually at-

tended by Bihar BJP in-charge Bhupendra Yadav and former Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis, who are likely to visit Patna next week to initiate talks of seat-sharing among NDA alliance partners

The party also said the Covid recovery rate in India was 78.05 per cent as compared to 67.05 globally. It said Bihar's daily testing had crossed over 1 lakh per day and RT-PCR tests would be increased to over 20,000 per day.

The party also talked about the Bihar government's package for migrants who returned to the state amid the pandemic.

DIPANKARGHOSE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

AMID INDICATIONS that elections in Bihar will be held as scheduled - the present Assembly's term ends on November 29 – RJD president and Leader of Opposition in Vidhan Sabha Tejashwi Yadav has been on the road for the last two weeks, focusing on areas affected by Covid-19 and floods.

The RJD's social media accounts and other outreach platforms are now full of images of Tejashwi meeting people in areas with overflowing water, or across a washed-away bridge, indicating an effort to counter the impression that the party, and in particular its leader, was missing in action when the lockdown began.

Senior leaders of JD(U), which governs the state in alliance with BJP, however, dismissed Tejashwi's public outreach efforts as "drama", and sounded confident of re-election.



Tejashwi Yadav has been on the road for the last two weeks, focusing on areas affected by Covid-19 and floods, Twitter

One senior RJD leader told The Sunday Express that feedback from the ground has indicated some level of disappointment with the political class and the response to the pandemic, especially to the agony of workers who returned from other states during the nationwide lockdown. "While the party organised food distribution and such programmes, people

largely feel not many came out to help them. There is large-scale anger, especially after the lockdown and floods, against Nitish Kumar and the government," the RJD leader said.

"But there was some feedback that even RJD leaders have not been seen on ground. Nitish Kumar is still not doing the rounds, so it is important that Tejashwi shows he is now connected to the people," this leader said.

Some RJD leaders maintain that while there has been conversation within the party about a feeling of not being aggressive enough, especially after last year's Lok Sabha election rout, Tejashwi's absence has not helped matters. "For one, he was in Delhi when the lockdown was announced. So he was stuck there throughout April. He reached Patna in early May — things started moving (in the state) only

thereafter." a party leader said. Manoj Jha, Rajya Sabha MP and party spokesperson, said the perception that the former deputy CM was not on the ground is "in a limited sphere", and denied suggestions of a "course correction". "In a lockdown situation you are not allowed to move freely. (But) he decided to take risk and reach out to the people, listen to their stories, and convey them to the government...Idon't think this is a course correction. The course was already there...'

The RJD chief has consistently accused Nitish of not stepping out of home during the pandemic even as the virus spread thick and fast in Bihar.

Asenior JD(U) leader said, "The eople of Bihar know this is a difficult time, and the only person to take them out (of this crisis) is Nitish Kumar. Tejashwi Yadav thinks that by going around for two weeks he will erase years of allegations The CM is monitoring everything, and has people's trust. It is clear the NDA has support, and the arithmetic clearly backs us.'

I.RAJ KAMAL Jain.S/o-Arvind

mohala,laxmi-nagar,Delhi

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I.Mohammed Faisal S/o

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R/O-H.No-142 Village Post

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SOLANKI R/O-RZ-

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92, have changed my name, from Raj Agarwal to Raj

purposes.

Classifieds

Be it known to all that I. Mohit Kumar Agarwal S/o Shri Krishan Avtar Agarwal, R/o 1-1/282, Geeta Marg, Shri Nagar Hapur-245101, have changed my name as Mohit Agarwal w.e.f. 01.01.2020. Henceforth I shall be known only as Mohit Agarwal and not Mohit Kumar Agarwal. 0040545740-1

I. Divesh (Existing Name of spouse as per change of Next of-Kin POR/Service Documents), spouse of 935615-T Cpl Lokendra Kumar Adm Asst (Name of the Husband) residing at House No.531 Gogaji Temple Lane, Near Bank of India, Sohna Road, Village-Islampur, Gurugram PIN-122001 (address) have changed my name from Divesh (Existing Name of spouse as per change of Next-of-kin POR/Service Documents) to Divesh Kumari

(proposed/Adopted New Name) vide Affidavit dated 18-July-2020 (date of the Affidavit in DDMMYY format) before Judicial Court Gurgaon.(Name and Place of the Court).

0040545731-1

I, Gauri Kohli, w/o Girish Kohli, R/o 412/15A, Noida have changed my name from Sohrab Bararia to Gauri Kohli vide Affidavit dated 20-08-2020 sworn before Notary N K Yadav , Noida. 0050167923-1

I, HARJIT KAUR,W/O GURPREET SINGH,H.NO 15/3, MOTI NAGAR NEW DELHI-110015. Changed my name to HARJEET KAUR

I, Jai Kishan S/o Rakesh Kumar R/o-D-134, Main Kanjhawala Road, Udyan Panna, Village-Kanjhawla, Delhi-110081, have changed my name to Jaideep 0040545785-

I, Karanjit Kaur w/o Baljinder Singh resident 3237 Sector-23 Gurgaon Haryana 122017 have changed my name to Karanjeet

0040545738-1 I, Prachi@ Prachi Chugh, D/o Sh. Raieev Kumar, R/o 13, Block-BH, West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi-110088 have changed my name to Prachi Chugh for

all future purposes.

Atharv Mallik.

I,Aatman Malik S/O Anil Malik R/O H.No-B-450, Meera-Bagh, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110063, changed my name to

0040545783-4

I. Raman Jit Kaur w/o Jagmohan Singh resident 3237 Sector-23 Gurgaon Haryana 122017 have changed my name to Ramanjeet Kaur Dhunna

0040545738-2 I, Simerjeet d/o Parvinder Singh

r/o 250/28, Jyoti Park, Gurgaon, Harvana-122001 have changed my name to SIMER JEET KAUR permanently. 0040545737-1

I.Arun Kumar S/o Bhim Singh R/o-116-117, Pocket-5, Sector-25, Rohini, Delhi-110085. have changed my minor daughter's name from Prakriti to Hiroo.

0040545785-4 **I,Firdos** Begum W/o Amardeen R/o,H.No.-83,Gali no.-17,Block-G, Near Noor Masjid Old Mustafabad 25 Foota Road, Delhi-94, have changed my name to Firdos all 0040545783-8

I,Harish Kumar S/o Ram Swaroop R/o-H-2/5.Upper-Ground Floor Krishna-Nagar Delhi-110051.have changed my name to Harish Kumar Sethi.for all purposes.

0040545783-5

It is for general information that I.INDER DUTT PAINULY.S/O MAYA RAM.R/O.H.N.-84.Top-Floor, Flat. No-9, Arjun Nagar, Safdarjung-Enclave South/west/Delhi-110029.have Changed my old Name in Passport, from INDER DUTT to INDER DUTT PAINULY, For all future.purposes.

0040545783-6

LVikash sharma S/o shri Surai bhan sharma.R/o-2713.3rdfloor.main-sadar thana-road opp,basti harphool,singh sadar-bazar North-Delhi-110006, Have changed my name to Vikas sharma.

0040545783-3

I,Tabassum Ali W/o-Qaiser Ali R/o-F-14/7, Nafees-Road, Jogabai-Extn., Jamia-Nagar ND-25.changed my minor, daughter's name Isaf Amaan from Irsha Amaan for,all purposes.

I,Sunayana Shukla,W/o AKhilesh Kumar Shukla R/o.SMQ-64/1,Safed-Sagar VSV Air-Force-Station Road-Gurgaon, Haryana, have changed my name, from Sunayana Shukla to Sunaina Shukla, vide-affidavit, Dated-

I,SHINY, w/o No.JC-812001W Sub.Mr.Sasikumar KP,R/o-Puthan Veettil House, Sankaramangalam (P.O).Pattambi(Vill.).Palakkad (Distt.), Kerala-679303, have changed my name, from SHINY to SHINY SIVADAS, for all

0040545783-1 purposes. I, Service No.14936024F, Rank L/NK Sathya.R S/o T.N. Rajendra, R/o H.No 3/58, Road Street Village T.C. Kuppam Post Arapakkam Walaja (T.K.) Distt.- Vellore, Tamil Nadu, have Changed my Son's nam from Harshan, SV & Barath, SV to Harshan.S & Barath.S for all

0040545516-7

SITUATION VACANT

Village·Johlaka,P.O·Ghangola, Tehsil· Sohna, Distt. Gurugram, Haryana 122103 M-9811199917, 9810071506,

FACILITY REQUIRED FOR R ED COURSE TEACHING STAFF ON REGULAR BASIS

Teaching posts: Principal-01, Asst. Prof in perspective in Education-04, Asst. Prof. Pedagogy Subjects: Hindi-1, English-1 Social Science-2, Mathematics-1 Commerce-1, Economics-1, Bio. Sci.-1 Phy. Sci. 1, Comp. Sci. 1, Physical Education 1, Fine Arts-1, Performing Arts/ Music/ Dance/Theatre-1. Qualification, Age, Selection criteri

& Salary as per MDU Rohtak/NCTE/ State Govt. Norms. Application form is available on college website, Interested Candidates may apply within 21 days from the date of Publication along with the testimonials in the college office one copy may send to the Dean of Colleges MDU Rohtak, Posts can be increased/ decreased at the time of iterview as per actual requirement

E-mail: info@vcedu.in Website: www.vcedu.in Mob- 9999912383, 9899473002 (PRESIDENT, GOVERNING BODY)

PUBLIC NUTICE

My Client Smt. Kamlesh Wife of Late
Shri Ram Swaroop R/o H-1/39, Kunwar
Singh Nagar Ranholla Delhi-41 has
debarred/ dis-owned their sons and
Daughter-in-law Mr.Neeraj, Mr. Gaurav,
Smt. Sunita and their all legal heirs will
not claim any right in any moveable and
immoveable properties of my clients
immoveable properties of my clients and if anybody dealing with them in any anner shall have his/her/their own sponsibility.

VIKAS JAIN. Advoca 12, RU-Market, Pitampura,Delh Enrol. No.D/1062/0

PUBLIC NOTICE

M/s Apno Baba Real Estate Pvt.

Ltd. has misplaced the original

Board of Resolution Dated 01/04/ Board of Resolution Dated 01/04/ 1996 Passed By the TRUST of Farmhouse on Agricultural Land Measuring 14- Bighas, 08-Biswas, Comprised In Khasra No. 44/10 (4-04), 44/11(4-16), 44/20(4-13) and 44/21(0-15), Situated In Revenue Estate of Village Alipur, Tehsil – Alipur, Distt. North, Delhi For Executing The Sale Deed 09/08/1996 Vide Sale Deed No. 5203. Founder of The Same May Inform and Handover the Undersigned. Apno Baba Real Estate Pvt. Ltd.

PUBLIC NOTICE cliente (1) SH. PRABHUJI alies Prabhu Nahi
Choobey NO SH. SO(AHARAN & 2) SMT.
MRIDULA CHOUSEY W/O SH. PRABHUJI
SHARMA COLONY, BUDH WHAR, PHASEII DELHH-86, have debarred/discoved their
DELH-86, have debarred/discoved thei

ANKUSH KUMAR (Ad OFF- RU-352, Pitampura Delhi-34

PUBLIC NOTICE

6mt. Anita rastogi w/o Late s arshad rastogi R/o D 47/1, G Tajendra parshad rastogi Rivo D 4711. Ga on 1. North Gondha, near masale chakk lew dehii. Delhi-110053 have debarred isclaimed their son namely Bhuvnesl astogi and his wife Neha rastogi due heir Bad Behavior, Violence an narassment. Respectively from their movable and immovable properties an lave broken down all their ties an latto due to bad behavior with them coording to her desires she put publi otice that Smt. Anita rastogi will not be seponsible for any debts related to he no Bhuvnesh rastogi and his wife Neh lastogi in any of their actions henceforth MOHIT BHARDWAJ, ADVOCATE MOHIT BHARDWAJ, ADVOCAT Office. 18 Radhey shyam par gali no.1, parwana roa

PUBLIC NOTICE son of Ram Raj Rathore R/o 5-1502, Shasti Nagar, Ashok Vihar, Delhi-S2, has severed all his relations with their daughters Mansi Rathore aged 22years, as she is out of control of my client and also debars and disowned her from his all movable and immovable properties due to her disobedient and quarrelsome hatter. Any person dealing with her will be doing so, at his/her own risk and responsibilities. My client shall not be responsible in any manner." n of Ram Raj Rathore R/o 5-150

RAJ KUMAR (Advo PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that I, George 'George S/o. V V George R/o. DD/MIG Flat No.218-B,1st Floor,Pocket-E

MIG Flat No.218-8, 1st Floor, Pocket-E, G.T.B. Enclave, Nand Nagri, Delhi, Cont. 9711013525, Email: kundanrath or08@cloud.com, Allottee/purchaser of DDA MIG Flat No. 218-8, 1st Floor, Pocket-E, G.T.B. Enclave, Nand Nagri, Delhi, has applied for the conversion of aforesaid property Possession Letter and NOC for Water and Electricity & other related papers & documents etc. of the aforesaid property have been lost. An FIR to this effect has been lodged in police station date 20.08.

lodged in police station date 20.08 2020. Any person(s) claiming any right interest having any objection or founc in possession of original document may write/contact with above named person

write/contact with above named person at above address with in 15 days from the date of publication of this notice & can personally contact Deputy Director (LAB) housing or director(H), D block 3rd floor, Vikas Sadan INA, New Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

"1599" area "measuring 171" 2 sg. mts. House no. III-E798. Block-E, Sector-3, G.M.P. Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad, Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Shri Arun Agarwal Syo. Shri K.K. Agrawal who purchase this property from Sushil Kumar Syo. Shri McMart Lal and damit of 167. New Gandhi Nagar, Ghaziabad & they purchase this property from Suresh Kumar Gupta on 13.02.2004 vide doc. no. 752, page no. 13.02.2004 vide doc. no. 752, page no. 13.02.2004 vide doc. no. 752, page no. 13.02.2004 vide doc. no. 10.00 no. 10.00

Pradeep Gupta (Advocate)

Office: Ch. No.-14, Tehsil Compound Gandhi Nagai

Behind Navrang Cinema, Ghaziabad (U.P.

DIP/J-3666/20

BRAHMIN

Brahmin, 33, 6', I pa-7,8, Working Asst. Prof.(ME,PhD Pursuing), Seeks engineering working professional .DOB. POB must. nmatree34@gmail.com, 0050167235-1 8551075664

> PUBLIC NOTICE "Be it informed to the General Public a large that my client Prem Raj Rathors son of Ram Raj Rathore R/o B-150/2 Shastri Nagar, Ashok Vihar, Delhi-St has severed all his relations with the daughters Nancy Rathore aged 2 years, as she is out of control of m

years, as she is out of control of no client and also odears and disowned h from his all movable and immovab properties due to her disobedient ar quarrelsome nature. Any person dealin with her will be doing so, at his/her ov risk and responsibilities. My client sh not be responsible in any manner." Ch. No 1405, 14th floor Rohini Courts, Delhi-8

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client ICICI Bank I td Green Park, New Delhi is in the process of advancing a loan to Mr. Nivaz Mohammad, for purchase of Property No. KI-58 (200 sq. yds.), Block-I, Kavi Nagar Colony, Ghaziabad, U.P. from Mrs. Nirupma Vohra & Mrs. Ishita Vohra, who have represented that they are the only surviving legal heirs of who was the owner of the said property by virtue of Transfer Deed dated 24.07.1989 (Doc. no. 7982). If anybody, person body corporate has any right Property whatsoever then ne/she/it may contact the proof of claim within 7 days or oublication of this notice otherwise it shall be deeme that either there are no claims or the same have been waived off and my client shall proceed to advance the loan by nortgaging the said property.

Prachi Narang, Advocate **GNA & Associates** D-28, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi-110014. RAHUL'S FRESH ATTACK ON RAFALE

CAG report on defence offset to be tabled in House: Nirmala

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

WITH CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi launching a fresh attack over the Rafale aircraft deal, the government on Saturday said that the CAG report on defence offset performance will be tabled in the

ensuing session of Parliament. In a series of tweets, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman stated, "The C&AG Report No 20 2019...Defence Offset Performance was scheduled to be tabled in the Parliament during (the) budget session (2020). The session ended, before date, due to COVID. Now the report will be placed in the next session."

She stated the content of the report will be known only after it is presented in Parliament. Sitharaman's tweets came





Rahul Gandhi, Nirmala Sitharaman

soon after Rahul's fresh attacks over the Rafale deal. "Money was stolen from the Indian exchequer in Rafale. "Truth is one, paths are many," Mahatma Gandhi," the former Congress chief tweeted, tagging a source-based news report in TOI, which said the CAG report has no mention of any offset deals related to Rafale aircraft purchase.

Hitting back, Railways Minister and senior BJP leader Piyush Goyal retweeted Rahul and posted, "Many of Rahul Gandhi's Congress colleagues obsession with Rafale to wash off his father's sins is damaging the party. But if someone is wanting to self-destruct, who are we to complain? We invite him to fight the 2024 elections on Rafale."

Sitharaman tweeted, "The first Rafale was handed over to India in October 2019. There is a year-wise phasing of how much offset obligation the companies/OEMs have to fulfil. MoD informs me that claims of such obligations being fulfilled are coming in."

India had purchased 36 Rafale aircrafts from Dassault Aviation of France for Rs 58,000 crore. The deal was signed in 2016 and the first set of 5 aircrafts have arrived in India last month.

The CAG has submitted a performance audit report on Defence Offset to the government. It is yet to be tabled in Parliament.

Tripura orders probe on dispute with Mizoram over village on boundary

DEBRAJ DEB AGARTALA, AUGUST 22

THE TRIPURA government has ordered an inquiry into the inclusion of over 100 voters from a village on the Mizoram border in

the electoral rolls of both states. The order comes shortly before Mizoram's village council polls scheduled on August 27.

Of the 640 residents of Phuldungsai village Kanchanpur sub-division, located in the Jampui hill range

that criss-crosses the Trinura-Mizoram border, the names of 130 feature in the electoral rolls of both states. The issue is nearly a decade old, according to sources, and two survey attempts to demarcate the boundary had ended inconclusively.

Tripura Revenue Minister Narendra Chandra Debbarma told The Indian Express, "We have asked higher officials to hold an investigation... and submit a report."

"We have instructed officials to conduct the enquiry in a holistic manner and submit a reMizoram in Jampui Hills,' Debbarma said.

Tripura Chief Electoral Officer there is a duplication of voters in electoral lists of Tripura and Mizoram, the issue would be taken up between his office and the office of his Mizoram counterdiscrepancy, it will surely be sorted not available for comment.

KASIMPUR (ALIGARH).

21.08.2020

(CEO) Sriram Taranikanti said if part. "The electoral roll revision process is underway. If there is any out," he said. CM Deb's office was

HARDUAGANJ THERMAL POWER STATION

Engineer, Electricity Civil Maintenance Circle

'NEW BORING DEVELOPMENT IN CISI

COLONY HTPS, KASIMPUR". E-tender has been

ploaded on 21.08.2020 at 14.00 Hrs. o

ttp://etender.up.nic.in Estimated cost 1.33 Lac

arnest money 3000.00, E-Tender cost Rs

50.00+28 GST (18%)= Rs. 178.00., Last date of

ender 27.08.2020 at 16:00 Hrs. Time period -1

/HTPS/2020-21, Online e-Bids are invited for the

larduaganj Thermal Power Station, Kasimpu

ligarh. E-tender has been uploaded or

http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated cost Rs. 14.72

ac. Earnest money Rs. 29000.00. Tender cos

Rs. 1470.00+266.00 GST (Present Rate is 18%

=Rs. 1736.00, Last date of tender 23.9.2020 a 16.00 Hrs. Time period -12 Month

Superintending Engineer, Operation & Maintenance Circle-IV, Hdj. "DT.P.S. 3. E-Tender No.: 29/O&MC-IV/D/TPS/EMD-I/C/TPS/2020-21-

nline e-Bids are invited for the "Work of

Replacement of 10MVA.132/6.9KV Transform

by 20MVA Transformer at HTPS, Kasimpu

ransporting it from Panki TPS, Kanpur, E-tende

as been uploaded on 21.08.2020 at 18.00 Hrs

on http://etender.up.nic.in. Estimated cost Rs 950000.00. Time Period: 12 Months, Earnes

Money: Rs. 19000.00. Cost of tender: Rs. 950.00 Rs.171.00 (GST) = Rs. 1121.00, Last date of

ender 24.09.2020 at 18.00 Hrs. Superintendi

Engineer, MMC, Harduaganj 'D' TPS. 4. E

ender No.: ET-76/MMC/EPD/DTPS/2020. Onlin

-Bids are invited for the Supply of Slide Plate of

200 Nb for Ash Handling plant of 'D' TPS Kasimpur. E-tender has been uploaded or

http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated cost: Rs

10000.00, Earnest money: Rs. 2200.00, Tende ost: Rs. 500.00 + 90.00. (GST), Last Date o

1.09.2020 upto 14.00 hrs. SUPERINTENDING

ENGINEER, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE

CIRCLE-II, 'DTPS. 5. ET-14/O&MC-II/BMD-I/20

1, Online e-bids are invited for the "Work of

reventive and Breakdown maintenance of ma

oiler, Maintenance of Pulverized Fuel pipe and

De-scaling of pressure parts & removal of soorom heating surfaces of Boiler by steam blowing

rough wall blowers / LRSB and their Prevention

Breakdown maintenance of Boiler of Unit # 8 8

2x250MW, HTPS" E-Tender has been uploade

n 21.08.2020 on http://etender.up.nic.ir

stimated Cost Rs. 1128000.00, Time period 1

lonths, E.M.D. cost Rs. 22600.00. Last date

ender 22.09.2020 at 14:00 Hrs. 6. ET-15/O&MC

/BMD-I/20-21, Online e-bids are invited for the

Work of Overhauling work of HP/LP valves and after valves of Unit # 8, DTPS, Kasimpur" E

ender has been uploaded on 21.08.2020 of

http://etender.up.nic.in, Estimated Cost Rs

29000.00. Time period 45 days, E.M.D. cost Rs

600.00. Last date of Tender 22.09.2020 at 14:00

Hrs. 7. ET-16/Q&MC-II/BMD-I/20-21. Online 6

bids are invited for the "Work of Overhauling work

of coal pipe of Unit # 9 'D' TPS' E-Tender has-beer

http://etender.up.nic.in, Estimated Cost Rs

82000.00. Time period 45 days, E.M.D. cost Rs

650.00. Last date of Tender 22.09.2020 at-14 00

Hrs. 8. ET-17/O&MC-II/BMD-I/20-21, Online e

nids are invited for the "Work of Overhauling wor

of HP/LP valves and safety valves of Unit # 9 'E

PS, Kasimpur" E-Tender has been uploaded of

Estimated Cost Rs. 371000.00. Time period 4

ays, E.M.D. cost Rs. 7500.00. Last date of

ender 22.09.2020 at 14:00 Hrs. Note- Total

uantity of work, tender specification and othe

erms & condition is as per tender document vailable on the e-portal. Undersigned reserves

ne right to cancel the e-bid without assigning an

21.08,2020

http://etender.up.nic.in

17.08

Hrs.

20.08.2020 at

leaning of main drain in new colony, a

2. E-Tender No. 23/ECMC/ECMD

14.00

Short Term Tender No. 22/ECMC/ECMD

Superitendin

port on all encroachments on the boundary between Tripura and

> Last week, a woman from Dehradun district had given a complaint to the police, accusing Mahesh Negi of raping her, and had sought a DNA test to confirm that the MLA is father of her child. Negi has denied the accusa-

> > attempt.

or the following works

Open Tender Notice No.: NER-

BSB0SnT-OT-10-2020

SN.1, Tender Notice No. and Decertiption of work: NER-

BSB0SnT-OT-10-2020; Name of

works- Signalling work in connection with the various Engg Work in the

ection of SSE Sig Sissen of BSB

Division. Details: Apprex. Value: ?

\$167074.89, Eurnest Money: ?

103400.00, Cast of Tender Form: ₹

5000.00, Completion Period: 08

15.09,2020 ep to 15.00 Hrs. 1. Tender

Online will be submitted up to 45/00 Hrs. on date 15/09/2020. 2. For full

riet the Official website of Indian

CFROSigal Divil. Rly. Manager (S&T)

About any passenger amonity complaint SMS on Mob. No.: 89794845955

Do not travel with inflammable

article in train

कर्मा भवन, 220 के.ची. विद्युत उपसंस्थान,

याई-पास रोड, सिकन्द्ररा, आगरा -282007

(CIN No.U31200UP2003SGC027460)

(GSTIN No. 09AACCD0695D1ZS)

अति अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना

।, विशिष्टीकरण संध डीवीवीएनएल

एमएम/3027-2020: जनपर-कानपर

नगर के अन्तर्गत महाप्रबन्धक (विद्युत)

दें दीकेटेड फ्रेंट कोरीदोर कारपेरेशन ऑफ

इण्डिया लिए, इलाहाबाद द्वारा अधिशासी

अभियन्ता, पिद्युत गितरण खण्ड-प्रथम

कानपुर से ग्राम स्तसील पर स्टेशन

बिल्डिंग हेत् एच्छवीए-1 श्रेगी के अन्तर्गत

334 के0वी0 का विद्युत भार अवमुक्त करने

के कार्य पूर्ण जमा योजना में टर्नको आधार

पर कराने हेतु, <u>धरोहर राशि</u>: रध

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत

वितरण निगम लि0

cailways i.e. www.deeps.gov.in.

forths. Tender Closing date & Time:

UTTARAKHAND

Four MLAs, one accused of rape, summoned by BJP

undergo a DNA test, as sought

by the woman, Chief Minister

Trivendra Singh Rawat told the

media on Saturday: "DNA test is

a legal process and can be done

only through the legal course.

Mahesh Negi has said he is

ready for it. A process (investi-

gation) under the police is go-

ing on. The court will decide

lators, Pranav Singh Champion

was expelled from the party's

primary membership for six

years on charges of indiscipline

in July last year after a video

emerged, showing him bran-

dishing four guns while danc-

Champion has repeatedly re-

quested the party leadership to

listen to his side of the incident.

Asked whether the MLA can be

brought back to the party,

Bhagat said, "The party will

speak to him. If we are satisfied

with his arguments, we will

the two other MLAs - Karanwal

and Fortyal – have been sum-

moned for allegedly speaking

against the party line, and

against the state government, in

released a digital compilation of

relief efforts done by BJP work-

ers during the lockdown period.

committee is expected to dis-

cuss issues such as resuming or-

ganisational activities that were

stopped due to the coronavirus-

On Sunday, the state core

On Saturday, the party also

According to a party leader,

decide accordingly.

public forum.

State BJP chief Bhagat said

ing to a song.

Among the other three legis-

further action in the matter."

LALMANI VERMA

DEHRADUN, AUGUST 22

UTTARAKHAND BJP has summoned four party MLAs accused of acting against the party line to explain their actions on Monday, BJP's Uttarakhand unit president Bansidhar Bhagat said Saturday.

Of the four, Dwarahat MLA Mahesh Negi is accused of rape. The other three are Deshraj Karanwal (MLA from Jhabrera), Puran Singh Fortyal (Lohaghat), and Kunwar Pranav Singh Champion (Khanpur).

The state BJP leadership took the decision after consulting party national vice-president and Uttarakhand incharge Shyam Jaju and joint general secretary (organisation) Shiv Prakash. Jaju and Prakash are on a three-day visit to Dehradun to review organisational affairs and are scheduled to attend the state core committee meeting on Sunday with Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat and Union minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, a Lok Sabha MP from Haridwar in the state.

> tion. Before the woman filed her complaint, Negi's wife had lodged an FIR accusing the woman of extortion

On Opposition

enforced lockdown. Sources said the committee may hold discussions on the possibility of Cabinet expansion as well. NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY J&K L-G urges timely Upon Tenders' through Orline (E-lendering) are united by Divisional completion Railway Manager (Signal & Idecomm) / Vizarasi / N.F. Railway for and behalf of the Provident of India

of Katra-

Banihal

railway line Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant-Governor Sinha Saturday asked railway authorities to complete the remaining work on the Katra-Banihal railway line

by August 15, 2022. The Katra-Baniha section will have the world's highest railway bridge on the Chenab river at a height of 359 metres, as well as the country's first cable-stayed railway bridge in

Reasi district. Sinha was chairing a meeting at the civil secretariat here to review the progress of work on the 272-km long Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla railway line being built at the cost of Rs 27,949 crore. The direction came after he was informed that 161 km of rail lines between Katra and Banihal has been commissioned. ENS

J&K admin demolishes buildings in Samba

Jammu: The Union Territory administration on Saturday demolished a number of structures in Samba district's Birpur area, as part of a drive against encroachments on state and forest land.

A farm house, a hot-mix plant and a crusher were among demolished structures. All three were in the name of partnership firm 'SSS', as per Samba

will be examined to trace its partners. He added there had been various complaints about incidents of land

कार्यालय नगर निगम, अलीगढ़

संशोधित निविदा सुचना

नगर निगम अलीगढ़ द्वारा Expression of interest

(EOI) (Empanelment of Advertising Agencies)

की ई-निविदाएं वेबसाइट www.etender.up.nic.in के माध्यम से दिनांक 21,08,20 को अपरान्ह 5:00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की गई हैं। जिन्हें दिनांक 22.08.20 को पूर्वान्ह 11:00 बजे खोला जाना है परन्तु अपरिहार्व कारणो से अब उक्त ई निविदाए दिनांक 27.08.20 को अपरान्ह 5:00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती हैं, जिन्हे दिनांक 28,08,20 को पूर्वान्ह 12:00 बजे खोला जायेगा। निविदा सुचना की शेष शर्ते यथावत रहेंगी। मीडिया इन्चार्ज

नगर निगम अलीगढ ।



NIFT Campus, Chheb Kangra, Himachal Pradesh-176001 Phone No.: 01892-260872-5, Fax No. 01892-263872 File NIFT-KGR/Project/85/2020

Expression of Interest

Expressions of Interest are invited for engaging of following services:

Sr.No. Category

Manufacturing of Bags

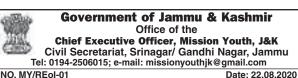
Canvas/Lining/Leather-Material Suppliers

The eligible organizations/agencies/individual interested in rendering their services as per above may submit Eol in sealed envelope. Superscribing the title "EoI for Canvas/Lining/Leather Material Supplier or Manufacturing of Bags" at National Institute of Fashion Technology, NIFT Campus, Chheb, Kangra, Himachal Pradesh 176001 on or before 31.08.2020.

Please visit the website i.e. https://www.nift.ac.in/kangra/tenders for detailed document and information on Expression of Interest.

Joint Director

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Request for Expression of Interest (EoI) for hiring of consultants for advisory support and implementation of strategy & vision of Mission Youth J&K.

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, online Expression of Interest (EoI) are invited from Consultancy Firms/ Agencies for providing advisory and implementation support for actualizing the strategy & vision of Mission Youth J&K in time-bound manner as per the terms and conditions mentioned in the EoI document available on the website: www.iktenders.gov.in:

S.No.	Particulars	Date/ Time	
1.	Date of Publishing REol	22.08.2020	
2.	Start Date of downloading Eol from website	24.08.2020	
3.	Website for downloading Eol	www.jktenders.gov.in	
4.	Last Date of Downloading EoI from Website	09.09.2020	
5.	Seek Clarification Start Date	24.08.2020	
6.	Seek Clarification End Date	09.09.2020	
7.	Website for Submission of EoI	www.jktenders.gov.in	
8.	Start Date for Submission of on-line Eol	24.08.2020	
9.	Last Date for Submission of on-line Eol	11.09.2020	
10.	Contact Details	Office of the Chie Executive Officer, Mission Youth, J&K, Room No. 532, 5th Floor, Civ	

Srinagar Secretariat 190001,Tel.: 0194-Sd/- Chief Executive Office

New Delhi

Mission Youth J&K

ief अधी. अभि(मृ.) विज्ञापन/कैम्प-1(32) 20 दिनांक 20/8/20

1.08.2020

eason. Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any shall be uploaded only on the above website Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly or updated information from time to time uperintending Engineer (H.Q.) U.P.R.V.U.N.L E-Tender Notice, E-Tenders are invited for th ollowings supply/works items in two parts. Part shall contain Tender Cost/Earnest money and other necessary documents as per pre-qualifying onditions and Part -II will contain price bid as pe bill of quantity. Tender specification may be ownloaded from the website (http://www.ntp. etender.up.nic.in) and other specification details an be seen on Nigam website www.uprvunl.org The contactors have to submit the hard copefore the schedule date/time in the concern office in sealed envelope containing details of the tende entioned on the envelope. Tenders are advise to send their hard copy directly to the concerne endering authority of the Circles/ Division. Wh eserve the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof. "Save Electricity Enhance National Productivity" Sd/ superintending Engineer (H.Q.) Harduagan Thermal Power Station Kasimpur (Aligarh) पत्रां

99,000/- , निविदा शुल्क: २० 5,900/ (जो एस.टी. सहित), <u>निविदा खुलने की</u> दिनांक: 02-09-2020. निविदा शुल्क केवल ऑनलाइन, DVVNL, AGRA की वेयसाईटwww.dvvnl.org के माध्यम से हो स्वीकार किया जायेगा । विवरण के लिए कुपया निविद्य प्रपत्र ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ लें। . उपरोक्त निविदाएं निर्धारित दिनांक की 13:00 बाते तक ऑनलाइन अपलोड की जा सकेंगी एवं निर्धारित दिनांक की 16:00 बर्जे खोली जावेंगी। निविद्य प्रपत्र ३०५० हासन के ई-प्रोक्षोरमेंट पोर्टल https://

etender.up.nic.in पर अपलोड की वार्वेगी, जहाँ से निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। 2. भविष्य में यदि कोई संशोधन अथवा निविद्या विश्वि विस्तार होता है तो उसको सूचना ई-टेपडर पीर्टल nttps://etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध करायी जायेगी। इस्ताः/-अधीक्षण अभियन्ता (साठप्र0)-।, अधिक जानकारी हेतु कृपया https:// etender.up.nic.in को लॉग-इन

करें। "राष्ट्र हित में विजली बचायें"

पत्रांक:6795/अधीवअधिव(सावप्रव)-।/

आगरा/ विज्ञापन/दिनांक:21,08,2020

SSP Shakti Pathak. The SSP said the firm's legal documents

grabbing. ENS

Ganesh idols on sale in Mumbai on Saturday, the first day of the 10-day-long Ganesh Chaturthi festival. Amid growing Covid cases, festivities have been low-key. Reuters

over operations of the airport.

Govindan Namppothiri, KSIDC,

the state-run entity which took

part in the airport auction on be-

half of the state, said the

Corporation had sought the serv-

ices of Mumbai-based law firm

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas. The

firm was paid Rs 55 lakh as "pro-

fessional fee for bidding", the RTI

firm, is wife of Karan Adani, CEO of

Adani Ports & Special Economic

Zone Ltd and son of Gautam Adani.

the law firm was chosen as per a

government order. "They had only

done legal vetting of documents

and (had) nothing to do with bid-

ding price, which was fixed by a

committee headed by the Chief

According to the official, the

Airport Authority of India, which manages the airport at present,

had stated that as part of the bid

there should be reports from both

legal and technical consultancy.

For technical consultancy, the gov-

ernment had selected KPMG and

Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas for

fied leasing out the airport to

Adani Group, the Kerala govern-

ment had sent two letters to

Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

decision. Opposition Congress

also joined hands in the protest.

In Punjab, police 'deradicalisation cells'

After the Union Cabinet rati-

legal, the official said.

sultancy service from a firm stating that the state would not

linked to Adani even while his cooperate in implementing the

Secretary," this official said.

Paridhi Adani, a partner in the

A senior official of KSIDC said

reply stated.

In reply to RTI activist

CBI team visits

Sushant flat in

recreate events

Mumbai to

before death

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Investigation team probing the

Sushant Singh Rajput case vis-

ited the late actor's Mumbai res-

idence on Saturday along with

forensic experts to reconstruct

the sequence of events up to his

after spending more than five

hours in the Bandra flat. When

they arrived, CBI sleuths were ac-

companied by Rajput's cook

Neeraj, another domestic help

Deepesh Sawant, and the actor's

flat-mate Siddharth Pithani. The

three were present in the flat

when Rajput was found hanging

The personnel of the central

agency and experts of the Central

Forensic Science Laboratory

reached Rajput's residence in

Mont Blanc Apartment at around

2:30 pm-wading through a

crowd of mediapersons and on-

building's terrace and then en-

tered the flat. They were seen

clicking pictures of the bedroom

The CBI team was investigat-

ing whether suicide was possible

team visited the state-run Cooper

Hospital in the city where the au-

Bandra police station to meet of-

ficials of the Mumbai police prob-

A third CBI team visited the

at the spot, said the official. On Saturday, another CBI

and shooting videos.

topsy had been done.

ing the alleged suicide

The team first went to the

in his room.

The team left at around 8 pm,

Bureau of

MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

CENTRAL

death, an official said.



One of the leopards captured near **Ghutanvad.** Express

GUJARAT Forest dept captures three leopards

Vadodara: The Chhota Udepur Forest Department has caught three leopards $-two\, males\, aged\, 4\, and\, 3.5$ years, and a female aged 3.5 years Ghutanvad village of Pavi Jetpur taluka. The department had set up a trap on Friday after a 70-year-old woman from the village was killed in a leopard attack. The incident occurred on Thursday night, when a leopard dragged away Budhli Rathwa from the courtyard of her house into a thicket and killed her. After the trap was set, two leopards were caught from the thicket where the woman's mutilated body was found and the third was caught about 500 meters away. ENS

WEST BENGAL

Teen gangraped, killed; body left in septic tank

Jalpaiguri: A 16-year-old girl was allegedly gangraped multiple times, killed and the body dumped in a septic tank of a house in Jalpaiguri police said on Saturday. Three persons were arrested Thursday in connection with the incident, and when produced before the court on Friday, they were remanded to eight days of police custody. The girl, a resident of Shyanashikata in Rajganj, went missing on August 10, following which her family lodged a police complaint, officials said. The accused allegedly confessed to raping and killing the girl on August 15, police sources said. PTI

KERALA

shot dead by nephew

Idukki: A 34-year-old tribal woman was shot dead allegedly by her nephew, an accused in a sandalwood smuggling case, at nearby Palapetty as he believed that she had tipped off the police about his illegal activities. The 19-year-old and two others were taken into custody in connection with the killing of Chandrika on Friday night at her farm, police said on Saturday. Two weeks ago, the woman's nephew was arrested by the Forest department for his alleged links with a sandalwood- smuggling gang and was later

KARNATAKA

released on bail.

Man who bought 750 ecstasy pills online held

Bengaluru: A man who had allegedly procured 750 ecstasy pills online from Germany last month, has been arrested, the Narcotics Control Bureau said here on Saturday. He had been at large after the recovery of a huge cache of MDMA pills, commonly known as ecstasy, from the Foreign Post Office here on July 31, an NCB statement said. The man has been identified as Rahman K, it said, but did not give details of his arrest. The NCB said that Rahman, a commerce graduate, had been selling MDMA and other party drugs among students of his college and nearby institutions. PTI

UNLOCK 3 GUIDELINES VIOLATED, SAYS CENTRE

MHA tells states: Lift curbs on movement of people, goods

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

29,75,701 | DEATHS: 55,794

TOTAL

CASES

6,57,450

3,67,430

3,34,940

2,64,546

1,77,239

* Compounded Daily Growth Rate over last 7 days

TESTS: 3,44,91,073 | DOUBLING RATE: 30.42**

SURGEIN

24HOURS

14,161

5,995

9,544

7,531

4,905

POSITIVITY RATE

7 DAYS EARLIER:

8.84

8.63

Positives against number tested

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

POINTING TO "local level restrictions on movement" of people and goods still "being imposed by various districts/States", the Ministry of Home Affairs wrote to States Saturday that there can be "no restriction on inter-State and intra-State movement", as stipulated in the July 29 guidelines for

Unlock-3. In a letter to Chief Secretaries of all states, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla said: "Such restrictions at local level imposed by the District Administration or by the State Government amount to violation of the guidelines issued by MHA under the provi-

COVID 'PROPHYLAXIS' Gujarat to WHO: Gave homoeopathy drug to 50% of population

SOHINI GHOSH AHMEDABAD, AUGUST 22

AS ON August 19, five months since Gujarat saw its first Covid-19 case, the state has distributed Arsenicum Album-30, the homoeopathic drug used as a prophylaxis for Covid-19, to 3.48 crore people-nearly half the population of the state. This information was part of a presentation made before WHO on August 20 where the state government also claimed that "99.6 per cent" of those under quarantine who were put under AYUSH prophylaxis tested negative.

And 6.6 crore, which is equivalent to the state's total population, have been given ukala or kadha, the herbal potion which the government began distributing as an immunity booster. The state plans to start the third round of distribution of AYUSH remedies, principal secretary, health and family welfare Jayanti Ravi told this paper.

The lack of scientific evidence on Arsenicum Album-30 working against Covid-19 has not deterred the Gujarat government from attributing AYUSH interventions as one of the strategies used

Four registered clinical trials pertaining to AYUSH remedies in Gujarat are yet to be completed. The official clinical trial registry, with respect to the government sponsored trial, however, shows Arsenicum Album-30 absent from the trial details.

Of the total 33,264 quarantined AYUSH beneficiaries, 14,184 of these quarantined people availed homoeopathic treatment. The state has gone out of its way, engaging the district legal services authorities as well, to conduct camps for distribution of herbal concoctions, Arsenicum Album-30, while also making it available in several government offices, health institutions and prisons.

A top health official in the state government said that the results of AYUSH remedies have been "encouraging".

Explaining the preparation of Arsenicum Album-30, wherein the nomenclature of '30' indicates potency, a homoeopathy practitioner said: "The first potency will be basically one part Arsenic and 99 parts distilled water. This solution will be diluted in a similar manner for 29 more times."

officials Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have been frequently sealing inter-state or inter-district borders in the name of containing the spread of the coronavirus, leading to disruption of supply chains across the country.

Officials said although the MHA has sent multiple reminders to the states, the problem has per-

"Earlier, UP and Haryana were frequently sealing their borders with Delhi, leading to serious problems for movement of medical professionals and goods in the NCR. This problem was finally resolved with the intervention of Home Minister Amit Shah who

CASES:

KEYSTATES

■ Maharashtra

■ Tamil Nadu

■ Karnataka

■ Uttar Pradesh

CASE FATALITY RATIO

7 DAYS EARLIER:

1.94

1.87

Deaths as a ratio of

positive cases (in %):

■ Andhra

and ushered in an integrated approach for Covid-19 containment in the NCR. Now Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka hadly affected by the pandemic, are frequently sealing their borders, particularly inter-district borders. This is causing a lot of problems as goods and services bound for other states are getting stuck because they are not being allowed to transit via these states. It completely defeats the Centre's efforts

a senior official of the MHA said. In his letter Saturday, Home Secretary Bhalla drew the attention of the states to para 5 of the July 29 guidelines for Unlock-3 which makes clear that "there shall be no restriction on inter-

RECOVERED: 22,22,577

7-DAY AVG

GROWTH*

1.99%

1.71%

3.28%

2.88%

** Calculated over 7-day growth

DAILY IN, DAILY OUT

DETECTED TODAY

69,874

RECOVERED TODAY

63,631

Becoming sick vs

DOLIRI ING

36.18

42.04

24.33

21.98

25.00

to bring the economy back to life,'

of persons and goods. No separate permission/approval/e-permit will be required for such movements. This includes movement of persons & goods for cross landborder trade under Treaties with neighbouring countries".

'It has, however, been reported that local level restrictions on movement are being imposed by various districts/States. Such restrictions are creating problems in inter-State movement of goods and services and are impacting the supply chain, resulting in disruption of economic activities and employment, besides affecting supply of goods and services,' Bhalla said, directing states to "ensure that MHA guidelines... are strictly followed".

Masked

SHAJU PHILIP

Industrial

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,

OPPOSITION CONGRESS and BIP

on Saturday slammed the

Pinarayi Vijayan government af-

ter it emerged through an RTI re-

ply that the Kerala State

Corporation (KSIDC) had hired,

for legal opinion about auction of

Thiruvananthapuram airport the

services of a corporate law firm

in which a family member of

Adani Group chairman Gautam

The CPI(M)-led LDF govern-

On Saturday, Leader of

owned by a close relative of

Adani raises concerns. "If true,

this shows a nexus between the

state government and the Adani

Group," the Congress leader said.

"By involving a firm close to

Adani, it seems the (state) gov-

ernment was unable to maintain

secrecy of bidding documents."

Surendran ridiculed Chief

Minister Vijayan for seeking con-

party plans mass protests

against the Adani Group taking

BJP state president K

Development

AIRPORT PRIVATISATION ROW

Pinarayi govt under

fire after picking law

partner for legal aid

firm with Adani kin as

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The chief minister, who whose official residence is close to the JMM chief's government bungalow, will undergo a Covid-19 test on Monday-the third

Soren, wife test Covid positive, in home quarantine

RANCHI, AUGUST 22

RAJYA SABHA MP and JMM president Shibu Soren and his wife Roopi have been diagnosed with Covid-19, his son and Jharkhand chief minister Hemant Soren said on Saturday.

The CM tweeted in Hindi: "Respected father Dishom Guruji and mother tested positive for the coronavirus on Friday night, and they are in home quarantine."The 76-year-old president of the ruling IMM is revered as 'guruji' (master) by his followers.

Sources said seven other members in the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha chief's household have also tested positive.

Adani is a partner. ment is protesting the decision to lease out Thiruvananthapuram airport to Adani Enterprises. Opposition in the Assembly Ramesh Chennithala said the state seeking legal advice on the bidding process from a firm

time in two months. The CM's wife and several others living at Data as on August 21, released by Union Ministry of Health, ICMR and states. Often daily numbers include his residence will also undergo the test on Monday

'Hindi imposition': Kanimozhi seeks AYUSH Secy's suspension

Those not familiar with Hindi asked to 'leave' online session

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

DMK MP Kanimozhi Saturday sought the suspension of Union AYUSH Secretary Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha for allegedly asking participants who did not understand Hindi to leave an online training session organised by the ministry.

The DMK MP also wrote to AYUSH minister Shripad Naik seeking an inquiry and demanding that English be used or translation be provided for Hindi at such events in future. "I write this letter to bring to your attention an incident of imposition of Hindi, in violation of our constitutional principles, which has taken place during a virtual training event/webinar conducted by the Ministry of AYUSH," she wrote.

Kotecha has since denied the allegation and told the media that he had made it clear that he would speak in both English and Hindi. He told The Hindu that in a 10-minute introductory speech, he began to speak in Hindi, but made it clear that he would be speaking in both English and Hindi. He alleged that some "hooligans", who had joined the programme, disrupted the event, insisting he speak only in

DMK MP Kanimozhi

English. Alleging that a video doing the rounds on social media has been manipulated, he said he requested participants to stop disrupting the programme and

There were nearly 40 participants from Tamil Nadu among the 300-odd from different states who participated in sessions on naturopathy and Yoga during August 18-20, organised by the ministry along with the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga for Master Trainers of Yoga. Participants from Tamil Nadu claimed that several sessions were in Hindi, barring a few trainers who tried to translate portions in English.

On the last day of the programme, after several participants demanded bilingual or English speakers, Kotecha thanked those who attended the sessions and said, "I have information that there has been an issue for the past two days... People can leave... I don't speak English very well. So, I will speak

Kotecha has denied the allegation and said 'hooligans' disrupted the event, insisting he speak only in English.

in Hindi."

The video of the remarks have been circulated on social media. Stating that his reply was an

"insult" to many who are not fluent in Hindi, several naturopathy doctors from Tamil Nadu alleged that the same discriminatory approach was present in all the ses-

Kanimozhi said Kotecha's reaction spoke volumes about "the Hindi domination being imposed". "The statement of Secretary of the Union Ministry of AYUSH, Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, that non-Hindi speaking participants could leave during a Ministry's training session speaks volumes about the Hindi domination being imposed. This is highly condemnable," Kanimozhi said in a statement. "Government should place the Secretary under suspension and initiate appropriate disciplinary proceedings. How long is this attitude of excluding non-Hindi speakers to be tolerated," she asked.

keep watch on social media posts

KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR AMRITSAR, AUGUST 22

A 25-YEAR-OLD from Khanna, a member of a little-known organisation called Sikh Youth Power who has been vocal on community issues for the last five years, felt a wave of panic wash over him when he got a call from the special branch of the Khanna police on Thursday. "I thought I was in big trouble," he says. To his surprise, the police officers present there just wanted to quiz him about his social media posts

ASI Parminder Singh, who questioned him for around five hours, said, "We called him here in connection with Referendum-2020. But he told us that he is opposed both to the concept

This is just another day at one of the many deradicalisation cells of thePunjab police. Members of the cell keep a close watch on social media posts and track down youngsters with separatist leanings who are then counseled by senior officers. As ASI Singh said, "We first

question them to learn about their mindset and associations. Some of them don't know how certain Facebook posts reached them. Most of the youth have little idea of what is going on. There are very few who are intentionally getting involved in it (Referendum 2020).' Recently, DGP Dinkar Gupta

told a British news agency that such district-level cells have

deradicalised around 400

DSP Sharma says counseling almost always yields results. "There are hardly any cases of youths getting radicalized in Khanna. They understand our point of view when we counsel them. Often, we find that they had liked a page by mistake or without going into it," said Sharma, who was

counseling. Commissioner of Police, Amritsar, Sukhchain Singh Gill admitted that such cells exist in every district but resfused to disclose more details.

tight-lipped about the proce-

dure used to choose people for

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

HARYANA STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION Bays No. 67-70, Sec.-2, Panchkula-134151 (Website: www.hssc.gov.in)

NOTICE TO THE CANDIDATES FOR THE POST OF PTI, AGAINST ADVT. NO. 06/2006, CAT. NO. 23.

In view of the orders of Haryana State Disaster Management Authority dated 21.08.20 to contain the spread of Corona Virus, it is for the information of all concerned that written examination(OMR Based) for the post of PTI against Advt No 6/2006 Cat No. 23 will be conducted by Haryana Staff Selection Commission as scheduled. The candidates are again advised to book their online/e-tickets in advance to avail bus facility of

Haryana Roadways. Examination schedule as per notice dated 30.07.20 will remain.

Sr.No	Name of the pos	Advt No.	Cat No.	Date & Time of Examination	Place
1	em	067006	23	23:08:2520 (Sunday) Entry Time: 11:00 A.M. to 12:20 P.M. No Entry after: 12:30 P.M. Exam Start Time: 01:00 P.M. Exam End Time: 02:15 P.M.	As per admit card

Dated, Panchkula 22nd August, 2020

Secretary Haryana Staff Selection Commission

Bengal: BJP delegation meets GOVT. OF BIHAR Governor, seeks probe into

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

vandalism at Visva-Bharati

KOLKATA. AUGUST 22

A BJP delegation led by its MP Saumitra Khan on Saturday met Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar and demanded an impartial probe into the demolition of a wall around the Poush Mela ground on the Visva-Bharati University

campus last week. "We do not want to politicise (Rabindranath) Tagore. But there has been an incident that miscreants have tried to grab land in Visva Bharati. They are spreading anarchy. That is why we have

come here and appealed to the Governor (for his intervention), apart from submitting a deputation," said Khan, also a leader of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha.

Former MP of Bolpur Anupam Hazra, who was part of the dele-

A group led by TMC leaders had last Monday demolished a wall near Poush Mela ground and a gate of VBU, and ransacked construction material. Following this, VB authorities indefinitely shut the university. Police arrested

gation, submitted a letter to the Governor highlighting "unprecedented anarchy" in the university.

eight people for vandalism.

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 Govt. / Private Medical Colleges of Bihar

Adv. No.- BCECEB(PGMAC)-2020/27 Dated: 22.08.2020

Important Notice for PGMAC-2020 MOP-UP Counselling

In continuation to Adv. No. BCECEB(PGMAC)-2020/25 & 2020/26 dated 20.08.2020, this is to inform all qualified, eligible and interested NEET-(PG)-2020 / PGMAC-2020 (Medical) candidates and all concerned that those candidates who have already duly filled the PGMAC-2020 online application form and have given the willingness for attending MOP-UP Counselling and those candidates who have duly filled fresh online application form for MOP-UP Counselling are being given a chance to Edit their online filled data as per programme given below

Important Revised dates for PGMAC-2020 (MOP-UP Counselling [Medical]):

: 25.08.2020 (till 3.00 PM) Online Editing of Application form : 26.08.2020

Publication of Merit List / Rank Card iii. Date of uploading Seat Matrix

: 26.08.2020 iv. Date of MOP-UP Counselling : 27.08.2020 to 28.08.2020

Rest of the terms and conditions of earlier concerned Advertisement will remain the same. Controller of Examination

INTERVIEW WITH NATIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY CEO

the National Digital Health

Mission (NDHM) are expected

to make it easier to access qual-

ity healthcare, says Dr INDU

BHUSHAN, CEO of the National

Health Authority implementing

expected to participate. Edited

Why is NDHM and the Digital

The digital ID is the unifier

Right now, if you look at any

across all your records. I want to

put this out in public that it's vol-

hospital, you would find people

carrying their records in some file

or some plastic bag ... in tattered

forms. Sometimes, these records

are not fully there. The doctor

doesn't have the benefit of hav-

ing the full picture of their med-

ical history, so the treatment or

the kind of test and diagnostics

(they) recommend may not be

The patients will have greater in-

formation about the kind of

treatment given. They will also

have access to all the records

coming from different hospitals,

labs and diagnostic centers and

also from public health programs

- we have the intention of giv-

ing the health ID as the child is

health system accountable.

What is the status of the

NDHM pilot in six Union

Territories?

It also helps in keeping the

We've started rolling (NDHM)

out. The three basic platforms--

creation of health ID, creation of

doctors registry and the creation

of health facility registry — has

been completed. Close to 3,000

IDs have been made...across the

born until the death.

Here, everything digitised.

most optimal.

Health ID beneficial?

excerpts:

'NDHM has potential for unlocking

creativity, getting pvt sector initiatives;

have privacy by design, data is secure'

New York: Oil prices lost about 1 per cent as the economic recovery worldwide runs into stumbling blocks due to renewed coronavirus lockdowns and on worries about rising crude supply. Brent crude futures settled at \$44.35 a barrel, down 55 cents or 1.2 per cent. **REUTERS**

BHARTI AXA SHAREHOLDERS TO RECEIVE 2 SHARES OF ICICI LOMBARD FOR EVERY 115 SHARES

ICICI Lombard, Bharti AXA to merge in share swap deal to form 3rd largest general insurer

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAL AUGUST 22

ICICI LOMBARD General Insurance Company and Bharti AXA General Insurance Co Ltd on Saturday said they will combine their insurance businesses through a share swap deal, paving the way for the creation of the country's third-largest general insurance entity.

The boards of both the companies approved entering into definitive agreements for demerger of Bharti AXA's non-life insurance business into ICICI Lombard through a Scheme of Arrangement, Based on the share exchange ratio recommended by independent valuers and accepted by the boards, the shareholders of Bharti AXA will receive two shares of ICICI Lombard for every 115 shares of Bharti AXA held by them as on the date on which the Scheme of Arrangement is approved by the

BRIEFLY —

OlLlogs₹249cr

loss in Q1 on fall

New Delhi: Oil India Ltd

posted a net loss of Rs

248.61 crore in first quarter

of 2020-21 fiscal, as com-

pared to a net profit of

Rs 624.80 crore in the same

period of the previous

Godfrey Phillips

profit falls 53%

New Delhi: Godfrey Phillips

India on Saturday reported

a 53.56 per cent decline in

its consolidated net profit

to Rs 55.09 crore for the

first quarter ended June 30.

The company had posted a net profit of Rs 118.63 crore

in the same quarter a

Phoenix Mills

via QIP issue

raises ₹1.100 cr

New Delhi: The Phoenix

vestors, including the

Singapore government.

The company opened its

QIP(Qualified Institutional

Placement) issue on August

18 and the issue was closed

on Friday. **PTI**

Amazon

consumer biz

year ago.

India Q1 net

in oil prices

financial year.

boards of both the companies. ICICI Bank holds 51.89 per cent stake in ICICI Lombard, while the rest is with the public.

After the proposed deal, promoter stake will come down to 48.11 per cent. ICICI Lombard shares closed at Rs 1,292.90, down 0.40 per cent, on the BSE on Friday. "The proposed transaction

provides a meaningful opportu-

AMID COVID-19

■ After the proposed deal, promoter stake will come down to 48.11 per cent. ICICI Lombard shares closed at Rs 1,292.90, down 0.40 per cent, on the BSE on Friday. ■ ICICI Lombard made a profit of Rs 398 crore

and gross premium underwritten of Rs 3,394 crore in the June quarter of 2020-21.

nity for ICICI Lombard to consolidate its market leading position in the non-life insurance sector, becoming the third largest nonlife insurer," ICICI Lombard said in a statement.

The combined entity shall have a market share of 8.7 per cent on pro-forma basis. "Through this proposed transaction ICICI Lombard will be able to augment its distribution Bhargav Dasgupta, MD & CEO of ICICI Lombard General Insurance, said, "We are confident that this transaction would be value accretive for our shareholders. We would also like to reassure Bharti AXA's policyholders and channel partners of seamless business continuity and maintaining highest stan-

dards of customer service." ICICI

Lombard made a profit of

Rs 398 crore and gross premium underwritten of Rs 3,394 crore in the June quarter of 2020-21. Rakesh Bharti Mittal, chairman of Bharti AXA General Insurance said, "We are delighted that the partnership between Bharti and AXA has been

successful in laying down a solid foundation in the domestic insurance landscape. Over the past few years, our business demonstrated consistent growth, forged productive partnerships and increased the distribution

footprint significantly."

previous guarter on the back of

rising COVID case and fears of

economic effects of the pandemic **NET SELLERS IN APRIL:** FPIs started the quarter on a sombre note as they were net sellers to the tune of \$903 million in April

THE BOUNCEBACK: They made a comeback in the subsequent months of May and June as they pumped net assets

worth \$1.93 billion and \$2.89 billion, respectively, into the equity

REASONS:

India performed better in containing the aggressive spread of COVID-19

Source:

Morningstar/PTI

■ Lifting of lockdown curbs

What is the need for a

six Union Territories.

the mission. In an interview to PRABHA RAGHAVAN, Bhushan discusses the benefits of the scheme, its pilot in six Union Territories, privacy concerns Dr Indu Bhushan, CEO of and how the private sector is

National Health Authority. File

most of the country already has an Aadhaar card?

The Supreme Court directions are very clear that we can't use (Aadhaar) for any specific purpose. We can ask for (it) for all those programmes which provide government subsidies...but, as you know, in health there will be a lot of people who don't have any government subsidies. So, asking and keeping Aadhaar may not be allowed.

It's not aligned to the Aadhaar

What factors will encourage private sector participation in NDHM? Could there be a potential for conflict of interest because of their involvement?

The private sector is going to be involved in this mission in a big way, and they will be involved not because of any intent for the welfare of people, but for their own interest and profit mo-

This whole infrastructure is going to be created, owned and controlled by the government, but we will be using a lot of private sector resources in creating it...but, that's only part of it.

For example, when we develop a road, it is developed, financed, owned and controlled by the government, but not necessarily built by the government. So, we hire private contractors to build it under our supervision. But, on that road, we don't say that only government vehicles will be running. Private vehicles will run, it will generate a lot of other demands...maybe some dhabas and other services will come up along the line, maybe some malls will come up. So, that road leads to a lot of direct and indirect commercial activities.

The same thing is going to happen with this health backbone infrastructure we are creating. I think that it has the potenfor unlocking a lot of creativity and getting a lot of private sector initiatives

The potential for conflict of interest doesn't really arise because the whole architecture and the way it has to be developed, is defined by us. We're just asking them to help us build it. That requires some additional people.

There are some privacy and security concerns flagged with the health IDs. What measures are you implementing to safeguard patient data?

(People) shouldn't be apprehensive about it all because we, in terms of our policy, ensure that we have privacy by design, and the data is secure and cannot be used for any purpose that it was not intended for. The system is going to improve on the current status quo in a big way. We have this policy framework which has been put in place under this mission.

No personally identifiable information can be shared by any of the hospitals who keep the data.

We (also) have what we call the information security policy, (where) we are following very strict ISO 27,001 norms as a standard and NIST as a framework There are more than a hundred checks and balances in terms of what kind of firewall should be kept to the kind of protocol that should be in place for data pro-

All these things are evolving issues...as the technology will evolve, so will the policy and the approach that we take for protecting people's privacy. I am quite confident that our norms and protocols will measure up to the best and latest standards in

New Aarogya Setu feature:

software into own systems

have over 50 staff & are registered in India

Companies can integrate

Service can be availed only by cos that

ICICI BANK HOLDS 51.89% IN ICICI LOMBARD

■The boards of both the companies approved entering into definitive agreements for demerger of Bharti AXA's non-life insurance business into ICICI Lombard through a Scheme of Arrangement. ■ ICICI Bank holds 51.89 per cent stake in ICICI Lombard, while the rest is with the public.

'FPIs turn net buyers in June

quarter; invest nearly \$4 bn'

After pulling out funds in March quarter, foreign investors

pumped in nearly \$4 billion in domestic equities in the

three months ended June, as per a Morningstar report

Bharti AXA into ICICI Lombard.

isting distribution partner-

ships," it said in the statement.
"The combined entity will

also benefit from continued part-

nerships with Bharti Enterprises,

one of India's leading business

groups with diversified interests,

and AXA, a large global insurer,"

expected to result in value cre-

ation for all stakeholders

through meaningful revenue

and operational synergies, it

said. "Policyholders are also ex-

pected to gain from an en-

hanced product suite and

deeper customer connect touch

points. Employees of the com-

bined business will also benefit

via greater opportunities across

functions and geographies,'

After obtaining all approvals,

when the scheme becomes ef-

fective, the non-life insurance

business will be demerged from

ICICI Lombard said.

The proposed transaction is

the statement said.

Foreign portfolio investors' (FPIs') assets in domestic equities, too, surged after a sharp fall in the

AROUND \$344 BN:

Value of FPI investments in Indian equities stood at around \$344 billion, which is considerably higher than the \$281 billion registered in the preceding quarter, a spike of almost 23 per cent

Robust net FPI inflows

Strong recovery in equity

During the quarter ended June, FPIs were net buyers in the \$3.91 billion, which was in sharp contrast to the net outflow of

\$6.38 billion recorded in the

Enterprises: What is the row between the Centre and the state?

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Measures announced by the government and the RBI

Govt clears leasing out of Thiruvananthapuram airport to Adani

PRANAV MUKUL

Mills Ltd, which has shopping malls across the country, has raised around A POLITICAL slugfest has erupted between the Centre and the Rs 1,100 crore through sale of shares to institutional in-Kerala government over the pri-

> vatisation of the Thiruvananthapuram airport. The central government has decided to lease out the operation, management and development of the airport to Adani Enterprises for a period of 50 years — something that is being vehemently opposed by the

Why is the airport being handed over to Adani

state government.

head to retire The Centre decided to lease Bengaluru: Amazon.com out six airports in the country — Inc has said Jeff Wilke, Thiruvananthapuram, Ahmechief executive officer of dabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, its consumer business, Mangaluru and Guwahati would retire early next through public-private partneryear. REUTERS ship (PPP) to Adani Enterprises last year after the company

emerged the highest bidder in a global competitive bidding process. Adani Enterprises outbid eight other companies in the process including GMR Airports, Kerala State Industrial Corporation Development KSIDC), Cochin International

Word of caution: Increasing tension between the US and China, surge in coronavirus cases globally

and a sharp increase of case count in India with the economy still limping may act as deterrents for FPIs

win the rights to EXPLAINED manage the six of these airports in February 2019. According to the Ministry of Civil Aviation, other airports like Delhi, Mumbai,

Hyderabad, Bengaluru that have been leased out on PPP basis have witnessed creation of world-class infrastructure in addition to helping Airports Authority of India in enhancing its revenues.

What is Kerala government's contention? Kerala's reservations date

back to 2003, when it requested the Centre to include the state government whenever a decision to induct the private sector for managing the Thiruvananthapuram airport is taken. The Centre at the time assured the Airport Ltd and Zurich Airport to

state that the state will be consulted during the privatisation process of the airport. Shortly after the Union Cabinet approved leasing out of the airport to Adani, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan wrote to Minister Prime

Narendra Modi the Centre's "unilateral decision" was against the wishes of the people of the state and that "it will be difficult" for the state government to offer co-operation for implementation of the decision. Kerala also said that its claim to manage the Thiruvananthapuram airport was rejected by the Centre even after

it offered to match Adani's bid.

How has the Centre responded?

The Centre has said that after various discussions and recommendations of a Empowered Group of Secretaries, it was decided in consultation with the state government that the latter would participate in the bidding process for the airport through a special purpose vehicle (SPV). The Kerala SPV was also given the right of first refusal (RoFR), or a provision to match the winning bid, if its quote fell within 10% range of the top bidder. However, according to the Centre, KSIDC's bid was 19.64% lower than Adani Enterprises' making it ineligible to exercise the RoFR provision.

What is the recourse being taken by the state?

On Thursday, a day after the Union Cabinet's go-ahead to lease the airport out to Adani, an all-party meeting of the state opposed the Centre's decision and

sought revocation of privatisation of the Thiruvananthapuram airport to Adani. Furthermore, a petition was filed in Kerala High Court last year, which was dismissed by the court in December, following which a special leave petition was filed in the Supreme Court.

While both the High Court and the apex court did not grant a stay on the privatisation process, the Supreme Court remitted the matter back to Kerala High Court, which is yet to give its final decision. The Centre has said that the Union Cabinet's approval was subject to the outcome of the writ petition. It also said that if the petitioners succeed and outcome of litigation leads to annulment or cancellation of bidding process then Adani Enterprises will handover the possession of airport back to AAI, which will be entitled to refund of amount paid and ad-

ditional investments made in

THE MINISTRY of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)

on Saturday launched the open Application Programming Interface (API) service for Aarogya Setu app. The service can enable companies to integrate the app into their own systems and check for real-time COVID-19 infection status of their employees and pandemic in general. The service can be availed only by companies which have more than 50 employees and are registered in India.

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

"They can use the open API service to query the Aarogya setu application in real-time and get the health status of their employees or any other Aarogya Setu user, who have provided their consent for sharing their health status with the organization," the Ministry said in a statement.

An API is a software that acts as a bridge for two applications to be able to talk to each other and exchange information. With the launch of the Aarogya Setu API, companies can register themselves to avail the services, following which they can be given the code which can be integrated into the programmes being run by these companies.

The app, which has been downloaded by over 15 crore users till date, was released by the MeitY on April 2. According to a statement released by the Ministry, the Aarogya Setu apps tracks its users' "interaction with others", alerts the authorities if there are any suspicions of the user having been in contact with a COVID-19 infected

"Once installed in a smartphone through an easy and user-friendly process, the app detects other devices with Aarogya Setu installed that **6** KEY POINTS

1 The service will allow checking real-time COVID-19 infection status of staff and pandemic in general.

The app, which has been downloaded by over 15 crore users till date, was released by the MeitY on April 2.

3 An API is a software that acts as a bridge for two applications to be able to talk to each other and exchange information.

come in the proximity of that phone. The app can then calculate the risk of infection based on sophisticated parameters if any of these contacts are tested positive," the government had then said.

Earlier this month, a company which had worked on the code review process of the app had written an article in which it had alleged that there were various security vulnerabilities in the Aarogya Setu app.

In a detailed article, the company had written that they had downloaded the source code of the app within a few minutes and that the involvement of private companies was a threat to the data of Aarogya Setu users.

The Ministry had however, denied the statements and said that company had made "various malicious, nefarious and unsubstantiated claims on security issues in Aarogya Setu app". The article was taken down a few minutes after the ministry issued the statement in which it said it would take legal action against the company.

PowerMin asks gencos to cap late payment surcharge at 12%

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

THE POWER Ministry has advised power generation firms and transmission companies to levy the late payment surcharge on discoms at not more than 12 per cent in view of the stress in the sector amid the COVID-19

pandemic. The rate of late payment surcharge (LPS) in many cases is up to 18 per cent per annum and has adversely impacted discoms during lockdown. The measure aims at easing the financial burden on discoms (power distribution utilities), and would also benefit consumers, a ministry statement said.

"In order to alleviate the financial stress in the power system, all generating companies

and transmission companies have been advised by Ministry of Power to charge Late Payment Surcharge at a rate not exceeding 12 per cent per annum (simple interest) for all payments made under the Liquidity Infusion Scheme of PFC and REC under Aatmanirbhar Bharat," it said. The applicable rate of LPS is

quite high despite interest rates in the country softening over the last few years. The pandemic has adversely affected the liquidity position of all stakeholders of the power sector especially discoms. A number of measures have been taken by the government to mitigate the adverse impact which include rebate on capacity charges, relaxing provisions of Letter of Credit for scheduling of power, Liquidity Infusion

Forex reserves decline by \$2.9 bn to \$535.2 bn on fall in foreign currency assets

PRESSTRUSTOFINDIA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

AFTER RISING for the past few weeks, foreign exchange reserves declined by \$2.939 billion to \$535.252 billion for the week ended August 14, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data showed.

In the previous week ended August 7, reserves had increased by \$3.623 billion to reach a record high of \$538.191 billion. In the week ended August 14, the reserves declined due to a fall in foreign currency assets, a major component of the overall reserves. FCA dropped \$743 million to \$491.550 billion in the reporting week.

24 proposals worth ₹8,594 cr of stressed NBFCs, HFCs sanctioned so far under SLS of Rs 2,195 crore in the amount

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

THE FINANCE Ministry on Saturday said 24 proposals worth Rs 8.594 crore of stressed NBFCs and HFCs have been sanctioned under the Special Liquidity Scheme announced as part of the Rs 20.97 lakh crore 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' package.

The scheme, which was launched on July 1, permits both primary and secondary market purchases of debt and seeks to address the short-term liquidity issues of non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) and housing finance companies (HFCs). Sharing implementation sta-

tus update of the Rs 30,000 crore

Special Liquidity Scheme (SLS).

Finance Minister Nirmala

Sitharaman in a tweet said that

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. File

24 proposals with a total sanctioned amount of Rs 8,594 crore have been cleared as on August 21, while 17 more applications seeking financing of up to Rs 3,684.5 crore are under process.

"The amount disbursed stood at Rs 3,279 crore as on 21.08.2020. Compared to 07.08.2020, there is an increase

bursed," she tweeted. NBFCs and HFCs came under stress following a series of defaults by IL&FS group firms in September 2018. NBFCs including microfinance institutions registered under the RBI Act. 1934 (excluding

sanctioned & an increase of Rs

2,279 crore in the amount dis-

those registered as Core Investment Companies) and any HFC registered with the National Housing Bank under the National Housing Bank Act, 1987, which is complying with certain specified conditions, are eligible to raise funding from this facility.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has provided funds for the scheme by subscribing to government-guaranteed special securities issued by a trust set up by SBI Capital Markets Ltd (SBICAP)









SUNDAY STORY



This week, Delhi announced reopening of hotels in a bid to kick off the economy. But with few travellers and no tourists, the industry's climb out of the pandemic is expected to be the hardest and the longest. SADAF MODAK goes behind the doors of one five-star in Mumbai to capture a post-Covid world

N A rainy afternoon, as guests enter the gates of Hotel Meluha-The Fern in a well-pruned area of Mumbai's suburb Powai, the first sight that greets them is a staffer with a manual sanitising spray machine strapped onto his back, and a disinfectant container near him. The first is for sanitising the luggage of guests, the second for hand bags. On the floor is a rug layered with sanitiser, to ensure that even shoes of those walking into the five-star hotel get a Covid cleansing.

In the lobby, the visitors are first directed to a 'hand-sanitisation zone', a contact-less, foot-operated stand disposing hand sanitiser, followed by a 'temperature screening zone' where staff wield infra-red thermometers.

Both the welcome drink and valets who park vehicles have been done away with. Only visitors who have already checked in online via a link are entertained. At the front desk, they have to fill in self-declaration health forms, including that they have not come from a containment zone. Each guest is handed over a separate pen, with boxes clearly marking 'new' and 'used' pens.

ing that interaction, including documents, is put into a UV sterilisation box that sanitises the objects "within 3 minutes".

Front Office Manager Monty Chhabra, who has spent two decades in the hotel industry, says post-coronavirus, it's a new world. "Earlier, it was only hospitality. Now it is hospitality with responsibility," says Chhabra.

At any time of the day, the staff can be seen cleaning – any of the many "contact" surfaces in the 141-room, seven-storey, 10-year-old hotel, from door handles to lift buttons. Staff otherwise engaged in the hotel's restaurants, bar, gymnasium, spa, salon, swimming pool, buffets, the banquet hall and the three board rooms are now assigned these tasks as the above services are vet to be offered. The Meluha has 200-odd employees on its rolls, and while it hasn't laid off anyone due to a fall in revenues post the pandemic, they are paid now only for the days they work – usually two weeks a month. The last full pay was in April.

On July 6, as part of its Mission Begin Again to ease lockdown restrictions, the Maharashtra government had announced the reopening of hotels outside containment zones - at maximum 33% capacity. Besides Maharashtra, hotels have reopened in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. On Wednesday, Delhi announced it would allow hotels to open, with the state government eager to kick off the economy.

Around 12 pm on a Thursday, a guest checks out of Room No. 611 at The Meluha, and Ganesh Dhule enters wearing a PPE. After ensuring that nothing has been left behind by the guest, he removes all the linen — bed covers, pillow covers, comforter - and puts them in bags, before locking the room and leaving. The room will now remain shut for at least 24 hours. This is part of the SOP being followed by most hotels that have reopened, to reduce the risk of any residual viruses in the room expos-

ing the staff or the next guest. Dhule says he and the others in the housekeeping team of 40 are getting used to spending their entire duty hours in PPEs. "We are required to wear a PPE each time we do a delivery to a room," he says. At the end of each day, the staff discard their suits for a new one.

With restaurants closed, every meal is delivered to rooms - left outside on trolleys, like other services requested by guests. With occupancy low, the hotel has segregated staff allotted to guests floor-wise, to further reduce risk of any infection.

Dhule, 30, who lives in Mankhurd in the eastern suburbs of Mumbai with his mother, goes home once in 15 days now. "I do not step





(C'wise from above left) Housekeeping at The Meluha-Fern wears PPE for every service call; no-contact check-in at front desk; fixed menus, hygiene planners in kitchen

out of the hotel and there are regular checks by the in-house doctor," he says. Whenever he is home, he stocks up all the essentials so that his mother doesn't have to go out.

Mulik says they hold a staff meeting every alternate day for feedback. "Since reopening, there have been many additions based on the inputs received from the staff. Each guest's usage differs and makes us realise what more we need to do. For instance, from only a few obvious touch points which were cleaned in a room, like door handles, taps, over 70 of them have been identified now, including TV and AC remotes, curtain edges, mirrors."

When Room No. 617 is reopened after 24 hours — through a contact-less system now instead of keys — two-three staffers enter wearing masks and gloves. Aside from the usual cleaning equipment, they carry several kinds of sanitisers and a portable UV wand. Each of the 70 items above, including plug points, are wiped and sanitised, and the linen replaced. An assistant manager uses the UV wand – the portable ones weren't easy to acquire, says the

notel — for a final sanitisation via radiation. The Meluha has cut back on the tea bags, coffee, sugar and milk powder sachets provided in rooms, as well as toiletries. "A guest can ask for more and these are immediately

provided," Chhabra says. What the guests can't expect is a lot of variety in food. Executive chef Parimal Sawant says there is a pre-decided menu now for all three meals — like poha and upma, bread butter, eggs, for breakfast; two vegetables and dal for lunch; and a non-vegetarian option in adfor dinner. Desserts are part of each meal. "If a guest wants to order something else a la carte, it is provided. But, to avoid wastage, food items are prepared only if ordered," Sawant says.

The 43-year-old has had to rethink his kitchen, accordingly. "Instead of 100 kg of chicken daily, for example, to account for a banquet meal, buffet meals and full occupancy, we now need only around 5 kg," he says. They have had to stock their pantry with essentials like pulses, rice, flour only once since the hotel reopened. Sawant tries to plan the menu around what is available, to avoid frequent shopping trips.

The 4,000-sq ft main kitchen serving the hotel has up on its walls weekly food plans and basic cooking instructions such as how to prepare dal, to ensure consistency, and how to present many of its signature dishes, to ensure uniformity. Now up there alongside are health advisories, including numbers of the emergency response team for Covid at the hotel, and a hygiene planner. This lists the disinfectants to be used for different equipment — the boilers, dishwashers, food warmers, chimney, silverware, as well as sanitising tablets for fruits and vegetables. "Every hour, an alarm goes off and we have to find the nearest sink and wash our hands." Sawant says.

Since most of the kitchen staff belongs to

TOURIST ARRIVALS IN INDIA

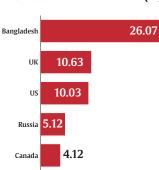


9.78 LAKH 3.28 LAKH March 2019 March 2020

■ In 2019, about 1.09 crore tourists visited India, a growth of 3.1% from 2018. Of these, 17.4 lakh visited in March and April

■ A federation of tourism and hospitality sector pegs losses at Rs 15 lakh crore, job losses at 4 crore

COUNTRIES FROM WHERE MOST TOURISTS CAME IN MARCH'20 (%)



Source: Ministry of Tourism

outside Mumbai, they stay on the premises. Punit Sharma, Vice-President, Operations, says they never considered layoffs as most of their staff has been with them since the beginning, "We have divided them into batches, with each group working for 10 days on nine-hour shifts. They are given accommodation within

the hotel to reduce risk during travel." Some staff though have no replacement — "like the chef who is in-charge of the South Indian breakfast".

With hotel now their home, the staffers play carrom, chess or watch TV in their free time. Sawant says they are like one big family. "One of our chefs is a singer. When it's not the alarm, the loud sound in the kitchen is that of him singing, blaring out of the music system."

But, the awareness that things can't go on like this hangs heavy.

Located near the airport, The Meluha generally gets jet setters moving in and out of the business capital, apart from customers look-

Needed, a helping hand

MORE THAN two and a half months after Unlock 1.0 began, and one month after hotels first got the goahead, revenues remain a struggle. The government is seeking to boost tourism, especially domestic, to get them going, but the industry is hoping this will be combined with loan moratoriums and special packages.

ing for a five-star "staycation". From usual occupancy of more than 80% (100-120 of the 141 rooms), numbers are down to 20%

Putting the cost of running a hotel at Rs 1,25-Rs 2 crore a month — maintaining just a room daily costs Rs 2,000-2,500 - Vice-President Sharma, who has been in the industry 30 years, says, "There has been no hike in tariff despite the increased cost of maintenance... In the first quarter, we earned 15% of our revenues compared to last year."

In fact, more than a month after hotels were allowed to open in Maharashtra, just 50-60% have done so, as per the Hotel and Restaurant Association of Western India. "Many still have just single-digit occupancy," says its vice-president Pradeep Shetty. While the hill states of Himachal Pradesh

and Uttarakhand have allowed hotels to open in what would be the peak season, they remain shut owing to travel restrictions on borders. In Himachal, locals have been protesting the move to open the state for tourism. The Federation of Associations in Indian

Tourism & Hospitality (FAITH) says the industry is looking at an economic hit of Rs 15 lakh crore and job losses of four crore . "The direct and indirect economic impact... is approximately estimated at 10% of India's GDP. Many in the hotel industry hope the gov-

ernment will offer an incentive to boost domestic tourism. Says Ashish Gupta, the Consulting CEO of FAITH, "We have requested both the Centre and states to waive off all statutory obligations (of hotels) and set up a tourism fund to cover operation costs and revive the business. We have also requested the RBI to extend loan moratoriums and restructure debts."

Meenakshi Sharma, Director General (Tourism), Union Ministry of Tourism, says a national taskforce, headed by Tourism Minister Prahlad Patel, is looking at how to revive tourism and travel, and help hotels. One of the steps initiated is a checklist to declare a destination safe for visitors with the help of the Health Ministry The sons announce MSME sector would cover 80% of tourism establishments, including hotels, Sharma adds.

Aditi Tatkare, the Minister of Tourism and Industry in Maharashtra, says they are also looking at a special package for the tourism sector and "what other states like Goa, Kerala and Rajasthan are doing for tourism."

Meanwhile, with room occupancy stagnant, many five-stars in metros are taking their services to the doors of loval customers. Several hotels of the Hyatt group began delivering food a month ago. Some chains such as Accor, Hilton, Conrad and Sheraton have tied up with Swiggy and Zomato for the same. Novotel Chennai OMR and Sheraton Grand Bangalore. Whitefield, have started laundry services for their members, so has the Hyatt Regency in Gurugram and Pune, within a limited radius.

The Marriott International has partnered with Swiggy to launch its own food delivery service. "As we adapt ourselves to the new normal, there will be a new balance in everything we do, including our approach to hospitality, says Neeraj Govil, Senior Vice-President, South Asia, Marriott International.

Having remained open through the lockdown — housing families of Covid cases or overseas travellers looking for quarantine — ITC Royal Bengal, which boasts of a 'WeAssure' programme designed by medical professionals and disinfection experts, has re-started its chauffeur service, with polycarbonate screens shielding passengers from drivers, and gym and salon, as well as tied up with Swiggy and Zomato for food delivery.

Nitin Bahl, the Resident Manager of ITC Sonar in Kolkata, says, "We are receiving a lot of response online... The ITC F&B App too will soon be launched in Kolkata."

Currently, The Meluha has three types of guests — those in quarantine after a domestic or international trip, people who have come to Mumbai for medical treatment, and those

seeking a break from home. Sharma hopes things will get better post-October when corporate activity picks up. If not, he is banking on that evergreen industry: weddings. Before Covid hit, nearly half the hotel's business came from food and beverages, a huge chunk of it from hiring out banquet halls. "From January, the wedding season will resume," Sharma points out.

New Delhi

WITH DIVYA A; INPUTS BY **AMITAVA CHAKRABORTY**

INTERVIEW

'Our focus is to create demand. History proves the resilience of tourism'

DIVYAA

A DAY after the government allowed reopening of hotels in the Capital, Union Tourism Minister Prahlad Patel is chairing a virtual meeting with tourism stakeholders. Later in the day, he is slated to attend a webinar on 'Survival & Revival of Tourism Sector'. With



Prahlad Patel

the industry, and passing on their feedback to government. an interview:

the pandemic

hitting the sec-

tor hard, the

minister has

been holding

meetings with

What steps is the ministry taking to revive the tourism sector?

We are continuously engaging with the industry, states, related central ministries to evolve a roadmap for revival of tourism... Our focus is to take steps that will create demand. Historical data has proven the resilience of tourism. We feel that once the economy kickstarts with the AatmaNirbhar package, demand for travel will look up. The ministry has issued operational guidelines for hotels and accommodation units regarding Covid-19 safety. As domestic tourism will be the first to start, it will drive revival of the tourism sector.

What concerns have been raised by the hotel industry?

The Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism & Hospitality (FAITH) has sought a uniform inter-quarantine air and land border policy across all states. The MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) segment is a key revenue generator for hotels. I have asked the Home Ministry to consider allowing banquet and conference facilities (in hotels) to operate at 50% capacity. Many associations had requested that Delhi hotels be unlocked as Delhi is the gateway of North India. I spoke to the Lt Governor, Home Ministry in this regard.

Is there a figure for losses so far?

In a representation in April, the Confederation of Indian Industry projected that Covid-19 would impact two-five crore jobs. In terms of revenue losses, the estimate was Rs 2.4 lakh crore. FAITH has requested financial protection for tourism companies till a resolution plan is set in motion by the RBI. It has also proposed extension of moratorium on loans.

What is the plan for places like Agra, where the hotel industry rests on one tourism site?

The decision to open places has to be taken by the state government and local administration.

TAVLEEN SINGH



Twitter@Pchidambaram_IN

For Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the day before August 15 must have been a day of reflection, a day to take stock why his government had allowed things to come to such a sorry pass, and a day to resolve to make a new beginning. I had fervently hoped that the Prime Minister will make a short, sombre address. acknowledge the mistakes of the past, and promise to govern in consultation with states and Opposition parties. There was nothing of that sort

A great opportunity missed

ITWAS no ordinary August 15. Never before in the last 73 years has an Independence Day been bereft of children, gatherings in city centres, flags, sweets and gaiety.

Never before has India faced a recession of the magnitude that is predicted (4 to 10 per cent); never before has a pandemic enveloped the whole country and forced people to remain in their homes; and never before have all our neighbours flexed their muscles to snub India in one

For Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the day before August 15 must have been a day of reflection, a day to take stock why his government had allowed things to come to such a sorry pass, and a day to resolve to make a new beginning. I had fervently hoped that the Prime Minister will make a short, sombre address, acknowledge the mistakes of the past, and promise to govern in consultation with states and Opposition parties.

IN THREE TUNNELS

There was nothing of that sort. On the contrary, as is his wont, the Prime Minister spoke for 90 minutes. He spoke rapidly, there were no pauses, and the pitch was as high as ever. His admirers would say it was a virtuoso performance; I thought it was contrived confidence. However, his admirers would have noticed what I did - not once did the Prime Minister smile at any one, not even for the cameras. I suspect he is under considerable stress, mainly because there is

no light yet while the country is in the middle of three tunnels – the sliding economy, the raging pandemic and the humiliating occupation of Indian

The Modi government strongly believes that people's memories are short. Here is an example. On December 5, 2014, Mr Ravi Shankar Prasad, the Minister for Telecommunication, announced that, "We are laying down optical fibre in all gram (village) panchayats. The PM is very keen on this project. The PM has said, 'Ravi ensure that it is done by the end of 2016. We have to lay 700,000 kilometres of OFC'." He also indicated the sub-targets: 50,000 gram panchayats (GPs) by end of the financial year (2014-15), 1 lakh by March 2016 and another 1 lakh by end of 2016.

On August 15, the Prime Minister announced, "in the next 1,000 days, villages across the country will have optical fibre connection available"!

I suspect there is a play on the words 'panchayat' and 'village'. As of March 2020, none of the targets (GPs connected, Fibre to the Home connections, Broadband connections) had been met. According to Digital Quality of Life Index 2020, India ranks 79 out of 85 countries. Transparency and facts are in short supply in this government.

More Claims, Less Truth

In the same non-transparent vein,

■ Claim: Our foremost priority is to bring the nation out of the Covid-19 pandemic, which is restricting us from operating freely.

Fact: The government is doing little, not even providing funds to the state governments that are in the forefront of fighting the pandemic with varied strategies and varied degrees of success. India is among the handful of countries where the pandemic is on the upswing. India tops the world in the number of daily new infections (69,000 and rising) and India will cross 50,00,000 cases by the third week of September. The India-produced vaccine is at least a year away. Even if we get the Russian, British or US vaccine, inoculating the entire population is a gargantuan task. Indians are coping with the pandemic and surviving because of demography, their native immunity, 80 per cent asymptomatic cases, DNA (perhaps) and luck.

■ Claim: We have to move forward with mantra of 'Make in India' as well as 'Make for the World'.

Fact: The original slogan 'Make in India' was announced in 2014 and has been a spectacular failure. The share of manufacturing in GDP has been more or less stagnant at 16.6 per cent since 2015-16 and fell to 15.9 per cent in 2019-20. Merchandise exports crossed the high mark of 2013-14 (USD 315 billion) only once in the last six years, in 2018-19 (USD 330 billion). High import tariffs (including protectionist duties), non-tariff barriers, quantitative restrictions, negative list, etc, have shackled manufacturing.

THE CHINA CHALLENGE

■ Claim: Be it terrorism or expansionism, India is standing up to both and defeating it. From LoC to LAC, whenever India has been challenged, our soldiers have given a fitting response in a language they understand.

Fact: The tribute to the soldiers was entirely justified. The most recent instance was on June 15-16 in the Galwan Valley when 20 soldiers were martyred. But it is still a mystery if they died because of inadequate preparedness or wrong orders. The statement of the Prime Minister that "nobody intruded into Indian territory and nobody is present in Indian territory" rankles both soldiers and citizens alike. His reluctance to name the aggressor (despite the MEA's demarches to China) is totally inexplicable. Chinese soldiers still occupy Indian territory in Galwan Valley, Pangong Tso and Depsang. China has practically rejected any more 'disengagement' or 'deescalation'. The years of personal summit diplomacy practised by the Prime Minister have ended in humiliation. It is time to change gears and entrust the conduct of foreign affairs to trained diplomats of the MEA

A great opportunity, in an unprecedented year, to give a refreshingly candid account of the state of the nation was missed on August 15, 2020.

Welcome, Education **Minister**

IT IS not my practice to begin a column with a disclaimer, but this time it is necessary. So, before praising the New Education Policy let me state clearly that it is not because I hope it will persuade the government to give my son's overseas citizenship back. I have written before in this newspaper that India was his home from childhood and I was his sole legal guardian. So, what was done was evil and vindictive. No lies were told when I applied for a long visa for him when he turned 18, and I did not lie the second time either. But such an ugly, untruthful narrative has been spun by government spokesmen over the issue that the BJP's troll army on Twitter taunts me with 'OCI, OCI' no matter what I write. Sometimes they confuse OCI with OTP, which is the only funny moment these vicious trolls provide me.

With this disclaimer out of the way, let me say that I think the New Education Policy is the best thing that the Modi government has done since Swachh Bharat. At The Indian Express Adda last week, when Ramesh Pokhriyal was introduced as India's Education Minister, I wanted to stand up and cheer. One of the stupidest things that Rajiv Gandhi did was to abolish the Ministry of Education and replace it with a Ministry for Human Resource Development. Why he did this remains a mystery except that some idiot in his inner circle probably told him that the new name had a corporate ring.

When Atal Bihari Vajpayee became prime minister, it disappointed me that he did not bring back a real Minister for Education. It also disappointed me that his government made no effort to decolonise the public education system we inherited from our colonial masters. It was an education system designed to create English-speaking clerks to run the British Empire. Yet another disappointment was that instead of making badly needed changes to the curriculum in schools, silly attempts were made to erase bits

The result is that to this day Indian children leave school learning more about western civilisation than their own. This is true of our finest private schools and true of those shabby apologies for schools in rural India. In my school days, in newly independent India, we learned more about England and read more English literature than our own. Today's children learn more about the United States of America. They grow up without real pride in India's civilisation because they grow up without learning anything about it. In the 'new India' this absence of civilisational pride has been replaced by

belligerent nationalism. The New Education Policy is the first serious attempt to decolonise school education. Those who think it is a bad idea for children to be taught in their mother tongue in the early years of school, have not noticed that most Indian children leave school unable to speak any language well. Of course, English is important because it has become the lingua franca of the world. But, it can be taught in India in senior

classes, as it is in European countries. Some critics have objected to the emphasis on civilistional studies and Sanskrit. I believe they are not seeing this in any real context. It should shame us that the best departments for the study of Sanskrit are in American and European universities. It should shame us that it is mostly western scholars who have translated from Sanskrit some of the greatest literature ever written. The New Education Policy is the first attempt to rectify this. School curriculums remain so bereft of Indianisation that it will take a long, long time for the rectification to bear fruit

My only problem with the new policy is that it seems not to have paid enough attention to the infrastructure needed for real change to happen. I make it a personal mission on my travels to visit the local school and can report that in states like Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar, I have seen schools that are no more than tin sheds in which children sit on bare floors and try to learn by rote what their teacher (if she is not absent) tells them. In schools that lack such basic things as desks and chairs, it is obvious that libraries and computers are unheard of. Can we even think about civilisational studies in such schools?

On account of my inability to use Zoom properly, I did not manage at last week's Adda to ask the Education Minister a question that troubles me deeply every time I see schools that are not schools in any sense of that word. I wanted very much to ask him why in states that have long been governed by BJP chief ministers there continue to be schools that are not really schools? Major states have been governed by the BJP sometimes for more than a decade and yet there has not been

The New Education Policy is a remarkable achievement and it is great that India has a Minister for Education at last. But, let us remember that the last time Indian students participated in PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment), in 2009, they came second last. Kyrgyzstan came last. We have not participated since but plan to next year. Will we do better?

any improvement in state schools. Why?

Anna Bhau Sathe, father of India's creative writing



YEAR 2020 is a memorable one in the rich archive of Dalit history. It is the centenary of the powerful Dalit voice Tukaram Bhaurao alias Anna Bhau Sathe, born to landless peasants on August 1, 1920, in the segregated ghettos of Maangwada, an abode of the Maang castes in Wategaon, Sangli district of Maharashtra.

In the late 1930s, Anna Bhau trekked to Mumbai on foot along with his father to work as a labourer. Upon arrival, his 'untouchable' status, clubbed with an oppressive working environment, attracted him to the Communist-led working class movement. Under its influence. Anna Bhau started to experiment with literature that spoke of urban wretchedness, the longing for home, and the workplace

He was one of the earliest Indian writers to have braved the waters of political fiction. His characters were not lofty. They were dark and polemical. They existed to change material conditions. And the time for that was now. The change was not meant to be kept hanging, like one of those patient characters of leisure in romantic novels.

Whatever Anna Bhau experienced, he shaped it into words. His award-winning novel Fakira, dedicated to Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar, depicted his Maang community. He sketched in words a community that was industrious, artistic and religious.

The Maangs constitute a sizable percentage of the Scheduled Caste population in Maharashtra. Historically, they have often stood in defence of justice. Lahuji Salve, a predecessor of Anna Bhau and another Maang, was one of the main heroes of Ivotiba Phule's education movement. It was upon the muscle and strength of Lahuji that Phule fronted all the physical attacks that were hurled at him and his wife, Savitri. Lahuji helped recruit many Dalit students for the Phule schools.

Long before the renaissance of Dalit literature in the 1960s, Anna Bhau initiated novel writing and short plays in the Marathi Dalit literary sphere. He was essentially the father of Indian creative writing who broke the bones of hierarchical disciplines with the firmness of his wrist and a dazzling creative mind.

Writers with dominant caste names added a Sanskritist touch to their vernacular and became prominent thinkers while Dalit voices such as Anna Bhau, Baburao Bagul, Namdeo Dhasal, Raja Dhale, J V Pawar, Daya Pawar, Waman Nimbalkar and Sharankumar Limbale were snubbed. Anna Bhau and other writers of the Dalit Panthers couldn't care less as their style predicated on their love for their people, language and culture.

Under the influence of another great leader of his state, Dr Ambedkar, Anna Bhau wrote the famous song 'Jag badal ghaluni ghaav, sangun gele mala Bhimrao (Take a hammer and strike a blow to the world, that's what my Bhimrao told me)'.

In 1961, Anna Bhau produced the first travelogue written by a Dalit, My trip to

Anna Bhau died in his government-allotted Siddharth Nagar house in Bombay on July 18, 1969, at the age of 49. By the time he breathed his last, he had 35 novels, 13 short stories, three plays, one poetry collection, 14 Tamasha folk art works, one travelogue and 10 Powadas (ballads narrating historical events) to his credit, while four more were in the works. Seven of his novels were made into films, of which one won a national award and two won state awards. His writings were translated into multiple Indian, Soviet and European languages.

An Anna Bhau omnibus remains a long overdue project. Similarly, his contribution as a literary scholar is not yet acknowledged beyond Maharashtra and even less so in the English language world.

However, the Dalit public sphere has rightly acknowledged this intellectual and had invited him to be the inaugural speaker at the First Dalit Literary Conference on March 2, 1958, in Dadar, Mumbai. It is in this fiery speech that Anna Bhau thundered that the "earth is balanced on the palms of Dalits".

Anna Bhau matured the purpose of literature to serve the Dalit cause. "A Dalit's life is like pure spring water that trickles down from rocks. Observe it closely and then write about it."

> Suraj Yengde, author of Caste Matters, curates the fortnightly 'Dalitality' column

My ISOLATION

A WEEKLY WINDOW INTO LIVES OF INDIA'S NEWSMAKERS AND IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC ON THEM

'Haven't met family in 2 months. Talk to grandchild on video call'

What precautions do you take to stay Covid-free?

I follow all the guidelines that I urge other people to follow. Since we have launched the 'Break the Chain' programme, I am very particular about not flouting any protocol. I maintain physical distance, wear mask, wash my hands and use hand sanitiser frequently.

I don't remove my mask even when I am sitting alone in office. I take extra care to maintain a two-metre distance when I talk to people. But still, you never know, you can contract the virus from anywhere.

Have you got yourself tested for Covid-19?

Not yet. I have not had any symptoms

Have you had to isolate vourself? What was your routine like then?

official residence for four days. A person who had served us tea at a function had come in contact with a Covid-19 patient. I then worked from home and attended meetings online. I washed my plates and glasses myself. Later, the Covid suspect tested negative and I returned to work.

What kind of gloves and mask do you

Idon't wear gloves, I prefer using sanitiser. At home and office, I use a three-layered cloth mask. When I visit hospitals or containment zones, I wear the N95 mask.

While interacting with people at work, what precautions do you take?

I had 25 staff members at office, but since the pandemic hit, only half of them have been coming. The office is sanitised every day. While holding daily meetings with the health secretary and health director in person, I practise social distancing. The meetings with the district authorities are conducted online after 7 pm and can go on till 10 pm.

How long have you gone without seeing your family?

Earlier, I used to go home (to Kannur) every Friday and return to



Illustration: Suvajit Dev

Over six months after India's first Covid-19 patient was reported from Kerala, the state's caseload continues to grow at 4.01 per cent per day — much faster than the national rate. While the number of confirmed cases has grown almost four times in the last one month alone, State Health Minister KKSHAILAIA, 63, has been much praised for leading the state's measures against the pandemic from the front. As Kerala looks set to witness a sharp rise in cases in August and September, with daily infections expected to cross 10,000, here's how the minister is staying safe while on the job

INTERVIEW BY LIZ MATHEW

Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday evening. Since the pandemic struck, I have visited my family only once, that too after a gap of two-and-a-half months. Now, it has been over two months since I visited them.

Do you take any specific precautions while you travel?

I avoid trains and flights and use my $official\, car\, for\, travelling. \bar{I}\, cannot\, afford\, to$ fall ill. I feel safe in the car.

How much time do you spend in front of a screen?

That's a big issue for me now. With online conferences, press conferences and meetings, I end up spending an average of five hours before the screen daily. On some days, my eyes ache. I have consulted a doctor and he has recommended eye drops.

How do you keep your mind off the pandemic?

It's always on my mind. Even when I go to sleep, I am worried about the number of deaths. I wonder how we will get

I reach my official residence only after 10 pm and get time to talk to my family around 11 pm. My husband, son, his wife and my two-year-old grand-daughter keep waiting for my call. My granddaughter shows me her drawings on video calls. Talking to her helps me manage my stress. I talk about household matters with my husband. I also speak to my elder son who lives in Abu Dhabi with his wife and three-year- old son. After that I read newspaper articles and editorials. At times, I watch videos on YouTube. I go to sleep around 12.30-1 am and get up by 6 am, and the cycle begins again.

What is the first thing you want to do

when the pandemic is past? I want to visit all the health workers in Kerala's 14 districts. I want to hear their concerns in person. I also want to focus on other health projects that have been pending. And, I want to meet my husband and family. That will be the best rest

On the



LAST WEEK, my 17-year-old son asked me if my grandmother's death qualified as "family trauma". My nani, bless her, lived well into her 90s, spending her last years nursing a brandy while watching Hindi

serials till midnight. The provocation for my son's question was an essay for a college application reguiring him to list an event that had transformed his life. Ideally, this perspective altering incident should follow the narrative arc of a Hollywood film script, like when James Franco's arm was stuck under a rock in 127 Hours and he severed it off with a dull knife. It must be said, showcasing profound lessons about the enduring power of the human spirit as a teenager, is much tougher than it sounds.

The plight of being ordinary

As every student applying abroad or to private colleges in India knows, the admissions office favours a grand theme, a unique story that sets you apart. Except some lucky people reach the cusp of adulthood without having anything significant happen to them. As I assured my son, interesting trauma will undoubtedly follow, but that doesn't fix the problem of

what to write about now. To solve this dilemma of packaging a convincing yarn, there exist a range of college counsellors well versed in creating outlandish flights of imagination from small truths. After striking out my grandmother as a potential take-off point for searing insight into the human situation, they discounted the deaths of beloved pets as frivolous. An attack of dengue didn't pass muster either. At my insistence, we settled on the only topic my son could write about honestly, being cushioned by privilege in a country where the majority

India's long overdue New Education Policy 2020 proposes sweeping changes like easier Board exams and a thrust on critical thinking, but it will be a few years before anything can be implemented. It's been a national gripe that Indian colleges require students to score virtually a 100% to qualify. The yardstick to judge intelligence is narrow indeed, but when you explore how the rest of the world does it, while it's slightly more holistic, it isn't particularly inspiring either. International applications require a bloated essay where you greatly exaggerate a social sense, and list impressive sounding but ultimately meaningless extracurriculars

Appropriately deemed the brag sheet, there are thousands of Google suggestions

on how to sneak in one's stellar qualities with charm and subtlety. But what exactly do certificates of running signify when a mere handful of Indians have qualified for track Olympics in 70 years?

All this cunning projection has become necessary because we live in an age with the highest regard for exceptionalism. Our heroes are M S Dhoni and Jeff Bezos, whose extraordinary life and talent leave one alternately awestruck and humiliated. In ways subtle and otherwise, students are benchmarked against figures of staggering achievement, pushing the idea that the best life is solely when you're one up on everyone else.

It wasn't always like this. In literature, 16 and 17 were the time for adventure and romance, when you actively sought freedom from common sense. I can't help feel relieved that I came of age when it was ac-

ceptable to idolise glamorous and imperfect characters like Sal Paradise in On The Road. They bumbled from one minor disaster to another, the sheer madness illuminating the complexities of life more clearly than defeating your peers ever can.

Competition is inevitable, a part of life till the very end. Childhoods at least should be spared from the painful drudgery of chasing superlatives to add to a CV. The stress of the future haunts students through adolescence, that they could always be better, or doing more. While the world reboots post pandemic, maybe more people will question the stressful route to college and address the far more important question, how to thrive beyond it.

> The writer is director, Hutkay Films. Her column appears every fortnight

11 THE WORLD

TOPOFTHE _



A snow-covered road in Oberon, New South Wales, Saturday. Reuters

AUSTRALIA Antarctic winds trigger rare snowfall

ANTARCTIC AIR reaching Australia's south east triggered snowfall down to low altitudes across several states on Saturday, with many people out enjoying the rare event despite wild winds and heavy snow that closed some roads. Pictures of snowy towns and landscapes across New South Wales, Victoria, the Australia Capital Territory and the island state of Tasmania flooded social media as locals rushed to capture the surprise early spring snowfall. "We've seen light #snow make it to #Canberra today, and yes even heard a few rogue landed flakes Parliament House," in the capital, the Bureau of Meteorology said in a Twitter post.

TikTok set to challenge ban

TIKTOK IS preparing to mount a legal challenge as early as Monday to US President Donald Trump's executive order prohibiting transactions with the popular short video app and its Chinese parent ByteDance, according to people familiar with the matter. Trump issued an executive order on Aug. 14 that gave ByteDance 90 days to divest the US operations of TikTok. ByteDance has been making progress in talks with potential acquirers, including Microsoft Corp and Oracle. Some of ByteDance's IS investors could also join the winning bid.

Indian held in \$21m visa scam

AN INDIAN national has been arrested on charges of conspiracy to commit visa fraud and for inducing foreign nationals to come to the US using fraudulently obtained H-1B visas, federal prosecutors said on Friday. Arrested on Thursday, 48year-old Ashish Sawhney allegedly used four corporations to orchestrate the improper submission of fraudulent applications for H-1B specialty-occupation work visas, they said. Sawhney allegedly generated gross profits from 2011 to 2016 of approximately \$21 million, the prosecutors said.



Fire spreads through the Berryessa Estates of Napa County, California, on Friday. AP

Deadly moment, says California governor as hundreds of wildfires wreak havoc

Six dead, over 500 homes destroyed, around 175,000 residents told to evacuate

REUTERS AUGUST 22

HUNDREDS OF wildfires burning across Central and Northern California that have already killed six people more than doubled in size on Friday, becoming some of the largest in state history and threatening small towns in the path of the flames.

The conflagrations, which broke out over the last week, have blackened an area larger than the US state of Rhode

Close to 12,000 lightning strikes here have sent flames racing through land left parched by a recent heat wave

Island and destroyed more than 500 homes and other structures. In addition to the fatalities, 43 firefighters and civilians have been hurt.

California Governor Gavin

ing 560 fires across the state, many of them sparked by lightning storms, straining resources to the breaking point as he seeks reinforcements from as far away as Canada and Australia.

"We are not naive by any stretch about how deadly this moment is and why it is essential... that you heed evacuation orders and that you take them seriously," Newsom, a Democrat, told Californians at a news briefing.

The state has been hit by its worst dry-lightning storms in nearly two decades as close to 12,000 strikes here have sent flames racing through lands left parched by a recent heat wave. Some 175,000 people have been told to leave their homes.

With up to 20 separate blazes burning in some lightning-fire complexes, firefighters and locals pleaded for more support.

"We need HELP in the Santa Cruz mountains. SEND IN THE NATIONAL GUARD NOW!" San Jose State University professor Scott Myers-Lipton posted

IN COMA AFTER SUSPECTED POISONING

Kremlin critic Navalny flown to Germany, in 'worrying' condition

FABRIZIO BENSCH & MARTIN SCHLICHT BERLIN, AUGUST 22

GRAVELY ILL Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny was evacuated to Germany for medical treatment on Saturday, flown out of the Siberian city of Omsk in an ambulance aircraft and taken to a hospital in Berlin.

There was no word yet from the Charite hospital on his condition but the founder of the activist group that arranged the flight called Navalny's health condition "very worrying".

A long-time opponent of President Vladimir Putin and campaigner against corruption, Navalny collapsed on a plane Thursday after drinking tea his allies believe was laced with poison.

Medical staff at the hospital in Omsk said on Friday evening after clearing Navalny to be flown out that he was in an induced coma and his life was not in immediate danger.

The air ambulance, arranged by the Cinema for Peace Foundation, flew to Berlin early Saturday and Navalny, 44, was rushed to the Charite hospital.

The hospital said in a statement it would provide an update about his condition and further treatment once tests have been completed and after consulting



Paramedics transported Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny to a hospital in Berlin, Germany, on Saturday. Reuters

Hope pandemic will last

less than 2 yrs: WHO chief

A spokeswoman for Charite said later that it was unlikely that the hospital would give a statement on Navalny over the weekend.

Cinema for Peace founder Jaka Bizilj, speaking to reporters outside the hospital, said "his health condition is very worrying".

"We got a very clear message from the doctors that if there had not been an emergency landing in Omsk, he would have died," said Bizilj, adding that it would be up to doctors and Navalny's family to provide further information on his condition.

Bizilj, a Slovenian-born activist and filmmaker, was earlier quoted by Bild tabloid as saying Navalny's condition was stable during the flight and after landing.

spokeswoman, said on Twitter that "This is another proof that nothing was preventing Navalny from being transported, and it was necessary to do so as early as possible." German doctors flew to Russia

Kira Yarmysh, Navalny's

on Friday to evacuate Navalny at the request of his wife and allies who said that the hospital treating him was badly equipped. But there was then a delay

flying him out as the Omsk hospital initially said his condition meant he could not travel. The Omsk doctors later said

they had no objections after the German doctors deemed him fit

oppose US push to impose Iran sanctions

MICHELLE NICHOLS NEW YORK, AUGUST 22

THE UNITED States was further isolated on Friday over its bid to reimpose international sanctions on Iran with 13 countries Council expressing their opposition, arguing that Washington's move is void given it is using a process agreed under a nuclear deal that it quit two years ago.

In the 24 hours since US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said he triggered a 30-day countdown to a return of UN sanctions on Iran, including an arms embargo, long-time allies Britain. France, Germany and Belgium as well as China, Russia, Vietnam, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Indonesia, Estonia and Tunisia have already written letters in opposition. Only the Dominican Republic has not yet written to the council to state its position

The US has accused Iran of breaching a 2015 deal with world powers that aimed to stop Tehran developing nuclear weapons in return for sanctions relief. But President Donald Trump described it as the "worst deal ever" and quit in 2018.

Diplomats said Russia, China and many other countries are unlikely to reimpose the sanctions on Iran. Pompeo again warned

Why the US bid has no takers

IN 2018, Trump unilaterally took the US out of the historic Iran nuclear deal and reimposed American sanctions on Tehran, undoing much of the incentive for Iran to comply with the agreement. Iran has since taken gradual steps in violation of the deal in a bid to get the other signatories to compensate for the US sanctions. European signatories have been trying to find ways of saving the deal, but now the US wants the UN to reimpose all previous sanctions on Iran for Tehran's violations. However, Europe, Russia and China — the other signatories say Iran's violations were a result of the US withdrawing from the agreement, and that since the US is no longer part of the deal, it cannot punish any violations of the same.

Russia and China against that on Friday, threatening US action if they refuse to reimpose the UN measures on Iran, REUTERS

13 of 15-member UNSC Trump claims FDA 'deep state' slowing down coronavirus trials

REUTERS WASHINGTON, AUGUST 22

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump on Saturday accused members of the "deep state" at the Food and Drug Administration, without providing evidence, of working to slow testing of Covid-19 vaccines until after the November

In a Twitter post, Trump said the deep state "or whoever" at the FDA was making it very difficult for drug companies to enroll people in clinical trials to test vaccines and therapies for the novel coronavirus.

The comment came after Reuters exclusively reported on Thursday that a top FDA official said he would resign if the Trump administration approved a vaccine before it was shown to be safe and effective



delay the answer until after November 3rd. Must focus on speed, and saving lives!" Trump wrote, tagging FDA Commissioner Stephen Hahn in the tweet.

Trump often uses Twitter to criticise federal agencies, sometimes accusing them of being controlled by the "deep state" in an apparent reference to long-serving staff who, in Trump's eves, are determined to undermine him.

His tweet increases the pressure on the FDA after Peter Marks,

Obviously, they are hoping to delay the answer until after November 3. Must focus on speed, and saving lives." **DONALD TRUMP**

Evaluation and Research, last week said on a conference call with government officials, pharmaceutical executives and academics that he would resign if the agency rubber-stamped an unproven vaccine.

Scientists, public health officials and lawmakers are worried that the Trump administration will push the FDA to approve a vaccine in advance of the vote. even if data from clinical trials do not support its widespread use.

STEPHANIE NEBEHAY GENEVA, AUGUST 22

THE WORLD Health Organisation hopes the coronavirus pandemic will be shorter than the 1918 Spanish flu and last less than two years, WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said on Friday, if the world unites and suc-

ceeds in finding a vaccine. cautious about giving estimates on how quickly the pandemic can be dealt with in the absence of a vaccine. Tedros said the 1918 Spanish flu "took two years to stop".

"And in our situation now with more technology, and of course with more connectiveness, the virus has a better chance of spreading, it can move fast because we are more connected now." he told a briefing in Geneva. "But at the same time we have



Ghebrevesus

also the technology to stop it and the knowledge to stop it. So we have a disadvantage of globalisation, closeness, connectedness but an advantage of better technology. "So we hope to finish this pandemic(in) less than two years."

He urged "national unity" and 'global solidarity". "That is really key with utilising the available tools to the maximum and hoping that we can have additional tools like vaccine." **REUTERS**

Spectacles 'worn by Gandhi' sets auction record

ADITI KHANNA LONDON AUGUST 22

A PAIR of gold-plated spectacles believed to have been worn by Mahatma Gandhi and presented as a gift in the 1900s have broken records for a UK auction house by selling for £260,000.

The glasses, which were dropped through the letterbox of East Bristol Auctions in Hanham,

Democrats see racism in GOP mispronunciations of 'Kamala'

south-west England, four weeks ago were estimated to fetch between £10,000 and £15,000, but the online bids for the lot kept multiplying to finally go under the hammer of the six-figure sum.

"These glasses have been lying in a drawer for the best part of 50 years. The vendor literally told me to throw them away if they were 'no good'," said auctioneer Andy Stowe of East Bristol Auctions.

The new owner of the spec-

tacles is an unnamed collector based in the US.

An elderly man from South Gloucestershire in south-west England, who previously owned the item, said he would split the £260,000 with his daughter.

The glasses are said to have been in the family of the unnamed man, who was told by his father that they were a gift to his uncle when he was working for British Petroleum in South Africa between 1910 and 1930.

"The story that appears with the lot is exactly what the vendor told us, and exactly what was told to him by his father some 50 years ago," said Stowe of the glasses, which are likely to be one of Gandhi's earliest pairs during his time in South Africa.

"These glasses represent not only an auction record for us, but a find of international historical importance," he added. PTI

News. Pence mispronounced her

names multiple times during a

stop last week in Iowa, where he

warned a cheering crowd that the

November election isn't about a

choice between Republicans and

Democrats or conservatives and

liberals. "I think the choice in this



Loughlin starred in Full House

Lori Loughlin, husband get jail sentences in admissions scam

REUTERS BOSTON, AUGUST 22

FULL HOUSE actress Lori Loughlin and her fashion designer husband Mossimo Giannulli were sentenced on Friday to respective prison terms of two months and five months for participating in a vast US college admissions fraud scheme.

Loughlin, 56, choked up as she apologised in court for the 'awful decision" she made to help her daughters gain an "unfair advantage" in the college admissions process and get into their preferred school.

She and her husband were sentenced after they pleaded guilty in May to engaging in a fraud scheme aimed at securing spots for their daughters at the I Iniversity of Southern California as fake athletic recruits.

said Fatima Goss Graves, president the day after Harris delivered a **SARA BURNETT** Republicans - including President prime-time speech accepting the of the National Women's Law Centre Action Fund. "It's designed CHICAGO, AUGUST 22 Donald Trump and Vice President Democratic nomination. to signal difference.'

BANTERING DURING the final night of the Democratic National Convention, actor Julia Louis-Dreyfus and former presidential candidate Andrew Yang repeatedly got the name of "our current vice president" wrong. Was it "Mika Pints?" or "Paints?" Or

maybe "Ponce," Yang suggested. "Oh, some kind of weird foreign name?" Louis-Dreyfus asked. Yeah, not very American

sounding." Yang replied.

It was a quick bit of satire with pointed message from



nounced ``KAH'-mah-lah"-or, asshe explains in her biography, "comma-la,' like the punctuation mark". But mispronunciations have been rampant in the days since the California senator became the first Black woman and the first Asian American woman named to a major party's ticket. Pence referred to her as "kah-MAH'-lah," putting his emphasis



TOP REPUBLICANS, INCLUDING TRUMP, HAVE REPEATEDLY GOT THE PRONUNCIATION OF HER NAME WRONG

Kamala Harris is the first Black woman and the first woman of Indian origin to be a major US party's vice presidential nominee

on the second syllable, at events last week. Republican National Committee Chair Ronna

McDaniel did the same on Wednesday, as did Trump at a rally in Pennsylvania on Thursday,

Harris' supporters say the pattern amounts to a deliberate effort by Trump and his allies to portray Harris as someone who does not belong at the top ranks of politics. The mispronunciations follow a string of attacks that include racist and sexist memes and questioning about whether Harris, who was born in California, is eligible to serve as vice president because her mother was Indian and her father Jamaican. (Constitutional scholars say there is no question that she is eligible.)

"It is an effort to diminish her,"

her name wrong, as have his allies.

for tough questioning of Trump appointees and raised her profile even more with her bid for the 2020 presidential nomination. Yet Trump has continued to get erals being too sensitive. AP

New Delhi

Trump's personal attorney Rudy Giuliani called Harris "Pamela" during an appearance on Fox

Her supporters say Harris is

well past the point of introduction.

Harris served as California's attor-

ney general for seven years before

being elected to the Senate in 2016. election is whether America re-Since then, she's made headlines mains America," he said, going on to mispronounce her name moments later. Fox News host Tucker Carlson grew agitated when a guest corrected him last week after he also pronounced Kamala incorrectly. "So what?" he said, before mispronouncing her name again and complaining about lib-

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS MAGAZINE



ARTS etc In Solidarity

Raqs Media Collective on art as renewal, working on the ongoing Yokohama Triennale and our new unaccustomed terms of engagement





Paromita Chakrabarti

MRITA MAHALE was about five months pregnant when the first lockdown was announced on March 22. Overnight, her doctor shut her clinic, medicines became and the hustling city of Mumbai, at the heart of her acclaimed debut novel, Milk Teeth (2018), became an unfamiliar place. While she wrote on weekends, her job as a product manager at a non-profit AIfor-social-good innovation lab meant adapting to working from home. Her husband, who runs an education startup, moved to online lessons, that made a part of the house out of bounds for most of the day. Mahale, 35, found her world shrinking into her apartment in Bandra, "I am not great at multitasking, I need proper separation between work and writing. I was checking the rising COVID-19 numbers obsessively and following the migrant crisis with despondency. It's impossible to not question your decision to bring a new life into a world that seems to be falling apart," says Mahale, whose son was born a month ago.

As the COVID-19 upends lives across the world, a disproportionate amount of its burden has fallen on the urban upper-middle-class working women. In addition to professional duties, the responsibilties of managing home and care work have grown. In India, which has one of the lowest female workforce participation rates in the world, of which only 20.4 per cent are urban women (source: 2018

Periodic Labour Force Survey, released by the NSSO last year), this has been aggravated by pre-existing inequalities in gender roles, the sudden absence of networks that facilitate participation in the workforce, loss of jobs, salary cuts and the guilt of not doing enough.

Madhuja A year ago, Bandyopadhyay moved to Mumbai with her eight-year-old son, after a long stint as the senior vice-president of a leading Bengali entertainment channel in Kolkata, to work with a national entertainment channel, "Given Mumbai's distance, I made sure that my office, apartment, my son's school, daycare and after-school activity centres were all in one area so that it would make the commute less stressful. My mother and my husband (filmmaker Anindya Chattopadhyay) flew in from Kolkata frequently. The only thing I hadn't factored in was a pandemic," says Bandyopadhyay, 41.

As work and lives shifted online, it was the distance from her family and anxiety over their well-being that got to her the most. "I have only lived for about a year in this city and have just begun to know people. Suddenly, it felt like my life had come to a standstill. I felt incredibly lonely and wanted to see my husband, my mother, my friends and there was no way I could," says Bandyopadhyay, who took to long conference calls with family and close friends for a sense of community.

As workplace collapses into home during the pandemic, urban working women are engaged in a struggle to find a fine balance









WOMEN AT WORK

(From left) Amrita Mahale; Gitanjali Yadav; Madhuja Bandopadhyay and Anisha Karthikeyan

For Manu Gulati, mentor teacher with the directorate of education, Delhi government, the new normal required a completely new orientation. The 37-year-old had always been interested in the intersection of technology and education; since the pandemic, she has been conducting training workshops for teacher-development co-ordinators (TDCs) of Delhi's government schools, together with a colleague, Rohit Upadhyaya, in effective use of social media for pedagogic support. The pandemic made technological intervention a

matter of urgency. As daily virtual training sessions began for the TDCs, Gulati's days began, like always, at 6.30 am and stretched well into the night. A nine-member family living in an MIG flat is often pressed for space, but now, with everyone working from home, creating quiet corners was often an issue. Gulati says there

were days when the house would go unswept or she would bristle at the sight of a sink overflowing with dishes, but, slowly, people learned to work around each other's needs and gender roles got diluted. "Often, my husband did the dishes while I trained teachers online. As a software engineer, he supported me immensely with the use of technology," says the 2018 Fulbright scholar.

Bengaluru-based instructional designer Shibani Chakroborty, who works with a multinational professional services network, recalls the early days of the lockdown as one of her most traumatic. Unmoored from the meticulous schedule her technical-architect husband and she had worked out, that included the services of a daycare for her four-year child and help to manage home, she found herself floundering. "Iwas not able to provide enough time to either my work or my child. I was exhausted trying to cope with the changes — the guilt of being the worst mother, an inefficient employee and an indolent homemaker. It was tough to deal with, and, at one point, I con-

templated seeking an expert's help to cope with my mental health, but I adapted eventually," says the 32-year-old.

The distinction between the workplace and home is unique to the urban workforce and is particularly enabling for women, says Aditi Ratho, junior fellow at the Observer Research Foundation, Mumbai, who works at the intersection of labour and gender. "It makes space for transition into their different roles and enables essential social interactions," she says.

Anisha Karthikeyan, 36, a human-resources professional with a multinational financial services corporation in Delhi, says one of the toughest things to master during this work-from-home phase has been the constant engagement that it has required of her. "I am running out of ideas to make home an interesting place," she says. While the chores are divided between her husband, mother and her. keeping her two sons, aged nine and two, occupied takes constant work, "My younger son is now at the stage of pre-primary learning. I feel guilty that he should be given more time and attention," she says. Now, with flexible work hours and breaks between meetings to allow her to regroup, Karthikeyan says she has settled into a makeshift routine.

"But as simple as that sounds, I realise it's not easy to be a work-from-home mom," she says.

In 2017, a comic strip by French graphic artist Emma, titled *You Should've Asked*, had gone viral on the internet. In it, a

new mother who is struggling to attend to a dinner guest and her baby is told by her partner that he'd have chipped in "if only she'd asked". Emma posited that even when men are prepared to help, the onus of organising and remembering — a thankless, never-ending, invisible "mental load" — lies almost always with women. Early on in their lives,

women are cast in the role of homemakers and mothers and men as primary wage-earners, which doesn't change even when more women join the workforce or work in highprofile jobs. This is particularly true of a country like India, despite some changes in urban middle-class dynamics.

An online survey of urban upper-middleclass working women, of whom 97 per cent had a college degree, conducted by Sonalde Desai, professor of sociology at the University of Maryland, US, and Ravinder Kaur, professor of sociology at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, found that there was a significant rise in the time spent by women on housework and childcare during lockdown. "Seventy-six per cent of the respondents had help in household chores/child care before the lockdown, but, of these, only 30 per cent of the women continued to have some help," says Desai, noting that "areas where most work increase took place include cooking, kitchen cleaning, washing dishes, dusting and vacuuming and sanitising groceries." While men contributed more during this period, women shouldered additional responsibility over already high thresholds.

The pandemic disrupted networks, both formal and informal, that are crucial to women's professional lives. Most workplaces in India do not offer daycare or creche facilities, and, in their absence, women have to form their own support systems. These include parents and in-laws who watch over the children; parttime or live-in helps to carry out

domestic chores such as cooking and cleaning, and, daycares and creches, whose numbers are still not commensurate with the percentage of working women with children. With schools and daycares closed, women have found themselves turning into not just caregivers but also teachers and playmates.

As the first lecturer on a joint appointment

between the government of India and the University of Cambridge, UK, plant biologist Gitanjali Yadav was teaching and running research labs at both Cambridge and The National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR) in New Delhi, where she works as a staff scientist. The joint appointment meant working in two time zones and frequent overseas travel. With a robust support system that

she and her husband, also an academic, had created for their two children, aged eight and 10, they had structured their lives around her travel schedules. "It helped that we all live together on campus — kids, parents, grandparents and great-grandparents. We

chose a school close to our home so that the kids would be in quick reach. We had two full-time helps and a gardener." she says.

With her travels on hold, no paid help and work spilling into weekends, Yadav says, "Overnight, I also became a full-time mother, cook, sweeper, school teacher, caregiver and pest-controller, over and above all of the regular work responsibilities across two continents. It has now been five months of total lockdown for us, and we have struggled to establish a balance through shared responsibilities." The hardest part, she says, has been the complete and sudden loss of alone time and the boundaries that demarcated the work space from the home. "Earlier, I could choose when to walk into my office, or into my kitchen, and I was two different persons in each of these locations. But now, you're in a meeting and in the kitchen: You're handling homework and checking a thesis at the same time. There's no freedom or leisure to think, reflect, focus or plan for the future," she says.

For women in academia worldwide, this added workload has manifested in a dip in academic productivity. Early global studies and analyses have shown that the number of preprints and paper submissions by women in

STEM and social sciences have fallen significantly during this period.

Audrey Truschke, associate professor of South Asian History, University of Rutgers, US, and author of Culture of Encounters: Sanskrit at the Mughal Court (2017) and Aurangzeb: The Man and the Myth (2018), says, "Before the pandemic, I was asked with some regularity, usually by other female academics, 'How do you have three kids and still manage to publish so prolifically?' My answer was always: I am a huge believer in childcare. It is now August, and I have not had childcare since early March. My productivity has suffered because of this situation. I have cancelled numerous publications at this point."

When schools and daycares closed in New Jersey on March 13, Truschke, 37, was in the process of working out online lessons for the courses she was offering. "In the early weeks, my days were a constant triage situation. My husband (an attorney) and I woke up every day and discussed the bare minimum number of hours we each needed to work that day in order to avoid catastrophe in our professional lives. Then we divvied up the day to specify what times I would and he would do childcare, and vice-versa. My no-screentime rule for the kids evaporated quickly," she says.

Over time, Truschke has strategised to cope with the changes. Next month, she will begin an online course on pandemic pedagogy for her history of south Asia class, that will include archiving COVID-19 through documentation

of individual experiences. In an introductory video, Truschke offers her students some practical advice on making sense of the year, including "when life walks into the frame". "Maybe someone yells something embarrassing in the background, and

you weren't muted. Or, maybe, your sibling walks by in a less than ideal state of undress. It doesn't matter. And it's going to happen on my end, too. You can actually hear my children (aged six, four and two) screaming in the background for a bit during this spiel...pandemic life is messy for everyone. It isn't reasonable to expect us to be able to separate our professional and personal lives right now," she says.

It's a sentiment that many of the other women echo. "Women are always taught to put others before themselves at home and be one of the men at work. They are innately good organisers, capable of multitasking. The only thing they are not good at is owning their feelings. But a time like this requires an intuitive response. This crisis has shown that what we really need now — men included — is adaptability," Bandyopadhyay says.

For Mahale, things began to fall in place when she was pulled into a COVID-response project at work, which helped her channel her anxiety and energy. Now, back home with the baby, she is slowly trying to get back to writing and a semblance of her earlier life. "I am trying to remind myself to be kind to myself. It was not something I did a good job at during the lockdown," says Mahale.



EYE SPY EVERY FORTNIGHT, WE PICK, YOU WATCH

Before the Beginning

A new Perry Mason adaptation fills in the backstory of one of crime fiction's most popular sleuths



Shubhra Gupta

ERRY MASON regarded her with calm appraisal, as though considering just what sort of an impression she would make on the witness stand. Tell me more, Thelma,' he said. 'I was out with a boyfriend,' she told him. The mask of patient tranquillity dropped from Mason... (1934, The Case Of The Lucky Legs by Erle Stanley Gardner'). For those familiar with the pulpy, grungy universe of Gardner, the bestselling author whose fictional lawyer Perry Mason solved practically every case he took on, with a mix of sleuthing acumen and slick courtroom moves, these lines would evoke instant nostalgia. Each case (Gardner was prolific and wrote more than 80 novels and short stories) held out the promise of a juicy mystery full of dodgy characters, confusing red herrings and an end blazing with clarity, where Mason exonerated the innocent and got the guilty to confess.

The latest HBO eight-episode drama (streaming on Disney+Hotstar), co-directed by Tim Van Patten and Deniz Gamze Ergüven, and, called simply, *Perry Mason*, can quite legitimately be termed The Case Of The Reimagined Lawyer. There's been a Perry Mason around, in radio, TV and cinema, for the past 90 years. But this one is different, not just because it is fashioned as a prequel, which gives us the character's backstory till he reaches his designated spot: the court room. It's also different because Gardner's works, that were published in the '30s, were written in strictly serviceable prose, mostly focussed on the twists. Here, we get beautifully delineated characters and their arcs. The result is an immediate connection.

The first episode starts like a whodunnit, and it's quite a kicker — a missing baby, distraught parents, a shockingly gruesome murder. Assigned to the case is a fallen-upon-bad-days gumshoe, slight of build, unremarkable of mien. Something about this character's low-rent, hard-scrabble life reminded me of my most favourite hard-boiled private eye, Philip Marlowe, written by Raymond Chandler. But where was Mason, the legal eagle?

As it went along, wonderfully atmospheric, I started warming up to this latest version. By the fourth episode, I was fully invested. Set in the Los Angeles of the early '30s, we get everything that matches the period. We get interesting characters, especially women. There's a charismatic peroxide-blonde preacher, Sister Alice (Tatiana Maslany, electric), who believes in miracles; a young mother (Gayle Rankin, effective), who tearily claims her innocences. In a smart move, a couple of familiar characters, Della Street and Paul Drake, are given makeovers: Street, played by the excellent Juliet Rylance, moves from being a secretary to a confident partner; Drake, a close associate, played by Chris Chalk, is Black. Matthew Rhys (in picture) takes over Mason, and makes him, his. Barring a few hiccups, it all stays fully engaging. It may have been set so many years ago, but it speaks to the world today - race, discrimination, religion, moral turpitude, different sexual orientation, feminism, all wrapped up in a cracking mystery. We wait, in anticipation, for the second season.



GETTYIMAGES

Decoding Feminism and Intersectionality

The personal is political and so are our everyday acts of micro-resistance

The answer to intersectionality

is to expose its discrimination

and not end up becoming its

teeth and claws



BY SHELJA SEN

OVID-19 HAS been a time of reckoning as we come face to face with the injustices that have created structural inequality at so many levels. It could be the plight of the urban labourers as they trudged back to their villages, traversing hundreds of miles, rejected by the very people who used them mercilessly while they could. Ours is the society that turned its eyes away from the predicament of millions of street children and women who were made more vulnerable in abusive homes. Globally, the #BlackLivesMatter movement became even more significant with the stark contrast of racial discrimination in the COVID-19 deaths. People are taking to the streets to protest as centuries of cruelty continues to be called out. The present times are like X-ray (a metaphor used by the activist Arundhati Roy) exposing the fault lines of a society built on indifference and injustice.

"The personal is political" is a quote by the American activist Carol Hanisch from the second wave of feminism, where she challenged the dominant idea of politics as being out there in government structures, elections or

positions of power. Politics is not something external, but it is present in our homes, streets, and our workspaces. It impacts everything we do, our choices and relationships. In that sense, everything personal is political. The personal is political in the way power and privilege define where we live, how we live and why we die. It is in the way the mother

of a child with disability is shamed for "being a failure" or a girl who does not follow the social rules of a "good girl" is rumoured to be a "slut", or, in the culture where girls are killed even before they are born because their life is seen as a curse.

French intellectual thinker Michel Foucault discussed how modern power operates on social control through normalising judgements through incitement to perpetually evaluate and police ourselves. Women are indoctrinated into this self-surveillance from a very early age. What is most dangerous about this indoctrination is that it is "invisible to those who experience it the most intensely." We are not aware of it, we are the fish when asked, "How is the water?" exclaim in confusion, "What water?" We swim in this water daily

in our homes, schools, public spaces, movies, literature, advertisements, news, TV programs — it is there everywhere. It is our choice how we become aware of it, opt into it and perpetuate it, or mindfully opt out of it as deliberate practice.

Language is the thread through which we weave narratives of "good" girls, mothers and wives, where they become the truths and the

givens. These constructs do not mean that they are not real for the people experiencing it. The shame that a child on the streets experiences when she is mocked as "kachra" (dirt) is as real as the shame of the 13-year girl whose older cousin raped her and blamed her for "asking for it." These dominant discourses can be oppressive as they locate the problem in the individual rather than in the social-cul-

tural-political context.

When we talk about socio-cultural political context, it becomes essential to talk about intersectionality. I had been grappling with the idea of intersectionality much before I came upon Kimberlé Crenshaw's work some years ago. Reading it was definitely an "Aha!" experience. The complex, cumulative way in which the effects of multiple forms of discrimination combine, overlap and intersect to create marginalisation is important to highlight. I use an acronym — DISGRACEFULL — to describe intersectionality and the structural inequality it creates at various levels: Disability (ableism); Income (classism); Sexuality (heteronormism); Gender (sexism, misogyny, transphobism); Race(racism); Age(ageism); Culture (which I break into - communalism, regionalism, casteism); Educational meas**urement** (institutional violence in schools against children who do not fit in); Family (the normative idea of "good family"); Usefulness (how productive we are in a capitalist society on the basis of which we get exclusive memberships); **Looks** (colourism and obsession with "fair and lovely") and **Language** (English as a sign of power and privilege).

Our various identities intersect to create marginalisation. For example, two girls of the same age might face gender discrimination in different ways, depending on DISGRACEFULL. Privilege is something we are born into and we own it like a private property, without really doing much to deserve it. From a feminist lens, intersectionality plays out in different ways to create subjugation:

Single working mother being shamed and blamed for "neglecting" her childrenPoverty rendering girls more vulnerable

to exploitation and trafficking

LGBTQ + persons being targetted and

abused on social media ■Muslim girls being stalked and heckled to go to "Pakistan", "where they belong", or

being threatened with rape otherwise

Dalit girls getting raped and killed and their deaths dismissed as honour killings

Wives being labelled as "mental" and put

on anti-depressants to make them "calm down" when they show displeasure

■ Girls being pushed to prove their worth and "usefulness" at every step of their lives
■ The normative idea of how every child

■The normative idea of how every child comes from a typical home with cisgender, heterosexual parents, completely overlooking single parents, homosexual, non-cis gender or unmarried families and for children who do not have a "family" but grow up on the streets, in shelter and foster homes

■ The educational violence at neurodiverse children, who have disabilities or are from marginalised communities

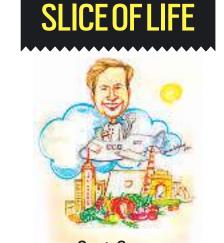
Foucault says, "Where there is power there is resistance". Resistance has taken shape as social movements led by women as well as resistance in their homes, street corners or shelter homes. Women have led social movements such as Justice for Nirbhaya, Narmada Bachao Andolan and the recent Shaheen Bagh protests. But simply waiting for social movements is not the solution. *If the political is per*sonal, then social justice is personal, too. It is not external, something out there that we have to wait for to change. We have to do it in our homes, on our streets, in our public and work spaces. We have to start micro acts of resistance against the operations of power that subjugate and diminish people.

Let's be mindful of the beast of intersectionality — DISGRACEFULL — and its silent and invisible workings. The answer is not to invisiblise the discrimination (dismissing casteism, misogyny, classism) but to expose it and make sure we do not end up becoming its teeth and claws; to be subversive and stand up for each other. I was in awe of the 14-year-old who stood up to the male principal in her school who asked her to take her male classmate's comments on her body as a compliment. He also advised her against putting *kajal* to avoid male attention. The next day, all the girls (and some boys) turned up in school with *kajal*! A big salute to micro acts of reclamation of justice and solidarity.

Dr Shelja Sen is a narrative therapist, co-founder, Children First, writer, and, in this column, she curates the know-how of the children and young people she works with. Write to her shelja.sen@childrenfirstindia.com

The Master's Voice

The divinity of late Pandit Jasraj's music



Suvir Saran is a chef, author, educator and world traveller

MARINA AHMAD, one of the seven students of Pandit Jasraj whom he considered his fondest and closest of *chelas* (disciples), is a proud New Yorker. She also maintains homes in Mumbai and Dhaka. A nomad at heart, she travels the world without fear and at the drop of a hat.

She brings India, Pandit Jasraj and his peerless, soul-stirring music with her wherever she lands. Music so pure and rich, it heals and inspires most deeply.

spires most deeply.

Marina was born to Faqueer Shahabuddin
Ahmad and Ayesha Akhtar of Dhaka. Ahmad
was the first attorney general of Bangladesh.
Ayesha was his wife and mother of their seven
children. Music was in their blood, but law was
the ancestral vocation followed with pride.
Even so, Marina was encouraged from a young
age to explore and professionalise her singing.

After learning from the best exponents of Hindustani classical music in Bangladesh, Marina was in need of richer tutelage. Barely 17, she found herself in Delhi at Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, adopted by the most generous and talented Bhaiji, aka Vinay Chandra Maudgalya, as his Bengali daughter. With Bhaiji as her guardian and teacher, Marina became more proficient with the layered sophistication needed in the understanding and rendition of North Indian classical music.

At 22, Marina became mother to Hamza Khan, and, with him, she moved with indomitable aspirations to Mumbai. After a performance where he had left all in the audience spellbound, Pandit Jasraj happened to meet Bhaiji and Marina in the elevator. Bhaiji was quick to see in Marina's eyes and body language a hunger to become a shagird (disciple) of the great maestro. Arrangements were



Race, religion, gender, caste and colour did not matter to the legendary maestro

made and the new mother moved to India's financial capital and set up house close to Panditji's home.

Marina's apartment was only an address anchoring her to Mumbai. It was at the Jasraj residence, alongside six other fulltime and other visiting students, serving the *guru* and following his lead on life and living, that mother and son found comfort. In cooking, cleaning and providing for the *guru*, Marina and her fellow students found tutelage as ancient and pure as India itself. Hours and days would pass and the *guru* would teach through his example of reacting to the daily motions of life. Music wasn't merely taught through notes but revealed in the behaviour and choices that the master made.

Hinduism was what Pandit Jasraj was born into. But the faith of his birth did not cage his mind, body and spirit. His songs sung in praise of Allah were as popularly received as those in praise of Krishna. On his neck he wore pendants of rudraksha beads, Krishna, Om, Ayatul Kursi and many more. He teased Marina often that Krishna was giving comforting cover to Allah or vice-versa, and, with that imagery taught her and the others the oneness of the divine. Race, religion, gender, caste and colour didn't matter to the legendary maestro. He chased passion and perseverance in his students. He valued their hunger for knowledge and growth. He respected their desire to be one with the world and their surroundings, training them to be one with the times also, so as to keep their art relevant. As he became grandpa again to Rishabh, Marina's second son, he showed curiosity, youth and vigour that was boundless in its generosity. He showed through example that supreme talent is a result of emptying oneself of ego and

New Delhi

performing with the sole desire of becoming one with the divine.

Men are mortal, but those with grace, talent and a large heart like Panditji, become immortal through their actions and legacy. How lucky for us that every corner of the world was blessed with his music. He ensured a warm welcome for them in the most remote parts.

When I heard of Panditji's passing, I was shaken to my core. My mind and heart were most concerned for Marina, even as I made peace with the fact that the fraternity of Indian musicians had lost one of their most iconic vocalists. A man who, through his music and way of thinking and living had brought, for many of us, divinity right in our midst. Having had the privilege of seeing him perform at Marina's home in New York often, I observed scores of people reluctant to end the night. Everyone wanted encore after encore, each person feeling as if god had somehow magically arrived in Marina's living room, performing for us mortals, and, in doing so, blessed our lives with energy and hope. Every time I heard Panditji perform, I would find my soul thanking me for having fed it food it was yearning.

Panditji leaves a vacuum that will never be filled. The notes he reached and touched, the way he caressed the divinity of his voice, and how he made his music a prayer to the god that resides in all life — make him a man who will continue to live even as his body leaves us. As I bid him farewell, I salute his disciple Marina, my guru, and bow to her for having risen beyond mortal materialism. For having turned her good luck in being his student into greater good luck for the rest of us who call her our teacher; who can now hear Pandit Jasraj in her soulful singing and inspiring presence.

'We have been questioning the boundaries of knowledge and art'

Delhi's Raqs Media Collective trio, artistic director of the Yokohama Triennale, on art as renewal

Vandana Kalra

YOUR CURATORIAL note for Yokohama Triennale (titled 'Afterglow') mentions how 'Afterglow lights up an awareness of what it means to keep making art in the twenty-first century'. Please elaborate.

The Yokohama Triennale (YT) opened on July 17 (on till October 11) with every precaution in place, signalling to the world that art is there — to think with everyone in this moment, to be with thought, desire, and insight into care and contagion. Almost a decade ago, the 2011 Yokohama Triennale, which had opened after the tsunami and Fukushima nuclear accident, had had an increased turnout. People turned to art as a source of renewal and solidarity. This time seems connected to something deeper, too.

In November 2019, we released Sourcebook, with five curated texts and an essay, and met artists in the process of building the Triennale. Masaru Iwai, for instance, has been working for years in post-Fukushima cleaning operations as an artist-worker. For YT, he evolved a networked performance Broom Stars — online and offline — in public and domestic spaces. This pre-pandemic work has taken on additional resonance now to do with a public thinking of what it means to clean, focussing attention on cleaners. (Bangladeshi artist) Naeem Mohaiemen's fiction film, set in a desolate hospital, is about a duration of care, its intimacies and impossibilities. Shot before COVID-19, the film has now become a specificity that speaks to a new universal. Bengaluru artist Renuka Rajiv's vivid oneiric image-world is specifically in response to the pandemic.

As artists who have also been curating, how does your art practice interplay

Our Building Sight in 'On Difference' (2006). at Württembergischer Kunstverein Stuttgart (Germany), worked as a new understanding of cities emerging from our extended work at Sarai (media lab at Centre for the Study of Developing Societies), and drawing from our conversations within the documentary-film world. Since then, almost every two years, we've embarked on curatorial practices of varying dimensions, scales, and duration.

Since Sarai, we've been experimenting with an infrastructural mode of practice. To keep questioning the boundaries of knowledge and art, shifting the protocols and thresholds of entry, and the dialects of participation. Our curatorial practice furthers this questioning. Our art, on the other hand, has delved into finding ways to narrate, unearth shifting narratives of place and time, multiplying perspectives, and re-ordering foregrounds — using a fictive play of images, objects, and words. Our work interlaces around the idea of gathering. YT's opening had an online walkthrough — a virtual gathering — of artists with curatorial team member Eriko Kimura. It's unique to witness an emerging new world, a reformulation of time into what some call the new-normal.

Could you talk about your investigations



into urbanisation through works such as Growing Up (1995), The Wherehouse (2004), 5 Pieces of Evidence (2003) and Log Book Entry Before Storm (2014)?

A curiosity about the past continuous as much as the present tense of dense habitations of human beings - called cities - is one of the histories of our practice. The city of Delhi has shaped us 'urban' creatures and our decade-long work at Sarai. The urban sensorium is delirious and unpredictable, it made us take forensic and fabulist directions – 5 Pieces of Evidence joins the dots between missing persons, data grids, the 'Monkey Man', and a hot Delhi summer, The Wherehouse drafts procedures of recounting memories of objects, the cities that refugees leave behind and yet carry with them. Log Book Entry Before Storm moves towards the submarine and transoceanic longings of port cities. And, more recently, seams of coal and iron in underground mines in remote locations or shipwrecks (The Blood of Stars, 2016, Pamphilos, 2018). We made a short lockdown film 31 Days, a chronicle of the world seen from Delhi, and realised that the dynamic between home and world is incredibly complicated and in a

Having questioned colonial and historical legacies in your work, how would you place the significance of the **#BlackLivesMatter movement?**

Our work on the crowd's collective murmurforthe Laumeier Sculpture Park in St. Louis, Missouri (If the World is a Fair Place Then...) in-



HANDS THAT **MAKE ART** (Top) Rags Media Collective's 2015

work The Coronation Park; the Collective's trio – (from left) Jeebesh Bagchi, Monica Narula and Shuddhabrata Sengupta

vited people to finish the sentence in its title. In over 500 responses, the quest for an exuberant collective life was undercut by rage and exasperation. The work was realised in 2014-15, not long after the Ferguson 'riots'. With #BlackLivesMatter, a long history has (re)appeared with unprecedented force and spread. This should change the terms by which institutions and habits work. #DefundThePolice will be critical in halting the global trend of empowering police in the face of radical change.

At present, in many places, many statues are falling. Through Coronation Park (2015), we turned the relics of power into ghosts; took a viceroy out of his robe, made him disappear, and left the robe hanging. We made men of immense power bend. We moved from statue to spectre, substance to holographic insub-

stantiality to depict imperial hubris when Coronation Park developed into Hollowgram (2018). The sovereign — to say like the child before the emperor in the fairy tale — is naked and now even without a body! The Capital of Accumulation (2010) equally cautions against the making of commemorative statues for heretics. The 20th century is a haunting landscape of statues and uprooted statues.

Compared with your politically-active university days in the '80s, how would you define the India of now?

Our generation saw genocide, images of chemical leakage from a factory, of a man in space, of the Army entering a place of worship, students being killed, the fall of the Berlin Wall and of an empire, and a war. We are still unpacking their dimensions. We knew something was fundamentally problematic with sovereigns, the stories they tell about life under capitalism - workers were also reading and coming to similar conclusions.

Now, we are in the midst of mass movements, reclamation and contestations of public life. Muslim women have articulated new idioms of sorority, and with provocative writings and mobilisations of Dalit-Bahujan thinkers and assemblies, the ground to imagine fraternity afresh has been re-laid. Workers are reclaiming time, farmers refusing to surrender to debt, students defending education. There's active concern about incarceration and laws of repression. The coming times will pose a long-term challenge to the ways structures of everyday life are built, sustained and altered.

DOWNIN **JUNGLELAND**



Ranjit Lal Ranjit Lal is an author, environmentalist and bird watcher

Givers of Life

We owe our lives to plants. Must we not show them some gratitude?

HERE'S AN increasing number of people who are hectoring the world about our abominable treatment of animals, especially those bred and "farmed" for food and they try very hard to make these people give up steaks and smoked ham and eat leaves instead. Many of their criticisms are valid and we ought to be more humane in our dealings with them (though doing so while killing something might seem paradoxical). Ah, yes, and now here comes the "but"!

Let's look at the way we treat plants. First, let's remind ourselves of what green plants do for us. They shower oxygen and clear up carbon-dioxide meant to suffocate us. They pump up and purify water from the earth's depths – and make rain, too. Most importantly, they provide every calorie of energy — in different forms — that every living (and non-living) thing uses. They convert sunlight into sugars and starch, and, dare I say, steaks and smoked ham and petrol! Even when long dead and buried deep, they provide the fuel required to run our factories, cars and planes - though, granted, that bit of recycling is now coming back to bite us — as we overdose on it.

Plants also run the world's best juice factory, producing, through their fruit, juices of bewildering variety, natural sweetness and flavour. While biting into a slice of watermelon, it suddenly struck me: how the heck did this plant suck up so many litres of water, flavour it so deliciously, package it and make me want to eat far more than I ought to? What is the mango's secret recipe for transporting us to nirvana? Of course, the plants' motive is simple: to tempt me – or any other creature – into eating their fruit and spreading their seeds, so that their progeny can continue the good work.

One of the main reasons put forward by people as to why it's okay to rip out plants from their roots and plunge them into boiling water or sizzling oil is that, unlike animals, they are not sentient. Perhaps, not in the way we understand, but maybe they are sentient in their own way. They are sensitive to light; vines and creepers behave like pythons as time-lapse photography has shown. It would be eye-popping to see, through time lapse, what a strangler fig does to its host over the years! When under attack, plants produce (at great cost) poisons and stomach irritants – like tannins – to protect themselves (the reason why tea is bitter and is used by the poor to suppress appetite). They even warn their neighbours that an ele-



RANJITLAL

SAY A LITTLE PRAYER FOR YOU

Our hunter-gatherer ancestors paid respects to the kill

phant or human with a sickle is coming around. Deep underground, their roots spread far and wide, and, with the

help of fungi, barter with other plants for nutrients they

may lack. The fungus gets paid too — in the form of sugars. I think our attitude would change if we could all see exactly what goes on in a plant as it lives, grows and matures — as if it were transparent. The miracle machinery of the leaves working with chlorophyll, the marvellous channels up and down the stem and trunk through which water and food is transported, the delicate manner a flower unfolds and how a fruit ripens and sweetens just until it is perfect. How its systems shut down as winter — or the blazing hot summer — approaches and then rev up again when the season changes. How it might go to war with a neighbouring plant claiming territory and resources, often when it is an intruder (we call these weeds).

If we could think about what plants might feel if they were sentient in any way (not necessarily like us), imagine what a wheat field would feel when it first hears the rattle and clank of an approaching combine harvester! Or, the trees in a forest, when they hear the maniacal screech of a chainsaw, or when axes bite deep into them, blow by blow, dismembering and disemboweling them (there goes a hundred years of quiet toil, building a green cathedral!). It's a sound that makes any normal human being wince. As with some animals, we're now fiddling with their genes too: every banana must be identical to the next one. We feed them artificially – with what would be the equivalent of performance boosters — to make them grow and put on muscle double quick - and bankrupt the soil they stand on. How nice if an apple can taste like an orange and an orange like a banana!

Even in our everyday life, we are so disrespectful of plants — casually ripping them up, slashing them, and yanking their heads off so they can grace a vase in our living rooms or stringing them into garlands to sling around the greasy neck of some political leader.

When we were hunter-gatherers, it became customary for the hunter to pay his (or her) respects to the animal hunted and killed – perhaps, with a brief prayer asking for forgiveness and offering gratitude (I don't think this practice takes place in slaughterhouses — it really ought to). And, like it or not, until we can eat rocks or plastic (which, again, originate with plants) we will have to eat other living things. And, though plants lead very different lives compared to us and other animals, they are living things. So it's only right that we extend a little more respect to them. Remember, we owe them big.

Now You See Me, Now You Don't

An Indian-origin director's new documentary shows how algorithmic bias can be lethal for civil rights

Suanshu Khurana

AI, AINTI a Woman?...Today we pose this question to new powers...as faces increment scars/ Old burns, new urns, collecting data, chronicling our past/ Often forgetting to deal with gender, race and class...

When Joy Buolamwini, a Ghanaian-American poet and research assistant at MIT Media Lab, Massachusetts, the US, chanted this spoken-word piece in 2018, inspired by African-American women's rights activist Sojourner Truth's "Ain't I a Woman?" speech from 1851, she was voicing her research findings for the masses. The piece (on YouTube) spoke of what she discovered — racial bias in the facial-recognition software created by Amazon, Google, IBM and Microsoft, among others. These either didn't recognise people of colour accurately or didn't register them at all. Or, acknowledged women as men – even former US first lady Michelle Obama, actor Oprah Winfrey, tennis player Serena Williams were not spared. Buolamwini was baffled when on wearing a white theatre mask she cleared recognition. With Timnit Gebru of Microsoft Research, she put together a paper on the flaws of algorithms. Her organisation Algorithmic Justice League's efforts have now led cities like San Francisco, Oakland, Somerville to pass laws to ban government use of any controversial facial-recognition technology. Last month, the Massachusetts Senate approved a bill to halt law enforcement's use of facial recognition.

Buolamwini's journey fascinated New York-based Indian-origin filmmaker Shalini Kantayya enough to make the docu-feature Coded Bias (2020), which premiered at this





year's Sundance Film Festival. Amid other issues, it shows the American multinational tech company Amazon deploying an algorithm for hiring, thinking it to be fair. Only, it wasn't. "If your résumé had a women's college or sport, you were denied admission by that AI. It's a perfect example of how a company with the

GOT MY EYES ON YOU

(Top) Kantayya;

Buolamwini in a still

from Coded Bias

even roll back decades of civil rights that women have fought for because an algorithm replicated historic inequalities," says Kantayya. Artificial Intelligence (AI), she says, when

best intentions could still do unintended harm,

coined in the 1950s, was the domain of white men. "I stumbled down the rabbit hole and discovered this dark side to technologies we use daily, on which society's future depends," says Kantayya, 38, who found that mostly women or people of colour were leading the research in AI and algorithmic bias. "Astute scientists and mathematicians — seven PhD holders in the film – women, Jewish, queer, of colour – were able to see the technology from a different perspective. Inclusion isn't just about having more women in the front in a picture," she says. AI, however, manifests in opaque ways, beyond facial recognition, adds Kantayya, who learnt something terrifying from Cathy O'Neil's book Weapons of Math Destruction (2016). "The automated systems are deciding who gets healthcare, gets hired, into college, a

ing vetted for bias or accuracy," she says, adding, science as an objective field of reference is becoming an outdated idea. In the wake of the George Floyd incident,

longer prison sentence, and none of this is be-

Coded Bias has acquired greater significance. It shows a 14-year-old African-American boy confused and teary-eyed on being told by the UK monitor Big Brother Watch that the police wrongly detained him owing to faulty facialrecognition software. "Our data rights are not some privileged idea of privacy where if you've nothing to hide you've nothing to fear. Data rights are the unfinished work of civilrights movement and integral to every right we enjoy in free democracies. Until we have comprehensive legislation around these rights, they pose a real danger," says Kantayya, adding that she's felt underestimated in the American film industry as a "brown-skinned" Indian filmmaker, and trusts her judgement about the invisible "racism moments" since.

Born to immigrant Indian parents in Connecticut, she studied human rights and cinema, and edited videos for singers Sting, Mariah Carey and Phil Collins, before becoming an "activist filmmaker". Her Nandita Dasstarrer short film ADrop of Life (2007) won the Best Short Film at the 2008 Palm Beach International Film Festival, the US.

Since many Indians work in global tech companies, Kantayya wants them to understand the unintended consequences of the code they're programming. "Democracies," she says, "are built on citizens' access to reliable information and companies like Facebook haven't made a big enough commitment to fight misinformation. Our democracies struggle with predatory targeting. We must question everything we see and hear. Google isn't an encyclopedia, a source of journalism, it's an advertising platform." Kantayya speaks of how, triggered by COVID-19, tech companies are racing to create apps to track users, which results in data and privacy breach. "Computers need to be questioned. We need to know who is it benefitting and who is it hurting," she says.

5 EXPRESS ADDA



In an e-Adda hosted by The Indian Express, **Union Education** Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank spoke on the new **National Education** Policy, holding extensive consultations with all stakeholders and getting foreign universities to India





(Clockwise from above) Nishank was in conversation with The Indian Express National Opinion Editor Vandita Mishra and Senior Assistant Editor Ritika Chopra

We are not against English...but leave your children free, let them learn ten languages'

On holding wide-ranging discussions ahead of the new National Education Policy (NEP)

This is a policy for the whole country, from the Gram Pradhan to the Prime Minister, from the village to the Parliament, from the state legislator to the Parliamentarian, from the Education Minister to the Chief Minister. We held consultations with students, teachers, scientists, NGOs. No one in the world has had so many consultations for a policy, it is the biggest innovation (navachar). We put the draft in the public domain for seven-eight months, so that no one can say that they weren't consulted. We got 2.25 lakh suggestions. Each of these were analysed and after a lot of brainstorming, separate committees were formed for school education and higher education.

On how the government will ensure six per cent of the GDP for education

Education is both a Centre and state subect. Six per cent GDP will be done together by the state and the

Centre. The day our economy reaches \$5 trillion, that day six per cent will be a lot. We will take this forward with the states and fulfill this aim.

On making mother tongue the medium of instruction

One expresses best in her own mother tongue, and that's why we have said the mother tongue will be the medium for primary education till Class V — some states want to do it till Class VIII, others even further. Some people have misconceptions; we are not against English but we are saying that the 22 languages in the Eighth Schedule of our Constitution should be strengthened, else they will perish. The US, Japan, Israel and Germany are all developed countries, what is the medium of education there? It's their mother tongue. We are not against any language, learn English too, but we should do justice to the child and his talent. Teach in any language that you want; what is the problem with teaching that child 10 other languages, children have a lot of potential to learn.

On whether performancelinked funding proposed by NEP will hit backward states

This is being done to uplift them. There are many backward states, and their GER (Gross Enrolment Ratio) is very low and that's why we are doing this. I will give you an example. There is funding in Samagra Shiksha. We give funds to certain states, if they are not spent on time, should we give them even more funds? The funds are being given to improve their quality and when they start using them properly, their level will become better and they will be ranked. The states will also be worried that if they don't utilise their funds on time, else they will not get the money. So the states will also make an effort and this policy will take everyone forward together.

On three-language formula and the anxiety of southern

states over Hindi

The Prime Minister has always stated that we will strengthen all our 22 regional languages. All our languages have their own beauty and that's why we have not forced any language on anyone. But leave your children free, why do you want to limit them? Let them learn 10 languages. We have only said take one more Indian language. What can be the apprehension in taking one more Indian language?

On giving autonomy to higher educational institutions

Autonomy also comes with transparency and responsibility, it does not mean complete independence. If an institute says we want to give a degree in three months, will you give permission? In any institution, there will be limits to autonomy. That's why I am happy that of the 45,000 degree colleges, we have given autonomy to 8,000.

On stemming the decline of public universities

presents

The Indian EXPRESS

Situations change and universities go through different circumstances, and the government has

the ability to take care of that. Our universities are doing incredible work and their isn't prestige falling anywhere, for these we brought 'Uchch Shiksha Aayog' (Higher Education Council), under which three-four separate councils would be made. One will look at

the syllabus, another to see how it will be implemented, one will look at the budget and another will evaluate.

On why the BJP has changed its stance on the entry of foreign universities

Now they will come on our terms. That time (during the UPA's tenure) they may have come on their terms. There is a lot of difference between their intention of coming and the intention with which they are being invited. We want Indian education to reach great heights across the globe. There is a reason behind us inviting the top 100 international universities. Around 7.5-8 lakh of our children go abroad to study. If you take an approximate average figure, Rs 1-1.5 lakh crore goes abroad every year. Our talent and money is going away from us. India's talent has made a huge contribution to the development of several countries. Why shouldn't we stop this talent from going away? So, we will get the top universities here, on our terms.

On whether the government will step back from trying to control universities

I have never felt that the government is trying to exercise some sort of control over universities. If you are the vice chancellor of a university and if you have to appoint people, all we are saving is that don't leave positions vacant, fill them up immediately. Everybody is independent, they have powers

> For longer version, go to www.indianexpress.com

Ronnie Screwvala

CO-FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN,



Allowing the top 100 universities to give online classes is a welcome decision. The challenge in India is that we have to increase at least 30 million seats in

higher education, and have the right blend of online and offline classes. We all know that one in every five working professionals in the world will be in India, or will come out of India. That puts a great onus on us, and hence, the NEP is timely. We can make India the knowledge economy of the world. This is the time to build mutual respect and trust between all constituents – state governments, regulatory bodies, universities and colleges technological enablers and the people who are looking to future proof our education system.

Aakash Sachdev

MANAGING DIRECTOR, FOUNDATION HOLDINGS



Should the government look at leveraging the PPP model to ensure last-mile reach of the online model?

There were

some difficulties in

starting online classes — then we started ePathshala Swayam Prabha and Diksha programmes. We realised that many children might not have access to smartphones and tablets, or even the internet. To ensure last-mile reach, we started the Swayam Prabha platform, where curriculum could be spread through 32 TV channels available 24 hours, and in some places, we are also going through radio. With ePathshala, we are teaching the curriculum in 15 languages. And through the national digital library, we have more than 4.5 crore files of e-content, including video and audio. We have made sure that the top 100 universities – government and private - are giving online classes, and while earlier, they only gave 20 per cent online classes, it's now 40 per cent.

The PM eVidya platform has been created keeping in mind the PPP Model. We did Vidyadaan 1 and Vidyadaan 2, asking experts to donate their services, and we asked companies and industries as to what would they donate in terms of knowledge. I am happy to say that everyone contributed and donated under the schemes.

Rukmini Banerji

CEO, PRATHAM EDUCATION FOUNDATION When schools reopen, what will be

VOICE BANK

teachers.

students and their parents? For us, safety of the child is the foremost priority,

education comes second. We will open schools and other educational institutions in a step-bystep manner. In the meantime, we have kept children constantly engaged through Manodarpan, where we give them assignments. A combined effort by teachers and parents has gone a long way in safeguarding the future of 33 crore children.

Dr Vidya Yeravdekar

PRO CHANCELLOR, SYMBIOSIS INTERNATIONAL (DEEMED UNIVERSITY) & PRINCIPAL DIRECTOR SYMBIOSIS



100 universities from abroad coming to India. universities are going to tie up with other private

universities, all deemed universities. But the word 'deemed' is very problematic. In NEP, you have said that this word should not be used anymore as it's not used internationally

When the Uchch Shiksha Aayog (Higher Education Council) comes into existence, we will make policies and chart out a way to execute them. Educational institutions are going to get a lot of power. As for the word deemed, have some patience, it will all

Ganesh N Devy LINGUIST AND CULTURAL ACTIVIST



Sanskrit is now a widely open option, as per the NEP. It is no longer a living language, so instead, why should we not have a

'Samvidhaan ki Shiksha' (Study of the Constitution) for the benefit of the country, as a widely open option?

If you read the NEP, you will realise that Sanskrit is depicted as a language. Even the Constitution says that all our languages need to be strengthened. Apart from being a language, Sanskrit is also a storehouse of knowledge. It is being taught in 250 universities across the world. Why? Because Ayurveda, as we know it, written in the Charak Samhita by Patanjali, is in Sanskrit. Sushrut, who is credited with starting shalva chikitsa (surgery), is written in Sanskrit. The

texts of Aryabhat, world famous asyour message to tronomer, were in Sanskrit. We will

and if globally, people are studying it, why not citizens of this country?

Suneet Vats

have to take our past and link it to the

present. Sanskrit is another language

VICE CHAIRMAN, VIVEKANANDA INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES



The NEP talks about autonomy for educational institutes. The UGC gives the autonomy certificate, but because this comes under the

concurrent list, the state government shows some reluctance. I am sure many colleges are struggling with the issue

This is a matter of the concurrent list where the state governments also play a role, since there is a definite mandate. UGC also has its own limitations, and it does the best it can. Autonomy also has to come in through the state governments.

Zishaan Hayath FOUNDER & CEO, TOPPR.COM



As the technology sector holds enormous potential to transform the educational infrastructure. does the

government intend to invite the stakeholders, including startups, to formulate an inclusive policy?

We are forming such a platform, the NETF (National Educational Technology Forum), but apart from that, we are working on the vision of 'One Nation, One Digital' platform, along with 'One Nation, One Channel'. There is a whole new chapter in the NEP as far as technology is concerned. Through technology, we have been able to get 100 universities to offer online education. The NETF will be strengthened under the NEP.

Saurabh Modi

CHAIRMAN, NEERJA MODI SCHOOL



The NEP is stressed towards globalisation, and you have said that India had an intellectual prowess, and in the past, we were cherished

for that. How is the NEP channelising ancient traditions and

thought process?

The NEP is an all-inclusive policy where nothing has been left out. The idea is to stand on the foundation of our ancient wisdom. We are known in the world for human values, which form the foundation of our education policy. We had ancient universities like Nalanda and Takshila, where students from all over the world came to study. I think there is no other university in ancient times which was so prominent like these two.

Meera Isaacs PRINCIPAL, CATHEDRAL AND JOHN CONNON SCHOOL, MUMBAI



How does the government propose especially in metropolitan cities with a diverse group of children - to teach in a child's

mother tongue? We have kept a provision for the

mother-tongue aspect, and left the onus on the states. The child should be able to speak in his mother tongue, and express himself more in it. There is a provision for bi-lingual studies in the NEP. Most states encourage and prioritise their own regional languages. For those who have trouble with it, we can sort that out.

Snehal Pinto

DIRECTOR, RYAN GROUP



The inclusion of vocational studies in the NEP needs to be lauded. With virtual learning becoming the new normal, would you use it to create e-schools for

children in the villages and those who don't have access?

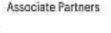
We are the first school system in the world that is trying to teach artificial intelligence from school level, which is from the Class VI level. The vocational studies programme that we are starting from Class VI will also have an internship component. We have asked the states to collaborate with us and put together a lab in their schools. Education is paramount when it comes to strengthening the poor of any country. The vocational education will go together with normal education and we have bridged the gap between the two, to help equip the students better. We will issue guidelines for the same soon. Students can opt for any combination of subjects, for instance, pair music with physics, and are also allowed gap years. And if for some reason they discontinue their study, they will get a certificate for the year they have finished.





Wealth Partner











Crawley's double century leaves Pakistan with a mountain to climb

ASSOCIATED PRESS/ENS

SOUTHAMPTON, AUGUST 22

ZAK CRAWLEY'S marathon innings of 267 left Pakistan's ambitions of a series-tying win in tatters. Riding on the 22-year-old's knock, England found themselves in a commanding position in the third Test, declaring their first innings at 583/8 on Saturday. By the time play ended on Day 2, Pakistan were stuttering at 24/3, with James Anderson taking all

Babar Azam was the last man to be dismissed, trapped leg-before off Anderson, who now needs just four more wickets to reach the 600-wicket milestone.

The day, however, belonged to Crawley, who played a knock that has thrust him into cricket's global consciousness. By the time he was stumped off part-time spinner Asad Shafiq, Crawley had moved into 10th place in the all-time list of top scores by an England player - above the likes of Geoffrey Boycott, Joe Root and Ben Stokes.

His 393-ball knock contained 34 fours and a chipped six down the empty ground at the Ageas Bowl. The 22-year-old Crawley, playing in his eighth Test, had every shot in the book reverse sweeps, cuts off the back foot, whips into the leg side - and deserved a capacity crowd in Southampton. When he was finally dismissed, Pakistan's players ran to Crawley to congratulate him, many giving him fist bumps. His partnership with Jos Buttler was worth 359 runs, a record fifth-wicket stand for England in tests and its joint-sixth highest ever.

Buttler was caught and bowled off Fawad Alam for a Test-best 152. He reached his second test century just before lunch. Buttler survived a scare on 99 when he was given out caught behind off Mohammad Abbas, only for a review to show he hadn't touched the ball with his bat.

England, who started Day 2 on 332-4, lead 1-0 and are looking to clinch a first series victory over Pakistan in 10 years, as well as a second of the summer after beating the

BRIEF SCORES: England 583/8 decl (Z Crawley 267, J Buttler 152; F Alam 2/46) lead Pakistan 24/3 (Anderson 3/13) by 559 runs

Big bubble in the Big Apple

Bopanna provides a peek into the stringent regulations for the US Open

SHAHID JUDGE

MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

THE LAYOVER in Frankfurt, from Bangalore en route New York was quite short, "About an hour," estimates Rohan Bopanna. There wasn't much time to spare after de-boarding and proceeding to the next gate. In queue though, he noticed a number of familiar faces, fellow tennis players lining up to board the same plane that was to take them to the US Open.

A veteran now on the tour, Bopanna is accustomed to bumping into colleagues at airports. He's longed to see his 'family' on tour for five months. And now that he did, a new reality sunk in. "Dominic Thiem, Dennis Novak, Mate Pavic, Marc Polmans, Alexander Bublik, Radu Albot..." he starts listing. "Everybody was wearing a mask, so you have to give it a closer look to see if that's the person you think it is. It's a guessing game. But everyone just greeted each other with an elbow tap. It was good to see them.'

The last time Bopanna boarded a plane was back in March, when he waited for hours at Doha airport to catch a flight home. On that occasion, he wasn't allowed to leave the airport for over 17 hours, one of the Qatar government directives against the Covid-19 pandemic.

Things have become a bit smoother since then, which is why the tennis tour could consider reopening. But the protocol has become much more stringent. Masks are now as important as a tennis racquet.

And when entering the bio-secure bubble in New York, things would be a lot different.

The USTA has decided to shift the Western and Southern Open – an ATP 1000 Masters and WTA Premier event usually held near Cincinnati - to the same venue as the US Open, and scheduled it just a week before the major. The idea is to provide a three-week window for the two events, and create a safety bubble where players are restricted to only the hotel and the venue - in some cases, players like Novak Djokovic and Serena Williams have been provided rented accommodation at predetermined locations.

But the difference in the US Open this ear could be seen from as early as the drive to the hotel from the airport.

"We weren't driving through skyscrapers like we normally would, but instead go-



(L-R) Rohan Bopanna with his coach Scott Davidoff and physio Gaurang Shukla in New York, where he will play at the ATP Masters this week. Rohan Bopanna/Instagram

ing through open space. We weren't going to be staying in Manhattan, the hotel this time is in Long Island," says world no. 37 Bopanna. "This is the first time I've been to New York but nowhere close to Manhattan. There is a shuttle every 15 minutes from the hotel and courts and back, but it's an hour's drive, even on a Sunday."

Covid-19 test

Immediately after check-in, players were put through a Covid-19 test and instructed to remain in their rooms till the result of the first test came - no exceptions. Bopanna landed on a Saturday, and was tested for the second time on Monday. There on, he will be tested every fourth day.

Though he tested negative, Bopanna's not allowed to leave the hotel. "There are signboards everywhere, we aren't even allowed in the hotel parking lot because that's outside the bubble. Everywhere we go we have to have our mask and credentials on," says the 40-year-old, who won the 2017 French Open mixed doubles title

At Flushing Meadows, the venue too has been altered. Since the tournament will be played behind closed doors, fan parks have been converted into player lounges, and there are a number of activities set up around the grounds. "Mini golf, basketball, pool tables, arcade games... The whole place has a relaxed atmosphere now because you can walk anywhere," he says.

The regular changing rooms too have become a bit decongested because the top 32 seeds from the men's and women's draws have been allotted what would have been the hospitality suite inside the Arthur Ashe Stadium. As many as 67 of the 80 suites have been provided for the seeded players, complete with a massage table.

There are certain dos and don'ts, however. "You aren't allowed to keep anything in the locker room when you're not there. So only if you're getting treatment with the physios, or taking a shower, you can keep stuff there. All other times you have to take everything with you," Bopanna says.

The rules this time reflect the simple philosophy that you've come here for business tennis – and that's all you will do.

This is a grim reminder of the current times, the new normal inside the bubble that players have to make peace with.

In the absence of crowds, Bopanna's only support will be from his coach Scott Davidof and physio Gaurang Shukla. At the entrance of the Arthur Ashe Stadium - the world's largest tennis arena – is a quote by Ashe himself. "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.

How England, Australia & CPL players can avoid IPL quarantine

DEVENDRA PANDEY

MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

IF THE IPL players in action in the Caribbean Premier League and next month's England-Australia limited-overs series are to avoid being quarantined for seven days on their arrival in the UAE, they will have to move directly from one bio-secure environment to another without venturing outside these bubbles.

To ensure that, extraordinary conditions have been put in place by the BCCI and the onus is on the franchises to ensure that their players adhere to these restrictions. If they do so, the cricketers will be allowed to join their respective squads in the UAE if they test negative in an RT-PCR test after their arrival.

The players will already be in bio-secure bubbles in England and Trinidad, and it has been proposed that a team bus will transport the players directly from team hotels straight to the tarmac without going through airport terminals and are exempted from "immigration and other formalities" in UK and the Caribbean, as the case may be.

Once they land in UAE, arrangements will be made for them to be transported straight from their chartered flights to the respective team hotels in Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

A total of 17 Australian and 13 England players are scheduled to take part in IPL 2020. England will host Australia for three ODIs and three T20Is from September 4 to 15. With the IPL scheduled to kick off on September 19, there was no clarity till now on whether these players would have to miss a few IPL games due to the quarantine requirement on their arrival in the UAE. The CPL ends on

This move to exempt the players from quarantine would allay the worries of franchises over the availability of their overseas players in the first week of the tournament.

Australia's Steve Smith and David Warner, England's Ben Stokes and Jofra Archer, and CPL's Kieron Pollard, Rashid Khan and Andre Russell are among the players who can avoid the quarantine in UAE if they follow the biosecure protocols.

In a note sent to all IPL teams, accessed by The Indian Express, the exemption criteria are detailed. "After conclusion of the England vs Australia series and CPL, the players continue to remain in their respective Bio-Secure After conclusion of the England vs Australia series and CPL, the players continue to remain in their respective Bio-Secure **Environments...** The team bus drops the players straight on to the tarmac thereby avoiding the need for players to pass through the airport terminal building preventing contact with other people outside

BCCI ADVISORY TO TEAMS

the Bio-Secure Environment."

Environments and are transported in the team bus straight to the aircraft where they are exempted from immigration and other formalities at the departing airport. The team bus drops the players straight on to the tarmac thereby avoiding the need for players to pass through the airport terminal building preventing contact with other people outside the Bio-Secure Environment.'

Charter flights

The franchises will have to book chartered flights exclusively for these players to travel to the UAE.

"Upon arrival at any of the UAE airports, the players are granted special exemptions whereby they will be transported from the aircraft straight to the team hotel. The team bus picks the players from the airport tarmac thereby avoiding the need for players to pass through the airport terminal building preventing contact with other people outside the Bio-Secure Environment. All such players will have to undergo one RT-PCR test on the day of arrival. If the test report is negative, they will be allowed to join their respective franchise squads," the circular reads

It also spells out what would eventuate if these players step out of the bio-secure bubbles during their journeys. "If IPL Governing Council is not satisfied with the strict adherence to the travel protocols by any of the players, all players will have to quarantine for 7-days and undergo 3 RT-PCR tests before participation in IPL matches," the note

Many IPL teams have already reached Dubai and are undergoing the mandatory quarantine period of seven days.

BRIDGE

Pass

Pass

You are South, declarer in 7NT.



West leads the SK and continues with the SQ, which you trump

There is one loser in snades one in diamonds and one in hearts if they soli

There is one inserins spaces, one in inarmonas and one in nears. It meys 3-2. You play the HA and HK, both opponents following suit. There is ronly one trump outstanding, the queen.

Should you lead a third round of trumps to get rid of the queen? Your remaining trumps are H95 in hand and H7 in dummy. If you lead an-

other round West will take the queen and lead another spade. If you trump this you will be exhausted of trumps; now when you knock out the DA the opponents will take another spade trick and you will go down. You should stop drawing trumps after two rounds and knock out the DA. As soon as the opponents take their DA, the rest of your diamonds are established. West can cash the HQ but you will still have a trump left and will make

In general it is not a good idea to draw the opponents' master trump unless you have a good reason, such as a long suit that you would like to run without interference. Here it would be downright dangerous.

NORTH SOUTH AK8 ♠ Q762 **₩** K63 **₩**AQ5 ♦ KQ2 **♦** AJ4 **\$**064 ♣AJ103 NORTH EAST SOUTH Pass 7NT Pass Pass Pass

ads the SJ. You try to keep the horrified look off your face wh

OUICK CLUES

- Gun part (6) Beneath one's dignity, colloquially
- speaking? (5,3) Silvery white metal (6)
- 10. Chase (3,5) 12. Australian birds (4)
- 13. Despiser of women (10) 15. Behind the times (3,9)
- 18. Feasting one's eyes upon; dwelling upon with unholy joy
- Time long gone (10 22. "E" of QED (4)
- 24. Non-professionals? (8) 25. Abuse, desecrate or despise
- 26. Adam's_ ___: Eve was made from this? (5,3)
- 27. Rubber devices to clean the windshield(6)

DOWN

- Unmarried man (8) Springs back (8)
- Of the nervous system (12) Race starter's three-word utterance
- (5,3,2)
- Keep waiting (6) 8. Revolve (6) 11. Jodhaa in Jodhaa Akbar (9,3)
- 14. Famous American rider (4,6) 16. Extra hours worked (8)
- 17. Spends frivolously (8) 19. Road built to avoid a city (6)
- $20. \,\, Spain \, of \, the \, Spaniards \, (6)$ 23. Persian fairy (4)

CRYPTIC CLUES

- He's named as the girl's fiance (6)
- says it's very unsteady (8)
- Settled in bottom; wrap up (6)
- 10. Gather to look at the roadside (8) 12. Offensive vehicle smelt awful (4) 13. Last daring sabotage in besieged
- 15. Ethelred didn't have this quality
- 18. Distorted opinion the rooster has of life?(4-4,4)
- 21. Piece of cutlery of note? (6,4)
- 25. Organization which distils
- 22. Person with designs to be a flier?
- 24. Cougar is unusually polite (8)
- DOWN:

- road works (8)
- Was sorry for having caused deep
- 3. Hard cover for returning foreign
- Country garden known to American detectives
- 6. The very number for such a team

(5-1-4)

- 11. Fortune a run uncovered
- 16. Leaves jet and speeds (8) 17. Fewer go out in the wind - it robs one of something (8)

- 19. One with much experience boards on the right
- 20. On the way to the centre of the
- hospital(6) 23. Relax, listening to poems

Solutions to 2282

QUICK CLUES Across: 1Droops, 4 Required, 9 Voters, 10 Laudable, 12 Lilliput 13 Truism, 15 Post-midnight, 18 Premiere, 25 Attain, 26 Acting up, 27

Creeps. **Down**:1Develops,2Outclass,3 Parliamentarian,5 Elan, 6 Under-the-counter,7 Rabbit, 8 Dreams, 11 Murders, 14 Disdain, 16 Disgrace, 17 Anodynes, 19 Utopia, 20 Urgent, 23 Urdu. CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 1 Nearby, 4 Blowhard, 9 Torrid, 10 Dredgers, 12 Barn door, 13 Deja vu, 15 Off one's hands, 18 Astrophysics, 2 Anarch, 22 Buncombe, 24 Leavened, 25 Victim, 26 Vineyard, 27 Adored. **Down:** 1 Notebook, 2 Aircraft, 3 Building society, 5

Lore, 6 Wednesdayschild, 7 Axeman, 8 Dust-up, 11 Consort, 14 Ear-plug, 16 Film star, 17 Esteemed, 19 Pavlov, 20 Papain, 23 Gear.

Birthday

Sunday August 23

If it's your

There's no change in the business-like tone of affairs, though if you stay up late tonight, you'll loosen up. Those of you who make it to the wee hours could have a truly wild time.

Monday August 24

The stars are playing a double game. Within a context of caution and concern for the future, they encourage you to take a gamble. So, if you feel like letting your hair down, go

Tuesday August 25

You're quite a broad-minded person at heart. The more you are prepared to consider areas of experience you've always ignored, then the more opportunities you'll experience and the better the results you'll achieve.

Wednesday August 26

You know where you're going, and how to get there. That's great if your current goals cover all eventualities. There's much more to life than you once thought. Look on the coming year as a time to explore new vistas.

Thursday August 27

Often you're very clear-headed but, at other times, your feelings take over. Hard work looms, but you can also relax and enjoy new sensations and desires.

Friday August 28

Your generous spirit wins the day. Your planets relate to money and idealism. It is therefore a fine time to give to charity. You should value yourself, make yourself the centre of attention.

Saturday August 29

A planetary cycle of your emotional life in the past, is giving way to another, which will find you in a more assertive and ambitious mood. Allow yourself time to celebrate.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) A number of planets

have you under their protective power over the coming week, but this may not mean that everything will be nice and easy. I mean, sometimes it's lively and

challenging conditions which get the best out of you. Above all, the planets will urge you to show everything that is best about your character

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) Increasing secrecy is the trend of the times. However, one

thing you will be open about is your feelings, and this will help you to get on socially and at work. Employers and colleagues will be pleased to hear about new schemes towards the end of the week.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Mars still seems to

be the most important planet which means that

you'll be kept on your toes. However, at work and at home, you can afford to slow the pace as the week progresses. You're entering an extravagant period, so pay attention to underlying financial conditions.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) You don't need

reminding how emotional you are,

but with assertive planetary patterns so strong at the moment, you might do best to bite your tongue and look the other way. Don't worry if prosperous prospects seem to be delayed, but concentrate on building up solid long-

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)



alignments are about to grow more intense, so you can

look forward to a more adventurous period. Higher education is favoured, as is long-distance travel so, one way or another, you should be expanding your horizons. Also, you must act only out of the most ethical and moral

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23) Partnership matters

should now be settled, or at least put on a safe and

established course. You must leave vourself free to deal with finances, especially all joint investments. At work, you should do your best to see that everybody sticks to their decisions.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23) One thing looks pretty certain over

the coming few weeks, and it's that you're going to have no choice but to pay very great attention indeed to other people's needs, wants and desires. At work everything depends on what colleagues say, at home

on what relatives do. SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23) Don't worry too



or disappointments, and use any extra time to see that you prepare the ground properly for next time. Your romantic stars are thriving. thanks to the presence of that most beautiful and loving of planets. Venus.

much about

professional delays

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)



spontaneous region of your horoscope. It doesn't matter whether your interests are high-brow or low: the only important thing is that you make personal satisfaction and fulfilment your goals both at work and at home

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20) The Sun, the Moon,



future. Pay attention to private needs first and, once you've sorted out your personal life, tackle professional goals or worldly ambitions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)

If anything, your money stars are due to grow stronger. This doesn't mean

you'll be showered with pennies from heaven. It does mean that you should snap up bargains, sort out your investments, pay bills and collect debts while you've got

the chance. PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

You're not known as a materialist, but you have to come down off your cloud and deal with life's daily chores,

especially the business of guaranteeing your future security. If you get your timing right now, increased prosperity will put your personal life on a much sounder basis.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2283

- claret? (6)
- 26. Reactionary types showing signs of being hot under the collar?
 - 27. Feels for the marbles (6)
 - 1. Some cars in Derby, say, will bypass
 - rent(8) money (4)

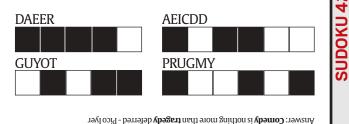
 - Gold in the air at dawn! How the sly die and one surrenders
 - (6,2,4)14. Mum, is anyone making the dressing?(10)
 - 4

8

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4208 2 3 6 8 7 4 9 1 5 2 4 6 9 5 3 9 4 5 162738 3 2 7 6 4 9 8 5 1 5 1 4 2 3 8 6 7 9 7 1 5 7 9 3 5 8 1 4 6 2 4 5 8 3 2 6 1 9 7 162497

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.



SOLUTION: EARED, GOUTY, CADDIE, GRUMPY

Difficulty Level 4s Instructions

Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy;

3s = Medium; 4s = Hard;

5s = Very Hard; 6s =

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 $rows\, and\, in\, each\, of\, the$

5 5 2 6 9

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