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## Top court says states can make categories in SCs, STs for deprived

**ANANTHAKRISHNAN G**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

A FIVE-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court on Thursday ruled that states can sub-classify the list of Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs), to provide preferential treatment to the especially deprived among them "to achieve the real purpose of reservation". "The State's obligation is to undertake the emancipation of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED

**E** Purpose is justice for all: Court

WHEN QUOTAS create inequalities within beneficiary castes themselves, the state must ensure that resources and opportunities are redistributed and reallocated so that the purpose of the constitutional mandate of equal justice to all is fulfilled, the court said.



## PREPARING PARLIAMENT

Vice-President and Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu at a rehearsal on Thursday for the Parliament session which is expected to begin from September 14. *Renuka Puri*

## COMPENSATION SHORTFALL

# GST dues stuck, states told to borrow via RBI

Rs 2.35 lakh cr deficit in share, some states protest, Centre says will help

**AANCHAL MAGAZINE**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

REFERRING TO the Covid pandemic as an 'Act of God' that will result in a contraction of the economy in the current fiscal, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that in the 41st meeting of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council Thursday, states were presented with two options to resolve the contentious issue of compensation shortfall estimated to be Rs 2.35 lakh crore.

State finance ministers, who in the meeting insisted on the borrowing to be done by the Centre to make up for revenue shortfall, later said there was lack of clarity regarding the proposals that were brought towards

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNNY



the end of the five-hour meeting. They also termed the move to make a distinction in the revenue shortfall on account of GST

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## 59-member Andamans tribe reports Covid, alert in UT

**RAVIK BHATTACHARYA**  
KOLKATA, AUGUST 27

NINE CASES of Covid-19 have been recorded among the Great Andamanese tribe, setting off alarm bells in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands administration. A Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG), the Great Andamanese now number only 59. While five of the coronavirus patients have recovered, the others are doing well, the officials said.

What is worrying the authorities is that the four new cases have been discovered in the remote Strait Island where the tribe is based. On Friday, a special community health officer will be reaching the island to keep a close watch on the tribe, as well as other PVTGs like the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Sonia sends a message to Cong dissenters, delivers House snub

**MANOJ CG**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

DAYS AFTER 23 senior Congress leaders wrote to her asking for major changes in the party organisation, Sonia Gandhi delivered a snub to the dissenters in both Houses of Parliament.

In Lok Sabha, two-term MP Gaurav Gogoi was appointed deputy to legislature party leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, and Ludhiana MP Ravneet Singh Bittu was appointed Whip.

Anandpur Sahib MP Manish Tewari, who was one of the dissenters, was ignored. Even though Tewari too is a two-term MP, he is much more senior to Gogoi in the party — having been president of the NSUI and Youth Congress, and a former Union Minister.



Gogoi new deputy leader, LS; Venugopal in panel for RS

In Rajya Sabha, where the senior-most of the 23 dissenters, Ghulam Nabi Azad, is the party's leader, AICC general secretary (Organisation) KC Venugopal has been made part of a new five-member decision-making group.

Both Venugopal and Gogoi are considered close to former Congress president Rahul Gandhi. Bittu, the MP from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## JEE exam prep: 10 lakh masks and gloves, 6,600 litres of sanitiser

**RITIKA CHOPRA**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

TEN LAKH masks, 10 lakh pairs of gloves, 1,300 infrared thermometer guns, 6,600 litres of hand sanitiser and an equal amount of disinfectant liquid, 6,600 sponges, 3,300 spray bottles and 3,300

cleaning staff — all at an additional cost of almost Rs 13 crore.

This is the blueprint being adopted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) at 660 test sites for JEE (Main), the first national-level entrance examination since the Covid outbreak.

Although various state governments have joined the cho-

rus to defer the tests citing health concerns, the Centre has decided to go ahead with JEE (Main) and NEET as planned, saying that a year would be lost otherwise and future admissions affected.

JEE (Main), an online exam for engineering aspirants, is scheduled to be held from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## LAC crisis: Jaishankar, Wang Yi likely to discuss steps in Moscow next month

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

AT A time when India and China are locked in a military standoff in eastern Ladakh, New Delhi is considering sending External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to Russia next month, around September



Jaishankar has received invite for an SCO meeting

9-11, where he will have a chance to meet Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and discuss steps to re-

solve the border crisis, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

Should this work out, it will be their first in-person meeting

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**ARMY PREPARES FOR OCT WHEN WEATHER IMPROVES** [PAGE 6](#)



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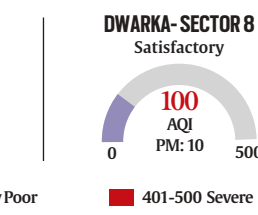
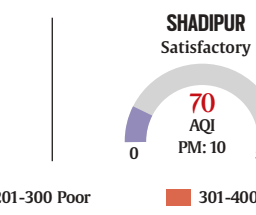
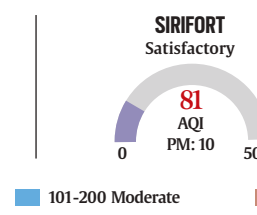
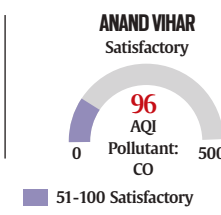
## The Atal Tunnel at Rohtang near Manali is nearing completion

Officials said the SOP has been developed by IT major Tata Consultancy Services in association with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and





0-50 Good



101-200 Moderate

201-300 Poor

301-400 Very Poor

401-500 Severe

## BRIEFLY

## Bus and cab operators threaten strike

**New Delhi:** Citing financial turmoil due to the pandemic, Ola and Uber drivers and bus operators in the Delhi-NCR area have threatened to go on strike from September 1 if their demands for financial assistance and deferment of EMIs on loans for six months are not met. They have also written to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

## EDMC ends Tahir's house membership

**New Delhi:** The East Delhi Municipal Corporation has terminated the membership of suspended AAP councillor Tahir Hussain as he was absent for the past three house meetings, in violation of MCD rules, said East MCD Mayor Nirmal Jain.

## Jail warden among 5 held

**New Delhi:** An extortion racket operating from Mandoli Jail has been busted by the Delhi Police with the arrest of five men, including a jail warden. The warden allegedly supplied SIM cards to gangsters in jail so they could make extortion calls.

## Cop among 2 held for robbery

**New Delhi:** A Ghaziabad man was arrested, along with a UP Police constable, for robbing a car at gunpoint.

## DDA portal for MPD-2041

**New Delhi:** DDA has launched an interactive web portal 'Public Engagement Portal for MPD-2041' to share information on the preparation of Master Plan of Delhi-2041. **ENS**

## AFTER MOVE TO DOUBLE DAILY TESTING

## Pressured to not raise testing, says Jain, Centre rejects claim

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

**DELHI HEALTH** Minister Satyendar Jain Wednesday wrote to Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla alleging that officers in the state government were being "pressured" by the Ministry of Home Affairs to not increase testing. The letter comes a day after Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, after a meeting with Jain, announced that Delhi would double testing to 40,000 per day in light of an increase in Covid cases.

The city, which saw new cases per day dip to around 1,000 a couple of weeks ago, has seen more than 1,400 cases for five days now. On Thursday, 1,840 cases were reported.

The MHA spokesperson called the allegations "false and baseless" and said it was after the "intervention of the Union Home Minister that daily tests in Delhi, which were averaging around 4,000 per day till mid-June, have gone up to around 18-20,000 per



Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain

day in a calibrated manner."

In Delhi, which is not a full state but has an elected state government, the power to post and transfer officials falls with the MHA through the L-G.

In the letter, Jain wrote, "Since the time corona has affected Delhi, the state government has faced it alongside the union government, but I was shocked when I was told by some officers they are being pressured by the MHA to not increase testing in Delhi."

Jain also said he was surprised that the MHA was interfering with work being undertaken by the Delhi government: "There is an elected government in Delhi which is capable of taking decisions... Why is the government being stopped from increasing testing? Across the world, high rate of testing is being seen as a good policy decision. Delhi has succeeded in controlling corona using this strategy. Why is Delhi being stopped from increasing the number of tests from 20,000 to 40,000? Why are officers being pressurised unconstitutionally and illegally?"

Jain also referred to a note prepared by the principal secretary (health) (Delhi government) regarding testing protocol, and said this was done in a secretive manner and under pressure from the ministry.

The MHA spokesperson tweeted that the note being referred to has only "proposed that the views of an Expert Committee headed by Dr V K Paul may be taken on the pro-

posed enhancement in testing in Delhi, for technical guidance on various issues such as mix of RT-PCR and Rapid Antigen, categories of geographical areas and demographics, etc."

Over the past few months, Delhi and the Centre have sparred over several issues, including protocol for home isolation, reopening hotels and markets and testing protocol. AAP has also regularly attacked the Centre, alleging it had failed to control the spread of the virus in states governed by BJP.

AAP MLA Raghav Chadha said: "Delhi Chief Minister... decided to increase the number of tests as a precautionary measure... More testing and isolation are key to fight against this pandemic... is it not unconstitutional to put psychological pressure on the officials..."

Meanwhile, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs also discussed handling of the pandemic in Delhi, which was attended by senior government officers, including the Chief Secretary Vijay Dev.



## DOWN TIME

Workers carry out maintenance work on trains at the Metro yard in Timarpur. *Praveen Khanna*

## Masks, scans: HC preps for physical hearings

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

**THERMAL SCANNING** at designated checkpoints, no entry to litigants and allowing only one advocate, who is listed in the vakalatnama and is wearing a mask, inside while junior counsels and interns wait outside — these are some of the changes expected as physical hearings resume at the Delhi High Court from September 1, after more than five months.

The High Court has come up with a standard operating procedure (SOP), detailing procedures for entry into court blocks, arrangements inside courtrooms and how hearings are expected to take place once the court resumes functioning.

As per the notice issued by Registrar General Manoj Jain, apart from one advocate per case, who will be allowed entry, a senior counsel engaged by the



Physical hearings resume at the Delhi High Court from September 1

advocate, a registered clerk, standing/nominated counsel for any party, and a party-in-person, in case of a person pursuing the case without any legal assistance, will be allowed inside the court blocks.

Time slots have also been allotted in the cause list for different batch of cases to enforce social distancing in courtrooms. Sitting inside the canteen and consuming dry snacks is not permitted.

## Sisodia hits out at Centre over GST: 'Biggest betrayal'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

**DELHI FINANCE** Minister Manish Sisodia alleged that the Centre has "refused" to pay GST compensation to states, which he termed as the "biggest betrayal" in the history of federalism in India.

Addressing a press conference shortly after attending the GST council meeting on Thursday, Sisodia said due to Delhi's unique administrative structure, it cannot even borrow money from the RBI to meet the shortfall.

"When GST was rolled out, states were promised that we would be given compensation for the next five years at the rate of 14 per cent. But the Centre is now refusing to pay, citing the situation created by Covid-19... This is the biggest betrayal of the Central government in the

Sisodia addressing the media Thursday. *Amit Mehra*

history of federalism in India," Sisodia, who is also the Deputy Chief Minister, said.

The Delhi government is staring at a revenue shortfall of Rs 21,000 crore in the ongoing financial year, Sisodia said. "The Centre gave an option to states that in case they need compensation, they can borrow from the RBI. But due to the unique

status of Delhi, our government cannot take a loan. They are showing double-standards with the people of Delhi," he said.

"The central government should take a loan on our behalf as we also need to pay salaries to our doctors, teachers, engineers and other employees," Sisodia said, adding that he was not against the idea of GST, but the Centre's way of implementing it.

Sisodia said that at the meeting, many BJP-led states also demanded compensation from the Centre.

"In the first two years when the central government earned extra cess of Rs 47,000 crore, which was supposed to be given as compensation, they kept it in their fund... Today, if GST would have not been there, we would have been able to define our taxes... manage our expenses on our own...", he said.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

**THE AVERAGE** time spent by a commuter inside the Delhi Metro system is set to increase once train services resume, with authorities planning to keep only 257 out of 671 station gates open to streamline frisking and thermal scanning.

While stations usually have four entry and exit gates, with interchange stations like Rajiv Chowk and Kashmere Gate having more, after Metro restarts — a possibility under Centre's Unlock 4.0 — most stations will

designate one entrance each.

According to the plan, stations on the Yellow Line and Blue Line, having 116 and 195 gates each, will have 39 and 69 gates open respectively. These are among the busiest corridors of the Metro, which has a total of nine corridors, apart from the Airport Express Line and the Gurgaon Rapid Metro.

There are 242 stations on these corridors. When the Rapid Line and Aqua Line are taken into account, the number of stations go up to 285, spread across a network measuring 389-km in Delhi and NCR.

Noida Sector 16, Noida Sector

## As Covid cases rise, 27% of hospital beds occupied

ASTHA SAXENA  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

**WITH COVID** cases in the capital witnessing a spike over the past few days, the percentage of patients under home isolation has decreased — indicating that more patients are admitted to hospitals.

As per data, 53% of the active cases were under home isolation at the beginning of August, which has now gone down to 50%. Similarly, on August 1, 22% of the total beds were occupied. However, occupancy rate was at 27% as of Thursday evening.

Continuing with the upward trend, the city recorded 1,840 fresh cases of Covid-19 and 22 deaths on Thursday, taking the tally to 1,67,604 and the death toll to 4,369. This is the highest number of daily cases recorded since July 10 when the city saw 2,089 cases — a gap of almost 50 days.

Hospitals are also witnessing more daily admissions. At Delhi government's Rajiv Gandhi Super Specialty Hospital, bed occupancy has almost doubled in the last few days. The 500-bed Covid facility has 400 beds vacant.

"Over the last few weeks, we have noticed an increase in the number of daily admissions in Covid-19 cases. Two weeks ago, we had only 50 patients admitted in the hospital. The number now stands at 100. None of them are serious cases and the ICUs are vacant. People are getting discharged too but in the last few days, the ratio of admissions is more than those getting discharged," said medical director Dr BI Sherwal.

At Lok Nayak hospital too, the Delhi government's biggest

Covid testing at Defence Colony, Thursday. *Tashi Tobgyal*

## CORONAVIRUS IN THE CAPITAL

	TOTAL CASES 1,67,604	HOSPITAL BEDS 1,229	Total	Vacant
			14,128	10,242
	Daily cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Aug 26	1,693	1,154	17	19,816
Aug 27	1,840	1,130	22	21,061
Total	13,208*	1,50,027	4,369	15,03,722

\*Total active cases

Covid facility, the number of daily admissions has seen an increase. Medical director Dr Suresh Kumar said, "While there is no change in the number of ICU admissions, we are witnessing a rise in the number of daily admissions. Admissions of patients with moderate symptoms have gone up over the last few days." The hospital has 2,000 beds, out of which 1,564 are vacant. In the first week of August, the hospital had 1,666 vacant beds.

With most travel restrictions being lifted, experts said the number of cases are expected to rise. Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain on Wednesday

had said, "The cases are ranging between 1,000 and 2,000 in Delhi, and this is happening when the number of cases nationally are at its peak. Delhi's peak was recorded at 4,000 and we are much behind that."

At present, there are 13,208 active cases in the city, out of which 3,814 are admitted to hospitals while 6,596 are under home isolation. The compounded daily rate of growth over a week, which till mid-August was 0.69%, touched 0.91% on Thursday.

The increase in cases in Delhi has been slow, but steady over the past two weeks.

## Jamia seeks action against channel for 'tarnishing' image

ARANYA SHANKAR  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

**JAMIA MILLIA Islamia** Thursday wrote to the Union Education Ministry asking them to take action against Sudarshan News channel and its editor-in-chief Suresh Chavhanke for "tarnishing" the image of the university.

Chavhanke had tweeted a trailer of his upcoming show, which he claimed was an "expose" on the "infiltration of Muslims" in the Civil Services with the hashtag 'UPSC Jihad' on August 26. In the video, he called those passing out of Jamia's Residential Coaching Academy (RCA) and clearing the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) as "Jamia ke Jihadis".

"We have written to the Education Ministry informing them about the whole episode and requested them to take appropriate action. We told them that Sudarshan channel has not only tried to tarnish the image of JMI and a particular community but the image of UPSC also," said Jamia PRO Ahmed Azeem.

The IPS Association called the remarks "irresponsible". "A news story targeting candidates in civil services on the basis of religion is being promoted by Sudarshan TV. We condemn the communal and irresponsible piece of journalism," the association tweeted.

Jamia V-C Najma Akhtar told *The Indian Express* that the univer-

sity is not likely to go to court over the issue. She also said Chavhanke had given a new "secular definition" of jihad: "We don't want to give them too much importance. As far as our students are concerned, 30 students from RCA were selected this time out of which 16 are Muslims and 14 are Hindus. Since they were all called jihadis, it means 16 were Muslim jihadis and 14 others were Hindu jihadis. India has been given a new secular definition of jihadis."

The Jamia Teachers' Association has demanded that a criminal defamation suit be filed by the administration against "anti-Indian and anti-JMI remarks by traitor Suresh Chavhanke". "A number of derogatory words have been used by the said CMD of Sudarshan News which openly instigates, spewing venom against fellow citizens, and trying to divide people of India," JTA said.

Responding to the allegations, Chavhanke said he will say what he has to on his show which airs Friday night: "I don't know if there are Hindus (in RCA). Those opposing the word jihad should first answer if they think it is an abuse. I maintain my stand and want to ask how their (Muslim) numbers are increasing in civil services. It's because of them being given back door favour, option of choosing Islamist studies, Urdu language, etc. If my show is found unconstitutional or doesn't meet the standard of broadcast authority, then let there be action against me."

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
GURGAON, AUGUST 27

**TWO DAYS** after the body of a 10-year-old speech and hearing impaired girl was found near her home in Palwal, police have arrested an 18-year-old neighbour for her sexual assault and murder.

"He has confessed to the crime. We will produce him in court tomorrow and take him into police remand, during which he will be further questioned on the incident," said the area DSP.

Police said the accused worked in a furniture shop.

The victim had gone missing from her home at 2 pm on Monday while her mother and two younger siblings were in the house.

The family had approached police the same evening, and the victim's body was discovered in the nearby fields the next day.

The FIR was initially registered under IPC sections 346 (wrongful confinement in secret), 302 (murder), and 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence, or giving false information to screen offender), and Section 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act was added on Thursday after the postmortem confirmed sexual assault.

## 17 farmhouses demolished in Aravallis, 2 more to be razed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
GURGAON, AUGUST 27

**SEVENTEEN FARMHOUSES** constructed illegally in the Aravalli region in Gurgaon have been razed by a joint team of the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) and Department of Town and Country Planning (DTCP) over the last two days.

According to officials, the demolition was carried out near Bandhwari village. While nine structures were razed on Wednesday, another eight were



Eight farmhouses were demolished on Thursday

razed on Thursday. Officials said two more structures will be demolished by the end of the week. Speaking to *The Indian Express*,

## For easier screening, Metro to open fewer gates

Metro will keep only 257 of 671 gates open. *Archive*

15, Botanical Garden, Noida City Centre, Kashmere Gate, Mayur Vihar Phase I, Laxmi Nagar,

Nirman Vihar, Azadpur, Inderlok, Karkardooma, Kaushambi, Lajpat Nagar, Kalkaji Mandir are among the few stations that will have two gates open.

Initially, train frequency will also be considerably less, "depending on availability of operation staff, and gradually increased or decreased depending on requirement and ridership", according to the plan drawn up by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC).

Trains will also halt for a longer duration at every station. At terminal stations, trains will halt with all the doors open for a considerable time to allow fresh

air to enter the coaches.

However, Metro authorities may revise the plan based on ground feedback. The decision to keep limited gates open has been taken in accordance with the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs guidelines, which pointed to the need for channelling commuters for easier thermal screening.

The DMRC has also decided to deploy assistant managers, managers and senior supervisors of the corporation's operations and management and project departments as part of "special duty" for two weeks from the date of resumption of services.



# For DU exam, students to bring own paper, gadgets allowed

Police also called two psychologists and doctors to help the woman, helped clean the house and encouraged her to eat and take a bath. "She felt better in the morning and told us she mailed the UK PM as she wanted help to repay her loans, house bills and rent...", said a senior officer.

On Thursday, the HC bench said that visually impaired students who have not yet received their accessible study material and assistive technology “shall be at liberty to e-mail their grievance to the Grievance Officer or the Grievance Redressal Committee constituted in this regard so that the same can be addressed at the earliest”.

**अल्पकालिक निविदा सूचना**

हिमाचल प्रदेश स्कूल शिक्षा बोर्ड द्वारा शैक्षणिक सत्र 2021-22 के लिए पाठ्य पुस्तकों की छपवाई (प्रिंटिंग) हेतु मुद्रित वर्ष की पेपर उत्पादन मिलों से वर्जिन पल्प निर्मित वी.आई.एस.आई.एस. 4658/2019 Table-I में निहित विशिष्टताओं के अनुरूप 220 जी.एस. एम. भारयुक्त आर्ट पेपर (equal percentage of coating on both side) की बोर्ड के पेपर गोदाम अम्ब, जिला ऊना हि.प्र., एन.सी.आर. दिल्ली/ जालंधर (पंजाब) में बोर्ड द्वारा चयनित मुद्रकों को आपूर्ति हेतु कागज मिलों से एतद्वारा प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक अल्पकालिक निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं जो दिनांक 11.09.2020 दोपहर 1.00 बजे तक सचिव, हि.प्र. स्कूल शिक्षा बोर्ड के कार्यालय में पहुंच जानी चाहिए। प्राप्त निविदाएं उसी दिन सांय 3.00 बजे बोर्ड कार्यालय में इच्छुक निविदादाताओं की उपस्थिति में खोली जाएंगी।

निविदा प्रपत्र एवं इस संबंध में निर्धारित नियम एवं शर्तें बोर्ड कार्यालय से किसी भी कार्य दिवस को दिनांक 10.09.2020 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक रुपए 5,000/- अदा करके प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। यह प्रपत्र बोर्ड की वेबसाइट [www.hpbose.org](http://www.hpbose.org) पर भी उपलब्ध है, जिसे डाउनलोड करके प्रयोग में लाया जा सकता है। इस दशा में निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क रुपए 5,000/- का डिमांड ड्राफ्ट को सचिव, हि.प्र. स्कूल शिक्षा बोर्ड धर्मशाला को देय होगा, तदानीकी निविदा के साथ प्रेषित करना होगा।

हस्ता./- सचिव





## DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



## SURPRISE SPEAKER

THE PARTICIPANTS of a webinar hosted by FICCI along with the Defence Ministry were in for a surprise. The webinar, which was addressed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat apart from senior ministry officials, included an hour-long interactive session with industry representatives. Just as it was about to conclude, there was a slight commotion as Prime Minister Narendra Modi decided to join it unexpectedly. Singh apprised him about the details of the event and then Modi delivered the concluding address. Thanking Modi, Singh said that “nobody here expected the Prime Minister would conclude this seminar”.

## MARATHON MEETING

PARLIAMENT'S STANDING Committee on Home Affairs, headed by Congress leader Anand Sharma, set a new record on Thursday by meeting for 4 hours and 45 minutes without a break. The committee had met to discuss aspects of the pandemic and how Delhi had handled it. Old-timers of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat said it was the longest break-free meeting yet. The committee also set another record — by holding two successive meetings lasting more than four hours. Its previous meeting lasted 4 hours and 12 minutes. The first meeting during the intersession period was 3 hours and 14 minutes long, taking the total meeting time to 12 hours 11 minutes to discuss the pandemic with various stakeholders.

## DIFFERENT CAMPAIGN

AS US President Donald Trump's campaign team released video with footage from the Howdy Modi and Namaste Trump events, eyebrows have been raised in Washington and Delhi on using PM Narendra Modi's visuals during the election campaign in the US. South Block, however, was tightlipped, as an MEA spokesperson said that Delhi does not comment on the ongoing election process in other countries.

## Shivakumar I-T case to go on as top court refuses stay

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday declined to stay proceedings by the Income Tax Department against Karnataka Congress chief D K Shivakumar over charges of recovery of undisclosed wealth.

A bench of Chief Justice S A Bobde, Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian allowed the I-T Department to file its reply to the Congress leader's petition challenging the November 2019 Karnataka High Court order, which upheld a trial court's decision dismissing his plea seeking discharge in the case.

\*Zoheb Hussain, counsel ap-

pearing for the respondent (I-T), prays for and is granted two weeks' time to file counter-affidavit. Rejoinder-affidavit, if any, be filed by the petitioner within one week thereafter. List the matter after four weeks," the court said in its order.

The I-T Department had filed a complaint against Shivakumar and others over alleged recovery of undisclosed wealth after a search of his premises in August 2017.

Appearing for him, senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi sought a stay of the HC order. He submitted that not staying it would cause irreparable harm. The court had refused to stay the proceedings when the matter came up for hearing last month as well.

## HC rejects PIL seeking weekly declaration of PM CARES receipts, expenses

Invoking Shakespeare, Nagpur bench of HC says don't donate if you have doubts

VIVEK DESHPANDE  
NAGPUR, AUGUST 27

THE NAGPUR bench of the Bombay High Court Thursday rejected a public interest litigation seeking, among other things, weekly declaration of details of receipts and expenditure from the PM CARES Fund on its official website.

Invoking the “cowardly” Shakespearean character of Sir John Falstaff, the court told the petitioner and “any” donor to any public charitable trust to “not donate” if they have any doubt about its proper utilisation.

The PIL by city lawyer Arvind Waghmare was dismissed by a bench comprising Justice Sunil Shukre and Justice Anil Killor on the grounds that the fund was a public charitable trust and was governed by its own registered deed of trust, which doesn't receive any budgetary support or any government money.

“If any person has any doubt about the application of the money, he intends to donate,

may we remind such person of the words of Falstaff, a cowardly character portrayed by William Shakespeare in his play Henry IV that, “The better part of Valour is Discretion; in the which better part, I have saved my life”. Here “life” can be taken to be “money”. So, such a person would well be within his right to not donate his money to the fund. From this perspective also no insistence can be made by a person donating his money in his discretion upon making of public disclosures of utilisation of the fund money on a public platform, bypassing the proper platform provided under the Trust Act applicable to a charitable trust like the PM CARES Fund,” the bench said.

The petitioner, who claimed to be a donor to the fund, had also sought setting aside of the appointment of SARC Associates as auditors, appointment of independent auditor only after formation of full board of trustees as per guidelines, declaration of details of donations from within the country and outside, among other thing.

## APEX COURT ORDER ON SUB-CLASSIFYING SCs, STs

## JDU says order a vindication, BJP wary, RJD wants data

DIPANKAR GHOSE & LIZ MATHEW  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

WITH THE Supreme Court on Thursday ruling that states can sub-classify the list of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Socially and Educationally Backward Classes, and referring the matter to a larger bench, political parties in poll-bound Bihar are keeping a close eye on the matter.

Across party lines, leaders said they would read the Supreme Court order closely before formulating a position. However, the JD(U) seemed enthused by the order, while the BJP seemed more wary. The RJD said they were not against sub-categorisation per se, but not in the absence of Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) data.

On Thursday, a five-member bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra held that the “State's obligation is to undertake the emancipation of the deprived section of the community and eradicate inequalities. When the

reservation creates inequalities within the reserved castes itself, it is required to be taken care of by the State making sub-classification and adopting a distributive justice method...” Since the bench disagreed with a 2004 judgment—also by a five-judge Constitution bench—the Justices requested the CJI to place the matter before a bench of seven judges to take a final call.

For the BJP, which feels it has an edge over its political rivals at present, any discussion on categorising Dalits or OBCs would be a risk ahead of elections in Bihar, where caste issues have often played a significant role in polls.

The central government recently extended by six more months the term for the Justice Rohini Commission, which was set up to look into whether and how the 27 per cent OBC quota in central government jobs and educational institutions should be subdivided. This was seen as a political move to avoid discussion on this during the elections. The BJP, sources said, does not want to disrupt its support base, dominated by OBCs, by dividing them further.

Party leaders cited the example of 2015 Bihar elections, when a remark by RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on reviewing quota for SCs and STs was considered to have dented the party's prospects. During the campaign, Bhagwat had suggested that a non-political committee be formed to decide on eligibility for reservation. Then BJP rivals RJD and JD(U) had claimed that the remark showed the intention of the BJP and RSS to scrap quota for Dalits.

A senior minister of JD(U)—the party is now in the ruling alliance with the BJP—said, “We have to go through (SC order) and understand the fine print. But from what we know, this is a vindication of what Nitish Kumar has said and done. In fact, in Bihar there are schemes running for Mahadalits, for instance, right now. If the Supreme Court is vindicating us, why should we not take that to the people? We definitely will.”

Leaders of the opposition RJD said that while sub-categorisation could be a healthy step with SECC data, without the data it

was a tool to divide Bahujans. Manoj Jha, senior RJD leader and Rajya Sabha MP, said, “Sub-categorisation without valid data is a regressive step. Sub-categorisation would appear natural and scientific if you have SECC data. Why is the government not keen on SECC data, which will provide the socio-economic location of different castes? That will provide the framework of who stands where. Bereft of SECC data, an attempt at sub-categorisation is a ploy to divide Bahujans.”

Asked if this could impact the elections, another RJD leader said they would closely watch the Bihar government's response. “It depends. First, a final call is yet to be taken by a seven-member bench. Therefore, how much the JD(U) wants to talk about this is uncertain, as they don't seem to have talked about this particular case much before. The BJP will also be wary. We have been focusing on the SC community, especially with the induction of former JD(U) minister Shyam Rajak. So we will respond accordingly,” a leader said.

## Left parties likely to have alliance with RJD for Bihar polls

SANTOSH SINGH  
PATNA, AUGUST 27

THREE LEFT parties—CPI, CPI(M) and CPI(ML)—are likely to be part of the RJD-led Opposition Grand Alliance for the upcoming Assembly elections in Bihar.

While leaders of CPI and CPI(M) leaders met RJD state president Jagdanand Singh on Wednesday, CPI(ML) leaders had spoken with RJD leaders before. Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Yadav has authorised Singh to hold talks with other parties.

While CPI and CPI(M) have in the past been in alliance with the RJD or the Janta Dal, its earlier parent party, if the ongoing move materialises, this would be the first time CPI(ML) will be in alliance with the Lalu Prasad-headed party.

CPI(ML) is the only Left party with presence in the current Assembly—its three MLAs represent Darauli (in Siwan district), Tarari (Bhojpur) and Balrampur (Katihar) constituencies.

While CPI has been keen on fighting the polls in Beguwarai, Khagaria, Madhubani, Banka



RJD leader  
Tejashwi  
Yadav

and Siwan, the CPI(M) is learnt to be interesting in contesting some seats in north Bihar. Senior CPI(M) leader Ramdev Verma had represented Bibhutipur in Samastipur district for long.

RJD spokesman Mrityunjay Tewari told *The Indian Express*: “Leaders of CPI and CPI(M) met our state president. We have agreed in principle about the need to contest the elections together. Discussions on seat-sharing can take place later.”

CPI(ML) office secretary Kumar Parvez said: “We are ready for an alliance with the RJD—it is about seat-sharing now. We already have three seats and have a good hold on over a dozen seats in Bhojpur, Patna, Arwal and Siwan.”

CPI state secretary Ramnaresh Pandey and his CPI(ML) counterpart Awadhesh Kumar told the media about the need for a “united Opposition” to take on the NDA.

## GUJARAT HC REFUSES TO ACCEPT YATIN OZA APOLOGY

## ‘Liberty of free expression is no licence for unfounded allegations’

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
AHMEDABAD, AUGUST 27

THE GUJARAT High Court has refused to accept the “unqualified and unconditional” apology tendered by Gujarat High Court Advocates' Association president Yatin Oza, saying it is “not bona fide” and “lacks sincerity”.

The High Court had initiated criminal contempt proceedings against Oza for making “scurrilous” remarks that the court deemed as undermining the authority of the courts.

Rejecting Oza's apology, a division bench of the HC said this would send a “clear and loud message”. It held that “the liberty of free expression is not to be confused with license to make unfounded allegations against any institution much less the judiciary”.

The HC had initiated the criminal contempt proceedings following a press conference in June, which was live-streamed over Facebook, in which Oza had alleged “favouritism” and “forum shopping” by advocates and the administrative side of the court.

In its judgement on Wednesday, the HC noted his “re-



Gujarat HC  
Advocates'  
Association  
chief Yatin  
Oza

peated acts and conduct of contempt” in the past, from which the court concluded that his latest apology “is not bona fide and lacks sincerity and therefore, an unacceptable proposition”. These include instances of initiation of suo motu criminal contempt proceedings in 2006 and 2016 and apology rendered by Oza both times.

The court observed, “Every time scurrilous remarks against the Judges and the institution are made and when he realises that there is no escape route, the weapon of unconditional apology comes to his rescue. This was permitted in the past upkeeping a rich tradition of Kshama Virsya Bhushanam (forgiveness is the jewel of heroes)... if still permitted, this institution would be inviting for itself more and many such unsubstantiated, unsustainable and baseless attacks from various quarters. A clear and loud message is a must to be sent that we are open to every healthy criticism respecting the

fundamental right of freedom of expression and at the same time, we are obligated not to permit any attempt to tarnish the image of the Institution and to despise and damage the prestige of the same and to demean the respect it enjoys by one and all...”

Objecting to the method adopted by Oza in airing his grievances by live-streaming over social media, the division bench of Justices Sonia Gokani and NV Anjaria observed, “We are neither satisfied with the genuineness of apology tendered before this court nor convinced of its bona fide nature of such apology and therefore, choose not to accept the same... We cannot help but make a mention here that the entire proceeding was telecast live which we have made a part of our notice of contempt for the same to be viewed for its intensity, virulence and the intent declaring this august institution to have lost its trust of all concerned... it can be prima facie noticed that this entire sequence of events is bereft of any emotional outburst and contrarily, appears prima facie to be more guided by a definite and purposive object of attacking the Institute...”

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# 6 EXPRESS NETWORK

## BRIEFLY



Courtesy: Twitter

**Mahesh Manjrekar**

### MAHARASHTRA

#### Man held for extortion bid on filmmaker

**Mumbai:** The Anti-Extortion Cell of the Mumbai Police Crime Branch on Thursday arrested a 34-year-old man for allegedly threatening and trying to extort money from actor, director and producer Mahesh Manjrekar. The man has been identified as Milind Tulsankar, a tea seller from Diva. He posed as a member of gangster Abu Salem's gang and demanded Rs 35 crore from Manjrekar through messages sent over phone, said police. The accused was produced in court, which remanded him to police custody till September 2.

ENS

### GUJARAT

#### BJP leader shot at in Porbandar, one booked

**Rajkot:** Prashant Sisodiya alias Pappu, secretary of BJP's Porbandar city unit, was injured after one Raju Rana Odedra allegedly opened fire at the residence of a former BJP councillor of Porbandar municipality early on Thursday morning. Police said Sisodiya was injured after a shot allegedly fired by Odedra hit him following a tiff at the residence of Bhalla Maiyariya in Milpara area of Pobandar town Thursday. Based on a complaint by Bhalla's wife Sonal, who too is a BJP councillor, police booked Odedra for attempt to murder and criminal intimidation.

ENS

### ASSAM

#### Veteran singer Archana Mahanta dies

**Guwahati:** Veteran Assamese singer Archana Mahanta died at a city hospital on Thursday aged 72. Mahanta had suffered a stroke in mid-July and her condition deteriorated since. She was the wife of renowned singer Khagen Mahanta - popularly referred to as 'King of Bihu' - and the mother of popular singer Angaraag "Papon" Mahanta. Along with her husband, Mahanta is credited with popularising Assamese folk music in her long singing career.

ENS

### TAMIL NADU

#### Pet dog helps trace owner's body

**Udhagamandalam:** A pet dog helped in tracing the decomposed body of his missing master, suspected to have been trampled to death by a wild elephant in Nilgiris district. Palaniyandi (60) went missing three days ago following which a search was launched but to no avail, police said. A few residents on Thursday noticed the dog visiting a particular spot and running back to the victim's house and barking. They then followed the dog and found the decomposed body bearing serious injuries on head and abdomen, indicating an attack by an elephant, they said.

PTI

## LAC rivers in spate, Army prepares for October when weather improves

**SUSHANT SINGH**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

WITH THE rigid and inflexible Chinese stance on further disengagement along the Line of Actual Control dimming hopes of a breakthrough in the next round of military talks between the two sides, the Army is preparing for all contingencies on the disputed border in Ladakh, including the possible threat of Chinese manoeuvres in October when weather conditions improve.

"Right now, the situation seems to be in a stasis, but that is essentially dictated by weather and terrain. The rivers and nalas are currently in full spate in eastern Ladakh, and with the tracks located in the valleys, they become unusable and inaccessible. That rules out any military action. But as the water subsides, and even though the weather then may be slightly colder, October is a campaigning season in the area for which the Army is fully prepared," a senior officer told The Indian Express.

The 1962 border war be-



Army trucks on the Leh-Manali highway on Wednesday. PTI

tween India and China was fought in the months of October and November. It spanned the areas in Ladakh which are currently the friction points between the two armies for the last 115 days.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, in an interview to Rediff.com, said: "This is surely the most serious situation after 1962. In fact, after 45 years, we have had military casualties on this border. The quantum of forces currently deployed by both sides at the LAC is also unprecedented."

The officer said that besides the number of Chinese troops on the LAC, it is "the logistics support and infrastructure that is being built, which is a bigger indicator. Tracks, shelters, bunkers and communication networks have been put up by the PLA in the past few months".

"Our deployment is very strong, and we are fully prepared. Being prepared means enough troops and armour, equipment and quantities of ammunition are in place now. The logistics is all tied up, includ-

ing the supply chains," the officer said.

After the Ministry of Defence gave powers last month to the services to sanction capital procurement programmes worth Rs 300 crore for urgent operational requirements, the Army has placed orders for specialist ammunition under the clause. Most of these orders have been placed with foreign suppliers who have to supply the full consignment by March 31, 2021.

Meanwhile, the talks at the level of the Corps Commander are expected to be held on the LAC "within next 4-5 days" but expectations of any breakthrough from the talks are rather low. There has been no progress in many rounds of diplomatic and military talks since mid-July, due to the rigid Chinese stance.

"The Chinese line in the last many talks has been about 'mutual and equal' disengagement which means that both sides step back by an equal distance. That has been rejected by us for many reasons: one, it is the Chinese who have ingressed and this reinforces the new status

quo; two, this means we step back from our longstanding posts in the areas which is impractical; three, their terrain and better infrastructure means equal time of movement of troops instead of equal distance should be considered as a factor; and four, the Chinese want to maintain exceptions even in disengagement," the officer said.

Despite agreeing to a disengagement plan in PP17A in Gogra, the officer said the Chinese troops continue to occupy a height which allows them to dominate the area on the Indian side of the LAC. Similarly, Chinese troops have refused to step back from the Finger-4 ridgeline on the north bank of Pangong Tso while stepping back from the bank.

In the strategic Depsang Plains, the tensions have led to the breakdown of the local arrangement which allowed Indian patrols to access patrolling points. Chinese troops have blocked Indian soldiers at a place 18 km inside the LAC, denying them access to five patrolling points in the area.

## Self-confidence in defence needed to create a self-reliant, modern India: PM

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

MAKING AN unexpected appearance at a webinar hosted for the defence manufacturing industry in the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday underlined the importance of the "special sector" and said self-confidence in defence is important for the creation of a modern and self-reliant India.

"Our commitment for a self-reliant India is not inward-looking. The aim is to create a capable India for creation of a more resilient and more stable global economy and for peace in the world," the Prime Minister said.

He said "India has the capacity to become a dependable supplier of military equipment for many of its friendly countries". This, he said, "will also strengthen India's position as a net security provider in the Indian Ocean Region".

The government, he said, is stressing on moving away from the model technological transfer to co-production through joint ventures with foreign partners. "Looking at the market size, the best option for the foreign partners is to manufacture in the country," Modi said, and added that a self-reliant India is a "win-win commitment" for all, including the private sector, the public sector and foreign manufacturers. Addressing representatives of the defence industry in the country, Modi said, "For a modern and self-reliant India, there is a necessity of self-confidence in defence."

The PM said "it is not hidden from anyone that India has been for many years one of leading nations among the largest defence exporters in the world".

India, he said, "had a lot of capability for defence production" when it gained Independence as "at that time over a 100-year-old ecosystem for defence production existed" in the country. But "there were no serious efforts" for many decades after Independence to boost the de-



PM Narendra Modi

fence industry in the country and "many nations who started after us have raced ahead of us in the last 50 years", he added.

The Prime Minister said the situation is changing and the government is "trying to unshackle the industry".

The Prime Minister said the government's move to open up the defence industry to 74 per cent FDI under the automatic route is also "the result of self-confidence of new India".

"For decades ordnance factories were being run as government departments because of a restricted vision... The sector that could have created the opportunity for employment of crores of people, its ecosystem was very limited. Now, we are moving forward corporatisation of the ordnance factories. It will strengthen the labour and the military," he said.

The government has also decided to set aside a part of the defence acquisition budget for the domestic industry, Modi mentioned, and highlighted that the list of 101 weapons, platforms and military equipment that will be embargoed for imports will be expanded.

Speaking earlier in the webinar, CDS General Bipin Rawat mentioned that another no-imports list could be announced early next year and could even be larger.

He also mentioned that the government has an investment target of Rs 20,000 crore in the next five years for defence corridors in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

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

## CBI questions Rhea's brother; father appears before ED

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, AUGUST 27

THE CBI, which is probing the abetment to suicide angle in the Sushant Singh Rajput death case, on Thursday questioned his friend and actor Rhea Chakraborty's brother Showik, the watchman of his bungalow, Rajput's roommate Siddharth Pithani and house keeping staff at their camp office at the DRDO guesthouse through the day.

This is the first time that the CBI has questioned a member of Rhea's family.

Rhea's father, Indraneel, meanwhile, appeared before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday in connection with the FIR registered on charges of money laundering.

Such was the media presence outside her Santacruz residence that Rhea put out two videos and appealed that her family be provided security. While one video showed her father being mobbed by the media, the second one was of her building watchman being surrounded by mediapersons.

Later, after ED officers, too, sought the help of the Mumbai Police, two policemen went to the Chakraborty residence and escorted Indraneel to the Santacruz police station. From there, ED officers escorted him to a bank in Vakola in connection with his probe.

Meanwhile, at the DRDO guesthouse, the CBI questioned Showik Chakraborty about his relations with Sushant and the last time he had interacted with him, an officer said.

The agency also questioned the actor's friend and flatmate Siddharth Pithani and cook Neeraj among others. It is likely to summon Rhea for questioning later this week.



## MUMBAI BUILDING COLLAPSES, 2 KILLED

Two people were killed and a third injured when a three-storey building in Mumbai's Nagpada collapsed Thursday. In separate incidents the same day, parts of buildings caved in in the city's Vikhroli and Chembur areas, resulting in injury to one person each. *Ganesh Shirsekhar*

## India slams Pakistan for not taking credible action against Azhar, Dawood

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

INDIA ON Thursday slammed Pakistan for not taking any credible action against Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar and fugitive terrorist Dawood Ibrahim.

While Azhar is responsible for the 2019 Pulwama attack, Dawood is the main accused for the 1993 serial blasts in Mumbai and other attacks. Both are listed in the UN Security Council's list of global terrorists.

The NIA has filed a



Masood Azhar and Dawood Ibrahim

chargesheet against Azhar for the Pulwama attack.

In response to questions at the weekly briefing Thursday, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said the chargesheet was filed af-

ter investigation over a year and a half since the attack. It was filed to address the act of terrorism and to bring perpetrators of such a heinous crime to justice, he said.

"Jaish-e-Mohammad had claimed the responsibility of Pulwama attack. The organisation and its leadership is in Pakistan. It is regrettable that Masood Azhar, the first accused in the chargesheet, continues to find shelter in Pakistan. Enough evidence has been shared with Pakistan but it continues to evade responsibility," he said.

On denial by the Pakistan foreign ministry of the presence of

Dawood Ibrahim in the country, the MEA spokesperson said the assertion that the Statutory Regulatory Order (SRO) does not mean that it admits to the presence of listed individuals on its territory "lays bare the insincerity of Pakistan in responding to legitimate expectations of the world that they will track down international terrorists based on its soil".

He said Pakistan has "never taken any credible and verifiable action against terror entities or listed individuals, including the most wanted ones".

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

## AFTER SEVERAL PETITIONS, AUTHOR FINALLY GETS HIS WISH

# Manoranjan Byapari to move from kitchen to library

**PAROMITA CHAKRABARTI**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

IN 2000, at a function at Hellen Keller Badhri Vidyalaya in West Bengal's Mukundapur, one of the cooking staff had done an audacious thing — he had handed over a copy of his self-published novel, *Boi Britter Shesh Porbo* (The Last Chapter of the Book Episode), to the chief guest, Alapan Bandyopadhyay. "Unlike my colleagues, he did not consider it a breach of propriety by a lowly Dalit cook. He was very gracious and promised to read it," says Manoranjan Byapari (70).

In the two decades since, Byapari went on to establish himself as a Bhasha writer of repute, whose Bengali novels and short stories speak of the aspirations of and indignities suffered by those he calls "caste pariahs". But one thing remained unchanged — his status as a cook at the government school. Despite

many requests for a transfer to a job that required less manual effort, Byapari continued to be employed as a group D staffer at the school, writing between shifts, and at night — the only time he says was his own.

On Wednesday, when the call came to inform Byapari that his petition had finally borne fruit and that he would be transferred to District Library, South 24 Parganas, near Amtala, it was only fitting that it was made by Bandyopadhyay, now West Bengal Home Secretary.

"In 2014, after I had had two knee replacement surgeries, it was difficult to stand and cook for more than 150 children twice a day, every day. The heat and physical effort was getting too much for me. Over the years, I had made numerous petitions to successive governments in person and through well-wishers and run around Bikash Bhavan (state government office in Kolkata) but nothing had



Byapari's novels and short stories speak of the aspirations of and indignities suffered by those he calls 'caste pariahs'. File

worked out. So, my heart is full that this has finally happened," says Byapari, who signed the transfer documents on Wednesday.

Byapari's journey to literary stardom is a story of relentless struggle against odds. Born to parents who moved to West

Bengal in 1953 from Barisal in what was then East Pakistan, he grew up on the margins of cosmopolitan life.

In 1975, when he was 20, and incarcerated in Kolkata's Alipore Central Jail for petty violence, he learned to read and write from another undertrial. Two years

later, after his release, when he started a new life as a rickshaw puller, a serendipitous meeting with writer and activist Mahashweta Devi set him off on a lifetime of writing.

Byapari's *Iti Bittrey Chandal Jibon* (2012, *Interrogating My Dalit Life: An Autobiography of a Dalit*, translated by Sipra Mukherjee into English was published by Sage last year) went on to win several awards, as did many other works that followed. Over the last few years, several award-winning translations of his works have made him a familiar figure in the country's literary circuit. His novel *Batashe Barudar Gondho* (2013, *There's Gunpowder in the Air*, translated by Arunava Sinha into English was published by Eka in 2019) was shortlisted for the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature and JCB Prize for Literature last year.

In a long Facebook post on Wednesday, Byapari expressed

his gratitude to his well-wishers, including Bengali theatre actor-director Shaoli Mitra, and an unnamed benefactor who helped convey his plight to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. In the post, Byapari wrote that he had always had faith in Banerjee's benevolence. "I believed that if someone could tell her about my plight, my problem would immediately be sorted. If only she knew about my struggle and how I had fought to reach a place where I am known across the country, she would definitely help me out," he wrote.

While he does not know the nature of his responsibilities yet or when he is required to join work, Byapari says he is happy to finally get a chance to be around books. In the meantime, he is nearly done writing his autobiography, *Andhakar Ateet, Ajana Bhabhishyat* (Dark Past, Uncertain Future). "Perhaps, after all the struggle, things will end on a happy note," he says.



## Govt starts talks with Pfizer, days after early vaccine data

**KAUNAIN SHERIFF M**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

THE GOVERNMENT has held an "initial meeting" with representatives of US-based Pfizer's Indian subsidiary days after the global pharma giant released the early phase 1 data of its vaccine candidate for the novel coronavirus that, it said, demonstrated a strong immune response.

"We are in contact with Pfizer India. We have had an initial meeting," top government sources told *The Indian Express*.

BioN and its German partner BioNTech, a biotechnology company, had released the phase 1 data last Thursday and said they are "on track" to seek regulatory review as early as in October 2020.

So far, the pharma major has identified five facilities across the globe, including in the US and Germany, to manufacture the vaccine. In India, sources said, Pfizer does not have any agreement with the government "as of now" or identified any manufacturing facility.

Sources said, however, that there is the possibility of a "fill and finish" option. "We have to see how it evolves. They are also actively looking around," they said. In the process of "fill and finish", manufacturers use third parties to fill vials with the vaccine and complete the packaging process.

The Pfizer vaccine candidate — BNT162b2 — is currently in phase 3 of human trials in the US. It is made of a short segment of genetic material, which provides instructions to human cells to make harmless versions of a target protein — in this case, the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 — to activate an immune response.

Pfizer has said it will manufacture up to 100 million doses of the vaccine by the end of 2020 and potentially more than 1.2 billion doses by the end of 2021. It has so far announced agreements to supply the vaccine to a number of countries, including the UK, US, Japan and Canada.

On Wednesday, India began phase 2 trials of a separate Oxford University vaccine candidate with the first doses given to a set of six volunteers at Pune's Bharati Vidyapeeth medical college and hospital. This candidate, which is being developed by Bharat Biotech and Zydyus Cadila, is in phase 1-2 of clinical trials.

## Pune: 7 get Covishield shots in vaccine trial

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
PUNE, AUGUST 27

SEVEN PEOPLE, including the former CEO of a pharmaceutical company and his family, were injected with the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine candidate for the Covid-19 infection in Pune on Thursday. Four volun-

# Daily cases hit new high, Centre holds meet with worst-hit states

Nine states, J&K told to bring down infections among healthcare workers

**KAUNAIN SHERIFF M**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

AS THE country reported a record 75,000 new cases of novel coronavirus infections, the Cabinet Secretary, who held a review meeting Thursday with 10 states and Union territories that contribute to 73 per cent of the caseload, stressed on them to urgently reduce the high positivity rate among healthcare workers, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

Chief secretaries and health secretaries of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana, Gujarat, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, and Jammu & Kashmir, attended the meeting with Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba. Apart from a high caseload, these states and J&K also account for 89 per cent of the Covid deaths.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation was made by Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan. Sources said the Centre noted that the positivity rate among healthcare workers was "high" in at least four of the states — Maharashtra (15 per



A healthcare worker collects a swab sample for an antigen test at Khopat bus stand in Thane on Thursday. Deepak Joshi

cent), Karnataka (11 per cent), West Bengal (8 per cent) and Tamil Nadu (7 per cent).

"The states were told that they are in a way risking a precious resource. The infection can spread to healthcare workers only from two sources. One, hospitals, calling into question infection control practices. Two, localities where these doctors and nurses reside, in which case states need to seriously consider

making these localities containment zones," sources said.

Data shared with the states at the meeting showed that in the last 14 days, when the country saw 13,133 casualties, 34 per cent of the deaths were reported from Maharashtra, 12 per cent from Tamil Nadu, 11 per cent from Karnataka, 10 per cent from Andhra, 7 per cent from Uttar Pradesh, and 6 per cent from Bengal.

"The six states are critical from

the point of view of deaths. Also, it was highlighted that certain districts within these states are reporting high fatality," sources said.

The states were urged to bring the mortality rate below 1 per cent, with a mention that Gujarat had registered the biggest decline in week-on-week case fatality rate (CFR) from 4.48 per cent to 3.32 per cent, followed by Madhya Pradesh (3.24 per cent to 2.29 per cent) and Uttar Pradesh (2.36 per cent to 1.55 per cent). However, it was pointed out, Tamil Nadu, with a rise from 1.45 per cent to 1.72 per cent, J&K (1.79 per cent to 1.89 per cent) and Punjab (2.51 per cent to 2.61 per cent) had all seen an increase in week-on-week CFR.

Concerns were also raised about containment zones reporting active cases even after the 14-day incubation period. "This means that on day 7 or day 10, the zones saw new cases. Which means some people were left out during testing. The states have to ensure that positive cases, all close contacts are traced and tested within 72 hours," the states were told.

## No Muharram procession, a section may be targeted for virus spread: SC

**ANANTHAKRISHNAN G**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

THE SUPREME COURT Thursday declined to grant permission for Muharram processions across the country, and said it did not want a situation where "a whole community may be targeted for spreading" the coronavirus.

Hearing a PIL filed by Lucknow-based Shia cleric Syed Kalbe Jawad, the bench of Chief Justice of India S A Bobde and Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian said: "The difficulty is you are asking for a general order for the occasion in the whole country."

The bench said if it grants the relief for the whole country, "there will be chaos" and "a whole community may be targeted for spreading" Covid-19. "We don't want that."

The petitioner's counsel, Azim H Laskar, reminded the bench about the Supreme Court's decision allowing the Rath Yatra at the Jagannath temple in Puri, and rituals at three Jain temples in Mumbai.

CJ Bobde said these two cases were different since there were "identifiable areas of access". In the case of Puri, the bench said, "it was in one place and one set route. We could assess the risk

"We as a Court cannot risk the health of all the people. If you had asked for one particular place, we could have assessed the risk," the CJ said.

and pass the order for only Puri".

Both matters, the bench said, involved "limited prayers" and pointed out that it had not granted permission for the Ganesh festival congregation.

"We as a Court cannot risk the health of all the people. If you had asked for one particular place, we could have assessed the risk," the CJ said.

The bench also pointed out that no state had been made party in the PIL. It allowed the petitioner, who is based in Lucknow, to approach the Allahabad High Court for permission allowing the event in Lucknow.

"Learned counsel appearing for the petitioner prays for withdrawal of this petition with liberty to approach the Allahabad High Court. Prayer is allowed. Accordingly, the writ petition is dismissed as withdrawn with the liberty aforesaid," the bench said in its order.

## Gujarat considers outsourcing task to recover loans from the underprivileged

**PARIMAL DABHI**  
GANDHINAGAR, AUGUST 27

THE GUJARAT government is considering whether to outsource the task to recover loans given to people from various underprivileged sections of the society through nine corporations of the Social Justice and Empowerment department (SJED), top sources in the government have said.

There are nine development corporations under the SJED for the development of various underprivileged sections of the society such as sanitation workers, Thakor & Koli communities, minority communities, Scheduled Castes, nomadic & denotified tribes, herdsman, economically backward non-reserved communities and other backward communities. The government has been providing loans to the members of the underprivileged sections for various purposes such as higher education, vocation, livelihood, etc.

A senior government official said that while the SJED was providing funds to be given to the needy persons through the corporations in the form of loans, the recovery rate of the loan amount was hardly 40-50 per cent.

"One of the major reasons for less recovery is the staff crunch in our department and different corporations that provide the loans... it is difficult to follow the lengthy

recovery process," the official said.

"The process includes various stages... First, the loan defaulter has to be given intimation... Then, a notice has to be given to the loan guarantor. If the payment is still not done, then the post-dated cheque taken from the loanee has to be used to recover the payment. And if the cheque is dishonoured in the bank, then coercive action has to be initiated under the provisions of the Negotiable Instrument Act," the official added.

"We don't have enough staff to follow the lengthy process and so we are in the process of outsourcing the recovery process to a private group. The tender for the same is almost ready and will be floated after the final decision," the officer said, adding that the government is planning to increase the current recovery percentage from 40-50 per cent to above 90 per cent with 5 per cent of the recovered amount to be paid to the recovery group as remuneration.

Social Justice & Empowerment minister Ishvar Parmar said that a proposal to outsource the recovery process to private entity was under consideration. "For outsourcing, we have to take permission of the finance department. Final discussion (on the proposal) is yet to be done," he said.

"If there is a staff deficit, then (it) has to be done," Parmar added, saying that he did not have the latest information on the proposal.

## SC likely to hear SNC-Lavalin graft case against Pinarayi Monday

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

THE SUPREME COURT is likely to hear on August 31 the CBI's appeal challenging the Kerala High Court order upholding Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's discharge in the multi-crore SNC-Lavalin graft case.

The matter is listed before a bench of Justices U U Lalit and Vineet Saran. It was last year listed before a bench headed by Justice N V Ramana. On Monday, the top court will also take up petitions filed by some of the accused challenging the HC direction asking them to face trial.

The CBI appeal challenges HC's August 2017 decision by which it upheld a trial court order discharging Vijayan in the case, which had set off a political storm in the state.

Vijayan had denied the allegations and maintained that the case was "politically motivated".

On November 5, 2013, a CBI court in Thiruvananthapuram discharged Vijayan and six other accused. The CBI then approached HC, which upheld the discharge of Vijayan and two others. It set aside the discharge of three other accused and directed that the case against them be revived in trial court.

The case relates to award of contracts for renovation and modernisation of three hydroelectricity projects to Canadian firm SNC-Lavalin in 1995, when Vijayan was the state electricity minister. An audit by the Principal Accountant General of Audit in Kerala later pegged the loss to the exchequer due to the deal at over Rs 350 crore.

### DIRECTORATE GENERAL BORDER SECURITY FORCE BLOCK NO. 10, CGO COMPLEX, LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003

(MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS)

No. 1/60/2019-Pers/BSF/18208

Dated 02 July, 2020

**Sub: DEPUTATION, SHORT TERM CONTRACT, DEPUTATION CUM RE-EMPLOYMENT AND RE-EMPLOYMENT IN BSF AIR WING GROUP 'A' COMBATISED POSTS - PILOTS, ENGINEERS AND LOGISTICS OFFICERS -2020**

Applications are invited on prescribed proforma from serving or retired eligible candidates belonging to various Ministries/ Departments of Government of India/ State Govt./Public Sector Undertakings for filling up the following Group 'A' posts in BSF Air Wing as per BSF Air Wing Officers (Group 'A' combatised post) Recruitment Rules 2011 and amendments issued from time to time on (a) deputation, (b) short term contract (c) deputation cum re-employment and (d) re-employment basis:

S. No.	Posts	Pay Matrix (Central Govt Civilian Employees)	Vacancies
<b>PILOTS</b>			
1.	Capt/Pilot (DIG)	Level 13A (Rs. 131100-216600)	Embraer -1 Mi-17 IV/V5 - 2
2.	Commandant (Pilot)	Level 13 (Rs. 123100-215900)	Mi-17 IV/V5 -7 ALH/Dhruv -3 Cheetah -1
3.	Second-in-Command (Pilot)	Level 12 (Rs. 78800-209200)	Mi-17 IV/V5 -4 ALH/Dhruv -4 Cheetah -1
4.	Deputy Commandant (Pilot)	Level 11 (Rs. 67700-208700)	Mi-17 IV/V5 -4 ALH/Dhruv -8
<b>ENGINEERS</b>			
5.	Deputy Chief Engineer (Commandant)	Level 13 (Rs. 123100-215900)	Mi-17 IV/V5 -1 ALH/Dhruv -1 Cheetah -1
6.	Senior Aircraft Maintenance Engineer/ Senior Aircraft Radio Maintenance Engineer (Second-in-Command)	Level 12 (Rs. 78800-209200)	Embraer -1 Mi-17 IV/V5 -5 ALH/Dhruv -4 Cheetah -1
7.	Junior Aircraft Maintenance Engineer/ Junior Aircraft Radio Maintenance Engineer (Deputy Commandant)	Level 11 (Rs. 67700-208700)	ALH/Dhruv -3
<b>LOGISTIC OFFICERS</b>			
8.	Equipment Officer/Senior Stores Provisioning Officer (Second-in-Command)	Level 12 (Rs. 78800-209200)	Mi-17 IV/V5 -01

- Detailed advertisement, containing Posts wise eligibility conditions, prescribed format of application is available on BSF website [www.bsf.nic.in](http://www.bsf.nic.in).
- In addition to the usual pay & allowances, deputation and Risk and Hardship allowances will be paid as per admissibility according to the Government's instruction from time to time.
- The place of posting (subject to change) in respect of the advertised posts will be as under :
  - Embraer/AVRO Aircraft - Delhi
  - Mi-17 IV/V5 Helicopters - Delhi/Guwahati/Ranchi
  - ALH/Dhruv Helicopters - Ranchi/Raipur/Agartala
  - Cheetah Helicopters - Srinagar
  - Logistic Section - Delhi/Ranchi/Raipur/Guwahati/Agartala/Srinagar.
- The Advertisement is open upto 31 Dec, 2020 subject to availability of vacancies as per the requirement. **Eligible candidates may apply through proper channel applications will be accepted till 31 Dec, 2020** from the date of publication of this advertisement in the Employment/Leading news paper. Application along with requisite enclosures should reach to DIG (Pers), FHQ BSF, Pers Dte, CGO Complex, Block 10, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003.
- Vacancies are subject to change (may increase or decrease) and BSF reserves the right to make changes or cancel or postpone the recruitment without assigning any reason. Application not received through proper channel or incomplete in any respect such as those not accompanied by the documents will be liable to be rejected.
- Any further information/notification in respect to this recruitment will be made on the BSF Website [www.bsf.nic.in](http://www.bsf.nic.in) from time to time. For any enquiry contact Telephone No. 011-24364851 to 55. Extension - 2381 & 2380.

-sd/

(A K Sharma)

DIG (Pers)

Dated, the 02 July, 2020

davp 19110/11/0008/2021

## Varavara Rao discharged from hospital, back in jail

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, AUGUST 27

POET AND activist Varavara Rao, an accused in the Elgar Parishad case, was discharged from a private hospital Thursday after over a month of hospitalisation. He has been sent back to Talaja Jail.

The 81-year-old tested positive for Covid-19 in July and was undergoing treatment for other ailments too. Hospital officials said he was discharged after he tested negative for the infection.



Officials said when he was admitted in July, he was not coherent and could not properly respond to queries.

"He is now weak, but is able to coherently hold conversations and is fully conscious," an official said.

## Union Minister tests positive for coronavirus

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 27

UNION MINISTER Krishan Pal Gurjar has tested positive for Covid-19. The Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment revealed this on Twitter on Thursday, urging others to take precautions.

"I consulted doctors and will undergo treatment. I urge all those who came in my contact over the past few days to take coronavirus seriously and get themselves tested," Gurjar said.



Earlier this month, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Ayush Minister Shripad Naik, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal and Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat tested positive for coronavirus.



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THE INDIAN EXPRESS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2020

# THE EDITORIAL PAGE

## WORDLY WISE

IF ANYTHING IS GOOD FOR POUNDING HUMILITY INTO YOU PERMANENTLY, IT'S THE RESTAURANT BUSINESS. — ANTHONY BOURDAIN

## The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

## BURDENING THE STATES

Centre's refusal to compensate for GST shortfalls could impart contractionary fiscal impulse to economy

THE ECONOMIC FALLOUT of the COVID-19 pandemic has deepened the faultlines in Centre-state fiscal relations. A key sore point that has emerged in recent months is that of compensating states for the shortfall in their protected GST revenues — collections from the compensation cess will not be enough to offset the shortfalls this year. The options that the Centre has now presented to states — allowing them to borrow the amount of the shortfall through an arrangement with the RBI, facilitated by the Centre — suggests that rather than taking the burden of compensating states on itself, as was originally promised, the Centre has shifted the weight of meeting the shortfall in collections to the states. While the states have requested for a seven-day period to think this over, they may have no option but to accept these terms. However, shifting the burden on to the states is tantamount to the Centre renegeing on its promise of protecting their revenues. It strikes at the very foundation of the original agreement between the Centre and states on GST.

As per the Finance Ministry, the shortfall in state GST collections this year is likely to be around Rs 3 lakh crore. Of this, Rs 65,000 crore will be collected through the cess route, implying a shortfall of Rs 2.35 lakh crore. The compensation due, but not paid to states, for the April-July period stands at Rs 1.5 lakh crore, as against cess collections of only Rs 14,482 crore in the first quarter of the current financial year. To bridge this growing gap between cess collections and GST shortfalls, state finance ministers had laid out several alternatives. Some proposed that the GST Council be allowed to raise funds, securitised against future cess collections. Others had suggested increasing the cess levied on products. Another option, one preferred by several states, was for the Centre to borrow the funds and transfer to the states. While these options have been debated upon for several months, the Centre has rejected all of them.

For states, revenue from GST accounts for roughly a third of their revenue receipts in 2019-20 (BE). Thus, any reluctance on their part to borrow more to finance these shortfalls (it would add to their debt burden), coupled with further shortfalls in flow of resources to them (tax devolution is likely to be lower), would force them to cut back on spending, imparting a contractionary fiscal impulse to the economy, at a time when there is a growing clamour for loosening the purse strings. At the current juncture when states are at the forefront of fighting the pandemic, the Centre should have assured them of adequate funds.

## TESTING TIMES

Yes, there are challenges but, on balance, deferring JEE, NEET doesn't reduce risk; Govt should work to ensure safety

THE JOINT ENTRANCE Examination to the IITs and the National Eligibility cum Entrance Tests for medical institutes are slated for September. Both the tests have been postponed twice — the JEE was originally scheduled in April, then deferred to July; the NEET slated for May was also pushed to July. With the COVID pandemic showing no sign of letting up, they were rescheduled again. Now, there is a chorus of opposition to holding these examinations next month. On Wednesday, chief ministers of seven states threatened to move the Supreme Court to seek the deferment of NEET-JEE — this, after the Court had made it clear last week that it is against putting off these examinations any further. So far, the government has been unequivocal about the September schedule — it should not buckle down.

The virus does introduce several challenges to the task of holding examinations. But given that the COVID curve continues its upward climb, at different rates in different states, there is no evidence that delaying the exams — by weeks or months — will reduce the risk. To ensure trust and a level playing field across income groups, an online examination is challenging to administer. Given the numbers who take these tests, losing an entire year in these colleges isn't an option. This would have a cascading effect on the next year. In short, the test is an unavoidable and that needs to be done following the science. Today, a lot more is known about the virus than what was known in April — what precautions are needed, from masks to distancing for a test that will take three hours of a student at a desk. The epidemiological understanding is virtually mainstream now and has informed the lifting of restrictions on a range of activities. This is also the thinking behind the Election Commission's stated intention to hold the Bihar assembly elections; the Delhi government calling for resuming the Metro services; airlines planning to expand services. Everywhere, the discourse is how to open up while minimising the risk.

That logic should drive these examinations as well. As this newspaper has reported, an average of Rs 150 is being spent per candidate to ensure COVID hygiene at the 660 centres across the country. But care should also be taken to ensure that holding the test now does not diminish the representative character of these institutes — socially, regionally and with respect to gender. The governments must ensure that the candidates can travel safely, and, in time, to the examination centres. For lakhs of young women and men, these tests are a passport to their hopes and aspirations. It's the government's responsibility to ensure that they get all they need to take the test — safely.

## SPLIT THE BILL

UK's 'eat out to help out' scheme subsidises the restaurant industry as it faces an existential crisis. It is worth considering

AN ICONIC scene in *The Devil Wears Prada* (2006), Anne Hathaway's character smirks at a discussion at the fashion magazine where she works. The obsessions of her editor (Meryl Streep), she seems to believe, are both flighty and elitist. Streep corrects her, pointing out how the tasks they carry out are essential to an industry that employs millions. Restaurants are far less elitist than the fashion industry and the food and hospitality industry is facing an existential crisis. The British government's "eat out to help out" scheme, therefore, merits consideration.

Under the EOH scheme, the UK government will pay 50 per cent of the bill for diners (excluding alcohol, with an upper limit of 10 pounds) to help out the restaurant industry. The subsidy, in effect a direct cash transfer to eateries, attempts to address the demand problem facing the industry. The economic fallout of the pandemic — pay cuts, job losses, a general lack of spending due to uncertainty — will certainly be mitigated somewhat by government assistance. In fact, given that the hospitality industry is labour intensive, such a subsidy is definitely worth considering.

Since June 1, when the "unlock" phase began, there has been no specific package from the Indian government for the hospitality industry. There are two conceivable arguments against this: First, due to physical distancing norms, restaurants may be unable to meet demand. To this, the response is that supply follows demand, and the market will certainly find a way. Besides, at this point, the problem of overcrowding is one most eateries will be happy to deal with. Second, given the many crises plaguing the country due to the pandemic, subsidising a luxury like eating out is not a priority. To that, it must be said that life is not just about tasks, but also tastes. And those that put food on a table at a restaurant are anything but elite.

# Weighed down by wages



PRANJUL BHANDARI

Labour-led supply disruption has stopped, but low pay may keep demand subdued

ABOUT 30 MILLION migrant workers rushed home to their villages during the pandemic. The question now is will they return to their city jobs? And what will happen to wage growth?

About 60 per cent of out-migration from rural India is aspiration-led and the 2.5 times higher income earned in urban jobs may be too attractive to forego, unless rural wages rise. So can incomes in the villages rise? Alas, we are not convinced.

True, there is much excitement about the rural recovery. The countryside didn't face as strict a lockdown as the big cities, the government has directed plenty of stimulus measures towards it, and monsoon rains and the planting of crops has been good. Yet, this optimism could prove short-lived, as eventually the more long-lasting determinants of rural wages could prevail.

One, while the government has raised the rural employment guarantee programme (NREGA) wages and outlays, demand for the scheme is outpacing supply, which means that it may not be an effective driver of higher rural wages.

Two, a construction slump could be harmful. Many rural Indians, especially those without land, have become building labourers. But 70 per cent of construction is related to real estate and property developers are dependent on funding from struggling non-banking financial companies. Until this type of lending restarts, construction may not normalise. And that means rural wages may not rise quickly either.

Three, rising debt levels could be a drag. The increase in borrowing and the sustained fall in inflation over the last few years has increased the "real" indebtedness of rural Indians, particularly the land owners who pay villagers to farm their land. This is likely to hurt their ability to pay high wages.

It is possible that rural wages could tick up a shade temporarily. Sowing in the current season has been strong, requiring more hands on the ground. But this may not rise sustainably once the current agricultural season is over, implying that "aspirational"

As during demonetisation, workers could find jobs again, but at lower wages. During demonetisation, the unemployment rate declined gradually, but was driven by a rise in rural more than urban employment — rural India created double the jobs that urban India did. And despite the employment rate rising, wage growth declined over this period. What could this mean? One explanation is that urban job opportunities waned and some workers were only able to find work in rural India, where wages are 40 per cent of those in urban areas. It's a similar picture this time around.

labourers may want to return to their better paid urban jobs.

So, are the workers returning to urban India? Unemployment rates have fallen and labour markets have already improved from the April lows.

There's early evidence of labourers going back to their jobs in the cities. Some estimates suggest that 15,500 migrants who had left for their rural homes in other states are returning to Maharashtra every day. A special train service that was started to ferry labourers back to their rural homes has seen demand dry up since early June (after peaking in late May). In fact, there is demand for trains to bring migrants back to their urban work places.

All of this suggests that the supply-side disruption from reverse migration may not linger long after the current agricultural sowing season is over, assuming the peak of the pandemic is largely over by then. The situation might even be the opposite soon — more rural workers wanting jobs in urban India than are available. So, what will give? Wages.

For three reasons, we think the wage outlook could be dimmer than in the pre-pandemic world. In fact, India may have more of a wage problem than a jobs one.

One, as during demonetisation, workers could find jobs again, but at lower wages. During demonetisation, the unemployment rate declined gradually, but was driven by a rise in rural more than urban employment — rural India created double the jobs that urban India did. And despite the employment rate rising, wage growth declined over this period.

What could this mean? One explanation is that urban job opportunities waned and some workers were only able to find work in rural India, where wages are 40 per cent of those in urban areas. It's a similar picture this time around. There's been an improvement in labour markets between April and July, driven by a faster rise in rural jobs (though some of this could just be seasonal).

Two, there could be a second-round of pandemic-led labour market weakness, driven by job losses and falling wages from the first round. If this does materialise, it

could be led by a lack of urban job opportunities since sectors like restaurants and accommodation, more prevalent in urban India, are yet to recover.

Three, we find that both rural and urban wages are driven by economic growth, and our expectation of India's post-pandemic medium-term growth falling by one percentage point to 5 per cent does not bode well. We believe that the banking sector, burdened by rising bad loans, will be the key driver of a fall in potential growth.

What are the key takeaways? The much-feared labour-led supply disruption may not last, but weak wages could keep demand subdued. To offset this and ensure that things don't spiral down, policymakers have an important role to play.

In particular, they may have to ensure that capital is allocated efficiently — India's savings are employed where they are most productive, and as a result, investments keep ticking along. After all, investment is the only way to increase the economy's capacity to create well-paying jobs.

But amid the COVID-19 backdrop, bringing back investment growth would also involve capital re-allocation. This means taking it away from sectors that are not working and redeploying it in sectors that are. Improving the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code procedure is a key step here.

Another important step is to improve the health of banks as they are the ones allocating capital by giving loans. India's banks have become risk-averse as a large mountain of non-performing loans threatens to grow further. Implementation of the 5-Rs — recognition, restructuring, resolution, recapitalisation and reforms — for the banking sector may be particularly useful here.

To sum it all up, we believe the supply disruption caused by reverse migration won't last long, but led by lower wages, demand could remain weak, requiring policy intervention.

*The writer is chief India economist, HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Pvt Ltd*

## PAGEANTRY AND FALSE PROMISE

The number of Arjuna, Khel Ratna awardees is at odds with state of Indian sports



NIHAL KOSHIE

FOUR YEARS BACK, India's medal count at the Rio Olympics was an abysmal two. This year, the COVID-19 pandemic has ensured that the Tokyo Games, along with other significant sporting events, have been postponed. However, this hasn't come in way of the sports ministry approving the longest-ever list for their annual sports awards. On the jumbo list of 74 are five Khel Ratnas and 27 Arjuna awardees. These are overwhelming numbers that are more suited for nations with a bulging trophy cabinet and over-stuffed medal chest. It also gives an impression that in this year of sporting lockdown, India has finally emerged as a global sporting power.

The fact that sports ministry's guidelines state that there should be just one Khel Ratna and 15 Arjuna Awardees every year unless there are exceptional circumstances, is a mood spoiler in a week when elaborate plans are being put in place for the online function celebrating India's sporting excellence. The overcrowded list of awardees is an assurance that all is well with Indian sports. When not presenting a rosy picture of the present, the sports ministry also periodically promises a sparkling bright future.

Sports ministers have a habit of making predictions about India's Olympic medal tally. Generous in their estimation, the ministers usually talk about a new dawn that's at least four years away, the duration of the Olympic cycle.

Last month, Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju made the grand announcement of India finishing among the Top-10 at the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles. The disaster of fin-

ishing 67th at the last Games didn't see the minister tone down his pitch when it came to his expectations from India's Olympians. Australia at No10 had 29 medals. With India winning just two medals in Rio, the minister was expecting a 1,500 per cent increase in India's sporting success in eight years. And, collaterally, a collective drop in the performance of the table toppers.

Almost all of Rijiju's predecessors have been prone to bouts of extreme optimism. When Ajay Maken of the Congress was the minister, he forecasted 25 medals in 2020. Rijiju's BJP colleague Sarbananda Sonowal said "10-plus" a year before the Rio Games.

Away from this unrealistic hype, there are some universally accepted hard facts. Breaking the Olympic hierarchy hasn't been easy. There is a tried-and-tested formula to win bagfuls of Olympic medals. Countries that dominate the medal-table ensure that they groom winners in disciplines with a higher number of medals.

The US, top of the all-time list (2,523), has dominated in track and field (802) and swimming (553) — two sports where the most medals are up for grabs at the Olympic Games. Australia owes its Olympic legacy to the success in swimming — 188 of their 497 medals are from the pool. The second-best ever Russia continues to dominate the medal-heavy disciplines of gymnastics and wrestling.

China, a relatively new entrant on the Olympic overall podium, has managed to break into the elite club with smart planning. The introduction of table tennis and badminton proved to be a boon for China, which is traditionally strong in these racquet sports.

Cuba, with just over 11 million citizens, has gained by specialising in boxing — one-third of its 226 medals are from the ring.

Except for hockey, in a different era, India hasn't really "owned" a sport. Medals in weightlifting, tennis, shooting, wrestling, badminton and boxing have made the country excited once in a while but consistency hasn't been a strong point — Sydney (1 medal), Athens (1), Beijing (3), London (6) indicated an upward trend before the crash at Rio (2).

For India to surge towards the top of the medals tally, its sporting ecosystem needs a massive overhaul. The onus of helping athletes bag more Olympic medals shouldn't be placed only at the door of the ministry at Shastri Bhawan. National sports federations need a nip and a tuck to shape up.

Federation officials should be open to private partnerships and also push to generate their own revenue and not bank on government grants. The umbrella body for all sports federations, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), can take a leaf out of the book of the US Olympic and Paralympic Committee. The USOPC receives no funding from the federal government. To run high-performance programmes for the entire squad, it generates enough money from sponsors and donors.

At some point, accountability should kick in too. In case India is nowhere near the Top 10 in 2028, will we see a spate of resignations? While the country waits for that real new dawn, they can get busy with grand award ceremonies and the promise of a grander future.

*nihal.koshie@expressindia.com*

## AUGUST 28, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

### ASSAM PEACE BROKEN

THE ARMY STAGED a flag march in Upper Assam's coal town, Margherita and some adjoining areas as violence erupted afresh after yesterday's incidents in which four persons, including three children, were killed and about 50 others injured. The incidents of mob violence — arson, bomb-throwing, clashes, looting and stabbing — involving two linguistic communities broke out in the area after a brief spell of tranquillity in the troubled state following the reopening of some schools in the face of resistance to the move by the sponsors of the agitation on the foreigners' issue. The coal town and its adjoining areas have been placed under curfew and

reinforcements have been rushed to maintain law and order in the area.

### TRADE TIFFS

INDIA HAS A right to seek impartial arbitration on the American move to impose heavy countervailing duties on some goods imported from this country. This action is open under the regulations of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) under whose auspices multilateral trade negotiations were concluded and ended with the Tokyo declaration. The US trade representative has said that his country would not recognise the applicability of the MTN agreement with India.

### TAX ON HOTELS

THE MINISTRY OF tourism and civil aviation has requested the prime minister to withdraw the 15 per cent tax on hotels which was announced in the general budget by the Finance Minister R Venkataraman. The tax on gross receipts of hotels charging Rs 75 and above is to come on force on September 1.

### ETHIOPIA IN SOMALIA

ETHIOPIAN ARMY FORCES, backed by airstrikes, invaded northwestern Somalia and heavy fighting was taking place along a 45-km front. Somalia's Ministry of Defence announced. Ethiopian planes have bombed at least five Somali towns.





THE INDIAN EXPRESS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2020

## THE IDEAS PAGE

## The high priest of cinema

For Father Gaston Roberge, an inspiration for a generation of filmmakers, movies had to be studied, and placed in the context of our social matrix



GOUTAM GHOSE

I FEEL VERY sad at the demise of Father Gaston Roberge. Father had been close to our hearts for many, many years. Just imagine his incredible journey — a Jesuit priest, who came all the way from Montreal to Kolkata at a young age in 1961 and, after many years, in 1996, went to the Vatican. But he returned to Kolkata, where he stayed till his last breath on August 26.

Father Roberge was a great lover of cinema. He was a film theorist, who founded Chitrabani, the first-ever film studies centre in eastern India. In my opinion, Chitrabani was a social communication centre, too, because Father had initiated many research projects in different areas, such as slums and among less privileged people.

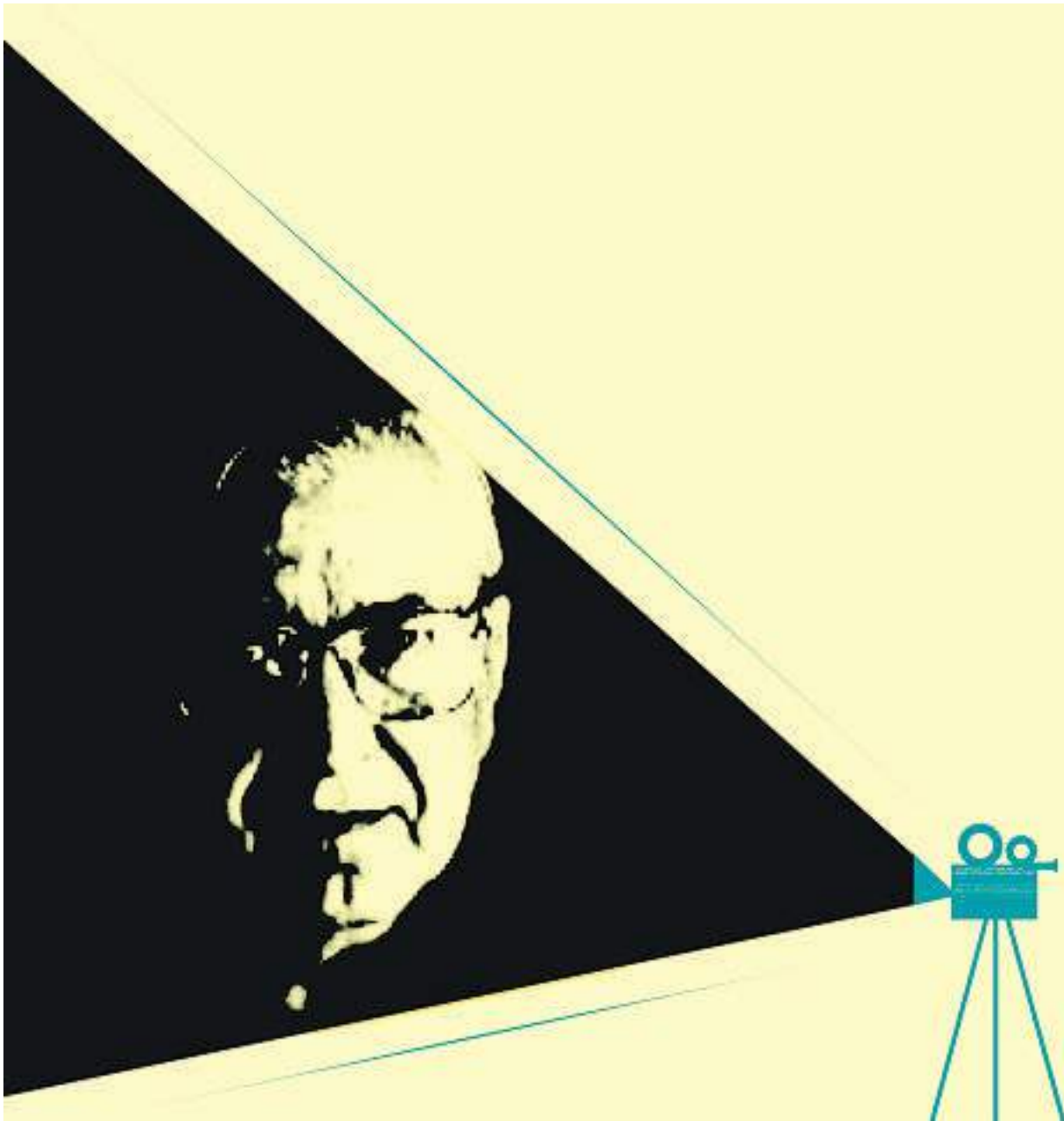
He had studied film in California, then went to New York where he saw *Pather Panchali* and became a fan of Satyajit Ray. He became a close friend of the filmmaker, with whom he had many interactions and wrote about. Ray was also one of the advisors of Chitrabani. Father Roberge also developed a great relationship with Mrinal Sen and other filmmakers of our generation.

Roberge was an inspiring figure for filmmakers like us, who still believe that you have to study cinema. It is not an easy job. It is not that if you have easily available digital equipment, you make a film. You have to learn cinema just like you learn your mother tongue and grammar. You have to know about great filmmakers, what they did, and great trends in cinema in different parts of the world. The moment you learn more, you will see that what you are doing is not enough and you have to improve yourself. It is a learning process that's never-ending.

He introduced the study of film in the context of our social matrix, which is very important. I released one of his last books, *The Indian Film Theory*, in which he had analysed *Sholay* and a Bengali hit called *Beder Meye Jyotsna*. Why were these films so popular? Why were people watching them? He analysed the phenomena in the sociopolitical context of this complex and heterogeneous country, writing about our society while studying two films. He had a kind of social observation on cinema. He would ask, "Why were people enjoying films? Which class of people? What about education? Was it literacy or real education?"

Roberge's knowledge of film theory was incredible. He was a scholar of the great Soviet filmmaker Sergei Eisenstein's work. Eisenstein's film sense and form are not easy reading. I remember I had some confusion about the "overtone montage" practised by Eisenstein. I spoke to Father, who explained to me the complex theory in a very simple way, citing examples from scenes and shots in films. I also discussed with him the "redemption of physical reality in cinema" as written in a great book, *Theory of Film*, by Siegfried Kracauer. It was a difficult book to read. When I had any doubt, I used to call Father and meet him.

His understanding was so clear and



C R Sasikumar

strong that a complex subject became as easy as flowing water. He introduced me to the writings of James Agee and said that I would find many new elements, not only about cinema but also related arts and art history. He opened up a huge canvas in front of me. Father had an in-depth knowledge of the great theories of cinema and that's why he could make things so easy to understand. He also had a great admiration for the writings of André Bazin. He explained to me how a theorist and critic like Bazin had inspired great filmmakers, from the New Realism of Roberto Rossellini to French new-wave filmmakers such as Godard and Truffaut. They found a new space for cinema from Bazin's writing. This was a subject of discussion between Father and me.

People like Father Roberge used to bring, through consulates and embassies, prints of world cinema, European and Japanese films, and we grew up watching these films at film societies because there was no television or DVDs. Otherwise, you had the opportunity to see such films only during film festivals. Father used to organise screenings at Chitrabani and analyse these films. It was very interesting that this was collective viewing. Discussing a film collectively has a dif-

Roberge was an inspiring figure for filmmakers like us, who still believe that you have to study cinema. It is not an easy job. It is not that if you have easily available digital equipment, you make a film. You have to learn cinema just like you learn your mother tongue and grammar. You have to know about great filmmakers, what they did, and great trends in cinema in different parts of the world. The moment you learn more, you will see that what you are doing is not enough and you have to improve yourself. It is a learning process that's never-ending.

ferent kind of impact. Those were great days.

Father's favourite restaurant was the Fairlawn Hotel, which was also Shashi Kapoor's favourite. We used to meet there for lunch, me and a friend of mine, and he always had some sweets because of his sweet tooth. Whenever I met him, he would say, "Goutam, here, take this chocolate." You can feel the presence of a charismatic character, but also his simplicity. He knew so much but was so humble.

He was sent to the Vatican as a priest of a very high order, which would seem like the ultimate step for him. I was in Rome and we met up for a long chat at a cafe near the Vatican. Almost at the end of our *adda*, he told me in Bengali, "*Goutam, aami kintu taratari phirey aschi Kolkatay.*" (Goutam, I am going to return to Kolkata very soon.) He really did. He came back and stayed until the end.

Father had written extensively about film theory and social communication and I think a compilation of his works should come out now. I request St Xavier's College, where he had created two study centres, to do something about Father's writing and the memory of Chitrabani.

The writer is a filmmaker

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Pakistan has played a constructive role in bringing the Taliban to the negotiating table and Washington has acknowledged this role."

—DAWN

## Taming the dragon

India must leverage its market to force China to settle border issue amicably



MEERA SHANKAR AND AJAY SHANKAR

AFTER THE loss of lives of Indian soldiers at Galwan, there have been calls for the boycott of Chinese goods. Counter views have been expressed that the Indian economy is so dependent on China that the costs of taking steps to stop imports would be disproportionately higher for India as most manufacturing in India is dependent on global supply chains where China has a leading role. But this is a fatalistic view. Our dependence can be reduced substantially if there is a national will and resolve to do so.

In the ongoing talks with Beijing it seems that, apart from some token withdrawal, China may not be willing to go back substantially from the areas they have occupied. While diplomatic efforts continue to restore the status quo ante and military deployments have been strengthened to act as a deterrent, the use of military power to get them to move back is a depleting option. So, does India have to accept the status quo and wait for subsequent moves by China along the unsettled border. Agreeing on maintaining peace and tranquillity on the border without movement on a boundary agreement or clarification of the LAC as we have been doing over the past three decades has left space for the Chinese to create border incidents which have now led to casualties. So India needs to get China to seriously negotiate a mutually acceptable boundary agreement.

The size of the Indian market and its potential in the coming years provides India considerable leverage; a leverage we should be willing to use fully. But to use this leverage, Indians, individual consumers as well as firms, have to accept that there would be a period of adjustment in which they would have to pay higher prices. The bottom line that needs to become clear to China has to be that without a mutually satisfactory border settlement and a permanent end to these border incidents, it cannot be business as usual and the Indian market would start shrinking for them. The Chinese have competitive advantage and are integral to global supply chains. But whatever they sell is, and can be, made elsewhere in the world. In fact, most of what we import from China was, is and can be made in India itself. With volumes and economies of scale, the cost of production in India would decline as it did in China.

The initial focus should be on items which are still being made in India and where imports from China have been increasing. If the RBI were to undo the real exchange rate appreciation, it would be equivalent to an increase in import duties of about 10 per cent. Further, selective imposition of China-specific safeguard duties and use of non-tariff trade barriers should be enough in segments like electrical appliances to let Indian producers expand production and increase market share. The government should also facilitate the flow of finances for expansion and provide technical support for testing, improving quality and lowering costs of production. In critical areas where we are dependent on China for inputs, such as Active

Pharmaceutical Ingredients, we need a vigorous approach to procure from elsewhere and have early production in India. The government could provide support for environmental compliance to bring down costs of production. This would create demand for domestic goods and services. The deindustrialisation that trade with China has been causing would get reversed. It would help in the recovery from the COVID-induced recession.

Then there are strategic sectors where we should reduce vulnerability. Chinese FDI must be subjected to national security scrutiny. The government has made some moves in this direction. In telecom, the UK has just decided that new Chinese participation in 5G would not be permitted and that by 2027 existing Chinese equipment should be phased out. India should take a similar decision. In telecom and power grid management, there is vulnerability from hacking. This is enhanced if the equipment supplier or systems provider would like to embed vulnerability. Fresh participation by Chinese firms should not be permitted in these areas till there is an amicable border settlement.

Subsequently, a view can be taken about phasing out existing Chinese equipment. Chinese firms should not be allowed to participate in bids for all contracts by the central and state governments and their agencies. For instance, the contract for supply of electricity meters in J&K by a Chinese company has serious security implications and should be reversed. Subcontracting to Chinese firms as well as procurement of Chinese equipment by way of government procurement should not be permitted.

Then there are critical products like solar panels and grid storage batteries. In these areas, private investment for manufacturing in India would be triggered by assured government procurement at a commercially viable price with full value-addition in India for five years from commencement of production. The bid process should provide for provision of land, infrastructure and cheap electricity to lower the cost of production. Repeated bids would create a competitive industrial structure. An early transition towards self-reliance would take place.

The somewhat intractable bit would be the electronic parts supply chain. Every device is likely to have Chinese components. There has been some progress in the last few years in assembly and value addition, especially of smart phones. The government has put in place incentives for greater value addition and phased manufacturing in India. Chinese firms are major players in this space. This need not be disturbed for the present. Chinese profitable investment in India would highlight the importance of the size of the Indian market in the years to come and the advantages of good relations based on a final settlement of the border. It also creates vulnerabilities for the Chinese as the recent ban on apps and popular calls for boycott have demonstrated.

A sustained and graded economic response to the recent Chinese conduct on the border is needed. We should signal India's firm resolve and willingness to bear the cost. China could choose to settle the border amicably and have full access to our market. We could then work together to make this the Asian century. Otherwise, we would still achieve our destiny, but without them.

Meera Shankar was India's Ambassador to the US and Germany. Ajay Shankar has been secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion



MAMIDALA JAGADESH KUMAR

## Home and the world

Why global university rankings miss Indian educational institutions

THE BEST indicators of a university's performance are the learning outcomes and how its education has impacted the students and society. The hype surrounding the announcement of world university rankings by international ranking organisations is unfortunate. Regardless of whether the rankings are beneficial or not, more universities than ever before want to get into these rankings. The obsession to be within the top 100 universities in the world is exasperating. Since there is a potential danger of creating elitism among universities through this ranking, lower-ranked universities may lose out on many counts. Some top-ranked universities want to collaborate only with other top-ranked universities, impairing the less fortunate ones to further sink due to inescapable stigmatisation.

International ranking organisations also force universities to alter their core missions. This has happened with JNU. Although JNU ranks between 100 and 200 in certain disciplines, it does not find a place in world university rankings. The reason is JNU does not offer many undergraduate programmes. We were indirectly told to start more undergraduate programmes in order to scale the ranking order while our university is predominantly a research-oriented institution.

First, let me state the obvious. Indian institutions lose out on perception, which carries almost 50 per cent weightage in many world university ranking schemes. Psychologists know that perception is a result of different

stimuli such as knowledge, memories, and expectations of people. While one can quantitatively measure the correlation between stimuli and perception, perception cannot be a quantifiable standalone parameter. Therefore, perception as a major component in the ranking process can easily lead to inaccurate or unreasonable conclusions.

Rightly or wrongly, international ranking organisations use citations as a primary indicator of productivity and scientific impact a discipline makes. However, studies show that the number of citations per paper is highest in multidisciplinary sciences, general internal medicine, and biochemistry, and it is the lowest in subjects such as visual and performing arts, literature and architecture. It is nobody's case that the latter subjects are of any less importance. By making citations of published papers from a university as a strong parameter for rankings, we seem to have developed an inexplicable blind spot when it comes to the differences among subject disciplines. It is no wonder that universities such as JNU, whose student intake in science research programmes is less as compared to the other disciplines, will loose out in world university rankings although it has been rated as the second-best university in India.

International ranking organisations are too rigid in their methodology and are not willing to add either additional parameters or change the weightage of current parameters. They are disinclined to employ meaningful and universally fair benchmarks of quality and perform-

ance. This is an absolute requisite to take into account the diversity that prevails among the universities. Some Indian higher education institutions even decided not to participate in the world university rankings alleging a lack of transparency in the parameters that are used in the ranking process.

Since universities are complex organisations with multiple objectives, comparing universities using a single numerical value is as ineffectual as comparing a civil engineer with a biologist or a linguist and a dancer. Hence, the danger that such skewed world rankings will downgrade the university education to a mere commodity is a realistic trepidation. This inelastic stance of ranking organisations has forced more than 70 countries to have their own national ranking systems for higher educational institutions.

I had argued in an editorial in IETE Technical Review (March 2015) for India to have its own national ranking system. The MHRD established the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) in 2016. The parameters used by NIRF for ranking Indian institutions are also most suited for many other countries — among the parameters are teaching, learning & resources, research and professional practice, graduation outcomes, outreach and inclusivity and peer perception. Unlike international ranking organisations, NIRF gives only 10 per cent weightage for perception.

In 2016, the NIRF rankings were given in four categories — University, Engineering,

Management and Pharmacy, College, Medical, Law, Architecture and Dental were added in 2020. This shows how NIRF is refining its ranking methodology by taking inputs from the stakeholders, which the international ranking organisations seldom do. No right-minded person can plausibly argue against such a ranking system, which recognises and promotes the diversity and intrinsic strengths of Indian educational institutes.

International ranking organisations are often sightless about what it takes to build a world-class educational system as compared to a world-class university. If a country has a world-class educational system with a focus on innovation, best teaching-learning processes, research-oriented towards social good, affirmative action plans for inclusive and accessible education, it will have a more visible social and economic impact.

Indian higher educational institutes need to ask themselves: What positive role can they play in improving the quality of higher education? What can we do to adopt innovative approaches to become future ready? And they need to act on those questions to make a change and plan beyond what is obvious.

NIRF will stimulate healthy competition among Indian educational institutes, which should eventually lead to a world-class Indian educational system. This system will act as a catalyst for the transformation of local universities to world-class institutions.

The writer is Vice-chancellor, JNU

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## PAK IN DOCK

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Truth about Pulwama' (IE, August 27). Pakistan has rejected the charge sheet, claiming it to be a "mischievous attempt" to implicate Islamabad for the Pulwama attack. But the NIA has presented clinching, forensically-matched evidence to nail the role of JeM and Pakistan and there will be no takers for Pakistan's lies. It must fulfil the 27-point action plan of the global watchdog to get rid of FATF's "blacklisting" in October.

SS Paul, Nadia

## UNTAMED FACEBOOK

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'BJP tops political ad spend on Facebook India' (IE, August 27). As Facebook's pervasive influence in Indian politics and elections is being unveiled, it becomes important to question whether targeted political advertising on social media is ethical, particularly as cases of fake news and hate speech are proliferating. Facebook generates massive revenues through political advertising, which puts its claim of being non-partisan under scrutiny. If there are no regulations user data will continue to be exploited for political propaganda.

Saundarya Jain, via email

## GIVE US CASH

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Long road ahead'. The RBI report is concerning. The

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● POOR ADMIR:  
ON KASHMIR:  
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government must consider direct cash transfers, instead of loans. This would definitely help the government and the economy as financially stable citizens will be willing to pay their taxes

Daksh Solanki, Delhi

## EXPAND NRA

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Taking jobs closer to people' (IE, August 27). The creation of the National Recruitment Agency is a welcoming step but the areas and the exams it is going to cover are comparatively less than the actual exams conducted all over India. The NRA should expand its horizons. Transparency is also a concern related to all these exams.

Ayushi Singh, Agra





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**E-AUCTION NOTICE**  
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**Sale notice for sale of immovable properties**  
 [See provision to rule 9(1)]  
 E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002


**DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION : DATE : 14.09.2020 TIME : 120 MINUTES**  
**FROM 11.00 A.M. TO 1.00 P.M. WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSIONS OF 5 MINUTES FOR EACH BID.**  
**Date and time for submission of request letter of participation/KYC Documents/Proof of EMD etc. for Bid : On or before 11.09.2020**

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 14.09.2020, for recovery of Rs. 3,97,08,772.00 as on 30.11.2012 plus further interest, charges, etc since 30.11.2012 due to the Secured Creditor from Borrower: **M/S TRITECH PROJECTS P. LTD.**, office at Flat-2B, "Madhuneer" 1st floor, 8/8, Bijoygarh, Kolkata-700032, Guarantor : i) Mrs. Amrapali Basu ii) Mr. Supratim Basu. The reserve price will be Rs. 20.30 Lacs and the earnest money deposit will be Rs. 20.30 Lacs, the latter to be deposited with the Bank on or before 11.09.2020

(Short description of the immovable property with known encumbrances)  
 Flat at A40, Chittaranjan Park, New Dethi - 110019 measuring 1623 sq ft. at ground floor with 50 % roof right of roof of second floor "proportionate share of 50% of land" measuring 320 sq yards (Perpetual leasehold rights vide Lease Deed dated 23.08.1975 registered at serial No. 4334. volume No. 3597 in Register Lessor Mr N C Ray and Lessee Mrs. Amrapali Basu)  
 Type of Possession : Symbolic

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor's website [www.sbi.co.in](http://www.sbi.co.in) & <https://sbi.auctiontiger.net> and the specific link : <https://bank.sbi/portal/web/home/sarfaesi-others>

Date: 28.08.2020, Place: Kolkata Authorised Officer, State Bank of India



### TAMIL NADU SLUM CLEARANCE BOARD

#### SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (CHENNAI CIRCLE-II)

Tender Notice No. SCB/820/2015E(CC-II)/2020 NOTICE INVITING TENDER Date: 27.08.2020  
 For and on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, One Sealed tender consisting of Single Cover for Price Schedule with name of work duly superscribed (For S.No.1) and one sealed tender consisting of two separate sealed covers one for Pre-qualification with EMD to be enclosed in A cover and another for price schedule with name of work duly superscribed to be enclosed in B cover (For S.No. 2 & 3) are invited from the registered contractors of TNSCB under Class -II and above (For S.No.1) and under Class -I and above (For S.No. 2 & 3) or Government Departments / Government undertaking / Public Sector Undertaking, registered as a legal entity in India by the Superintending Engineer, Chennai Circle-II, Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, No.5, Kamarajar Sala, Chennai - 600 005 upto 3.00 PM on 29.09.2020 and the same will be opened at 3.30 PM on same day in the presence of the Tender Scrutiny Committee.

Sl. No.	Name of work / Estimate No.	Approximate Value (Including GST) (Rs. in lakhs) Period of contract	EMD (In Rs.)	To whom EMD/ Tender Schedule cost to be Drawn	Cost of Tender Schedule (In Rs.)
1	Construction of 4 Nos of tenements adopting Type Design 56/2019 (G + 5 Storied) in 5th Floor with internal water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements at Vazhithoppu Phase-II Scheme in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No.140 under HFA of PMAY (AHP). Estimate CR No. 01/SE(CC-II)/2020-21.	34.00 6 Months	27,000/-	Executive Engineer / Division-I, Chennai-78.	11,150/-
2	Construction of 108 Nos of tenements adopting type design 22/2020 (S+5 Storied) using Conventional Technology/ Alternative Technology including internal and external water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with developments works at Mooringhar Street Phase-III Scheme in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No.46 under HFA of PMAY (AHP). Estimate CER No. 19/HFA/2020-21.	1119.00 12 Months	5,70,000/-	Executive Engineer / Division-III, Chennai-39.	16,900/-
3	Construction of 108 Nos of tenements adopting type design 1-D/2020 (S+11 Storied) including internal and external water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with developments works at Valleswarar Kail Thottam Phase-II in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No.173 under HFA of PMAY (AHP). Estimate CER No. 18/HFA/2020-21.	1084.00 12 Months	5,52,000/-	Executive Engineer / Division-VI, Chennai-04.	

The EMD should be drawn as Demand Draft or Banker's Cheque or FDR or irrevocable Bank Guarantee from any Nationalized / Scheduled Banks, payable at Chennai in the prescribed form in favour of the Executive Engineer mentioned in Column (5). The tender documents can be obtained from the office of the Superintending Engineer, Chennai Circle-II, TNSCB, No.5, Kamarajar sala, Chennai - 600 005 on written requisition along with cost of the tender documents as mentioned in Column (6), in the form of Demand Draft or Banker's Cheque upto 3.00 PM on 28.09.2020 drawn in favour of Executive Engineer mentioned in Column (5).

The tender documents are also available at [www.tenders.tn.gov.in](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in) which can be downloaded from 28.08.2020 to 28.09.2020 upto 3.00 PM. The downloaded tender documents shall be submitted without any alteration, whatsoever it may be, in full shape or otherwise the tender will be liable for rejection. The tenderer shall keep a watch over the Website till the preceding date of tender for any compendium. If the due date of opening of the tender happens to be a holiday, the same will be received and opened on the succeeding working day without any change in time. Clarification, if any on Bid Criteria and other details regarding the tender can be had on all working days from the Office of the Superintending Engineer, Chennai Circle-II, TNSCB, Chennai - 600 005.

The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.

No.5, Kamarajar sala, Chennai-600 005. DIPR/328/TENDER/2020  
**Superintending Engineer, Chennai Circle-II.**

### GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

## EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION, BHANDARA (PHONE NO. 07184-252412)

### E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 13 OF 2020-2021

Online e- tenders in B-1 forms for following works are invited by the Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Bhandara from the registered contractors. Tender document may be downloaded at Govt. Website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>. Rights to accept or reject the tender without assigning any reason reserve with Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Bhandara

Sr. No.	Name of Works	Est. cost. (Rs. in Lakhs)	Lowest money (Rs. in Lakhs)	Cost of E-Tender documents	Work completion period	Class of Contractor
1	Repairs to Bhandara Mohadi Tumar Road ( 511-355) in Km. 59/00 to 59/300 in Taluka Bhandara.	80.10	0.81	1120.00	4 Months	Class-IV-A & above.
2	Repairs to Kardia Khanani Khadki Road Km. 0/00 to 2/00 and 2/00 to 3/00 in Taluka Bhandara	43.50	0.44	560.00	4 Months	Class-V & above

Note :  
 1 Other terms & condition can be seen in the bidding documents.  
 2 The details tender notice can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the e-tendering portal <http://mahatenders.gov.in>

ROC-599

sd/- Executive Engineer, Public Works Division Bhandara



## GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SRL No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	PWD B&R ROHTAK	CONSTRUCTION OF COMMUNITY CENTRE (G+2 STOREY) IN PT. B.D. SHARMA UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, ROHTAK. + 1 OTHER WORK	27.08.2020 16.09.2020	726.82 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01262-232874 / pwd-expd-rohtak@hry.nic.in
2	PWD B&R REWARI	CONDUCTING OF CENSUS OF TRAFFIC AT T-153 (SUBANA KOSLI NAGAR, KARNA ROAD) AT KM 69 OF VILLAGE GUDHARWAS AT ROHIL IN REWARI DISTT.	27.08.2020 16.09.2020	2 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01274-253703 / pwd-expd-rewari@hry.nic.in
3	PWD B&R GURUGRAM	FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEM IN 56 NOS MULTI STOREY GOVT. HOUSES/ FLATS FOR THE RESIDENCE OF JUDICIAL OFFICER POSTED AT GURUGRAM IN SECTOR-52A & 53 AT GURUGRAM.	CLOSING DATE 04.09.2020	49.19 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01242322424 / pwd-expd-gurgaon@hry.nic.in
4	PWD B&R GURUGRAM	HOUSE AT HATHIN IN DISTRICT PALWA (PGC. INTERNAL E.I. ONLY) + 3 OTHER WORKS	27.08.2020 16.09.2020	14.83 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	Pwd-expd-gurgaon@hry.nic.in / 0124-2322674
5	BPS GOVT. MEDICAL COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, KHANPUR KALAN, SONPAT	E-TENDER. CNC OF 33 NOS OF LIFTS	28.08.2020 10.09.2020	1 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	bpgmc.purchase@gmail.com
6	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DIVISION NO. 1, Gohana	DNIT FOR PROVIDING FUNCTIONAL HOUSEHOLD TAP CONNECTION WITH DISTRIBUTION PIPELINE IN VILLAGE GHORANA TENSIL Gohana DISTT. SONPAT. PROVIDING FUNCTIONAL HOUSEHOLD TAP CONNECTION WITH LAYING OF DISTRIBUTION PIPELINE IN VILLAGE GHORANA AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERE TO. + 3 OTHER WORKS	28.08.2020 03.09.2020	41.03 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01253-258417 / ceighorana@hry.nic.in / ceighorana@phedharyana.gov.in
7	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AMBALA	RECALL PROVIDING 2 NOS. TOWELS IN VILL. ANIM, DISTT. KURUSHETRA AND PROVIDING 2 NOS. T/W IN PLACE OF FAILED TOWEL UNDER JNH IN VILL. DOTA & DARA, DISTT. KURUSHETRA EMD AMT. RS. 62300/- + 1 OTHER WORK	27.08.2020 10.09.2020	60.85 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	0171-2531402 / eemambala@phedharyana.gov.in
8	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, HARYANA BAWAL	DETAIL ESTIMATE FOR ESTATE WATER SUPPLY (PWA) ARRANGEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 500 COMPLEX AT BAWAL TOWN, DISTRICT REWARI. CONSTRUCTION OF BOOSTING STATION, BOUNDARY WALL, PUMP CHAMBER, LAYING OF DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AND RISING MAIN AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERE TO. + 2 OTHER WORKS	28.08.2020 07.09.2020	55.20 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01283-260062 / ocbawal@gmail.com
9	TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, HARYANA BAWAL	CLEANING, SANITATION AND HOUSEKEEPING SERVICES ACTIVITIES.	28.08.2020 18.09.2020	50 LACS	<a href="http://www.tenders.hry.nic.in">http://www.tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	1800-280-2507 / Tender NO.1/RQ/KM/2020-21
10	PANCHAYATI RAJ, AMBALA	CONST. OF VILLAGE KNOWLEDGE CENTRE AT VILLAGE BULIANI BLOCK BAWANA DISTT AMBALA + 6 OTHER WORKS	31.08.2020 14.09.2020	163.03 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01275-2551358 / pncexpd-amb@hry.nic.in
11	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYAT OFFICER, BADELI	SUPPLY OF RAIN AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK BADELI & DISTT-JHAJJAR.	CLOSING DATE 15.09.2020	NIL	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9355630031
12	PANCHAYATI RAJ, AMBALA	PROVIDING E.I. IN PANDI CHOUPAL ISHARA, C.C. BUNJHOL, BADGAR, CHOVAL ASSAR KALAN, 5 NO. SHOP EAST UGARHAIL, 5 NO. SHOP WEST USARHAIL, C.C. C. RAMPUR DISTT. PANIPAT + 1 OTHER	26.08.2020 03.09.2020	8.48 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	98020-581718 / 01275-2551358 / pncexpd-amb@hry.nic.in
13	PANCHAYATI RAJ, JHAJJAR	CONST. OF ONE C.CENTRE, ONE PIPE LINE AND ONE KASTA. (E-TENDER)	27.08.2020 10.09.2020	59.83 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01251-254118 / pncexpd-jh@hry.nic.in
14	PANCHAYATI RAJ, JHAJJAR	CONST. OF 2 NOS. GOVT. VETERINARY HOSPITAL AND 3 NOS. VETERINARY DISPENSARY.	27.08.2020 14.09.2020	117.40 LACS	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01251-254118 / pncexpd-jh@hry.nic.in
15	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYAT OFFICER, JHAJJAR	SUPPLY OF RAIN AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK JHAJJAR & DISTT-JHAJJAR.	CLOSING DATE 15.09.2020	NIL	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9812626196
16	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYAT OFFICER, ROHTAK	SUPPLY OF RAIN AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK & DISTT-ROHTAK.	CLOSING DATE 15.09.2020	NIL	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9812702003
17	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYAT OFFICER, SALHWAS	SUPPLY OF RAIN AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK SALHWAS & DISTT-JHAJJAR.	CLOSING DATE 15.09.2020	NIL	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	8816859691
18	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYAT OFFICER, BAWAL	SUPPLY OF RAIN AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK BAWAL & DISTT-JHAJJAR.	CLOSING DATE 15.09.2020	NIL	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	7988121932
19	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYAT OFFICER, KALANAU	SUPPLY OF RAIN AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK KALANAU IN DISTT-ROHTAK.	CLOSING DATE 15.09.2020	NIL	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9996488885
20	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYAT OFFICER, MATANAIL	SUPPLY OF RAIN AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK MATANAIL & DISTT-JHAJJAR.	CLOSING DATE 15.09.2020	NIL	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9416050161
21	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYAT OFFICER, BAHUNDIGARH	SUPPLY OF RAIN AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK BAHUNDIGARH & DISTT-JHAJJAR.	CLOSING DATE 15.09.2020	NIL	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9720456486

82453HRY  
 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : [www.haryanaaprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaaprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)

### NORTHERN RAILWAY

#### Cancellation of Tender

Due to administrative reason NIT No. 16/2020-21/W-V for the under noted work to be opened on 28.08.2020 is hereby cancelled.

The name of work and other details are as under:-

1. Development of RPC-4 facilities on line No. 20 at HNZM in the section of ADEHN/HNZM

Tender Cost Rs. 13425435.46

128-W/280/e-Tender Notice/2020-21/W-V Dated: 27.08.2020 1863/2020

#### SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

### IDFC FIRST Bank Limited

(Formerly known as Capital First Limited)

CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792

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

Authorized Officer – Mr. Rohit Dudeja | Contact Number – 7838324723

#### APPENDIX- IV-A [See provisio to rule 8 (6)]

#### SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Capital First Limited now IDFC FIRST Bank Limited, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 30.09.2020, for recovery of INR 2123221 As on 18.01.2019 due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited) from UDAY KUMAR JHA, REKHA KUMARI JHA Borrower-Co-borrower(s). The Reserve Price will be INR 12,00,000/- and the Earnest Money Deposit will be INR 1,12,000/-.

#### DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All That Piece And Parcel Of Property Bearing Plot No C-1/45, Gf, Df, Ankur Vihar Vill Sadullabad, Pargana-Loni, Ghaziabad.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IDFC FIRST Bank website i.e. [www.idfcfirstbank.com](http://www.idfcfirstbank.com).

Disclaimer: Please note that the said notice is issued for sale of immovable property only and IDFC FIRST Bank Limited has no right to sale the movable assets, if any, present at the immovable property.

Date: 26/08/2020

Sd/-  
 Authorised Officer  
 IDFC FIRST Bank Limited  
 (Formerly known as Capital First Limited)

उ.प्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लि. निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना अनुभव की श्रेणी कार्यदायी संस्थाओं/आपूर्तिकर्ताओं से विद्युत परेषण मंडल, ग्रेटर नोएडा के अन्तर्गत निम्न सामग्री/कार्य हेतु ई-निविदाई ई-पोर्टल [etender.up.nic.in](http://etender.up.nic.in) पर एवं दो भागों में निविदा खोलने की दिनांक को 12.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। 1. निविदा संख्या टी-76/2020-21: विद्युत परेषण खण्ड, खुर्जा के अन्तर्गत 132 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र, जहाँगीरबाद का वार्षिक आधार पर अनुरक्षण का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 9,500/- निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क रु. 1180/- (कर सहित)। खुलने की दिनांक 24.09.2020। 2. निविदा संख्या टी-77/2020-21: विद्युत परेषण खण्ड, हापुड़ के अन्तर्गत 132 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र, बाबुगढ़ का वार्षिक आधार पर अनुरक्षण का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 10,000/- निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क रु. 1180/- (कर सहित)। खुलने की दिनांक 01.10.2020। 3. निविदा संख्या टी-78/2020-21: विद्युत 400 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र, खण्ड, ग्रेटर नोएडा के अंतर्गत विद्युत 400 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र, ग्रेटर नोएडा हेतु सामग्री की आपूर्ति। धरोहर राशि रु. 2,000/- निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क रु. 590/- (कर सहित)। खुलने की दिनांक 01.10.2020। 4. निविदा संख्या टी-79/2020-21: विद्युत परेषण खण्ड, बुलन्दशहर के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न लाईनों के वार्षिक आधार पर अनुरक्षण का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 17,000/- निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क रु. 1770/- (कर सहित)। खुलने की दिनांक 03.10.2020। 5. निविदा संख्या टी-80/2020-21: विद्युत परेषण खण्ड, हापुड़ के अन्तर्गत के अन्तर्गत 132 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र, गड़मुकोशर का वार्षिक आधार पर अनुरक्षण का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 10,000/- निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क रु. 1180/- (कर सहित)। खुलने की दिनांक 03.10.2020। कृपया विस्तृत जानकारी, डाउनलोड, अन्य संशोधनों एवं ई-निविदा प्रस्तुत करने के दिनांक तक विस्तार आदि के सम्बन्ध में कृपया [etender.up.nic.in](http://etender.up.nic.in) पर लॉग इन करें। हस्ता./- अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत परेषण मंडल, उ.प्र.पा.ट्रा.का.लि., 400 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र, पानी, ग्रेटर नोएडा, "राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचाव" पत्रांक 1331/ वि.पा.मं./ ग्रे.नं./ टी-76 to 80/ 2020-21 दिनांक: 27.08.2020

उ.प्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लि. ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना अनुभव की श्रेणी कार्यदायी संस्थाओं से विद्युत परेषण मण्डल मेटर के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु मोहर बन्द ई-निविदाई ई-पोर्टल ([www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in)) पर दो भागों में आमंत्रित की जाती है। ई-निविदा खोलने की तिथि पर अवकाश होने की स्थिति में ई-निविदा अगले कार्य दिवस पर निर्धारित समय तक स्वीकार की जायेगी एवं निर्धारित समय पर खोली जायेगी। ई-निविदाओं को बिना कोई कारण बताये ई-निविदाओं को अस्वीकार/विभाजित करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरकों के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। कृपया विस्तृत जानकारी, डाउन लोड, धरोहर राशि एवं निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क जमा करने तथा अन्य संशोधनों एवं ई-निविदा प्रस्तुत करने के दिनांक तक विस्तार आदि के संबंध में [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) पर लॉग इन करें। निविदा का विवरण निम्न प्रकार है:- ई-निविदा संख्या, कार्य का विवरण, निविदा के प्रथम भाग खुलने की दिनांक, धरोहर राशि एवं निविदा का मूल्य (कर सहित) को क्रम में पढ़ा जाये। 1. टी-81/ 20-21 विद्युत परेषण खण्ड मेटर के अन्तर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र मोदीपुरम के वार्षिक आधार पर अनुरक्षण से संबंधित कार्य। दिनांक 26.09.2020, रु. 20,000.00, रु. 1770.00/-, अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत परेषण मण्डल, 130-डी, "पाषाण भवन" विक्टोरिया पार्क, मेटर। "राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचाव" पत्रांक/ वि.पा.मं./ टी-76 to 80/ 2020-21 दिनांक 27/08/2020

### HARYANA GOVERNMENT

#### CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT

30 Bays Building, 3rd Floor, Sector-17/B, Chandigarh  
 Website: [www.haraviation.gov.in](http://www.haraviation.gov.in), E-mail: [cavation@hry.nic.in](mailto:cavation@hry.nic.in)  
 Telephone No. 0172-2709386, Telefax: 0172-2709174

Applications are invited for one post of Senior Executive Pilot (Aircraft) on contract basis for a period of five year on the following terms and conditions given below:-

- Qualifications:**
- Matric or its equivalent;
  - Knowledge of Hindi/Sanskrit upto matric standard.;
  - Should be holder of current Commercial Pilot Licence with current Instrument Rating. Preference will be given to holder of Airlines Transport Pilot Licence;
  - Should have minimum 3000 hours of flying including 2000 hours as Pilot-in-Command on Twin /Multi Engine Aircraft with 50 hours of night flying as Pilot-in-Command with current Instrument rating;
  - Should have a minimum 30 hours of flying experience as Pilot-in-Command should be in last Six (06) months and 05 hours of flying (Real and Synthetic) in preceding 30 days for the date of selection;
  - Minimum 10 years of aviation experience.

**Age :** Not less than 30 years

**Scale of pay:**

- The consolidated contractual emoluments of Rs. 6.00 lakh (Rs. Six Lakh) per month will be paid. There will be 5% annual increase in the base rate of Rs. 6.00 lakh.
  - Special flying allowance of Rs. 5,000/- only (Rupees Five Thousand) per hour will be paid.
- Applications/Resume should be reached in this office within 15 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. The person so engaged shall not have any legal right claiming regularization of his service etc. in the Civil Aviation Department, Haryana.

**NOTE :**

Preference will be given to those candidates who are currently endorsed and having valid Instrument Rating on King Air B-200 GT/B-250 type of aircraft and who also fulfills on type qualification requirement for VIP flying as prescribed by DGCA.

A.K. Singh, IAS,  
 Principal Secretary to Government Haryana,  
 Civil Aviation Department.

82473HRY.



### NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Tender Notice No.: JHS-Engg-L-2020-101  
 Dated: 25.08.2020

#### E-TENDERING TENDER NOTICE

Divisional Railway Manager (Works) North Central Railway, Jhansi for and behalf of President of India invites sealed "Open Tender" through Online (E-Tendering) for the following work.

Description of work	E-Tender No.	Approx Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Form	Date of closing Tender	Date of completion/ period from issue acceptance letter
Annual Sectional contract for repairs & maintenance work and supply of material under ADEN/HQ/JHS for year 2020-21 Zone no-2C JHS (Excl.) to PRN (Excl).	JHS-Engg-L-2020-101	5500000/-	110000/-	5250/-	23.09.2020 at 15:00 hrs.	09 Months

Note - (1) Tender Online can be submitted upto 15.00 hrs on 23.09.2020 (2) For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website <http://www.irops.gov.in> 90820 (P)

 North central railway [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in)  @CPRONCR



### Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency, (UPNEDA)

(Deptt. of Additional Sources of Energy, Govt. of U.P.)  
 Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow U.P. Mob : 9415608017, Toll Free No : 1800-1800-005  
 Tele Fax: 0522-2720779, 2720829. Website: <http://www.upneda.org.in>, E-Mail: [compneda@rediffmail.com](mailto:compneda@rediffmail.com)

#### e-tender Notice

UPNEDA invites Online Bids from Prospective Bidder through e-tendering for the design, procurement, manufacturing, supply, installation, commissioning and 5 years comprehensive warranty maintenance of following items at various sites in Uttar Pradesh as per the details given in e-tender document.

Sr No	Items	e-tender No.	Quantity Required & Estimated cost	Fee of e-tender document	Earnest Money
1	Solar Street Lighting System (WLED based) with Li-Fe-PO4 battery in various sites of various districts of Uttar Pradesh.	01/UPNEDA/S/PV/OGS/L/2020-21	Approx. 10000 Units + 3		



# HC appoints wife as guardian of comatose man

OMKAR GOKHALE  
MUMBAI, AUGUST 27

THE BOMBAY High Court on Thursday permitted a woman to be appointed as guardian to her husband, who had been lying in a comatose or vegetative state since 2018.

The court said that while there was no law on appointing guardians to such patients, the wife can be "best-suited" to be the guardian "as Hindu Vedic philosophy considers marriage

as a union of two souls for life".

A division bench of Justice Ujjal Bhuyan and Justice Milind N Jadhav was hearing a plea by a woman seeking to appoint her as a guardian to her 42-year-old husband, who had suffered a cardiac arrest while jogging in November 2018, leading to sudden unresponsiveness.

The woman submitted that since her husband was not in a position to use intellect, converse and sign documents, she was required to act as his guardian to safeguard his inter-

ests. She requested the banks to

allow her to sign cheques in place of her husband, but was denied permission, the plea said.

The petitioner has two sons, one of whom is a minor, and a dependent mother-in-law, the plea stated, adding with medical bills increasing, she was helpless.

In its 22-page order, the HC said: "The plea raises an important issue of significant public interest though essentially grievance of the petitioner is private."

Referring to Hindu Vedic philosophy, it noted, "According to

Hindu Vedic philosophy, marriage is a sanskar or a sacrament. What is essentially contemplated is a union of two souls..."

"At present, there is no legislation in India relating to appointment of guardians to parties lying in comatose or vegetative state," it added while noting that the couple got married in 1999 and more than 20 years have gone by.

"Twenty years is a long enough period to judge stability of a relationship..." the court said in its order.

# SC reserves order on Mallya plea against 2017 contempt ruling

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Thursday reserved its order on absconding businessman Vijay Mallya's plea seeking review of its 2017 ruling holding him guilty of contempt of court.

A bench of Justices U U Lalit and Ashok Bhushan reserved its decision after hearing Advocate Jai Munim appearing for Mallya.

The top court in its May 9, 2017 order held Mallya guilty of contempt on two counts — for disobeying its order asking him to fully disclose his assets and for

violating the Karnataka High Court order restraining him from alienating his assets.

SC found that despite the direction to disclose assets, he had not revealed the receipt of \$40 million and, in violation of the High Court order, had transferred the sum to his children.

The contempt application was filed by a consortium of banks which is pursuing a case against him for failure to repay loans running into thousands of crores of rupees.

**IDFC FIRST Bank Limited**  
(Formerly known as Capital First Home Finance Ltd)  
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792  
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.  
Authorized Officer – Mr. Rohit Dudeja | Contact Number – 7838324723

**APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)]**  
**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**  
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002  
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Capital First Limited now IDFC FIRST Bank Limited, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **30.09.2020**, for recovery of **INR 1978798/-** AS ON **01.06.2019** due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Home Finance Limited) from WAJID ALTAH, SAMAREEN ABDUL NOJUNKHAN (Borrower-Co-borrower(s)).  
The Reserve Price will be **INR 1800000/-** and the Earnest Money Deposit will be **INR 180000/-**.

**DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**  
All That Piece And Parcel Of Property Bearing Flat No G-4, Ground Floor, Mig Type Back Side Without Roof Rights, Plot No C 1/87, DLF Dilshad Extn-4, VILL.: Brahmapur, Ghaziabad For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IDFC FIRST Bank website i.e. [www.idfcfirstbank.com](http://www.idfcfirstbank.com).  
Note : Please note that auction fixed for 17.09.2020 is hereby withdrawn by way of the present notice and the terms and condition of this notice shall remain valid.  
Disclaimer: Please note that the said notice is issued for sale of immovable property only and IDFC FIRST Bank Limited has no right to sale the movable assets, if any, present at the immovable property.  
Sd/-  
Authorised Officer  
IDFC FIRST Bank Limited  
(Formerly known as Capital First Home Finance Ltd)  
Date: 25/08/2020

**IDFC FIRST Bank Limited**  
(Formerly known as Capital First Limited)  
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792  
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.  
Authorized Officer – Mr. Rohit Dudeja | Contact Number – 7838324723

**APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)]**  
**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**  
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002  
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Capital First Limited now IDFC FIRST Bank Limited, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **30.09.2020**, for recovery of **INR 10,52,816.64/-** AS ON **26-Feb-19** due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited) from Manish Kumar, Rekha Ahuja, GrishKumar Ahuja (Borrower-Co-borrower(s)).  
The Reserve Price will be **INR 11,00,000/-** and the Earnest Money Deposit will be **INR 1,10,000/-**.

**DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**  
ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF PROPERTY BEARING GROUND FLOOR PROPERTY NO. J-83-A (OLD NO. WZ-24), KHASRA NO. 921, 10, VILLAGE-HAST, UTTAM NAGAR, NEW DELHI.  
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IDFC FIRST Bank website i.e. [www.idfcfirstbank.com](http://www.idfcfirstbank.com).  
Disclaimer: Please note that the said notice is issued for sale of immovable property only and IDFC FIRST Bank Limited has no right to sale the movable assets, if any, present at the immovable property.  
Sd/-  
Authorised Officer  
IDFC FIRST Bank Limited  
(Formerly known as Capital First Limited)  
Date: 25/08/2020

**IDFC FIRST Bank Limited**  
(Formerly known as Capital First Limited)  
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792  
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.  
Authorized Officer – Mr. Rohit Dudeja | Contact Number – 7838324723

**APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)]**  
**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**  
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002  
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Capital First Limited now IDFC FIRST Bank Limited, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **30.09.2020**, for recovery of **INR 2352117.75/-** AS ON **7-Feb-19** due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited) from ROHIT DEVRAJ, GEETA DEVRAJ, (Borrower-Co-borrower(s)).  
The Reserve Price will be **INR 12,00,000/-** and the Earnest Money Deposit will be **INR 1,20,000/-**.

**DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**  
All That Piece And Parcel Of Property Bearing Property Bearing No. 561, Out Of Khasra No. 466, Situated At Village- Ghukna, Pargana- Loni, Tehsil & Distt. Ghaziabad, U.P.  
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IDFC FIRST Bank website i.e. [www.idfcfirstbank.com](http://www.idfcfirstbank.com).  
Disclaimer: Please note that the said notice is issued for sale of immovable property only and IDFC FIRST Bank Limited has no right to sale the movable assets, if any, present at the immovable property.  
Sd/-  
Authorised Officer  
IDFC FIRST Bank Limited  
(Formerly known as Capital First Limited)  
Date: 25/08/2020

**IDFC FIRST Bank Limited**  
(Formerly known as Capital First Limited)  
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792  
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.  
Authorized Officer – Mr. Rohit Dudeja | Contact Number – 7838324723

**APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)]**  
**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**  
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002  
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Capital First Limited now IDFC FIRST Bank Limited, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **30.09.2020**, for recovery of **INR 1556021.4** As on **01.10.2019** due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited) from Bhagat Sharma, Rachna Sharma, Borrower-Co-borrower(s).  
The Reserve Price will be **INR 12,00,000/-** and the Earnest Money Deposit will be **INR 1,12,000/-**.

**DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**  
ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF PROPERTY BEARING FIRST FLOOR, WITHOUT ITS ROOF RIGHTS, PROPERTY BEARING NO. RZ-412 KH NO-391,VILL.NANGAL RAYAN SAGARPUR, GALI NO 2/3 ND DELHI.  
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IDFC FIRST Bank website i.e. [www.idfcfirstbank.com](http://www.idfcfirstbank.com).  
Disclaimer: Please note that the said notice is issued for sale of immovable property only and IDFC FIRST Bank Limited has no right to sale the movable assets, if any, present at the immovable property.  
Sd/-  
Authorised Officer  
IDFC FIRST Bank Limited  
(Formerly known as Capital First Limited)  
Date: 26/08/2020

**Delhi Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.**  
**An Enterprises of Govt. of NCT of Delhi.**  
**ISBT Kashmere Gate Delhi-110006**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
The Superintendent Engineer, DTIDC invite tenders on behalf of MD, DTIDC Ltd for the following works through e procurement solution only.  
1. NIT No. : 25/2020-21  
Tender ID No. : 2020\_DTIDC\_193787\_1  
Name of work : Renovation of offices for Auto Ricksha Unit/Taxi Unit/VIU Burari.  
SH : Internal Electrification & installations.  
Estimated Cost : Rs. 48,00,295/-  
Earnest Money : Rs. 96,006/-  
Time Allowed : 60 Days  
Last date of receipt of Tenders : 08/09/2020  
The Tender forms and other detail can be obtained from the website: <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/>  
Sd/-  
SE/Civil  
DTIDC Ltd. ISBT  
DIP/Shabdarth/0259/20-21  
Kashmere Gate, Delhi

**HARYANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**BAYS NO 1-10, BLOCK-B, SECTOR 4, PANCHKULA**

**RESULT**  
On the basis of Recruitment test for the Posts of Deputy Superintendent (Jail) in Home Department, Haryana conducted by the Haryana Public Service Commission on 02.08.2020 the candidates, three times the number of vacancies along with bracketed candidates, if any, bearing the following Roll Nos. have been declared qualified for Viva-Voce provisionally, subject to the fulfillment of all eligibility conditions. It is also made clear that mere being declared successful in this examination, the candidates will not be entitled for any right for the said posts. All the representations filed by various candidates regarding wrong questions/ answers for the aforesaid Recruitment Test have been considered and decided finally. The following Roll Numbers shown below are category-wise & in ascending order, not in order of merit:-  
**General Total Posts = 02 x 3 Times = 06 + 03 (Bracketed)**  
11107 11109 11130 11132 11137 11158 11188 11194 11200  
**SC of Haryana Total Posts = 01 x 3 Times = 03**  
11139 11150 11186  
**ESM of Haryana Total Posts = 01 x 3 Times = 03**  
11115 11159 11229  
**Note:**  
1. While preparing the result due care has been taken, however, any inadvertent error cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves its right to rectify any error at a later stage.  
2. The aforesaid qualified candidates will have to appear in the viva Voce for which they will be informed separately through an announcement which will be displayed on the Commission's website and also published in various newspapers.  
3. The above result is subject to final outcome in the LPA No. 429/2018 pending before the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court.  
4. Announcements regarding submission of hard copies of Online Applications Forms and any other certificates/ documents will be issued later on.  
5. Where no post for any reserved category is available, the candidate applying as a candidate of that particular category have been considered as General category candidates, subject to the fulfillment of the candidates of all eligibility conditions (Except fees, as meant for general category candidates).  
6. The result is also available on the Commission's website i.e. <http://hpsc.gov.in>  
Sd/-  
Secretary  
Haryana Public Service Commission  
Panchkula  
Dated 27.08.2020

**HARYANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**BAYS NO 1-10, BLOCK-B, SECTOR 4, PANCHKULA**

**RESULT**  
On the basis of Recruitment test for the Posts of Assistant Director (Technical) / Principal, Industrial Training Institute Group-A (Junior) in Skill Development and Industrial Training Department, Haryana conducted by the Haryana Public Service Commission on 11.08.2020 the candidates, seven times the number of vacancies along with bracketed candidates, if any, bearing the following Roll Nos. are been called for document verification provisionally, subject to the fulfillment of all eligibility conditions. It is made clear that out of the above only eligible candidates three times the number of vacancies in order of merit shall be called for viva voce. It is also made clear that mere being declared successful for the purpose of document verifications. the candidates will not be entitled for any right for the said posts. All the representations filed by various candidates regarding wrong questions/ answers for the aforesaid Recruitment Test have been considered and decided finally. The following Roll Numbers shown below are category-wise & in ascending order, not in order of merit:-  
**General Total Posts = 06 x 7 Times = 42 + 01 (Bracketed)**  
23110 23122 23155 23210 23217 23222 23224 23251  
23268 23300 23310 23342 23349 23369 23405 23418  
23442 23443 23447 23472 23478 23484 23491 23493  
23495 23528 23539 23551 23566 23576 23587 23596  
23607 23610 23616 23617 23626 23628 23663 23700  
23741 23746 23747  
**SC of Haryana Total Posts = 02 x 7 Times = 14**  
23112 23180 23249 23389 23390 23401 23432 23433  
23438 23506 23518 23593 23655 23707  
**BCA of Haryana Total Posts = 01 x 7 Times = 07**  
23393 23460 23510 23545 23679 23687 23703  
**Note:**  
1. While preparing the result due care has been taken, however, any inadvertent error cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves its right to rectify any error at a later stage.  
2. The aforesaid qualified candidates will have to appear in the viva Voce for which they will be informed separately through an announcement which will be displayed on the Commission's website and also published in various newspapers.  
3. Announcements regarding submission of hard copies of Online Applications Forms and any other certificates/ documents will be issued later on.  
4. Where no post for any reserved category is available, the candidate applying as a candidate of that particular category have been considered as General category candidates, subject to the fulfillment of the candidates of all eligibility conditions (Except fees, as meant for general category candidates).  
5. The result is also available on the Commission's website i.e. <http://hpsc.gov.in>  
Sd/-  
Deputy Secretary  
Haryana Public Service Commission  
Panchkula  
Dated 27.08.2020

**HARYANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**BAYS NO 1-10, BLOCK-B, SECTOR 4, PANCHKULA**

**RESULT**  
On the basis of Recruitment test for the Posts of Assistant Town Planner in Town & Country Planning Department, Haryana conducted by the Haryana Public Service Commission on 10.08.2020, the candidates, three times the number of vacancies alongwith bracketed candidates, if any, bearing the following Roll Nos. have been declared qualified for Viva-Voce Provisionally, subject to the fulfillment of all eligibility conditions. It is also made clear that mere being declared successful in this examination, the candidates will not be entitled for any right for the said posts. All the representations filed by various candidates regarding wrong questions/ answers for the aforesaid Recruitment Test have been considered and decided finally. The following Roll Numbers shown below are category-wise & in ascending order, not in order of merit:-  
**General: Total Posts= 06x3 Times= 18+2 (Bracketed)**  
21124 21172 21198 21219 21251 21261  
21267 21295 21467 21505 21531 21550  
21610 21632 21635 21647 21648 21712  
21782 21793  
**SC of Haryana: Total Posts= 03x3 Times= 09+2 (Bracketed)**  
21159 21208 21212 21270 21284 21315  
21377 21547 21584 21666 21791  
**BCA of Haryana: Total Posts= 03x3 Times= 09**  
21164 21347 21384 21678 21734 21788  
21825 21834 21858  
**BCB of Haryana: Total Posts= 01x3 Times= 03**  
21162 21477 21614  
**ESM of Haryana: Total Posts= 01x3 Times= 03**  
21200 21558 21699  
**Note:**  
1. While preparing the result due care has been taken, however, any inadvertent error cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves its right to rectify any error at a later stage.  
2. The aforesaid qualified candidates will have to appear in the viva Voce for which they will be informed separately through an announcement which will be displayed on the Commission's website and also published in various newspapers.  
3. The above result is subject to final outcome of the CWP No. 11067/2020 pending before the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court.  
4. Announcements regarding submission of hard copies of Online Applications Forms and any other certificates/ documents will be issued later on.  
5. Where no post for any reserved category is available, the candidate applying as a candidate of that particular category have been considered as General category candidates, subject to the fulfillment of the candidates of all eligibility conditions (Except fees, as meant for general category candidates).  
6. The result is also available on the Commission's website i.e. <http://hpsc.gov.in>  
Sd/-  
Deputy Secretary  
Haryana Public Service Commission  
Panchkula  
Dated 27.08.2020

**HARYANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**BAYS NO 1-10, BLOCK-B, SECTOR 4, PANCHKULA**

**RESULT**  
The Haryana Public Service Commission has finalized the result for recommendation of the candidates for the posts of Assistant Professor (College Cadre) in Higher Education Department in the subject of Computer Science, Psychology & Sociology Advertisement No. 01 of 2019 published on 08.03.2019 published in various newspapers. The result is categorywise. The Roll Number shown below are in ascending order and not in order of merit.  
**COMPUTER SCIENCE**  
**Category: General (No. of Posts- 04)**  
41094 41198 41435 41798  
**Category: SC of Haryana (No. of Posts- 02)**  
40194 40298  
**Category: BCA of Haryana (No. of Posts- 02)**  
40013 40670  
**Category: ESM/DESM- BCB of Haryana (No. of Posts- 01)**  
40457  
**PSYCHOLOGY**  
**Category: General (No. of Posts- 17)**  
10026 10069 10135 10208 10213 10215  
10251 10271 10377 10579 10611 10631  
10655 10670 10825(ESM) 10879  
**Category: SC of Haryana (No. of Posts- 05)**  
10090(DESM) 10639 10696 10734 10937(PH-VH)  
**Category: BCA of Haryana (No. of Posts- 02)**  
10190 10562  
**Category: BCB of Haryana (No. of Posts- 01)**  
10547  
**SOCIOLOGY**  
**Category: General (No. of Posts- 13)**  
30016 30120 30426 30706 30718 (ESM)  
30898 30946 31066 31116 31199 31239  
31357 31409  
**Category: SC of Haryana (No. of Posts- 04)**  
30147 30185 30268 31349(ESM)  
**Category: BCA of Haryana (No. of Posts- 02)**  
30336 30449  
**Category: BCB of Haryana (No. of Posts- 01)**  
30774  
**NOTE:**  
1. While preparing the result due care has been taken. However, any inadvertent error cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves its right to rectify any error at a later stage.  
2. This result is also available on Commission's website <http://hpsc.gov.in>  
Sd/-  
Dy. Secretary  
Haryana Public Service Commission,  
Panchkula.  
Dated: 27.08.2020

**HARYANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**BAYS NO 1-10, BLOCK-B, SECTOR 4, PANCHKULA**

**RESULT**  
The Haryana Public Service Commission has finalized the result for recommendation of the candidates for the posts of Assistant Labour Commissioner in Labour Department, Haryana against Advertisement No. 12(3)/2015 published on 28.03.2016 followed by Corrigendum dated 06.05.2016 & 25.03.2019 in various newspapers. The result is category-wise. The Roll Numbers shown below are in ascending order and not in order of merit.  
**General:**  
50177 54394 54914  
**Category: SC of Haryana**  
50426 51778  
**Category: BCA of Haryana**  
50241 50280  
**Category: PH of Haryana**  
55289  
**NOTE:**  
1. While preparing the result due care has been taken. However, any inadvertent error cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves its right to rectify any error at a later stage.  
2. The above result is subject to the final outcome of CWP Nos. 3386/2020 & 10208/2020 pending before the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court.  
3. This result is also available on Commission's website <http://hpsc.gov.in>  
Sd/-  
Dy. Secretary  
Haryana Public Service Commission,  
Panchkula.  
Dated: 27.08.2020

**HARYANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**BAYS NO 1-10, BLOCK-B, SECTOR 4, PANCHKULA**

**RESULT**  
The Haryana Public Service Commission has finalized the result for recommendation of the candidates for the posts of Assistant Town Planner in Town & Country Planning Department, Haryana conducted by the Haryana Public Service Commission on 10.08.2020, the candidates, three times the number of vacancies alongwith bracketed candidates, if any, bearing the following Roll Nos. have been declared qualified for Viva-Voce Provisionally, subject to the fulfillment of all eligibility conditions. It is also made clear that mere being declared successful in this examination, the candidates will not be entitled for any right for the said posts. All the representations filed by various candidates regarding wrong questions/ answers for the aforesaid Recruitment Test have been considered and decided finally. The following Roll Numbers shown below are category-wise & in ascending order, not in order of merit:-  
**General: Total Posts= 06x3 Times= 18+2 (Bracketed)**  
21124 21172 21198 21219 21251 21261  
21267 21295 21467 21505 21531 21550  
21610 21632 21635 21647 21648 21712  
21782 21793  
**SC of Haryana: Total Posts= 03x3 Times= 09+2 (Bracketed)**  
21159 21208 21212 21270 21284 21315  
21377 21547 21584 21666 21791  
**BCA of Haryana: Total Posts= 03x3 Times= 09**  
21164 21347 21384 21678 21734 21788  
21825 21834 21858  
**BCB of Haryana: Total Posts= 01x3 Times= 03**  
21162 21477 21614  
**ESM of Haryana: Total Posts= 01x3 Times= 03**  
21200 21558 21699  
**Note:**  
1. While preparing the result due care has been taken, however, any inadvertent error cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves its right to rectify any error at a later stage.  
2. The aforesaid qualified candidates will have to appear in the viva Voce for which they will be informed separately through an announcement which will be displayed on the Commission's website and also published in various newspapers.  
3. The above result is subject to final outcome of the CWP No. 11067/2020 pending before the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court.  
4. Announcements regarding submission of hard copies of Online Applications Forms and any other certificates/ documents will be issued later on.  
5. Where no post for any reserved category is available, the candidate applying as a candidate of that particular category have been considered as General category candidates, subject to the fulfillment of the candidates of all eligibility conditions (Except fees, as meant for general category candidates).  
6. The result is also available on the Commission's website i.e. <http://hpsc.gov.in>  
Sd/-  
Deputy Secretary  
Haryana Public Service Commission  
Panchkula  
Dated 27.08.2020





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

## CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

### COVID-19 VACCINE TRACKER

## Moderna vaccine shows promise across age groups

MODERNA, A US biotechnology company that is considered one of the leading contenders for developing a vaccine for the novel coronavirus, has claimed that the immune response triggered by its candidate vaccine among a small set of older patients was similar to that seen in younger people during trials.

The latest claims are based on an additional, early-phase trial on 20 people aged 56 or above. The results hold promise of the vaccine being equally

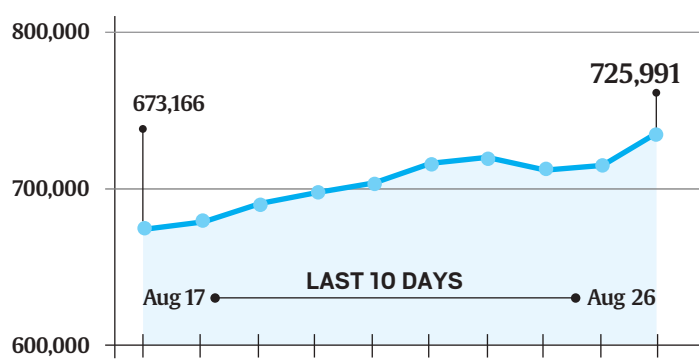
effective in protecting older people against Covid-19 disease as younger adults. Around the world, older people have been found to be much more susceptible to the disease, and have a greater fatality rate.



The company said the vaccine also appeared to be well-tolerated by the trial subjects, and no serious adverse impacts were observed. Some patients did report fatigue, headaches and pain, but these are expected side-effects, and were over within two days, it said.

### INDIA ACTIVE CASES

725,991



Note: The August 26 figure in this graph is based on government update on August 27

**INDIA TOTAL CASES**  
3,310,234

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, updated at 11 pm on August 27

**WORLD TOTAL CASES**  
24,242,062

Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated at 11 pm on August 27

## Estimating Covid's impact on average life expectancy in US

THE US has lost nearly 1.8 lakh lives to Covid-19, and the count is rising by around 1,000 each day. How far has this changed average life expectancy? Demographers at University of California-Berkeley have estimated that Covid-19 is likely to shorten the average US lifespan in 2020 by about a year.

They made their estimates using two scenarios. One was based on a projection of 1 million deaths for the year, and the other on the more likely projection of 2.5 lakh deaths. They conclude that 1 million deaths in 2020 would cut three years off the average US life expectancy, while 2.5 lakh deaths (more likely scenario) would reduce lifespans by about a year.



**PAPER CLIP**

NEW RESEARCH

The findings are published in the journal *PNAS*.

The reasons the estimated drop in life expectancy modest, the researchers said, are partly because 250,000 deaths is not a large increase on top of the 3 million non-Covid deaths expected for 2020, and because Covid deaths include many older people, who typically have fewer years left.

The researchers said that without the societal efforts that have occurred to lessen the impact of Covid-19, there could have been 2 million deaths projected by the end of 2020. This would have caused a reduction of the average US lifespan by five years, they said.

Source: University of California-Berkeley

**APURVA VISHWANATH**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

ON THURSDAY, a five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court reopened the legal debate on sub-categorisation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for reservations, or what is commonly referred to as "quota within quota" for SCs and STs.

While the Bench ruled in favour of giving preferential treatment to certain Scheduled Castes over others to ensure equal representation of all Scheduled Castes, it referred the issue to a larger Bench to decide. This was because in a 2005 ruling, also by a five-judge Bench, the Supreme Court had ruled that state governments had no power to create sub-categories of SCs for the purpose of reservation.

Since a Bench of equal strength (five judges in this case) cannot overrule a previous decision, the court referred it to a larger Bench to settle the law. The larger Bench, whenever it is set up by the Chief Justice of India, will reconsider both judgments.

### What is sub-categorisation of SCs?

States have argued that among the Scheduled Castes, there are some that remain grossly under-represented despite reservation in comparison to other Scheduled Castes. This inequality within the Scheduled Castes is underlined in several reports, and special quotas have been framed to address it.

For example, in Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Bihar, special quotas were introduced for the most vulnerable Dalits. In 2007, Bihar set up the Mahadalit Commission to identify the castes within SCs that were left behind.

In Tamil Nadu, a 3% quota within the SC quota is accorded to the Arundhati caste, after the Justice M S Janardhanam report stated that despite being 16% of the SC population in the state, they held only 0-5% of the jobs.

In 2000, the Andhra Pradesh legislature, based on the findings of Justice Ramachandra Raju, passed a law reorganising 57 SCs into sub-groups and split the 15% SC quota in educational institutions and government jobs in proportion to their population. However, this law was declared unconstitutional in the 2005 Supreme Court ruling that held states did not have the power to tinker with the Presidential list that identifies SCs and STs.

Punjab too has had laws that gave preference to Balmikis and Mazhabi Sikhs within the



In 2005, SC had ruled against states sub-categorising SCs. Now, court has ruled in favour of sub-categorisation, referred the matter to a larger Bench. *Express Archive*

SC quota; this was challenged and eventually led to the latest ruling.

### What is the Presidential list?

The Constitution, while providing for special treatment of SCs and STs to achieve equality, does not specify the castes and tribes that are to be called Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This power is left to the central executive — the President.

As per Article 341, those castes notified by the President are called SCs and STs. A caste notified as SC in one state may not be a SC in another state. These vary from state to state to prevent disputes as to whether a particular caste is accorded reservation or not.

According to the annual report of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, there were 1,263 SCs in the country in 2018-19. No community has been specified as SC in Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep.

In the 2005 decision in *E V Chinniah v State of Andhra Pradesh and Others*, the Supreme Court ruled that only the President has the power to notify the inclusion or exclusion of a caste as a Scheduled Caste, and states cannot tinker with the list. Andhra Pradesh had submitted that the law was enacted as states had the power to legislate on the subject of education, and reservation in

admission fell within its legislative domain. The court, however, rejected this argument. The Constitution treats all Schedule Castes as a single homogeneous group.

### If all SCs are treated as one group, what are the grounds for sub-categorisation?

The basis of special protections for SCs comes, in the first place, from the fact that all these castes suffered social inequity. Untouchability was practised against all these castes irrespective of economic, education and other such factors.

However, the Supreme Court has engaged with the argument on whether the benefits of reservation have trickled down to the "weakest of the weak". The concept of a "creamy layer" within SCs was upheld by the court in a 2018 judgement in *Jarnail Singh v Lachhmi Narain Gupta*.

The "creamy layer" concept puts an income ceiling on those eligible for reservation. While this concept applies to Other Backward Castes, it was applied to promotions of Scheduled Castes for the first time in 2018.

The central government has sought a review of the 2018 verdict and the case is currently pending.

Punjab's law applies a creamy layer for SCs, STs in reverse — by giving preference to Balmikis and Mazhabi Sikhs. This is the case

that has now led to reopening the debate on sub-categorisation of scheduled castes.

In the *E V Chinniah* case in 2005, the court had held that special protection of SCs is based on the premise that "all Scheduled Castes can and must collectively enjoy the benefits of reservation regardless of inter-se inequality" because the protection is not based on educational, economic or other such factors but solely on those who suffered untouchability.

The court had held that merely giving preference does not tinker, rearrange, subclassify, disturb or interfere with the list in any manner since there is no inclusion or exclusion of any caste in the list as notified under Article 341.

The states have argued that the classification is done for a certain reason and does not violate the right to equality. The reason they have given is that the categorisation would achieve equitable representation of all SCs in government service and would be about "real equality" or "proportional equality".

### What are the arguments against sub-categorisation?

The argument is that the test or requirement of social and educational backwardness cannot be applied to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The special treatment is given to the SCs due to untouchability with which they suffer. In a 1976 case, *State of Kerala v NM Thomas*, the Supreme Court laid down that "Scheduled Castes are not castes, they are class".

The petitioner's argument against allowing states to change the proportion of reservation is also based on the perception that such decisions will be made to appease one vote-bank or the other. A watertight President's list was envisaged to protect from such potential arbitrary change.

Also, in the current case, the court relied on its 2018 ruling in *Jarnail Singh* to buttress the point that social inequities exist even among SCs. However, since that ruling is pending for review, the petitioners argued against relying on it.

In the *Jarnail Singh* case, the court held that the objective of reservation is to ensure that all backward classes march hand in hand and that will not be possible if only a select few get all the coveted services of the government.

"The constitutional goal of social transformation cannot be achieved without taking into account changing social realities," the court ruled.

# What Rohtang tunnel will mean for troops, locals

**MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA**  
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 27

A TUNNEL at Rohtang, near Manali, is being given the finishing touches with Prime Minister Narendra Modi set to inaugurate it in late September. The tunnel is named after former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

### Why it matters

At 9 km, the Atal Tunnel will be the world's longest highway tunnel above an altitude of 3,000 metres. It was originally designed to be 8.8 km long but GPS readings taken on completion show it at 9 km.

Cutting through the Pir Panjal range, the tunnel will reduce the distance between Manali and Leh by 46 km. The Rohtang Pass, to which the tunnel provides an alternative, is at a height of 13,050 feet. The journey from Manali Valley to Lahaul and Spiti Valley, which normally takes around five hours, would now be completed in a little over ten minutes.

The tunnel will be a boon to residents of Lahaul and Spiti who remain cut off in winters for nearly six months, and provide al-



Work on the tunnel last November. Now, it is getting finishing touches. *Jasbir Malhi*

most all-weather connectivity to troops in Ladakh. For complete all-weather connectivity, additional tunnels will have to be built on the Manali-Leh route. These include a 13.2-km tunnel at the 16,040-foot-high Baralacha Pass, a 14.78-km tunnel at Lachung La Pass at 16,800 feet, and a 7.32-km tunnel at Tanglang La Pass at 17,480 feet.

### The features

River bridges on the approach from both the north and south portals have been completed and are being painted. Snow galleries have been built at the approach from the Manali side, to ensure all-weather connectivity.

Other features include an emergency escape tunnel under the main tunnel. The tunnel

also provides a telephone every 150 m, fire hydrant every 60 m, emergency exit every 500 m, air quality monitoring every 1 km, and CCTV cameras every 250 metres.

The speed limit will be 80 km per hour. Up to 1,500 trucks and 3,000 cars are expected to use it daily, post Covid-19 restrictions.

### Conception and delay

The feasibility study was carried out in May 1990, and the geological report submitted in June 2004, and a design and specification report finalised in December 2006. Border Roads Organisation (BRO) officials say the project received final technical approval in 2003. Following approval by Cabinet Committee on Security in 2005, tenders were floated in 2007.

The foundation stone was laid in July 2010 by UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi. The project was scheduled to be completed by February 2015 but it got delayed until May 2020. Again, the pandemic pushed it back until September.

During construction, fast-flowing water from Seri Nullah prevented work for several months. The rock structures too presented impediments to construction.

# How mosquitoes stopped mosquitoes from spreading dengue in a city

**KABIR FIRAQUE**

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 27

TWO YEARS ago, researchers infected mosquitoes with bacteria and released them into parts of an Indonesian city. On Wednesday, they announced the results of their unique experiment: In areas where such mosquitoes were deployed, dengue incidence was 77% lower than in areas where they were not.

These findings have implications for combating dengue on a larger scale, and possibly other mosquito-borne diseases.

**How can mosquitoes bring down dengue, which is spread by mosquitoes?**  
The key to this is a bacterium, *Wolbachia*, which occurs naturally in some species of insects. While such insects include some mosquitoes, *Wolbachia* does not occur naturally in *Aedes aegypti*, the mosquito species that spreads dengue and other diseases such as chikungunya, Zika and yellow fever.

In 2008, the Australian-based research group World Mosquito Program (WMP) discovered that *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes can

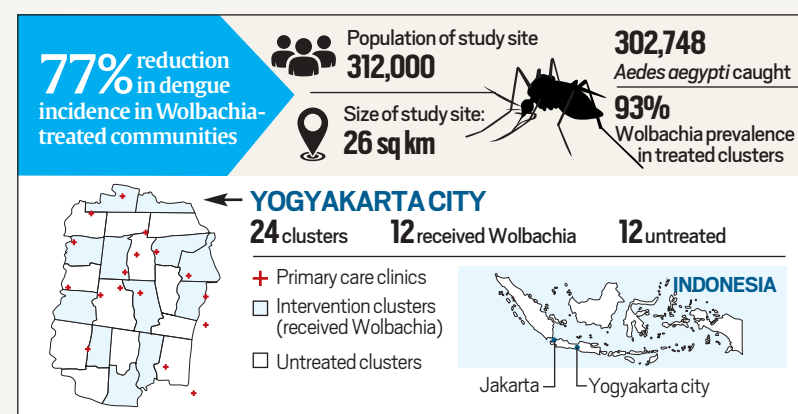
no longer spread dengue when they are carrying *Wolbachia*. This is because the dengue virus struggles to replicate inside the mosquito when these bacteria are present.

### But will people not be infected when other mosquitoes bite?

The reasoning is that once you release mosquitoes carrying the *Wolbachia* bacteria, they will interbreed with the local wild mosquitoes. Over time, several generations of mosquitoes will be carrying *Wolbachia* naturally. A stage will eventually be reached when those carrying *Wolbachia* represent a large proportion of the local mosquito population, so that a bite is less likely to transmit the virus to humans.

### So, the Indonesia trial has now borne this assumption out?

Yes, according to the results announced by WMP. The researchers divided the Indonesian city of Yogyakarta into 24 clusters. Over several months, they released *Wolbachia*-infected mosquitoes into 12 of these clusters, chosen at random. These mosquitoes bred with local mosquitoes, until



nearly all mosquitoes in the area were carrying *Wolbachia* bacteria. At the end of 27 months, the researchers found that the incidence of dengue was 77% lower in areas where *Wolbachia*-infected mosquitoes had been released, as compared to areas without such deployments.

Previously, WMP had carried out experiments in Australia, and then in 11 other countries, on a smaller scale. What makes the

Indonesian study significant is that the first randomised controlled trial of the strategy. WMP partnered with the Tahija Foundation and Gadjah Mada University of Indonesia.

### How was the 77% lower incidence determined?

The 12 areas that received *Wolbachia* deployments also received routine dengue control measures. The remaining 12 areas, while

without *Wolbachia* deployments, continued to receive routine dengue control measures. The trial area had a population of 3.12 lakh.

The researchers simultaneously monitored the incidence of dengue. They looked at people who presented with dengue-like symptoms at primary care clinics around the city. The trial enrolled 8,144 such participants, and checked where they lived, where they had travelled, and whether or not they eventually tested positive for dengue. Over 27 months, their findings showed that the incidence of dengue was 77% lower in areas treated with *Wolbachia*.

WMP said detailed results will be presented at an international scientific congress in November, and published in a peer-reviewed journal.

### How significant are the findings?

Nicholas Jewell of the University of California-Berkeley, who designed the study and led the statistical analysis, described it as a huge breakthrough. "We've now shown that it works in one city. If this can be replicated and used widely, it could eradicate dengue from several parts of the world for

many years," Jewell said in a statement.

Incidence of dengue has grown dramatically around the world in recent decades, with a vast majority of cases under-reported, according to the World Health Organization. WHO estimates 39 crore dengue virus infections per year, of which 9.6 crore show symptoms. India registered over 1 lakh dengue cases in 2018 and over 1.5 lakh cases in 2019, according to the National Vector-Borne Disease Control Programme.

The researchers believe the strategy will likely work for other viruses transmitted by *Aedes aegypti*. "It not only blocks one virus, it blocks many flaviviruses. It is like a magic bullet," Jewell said. "But would it work? Here, we finally demonstrated it worked in practice."

### Is this being tried on a larger scale?

The French company InnovaFeed, which produces insects to feed livestock, is partnering with WMP to develop the first industrial-level production of mosquitoes, according to a report by the news agency AFP. "The idea is to help cities on a large scale, with several million people," AFP quoted InnovaFeed co-founder Aude Guo as saying.



## TOP OF THE WORLD



In Louisiana. Reuters

## USA

## Hurricane Laura makes landfall in Louisiana

*Houston:* Hurricane Laura made landfall early on Thursday in Louisiana as one of the most powerful storms to hit the state, with forecasters warning it could push a massive wall of water 40 miles inland from the sea. Laura made landfall just before 1 am as a Category 4 storm packing winds of 150 mph in Cameron, Louisiana, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) said. It rapidly weakened to a Category 2 storm Thursday with maximum sustained winds of 105 mph as it moved north and battered southwest Louisiana, a marshy region particularly prone to storm surge and flooding.

## AFGHANISTAN

## Taliban kill four civilians amid clashes

*Kabul:* Taliban fighters on Thursday killed four civilians during clashes with Afghan forces in Parwan province at a time when over 150 people lost their lives in the flash floods and rescue work was still underway, officials said. Clashes were ongoing between Afghan and Taliban forces in Bagram, which is located in Parwan province and houses the biggest U.S. military base. The Taliban spokesman was not immediately available to confirm the latest violence at a time when peace talks between warring sides is expected to begin in coming weeks.

## PAKISTAN

## Rains claim 18 lives in Karachi

*Karachi:* Heavy rainfall has played havoc in Karachi, inundating main roads, paralysing business activities and leaving at least 18 people dead since Tuesday when the monsoon showers first lashed the biggest city and financial hub of Pakistan. The met office said on Thursday that the rainfall in the month of August had broken a 90-year-old record. "The monsoon rainfall has been prolonged and abnormal this year and this pattern will continue for a few more days," said a spokesman for the Met office.



Authorities disperse protesters from a park in Kenosha. Federal agents have now been deployed in the city. AP

## Illinois teenager arrested over killing of two people amid Wisconsin protests

JULIE BOSMAN & SARAH MERVOSH  
KENOSHA, AUGUST 27

THE JUSTICE Department on Wednesday announced a civil rights investigation into the police shooting of a Black man in Kenosha, Wisconsin, as new details emerged in the case, a white teenager who confronted demonstrators was arrested in connection with two deaths, and protests spread to athletes in three pro sports leagues.

Protesters have poured into Kenosha's streets to decry the shooting of Jacob Blake, a Black father who was partially paralysed after a white officer fired at him in front of his children.

## Portland protesters, US agents clash

*Washington:* Protesters and US agents assigned to protect federal property in Portland clashed late Wednesday outside a US Immigration and Customs Enforcement Building in another night of violence.

Some people in a crowd of about 200 disabled or vandalised building security cameras, shined laser lights at the

agents and threw rocks and bottles at them, Portland police said in a statement issued Wednesday.

During the clashes, agents shot non-lethal munitions at the crowd and set off stun grenades and irritants that released green and white plumes into the air, local media reported. AP

counts appeared to show an intense affinity for guns, law enforcement and President Trump. (The Trump campaign said Rittenhouse "had nothing to do" with the president's re-election effort.)

Rittenhouse was arrested in Antioch and faces a charge of first-degree intentional homicide, according to a court document from Lake County.

More than 200 federal agents and marshals have been deployed to Wisconsin, a spokeswoman for the Justice Department said late Wednesday, adding the agency would "continue to surge Kenosha with federal resources as needed and necessary."

The unrest in Kenosha this week prompted Governor Tony Evers of Wisconsin to order hundreds of National Guard troops into the city, and earlier Wednesday, President Trump said he planned to send federal law enforcement officials as well. NYT

## Mali junta frees ousted president

TIEMOKO DIALLO & DAVID LEWIS  
BAMAKO, AUGUST 27

COUP LEADERS in Mali have released President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita and he has returned home, nine days after he was ousted and detained, his representative said on Thursday.

A group of military officers has controlled Mali since Aug. 18, when they detained Keita at gunpoint and forced him to resign in a takeover foreign powers fear could further destabilise the West African nation and undermine a fight against Islamist militants in the wider Sahel region.

Keita's release is one of the demands of West Africa's regional bloc, which sent a delegation to Mali's capital Bamako at the weekend to discuss a timeline for transition to civilian rule with the coup's leaders.

On Thursday morning, Keita was freed from where he was being held outside the city, a spokesman for the junta, Djibrilla Maiga, said.

The president's former chief of staff, Mahamadou Camara, confirmed Keita had returned to his residence in Bamako's Sebenikoro district. REUTERS

## 'U.S. NEEDS FOUR MORE YEARS OF TRUMP'

## Pence stresses law and order, says Biden tolerated vandalism

THE NEW YORK TIMES  
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 27

REPUBLICANS USED the third night of their convention on Wednesday to amplify warnings of violence and lawlessness under Democratic leadership, trying to capitalise on the worsening unrest in Wisconsin to reclaim moderate voters who might be reluctant to hand President Trump a second term.

The party also made appeals to social conservatives with attacks on abortion and accusations that the Democrats and their nominee, Joseph R Biden Jr, were "Catholics in name only." And they intensified their effort to lift Trump's standing among women with testimonials vouching for him as empathetic and as a champion of women in the workplace — from women who work for him, a number of female lawmakers and his daughter-in-law, Lara Trump.

Speaking hours after Governor Tony Evers of Wisconsin called in the National Guard to restore order to Kenosha, Wisconsin, where a police officer shot a Black man this week, numerous Republicans led by Vice President Mike Pence assailed Biden for what they claimed was his tolerance of the vandalism that had grown out of racial justice protests, asserting that the country would not be safe with him as president.

"Last week, Joe Biden didn't say one word about the violence and chaos engulfing cities across this country," said Pence at Fort McHenry in Baltimore and vow-



Donald Trump with Mike Pence at the convention. Reuters



## RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

ing: "We will have law and order on the streets of this country for every American of every race and creed and color."

Pence, the head of the government's coronavirus task force, depicted Trump as a heroic leader and cast the federal response as a success, even as the US death toll approached 180,000 this week. "America needs four more years of President Donald Trump in the White House!" Pence said in his address. "The hard truth is...you won't be safe in Joe Biden's America." WITH PTI

EXPLAINED  
Attempt to set tone of election

THE DEMOCRATIC and Republican conventions have sought to highlight select issues. So far, Republican leaders have largely avoided the subject of the coronavirus or the response to it, instead choosing to frame law and order as the central issue. Democrats, on the other hand, have kept issues such as Covid and racial unity at the forefront. With protests against racial inequality continuing to dominate the US landscape, both parties are likely looking to draw in moderates through their responses.

## No need for criminal probe into Navalny case: Russian prosecutors

GABRIELLE TÉTRAULT-FARBER & ANTON ZVEREV  
MOSCOW, AUGUST 27

RUSSIAN PROSECUTORS said on Thursday they saw no need for a criminal investigation into the sudden illness of Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny, who his supporters suspect was poisoned, and they had found no sign that any crime had been committed.

The Interior Ministry said it had started a preliminary investigation into the case, but this was routine. Navalny, 44, was airlifted to Germany on Saturday after collapsing during a flight from the



Alexei Navalny

Siberian city of Tomsk to Moscow. He is now in a medically-induced coma in a Berlin hospital.

The hospital said its initial medical examination pointed to poisoning, though Russian doctors who had treated Navalny in a Siberian hospital have contradicted that diagnosis. On Thursday, the Russian Prosecutor General's office said there was no indication a crime had been

committed against him.

It saw no basis to open a criminal investigation, the office said in a statement.

German authorities have agreed to cooperate with Russia on the case, the Prosecutor General's office said, asking Germany to share information about his treatment and promising to give some back in exchange.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov reiterated the government's position that there was no need for a formal investigation but that preliminary checks were always carried out in such situations. REUTERS

## Russia ready to aid Belarus: Putin

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
MINSK, AUGUST 27

RUSSIAN PRESIDENT Vladimir Putin warned he stands ready to send police to Belarus if protests there turn violent, but added in an interview Thursday that there is no such need now and voiced hope for stabilising the situation in the neighbouring country.

Belarus' president of 26 years, Alexander Lukashenko, is facing weeks of protests against



Vladimir Putin

his reelection to a sixth term in the August 9 vote, which the opposition says was rigged.

Putin told Russia's state television Lukashenko asked him to prepare a Russian law enforcement contingent to deploy to Belarus if necessary. Putin said

he and Lukashenko have agreed that "there is no such need now, and I hope there won't be."

"We have agreed not to use it until the situation starts spinning out of control..." he said.

In an apparent jab at the West, Putin accused unidentified foreign forces of trying to win political advantages from the turmoil in Belarus. "They want to influence those processes and reach certain decisions, which they think conform with their political interests," Putin said.

## 'THE HEALTH RISK EXISTS, BUT THE RISK OF NOT PUTTING CHILDREN IN SCHOOL IS EVEN BIGGER'

## Europe goes back to school despite recent virus surge

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
PARIS, AUGUST 27

A MOTHER and her three children scanned the school supplies in a Paris supermarket, plucking out multicolored fountain pens, crisp notebooks — and plenty of masks. Despite resurgent coronavirus infections, similar scenes are unfolding across Europe as a new school year dawns.

Virus or no virus, European authorities are determined to put children back into classrooms, to narrow the learning gaps between haves and have-nots that deepened during lockdowns — and to get their parents back to work.

Facing a jump in virus cases, authorities in France, Britain, Spain

and elsewhere are imposing mask rules, hiring extra teachers and building new desks en masse.

France's prime minister promised Wednesday to "do everything" to get people back to school and work. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson called re-opening schools a "moral duty," and his government even threatened to fine parents who keep kids at home. Italy's health minister abruptly shut down discos this month with one goal in mind — "to reopen schools in September in complete safety."

As both a parent and a teacher, Mathieu Maillard has plenty to worry about before French schools reopen Tuesday. How will his 5-year-old daughter keep a safe distance from friends she's



At a nursery school in Milan, Italy, on Thursday. AP

so excited to see for the first time in six months? How will he gain the trust of his high school students, from one of Marseille's roughest neighborhoods, if he has to police their mask use?

But overall, Maillard thinks it's time to go back. School "has

to start up again at some point," he says. "The health risk exists, but the risk of not putting children in school is even bigger."

During lockdown, he said, some students never joined his online French literature classes. Some had no place to work, or no computers, just telephones.

"Our students really, really need school," he said. For some of those growing up in an environment plagued with violence and drugs, school "is a place where they can breathe."

In southeast London, father of three Mark Davis is looking forward to schools reopening in early September but is vexed about what will happen if there's a new virus wave. "Everyone is gunning for this (return to

school), but it's no good just hoping for the best," he said. "Plans need to be put in place."

So far the government says schools will only close as a last resort. But parents say the government's message hasn't been clear.

Some European schools are planning or considering a hybrid academic year, with some physical classes and some online. But most are aiming for full in-person classes. Amid an unexpected new wave of infections in hard-hit Spain, officials are scrambling to adapt plans to reopen schools September 4.

They include hiring 11,000 additional teachers, building makeshift classrooms in schoolyards to gain space, and creating "bubbles" of students who are

allowed to mix with each other but not with outsiders.

Italy, Europe's first virus hot spot, is hiring 40,000 more temporary teachers and ordering extra desks, but some won't be ready until October. And many parents and teachers remain in the dark about exactly how it will work when most schools reopen September 14.

Denmark this week saw an unusual endorsement for re-opening schools. Its second-largest city, Aarhus, sent all high school students home after a spike in virus cases, but the teens pushed back, saying they don't learn as much online.

Protesting Monday, they held signs reading: "I just want to go to school."

## 500 million children cut off from remote learning, finds UNICEF report

THE NEW YORK TIMES  
NEW YORK, AUGUST 27

OVER THE past six months, about 1.5 billion children around the world have been told to stay home from school to help minimize transmission of the coronavirus. More than 30 percent of these students — around 463 million — were unable to gain access to remote learning opportunities when their schools closed, according to a report on Wednesday by Unicef, the United Nations agency for children.

"The sheer number of children whose education was completely disrupted for months on end is a global education emergency," Henrietta Fore, the execu-

tive director of Unicef, said in a statement.

"The repercussions could be felt in economies and societies for decades to come."

Schoolchildren in sub-Saharan Africa have been the most affected, the report said, as education systems there have failed to reach about half of all students through television, radio, internet or other forms of remote learning.

Forty percent of students in the Middle East and North Africa, 38 percent in South Asia and 34 percent in Eastern Europe and Central Asia have also been unable to learn remotely, according to the Unicef report, which said children in rural areas had been disproportionately affected.



## PERSONAL

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I, Ramesh Chand Mahuna, s/o  
Late. Sh-Leela Ram R/o-C-  
310, Budh Nagar, Inder Puri,  
Delhi-110012, have changed my  
name to Ramesh Chandra Mahuna

## LOST & FOUND

ease, attachment or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to make the same known to the undersigned at his office within 7 days from the date hereof, failing which the property would be considered as unencumbered and no objections will be entertained thereafter.

**Adv. Himanshu Bansal**

No.HSIDC/INT/03/1801 regarding purchase of price of plot issued by HSIDC in favour of M/s. Cineweb IDIA. (11) NOTICE 1. Permission to mortgage Ref No. HSIDC/INT/2007/6247 issued by HSIDC in favour of M/s IDEAS INDIA.

All person are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing documents. Any person's having found the above mentioned original link documents in respect of the said property kindly inform the undersigned on the below mentioned address.

Sd/-  
Director  
M/s. Cineweb Commercial Pvt Ltd  
Plot No. 153, Sec. 4, INT  
Manesar, Gurgaon - 122050

Date : 26.08.2020 Place : Gurgaon

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**E-TENDER NOTICE**

e-tender Notice No. 25 of 2020-21 (Open)-Engg/DDU

On line (through e-tendering) for the following work is invited by DRM/ Engg/DDU for and on behalf of the President of India from experienced and financially as well as technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD, BSNL, MES, PWD and other public sector undertakings.

**Name of Work with its location:**  
Strengthening of bridge members like lateral bracing, plate, boom through plate & girder of bridge No. 345/UP, 345/DN, 357/A, 192/UP & 192/DN under Dy. CE/BRL of RDIDV Division. **Approx. cost of the work :** ₹ 26515398.94 **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2826000.00

**(2) Tender No-05-MGS-XEN-BR-20-21**  
**Name of Work with its location:** Provision of side pathway and changing of corroded rivets in steel girder bridges of bridge No. 116, 121, 129, 192/UP/DN 57, 46, 38, 108, 104, 115, 176, 391, 445 UP/DN etc. under SSE/B, MG/S. **Approx. cost of the work :** ₹ 19673912.07 **Earnest Money :** ₹ 2484000.00

**Date & time for submission of tender :** 14.08.2020, Up-to 12:00 Hrs.,  
**Website particulars of e-tendering:** www.reps.gov.in

**Divisional Railway Manager,**  
**Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya**  
**PR/0558/DND/Engg./T/20-21/44**

Date of E-auction	Date of Deposit of Earnest money
03.09.2020	01.09.2020 till 04.00 P.M.
10.09.2020	08.09.2020 till 04.00 P.M.
17.09.2020	15.09.2020 till 04.00 P.M.
24.09.2020	22.09.2020 till 04.00 P.M.

Others details, terms and conditions can be seen at the <https://harfish.sets.co.in> and Haryana Fisheries Departmental website: [www.harfish.gov.in](http://www.harfish.gov.in) and details can also be procured from the office of the District Fisheries Officers of the District or Director Fisheries Haryana, Panchkula.

e-Auction of those District/Districts which will not be completed on 03.09.2020 shall again be held on 10.09.2020, 17.09.2020, and 24.09.2020 from 9.00 A.M. to 12.00 noon accordingly.

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# Rehearsal triggers anxiety

Dry run for first-ever remote awards ceremony was anything but a walk in the park

**NITIN SHARMA**

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 27

WEARING PPE Kits, undergoing Covid-19 tests and travelling for 7-8 hours without food or family to various Sports Authority of India centres and other venues were the experiences of some of the 65 national sports awardees as they attended the dress rehearsal of the ceremony on Thursday ahead of the real thing on Saturday.

In Chandigarh, where the dress rehearsal was conducted for three hours at the UT Secretariat building, Tokyo Olympics-bound boxer Lovlina Borgohain came from NIS, Patiala, wearing a PPE kit and returned in the evening. She had also undergone a Covid test and it was only after her report came negative that the pugilist attended the rehearsal.

"Since I had travelled from Assam to Patiala last week, I read about how to wear a PPE Kit, use face mask and sanitize/reuse them after use. Wearing the PPE kit for six hours was a little stressful but it was for everyone's safety. There is a disappointment of not receiving the award from the President but I guess there will be more such instances if I win an Olympic medal one day," shared Lovlina.

Former Indian women's chief boxing coach Shiv Singh is among the eight chosen for the Dronacharya award in the lifetime category, and the Chandigarh-based coach found the experience of a 24-hour wait for the test report a nervous one. "Aajkal ke time main thoda fear toh rehta hi hai har kisi ke mann main (During these times, there is some fear in everybody's mind). I went to the Mohali Covid-testing centre on Wednesday and the last 24 hours made me a little nervous. While I was excited about the virtual awards ceremony, I was also eager to see the test report. Once it came negative, I made sure that I kept a safe distance from the other awardees," the 64-year-old said.

Six-time Winter Olympian luger Shiva Keshavan had been at his family home in Kerala for the last six months before the 38-year-old had stepped out of Wayanad to take a flight to Delhi to attend the dress rehearsal and the virtual award ceremony. Keshavan attended the rehearsal at Vigyan Bhawan in



Dressed in PPE suits, Boxer Lovlina Borgohain (L) and a NIS Patiala official arrive for the dress rehearsal of the National Sports Awards in Chandigarh. Kamleshwar Singh

Delhi and will be heading to his home in Manali post the awards ceremony.

"The current situation meant that I could not travel to any other city for the last six months. There is a little bit of uneasiness when one is travelling for the first time in such times and it is weird to see the world in a different way. I believe the ceremony will be telecasted on national television and I will also share the link with my cousins in Italy, who have seen the real ceremony in the past on TV and wanted to go with me if I got the award one day (laughs). I hope there is a ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan later when the situation improves," says Keshavan.

Former Indian football coach Sukhwinder Singh, who has been selected for the Dhyan Chand award, will be following the ceremony from Langley, British Columbia, Canada where he had gone for his son's wedding. "We had come to Canada in February for my son's wedding which was supposed to happen in April but had to be postponed. Sports Authority of India officials contacted me last week and told me that they will be using my photograph for the online ceremony and the trophy and citation will be sent to my home

in Punjab," Singh said.

Sprinter Dutee Chand travelled from Bhubaneswar to Kolkata, a journey that took more than 12 hours. Dutee, selected for the Arjuna award, was accompanied by her coach and the driver in the car. "After undergoing a Covid-19 test in Bhubaneswar, I decided to travel to Kolkata by road. Usually, the journey takes about five hours but due to rains and road work, we reached in 12 hours and at 5 a.m. At the meeting hall, there were five of us and we were told where to sit and how to stand up and say *namaste* when the President interacts virtually. I will be undergoing another Covid-19 test before returning," she said.

## Three winners test positive

PTI: Three winners of the awards including badminton player Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, have tested positive for COVID-19 and will not attend the virtual ceremony on August 29, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) said on Thursday. The identity of two others who tested positive was not revealed. The SAI said that 65 of the 74 awardees will attend the ceremony.

**MARC STEIN**

LAKE BUENA VISTA (FLORIDA), AUGUST 27

ATHLETES FROM the N.B.A., W.N.B.A., Major League Baseball and Major League Soccer took their boldest stand yet against systemic racism and police brutality, boycotting games on Wednesday in response to the police shooting of a Black man in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The moves dramatically escalated a season of athletes demonstrating for social justice as some expressed doubts about continuing to play amid widespread social unrest.

The wave of boycotts and postponements was sparked by Milwaukee Bucks players' responding to the shooting of Jacob Blake by refusing to come out of their locker room on Wednesday afternoon for a playoff game against the Orlando Magic. Two more N.B.A. playoff games scheduled for Wednesday night were quickly postponed, inspiring players in other leagues to follow the Bucks' lead and causing numerous professional basketball, baseball and soccer games to be called off because athletes would not participate.

Players from the N.B.A. and the W.N.B.A. have long been at the forefront of protests against racism and police brutality — efforts that have broadened in recent months after the police killings of George Floyd, a Black man in Minnesota, and Breonna Taylor, a Black woman in Kentucky, and as the leagues took an extended hiatus because of the coronavirus pandemic. Then on Sunday, the police in Kenosha, Wisconsin, shot Blake, 29, in the back several times as he tried to get into his vehicle.

The shooting prompted numerous N.B.A. players and coaches to express frustration and anger that the various measures they have been taking for weeks to support the Black Lives Matter movement, such as kneeling during the national anthem and wearing jerseys bearing social justice messages, were having little impact. Some also began to question, as the Nets' star guard Kyrie Irving did in June before the 2019-20 season resumed, whether providing entertainment through basketball was actually diverting public attention away from the broader social justice movement.

Fueled by that frustration, Milwaukee's players stunned league officials by organizing Wednesday's boycott, a walkout that had

## BADMINTON TOURNAMENTS CANCELLED

The India Open Super 500 and the Syed Modi International Super 300 tournaments were on Thursday cancelled by the Badminton World Federation owing to the pandemic. The India Open, which was originally scheduled in March, was to be held from December 8 to 13 in New Delhi and Syed Modi International was slated for November 17 to 22 in Lucknow. **PTI**

## 'WE DEMAND CHANGE. SICK OF IT'

**Milwaukee Bucks** players refused to come out of their locker room on Wednesday for a NBA playoff game against the Orlando Magic. Two more NBA playoff games were postponed.

**LeBron James** called for change. The NBA superstar tweeted: "\*\*\*\* THIS MAN!!!! WE DEMAND CHANGE. SICK OF IT".

**Former USA** President Barack Obama supported the Bucks. He tweeted: "I commend the players on the @Bucks for standing up for what they believe in, coaches like @DocRivers, and the @NBA and @WNBA for setting an example. It's going to take all our institutions to stand up for our values."

**WNBA's Washington Mystics** players arrived for their game against the Atlanta Dream wearing T-shirts that spelled out Jacob Blake's name and appeared to have holes in the back to signify bullet holes.



**After winning** her quarterfinal match of Western & Southern Open, two-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka (in pic) tweeted she will be withdrawing from the tournament in protest. Later, once the organisers suspended play for a day, she decided to play her rescheduled semifinal.

**Five matches** in Major League Soccer were postponed after players objected to playing.

**Three MLB** matches postponed were postponed after players refused to play.

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

virtually no precedent in N.B.A. history.

## Amplifying the message

Milwaukee's George Hill gave a glimpse of the Bucks' mind-set on Monday when he openly questioned whether the league's return had successfully amplified the players' messaging. "We shouldn't have even come to this damn place to be honest," Hill said. "I think coming here just took all the focal points off what the issues are."

Also Wednesday, players for the W.N.B.A.'s Washington Mystics arrived for their game against the Atlanta Dream on Wednesday night wearing T-shirts that spelled out Jacob Blake's name and appeared to have holes in the back to signify bullet holes.

Five matches in Major League Soccer were postponed Wednesday after players objected to playing, while a sixth match — Nashville at Orlando in front of a reduced-capacity crowd — went ahead, a sign of how the situation was still evolving.

And several athletes opted individually

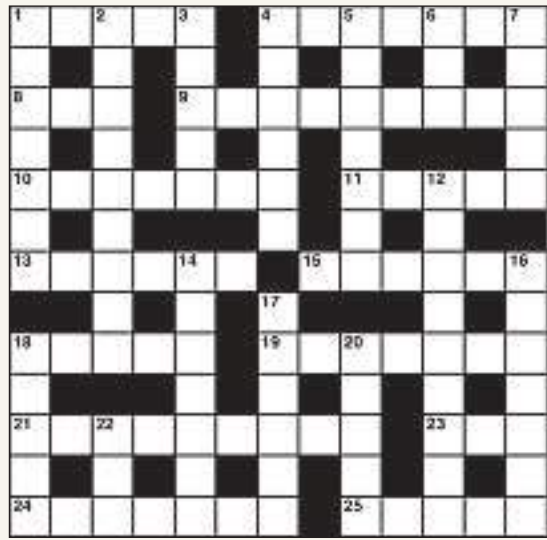
to not play, including the tennis star Naomi Osaka, who said she would not play in a scheduled semifinal at the Western & Southern Open in New York, a tuneup for the United States Open that begins next week.

(On Thursday, Osaka decided to play her match after the organisers suspended play for one day to support the movement.)

The N.B.A. has been operating out of Walt Disney World near Orlando, Florida, since July 7, when 22 of the league's 30 teams began residing in the league's so-called bubble, designed to prevent the infiltration of the coronavirus. The league had suspended its season March 11 because of the pandemic.

Orlando's players were already on the floor warming up for Wednesday's scheduled 4 p.m. tipoff, but Bucks players refused to join them for Game 5 of the teams' first-round playoff series. Orlando's players ultimately decided to leave the floor with just under four minutes before the game once it became apparent that the game would not go ahead. The referees soon followed suit. **NYT**

## CROSSWORD 4209



### ACROSS

- Paying one's way from Holland (5)
- and 1 Down: Famous Victorian maker of children's cakes (7,7)
- Pool player will take it as a hint (3)
- Pretend I'm blessed in a new order (9)
- Sneer at produce from the Orient (7)
- Secure link (3-2)
- Military band? (6)
- Where you'll find screws on the doors (6)
- Mother has a look back for a girl (5)
- Give authority to a backward Middle East nation (7)
- A rebel put in an awkward position turns respectable (9)
- Note the old-fashioned watch (3)
- Dispensed with red tape and came to the point (7)
- All taken apart (5)

### DOWN

- See 4 Across
- He's expected to take notes (9)
- It limits the field to insure against betting losses (5)
- One takes no end of cash in, finishing with nothing (6)
- One who helps a superior, it's said (7)
- A smashing opportunity (3)
- Sellers soak the buyer with such prices (5)
- Place to be for an alibi (9)
- This business is a growing concern (7)
- Room for children to play (7)
- Where to find a sheet anchor? (3,3)
- Be entitled to credit (5)
- No war, we hear, for a bit (5)
- Go up and down (3)

**Solutions Crossword 4208:** 1 Post chaise, 8 Coven, 9 Civvies, 10 Morocco, 11 Deter, 12 Treaty, 14 Bridal, 17 Picot, 19 Erasing, 21 Springs, 22 Alter, 23 Escalators. **Down:** 2 Obverse, 3 Tunic, 4 Hector, 5 Invader, 6 Edit, 7 Astrologer, 8 Come to pass, 13 Titanic, 15 Drifter, 16 Vessel, 18 Curve, 20 Apartment.

## JUMBLD 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.

We tend to live up to our \_\_\_\_\_. - Earl Nightingale (12)

HVAEE



LPIOS



ABENTT



AIKCPX



SOLUTION: HEAVE, SPILL, BATTLE, PICKAX  
Answer: We tend to live up to our expectations. - Earl Nightingale

## OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



## CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



## MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



## SUDOKU 4214

Difficulty Level 2s

### Instructions

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



## SOLUTION SUDOKU 4213

