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TOOK PLACE AFTER CHUSHUL INCIDENT

Before Moscow pact, Indian & Chinese troops fired 100-200 rounds on Pangong north bank

Shots fired in air near ridge of Fingers 3 & 4, says top officer; MEA official may be part of next commander-level talks

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN & KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

BEFORE EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi reached an agreement in Moscow on September 10 to dial down tensions along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh, the heightened tensions led to a firing incident between Indian and

Chinese troops on the north bank of Pangong Tso, far more intense than the firing of warning shots in the Chushul sub-sector, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

A top government officer, aware of the details, said this inci-

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

QUESTION & ANSWER
PAGE 8

dent took place during the jockeying for dominating the Fingers on the north bank of the lake. According to the officer, "100 to 200 shots" were fired in the air by both sides on the ridgeline where Finger 3 and Finger 4 merge before moving north as one ridge.

Both India and China had issued statements on the firing incident in the Chushul sub-sector on September 7 which took place on a feature called Mukpari Heights — officials said this was

Pullback, peace if China sticks to Jaishankar-Wang pact: Govt in LS



Rajnath Singh in Lok Sabha on Tuesday. LSTV/PTI

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY & LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT "we are facing a challenge in Ladakh" where "the violent conduct of Chinese forces has been in complete violation of all mutually agreed norms", Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said Tuesday that the Moscow agree-

ment between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi "if implemented sincerely and faithfully by the Chinese side, could lead to complete disengagement and restoration of

GOVT MAY BRIEF OPPN ON CHINA; MORE REPORTS P5

SC stops show on 'UPSC jihad': Bid to vilify Muslims with untruths

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

THE SUPREME Court on Tuesday restrained Sudarshan News from broadcasting remaining episodes of a show that the channel claims "exposes" the "infiltration of Muslims" in the civil services.

The purpose of the show was to "vilify the Muslim community", the court said, and observed that it had made arbitrary claims "in wanton disregard of the truth".

"At this stage, prima facie, it does appear to the Court that the intent, object and purpose of the episodes which have been telecast is to vilify the Muslim community. An insidious attempt has been made to insinuate that the community is involved in a conspiracy to infiltrate the civil services. Several statements in the episodes, which have been drawn to the attention of the Court are not just palpably erro-

THE COURT SAID

■ "Intent, object and purpose... is to vilify the Muslim community... Several statements in the episodes... are not just palpably erroneous but have been made in wanton disregard of the truth."

■ "India is a melting pot of civilisations, cultures, religions and languages. Any attempt to vilify a religious community must be viewed with grave disfavour by this Court as the custodian of constitutional values."

neous but have been made in wanton disregard of the truth", a three-judge Bench headed by Justice D Y Chandrachud said. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

AN EXPRESS INVESTIGATION PART THREE

Tracked by Chinese firm: Over 6,000 accused of financial crime, terrorism, IPL betting, narcotics, smuggling, big to small

Agusta to fodder scam, Satyam to Vyapam, Vadra to Kumaraswamy, all on Zhenhua Data watchlist

JAY MAZOOMDAAR & KAUNAIN SHERRIF M
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

FROM THE accused in the AgustaWestland bribery case to a ring of juveniles who stole mobile phones, hundreds accused of financial crime, corruption, terror, organised crime, smuggling of narcotics, gold and wildlife form a significant chunk, as many as 6,000, of the Indian individuals monitored by Zhenhua Data, an investigation by *The Indian Express* has revealed.



(Clockwise from top left) Robert Vadra, H D Kumaraswamy, Madhu Koda, Ramalinga Raju

Cong moves adjournment motion to discuss matter

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

THE CONGRESS on Tuesday moved an adjournment motion notice in the Lok Sabha over the "surveillance" of key Indian personalities, including the President and Prime Minister, by a firm linked to the Chinese government, as reported by *The Indian Express* on Monday.

The notice was moved by Congress leader of the House Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and MP Manickam Tagore.

Calling it "a matter of urgent importance", Tagore sought an adjournment to discuss how "China's agencies (were) watching Indian political leaders and over 10,000 Indians, entities

BUSINESS AS USUAL



KEY BUREAUCRATS, POLICE OFFICERS UNDER WATCH
PAGE 7



THE WORLD

U.A.E., BAHRAIN SIGN DEALS ON TIES WITH ISRAEL IN WHITE HOUSE EVENT
PAGE 13

Pak NSA displays map with J&K, Doval leaves SCO meet in protest

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

A FACE-OFF between India and Pakistan at a meeting of National Security Advisors of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Tuesday, over a map that showed Jammu and

Kashmir as Pakistani territory, led to NSA Ajit Doval leaving the engagement "in protest".

The map was being used as a backdrop during the virtual meeting by Moed Yusuf, Special Assistant on National Security to Pakistan PM Imran Khan.

"At the meeting of the National Security Advisors (NSAs) of mem-

ber states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), hosted by the Chair of the SCO (Russia), the Pakistani NSA deliberately projected a fictitious map that Pakistan has recently been propagating," the Ministry of External Affairs' official spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED
New stage for face-off

THE SCO, which is led by China and Russia, does not allow bilateral issues to be discussed at its meetings. Yet, after SAARC, it has become the latest stage for tensions between India and Pakistan.

Andhra HC gags media on govt FIR over land purchase

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, SEPTEMBER 15

THE ANDHRA Pradesh High Court late Tuesday issued an unusual order not to disclose details of an FIR filed by officers at the Anti-Corruption Bureau's Guntur Police Station against a former state law official and others regarding land purchase in Amaravati.

"By way of interim relief, it is directed that no coercive steps shall be taken in furtherance to (the FIR) which has been registered after filing of this writ petition against any of the accused. The enquiry, investigation is also stayed. It is further directed that the news in regard to (the FIR, details withheld as per court order) ... shall not be made public in any electronic, print or social media, to foist the office of a former Advocate General and also with respect to the other alleged accused persons," said the order by Chief Justice J K Maheshwari.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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ADOPTIONS RISE AT HYDERABAD ZOO AS IT CONTINUES TO BLEED MONEY

Shut for over six months and with no clarity on reopening for visitors, the zoo so far incurred a loss of nearly Rs 9 crore and has dipped heavily into its cash reserves. Every month, officials say, the zoo spends Rs 50 lakh on average towards the animal feed alone

EXPRESS EXCLUSIVE



KBC WINNER'S LIFE TOOK TURN FOR WORSE

After failing to invest his prize money wisely, Kumar is struggling

FULL COVERAGE



PARLIAMENT LIVE UPDATES

Rajnath says border issue unresolved, Cong stages walkout

EXPRESS AUDIO

The possibility of life on Venus

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Today on the 3 Things podcast, we talk about what has opened up possibility that there might be life on Venus and what this means for the future of space exploration missions

FROM PAGE ONE

Rajnath in LS

peace and tranquillity in the border areas".

Making a statement in Lok Sabha after the government, during a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee, turned down the Congress demand for a House discussion on the military standoff saying it is a sensitive issue, Singh said: "As of now, the Chinese side has mobilised a large number of troops and armaments along the LAC as well as in the depth areas. There are several friction areas in Eastern Ladakh including Gogra, Kongka La and North and South Banks of Pangong lake."

"In response to China's actions, our armed forces have also made appropriate counter-deployments in these areas."

He said "in the past too, we have had situations of prolonged standoffs in our border areas with China which have been resolved peacefully. Even though the situation this year is very different, both in terms of scale of troops involved and the number of friction points, we do remain committed to the peaceful resolution of the current situation. At the same time, the House can be assured that we remain prepared to deal with all contingencies."

"This is still an ongoing situation and obviously involves sensitive operational issues. I would, therefore, not be able to give more details in public and I am confident about the understanding of the House in this regard."

Singh urged the House to "pass a resolution in support of our armed forces".

As he made his statement, Congress members tried to intervene to seek clarifications. But Speaker Om Birla did not allow interruptions. Most Opposition members, barring the Congress, sat quietly. The Congress wanted to know why the Prime Minister was not speaking on the issue.

Congress MPs displayed banners and their leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury wanted to speak, but this was not allowed. In protest, the Congress staged a walk-out.

On the Sino-Indian boundary dispute, Singh said: "Both India and China have formally agreed that the boundary question is a complex issue... and have committed to seeking a fair, reasonable and acceptable solution through dialogue and peaceful negotiations. In the interim, the two sides also agree that maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the border areas is an essential basis for the further development of bilateral relations."

He told the House that "China continues to be in illegal occupation of approximately 38,000 sq km in the Union Territory of Ladakh. In addition, under the so-called Sino-Pakistan 'Boundary Agreement' of 1963, Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 sq km of Indian territory in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir to China. China also claims approximately 90,000 sq km of Indian territory in the Eastern Sector of the India-China boundary in Arunachal Pradesh."

He said "a key element of both the 1993 and the 1996 Agreements is that the two sides will keep their military forces in the areas along the Line of Actual Control to a minimum level... in late 1990s and up to 2003, the two sides engaged in an exercise to clarify and confirm the LAC. But thereafter, the Chinese side did not show a willingness to pursue the LAC clarification exercise. As a result, there are some areas where the Chinese and Indian perceptions of LAC overlap."

Briefing the House on the developments this year, Singh said: "Since April, we had noticed a build-up of troops and armaments by the Chinese side in the border areas adjacent to Eastern Ladakh. In early May, the Chinese side had taken action to hinder

the normal, traditional patrolling pattern of our troops in the Galwan Valley area, which resulted in a faceoff. Even as this situation was being addressed by the ground commanders as per the provisions of our bilateral agreements and protocol, in mid-May the Chinese side made several attempts to transgress the LAC in other parts of the Western Sector. This included Kongka La, Gogra and North Bank of Pangong lake. These attempts were detected early and consequently responded to appropriately by our armed forces."

He said China violated the June 6 agreement between Corps Commanders on the disengagement process and "created a violent faceoff on June 15th at Galwan. Our brave soldiers laid down their lives and also inflicted costs including casualties on the Chinese side."

"As we want to resolve the current situation through dialogue, we have maintained diplomatic and military engagement with the Chinese side. In these discussions, we have maintained the three key principles that determine our approach: (i) both sides should strictly respect and observe the LAC; (ii) neither side should attempt to alter the status quo unilaterally; and, (iii) all agreements and understandings between the two sides must be fully abided by in their entirety. The Chinese side, on its part, took the position that the situation should be handled in a responsible manner and ensure peace and tranquillity as per bilateral agreements and protocol," he said.

"Even as these discussions were going on, the Chinese side again engaged in provocative military manoeuvres on the night of 29th and 30th August in an attempt to change the status quo in the South Bank area of Pangong lake. But yet again, timely actions by our armed forces along the LAC prevented such attempts."

'USPC jihad'

On August 28, the court had declined to impose a "pre-broadcast interlocutory injunction" on the show titled 'Bindass Bol', presented by its editor-in-chief Suresh Chavhanke.

An episode of the show was broadcast on September 10, a day after the central government gave it the green light on condition that there is no "violation of the programme code".

On Tuesday, the Bench, also comprising Justices Indu Malhotra and K J Joseph, said that there "is a change in circumstance" from August 28 when it had declined to stay the broadcast.

"The drift, tenor and content of the episodes is to bring the community into public hatred and disrepute," the court said in its order. It pointed out that the Programme Code stipulates that no programme should be carried which "contains attack on religions or communities or visuals or words", or has content that is defamatory, false, or reflective of "half-truths and suggestive innuendos".

"The edifice of a democratic society committed to the rule of law under a regime of constitutional rights, values and duties is founded on the co-existence of communities," the court said. "India is a melting pot of civilizations, cultures, religions and languages. Any attempt to vilify a religious community must be viewed with grave disfavour by this Court as the custodian of constitutional values. Its duty to enforce constitutional values demands nothing less."

The court noted that the show, which the channel had been promoting with the hashtag 'USPC_Jihad', contained factually incorrect statements regarding the upper age limit and

number of attempts allowed to Muslims in exams conducted by the Union Public Service Commission.

The order came at the end of an animated hearing during which Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta wondered to what extent the media be regulated, and pointed out that there had been shows on "Hindu terror" in the past.

Justice Chandrachud said the electronic media has extraordinarily broad access, and can be used to target communities. "This programme was so insidious," he said. "Citizens from a particular community who go through the same examinations and get interviewed by the same panel..." he observed, adding that the show also cast aspersions on the UPSC examination.

"How do we deal with these issues? Can this be tolerated in a free society?... Is this truly exercise of Article 19(1)(a) (the right to freedom of speech and expression)?"

Senior Advocate Shyam Divan, who appeared for the channel, said he would strongly oppose any stay on the programme, as it was a question of freedom of speech. He argued that "there is a foreign funding issue" that the programme claims to expose, and that the court should come to any conclusion only after seeing the entire programme, and not a few extracts.

Justice Chandrachud said: "Your client is doing a disservice to the nation and is not accepting India is a melting pot of diverse cultures. Your client needs to exercise his freedom with caution". Justice Joseph underlined that "No freedom is absolute, not even journalistic freedom". He added that Rule 6 of the Programme Code notes that cable TV programmes cannot show anything that targets a particular religion or a community.

When Justice Chandrachud said, "This is not a freedom of speech issue. When you say there is a conspiracy by Muslims to flood the civil services...", Divan responded: "We are not saying that."

Justice Chandrachud persisted: "When you say students of Jamia are part of a conspiracy to infiltrate civil services, that is not permissible. You cannot target one community and brand them in a particular manner." Justice Joseph added: "That too with factually incorrect statements."

Advocate Gautam Bhatia, who appeared for a group of former civil servants seeking an authoritative ruling on hate speech, said: "Hate speech undermines the idea of a free marketplace of ideas. The targeted community is deprived of the opportunity to respond or defend." He favoured a restraint order given the nature of the show's content.

Earlier in the hearing, Justice Joseph, commenting generally on TV shows, said: "I see many channels mute people when they're giving their opinion and it goes against the anchor's views. This is so unfair... We need debates where others should be allowed to speak as against the anchor only."

The court took a dig at the News Broadcasters' Association, saying: "We need to ask you if you (NBA) exist apart from the letterhead. What do you do when a parallel criminal investigation goes on in media and reputations are tarnished?"

SG Mehta argued it would be "disastrous" for any democracy to try to control the media. "The right of a journalist cannot be taken away." Rabid things were being said from all sides, he said - "but the question is, can it be regulated?"

Before Moscow pact, Indian, Chinese troops fired 100-200 rounds at Pangong

the first time in 45 years that shots were fired along the LAC.

Till date, neither side has officially said anything about the firing on the north bank which the Indian and Chinese troops are less than 300 metres apart.

Over the next week, India readjusted its positions on the north bank of the lake as well - Chinese troops have been sitting on the ridge of Finger 4, which is 8 km west of Finger 8 which India says marks the LAC.

It was during these times that Indian and Chinese troops fired around 100 rounds each, in the air. In this area too, troops from two sides are positioned less than 500 metres from each other.

The situation, however, has since calmed down, the officer said. "Now things have cooled down because of the talks between our Defence Minister and their Defence Minister and the Foreign Ministers. The focus has shifted towards dialogue," he said.

While the earlier "aggression" and constant "intimidation" by Chinese troops, he said, had stopped, "they are still there... Their presence is there, it doesn't take very long to start up your tank and start moving again".

"At the moment, the intimidation and aggression have stopped. The level (of discussions) has gone a little higher. Military commanders will talk of course, we will put across

our point, they will put across their point. But I don't think their military commander will have the mandate to agree to anything below a minor concession," the officer said.

"Ultimately, it will be a top-driven thing. That is the importance of the dialogue which we are having at the Foreign Minister-level and Defence Minister-level," he said.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met his Chinese counterpart Wei Fenghe in Moscow on September 4. Jaishankar met Wang on September 10. While the meeting of Defence Ministers did not manage to break the stalemate, the Foreign Ministers issued a joint statement to "continue their dialogue, quickly disengage, maintain proper distance and ease tensions" and work towards new confidence-building measures "between the two sides given the existing trust deficit."

The two sides have agreed to hold another round of talks between the Corps Commanders though the date is still to be decided. The officer indicated that this time, the talks may include an official from the Ministry of External Affairs.

"They accepted that the talks will be there. But the date is not yet fixed. Once the agenda is also received, the delegation list is received, then we will see if should include somebody from Delhi, from MEA also," he said.

Congress president Sonia Gandhi's son-in-law Robert Vadra, whose Sky Light Hospitality Private Limited (now LLP) is being probed by the Enforcement Directorate; former Karnataka Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy, who was accused of illegally identifying a prime plot to benefit his relatives, and former Jharkhand Chief Minister Madhu Koda, who was named in a red corner notice in a money laundering case, are also mentioned in the database.

The ambit of monitoring financial crime extends to cases of corruption, bribery and fraud. Also on the list are over 500 entities restrained for various reasons by market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The granular data includes even those arrested for exchanging demonetised banknotes.

Explained a cybersecurity expert who has worked with multiple Indian government agencies: "We are looking at a crime map that marks the fault lines in an open democratic system. Much of it may seem to have no revelatory value but OSINT (open-source intelligence) needs a massive data analytic framework leading to a fusion centre where the leads are filtered and enriched with other feeds."

That explains the staggering range of names on the list and their voluminous records... The outcome can then be potentially manipulated to meet different ends - from asset cultivation and interference in social functioning to undermining or even delegitimising institutions."

The crime list logs over 100 cases of terror. These include fugitive Dawood Ibrahim, late Tiger Memon; members of Jamat-ul-Mujahedin of Bangladesh (JMB) investigated by the NIA in the 2014 Burdwan blast case; operatives of the People's Liberation Front of India (PLFI) held in Chhattisgarh in 2013 in connection

with 28 cases of kidnapping, murder, looting, arson and extortion; and militants of Democratic Front of Bodoland (Songbijit) arrested in Assam in 2015 with firearms and ammunition.

Since the mid-1990s, Indian intelligence and security agencies detected multiple gun-running rackets smuggling illegally-procured consignments of China-made weapons to India through the Sino-Burmese border and then via Northern Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Significantly, OKIDB has over 40 bookmakers accused of betting and spot-fixing in the Indian Premier League (IPL) and the 2015 Cricket World Cup. What perhaps explains the close watch on the IPL is the amount of Chinese investment in the tournament. Chinese mobile phone makers Vivo acquired the title sponsorship rights for the IPL in 2018 for Rs 2,199 crore for five years. While ongoing border issues forced Vivo to exit the deal last month, its replacement fantasy sports firm Dream 11 is part-owned by Chinese technology major Tencent.

The database also focuses on other specific areas of Chinese interest such as trafficking narcotics, gold, and wildlife. Due to its proximity to the Golden Triangle on its southwestern border, contraband narcotics has always been a prime concern for China. Traditionally, China and India have been the world's major producers of opium and ephedrine extracted from plants.

In recent years, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has busted multiple China-based syndicates involved in smuggling gold. China remains a major destination for contraband wildlife sourced from the Indian wild. Traditionally, red sanders (sandalwood), big cat derivatives, and ivory have been in high demand.

The database has granular details of hundreds of cases where arrests were made for trafficking drugs and gold, besides those charged with poaching and smuggling wildlife, across India. These include:

* Six arrested in Mumbai in December 2013 on suspicion of trafficking 1.2 tonnes of ketamine worth an estimated Rs 118 crore.

* Personal security staff of an IPS officer during his tenure in Chandigarh convicted in 2013 for possessing 12 kg heroin worth Rs 60 crore.

* Customs officer charged in connection with an attempt to smuggle 20 kg of gold, worth approximately Rs 6 crore, into India through Kochi airport in 2013.

* A Kotdwar resident arrested in 2012 for allegedly smuggling 67 kg of elephant tusks worth Rs 50 lakh in the black market.

The database includes illegal organ donations that were reported from hospitals in Amritsar, Delhi, Mumbai, Gurugram and Nalgonda. Significantly, China and India are among the most popular destinations for international patients seeking organ transplants.

Adjournment from politics to business, judiciary to media, even crime-acquiesced".

Sources said Chowdhury had filed his motion online, calling for a discussion on the "hybrid warfare waged against India by (the) Chinese company".

On Monday, the Opposition had asked the government to step in and order a probe into the monitoring of over 10,000 people in India by the Shenzhen-based Zhenhua Data Information Technology Co. Ltd.

The Congress said *The Indian Express* report on the "Chinese digital surveillance" was "quite disturbing", and that it was important to know the extent of it, and if there was more to it than collating data. It said the development had huge implications for national security and privacy of citizens.

TMC Lok Sabha member Saugata Roy moved an adjournment motion on the issue on Monday itself.

Andhra HC

"The Secretary, Home Department, Government of AP, Director General of Police, A.P., shall inform through the Information and Public Relations Department, Govt. of A.P., to the effect that no electronic or print news item be published with respect (details withheld as per court order) connected events until further orders of this Court. Social media posts shall also not be published and, in this regard, the Director General of Police, A.P., and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India, shall take steps to inform the relevant social media platforms/houses in this regard," the order stated.

After the FIR was lodged Tuesday, the former law official, represented by senior advocates Mukul Rohatgi and Shyam Divan, moved the High Court, alleging that the state government was targeting him and sought relief from the Hon'ble Court including a gag order. The matter was taken up by a Bench of Chief Justice J K Maheshwari.

The petitioner had alleged that the AP ACB was working with mala fide intentions against him and that the whole issue was being given a political colour and a media trial.

Appearing on behalf of the AP government, Advocate C Mohan Reddy submitted that the prayer for a gag order was infructuous as the news was already out in the electronic media. After hearing both parties, the Court issued notice in the matter and sought replies from the respondents within four weeks.

of content," he asked.

Justice Chandrachud said the matter perhaps gave the occasion to look at whether self-regulation could be put forth. Journalists must be governed by certain principles, he said.

To Mehta's argument that one cannot compartmentalise electronic and print media for regulation, Justice Chandrachud said that even those who may not read newspapers watched television. "Watching TV also has an entertainment value whereas a newspaper has none. That's why we want to have standards".

Justice Joseph said the problem with electronic media was that it was all about TRPs, thus leading to more and more sensationalism.

Mehta pointed out that during the lockdown, a web portal had a show on how it would lead to food scarcity and food riots and migration. "I don't consider it less serious than a threat to communal disharmony".

The court said, "We cannot say we won't regulate electronic media just because we cannot control Internet".

Doval

"This was in blatant disregard to the advisory by the host against it and in violation of the norms of the meeting. After consultation with the host, the Indian side left the meeting in protest at that juncture," Srivastava said. The meeting was chaired by Russian NSA Nikolai Patrushev.

The new political map was released by the Pakistan government on August 4, a day before the completion of a year since special status under Article 370 to J&K was revoked. The map depicts J&K as part of Pakistani territory, as well as the areas of Sir Creek and Junagadh.

On Tuesday, sources said, India made clear its "strong objection" to the "illegal map" even as the Russian side "tried very hard" to persuade Pakistan against its use. Pakistan's move

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| Sep 15 | 4,263 | 3,081 | 36 |
| Total | 29,787* | 1,91,203 | 4,806 |
| | | | 22,46,985 |

*Total active cases

20 trainee constables suspended for violating Covid norms

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

TWENTY TRAINEE police constables were suspended for allegedly violating Covid-19 guidelines by stepping out of the police training school (PTS) in Jharoda Kalan without permission in the night.

"All the 20 constables have been placed under suspension with immediate effect and disciplinary action is pending against them. During the first three months of their suspension, they will draw subsistence allowance at an amount equal to the leave salary...in addition to dearness allowance based on leave salary," the order states.

According to police sources, new rules are in place in the campus to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

"During the lockdown, they had directed trainers to stay inside the campus for two weeks before being given a week's time to go outside for a week. Usually, the trainees are never allowed to go outside. They are allowed a week off on special requests," police sources said.

Sources said the incident took place a couple of days ago, when the 20 were found missing from their rooms during a surprise inspection at night.

"Initial enquiry has revealed they were present during their evening attendance, but they were missing during night hours when senior officers came on surprise visit. They all came back in the morning," an officer said.

"They will deposit their kit articles, etc immediately," an officer said.

Cases of possible Covid reinfection in 2 children with cancer at Medanta

TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 15

TWO CASES of possible reinfection of coronavirus, in a child aged three and another aged 14, both cancer patients, have been recorded in Gurgaon's Medanta hospital. The hospital said it found IgG antibodies against the virus in both children when they tested positive the second time. It has reached out to the National Institute of Virology for sequencing of viral strain.

A paper titled Covid-19

Reinfection in Two Children with Cancer has been published with the findings as a pre-print in ResearchGate. In the first case, a 14-year-old boy tested positive again after 71 days. He suffers from leukaemia and had undergone the Covid-19 test in June first week before chemotherapy procedure, which came positive. "He was asymptomatic and kept under isolation for two weeks. His subsequent test after two weeks came negative for Covid-19 and we went ahead with chemotherapy," Dr Satya Yadav, head of paediatric cancer in Medanta, said.

The 14-year-old was slated for another round of chemotherapy in mid-August when a Covid-19 RT-PCR test came positive, 71 days after the first infection. "We again stopped the chemotherapy and kept him in two weeks of isolation. Both times, the child had no symptoms," Yadav said.

In the second case, a three-year-old boy with neuroblastoma tumour in the stomach underwent a surgery for tumour and tested positive for Covid-19 two weeks after the surgery in July. His cancer treatment was put on hold and he was kept under isolation. Three weeks later, his swab tested negative for SARS-CoV-2. In

August-end, 42 days after the first infection, he was re-tested before chemotherapy and the swab tested positive for Covid.

Yadav said they observed two values, RT-PCR CT values and IgG antibodies. Both children had developed IgG antibodies when they tested positive for the virus the second time. "Both patients had IgG antibodies present when they got the second infection, so ideally they should not have got reinfected. Immune suppression due to chemotherapy may have reactivated the virus but there are no reports of the same in the literature," the study observed.

"In the 14-year-old boy, the CT values were high indicating low viral load, but in the three-year-old boy the CT value was low in both infections indicating a high viral load. It is possible the three-year-old was reinfected by another strain," Yadav said.

The hospital has reached out to NIV, Pune, for a whole genome sequencing. While several cases of possible reinfection have been reported by doctors in medical circles in India, there is no scientific study to analyse whether those have been reinfection by mutated strain or an instance of viral shedding from the first infection.

Survey: No antibodies in 30% of recovered patients

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

A SEROLOGICAL survey conducted in the first week of August in Delhi has found that 79 of 257 people who had recovered from Covid-19 and were part of the exercise did not have antibodies against the virus. The findings are in the report of the second round of the survey carried out by the state health department.

The report also said participants who were living or had ever lived in a containment zone in Delhi had a "significantly higher sero-prevalence" than those who had never lived in one. Around 15,000 people were tested in the second round of the survey. In the August sero-prevalence survey,

antibodies against Covid-19 were found in 29.1 per cent of people, Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain had said late last month while announcing its results.

Sources said blood samples of 257 people who had tested positive earlier and recovered were also taken during the survey to test if they had antibodies. Experts said people who had recovered but did not show antibodies might have contracted the disease several months ago, at the early stage of the novel coronavirus infection. So their antibodies might not have appeared, they said. "But in most cases, the memory cells would remember the virus and trigger an immune response if a person who has recovered is again attacked by the virus," said a senior health official.

Healthcare providers ask govt to roll back Covid bed demand, claim not consulted

ASTHA SAXENA
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

DAYS AFTER the Delhi government's order to reserve 80% ICU beds in all 33 private hospitals, the Association of Healthcare Providers of India (AHPI) has requested the state government to roll back the order, claiming it will lead to serious repercussions for non-Covid patients.

The association said that the order was passed by the government without consulting the private sector and that it will be challenged in court, if not rolled back. On Saturday, the Delhi government ordered all the private hospitals with 50 beds or more to reserve at least 80% of their total ICU bed strength for Covid patients.

The capital meanwhile recorded 4,263 cases on Tuesday, along with 36 deaths, which was the highest number of fatalities in 60 days.

Addressing a virtual press conference on Tuesday, Dr Girdhar Gyani, di-



The Delhi govt ordered all pvt hospitals with 50 beds or more to reserve at least 80% of their total ICU bed strength for Covid patients. Archive

rector of AHPI, said "This is a time when the private sector has been co-operative by taking a lead role in treating Covid-19 patients. We would have desired that the government should have invited the association for some discussion. We are questioning the order on the plea that this will not just expose non-Covid patients to the risk of Covid but also undermine the right of other patients, who are in serious need of surgeries/other treatments, to access urgent healthcare."

The sample data of ICU admissions collected from some of the leading private hospitals in Delhi by the AHPI, over the last two months, shows that non-Covid patients have required ICU services more than Covid patients. In one of the super specialty hospitals, of the total number of admissions during the months July to August, only 15% were Covid positive patients. In another tertiary and quaternary care hospital, those requiring admissions in surgical ICU stood at 1,605 during the period from June to August. The surgeries included cardiac, gastroenterology, obstetrics & gynaecology, urology, ENT/head & neck, oncology, paediatrics, orthopaedics, transplants and general surgeries.

A senior official from the health department said the minister had discussed it with all the top private hospitals in Delhi through a video conference call. "This is the time when all have to come together to fight the disease. The private hospitals were reached out by the Minister and all had agreed," said the official.

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'Anna Utsav'

Distribution of Ration to 37 Lakh New Beneficiaries

16th September, 2020



Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister



Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan
Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh

Live Webcast.gov.in/mp/covid19, DD1

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Youtube.com/JansamparkMP JansamparkMP

16th September, 2020 at 12.30 P.M.

PER PERSON


5 kg wheat-rice

PER FAMILY

One kg salt, one and a half litres kerosene

"Under PMGKAY, additional 5 kg foodgrains per person and one kg pulse per family will be distributed free to beneficiaries till November, 2020."

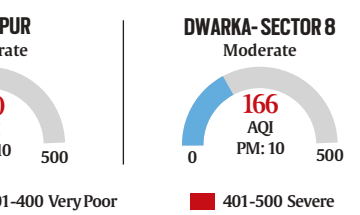
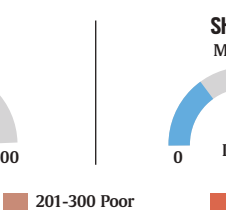
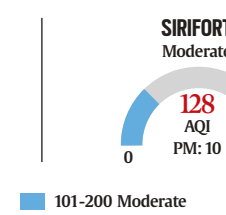
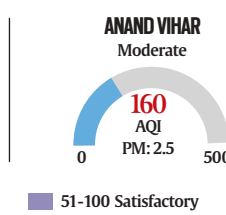
-Bisahul Singh
Minister, Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection, Madhya Pradesh



Department of Food, Madhya Pradesh



0-50 Good



PETITION BY JAMIA ALUM ARRESTED FOR ANTI-CAA PROTEST

Can't put someone in jail and say you cannot meet your lawyer: HC to Tihar

SOFIAHSAN
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

THE DELHI High Court Tuesday pulled up Tihar jail authorities and asked them to substantiate their statement that the Alumni Association of Jamia Millia Islamia president Shifa ur Rehman declined to attend a video meeting with his lawyer and that opportunities were provided to him or his counsel for the purpose.

"In this country, you cannot simply pick somebody and put him in jail and tell him that you cannot meet even your lawyer," Justice Vibhu Bakhru observed. The court was hearing a petition

by Rehman regarding the extended time period granted to Delhi Police's Special Cell for probe into the UAPA case registered against him and others in connection with the anti-CAA protests.

One of the issues raised in the petition is regarding the alleged denial of grant of access to Rehman's lawyers despite orders passed by a lower court in July asking authorities to consider the prayer for arranging a meeting between Rehman and his counsel. Advocate Amit Bhalla, who represents Rehman, has argued that the hearings provided before courts to him are no hearings in absence of a lawyer.



The accused was arrested in connection with anti-CAA protests. Archive

While jail authorities submitted that it is not that he has been told he cannot meet his lawyer, the court observed that "you have frustrated every at-

tempt for the person to meet his lawyer", and asked the authorities to bring on record all documents or material to support their statement made in a status report.

In the status report, the jail authorities told the court that Rehman was provided the facility to interact with his family members and legal counsel 16 times between May and August over the phone. The report added that Rehman has made phone calls to his family. When the arrangements for video conferencing on July 21 and August 5 were made, the authorities said, Rehman was not well on the first occasion and declined to

attend the meeting, adding that there was connectivity failure on the second occasion.

Rehman's counsel, in his reply to the status report, submitted to the court that jail authorities were not taking steps to organise the video meet despite repeated emails. Bhalla also told the court that he was not informed about the two meetings of July 12 and August 8, adding that it is the counsel who has to generate the video conferencing link and intimate jail authorities a day in advance. On September 11, the counsel joined a video link sent as per prior communication but no one from jail joined the conference, the reply states.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

IN CUT-OFFS released by St Stephen's College Tuesday, Economics (Hons) had the highest at 99.25% for Commerce students, 0.5 percentage points higher than last year. Humanities and Science students would need 98.75% and 98% respectively to apply for Economics.

Commerce students would also need 99% to be eligible for History, English and BA Programme. In what could be a signal of the overall DU cut-offs, there has been a rise in the cut-off percentage in all 11 subjects offered by the college.

In the class 12 CBSE board results this year, the percentage of those scoring above 95% had ballooned from 1.47% last year to 3.24% this year. DU officials had said this could impact cut-offs.

The biggest jump is in Sanskrit (Hons), from 65% last year to 70% this year for Commerce and Science students. For Humanities students it remains at 65%.

Among Humanities subjects, Philosophy (Hons) has seen the biggest jump in percentage from 97% for Humanities students last year to 98.75% this year. BA Programme, History and English have seen an increase of 1%, 0.5% and 0.25% respectively compared to last year, for commerce students.

The cut-off for maths has increased for both Science and Commerce students from 97.75% and 97.5% respectively last year to 98% this year, but there has been a marginal drop of 0.25% for students from Humanities who wish to opt for maths. They will now need 96.5% in their best of four.

All Science subjects have also seen an increase in cut-offs. The PCM (physics, chemistry, and maths) percentage required for Chemistry (Hons) and Physics (Hons) has gone up from 96.33% and 96.66% last year, to 96.67% and 97.66% percent this year respectively.

Similarly, cut-offs for B.Sc Programme (Computer Science) and B.Sc Programme (Chemistry) have gone up from 96.66% and 95% to 97.67% and 96.33% this

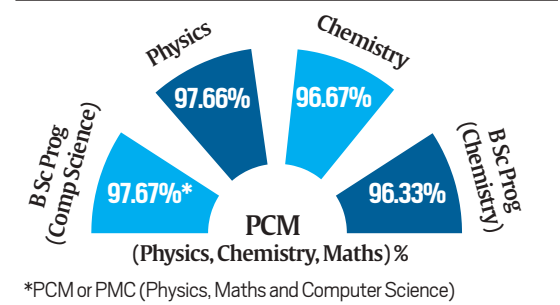


The college won't hold face-to-face interviews this yr

ARTS & COMMERCE COURSES

| SUBJECT | COMMERCE | HUMANITIES | SCIENCE |
|------------|----------|------------|---------|
| Economics | 99.25 | 98.75 | 98 |
| History | 99 | 98.25 | 99 |
| English | 99 | 98.75 | 98.75 |
| BA Prog | 99 | 98 | 99 |
| Philosophy | 98 | 98.75 | 97 |
| Maths | 98 | 96.5 | 98 |
| Sanskrit | 70 | 65 | 70 |

SCIENCE COURSES



year respectively. Since it is a religious minority college, St Stephen's reserves 50% seats for Christians and therefore has a separate admission process. Unlike most other DU colleges which admit students solely on the basis of cut-off, St Stephen's evaluates students on the basis of their marks, a written test and an interview.

However, in light of the Covid pandemic, the college had decided not to hold face-to-face interviews this year for its under-

graduate (UG) admission process, shifting to the online mode instead. The college has also done away with the written test component.

Those who meet the eligibility criteria are supposed to download a form from the college website and email it to the email ID provided for each corresponding course on the college website along with their marksheets.

Cut-offs for the remaining DU colleges are expected mid-October, according to DU officials.

Guided by facts, not personalities: Police chief on riots probe

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

IN RESPONSE to a letter by retired IPS officer Julio Ribeiro, Delhi Police Commissioner S N Shrivastava has written back saying their probe into the Northeast Delhi riots is "guided by facts and evidence, not by reputation and personalities".

"While we do not differentiate a complainant on the basis of caste or religion, it may be mentioned solely for the purpose of clearing any doubt in the minds of people questioning our probe, that more than 410 FIRs were registered on the complaints of minority community. The other community accounted for over 190 FIRs. The remaining were registered on the basis of daily diary entries," he wrote.

On September 12, Ribeiro, the former Mumbai police commissioner, wrote to Shrivastava, questioning the probe into the February riots which left 53 dead. He wrote that police were acting against "peaceful protesters" while ignoring senior BJP leaders who made provocative, communal public speeches in the build-up to the violence.

Two days after Ribeiro's letter, nine retired IPS officers also questioned the Delhi Police's investigation in an open letter. Shrivastava responded: "As a

career police officer who has held numerous responsible positions, you are aware of the false perceptions often created by interested groups. There are several entities who have their reasons to weave a web of deception and to push a false narrative of bias and insensitivity on the part of the police. It is best that the criminal justice system... may be allowed work, lest lending one's name inadvertently imparts a false aura of credibility and authenticity to these concocted and motivated stories. Also, anybody aggrieved with the investigation can always seek judicial remedies."

Shrivastava added, "...we in Delhi Police are serving the oath and the Constitution with conviction, integrity and sensitivity, without fear of any self-proclaimed 'true patriots' or favour towards any class, creed or community."

Shrivastava also wrote that Delhi Police has "arrested 1,571 persons irrespective of their caste or religion. The arrestees are almost equally distributed among both communities."

He further wrote, "You, Sir, are known as an officer who always stood by his convictions, irrespective of extraneous considerations. Surely, you would not grudge the same independence, honesty and courage of their convictions to the officers of Delhi Police conducting these investigations."

Before UAPA arrest, hurried goodbyes at Umar home

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

WHEN FORMER JNU student leader Umar Khalid was leaving his Zakir Nagar home on Sunday morning to be questioned by the Special Cell, his mother had a hunch he may be arrested. So she woke up his three sisters and made them say their goodbyes, and also asked Khalid to call his two other sisters in the US and UK.

On Sunday evening, after a day of questioning, Khalid was arrested under the stringent UAPA.

"In the US, it was the dead of the night, but I was hoping they would pick up and Umar would get to speak to them. One can't be sure, but I had a feeling there was a high chance he would be arrested. We were both trying to get each other strength. I kept telling Umar, 'dama nahi (don't be scared)', and he kept telling me, 'Ammi aap ghabrayega nahi (Ammi, don't worry)'," Khalid's mother Sabiha Khanum (53) told *The Indian Express* at her residence Tuesday.

She said Delhi Police's Special Cell had first sent summons on Friday, but were told Khalid is not in town. "When we received summons again the next day for him to appear on Sunday, it made me wonder what the urgency was. I had a feeling then that this could happen. As the



Umar Khalid was arrested on Sunday

clock kept ticking, I figured out something was wrong. We were calling (her husband) every hour to get updates," said Khanum.

"I think the Delhi Police also knows that the people they are picking up have no role to play in the Delhi riots but they want to set a narrative. These arrests are being done to break the courage and the spirit of the anti-CAA protests and harass anybody who has dared to speak up against the government. If they feel they will succeed, they are mistaken," she said with a faint smile.

Khanum said she finds Delhi Police's claims and news reports of Khalid being connected to the Popular Front of India or SDPI "rubbish". "There is absolutely no truth in this. He is very clear about his politics; we (his parents) even have ideological dif-

ferences with him when he calls himself an atheist, but we are standing strong behind him. He has only ever wanted to help the disadvantaged and downtrodden. He's a very soft-hearted man," said Khanum.

Khalid's youngest sister was 13 years old when he was first arrested for alleged sedition in February 2016 over an event in JNU. "That arrest formed the base for me. I became a lot more politically aware. Others in my class are not so aware. As a sister, I did think sometimes that Umar bhai should not be so politically active to be safe, but my parents always said, 'Hum koi galat kaam thodi kar rahen hain (we're not doing anything wrong)'," said Sarah Fatima (17), who is now in class 11.

Both Fatima and Khanum said 2016 had shaken them since they weren't prepared, but this arrest was different. "This time I was sad but not shocked. The government is going after anyone they consider anti-national. Umar bhai's name and the religious identity associated with it is a big factor. Otherwise why is there no mention of Kapil Mishra anywhere in the FIRs or chargesheet?"

Khanum said the family had not shed a single tear since the recent arrest. "Umar is strong and we are being strong for him. Our extended relatives are crying but I haven't become emotional. I'm consoling them. This is not the time," she said.

Woman accused of defaming gods, police say no case made out

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

THE DELHI Police, in an action taken report (ATR) filed at Saket district court, has stated that no criminal offence was found to have been committed in connection with a court complaint against a journalist accusing her of "defaming Hindu gods and goddesses" to cause riots.

The ATR was filed Monday before Metropolitan Magistrate Jitendra Pratap Singh by SI Rajendra Kumar from Govindpuri police station. The court accepted the ATR report and set the next date of hearing on October 23 when Mukesh Sharma, the counsel for the complainant, will address his argument.

The complaint was filed by 'Hindu IT Cell' volunteer Ashutosh R Gupta against the woman, who runs a YouTube channel, and SHO (Govindpuri), who he accused of not registering an FIR.

Gupta alleged the woman, in a video on her YouTube channel, alleged that the North Indian festival of Teej is "misogynist and against women". "Accused No.1 demeaned Hinduism to the extent that can cause riots in any place," the complaint read.

Police stated that the application is liable to be dismissed: "Enquiries were made and from the complaint of the complainant, no criminal offence was found to have been committed."

Facebook snubs Assembly panel, Chadha threatens escalation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

SUMMONED BY the Delhi Assembly committee on peace and harmony, Facebook India officials refused to turn up, saying they "objected to the notice" and wanted it recalled.

The panel, meanwhile, issued a warning to Facebook India, with chairperson and Rajinder Nagar MLA Raghav Chadha saying they "shall be constrained to invoke its power to initiate breach of privilege proceedings against Facebook India unit" in case of a subsequent default.

The committee had summoned Facebook India's vice-president and managing director Ajit Mohan. While Mohan did not appear, Facebook's trust and safety director Vikram Langeh sent a letter to Chadha: "As you are well aware, the regulation of

Woman bashed up in busy marketplace

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NOIDA, SEPTEMBER 15

A WOMAN was brutally assaulted by her neighbour in Ghaziabad's Kavi Nagar on Saturday. In a video of the incident, which went viral online, the accused can be seen hitting the woman, in her early 50s, multiple times even as no eyewitness intervenes. The accused, Sunil Chaudhari, was arrested by police and has been sent

EXPLAINED Stalemate

FACEBOOK AND the Delhi Assembly panel are at an impasse. While the former believes it is answerable only to the central government, the latter is convinced Facebook's alleged role in fanning the riots means it is bound to answer to authorities in Delhi as well.

intermediaries like Facebook falls within the exclusive authority of the Union of India and in exercise of this power to regulate 'communications', Parliament has enacted the Information Technology Act, 2000. Further, the subject of 'law and order' in

the National Capital Territory of Delhi also falls within the exclusive domain of the Union of India. Given that the issues raised by the notice involve subject matter within the exclusive domain of the Union of India, and that the matters are under active consideration by Parliament, we respectfully object to the notice and request that you recall it."

The committee called the explanation "manifestly erroneous and palpably frivolous".

Formed on March 2, the committee is looking primarily into the Northeast Delhi riots. In an official statement, it had said that "prima facie found Facebook complicit in Delhi riots of February 2020 on the premise of incriminatory material produced on record by the witnesses as well as their scathing depositions before the Committee".

Facebook representatives were summoned after the com-



A screengrab of the attack in Kavi Nagar

mittee said it had received multiple complaints against the social media giant after *The Wall Street Journal* published a story on the company's India unit.

Facebook also said in its letter that the issue was already being examined by the Parliament's Standing Committee. "... the Parliament's Standing Committee on Information Technology is examining the issues raised in your notice as part of its enquiry into 'safeguarding citizens' rights'. We gave testimony before the Parliamentary Standing Committee," it said.

Chadha said: "It is manifest from a perusal of this notice that the proceedings before Parliament are in no way connected to the role of Facebook in the riots/violence in the NCT of Delhi in Feb, 2020. The Committee considers this nothing but an untenable excuse by Facebook to defy the summons..."

the video, more than 15 persons can be seen standing as the assault continues.

The accused then finds a steel chair and hits the woman. The woman keeps lying down as another woman seems to stop the accused from assaulting her further. In the FIR filed by Mukesh Devi's husband, the accused neighbour had a history of verbally abusing Mukesh Devi and her daughter. The woman is currently stable, police said.

Rahul targets AAP over Bhushan remark, Sanjay Singh hits back

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

ECHOING CIVIL rights activist Prashant Bhushan's comments, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi Tuesday said that the India Against Corruption (IAC) movement and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) were propped up by the RSS-BJP to subvert democracy and bring down the UPA government.

Bhushan was a core member of IAC, which was the precursor to AAP led by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. In 2015, he was expelled from the party along with Yogendra Yadav over alleged "anti-party activities".

In an interview with *India Today's* Rajdeep Sardesai, he said: "In hindsight there are two things that I do regret. One is not seeing that the movement was to a large extent supported and propped up by the BJP-RSS for their own political purposes to bring down the Congress government and get themselves in power."

On Tuesday, Rahul tweeted: "What was known to us has been confirmed by a founding member of AAP. The IAC movement & AAP were propped up by the RSS/BJP to subvert democracy and bring down the UPA government."

Senior AAP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh said Congress was making excuses to hide its failures. "Till when will you make excuses to hide your failures? Stop crying now. The truth is that the country has no hopes from BJP and Congress. Only AAP talks about the country, and solves their issues of schools, hospitals, power, and water. In future, AAP will be the country's choice," he said.

This is not the first time Bhushan has attacked AAP. He has earlier spoken about the party's choice of poll candidates, allegations of corruption and, more recently, said the party had



Singh said Cong was making excuses to hide its failures

strayed from its basic principles. "AAP could have been an alternative, if Kejriwal & Co had not converted a party whose raison-d'être was alternative politics, to a petty group of ambitious, amoral & unprincipled nobodies. Now it will remain a wannabe BJP with a wannabe-Modi leader," he had tweeted in July this year.

Bhushan and Yadav did not respond to calls or messages seeking a comment.

AAP National Treasurer Deepak Bajpai, who was part of the IAC movement, hit out at Bhushan on Twitter after Congress general secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala said Bhushan had shown courage and spoken the truth.

Bajpai said that Bhushan's father, Shanti Bhushan, had appealed to the people of Delhi to vote for Kiran Bedi and the BJP, and that he was now reading the Congress's script. He also said that during the IAC movement, Bhushan was a "BJP agent". Another senior leader said the party top brass has chosen to largely ignore Bhushan's comments as it doesn't want to engage in an "avoidable political slugfest".

BRIEFLY

DDA to e-auction event sites

New Delhi: The DDA will e-auction 25 sites for hosting marriages and other ceremonies to crack down on the 'tent mafia' which had a monopoly over booking of marriage venues owned by the authority, said a senior official.

'88,000 litres of oil stolen from transformers'

New Delhi: Around 88,000 litres of oil have been stolen from over 120 transformers in BSES's areas in Delhi in the last 18 months, of which 40 cases of thefts occurred in April this year during the lockdown, said BSES in a statement.

3 arrested for killing man

New Delhi: A brother-sister duo and their friend have been arrested for allegedly strangulating the woman's boyfriend under the victim tried to get intimate with her at her residence in North Delhi's Wazirabad four days ago.

Entrance test for admission to Jamia

New Delhi: The Executive Council of Jamia Millia Islamia Tuesday decided that admissions for the academic session 2020-2021 will be held through entrance examinations. ENS

HOUSE DIARIES

THE PANDEMIC EFFECT

■ Seating arrangements spread across chambers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and their galleries seem to have made MPs a bit relaxed. On Tuesday, Lok Sabha MPs seated in Rajya Sabha chamber were seen walking to others and talking during the session. Congress MPs Hibi Eden, Remya Haridas and T N Prapatnam took seats in the Speaker's gallery while Defence Minister Rajnath Singh while Defence Minister Rajnath Singh spoke. The MPs, it seemed, wanted a banner of protest they were showing to be more visible. After the Congress staged a walkout, they moved to Rajya Sabha chamber. Speaker Om Birla appeared to have been watching. "I can see members sitting in Rajya Sabha are not maintaining physical distance," he warned. The MPs then moved away.

■ The second day of Monsoon session saw Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu requesting MPs to raise hands, identify themselves and state where they are seated before speaking. This, he said, was necessary for officers managing live coverage of proceedings. To ensure distancing, some MPs of Upper House are seated in Lok Sabha and in Rajya Sabha galleries. Apparently, on Monday, the staff were confused due to the new seating arrangement and couldn't point the camera at MPs on time as they were figuring out where he or she was seated.

NO QUESTION HOUR: MY QUESTIONS



■ Why is there no FIR registered against main perpetrators behind the riots in N-E Delhi?

■ Why is govt targeting people who tried to save the Constitution by protesting against CAA and NRC

KUNWAR DANISH ALI, BSP

RS: Puri defends privatisation of Air India, 6 airports

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

THE PRIVATISATION of Air India is inevitable as the only other alternative for the government is to wind up the debt-ridden airline, Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri told Rajya Sabha on Tuesday.

The Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020, which was passed by the Upper House Tuesday, seeks to impose a penalty of up to Rs 1 crore for any lapses and violation of airline rules and regulations. This Bill will also convert the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), and the Aircraft Accidents Investigation Bureau (AARB) into statutory bodies. The Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha in March.

Speaking during the debate on the Bill, Opposition Members appreciated the Civil Aviation Ministry's effort to bring back Indians stranded abroad during the lockdown. However, many members also criticised the government for disinvestment in Air India.

Puri reiterated that Air India is being weighed down by a debt of Rs 60,000 crore. "We are confident that Air India will be given to a new owner to keep the flag flying high."

FORCED TO SKIP SESSION

Beniwal asks ICMR: +ve, or not?

Jaipur: Nagaur MP Hanuman Beniwal, who was found positive for Covid-19 in the test conducted ahead of the Lok Sabha session but later tested negative in Jaipur, has demanded an inquiry into the contradictory reports. The positive test meant he had to skip the session.

He is the national convener of the Rashtriya Loktantrik Party and a part of the BJP-led NDA. "The ICMR has not made it clear what to do next, whether they will conduct a test again. The Union Health Minister should make a statement about this; I'm a part of the NDA. I don't know what the policy of the ICMR is, and why they are keeping me out," he told *The Indian Express*. "Either of these reports is correct. The Union Health Ministry should make things clear. he was quoted by PTI as saying. **ENS**

STANDOFF ALONG LAC WITH CHINA

Govt says no debate in House, may brief Oppn

'In camera' briefing may be held with military leadership on ground situation

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

ON A day Defence Minister Rajnath Singh made a statement in Lok Sabha on the military standoff with China, the government, it is learnt, is likely to soon hold an "in camera" meeting either with all or select Opposition leaders about the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh.

The indications came even as main opposition Congress slammed the government for not allowing its members to ask questions to the Defence Minister after his statement. The Opposition staged a walkout in Lok Sabha.

Sources in the Opposition said the government, through various channels, had signalled to them that it would, along with the military leadership, hold an "in camera" briefing with them on the ground situation, and how the armed forces are tackling it.

In the past, governments of the day had made it a point to reach out to the Opposition in an attempt to forge a political consensus during such crises. In the wake of the killing of 20 Army personnel, including a Colonel-rank officer, in violent clashes in the Galwan Valley, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had reached out to the Opposition with a view to build a domestic consensus.

Modi had convened an all-party meeting on June 19 but the meeting created some discord after the Prime Minister, in his concluding address, told the political leaders that neither has anyone intruded into Indian territory nor



MPs meet amid masks and screens, in Lok Sabha on Tuesday. PTI

has anyone captured any military posts. The Congress has since criticised the government over that statement.

Similarly, the NDA government had briefed the Opposition in the wake of the Pulwama terror attack last year, and during the standoff with China in Doklam in 2017. While the all-party meeting on Doklam on July 14, 2017, was convened by then External Affairs Minister, late Sushma Swaraj, then Home Minister Rajnath Singh had briefed the Opposition on February 17, 2019 about the Pulwama attack.

Swaraj had also held an all-party meeting following the Balakot air strike by the IAF on February 26, 2019. The meeting was attended by then Finance Minister Arun Jaitley and

Home Minister Rajnath Singh.

In the UPA government, then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had also reached out similarly.

In the wake of tension with Pakistan along the LoC and beheading of Lance Naik Hemraj by Pakistani soldiers in January 2013, Singh had spoken to then Leaders of Opposition Swaraj and Jaitley and assured them that the Opposition would be informed about the situation. A day later, then National Security Adviser Shivshankar Menon had briefed both leaders.

In 1999, then PM A B Vajpayee had convened two all-party meetings in the wake of the Kargil conflict, followed by a meeting of chief ministers.

LOK SABHA SUPPORTS MOVE TO DEDUCT MPs' SALARIES

MPs want MPLADS restored, suggest use of Central Vista funds in Covid fight

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

ON A day when the Lok Sabha unanimously backed the government's move to slash salaries of MPs by 30 per cent to meet the exigencies arising out of the pandemic, a united Opposition asked the government to restore the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), funding for which has been suspended for two years.

The Opposition also suggested that the Rs 20,000-crore Central Vista project should be cancelled to put in that money for the country's fight against Covid pandemic.

The Lower House passed the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020 that seeks to reduce salaries of lawmakers by 30 per cent for one year as part of austerity measures introduced in view of Covid-19.

While extending support to the move, all non-NDA parties demanded that the MPLADS funds, meant for development work in constituencies, be restored immediately. Some members even said it should be increased. The Congress, DMK, NCP, YSRCP, TRS, TDP, BJD and BSP sought restoration of the funding.

However, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, who replied to the debate, did not make any commitment.

Congress MP Dean Kuriakose, who moved a statutory resolution against the ordinance,



FUELLING CLEAN ENERGY

BJP MP Manoj Tiwari cycles to Parliament on Tuesday. Prem Nath Pandey

GOVT: NO ACTIONABLE INTEL ON DRUG NEXUS IN INDUSTRY DURING LOCKDOWN

To divert attention, film industry being flogged on social media: Jaya

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

A DAY after BJP MP and Bhojpuri actor Ravi Kishan said there is a drug addiction problem in Bollywood, Samajwadi Party leader and veteran actor Jaya Bachchan hit back, saying some people are biting the hand that feeds them.

"Just because of a few people, you cannot tarnish the whole industry... I was really embarrassed and ashamed that yesterday one of our members in the Lok Sabha, who is from the industry, spoke against the film industry. *Jis thaali mein khaate hain usi mein chhed karte hain* (they are biting the hand that feeds them)," she said in Rajya Sabha, without naming Kishan.

Her statement came even as the Ministry of Home Affairs, in reply to a question, told Lok Sabha that it did not receive any actionable intelligence of a nexus between drug traffickers and the film industry during the lockdown to curb the spread of Covid-19.

On Monday, Kishan raised in Lok Sabha allegations of drug use in the film industry that surfaced during the investigation into the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput.

Bachchan said these allegations were being made to divert the country's attention from real issues such as unemployment and the economy. "People who have made a name in this industry have called it a gutter. I completely disagree and I really disassociate."

Bachchan also said the entertainment industry was being targeted on social media. "At



SP MP Jaya Bachchan in Parliament. PTI

a time when the financial situation is in a depressing state and employment rate at the worst levels, in order to divert the attention of people, we are being flogged on social media and there is no support from the government," the SP member said. She added that the entertainment industry in the country provides

direct employment to 5 lakh people daily and indirect employment to 5 million people.

"I hope the government tells these people who have made their earning, name and fame in this industry to stop using such language. There are people in the entertainment industry who are some of the highest taxpayers (in the country). They are still being harassed. I think the government must stand by the entertainment industry because it always comes forward to help the government in whatever good work it takes up... If there is a national calamity, they come forward, they give money and their services," she said.

In Lok Sabha, replying to a question on "Nexus of Film Industry in Drug Trafficking", Minister of State, Home, G Kishan Reddy, said, "Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) carries out search, seizure, arrest and investigation continuously throughout the year on the actionable inputs developed on its own and/or on receipt from other sources. During the period of Covid-19 lockdown, no such actionable inputs were received by NCB revealing the nexus between people in the film industry and drug traffickers." Reddy, however, said a case had been registered and investigations were on. "However, a case in this regard has been registered by NCB Mumbai Zonal unit on 28.08.2020. Till date, in this case 10 persons have been arrested. Drugs such as Ganja, Hashish, Tetra Hydro Cannabinol and Lysergic acid Di-ethylamide have been seized in the operation," he said.

The case the minister referred to is in connection with the death of Rajput.

Can't discuss China; Covid can be taken up with related Bills: Govt

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

THE GOVERNMENT on Tuesday rejected the Opposition's demands to raise several contentious issues, including Chinese aggression at the LAC, saying the issue is sensitive and a threadbare debate in Parliament would put the lives of the soldiers there in danger.

Sources said Opposition leaders wanted to have short-duration discussions on the tension at LAC, the pandemic situation, migrant workers' issues and the rising unemployment in the Business Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting held at 2 pm Tuesday. But the treasury benches are learnt to have suggested that the pandemic could be discussed during the debate on Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill and for the economy issues, Lok Sabha will have a debate on supplementary demands for grants and other financial bills such as Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill.

Unlike on Monday, opposition parties tried to be on the offensive on Tuesday, with many Congress MPs giving notices on adjournment motion. But Speaker Om Birla rejected it.

At least 10 notices have been given for adjourning the proceedings to discuss "crucial issues". This includes *The Indian Express's* report on hybrid warfare by China. Congress leaders Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, K Suresh and Manickam Tagore gave separate notices to take



Speaker Om Birla in House Tuesday. PTI

up the issue. "I have received some notices on adjournment motion. But I am not taking them up," Birla said.

Congress member T N Prapatnam, CPI(M)'s A M Arif, RSP's N K Premachandran, and IUML's Mohammad Basheer have given notices to discuss Delhi Police's chargesheet against activists and political leaders. K Muraledharan (Congress) wants the House to discuss the issue of GDP decline by suspending all other business.

"We cannot let the House to discuss the China situation at a time when our soldiers are standing face to face with Chinese PLA," a source from treasury benches, who was part of the BAC meeting, said. "The situation is very tense there. If any leader wants to know about the situation, or even about the media reports on China watching, they can have that discussions privately with the ministers concerned."

EXPLAINED

How the MPLAD scheme works

UNDER THE MPLAD scheme, MPs can recommend development programmes involving spending of Rs 5 crore every year in their respective constituencies. MPs from both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, including nominated ones, can do so. MPs and MLAs do not receive any money under these schemes. The government transfers it directly to the respective local authorities. The legislators can only recommend works in their constituencies based on a set of guidelines that focus on the creation of durable community assets like roads, school buildings etc.

pointed out that the total collection from salary deduction would be around Rs 50 crore, which is nominal compared to the economic package announced by the government in view of

Panic due to fake news caused migrants to walk home: Govt

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

MIGRANTS TOOK to walking hundreds of kilometres to their homes during the lockdown because of fake news, the government has told Parliament. It also said that the global experience with Covid-19 and its highly infectious nature led to the Centre's decision to clamp a nationwide lockdown on March 24 at a notice of just four hours.

The information was given in Lok Sabha by Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai in response to two separate questions by Opposition members.

When TMC member Mala Roy asked why migrant labourers had to walk miles to reach their homes, Rai said, "The migration of large number of migrant workers was triggered by panic created by fake news regarding duration of lockdown, and people, especially migrant labourers, were worried about adequate supply of basic necessities like food, drinking water, health services and shelter."

Detailing various steps taken by the government, Rai said, "However, Central government was fully conscious of this, and took all necessary measures to ensure that during the period of the inevitable lockdown, no citizen should be deprived of basic amenities of food, drinking water, medical facilities etc."

Congress MP Manish Tewari then asked why the government had to resort to a nationwide lockdown at a notice of just four hours. Rai stated in a written reply, "Soon after the outbreak of novel coronavirus on 7th January, 2020, several measures like progressive tightening of international travel, issuing advisories for members of the public, setting up quarantine facilities etc. were taken



Nityanand Rai Manish Tewari

by the Central Government to contain the spread of COVID-19.

"World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as pandemic on 11th March, 2020. Experts, keeping in view the global experiences of countries which have been successful in containing the spread of COVID-19, unlike some others where many people died, have recommended that effective measures for social distancing should be taken to contain the spread of this pandemic," he said. Rai said that from March 16 to 23, most of the states governments/UTs resorted to a partial or full lockdown based upon their assessment of the situation.

"Covid-19 is a highly infectious disease. Any mass movement of people would have spread the disease very fast amongst people in all parts of the country. Taking into consideration the above facts, the global experience and the need for consistency in the approach and implementation of various containment measures across the country, a nationwide lockdown was announced on 24th March, 2020 to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the country," he said.

Rai claimed that by imposing the countrywide lockdown, India successfully blunted the aggressive spread of the virus.



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



UNITED BY LANGUAGE

EXCLUSION OF Punjabi from the list of official languages of J&K came up in Lok Sabha on Monday and Tuesday. While Congress's Manish Tewari raised the issue on Monday, NDA ally Shiromani Akali Dal's Sukhbir Singh Badal raised it on Tuesday, and added that NC leader Feroz Khan Noon would confirm it. At this, Abdullah said Punjabi was included in the list during his tenure as J&K chief minister. Badal then complimented Abdullah for his "excellent Punjabi". The NC leader added that Punjabi is spoken by many in J&K, and urged the government to consider the suggestion, and also adding Pahari and Gujarati as official languages of the UT.

TAKING UP THE CUDGELS

ACTOR KANGANA Ranaut got support in Parliament on Tuesday. During Zero Hour, Lok Sabha MP from Mandi, BJP's Ram Swaroop, said the "daughter of Himachal Pradesh" has been ill-treated by the Shiv Sena-led Maharashtra government. "Shiv Sena is no longer a Sena of Shivaji Maharaj but of the Congress," he said, pointing to the demolition of Ranaut's Mumbai office last week by the Sena-led civic body. Sharma thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah for providing security to the "brave lady" from his state.

BACKING BOOKS

IN A written statement placed before Rajya Sabha on Tuesday, Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said the ministry had given scholarships amounting to more than Rs 4 crore to minority students from economically weaker sections, and that Rs 11,690 crore has been spent on the scholarships since 2014-15.

Mahoba killing: Police suspect insider's role

MANISH SAHU
MAHOBHA, SEPTEMBER 15

UP POLICE suspect the role of an "insider" in the lethal attack on a 44-year-old businessman in Mahoba whose killing has led to a senior police officer being suspended and named in the FIR, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

According to police sources, investigators suspect that two other persons were present inside the car in which the victim, Indra Kant Tripathi, was found with a bullet injury on his neck on September 8. Tripathi succumbed to the injury on Sunday.

"We suspect that the two others were seated in the back, and one of them shot the victim who was in the driver's seat. There was no sign of any scuffle or damage inside the car," said a senior police officer. "We have recovered an empty shell from inside the car," said JG (Chitrakoot Dham Range) K Satya Narayan. While no arrest has been made so far in the case, Narayan said that statements of 18 persons have been recorded.

Police are searching for a local gangster, Ashu Bhadonia, in the attack for which the then Mahoba SP Mani Lal Patidar is among those booked following allegations from Tripathi's family about the officer's role in the incident. Patidar had earlier been booked in a separate case of extortion filed by another businessman.

Police are, meanwhile, collecting details of those associated with the victim and verifying their location at the time of the attack. Police have also collected Call

Detail Records of Tripathi's phone to trace those who were in contact with him in the days leading up to the attack. "The statement of the victim could not be recorded because of his critical health. Notices are being sent to those booked in the case and those close to the victim to get their statements recorded," an officer said.

However, Tripathi's family members claimed that police are "trying to divert the investigation" by focusing on those close to them. "Instead of questioning those named in the case, police are picking up people close to us for questioning. We suspect that they want to give a clean chit to the accused. Police have also been deployed on all roads leading to our residence. They are recording details of people visiting our house to create fear," Tripathi's elder brother, Ravi Kant, said.

Police took Tripathi's business partners, Purushotam Soni and Bal Kishore, for questioning on Monday, and later released them. In the FIR, Ravi Kant alleged that his brother, who was running a mining business, was killed after he refused to give money demanded by Patidar. Besides Patidar, Kabrai SHO Devendra Shukla and two local businessmen, Suresh Soni and Brahmdudd, were named in the FIR.

Shukla has also been placed under suspension. Suresh Soni is Tripathi's neighbour, and his house was found locked on Tuesday.

Tripathi's family demanded Rs 50 lakh as compensation from the government and free education for his children, Ananya (14) and Anshuman (9), till graduation.

As Oppn demands minister resignation, Pinarayi backs him: Did no wrong

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
SEPTEMBER 15



K T Jaleel

WHILE OPPOSITION Congress and BJP continued to stage protests across Kerala, demanding resignation of state Higher Education Minister K T Jaleel after he was questioned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in an alleged FCRA violation case, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Tuesday said Jaleel has not committed any mistake.

"The ED questioning him need not be seen as a big issue.

Giving the Quran cannot be seen as a mistake. But certain people feel that (distributing Quran) is a mistake – even IJML (a Congress ally) feels so. If Jaleel is involved, the Quran becomes untouchable for IJML," Vijayan said.

With both BJP and IJML engaged in separate agitations, demanding Jaleel's resignation, Vijayan said, "Things are being manoeuvred in a way that is not suit-

Haryana farmers pull out of talks with Centre, stir to go on

SUKHBIR SIWACH
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 15

HARYANA'S AGITATING farmer outfits on Tuesday decided to boycott talks with Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar after BJP's Bhiwani-Mahendragarh MP, Dharambir Singh, made it clear that there was no possibility of withdrawal of three contentious Central ordinances on agriculture. The farmer bodies, which had agreed to talks earlier, have now announced that they will continue their stir.

In these circumstances, Haryana is set to witness a new round of confrontation between farmers and the state's BJP-JJP government.

MP Dharambir Singh said the Bills related to these ordinances are likely to be passed in Parliament on September 16. "This is a big country. The ordinances can't be withdrawn just on the demand of a group from a state," Dharambir Singh told *The Indian Express*.

On the invitation of the MP, the farmer groups led by Gurnam Singh Chaduni had gone to his Delhi residence before moving to meet Tomar.

"In the beginning of our meeting with Dharambir Singh, he said the ordinances won't be withdrawn and will be passed on Wednesday. He told us that if we wish for some improvements, then talks can be held.



MEANWHILE, IN LUDHIANA: Farmers block NH-21 during a protest against the Centre's farm ordinances. Gurmeet Singh

But we boycotted the talks because when the ordinances were not to be withdrawn, what was the point in talks," said Chaduni.

The farmers are demanding that the three agriculture Bills should not be tabled and passed in Parliament before final talks with them. The farmers are also demanding a law to ensure assured Minimum Support Price (MSP) for their crops. When asked about their next strategy, Chaduni said, "Now our strategy will be do or die. We will ask the government to accept our demands or kill us. Now, the opposition should speak in Parliament.

Our dharmas at district headquarters, which started today, will continue till September 20, the day when the roads will be blocked for three hours in Haryana."

Meanwhile, Haryana BJP president Om Prakash Dhankar,

state Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister J P Dalal, three BJP MPs – Dharambir Singh, Brijendra Singh and Nayab Singh – along with some farmer leaders met Tomar.

After the meeting, Dalal told *The Indian Express* that Tomar has made it clear that the system of MSP of crops will continue even after introduction of the new laws. "There is no single point in the proposed laws against the farmers," claimed Dalal. Blaming the agitating farmer leaders of having a "political agenda", Dalal termed their agitation as "sponsored by Congress."

The minister further said a committee headed by sub divisional magistrate (SDM), which will have farmers as members, would be formed to resolve the issues faced by the farmers after introduction of new system.

LS: Essential commodities Bill cleared amid objections from Oppn, SAD

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

LOK SABHA on Tuesday passed The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020, which seeks to replace the ordinance promulgated on June 5 to deregulate agriculture foodstuffs such as cereals, pulses, oilseeds, edible oils, onion and potatoes.

Members of Opposition parties opposed the Bill and moved certain amendments, which were negated by the House.

Moving the Bill for the consideration of the House, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Raosaheb Patil Danve said, "This Bill is an important step in the direction of the doubling of farmers' income," Danve said.

Supporting the Bill, BJP member Bhartruhari Mahtab said, "I would urge the government that while liberalising the regulatory environment, it has to ensure that the interest of farmers and consumers are safeguarded."

TMC member Sougata Ray said, "This Bill is in favour of big capitalists." Congress member Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said the Bill will only benefit hoarders.

SAD member Sukhbir Singh Badal said the government should have consulted the political parties before promulgating the ordinance, adding that even his party – part of the NDA – was not consulted.

J&K forms committees to work on local bodies bypolls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 15

BY-ELECTIONS TO more than 12,000 vacant panchayat seats in J&K are likely to be conducted in October. The UT administration on Tuesday accorded sanction to an apex committee with a mandate to conduct preparatory work for by-elections to panchayats and Block Development Councils (BDCs). A notification for the first phase of the by-elections can be expected in the first week of October, sources said.

Besides the apex committee, divisional committees for Kashmir and Jammu have also been given approval. The apex committee, chaired by Principal Secretary (Home) Shaleen Kabra, and comprising DGP Dilbag Singh, Additional DGP (CID) R R Swain, along with with four other members, has been tasked with drawing a road map and detailed schedule for conduct of elections to vacant panchayats and BDCs. The panel will submit its report by September 28.

Elections to 316 blocks in 4483 panchayat taluqs (including Ladakh at the time), comprising 35,029 panch constituencies, were conducted after a gap of seven years in November/December 2018.

Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Sheetal Nanda, said that besides seats where no one had contested elections in the previous election, "there have been resignations and in some cases deaths. So by elections will be conducted for all such seats."

After the erstwhile state was split into two UTs, the number of panchayats has been reduced from 4,483 to 4,290, the rest being in Ladakh.

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE



| KEY STATES TO WATCH | TOTAL CASES | SURGE IN 24 HOURS | 7-DAY AVG GROWTH* | DOUBLING TIME** |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| ■ Maharashtra | 10,77,374 | 17,066 | 2.22% | 32.32 |
| ■ Andhra | 5,75,079 | 7,956 | 1.83% | 39.33 |
| ■ Tamil Nadu | 5,08,511 | 5,752 | 1.15% | 62.38 |
| ■ Uttar Pradesh | 3,17,195 | 5,159 | 2.23% | 32.31 |
| ■ Delhi | 2,21,533 | 3,229 | 1.95% | 36.93 |

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

| CASE FATALITY RATIO | POSITIVITY RATE | DAILY IN, DAILY OUT |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 7 DAYS EARLIER: 1.70 | 7 DAYS EARLIER: 8.45 | DETECTED TODAY: 83,809 |
| NOW: 1.64 | NOW: 8.45 | RECOVERED TODAY: 79,292 |

Deaths as a ratio of positive cases (in %); indicator of progress in averting deaths

Positives against number tested (in %); indicator of the spread of disease

Becoming sick vs recovering; more recoveries for 14 days may signal the peak

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

Arunachal CM tests Covid-positive

Guwahati: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Tuesday said he had tested positive for Covid-19 and that he is asymptomatic. "I had undergone Covid test RT-PCR and have tested positive for Covid 19," Khandu

tweeted Tuesday. He added, "I am asymptomatic and feeling healthy. However as per SOP and safety of others, I am self isolating myself and request everyone who came in contact with me to adhere to the SOP." ENS

Actor-MPs in key roles, Ayodhya to host grand Ramlila to be screened on TV, online

DIPANITA NATH
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

ON THE banks of Sarayu, less than two km from where the Ram temple is being constructed, a star-studded Ramlila has been planned for audiences of social media, satellite television and YouTube between October 17 and 25.

"No audience will be allowed due to Covid-19 restrictions. All episodes will be filmed at the location, Lakshman Quila, and broadcast like a film so that people can watch from the safety of their homes," said Subhash Malik, founder of Meri Maa Foundation, the organiser. Malik adds that BJP MP Parvesh Sahib Singh is the main patron of the Ramlila.

In the Ramlila, BJP MP from North East Delhi Manoj Tiwari will play Angad, Gorakhpur MP and Bhojpur actor Ravi Kishan will play Bharat, Vinodu Dara Singh will reprise his role from TV as Hanuman, actor Raza Murad will



A replica of the Ramlila set. Express

portray Ahiravan and Asrani will appear as Narad Muni.

"One of the highlights is Shahbaj Khan, whose powerful voice will bring alive Ravan on stage," says Malik. Ritu Shivpuri will play Kaikeyi and Rakesh Bedi will play Vibhishan.

For the role of Ram and Sita, Sonu Dagar and Kavita Joshi have been selected, respectively. "I

consider it my good fortune to play Mata Sita. It is one of the happiest moments of my life, especially since our Ramlila will be staged for the first time on the same soil where the adharshila of the Ram Mandir has been laid," says Joshi.

In preparation for their roles, she and Dagar, who is a part of Vignaharta Ganesh on Sony TV,

KHALILZAD MEETS JAISHANKAR

US: Afghan sides must ensure territory not used by terror groups

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

THE US Special envoy on the Afghanistan peace process, Zalmay Khalilzad, met External Affairs minister S Jaishankar and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval on Tuesday and told them that the Afghan sides "should ensure their territory must not be used by any terrorist group against any other country."

This was an important statement coming from the top US interlocutor, who has stitched together the reconciliation process between the Afghan government and the Taliban.

Sources in New Delhi said Khalilzad had "called on the External Affairs Minister in the presence of NSA and Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla".

An official statement issued by the US embassy said, "The United States and India share the view that the peace process must continue until there is agreement on a political roadmap and a comprehensive and permanent ceasefire. The Afghan sides should ensure their territory must not be used by any terrorist group against any other country."

Khalilzad stressed "regional and international support is critical for the success of these negotiations and the implementation of any agreement. India and the United States will work together in support of this objective".

The US and India expressed similar views on the importance of long term assistance, trade,

EXPLAINED Subtle shift in engaging with Taliban

SIGNALLING A carefully calibrated shift in its position on engaging with the Taliban, India had participated in the commencement ceremony of intra-Afghan talks between the Afghanistan government and the Taliban – the Intra-Afghan Negotiations (IAN) – in Doha on Saturday. US special envoy Khalilzad appreciated India's participation and briefed about the US assessment of IAN and shared the country's perspective on the Afghan peace process. The two sides are learnt to have discussed future steps and possible cooperation between India and the US in furthering the Afghan peace process.

and investment for consolidating a peace agreement for the benefit of the people of Afghanistan, the region, and beyond, the statement released by the embassy said.

This was Khalilzad's fifth visit to India since January 2019. On May 7, he had visited India on a similar mission.

Khalilzad had met the top brass in Islamabad on Monday.

PM launches sewerage, drinking water projects, praises Nitish-Sushil team

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PATNA, SEPTEMBER 15

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Tuesday inaugurated four sewerage treatment plant projects, including two for Patna, through the virtual medium from New Delhi and said Bihar, in coming years, will be among states where every household will have access to piped drinking water.

"That would be a big achievement – a matter of pride for Bihar," he said.

Modi also inaugurated water supply projects for Munger and Jamalpur and laid foundation of a riverfront development scheme.

On Sunday, the PM had inaugurated two bottling plants and LPG pipeline schemes for the election-bound state.

In his address through video-



PM Modi at the virtual launch of the projects. DD/PTI

conference, Modi lauded the efforts of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and his deputy Sushil Kumar Modi in attempting to restore confidence of the weakest sections of society, "especially on education of daughters (girl children) and ensuring participation of the deprived in Panchayati Raj institutions and local bodies".

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Karnataka moves to amend fiscal Act to facilitate borrowing of up to 5% of GSPD

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 15

THE KARNATAKA government has decided to amend the Karnataka Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2002 during the forthcoming session of the state legislature to facilitate borrowing to the extent 5 per cent of the gross state domestic produce (GSDP) to overcome revenue shortages incurred during the Covid-19 crisis.

The decision to modify the Act from the earlier GSDP of 3 per cent was taken at a Tuesday meeting of the state cabinet headed by Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa, who also holds the finance portfolio. The changes in borrowing limits imposed on the state will enable the state to borrow an additional Rs 33,000 crore needed for development work during the current fiscal, state Law Minister J C Madhuswamy said.

NIA arrests key accused in Vizag espionage case from Gujarat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
VADODARA, SEPTEMBER 15

THE NATIONAL Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday night arrested a key accused in the Visakhapatnam espionage case from Godhra town in Panchmahals district.

The accused, a 37-year-old cloth merchant named Imran Giteli, is alleged to have links with Pakistan's spy agency ISI.

An NIA statement said, "Investigation has revealed that Giteli was associated with Pakistani agents under the guise of cross-border cloth trade. As per directions of Pakistan-based spies, he deposited money into the bank accounts of Indian Navy personnel at regular intervals in lieu of sensitive and classified data provided by them."

The release further stated that the case, registered under sections of the IPC, the UAPA and the Official Secrets Act, relates to an international espionage racket in which Pakistan-based spies recruited agents in India for collecting classified information on the location or movements of Indian naval ships and submarine.

Key PMO officers, state Chief Secys, DGPs among 370-plus officials tracked

Those tracked include bureaucrats in ministries under PM, Information Commissioners, 23 Chief Secys

KAUNAIN SHERIFFM
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

KEY BUREAUCRATS in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), IAS officers in infrastructure ministries, Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police (DGPs) of states mark a strong presence in the Overseas Key Information Database of Zhenhua Data, an IT firm in Shenzhen, in China's Guangdong province, which tracks about 2.5 million individuals across geographies, including at least 10,000 Indians.

There are at least 375 bureaucrats, most of them serving and a few retired, in the database.

Those tracked include at least half-a-dozen bureaucrats in the PMO, or in ministries directly under the Prime Minister; at least 23 Chief Secretaries; and 15 DGPs. These are some of the findings of an eight-week investigation by *The Indian Express* into a segment of the database made available by an anonymous source connected to the company, which has links

with the Chinese government.

The bureaucrats being monitored cut across cadre and seniority, in both state and Central government departments, and are largely in key departments, including natural resources, infrastructure and urban development, finance, and law and order. Information commissioners with power to summon information from the government, and Chief Election Officers who oversaw funding and expenditure of political parties and candidates during recent elections are also targets.

Among bureaucrats working under the PM are Amarjeet Sinha, appointed adviser in the PMO this year; Sumita Misra, Joint Secretary, PM's Economic Council; and Ashish Kumar, Private Secretary to Jitendra Singh, Minister of State in PMO.

Officers in key infrastructure ministries include Bidyut Behari Swain, Special Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, key to Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations,



implementation of Foreign Trade Policy Statement, and matters of trade remedies, anti-dumping duties and subsidies; Shiv Meena, CMD, Housing & Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO); Rajesh Aggarwal, Additional Secretary and Financial Advisor, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas; and Dharmendra Gangwar, Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Other serving civil servants in the database include:

- Archana Varma, Additional Secretary, Central Vigilance Commission
- T Sreekanth, Personal

Secretary to G Kishan Reddy, MoS, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)

- Anil Malik, Additional Secretary (Foreigners), MHA
- D Rajkumar, CEO, Bharat Petroleum

- Vivek Bharadwaj, Additional Secretary (Police Modernisation), MHA
- Nidhi Chhibber, Joint Secretary & Acquisition Manager (Maritime Systems), MoD
- S Aparna, Executive Director, World Bank, Washington DC
- Anjana Dube, Deputy Director-General, Department of Financial Services

Also in the database are former Gujarat DGP P Pandey, now discharged in the Ishrat Jahan alleged fake encounter case, and former Kerala DGP Siby Mathews, who investigated the 1994 ISRO spy case.

The database includes South Kashmir DIG Atul Goel, who arrested J&K DSP Davinder Singh, suspected to have links with ISI's Punjab Militancy Unit; Vijay Bhushan, I-C, Uttar Pradesh, who

served as SP, Shamli, during Muzaffarnagar riots; and Chandra Prakash, DG (Special Inquiries) UP.

Serving bureaucrats in the database from states include Temjen Toy, Chief Secretary, Nagaland; P Ravi Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary to Karnataka CM B S Yediyurappa; Awanish Kumar Awasthi, Additional Chief Secretary (Home), UP, and the state's representative in Ram Janmabhoomi Tirtha Kshetra Trust; S Siddharth, Principal Secretary (Finance), Bihar, and former Secretary to CM Nitish Kumar.

Among former officers are Sumantha Chaudhuri, former Coal Secretary; Yuhvir Malik, former Chairman, NHA; former CBEC member and finance expert with the UN Security Council Lipika Roy Choudhury; and Surjit Chaudhary, former Secretary, Chemical and Petrochemicals.

TOMORROW: Diplomats, media & thought leaders

Soldier killed, officer among 2 injured in Pak firing along LoC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 15

AN ARMY jawan was killed and two others, including an officer, were injured on Tuesday after Pakistani troops fired with small arms and shelled mortars along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, officials said.

The Indian Army launched a befitting retaliation to the violation, they said. "Pakistan initiated the unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and intense shelling with

mortars. Some injuries have been reported (on our side)," a defence spokesperson said based on preliminary information. However, official sources said three army personnel, including an officer, were injured in the incident and later one of the soldiers succumbed to the injuries. The officer, along with another soldier, is undergoing treatment at the military hospital, the sources said.

The Pakistani army has also suffered casualties in the retaliatory action but details are awaited, the sources said.

SC grants former Punjab DGP interim protection from arrest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15



Sumedh Singh Saini

THE SUPREME Court on Tuesday gave interim protection from arrest to former Punjab Director General of Police (DGP) Sumedh Singh Saini in connection with a 1991 case of kidnapping and murder.

A bench of Justices Ashok Bhushan, R Subhash Reddy and M R Shah asked the Punjab government to file its reply to Saini's plea for anticipatory bail in three

weeks time and gave one week to Saini to respond to what the state says.

Directing that the matter be listed after four weeks, the court said "petitioner shall not be arrested in connection with FIR No.007..." The case relates to the disappearance of a junior engineer Balwant Singh Multani.

Ex-Facebook staffer says sophisticated network operated to influence Delhi polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

A FORMER Facebook data scientist has claimed that she worked to remove a "politically sophisticated network of more than a thousand actors working to influence" the Delhi Assembly elections in February, and that the social media firm did not publicly disclose this network or that it had been taken down.

Sophie Zhang, the data scientist, was recently fired by Facebook and reportedly turned down a \$64,000 severance package to avoid signing a non-disparagement agreement. Her revelation is part of an alleged 6600-word memo obtained and reported by *Buzzfeed*, which alleges that Facebook "ignored" or was "slow to act on evidence" that fake accounts on its platform have been "undermining elections and political affairs around the world".

The *Buzzfeed* report, quoting Zhang's memo, says, "In the three years I've spent at Facebook, I've found multiple blatant attempts by foreign national governments to abuse our platform on vast scales to mislead their own citizenry, and caused international news on multiple occasions."

Amidst examples from across the world, the memo allegedly carries a mention of India, with Zhang alleging that a "politically sophisticated network" was working to influence the Delhi Assembly elections.

"I worked through sickness to take down a politically sophisticated network of more than a thousand actors working to influence the election," she wrote in her memo, according to *Buzzfeed*.

In response to a detailed questionnaire by *The Indian Express* seeking details about this alleged network, a Facebook spokesperson said, "We've built specialised teams, working with leading ex-

perts, to stop bad actors from abusing our systems, resulting in the removal of more than 100 networks for coordinated inauthentic behavior... We investigate each issue carefully, including those that Ms Zhang raises, before we take action or go out and make claims publicly as a company."

AAP legislator Raghav Chadha said in a statement, "Facebook, seemingly has been shrugging off any chance of disclosure regarding its internal functioning despite claiming to infuse maximum transparency. As asserted by the former employee of the global social media platform, it is actively being used as a means of spreading misinformation to sway public opinions, especially at the time of national/regional elections. The committee had received similar inputs while examining an independent witness Sh. Awesh Tiwari as he had affirmed with the help of some cogent set of evidences that Facebook India was somehow engineering a highly volatile and precarious situation in Delhi which was clearly undertaken to adversely affect the free and fair election in the capital.

Chadha, the chairman of the Committee of Peace and Harmony of the Delhi Assembly, had summoned Facebook officials in connecting with hearings on the Delhi riots, but the firm did not send its representatives, arguing that the matter is under the domain of the Union government.

A senior BJP leader said that it is for Facebook to respond to the revelation. "Our party has in fact faced losses in the recent Assembly polls and it is AAP that gained. So maybe they would have done something which they or Facebook would know better. Secondly, our senior leader had in fact said in the past that Facebook is biased against us and probing their roles."

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

Kangana seeks Rs 2 cr as damages for demolition


Mumbai: Actor Kangana Ranaut has sought Rs 2 crore as damages for the "illegal demolition" of her Bandra office by the BMC last week. An amended plea filed by her before the Bombay High Court on Monday evening stated that BMC has demolished 40 per cent of the Pali Hill bungalow, which was also used as an office, including valuable properties such as chandeliers and rare artworks, and sought interim relief pending hearing to take steps to make the property "capable of use" after the demolition.

The court directed the BMC to respond to the amended plea by September 18 and posted a hearing on September 22. **ENS**

Drugs case: Two more held by NCB

Mumbai: The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on Tuesday arrested two more people in connection with the drugs case in which actor Rhea Chakraborty and her brother Showik have been named as accused.

On Tuesday, NCB formally arrested Goa resident Chris Costa, who was detained Friday. The other accused arrested, Suryadeep Malhotra - who the agency said was Showik's friend - was detained on Monday in Mumbai. Both were sent them to NCB custody till September 17 and 18, respectively. **ENS**



NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED

(A Government of India Undertaking)

Regd. Office: SCOPE Complex, Core-III, 7-Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003
www.nationalfertilizers.com | CIN-L74899DL1974GOI007417

EXTRACT FROM THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS (STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED) FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE 2020
(₹ in Lakhs)

| S. N. | Particulars | STANDALONE | | | | CONSOLIDATED | | | |
|-------|--|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Quarter ended | | Year ended | | Quarter ended | | Year ended | |
| | | 30.06.2020 (Unaudited) | 31.03.2020 (Audited) | 30.06.2019 (Unaudited) | 31.03.2020 (Audited) | 30.06.2020 (Unaudited) | 31.03.2020 (Audited) | 30.06.2019 (Unaudited) | 31.03.2020 (Audited) |
| 1 | Total Income from operations | 283790 | 304006 | 260982 | 1319186 | 283790 | 304006 | 260982 | 1319186 |
| 2 | Net Profit/ (Loss) from operations before exceptional items and tax | 15150 | 6504 | (9676) | 13614 | 14958 | 5574 | (9681) | 12609 |
| 3 | Net Profit/ (Loss) before tax after exceptional items | 15150 | (32381) | (9676) | (25271) | 14958 | (33311) | (9681) | (26276) |
| 4 | Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period after tax | 11023 | (23935) | (6402) | (17101) | 10831 | (24865) | (6407) | (18106) |
| 5 | Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/ (Loss) and Other Comprehensive Income for the period | 10954 | (26205) | (6478) | (19631) | 10762 | (27135) | (6483) | (20636) |
| 6 | Equity Share Capital | 49058 | 49058 | 49058 | 49058 | 49058 | 49058 | 49058 | 49058 |
| 7 | Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year | - | - | - | 143036 | - | - | - | 141166 |
| 8 | Earning Per Share (of ₹ 10/- each)* | | | | | | | | |
| | (a) Basic | 2.25 | (4.88) | (1.30) | (3.49) | 2.21 | (5.07) | (1.31) | (3.69) |
| | (b) Diluted | 2.25 | (4.88) | (1.30) | (3.49) | 2.21 | (5.07) | (1.31) | (3.69) |

* Not annualised in case of quarterly figures

Note: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Yearly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Yearly Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchanges websites, www.nseindia.com and www.bseindia.com and website of the Company www.nationalfertilizers.com.

For and on behalf of Board of Directors
Sd/-
(Virendra Nath Datt)
Chairman & Managing Director
DIN : 07823778

Place : Noida
Dated: September 15, 2020

NFL : FARMER'S FRIEND, NATION'S PRIDE

Haryana Rail Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.
(Joint Venture of Ministry of Railway and Government of Haryana)
SCO No. 17-18-19, 3rd Floor, Sector-17A, Chandigarh, Ph. 0172-2715644
No. HRIDC/OM-10/2020 Dated 14.09.2020

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW
Walk-in-interview for engaging the services of Senior Executive (Civil, Human Resource) & Executive Assistant on contract basis for one year in HRIDC.

| Designation | Posts | Qualification | Place of Posting |
|-----------------------|-------|--|------------------|
| Sr. Executive (Civil) | 01 | B. Tech/B.E. (Civil Engineering) from a recognized University with minimum 60% marks. Regular M. Tech from a recognized University in the relevant field (i.e. Structural Engineering/ Soil Mechanics) with minimum 50% marks. | Gurugram |
| Sr. Executive (HR) | 01 | Graduate from a recognized University in any field with minimum 55% marks. Regular MBA in Human Resource Management/ Personnel Management from a recognized University with minimum 55% marks. | Chandigarh |
| Executive Assistant | 01 | Graduate from a recognized University in any field with minimum 55% marks. | Gurugram |

Interview schedule:-
For Sr Executive (Civil) and Executive Asst. For Sr. Executive (HR)
SCO No. 17-18-19, 3rd Floor, Sector-17A, Chandigarh on 05.10.2020 @ 11.00 AM.
@ 11.00 AM.

For further details of Educational qualification, experience, age and other terms & conditions etc. please visit our website www.hriddc.co.in/ e-mail: career.hriddc@gmail.com

DGM/HR/HRIDC
82792/HRV

PUBLIC NOTICE
URBAN LOCAL BODIES DEPARTMENT, HARYANA

Urban Local Bodies Department, Haryana has prepared a draft policy for Construction and Demolition Waste Management. The draft Policy is available on the website of Urban Local Bodies Department www.ulb-haryana.gov.in. The valuable suggestions/comments from the Public on the draft policy are invited and appropriate suggestions will be considered. Hence, any one having any suggestion/comment on the draft policy, may please submit it in writing on email xenvidulb@gmail.com before 30.09.2020.

Sd/-
Director General,
Urban Local Bodies, Haryana
Panchkula.

82807/HRV

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION - 2020 (OJEE - 2020)

No.-260 /OJEE 2020 Date:15-09-2020

NOTICE REGARDING WEB COUNSELLING FOR B.TECH. / B.ARCH. / INT. M.SC. PROGRAMMES

OJEE Web-based Counselling process for B.Tech. / B.Arch. / Int. M.Sc. will start tentatively in the 1st week of **October, 2020**. Hence, all students having JEE (MAIN) All India Rank (CRL) and interested to take part in OJEE counselling for admission to B.Tech./B.Arch./Int. M.Sc. courses in any Government or Private colleges of Odisha are to follow the OJEE Counselling process. They can get detailed information regarding counselling schedule, process and seat matrix etc. that will be made available, before commencement of counselling, in OJEE websites (www.ojee.nic.in/ / www.odishajee.com).

At present, information such as seat matrix, opening and closing ranks of admission pertaining to last year (2019-20) are available in OJEE website for reference purpose. Further, candidates are advised to obtain and keep ready with them, all necessary documents required like resident/nativity certificate, caste certificate, Income certificate for TFW claim etc. from appropriate authority well in advance to avoid last date rush.

Sd/-
CHAIRMAN, OJEE, ODISHA

SBI State Bank of India
STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH
2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna- 800001
Ph. No. (Office): 0612-2219043, 2219385, Fax: 0612-2219385, E-mail: sbi.05176@sbi.co.in

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE
SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS CHARGED TO THE BANK UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

The undersigned as Authorized Officer of State Bank of India has taken over symbolic possession of the following property/ies u/s 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act. Public at large is informed that e-Auction (under SARFAESI Act, 2002) of the charged property/ies in the below mentioned cases for realisation of Bank's dues will be held on "As is where is, As is what is and Whatever there is" Basis. The Auction will schedule on 17.10.2020. The other details of the Auction are as under:-

| Sl. No. | Name of Borrower(s) | Amount of Demand (as per SARFAESI notice) | Description of the property | Name of Mortgagor/ Guarantor | Date of Demand notice under SARFAESI act | Reserve Price below which the property will not be sold EMD Bid Increment Amount |
|---------|---|--|--|------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. | M/s Shashi Bhushan Agro Private Limited 1. Sri Abhishek Kumar (Director & Guarantor) 2. Sri Bipin Bihari Sharma (Director & Guarantor) 3. Smt. Nutan Sinha (Director & Guarantor) 4. Sri Dhananjay Kumar (Director & Guarantor) S/o Sri Ramprapanna Sharma 5. Sri Arun Kumar Singh (Guarantor) | ₹2,70,72,110.53 along with interest from 17.03.2018 and expenses, cost, charges etc. | Immovable Property: Residential Flat No.A-4-1, 4th Floor, Yarrows Apartments situated at Plot No.C-58/5, Sector-62, Noida, Dist.-Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. having Super Area 1540 Sq.Ft. (144.0 Sq. mtrs.). The Sale Deed for Superstructure of Residential Unit and Sub-Lease Deed for land is made and executed at Noida on 05.03.2011 between New Okhla Industrial Development Authority, Dist.-Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh AND I.A. & A.S Officer Sahkari Awas Samiti Ltd. through its Authorised Signatory Sh. S. Lakshminarayan, S/o Sh. N. Subramanian AND Sh. Arun Kumar Singh (Owner), S/o Late Sh. S.B.P. Sinha vide Deed No.2158 dated 05.03.2011. | Arun Kumar Singh | 17.05.2018 | ₹68,00,000/- ₹6,80,000/- ₹10,000/- |

- Date & Time of e-auction: 17.10.2020; Time: 12:00 Minutes. From 11:00 A.M. to 01:00 P.M. with unlimited extension of 05 Minutes.
- Date and time for submission of request letter of participation/KYC Documents/Proof of EMD etc.: On or before 15.10.2020 till 04:00 P.M.
- E-Auction is being held on "As is where is, As is what is and Whatever there is" Basis and will be conducted "On Line". The E-auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider M/s e-Procurement Technology Ltd. at the web portal (<http://sbi.auctiontiger.net>). E-Auction Tender Documents containing online e-auction bid form, Declaration, General Terms and Conditions of online auction sale are available in <http://sbi.auctiontiger.net>.
- To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property/ies. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/rights/dues/affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The E-auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the bank. The property is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to the bank. The Authorised Officer/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues. The sale shall be subject to rules/conditions prescribed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. This publication is also a 30 days notice to all the borrower/guarantors require under Rule 8(f) of Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002.

NB: 30 days Sale Notice to Borrower/Guarantors has already been sent by Regd. Post at their last known address. In case they do not receive the said notice then this E-auction sale Notice may be treated as substituted mode of service. The other terms and conditions of the e-Auction are published in the following websites. 1. <http://sbi.auctiontiger.net> 2. <http://www.sbi.co.in>

Contact Person: Mob.: 7633996748
Date : 16.09.2020
Place : Patna

AUTHORISED OFFICER
STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, PATNA



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

QUESTION & ANSWER

PM is right, Parliament has a special responsibility — but that responsibility is not just what the PM says it is

BEFORE THE START of the truncated Monsoon session of Parliament, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said “this Parliament, particularly this session, has a special responsibility”. The PM is absolutely right, this Parliament does have a greater task — but that task and responsibility is not just what the PM says it is, “... to send out a unanimous message that the entire country stands behind its armed forces... with one voice”. It goes beyond that. Even as Parliament closes ranks behind the armed forces on the front, fighting to protect India’s territorial integrity, the House must open its doors wider to debate and discussion on important issues that confront this country, including the face-off with China, and to questions that seek to hold the government to account. In fact, it could even be said that the special task of this session of Parliament, held amid hostilities on the border and a public health emergency, is to ensure that spaces for disagreement and diversity and difference, and for the thrust and parry of politics, are not cramped and constricted by the invocation of the figure of the soldier and the accompanying calls for submission and silence, or by demands of undue deference to the pandemic. In a crisis, especially in a crisis, it is essential for Parliament to talk things out loudly and freely.

On Day 2 of the session, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh made a statement in Parliament on the situation in Ladakh. He applauded the armed forces for their patience and resolve, their courage and valour, and said that India is prepared to deal with all contingencies. But there is much more to be asked and answered, and the issue’s sensitivity must not become a cloak or a pretext to ward off questions. The people’s representatives owe it to the people to seek information, and to deepen deliberation on a consequential matter. Indeed, there is an important tradition of all-party meetings where the government addresses the Opposition’s questions, especially on issues of diplomacy and national security. Even apart from China, there are discussions that must not be delayed on the economy, which was already slowing down and is now weighed down by a record contraction, a surging viral load and destruction of demand. The absence of safety nets for migrants, who fled back home because they lost their livelihoods in the lockdown, and who are slowly making their way back to the cities again, needs to be addressed by Parliament, as also the continuing spread of the pandemic and the need for a response to it.

These are not happy times for legislatures in general. The world over, the outbreak of COVID-19 is strengthening executive power and weakening countervailing institutions and checks and balances. In a time like this, more so when Question Hour has also fallen victim to the virus, Parliament needs to safeguard its argumentative and deliberative spaces against all efforts to curb or still them, in the name of patriotism or the pandemic. Through the mask and across the distance, the Opposition has to make itself heard — and has to be heard.

WRONG WAY OUT

Government must, to ensure credibility of its recent agricultural reform measures, rescind onion export ban

RETAIL PRICES OF onions have crossed Rs 40 per kg in Delhi, more than doubling in the last one month. The Narendra Modi government has responded straightaway by banning exports. The quantities involved aren’t small. In 2019-20, India exported 11.50 lakh tonnes (lt) of the bulb, which fetched Rs 2,320.70 crore. These numbers stood even higher, at 21.84 lt and Rs 3,468.87 crore in the preceding fiscal. In previous episodes of price increase, the government used to not hit the brakes immediately. It would initially impose a minimum export price below which shipments weren’t allowed and then raise this gradually in order to discourage any sales outside the country. An outright ban would typically come as a last resort, when domestic prices continued to rise.

This time, any semblance of gradualism has been dispensed with. The trigger seems to be the latest data on consumer price index inflation for August, which, at 6.69 per cent, was above the Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI) upper target limit of 6 per cent. Moreover, retail prices of food, which are a disproportionate 45.86 per cent in the overall index, are up 9.05 per cent. Sticky food prices, compounded by uncertainty over the extent of damage to the standing kharif crop from excessive August rains, have complicated the RBI’s task of further cutting interest rates to revive the economy that is in contraction mode. And in this case, it’s the entire “POT” (potato, onion, tomato) complex that is on the boil. Potatoes and tomatoes, too, are now retailing at over Rs 35 and Rs 50 per kg, respectively. That, of course, has a huge bearing on inflation expectations of households.

The current export ban comes, ironically, even as the Narendra Modi government is set to pass major reform laws for removing all movement and stockholding restrictions on farm produce. Onion growers have reasons to feel aggrieved about the government intervening only on behalf of consumers: The same bulb that is wholesaling today at Rs 28-30/kg in Maharashtra’s Lasalgaon market was trading at Rs 6.50-7 just over a month ago. The government must, to ensure the credibility of its recent agricultural reform measures, rescind the export ban. Farming is a tough job with inherent weather and price-related uncertainties. Building export markets takes time and entrepreneurial effort. The government, if it wants to help consumers, should build a buffer stock of all essential foodstuffs. The time has come to stop forcing producers to bear the burden of inflation targeting.

VITAL SIGN

Extraterrestrial life could be much nearer than anticipated — on Venus, which has the most hostile surface in the solar system

VENUS IS HOT. Its surface is so hot that lead melts, and space probes landing on it must click pictures quickly and transmit them home before the works seize up. And yet, the planet’s atmosphere bears the signature of life. A paper in ‘Nature Astronomy’ — which is preliminary because the pandemic interrupted research — has found phosphine in the atmosphere, one of the byproducts of anaerobic respiration.

This is not the same as saying that Venus has life, because phosphine is produced by several natural processes, including volcanic activity, and the volcanoes of Venus contribute a little something to the greenhouse effect which keeps the planet hot. Besides, it is surmised that Venus once had a comparatively mild aspect — not quite a land overflowing with milk and honey, but one on whose surface water could have remained liquid, and supportive of life. Since the decay time of phosphine is unknown, what has been found could be the signature of life that is long-dead. On the other hand, it exists in such abundance that physical processes cannot explain it, and the best bet would be airborne microbes, flying high in the clouds rich in sulphuric acid and carbonic acid above the hot surface.

The mystery can be set to rest only by probes flying in the atmosphere, and Nasa is being castigated for going gaga over Mars and neglecting Venus for decades. The USSR, which diligently sent out Venera probes to compensate, cannot do so any more for existential reasons. But interestingly, India already has a presence on Venus. One of the prominent features of the planet is Lakshmi Planum, a plateau of smooth lava flows, named for our goddess of wealth. But it was named thus only because the Greek and Roman pantheons were exhausted. Whoever said the universe was fair?

Call is on hold

Strengthening competition in telecom is key to realising India’s digital ambitions



RAJAT KATHURIA AND ISHA SURI

THERE WAS A time in India’s vaunted telecom sector when the number of unique service providers in lucrative geographical locations such as Delhi, Mumbai, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka were in excess of a dozen. In 2009, for example, Delhi supported 13 operators in a hyper-competitive market in which the dominant policy narrative revolved around the need for consolidation. Fragmentation of spectrum and subscribers, it was argued, increased costs to operators because the benefits of scale were denied without any added advantage by way of competitive outcomes for the subscriber. What 13 operators could produce for competition and market outcomes could be generated by less than half the number, said scholars working on competition issues in the telecom sector. Three or four effective rivals could produce outcomes in favour of the consumer, they argued.

In the decade since, that wish has been granted. Consolidation has occurred, mergers have materialised and exits have taken place. But it appears that the pendulum has swung far too much in the other direction. The dominant narrative in telecom today is how to preserve competition in the market by way of numbers. The threat of monopolisation is real and palpable as incumbent private operators, Airtel and Vodafone Idea (Vi), struggle to keep pace.

Let us begin by examining the “so what” claim. So what if another exit takes place and the market is effectively left as a duopoly with Jio and Airtel. The theory of contestable markets suggests that as long as there is a real threat of entry, even monopolies will be compelled to behave as if they are operating in a competitive market place. In other words, competition for the market will discipline a price setting monopolist. We doubt whether this idea will find much resonance with policymakers today and frankly, neither are we persuaded by threats of contestability in correcting markets. These work in the real world only when entry occurs at least once in a while. Who would wish to invest in Indian telecom today when the entry barriers in the form of spectrum acquisition costs, the licence fee burden as a percentage of the Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR), infra-

structure requirements and the policy uncertainty combine to produce an entry deterrence that any strategist would be proud of. It is far-fetched to expect a new entrant to come in and demolish a potential monopoly. The top three operators by market share Jio, Airtel and Vi, together account for 90 per cent of the subscriber base. The public sector is fourth and largely irrelevant to the process of competition, serving captive markets or where the private sector is unable or unwilling to deliver. From a policy perspective, strengthening existing competition will be key to realising India’s digital ambitions.

The recent judgment of the Supreme Court on the licence fee payable by operators to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), also known as the “AGR” decision, brings the curtains down on a case that has been under litigation since 2003. The contentious issues involved defining the components of AGR, the fairness of charging penalty and interest on the unpaid AGR dues, and the time period to settle accounts with the government. Somewhere along the way, the DoT recognised the debilitating consequences of the monetary demand being placed on operators, and jointly, with the Indian Banks Association (IBA), pleaded before the SC that telcos be given 20 years to pay off dues of nearly Rs 1.47 lakh crore. The IBA’s interest was to reduce potential non performing assets (NPAs), since banks are heavily invested in telcos, while DoT’s interest was to protect competition. The Court did concede that in the interest of saving telcos, and therefore banks, it may be necessary to grant an additional time period, but deemed 20 years as excessive. The final decision gives telcos 10 years to make good the payment. The judgement also puts a lid on reopening any aspect of the case with an explicit warning of launching contempt proceedings against the errant entity.

Where does this leave the market? Vi is the most affected. Its liability is nearly Rs 54,000 crore and even with a 10-year horizon it is unclear whether this will be enough to prevent a bankruptcy and establish a virtual duopoly. Vi has reported a net loss of Rs 73,878 crore in FY 2020. Meanwhile, Airtel owes approximately Rs 26,000 crore in licence fee dues. For one of the lowest

priced markets in the world, raising tariffs would be an obvious strategy. According to estimates by Jefferies Equity Research, Airtel will have to increase ARPU (average revenue per user, a surrogate for price) by 10 per cent and Vi by 27 per cent to completely offset the impact of AGR dues. This, however, is not a one-sided decision and will depend on its rival response. Given there has already been one round of tariff increase, there is little room for another hike.

What other instruments can one consider to stimulate and fortify competition in Indian telecom without which our \$1 trillion digital ambition will remain on paper. The foregoing analysis suggests that at least one operator is in dire need of cash, while another is scraping the bottom. With reports of network quality deteriorating by almost 20 per cent, the need of the hour is to augment network capacity immediately and be future ready when 5G comes along. These investments are unlikely given the current financial health of the sector. One option could be to put some cash in the hands of operators by abolishing the licence fee based on AGR, prospectively. This could be the much-needed shot in the arm and could be treated as part of the stimulus package for telecom. In any case, there seems to be little justification in auctioning spectrum and also levying additional charges. Having introduced spectrum auctions, the government could forsake other forms of licence fee. A nominal administrative fee could be charged instead to administer licences as is the practice in other countries. The National Digital Communications Policy of 2018 had recommended rationalisation of these charges.

Protecting competition and not competitors is a repeated refrain in policy circles. Vi through its new advertisement campaign has announced its intent for the long term. The subtext reads it will not go down without a fight. For the sake of Vi and, more importantly, for the sake of competition, we hope it is for real. It is now up to the government to play its role.

Kathuria is director and chief executive and Suri is research associate, ICRIER. Views are personal

A NARRATIVE OF DISTRUST

Judiciary is being disparaged for personal and political gain



HITESH JAIN

JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE goes hand in hand with judicial accountability. However, some have confused judicial independence with the proclivity to strike down legislation or executive action in a cavalier fashion. The job of the judiciary is to be accountable by dispensing justice. But some self-anointed people feel the judiciary should be accountable by playing to the galleries. This is understandable, given how they were disappointed with the nation’s rejection of a listless political opposition. This does, though, raise questions on the logic behind their covert demand for a remote control on the judiciary.

The people of India have believed that the venerable judges objectively dispense justice. Now, there is an ongoing attempt to browbeat the judiciary manifesting itself in the uncalculated attacks on the Supreme Court.

There are multiple recent examples to demonstrate how the judiciary has stood contrary to the government of the day. Be it the striking down of the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) or the Goa mining case, the Supreme Court gave verdicts that cannot be deemed as favourable to the government. Similarly, in the Aadhaar case, although the Supreme Court upheld its constitutional validity, the judgment went against the government’s policy objective of stemming leakage, while affecting the then-nascent fintech industry. The Supreme Court also struck down the Reserve Bank of India’s

framework resolution plan for debt recovery that was proposed to ease the pains related to stranded assets.

Some people have expressed their grief at certain Supreme Court judgments or the lack of appointment of judges of their choice despite the government having a very limited role in such appointments. Moreover, we have certainly not witnessed an aggressive government, as we did during the dark days of the Emergency. It would be a travesty if anyone denies that during the Emergency, all bail applications were rejected by the courts, despite their awareness of the falsehood of those cases. That is a classic example of when the courts abdicated their role in enforcing rule of law.

The judiciary has surprisingly been accused of being overly aggressive against a certain political dispensation when it was in power. Observing the rule of law and calling out illegality is not bias. The quashing of a Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) appointment was not a political decision — it was a result of procedural illegality surrounding the act in question. Similarly, quashing the spectrum allocation or striking down the allocation of coal mines was an act of calling out the loot of India’s resources.

Those making deprecating comments about the judiciary should realise that an independent judiciary is a basic feature of our Constitution. It is the guardian and protector of our fundamental rights, a role which, barring some exceptions, it has performed with courage and vision.

with courage and vision. Issuing threats such as impeachment for deemed “misbehaviour” is a serious matter and not to be used so casually, as it can adversely impact the judiciary by questioning the trust of the nation in the institution. Therefore, imputing motives to judges for their decisions, or referring to their caste, or saying that the judiciary was subservient to the government or toeing a party line, cannot be construed as legitimate criticism. Seeking recusals on-demand as seen in the Judge Loya case or on the PIL on Assam’s detention centres are prime examples of wanton politics for ulterior motives and creating doubt where none exists.

One must be able to distinguish between a narrative of distrust being peddled for personal and political gains from reality. The Supreme Court is not a political organ of the state. It is not the duty of the Court to appease the aspirations of political proxies and under no circumstances can retributive attacks on its integrity and independence be condoned. To attack the independence of the Supreme Court and to continuously attack its authority is the true unravelling of the rule of law. Moreover, lawyers and politicians seeking to cast aspersions on the independence of the judiciary ought to remember that the Supreme Court is not a vessel to navigate the seas of their personal ambitions.

The writer is a senior lawyer based in Mumbai and managing partner, Parinam Law Associates

SEPTEMBER 16, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

UP CM TO STAY

THE CONGRESS-High Command will not allow the UP Chief Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh to resign from office. He had sought the permission of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to quit, citing moral responsibility for the riots in Moradabad and other parts of the state. AICC (I) general secretary Vasantdada Patil said that while VP Singh had done his duty, “we will do ours”. A similar indication was given by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi when she said that the CM’s resignation will not solve any problem. The high command’s decision on VP Singh was regarded as a foregone conclusion for if the UP CM is allowed to go, it

would open the floodgates in other states, which the ruling party can ill-afford.

PRO-LABOUR TILT

THE GOVERNMENT’S POLICY on labour, which will be outlined in the Sixth Plan document, lays emphasis on the growth of the trade union movement in the country. The policy also underlined the need to strengthen the industrial relations machinery so as to anticipate labour problems and take prompt measures to avert work stoppages. It is also proposed to associate workers with their working conditions in order to ensure that relevant rules are implemented.

NEW PEACE FORCE

THE UNION GOVERNMENT has proposed to raise three units of the CRP as a peacekeeping force, especially trained to control riots and disturbances. The CRP is at present an integrated force with about 7 per cent Muslims, 12.5 per cent SCs and 7 per cent STs. In these three units, these communities will be better represented.

STATUS QUO ON CABINET PRIME MINISTER INDIRA Gandhi has ruled out any immediate expansion of the Cabinet. The PM did not think that one person holding more than one portfolio affects the government’s efficiency.



9 THE IDEAS PAGE

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"After decades of incessant hostilities and war, Afghanistan is at a historic moment that can herald the long-awaited peace." —DAWN

A constant irritant to power

In 'Kesavananda Bharati' case, Supreme Court redefined the relationship between judiciary, executive and legislature. And set limits — constitutional dismemberment is not allowed in the name of amendment



UPENDRA BAXI

NOT MANY WHO speak, write, or think about religion and law recognise how religious institutions have affected the law and shaped interpretation in enduring ways. His Holiness Swami Kesavananda Bharati Sripadagalvaru, then a senior head of Edneer Mutt in Kasaragod district Kerala, made possible the landmark decision of the Supreme Court (though other petitions were also bunched together). I call the judgment the second most important text after the Constitution of India.

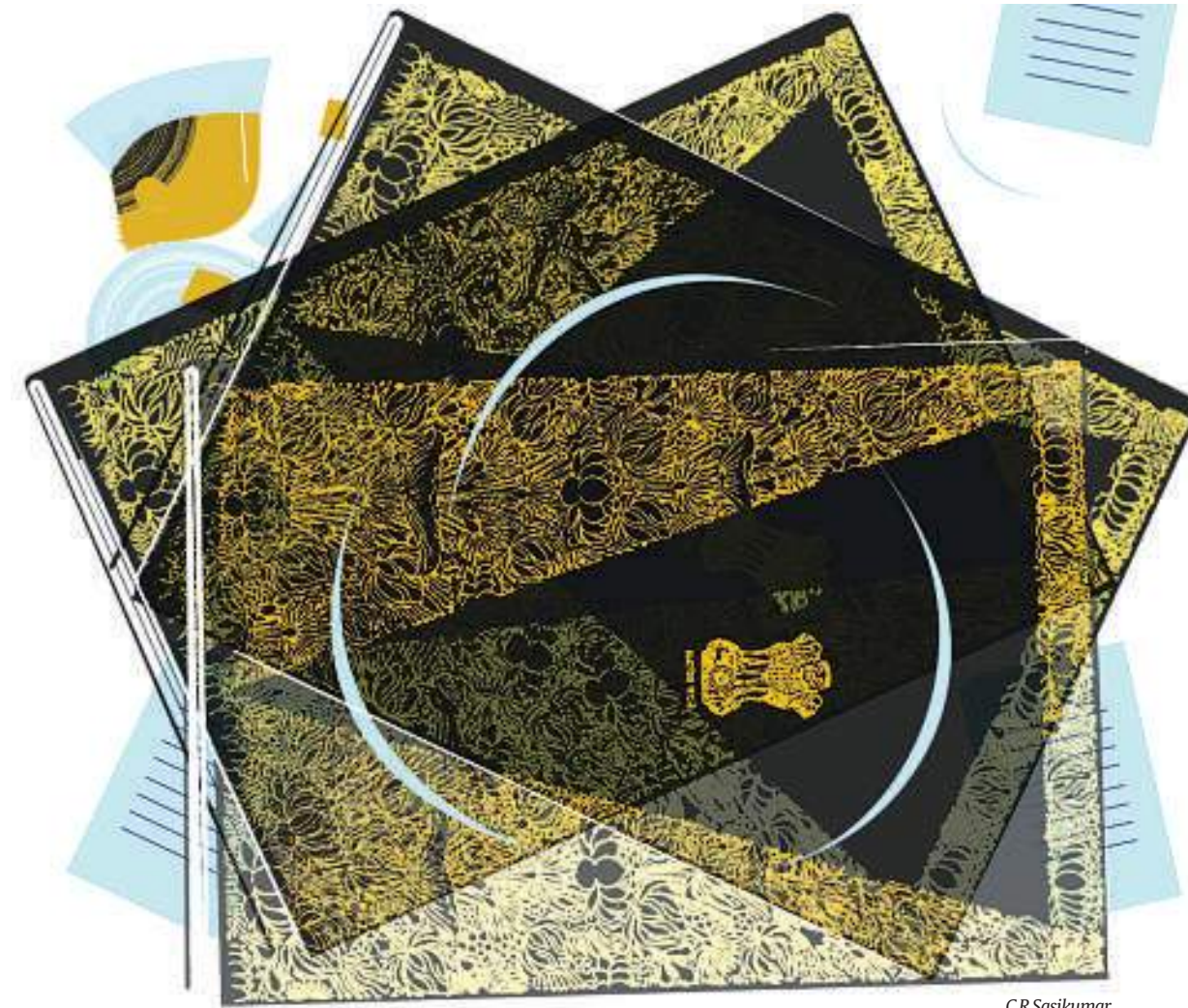
The mutt is believed to have been established by Thotakacharya, among the first four disciples of Adi Shankara. It blossomed under his leadership. No *mukadamabaz* himself, Kesavananda Bharati protested the validity of the 29th amendment which immunised, in the Ninth Schedule, Kerala's takeover of the mutt's property. The seer lost the battle but won the war because the amending power was made subject to the basic structure.

The legendary barrister, MKN Nambiar, a native of Kasaragod, and father of K Venugopal, now the Attorney General of India, persuaded Kesavananda Bharati to consult Nani Palkhivala, who then urged before the Supreme Court that the seer's rights to religious freedom, equality, and property were violated. The seer later described the verdict as "God's decision" — it was so to many people of faith. The seer passed away on September 6.

A hearing for 68 days by the full court of 13 justices yielded 11 separate opinions commonly grouped together as Sikri 6 (subjecting Article 368's amending power to the implied limitation) and Ray 6 (conceding all plenary powers of amendment including repeal of the Constitution). This made the task of ratio hunters difficult and they were not enabled by the heroic Justice H R Khanna. Still, the basic structure and essential features (BSEF) govern now the political and juristic destiny of Indian constitutional development.

Theological fervour animates the BSEF discourse. Justice YV Chandrachud, while upholding the absolute amending power, had to invent a resounding judicial curse: "We have given you vast powers for the welfare of the country, but woe betide you if you misuse these powers". And Justice SN Dwivedi spoke of the "reverence for the Constitution" as a public virtue. In the assembly dissolution case, Justice P K Goswami described the Supreme Court as the "last resort for the oppressed and the bewildered" citizens of India. *Kesavananda*, and its progeny, has yet to be visited as constitutional secular theology of law.

As the chief survivor of *Kesavananda*, and also as the longest-serving CJI, Justice YV Chandrachud developed the doctrine in chiselled prose and with the strict discipline of a constitutional soldier. Cases like *Raj Narain*, *Waman Rao*, *Minerva Mills* mark the pilgrim's progress to the shrine of basic structure. Boldly questioning Parliament's plenary power to accord primacy to all Directive Principles over Articles 14 and 19, Justice Chandrachud said in *Minerva* that an eternal deferral of constitutional promises invites "a lurking danger that people will work out their



CR Sasikumar

destiny". He poignantly added: "Words bandied about in marbled halls say much but fail to achieve as much."

In *Waman Rao*, he performed a constitutional miracle by validating all amendments retrospectively and achieved this feat by invoking the BSEF doctrine. Closely read, the discourse in, and since *Kesavananda*, insists that basic structure is the power of judicial review and essential features are what the Court identifies as such in exercise of that power. For example, Justice Bhagwati remarkably enunciated as an essential feature the "harmony" between fundamental rights and directive principles. Similarly, Parliament amended Part III — deleted the right to property under Article 31 and demoted it to the status of mere constitutional right. The crucial message though is that the apex court has, in the rarest of rare cases, the constituent power to pronounce a constitutional amendment invalid.

This scarcely means that the Supreme Court may exercise its power just as it pleases. The Court is bound by the "golden triangle" of rights created by Articles 14, 19, and 21 of the Constitution. Further, the Court must derive the "spirit" of the Constitution by scrupulous and meticulous reference to the provisions of the Constitution. Since 1973, the evidence shows the Apex Court has shown utmost democratic responsibility and rectitude in interpreting the doctrine of BSEF, perhaps more than can be said of other branches of co-governance.

The spirit of the Constitution is a vexed question. But my favourite passage is Para 399 in *Raila Amolo Odinga* (2017), where Chief Justice David Kenai Maraga of Kenya's

Theological fervour animates the BSEF discourse. Justice YV Chandrachud, while upholding the absolute amending power, had to invent a resounding judicial curse: 'We have given you vast powers for the welfare of the country, but woe betide you if you misuse these powers'. And Justice SN Dwivedi spoke of the 'reverence for the Constitution' as a public virtue. In the assembly dissolution case, Justice P K Goswami described the Supreme Court as the 'last resort for the oppressed and the bewildered' citizens of India. *Kesavananda*, and its progeny, has yet to be visited as constitutional secular theology of law.

Supreme Court has probably said the last word. In nullifying President Uhuru Kenyatta's election for a second term (while also giving 50 days to plan and hold free and fair re-election, whose results in the incumbent's favour were later upheld), Justice Maraga said: "However burdensome, let the majesty of the Constitution reverberate across the lengths and breadths of our motherland; let it bubble from our rivers and oceans; let it boomerang from our hills and mountains; let it serenade our households from the trees; let it sprout from our institutions of learning; let it toll from our sanctums of prayer; and to those, who bear the responsibility of leadership, let it be a constant irritant."

The seer would have agreed. The ultimate message of BSEF doctrine is not merely to set limits to the power of the managers of people, but to make little by little the tasks of emancipation less onerous. The BSEF does not betoken any arrogant judicial overreach or sovereign judicial despotism as the Court has not obstructed the tasks of just development and governance. It has shown considerable accommodation for executive and legislative power. But to be a "constant irritant" to untrammelled power is the very essence of judicial duty. The BSEF rules that constitutional dismemberment is not allowed in the name of an amendment. Permissible remains the enhancement of the arcs and arts of governance, but if only exposed to the "constant irritant" of constitutional good governance. Truly a "God's decision", as the seer said.

The writer is professor of law, University of Warwick, and former vice chancellor of Universities of South Gujarat and Delhi

A panoramic view

As Prime Minister Modi turns 70, he will be conscious of the need to navigate new, unfolding, complex realities. The horizon lies ahead



N K SINGH

"THE FIRST FORTY years of our life give the text, the next thirty furnish the commentary upon it," writes Arthur Schopenhauer, the 19th-century German philosopher known for his essays on the role of human will in creating the world that we experience — in a sense, a kind of European derivative of our concept of the veil of Maya. The sum of this experience, at 70, "enables us rightly to understand the true meaning and connection of the text with its moral and its beauties" — it gives us the panoramic view from the peak.

This is an important perspective. Prime Minister Narendra Modi turns 70 on Thursday, at a time when the rate of change, bringing both risks and opportunities, seems to be accelerating on all fronts. His simple, straightforward style is well known. His memory — for facts large and small — is legendary. This is equally true of his acuity in filtering through the noise with his legendary capabilities for implementation while micromanaging to a fault, of which examples are many — the Narmada Project pumping water against gravity to bring relief to the water-starved parts of Kutch; and, equally, the construction of the iconic Statue of Unity.

Yet, it is also clear that this 70 is no time for him to rest and assume that the hard-won understanding of the present will enable wisdom for navigating the future — the pinnacle on the horizon. "Those who stare at the past have their backs to the future," it is said. Our complex world has forks in the road, not just oscillations around a stable centre. Change is non-linear. Interconnectedness — and interdependency — is a fact of life. The next pinnacle will thus be different from previous peaks.

Prime Minister Modi has demonstrated his capacity for strategic, forward-looking vision on multiple occasions over the years. The Swachh Bharat Mission and Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, for example, took a creative and strategic approach to improving our nation's health and productivity by directly addressing issues such as ODF and sanitary pads. With his continuing belief in fiscal rectitude, the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code were introduced to tackle the two challenging frontiers of the banking system — extending access to financial services and shoring up the foundations of bank solvency.

Looking forward, Prime Minister Modi is conscious of the need to navigate three new, unfolding, complex realities — rapid environmental change; shifting power dy-

namics between regions, actors, individuals and sectors; and the digital revolution from the Fourth Industrial Revolution to the opening up of new realms of intelligence. The earth that we once thought of as beyond our influence is now very clearly on the new trajectory of the Anthropocene. This has implications for temperature, rainfall, food and water security and biodiversity among others. The rapid pace at which we are now able to analyse and influence myriad aspects of society, environment, economy, infrastructure and even individual lives has offered a glimpse of the powers that we can use to rise to the occasion. Modi is committed to harnessing the digital revolution in a comprehensive sense and to build greater collective security. And how do we adjust to a new world where cybersecurity threats can arise from literally anywhere? These two trends are unfolding within, and influencing, a time of great change in the relationships that structure and reshape our collaboration. Modi's belief in the PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation) Platform is part of these endeavours.

At the risk of presenting a birthday request rather than a birthday felicitation, what are the ways in which he can truly use the perspective of his 70s in the decades toward 80 and beyond? He will recognise the need for three qualities in leadership in the coming years. One, the ability to remember the past, but see the present very clearly. We are entering a delicate era of shifting geopolitical sands. Our past alliances and interactions matter — friends are friends — but navigating new partnerships and initiatives that help us tackle emerging global challenges will require clear-eyed vision. This is true in internal matters as much as external affairs: We need new forms of collaborative partnership between the Centre, the states, and local governments.

A leader of his stature knows how to work within the constraints of reality — fiscal, chemical or biological — and, at the same time, inspire others to unite in making the best of the hard choices that these constraints dictate. We are on the edge of one of the greatest economic upheavals that the world has seen in recent memory, as COVID-19 and our efforts to halt the pandemic have accelerated existing trends to the point of discomfort and exposed hidden vulnerabilities. Prime Minister Modi cannot wish this reality away, and must build support for an innovative strategy that can mirror the hopes and wishes of his countrymen.

Finally, we need a visionary with the energy and freshness of perspective to forge ahead in a world that is offering both opportunities and risks. The Prime Minister will be the first to recognise that, in hindsight, joy, beauty, and common humanity are at the foundation of all that we have tried to do as a nation over the centuries. The horizon lies ahead.

Happy Birthday!

The writer is chairman, 15th Finance Commission

The impossible trilemma

With high inflation, capital inflows, currency appreciation, tough decisions are needed



RAJESWARI SENGUPTA

IN A RECENTLY released report, the Reserve Bank of India mentioned that an appreciating currency will help contain imported inflationary pressures. This has given rise to a fervent debate as to whether the RBI is no longer able to handle the Impossible Trilemma. The Impossible Trilemma, an important paradigm of open economy macroeconomics, asserts that a country may not be able to stabilise the exchange rate, and conduct an independent monetary policy when it is financially integrated with the rest of the world.

Policymakers in all sophisticated economies face this trilemma, forcing them to make choices about which targets they are going to pursue. The RBI has tried to avoid these choices: It has tried to pursue all three objectives simultaneously in an especially aggressive manner since the pandemic struck. It has reduced its policy interest rate to negative levels in real terms. It has bought government securities to push down long-term interest rates. It has allowed large capital inflows, then intervened in the foreign exchange market to prevent the appreciation of the rupee. These actions are incompatible, and will eventually generate a serious policy dilemma.

One of the corners of the trilemma has to do with capital inflows. In the first few months of the pandemic and the associated lockdown, the Indian economy witnessed a net outflow of foreign portfolio investment (FPI). However, this trend has reversed in recent months, as policymakers in the devel-

oped world have adopted stimulative measures to revive their economies, creating excess liquidity in global financial markets.

Between June and August, Indian capital markets received a net FPI inflow of close to \$10 billion as foreign investors returned to the stock market. In September so far, for the first time in the last six months, inflows into the debt market have turned positive. India also received close to \$17 billion of foreign direct investment (FDI) during April-July. Capital has also been flowing to India in the form of external commercial borrowing (ECB) by Indian corporations.

At the same time, the combination of weak economic growth, lacklustre domestic demand, and low oil prices have shifted the current account balance from deficit into surplus. Imports have fallen more than exports suggesting that India is doing worse than its trading partners. These factors have changed the balance of supply and demand in the foreign exchange markets as a result of which the currency has begun to face appreciation pressures against the dollar.

This brings us to another corner of the trilemma — currency stability. In the face of rising appreciation pressure, the RBI has been actively intervening in the foreign exchange markets to prevent the rupee from strengthening further. It has been buying dollars both in the spot and in the forward markets. In May and June, RBI's net dollar purchase in the spot market was to the tune

of \$14.4 billion. In June, its net purchase in the forward market was more than \$4 billion. As a result of the RBI's currency trading, India's foreign exchange reserves have increased by around \$80 billion since January, to reach an all-time high of \$540 billion.

When the RBI buys dollars in the FX market, it sells rupees. This increases the domestic money supply and is therefore inflationary. In order to counter this inflationary pressure that is being generated by RBI's FX interventions, the central bank will ideally sterilise its interventions. This entails the RBI selling government bonds to banks and in the process absorbing excess rupee liquidity from the system.

But the RBI has not been absorbing the liquidity created through dollar purchases, it has been adding to it by buying government securities through its open market operations and targeted liquidity injection programs such as the T-LTRO. In the last couple of months, some of these operations have been neutral, such as the Operation Twist programme wherein the RBI buys long-term government securities and sells short-term bonds in order to lower the yields on the longer end of the maturity spectrum. But in total, the net bond purchase by the RBI has been positive. This implies that instead of sterilising its FX operations, the RBI is adding further liquidity into the system through its bond market interventions. As a result, liquidity has soared, reaching as much as Rs 8

trillion at one point.

For the moment, this injection of liquidity may not get readily converted into broad money because the growth of credit to the private sector has been weak, depressing the money multiplier. But if the RBI continues to ignore the impossible trilemma, it will eventually fail. There are two main ways this could happen: It might need to give up on its exchange rate objective, as the recently released report hints. Or it might need to give up on its inflation objective.

Both would be problematic. Exchange rate appreciation will further damage the already hard-hit export sector. But allowing high inflation is even more of a problem in a country where the RBI has committed to the public not to allow a repeat of what happened after the last global financial crisis, when inflation soared to double digits.

Already, the constraints of the trilemma have tightened. Retail inflation has now breached the upper limit of 6 per cent for more than three quarters. Core inflation has been rising and inflation expectations have jumped sharply. And while credit to the private sector remains depressed, credit to the government has been strong, implying that overall broad money is growing rapidly. The time for difficult decisions seems to be approaching.

The writer is assistant professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GOOD POLICY

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Missing in NEP: Rural youth' (IE, September 15). The egalitarian and inclusive character of the NEP 2020 needs to be acknowledged. The policy strives to lay the foundations of an education system that is more flexible, inclusive and sensitive to ground realities. The special emphasis on institutionalising early childhood education, the idea of mainstreaming of co-curricular and extracurricular activities, reimagining the once rigid streams of learning from watertight silos are all aimed at giving a level playing field to the systematically disadvantaged sections.

Sudip Kumar Dey, Kolkata

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Missing in NEP: Rural youth' (IE, September 15). NEP 2020 has been drafted after a great deal of deliberation and debate among academic experts and it seeks to bring about structural changes in the moribund education system. Apart from increasing avenues for higher education and excellence, it also provides enough opportunities for the rural youth for their skill development without any hassles. It also seeks to address the vital problem of their employability by making specific provisions of Special Education Zones in backward areas. Its main objective is to develop an equitable and just society. It may not be perfect — no policy is — but judgement should be reserved until it is implemented.

Ravi Mathur, Noida

PRINCIPLED POLITICIAN

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Secular

IDEAS ONLINE

ONLY IN THE EXPRESS

● EDUCATION POLICY FOR 21ST CENTURY: NAJMA HEPTULLA

● A COMMITTED SOCIALIST: PREM SINGH

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socialist' (IE, September 15). Raghuvansh Prasad Singh stood by socialist and secular ideals throughout his life and had an empathy for the deprived and understanding of the grassroots. He was courageous to take up causes he believed in and opposed to anything that he felt was wrong. He will be remembered for conceptualising and implementing the 100-day rural job scheme, MGNREGA, as Union minister.

SS Paul, Noida

TRUTH TELLER

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Establishment's warrior' (IE, September 15). The article claims that Kangana Ranaut has been engaged in a toxic campaign. Standing up for justice is no crime and as an outsider in the industry who has exposed the real face of Bollywood.

Udita Gupta, via email

Jammu and Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
JAL SHAKTI PHE (QC&PD) DIVISION, HMT, SRINAGAR
 Phone: 0194-2496307, E-Mail: xenmandp@gmail.com
CORRIGENDUM-04
Subject: Corrigendum-04 for Supply of 2000 Metric Tons of ISI Marked Stable Bleaching Powder Grade-I as per IS-1065/89. (with upto date amendments).
Ref: 1. This office No.: PHE/M&P/04 of 2020-21/ e-Tender Dated: 10-06-2020.
 It is to inform all the bidders that participated in this office e-NIT NO. PHE/M&P/04 of 2020-21/ e-Tender Dated: 10.06.2020 for Supply of 2000 Metric Tons of ISI Marked Stable Bleaching Powder Grade-I as per IS-1065/89. (with upto date amendments), wherein after opening of the technical commercial bid only one bidder has qualified for opening of the price bid.
 A thread bare discussion were held by the DPC in its meeting on 10-09-2020 where they ordered to cancel the tender as only one bidder has qualified for opening of the price bid and have decided to call a fresh tender forthwith.
 Hence, the cancellation notice is issued.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
QC&PD Jal Shakti,
HMT Srinagar
No: PHE/QC/1937-40
Dated: 12-09-2020
DIK-5718

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL
 General public is hereby informed that one girl namely Kumkum D/o Sh. Surender Shah R/o House No. 103, 4th Floor, Bharat Nagar, New Friends Colony, New Delhi. Age: 18½ yrs, Height: 5'4", shallow complexion, face round, thin build, curly hair. Wearing yellow suit salwar, Black Mask & blue sleeper in feet is missing since 11.08.2020 from the area of PS New Friends Colony, South-East Distt., New Delhi.
 In this regard a DD No. 46-A dated: 13.08.2020 has been lodged at PS New Friends Colony, New Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl, but no clue has come to light so far.
 Any person having any information or clue about this missing girl may kindly inform to the following.
E-mail: clc@cbl.gov.in
Fax: 011-23011334
Ph.: 011-23014046
011-23015218
S.H.O.,
P.S. New Friends Colony, Delhi
Ph.: 011-26834563, 26934863
 DP/207/SE/20

All 30 trained under RailTel CSR initiative clear JEE Mains
 New Delhi: All 30 students of Akansha Super 30, Dehradun, a CSR initiative of RailTel, cleared the JEE Mains 2020, bringing them a step closer to securing admission to premier engineering colleges. Puneet Chawla, CMD, RailTel said, "It is heartening to see that these students, with their sheer talent and will power, are inching towards having a successful career. We are just happy to provide guidance to these kids so that they can fulfil their dreams of becoming an engineer." RailTel, in association with Centre for Social Responsibility and Leadership, New Delhi, established a unit of Abhayanand Super 30 at Dehradun in 2015. **ENS**

J&K: CBI FIR against trust headed by ex-Cong MLA
ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 15
 THE CBI on Tuesday registered an FIR against Kathua-based R B Education Trust, headed by former Congress MLA Kanta Andotra for occupying a huge tract of land over and above the ceiling of standard 100 kanals (12.5 acres) fixed under provisions of the J&K Agrarian Reforms Act, 1976. Andotra is the wife of former J&K minister Lal Singh, who quit the BJP and floated the Dogra Swabhimani Sangathan. Some half-a-dozen retired and serving revenue officials, who allegedly helped the trust, were also booked — including the then Kathua deputy commissioner Ajay Singh Jandwal (retired). CBI conducted searches at nearly 10 locations in Jammu and Kathua which led to the recovery of documents relating to movable and immovable property, an official spokesperson said. The agency had registered a preliminary enquiry in June last following "source information" regarding "encroachment of huge tract public/government/forest land in Kathua..." sources said. They said, "Preliminary enquiry prima facie revealed that the then Kathua deputy commissioner Ajay Singh Jandwal along with other accused revenue officials were involved in criminal conspiracy with R B Educational Trust through Kanta Andotra to allow it retain land beyond the permissible ceiling..." To enable the trust, revenue officials showed that 74.02 kanals (9.25 acres) was an orchard and another 32 kanal (4 acres) was "gha charai" (grazing land) which did not come under the ceiling fixed under the Act. However, while there was no revenue entry in respect to existence of an orchard, and the grazing land being common land could not be purchased or sold by an individual, sources added.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

| S.No. | Tender No. | Brief Description | Qty. | Closing Date |
|-------|------------|--|----------|--------------|
| 01 | 15205016 | HYDRAULIC STRAIGHTENING MACHINE | 01 NOS | 13-10-20 |
| 02 | 08201528 | RELAY, AC IMMUNISED, PLUG IN TYPE, STYLE | 1220 NOS | 19-10-20 |
| 03 | 02202510A | VALVE REGULATED LEAD ACID BATTERY 1100AH, 110V | 149 SET | 06-11-20 |

NOTE:- 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained. Tender Notice No. 24/2020-21 Dated: 15.09.2020 2006/2020

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system
 Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items :-

| S.No. | Tender No. | Brief Description | Qty. | Closing Date |
|-------|------------|--|----------|--------------|
| 01 | 15205016 | HYDRAULIC STRAIGHTENING MACHINE | 01 NOS | 13-10-20 |
| 02 | 08201528 | RELAY, AC IMMUNISED, PLUG IN TYPE, STYLE | 1220 NOS | 19-10-20 |
| 03 | 02202510A | VALVE REGULATED LEAD ACID BATTERY 1100AH, 110V | 149 SET | 06-11-20 |

NOTE:- 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained. Tender Notice No. 24/2020-21 Dated: 15.09.2020 2006/2020

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Noida Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.
 Block-III, 3rd Floor, Ganga Shopping Complex, Sector-29
 Noida-201301, Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. Ph: 0120-4344483 / 84

RFP - E-tender:
1. E-Tender No. NMRC/AGM-GA/GA/130/2020 Annual Maintenance Contract of 2 Lifts installed at NMRC Corporate Office, Sector-29, Noida
2. E-Tender No. NMRC/AGM-GA/GA/131/2020 Rate Contract for Supply of Housekeeping and Covid 19 Chemicals/Items in NMRC
 Dated: 16.09.2020

Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for the captioned projects. The Tenders shall be uploaded on website <https://etender.up.nic.in> and www.nmrcnoida.com on date 16.09.2020. The Bidders can download the document from the E-Tender website from tender search by organization name: "Noida Metro Rail Corporation Limited". Amendment/Modification in tender, if any, will be uploaded on either/both the websites.

India beats China to win election to UN commission on women
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
 UNITED NATIONS, SEPTEMBER 15
 IN A significant victory, India got elected as a Member of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, the principal global body focused on gender equality and women empowerment, beating China in a hotly-contested election. The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is a functional commission of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The 54-member ECOSOC, holding the first plenary meeting of its 2021 session on Monday, held elections for two seats in the Asia-Pacific States category with Afghanistan, India and China in the fray. Afghanistan garnered 39 votes and India got 38 votes of the 54 ballots cast. China, a permanent member of the UN Security Council, got only 27 votes. "It's a ringing endorsement of our commitment to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in all our endeavours..." India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador T S Tirumurti tweeted. India's win comes in a year when the 25th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women — held in Beijing in 1995 — is being commemorated around the world. **PTI**

E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE
 The Executive Engineer, CD-XII, Irrigation & Flood Control Department, GNCTD Opp. ESI hospital, Basai Darapur Office Complex New Delhi-110027 invites on behalf of the President of India, online Item rate tender from approved and eligible contractors for the following works :-
 1. NIT No. EE/CD XII/20-21/11-(ID No. 2020_IFC_194306_1)-HOA-4403- Repair and Renovation work of Veterinary Hospital at village Tikri Kalan in District West. E.C. Rs. 1,20,72,538/- Earnest money Rs. 2,41,451/- period of completion 270 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 18.09.2020 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:30 P.M. respectively). AE-I.
Note :-
 1) Details of above mentioned works & eligibility criteria can be seen and downloaded from the web site <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.
 2) Amendment(s)/alteration(s)/corrigendum if any, will be available at website only.
 3) EMD in the form of Banker's Cheque or Demand Draft or Fixed Deposit Receipt (drawn in favour of EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CD XII, I&FC DEPTT., GNCT OF DELHI) shall be scanned and uploaded to the e-tendering website within the period of bid submission. The original EMD should be deposited in the office of EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CD XII, I&FC DEPTT., GNCT OF DELHI within the period of bid submission. (The EMD document shall only be issued from the place in which the office of receiving division office is situated).
Sd/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER/CD-XII
 DIP/shabdarth/0296/20-21

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
 Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida-201301 (U.P.)
 Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

सार्वजनिक सूचना
 सर्वसाधारण को एतद द्वारा सूचना दी जाती है कि "नवीन ओखला औद्योगिक विकास क्षेत्र (योजना को तैयार करना और अंतिम रूप देना) विनियामकी-2010 (यथा संशोधित)" के प्रावधानों के अधीन नौएडा भवन विनियामकी तथा नौएडा महायोजना-2031 में प्रस्तावित संशोधन करने के सम्बन्ध में जनसामान्य से आपत्ति/सुझाव आमंत्रित है।
प्रस्तावित संशोधन
 उन्प्रौ वेयरहाऊसिंग तथा लाजिस्टिक्स नीति-2018 के अन्तर्गत वेयरहाऊसिंग तथा लाजिस्टिक्स इकाईयों एवं पार्क के प्राविधान को नौएडा भवन विनियामकी एवं नौएडा महायोजना में सम्मिलित किये जाने के सम्बन्ध में।
 उपरोक्त प्रस्ताव से सम्बन्धित विवरण नवीन ओखला औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट www.noidaauthorityonline.com पर निरीक्षण हेतु उपलब्ध रहेगी। आपत्ति/सुझाव लिखित रूप में इस सूचना के प्रकाशन के 15 दिनों के अन्दर ई-मेल आईडी captnoida@gmail.com पर दी जा सकती है। आपत्ति/सुझाव देने वाले व्यक्ति को अपना नाम, पता एवं दूरभाष सहित पूर्ण विवरण देना होगा।
 मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी नौएडा
CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

उत्तर प्रदेश पावर ट्रान्स्मिशन कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड ई-निविदा आमंत्रण 1. ई-निविदा सं-01-10/मुओअ(पाद04040)/20-21:- पारेषण दक्षिण क्षेत्र आगरा के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न पारेषण मण्डलों हेतु 33 केवी के विभिन्न विभव के बस/लाइन आइसोलेटर को क्रय किये जाने के सम्बन्ध में। 2. ई-निविदा सं-01-11/मुओअ(पाद04040)/20-21:- पारेषण दक्षिण पश्चिम क्षेत्र आगरा के अन्तर्गत विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, आगरा के अधीन विद्युत 765 केवी उपकेन्द्र फतेहाबाद (आगरा) पर स्थापित लेब हेतु मैगर/फ्लूक/टॉरस/अन्य समक्षक प्रतिष्ठित ब्राउन्ड (वाइडीज उपकरण पूर्णतः प्रतिबंधित) की पीपीएम0 मेजरमेंट किट (केमिकल सहित) को क्रय किये जाने के सम्बन्ध में। निविदा का विस्तृत विवरण, विस्तारीकरण शुद्धिकरण इत्यादि की सूचना ई-टेंडर की वेबसाइट www.etender.up.nic.in एवं विभागीय वेबसाइट www.upptcl.org पर उपलब्ध होगी जिनको नियमित देखते रहना चाहिये। मुख्य अभियन्ता (पाद04040) निकट अमर उजाला प्रेस, ककरौडा रोड, आगरा "राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचाय" पत्रांक: 1800/मुओअ(पाद04040)अ/0/ई-निविदा संख्या टी-10 सं 11/20-21/दिनांक:15.09.2020

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना अनुभवी आपूर्तिकर्ताओं से पारेषण पश्चिम क्षेत्र, मेरठ के अन्तर्गत निम्न सामग्री/कार्यों हेतु ई-निविदाये ई-पोर्टल etender.up.nic.in पर दो भागों में 12.00 तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। विस्तृत विवरण ई-पोर्टल पर लॉग इन करें। 1. निविदा संख्या-टी-13/ 2020-21 विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड- प्रथम नोएडा के अन्तर्गत 220 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र सैक्टर-129 नोएडा हेतु तीन नग REL 670 रिटेल की आपूर्ति। धरोहर राशि 6,000/- (रु. छ: हजार मात्र)। निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क रु. 1,180/- (कर सहित)। खुलने की दिनांक 19.10.2020, हस्ता./- मुख्य अभियन्ता (पारेषण पश्चिम), 130-डी, पारेषण भवन, विस्तारिया पार्क, मेरठ। "राष्ट्र हित में ऊर्जा बचाय", कृपया वेब साइट etender.up.nic.in पर विस्तार में सभी सूचना, संशोधन/विस्तार हेतु निविदा खुलने की तिथि तक लॉग ऑन करें। पत्रांक 7128/ मु.अ. (पा.प.) मेरठ/ T-13/ 2020-21/ दिनांक 15/09/2020

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

| Sr. No. | Name of Department | Name of Work Notice Tender | Opening Date Closing Date | Amount / BMD (Approx.) in Rupees | Website of the Department | Modal Officer/Contact Details/Email |
|---------|--|--|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | FWD BAR, SIRSA | ONE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SHAED FOR CAR PARKING, STUDENTS PARKING UNDERGROUND TANK AND CONCRETE COIL ON NEWLY CONSTRUCTED BOUNDARY WALL IN CAMPUS OF GOVT. COLLEGE AT KALANWALI IN SIRSA DISTT. (CM ANNOUNCEMENT CODE NO. 10484 DATED: 29.07.2020) - 2 OTHER WORKS | 15.09.2020 29.09.2020 | 86.65 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 61666-230592 pswd-sepd1-sirsa@hry.nic.in |
| 2 | FWD BAR YAMUNA NAGAR | RE-INITE CONSTRUCTION OF INDOOR BASKETBALL HALL IN GYMRANA CLUB AT SEC 17, HUDA JAGADHRI IN YAMUNA NAGAR DISTRICT + 2 OTHER WORKS | 19.09.2020 30.09.2020 | 118.13 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | pswd-sepd1-yamunaganar@hry.nic.in |
| 3 | FWD BAR SONPAT | IMPROVEMENT BY PROVIDING WIDENING, STRENGTHENING & JOINT THICK PC OR VARIOUS ROAD (ROAD ID 4154 & 6174) OF BARODA CONSTITUENCY IN PROVINCIAL DIVISION NO. 1, IN SONPAT DISTT - 1 OTHER WORKS | CLOSING DATE 24.09.2020 | 121.94 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 0130-2244690 pswd-sepd1-sonpat@hry.nic.in |
| 4 | FWD BAR, AMBALA | PROP. HOOR LANE ROAD FROM KALANAJUR TO KAIL GPTD GURJANWALA FROM (RD 71.64 TO 94.72) = 23.12 KM (CITY PORTION OF YAMUNA NAGAR) IN THE STATE OF HARYANA & ROAD TRANSFERRED FROM NH-12 TO FWD BAR IN DISTT. YAMUNA NAGAR (PROP. SHIFTING OF HTLT LINES) | 18.09.2020 05.10.2020 | 71.30 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 0171-2631077 pswd-sepd-ambala@hry.nic.in |
| 5 | FWD BAR, AMBALA | UP GRADATION OF CIVIL HOSPITAL FROM 200 BEDDED TO 300 BEDDED AMBALA CITY IN AMBALA DISTT. (PROP. MEDICAL GAS PIPE LINE & MODULAR OIDS SYSTEM) | 17.09.2020 26.09.2020 | 498.16 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 0171-2631077 pswd-sepd-ambala@hry.nic.in |
| 6 | FWD BAR, REWARI | CONSTRUCTION OF POST COVER BRIDGE TO CONNECT TRIMA CENTER TO CIVIL HOSPITAL IN REWARI DISTRICT (CM ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 22179 DATED 14.05.2019)(RE-INVITED) | 16.09.2020 01.10.2020 | 133.91 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 01229-2530033 pswd-sepd-rewari@hry.nic.in |
| 7 | FWD BAR GURGAON | CURBSTRUCTION OF GOVT. COLLEGE REHOD - SONHA IN DISTRICT GURGAON (PROP. 3D HOLOGRAM, VIRTUAL REALITY BASED EDUCATIONAL MODULES) | 14.09.2020 29.09.2020 | 19.02 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | pswd-sepd-gurgaon@hry.nic.in |
| 8 | PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AMBALA | PROVIDING 1 NO. TURKEY IN PLACE OF FALLEN TW. PHIC AND LYING OF OIL PIPELINE IN BALANCE STREETS UNDER JALSEWAN MISSION IN VILLAGE KALUPUR, DISTT. BUKSHETRA UNDER 134 EMD AMT. RS. 15500/- | 15.09.2020 25.09.2020 | 7.75 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 0171-2631402 samantlal3@haryana.gov.in |
| 9 | PANCHAYATI RAJ, BLOCK LEVEL E-TENDERING COMMITTEE BLOCK HANSI-II DISTT HISAR | SUPPLY OF VARIOUS BUILDING MATERIALS IN ALL VILLAGES OF BLOCK HANSI-II DISTT HISAR. (GROUP-1 TO GROUP-12) | 15.09.2020 30.09.2020 | 6.89 CRORE | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 8684957080 tdpso.hansi@hry.nic.in |
| 10 | PANCHAYATI RAJ, BLOCK LEVEL E-TENDERING COMMITTEE BLOCK AGROHA DISTT HISAR | SUPPLY OF VARIOUS BUILDING MATERIALS IN ALL VILLAGES OF BLOCK AGROHA DISTT HISAR. (GROUP-1 TO GROUP-12) | 14.09.2020 29.09.2020 | 6.78 CRORE | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 9555225123 tdpso.agroha@hry.nic.in |
| 11 | PANCHAYATI RAJ, BLOCK LEVEL E-TENDERING COMMITTEE BLOCK SARANAND DISTT HISAR | SUPPLY OF VARIOUS BUILDING MATERIALS IN ALL VILLAGES OF BLOCK SARANAND DISTT HISAR. (GROUP-1 TO GROUP-12) | 14.09.2020 29.09.2020 | 6.94 CRORE | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 8684957080 tdpso.saranand@gmail.com |
| 12 | PANCHAYATI RAJ, BLOCK LEVEL E-TENDERING COMMITTEE BLOCK HISAR-I DISTT HISAR | SUPPLY OF VARIOUS BUILDING MATERIALS IN ALL VILLAGES OF BLOCK HISAR-I DISTT HISAR. (GROUP-1 TO GROUP-12) | 12.09.2020 28.09.2020 | 7.75 CRORE | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 9968304428 tdpso.hisar1@hry.nic.in |
| 13 | HARYANA IRRIGATION RESEARCH & MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (HIRM), KURUKSHETRA | SUPPLY OF MANPOWER THROUGH OUTSOURCING POLICY ON D.C. RATES FOR THE YEAR 2020-21 | 11.09.2020 21.09.2020 | END 30,000/- | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 01744-236331/ 9667514733 hirm02@icmr.gov.in |
| 14 | IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA | CONSTRUCTION OF V.S. BRIDGE SYPHON AT RD 10200 BARALOD HENOR + 2 OTHER WORKS | CLOSING DATE 30.09.2020 | 22.80 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 0416288577 sharanad@icmr@gmail.com |
| 15 | PANCHAYATI RAJ, BOPD JALALA | SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK JALALA DISTT. JIND | 16.09.2020 30.09.2020 | 50000/- FOR EACH GROUP | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | tdpso.jalala@hry.nic.in |
| 16 | ADC, OFFICE KARNA | PURCHASE OF 112 TRICYCLES/ GARBAGE RECKSHAW REPR. | 16.09.2020 30.09.2020 | END 50000/- | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 90120-63406 karnas@hry.nic.in |

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

कार्यालय सहानपुर स्मार्ट सिटी लिमिटेड, सहानपुर
संख्या 658 एम.एस.सी.एल./सह/2020-21
दिनांक: 15.09.2020
शुद्धि पत्र
 पत्रांक संख्या 638 / एम.एस.सी.एल./सह/2020-21 दिनांक 08.09.2020 का इन्डियन एक्सप्रेस के पृष्ठ सं 08 पर छपे विज्ञापन में निविदा प्रपत्र के कुछ बिन्दुओं में अशुद्धियां छप गयी थी तथा कुछ बिन्दु छपने से छूट गये थे उक्त के क्रम में निम्न शुद्धियां की जाती है:-
 1. निविदा प्रपत्र के बिन्दु संख्या 7 के फर्म का दर्शनवर्ष वित्तीय वर्ष 2019-20 का संलग्न किया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।
 2. वार्ड संख्या 01 में सी.ए.जी. वर्ष 2020-21 में इम्प्लेंट होना चाहिये।
 3. कम्पनी द्वारा अनुबंध के साथ अंकन 01 लाख की परफॉर्मन्स गारन्टी एफ.डी./एन.ए.सी. के रूप में सी.ई.ओ. सहानपुर स्मार्ट सिटी लिमिटेड सहानपुर के नाम बन्धक कागजात कागजात में जमा करानी होगी।
 4. ब्यक्ति फर्म द्वारा कार्यलय में तैनात किये जाने वाले सी.ए. की सी.डी. एवं सर्टीफिकेट ऑफ मैच्यूरिटी तकनीकी निविदा के साथ संलग्न करना अनिवार्य होगी।
 उक्त निविदा की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 16.09.2020 के स्थान पर दिनांक 25.09.2020 को सां 04.00 बजे तक बढ़ायी जाती है निविदा तददिनांक को ही 04.30 बजे कार्यलय में खोली जायेगी तथा उक्त संशोधन को निविदा के साथ संलग्न किया जाता है। उक्तानुसार पदा जाये।
 अपर मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी सहानपुर स्मार्ट सिटी लिमिटेड

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
Dy. CME/Works for Chief Workshop Manager, N.E. Railway, Mechanical Workshop, Gorakhpur for and on behalf of President of India invites open tenders through on line (E-Tendering) for the following work:
S.No. :- 1. E-Tender Notice No. "15-MWS-GKP-2019-20-3" - "Installation and Testing of AMDBS for LHB GS LS5 type coaches with FIBA arrangement in an existing non ASR LHB GS (LS2/LS3) to air suspension spring (LS5) in the premises of Mechanical Workshop, Gorakhpur".
Estimated cost (in Rs.) :- Rs. 27,70,545.96, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :-** Rs. 55,400/-, **Last date of tender submission :-** Upto 11.00 hrs., Date 06.10.2020, **Cost of the Tender Forms :-** 3,000/-, **Period of Contract :-** 12 (Months). The details of above tender are also available on Indian Railway website www.ireps.gov.in
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Earnest Money : Rs. 62,706/-
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बाढ़ नियंत्रण प्रमण्डल-2, झंझारपुर
 निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या - 02 SBD / 2020-21
 (राष्ट्रीय/राजकीय स्पर्धा)
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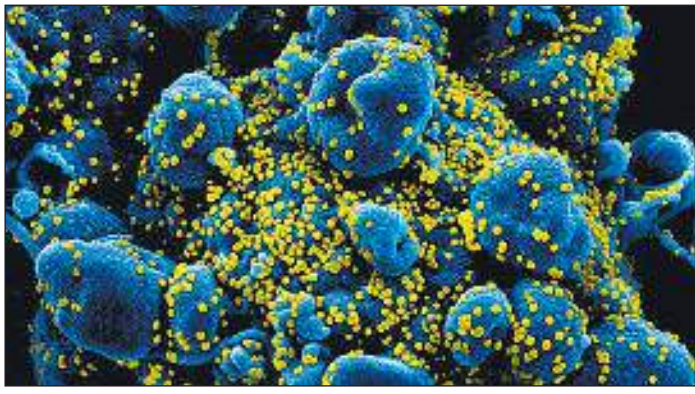


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CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD



Colourised scanning electron micrograph of a cell infected with SARS-CoV-2 particles (yellow), isolated from a patient. NIDA via NIH

Substance use disorders linked to Covid vulnerability

A STUDY has found that people with substance use disorders are more susceptible to Covid-19 and its complications. The research was published on Monday in the journal *Molecular Psychiatry*. It suggests healthcare providers closely monitor patients with substance use disorders and develop plans to help shield them from infection and severe outcomes.



PAPER CLIP

NEW RESEARCH

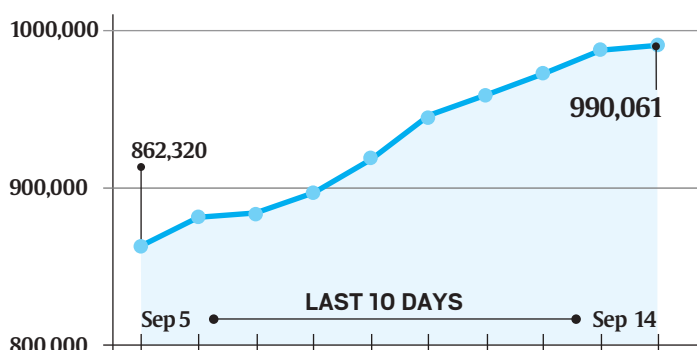
Substance use disorder on record, the analysis found, were more likely to develop Covid-19 than those without such a disorder. This effect was strongest for opioid use disorder, followed by tobacco use disorder. Individuals with a diagnosis of substance use disorder were also more likely to experience worse Covid-19 outcomes (hospitalisation, death), than people without.

The lungs and cardiovascular system are often compromised in people with substance use disorder, which may partially explain their heightened susceptibility to Covid-19.

Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse, United States

INDIA ACTIVE CASES

990,061



Note: The Sept 14 figure in this graph is based on the government update on Sept 15

INDIA TOTAL CASES
4,930,236

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, updated at 11 pm on Sept 15

WORLD TOTAL CASES
29,335,771

Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated at 11 pm on Sept 15



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SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

UAPA in Delhi riots

Students and activists have been charged under provisions of the anti-terror law in the Delhi riots case. What makes UAPA such a tough law, and how have the police justified invoking it?

SOFIAHSAN

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

DELHI POLICE on Monday got 10 days' custody of former Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) student Umar Khalid, who had been arrested a day previously in a case registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

Khalid is one of several young activists who have been booked in cases relating to the violence in Delhi in February. The police have invoked provisions of the UAPA to investigate the alleged "larger conspiracy" behind the riots.

What is the UAPA, and what is it used for?

The UAPA is primarily an anti-terror law — aimed at "more effective prevention of certain unlawful activities of individuals and associations and for dealing with terrorist activities". It was first promulgated in 1967 to target secessionist organisations, and is considered to be the predecessor of laws such as the (now repealed) Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act (TADA) and Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA).

Amendments from time to time have made the UAPA more stringent. Following the last amendment in 2019, an individual can be designated a terrorist; only organisations could be designated earlier. UAPA cases are tried by special courts.

The law has been used in cases other than those of conventional 'terrorism' or 'terrorist acts'. It has of late been invoked against activists, student leaders, and journalists. UAPA cases have been filed against activists in the Bhima-Koregaon case; at least two journalists in Kashmir; Devangana Kalita and Natasha Narwal, members of the women students and alumni collective Pinjra Tod; former Congress municipal councillor Ishrat Jahan; Khalid Saifi of the organisation United Against Hate; Jamia Millia Islamia student Safoora Zargar; and now, Umar Khalid.

What do police say in the case registered against Khalid and others?

The investigation is based on FIR 59 of 2020, in which IPC Sections 302 (murder) 153A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, etc.), 124A (sedition), and others have been included.



Umar Khalid at a conference in Mumbai in January. Ganesh Shirsekar

The core of the police case is that the "communal riot incidents" of February 2020 in Delhi were "pre-planned" by Khalid and the others. Khalid is accused of giving provocative speeches and urging people to come out on the roads to ensure that the "propaganda of minorities in India are being persecuted" may get publicised during the visit of US President Donald Trump (on February 24-25).

Police have also claimed to have gathered evidence against the accused in the form of WhatsApp chats that were allegedly used in the "execution of the conspiracy", alleged witness statements, and evidence of the receipt of funds from within India and overseas.

Which provisions of the UAPA have been used in the FIR?

Sections 13, 16, 17, and 18 of the UAPA were

added to the case subsequently.

The Act defines unlawful activity as any action — spoken or written words, signs, or visible representation — which is intended or supports any claim to bring about secession of any part of India or which incites anyone towards secession; disclaims, questions, disrupts or intends to disrupt the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India; and "which causes or is intended to cause disaffection against India".

The word "disaffection" has not been defined in the law, and finds mention only once.

Section 13 ("Punishment for unlawful activities"), which has been invoked against Khalid and others, provides for up to seven years in prison for anyone who "advocates, abets, advises or incites the commission of any unlawful activity".

Section 16 ("Punishment for terrorist act") specifies punishment with death or imprisonment for life in case a death has occurred as a result of the act. The law defines a terrorist act as one that is intended to threaten or is likely to threaten the unity, integrity, security, or sovereignty of India, and causes or is likely to cause death or injuries, and property damage.

Section 17 provides for punishment for raising funds for terrorist acts, and Section 18 deals with conspiracy behind the terrorist act or "any act preparatory to the commission of a terrorist act".

How does Delhi Police justify invoking the anti-terror law?

While critics have argued that dissenting or protesting peacefully would not amount to causing "disaffection against India", the police have told the court that the riots were a result of a bigger conspiracy to "overawe the government machinery", and that the conspirators had a "specific purpose, object and mandate" to cause "disaffection and revolt against the Government of India".

The prosecution has argued that the aim of the protests was "to destroy, destabilise and disintegrate the Government of India in order to compel (it) to withdraw the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and alleged National Register of Citizens."

What makes the UAPA more stringent than other laws?

Safoora Zargar is the only one among the accused booked under UAPA who has been given bail. But she was granted relief on humanitarian grounds — her case for bail was not dealt with on merits by Delhi High Court.

Three individuals belonging to the Popular Front of India (PFI) were granted bail in March, but that was prior to the addition of UAPA provisions to the case.

It is rare for an accused to get bail easily in a case under UAPA. The court can refuse bail if in its opinion the case is "prima facie" true. An accused cannot seek anticipatory bail, and the period of investigation can be extended to 180 days from 90 days on the public prosecutor's request — which means the accused has virtually no chance of getting bail by default.

In UAPA cases, the police custody can also be extended to 30 days as against the 15 days allowed in ordinary criminal cases.

Export ban on onions: cause, likely effect

PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS

PUNE, SEPTEMBER 15

ON MONDAY, the Centre issued a notification prohibiting the export of onion, even as the average traded price of the bulb crossed the Rs 30-per-kg mark at Maharashtra's Lasalgaon wholesale market. This ban came just about three months after the government had tweaked the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to make the imposition of stock limit and movement restrictions on food grains, edible oilseeds, potatoes, onions and other essential commodities applicable only in extreme conditions like war or natural calamity.

What led to the export ban?

There seem to be two main triggers. The first was obviously the steady increase in wholesale prices of onions in urban markets. Between March and September, the average price of the bulb at Lasalgaon's market has

appreciated by almost 100%. Prices at this markets in Niphad taluka of Nashik district in March were in the range of Rs 1,500 per quintal and since then have appreciated to Rs 3,000. At retail markets, onion is now trading between Rs 35-40 per kg as against Rs 25-30 per kg in June.

The immediate trigger can also be found in Consumer Price Index (CPI) numbers released by the government on Monday. Retail inflation was 6.69%, a tad less than the 6.73% of last month but well above the Reserve Bank of India's target of 6%. The Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) for August was 9.05% as against 9.27% of last month.

Why are onions costlier in wholesale markets?

The answer can be found in the exceptionally heavy rainfall in the country in August. It led to a near-complete washout of the almost market-ready onion crop in Karnataka that was to hit the markets in early September. Along with this, the rain also

damaged stored onions in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and parts of Maharashtra. At present it's only the onion growers in Maharashtra who have produce to offload, having stored up their harvest from March-April. The present supply disruption is likely to continue until the new crop in Maharashtra hits markets in early November.

If the domestic supply-demand situation is heavily tilted towards the later, demand for Indian onion is also rising from international markets. Indian onions, which are normally shipped out to the Gulf countries, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, usually has a year-round steady demand. However, demand from Sri Lanka, exporters say, has suddenly picked up after heavy destruction of crop there, too, due to rain. The landed cost of Indian onions at Dubai port at this moment is around Rs 32-35 per kg, which has led to many exporters increasing their shipments from Nashik.

So, will the export ban bring down prices?

A sharp depreciation in prices is expected

to take place in view of the export ban. However, traders feel prices are again going to rise in a week or so as overall supplies will remain muted. The new crop, they say, will arrive only post November and with demand expected to rise before the Dussehra season starts, prices are likely to remain high.

Will the move have any political fallout?

The political fallout of high onion prices can hardly be over-emphasised. With the Bihar elections due later this year, the government appears to have been wary of facing the electorate when onion was costlier than usual.

Ironically, the export ban comes when the government plans to make ordinances that amended the Essential Commodities Act into law and stop knee-jerk reactions like imposition of stock limits. Farmer organisations have called out what they describe as double standards. From Tuesday, the farmers' union Shetkari Sanghatana embarked on *rasta rokos* against this move.

Ease of doing business: how states are ranked, what's different now

NUSHAIBA IQBAL & UDIT MISRA

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

THE LATEST ease of doing business rankings for Indian states, released by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), have thrown up some interesting results. The absence of more industrialised states such as Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra from the top rungs and the presence of states such as Uttar Pradesh (which was in the past far behind but has now shot up to all-India number 2) in the top ranks has surprised many. A look at what went into calculating the final rankings.

How are the rankings arrived at?

The objective of DPIIT's reform exercise is to provide a business-friendly environment, for which the regulations in a state have to be made simpler. Therefore, it devised a methodology to rank the states according to the ease of doing business (EoDB) in a state.

DPIIT provides a set of recommendations meant to reduce the time and effort spent by businesses on compliance with regulation called the Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP). BRAP 2019 is an 80-point list of reforms recommended to simplify, rationalise and digitise the regulatory framework in a state.

The reforms are grouped into 12 broad areas like land administration, labour regulation, obtaining electricity and water supply permits, environment regulation, etc. States are required to submit proof of implementing each reform on the DPIIT's EoDB portal and submit a list of users of these reforms. A sample of these users is then surveyed to determine the efficacy of these reforms. Each question is assigned a weight. The final score is a weighted average of all the responses applicable to a state.

What reforms does DPIIT recommend?

DPIIT recommends all states have a single-window system that provides all necessary information on permits and licences required for starting a business. Permissions required from municipal or village government bodies or police for activities like filming movies should also be explicitly mentioned.

To reduce delays further, DPIIT recommends that the duration of licences be extended or that they be renewed automatically based on self-certification or third-party verification. A state is also rewarded if a set of regulations (like labour or environment laws) are not applicable to it.

Are these scores and ranks comparable to those from previous years?

For the first time since its inception in

TABLE 1: EASE OF DOING BUSINESS RANKS, TOP 10 IN 2019

| State | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2019 |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 10 | 14 | 12 | 2 |
| Telangana | 13 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 5 | 5 | 7 | 4 |
| Jharkhand | 3 | 7 | 4 | 5 |
| Chhattisgarh | 4 | 4 | 6 | 6 |
| Himachal | 17 | 17 | 16 | 7 |
| Rajasthan | 6 | 8 | 9 | 8 |
| West Bengal | 11 | 15 | 10 | 9 |
| Gujarat | 1 | 3 | 5 | 10 |

Source: DPIIT

2015, the BRAP rankings relied entirely on the feedback it received from the businesses for whom these reforms were intended. Earlier editions computed scores based on the responses of the relevant state government departments. The 2017-18 edition used a combination of state government and user feedback to compute the score.

Therefore, strictly speaking, the 2019 rankings are not comparable with those

TABLE 2: REFORMS, APPLICABLE/IMPLEMENTED

| State | Applicable | Implemented |
|--------------|------------|-------------|
| Andhra | 187 | 187 |
| UP | 186 | 184 |
| Telangana | 186 | 184 |
| MP | 187 | 187 |
| Jharkhand | 187 | 186 |
| Chhattisgarh | 187 | 186 |
| Himachal | 185 | 175 |
| Rajasthan | 186 | 183 |
| W Bengal | 187 | 187 |
| Gujarat | 187 | 187 |

Source: DPIIT

from last year.

How did the states perform?

Andhra Pradesh secured the top spot for the third time since the ranking was first released in 2015 (Table 1). UP jumped ten spots to number two and Telangana slipped to three. Gujarat, which was first in the first-ever edition of the rankings, was ranked 11 this year; Haryana slipped all the way to 17.

TABLE 3: SHARE (%) IN NEW INVESTMENTS ANNOUNCED

| State | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| Andhra | 6.56 | 16.29 |
| Haryana | 3.37 | 15.74 |
| Tamil Nadu | 4.01 | 9.32 |
| Gujarat | 6.76 | 7.74 |
| Maharashtra | 18.09 | 6.32 |
| Karnataka | 3.32 | 6.08 |
| Rajasthan | 2.01 | 3.04 |
| MP | 2.87 | 2.73 |
| Odisha | 8.25 | 2.43 |
| NCT Delhi | 1.38 | 1.76 |

Source: CMIE

Why were these rankings criticised?

DPIIT's methodology does not consider the actual number of reforms implemented by the states, as shown in Table 2. States like Haryana and Gujarat have implemented all the reforms recommended by the DPIIT, but were ranked low on the EoDB list.

Gujarat has reportedly attributed this to poor response from the survey respondents. The methodology used by the DPIIT

awards points on a reform to a state only if there was an adequate response from users of that response.

Ideally, the number of respondents for every state should be decided based on population or number of business clusters to ensure that the sample is representative of the state. It is not clear if DPIIT used representative samples.

Also, business owners' expectations from the governments can differ. A business owner from Tamil Nadu may assess their state government's IT portal differently from one in UP.

How do these reforms affect investments?

An analysis by CARE Ratings shows that "the top-ranking states in terms of ease of doing business have not necessarily been associated with higher shares of new investments announced during the year".

As Table 3 shows, except for Andhra Pradesh, the top-ranking states as per these rankings do not have high shares in the total investment during the year. This is because businesses respond to other conditions like the availability of skilled labour, infrastructure, finance, etc.

In addition, these rankings do not consider the cost of doing business, which is what matters to businesses at the end of the day.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Purushottam S/o Shri Ram Kishan R/o C-29, Ram Dutt Enclave, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi 110059, have changed my name to Purushottam Tanwar for all future purposes.

I, Abhishek Goenka S/o Vijay Kumar Goenka R/o C-14, Kendriya Vihar, Sec-51 Noida, have changed my minor son's name from Harshit Goenka to Harsh Vardhan Goenka via Affidavit Dated 14/09/2020 Notary by S.K.Sharma Noida U.P.

I, Suresh Kumar Jetly S/o Sh. Ved Prakash Jetly R/o C-29, Amba Bagh, Kishan Ganj, North Delhi, New Delhi-110007 have changed my name to Suresh Jetly for all purposes.

It is informed to the general public that I Sanjeev Kumar Saroha R/O BD 14 F, DDA Flats, Munirka, New Delhi-110067 also known as Sanjeev K Saroha have changed my name to Sanjeev Saroha for all future purposes.

I, V.VIDHYA, W/O-NO-JC-773684W SUB G. VENKATESAN, R/O-VILL+POST-PALASAMUDRAM, VENGALARA JA KUPPAM-VIA, CHITTOOR DIST-ANDHRA PRADESH. PIN-517599. MY ACTUAL DATE OF BIRTH IS 10.05-1986. INSTEAD OF 05-06-1982, FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE VIDEO, AFFIDAVIT, DATE-14-09-2020, BEFORE MANDAN LAL GUPTA (DELHI).

I, Jal Karan Singh S/o-Badri Singh R/o-Village-Domapur, Post-Lodhipur, Uttarawa, Raebareilly, (UP), inform that in my service record my son's name wrongly written as Eshu Singh instead of correct name Ishu Singh for all purposes.

I, Umara Rood S/o-Rafiq Ahmed R/o-1667, Gali Takhat Wali Suwalan Daryaganj Delhi-110002, have changed my name to Umar Farooq.

I, Sumalla Lodhi W/o-Mohammad Zain R/O-1653, Gali Imli Wali Rodgran Lal Kuan Delhi-110006, have changed my name to Shumaila Zain.

I, Satyendra sharma, S/o-Rajendra sharma, R/o-RZA-277, Nihal vihar, Nangloi, New Delhi-110041, have changed my name to SATYENDRA SHARMA for all purposes.

I, Sanjay Kumar, S/o Raghubir Singh, R/o B-118, Street, No.9, Mata-Vall-Gali Johri Pur, Delhi-110094, inform that my minor daughter's Shreya school-record parents name wrongly-written Sanjay and Sapna but parents correct-name is Sanjay Kumar and Sapna Rani.

I, Prerana Mathur W/o Shishir Mohan Mathur R/o-J-1003, Golf City, Plot.No.08, Sector-74, Noida Distt.-G.B.Nagar, U.P., have changed my name from Prerana Mathur to Prerna Mathur.

I, Mahendra Kumar, S/o Kishan Chand, R/o E-19/364, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Mahender Kumar Chawla.

I, MOHAMMAD WARIS F/O-AQSA WARIS, R/O-2297/1, 2ND-FLR, CHATTA MOGRAN TURKMAN-GATE, DELHI-110006, HAVE CHANGED MY CHILD NAME FROM AQSA TO AQSA WARIS, FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

I, Suresh Kumar S/o Sh. Mahavir Prasad, R/O A-31/18A, Gali No. 2, Chet Ram-Gali, Maujpur, Delhi-110053, Have Changed my minor Daughter's name Umayal Bansal to Priyanshi

I, Kulwant Sethi, S/o-Shri Harbhajan Singh, R/O-C-6/79A, Keshav Puram, Delhi-35, declare that the name of my wife is wrongly mentioned as Charnejat Kaur Sethi in my Passport. The actual name of my wife is Charanjat Kaur for all future purposes.

I, Shiv Kumari W/o Umapat R/o Plot No.162 D, Khasra No. 24/8, E-Block, Bharat Vihar, Begampur, Delhi-86, have changed my name Renu to Shiv Kumari both are same & one person.

I, Ravindra Singh, S/O LATE SH.BHAG SINGH R/O-B-33, SECTOR Gamma-1, G.B.NAGAR, U.P. 20131, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM RAVINDRA SINGH TO RAVINDER SINGH FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

I, Abraham Coorilil Ullanann, S/o Ullahann Avira, R/O-138-B, Pocket-6, MIG Flat, Mayur-Vihar Phase-3, Delhi-110096, have changed my name to Abraham Coorilil Ullahann.

I, SAHIL LOY JOE PERIS, S/O LAWRENCE WILLIAM JOSEPH PERIS/O.5, GROUND FLOOR, SECTOR 15A, NOIDA, Gautam Budh Nagar, 201301, UP, INDIA declare that there was a clerical error in my class 10th and 12th CBSE pass certificates. My mother's name is 'JYOTI DIWANPERIS' but it was incorrectly printed as 'JYOTI PERIS' on my class 10th and 12th CBSE pass certificates.

I, RAJESHKUMAR, S/O BASUKIPRASAD SINGH, A-88, GALI, NO.5 SANJAYNAGAR, DELHI-33, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PURNIMA SHARMA, PERMANENTLY.

I, PAREEDHI W/O Dr Dhruv Arora R/O 22 Paschim Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi - 110057 have changed my name to PAREEDHI ARORA

I, Nishtha Bansal, W/o Rahul Gupta R/O E-502, Sai Baba Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Nishtha Gupta.

I, Manuél alias Manuel Massey, S/o Mashi David R/O C-7/62, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Manuel Massey.

I, Manjeet Singh Hora S/o Bhupinder Singh Hora, R/O 12-A/25, WEA Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005, Have changed my name from Manjeet Singh Hora to Manjeet Singh Hora for all purposes.

I, Mamchand, S/O Devi Ram, R/O VPO. Fatehpur Billoch(58), Faridabad, Haryana - 121004 have changed my name to Mam Chand Gautam

I, MOHAMMAD MAJHARUL HAQUE, S/O GULAM AHAMAD R/O-B-249, PREM NAGAR-III, KIRARI, SULEMAN-NAGAR, DELHI-110086, CHANGED MY NAME TO MAZHARUL HAQUE.

I, MANOJ KUMAR VARMA, S/O OM PRAKASH VARMA, H/O 5864, JOGIWARA, NAI SARAK, CHANDNI CHOWK DELHI-110006, changed my name to MANOJ VARMA, permanently.

I, Laltesh Tanwar, W/o Kapil Tanwar R/O N.O.CB-56, Naraina Cantt., Delhi Cantonment, Delhi-10, have changed my name to LATA TANWAR for all future purposes.

I, SABINA KHURANA D/O NAND KUMAR KHURANA R/O C-45, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi-110015 have changed my name to NEHA BATRA.

I, Kanchan Bala, W/o Kamal Khurana R/O B-1/110, Mayur Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Kanchan Arora.

I, Kamaljit Kour D/o Roshan Singh is legally spouse of 2667919KHF Gurmukh Singh presently residing at village Singhpora Kalan, Baramulla (J&K), have changed my name from Kamaljit kour to Kamla Kour, and my DOB is 16 November, 1946. Concerned please note.

I, Burhan Beg S/o-Mirza Yasin Beg, R/O-1390 Havelli Kallu Khawab Bazar Chitli-Qabar Delhi-110006, changed my name to Mirza Burhan Beg.

I, Aqeel Ahmed, S/o Iftekhar Husain R/O K-17/401, Masjid-Khaliulullah Jamia-Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-110025, have changed my name to Aqeel Ahmad, for all future purpose.

I, Priyanka, spouse of Sanjeev Kumar, resident of Flat 613/2, Shantushti Apartment, D-6, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070 have changed my name from Priyanka to Priyanka Sanjeev Kumar vide affidavit dated 14/09/2020 at New Delhi.

It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Certificate of Class 10th Year 1995 Roll No. 6111965 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Kamaldeep Singh chawla S/o Lt Sh Gurdipr Singh D.O.B-21/06/1979 R/O M-65, First Floor, Kirti Nagar, Delhi-110015, India Phone no- 9810779420

I, Kiran D/o Nand Kishore R/O 3200/31, Beadon Pura, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-11005 I have Lost My Duplicate Documents 10th class CBSC Marksheet and Certificate. Roll No. 6419589 (2002)

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ESTATE & PROPERTY

5BK1 Flat area 3399.78 Sqft. (GF) Available for sale in Commonwealth Games Village Apartments, Near Akshardham Temple New Delhi, Price-4 Crores Call 91-9899731004

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform public at large that my clients namely Sh. Kishan Sisodia S/O Sh. Nathu Ram and Smt. Binamata Devi W/o. Kishan Sisodia both R/O H. No. 29, Shiv Mandir wali Gali Village Dhrupur, Delhi-110009 have divorced their daughter namely Miss Tanya from her movable and immovable properties and severed all relations from her as she has become disobedient and out of their control. If any person deals with her, he shall do the same on his own risk and responsibility.

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TOP OF THE WORLD



An under-construction building caught fire in Beirut on Tuesday. AP

LEBANON

Another Beirut fire unnerves residents

A FIRE erupted in a landmark building in Beirut's commercial district on Tuesday, the second blaze this month to send shudders through a capital still in shock after a massive port blast in August ripped through the Mediterranean city. There were no immediate reports of casualties and the blaze was quickly extinguished, but it left residents exasperated in a nation that has been hammered by a deep economic crisis and which is waiting for its politicians to form a new government. "It's terrible. It's unbelievable," said Joe Sayegh, 48, who had been on a jog through the city before coming to the scene.

USA

House honours slain Sikh cop

THE US House of Representatives has unanimously passed a legislation to name a post office in Houston after Indian-American police officer Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal, who was gunned down in the line of duty a year ago. The bipartisan legislation, Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal Post Office Act, was co-sponsored by the entire Texas delegation. "Deputy Dhaliwal represented the very best of our community: he worked for equality, connection, and community through his life of service to others," said Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher.

ALGERIA

Journalist sentenced to 2 years in prison

AN ALGERIAN court on Tuesday sentenced journalist Khaled Drareni to two years in prison on appeal, reducing his original sentence, in a trial that rights group have denounced as violating press freedom. Drareni, editor of the Casbah Tribune news site and Algeria correspondent of RSF and the French TV channel TV5 Monde, played a prominent role in covering the country's pro-democracy movement last year. He was convicted of "inciting an unarmed gathering" and "endangering national unity" linked to coverage of the protest movement.



US President Donald Trump speaks prior to signing the deals as Israel PM Benjamin Netanyahu, UAE Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed and Bahrain Foreign Minister Abdullatif Al Zayani applaud at the White House on Tuesday. Reuters

UAE, Bahrain sign historic pact with Israel at the White House

Trump hosts ceremony, says the US-brokered agreements represent major stride

STEVE HOLLAND & MATT SPETALNICK

WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 15

THE UNITED Arab Emirates and Bahrain signed agreements on Tuesday for normalising relations with Israel, becoming the latest Arab states to break a long-standing taboo in a strategic realignment of Middle Eastern countries against Iran.

US President Donald Trump hosted the White House ceremony, capping a dramatic month when first the UAE and then Bahrain agreed to reverse decades of ill will without a resolution of Israel's decades-old dispute with the Palestinians.

In front of a crowd of hundreds of people on the White House lawn, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu signed accords with Emirati Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed al-Nahyan and Bahrain's Foreign Minister Abdullatif Al Zayani.

The deals, denounced by the

Is this really 'peace in the Middle East'?

THE TRUMP campaign has already brought out ads saying the President "achieved PEACE in the MIDDLE EAST". While Trump did help normalise relations between two Arab countries and Israel, the key conflict in the region remains unaddressed. In the US, the term "peace in the Middle East" usually refers to the Israel-Palestine conflict. And the Trump administra-

EXPLAINED

tion, under the leadership of Jared Kushner, failed in a very public bid to find a solution to the conflict. The Palestinians stopped engaging with the Trump administration, saying the US only wanted to dictate terms. It was after this setback that the administration sought the more modest achievement of bringing the Persian Gulf countries and Israel together.

Palestinians, make them the third and fourth Arab states to take such steps to normalise ties since Israel signed peace treaties with Egypt in 1979 and Jordan in 1994.

Meeting Netanyahu earlier in the Oval Office, Trump said, "We'll have at least five or six countries coming along very quickly" to forge their own ac-

ords with Israel. But he did not name any of the nations involved in such talks.

Speaking from the White House balcony, Trump said: "We're here this afternoon to change the course of history." Flags of the United States, Israel, the UAE and Bahrain were in abundance.

He called it "a major stride in which people of all faiths and backgrounds live together in peace and prosperity" and declared that the three Middle East countries "are going to work together, they are friends".

The back-to-back agreements mark an improbable diplomatic victory for Trump. He has spent his presidency forecasting deals on such intractable problems as North Korea's nuclear program only to find actual achievements elusive.

Bringing Israel, the UAE and Bahrain together reflects their shared concern about Iran's rising influence in the region and development of ballistic missiles. Iran has been critical of both deals.

But in a sign that regional strife is sure to continue while the Israeli-Palestinian conflict remains unresolved, sirens warning of rocket fire from Gaza sounded in southern Israel on Tuesday as a ceremony was under way in Washington. REUTERS

US partners with SE Asian nations to counter China

Washington: The Trump administration has announced the ambitious Mekong-US partnership which aims to curb China's growing influence in Southeast Asia and promote economic independence of partner nations. Apart from the US, the coalition includes Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam from Southeast Asia. It was formally launched after a virtual meeting on September 11. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said efforts will include working closely with Japan, Australia, South Korea, India, and other like-minded partners. PTI

Trump says wanted Assad dead in 2017

Washington: US President Donald Trump said Tuesday he wanted to order the assassination of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad in 2017 but was advised against it by then Defence Secretary Gen (Rtd) James Mattis. "I would have rather taken him (Assad) out. I had him all set. Mattis didn't want to do it," Trump told Fox News when asked if Assad had ordered chemical bombs be dropped on the Syria town of Khan Sheikhoun in April 2017. PTI

MEANWHILE

ROSA PARKS' HOME DISPLAYED IN ITALY

The Detroit house where US civil rights icon Rosa Parks took refuge after her historic bus boycott is going on display in Italy. It's the latest stop for the house in a years-long saga that began when Parks' niece saved the tiny two-story home from demolition in Detroit after the 2008 financial crisis. She donated it to an artist who rebuilt it for display in Germany, and now Italy.



Alexei Navalny posted a photo on Instagram showing him in his hospital bed with his wife and children by his side. AP

Navalny posts photo from hospital, plans Russia return

ALEXANDER MARROW

MOSCOW, SEPTEMBER 15

RUSSIAN OPPOSITION politician Alexei Navalny shared a photograph from a Berlin hospital on Tuesday, sitting up in bed and surrounded by his family, and said he could now breathe independently following his suspected poisoning last month.

The photo—the strongest evidence yet of Navalny's advancing recovery after emerging from a coma last week—was swiftly followed by confirmation from his press spokeswoman that he planned to return to Russia.

"Hi, this is Navalny. I miss you all," he wrote in the caption to his Instagram followers. "I can still hardly do anything, but yesterday I could breathe all day on my own. Actually on my own."

The leading opponent of President Vladimir Putin, fell violently sick while campaigning on Aug. 20 and was airlifted to Berlin. Germany says laboratory tests in three countries have determined he was poisoned with a Novichok nerve agent, and Western governments have demanded an explanation from Russia.

Moscow has called the accusations groundless. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov reiterated Tuesday that Moscow

was open to clearing up what happened to Navalny, but needed access to information on his case from Berlin. He said Moscow did not understand why, if French and Swedish laboratories had been able to test his medical samples, Russia was not being given the same access.

The case has further strained relations between Russia and the West, already at a post-Cold War low since Moscow's annexation of Crimea from Ukraine in 2014 and the attempted poisoning of a former Russian double agent with the same Novichok nerve agent in England in 2018. REUTERS

Boris lashes out at EU, clears 1st hurdle for Brexit treaty breach

ELIZABETH PIPER & WILLIAM JAMES

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 15

BRITISH PRIME Minister Boris Johnson lashed out at the European Union on Monday as he won initial approval for a plan to breach the Brexit treaty, saying the move was needed because the bloc had refused to take a "revolver off the table" in trade talks. Johnson won the so-called second reading parliamentary vote on the Internal Market Bill 340 to 263. A wrecking amendment was defeated shortly beforehand, though more will follow as he faces a growing rebellion in his party.

The EU says Johnson's bill would collapse trade talks and propel the UK towards a messy Brexit while former British leaders have warned that breaking the law is a step too far that un-



Boris Johnson at a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday. AP

dermines the country's image. Johnson said it was essential to counter "absurd" threats from Brussels including that London put up trade barriers between Britain and Northern Ireland and impose a food blockade.

"The EU still have not taken this revolver off the table," Johnson told parliament "What we cannot do now is tolerate a situation where our EU counterparts seriously believe that they have the power to break up our country." REUTERS

HK to open bars, pools after mass testing

REUTERS

HONG KONG, SEPTEMBER 15

HONG KONG will reopen bars, swimming pools and theme parks from Friday as it relaxes coronavirus restrictions after the testing of nearly two million people in a programme organised by the Chinese government found 42 cases.

The announcement by the city's health secretary, Sophia



Disneyland in Hong Kong is also set to open. Reuters

Chan, comes days after the Chinese special administrative region reopened gyms and entertainment venues and increased the number of people allowed to gather to four.

The ban on gatherings of more than four people remains in place as does a ban on people visiting public beaches as authorities called for vigilance.

"We appeal to the public to not be complacent and let down their guard," Chan said. REUTERS

WORLD BODY INCREASINGLY FACING QUESTIONS ABOUT ITS EFFECTIVENESS, RELEVANCE

As UN turns 75, the celebration is muted by calamity and conflict

RICK GLADSTONE

SEPTEMBER 15

WORLDWIDE CONTAGION, the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression and a warming planet—not to mention rising hunger, growing legions of refugees, xenophobic bombast from strongmen leaders and a new cold war between the United States and China.

The United Nations is about to celebrate its birth in 1945 from the ruins of World War II, although "celebrate" might seem an odd choice of word amid the long list of current global woes and the organisation's own challenges.

So the marking of the anniversary will be muted, and not only because world leaders will be unable to gather in person to raise a glass—the pandemic has reduced the General Assembly beginning this week to virtual meetings. As the world body turns 75, it also faces profound questions about its own effectiveness and even its relevance.

"The UN is weaker than it should be," said Mary Robinson, a former UN high commissioner for human rights and the first woman to become president of Ireland.

When the UN was founded by the Allied victors, the goal was to avert another descent into another global apocalypse. And for all its

shortcomings, the organisation that Eleanor Roosevelt called "our greatest hope for future peace" has at least helped achieve that.

As he looked ahead toward convening this year's General Assembly, Secretary-General António Guterres emphasised the long view. The values embedded in the UN Charter, he said, have prevented "the scourge of a Third World War many had feared".

Still, the organisation is struggling like perhaps never before.

While it is the leading provider of humanitarian aid, and UN peacekeepers operate in more than dozen unstable areas, the United Nations has been unable to bring an end to the protracted



The UN headquarters in New York. Reuters

wars in Syria, Yemen or Libya. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is nearly as old as the United Nations itself.

UN statistics show that the number of people forcibly displaced worldwide has doubled

over the past decade to 80 million. The number suffering acute hunger is expected to nearly double by year's end to more than a quarter billion, with the first famines of the coronavirus era lurking at the world's doorstep.

Guterres' entreaty for a global ceasefire to help combat the coronavirus has gone largely unheeded. His plea for contributions to a \$10 billion emergency coronavirus response plan to help the neediest had, as of last week, been met with commitments totaling just a quarter of the goal. That response "barely justifies the description of 'tepid,'" said Mark Lowcock, the top UN relief official.

The UN was intended at its

inception to provide a forum in which all countries believed they had a meaningful voice.

But its basic structure gives little real power to the main body, the General Assembly, and the most to the World War II victors—Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States—with each wielding a veto on the 15-seat Security Council as permanent members. The council is empowered to impose economic sanctions and is the only UN entity permitted to deploy military force. No permanent member seems willing to alter the power structure.

It is not only on questions of war and ceasefires where the UN is struggling for results.

The Sustainable Development Goals, 17 UN objectives aimed at eliminating inequities that include poverty, gender bias and illiteracy by 2030, are imperiled.

UN veterans say multilateralism—solving problems together, a tenet of the organisation's charter—increasingly collides with principles in the same charter emphasising national sovereignty and nonintervention in a country's internal affairs.

The result is often delays of aid or denial of UN access to humanitarian crises, whether in delivering supplies to displaced Syrians, investigating evidence of Rohingya massacres in Myanmar or helping sick children in Venezuela. NYT

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

MECHANICAL HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR

(Telefax: 0194-2496089, E-mail ID: xennmhchdk@yahoo.in)

GIST OF E-NIT No: MHCHD/TS/2019/20/III/e-Tendering

Dated: 14.09.2020

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K State e-tenders are invited from registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work:

Table with 6 columns: Name of Work, Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs), Cost of T/Doc. (in Rupees), Earnest Money (in Rs.), Time of Completion (in Days), Position of Fund. Item 1: Providing and fitting of MCCB 1000 Amp capacity on the output of the 630 KVA Transformer along with allied works in order to connect 600 LPM Oxygen Plant at Govt. SMHS Hospital, Srinagar.

- 1. The Tender document Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q.), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 14.09.2020 (18.00 hrs).
- 2. The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site from 15.09.2020 (10:00hrs) to 20.09.2020 (14:00 hrs) in two (02) cover.
- 3. The bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on 21.09.2020 (15:00 hrs) or any date convenient to the department in the office of Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar.

Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar

DIPK-5683

SALUTE THE SOLDIER



On 16 Sep 1999 No 9420361 Late Rfn Diwaker Tamang of 3/11 GR had made supreme sacrifice during OP VIJAY (Kargil) in Sep 1999.

Colonel 11 GR & Sikkim Scouts and All Ranks



On 16 Sep 1999 No 9418636 Late Nk Darje Bahadur Tamang of 3/11 GR had made supreme sacrifice during OP VIJAY (Kargil) in Sep 1999.

Colonel 11 GR & Sikkim Scouts and All Ranks

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NOTICE INVITING BIDS

Table with 4 columns: Sl. No, Material Description, Bid Issue Date, Bid Due Date. Item 1: Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Electrical Equipments including supply of miscellaneous accessories for TNPL Unit-II MEP.

Detailed terms & conditions, Tender Fee, EMD, etc. are available in tender document at our websites: www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in

DIPR/3443/Tender/2020

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-tenders in two-part bid system are invited from experienced and financially sound contractors for the following annual rate contract work

Table with 6 columns: NT No., Work Description, Estimated Cost of Work (₹), Period of contract, Cost of tender (₹), EMD (₹), Tender Issuing Authority/Last date. Item 1: ARC of Miscellaneous Mechanical Maintenance jobs for the year 2020-21.

For further details and corrigendum, if any visit our website: www.nationalfertilizers.com

www.nationalfertilizers.com and CPP portal www.eprocure.gov.in

Follow us: @nationalfertilizers, @NFL_Kan, @nationalfertilizers

SUPPLY OF DIESEL ENGINE ALTERNATOR SET ALONG WITH ALL ACCESSORIES

E-Tender No. NE205126A dated: 03-09-2020. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work:

Name of Work: Supply of Diesel Engine Alternator Set along with all accessories suitable for existing base frame of Generators. Name of Specification: RDSO/PE/SPEC/AC/0064-2008 (Rev.1) with RCF Annexure-A along with noise reduction features as per RDSO modification sheet No. RDSO/PE/MS/AC/0045-2008, Rev.-0, AM-1 with RCF Annexure A&C Spec. Qty: 01 (one) Set. Tender Value: ₹47,20,000/-, Earnest Money: ₹4,40,000/-. Date & Time of closing of tender: 14.30 hrs. of 02-10-2020 & Opening on 14.30 hrs. of 02-10-2020. For details please visit www.irps.gov.in

By: CHM/HR New Bongaigaon NORTH EAST FRONTIER RAILWAY SERVING CUSTOMER WITH A SMILE

उत्तर मध्य रेलवे, प्रयागराज

निविदा सूचना संख्या: TMC/CPDH/PRYJ/20-21/03 दिनांक: 10.09.2020

ई-टेंडरिंग निविदा सूचना

मुख्य कारखाना प्रबन्धक/टीएमसी/सी.पी.ओ. एच/उत्तर मध्य रेलवे, प्रयागराज द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये उत्तर मध्य रेलवे, प्रयागराज एवं उनकी ओर से निम्नलिखित निर्धारित कार्य के लिये ई-निविदाएं/निविदाएं प्रपत्र पर दिनांक 16.10.2020 को 15:00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है।

Table with 5 columns: क्र.सं., निविदा संख्या, कार्य का विवरण, अनुमानित मूल्य, बचाने की रकम, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य. Item 1: कार्य अनुसूची के अनुसार सीपीओच/प्रयागराज में हाइड्रोलिक होज, हाइड्रोलिक सिलिन्डर और सब-असेम्बली के मरम्मत का कार्य.

कार्य समाप्त की अवधि: 24 माह निविदा खुलने की तिथि: 16.10.2020

निविदा वक के लिये न्यूनतम बांझीय आधार: शॉफ फ्लोर पर हाइड्रोलिक होज, हाइड्रोलिक सिलिन्डर से सम्बंधित किसी भी प्रकार की टैंक मशीन पर रिपेयरिंग/रिप्लेसमेंट का कार्य अथवा हाइड्रोलिक कम्पोजिंग से सम्बंधित टैंक मशीन पर कार्य।

नोट: (1) उपर्युक्त ई-निविदा का पूर्ण विवरण निविदा प्रपत्र सहित वेबसाइट http://www.irps.gov.in पर समय 15:00 बजे तक निविदा खुलने की तिथि तक उपलब्ध रहेगा।

(2) उपर्युक्त निविदा में ई-बिड के अलावा किसी अन्य रूप में बिड स्वीकार नहीं की जायेगी।

(3) निविदा की दर केवल डिजिटल हस्ताक्षरित फाइनेसियल रेट पेज पर ही विचारणीय है।

(4) निविदादाता अपनी निविदा के साथ रू 100/- के नान जूडीसियल स्टैम्प पेपर पर नोटरी द्वारा प्रमाणित किया गया निर्धारित प्रोफार्मा पर साध्य-पत्र जैसा निविदा प्रपत्र में उल्लिखित है, प्रस्तुत करे, जिसके अभाव में उनकी निविदा अविचारणीय होगी तथा निरस्त कर दी जायेगी।

(5) माल एवं/अथवा सेवाओं के सप्लायर/डिलेवर समय-समय पर निर्धारित जी.एस.टी. एक्ट तथा नियमों के अन्तर्गत होंगे।

(6) संलग्न किये जाने वाले सभी प्रपत्र निविदाकर्ता द्वारा हस्ताक्षरित होने चाहिये।

(7) निविदा सूचना को उत्तर मध्य रेलवे की वेबसाइट http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in पर भी अपलोड कर दिया गया है।

(8) निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य के सम्बन्ध में कृपया केवल नेट बैंकिंग अथवा गेटेड भुगतान के रूप में ही स्वीकार की जायेगी।

(9) किसी भी प्रकार की तकनीकी समस्या के समाधान के लिए IREPS की वेबसाइट की हेल्पलाइन से सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

(10) अन्तर्गत निविदा दिनांक 16.10.2020 को 15:00 बजे तक प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है।

964/20 (P) North central railway www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRONCR

TAMILNADU MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.

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INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING - TENDER EXTENSION NOTICE

1. The Tender due dates are extended as follows:

Table with 6 columns: Sl. No., Equipment and Quantity with Nos. in Bracket, Tender No., Sale Period, Submission of Bids, Opening of Bids. Item 1: Upper GI Endoscope Entire Set (13), Video Duodenoscopy with ERCP Accessories Entire Set (10), Video Colonoscopy Entire Set (12), Endoscopic Table (20), Endoscopic Washer Disinfectant (13), Video Bronchoscope (Flexible) (2) & Ultrasonic Video Gastroscope (6).

For details visit www.tenders.tn.gov.in and TNMSC website www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in.

DIPR/3440/Tender/2020 General Manager (Equipment)

TAMIL NADU CO-OPERATIVE SUGAR FEDERATION LTD

690, ANNA SALAI, PERIYAR EVR BUILDING, 5th FLOOR, NANDANAM, CHENNAI - 600 035. Phone : 044-24330083, 24344177, E-mail: tamilnaducoopsugarfederation@gmail.com

E-Procurement Re-Tender Notice

The following materials are required for fixing rate contract basis to 2020-21 season to all Co-operative and Public Sector Sugar Mills in Tamil Nadu

Online tenders are invited for 50 Kg Polypropylene(PP) bags with inner liner.

For all other details including detailed NIT (Notice Inviting Tender) visit the e-tender portal website http://tntenders.gov.in

The opening of the Part I will be held on 21.10.2020 at 11.30 AM.

Place : Chennai - 600 035. Date : 15.09.2020

DIPR/3431/TENDER/2020 MANAGING DIRECTOR

THE PUNJAB STATE CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD.

SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX NO. 0172-5041812-86 www.verka.coop

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items -

Table with 10 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Item, Contract Period/Quantity, Consignee/Place of Tender Opening, Tender Cost (Rs.), E.M.D (Rs.), Date & Time for Sale/Downloading of e-tenders online, Last Date & Time of Submission of online e-tenders, Date & Time of opening of e-tenders, Technical bid, Financial bid. Items include: Storage of white butter in deep freezer, Hiring of insulated S.S. Road Milk Tankers, Annual Rate contract for hiring of insulated S.S. Road Milk Tankers, Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Mozzarella Cheese Stretching & Moulding Machine, Modification and Up gradation of Existing Effluent Treatment Plant, Supply of Printed Laminated Film for Packing SMP in 500 gm & 1kg, Annual Contract for the Operation, Repair, Maintenance and House Keeping of Ammonia based Refrigeration Plant, Design, Supply, Installation, testing and commissioning of Air Compressor Capacity 10 Bar at Verka Ludhiana Dairy, Design, Supply, Installation, testing and commissioning of Double Decker Conveyer, Design, Supply, Installation, testing and commissioning of Inclined Belt Conveyer for material shifting at Verka Ludhiana Dairy, Design, Supply, Installation, testing and commissioning of Water Cooled Shell and Tube Type Condenser Unit, Construction of Utility Block for GADVASU Project under Verka Ludhiana Dairy, Design, Supply, Installation and commissioning of Auto De-sludging Cream Separator, Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Online UPS Cap. 600KVA, Hiring of Tempo's Transportation of Milk in cans.

For supply of LN2 gas and A.I activities

(i) Tata 207, Boloro Pick up or Equivalent

(ii) Mahindra Boloro Jeep

Labour Contractor for providing of unskilled/ Semi Skilled/ Highly Skilled/Skilled manpower etc against for Different Jobs

Labour Contract for different jobs in prodn, Engg, Mkt, Cleaning & Housekeeping of factory

Hiring of Vehicle for Transportation of milk from MPCs/Farms to MCC & Milk Plant TATA 407, 409, Mahindra Max, Mahindra Pick, Boloro Pick & Tata Ace

Insulated vehicle for supply of milk products TATA 709 or its equivalent, TATA 407 or its equivalent, Acc., Mahindra or its equivalent

Hiring of Tempcos and Trucks for Supply of panjri, WMP, Ghee and other milk Products to other plant branches, army, CDP'S and other parties

Operation, repair & maintenance of pouch packing machine (Milk, Lassi & Dahi) including coding on pouches and photosensor

Kaju Pinniroli

Flavours & colours

Rose lassi stabilizer (Pectine-MRS)

Sweet Boxes (800 gms, 400 gms, 2kg)

Nitric acid

Punjabi kulhi pouches, ice candies rolls (40 ml) & ice cream barrolls (40 ml)

Bidders shall have to pay required Tender Processing fee through online mode only i.e. through debit/credit card for getting registered for e-tendering system. EMD should be made only through online mode i.e. Credit/Debit card, NEFT/RTGS, internet Banking. For participating in the above e-tender, the parties shall have to get themselves registered with our e-Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in and get USER ID and Password well in time. For downloading tender through e-tendering, process flow, please contact e-Procurement help desk on given Nos. 0172-2970263, 2970284 immediately so that process of timely registration and downloading the tender is completed in time by the date of tender opening. For additional details regarding e-tendering please visit website eproc.punjab.gov.in. Tender processing Fee is Non-Refundable.

Section-B Sealed Tenders are hereby invited on the prescribed Performs for the purchase of following items:-

Table with 8 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Item, Qty/Contract Period, Consignee/Place of Tender Opening, Tender Cost (Rs.), E.M.D (Rs.), Last Date & Time of Submission of Tenders, Date & Time of opening of Tender. Items include: Milk Booth (01) at Dadi Pati Park Bathinda, Milk Booth (01) at Civil Station Bhagu Road, Bathinda, Milk Booth (01) at Civil Hospital Mansa, Tully/Fruity, Sponge cake, Calcium Chloride, Kassa/ta Box, Plastic tray for Kassa/ta Box.

Interested parties may obtain detailed Tender Documents from the office of Consignee where tender is to be opened on any working day from (9AM to 5 PM). If any clarification is required may contact on Phone Numbers given above. The Tender Notice may also be seen at Verka Website (www.verka.coop). TENDER (S) WITHOUT EARNEST MONEY ARE LIABLE TO BE REJECTED. The Consignee reserves the right to accept/reject any/all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.

General Manager (PLM/PURCHASE)

Union Territory Of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION KATRA

(Tele- Fax No. 01991-232043 E-mail address eepwdkatra@gmail.com)

Cancellation of tender

Name of the work:- 1) Providing and laying WMM and 25mm thick OGPC on Tikri Katra Road in Km 1st to 16 in Stretches and patches. (Under Non-Plan 2020-21)

2) Providing and laying WMM and 25mm thick OGPC on Upper Domai Katra Road in Km 1st to 2nd RD (0-400) in Stretches and patches. (Under Non-Plan 2020-21)

This office e-NIT No: 08 of 2020-21 Dated:- 26-08-2020.

Due to poor response, the above noted works may be cancelled and fresh tender shall be invited shortly.

[Er. Rajesh Kumar Gupta] Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Katra

No. Dated:- 11-09-2020. DIPR-4526

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH State Disaster Respose & Fire Services Dept.

E-Procurement Tender Notification Rc.No.3270/S/2020-21/W/WS Dt. 09-2020

Tenders are invited through e-procurement platform from the Manufacturers/Authorized Dealers for the Procurement of Chassis (18.5 Tons capacity, 28 Tons capacity) for Water Boilers as per Departmental Specifications. Estimate Value: Rs.2,85,00,000/- for 2 works. Bid document downloading start date: 17.9.2020 at 11 hrs. End date: 25.9.2020 at 17 hrs. Bid submission closing date: 28.9.2020 at 17hrs. Pre-qualification bid cum Technical bid opening: 29.9.2020 at 11.30hrs. Price bid opening date: 30.09.2020 at 11.30 hrs. Further details can be seen at a market place i.e., www.eprocurement.gov.in or http://tender.eprocurement.gov.in.

Sd/- Director General, State Disaster Respose and Fire Services, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada

DPR No. 022/CLAD/1/2020-21 dt. 15/09/2020

UJVN Limited

H.O.: "UJWAL", Maharan Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006. Telephone: 0135-276346, Fax: 0135-276358. CIN No. U40191UR20015CC02166. Website: www.ujvn.com

Letter No.: 554 Tender Notice Date: 15.09.2020

Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil-SHP), Dharchula, invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No. 01/EE/Civil-SHP/Dharchula/2020-21

Name of work : Miscellaneous construction and repair works at Division Dharchula

Estimated cost : 8.14 Lac + G.S.T. extra

Date of availability of bid document on website : 16/09/2020

Last date for submission of tender : 15/10/2020 upto 15:00 hrs

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website "www.ujvn.com"

(Executive Engineer) (Civil-SHP)

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED

(A Govt. of India Undertaking) A-11, Sector-24, Noida-201301 (CIN-L74899DL1974GO007417) Phone No. 0120-2412294/4246764, Extn 2220

Ref. No: 12-2021-DAP-06WE Date: 16.09.2020

NOTICE INVITING GLOBAL E-TENDER

Bids are invited for supply of 50,000 MT, each at East & West Coast of India, FERTILIZER GRADE BULK DI-AMMONIUM PHOSPHATE (DAP 18:46:00). For details, visit websites: www.nationalfertilizers.com or https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app (E-Tender No. 2020_NFL_57565_1).

Last date for bid submission is 26th September, 2020 (1700 hrs IST). Corrigendum/Addendum, if any, shall be published only on above websites.

Executive Director (Materials)

NFL - Farmers' Friend, Nation's Pride

ODISHA STATE MEDICAL CORPORATION LTD

(A Govt. of Odisha Undertaking) Regd. Office: Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd., Convent Square, Bhubaneswar - 751 007, Odisha website: www.osmcl.od.nic.in, Email: logistics.osmcl.od@nic.in, Phone No: (0674) 2380608

No. 11864 Dtd.: 15.09.20

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tender are invited from Manufacturer / Authorized Stockiest / Authorized Distributor for supply of Oxygen Cylinder (empty) (Refillable seamless steel gas cylinders) with valve and Cap. (BIS), 46.7 litres to CDS, OSMCL, Bhubaneswar, which can be downloaded from the "notification" section of OSMCL's official website http://osmcl.nic.in. The sealed tender should reach to the undersigned on or before 22nd September 2020 to upto 11 AM.

It is further to notify that corrigendum/ addendum, if any related to this tender shall only be uploaded in OSMCL Website and no publication shall be made in the Newspapers.

Sd/- Gm Operations (D & S) OSMCL, BBSR

OIPR-10112/11/0028/2021

PHARMA WATCH COVID VACCINE CANDIDATE

Indian Immunologicals in talks to manufacture Russia's Sputnik V; 'lot of parameters to consider'

PRABHARAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

RUSSIA'S COVID-19 vaccine Sputnik V has garnered interest from veterinary and human vaccine maker Indian Immunologicals Ltd, which is currently engaged in talks to potentially collaborate to mass manufacture it here. The talks, still not finalised, involve an exchange of information on both sides to ascertain whether the Hyderabad-headquartered firm can successfully incorporate the Russian technology and scale up production here, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

"We are in talks. We are exploring the option of manufacturing the Sputnik V vaccine here after it gets the requisite approvals," Dr K Anand Kumar, managing director, Indian Immunologicals confirmed when contacted. "Right now, we've exchanged some information that we're going through and we've not decided on it yet," he said.

According to Kumar, there are "a lot" of parameters that will need to be considered before anything is finalised.

"We have to see whether the technology can be successfully transferred to our platform and how much we can produce. We're looking at the compatibility of what they have done, whether it fits with the equipment we have and at what scale we can produce this vaccine," he said.

Sputnik V is a human adenoviral vector vaccine, which basically uses a genetically modified virus to carry the code for the cells in the human body to produce the spiky outer layer (spike protein) of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. This is expected to help the body recognise this spike protein as a foreign substance and build an immune response against it so that it can tackle the real virus when it tries to infect.

The vaccine was developed by Moscow-based Gamaleya Research Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology and is the first Covid-19 vaccine to be registered, though phase 3 trials of

"We're still studying the information they've given us... it might take some time before anything is finalised, as the exchange of information is still ongoing."

KANAND KUMAR
MD, INDIAN IMMUNOLOGICALS

the candidate had not been conducted when Russia approved the vaccine. Post-registration trials involving 40,000 volunteers are now underway there, while Brazil's regulatory authorities are also expected to grant approvals following phase 3 trials.

"We're still studying the information they've given us... it might take some time before anything is finalised, as the exchange of information is still ongoing," said Kumar.

Queries to Russia's sovereign wealth fund, the Russia Direct Investment Fund (RDIF), which has been closely involved in discussions with various countries for supply of Sputnik V, including India, remained unanswered by press time Tuesday.

Indian Immunologicals has so far earmarked a capacity to make around 20 million single dose vaccines for Covid-19, which could go up to 200 million if the vaccine is multi-dose, Kumar said.

The Hyderabad firm also has an agreement with Griffith University in Australia to develop a live attenuated vaccine. Kumar last month said in a panel discussion with Telangana IT Minister KT Rama Rao that human trials for that vaccine candidate are likely to begin in the first couple of months of 2021.

In a press briefing on September 8, Niti Aayog Member (Health) Dr VK Paul had said that the central government had been exploring the possibility of manufacturing Sputnik V here when a scale up would be required. It had also been looking at conducting large scale phase 3 human trials of the vaccine in India.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

OVER ₹12,800 CR INVESTED IN DOWNGRADED DEBT SECURITIES

EPFO looks at criminal action to recover stressed investments

AANCHAL MAGAZINE & SANDEEP SINGH
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

WITH CONCERNS being raised about the exposure of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) to downgraded debt securities, the retirement fund body is considering exercising all legal options, including criminal action, against companies for recovery of its stressed debt investments amounting to over Rs 12,800 crore.

At its meeting last week, the Central Board of Trustees (CBT) chalked out a plan of action after discussing the status reports of the risky investments spread across companies including Reliance Capital, DHFL, IL&FS, Yes Bank, Indiabulls and IDFC, three CBT members said. Measures for recovery will be taken for each company separately on "priority basis", they said.

"The Board has flagged concerns about distressed investments of the EPFO, pushing for immediate recovery of the investments as early as possible. All possible legal options will be explored against these companies, including initiation of criminal action if there is prima facie evidence of a

EXPLAINED
Need to be more open

WHILE THE CBT has shown an intent to recover the money stuck in debt papers of stressed companies, the fact is that, even as the Centre has been pushing for transparency on all fronts, EPFO's investments remain largely opaque. In fact, investments in stressed firms only came to light after rating agencies took action against the borrowers.

deliberate intent of default," a CBT member told *The Indian Express*.

A senior EPFO official said all legal options are being considered and due process will be followed for recovery, adding, "Adequate time would be provided to such companies for a response, but if it is found that they are making payments to other companies while intentionally defaulting on EPFO's repayments, then criminal action could also be considered."

The EPFO has approximately

Rs 12,874 crore invested in the downgraded debt securities. Its investment in Reliance Capital is pegged at around Rs 2,500 crore; about Rs 4,300 crore in Yes Bank; about Rs 2,500 crore in Indiabulls; about Rs 1,700 crore in IDFC; about Rs 1,300 crore in DHFL; and about Rs 574 crore in IL&FS. Investments by exempted firms, which manage EPF accounts on their own for their employees, is over and above this amount.

Responding to an email sent by *The Indian Express*, Gagan Banga, vice chairman, MD and CEO of Indiabulls Housing Finance said, "Indiabulls has repaid Rs 1,000 crore out of Rs 2,500 crore to EPFO earlier this month."

"Indiabulls Housing Finance is raising additional equity of Rs 2,200 crore that will significantly raise our capital adequacy ratio. While we witnessed a downgrade from AAA to AA, I expect the securities to witness an upgrade going forward," he added.

While IL&FS said it doesn't want to comment, no other company responded to the mails sent.

The EPFO's stressed investments had surfaced as early as last year when, in the aftermath of the NBFC crisis, many of these debt investments were downgraded by

rating agencies. The Finance Ministry had also questioned the Fund's exposure to IL&FS and other risky entities before clearing the interest rate payout for 2018-19.

Due to liquidity concerns, the EPFO has opted to split the interest rate payout for FY20 — 8.15 per cent (estimated at Rs 58,000 crore) based on debt component will be paid soon, while the remaining 0.35 per cent (estimated at Rs 2,700 crore) will be subject to redemption of the EPFO's units in exchange traded funds before December 31. At 8.5 per cent, the EPF interest rate is at a seven-year low. If the redemption of units does not come through as anticipated, the 8.15 per cent interest rate would be the lowest since 1977-78, when the EPFO paid out an interest rate of 8 per cent.

The returns from the equity investments of the EPFO, adding up to over Rs 1 lakh crore, had turned red in 2019-20, yielding (negative) -8.3 per cent. There have been concerns about the EPFO interest rate for 2020-21 financial year, which would be finalised early next year, given the volatility in stock markets. The EPFO invests 85 per cent of its annual accruals in the debt market and 15 per cent in equities through ETFs.

'Indian startups should cut reliance on foreign funding sources like US and China'

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

SUGGESTING THAT Indian startups should reduce dependency on foreign funding sources like the US and China, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance called for expansion of the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) Fund-of-Funds vehicle to allow it to play an anchor investor role.

The House panel, which tabled its report on "Financing the Startup Ecosystem" in Parliament

on Tuesday, also recommended the Centre to abolish the long-term capital gains tax for all investments in startups made through angel funds, alternate investment funds and investment LLPs.

"... At a minimum, this should be done for at least the next 2 years to encourage investments during the pandemic period. After this 2 year period, the Securities Transaction Tax (STT) may be applied to CIVs so that revenue neutrality is maintained," the panel noted in its report.

UNDER GOVT'S PLI SCHEME

Housing electronic parts manufacturing units: UP, Tamil Nadu front-runners

AASHISH ARYAN
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

TAMIL NADU and Uttar Pradesh have emerged front-runners for setting up of new mobile and electronic component manufacturing units, as most companies are said to have shown more interest in these two states, according to officials in know of the development.

While Tamil Nadu, which has a "well-established" logistical infrastructure for mobile and related component manufacturing is likely to be preferred by Apple's contract manufacturer Pegatron, other Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme applicants are scouting for locations in Noida and nearby areas of Uttar Pradesh, officials said.

"These two states already have the basic logistical and other infrastructure necessary for mobile manufacturing. They have also offered additional tax breaks and

other attractive incentives for initial setting up," an official who asked not to be named, said. The availability of trained labour in these states have also helped them pitch themselves better to companies looking to expand existing units, the official said.

As many as 22 global and Indian mobile handset makers, including Samsung, Apple's contract manufacturers Foxconn, Pegatron, and Winston, as well as Rising Star are among the applicants for the scheme. Apart from the phonemakers, nearly 40 electronic component manufacturers had also applied to set up new units or expand existing plants under the PLI scheme.

The government, in April, notified the new PLI scheme, under which companies that set up new mobile and specified equipment manufacturing units or expanded their present units would get incentives of 4 to 6 per cent on incremental sales from good made in India.

GST taxpayers to get more help in filing returns

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

STARTING THIS month, GST taxpayers will have the assistance of auto-generated documents detailing tax liability and availability of input tax credit (ITC) to make it easier for them to file their monthly summary returns (GSTR-3B), the Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) said.

Till now, taxpayers were required to compute values but now the system has been upgraded to enable linking of summary returns and the outward supply return or GSTR-1. FE

BRIEFLY

Automate NPA recognition: RBI

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has asked banks to stop manual intervention and complete the automation of bad loan (non-performing assets or NPAs) recognition and provisioning processes by June 30, 2021. **ENS**

\$1 bn FDI from China in 4 yrs

New Delhi: Over 1,600 Indian companies received foreign direct investments (FDI) of \$1 billion from China from April 2016 to March 2020, as per government data.

TKM to invest over ₹2K cr

New Delhi: Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) vice-chairman Vikram Kirloskar said Tuesday that the company will invest over Rs 2,000 crore in the next 12 months, refuting a statement by a senior company official that it would stop further expansion in India due to high taxes. **PTI**

Economy to shrink 9%: ADB

New Delhi: India's economy will shrink by 9 per cent this fiscal, the Asian Development Bank said Tuesday. **PTI**

24x7 OTP-based cash withdrawal at SBI ATMs

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 15

STATE BANK OF India (SBI) has decided to introduce OTP-based cash withdrawal for Rs 10,000 and above throughout the day across all SBI ATMs in the country with effect from September 18, 2020.

Need of the hour: Goyal on India-UK FTA

New Delhi: Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday said he has proposed to the UK that both the countries should start engagement for a free trade agreement (FTA) as "it is the need of the hour".

India is committed to an FTA with the UK and it will also be good for Commonwealth countries, he said, while addressing CII's India-UK Economic Partnership Summit. **PTI**

Sign of the times, Apple Watch Series 6 can monitor blood oxygen

NANDAGOPAL RAJAN
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

FROM THE first frame it was clear this was not a regular Apple event. To start with, CEO Tim Cook was not on stage at the Steve Jobs Theatre. He was downhill at the Apple Park HQ, talking to the camera from the iconic circular corridor by the curved glass panels. Then, a minute or so into his keynote, Cook was talking about the Apple Watch.

The focus on Apple Watch was also a sign of the times we are in. The Apple Watch Series 6 has many features, but Cupertino was clear what to highlight first. The



The new Apple Watch being introduced during a special event at Apple's headquarters in Cupertino, California, US, on Tuesday. *Reuters*

blood oxygen reading capabilities on the new Watch series will alert those wearing the smart timepiece when levels drop, one of the

indicators of a Covid-19 infection. The new version (Rs 40,900 onwards) will be powered by the latest S6 chip which will also let it track sleep. But there was more. At Rs 29,900, the Apple Watch SE is a more affordable model with similar features and a larger screen, but a processor that is one version older.

Apple had stored the big announcement for the last though: the all-new iPad Air with a design that looks more on the lines of the iPad Pro and a larger 10.9-inch Liquid Retina screen. For the iPad Air, there is a new processor, the 5th generation A14 Bionic processor, a first in the industry. India prices start at Rs 54,900.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA,
"e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, KHORDHA (R&B) CIRCLE, KHORDHA WORKS DEPARTMENT
Tender call Notice
E-mail: rbcirclekhurda@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. SE-Khordha (R&B) Circle-07/2020-21 Memo No- Dt. 04.09.2020
The Superintending Engineer, Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha on behalf of Governor of Odisha inviting percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Building works as detailed in the table below:

| | |
|--|--|
| 1. Nature of Work | : Building Works |
| 2. No. of Work | : 4 Nos |
| 3. Tender Cost | : Rs. 10000.00 (On-Line) |
| 4. Class of Contractor | : Special Class A Class & B Class |
| 5. Available of Bid document in the Website | : From Dt. 18.09.2020 10.00 AM to Dt. 28.09.2020 5.00 PM |
| 6. Date of opening of Bid | : Dt. 29.09.2020 at 11.30 AM |
| 7. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the Website: https://tenderodisha.gov.in . Any addendum/ Corrigendum/ Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. | |

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer,
Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha
OIPR-34127/11/0011/2021

MGNREGS ODISHA SOCIETY PANCHAYATRAJ & DRINKING WATER DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
S.I.R.D COMPLEX, UNIT-8, BHUBANESWAR-12
Tel. No. 0674-2952205,
e-Mail: dsmnregs@gmail.com/ nrega.odisha@nic.in
17-NREG-11-9170 14336 Date: 11-09-2020
Invitation Of REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (REP)
For CLUSTER FACILITATION PROJECT under MGNREGS
Request for proposal is invited by Director, Special Projects-cum-Mission Director, MGNREGS Odisha Society, PR & DW Department for Selection of Human Resource service Provider Agency for engagement of Thematic Experts under Cluster Facilitation Project, MGNREGS. The details relating to the eligibility criteria, terms & conditions and other information relating to this RFP can be downloaded from the home page of PR & DW Department website (<http://odishapanchayat.gov.in/>).
Proposal may be submitted to the Director, Special Projects-cum- Mission Director on the above mentioned address in a sealed envelope.
The last date and time for submission of the RFP through SPEED POST/ REGISTERED POST/ TENDER BOX is 7th October 2020 up to 5.00 PM.
Sd/-
Director, Special Projects-cum- Mission Director, MGNREGS Odisha Society
OIPR-19001-11/0006/2021

US broke trade rules by imposing tariffs on China, says WTO

REUTERS
GENEVA/BRUSSELS, SEPTEMBER 15

THE WORLD Trade Organization found on Tuesday that the United States had breached global trading rules by imposing multi-billion dollar tariffs in President Donald Trump's trade war with China.

Washington says tariffs it imposed two years ago on more than \$200 billion in Chinese goods were justified because China was forcing companies to transfer technology and intellectual property. But the WTO's three-person panel said the US duties broke trading rules because they applied only to China and were above maximum rates agreed by the United States. Washington had not then ade-

quately explained why its measures were a justified exception, the panel concluded. "This panel report confirms what the Trump administration has been saying for four years: the WTO is completely inadequate to stop China's harmful technology practices," US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer said in a statement.

China's Commerce Ministry said Beijing supported the multilateral trading system and respected WTO rulings, and hoped Washington would do the same.

The US could appeal against Tuesday's ruling. However, that would put the case into a legal void, because the US has blocked the appointment of judges to the WTO's appellate body, preventing it from convening the minimum number required to hear cases.

Exports shrink for 6th mth in a row on falling shipments of petroleum, gems & jewellery

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

THE NATION'S merchandise exports continued its trajectory of decline for the sixth consecutive month in August, dropping 12.66 per cent to \$22.70 billion last month, according to Commerce Ministry data. The drop was majorly on the back of decline in shipments of products like petroleum, gems and jewellery, garments and

fabrics, leather goods, electronic and engineering goods.

Imports, too, dropped 26.04 per cent to \$29.47 billion in July from the same period last year, narrowing the country's trade deficit to \$6.77 billion from \$13.86 billion in August 2019. Petroleum and crude imports declined 41.62 per cent to \$6.42 billion, while gold imports increased 171.27 per cent to \$3.70 billion — the only product in the import category to see triple digit growth.

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office, Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link Project, Satyam Complex, Marble Market, Greater Kailash, P.O. Sakinik Colony, Jammu - 180 011, Jammu & Kashmir. Tel : +91-191 2484778

OPEN e-TENDER
Tender Notice No. : KR-JK-ST-SIG-TELE-TENDER-03-2020 Date : 15/09/2020
Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. invites "Open e-Tender" in "Two Packet System" from experienced agencies for the "Work of Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Electronic Interlocking based Signaling System Compatible for CTC working between Dugga (excluding) - Basindhadhar (including) and Sangaldan (including) Stations with 6 Quad and OFC based Communication System between Km 66.500 to Km 101.600 (Excluding from Km 73.785 to Km 91.200 of IRCON Portion) of BG Single Line on Katra-Dharam Section of USBRL Project of Northern Railway in Jammu & Kashmir UT". Approx. Cost of the Work : ₹ 77.20 Cr., Earnest Money : ₹ 40,10,300/-. Completion Period of Contract : 18 Months from the date of issue of LOA. Submission of Tender : Up to 15.00 hrs of 29/10/2020. Opening of Tender : 29/10/2020 after 15.00 hrs. Cost of Tender Form : ₹ 29,500/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Thousand Five Hundred only) to be submitted only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal. For further details and updates please visit <https://www.ireps.gov.in> Amendments/Corrigendum, if any, would be hosted on the above website only.

BRIDGE & ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD.
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)
CIN No. U27310WB1920001003601
"KANKARA CENTRE", (4TH & 5TH FLOOR), 21, RUSSEL STREET, KOL-71

Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)
ITEM RATE Offer(s) in two part system are invited from reputed, resourceful and experienced parties meeting prescribed qualifying criteria for following work:

| Sl. No. | Description of work as per NIT No. B&R / ME / FGD / NIPQA / GEN Dt. 14.09.2020 | Tender Document available on B&R's Website | Due date of submission of Bid |
|---------|---|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Pre-Qualification Application (NIPQA) for selection of Consortium Partner/S And Entering into a agreement for Flue Gas De-Sulphurisation Works at Paras 2x250 MW Thermal Power Station at Maharashtra, Pin - 444109 | 14.09.2020 | 24.09.2020 |

Interested resourceful Contractors may download the tender documents from Co's Website <http://www.bridgeroof.co.in>. Corrigendum / Addendum, if any, shall be hosted in Co's Website <http://www.bridgeroof.co.in> only.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(O/o CE/TS, B-1, Shakti Vihar, Patiala)
Regd. Office:- PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
CIN: U40109PB2010SGC033813; Website: www.pspcl.in

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

| Tender Enquiry No. | 217/SS-II (D) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|---|---------------------------|----|---|---------------------------|----|---|------------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|---|-------|--|-----|
| Short Description | MANUFACTURE, TESTING, SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF 11 KV VCB Panels (SCADA Compatible) of assorted types/ratios. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Quantity | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sr. No.</th> <th>Description</th> <th>NIT Qty. (Nos.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>11 KV Incoming VCB Panels</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>11 KV Outgoing VCB Panels</td> <td>73</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>11 KV Capacitor Control VCB Panels</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>11 KV Bus Coupler VCB Panels</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td>100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Sr. No. | Description | NIT Qty. (Nos.) | 1 | 11 KV Incoming VCB Panels | 10 | 2 | 11 KV Outgoing VCB Panels | 73 | 3 | 11 KV Capacitor Control VCB Panels | 8 | 4 | 11 KV Bus Coupler VCB Panels | 9 | Total | | 100 |
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| Total | | 100 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EIMD | Rs. 7,70,000/- (Maximum) Rs. 1,92,500/- (Minimum) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Start date for Downloading of Tender specification | 16.09.2020 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Last date of downloading of tender documents | 19.10.2020 upto 1130 Hrs. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Last date of Bid submission | 19.10.2020 upto 1130 Hrs. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bid opening (Part-I & II) | 20.10.2020 upto 1130 Hrs. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tender Documents | Detailed Tender documents can only be downloaded from website https://eproc.punjab.gov.in | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Contact No. of e-tendering agency (M/s GePNC) | 0172-2970263, 0172-2970284 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Contact Person Office Address | Dy. CE/SS (Design), C-1, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

In case tender process is not completed due to any reason, no CORRIGENDUM will be published in newspapers. Details regarding corrigendum may be seen on PSPCL website www.pspcl.in and <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>.

Sd/-
Dy. CE/SS (Design),
PSPCL, Patiala.
Email ID: se-ss-design@pspcpl.in

C298/2020
77145/Pb

Tik tok, tik tok: How time flies

Tale of a T20 cricketing brat who turned into an all-format batting legend, Warner is an endearing family man and a social media sensation

VISHAL MENON
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

IT'S QUITE a story. A hardened professional known for his imperious batting, snarls and clashes on field and in stairwells, the villain in a ball-tampering scandal, moved to tears on air, and then the impressive cricketer came back. David Warner has perhaps finally secured what had proved elusive throughout his career, at times even in his homeland: genuine love from fans.

Far away from Australia, he has unexpectedly gained adulation in India, especially in a bifurcated Telugu-speaking region united in its love for their Aussie *Tiktok* hero.

It was the Indian Premier League ecosystem that not only introduced Warner to the cricketing world at large but also made him aware of his own strengths.

Ironically, it was IPL that turned a batsman who seemed custom-built for the shortest format into a Test batsman through his association with Virender Sehwag, who was Jambavana to Warner's Hanuman, making him aware of what he was really capable of. And it's the IPL now that's made him an object of endearment among fans who can't have enough of the dancing champion. They love the smiles of his kids who prance with him and call his wife *Vadhina*, sister-in-law, in comments. The Warner brand is well established, at least in the Telugu-speaking cricketing world.

It didn't seem possible in March 2018 when he stepped away from cricket in tears. Two months after he was handed a 12-month ban by Cricket Australia for his role in the ball-tampering fiasco, former Australia pacer Mike Whitney met Warner at Sydney's Coogee Oval. He was not there to offer a pep talk or lecture him on morality. As president of Randwick-Petersham, Whitney was excited to have the left-hander playing grade cricket for his club in the upcoming season. Warner has been part of the club since 2013, but rarely found time to play given his international and IPL commitments.

"David is one of the finest players to play for

Australia since World War II. To have a player of his calibre playing for us was quite special," Whitney told *The Indian Express*. Without any fuss, he made a seamless shift to grade cricket. "Before every match, he prepared meticulously, as if he was playing a Test match. For our young blokes, he was an inspiration," Whitney says.

Unsurprisingly, his presence sprinkled stardust rarely seen in those games. More than 6,000 flocked to a game between Randwick-Petersham and Sutherland Cricket Club that included players such as Shane Watson, Steve Smith and Steve Waugh's son Austin.

Looking back, Whitney says Warner was a revelation. "Through the course of that season — in two-day games, ODIs and T20s — he averaged over 80. Off the field, he relentlessly signed autographs. Never said no to anything, interacted with kids and offered valuable advice to the juniors in the team. It's something that never gets talked about. As the president of the club, I couldn't have asked for more," he says. In the dressing room, Warner would narrate stories from his international tours and the IPL that kept his team-mates captivated. According to Whitney, "Warner's presence energised our team".

SRH's man for all seasons

Over the years, Warner has had a similar effect on his IPL franchise, Sunrisers Hyderabad. He has turned them into a force to be reckoned with, through individual acts of brilliance.

Sample this. Warner scored over 500 runs in each of his five seasons with SRH, and won the Orange Cap on three occasions. Overall, he has scored close to 25 per cent of the team's runs, and led them to the title in 2016.

Nevertheless, success on the field can't remove the stains of past misdemeanours. The ball-tampering incident was not just a one-off. Over the years, Warner had built a reputation of being a brash bully, who would get into ugly altercations — like the staircase explosion he had with Quinton de Kock during that ill-fated tour, or punching Joe Root at a pub in Birmingham.

Following his suspension and the subsequent backlash, it could have gone downhill for Warner, but for the support of wife Candice and his three daughters — Ivy Mae, Indi Rae and Isla



David Warner's presence has energised Sunrisers Hyderabad. SRH/Twitter

Rose. "There's no doubt in my mind that the daughters have mellowed him down. I think fatherhood changes people in different ways. You've got to work, provide them the best of facilities, better than what you ever had experienced in your life. David has got a beautiful wife. She grew up in the same neighbourhood as he did, and I dare say that she has been the rock," Whitney notes.

Social media superstar

Five months ago, when the world went into lockdown, Warner tweeted: "Me and Kane Williamson will be doing *Tiktok* videos during quarantine". And a fortnight later, he followed it up with another tweet: "zero idea what's going on but have been told to do *tiktok* by my 5-year old". From then on, it's been an all-out barrage, much like the opener's assault on

MEN FOR ALL SEASONS

After a dozen uninterrupted appearances at the IPL, these regulars boast cent percent attendance and the eternal promise of a plucky 13th year of reinventions. Featuring IPL's most prominent mainstays, an Express countdown to India's big sports reopening Saturday night.

opposition bowlers. From posting videos that show him grooving with his wife and daughters to lip-synching popular Bollywood and Telugu songs and dressing up in a Bahubali costume, Warner has sent social media into a meltdown.

Social media analyst Gurudutt Biswal believes Warner was smart in his content creation. "He is quite popular with the Sunrisers Hyderabad, which is the reason why he has been generating so much content catering to that particular region."

Since his *Tiktok* debut on April 18, @david-warner31's growth has been nothing short of phenomenal — racing from 0 followers to 4.6 million in three months.

Overall, his videos were viewed over 90 million times and garnered 65.7 million likes during this period. Even a ban on *Tiktok* imposed by the Indian government in late June didn't hurt Warner's popularity.

His popularity on *Tiktok* has resulted in an increased fan following on *Instagram*. His followers there numbered 4.1 million on September 7. Warner joined *Instagram* in 2016 and till April 2020, had around 2.3 million followers. However, since April 18 (coinciding with his *Tiktok* debut), his followers have increased by close to two million. Out of his 4.1 million *Instagram* followers, 3.1 million are from India.

Biswal attributes Warner's rise in popularity on *Instagram* to his sensational foray into *Tiktok*. "There's a lot of cross-posting of content that's taking place with regard to Warner. Since *Tiktok* gives you that flexibility to repost it on other platforms, we're seeing a surge in his followers on *Instagram* as

well. It's an offshoot of that."

Family man

In a sense, *Tiktok* and *Instagram* have given Warner the opportunity to change his image and showcase a contrasting side to his personality that many didn't know existed. "His exploits on *Tiktok* and *Instagram* were covered extensively on the news here in Australia during the lockdown. He always had this reputation of being a ferocious competitor. But these videos have shown a funnier side of him. He has matured a lot, and his three daughters and wife have played a key role in his evolution. This virus has also given him an extended time to be with his family in more than a decade, which he has used to his advantage," Whitney elaborates.

There are sceptics who view Warner's foray into social media as an attempt at an image makeover. There are others like SRH bowling coach Muttiah Muralitharan, who suggested in half-jest that Warner was doing it for attention. "He wants to be in the limelight. That's why he is dancing at *Tiktok*. If I dance, entire India will laugh," he said on RASWIN's YouTube channel.

Whitney, though, sees it differently. "Even if he has done it for an image makeover, he is showing the world that there's another side to his personality. When he looks back, he would have realised the mistake that he had committed. But when it's all washed up and done, you're looking at one of the greatest Australian cricketers to have played the game across all formats. It (the social media foray) may have started with a bit of fun and then it went viral. There will always be critics who will say negative things no matter what you do."

Biswal provides an interesting take. "There hasn't been a single negative post from that (ball-tampering) scandal. Since most of his followers are Indians, they don't really care about what happened two years ago in South Africa. Had the incident happened in India, it could still have made a difference. But in India, Warner has created a name for himself with the IPL," he says.

Whitney concludes on a philosophical vein. "If people are enjoying watching Warner and his kids dancing to Bollywood numbers, he is doing a great service because there's not a lot to smile about currently."

Should have talked more about taking a knee: Langer

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MANCHESTER, SEPTEMBER 15

AUSTRALIA CRICKET coach Justin Langer regrets there were not more conversations among the squad about taking a knee in support of the Black Lives Matter movement before matches on the ongoing white-ball tour of England. While players from the England and West Indies teams took the symbolic position on the field before the start of every match in their three-test series in July, the same has not happened during Australia's tour.

Australia captain Aaron Finch previously said his team decided against taking a knee after raising the matter with England skipper Eoin Morgan because "education around it is more important than the protest."

That brought a stinging rebuke from West Indies great Michael Holding, who has called the response from England and Australia "lame." Asked on Tuesday about Australia's stance on the Black Lives Matter movement, Langer acknowledged it could have been discussed more upon the squad's arrival in England as the first sports team from Australia to travel overseas since the COVID-19 pandemic broke.

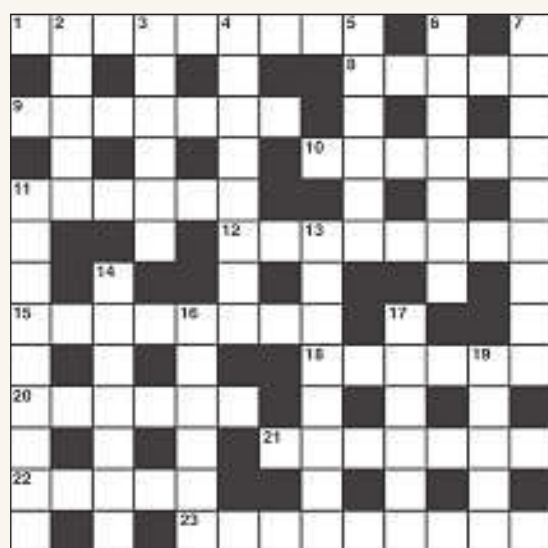
"In terms of taking a knee, to be completely honest, we could have talked more about it perhaps leading up to the first game," Langer said. "There was so much going on leading up to us getting here, maybe we should have talked more about it."

"What we do talk about within the team, was that we want to have a response that is sustained and powerful, and that it can go not just in one action but a sustained period not just throughout this series and the summer but throughout time."

Langer described Holding, who has been a vocal advocate of Black Lives Matter, as "one of the great people in world sport, and certainly our game."

"I just hope," Langer said, "if it looked like there was a lack of respect, it wasn't the intention of our team. We were very aware of it. When Mikey says what he says, it's certainly worth listening to."

CROSSWORD 4225



- ACROSS**
- He gets some people down (9)
 - Any about to depart may give pain (5)
 - The loss-making accommodation for students (7)
 - Work on a nervous complaint (6)
 - Storey renovated for one spending life in bed (6)
 - Unusual doctrine of deferred payment (2,6)
 - Train chaps to be drivers (8)
 - Many lights used in the theatre (6)
 - Render a quiet duet in a modern style (6)
 - Putting on sound preparation for leather (7)
 - Save a ship and rescue about fifty (5)
 - A course designed to be rapidly taken (9)
- DOWN**
- A flower that could be open before the end of February (5)
 - In turn it's consumed with decay (6)
 - A place where lots go (8)
 - One who deserts a woman for preference (6)
 - Gradually destroy a stick in the middle (7)
 - Ruling lines (9)
 - Bound to go wrong? (3,6)
 - Finally decide (8)
 - Model lass and her footwear (7)
 - He deals in capital investments (6)
 - He works with locks (6)
 - Be fearfully disorganised (5)

Solutions Crossword 4224: Across: 1 Nickels, 4 Susan, 7 Mine, 8 Pavement, 10 Double beds, 12 Scotch, 13 Divine, 15 Impenitent, 18 Brougham, 19 Diva, 20 Ethic, 21 Thicken. Down: 1 Named, 2 Conjuror, 3 Shabby, 4 Speed limit, 5 Stew, 6 Notable, 9 Black magic, 11 Limerick, 12 Sizable, 14 Pedant, 16 Train, 17 Posh.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

Love is the outreach of self toward — Ralph Washington Sockman (10)

DREOO



UPTIL



EIQCUN



UPTIME



SOLUTION: Love is the outreach of self toward completion. Answer: Love is the outreach of self toward completion. SOLUTION: ROBE, TUPE, QUINCE, IMPURE

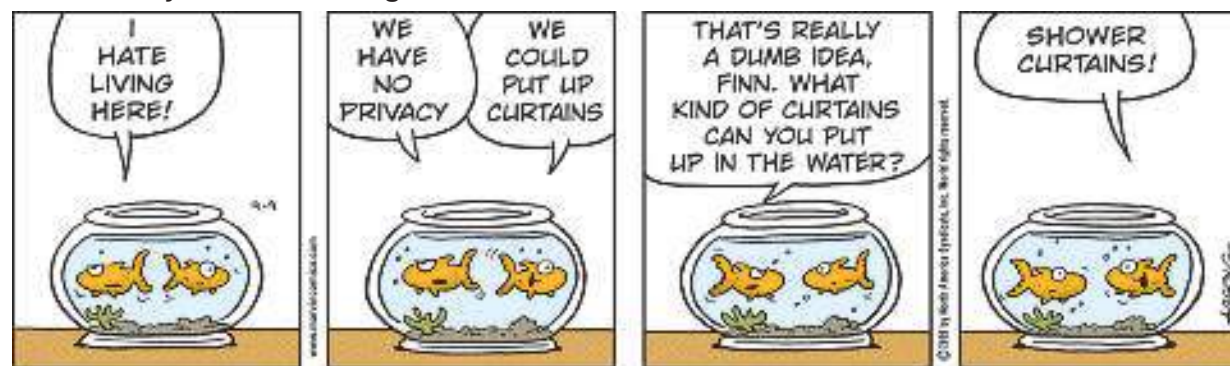
OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4233

Difficulty Level 1s
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 4232



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

You may be feeling perturbed by recent clashes at home or at work, there is much you can do to ensure that good feeling is restored sooner rather than later. Partners will thank you for your patience and consideration. You'll cash in your rewards next year.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

There still seems to be solid support coming from the helpful relationship between the Sun and Venus, your ruler. What you should realise now is that everything, including events which are frankly unwelcome, has a purpose. Keep an eye on your purse, as you could be misled or otherwise overcharged.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

If colleagues and associates have been attempting to discourage you from taking the plunge or accepting a tempting offer, the reason is not because they wish to hold you back, but that events have left them behind. The Moon's occupation of your chart sets you up for the top job. Can you take the plunge?

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Make the most of all those deep, colourful and transformative experiences which are taking place in your personal life and partnerships. However, some of you may currently feel rather reserved and suspicious of other people's motives. Yet if someone else has undermined you, they probably did so unintentionally.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Taking a short-term perspective on current trends, it seems clear that lady luck is smiling on you. The only problems arise from your own failure to control your passions or take responsibility for your own intense emotions. You will soon discover just how much a close partner has been helping you without your even knowing.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

You're in an ambitious mood, anxious to do your best and eager to take first place. Much depends on your general approach to partnerships. You should now be prepared to open up and acknowledge the powerful role that other people, not just close friends, have to play in your affairs.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Jupiter is playing a beneficial role in the active sector of your solar chart, and has been for some time. Seeing that this planet's presence is being reinforced by Venus, it is clear that the prospects for a pleasurable holiday or long-distance adventure have never been brighter. Make plans now!

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Some people are undoubtedly well-disposed towards you. Others are not. In either case your main task is to manage personal relationships with tact and wisdom, giving credit where it is due. When a tricky choice comes up you can probably both have your cake and eat it, going for every available option at the same time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)

The Moon's relationship with your house of marriage is a welcome sign that partnerships will move to a higher level. There are a number of issues which need to be handled with kid gloves, especially as emotional undercurrents could lead to enforced changes before very long. Tread carefully and with regard for everyone's feelings.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

There is still a chance that sensational planetary aspects will fire your imagination and enable you to make enormous strides. You still have some way to catch up if you are to make up for lost ground. Don't worry if partners are stressed out. Life will be more relaxed soon.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Since Mars and Venus are sending a mixture of challenging and helpful aspects to your sign, you must expect partners to keep you on your toes. For those of you in search of pleasurable experiences, there are no limits. And, if you are hoping to fall in love, hang on; it could just be your turn next.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

All the signs are that professional pursuits are centred on monetary hopes and ambitions. This is perhaps not surprising in view of the need to deal with what can only be described, with no understatement whatsoever, as an emergency! And please remember the old saying, forewarned is forearmed.