



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

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

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



INDIAN  
EXPRESS  
GROUP

## UTTAR PRADESH the Land of OPPORTUNITIES

With longest road, rail, air and river network in India, UP opens new avenues for Industries and Tourism.



There are immense employment opportunities in the Industry, MSME, Rural Development, Tourism, Agriculture and Irrigation sectors. The Investor summit brought global investment and infrastructure development to the state of UP. Projects such as the Purvanchal Expressway (340.8 Km), Bundelkhand Expressway (296 km) and Ganga Expressway (594 km) were initiated for the development of the region.

UP Government has added cities to the air grid in last three years and is developing new airports. The upcoming Jewar international airports, Kusunagar Airports and Ayodhya Airports will not only strengthen connectivity and provide immense boost to employment opportunities in these region but will also bring global recognition to the state of Uttar Pradesh.

**YOGI ADITYANATH**  
Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh



Map Not to Scale



### EXPRESSWAYS

#### ● PURVANCHAL EXPRESSWAY

Six-Lanes  
Start **Chand Sarai, Lucknow**  
End point **Haidaria, Ghazipur**

**Districts benefited** from the project:

Lucknow, Barabanki,  
Amethi, Sultanpur,  
Ayodhya, Ambedkar Nagar,  
Azamgarh, Mau and Ghazipur.

#### ● BUNDELKHAND EXPRESSWAY

Four-Lanes, Expandable up to Six-Lanes  
Start **Bharatkoop**, End point **Etawah**

**Districts benefited** from the project: -  
Chitrakoot, Banda, Mahoba, Hamirpur,  
Jalaun, Auraiya and Etawah

#### ● GORAKHPUR LINK EXPRESSWAY

Four-Lanes  
Start **Jaitpur (Gorakhpur)**  
End point **Salarpur (Azamgarh)**

**Districts benefited** from the project:

Gorakhpur, Azamgarh, Ambedkar  
Nagar, Sant Kabir Nagar

#### ● GANGA EXPRESSWAY

Phase-I (Meerut to Prayagraj)  
Six-Lanes, Expandable up to Eight Lanes  
Phase-II => Prayagraj to Ballia Section

**Districts benefited** from the project:

Meerut, Hapur, Bulandshaher, Amroha,  
Sambhal, Badaun, Shahjahanpur, Hardoi,  
Unnao, Rai Bareli, Pratapgarh, Prayagraj

### AIRPORTS

#### ● OPERATIONAL AIRPORTS

**International Airports (2)**

Lucknow & Varanasi

**Domestic Airports (5)**

• Agra • Prayagraj • Ghaziabad  
• Gorakhpur • Kanpur

#### ● AIRPORTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

**International Airports (2)**

• Greater Noida (Jewar) • Ayodhya

**Domestic Airports (5)**

• Chitrakoot • Jhansi • Meerut  
• Muirpur (Sonbhadra) • Saharanpur

#### ● UPCOMING AIRPORTS

**International Airports (1)**

• Kushinagar

**Domestic Airports (6)**

• Aligarh • Azamgarh • Moradabad  
• Shravasti • Ghazipur • Bareilly





# Connecting Uttar Pradesh

Believing in the power of infrastructural development as the road to economic prosperity, the Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh has vowed to bring total transformation in the state by developing four crucial expressways to cater to the commuting needs of people and also bring economic corridors in and around the expressways. Once completed, these expressways will act as growth centres and will help in generating job opportunities in a range of sectors.

## Purvanchal Expressway will Boost Economic Activities in Eastern UP

Relying on the mantra of development as the way forward to economic prosperity, Purvanchal Expressway will be like a milestone achievement for the Government of UP once it is ready, offering a multitude of growth opportunities

SETTING YET another example of people-centric development, the Government of Uttar Pradesh, under the disciplined leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, is just few months away from opening the much-anticipated Purvanchal Expressway. As per various reports, hectic and continued efforts are underway to ensure the completion of the project by this year end. Due to the COVID-19-induced nationwide lockdown, the project got delayed by 2 months. However, the UP administration is making sustained efforts to complete it much before the official deadline of March 2021.

In July 2018, the foundation stone of this ambitious expressway project was laid by PM Modi in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh. Currently, the development on the 340.824-km-long Purvanchal Expressway is under progress. The Purvanchal Expressway, a Rs 22,500 crore project, is being executed by the Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA), with an aim to give an infrastructural boost to the eastern region of Uttar Pradesh. Originating from Village Chand Sarai, located at Lucknow Sultanpur Road (NH-56), in district Lucknow, the mega expressway will end near village Haidaria on NH-19, 18 km before the UP-Bihar border, in district Ghazipur. The expressway will connect Lucknow, Azamgarh, Barabanki, Sultanpur, Ayodhya, Amethi, Ambedkar Nagar, Mau and Ghazipur. The Purvanchal Expressway is to be linked with Varanasi-Gorakhpur highway through a separate link road. It will comprise an emergency airstrip for Indian Air Force (IAF) jets at Kurebhar (Sultanpur).

The much-touted Purvanchal Expressway will be fully access-controlled six-lane expressway, expandable to 8 lanes. According to UPEIDA, the construction works that are currently underway include pile load test, pile cap, WMM, DBM, rolling for GSB, development of



Ongoing projects photograph

median drain LTC. It is reported that “87 per cent of the earthwork and 60 per cent of the physical work have been done. Around 8,000 people are working at full pace to complete the work.” Earlier, 10,000 workers were working on the project, however, due to COVID-19, the workforce got reduced. The state government is currently trying to increase its workforce.

The expressway is being constructed on an EPC (engineering, procurement, and construction) basis. The best thing about this project is that it will provide seamless connectivity to 9 districts of Uttar Pradesh, which are predominantly agricultural districts of the state. Once completed, the under-construction Purvanchal Expressway

project will be the longest expressway in the country. According to state nodal agency UPEIDA, of total loans worth Rs 1,500 crore, Rs 1,000 crore and Rs 500 crore will be sourced from Bank of India and Central Bank of India, respectively, to expedite the work on its flagship 340-km Purvanchal Expressway project.

Due to the pan-India COVID-19 lockdown, the work on the expressway had come to a standstill in March. “However, the civil works on this mega infra project, totalling about Rs 22,500 crore, were gradually restarted from the month of April in the non-hotspot stretches. The government is proactively providing jobs to the migrant workers in these big projects.” The project is being executed by

Gayatri Projects, Apco Infratech, G R Infraprojects, PNC Infratech and Oriental Structural Engineers. Earlier, the Purvanchal Expressway project was divided in 8 packages, with Gayatri Projects, G R Infraprojects and PNC Infratech allotted 2 packages each and Apco Infratech and Oriental Structural Engineers being awarded one package each for ensuring time-bound completion. The easy bidding process has also resulted in 10% cost reduction for the project.

Building expressways is a sure-shot way of bringing development in a said region. They are often considered a harbinger of economic growth. The Purvanchal Expressway just aims to do that. It is expected that the expressway will spur tourism activities in the 9

districts that it will connect. Interestingly, it will pass through Ayodhya as well which is already a renowned tourist destination and is soon expected to receive huge footfalls once the construction of Ram Temple is completed and thrown open to public. The expressway will surely give wings to tourism activities in other districts as well like Varanasi. Known for its ancient culture and unique heritage, Varanasi attracts hordes of tourists throughout the year and the Purvanchal Expressway is only going to make things better in the Holy City. The tourists will now find it more convenient to take road trips from Lucknow to Varanasi and this will bring in a lot of development and infrastructural boost on both sides of

“However, the civil works on this mega infra project, totalling about Rs 22,500 crore, were gradually restarted from the month of April in the non-hotspot stretches”

the expressway.

Since the project is connecting the agriculture districts of UP, it is also expected to give a boost to agriculture, industrial and commercial activities in the region. The expressway is likely to attract investment in the food processing, warehousing, handloom, dairy sectors, thereby, giving a boost to the region and the state's economic prosperity. Additionally, the expressway will offer several other benefits such as time saving, fuel saving, pollution level control, reduction in road accidents, etc.

“UPEIDA has launched a mobile application which will redirect and help the authority monitor all the up-to-date construction and review any sort of changes required. The mobile app also enables the common people know about all the construction and the accessibility of the expressway that will be passing through all the nine districts of the state.”

## Bringing Development to Bundelkhand!

The upcoming Bundelkhand Expressway will not just ensure a fast, better and smooth connectivity to the national capital, but will also provide a huge economic stimulus to the region, often beset with numerous problems and challenges

BUILDING ROADS, highways and expressways not just ensures better connectivity and development in the surrounding areas, but also ensures great people-to-people connect, industrialisation, and employment opportunities in the region. Taking this thought process forward, the Uttar Pradesh government, under the able guidance and disciplined leadership of UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, “first unveiled its plan to build the project in April 2017 to boost economic development in the interior regions through improved connectivity.” Thereafter on August 21, 2019, the Uttar Pradesh government gave its approval for the Bundelkhand Expressway project.

Taking the thoughtful initiative a step ahead, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the much awaited, 296-km-long Bundelkhand Expressway project in February 2020, with an aim to connect some of the most interior regions of the state.

Bundelkhand is considered as one of the most backward regions in state,

often beset with consecutive droughts, hailstorms and unseasonal rains leading to severe agrarian crisis. In a bid to provide relief to the stressed region, the State Government envisioned this project to strengthen connectivity, bring employment, infrastructural development and industrialisation in the area. The four-lane access-controlled expressway (likely to be expanded to six lanes in future) will start from Bundelkhand's Chitrakoot Dham (Karwi) - Banda - Mahoba - Hamirpur - Jalaun - Orai to Etawah where it will join Agra Lucknow Expressway. The project is estimated to cost Rs. 14,850 crore (including land cost) and is proposed to be developed by Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA).

The new project is also being hailed as a next-generation infrastructure boost for the state of Uttar Pradesh. “Once the development work on this project is completed, the Bundelkhand Expressway in UP will provide seamless passage to the national capital.” A statement from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) stated that the proposed expressway project will be supplementing the nodes of the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor announced in the month of February 2018 by the government.

While laying the foundation stone in February, the Prime Minister had said, “This project will take Bundelkhand on the path of development, it will prove to be the development expressway of the region and definitely change people's lives in this entire region.” On creating job



Ongoing projects photograph

opportunities, the Prime Minister added, “To come up at a cost of around Rs. 15,000 crore, this project will create thousands of job opportunities and connect the common people with facilities in bigger cities.”

PM further said, “a provision of Rs 3,700 crore has been made for the Uttar Pradesh Defence Corridor in this year's budget. These two schemes (Defence Corridor and Expressway) have a deep relationship. The Bundelkhand Expressway will give speed to Uttar Pradesh Defence Corridor.”

In a bid to give a necessary boost to the construction of the Bundelkhand Expressway, the UP Govt had accelerated the land acquisition process. The process of acquisition began in early 2019 and till now 95% of the 3,700 hectares required for the

expressway has been acquired by the State Government, with the remaining acquisition to be completed within few months. “With the acquisition of 3,440 hectares in 10 months, without any protest from farmers, the Bundelkhand Expressway project holds the record for the fastest acquisition of land for a highway project in the state.” This proactiveness on part of the government translated to cost reduction by around 12 percent.

“The Uttar Pradesh government has online transferred cost and compensation to the farmers who sold their land using RTGS, from the state treasury, thus cutting the red tape significantly.” Of the estimated cost Rs. 14,850 crore, a total of Rs 7,766.81 crore will be spent on civil work. “Earlier in September 2019, Bank of Baroda had sanctioned a loan of Rs

If the companies awarded the contract for Bundelkhand Expressway are able to complete the work in 30 months from the date of signing the MoUs, they will get an incentive of 5%.

2,000 crore for the ambitious Expressway project. The state government had approved the project cost of about Rs 14,850 crore out of which Rs 7,000 crore will be raised by UPEIDA as consortium loan from banks and the balance investment amount shall be made available to UPEIDA by the state government.”

UPEIDA is currently implementing the project and it is expected to complete it in 30 months in six phases. According to the CEO, UPEIDA, Mr Awanish Kumar Awasthi, “The construction for the first and the second package will be handled by M/s APCO Infratech. Ashoka Buildcon will handle the third package, Gawar Construction the fourth and fifth package, and Dilip Buildcon the sixth package. If the companies awarded the contract for Bundelkhand Expressway are able to complete the work in 30 months from the date of signing the MoUs, they will get an incentive of 5%. The deadline for the completion of

the expressway work is 36 months, and if that is missed the companies will be fined.”

Once the upcoming Bundelkhand Expressway project is completed, it is expected to help 50,000 people get direct as well as indirect jobs. The upcoming project will link Bundelkhand area to national capital through fast and smooth traffic corridor. This project will also spur the development of Defence Corridor – another equally important project with respect to country's defence requirements. The project will help in strengthening Omni-directional development of Bundelkhand area. Important savings in consumption of fuel and control over pollution will also be possible as the expressway is access controlled.

The areas covered under the project will experience better economic prospects in the agriculture, commerce, tourism and industrial sectors. An industrial corridor will also be developed to link the various manufacturing units, development centres and agricultural productive areas. Opportunities will also be available for establishment of Industrial Training Institutes, Teaching and Training Institutes and Medical Institutes etc. near the expressway. Expressway will also act as a catalyst for establishment of Handloom industry, food processing units, storages, market and Milk-based industries. With the implementation of this project, the state tourism will also get a fillip and also, it will bring in the holistic development of the state, especially in the Bundelkhand region.



# Ganga Expressway

will Provide Immense Economic Boost in Western and Eastern UP

Cutting across 12 crucial districts of eastern and western UP, the 594-km-long Ganga Expressway will be like a milestone achievement for the Government of UP once it is ready, offering a multitude of growth opportunities

COMMITTED TO improve the state's infrastructural development, Ganga Expressway project happens to be the dream project of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath who declared it during Kumbh in 2019. The Yogi government reworked the alignment and decided to build the expressway 10 km away from the riverbank. The UP government has also set 2025 as the new completion date for the mega project that will seamlessly connect the western to the eastern fringes of the state. Cutting across 12 districts, the much-anticipated expressway will provide connectivity to the industrial cities of the state, including Meerut, Bulandshaher, Hapur, Amroha, Sambhal, Badaun, Shahjahanpur, Hardoi, Unnao, Rae Bareilly, Amethi, Pratapgarh and Prayagraj. The expressway would start at Meerut (west end) and terminate at Prayagraj (east end). The Ganga Expressway project has got a new lease of life and is being billed as the second largest expressway in the country.

Had it not been for the proactiveness of the Yogi government, the project would have remained in abeyance for an eternity, given the environmental hurdles. The proposal is also underway to connect the Ganga Expressway to Varanasi and finally extend it to Ballia, near the Bihar border. For this, a second phase of the project has been mooted. "In case the roughly 300-km extension plan materialises, the Ganga Expressway would become the e-way connecting eastern Uttar Pradesh to the National Capital through a string of expressways. It will link other expressways like Lucknow-Agra Expressway, Purvanchal Expressway."

The development on the 594-km-long Ganga Expressway is to be completed in two phases. The Ganga Expressway, a Rs 38,300 crore project (including Rs. 9,500 crore as the land acquisition cost), is being executed by the Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA), with an aim to give an infrastructural boost in the industrial and agricultural belt of Uttar Pradesh.

The Ganga Expressway will be a 6-



lane greenfield expressway, expandable to 8 lanes. According to sources, "The first phase of the six-lane expressway (expandable to eight lanes) would cover approximately 547 villages of central and western Uttar Pradesh, which is a hub of agricultural and industrial activity." According to a report, "the Ganga Expressway project would reduce travel time between Delhi and Prayagraj from the present 10-11 hours to 6-7 hours. The Ganga Expressway would ensure fast-paced economic development, which the state has long desired. The moment the financials are worked out, work on the expressway will start in earnest." According to UPEIDA, plans are afoot to get the foundation stone for

## The development on the 594-km-long Ganga Expressway is to be completed in two phases.

the project laid around Diwali. It is hopeful to start construction work by the end of this year.

The mammoth project would have 368 underpasses, 7 RoBs, 28 flyovers, 17 interchanges and 142 bridges. To complete this significant project, UPEIDA has decided to divide it into 12 packages for simultaneous

development by concessionaires, who would be selected through a competitive bidding process.

According to UPEIDA, "The detailed project report is ready and will be placed before the state Cabinet for approval. The land acquisition process, too, shall start soon." Building expressways is a sure-shot way of

bringing development in a said region. They are often considered a harbinger of economic growth.

The Ganga Expressway just aims to do that, it is expected that the expressway will spur travel and tourism activities in the 12 districts that it will connect. It aims to connect all significant pilgrimages and tourist places and provide fast movement of traffic to these spots.

To ensure a safe movement of traffic on the expressways, UPEIDA has already got a safety audit done by the Central Road Research Institute in order to form a highway patrol force with separate wing of security personnel created from the Uttar Pradesh Police Force. The state police

The Ganga Expressway will surely give wings to economic activities in the 12 districts of eastern and western UP by bringing national and international markets closer.

have been working for preparing an advanced traffic management system to make expressways safe passage for the commuters. Authority ensures for a well planned access control on both sides of the expressway in order to check the movement of cattle, animals or locals. To check the speed, rumblers will be put in place and ambulances will be deployed on expressway to save the golden hours.

The authority will install cameras on the expressway and anyone who crosses the road in less than a fixed time period will automatically face the challan.

The expressway will surely give wings to economic activities in these districts by bringing national and international markets closer. Once completed, this mega project will provide faster transit to agri and commercial goods from the region and boost exports.

Additionally, the expressway will offer several other benefits such as time saving, fuel saving, pollution control and, reduction in road accidents, etc.

## Connecting Varanasi and Gorakhpur Like Never Before!

Believing in the philosophy of great connectivity to spur economic growth in the state, the UP government has launched the Gorakhpur Link Expressway to offer seamless travelling experience to commuters while improving economic activities in the region

IN A bid to strengthen connectivity in the far-flung areas of the state, the Government of Uttar Pradesh is leaving no stone unturned to ensure the state's complete roadways development. "Gorakhpur is the most important centre of health education, trade and employment. Better connectivity is needed to bring prosperity to the lives of such a large population." In this regard, the Yogi Adityanath government is currently developing Gorakhpur Link Expressway to provide faster connectivity and better commuter experience as well as help in getting the population of affected areas closer.

The upcoming Gorakhpur Link Expressway is planned as a, 91.352 kilometre-long expressway in state of Uttar Pradesh connecting Gorakhpur and Purvanchal Expressway. The 4-lane fully access-controlled expressway is being built on 1,073 hectares (2,650 acres) of land and will cost Rs. 5876.67 crore (including the land cost). The districts covered include Gorakhpur, Sant Kabir Nagar, Ambedkar Nagar, Azamgarh. The project is being implemented on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Mode. Currently, the construction of the road is ongoing and 90 % of required land has been acquired.

The project is to be completed in 36 months. UP Govt. is developing industrial corridor on both sides of Gorakhpur Link Expressway. "The Gorakhpur Industrial Development Authority (GIDA) has taken steps in land acquisition and other related processes. AIIMS will be opened in Gorakhpur next year and the fertilizer factory, which was shut 30 years ago will also be started."

In a serious commitment to enhance infrastructure initiatives in Uttar Pradesh post COVID-19 lockdown,

public sector lender Punjab National Bank has extended a credit line of Rs. 750 crore for the development of the Gorakhpur Link Expressway. According to UP Expressway Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) CEO, Awanish Kumar Awasthi, who is also the state's additional chief secretary, the government had arranged for Rs 2,250 loan for the Gorakhpur Link Expressway, including the Rs 750 crore credit line from the PNB.

Once the expressway is complete, it will provide seamless connectivity between Varanasi and Gorakhpur and will ensure hassle-free movement of vehicular traffic from Delhi, Lucknow and Agra. As part of the project, the construction of three ramp plazas, two toll plazas, 16 vehicular underpasses, 35 pedestrian underpass, 7 flyovers, seven major bridges, 50 light vehicular underpasses, 27 minor bridges, and 389 culverts, will also be done. "Cutting across Gorakhpur, Sant Kabir Nagar, Ambedkar Nagar and Azamgarh districts, it is touted to benefit a population of nearly 50 million in the Gorakhpur and adjoining districts by providing fast connectivity for public and goods transport."

Reiterating his commitment for the development of the state, the Chief Minister had recently said, "In the last three years, the administration has proceeded proactively to create a favourable environment for investment and many effective steps have also been taken in this regard." The State Government firmly believes that once its ambitious expressway projects are completed, these will usher in a new era of economic prosperity in the state that has never been seen before. It will bring in new investment avenues and will definitely speed up economic development in the state.

## Improving Air Connectivity to Spur Travel and Tourism in UP

UTTAR PRADESH has entered a new phase of air connectivity as development work is being carried out on 3 international airports in the state. Furthermore, the Central government has approved 18 new air routes in the state facilitating more services between existing airports and paving way for construction and development of new airports in the state. Kushinagar international airport is expected to go operational in the near future, while work on Jewar international airport is in progress.

Conceived in 2001, the Jewar Airport was mooted by the BJP government when it was in power in Uttar Pradesh with Rajnath Singh as the Chief Minister. However, the plan couldn't turn into a reality before the BJP government coming to power at the Centre in 2014. Development of international airport in Jewar became one of the top priorities of the union government. The project was put on the fast track in 2017 after the BJP rose to power in UP.

Aimed at reducing burden on Indira Gandhi International airport in New Delhi, the Jewar Airport will be a monumental achievement once it is complete. As per reports, "Traffic at Jewar Airport is estimated at 12 million passengers per annum in the first phase of the project, and expected to go up to 70 million PPA once all phases are completed. The IGI Airport is set to reach its peak capacity of 110 million in the next six or seven years."

Located at 72 km from IGI Airport and 28 km from Greater Noida, the Jewar International Airport will prove to be a boon for travellers coming from not only Delhi NCR, but also from UP, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Haryana.

It is being developed on PPP model and the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) has been appointed as the implementing agency on behalf of the Uttar Pradesh government. According to the Noida International Airport Limited, "the airport will be developed in four phases. The first phase of the airport is expected to be completed by 2023-24. The development work of the first phase would cost Rs 4,086.54 crore. The cost includes Rs 2,848.35



Kushinagar and Jewar are two international airports under construction in Uttar Pradesh. Kushinagar airport will be operational in two months while Jewar is likely to be operational in three years from now.

crore for compensation over the acquisition of private land.

Zurich International Airport AG, or Flughafen Zürich AG, which is currently managing eight airports abroad, is building and will manage Jewar Airport under a 40-year concession. "Expected to be spread

over 5,000 hectares, the plan is to build a two runway airport by 2023-24."

The other international airport is ready in Kushinagar in the eastern UP. It is likely to go operational in next two months connecting this most important point of Buddhist circuit in Uttar Pradesh. Being one of the most important pilgrimages for Buddhists, tourists and pilgrims from Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Japan, Singapore and other parts of the world would be able to visit Kushinagar round the year. Keeping in view the religious and tourist importance of the place, the Yogi government had in March 2019 signed an MoU with AAI, for taking up the development and operationalisation of the existing airport at Kushinagar. Recently the Union Minister of State for Aviation Hardeep Singh Puri and the Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had a meeting regarding early completion of works at Kushinagar airport. There it was announced that the airport will be operational in two months. Puri also informed to have permitted air services

on 18 new air routes in Uttar Pradesh.

Kushinagar is a famed tourist destination and a must-visit spot on the travel itineraries of domestic and international tourists, especially Buddhists. Being a Buddhist cultural site of huge significance, Kushinagar is the gateway to many other Buddhist cultural sites of immense importance, such as Lumbini (195 km), Kapilvastu (190 km), Shravasti (238 km), etc.

With 18 new air routes being approved in Uttar Pradesh, air transportation in the state is likely to get a boost as new services will start between existing airports. It shall also allow development of new airports.



Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Satpal Singh S/o. Sh. Sardul Singh Bhalla R/o C-302, M2K, Victoria Garden, Azadpur, North West, Delhi-33, have changed my name to Satpal Singh Bhalla for all future purposes. 0040549471-1

I Indu Bala W/o Kedar Nath Sharma R/o C-118C, Kunwar Singh Nagar, Shikshak Lane, Nangloi, Delhi-110041, I have changed my name to Indu Sharma. 0040549511-1

**This** is to notify in general that I Geeta W/o Late Shri Brij Mohan Nanda R/o L-28/D, DDA Janta Flats Saket New Delhi-17 hereby declare that henceforth my name Geeta Stands corrected as Geeta Nanda as my full name for all purposes. 0040549654-2

I, Sandeep Agrawal S/o Lalit Mohan Agarwal R/o G-9,Rose Apartment Sector-14,Extn.Rohini Delhi-110085,changed my name to Sandeep Agarwal. 0040549665-5

**I,Jogmohan Singh,S/O** balkar singh Address v.p.o- balchhapper teh-jagadhari distt yamuna-nagar, haryana pin-135003, changed my name to jasmohan Singh 0040549654-3

**I,hitherto** known as Shakila,W/o Naseem Ahmad residing at,V-182,Gali.No.-23,Vijay Park,Maujpur Delhi-110053, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Shakila Begum. 0040549622-3

**I,Vikramjit** Singh Sawhney,S/o Narinder Jit Singh Sawhney R/o-J-775,Rajouri Garden,New Delhi-110027,have changed the name of my minor son Gurjas Sawhney to Gurjas Singh Sawhney born on-28/10/2006. 0040549654-7

**I,Vandana W/o** Praveen Shangari R/o C-34 Lajpat Nagar-II New-Delhi-110024.inform that my name Vandana Nath and Vandana Shangari both are one and the same Person. 0040549605-1

**I,V VIDHYA W/O-NO-JC-773684W SUB** GVENKATESAN,R/O-VILL+POST- PALASAMUDRAM,VENGALARAJ A KUPPAM-VIA,CHITTOOR,DIST-ANDHRA PRADESH,PIN-517599,I CHANGED MY,NAME FROM VIDHYA TO V. VIDHYA,VIDE AFFIDAVIT,DATE 23-09-2020 BEFORE MANDAN LAL GUPTA,(DELHI) 0040549665-8

**I,Shilpa Mittal,Shilpi** Lal Chhadna@Shyam Sunder R/o-177,Gopal-Park,Krishna Nagar Delhi-110051,(II) 19-A Gopal Park,Krishna Nagar,Delhi-110051,W/o Sachin Mittal,R/o-1667,Gali Krishna,Sohanganji,Sabzi-Mandi,Delhi-110007,is one and the same person and shall hereafter be known as Shilpa Mittal vide-Affidavit-NO.IN-DL837111130769345,Dated-23/09/2020 (for Policy- No.125574538,Branch-126 LIC of India)any objection to come within one month. 0040549665-7

**I,Shakuntla W/o** Sh.Ram Jeet Yadav,Residence-A-330,(S.F.)J.J.Colony Raghubir-Nagar,New Delhi-110027,declare that name of mine has been wrongly-written as Shakuntla Devi in my minor son Abhishek Yadav age-13 yrs school-records.The actual-name of mine is Shakuntla respectively which may be amended accordingly. 0040549665-6

**I,Shailendra kumar,S/o** Sh. Mahesh chandra,R/o B-28A Lajpat Nagar,Sahibabad,Ghaziabad,U. P.-201005,declare that Shailendra kumar and Shailendra kumar Pandey are both my names and same person. 0040549654-6

**I,Paras Bhatia,S/o** Late Shri.Ved Prakash Bhatia,R/o-RPS,Savana B-12A,505,Sector-88, Faridabad,(Haryana)-121002,have changed my name to Paarass Bhatia. 0040549654-4

**I,Khushal Singh S/o** Shri.Bachi Singh R/o-100/11.Sec-1, M.B.Road,Pushp Vihar,New Delhi-17, have changed my name to Khushal Singh Negi,for all purposes. 0040549654-8

**I,Saroj Agrawal W/o** Lalit Mohan Agarwal R/o G-9,Rose Apartment Sector-14,Extn.Rohini Delhi-110085,changed my name to Saroj Agarwal. 0040549665-4

**I,Gourav Gupta,S/o**-Sunish Gupta,R/o-85/34,Gali.No.4,Shastri-Park,Krishna-Nagar Delhi-110051,declares that Gourav Gupta and Garurv Gupta is one and the same person and is known by both name. 0040549622-6

**I,have** changed my name from,Deepak Malhotra to Dippak Malhotra, S/o.Late.Sh. Dalip Malhotra, R/o-II-E-157, Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad, U.P.,forall purposes. 0040549622-1

**I, Mahendra Singh S/o** Sovereign Singh R/o-33, Old-Gandhi Nagar, Ghaziabad UP., have changed my name to Mahender Singh. 0040549623-4

**I,have** changed my name from,Deepak Malhotra to Dippak Malhotra, S/o.Late.Sh. Dalip Malhotra, R/o-II-E-157, Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad, U.P.,forall purposes. 0040549622-1

**I,have** changed my name from,Deepak Malhotra to Dippak Malhotra, S/o.Late.Sh. Dalip Malhotra, R/o-II-E-157, Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad, U.P.,forall purposes. 0040549622-1

**I, Mahendra Singh S/o** Sovereign Singh R/o-33, Old-Gandhi Nagar, Ghaziabad UP., have changed my name to Mahender Singh. 0040549623-4

**I, Kavita Agrawal W/o** Sandeep Agarwal R/o G-9,Rose Apartment Sector-14,Extn.Rohini Delhi-110085,changed my name to Kavita Agarwal. 0040549665-3

**I, Himanshu W/o** Sachin Bindal,R/o-D-45, Gali.No.4, Prem Nagar-2, Kirari Suleman Nagar, Sultanpuri, Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Himanshi Bindal for all future purposes. 0040549623-2

**I, Harindar Singh,S/o** Ram Murat,R/o-D-45, Gali.No.4, Prem Nagar-2, Kirari Suleman Nagar, Sultanpuri, Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Harender Singh. 0040549623-5

**I, Usha Bajaj W/o** Gnan Singh R/o WZ-54/32nd Floor Prithivi Park Tilak Nagar Delhi-110018 changed my name to Usha Rani 0070715302-1

**I, Sweety Arora, R/O,** C430, Yojana Vihar, Delhi-95, Mob.-9818695830 have lost my 10th marksheet +Certificate, Year 1997, Roll no. 6333706(CBSE), 12th Marksheet +Certificate, Year 1999, Roll no.- 6603668(CBSE) and Graduation Certificate Roll no-3623964(Delhi University), FIR No. SHDVV000349. 0040549631-1

**I, Sukhwant Ram S/o** Jagatar Ram employed as School Lecturer - Hindi at Govt. Senior Secondary School, 2 KWM, Khajuwala, Bikaner, Rajasthan, Education Department, Govt of Rajasthan R/o 18 PS, Ganganagar, Rajasthan-335039, have changed my name to Siddharth Singh 0070715285-1

**I, Shiv Prakash S/o** Rakesh Shukla R/o-Khasara.No.19,Swami Shardhanand,Colony Bhalswada Dairy Delhi-110042,changed my name to Shiv Prakash Shukla S/o Rakesh Kumar Shukla. 0040549660-2

**I, Saubir Singh S/o** Khem Singh R/o-VIII-,Suawala, Sherkol, Dhampur, Bijnor, UP., have changed my name to Soaver Singh. 0040549623-3

**I, Sanjay Kumar S/o** Om Prakash R/o H.No-1161, 16th Floor, Zeta-1, Greater Noida, have changed my name from Sanjay Kumar to Sanjay Kumar Tomar for all future purposes. 0040549609-1

**I, SHASHI PATWARI W/o** Sh. Bharat Bhushan Patwari, R/o H.No.WZ-177, Third Floor, Kham Pur, West Patel Nagar, New Delhi-110008, Declare that Shashi Patwari & Sneha Patwari both names are one & same person. In future I will be known as SHASHI PATWARI. 0040549598-1

**I, SEEMA W/o** Bobby R/o C-69/1, Shiv Park, Near Bhuto Wali Gali, Nangloi, Delhi-110041 have change my name to YASHODA 0040549660-1

**I, Rekha Rani W/O** Shambhu Poddar R/O J/4/231/232 J-Block West Sagarpur New Delhi have changed my name to REKHA DEVI for all future purposes. 0070715299-1

**I, Rajendera Singh S/o** Ninnami Singh R/o A-2/660A, A-Block, South Gamri Extn, Delhi-53 have changed my name to Rajender Singh for all purposes. 0040549622-7

**I, Rahul Gami R/o**-n003/125, 2nd-Floor, Ramesh-Nagar, N.Delhi-110015 have changed my minor daughter's name Navya Rahul Gami to Navya Gami. 0040549660-3

**I, Nitin Chaudhary R/o**-WZ-485/2,Basai Darapur,Ramesh Nagar,Delhi,have changed my minor daughter's name,from Ishika Chaudhry to Ishika Chaudhary. 0040549622-2

**I, Munna Kumar Dubey S/o** Ramesh Kumar Dubey R/o 7/A, Padma Road, 10 No-Basti, Golkumri, East Singhhbhum, Jharkhand-831003, have changed my minor son's name from Anshumaan Dubey to Anshumaan Dubey forever 0070715301-1

**I,Imtengan Ahmed S/o**-Subhan Ahmed R/o-E-19,Abul Fazal Enclave,Jamia Nagar,New Delhi-110025,have changed my name to Imtengan Ahmad Siddiqui for all future purpose. 0040549622-1

**I, MAHESH Khandelwal S/o** Ram babu R/o E-118 samuday bhawan old seemapuri Delhi-95 inform that name of my minor son has been wrongly mentioned as kanishk khandelwal in his school record. The correct name son is Divyansh khandelwal. For all the future purposes. 0040549654-1

**I, Lovely Alias Lovely Tanwar Alias Lovely Raj D/o** Hari Lal Tanwar R/o House Number-2028, Sector-17, Huda, Jagadhri, Yamunanagar, Haryana-135003, have changed my name to Lovely Raj 0070715293-1

**I, Lokesh S/o** Sh. Parmaranand R/o 6/67, block-6, Khichripur, Patparganj, East Delhi-110091, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Lokesh Kashyap for all purposes in future. 0070715278-1

**I, Laxmimoni Gorai D/o** Alok Kumar Gorai R/o 4/1 Hazra Road, Ballygunge, Kolkata, WB-700019, have changed my name to Pujja Gorai 0070715290-1

**I, Ratan Lal Balmiki S/o** Devi Deen R/o B-2/4A,Budh Vihar,PH-I,Delhi,have changed my name to Rattan Lal,for all purposes. 0040549622-5

**I,my Son's** School record my name PINKI wrongly mentioned. My correct name PINKY SHARMA should be mentioned in my Son's School record. PINKY SHARMA W/o Shri Girdhari Lal Sharma R/o 602D/19, Ward no. 3, Mehrauli, New Delhi-110030 0040549596-1

LOST & FOUND

**I,Rajesh Chugh S/o**Tekchand Chugh R/O C-28,upper-First-floor,east Uttam-Nagar,New Delhi-110059,have lost my cheques of PMC, BANK,Nos.30710,30716,28841,2 8842 without amount with signature. 0040549660-5

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My clients 'Sh. Chandraver Singh S/o Lt. Plambar Singh and his wife Hem Lata R/o, Flat No. 1402, Tower T1, JM Park Sapphire, Ramprastha Green Vashali Sector-9, GZB., U.P do hereby disown their son Sh. Deepank Singh and their daughter in law Nidhi Doshi W/o. Sh. Deepank Singh from all his movable and immovable assels. Anyone dealing with them shall do so at their entire risk and cost and my client shall not be held liable for their acts and deeds, in any manner whatsoever. **VISHAL TOMAR (ADVOCATE)** G-719, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Be it known to all the concerned that my client Sh. Smt. Lachmad and his wife Smt. Kalash Devi both R/o H. No.- 603, Roop Nagar Colony, Hansi, Haryana-125033 have severed all their relations and disowned and disinherited their son Saurabh Kathuria & his wife Khushi from all their movable and immovable properties as they have become disobedient, disloyal and disrespectful to my clients and have been acting against their will and interest. Anybody dealing with them shall be doing so at their own risk, cost and responsibility and my clients shall not be held responsible in any manner whatsoever for any of their acts. **SA- RAJIV KUMAR TENWARI (ADVOCATE)** 394-395 CIVIL WING TIS HAZARI COURTS DELHI-110054

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My client Anil Kumar S/o Sh. Mai Dhan R/o H.No.4/25, Aggarwal Aramastha, Gudmandi, Sonapat, Haryana-131001 has severed all his relation with his son namely Shivam Garg. Disowned & Barred from all his moveable and immovable properties, so henceforth my client do not have any kind of relationship with his son immediate effect as he is beyond his control. My client shall not be held responsible for any act of omission and commission of offence committed by him. If anybody deals with him, He/She shall do so at his/her own risks, costs and consequences. **M.K. CHAUDHARY (Advocate)** Bar Library No-1, Supreme Court of India

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This Notice is hereby given to general public that Sh. Umesh Narain Bhargava to be owner and in possession of Residential Flat Bearing No.7/1, in the layout plan of the Doctor's & Administrators of AIIMS Co-op Group Housing Society Ltd., situated at Charak Sadan, Vikas Puri, New Delhi, by virtue of Conveyance Deed dated-20/11/2020, Doc No.748, dtd Regd. SRO-VII, New Delhi/Delhi. And now Sh. Umesh Narain Bhargava wishes to Sell aforesaid property to Smt. Mansi Sachdeva & Smt. Tarun Sachdeva and Smt. Mansi Sachdeva & Smt. Tarun Sachdeva have approached to IDFC First Bank Ltd. for financial assistance and therefore shall be mortgaged with the said Bank. Any persons having any claim regarding in respect of the said property/flat or any part, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to undersigned and supporting documentary evidence at the address mention below within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which claim if any of such persons will be consider to have been waived and/or, abandoned and our client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan against the said property and subsequent creation of Mortgage in respect thereof. **Sunil Parsad (Advocate)** For Juris NextGen Law Firm, Suite E-36, Greater Kailash Enclave Part-I, New Delhi-110048

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
I, On behalf Of Clients Smt. dilata W/o Fayaz Hussain S/o Islam Ahmed R/o House No. 73 Gali No. 6, Shish Park Dichon Enclave -3, Anarson Kadan Nagdharg, New Delhi- 110043 Announce General Public That My Clients Have Lost Control over Their Son Mr. Tahir Hussain S/o Fayaz Hussain And His Wife Mrs. Alena @ Phoolgajon W/o Tahir Hussain Had Deceived Her Him From Their Moveable And Immovable Property Any Person Dealing with Them Will Be Directly Concern With Them From Their Own Risk And Consequences And My Clients Are Not liable Any Way, **Vikas Dahiyia Advocate** En.No.D/4413/17,CH.No.810, Dwarka Court, New Delhi -110075

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My clients Ram Kumar and his wife Renu both R/O 47-A/1, Gautam Nagar, Andrewsganj, South Delhi, Delhi-110049 have severed all relations and disowned their Son Amit Bansal and his wife Pooja Bansal from their all moveable-immovable properties due to their disobedience. If anybody deals with them will do so at their own risk. My clients shall not be responsible for his any acts in any manner. **Sd/- DEEPAK SHARMA (ADVOCATE)** CH. No. 708, SAKET COURT NEW DELHI -17

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
FOR AND ON BEHALF OF MY CLIENTS SH. MUNNA LAL GUPTA S/O SH. NATHU LAL GUPTA & SMT. USHA GUPTA W/O SH. MUNNA LAL GUPTA BOTH R/O DP-138-137, SECOND FLOOR, MAURYA ENCLAVE, PIZAM PURA, DELHI - 110034, I, RENO BALA (ADVOCATE) SERVE THIS PUBLIC NOTICE THAT HENCEFORTH MY CLIENT HEREBY SEVERE ALL THEIR RELATION WITH THEIR MINOR MORTGAGEE AND HEREBY DEBAR AND DISOWN HIM FROM ALL THEIR MOVABLE & IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES AS HE IS NOT OBTENT OUT OF CONTROL BEHAVIOR. ANYONE DEALING WITH HIM WILL BE DOING SO AT HIS/HER OWN RISK AND IN CASE HE HURTS OR MAKES FRAUD WITH ANYONE, MY CLIENT SHALL HAVE NO CONCERN IN RESPECT THEREOF. **Sd/- RENU BALA Advocate** Enrl. No.-04332014

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
That my client Mrs. Rani w/o Lt. Sh. Sengol P/R H.No.- 9, Padma Margal Pur Kalan has debarred the of her son Sh. Mukul, her daughter-in-law Smt. Baby from her all movable & immovable property w.e.f. 19.09.2020. **Sd/- RISHI PAL SINGH ADVOCATE** CH. NO. 1126, LAWYERS CHAMBER, ROHINI COURT COMPLEX, ROHINI, DELHI MOBILE: 9891459290, 9891459298

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Be it known to all that my client Priyanka Kaul Chopra D/o Late Shri Naiti Ji Kaul, R/o B-76, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-110029 has lost original allotment cum demand letter of the above property (R/o/B-76, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-110029, No. M/24/642/90NP/Rohini), FIR has been lodged in the police station (L.R. No.: 588625/2020 dated 28.09.2020) and any person claiming any right, interest or found in possession of the above original document, kindly contact on above address within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. **Sd/- UPASANA PAHUJA Advocate** Enrl. No. : D-153304 C-2/19A, Model Town-III, Delhi-110029

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My Clients Mr. Mozuddin S/o Noor Mohammad & Akhtari W/o Mozuddin Both resident of H.No. 156, Near Nooray Masjid, Village Chandan HOLA, Chhattarpur, New Delhi-110074, have disowned and debarred their Son Mohd. Sajid and her Wife Arshida from their all movable, immovable properties and they have no relation with them in future. **Sd/- S.M. KHAN Advocate** Enrl. No. 43868, SAKET COURT COMPLEX, N.D.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
BE IT KNOWN THAT MY CLIENTS SH. ANIL WILSON AND SMT. SUNITA WILSON, R/o Flat L-18, SARTA WAKA, NEW DELHI-110095, HEREBY SEVERED ALL RELATIONS FROM THEIR SON AMAN WILSON AND HIS WIFE RITIKA DEBARM WILSON AND ALSO DISOWNED DEBARRED THEM FROM THEIR ALL MOVABLE & IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT. MY CLIENT HAS NO CONTROL OVER THEM ANYMORE DEALING WITH THEM IN ANY MANNER WILL DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK AND CONSEQUENCES AND MY CLIENTS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ACTED DONE BY THEM. **SH. MANOJ BHATTI Advocate** En. No. D-15368 CH. NO.406, SAKET COURT COMPLEX, N.D.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
That my client Mrs. Rani w/o Lt. Sh. Sengol P/R H.No.- 9, Padma Margal Pur Kalan has debarred the of her son Sh. Mukul, her daughter-in-law Smt. Baby from her all movable & immovable property w.e.f. 19.09.2020. **Sd/- RISHI PAL SINGH ADVOCATE** CH. NO. 1126, LAWYERS CHAMBER, ROHINI COURT COMPLEX, ROHINI, DELHI MOBILE: 9891459290, 9891459298

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Be it known to all that my client Priyanka Kaul Chopra D/o Late Shri Naiti Ji Kaul, R/o B-76, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-110029 has lost original allotment cum demand letter of the above property (R/o/B-76, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-110029, No. M/24/642/90NP/Rohini), FIR has been lodged in the police station (L.R. No.: 588625/2020 dated 28.09.2020) and any person claiming any right, interest or found in possession of the above original document, kindly contact on above address within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. **Sd/- UPASANA PAHUJA Advocate** Enrl. No. : D-153304 C-2/19A, Model Town-III, Delhi-110029

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
That my client Mrs. Rani w/o Lt. Sh. Sengol P/R H.No.- 9, Padma Margal Pur Kalan has debarred the of her son Sh. Mukul, her daughter-in-law Smt. Baby from her all movable & immovable property w.e.f. 19.09.2020. **Sd/- RISHI PAL SINGH ADVOCATE** CH. NO. 1126, LAWYERS CHAMBER, ROHINI COURT COMPLEX, ROHINI, DELHI MOBILE: 9891459290, 9891459298

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Be it known to all that my client Priyanka Kaul Chopra D/o Late Shri Naiti Ji Kaul, R/o B-76, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-110029 has lost original allotment cum demand letter of the above property (R/o/B-76, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-110029, No. M/24/642/90NP/Rohini), FIR has been lodged in the police station (L.R. No.: 588625/2020 dated 28.09.2020) and any person claiming any right, interest or found in possession of the above original document, kindly contact on above address within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. **Sd/- UPASANA PAHUJA Advocate** Enrl. No. : D-153304 C-2/19A, Model Town-III, Delhi-110029

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Be it known to all that my client Priyanka Kaul Chopra D/o Late Shri Naiti Ji Kaul, R/o B-76, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-110029 has lost original allotment cum demand letter of the above property (R/o/B-76, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-110029, No. M/24/642/90NP/Rohini), FIR has been lodged in the police station (L.R. No.: 588625/2020 dated 28.09.2020) and any person claiming any right, interest or found in possession of the above original document, kindly contact on above address within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. **Sd/- UPASANA PAHUJA Advocate** Enrl. No. : D-153304 C-2/19A, Model Town-III, Delhi-110029

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My Clients Mr. Mozuddin S/o Noor Mohammad & Akhtari W/o Mozuddin Both resident of H.No. 156, Near Nooray Masjid, Village Chandan HOLA, Chhattarpur, New Delhi-110074, have disowned and debarred their Son Mohd. Sajid and her Wife Arshida from their all movable, immovable properties and they have no relation with them in future. **Sd/- S.M. KHAN Advocate** Enrl. No. 43868, SAKET COURT COMPLEX, N.D.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My Clients Mr. Mozuddin S/o Noor Mohammad & Akhtari W/o Mozuddin Both resident of H.No. 156, Near Nooray Masjid, Village Chandan HOLA, Chhattarpur, New Delhi-110074, have disowned and debarred their Son Mohd. Sajid and her Wife Arshida from their all movable, immovable properties and they have no relation with them in future. **Sd/- S.M. KHAN Advocate** Enrl. No. 43868, SAKET COURT COMPLEX, N.D.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My Clients Mr. Mozuddin S/o Noor Mohammad & Akhtari W/o Mozuddin Both resident of H.No. 156, Near Nooray Masjid, Village Chandan HOLA, Chhattarpur, New Delhi-110074, have disowned and debarred their Son Mohd. Sajid and her Wife Arshida from their all movable, immovable properties and they have no relation with them in future. **Sd/- S.M. KHAN Advocate** Enrl. No. 43868, SAKET COURT COMPLEX, N.D.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My Clients Mr. Mozuddin S/o Noor Mohammad & Akhtari W/o Mozuddin Both resident of H.No. 156, Near Nooray Masjid, Village Chandan HOLA, Chhattarpur, New Delhi-110074, have disowned and debarred their Son Mohd. Sajid and her Wife Arshida from their all movable, immovable properties and they have no relation with them in future. **Sd/- S.M. KHAN Advocate** Enrl. No. 43868, SAKET COURT COMPLEX, N.D.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My Clients Mr. Mozuddin S/o Noor Mohammad & Akhtari W/o Mozuddin Both resident of H.No. 156, Near Nooray Masjid, Village Chandan HOLA, Chhattarpur, New Delhi-110074, have disowned and debarred their Son Mohd. Sajid and her Wife Arshida from their all movable, immovable properties and they have no relation with them in future. **Sd/- S.M. KHAN Advocate** Enrl. No. 43868, SAKET COURT COMPLEX, N.D.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
My Clients Mr. Mozuddin S/o Noor Mohammad & Akhtari W/o Mozuddin Both resident of H.No. 156, Near Nooray Masjid, Village Chandan HOLA, Chhattarpur, New Delhi-110074, have disowned and debarred their Son Mohd. Sajid and her Wife Arshida from their all movable, immovable properties and they have no relation with them in future. **Sd/- S.M. KHAN Advocate** Enrl. No. 43868, SAKET COURT COMPLEX, N.D.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Be it known to all that we Sumit and Sanjeev Piplani S/O Shri J. C. Piplani are the joint owners of 4B -LIG flat 1st floor, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi. Unfortunately we have lost the following original documents of the above referred flat. (1) Possession Letter (2) N.O.C for electric and water connection (3) Site Possession slip and (4) Mutation letter dt.14/12/2011 If anybody found may kindly inform us on mob.no.9810627875 or they may inform to DDA Dy director, LAB(H) (LIG) Vikas Sadan INA Colony N.D. ph.011-24690431

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
I/We, Ramvir Singh S/o Late Shri Sadhu Ram and Shanti Devi W/o Mr. Ramvir Singh Both R/o House No D-1/83, Street No.2, Tajpur Road, Badapur Extension, New Delhi-110044 disowned our Daughter Rohini from all movable and immovable properties and also severed all relations from her due to her misbehave and unethical attitude. We will not be responsible for the acts and actions of our daughter, if anybody deals with her shall be responsible for his/her own risk and consequences. **Ramvir Singh S/o Late Sh. Sadhu Ram Shanti Devi W/o Mr. Ramvir Singh**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given to the Public that originals Sale Deed Reg, as Doc. No. 842 on 14.02.1974 and Reg. as Doc. No. 751 on 24.02.1979 in respect to Flat No. 61, 6th Floor, in multistory building Kailash Apartments, Lala Lajpat Rai, Road, New Delhi as well as all other concerned documents of the said property has also been misplaced. All persons are hereby informed not to deal carry out any transaction with any one on the basis of the said missing document(s). If any one has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 7 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the claims of such person/s will be deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned. **Dated this 26th day of September, 2020 Amit Garg (Advocate)** 30/192, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given to the Public that originals Sale Deed Reg, as Doc. No. 842 on 14.02.1974 and Reg. as Doc. No. 751 on 24.02.1979 in respect to Flat No. 61, 6th Floor, in multistory building Kailash Apartments, Lala Lajpat Rai, Road, New Delhi as well as all other concerned documents of the said property has also been misplaced. All persons are hereby informed not to deal carry out any transaction with any one on the basis of the said missing document(s). If any one has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 7 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the claims of such person/s will be deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned. **Dated this 26th day of September, 2020 Amit Garg (Advocate)** 30/192, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi

**"IMPORTANT"**  
Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

**"IMPORTANT"**  
Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

**Coal India Limited** (A Maharatna Company)  
“All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd. [www.coalindia.in](http://www.coalindia.in) respective Subsidiary Company, CIL e-procurement portal <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in> and Central Public Procurement Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in>. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal <https://gem.gov.in>.”

**Coal India Limited** (A Maharatna Company)  
“All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd. [www.coalindia.in](http://www.coalindia.in) respective Subsidiary Company, CIL e-procurement portal <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in> and Central Public Procurement Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in>. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal <https://gem.gov.in>.”

**Coal India Limited** (A Maharatna Company)  
“All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd. [www.coalindia.in](http://www.coalindia.in) respective Subsidiary Company, CIL e-procurement portal <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in> and Central Public Procurement Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in>. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal <https://gem.gov.in>.”

**दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि.**  
अत्यकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना ( ई-











# 7 The City



TOTAL CASES	Total		Vacant	
	HOSPITAL BEDS	15,797	8,879	
	VENTILATORS	1,319	492	
	Daily cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Sep 24	3,834	3,509	36	59,183
Sep 25	3,827	4,061	24	59,134
Total	30,867*	2,28,436	5,147	28,15,650

Total active cases

## BRIEFLY

### DU releases cut-off schedule

**New Delhi:** The first cut-off list for Delhi University's undergraduate courses will be released on October 12, as per a notification issued Friday by the Acting Registrar. As of now, five cut-off lists have been announced by the university. Admissions as per the first notification will be held from October 12-14; for the second list from October 19-21; for the third list from October 26-28; for the fourth list from November 2-4; and for the fifth list from November 9-11. The notification also mentions the admission schedule for the entrance based UG courses and postgraduate courses. For UG courses, admission on the basis of the first merit list will begin on October 19, while for the PG courses it will begin on October 26. This year, the entire admission process will be done online.

### Second round of govt school admissions begin

**New Delhi:** The Delhi government Friday began the second phase of its online admission process for classes VI to IX and XI for its government schools to "address the concerns of parents who could not get their wards registered earlier for online admission". The registrations will be open till October 3.

### HC to hear reservation plea for beds on Monday

**New Delhi:** The Delhi government's appeal before the Delhi High Court against a single bench-ordered stay on the state's decision to reserve 80% of ICU beds in 33 major private hospitals for Covid-19 patients will be heard by a division bench Monday. The case was adjourned Friday as lawyers requested the court to hear it through video conferencing. **ENS**

### Air quality predicted to turn 'poor'

**New Delhi:** The national capital's air quality is likely to slip into the "poor" category by Wednesday, SAFAR said. Dust from arid regions in the southwest has started affecting Delhi. Farm fires have begun in Amritsar and neighbouring border regions and are likely to influence the city's air quality, it said. **PTI**



## PROTESTS BRIEF AND PEACEFUL, SAY POLICE

# Farmer stir stopped at capital border

**AMIL BHATNAGAR**  
NOIDA, SEPTEMBER 25

THE STIR against the farm bills also played out on the Delhi-Uttar Pradesh border Friday, as farmers from Western UP districts, including Meerut, Hapur, Ghaziabad and Noida, took to the streets to protest, albeit peacefully.

More than 150 farmers hailing from Gautam Budh Nagar staged a protest at the Delhi-Noida border in Sector 14A in the afternoon. Hailing from areas near the Expressway and Greater Noida border, they came in cars and tractors, and were halted by authorities near the Sector 18 flyover. The protesters then walked more than 3 km to the border where local leaders addressed

the crowd as police watched.

"This is a peaceful protest, and they did not pose a threat to law and order. They wanted to march towards Delhi, but, as decided, a small delegation will go and hand over their memorandum to the person concerned. Following this, the protesters plan to return. We diverted traffic to maintain smooth operations," said Ranvijay Singh, Addl SP City.

The protest in Noida was led by Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU), which is active in the Western UP region. Farmers at the protest hailed from a commercial belt of Noida where a large chunk of land has been acquired for development projects.

"This protest is for our rights. Our village is near the Expressway, and we have anyway been suffer-

ing because of the pandemic," said Anuj (25), a farmer.

In Western UP, besides the sugarcane belt in and around Muzaffarnagar, the majority crops grown by farmers are wheat and paddy. Farmers allege that the provisions in the new Bill have little clarity on the crucial aspect of Minimum Support Price (MSP), which is a key economic factor during procurement.

"My family has been in the farming profession for generations, and it feels for the first time that we will lose our lands. This Bill reflects the fact that corporations want to get control of the core farming activity. Even beyond that, the biggest aspect is the cost of procurement. This reform does not mention what will happen if the crop is sold below MSP? The



Farmers from Uttar Pradesh protest against the new farm Bills at the Delhi-Noida Border on Friday. *Abhinav Saha*

MSP for wheat is approximately Rs 1,975 per quintal and for paddy Rs 2,000. I myself have sold it several times for Rs 1,600. If they do not wish to check this practice, what will the farmer have for himself?" asked Pawan Khatana (39) who grows wheat in 25 bigha land in Greater Noida's Dankaur.

The farmers allege that the Bill will further destroy the mandi system, which is an important intermediary in procurement.

Subhash Tyagi (68), a retired geography teacher from a government school in Meerut, now looks after 70 bighas of farm in Hapur, which belonged to his late parents. Subhas feels a monopolistic corporate culture will invade farming in the times to come.

"Why can't they simply criminalise buying lower than MSP?

Surely, regulations can come up for that," asked Subhash.

More than 100 policemen had been deployed at the border and a water cannon was kept on standby, said an officer.

BKU district leaders addressed the crowd with slogans such as 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan', 'Give us MSP' and 'Take back land reform'.

"BKU believes it will bring License Raj back in farming. The law of control, storage and import-export policies are against the interests of farmers. Hence we demand that the three Bills be taken back and MSP be extended to both fruits and vegetables. Anything being sold below the MSP should be a crime," said Anit Kasana, BKU's Gautam Budh Nagar unit secretary, in the memorandum submitted to PMO.

## Court directs FIR over morphed video of CM

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

A DELHI court has directed Delhi Police to register an FIR on a complaint against a morphed video purportedly showing Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal singing an obscene song, saying its tone and manner lowers his reputation.

Metropolitan Magistrate Kishor Kumar directed the Station House Officer of Paschim Vihar Police Station to lodge an FIR on the basis of the complaint filed by an advocate, Amit Sahni, within a week. It further directed the police to file a compliance report by December 2.

The complaint filed by Sahni stated that after the result of Delhi

Assembly polls on February 12, a morphed video was uploaded on YouTube in which the CM has been shown singing an obscene song.

In an order passed on September 24, the court said, "In the video in question, the tone and manner of the song was not only lowering the reputation of a constitutionally elected Chief Minister but it was also addressing public/voters in abusive manner... (for) voting for Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) for the purpose of electing Arvind Kejriwal as the Chief Minister of Delhi."

"I find there is prima facie cognizable case... under section 294 (obscene acts and songs) of IPC (Indian Penal Code) read with 67 (lascivious content) of Information Technology Act," the judge said.

## Cops seize 160 kg ganja, misreport it

**New Delhi:** Four policemen, including two sub-inspectors and two head constables, posted at Jahangirpuri police station in Northwest Delhi were suspended after they allegedly misreported the quantity of marijuana seized from a local drug peddler during a raid earlier this month.

Police said a raid was conducted by a team on September 11 from Jahangirpuri police station during which approximately 160 kgs of marijuana was seized. "But the suspected peddler was later let off after the personnel allegedly took a bribe from him," a senior police officer said.

The suspended policemen allegedly reported only 1 kg of contraband and sold the rest. **ENS**

## Given plasma therapy, Sisodia doing better

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

DEPUTY CM Manish Sisodia, who is battling a double infection of Covid-19 and dengue, has been administered convalescent plasma therapy at Max hospital and his condition is better now, an official from his office said Friday.

Sisodia, 48, was shifted to Max hospital on Thursday, a day after he was admitted to Lok Nayak hospital for treatment of Covid-19.

He had tested positive for Covid-19 on September 14 and was under home isolation. He was admitted to Lok Nayak hospital on Wednesday for treatment and tested positive for dengue a day later.



Sisodia is battling both Covid-19 and dengue

Meanwhile, the capital recorded 3,827 fresh cases of Covid-19 on Friday, taking its caseload to 2,64,450, while 24 fatalities pushed the death toll to 5,147. The positivity rate in Delhi stands at 6.47 per cent.

Health Minister Satyendar Jain held a meeting with medical directors and superintendents of all Delhi government hospitals to review the status of testing. The chief secretary also held a review meet with all district magistrates on Covid-19 management.

## MES DAY: 26 SEP 2020

1. The Military Engineer Services (MES) is a premier construction agency and one of the pillars of Corps of Engineers of the Indian Army which provides rear line engineering support to the Armed Forces. It is one of largest construction and maintenance agencies in India with a total annual budget to the tune of approximately ₹17000 crore. It is responsible for creating strategic and operational infrastructure other than major roads, as also administrative habitat for all three Services and associated organisations of the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

2. MES is the only construction agency in the country which carries out multifarious construction activities such as residential and office buildings, hospitals, roads and runways, marine structure like docks and harbours across the country including border areas. Besides conventional buildings, MES is also involved in the construction of sophisticated and complex laboratories, factories and workshops, hangars, ammunition storage facilities, dockyards, wharves and other marine structures. It also deals with all associated service requirements such as air-conditioning, cold storage, electric and water supply, sewage disposal and so on. Most important of all, the facilities, assets and infrastructure created are maintained in a serviceable state and, in some cases, operated too, by the MES.

3. Presently several major infrastructure projects are under execution by MES, which are targeted to be completed in a time-bound manner. Aircraft Carrier Dock constructed under the aegis of DGNP (Mumbai) supported by MES staff/ executives was inaugurated by Hon'ble RM on 28 Sep 2019. A hover port for Indian Coast Guard at Gujrat and runway up-gradation at A&N Islands was also completed in Oct and Dec 2019 respectively. In addition, the infrastructure for SU-30 squadron at an Air Force station and completion of joint user runway at Chandigarh was completed under strict time constraints. In its contribution towards reducing the national carbon footprint, MES is striving for completion of 150 MW Solar Photovoltaic projects by 2021. To augment the energy conservation efforts, measures such as LED lighting and GRIHA green building norms are being incorporated in all new projects. MES has also played a key role in creating and modifying existing assets into COVID facilities across the country and provided uninterrupted services during these uncertain times.

4. MES is also embracing automation on a large scale with implementation of online digital payment through SBI-CMP to all contractors/ suppliers and doing away with cash assignment pan India in all MES units. Web Based Project Monitoring Portal (WBMPMP) is in advanced stage of approval as CDAC Pune has submitted its techno commercial proposal and will now include modules of estimation, budgeting, e-MB, construction account and monitoring of works in various stages. MES complaint monitoring module in ARMAAN has been successfully implementing paving way for faster addressing of MES day to day maintenance related issues. MES is also earnestly pursuing implementation of online revenue and accounts management software projects Raksha Awaas and Vishwak, being piloted by CGDA.

5. As far as married accommodation is concerned, in Phase-II a total of 69,904 Dwelling Units (DUs) were sanctioned out of which 57,426 DUs have been completed. The MES organization, comprising of proficient personnel who are deployed across the length and breadth of the county at remote locations in all types of terrain and inhospitable climatic conditions, has been playing an important role in empowering the combat effectiveness of the Armed Forces. The organization is not only geared up to provide works services support during peace time but is also equipped to provide dedicated support during national crisis situations including war.

6. On the occasion of 98th MES Raising Day, Lt Gen SK Shrivastava, PVSM, AVSM, Engineer-in-Chief, congratulates all MES personnel and urges them to continue dedicating themselves to this great organisation and contribute towards Nation Building by providing better services to the Armed Forces.

## INCREASE IN FREQUENCY OF POORVA EXPRESS SPECIAL

This is notified for the information of all concerned that railways have decided to increase the frequency of train no. 02303/02304 Howrah Jn.- New Delhi Poorva special (via-Patna) & 02381/02382 Howrah Jn.- New Delhi Poorva Special (via-Dhanbad) as per following details:-

Train No. & Train Name	Days of Run	Date(s) from originating station
02303 Howrah Jn. - New Delhi Spl. Poorva Express (via-Patna)	From Howrah Mon, Tue, Fri & Sat	From 02.10.2020
02304 New Delhi Jn. - Howrah Spl. Poorva Express (via-Patna)	From New Delhi Wed, Thu, Sat & Sun	From 03.10.2020
02381 Howrah Jn. - New Delhi Spl. Poorva Express (via-Dhanbad)	From Howrah Wed, Thu & Sun	From 07.10.2020
02382 New Delhi Jn. - Howrah Spl. Poorva Express (via-Dhanbad)	From New Delhi Mon, Tue & Fri	From 08.10.2020

**Note:- For any kind of information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website [www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in](http://www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in).**

**Integrated Helpline No. 139 and Security Helpline No. 182**

Please join us on



2082/2020



**NORTHERN RAILWAY**

visit us at: [www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in)

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

Public Relations-Northern Railway

### RFP for Asset Management Company (AMC)

**NSIC Venture Capital Fund Limited (NVCLF)** is a wholly owned subsidiary of The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd., a Mini-Ratna Corporation of the Government of India under the Ministry of MSME. NVCLF is in the process for setting up of Self Reliant India (SRI) Fund, an FoF to be registered as an Alternative Investment Fund.

NVCLF requires services of a reputed Indian AMC with comprehensive experience, expertise and capability in the field of Fund Management of AIFs, VCFs, PEs, etc.

Indian AMCs, qualifying the eligibility conditions prescribed in the RFP, may submit their proposals latest by **05:00 PM on 19th October, 2020**. The RFP can be downloaded from the website of NSIC ([www.nsic.co.in](http://www.nsic.co.in))

S/d  
OSD, NVCLF  
Tel.: 011-26924510, Email: [osd.nvclf@nsic.co.in](mailto:osd.nvclf@nsic.co.in)

### उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग

विज्ञापन संख्या - 249404

पत्रांक :- 71/03(08)/डीओआर/डीपी/सेवा-02/2017-18  
दिनांक :- 25 सितम्बर, 2020

**विज्ञापित**

एतद्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा प्रकाशित विज्ञापन संख्या :- 01/03/डीओआर/सेवा-2/2017-18 दिनांक 04 अगस्त, 2017 के अन्तर्गत विज्ञापित खसिस्टेड प्रोफेसर- गृह विज्ञान के शिप्ट 14 नवों पर चयन हेतु अर्ह अभ्यर्थियों के सामाजिक की तिथि 22 अक्टूबर, 2020 विचारित की गयी है। अर्ह अभ्यर्थी अनुक्रमिकवार सफलतापूर्वक कोलॉग व सामाजिक जाप दिनांक 07 अक्टूबर, 2020 से आयोग की वेबसाइट [www.ukpec.gov.in](http://www.ukpec.gov.in) से डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। अर्ह अभ्यर्थियों को ध्यान से आक द्वारा सामाजिक जाप प्रेषित नहीं किये जायेंगे।

(कर्मचारी सिद्ध) राखिव।

### NETAJI SUBHAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (NSUT)

(Formerly Netaji Subhas Institute of Technology (NSIT))  
Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Azad Hind Fauz Marg  
Sec-3, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078

### Special Spot Round Admission for MBA-IEV Programmes 2020-22

NSUT invites applications for admission to Two Year Full Time programmes in the field of Management Studies.

**MBA Programme**

The candidates having valid CAT/CMAT/MAT/GMAT score/any other national level test and having 60% marks in graduation are eligible to apply. In case the seats remain vacant, the admission may be offered to the candidates who have passed/qualified graduation degree with minimum 70% of Marks.

**MBA-IEV Programme**

The candidates having minimum 50% marks in Graduation and innovative idea of startup/entrepreneur are eligible to apply last date of submitting completed applications is 5th October 2020.

For detailed information about Eligibility Criteria, Reservation and relaxation, Admission Procedure, Seat matrix, Counselling Schedule, Application, Process etc, visit University website: [www.nsut.ac.in](http://www.nsut.ac.in)  
[https://www.imsniti.org/imsniti/nsit\\_admissions.htm](https://www.imsniti.org/imsniti/nsit_admissions.htm)

**Application Process:**

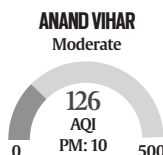
- Candidates will have to register online at [www.nsut.ac.in](http://www.nsut.ac.in) / [https://www.imsniti.org/imsniti/nsit\\_admissions.htm](https://www.imsniti.org/imsniti/nsit_admissions.htm)
- All candidates are required to pay a non-refundable registration fee of Rs. 1000/- ONLINE using Credit Card/Debit Card/Net-Banking.

DIP/Shabdarth/0328/20-21 Chairman Admission Committee (NSUT)

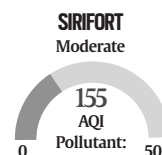




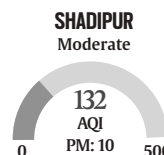
0-50 Good



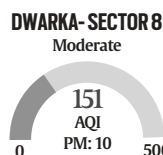
51-100 Satisfactory



101-200 Moderate



201-300 Poor



301-400 Very Poor

401-500 Severe

## PROTOTYPE SCHEDULED TO ROLL OFF PRODUCTION LINE IN 2022

# First RRTS train for Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor unveiled, will touch 180 km/hour

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE GOVERNMENT Friday unveiled the first look of India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) train which can attain a top speed of 180 kilometres per hour and whose design is inspired by Delhi's iconic Lotus Temple.

Once in operation, it will run on the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor and reduce travel time between the two cities to about an hour. Officials said the trains might also feature a business class.

The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry said the RRTS trains, with a stainless steel outer body, will be lightweight and fully air-conditioned.

Each car will have six automatic doors, three on each side for ease of access. The business class will have four such doors, two on each side.

A National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) official said the RRTS trains will be three times faster than Delhi Metro trains. "RRTS trains will also have business class (one coach per train) with spacious, comfortable and reclining seats which will be accessible through



The first look unveiled by the central government

a special lounge at the platform-level," the official said.

The official claimed people

travelling on RRTS trains will have an "aeroplane-like" experience as coaches will have all

modern facilities available inside a passenger aircraft.

The 82-km-long Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor is the first RRTS corridor being implemented in India. The commute time from Delhi to Meerut will be reduced to less than an hour from the current 3-4 hours by road. The prototype is scheduled to roll off the production line in 2022.

The 17-km priority corridor of Delhi-Meerut RRTS, from Sahibabad to Duhai, will be operational in 2023 and the entire corridor will be operational in 2025, the official said.

The NCRTC, which is execut-

ing India's first RRTS, will procure 30 train sets of six cars each for operating regional rail services on the corridor and 10 train sets of three cars each for operating local transit services in Meerut. The rolling stock will be manufactured at Bombardier's Savli plant in Gujarat, it said.

"The environment friendly, energy efficient trains will improve quality of life in and around NCR by creating economic opportunities and at the same time reducing air pollution, carbon footprint, congestion, and accidents," said Durga Shanker Mishra, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.



The Azimganj serai protected monument in 2017 (top) and 2009. Photos: nizammuddinrenewal.org

## JNU aspirants complain of clashing tests

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

AHEAD of the Jawaharlal Nehru University Entrance Exam (JNUEE), scheduled to begin on October 5, many aspirants have said that they are facing difficulties, including clashing exams schedules and far off exam centres. The JNU Students' Union (JNUSU) has written to the Controller of Examinations, pointing out the issues.

"The exams for the two courses I had applied for - PhD Labour Studies and PhD in Law and Governance - are clashing. I have been given the same date and time for both. Although they're from different schools, because these are interdisciplinary centres with many possible common areas of research, many would have applied for both," said Dev Krishnan, an aspirant.

"I have been given a centre that is 40 km away, with no bus routes from my home. I will have to take the help of a friend or a relative to take me there somehow," said Krishnan, who's currently staying in Paravur Town in Kerala.

Another student, appearing for the MPJIL entrance exam, is currently residing in Chennai but has to give the exam in Delhi.

"When we had to fill out options for centres, many of us had chosen Delhi because that time there was a possibility that physical end-semester exams may happen," said the student.

Controller of Examinations Hanuman Sharma could not be reached for a comment.



## START-UP

Children sell masks by the roadside in Ghaziabad. Prem Nath Pandey

# Free meals at night shelters continue till winter-end: DUSIB

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE DELHI government Friday decided to extend the provisions of meals for inmates of night shelters till the end of winter, the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) said in a statement. The decision was taken at a meeting of the DUSIB chaired by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. The annual expenditure of the government under this head will be Rs 15.31 crore, the statement added.

The inmates of the 223 night shelters have been getting breakfast, lunch and dinner since March 22. As per DUSIB records, the night occupancy at the shel-

ters on Thursday was 2,559, of which 2,363 people had dinner while 1,472 inmates had breakfast on Friday. The decision assumes significance as the occupancy rate at the shelters increases during the winters.

On March 28, the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs wrote to the state directors of the urban livelihood missions underlining the "urgent requirement" to provide the urban poor with cooked meals so that they can sustain themselves as they may have lost livelihoods due to the lockdown.

The Centre, in its letter, added the states may incur a daily expenditure of up to Rs 100 for three meals per person from the funds

available under the National Urban Livelihood Mission with them. "In case of inadequacy of this amount at a local level, states/UTs may contribute additional funds from their own resources," wrote the MoHUA.

Meanwhile, the DUSIB also decided on Friday that around 784 people from Princess Park near India Gate and 350 families from Karol Bagh will be rehabilitated to transit flats in Dwarka till construction of permanent accommodations are complete.

Families from Princess Park will be shifted to facilitate the use of land by the Defence Ministry for the construction of the National War Museum and Memorial, the DUSIB said.

**adani**  
Electricity

**ADANI ELECTRICITY MUMBAI LIMITED**  
Registered Office: Adani House, 56, Shrimali Society, Nr. Mithakhali Six Roads, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad, Gujarat 380009, India.  
Website: www.adanielectricity.com  
CIN: U74999GJ2008PLC107256

**Invitation for Supply of Power**

Adani Electricity Mumbai Ltd. invites bids for selection of seller/s for supply of up to 450 MW of power in different time slots on Short-Term Basis for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 through E-Tendering and E-Reverse Auction Process.

The bid documents for participation can be downloaded through DEEP E-Portal of [www.msctcecommerce.com](http://www.msctcecommerce.com)

**MATHERAN HILL STATION MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**  
MATHERAN-410102, TAL- KARJAT, DIST-RAIGAD  
TAL-02148-230341, 230343, 230234  
Email ID- [mcomatheran@gmail.com](mailto:mcomatheran@gmail.com)

**OUTWORD NO- MHMC/1541/2020-21 DATE- 25.09.2020**  
**Public Notice E-RETENDER**

**THE** Chief Officer Matheran Municipal Council, has Published the declaration on e-retender for Development of Olympia Ground. Detail information is available on the <https://mahatenders.gov.in> website.

Sd/-  
**Chief Officer**  
Matheran Hill Station Municipal Council,  
Matheran

**NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE**

For and on behalf of the President of India, the Director, Supervisor Training center, Northern Railway Charbagh, Lucknow invites tenders at the website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) from reputed firms for work as given below:

Tender No.	121-M-STC-Tender-4-2020
Name of work	Setting up of Automation Laboratory at Supervisor Training Center Northern Railway Charbagh, Lucknow as per scope of work.
Estimated Cost of work	₹90,38,330.45
Earnest Money	₹1,80,800/- only (accepted through net banking or payment gateway only)
Cost of Tender Form	₹5000 only (accepted through net banking or payment gateway only)
Period of Contract	120 days from the date of acceptance
Date & Time for Submission of Tender	From 05.10.2020 to 19.10.2020 upto 15:00 hrs.
Date and Time for Opening of Tender	19.10.2020

\* The tender form may be submitted at the website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) from 05.10.2020 to 19.10.2020 (up to 15:00 hrs.) • Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, any such manual offer received shall be ignored. • Contractors are allowed to make payment against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipt, FDR etc. are not allowed. • The tender will be opened on specified date and time as above. In case the above date is a holiday the tender opening would be conducted at the same times on the next working day. • No post tender correspondence for submission of additional documents shall be entertained after opening the technical & commercial offers. Even suo-moto post letter of the tender shall be treated as NULL & Void.

Tender Notice No. N.R./CB/September/Automation/2020  
Dated: 24.09.2020

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology- RKVY-RAFTAAR-Agri Business Incubator (CIRCOT-R-ABI)**  
Adenwala Road, Near Five Gardens, Post Bag No.16640, Matunga, Mumbai-400 019

**Invitation for application from Agri Innovators & Startups**

**CIRCOT-R-ABI** is an Agri Business Incubator supported and funded by "Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation" (RKVY-RAFTAAR), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India.

Students/youth having an innovative idea/product can apply for Agripreneurship Orientation Programme (AOP) of two months. After successful completion of AOP, selected startups will be eligible to apply for:

(1) Pre seed stage grant in aid up to Rs.5 lakhs per startup for converting their innovative idea into product/prototype.  
(2) Agri business Startups having minimum viable product (MVP) based on innovation in agriculture and allied sectors can apply for seed stage funding programme of grant in aid upto Rs. 25 lakhs per startup.

**Last date for submission of proposals is 12th October 2020 before 05:00 p.m.**  
**Email :** [circotabi@gmail.com](mailto:circotabi@gmail.com), For details visit [www.circot.res.in/rabi](http://www.circot.res.in/rabi)

**Director**

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**

General public is hereby informed that a person (depicted in the photo), **Named:** Uday Bhadr S/o : Sharda Singh R/o : 5997, Gali No. 12 Subhash Mohalla, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi has been missing since 07.09.2020 from his house. In this regard a case vide DD No. 81 dated 12.09.2020 has been lodged at Police Station Gandhi Nagar, Delhi. His physical description is as under-

**Age:** 28 Years, **Height:** 5'5", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Blue colour jeans & checkdar shirt and chappal in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing person, may inform SHO, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi at E-mail Id - [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) or Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

**Phone:** SHO  
011-24368638, 24368641  
Fax No. 011-24368639  
Ph. No. 011-22082235, 22072761

**UDAI BHADUR**

**TELANGANA FOODS (GOVT. OF TS ENTERPRISE)**  
(An ISO 22000:2005 Certified Company)  
Road No.14, DA, Noharam, Hyderabad-500076, Telangana, INDIA.  
E-mail: [stores.ifsfoods@gmail.com](mailto:stores.ifsfoods@gmail.com), Website: [foods.telangana.gov.in](http://foods.telangana.gov.in), GST No.36AAAT4938R1Z6

Ref.No.TF/PUR/MACH/1121/2020-21 Date: 25.09.2020

1. (FOUR SCHEDULES): Telangana Foods is inviting tender for the following Machinery:  
1. Procurement of Roots Blower on One-time requirement Basis. 2. Procurement of Ribbon Blender (2 No's) on One-time requirement Basis. 3. Procurement of VFFS Packing Machine (2 No's) on One-time requirement Basis. 4. Procurement of Videojet Thermal Transfer Printer (1 No.), Model No.VJ6210, on Annual Rate. Contract Basis for the year 2020-21.  
Note: Full Tender Notification details can be seen and downloaded from Website: <http://tender.eprocurement.gov.in> from 25.09.2020 at 11:00 A.M onwards and Bid Submission Closing date & time: 12.10.2020 at 12.00 P.M.  
R.O. No.: 941-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/11/2020-21 - Manager (PPM)

**BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD**  
(IRRIGATION WING)

**NTT: 1/SLP/2020-21 E-Notice Inviting Tender Dated: 23.09.2020**  
**Name of Office :** ASE/Slapper, Division, BBMB (IW) Slapper,  
**Name of Work :** Internal inspection, repair and Mtc. of 2 nos. Penstock branches no. 3 & 4 downstream WYC (inclined portion) at Slapper.

Estimate Cost : Rs. 9,96,993/-	Earnest Money : Rs. 20, 000/-
Last Date & time for receipt of Tender form	15.10.2020 upto 16:00 Hrs.
Last Date & time for opening of Tenders	16.10.2020 from 15:30 Hrs.

The detailed N.I.T. may be downloaded from B.B.M.B. website <https://bbmbproc.abceprocure.com> & <https://www.bbmb.gov.in>

**828-PR-BSL-4** For your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

**SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON**

General public is hereby informed that one person namely **Irshad S/o Naim Mulla R/o Manjeet ka Makaa, A-Block, Gali No. 10, Vijay Colony, Bawana, Delhi.** Age 35 years, Height 5'6", Complexion wheatish, Face round, Build medium, **For identification: A tattoo 'Rajja Khatun' on right hand, wearing Cream colour T-shirt and Blue colour lower** has been missing since 02.09.2020 from near G-2, DDA Flats, Narela, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 23-A dated 11.09.2020 has been lodged at PS Narela Indl. Area, Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about this missing person may kindly inform to the undersigned at the address or telephone nos. given below.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>  
Email: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Fax: 011-23011334  
Ph: 011-23014046, 23015218  
DP/482/ON/2020

**SHO**  
**PS Narela Indl. Area, Delhi**  
**Ph. 011-27787593, 7065036324**



# 9 GOVT & POLITICS



## DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



### A STEP AHEAD

A CONGRESS MP seems to be ahead of his BJP counterparts in the Lok Sabha in heeding PM Narendra Modi's call to provide access to sanitary napkins in their constituencies. Congress MP Hibi Eden (*above*) had launched a scheme in his constituency during his tenure as MLA to install sanitary napkin vending machines and incinerators in the 25 government schools. Now he is expanding it to 150 government schools in his Enakulam Lok Sabha constituency. Eden prepared a logo with the slogan Breaking Barriers and got it launched by Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank earlier this week. Enakulam will be the first parliamentary constituency where all government schools will have the vending machines and incinerators. Refilling the machines will become easier with the Centre launching a scheme to provide Suvudha pads at Re 1.

### AFGHAN EQUATIONS

WHEN EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Friday met former Afghan Vice-President Abdul Rashid Dostum and said India remains fully committed to an Afghan-led, Afghan-owned and Afghan-controlled peace process, he posted a picture of a fist-bump with the Afghan leader. Jaishankar tweeted that he exchanged views on developments in Afghanistan and the larger region with Marshal Dostum.

### VIRTUAL MODE

RAHUL GANDHI is back in India, and so are his video jibes on the government. Today, the former Congress president put out a short video on social media, which showed him interacting with "farmers" from states like Bihar, Haryana and Maharashtra virtually. Rahul is in home quarantine after his return from abroad. In a tweet along with the video, he said after speaking to the farmers, it is clear that they don't have faith in the Modi government. Party leaders were clueless when asked why he did not address a virtual press conference.

## Parties in Bihar welcome poll dates declaration

**SANTOSH SINGH**  
PATNA, SEPTEMBER 25

ALL POLITICAL parties in Bihar, barring the Congress, welcomed the poll dates announced by the Election Commission on Friday.

Chief Minister and JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar said he doesn't see voting percentage going down. "People are reacting well. They will take adequate safety measures..."

LJP president Chirag Paswan said, "I am a bit emotional on the occasion as my father has been unwell... My father will be digitally connected with us and voters."

RJD Rajya Sabha MP Manoj Kumar Jha welcomed the announcement but sought the introduction of additional norms to ensure voter safety.

Congress leader Tariq Anwar said, "Holding elections amid Covid-19 is fraught with danger. Now that elections have been imposed, all parties will accept the challenge."

### AFTER COMPLAINT BY UTTARAKHAND MINISTER

## CM orders probe against IAS officer over tender 'irregularities'

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
DEHRADUN,  
SEPTEMBER 25

UTTARAKHAND CHIEF Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has ordered an inquiry into a state minister's allegations of irregularities by an IAS officer in a tender process.

Women Welfare and Child Development Minister Rekha Arya had written to the Dehradun DIG that V Shanmugam, additional secretary at her department, was "missing" since September 20 and that his phone was switched off.

Arya said she could not contact him despite multiple attempts and asked the police to probe if he had been "kidnapped" or had gone "underground" to escape scrutiny. Shanmugam was in quarantine at his home. Government spokesperson Madan Kaushik told *The Indian Express* on Friday: "The Chief Minister has ordered an inquiry into the allegations the minister made against the officer in her letter. It will also be inquired why the officer did not respond to her phone calls." An officer of the Senior

Secretary rank will probe the matter. If allegations were found correct, action will be taken against Shanmugam, the spokesperson said. The officer was not available for comment. A staffer in his office said he has been on leave since Monday. Earlier, minister Arya had also written to the department secretary alleging fraud in the tender process due to negligence by Shanmugam. Arya had then said that she had summoned the officer over a tender for a department scheme, adding that he did not turn up.

# Dates out, alliances look at issues within

## Anti-incumbency to seat-sharing, BJP up against some hurdles

**MANOJ JCG**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE RULING coalition in Bihar may be contesting the Assembly elections next month under Chief Minister Nitish Kumar of JD(U), the bigger alliance partner in the state, but the stakes seem to be higher for the BJP.

At least three BJP leaders admitted that winning Bihar, where the party fared miserably in 2015 following an impressive performance in 2014 Lok Sabha elections—the JD(U) then was part of the Opposition Grand Alliance—is "politically crucial" for the party's "immediate future, and in the long run".

A victory will be important for the party not only to counter the Opposition's campaign against the farm-related Bills and go ahead with the reforms agenda, but also to prove that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's popularity is intact.

Like in states it had won after the 2015 defeat in Bihar, BJP is banking heavily on Modi's credibility in Bihar, too, amid a deepening pandemic crisis, rising joblessness, slowing economy, and escalating tension with China along the LAC.

Ahead of the three-phase polls starting October 28, the party faces multiple challenges.

The first hurdle for BJP would be ticket distribution among allies. With IJP already having problems with JD(U), the BJP leadership will have to use all its skills to placate allies while keeping at bay pressure from its own cadre to increase the share of tickets for party candidates. Sources in BJP indicated that the party wants JD(U) to agree to contest on an equal number of seats.

Home Minister Amit Shah had initiated talks with JD(U), which



### EXPLAINED

**Wooing rural voters with central schemes**

The BJP's strategy would be to maintain its base among the urban population and the forward castes, and woo rural voters—whom the party failed to win over in the 2015 Bihar polls—with welfare schemes. A series of development projects for the state, worth Rs 16,000 cr, launched recently by PM Narendra Modi, is set to be publicised aggressively.

the incumbent party chief, J P Nadda, has joined. Party leaders said Shah's absence from public places, due to his health issues, will not affect the talks.

Although the ruling NDA appears to have an edge over the Opposition, which still looks disoriented, BJP insiders admitted that the anti-incumbency factor cannot be ignored completely. "There is a fatigue among people against Nitish Kumar. A section of the electorate, including BJP cadres, feels that there needs to be a change. There are also concerns about JD(U)'s future," a BJP MP from Bihar said. To overcome this, the BJP is trying to superimpose the Modi government's initiatives over the Nitish government's performance.

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



A hoarding of CM Nitish Kumar in Patna is removed on Friday, in line with the Model Code of Conduct that has now kicked in. Polls will be held on Oct 28, Nov 3 and Nov 7. *PTI*

## Day after RLSP's no to Tejashwi, Cong says no call on CM face yet

**MANOJ JCG**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

A DECISION on the chief ministerial face of the Opposition Grand Alliance in Bihar has not been taken yet, the Congress said on Friday, soon after the Election Commission announced the schedule for the Assembly polls.

The Congress's assertion assumes significance since it came a day after Rashtriya Lok Samta Party (RLSP) chief Upendra Kushwaha on Thursday said that he would "not accept the leadership of Tejashwi Yadav" in the RJD-led Grand Alliance, and that his party is keeping all options open.

Kushwaha, who had quite the NDA before last year's Lok Sabha polls, also said that his party is preparing to contest all 243 seats in the coming Vidhan Sabha elections.

Congress's Bihar in-charge Shaktisinh Gohil on Friday said the people of Bihar want the Opposition to fight together to oust the Nitish Kumar-led NDA

government, and all parties should shed their ego to honour that wish of the people.

The RJD has already declared that Yadav would be its CM candidate, and the Congress's assertion signals the continuing tug of war in the alliance.

Gohil said Bihar is a politically vibrant state and friction between parties is natural.

"Our attempt is to ensure that all like-minded parties remain together. The people of Bihar want change. The responsibility is on our shoulders. We have to understand people's feelings and put up a united fight to remove bad governance," Gohil said. He also maintained that every party wants to contest more seats, "so some amount of friction will be there".

The Congress, he said, is in constant touch with Kushwaha. "He left the NDA...he was a (Union) minister in the NDA government – he has seen the NDA from close quarters. He left the NDA on a matter of principle..." the Congress leader said when

asked about Kushwaha's remarks that all options are open for him.

On RJD's decision to project Yadav as the CM face, Gohil said every party has the right to project its leader. "If RJD has declared its CM face, no one has any objection. But when it comes to the alliance... we are talking to all our allies... we have reached a certain stage. There is still time. I can't say anything while discussions are on."

He said the alliance partners will discuss and a CM face will be declared before the elections if they conclude that such a move will be helpful. "Otherwise... we will fight like this (without a declared CM face)," he said.

Gohil said the Congress's strike rate was good in the 2015 Assembly polls. He said this time, too, "we and our allies, whosoever will be with us, will contest and form the government with the people's blessing".

He said: "We will discuss and decide...we should keep small issues and our egos aside. There should be no division in the anti-establishment vote."

## CM promises irrigation in all fields, medical access in all panchayats

**SANTOSH SINGH**  
PATNA, SEPTEMBER 25

SOON AFTER the Bihar election dates were announced, Chief Minister and JD(U) president Nitish Kumar said that if voted back to power, he would ensure irrigation in every field, solar powered light in every village, medical facilities for people and animals in every panchayat, and a incentive of Rs 50,000 for women clearing graduation examinations.

Speaking to reporters about the second phase of his Saat Nischay (seven resolutions), he said this would ensure micro planning.

"There will be bypass and approach roads in major towns. We will ensure people in villages can reach the nearest town with good approach roads... I fulfilled my promises before 2015 polls even though we changed the alliance partner," Nitish said. He added that he did not mind what some people said about him, in an apparent reference to LJP leader Chirag Paswan's remarks.

Playing down his differences with Chirag, the Chief minister said he had always shared a "good relationship" with Union minister and LJP patriarch Ram Vilas Paswan. He added that seat-sharing in the NDA would be done amicably.

To questions about holding elections amid a pandemic, Nitish said: "There will be meetings and interaction with the public, but we will follow safety protocol. While Covid has been erratic, its numbers have substantially come down in Bihar and testing is above the national average."

**भारतीय अंतरिक्ष विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान**  
**Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology**  
(वि. अ. आयोग अधिनियम 1956 की धारा 3 के अधीन मानित विश्वविद्यालय घोषित)  
(Declared as Deemed to be University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)  
भारत सरकार, अंतरिक्ष विभाग के तहत स्वायत्त संस्थान  
An Autonomous Institute under Department of Space, Govt. of India  
वलिंयमला, तिरुवनंतपुरम / Valiamala, Thiruvananthapuram 695 547, केरल / Kerala, [www.iist.ac.in](http://www.iist.ac.in)

### ADMISSION TO UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES - 2020

IIST announces admission to the following B.Tech and Dual-Degree programmes:

- 4-Year B.Tech in Aerospace Engineering
- 4-Year B.Tech in Electronics and Communication Engineering (Avionics)
- 5-Year Dual Degree (B.Tech and Master of Science/ M.Tech) Programme

Candidates aspiring to join the above programmes should have appeared in JEE (Advanced) - 2020 Examination and satisfy all the specified eligibility criteria listed in the Undergraduate Admission - 2020 Information Brochure.

For more details please visit IIST website ([www.iist.ac.in/admissions/undergraduate](http://www.iist.ac.in/admissions/undergraduate))

Candidates are required to Register through the Online Admission Portal (<https://admission.iist.ac.in>)

The IIST Admission Rank List shall be prepared only for the eligible registered candidates.

### Important Dates \*\*

Online Registration	: 27.09.2020 to 07.10.2020
Online payment of Registration fee	: On or before 07.10.2020
Publication of IIST Admission Rank List	: 08.10.2020
Seat Allotment/Acceptance Rounds	: Starts from 10.10.2020

\*\* Dates are tentative and any change will be notified on the website

**Contact: 0471-2568477/478/618/418, Fax: 04712568556**  
**Email: [ugadmission@iist.ac.in](mailto:ugadmission@iist.ac.in)**

*Dean (Academics)*

Government of Tamil Nadu  
**TAMIL NADU SLUM CLEARANCE BOARD**  
No.5, Kamarajar Salai, Chennai-600 005, Tamil Nadu, India.  
**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST(EOI)**  
**(Consulting Services - Individual Selection)**

Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board (TNSCB), Government of Tamil Nadu has applied for financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the Tamil Nadu Housing and Habitat Development Project. TNSCB now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services for the below mentioned assignments under the World Bank financed Tamil Nadu Housing and Habitat Development Project and ADB financed inclusive, Resilient and Sustainable Housing for Urban Poor Project.

**1.Environmental Consultant**  
**2. Procurement Consultant**

The detailed REOI and Terms of Reference are available in the website - [www.tnscb.org/procurement/](http://www.tnscb.org/procurement/) and [www.tenders.tn.gov.in](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in).  
**The Expression of Interest (EOI) shall be submitted for each assignment separately.** Last date and time for submission of EOI is **23.10.2020 up to 5.45 PM.** The EOI shall be sent to Superintending Engineer, Project Monitoring Unit, Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, No.5, Kamarajar Salai, Chennai-600 005, Tamil Nadu, India, E-mail: [tnscbprocurement@gmail.com](mailto:tnscbprocurement@gmail.com)

**Superintending Engineer**  
**Project Monitoring Unit**

DIPR/832/Display/2020

### NORTHERN RAILWAY

#### Auction Notice

Auction of Lot No 1, N R. Rosa station yard/Rosa campus, 34 numbers Dangerous trees under Assistant Divisional Engineer/Northern Railway Shahjahanpur will be auctioned in the office of Assistant Divisional Engineer/Northern Railway Shahjahanpur. All the interested bidders are invited to participate in this auction

**Auction place: - Office of the Assistant Divisional Engineer/Northern Railway/ Shahjahanpur on date 22.10.2020. at 11:00 AM**

1.	All the bidders will deposit cash Rs 100/- in the office of Assistant Divisional Engineer/Northern Railway Shahjahanpur which will not be refunded and shall also deposit Rs 8000/- in favor of Sr. Divisional Finance Manager Northern Railway Moradabad as a Demand Draft of SBI or Other Nationalized Bank.
2.	All the bidders who will take part in the auction will also have proper knowledge of Auction rules and others allowances.
3.	Successful bidders will deposit the Demand Draft of SBI or Other Nationalized Bank in favour of Sr. DFM/MB or station earning in cash on same day with following rate. -
a	10% amount of selling price or minimum amount Rs 25,000/- whichever is maximum on purchase of more than Rs 1,00,000/-
b	Balance amount will be deposited within 10 days including the date of auction
c	GST @ 18 % will be deposited on total cost within 10 days including the date of auction
4.	The work should be completed within 60 days including the date of auction.
5.	Railway has right to close the work any time. In this situation the balance amount will be returned without interest.
6.	Complete Details of tree with locations will be available in the Divisional Office Moradabad.
7.	Bidders are requested to quote their rates according to the tree locations.
8.	Trees will be delivered and handed over in the presence of SSE/works. ISA and RPF.
9.	If the balance amount is not deposited within 10 days including the date of auction, then initial deposited amount will be forfeited.
10.	Bidders will not make any Kutcha/Pakka construction in the land of Railway.
11.	Bid will not be quoted below the base price.
12.	Demand draft will be deposited in the office of Assistant Divisional Engineer/Northern Railway/ Shahjahanpur from 09.00 am to 10.30 AM. After that no demand draft will be accepted.

**No LMC/TREE/SPN/2020 Dated -24.09.2020**  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

2075/2020



New Delhi







## HOLE IN ACCOUNTS

CAG points to flaws in Centre’s accounting of GST. Lack of transparency could deepen distrust between Centre and states

IN ITS AUDIT report on the accounts of the Union government, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has pointed out grave lapses in the accounting of revenue from the GST compensation cess. According to the CAG, the central government, in violation of the GST Compensation Cess Act, 2017, short-credited the GST compensation cess fund to the tune of Rs 47,272 crore during 2017-18 and 2018-19, retaining the amount in the consolidated fund of India. By doing so, the funds collected through the compensation cess route could be used for purposes other than those provided in the Act. This accounting sleight of hand led to an overestimation of the Centre’s revenue, and as a consequence, an underestimation of its fiscal deficit.

Unfortunately, this is not a one-off. In the past, the CAG has pointed out instances of the central government failing to properly account for revenue from various GST streams. In a previous report, the CAG had pointed out that the Centre had devolved the year-end Integrated GST (IGST) balance to states in 2017-18 according to the finance commission formula, in contravention of the provisions of the Constitution and the IGST Act. It had also noted that despite the amended IGST Act providing for ad-hoc apportionment of revenue, there was un-apportioned balance in the account, which meant that states were receiving less funds than they were supposed to. In the current scenario, when many states allege that the Centre is going back on its promise of protecting states’ GST revenues, the lack of transparency over accounting of these revenues will only deepen the distrust between the Centre and the states. The issue of not properly accounting for revenue from cesses is not limited to the GST. As the CAG notes, during the past decade, Rs 1.24 lakh crore, collected as cess on crude oil, was not transferred to the designated reserve fund. Similarly, another Rs 10,157 crore, collected through the road and infrastructure cess, was not transferred to the related reserve fund. Now, as the CAG notes, collections through cesses are required to be transferred to their designated reserve fund, and the amounts collected through these sources are meant to be utilised only for the specific purposes intended by Parliament. Not transferring the amounts makes it difficult to ensure that revenue from these streams is being used for the specific purposes for which they were intended.

While the Centre’s practice of levying cesses and surcharges is itself questionable — revenues from these sources do not form part of the divisible tax pool and are thus not shared with states — the lack of transparency in the accounting of these funds is undesirable. Along with other creative ways of masking the true position of government finances, such as rolling over expenses to the next year, it creates an avoidable ambiguity over the state of government finances.

## IN BETWEEN STATE

Upcoming assembly election in Bihar will take place amid a fading of the old, and with the new not yet taking its place

THE ELECTION COMMISSION of India has taken a bold gamble in scheduling the assembly elections due in Bihar over three phases beginning October 28 amid the continuing COVID-19 outbreak. The EC has drawn an elaborate plan to minimise human contact during campaigning, polling and counting and to ensure that even the infected persons and those in quarantine get to exercise their right to vote. But an election held amid social distancing norms will look out of place in one of the country’s most politically vibrant states.

Politics in Bihar is poised at an awkward juncture. Leaders who dominated the political landscape for decades are looking jaded or receding into the shadows, and no new leaders have taken their place. Since the advent of Mandal nearly three decades ago, Lalu Prasad and Nitish Kumar have dominated state politics with Ram Vilas Paswan playing a critical role. In the upcoming election, while the RJD patriarch is in jail, in Paswan’s party the baton seems to be all but handed over from father to son. After three continuous terms in office, Nitish Kumar will be up against the visible plateauing of his governance record. “Sushasan Babu”, as Nitish Kumar was once called for his emphasis on good governance, alongside the stated commitment to “social justice”, seems to have run out of ideas and is banking on self-righteous moralising on tried-and-failed ideas like prohibition and the seeming absence of a credible alternative to win a fourth term. The RJD has turned into a family fief even as Tejashwi Yadav is yet to establish his credentials — under his leadership, the RJD could not win a single seat in the 2019 general election. The BJP seems to be the party on the rise but it is dependent on its central leadership, mainly Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to fetch votes. The Congress and the Left parties are pale shadows of their former selves and have done little to regain their lost base or attract new voters.

While the social justice politics that dominated the electoral agenda since the 1990s seems to have exhausted its radical potential, no new idea, paradigm or cast of characters has emerged. The coming together of Lalu Prasad and Nitish Kumar, representing two distinct strands of social justice politics under the Mahagathbandhan umbrella, had captured the voter’s imagination in 2015. But this time alliances could break and form on the basis of a lack of options. If it wants to exploit the anti-incumbent sentiment, the Opposition will have to transcend the absence of a credible CM candidate with a smart coalition and a transformative agenda, which seems to be missing so far.

## PLAYER AND PUNDIT

Dean Jones’ love for the game and eye for detail made him one of its best analysts

FIRST AS AN entertaining cricketer and later as a popular TV pundit, Dean Jones, 59, lived more than half of his life in the public eye. Die-hard cricket fans grew up watching him switch roles as seamlessly as he changed gears while batting. As an aggressive batsman he spoke his mind and occasionally got into trouble. Once he had a microphone in hand, he was the avuncular, bantering cricket tragic. The game was so dear to Jones that he couldn’t just sit home and watch it from a distance on television. He dared to venture into uncharted territories. When the world was wary of traveling to Pakistan, he went and coached Karachi Kings in the Pakistan Super League. Once while commentating in Afghanistan there was a bomb blast outside the stadium. The embassy offered to fly him out but he chose to stay back.

Anyone from the 80s generation who saw his jaw-dropping double hundred in Madras would vouch that Jones wasn’t a quitter. They would remember Jones for his sun hat, the zinc-creamed lips, the white wrist band, the audacious batting and acrobatic fielding. For them, he would be forever frozen in a leap near the boundary or the dance down the track to send the ball over long-on. Jones poured his character into every swing of the bat. A couple of years after he retired, he summed up his batting philosophy: “Sometimes I died by the sword but by Jove, I had a few kills along the way.”

The second innings as a commentator had run into early troubles after he called South African batsman Hashim Amla a “terrorist” on air. Later he would say it was a “flippant” comment uttered in the assumption that he was off air. But Jones bounced back. His love for the game and eye for detail made him one of the best analysts. He was also seen as an innovator, unafraid to share some of his out-of-left-field theories. There was never a dull cricket conversation when he was around.



HIMANSHU

ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, farmers’ organisations across the country gave a call for a bandh to protest the three bills passed by Parliament. These bills, namely the Farmers’ Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020 (FPTC), the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020 (FAPAFS), and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020 were passed amid protests by the Opposition parties, without discussion in Parliament. Even the government’s allies, such as the Shiromani Akali Dal, have raised apprehensions, lending their voice to the farmers’ demands.

Projected as historic reforms, the government promises freedom to the farmers from the “villainous and exploitative” Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) mandis and from the middlemen who charge commission from trade in these mandis. Most farmers would agree that the functioning of the mandis is inefficient, opaque, politicised and often controlled by cartels. The attempt to reform the functioning of the mandis is not new and has been in process for the last two decades, starting from 2001 when the expert committee on agricultural marketing submitted its report. Since then, three different model APMC acts have been proposed by previous governments (in 2003, 2007, and 2013) and in 2017 by the current government, none of which led to the kind of protests that have been witnessed over the last two weeks.

Rather than welcoming the freedom from mandis, this time farmers are on the streets fighting for restoring the primacy of the mandis in agricultural trade primarily because APMC mandis are an essential part of the agricultural trading ecosystem. While they may have a confrontationist attitude to the functioning and administration of mandis, they also share a symbiotic relationship with the middlemen and the mandis extending beyond matters of transaction in agricultural produce. The middlemen are a source of information, inputs, and sometimes credit without collateral.

The anger against the bills is not just about restoring the primacy of the APMC mandis but also over the manner in which the bills were thrust upon the farming community. Not only the farmers’ organisations, but even state governments and allies have not been consulted. Secondly, all the earlier attempts at reforming

Farm bills are seen by farmers to deliver freedom — not to them, but to private capital

The fight to retain the APMC

despite its shortcomings is also a fight to extract a commitment from the government on maintaining state support to the agricultural sector. With government investment in agriculture declining in real terms and rising input costs and declining subsidy, farmers fear the withering away of the last remaining instrument of state support in the form of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) regime. While MSP-based procurement did not benefit the majority of farmers and only a few states contributed to the procurement operations of the Food Corporation of India (FCI), it did work as a lifeline for the farmers in those states.

agricultural marketing respected the constitutional separation of powers. While the Centre proposed the model acts, these were implemented by state governments. And most of these proposals were actually acted upon by state governments with waves of reforms in the functioning of the APMC in most states.

Out of 36 states and union territories, 18 states have already enacted reforms allowing for establishment of private market yards/private markets, 19 states have enacted reforms allowing for direct purchase of agricultural produce from agriculturists by processor/bulk buyer/bulk retailer/exporter, 20 states have enacted contract farming acts. Kerala and Bihar do not have APMC mandis and Tamil Nadu has a different system. Most states have exempted levy of taxes and fees on sale of fruits and vegetables. Most of these reforms were enacted by the state governments and rules were framed with farmers welcoming these changes, even though the changes were suggested by the Centre.

On the other hand, the current reforms completely bypass the state governments and weaken their ability to regulate agricultural markets even though it is a state subject. Further, unlike earlier reforms where the focus was on strengthening the functioning of APMC mandis while allowing for greater private market access and participation, the current FPTC bill bypasses the APMC altogether, creating a separate structure of trading. In any case, mandi trade accounts for less than one-fourth of the total agricultural trade with the rest accounted for by private markets/traders. The absence of regulation and exemption from mandi fees creates a dual market structure which is not only inefficient but will also encourage unregulated trade detrimental to the primary purpose of providing market access to farmers for better price discovery and assured prices.

Most farmers realise that the FPTC Bill is not about delivering on the promise of freedom to farmers but freedom to private capital to purchase agricultural produce at cheaper prices and without any regulation or oversight by the government. Farmers also realise that this will eventually lead to shifting of trade from regulated APMC mandis to private markets without any commitment to investment in infrastructure and regulation from government. With unequal and differentiated terms of engagement, the decline and disappearance

of the APMC is only a matter of time.

The fight to retain the APMC despite its shortcomings is also a fight to extract a commitment from the government on maintaining state support to the agricultural sector. With government investment in agriculture declining in real terms and rising input costs and declining subsidy, farmers fear the withering away of the last remaining instrument of state support in the form of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) regime. While MSP-based procurement did not benefit the majority of farmers and only a few states contributed to the procurement operations of the Food Corporation of India (FCI), it did work as a lifeline for the farmers in those states. Its effectiveness was only in two crops, wheat and paddy, among more than 1,000 crops grown, but it did provide the assurance that the state was willing to step in when required. It also contributed to revenue to the agricultural marketing boards which was partially utilised in improving infrastructure in the mandis.

These fears are compounded by the contract farming bill and amendments in the essential commodities act. Apart from the fact that the provisions of these bills are highly skewed in favour of private capital, with no limits on stockholding and restrictions of government interventions, there is limited recourse to any independent grievance redressal mechanism.

What has also angered the farmers is the deep divide between the rhetoric of the government and its actions on the ground. Even while enacting these reforms and promising greater freedom to farmers, the government has moved swiftly to ban the export of onions and reduced, increased and again reduced import duty on masur in a matter of three months. Agricultural terms of trade have moved against agriculture with rising input prices (with the government increasing diesel prices despite the collapse in international prices) and declining farm gate prices.

The last three years have seen a collapse in prices of major agricultural products. At a time of general demand deflation and the economic slowdown, promising the farmers a bumper increase in agricultural prices through a free market is as good as the promise of “achhe din” by the party that came to power in 2014.

The writer is associate professor, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, JNU, Delhi



KHALED AHMED

AFTER NEARLY 70 years of building a case in favour of conflict, the Middle East may be moving towards peace. On September 13, Bahrain recognised Israel in the presence of US President Donald Trump in Washington. The recognition by a country almost an appendage of Saudi Arabia, physically and politically, signals a tacit pledge of recognition by the Saudis as well. The Palestinian Authority, betrayed by these recognitions, tried to raise the subject at the Arab League but was ignored.

The Arabs feel threatened today, not by Israel, but from states within the Islamic world — by non-Arab, non-Semite Iran and Turkey.

Not comprehending what was unfolding, Pakistan joined Turkey and Malaysia, earlier this year, to hold a “separate” Islamic summit to signal to the Semites of the Middle East that it can go its own way. It was soon made to realise, however, that it had made a mistake although it is still unclear whether it will, under clerical pressure, denounce the Arabs getting together with Israel.

Israel already has diplomatic relations with Jordan from 1994 — after three wars and Egypt from 1979 — after four wars — and no one has minded. In fact, Egypt today has joined Saudi Arabia and the UAE to fight Turkey in Libya in the western Mediterranean, and Saudi Arabia now looks to Israel to fight it against Iran.

Pakistan, as a “nuclear power”, has always

## CLUELESS IN WEST ASIA

Pakistan may not be intellectually flexible enough to deal with Arab-Israel thaw

been loyal to Saudi Arabia and the UAE because four million of its expat manpower is located in the two countries. But it may find itself disadvantaged by its “big leader” Imran Khan. Nuclear but economically bankrupt, Pakistan needs a lot of “flexibility” during this period of the grand split within the Muslim world but it may find itself stymied by its charismatic leader who is greatly attracted to the Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Perhaps responding to Pakistan’s possible support to the anti-Arab and pro-Iran front, the offended clerics of Karachi took out the largest anti-Shia procession in Pakistan’s history, calling the Shia apostates although the country’s founder was a Shia. Will Turkey and Iran get together to oppose the Arab trend of “normalising” relations with Israel? Unlikely, because of Erdogan’s puritan dislike of the Shia religion. In Lebanon, he has actively supported the Sunni community against the Iran-supported Shia militias, Hezbollah and Amal.

Will China step in after the US moves out? In Jerusalem, the analysis is that China, a dominant trader in the Gulf, is not really interested in being a guarantor of peace in the region. China is dependent on the region’s oil and gas but this dependence is temporary as it moves rapidly to renewable energy. It may not enter the fray to defend an Iran currently engaged in Iraq, Syria, Yemen and Lebanon.

The other regional power present in the region — through its good relations with the Arabs and Israel — is India. Close to the US under Trump, it is economically better integrated with the Gulf States than Pakistan through its superior expat manpower and its relationship with Israel. It had involved itself in projects in Iran as well, funding the port of Chabahar to facilitate its trade routes to Afghanistan and Central Asia but suddenly pulled out — perhaps after a signal from Washington — while Pakistan, its regional rival, remained clueless about what was about to happen in the Gulf region.

The “moral” hardening of Pakistan’s foreign policy has hampered its diplomacy and consequently its economic development. It was excluded from high-tech weaponry after the US embargo. India got out of this ban by reviving its relationship with Israel as an “alternative” supplier. India’s non-recognition of Israel was not based on any moral considerations but on the attitude of its Arab friends in the Gulf. Soon, it read the signs of approval that Pakistan couldn’t from its perch of moral high ground. Today, Pakistani military-history authors like Shuja Nawaz recommend recognising Israel but Pakistan is not flexible enough intellectually to change with the winds.

The writer is consulting editor, Newsweek Pakistan



## SEPTEMBER 26, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

### IRAN BOMBED

IRAQI WARPLANES BOMBED Tehran as Iraq announced the capture of Iran’s main cargo port, Khoramshahr on the fourth day of their undeclared war. Iraq announced that its troops entered the Iranian naval base and a cargo port on Karun river. Iran denied Baghdad’s claims immediately. However, reports talk of the fall of the besieged city following Baghdad radio’s announcement that advancing Iraqi troops seized the railway that connects Khoramshahr and the oil refinery city of Abadan with Tehran 500 km north-east. Khoramshahr’s fall leaves Abadan virtually defenceless with all highway, railway and sea routes blocked for Iranian reinforcements.

### RIVALS SET DEMANDS

IRAQI VICE-PREMIER TARIQ Aziz has reaffirmed that his country has no territorial ambitions in Iran. He outlined Iraq’s conditions for ending the four-day-old war. Speaking to reporters after a meeting with French President Valéry Giscard d’Estaing, Aziz said that Iraq’s conditions were simple: Respect for its integrity over land, good neighbour agreements with Baghdad and other Arab countries, guarantee of non-interference in its internal affairs, and cessation of aggressive postures. Iran has demanded that Iraq vacate its forces from erstwhile peacetime locations and respect its territorial integrity.

### INDIAN CASUALTIES

SEVEN MORE INDIANS have succumbed to the injuries they sustained during the bombings on Basra on September 23, taking the death toll to 17. The foreign office in New Delhi is still trying to get the names of the deceased.

### PRESS ATTACKED

YOUTH CONGRESS WORKERS threw chappals at the offices of Deccan Herald and its sister publication Prajavani, protesting against the publication of what they called “incorrect news”. They also shouted slogans in front of the office of the Indian Express group.



# The criminalisation of protest

As anti-CAA movement is sought to be projected as precursor of the riots, damage that will be done to a generation of young Indians will be bad enough, but damage done to police could take generations to repair



SALMAN KHURSHID

THE PROTESTS AT Shaheen Bagh and Jamia Millia Islamia, not to mention the protests inspired by them across the country against the CAA-NRC-NPR, were a remarkable break from the past and a repudiation of stereotypes. Virtually leaderless masses of students and women took to the streets to register their presence and participation in Indian democracy.

Of course, the usual suspects, activists and would-be leaders from fringe movements, tried to muscle in whilst others put up barriers for the leaders and parties, with whom they had real or imagined scores to settle.

The crowds had Jamaat-e-Islami supporters who kept secularists away, ultra-leftists who queried the invites to former ministers of the Congress, new-age Dalit cause converts who did not wish to cede space to established parties, local musclemen and land grabbers who wanted to use the movement to create safe havens, genteel social activists constantly wary of the potential for confrontation and local politicians trying to elbow each other out. With the filing of the charge-sheets, there is apprehension that fifth columnists had infiltrated the unique movement from the beginning. With friends like these, who needs enemies? When I tried to persuade the organisers at Jamia to invite some former ministers, I was told that it had been difficult enough to accept my presence.

It was COVID-19 and the responsible response to the administration's requests that brought the protests to a pause, hopefully not to an end. It certainly was not the police and government's strong-arm tactics that made the 24x7 protests fold up. It is silly to link the protests to the subsequent riots of February, which cannot be de-linked from the divisive politics pursued by the ruling establishment at the Centre. What might be made of the ambivalent and slippery politics of the AAP, who gathered the reluctant vote of the protesters, is a million-dollar question.

Interestingly, the 17,500-page charge-sheet filed in FIR 59/2020 has S161 (not admissible) and S164 statements mentioning the names of several speakers, including mine. The statements indicate that the speakers used "provocative language and motivated people to join the protests". Putting diverse people together in a statement as though they had a collective or corporate personality and to bind all with one statement is an interesting sleight of hand. Or perhaps it is just plain laziness in an investigation. But the larger issue is that the protests are sought to be perceived as the precursors of the unfortunate riots.

We know that riots happen for a variety of local reasons and the prevailing atmosphere has a great deal to do with it. The riots that took place in northeast Delhi have left many questions unanswered. It is not surprising that former Supreme Court judges and a celebrated former police chief have expressed their disquiet about the investigation.

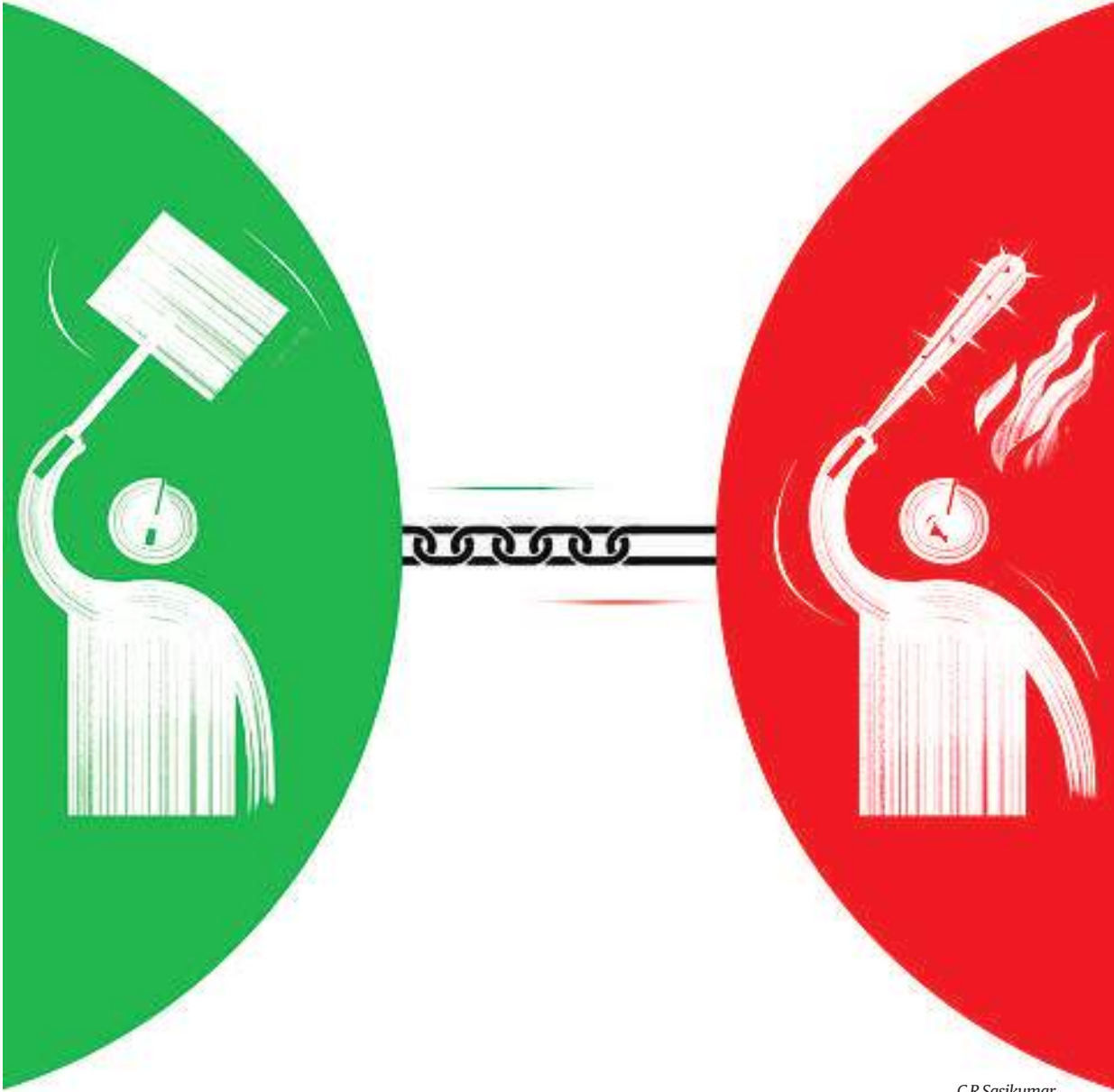


SUNIL ALAGH

ANYONE MAKING METICULOUS long-term life or economic plans at the beginning of 2019 has seen them go awry. The new norm, in my opinion, should be to focus on immediate and medium-term (two-three year) scenarios. COVID-19 is unfortunately the new reality and will impact our lives through 2021 at the very least. The situation is analogous to crossing a road — one cannot cross with closed eyes due to high risk of getting hit by a passing vehicle. With a cautious approach, looking to the left and right before crossing, we still run the risk of being hit, but at least this is reduced. With our new reality, the government has to take the following steps to mitigate risks and move forward.

It is important to keep in mind the environmental impact of policies. The current Monsoon Season demonstrates the impact of global warming on previously predictable climate patterns and the economic activities that rely on it. We must remember that the environment is the parent of the economy and not vice-versa. Our focus on economic development at the expense of global warming will have dire consequences. The situation is comparable to the impact of alcohol use on the liver. I have been told by esteemed doctors that even if the liver is damaged up to 75 per cent as a consequence of alcohol consumption, it can regenerate after alcohol cessation. But beyond 75 per cent, you reach a point of no return.

By damaging the environment in the name of the economy, we are now getting



C R Sasikumar

The Mumbai Police blotted its copybook during the 1992-93 riots in the city and the Delhi Police has followed suit in 2020. Assiduously built relationships between the local police and the populace, without which policing is impossible, have been fed to the vultures who feed upon the carcass of a divided society. The damage that will be done to a generation of young Indians will be bad enough, but the police will not escape the damage that could take generations to repair.

There is much history to take lessons from. When the curtains come down on this era of discontent, the downstream perpetrators of injustice will not even be remembered as villains — a sobriquet reserved for the high and mighty who fall from grace.

The right to protest peacefully will be illusory if every such gathering is declared unlawful as a matter of routine. Harsh words against a government that more than deserves them being labelled as sedition will virtually negate Article 19 and free speech. Curiously, many persons who support the action against CAA protestors are lining up to bemoan the Supreme Court showing prima facie concern about the content of the Sudarshan TV tapes on the UPSC selection of candidates coached by Jamia and other organisations. One man's meat is another man's poison.

We know that riots happen for a variety of local reasons and the prevailing atmosphere had a great deal to do with it. The riots that took place in northeast Delhi have left many questions unanswered. It is not surprising that former Supreme Court judges and a celebrated former police chief have expressed their disquiet about the investigation.

While the government may be congratulating itself for destroying the spontaneous voice of the people (according to them, only some people), there are two explanations for its position: It is either fear of *vox populi* or a perverse ideological posture on equality. Perhaps it is a bit of both. But from the point of view of democracy, one wonders what happens to spontaneous movements like the outburst of young people in the heart of Delhi after the December 2012 rape and murder and then the Shaheen Baghs across India? Are they destined to plant the flag of protest, leave their footprints on the sands of time, and move on for another generation to consolidate? The government will soon discover if the CAA protests were designed and executed by the conspirators mentioned in the charge-sheets, in which case the streets and barricades will not be occupied again. On the other hand, if they were organic and spontaneous, they will spring up again. The movement would have learnt costly lessons, but one wonders if the government did so too. From the contents of the charge-sheet, it appears that far from learning, the government continues to celebrate ignorance, persecution and falsehood.

The writer is a senior Congress leader and a former Union minister

## A better normal

Covid crisis underlines need to invest in healthcare, infrastructure, environment

closer to the point of no return. The government must pay attention to this and not continue the current policy, which allows industrial development to continue unchecked without caring for environmental consequences. Deforestation to set up a factory has an immediate environmental impact, which replanting trees will take years to mitigate. There is a middle path which allows for both job creation and preserving our ecosystem.

The government must take active steps to promote demand. So far, it has rightly looked after the poor, the agriculture sector and the supply side of the economy. But this is not enough as non-agriculture income, even in rural areas, has not grown.

Demand is the oil in the engine of growth — without it, the economy will come to a grinding halt. The 300 million Indians who comprise the middle class are the major source for this demand. We must incentivise them to spend. I have been promoting this balanced approach of looking after supply and demand ad nauseam. Little investment and capital expenditure will take place if there is no demand for products. I agree that in the initial stages of the pandemic, it was important to provide for the poor and ensure the agricultural supply chain remained intact. But we cannot afford to ignore the urban middle-class any longer.

In the current uncertain economic environment, providing money into consumers' hands is likely to be inadequate — the mid-

dle class is more apt to save it for a rainy day rather than spend. We will therefore need to devise creative solutions to promote spending, such as tax incentives for expenditure on cars, flats, white goods, travel etc. The government must continue to increase expenditure on infrastructure projects to provide stable employment. A Keynesian model of funding is required. It is only then that our economic trajectory will resume its upward trend.

While the government has increased healthcare spending to the tune of Rs 14,000 crore, this remains woefully inadequate. As the focus has been on creating large COVID isolation centres and reserving ICU beds, routine preventive services such as immunisation have fallen. Resources devoted to other, more critical, healthcare needs such as cancer screening and treatment have also been crippled. While COVID-related infrastructure spending should continue to be a top priority, a healthcare crisis should spur a critical look at all the healthcare needs of the growing population, both urban and rural. India spends only 1.3 per cent of its GDP on healthcare whereas healthcare spending in the developed world is between 10-18 per cent. Even China and Nigeria spend 4-6 per cent.

A less important consideration is how we navigate working from home going forward. The vast majority of workers I encounter are longing to break free from the confines of their homes and collaborate with colleagues in the same physical environment. We must find a way to safely allow this and mitigate

risks through solutions like mandatory masks, working on alternating days and social distancing within the workplace. Wearing a mask is the single most effective preventive measure until a vaccine is widely available.

Working from home is a poor substitute in a fast-paced world where collaboration is key. COVID is here to stay and we must learn to live with it, and not completely ignore the psychological needs and emotions of our workers.

Any crisis brings opportunities for growth and change. This is an opportunity for the government to cut wasteful expenditure and costs, increase expenditure on much-needed infrastructure like roads, ports and airports, insure poor farmers against vagaries of weather and provide food/shelters for the 800 million poor. In doing so, we must never forget the growing middle-class who help to generate demand and keep our factories running. This will increase the fiscal deficit — but it can be reversed in the coming years.

Government and industry leaders have their work cut out for them. In a democracy, we must stop merely criticising but instead offer solutions. As former President A P J Abdul Kalam said, "We must behave like a billion people and not like a million people". We will make mistakes along the way but we must learn from them and move ahead as one — government, industry and the people of our country.

The writer is a business and brand consultant

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Countries that can influence India should persuade Mr Modi to return to the path of sanity. In this context, sanity and rationality demand that India restore the special status of... Kashmir." — DAWN

## In crisis, play by the book

Unconventional measures may be needed to bring economy back on rails. But discarding principles of sound public policy will do more harm than good



ISHAN BAKSHI

DURING PERIODS OF extreme uncertainty, there is always a clamour for throwing out the rulebook; for adopting measures that would have been deemed too radical in normal times. The current crisis is no different. Over the past few months, several such policy prescriptions have been put forth. However, one must advise caution. Some of the proposals, a potent mix of policy adventurism and unorthodoxy, while politically expedient, could risk opening the economy to adverse consequences down the road. Some unconventional measures may well be needed at the current juncture. But discarding the principles of sound public policy, though it sounds appealing, could end up doing more harm than good.

Take the growing demand for reworking the inflation targeting regime. With the monetary policy committee (MPC) concluding that elevated inflation has constrained it from easing policy rates further, despite growth falling off a cliff, there has been much consternation over the apparent "rigidity" of the "flexible" inflation targeting framework.

One way out of this growth-inflation quagmire, as has been proposed by some, is for the government to relax the inflation targeting framework. This would involve greater tolerance for higher levels of inflation — either by adjusting the acceptable range of inflation upwards, or by extending the period over which the MPC has to meet its inflation target. Others have suggested shifting from headline to core-inflation as the nominal anchor of monetary policy or incorporating other indicators such as nominal GDP explicitly into the framework. The more extreme ones talk about doing away with the inflation targeting framework altogether.

The government may well decide to lean in favour of any one of these suggestions. But this would be a mistake. Sure, there is a strong argument for the MPC to look beyond the current spike in inflation and ease rates further. But disagreements with either the rationale or the stance of the committee members must not be construed as disagreements with the framework. Raising the tolerance threshold may sound appealing now, but it will inject a degree of uncertainty and unpredictability in monetary policy. Considering that anchoring expectations around the inflation target takes time, frequent revisions are unlikely to help stabilise household expectations. While explicitly signalling a lack of commitment to maintaining price stability, the implicit message from adjusting the framework will be one of deviating from a rule-based framework.

Shifting to a multiple indicator structure will also be problematic. Such a move harks back to the pre-MPC days when there was far greater uncertainty over monetary pol-

icy because there was no clarity over the indicator that was dictating the stance of the RBI governor or which indicator would be given preference, and when. Such proposals go against the rationale for shifting to such a framework in the first place — an inflation targeting regime, with a well-defined anchor, is meant to facilitate greater transparency and accountability from the central bank.

Rather, at the current juncture, there must be a concerted attempt to push for more external voices in the MPC, especially since the outcome of the voting seems to bear the governor's imprimatur. And if the government feels that its concerns need to be heard by the committee then, surely, there are better ways of going about it. In the UK, a non-voting treasury representative sits with the MPC to discuss policy issues. Bringing in, first, a structural change in the conduct of monetary policy and then slowly dismantling it, both, cannot be touted as reforms depending on when one adjudicates the matter.

Another such unorthodox proposal talks about the central bank effectively financing the Centre's capital expenditure on a regular basis. This is problematic at many levels.

First, notwithstanding problems in estimating potential output, monetisation, even in the rarest of rare cases, should be the last resort. The perils of falling back on this long-discarded policy, and that too on a regular basis, need to be guarded against. Such an arrangement, however well designed, risks falling along predictable lines, tilting the balance of power in favour of the government. Any government, owing to its short-term political imperatives, is likely to be seduced by the apparent simplicity of this idea, unmindful of its long-term repercussions. And it is more likely to favour channeling every last penny it earns on revenue expenditure, leading to a situation wherein the entire budgeted capital expenditure is financed by the central bank. Doing so will mean flirting with crisis, more so when there are demands for easing the inflation targeting framework. It's almost as if the lessons of the past, the electoral calculus of profligacy, have been forgotten or are being willfully ignored.

The risk also runs the other way. Giving a central bank a degree of control over the government's expenditure priorities is not a prudent approach. Whatever be their policy inclinations and expenditure priorities, elected representatives have to face voters at the hustings. Why should unelected technocrats be in charge of determining the expenditure priorities of the government? Are they answerable to the people? Such proposals blur the lines between fiscal and monetary policy and may lead to what some call the fiscalisation of monetary policy.

Another equally audacious idea that has been proposed is for the cash strapped government to pledge its shares in companies and avail loans against them. This raises questions. Should a sovereign pledge assets to borrow in the local currency? In 1991, India had pledged gold for a foreign currency denominated loan not a local currency loan. So why the collateral? And what happens if the value of the shares pledged falls below that of the loan?

ishan.bakshi@expressindia.com

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### DISTANT SECULARISM

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'You dare not speak' (IE, September 25). The medley of hate speeches started last year with Pragya Thakur and her comments on Nathuram Godse. Then we had two more BJP MPs vying to be part of that elite club — Anurag Thakur and Parvash Verma — alongside Kapil Mishra, during the Delhi riots. When we see in a party with senior and respected leaders and professionals the likes of Sakshi Maharaj, Sadhvi Pragya, Usha Thakur, Yogi Adityanath, Niranjan Jyoti, Sangeet Som, it gives a feeling that "positive secularism", which the BJP speaks about, is a long way away.

Ravi Jain, Zirakpur

### A CIRCUS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Hold the nose' (IE, September 25). The Narcotics Control Bureau's (NCB) relentless pursuit to "uproot the drug titelash in Bollywood", as opposed to secrecy in its investigation, has been rather indiscrete. Is the citizenry getting intoxicated by reading and watching this, and loving it, amid the pandemic-induced unprecedented fall in GDP and massive unemployment? Marie Antoinette and Roman poet Juvenal who are often quoted for "if they have no bread, let them eat cake" and about "bread and circus" respectively, have paled before the media's "Make In India" innovation combining the two "if they have no job, let them watch circus". This reflects pathological symbiosis of politics and

### IDEAS ONLINE

ONLY IN THE EXPRESS

● MALNUTRITION, THE SILENT PANDEMIC: ANTARYAMI DASH

● A PANDEMIC OF FAILURES: JAVED IQBAL WANI AND L DAVID LAL

www.indianexpress.com

business that defies reason and the rule of law.

L R Murmu, Delhi

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Hold the nose' (IE, September 25). It seems that all the premier investigative agencies are, by hook or by crook, trying to fill the entertainment space, with exaggeration and fiction. Undeniably, this has given enough fodder to 24 X 7 news channels, who are morphing into gossip-mongering platforms. A common man who is struggling to surmount the pandemic and make ends meet is not at all interested in the drugs celebrities consume. Whatever be the outcome of the investigations, it is certain that ED/CBI/NCB have dented their stature further.

Deepak Singhal, Chennai



PROTESTS AGAINST FARM BILLS PASSED IN PARLIAMENT

From fields to streets: farmers observe Bharat bandh

Punjab shuts down, CM says he hopes pain of farmers will reach Centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 25

NORMAL LIFE was thrown out of gear as there was a near total shut-down across Punjab on Friday following the bandh call by 31 farm organisations to protest against the farm legislation recently passed in Parliament. Besides farmers, traders, labourers, activists, artistes and women stepped out in support of the bandh.

The bandh was peaceful, except in Barnala district where Shiromani Akali Dal activists set afire a tractor.

Chief Minister Amarinder Singh appealed for a peaceful agitation and said he was hopeful that the "pain of agitating farmers, who braved the pandemic and the heat today to protest against the Agriculture Bills, will reach the Central government, and it will gracefully back off from destroying the farm sector with such ruthless disregard for the farming community". He reiterated his commitment to fight the "draconian laws till his last breath".

Shiromani Akal Dal (SAD), president and Ferozepur MP Sukhbir Singh Badal and Bathinda MP Harsimrat Kaur Badal, who resigned as Union minister to oppose the Bills, led protests in Lambi Assembly segment.

Speaking at the protest meeting, Sukhbir said, "Chief Minister Amarinder Singh should call a Cabinet meeting immediately and come out with an ordinance to declare the entire state as a principal market yard (to circumvent implementation of the three Bills in the state)".

Terming it as "complete shutdown", Krantikari Kisan Union leader Darshan Pal said, "As per the reports from the farm organisations across the state, road and railway travel remained suspended, markets, offices and other establishments remained shut during the Bandh".

He said that October 1 onwards, farm outfits would announce a programme for indefinite rail roko protest in Punjab.



PTI

Harmeet Sodhi



(Above) Farmers protest on the Punjab-Haryana border near Ambala on Friday. Protests were organised across the country as part of a 'bandh' call against the farm Bills. (Left) SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal and former Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal lead a tractor march in protest against the farm Bills in Sri Muktsar Sahib on Friday.

Maharashtra may not implement farm Bills, decision after consulting experts: Deputy CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PUNE, MUMBAI, SEPT 25

ON A day thousands of farmers took to the streets in protest against the farm Bills passed by Parliament recently, the Maha Vikas Aghadi government in Maharashtra indicated that it was set to oppose the implementation of the new legislation in the state.

"The Union government got the new farms Bills passed... but there are protests against them across the country. If the Bills have to be considered for Maharashtra... they may not be implemented in the state. However, we will hold



Ajit Pawar

discussions with experts before any decision is taken," NCP leader and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar told reporters in Pune Friday.

Pawar's colleague in the state cabinet, state Revenue Minister Balasaheb Thorat, also indicated that stalling the implementation of the farm Bills was an option.

"The Congress is against the implementation of the farm Bills. The Maha Vikas Aghadi is also opposed to these legislations. We

may decide against implementing these in the state," said Thorat, also the state Congress president.

Earlier this week, Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel had said that if required, the Congress could consider non-implementation of the Bills in the states under its rule.

Thorat was addressing the media during the launch of a two-month long 'mass movement' against the central government for pushing "anti-farmer and anti-labour legislations without review". All India Congress's Committee's Maharashtra in-charge HK Patil, former chief ministers Ashok Chavan and Prithviraj Chavan and senior Congress min-

isters and MLAs from Maharashtra were present during the event.

The Congress in Maharashtra is also set to launch an online protest — #SpeakUp for farmers — on Saturday, following which senior leaders will walk to the Raj Bhavan on September 28 to submit a memorandum against these legislations to Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari, to be handed over to President Ram Nath Kovind. On October 2, on the occasion of birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and former PM Lal Bahadur Shastri, the party will observe Kisan Mazdoor Bachao Diwas, where protest meets will be held across the state.

How protests played out in other states

HARYANA

FARMERS TOOK to the streets and blocked roads and highways by parking tractor-trolleys. The farmer unions claimed the agitation had impact across the state and Rohtak, Jind and Kurukshetra remained almost disconnected with other parts due to road blockades. Haryana Bhartiya Kisan Union president Gurnam Singh Chaduni said: "Our struggle will continue. The government has to either accept our demands or shoot us."

Farmers raised slogans against PM Narendra Modi amid the tunes of Haryanvi ragnis (folk songs) in Rohtak district. In Fatehabad, patriotic songs were played on loudspeakers.

BIHAR

RJD FRIDAY backed the call for Bihar bandh by farmers organisations. Leader of Opposition in



RJD's Tejashwi Prasad Yadav takes part in a protest at Patna. PTI

Assembly Tejashwi Prasad Yadav drove tractor on Patna roads to lodge protest against the Nills.

Tejashwi told reporters: "The NDA government is adamant on putting an end of MSP, which is the only shield of farmers."

Bihar Kisan Manch president DK Tuddu said several farmers'

outfits hit the streets in protest.

JD (U) spokesperson Rajiv Ranjan Prasad said: "The protest is misplaced. MSP is not being tampered with."

WEST BENGAL

THE LEFT Front and Congress held protests across the state.

The ruling TMC took out rallies in various parts of the state and held a sit-in in Kolkata demanding that the Bills be scrapped.

The Left and Congress took out a joint rally in Kolkata. CPM leader Sujan Chakraborty said, "This black law has to be withdrawn. It is against the interest of farmers," Chakraborty said.

In Kolkata, farmers affiliated to TMC organised a protest rally.

KARNATAKA

FARMERS IN Karnataka staged demonstrations across the state. A group of farmers blocked the busy Tumakuru road near Yashwantpur in the city. As the police reached the spot to clear the blockade, the farmers courted arrest and were taken away in buses. Demonstrations were also held in other places, including Mysuru and Davangere.

—ENS & PTI

PM: Bills to benefit farmers, Oppn spreading rumours

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

AMID INTENSIFYING protest by farmers in different parts of the country against the farm-related Bills passed by Parliament in the recently concluded monsoon session, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said his is the first government in decades to have framed laws that benefit farmers, workers, women and other marginalised sections of the society.

Modi hit out at the Opposition for its attack on his government over the Bills — opposition parties have called these anti-farmer — and said those who have always "lied" to farmers are now "shooting from their shoulders" and misleading them for political benefit.

Addressing BJP workers on the 104th birth anniversary of Jan Sangh ideologue Deendayal Upadhyaya, the Prime Minister said small and marginal farmers, who constitute 85 per cent of the sector, will benefit the most from these reforms. He said these reforms will give them an option to sell their produce outside agriculture 'mandis' for a better price.

"We have taken well thought-out decisions that are not for any political benefit (to us) but for the empowerment and benefit of farmers. Earlier, we decided to give MSP that was one-and-a-half times the cost of production and created history," he said.

This was the third time in recent days that Modi spoke in support of the Bills and countered the Opposition's criticism.

The BJP has launched an aggressive counter-campaign after the Opposition, NDA ally Shiromani Akali Dal — the SAD walked out of government over the Bills — and some friendly parties are leading protests in agrarian areas, especially in Punjab and Haryana.

Targeting the Congress, Modi said hollow slogans were given in favour of farmers and workers for decades since Independence even as the party formed governments at the Centre and in states in their name. All that farmers and labour-

GUJARAT ASSEMBLY PASSES LEGISLATION

Gandhinagar: The Gujarat Assembly Friday passed a Bill amending Gujarat Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1963, which makes the entire state a "unified market" where a trader can buy farmers' produce from anywhere. The Congress staged a walkout, calling the Bill "anti-farmer". ENS

ers got was a jumbled web of promises and laws, he said. "They are spreading rumours. Saving farmers from such rumours and explaining the importance of the agriculture reforms is the responsibility and duty of all BJP workers, because we have to make the future of farmers bright," he said.

Parliament passed Farmer's Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, and Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill in the monsoon session, which wound up on Wednesday, eight days ahead of schedule, amid protests by the Opposition.

The Opposition has claimed that the Bills will harm interest of farmers and benefit corporates, a claim denied by the government.

Modi also praised the new labour laws passed by Parliament and maintained that they will ensure timely salary for over 50 crore organised and unorganised workers.

While the trade union wing of RSS has opposed changes in labour laws, its farmers' wing has raised voice against the farm Bills.

Modi said the government has taken every marginalised session along. "The government must use its resources more for (development of) the deprived and the marginalised. This birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal ji is even more relevant as the reformist decisions taken by the government in recent times had the imprint of the vision shown by him," he said.

‘Only option for govt: get ordinance to guarantee no procurement below MSP’

MANOJ CG  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

FORMER HARYANA CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda Friday said the government should immediately promulgate an ordinance spelling out that a private transaction would be valid only if the price paid is not less than the Minimum Support Price (MSP) and that those found purchasing agricultural produce below MSP would be liable for punishment.

He also hit back at the BJP and senior Union ministers, who have been targeting the Congress by saying that contract farming was launched by its Haryana government in 2007 and that its 2019 Lok Sabha election manifesto had promised repeal of Agricultural Produce Market Committees Act.



Bhupinder Singh Hooda

"Senior ministers of the BJP government are talking about the Congress manifesto... They are saying contract farming was launched in Haryana in 2007 by the Congress government. I read an interview by Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad in *The Indian Express*... Yes, I was the Chief Minister then. Let them go through the contract farming rules my government framed..." he told *The Indian Express*.

"Clause 6 of the Contract Farming Rules my government had come out with clearly says

'the agreed rate/contract shall not be less than minimum support price of the preceding year. The buyer shall deposit an amount up to 15 per cent of the total price of the agricultural produce as per agreed rate or MSP (if the rate is not agreed upon) or bank guarantee for the sum with the committee in which is the land is situated as security,'" he said and asked whether the Bills passed by the central government has "such provisions to protect farmers".

"The only option before the government now is to promulgate a fourth ordinance which should guarantee the farmer that his crop would be procured not below MSP and mention that any person or entity found purchasing produce below the MSP would be liable for criminal prosecution," Hooda said.

BALWANT MULTANI MURDER CASE

Punjab ex-DGP appears in Mohali court, says ready to join investigation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MOHALI, SEPTEMBER 25

FORMER PUNJAB DGP Sumedh Singh Saini Friday appeared before a Mohali court, seeking withdrawal of arrest warrants against him, and said he is ready to join the investigation in the 29-year-old Balwant Singh Multani disappearance case.

The court issued a notice to the Special Investigation Team (SIT) of Punjab Police, seeking its reply, and fixed September 30 as the next date of hearing.

Earlier in the day, Saini reached Matour police station at around 9.30 am to appear before the SIT. The SIT members, however, were not present at the police station following which Saini reached the district court with his lawyer and filed the plea.

In his application, Saini said



Former Punjab DGP Sumedh Singh Saini

that the Supreme Court has granted him an interim protection from arrest and thus the non-bailable warrant issued against him by a local court be withdrawn. The former state police chief said he was "ready and willing" to appear before the investigating agency and cooperate as and when required.

Saini filed the application two days after he failed to appear before the SIT for questioning at the Matour police station.

After hearing the application, the court of Judicial Magistrate (First Class) Rasveen Kaur issued the notice to the Punjab Police.

HARIKISHAN SHARMA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE CENTRE has notified new guidelines to regulate extraction of groundwater, making it mandatory for new and existing industries, group housing societies, and private water supply tankers to get a no objection certificate (NOC) for withdrawal of groundwater. Non-compliance of NOC conditions may attract a penalty between Rs 50,000 and Rs 10 lakh.

"All new/existing industries, industries seeking expansion, infrastructure projects and mining projects abstracting groundwater, unless specifically exempted... will be required to seek No Objection Certificate from Central Ground Water Authority or, the concerned State/UT Ground Water Authority as the case may be," say the guidelines notified by Jal Shakti Ministry. The guidelines were notified in the gazette on September 24 and came into force with immediate effect. The guidelines have exempted 5 categories from getting an

NOC — individual domestic consumers in both rural and urban areas for drinking water and domestic uses; rural drinking water supply schemes; Armed Forces Establishments and Central Armed Police Forces establishments in both rural and urban areas; agricultural activities; and micro and small enterprises drawing groundwater less than 10 cubic metre/day.

However, NOC will be required for groundwater extraction for drinking and domestic use for residential apartments or group housing societies in urban areas where "local government water supply agency is unable to supply requisite amount of water". The entities will also have to pay charges. The NOC issued under the new guidelines will be valid for 2-5 years depending on the entity.

"Sale of ground water by a person/ agency not having valid no objection certificate from CGWA/ State Ground Water Authority is not permitted," the guidelines state. "All private tankers abstracting ground water and use it for

supply as bulk water suppliers will now mandatorily seek No Objection Certificate..." they stated.

For residential apartments, group housing societies and government supply agencies in urban areas, there will be no abstraction charge for domestic use up to 25 cubic metre/month. However, beyond this, they will have to pay.

Non-compliance of NOC guidelines will draw a penalty between Rs 50,000 to Rs 10,00,000, depending on the violation.

The guidelines say extraction of groundwater for commercial use by industries, infrastructure units and mining projects without an NOC will be considered illegal and they will be liable to pay Environmental Compensation. The guidelines authorise district authorities to take action.

In Over-exploited assessment units, No Objection Certificate shall not be granted for groundwater abstraction to any new industry except those falling in the MSME category.

FULL REPORT ON  
www.indianexpress.com

GROUNDWATER USAGE: NOW AT A HIGH COST

RESIDENTIAL APARTMENTS & GROUP HOUSING

Quantum of withdrawal (m <sup>3</sup> /month)	Rate (₹/m <sup>3</sup> )
0-25	No charge
26-50	1
>50	2



Govt has notified new guidelines for groundwater use

FOR BULK SUPPLIERS & INDUSTRIES

Area type	Bulk/Tanker water supplies	Packaged Drinking Water Units	Other Industries & Infra Projects	Mining
Safe	₹10/m <sup>3</sup>	₹1-10/m <sup>3</sup>	₹1-5/m <sup>3</sup>	₹1-3/m <sup>3</sup>
Semi Critical	₹20/m <sup>3</sup>	₹2-20/m <sup>3</sup>	₹2-8/m <sup>3</sup>	₹2-4/m <sup>3</sup>
Critical	₹25/m <sup>3</sup>	₹4-60/m <sup>3</sup>	₹4-10/m <sup>3</sup>	₹3-6/m <sup>3</sup>
Over Exploited	₹35/m <sup>3</sup>	₹8-120/m <sup>3</sup>	₹6-20/m <sup>3</sup>	₹4-7/m <sup>3</sup>

\*Charges for packaged drinking water units; other industries & infrastructure projects; and mining will vary with the quantum of withdrawal, measured in m<sup>3</sup>/day



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla

‘Productive Monsoon Session, but RS scenes unfortunate’

LIZ MATHEW  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

LOK SABHA Speaker Om Birla Friday thanked the ruling and Opposition parties for a productive Monsoon Session but expressed disapproval at the chaotic scenes witnessed in Rajya Sabha during the passage of farm Bills.

"It was unfortunate," Birla said when asked about protests by the Opposition during the last two days of the session. Referring to the practice of either House not commenting on the proceedings of the other, he said: "Efforts should be made to strengthen democratic institutions further."

"The dignity of the House and its chair was an important aspect of the parliamentary system. All members have a duty to respect it," he added.

Birla was addressing the media after the conclusion of the Monsoon Session. The session, which began on September 14, was scheduled to end on October 1. It ended on September 23, cut short by the pandemic. Three MPs and a minister died of Covid-19, and several people on the premises tested positive.

The Speaker said the Opposition in Lok Sabha boycotted the last day of the session due to "some political compulsions", but added that its leaders had conveyed that they did not have any issues with him. Birla said he had invited the Opposition leaders for a cup of a tea and requested them to attend the valedictory proceedings of the House on Wednesday.

Speaker Birla also said the construction of the new Parliament building will be completed in 21 months. "We expect to hold the session in the new building when the country celebrates 75 years of Independence," he said.

The estimated cost for the building is Rs 892 crore and is expected to be completed by July 2022. The tender has been awarded to Tata Projects Ltd.

The Speaker pointed out that despite adversarial circumstances and restrictions due to Covid-19, Lok Sabha recorded historic productivity — 167 per cent. "On average, 370 MPs attended the House in a day. This is even better than in a session during normal times," he said. He credited the cooperation of all political parties for this.

On the issue of the Question Hour, Birla said members were given ample opportunities to raise matters concerning peoples' welfare through written questions and the Zero Hour. Asked why the border stand-off with China was not debated in the House, the Speaker said the pandemic was the most challenging issue facing the country. That issue, he said, had come up not just during a general debate but also during a discussion on the Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Act.



# EXPRESS NETWORK

## BRIEFLY



Tusharkanti Behera

### ODISHA

#### Sports Minister tests positive for Covid-19

**Bhubaneswar:** Odisha's Sports and Youth Services Minister Tusharkanti Behera on Friday said he had tested positive for Covid-19 and urged all those who came in contact with him to get tested. Behera said that he has some symptoms and is in home isolation. "I have tested COVID-positive today. Hence I request all my friends and associates who came in contact with me in last 7 days to test and isolate themselves," he tweeted. Behera is the ninth minister in Odisha to be infected by the coronavirus. **PTI**

### TELANGANA

#### Man killed by kin of wife, honour killing suspected

**Hyderabad:** In an apparent case of honour killing, a 28-year-old man was allegedly kidnapped and killed by his wife's kin, who belong to another caste, with the help of hired goons, police said on Friday. According to Cyberabad Police, relatives of C Avanthi Reddy on Thursday forcibly took her and her husband Y Hemanth Kumar and killed the latter by strangling him. The Cyberabad police have arrested 14 people, including the parents of the woman, in connection with the murder and are on the lookout for four more. **PTI**

### MAHARASHTRA

#### Ex-corporator held for builder's kidnapping

**Mumbai:** Four persons, including a former corporator of Bhiwandi-Nizampur Municipal Corporation, were arrested Thursday for allegedly kidnapping a Thane-based builder and extorting money from him. The Thane Crime Branch identified the accused as Mohamed Khalid Shaikh alias Guddu, affiliated to AIMIM, his brother Ifatkhair Mustar Shaikh alias Bablu, Fauj Alam and Gulam Khan. The four were produced in court, which remanded them in police custody till October 2. **ENS**

## NCB detains Dharma employee, Johar slams 'malicious' claims

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE NARCOTICS Control Bureau on Friday detained an employee of Dharma Productions, as part of its investigations into an alleged drug nexus in Bollywood. It also questioned an assistant director linked to the production house owned by Karan Johar.

Kshitij Prasad, identified as executive producer, was detained after day-long questioning, while Anubhav Chopra was allowed to leave late in the evening.

As part of the probe, actor Rakul Preet Singh on Friday recorded her statement before the NCB along with the manager of actor Deepika Padukone, Karishma Prakash, Padukone, as well as actors Sara Ali Khan and Shraddha Kapoor, are likely to appear before the agency on Saturday.

Late on Friday night, Johar tweeted a statement denying claims that Prasad or Chopra were his aides. He said Prasad had joined Dharmatic Entertainment, a sister concern of Dharma productions, in November 2019 as one of the executive producers "on contract basis for a project which did not



**Karan Johar said he had never consumed narcotics nor does he promote them.**

eventually materialise" while Chopra worked with them on projects for short durations between 2011 and 2013.

NCB officials had raided Prasad's house on Thursday looking for him. Prasad, who was out of town, appeared before the agency on Friday morning.

Rakul Preet Singh came in around 10:30 am and was questioned till 2:30 pm.

In his tweet, Johar said he had never consumed narcotics nor does he promote them. "All these slanderous and malicious statements, news articles and news clippings have unnecessarily subjected me, my family, and my colleagues, and Dharma Productions, to hatred contempt and ridicule," he said, adding

that he may not be left with any option but to take legal action.

Johar said he didn't know either Prasad or Chopra personally and couldn't be held responsible for what they did in their personal lives. Chopra, the filmmaker said, was not an employee of Dharma Productions and had been associated with it for two months as second assistant director between November 2011 and January 2012, and as assistant director for a short film in January 2013.

In a detailed note, the NCB clarified why it had suo motu registered a second FIR linked to the death of Sushant Singh Rajput, and arrested 19, including Rhea Chakraborty and her brother Showik, even as the first one has not led to any arrests.

The first FIR was based on WhatsApp chats purportedly of Chakraborty shared by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) with the NCB. In its note, the agency said, "The NCB received official communication from ED, in which there were chats related to drugs. Taking cognizance, NCB launched an investigation in this matter."

Regarding the second FIR, to investigate what it called "a drug citadel in Mumbai", the NCB said, "Based on network analy-

sis undertaken on technical level, the linkages were explored and one of the nodes of the network was busted on the intervening night of 27/28... two persons Karn Arora and Abbas Lakhani were arrested."

NCB Deputy Director (Operations) KPS Malhotra said, "Rakul Preet Singh and Karishma Prakash joined the investigation today. Prakash has been asked to join the investigation tomorrow as well."

NCB officials have claimed that chats alone are not the basis of their investigation and their next course of action will depend upon what comes up during questioning. While Padukone has been summoned in connection with chats from 2017 with Rajput's talent manager Jayanti Saha, Kapoor and Khan have allegedly been named by some of those questioned. Chakraborty and Showik's lawyer had earlier said that the two of them had not named anybody.

Meanwhile, there have been no arrests in the FIRs the CBI and Enforcement Directorate had registered against Chakraborty based on the statement of Rajput's father KK Singh, including charges of abetment to suicide.

## SENIOR QUAD OFFICIALS MEET

## PM Modi speaks to Japan counterpart, focus on open and inclusive Indo-Pacific

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Friday spoke to the newly appointed Prime Minister of Japan, Suga Yoshihide, while senior officials of the Quadrilateral grouping — US, Japan, Australia and India — met through virtual mode at a time when Chinese aggressiveness is evident on the world stage. The officials said that a Quad ministerial meeting will take place later this year.

With an eye on China, Modi and Suga — in their first conversation — concurred that the partnership between the two countries is even more relevant in today's times given the global challenges, including that of the Covid-19 pandemic. "They emphasized that the economic architecture of a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific region must be premised on resilient supply chains, and in this context, welcomed cooperation between India, Japan and other like-minded countries," a statement by the Ministry of External Affairs said on Friday.

At the Quad officials' meet-

ing, they also discussed a host of "issues on regional and global issues of common interest" — an oblique reference to Beijing.

In the context of the pandemic, the officials "underscored the importance of enhancing the resilience of supply chains and sharing best practices on how to combat the pandemic", an MEA statement said.

"The officials reaffirmed their commitment towards a free, open, prosperous and inclusive Indo-Pacific region based on shared values and principles and respect for international law," it said.

The officials reiterated their firm support for ASEAN Centrality and ASEAN-led mechanisms, particularly the leaders-led East Asia Summit, in the regional architecture for the Indo-Pacific, and their readiness to work with ASEAN and all other countries towards realising a common and promising vision for the Indo-Pacific. They appreciated the Vietnamese chairmanship of the ASEAN and looked forward to the 15th East Asia Summit in November this year.

Following up on the last such official-level discussions in

November 2019, and the ministerial engagement of September 2019, the officials exchanged views on ongoing and proposed practical cooperation in areas of connectivity and infrastructure development, and security matters, including counter-terrorism, cyber and maritime security, with the objective of promoting peace, security, stability and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region, the statement said.

During his call with Suga, Modi congratulated the Japanese PM on his appointment and wished him success in achieving his goals, a statement said.

The two leaders agreed that the India-Japan Special Strategic & Global Partnership has made "great advances over the last few years and expressed their intention to further strengthen this relationship based upon mutual trust and shared values".

The two leaders "appreciated the progress made in the economic partnership between the two countries, and in this context, welcomed the finalization of the text of the agreement pertaining to specialized skilled workers".

## J&K Police announce SIT to probe killing of advocate in Srinagar

**NAVEEDIQBAL**  
SHEIKHPORA (TANGMARG),  
SEPTEMBER 25

JAMMU AND Kashmir Police on Friday announced the setting up of a Special Investigation team to probe the killing of advocate Babar Qadri (38) outside his residence in Hawal area of Srinagar on Thursday.

"I visited the crime scene. We have constituted an SIT headed by SP Hazratbal and including other officers and a legal expert. The SIT has been directed to solve the case at the earliest and ascertain which militant outfit is responsible," Inspector General J&K Police (Kashmir Zone) Vijay Kumar said.

Meanwhile, at Babar's family home in Sheikhpora off Tangmarg road, his father Mohammad Yaseen Qadri said he would not cooperate with any police probe. "I have lost my son. I will not cooperate with the police because I do not trust their investigations," he said.

The father was at Babar's home when the assailants arrived just after 6 pm on Thursday. "One was short and had a stubble and the other was tall, clean-shaven, with short hair. They were not wearing masks," Yaseen Qadri told *The Indian Express*.

He said they entered through the gates and asked to see Babar regarding a case. "Our helper had them sit in chairs on the lawn, where clients often meet Babar. He came out to meet them and started reading the file they



Advocate Babar Qadri's grave at Sheikhpora village in Baramulla district. *Shuaib Masoodi*

handed him, and then they began shooting at him," he said.

"Covered in blood, he ran inside the house, and they kept shooting at him. He fell in the lobby, where his sister caught hold of him, riddled with four bullets," Yaseen Qadri said.

He said that Babar's younger brother Zaffar tried to run after the assailants, but he called out to him to get Babar to a hospital. "By the time we reached SKIMS, we had lost him," he added.

Yaseen Qadri said he discouraged his son from appearing on television — Babar often took part in TV debates — "but he would always say that it was his right to express his point of

view".

His father pointed to a couple of episodes that had raised his concern for his eldest son. "In 2016, a senior member of the High Court Bar Association asked me to check Babar and bring him to the right path." Babar's membership to the J&K High Court Bar was suspended around 2016.

Babar had floated a lawyers' collective termed Lawyer's Club Kashmir in 2012. Fellow advocate and his friend, advocate Shafqat Nazir, said that it was not a parallel body to the bar and was "eventually reduced to a Facebook page". Nazir also said there had been previous at-

tempts on Babar's life.

The second episode Yaseen Qadri pointed to was a TV television debate where, he said, a senior member of a political party said, "Babar, are you still alive?" Other members of Babar's family also said they had warned him "not to speak on TV debates".

Babar had initiated a political venture called the Justice Party, but "the idea faded after August 5, 2019", after which he picked up habeas corpus and bail petitions.

Activist Ahsan Untoo, a former client of Babar, said, "A lot of cases Babar took up were pro bono. He went out of his way to help clients."

## 2 LeT militants killed in gunfight at Anantnag; 4 villagers injured in blast at site

**BASHAARAT MASOOD**

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 25

TWO MILITANTS were killed early on Friday following an overnight gunfight with security forces at Anantnag in south Kashmir. After security forces left the village, a blast at the encounter site left four villagers injured.

On Thursday evening, a joint team of J&K Police, paramilitary personnel and Army cordoned off Sirhama village after receiving inputs about the presence of militants. While the encounter lasted through the night, both the militants were killed Friday morning.

"They (militants) tried to escape during the night," IGP Vijay Kumar said. "In the morning, we traced them to a house and killed them. We used some explosives too."

The IGP identified the militants as Adil Bhat, a resident of Kakapora in Pulwama district and Abu Rehan, a Pakistani national. "If you remember, two of our men were martyred in Nowgam. Adil was the militant involved in that," IGP Kumar said.

"Abu Rehan was active in Kashmir since March 2019 and was involved in many killings," he added.

After the gunfight was over and the forces left the village, villagers rushed to the encounter site. A sudden explosion left four civilians injured. They were rushed to the hospital.

## Yes Bank case: ED attaches Kapoor's Rs 127-cr London flat

**DEEPTIMAN TIWARY**

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached assets worth Rs 127 crore belonging to former Yes Bank chief Rana Kapoor in connection with its money laundering probe into the financial dealings of the bank when he was heading it.

The attached asset, the ED said, is "a residential flat of Rana Kapoor at Apartment 1, 77 South Audley Street, London, UK. The market value of the flat is 13.5 Million Pound (Rs 127 Crore)".

According to the ED, Rana purchased the flat in 2017 for 9.9 million pounds (Rs 93 crore) in the name of DoIT Creations Jersey Limited, "wherein accused Rana Kapoor is the beneficial owner" and was trying to sell it off.

"Information from a reliable source revealed that Rana Kapoor is trying to alienate this property in London and that he has hired a reputed property consultant. Enquiries from open sources confirmed that this property has been listed for sale on several websites," ED claimed.

The agency, which had earlier arrested Kapoor, has alleged that the banker took bribes from companies to grant or readjust their loans. These bribes were allegedly taken through investments in companies owned by his family members. It has already filed a prosecution complaint (equivalent to a chargesheet) against Kapoor and



Rana Kapoor

others in the case.

"This was basically the quid pro quo modus operandi of Rana Kapoor. Companies were advanced loans by Yes Bank in a financially imprudent manner and these companies in turn advanced loans to those owned by the Kapoor family," an ED official said. As reported earlier by *The Indian Express*, the Kapoor family owns a company named DoIT Urban Ventures, of which DoIT Creations is a subsidiary. DoIT Urban Ventures had received a loan of Rs 600 crore from DHFL, when the latter was under a debt of Rs 3,700 crore from Yes Bank.

Documents available with the Registrar of Companies (RoC) under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs show that DoIT was incorporated in 2012 with Rana Kapoor's wife Bindu as its director. It currently has his daughters Roshini Kapoor and Radha Kapoor Khanna as its directors.

The agency had earlier attached assets to the tune of Rs 2,000 crore in the case. These include assets of the Wadhawan brothers of DHFL.

## ‘Sang for 4 generations of heroes, will be remembered for 7 generations’

**SUANSHU KHURANA & ARUN JANARDHANAN**  
NEW DELHI, CHENNAI,  
SEPTEMBER 25

SRIPATHI PANDITARADHYULA Balasubrahmanyam, the playback singer, composer, actor, producer and musician whose evocative voice and the earnestness in it could elevate a simple piece of music to sublimity, died on Friday of cardio-respiratory arrest at MGM Healthcare in Chennai. He was 74.

Balasubrahmanyam, fondly called SPB and Balu, was admitted to the hospital on August 5 after he tested positive for Covid-19. He was later shifted to the ICU after he developed severe pneumonia due to complications. Outside the hospital, an emotional SP Charan, his son, told reporters, "SPB belongs to everyone. He will live on in his songs".

Widely believed to be one of the finest male playback singers, Balasubrahmanyam had a 50-year career and transcended lan-

guage barriers by singing in 16 of them including Hindi, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Tamil. He found success in the Hindi film industry. In South Indian film music there was more — a cult status and genuine affection from people. From MG Ramachandran (MGR), Sivaji Ganesan, Gemini Ganesan to Kamal Haasan, Rajinikanth, Mohan and a slew of actors in the present day, Balasubrahmanyam's voice was often the fixture for all of them. That he held the Guinness World Record for singing the highest number of songs — 40,000 of them — was just another feather in his cap. In all of them, that tender, velvety voice triumphantly stood out as one of a kind — unpretentious yet grand. And that's where the magic was.

Yet, his voice was turned down once. During the music making process of S Balachandrar's Rati Agnihotri and Kamal Haasan starrer *Ek Duje ke Liye* (1981) — a Hindi remake of the director's Telugu film *Maro Charitra* — composers

Laxmikant-Pyarelal were displeased. They felt that Balasubrahmanyam, the "Madras" singer they were asked to work with, could not correctly pronounce Anand Bakshi's Hindustani lyrics. Balachandrar's condition was clear — Balasubrahmanyam was to sing for Haasan since Vasu, his character, was not supposed to be good at Hindi. The composer duo relented.

The songs in Balasubrahmanyam's smooth baritone, many of which were duets with Lata Mangeshkar, captured the nation's attention. He received the National Award for Best Male Playback Singer for *Tere mere beech mein* in the pathos-driven raga Shivrangini.

Subsequently Balasubrahmanyam was cast as Salman Khan's voice in Sooraj Barjatya's *Maine Pyaar Kiya* (1989) by composers Ram Laxman. The voice fit Khan like a glove. The singer continued being Khan's voice through the 1990s in *Andaz Apna Apna* (1994)



S P BALASUBRAHMANYAM  
1946-2020

and *Hum Aapke Hain Kaun* (1994) among others.

In a condolence message on Twitter, Haasan said, "A great singer who sang for four generations of heroes will be remembered for seven generations to come", while Mangeshkar re-

ferred to him as "nek insaan" (good person).

Balasubrahmanyam was born in Konetampet village, located in present-day Tiruvallur, into a Telugu family to a Hariakatha artiste and his wife. His interest in music began early. Bright in aca-

demics, Balasubrahmanyam wanted to become an engineer and took admission in Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh. While going to college on his cycle he would often hear *Deewana huya baadal*, the OP Nanyar ditty immortalised by Mohammad Rafi, in a shop. "I could hear Rafi sahab's smile in that song. I would cry... it felt nearest to godliness," Balasubrahmanyam said once in a conversation with singer Sonu Nigam on the sets of the show *SareGaMa*.

In his early 20s, Balasubrahmanyam was the leader of a music group that had him as vocalist and his friend Illyaraja on the harmonium. They would perform in villages and cities, take part in competitions and visit composers for work. Finally, Balasubrahmanyam made his singing debut in 1966 with Telugu movie Sri Sri Sri Maryada Ramanna, which was scored by his mentor S P Kodandapani. He was soon recording songs in Tamil and Kannada. His song *Aayiram milave*

vaa, picturised on MGR and J Jayalalitha in the 1969 film *Adimai Penn*, was a huge success.

But what made Balasubrahmanyam a force to reckon with was *Sankarabharanam* (1980), the Telugu musical drama that remains one of the finest films on classical music. Singer M Balamuralikrishna was the top choice for the complex Carnatic classical compositions. But composer K Mahadevan decided on Balasubrahmanyam, who eventually won his first National Award for the songs.

In the Tamil industry, he worked extensively with Illyaraja, M S Viswanathan and later AR Rahman among others. The collaboration between Balasubrahmanyam and Rahman for the song *Thanga Thamarai* won him another National Award, his first for a Tamil song. There was also the title song of *Roja* where the two collaborated. The tender romanticism paired with powerful vocals is likely to remain one of the

singer's finest hours. Rahman posted just one word on Twitter today: "Devastated."

Balasubrahmanyam was also a well-known dubbing artiste and dubbed for Haasan, Rajinikanth, Salman Khan, Anil Kapoor among others for Telugu versions of their films. He also acted in a few films.

In 1997, there was a rare live concert by Lata Mangeshkar titled *Lata An Era In An Evening*. It was televised and had every major name from the film industry present. For one of its segments, Mangeshkar invited Balasubrahmanyam to sing with her and said, "*Inka upkaar rahega mujh par ki ye mere liye aaye* (It's his beneficence that he has come for me." Balasubrahmanyam gave Mangeshkar a toothy smile and said, "*Jab bhagwaan bulata hai toh aana hi padta hai* (When god calls, you have to show up)," before breaking into their famed pieces together.

Balasubrahmanyam is survived by wife Savithri, son S P Charan and daughter Pallavi.









@ieExplained

#ExpressExplained

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

## CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

### COVID-19 VACCINE TRACKER

## Serum Institute vaccine in phase-I/II trials in Australia

APART FROM bringing some of the leading contenders of a coronavirus vaccine to India, the Serum Institute of India is developing its own vaccine as well. It is partnering with SpyBiotech, a spin-off of Oxford University, for this purpose. Their vaccine candidate has entered into combined phase-I/phase-II clinical trials, which are being done in Australia. The trials began in the first week of September.

The Serum Institute of India, based in Pune, also has the license to produce and market two of the leading vaccine candidates, one being developed by AstraZeneca and University of Oxford, and the other one by US company Novavax. The Oxford University vaccine is currently undergoing phase-II and phase-III trials in India.

**NEW YORK REVIEW:** In further politicisation of the debate over coronavirus vaccine, New York Governor M Cuomo on Thursday said his state would review any vaccine cleared by

the federal government before approving it for public use. Cuomo said this was because of fears that the federal government might rush through a vaccine for political reasons without having adequate regard for its safety or effectiveness.

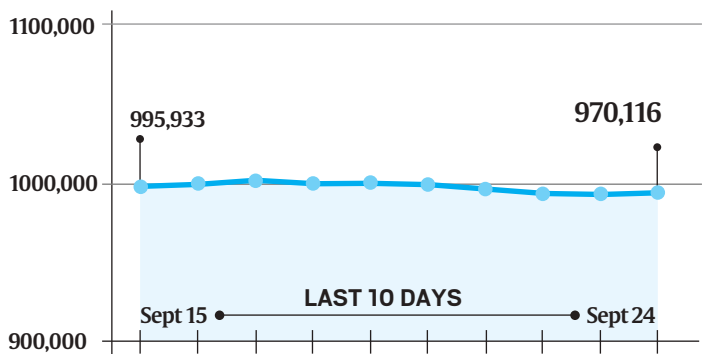
"Frankly, I am not going to trust the federal government's opinion, and I would not recommend to New Yorkers, based on the federal government's opinion. Unfortunately, we can no longer trust the federal government," Cuomo was quoted as saying in a *New York Times* report.

When most companies and experts had been saying that a vaccine would not be available before early next year, US President Donald Trump had insisted that it could be ready by the end of this year itself. Later, he said the vaccine could be made available before the election date as well. Since then, the timeline for vaccines, at least for their availability in the US, has been advanced to the end of this year.



### INDIA ACTIVE CASES

970,116



Note: The Sept 24 figure in this graph is based on the government update on Sept 25

**INDIA TOTAL CASES**  
5,818,570

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, updated at 11 pm on Sept 25

**WORLD TOTAL CASES**  
32,356,829

Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated at 11 pm on Sept 25

## Statins found associated with severity of Covid-19 disease

STATINS ARE a widely used medication for lowering cholesterol. Recent research from US San Diego (University of California at San Diego) School of Medicine associated statins with reduced risk of developing severe Covid-19 disease, as well as faster recovery times. Now another research team, also from UC San Diego School of Medicine, has explained why this happens. The first study is published in *The EMBO Journal*, and the new one in the *American Journal of Cardiology*.

In short, statins remove cholesterol from cell membranes, which in turn prevents the coronavirus from getting in.

We know that SARS-CoV-2, the



**PAPER CLIP**

NEW RESEARCH

virus that causes Covid-19, enters the human cell by using a protein known as ACE2 on the cell surface. ACE2 can be affected by prescription statins.

Researchers retrospectively analysed the electronic medical records of 170 patients with Covid-19 and 5,281 Covid-negative control patients hospitalised at UC San Diego Health between February and June 2020. Among the patients with Covid-19, 27% were taking statins on admission.

Statins use was associated with a more than 50% lower risk of developing severe Covid-19. Patients taking statins also recovered faster than those not taking statins.

Source: UC San Diego Health

# 'We need a 5-yr, 10-yr plan to get labour participation rate right'

MAHESH VYAS, CEO of the think tank Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, discusses how to save jobs and create new ones in the wake of the pandemic. He spoke before a nationwide audience on Zoom



**On the state of jobs in India since the pandemic started**

There is a marginal difference between the official statistical machinery that generates the employment data and the CMIE (Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy) machinery.

The headline number used to be understood as the unemployment rate. But for a country like India... unemployment rate is not the most important indicator to look at.

One of the good starting points is the labour participation rate, which is how many people of all the people who can work, are actually willing to go out there and work. Those people as a proportion of all the people who are qualified to do this, which are people more than 15 years of age, that ratio is called the labour participation rate. Globally this number is of the order of 66% or so. Where are we in India? According to us, we are at a pathetic 41%. Where were we until recently? We have come down even by government statistics. It was around 50% till recently, then in around 2016-2017 or 2017-18, according to official statistics it came to 48% (we say it came down to 46%). Now, in recent times, it has come down to 43% in 2019-20, and now it is 41%. It went down all the way to 35% in April when the big lockdown hit us and it's back to 41%. Mind you, 2% down compared to 2019-20, just appreciate this number. The working-age population in India is a billion. If you knocked out between 2019-20 and now, 2% of the labour participation, you've knocked out 20 million people.

The second thing, unemployment rate. Of all the people who come into the market to work, how many get jobs and how many are left without a job? Traditionally in India, this number used to be 2-3%, because most people in India couldn't afford to remain unemployed. NSSO surveys have over decades shown us that the unemployment rate was of the order of 2-3%, till the PLFS came out and said in 2018 that this number had risen to 6.1%. Now CMIE has got a similar number for the same period — of the order of 6% in 2017-18. This number in 2019-2020 went up to about 7.5% or so, and in the pandemic lockdown we saw it rise to 23.5%. A quarter of the people who are seeking jobs were unable to find it and, mind you, the number of people seeking jobs itself came down very sharply, double whammy. This 23.5% remained till June. Then it came down to 8.5%, but 8.5% on shaving off of 2% of labour force.

Now, if you take a combination of these two, the number that I think is the most important is the employment rate. How many people are actually employed? That number is down to 37.5%. It was 39% in 2019-20, it was a little more than 40-43% or so before that. So only 37.5% of the people today are employed, of all the people who can work.

**On low labour force participation rate among women**

This has fallen even according to official statistics and we show this fall far more steeply compared to the official statistics. Just take the difference, the labour participation rate for men is of the order of 75% (72% according to us) and for women is 25%. That's a huge difference. According to us, 72% of men are willing to work and only around 11% of women are willing to work. Now why is this the case? Initially what happens is that as per capita GDP increases, women who are participating in agricultural activities... find it more useful to stay at home and help children's education. They themselves get educated, then they help their children get educated, and they find the



**Mahesh Vyas (top) in conversation with Udit Misra, Deputy Associate Editor, The Indian Express**

returns on that to be higher than themselves going out into the labour market. Even then, for decades together we are seeing labour participation among women falling...

For India's demographic dividend to play out, we don't have much headroom amongst men, because 75% of them are anyway participating. The headroom is all among women, which is down to 10-11%. Female labour participation even in urban India is extremely low, in fact lower than in rural India. So, we are losing out on educated, urban women who could be in the labour force, who could be increasing our per capita income, and could have helped the country grow much faster...

**On trends in jobs lost**

In 2019-20, we had a total employment count of 403 million and the lockdown came at the end of 2019-20. We lost 121 million jobs in April. Since then, many jobs have come back... So, what was 121 million jobs lost in April, in August is 11 million jobs lost, but what is the composition of this? The story of gender comes back again: 7 million jobs are of men, 4 million are of women. Of the 403 million, only 11% are women. (In) the proportion of job loss, 4 out of 11 are women, whereas only 11 out of 100 were women in jobs. Women lost jobs in demonetisation, they lost jobs in GST, disproportionately high, again we see women lose jobs disproportionately in this shock as well.

Now, the lockdown opened up in rural India faster, MNREGA helped increase jobs over there, the kharif crop was very good. Still, by the end of August, the distribution of the losses of this 11 million is broadly in line with the share of rural and urban... 70-30 is the urban-rural breakup (of jobs), 70-30 is the distri-

bution of job losses as well.

Total job losses are 11 million, but salaried job losses are 21 million and this is the only category that is seeing job losses. Farmers have seen a gain of 14 million, small businesses have seen a gain of 7 million.

**On whether Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan can create more jobs**

My one-line answer this is,

Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan does not help save jobs, does not help create jobs. I am making a very categorical statement: It does not help on this front at all. In a broad economic sense, the term Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan suggests like Vocal for Local, an economy that does not really encourage globalisation.

Although nothing said in Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan seems to suggest that, the heading does, except there is one clause which says that you can't have global tendering, which I think is counter-productive. But I think if you try to make the country *atmanirbhar*, which means self-reliant, that means you should shun foreign goods and services and I think that's not a very good thing to happen for the country. We require to export a lot, we require to import a lot, rather than be an inward-looking economy. We have suffered in the past by being an inward-looking economy. In 1992 we realised our folly and we have stupendous growth for many many years after that because we opened up...

What was the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan proposal all about? It was about providing liquidity, easy loans to MSMEs. MSMEs did not want easy loans, and if you give very easy loans, you just spoil them. They will just create massive NPAs, become irresponsible. Also look at this in one more way: What does easy liquidity do? It does not help labour. It

## AUDIENCE QUESTIONS

**On what the government could have done to prevent such a steep fall in employment**

By stopping imports, we do no good to consumers (or) to the small enterprises who require those inputs. The best thing to do now is to spend money, and the government is making a gross mistake by not being willing... This year so far, the government has spent just 11% higher compared to a year ago. If aggregate demand is not supported by government spending, no consumption can grow. You may make as many toys as you want, but households don't have the income to actually buy them.

**On whether labour participation rate includes people who have retired, and entrepreneurs**

In labour participation, if a person becomes an entrepreneur, he is a part of the labour force, so he is counted in. If a person is retired and is not willing to work anymore, he wants to lead a retired life, then he is not in the labour participation rate. There is no age bar — (if you are) 80-90 years and are willing to work, you are part of the labour force. We require our education policy to make it more relevant for skills required in the job markets. That's a larger problem for the country to solve.

helps the owners of MSMEs, who have got easy finances available with them. What makes you think that this will go to labour? Not necessarily. They could use it for setting anything or they can even run away with it because anyway this is a very easy loan. So I think this is getting it wrong, this is not good for labour at all.

**On how many jobs the government can provide**

There are many elements in this question. The first thing is, how much does the government really offer in terms of jobs? Our survey shows us it's of the order of 14-15 million jobs that are there with the government, all kinds of governments put together. Our numbers are closer to 14 million than 15 million, but let's keep it at 15 million and let us say that the whole pie is 400 million. So what are we looking at? It is an extremely small share. So the government jobs are hardly any jobs.

Another thing is, look at incrementalism, the additional jobs are next to nothing, they don't even count. Total jobs are 15 million maximum. The central government official budget document says that the people employed in the central government is on the order of some 3.6 million. So 3.6 million over there and all governments put together we are talking about 14 million jobs out of 400 million jobs that aren't much... The government should be itself providing a lot more jobs than it is providing today.

Usually people say government should create infrastructure, but what do we mean by infrastructure? It is usually your roads, ports, airports, those kinds of things, but once those roads and airports are made then it does not create any more employment. It is capital intensive. But you also require other infrastructure, social infrastructure — primary education, primary health centres — we require many more of them we require those labs we were desperately in need of when the pandemic hit us.

**On how many jobs India needs**

In an arithmetic way... people who are more than 15 years of age, their population is growing at a rate of 2 million per month, approximately. And, we have a labour participation rate of about 40%. So, 2 million per month, you cut it down to 0.8 million per month because of 40% labour participation rate and you multiply that by 12, you should be getting around 9-9.6 million jobs per year. So I think we require of the order of 9 million jobs, if you are willing to accept a labour participation rate of 40% (which in my opinion is not acceptable)... We have got about 35 million unemployed people right now. Are we going to leave them the way they are or at least take some of them away into jobs? And, we have a very low labour participation rate stock, how are we going to raise that labour participation rate to close to 65% that the world has? So the number of jobs that we are going to create is really massive, if we want to really grow into becoming a high per capita or a middle per capita income country. If we are willing to live in the conditions in which we are right now, we require about 6-8 million jobs per annum. That's going to be very poor. So the number of jobs we should be creating... what we should be doing strategically for a country is to say, "How do I get my labour participation year up to 60-65%?" Maybe a 5-year, 10-year perspective plan to get that right, and that's how we will be able to exploit our demographic dividend. Otherwise we are letting it go by.

**TRANSCRIBED BY MEHR GILL**  
(Edited excerpts)  
VIDEO: [youtu.be/XrIMDOGYTA](https://youtu.be/XrIMDOGYTA)

# Retrospective taxation: the Vodafone case, and the Hague court ruling

AASHISH ARYAN

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

IN A unanimous decision, the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague on Friday ruled that India's retrospective demand of Rs 22,100 crore as capital gains and withholding tax imposed on the British telecommunication company for a 2007 deal was "in breach of the guarantee of fair and equitable treatment". The court has also asked India not to pursue the tax demand any more against Vodafone Group.

**What is the case?**

In May 2007, Vodafone had bought a 67% stake in Hutchison Whampoa for \$11 billion. This included the mobile telephony business and other assets of Hutchison in India. In September that year, the India government for the first time raised a demand of Rs 7,990 crore in capital gains and withholding tax from Vodafone, saying the company should have deducted the tax at source before making a payment to Hutchison.

Vodafone challenged the demand notice in the Bombay High Court, which ruled in

favour of the Income Tax Department. Subsequently, Vodafone challenged the High Court judgment in the Supreme Court, which in 2012 ruled that Vodafone Group's interpretation of the Income Tax Act of 1961 was correct and that it did not have to pay any taxes for the stake purchase.

The same year, the then Finance Minister, the late Pranab Mukherjee, circumvented the Supreme Court's ruling by proposing an amendment to the Finance Act, thereby giving the Income Tax Department the power to retrospectively tax such deals. The Act was passed by Parliament that year and the onus to pay the taxes fell back on Vodafone. The case had by then become infamous as the 'retrospective taxation case'.

**What is retrospective taxation?**

As the name suggests, retrospective taxation allows a country to pass a rule on taxing certain products, items or services and deals and charge companies from a time behind the date on which the law is passed.

Countries use this route to correct any anomalies in their taxation policies that have, in the past, allowed companies to take advantage of such loopholes. While governments



**Vodafone Group CEO Nick Read outside the Indian Parliament earlier this year. Express Archive**

often use a retrospective amendment to taxation laws to "clarify" existing laws, it ends up hurting companies that had knowingly or unknowingly interpreted the tax rules differently.

Apart from India, many countries including the US, the UK, the Netherlands, Canada, Belgium, Australia and Italy have retrospec-

tively taxed companies, which had taken the benefit of loopholes in the previous law.

**What happened after India passed the retrospective taxation law?**

Once Parliament passed the amendment to the Finance Act in 2012, the onus to pay the taxes fell back on Vodafone. The amendment was criticised by investors globally, who said the change in law was "perverse" in nature.

"The retrospective amendment that overturned the decision of the highest court of the land was badly drafted in its wide generalities and carried a perverse sense of vindictiveness," said Nigam Nugehalli, Dean of the School of Law at BML Munjal University.

Following international criticism, India tried to settle the matter amicably with Vodafone, but was unable to do so. After the new NDA government came to power, it said it would not create any fresh tax liabilities for companies using the retrospective taxation route.

By 2014, all attempts by the telco and the Finance Ministry to settle the issue had failed. Vodafone Group then invoked Clause 9 of the Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) signed between India and the Netherlands in 1995.

**What is the Bilateral Investment Treaty?**

On November 6, 1995, India and the Netherlands had signed a BIT for promotion and protection of investment by companies of each country in the other's jurisdiction.

Among the various agreements, the treaty had then stated that both countries would strive to "encourage and promote favourable conditions for investors" of the other country. The two countries would, under the BIT, ensure that companies present in each other's jurisdictions would be "at all times be accorded fair and equitable treatment and shall enjoy full protection and security in the territory of the other".

While the treaty was between India and the Netherlands, Vodafone invoked it as its Dutch unit, Vodafone International Holdings BV, had bought the Indian business operations of Hutchison Telecommunication International Ltd. This made it a transaction between a Dutch firm and an Indian firm.

The BIT between India and the Netherlands expired on September 22, 2016.

**What did the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague say?**

One of the major factors for the Court of

Arbitration to rule in favour of Vodafone was the violation of the BIT and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL).

In 2014, when the Vodafone Group had initiated arbitration against India at the Court of Arbitration, it had done so under Article 9 of the BIT between India and the Netherlands.

Article 9 of the BIT says that any dispute between "an investor of one contracting party and the other contracting party in connection with an investment in the territory of the other contracting party" shall as far as possible be settled amicably through negotiations.

The other was Article 3 of the arbitration rules of UNCITRAL, which, among other things, says that "constitution of the arbitral tribunal shall not be hindered by any controversy with respect to the sufficiency of the notice of arbitration, which shall be finally resolved by the arbitral tribunal".

In its ruling, the arbitration tribunal also said that now since it had been established that India had breached the terms of the agreement, it must now stop efforts to recover the said taxes from Vodafone.



# 16 THE WORLD

## TOP OF THE WORLD



Queen Elizabeth II

### BRITAIN

#### Queen to trim costs as Covid hits income

BRITAIN'S QUEEN Elizabeth II and her family are facing a £35 million (\$45 million) hit from the coronavirus pandemic, partly due to a shortage of tourists, the monarch's money-manager said Friday. Releasing the royal household's annual accounts, Keeper of the Privy Purse Michael Stevens said a lack of income from visitors to royal buildings was likely to bring a general funding shortfall of £15 million (\$19 million) over three years. He said the impact of the pandemic is also likely to cause a £20 million (\$25.4 million) shortfall in a 10-year, £369-million programme to replace antiquated heating, plumbing and wiring at Buckingham Palace, the queen's London home. **AP**

### THAILAND

#### FB, Twitter sued for allowing banned material

THAILAND'S GOVERNMENT lodged complaints with police Thursday against Facebook and Twitter, alleging they failed to comply with court orders to block content judged illegal under Thai law. Minister of Digital Economy and Society Buddhaphongse Punnakanta said at a news conference that it was the first time his ministry has taken such action against the social media companies under Thailand's Computer Crime Act. It has prosecuted website and account owners and users in the past. **AP**

### BRITAIN

#### Police officer shot dead at custody centre

A BRITISH police officer was shot dead in the early hours of Friday by a man who was being held at a custody centre in south London. Police said the incident occurred at 2.15 am while the man was being detained at the Croydon Custody Centre where arrested suspects are processed. The unnamed officer was treated at the scene and taken to hospital where he died. A 23-year-old man was detained and is in hospital. **REUTERS**



## RBG Is First Woman To Lie In State At US Capitol

The flag-draped casket of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is carried into Statuary Hall in the US Capitol, where Ginsburg will lie in state. Ginsburg broke one final barrier on Friday, becoming the first woman and the first Jewish American to lie in state in the Capitol. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said it was with "profound sorrow" that she welcomed the liberal icon and opened the private service. Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden and his wife, Jill, sat quietly with other elected officials, friends and family. His running mate, Senator Kamala Harris, also attended. **AP**

## North Korea's Kim offers rare apology for killing of S Korean

HYONHEE SHIN & SANGMI CHA  
SEOUL, SEPTEMBER 25

NORTH KOREAN leader Kim Jong Un apologised on Friday for the shooting death of a South Korean man to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus, the South's national security adviser said, as public and political outrage over the killing grew.

The apology came in a letter from the North's United Front Department, which handles cross-border ties, to South Korean President Moon Jae-in a day after South Korean officials said the North's soldiers killed the man, doused his body in fuel and set it on fire.

The rare conciliatory message from the North Korean leader came as Moon faced intense political fallout over the incident, which coincided with a renewed push by him for engagement with North Korea.

"Chairman Kim Jong Un asked



At the Seoul Railway Station on Friday. **AP**

to convey his feeling that he is greatly sorry that an unexpected unsavoury incident occurred in our waters which hugely disappointed President Moon Jae-in and compatriots in the South," the adviser, Suh Hoon, told reporters. Suh said the letter was a response to requests for an explanation for the incident and included a promise to prevent any recurrence.

North Korea expressed hope the incident would not undermine recent efforts to foster trust, Suh said, adding Moon and Kim had exchanged letters this month. **REUTERS**

## EXPLAINED Rare, but not unprecedented

KIM'S APOLOGY to South Korea is a rare, but not unprecedented event. It was the first apology in Kim's name, but other North Korean leaders have in the past expressed regret to their South Korean counterparts over the loss of civilian life after violent episodes in 1996 and 2002. With the furor over the killing growing in the South, the North's apology also serves to mitigate the crisis, and comes at little cost for Kim domestically, where the state-controlled media have remained silent on the episode.

## UN agency advises Pak to stop issuing new pilots' licences

ASIF SHAHZAD  
ISLAMABAD, SEPTEMBER 25

THE INTERNATIONAL Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has advised Pakistan to undertake "immediate corrective actions" and suspend the issuance of any new pilot licenses in the wake of a scandal over falsified licences, according to an official and a document seen by Reuters.

The recommendations from ICAO, a United Nations agency that works to ensure safety in international air transport, come days after Pakistan opened a criminal probe into 50 pilots and five civil aviation officials who allegedly helped them falsify credentials to secure pilot licences.

"Pakistan should improve and strengthen its licensing system to ensure that it... prevents inconsistencies and malpractices before new licences are issued," ICAO said in a letter to the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority. **REUTERS**

## First man cured of HIV now has terminal cancer

LALIT K JHA  
WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 25

THE US will invest \$150 million in training for middle-to-high-skilled H-1B occupations in key sectors, including in information technology which employs tens of thousands of Indian professionals.

The H-1B visa is a non-immigrant visa that allows US companies to employ foreign workers in speciality occupations that require theoretical or technical expertise.

According to the Department of Labor, prominent among these sectors are information technology, cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing, transportation, wherein the H-1B One Workforce grant programme

has not only caused disruptions in the labour market, but also forced many education and training providers and employers to rethink how to deliver training, the department said in a statement.

In this grant programme, the

department has set out to streamline funding and resources to encourage a more integrated workforce system that will push the applicants to provide an innovative mix of training strategies, leveraging innovative modes of training delivery, including online, distance and other technology-enabled learning.

Through local public-private partnerships, the grantees will deploy training to provide individuals in their communities with skills necessary to advance career pathways to employment in middle-to-high-skilled H-1B occupations within key industry sectors.

The training models will include a broad range of classroom and on-the-job training, customised training and registered apprenticeships

would be used to upskill the present workforce and train a new generation of workers to grow the future workforce.

The coronavirus pandemic has not only caused disruptions in the labour market, but also forced many education and training providers and employers to rethink how to deliver training, the department said in a statement.

In this grant programme, the

department has set out to streamline funding and resources to encourage a more integrated workforce system that will push the applicants to provide an innovative mix of training strategies, leveraging innovative modes of training delivery, including online, distance and other technology-enabled learning.

Through local public-private partnerships, the grantees will deploy training to provide individuals in their communities with skills necessary to advance career pathways to employment in middle-to-high-skilled H-1B occupations within key industry sectors.

The training models will include a broad range of classroom and on-the-job training, customised training and registered apprenticeship programmes. **PTI**

### MEANWHILE

#### NZ Divided Over Historic Marijuana Vote

A referendum to be held on October 17 on legalising recreational cannabis has divided opinion in New Zealand. If passed, New Zealand would be only the third country in the world after Uruguay and Canada to legalise the adult use and sale of cannabis. A Horizon Research survey showed 49.5% of respondents were in favour of legalising cannabis while 49.5% were against, and 1% gave no response.

### FEARS OVER TRANSFER OF POWER

## At Pentagon, concern rife that Trump will pull military into election row

Officials say top generals could quit if President orders active-duty military into streets to quell election protests

JENNIFER STEINHAUER & HELENE COOPER  
WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 25

PENTAGON LEADERS have a lot to worry about — Afghanistan, Russia, Iraq, Syria, Iran, China, Somalia, the Korean Peninsula. But chief among those concerns is whether their commander in chief might order US troops into any chaos around the coming elections.

President Donald Trump gave officials no solace Wednesday and Thursday when he again refused to commit to a peaceful transfer of power no matter who wins the election, and Thursday, he doubled down by saying he was not sure the election could be "honest". His hedging, along with his expressed desire in June to invoke the 1807 Insurrection Act to send active-duty troops onto American streets to quell protests over the killing of George Floyd, has incited deep anxiety among senior military and Defence Department leaders, who insist they will do all they can to keep the armed forces out of the elections.

"I believe deeply in the principle of an apolitical US military," Gen Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had said in written answers to questions from House lawmakers. "In the event of a dispute over some aspect of the elections, by law, US courts and the US Congress are required to resolve any disputes, not the US military. I foresee no role for the US armed forces in this process."

But that has not stopped an intensifying debate in the military about its role should a disputed election lead to civil unrest.

On Aug 11, John Nagl and Paul Yingling, both retired Army officers and Iraq War veterans, published an open letter to Milley on the website Defense One. "In a few months' time, you may have



Trump at a rally in Jacksonville, Florida, on Thursday. **Reuters**



## RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

to choose between defying a lawless president or betraying your constitutional oath," they wrote. "If Donald Trump refuses to leave office at the expiration of his constitutional term, the United States military must remove him by force, and you must give that order."

Pentagon officials swiftly said such an outcome was preposterous. Under no circumstances, they said, would the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff send Navy SEALs or Marines to haul Trump out of the White House. If necessary, such a task, Defence Department officials said, would fall to US Marshals or the Secret Service. The military, by law, the officials said, takes a vow to the Constitution, not to the president, and that vow means that the commander in chief of the military is whoever is sworn in at 12.01 pm on Inauguration Day.

But senior leaders at the Pentagon, speaking on the condition of anonymity, acknowledged that they were talking among themselves about what to do if Trump, who will still be president from Election Day to Inauguration Day, invokes the Insurrection Act and tries to send troops into the streets, as he repeatedly threatened to do during the protests against police brutality and systemic racism. Both Milley and Defence Secretary Mark Esper opposed the move then, and Trump backed down.

Defence Department officials have privately discussed the possibility of Trump trying to use any civil unrest around the elections to put his thumb on the scales. Several Pentagon officials said that such a move could prompt resignations among many of Trump's senior generals, starting at the top with Milley.

The Air Force chief of staff, General Charles Q. Brown, the officials said, would also be unlikely to salute and carry out those orders. In the days after the killing of Floyd in police custody, Brown released an extraordinary video in which he spoke in starkly personal terms about his experience as a Black man in America, his unequal treatment in the forces and the protests that gripped the US. **NYT**

## US announces \$150 mn for H-1B workforce training programme

LALIT K JHA  
WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 25

THE US will invest \$150 million in training for middle-to-high-skilled H-1B occupations in key sectors, including in information technology which employs tens of thousands of Indian professionals.

The H-1B visa is a non-immigrant visa that allows US companies to employ foreign workers in speciality occupations that require theoretical or technical expertise.

According to the Department of Labor, prominent among these sectors are information technology, cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing, transportation, wherein the H-1B One Workforce grant programme

has not only caused disruptions in the labour market, but also forced many education and training providers and employers to rethink how to deliver training, the department said in a statement.

In this grant programme, the

department has set out to streamline funding and resources to encourage a more integrated workforce system that will push the applicants to provide an innovative mix of training strategies, leveraging innovative modes of training delivery, including online, distance and other technology-enabled learning.

Through local public-private partnerships, the grantees will deploy training to provide individuals in their communities with skills necessary to advance career pathways to employment in middle-to-high-skilled H-1B occupations within key industry sectors.

The training models will include a broad range of classroom and on-the-job training, customised training and registered apprenticeships

would be used to upskill the present workforce and train a new generation of workers to grow the future workforce.

The coronavirus pandemic has not only caused disruptions in the labour market, but also forced many education and training providers and employers to rethink how to deliver training, the department said in a statement.

In this grant programme, the

department has set out to streamline funding and resources to encourage a more integrated workforce system that will push the applicants to provide an innovative mix of training strategies, leveraging innovative modes of training delivery, including online, distance and other technology-enabled learning.

Through local public-private partnerships, the grantees will deploy training to provide individuals in their communities with skills necessary to advance career pathways to employment in middle-to-high-skilled H-1B occupations within key industry sectors.

The training models will include a broad range of classroom and on-the-job training, customised training and registered apprenticeship programmes. **PTI**

## Paris: Terror probe after 2 stabbed near former Charlie Hebdo office

ANGELA CHARLTON & OLEG CETINIC  
PARIS, SEPTEMBER 25

FRENCH TERRORISM authorities are investigating a double-stabbing outside the former Paris offices of a satirical newspaper where a dozen people were killed in 2015, and two suspects have been arrested in Friday's violence, authorities said.

France's counterterrorism prosecutor said authorities suspect a terrorist motive because of the place and timing of the stabbings: in front of the building where *Charlie Hebdo* was based until the Islamic extremist attack



At the site of the attack in Paris on Friday. **AP**

on its cartoonists and at a time when suspects in the 2015 attack are on trial across town.

Prosecutor Jean-Francois Ricard said that the chief suspect in Friday's stabbings was arrested,

along with another person. Ricard said the assailant did not know the people who were stabbed, two workers in a documentary production company who had stepped outside for a smoke break.

The suspects' identities have not been released, and it is unclear exactly what prompted the attack. An investigation was opened into "attempted murder in relation with a terrorist enterprise," according to an official at the terrorism prosecutor's office.

French Prime Minister Jean Castex said the lives of the two wounded workers are not in danger. He offered the government's solidarity with their families and colleagues. **REUTERS**

Loetparisanyu said. "This means that a lot of our rights have been violated."

The movement sweeping through Thai high schools has been dubbed "Bad Student" by its leaders. Its namesake is a book written by university student activist Netiwit Chotiphatphaisal about his experiences in high school titled "A Bad Student in an Excellent Education System."

As well as supporting the broader aims of the anti-government protests, the high school movement is targeted at gaining self-expression for students via the abolition of rules they deem as archaic.

Traditionalism runs through Thailand's education system. The royal anthem is played at morning assemblies, uniform and department rules are strict



As well as supporting the broader aims of the anti-government protests, the high school movement is targeted at gaining self-expression for students. **Reuters**

and students are expected to be unquestioning of authority.

Critics say the school system is aimed at compliance more

than education. Global scores compiled by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) for 2018

show Thailand far behind top performer Singapore and also lagging neighbouring Malaysia in reading, maths and science.

Still, conservatives were furious last month when some students wore white ribbons and raised three-finger "Hunger Games" salutes during the morning anthem recital to support the pro-democracy movement. The salute has been a symbol of calls for democracy since Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha first took power in a 2014 coup. The white ribbons represent the purity of the students.

Education Minister Nataphol Teepsuwan earlier this year bowed to demands by students to relax the rules that prescribe specific hair length and styles for male and female students.

But Nataphol said more dis-

## AMID PRO-DEMOCRACY PROTESTS LED BY COLLEGE STUDENTS, SCHOOL KIDS ADVANCE THEIR OWN REBELLION

## ‘Our first dictatorship is school’: Thailand’s kids revolt

JUARAWEE KITTISILPA  
BANGKOK, SEPTEMBER 25

WEARING WHITE ribbons, publicly hacking off their hair and making "Hunger Games" salutes — Thailand's high school students are doing their best to shake up the country's rigid education system.

As university students stage weeks of high-profile campus protests for democracy, their younger brethren are advancing their own rebellion to Thailand's establishment.

"There's a viral saying that 'our first dictatorship is school'," 17-year old Peka Loetparisanyu told Reuters at her apartment.

"They are trying instill in us that we are only the little people in an authoritarian society,"





## 17 ECONOMY



GOLD

₹50,824



RUPEE

₹73.61



OIL

\$41.62



SILVER

₹60,536

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market; gold per 10 g, silver per 1 kg; Brent crude as of 1930 IST

SENSEX: 37,388.66 ▲ 835.06 NIFTY: 11,050.25 ▲ 244.70 NIKKEI: 23,204.62 ▲ 116.80 HANG SENG: 23,235.42 ▼ 75.65 FTSE: 5,805.23 ▼ 17.55 DAX: 12,419.33 ▼ 187.24

International market data till 1900 IST

## VODAFONE GROUP PLC-GOVT CASE AT PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION

## Govt may have to shell out ₹85 cr if it decides not to appeal

₹45 crore towards tax collected from Vodafone Group Plc, ₹40 crore towards administrative cost charged by tribunal

AANCHAL MAGAZINE  
& PRANAV MUKUL

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

RS 85 crore — this would be the Centre's liability should it decide to not appeal against Friday's ruling of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in the Rs 22,100-crore tax dispute with Vodafone Group Plc. The arbitration tribunal ruled in favour of Vodafone Group against India's retrospective demand of capital gains tax. Of the Rs 85-crore outgo, Rs 45 crore will be towards the tax collected from Vodafone so far and Rs 40 crore, or 4.3 million pound sterling, towards the administrative cost charged by the tribunal.

According to Finance Ministry sources, since Vodafone had not paid the initial tax demand of Rs 7,900 crore and interest and penalty on it, the question of India

paying back Rs 22,100 crore did not arise. Further, the tribunal has not accepted the claim of Vodafone for award of damages, sources added.

The issues, however, are expected to crop up for Indian government at another level, with the possibility of other pending cases under arbitration following suit as the Vodafone case, experts said. "Vodafone's win in the arbitration against the government in the retrospective taxation of indirect transfers is very significant as it may cause other similarly placed companies to seek arbitral reliefs. While many bilateral investment treaties have been scrapped by Government or modified not to cover taxation within their ambit, this space is likely to witness further action," Kumarmanglam Vijay, Partner, J. Sagar Associates said.

They also said that if the

**As per Finance Ministry sources, since Vodafone Group Plc had not paid the initial tax demand of ₹7,900 crore and interest and penalty on it, the question of India paying back ₹22,100 crore did not arise**

Government of India does not decide to implement the ruling, Vodafone Plc can seek remedial action for implementation by approaching Indian courts. "The Government of India will need to take a view on it, whether to accept it or not. Or to seek some sort of review. And, if the government does not decide to implement it, then Vodafone can seek remedy in Indian courts," former Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Member Akhilesh Ranjan said.

India is bogged up in several international arbitration cases including some on account of retrospective tax claims against companies such as Cairn Energy. The company is seeking full restitution for its losses totalling over \$1.4 billion resulting from India's expropriation of its investments in India in 2014. The Centre also has a track record for challenging arbitration rulings. The government had appealed against the \$476-million arbitration awarded to Vedanta and Videocon in 2011, but this was turned down by the Supreme Court. Arbitration proceedings had resulted in a \$476-million award to Vedanta and Videocon pertaining to the Ravva oil and gas fields that they had jointly developed in the 2000s. As per the Malaysian Arbitration Act, 2005, an award (the decision of the arbitration) was pronounced in favour of the respondents on

January, 2011.

In July 2014, presenting the Budget, then Finance Minister Arun Jaitley had said that the NDA government will not retrospectively create a fresh tax liability and that all fresh cases arising out of 2012 retrospective amendments will be scrutinised by a high-level committee before any action is initiated. "...consequent upon certain retrospective amendments to the Income Tax Act 1961, undertaken through the Finance Act 2012, a few cases have come up in various courts and other legal fora. These cases are at different stages of pendency and will naturally reach their logical conclusion," Jaitley had said.

The government's stated intent has been that investment treaties should not cover tax matters, one of the reasons for objection to the arbitration in this case since it was covered under the Bilateral

Investment Treaty (BIT) was unacceptable to it in this case was because it was and not the tax treaty. Since then, the government has modified nearly 60 such treaties to exclude taxation matters.

"BITs entered by India in the past were wide enough to cover tax issues. This was something which India was not comfortable with and therefore India came out with a model Bilateral Investment Treaty in 2015 which left out tax and most favored nation clause among various other changes ... However, the new model BITs have found few takers with some countries like Bangladesh entering into the BITs based on the 2015 model. Going forward, this decision will not result in more companies opting for this approach as most BITs have already been terminated by India," Amit Maheshwari, partner, AKM Global said.

## Sensex recovers 835 pts despite negative global cues

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 25

BENCHMARK INDICES on Friday almost recouped the losses in Thursday's trade despite negative global cues and uncertainties surrounding the Covid pandemic and the economic recovery. The Sensex, which plummeted 1,114 points on Thursday, gained 835 points to 37,388.66 and the NSE Nifty Index rose 241 points at 11,050.25.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said, "this relief rally was in spite of mostly negative global cues and seemed to be based on the hope of more



Sensex closes at 37,388.66

stimulus measures by the government. On a weekly basis, the recovery today enabled the benchmark indices to limit to around 3.8 per cent loss for the week. FPIs have net sold close to Rs 2,000 crore so far this month ... which indicates the uncertain

trend in the markets after a huge inflows in August."

"The factors which prevailed against the markets like the sell-off in the tech sector, the emergence of the second wave of the pandemic and probability of geopolitical tensions centering around Chinese stand-off etc may continue to influence the course of the markets in the coming weeks," said Joseph Thomas, Head of Research, Emkay Wealth Management. However, expectations of another fiscal package from the government ahead of the festival season is a factor that may endow the markets with some strength, he said.

According to Deepak Jasani, head—retail research, HDFC

Securities, the investor sentiment was dented as rising coronavirus cases led to the possibility of fresh lockdowns in some European countries, which could further slow down the pace of global economic recovery. Firmness in the US dollar also put pressure on domestic shares.

The broader markets underperformed the benchmark indices with BSE Midcap and Smallcap indices declining by 4.7 per cent and 5.3 per cent respectively during the week.

Among the sectoral indices, telecom index fell over 10 per cent, followed by media (down by 9.3 per cent).

Metal and PSU bank index were down 8 per cent.

NCAER QUARTERLY REVIEW OF THE ECONOMY  
'Growth to stay negative in remaining 3 qtrs, FY21 to see 12.6% contraction'ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE GDP growth rates in the remaining three quarters of this financial year — i.e. July-September, October-December and January-March — are expected to remain negative at (-) 12.7 per cent, (-) 8.6 per cent and (-) 6.2 per cent, respectively, with the overall gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate for the full year seen at (-) 12.6 per cent, the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) said Friday.

The think-tank, in its quarterly review of the economy, said that the Indian economy will catch up with its pre-pandemic growth path of 7 per cent only by 2037-38. "Post 2020-21 annual growth of 7 per cent would imply a growth swing of 20 per cent not ever seen so far in India. Assuming optimistically that 7 per cent growth is indeed achieved because of the base effect of a steep decline in 2020-21, combined with strong policy measures to revive growth, we would still reach

the previous peak output level of 2019-20 only by the end of 2022-23. If that annual growth path of 7 per cent can be sustained over the long term, again a heroic assumption, the economy will catch up with its pre-pandemic growth path only by 2037-38," it said.

A more likely scenario is that after getting back to its previous peak output level by 2022-23 the economy will settle back to its pre-pandemic growth path of 5.8 per cent, it said. NCAER said the references to V-shaped recovery obfuscate more than they reveal.

"The fact is that economic hysteresis, the medium to long-term footprint of a major economic shock, is indeed very long," the think-tank said.

Going ahead, to bring back the economy on a higher-growth path would require reforms similar to the scale seen in 1991. "To nudge the economy to any higher growth path would require ambitious economic reforms across a wide front like the 1991 reforms. A strong revival of global demand could also move the economy to a higher growth path," it said.

## Ticket refund for cancelled flights: SC reserves order

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE SUPREME COURT on Friday reserved its order on petitions seeking refund for tickets booked on flights that were cancelled owing to the Covid-19 lockdown, with the Centre clarifying that the proposed 'credit shell' can only be in the name of the passengers even in cases where the tickets were booked through travel agents.

The Directorate General or Civil Aviation (DGCA) had earlier told the court that the rules require immediate refund but given the financial distress of some airlines amid the pandemic, it suggested setting up a transferable credit shell with life upto March 31, 2021 and refund if it still remains unused on the cut-off date. The apex court had then asked the Centre to explain the status of refund in cases where tickets are booked through travel agents.

On Friday, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told a bench of Justices Ashok Bhushan, R Subhash Reddy and MR Shah the regulatory framework only recognises the contract between a passenger and airline and not between travel agents and airlines.

## ONGC Hazira gas plant resumes supply; normal ops likely from today

New Delhi: State-owned ONGC's Hazira gas processing plant has resumed operations a day after a pipeline rupture caused a fire, forcing the company to cut gas supplies to customers.

The plant, which ordinarily su-

## Irdai lists LIC, GIC Re, New India as 'too big to fail', need enhanced supervision

GEORGE MATHEW  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE INSURANCE Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has named three public sector insurance companies — Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), General Insurance Corporation (GIC Re) and New India Assurance — as 'too big or too important to fail' institutions or Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs), which will require enhanced regulatory supervision and a higher level of corporate governance.

The regulator's move has come ahead of the government plan to list the shares of LIC — India's largest financial entity with assets of Rs 32 lakh crore — on the stock exchanges through an initial public offering (IPO) next year. GIC Re and New India are already listed on the exchanges.

LIC's gross total income grew to Rs 6,15,882.94 crore for the year ended March 31, 2020 from Rs 5,60,784.39 crore, showing a growth rate of over 9.83 per cent. GIC Re is the largest reinsurance company — or insurer's insurer — with a gross premium income of Rs 51,030 crore. New India, which is the largest general insurance

EXPLAINED  
Failure may bring distress

THE INSURANCE regulator said Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) refer to insurers of such size, market importance and domestic and global inter connectedness whose distress or failure would cause a significant dislocation in the domestic financial system.

company in the country, had total global assets of Rs 74,609 crore as of March 2020. "Given the nature of their operations and the systemic importance of the D-SIIs, these insurers have been asked to raise the level of corporate governance and identify all relevant risk and promote a sound risk management culture," Irdai said.

The RBI had last year named State Bank of India (SBI), ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs), which in other words mean banks that are too big to fail. As per

the RBI norms, these banks will have to set aside more capital for their continued operation.

The insurance regulator said D-SIIs refer to insurers of such size, market importance and domestic and global inter connectedness whose distress or failure would cause a significant dislocation in the domestic financial system. "Therefore, the continued functioning of D-SIIs is critical for the uninterrupted availability of insurance services to the national economy. D-SIIs are perceived as insurers that are 'too big or too important to fail' it said.

This perception and the perceived expectation of government support may amplify risk taking, reduce market discipline, create competitive distortions, and increase the possibility of distress in future. These considerations require that D-SIIs should be subjected to additional regulatory measures to deal with the systemic risks and moral hazard issues, Irdai said. In order to identify such insurers and to put such insurers to enhanced monitoring mechanism, Irdai developed a methodology for identification and supervision of D-SIIs.

Full report on [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## BRIEFLY

## S&amp;P reaffirms India's sovereign credit rating

New Delhi: India's weak fiscal settings will worsen this year, said S&P. However, it said external settings have improved. "We are affirming our 'BBB-' long-term and 'A-3' short-term foreign and local currency sovereign credit ratings," it said.

## Faceless tax appeals system

New Delhi: The government Friday issued a notification operationalising 'Faceless Income Tax Appeals' system.

## ₹1 crore fine on Rana Kapoor

New Delhi: Sebi fined Rana Kapoor, ex-MD and CEO of Yes Bank, Rs 1 crore. PTI

## BANK OF CHINA, JP MORGAN CHASE, BNYM

## Arms agent kin's firms routed funds via Russia, Seychelles and Israel

JAY MAZOOMDAAR  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

TWO FIRMS in the British Virgin Islands, Anterna Limited and Belinea Services Limited, made over 200 transactions of at least \$118 million between 2009 and 2014 as three global banks kept flagging the wires for suspected "money laundering/structuring" without blocking any.

The firms were part of a financial structure set up by the family and associates of London-based international arms agent Sudhir Choudhrie.

The transactions were flagged by US branches of Bank of China (BOC), Bank of New York Mellon (BNYM), and JPMorgan Chase (JPMC) in 10 Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) filed with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) of the US Department of Treasury between 2010 and 2017, records investigated by *The Indian Express* show.

As reported by *The Indian Express* in the Panama Papers investigation in 2016, Sudhir Choudhrie's son Bhanu was director of Belinea Services Limited and Anterna Limited, two companies set up in the BVI in October 2002.

Bhanu resigned as Anterna's director in January 2016 after the company's shares were transferred from Prototype Services Inc (Seychelles) to Sumant Kapur, son of Sudhir's uncle BK Kapur, a former chairman of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.

According to Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca's records, Dubai-based businessman Aman Chopra joined Bhanu on the board of Belinea in May 2010 and held the shares of Hollister Consulting Inc (Seychelles), the sole shareholder of Belinea.

In November 2016, an internal communication of Mossack Fonseca recorded the client's confirmation that Belinea would be struck off the BVI register.

In the SARs, the transactions between 2009 and 2014 show that Anterna had an address in Israel and accounts with two Israeli banks — Union Bank of Israel and Bank Hapolim BM.

Belinea, on the other hand, used Mossack Fonseca's Seychelles address and transacted through Vnesheconombank (Moscow), a Russian state corporation, and Bank of China (Suisse). Incidentally, Belinea transferred at least \$5.7 million between the two bank accounts in Russia and Switzerland "for the purpose of investment in that region".

The SARs described Belinea and Anterna as "publicly unidentifiable" entities exhibiting high-risk transaction patterns such as repetitive, large and round dollar amounts sent in clusters with multiple payments on the same day with no apparent economic, business, or lawful purpose, large imbalance in funds sent against funds received, and use of "accommodation addresses" in offshore jurisdictions.

JPMorgan Chase also flagged four family members of Sudhir Choudhrie and an offshore company to FinCEN. An August 2016 SAR reported 13 transactions, totaling \$1.84 million between May 2015 and January 2016, involving Choudhrie's sons Bhanu and Dhairya; Bhanu's wife Simrin; Dhairya's wife Karina, and Optima International Group SA, a firm registered by Mossack Fonseca in the BVI.

According to Mossack Fonseca's records, Optima International was incorporated in BVI in July 2007 for the purpose of "investment holding in Switzerland" and Bhanu Choudhrie was the ultimate beneficial owner.

The source of funds was "distribution of the UBO family trust" that collected dividends from the UBO's various businesses. Three Choudhrie family trusts — Keys Trust, CDC Trust, and CSA Trust — held equal shares in Optima through a trustee firm in Guernsey and later in Switzerland.

Days after the Panama Papers investigation was published in April 2016, Mossack Fonseca decided to drop Optima International as a client, and filed a SAR with the BVI Financial Investigation Agency.

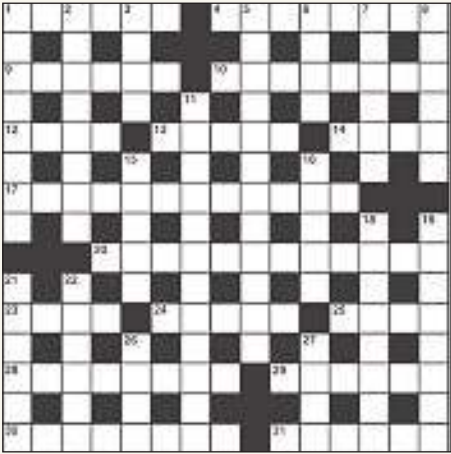
Reached for comment, a spokesperson for JPMorgan Chase, citing legal reasons not to respond to specific queries, said: "We follow all laws and regulations in support of the government's work to combat financial crimes."

Bank of China and Bank of New York Mellon did not respond to multiple emails for comment.

Emails and phone calls to Choudhrie family firm London-based C&C Alpha Group did not elicit any response. Bhanu Choudhrie, Aman Chopra and Sumant Kapur, too, did not respond to emails for comment.



CROSSWORD 4234



- ACROSS**

  - I'd go in upset and come out very blue (6)
  - A literary supplement? (8)
  - Poles unprepossessing but comfortably placed (6)
  - Phaeton's rebuilt as a carriage for one (8)
  - What the impatient motorist feels when forced to change gear (4)
  - Article on the two prime ministers of South Africa (5)
  - The lady's a goddess (4)
  - Close call from a stepped-on piglet? (6,6)
  - Hunters' hats (12)
  - Part of the church in a pseudo-Gothic style (4)
  - Work and play may be the same to him (5)
  - Thought I'd get an early start (4)
  - A number claim it is changeable like the weather (8)
  - Decay that is breaking up vehicles (6)
  - Cry and sing about housework (8)
  - Persuade one to believe the electrical apparatus is connected (4,2)
- DOWN**

  - Taking cover (8)
  - Barnaby put in uninteresting and tedious work (8)
  - Beat in the return game (4)
  - Where one buys at the lowest prices (5,7)
  - Bird in the wilderness (4)
  - He closely follows movements of stock (6)
  - Frenzied woman made an error (6)
  - Interpretation which requires some building up (12)
  - A man who is understood on the radio (5)
  - Flirt with an even chance of success in 24 hours (5)
  - A blow that has to be faced (8)
  - It's criminal to take a couple of fools in (8)
  - The Dunes hold a number, and so do we (6)
  - Aim for a high place in the church (6)
  - Improvise with a 5 amp fuse (4)
  - The head quietly had a meal (4)

**Solutions Crossword 4233:** Across: 1 After, 4 Lasagne, 8 Gum, 9 Upbraided, 10 Instead, 11 Trump, 13 Grow up, 15 Treble, 18 Shell, 19 Arrange, 21 Introvert, 23 Ice, 24 Threat, 25 Right. Down: 1 Angling, 2 Tombstone, 3 Rouse, 4 Libido, 5 Starter, 6 God, 7 End up, 12 Unbending, 14 Unboose, 16 Element, 17 Patent, 18 Swift, 20 Rotor, 22 Tee.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



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.

Live constructively and live \_\_\_\_\_. - Alfred A. Montapert (14)

DPAIO

--	--	--	--	--	--

ASYLLT

--	--	--	--	--	--

VIIST

--	--	--	--	--	--

LUCMPY

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Live constructively and live optimistically. - Alfred A. Montapert

**SUDOKU 4243**

**Difficulty Level 3s**

**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

			5	7	3			
3	4					2		
8							5	
		2					8	
		3	9		6	4		
1				8				
6								2
	7					3	4	
			6	9	7			

**SOLUTION SUDOKU 4242**

7	1	9	2	8	3	4	6	5
3	8	5	6	7	4	9	1	2
2	4	6	5	1	9	7	3	8
8	5	4	3	9	1	2	7	6
1	9	7	4	2	6	5	8	3
6	3	2	8	5	7	1	9	4
4	7	3	1	6	5	8	2	9
9	6	8	7	4	2	3	5	1
5	2	1	9	3	8	6	4	7

**RAIL WHEEL FACTORY**

Yelahanka, Bengaluru - 560064.

Website: [www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in)

email: [workstendercell@gmail.com](mailto:workstendercell@gmail.com)

**TENDER NOTICE No. RWF/S/146/2020-21/02 Dated: 24.09.2020**

**E-TENDER:** On behalf of the President of India, The Principal Chief Materials Manager/RWF invites electronic tender for the following work online through the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> from experienced/reputed contractors in the field.

Tender No.	RWF_S_TPT_FA_2000-2021
Due Date & Time	16/10/2020. Tender closing at 14:15 Hrs.
Scope of Work	Carriage of Finished products i.e. Railway Axles from Rail Wheel Factory (RWF), Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560064 to Various Consignees in India. (For detail scope of work, please refer uploaded Tender document)
Distance slab	Above 1000 Kms.
Quantity	12,000 MT
Estt. Tender Value	Rs. 4,24,80,000/-
EMD Amount	Rs. 3,62,400/-
Contract Period	12 (Twelve) months from the date of commencement of Work

PRINCIPAL CHIEF MATERIALS MANAGER

**Government of India**

**Department of Atomic Energy**

**Bhabha Atomic Research Centre**

**Technical Services Division**

**North Site, Trombay, Mumbai-85**

**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS**

The Chief Engineer, Technical Services Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, North Site, BARC, Trombay, Mumbai - 400 085, on behalf of the President of India invites online item rate tenders on two bid system for following work :-

**NIT No. BARC/TS/D/155/2020-21, Name of Work** - Fixing Deco Grill, External Structural Repair & External Painting, Repairing of PH Shafts & Replacement of PH Service Pipe network in PH Shafts of CT&RCS Building, Anushaktinagar, Mumbai 400094 . **Estimate cost** - ₹1,61,00,000/- ; **Earnest Money** - ₹3,22,000/- ; **Period of completion** - 12 months ; **Last date and time of submission of bid** - 06.11.2020 ( 23:59 Hrs.).

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the Website [www.tenderwizards.com/DAE](http://www.tenderwizards.com/DAE) or [www.barc.gov.in](http://www.barc.gov.in)

Changes if any, in the above scheduled date etc. will be notified only in the website [www.tenderwizards.com/DAE](http://www.tenderwizards.com/DAE).

Contact for assistance / clarifications 24x7 @ 9969395522 Shri Rudresh, e-mail: [rudresh.tenderwizards@gmail.com](mailto:rudresh.tenderwizards@gmail.com)

Chief Engineer

**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, DEHRADUN**

Government of India, Ministry of Finance, (Department of Financial Services)

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Paras Tower, Muzra, Saharanpur Road, Dehradun, UK, 248171

**PUBLICATION NOTICE IN O.A. No. 147 OF 2020**

SUBVISED UNDER SECTION 19(1) OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993, READ WITH SUB-RULE 34 OF RULE 3 OF THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURES) RULES, 1993 AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME

Date: 14-09-2020

Indian Bank (erstwhile Allahabad Bank) Vs Deepankar Sharma & Ors. To,

3. Miss Asmita Sharma O/o Shri Deepankar Sharma R/o House No. 62, Parasnathi, Muzaffarnagar 251001

Second Address: House No. 23/1, New 33, Mohalla Ahupura West, Muzaffarnagar 251501

Whereas the above named Applicant Bank has instituted O.A No. 147 of 2020 against you for recovery of debts of Rs. 36,16,795.98/- in which Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to issue Summons/Notice No. 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and was listed before the Hon'ble Presiding Officer on 18-09-2020.

Whereas, it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by way of this publication directing you to appear in person or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner before the Tribunal on 25-10-2021. Further, you are required to show cause as to why the relief(s) prayed for in O.A should not be granted and to file reply, if any, in your defence in a paper book form in sets and produce all the documents and affidavits under which your defence or dam for set off, counter claim, in this Tribunal personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner within 30 days from the date of the publication of this notice.

Take notice that in case of default of your appearance on the specified day and time before the Tribunal, the case shall be heard and decided in your absence.

NOTE: For appearance in person or through legal representative on the next date of hearing through V.C. contact the Registrar on Mobile No. 95609-72676 or through e-mail on the official e-mail ID of the DRT registrar-drtddn@gov.in at least three days in advance along with details of e-mail ID as well as whatsapp enabled mobile number. So that V.C. link could be provided in advance to participate in the hearing through V.C.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

By order of the Registrar  
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Dehradun  
Dts: 95609-72676, [O.]: 0135-272854

**BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD**

(Power Wing)

**Notice Inviting E-Tender**

E-NIT No.: 2927/BBMB Dated: 16.09.2020

Name of Office: Superintending Engineer, Dehar Power House Circle, BBMB (PW), Slapper.

Name of work: Capital Maintenance of Rotary Valves of Unit No. 3 & 4 without replacement of Trunnion Bushes at Dehar Power House Slapper.

Document download start date & time	25.09.2020 from 17:00 Hrs.
Last date & time for Pre-Qualification documents	09.10.2020 upto 12:00 Hrs.
Last date & time for download tender documents	19.10.2020 upto 12:00 Hrs.
Last date & time for submission of online bid	19.10.2020 upto 15:00 Hrs.
Due date & time for opening online bid	20.10.2020 upto 10:00 Hrs.

For detailed NIT & Earnest Money to be deposited please visit BBMB website <https://bbmbproc.abcpocure.com> & [www.bbmb.gov.in](http://www.bbmb.gov.in)

**730-PR-Generation-4** For Your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

**BRIDGE & ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD.**

(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)

CIN No. U27310WB1920SG001003601

SECOND FLOOR, JVL PLAZA, No. 425, ANNA SALAI, TERNAPET, CHENNAI - 600 018

**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 and NIT No.	Tender Document available on B&R's Website	Due Date of submission of Bid
1.	Design, Engineering, Manufacturing, Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of Solar LED Street Lights In Assam, including complete system warranty and its AMC for 5 Years under MNRC Off-Grid and decentralized Solar PV applications Scheme on behalf of State Nodal Agencies (SNAs)	25.09.2020	08.10.2020

NIT No.: B&R / MDS / 71108 / EES / SSLs / ASSAM / NIT / 4 / 0735 dated 25.09.2020

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.

**RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION-LUCKNOW**

**OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE**

Open e-Tenders in single packet system are invited by the Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer, Railway Electrification, Izzatnagar for & on behalf of the President of India for the following work:

**Name of Work:** Design, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of (Supervisory Remote Control and Data Acquisition) SCADA system along with comprehensive maintenance contract of SCADA system for 04 years after warranty period as per RDSO Specification No TI/SPC/RCC/SCADA/0130 (Rev-2) with A&C slip No.1, 2 & 3 with amendments in Shahjahanpur-Pilibhit-Tanakpur (Gr 302) section of Izzatnagar Division of North Eastern Railway.

SN	Description	Details
1	Tender No.	RE-IZN-SCADA-GR-302
2	Completion period.	10 months from the date of issue of Acceptance Letter
3	Approximate Cost of the work	₹ 12934353.49 (Rupees One Crore Twenty Nine Lakh thirty four Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Three and Paise Forty Nine) only.
4	Earnest Money to be deposited	₹ 214700/- (Rupees Two Lakh Fourteen Thousand Seven Hundred) only.
5	Cost of Tender document	NIL
6	Tender Closing Date and Time	19.10.2020 15:00 Hrs.
7	Validity of offer	45 Days

1. The cost of Tender Document & Earnest Money shall be deposited only through payments mode available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc or payment gateway only as per payment option available in <http://www.ireps.gov.in> web site. The cost of Tender Document and Earnest money in any other form shall not be accepted. 2. For other details and to download the entire Tender Paper, please visit website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. 3. Online offer without earnest money will be summarily rejected. 4. Manual offers are not allowed against this Tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. 5. Railways reserve the right to accept / reject any or all tender's without assigning reasons to any of all tenderers. 6. General Condition of Contract July, 2020 of Railway or latest correction slip upto closing date shall be applicable in this tender.

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer  
Railway Electrification, Izzatnagar  
For & On Behalf of President of India.

PR/52/2020/ANU

**"Serving Customers with a Smile"**

**KERALA WATER AUTHORITY**

**e-Tender Notice**

**Tender No: T No.61/2020-21/SE/Q. JAL JEEVAN MISSION** 2020-21 Providing FHTC in Edamulakkal Grama Panchayat from existing scheme and extension during the period 2020-21. EMD : Rs. 200000. Tender fee : Rs. 10000+1800(18% GST- It will be paid by the contractor on reverse charge basis while filing his returns). Last Date for submitting Tender : 23-10-2020, 02:00:pm. Phone : 0474 2745293. Superintending Engineer Website : [www.kwa.kerala.gov.in](http://www.kwa.kerala.gov.in) PH Circle [www.etenders.kerala.gov.in](http://www.etenders.kerala.gov.in) KWA-JB-GL-6-395-2020-21 Kollam

**Dakshin Gujarat Vij Company Ltd.**

CIN U40102GJ2003SGC042909

Regd. & Corp. Office: "Urja Sadan", Nana Varachha Road, Kapodara Char Rasta, Surat - 395 006 GUJARAT

**DGVCL Toll Free No. 19123 (Or 1800 233 3003)**

**Install MCB/ ELCB/ RCCB & Prevent Electric Shocks/ Electrical Accidents**

**Tender Notice**

Details for the tender mentioned hereunder are available on [www.dgvcl.com](http://www.dgvcl.com) (for view and download tender documents) and [www.dgvcl.nprocure.com](http://www.dgvcl.nprocure.com) (for view, download and online tender submission).

Sr.No.	Tender No.
1	DGVCL/SP/20049/MVCC

**Note:** Bidders may visit the Company website for regular updates till opening of the tenders.

**ACE (P), DGVCL, Surat.**

**NEW MANGALORE PORT TRUST**

**CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

**No: CIVIL/EE (C)/ESTATE/11/LNG/2020 Dtd 15.09.2020**

**INVITING E. O. I**

(This notice is issued only to elicit an Expression of Interest from Parties interested in the Project and does not constitute any binding commitment from NMPT to proceed with the Project or invite any or all the parties in the subsequent bidding process)

New Mangalore Port Trust (NMPT) invites Expression Of Interest (E.O.I) from individuals / firms for allotment of approximately 35 Acres of Land in Thannirbhavi area adjacent to old NMPT guest house, including water front for Installation of storage facilities with intent to augment cargo, Port related commercial exploration such as Tank farms / bottling plant, storage infrastructure etc on long term lease for a period of 30 years on annual rental basis / upfront premium basis. The interested individuals / firms may opt for the land.

Interested applicants are requested to submit their EOI not later than 15:00 hours IST on or before **13.10.2020**. For detailed information visit NMPT website [www.newmangaloreport.gov.in](http://www.newmangaloreport.gov.in). Amendments to the E.O.I (if any) will be issued through above website only. For any clarification and site visit, interested party may contact Chief Engineer (Civil) NMPT or Executive Engineer (C), NMPT.

Sd/-  
**Executive Engineer (C)**

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**

**TENDER NOTICE**

The Dy. Chief Engineer/Const., Northern Railway, Shakurbasti, Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tender under **Single Packet System** for the under noted work:-

1. Name of work and location	Plantation of 2310 no of plants, transplantation of 70 no's trees and maintenance of plants/trees on land of Railway in Delhi area Delhi-Rohatk Section.
2. Completion period of the work	04 Months
3. Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 72.31 Lakh
4. Earnest Money amount (to be deposited Online)	Rs. 1,44,600/-
5. Sale/availability of tender document on Railway Website	Tender documents will be available on IREPS website i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> from 05.10.2020 to 19.10.2020 upto 11.30 hrs.
6. Last date/Time of upload of tenders	19.10.2020 upto 11.30 hrs. Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS website w.e.f. 05.10.2020 to 19.10.2020.
7. Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender	19.10.2020 at 11.30 hours (immediately after closed of uploading of tender (D2). In case of two packet system, Financial bid of the eligible tenderer would be opened subsequently on the date and time to be notified later on.
8. Opening of tender	19.10.2020 at 11.30 hours (immediately after closed of uploading of tender).

No.: 370-ACS-C-SSB Date: 18.09.2020 2077/2020

**Serving Customers with a Smile**

**DAY TODAY**

BY PETER VIDAL

**ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**

The Moon sails smoothly through your solar chart, reminding you of the need to cope with everything that is fundamental to your existence. Quite simply, it's time to deal with all outstanding domestic issues, getting ahead, and perhaps taking someone who has become distant into your confidence.

**TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**

There is still some leeway in romantic and social affairs, but not much. A good approach for you is to be optimistic and explain to partners just how much better life could be if only they saw things the way you do. Mind you, it is really a good thing for others to agree with you? A few differences of opinion might be more constructive.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**

The best advice is to take some time off and go shopping. It is a strange but wonderful fact that treating yourself to a few luxuries can lift your morale and take your mind off emotional muddles. Also, have you thought that you might have misjudged someone?

**CANCER (June 22 - July 23)**

In any ordinary circumstances the fact that the Moon is supporting your sign should give you much greater control over your emotions, and other people's, come to that. However, these are not ordinary circumstances, and fate is set to take a hand.

**LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)**

You may be unusually reticent today. That is, you might still be able to present yourself to others as an outgoing and confident individual, but inside you'll wonder just what on earth is happening, and you'll treasure a chance to spend a little time alone.

**VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)**

Your social stars are so strong that it would be a crying shame if you didn't take the initiative, and a greater shame if friends failed to heed your suggestions. Good conversation, even a spirited argument, should form the centrepiece of your day.

**LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**

It's certainly an excellent moment for all professional individuals to plan their next step. The underlying psychological pattern reveals a need for recognition in your community and praise from your peers. But that's something you need to work for.

**SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)**

Mercury forms a sensitive relationship with Pluto, planet of truth, an emotional pattern which forces you to take final decisions. If you should feel a strange sense of recognition, it's because, personally speaking, you have indeed been here before.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)**

Business matters take a forward leap, even though it seems as if you may be unaware of the strength of your position. You may look to other people to provide an element of security and stability that you feel is lacking. You may also encourage others to make a move that they've been putting off for too long.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)**

You really have little choice but to listen to other people, and you might even have to swallow your pride and do what they tell you. In no way will this detract from the potential pleasure you may derive from today's intense social encounters.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)**

It's an emotional moment, and you are eager to do your best. Work hard, play hard seems to be the message. The words of caution for today are first to avoid overstraining yourself and secondly to be very wary of those in authority: don't overstep the mark.

**PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)**

You're in a state of some flux. Social affairs seem to be taking a step forward, professional concerns a step back. Neither is inherently difficult nor easy, and both call on you to change your ingrained attitudes. It won't be simple to draw a veil over the past, but it may be necessary.

**KERALA WATER AUTHORITY**

**e-Tender Notice**

**Tender No : First Re Tender of 25/SE/PHCK/2020-21. JUM-2020-21-** Manjoor Panchayat, Kottayam District – Laying pipelines and Providing FHTC. EMD : Rs. 2,00,000/- . Tender fee : Rs. 10,000 + 18% GST. Last Date for submitting Tender : **19-10-2020 04:00:pm**. Phone : 04812562745. Website : [www.kwa.kerala.gov.in](http://www.kwa.kerala.gov.in), [www.etenders.kerala.gov.in](http://www.etenders.kerala.gov.in).

Superintending Engineer  
PH Circle, Kottayam

KWA-JB-GL-6-392-2020-21

**ANDHRA PRADESH POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED**

VIJAYUTH SAUDHA - VIJAYAWADA

**TENDER NOTICE**

NIT.No:510000075/APGENCO/2020-21

APGENCO invites tenders with single-part bid system for "Dr.NTTPS - Procurement of MS ERW pipes of less than 200 mm diameter, Carbon Steel pipes, GI pipes, CI pipes and various pipe specials for CAM - L II & IV, BM-IV, MM- CWP and Civil Divisions " through A P e-Procurement. Approximate Value of work : Rs.65,00,000/- . Bid Start Date & Time : From 25.09.2020, 3.00 PM. Bid Submission Closing Date & Time : up to 12.10.2020, 4.00 PM. For further details visit website: [www.apgenco.gov.in](http://www.apgenco.gov.in) or [tenders.apgenco.gov.in](http://tenders.apgenco.gov.in) (portal)

Executive Director/Civil/APGENCO, Vijayuth Saudha

**बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया**

**Bank of India BOI**

Head Office, C-4, G Block, Information Technology Department, Star House-II, 8<sup>th</sup> floor, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai-400051. E-mail: [Headoffice.in@bankofindia.co.in](mailto:Headoffice.in@bankofindia.co.in)

**TENDER NOTICE**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR PROCUREMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CASH MANAGEMENT AND CHANNEL FINANCE SOLUTION**

Details available on the Bank's Corporate Website [www.bankofindia.co.in](http://www.bankofindia.co.in) under "Tender" section from 22/09/2020. Last Date of Submission - 15/10/2020 (till 3.00 pm).

**UJVN LIMITED**

H.O.: "UJJWAL" Maharani, Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun - 248006

Telephone : 0135-2763808, Fax : 0135-2763508

CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: [www.ujvnl.com](http://www.ujvnl.com)

**Letter No.: 577 Tender Notice Dated: 25.09.2020**

Office of the Executive Engineer (M) Tiloth Power House, Uttarkashi invites sealed tender from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below :

**Tender No. (1) 09/EE(M)/2020-21, (2) 10/EE(M)/2020-21, Name of work :** (1) Operation of surge shaft gate and miscellaneous works. (2) Annual repairing and rewinding of different induction motors. **Estimated cost:** (1) 7,34,258.00 (excluding taxes), (2) 5,40,677.00 (excluding taxes). Date of availability of bid document on website : **28.09.2020 at 16:00 hrs.**, Last date of submission of tender : **21.10.2020 at 16:00 hrs.** For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website [www.ujvnl.com](http://www.ujvnl.com). **Executive Engineer (M)**

**"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"**

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ**

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Tender No. JHS/DYCEE/WST/05/2020-21 Dt. 18.09.2020

Name of Work: Part (A) Proper dressing of wiring and cables arrangements in cable trench in officers gallery with complete power wiring and provision of lamp post in Mill right and Shatabdi garden in Jhansi workshop and Part (B) Rewinding and electrical work in health unit, all the toilets, meal shed, canteen and RPF office main gate in Jhansi Workshop premises.

Tender No.	Description of work	Approx. Cost (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)	Cost of Tender Form (₹)
JHS/ DYCEE/ WST /05/ 2020 -21	"Part (A) Proper dressing of wiring and cables arrangements in cable trench in officers gallery with complete power wiring and provision of lamp post in Mill right and Shatabdi garden in Jhansi workshop and Part (B) Rewinding and electrical work in health unit, all the toilets, meal shed, canteen and RPF office main gate in Jhansi Workshop premises".	₹ 2131526/- (Rs. Twenty One Lakh Thirty One Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Six Only)	₹ 42550/- (Rs. Forty Two Thousand Five Hundred Only)	₹ 3152/- (3000+ 150 ST)

**Completion period:** 04 months. **Date of Closing & opening:** 27.10.2020 at 15.00 Hrs. and opening 15.30 hrs. 1. Tender will be closed at 15.00 hrs on 27.10.2020 and is available on Indian Railways E-Tendering website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). 2. For detailed information please visit Indian Railway E-Tendering website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). 93120

North central railways @CPNCR



## 19 SPORT

## BRIEFLY

## Dutch team allowed to wear sex toy company logo

Netherlands top flight club FC Emmen will be allowed to display the logo of a sex toys company on their shirts, following a decision of the Dutch football association (KNVB) to reverse a ban. Emmen were stopped last week from displaying the logo of new sponsors EasyToys, described as an erotic webshop, but the KNVB changed their minds after a storm of criticism and talks with the club. FC Emmen will play at home against Willem II for the first time with EasyToys on the chest on Sunday. Emmen were originally set to sign a three-year sponsorship but have now agreed to just one year while the KNVB revise their regulations. Emmen played their opening two matches of the new league season without shirt sponsorship because of the ban but received such demand for replica sales, with the EasyToys logo, that they were forced to extend selling hours

REUTERS

## No regrets leaving Real: Bale

Gareth Bale said he has no regrets after leaving Real Madrid to seal a return to Tottenham Hotspur and that his tumultuous but trophy-laden seven-year spell with the Spanish champions had helped him grow up. Bale left the north London club in 2013 for a then world record 100 million euros (\$116.61 million) and went on to win four Champions League titles and two La Liga crowns with Real, scoring more than 100 goals. However, he divided opinion in Spain because of a perceived lack of commitment and poor injury record and after a falling out with Real manager Zinedine Zidane. "I don't have any regrets, no," Bale, 31, told Sky Sports. "I just try and play, that's all I can do and everything else that's said externally is out of my control." Whatever anyone else has said, that's up to them. I know my opinion of myself and my family know exactly what I am, so that's all I'm worried about."

REUTERS

## Have to be at my best, says Nadal

Rafa Nadal may have won the French Open a record 12 times but the Spaniard feels this year's conditions will be the most difficult at Roland Garros and mean he must be at his best. The claycourt Grand Slam is usually held in May-June but was pushed back to the end of September due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The weather is much cooler at this time of year and the temperatures have further dipped due to rain in Paris. The organisers are also using a different ball, making the conditions more unfamiliar for the Spanish world number two. "What you need is the right energy to accept every single thing. That's what I'm doing," said Nadal, who prefers warmer conditions and faster claycourts in Paris. "Just stay positive knowing that the conditions are not perfect for me, maybe not perfect for others either, and accept that I am going to need my best version to have chances."

REUTERS

## Youth has oldies' number

Diffident, ageing CSK fail to get going after Shaw lays foundation for Delhi in big win

## SYNOPSIS

Dhoni walks in too late again after Shaw shows his class.

TUSHAR BHADURI  
SEPTEMBER 25

THESE ARE still early days in the tournament, but it seems age is finally catching up with Dad's Army. Winning and losing is one thing, but there seems to be a diffidence in Chennai Super Kings' approach to the game this season so far.

While chasing not such a big target of 176 on Friday, Mahendra Singh Dhoni's men never got in the contest. Every batsman struggled to get close to the requirement, with Murali Vijay struggling big time at the top. The object of the exercise seemed once again to salvage the net run rate much before the end.

They didn't manage that either, going down by 44 runs as Delhi Capitals soared to the top of the points table.

## Dhoni walks in too late

Dhoni's batting position seemed to have become a national obsession, but it's not influencing the man himself. As in the previous match, Ruturaj Gaikwad and Kedar Jadhav came before him. When the skipper finally made it to the middle at No. 6, there were only 26 balls left with 76 needed off them. Continuously greeted with short balls didn't help his cause either and Dhoni seemed a shadow of his best self.

Earlier in their innings, Axar Patel and Amit Mishra kept the opposition on a tight leash, and when they were through with their spells – conceding just 41 runs in eight overs – the match had already gone too far from CSK's grasp.

Kagiso Rabada and Anrich Nortje were too big a challenge for them. The Super Kings will try to get their house in order before their next game after a week-long break.



Opening the innings, Prithvi Shaw made 64 off 43 balls. BCCI/IPL

## Shaw shows his class

Less than two years ago, Prithvi Shaw burst onto the big stage with a debut Test century. But that seems an age ago now. The youngster has gone through a lot in the intervening period, while still in his teens, including a serious injury and a ban for consuming a banned substance.

His playing style has prompted a few comparisons with another short-statured batsman from Mumbai. Shaw gets into trouble from time to time on the pull shot – did so on Friday as well – but in between those played some delightful shots, especially on the off-side.

Most teams try to maximise runs in the Powerplay, but Delhi Capitals managed just 36 there. Shaw and opening partner Shikhar Dhawan were guilty of looking for only boundaries, and not singles. But once the spinners came after the fielding restrictions were off, the next four overs went for 52 as the openers put on 94 in less than 11 overs.

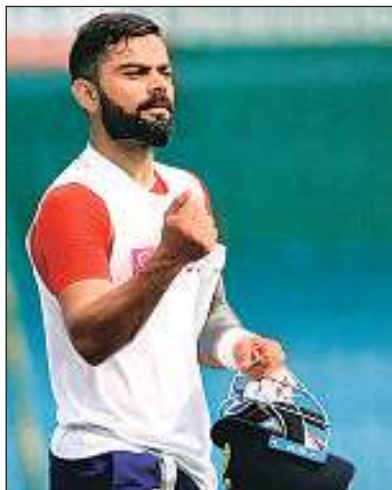
Some of the inside-out lofted shots by Shaw really caught the eye. Ravindra Jadeja

and Piyush Chawla were not allowed to settle, and even though the latter made a comeback with two wickets, the left-arm spinner's four overs went for 44. This hurt Dhoni's game plan as he relies on his spinners to control the game in the middle overs.

But as it happened in their first match, set batsmen getting out in quick succession hurt their progress. If a team loses just three wickets in 20 overs, it is expected to get close to 200 or above it. But Rishabh Pant and Shreyas Iyer struggled to hit Sam Curran off the square in the 19th over.

Pant showed a different dynamic to his game, seemingly taking a bit more responsibility to bat deep and not go for the big shot too early in his innings. At the end of their innings, Delhi Capitals seemed to be 10-15 runs short, but their disciplined bowling and the cautious approach by CSK batsmen ensured that 175 was more than enough on the day.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Delhi Capitals 175/3 (Prithvi Shaw 64, Rishabh Pant 37; Piyush Chawla 2/33) bt Chennai Super Kings 131/7 (Faf du Plessis 43; Kagiso Rabada 3/26)



Gavaskar's comment when Virat Kohli was batting divided opinion on social media on Friday.

video says that she was bowling to Virat. So Virat has played only that bowling in the lockdown period ... Where am I blaming her for Virat's failures," he said.

rise, purportedly showed Kohli and Sharma playing cricket in their front yard.

By Friday morning, Gavaskar's comment – which was twisted in some posts – would divide opinion on social media. While some called him sexist, there were also those who didn't find anything objectionable with Gavaskar's comment.

This was followed by Sharma putting out a long Instagram story where she said: "It's 2020 and things still don't change for me. When will I stop getting dragged into cricket and stop being used to pass sweeping statements?" Sharma's confrontation with India's seniormost commentator and batting great would coincide with #BoycottGavaskar trending on social media.

In the evening Gavaskar, on *India Today* TV, would give his side of the story by saying that he wasn't "being a sexist".

"Where am I blaming her, where am I being sexist in this. I am only stating what was seen on the video ... I am only saying that the

## ON THE TUBE

## INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

Kolkata Knight Riders vs Sunrisers Hyderabad, 730pm, Star Sports Network



## EMOTIONAL ROLLER COASTER

Hot heads, calm minds and everything in between at the game.

## For his eyes only

As the IPL has gone on, an integral part of the listening experience has been heightened with regards to the commentary, especially when the visuals and sounds of fans are a lot fewer. There is a lot more scrutiny on the words, actions and emotions of the commentary team. One such instance happened during the CSK innings when one of the commentators chanced upon Shikhar Dhawan in a pair of sunglasses that suggested he was dealing with a lot more lighting than the rest of the folks. Peals of laughter ensued as the man at first slip wore his comically large eyewear. The laughter led to comparisons with Dinesh Karthik's sunglasses and that general mood was met with some chuckles on the field by the man himself who clearly seemed to be enjoying all the attention he was getting.

SHASHANK NAIK



## Runs via throwing tantrums

Old habits die hard. Harder if you are a bowler. It's normal for bowlers to pick the ball if it's in their range and throw the ball back to the keeper or a fielder in longer formats. Less so in T20s, where bowlers, especially if they are bowling well, rush through the overs. They just grab the ball and walk back to their mark. So Sam Curran picked the ball, after Rishabh Pant could only bunt it back to him, and seemed to walk back, before he U-turned and flung the ball to MS Dhoni. Rather, where he intended Dhoni was standing. He was miles away from where the ball eventually landed, and in the power of the throw, the ball blitzed to the boundary. Dhoni flung sideways, but his wingspan was not broad enough to be in the distant radar of the ball. Dhoni gave him a stink eye. Poor Curran was petrified. But he did come back and pick the wicket of Shreyas Iyer, besides returning as CSK's most economical bowler (6.75) of the night.

SANDIP G

SRIRAM VEERA

## Chronology of the controversy:

THE SITUATION.  
(THURSDAY EVENING)

RCB were 3/2 when Kohli walked in to bat, chasing KXIP's target of 207. It was in the third over (at the 2.2 over mark precisely) that Gavaskar said in Hindi: "Woh jaante hain jitni practice karengi ussi se toh woh behtar ban sakte hain. Ab jo lockdown tha toh sirf Anushka ki bowling ki practice ki unhone, wo video dekhi hai (reference to a viral video), usse to kuch nahi hona hai (He knows that more you train, more you get better. During the recent lockdown he only practised to Anushka's bowling. I saw a video. But that is not going to be enough)." Kohli had just come in to bat and was on 1 off 3 deliveries.

ANUSHKA'S DISAPPOINTMENT  
(FRIDAY MORNING)

Calling his comment distasteful, Sharma though urged Gavaskar to offer an explanation about "such a sweeping statement on a wife accusing her of her husband's game?" She said: "I'm sure over the years you have respected the private lives of every cricketer while commenting on the game. Don't you think you should have equal amount of re-

## No emotion saves Shaw

It's the absence of emotion that stood out when Prithvi Shaw edged a ball and was caught by the 'keeper in the first over of the match. There was no emotion from the fielding team as no one appealed; not Dhoni the catcher, not Deepak Chahar the bowler. The only man who must have known that there was an edge was Shaw, who hung his head on the completion of the shot as if he had just failed to connect. He played his part well, not jerking back nervously as some batsmen are wont to do after edging. In fact, if not for some alert ears in the broadcasting network, no one would have known. It's a bit strange as in the absence of crowds, the theory was that edges would be better heard. What his face didn't contort at, his hands made up for when fielding in the covers later. As he unsuccessfully juggled a catch that popped up after it punched his gut. He splashed around in vain, all at sea trying to catch the hot potato.

spect for me and us? I'm sure you can have many other words and sentences in your mind to use to comment on my husband's performance from last night or are your words only relevant if you use my name in the process?" She would further say: "It's 2020 and things still don't change for me. When will I stop getting dragged into cricket and stop being used to pass sweeping statements?"

GAVASKAR DENIES BEING SEXIST  
(FRIDAY EVENING)

Gavaskar told *India Today* TV that he and fellow commentator Aakash Chopra had been talking about the fact there has been very little chance for any proper practice in the lockdown, for everybody. "It showed in the rustiness of some of the players in their first matches. Rohit (Sharma) didn't strike the ball well, now in the second match he has got runs, MSD (Mahendra Singh Dhoni) didn't strike the ball well in the first match." He then explained: "....Anushka was bowling to him, so that's what I said, that's the only bowling, I have not used any other word."

He went on to say that, "I have not been sexist, if somebody has interpreted it, what can I do," Gavaskar shrugged.

## Lockdown effect: Athletes deficient in Vitamin D

## NIHAL KOSHIE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

STAYING INDOORS during the lockdown and subsequently resuming training early in the morning or late in the evening to avoid the sweltering summer heat has caused an unexpected problem for India's top track and field athletes. Not getting enough sunlight has resulted in low Vitamin D levels, that help in muscle recovery and improved bone density. Lack of the Vitamin D, produced when the body is exposed to the sun's rays, can lead to stress fractures or muscle injury, especially when athletes resume training after long breaks.

Athletes across sport, including the country's top cricketers, have spoken about taking time to regain muscle memory to play a stroke, build endurance and getting used to training regimens after lockdown-enforced breaks. However, even changes in nutrition levels can make a world of a difference if not detected early.

Athletics Federation of India's (AFI) high performance director Volker Herrmann said the Vitamin D deficiency was observed in all the national campers in Patiala following results of blood tests in June.

Athletes belonging to the core group, including those who have qualified for the Tokyo Olympics, have been based at training centres in Bangalore and Patiala since the start of the first lockdown announced towards the end of March. Throwers and the 400 metre squads are based at the National Institute of Sports in Patiala.

"Interestingly a lot of our athletes are



Javelin throwers are among those training in Patiala.

lacking in Vitamin D. We were thinking whether it was due to the lockdown. They spend so much time inside and not outside. It might be one of the reasons. Vitamin D is produced by sunlight. We took blood samples after the lockdown in June. In general they were more or less back in their rooms, it is one possible explanation," Herrmann told *The Indian Express*.

Vitamin D supplements were purchased and given to all athletes at the national camp after the blood test results came out. The next round of tests will be conducted in October, before training begins for the upcoming season. The lack of Vitamin D can adversely affect athletes as it is central to calcium absorption of the body.

"Vitamin D helps with recovery, especially of the muscles and it also reduces the

## EXPLAINED

## Importance of Sunshine Vitamin

ATHLETES WHO play indoor sports or apply excessive sunscreen are prone to Vitamin D deficiency. Lack of it for long periods can lead to stress fractures, loss of muscle strength and increased recovery time between training sessions. Exposing oneself to the sun is not the only way for the body to get Vitamin D. Including tuna, mackerel, beef liver, egg yolk, fortified juice, cereal or supplements in one's diet helps boost Vitamin D levels.

recovery time. That is the main aspect. Vitamin D is also related to the bone density. Sometimes athletes are dealing with stress fractures and that can be due to an overload but it can also be because of Vitamin D deficiency," Herrmann added.

During the first phase of the lockdown, athletes were restricted to their room but later began to train in batches, one set in the morning and another in the evening to ensure there was no overcrowding. Even when

they began training outdoors in May, their exposure to the sun was limited to avoid higher summer temperatures, especially in Patiala where it touched 45-degree centigrade.

Sprinters and jumpers changed their training schedule from 9 am to 6 am while the evening session began at 5 pm. "We had to adjust because of the weather conditions. Because of the heat in Patiala we always had to train very early in the morning or late in the evening," Herrmann explains.

## Iron an issue too

The collection and testing of blood samples, once in three months, is helping to ensure nutrition levels of elite athletes are optimum. In addition to lack of Vitamin D in all athletes, some were found to have low levels of iron. Iron deficiency was more common among women athletes.

"With performance athletes we take these blood samples around every three months, because you have to ensure that no athlete is dealing with any deficiency. One of the main problems is iron as well because they can't eat red meat. Especially female athletes are often dealing with the deficiency in iron. We need to monitor this very closely. We are working with recovery experts and nutritionists to find ways to (improve levels) in a natural way and if required with supplements as well. Iron supplements were added only if required. We are trying to get food which has natural iron as well," the AFI's high performance director said.

The collection of samples to monitor the blood profiles of athletes is vital to aid high-level of performance and this would continue, Herrmann said.





MORRIS GARAGES  
Since 1924



INTRODUCING  
G L O S T E R

INDIA'S FIRST  
AUTONOMOUS LEVEL-1\*  
PREMIUM SUV



COMES IN 6 & 7-SEATER OPTION

BOOKINGS OPEN NOW

Book online at [mgmotor.co.in](https://mgmotor.co.in) or contact us at **1800-100-6464**

### Intelligent **4WD**



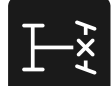
Highest Power<sup>#</sup> of 218 PS  
& Torque<sup>#</sup> of 480 Nm



Biggest & Tallest SUV<sup>#</sup>



Seven 4X4 Drive Modes  
with ATS (Snow, Sand, Mud, Rock, Sport, Eco, Auto)



Electro-Mechanical Differential Lock



8-Speed AT

### Advanced Driver Assistance System **ADAS**



**ACC** (Adaptive Cruise Control)<sup>^\*</sup>



**AEB** (Automatic Emergency Braking)<sup>^\*</sup>



**APA** (Automatic Parking Assistance)<sup>\*</sup>



**FCW** (Front Collision Warning)<sup>^\*</sup>



**LDW** (Lane Departure Warning & Blind Spot Detection)<sup>^\*</sup>

### Luxurious **CABIN**



Plush Interiors & Unmatched Luxury  
with Spacious 3<sup>rd</sup> Row Seating



Internet Inside with 70+  
Connected Features<sup>></sup>



Biggest Infotainment System  
with 31.2 cm (12.3 inches) Touch Screen<sup>#</sup>



Driver Seat Massage & Heated Seats<sup>^</sup>



PM 2.5 Filter for Cleaner In-Cabin Air<sup>^</sup>



PERSONALIZED  
OWNERSHIP  
EXPERIENCE.  
COMING SOON



CONTACTLESS AND  
SAFE EXPERIENCE  
ACROSS ALL MG  
SHOWROOMS AND  
YOUR HOME

**i-SMART 2.0**

70+ CONNECTED FEATURES  
WITH ANTI-THEFT IMMOBILIZATION<sup>></sup>



30+ STANDARD  
SAFETY FEATURES

BOOK YOUR MG GLOSTER TODAY ACROSS OUR 200+ SAFE AND SANITISED MG CENTRES | CONTACT US @ +919311583648

Follow us on:



[www.mgmotor.co.in](https://www.mgmotor.co.in)



@mgmotorin



@mgmotorin



@mgmotorindia



@mgmotorindia



@mgmotorin



\*Advanced Driver Assistance System (ADAS) is not a substitute for human eye and driver vigilance, it is a driver assist system that enhances driving experience and safety. The driver shall remain responsible for safe, vigilant and attentive driving. \*FCW alerts the driver of a possible collision by detecting pedestrian, bicycle or vehicle in front through visual and acoustic sign. \*AEB activates braking intervention to help in preventing collision at slow speed or reduce speed of collision by decreasing the vehicle speed by 40 km/h at most (braking intervention for four-wheelers only). #Best in segment. ^First in segment. >Some features are dependent on availability of network and internet speed. | All features and specifications shown may not be part of the standard product. Product shown is for representation purpose only and may not reflect actual colour due to printing quality and paper used. MG Motor India reserves the right to make changes to the product. For the latest information, please contact your nearest dealer.

**North:** **Agra:** MG Agra (+918448444767) **Bareilly:** MG Bareilly (+917668991653) **Chandigarh:** MG Chandigarh Tri-city (+917888799210), MG Mohali (+917888799220) **Dehradun:** MG Dehradun (+917055520006) **Delhi NCR:** MG Gurugram Sec 15 (+919711358888), MG Delhi Safdarjung (+919953889889), MG Delhi Motinagar (+917428384856), MG Noida (+919999514321), MG Faridabad (+919711358888), MG Gurugram MG Road (+919711358888), MG Lajpat Nagar (+919953889889), MG Delhi West Rohini (+917428384888), MG Patparganj (+919999514321), MG Ghaziabad (+919999514321) **Gwalior:** MG Gwalior (+916232022801) **Jaipur:** MG Jaipur Tonk Road (+918448030040), MG Jaipur Ajmer Road (+918448030040) **Jalandhar:** MG Jalandhar (+918264107500) **Jammu:** MG Jammu (+918899008802) **Jodhpur:** MG Jodhpur (+917230040525) **Karnal:** MG Karnal (+918892400001) **Kanpur:** MG Kanpur (+918795829725) **Lucknow:** MG Lucknow Chinhat (+917600058655), MG Lucknow Hazratganj (+917600058655) **Ludhiana:** MG Ludhiana (+918872088288) **Patiala:** MG Patiala (+917888897030) **Udaipur:** MG Udaipur (+919549554444) **Varanasi:** MG Varanasi (+918010091091).