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BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNNY



Doval goes to Afghanistan, focus on terror

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

IN A trip that was kept under wraps before it got underway, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval on Wednesday visited Afghanistan for talks on strategic issues with the leadership in Kabul. The Afghan government said the conversations were about “synchronising efforts to combat terrorism and build peace”.

This is the first visit by a senior Indian official after the Afghan political stakeholders and the Taliban started their reconciliation process last year.

India attended the US-brokered peace pact signing in Doha
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

RELIEF TO INTER-FAITH COUPLES: ‘INVITING OBJECTIONS CANNOT VIOLATE BASIC RIGHTS’

30-day notice period not mandatory under Spl Marriage Act: Allahabad HC

‘Cruel to force this generation to follow 150-yr-old customs’

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

In a judgment removing hindrances to inter-faith marriages, and likely to have a bearing on the set of laws enacted by BJP-ruled states including Uttar Pradesh that prohibit religious conversion for marriage, the Allahabad High Court has ruled that couples seeking to solemnise their marriage under the

Special Marriage Act, 1954 can choose not to publish the mandatory 30-day notice of their intention to marry.

Section 5 of the Special Marriage Act, the legislation that allows solemnisation of marriages irrespective of the religion of the couple, requires parties to give a 30-day public notice of their intention to marry. The public notice is displayed at the office of the marriage officer, inviting potential objections to the marriage.

In his order Tuesday, Justice Vivek Chaudhary said: “The interpretation of Sections 6 and 7 read with Section 46 containing the procedure of publication of notice and inviting objections to the intended marriage in Act of 1954 thus has to be such that would uphold the fundamental rights and not violate the same. In case the same on their simplistic reading are held mandatory, as per the law declared today,
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED Notice violates privacy

THE RULING comes as a relief to inter-faith couples who are being increasingly targeted by vigilante groups. The court noted the impact that similar provisions in anti-conversion laws could have.

THE WORLD



TRUMP ON VERGE OF SECOND IMPEACHMENT

PAK COURT SENTENCES HAFIZ SAEED'S AIDES TO OVER 15 YRS IN JAIL
PAGE 14



COVAXIN DELIVERY STARTS

Bharat Biotech's Covaxin being airlifted from Hyderabad on Wednesday. Source: @BharatBiotech
REPORTS, PAGE 6

Citing bird flu, Delhi civic bodies ban sale of chicken

ABHINAV RAJPOT
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

EVEN AS both the Centre and Delhi government have said that it is safe to consume “properly cooked poultry products” and “Avian Influenza is not transmitted through cooked food”, all three municipal corporations of Delhi on Wednesday ordered a ban on the sale and storage of “poultry, processed or packaged chicken meat”.

While the written orders did not specify if sale of eggs was also banned, senior officials in the North and South MCDs said eggs were also prohibited.

In addition, the North Delhi Municipal Corporation and South Delhi Municipal Corporation also ordered restaurants not to serve “poultry meat, poultry product and egg-based dishes”.
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

CABINET COMMITTEE ON SECURITY

Make-in-India mega deal: 83 Tejas fighters cleared for Air Force

Self-reliance gamechanger, LCA backbone of fleet: Rajnath

KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

APPROVING THE largest indigenous defence procurement as part of measures to strengthen the armed forces amid a stand-off with China on the Line of Actual Control and tensions with Pakistan over its terror infrastructure, the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) cleared Wednesday a deal worth nearly Rs 48,000 crore for the acquisition of 83 Tejas Light Combat Aircraft for the Indian Air Force.

Designed by the Aeronautical Development Agency under the Department of Defence Research and Development, the

Tejas Mk-1A multirole light fighters will be manufactured by state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). It will be an improvement over the Mk-1 version. The IAF acquired 40 of the earlier variant in two deals — 20 were Initial Operational Clearance standard aircraft (16 fighters and four trainers) while the next 20 were Final Operational Clearance standard aircraft.

The Tejas Mk-1A order, cleared last March by the Defence Acquisition Council, was approved by the CCS at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, in Twitter posts, described
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



TEJAS LCA MK-1A

- Will increase IAF squadron strength; improved version of older Mk-1 variant
- Active Electronically Scanned Array radar; Beyond Visual Range air-to-air missiles
- Advanced Electronic Warfare suite; air-to-air refuelling capability

MAHARASHTRA RURAL POLLS

Panchayat seats for sale, EC scraps 2 ‘auction elections’

PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS
PUNE, JANUARY 13

IN MANY pockets of Maharashtra, where elections to gram panchayats are scheduled to be held on

January 15, democracy is up for sale — to the highest bidder.

Complaints and videos of auctions for panchayat seats prompted the Election Commission on Wednesday to cancel elections to two gram panchayats — in Umrane village

of Nashik and Kondamali of Nandurbar, where the auctions reportedly fetched Rs 2 crore and Rs 42 lakh respectively.

The Indian Express visited three gram panchayats in Khed taluka of Pune district — Moi, Kuruli and Kude Budruk — and

found that all the panchayat members had been elected unopposed. A gram panchayat usually has nine to 18 members, depending on the size and population of the villages.

Also, in all three gram
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

PAROMITA CHAKRABARTI
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

WHEN IT comes to engaging with India, United States is an open door. “You (India) can push on that door and the answer will be yes, most probably. But what does India want? And in order for India to decide what it wants, it needs to have a strategic conception of its place in the world,



Zakaria at the Express Adda

its place in Asia, and it doesn't right now,” said Fareed Zakaria, international affairs columnist,



CNN news host and author, in response to a question on whether
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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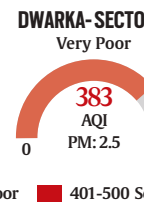
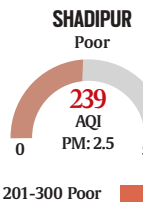
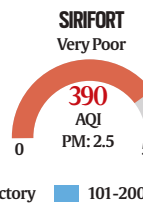
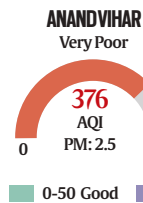
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0-50 Good 51-100 Satisfactory 101-200 Moderate 201-300 Poor 301-400 Very Poor 401-500 Severe

SKYWATCH

FORECAST: Jan 14
Partly cloudy sky.
Dense to very dense fog
in the morning

MAX: 14
6°C below normal

MIN: 4
3.4°C below normal

ATTENDANCE OPTIONAL, SAYS DEPUTY CM

Delhi schools reopen doors for Class X, XII from Monday

SUKRITA BARUAH

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

ALL SCHOOLS in Delhi will be permitted to call students of classes X and XII to school starting January 18, the Delhi government's education department directed Wednesday. However, the directions emphasise that it is optional for parents to send their children.

Schools in Delhi have been closed since mid-March since the start of the nationwide lockdown, and children in Delhi have not attended offline classes for a single day of this academic year. These new instructions have been issued in light of the CBSE announcing that its board examinations will be beginning on May 4. While the written board examinations will begin on May 4, practical exams will start on March 1.

"Heads of government, government-aided and unaided recognised schools may call students of classes 10 and 12 only to school with effect from January 18. However, the child should be called to school only with the consent of the parents, following the enclosed Standard Operating Procedure. Further, while the records of children coming to school be maintained, the same should not be used for attendance purpose as sending the child to school is completely optional for parents," stated a circular to all heads of schools.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, who also holds the Education portfolio, wrote on Twitter: "In view of the CBSE Board Examinations and Practicals in Delhi, permission is being given to open schools for classes 10 and 12 for practical, project, counselling, etc from January 18. Children can only be called with the consent of parents. Children will not be forced to come."

The directions issued by the education department include detailed guidelines on safety



From September: A teacher takes an online class for students, in New Delhi. Archive

precautions to be taken, and state that only schools located outside containment zones can call students. Schools have also been directed not to conduct assembly or any physical outdoor activities.

The circular also directs schools to conduct on-campus orientation for students "to give emotional/trauma support for their readiness with new normal of stringent physical distancing, face mask guidelines and hygiene guidelines". Children will have to come to school with written consent from their parents.

Among the precautions schools have been directed to follow are mandatory thermal screening and hand sanitisation at entrance of school; staggered entry with a gap of at least 15 minutes to avoid crowding at the entrance and exit; guiding children not to share books, notebooks and stationery; regular sanitisation; keeping a quarantine room in case of emergencies; physical

distancing and prohibition of gathering in common areas; and discouraging guest visits.

Along with instructions on how government schools may guide students through this period leading up to their board examinations, the education department has also notified that government schools may conduct pre-board examinations for class XII from March 20 and for class X from April 1.

Schools say ready

While parents were resistant to the idea of sending their children to school for a long time, heads of schools believe that the prospect of upcoming boards and reading the SOPs might make them willing to consent to offline interaction.

"I think a lot of parents have been hesitant due to the lack of directives like this. I'm sure that with the upcoming exams, parents will understand the importance of in-person guidance and hands-on work. We have been prepared infrastructurally

for a long time for this and have just been waiting for these directions. We have also shared our own detailed SOPs with them to build confidence in them," said Mount Abu Public School principal Jyoti Arora. She also stated that her school, like many others, had put off holding pre-board examinations so far. "We had not conducted our pre-boards in anticipation of such a direction and will now be conducting them offline later this month," she said.

Principal of Sardar Patel Vidyalaya Anuradha Joshi also said that they are inclined to conduct offline pre-board examinations if the government directions permit it. "Several parents have spoken to us and said that they would prefer offline pre-boards since, after all, they are preparing for an offline written board examination. As far as parental consent is concerned, I would welcome them to visit the school and check the precautions to build their confidence," she said.

NDMC budget: Toilets for third gender, STPs planned

New Delhi: Developing Lodhi Garden, Nehru Park and other gardens to "world class" gardens, creating cycle tracks, providing funds to RWAs/market associations for local development, making primary school "bag-less" for students, constructing four sewage treatment plants (STP) and more toilets for women and third gender — these are some of the plans proposed by the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) at their budget announced for the next year Wednesday.

The total expenditure for 2021-22 is estimated to be Rs 4,126.53 crore, against the revised estimate of Rs 3,509.07 crore for 2020-21. **ENS**

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The total expenditure for 2021-22 is estimated to be Rs 4,126.53 crore, against the revised estimate of Rs 3,509.07 crore for 2020-21. **ENS**

Recovering after Covid, eateries say no chicken order may deal death blow

DIVYAA & SURBHI GUPTA

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

JUST AS restaurants and eateries across Delhi-NCR had started to recover from the effect of the Covid lockdown, they say they've been dealt another blow in the form of curbs on serving eggs and chicken dishes. Both North and South MCDs have told restaurants to not serve such dishes until further orders, citing bird flu.

"I don't understand the logic since any meat cooked above 70 degrees has been declared safe," said Anurag Katriar, president of the National Restaurant Association of India, an umbrella body of more than 20,000 restaurants across India. "On Wednesday morning itself, the Delhi government gave an ad saying poultry is safe, and now the corporations have declared a ban. It not only impacts sales but also the sentiments of patrons who had just started to feel safe eating out," said Katriar, who is also Executive Director and CEO, deGustibus Hospitality. Yash Garg, director of Republic of Chicken, which has



Some restaurants said they plan to try and move their customers from chicken to fish and red meat. Praveen Khanna

20 outlets in Delhi, said: "We were already struggling with the impact of Covid and now have to deal with this. Our sales are down by about 50 per cent since the news of bird flu started doing the rounds. Since there are a lot of rumours floating around, some clarity from the government would help a lot. Meanwhile, we are waiting for authorities to visit our poultry farms in Punjab on Thursday and give us the fitness certificate."

Eateries and delivery places said they are taking adequate precautions to boost consumer sentiment. Vishal Jindal, co-CEO & cofounder of Biryani By Kilo, which processes over 1,000 orders a day, said they are using high-quality ingredients and meats, and cooking all meat at 250 degrees Celsius and above for biryanis and kebabs.

Some are looking to diversify in case bird flu turns out to be a long haul.

"So far, the customer isn't re-fraining from ordering, but we are switching them to fish as it is in the season, and fortunately there are a lot of varieties of fish available. Also, we have a few red meat options," says Saurabh Khanijo, director, Kylin Experience.

Jasmeet Banga, promoter of Pirates of Grill, said they have added options of fish, prawns and vegetables to their buffet menu. "Any chicken item cooked above 70 degrees is absolutely safe to eat as per the health advisory. We are strictly following these norms," he said.

The order has also made meat retailers and egg sellers apprehensive. "This has majorly impacted the unorganised sector even though our sales are steady. There have been similar scares of bird flu in the past, and since then we have been educating our customers on the safety measures we take, including bio-fencing, rigorous testing in the labs, and we upload the certificates for all to see," said Shan Kadavil, CEO and founder, FreshToHome, an online fish and meat retailer.

Teachers' body says bird flu duty at borders harassment

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

AN ORDER assigning government school teachers on duty at Delhi's borders to check the entry of poultry into the city has riled teachers, making them question the extent to which they are being deputed for non-academic work.

An order from the Revenue Department's north district office Tuesday notified the creation of five teams to be posted at Delhi borders at Saboli, Auchandi, Safiabadi, Lampur and Munerpur on night duty from 8 pm to 6 am. Each of these teams comprises two civil defence volunteers and a government school teacher.

The teams are expected to ensure "entry/sale of dressed, processed and canned chicken and its products are not allowed in Delhi" and "no vehicle carrying live birds is allowed to enter without a valid veterinary health certificate".

On Wednesday, general secretary of Government Schools Teachers' Association Ajay Veer Yadav wrote to deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia, asking him to intervene. "Teaching community selflessly served

The general secretary of Government Schools Teachers' Association has written to Deputy CM Manish Sisodia, requesting him "to safeguard their dignity and intervene to stop such deputation of the teaching community"

when the government and the citizens needed them for Covid-19 prevention, but the Revenue Department is now taking advantage of the situation and just harassing teachers with unjustified duties. On behalf of the entire teaching community and to safeguard their dignity, I request you to intervene and stop such deputation of the teaching community and facilitate for them to be sent back to schools for their designated work," he wrote.

Government school teachers have been a part of the frontline workers against Covid, working at quarantine centres, for ration distribution, to conduct Covid surveys, and now in vaccination duty.

22 response teams in Gurgaon for 'unexplained bird deaths'

Gurgaon: The Animal Husbandry Department of Gurgaon has formed 22 Rapid Response Teams to inform higher officials in case of any unexplained bird deaths, said Deputy Commissioner of Gurgaon Dr Yash Garg Wednesday. No cases

of bird flu have been confirmed in Gurgaon yet.

Dr Punita said two carcasses of birds that were found in the Biodiversity Park in Sector 52 have been sent to the Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratory in Jalandhar. **ENS**

1,200 lawyers sign petition on searches at Pracha's office

SOURAV ROY BARMAN

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

DELHI POLICE searches at advocate Mehmood Pracha's office "compromises" the entire criminal justice system and rights of the accused, senior lawyers Prashant Bhushan, Chander Uday Singh and former Bombay High Court judge BG Kolse Patil said Wednesday.

Over 1,200 lawyers have also signed a petition demanding "strict action" against "erring" police officers as well as the judge who allowed the searches. Lawyer Bahadur Abbas Naqvi, an aide of Pracha, said they plan to take out a march from the High Court to Supreme Court on January 22 to hand over the petition to Chief Justice of India S A Bobde.

"The police action compromises the entire criminal justice system and rights of the accused. The search warrant also goes against the fundamental principles of the justice system. The communication between a client and a lawyer is completely privileged. This is one of the pillars of the judicial system," Singh told a press conference also attended by Pracha.

Bhushan said the searches, carried out on December 24, raise serious questions. "Pracha is a prominent lawyer who has been defending several persons accused in the February 2020 communal riots in Delhi. He has also been instrumental in getting FIRs registered against the Delhi Police for their malafide investigation into the riots," Bhushan said.

The police allege that Pracha had forged documents and instigated one Irshad Ali to depose falsely in a case related to the riots. An FIR has also been filed in the matter.

Questioning the search war-



The lawyers plan to take out a march from the High Court to Supreme Court on January 22 to hand over the petition to the CJI

rant in the case, Bhushan added that instead of searches at his residence, Pracha could have been asked to produce the item concerned, in this case an email, under Section 91 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

"The intention was to intimidate Pracha and his clients. The police have also refused to share the video recording of the searches. Because if they share, it will be revealed that they were taking the Union Home Minister's name during the searches," Bhushan alleged.

Judge (ret'd) Patil also said that the searches were "against the principles of natural justice". "To look for one purported email, they deputed 200 cops and carried out a search spanning over 15 hours," Patil said.

Bhushan also cited two reports by *The Indian Express* on the issue to highlight alleged gaps in the official version. In the first report, Ali denied having been called by Pracha to his office, and said he had gone on his own. Another report pointed out that the complainant against Pracha was accused of rioting but managed to secure pre-arrest bail with little opposition from the prosecution.

HAPPY Pongal

I wish everyone a
Happy and Joyful Pongal.
May God Bless us with
a Great Year.

-Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/D/0097/20-21

विस्ती सरकार
Department of Art Culture and Language, Government of NCT of Delhi

TOTAL CASES		HOSPITAL BEDS		Total	Vacant
6,31,249				11,984	10,769
		VENTILATORS		1,428	1,075
	Daily cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests	
Jan 12	386	545	16	75,913	
Jan 13	357	534	11	70,745	
Total	2,991*	6,17,540	10,718	95,95,402	

*Total active cases

BRIEFLY

Property dealer killed in Jafrabad

New Delhi: A 50-year-old property dealer was shot dead allegedly by two unidentified men in Northeast Delhi's Jafrabad Wednesday. Police said the victim, Raees Ansari, was standing outside his house when two bike-borne men approached him and, after a few minutes of talking, allegedly pulled out a pistol and fired at his head. He was taken to a hospital where he was declared dead on arrival. "It seems to be a case of personal enmity. Ansari's family has alleged that he had recently objected to gambling practices in the area, it might have triggered someone. We are also looking into previous involvements of Ansari," a senior officer said.

BJP MP summoned

New Delhi: BJP MP Hans Raj Hans was summoned by a Delhi court which took cognizance of a chargesheet filed against him in connection with allegedly filing a false election affidavit. The complaint filed by former Congress MLA Rajesh Lilothia stated that Hans "deliberately furnished wrong information in his affidavit and has also concealed material information pertaining to his assets and liabilities and also of his spouse."

MCDs pulled up for no cashless care

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Wednesday pulled up the civic bodies for not providing cashless medical services to their retired employees from whom they have taken the subscription premium for extending the facility. The court also criticised the local bodies for not paying monthly pension to their employees.

Finish projects on time: CM to DJB officials

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday asked Delhi Jal Board (DJB) officials to complete all projects within the stipulated time frame and prevent unnecessary expenditure. **ENS**



Farmers burn copies of the farm law at Singhu Wednesday. Gajendra Yadav

Singhu marks quiet Lohri: 'Real celebrations once laws repealed'

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

THE SINGHU border was lit up Thursday evening with big and small Lohri fires burning at every few steps. However, the usual revelry of song and dance was replaced by a more solemn celebration as farmers burnt the farm laws in what they said was a 'Black Lohri'.

The Sanyukt Kisan Morcha, the umbrella body of farmers which had given the call to burn copies of the law, was the first to light its Lohri bonfire around 5:30 pm, before the sun had set.

The harvest festival is among the biggest in Punjab and is celebrated to mark the end of winter solstice.

Farmer leaders threw copies of the law in the fire and raise slogans, as the song 'Kisaan de faisla, kisan karuga' (Farmers will decide on farmers' matters)

played in the background.

Darshan Pal of the Krantikari Kisan Union said, "We have burnt the laws as a symbol of burning of evil and the victory of good. The government will have to repeal these laws. Similar Lohris will be burnt all over the country."

As the sun set, bonfires were lit across the protest site. But unlike the usual popcorn, peanuts and rewri offered to the fire, the bonfires here were mostly fed copies of the three farm laws.

Among those who burnt the copy was singer Diljit Dosanjh's uncle Shingara Singh Dosanjh (69), a retired school teacher popularly known as 'Master'.

"If it was a *khushi ki lohri*, we would have put all the edible items we usually do, but why would we do that now? Farmers are dying here but the PM is yet to visit us. Real Lohri will happen once these laws are repealed," said Dosanjh from Dosanjh Kalan near Jalandhar, Punjab.

Vijay Dahiya from Sonapat, Haryana, came to Delhi Thursday after having already spent a short period in the protest. "We came here to celebrate the festival with farmers, to burn the laws. But this is a Black Lohri for us. Usually we would celebrate with families back home, this time we are forced to celebrate it here," he said.

At one of the bigger Lohri fires, Sikhs, Hindus and Muslims huddled together in the warmth. It was one of the few where the protesters offered peanuts, but even this was devoid of music or dance.

Among them was Palwinder Singh, a resident of Toronto, Canada, who had come to India in December after his father's death but decided to stay back for the farmers' protest.

"This is the first time in 23 years that I'm celebrating Lohri, and the feeling is overwhelming. To sit here with brothers of all faiths and fight for their rights

gives me immense pride. I came here today to celebrate Lohri, after which I'll return to my village near Ludhiana. But I will be back on January 26 for the parade," said Singh, who's a truck driver in Canada.

Nawab Ali, an elderly farmer from Yamuna Nagar in Haryana, said he had decided to participate in Lohri festivities just like he did back home. "We have always celebrated all festivals and we will continue to do. Nobody can break our brotherhood, and we will not turn back till the laws are repealed," he said.

At a Lohri bonfire by women was Harvinder Kaur from Sangrur, Punjab.

"I have been here for seven days but my husband has been here from the beginning. We will not go back till the laws go. Today we are only burning the law, actual Lohri celebrations will begin when the law is repealed," she said.

Here from Punjab, a painter and his work

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

NEXT TO the main stage at Singhu border, where speeches were being delivered as usual, a large painting drew many eyeballs and selfies on Wednesday. The painting depicted the farmers' protests and at the bottom of it sat Parveen Kumar (43), a disabled teacher of fine arts from Ludhiana, moving his brush in careful strokes.

Kumar, who teaches at a government college in Ludhiana, had travelled from home in his scooter with the painting he started at home. The scenes, both literal and metaphorical, are painted on a 28x6 feet canvas with acrylic colours, and have become a photograph spot for many.

"I had started the painting 17 days back, and now I'm just giving it finishing touches. My father



The painting has become a photo spot for many. Abhinav Saha

was a farmer before he moved to the city in search of a job. While I may not be connected to the farmers directly, we all have an indirect connection. If not for them, we would be sleeping on empty stomachs," he said.

Kumar had polio in his child-

hood and now uses crutches to walk. About his painting, he said: "I have started from the time the farmers left their homes and had to face barricades and tear gas on their way to Delhi. There are also portraits of five farmers' faces depicting the five states primarily

represented here — Punjab, Haryana, UP, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh."

The bottom of the painting is dedicated to smaller scenes of farmers with their tractors, serving langar and food at the protest sites and raising flags.

It also features metaphorical imagery. "I have shown a crow stealing a roti, and the falcon stopping it. In this, the crow symbolises the corporate sector and the falcon the farmers. There's another one in which a snake has a lizard stuck in its mouth, which it is neither able to swallow nor spit it out. That is supposed to be symbolic of the government's attitude towards the farm laws; they are neither being able to implement it nor repeal it," he said.

"I will go home after this and return with another painting soon. My painting will stop when the protest stops," he said.

75 CENTRES TO BEGIN WITH

Target: Vaccinate 75,000 in 10 days

ASTHA SAXENA &
SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

THE COVID vaccination drive of three lakh healthcare workers and six lakh frontline workers in Delhi is expected to be completed by March, senior officials from the state health department said Wednesday, adding that the number of vaccination centres in the city will be increased to 225 by the end of next week.

Delhi government has set a target of 1,000 centres to inoculate 1 lakh persons per day, according to official documents, which state that 1,100 teams will be required to carry out the drive.

Dr Suneela Garg, who has been appointed to the state Covid task force, said each centre will administer the vaccine to 100 beneficiaries a day. The number of centres has been reduced from 89 to 75 on launch day as the session sites for the entire country have been reduced from 5,000 to 2,934.

"This means 7,500 beneficiaries will be vaccinated on the first day. So, in the next 10 days, we will be able to cover 75,000 beneficiaries under the programme. The target is to inoculate the healthcare and frontline workers in the first phase by the end of March. Once that is done, we will start the vaccination drive for the population above 50 years and below 50 years of age with comorbidities," said Dr Garg.



At a vaccination centre in Darya Ganj. Praveen Khanna

While the drive will begin on Saturday at 75 centres, the efforts will be scaled up over the next few days, with district magistrates being directed to identify sites to set up vaccination camps.

"Once we have 1,000 vaccination centres, we will administer vaccines to one lakh people a day," said Dr Garg. Healthcare workers will be registered through the CoWin app developed by the Centre and their names will be verified at session sites. As per the plan, healthcare workers will be given the shot in their respective institutes from where their names have been registered for the drive.

As per the chart prepared by the government, the south west district will have the maximum such centres (123) while north east, with 65, will have the least. It shows that the central district has the highest number of healthcare (34,653) as well as frontline workers (69,306).

North east district, which has the lowest concentration of government health facilities, has 4,737 healthcare workers and 9,474 frontline workers. In terms of people aged 50 and above and those below 50 with comorbidities, southwest leads the chart with 5.38 lakh and 5.91 lakh persons in these categories respectively.

Meanwhile, the Delhi government's Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality hospital (RGSSH) received 20,000 doses of Bharat Biotech's Covaxin Wednesday, a day after the city received its first batch of Oxford Covid-19 vaccine Covishield, manufactured by the Serum Institute of India.

Dr Chhavi Gupta, spokesperson of the hospital, said: "There are four boxes containing 250 vials in each box. Each vial has 20 doses of 10 ml. We have started the process of transportation of the vaccines to the respective centres."

40k health workers 1st in Gurgaon vaccine line

SAKSHI DAYAL
GURGAON, JANUARY 13

AROUND 40,000 healthcare workers in Gurgaon will be administered the coronavirus vaccine in the first stage of vaccination, with the first round of doses expected to reach the district by Wednesday night or Thursday — two days before the process of vaccination kicks off on January 16.

Speaking at a press conference Wednesday, Deputy Commissioner of Gurgaon Dr Yash Garg said, "The arrangements for administering the coronavirus vaccine to health workers in the first phase have been completed and the volunteers have been prepared. For the first phase, a target of vaccinating around 40,000 health workers has been set."

"The vaccines meant for Haryana will be received by Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar in Chandigarh Wednesday, and only after this it will be clear how

many of these are meant for Gurgaon. We expect the vaccines to reach us by Wednesday night or Thursday," he said.

With rumors circulating about the reliability and efficacy of the vaccine, Civil Surgeon Dr Virender Yadav said that in order to clear misconceptions, he will be the first in the district to get vaccinated. He also appealed to renowned cardiologist Dr Naresh Trehan, Deputy Civil Surgeon Dr Sushila Kataria and Garg to join him in this task. The latter agreed for the same at the press conference itself. "What more can we do to clear up the confusion," said Dr Yadav.

Officials revealed earlier that vaccines will be administered at 161 centres in Gurgaon, with a target of 100 health workers per centre. This too, however, "depends on the number of doses of the vaccine" that are made available to Gurgaon. In phase one, health workers will be vaccinated first, followed by other frontline workers. After this, people over the age of 50 will be vaccinated.

Fire service hands over 2,171 names

New Delhi: Days before the Covid vaccine rollout in the capital, the Delhi Fire Services has put in names of its 2,171 officers and personnel as frontline workers for the vaccine. DFS has planned to vaccinate all its personnel since most of them have performed either rescue or fire-fighting operations during the pandemic.

DFS chief Atul Garg told *The Indian Express*, "We want everyone to be vaccinated so that we can safely continue our work. During the pandemic there were instances when we had to go into Covid facilities or hospitals to douse the fire. We have submitted all the names to the Centre for their database"

Till date, over 200 firefighters in the DFS have been infected with Covid. The distribution of the vaccine in the unit has been divided into three groups — A, B and C. A total of 36 officers have been put in the group A which includes senior officers. **ENS**

Murder after argument over noisy juveniles

MAHENDER SINGH
MANRAL

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

DELHI POLICE apprehended three juveniles and are on the lookout for two more for allegedly killing a 20-year-old man in Central Delhi's Patel Nagar. Police said the attack was revenge for an earlier altercation with the victim, identified as Shubham Kumar, and his employer as they had objected to three of the juveniles shouting abuses outside their home. Police said the accused had also planned to kill his employer, a businessman, but the latter had gone out with his family at the time of the attack.

The accused were produced before a juvenile justice board and sent to a juvenile home.

Police said Kumar, who hailed from Bihar's Madhepura, was working as a domestic help. "His employer's brother, who stays in the adjoining building, told police that three days ago, four locals were shouting abuses at each other outside their house. Kumar and his employer asked them not to make noise but that led to an

argument. The issue was resolved after locals intervened," a senior police officer said.

On Monday, Kumar was alone in the house as his employer had gone out with his wife and children. "A group of 5-6 boys, including those with whom they had an argument, knocked on the door. Four of them were carrying knives," a senior police officer said.

The employer's brother alleged that they stabbed Kumar multiple times after he opened the door. "They then managed to escape..." The victim was taken to a nearby hospital where he died during treatment. An FIR was registered on the basis of the complaint and several teams were formed to nab the accused," an officer said.

During investigation, CCTV cameras were scanned and police gathered local intelligence about the accused. "Three of them were apprehended in raids. They said they felt angry after they were scolded in front of so many people. So they decided to take revenge. They shared their plan with their associates and decided to kill both men, but the employer was not present at home," the officer said.

Green signal to restore Badshahpur Baoli

SAKSHI DAYAL
GURGAON, JANUARY 13

THREE YEARS after the Badshahpur Baoli was rescued from certain death when a sector road that was to be constructed over it was realigned, following which the Haryana Department of Archaeology claimed it would take over the structure and "restore it to its original glory", the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) has granted permission to the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) to undertake restoration of the "heritage structure".

The letter granting permission, signed by Additional Commissioner IV of the MCG, states it is a representation from INTACH that brought the monument and its importance to the civic body's notice. The document, the letter states, drew attention to the fact that the Baoli was listed in the year 2000 as a heritage structure.

"The Baoli holds immense value to Gurugram from historical, architectural and archaeological perspectives. This is in the best interest of the city to preserve it and prevent loss of such

valuable history," says the letter from the MCG.

"In view of the above, INTACH, Gurugram chapter is hereby accorded permission to undertake the restoration of this monument/heritage structure and MCG offers to fund the revival/restoration work of the Badshahpur Baoli. An MOU shall be signed in this regard between MCG and INTACH," it adds.

The letter which was written by INTACH to the MCG states the Baoli has "high architectural, historical and archaeological value", and on restoration, "could also become a hub for tourists". Dating back to the 19th century, the Badshahpur Baoli in Gurgaon's Badshahpur village was constructed in 1905 by Mohanlal Mangla. The baoli was a catchment area for water that was then used for bathing and washing clothes, and as drinking water for animals. The Baoli, however, dried up around 25 years ago, following which it was taken over by the government in 2012.

MCG Commissioner Vinay Pratap Singh and Additional Commissioner IV Jaspreet Kaur did not respond to calls and messages seeking comment.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

DELHI CHIEF Minister Arvind Kejriwal Wednesday said that the government will provide coronavirus vaccine for free to the people of Delhi if the Centre fails to do so.

He said he had appealed to the Centre for ensuring free vaccination in the country since there are many people who may not be able to afford the shot.

"There are many people who are poor and cannot afford the vaccine... We will see what the Centre does. If need arises and the Centre does not provide the vaccine free of cost, we will make it available free of cost for the people of Delhi," said Kejriwal.

The Chief Minister also appealed to people to not spread rumours about the vaccine. "I understand that the Centre and our scientists have brought the vaccine following all the protocols and safeguards. So, there should not be any doubt and people should come forward for vaccination," he said.



Chief Minister Kejriwal with the family of Dr Hitesh Gupta, a contractual doctor who died of coronavirus. Praveen Khanna

The Chief Minister said the coronavirus vaccine will be given first to healthcare workers followed by frontline workers. He expressed hope that it will provide relief to the people, and address the pain they suffered over the last year.

The vaccination drive will begin at 75 centres in Delhi on Saturday.

Kejriwal made the announcement to the media after meeting the family of Dr Hitesh Gupta, a contractual doctor who died after contracting coronavirus, at his house on East Delhi's IP Extension.

Gupta (43), who was posted at Karkardooma dispensary, died on November 3. A month earlier, on October 8, Gupta was

given a certificate of appreciation by the Delhi government for his outstanding work in Krishna Nagar in the fight against the disease.

Kejriwal also provided Rs 1 crore financial assistance to the family.

"Life can hold no monetary value, but I hope that this compensation will help the family in the long term. His wife belongs to a very educated background, she will also be provided a government job. We will try to help them in every possible way" he said.

Dr Hitesh Gupta's wife Surbhi said, "Though money cannot compensate for his life, I am thankful to the CM for helping us. This will help us lead a life that we could have afforded if he was alive."

Hitesh is survived by his wife Surbhi, daughter Swara and mother.

Swara, a student of Class 4 in Lovely Public Senior Secondary School, said that she wants to be a doctor just like her father. "My father always wanted me to be a doctor, I will fulfill his dream," she said.

5 GOVT & POLITICS

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



BIHARI, VIHARI

AMONG UNION minister Babul Supriyo's 17 tweets on Monday, was one angry outburst against one Hanuma Bihari, who he charged with "murdering" cricket. Around the time his post went public, a cricketer with a similar sounding name, Hanuma Vihari, was fighting to save a Test in Australia. This was a clue that Supriyo was tuned to Sydney, he meant Vihari, and was angry. "Playing 109 balls to score 7 ! That is atrocious to say the least Hanuma Bihari has not only killed any Chance for India to achieve a historic win but has also murdered Cricket.. not keeping win an option, even if remotely, is criminal." He ended his punditry with a confession. "PS: I know that I know nothing abt cricket." On a day when the game's leading lights – from Sachin Tendulkar downwards – were celebrating the greatest-ever draw and the remarkable resistance strung together by Vihari and R Ashwin, Supriyo wasn't the lone voice of dissent on this Indian cricket's big day. Congressman and BCCI vice-president Rajiv Shukla too wasn't impressed. "Actually the middle order could have performed little better and we would have won the match." Now Bihari, oops Vihari, has reacted to Supriyo's tweet. There was no lengthy retort, no laboured taunt. The modest-to-a-fault Andhra youngster's two-word putdown to Supriyo's Bihari tweet was: * Hanuma Vihari.

CLEARING THE AIR

FOR THE second time in nearly a month the government has come out and assured that no All India Radio stations are being closed or even downgraded in any state across the country. A month ago, in mid-December, I&B Minister Prakash Javadekar had said that none of the AIR stations will be closed, downgraded or converted into relay centres, and had stated that there is a deliberate attempt by somebody to spread rumors and fake news. On Wednesday, the I&B Ministry issued a statement reiterating the same thing. It said that "taking a serious note of the false reporting and fake news claiming closure of AIR stations by various media outlets across India, Prasara Bharati has made it clear that these reports are baseless and factually incorrect".

DATA PACT

THE UNION Cabinet on Wednesday gave its nod for the signing of an MoU between the Earth Sciences Ministry and the National Centre for Meteorology in Saudi Arabia for sharing of data, knowledge and operational products for meteorological, seismological and oceanic services. The MoU is the latest in a long list of collaborative efforts that the Indian government has with other countries in the area of science and technology.

After VRS, Gujarat IAS officer to join BJP today, may contest MLC polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 13

A K Sharma, a former IAS officer of the Gujarat cadre who recently took voluntary retirement as the secretary of the Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), is set to join the BJP in Lucknow on Thursday and likely to contest one of the 12 MLC seats scheduled to go to polls on January 28. Sharma opted for voluntary retirement ahead of his scheduled superannuation next year.

In Gujarat, he had worked with Narendra Modi when the latter was the Chief Minister.

"He (AK Sharma) will join the



AK Sharma

party tomorrow (Thursday) at the state party office in Lucknow. The time of the joining and who will be present at the event are not yet confirmed," BJP spokesperson Chandramohan told *The Indian Express*.

The 12 outgoing MLCs include Deputy CM Dinesh Sharma, state BJP president Swatantra Dev Singh and state BJP vice-president Laxman Prasad Acharya.

Memo: India key to US plan in Indo-Pacific, counter to China

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

A NEWLY declassified internal document of the outgoing Trump administration — rare for an incumbent to declassify at least two decades before its time — highlights how India figures as a key player in the US strategy on Indo-Pacific.

The paper outlines a strategy based on the assumption that a "strong India, in cooperation with like-minded countries, would act as a counterbalance to China", and that New Delhi's "preferred partner on security issues" is Washington.

While much of it is publicly known, the memo gives an insight into the Trump administration's thinking and sets the stage for co-operation with the Joe Biden administration scheduled to take charge January 20.

Classified as "secret" and "not for foreign nationals" by Deputy National Security Advisor Matt Pottinger, the paper was declassified by NSA Robert C O'Brien on January 5.

The paper on "US Strategic Framework for the Indo-Pacific," defines the goal as ensuring that India remains "pre-eminent in South Asia and takes the leading role in maintaining Indian Ocean security, increases engagement with Southeast Asia, and expands its economic, defence, and diplomatic cooperation with other US allies and partners in the region".

As per the paper, the US will take action on several fronts, including diplomatic, military and intelligence, to "accelerate India's rise and capacity to serve as a net provider of security and Major Defence Partner" and to address challenges emanating from China, including the border dispute.

Among the steps the US proposed to undertake include: offering "support to India — through diplomatic, military, and intelligence channels — to help address continental challenges such as the border dispute with China and access to water, including the Brahmaputra and other rivers facing diversion by China".

Significantly, in early 2018, US President Donald Trump endorsed a strategy for the Indo-

Pacific developed by his National Security Council (NSC) through the course of 2017.

This coincided with the Doklam border dispute between India and China between June and August in 2017. The declassified memo reveals that the Trump Administration was pushing for stronger ties with India, in the face of Chinese belligerence.

The memo says that the US will "solidify an enduring strategic partnership with India underpinned by a strong Indian military able to effectively collaborate with the United States and our partners in the region to address shared interests".

According to the document, the US will build a "stronger foundation for defence cooperation and interoperability; expand our defence trade and ability to transfer defence technology to enhance India's status as a Major Defence Partner; increase our cooperation on shared regional security concerns and encourage India's engagement beyond the Indian Ocean Region".

The US will also support India's bid for membership of the

Nuclear Suppliers Group, and work "with India toward domestic economic reform and an increased leadership role in the East Asia Summit (EAS) and ADMM+ (Asean Defence Ministers Meeting".

The memo underlines the need to "align our (US) Indo-Pacific strategy with those of Australia, India and Japan", of deepening trilateral cooperation with Japan and Australia, and a quadrilateral security relationship with India.

Among the "desired end states" or goals of the strategy is India-US cooperation to "preserve maritime security and counter Chinese influence in South and Southeast Asia and other regions of mutual concern", and India maintaining "the capacity to counter border provocations by China".

"The declassification of the Framework today demonstrates, with transparency, America's strategic commitments to the Indo-Pacific and to our allies and partners in the region," wrote National Security Advisor O'Brien in his memo.

SC stays 2 FIRs against Bengal BJP leader over scuffle with TMC workers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

THE SUPREME COURT on Wednesday stayed proceedings on two FIRs lodged against West Bengal BJP leader Kabir Shankar Bose after perusing the CJSF's special incident report on the scuffle between his security staff and Trinamool Congress workers.

The top court also sought response from the West Bengal government and the state police on the plea filed by Bose, seeking probe by an independent agency.

A bench of Justices S K Kaul, Dinesh Maheshwari and Hrishikesh Roy issued notice to the state government. During the hearing, senior advocates Mahesh Jethmalani, Anupam Lal Das and advocate Sameer Kumar, appearing for Bose, said that as directed by the court in its last hearing, the CJSF has filed its report in a sealed cover describing the incident of December 6 last year. Additional Solicitor General Vikramjit Banerjee, appearing for the Centre, also confirmed that the CJSF report has been filed as directed by the top court.

On January 5, the top court had asked the Centre to place on record the special incident report filed by CJSF on an alleged scuffle between the TMC workers and security staff of Bose. It had also sought in sealed cover the movement logbook of the leader pertaining to the day of incident.

A Special Incident Report is a formal report filed with the regional centre whenever a person served by the regional centre is involved in an unusual event, such as a crime or injury.

PARTY DISTANCES SELF

ED arrests former TMC MP in money laundering case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, KOLKATA, JANUARY 13

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate arrested former TMC MP Kanwar Deep Singh on Wednesday under sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

He was produced before a court which sent him to ED custody till January 16, PTI quoted official sources as saying.

The agency had carried out searches on the premises of Singh and his associates in September 2019. Singh has previously been the chairman of Alchemist group and the ED is probing him as part of two money laundering cases.

While Singh has been Rajya Sabha MP from TMC in the past, party members said "was no longer involved" in its affairs.

The agency has claimed to have recovered Rs 35 lakh in cash, 10,000 USD, "property papers and documents pertaining to circuitous financial transactions from his official residence in Delhi". "During searches, a number of documents reflecting the circular nature of transactions, digital evidences and property documents are seized at the official residence of KD Singh in Delhi cash of Rs 32 lakhs along with Foreign Exchange worth 10,000 USD was found and seized," an ED statement had said.

The searches in 2019 were carried out at seven locations in New Delhi and Chandigarh, including registered offices of 14 group companies of Alchemist Group, official residence of Singh at Tughlaq lane in New Delhi, his residence at Chandigarh and the homes of two directors in different companies, the statement had said.

The ED had initiated its probe into the affairs of Alchemist Group



Singh has been sent to ED custody till Jan 16, officials said

in 2018 on the basis of FIRs registered by Kolkata Police against Singh, his son Karandeep Singh, M/S Alchemist Township India Limited, M/S Alchemist Holdings Limited and various other group companies and their directors for allegedly cheating thousands of customers and investors. "Kanwar Deep Singh through companies... raised huge amount of money from thousands of customers in the garb of investments by luring them of high returns and also against sale/booking of plots and flats etc... these funds... were not used for the intended purpose and were diverted/siphoned off to various group companies," the ED had said.

Singh's arrest triggered a verbal duel in poll-bound Bengal.

TMC MP Sougata Roy said, "I don't want to comment. KD Singh is neither with the TMC nor an MP." TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh said Singh should have been arrested earlier. He said BJP vice-president and former TMC leader Mukul Roy was the reason why Singh was allowed entry into the TMC. The allegation has been denied by Roy.

State BJP president Dilip Ghosh said, "Everyday either their (TMC) leaders are being arrested or are leaving the party. The BJP is continuously growing in Bengal. We are playing practice match before the final. Who will be arrested is CBI's and ED's call."

Left Front Legislature Party leader Sujana Chakraborty said, "He should have been arrested a long time ago."

Support Mamata against BJP's divisive tactics: TMC urges Cong, Left parties

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JANUARY 13

THE TRINAMOL Congress (TMC) on Wednesday appealed to the Congress and the Left Front to support Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in West Bengal against the "communal and divisive tactics of the BJP" in the upcoming Assembly elections.

With the Assembly election just months away, several front-line party leaders and ministers resigned from TMC and joined the BJP. It is in this scenario that the TMC has reached out to the Left parties and the Congress — that are forging a separate coalition against TMC and BJP — to support the ruling party to defeat the "communal and divisive force, BJP".

Saugata Roy said that TMC chief Mamata Banerjee was the "real face of secular politics". Roy also claimed that the BJP-led government at the Centre had not been able to work on any project successfully.

"If the Left Front and the Congress are genuinely anti-BJP, they should support Mamata



Mamata Banerjee

Banerjee in her fight against the communal and divisive politics of the saffron party," he said.

However, both the CPM and the Congress rejected the TMC's appeal. At a joint press conference addressed by CPM leader Sujana Chakraborty and Congress leader Abdul Mannan, Chakraborty said, "The TMC has no spine to fight against a communal force like the BJP. The TMC never wants to fight against BJP and the BJP also never wanted to fight against TMC. Today's appeal only proved that, in this state, Congress and Left Front coalition is the only alternative to the TMC and BJP."

"Only a few days ago, TMC leaders were saying that Left and Congress have become signboards. Now, they are asking for support. That means they have realised that their politics became irrelevant," Mannan said.

Before House panel, RSS affiliate flags 'distortions' in NCERT school textbooks

RITIKACHOPRA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

DEPOSING BEFORE a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Tuesday, the RSS-affiliated Shiksha Sanskriti Uthana Nyas (SSUN) flagged "distortions" in NCERT's school textbooks, which included a chapter on late artist MF Husain in the Class 11 Hindi textbook and references to Mughal rulers giving grants to support the building and maintenance of places of worship in a Class 12 History textbook.

The Nyas, which is headed by Dina Nath Batra, a former head of Vidya Bharati, the education wing of the RSS, was invited to the meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on education, women, children, youth and

sports on Tuesday to depose before members on textbook reforms and "removing references to un-historical facts and distortions about our national heroes from textbooks".

Rajya Sabha member Vinay Sahasrabudhne heads the panel. The meeting was attended by representatives of the department of school education, NCERT and CBSE. Former NCERT director J S Rajput, Shankar Sharan of NCERT, SSUN and RSS-affiliate Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal (BSM) deposed before the committee on Tuesday.

The committee is expected to meet again in a week to hear further depositions. "The committee had sought feedback on the topic on social media. It was through this exercise that some organizations requested to be heard in person," said a source on the invitation ex-

tended to SSUN and BSM.

In its submission to the panel, SSUN objected to a chapter on painter MF Husain in the Class 11 Hindi Textbook "Antraal". The Nyas felt it was inappropriate for students to study the life of a person who was accused of promoting obscenity and outraging religious sentiments. The Supreme Court had refused to allow Husain's prosecution on the charges of obscenity.

SSUN protested references to Mughal rulers adopting a flexible policy towards their non-Muslim subjects and giving grants to repair temples damaged during war in the Class 12 History textbook titled "Themes in Indian History-II". SSUN stated that these sentences amount to the glorification of foreign invaders.

The RSS affiliate also objected to the section on "Varnas" in the

EXPLAINED The backdrop

THE PARLIAMENTARY panel has taken up the issue of textbook reform at a time that the government has already started the groundwork for the development of a new National Curriculum Framework (NCF). All NCERT textbooks will be revised based on the new NCF.

Chapter 5 of the Class 6 History textbook that states that the "priests divided people into four groups, called varna" and that "the priests also said that these

groups were decided on the basis of birth". The Nyas asked whether it was appropriate to promote hostility towards one section in Class 6 students' minds.

In its suggestions to the parliamentary panel, BSM said that history should be taught as a continuum and that dividing history into ancient, medieval and modern creates confusion. It also stated that teaching of History should promote national unity, inspire national renaissance and inculcate high self-esteem in students.

The department of school education in its submission to the parliamentary committee informed members that the NCERT is in the process of setting up a panel to analyse and address complaints with regard to "un-historical facts and distortions" about national heroes and events.

Ahead of Kerala polls, UDF promises Nyay scheme, no-bill hospitals

SHAJUPHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JANUARY 13

THE CONGRESS-LED UDF on Wednesday brought out the draft manifesto for the Kerala Assembly elections due in April-May. A major highlight is that the UDF, if voted to power, has promised to implement the minimum income scheme Nyuntam Aay Yojana (Nyay), which Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had mooted in the party's manifesto ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

The UDF released the draft ahead of the LDF government presenting the budget on Friday. The state government is expected to fatten the existing money-transfer welfare schemes or bring new measures to woo voters.

Releasing the draft manifesto, Leader of Opposition in the



Ramesh Chennithala

Assembly Ramesh Chennithala said, "The UDF would implement Nyay, which party leader Rahul Gandhi had promised to implement. We would be the first state to implement it. As per the scheme, the poor would get a monthly income of Rs 6,000 in their bank accounts, which would work out to Rs 72,000 in a year. This would go a long way in wiping out poverty from the state."

He said the manifesto would be based on four principles --

"more government, more investment, more employment and more compassion".

Chennithala said all sections of people require the government's support as the 2018 floods and Covid-19 had had a devastating impact on the state's economy. "Hence, the UDF promises 'more government', which would ensure more supportive measures for the people," he said.

Among the other promises are setting up "no-bill hospitals" for free treatment and hike in the amounts of student scholarship, wages and welfare pension schemes. The manifesto has promised to increase unemployment allowance and pension for the elderly.

The final manifesto would be prepared after taking opinions from the public. The committee for preparing the manifesto would meet in various districts starting from January 17.

6 EXPRESS NETWORK

BRIEFLY



Mehul Choksi

DELHI Choksi plea to pre-screen Netflix series is academic: HC

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court said on Wednesday that with the release of Netflix docuseries *Bad Boy Billionaires*, the plea by Mehul Choksi, an accused in the Rs 13,500-crore PNB fraud case, for its pre-screening remained "an academic exercise" as everything was "practically over". A bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh further observed that there was no urgency in the matter; the view firmly supported by Netflix. Senior advocate Neeraj Kishan Kaul, appearing for Netflix, said there was only a two-minute reference to Choksi, as the uncle of Nirav Modi, in the entire series and no case of violation of the fundamental right to a fair trial was made out. Advocate Vijay Aggarwal, appearing for Choksi, however opposed the contentions of Netflix. The court, thereafter, listed the matter for hearing on February 12. **PTI**

JHARKHAND HC to hear Babul Marandi case today

Ranchi: The Jharkhand High Court will Thursday hear the case on the notices sent by the Jharkhand Assembly speaker to Babul Marandi, BJP's Legislature Party Leader, attracting 10th schedule of the constitution that deals with defection. The issue assumes importance as Babul Marandi has not been given the status of Leader of Opposition after he merged his party—Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (Prajatantrik) with BJP. The saffron party had given him the status of Leader of Legislature Party. The Jharkhand Assembly speaker issued him a notice after which writ petition was filed challenging that notice and also the rules of Jharkhand Assembly. The High Court will look into the 'legality and propriety' of the power conferred to the Speaker. **ENS**

MEGHALAYA SC seeks state's reply on plea by journalist

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday issued a notice to the Meghalaya government on a plea by veteran journalist Patricia Mukhim against a High Court order refusing to quash an FIR for her Facebook post which allegedly incited communal tension between the tribal and the non-tribal communities in the state last year. Mukhim is the editor of *The Shillong Times*. A bench of Justices L Nageswara Rao, Indu Malhotra and Vineet Saran, which heard the plea by Mukhim against the November 10, 2019 judgement, sought the state's response by February 5. The journalist said that a plain reading of her FB post would make it clear that its purpose is to appeal for impartial enforcement of the rule of law and equal treatment before the law of all citizens. **ENS**

Covaxin delivery starts, 'full initial procurement allotted'

PRABHA RAGHAVAN & PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

THE first batch of Covaxin vaccine against Covid-19 was dispatched from Hyderabad by manufacturer Bharat Biotech Wednesday, flown to 11 cities across the country. Along with the Serum Institute of India's Covishield, which was shipped out Tuesday, Covaxin will be part of the government's mass vaccination programme against Covid-19 starting Friday.

The first batch of Covaxin vials, each containing 20 doses, was sent by air "in the early hours of Wednesday" to Gannavaram (Andhra Pradesh), Guwahati, Patna, Delhi, Kurukshetra (Haryana), Bengaluru, Pune, Bhubaneswar, Jaipur, Chennai and Lucknow.

There was no official word on the total doses of Covaxin dispatched and received, though sources told The Indian Express the number was around 2.4 lakh doses. The SI, which continued to ship out Covishield on Wednesday, was said to have fulfilled "over 95 per cent" of its total order as on Wednesday morning.

The government had announced a purchase agreement for 55 lakh doses of Covaxin and 110 lakh doses of Covishield. The government has so far not made public the break-up of the two vaccines to be sent to each state. However, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare tweeted Wednesday evening that the full initial procurement of 1.65 crore doses of Covishield and Covaxin "have been allocated to all States/UTs in proportion of (the) health care workers database."

The first consignment of Covaxin from Bharat Biotech's Hyderabad headquarters left for Delhi on an Air-India flight, in



Health workers carry boxes containing Covid-19 vaccines at a hospital cold storage facility in Srinagar. *Shuaib Masoodi*

READY TO SPEND ON PROCUREMENT: TOPE

Mumbai: On Tuesday, when Maharashtra received its first tranche of 9.83 lakh vaccine doses, state Health Minister Rajesh Tope said it will take a month to inoculate the state's 7.86 lakh healthcare workers. The state plans to vaccinate 35,000 healthcare workers on January 16, the first day of the rollout. Tope said they are ready to spend on procurement of vaccines if the Centre stops supply after offering the initial batches. He denied claims that he believes the initial supply is insufficient. **ENS**

three boxes, followed by four boxes weighing 90.5 kg flown by Vistara to the national capital. Delhi International Airport Ltd said the boxes on the Air-India flight were for Kurukshetra, and Vistara's for Delhi. IndiGo transported "sample shipments" to Pune, Vijayawada, Guwahati, Patna and Bhubaneswar, while Spicejet's freighter flight departed for Bengaluru with three boxes weighing 90 kg. Three more boxes will arrive in Delhi on Thursday for

further transit to Lucknow.

Covishield was transported from Pune and Mumbai Wednesday, including a GoAir flight carrying 6.96 lakh doses from Mumbai to Goa, Lucknow, Kochi and Chandigarh. IndiGo transported 3,000 kg of Covishield boxes from Mumbai to Raipur, Bhopal, Thiruvananthapuram, Indore, Imphal, Agartala and Udaipur; and Spicejet two boxes to Bagdogra, 10 to Dehradun, seven to Srinagar, six each to Jammu and Kanpur, nine to Gorakhpur, 13 to Jabalpur, 14 to Ranchi and seven to Rajkot.

From Pune, Spicejet carried 34 boxes of Covishield to Delhi, while Vistara flew 16 boxes weighing 512 kg of the vaccine from Mumbai to Varanasi. Of the boxes sent to Delhi, 12 were for Bareilly, 12 for Meerut and nine for Agra.

As per the purchase agreement, the government will procure 55 lakh doses of Covaxin, of them 16.5 lakh for free. The remaining 38.5 lakh doses will be priced at Rs 295 a dose, excluding taxes. In case of Covishield, also a two-dose vaccine, the government has signed a deal for 110 lakh doses at Rs 200 a dose, excluding taxes.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

NIV scientists did something phenomenal: Former top ICMR official

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS
PUNE, JANUARY 13

WITH THE rollout of the country's first indigenous vaccine, Covaxin, scientists at the Indian Council of Medical Research headquarters and Pune-based National Institute of Virology said that despite the hardships, the experience has made for a "once-in-a-lifetime moment".

Dr RR Gangakhedkar, who led the effort as the then chief of the ICMR's epidemiology division, told *The Indian Express* that the vaccine rollout has been the result of translational research performed by ICMR scientists. "Given that it is a pandemic, our scientists responded to the national need and really did something phenomenal," said Dr Gangakhedkar.

When asked whether the vaccine would be effective against mutated strains, he said that there is currently no robust data on the vaccine's efficacy against the variants. "However, if Pfizer claims that their vaccine continues to work against these new variants, there is no reason that ours won't," he said.

Dr Samiran Panda, present head of the ICMR's epidemiology division, told The Indian Express that the indigenous vaccine's first consignment being dispatched from Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech is a remarkable achievement.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Centre to decide share of Serum, Biotech to states

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

THE CENTRE will communicate to the states the proportion in which it will provide the Serum Institute of India's Covishield and Bharat Biotech's Covaxin vaccines to them for their priority groups, but the final decision on how to distribute the same at the district level will be made by the states.

Top government sources told The Indian Express that four video-conference sessions have taken place with the states in the last four days to discuss the distribution of the two vaccines—one of the key questions posed by the states as the rollout begins.

"The job of the Union government is to provide the vaccine doses, which are 1.1 crore doses of the Serum Institute and 55 lakh doses of Bharat Biotech as of now," a source said, underlining that the states will decide which district gets what vaccine. "We have also told the states that whatever is the proportion... that would be the proportion in the booths which will administer the vaccine. Because there cannot be mixing of doses," sources said.

So once a state government decides that a specific session site will administer, say, Bharat Biotech, then that site will remain a Bharat Biotech session site. "That cannot change. Because whoever is inoculated at that site on January 16, which is Day 0, will come there again on Day 28 to get a second dose," said.

An official added, "Suppose the Centre has given the Covishield and Covaxin vaccines in a certain proportion to Punjab. If Punjab is operating 100 session sites a particular day, that X and Y proportion will apply to those 100 sites. The Centre will convey to the states what is the proportion that will apply."

Detailing some of the queries states had, a source said Punjab asked why when it had close to 2

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

317 DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN
CASES: 1,04,95,147
ACTIVE CASES: 2,14,507
DEATHS: 1,51,529
TESTS: 18,34,89,114 **RECOVERIES: 1,01,29,111**

JAN12 CASES 15,968 DEATHS 202 RECOVERIES 17,817 TESTS 8,36,227



STATES WITH RISING ACTIVE CASES

	ACTIVE CASES	RISE IN LAST WEEK
Maharashtra	51,982	2,915
Kerala	64,712	766
Manipur	481	39

STATES WHERE ACTIVE CASES ARE DECLINING

	ACTIVE CASES	DECLINE IN LAST WEEK
West Bengal	7,392	1,901
Uttar Pradesh	10,560	1,726
Rajasthan	6,200	1,630

STATES REPORTING MAXIMUM CASES

	ON JAN 12	TOTAL
Kerala	5,507	819,766
Maharashtra	2,936	19,74,488
Karnataka	751	9,28,806

STATES REPORTING MAXIMUM DEATHS

	ON JAN 12	TOTAL
Kerala	25	3,395
West Bengal	18	9,975
Delhi	16	10,707

Data as on January 12, released by Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Indian Council of Medical Research and state governments. Often, the numbers released every day contain data from previous days as well. As such, trends based on daily numbers are only indicative and not definitive

lakh healthcare workers, it had got only 3 lakh doses (both Covishield and Covaxin are double-dose vaccines). "We reiterated to them that vaccines enough for two doses will not be given at one time," sources said, adding, "This is not a one-off exercise. The doses will keep on going to the states. There will be staggered procurement and supply." Sources said Maharashtra wanted to know that since it

had got only 4.5 lakh doses, when it has 8 lakh healthcare workers, should they be covering only half of them. The official said the state was told that all 8 lakh will receive their first dose. "But not all 8 lakh will receive it on Day 1. They will receive it over maybe three or four days. By the time Maharashtra covers 4.5 lakh healthcare workers, they will be supplied with more doses."



PTI

CATCHING THE FESTIVE SPIRIT

Residents of Assam's Panbari village in Kamrup district take part in community fishing on the eve of Bhogali Bihu, Wednesday.

In Bihar's Madhubani, three held for raping disabled girl, trying to blind her: police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PATNA, JANUARY 13

THREE PEOPLE have been arrested for allegedly assaulting and raping a 16-year-old hearing and speech impaired girl in Madhubani district. Two of the accused allegedly damaged her eyes with a pointed wooden stick, causing serious injuries in one eye, police said.

The incident took place on

Tuesday afternoon when the Class 10 student, the daughter of a daily wage, went to the riverside near her village to fetch leaves for her goats, police said. One of the accused, from the same village as the girl, allegedly assaulted and raped her, according to the victim's complaint. The accused was joined by his two friends, who also tried to allegedly rape the girl, who fought back, police said.

According to the FIR filed at

the local police station, the girl's brother alleged that his sister was attacked by two of the accused with a pointed wooden stick after she was raped.

The local PHC in-charge said, "The girl has suffered serious injury in one eye. Her second eye is also affected. She needs to get treated by an eye specialist."

The girl was brought to a hospital in Patna from a medical institute in Darbhanga for treatment on Tuesday night.

The local police station in-charge said, "The girl was found unconscious in a field. Some villagers admitted her to the village primary health centre (PHC)...we immediately arrested three persons, all local residents."

Deputy Superintendent of Police Arun Kumar Singh said, "All the three have been booked for rape and also under POCSO Act provisions since the girl is a minor. A medical examination has been done. The report is awaited."

Maharashtra: 90% govt hospitals don't have fire NOC, no safety audit for 80%

TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA
MUMBAI, JANUARY 13

IN AN assessment carried out across 484 government hospitals and other medical facilities in Maharashtra after a fire in Bhandara district general hospital killed 10 newborns, officials have found that except for a handful, none of these facilities possess a no objection certificate (NOC) from the fire department.

More than 80 per cent had never been through a fire safety audit and less than half had conducted a mock fire drill in the past. In the last five years,

Maharashtra has recorded 17 fire mishaps in government hospitals across 11 districts. This includes the latest incident in the sick newborn care unit of the Bhandara hospital on January 9, when 10 newborns – the oldest just a month old – died due to burn injuries and smoke inhalation.

The ongoing assessment, from which data for 484 rural hospitals, primary health centres, district and sub-district hospitals from 34 of the 36 districts is available at present, has revealed bypassing of fire safety norms by most and the absence of coordination between health department, PWD and civil bodies in ensuring compliance.

Only 88 facilities had con-

ducted a fire safety audit, and only a bare 45 have an NOC from the fire department. A mock fire drill has been carried out at 218 at least once.

N Ramaswamy, Director of National Health Mission, said, "Several hospitals are decades old and were handed over by the PWD to us without obtaining NOC for fire safety. Soon, we will issue a circular to all districts to ensure that a hospital starts functioning only after required permissions are in place. A contract will be drawn up with PWD, in which we will clearly mention who is responsible for fire audit, NOC and other permissions."

Shankaracharya Parishad organised the event in an auditorium of the university and it was attended by more than 100 people. The purpose of the event was to discuss "formation of a Hindu Rashtra".

University authorities denied any involvement with the event. "The university was only the location where it was held. We had no role in the event or regarding its topic. We merely gave the space," said NK Taneja, V-C of the university. Police are yet to file an FIR. "We have had a conversation with the university officials. But so far they have not filed a complaint. The comments were highlighted on social media. We have directed the Cyber Cell to investigate the matter," said Akhilesh N Singh, SP City Meerut.

Meerut: Police probe communal statements made at 'Hindu panchayat'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

UTTAR PRADESH police is looking into communal statements allegedly made during a "Hindu Panchayat" in a Meerut law college three days ago. In video clips that have gone viral on social media, Swami Anand Swaroop, head of an outfit called Shankaracharya Parishad, is purportedly seen calling for economically boycotted of Muslims at the function organised at Chaudhary Charan Singh University.

"We should ask the Muslims that if they have to remain associated with us, first and foremost they should stop reading the Quran, stop offering namaz. We cannot say anything to them because even today, the Constitution is the rule of law. You should take it upon yourself that you will not buy anything from a Muslim. If you destroy them socially, politically and economically, they will begin converting to Hinduism," he purportedly said.

"War has been declared. We need more than 1 crore Hindu warriors in the times to come. They should carry with them sticks, guns and any other weapons required since a battle is imminent. If you are not careful, you can be killed."

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University authorities denied any involvement with the event. "The university was only the location where it was held. We had no role in the event or regarding its topic. We merely gave the space," said NK Taneja, V-C of the university. Police are yet to file an FIR. "We have had a conversation with the university officials. But so far they have not filed a complaint. The comments were highlighted on social media. We have directed the Cyber Cell to investigate the matter," said Akhilesh N Singh, SP City Meerut.

Laundering case: Sarnaik 'aide' planned to bribe MMRDA officials, says ED

KHUSHBOO NARAYAN
MUMBAI, JANUARY 13

A MONEY laundering investigation into the alleged cheating of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) of Rs 175 crore by Topsgroup Services and Solutions Limited has found that Amit Chandole, an alleged close associate of Shiv Sena MLA Pratap Sarnaik, not only coordinated the contract with the authority for the security firm but later also planned to bribe MMRDA officials to clear some of the payments under the contract, as MMRDA had blacklisted

Topsgroup due to non-payment of Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Sources said the agency has found phone recordings of Chandole with M Sashidharan, former MD of Topsgroup, speaking of bribing MMRDA officials for releasing some pending payments and removing Topsgroup from the authority's blacklist. Both Chandole and Sasidharan have been arrested by the ED in connection with the case.

The ED probe, sources said, has also found WhatsApp exchanges between Rahul Nanda, promoter of Topsgroup Services, and his company officials, directing them to withhold other corporate payments in order to pay Chandole.

The payment to Chandole, according to the ED probe, was made on behalf of Sarnaik, as the MLA had a "verbal agreement based on trust" with Topsgroup for sharing 50 per cent of the profits arising out of the MMRDA contract.

Nanda has also referred to Chandole as "Pratap's main man" in his WhatsApp texts to company officials, said sources. "...We have to handle Amit (Chandole) properly... he is Pratap's main man. We have to pay Amit on Monday," said one of the WhatsApp messages of Nanda to a Topsgroup official.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

NCB arrests Nawab Malik's son-in-law To ensure safety, new system will register MP youth stepping out for work: CM Chouhan

MOHAMED THAVER
MUMBAI, JANUARY 13

THE NARCOTICS Control Bureau (NCB) on Wednesday arrested Sameer Khan, son-in-law of Maharashtra Cabinet Minister and NCP leader Nawab Malik, in connection to a drugs case.

He was summoned in connection with a case in which four persons, including a British national and the co-owner of Muchhad Paanwala shop in Mumbai, were earlier arrested for possession for cannabis.

Sameer Wankhede, Zonal Director of NCB, said, "The name of Sameer Khan, a resident of Bandra, came up during our investigation. He was called for examination today. After detailed examination, he has been placed under arrest. Further follow up action is underway."

Repeated calls and messages to Malik, seeking his comment, went unanswered.

Last November, Malik, the minority development and skill development minister in the Maha Vikas Aghadi government, had said in a media interview that the NCB was trying to gain publicity by arresting drug users rather than peddlers.

Khan appeared before the NCB office at Ballard Estate on Wednesday around 10 am. As per senior NCB officials, he was summoned following the interrogation of Karan Sajani, the British national arrested on Saturday.

"We have found that money was exchanged between Khan and Sajani through a payment app. We questioned him to find out what the payment was for," said an officer.

In the case registered by the NCB on Saturday, 75 kg of marijuana, 125 kg of marijuana-related material and many cannabis buds imported from the US were allegedly recovered from Sajani.

Based on Sajani's statement, the police had also arrested Ram Kumar Tiwari, a co-owner of the famous Muchhad Paanwala shop in south Mumbai. NCB officials said they have recovered half a kg of cannabis from the shop's warehouse. Tiwari had claimed that he believed the stuff given to him was a herbal product. Another person arrested in the case is Rahila Furniturewala, also a suspect in the probe into a drugs case lodged by the NCB in connection to actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death. Rahila's sister Shaista Furniturewala had also been arrested for possession of ganja, the agency had said.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BHO PAL, JANUARY 13

THE MADHYA Pradesh government Wednesday said it was working on setting up a system for the safety and security of men and women going outside the state for livelihood purposes.

The system would be put in place by the home department in consultation with other departments, it said.

"The state will have all information about the medium through which our sons and daughters go outside, and the nature of work for which they are being taken. The youth, in turn, will also have information on whom they can get in touch with first if they are in distress," said a statement by the Chief Minister's Office.

Under the new system, the state government would start a registration facility. "In case if someone is insecure or is missing, the administration will be able to take immediate action and ensure safety," the CMO said.

The Indian Express had reported Tuesday that under the proposed system any woman



Shivraj Singh Chouhan

moving out of her house for work will register herself at the local police station, and she will be tracked for her safety.

The state government clarified Wednesday that the intention of the proposed system was not to track or put restrictions on those leaving the state for work. "The one and only objective is to ensure security of our youth and the system will be for the benefit of both men and women," it said.

Speaking at the launch of a 15-day awareness program 'Samman' aimed at protection of women on Monday, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said, "I would like to tell my police friends, Town Inspector, Sub-Inspector, Station House Officer, Head Constable, Constable, Chief Superintendent of Police, Deputy Superintendent

of Police, or Superintendent of Police or any other higher officer. Children should not be 'lost' any more, this is what we should work towards. We are trying to give it a final shape. Someone goes out as labour or for work, then they will be first registered at the district. If they are going outside the district, then we are developing a system that at least the gram panchayat is in the know. If they are going outside the state, then the registration will be done at the district about where this son/daughter is headed. Daughters disappearing when they head out for work will not be accepted in Madhya Pradesh. For this, the home department will take the lead and will coordinate with all other departments to develop a system that the village panchayat would know and those stepping out of state, the district administration would know. Their numbers will be available and information about where they went and who took them will be available. The daughters would know whom and where to call when in distress and their parents would also. We will set right such people so that our daughters do not disappear."

Padma Shri awardee Prakash Rao dies at 63

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BHUBANESWAR, JANUARY 13

SOCIAL ACTIVIST and Padma Shri awardee D Prakash Rao died on Wednesday. He was 63. Rao was admitted at the SCB medical hospital in Cuttack after testing posi-

tive for Covid-19 on December 25. He was shifted to the ICU two days ago after he developed complications and his condition deteriorated. He was on ventilator support for the past two days.

Rao had set an example by dedicating his life and earnings for the education of underprivileged

children. A tea seller in Cuttack district, Rao had been providing free education and meals to nearly 75 children in a slum. He had been doing so for the last twenty years.

Rao's philanthropy had gained a lot of attention when PM Narendra Modi praised him in an episode of Mann Ki Baat.

Advertisement No.1/2021 Date of Publication: 13.01.2021
Closing date for filling of Online Application Form and Deposit of fee 15.02.2021 upto 11:55 PM.
Candidates can apply starting from: 15.01.2021 at 09:00 AM

**RECRUITMENT TO SUBORDINATE JUDICIAL SERVICE
SELECTION COMMITTEE OF PUNJAB & HARYANA HIGH COURT**

Through
**Haryana Public Service Commission,
Bays No. I-10, Block-B, Sector-4, panchkula
H.C.S (Judicial Branch) Examination-2020-21**

The Haryana Public Service Commission invites online application from eligible candidates for 256 posts (239 actual posts +17 anticipated posts) of Civil Judge (Junior Division) in the Haryana Civil Service (Judicial Branch). The category wise break-up of the posts are as under:-

General/UR	SC	BC-A	BC-B	EWS	Total actual vacancies	ESM	ESP	Persons with disability
156	40	21	11	11	239	Gen - 07 SC - 03 BC-A-01 BC-B-02	Gen - 05 SC - 02 BC-A-01 BC-B-01	Business or Law Vidvan/VN -- 03 Hearing Impaired (HH) -- 03 Locusomotor disability or cerebral palsy (CH) -- 02 Action Impaired disability or Multiple Disabilities (MH) -- 02 Total -- 10
The bifurcation of the 17 anticipatory / unforeseen vacancies is given as under:-								
General/UR	SC	BC-A	EWS	Total anticipated vacancies	ESM (Gen)			
10	04	01	02	17	01			

Note I: For more information regarding age, educational qualification and reservation etc. as detailed in the Advertisement and Information for Candidates, please log on to be available on to Commission's website i.e. <http://hpsc.gov.in>.

Note II: The facility of filling online application form will be available on the website w.e.f. 15.01.2021

Dated: 13.01.2021
1394/HRV

**Sd/-
Secretary
Haryana Public Service Commission
Panchkula**

<div><div><div><div>इंडियन बैंक</div><div><div></div></div></div><div><div>Indian Bank</div><div>ALLAHABAD</div></div></div><div><div>इलाहाबाद</div><div>ALLAHABAD</div></div><div>Zonal office, Budh marg, Patna, Bihar-800001, E mail: zopatna@indianbank.co.in, PH:0612-2508237</div></div>					<p>Raghunath Singh, resident of Near-Gayghat Checkpost, Shanidevmandir, Bajrangpuri, Sandalpur, P.S- Alamganj, Distt- Patna, Bihar. Pin-800007</p>	<p>No. 997, Survey Khesra No. 929, Circle No. 54, Holding No. 375D/Old), Ward No. 15/2136 presently Ward no. 50, SRO, Patna City, with Area-360 Sq.ft (0.826598 decimals). Boundary (as per deed): North-Helper Road, South-Railway Line, East-Minjumle Plot Haja, West- Minjumle Plot Haja</p>	<p>₹3,92,100/- (Rupees Three lacs ninety two thousand One hundred only)</p> <p>1,000.00</p>	<p>with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon from 01.09.2019 till realization of bank's dues</p> <p>IDIB20202111</p> <p>Not Known</p>
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of immovable assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on 30.01.2021 , due to the Indian Bank, Secured Creditor, from the undermoted borrowers/Guarantors. The specific details of the property intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below.								
SI No. Branch	Name of the Account & Name & Address of Borrower/Guarantors	Details of Immovable Properties	Reserve Price (In Rs)	Secured creditor's Out-standing Dues				
			Earnest Money Deposit Bid Incremental amt	Property ID Encumbrance on Property				
01 Sultanganj	M/S KASHYAP FOOD & ALLIED INDUSTRIES 1.Shri Rajshekhar S/o Shri Vishnu Swaroop Gupta 2. Smt Suman Shekhar W/o Shri Rajshekhar R/O Gai Ghat, North lane, P.S- Alamganj, P.O- Gulzarbagh, District- Patna, Bihar-800007	In the name of Mr. Rajshekhar S/o Mr. Vishnu Swarup Gupta, area measuring 12-Kadi i.e. 1.32 Decimal, Sale Deed No.1086 dated 23.03.2006, bearing Book No.1, Volume No.62, Page No.117-135, Circle No.81, Holding No.40/80(O), 23/44(N), Ward No.17/23/42, Sheet No.167, M. Plot No.1796(P), Situated at-Gaighat, Utti Gali, P.O- Gulzarbagh, PS-Alamganj, District-Patna, Bihar, bounded as under (As per deed): North-Vendee Mr. Rajshekhar thereafter Awadhesh Singh, South-Shri Gandheshwar Prasad, East-Shri Gandheshwar Prasad, West-Gali Corporation.	₹32,63,000/- (Rupees Thirty two lakh sixty three thousand only) ₹3,26,300/- (Rupees Three lakhs twenty six thousand three hundred only) 1,000.00	₹63,18,513/- (Rupees Sixty three lakh eighteen thousand five hundred thirteen only) as on 23.11.2018 and interest, cost & Charges thereon IDIB20202101 Not Known				
02 Kankarbagh-2	MEENA DEVI & KAMAL KUMAR 1. Smt. Meena Devi W/o Shri Tulsi Prasad 2.Shri Kamal Kumar S/o Shri Tulsi Prasad, Regd. Address: C/o Shri Ram Briks Prasad, Professor Colony, Gali no-18, Munna Chak, P.O.-Lohia Nagar, P.S.Patratkar nagar, Distt.- Patna-800020	All that part and parcel of land & building situated at Mauza-Kurthol, Survey Plot No.629 (Part), Tauzi No.5184, Khata No.50, Thana No.110, PS-Phulwarisharif, District- Patna admeasuring 591 sq.ft (1.3569 Decimal), Sale Deed No. 28674 dated 03.12.2010, standing in the name of Smt. Meena Devi W/o Mr. Tulsi Prasad, Book No.01, Volume-466, Pg 203-210 registered with SRO Patna. Boundary (As per Deed): North-Smt. Rita Devi, South-Present Purchaser, East-Mr. Banarsi Rai, West-7½ ft wide Road.	₹15,78,000/- (Rupees Fifteen lakhs Seventy eight thousand only) ₹1,57,800/- (Rupees One lakh fifty seven thousand eight hundred only) 1,000.00	₹13,32,019/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Thirty two thousand and nineteen only) as on 06.03.2019 and interest, cost & Charges thereon IDIB20202102 Not Known				
03 Patna City-2	M/S Samar Footwear 1.Md.Saqlain 2.Md.Qumar Rizvi 3.Md. Samar Rizvi 4. Ladli Parween,W/o Md. Saqlain All resident of Barakat khan ka Akhara,Mogalpura,jhauganj, Patnacity, Patna,Bihar-800008	All that part and parcel of the land and building along with present/future construction thereon: (I) In the joint name of Md. Saqlain, Md. Qumar Rizvi & Md. Samar Rizvi all are S/o Md. Badshah, area admeasuring 12 Dhur, Sale Deed No.462 dated 01.02.2006, Book No.1, Zild No.27, Page No.129-150, Comprising in Ward No.22/28(O), 47(New), Sheet No.214, M.S. Plot No.3132(P), Circle No.121, Holding No.229/2192, Situated at-Mohalla Mogalpura, Barkat Khan Ka Akhara (Katra Kalbe Ali Beg), Patna City, P.S-Khajejaka, PO-Jhauganj, District-Patna, Bihar and bounded as under (As per Deed) North-Md. Salim, South-Md. Ashraf, East-Md. Bashir, West-06 Feet Wide Common Pass. (II) In the name of Smt. Ladli Parven W/o Md. Saqlain area admeasuring 4 Dhur, 18½ Dhurki, Sale Deed No.2997 dated 19.06.2008, Book No.1, Zild No.54, Page No.229-237, Comprising in Ward No.22/28(O), 47(New), Sheet No.214, M.S. Plot No.3132(P), Circle No.121, Holding No.292/2192, Situated at-Mohalla Mogalpura, Barkat Khan Ka Akhara (Katra Kalbe Ali Beg), P.S-Khajejaka, PO-Jhauganj, District-Patna, Bihar and bounded as under (As per Deed) North-M.S. Plot No.3132(P), South-M.S. Plot No.3132(P), East-Gali, West-M.S. Plot No.3132(P).	₹44,14,000/- (Rupees Forty four Lakhs Thousand thousand only) ₹441400/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Forty one thousand Four hundred only) 1,000.00	₹57,07,429/- (Rupees Seven Lakhs seven Thousand Four Hundred And Twenty Nine Only) as on 28.02.2019 and interest, cost & Charges thereon IDIB20202103 Not Known				
04 Hanuman nagar	M/S VAIBHAV ENTERPRISES, 1. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh S/o Sri Daya Shankar Singh 2. Smt. Deep Mala W/o Sri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Both R/O- Flat No.504, Deo Siddhi Plaza, Kankarbagh, Colony More, Near Jalan Shop, District- Patna, 800020	All that part and parcel of the Land and Building along with present future construction thereon; in the name of Smt. Deep Mala W/o Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, a). Area ad-measuring 2-Kattha (6.25- Decimal), Sale Deed No.6218 dated 10.07.2015, bearing Book No.1, Volume No.148, PageNo.221-231, Khata No.115, Khesra Survey Plot No.2360(P), Thana No.129, Tauzi No.Bihar Sarkar, Situated at- Mauza- Kandap, Survey Thana-Phulwari Sharif, Hal Thana- Gauri Chak, District- Patna, Bihar, bounded as under (as per deed): North- Paras Nath Singh, South- Kharidar Smt. Deep Mala, East-Mr. Manoj Kumar Singh, West-Aahar Va Paine. b). Area ad-measuring 10-Dhur (1.5625- Decimal), Sale Deed No.6217 dated 10.07.2015, bearing Book No.1, Volume No.148, PageNo.210-220, Khata No.115, Khesra Survey Plot No.2360(P), Thana No.129, Tauzi No.Bihar Sarkar, Situated at- Mauza- Kandap, Survey Thana-Phulwari Sharif, Hal Thana- Gauri Chak, District-Patna, Bihar, bounded as under (as per deed): North- Kharidar Smt. Deep Mala, South- Number Haza Niz Lekhkakari, East-Mr. Manoj Kumar Singh, West-Aahar Va Paine	₹20,82,000/- (Rupees Twenty lakhs eighty two thousand three hundred seventy five only) ₹2,08,200/- (Rupees Two lakh eight thousand two hundred only) 1,000.00	₹29,21,927/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakhs Twenty One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Seven Only) as on 11.06.2019 IDIB20202104 Not Known				
05 Kurtha	M/S BHOLA BRICKS COMPANY (Prop: Shri Santosh Kumar), Kurtha, Fulwariya, P.O- Fatuha, Dist- Patna, Bihar -803201, Shri Santosh Kumar S/o Sh Ramashray Singh, Smt Kameshwari Devi W/o Sri Ramashray Singh, Shri Ramashray Singh S/o Late Shivam Singh, All R/O Vill- Mosimpur, P.O+ P.S- Khusrupur, Patna-803202	All That part and parcel of the land & Building situated at Mauza-Mosimpur, Pargana-Bhimpur, P.S- Fatuha, P.S No-15, Tauzi No-2105, Khata no-10, Khesra No-74 admeasuring 12 Decimals Sub & sadar Regisry- Patna purchased Vide Sale Deed No-4684 dt 17.08.1981 standing in the name of Kamleshwari Devi. Boundary as per Deed: North-Buyer & Munshi Chaiea, South- Late Bhonu Singh, East-Sri Jagat Singh, West: Khiru Chaiee/ Banke Chai & Ors.	₹35,14,000/- (Rupees Thirty five lakh fouteen thousand only) ₹3,51,400/- (Rupees Three lakhs fifty one thousand four hundred only) 1,000.00	₹25,85,676/- (Rupees Twenty five lakhs eighty five thousand six hundred seventy six only) as on 29.07.2019 and intt., Cost & Charges thereon till the date of realization IDIB20202108 Not Known				
06 Kankarbagh-2	M/S. NIHARIKA TEXTILES (Prop- Shri Sanjay Pandey S/o Shri Surendra Nath Pandey), At Zero Mile Main Road, Sahara Colony, Agam Kuan, Patna City-800008, BIHAR Shri Sanjay Pandey S/o Sh. Surendra Nath Pandey, Smt. Jayanti Devi @ Jayvanti Pandey W/o Shri Sanjay Pandey both resident of Badi nagia, Malsalami, Patna City, Near Hilsa Mill, P.O- Madhav Mills, Patna-800008, BIHAR	ALL THAT part and parcel of the land and building in the name of Mrs Jayanti Devi w/o Mr. Sanjay Pandey situated at Mohalla-Nagla, P.S.-Malsalami District-Patna Circle no 222, holding no 92D, Ward no 36(New)/31(Old), Present Ward no 55, Sheet no 275, Survey Plot no. 1427(Part), Land area 9 dhur & 1¼ dhurki, SRO Patna City, which comes under area of PRDA and Patna Municipal Corporation. Boundary (as per deed): North-Gali (Corporation), South-Gali (Corporation), East-Gali, West- Bhubneshwar Rai. Sale Deed No.1021 dt: 15.03.2004.	₹26,52,000/- (Rupees Twenty six lakh fifty two thousand only) ₹2,65,200/- (Rupees Two lakhs sixty five thousand two hundred only) 1,000.00	₹21,07,561/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Seven thousand Five Hundred Sixty One only) as on 19.10.2019 with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon from 20.10.2019 till realization of bank's dues IDIB20202110 Not Known				
07 Kankarbagh-2	M/S. UPHAR READYMADE GARMENTS (Pro- Shri Uma Shankar). Regd Add: Vachaspatinagar, Mauza- Sandalpur, Kumhrar, Patna, Bihar. Shri Uma Shankar s/o Late	All that part and parcel of Land & building in the name of Shri Uma Shankar S/o Late Ragnath Singh situated at Mohalla- Vachaspatti Nagar, Mauza- Sandalpur, P.S- Sultanganj, Distt- Patna with details: Sale deed no. 3538 dated 14.02.2012, Tauzi No. 283, Book no. 1, Vol- 62, Pages from 134 to 143, Revenue Thana No. 11, Khata	₹39,21,000/- (Rupees Thirty nine lacs twenty one thousand only)	₹32,29,721/- (Rupees Thirty two lacs twenty nine thousand seven hundred twenty one only) as on 31.08.2019				
Bidders are advised to visit the website (www.mstcecommerce.com) of our e-auction service provider MSTC Ltd to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance please call MSTC HELPDISK No.033-22901004 and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk. For Registration status with MSTC Ltd, please contact ibapiop@mstcecommerce.com and for EMD status please contact ibapifin@mstcecommerce.com . For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions please visit: https://ibapi.in and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact help line number '18001025026' and '011-41106131'. Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with https://ibapi.in and www.mstcecommerce.com .					Date : 13.01.2021 Place : Patna			

NORTHERN RAILWAY**Tender Notice**

Golden opportunity for cargo operators and transporters to be a partner with Northern Railway through leasing Parcel Cargo Express Train in Firozpur Division. Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur invites E-tender through IREPS for leasing of Parcel Cargo Express Train having composition of 15 parcel Vans having C23 tonnes each (VPU/VPHS/VPs/VPXUs) and one brake Van (2 compartments of 04 tonnes each) for a period of six years. (PCEI shall be 15 parcel vans + 1 Brakevan, for first six months of contract, and after six months, the composition shall be 20 parcel van + 1 brakevan). Maximum five (5) unloading/loading intermediate stations will be permitted subject to 'NOC' from the controlling Zonal Railway of the intermediate station.

Tender Opening Date : 11.02.2021

From	To	Total Tonnage	Minimum Frequency per month	Reserve Price (Round Trip) (In Rs.)	EMD (In Rs.)	Tender Cost including GST @ 18 % (In Rs.)
Moga (MOGA)	Changarsi (CGS)	353	Two Round Trip	2257171/-	50 Lakh	11800/- (Rs. 10000 + Rs. 1800 GST)

A. Tentative Time Table : Parcel Cargo Express Train Ex. Moga to Changarsi on round trip.

Days	Arrival	Departure	Station	Arrival	Departure	Days
Wed	-	00:35	Moga	23:45	-	Mon
	04:25	05:50	Ambala City	19:15	19:45	
	11:20	12:50	Moradabad	12:40	14:10	
Wed	22:00	23:50	Alamnagar	01:35	03:20	Mon
Fri	05:30	-	Changarsi	-	17:30	Sat

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

Important Note:
1. Bidders who wish to participate in the e-tendering will have to procure class-3 valid Digital Security Certificate (DSC) as per Information Technology Act, 2000. Bidders can procure this certificate from any of the certifying authority of Controller of Certifying Authorities (CCA) Government of India. Details of certifying authorities can be obtained from www.cca.gov.in
2. The bidder has to register, if not registered earlier with www.ireps.gov.in using DSC to participate in tender process. Detailed procedure for registration, system requirements and bidding are also available on www.ireps.gov.in

Tender No. 179-C/PCEI/102/1/Tender Date: 12.01.2021

95/2021

Serving Customers With A Smile**Bihar State Milk Co-operative Federation Ltd.**

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT COMPLEX, P.O. - BIHAR VETERINARY COLLEGE, PATNA-800014 (BIHAR)

Phone No- 0612-2224083, 2228953, 2228347, 2220387, Fax-0612-2228306, E-Mail: engineeringcomfed@gmail.com, Website: www.sudha.coop**Notice Inviting Tender**(Through e-tendering mode only on website- www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)

NIT No : Comfed/Engg./32 Date : 02.01.2021

1. Name & address of advertiser : Managing Director, Bihar State Milk cooperative Federation Ltd, Dairy Development Complex, P.O. - B.V. College, Patna - 800014. 2. Date of issue of e-tender notice : 15.01.2021 (Friday). 3. Period for downloading the tender Document : from 16.01.2021 (Saturday) to 06.02.2021 (Saturday) up to 17.00 hours through above website. 4. Date & time of pre bid meeting : 25.01.2021 (Monday) at 11.00 noon at COMFED Hqr, Dairy Development Complex, P.O. - B.V. College, Patna - 800014. 5. Last date & time for uploading tender Documents by the bidders : 09.02.2021 (Tuesday) up to 17.00 Hours on www.eproc.bihar.gov.in 6. Last date, time & place for submission of original instrument of EMD & cost tender : 12.02.2021 (Friday) up to 15.00 Hours at COMFED HQ., Dairy Development Complex, P.O. - B.V. College, Patna-800014. 7. Date & time & place of opening of Techno commercial bid : 12.02.2021 (Friday) up to 15.30 Hours on www.eproc.bihar.gov.in 8. Date & time of opening of price bid : Date & time will be communicated after subsequent to approval of techno commercial bid. Place - www.eproc.bihar.gov.in 9. Validity : 180 Days (One hundred eighty days).

10. Details of work:

Sl. No.	Name of the work/ item	Estimated quantity per year may increase/decrease as per requirement	Cost of tender document (Non refundable)	Earnest money to be deposited	Bid processing fees to be paid through on line (Non refundable)	Completion period
1	Supply, Installation, Testing & commissioning of 03 Kl Bulk Milk Cooler on Annual Rate Contract (ARC) basis to be installed at different dairies of COMFED as per technical specification.	11 units	₹ 10,000.00	₹ 2,42,000.00	As per Beltron / Eproc.	Qty. up to 10 units-04 months Qty. above 10 units - 06 months
2	Supply, Installation, Testing & commissioning of 05 Kl Bulk Milk Cooler on Annual Rate Contract (ARC) basis to be installed at different dairies of COMFED as per technical specification.	10 units	₹ 10,000.00	₹ 2,60,000.00	As per Beltron / Eproc.	Qty. up to 10 units-04 months Qty. above 10 units-06 months

11. For participation in the above e-tender process the bidders are required to get themselves registered as per details given at www.eproc.bihar.gov.in so that the user ID, Password and digital signatures are issued to them.12. Tender Document can be seen and purchased from web site www.eproc.bihar.gov.in.

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

Managing Director

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA**POWER DEPARTMENT, ADDITIONAL SECRETARIAT BUILDING SHILLONG****EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

No. POWER-113/2020/49 Dated Shillong, the 11th January, 2021.

Extension of Time against Expression of Interest

The Expression of Interest (E.O.I) invited by the Power Department Vide No. POWER-113 /2020/24 dated 02-11-2020 for empanelment of reputed Firms for Design, Engineering, Installation, Maintenance and Operations upto 40(Forty) years for Hydro/Solar/Wind /Biomass Power Projects on BOOT/DBOT/BOOM/PPA Model having past experience is hereby extended as follows. Empanelment will be for new and existing incomplete power projects on "as-is-where-is" basis.

Sl. No.	Description	Date
1	Last date of acceptance of queries/comments from bidders	10/02/2021
2	Issue of Response to bidder's queries	15/02/2021
3	Last date of Submission of EOI	25/02/2021

The interest bidders/companies can download the EOI document from website www.meghalayatenders.gov.in free of cost.

(1) EOI shall be submitted through E- Procurement Portal on or before the 12.00 Noon of the 25/02/2021. The bids will be opened at the 14.00 hours of the 25-02-2021. Bids may be submitted into parts viz (i) Techno Commercial Bid to be submitted on electronic mode as well as Manual bid (ii) Price Bid to be submitted on electronic mode only.

(2) Format of Price Bid is attached as per annexure A, B and C. The documents should be addressed to the Chief Technical Adviser Generation, Power Department, Government of Meghalaya, Room No. 512, Additional Secretariat Building, Shillong-793001 in sealed envelop cover.

(3) Power Department reserves the rights to accept/reject any EOI without assigning any reason thereof. Other terms and conditions remains the same as earlier.

Sd/-

P.S.R. KHARKONGOR

Chief Technical Adviser (Generation)

MIPR NO 1628 dt. 13/01/2021

Power Department, Government of Meghalaya, Shillong.

BENGALURU URBAN, BENGALURU RURAL & RAMANAGARA DIST. CO-OP. MILK PRODUCERS' SOCIETIES UNION LIMITED

Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bengaluru-560029: www.bamulnandini.coop.
Website : www.bamulnandini.coop

IFT No: KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(1 to 29) Date: 08.01.2021

Bengaluru Milk Union Ltd., (Bamul) Bengaluru, invites Biennial e-tender through e-procurement portal from the Interested & Eligible Transport Contractors for the transportation of milk for the following individual routes.

Sl.No.	Descriptions	Total nos. of tankers
1	Insulated Road Milk Tankers of Capacity 19000 kg & 24,000 Kg	19000 kgs (12 wheels) 24000 kgs (14 Wheels)
	Tender value is Rs 15 crores.	35 33

Schedule-A: Bidders should quote rate per KM basis in Rupees for the following individual routes**Refer Route No., Tender No. & Route name:**

- ANEKAL CC TO BANGALORE DAIRY - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(1)
- ANEKAL CCTO KANAKAPURA DAIRY - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(2)
- ANEKAL CC TO RAMANAGARA POWDER PLANT - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(3)
- BANGALORE DAIRY TO RAMANAGARA POWDER PLANT - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(4)
- DB Pur CC To Bangalore Dairy - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(5)
- DB PUR CC TO MOTHER DAIRY - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(6)
- HOSAKOTE CC TO BANGALORE DAIRY - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(7)
- KANAKAPURA CC TO BANGALORE DAIRY - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(8)
- SOLUR CC TO BANGALORE DAIRY - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(9)
- SOLUR CC to Channarayana Product plant - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(10)
- SOLUR CC to Ramanagara Powder plant - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(11)
- SOLUR CC to KANAKAPURA DAIRY (NMP Complex) - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(12)
- KANAKAPURA Dairy to Ramanagara Powder plant - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(13)
- VIJAYAPURA CC TO BANGALORE DAIRY - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(14)
- VIJAYAPURA CC TO MOTHER DAIRY - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(15)
- BYRAPATNA CC TO BANGALORE DAIRY - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(16)
- BYRAPATNA CC TO KANAKAPURA DAIRY - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(17)
- BYRAPATNA CC to Ramanagara Powder Plant - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(18)
- ANEKAL CC TO SKA THALI, TN - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(19)
- ANEKAL CC to Pondicherry TN - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(20)
- BANGALORE DAIRY TO SKA THALI, TN - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(21)
- DB PUR CC TO PARAG DAIRY, AP - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(22)
- DB PUR CC TO S.K.A. Thali (TN) - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(23)
- DB PUR CC TO FARMGATE - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(24)
- HOSAKOTE TO SKA THALI, TN - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(25)
- HOSAKOTE TO FARMGATE - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(26)
- KANAKAPURA Dairy to SKA DAIRY THALI - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(27)
- VIJAYAPURA CC TO SKA DAIRY, THALI - KMF/BAMUL/MP-1/2020-21/363(28)

SCHEDULE-B: Bidders should quote rate per Kilo gram (KG) basis in Rupees for the below said route

1	Access to E-tender Document	08.01.2021 to 22.02.2021 up to 5.00PM
2	Last date & time for tender clarification	20.02.2021 up to 5.00PM
3	Last date for submission of tender/ quoting	22.02.2021 up to 5.00PM
4	Date & time for opening Technical Tender part-I	24.02.2021 at 11.00AM
5	Date & time for opening Commercial Tender part-II	09.03.2021 at 11.00AM
6	Place of opening of Technical and Commercial Tender	Bangalore Dairy Board Room Bangalore

- Tenders are advised to note the qualification criteria specified in Section VII to qualify for award of the contract.
- The EMD amount is Rs.50,000/- for each tanker.
- The earnest money deposit (E.M.D) valid for 45 days beyond the validity of the tender i.e. total for 135 days, Tender processing Fee, modes of e-payment, tender document details and other details are mentioned in www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Managing Director
Tender Inviting Authority, Bamul

Osmanabad Municipal Council, Osmanabad
Office : opposite district court, Osmanabad ☎ 02472-223358
Email: coosbd@gmail.com website : osmanabdmahaul.maharashtra.gov.in

e-Tender Notice No. 2020/21

Municipal council Osmanabad invites e-tender for total 41 works related to public work department Please visit a website www.mahatenders.gov.in for detailed information as the tender will be uploaded on dt. 20/01/2021

(Seal)

Chief Officer
Municipal Council Osmanabad

Government of India Department of Atomic Energy Heavy Water plant Kota

Notice Inviting tenders

Online item rate tenders are invited by Chief General Manager for and on behalf of President of India from approved, eligible and experienced contractors at Heavy Water Plant (Kota) Post Anushakti 323303, Via Kota (Rajasthan) for the following works as detailed below.

Sr. No.	Tender Notice No.	Name of work	Estimated cost/ Tender Processing Fee.	Tender selling date/Pre-bid clarification date/ Date of closing of online submission of tenders
1	HWP/KMECH/2020/267	Supply & fabrication, welding, erection of miscellaneous structures at HWP/K site.	₹ 26,65,300/- ₹ 1573/-	14.01.2021 to 24.01.2021/ 25.01.2021 to 25.01.2021/ 27.01.2021 up to 14:30Hr.

The above tender will be opened on 27.01.2021 at 15:00 hrs. Detailed NIT is also available on website www.hwb.gov.in for view only. For further information, please contact on (01475)242201/242216/242225, Fax: 01475-242203 on all working days.

(V . V .S.A Prasad)

General Manager

For and Behalf of the President of India

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM**PUBLIC WORKS ROADS DEPARTMENT****OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (EAP)**ARR&TI COMPLEX FATASIL AMBARI GUWAHATI-25 ASSAM Email: cea.apwd@nic.in

No.: CE/APART/12/2021/13

CORRIGENDUM-1

Ref: RFB No: CE/APART/12/2021/11 Dated: 12.01.2021

Request for Bid (RFB), e-Procurement Notice (Two envelope Bidding Process) RFB No CE/APART/12/2021/11 dated 12.01.2021 for Construction of Market Modernization and Improvement Program (MMIP) Markets in 2 districts and Construction of access roads in 3 District under APART project.

The following corrections in the RFB is made. Kindly read as shown below.

Appeared As	To be read as
The bidding documents are available online on http://www.assamtenders.gov.in from 18/01/2021 to 18/02/2021. Bidders will be required to register on the website which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC). Bids must be submitted online on http://www.assamtenders.gov.in on or before 14:00 Hours on 18/02/2021. Other details can be seen in the bidding document.	The bidding documents are available online on http://www.assamtenders.gov.in from 18/01/2021 to 08/02/2021. Bidders will be required to register on the website which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC). Bids must be submitted online on http://www.assamtenders.gov.in on or before 14:00 Hours on 08/02/2021. Other details can be seen in the bidding document.

Sd/-

Chief Engineer (EAP) PWRD Assam

ARR&TI Campus, Fatisil Ambari

Guwahati - 25, Assam

Janasanyog CF/3910/20.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, JAL SHAKTI PHE, GROUND WATER DIVN.,****BAGH ALI MARDAAAN NOWSHERA, SRINAGAR KASHMIR****Gist of e-Tender.**

NIT No: PHE/GWDS 48 of 01/2020 Dated: 09-01-2021

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited in 02 Cover System for Construction of Gravel Packed Production Tube Well at the below mentioned location/site from registered Water Well Drillers/Contractors as per the details given in tender document.

Sr. No.	Site	Cost of Tender Document	Cost of EMD	Estimated Cost	Time of Completion	Class of Contract	Validity of Rates	Programme
1.	Construction of Gravel Packed Production Tube Well at Matikpora Baramulla	Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 52940/-	Rs. 26.47 Lacs	30 Days	Registration of Machine Drills Production Wells	180 Days	District Sector under Capital Budget

Position of Funds: Available**Critical Dates/Information**

1	Publishing Date	11.01.2021
2	Period of Downloading of Bids	11.01.2021 (12.00 P.M.) to 18.01.2021 (2.00 P.M.)
3	Period of Submission of bids	11.01.2021 (12.00 P.M.) to 18.01.2021 (2.00 P.M.)
4	Date of opening of Tender.	19.01.2021 at (02.00 P.M.)
5	Tender Receiving Authority: Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Ground Water Division Srinagar.	
6	Document Cost for an amount shown in Gist of NIT against each well tender is Non-Refundable in the shape of Treasury Chalcant/receipt deposited to Account Head 0215 in favour of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Ground Water Division Srinagar (at Saddar Treasury Srinagar) on account of (The firm shall specify the name of work for which apply)	
7	Earnest Money: for an amount shown in Gist of NIT against each well tender in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Ground Water Division Srinagar 190011.	

No: PHE/GWD/4234

Dated: 09.01.2021.

DIPK-11639

Executive Engineer,

Jal Shakti PHE Ground Water Division, Srinagar.

TAMIL NADU SLUM CLEARANCE BOARD

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (CHENNAI CIRCLE-II)

NOTICE INVITING SHORT TENDER

Tender Notice No. SCB/5525/01/SE(C-II)/2018 Date: 13.01.2021

For and on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, One sealed tender consisting of two separate sealed covers one for Pre-qualification with EMD to be enclosed in A cover and another for price schedule with name of work duly superscribed to be enclosed in B cover are invited from the registered contractors of TNSCB under Ceiling and above Government Department / Government Undertaking / Public Sector Undertaking registered as a legal entity in India by the Superintending Engineer, Chennai Circle-II, Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, No.5, Kamarajar Salai, Chennai 600 005 upto 3.00 PM on 29.01.2021 and the same will be opened at 3.30 PM on same day in the presence of the Tender Scrutiny Committee.

Sl. No.	Name of work/Estimate No.	Approximate Value (Rs. in Lakhs) (1)	EMD (in Rs.) (2)	To whom EMD / Tender Schedule cost to be Drawn (3)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Construction of 500 tenements adopting type design 30/2017 (Ground + 5 Storied) including internal and external water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works at Koppalmedu scheme in Greater Chennai Corporation Divn. 126, Zone-X under HFA of PMAY (AHP). Estimate CER No: 50 HFA/2020-21	6050.00 18 Months	30,35,000/-	Executive Engineer/ Division-VI, TNSCB, Chennai-04.
2	Construction of 188 tenements adopting type design 12/20 (Ground + 5 Storied) including internal and external water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works at Radhakrishnanpura Scheme in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No. 104, Zone VIII under HFA of PMAY (AHP). Estimate CER No: 51 HFA/2020-21	1750.00 15 Months	8,85,000/-	
3	Construction of 240 tenements adopting type design 05 E, 05 F, 05 G, 05 G (20) (Ground + 4 Storied) including internal and external water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works at Chennayyapalayam Samathi Scheme in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No. 71, Zone VII under HFA of PMAY (AHP). Estimate CER No: 52 HFA/2020-21	3100.00 15 Months	15,60,000/-	
4	Construction of 438 tenements adopting type design 05 A, 05 D, 05 G (20) (Ground + 5 Storied) including internal and external water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works at Sathiyapalayam Muthu Nagar scheme in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No. 74, Zone VI under HFA of PMAY (AHP). Estimate CER No: 53 HFA/2020-21	4950.00 18 Months	24,85,000/-	Executive Engineer/ Division-III, TNSCB, Chennai-03.
5	Construction of 152 tenements adopting type design 80 A, 80 B, 80 C (2019) (Ground + 4 Storied) including internal and external water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works at 61st Block, Wazirpur Scheme in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No. 32, Zone IV under HFA of PMAY (AHP). Estimate CER No: 54 HFA/2020-21	2500.00 15 Months	12,60,000/-	
6	Construction of 288 tenements adopting type design 14 B (2020) (Ground + 5 Storied) including internal and external water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works at M.G.R. Nagar scheme in Greater Chennai Corporation Division No. 37, Zone IV under HFA of PMAY (AHP). Estimate CER No: 55 HFA/2020-21	3600.00 15 Months	18,10,000/-	
7	Construction of 516 Nests of Tenements adopting type design 09 A, C & D (2020) (Ground + 2 Storied) including internal and external water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works at Kaliyanampattinam scheme in Vedaranyam Town, Nappaiyamman District under HFA of PMAY (AHP). Estimate CER No: 56 HFA/2020-21	4700.00 15 Months	23,60,000/-	Executive Engineer/ Cuddalore Division, Cuddalore-01.

NIA charges three for 2017 killing of Hindu group leader in ‘KLF conspiracy’

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

THE NATIONAL Investigation Agency Wednesday filed a charge sheet before a Delhi court against three persons who allegedly supplied weapons for the killing of Hindu Takht leader Amit Sharma in Ludhiana in 2017. NIA termed it an act of terrorism and alleged that the killing was a conspiracy by Khalistan Liberation Front (KLF).

The three men, Ashish Kumar, Javed and Arshad Ali, are all residents of Uttar Pradesh's Meerut district.

The charge sheet was filed under IPC Section 120-B (criminal conspiracy) and under various Sections of the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act—including Section 16 (punishment for terrorist act), Section 18 (conspiracy for terrorist act) and Section 20 (punishment for being member of terrorist organisation).

The killing was one among eight such cases of serial killings or attempted killings that took place in Punjab in 2016-2017 in order to create terror and communal disturbance, the agency said.

‘MAY CAUSE INSTABILITY’ WITHIN FORCES

MoD wants exemption on SC order decriminalising adultery

ANANTHAKRISHNANG
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

THE DEFENCE Ministry has sought a clarification on the Supreme Court's September 2018 judgment decriminalising adultery, saying "promiscuous" or "adulterous" acts by armed forces personnel amount to an actionable offence in the Forces and should be allowed to remain so.

A Bench headed by Justice R F Nariman issued a notice on the plea saying that since it relates to a judgment by a five-judge Constitution bench, it may be placed before the Chief Justice of India to be referred to a Bench of similar strength.

The application by the Department of Military Affairs, representing the Army, Navy and Air Force, raises the "peculiar conditions" in which its personnel work, away from families for long, and adds, "...in view of the... judgment, there will always be a concern in the minds of the Army personnel... about

the family indulging in untoward activity", and that this "may cause instability within the Applicants Services".

In September 2018, a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court headed by then CJI Dipak Misra had held Section 497 of the IPC which made adultery a punishable offence only for men as arbitrary, saying it treated the wife as chattel and deprived women of sexual autonomy and dignity. Adultery, the court said, will however continue to be a ground for any civil wrong, including a ground for divorce.

The Ministry's plea says that "discipline is the bedrock of the work culture in Defence Services and an essential ingredient for combat operations. Accordingly, the framers of the Constitution had authorised Parliament to restrict or abrogate certain fundamental rights in their application to Armed Forces". The plea goes on to refer to Section 45 of the Army and Air Force Acts and Section 54 (2) of the Navy Act which define "unbecoming conduct", and Section 63 of the Army

Act, Section 65 of the Air Force Act and Section 74 of the Navy Act, which deal with offences against "good order and... discipline".

These provisions "cover a wide variety of conduct", the Ministry says, adding that following the Supreme Court order, it might find it hard to proceed against "cases of adultery", "even if there is a charge against the accused in either of the Sections for unbecoming conduct or violation of good order and military discipline".

The Ministry also argues that "unlike Section 497 (which made only the man punishable), the Armed Forces do not make a difference between a male or a female, who is subject to the Army Act, if they are guilty of an offence. In other words, de hors Section 497, the Army would equally proceed against a female subject to the Act, if she enters into an adulterous/illlicit relationship".

Pointing out that "the Armed Forces exist in an environment wholly different and distinct from civilians", the Ministry says, "promiscuous or adulterous act by persons subject to the Army

Act, Navy Act and Air Force Act would still be offences for which either criminal or disciplinary action could be initiated".

The National Federation of Indian Women (NFIW) called the Defence Ministry's argument an "insult" to the Armed Forces personnel and their spouses. "Through this statement, the Ministry is questioning the personal integrity of those who are part of the Armed Forces and their spouses. By raising the argument of 'concern of the personnel' about their 'family indulging in untoward activity', the Ministry is blatantly questioning the personal integrity of women in particular. These aspersions reflect the sickening, feudal, Manu-wadi attitude of decision-makers in the Ministry... NFIW hopes the Supreme Court will take note of the insensitive attitude of the Ministry," NFIW general secretary Annie Raja said, demanding that "the highly insensitive arguments be withdrawn forthwith" and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh submit an "unconditional apology".

Bihar Police forms SIT to probe Indigo executive's murder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PATNA, JANUARY 13

BIHAR POLICE headquarters on Wednesday set up a special investigation team (SIT) to probe into the murder of a 38-year-old Indigo airlines executive, who was shot dead outside his residence late Tuesday evening. Rupesh Singh was shot by

unidentified assailants outside his residence when he had just returned from Patna airport in his car.

A senior police officer at the police headquarters said: "We have got a 20-second footage that shows some criminals fleeing. Some other CCTV cameras along the possible escape route are not working. We are talking to more people to get some lead."

Singh was part of a committee at Patna airport to recommend safety measures.

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav tweeted, "If Nitish Kumar is not able to control law and order, he should resign."

BJP Rajya Sabha MP Vivek Thakur said that the state government must hand over the case to the CBI if the police fails to solve it within five days.

Physicist Rohini Godbole gets top French award

Pune: Pune-born physicist Professor Rohini Godbole was on Wednesday honoured with the Ordre National du Mérite, one of the highest recognitions by France, for her research contributions and collaborations between India and France.

The 68-year-old is also the first woman physicist to be awarded the Padma Sri. She is the honorary professor at the Centre for High Energy Physics at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru. A top ranker in both undergraduate and postgraduate studies in physics from the University of Pune and IIT, Bombay, respectively, Prof Godbole has over 280 research papers to her credit. Prof Godbole has also co-edited two books — *Lilavati's Daughters : Women Scientists of India* and *A Girl's Guide to a Life in Science*. ENS

Second posthumous award to 50 RR soldier

New Delhi: Havildar Baljeet of the 50 Rashtriya Rifles, who died in February 2019 during an operation in Pulwama, will be awarded a second posthumous gallantry award. Baljeet was awarded a Sena Medal on the Independence Day in 2019 for an operation he was part of in Srinagar in October 2018. Baljeet's wife, Arun Rani, received the Sena Medal (Gallantry) Bar on Wednesday.

The citation for his award mentioned that on February 12, 2019, Baljeet was the non-commissioned officer in charge of Kakapore Company Operating Base in Pulwama



Havildar Baljeet

district. "Once the presence of terrorists was established", Baljeet along with Sepoy Sachin Kumar Yadav, "volunteered for house intervention". When the two came under fire from a terrorist hiding in an obscure position, Baljeet pushed his teammate aside, "saving his life", and brought down "effective fire on the terrorist" but was also killed in enemy fire. ENS

Tension in Mau village after Dalit man shot dead over 'old enmity'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 13

TENSION PREVAILED in Chiraiya Kot area of Mau district Wednesday, a day after a 20-year-old Dalit man was shot dead allegedly over "old enmity". Family members of the deceased, Arvind, have accused Rahul Singh, a member of the Thakur community, of killing him.

According to police, the incident took place on Tuesday evening when Arvind, who was preparing for Indian Army recruitment, had gone for jogging with two friends, Aman and Abhishek. Both of them fled the spot after the murder.

Police said that following his death, residents of Asalpur village attacked a few houses belonging to members of the Thakur community. Rahul's relative, Kailash Singh, suffered head injury during the attack. The villagers also protested with Arvind's body and blocked the road leading to the village. When a police team reached the spot, the protesters hurled stones at them and torched a police van. An additional police team was rushed to the spot. The situation was later brought under control, they added.

Chiraiya Kot SHO Rupesh Kumar Singh said a case of murder has been lodged against Rahul. No arrest has been made so far, he said. The SHO said another case of arson and stone pelting will be lodged.

Mau SP Ghule Sushil Chandrabhan said Aman and Abhishek were traced on Wednesday and police are yet to question them.

According to police, there was a land dispute between the families of Arvind and Rahul since 2017. In September last year, Arvind's uncle Munna Baghi, who was the pradhan of Asalpur village, was shot dead. Rahul, who is wanted in the murder case, has been absconding since then. Six other accused were arrested in this connection and are currently in jail. Police have announced a cash reward of Rs 50,000 in exchange for any information on Rahul.

EX - SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME (ECHS POLYCLINIC HALDWANI & RUDRAPUR)

1. ECHS invites applications to engage following staff on contractual basis in ECHS Polyclinic Haldwani & ECHS Polyclinic Rudrapur for a period of FY 2021-2022:-

Ser No.	Appointment	ECHS Polyclinic				Remarks
		Haldwani	No of Vac	Rudrapur	No of Vac	
(a)	OIC Polyclinic	Haldwani	01	Rudrapur	0	For Terms & Conditions, Application form, Remuneration kindly see web site www.echs.gov.in
(b)	Med Offr	Haldwani	0	Rudrapur	01	
(c)	Med Spl	Haldwani	01	Rudrapur	0	
(d)	Dental Offr	Haldwani	01	Rudrapur	0	
(e)	Gynecologist	Haldwani	01	Rudrapur	0	
(f)	Lab Asst.	Haldwani	01	Rudrapur	0	
(g)	Lab Tech	Haldwani	01	Rudrapur	0	
(h)	Pharmacist	Haldwani	01	Rudrapur	0	
(i)	Chowkidar	Haldwani	0	Rudrapur	01	
(j)	Safaiwala	Haldwani	01	Rudrapur	01	
(m)	Clerk	Haldwani	01	Rudrapur	0	

2. For details please contact Station HQ (ECHS Cell), Haldwani at Tele No 05946-282374, Last date of receipt of application on 05 Feb 2021. Interview will be conducted on 12 Feb 2021 (Friday) at 1000h onward at Military Station, Station Headquarters Haldwani. Candidates will bring original certificate/degree along with one certified copy including testimonials/ experience duly attested by a gazetted officer & medical fitness certificate is also required from Govt. Hospital at the time of interview. No TA/DA is admissible for the Interview.

ODISHA ADARSHA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN
N-1/9, Nayapalli, PO: Sainik School, Bhubaneswar -751005
Email: oavsbbsr.od@gov.in/ Phone No.0674-2302344,

Notice for Computer Based Test

Pursuant to the advertisement No. 01/2020 of OAVS, the Computer Based Test (CBT) for recruitment of Principals and Teachers in OAVs shall be held on 25th & 29th to 30th January, 2021 in different centers in the state. The center list and schedule of examination is available in the website. The SMS has also been sent in the registered mobile no. of the candidates. The candidates are advised to download their e-admit card in the link given in the website.

(1) Facilitation counters will be opened on 24.01.2021 from 10 AM to 2 PM in different cities to attend the query of candidates with regard to e-admit card for CBT. The list of facilitation counters is available in the website. In case of any difficulty, the candidates are advised to visit the respective facilitation counter for assistance.

(2) The link for uploading the objections on the online questions in OAVS website after CBT will be available for a specific period. The candidates are advised to visit website and submit their objection in the link opened during the specific period only. No further objection will be entertained after closing of link.

(3) Similarly, a link will be available for a specific period after CBT to update the status of passing the qualifying Examination/ Test by the candidates who had appeared the Exam./Test and result was not published within the closing date. The candidates who did not update the status of passing the qualifying Examination/ Test within the specified period shall be treated as ineligible and their candidature will be cancelled and the result in CBT shall be finalized excluding those candidates.

(4) The candidates are advised to visit the website regularly for detailed information and to know the up-dates.

Sd/-
State Project Director
OIPR-27029/11/0002/2021

सीएसआईआर - राष्ट्रीय समुद्र विज्ञान संस्थान
Donna Paula, Goa 403 004

CSIR - NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY
Donna Paula, Goa 403 004

विज्ञापन क्र / Advt. No. NIO/ADMN/20-21/50
TENDER ID: 2021_CSIR_66730_1

निदेशक, राष्ट्रीय समुद्र विज्ञान संस्थान, सुप्रतिष्ठित और ख्याति प्राप्त व्यवसाय संघों से संचालन, रख-रखाव एवं प्रबंधन हेतु आवश्यक कार्मिकों के लिए मुहरबंद दो निविदा बोली आमंत्रित करते हैं:

The Director CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography, invites sealed Two bid tender from well established reputed Organizations/Firms/Companies for Manning, Operation Maintenance and Management of RV Sindhu Sadhana:

क्रम सं Sr. No	कार्य का नाम Name of work	अनुमानित राशि (रु.) Estimated Cost (Rs.)	ठेके की अवधि Contract Period	ई.एम.डी का मूल्य (रु.) Value of EMD (Rs.)	निविदा दस्तावेज का मूल्य (रु.) Value of Tender Paper (Rs.)
1	अनुसंधान पोत सिंधु साधना के संचालन, रख-रखाव एवं प्रबंधन हेतु आवश्यक कार्मिक Manning, Operation, Maintenance & Management of Research Vessel Sindhu Sadhana.	72000000	02 वर्ष Years	3000000	0

बोली पूर्व बैठक/Pre bid meeting: 5/2/2021 10.00 a.m एच एन सिद्धी की हाल (मुख्यालय) / HN Siddiquie Hall (HQ)

जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि / Last date of submission: 24/2/2021 14:00

निविदा खोलने की तिथि / Date of opening bid: 25/2/2021 15:00

पूछताछ और पत्राचार/ Enquiries and correspondence: प्रशासनिक अधिकारी /Administrative Officer

फोन/Phone: 0832-2450 220; फैक्स/Fax: 0832-2450 603; ईमेल/email: antony@nio.org

प्रशासनिक अधिकारी / Administrative Officer

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक punjab national bank
...भरोसे का प्रतीक ! ...the name you can BANK upon !

(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
Circle Sastra Centre: Biharsharif, Mob. No.9264499031, E-Mail: cs8202@pnb.co.in

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s), Mortgageor(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property(ies) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Punjab National Bank, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" as on date as under for recovery of dues, as mentioned below due to the Punjab National Bank, Secured Creditor from the below mentioned Borrower(s), Mortgageor(s) and Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder. A short description of the immovable property with known encumbrances, if any, are mentioned as under.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrower	Name of Mortgageors/ address	Date of Demand Date of Possession Amount Due	Description of mortgage property(ies)	Reserve Price Earnest Money (EMD) Bid Increment Amount
1.	Branch-Sahpur M/S Chhotu Cement Store Prop:-Sri Piyush Kumar, S/o-Lt. Narendra Prasad, At+Po-Shekhopur Sarai, Dist-Sheikhpura	Piyush kumar S/O-Late Narendra PrasadAt+Po-Shekhopur Sarai, Dist-Sheikhpura	30.12.2016 21.10.2017 Rs. 12,69,253.60 as on 31.12.2015 +intt & other charges w.e.f 01.12.2015	Sale deed no. 576 dt. 04.02.2010, Khata No. -134, Khasra No.-1975, Thana No.-7, Tauzi no.-4055 Area-3.5 decimal located at Mauja- Shekhopur sarai, Distt-Sheikhpura in the name of Piyush kumar S/O-Late Narendra Prasad.Boundary:N-krishnandan singh and masjid, S- Gali, E-Anil kumar,Ravindra Prasad & Shyamdev prasad, W-Nji.	₹24,30,000.00 ₹2,43,000.00 ₹10,000.00
2.	Branch-Khirubigha M/S Priya Traders Prop:Shri Umesh Yadav S/O-Shri Krishna Yadav Vill-Tikulpur Ps- Bihar sarif Dist-Nalanda, 803101	Sri Krishna yadav S/O- Late Lal das At-Vill-Tikulpur Ps- Bihar sarif Dist-Nalanda, 803101	20.08.2019 27.11.2019 Rs. 20,70,959.00 as on 20.08.2019 +intt & other charges w.e.f 01.06.2019	EM of property covered under deed no.3931,plot no -148&349,khata no 113&61, thana no -117,area-5.0 decimal located at Mauza-Tikulpur, Ward no 10, P.s-Biharsharif, Dist-Nalanda in name of Sri Krishna yadav S/O- Late Lal das. Boundary: N- Road &surrender yadav S- Tuntun mahto &Lt. Ganga Yadav, E- Dallu Yadav & Road, W-Lt. Ganga Yadav & Sohan Yadav.	₹31,50,000.00 ₹3,15,000.00 ₹10,000.00
3.	Branch-khirubigha M/S Jay Maa Sherawali Enterprises Prop: Pawansut Kumar Vill-Diyawan , Khirubughha Dist-Nalanda- 801302	Sri Chhote Lal yadav S/O- Sri Ramashish Yadav,Vill-Diyawan, Khirubughha Dist-Nalanda- 801302	20.08.2019 27.11.2019 Rs. 20,13,241.10 as on 30.06.2019 +intt & other charges w.e.f 01.06.2019	EM of property covered under deed no.198, dated 05.01.2013, khata no 183, thana number 99, khesra no. 957, area15.33 decimal located at Mauza - Rojewadar Alam, Po-Tungi, P.s- Deep nagar, Dist-Nalanda in name of Sri Chhote Lal yadav S/O- Sri Ramashish Yadav. Boundary: N- plot no.958, 959, S-plot no. 955,956, E-plot no, 960, W-plot no, 954.	₹64,80,000.00 ₹6,48,000.00 ₹10,000.00
4.	Branch-khirubigha M/S Jay Maa Kali Enterprises Prop:Smt Gori Devi & Chhotelal Yadav At-Ganjpur P.O- Tungi,P.S-Deepnagar,Distt-Nalanda-803101	Smt Gauri Devi W/o-Sri Chhotelal yadav. At-Ganjpur P.O- Tungi,P.S-Deepnagar,Distt-Nalanda-803101	23.09.2019 18.01.2020 Rs. 40,82,364.27 as on 31.07.2019 +intt & other charges w.e.f 01.07.2019	EM of property covered under deed no.7088,dated 23.07.2016, Khata no -54,173, Khesra no -360,359,361, Thana no.-98, area-6.0 decimel Acre located at , mauza-Hujjpur,Mohallah-badi, P.S-Biharsharif, Dist-nalanda in name of Smt Gauri Devi W/o-Sri Chhotelal yadav. Boundary: N-Niz vendee,S-Rasta Kachcha, E-Rasta kachcha, W-Niz vendee.	₹54,90,000.00 ₹5,49,000.00 ₹10,000.00
5.	Branch-Katrisarai M/S Kunjalwal Int Udyog Prop:Sri Ajay Kr Singh S/O-Late Brahmedeo Singh Vill-Katardihi,P.O- Bhagwanpur P.S Katrisarai, Distt-Nalanda-805105	Sri Ajay Singh S/O-Late Brahmedeo Singh. Vill-Katardihi,P.O- Bhagwanpur P.S Katrisarai, Distt-Nalanda-805105	23.09.2019 18.01.2020 Rs. 26,79,458.10 as on 09.08.2019 +intt & other charges w.e.f 01.08.2019	EM of property covered under deed no.8976, dated 26.09.2017, khata no 31, Khesra-378, Thana no -300, Area-10 decimal located at Mauza- katardihi, P.s-Katrisarai, Dist-Nalanda in name of Sri Ajay Singh S/O-Late Brahmedeo Singh. Boundary: N- Nareesh Singh & Vidya Singh S-Ganauri Singh, E-5' wide pcc road, W-Nji Vipin Singh.	₹19,35,000.00 ₹1,93,500.00 ₹10,000.00
6.	Branch-Akbarpur M/S Kishan Traders Prop:Chandrika Prasad Yadav,S/O- Rishal Prasad Yadav, Vill-Guruchak, Fatehpur More, Po- Fatehpur, Ps- Akbarpur Dist- Nawada, Pin: 805121	Smt Kamla Devi w/o Chandrika Prasad Yadav Po-Fatehpur Ps- Akbarpur Dist- Nawada Pin: 805121	28.10.2019 20.03.2020 Rs. 9,75,416.00 as on 28.01.2016 +intt & other charges w.e.f 01.01.2016	EM of property covered under deed no.3985 dated 08.03.1989 , Khata no -18(O)/122(N) Thana no- 230 Plot no:-63/473(N)/21(O), area-5.25 decimal located at Mauza-Guru Chak, Pargana- Panchrukhi, P.S-Akbarpur, Dist-Nawada in name of Smt Kamla Devi woChandrika Prasad Yadav. Boundary: N-Fatehpur-Narhat Main Road,S- Own Building, E-Pararechand Sao, W-Vacant land of Nawal Kishore Singh.& others.	₹35,10,000.00 ₹3,51,000.00 ₹10,000.00
7.	Branch-Biharsharif M/S Rajnish Family Hotel Proprietor: Shri Rajnish Kumar S/O- Vishnudeo Prasad Mohalla- Gaurgarh,Near Ncc Office, Biharsharif, Dist-Nalanda-803101	Shri Rajnish Kumar S/O- Vishnudeo Prasad Mohalla- Gaurgarh,Near Ncc Office, Biharsharif, Dist-Nalanda-803101	14.12.2018 13.11.2019 Rs.35,37,191.00 as on 30.11.2018 +intt & other charges w.e.f 01.01.2016	EM of property covered under sale deed no. 7671 dated 19.06.2010,Khata No.-238,Khesra No 1498, Thana No.-10, Area -10.93 decimal located at Mauja - Rampur Baignabad P.s-biharsharif. Boundary:N-12 wide road, S-Thakuri mahto, E-Suresh prasad, W-Bulbul Singh.	₹30,15,000.00 ₹3,01,500.00 ₹10,000.00

1. All the above secured assets are under symbolic possession. 2. Last date for submission of EMD Online is 27.01.2021 upto 5.00 p.m. **Date & time of E-auction:- 29.01.2021, 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM. 3.** For further details and terms & conditions, please visit website- www.pnbindia.in, <http://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app>, www.mstcecommerce.com, & <http://www.ibapi.in> and / or contact the respective Authorized Officer Sri Atulya Kumar Mob-9264499031.

STATUTORY 15 DAYS NOTICE UNDER THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

The borrower/ guarantors are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with upto date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/ sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost.

**Date : 14.01.2021
Place : Biharsharif**

**Authorised Officer
For Punjab National Bank, Circle Office, Biharsharif**

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THE INDIAN EXPRESS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE
INFLATION IS TAXATION WITHOUT LEGISLATION.
— MILTON FRIEDMAN

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

PRICE SIGNALS

Retail inflation falls in December following decline in food prices. But pressures remain

WITH HEADLINE RETAIL inflation having stayed above the upper limit of the monetary policy committee's (MPC) inflation targeting framework for most of last year, the sharper-than-expected fall in inflation in December comes as a relief. Retail inflation, as measured by the consumer price index moderated to 4.6 per cent in December, down from 6.93 per cent in November. Inflation in December was, in fact, the lowest in the last 14 months. As a consequence, retail inflation has averaged 6.4 per cent in the third quarter of the current financial year, lower than the RBI's forecast of 6.8 per cent. With trends in prices so far indicating continuing moderation in inflation in January as well, the RBI's forecast for inflation in the fourth quarter, currently at 5.8 per cent, is also likely to be revised downwards. This will provide much comfort to the MPC members, allowing them to continue with their accommodative stance till there is greater clarity over the durability of the economic recovery.

Much of the decline in headline inflation in December stemmed from a fall in food prices. As per the data from the National Statistical Office, consumer food price inflation eased greatly to 3.41 per cent in December, down from 9.5 per cent the month before, led largely by easing of vegetables prices. Vegetable prices inflation declined by 10.41 per cent in December, after rising by 15.6 per cent in the previous month. Food inflation also benefited from relatively muted price pressures in cereals and the protein basket (egg, fish and meat). And with current mandi prices also indicating a continuation of the trend in vegetable prices in January, overall inflation is likely to remain soft next month as well. However, price pressures do appear to be building up in other food categories. The UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation's Food Price Index also suggests the same. The index, which reflects international prices of a basket of commodities, averaged 107.5 points in December — the highest since November 2014. Additionally, the spread of bird flu could lead to demand-supply mismatches, injecting a degree of volatility in meat and egg prices.

Core inflation (inflation excluding food and fuel) eased marginally in December. However, it continues to remain sticky, and is unlikely to moderate greatly. It is possible that as household demand recovers to pre-COVID levels — a smooth rollout of the COVID vaccine will provide a fillip to demand, especially for high-contact services — inflation in services might see an uptick in the coming months. Add to that rising input costs, and a return of pricing power, core inflation may well remain high in the coming months.

PRESSURE POINTS

Recognition of bad loans must not be delayed. Upcoming budget needs to lay out a vision for public sector banks

EVEN THOUGH THE Reserve Bank of India (RBI) expects economic activity to recover to last year's levels in the second half of the current financial year, and growth to pick up in the first half of next year, its latest financial stability report lays out in no uncertain terms the formidable challenges facing the banking system as it deals with the fallout of the pandemic. Even though gross non-performing assets (GNPAs) have been on a decline, and banks had built relatively sound capital buffers, the problem, in part, is that the true extent of the bad loans in the system is unknown due to the regulatory forbearance provided to cushion the blow of the pandemic. But with the withdrawal of these regulatory relief measures, the underlying stress in the system will surface. And as RBI governor Shaktikanta Das notes, banks are likely to witness "balance sheet impairments" and "capital shortfalls". This is a grim prognosis.

The RBI has carried out a series of tests to gauge the extent of stress in banks' balance sheets under various economic situations. In its baseline scenario, banks' bad loans could rise to 13.5 per cent by September 2021, up from 7.5 per cent at the end of September 2020. In case the economic situation worsens, bad loans could rise even further to 14.8 per cent. One indication of the build up in stress is already evident: Large borrowers in the SMA-0 category (loans which are overdue for 1-30 days) have grown by a staggering 245.6 per cent over March 2020, signalling possible slippages in the coming quarters.

There may be a desire to kick the can down the road — to relax the NPA recognition norms and mask the true extent of the bad loans. That would be a mistake. Addressing the balance sheet stress in the economy requires focusing on what the Economic Survey has called the 4 Rs — recognition of bad loans, recapitalisation of banks, resolution for stressed firms and reforms to alter the incentive structures. However, considering that trillions spent on bank recapitalisation have not yielded justifiable returns, and the opportunity costs of such large allocations, especially for a cash strapped government, there are legitimate questions to be asked over the recapitalisation of public sector banks by the government. Questions must also be asked about whether outright privatisation is even possible or is shifting to a structure like the Bank Investment Company more appropriate. The government needs to think through the various alternatives, and clearly articulate its vision for the banking sector in the upcoming budget.

WE, ROBOT

One hundred years after Karel Capek wrote about humanoid machines, it turns out, dystopia is a software issue

IN JANUARY 1921, a machine uprising that displaces humanity as we know it was, at best, an allegory. Czech playwright Karel Capek's *RUR: Rossum's Universal Robots* introduced the term "robot" — derived from *roboti*, the Czech word for serf — and the audience lapped it up. Since then, robots have seen many avatars, moving from science fiction to reality, from a frightening symbolism about the horrors of automatisisation to the promise of a tech-enabled future. Now, though, when the dystopia is upon us, it turns out that Capek's robots aren't what's bringing civilisation down.

Capek's robots — mechanised slaves that displace their masters — found echoes throughout the golden age of science fiction. Humanoid machines were to become Frankenstein's monster, and our downfall would come, as in a Greek tragedy, from a combination of arrogance and ignorance. But things changed. In the aftermath of World War II and the rise of American optimism, technology became the road to Utopia, and robots too evolved — there were robot dogs out of Japan, C-3PO and R2-D2 in *Star Wars*, alongside *The Terminator*.

Today, as AI-fuelled algorithms and automatisisation threaten democracy and labour rights, there might be some lessons in the 1921 play that first articulated the fear of the machine. Capek was not anti-machine, or even against the robots he created. As long as they were tools they were welcome. The problem is greed, over-production and the willingness to give up thought and human interaction for the convenience of being a digital cyborg. It is not the robots, the hardware, that are the main problem. It is now the willingness to give up objectivity for "likes", rationality for "shares" and outsourcing our minds to servers full of ones and zeros. Humanity, it turns out, has a bug in its software.



K SUJATHA RAO

A GOOD POLICY must fulfil four criteria — it must have clarity in objectives, strategic design, financing and outcomes, all in sync. For example, the objective of the national roll out can be to stop infections, check current transmission and/or reduce if not eliminate mortality, depending upon the efficacy of the vaccine. The polio vaccine, for instance, achieves all three for life while the flu shot can protect against infection only for a year. Such characteristics then determine the strategies, funding and ways to measure outcomes. So, when eradication became an objective, the polio strategy was redesigned.

In the COVID vaccine roll out, there is no clear data for either of the two vaccines proposed for use in the programme. We do not know if they provide protection for life, for a year or six months, its efficacy among the elderly or the very sick or in stopping new infections. Getting such data requires at least three years and cannot be obtained in a few months. India also does not have any advance purchase agreements for vaccines that have some of this data due to the completion of Phase 3 trials. The two vaccines to be used in India, have not completed the Phase 3 that confirm safety and efficacy when tried out on a large sample.

Given these limitations, the government has drawn up strategic guidelines for implementing an ambitious vaccine programme covering 30 crore people by July. With meticulous attention to detail, the guidelines draw upon the knowledge of running national campaigns acquired over three decades of implementing the Universal Immunisation Programme that resulted in eradicating polio and protecting 75 per cent children against 14 vaccine preventable diseases. These guidelines detail the skills, roles and responsibilities of the required human resources, logistics for delivering vaccines at point of use, physical infrastructure, monitoring systems based on digital platforms and feedback systems for reporting adverse events. The approach involves 19 departments, donor organisations and NGOs at the national, state, district and block level. The guidelines also mention the priority criteria — caregivers, front line workers of the departments of health, defence, municipalities and transportation; persons above the age of 50 and those below 50 having diabetes, hypertension, cancers and lung

diseases. In other words, the guidelines are a reference manual for what is to be done, by whom, when and how.

The guidelines are ideal but do not reflect the real world of the health system that is full of flaws, defects, inconsistencies and cracks. Of the 28,932 cold chain points, half are in the five southern states, Maharashtra and Gujarat. The eight states in the North and Odisha that account for over 40 per cent of the country's population have only 28 per cent of the cold chain points. Combined with poor human resources — doctors, nurses, pharmacists — a weak private sector, poor safety and hygiene standards, frequent power outages, poor infrastructure in terms of physical space, the capacity to implement with the expected speed, quality and accuracy is daunting. The immunisation can disrupt routine health service delivery — antenatal care, national programmes like those pertaining to TB or other immunisation drives and exhaust workers, particularly if we have yet another wave of the infection or other outbreaks like the bird flu that is being witnessed in some states now.

While data for the above-50-year-olds is available in the electoral rolls (though there are complaints of exclusions making the Census a better option), line listing of the under 50s with comorbidities can be challenging. Disease burden of NCDs is much higher in southern states that also have a higher proportion of the elderly. Not only are urban-rural variations substantial, but urban areas have weak public health infrastructure and a multiple number of private providers, mostly unregistered, thanks to the poor implementation of the Clinical Establishment Act, 2010. Patient tracking can be problematic as many may not have been diagnosed, go to multiple providers, or have multiple addresses as in the case of migrants. Fudging, false certification and siphoning off vaccines to private facilities in the event of vast price differentials cannot be ruled out.

The non-availability of efficacy data could also impact the procurement and supply of vaccines, result in huge wastage, and can introduce scope for errors and duplication. Instead of rolling out the programme throughout the country in one go and given the complexity of the line listing of priority groups, it may be useful to consider other options such as

covering all at one time in an area, instead of sequencing them into different groups. The areas could be ranked on the basis of a vulnerability index built by triangulating data sets from disease burden, caseload of COVID infections, demographic profile, health-seeking behaviour and availability of infrastructure etc, block, district and state wise. Such an approach could enable having differential strategies to suit the health system capacities to organise, deliver and monitor.

But central to the success of the roll out will be the confidence of the people in the vaccines. Non transparency of data, needless haste and opacity with which the licenses were given, worsened by caveats and conditions, strident defence by the ruling party in its attempt to stifle healthy conversation that could result in allaying doubts and fears, clumsy attempts to politicise the discourse by media channels have only deepened suspicions. The worst outcome is the denting of our international reputation and respect built over years of adherence to scientific rigour. Coming out of this messy situation is necessary and one option — as adopted for the polio eradication programme — is to establish an independent team of experts under the aegis of the WHO to ensure adherence to recruitment standards, consent conditions, adverse event record management, compensation standards, conditionalities required in emergency authorisation and trial conditions. This will create confidence in the community and international authorities as well.

Finally, it is important to understand that vaccination is an incomplete solution to ending the epidemic, since the virus is mutating. Adopting safe behaviour is. Launching a nuanced communication strategy will be fundamental. The government can use its experience of controlling the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Science, evidence and data analytics need to be the bedrock of the roll out policy, not politics and scoring brownie points for electoral advantages. The need of the hour is winning this battle that has drained us economically, socially and psychologically. That said, the decision to roll out the vaccine is a good start. Let's keep our fingers crossed.

The writer is a former Union health secretary



JAI ARJUN SINGH

I HAVE TWO distinct memories from a 2009 meeting with Ved Mehta, who passed away earlier this week. The first is of Mehta speaking about why he always tried to be precise and lucid in his writing — no literary roundabouts or convolutions.

"Because I left India when I was very young, in the 1950s," he said, "I was very conscious of the explaining I had to do to people, about who I was and where I came from. That initial impulse may have made the writing clearer." When scientists aren't precise, he pointed out, the whole edifice collapses: "But we who do non-scientific work, we often get away with murder."

The second memory is of Mehta — who lost his sight at age three — discussing his use of conjecture. Once, writing about someone he had interviewed, he described the person — accurately, it turned out — as smoking his cigarette from the side of his mouth, so that it seemed like the cigarette was stuck to his lower lip. "I reinterpreted what I was hearing and put it in visual terms. I could have said his voice sounded muffled, which led me to realise this, and so on — but I don't want to repeatedly draw attention to my blindness by explaining my impressions. It would be cumbersome."

So here was a writer-journalist who tried to be as direct as possible in his prose, simply setting things down rather than being a stylist; but here, too, was a man who practised a version of imaginative writing even in his non-fiction — to the degree that his visual descrip-

MASTER OF THE INTIMATE CANVAS

For Ved Mehta, the personal was a way to illuminate the universal

tions made some readers uncomfortable.

Over a long and prolific career, Mehta was both these people and many others. After writing his first book *Face to Face* — an autobiography in his early twenties, an act of hubris, you might think, until you actually read this gentle, searching work — he began a long stint at *The New Yorker* with the encouragement of the celebrated editor William Shawn. In the decades that followed, he wrote many features and books on contemporary India, Mahatma Gandhi, philosophy and theology. He also wrote, with characteristic clear-sightedness, about his blindness: The journey to America as a teenager for the education that wasn't available to an unsighted adolescent in India; how loneliness made way for self-reliance; his use of "facial vision" (the ability to sense objects by the feel of the air and differences in sound) to navigate the world around him.

However, his defining work remains the autobiographical "Continents of Exile" series, which began with the desire to record the stories of his parents. Though the series wasn't planned beforehand, the books grew to tell a vast cross-cultural tale involving India, England and America. Shawn even created a "Personal History" section to accommodate the earliest versions of these pieces. ("How absurd it was," Mehta said, smiling, "for a leading American magazine to publish a multi-part profile of my mother right in the middle of the Vietnam War!")

Writing several books about one's fam-

ily history and personal development can easily be dismissed as navel-gazing, and Mehta was often seen as an unfashionable writer, out of touch with shifting currents in the literary world. Youngsters working on the literature beat in the early 2000s were tutored in the canon of major Indian-English writers — Rushdie, Roy, Seth, Ghosh, and from an earlier generation, Naipaul and Anita Desai — but Mehta was rarely mentioned (except perhaps in the context of an amusing run-in with the cantankerous Naipaul at a 2002 Neemrana gathering). I knew almost nothing about him until I chanced to read his plaintive 2004 book *The Red Letters*, about his father's adulterous relationship with a married woman in the 1930s.

In that book, as in much of his other work, Mehta did justice to his conviction that if you tell a very specific story and tell it well, it will have a wide resonance. His flair for attentive character portraits and for setting an individual tale against a larger background is visible in other works like *Sound-Shadows of the New World* and *Up at Oxford* too. Above all, they have a quiet elegance that makes them very easy to slip into. Though Mehta practised a great deal of journalism and wrote about "big" subjects — in books such as *Portrait of India* — he was eventually a master of the intimate canvas, always using the personal to illuminate the universal.

The writer is a Delhi-based critic and author



JANUARY 14, 1981, FORTY YEARS AGO

ANDHRA RESIGNATIONS

ALL MEMBERS OF the Andhra Pradesh Council of Ministers barring those who are away handed over their resignations to the Chief Minister T Anjaiah to enable him to reconstitute the ministry. The dramatic move follows a "feeling" expressed by the Congress (I) High Command that the one-sided Andhra ministry should be pruned at the earliest. The ministry had 61 members. The letters of resignation were submitted to the Chief Minister at an informal meeting of the Council of Ministers at the state secretariat. CM Anjaiah said that the resignations were voluntary and "I did not ask for them". Anjaiah is planning to leave for Delhi to have discussions with the prime min-

ister over reconstituting his cabinet

SHIMLA FIRE

THE HISTORIC RAJ Bhawan in Shimla was reduced to ashes in a devastating blaze which raged over six hours. The Governor Aminuddin Ahmed Khan, Begum Khan and his two brothers who are on a visit from Pakistan ran out. Half a dozen fire engines fought the flames in sub zero temperatures before bringing the fire under control. At noon, smoke was still rising out of the smouldering wreck of the 95-year building. All the personal belongings of the occupants, including the passports of the two brothers were destroyed.

NUCLEAR RESEARCH

CALANDRIA, THE FIRST fully indigenously designed nuclear reactor vessel has been handed over to the R-5 (research) project at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Trombay, according to an official bulletin of the Department of Atomic Energy. The R-5 reactor, a thermal research reactor, is in an advanced stage of construction.

MESSAGE TO STARS

SOVIET ASTRONAUTS PLAN to beam radio messages to 21 solar-like stars in search for extraterrestrial civilisation. The messages to be transmitted in the next two to three months will be "space landscapes" with the sun against the background of the stars surrounding it.

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THE IDEAS PAGE

A budget for our times

The Union budget should focus on enhancing credit flows to the small and marginal farmers, increase investment in health and education



SOUMYA KANTI GHOSH AND TAPAS PARIDA

THE FIRST ADVANCE estimates of GDP for 2020-21 are much better than the earlier market consensus and shows the inherent strengths of the Indian economy. The economy is expected to contract by 7.7 per cent implying a COVID-19 induced loss of Rs 9.61 lakh crore in real terms for the year. Nominal GDP is expected to contract by 4.2 per cent. The figures continue to have a considerable band of uncertainty as data challenges remain.

The demand side, however, continues to be in a soft spot with private consumption falling by 9.5 per cent and its share in the overall GDP reducing by full 100 basis points. Per capita private consumption has contracted by 10.4 per cent, while capital formation has contracted by 14.5 per cent, with imports and exports also contracting. Only government consumption remains in positive territory.

The deep contraction in manufacturing (9.3 per cent), construction (12.6 per cent) and trade, hotels (21.4 per cent) are the main pain spots. The estimated losses in these three sectors account for 93.5 per cent of the total loss for the whole year. With high employment intensity, the task of rehabilitating displaced business in these sectors will be a long-drawn battle. The financial sector has somehow weathered the storm and the value added by the sector has registered a nominal growth of 1.4 per cent.

With these mechanics in play, it is imperative that the budget pays careful attention to how numbers will play out. The budgeted growth in nominal GDP will be crucial for the budgeting exercise, and needs to be the primary focus. The fiscal situation will not stabilise in 2020-21 unless consumption improves.

What should be the growth in nominal GDP for 2021-22? In terms of specific numbers, the average growth in nominal GDP for the decade ending in 2013-14 was 15 per cent, but the average GDP deflator at 7.6 per cent far outpaced average real GDP at 6.8 per cent. Now contrast this with the post 2013-14 period: For the six year period ending in 2019-20, average nominal GDP growth was 10.4 per cent, with real GDP growth of 6.8 per cent far outpacing the GDP deflator at 3.6 per cent. We can thus safely assume a 15 per cent nominal GDP growth in the 2021-22 budget as it should be driven more by real GDP growth and not inflation — our perennial bugbear pre 2014. It is thus extremely important that we ensure that the current inflation trajectory that is showing signs of stubbornness in terms of service inflation is kept under control through policy interventions like rationalisation of fuel taxes that are currently at record highs.

Coming to the specific numbers, if we look at receipts post the 2008 crisis, they grew by more than 20 per cent and we expect revenue receipts to grow in excess of 20 per cent in the 2021-22 budget too, with non-tax revenue posting a likely 50 per cent growth. A simple back-of-the-envelope estimate suggests that the budgeted fiscal deficit (below which it



CR Sasikumar

should not be set) could be ideally at 5.5 per cent in the budget.

Regarding specific policy interventions, we are tempted to announce specific recommendations for the agriculture sector that could see significantly enhanced credit deliveries to the small and marginal farmers in the budget.

First, out of the outstanding bank credit of about Rs 12 lakh crore to the agriculture and allied activities sector, Rs 7 lakh crore is for Kisan Credit Cards (60 per cent of the total). The KCC portfolio of banks has come under increasing stress over the years due to a variety of factors like crop losses, unremunerated prices, debt waivers and the rigidity of the KCC product. Currently, the renewal of KCC loans with payment of both principal and interest ensures interest subvention. It is proposed that for renewal of KCC loans of small and marginal farmers and for loans of other categories of farmers for amounts up to Rs 3 lakh, the payment of interest must be a sufficient condition for renewal as with other loans. The above measure has the potential to reduce the credit cost for banks considerably on KCCs as NPAs can be prevented more easily and the interest rate on KCC loans can be further reduced.

Second, there are 11.5 crore farmers who are PM-KISAN beneficiaries — 6.5 crore farmers have KCC. Thus, the remaining 4-5 crore could be land owning cultivators and at least 3-4 crore of such could be tenants/lessees/landless. Currently, such tenant farmers are not formalised into the credit deliveries of scheduled commercial banks. As of now, it requires state interventions for tenancy certificates which is only available in Andhra Pradesh. We propose the formation of a SHG model under the Deen Dayal Antodaya Yojana. The formation of SHGs will formalise tenancy even without formal documentation of tenancy and this will enable formal lending to take place to three crore landless farmers. The government could offer a sweetener for the formation of these types of SHGs that might require only a very nominal fiscal outlay. For example, even a Rs 1,000 outlay for three lakh SHGs could mean only Rs 30 crore fiscal support.

Third, the government must use this opportunity to increase investment in health and education. For health, it could introduce a medical savings account with a defined scheme to deduct interest from the savings account and pay towards a Mediclaim policy. For the record, the size of the health insurance is Rs 32,000

Given the significant increase in financial savings of households, it is now perhaps the right time to allow banks and infrastructure financing companies be allowed to raise tax free bonds (preferred tenor 15-20 years), and/or tax paid bonds to tap funding from retail investors, wherein the tax on the interest income of such bonds could be paid by the bond issuer — a 10 per cent tax deducted at source under section 193 of the income tax act.

crore and the savings bank interest is Rs 1.15 lakh crore. The government should also consider exempting all retail and health insurance products from GST.

Fourth, the government can tweak the savings scheme for senior citizens by offering them tax concessions, the fiscal impact of which could be negligible. This will be fair and equitable in a declining interest rate regime.

Given the significant increase in financial savings of households, it is now perhaps the right time to allow banks and infrastructure financing companies to raise tax free bonds (preferred tenor 15-20 years), and/or tax paid bonds to tap funding from retail investors, wherein the tax on the interest income of such bonds could be paid by the bond issuer — a 10 per cent tax deducted at source under section 193 of the income tax act. Such a structure while being attractive to retail investors will also ensure that the government is not losing on its tax revenue.

The scale of the humanitarian crisis after COVID-19 is such that individual philanthropy must pitch in to supplement the role of government. There must be genuine redistribution of resources. Hence, can we not think of echoing the concept of Jan Bhagidari to public goods to propose a scheme called "Adopt-a-Family". Under this scheme, which is purely voluntary, a taxpayer (probably with an annual income of Rs 10 lakh or more) can be incentivised through tax deductions to adopt a BPL family for a year that could potentially benefit at least 2.8 million people.

Three suggestions on the fiscal situation (borrowing from my good friends): First, withdraw all tax appeals, second, accept all domestic arbitration decisions against government departments/agencies and third, clear all outstanding dues to all parastatal agencies within a stipulated time. This will be a milestone structural administrative change that could be even thought of as a one-time balance sheet entry recognising liabilities and paying them off. As a consequence, we could jump multiple positions on the Ease of Doing Business rankings. And it could also serve as a fiscal lubricant.

Lastly, could we not also use this opportunity to unleash the power of public sector banks by deciding to reduce the government's stake in them to 51 per cent, just to begin with?

Ghosh is group chief economic advisor and Parida is economist, State Bank of India. Views are personal

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"But even if legal process were to deliver Mr Trump his just deserts, the crisis of America's growing polarisation — of which the president is a symptom as well as a cause — would remain."

— THE GUARDIAN

Getting the vaccine right

There are various challenges in the massive Covid-19 vaccination drive, but these are not intractable



BIBEK DEBROY AND ADITYA SINHA

THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19 is possibly entering its final stages, with the Prime Minister announcing the kick-off of the vaccination drive from January 16. This announcement precedes a herculean task ahead, in which 300 million Indians will be vaccinated in the first phase of the drive. The first phase caters primarily to healthcare and frontline workers, the elderly, and those with comorbidities.

However, there will be initial hiccups in carrying out this task. The problems in carrying out vaccination on this massive scale are apparent, but not intractable.

One, states should be prepared for adverse events following immunisation (AEFI). Although unlikely, in some cases, untoward medical occurrences can follow vaccination. For instance, in the US, several people have experienced severe allergic reactions — also known as anaphylaxis — after getting a different COVID-19 vaccine. States should immediately address this issue, otherwise this will undermine public confidence in the vaccine. Therefore, a team of specialist doctors should be placed at every vaccination site to deal with AEFI. Also, there can be legal issues of culpability arising out of severe adverse events. These issues yet remain to be addressed, aggravated by the timeline of trials having been compressed.

Two, initially, states should also prioritise vaccinating people with comorbidities and elderly residing in clusters affected most by COVID-19. This can be a more targeted approach in the first phase, especially when the availability of the vaccine will be scarce. Will it make sense to vaccinate individuals in towns and villages where positivity rate is low? Shouldn't states focus on clusters and localities where the case fatality rate is high or localities with high population densities? A young person in Mumbai, without comorbidities, might be a more eligible beneficiary than someone from the army in Arunachal Pradesh.

Three, those who have been vaccinated can potentially carry the SARS-CoV-2 virus and unwittingly spread the disease to others, especially to their family members who are caregivers. The government might consider vaccinating caregivers and family members residing with frontline workers and the elderly who will be vaccinated. This is along the same lines as the point made above. At a time of shortage, there must be some mechanism for allocation beyond frontline workers — that identification is presently based on age and comorbidities, regardless of place of residence. Universal coverage, in identified geo-

graphical areas, might be a better way to procure and allocate a vaccine in short supply.

Four, as things stand, we do not know whether a vaccine will have uniform efficacy rates and are not yet aware of the efficacy of these vaccines in different populations such as immune-immature infants, children, pregnant women, and immunocompromised individuals and immunosenescent individuals aged greater than or equal to 65 years. Most likely, the same vaccine will have different efficacy rates in diverse populations. Hence, based on the relevant data, our vaccination strategy will also have to change/evolve. As the efficacy data of phase 3 trials of various vaccines are released, they should be included in the public vaccination programme for those who cannot afford the vaccines. The inclusion of multiple vaccines from different manufacturers would enable the government to better negotiate prices with the manufacturers.

Five, there is also a need for involving the private sector in vaccine delivery and administration. This would reduce the burden on public healthcare facilities. Doctors in the private healthcare system can be a great asset in carrying out a vaccine program at such a large scale. Their services can also be used to deal with AEFI.

Six, at the same time, whoever can afford these vaccines should be allowed to buy from the open market. For example, Pfizer has sought permission to import the vaccine for sale and distribution in the country. Fiscal and logistical constraints may not allow India to include Pfizer and Moderna type vaccines in public vaccination programmes immediately. But the private health infrastructure should not be inhibited from creating its distribution. This also has a bearing on the costs of vaccination. There are no grounds for vaccination to be universally free, subsidised by government.

Seven, private sector organisations and PSUs can be allowed to hold vaccination drives for their own employees, relieving some burden from public health authorities. This is being done in the UAE.

Eight, the United Nations has proclaimed December 27 as the International Day of Epidemic Preparedness. India should also prepare itself for fighting with pandemics akin to COVID-19. The nationwide vaccination drive is mostly a decentralised process, where state governments are preparing the list of elderly, people with comorbidities, healthcare and frontline workers. Having a national health ID could have made the task of identifying people with comorbidities much easier. This is probably the right time to push for a national health ID, so that we are better prepared in the future. Nevertheless, data privacy concerns of various stakeholders should be addressed. The personal data should be anonymised before being made available to government agencies. The patient's consent should be sought at every instance, even when her data is shared with health departments for public health interventions such as vaccination.

Debroy and Sinha are, respectively, chairman and assistant consultant at the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister



ABHISHEK SINGHVI AND JAIVEER SHERGILL

Running away from House

The government and BJP have consistently undermined Parliament

WHILE DEPRECATING THE separation of "a place from its history", novelist Alan Moore bricked said: "A place is much more than the bricks and mortar that go into its construction. I think it's more than the accidental topography of the ground it stands on." With the apex court giving its stamp of approval to the Rs 2,000 crore Central Vista project — it includes a glittering new Parliament to be built at a cost of Rs 971 crore — an analysis of the Narendra Modi government's track record on respecting Parliament's soul and substance is relevant. Has the BJP and the Modi government imbibed the true spirit of our temple of democracy or have they treated it as a necessary evil, to be formally bowed down to while increasingly marginalising it?

During last year's budget session, Parliament was allowed to work despite the COVID-19 outbreak because the MP Assembly had to be summoned for the formation of a BJP government against the popular mandate. A full-fledged monsoon session was convened when the virus was at its peak in Delhi because anti-farmer ordinances had to be ratified. Almost all states had their Assembly sessions during the pandemic, exposing the COVID-19 excuse for curtailing Parliament as the fig leaf it was. But when farmers, not allowing the winter to dampen their resolve, sit on roads demanding restoration of MSP for their produce, the winter session of Parliament becomes dispensable. If Parliament is not allowed to become the appropriate forum for the consideration of demands that affect nearly two-thirds

of the country's population, it can hardly qualify as democracy's heartbeat, one that was Nehru's priority, the subject of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee's undying respect and, indeed, PM Modi's floor-kissing obeisance, when he first entered its hallowed portal.

Perhaps, BJP's social and political agendas take precedence over such democratic pillars. In 2017, the winter session was delayed because of the Gujarat Assembly elections. Since the government is currently investing all its energy in election management in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Assam and Puducherry, it has no time for Parliament. Political priorities seem to have replaced constitutional propriety. The government is fully aware that people across the country are agitated. Therefore, despite the pendency of many important pieces of legislations — the Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019, Dam Safety Bill, 2019, Medical Termination of Pregnancy Amendment Bill, 2020, Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019, Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Bill, 2019 — the winter session has been guillotined.

The BJP's undermining of Parliament has a long legacy in its relatively short life as a ruling party. Its policies and actions have frequently been antithetical to Parliamentary democracy. In Opposition, its disruption of parliamentary proceedings and blockage of legislations was elevated to a fine art — remember the vigorous defence of disruption as a legitimate democratic tool by the late Arun Jaitley. During the 2013 budget session,

of the 163 hours available, 146 hours were lost due to disruptions by the BJP.

Since 2014, there have been more subtle stratagems to undermine Parliament. Ordinance, as the preferred legislative route, is being misused as a constitutional tool and Parliament is increasingly ceasing to be a place for debates. Important bills are moved and passed on the same day or rushed through, thus depriving members of their parliamentary rights to contribute effectively. During the 2018-19 budget, 100 per cent of the demands for grants were passed without discussion. The Farm Bills' passage was the apogee of all brazen violations and subterfuges.

Parliament has an effective committee system and new bills introduced in the House are generally referred to department-related standing committees for detailed scrutiny. Having been privileged to chair such a committee, one of us (Singhvi) can testify to their sterling non-partisan contributions. Invited domain experts also scrutinise the bills. In the 14th and 15th Lok Sabhas, 60 per cent and 71 per cent bills, respectively, were referred to such committees, whereas in the 16th Lok Sabha, only 25 per cent bills were referred. Not a single bill has been referred to committees in 2020.

Accountability and scrutiny have unfortunately been perceived as irritants by the Modi government. Subversion of the constitutional spirit was evident when the Aadhaar Bill was certified as a Money Bill. Having nothing to do with the imposition, abolition or alteration of taxes nor with financial obligations of the gov-

ernment, it was so certified simply to avoid Rajya Sabha scrutiny. That issue is now pending before a larger apex court bench, but judicial delays are inevitably used to bypass Parliament. During the last monsoon session, the Question Hour was suspended to avoid legislative scrutiny. If every other business could be transacted in both the Houses, there was no plausible reason to suspend the Question Hour — except avoiding processes designed to hold the government to account.

The Modi government's decision to freeze the entire MPLAD funds scheme was less about economics or welfare and much more about politics. The impact was disproportionately larger on Opposition MPs who, being out of power, will have no say in any development work in his/her area. Despite marginal aberrations and abuses, the MPLAD scheme, to the co-author's (Singhvi) knowledge as a three term MP, has surpassed all expectations at the grassroots. Meanwhile, there is the unaudited PM Care Fund to take care of the ruling dispensation. Hopefully, the new Central Vista will signify a more meaningful realisation of the true ethos and pulsating spirit of Parliamentary democracy and not merely creation of brick, mortar and concrete structures.

Singhvi is a three-term sitting MP, former chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee and senior national spokesperson, Congress; Shergill is a Supreme Court lawyer and national spokesperson, INC. Views are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MISSED OPPORTUNITY

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'A shapeshifting justice', (IE, January 13). The writer has claimed the following points: "The court has not really heard the farmers" and "The mediators must be appointed in consultation with all parties involved". However, the writer fails to emphasise the opportunity missed by the farmers to get themselves heard in the judicial proceedings that led up to the constitution of the committee in question. The farmers' counsel was not present on the said day, who, if they had been present, could have bargained for a committee with more acceptable members. Their absence in the proceedings may deteriorate the court's benevolence for the protesters further.

Kuldeep Kaur, Yavatmal

COURT'S HYPOCRISY

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Out of court' (IE, January 13). The critical analysis of the Supreme Court (SC) order staying three farm laws and also the composition of the mediation committee with members who had already justified the laws have exposed the gross jurisprudential infirmities and breach of separation of powers envisaged in the Constitution of India. The alacrity to intervene in a political process has also revealed the court's double standard with regard to a delay in hearing constitutional validity of laws with nationwide ramifications such as electoral bonds, the Citizenship Amendment Act. By wading into core public policy questions

IDEAS ONLINE

ONLY IN THE EXPRESS

● STEPS TO POLLUTION-PROOF DOORSTEP DELIVERY: TRUPTI DESHPANDE AND ANANTHA LAKSHMI PALADUGULA

● BUILDING A \$5-TRILLION ECONOMY: KETAN REDDY AND SUBASH S

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and political controversies, courts seem to compete with democracy with a "juristocracy". The farmer unions have already rejected SC overtures, making its' position rather awkward and leading to a loss of its moral authority.

LR Murmu, Delhi

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Out of court' (IE, January 13). When the Supreme Court stays implementation of an Act, it is confirming "the three farm laws are bad". Its job is to pronounce judgment, not mediate. Inviting agitating farmers to further talks is testing farmers' tolerance to negotiate from tractors and tents under the wintry nights with ministers and bureaucrats — literally sleeping over the issue — from AC comfort.

Varin Dhir, Ahmedabad

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BHOPAL, JANUARY 13

Faruqui, 28, was arrested along with four others for alleged objectionable remarks against Hindu deities and for "hurting religious sentiments" at a show in Indore, on a complaint by Eklavya Gaud, the son of BJP MLA Malini Gaud. The next day,

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 13

The FIR was registered a week after the woman's father lodged a missing person report when she did not return from college.

Sadakat Khan was held when he came to meet Faruqi, a friend, in court. There is no video evidence of Faruqi having made the alleged remarks at the show.

The bail applications have been rejected separately of all five — apart from Khan and Faruqi, they include Nalin Yadav, Prakhar Vyas and Pritam Vyas.

Faruqi's father-in-law Yunus Badar Imani, 50, who met him in jail on Wednesday, said he had enquired if his daughter could speak with him. "But I was told that the provision is available only to people who are in prison for three months," Imani, who has been camping in Indore since coming to know of the arrest on January 2, said. The eldest of Imani's three daughters is married to Faruqi.

Police officers said one Mehboob has been named in the FIR on the basis of the woman's call records and that they are not sure about the identity of the accused. A number in the call record was traced to Karnataka and a police team from Chitauli police station in Gorakhpur has now left for there.

On January 5, the woman's father, a retired Army man, filed a missing person report, stating that he dropped his daughter at college the day before but she did not return. A week later, based on the woman's call detail records, the father alleged that one Mehboob became her friend in 2019 after introducing himself as a Hindu and kidnapped her.



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AMRITSAR, JANUARY 13

The Kisan Mazdoor Sangarsh Committee Punjab led such protests in Amritsar, Gurdaspur and Tarn Taran.

"Lohri is a festival related with Dulla Bhatti. He was a rebel who fought against Akbar after taxes were increased on public. Taking inspiration from Dulla, we will fight against Delhi peacefully to repeal the farm laws. Otherwise Lohri is a festival of happiness. But today we have burnt the copies farm laws in fire of Lohri," said Sawarn Singh Pandher, general secretary, KMSC. Men, women and children come together in villages for symbolic burning of copies of farm law.

Dal Khalsa and its youth wing Sikh Youth Punjab also burnt 100 copies of the farm laws and stated that nothing short of repeal of these laws was acceptable to the people of Punjab.

Activists also staged a spirited protest and slammed the government for its "stubborn attitude". Commenting over the constitution of four-member panel by the apex court, the leader of the Dal Khalsa Kanwar Pal Singh said, "It's just a hogwash. When views of members favouring the laws are known, what is the point of setting up of such one-sided panel. Staying of the laws by the SC is neither acceptable nor a solution to the impasse. Government is hell bent to scuttle the farmers' agitation and it is using the office of the CJI for a judicial trap."

To a question by the media, he said, in case the government puts the ban on January 26 tractor march to Delhi, the farmers will defy it. He, however, clarified that their march would be peaceful.

He said, "January 26 is black Republic day. We will hold a march on the black day with black flags to protest against black farm laws."

SUKHBIR SIWACH
CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 13

FACING INTENSE heat from farmers, Haryana BJP on Wednesday decided to put an indefinite hold its awareness programmes on the controversial farm laws for the time being, citing a suggestion from Home Minister Amit Shah to avoid confrontation. The decision came a day after top BJP-JIP leaders met Home Minister Amit Shah. On Wednesday, Haryana Deputy CM Dushyant Chautala met PM Narendra Modi in Delhi. According to sources, different issues, including farm laws and railway lines, were discussed in the meeting between the PM and Dushyant.

The BJP-JJP alliance government and its functionaries have been facing mounting pressure from farmers in the state. CM Manohar Lal Khattar has been in the line of fire of the agitators with the most recent incident being of his scheduled "kisan mahapanchayat" in Kaimla village of Karnal being ransacked by protesters.

"Amit Shah has suggested that such type of programmes should not be planned for some time which may lead to a confrontation with agitator farmers," a senior leader of the alliance told *The Indian Express* Wednesday. Sources said the Union Home Minister also suggested the alliance leaders to handle the things "patiently" and remain "cool".

State Education Minister Kanwar Pal Gujjar said: "We will not hold public functions for the time being (in Haryana). Amit Shah ji has also suggested that till there is this agitation and talks are going on, the matter should be resolved with talks and we will avoid such types of functions. The government doesn't want confrontation."

Dated: 13.01.2021
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HARISH DAMODARAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

AFTER RICE, India is set to turn a major exporter of wheat as well – thanks to surging international prices from Chinese stockpiling and ultra-low interest rate money increasingly finding its way into agri-commodity markets.

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) on Tuesday upped its forecast of Indian wheat exports for 2020-21 (July-June) to 1.8 million tonnes (mt), as against its earlier estimate of one mt. That would be the highest ever in the last six years (see chart).

The trebling of shipments this year is mainly on the back of rising global prices. Wheat future contracts for March delivery at the Chicago Board of Trade exchange are currently at \$244.35 per tonne, 18.3% higher than the \$206.59 a year ago. This opens up possibilities for Indian exports to nearby markets, especially Bangladesh that buys mostly from Russia.

With the Russia government levying a 25 euros-per-tonne export tax on wheat effective from February 15 – in response to high domestic prices – Bangladesh “is beginning to shift its purchases towards India”, the USDA has noted in its latest world grain trade report. Bangladesh’s total wheat imports are placed at 6.6 mt in 2020-21.

Traders, however, believe that Indian wheat is still not competitive at the government's minimum support price (MSP) of Rs 19,750 per tonne. The export price of wheat bought in Gujarat at that rate – after adding roughly Rs 1,200 towards cost of cleaning, bagging, loading and transport to Kandla or Mundra port – would be Rs 20,950 per tonne. That works out to \$286 per tonne or \$290-plus, after adding exporter margins.

The above price is higher than the \$275-280 that major exporters such as Australia, France, US, Russia and Canada are quoting for March-April shipments. Indian grain, moreover, fetches a \$10-15/tonne discount relative to Australian premium white and Russian wheat having more protein content (12.5% versus 11.5%) and less foreign matter/impurities.

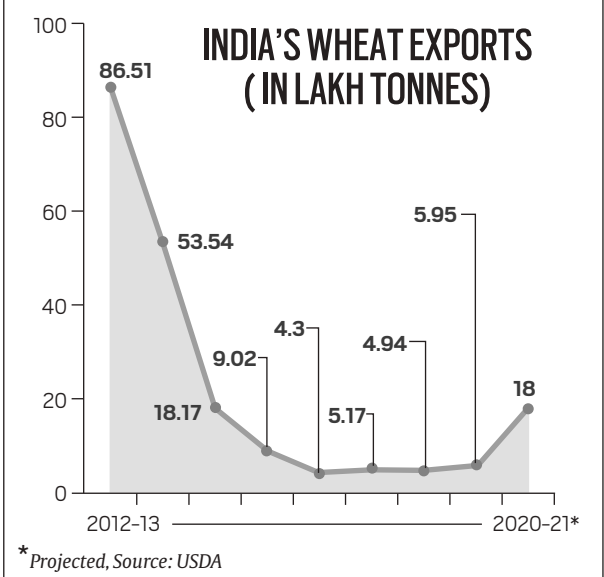
"In all, given our MSP, we are \$25 or so per tonne costlier today," said Amit Takkar, managing director, Conifer Commodities Pvt. Ltd.

RAAKHI JAGGA
LUDHIANA, JANUARY 13

VIJAY CHHABRA, the BJP president of Faridkot district, Wednesday quit the party to join its one-time ally Shiromani Akali Dal in the presence of SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal.

Chhabra is also a councillor of Faridkot Municipal Council.

Chhabra has quit the party ahead of municipal polls in Punjab, scheduled in the month of February. But he told *The Indian Express*: "I have quit the party to express my support to farmers and Punjabiyaat. Though farm ordinance was tabled in the month of June, and I have left the party after six months of protests



That disadvantage can, of course, be overcome if wheat is sourced at below MSP from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat and Maharashtra, where not much government procurement happens. The new crop arriving in these markets from March onwards would be available at Rs 17,000-18,000/tonne. This wheat can be exported by rail

rakes to Bangladesh or shipped to the Middle East (UAE, Oman and Bahrain) and Southeast Asia (Indonesia, Vietnam and Malaysia).

The USDA report, meanwhile, has also estimated India's rice imports to have hit a record 14.4 mt in 2020, up from 9.79 mt and 11.791 mt of the preceding two years. The country's closest competitors Thailand and Vietnam – have seen their exports during this period fall from 11.056 mt to 7.562 mt and 5.5 mt and from 6.59 mt to 6.581 mt and 6.1 mt, respectively. Both have had drought-reduced crops, with Vietnam recently even contracting 70,000 tonnes of Indian rice for the first time, following China in December.

USDA has projected India's rice imports in 2021 at 14 mt.

Bangladesh, which imported just 80,000 tonnes in 2020, is expected to buy one mt this year. The beneficiary of it will again be India. "Despite concerns about the availability of shipping containers, which is impacting rice exports from Vietnam and Thailand, India can export to Bangladesh via rail and truck," the report added.

All this export demand isn't bad at a time when India's own domestic production of rice and wheat touched an all-time-high of 118.43 mt and 107.59 mt, respectively, in 2019-20. Government agencies also procured a record 52 mt of rice and 38.99 mt of wheat. This year, too, similar bumper crops are likely.

The key driver of global price turnaround seems to be China. USDA data has forecast record Chinese imports of oilseeds (mainly soyabean) and coarse grain (maize and sorghum) in 2020-21 (October-September), apart from end-year stocks of rice and wheat. The reasons for its building strategic stockpiles of everything aren't as fully clear as their effect on international prices.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13


THE HEARING of a plea highlighting pollution in Yamuna on Wednesday led the Supreme Court to initiate a legal process against pollution of water bodies by untreated sewage, with the court registering a suo motu writ petition with regard to "Remediation of polluted rivers".

A bench headed by Chief Justice of India S A Bobde said, "We find that in addition to the issue raised by present petition, it would be appropriate to take suo motu cognisance with regard to the issue of contamination of rivers by sewage effluents and ensure that the mandate is implemented by municipalities as far as discharge of sewage into rivers is concerned."

The bench said, "We deem it appropriate at this stage to start with the issue of contamination of river Yamuna" and issued notice to the states of Uttarakhnad, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh; Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). The court directed CPCB "to submit a report identifying municipalities along the river Yamuna, which have not installed total treatment plants for sewage as per the requirement or have gaps in ensuring that the sewage is not discharged untreated into the river".

It also asked CPCB to "highlight any other source of prominent contamination within the limits of Municipalities" and to "submit priority-wise list of Municipalities, river stretches adjacent to which have been found to be most polluted".

For any kind of information such as detailed Time-Table of stations enroute etc., passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

 <div style="text-align: center;"> GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU THANJAVUR CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION THANJAVUR SMART CITY LIMITED </div>				
Bid Notice No.7708/2020/MCE4		RE-TENDER NOTICE		Dated:13.01.2021
<p>Sealed Retenders are invited by The Managing Director & Commissioner, Thanjavur City Municipal Corporation from the Registered Contractors E- submission is also permitted, for the following works upto 3.00 PM on 09.02.2021. The Tenders will be opened by the Corporation Commissioner (or) his authorized official in the Corporation Office on the same day at 3.30 P.M. If the office happens to be closed on the date of receipt, the Tenders will be opened on next working day. The Contractor who wish to participate in the Tender may download the Tender documents through https://tenders.gov.in by using E.Token / Digital Signature Cards on or before 08.02.2021 up to 3.00 P.M. Any other information may be obtained from the Corporation Executive Engineer, Thanjavur at the above office during office hours. The Managing Director & Corporation Commissioner has every right to cancel / postpone the Tender in view of Administrative reasons.</p>				
Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Estimate Cost (Rs.in Crore)	Earnest Money (Rs.in Lakhs)	Contractor Class
1.	Implementing, Commissioning, Operating and Maintaining the Command and Control Centre for Thanjavur City Municipal Corporation.	10.34	10.34	Class - I

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA		TENDER NOTICE				
SRL No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	HVPL	CREATION OF 2 NO. 132 KV AIS LINE BAYS FOR CREATION OF LUG OF 1 CKT OF 132 KV CHHAJIPUR SECTOR-29 S/C LINE ON Q/C TOWER AND PROVISION OF 132 KV DOUBLE BUS BAR ARRANGEMENT ALONG WITH BUS COUPLER AND BAY EQUIPMENT IN THE EXISTING LINE BAY OF 220 KV CHHAJIPUR-132 KV CHHAJIPUR S/C LINE AT 132 KV S/STN., CHHAJIPUR	06.01.2021 27.01.2021	30.54 LACS	www.hvpln.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvpln.org.in
2	HVPL	WORK FOR ATTENDING AND PLUGGING OFF LEAKAGE/ SEEPAGE OF VARIOUS POINTS OF 220/132, 100 MVA T/F T-8 AT 220KV S/STN., HVPL NISSING	12.01.2021 22.01.2021	2.95 LACS	www.hvpln.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvpln.org.in
3	HPGCL	SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF 7 NOS. SHAFT SEAL EROSION MONITORING SYSTEM AT POWER HOUSES OF WYC HE PROJECT, BUKKANAN	CLOSING DATE 18.01.2021	6500/-	Etenders.hry.nic.in	9355809377 xernehaydcl.ctrippl@hpgd.org.in
4	HPGCL	ARC FOR REGULAR CLEANING OF COARSE/FINE WATER SCREENS OF RAW WATER PUMP HOUSES OF UNIT-5 TO 8 AT PTSP PANIPAT.	25.12.2020 28.01.2021	4.57 LACS	www.hpgd.org.in	01582566015 xernehaydcl.ctrippl@gmail.com
5	CAD DIVISION KARNAL	CONSTRUCTION OF PLINTH PROTECTION AND RAIN WATER HARVESTING AT CADA HEAD OFFICE PANCHKULA	17.01.2021 27.01.2021	AS DETAILED IN THE NIT PUBLISHED ONLINE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9992220071 xernehaydcl.ctrippl@gmail.com
6	UHSVN	CONSTRUCTION OF BOUNDARY WALL ALONG WITH OTHER CIVIL WORKS AT COMPLAINT CENTER GSD MARKET PANIPAT	CLOSING DATE 21.01.2021	2.36 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9991485086 xernehaydcl.ctrippl@gmail.com
7	UHSVN	CONSTRUCTION OF 1 NO STORE SHED AT OF CITY S/DIVN. UHSVN PANIPAT	CLOSING DATE 22.01.2021	1.71 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9991485086 xernehaydcl.ctrippl@gmail.com
8	UHSVN	CONSTRUCTION OF ALUMINIUM PARTITION CURBULES IN THE QVO SDO OF S/DIVN. UHSVN PANIPAT	CLOSING DATE 21.01.2021	4.12 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9991485086 xernehaydcl.ctrippl@gmail.com
9	UHSVN	PROVIDING INTERLOCKING PAVEMENT BLOCKS IN THE CAMPUS OF S/DIVN. UHSVN GANNAUR	CLOSING DATE 21.01.2021	4.62 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9991485086 xernehaydcl.ctrippl@gmail.com
10	HFDCL SIRSA.	PURCHASE OF MATERIAL AND LABOUR WORKS FOR MANUFACTURING OF RCC FENCING POST (PILLAR) COMPLETE IN ALL RESPECTS.	11.01.2021 20.01.2021	1 LAKH	www.hfdcl.gov.in	01666243000 gm.srsd@hfdcl.gov.in

1399/HRY

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

ELGAAR PARISHAD CASE

Consider Varavara Rao’s age, health while arguing on his medical bail plea: HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 13

THE BOMBAY High Court on Wednesday asked the NIA and Maharashtra prison authorities to consider the age and health of Telugu poet and Elgaar Parishad case accused Varavara Rao, 80. The court asked all parties to maintain a humane approach while arguing on his bail plea on health grounds.

A division bench of Justice SS Shinde and Justice Manish Patil made the remarks while hearing the plea by Rao’s wife, Pendyala Hemalatha. The plea raised grievances that prison authorities have not been providing Rao appropriate medical attention since 2018. He was shifted to Nanavati Hospital following a high court order on November 18. On January 7, the

court had directed the hospital to file his fresh medical report by the next hearing. On Wednesday, Additional Solicitor General Anil Singh, representing NIA, handed over two fresh reports from Nanavati Hospital on Rao’s health. Justice Shinde said, “The petitioner is above 80. Keep in mind his age and health conditions. While making submissions on the bail plea, reflect on his health. We are all humans, this is an issue about his health.” The court will hear the matter next on January 19.

FORM NO.15 BEFORE, THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
Wing: A.B & F(2nd Floor), Karpuri Thakur Sadan, Kendriya Kamchari Parishad (GPOA), Near Rajiv Nagar Thana, Ashiana Digha Road, Patna-800025

O.A. NO-304 OF 2020
Applicant: Punjab National Bank Vs Respondent defendants M/s Akriti Sales & others SUMMONS

ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993.
(1) M/s Akriti Sales and ors Prop.- 24 Kitab Bhawan Road, North S.K. Puri, Patna Also At Dhudial Near Madhuban Chowk, Pitampura, New Delhi.
(2) Miteshwar Prasad (Proprietor) S/o Late Shiveshwar Prasad, 24, Kitab Bhawan Road, North S.K. Puri, Patna and Also At Dhudial Apartment, Near Madhuban Chowk, Pitampura, New Delhi.
(3) Smt. Sushma Prasad W/o Miteshwar Prasad 24, Kitab Bhawan Road, North S.K. Puri, Patna Also At Dhudial Apartment, Near Madhuban Chowk, Pitampura, New Delhi.

Whereas, the applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Bank & Financial Institution Act, 1993 against the defendants for the recovery of a sum of **Rs.41,14,983/- (Forty One Lacs Fourteen Thousand and Nine Hundred Eighty Three only)**.

The above mentioned defendants are therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an advocate or duly authorized agent, in support of their defense to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on **23/02/2021 at 10.30 A.M.** (forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default of your appearance on the day mentioned herein before, the Proceeding will be heard and determined in your absence.

Give under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this 7th day of Jan, 2021. **Registrar Debts Recovery Tribunal Patna**

Form No. INC-26
(Pursuant to Rule 30 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014)
Advertisement to be published in the newspaper for change of registered office of the Company from one state to another
Before the Central Government (Regional Director, Eastern Region)
In the matter of sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013 and clause (a) of sub-rule (b) of Rule 30 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014.
AND
In the matter of **Vakunthpati Constructions Private Limited (CIN: U45201BR1999PTC025019)** having its registered office at Githhar San Lane Bhagalpur Complex, Bhagalpur - 812002, Bihar.

.....**Petitioner/Applicant**
Notice is hereby given to the general public that the Company proposes to make an application to the Central Government, Regional Director, Eastern Region under Section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013 seeking confirmation of abatement of the Memorandum of Association of the Company in terms of the Special Resolution passed at the Extra Ordinary General Meeting held on 31st December, 2020 to enable the Company to change its Registered Office from the "State of Bihar" to the "State of West Bengal".

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the Company may deliver either on the MCA-21 portal (www.mca.gov.in) by filing investor complaint form or cause to be delivered or send by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of opposition to the Regional Director, Eastern Region, Mizam Palace, II MSGO Building, 3rd Floor, 234/4, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata - 700020, West Bengal within 14 (Fourteen) days from the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the Applicant at its registered office mentioned below.

For and on behalf of **Vakunthpati Constructions Private Limited**
Sd/- Manish Kumar Tekriwal (Director)
Date: 11/01/2021 (DIN: 00349582)
Place: Bhagalpur

STATE BANK OF INDIA
LOCAL HEAD OFFICE, WEST GANDHI MAIDAN, PATNA - 800001

TENDER NOTICE
State Bank of India, LHO, Patna invites sealed tenders from the interested Government Registered Travel Agencies for hiring of 3 (Three) **KIA Seltos GTX Plus BS VI (White)** Petrol AC vehicles on monthly rental basis. Forms (Financial Bids & Technical Bids) & other details are available from **14.01.2021 to 21.01.2021** on our official website www.sbi.co.in (under the head Procurement News). The last date of submission of bids is **21.01.2021**. Bank reserves the right to cancel the tender at any time without assigning any reason. For details, please contact Liaison Department, LHO, Patna on 0612-2209044 **AGM (Administration)**

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH CHANDIGARH
Advertisement No. PG/RC/019/2021/158 Dated: 13.01.2021

RECRUITMENT NOTICE
The Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh invites ONLINE applications from Indian Nationals for filling up of various posts of Group 'A', 'B' and 'C' on regular basis for All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh. Important timelines will be as under:

ITEM(S)	TIMELINE(S)/REMARKS
OPENING DATE FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR FILLING UP OF VARIOUS POSTS ON APPLICATION WEBSITE www.pgimer.edu.in (Recruitment link at Home Page)	15.01.2021
CLOSING DATE FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION & SUBMISSION OF ONLINE APPLICATIONS	14.02.2021

APPLICATION FEE
● Persons with Bench-mark Disabilities (PwBD): Exempted from payment of fee.
● SC/ST category: Rs. 800/- plus Transaction Charges as applicable.
For all others including General/OBC/EWS: Rs.1500/- plus Transaction Charges as applicable.

The candidates can deposit the above application fee through online payment gateway available at the ONLINE APPLICATION portal w.e.f. 15.01.2021 to 14.02.2021 using Debit/ Credit Card/ Net Banking.

IMPORTANT: The candidates willing to apply may visit the Institute's website i.e. www.pgimer.edu.in (Recruitment link at Home page) for detailed guidelines/ information, number of posts, eligibility criteria, etc. All applicants are required to visit the website regularly since all subsequent Corrigendum/ Addendum/ updates will be uploaded on the Institute's website only.

0034/PGI D I R E C T O R

IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI (ORIGINAL JURISDICTION) IN THE MATTER OF COMPANIES ACT, 1956 AND IN THE MATTER OF RUCHIKA AUTOLINKS PRIVATE LIMITED (IN LIQ.)

C.P. No. 562/2014 FORM No. 63 [RULE 148(1)]

Advertisement of Notice to Creditors & Workmen to prove their claim

Notice is hereby given to all the creditors (secured & unsecured) preferential creditors as well as workmen if any of the above-named company that they are required to submit to the Official Liquidator, Delhi attached to Hon'ble High Court of Delhi to prove their respective debts or claims against the above-named company by delivering at the office of the Official Liquidator on or before the **11.02.2021** or sending by post to the Official Liquidator so as to reach him not later than the said date, an affidavit proving the debt or claim in the prescribed form with their respective names, addresses and particulars of the debt or claim, and any title to priority under section 529A & 530. Any creditor (secured & unsecured) preferential creditors as well as workmen if any who fails to submit his affidavit of proof within the time limited as aforesaid will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution of dividend before his debt is proved, or, as the case may be, from objecting such distribution. Any creditor (secured & unsecured) preferential creditors as well as workmen if any who has sent in his proof, if so required by notice in writing from the Official Liquidator, shall either in person or by his advocate, attend the investigation of such debt or claim at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice and shall produce such further evidence of his debt or claim as may be required

Dated this..... day of.....2020.

(D.K. SINGH)
OFFICIAL LIQUIDATOR, DELHI ATTACHED TO HIGH COURT OF DELHI 8TH FLOOR, LOK NAYAK BHAWAN, KHAN MARKET, NEW DELHI - 110003 PH.: 011-24693393-94

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davp 07104/11/0004/2021

Teltumbde bail plea says he is critical of Maoist ideology

SADAF MODAK
MUMBAI, JANUARY 13

FORMER IIT professor Anand Teltumbde, arrested in the Elgaar Parishad case, has said in his bail application filed before the court that he is critical of the Maoist ideology

and the allegation that he is a member of CPI (Maoist) is “wholly untrue”. He has said he did not participate in the Elgaar Parishad event in Pune in 2017.

He was arrested on April 14 last year after he surrendered before NIA as per Supreme Court orders. NIA filed a supplementary

chargesheet against him and seven others in October, accusing him of acting to further Maoist agenda.

The bail plea filed Tuesday said he has written about 30 books and referred to one mentioned by a witness in the NIA chargesheet – *Anti-Imperialism and Annihilation of Caste*. “This in the face of it is a

critique of Maoist ideology and this evidence indicates that the present accused is critical of Maoist ideology and in view of this, the allegation of the prosecution that the accused is a member of CPI (Maoist) and has been acting to further its agenda, is wholly untrue,” the plea stated.

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank		Zonal Office, Karnal : Sector 12, Karnal- 132001. FAX: 0184-2266359, Phone: 0184-2266358, 2266264, E-mail:zokarnal@indianbank.co.in			E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE		
इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD		APPENDIX IV-A [SEE PROVISO TO RULE 8(6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES			LAST DATE OF EMD : 28-01-2021 (THURSDAY) DATE OF E-AUTION : 30.01.2021 (SATURDAY) FROM 12.00 PM TO 04.00 PM		
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002							
Notice is hereby given in the public in general in particular in the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, The Physical/Symbolic Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank and Indian Bank (erstwhile Allahabad Bank, as per "Gazette" Notification No. 133 (GSR, 156E), Dated 04.03.2020 w.e.f. 01.04.2020) Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on date mentioned below for recovery of debts in the Secured Creditor from the below mentioned borrower(s) and guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit and description of immovable Properties are also mentioned hereunder. -							
Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s)	Description of Immovable Property/ies Taking type of Symbolic/Physical Possession	Amount of Secured Debt	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Bid Increased Amount	Property ID No.
1.	Amarkant Pandey S/o Rajkishore Pandey R/o 6035, Chhipatwara Mohalla, Rewari and Mr. Satbir Singh S/o Umrao Singh R/o Vili: Maujabad, Teh: Palauli (Guarantor)	House 58 Sq Yards, 2 Marla, Musteel No: 106, Kila No 11(8-0), Total 8 Kanal Ka 2/180 Part, Old Vaskia No 2855 dated 23/07/2014, Arjun Nagar, Rewari, Distt: Rewari	Rs. 1994829/- as on 20/11/2020	Rs. 1215000/-	Rs. 121500/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50340862124
2.	(1) Mrs Shri Baiji Polymers through Prop. Smt. Meenu Goyal W/o Sh. Pawan Goyal (1). Address:-H.No.2143,HUDA, Sector -14,Hisar-125001 Address 2:Plot no. 62, Sector 27,28,Industrial Area,Hisar-125001, Guarantor:- Smt. Kamla Devi W/o Rajender Prasad R/o H no 24-C,Agarwal Colony, Near Arya Kanya	All part and parcel of a plot no. 42 and house constructed thereupon area measuring 389.44 sq. Yards (0K-12M being 1/6 share out of total land 03K-12M), comprised in khewat no. 243/231, Khatuni no. 378, bearing khasra no. 230/19(2/3-12)situated at Aggarwal Colony,near Arya Kanya Collage,Uklana Mendi,Hisar in the name of Smt. Kamla Devi W/o Sh. Rajender, and bounded by North : Property of Rajender Kumar, South : Plot no. 41, East : Property of Sh. Parmod, West: Road	Rs.84,13,915 as on 01/05/2018	Rs. 43,60,000/-	Rs. 4,36,000/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50362051439
3.	Sh. Brijesh s/o Sh. Rajender Singh, House No. 350/16, Sainik Colony, Hissar Road, Rohtak-124001 Co- borrower Mrs. Luxmi Devi w/o Rajender Singh, House No. 350/16, Sainik Colony, Rohtak-124001 Guarantor Sh. Rajender Singh, H. No. 1231-D Sainik Colony, Hissar Road, Rohtak-124001	Equitable mortgage of residential House in the name of Smt. Luxmi measuring 119.25 sq. yds comprised in min Jamia Khewat no. 2 min/2, 180,182, Khatoni No. 2 min, Kila No. 33/6 Mouja Kutana, Sainik Colony, Rohtak	Rs.11,26,743/- as on 31.10.2017	Rs. 20,00,000/-	Rs. 2,00,000/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB6161005365
4.	1. M/s Dimax Batteries through Proprietor Mr. Shyam Lal Sharma S/o Sh. Murali Lal(Borrower/ mortgagor) Address:- Tractor Market, Rasulpur Chowk, Tehsil & Distt. Palwal-121102 2. Sh. Shyam Lal Sharma S/o Sh. Murali Lal Sharma(Borrower/Mortgagor) 3. Smt. Rekha Sharma W/o Sh. Shyam Lal Sharma (Guarantor/Mortgagor) Both are resident of Address: C/o Khajan Singh, Arjunagar, Near Hanuman Mandir, Palwal-121102	Residential Plot measuring 175 Sq yards comprising in Rect no. 158 Kila No. 18(8-0) total land measuring 08 Kanal 0 Marla to the extent of 06/160th share which comes to be 06 marlas (i.e. 175 sq yards) situated at Paras Ram Colony(Nagar), Near Sohna Road, WNo-25, Palwal.	Rs. 7,21,976 as on 06/12/2019	Rs. 8,50,000/-	Rs. 85,000/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50198461791
5.	M/s Fatre and Sons Prop. Sh. Sajjan Singh S/o Sh. Anokh Singh Address: M/s Fatre and Sons, VPO Sardeshi, Tehsil Barara, Distt. Ambala (Borrower), Sh. Sajjan Singh S/o Sh. Anokh Singh R/o VPO Sarawan, Distt. Yamuna Nagar (Guarantor), Sh. Gurwinder Singh S/o Sh. Hantyal Singh R/o VPO Sarawan, Distt. Yamuna Nagar.	Property measuring 13 marla which is 13/82 share of 04K 02M bearing Khewat No. 99/5/2 owned by Sh. Gurwinder Singh S/o Sh. Haroyal Singh situated at VPO Sarawan, Distt. Yamuna Nagar. The property is duly registered with registered sale deed no. 616 dated 29.08.2016 in the office of Sub Registrar Sadhaura.	Rs. 26,07,715/- as on 04.01.2019	Rs. 17,00,000/-	Rs. 1,70,000/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50351611281A
6.	M/s Fatre and Sons Prop. Sh. Sajjan Singh S/o Sh. Anokh Singh Address: M/s Fatre and Sons, VPO Sardeshi, Tehsil Barara, Distt. Ambala (Borrower), Sh. Sajjan Singh S/o Sh. Anokh Singh R/o VPO Sarawan, Distt. Yamuna Nagar (Guarantor), Sh. Gurwinder Singh S/o Sh. Hantyal Singh R/o VPO Sarawan, Distt. Yamuna Nagar.	Property measuring 01 kanal which is 1/6 share of 06K 00M bearing Khewat No. 575 kateni No 683, khasra No 83/8/1 owned by Sh. Sajjan Singh S/o Sh. Anokh Singh situated at VPO Sarawan, Distt. Yamuna Nagar. The property is duly registered with registered sale deed no. 616 dated 29.08.2016 in the office of Sub Registrar Sadhaura.	Rs. 26,07,715/- as on 04.01.2019	Rs. 8,00,000/-	Rs. 80,000/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50351611281B
7.	1. M/s Khushboo Electronics and Electricals Proprietor Sh. Sanjay S/o Sh. Param Lal Address: H.No. 832, Ward No. 2, Kalash Nagar, Alawalpur Road, Palwal, Tehsil & Distt. Palwal-121102, Haryana 2. Sh. Sanjay S/o Sh. Param Lal (Borrower/Mortgagor) 3. Sh. Param Lal S/o Sh. Natholi (Guarantor) both are resident of H.No. 832, Ward No. 2, Kalash Nagar, Alawalpur Road, Palwal, Tehsil & Distt. Palwal-121102, Haryana.	Residential building measuring 100 Sq yards- constructed on land measuring 3/65th share of a residential plot comprising Khewat/Khata no. 139/155, muslki no. 65, kila no. 26(32-13) total measuring 32 Kanal 13 Marla, in which share of applicant comes 3 marla situated at kalash nagar, ward No. 2 within municipal limit of District-Palwal.	Rs. 615696/- as on 25/06/2019	Rs. 20,00,000/-	Rs. 2,00,000/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB20648346013
8.	M/s Kisan Dairy Farm VPO Kalwa Teh Saldon Distt Jind Through its Proprietor Mr.Salmarain S/o Dal Singh R/o Village Kalwa Teh Saldon Distt. Jind and Mr Sunder Pal (Guarantor) S/o Ram Kumar R/o VPO Kalwa Teh saldon Distt Jind(Hr) and Smt Kusum Devi (Guarantor) W/o Satbir Singh R/o VPO Piliu Khara Teh saldon Distt Jind(Hr)	Residential House Situated at Khewat no 47,khatta no 100,Khasra no 389/7/35 Min(0-5),village Bhuran Kalwa Road Piliu Khara Distt Jind measuring 163.33 scyds owned by Kusam Lalw/o Satbir singh vide Sale Deed no 1353 dated 18/12/2009 Boundries as North- P/o of vidya Bharti Public School, South- P/o of Laxmi Narayan, East:- Gali(24'6"), West:- other Plot	Rs. 6081360/- as on 20.02.2014	Rs. 13,48,000/-	Rs. 1,34,800/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50128872001A
9.	1. Mr. Pawan Bhatia S/o Fateh Chand R/o H. No. 140, Gali No. 08, Rajeev Colony, Karnal – 132001 (Haryana) (Borrower) 2. Mrs. Pooja W/o Pawan Bhatia R/o H.no. 140, Gali no.08 , Rajeev Colony, Karnal –132001 (Haryana) (Co-Borrower) 3.Mr.Vikramjeet Singh S/o Sewa Singh R/o H. No.147, Gali No. 8, Rajeev Colony, Karnal –132001 (Haryana) (Guarantor)	Residential House vide Property ID 161C481U29, Rajiv Colony, Karnal measuring 80.00 Sq yards in the name of Mrs. Pooja w/o Mr. Pawan Kumar S/o Mr. Fateh Chand vide sale deed No. 10113 dated 25.01.2018	Rs. 18,99,897/- (as on 12.01.2021)	Rs. 12,50,000.00	Rs. 1,25,000.00	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB6601079011
10.	M/s Ravi Poultry VPO Nidana Teh Distt Jind Through its Proprietor Mr.Surender Singh S/o Rajbir Singh R/o VPO Nidana Teh Distt Jind and Mr Mahinder Singh (Guarantor) S/o Chhatar Singh R/o VPO Nidana Teh Distt Jind)	Equitable mortgage of single storey residential house no 100/1 ALIG housing board colony jind owned by sumender singh s/o Rajbir singh vide sale deed no 6471 dated 11/03/2013 in sub registrar office jindBoundries as North- h no 100/4 A, South- Road, East- h no 100/1 B, West - hno 100/1	Rs. 5059706/- (as on 28.08.2014)	Rs. 13,00,000/-	Rs. 1,30,000/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50161624831
11.	M/s Ravinder singh Poultry VPO Gossain Khara Teh Julana Distt Jind Through its Proprietor Mr.Ravinder Singh S/o Baljeet Singh R/o Village Gossain Khara Teh Julana Distt Jind and Mr Lalit Kumar (Guarantor) S/o Attar Singh R/o Hno 715/716, ward no 16 Teh And Distt Jind(Hr) and Mr Kapil Dev (Guarantor) S/o Attar Singh R/o Hno 715/716, ward no 16 Teh And Distt Jind(Hr) and Baljeet Singh S/o Balwant Singh R/o Village Gossain Khara Teh Julana Distt Jind.	Residential h no 714/715 Opp kisan sahayata kender ward no 16 gali no 1 ,shiv colony near bus stand MC jind measuring 225 sq yd sale deed no 4662 dt 7/11/2012 & 127 dated 9.04.2004 Boundries as North- P/o of Dilbagh, South- P/o of salbir, East- Street, West - Hanuman mandir	Rs. 7353021.75/- (as on 28.08.2017)	Rs. 26,90,000/-	Rs. 2,69,000/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50140342977A
12.	Sh. Rinku Kumar s/o Sh Bindsesar Singh, House No. 335/1, Sainik Colony, Hissar Road, Rohtak-124001 Guarantor Smt. Anita Kumari w/o Guru Dutt, H. No. 365/A-1 Sainik Colony, Hissar Road, Rohtak-124001	Equitable mortgage of residential House situated at Khewat No. 4/2 min Khatoni No. 9. Kila No. 33/7 Moza Kutana, Sainik Colony, Rohtak measuring 67.50 sq yards favoring Sh Rinku Kumar s/o Bindsesar Singh bearing sale deed No. 4982 dt 20/09/2000, Bahi No. 1 Jld No. 681, PageNo. 44	Rs. 5,17,172/- as on 31.12.2017	Rs. 11,50,000/-	Rs. 1,15,000/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB6220006984
13.	Mr. Ram Chander S/o. Sh. Ram Ji Lal, R/o. H.No. 992, Gali No. 1, Khanoni Road, Pattli/Agan, Distt. Kathal-136027 (Borrower), Kamal Kumar S/o. Sh. Ram Chander, R/o. H.No. 992, Gali No. 1, Khanoni Road, Pattli/Agan, Distt. Kathal-136027 (Borrower)	Property in the name of Mr. Ram Chander S/o. Sh. Ram Ji Lal measuring 125 Square Yards having H.No. 992, situated at Gali No. 1, Khanoni Road comprised in Khewat No. 419/407, Khatoni No. 492, Rect. No. 184 situated at pattli Agan, Malik Nagar, Kathal bounder as under.	Rs. 8,30,775/- (as on 07/03/2017)	Rs. 720000.00/-	Rs. 720000.00/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50306753343
14.	M/s. Chandravati W/o. Sh. Vedpal, R/o. C/o. Kissan Aata Chakkii, Chandana Gate Road, opposite Dayanand Colony, Kathal-136027 (Borrower), Mr. Vedpal S/o. Sh. Jile Singh, R/o. C/o. Kissan Aata Chakkii, Chandana Gate Road, opposite Dayanand Colony, Kathal-136027 (Borrower)	Property in the name of Mrs. Chandravati measuring 170 Square Yards bearing MCK No 266/10(old) ID No 48C 145U3 as per copy of assessment for the year 2013-14 issued by executive officer MC Kathal situated at Rabarian Mohalla, old abadi inside municipal limit of Kathal	Rs. 20,60,155/- (as on 09.09.2019)	Rs. 7200000.00	Rs. 720000.00	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50186546793
15.	M/s. Haryana Automobiles (Proprietor Sh. Chandni Ram S/o. Sh. Jagar Singh, Address Near Krishna Library, Opposite Hanuman Vallika, Karnal Road, Kathal-136027 (Borrower). Mr. Chandni Ram S/o. Sh. Jagar Singh, R/o. H.No. 113, VPO Kailram, Mahala Partt, Tehsil Kalayat, Distt. Kathal-136027 (Borrower), Ms. Anjejo Devi W/o. Sh. Kamal Singh, R/o. H.No. 859/27, Gali No. 7, Scheme No 6-B, Colony Dera Khara, Kalyan Nagar (Shanti Nagar), Near Jat College, Thanesar-136119 (Guarantor) (Name and address of the borrower/guarantor).	Property measuring 133.33 Sq. Yard. I.e. 4.5 Marla being 4.5/1131 share out of total land measuring 56K-11M in the name of Smt. Anjejo Devi W/o. Sh. Kamal Singh situated at Dera Khara, Kalyan Nagar Colony (Shanti Nagar) (as per TP scheme No. 6-B), Tehsil Thanesar, Distt. Kurukshetra, Khewat No. 107, Khatoni No. 126, Murabba No. 33, Khasra No. 1(8-0), 2(2(3-7), 9(8-0), 10(8-0), 11/1(3-4), 12/1(3-16), Murabba No. 34, Khasra No. 5(7-8), 6(7-8), 15(7-8) kila 9 vide Registered Sale Deed No. 4354/1 dated 18.09.2007 duly registered in the office of Sub-Registrar Thanesar read with mutation no. 4780 situated within M.C.	Rs. 20,52,949/- (as on 04/10/2019)	Rs. 3720000.00	Rs. 372000.00	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50366107090
16.	Harjinder Singh(Borrower), Amarjeet Singh(Guarantor)	House measuring 877 Sq Yard situated at BUTA Colony, Niesing in the name of Smt.Amarjeet Singh	Rs. 5232160.00 as on 22/05/2018	Rs. 5388,000/-	Rs. 5,38,000/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50243394165
17.	1. Mr. Kamal Singh S/o Narata Ram (Borrower) R/o House no 620/87 Shalimar Vihar, Ambala city. 2.Mrs Ruchi Nawani W/o Sanjiv Kumar (Guarantor) R/o H No 66 Durga Nagar Ambala City.	EM of Residential House no 164 (western Part) , Heera Nagar, Ambala City Measuring 97 Sq Yds with in Municipal Limit Ambala in the name of MrKamali Singh	Rs. 13,43,469/- (as on 05/09/2018)	Rs. 6,50,000.00	Rs. 65,000.00	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB6522126301
18.	Mr. Sanjiv Pal Kumar S/o Kanail Singh (Borrower)R/o House No. 45,East Durga Nagar Ambala City and Mrs. Ruchi Nawani W/o Sanjiv Pal Kumar(Guarantor) R/o House No 45 Durga Nagar Ambala City.	House No 164 East Part, Heera Nagar , Ambala City Measuring 97 Sq Feet within municipal limit Ambala in the name of MR.Sanjiv Pal Kumar vide Sale deed no 318 dated 21/04/2017 registered at the office of sub registrar Ambala	Rs. 13,89,832/- (as on 03.09.2018)	Rs. 6,50,000/-	Rs. 65,000/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB6522154909
19.	M/S UMASHANKAR ENTERPRISES	Land Measuring 7 Marla Khewat No 465/448 Khatoni No 607 Khasra No 1769/20(6-18) i.e. 7/138th share of land measuring 6 Kanal 18 Marla in the name of Smt Meena wife of Sh.Surender Singh Land shuted in Bhiwani Jangal Near Haluwas Gate Bhiwani sale deed registered with office of Sub Registrar Bhiwani vide no 10452 dated 25/01/2007	Rs. 3417729/- (as on 09/09/2018)	Rs. 1135000/-	Rs. 113500/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50231486266A
20.	M/S UMASHANKAR ENTERPRISES	Land measuring 3.3 Marla comprised in Khewat no 766/0737 and Khatoni no 835 and bearing Khasra no 450/1(5-18) 450/3(2-4) i.e. 10/480th share of land measuring 8 kanal situated at Near baba Jahargiri Basti Near Overbridge and Haluwas gate Bhiwani jangal sale deed no 1945 dated 7/08/2010 which belongs to Janki Devi W/O Shram Pal	Rs. 3417729/- (as on 09/09/2018)	Rs. 632000/-	Rs. 63200/-	Rs. 10000/-	IDIB50231486266B
Bidders are advised to visit the website (www.mstcecommerce.com) of our e auction service provider MSTC Ltd to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance Please call MSTC HELPDESK No. 033-22901004 and other help line numbers available in service providers help desk.							
For Registration status with MSTC Ltd, please contact ibapiop@mstcecommerce.com and for EMD status please contact ibapifin@mstcecommerce.com . For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions please visit: https://ibapi.in and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact help line number "18001025026" and "011-41106131". Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with https://ibapi.in and www.mstcecommerce.com .							
Place: Karnal		Date:- 13.01.2021	The Authorised Officer (Indian Bank)				

TOP OF THE WORLD



Lisa Montgomery

USA

Federal govt executes first woman in nearly seven decades

THE US government executed convicted murderer Lisa Montgomery, the only woman on federal death row, on Wednesday, after the Supreme Court cleared the last hurdle by overturning a stay. Montgomery, who was administered a lethal injection, was the first female prisoner to be executed in by the US government since 1953. Challenges were fought across multiple federal courts on whether to allow the execution of Montgomery, 52. She was convicted in 2007 of kidnapping and strangling Bobbie Jo Stinnett, then eight months pregnant. Montgomery cut Stinnett's fetus from the womb. The child survived. **REUTERS**

SRI LANKA

Court acquits lawmaker in Tamil leader murder case

A FORMER LTTE child soldier-turned-politician was acquitted by a court in Sri Lanka on Wednesday in the 2005 murder case of a senior ethnic Tamil lawmaker at the height of the country's bloody civil war. Sivanesathurai Chandrakanthan, 45, was accused of killing Tamil National Alliance (TNA) lawmaker Joseph Pararajasingham. Batticaloa High Court Judge S Susaidasan ordered the dismissal of the case filed against Chandrakanthan alias Pillayan who had earlier been released on bail, media reported. **PTI**

UGANDA

Social media banned ahead of election

UGANDA BANNED social media and beefed up security in the capital on Tuesday, two days ahead of a presidential election pitting Yoweri Museveni, one of Africa's longest-serving leaders, against opposition frontrunner Bobi Wine, a popular singer. Campaigning ahead of the vote has been marred by brutal crackdowns on opposition rallies that have left scores dead and the repeated intimidation and arrest of some opposition candidates and campaign staff. **REUTERS**

TOP REPUBLICAN LEADERS IN CONGRESS DRIFT FURTHER AWAY FROM PRESIDENT

Trump on verge of second impeachment

House votes to formally call on V-P to remove President, Pence rejects idea

NICHOLAS FANDOS & CHRIS CAMERON
JANUARY 13

THE US House of Representatives set itself on a course to impeach President Donald Trump on Wednesday for a historic second time, planning to vote to charge him just one week after he incited a mob of loyalists to storm the Capitol and stop Congress from affirming President-elect Joe Biden's victory in the November election.

Returning to a heavily fortified Capitol, protected by thousands of National Guard troops, lawmakers began what was expected to be a daylong debate on an article of impeachment that accuses the President of "inciting an insurrection" that led to the rampage by his supporters.

The final vote after the debate is expected to pass, with a small but significant number of Republicans joining Democrats to impeach Trump, making him the first President to be impeached twice. The chamber had dispensed with two earlier, procedural votes just after noon and planned two additional hours of debate.

The House had voted Tuesday night to formally call on Vice President Mike Pence to use the 25th Amendment to strip Trump of his powers. Wednesday's impeachment proceedings come after Pence told Speaker Nancy Pelosi that he would not invoke the 25th Amendment.

After years of standing monolithically beside Trump, Republicans were fracturing over the vote. Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader, has embraced the effort as a means to purge Trump from the party, according to people who have spoken to him, and at least five House Republicans, including the No. 3



Lawmakers accuse Trump of "inciting an insurrection"

LAWMAKERS SPAR OVER IMPEACHMENT

For years we have been asked to turn a blind eye to the criminality, corruption and blatant disregard to the rule of law by the tyrant president we have in the White House. We as a nation can no longer look away."

— ILHAN OMAR

DEMOCRAT FROM MINNESOTA

At his rally, President Trump urged attendees to, 'peacefully and patriotically make your voices heard.' There was no mention of violence, let alone calls to action."

— GUY RESCHENTHALER

REPUBLICAN FROM PENNSYLVANIA

House Republican Liz Cheney, planned to vote to impeach. Representative Kevin McCarthy of California, the top Republican in the House, said he would not lobby members of the party to oppose the impeachment effort. **NYT**

Speaker Nancy Pelosi walks through a new metal detector outside the House chamber, which was installed after a mob of Trump supporters stormed the building last week. **Reuters**

FBI says it warned of prospect of violence ahead of Capitol riot

MICHAEL BALSAMO & ERIC TUCKER
WASHINGTON, JANUARY 13

THE FBI warned law enforcement agencies ahead of last week's breach of the US Capitol about the potential for extremist-driven violence, US officials said, contradicting earlier statements that they were caught off guard by the assault by supporters of US President Donald Trump.

Nearly a week after the riot, officials said they were combing through mountains of evidence and vowed to aggressively seek out those who perpetrated the brazen attack on the US Capitol. Though most of the charges brought so far have been misdemeanors, acting US Attorney Michael Sherwin said Tuesday the Justice Department was considering bringing sedition charges against some of the riot-

EXPLAINED
Raising more questions

SOON AFTER the Jan 6 storming of the Capitol, various security agencies denied having any information about potential violence. However, in the past few days, multiple officials have suggested that such intelligence did exist, raising questions about why action was not taken to prevent the attack on the building that houses the US Congress. Angry lawmakers are likely to take up this issue soon after the impeachment and inauguration, if not even sooner.

ers, effectively accusing them of attempting to overthrow or defeat the government.



Alexei Navalny

Navalny to fly to Russia on Sunday despite risks

Moscow: Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny said on Wednesday he would fly back to Russia on January 17 from Germany where he has been recovering after being poisoned, shrugging off potential legal risks that could see him jailed.

Navalny, one of President Vladimir Putin's leading critics, was airlifted to Germany for treatment in August after collapsing on a plane in what Germany and other Western nations say was an attempt to murder him with a Novichok nerve agent. Russian authorities deny any involvement in the incident.

"It was never a question of whether to return or not. Simply because I never left. I ended up in Germany after arriving in an intensive care box for one reason: they tried to kill me," Navalny wrote on Instagram. **REUTERS**

Disappointing Chinese vaccine results a setback for many nations

Brazil says CoronaVac has an efficacy rate just over 50%

SUI-LEE WEE & ERNESTO LONDOÑO
JANUARY 13

SCIENTISTS IN Brazil have downgraded the efficacy of a Chinese coronavirus vaccine that they hailed as a major triumph last week, diminishing hopes for a shot that could be quickly produced and easily distributed to help the developing world.

Officials at the Butantan Institute in São Paulo said Tuesday that a trial conducted in Brazil showed the CoronaVac vaccine, manufactured by the Beijing-based company Sinovac, had an efficacy rate just over 50 per cent. That rate, slightly above the benchmark the WHO has said would make a vaccine effective for general use, was far below the 78 per cent level announced last week.

The implications could be significant for a vaccine that is crucial to China's global health diplomacy. At least 10 countries have ordered more than 380 million doses of the Sinovac inoculation, CoronaVac.

TOP MILITARY LEADERS CONDEMN CAPITOL RIOT

Washington: The US military's Joint Chiefs of Staff, the unified leaders of the military branches, on Tuesday put out a rare message to service members saying the violent riots last week were an assault on America's constitutional process and against the law. "The rights of freedom of speech and assembly do not give anyone the right to resort to violence, sedition and insurrection," the seven generals and one admiral said in an internal memo to troops. They affirmed that Joe Biden will be inaugurated on Jan 20. **REUTERS**

YOUTUBE SUSPENDS PRESIDENT'S CHANNEL

Oakland: YouTube said on Tuesday that it had suspended President Trump's channel over concern about "ongoing potential for violence," in the latest move by one of the large tech companies to limit the President online. In a tweet on YouTube's official account, the Google-owned video site said it had suspended Trump's account after one of his recent videos violated its policy banning content that spreads misinformation about election fraud. **NYT**

LUXEMBOURG, EU SNUB POMPEO: DIPLOMATS

Brussels: US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo cancelled his Europe trip at the last minute on Tuesday after Luxembourg's foreign minister and top European Union officials declined to meet with him, diplomats familiar with the matter said. The snub of the top US diplomat came days after Trump supporters stormed the US Capitol. Pompeo, a close ally of Trump, had sought to meet a Luxembourg minister before meeting EU leaders and the bloc's top diplomat in Brussels, officials said. **REUTERS**

Indonesian President Joko Widodo received a shot of the CoronaVac vaccine on Wednesday. **AP**

BANGLADESH FIRM TO BUY FROM SERUM INSTITUTE

BANGLADESH'S BEXIMCO Pharmaceuticals will buy up to 3 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine from Serum Institute of India at about \$8 each for sale on the private market, Beximco's chief operating officer told Reuters. The COO, Rabbar Reza, said that was about twice the price of around \$4 that Beximco

had agreed for separate supplies of 5 million doses a month, over the first half of the year, for the Bangladesh government's subsidised mass-vaccination programme. Serum Institute will begin deliveries of the shot later this month, both those for state and private use, Reza told Reuters on Tuesday. **REUTERS**

Indonesia, for example, has ordered 125.5 million CoronaVac doses. The country has reported nearly 850,000 coronavirus cases and nearly 25,000 deaths, the

highest numbers in Southeast Asia. On Wednesday, its President, Joko Widodo, was injected with CoronaVac, kicking off a national vaccination programme. **NYT**

NORTH KOREA'S RULING WORKERS' PARTY CONGRESS ENDS

Demoted? Pushed aside? Fate of Kim Jong Un's sister unclear

HYUNG-JIN KIM
SEOUL, JANUARY 13

WHAT HAS happened to Kim Yo Jong, the North Korean leader's influential sister?

That is a question many who watch the cloistered, nuclear-armed country are wondering after she failed to appear in absolute leader Kim Jong Un's newly released lineup for the country's powerful Politburo in recent days.

Some say Kim Jong Un may have demoted his sister over general policy failures. Others, however, believe he could be worried about her rapid rise and increasingly high profile as he

tries to bolster his domestic authority in the face of growing economic challenges.

Rumours that Kim Yo Jong is her brother's heir apparent could be dangerous because they "raise the issue of Kim's hold on power and health inside North Korea," said Oh Gyeong-seob, an analyst at Seoul's Korea Institute for National Unification. This, he said, is why Kim Jong Un is slowing down her rise in power.

The development is a surprise because Kim Yo Jong, who became an alternate member of the Politburo last year, was widely expected to receive a full bureau membership during a ruling Workers' Party congress



Kim Yo Jong

that ended Tuesday. A Politburo membership is viewed as crucial for high-level officials hoping to thrive in Kim Jong Un's govern-

ment because he's made key decisions at bureau meetings, including the 2013 move to execute his powerful uncle Jang

Song Taek, and the 2012 purge of military chief Ri Yong Ho.

When the eight-day congress, the first of its kind since 2016, opened last week, Kim Yo Jong, who is thought to be about 32, sat on the leadership podium, standing out amid the often elderly, overwhelmingly male party cadres. But when the congress on Monday announced a list of 30 alternate and full members of the Politburo, including the 37-year-old Kim Jong Un, her name wasn't there.

Kim Yo Jong hasn't been purged or forced to quit politics, a fate that some officials have met under Kim Jong Un, and she still retains her membership in the

party's Central Committee, also a high-level body. But when she released a statement criticising South Korea on Wednesday, state media identified her as a "vice department director" of the party, a lower rank than her previous title of "first vice department director".

Kim Jong Un is urging his 25 million people to rally behind his leadership to overcome what he has called his nation's "worst-ever" difficulties. North Korea has faced coronavirus-related economic shocks, a spate of natural disasters last summer and persistent sanctions over its pursuit of nuclear weapons. During the congress, Kim vowed to expand his nuclear arsenal. **AP**

Judges seek recusal as major Italian mafia trial kicks off

YARA NARDI & GABRIELE PILERI
LAMEZIA TERME, JANUARY 13

ONE OF Italy's largest-ever mafia trials kicked off on Wednesday with more than 330 suspected mobsters and their associates facing an array of charges, including extortion, drug trafficking and theft.

The case targets the 'Ndrangheta clan, which is based in Calabria, the toe of Italy's boot, and is considered by prosecutors to be the most powerful mafia group in the country, easily eclipsing the more famous Cosa Nostra gang in Sicily.

The trial is being held in a converted call-centre in the Calabrian city of Lamezia Terme,

with metal cages installed for the defendants and rows of desks set up for the hundreds of lawyers, prosecutors and spectators expected to attend.

But the initial hearing hit an immediate snag after the three judges assigned to the case asked to be recused, saying they had been involved in earlier aspects of the investigation.

Their request will be reviewed by a separate court, which will delay proceedings for several days, lawyers said.

Many of the accused are white-collar workers, including lawyers, accountants, business people, local politicians and policemen, who chief prosecutor Nicola Gratteri says willingly aided the 'Ndrangheta in building its crime empire. **REUTERS**



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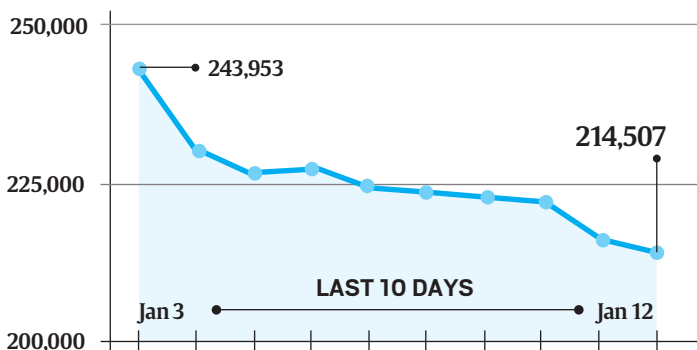
#ExpressExplained

If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

INDIA ACTIVE CASES

214,507


INDIA TOTAL CASES
10,495,147

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, updated at 11 pm on Jan 13

WORLD TOTAL CASES
91,838,572

Source: Johns Hopkins University, updated at 11 pm on Jan 13

More effective ‘nanobodies’ to fight novel coronavirus



US President Donald Trump removes his mask after returning to the White House at the end of his treatment for Covid-19 in October. The ‘nanobodies’ can be more useful than the classic antibodies that were used to treat Trump, the researchers say. *The New York Times Archive*

AN INTERNATIONAL research team led by the University of Bonn has identified and further developed novel antibody fragments against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19. These “nanobodies” are much smaller than classic antibodies (which were used to treat United States President Donald Trump, for example) — and they, therefore, penetrate the tissue better and can be produced more easily in larger quantities, the university said in a media release.

The researchers at University Hospital Bonn have also combined the nanobodies into potentially particularly effective molecules, which attack different parts of the virus simultaneously.

The new approach could prevent the pathogen from evading the active agent through mutations, the university said. The results have been published in the journal *Science*. (‘Structure-guided multivalent nanobodies block SARS-CoV-2 infection and suppress mutational escape’; Paul-Albert Koenig et al.)

Antibodies are an important weapon in the immune system’s defense against infections. They bind to the surface structures of bacteria or viruses and prevent their replication. One strategy in the fight against disease is therefore to produce effective antibodies in large quantities and inject them into patients.

However, producing antibodies is difficult and time-consuming; they are, therefore, probably not suitable for widespread use.

The researchers instead focussed on another group of molecules, the nanobodies. “Nanobodies are antibody fragments that are so simple that they can be produced by bacteria or yeast, which is less expensive,” the university quoted study co-author Dr Florian Schmidt as saying.

“We first injected a surface protein of the coronavirus into an alpaca and llama,” Dr Schmidt said. “Their immune system then produces mainly antibodies directed against this virus. In addition to complex normal antibodies, llamas and alpacas also produce a simpler antibody variant that can serve as the basis for nanobodies.”

A few weeks later, the researchers took a blood sample from the animals, from which they extracted the genetic information of produced antibodies. This “library” still contained millions of different construction plans. In a complex process, they extracted those that recognise an important structure on the surface of the coronavirus, the spike protein. “Altogether we obtained dozens of nanobodies, which we then analyzed further,” the media release quoted study co-author Dr Paul-Albert Koenig as saying.

Source: University of Bonn


SANDEEP SINGH
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

IN A move that will help investors to make a more informed investment decision, capital markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has made it mandatory for mutual funds to assign a risk level to schemes, based on certain parameters.

SEBI’s decision on the “risk-o-meter”, which it announced on October 5, 2020, came into effect on January 1. In its circular issued on October 5, the regulator made it mandatory for mutual fund houses to characterise the risk level of their schemes on a six-stage scale from “Low” to “Very High”.

How will the risk-o-meter work?

As per the October 5 circular, all mutual funds shall, beginning January 1, assign a risk level to their schemes at the time of launch, based on the scheme’s characteristics.

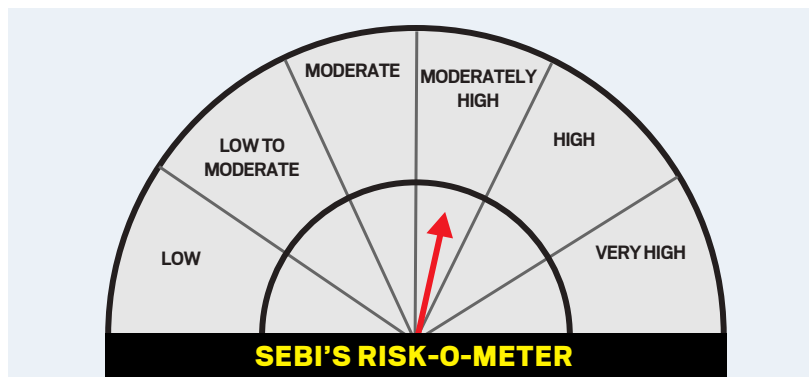
The risk-o-meter must be evaluated on a monthly basis. Fund houses are required to disclose the risk-o-meter risk level along with the portfolio disclosure for all their schemes on their own websites as well as the website of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) within 10 days of the close of each month.

Any change in the risk-o-meter reading with regard to a scheme shall be communicated to the unit-holders of that scheme, SEBI has said.

How is this different from the older category risk level?

There has been a kind of risk-o-meter for mutual funds since 2015; however, the schemes simply showed the risk level of the category that they belonged to. They did not reflect the riskiness of individual schemes and their respective portfolios.

Therefore, all large cap schemes — or any other category of schemes — across fund houses, carried the same risk level (one of five risk levels) that was assigned by SEBI to



ASSIGNING RISK LEVEL

The ‘risk-o-meter’ value will be mapped to the risk level of schemes, based on their portfolio of investments.

Source: SEBI

RISK VALUE

≤ 1
>1 to ≤ 2
>2 to ≤ 3
>3 to ≤ 4
>4 to ≤ 5
>5

RISK LEVEL AS PER RISK-O-METER

Low
Low to Moderate
Moderate
Moderately High
High
Very High

the category to which they belonged.

This has changed with effect from January 1 this year. Fund houses must now assign a risk level out of six available levels — the “Very High” category is new — after calculating their risk value from their respective portfolios.

Since the risk value and risk levels would be arrived at after taking into account critical parameters such as credit risk, interest rate risk, and liquidity risk in case of a debt scheme, and parameters such as market capitalisation, volatility, and impact cost in case of an equity scheme, industry experts feel that the risk-o-meter will now provide a more objective assessment of the riskiness of a particular scheme to potential investors.

Many feel that the earlier category risk-o-meter was in a way misleading — the category risk-o-meter had no connection with

the schemes, and two schemes of two different fund houses in the same category would reflect the same risk level, even though they had very different portfolios and riskiness profiles.

Now, if in the same category, one scheme is generating a higher return than others, investors will be able to figure out if it is, in fact, taking a higher risk than others for generating these superior returns. In effect, this adds another layer of information to make an investment decision.

How will the level of risk be assigned?

Which one of the six risk levels — low, low to moderate, moderate, moderately high, high, and very high — would apply, would depend upon the risk value (less than 1 for low risk to more than 5 for very high risk) calculated for the scheme. So if the risk value of

What is Parler, now-muted right wing platform?

SHRUTIDHAPOLA
 CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 13

PARLER, A social network popular with conservatives in the United States, has gone offline after it was booted out of Apple’s App Store and Google’s Play Store, and denied hosting services by Amazon Web Services (AWS) following the violence at the US Capitol in Washington DC.

What’s Parler’s link to the events of January 6, and why have the big tech companies taken such strong action against this social network that is relatively unknown outside of the US?

An alternative to Twitter

Parler is a micro-blogging social network, similar to Twitter. Users see all posts from everyone they follow in reverse chronological order. But unlike Twitter, Parler does not recommend content to users.

Parler claims it does not collect user data for privacy reasons. It does not allow cross-posting to other platforms — so users can’t share their Parler post to Facebook or Twitter, although they do post screenshots to other platforms.

Parler is believed to have around 10 million users globally and 8 million in the US, according to data by Sensor Tower analytics.

Favoured by Trump’s base

Over the past couple of years, the platform has become a favourite of the American far right, supporters of President Donald Trump, and those who believe in QAnon conspiracy theories. After he was kicked out of



A Trump supporter holds a sign saying “Follow me on Parler” at a rally in support of the President after he lost his re-election bid. Parler pitches itself as a “free speech” alternative to Twitter and Facebook. *The New York Times Archive*

Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, Trump had indicated he would move to a new platform, and Parler was seen as the likely candidate.

Parler pitches itself as “neutral”, and in favour of free speech as enshrined in the US constitution, with no restrictions of any kind. After the Capitol Hill violence, many posts called for mass executions of “left traitors” — Parler did not remove such content. The platform’s user base has jumped in recent months, spiking especially in the run-up to the November elections.

Nevada-headquartered Parler launched in 2018, co-founded by John Matze Jr and Jared Thomson. It has another powerful backer: investor and co-founder Rebekah

Mercer, whose link to Parler was first reported by the *Wall Street Journal* (WSJ).

Mercer is the daughter of the billionaire hedge-fund investor Robert Mercer. The Mercer family has contributed heavily to Trump’s campaigns in the past. Matze told the WSJ that Mercer’s backing to Parler “was dependent on the platform allowing users to control what they see”.

Action by Apple and Google

On January 8, two days after the Capitol violence, Apple and Google removed Parler from their app stores. Both companies had asked it to step up moderation and remove content which had glorified the violence. But

Parler had refused.

In a statement, Google said, “We recognise that there can be reasonable debate about content policies and that it can be difficult for apps to immediately remove all violative content, but...we do require that apps implement robust moderation for egregious content.”

Apple said: “We have always supported diverse points of view...on the App Store, but there is no place on our platform for threats of violence and illegal activity. Parler has not taken adequate measures to address the proliferation of these threats to people’s safety. We have suspended Parler from the App Store until they resolve these issues.”

Kicked out by Amazon

On Sunday, Amazon’s cloud hosting service AWS removed Parler, effectively rendering it out of service. AWS said Parler had violated its terms of service by allowing content that incited violence.

According to BuzzFeed News, which first reported this, an AWS Trust and Safety Team warned Parler about the repeated calls for violence, again a violation of its policies. The email read, “Recently, we’ve seen a steady increase in this violent content on your website, all of which violates our terms. It’s clear that Parler does not have an effective process to comply with the AWS terms of service.”

In response, Parler sued Amazon for violation of contract, and called the ban politically motivated. It is considering moving to Epik, a domain registrar known for hosting far-right extremist content. A platform called Gab on Epik pitches itself as a “free speech” platform, but is packed with extremist content.

Why a razing in Jaffna recalls Sri Lanka’s unaddressed Tamil question

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN
 MUMBAI, JANUARY 13

The demolition on Friday night of a memorial on the Jaffna University campus in northern Sri Lanka to remember Tamil civilians killed during the LTTE’s last stand against the Sri Lankan Army in 2009, has brought attention to simmering, unaddressed issues of post-war ethnic reconciliation, justice and accountability, as well as a political resolution of the Tamil question.

The demolition triggered protests by Sri Lanka’s Tamil community in the North and East, and condemnation by Tamil diasporas and human rights groups, and politicians in election-bound Tamil Nadu, including Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami and DMK chief M K Stalin.

Following outrage and a hunger strike by students on campus, Vice-Chancellor S Srisathkunarajah visited the site on Monday

and promised to rebuild the memorial.

The demolition took place a few hours after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar left Colombo after a three-day visit, during which he impressed upon his hosts the need to get on with ethnic reconciliation and a political settlement to the Tamil question.

Memorial(s) on campus

The demolished memorial, built in 2019, was a sculpture of several hands rising out of water (right), representing people who were killed in Mullivaikkal village in Mullaitivu district on Sri Lanka’s north-east coast in May 2009. Tens of thousands had gathered on the narrow strip of land between the sea and a lagoon after the Sri Lankan Army declared it a ‘No Fire Zone’ — however, as the last battles were fought, thousands rushed into the water to escape falling shells. Some 40,000 were killed, the UN estimated.

For many years, Sri Lanka resisted attempts by the Tamil community for group



remembrance. In 2018, the Jaffna University Students Union began a campaign to erect a memorial on campus in memory of the civilians killed in the 2009 battles. They wanted the memorial next to an existing memorial to the *mahaveerar* or martyrs — which the university opposed.

In May 2019, the memorial came up overnight, next to the Mahaveerar memorial. It had been sculpted by the students. The Mahaveerar memorial itself has existed on campus for nearly 25 years. Although there

is no specific reference to the Tigers on it, Mahaveerar recalls the LTTE because the militants had made it a practice to celebrate Mahaveerar Day every year on November 27, the day they first lost a cadre in 1982.

A third memorial on campus dates to 2002, when, during a ceasefire between the LTTE and the government, the Tigers organised mass Tamil rallies, at which participants swore allegiance to the goal of Eelam. For 17 years there was only a plaque; a permanent memorial came up in 2019.

University during conflict

Jaffna University was founded in 1974. Rajan Hoole, professor of mathematics there for many years, has written that several of its faculty had Marxist leanings, until the LTTE began silencing all dissent from 1986 onward. The Tigers also occupied parts of the campus as their operational headquarters.

Jaffna University was the site of the IPKF’s para helidrop on the night of October

11, 1987, an operation that went horribly wrong — 29 soldiers were killed and one was taken hostage — and gave the LTTE its first big win over the Indian Army.

In the post-2009 phase, the university’s student body has been at the forefront of the Tamil demand for the remembrance of those killed in the brutal take-no-prisoners ending to the war.

Memory vs Erasure

In Sri Lanka, through the war and afterward, who gets to remember and who may not, have been contentious and divisive issues. After last week’s incident in Jaffna, it was pointed out that the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP), which led two major insurrections in southern Sri Lanka and whose cadres were drawn from the Sinhalese majority, was allowed to mourn its dead through memorials, but not the Tamils.

After the war, the Sri Lankan army built several war memorials in Mullaitivu dis-

trict, which the Tamil people saw as another kind of assault on them. Since 2015, Tamils have gathered every year on May 18 at the beach strip in Mullivaikkal. There are two memorials there: a pair of hands rising towards the sky from a plinth; and a man carrying a wounded or dead woman, with a child next to him. Civilians attending the May 18 gatherings have been called in for questioning, the Sri Lankan citizen journalism website *Groundviews* has reported.

The Sri Lankan government has persistently refused to address the events of 2009. The government of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa has informed the UN Human Rights Council that it will no longer be party to the commitments made by the previous government to address these issues under resolution 40/1. Its commitments as a co-sponsor of the resolution end this year.

Read a longer version of this explainer on www.indianexpress.com

Classifieds

PERSONAL		
I,Thyagarajan C S/O Chelladurai, R/O 219, St Marys Road, Alwarpet, Teynampet, Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600018 have changed the name of my minor Daughter Raea Sree aged about 2 Years and She shall hereafter be known as Dhiyasree. 0070727100-1	I,No.4191580Y HAV Beer Bahadur Yadav,S/o-Satydeo Yadav,R/O-Rousada Ballia, Bilthra Road,RS,U.P.-221715,inform that,In my service records,my wife name has wrongly written as Kausalya Devi instead of Kaushalaya Devi. 0040560142-4	I,Surya Deo Singh S/o Jaynarayan Singh,R/O-1117 Ward.No.15, OM-Enclave Part-2,Near-Angwanpur-Village Faridabad Amar-Nagar,Haryana-121003, changed my name to Surya Dev Singh. 0040560122-4
I,Sunil S/o Dinanath R/O,H.No-514,UGF, Niti Khand-2, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad,have changed my name to Sunil Goyal. 0040560142-9	I,Meghalli Kansal W/O Ajay Goel R/O B-945/1, First-Floor, Shastri-Nagar,Delhi-110052,Have Changed My Name To Meghalli Kansal Goel Permanently. 0040560122-1	I,Sunil Anand,R/O Flatno.237,Sunehri Bagh Apartments,Sector-13,Rohini,Delhi-110085,changed My Child Name Vansh Anand To Vansh Anand. 0040560142-7
I,Suman Devi Spouse Of No-7241092x,Rank Dffr(La Vet),Name Anil Kumar Yadav,Resident Of 5/14,Basantra Line Sadar,Delhi Cantt.-10,Have Changed My Name From Suman Devi To Suman Yadav Vide Affidavit,Date-11.01.2021,Before Sdm,Delhi Cantt.,Jam Nagar,House New Delhi-11. 0040560142-3	I,Mamta Rani W/O-Sunil Kumar Juneja R/O-H.No-N-111,Narayan Nagar,Gali-No-3, Laxmi Nagar,Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Kavita Juneja. 0040560120-2	I,SUMI SANDEEP,w/o Mr.Sandeep S,R/O Annapoorna, Nanthiattukkunnam, N Paravoor,Ernakulam Distt,Kerala-683513,have changed my name,from SUMI SANDEEP to SUMI J PRAKASH,vide-affidavit,date-13-1-2020. 0040560120-3
I,Ruchi W/O Rajesh Kumar Verma R/O J-44 1st Floor Kirti-Nagar Delhi-110015, Have Changed My Name From Ruchi To Ruchi Verma,For All Future Purposes. 0040560125-5	I,Harveen Kaur,D/O Balwant Singh R/O-A-89 Ganesh Nagar Tilak Nagar Delhi-110018,Have Changed My Name From Harveen Kaur To Harveen Kaur Kapoor For All Purposes. 0040560125-4	I,Ranajay Kumar S/O Arjun Ram,R/O Village-Kusa Bijja, Kusabija, Gaya, Dobhi, Bihar-824201 have changed the name of my minor Daughter Kumari Nisha Rani aged about 17 Years and She shall hereafter be known as Nisha Singh. 0070727111-1
I,Ramya Ramachandren W/O Mathiyalagan, R/O B- 226, Sector-46, P.o.- Sector-37, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh- 201303, have changed the name of my minor Daughter Aathira Chandha Mathi Mathiyalagan aged about 9 Years and She shall hereafter be known as Aathira Chandha Ramachandren. 0070727142-1	I,Debosree Sinha,W/O Nitin Kumar Sinha,R/O R.K Sinha Road Bolpur Cinematla, Distt.Birbhum west Bengal-731204, have changed my name,from Debsree Sinha to Debsree Mukherjee,vide-affaditv date-11-1-21. 0040560125-8	I,Rahul Kumar S/O Vishram Singh Meena,R/O Tundpura, Bharatpur, Rajasthan- 321408 have changed the name of my minor Daughter Khanak aged about 3 Years and She shall hereafter be known as Anaaya. 0070727124-1
I,Sushma W/o-Manoj Kumar Gupta,D/o Sadhu Ram,R/O 205,New Swastik Apartment Sector-9,Rohini Delhi-110085,have changed my name to Sushma Aggarwal. 0040560142-8	I,Prince S/o Pratap Biswas R/O-H.No.491,23 Mohan Nagar Near water Tank Jhajjar road Bahadurgarh Distt.Jhajjar Haryana changed my name to Prince Biswas. 0040560120-1	I,Poonam/Poonam yadav,w/o Dinesh Yadav R/o Ranga mohalla, Sarhauil, sector-18,Gurgaon,have changed my name to Punam Yadav. 0040560122-5
I,Poonam Verma,W/o Shankh Sengupta,R/O D-137 Gamma-I, Greater-Noida, Gautam Budh-Nagar, Uttar Pradesh- 201308,have Changed Name my name to Poonam Sengupta, for all Purposes. 0040560122-7	I,Pallavi Chaudhary,W/O Jay Ambavat R/O B-7,Sushant Lok, Phase-2, Sector-56, Gurgaon,Haryana-122011, after-marriage,have changed my name to Pallavi Ambavat, for all future purposes. 0040560125-6	I,Parkash Puri S/O-Hira Nand Puri R/O-H No 305,Ramthalli, Kaitolh, Haryana,244412 have changed my name to Rattan Puri. 0040560120-4
I Monika D/O, Vinod Kumar Gupta R/O V-1499, Street No. 3, Vijay Park, Majupur, Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Monika Gupta for all purposes 0040560117-1	I,Jyoti Koushal D/o Late Raj Kumar Koushal R/O G-6/81, Third Floor, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi-110089 have changed my name to Afsana for all purposes. 0040560096-7	

I ,Sabir Ali S/o Saukat Ali R/o Barharwa Mahanad, Bakarpur Jagat, East Champaran, Bihar-854313, declare that name of my father & mother and my wife has been wrongly written as Md Shaukat Ali & Fatma Bibi and Mazda Khatoun in my Passport No- K7174958, That name of my father has been wrongly written as Md Shaukat Ali in my all Educational Documents. The actual name of my Father & my mother and my wife are Saukat Ali & Fatima Khatoun and Majada Khatoun, which may be amended accordingly. 0070727136-1	I ,Praveen Kumar K Alias Praveen Kumar K S/O Krishnan, R/O /233, 1ST Ward Mariamman Koiil St, Harur PO&TK Dharmapuri DT- 636903, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Praveen Kumar Krishnan. 0070727126-1	I ,Pratima Sarkar D/O Sunil Parul, W/O Pradip Sarkar R/O Sri rampur Road, Nabadwip, Malanchapara Chandra Colony, Nabadwip, Nadia, Nabadwip, West Bengal, 741302, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Pratima Parul. 0070727116-1
I ,Ramya Ramachandren W/O Mathiyalagan, R/O B- 226, Sector- 46, P.o.- Sector-37, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh- 201303, have changed the name of my minor Daughter Ashraya Girvani Mathi aged about 13 Years and She shall hereafter be known as Ashraya Girvani Ramachandren. 0070727140-1	I ,Rajinder Kumar S/O Sedu Ram, R/O 5c-73rd floor, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005 have changed my name to Rajender Kumar 0050174063-1	I ,Prakash Chandra S/O Uma Shankar, R/O 64 Rampur Ganjara Raipalpur Kanpur Dehat Uttar Pradesh- 209307, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Prakash Chandra Bajpai. 0070727132-1
I ,Nishu Tripathi S/O Satish Chandra Tripathi, R/O 169 Jail Campous, Central Jail Shivpur, Varanasi, Varanasi Cantt, Uttar Pradesh- 221002, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Prince Tripathi. 0070727122-1	I ,Navaz A S/O Abdul Khadar Kunju, R/O 219/4 2nd Floor, 6th Main, Minhaj Nagar, Bangalore South, Bengaluru, Karnataka- 560078, Declare that Name of Mine and My Father has been wrongly changed as Vinoth Khunnaar B M and Mani in my Pan Card No-ALOPK8149D. The actual name of Mine and My Father are Navaz A and Abdul Khadar Kunju, which may be amended accordingly. 0070727107-1	I ,Monika Narang D/o.Shri Ram Prakash Narang,W/o Pankaj Gupta R/O-D-104, Amar Colony, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi-110024,have changed my name to Meenu Gupta after my Marriage,I,confirm that my actual,& correct date-of-birth is 12.02.1977 this is my correct statement. 0040560119-4
I ,Ayush S/O Birendra Kumar, R/O 402, Sarvadya Kamla Apartment, 32 A N Path, Near A N College, North S K Puri, Patliputra, Patna Bihar- 800013, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as AYUSH KASHYAP. 0070727113-1	I ,Anjali Kumari D/O Prem Kumar, R/O Sikta, Sikta, West Champaran, Sikta, Bihar-845307, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Roshani Kumarri. 0070727129-1	I ,Monika Chandwani D/O Balram Chandwani, W/O Sanjay Khilnani R/O F-104 Prakash Avenue 28/41 Veer Savarkar Nagar, Indore Pin- 452001, Madhya Pradesh. I have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Tanishqa Khilnani. 0070727098-1
I ,Anita Mahindru w/o-Arvind Kumar R/O Flat No- 261, Sanskriti Apartments, Sec-19B,Dwarka, New Delhi-110075, have changed my name to Anita Bhasin permanently. 0040560120-8	I hitherto known as ARUSHI GUPTA- Daughter of AJAY GUPTA residing at M-213, VIKASPURI, NEW DELHI-110018 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ARUUSHI GUPTA 0050174057-1	I ,Mishra Indira Sushil D/o Sushil Gopali Mishra W/O Ashesh Kumar Jha R/O Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Residential Complex Type 5 Quarters, Flat No- 10 Opposite Rohini West Metro Station Sector 6, Rohini Sector- 7 North West Delhi-110085, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known As Indira Jha. 0070727118-1
I ,Vishwa Nath S/O -Sh.Chhavi Lal R/O-B-43, B-Block,Harjan Basti, Sitapur, Dabri Mor, New Delhi- 45, have changed my Son's name Vashu to Viom for all purpose.That Vashu & Viom is the one and same person. 0040560103-1	I ,Misha D/O Louis Harry R/O. Flat No.442, Vikas Kunj, Vikaspuri, Tilaknagar West, Delhi-110018 have changed my name to Meenakshi Harry. 0040560090-1	I ,Mishra Indira Sushil D/o Sushil Gopali Mishra W/O Ashesh Kumar Jha R/O Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Residential Complex Type 5 Quarters, Flat No- 10 Opposite Rohini West Metro Station Sector 6, Rohini Sector- 7 North West Delhi-110085, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known As Indira Jha. 0070727118-1
I ,Versha Shukla W/O. Satish Kumar Pandey, R/O Near South East Children Park, House No. 141, New Ag Co-Operative Colony, Kadru, Doranda, Ranchi, Jharkhand, 834002. Dob: 01/01/1974 Have Changed My Name From Versha Shukla To Varsha Pandey For All Purposes. 0070727093-1	I ,Usha Gupta W/o Sh. Sanjay Gupta R/O H.No.126-A, Gali No.5, Shankar Marg, Mandawali Fazalpur, East Delhi, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Usha Garg for all purposes. 0040560096-4	I ,Km.Vidndhyachali, W/O.Santosh Singh, Add-Plot.No-10,Gali.No- 19,Jeevan Nagar-2,Gauchhi Ballabgarh,Faridabad Haryana 121004,Changed My Name To Vindhyachali, Permanently. 0040560125-7
I ,Rajui alias Rajinder Singh S/O Sh. Sultan Singh R/O C-46/1, Gali No.2, Khajoori Khas, North East Delhi, Delhi-110094 have changed my name to Rajui for all purposes. 0040560096-2	I ,Rahul Dhingra S/O Sh.Anil Dhingra R/O 15/25, 2nd Floor, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-110060 have changed my name to Rahoul Dhingraa for all purposes. 0040560096-3	I ,Kamini W/O Karan Singh R/O H.No.1/10214A, Street.No.1, West Gorakhpark,Shahdara, Delhi-110032,have changed my name from Simmi to Kamini for all future Purposes. 0040560119-3
I ,Pravesh Kumar S/O Netrapal Singh,R/O Behind Navin Hospital, Bag Walan Dadri GautamBuddh Nagar,Have changed my name to Gautam Singh Yadav for all,future purposes. 0040560119-2	I ,Chandrabhan Jhapsi Dwivedi S/O ,Jhapsi Dwivedi R/O Village- Khirha, Post- Sirjam, District- Deoria (Uttar Pradesh) have changed my name to Chandrabhan Dwivedi for all purposes. 0040560115-1	I ,Anushka D/o Sh.Sanjay Kumar R/O 4132/2, Jagjiwan Niwas, Regar Pura, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005 have changed my name to Anushka Kumar for all purposes. 0040560096-5
I ,Yash Sharma S/O Deeraaj Sharma, R/O WZ- 78, Hari Singh Park, New Multan Nagar, Shakur Basti Depot North West Delhi- 110056, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Yashvasi Sharma. 0070727137-1	I ,Yashika Malhotra D/o Kishor Kumar, R/O E-16/922-23, F.F. Gali No- 3, Tank Road, Bapa Nagar, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005, have changed my name to Yashika, permanently 0040560109-1	I ,Anushka D/o Sh.Sanjay Kumar R/O 4132/2, Jagjiwan Niwas, Regar Pura, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005 have changed my name to Anushka Kumar for all purposes. 0040560096-5
I ,Yash Sharma S/O Deeraaj Sharma, R/O WZ- 78, Hari Singh Park, New Multan Nagar, Shakur Basti Depot North West Delhi- 110056, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Yashvasi Sharma. 0070727137-1	I ,Usha Devi W/o Ashok Kumar R/O B-1308, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-110052 have changed my name to Usha Dua. 0040560147-2	I ,Anushka D/o Sh.Sanjay Kumar R/O 4132/2, Jagjiwan Niwas, Regar Pura, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005 have changed my name to Anushka Kumar for all purposes. 0040560096-5
I ,Yash Sharma S/O Deeraaj Sharma, R/O WZ- 78, Hari Singh Park, New Multan Nagar, Shakur Basti Depot North West Delhi- 110056, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Yashvasi Sharma. 0070727137-1	I ,Suntro Bhaker D/O Vijay Singh, W/O Sunil Bhaker R/O Ward No-01, Bawani Khera, Bhiwani, Haryana- 127032, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as SULLEKHA SEN. 0070727119-1	I ,Tajender Singh Rathore,R/O SMQ 45/1 Old-Camp Vayu Sena Vatikas Air-Force Station Gurugram, Haryana-122001, have changed my minor son name Yudveer Singh Rathore to Yudhveer Singh Rathore,vide-affidavit,Date-12-1-2021. 0040560125-9
I ,Sangeeta W/O Sunil Goyal R/O,H.No-514,UGF, Niti-Khand-2, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad,have changed my name to Sangeeta Goyal. 0040560142-10	I ,Vivekanand Tripathy S/o.Late Gangadhar Tripathy R/O-668,Sector-12, R.K.Puram, New Delhi have change my minor son's name from Dipananda Tripathy to Deepanshu Tripathy 0040560119-1	I ,Ajender Singh Rathore,R/O SMQ 45/1 Old-Camp Vayu Sena Vatikas Air-Force Station Gurugram, Haryana-122001, have changed my minor son name Yudveer Singh Rathore to Yudhveer Singh Rathore,vide-affidavit,Date-12-1-2021. 0040560125-9

I ,Damyanti,W/o-Manoj Kumar,R/O-37-38-2nd-Floor,Flat No.12,West Vinod Nagar,Delhi-110092,have changed my name from Damyanti Devi to Damyanti,for all future purposes. 0040560142-6	I ,Shayara W/O Riyasat Choudhary R/O Kakkrala Khawaspur Phase-2, Sector-80, Noida, UP have changed my name to Sayra Bano. 0040560142-1
EDUCATIONAL	
National Central council of Vocational Training invited application for start Training and Study Centre www.ncvt.in Mob.7499647774/ 9823647194 0090280356-1	
LOST & FOUND	
I t is notified for the information that my Original Markings Sheet of Main, Senior Secondary Examination of Year 2020, Roll No.14700740 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Name of the candidate LUV KUMAR Address Army Public School, Delhi Cantt Mob No.9871089587 0010120914-1	
Lost my one of the original property chain documents including irrevocable GPA, agreement to sale, possession letter, receipt, will etc bearing Registration no-16577, Book no-4, Volume no-1718 dated 29-08-2005 SR-VIII Delhi. NCR is lodged vide LR no-32097/2021 dated 12-01-2021. Finder may send the same to Shanti upadhyay W/o lalhpata upadhyay R/O H No-82, FF Sarojini park gali no-1 shastri Nagar, delhi-110031. Mob.No-9999489416 0040560096-1	
Lost/Misplaced Original Share Certificate of Property at B-601 & B-602, Gitanjali Apartments, Vikas Marg, New Delhi-92. If found kindly contact at 8826847404. 0040560070-1	

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BIGGEST SHORTFALL IN DISINVESTMENT RECEIPTS EXPECTED THIS FISCAL

Lower divestment, spectrum auction receipts hit non-tax collection target

SUNNY VERMA, AASHISH ARYAN & ANANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

WITH JUST over a fortnight to go for next financial year's Budget, the government is expected to record a significant shortfall in estimated revenues for 2020-21 as the projected receipts from disinvestment and strategic stake sales are unlikely to materialise, while collections from other communication services are expected to be below targets.

Of the Rs 2.1 lakh crore of targeted disinvestment receipts for 2020-21, the government has, so far, raised only 6.6 per cent of the targeted amount or Rs 13,844.49 crore, as per the latest data available with the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM).

Nearly Rs 9,400 crore has been raised through offer for sale (OFS) of HAL and IRCTC, while the remaining amount has been through other OFS and buybacks by state-owned companies. While the crash in stock markets in March and a lockdown to deal

with Covid affected the government's stake sale plans, subsequent recovery in markets has not yielded much on the disinvestment front as yet.

Plans for strategic stake sales of Air India, BPCL, Container Corporation of India, Shipping Corporation of India will stretch into next year, as will the planned initial public offering of country's largest insurer Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), government officials have indicated. In the last seven years, the government has missed disinvestment collection targets in four years and thrice exceeded it.

The biggest shortfall in disinvestment receipts is expected this year. Anticipating some big ticket strategic sales and LIC IPO, the government had steeply raised the estimates to Rs 2.1 lakh crore in the current year, from Rs 65,000 crore in the previous year. For three years between 2016-17 and 2018-19, the government exceeded the BE targets for disinvestment. In 2015-16, the government collected Rs 23,997 crore through disinvestment as against BE of Rs 25,313 crore. The shortfall in 2014-15 was around Rs 2,000 crore from BE of

SHORTFALL CONCERNS

■ With a shortfall, the concern is of excess reliance on off-balance sheet borrowing through the internal and extra-Budgetary resources, which is deployed by the central public sector enterprises and departmental undertakings.

Rs 26,353 crore.

As regards the telecom sector, the government has pegged non-tax revenue of Rs 1.33 lakh crore from other communication services in 2020-21 Budget Estimates (BE), which is 126 per cent higher than Rs 58,989 crore in the 2019-20 Revised Estimates (RE). According to government definition, other communication services "mainly relate to the licence fees from fellow operators and receipts of the Wireless Planning and Coordination Organisation."

For the auctions that are scheduled to start on March 1, the government aims to sell 2,251.25 MHz

of spectrum across seven frequency bands at a reserve price of Rs 3.92 lakh crore. Industry experts, however, estimate that like the 2016 auctions, the actual receipts from the spectrum auction could be only about 10 per cent of the reserve price. Of the three private telcos, most research houses such as Morgan Stanley have in reports over the last week said that they do not expect "aggressive bidding" in these auctions.

"In our view, spectrum auction in India has turned into a buyer's market. We expect minimal competition with operators picking up spectrum that provides best value for money instead of focusing on renewing all their expiring spectrum," Kunal Vora, analyst with BNP Paribas' equities research team, said in a note last week.

In 2016, the government offered 2,354.55 MHz at a reserve price of Rs 5.60 lakh crore. It had managed to sell only 965 MHz — or about 40 per cent of the spectrum that was put up for sale — and the total value of bids received was just Rs 65,789 crore, which was roughly 10 per cent of the total ask of the government.

The government would meet

this shortfall in revenues via higher market borrowings that were announced earlier this year. Non-tax receipts form a crucial portion of revenues for the expenditure requirements of the central government. With a shortfall, the concern is of excess reliance on off-balance sheet borrowing through internal and extra-Budgetary resources (IEBR), which is deployed by central public sector enterprises and departmental undertakings.

In the last few years, the IEBR route has been increasingly used by the central government in order to finance even revenue expenditures such as the bills for Food Corporation of India (FCI) for procurement purposes. While earlier the amount of capital spending through IEBR used to be lesser than the gross budgetary support, since 2014-15, this trend has reversed, with capital spending by CPSUs exceeding the amounts budgeted for capital expenditure. For 2019-20, IEBR was estimated at Rs 71 lakh crore, 16.9 per cent higher than Rs 60.7 lakh crore raised in 2018-19. For 2020-21, the government has estimated it to come down by 5.3 per cent to Rs 6.72 lakh crore.

Amazon makes entry, Byju's eyes expansion: Ed-tech cos see boom amid pandemic

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

INTERNET GIANT Amazon became the latest entrant on Wednesday to India's booming education technology, or ed-tech, segment with the formal launch of Amazon Academy, a service for students to prepare for competitive entrance examinations. The development comes the same day Blackstone-backed Aakash Educational Services confirmed it was in talks with Byju's in an acquisition of the former for reportedly worth \$1 billion.

As a result of growth witnessed due to the Covid pandemic, India's education segment saw a record inflow of over \$2 billion during 2020 from private equity and venture capital (PEVC) firms, with majority being cornered by startups like Byju's, Unacademy, Vedantu, and Toppr. Analysts said interest in ed-tech firms has been mainly due to the pandemic, which forced schools and colleges to shut down and prompted people to upgrade skills.

In a statement, Amazon India said its online preparation offering will equip students with in-depth knowledge and practice routines required for the JEE, through curated learning material, live lectures and comprehensive assessments in math, physics and chemistry. The e-commerce giant had already marked an entry to IIT-JEE coaching space with a limited launch of JEE Ready app in 2019, which allowed candidates to test their preparedness for JEE Mains.

Globally, in 2013, Amazon had acquired TenMarks Education — a California-based provider of web-based solutions for teachers and parents to deliver mathemat-

\$2 BILLION INFLOW DURING 2020

■ As a result of the growth witnessed due to the pandemic, India's education segment saw a record inflow of over \$2 billion during 2020

ics curriculum to students. It later shut down TenMarks and absorbed some of its employees in various roles across the company.

"Amazon Academy will offer students a range of JEE preparatory resources at launch, including specially crafted mock tests by industry experts, over 15,000 handpicked questions with hints and detailed step by step solutions for practice. The mock tests include chapter tests, part tests, and full tests that simulate the JEE pattern, helping students manage exam preparedness at their own pace," Amazon said. As per information on Amazon Academy's website, all content is available for free, "for the next few months".

Other large internet firms including Google have placed bets on India's education sector. Last July, Google said it has partnered with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to deliver a "blended learning experience" across 22,000 schools. It also, through its VC fund Capital G, invested in Bengaluru-based ed-tech firm Cuemath last month.

In the same month, Facebook, too, tied up with CBSE to launch a certified curriculum on digital safety and online well-being. Earlier in February, Facebook had participated in the series E fund-

ing round of Unacademy.

For startups like Unacademy and Byju's, acquisitions of smaller firms has been a key strategy to expand their presence. In the test-prep segment itself, Unacademy made six acquisitions last year, with the last one being NeoStencil, a test prep startup. In July 2020, it also acquired Prepladder, a post-graduate medical entrance exam preparation platform.

Meanwhile, Byju's is looking at acquiring Aakash Educational Services (AESL), which operates more than 200 tutoring centres in the country — indicating the potential for a hybrid model combining digital and physical presence. Byju's did not respond to a mail seeking comments on the deal.

In a statement, AESL said it is "Aakash Educational Services Limited is in talks with Byju's for building a strong partnership. The Chaudhry family and Founders, Mr JC Chaudhry & Mr Aakash Chaudhry remain committed and will continue to run Aakash Educational Services along with its management team with the same passion and commitment".

"Putting these speculations to rest, we would like to state that AESL is on a mission to build India's largest digitally-enabled, omni-channel education company. We will accelerate our digital transformation and deliver phenomenal value to our students. We will rapidly expand our omni channel & digital offerings, as we embark on the next trajectory of quality education & growth," it added.

With this acquisition, Byju's would surpass itself in making the biggest deal in the ed-tech segment, leaving behind its acquisition of online coding platform WhiteHat Jr for \$300 million last year.

Sebi bans TV anchor for fraudulent trading

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JANUARY 13

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on Wednesday banned CNBC Awaaz show host Hemant Ghai, his wife and his mother from the capital market for alleged fraudulent trading practices. It also directed Ghai to cease and desist from undertaking any activity related to giving investment advice, publishing of research reports related to the securities market, till further directions.

The markets regulator has also directed him to impound the proceeds of Rs 2.95 crore generated by fraudulent trades. In an interim order issued Wednesday, Sebi said Ghai had advance information about the recommendation to be made on the show 'Stock 20-20', co-hosted by him, and that he directly or indirectly used it to his advantage. The show features recommendations on certain stocks.

The Network18 group, which runs CNBC Awaaz, in a statement said it has terminated Ghai with immediate effect. The regulator found that Ghai, along with his wife Jaya Hemant Ghai and mother Shyam Mohini Ghai, employed a scheme to conduct fraudulent or unfair trading based on

The regulator found that Hemant Ghai, his wife and mother, conducted unfair trading from information pertaining to recommendations to be made on his show Stock 20-20

the advance information pertaining to recommendations to be made on Stock 20-20.

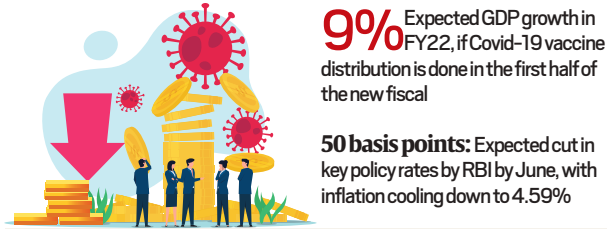
During analysis of the trading account of Ghai's wife and mother between January 1, 2019, and May 31, 2020, high correlation of their trades was seen with the stocks recommended in the show, which generated Rs 2.95 crore.

Sebi found that shares were consistently purchased in the account one day prior to the day of recommendation on the show. To capture significant benefits from the price movement caused by the recommendations, they then sold their shares as soon as the market opened on the day of the recommendation and consequently, earned profits and perpetrated a fraud upon the market, Sebi said.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

'Vaccine distribution delay may clip FY22 GDP growth at 6%

Delaying the Covid-19 vaccine distribution to the second half of 2021-22 (October-March) could limit the GDP growth for FY22 at just 6%, BofA Securities said



Multiple factors to drive growth: Growth will be driven by a demographic dividend which will be driving investment, rising financial maturity and emergence of mass markets

5% Expected fiscal deficit, in terms of percentage of GDP, for FY22

6.7% Contraction in GDP expected for FY21, against the government's estimate of 7.7 per cent contraction

Third biggest economy in next decade: From a growth perspective, according to the Bank of America Securities, India will be the third biggest economy in the world in the next decade

Source: BofA Securities/PTI

What are new rules for flying to the US?

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

THE US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has expanded the requirement for a negative Covid test to all passengers flying into the country's borders. This follows a similar move by the UK government requiring all international arrivals to England, including UK nationals, required to present a negative test, taken up to 72 hours prior to departure.

What are the new US norms? Effective January 26, flyers are

required to get a test done within the three days before their flight to the US departs, and provide written documentation of their laboratory test result (paper or electronic copy) to the airline. Airlines have been asked to confirm the negative test result for all flyers. If a passenger does not provide the necessary documentation, or chooses not to take a test, the airline must deny boarding to the passenger.

What are exemptions for providing a negative Covid test

certificate when travelling to the US?

If a passenger had tested Covid positive in the past 3 months and can produce a letter from a doctor clearing them for travel, it can serve as a "documentation of recovery". In case someone can produce a documentation of recovery, they do not need to produce a negative certificate.

However, in case neither of the documents are produced, the airline can deny boarding.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JANUARY 13

THE RBI has decided to allow urban co-operative banks (UCBs) to refund the value of the share capital to their members.

"It has been decided in the interim to permit UCBs which maintain CRAR of 9 per cent or above to refund the value of share capital to their members or nominees or heirs of deceased members on demand," the RBI said in a circular to UCBs. The Banking Regulation Act prohibits withdrawal or reduction in share capital by UCBs unless the RBI specifies the extent up to which and the conditions subject to which such withdrawal or re-

"It has been decided in the interim to permit UCBs which maintain CRAR of 9 per cent or above to refund the value of share capital to their members or nominees or heirs of deceased members on demand"

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

duction may take place, RBI said. Union Road Transport & Highways and MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari had said there will be no forced privatisation of co-operative banks in order to bolster the co-operative sector.

Addressing the Loksatta Urban Co-operative Banking e-conclave

on January 7, Gadkari said as a representative of the Centre and also as a representative of the people, he would act as a bridge between the co-operative banks in Maharashtra and the Finance Ministry, RBI, NABARD and the state government. Gadkari had said co-operative banks must compete with private banks to make an impression on lawmakers in Delhi. Gadkari added while privatisation of co-operative banks has been discussed since 1996, neither the central government nor the RBI has ever forcefully imposed it on the banks. Parliament passed amendments to the Banking Regulation Act in September 2020, bringing co-operative banks under the RBI's supervision.



CHENNAI AIRPORT TO GET A MAKEOVER

At a cost of Rs 2,467 crore, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) is modernising the Chennai airport. In the first stage, the existing domestic terminal will be dismantled and a new facility will be constructed, scheduled for commissioning by June. The second stage will see demolishing of the international terminal and construction of a new one by December 2022. Credit: AAI

BRIEFLY

FY21: Coal India revises capex

New Delhi: Coal India has scaled up capital expenditure (capex) budget for FY21 by an additional Rs 3,000 crore, revising it to Rs 13,000 crore.

Irdai advisory on Covid treatment

New Delhi: Irdai advised general and health insurers to have agreements with health providers on rates for treatment of Covid-19 on the lines of other diseases. PTI

HC seeks Future Retail stand on Amazon plea

PRESSTRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 13

THE DELHI High Court Wednesday sought response of Kishore Biyani-led Future Retail Ltd (FRL) on Amazon's plea challenging the prima facie observations by a single judge that the US e-commerce giant's attempt to control the Indian entity was violative of FEMA and FDI rules.

A bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh issued notice to FRL, Future Coupons Pvt Ltd, Reliance Retail and the Biyanis seeking their stand on the plea by

Amazon against the observations made by the single judge in a December 21, 2020 interim order.

The US firm, represented by senior advocate Gopal Subramaniam, has contended that the observations are inconsistent with the findings in the SIAC emergency arbitral order of October 25. Senior advocate Harish Salve, appearing for FRL, told the court, "We have serious objections to the appeal. It is misconceived. We will file our reply as a lot of things have been said (in the appeal) to which we have to respond." The court then listed the matter for hearing on February 12.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
TRICHY (H) NABARD AND RURAL ROADS, CIRCLE
TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No.30/2020-21/SDO/Dated : 11.01.2021
For and on behalf of Governor of Tamilnadu Percentage Tender will be received by the Superintending Engineer (H) NABARD & Rural Roads, Circle, Trichy for Upgradation of Panchayat / Panchayat Union Roads works **Package No.94 to 110** in respect of Trichy (H) NABARD & Rural Roads Division upto **14.00** hours on **16.02.2021** through online only.
Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from **22.01.2021** onwards in the Government website <http://tntenders.gov.in> If any changes / Corrections etc in the tender, it will be published on the above website only.
Superintending Engineer (H),
NABARD and Rural Roads Circle, Trichy.
DIPR/234/TENDER/2021


GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
TRICHY (H) NABARD AND RURAL ROADS CIRCLE
TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No. 29/2020-2021/SDO/Dated:08.01.2021
For and on behalf of Governor of Tamilnadu percentage tender will be received by the Superintending Engineer (H) NABARD and Rural Roads Circle Trichy for **Upgradation of Panchayat / Panchayat Union Road works Package No.90 to 93** in respect of **Pudukottai (H), NABARD & Rural Roads Division** upto **14.00 hours on 15.02.2021** through online only.
Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from **22.01.2021** onwards in the Government website <http://tntenders.gov.in> If any changes / Corrections etc in the tender, it will be published on the above website only.
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (H)
NABARD AND RURAL ROADS, TRICHY
DIPR/233/TENDER/2021

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
TRICHY (H) NABARD AND RURAL ROADS, CIRCLE
TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No.31/2020-21/SDO/Dated : 12.01.2021
For and on behalf of Governor of Tamilnadu Percentage Tender will be received by the Superintending Engineer (H) NABARD & Rural Roads, Circle, Trichy for Upgradation of Panchayat / Panchayat Union Roads works (**Five works**) in respect of **Nagapattinam & Madurai (H) NABARD & Rural Roads Divisions** & Upgradation of Panchayat / Panchayat Union Road works 2019-20 / (**Two Works**) in respect of **Pudukottai (H) NABARD & Rural Roads Division** upto **14.00** hours on **17.02.2021** through online only.
Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from **25.01.2021** onwards in the Government website <http://tntenders.gov.in> If any changes / Corrections etc in the tender, it will be published on the above website only.
Superintending Engineer (H),
NABARD and Rural Roads Circle, Trichy.
DIPR/235/TENDER/2021

TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
INVITATION OF BIDS-TWO COVER-ITEMWATER TENDER SYSTEM (SHORT TERM TENDER)

IFB No :	32/F.Outilved CWSS to KKK/SDO(T3)/CE/CBE/2021/Dated : 12.01.2021.	
Name of Work :	Outilved CWSS to Kalingium TP, Kolappalur TP and Kunnathur TP and 95 other rural habitations in Gobi, Nambiyur, Perundurai and Uthukkuzhi union of Erode and Thiruppur District (Construction period : 9 months, Trial Run : 6 month and Free Maintenance : 6 months)	
Approximate value of work	Rs.16.50 Crore	
Bid Security :	Rs.12,38,000/-	
Eligible class	Class-I	
Tender Invitee	The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, No.30, Siruvani Nagar, Bharathi park Road, Coimbatore - 641 043.	
Sale of Bid & Place of sale	From 18.01.2021 to 01.02.2021 at O/o, the Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Maintenance Division, No.71, Poonkudranar Street, Karungal Palayam, Erode - 638 003 by cash or Demand Draft on any Scheduled/ Nationalized bank payable at Erode for Rs. 1050/- each by post Rs. 500/- additional (each).	
Downloading	www.tenders.tn.gov.in and www.twadboard.tn.gov.in . (free of cost)	
1.	Date and time of Pre bid meeting	25.01.2021 at 12.00 Noon
2.	Last date and time of downloading bid documents	01.02.2021 upto 05.45 PM
3.	Last date and time for receipt of bid document	03.02.2021 upto 03.00 PM
4.	Date and time for opening of Technical bid	03.02.2021 at 04.30 PM
DIPR/ 253 /TENDER/2021	Chief Engineer (i/c), TWAD Board, Coimbatore.	

SAVE WATER, CONSERVE WATER. EVERY DROP COUNTS



BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division,
Hesaraghatta Main Road, Bengaluru - 560 073.

No:BBMP/EE/DD/Ten/27-2021 Date: 13.01.2021

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

(Two Tender Document System) - KW3

(Through **GOK e-Procurement Portal** only)


The Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP invites tenders on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP, Bengaluru from eligible Tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (₹. in Lakhs)
1.	Improvements to Drains at Main and Cross Roads of Shambhavi Nagara and DM Public School Surrounding Area in Ward No-70-Call-2	100.00	2.00
2.	Improvements and Re-asphalting to 3rd Cross from Ramalah Badavane Main Road to SWD and Its Connecting Cross Roads at GKW Layout and 1st Cross, 2nd Cross, 1st A Cross at Shambhavi Nagara in Ward No-70- Call-2	95.00	1.90
3.	Construction of CC Drain at Northern Side of Sai Sumukha Apartment Road GKW Layout in Ward No-70-Call-2	100.00	2.00
4.	Improvements and Re-asphalting to 15th Cross, 4th Cross from GKW Layout Circle to park and its Surrounding Roads in GKW Layout in Ward no -70 - Call-2.	60.00	1.20


Calendar of Events : (1) Tender documents may be downloaded in the e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka from **16.01.2021**. (2) Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before **25.01.2021** upto **4:00 pm**. (3) Pre-Bid for 2 Cover Tender Meeting will be held on **20.01.2021** at **11:00 am** in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Dasarahalli Zone, BBMP. (4) Technical Bids will be opened in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP on **27.01.2021** at **4:00 pm**. (5) Financial Bids will be opened in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP on **28.01.2021** at **4:00 pm**. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Dasarahalli Division


COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE



Wear Mask



6 Feet
Follow Physical Distancing



Maintain Hand Hygiene

19 SPORT

BRIEFLY

Azharuddeen hits 54-ball 137 to blow away Mumbai

Mumbai: In a Group E game of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, Kerala rode on opener Mohammed Azharuddeen's whirlwind unbeaten 137 off 54 balls to beat Mumbai by 8 wickets as they comfortably chased a stiff target of 197 in just



15.5 overs. Azharuddeen hammered nine fours and eleven sixes, and completed his 100 in 37 balls. He tore apart an experienced Mumbai attack at the Wankhede stadium and got able support from Robin Uthappa (33) and one-down Sanju Samson (22). Meanwhile, Delhi recorded their second straight win in the tournament after beating Andhra Pradesh by six wickets in an Elite Group E game, on Wednesday. Put into bat at the Wankhede Stadium, Andhra were restricted to 124/9 in their 20 overs, as Delhi bowlers led by left-arm pacer Pradeep Sangwan (3/33), put up an impressive show.

BREIF SCORES: Mumbai 196/7 (Aditya Tare 42, Yashasvi Jaiswal 40; K M Asif 3/25) lost to Kerala 201/2 (Mohammed Azharuddeen 137 not out; Shams Mulani 1/41) by 8 wickets. BREIF SCORES: Andhra Pradesh 124/9 (Ashwin Hebbur 32; PSangwan 3/33, Ishant Sharma 2/17, Simarjeet Singh 2/21) lost to Delhi 128/4 (Anuj Rawat 33; Himmat Singh 32 not out; Reddy 2/40) by six wickets.

Man Utd beat Burnley to go atop EPL table

London: Paul Pogba sent Manchester United to the top of the Premier League by scoring with a deflected volley in a 1-0 win at Burnley. United came into the match at Turf Moor knowing at least a point would move the team into first place for the first time at this stage of the season since Alex Ferguson was in charge of the title-winning 2012-13 side. Pogba met a cross from Marcus Rashford with a first-time effort from the edge of the box that deflected off Burnley defender Matt Lowton and through the legs of goalkeeper Nick Pope in the 71st.

Langer blames IPL scheduling for injuries

Sydney: Australia coach Justin Langer questioned the timing of the last year's edition, which he believes could have been a contributing factor in the injury setbacks that both his and the Indian team have endured in the ongoing series. "It is really interesting how many injuries (it) has been throughout this summer. I can't help and think that the IPL this year (2020) was in really, probably wasn't ideal timing for anyone, certainly for such a big series like this," Langer said at a virtual press conference. ... "the timing of it...because of what happened with COVID...probably wasn't ideal."

AGENCIES

Wanted to get my daughters involved too in the moment. They went, 'Did we win?'



PRITHI NARAYANAN

Sydney Test hero Ravichandran Ashwin's wife shares the experience of watching the final day's play from her hotel room, along with their two daughters

AADHYA, MY four-and-a-half-year-old daughter, was particularly nosy that morning. She had seen Ashwin writhing in pain and piped up "Put leave, appa!"

"Why go to the office in pain, when you can chill at home?!" was her thought and that brought some smiles. Even I started to tease Ash. "Ask for a snack break in two hours and come back – like kids do at school" and Ash went, "Overaaa Oturrey! (You are pulling my leg a bit too much!). Until then, it had been a tense morning. Over the years, I have seen him handle pain and know he has a high threshold for it, but I had never seen him like this. He was crawling on the floor. He couldn't get up or bend down. I couldn't imagine how he was going to play and the snack-break comment was said only in half-jest. As he was about to leave, he said, "I have to play. I have to get this done."

The first signs of trouble had come the earlier evening, at the end of the fourth day's play. I had seen him on television in some sort of pain a couple of times. When he walks into the room, he usually has just a few minutes before he rushes to the physio or masseur table and then meetings, if any, and comes back late. "Are you fine, physically?" I asked him and he shot back, "Didn't you see me bowl?!" and said he felt he had a tweak in the back that was beginning to hurt. He felt during warm-ups that morning that he stepped awkwardly and did something to his back.

It had slowly begun to act up as the day progressed. He went to the physio. Ashwin was wracking in pain, and I knew other players too were injured. The match was still alive, and I was wondering how these guys were going to do it. As family members, our emotions are wired differently – we see them at close quarters, pain and emotion and the abnormal desire to compete and win is something I have tried to get used to, but I don't think I will ever be able to understand it completely.

Paralysing pain

On match nights, because of the hyper-active kids – Akhira five-and-a-half, and Aadhy – I tend to sleep in a separate room with them so that he can get some rest. By the time I woke up in the morning, his pain was really bad. "I had to crawl to the physio room," he said. Luckily, that was the next room. He couldn't bend, straighten, or get up after sitting. I was shocked. I had not seen



him like this before. 'What are you going to do? How can you bat?' I asked. "I don't know. I will figure out. Just let me get to the ground," he replied. That's when Aadhya cracked her 'put leave, appa' comment. If only. Even after he left us, to be frank, I was half-expecting a call in a couple of hours from someone in the team that he had been taken to hospital for scans.

I didn't go to the ground that day as it's not easy in these bio-bubble times. Unlike fans, because we are with the players, our bubble works differently. I would have to walk inside the arena, beside the boundary line, to get to my seat. I had gone on Day 3 but didn't want to go in the middle of the final day's play. I was in the room and for the first time, gave unrestricted screen-time access

to the kids. Told them to go into the other room and watch whatever they want. Sometimes, because of the kids, I tend to tune out of the match, my attention drifting in and out, but I was clear that I wanted to watch this day's play without any interruptions.

I could see Ashwin standing in the dressing room corridor or pacing up and down on television. I knew it must be because he feared if he sat down, he couldn't get up. That racked up my worries a bit. 'So, he isn't better. Haven't the painkillers kicked in yet? Why can't they be more effective?' – such thoughts flitted through my head. In between, the kids' food had to be arranged, to check if they weren't squabbling. For the most part, though, I was plunked in front of the television the whole day.



Ravichandran Ashwin batted for 42.2 overs along with Hanuma Vihari to eke out a draw in Sydney.

I would never forget the surreal moment when Ashwin walked into the room that evening. We laughed, we cried, we laughed. We didn't know how to react. And we howled. It wasn't an euphoric cry – that was after the Melbourne win in the second Test. That had a different feel.

When Ashwin was walking out to bat in pain, I was thinking 'How these guys do what they do, only they know'.

After a scientific trial-and-error method over the years, I have worked out a sentiment that I think works when Ashwin is batting! I don't watch him until he has reached 23-25 runs. I tend to check scores online. If I am at the ground, I can't help it, of course, but away from it, this is my routine. His father puts on a favourite shirt and has other sentiments; I tend not to have too much. Because I am mostly travelling with him and don't want the absence of a favourite clothing or any such thing to cast negative thoughts in us.

Uncertainties galore

I had no idea what to expect when I saw him batting. The close-ups caught his face; something in me told me that he had gone to that place they call a 'zone'. He had that look that I have seen in him before. Of course, all this is in my own head. Out there, he is taking knocks on the chest and shoulders from bouncers. I winced when one hit him on the ribs. Another knocked his hands and the physio ran out. I winced again. Coming to Australia, I knew of course that all this was par for the course on these pitches. And I know he is more than capable of handling it. But because of the back pain, I was worried that these blows could make the situation worse.

The phone rang. It was my mother. "Amma, this is a once-in-a-hundred-years type of match going on, I can't speak to you

now" and I put the phone down. So, I guess I knew I was watching history. The enormity of the situation was unmissable. In these times, watching alone in a hotel room, Twitter is my comfort move. I don't even speak to friends or family if it gets tense. Somehow, Twitter is easier and a good outlet for my emotions as I don't have to engage. It's my choice. I know when it's best to ignore trolls.

Not that I have always been this serene. I remember a few years back, during a game against Pakistan, he was hit for runs in the last over and I was trolled and had got worked up. I have been wiser after that. Sort of!

Try as I did, I couldn't relax as the overs ticked by. Ashwin seemed more relaxed than me. The usual Ashwin mannerisms had begun to come through. He was helping his partner. When one can do that in that situation, thinking beyond oneself, it means they were in control of their emotions. I heard him tell Hanuma, "Pathu Pathu ball, adulaaam" (We will play 10 balls each). It felt good to hear his voice.

The same stump microphone would later bring up other voices, which weren't that good! When Tim Paine started talking, my worry wasn't what he was saying but that Ashwin was talking back. Something he hadn't done until then. 'Was he losing focus or is the back pain irritating him that he is reacting? What if something happens now? Don't do it, Ash. Don't talk back,' I thought. I tweeted something on those lines too. That emotion was out of my body. Back to watching Ashwin.

He seemed to get back in control. He too was fighting it out. Both were talking in Tamil, more chats started to come through. I smiled as I thought I heard Ash say, "Aadu mama, aadu mama! (Play on man, Play on!). Suddenly he started to play a few shots in the end. 'Why Ash, why? What's happening?' Perhaps, he was relaxing. I certainly wasn't. The things that go through in the head, I tell you.

With five overs to go, I was puzzled. Why aren't they shaking hands and calling it off? I began to count down every ball and when it was finally over, I started jumping around in the room. Shouting too. I wanted to get my daughters involved too in this moment. They went, "Did we win?" Ha ha ha. Perhaps, the only Indian watching who wasn't too pleased with a 'draw' was our own daughter. Cute, I thought. I didn't tell her, we didn't win. It felt like one, after all.

I would never forget the surreal moment when Ashwin walked into the room that evening. We laughed, we cried, we laughed. We didn't know how to react. And we howled. It wasn't an euphoric cry – that was after the Melbourne win in the second Test. That had a different feel. I had rarely seen him that light, that bouncy, that delicious. This was something different. We were howling. It was utter relief – a draining out of emotions from our system. We just had two minutes together; he had to get back to the physio and medical scans. He came back at 11 that night. Next morning, the daughters were surprised when we said it's time to go to a new city. "Why, aren't you going to play today, match over?" Akhira asks. "Did we win, appa?" the nosy one asked again.

Swab sticks, 10 seconds of hell & surveillance

SHIVANI NAIK
MUMBAI, JANUARY 13

WHILE KIDAMBI Srikanth suffered bleeding from a swab test gone awfully wrong, where fragility of his capillaries, irritation caused by three previous tests and even his "tense nature" were attributed by the BWF, he was hardly the first athlete in Bangkok to wince at the sight of the swab stick being sent curving up his nostrils.

TV 2 Sport of Denmark has been chronicling quarantine and isolation woes of Danish shuttlers. Russian doubles veteran Ivan Sozthonov was recorded by partner Vladimir Ivanov, literally shuddering while the testing official poked the swab stick fishing for a sample. It was a particularly forbidding 10 slow seconds of writhing reaction, as he sent the cotton flying from the tester's hand, like a drowning man gasps for air.

The video would find resonance with the Danes. While Mia Blichfeldt told TV 2 Sport, "You want to crack the chair together and get that stick out of your nose. It's really, really uncomfortable" adding she invariably left the room with unintended tears of instant pain, doubles player Sara Thygesen called the test "completely grotesque" and "10 seconds in hell."

To be fair, the tester didn't look particularly comfortable either, trying to calm down the tall Russian, a formidably built All England champ from five years back while extracting past gook. But it was no surprise that repeated proddings like these would inevitably rupture a vessel at the slightest jerking movement.

Hans-Kristian Vittinghus would describe the unavoidable testing as "stinging in places

Srikanth was hardly tense when he dispatched Verma in straight sets to be the only men's singles player to head into Round 2, with Antonsen becoming the biggest casualty after an upset loss.

not very nice", while Anders Antonsen would tell TV 2 Sport that though he'd cracked the code and not burst any capillaries, "There are some who take it harder than others. It's not funny. There is also a difference in how deep they go when they test us."

Srikanth was hardly tense when he dispatched Sourabh Verma in straight sets to be the only men's singles player to head into Round 2, with Antonsen becoming the biggest casualty after an upset loss.

The deceptive Positive

Antonsen himself had been on tenterhooks after half expecting to test positive on the PCR – he too was recovering from an early December infection. Prepared to be asked to step away, he would later sound relieved that the Indians had opened the doors for those like him who had sufficient antibodies and were non-threatening or infectious to others, but perennially at the risk of throwing up a positive.

Japan's Olympic organising committee and Olympic Countermeasures Conference in the host city this gone December has in fact considered the likelihood of ruling out post-symptom and recovery "positives" with an immediate IgG retest, something that Thailand employed in case of the



Saina Nehwal comfortably beat Malaysia's Kisona Selvaduray 21-15, 21-15 on Wednesday. Badminton Photo

Indians prompted by BAI.

Malaysia's displeasure

Malaysians weren't too happy about their young shuttler Kisona Selvaduray being asked to play Saina Nehwal after her withdrawal was overturned. This their official social media account would note while officially recording their "displeasure" at how the Badminton World Federation handled the opening day disarray post a spate of positives.

"While we are pleased that some of these players have re-tested negative, it is however unjust to any player to be asked to participate in the first round again, especially after a decision to give a walkover was published in the official website," the tweets read.

Both Saina (who comfortably beat Kisona 21-15, 21-15 on Wednesday) and HS Prannoy (who lost in 3 to Lee Ji Jia), were due to play Malaysians, and while there was no attempt whatsoever to officially protest, their stated reluctance to play the Indians despite the

BWF go-ahead had been registered. While the matches went ahead Wednesday, even while two more tests of support staff of Europeans threw up positives, the tournament stayed on the edge. "We will not protest the decision but it is unfair to Kisona, who was already prepared to face Busanan (Ongbamrunphan) of Thailand in the second round. We have expressed our displeasure and we hope BWF will not repeat this again," Malaysian association's Kenny Goh was reported as saying in Straits Times.

Kisona though would tell the BWF after her loss that she had grown up idolising Saina after her CWG gold. Playing Saina was 'a dream come true' Kisona said post-match. The Indian, exhausted after she was packed off in an ambulance with someone who she couldn't communicate with in English, would admit she slept from 9 pm Tuesday to 1 pm next day to recover from her exertions following Covid-19 related chaos.

Privacy concerns

The Danish shuttlers were also the first to raise an alarm about surveillance used to keep an eye on the players in the hotels. TV 2 Sport highlighted through a photograph how a "command centre" not too far from the hotel watched the hotel lobbies and corridors for every unannounced stepping out.

Once when the public system chided a couple of players who were lunching and talking to each other with room doors open, the Danes were completely spooked.

Much of their shock is down to Denmark having hosted a tournament in October which didn't need these extreme measures. While there is general acceptance that Covid threat needs every last caution, being watched so acutely did rattle the Europeans.

Olympic gold medallist was part of Capitol mob

KAREN CROUSE & VICTOR MATHER
JANUARY 13

KLETE KELLER, a champion swimmer who won two Olympic gold medals as a relay teammate of Michael Phelps, was identified by former teammates and coaches as a member of the crowd that surged into the U.S. Capitol during violent protests on Wednesday.

A video posted by a reporter from a conservative outlet, Townhall, appeared to show the 6-foot-6 Keller towering over a crowd that was pushing and shoving with police officers who were trying to clear the Capitol Rotunda.

Several former teammates and coaches said they recognized Keller in the video because of his size and because he was wearing a U.S. Olympic team jacket that had "USA" printed across the back and down the sleeves. A green face covering, which might have obscured his identity, hung loosely around his neck, leaving his bearded face clearly visible. A swimming news site, SwimSwam, first reported Keller's presence at the Capitol riot on Monday. The video had been circulating in the swimming community since last week, and several people who saw it are said to have reported Keller to the authorities.

Efforts to reach Keller were unsuccessful. On Tuesday night, the Colorado real estate firm that had employed him for the past three years, Hoff & Leigh, announced that Keller had resigned "effective immediately."

"Hoff & Leigh supports the right of free speech and lawful protest but we cannot condone actions that violate the rule of law," the



Klete Keller swam the anchor leg when the US won the 4x200-metre relay gold at the 2004 Athens Games Reuters

company said in a brief statement.

Few of the people who recognized Keller in the video expressed surprise at his presence in Washington. His deleted social media accounts, several of them said, had in recent years included a stream of pro-Trump messaging.

No video has emerged of Keller participating in any violent acts in the Capitol, but his mere presence in the building, if confirmed by the authorities, may have placed him in legal jeopardy. Numerous people who entered the building now face federal charges that include unlawful entry and disorderly conduct. More serious charges include theft of government property and firearms violations. Keller, 38, was a member of three U.S. Olympic teams, and he won medals at three Olympics, including golds at the Athens Games in 2004 and at the Beijing Games in 2008 as a member of the 4x200-meter relay team. He won silver in the event at the 2000 Sydney Games. **NYT**



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