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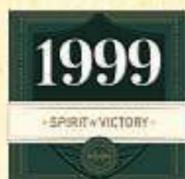
INDO-PAKISTAN WAR

When Pakistan threatened India in the summer of 1965, we fought back. Around 33000 Pakistani soldiers crossed over to the Indian side of the Line of Control (LOC), dressed as locals. Their efforts were thwarted by the superior Indian forces resulting in a decisive victory for India.



INDO-PAKISTAN WAR

Pakistan, under Operation Chengiz Khan, launched pre-emptive air strikes on 11 Indian airbases in Dec '71. But in just 13 days it lost half of its population, its forces in the East, and surrendered to India. This marked the birth of Bangladesh (then East Pakistan).



KARGIL WAR

It began with the infiltration of both Pakistani troops and terrorists into Indian territory at strategic locations. In 3 months, the Indian Armed Forces had evicted Pakistani intruders and successfully recaptured the Tiger Hill and other posts as part of Operation Vijay.

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Sources: • 1965 INDO-PAKISTAN WAR: https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/war/indo-pak_1965.htm • 1971 INDO-PAKISTAN WAR: <http://content.time.com/time/subscriber/article/0,33009,905593,00.html>
• 1999 KARGIL WAR: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/all-you-need-to-know-about-kargil-war/kargil-vijay-diwas/slideshow/59772216.cms>

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REPUBLIC DAY ADDRESS TO NATION

Parade amid protest: President reaches out to farmers on R-Day

‘Devoted to your welfare, path to reform can cause misapprehension’

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

WITH FARMERS ON protest at the national capital's borders for nearly two months, and no sign of a breakthrough in talks with the Centre on their demand to repeal the new agriculture laws, President Ram Nath Kovind Monday reached out to the farming community and said that the “path to reform” may initially cause “misapprehensions” but the Government is “singularly devoted” to their welfare.

Addressing the nation on the eve of the 72nd Republic Day, Kovind also spoke about the border standoff in Ladakh without naming China, and said that India faced an “expansionist

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Vehicles cross Sonapat Monday night on way to Delhi tractor parade. *Jaipal Singh* NOD FOR 5,000 TRACTORS, [REPORT, P 6](#)

‘Tractor from each Punjab village... history in making’

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

PUNJAB'S NAUSHERA Dhalla shows up as a dot on Google Maps — one of the thousands of villages lying along the 3,000-

km boundary between India and Pakistan.

Just like the solitary tractor on the Western Peripheral Expressway from the village, also but a dot in the vast city of tractors between Kundli and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Are Punjab farmers from Pak... can topple govts, says Pawar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 25

ADDRESSING A farmers' rally at Azad Maidan in Mumbai Monday, NCP president Sharad Pawar accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of displaying complete indifference and insensitivity towards farmers protesting for the last 60 days on the outskirts of Delhi, and warned that angry farmers could bring down governments.

Speaking at the rally called in solidarity with the farmers protesting on Delhi borders, Pawar said, “For almost 60 days,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Sero survey: Delhi past 50%, near herd immunity

ASTHA SAXENA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE FIFTH round of serological surveillance conducted in Delhi has suggested that more than 50 per cent of those surveyed have developed antibodies against Covid, officials told *The Indian Express*.

This is the highest seroprevalence found during surveys conducted by the Delhi government since the Covid outbreak and, ac-

ording to experts, indicates that the city is moving closer to achieving herd immunity.

“In one district, the prevalence is around 58 per cent, which clearly shows that a large number of people have developed antibodies against the virus,” said a senior government official. Authorities had collected 28,840 samples — the most during such an exercise in Delhi so far — as part of the survey that ended Friday.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

EXPLAINED Link with dip in cases

THE HIGH seroprevalence could explain why Delhi's positivity rate has been under 0.6% for the past fortnight. The city saw 148 cases Monday, with a positivity rate of 0.31% in 48,000 tests.

AAROGYA SETU: HC DRAWS LINE ON DATA
[PAGE 20](#)

India, China troops clash in Sikkim; resolved, says Army



KRISHNA KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

INDIAN AND Chinese troops clashed on the Line of Actual Control at Naku La in Sikkim last week, days ahead of the talks between senior military commanders that took place in eastern Ladakh on Sunday.

The Army described the incident, which occurred on January 20, as a “minor face-off”. Clashes between Indian and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

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Padma Vibhushan for Abe; Gogoi, Keshubhai, Paswan in honours list

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

FORMER JAPANESE Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, under whose leadership India and Japan reinforced and cemented their strategic partnership, and legendary singer late S P Balasubramaniam were among the seven Monday named for this year's Padma Vibhushan.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Padma Vibhushan for Abe; Padma Bhushan for Gogoi

GALLANTRY AWARDS FOR GALWAN HEROES
[PAGE 9](#)

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GODZILLA VS KONG TRAILER: FIVE KEY TAKEAWAYS

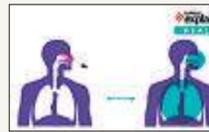
The first trailer for Godzilla vs Kong is out, and social media users are already discussing which monster will come out on top. The majority of responses to the trailer are positive, and if the film is anything like the latest promo, it will be so much fun. Here are five key takeaways from the trailer

VIDEO OF THE DAY



LOOKING BACK AT INDIA-AUS SERIES
Ajinkeya Rahane's most memorable moment from Australia tour

EXPRESS EXPLAINED



UNDERSTANDING BBV154
Bharat Biotech's single-dose intranasal Covid-19 vaccine

EXPRESS AUDIO

Why the BJP is embarrassed about the farmers' protests

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Today on the 3 Things podcast, we talk about how worried the BJP is about the farmers' protests and what this could mean for the party in the future

FROM PAGE ONE

President to farmers

singularly devoted to farmers' welfare." The President said: "Every Indian salutes our farmers, who have made our vast and populous country self-reliant in food-grains and dairy products. Despite adversities of nature, numerous other challenges and the Covid-19 pandemic, our farmers sustained the agricultural production. A grateful nation is fully committed to the welfare of our farmers." Referring to the armed forces, Kovind said: "Just as our hardworking farmers ensure food security for the country, the brave soldiers of the armed forces ensure security of our national boundaries amidst severest conditions. From the freezing cold in Siachen and Galwan Valley in Ladakh with temperatures as low as minus 50 to 60 degrees Celsius to the scorching heat in Jaisalmer with temperatures as high as 50 degrees Celsius — on land, in the skies and at the vast coastal areas — our warriors are vigilant every moment."

Speaking about the border standoff, the President pointed to the Galwan Valley incident last June. "We faced an expansionist move on our borders, but our valiant soldiers foiled it. To achieve this, 20 of them had to lay down their lives. The nation shall remain grateful to those brave soldiers. Though we reiterate our commitment to peace, our defence forces — Army, Air Force and Navy — are adequately mobilised in a well-coordinated move to thwart any attempt to undermine our security," he said.

Stressing that "national interest will be protected at all costs", he referred to India's diplomatic outreach. "We have also ensured a widespread understanding in the international community of India's firm and principled stand," he said.

Appreciating the scientific community, Kovind said: "From space to the farms, from educational institutions to hospitals, the community of scientists has enriched our life and work. Our scientists have been working day and night for decoding the coronavirus and they have succeeded in developing the vaccine in record time."

Asserting that the Prime Minister's call of "Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan" (Self-reliant India Mission) was to convert crisis into opportunity, Kovind said it is in line with the aspiration to shape a new India by the year 2022 when the country turns 75. The President also praised the Government's National Education Policy 2020, which "promises to incubate innate talent of students and ignite their minds to take up the challenges of life."

According to Kovind, the outcome of all these reform initiatives is that even after the pandemic ordeal, "India stands not despondent but confident."

"The slowdown has turned out to be transitory as the economy has regained its dynamism. A self-reliant India has manufactured its own vaccines for Covid 19 and is now undertaking a mass vaccination drive, which will be the largest exercise of its kind in history," he said, while praising doctors, nurses, paramedics, healthcare administrators and sanitation workers for putting their lives at risk for patients.

Against the backdrop of classes moving online, educational institutions and teachers received appreciation from the President for "quickly adopting technologies" to see that there is no break in education. Kovind also praised the Election Commission for conducting "free and fair elections" in Bihar and in the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

On the post-Covid unlockdown, Kovind said the process was "carefully calibrated", has proved effective, and the economy started showing indications of faster-than-anticipated recovery. The President reminded the nation that adherence to the core values of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity in the Indian Constitution is meant "not only for those who are mandated to govern but for the people at large."

Stressing that every citizen should remember these Constitutional mantras, he said: "Equality is the watchword for the great project of our Republic. Social equality warrants dignity for each one of us, villagers, women, weaker sections of our society, namely Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Divyang-jan and the elderly people."

Invoking B R Ambedkar, the President said that Constitutional morality means "supremacy of the

Centre's three contentious farm laws. In another few hours, they will roll into Delhi as part of the massive tractor parade planned on Republic Day. While the Delhi Police Monday gave a no-objection certificate limiting the parade to 5,000 persons and 5,000 tractors, members of the Sanyukta Kisan Morcha said they were expecting close to two lakh tractors. Farmer leaders also announced a plan to march on foot to Parliament on February 1, the day the Union Budget will be presented.

The eight from Naushera Dhalla left their border village, which comes under the Tam Tara district, at 11 am Sunday and reached Delhi's gate around 7 am on Monday, a nearly 500-km-long journey that cost them fuel worth around Rs 10,000.

While Harjit has studied till Class 11, fellow traveller Balpreet Singh, 26, is an electrical engineer by qualification. Komal Singh, 40, a farmer, and 16-year-old Rajveer Singh are among the other occupants.

"I am the first engineer in my family. They can't provide employment to the youth and now want to turn farming unprofitable as well," says Balpreet, seated in the trolley attached to the tractor.

The families they belong to own between five to eight acres of land, where they grow wheat and paddy, earning between Rs 4 lakh and Rs 6 lakh annually after setting aside the produce needed for their own consumption.

The political significance of the scheduled march is not lost on them, with Komal Singh pointing out how tractors "were part of the first Republic Day parade in post-independent India", which he has learnt from the speeches of Balbir Singh Rajewal, one of the leaders spearheading the agitation, which will complete two months on Tuesday.

Rajewal's faction of the Bharatiya Kisan Union mobilised the farmers of Naushera Dhalla. "In the past, we never responded to calls for mobilisation under any banner over any issue. But this time we have come together and realised the power of unity. This has not happened before and will perhaps never get repeated," says Harjit.

The decision of the farmers to turn down the overtures of the Centre, including the announcement that the laws will be stayed for 18 months, appears rooted in this fear. "The government wants to end this movement. This assurance is a ploy. Mobilisations of this scale cannot be repeated every few months. People do not pour out into the streets just like that. And a mere round trip on a tractor from our village costs Rs 20,000. Sustaining a movement is easier said than done," says Balpreet.

Their resentment against the government stems not just from the decision to implement the farm laws, which they believe will ruin them financially. As residents of a village that shares its boundary with Pakistan, they also disapprove of the Centre's neighbourhood policy. "Earlier, tomatoes from Nashik used to cross over to Pakistan via Wagah. Labourers from Punjab, those running transport businesses were part of the economy. From the Pakistani side, cement and salt used to come. Now all that has stopped. Salt is still imported but that goes straight to Adani's port in Gujarat. The government says it will not maintain ties with Pakistan. In reality, it is extending favours to its favourite corporate house," says Harjit.

Fearful of corporate takeover of their farmland, the protesting farmers have been targeting business groups under the Reliance Jio and Adani conglomerates over the last few months, calling for a boycott of their products, which echoed across Singhu even on Monday.

After sunset, as the mercury dips, the area comes alive with music and warmth of bonfires every few steps. The natives of Naushera, tired after an overnight journey, are preparing to retire early. "This is history in the making. Now, we are also part of it," smiles Harjit.

Sikkim clash
Chinese soldiers in Ladakh and the same area of Sikkim last May had set off the ongoing military standoff in Ladakh.

In the fresh incident, patrolling units from the two sides came face-to-face in the Naku La sector, which resulted in a physical brawl, without the use of weapons, sources said. Several soldiers from both sides were injured in the clash, the sources said.

In a statement, the Army said: "It is clarified that there was a minor face-off at Nakula area of North Sikkim on 20 January 2021 and the same was resolved by local commanders as per established protocols."

A senior military source said some areas in the region are claimed by both sides, and patrols do sometimes encounter each other. According to this source, the number of Chinese troops who sustained injuries in last week's clash was in the low double figures, whereas injuries on the Indian side were in single digits. The clash was a "local issue", and would not impact the situation in eastern Ladakh or the talks to resolve the standoff, the source said. The Army on Monday said the

values enshrined in the Constitution." **Sharad Pawar** farmers across Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh have been agitating on the outskirts of Delhi, braving the winter. The Prime Minister has not once bothered to enquire about them. He has not even shown any concern. What does it show? Are they not our farmers? Do Punjab farmers belong to Pakistan?" Farmers and tribals from 21 districts of Maharashtra, led by the All India Kisan Sabha, were present at the rally, which drew a substantial crowd. Apart from the NCP, leaders of the Congress and Samajwadi Party were present under the banner of the Sanyukta Shetkari Kamgar Morcha. While the Shiv Sena, that is part of the ruling coalition in the state with the NCP and Congress, was said to have extended its support to the protest, no prominent leader of the party was present at the rally.

Criticising the haste with which the government used its majority to rush the contentious farm laws through Parliament, Pawar said, "Let it be known that if you persist with laws which are detrimental to farmers, it will have serious ramifications. If the laws are enforced, farmers will be uprooted. And any attempt to do so will lead to farmers using their might to uproot the government."

Congress minister and its Maharashtra chief Balasaheb Thorat said, "The state government is not going to enforce these laws. A group of ministers is working on laws which would be pro-farmers."

Pawar said the manner in which the farm laws were passed amounts to violation of the Constitution. "Ideally, the government should have heeded the Opposition's demand and worked towards consensus by referring the laws to a select committee of Parliament. It would have helped bring flawless laws and also helped the government avoid confrontation." Backing the MSP system, the NCP chief said, "It is mandatory. It should not only recover production costs, but more. And in case prices drop below the MSP, the government should intervene and procure crops up to 100 per cent." Pawar said the Manmohan Singh government had adopted the above policy, and accorded the highest priority to farmers' demands. "I served for 10 years as the Union Agriculture Minister and I know for sure how great the contribution of Punjab farmers has been in providing wheat which feeds the entire country."

Pawar also questioned why Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari had left Mumbai for Goa on Monday, when the protesters had planned to submit a memorandum to him. "He has the time to meet Kangana (Rana, who met the Governor following the BMC action against her) but not farmers! As the head of state it was his moral duty to remain in Mumbai... Maharashtra has never seen such a governor before. The farmers' delegation would have just visited the Raj Bhavan and presented a memorandum listing their demands. But even that basic courtesy was not extended by the Governor."

An official statement issued by the Raj Bhavan said, "Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari who holds additional charge of Goa had to address the first session in Goa's Vidhan Bhawan on Monday. This was conveyed in advance to Sanyukta Shetkari Kamgar Morcha leaders Dhananjay Shinde and Prakash Reddy." The Governor's office had also informed that in the absence of Koshyari, his Principal Secretary would meet the farmers' delegation at 5 pm, the statement said.

Shinde admitted the Raj Bhavan had informed them about this, but said, "Our point is the Governor could have adjusted the timing. His speech at the Goa Vidhan Bhawan was in the morning at 11.36 am. He could have given us time at 6 pm or 7 pm... Farmers from distant areas across the state had come to Mumbai... The Centre does not want any discussion in Parliament, they don't want to listen to anybody."

Apart from Thorat, Congress leaders Sunil Kedar and Bhaji Jagtap were present at the rally. Several students' federations, and activists Medha Patkar, P Sainath and Teesta Setalvad, also came together under the Sanyukta Shetkari Kamgar Morcha. Addressing the rally, Sainath said, "The presence of farmers in such large numbers in Mumbai shows that the farmer protest is not Punjab-centric, as the government is trying to depict."

'History in the making'
Murchal on National Highway 44. But Harjit Singh has a different way of looking at it. "Do you realise that there is at least one tractor from every Punjab village here? That's the beauty of solidarity. Lakhs of dots make up this canvas."

The 30-year-old is among the eight people from Naushera Dhalla who arrived at the protest site Monday morning on a tractor, a hardy vehicle that has become the emblem of the unyielding farmers protesting against the

barely scraped through with Paswan's BJP, led by his son Chirag following his death, breaking away from the alliance fighting against JD(U). Abe was responsible for the transformation of the relationship between India and Japan in the last eight years. The relationship grew and encompassed issues from civilian nuclear energy to maritime security, bullet trains to quality infrastructure, Act East policy to Indo-Pacific strategy.

B B Lal, who turns 100 in May this year, served as Archaeological Survey of India Director-General from 1968 to 1972. In 1975-76, Lal investigated the Ayoodya site. In fact, in the recent Supreme Court verdict, an ASI report released in 2003 played a key role. The report had stated that remains of a "Hindu structure" were found at the disputed Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi site. Lal's findings were key to this report.

Celebrating the frontline fighters against the pandemic, quite a few doctors were conferred Padma awards. They include J N Pande, V. Thiruvengadam and Krishna Mohan Pathi.

Pande, who died of Covid last year, was the head of the AllIMS Medicine Department and an eminent pulmonologist. Thiruvengadam was popularly known as "two rupees doctor" in Tamil Nadu for treating poor patients. He died in August last year. Pathi is a noted orthopaedic surgeon from Odisha known for his landmark work in tribal districts of the state.

Sanjida Khatun from Bangladesh, who has been conferred Padma Shri, is a musician. She played a key role in Rabindranath Tagore's centenary celebrations in 1961 during the stringent martial law imposed by General Ayub Khan in then East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). She also rallied Bengali artists in the cause of Bangladesh's freedom before as well as during the liberation war.

At a time when government is claiming to be in the final stages of Naga talks, it has awarded the Padma Shri to Naga singer from Manipur Rewben Mashangva. Peter Brook, British theatre and film director, who in 1989 made the film Mahabharata, has also been awarded Padma Shri. Veteran Gujarati film star-turned-politician Naresh Kanodia and his brother singer Mahesh Kanodia, who died in October within days of each other, were awarded the Padma Shri.

Delhi sero survey
Only Pune has recorded prevalence of more than 50 per cent in some areas, but that was several months ago. In most other cities, seroprevalence studies have shown antibodies in about 30 and 40 per cent of respondents.

Given that detection of new cases has been declining over the last four months, some experts and scientists believe that a much higher proportion of the population might have already got infected. The results of the Delhi sero-survey lends evidence to this.

In August last year, the first such survey conducted by the Delhi government showed 29.1 per cent had antibodies. The figure dropped to 25.1 per cent in September and stood at 25.5 per cent in October. The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) had also conducted a serosurvey in July, where antibodies had been detected in 23 per cent of those surveyed.

The latest survey kicked off in Delhi on January 11 and samples were sent to the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) for testing, with an initial report being submitted to the office of Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain.

Dr Shobha Broom, former head of microbiology at AllIMS, said that the survey "shows that there have been many asymptomatic infections in the city and we are approaching herd immunity".

"The number may go up to 70 per cent in the next round as more people would have got vaccinated by that time. Having presence of antibodies will not affect the ongoing vaccination drive in any case. Those who have developed antibodies can go ahead and take the shot as the vaccine will further boost the response," she said.

Dr Neeraj Nischal, associate professor at the department of medicine, AllIMS, said the high prevalence of antibodies may help in further controlling the pandemic.

"It shows that a lot of asymptomatic infections did happen in the course of the pandemic, which were not reported at that time. This is our natural way of acquiring herd immunity as approximately 50 per cent have developed antibodies against the virus. This coupled with the ongoing vaccination drive will help in achieving herd immunity, and controlling the pandemic will be faster than expected," he said.

A serological survey is meant to check prevalence of a disease in a population, by detecting the presence of specific antibodies against the virus. The serological test is performed to diagnose infections and autoimmune illnesses. It can also be conducted to check if a person has developed immunity to certain diseases.

CLARIFICATIONS & CORRECTIONS

24.01.21, PAGE 20

THE LAST line of the article 'The Day of the Citizen' was incorrectly edited to state that the date of the President's address is January 26. It is January 25. The error is regretted.

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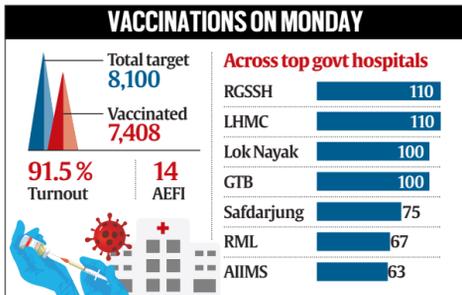
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Record turnout for vaccination in city — 91.5%



ASTHA SAXENA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE ONGOING vaccination drive for Covid-19 in Delhi saw a turnout of 91.5% Monday with 7,408 out of 8,100 beneficiaries targeted getting the shot.

This is the highest single-day turnout achieved in the mass inoculation drive which kicked off on January 16.

A total of 33,170 healthcare workers have been vaccinated at 81 sites in six days. As many as 14 cases of AEFI (adverse event following immunisation) were reported across the city on Monday.

The massive jump in vaccination numbers has been observed at government facilities which have been reporting 100% turnout for the last two days.

Of the top seven government hospitals in Delhi, full turnout was reported at four hospitals. Two of these — Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality hospital (RGSSH) and Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC) — even went above the daily target, vaccinating 110 each on Monday.

RGSSH, which saw very few vaccinations initially, has so far vaccinated 384 beneficiaries. Dr B. L. Sherwal, medical director of the hospital, attributed the rise in numbers to continuous efforts of the hospital administration and the increasing confidence among

the healthcare workers.

"The hesitancy among health staff, which was observed in the initial days, is fading away. We have been continuously motivating staff members to come forward and take the vaccine," said Dr Sherwal.

The hospital has prepared a list of 952 healthcare workers for the vaccination drive.

In the first phase, the city plans to vaccinate 2.25 lakh healthcare workers against Covid-19, with every centre having a target of vaccinating 100 healthcare workers in a day.

At present, the vaccination drive is going on at 81 sites, though sources from the state health department said the government is planning to increase it to 175 by this week.

"Senior doctors and heads of hospitals are getting themselves vaccinated to motivate their subordinates so that more people can come and take the vaccine. We have been vaccinating 100 beneficiaries each day since the last three days after modifications in the Co-WIN app were introduced to allow out-of-turn vaccinations," said Dr Suresh Kumar, medical director of Lok Nayak Hospital.

The vaccination programme in Delhi is carried out on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Meanwhile, the city saw 148 new Covid cases and five deaths on Monday.

HC pulls up Delhi govt over biomedical waste dues to pvt firm

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

OBSERVING THAT the disposal of biomedical waste is an "absolutely essential service" during the pandemic, the Delhi High

Court has said authorities should not compel such service providers to approach the court for release of money.

"The respondents (Delhi government authorities) ought to have made these payments in a timely manner... If parties such

as the petitioner have to come to the court for payments, it would be completely detrimental to the interest of various Covid-19 treatment centres," said Justice Prathiba M Singh, adding that it would also be contrary to public interest.

The court made the observation in an order passed in the petition filed by M/s Biotic Waste Solutions Private Limited, which has been handling biomedical waste generated by various healthcare facilities, hospitals and other Covid-19 centres in

Delhi since April 2020. Its outstanding payment stood at Rs 83,89,198 as of December 2020, the court was told.

Directing district authorities to release the entire outstanding payment within a week, the court said personal liability would be

affixed on government officers concerned. "... (In future) payments shall be made within 10 days after the submission of the invoice," said the court.

The court asked the firm to approach the Delhi health secretary if there are further issues.

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ADVERTORIAL

"e-suvidha" - RINL's new Customer friendly initiative

RASHTRIYA ISPAT NIGAM LIMITED (RINL), the corporate entity of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP), is a Navratna PSE under the Ministry of Steel, GOI.

Popularly known as "Vizag Steel", it is the market leader for Bars & Rods in India with a market share of about 9.3%.

Principal products of Vizag Steel include Rebars, Wire Rods, Rounds & Structurals. Made from 100% virgin steel, with stringent tolerances in both physical & chemical properties, Vizag Steel is the preferred steel for a wide array of customers.

The company having a capacity of 7.3 Mtpa. Wide network of Distributors and Dealers in 24 locations pan India including Tuticorin (Tamil Nadu) and Rayagada (Odisha) distributors through 2-Tier Distribution System.

RINL had been a pioneer in installing state of art cleaner technologies to reduce GHG emissions and energy consumption. Energy production from waste heat in the plant works out to 62% of total Captive Power Generation capacity.

"e-suvidha":
RINL's endeavour to make customer always comfortable with the sales facility has found a new initiative. Updating with the latest trends and technological tools, RINL has brought out a customer friendly sales facility named as RINL's "e-suvidha". Adopting e-commerce and digital technology, RINL developed the new sales initiative, "e-suvidha".

The objective is to sell material through efficient and transparent manner using RINL's own web-based platform. The customers will be provided with response from branch within a reasonable time indicating details of Product, Price, Payment, Quantity, Delivery, Test certificate, validity etc. The standard terms & conditions of sale mentioned in the RINL's quotation and sales order remains valid for E-Sales as well.

RINL's web portal will empower businessmen & users of steel located at distant places to gain access for VIZAG STEEL products. Further, with increase in the flow of enquiries and data-base, this will also enable RINL to identify the potential business & consumption centres, for developing and expanding into newer markets in the long run.

With the above objective in view, a user friendly web portal which can be accessed through internet either from a desktop/laptop/mobile was developed with the help of in house talent of IT&ERP. The main features/process of the portal are:

- Any user whether RINL customer or new customer can access our portal and get registered as a prospect.
- The registered prospect can view the prices of RINL products (initially Rebars & Structurals) across all RINL stockyards located in India. Customers have choice to select the stockyard nearer to their location.
- The customers can place their inquiry for quantity either in 'Tons' or in number of pieces for their requirement. The inquiry will be automatically flashed through SMS and e-mail to the concerned branch. Customers have an option to get the delivery of the material to their destination (FOR) or on ex-yard basis.
- Based on the inquiry, respective branch can offer their quotation which can be viewed by the customer in the portal/SMS/e-mail.

- Based on the requirement, customers can make the payment on-line and insert the payment details like UTR number etc.
- Based on the confirmation of the payment, branch can create sales order and deliver the material. The details of sales order & invoice details are available to the customer in the portal.
- Customers can view the details like list of inquiries, list of quotations, quotations pending for payment etc. In addition, customers can track the total cycle of inquiry till invoice creation in graphical mode.

FEATURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN FUTURE

- Payment gateway link in the portal itself for enabling the customers to make payment on-line.
- Order confirmation by the customers without any involvement of branch. The feature will be enabled once the quantities are earmarked for e-sales in every stockyard.
- Linking of all the empaneled transports to the portal so that transportation arrangement can be made available to the destinations where RINL has no transportation contract.

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Wide network of distributors and dealers in 24 locations pan India including Tuticorin (Tamil Nadu) and Rayagada (Odisha) distributors through our 2-Tier Distribution System

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25th Death Anniversary 26th January 2021

Dr. B. V. Rao
~ 1935 - 1996 ~

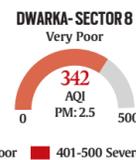
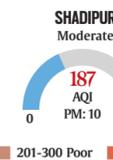
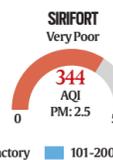
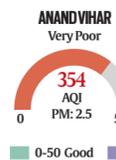
"By fulfilling one's duty, and detaching one self from the fruits of action, one is liberated from the cycle of birth and death, and ascends to the Indestructible State that is free from all bonds..."

Bhagavadgita : Chapter II, Stanza 51

On his 25th Anniversary, we pay homage to the Karma Yogi, who brought happiness to the homes of millions of Poultry Farmers, and rededicate ourselves to his mission.

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

S K Y W A T C H
FORECAST: Jan 26
Mainly clear sky.
Moderate fog in the morning

MAX: 18 **MIN: 6**
4.4°C below normal 2.9°C below normal

MEGA REPUBLIC DAY RALLY TODAY

Farmers in tractors, police on toes



A tractor on the Western Peripheral Highway heads towards Sonipat in Haryana, Monday. *Abhinav Saha*

On Budget Day, farmers plan 2nd march — on foot, to Parliament

Police limit gathering to 5,000 for R-Day march; farmers say expecting 2 lakh

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

A DAY before their mega tractor rally in the national capital, farmer leaders said Monday that they will march on foot to the Parliament on February 1, the day the Union budget will be presented.

Dr Darshan Pal, union leader of Kirti Kisan Union, who has been part of the meetings with the Centre, said during a press conference Monday: "On February 1, farmers will march towards the Parliament on foot, against the laws."

Farmer leaders said a detailed programme will be declared in a day or two, but the march will be peaceful. The leaders also said that Tuesday's tractor march will be unique as ordinary people will be part of Republic Day celebrations.

"After the rally is over, farmers have been asked not to return to their villages, but rather to stay on at the borders," said Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) president Balbir Singh Rajewal.

Meanwhile, the Loni border saw tension between protesters and police as the former tried to enter the capital through an unapproved route. Additional DCP (Shahdara district) Sanjay Sain said around 250 farmers along with tractors came via Apsara border and tried to march into Delhi. "We convinced them to follow their decided route and dropped them at Ghazipur flyover. Other farmers are also coming and we are requesting them to follow the route."

A day before the mega rally, the Delhi Police gave a no-objection certificate (NOC) for the tractor rally, with 37 conditions, including that the organisers should keep the limit of gathering of participants in the rally to 5,000 persons along with 5,000 tractors, and that non-compliance of terms and conditions may entail termination/cancellation/withdrawal of the NOC.

Members of the Sanyukt Kisan Morcha, however, said they are expecting close to 2 lakh

tractors to be part of the procession tomorrow.

"The parade will be on the route fixed with police. There is no limit of vehicles nor time for this march. The parade will return to its original place via the fixed route," said Dr Darshan Pal.

A senior police officer said intelligence inputs suggest that more than 27,000 tractors are at the borders, and the number will go up to 40,000.

The NOC, issued by ACP Ritambra Prakash, states, "This permission is limited to holding of tractor rally on the permitted routes only and should not be construed as permission for holding any dharna, demonstrations or sit-in-protest en route the rally. The organisers should keep the limit of gathering of participants in rally to 5,000 persons along with 5,000 tractors. The organisers should ensure the deployment of 2,500 volunteers on prescribed routes. The list of such volunteers with contact details should be provided to police in advance. The rally should be held within the prescribed time from 12 pm to 5 pm on January 26 and organisers should ensure that there is no obstruction to the other road users."

The NOC further states, "The organisers should ensure that two-third of the carriageway is kept free for normal traffic movement... The organisers should also ensure that no loud-speaker or public address system is used on the route without specific permission from the competent authority of the district concerned... They should not indulge in any acrobatics, display of martial arts or stunt driving."

The social media cell of Delhi Police's intelligence unit is also working round the clock to check any fake or inflammatory news that may spread about the parade. Claimed a senior officer: "Around 1,100 Twitter accounts have been made in the last 25 days from Pakistan with a view to disrupt the tractor march. Our team is coordinating with farmer leaders and we have asked them to curb any rumours on their live stream."



A sea of vehicles and flags at Ghazipur border on Monday. *Prem Nath Pandey*

Tractors omnipresent, so is Tricolour: Protesters say one on every vehicle

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

AHEAD OF Tuesday's farmers' rally, tractors poured into Ghazipur throughout Monday, with the Tricolour omnipresent at the protest site.

As of Monday afternoon, trucks, tractors, trolleys and cars of farmers occupied more than 2 km of the Ghazipur flyover and below it, with the size of the protest there expanding considerably in the run-up to Republic Day. Organisers said they had initially estimated that 10,000-15,000 tractors would participate in the rally there, but had increased their estimate to 30,000.

"It is not possible for us to make a clear estimate as tractors are coming in continuously.

Farmers and tractors from nearby districts and villages are expected to continue coming in till Tuesday morning," said Jagtar Singh Bajwa, spokesperson of the Ghazipur Kisan Andolan Committee.

To manage a rally of the scale planned for Tuesday, the Ghazipur protest coordinators will engage more than 300 volunteers for security and traffic control. According to Bajwa, the biggest concern with regard to the rally is maintaining peace and security.

"All our volunteers for Tuesday are sons of farmers. A set of them will be in charge of videography, which will also help us track and make sure that no unwanted elements join the rally. Our entire route comes up to 46 km and we have divided it into 12 sectors for logistics. We will be

placing volunteers in charge of those sectors; it will be their responsibility to make sure all tractors move in a line and none overtake each other. They will supervise turns in the road and if anybody tries to join midway, they are to be directed to join right at the tail end of the rally. We have arranged for bikes for the volunteers as well," he said.

Farmers have been instructed to drive their tractors 'aaram-aaram se' and to maintain three tractors per row while moving. Everyone has also been instructed to have the national flag on their tractors.

Before the rally, the national flag will also be hoisted at a stage erected on the Ghazipur flyover.

Among those who arrived at the border just ahead of Tuesday were 25 farmers from Deora

Khas village in Sambhal district on a tractor-trolley. "We had left at around 6 pm on Sunday evening and we reached at 4 this morning. We had travelled with 50 other tractors from our district. Everybody in our village is ready to come and be a part of this movement," said Aham Singh Yadav (55). Relaxing on the trolley with them was Sarvesh Kumar Kathiyar, a 53-year-old who arrived that morning after boarding a bus from Kanpur district with a friend.

Prashant Chahal (23) arrived on Sunday night from Bhagain village in Bijnor district in a tractor-trolley with 11 other people from his village. "There were already two such tractors from our village at the site and five more are on their way and will arrive in the night," he said.

Volunteers at Tikri have task cut out: Keep order, peace

ASHNA BUTANI
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THROUGH THE day, farmers at Tikri border distributed sticks to be used to hoist the Tricolour and purchased diesel in cans from nearby petrol pumps to use during Tuesday's tractor rally. Near police barricades, farmers formed groups as volunteers instructed them to maintain discipline for the mega rally.

While older farmers will be guiding volunteers from their respective districts, younger ones have been chosen to ensure order is maintained and to hand out instructions and distribute flags to people from their villages.

Sukhwinder Singh (56), a coordinator for Moga district, checked his notebook with names of around 100 volunteers from his district: "I am making calls to them so they can come here and pick up the sticks. Each tractor will have two flags — the Tricolour and a flag of their respective unions." He said there are lakhs of tractors but not all will be able to go to the borders.

After spending months on the capital's periphery, the ex-

citement of entering the city was palpable. Said Aman Nain (21) from Jind in Haryana: "The tractors will form a line and go straight into Delhi."

Police at the border said they will remove the barricades in the morning so the tractors can go ahead. Farmers from here will march up to Nangloi and turn to Najafgarh, from where they will return to Tikri.

Tijinder Singh (50), a coordinator for Sri Muktsar Sahib in Punjab, said there are around 60 main coordinators, who have 100-150 volunteers under them, meaning a total of 7,500 volunteers at Tikri border.

"We have seen photos of the tableaux which are being prepared in the villages. As far as we know, a history of farmers in India will be depicted. These are being made by artisans in villages. They have made a charkha, local artwork, sickles and golden vessels," he said, adding that the tableaux are coming from Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan and will reach the border early Tuesday morning.

On the numbers set to march, he said "innumerable" farmers are ready, but the final number would depend on the leaders.



At the Tikri protest site, Monday. *Amit Mehra*

Haryana farmers to stick to their state

SAKSHI DAYAL
GURGAON, JANUARY 25

EVEN AS protesters at Singhu, Tikri and Ghazipur take out tractor rallies in Delhi on Tuesday, their counterparts in Haryana will undertake a parallel march within the state, leaders from multiple protest sites in South Haryana told *The Indian Express*.

According to farmer leaders, while protesters gathered at the Haryana-Rajasthan or Shahjahanpur-Khera border will travel on NH-48 up to the NSG campus in Manesar — moving around 58 km closer to Delhi — those in Nuh will conduct a tractor rally within the district. Protesters currently gathered at Masani in Rewari, who had broken through barricades at the Haryana-Rajasthan border on December 31, will also join the tractor rally towards Manesar.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Ramzan Chaudhary, head of the Nuh unit of Jai Kisan Andolan, said, "Shahjahanpur protesters have permission to move till Manesar, while protesters at Sunehra-Junhera border in Nuh will carry out a rally within

Nuh. We have gathered details of people joining us in each block; we don't know how many will turn up on the day, but we are expecting around 1,000 tractors."

Sanjay Madhav of the Sanyukt Kisan Morcha said protesters from Shahjahanpur, who include those who have joined from Rajasthan, Maharashtra, MP, UP, and Punjab, would try to move "as close as we can to Delhi". "Wherever we are stopped, we will turn back... we will maintain peace. We will depart at 9 am and are expecting at least 1,000 tractors to participate," he said.

Gurgaon and Rewari Police confirmed that farmers had been granted permission to carry out a march till the NSG campus. "There is no such limit on tractors permitted to participate but we will take details on how many vehicles will be there, how many volunteers they will appoint," said Abhishek Jorwal, Superintendent of Police, Rewari.

Gurgaon Police said around 1,400 personnel have been deployed in Manesar to ensure law and order. "We have personnel deployed from district police, Rapid Action Force, and ITBP," said Varun Singla, DCP (Manesar).

FROM HARYANA TO PUNJAB, THOUSANDS HEAD TO RALLY

On highways leading to Delhi: Langars every 5 km for a warm welcome

SUKHBIR SIWACH
NH-44 (AMBALA-DELHI HIGHWAY), JANUARY 25

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS leading to Delhi were packed with vehicles on Monday. Till late Sunday night, there was a heavy rush on NH-44 with hundreds of tractors, bikes, jeeps, trucks, buses and cars heading towards the national capital, with revolutionary songs blaring every few steps and protesters declaring

that they were ready for "a long battle to save their land from corporates".

Along the 178-km stretch of the national highway from Ambala to Kundli border, several cultural programmes were held by the roadside to encourage farmers. From local towns and villages, groups of youth carrying flags were seen welcoming those coming to Delhi. Langars were set up every 5 km to offer tea and snacks.

Ambala BKU president

Malkit Singh said, "I have been working for the BKU for the past 20 years but I never saw such enthusiasm for an agitation. It has become a mass movement, with every section of society coming out to support farmers. I believe that from each of Haryana's 7,000 villages, at least a few vehicles have moved to Delhi to join the tractor parade."

Several young men from Haryana and Punjab, carrying the Tricolour and flags of farm



unions on the vehicles, were also heading to the rally.

Tarwinder Singh (26), a resident of Changera village in Punjab's Patiala district, who is pursuing his graduation from a private university, was one among 13 youths in a tractor-trolley: "We were looking after our agricultural fields as our eld-

Three tractors head to the capital to join the Republic Day march. *Jaipal Singh*

ers have been camping at Delhi's borders for the past two months. Now, we too are moving to support them. We don't know when we will return." Ranjot Singh (21), who is pursuing his MBA through a correspondence programme from a technical university in Punjab, said: "Land given by our ancestors is everything for us, it's not a business."

NH-9, which connects Hisar to Delhi, also saw a rush, with several farmers carrying food items in their tractor trolleys for

a long stay at the protest sites.

Harjinder Singh, a former sarpanch from Piruwala village in Haryana's Yamunanagar district, said, "I fail to understand why the government is not repealing the laws."

Roopinder Singh from Rajpura town in Punjab chimed in: "I work for a private firm but I'm going to support the farmers. There is no doubt that prices of food items will be raised after amendments in the Essential Commodities Act."


Ministry of Information
and Broadcasting
Government of India


72nd Republic Day

On the Republic Day Greetings to All Fellow Citizens

'We the people' - With this spirit of the Republic, our large and diverse nation is striding ahead towards fulfilling the dreams and aspirations of the people. The collective power of 130 crore Indians today is connected to our national goals and is constantly strengthening our resolve to build a prosperous and self-reliant India.

- Narendra Modi



drnp 22/01/21 3:00:36/2021

Healthcare

ADVERTORIAL

Dr Vijay Kher: Spearheading Kidney Care in India



A legendary name, **Dr Vijay Kher**, Chairman, Nephrology, Kidney and Urology Institute, Medanta-the Medicity, Gurugram, comes with extensive pioneering initiatives in his field of specialization for over 40 years. He started the Department of Nephrology in the prestigious Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduation Institute, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh and has worked in multiple government and private hospitals including Apollo and Fortis. A teacher par excellence, he has published more than 230 papers in peer reviewed journals, 43 book chapters and edited 12 books to his credit in prestigious national and international publications and has been crowned with many honours.

What is the status of kidney care and transplantation in India?

Nephrology is fairly well advanced in terms of availability of technology, however there are not enough nephrologists in India (only 1800) for the growing number of patients with kidney disease. This is because of high prevalence of diabetes and high blood pressure, which are the common causes for kidney disease, heart disease, stroke and other complications. The global burden of disease data 2005-2015 indicates that kidney disease has grown from 12th rank to 8th rank as a cause of death in India. This growth (20.6%) is second only to diabetes (34.8%) in this decade. One of the biggest challenges for taking care of this growing number of patients with kidney diseases is limited manpower, both doctors and other healthcare worker especially trained technicians for dialysis.

An excellent initiative that provides hope to the economically weak is the announcement of the National Dialysis Programme (NDP) by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Peritoneal Dialysis was also included by the Govt. after advocacy by various stakeholders. I also hope that the national programme includes kidney transplantation, which is the best and the most cost-effective treatment option for kidney failure. We also need to have a regulatory body that stringently monitors the quality of dialysis being provided, particularly to those who are being treated for free in the National Dialysis programme.

We do about ten thousand kidney transplants in India every year. More than 90% are living donors and only 10% are from deceased donors. This number is highly inadequate for the need for such surgeries for growing kidney failure patients. We do not

have any national registry of transplants and do not have national outcome data. The national organ transplant and tissue organization (NOTTO) should make it mandatory for centres to provide outcome data and should form national registry for kidney transplant.

Cost of treating kidney failure with dialysis or transplantation are expensive. Therefore, it is extremely important to develop a national programme for prevention and early detection of kidney disease.

Is India in the red zone when it comes to kidney diseases, and why is it so?

India is in red zone not only for kidney disease but overall healthcare for its population. We spend less than 2.5% of our GDP on health and government spending on it is very little. To achieve universal health for our citizens, we need to allocate larger percentage of GDP to health. Most of our health care is provided by the private hospitals which obviously is expensive. Kidney care is expensive and need to be provided by Government through insurance, especially for poor and very poor. There is need to develop and nurture a strong public health system which should provide good secondary and tertiary care to people. Efficient utilization of resources where limited funds are used through smart management can give optimum results.

What is the burden of kidney diseases, its consequences and recommended treatment?

The incidence of chronic kidney disease in India is about 232 patients per million of population. About 2 lakh patients develop kidney failure every year in India. The com-

monest causes of kidney disease are diabetes and uncontrolled high blood pressure and these together account for about 50-55 percent of kidney diseases. The other causes are glomerulonephritis (inflammation of nephrons, kidney filters), drugs and infections. Chronic kidney disease is a slowly progressive disease and its last stage (stage 5 or kidney failure) is when kidney function is lost irreversibly to less than 15% when patient requires dialysis or kidney transplantation. From stage one to stage five of kidney disease it may takes many years and one should try to slow down the deterioration of kidney function during these years. Good control of diabetes (3 monthly HbA1c < 7%) and blood pressure control (<130/80 mmHg) are needed to achieve this. Swelling over eyes and feet, blood, protein (frothy urine) or pus cells in urine are early signs of kidney disease. A diseased kidney can cause high BP and uncontrolled high BP can cause damage to the kidney. Advanced kidney disease leads to weakness, breathlessness, tiredness, weight loss and poor appetite and anaemia. Kidney produces hormones like erythropoietin and vitamin D therefore patients with kidney disease have anaemia and bone disease also.

Can the condition of a sick kidney be reversed if detected early?

Acute kidney injury due to diarrhoea, blood loss and volume depletion, infection and drugs can be reversed. If diabetes and blood pressure are controlled effectively and consistently from its early stages, one might be able to prevent development of kidney disease due to these. Also chronic kidney disease can be and should be slowed down. There are newer drugs like SGLT inhibitors

and aldosterone antagonists which seem to be very promising drugs for retarding the progression of chronic kidney disease in addition to control of diabetes and blood pressure. Elderly age, family h/o diabetic kidney disease, diabetes and high blood pressure, smoking and obesity are risk factors for chronic kidney disease. Healthy food, exercise, no smoking and healthy life styles are essential ingredients to prevent/slow down kidney disease. Multi-targeted strategies have been effectively used in public health and can achieve to decrease diabetes as well as kidney disease in countries like Taiwan.

What are the latest training techniques and research underway in nephrology?

The patients with kidney failure have very high mortality which is worse than that of many cancers. The US Government along with all other stakeholders have come together for project KIDNEY X which seeks to improve the lives of 850 million people in the world with kidney disease by promoting research by collaboration for new devices, drug etc. A new implantable artificial kidney (much like a normal kidney) is being developed. This is undergoing trials presently and may be in the market hopefully in 5 years.

Medanta is a hub for robotic kidney transplantation. Dr Rajesh Ahlawat (a pioneer urologist and kidney transplant surgeon) and I have been working together for the last 30 years since the days of SGPGI, Lucknow and together have established kidney and urology institutes in various hospitals in NCR Delhi. Robotic kidney transplant is minimally invasive surgery technique which has been a new area of

development for kidney transplant surgery ever since the first successful kidney transplant in 1954 at Boston.

Why is (deceased) cadaver donation so crucial?

Only 3% of kidney failure patient in India get kidney transplantation – predominantly because of non-availability of donors and also non-affordability. Deceased donation is extremely crucial to increase the donor pool. It also allows other organ transplants like heart, liver, lungs and others. There is a constant need to improve awareness about organ donations.

Deceased donations have improved particularly in southern and western states such as Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat as compared to the north and the east, where the response is still poor. In India, large number of people die in road accidents and we are unable to harness donations from these. We need also to work towards improving the trust in medical systems among patients and their relatives. Nevertheless, some of government hospitals have done remarkably well in deceased donor kidney transplant such as PGI Chandigarh, Madras Medical College and others.

What are your outreach initiatives to educate doctors in the semi-rural and rural regions of the country?

It is important to educate physicians, technicians, nurses to improve the quality of care for our patients. I have been teaching physicians, general practitioners and post-graduates. We have been active through various NGO's like kidney education and research network (KERN) and MKF (spear-

headed by Dr. Umesh Khanna along with us) to educate them. Aim is to create educated and skilled workforce to take care of patients in early as well as in advance stages of disease. We also have been educating patients to improve their knowledge. Well informed patients demand good care and therefore they become an instrument in improving overall care. We also do organ donation education and awareness camps in high schools, colleges and general public.

How are you contributing to the new normal of reaching out digitally?

Covid pandemic for last one year has opened viable opportunity for digital outreach to patients. Digital platforms have also enabled us to educate through webinars – general public, doctors, healthcare workers as well through facebook, twitter and you tube. Digital platforms have improved the reach of nephrology students across the country and even from neighbouring countries. Our scope of tele-consultations for patients has also opened up. These allow consultation by renowned doctors for a patient even in the most remote area of the country.

Issued in Public Interest by



BRIEFLY

English teaching prog launched

New Delhi: Deputy CM Manish Sisodia and Minister Counselor for Public Affairs of US Embassy David H Kennedy jointly launched an English teaching programme for 700 pre-service teachers from nine all-women colleges of Delhi, in the presence of senior Education department officials and dignitaries from US Embassy. The programme will have online courses on Teaching English for 21st Century and Content-Language Integrated Learning Skills. **ENS**

Projects worth Rs 706 crore in Noida

Noida: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Monday laid foundation stones and inaugurated 66 small and big projects totalling Rs 706 crore in Noida via a video conference from Lucknow. **PTI**

'DOORSTEP DELIVERY IN MARCH, HEALTH CARDS BY YEAR-END'

Health infra built over last 5 yrs helped fight Covid: Kejriwal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

CHIEF MINISTER Arvind Kejriwal Monday said that Delhi had managed to fight the Covid-19 pandemic because of the robust healthcare systems built in the city over the past five years.

"On November 11, there were 8,500 cases in a day. It is said this was the highest single-day spike in a city in the world... In New York, in the first week of April, there were 6,300 cases but you could see people posting on social media that their healthcare system had collapsed. People were lining up outside hospitals, they were in corridors... In Delhi, on November 11 though, there were 7,000 vacant beds. There were no patients in corridors and on roads. It is the work done over the past five years, where doctors and officers have worked together to strengthen the system, that shone through and we were able to manage things," said



Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal unveils the Ashoka Pillar at the Delhi Legislative Assembly, Monday. *Praveen Khanna*

Kejriwal. He added that Delhi was the first city in the world to start placing people under home isolation. Over 3.12 lakh people recovered under home isolation that was started first in Delhi, where the first plasma bank in the world opened. So far, 4,929 people have received plasma

therapy, the chief minister said during the Republic Day function on Monday. The government, he said, will roll out the doorstep delivery of ration scheme in the city in March. "By March, a big scheme — doorstep delivery of ration — will start. At present, people have to

stand in lines, deal with several issues such as rudeness and shops being shut. Under this scheme, people will be able to get ration at home. If you have to get 25 kg wheat and 10 kg rice, it will be sent to your doorstep," he said.

The long-awaited health cards, under which the medical history of patients will be available to all hospitals digitally, will also start by the end of the year, the CM said.

"The health department has worked wonders. We will soon issue health cards for all people and to begin with, this will be started in government hospitals. A health ID will be created. One won't need any slips. Your health records will be on that card. When you go to hospital, you won't have to stand in line. You can book appointments online and on the phone. The doctor will be waiting for you at the designated hour," he said.

In the evening, Kejriwal also unveiled the Ashoka Pillar at the Delhi Assembly.

North MCD raises fines on illegal cattle shelters

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE NORTH MCD has decided to levy a fine of Rs 5,000 on illegal cattle shelters in its jurisdiction after an internal survey found 266 illegal dairies operating in North Delhi.

"As per a National Green Tribunal order, the corporation has the power to levy fines. Challans up to Rs 5,000 could be levied on those running illegal cattle shelters," said Leader of the house, North MCD, Yogesh Verma, adding that illegal dairies cause environmental degradation as they don't follow waste disposal norms.

He said this will help control the menace of stray cattle on roads.

According to Verma, illegal dairies are fined between Rs 100 and Rs 500 as of now but this was not acting as a deterrent.

Since 2019, the North MCD has issued 956 challans against illegal dairy owners, apart from writing to police to register FIRs and to the Delhi Jal Board to cut their water supply. But the problem has snowballed, with stray cattle clogging traffic at several



North body officials feel the move will also help control the menace of stray cattle on the roads. *Archive*

locations, including prominent markets.

Cattle seen on roads are mostly bulls, male calves or cows that have stopped producing milk. Most are abandoned by owners and illegal dairies after they stop being of economic value.

Besides, the North MCD has decided to collect taxes from paying guest accommodations in their jurisdiction to improve its finances. North MCD standing committee head Chail Bihari Goswami said a survey would be

done to ascertain the number of PGs in the area.

"This would help us know how many such establishments are there in Delhi and if they pay property tax or not. They will have to register with the civic body and pay some amount as they are engaged in commercial activity," he said, adding that no extra charge is taken from them at the moment.

There are thousands of PGs running across North Delhi, especially in areas around Delhi University's North Campus.

झारखंड सरकार ग्रामीण विकास विभाग(ग्रामोका0मा0)
मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी रोड, रांची
ई- अल्पकालिन पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई-निविदा संख्या:-165/R1/2019-20/RDD(RWA)/DALTONGANJ दिनांक-25.01.2021
मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग(ग्रामोका0मा0), झारखंड, रांची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र.सं.	आई-टी ई-प्रोक्वेस्ट संख्या / वेबसाइट संख्या	कार्य का नाम	अंश में	अंश में	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि	टेंडर कोड नं.
1.	RDD(RWA)/ DALTONGANJ /12/2019-20	बारी मोड से रजबेवा एनएच-75 या विक्रम शर्मा के घर बारी ग्राम का सुदुकीकरण कार्य (लं-4 .100 फीटिंग)	1,37,66,585.00	एक करोड़ सैंतीस लाख छियासठ हजार पाँच सौ पचासी रूप मात्र	09 माह	तृतीय
2.	वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 01.02.2021					
3.	ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- 08.02.2021 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे।					
4.	जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, रांची में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रपत्र की राशि, शायद पत्र के मूल प्रति एवं अपलोड किये गये तकनीकी योग्यता दस्तावेज की एक प्रति जमा करने की तिथि:- 09.02.2021 पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक।					
5.	निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- 10.02.2021 पूर्वाह्न 11.30 बजे।					
6.	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग(ग्रामोका0मा0), झारखंड, रांची, 102 द्वितीय तल्ला अभियंत्रण भवन, रांची।					
7.	ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं-0651-2207818					
8.	निविदा शुल्क झारखंड राज्य में अवस्थित भारतीय स्टेट बैंक / अन्य राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निविदाकार के नाम / अकाउंट से ही निरिक्त बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग(ग्रामो का0 मा0ले), कार्य प्रमंडल, डालतेनगंज के पक्ष में एवं डालतेनगंज में भुगतान होगा जो लांघा नहीं जायेगा।					

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> में देखा जा सकता है।

PR 240106 Rural Work Department(20-21)D नोडल पदाधिकारी ई-प्रोक्वेस्ट सेल

झारखंड सरकार
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हटिया योजना, रांची

अति अल्पकालिन ई प्रोक्वेस्ट टेंडर नोटिस
तृतीय निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
(प्रथम निविदा आमंत्रण PR - 233149(Drinking Water and Sanitation)20-21'D
(द्वितीय निविदा आमंत्रण PR - 236428(Drinking Water and Sanitation)20-21'D
निविदा आमंत्रण संख्या- DWS/HATIA/01/20-21 दिनांक - 25/01/2021

क्र.सं.	कार्य का नाम	अंश में	अंश में	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि	टेंडर कोड नं.
1	Operation and Maintenance of 56.75 MLD WTP at Hatia Filtration Plant by Intake works at Hatia Dam, Raw water rising mains from Hatia Dam to WTP, Clear water rising mains of C.I. Pipe and process water rising main of CI pipe, Clear water distribution mains in Hatia water supply scheme from existing ESR and GSR under D.W. and S. Division Hatia Project Ranchi. water supply scheme for three year (2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23) Excluding the energy cost.	7,00,29,281.00 (सात करोड़ उन्नीस हजार दो सौ इक्कासी)	7,01,000.00 (सात लाख एक हजार)		
2	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में)				
3	अग्रपत्र की राशि (रूपये में)				
4	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि			छत्तीस माह	
5	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रूपये में)			10,00,000 (दस हजार)	
6	वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय			27/01/2021 को पूर्वा 11.30 बजे।	
7	प्रो बिड बैंक की तिथि एवं समय			नहीं।	
8	निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय			05/02/2021 को अपराह्न 05.00 बजे तक।	
9	अग्रपत्र की राशि एवं परिमाण विपत्र मूल्य प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय			08/02/2021 को अपराह्न 4.00 बजे तक।	
10	निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय			08/02/2021 को अपराह्न 04.30 बजे।	
11	विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता			कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हटिया योजना, रांची।	
12	जिनके द्वारा निविदा खोली जायेगी का पदनाम एवं पता			कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हटिया योजना, रांची।	
13	प्रोक्वेस्ट कार्यालय का सम्पर्क नं०			8340373540	
14	ई प्रोक्वेस्ट सेल का सहायता केन्द्र नं०			0651-2480345 एवं 9931100907	

विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु वेबसाइट <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर देखें। प्राक्कलित राशि घट अथवा बढ़ सकती है उसी प्रकार से अग्रपत्र राशि भी देय होगी है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, हटिया योजना, रांची

PR 240091 (Drinking Water and Sanitation)20-21#D

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH

E-Tender Notice No. P/IE(P)/20-21/09 Phone No. 0172-2756495

Sr. No.	Equipment/Item Name	Quantity	EMD	Bid submission date	Bid Opening Date	Dept. Name
1	Non Pre Bid cases					
2	CAPRI Machine	05 Nos.	48,000/-	11-02-2021	12-02-2021	Paediatrics
3	Theracology	01 No.	20,000/-	-0-	-0-	Surgical Gastroenterology
4	Vascular Set	01 No.	20,000/-	-0-	-0-	Surgical Gastroenterology
5	AVF Cannulation Simulation Model	01 No.	20,000/-	-0-	-0-	Nephrology
6	1,3- Beta-TG-Glucan Detection Kits	120 kits	214,000/-	-0-	-0-	Medical Microbiology
7	322m Frequency Double Nd: Yag Green Laser Light Guide Optofibercore Delivery System	02 Nos.	140,000/-	12-02-2021	15-02-2021	AEC
8	Photodynamic Therapy (PDT) Laser	01 No.	90,000/-	-0-	-0-	AEC
9	Various Radionuclides	As per technical Specifications	198,640/-	-0-	-0-	Nuclear Medicine
10	Pre Bid Cases					
11	High Energy Linear Accelerator for Neutron Extension Block	As per technical Specifications	40,00,000/-	-0-	-0-	Radiotherapy
12	Pattern Scan Laser	01 No.	110,000/-	-0-	-0-	AEC
13	ECMO Machine	01 No.	100,000/-	15-02-2021	16-02-2021	Anaesthesia
14	Pulmonary Function Testing System-Integrated Impulse Oscillation System (IOS)with body Plethysmography and Diffusion Study	01 No.	120,000/-	-0-	-0-	Paediatrics
15	Wireless full HD Camera Based LEDOT Lights	01 No.	110,000/-	-0-	-0-	Paed. Surgery
16	Clinical Simulator for Viro Testing	01 No.	200,000/-	-0-	-0-	Anaesthesia (B.G.C.)

Tender List can be downloaded from website www.pigmr.ac.in and can be applied on website www.eprocure.gov.in in place of Earned Money Deposit/Bid Security only "Bid Security Declaration" may be submitted by the Bidders as per Rule 170(a) of GER 2017. The tenders shall be opened on the next date at 05.00 PM in the presence of the authorized standing tenders. Tenders not submitted on the prescribed form, not accompanied with Bid Security Declaration shall be summarily rejected straightway. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reason thereof. "PRE-BID CONFERENCE" WITH INTENDING BIDDERS FOR ITEM No. 09 to 14 shall be held on 05-02-2021 from 03:00 P.M. ONWARDS IN THE PHYS. OFFICE, PIGMER, CHANDIGARH. The intending bidder are free to join the bid conference through video conference. For more details contact: 0172-2756495 at Procurement Branch (Pigmer). NOTE: 1. The terms and Conditions of the original Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) available on PIGMER Website will remain same. However on switching over to e-tendering on e-Procurement, the Bids will be received in electronic form on e-Procurement website and no bid will be received in Physical form. NOTE 2. If any of the tender opening dates happens to be a holiday in PIGMER, Chandigarh, then the same shall be opened on next full working day. Additional Terms and Conditions: 1. The Institute has adopted standard Notice Inviting Tenders (NIT) which is available on e-Procurement website (<http://www.eprocure.gov.in>) and Website: www.pigmr.ac.in. Therefore the bidders are requested to go through the instructions carefully before submitting bids. (DG&P/IG)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER TRANS. LINE MAINT. DIV-IV, JKPTCL, AMBEDKAR CHOWK, JAMMU J&K
Email: extltd2@gmail.com, Ph/Fax: 0191-2453427

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
E-NIT No: TLM-D/IV/J09 of 2020-21 Dated: 21.01.2021

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of J&K Union Territory, Short Term (Item Rate Based) E-Tenders are invited by the Executive Engineer, TLM-D/IV, Jammu, online from approved and reputed/registered contractors/Transporters/ firms dealing with job for hiring of private vehicle i.e (Rate contract) under two cover system, Cover 1 consisting of technical bid and Cover 2 consisting of financial bid having sufficient experience, for the Supervision of ongoing works of 132KV D/C Hiranagar-Battal Manwal Trans. Line in accordance with terms & conditions and specifications described in the tender documents.

Sr. No.	Name of the Tender	Cost of Tender Document (in Rs.)	Earnest Money	Tender Receiving Authority
1.	Rate contract for Providing of Light Inspection Vehicle such as Mahindra Bolero, Innova, Chevrolet Tavera, Scorpio etc. of make not before 2015 Model on hire charge including P.O.L. for an average run of 2000 Km per month, (mileage exceeding 2000 Km shall be paid extra at the quoted rates). Salary of Driver, Toll Tax and expenses for repair and maintenance etc. of Vehicle shall be paid by the Firm, the quoted rate should be Firm and should be on monthly rent basis (Rate contract), for official use of Executive Engineer TLM-D/IV, Jammu for Supervision of ongoing works 132KV D/C Hiranagar-Battal Manwal Trans. Line.	500/-	1000/-	Executive Engineer, TLM-D/IV, Ambedkar Chowk, Jammu

1. The bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 23.01.2021 at 10.00 A.M to 06.02.2021 upto 1600 Hrs. No: TLM-D/IV/J2767-69 Dated:- 21.01.2021 Executive Engineer Trans Line Maintt. Division-IV, JKPTCL Jammu DIPJ-3813

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Bhopal
Institute Works Department, Bhopal Bypass Road, Bhauri, Bhopal-462 066

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
Institute works Department, IISER Bhopal on behalf of the Board of Governors invites online percentage rate tenders for the following works from eligible firms / contractors in two envelope system.

Sl. No.	NIT No. & Date	Name of work	Estimated cost	Period
1.	IWD/SE/NIT/2020-21/031 dated 18.01.2021	Comprehensive maintenance of fire alarm system installed in various buildings at IISER Bhopal for the year 2021.	₹ 5,85,716	12 Months
2.	IWD/SE/NIT/2020-21/032 dated 22.01.2021	Providing services for maintenance of the green area like lawns, plants/trees etc. and hiring of excavator (JCB) & tractor/tractor with trolley at IISER Bhopal.	₹ 88,96,358	12 Months
3.	IWD/SE/NIT/2020-21/033 dated 22.01.2021	Cleaning, repairing & maintenance work of pond at IISER Bhopal.	₹ 7,48,417	2 Months
4.	IWD/SE/NIT/2020-21/034 dated 23.01.2021	Providing services of cleaning, sweeping & up keeping of IISER Bhopal.	₹ 1,48,43,085	12 Months
5.	IWD/SE/NIT/2020-21/035 dated 23.01.2021	Repairs & Civil Maintenance in Academic Block-II (Elements) at IISER Bhopal	₹ 38,77,300	3 Months

The bid forms and other details for application can be obtained from the website www.tenderwizard.com/IISERB. The press notice is also available in Institute website www.iiserb.ac.in and website www.eprocure.gov.in.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT/AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD DEPARTMENT/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK GHARAJINDA	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 preveerg.krl@hry.nic.in
2	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK MISSING	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 preveerg.krl@hry.nic.in
3	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK MUMAK	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 preveerg.krl@hry.nic.in
4	PWD(B & R) SONEPAT	CONSTRUCTION OF REVENUE RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS FOR SOM & TEHSILDAR IN MINI SECT. AT KHARKHODA IN SONEPAT DISTT. (HONBLE C.M. ANNOUNCEMENT CODE L5158 DATED 16.10.2015 + 2 OTHER WORK)	CLOSING DATE 11.02.2021	2406.53 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0130-2244690 pwd-espdl-sonapat@hry.nic.in
5	PWD(B & R) JIND	SPECIAL REPAIR OF JIND-SAFIDORI ROAD TO HALAR IN JIND DISTT. (ROAD ID 6702)	CLOSING DATE 11.02.2021	44.60 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01661-249416 pwd-espdl-jind@hry.nic.in
6	PANCHAYATI RAJ HESAR	PROVIDING AND INSTALLATION OF STP BASED ON JOHNSON / ADVANCED MBR TECHNOLOGY AT DIFFERENT VILLAGES OF HESAR DISTRICT I.E. INCLUDING DESIGNING, COMMISSIONING, 1 YEAR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (EXTENDED MAINTENANCE FOR 4 YEARS.)	23.01.2021 08.02.2021	5.15 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9467251500 preveerg.hsr@hry.nic.in
7	PWD(B & R) HANSI	PERIODICAL RENEWAL BY PROVIDING HEAVY PATCH-WORK ON MOTPUTLI (IN THE STATE OF RAJASTHAN) NARNALA-MOHENDERGARH-DHARHAR DADRI-BHOWAN-HANSI- BARNWALA-TOHANA (IN THE STATE OF HARYANA) (NH-143-B) KM 163.468 TO 196.520 & 197.270 TO 204.900 (RE-INVITED)	22.01.2021 12.02.2021	321.67 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416136946 pwd-espdl-hansi@hry.nic.in
8	PHE SWAMI	GUDHA- PROVIDING FUNCTIONAL HOUSE HOLD TAP CONNECTION (FHTC) AND LAYING OF DI PIPE LINE UNDER JIM CATEGORY-JIND (JIM) IN VILLAGE GUDHA, "LAYING OF DI PIPE LINE AND MAKING FHTC CONNECTIONS IN VILLAGE GUDHA AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO." + 1 OTHER WORK.	CLOSING DATE 28.01.2021	5.30 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01255-277066 eswami@pheadswami.nic.in
9	IRRIGATION HISAR	REMODELLING OF NEW SWANK FEEDER FROM RD 0 TO 76170.	27.01.2021 10.02.2021	2548 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01662-237166 venoetnet7he@gmail.com
10	IRRIGATION AMBALA	CONSTRUCTING 1 NO. STONE STUOP FOR THE PROTECTION OF ABAND OF VILLAGE RAMGARH HARA FLOOD WATER OF RIVER TANGRI + 23 OTHERS	29.01.2021 05.02.2021	611.04 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0171-2981541 xemwsd/namb588@yahoo.co.in
11	PANCHAYATI RAJ ROHTAK	CONSTRUCTION OF 16 NOS. VILLAGE ANGANWARI AT DISTRICT ROHTAK	23.01.2021 04.02.2021	143.84 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9467725150 preveerg.roh@hry.nic.in
12	PWD(B & R) FARIDABAD	CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ROAD FROM SHAHJAHANPUR KHADAR TO LATIFPUR KM. 020 TO 2.445 IN FARIDABAD DISTRICT CDR# 22007 REINVITED	22.01.2021 11.02.2021	111.27 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0129-2288187 pwd-espdl-faridabad@hry.nic.in
13	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK INDRI	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 preveerg.krl@hry.nic.in
14	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK KUNIPUSA	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 preveerg.krl@hry.nic.in
15	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK MLOKHERI	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 preveerg.krl@h

9 EXPRESS NETWORK

R-Day honour

Covid ward doctor to singer, physicist to transgender folk artist, a look at Padma awardees

PADMA VIBHUSHAN



SHINZO ABE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS, JAPAN

He was the first Japanese PM to be Chief Guest at the Republic Day parade in 2014. As Japan's leader, he was wooed both by the UPA under Dr Manmohan Singh and the NDA under Narendra Modi.



SP BALASUBRAMANIAM
(POSTHUMOUS)
ART, TAMIL NADU

Popularly known as SPB, his career spanned five decades in the film and stage music world with hits in 16 languages, many in Tamil and his mother tongue Telugu.



DR BELLE MONAPPA HEGDE
MEDICINE, KARNATAKA

Hegde is a decorated cardiologist and former vice chancellor of the Manipal University. He has in recent years been a critic of modern medicine and a proponent of alternative medicine.



NARINDER SINGH KAPANY
(POSTHUMOUS)
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING, USA

Kapany laid the foundation for high speed internet technology. He had more than 100 patents in his name.



MAULANA WAHIDUDDIN KHAN
OTHERS (SPIRITUALISM), DELHI

A noted Islamic scholar, Khan has penned several books while advocating social harmony and interfaith dialogue. He was conferred the Padma Bhushan in 2000.



BB LAL
OTHERS (ARCHAEOLOGY), DELHI

Lal had led an excavation team at the Ram Janmabhoomi site and pointed to the presence of temple-like structures below the Babri Masjid. He received the Padma Bhushan in 2000.



SUDARSHAN SAHOO
ART, ODISHA

An eminent sculptor from Puri district, Sahoo is the founder of the Sudarshan Arts and Crafts Village in Bhubaneswar. The artist was also awarded the Padma Shri in 1988.

PADMA SHRI

Rama Swamy Annavarapu
Art, Andhra Pradesh

Subbu Arumugam
Art, Tamil Nadu

Prakasarao Asavadi
Literature and Education, Andhra Pradesh

Bhuri Bai
Art, Madhya Pradesh

Radhe Shyam Barle
Art, Chhattisgarh

Barle is an exponent of Panthi, a folk dance form. He holds an MBBS degree.

Dharma Narayan Barma
Literature and Education, West Bengal

Lakhimi Baruah
Social Work, Assam

Baruah founded an all women bank in 1998 to help underprivileged women.

Biren Kumar Basak
Art, West Bengal

Rajni Bector
Trade and Industry, Punjab

Peter Brook
Art, United Kingdom

Sangkhumi Bualchhuak
Social Work, Mizoram

Gopiram Bargayn
Burabhakat Art, Assam

Bijoya Chakravarty
Public Affairs, Assam

BJP leader from Assam, former MP of Guwahati

Sujit Chattopadhyay
Literature and Education, West Bengal

former headmaster who after his retirement turned his house into a classroom for underprivileged students

Jagdish Chaudhary
(Posthumous)
Social Work, Uttar Pradesh

Tsultrim Chonjor
Social Work, Ladakh

Mouma Das
Sports, West Bengal

Srikant Datar
Literature and Education, United States of America

Narayan Debnath
Art, West Bengal

He had written and illustrated serialised comic strip *Handa Bhonda*

Chutni Devi
Social Work, Jharkhand

A victim of witchhunting, she later helped others who faced similar harassment

Dulari Devi
Art, Bihar

Renowned Mithila painter from Madhubani

Radhe Devi
Art, Manipur

Shanti Devi
Social Work, Odisha

Wayan Dibia
Art, Indonesia

Dadudan Gadhavi
Literature & Education, Gujarat

A native of Saurashtra region, he is popularly known as Kavi Dad in Gujarat

Parshuram Atmaram Gangavane
Art, Maharashtra

Puppeteer who has worked for preservation of the Chitrakathi folk art

Jai Bhagwan Goyal
Literature and Education, Haryana

Jagdish Chandra Halder
Literature and Education, West Bengal

Mangal Singh Hazowary
Literature and Education, Assam

Anshu Jamsenpa
Sports, Arunachal Pradesh

Purnamasi Jani
Art, Odisha

Matha B. Manjamma Jogati
Art, Karnataka

Damodaran Kaithapram
Art, Kerala

Lyricist, music director and script writer in Malayalam film industry.

Namdeo C Kamble
Literature and Education, Maharashtra

Maheshbhai & Shri Nareshbhai Kanodia (Duo)
Art, Gujarat

Legends in Gujarati film and music industry, Mahesh and Naresh were elected several times to Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha, respectively.

Rajat Kumar Kar
Literature and Education, Odisha

Rangasami Lakshminarayana Kashyap
Literature and Education, Karnataka

Prakash Kaur
Social Work, Punjab

Awarded for social service towards girls abandoned on roads. Runs a home that which houses 80-odd girls.

Nicholas Kazanas
Literature and Education, Greece

K Kesavasamy
Art, Puducherry

Ghulam Rasool Khan
Art, Jammu and Kashmir

Lakha Khan
Art, Rajasthan

Khan is known as the greatest exponent of *sindhi sarang*, a 26-string instrument

Sanjida Khatun
Art, Bangladesh

Vinayak Vishnu Khedekar
Art, Goa

Niru Kumar
Social Work, Delhi

Lajwanti
Art, Punjab

Rattan Lal
Science and Engineering, United States of America

Ali Manikfan
Others-Grassroots, Innovation, Lakshadweep

Ramachandra Manjhi
Art, Bihar

Dulal Manki
Art, Assam

Nanadro B Marak
Others- Agriculture, Meghalaya

Rewben Mashangva
Art, Manipur

Chandrakant Mehta
Literature and Education, Gujarat

Dr Rattan Lal Mittal
Medicine, Punjab

Madhavan Nambiar
Sports, Kerala

Was the coach of ace Indian athlete PT Usha

Shyam Sundar Paliwal
Social Work, Rajasthan

Chandrakant Sambhaji Pandav
Medicine, Delhi

PADMA BHUSHAN



KRISHNAN NAIR SHANTAKUMARI CHITHRA
ART, KERALA

Playback singer and Carnatic musician, she was honoured with the Padma Shri in 2005. Has received honours from several countries including US, UK.

TARUN GOGOI
(POSTHUMOUS)
PUBLIC AFFAIRS, ASSAM

A former Congress leader who was three time Chief Minister of Assam. He died in November last year at the age of 84.

CHANDRASHEKHAR KAMBARA
LITERATURE AND EDUCATION, KARNATAKA

A well-known Kannada poet, playwright, folklorist and director, he is a strong proponent of educating children in their native languages.



SUMITRA MAHAJAN
PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MP

Former Lok Sabha speaker and eight term MP from Indore, Mahajan also served as a Union Minister of State from 1999-2004. She is the second woman to be elected LS Speaker.

KESHUBHAI PATEL
(POSTHUMOUS) PUBLIC AFFAIRS, GUJARAT

The BJP's first chief minister in Gujarat when it captured power in 1995, Patel was revered as a leader among Patidars. He died while recovering from Covid 19 last year.

KALBE SADIQ
(POSTHUMOUS) OTHERS-SPIRITUALISM, UP

Founder of the Tauheedul Muslimen Trust, Kalbe Sadiq was an Islamic scholar, reformer, educationist, philanthropist and preacher. He died in November last year.

RAJNIKANT DEVIDAS SHROFF
TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MAHARASHTRA

Mumbai-based founder of United Phosphorus Limited (UPL), an chemical production company. He is popularly hailed as India's 'crop protection king'.

TARLOCHAN SINGH
PUBLIC AFFAIRS, HARYANA

Rajya Sabha MP from Haryana, he served in top positions at the National Commission for Minorities 2000-2006. He was also a Member, National Human Rights Commission from 2003-2006.

Dr J N Pande
(Posthumous)
Medicine, Delhi

Solomon Pappaiah
Literature and Education, Journalism, Tamil Nadu

Pappammal
Others- Agriculture, Tamil Nadu

Dr Krishna Mohan Pathi
Medicine, Odisha

Jaswantiben Jamnadas Popat
Trade and Industry, Maharashtra

Girish Prabhune
Social Work, Maharashtra

Nanda Prusty
Literature and Education, Odisha

K K Ramachandra Pulavar
Art, Kerala

Balan Putheri
Literature and Education, Kerala

Birubala Rabha
Social Work, Assam

Kanaka Raju
Art, Telangana

Bombay Jayashri Ramnath
Art, Tamil Nadu

Satyaram Reang
Art, Tripura

Dr Dhananjay Diwakar
Sagdeo, Medicine, Kerala

Ashok Kumar Sahu
Medicine, Uttar Pradesh

Dr Bhupendra Kumar Singh Sanjay
Medicine, Uttarakhand

Sindhutai Sapkal
Social Work, Maharashtra

Chaman Lal Sapru
(Posthumous)
Literature and Education, Jammu and Kashmir

Roman Sarmah
Literature and Education, Journalism, Assam

Imran Shah
Literature and Education, Assam

Prem Chand Sharma
Others- Agriculture, Uttarakhand

Arjun Singh Shekhawat
Literature and Education, Rajasthan

Has written or edited over

50 books. He is known for tribal literature

Ram Yatna Shukla
Literature and Education, Uttar Pradesh

Jitender Singh Shunty
Social Work, Delhi

Kartar Paras Ram Singh
Art, Himachal Pradesh

Kartar Singh
Art, Punjab

Dr Dilip Kumar Singh
Medicine, Bihar

Chandra Shekhar Singh
Others-Agriculture, Uttar Pradesh

Sudha Hari Narayan Singh
Sports, Uttar Pradesh

Virender Singh
Sports, Haryana

Mridula Sinha
(Posthumous)
Literature and Education, Bihar

Former Goa governor, known for works such as *Jyon mehandi ko rang* (novel).

K C Sivasankar
(Posthumous)
Art, Tamil Nadu

Guru Maa Kamali Soren
Social Work, West Bengal

Marachi Subburaman
Social Work, Tamil Nadu

P Subramanian
(Posthumous)
Trade and Industry, Tamil Nadu

Nidumolu Sumathi
Art, Andhra Pradesh

Kapil Tiwari
Literature and Education, Madhya Pradesh

Father Vallés
(Posthumous)
Literature and Education, Spain

Dr Thiruvengadam Veeraraghavan
(Posthumous)
Medicine, Tamil Nadu

Sridhar Vembu
Trade and Industry, Tamil Nadu

K Y Venkatesh
Sports, Karnataka

Usha Yadav
Literature and Education, Uttar Pradesh

Col Quazi Sajjad Ali Zahir
Public Affairs, Bangladesh

Gallantry awards for all 20 soldiers killed in Galwan Valley clash

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

ALL THE 20 soldiers who had died fighting the Chinese troops in hand-to-hand combat at Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh on June 15 were awarded gallantry awards posthumously.



(Clockwise from top left) Col B Santosh Babu, Havildar K Palani, Sepoy Gurtej Singh, Naib Subedar Nuduram Soren

The awards to these soldiers comprise one Maha Vir Chakra, four Vir Chakras and 15 Sena Medals. One soldier who survived the clash has been awarded a Vir Chakra.

Late Colonel B Santosh Babu, commanding officer of the 16 Bihar regiment that was posted in Galwan Valley near Patrolling Point 14 has been awarded the Maha Vir Chakra, the second-highest military award.

The five Vir Chakra awardee soldiers for the Galwan fight include Naib Subedar Nuduram Soren, Havildar K Palani, Naik Deepak Singh, and Sepoy Gurtej Singh, who have been awarded posthumously, and Havildar Tejinder Singh.

Subedar Sanjiv Kumar of the Parachute Regiment has been awarded the Kirti Chakra posthumously for an operation on April 4, in Keran Sector of J&K "to intercept and eliminate an infiltration track of Pakistan sponsored terrorists".

Four CRPF personnel have been awarded Kirti Chakras. They include Deputy Commandant Rahul Mathur and three personnel awarded posthumously — Inspector Pintu Kumar Singh, Head Constable Shyam Narain Singh Yadava and Constable Vinod Kumar.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Tie your ideas with action: PM to Bal Puraskar awardees

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

HUNDREDS OF stories of resilience emerged during the lockdown, which pushed lakhs of migrant workers and their families from their city dwellings to make seemingly-impossible journeys back to their home states.

Jyoti Kumari's was one such story — the 16-year-old cycled 1,200 km from Haryana's Sikandarpur to her village in Bihar's Darbhanga with her ailing father riding pillion. The story captured the imagination of the country, with offers from the Cycling Federation of India, political party IJP wanting to fund her education and even the announcement of a film to be made on her called *Atmanirbhar*.

On Monday, Jyoti was one of 32 children from across the country who virtually received the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar (PMRBP) award from Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Selected from 32 districts of 21 states and UTs, seven awards have been given in the field of Art and Culture, nine have been given for Innovation and five for scholastic achievements. Seven children have won in the sports category, three have been felicitated for bravery and one child has been honoured for her efforts in the field of social service. Each award carries a medal, a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh, a certificate and a citation.

Jyoti received her award for bravery. The Prime Minister interacted with a number of the awardees via video conferencing, congratulating them and saying that this year's awards were especially sig-

In medals list: CRPF man who tried to stop Pulwama bomber; Hathras probe officer

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE ITBP IG negotiating with Chinese PLA in Ladakh, a CRPF ASI who chased and fired at the bomb-laden car that killed 40 security personnel in the 2019 Pulwama attack, and two CBI officers who supervised probes into the Hathras gangrape-and-murder and the Jammu and Kashmir Roshni Act cases are among more than 900 awardees of gallantry and service medal awards this Republic Day.

The J&K Police among state police forces and the CRPF among central armed police forces (CAPFs) have once again cornered the lion's share of gallantry medals. Of the 205 Police Medals for Gallantry (PMG) this year, J&K has bagged 52, while CRPF has been conferred 68. BSF has bagged 20 such medals.

ITBP IG Deepam Seth, who heads the force's North West Frontier, is among the 89 recipients of the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service. An IPS officer of the Uttarakhand cadre, Seth has been part of all Corps Commander level meetings held between Indian and Chinese forces since June last year in Ladakh as a representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs. He also led the force in the rescue of Army soldiers during the Galwan clash in June last year, and was also part of operations when Indian forces made a pre-emptive move on the South Bank of Pangong Tso in August-September, 2020 and took certain advantageous positions at Rezang La.

Only two President's Police Medal for Gallantry (PPMG) have been conferred this year, with one awarded to Jharkhand Police ASI Banua Oraon for an anti-Maoist operation in 2018 and the other to CRPF's ASI Mohan Lal for his at-

tempt to prevent the 2019 Pulwama attack. Both died while performing their duties.

According to CRPF, on February 14, 2019, when the attack took place, ASI Mohan Lal of the 110 btm was the picket commander of the road opening party at Lethpora in Pulwama on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway. At about 3.10 pm, Lal noticed a car running alongside the CRPF convoy passing through the area and trying to enter between the convoy vehicles. "Lal... rushed to stop the suspicious vehicle... Ultimately, finding no other option, he fired towards the suspicious car to stop, but the car rammed into a nearby running CRPF bus, and a huge blast took place," Lal's citation reads.

CBI Joint Directors Sampat Meena and Vineet Vinayak are among six officers from the agency who have been awarded Distinguished Service medals.

Meena supervised investigations into the Hathras case, while Vinayak led the probe into the alleged Roshni land scam in Jammu and Kashmir.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com



PM Narendra Modi interacts with the awardees via video conference in Delhi; Jyoti Kumari (16), who cycled 1,200 km from Haryana to her village in Bihar with her ailing father riding pillion, was among the 32 awardees

nificant as the recipients "earned them in the difficult times of Covid-19 pandemic".

Calling the achievements of the awardees astonishing, the Prime Minister further said that the future scientists, sportspeople, CEOs and leaders of the country would come from among them. "You will receive many congratulations, mentions in media reports and even interviews after this. But remember to tie your ideas with action and continue to make efforts and take action. Whenever a cause has been somehow connected with children, it has always been successful. Even during the pandemic, the movement for washing hands gained popularity among children and was therefore successful," Modi said.

The Prime Minister also asked the children to make three pledges — a pledge of consistency, that is, no slackening of speed of the action; a pledge for the country, to work for the country; and a



(Clockwise from top left) ITBP IG Deepam Seth, CRPF's ASI Mohan Lal, CBI Joint Directors Sampat Meena and Vineet Vinayak

tempt to prevent the 2019 Pulwama attack. Both died while



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



TECH TROUBLES

WITH MANY lawyers, government law officers and even some judges complaining about technical glitches during virtual hearings in the Supreme Court, apparently due to software inconsistencies, Justice D Y Chandrachud, who heads the e-Committee of the court, on Monday said the process of roping in a private player to handle the video-conferencing platform is on. Tenders had been floated and the plan is due to be completed soon, he said during a hearing.

LOUD SILENCE

CONGRESS MP Ravneet Singh Bittu Sunday said he was attacked by a group of people at the Singhu border when he went to participate in the Jan Sansad organised by various organisations at Guru Tegh Bahadur Memorial on farmers' issues. He had said it was a plot to kill him. But even 24 hours after the incident, no senior Congress leader, or the AICC, has commented on this. The Congress, which had come out in support of the farmer's protests, appeared to be too cautious.

NEW POSTING

AFGHANISTAN HAS appointed Farid Mamundzay as the next Ambassador to India. He will replace incumbent Tahir Qadiry. Prior to this appointment, Mamundzay served as a senior political advisor to the Afghan National Security Council. He has also served as Deputy Director General at the Independent Directorate of Local Governance in Afghanistan. Chargé d'Affaires of the Afghan embassy in India, Tahir Qadiry, is headed to Poland. Former Afghan envoy to India, Shaida Abdali has been appointed as ambassador to Japan.

300 farmers from Gujarat march to Delhi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, RAJKOT, JANUARY 25

NEARLY 300 farmers from different parts of Gujarat are marching to Delhi to participate in a tractor rally by farmers protesting against the Centre's three new farm laws. The farmers have gathered under the banner of Gujarat Samajik Manch and are expected to reach Delhi by Monday night or Tuesday morning. They gathered at Abu Road in Rajasthan from where they started for Delhi.

Farmers to hold tractor rally in Bengaluru

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA BENGALURU, JANUARY 25

TAKING A cue from the farmers' tractor agitation in Delhi, various associations of ryots in Karnataka have geared up for a similar rally here on the occasion of Republic Day on Tuesday. "Our struggle will be peaceful. Our objective is limited to conveying our message to the government and the people of the state," Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha president Kodihalli Chandrashekar said, adding 500 tractors are likely to participate in the rally.

Soon, 'green tax' for older vehicles

New Delhi: The Centre plans to notify a system of imposing a "green tax" on older vehicles in a move to disincentivise the use of polluting vehicles and curb pollution in the country. Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has approved the proposal and the centre has sent it to the states for consultation after which it will be notified.

Vehicles like strong hybrids, electric vehicles and those running on alternate fuels like CNG, ethanol and LPG will be exempted while the revenue collected through the green tax will be utilised for tackling pollution, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways said in a statement on Monday. ENS

कार्यालय मुख्य महाप्रबन्धक, निर्माण विंग
उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल ससाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम
(सुतराखण्ड विकास का उपभोग)
403/1 इन्दिरा नगर, देहरादून-248001 दूरभाष/फैक्स: 0135-2764075
E-mail:- gmnirmanwing@yahoo.com, gmnirmanwing@gmail.com
पत्रांक 319/निविदा (गढ़व) देहरादून/47 दिनांक 25.01.2021

कार्यालय झाप
इस कार्यालय की ई निविदा सं० 2668/निविदा (ग०)/405 दिनांक 26.10.2020 के द्वारा आमन्त्रित Empanelment of Consultants for Architectural / Structural Design of Buildings proposed at different places in Uttarakhand State/ Other / U.T. जिसकी निविदा आई०डी० 2020_MDPEY_27153_1 है, को अपरिहार्य कारणों से निरस्त की जाती है। महाप्रबन्धक (गढ़वाल)

**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION, BHANDARA**
(Phone No. 07184-252412)

E-TENDER NOTICE No. 26 of 2020-2021

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

Sr. No.	Name of Works	Estt. Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	Earnest Money (Rs. in Lakhs)	Cost of E-Tender documents	Class of Contractor
1	Upgradation of 50-Bedded Hospital to 100-Bedded Hospital at Sub-District Hospital, Sakoli Dist. Bhandara.	49.60	0.25	524.00	Class-V-A & above
2	Beautification of Lakhani City (Cemetery) Tal. Lakhani, Dist. Bhandara.	41.87	0.21	524.00	Class-V-A & above
3	Beautification of Lakhani City Muslim Cemetery, Tal. Lakhani, Dist. Bhandara.	42.37	0.21	524.00	Class-V-A & above

Note :- 1. Other terms & condition can be seen in the bidding documents.
2. The details tender notice can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the e-tendering portal http://mahatenders.gov.in
3. The bidder shall submit the Hard Copy of Tender Document (Technical & Financial Envelope) in Sealed Envelope with in 72 Hrs. on the last date of submission at the office of tender opening authority.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Public Works Division Bhandara

FARMERS' PROTEST
R-Day venues of Haryana CM, ministers shifted

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 25



Farmers in Samalkha, Haryana, move towards Delhi. Jaipal Singh

HARYANA CHIEF Minister Manohar Lal Khattar will be unfurling the national flag in Panchkula now on Republic Day instead of in Panipat, as scheduled earlier. A revised schedule changing the venues of unfurling of the national flag by the CM and other ministers was issued Monday. While no official reason was given, the new venues avoid districts such as Sonapat, Hisar, Palwal, Fatehabad, Rohtak, Kaithal, Jind, Charkhi Dadri and Sirsa, where massive mobilisation is on for the tractor parade by protesting farmers in Delhi on January 26.

The revised schedule, released by the office of Haryana Chief Secretary Vijai Vardhan, adds that "in case, due to any reason, the dignitaries could not reach their designated venues, then the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned district shall unfurl the national flag". The deputy commissioners will also unfurl the flag in districts not covered by ministers under the revised schedule. Earlier, the venue for Haryana Governor S N Arya to unfurl the national flag had been shifted from Panchkula to the Raj Bhavan, citing the Covid-19 situation.

Saying they had tightened security around all venues, a senior Haryana officer told The Indian Express, "Although the farmer unions have issued an appeal not to disrupt Republic Day events, we are not taking any chances. What happened in Ambala or Kaimla in Karnal earlier was serious. No known

farm leader was present there, those were miscreants at the ground level. A repeat cannot be ruled out." On December 8, during the Bharat Bandh call given by farmer unions, Khattar had to cancel a programme in Padha village of Karnal after villagers vandalised his helipad area and tents pitched for it. On December 24, Khattar's cavalcade was attacked by an agitated mob holding farm union flags in Ambala. On January 10, the CM was forced to return without holding a Kisan Mahapanchayat programme in Kaimla village after protesters had entered the venue and damaged the helipad where he was meant to land.

Thousands of tractors are on their way to Delhi from across Haryana for the Republic Day parade planned against the farm laws. On Monday, Khattar chaired a high-level meeting to assess the security situation, attended by Deputy CM Dushyant Chautala, Haryana DGP Manoj Yadava and intelligence chief Alok Mittal, among other senior officers.

The leaders whose Republic Day venues have been shifted include Assembly Speaker and BJP leader Gian Chand Gupta (Yamunanagar to Kurukshetra), Transport Minister Mool Chand Sharma (Rewari to Bhiwani), Power Minister and Independent MLA Ranjit Singh (Bhiwani to Yamunanagar), Agriculture Minister J P Dalal (Rohtak to Rewari), Cooperation Minister Dr Banwari Lal (Nuh to Karnal), Woman and Child Development Minister Kamlesh Dhandra (Fatehabad to Nuh), Archaeology & Museums Minister and JJP MLA Anoop Dhanak (Sirsa to Faridabad) and Sports & Youth Affairs Minister Sandeep Singh (originally meant to unfurl a flag in Palwal, he is not on the revised schedule). Deputy CM Chautala will attend the Republic Day event at Ambala, as originally scheduled, and Deputy Speaker Ranbir Gangwa in Mahendragarh, Education Minister Kanwar Pal in Gurgaon and Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Om Prakash Yadav in Jhajjar, as planned.

Sena sends youth wing functionary as representative to protest

VISHWAS WAGHMODE MUMBAI, JANUARY 25

WHILE THE Shiv Sena has been vocal through its party mouth-piece Saamana in its criticism of the BJP government's farm laws, the party was conspicuous for the absence of its prominent leaders at Monday's farmers' protest at Mumbai's Azad Maidan.

Its allies NCP and Congress came out in support of the protest. While NCP chief Sharad Pawar addressed the farmers, Congress was represented by its state president Balasaheb Thorat.

Sena, however, chose to send Rahul Londhe, a journalist-turned Yuva Sena functionary as its representative.

Sources said that a delegation of farmers' leaders had met Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, who had advised them to organise farmers in groups at various locations and address them through video conferencing.

Thackeray had also assured the delegation that his son and Minister Aaditya Thackeray would come to Azad Maidan to extend support.

While the organisers of the protest said that they were hopeful till Monday that Aaditya would attend, he cited his busy schedule and did not attend.

The Sena also claimed that the decision of not sending a senior leader was a way to avoid large gatherings during the times of Covid-19 pandemic.

BSY rejigs cabinet again, new portfolios for some ministers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU, JANUARY 25



BS Yediyurappa

KARNATAKA CHIEF Minister B S Yediyurappa on Monday carried out a reallocation of portfolios to four ministers to address the resentment among some ministers following a cabinet expansion last week.

With former law minister J C Madhuswamy reportedly unhappy over being given the Medical Education portfolio, Yediyurappa Monday initially allocated the departments of Tourism, Ecology and Environment to the former JD(U) leader. Later in the day, he allocated the Minor Irrigation Ministry to Madhuswamy and gave the Tourism, Ecology and Environment portfolios to newly inducted minister C P Yogeshwara.

Madhuswamy on Monday told the media that he is likely to resign as a minister after hoisting the national flag for Republic Day in Tumkur district where he is the minister in-charge. "I am not a person who will hang around when my self-esteem is under attack. I will wait till Tuesday morning and decide my course of action," Madhuswamy said.

The threat of resignation by Madhuswamy is also being seen as an effort to retain his hold over Tumkur region when the Chief Minister appoints new ministers-in-charge for districts.

Meanwhile, the allocation of Tourism, Ecology and Environment portfolios, first to Madhuswamy and then to Yogeshwara, has left minister Anand Singh, who was given the portfolio last week, unhappy. Chief minister Yediyurappa is expected to mollify Singh by making him in-charge of the new Vijayanagar district which is being carved out of the erstwhile Ballari district of Singh's instance.

Singh had last week expressed satisfaction with being allocated the tourism and environment portfolios despite the forest portfolio being taken away from him. He has reportedly expressed unhappiness on the changes affected on Monday when he was granted the infrastructure development, Haj and Wakf portfolios.

Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar, who was upset last week over Yediyurappa's decision to take the Medical Education portfolio from him and hand it over to Madhuswamy, was on Monday handed back the Medical Education portfolio.

Govt should bring Bill to repeal farm laws, no other shortcut: TMC

DIPANKAR GHOSE NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE TRINAMOLU Congress (TMC) Monday demanded that the Centre bring in a Bill in the upcoming Parliament session to repeal the three farm laws, and said there was "no other shortcut". TMC leaders said they were confident that the 2021 Assembly polls would throw up victories for non-BJP parties in Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Kerala, and that the "real big election" would be in 2024 for the "idea of India".

At a press meet, TMC MPs Derek O'Brien and Saugata Ray said the party's stance on farm laws had been consistent. "In this new session of Parliament, the government must bring a Bill to repeal those three laws. There is no other shortcut. There is no other legislative way of doing it. The nation watched as democracy was murdered in Rajya Sabha especially, the Trinamool's motion was not even voted on. Five days to go for Parliament, we are against this ordinance ordinance business," O'Brien said.

EXPLAINED
2-pronged strategy to counter BJP

THE TMC's move to compare schemes of the West Bengal government and the Centre indicates a two-pronged strategy to counter the BJP. On one hand, TMC is playing up the insider-outsider plank, trying to project the BJP as a party that does not respect Bengali culture, and on the other, it is looking to counter it on governance by playing up the performance of the Mamata Banerjee government.

cusing on the governance model it had implemented in the last decade. "Let us compare the farmer compensation when it comes to Krishak Bandhu, and compare it to the PM Kisan (Samman Nidhi Yojana)... In Bengal, 5,000 rupees per acre, in PM Kisan, 1214 rupees per acre. In Bengal the scope is for all farmers under Krishak Bandhu. In PM Kisan, it's only for small and mar-

ginal farmers (with holdings) up to two hectares. Coverage in Bengal 100 per cent, PM Kisan 92 per cent," O'Brien said.

The MPs also spoke of the West Bengal government's Duare Sarkar scheme, which brings government schemes to the doorstep of citizens, and said of those, the Swasthya Saathi scheme was one of the most popular. "Who finances it? 100 per cent state government. Ayushman Bharat 60 per cent centre, 40 per cent by the states... Kanyashree started in 2013 in Bengal against Beti Bachao Beti Padhao. The scheme in Bengal is targeted conditional cash transfer. The Beti Bachao of 2015, there is no well advertised outline. Expenditure: Rs 9,400 crore for one state of Bengal, Beti Bachao Rs 425 crore for all India," Ray said.

O'Brien said there was indeed a "big election" approaching, but it was in 2024 and not in 2021. "Because the 2021 election, thanks to the blessings of people of Tamil Nadu, the people of Bengal, people of Kerala, the BJP will lose these three elections. Assam from what our understanding is a close election. Why we are saying 2024 is the big election because we have to again fight for the Constitution of India, the idea of India," O'Brien said.

'SKIN TO SKIN CONTACT' NCP/PCR asks Maharashtra to appeal against HC ruling in POCSO case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE NATIONAL Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCP/PCR) has urged Maharashtra government to appeal against the ruling of the Nagpur bench of Bombay High Court, acquitting a man of sexual assault on the grounds that he pressed the breasts of a child over her clothes without direct "skin to skin contact" does not constitute sexual assault under POCSO Act.

"...If the prosecution had made the submissions as per the spirit of the POCSO Act, the accused would not have been acquitted from the serious offence against the minor. Further, the remark "skin to skin with sexual intention without penetration" also needs to be reviewed and the State should take note of this as it seems to be derogatory to the minor victim," states the letter from NCP/PCR Chairperson Priyank Kanoongo to the Maharashtra Chief Secretary.

"...The Commission being the monitoring body under Section 44 of the POCSO Act, 2012, requests you to take necessary steps in the matter and file an urgent Appeal against the aforesaid impugned judgement of Honourable High Court," the letter adds.

"The judgement is alarming on so many levels in that it redefines the term sexual assault that has been laid down by POCSO Act. 'Skin to skin contact' is not mandated in the Act to define sexual assault and the court has attempted to redefine the POCSO Act," Kanoongo told The Indian Express.

Meanwhile, NCV chairperson for Rekha Sharma tweeted, "NCW is challenging the Honorable Bombay High Court, Nagpur Bench judgement... this judgement will not only have cascading effect on various provisions involving safety and security of women in general but also put all the women under ridicule and has trivialized the legal provisions provided by the legislature..."

Rahul alleges info on Balakot strike leaked to Arnab, targets Modi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA KARUR (TN), JANUARY 25

CONGRESS LEADER Rahul Gandhi on Monday alleged prior information on India's air strikes in Balakot in Pakistan in 2019 was "leaked" to Republic TV editor-in-chief Arnab Goswami and sought to blame Prime Minister Narendra Modi for it.

It was also a "breach" of the Official Secrets Act, he contended.

The Congress MP, however, did not provide evidence to back up his claim. The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) also did not immediately respond.

Gandhi, who made the claim during his roadshow during the final day of his three-day election campaign in poll-bound Tamil Nadu, later reiterated it in a brief media interaction.

"Some days ago, it came out that a journalist knew about the air strikes in Balakot. Three days before the (Indian) Air Force bombed Pakistan, an Indian journalist was told it was going to happen," he said. This meant the lives of our IAF pilots were put at risk, he said.

"Now, five people in this world knew about Balakot (air strikes). Prime Minister of India, the Defence minister of India, the National Security Adviser and the Chief of the Air Force and the Home Minister."

"If it is not the Prime Minister why has he not ordered an inquiry and said treason has taken place. Somebody out of these five people has put the Indian nation, the Indian Air Force at risk. I want to find out who it is," he told reporters later.

"The fact that this information is on WhatsApp and this gentleman (Goswami) knows it three days before... of course Official Secrets Act has been breached..."



Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad (right) with Congress MP Jairam Ramesh (centre) and TMC MP Derek O'Brien (left) during the National Voters' Day celebrations. PTI

Indians should respect right to vote, says Kovind

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

NOTING THE struggle that countries and people worldwide have been through to attain democracy, President Ram Nath Kovind, in his address on National Voters' Day Monday, said that Indians should respect their right to vote.

Addressing the event virtually, the President said, "I would like to remind the people that we should always respect the valuable right to vote... The right to vote is not a simple right; people around the world have struggled a lot for this. Since independence, our Constitution has given equal voting rights to all citizens without any discrimination on the basis of merit, religion, race, caste. For this, we are indebted to the makers of our Constitution."

Kovind also hailed the Election Commission's contribution ensuring free and fair elections, even during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The outgoing Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora said that the EC would draw on its experience of conducting the country's first election during a pandemic in Bihar to prepare for the upcoming elections in four states of Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala and Assam, and the Union Territory of Puducherry. "We will leverage the experience gained in the Bihar election and ensure that these elections are free, fair, transparent, participative, ethical and safe," he said.

Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad launched the Electronic Electoral Photo Identity Card or e-EPIC at the event.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

**Government of Jharkhand
Water Resources Department.
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Waterways Division No.-1, Chakradharpur.**
Email Address :- ceowdchak1-ccr-jh@nic.in ewaterwaysdivno1ckp@gmail.com

Very Short e-Procurement Notice
e-Tender Reference No.- 01/EE/WWDNO1/CKP/WRD/F2-01/2020-21
Dated. 25-01-2021

1.	Name of the work	JUNGLE CLEARANCE, REPAIRING OF CATCH DRAIN, PARAPET WALL AND EARTH FILLING OF DOWNSTREAM OF DAM SLOPE UNDER SONUA RESERVOIR SCHEME.
2.	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Rs. 2,07,47,200.00/- (Rupees Two Crore Seven Lakhs Forty- Seven Thousand Two Hundred Only.)
3.	Tender Fee & EMD	i. Rs. 10,000/- (Ten Thousand Only.) and ii. Rs. 4,15,000.00 (Rupees Four Lakhs Fifteen Thousand only.)
4.	Period of Completion	6 Months /180 Days.
5.	Date of Publication of Tender on website	28-01-2021 at 17.00 Hrs.
6.	Date / Time for download/Upload of bid documents	From 28-01-2021 to 04-02-2021 at 13.00 Hrs.
7.	Last Date/ Time/ Place for receipt of Hard Copy of Tender Fee & EMD	From 28-01-2021 to 05-02-2021 at 13.00 Hrs. working day in Executive Engineer, Waterways Division No.1, Chakradharpur.
8.	Date/Place of Bid Opening	05-02-2021 at 16 Hrs. in Executive Engineer, Waterways Division No.1, Chakradharpur.
9.	Name & address of office Inviting tender (Procurement Officer)	Executive Engineer, Waterways Division No.1, Chakradharpur.
10.	Contact no. of Procurement officer	M. No. 9431103735
11.	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell	M.No. 9162471448

नोट :- Further details can be seen on website https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in
Executive Engineer,
Waterways Division No.1,
Chakradharpur.
PR.NO.240120 West Singhbhum(20-21)-D

**CHITTARANJAN
LOCOMOTIVE WORKS**
E-TENDER NOTICE
Date: 22.01.2021. E-Tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for the following works: a) Tender No. EL/1237. b) Name of the work : Renovation / Renewal of ISO-50001(Energy Management System) in CLW. c) Tender Value (GST inclusive): Rupees 2,36,000/- (Rupees two lakh thirty six thousand) only including all taxes. d) Cost of tender Document: Rupees 1,000/- (Rupees one thousand only). e) Earnest Money : Rupees 4,700/- (Rupees four thousand seven hundred) only. f) Period of completion (In Months):3 Years. g) Date of closing: 17/02/2021 at 11:00 hrs. Note: Complete details can be seen in the Railways website www.irps.gov.in and www.clw.indianrailways.gov.in
By: CEE/M
Sd/-225 CLW/Chittaranjan
Like us on : www.facebook.com/dnr1985

KERALA STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
(A GOVT. OF KERALA UNDERTAKING)
Keston Road, Kowdir P.O., Thiruvananthapuram, 695003
Ph: 0471 - 2318922, mail: enquiry@ksidcmail.org

NOTICE INVITING BID (e TENDER)

Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. (KSIDC), invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from eligible firms for supply, customization and implementation of Accounting Software for KSIDC. For more details, visit etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.ksidc.org. The bids can be submitted in etenders.kerala.gov.in till 03.00 PM on 10.02.2021.

25.01.2021 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

TAMIL NADU STATE RURAL LIVELIHOOD MISSION - DDU-GKY WING
Mother Teresa Women's Complex-III Floor, Valluvar Kotam High Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600034. Phone: 91-44-28173412. Website: www.laminadumahalir.org

CORRIGENDUM - 02
Tender No:537/DDU-GKY/2020

Tender for Selection of State Technical Support Agency under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Tamil Nadu

1. Corrigendum / Clarification on Pre-bid queries are uploaded in the website www.laminadumahalir.org and www.tenders.tn.gov.in

2. The due dates are extended as below.

a) Sale of bidding document up to 29th Jan 2021 till 5:00 p.m.

b) Last date and time for submission of tender - 01-02-2021 upto 3:00 p.m.

c) Date and time for opening of Technical bid - 01-02-2021 at 3:30 p.m.

DIPR/533/TENDER/2021 **Chief Operating Officer**

SHRI AMARNATHJI SHRINE BOARD
Chaitanya Ashram, Talab Tillo, Jammu
Ph: 0191-2555662, 2503399

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

Applications for one post of General Manager (Works) on Contractual Basis are invited. Eligible Civil Engineers may apply by 5th Feb. 2021 at Amarnathji Shrine Board, Chaitanya Ashram Talab, Tillo, Jammu.

For detailed advertisement, eligibility etc., please visit our website. www.shriamarnathjishrine.com.

Last Date: 5th February 2021

Sd/
Addl. CEO

The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport Undertaking
(Of The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation)

TENDER NOTICE

e-tender is invited for the supply of following items.

(1) 69222 - Fully Built Non Ac Diesel BS-VI Amt Double Decker Buses. (Corrigendum).

Tenderers are hereby requested to note the revised specifications on website [https://mahatenders.gov.in](http://mahatenders.gov.in) and accordingly upload their Bids.

PRO/AAM(M)/101/2021. GENERAL MANAGER

HARYANA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Haryana Undertaking)
Bays No. 59-62, Sector-2, Panchkula
Phone: 0172-2590608

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (NIT)

HMSCL invites e-tenders for two years Rate Contract Blood Donation Van with provision of Two Donor Couches Two Blood Collection Monitors Two Dielectric Tube Sealers, Leucoreduction Filter Bed side for Packed Red Blood Cell, Fully Automated Immunohematology Analyzer on the website www.etenders.hry.nic.in. Please see corrigendum if any regarding these tenders on the website www.etenders.hry.nic.in only.

Managing Director, HMSCL, Panchkula.

AGRA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, AGRA
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Agra Development Authority (ADA) invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from eligible specialist organizations for conceptualizing, Designing, commissioning, financing, running and transferring, handling ticketing and marketing of a world class 3D mapping multimedia Sound & Light Entertainment show in Agra at the open land parcel at fatchabad road 'I Love Agra Region' for a period of 7 years on a Public Private Partnership model. Site may be visited by agency.

The project will be on PPP Model as Design-Built-Finance-Operate (DBFO Model) on the land provided by the authority. The operator needs to share agreed percentage of the revenue with the authority and comply with the terms of the EOI document.

The interested entities can download complete EOI document from etender.up.nic.in from 28-01-2021 12pm onwards.

EOI with complete required documents should be submitted by interested parties to the E-tender portal of Agra Development Authority on or before 18-02-2021 up to 3:00 p.m. Technical Bid will be opened on next day at 4:00 p.m.

The decision of the Vice-Chairman shall be final & binding and cannot be challenged in any circumstances. For any information the interested entities can contact Mr. Sudhanshu Sharma, E-E. In-Charge (Mob- 7055590004), ADA, Agra.

Chief Engineer

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer, Northern Railway, DEMU-Shed, Shakurbasti, for and on behalf of President of India, invites E-Tender for the under noted work.

Tender No.	258661DLSBSR2
Name of work	Provision for Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of SLI (Safe Load Indicator) system of 140T BD Crane No. 142271 at DEMU-Shed, Shakurbasti working over DLI division for a period of three years.
Approximate Cost	Rs. 9,55,800/- including GST @18%
Earnest money	Rs. 19,200/- (Note:- It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. Note: FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Board letter no. 2015/CR-1/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016)
Completion period of the work	03 years
Cost of tender document	Rs. 2,360/- with GST @18% (Note:- It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. Note: FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Board letter no. 2015/CR-1/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016)
Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15:00 hrs. on 15.02.2021. Opening of Tender at 15:00 hrs.
Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen	Above tender is available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

No.: 258661DLSBSR2 Date: 21.01.2021 191/2021

Serving Customers with a Smile

COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (CSIR)
Anusandhan Bhawan,
2, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001
Adv. No. 05/2020 and Adv. No. 06/2020

Advertisement for the positions of Distinguished Scientist and Outstanding Scientist in CSIR

CSIR invites applications/nominations for the posts of Distinguished Scientist in Level 16 (Rs. 2,05,400- 2,24,400) and Outstanding Scientist in Level 15 of pay-matrix (Rs. 1,82,200- 2,24,100) plus allowances, as applicable in CSIR, from time to time.

For details kindly see the complete Advertisement No. 05/2020 and 06/2020 on CSIR website www.csir.res.in. Applications/ Nominations with complete biodata and list of publications/patents etc. may kindly be sent through e-mail on e-mail ID drc@csir.res.in or by post to Director Recruitment Cell, CSIR, Anusandhan Bhawan, 2, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001 on or before 25.02.2021.

The advertisement No. 02/2018 issued earlier for the position of Distinguished Scientist may be treated as cancelled and withdrawn. Those who wish to be considered for the position of Distinguished Scientist need to apply afresh, as per the terms of advertisement no 05/2020, available on CSIR Website.

davp 36202/11/0018/2021

ARUNACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Chayangtajo Division, PWD, Arunachal Pradesh, Chayangtajo invites on behalf of Governor of Arunachal Pradesh online item rate bids in two bid system for the following works:-

NIT No. CD/DRG-2/2018-19/01, Name of work:- C/o Road with Bridge from Chayangtajo-Yangfo Road, from (Sangri-Sangda Point) under Chayangtajo Circle to Wacha Holling (Veo) via Sanglowa Bagang, Tarawa Yangfo & Dadara under Sawa Circle on Indo-China Border, Length = 35 Km (Ph-1 0.00 Km to 4.00 Km). Estimated cost- Rs. 3551.16 Lakhs, Earnest money- Rs. 35,51,200.00 For APST and Rs. 45, 51, 200.00 for Non- APST Contractors, Periods of completion- 36 months & Last date and time of submission of bid- 1600 Hours 15. 02.2020

The bid forms and other details can be downloaded from the website [https://www.arunachaltenders.gov.in](http://www.arunachaltenders.gov.in) from 1030 Hours of 02.02.2020. The Press Notice is also available on www.arunachalpwd.org.

DIPR No. ARN-16049-52

ARUNACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Chayangtajo Division, PWD, Arunachal Pradesh, Chayangtajo invites on behalf of Governor of Arunachal Pradesh online item rate bids in single bid system for following work:-

1. NIT No. CD/DRG-2/RIDF/2018-19/01, Name of work:- C/o Inter village road connectivity of a stretch of 18 Km from Jayang Bagang to Paje Solung villages Via Tasar Solung village and Tourist spot at Ryopo Water Fall under RIDF- XXIII during 2017-18. Estimated cost- Rs. 1790.49 Lakhs, Earnest money- Rs. 1790490.00 for APST & Rs. 2790490.00 for Non-APST Contractors, Period of completion- 36 months & Last date and time of submission of bid- 15. 02.2020 1600 hrs.

The bid forms and other details can be downloaded from the website [https://www.arunachaltenders.gov.in](http://www.arunachaltenders.gov.in) from 1030 hrs of 02.02.2020.

DIPR No. ARN-16053-56

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one male was found unconscious condition at under Metro Station R.K. Ashram P.K. Road on 22.01.2021 and was admitted to LHMC Hospital, New Delhi. During treatment doctors declare brought dead vide MLC No. 174/21. In this regard a DD No. 0002A, Dated 22.01.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Mandir Marg, New Delhi. Dead body has been preserved 72 hours at Mortuary of LHMC Hospital, New Delhi. The description of the dead body is given as under:

Name: Sonu, **S/o:** Unknown **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** about 50 years, **Height:** 5'3" **Face:** Oval, **Complexion:** Shallow, Black/White Hair, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Blue & White Colour, T-Shirt Blue colour underwear, ID Mark: A tatoo so on his write wrist

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the information about the dead male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one is having any information about this dead male please inform the undersigned.

S.H.O.
P.S. Mandir Marg, New Delhi
Ph: 011-23366730, 23341680

DP/204/NDD/2021

Delhi Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.
An Enterprises of Govt. of NCT of Delhi
ISBT Kashmere Gate Delhi-110006
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer, DTIDC invite tenders on behalf of MD, DTIDC Ltd. for the following works through e procurement solution only.

1. NIT No. : 52/2020-21
Tender ID No. : 2021_DTIDC_198930_1
Name of work : Construction of Administration Building of Driving for Automated Driving Test Track at Lado Sarai (Civil Work)

Estimated Cost : Rs. 2,21,00,000/-
Earnest Money : Rs. 4,42,000/-
Time Allowed : 04 Month
Last date of receipt of Tenders : 03.02.2021

The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
DTIDC Ltd., ISBT
Kashmere Gate, Delhi
DIP/Shabdarth/0573/20-21

ARUNACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Chayangtajo Division, PWD, Arunachal Pradesh, Chayangtajo invites on behalf of Governor of Arunachal Pradesh online item rate bids in a single bid system for following work:-

NIT No. CD/DRG-2/2018-19/02, Name of work:- Construction of Road & Bridges from Dumdila Village to Tajo Village via Killo, Chayangtajo Circle, East Kameng District under RIDF 2016-17. Estimated cost- Rs. 2383.37 Lakhs, Earnest Money- Rs. 2383370.00 for APST & Rs. 3383370.00 for Non-APST Contractors, Period of completion- 36 months & Last date and time of submission of bid- 15. 02.2020 1600 hrs.

The bid forms and other details can be downloaded from the website https://www.arunachaltenders.gov.in from 1030 hrs of 02.02.2020.

DIPR No. ARN-16057-60

Tender Notice No. 24 of 2020-2021

Tender is invited by Executive Engineer, National Highway Division, Dr. Rajendraprasad Road, Kashivishwanath Plot, Rajkot, Ph.No.0281 2446605 as under. Tender Documents and time schedule of e-tendering will be available on web site rbnprocure.com from on or after 10-02-2021. Tender can be filled by online only.

Email address of this office: ee-nh-rjk@gujarat.gov.in

Sr. No.	Name of work
1.	Collection of Toll from Toll Plaza near Bamanbore Junction (By using computerised Toll collection System / Manual System), and near Bagodara on Ahmedabad-Kandla road on NH-47 (Old NH-8A).

Estimated Cost, EMD, Tender Fees and period of completion will be shown in Tender documents on online Tender. Any modification / correction will be displayed on website only and it remains final.

INF/RAJ/1245/21

WESTERN RAILWAY - RAJKOT DIVISION
VARIOUS ENGINEERING WORKS

E-Tender Notice No. : 25 of 2020-21 date 21.01.2021, Office Address : Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), Western Railway, Kothi Compound, Rajkot, Gujarat - 360 001. Website : www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. No.	e-Tender No.	Name of Work	Approximate NIT Cost	Date & Time of Opening of Tenders
01	DRM-RJT-20-E-55	Rajkot Division	₹ 4,03,86,128.35	18.02.2021, 15:00 Hrs.

Increasing Clear Standing Room (CSR) of loose Line No. 3 in Goods Shed at Hapa.

Sr. No.	e-Tender No.	Name of Work	Approximate NIT Cost	Date & Time of Opening of Tenders
02	DRM-RJT-20-E-56	Rajkot Division	₹ 3,47,98,677.57	18.02.2021, 15:00 Hrs.

Development of Goods shed at Windmill.

Sr. No.	e-Tender No.	Name of Work	Approximate NIT Cost	Date & Time of Opening of Tenders
03	DRM-RJT-20-E-57	Rajkot Division	₹ 51,21,825.00	18.02.2021, 15:00 Hrs.

Improvement of road surface by providing rubberized surface at Level Crossing No. 179, 188, 215X & 274 under the jurisdiction of Divisional Engineer (West) Rajkot. **RJT-98**

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छत्तीसगढ़ शासन, जल संसाधन विभाग
कार्यालय मुख्य अभियंता
महानदी गोदावरी कच्छार, रायपुर, (छ.ग.)

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा सूचना
eProcurement Portal : <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
(प्रथम आमंत्रण)

सिस्टम निविदा क्र 70992/निविदा सूचना क्र. 13/मलेरि/2020-21, बेमेतरा, दिनांक 25.01.2021

निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिए दिनांक 15.02.2021 17.30 तक ऑन लाईन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

कार्य का नाम : बेमेतरा जिले के विकासखण्ड साजा के कुदा खैरा एनीकट कम काजवे का निर्माण कार्य।

अनुमानित लागत: रु. 277.58 लाख

अन्य विवरण एवं विस्तृत निविदा छत्तीसगढ़ शासन की ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट-वेबसाइट <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> पर दिनांक 01.02.2021 समय 17.31 बजे से देखे तथा डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं।

नोट: निविदा में भाग लेने हेतु टेकदारों को ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट-वेबसाइट <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> पर नामांकित/पंजीयन तथा लोक निर्माण विभाग की एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली के अंतर्गत टेकदार को उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीयन कराना अनिवार्य है।

हस्ता/-
कार्यालय अभियंता
जल संसाधन संभाग, बेमेतरा
कृते मुख्य अभियंता महानदी गोदावरी कच्छार,
जल संसाधन विभाग, रायपुर, छ.ग.

86644

नगर निगम, प्रयागराज।
केन्द्रीय कर्मशाला विभाग
ई-निविदा सूचना

नगर निगम, प्रयागराज को निम्न विवरण अनुसार मशीनों को यथा स्थिति मरम्मत तथा मरम्मत के उपरान्त सभी वाहनों का 03 वर्ष के कम्प्लेक्स वार्षिक अनुसंधान के कार्य हेतु निर्माता फर्म या उनके अधिकृत डीलर फर्म से ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है, विस्तृत विवरण निविदा प्रपत्र वेबसाइट में उपलब्ध रहेगा। निविदा प्रपत्र उत्तर प्रदेश की ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट की वेबसाइट <http://etender.up.nic.in> से प्राप्त एवं देखे जा सकते हैं। निविदा के साथ मांग की गयी जमानत की धनराशि सी.डी.आर./एफ.डी.आर. की स्कैन कॉपी के रूप में संलग्न करना अनिवार्य होगा, जो प्रभारी अधिकारी, कर्मशाला, नगर निगम, प्रयागराज के नाम प्लेज्ड होगा। बिना जमानत की धनराशि के निविदा अवैध मानी जायेगी। निविदा प्रकाशन के निर्धारित तिथि तक निविदा शुल्क की धनराशि नगर निगम, प्रयागराज के इंडसट्रियल बैंक, सिविल लाइन्स, प्रयागराज शाखा में टेन्डर कॉस्ट खाता संख्या-100116210130 IFS Code-INDB0000124 में जमा करना होगा। जिसकी रसीद तथा जमानत धनराशि का सी.डी.आर./एफ.डी.आर. की स्कैन कॉपी निविदा के साथ अपलोड करना अनिवार्य होगा। उक्त की अनुपस्थिति में निविदा अवैध मानी जायेगी। किसी भी समय निविदा स्वीकृत/अस्वीकृत करने का अधिकार नगर आयुक्त महोदय को सुरक्षित होगा। निविदा खोले जाने की तिथि को किसी कारणवश अवकाश होने पर निविदा तिथि अगला कार्य-दिवस मानी जायेगी।

निविदा डाउनलोड करने की तिथि	30.01.2021	अपराह्न 4.00 बजे से
निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि	15.02.2021	अपराह्न 02.00 बजे तक
निविदा खोलने की तिथि	15.02.2021	सायंकाल 4.00 बजे तक

क्र. सं. कार्य/वाहन का विवरण निविदा फॉर्म का मूल्य धरोहर की धनराशि

1	05 अदर कैबल वाहनों की आपूर्ति मय 03 वर्ष के कम्प्लेक्स वार्षिक अनुसंधान के कार्य।	रु.-5,000,000-5% जीएसटी	रु. 1,75,000.00
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नोट :- नियम व शर्तों का विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध रहेगा।

हस्ता/-
मुख्य अभियंता
नगर निगम, प्रयागराज।

अधिसूचना (वि./व.)
मुख्य अभियंता
नगर निगम, प्रयागराज।

पत्रांक डी-1598/ज.सर्व.अधि./2021 दिनांक-25/01/2021

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ
L.N.JHS/HC-16/AR/Lab Test/2021 Date: 15.01.2021

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
ADVERTISEMENT FOR OUT SOURCING THE PATHOLOGY SERVICES
FOR DIVISIONAL RAILWAY HOSPITAL, JHANSI

CMS/North Central Railway, Jhansi invites application from qualified Investigation centres for out sourcing the Investigations of Pathology lab. Willing investigation centre owner need to apply as per CGHS (NABL) Kanpur rates applicable for year 2020 within fifteen days of publication of advertisement following conditions are mandatory:-

1. Pathology lab should be accredited with NABL. In absence of NABL accredited lab, non NABL Lab may be considered. 2. The investigation centre should be well equipped (e.g. Fully Automated Blood cell counter, computerized fully automated Chemistry Analyser, Binocular Microscope, Automated Coagulometer, Automated Electrolyte Analyser, Automated Immunoassay Analyser etc.) with latest state of art machinery. Should have adequate facilities for reporting. NABL accredited. Investigation Lab which has their collection centre in Jhansi are eligible to apply for the work on CGHS-NABL rate. If they are of good repute and their detailed information is available on their website. Pathology lab should have qualified Pathologist/ Medical Mycologist. 3. Centre should have facilities for tests like Thyroid profile, fertility profile, Hormone profile, Histopathology, Cytology, Tumour marker, Vitamin estimation beside routine clinical/Biochemical investigations covered under CGHS. 4. Pathology Centre will depute his own staff to collect test sample from Div. Rly. Hospital JHS. 5. Computerized reports of the patients should be provided. 6. The rates of Pathological investigation should be based on NABL CGHS applicable for latest prevalent Kanpur rate list including GST, which will be applicable for Two years, means will not be changeable during the contract period of two years which will be effective from the date of approval of this agreement. 7. No payment will be charged from Railway employees/their dependents /and retired RELHS card holder employees duly referred by authorized Railway Medical Officer. 8. The mode of payment will be done on bill system based on NABL CGHS applicable for latest Prevalent Kanpur CGHS rate. 9. No emergency charges should be charged by centre for pathological investigation. 10. Investigation report should be provided within 24 hrs. and in emergency case the investigation report should be provided immediately. 11. Investigation facility for 24 hrs will be provided by investigation centre. 12. All the disputes or differences will be resolved by arbitrator deputed by G.M / NCR / Allahabad, the Arbitration Act (26) of 1996 will be applicable for this, if disagreed with the decision of the arbitrator an appeal can be made to G.M. / NCR / Allahabad and his decision will be accepted by both the parties, further disagreeing upon the matter can be taken to Jhansi District Court. 13. Application along with all documents such as Registration, experience, documents related to NABL accreditation, consent for performing tests on CGHS Kanpur Rate and other relevant documents having seal & signature of the competent authority of investigation lab on every page should be sent in a sealed envelope within the 15 days of publication of advertisement in the office of Chief Medical Superintendent, North Central Railway, JHANSI between 10 AM to 5 PM in any working day. 14. Railway Administration has right to cancel, reject or modify these contracts. 15. Above information can be seen on the Notice Board of CMS's Office, NCR, Jhansi. 16. The pathology centre/collection centre should be located within 6 kms from Div. Rly Hospital / NCR / Jhansi. 17. The centre should give priority to railway patients sent for pathology lab special investigation over general patients. 18. The centre should have provision for adequate Bio-Medical waste disposal as per the existing government policy. 19. Emergency services for collecting/processing should be available round the clock for emergency investigation. Sample to be collected by your staff from patients admitted at Div. Rly. Hospital. Failure to collect the sample after receiving information will be liable for penalty of ₹ 100/- on your lab and will be deducted from the bill submitted. 20. Preferably, a soft copy of the investigation report for the day today should also be forwarded to the email address srdmo.health@rail.nic.in. 21. The work will be done on Bill Basis only and no provision for advance payment is permitted under any circumstances. No cash payment will be made. 22. The Histopathology sample will have to be collected from OT directly. The information will be given to your lab directly. Preservative and container for the excised specimen have to be arranged by your lab. 23. In cytopathology, FNAC sample will have to be taken by your staff and patient will be referred to your centre with the Requisition Form duly sanctioned by CMS/JHS. 24. Representatives from Railways will have the right to inspect the Pathology Lab/Collection centre before finalization of 'Contract' and any time during the contract period, if required. 25. In emergency cases provisional report should be intimated to Sr. DMO pathology and referring doctor through SMS. 26. The period of contract will be for Two years from date of acceptance of contract by the approved centre and may be extended for a maximum of six month at the same rate and terms and conditions. 27. In case of invalid/ spurious report etc. the payment for the investigation will not be approved and suitable penalty will be imposed on the firms as per Railway extant rules. 28. In case of dispute in any reports, repetition of test will be done without charges. 29. If the lab takes the sample and does not provide the report for whatsoever reason penalty of ₹ 200/- will be imposed. The lab should ensure before taking the sample that it is sufficient in quantity. 30. Impostered Path / Lab / Collection Centre should be registered with CMO Office JHS. 31. Sealed Envelop containing offer will be opened after 15th days of publication of this advertisement in news paper in CMS Office JHS at 16:00 Hrs. 32. Authorized signatory of the Lab/Collection Centre will deposit signed copy of Kanpur NABL CGHS rate which is in currently applicable along with application.

10721 FA
North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in North Central Railway@CPRONCR

SBI
Financial Reporting & Taxation Department,
Corporate Centre, Mumbai - 400 021.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

State Bank of India has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for appointment of consultant for Service Tax and Goods and Services Tax (GST) related matters (RFP No. CC/FINANCE/FR/GST/2020-21/01). Detailed RFP document is available in Bank's website <https://bank.sbi> under 'Procurement News' section. For future announcements, if any, in this regard, please keep referring to the website.

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager (Taxation-II)
(FRT Department)

Place: Mumbai
Date: 26.01.2021

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
GOVT. PRINTING AND STATIONERY, INDIRAVATI BHAWAN, BLOCK-I, SECOND FLOOR, NAVA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR, Pin- 492002 CHHATTISGARH

NOTICE FOR ONLINE TENDER

No. GB-II/Printing/(45)/2017-2018/877 Nava Raipur Atal Nagar, dated 22/1/2021

1. Tenders are invited for RATE CONTRACT OF ALL TYPE OF PRINTING AND PRINTABLE MEDIA OF PRINTING PREPRESS AND POSTPRESS REQUIREMENTS for printing works of government, semi government department, boards etc. from printers in following three categories:-
a) Category 'A': Printers must have at least 4 color sheet fed offset machine of size 19"x25", 4 color web offset machine cut size-578mm with folder facility and Binding unit in proper running condition. (Ownership documents must be submitted) Franchise is not allowed.
b) Category 'B': Printers must have at least 4 color sheet fed offset machine of size 19"x 25" and Binding unit in proper running condition. (Ownership documents must be submitted) Franchise is not allowed.
c) Category 'C': Printers must have complete screen printing unit and self permanent establishment.
2. The details of specifications of printable materials etc. are given in the Tender Form.
3. Rate of tender form for 'A' and 'B' and 'C' categories is Rs. 2000/- each. Tender Form Fee should be deposited in form of DD from State Bank of India or any Nationalized Bank in favor of Director, Govt. Printing and Stationery, Chhattisgarh, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar. Upload the Scanned copy on website during tender process and physical copy must be submitted in Office of The Director, Govt. Printing and Stationery, Chhattisgarh, Indravati Bhawan, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar on or before date 15/03/2021 upto 3PM.
4. Detail Tender document along with eligibility criteria is available on website <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

1. Online publication of tender	28-01-2021
2. Pre bid meeting	05-02-2021
3. Objection resolution	22-02-2021
4. Corrigendum publication	25-02-2021
5. Tender submission upto	15-03-2021 5:00 PM
6. Tender opening date and time	16-03-2021 11:00 AM
7. Sample submission date and time	15-03-2021 5:00 PM

Note:- for any query contact Mr. O.P.Aind Mo No- 7987892817 and Mr. Tarun (Chips) 9826128498.

Sd/-
Director
Govt. Printing & stationery,
Chhattisgarh Nava Raipur Atal Nagr

86609

WESTERN RAILWAY - RAJKOT DIVISION
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
CORRIGENDUM

E-Tender Notice No. 25 of 2020-21 date 21.01.2021

Office Address: Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), Western Railway, Kothi Compound, Rajkot, Gujarat - 360001. Website: www.ireps.gov.in

E-Tender No.: DRM-RJT-20-E-56. **Name of Work:** Rajkot Division - Development of Goods shed at Windmill. **Approximate NIT Cost:** ₹3,40,35,141.57. **Date & Time of Opening of Tender:** 18.02.2021, 15:00 Hrs. **RJT-101**

Like us: www.facebook.com/WesternRly

North Eastern Railway
E-Tender Notice

Opened E-tender based on Two Packet System (Technical & Financial Bid) (Tender Notice No. M/C&W/15/2020-21 Dt. 22.01.2021) are invited by Divisional Rail Manager/ Mech./C&W/Varanasi/N.E. Railway for and on behalf of President of India for following work:-

Description of work: Out sourcing of comprehensive Housekeeping & Mechanized Cleaning at Deoria Sadar (DEOS) Station including platforms, yard, tracks, office buildings, reservation office, concourse area, circulating area, waiting halls, Drains cleaning, Garbage disposal and Rag picking etc. for the period of four years. **Approx. Value :** Rs. 3,72,63,578.25. **Cost of Tender Forms :** Rs. 10,000/-, **Completion period from the date of commencement of work :** 04 Years, **Validity of Offer :** 180 days. **Date and time of closing of E-tender :** 18.02.2021 at 14.30 Hrs. **Date and time of opening of E-tender :** 18.02.2021 at 15.00 Hrs. • Tenderers may submit their offers online up to 18.02.2021 at 14.30 hrs. • Please go to the website www.ireps.gov.in to see the complete details and upload the tender.

CPRO/Mech-88 Sr. DME/C&W/BSB
About any Passenger Amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No. 09794849555

Do not smoke Bid/Cigarette in train

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY
E-TENDERING NOTICE

Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical), North Eastern Railway, Varanasi for and on behalf of President of India, invites Online (E-Tendering) "open tender" for the following work.

S.No.:- 1, Tender reference No. :- E-Tender-L20-20-21, Name of work:- Electrical work connection to (I) At Gazipur (II)- Construction work of RPF Post (II) Provision of 02 nos Escalator at Ballia Railway Station in circulating area. **Approx cost (in Rs.):-** ₹ 1086724.41, **Earnest money (in Rs.) :-** ₹ 21700, **Completion period :-** 90 Days, **Date & time of Closing Tender:-** 18.02.21 15:00 Hrs., **Date & time of Opening Tender:-** 18.02.21 15:30 Hrs., **S.No. :- 2, Tender reference No. :- E-Tender-L21-20-21, Name of work:-** (i) Deoria Sadar:- Provision of standby / high capacity transformer. (ii) Power supply and lighting arrangement for provision of 02 nos Escalator at Deoria Sadar station. (iii) Electrical work connection to sinking of tube well 200/350mm dia at Tamkuh road with pump house and generator room (iv) Electrical work connection to provision of sinking of tubewell 150 mm dia tube well with pipe line and water tank & staging at Sardar Nagar. **Approx cost (in Rs.):-** ₹ 2000171.28, **Earn**



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

THIS REPUBLIC DAY

The tableau and the tractor both underline the significance of talking to the public rather than talking down to them

ON THIS REPUBLIC Day, there is great hope that the extraordinary travails of an arduous year will be overcome. There is also an unmistakable challenge. The coronavirus pandemic, which upended lives and rhythms, caused death and distress and sharpened inequalities will, hopefully, be tamed by the vaccines. Of course, the mass vaccination project, off to a good start, will present complex tasks and demand new skills. The inequalities and vulnerabilities bared and accentuated by the public health emergency will also need to be acknowledged and addressed. But for the republic, another important challenge has been sounded at the capital's borders, where farmers protesting the Centre's three farm laws continue to camp in the cold. This is not the first protest, nor the only one in a large and diverse country. Its timing is not the only reason why it must be seen to articulate, on this January 26, the republic's challenge. The reason why the tractor march on Delhi's peripheries will be viewed in the same frame as the R-Day spectacle at its heart is not because the former is at odds with the latter, but the opposite — because they both invoke and celebrate the spirit of the republic made of not just government, but also the people, not just the power of the majority, but also the constitutional checks on it. This republican spirit encompasses a precious bundle of individual freedoms and a careful mosaic of safeguards for their protection.

The republican spirit asks that when there is a push back by the people against a law, even a well-intentioned or reformist law, government must pay heed. In the case of the three farm laws, the Narendra Modi government clearly did not listen enough before bringing in the legislation. It then pushed them through Parliament and took too long in initiating a dialogue with those who started protesting against the proposed changes. So long that even its unprecedented decision to put the laws on hold for 18 months has hit a wall — its serial imperviousness has now returned to haunt. But the farmers' agitation, admirably sober and scrupulously peaceful, is not just an immediate impasse, demanding urgent resolution. It is also a sobering reminder that the government and the entire political establishment must carry with them into the impending Parliament session and beyond.

For the government, this must be a moment to acknowledge the vital distinction between talking to the people and talking down to them, and the importance of doing the former. For the political establishment, which includes parties and leaders across the spectrum who are shunned by a movement that has turned its back to them, this is a time to reach out and also to look within. They will need to win the people's trust again. For all the actors in this drama, the reconvening of Parliament comes not a day too soon. The House is the most spacious, most apt stage for taking forward the work of the republic.

WIDENING GULF

Covid has deepened inequalities. Government must use budget to address and mitigate the fallout

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC has led to what has arguably been the most unequal recession in recent history, exacerbating inequalities along several axes. While millions of Indians, especially those in the informal sector, lost their jobs, and had to dip into whatever meagre savings they had to finance their consumption, the richest Indians have continued to prosper. According to a report by Oxfam, the wealth of billionaires in the country increased by 35 per cent during the lockdown. While this is an increase in wealth, not income, to put this in perspective, the increase in the wealth of India's top 100 billionaires would have been enough to give each of the country's 138 million poorest a transfer of Rs 94,045.

The corporate results also bear out this facet of the economic crisis. Firms have protected their bottom lines by drastically slashing expenditure, mainly through a combination of job and salary cuts. This implies that the distribution of income, which was already skewed in favour of capital, will get even more unbalanced. Even more worrying is the fact that despite economic activities largely reverting back to pre-COVID levels, labour market dislocations persist — demand for work under MGNREGA continues to outstrip that observed last year by a wide margin, suggesting continuing lack of absorptive capacity in both urban and rural areas. But, worsening labour market inequality is just one part of the larger socio-economic consequences of the pandemic. The pandemic has also impacted access to education, health, and has led to a worsening of gender disparities. As the Oxfam report notes, during the pandemic, as education shifted online, the digital divide widened inequalities. Considering that only 3 per cent of India's poorest 20 per cent households had access to a computer, and 9 per cent had access to the internet, the difficulties faced by the poor and the historically disprivileged in accessing education have worsened. The impact on the female workforce has been equally grim. Not only has the unemployment rate among women worsened, but 83 per cent of those who managed to retain their jobs, saw a salary cut, the report noted.

The full economic impact of the labour market scarring, the worsening of inequalities in access to education and health and the growing gender disparities will be visible over the medium-to-long term. But as evidence mounts of a K-shaped recovery, where the fortunes of those at the top and bottom end of the income distribution diverge, the government must unveil measures that address these issues in the upcoming budget.

IT TAKES TWO

What stood out in Larry King's interviews was the realisation — a conversation involves two people, all else is speech

OVER A CAREER spanning nearly 60 years, of which 25 were spent at the CNN, hosting the *Larry King Live* show, American talk-show legend Larry King, 87, who passed away on Saturday, spoke to prime ministers and presidents, scientists and pop stars, sportsmen, film stars, writers and ordinary Americans. Often in the thick of breaking news, what stood out in King's nearly 50,000 on-air interviews was the certainty of his suspenders and that most elusive of realisations — that a conversation involves two people; all else is speech.

Unlike the contemporary talk show that approaches an interview with the passion of an inquisitor, King's shows celebrated the endangered art of making good conversation. King could make his interviewees forget the camera or the microphone because he was genuinely interested in their story. He asked questions, he played it by the ear; he made mistakes and he owned up to them. He was a regular bloke having a regular conversation with newsmakers. If people confided in King, like the American industrialist Ross Perot, who announced his presidential candidature in 1992 on his show, or socialite Paris Hilton, who opened up about her incarceration in 2007, it was because he treated his guests not as a TRP-building prop or an adversary but with courtesy and curiosity.

A good conversation is about drawing out people — it meanders and halts, makes space for gaffes and silences, interruptions and awkwardness because it allows people time to ponder over an idea, to think before reacting. In its negation of the shrill certitude of echo chambers, a conversation fosters an openness to differences and the ability to take oneself lightly. In a 2009 interview with *Time* magazine, speaking on why he wasn't drawn to ideology-based talk shows, King had summed up why conversations were grinding to a halt: "That's something I learned a long time ago, I never learned a thing when I was talking."

The R-Day walk in Heaven

A new conversation takes place on the Constitution. Rumbling of tractors announces a new spectacle



PRATAP BHANU MEHTA

SOMEWHERE IN HEAVEN, founding figures of the Indian Republic and sundry politicians are looking down on another Republic Day, all strolling in the heavenly equivalent of Sunder Nursery.

Subhas Chandra Bose is dreamily staring into space. Jawahar taps him on the shoulder. "Happy 125th, Subhas. Heard you are the man of the moment: Both Modi and Mamata want to claim you."

Subhas, wistfully: "I don't know whether to laugh or cry. For decades they refused to admit I was dead. Now they quarrel over my resurrection."

Bhimrao: "That's what happens when they worship you, buddy. Is there any god, ever, who we have not quarrelled over? At least they are not killing in your name. I hate to admit it, but these days I feel sorry for poor Mohandas. Poor guy keeps singing, 'Raghupati Raghav...'. Meanwhile, 'Jai Shri Ram' becomes a war chant. Hope he is not condemned to eternal torment."

Savarkar: "Come on, Bhim, you exaggerate." Bhimrao: "Look, I don't have time for this. There are other important things on my mind."

Savarkar: "Such as?"

Bhimrao: "The Constitution"

Savarkar: "Yes, I forgot, your Secular Bible. Don't worry, they still celebrate Republic Day. And besides, everyone loves you."

Savarkar sees Rabindranath walking by. With a mischievous smile, says: "Hey Rabindranath. You gave everyone nice titles. You called Mohan 'Mahatma', Subhas 'Deshpriya'. How come you did not give Bhimrao one?"

Uncomfortable silence for two long seconds.

Hansa Mehta chimes in: "Because we all recognised Bhim is a democrat, above honarifics."

Jawahar smiles: "Nice save".

Bhimrao, irritably: "I have no patience for these legacy wars".

Jawahar: "I agree. Look we all had our differences, our individual style and outlook. And we argued with each other. But these days they make it sound like I was Sardar's or Subhas's mortal enemy! So Bhim, you were saying about the Constitution..."

Bhimrao: "Ah yes, does it even exist anymore? I mean we always cut a few corners here and there; even Jawahar sinned occasionally. But I don't recognise our Constitution anymore".

Savarkar: "Again, you exaggerate, my

friend. We still have constitutional government. Scholars still publish big tomes on the Constitution. I get the sense you are trying to deny the legitimacy of the present government."

Bhimrao: "I agree we have popular government. But your Constitution and mine must be very different. I thought we created a Constitution that would protect civil liberties, allocate a division of labour between Centre and state, parliamentary procedure would have sanctity, checks and balances would operate, and there would be oversight over untrammelled executive power. I thought we would keep God and Identity out of the Constitution. Didn't we, Jawahar? So what are we celebrating on Republic Day? Ethnic Majoritarianism and Authoritarianism?"

Jawahar: "Anything I say is poison, so keep me out of it".

Tagore (smiles): "Jawahar, if that is the case, maybe you should praise government more. No one listens to your poor great grandson's attack on government. But if you start praising the government, who knows, maybe BJP supporters will have to abandon it".

Savarkar: "Very funny. Snarkiness is all that you liberal 'religion of humanity' types have left by way of a political strategy."

Piloo Mody, humming a new rap: "If all you got is joke plus woke, you will be politically broke."

Savarkar: "Come on, guys. You are just refusing to acknowledge India on the march. A strong, selfless leader who will make India Vishwaguru. A responsible great power. Vaccine provider to the world. At the forefront of climate change. Courted by every power in the world. Housing, gas, sanitation, water, electricity for all. Self-confident about its Civilisation. About its Leader. Everyday a new mission. A new Republic rises. A new India is being constituted. Long live Republic Day".

Suddenly, a chorus of interventions all at once. Difficult to hear who is speaking. Phrases ring out: "Malnutrition", "Slow Growth", "Crony Capitalism", "Censorship", "China is occupying our land", "Inequality", "Communalism", "Corruption", "Autocracy", "No Supreme Court", "Kashmir", "Collapsing Institutions", "Love Jihad". Chaos ensues for a few minutes.

As the din quietens, Tagore interjects, "About civilisation, I think it is in crisis."

Jawahar: "Savarkar, who is included in civilisation?"

Savarkar: "I have always said a Hindu is a natural patriot. I don't need to say anything more".

Subhas: "So is it Republic Rising or Republic Falling?"

Piloo Mody: "Depends on whether you ask Central Government or Maharashtra Government." Laughs.

Jawahar: "Not THAT Republic".

Piloo Mody: "Is there another one?"

Bhimrao: "Let us get serious. This Constitution thing bothers me. What ritual are we enacting on 26th January?"

Tagore: "I don't know if Savarkar is right. But even if the good stuff he says is happening, I worry. You may see a large bucket of water in front of you, but even if there are a few drops of poison in it, the whole thing becomes useless."

Hansa Mehta: "That is right. I am reminded again of the time we grew up and fought together in the 1920s and '30s. All of you seem to have forgotten. Maybe it is because all of you got statues all over the place. That was a new Renaissance we were creating, a new India, self-confident, unafraid, and forward looking. But a few drops of poison and our dreams shattered. This land was forever fractured and poor Babu has still not recovered. It seems *deja vu* to me".

Mohandas, finally breaking his silence: "What is this sound I hear?"

Bhimrao: "The rumbling of tractors. What is this about? It looks like the farmers are marching to Delhi. A new parade".

Tagore: "Will this help the Republic?"

Someone: "We don't know yet. But the Great Leader seems shaken."

Savarkar: "Shaken but not stirred yet".

Jawahar: "Let us go and watch. Mohandas, are you coming?"

Mohandas: "I am always watching the poor and the peasants. It is you who needs the rumble of tractors."

As they are descending to earth to watch the new spectacle on Republic Day, Piloo Mody turns to Savarkar: "You said we are now a self-confident Leader and a self-confident Civilisation. Doesn't seem that way. Which self-confident Leader or Civilisation makes love a crime? Perhaps you meant self-important."

Savarkar: "Self-confident or self-important? Is there a difference?"

Piloo Mody: "Therein might hang a tale".

The writer is contributing editor at The Indian Express



T V NARENDRAN

THE GOVERNMENT has made massive efforts in strategising for a mega vaccination programme. Indian industry, which has been a partner in the mission since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, is now gearing itself to participate in this critical endeavour.

Since the start of the lockdown, companies have re-engineered themselves to design and manufacture critical care equipment, drugs and medical supplies, much of which was imported earlier. Indian companies have also excelled in manufacturing vaccines and are slated to supply them to other countries. This has resulted in a huge brand recognition for India as the pharmacy of the world.

The next stage of the battle against COVID-19 is the vaccination drive. The mission, which kicked off in India on January 16 is being conducted in three phases. In the first phase, the drive will cover three crore healthcare and frontline workers. Next in line would be those above the age of 50 and those below the age of 50 with co-morbidities, who together are numbered at around 27 crore.

The programme will be driven by robust technology and with the aid of the unique digital platform, the CoWIN Vaccine Delivery Management System. The system which will provide real-time information on vaccine stocks as well as track each vaccine beneficiary will be a central pillar of the government's inoculation programme.

SHARING THE MISSION

Industry has a critical role to play in Covid vaccination programme

Apart from the two vaccines approved for emergency use, multiple other vaccines are in the pipeline. This highlights the need for a common legislative framework, covering areas such as Intellectual Property Rights, limiting liability and compensation. Industry can collaborate with the government in terms of vaccine pharmacovigilance, by providing regulatory support and by helping in the enforcement of the regulations.

Indian industry and business organisations have a critical role in supporting the exercise. The private sector can step in right at the first phase of vaccination of healthcare and frontline workers, and also play an important role during the later phases, especially in terms of expanding coverage to more demographic classes. At the same time, industry would continue to provide regular inputs and recommendations at various stages of the programme.

First, industry is contributing through logistical and maintenance responsibilities, while the government focuses on safety and quality of vaccines throughout the supply chain. We expect this partnership to extend to the vaccination programme as well.

Second, apart from the two vaccines approved for emergency use, multiple other vaccines are in the pipeline. This highlights the need for drafting a common legislative framework, covering areas such as Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), limiting liability and compensation. Industry can collaborate with the government in terms of vaccine pharmacovigilance, by providing regulatory support and by helping in the enforcement of the regulations — all these are critical for the equitable distribution of vaccines.

Three, companies can undertake to vaccinate their employees at their own cost as soon as sufficient stocks are available. This exercise will alleviate the pressure on the government,

in terms of both delivery and cost. We believe that an additional 10-crore workers in the formal sector and local communities could be quickly brought into the inoculation fold with the participation of businesses.

A key benefit of this early vaccination could be the faster resumption of normal economic activity. This could, in turn, generate greater confidence among consumers in returning to markets. Thus, the economy could be revived even while the government undertakes the vaccination programme for the vulnerable sections of society.

Four, a large part of the Indian population still lacks health insurance. During these times, therefore, we need to step up the health insurance penetration in the country. The government and industry can play an active role in bringing more people under the security net of insurance, by adding vaccination under various insurance schemes.

While India embarks on its biggest vaccination programme, it is vital that strategies are developed for the equitable distribution of the vaccines. Industry stands ready to step in and scale up efforts, especially during a crisis, which requires concerted efforts from all stakeholders for resetting India's growth trajectory.

The writer is president-designate, Confederation of Indian Industry, and chairman, CII task-force on COVID vaccine



JANUARY 26, 1981, FORTY YEARS AGO

REDDY'S PLEA
PRESIDENT N SANJIVA Reddy has sought the people's cooperation in averting strikes and agitations and maintaining law and order. He issued this appeal while talking about the inflationary situation and "the renewed tension" in our region in his Republic Day broadcast. He regretted that employees "with four figure incomes" were resorting to strikes to "hold the country to ransom". He urged the higher income group to eschew strikes for better industrial relations. The organised labour, too, must pay its part, he said. The president appealed to all parties, including the ruling party, to rise above controversial issues and treat ad-

ressing the problems of the public as a national responsibility.

PAK'S FEARS
A REPORT BY the Rand Commission, prepared by the noted social scientist Francis Fukayama after extensive talks with Pakistan's military leaders, says that high-ranking Pakistani officials want from the United States a credible political guarantee of Pakistan's territorial integrity and a large military aid package. The most commonly expressed fear was that India wanted to turn Pakistan to the status of a satellite or dependency like Nepal, Bhutan or even Sri Lanka.

DEATH FOR JIANG
JIANG QING, THE fiery symbol of China's decade of turmoil, was sentenced to death. The sentence has been suspended for two years to give Jiang, "a chance to reform". Defiant to the end, she claimed her innocence and shouted revolutionary slogans. "Down with the revisionists" (led by Deng Xiaoping), she shouted.

KISHORE UNWELL
THE CONDITION OF singer and film actor Kishore Kumar, who was admitted to a hospital in Calcutta after a heart attack, is stable. The artist's cardiac ailment is said to be sudden. He was in Calcutta for work.

What binds the nation

Beef ban, 'love jihad' laws and the degrading of protesters undermine the idea and promise of fraternity that forms the core of the republic



DARIUS J KHAMBATA

THE CONSTITUTION EMBODIES the idea of India — it enshrines liberty, equality, justice and fraternity. It was B R Ambedkar who insisted for the inclusion of "fraternity" in the document. The Preamble to the Constitution obliges us to promote amongst all citizens fraternity as the means of "assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation". That is a powerful message but one we have ignored.

The idea of fraternity as a unifying force is not new. The ancient concept of *bandhuta* is that we are all bound together. The 7th rock edict of Ashoka the Great proclaimed, "All religions reside everywhere". Swami Vivekananda warned of the dangers of turning away from pluralism and of sectarianism, bigotry and "its horrible descendant, fanaticism". Rabindranath Tagore, too, despaired of narrow domestic walls. Beethoven and John Lennon imagined a world without borders.

When hatred trumps fraternity, democracy is imperilled. The storming of the Capitol in the US by a mob driven by the big lie that the election had been "stolen", and incited by the then US President Donald Trump, carries a great lesson for us. Frenzied mobs are rarely spontaneous — their fire is stoked by unseen hands and by a lie drilled into them.

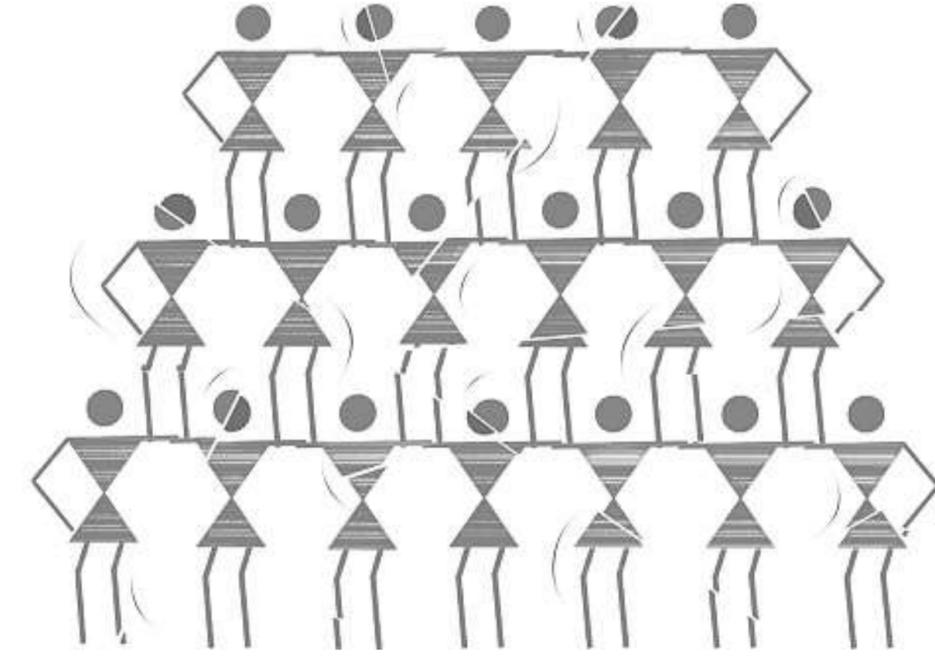
The hallmark of great leadership is promoting fraternity to build unity. This is akin to a conductor who must inspire harmony from the diversity of a hundred instruments in the orchestra, not allowing any one section to drown out others. The whole is then larger than the sum of its parts.

During Partition, both Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru confronted, at great personal risk and unpopularity, rampaging and violent mobs, to urge them to stand down. Sadly, their legacy is now vilified. But they understood that India's future depended on preserving the diversity of its civilisation and that once torn, the fragile fabric of fraternity would be impossible to stitch together again. Try squeezing toothpaste back into the tube!

Yet, in today's India, life for comedians is considerably more complicated than it is for bigots. The bile spewed by some on Twitter and by politicians in Delhi's elections last year, is proof that the virus of hatred has infected us.

The abominable "love jihad" laws police love by criminalising conversion for "marriage", as a result of "allurement" or "inducement" which is defined to include "... gift, gratification, easy money or material benefit ... better lifestyle, divine displeasure or otherwise" in addition to force, coercion and the like. The laws are deliberately vague and over broad. They induce a chilling effect. Who would take the risk of religious conversion in order to marry when that might morph an act of love into a crime?

These laws expose two primal traits that afflict us — exclusion and fear. First, the conjuring of a lynch mob (physical or virtual) to whip up hatred and violence (and sometimes death) against various minorities. It is the exclusion of the target that is the reason for the mob, not its evinced (and usually bogus) purpose. The target is somehow not Indian and is to be ghettoised away from mainstream society.



C R Sasikumar

The second trait is deadlier — fear in the majority who are chilled into being silent accomplices. The public banners put up by the Lucknow administration with photographs and names of those accused of vandalism during the anti-CAA protests endangered these protesters. "Do not protest" was the subliminal message, reminiscent of the unspoken threat to unleash packs of lynching Red Guards upon publicly named "capitalist roaders" (read dissenters).

Kashmir is the current laboratory for de-fraternisation: Mass arrests and detention, some with no charge other than disturbing public order, deportations, suppression of protest, denial of internet access and a new media policy to reward newspapers for repeatedly reporting "a genuinely positive image of the government based on performance" and to deny state advertising to those carrying "fake" or "anti-national" news. Despite the populist 2019 extension of the entire Constitution to Jammu and Kashmir (without the concurrence of any elected body of the erstwhile state), subsequent measures have actually denied basic constitutional rights to Kashmiris, who we seem to forget are all citizens of India. This is a master class in exhorting fraternity, and it is not wise.

The beef ban, "love jihad" laws and the degrading of protesters mark a new and sinister trend of state policy of de-fraternisation. The politics of majoritarianism is built on de-fraternisation of minority sections of society — Muslim, Dalit, liberated women, activists, socialists and intellectuals. Opponents are marginalised by characterising them as "anti-national" (that old favourite) or "Khalistanis", "tukde-tukde gang" and "Maoists" or with the "my way or highway to Pakistan" ultimatum. Electoral ground is seized by the feint that the majority (deftly equated with Indian) way of life is under siege.

The methods are old. The Nazis brainwashed the Germans with propaganda adopting Joseph Goebbels's doctrine of the "Big Lie". They recalibrated the truth and history, demonised the Jews (as being neither German nor human) and accused the Weimar Republic of "apeasement" (yes, that very word). The

During Partition, both Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru confronted, at great personal risk and unpopularity, rampaging and violent mobs, to urge them to stand down. Sadly, their legacy is now vilified. But they understood that India's future depended on preserving the diversity of its civilisation and that once torn, the fragile fabric of fraternity would be impossible to stitch together again. Yet, in today's India, life for comedians is considerably more complicated than it is for bigots. The bile spewed by some on Twitter and by politicians in Delhi's elections last year, is proof that the virus of hatred has infected us.

Germans cravenly allowed themselves to become indoctrinated pawns. The contrived narrative pandered to their prejudices. Even after the Nuremberg citizenship laws were enacted, few in Germany, could forecast where this was leading to. Ultimately, the politics of hate wrought havoc on every German.

With electronic media, the danger of the Big Lie is vastly magnified. And when reporting loses objectivity, it is reduced to propaganda. Viewers, too, cannot shirk responsibility. Those with the strongest opinions usually get their news from a single source and their history and conviction from social media. We don't question what is fed to us in easy sound bites as long as it feeds our phobias. We do not wish to even listen to, much less comprehend, views that we hate. In an era of unprecedented access to information, there is little thirst for knowledge. That enables the Big Lie.

Many of the real problems threatening humankind such as poverty, global warming, diminishing water resources and pandemics require global solutions, not national, sectarian or local ones. Fracturing communal, national and global fraternities will rebound to harm each one of us. Crafting coalitions and fraternities based on principles, not politics, is the way forward. Build bridges not walls. Vaccine diplomacy might be less popular but may work better than pre-emptive strikes.

The irrepressible spirit of the Indian cricket team that forged a victory at the Gabba is an example of the power of unity in diversity. Drawn from all parts of India and all sections of society, and despite insult and intimidation, they formed a team that triumphed against all odds. On the other hand, the politics of hate would exclude talent. We would also do well to heed the words of US senator, Ben Sasse: "Don't let the screamers who monetise hate have the final word."

A house divided cannot stand. The very idea of India and the legacy we leave our children is at stake.

The writer, a senior lawyer at Bombay High Court, is former additional solicitor-general of India and former advocate-general, Maharashtra

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Whatever signal China may have been trying to send by its crackdown on dissenters, the Biden administration should continue to stand with the people of Hong Kong."
— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Past continuous

Indian republic is based on a consensus-building model derived from our historical legacies. It is not an import



RAKESH SINHA

DEMOCRACY IN THE contemporary world is torn between the will of the masses and the hegemonic power of the elite on the one hand, and a growing disregard for representative government on the other. In the last two decades, Latin American countries witnessed such an unresolved situation. In the United States, the unabashed opposition to Donald Trump from the intelligentsia throughout his presidency and the post-verdict street violence at the Capitol show the limitations of representative democracy. The primary reason is the natural decay of traditional ideologies in a neoliberal order, which makes democratic states increasingly vulnerable to corporates and profit-seekers. In this context, the examination of the Indian republic leads to optimism tempered by caution.

Unlike in the West, Indian democracy is not merely a system of governance. It is integrated as a way of life. Even vexed social and religious questions are ethically resolved by mutual negotiations, not civil war. On November 17, 1869, Varanasi saw a public debate on idol worship between Dayananda Saraswati and 300 pundits. In Bengal, a campaign opposed to widow remarriage by Radhakanta Deb received the overwhelming support of 38,789 signatures, while Ishwarachandra Vidyasagar could get only 987 signatures.

Numerical strength is not the sole criteria of our democracy. It is bracketed with morality. The Indian republic is based on a consensus-building model derived from our own historical legacies. In his classic work *Hindu Polity*, K P Jayswal (1881-1937) said, "the test of polity is its capacity to live and develop, and its contributions to the culture and happiness of humanity. Hindu polity judged by this test will come out very successfully".

The journey of the Indian republic post-Independence shows fundamental differences between Jawaharlal Nehru's and Narendra Modi's concepts of modernity. Nehru advocated egalitarianism and radical social and economic reforms, though the cultural themes of ancient India were largely missing. However, these could not be eroded from our memories and way of life. Congress leader Kamalapati Tripathi, while debating in the Constituent Assembly about whether India or Bharat or Bharatvarsha should be the nomenclature of our nation, aptly said, "There is no other country which has been able to preserve its name and genius, after undergoing repression... and prolonged slavery."

It is this characteristic which gives our republic strength. In post-Independence India, the masses used their veto whenever hydra-headed statism emerged. So, the Emergency imposed by Indira Gandhi in 1975 got a befitting response from the people. Unlike in Western democracies, binaries are considered avoidable in India. Extremes get limited space. And so, the ad-

vocacy of violence by the Naxals or Naga militant groups has not led to subversive action by the state but democratic dialogues. One of the most active participants in the Constituent Assembly was Damodar Swarup Seth, who criticised the very basis of the composition of the Constituent Assembly as unrepresentative of the Indian masses. He, however, received a serious response in debates. Even embarrassing moments were dealt with forthrightly. The proposal of HV Kamath, Mahavir Tyagi and M Thirumala Rao to mention god in the Constitution was harmoniously put to vote. The debate ended with advice by a member that "it was unfortunate to put god to vote". Moreover, Govind Malaviya's insistence on mentioning Gandhi in the Constitution was opposed by ardent Gandhian JB Kripalani.

This legacy is increasingly being eroded by our elites and intellectual leadership. For decades, a delusion was manufactured that the roots of modern political institutions were European. Nehru's concept of modernity shared it. In 1931, K C Bhattacharya in his Ashutosh Memorial Lecture had advocated the liberation of thought from the domination of the West, which he called a "swaraj in ideas".

PM Modi's New India accomplishes this unfinished project of the decolonisation of ideas. His speeches are absolutely free of Eurocentrism. He proclaims something which remained suppressed under the despotism of Nehru's modernity: "Democracy in India is about life values, it is the way of life and the soul of the nation. India's democracy is a system developed through centuries of experience. From time to time, the systems and processes changed, but democracy remained the soul. And, ironically, today, India's democracy is explained to us by the Western countries. When we codify our democratic history with confidence, the day is not far away when the world will also say: India is the mother of democracy."

The republic blossoms when its leadership shows genuine conviction in a diversity of ideas. The decline of republican spirit in the Congress and the suppression of diverse views resulted in it losing the faith of the masses.

The republic's continuity and evolution are ensured only when vibrant ideas remain at the centre of politics. An example from our history is a message to contemporary democracies. Ajatashatru, the king of Magadha, wanted to destroy the Vajjian confederacy and sent a minister to the Buddha to seek his advice. Rather than answering directly, Buddha said to Ananda, his closest disciple, "Have you heard, Ananda, that the Vajjians hold full and frequent public assemblies?" He replied: "Lord, yes I have heard." "So long, Ananda, the Vajjians hold these full and frequent public assemblies... may they be expected not to decline, but to prosper."

The old inequality has been addressed by PM Modi in an unparalleled manner, leading to financial inclusiveness of millions. However, democracies across the world may face a tough time due to global capitalism masked as neoliberalism, which creates competitive frustrations. The state faces the burden of fulfilling aspirations through private capital which controls public resources. This new inequality is the biggest challenge for democracies, including the Indian republic.

The writer is a BJP Rajya Sabha MP



NISHTHA SATYAM

The gender priority

Budget 2021 must push for women-led development and economic recovery

THE YEAR 2020 compelled the entire world to recognise the urgent need to review everything using collective wisdom. The year was also a landmark in the history of gender rights. It saw the confluence of very important milestones — a quarter of a century since the path-breaking Beijing Platform for Action, five years of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the beginning of the Decade of Action to achieve the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals. The year saw governments, politicians, practitioners and people strive and struggle to meet the twin mandate of protecting past gains on gender and creating a future that is more equal. At the centre of this is the compounded task of holding the purse strings in a way that economic relief and respite reached the last mile and the economy remains afloat.

The Union Budget 2021, therefore, is an exercise that will have a bearing on the decades to come. It will need to address the need to propel more favourable developmental outcomes for the country. The most critical requirement on the road to recovery will be addressing broader economic vulnerabilities while also attending to the necessities of those who we must not leave behind in the journey forward.

In doing so, it is imperative that the budget have a strong gender content. This does not imply that government allocations

be divided according to gender. It also does not mean a separate budget for women. It means looking at the entire budget-making exercise from a gender equity perspective to assess how it will impact women, men and persons with other gender identities differentially. It implies that the budget considers the varied impact of the pandemic that has worsened pre-existing gender and economic inequalities. It should be founded on the premise that rebuilding the economy will not be possible without prioritising women's economic recovery and well-being.

The government of India's response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been prompt, given that the challenge was to manage one of the world's largest lockdowns. It has been premised on the mission of self-reliance, self-dependence and inclusive growth.

With increasing evidence, there is greater acceptance of the fact that the impact of the crisis has not been gender-neutral. A socio-economic impact assessment of the pandemic by UN Women has revealed that the feminised sectors are hit the hardest. Globally, 72 per cent of domestic workers — largely women — have lost their jobs during the pandemic. With plummeting economic activity, women in the accommodation, food services and care sectors, where they have a significant presence, have been more vulnerable to pay cuts or loss

of livelihoods.

To move steadfast on the road to recovery, it is vital that the budget addresses women's distinct economic roles, recognises their contributions and constraints and takes this opportunity to put them at the centre of investment. Government expenditure on up-skilling and reskilling of women needs to be increased to keep women in the workforce and bring back those who have left. An important task will also be putting more money in the hands of women through schemes like the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, under which the majority of the beneficiaries are women.

Given the pandemic's deep impact on women, the budget also presents an opportunity to renew focus on issues like nutrition and access to education. There should be a special focus on frontline healthcare workers, especially nurses, midwives and community health workers. For a more sustained recovery, more women need to be included in the post-pandemic decision-making processes. The role of almost half the population in pulling back the economy and society needs to be recognised.

Ground realities in this colossal rebuilding endeavour point to the longstanding need to inject more fluidity in the system. Debatable, the most important part of the recovery will be cushioning small and medium

enterprises, a notable percentage of which are women-owned and managed. Given that these have been traditionally considered as high-risk by financing institutions and tend to not have all the required collaterals for getting loans, developing a new scheme to meet the financing needs of women-owned businesses will be critical. Promotion of women-owned businesses in public procurement processes will require incentives and concession, especially with regard to the entry criteria. The government could also consider affirmative action in procurement similar to South Africa, where rules demand that government contractors' subcontract to certain marginalised groups. For example, priority can be given to businesses which employ 50 per cent women or which source from women-owned businesses.

Budget 2021-22 is going to be a historic one in many ways. It presents the government with an opportunity like never before to not just recover but build back better and equal. Hopefully, the paradigm shift from women in development to women-led development will be initiated at a time when we risk reversing much of what we had considered won.

The writer is Deputy Country Representative, UN Women, India, Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BJP LIKE CONGRESS

THIS REFERS TO the article 'Majority complex' (IE, January 25). The BJP is indeed using its majority in Parliament to leave a mark in every walk of life. However, what takes the sting out of the criticism of the BJP is that the Congress's own track record on that is not inspiring. In many respects, the two parties are mirror images of each other.

Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur

CARE MATTERS

THIS REFERS TO the article 'Home, alone' (IE, January 23). Every work is significant. But care can't be valued in terms of money. There is a need to understand that essential work which sustains us should not be divided on the basis of gender or caste. Just like sharing economic responsibilities amongst couples, the pleasures and burden of kitchen work and care should also be shared.

H Upadhyay via e-mail

BJP-TMC STRIFE

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'Mamata refuses to speak at event after slogans raised in PM's presence' (IE, January 24). Slogans by BJP supporters at the event to mark Subhas Chandra Bose's birth anniversary has aggravated the tension between the TMC and BJP. The intention of

IDEAS ONLINE

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● TALE OF TWO PROTESTS: M R SHAMSHAD

● DST: NOT ABOUT INDIA VS US: SHILPA GOEL AND ASHISH GOEL

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BJP supporters seemed to be to humiliate the West Bengal CM.

Gouri Dogra, Pathankot

NITISH TYRANNY

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Nitish Diminish' (IE, January 25). The right to freedom of speech and expression is the cornerstone of any democracy. It cannot be abridged by imposing unreasonable restrictions guided by ambiguous rules. The Bihar government's ordinance punishing criticism of the government should be criticised. As Edmund Burke said, "Bad laws are the worst form of tyranny".

Sarachana Sisodia, Delhi



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

EXPLAINED THE BUDGET

What to look for in upcoming Budget

On February 1, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will present what could turn out to be India's most consequential Budget in years. What is the status of the post-Covid recovery process, and what are the concerns going forward? What should you look for in the Budget – and what should the Budget be looking at?

EXPERT EXPLAINS



NEELKANTH MISHRA

From The Indian Express panel of specialists, exclusive insight

Ahead of the Budget, what is the state of the economy? How critical is the Budget with respect to what it can achieve?

GDP fell sharply when lockdowns restricted activities, and has bounced back once lockdowns were lifted, particularly as the infection-fatality rate of the coronavirus in India has turned out to be much lower than feared earlier. Further, some of the drivers of the economic slowdown preceding the pandemic also appear to be reversing: for example, the credit crunch triggered by the failure of IL&FS in September 2018 had driven de-stocking across supply chains, hurting GDP. (As GDP measures activity, inventory build-up adds to it and conversely, inventory depletion lowers it.) In sectors like cars and two-wheelers, the transition from BS-IV to BS-VI standards had exacerbated this trend. The end of this de-stocking is helping demand for manufacturing. Separately, the urban residential real-estate sector, after struggling for more than five years, is also seeing a revival.

Aggregate government fiscal interventions, from both states and the Centre, have been worryingly pro-cyclical so far, that is, they were a drag on growth when private demand was weak, and are now adding to the recovery. In the September quarter, if government spending had not fallen 20% versus last year and had instead grown 20%, overall GDP would have been nearly unchanged, as against the 7.5% decline that was reported. A pick-up in government spending now is acting as a tailwind when private demand is also growing.

Some of this is hard to control: Most government departments cannot "work from home", and struggled to function. Post lockdowns, they are trying to catch up on their annual targets.

Four key issues must be kept in mind as we assess the impact of the Union Budget on growth. First, the recovery is still fragile and uneven, and fiscal interventions are still necessary; second, there are constraints in the government's execution capacity; third, state government budgets may matter more, as they together spend 70% to 90% more than the Centre; and fourth, the "Budget" has two distinct parts: the fiscal accounting, and the Budget speech. The latter, by laying out the medium-term roadmap, can significantly im-

part "animal spirits", and thence growth.

What are the key numbers (deficits, growth, inflation and revenue projections) to look out for in the Budget? What signal will they provide?

The assumptions underlying the Budget start with nominal GDP growth, which itself is highly uncertain, unlike in earlier years. Consensus currently forecasts 9% real growth in FY2021-22, which, with 4% inflation, should mean 13% nominal growth. However, there is a possibility that real GDP growth itself could be 13% or higher, implying more than 17% nominal growth. Even without any tax buoyancy (that is, taxes growing faster than GDP, as they sometimes do in a recovery), it would provide significant fiscal space.

The 15th Finance Commission's report is also likely to be tabled along with the Budget: this would affect how much of the gross tax receipts the Centre can retain and how much must be devolved to states, as also the allocations on important sectors such as defence, health and education.

The government then needs to budget for non-tax receipts, where the big decisions would be on expected receipts from spectrum sales (in case 5G auctions are planned), and on disinvestment, where execution on big-ticket disinvestment has lagged political intent. Government officials have signalled a change in the approach on disinvestment; some concrete medium-term targets would signal renewed government commitment to the process.

With regard to the fiscal deficit target, consensus currently expects it to be at 5.6% of GDP. This is significantly higher than the 3-odd per cent that was expected pre-pandemic, implying that the government can work with higher deficits for a few years.

The Budget may also revise medium-term fiscal targets like debt to GDP ratio over the next five years (the current target of 60% appears unrealistic), and a glide path for the annual deficit ratio.

On expenditure, assuming a 13% nominal GDP growth, non-tax receipts similar to that budgeted for FY2020-21, and the deficit ratio at 5.6%, government expenditure would grow by 18%. While that appears to be moderate growth, one must remember that more than three-fourths of central government spending is pre-committed: interest, salaries, pensions, subsidies, transfers to states, and other such heads. As these grow at their own steady pace, to achieve 18% growth in overall expenditure would mean nearly 150% growth in the non-committed heads.

Such growth levels appear easy in Excel sheets, but can challenge the spending capacity of the government. It is possible that the government would assume either a lower tax



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman addresses a pre-Budget meeting last week. Ministry of Finance via PTI

revenue growth, or a lower fiscal deficit target, in order to keep its expenditure growth assumptions credible.

With suppressed incomes and job losses post-Covid, should the government consider tweaking income tax slabs to boost disposable income and in turn, consumption demand? Should tax exemption limits be raised?

It is widely agreed that the pandemic has hurt lower-income households and smaller and informal firms. Given the limitations in the government's ability to launch sufficiently targeted large schemes that help the urban poor and informal enterprises, steps that boost aggregate demand may be an alternative. Implementing recommendations of the Direct Tax Code committee would be a timely reform. As the number of households paying income tax is low, cuts to indirect taxes may also help.

Which sectors should the government focus on in the Budget to revive

employment?

Housing and construction continue to be large job-creators for unskilled or semi-skilled workers. Even as the residential real-estate industry revives after several years of slowdown, continued or even enhanced support to affordable housing projects would help in job creation. Infrastructure construction also creates jobs, and supplementing the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) with new projects can boost the outlook for jobs.

Separately, the government has already announced allocations to Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes for several labour-intensive sectors such as food processing and man-made textiles. These may not have any fiscal allocations in FY2021-22, but rapidly getting them to execution can help.

Consensus is also converging on lack of capacity in the financial system being a hindrance to growth once the economy is fully open. Reforms to enhance this capacity would support the growth outlook over the medium-term, and thus boost job creation too.

Healthcare is likely to be a key focus area for expenditure allocation. What kind of schemes can help the benefits reach the masses?

Several epidemiologists have strongly recommended that the lacunae exposed by the pandemic should be addressed promptly. In addition to a budget for vaccination, supplementing primary healthcare capacity and improving its quality can help the country be better prepared for future epidemics. Similarly, given the large share of private healthcare, and that a meaningful part of private facilities had to be shut down during the pandemic, the system must prepare to utilise them better in future episodes. A speedy rollout of the National Digital Health Mission — with a national digital ID, registries for medical facilities, practitioners and medical records, etc — can help. State governments too, need to boost their focus on capacity-building.

While actions that focus on disease prevention, such as affordable housing, provision of water and sanitation to the urban poor, may not be classified as healthcare, they are as important in epidemic control, as the surges in urban slums have shown.

Revenue collections have slowed down in the post-Covid year. Will a new tax/surcharge/cess be a sensible choice to boost government revenues?

As the economy has rebounded, tax revenues are growing too, not just for the Centre, but also in several states. We have already seen several months of strong GST collection growth, and direct taxes should be picking up too, as companies' and individuals' assessment of full-year income now would be higher than what they thought likely till September. Healthy tax growth should continue into the new fiscal year.

Further, given the need to prioritise growth — required not just for alleviating poverty but also to keep debt-to-GDP ratios sustainable — and relatively high market expectations for the fiscal deficit ratio, new taxes and surcharges would not make sense. A tenth of a percentage point change in the fiscal deficit ratio can add Rs 20,000 crore to expenditure. Surcharges may not add as much — and in the process, by increasing tax rates, risk a fall in compliance.

There are expectations of further reforms in the banking/financial sector. What could the government deliver on that front?

Lack of capacity in the financial system is one of the structural problems in the Indian economy. If nominal GDP growth needs to be 12% a year for several years, growth in formal credit needs to be 14% to 15%. If public sector banks (PSBs), which are still a large part of the

financial system, do not have the incentives to grow, the system cannot expand at that pace. The government can choose to privatise some PSBs, or separate ownership from management for all PSBs by creating a bank investment company. It can also create a well-capitalised Development Finance Institution (DFI) to support financing needs as the NIP is expanded.

While the monetary stimulus and liquidity injection from the RBI largely supported the economy this year, should the government go for a direct fiscal stimulus to hasten the recovery process?

While growth in the economy in FY2021-22 can be meaningfully higher than current consensus estimates, the level of output would still be substantially below what may have been expected pre-pandemic. Pro-growth fiscal interventions can help the recovery, particularly if prudently targeted — on the urban poor, informal firms, healthcare capacity, affordable housing, or infrastructure construction.

Can — and should — the government utilise the euphoria in the equity markets to privatise PSUs at a much bigger scale, which could deliver efficiency gains and the resources for supporting the economy?

The government needs to restructure its balance sheet by shifting its asset ownership away from mines, smelters, refineries, and too many financial firms, to providing better healthcare, education, urban infrastructure, defence, social security, and other such needs. A robust equity market provides a good opportunity to exit current holdings. The government must also re-evaluate its approach to disinvestment: an incessant trickle-feed of stocks in government companies instead of strategic sales have made them lag the overall market.

Should the government provide direct support to sectors still affected by the pandemic, such as hospitality, tourism, aviation?

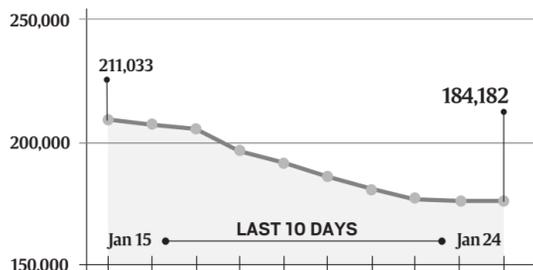
While such support may be necessary for some firms, plans must also take into account the ability to objectively target this aid.

There are incipient signs of inflation rearing its head. Will this have a bearing on the Budget?

Sustained high fiscal deficits when monetised by the central bank tend to cause inflation, so the medium-term fiscal consolidation path must keep inflation as a consideration. However, the current spurt in commodity prices are a global phenomenon, and have little to do with India's fiscal choices.

CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

INDIA ACTIVE CASES 184,182



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

INDIA TOTAL CASES 10,667,736

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

WORLD TOTAL CASES 99,368,828

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

Continue strict measures to contain Covid strains: experts

WHILE COVID-19 vaccine deployment is now underway, a threat to vaccine effectiveness comes from other emerging strains, both existing — such as the UK, South Africa and Brazil variants — and those yet to come.

In an editorial for the journal *Virulence*, a group of scientists have called on governments to consider the continued use of strict control measures as the only way to reduce the evolution and spread of new Covid-19 variants. The authors are experts in evolution, virology, infectious disease and genomics at the University of East Anglia (UEA), Earlham Institute and



NEW RESEARCH

University of Minnesota. They warn that while governments are negotiating a "precarious balance" between saving the economy and preventing Covid-19 fatalities, stronger action now is the best way to mitigate against more serious outcomes from such virulent strains later.

They write that "continuing public health efforts to encourage vaccination as well as continued use of proper personal protective equipment (PPE), such as proper masking and maintaining safe social interactions, is of utmost importance".

Source: University of East Anglia

Meeting the last big challenge of mountaineering: What it took a Nepali team to climb K2 in winter

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE
KATHMANDU, JANUARY 25

ON JANUARY 16, a group of Nepali mountaineers became the first climbers to scale the K2 peak in winter. Why is this significant, and how was it achieved?

What is K2

At 8,611 metres, K2 is the second highest mountain in the world, after Mount Everest whose height was recently revised to 8,848 m. K2 is located on the border between the Pakistan-occupied Gilgit-Baltistan region and China. K2 was first climbed in 1954, but all successful ascents have been in the warmer months — until now. It has been tried only six times in the coldest months, and each effort ended in failure, climbing guide Freddie Wilkinson wrote in *The New York Times*. "Scaling K2 in winter was perhaps the last great prize of high-altitude mountaineering, a sport born as an expression of national strength among Western European nations in the mid-20th century," Wilkinson wrote.

Pronounced to be forbidding temperatures and fierce winds, K2 is so formidable that it is called the 'Savage Mountain'. For every four climbers who reach its summit, one dies, *The NYT* said in another article; not even 400 climbers have reached the peak, fewer than the people who have been to outer space.

The mission

The adventure was planned in the office of the Seven Summit Trek company last summer, at a time when Covid-19 had brought a halt to mountaineering in Nepal. Mingma Sherpa of the company hosted a meeting of climbers who discussed the role the mountaineering community had to play amid the restrictions. "We must decide today what it should be like," they resolved. And scaling K-2 in winter became a "consensus mission".

"The feat achieved at 1656 hours on January 16 by a team of climbers — all Nepalis — was the outcome of that meeting in June,"



Nirmal Purja's team on K2, which they scaled last week. Nirmal Purja

Mingma Sherpa told *The Indian Express*. "Our current mission is over, but our responsibility and larger campaign will continue," he said.

The climbers

The climbers, who went in two teams, were Nirmal Purja, Gelje Sherpa, Mingma David Sherpa, Mingma G, Sona Sherpa, Mingma Tenzi Sherpa, Prem Chhiri Sherpa, Dawa Temba Sherpa, Killi Pemba Sherpa and Dawa Tenzing Sherpa. They return to Nepal on Tuesday, 10 days after the ascent.

"Brother to brother, shoulder to shoulder, we walked together to the summit whilst singing the Nepali national anthem. We all stopped around 10m before reaching the summit to huddle and make our final steps together as a team to mark this historical feat," Nirmal Purja tweeted.

Purja, who hails from Chitwan district in the plains, and is a retired Gorkha of the British Army, climbed all fourteen 8,000-m-plus mountains in the world two years ago, within a record six months and six days. This included K-2 but that ascent was in summer.

After the trek company solicited participation from willing expeditionists, Purja offered to participate along with five others — the "Nimsdai group", in which all except him belonged to the Sherpa community. Gelje Sherpa had climbed several Himalayan peaks along with him in 2019; Mingma David Sherpa had rescued 52 climbers from the slopes of Everest in a single climbing season in 2016.

Mingma G, a Sherpa who had climbed Everest five times, K2 twice, and all the world's 8,000-metre peaks when he was still in his 20s, led a separate team of Sherpas.

Making the assault

The week-long trek covered over 90 km. An expeditionist said the temperature along the route and the top was up to —65 to —70 degrees, and they had to negotiate the passage through blue ice and rocks. But the confidence the team earned during the ascent would be an inspiration for future adventurers, they feel.

They negotiated a notorious passage called the Bottleneck, mindful of the dangers of moving too fast, which could potentially cause constriction of the pulmonary blood vessels and eventually lead to death. "Linked to a rope they'd fixed to the ice, Purja and the other climbers stepped around such unspoken truths like so many shattered ice houses," *The NYT* wrote.

Back from the peak, Purja tweeted: "The first ascent of K2 in winter. No individual agendas, no individual greed but only solidarity and joint force of Team Nepal with a shared vision."

What next

There are still around 40 members of the expedition trying their luck to get to the top of the Mountain on Pak-China border, and 19 of them are Nepalis, Mingma Sherpa said.

Purja said the mission would focus on climate change and global warming. He tweeted: "Global warming and climate change is one of the biggest challenges the world is facing right now. The human race needs to unite to face era's most threatening looming crisis. If we unite we can make anything possible."

On their return from the peak, the mountaineers called on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff in Pakistan and thanked the Pakistan government for its support. "We are humbled with the success, and the hospitality we got. Pakistan is our second home," a delegate said. Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied regions have five of the fourteen 8,000-metre plus mountains that could bring more mountaineers together in future adventures.

But the successful ascent was all about Nepali pride. And before planning future events, the team is expected to do an enormous amount of homework back in Nepal.



GOLD

₹48,509



RUPEE

₹72.94



OIL

\$55.43



SILVER

₹66,019

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market; gold per 10 g, silver per 1 kg; Brent crude as of 23:00 IST

SENSEX: 48,347.59 ▼ 530.95 NIFTY: 14,238.90 ▼ 133.00 NIKKEI: 28,822.29 ▲ 190.84 HANG SENG: 30,159.01 ▲ 711.16 FTSE: 6,674.96 ▼ 20.11 DAX: 13,852.59 ▼ 21.38

International market data till 19:00 IST

COVID WATCH
INOCULATIONAdditional vaccines:
Revise trial protocols,
SEC tells drugmakersPRABHARAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

AN EXPERT body looking into requests by Serum Institute of India and Bharat Biotech to conduct human testing of additional Covid-19 vaccines has asked the companies to revise their clinical trial protocols.

The Subject Expert Committee (SEC) under India's apex drug regulatory body (CDSCO) has recommended that SII conduct its mid-to-late-stage clinical trials (phase 2/3) "with placebo or other vaccine as the comparator for which justification is required". This follows a meeting on January 13, where the SEC had asked the Pune firm to replace its proposal to compare the vaccine, Covovax (developed by American biotech firm Novavax), with a "comparator" vaccine instead of a placebo.

A comparator vaccine is one that has already been launched for the purpose that the new vaccine is being tested, while a placebo is an inactive vaccine that looks like the vaccine being tested. In this case,

the SEC had noted that vaccines against Covid-19 — Covishield and Covaxin — have already been approved in the country and should therefore be used as the comparator in SII's testing of Covovax.

However, the SEC changed its opinion on January 18 and 19 after SII presented its proposal along with "various comparator options". It has asked the Pune firm to once again revise its protocol accordingly.

In the case of Bharat Biotech, which is attempting to test a single-dose intranasal Covid-19 vaccine 'BBV154', the SEC on Jan 18 and 19 recommended that the company conduct phase 1 clinical trials using 75 volunteers. The committee asked the firm to submit safety and immunogenicity data for its consideration before it proceeds to the second phase of the trial. Bharat Biotech would have to revise its protocol accordingly.

So far, SII and Bharat Biotech have received restricted approvals in an emergency situation for their Covishield and Covaxin respectively.

ANTITRUST BODY TO INTERACT WITH INDUSTRY, GOVT OFFICIALS ON FEB 5

Risk of duopoly in telecom, 'survival' in interest of competition: CCI study

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

UNDERSCORING THAT the moniker of being the "lowest priced telecom market in the world" for India is not without a tradeoff, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) said any exit from the country's telecom sector would mean a virtual duopoly and that "survival" was in the long-term interest of competition.

In a report on key findings and observations of a market study on India's telecom sector, the antitrust body has alluded to the fact that at least two key moves by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) — the 2018 decision on defining a significant market power (SMP) and the 2017 downward revision of mobile termination charges — shaped the competitive landscape of the industry after the launch of Jio in 2016.

Firstly, the CCI has pointed out that Reliance Jio's pricing strategy did not merit regulatory attention, given that the ex-ante competition analysis — the one based on forecasts rather than actual results — by Trai is based on the definition of a significant market power, and that only an entity with SMP can engage in conduct that is anti-

competitive. "A new entrant with no presence in the relevant market is thus at once precluded from such conduct. Reliance's entry into telecom through Jio did not merit regulatory attention despite its disconcerting pricing strategy. Based on Trai's definition of SMP, Jio did not qualify as an entity with SMP and by definition 'predatory,'" it noted.

Reliance Jio launched services in September 2016 offering free voice services and rock-bottom data tariffs. This led to the incumbent operators at the time responding to the tariff decline by matching the new tariffs, wherein voice, which accounted for 70 per cent of their revenues becoming free, and data prices falling by approximately 85 per cent. "The sharp decline in prices led to several exits, and industry revenue in 2018-19 amounted to nearly the same as the revenue from almost a decade ago," the CCI report said.

The CCI said while overall welfare implications of such "price shocks" were hard to judge, it was certain that weakened competition will delay access to new technologies such as 5G. It has said creating a competitive market for 5G will be crucial to its success, and that a weak sector will dull the incentives to innovate and compete. The observations made by CCI

DEBT BURDEN

■ The CCI said high costs of spectrum acquisition, and the demands of network upgradation had increased the industry debt burden.

are based on a market study conducted by the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), which is learnt to have submitted its report in May 2020. The CCI will interact with telecom industry and government officials on competition issues in the telecom sector based on the ICRIER report on February 5.

Secondly, the 2017 decision by the telecom sector watchdog to slash the mobile termination charges from 14 paise per minute to 6 paise per minute also "adversely impacted the competitive position of incumbent operators". For every call that is made, the calling company used to pay the recipient network a mobile termination charge, or an interconnect usage charge (IUC). In September 2017, when the decision was announced, a roadmap was also laid down of completely doing away with the charge by January 1, 2020. The scrapping of the charge was

then delayed and has been implemented effective January 1, 2021. Given that traffic had skewed as a result of Jio's free offerings with the incumbents getting high volumes of incoming calls, the cut in IUC severely affected a potential revenue stream of the established players.

On the consolidation in the telecom sector post the 2016 start of tariff declines, the competition regulator has said that to lower costs and improve survival, smaller players were acquired, while big operators like Vodafone India and Idea Cellular merged. "The prevailing market structure validates the empirical finding expressed as the rule of three, which predicts that mature markets normally support three main competitors, others who survive, are limited to the fringes or a niche. The three major private sector operators, namely Jio, Airtel and Vodafone-Idea own almost 88.4 per cent of the market," it said.

The CCI also said high costs of spectrum acquisition, and the demands of network upgradation had increased the industry debt burden. Technological disruption and tariff competition "triggered" the entry of Reliance Jio, which aggravated the financial distress reflected in the unprecedented decline in revenue of the industry

through the years 2017 and 2019".

In an earlier interview, CCI Chairman Ashok Kumar Gupta told this newspaper that telecom is a sector that requires large investments, with the players being there for the long haul, and that "exit by certain players is as much an indicator of competition as entry". Going ahead, CCI predicts in the market study report that in addition to price-based competition, non-tariff based differentiators like quality of services, bundled offerings will be the focus areas for service providers to improve customer retention. However, it also said bundling in form of strategic partnerships between telecom operators and content providers, e-commerce platforms, digital payment platforms, etc is designed to create "dependency". The report cited the examples of Jio's investments in various media companies and the investments into it from tech giants like Google and Facebook, apart from Airtel's potential to vertically integrate illustrated by its presence across all communication technologies.

"The stakeholders in India do not yet perceive vertical integration as a threat to competition. However, cross-country examples do suggest a need for deeper scrutiny," the CCI noted.

Q3 contracts
push L&T
order book to
all-time high
Net profit up 4.87%ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JANUARY 25

LARSEN AND Toubro (L&T) on Monday said its consolidated order book stood at a record Rs 3.31 lakh crore at the end of December 2020, up 9 per cent year-on-year, following the highest-ever orders won in a quarter. "The several large contracts bagged in Q3FY21 include the High Speed Rail; order inflows jumped 76 per cent y-o-y to Rs 73,233 crore," L&T said in a filing. International orders account for about a fifth of the total order book. The order inflow in Q3 stood at Rs 1,24,846 crore, it said.

Meanwhile, L&T's consolidated net profits for Q3 rose 4.87 per cent y-o-y to Rs 2,466.71 crore. While revenues dipped 1.78 per cent y-o-y to Rs 35,594.4 crore, the operating margin came in at 12 per cent, up 60 basis points y-o-y.

"Both India and Middle East markets are tough. In India, it depends on the kind of push the government is going to give to infrastructure, in Middle East quite a bit depends on oil prices but at the same time they want to create jobs and keep population engaged, so we are hopeful that we will be able to keep the momentum that we have at the moment," SN Subrahmanyam, CEO and managing director, L&T, said. **FE**

What is intranasal
vaccine & its uses?PRABHARAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

AN EXPERT body looking into Bharat Biotech's application for testing its proposed single-dose intranasal Covid-19 vaccine, BBV154, has asked it to revise its protocol to conduct clinical trials.

What is an intranasal vaccine?

Vaccines are most commonly administered as injectable shots into the muscles (intramuscular) or the tissue just between the skin and the muscles. However, with intranasal vaccines, the solution is squirted or sprayed into the nostrils and inhaled in-

stead of injecting it. It isn't the most common route of administering a vaccine and, so far, only some flu shots are given this way.

What are its benefits during a pandemic?

Such vaccines not only aim to overcome barriers to delivery and administration that come with producing and distributing injectable vaccines, they also may be able to tap an additional set of immune cells found in the tissues lining the nose, mouth and lungs. Intranasal vaccines reduce the need for syringes, needles and other components.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

EXPLAINED
E.

COVID-19 IMPACT

Job losses from virus 4 times as bad as 2009 financial crisis: ILO

Four times as many jobs were lost due to the pandemic in 2020 as during the worst part of the 2009 global financial crisis, an International Labour Organization report said

8.8% Share of all work hours around the world that was destroyed last year due to restrictions on businesses and public life

255 million: Estimated number of full-time jobs lost in 2020 — quadruple the impact of the financial crisis of 2008-09

\$3.7 trillion: Income equivalent lost globally due to job losses in 2020



Worse than Great Depression: This has been the most severe crisis for the world of work since the Great Depression of the 1930s

Source: ILO/PTI

'Cairn Energy threatens to enforce award against Indian assets overseas'

AASHISHARYAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE NATIONAL Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has set aside an order of insolvency against Kolkata-based RP Infosystems as the plea filed by the financial creditor, State Bank of India (SBI), was beyond the limitation period of three years.

In its judgment, the NCLAT said that since the insolvency petition moved by SBI in 2019, seven years after RP Infosystems' accounts were declared non-performing assets in 2013. In 2020, the Kolkata bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) had admitted the insolvency petition against the company based

NCLAT stays insolvency process of RP Infosystems

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Appellate tribunal
Chennai Bench

New Delhi: The Chennai Bench of the NCLAT was inaugurated by Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday. The Bench will have jurisdiction to hear appeals against orders passed by benches of the NCLAT having jurisdiction of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Lakshadweep and Puducherry. **PTI**

on the application moved by SBI. In its judgment, delivered last Wednesday and made available later, the NCLAT set aside the

NCLT's order and held that the firm was "allowed to function independently through its Board of Directors with immediate effect".

The order by the NCLAT follows even as two of RP Infosystems directors, Shibaji Panja and Kaustav Ray, are accused of financial fraud. Panja and Ray had in 2018 been arrested by the CBI for cheating and defrauding a consortium of 10 banks led by Canara Bank for a total of Rs 515 crore. The consortium includes SBI, its then subsidiaries State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur and State Bank of Patiala, Union Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Allahabad Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce, and Central Bank of India.

Full report on www.indianexpress.com

Detain Future Group CEO, Amazon urges Delhi HC

New Delhi: Amazon.com Inc has requested a court to block Future Group's \$3.4 billion deal to sell its retail assets and called for the group's CEO to be detained, a court filing seen by Reuters showed. In the US giant's latest effort to derail Future's asset sale to Reliance Industries, it asked the

Delhi High Court to enforce the decision of a Singapore arbitrator, which Amazon and Future had agreed to use in case of disputes, the filing showed.

Future has "deliberately" disobeyed the arbitrator's order without challenging it, Amazon argued in its court filing, which is likely to

be heard by the court in New Delhi later this week. Any violation of the arbitrator order invites the "same consequences" as a violation of a court order would, Amazon argued, urging the court to also detain Future Group CEO Kishore Biyani, and some other respondents in the case, in a civil prison.

Future, in a statement to BSE and NSE stock exchanges, said it had been informed by Amazon lawyers about the court filing, and it would defend the case. Future and a spokesman for Biyani, as well as Reliance, did not respond to requests for comment. Amazon declined to comment. **REUTERS**

BRIEFLY

Sensex falls 531 points

Mumbai: The Sensex fell 531 points to 48,347.59, while NSE Nifty fell 133 points to 14,238.90 on reports of border issues with China. **ENS**

Jayati Ghosh in UN panel

United Nations: Economist Jayati Ghosh has been appointed by the UN to a high-level advisory board that will give recommendations for its Secretary-General.

ESIC scheme adds 9.33 lakh

New Delhi: Around 9.33 lakh new members joined Employees' State Insurance Corporation's (ESIC) social security scheme in November. **PTI**

Ambulances given by PGCIL

New Delhi: Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL) handed over three ambulances to the Civil Surgeon, Ferozpur, Punjab. **ENS**

INFLOWS IN INDIA UP 13%, GLOBAL FDI DOWN 42%

UN: FDI inflows fall in major economies; India, China outliers

YOSHITA SINGH
NEW YORK, JANUARY 25

FOREIGN DIRECT Investment into India rose by 13 per cent in 2020, boosted by interest in the digital sector, and while fund flows "declined most strongly" in major economies such as the UK, the US and Russia due to the Covid-19 pandemic, India and China "bucked the trend", the UN has said.

An "investment trends monitor" issued by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on Sunday said that global foreign direct investment (FDI) collapsed in 2020 by 42 per cent to an estimated \$859 billion from \$1.5 trillion in 2019.

Such a low level was last seen in the 1990s and is more than 30 per cent below the investment trough that followed the 2008-2009 global financial crisis.

The decline in FDI inflows was concentrated in developed countries, where fund flows decreased by 69 per cent to an estimated \$229 billion. However, FDI in India rose 13 per cent, boosted by investments in the digital sector. **PTI**

Goyal: Policies, reforms worked

New Delhi: The government policies and reforms have made India a preferred destination for foreign direct investments and the inflows grew at the fastest rate among top economies, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal tweeted on Monday. **PTI**

'2020 growth pegged at -9.6%

United Nations: India's economy is estimated to contract by 9.6 per cent in 2020, as lockdowns and other efforts to control Covid-19 slashed domestic consumption without halting the spread of the disease, and the growth is expected to recover and grow at 7.3 per cent in 2021, the UN said in the latest World Economic Situation and Prospects. In 2020, the world economy shrank by 4.3 per cent, over two and half times more than during the global financial crisis of 2009. **PTI**

PIMPRI CHINCHWAD NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
AKURDI, PUNE 411 044.
Tender Notice No.: Engg/B 03 For 2020-21

The Chief Executive Officer, PCNTDA, Pune invites online bids from eligible bidders/contractors who fulfill the conditions in the respective tender document for the construction of works detailed below. The bidders may submit bids for any or all of the following works.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Type of Tender	Cost Put to Tender (Rs.) without GST	Bid Security (EMD) (Rs.) e-payment gateway only	Time Limit in Months	Cost of Bid document (Rs.) e-payment gateway only (Non Refundable)
1	Project 3:- Construction of Affordable Housing Project 3234 EWS-A TYPE Dwelling Units in Sector 12 of PCNTDA. e-Tender no. : B-1/C02/2020-21	B-1 plus Lump-sum	3568048346/-	17840500/-	24 Months	50,000/- + GST
2	Project 4:- Construction of Affordable Housing Project 1428 LIG-A TYPE Dwelling Units in Sector 12 of PCNTDA. e-Tender no. : B-1/C03/2020-21	B-1 plus Lump-sum	2752804218/-	13764500/-	24 Months	50,000/- + GST
3	Project 5:- Construction of Affordable Housing Project 321 EWS- B & 1326 LIG-B TYPE Dwelling Units in Sector 12 of PCNTDA. e-Tender no. : B-1/C04/2020-21	B-1 plus Lump-sum	2526479664/-	12632500/-	24 Months	50,000/- + GST

The detailed tender notice and the bid documents are available on www.mahatenders.gov.in. For interested bidders who are not registered with this e-tendering portal shall get themselves registered on www.mahatenders.gov.in. 24 X 7 technical support is available on toll free number 1800 3070 2232. The detailed tender notice is also available on www.pcntda.org.in.

Sd/-
(Bansi Gawali)
Chief Executive Officer,
Pimpri Chinchwad New Town Development Authority,
Akurdi, Pune 411044.

Advt. No.24/2020-21

SHRI AMARNATHJI SHRINE BOARD
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of the Chairman, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, J&K, sealed tenders on the prescribed form affixed with Revenue Stamps worth Rs. 6/- are invited from reputed professional firms/companies dealing in RFID Tracking and running of computerized online prepaid system for:-

- "Design, Installation, Commissioning and Operationalizing on BOT (Build, Operate, and Transfer) Model";-
- A computerized online prepaid system with required number of counters for the pilgrims utilizing pony/pihlu/Palki services visiting Shri Amarnathji Shrine.
- Setting up of e-surveillance and RFID tracking of Pilgrim and Service Providers.
- Robust MIS system for management and monitoring of the project.

For details please visit Board's website www.shriamarnathjishrine.com. The duly sealed offer/tender addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board must reach this office at/on or before 05th Feb. 2021 upto 3 PM IST.

No.: 01/SASB/RFID Addl. Chief Executive Officer
Dated:- 25th Jan. 2021 SASB-12 Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board

SHRI AMARNATHJI SHRINE BOARD
Chaitanya Ashram, Talab Tilloo, Jammu
Ph: 0191-2555662, Telefax: 0191-2503399

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

FOR PROVIDING HELICOPTER SERVICES DURING YATRA 2021

- Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) invites sealed tenders, in two bids format, from reputed and registered Aviation Companies, having a minimum fleet of Three Airworthy Light Helicopters, endorsed on its NSOP, for Flight Operations in the Air Space of J&K, in the Pahalgam - Sangam Top - Pahalgam Sector, purely on leave and License Basis for the Yatra Period during Yatra 2021.
- For further detailed about the Tender, please refer to our website. www.shriamarnathjishrine.com.

No. SASB/NIT/2021/05 Sd/-
Dated: 25.01.2021 SASB-11 Addl. Chief Executive Officer

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Heavy Water plant Kota
Notice Inviting e-tenders

Online item rate tenders are invited through e-tendering by General Manager, for and on behalf of President of India from approved, eligible and experienced contractors at Heavy Water Plant (Kota) Post Anushakti-323033, Via Kota (Rajasthan) for the following works as detailed below.

Sr. No.	E-Tender Notice No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Tender Selling Date
1	HWP/INC/OS/H2SM/2020/06	Laying of cable, shifting of H2S monitors with accessories and CAGE structure from existing place to new place, specified by HWP (K).	₹ 27,93,500/- EMD declaration ₹ 1648/-	28.01.2021 (10:00 Hrs.) to 18.02.2021 (17:00 Hrs.), 20.02.2021 (10:00 Hrs.) to 20.02.2021 (16:00 Hrs.) ₹ 1648/- 25.02.2021 up to 14.30 Hrs

The Technical Bid of above tender will be opened on 25.02.2021 at 15:00 Hrs. Detailed NIT & tender documents are available on website www.tenderwizard.com/DAE for free view / download.

Detailed NIT is also available on website www.hwb.gov.in for view only. For further information, please contact on (01475)242214/242201 Fax: 01475-242203 on all working days. Registered contractors only, can purchase / download & submit / upload tenders. Interested agencies may visit this website for registration. Contact for assistance / clarification 24x7 @ 09969395522 (Sh. Rudresh), e-mail: rudresh.tenderwizard@gmail.com or daehelpdesk@gmail.com Contact No: 011 49424365.

(V.V.S.A. Prasad)
General Manager
HWP/INC/OS/2020/06 for and on Behalf of the President of India

TOP OF THE WORLD



Supporters of Karima Baloch during a protest in Karachi. AP

PAKISTAN

Baloch activist buried amid tight security

A 37-YEAR-OLD Pakistani dissident from ethnic Baloch community and women right activist, who died in exile in Canada, was brought home and buried in her village in the restive Balochistan province amid tight security, officials said on Monday. Karima Baloch, the political activist who campaigned extensively against disappearances and human rights violations in the troubled Balochistan province, was found dead in Toronto downtown waterfront on December 22. Officials said her immediate family was present at the funeral on Sunday in the Tump village of the Keach area of the restive province. PTI

CHINA

Xi calls for stronger macro-economic coordination

CHINA'S PRESIDENT Xi Jinping on Monday called on the world to strengthen macroeconomic policy coordination and bolster the role of the G20 in global economic governance as he pointed to a "rather shaky" recovery from the coronavirus pandemic. Speaking at a virtual meeting of the World Economic Forum — a gathering usually held in a Swiss ski resort — Xi said the global economic outlook remained uncertain and public health emergencies "may very well recur" in future. "We should build an open world economy... discard discriminatory and exclusionary standards, rules and systems, and take down barriers to trade, investment and technological exchanges," he said. REUTERS

EUROPE

EU to debate Russia sanctions after arrests

THE EUROPEAN Union will consider fresh sanctions on Russian individuals on Monday after more than 3,000 people were arrested across Russia on Saturday to demand the release of Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny. Lithuania's foreign minister, arriving in Brussels for a meeting of the bloc's 27 top diplomats, said "a change is in the air in Russia" that the bloc must support, especially after Navalny's detention as he returned to Russia from Germany. The EU already has economic sanctions on various Russian industries. REUTERS

BRITAIN

Mountbatten's Indian bracelet to be auctioned

A DIAMOND bracelet and jewelled decorative elephants from Jaipur are some of the Indian heirlooms that make up a collection of 350 personal items belonging to Patricia Mountbatten, the eldest daughter of Lord Louis Mountbatten — the last Viceroy of India — which will go under the hammer in London in March. The Sotheby's auction in London includes many items inherited from her ancestors sharing connections with India. PTI

Moderna says its vaccine works on new variants of coronavirus

But admits it provokes weaker response against S African variant

DENISE GRADY
JANUARY 25

MODERNA'S VACCINE is effective against new variants of the coronavirus that have emerged in Britain and South Africa, the company announced on Monday. But it appears to be less protective against the variant discovered in South Africa, and so the company is developing a new form of the vaccine that could be used as a booster shot.

"We're doing it today to be ahead of the curve should we need to," Dr Tal Zaks, Moderna's chief medical officer, said in an interview. "I think of it as an insurance policy."

He added: "I don't know if we need it, and I hope we don't."

Moderna reported findings from a study that used blood samples from eight people who had received two doses of the vaccine, and two monkeys that had also been immunised.

The variant found in Britain had no effect on the levels of neutralising antibodies — the type that can disable the virus — produced after vaccination. But with the form from South Africa, there was a six-fold reduction in those levels.

Even so, the company said, those antibodies "remain above levels that are expected to be protective".

Moderna collaborated on the study with the Vaccine Research Center at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, part of the US National Institutes of Health.

The results have not yet been published or peer-reviewed, but have been submitted to bioRxiv, which posts preliminary studies online.

The company's action is part of a race to control a shape-shifting virus that has already created global havoc and now threatens to mutate in ways that will make it even harder to fight. NYT



ANDRÉS MANUEL LÓPEZ OBRADOR
Mexican President

Mexico President tests positive

Mexico City: Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said he has tested positive for Covid-19, an announcement that comes as his country registers the highest levels of infections and deaths to date.

López Obrador, who has been criticised for his handling of Mexico's pandemic and for not setting an example of prevention in public, said Sunday on his official Twitter account that his symptoms are mild and he is under medical treatment. José Luis Alomía Zegarra, Mexico's director of epidemiology, said the 67-year-old López Obrador was "isolating at home". AP



MOVIE SCREENING AMID COVID: A woman watches a movie during the Projeta Rocinha cultural project which projects movies, music clips and a health campaign on the Dois Irmaos mountain atop the Rocinha slum amid the Covid-19 outbreak, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Sunday. Reuters

China pushes more conspiracy theories on virus origin, vaccines

HUIZHONG WU
TAIPEI, JANUARY 25

CHINESE STATE media have stoked concerns about Pfizer's Covid-19 vaccine, despite rigorous trials that showed it was safe. A government spokesperson has raised the unfounded theory that the coronavirus could have emerged from a US military lab, giving it more credence in China.

As the ruling Communist Party faces growing questioning about China's vaccines and renewed criticism of its early Covid-19 response, it is hitting back by encouraging conspiracy theories that experts say could cause harm.

State media and officials are sowing doubts about Western vaccines and the origin of the coronavirus in an apparent bid to deflect the attacks. Both issues are in the spotlight because of the rollout of vaccines globally and the recent arrival of a World Health Organisation team in Wuhan, China, to investigate the origins of the virus.

Some of these conspiracy theories find a receptive audience at home. The social media hashtag "American's Ft. Detrick," started by the Communist Youth League, was viewed at least 1.4 billion times last week after a Foreign Ministry spokesperson called for a WHO investigation of the biological weapons lab in Maryland.

Merck abandons two vaccines in clinical trials

CARL ZIMMER
JANUARY 25

MERCK ANNOUNCED on Monday that it was abandoning a pair of Covid-19 vaccines in clinical trials.

The news came as a disappointment at a time when the US and other countries are struggling to accelerate their sluggish vaccination campaigns and new coronavirus variants threaten to bring surges over the next few months.

The two projects are the second and third vaccines to be abandoned in clinical trials. The University of Queensland in Australia abandoned its own effort in December. Sanofi and other vaccine makers have paused



As the Chinese government faces growing questioning about vaccines and renewed criticism of its early Covid-19 response, it is hitting back by encouraging conspiracy theories. Reuters

"Its purpose is to shift the blame from mishandling by (the) Chinese government in the pandemic's early days to conspiracy by the US," said Fang Shimin, a now-US-based writer known for exposing faked degrees and other fraud in Chinese science. "The tactic is quite successful because of widespread anti-American sentiment in China."

Yuan Zeng, an expert on Chinese media at the University of Leeds in Great Britain, said the government's stories spread so widely that even well-educated Chinese friends have asked her whether they might be true.

Inflaming doubts and spreading conspiracy theories might add to public health risks as governments try to dispel unease about vaccines, she said, saying,

"That is super, super dangerous."

In the latest volley, state media called for an investigation into the deaths of 23 elderly people in Norway after they received the Pfizer vaccine. An anchor at CGTN, the English-language station of state broadcaster CCTV, and the *Global Times* newspaper accused Western media of ignoring the news. Health experts say deaths unrelated to the vaccine are possible during mass vaccination campaigns.

The state media coverage followed a report by researchers in Brazil who found the effectiveness of a Chinese vaccine lower than previously announced. Researchers initially said Sinovac's vaccine is 78% effective, but that was revised to 50.4% after including mildly symptomatic cases.

Google to make facilities available for vaccination

Washington: Google's Indian-American CEO Sundar Pichai announced on Monday that the tech giant would open up its spaces in the US to serve as mass Covid-19 vaccination sites and committed more than \$150 million to promote vaccine education.

Google is initially looking at opening up offices spaces inside the US, but could do the same in other countries too, an official said. "Today we're announcing that we'll be opening up Google spaces to serve as mass vaccination sites, committing more than \$150 million to promote vaccine education and equitable distribution, and making it easier for you to find where and when to get a vaccine," Pichai said. PTI

CAPITOL RIOT: REPUBLICAN ANGER COOLING As House sends Trump impeachment to Senate, many in GOP oppose trial

Law enforcement agencies probing threats to lawmakers

ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON, JANUARY 25

AS THE House prepares to bring the impeachment charge against Donald Trump to the Senate for trial, a growing number of Republican senators say they are opposed to the proceeding, dimming the chances that former president will be convicted on the charge that he incited a siege of the US Capitol.

House Democrats will carry the sole impeachment charge of "incitement of insurrection" across the Capitol late Monday evening, a rare and ceremonial walk to the Senate by the prosecutors who will argue their case. They are hoping that strong Republican denunciations of Trump after the January 6 riot will translate into a conviction and a separate vote to bar Trump from holding office again.

But instead, GOP passions appear to have cooled since the insurrection. Now that Trump's presidency is over, Republican senators who will serve as jurors in the trial are rallying to his legal defence, as they did during his first impeachment trial last year.

"I think the trial is stupid, I think it's counterproductive," said Republican Senator Marco Rubio. He said that "the first chance I get to vote to end this trial, I'll do it" because he believes it would be bad for the country and further inflame partisan divisions.

Trump is the first former president to face impeachment trial, and it will test his grip on the Republican Party as well as the legacy of his tenure, which came to a close as a mob of loyal supporters heeded his rally cry by storming the Capitol and trying to overturn Joe Biden's election.

Arguments in the Senate trial will begin the week of Feb 8.

An early vote to dismiss the trial probably would not succeed, given that Democrats now control the Senate. Still, the mounting Republican opposition indicates that many GOP senators would eventually vote to acquit Trump. Democrats would need the support of 17 Republicans — a high bar — to convict him.



Trump speaks at a rally in Washington on Jan 6, after which many supporters stormed the US Capitol. The House, which has impeached Trump for "inciting an insurrection", sends the impeachment article to the Senate on Monday, triggering the process of a trial, which will begin in early February. AP

EXPLAINED Dems hope for more evidence

WITH THE impeachment trial delayed until early February, and investigators looking deeper into the planning and execution of the Capitol riot, the Democrats are hoping that more evidence will emerge to compel enough Republicans to vote to punish Trump. With multiple investigations ongoing, all eyes are on whether any information will emerge that further cements the case against Trump that his words and actions directly incited the mob to attack the Capitol building.

Meanwhile, federal law enforcement officials are examining a number of threats aimed at members of Congress as the Trump trial nears, including ominous chatter about killing legislators or attacking them outside of the US Capitol, a US official told The Associated Press.

The threats, and concerns that armed protesters could return to sack the Capitol anew, have prompted the US Capitol Police and other federal law enforcement to insist thousands of National Guard troops remain in Washington as the Senate moves forward with plans for Trump's trial, the official said Sunday.

Man charged in Capitol riot after his 18-year-old son tipped off FBI

BRYAN PIETSCH
JANUARY 25

TWO DAYS after the Capitol riot on January 6, Jackson Refitt's father, Guy W Refitt, returned to the family's home in Texas. He told his son that he had stormed the Capitol, according to an FBI affidavit.

Then his father levelled a threat: If Jackson, 18, reported him to police, he would have no choice but to do his "duty" for his country and "do what he had to do."

In interviews with investigators, Jackson Refitt said his father told him: "If you turn me in, you're



During the riot at the US Capitol on January 6. AP

a traitor. And you know what happens to traitors. Traitors get shot."

But he had already reported his father to the FBI weeks before the riot. "He would always tell me that he's going to do something

big," Jackson Refitt said in a phone interview Saturday. "I assumed he was going to do something big, and I didn't know what."

FBI agents found an AR-15 rifle and a pistol at his home. Guy Refitt told investigators that he had brought the pistol with him to Washington.

It was not clear what, if anything, the FBI did after Jackson Refitt first contacted them about his father.

Guy Refitt, who was arrested Jan 16, faces charges of obstruction of justice and of knowingly entering a restricted building or grounds without lawful authority. NYT

DAY AFTER EXPULSION FROM PARTY

Nepal PM Oli pays visit to Pashupatinath temple

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE
KATHMANDU, JANUARY 25

A DAY after he was expelled from the Nepal Communist Party by a rival faction, Nepal Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli visited the famous temple of Lord Pashupatinath in Kathmandu on Monday.

Oli, a Communist, went to the temple with his wife Radhika Shakya and performed a "special puja" for one hour, according to temple sources.

The Prime Minister's visit came more than a month after Nepal President Bidhya Devi Bhandari went to the temple on December 16, the day it was re-



Oli is a Communist, temple visit a surprise. Reuters file

AFTER SERIES OF HIGH-PROFILE DISPUTES, NEW LAW PROTECTS RURAL SOUNDS, SMELLS

French roosters now crow with law behind them

AURELIEN BREEDEN
PARIS, JANUARY 25

THE CROW of a rooster and the ringing of a church bell at dawn. The rumble of a tractor and the smell of manure wafting from a nearby stable. The deafening song of cicadas or the discordant croaking of frogs. Quacking ducks, bleating sheep and braying donkeys.

Perennial rural sounds and smells such as these were given protection by French law last week, when lawmakers passed a Bill to preserve "the sensory heritage of the countryside", after a series of widely publicised neighbourhood spats in France's



Corinne Fesseau feeding her rooster Maurice in Saint-Pierre-d'Oléron in 2019. NYT

rural corners, many of them involving noisy animals.

In a nation still attached to its

agrarian roots and to its terroir — a deep sense of place tied to a land — the disputes symbolised ten-

sions between urban newcomers and longtime country dwellers, frictions that have only grown as the coronavirus pandemic and a string of lockdowns draw new residents to the countryside.

"Life in the countryside means accepting some nuisances," Joël Giraud, the French minister in charge of rural life, said on Thursday. It would be illusory, he said, to idealise the countryside as a picture-perfect haven of tranquillity.

Perhaps the most prominent of these noisy animals was Maurice, a rooster in Saint-Pierre-d'Oléron, a town on an island off France's western coast. His owner had been sued by neighbours —

regular vacationers in the area — because he crowed too loudly.

Politicians and thousands of petitioners rushed to the Gallic rooster's defence, and a court eventually ruled in 2019 that Maurice, who died last summer, was well within his rights.

"Our rural territories are not just scenery, they are also sounds, smells, activities and practices that are part of our heritage," Giraud told lawmakers.

The Bill was passed by the National Assembly, France's lower house of Parliament, last January. In a rare show of parliamentary and political unity, the Senate unanimously passed the Bill on Thursday. NYT



ADVERTORIAL | An initiative by **RED***
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India celebrates 72nd Republic Day amidst precautionary measures. The celebration is a sight to behold for every Indian

With men in uniform parading the sky and land, on one hand, and various state cultural performances delighting the people, on the other, R-day celebrations at Rajpath, New Delhi, is a must see attraction for every Indian

WHEN India attained her freedom on August 15, 1947, it was still being governed under the colonial Government of India Act 1935, which served as the country's governing document. On August 29, 1947, a resolution was moved for the appointment of Drafting Committee to draft a permanent constitution, with Dr B R Ambedkar as Chairman. A draft constitution was prepared by the committee and submitted to the Constituent Assembly on November 4, 1947. The Assembly met, in sessions open to public, for 166 days, spread over a period of 2 years, 11 months and 18 days before adopting the Constitution. After many deliberations and some modifications, the 308-member Assembly signed two handwritten copies of the document (one each in Hindi and English) on January 24, 1950. Two days later on January 26, 1950, the Constitution of India came into effect throughout the whole country. Shortly thereafter, Dr Rajendra Prasad was sworn in as the first President of India at Major Dhyani Chand National Stadium. The Constituent Assembly became the Parliament of India under the transitional provisions of the new Constitution.



THE REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION LASTS FOR THREE DAYS AND CONCLUDES WITH THE BEATING RETREAT, WHICH IS HELD ON JANUARY 29 AT THE VIJAY CHOWK

The Indian Republic Day celebration lasts for three days and concludes with Mahatma Gandhi's favourite hymn 'Abide by Me' during the Beating Retreat. Beating Retreat ceremony is held on January 29 at Vijay Chowk with the performance of Indian Army, Air Force and Navy bands, marking the end of the Republic Day celebrations in India.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, marching contingents will take a shorter parade route this year compared with the usual 8.2-km-long route. This will be the first time in the history of R-day parades that it will not culminate at the Red Fort.

To maintain social distancing, it has also been decided to trim the number of individuals in each marching contingent to 96 instead of 144. The size of the contingents has been reformulated to 12x8 in place of the usual 12x12 rows and columns. Also, Flt Lt Bhawna Kanth, amongst the first three women fighter pilots of the Indian Air Force (IAF), will be part of the Republic Day parade today. This is the first time a woman fighter pilot is part of the parade. Meanwhile, the newly inducted Rafale fighter aircraft is also featuring in the Republic Day parade for the first time today.

Since 1950, India has been hosting Head of State or Government of another country as the State Guest of Honour for Republic Day celebrations in New Delhi. The visit of the Chief Guest at the Republic Day parade is considered as the highest honour that can be accorded to the guest in protocol terms. The Government of India extends its invitation to a Head of State or Government after careful consideration. The guest country is chosen after a deliberation of strategic, economic and political interests. President Dr Sukarno of Indonesia was the first Chief Guest at the first Republic Day celebrations held on January 26, 1950.

Other than celebrations in states, schools, colleges and various institutions, the main Republic Day celebration is held in New Delhi, at the Rajpath, before the President of India, the Chief Guest, in the presence of Prime Minister of India and several other dignitaries.

However, the R-day event also showcases India's rich cultural heritage through different eye-catching performances and programmes. Every year on this day, various states from across the country come together on one stage to showcase their rich cultural diversity through dedicated tableaux, in turn, showcasing the great "unity in diversity" spirit of our country.

For Indians, the R-day celebration at Rajpath, New Delhi, is a sight to behold and feel proud of. On one hand, people witness the sight of the country's armed forces displaying their might in the air and land as they take part in the annual parade down the Rajpath. On the other hand, people cheer and enthusiastically witness the cultural performances of the Indian states depicted through their dedicated tableaux at the annual R-day parade.

The number of tableaux has been increased to 32 this year, with tableaux from 16 states, seven from ministries and department and Navy, IAF, DRDO, Border Roads Organisation and Coast Guard participating, as per a Defence Ministry official. In previous years, there were an average of 28 tableaux on display. The state of Uttar Pradesh will showcase the Ram temple in Ayodhya as well as the culture, traditional performances of the Indian states depicted through their dedicated tableaux at the annual R-day parade.

Moreover, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Bangladesh's liberation from Pakistan, as many as 122 members of the Bangladesh Armed Forces arrived in Delhi recently to participate in the 2021 Republic Day parade today. Interestingly, not many are aware that from 1950 to 1954, the venues of the Republic Day parade were the Red Fort, National Stadium, Kingsway Camp and the Ramlika ground. It was only in 1955 that Rajpath was chosen as the regular venue.



ADVERTORIAL

Mrs. Karishma Gupta, Dr. Arvind Kumar Gupta, Dr. R.K. Sehgal and Mr. Arjun Gupta (Left to Right)

A Delhi based pharmaceutical company (PharmaSynth Formulations Limited), has taken an initiative during Corona times (April & May 2020) to help around 1000 villages by creating awareness campaign against COVID-19 and distributed 1.25 lac sanitizers to cleaning staff, security officers, and health workers. This campaign was fully supported by all the doctors of the area. Further, on this Republic Day, the company honoured more than 6000 Doctors who worked in the interest of the Country during this Pandemic with the title of "Desh-Bhakta Chikitsak" (Patriotic Doctors). On this occasion, Dr. Arvind Kumar Gupta, Managing Director of PharmaSynth, wished all the doctors and their colleagues on Republic Day, where he inspired everyone by giving the message that our "Country has given us everything, we should also offer back". He further conveyed, that Lord has sent all of us to work in such an important field like medicine

to serve humanity in various ways and make our Earth a disease-free planet. Representatives of PharmaSynth and all the distributors under the efficient management of Mr. Arjun Gupta, conducted this campaign from village to village and honoured all deserving, while instilling a wave of patriotism on Republic Day. PharmaSynth has been running several programs from time to time, in the Country's interest, like Bharat Mata Mandir at Dilshad Garden, Beti Bachhao and Ganga Safai Abhiyan, etc. Mr. Ramesh Chand Jain (Director, PharmaSynth), said that the Company is selling Patriotic Range of Products since past 10 years, under which 9 crore tablets have been sold at very low price (No-profit-basis). The company provided relief of more than Rs. 30 crores to the society. Mr. Nikhil Jain, Senior Manager of the company, thanked and appreciated the Doctors for their cooperation in this Patriotic Project.

Wishes you a Happy 72nd Republic Day

गणतंत्र दिवस की शुभकामनाएं
उड़े भारत जुड़े भारत

Connecting India with soaring nationalism & high flying patriotism

Alliance Air participating in Op - Prabal, Initiative of MOCA & CISF for preparation of brave & agile aviation leaders

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I Huma Sayeed W/O, Sayeed Uzafar R/o A-16, Joga Bai Extension, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi 110025 have changed my name to Huma Faridi for all purposes.

0040561283-1

I Manju W/O, Banty Kumar R/o 190, 3rd Floor, Bharat Nagar, Ashok Vihar, Delhi 110052 have changed my name to Manju B.kumar for all purposes.

0040561239-1

I, ASHISH S/O AVINASH CHANDER R/O-B-60,THIRD FLOOR, HARI NAGAR,NEW DELHI-110064, have changed my name to ASHISH MALHOTRA,for all future purpose.

0040561324-4

I, Ajay Singh Munda S/O Kalipad Singh Munda, R/o Vill- Janumpuri Thana-Tamar, Haram Lohar, Ranchi, Jharkhand - 835225, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Shansh Singh Munda.

0070728651-1

I, V N Gayathri W/O jiju George, R/o Keezhakathu Pathirapally, P.O, Alappuzha, kerala- 688521, have changed the name of my minor Son Aditya J George aged about 15 Years and He shall hereafter be known as Aditya J

0070728659-1

I, hitherto known as Anil son of Sh. Bajrang Sharma employed as Assistant Audit Officer in the Office of the Director General of Audit, Home Education & Skill Development residing at 52/5-a, Church Road, Jwala Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110032, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Anil Sharma. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

0040561250-11

I, Vipul Sharma, S/o Dharam Pal Bhardwaj, R/o D-211, Prashant Vihar Sector-14, Rohini, Delhi-110085, hereby change my name to Vipul Bhardwaj.

0040561250-4

I, Vinit Mishra S/O Shyam Chandra Mishra, R/o Flat No. 302, Tower D1, Ireo Skyon Sector-60, Badshahpur, Gurgaon Haryana - 122101, Declare that Name of Mine has been wrongly written as Binit Kumar Mishra in my Passport No. - Z5324093. The actual name of Mine is Vinit Mishra, which may be amended accordingly.

0070728650-1

I, Venkata Phani Krishna, S/o Venkata Sambasivarao Narra R/o, H.No.1007, Sector-10A, Gurgaon (Haryana) - 122001, have changed my name to Venkata Phani Krishna N.

0040561334-4

I, Taha S/O Mohd. Anees R/o 376, Phase-1, Shahzada Bagh, Inderlok, Delhi-110035, have changed my name to Taha Anees. Taha and Taha Anees is one and the, same person.

0040561284-4

I Ansu Modi W/o Amit Modi R/O-C-315, Second-Floor Yojna Vihar Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Anshu Modi Permanently.

0040561231-1

I, Shyam Devi W/o. Puran Singh R/o H. No. D A 107/3, Sundal Mohalla Gali No. 14, Ward No. 1, Sonapat, Haryana-131001 inform that my name entered in my SBI passbook is Anita which have some mistake. My correct name is Shyam Devi according to my Aadhar Card and Pan Card. Shyam Devi and Anita is one and same person.

0040561228-1

I, Shrishail Mayur S/O Ramappa, R/o #E-242, Somanathahalli Main Road, Yalwar, Opp Jatingarayya Devastana, Yalwar, Kalaburagi Karnataka-585310. Declare that Name of Mine has been wrongly written as Shrishail / Shrishail Ramappa in my 10th Class Certificate No. 242821 and in my Graduation Degree Certificate No. 0248689. The actual name of Mine is Shrishail Mayur, which may be amended accordingly.

0070728669-1

I, Shivani Agarwal W/o Piyush Bansal, R/O-A-18/95 Sector-7, Rohini Delhi-110085, changed my name to Shivani Piyush Bansal.

0040561324-5

I, Satinder Kaur W/o Col. Gajinder Singh Bedi R/O-452, Neelkanth Apartments, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Satinder Bedi.

0040561334-2

I, Sanjeev K Dhingra S/O Shri Om Prakash Dhingra R/o C-5/5, Second/Floor, Mianwali Nagar, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-87 informs, that Sanjeev K Dhingra, Sanjeev Kumar, Sanjeev Dhingra pertains to one, & the same person.

0040561284-3

I, SACHIN S/O.PURAN SINGH Add- F-2/217A, SANGAM-VIHAR HAMDARD NAGAR DELHI-110062, changed my name to SACHIN KUMAR.

0040561324-1

I, Noushad Ahmad S/O. Abdul Sattar R/O.2208/13, Gali Shankar-Bazar Sita-Ram, Delhi. Have correct-my name spelling to NAUSHAD AHMED, for all purposes.

0040561324-2

I, Rajendra Kumar S/O Dip Chand Choraria, R/O C-526, 3rd-Floor, Yamuna Sports Complex Youna-Vihar, Delhi-110092, changed my nameto Rajendra Kumar Choraria.

0040561250-2

I, Raghava Raj Eswaraprakash S/O W V Eswara Prakash, R/o #479, 8th Main Road, ISRO Layout Bangalore South, J P Nagar, Bangalore Karnataka - 560078, Declare that Name of Mine has been wrongly written as Raghava Raj. E in my Birth Certificate No.- 031/1996/01/00271. The actual name of Mine is Raghava Raj Eswaraprakash, which may be amended accordingly.

0070728670-1

I, Nehalbhai Vinubhai Nayi S/O Vinubhai Nayi, R/o 89, Shastrinagar Society, Kanknol, Himatnagar, Sabarkantha, Gujrat- 383001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Nehal Vinubhai Nayi.

0070728644-1

I, Navneet Kumar Gulati S/O Hind kumar R/o-D-1/117 FF Sector-11 Rohini Delhi. Have changed My Name to Navneet Gulati.

0040561324-3

I, Muneem Kumar Rajput S/O Jawahar Singh, R/o 57, Sabari Colony, Ayad, Udaipur, Rajasthan - 313003, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Manish Singh Nayak.

0070728645-1

I, Meenakshi Jain, W/o Sushil Kumar Jain, D/o Sh. Salek Chanda Jain, R/o C-32, Second-Floor, East Krishna-Nagar, Delhi-110051, have changed my name, from Babita Jain after my-marriage.

0040561324-8

I, Manphool, S/O Pyare Lal, R/o Village-Balewa, Post-Khalipur, Tehsil-Pataudi, Gurugram (Haryana)-123502, have changed my name to Man Phool Sharma.

0040561334-3

I, Manisha Rani Arora, W/O Ashok Kumar Arora, R/O 14A/82, WE A KarolBagh, Delhi-110005, changed my nameto Manisha Rani.

0040561250-3

I, Kuruba Machandrapra S/O K Bheemasena, R/O 2-50, Kapatalingana Palli, Bramathasudram, Bhyranavithipura, Ananthapur, Andhra Pradesh- 515863, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Machendra Kuruba.

0070728682-1

I, Jasvinder Kaur D/O Baldev Singh, W/O Sukhchain Singh R/O Ward no. - 12, Diwan Colony Pehowa, Kurukshetra, Haryana - 136128, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Surinder Kaur

0070728677-1

I, Jaspinder Singh Kochhar S/O Guljit Singh Kochhar R/O-33/5, East-Patel Nagar, N.Delhi-08, have changed my minor daughter's name Meher to Meher Kaur Kochhar. I, Jaspinder Singh Kochhar S/O Guljit Singh Kochhar R/O-33/5, East-Patel Nagar, N.Delhi-08, have changed my minor daughter's name Meher to Meher Kaur Kochhar.

0040561324-10

I, Ikhliesh S/O Ashwani Kumar, R/O 3341, Sector - 45 D, Chandigarh, sector-47, PO CHD Chandigarh- 160047, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ikhliesh Jairath.

0070728642-1

I, Himanshu S/o Kamal Kishore, H.No-592 Ward.No.15, Near Shiv-Kund, Sohna-122103, have changed my name to Himanshu Singla.

0040561250-1

I, HASAN IBRAHIM AMIR SIDDIQUI S/O HASAN AHMAD, R/O K-704, Tower 6, Paramount Flarville, Sec-137, Noida, Pin-201304, U.P., inform as under: That name of my father has been wrongly written as HASAN AHMED in my passport. The actual name of my father is HASAN AHMAD which may be amended accordingly.

0040561248-1

I, Dheeraj Kumar S/O Narayan Dutt R/O A-1, U.G.F., Manak Vihar, N.Delhi-18, have changed my name to Dheeraj Arora permanently.

0040561324-7

I, Dharminder Singh S/O Tushi Dass, R/O Near Godwara, Mataur (427), Kangra, Himachal Pradesh - 176001, Declare that Name of My Wife has been wrongly written as Anjana in my Service Record No. - GS-158396P. The actual name of My Wife is Lamu Sherpa Chowdhury, which may be amended accordingly.

0070728681-1

I, Devi Tripuragiri D/O Pentarao Tripuragiri, R/O 32-7-25/2, Triparanalem, Near Parrichettu, Pedakantayada, Visakhapatnam B.H.P.V, Andhra Pradesh - 530012, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kosgi Sridevi.

0070728654-1

I, Brijesh kumar, S/o Soran Singh, H.No.1700 Third-Floor, Sohan Ganj, Subzi Mandi ,MalkaGanj-110007, changed my name to Brijesh.

0040561250-5

I, Brijesh kumar, S/o Soran Singh, H.No.1700 Third-Floor, Sohan Ganj, Subzi Mandi ,MalkaGanj-110007, changed my name to Brijesh.

0040561250-5

I, Brij Mohan Malhotra, S/O Ashwani Kumar, R/o 4/77, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi-110015 have changed my name to Brij Mohan.

0040561324-6

I, Banty Kumar R/O 190, 3rd Floor, Bharat Nagar, Ashok Vihar, Delhi 110052 have changed my minor daughter's name from Siyonna to Siyonna B.kumar for all purposes.

0040561235-1

I, Ashok Kumar, S/O Brij Mohan Prasad Sinha, R/o RZ-T, 115, 3rd-Floor, Jain-Colony Part-1, Uttam-Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Ashok Kumar Karan.

0040561334-1

I, Anshuman Singh S/O SH. Than Singh, R/O 94-C, Block-4D, Udhog Vihar, Sector-82, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201304, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Anshuman Choudhary.

0070728649-1

I, Banty Kumar R/O 190, 3rd Floor, Bharat Nagar, ashok Vihar, Delhi 110052 have changed my minor son's name from Sarth to Sarth B.kumar for all purposes.

0040561238-1

I Anshus Kumar S/O Late Shri Hari Singh R/O H.No-684 Vijay Nagar Colony, Tehsil-Etah District-Etah U.P.-207001 havechanged my name to Anshul Kumar.

0040561271-1

LOST & FOUND

It is notified for the information that my Original-Property Documents like Conveyance Deed, Allotment-Letter, Possession-Letter, & Old sale deed of property bearing No. Industrial-Plot.No.572 M.I.E. Part-1, Now in HSIDC Bahadurgarh Dist- Jhajjar (Hr.), & all-papers has been lost in Ashok Vihar, Delhi. & NCR has been lodged-On.22.01.2021 Vide-NCR.LR.Nos-64588/2021, founder-inform at-9999576360.

0040561231-2

I, SANTHOSH KUMAR, Father of, ANNANYA SINGH CHAUHAN, Presently, R/o-Village-Bachhapar, Chauhanpura, Post-Bachhapar, Distt-Ballia, U.P.-277303, presently at, New-Delhi, have changed my minor daughter's name, from ANNANYA SINGH CHAUHAN to ANANYA SINGH CHAUHAN. Vide-Affidevit, Date-25-1-2021.

0040561324-9

I, ROHIT KUMAR MANN, S/O Rajesh kumar, R/o 178/2 nebsarai N-D-68, have lost my original-certificate class-12th year-2011 Rollno-9176425 CBSE-DELHI.

0040561250-9

I, NEETA RANI D/o Ram vilas, R/O H-264 old seemapuri, DELHI-95, have lost my original-certificate class-10th year-2010 Rollno-6334679 CBSE+DELHI.

0040561250-10

I, Kailash Chandra Arora S/o Kasturi Lal R/O A-19, Delhi Police Society, Pi-1, Greater Nodia U.P., have changed my name to Kailash Chandra for, all future purposes.

0040561284-2

I, Muni Dutta Sharma, S/o late Brahm Dutta Shastrri, Residence A-26/B, Third Floor, Block-A, Joshi Colony, Delhi-110092 my, Food and Supply licence has been lost, which licence No. is-7185 (M/S Laxmi Provision Store), in the name of late Laxmi Devi. Who is my wife. In future if, anybody found it then please, contact on:-9643462858

0040561284-1

EDUCATION

EDUCATIONAL

National Central council of Vocational Training invited application for start Training and Study Centre
www.ncvvt.in
Mob.7499647774 / 9823647194

0090280356-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to the general public, that my client Mrs. (Dr.) Lily Dahiya is the owners of Society built up Flat No. D-6, on 3rd floor, in Baba Banda Bahadur Apartments, built on Plot No.11/1, Sector-14, Rohini, Delhi (called 'Property'). That three documents of chain of the property i.e. (1) original Allotment Letter dated 23/04/1988 issued by Baba Banda Bahadur C.G.H.S. Ltd. in favour of Sh. Devinder Kumar, (2) original General Power of Attorney dated 13/07/1994 (registered as Doc. No.14407) executed by Sh. Devinder Kumar in favour of Sh. Sarvaswat Dev have been lost/impounded by my client and its not traceable despite of her best efforts. An FIR/NCR to this effect has been lodged in Crime Branch Delhi Police vide LR No.7035/2021 on 24/01/2021. Any person(s) dealing in any way with the said property on the basis of above lost/impounded documents shall do so at his/her own peril the same shall be considered legally null and void. Anybody aware of any such persons claiming any rights, interest, etc. based on the above said lost documents or being found in possession of the same may file objection along with the relevant documents within 15 days from the date of this publication on only Email id: vishnujha399@gmail.com.

0040561250-5

Public Notice
My client Sh. Lalit Mohan S/O Late Sh. Pratap Singh R/o H.No. 7212, Punjabi Bazar, Military Road, Anand Parbat, New Delhi-5 had lost his property documents i.e. 'Allotment Letter vide file no. H3121002 dated 21/04/01/01/01/01/01 dated 22.08.14 & Allotment/Intimation of Possession Letter vide file no. H3121002/21/04/01/01/01/01 dated 22.08.14 & Possession Site plan 01.02.05 all issued by DDA in favour of Sh. Lalit Mohan S/O Late Sh. Pratap Singh, Third Floor, Block C-2, Golf Link Residency, P.O. Sector-8, Dwarka, New Delhi & he had filed a police complaint vide LR No. 6902/2021 / 7215002/21 dated 23/01/2021. Any person claiming any right, title & interest in the said property on basis of lost title documents should intimate the same to undersigned with documentary proof within 07 days from the publication of this notice at the address provided here under. In case no objection is received within the aforesaid time, it shall be presumed that Sh. Lalit Mohan S/O Late Sh. Pratap Singh & Smt. Meena Kumari W/o Sh. Lalit Mohan are right full owner of said property.
Anrendra Nath Shukla (Advocate)
C/O. No. 717, District Court

PUBLIC NOTICE

Ajay Singh S/O Uttam Singh R/o F-2, Naraina Vihar, Kair, Delhi- 110028 member of The Punjab Housing C&S LTD vide membership no 795 have lost my original documents namely share certificate, possession/ allotment slip and receipts and have filed FIR No 748192/2020 dated 21/11/2020 at Delhi. I have applied to society for duplicate documents. Any one having objection can contact President at H No 1077, Telephone Exchange Colony, Zinapur, Punjab.

Sd/-
RAJIV KUMAR
ADVOCATE
Off: B-9/73, Sector-3,
Rohini, Delhi-110085

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that my client Smt. Shanti Devi alias Shanti W/o Late Sh. Ram Dev Paswan R/o H.No. 76, Tilak Enclave, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi has severed all relations with her son Ravinder Kumar. My client has also disowned and debarred her said from all her movable and immovable properties. Anybody dealing with the debarred son shall do so at his/her/there risk and responsibility. And my client will not be responsible for accl/deed/done by the debarred son.
SD/- Praveen Rastogi Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Sh. Lalit Mohan S/O Late Sh. Pratap Singh R/o H.No. 7212, Punjabi Bazar, Military Road, Anand Parbat, New Delhi-5 had lost his property documents i.e. 'Allotment Letter vide file no. H3121002 dated 21/04/01/01/01/01 dated 22.08.14 & Allotment/Intimation of Possession Letter vide file no. H3121002/21/04/01/01/01 dated 22.08.14 & Possession Site plan 01.02.05 all issued by DDA in favour of Sh. Lalit Mohan S/O Late Sh. Pratap Singh, Third Floor, Block C-2, Golf Link Residency, P.O. Sector-8, Dwarka, New Delhi & he had filed a police complaint vide LR No. 6902/2021 / 7215002/21 dated 23/01/2021. Any person claiming any right, title & interest in the said property on basis of lost title documents should intimate the same to undersigned with documentary proof within 07 days from the publication of this notice at the address provided here under. In case no objection is received within the aforesaid time, it shall be presumed that Sh. Lalit Mohan S/O Late Sh. Pratap Singh & Smt. Meena Kumari W/o Sh. Lalit Mohan are right full owner of said property.
Anrendra Nath Shukla (Advocate)
C/O. No. 717, District Court

Public Notice

My clients Mr. JAGDISH and his wife Smt. MUNDRA DEVI R/O D-185, Madipur Colony, Near Ravidas Mandir, Madipur, West Delhi-110063 have disowned/dissared their son Mr. Navneet Kumar from all their movable and immovable properties due to his wrongful doings and misbehaviour. Anybody dealing with them, my client shall not be responsible for their act and conduct.
GITA RANI (Advocate)
Off. 345, Vardhaman Dee Cee Plaza, Plot No.7, Sector-11, Dwarka, New Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of my client SH. ASHOK KUMAR son of late Sh. Rangil Lal, resident of House No.407, First Floor, Deepali, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, who is negotiating with Smt. Indu Garg wife of Sh. Manoj Kumar, resident of S. Dharam Kunj Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085, to purchase the PROPERTY BEARING NO. 357, land area measuring 126.47 sq.mts, situated in the layout plan of U.P., Co-operative House Building Society Ltd., known as Deepali, Pitampura, Delhi, with free hold rights of the land underneath, which claims the sole & absolute owner of the said entire property.
All persons having any claim or demand or rights in respect of or in relation to the above said property or any part of portion thereof by way of Agreement to sell, in heritance, share, sale transfer, assignment, create mortgage, gift, exchange, possession, covenant, easement or otherwise howsoever, is hereby required to intimate the same known in writing with documentary proof to the undersigned at my office within seven days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the claim of such person(s), if any, will be treated as null and void and shall not have any effect and any other sanctity and not binding on my client and the proposed transaction of purchase of the said property shall be completed without any reference to such claim(s).
Purven Garg (Advocate)
Shop No.26, RU-BLOCK Market, Pitampura, Delhi-34 Mob.9810039884

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, INDU GARG wife of Sh. Manoj Kumar, resident of S. Dharam Kunj Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085, am the owner and in possession of PROPERTY NO.357, land area measuring 126.47 sq.mts, situated at Deepali, Pitampura, Delhi. The Previous Original WILL and other related documents pertaining to the said property has been lost/implicated and not traceable. In date against which the Complaint has been lodged vide LR No.68187/2021 on 23.01.2021, if any body found, the same may be submitted or contact to me.
INDU GARG
Mob.: #935597314

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients Smt. Omwati Yadav W/o Sh. Krishanpal Yadav, Sh. Krishanpal Yadav S/o Late Sh. Hanikshan, R/o 341 No 5565/4, New Chandrawad, Delhi-07, have severed their all relations with their son Sh. Ravit S/o Krishanpal Yadav. My clients has disowned and debarred them from their all movable and immovable properties due to his acts and conducts. If anybody deals with him in any manner, he shall do at his own risk and cost. My clients shall not be responsible for any kind of dealing with him.
Sd/-
HANS RAJ SINGH
ADVOCATE
Ch. No. T-36, T-36, T-36 Road, Tiz Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client Smt. Tripathi Singh (UHD No. 5489 6251 9611), his wife Smt. Nirmala Devi (UHD No. 3079 6213 6259), his son Shri Gagan Dheer (UHD No. 4025 9348 7332) and his daughter Smt. Shikha Dheer (UHD No. 6344 2222 9870), all residents of H.No. 1628, Laami Bai Nagar, Sarojini Nagar, New Delhi-110 023, have disowned their Son/Daughter namely Shri Akash Dheer (UHD No. 3410 7108 6473), from all their movable/immovable properties and have out of all family relations from them after settling all their relations with them and my clients were notare notified and be responsible for his actions. Any person dealing with his brother Sh. Anurag Sharma & his wife Mrs. Pratibha Nandev as he has been disrespectful & disobedient towards the family and also since we have no knowledge of his location and contact details as he has been away from the family for the last 4 years. He is solely responsible for his actions. Any person dealing with Sh. Anurag Sharma shall be doing so at his/her/their own risks, costs and responsibilities.
Sd/-
Raj Kapoor & Associates
Advocates, Ch. No. 194,
Patiala House Courts, New Delhi
Mob:- 9899901557

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to the public at large that my clients Jagmuj Singh S/o Shri. Ram and Smt. Dayawati Devi W/o Jagmal Singh both R/O House No. 5, Bhoga Mohalla, Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi-110074 have disowned their son Vikas and his wife Smt. Sonika and debarred them from inheriting all their properties movable and immovable of all kinds. They have absolutely no concern with them. Anybody dealing with them may do so at his/her own risk and cost. Issued on this 23rd day of January, 2021
Gemini Sharma, Advocate
Ch. No. 30, Patiala House Courts
New Delhi-110001, Mob: 9810090734

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to the public at large that my clients Jagmuj Singh S/o Shri. Ram and Smt. Dayawati Devi W/o Jagmal Singh both R/O House No. 5, Bhoga Mohalla, Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi-110074 have disowned their son Vikas and his wife Smt. Sonika and debarred them from inheriting all their properties movable and immovable of all kinds. They have absolutely no concern with them. Anybody dealing with them may do so at his/her own risk and cost. Issued on this 23rd day of January, 2021
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Gemini Sharma, Advocate
Ch. No. 30, Patiala House Courts
New Delhi-110001, Mob: 9810090734

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed that my client, Sh. Rajiv Dube S/o Lat. Sh. B.D. Dube & Lt. Smt. Parvina Dube, R/o 056, Aashirwad Apartments, Plot No. 74, I.P. Extension, Delhi have applied for transfer of the above mentioned flat in his name on the basis of Relinquishment deed 27.09.2017 executed by (1) Lat. Smt. Parvina Dube (2) Sonali Joshi (3) Tanni Dube. If anyone has any objection, it may be raised within 15 days of the notice in the society office of Delhi Co-operative Group Housing Society Limited, 74, I.P. Extension (Patparganj), Delhi-110092. Shreshth Jain (Advocate) House No.-3, LGF, Vikram Vihar Extn. Lajpat Nagar-V, New Delhi-110024

Woman gangraped in Rajasthan

Jaipur: A Dalit woman was gangraped allegedly by three men in Rajasthan's Nagaur district, officials said on Monday.

According to police, the woman has said that the three accused brutalised her by inserting a bottle in her private parts.

"The woman said in her complaint that on January 19, she went to purchase milk products from a man. When she visited his house, his wife had gone for work. She said that the man and two other men who were present there gangraped her in the house," said an officer in Nagaur district.

"All three accused are absconding and a search is on," said the circle officer. **ENS**

ICAR-INDIAN VETERINARY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
IZATANGAR -243 122, BAREILLY (U.P.)

Walk-in-Interview

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for engagement of **One Young Professional-II (YP-II)** and **one Unskilled** under "Patho-epidemiology of elephant endotheliotropic herpesvirus infections affecting Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) in India" project by ICAR. The engagement is purely on temporary/contractual basis, co-terminus with project or earlier, depending upon performance of the candidate. The services of person so engaged will automatically stand terminated with termination of the project and the institute will have no responsibility for payment of emoluments/ regular employment after termination of the time bound project. Likely completion of the project is Dec 2023.

Eligible candidate may send an advance application along with CV to Dr M Karikalan, Scientist & PI of DST project, CWL, Email id:karyvet11@gmail.com latest by / / and attend the walk-in-interview / / along with all original documents, one set of self attested photocopy and colored passport size photograph.

The details regarding the interview will be informed to the eligible candidates by email or over phone. The candidates will not be paid any TA/DA for attending the interview. For more details regarding Age limit, desirable qualification, eligibility, remuneration etc. candidates may log on to institute's website <http://www.ivri.nic.in>.

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EPABX: +91-11-25501111, 25541111 FAX: +91-11-25549999
Website: www.dsci.nic.in E-mail: director.dsci@nic.in
NIN ID: DSCI (East) - 1112313380 & DSCI (West) - 1115545855

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

Delhi State Cancer Institute (DSCI) is a chain of Autonomous, dedicated Cancer care Institutions under the Government of NCT of Delhi established under the Societies Registration Act of 1860.

To achieve the aims and to expand its services further for the patients, the Institute invites Applications for below mentioned posts from the willing persons who feel capable to accept challenges in various fields;

1. Professor Clinical Oncology (Radiotherapy)- Advt No. 01/2021
2. Associate Professor Clinical Oncology (Radiotherapy)- Advt No 01/2021

Interested candidates may visit Hospital website i.e., www.dsci.nic.in or Delhi Govt. website i.e., www.health.delhigovt.nic.in for further details.

Sd/-
DIP/Shabdarth/0579/20-21 **Dr BL Sherwal, Director**

Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)
5th floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi,
DEPwD's Tableau on "Indian Sign language"-
A special attraction at this year's Republic Day Parade

The Tableau of Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment showcases the theme 4Bhartiya Sanketik Bhasha— Ek Rashtra, Ek Sanketik Bhasha'. It highlights the unifying nature of Indian Sign Language (ISL) in a nation, where there is a great diversity in spoken languages. The aim of the Tableau is to raise awareness and highlight the commitment of the Government towards creating a barrier-free environment for persons with hearing disabilities by promoting ISL.

2. Sign language is a visual language that uses hands, facial and body movements as a means of communication for persons with hearing disabilities. It is a unique and unifying language that connects all persons with hearing disabilities in the country. There are many spoken languages in the country, but there is only one Indian Sign Language. With a view to enhancing accessibility for the hearing impaired, a need was felt to set up an Institute focusing on the development and furtherance of Indian Sign Language.

3. Accordingly, Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), New Delhi was set up on 28th September, 2015, as an autonomous body under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The main objective of the Centre is to develop manpower for using, teaching and conducting research in Indian Sign Language.

4. ISLRTC conducts courses for developing Indian Sign Language (ISL) Interpreters and teachers and provides interpretation services to organizations for various programs & events. It has developed a dictionary of ISL containing 6000 Academic, Medical, Legal and Agricultural terms in addition to terms of everyday use. The Centre also provides Short Term Training Programmes on basic ISL communication skills. To make educational materials accessible for children with hearing disabilities, ISLRTC has signed an MoU with National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). As part of this MoU, educational print materials such as school text books of Classes I to XII of all subjects (both Hindi and English medium) are being converted into ISL.

(D.K Panda)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
davp 38117/11/0059/2021

TRAIN HANDLING PLAN IN VIEW OF TRACTOR RALLY BY KISAN SANGATHANS ON 26.01.2021

This is notified for the information of Rail Passengers that due to tractor rally of Kisan Sangathans from Ghazipur Border to Apsara Border via Road No. 56 on 26.01.2021, the following trains will be affected as under :-

Change in Terminal of 02815 Nandan Kanan Superfast Special Express

Train No. & Name	Date (from the Originating Station)	Terminate at
02815 Puri - Anand Vihar (T) Nandan Kanan Superfast Special Express	25.01.2021 (Reaching Delhi Area on 26.01.2021)	Additional Stoppage at Ghaziabad & Sahibabad and will terminate at Delhi Jn. instead of Anand Vihar (T)

Cancellation of Trains

Train No. & Name	Date (from the Originating Station)
02368 Anand Vihar (T) - Bhagalpur Special Express	26.01.2021
02367 Bhagalpur - Anand Vihar (T) Special Express	27.01.2021

Change in Departure Time

Train No. & Name	Date (from the Originating Station)	Revised Departure Time
02558 Anand Vihar (T) - Muzaffarpur Special Exp.	26.01.2021	will depart at 20:20 hrs.
04008 Anand Vihar (T) - Raxaul Sadhbhawna Spl. Exp.	26.01.2021	will depart at 20:40 hrs.
05274 Anand Vihar (T) - Raxaul Special Express	26.01.2021	will depart at 21:00 hrs.
04006 Anand Vihar (T) - Sitamarhi Lichchivi Spl. Exp.	26.01.2021	will depart at 21:20 hrs.
02220 Anand Vihar (T) - Ghazipur City Special Exp.	26.01.2021	will depart at 21:40 hrs.

Note : All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 including Social distancing, sanitization etc., may be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

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

Please join us on 

RailMadad Helpline No. 139

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visit us at : www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

Visit RailMadad website : www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in & download Railmadad app.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EXCISE
L-BLOCK, VIKAS BHAWAN, I.P. ESTATE, NEW DELHI
NO:F.10 (56)/96-97/IMFL/EX/PF/96-43 Dated: 6-01-21

ORDER

In pursuance of the provisions of Rule 52 of Delhi Excise Rules, 2010, it is hereby ordered that following dates shall be observed as "Dry Day in the National Capital Territory of Delhi by all L-1, L-1F, L-2, L-3, L-4, L-5, L-6, L-6FG, L6FE, L-7, L-7FG, L7FE, L-8, L-9, L-10, L-11, L-12, L-12F, L-14, L-18, L-23, L-23F, L-25, L-26, L-31, L-32, L-33, L-34 and L-35 licensees and opium vends located in Delhi.

Sl.No	Occasion	Date	DAY
1	Republic Day	26.01.2021	Tuesday
2	Guru Ravidas's Birthday	27.02.2021	Saturday
3	Swami Dayananda Saraswati Jayanthi	08.03.2021	Monday
4	Maha Shivratri	11.03.2021	Thursday
5	Holi	29.03.2021	Monday

In addition to above, all L-16, L-17, L-19, L-20, L-21, L-22, L-28, L-29, P-10 and P-13 licensees shall observe dry day on 26.01.2021 (Republic Day).

The licensees shall not be entitled to any compensation on account of any changes effected in the above list. The restriction of sale on liquor on dry days mentioned above shall not apply to the service of liquor to residents in case of hotels having L-15 license.

All the licensees shall exhibit this order at some conspicuous place of their licensed premises. The business premises of a licensee shall be kept closed on dry day.

Sd/-
(RAHUL SINGH)
COMMISSIONER (EXCISE)

DIP/SHABDARTH/0575/20-21



PROUD OF ITS PRESIDENTIAL AWARDEES ON THE OCCASION OF THE REPUBLIC DAY 2021

PARAM VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL

- Air Marshal Navkaranjit Singh Dhillon AVSM ADC
- Air Marshal Rajesh Kumar AVSM VM ADC
- Air Marshal Arvindra Singh Butola VM VSM (Retired)
- Air Marshal Amit Tiwari AVSM VM
- Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari AVSM VM
- Air Marshal Mothlampet Sabari Gireesa Menon VSM

ATI VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL

- Air Marshal Indira Padmanabhan Vipin VM
- Air Marshal Thazhathupulikunnel Devasia Joseph
- Air Marshal Richard John Duckworth VSM
- Air Marshal Vibhas Pande VSM
- Air Marshal Mahendra Singh Butola (Retired)
- Air Vice Marshal Suraj Kumar Jha
- Air Vice Marshal Jonnalagadda Rajendra VSM
- Air Vice Marshal Saju Balakrishnan VM
- Air Vice Marshal Sukumaran Ramakrishnan VSM
- Air Commodore Manish Kumar Gupta
- Air Commodore Tejpal Singh VM
- Air Commodore Vikram Gaur VSM

VAYU SENA MEDAL (GALLANTRY)

- Wing Commander Bibhu Dutta SK Jenamani

Squadron Leader Vivek Gairola
Flight Lieutenant Anand Singh
Flight Lieutenant Preji Raju

VAYU SENA MEDAL

- Group Captain Rajagopalan Mohan Kumar
- Group Captain Arjun Sreedhar
- Group Captain Abhishek Shukla
- Group Captain Elvis Clinton Rodrigues
- Group Captain Ritam Kumar
- Group Captain Sachin Anand Gadre
- Group Captain Ranpreet Singh Sodhi
- Group Captain Pranav Sisodia
- Group Captain Ved Prakash Singh
- Group Captain Mohit Kumar Srivastava
- Group Captain Sushant Mitra
- Group Captain Nitin Nayal
- Group Captain Ajay Krishna Misra
- Group Captain Vipul Mishra

VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL

- Air Vice Marshal Rakesh Kumar Khattri (Retired)
- Air Vice Marshal Vishnubhotla Nagaraj Srinivas
- Air Commodore Suhas Prabhakar Bhandare

- Air Commodore Aman Kapur
- Air Commodore Venkat Tukaram Mare
- Group Captain Sanjay Bahukhandi
- Group Captain Bhagawat
- Group Captain Kesavan Harishankar
- Group Captain Koduri Appa Rao
- Group Captain Akella Ravi Narasimha Sarma
- Group Captain Rishi Seth
- Group Captain Hampapuram Narasimha Kumar
- Group Captain Mukund Vithal Khare
- Group Captain Deepak Kumar Sharma
- Group Captain Vikas Wahi
- Group Captain Amit Sharma
- Group Captain Manish Anil Minocha
- Group Captain Tanvir Singh Narula
- Group Captain Amit Kumar Budhwar
- Group Captain Balamurugan S
- Group Captain Sandeep Kumar Dhiman
- Group Captain Navneet Singh
- Group Captain Sunil Agrawal
- Group Captain Shailesh Kumar Gaur
- Wing Commander S Sundeep Desai
- Wing Commander Pravin Dikshit
- Master Warrant Officer Suresh Kumar
- Mukund Lal Upadhyay

'NO INFORMED CONSENT'

HC restrains Centre, NIC from sharing Aarogya Setu data

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, JANUARY 25

THE KARNATAKA High Court has ruled that data collected by the Aarogya Setu application cannot be shared with third parties beyond what is specified in the privacy policy presented to users. It restrained the Centre and the National Informatics Centre from sharing app data without the informed consent of users.

"Prima facie, we hold that there is no informed consent of users of Aarogya Setu app taken for sharing of response data as provided in the Aarogya Setu Data Access and Knowledge Sharing Protocol, 2020, as there is no reference to the said protocol in the terms of use and privacy policy available on the app," a division bench comprising Chief Justice Abhay Sreenivas Oka and Justice Viswajith Shetty said in its interim order.

The court was hearing a petition filed by data privacy activist Anivar Aravind, who has alleged violation of privacy of citizens through data collection and shar-

ing done by the Aarogya Setu app. "Till further orders, we hereby restrain the Government of India and National Informatics Centre, the eighth and seventh respondents, respectively, from sharing the response data by applying the provisions of the Aarogya Setu Data Access and Knowledge Sharing Protocol, 2020, issued vide order dated May 11, 2020 unless the informed consent of the users of Aarogya Setu app is taken," the court said.

The court, however, said that the Centre and NIC can file an affidavit to satisfy it on the legal sanctity of orders issued by the Chairperson, Empowered Group on Technology and Data Management, and that the informed consent of Aarogya Setu app users will be taken for sharing of data as laid out in the protocol.

The court observed that aspects of data usage — such as sharing it with third parties for research, state governments, public health institutions, etc. — as laid down in protocols for usage of the app by the Chairperson of an Empowered Group on

Technology and Data Management were not part of the privacy policy presented to users when they downloaded the app.

The bench observed that the Centre has not clarified whether the powers of the Chairperson of the Empowered Group on Technology and Data Management are binding under the Disaster Management Act, 2005. "There is nothing on record to show that the powers of the authorities under the said Act of 2005 have been delegated to the said Empowered Group," it observed.

According to the protocol issued by the Empowered Group, the purpose for which data is collected by the app shall be clearly specified in the privacy policy but the policy makes no reference to the purpose, the court observed.

"The sharing of health data of a citizen without his/her consent will necessarily infringe his/her right of privacy under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. Therefore, prima facie, the said protocol regarding sharing of 'response data' cannot be permitted to be implemented," the HC observed.

Police: 'Mentally unstable' couple held after daughters bludgeoned to death

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD, JANUARY 25

TWO SISTERS were bludgeoned to death with a dumbbell, allegedly by their mother who had been suffering from mental health issues since the Covid-19 lockdown.

The incident occurred in Madanapalle mandal in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh Sunday. According to police, V Padmaja killed her daughters Divya, 22, and Alekhya, 27, after performing some rituals. Their father Dr V Purshottam Naidu was at home at the time of the incident and did not stop his wife, said police.

Neighbours in Shiva Nagar,

where the family has been living for several years, said they heard screams and informed the police. "At first, they did not allow the police to enter. The body of one daughter was found near their pooja room and the other daughter was found in another room. Dr Naidu and Padmaja appeared to be mentally disturbed, extraordinarily superstitious and having serious psychological issues. They were uttering strange things and asked the police team not to touch their daughters. They claimed that they would wake up soon. Neighbours told us that the couple had been behaving oddly for weeks," DSP (Madanapalle) Ravi Manohara

Chari said, adding, "Investigation has revealed that while the mother bludgeoned the daughters to death, Dr Naidu did not stop her and just watched."

Dr V Purshottam Naidu is Vice-Principal of Maddanapalle Government Degree College for Women and holds an MPhil and a PhD in Chemistry. Padmaja works as a Correspondent at a private school and is a gold medalist in MSc (Maths). Their elder daughter Alekhya recently completed a diploma in Forest Management from IIFM, Bhopal and the younger, Sai Divya, completed her BBA from Bengaluru and had also pursued a course at A R Rahman's music school.

LAW ON CONVERSION

SC refuses plea to transfer cases from HC to itself

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE SUPREME COURT on Monday refused to entertain a plea by the Uttar Pradesh government seeking the transfer of all pending petitions against the law on religious conversions enacted by the state, to the top court.

"We would like to have the benefit of the judgment of the High Court also," Chief Justice of India S A Bobde, heading a three-judge bench, observed as the state's plea came up before it.

At the outset, the CJ sought to know why the matter should be transferred to the Supreme Court.

Senior Advocate P S Narasimha, appearing for the state, told the bench, also comprising Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, that similar petitions were pending before the apex court — on which the court has already issued notice — as well as the Allahabad High Court.

The CJ responded that the court was cognisant of the High Court cases when it issued the notice and sought to know why it should interfere if the HC is deciding it. "Why should we stop the HC?... We have issued notice

'We would like to have the benefit of the judgment of the High Court also,' the CJ observed

does not mean HC cannot decide," the CJ said adding that people were taking High Courts lightly these days. "The HC is a constitutional court," he said.

The state then sought permission to withdraw the plea, which the court allowed.

The Supreme Court on Jan 6 had issued notice on two petitions — one by Advocates Vishal Thakre, Abhay Singh Yadav and Pranvesh, a law researcher and the other by NGO Citizens for Justice and Peace — against The Uttarakhand, Freedom of Religion Act, 2018 and The Uttar Pradesh Prohibition Of Unlawful Conversion Of Religion Ordinance, 2020.

The laws have courted controversy over its provisions regarding religious conversion for the purposes of marriage.

The Supreme Court has however declined to grant any interim stay and said it will hear the matter.

Bengaluru court attaches 26 properties of astrologer who conned HC ex-judge

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, JANUARY 25

A CIVIL and sessions court in Bengaluru has attached 26 properties valued at over Rs 80 crore belonging to an alleged conman who posed as an astrologer and political middleman to dupe a retired high court judge, politicians and businessmen.

The provisional attachment of the property belonging to Yuvaraj Swami alias Sevala was done under the Criminal Law

Amendment Ordinance, 1944 following an application by the Bengaluru central crime branch police, which is investigating 14 cases against the astrologer, for confiscation of his properties.

The court was informed by the police that Swami acquired the 26 properties in the name of his wife N Prema by using funds swindled from persons who have filed 14 cases against him.

Investigations have revealed that Swami and his wife, who had no source of income, purchased the 26 properties with funds

swindled from wealthy personalities by promising them high positions in the Karnataka government and at the Centre.

The police investigations have found that Swami, who claimed to have access to top BJP and RSS leaders, swindled a former MP of Rs 20 crore by promising renomination to Parliament and a ministerial position, and former Karnataka High Court judge Justice B S Indrakala of Rs 8.27 crore by promising her a posting as a governor of a state by using his high contacts in Delhi.

Differential treatment cause of concern: Centre to HC on WhatsApp privacy policy

SOFI AHSAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE CENTRE on Monday told the Delhi High Court that it was concerned by the "differential treatment" meted out to Indians by WhatsApp by rolling out separate privacy policies for its users in India and Europe, and said a clarification has been sought from the Facebook-owned company regarding its recently-announced policy.

"Privacy policy offered by WhatsApp to its European users specifically prohibits the use of any information shared with a Facebook company... this clause is not present in the privacy policy offered to Indians and Indian citizens who form a very very substantial part of WhatsApp's user base," said Additional Solicitor General Chetan Sharma, adding this "differential treatment is certainly a cause of concern" to the government.

Sharma's submissions came during the hearing of a petition challenging WhatsApp's new privacy policy, the implementation of

which has been now deferred owing to concerns raised by various users and experts over data sharing clauses.

WhatsApp on Monday told the court that it was responding to the questions sent by the Government of India regarding the privacy policy. Saying that the issue was between the government and WhatsApp and Facebook, it said that "unless the law is put in place, nothing can be done here".

Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva adjourned the hearing to March 1 to allow the government to look into the issue.

Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal, representing WhatsApp, submitted that the issue was between the government and WhatsApp or Facebook.

"Unless the law is put in place, nothing can be done here. Your lordships cannot decide the issues of this nature when there are regulatory authorities which have to decide these matters," Sibal submitted, adding the regulatory authority will come in place once the law is put in place.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

HC reserves order on comic Faruqui's bail plea

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BHOPAL, JANUARY 25



Munawar Faruqui

THE MADHYA Pradesh High Court on Monday reserved its order on the bail application of comedian Munawar Faruqui and Indore resident Nalin Yadav, who were arrested on January 1 following complaints of allegedly hurting Hindu religious sentiments during a comedy show in Indore on January 1.

Before a single bench of Indore High Court presided by Justice Rohit Arya on Monday, Munawar's advocate Vivek Tankha along with Anshuman Shrivastav argued that the comedian has not uttered a word at the event for which he can be punished.

"We argued before the court that since Munawar has not said anything against anyone as far as the present FIR is concerned, then his right guaranteed under Article 21 and 19 should be protected. But the police have registered the case without any justifiable ground," Shrivastav told The Indian Express.

However, the state government's counsel opposed the plea saying the probe is underway. Additional Advocate General Pushyamitra Bhargava said, "The state has heavily opposed the bail plea as the inves-

tigation is going on. The act of the accused is very serious and releasing him before the investigation will affect the investigation." Asked about the defence argument that Munawar did not make any such remarks, Bhargava said "it is all a matter of investigation".

The High Court had adjourned the hearing on January 15 with the case diary not available. The matter came up for hearing 10 days later on January 25 despite an application filed by Munawar's advocate requesting an urgent hearing.

The bail plea was rejected on January 5 by a sessions court while Munawar's judicial custody was extended by another two weeks on January 13.

The High Court has asked all those objecting to the bail plea to submit their objections in writing, including Eklavya Singh Gaur's lawyer, Rajesh Joshi. "We have told the court that a wrong message will be sent out to society if Munawar is granted bail as he has a similar case registered against him in UP... Besides, he is a habitual offender and had made jokes on Hindu deities in previous shows," Joshi said.

आत्मनिर्भरता की ओर बढ़ते कदम दुनिया में लहराया हमारा परचम

72वाँ गणतंत्र दिवस 26 जनवरी, 2021

हम विश्व के सर्वश्रेष्ठ गणतंत्र बनें, माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी के इसी सपने को साकार करने के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार राष्ट्र गौरव के प्रति हर क्षण समर्पित है। अंत्योदय और समानता के आदर्शों को सर्वोपरि रखते हुये प्रदेश के हर वर्ग का विकास हो। हर नागरिक आत्मनिर्भर बने एवं प्रदेश के विकास में भागीदार हो। इसी कामना के साथ अपने गणतंत्र को सशक्त बनाने के लिए आइये, हम सब मिलकर तिरंगे की शान बढ़ाएं।

गणतंत्र दिवस की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

-योगी आदित्यनाथ
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

- प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना के तहत 40 लाख से अधिक घरों की स्वीकृति/निर्माण
- पीएम किसान सम्मान निधि के अंतर्गत 27 हजार 101 करोड़ रु. किसानों को हस्तांतरित
- स्वच्छ भारत अभियान के अंतर्गत 2.61 करोड़ शौचालयों का निर्माण
- 1.28 करोड़ घरों को निःशुल्क विद्युत कनेक्शन
- उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत 1.47 करोड़ गैस कनेक्शन निःशुल्क वितरित
- 4 लाख सरकारी नौकरी
- एम.एस.एम.ई. में 2.5 करोड़ रोजगार
- किसानों को विभिन्न योजनाओं में 2.53 लाख करोड़ रु. का भुगतान
- गेहूँ, गन्ना, चीनी, आलू, दुग्ध, आम एवं आंवला उत्पादन में प्रथम स्थान
- 5 एक्सप्रेस-वे का निर्माण
- 52 मेडिकल कॉलेजों का निर्माण
- 1.35 लाख विद्यालयों में ऑपरेशन कायाकल्प के अंतर्गत बुनियादी सुविधाओं का विकास
- 29 एयरपोर्ट का विकास

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

'Shubman had all the answers'

Young opener had multiple plans for the short ball, says batting coach Rathour in a chat with R Ashwin

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 25

WHEN SHUBMAN Gill came to the dressing room during the final Test at lunch, unbeaten on 64, Vikram Rathour, the batting coach, went to him with a question: "What are your thoughts about the short ball?" The Australians had just started bowling bouncers at him and the coaching staff wanted to check with Gill on his plans.

"The clarity of his plans surprised me. If somebody bowls the short ball at this line and height, this is what I am going to do. If they bowl it from the end where the boundary was shorter, I will pull it for a six," Rathour shared during a chat on R Ashwin's Youtube channel. "He had all the answers, he knew what he was going to do. I had nothing to say to him. I said, 'boss, just carry on, you are sorted.'"

When Rathour walked back up to the coaches' box to join Ravi Shastri, Bharat Arun, and where Ashwin was also sitting at that point, Shastri asked him, "Did you tell him about the short ball, this phase is very important for us to get through?"

Ashwin takes up the story further. "And you said, he said, if it's below my height I will hit here - and I was blown away thinking somebody was able to pick length, height, line and then also have plans covered for it. That was unreal. I am a big fan of him but that was unreal to know," Ashwin says.

During the second Test in Melbourne where India won, there was a Gill moment that stuck with Ashwin. When the Indians were on the field and trying to bowl the lower order out, Ashwin remembered Gill ran up to him. "Ash bhai, Jaldi khatam kar do yaar! 40-50 runs hoga toh, mein paanch over mey khatam karonga! (Please wrap up quickly. If it's 40-50 runs to chase, I will do it in five overs!). I was like, 'wow, this is unreal man. We have a debutant who is walking up to say 'khatam kar, finish it' and I will finish in five overs and that too in a Test match!"

Despite the youngster's confidence, Ashwin revealed how he stayed in the toilet during the Melbourne chase. "We were two down for 20-25 runs and I told Mayank [Agarwal] to call me when we reach 65. I didn't come out; I was there at the toilet only!"

Rathour wasn't surprised that Gill did well as he was clear with his plans even during the lockdown, way ahead of the tour. "I had called for discussions with all the batsmen during the lockdown. With other batters, we came up with plans, talked about what the bowlers might bowl at them, and worked out plans. But Gill had already sorted that out. The first thing he said was he was already practicing short ball as he was thinking about the Australian tour. He was telling me what he thought about Lyon, what are his plans going

to be... That kind of clarity is unique when you know what you are going to do. He is a special player."

Promoting Pant was Kohli's idea

In the chat, Rathour also revealed that it was Virat Kohli's idea to promote Rishabh Pant up the order. And the idea came at the post-match chat at Adelaide after India were bowled out for 36. Kohli had joined the coaches for a midnight discussion and then the group were joined by Ajinkya Rahane next morning.

"It came from Virat to be honest," Rathour says. "He said, 'in case we play both left-handers, it will be a good idea if we can send Pant at No. 5 so that we can have a left-right combination. We discussed it with Ajinkya also. Then during the match, in the first innings, we decided to let him go at No.6.'"

Things turned around in the second innings at Sydney chase. "Irrespective of when we lose wickets, this is the last innings, and we were going for the runs. The intent was not to draw the Test. Till we can, we were going to go for the win. That was the right time to send him in," Rathour shared. "Ravi Shastri is a great believer of left-right combination and thought for a long time that Australians don't bowl that well to the left-handers. And Ajinkya agreed to send him at No.5"

There was no doubt about sending Pant ahead again during the last Test. "I was telling Ajinkya if we get a good start we can send him at No. 4 in the first innings but that didn't happen," Rathour said.

Will shave off half moustache -- Ashwin's challenge to Pujara

The talk turned to Cheteshwar Pujara and Ashwin said in half-jest that if Pujara went down the track and hit any English spinner over the top in the upcoming Tests, he would play with half the moustache in that game.

"I will take half the moustache out and come and play the game. It's an open challenge! You think he will take it up?" Ashwin asked and Rathour replied with a smile, "I don't think he will take it up!" Rathour detailed out Pujara's logic. "I have asked him, why don't you go over when every fielder is up so that they push the fielder back and you can take singles. And he said, 'If I do that, I will get just one run. With all the fielders up, I can play the gap and get two-three runs'. I said that's a great reason to keep it down, carry on!"

"I love his [Pujara's] attitude, the way he bats, the way he prepares, he is a coach's dream," Rathour said. "No praise is enough for the way he batted in the last test match. The way he responded to all the short balls, the way he handled the injuries, he kept on batting. He played a massive, massive role."



Shubman Gill was a revelation as an opener in the series against Australia. AP

'Team meet after Adelaide laid foundation for turnaround'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JANUARY 25

ONE ABIDING memory of India's 2-1 Test series win in Australia that Ajinkya Rahane would treasure was of a team meeting after Adelaide. But now that the series is over and Virat Kohli is back as captain for the upcoming home Tests against England, Rahane would be happy to perform the role of his deputy.

"We both are really close, really good friends. We just want to do well for our country. Let me tell you one thing. Virat is the captain now and I am the vice-captain, and whatever was happening before Virat left, it will just be the same. He is the captain and I am enjoying my role. (I am) happy to take a backseat now during the England series," Rahane, the guest at *The Indian Express Idea Exchange*, said on Monday.

Rahane's captaincy in Australia has wowed legends like Ian Chappell and Bishan Singh Bedi and now there's a debate whether he should be made the permanent Test captain. The stand-in skipper said he exchanged text messages with Kohli after the series win. The memory of a team meeting after the



AJINKYA RAHANE

Indian team reached Melbourne in the wake of 36 all out would keep revisiting Rahane. It was a normal team meeting, but the precursor to India's stunning fight-back. "A team meeting after Adelaide, when I actually took over and we went to Melbourne... because it started from there."

Rahane credited the Indian Premier League for making young players "fearless". He also called Rahul Dravid's role as "mas-

sive" in nurturing young talent, first as India A and U-19 coach and now as the National Cricket Academy director.

Rahane condemned the infamous incidents in Sydney, where some fans allegedly racially abused Mohammed Siraj and Jasprit Bumrah.

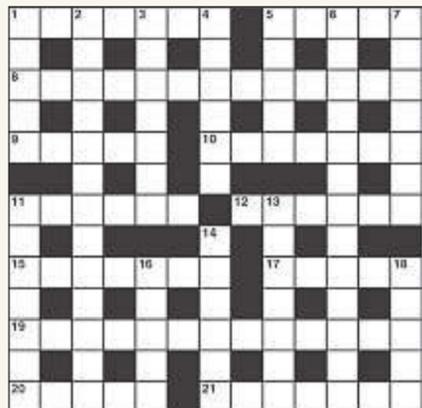
"What happened in Sydney was very bad and not acceptable at all. When we go overseas, fans abuse opponents to cheer up the home team. But when people are abusing you based on the colour of your skin and hurling racial slurs, that are not acceptable. My message (to the authorities) was, those who racially abused the players, get them out of the ground. We will not leave the field. Until you are ejecting them, we are not playing."

After the Adelaide Test, Rahane got a call from former India captain and current BCCI president Sourav Ganguly. "After the Adelaide Test, Dada called me and said, 'Just be strong. Believe in yourself, as an individual and as a team'. That was the message."

Rahane also spoke about his bonding with Ravichandran Ashwin and Cheteshwar Pujara.



CROSSWORD 4337



- ACROSS**
- Pricy sort of article from a Mediterranean island (7)
 - Two small companies with a drink product (5)
 - It won't occur if the right types are chosen (8,5)
 - Spring in the country (5)
 - She makes me return the papers (7)
 - Sign of a pressing need (6)
 - Blurt out the article included is vicious (6)
 - Tale a hundred tell (7)
 - Where strikers are found to be at work (5)
 - One may get a ring back to confirm this (6,7)
 - Managed to get straight in line (5)
 - Reveals former attitudes (7)
- DOWN**
- Manages investments (5)
 - But it's not where the army trains its recruits (7,6)
 - Gives voice and breaks the tension (7)
 - Gives patient attention (6)
 - Man appears in headgear that's inexpensive (5)
 - What electricians like to read about? (7,6)
 - It is pressed into use when distribution by air is required (7)
 - Have trouble getting up? (7)
 - It unfolds and gives way (7)
 - Ernest has the makings of a writer (6)
 - Tip in stupendous style (5)
 - Loss of water, it's said, in vegetables (5)

Solutions Crossword 4336: Across: 1 Loner, 8 Wheatear, 9 Pence, 10 Accurate, 11 Relay, 12 Air, 16 Stages, 17 Extort, 18 Pip, 23 Crest, 24 Amputate, 25 Films, 26 Rallying, 27 Agent. Down: 2 Operetta, 3 Exchange, 4 Chichi, 5 Gamut, 6 Renal, 7 Green, 12 Asp, 13 Rep, 14 Starling, 15 Pressman, 19 Intent, 20 Cairn, 21 Spill, 22 Stays.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

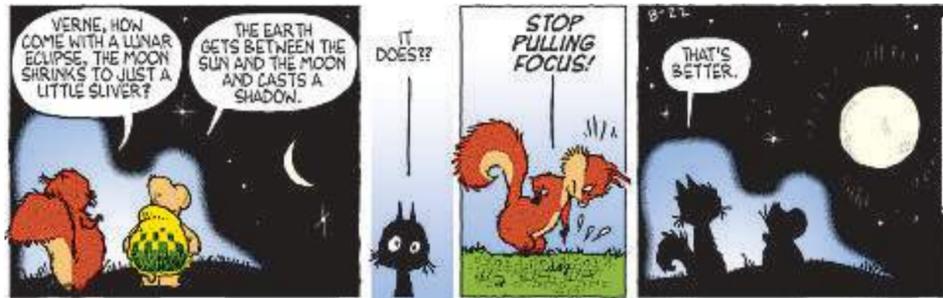
A waffle is like a pancake with a _____. - Mitch Hedberg (5,4)

PYARR **HIMOTUY**

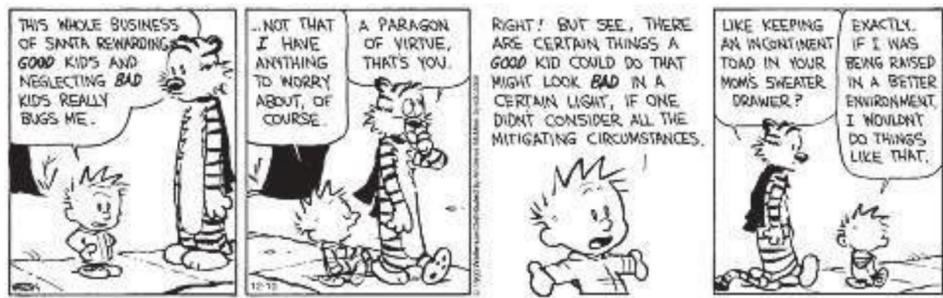
GATES **DIRYPP**

SOLUTION: PYARR, STAGE, MOUTH, DIRPY. Answer: A waffle is like a pancake with a syrup trap. - Mitch Hedberg

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



Difficulty Level 5s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

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



SOLUTION SUDOKU 4363



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
It's rush hour as far as the planets are concerned, but the lights are on amber.

Whether you choose to go ahead is therefore very much up to you and your own understanding of your unique individual situation. What concerns you, as much as anything, are hidden resentments, especially other people's.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
There is still a measure of uncertainty, and confusing developments keep occurring, but there is a positive side to the unfolding drama. Hopefully you're now at the stage at which you can see increasing stability and security emerging from the fog.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Some planets are urging you to move forward. Others are persuading you to stay still. Changes may seem as if they're coming out of the blue, but this is not how astrology works. In fact, everything that happens now relates to developments which took place a month or even a year ago.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Your inner tension may be a little more than is healthy. Yet I imagine that, if you try to relax now, you may allow an opportunity to slip through your fingers. That is why you should keep your eye on the ball and check up on every single detail.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
You are not normally one to doubt your own confidence. Yet I'd like to see you questioning your own priorities, partly because there are fresh discoveries to be made. It's all a question of seeing the world anew, realising how much you have taken for granted.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
What you need now is enough money to get you out of a fix. Frankly, it seems to me that it's about time you enjoyed a spot of luxury, and if your earnings are to increase, it must be soon. Never forget though, that if you set out to persuade someone that you're in the right, you will almost certainly be successful.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
It may not be time for congratulations just yet, but it soon will be. You'll have something to celebrate over the next few days. Turn your back on the past and resolve to make a completely fresh start. But - and this is a very big 'but' - you must keep a very close watch on all practical developments.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
Today may not be easy, but there's little you can't handle with your usual skill. You may react to even surprise developments with a sense of deja vu, as if you had known all along what would happen. Life at the moment can be so strange! That's partly because failure turns into success.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)
Only a very negative frame of mind will prevent you from ending the week better off materially and spiritually than when it began. On the other hand, a little optimism will carry you to the stars. There could be a spot of social friction, but only if you fail to keep your commitments.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
A victory in one area of life has probably increased the likelihood of delay in another. It's an astrological law, you see, that the universe always returns to a state of balance. Yet right now you might be wondering just when that's going to happen.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
Someone special is reaching out to you now. They may come from a different world, one you don't know about, but this doesn't mean that the connection won't become valuable and permanent. Neither does it mean that you won't soon be able to benefit from the contact.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
You may have squandered a great deal of time on one particular project. Or have you? Wait a while and you'll see how nothing is wasted and that sooner or later your experience and expertise will be highly prized. You've reached a turning-point and I'm sure you'll handle partners with your usual subtlety.

Sibley guides England home

REUTERS
GALLE, JANUARY 25

DOM SIBLEY scored an unbeaten half century as England chased down a target of 164 to secure a sweep of the series on Monday, beating Sri Lanka by six wickets in the second test on a day of drama at Galle International Stadium.

England scored 164-4, with Sibley 56 not out and Jos Buttler unbeaten on 46 as they overcame jittery moments to complete a 2-0 series triumph. The tourists overturned a 37-run deficit after the first innings to win a sixth successive test in Sri Lanka. England earlier dismissed Sri Lanka for 126 in their second innings, giving themselves a confidence boost ahead of next month's start of a four-test series in India.

England's run chase began nervously as they lost their first four wickets for 89 runs, including a tired-looking Joe Root, with Sri Lanka's dangerous spinner Lasith Embuldeniya threatening with the new ball and taking three wickets for a match tally of 10.

But an unbeaten 75-run partnership between Sibley, who had previous failed with the bat on tour, and Buttler carried England home as they showed the application their hosts lacked in their batting.

"I was pleased to be able to spend time at the crease and get the boys over the line," said Sibley. England, who added only five runs to their overnight tally before being dismissed for 344, took just over a session to turn the match on its head as Dom Bess and spin partner Jack Leach claimed four wickets each in Sri Lanka's second innings.

Bess took 4-49 and Leach 4-59 as the home batting line-up was undone by the turn of the wicket and rash shots. It included a wild sweep from veteran Angelo Mathews as he was bowled by Bess for five, and a slog that was top-edged by captain Dinesh Chandimal (9) and expertly caught by James Anderson off Leach. "There are no excuses from us, we made mistakes and we were outplayed," Chandimal said.

Embuldeniya, with a quickfire 40 off 42 balls, was the only home batsman to make more than 20 and his 48-run ninth wicket partnership with Suranga Lakmal helped set England a tougher target.

But he was eventually dismissed off the part-time bowling of Root, who claimed another wicket with his next ball by bowling Asitha Fernando to wrap up the innings. Root finished with figures of 2-0 off 11 balls.

"It was great to come out on top after losing the toss on a wicket that had us under pressure for much of the match," said the England captain. **BRIEF SCORES:** England 344 (Root 186, Buttler 55, Embuldeniya 7-137) and 164 for 4 (Sibley 56*, Buttler 46*, Embuldeniya 3-73) beat Sri Lanka 381 (Mathews 110, Dickwell 92, Anderson 6-40) and 126 (Embuldeniya 40, Bess 4-49, Leach 4-59) by six wickets.

Cocooned Down Under

No housekeeping, strict division of training time, constant surveillance outdoors: Nagal's schedule in Oz Open

SHAHID JUDGE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 25

THERE'S A groan on the other side. It's an involuntary reaction by Sumit Nagal, followed by an explanation about what his hotel room in Melbourne looks like in the absence of housekeeping services. "It looks nothing close to what it was when I first walked in. I'll really feel bad for (hotel staff) when I leave," he offers. "And every time I come back and look at the room, I'm like, 'my God...'" The important thing here for Nagal, however, is that he can indeed leave his room, for five hours a day.

As the top players on the tennis circuit descended upon Melbourne ahead of the Australian Open, one of the arrangements made in this COVID-19-stricken era was that they were allowed to leave their rooms to train and practise for five hours in a day, during the mandatory 14-day quarantine.

Three of the 15 chartered flights that carried the players to Australia, however, had people testing positive on arrival, meaning all the 72 players on those planes were forced into hard quarantine. Nagal wasn't one of them. But the five-hour spell he gets outside has been nothing like he's ever experienced before. The months spent in planning by Tennis Australia, in consultation with the Victoria government, has led to a strict series of protocols when it

comes to players leaving their rooms for training. And it all has to be followed to the dot. For starters, players are informed about their schedule the night earlier. "Two hours are for tennis practice, 90 minutes for the gym, an hour for food, and 30 minutes is to get from the room to the courts and back," Nagal says. At a pre-determined time, an official of the Justice and Community Safety Department - who handle transport and security of players - will knock on the player's door. Only then can the door be opened and the player leave the room.

"Before my coach and I can get into the lift, they will inform people in the lobby that two people from so-and-so floor are coming down. Once we get the 'go ahead', we can get into the lift," explains the 23-year-old. "Once we're downstairs, we wait till my training partner Aslan Karatsev and his coach have arrived. And then the group of four gets into the minivan to go to the venue." The World No. 138, who has been granted a wild card and will debut in the main draw of the Australian Open this year, goes on to describe how they are required to sanitise their hands after every 50 metres at the practice venue, and before entering or leaving any building.

"Now, for the two hours we're on court, someone from the Justice Department will be watching us. If we need to take a toilet break, someone will escort us. You cannot leave before or after the two-hour slot," Nagal says. "Once we leave, officials come to clean the court.



Sumit Nagal was granted wild card this Australian Open.

Now if I was on, say court 20, I can only use the gym that says 'Court 20.' Once I'm done with the gym, they will come and clean that as well." The gym session is followed by an hour's nutrition break. This is the only time when, if the players are done early, they can call to get back to the hotel early.

"Then it's the same procedure again. All four assemble in the lobby, they radio the people on our floor that we're coming. Once they get the green light, we get into the lift and go to our rooms. After that, I can only open my door if someone delivers something. Otherwise, the door cannot be opened."

The five-hour period outside is arranged and executed like clockwork. It's nothing like what any of the players have been used to be-

fore, but Nagal isn't complaining. He was banking on this spell even before he got to Melbourne. Towards the end of the 2020 season, India's second-highest-ranked singles player struggled with a shoulder injury that forced him to spend his pre-season working solely on his fitness. It's only in Australia where he's started to focus heavily on gaining back his match-sharpness.

For the five hours outside, Nagal can focus on getting ready before play resumes with a few tune-up ATP 250 events starting February 1. In the 19 hours he's in his room, he continues to work on getting fit - "more through body-weight drills" - for a few hours a day.

And napping. "Sometimes when I don't know what to do I just take a nap, without an alarm. So that can go for two or three hours," he says, before adding, "either way, I am not missing out on anything."

The youngster from Jhajar will be making his third main-draw appearance at a major. The last time he did, at the US Open in September, he became the first Indian since Somdev Devvaman in 2013 to win a Grand Slam match. Now in Australia, he didn't have to go through the qualifiers. But with nobody allowed to enter his room during the quarantine phase, not even housekeeping, Nagal will have to deal with his untidy room himself.

"I keep thinking that I'll clean it later, but 'later' never comes. But I'm trying, let's see."

IOC begins talks with IOA to vaccinate athletes before Olympics

New Delhi: The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has initiated talks with the national bodies, including the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), over emergency access to Covid-19 vaccines for the Tokyo-bound contingent. IOA president Narinder Batra said 'discussions are ongoing on how to vaccinate athletes, support staff and officials' ahead of the Olympics but it will not be made mandatory.

The organisation's secretary general Rajeev Mehta added they have received a communication from the IOC, saying they along with the World Health Organisation (WHO) will assist the participating nations in securing Covid-19 jabs for the athletes and officials.

The IOA has projected that India will send a record contingent of 125 athletes for the Tokyo Olympics, which are scheduled to be held from July 23 to August 9. "No athlete or official will be forced to take the vaccine but a priority quota will be created. There will be more clarity by March end as by then, the long list of athletes who will be going for the Olympics will be ready," Batra said. Vaccinating those who will be a part of the Olympics is seen as one of the critical factors in delivering safe Games.

Two scenarios are emerging at the moment. On Saturday, *The Daily Telegraph* reported that the IOC and WHO are working together to get as many athletes vaccinated as possible before the Games. The IOC and WHO, the report added, are in talks to secure shots for athletes in countries where vaccination is yet to begin the Covax project. The scheme, whose rollout is likely next month, is led by WHO and Gavi vaccine alliance.

In countries where Covid-19 doses are al-

ready being administered, the IOC and WHO are likely to speak to the governments to add athletes in the emergency list. "WHO members will initiate dialogues with the government in their respective countries to get vaccines required for athletes and officials. A set protocol will be followed," Batra said.

"It will be up to the country to decide which vaccine to administer since all of them are approved by the WHO." In India, a parliamentary panel said last month that 'athletes, as well as coaches and support staff going for the Olympics, should be put in the priority group for the vaccination process.' Sports minister Kiren Rijiju, too, has advocated the same. The Tokyo Olympics have been shrouded in uncertainty with the rising number of Covid-19 cases in different parts of the world, including the host city Tokyo where a state of emergency was imposed earlier this month.

The public opinion surrounding the Games has plummeted since and there have also been reports about the Japanese government considering cancellation of the Games but they have been rebutted, with the organisers insisting that the Olympics - which were postponed for the first-time ever last year due to the pandemic - will take place as scheduled this time around.

Batra, who is also an IOC member, said he was confident the Games will go ahead. "The Olympics will take place 100 per cent. The question remains over the number of spectators, whether to have 50 per cent crowd or 100 per cent. That call will be taken in the coming weeks," Batra said.

MHIRVASAVDA

Happy but Nambiar sir should have got Padma earlier, says Usha

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

ON A day her coach, OM Nambiar was named in the list of Padma Shri award winner. PT Usha called him a 'mentor' and 'father figure' who took her from obscurity and helped her shine on the biggest sporting arenas around the world, including the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. As it happened, on Monday Usha had called on 'Nambiar sir', now 89, and had tea with him at his home in Payyoli.

"We had gone for the engagement of my husband's niece. It took place close to Nambiar sir's house. So I dropped in. He insisted that I have a cup of tea. I sat with him for a while and he was happy. He is old now and does not step out of his home too much. But whenever I meet him, I relive a lot of memories. It is only after we reached home did we know about the news that he is a Padma Shri," Usha said.

From 1977 to 1990, Usha was coached solely by Nambiar. It was Nambiar who asked Usha to focus on the 400 metres hurdles ahead of the Los Angeles Olympics, where she missed out on a medal by one-hundredth of a second.

Nambiar's decision to switch to hurdles came after Usha had won the gold in the 400 metres at the Asian Track and Field meet in Kuwait.

"Nambiar sir instilled confidence in me that I could be the best in the world. Looking back, we didn't have great facilities or diet but the sheer will of Nambiar sir and his passion helped me win multiple medals for India. I am happy he is being recognised with the Padma Shri award but I believe he should have got it much earlier," Usha said.

When PT Usha won five gold medals and a bronze at the Asian Athletics Championships in Jakarta in 1985, she didn't have a physio or a masseur by her side. Coach Nambiar multi-tasked and made sure she was fit to run 11 races, including the heats in just five days. "Without Nambiar sir, I would have not been able to achieve what I did for the country. I was lucky he mentored and coached me for so many years. From almost nothing he helped me achieve greatness."

LIST OF WINNERS

P Anitha: A former India basketball captain, Anitha has represented the national team for close to two decades. She also holds the record of being the only woman player to play for India at nine Asian Championships.

Mouma Das: The table tennis player was awarded the Arjuna Award in 2013. A two-time Olympian, Das has won multiple Commonwealth Games medals, including team gold at the 2018 edition.

Anshu Jamsenpa: She is regarded as the first woman in the world to scale the summit of Mt Everest twice in five days. She is also the first Indian woman to scale the Mt Everest summit five times.

Sudha Singh: A national record holder in the 3,000m steeplechase event, Sudha has multiple continental medals to her name, including an Asian Games gold. She has also represented India at the 2012 and 2016 Olympics.

Virender Singh: The freestyle wrestler has won three gold and one bronze medals at the Deaflympics in four appearances. He won the Arjuna Award in 2015 for his achievements.

KY Venkatesh: Winner of multiple medals at various international para-sports events, including the world dwarf games.

Madhavan Nambiar: The 89-year-old is the long-time coach of PT Usha, who finished fourth in the 400 metre hurdles at the Los Angeles, and won multiple medals at the Asiad.



गणतंत्र दिवस

की सभी प्रदेशवासियों को हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं





प्रिय प्रदेशवासियों,



गणतंत्र दिवस के शुभ अवसर पर मैं आप सभी को हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं एवं बधाई देता हूँ। बाबा साहब डॉ. भीमराव आम्बेडकर सहित उन सभी महान संविधान निर्माताओं को भी शत-शत नमन करता हूँ, जिन्होंने विभिन्न जातियों, धर्मों व क्षेत्रीय विभिन्नताओं के होते हुए भी हम सभी को एकता के सूत्र में पिरोने वाला संविधान दिया। मैं अपने स्वतंत्रता संग्राम के नायकों, देश की सीमाओं व देश की आन्तरिक सुरक्षा में शहीद हुए सैनिकों की स्मृति को भी नमन करता हूँ। प्रदेशवासियों की ओर से राज्य आन्दोलन के अमर शहीदों को भी शत-शत नमन करता हूँ। आईये, गणतंत्र दिवस की इस पावन बेला पर हम सभी संविधान के मूलभूत आदर्शों की रक्षा एवं राज्य तथा राष्ट्र के सर्वांगीण विकास के लिए संकल्पबद्ध हों।



जय हिन्द-जय उत्तराखण्ड



त्रिवेन्द्र सिंह रावत
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड

बातें कम... काम ज्यादा

- गैरसैण राजधानी परिक्षेत्र के अवस्थापना विकास के लिए अगले 10 वर्ष में ₹25 हजार करोड़ किये जायेंगे खर्च
- श्रद्धालुओं की सुविधाओं और चारधाम के विकास की दृष्टि से चारधाम देवस्थानम् बोर्ड का गठन
- ई-कैबिनेट, ई-ऑफिस, सी.एम. डैश बोर्ड उत्कर्ष, सी.एम. हेल्ललाईन 1905, पारदर्शी ट्रांसफर एक्ट के तहत कार्य संस्कृति में गुणात्मक सुधार
- आत्मनिर्भर उत्तराखण्ड और 'वोकल फॉर लोकल' के लिए सरकार ने की बड़ी पहल। मुख्यमंत्री स्वरोजगार योजना से युवा बन रहे आत्मनिर्भर
- '13 डिस्ट्रिक्ट - 13 न्यू डेस्टीनेशन' से नए पर्यटन केन्द्रों का हो रहा विकास
- फिल्मकारों के लिये बेस्ट शूटिंग डेस्टिनेशन बना उत्तराखण्ड, साढ़े तीन साल में 300 से अधिक फिल्मों एवं सीरियलों की शूटिंग
- सभी जिलों में आई.सी.यू. स्थापित, पिछले साढ़े तीन साल में चिकित्सकों की संख्या दोगुनी से अधिक
- किसान सम्मान निधि के अन्तर्गत 8.57 लाख किसान हुए लाभान्वित
- सौभाग्य योजना के तहत 2 लाख 50 हजार से अधिक घर किये गये रोशन। अंधेरे में रह रहे 94 गाँवों में पहुँचाई बिजली
- प्रधानमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना में मार्च 2017 से अभी तक 6409 किलोमीटर लम्बाई का निर्माण कार्य पूर्ण व 657 बसावटों को सड़क से जोड़ा गया













कोविड-19



दवाई भी, कड़ाई भी



अपना मास्क पहनना ना भूलें, अपनी नाक व मुँह को अच्छी तरह से ढकें



हाथों को सेनेटाइज करते रहें



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26th January, 2021



Government of Haryana

Heartiest Greetings

To

People of Haryana On

REPUBLIC DAY

“The Constitution of India has a special identity across the world. The fundamental rights enshrined in our constitution give us the rights as citizens of a free democratic Nation. India has touched glorious heights in various fields due to the strenuous efforts of its people. On the solemn occasion of Republic Day, let us come together and take a pledge to march on the path of progress and make the Nation and State ‘Aatmanirbhar.’”

- **Manohar Lal**, Chief Minister, Haryana





TWO NATURAL PARTNERS COMING CLOSER

MESSAGE

Barry O'Farrell AO

Australian High Commissioner to India

AS PROUD cricketing nations, Australia and India are determined competitors on the field. We saw this recently during India's win over Australia at the Gabba to retain the coveted Border-Gavaskar Trophy. India demonstrated great grit to overcome injuries and COVID restrictions, amongst other challenges, to achieve this stunning victory. I commend the Indian team for their performance.

Our countries are also delivering real achievements off the field – as Prime Minister Modi recently observed, Australia and India form a solid partnership. Under our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, signed by Prime Ministers Modi and Morrison last year, India and Australia are working more closely than ever before.

We are enhancing our science, technology and research collaboration, including looking for innovative solutions for responding to and treating COVID-19. We are boosting our maritime cooperation to maintain an open, secure and prosperous Indo-Pacific, through joint operations and exercises such as Exercise MALABAR. And we are deepening our economic engagement, encouraging greater two-way trade and investment, and exploring ways to strengthen supply chain resilience.

Ours is a vibrant and growing partnership, which is founded on shared values, or what I characterise as the four Ds – democracy, defence, diaspora and dosti. We value our democratic institutions and rule of law. We are united by a shared vision for an Indo-Pacific region free from threats of coercion. Our people-to-people ties, the backbone of our partnership, are growing rapidly. And our love of cricket adds that special dosti to the relationship.

Indeed, it's fair to say that when Australia and India work together, we make a highly competitive team. So, as we gather today to celebrate our respective national days – Republic Day in India and Australia Day back home – I wish to acknowledge our vibrant and growing partnership and all we have achieved together over the last year. And, as I look to the year ahead, I am confident we will continue to remain determined competitors on the field – but the most trusted of partners off it.

गणतंत्र दिवस की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ



Ties getting stronger with time

India and Australia aim to take their bilateral relationship to new heights in 2021, investing in new sectors for mutual benefit even as they deepen their engagement in traditional areas of cooperation

IT HARDLY needs to be mentioned that the passage of time has taken the Australia-India relationship to a new level. Both Australia and India share several commonalities such as their vibrant and multicultural democracies, their passion for cricket and other sports, as well as their shared economic and strategic interests, making them a natural fit for each other. The bilateral engagements between India and Australia span across areas, including agriculture, mining and critical minerals, education and skill development, infrastructure, maritime cooperation, counter-terrorism and cyber-security.

This highly valued relationship gained more traction when in September 2008, the then Australian Foreign Minister Stephen Smith said, during a keynote address at the University of Western Australia, "It is under-appreciated that Perth and Chennai are closer to each other than Sydney is to Seoul, to Shanghai, or to Tokyo. As the world sees the potential of an Asian/Pacific century unfold, Australia sees India at the heart of this historic shift in political and economic influence."

Since this bilateral partnership was upgraded to a strategic relationship in 2009, both India and Australia have put an array of institutional mechanisms in place to promote bilateral co-operation, such as exchange of high-level visits, Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue, Joint Trade & Commerce Ministerial Commission, Defence Policy Talks including Policy talks at the level of Senior Officials, Staff Talks, Energy Security Dialogue and Australia-India Education Council, Track-2 Dialogues like Australia-India Leadership Dialogue, Youth Dialogue, etc.

In 2018-19, India was Australia's eighth-largest trading partner and fifth-largest export market. Two-way goods and services trade with India was at \$30.3 billion in 2018-19, and the level of two-way investment was \$30.7 billion in 2018. To ensure that both the countries are on the same page regarding their bilateral agenda, India and Australia interact regularly through high-level meetings and visits. There is also growing political cooperation, including in multilateral institutions such as the



Commonwealth, G20, and the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).

Both India and Australia realise the growing importance of this partnership for each other's inclusive growth and prosperity, which is why their bilateral Strategic Partnership translated into a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) when Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the Australia-India Leaders' Virtual Summit on June 4, 2020.

Through the CSP, both the countries have shared their commitment to work together across a range of areas, including the ambitious agenda to expand their trade and economic relationship to the benefit of both economies. Both the countries have also signed key agreements, including a landmark pact for reciprocal access to military bases, against the backdrop of their frosty relations with China. India and Australia also unveiled a common vision for maritime cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. Australia and India have also planned to re-engage on a bilateral Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA).

As part of the CSP, Australian and Indian Foreign and Defence Ministers have decided to meet to discuss strategic issues in a '2+2' format at least once every

two years. During the June 2020 virtual meeting, India and Australia decided to sign the Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA) and another pact on cooperation in the field of mining and rare earth minerals. The signing of MLSA will help in scale-up of overall defence cooperation, whilst cooperation in the field of mining and rare earth minerals will allow India to source critical minerals from Australia rather than China.

Further, in December 2020, the Indian government's much-awaited 'Australia Economic Strategy' (AES) report was released, paving the way for a big push to bilateral trade in various sectors, including Agri-tech, Mining and Resources, Mining Equipment and Technology Services (METS), Critical minerals, Pharmaceuticals, Medical Devices and Technology, Food Processing and Food Storage, Energy Efficiency and Renewables, among others.

With respect to strengthening of defence ties, the bilateral relations reached a new high when Australia participated in the annual Malabar exercise in November 2020. Overall, by the reckoning of the Australian government, there has been an increase from 11 defence exercises, meetings, and activities in 2014 to 29 in 2017, and 38 in 2018. The naval en-

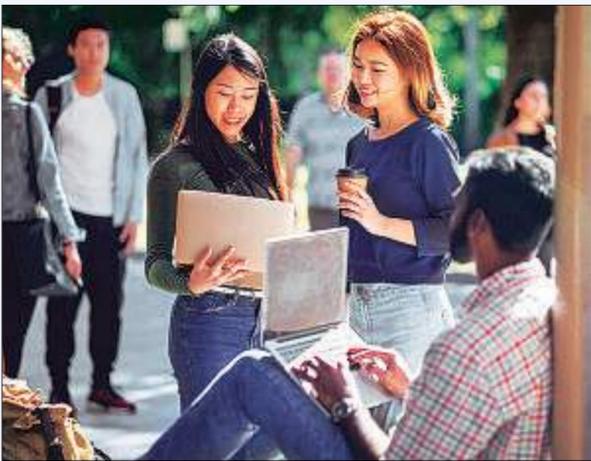
agement has been the most advanced, as is to be expected. While AUSINDEX remains the mainstay of the naval engagement, there have been other complementary efforts. Engagement between the two air forces has also increased, while the army-to-army engagement needs to see more development. Both the countries have also called for early adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT).

In his video address to the Bengaluru Tech Summit in November 2020, the Australian Prime Minister said his country plans to take bilateral ties with India to new heights by working together in frontier technologies.

Today, people-to-people linkages have also widened, with large numbers of Indian tourists, students, and immigrants contributing to Australia's economy and society. Indians have emerged as one of Australia's largest communities, making a positive impact on its society. As per latest estimates, around 700,000 Indians are residing in Australia currently. Over 38,000 Indians became Australian citizens in 2019-2020, a 60% increase. It was the largest diaspora to acquire citizenship. Indians have also earned the distinction of being Australia's fastest-growing inbound tourists.

Enhance your CV with a Degree from Australia!

Home to world-class universities and colleges which offer a wide range of courses to choose from, Australia is emerging as the preferred education destination for Indian students



MOST Indian students prefer adding a foreign degree to their curriculum vitae, if given a chance to study abroad. Although there are many foreign universities and colleges from across the world that lure Indian students to their shores, in the past few years many Indian students have started to prefer Australia to Western countries, as they regard Australia to be a much better destination to pursue higher studies as well as enjoy a quality life.

Though historically, "the USA and UK have been the preferred choice of many aspiring Indians for higher education, the changing political landscapes and visa policies in these countries have made Australia an even more attractive option – especially since Australia boasts some of the leading universities in the world."

According to a report published in 2018, Education was identified as one sector that Australia can leverage to enhance its relationship with India. As per latest estimates, "Education is Australia's largest service export to India, valued at AUD5.5 billion and accounting for around 85% of the total. Indian students in Australia number almost 110,000 (year to date September 2019), which marks a 33% increase over the previous year. These students made 132,079 enrolments in Australia, comprising 15% of international enrolments. As an education export market, India is second only to China, with exports valued at AUD12.1 billion in 2018-19 and 246,454 enrolments in Australia."

As a globally recognised educational

destination, Australia is home to many distinguished universities and colleges, such as the University of Melbourne, University of Queensland, Monash University, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Deakin University, to name a few. These universities are equipped with world-class infrastructure and research facilities, offering a plethora of courses to choose from – 22,000 courses available in 1,100 universities and institutions. From traditional STEM courses to management programmes, students are offered numerous options to choose from, depending on their expertise and personal interest.

The best part of graduating from Australia is the availability of post-study work permit – which is unavailable in a majority of countries. It is also easy to get a permanent residency in Australia, given you have a few qualifications to apply for the PR programme. One of the major reasons to study in Australia is its affordability compared with the US and UK. As compared with the US, the tuition fees and cost of living are relatively less in Australia.

Australia has 8 of the top 100 universities in the world in its fold, guaranteeing you access to world-class teaching faculties, post-study work opportunities, and excellent quality of living. No matter what course you choose to pursue from whichever university, you'll be assured of unbeatable academic excellence and a superb support system. There are also various scholarship programmes on offer that will make your learning process easier and more affordable.

Australia is a most sought-after travel destination for Indians!

Famous for its natural landscapes and wildlife and backed by modern infrastructure and great tourist facilities, Australia offers a rich travel experience to tourists



AN important part of increasing people-to-people contact between India and Australia is Tourism. For Indian tourists, Australia is a highly aspirational destination, with visiting Australia's beaches and iconic landmarks ranking high on their itineraries. Since the continent country offers a wide range of natural landscapes and wildlife to experience, Indian tourists find the Australian experience very alluring and adventurous.

People think holidaying in Australia has a certain "wow" factor attached to it, with many Indians regarding it as one of the best laid-back destinations across the world. Although Australia is considered an expensive destination, it is also felt to offer good value for money given the memorable experience it ensures.

As per reports, "India is one of Aus-

tralia's fastest growing inbound markets for visitor arrivals. As of the year-ending September 2019, arrivals are 386,400, up 11.8%." In terms of spend, "Indian travellers account for \$1.8 billion of total spend, up 17.4% as of year-end June 2019. On average Indian travellers spend approximately \$5,000 per trip and \$80 per night." In pre-Covid days, in 2019, "India recorded six consecutive years of double-digit growth in terms of arrivals and spend from India to Australia."

As per the findings of a recent survey, "India's travellers are very optimistic about travelling despite the pandemic, with over 80% of those surveyed believing that Australia is a safe destination to travel to." Additionally, Indian travellers have revealed Australia as one of their top three travel destinations for the time borders reopen.



State Bank of India, Australia wishes you all a very Happy Australia Day & Indian Republic Day



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