



## After drug haul, Adani port bans container cargo from Iran, Pak, Afghanistan

**AVINASH NAIR & KARUNJIT SINGH**  
AHMEDABAD, NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

ALMOST A month after nearly 3,000 kg of heroin was seized from two containers at its Mundra port in Kutch in one of the biggest such hauls ever in the country, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) Monday issued a trade advisory stating that from next month, it will not handle any container cargo originating from Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

"Please be informed that with effect from November 15, 2021, APSEZ will not handle EXIM containerised cargo originating from Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan. This trade advisor will apply to all terminals operated by APSEZ and including third party terminals at any APSEZ port till further notice," stated the advisory signed by Chief Executive Officer Subrat Tripathy.

Sources told *The Indian Express* that exporters are likely to approach the Government over the impact of the move on the cost of exports, particularly to Iran.

Ajay Sahai, Director General and CEO of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), said the decision would force many exporters to send their merchandise through other ports. "For trade, this will be a setback as the cost of shipment will go up. A lot of North Indian exporters use the Mundra port," he said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Security forces at Surankote in Poonch, where five Army personnel were killed in an encounter with militants on Monday. PTI

## Five soldiers killed in Poonch: Encounter still on, militants suspected to have crossed LoC

Most fierce gunfight in area in 17 yrs: officials

**ARUN SHARMA**  
JAMMU, OCTOBER 11

A JUNIOR Commissioned Officer and four jawans were killed Monday morning in an encounter with a group of heavily armed militants in the dense forests of Chamred on the Mughal Road, which connects Jammu's border Poonch district with Shopian in Kashmir. It was after 17 years that the area saw such a deadly encounter, the last being in 2004, when four soldiers had been killed.

Till Monday evening, the operation was still on, and had spread to adjoining Rajouri dis-



(From left) Jaswinder Singh, Vaisakh H, Saraj Singh, Mandeep Singh, Gajjan Singh

trict's Pangai area, with militants, believed to be four to five in number, taking on security forces there. Officials suspect the militants are part of the group that infiltrated across the Line of Control in Poonch in August.

Confirming the casualties, the Army PRO, Lt Colonel Devender Anand, said the soldiers were on a search and combing operation, which had

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## A gallantry winner, a new father, an only bread-winner

**ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHABA, KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR, MANISH SAHU & SHAJU PHILIP**

JALANDHAR, AMRITSAR, LUCKNOW, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 11

IN 2006, Naib Subedar Jaswinder Singh had been awarded the Sena Medal for his role in killing

three terrorists in Kashmir. On Monday, days away from a ceremony to be held for his late father, the 39-year-old fell to militant bullets in Poonch.

Family members said the last time they spoke, on Saturday night, Jaswinder had enquired about the date being set for the ceremony, and insisted on talking to everyone. Survived by his wife Sukhpreet Kaur (35),

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## STANDOFF ALONG LAC IN LADAKH

# India, China deadlocked on Hot Springs, chill deepens after Round 13

Put constructive suggestions, but China did not agree, says Army

Border point has a past, pullback there is key to de-escalation in region

**KRISHN KAUSHIK**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

A YEAR-AND-A-HALF into the military standoff on the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh, India and China have hardened their positions after making no headway in the 13th round of Corps Commander-level talks to try and resolve the situation at Hot Springs.

On Monday, a day after the talks at the Moldo border personnel meeting point near Chushul, India and China, in their sharpest exchange since the Galwan Valley clashes in June 2020 and diplomatic efforts thereafter to reach a negotiated solution, blamed each other for the failure to make progress over Hot Springs.

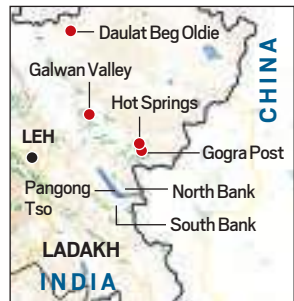
Troops have disengaged on the north and south banks of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**KRISHN KAUSHIK**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

**EXPLAINED** SOUTHEAST OF Galwan Valley where 20 Indian and at least four Chinese soldiers died in clashes in June 2020, Hot Springs lies in the Chang Chenmo river valley, close to Kongka La, a pass that marks the Line of Actual Control. India's Patrolling Point 15, it is not a launchpad for any offensive action though the area did see action before and during the 1962 war.

China's unwillingness to pull back its platoon-sized unit from Hot Springs is a sign of the difficulties that lie in normalising the situation. The PLA has traditionally had a major base east of Kongka La. The pass also marks the border between two of



China's most sensitive provinces — Xinjiang to the north and Tibet to the south. Kongka La lies west of China's G219 highway which connects Xinjiang and Tibet.

In the run-up to the 1962 war, an incident at Kongka La made the Indian government hand over the responsibility of the border in Ladakh to the Army. On October 20, 1959, a three-member Indian police patrol was detained by the Chinese at

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### INSIDE



**NOBEL EXPLAINED: TOP PRIZE FOR LABOUR ECONOMICS**  
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**NC LEADERS RANA, SLATHIA JOIN BJP** P5

### BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNNY



## UAPA arrests over Taliban posts: Assam courts give bail, say not enough to hold them

**TORA AGARWALA**  
GUWAHATI, OCTOBER 11

AT LEAST 14 of the 16 people arrested by the Assam Police in August for allegedly putting up social media posts "supporting" the recent Taliban takeover of Afghanistan have been granted bail by the local courts. While all but one had been booked under the stringent UAPA, which makes bail very difficult, the courts ruled that there were not enough grounds to keep them in jail.

Assam Special DGP (Law and Order) G P Singh had announced the first 14 arrests on August 21, while two more were held the

next day. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had directed police to "act without fear and favour". Asked about the court orders, Singh told *The Indian Express*: "Bail is the prerogative of the judiciary."

Among those who have got bail is Maulana Fazlul Karim Qasimi, 49, former AIUDF general secretary and Jamiat state secretary, hailing from Sipajhar in Darrang district. Granting him bail on October 6, the Gauhati High Court said there was "nothing incriminating" against him barring that Facebook post. "Even if it is accepted that the applicant is the author of the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## PANDORA PAPERS - PART 8

AN INVESTIGATION BY THE INDIAN EXPRESS WITH INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISTS

# Homebuyers, investors high and dry, Ireo's Goyal moved \$77 million to offshore trust

**P VAIIDYANATHANIER**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

OBSERVING THAT "builders only understand the colour of money or a jail term," the Supreme Court bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and MR Shah held in contempt an IREO Group company on August 19 for failing to comply with its order directing refund of money to a homebuyer.

Many homebuyers, having lost hope of getting their apartments, are approaching courts, seeking possession or refund. So are marquee foreign investors such as Axon Capital and Children's Fund Foundation in courts overseas for returns on hundreds of millions of dollars pumped into the group's projects. The IREO Group flagship IREO Private Limited is reeling in losses — Rs 500 crore in 2018-19.

But group co-founder Lalit Goyal, whose sister is married to BJP leader Sudhanshu Mittal, had moved assets, investments, and shareholdings, worth an esti-



Trident Trust documents which show Lalit Goyal as the Beneficial Owner of Turquoise Waters Worldwide Limited

mated \$77 million, to an offshore trust structure which included four entities registered in the British Virgin Islands in courts overseas for returns on hundreds of millions of dollars pumped into the group's projects. The IREO Group flagship IREO Private Limited is reeling in losses — Rs 500 crore in 2018-19.

According to these documents, Goyal — his residence address is mentioned as Marina Bay Residences, 18 Marina Boulevard, #45-08, Singapore —

had set up the Oak Veneer Trust in tax haven Guernsey with Standard Chartered Trust (Guernsey) Ltd as a trustee. Goyal is the 'Settlor' — one who sets up or authors the trust — of Oak Veneer Trust. He and Standard Chartered Trust (Guernsey) Ltd — by virtue of it being a trustee of Oak Veneer — are the 'Beneficial Owners' of the four offshore entities, all of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

# Fake encounter report brings little relief; village wants school, ration shop — and a better life

**PAGE 1 ANCHOR**

**GARGI VERMA**  
EDEMSETTA (BIJAPUR), OCTOBER 11

THERE IS no school, no anganwadi, no health centre, no ration shop.

There's just the lingering pain of loss, simmering anger — and, for Sanaki Punem, her nine-year-old grandson Mahesh.

At Edmesmetta, nestled in forested hills on the border of Dantewada and Bijapur and still only accessible on foot, Punem never lets Mahesh out of sight. Even when the 59-year-



Villagers gathered at the spot of the 2013 incident. Gargi Verma

old sits down under a neem tree near her hut to speak to *The Indian Express*, her eyes constantly follow him. "I am scared to let him go too far, he is all I

have," she said. Punem's son and Mahesh's father, Sonu Punem, was among the eight branded as "Maoists" and gunned down in Edmesmetta



by security personnel on the night of May 16-17, 2013. Last month, a judicial probe report submitted to the Chhattisgarh government confirmed what the residents of this village had been saying all along: the encounter was a "mistake" and none of those killed were Maoists. "Now the government has to

make amends. Those responsible should be punished," Punem said. It's a refrain that echoes across Edmesmetta. Residents say this was once a sprawling village that retreated into the forests after Salva Judum, the vigilante force raised by the then government, marked its presence for the first time.

"They burnt our houses, fields, even our shrines. So, we had to move towards the jungles. We saw real violence between 2007 and 2010. We had been living in relative peace till 2013," Mangu Karam, a small-time paddy farmer like most of the residents, said.

With the nearest motorable road 15 km away in Gangaloor,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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**Topper's Perspective**

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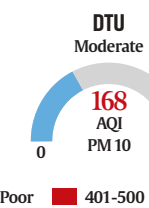
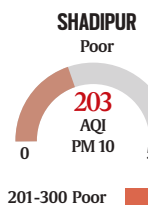
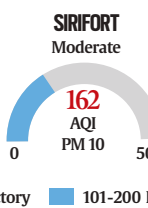
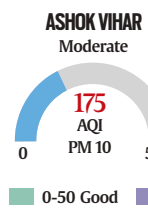
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**SKYWATCH**

**FORECAST: Oct 12**  
Mainly clear sky. Mist in the morning.

**MAX: 36** | **MIN: 22**  
2.2°C Above normal | 2.8°C Above normal

## 480 dengue cases this season — 140 reported last week



Officials said they have intensified preventative measures

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

AT LEAST 480 cases of dengue have been reported in Delhi this season, of which nearly 140 have been reported in just the past one week, according to a civic report released Monday.

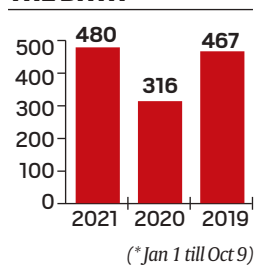
This is also the highest number of cases reported this time in the past three years. The number of cases reported for the period of January 1 to October 9 in the previous years were 316 (2020), 467 (2019), as per the report. However, no deaths have been reported due to dengue in the city this year till now, it said.

Seventy-two cases were reported in August, 217 in September, and 139 have been recorded in October in just a week's time, raising concern among authorities.

Cases of vector-borne diseases are usually reported between July and November, but the period may stretch till mid-December.

As per the civic body report,

### THE DATA\*



127 cases of malaria and 62 cases of chikungunya have also been reported till October 9 this year.

Civic bodies officials in Delhi said they have intensified their measures to prevent the outbreak of vector-borne diseases.

A senior official of South MCD said that officials have been directed to conduct awareness campaigns so that maximum citizens can be made aware. He had also directed them to regularly check for breeding of mosquito larvae on premises of government buildings, schools, offices, community centres and dispensaries.

## 'FARM IMPLEMENTS OUT OF REACH FOR MANY'

# Decomposer spraying begins in city — amid some concerns

**ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

THE DELHI government said it will continue to accept requests from farmers who have not yet applied to get the Pusa bio-decomposer sprayed on their fields. The exercise was flagged off Monday by Environment Minister Gopal Rai at Fatehpur Jat village in North Delhi's Narela.

First on the list was 10 acres of Johnny Pehalwan's basmati rice field. A tank filled with the solution was placed on a tractor and driven around the field, where it was sprayed over the stubble.

Said Pehalwan, "We used to burn the stubble earlier. The solution was sprayed here last year as well, and we seem to have seen some increase in the yield of wheat this past season." His paddy harvest, of which he made a profit this year, was sold at Narela mandi.

While the solution is sprayed for free, farm implements like the rotavator continue to remain out of reach for several farmers.

K Annapurna, former head of the Microbiology division at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute where the decomposer was developed, said a rotavator is a heavy implement that helps mix the decomposer with the straw and incorporates it in the soil. Moisture enhances decomposition, so the field would have to be irrigated after this. "These operations are a must for proper decomposition of paddy straw,"



A tank filled with the solution was placed on a tractor, driven around field, and sprayed over stubble. *Praveen Khanna*

she added.

The government, however, has not made arrangements for farmers to access these. Rotavators are also not on the list of farm equipment eligible for government subsidy. "Farmers will have to make arrangements for one themselves," said A P Saini, joint director (Agriculture).

Since small farmers have found it difficult to purchase farm implements, Pappan Singh Gahlot, a farmer from Tigipur village, has written to the district administration requesting help with procuring turning and baling machines and tractors. "Without basic implements how do you handle stubble?" he said.

Sahdev Maan, a farmer from Holambi Khurd village in North Delhi, whose tractor has been rented by the government for the

spraying, said the decomposer is beneficial provided it is used correctly. Spraying began on 20 acres of his paddy field Monday.

However, he said most farmers are unlikely to have rotavators — the price of which starts at around Rs 90,000 — and added that some might make do with a harrow, a smaller implement attached to a tractor. Even borrowing rotavators can be expensive considering the use of diesel, he said.

Farmers also raised other difficulties. According to Gahlot, farmers in North Delhi often choose to grow a vegetable crop between paddy and wheat crops. Pehalwan concurred that spinach, which grows in about a month, is often grown after the paddy harvest and before wheat is sowed and said such farmers

**EXPLAINED**  
**4,140 acres to be covered**

Of over 14,000 acres of land cultivated with paddy in Delhi, the decomposer is being sprayed on over 4,140 acres belonging to 844 farmers. It is mostly being sprayed on those fields harvested with a combine harvester, which leaves behind stubble that can be about half a foot tall, A P Saini, joint director (Agriculture), said. When paddy is harvested manually, the residue is shorter, he added.

are unlikely to wait for the decomposer to work.

The decomposer can take around 15-20 days to convert the residue into compost, Dr Annapurna said.

Gahlot added that some farmers have already harvested the paddy, but others growing different varieties might be able to harvest only later, making it difficult to use the decomposer.

According to Saini, several farmers in Delhi continue to employ labourers to harvest their fields, since the straw left behind from the harvest can be sold. Wheat will begin to be sowed by the second week of November this year, he added.

## 'Desh ke mentors' to guide kids on career choices: Kejriwal

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

THE DELHI government Monday launched its "Desh ke Mentors" programme to be implemented across all its schools, with the aim of providing students in classes IX to XII with young mentors who can guide them in navigating their higher education and career path.

People between the ages of 18 and 35 can sign up to be mentors through an app created by a team at Delhi Technological University and will be connected to students based on mutual interests. The programme will be for minimum of two months and can carry on for another four months optionally. One mentor will be assigned between two to five students.

Speaking at the launch, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said: "When a child enters teenage around 9th standard, there are two biggest kinds of needs the child has. First, their emotional and psychological needs... We want these children to get a non-judgemental helping hand and guiding light. Someone with whom the child can talk without having any inhibitions and be at peace... I am sure this programme will see mentors enroll from across the country. The children won't just be mentored by people of Delhi. We have developed an app through which anyone from across the country can join this revolution. All they need to do is give the child 10-15 minutes every day on a phone call... The second need is that 9th



The govt launched the programme on Monday

onwards, students have no idea as to what they should do in life. Their exposure isn't very broad, the same case was with myself. I did not know much about the scope of various fields. 'Desh Ke Mentors' will be able to properly guide and counsel the children. Third, the children hope that the mentor will help them gain a value system, make them a better human, a better citizen."

There are currently around 9 lakh children in classes IX-XII in government schools.

"It is difficult for students of 9th-12th to decide what they should be pursuing. During this time, if someone holds their hand without judging and imposing their dreams on them, it will result in better decision-making for future professionals we will be making... If parents are confused on how to help their child choose their career, there should be a mentor to guide and help students in taking the right decision..." said Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia.

## Will celebrate Chhath, MCDs to make arrangements: Delhi BJP

**ABHINAV RAJPUT**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

THE DELHI BJP Monday said it would celebrate Chhath puja (at ghats) and the MCDs, all ruled by the party, would make arrangements for it. This comes despite the DDMA imposing restrictions on celebrations in the open.

Delhi BJP chief Adesh Gupta said, "I would like to openly declare that we will celebrate the festival. All preparations would be ensured by the corporations."

Addressing a press conference with BJP MP Manoj Tiwari at the party's Pant Marg office Monday, Gupta said the celebrations would follow Covid protocol. The DDMA had issued guidelines saying no Chhath celebrations will be allowed at public places and riverbanks in the national capital.

The BJP will also be holding a protest Tuesday outside Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's house demanding revocation of the DDMA order.

Tiwari, who is holding a yatra in Purvanchal-dominated areas to seek people's feedback on the issue, said, "The Delhi government has allowed swimming pools to open but banned Chhath puja... The Chhath puja samitis want to hold a festival following all protocols."

After Tiwari earlier said he would defy the orders, Kejriwal had appealed to rival leaders to "not do politics". He had said that while the government wants that Chhath puja is celebrated with festivities, the chance of infection spreading was high.

MP Pravesh Sahib Singh also took to Twitter on Monday and said, "Arvind Kejriwal has

opened the whole of Delhi but when Chhath Puja is coming, then suddenly a Talibani decree was heard that Chhath Puja would be banned..."

The Delhi government said in a statement Monday that they were prioritising people's health. "We feel sad that the BJP is playing dirty politics over it. It has no concern for the lives of the people," it said.

Chhath puja is tied to politics in the capital — the festival is celebrated by Purvanchalis, who constitute over 30% of the city's population. People from eastern UP and Bihar are believed to be in the majority in 16 of 70 assembly seats in the capital. Before the pandemic, both the AAP-led Delhi government and BJP's MCD leaders would spend large sums on Chhath ghat preparations.

## Defamation case: Court summons Vijender Gupta

**New Delhi:** A Delhi court Monday summoned BJP MLA Vijender Gupta in a defamation case filed by Cabinet Minister and AAP leader Kailash Gahlot for allegedly defaming him in relation to procurement of 1,000 low-floor buses by the DTC. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Ravindra Kumar Pandey sum-

moned Gupta after agreeing that his oral submissions, documents he relied upon to substantiate allegations, and deposition of his witnesses "prima facie committed the offence under IPC sections 499 (defamation), 500 (punishment for defamation) and 501 (printing or engraving matter known to be defamatory)". **ENS**

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## ASI assaulted while trying to stop two men from stealing Audi car parts

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

AN ASSISTANT sub-inspector was allegedly assaulted by two men while he was trying to stop them from stealing parts of an Audi car in Outer Delhi's Mangolpuri. The policeman's wrists were slit and he was dragged by the two men on the road.

Police Monday apprehended a 17-year-old boy and a 24-year-old man, named Inderjeet, in connection with the robbery and attack on the policeman.

On Friday afternoon, ASI Suresh Kumar who works under ACP Operations Cell in Tis Hazari, was on his way to his home. He was standing at a bus stand in Mangolpuri when he saw a man stealing mirrors from an Audi that was parked near the service lane.

Kumar followed the man and saw that he boarded an auto-rickshaw. He ran after the auto and soon caught hold of the steel rails on the vehicle. The

driver started speeding and the thief sitting on the back seat pulled out a knife.

DCP (Outer) Parvinder Singh said the thief attacked Kumar's hands. "The thief first stabbed Kumar in the hand and fingers and slit his wrists but Kumar didn't let go and tried stopping the men. The thief and the driver kept speeding for a kilometre and Kumar was dragged on the road. After almost being dragged a kilometre, Kumar lost hold and fell on the road," said DCP Singh.

The men managed to escape from the spot. Locals helped Kumar and he was taken to Navjeevan Hospital. Police said he injured both his hands and had to get over 55 stitches.

A case was registered on Kumar's complaint and police started scanning CCTVs in the area.

After several raids in Northeast Delhi, Inderjeet was arrested from Bhajanpura. Police said he confessed to his crime and is involved in five other criminal cases.

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Moti Nagar Crossing 8448293658 418 77 777	Dwarka, Nr. Sec-9 Metro Station 7838193193 434 77 777	Ring Road, Opp. Moolchand Hospital, Lajpuri Nagar-IV 959788513, 465 77 777	Mathura Road, N.Delhi 7290095001, 965499635 9870191014 66763666	G-1 Station Box, Chattarpur Metro Station 9870191014 66763666	Shalimar Place, Outer Ring Road, Nr. Rohini 959788514 400 11 111	D-37 & 38, Surajpur Site-4, Kasna, Gr. Noida 7290095001, 965499635 1800 103 5686	D-11, Sec-8, Noida 7290095001, 965499635 1800 103 5686	Sector-50, Gurugram M.G. Road, Gurugram 9810987328, 981889964, 7428534708	MGF Mega City Mall, M.G. Road, Gurugram 9810987328, 981889964, 7428534708	14/7, Main Mathura Road, Faridabad 8800333636, 8800790652, 0129-4293636	14/7, Main Mathura Road, Faridabad 8800333636, 8800790652, 0129-4293636

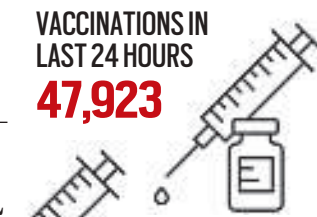
<sup>^</sup>Terms & conditions apply on all schemes & offers. Offer valid till 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. <sup>\*\*</sup>Benefits applicable on Glanza G MT Suffix Model. Finance at the sole discretion of Financier. Scheme inclusive of Exchange and Corporate/Government/Exclusive Community benefits. <sup>^^</sup>Subject to customers satisfying the requirements of TKM for a rural market. **SUNDAY OPEN**



# 4 THE CITY



VACCINATIONS IN  
LAST 24 HOURS  
**47,923**



TOTAL CASES		Total		Vacant
		HOSPITAL BEDS	17,150	16,884
		ICU BEDS	3,854	3,778
	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Oct 10	28	58	1	58,989
Oct 11	23	1	0	46,843
Total	369*	14,13,760	25,089	2,83,11,984

\*Total active cases

## AUD releases 2nd list: All courses still open

ARANYASHANKAR  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

ALL UNDERGRADUATE courses across categories at Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) are still open for admission, as per the second cut-off list released Monday. While for the more popular courses offered at the Kashmir Gate campus, there has been a drop of 0.5-3% points, the cut-off for off-beat courses at Karampura Campus has plummeted — as low as 13.25% points in one course.

In the first cut-off list, AUD had announced a 99.5% cut-off in Psychology for non-NCT candidates, and 98.75% for NCT candidates. In the second cut-off, it has come down to 98.5% and 98% respectively.

Among popular courses, the biggest dip is in Maths where the cut-off has come down to 91.25% for NCT candidates and 93.25% for non-NCT candidates. This is a drop of 3 percentage points, and 2 percentage points respectively from the first list.

The cut-off for subjects like Economics (96.25%), Sociology (95.5%) and English (96%) has dropped by 1 percentage point, 1.25 percentage points, and 1.5 percentage points respectively for NCT candidates. For non-NCT

candidates, the drop in these subjects is 0.5 percentage points, 1.25 percentage points, and 0.75 percentage points respectively with the cut-offs now at 97.25% for Economics, 96.5% for Sociology and 96.75% for English.

Similarly, for history, the cut-off now stands at 95.5% for NCT candidates and 97.25% for non-NCT candidates, down 1.25 percentage points in both categories.

However, in off-beat courses at Karampura Campus like Law Politics & Society, Global Studies, and Sustainable Urbanism, the fall in cut-off is massive.

While the cut-offs for these courses was 93%, 91.25% and 85% respectively for NCT candidates in the first list, it has now reduced to 88.25%, 84.25%, and 71.75% respectively. This is a drop of 4.75 percentage points, 7 percentage points and 13.25 percentage points respectively.

Since it is a state university, AUD reserves 85% of its seats for residents of the NCT of Delhi. Separate cut-offs are announced for residents and non-residents, with residents having an advantage with slightly lower cut-offs.

Admissions for the second list will take place on October 12-14, and fee payment will be done on October 16-17. Thereafter, the third list will be announced.

## HC dismisses plea by student against 100% DU cut-offs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

DISMISSING A plea challenging Delhi University's admission policy for UG courses, the Delhi High Court Monday said certain state boards may have evolved different manners of assessment of class XII students, leading to some variation in the average results, but that does not render the varsity's admission criteria "manifestly arbitrary" to require interference of the writ court.

The court made the observations in the order dismissing the petition, which sought a stay on admissions on the ground that the marking system of state boards was not in uniformity with the scheme approved by the Supreme Court for CBSE.

The petition also said while a large number of students of state boards scored 100% marks, only 550 students of CBSE scored above 99%. As a result, cutoffs in admissions for DU colleges have gone up to 100%, said the petition and argued that the policy is inherently discriminatory towards CBSE students. The plea prayed for



10 courses had 100% cut-off in the first list. Praveen Khanna

a scaling mechanism to equalise or moderate marks scored by students of different boards.

However, the court said the petitioner — a CBSE student from Chennai who scored 98% and could not get admission in the course of her choice due to the 100% cut-off — has not been able to demonstrate any practice in previous years which may lend support to her case that the varsity is bound to take into account differences in marks given by different boards while fixing cut-off.

"The petitioner's grievance with regard to assessment in the present year is also untenable. As a consequence of the pandemic and in a situation where it was

impossible to hold examinations, CBSE came out with an alternative scheme of assessment, which was approved by the Supreme Court....," said Justice Prateek Jalan in the order.

When the petitioner's counsel argued that a disproportionate number of applicants from Kerala are being admitted in Delhi, the court said it cannot decide the number of students which should be from Delhi or any other place. "I am saying the rationalisation you are giving... is it post hoc rationalisation that 'because it is leading to X number of students being admitted from one particular board, therefore, it shows there is something wrong in the admission

process," observed the court.

DU's counsel argued that the admission process was being followed throughout and it cannot discriminate between different boards: "This was the policy we've adopted for all times to come... if there are more students who have scored 100% marks by one particular board, being a central university, we cannot deprive them..."

When the petitioner addressed the court and argued that her right to equality was being violated, it said, "As you grow, sometimes you will have to take the cookie as it crumbles. In some years, a particular board may have better results, a particular board may have less good results. We have to accept that."

The court told the student that she has got admission into a good college and a good course and "there is no reason to feel disheartened". The student told the court she has been able to get admission in a BA programme at LSR College but wanted to study BA (Hons) Economics.

On the first day of admissions against the 2nd list, DU received 29,086 applications. Of these, 4,696 admissions were approved.

### 'BUSINESS BLASTERS' PROGRAMME

## Healthy cookies to low-cost pads: Govt school students make business pitch



At Janki Devi Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya. Abhinav Saha

SUKRITA BARUAH  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

CLASS XII student Tulika Gupta wants to start an enterprise selling low-cost sanitary napkins to women from marginalised communities and creating awareness on menstrual hygiene, use of sanitary napkins, and their disposal. She wants to set it up using seed money that she and her classmates will receive from the Delhi government in the coming week.

Across government schools, class XI and XII students are in the process of drawing up and presenting their 'business ideas' as part of the 'Business Blasters' programme. Under this, all students who go forward with their ideas will receive Rs 2,000 as seed money to set it up.

At Janki Devi Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya in Mayur Vihar, the project ideas among groups vary and cover different spheres. Tulika and her group of seven classmates have named their project 'Silence Breakers'.

"Our motive is to make sanitary napkins available at a cheap rate and to create awareness about their usage. I know so many people who still use cloth or material lying around the house, including in my family. We have identified a village by the Yamuna as our target area where we've found very little awareness on this. We've also identified an NGO from which we can procure low-cost napkins at Rs 17-18 for a pack of 7, which we aim to sell for Rs 20. We are thinking of holding *nukkad natak*s, making posters for awareness building," she said.

In another classroom, a group of five girls want to set up a business selling ornamental pieces with 'air-purifying' plants.

"Air-purifying plants are popular now because of pollution concerns... We will work on stem propagation of plants like money plants, jade, aloe vera. We will

make the planters using waste material from our homes... We will arrange the plants on a circular plate and they will be watered using a drip system technology, making them self-reliant. We will decorate these with LED lights and attach a rotating motor so the plate rotates," said Shiviya, on their ambitious plan.

Her teammate Kritika said they have not decided the rate yet and would gauge their customers' response first.

In yet another classroom, a group of girls have pitched a project called 'Cookie Monsters' to bake and sell healthy, cartoon-character shaped biscuits, while another project called 'Racy Rainbow' wants to make and sell tie-and-dye clothes items.

The projects will be approved through "peer review" and need to fulfil conditions such as "are they presentable" and "is there scope for growth". The seed money for the final projects will be released on October 15 and students can work on their projects till November 15.

For class XII students, the project also overlaps with their pre-board exams and is just before their first-term board exams in mid-November. As a result, participation is voluntary and parents need to give written consent for their kids to participate.

Several students said their parents had reservations about them spending this crucial period on these projects. "My father... told me to focus on NEET. I told him if NEET doesn't work out, the skills I learn here will help me if I decide to set up a business. He eventually came around..." said Vishakha Gupta from the tie-and-dye project.

Alok Tiwari, a teacher in the Entrepreneurship Mindset Curriculum core team, said around 700 'business coaches' have been brought on board on a voluntary basis to mentor the projects across schools.

### BRIEFLY

#### Man dead, 3 injured in accident

**New Delhi:** A 30-year-old man died while three others were severely injured after a car rammed into a rickshaw and a tempo in East Delhi's Shakarpur Monday. The incident took place at 11 am near Yamuna Bank and led to traffic congestion for at least an hour. Police said the victim, Nawal Kumar Yadav, was sitting in the rickshaw and died on the spot.

#### JNUTA wants inquiry on 'cover-up' by V-C

**New Delhi:** The JNUTA has demanded an inquiry on the "cover-up of financial wrongdoing" by V-C M Jagadeesh Kumar. The demand has been made in the context of a professor being suspended for alleged embezzlement of Rs 88 lakh. The V-C did not respond to queries by *The Indian Express* on the matter.

#### Rohit Jhawar wins DDA Golf tournament

**New Delhi:** Delhi golfer Rohit Jhawar won the 21st DDA Lt-Governor's Golf Tournament 2021 while Shiv Raj was the runner up. In the women's category, Sonu Kalkat was the winner and Nazam Prasad was the runner-up. The tournament concluded at Qutab Golf Course in Lado Sarai Sunday. **ENS**

## Urban Company 'partners' stage protest against 'exploitation', demand better pay and benefits

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA  
GURGAON, OCTOBER 11

OVER 100 'partners' working with home services marketplace Urban Company have demanded better pay, safer working conditions, and social security benefits and alleged that the company has been exploiting them.

On Friday, a majority of women partners from spa and salon verticals went on a day-long strike outside the company's Udyog Vihar office. In protest, they also logged out of the app over the weekend and did not accept bookings. They said in the past few months, the company had incrementally hiked commissions arbitrarily which was cutting into their payouts.

Partners said they had been voicing their concerns for the past three months but had reached an impasse. On Monday, they said they had logged in only after sharing a list of demands with the company, which has sought a few days to address their concerns. Urban Company, in a statement, said during the pandemic, it had approved Rs 100 million worth of interest-free



Women partners from spa and salon verticals went on strike outside the company's Udyog Vihar office, Friday. *Express*

loans for all their beauty partners in locked-down regions.

Poonam Parmar, a beautician who has been a partner since 2017, claimed: "They hiked commissions to as high as 30%. Earlier, we were free to choose the number of job [bookings] in a day. Now if I accept fewer than 12 bookings out of 20, warnings are issued and then the ID is blocked, which means no work. This is not the freelance model that was discussed at the time of joining. They are exploiting us..."

In a memorandum, partners

demanded that commissions be deducted in a transparent or rule-based manner through a tiered system and that net commission charged must not exceed 20% for a transaction. "For example, for a pedicure that costs Rs 600, Rs 150 is deducted for product purchase charge, Rs 100 on average is conveyance, and they deduct commissions too. I am left with Rs 260 as net payout," said Parmar.

Calling for flexibility in working operations, partners have demanded four penalty-free cancellations a month; immediate

payout of credit refunds; conveyance charges for last-minute cancellations from customers; payout credits for each minute of waiting time of more than 4 minutes; and penalties to be waived off if a partner has cancelled with a 24-hour notice.

"Often we have to refuse or cancel a booking if a place is far or due to safety reasons. I stay near Sohna, so I cannot attend to a booking in Manesar late in the evening. But if I refuse bookings, my rating goes down — this affects future earnings and invites a penalty," said another beautician, requesting anonymity.

Other demands raised by partners include discretion to purchase products on their own, reinstating partners who have been blocked due to rating issues, a dedicated helpline to report harassment and security issues, social security (accident and general health policy) for all partners, and an overhaul of the rating system. They added that partners should only be scored on service delivery performance.

"We aren't allowed to buy beauty products from the market. We have to buy from the company. Sometimes, there is a

mark-up involved as prices vary from market rates and charge is deducted from our account," said Seema Singh, another beautician, adding that they will continue the protest if their demands aren't met.

The firm, in their statement said, "Urban Company partners earn net average earnings of Rs 280-300 per hour, net of commissions, fee and all associated product & travel costs. All service partners have access to life and accidental insurance cover, free training, loans and other benefits such as free vaccinations and PPE kits. Several partners also enjoy free health insurance..."

It added, "... In the coming weeks, we will be announcing some important programs which we believe will further enhance earnings and well-being of our partner ecosystem."

As per data shared by Urban Company, for women partners in salon and spa verticals in India, in July, on average, a service partner earned Rs 19,717 as net earnings per month after deducting commissions, other fees, travel and product costs. This was Rs 20,943 in August and Rs 18,831 in September, it said.

## Let schools and anganwadis reopen for younger kids: DCPCR chairperson to L-G

SUKRITA BARUAH  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

DELHI Commission for Protection of Child Rights chairperson Anurag Kundu has written to L-G Anil Bajjal, urging that the DDMA issue directions for opening anganwadi centres and schools for younger children. Bajjal is the chairperson of the DDMA.

In the letter, Kundu submitted that schools should open for nursery to class VIII at least two days a week for all children in a staggered

manner and anganwadi centres open at least once a week for all children in a staggered manner, along with random testing of kids and staff members at these schools and centres.

"Delhi's Covid infection spread has shown remarkable decline and has been constantly under 40 for the past 6 weeks. Similarly, most days witnessed zero fatality in the past 6 weeks. Consequently, nearly all sectors have opened up... Clearly children not attending school cannot keep safe since adults are moving about and re-

turning home... It, therefore, remains unclear as to what extra vulnerability would children experience by coming to school or how they remain safer by not attending it," the letter stated.

This comes a few days after a group of 66 parents sent a representation to various functionaries, including Kundu, requesting that children up to class VIII be allowed to go to school at least once a week. The DDMA in a meeting on September 29 had decided that schools may be allowed to reopen for kids in nursery to Class VIII only after the festive season. They had been allowed to reopen for classes IX-XII from September 1.

In his letter, Kundu also pointed to the limitations of on-line learning and the damages in the form of learning loss and on the social, mental, and physical health of children. He also stated that the extended closure of anganwadi centres has also led to routine immunisation of children taking a hit, as well as their cognitive development and nutrition monitoring.

### 'PLAN FLOATED BY GOVERNMENT TO POSITION INDIA AS ORIGINAL BUDDHIST CENTRE'

## National Museum gets a makeover with 3 new galleries on Buddhist art

DIVYAA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

A 10,000 square-ft space across three halls at the National Museum has been dedicated to displaying priceless Central Asian antiquities, which were part of its repository for a decade but never really got a moment under the limelight. "With this, it becomes the fourth museum in the world to display such a collection, after museums in the UK, German and Russia," says Subrata Nath, Additional Director General of the museum.

From 12,000 works dating between the 3rd and 12th Centuries — discovered by noted archaeologist Marc Aurel Stein during his Central Asian expeditions in 1900-1916 and brought to India — as many as 170 masterpieces have been carefully selected for the display.

The Central Asian Antiquities gallery now showcases large Bezeklik wall paintings, silk paintings and banners from the library cave of Dunhuang (China) and a large number of burial objects and textiles from Astana graves. As per estimates, Rs 3 crore and three long years

have been spent on putting it together as most objects had to be conserved and reframed before they could be put up for display.

But the effort, say sources in the Ministry of Culture under which the museum operates, is not to be seen in isolation. "It is a well-thought-through global outreach plan floated by the government to position India as the original Buddhist centre, and perhaps take that tag back from China. This makeover is part of the country's all-round effort to that end, wherein ministries of culture and tourism have been involved to play a big role," says an official



The famed '1,000 Buddhas' artwork from Ajanta and Dunhuang placed side by side. *Divyaa A*

who doesn't want to be identified.

To prove their point, the display has the landmark '1,000 Buddhas' artwork from Dunhuang complex, alongside similar work from the Ajanta Caves. While the Ajanta work is dated to the 5th Century, the Chinese work came up only in 9th Century. "These things prove the primacy of India in terms of Buddhist art," points out Nath.

Besides the expansive Central Asian Antiquities gallery, the majestic building next door, that functioned as the ASI headquarters till 2018, has been turned into a Buddha museum of sorts (or a

set of galleries), while an augmented reality-based experiential has been created for the Ajanta Caves at the NM. Together, the three new galleries aim to establish India's credentials as the birthplace of Buddhism, from where it later spread to other countries, including China.

The entire makeover project is aimed at the G20 meeting scheduled to take place in 2023, when many heads of state and government, and other dignitaries will visit the Capital. The aim is to turn the museum into the country's cultural showpiece, and showcase our Buddhist heritage to those not

aware of it, the official adds.

The Ministry of Tourism has executed the Ajanta experiential inside NM, with help from IIT-Bombay. "We want to establish Ajanta Caves as the origin of Buddhist art, which was at its peak in the 5th-6th Centuries. All monasteries came up along the Silk Route," adds the official.

In a reply to the Lok Sabha in August, Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy had said: "The museum on Buddha is being developed in a renovated century-old majestic building and spread over an area of about 15,000 sq ft, surrounded by a lush green landscape".



# 5 GOVT & POLITICS



## DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



### SEARCH FOR EXPERTS

ROAD TRANSPORT and Highways Ministry under Nitin Gadkari wants to form an Expert Advisory Group, which will formally advice it on matters relating to transport. The five-member group will have experts from various fields who would advise the ministry and the minister on matters such as driverless cars, alternate fuels like hydrogen fuel cell, electric vehicles, hyper-loop, and cable-propelled transport options. It will also advise on "shared mobility" like app-based taxi services and car-pool. The search is on to find the right kind of people, keeping in mind that those applying do not have a conflict of interest while they sit on the panel.

### BACK TO OFFICE

AS PREPARATIONS for the key assembly elections next year pick pace, the BJP headquarters is also returning to normalcy. The party office, which had been almost deserted because of the pandemic, is steadily witnessing activities with the easing of the restrictions. Union ministers have now been asked to make themselves available for party cadre and leaders at the office frequently. On Monday, the exercise was resumed with Health and Family Welfare Minister Mansukh Mandaviya being present at the office in the afternoon. Law and Justice Minister Kiren Rijju will be present at the office on Tuesday and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Thursday.

### ALL IN A DAY

THE BRITISH High Commission in New Delhi organised a "High Commissioner for a Day" over the weekend. Aditi Maheshwari, 20, from Chittorgarh in Rajasthan spent a full day leading the British High Commission after winning a competition. Aditi, who aspires to join the IAS, is the fifth winner of the India edition of the 'High Commissioner for a Day' competition, organised annually since 2017 to celebrate the International Day of the Girl Child. As the UK's top diplomat in India, Aditi experienced a broad variety of diplomatic activity. Alex Ellis, Deputy High Commissioner for the day (on other days, High Commissioner to India), drove her around in an electric vehicle. Aditi is currently pursuing a Bachelor's in Physical Science from Miranda House.

## Gehlot says will ask Governor to send back marriage Bill

HAMZA KHAN  
JAIPUR, OCTOBER 11

RAJASTHAN CHIEF Minister Ashok Gehlot on Monday said his government would ask Governor Kalraj Mishra to return the amendment Bill passed by the Assembly on mandatory registration of marriages.

Last month, the Rajasthan Assembly had passed The Rajasthan Compulsory Registration of Marriages (Amendment) Bill, 2021, to amend the Rajasthan Compulsory Registration of Marriages Act, 2009.

The Opposition had attacked the government over the amendment to Section 8 of the 2009 Act, saying the new Bill promotes child marriages. The 2021 amendment to Section 8 states that parents or guardians of a bridegroom who is under 21 and a bride who is under 18, "shall be responsible to submit the memorandum, in such manner, as may be prescribed, within a period of thirty days from the date of solemnisation of the marriage to the Registrar."

The 2009 Act had stated the same, with the only difference being that the age mentioned was 21 years for both boys and girls. "There is a controversy in Rajasthan. A law on marriage registration was passed in the Assembly. There was a Supreme Court order that all the marriages should be registered (which we followed)," Gehlot said at an event in Jaipur to mark International Day of the Girl Child.

"If someone is married off as a



Ashok Gehlot

child and then they become adults and have children, and if there is property or legacy of the parents or grandparents, then there shouldn't be an obstruction. So the SC had said that it be anyone who gets married, the registration is important. In line with that sentiment, a law was passed here and a nationwide controversy erupted that this law will promote child marriage," the CM said.

Saying the Bill wasn't a matter of prestige for his government, he said, "We are getting it examined by the law department and will request the Governor to send the law we have passed back to us. And we'll get it examined and after that, we'll move it forward, if needed. We don't have an issue; this was a Supreme Court judgment," he said, adding, "The government's resolution is there shouldn't be child marriage in Rajasthan at any cost. And we won't compromise at any cost, I assure you."

Civil society members, women's organisations and the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights had written to the CM, and petitions were filed in the High Court and Supreme Court over the amendment. Subsequently, Raj Bhawan had told *The Indian Express* that it is still "examining" the Bill and has not sent it forward.

prices of ingredients such as pulses, salt, vegetables, condiments, and fuel needed to prepare cooked meals. Currently, the daily cooking cost per child in primary (classes 1-5) and upper primary (classes 6-8) is Rs 4.97 and Rs 7.45 respectively.

The decision was taken after the Finance Ministry altered the system of annual revision based on consumer price index, said sources. "Apart from chalking out a new cooking cost, and re-

## Uttarakhand minister, MLA son leave BJP, join Cong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

IN A setback to the ruling BJP in Uttarakhand ahead of the Assembly polls, state minister Yashpal Arya on Monday quit the party and joined the Congress along with his MLA son Sanjeev Arya.

A six-time MLA and prominent Dalit leader, Arya was the Transport Minister in the Pushkar Singh Dhami government.

A former president of the Uttarakhand Congress, he had quit the party and joined the BJP ahead of 2017 elections as he was said to be upset with the style of functioning of then chief minister Harish Rawat. The real reason perhaps was Congress's reluctance to field his son in the elections.

The BJP fielded his son in Nainital seat from where he won.

Sources said Arya was upset with the elevation of Dhami as the CM. The BJP had tried to placate him. In fact, Dhami himself went to his residence for a meeting on September 25 to placate him.

Welcoming Arya to the party, AICC general secretary in charge of organisation KC Venugopal said his "homecoming" shows the "wind is now blowing" in favour of Congress in Uttarakhand. Arya and his son met senior party leader Rahul Gandhi Monday before formally joining of the party.

Addressing the press confer-



Yashpal Arya (centre) and son Sanjeev Arya (right) join the Congress in presence of senior party leader Harish Rawat in New Delhi on Monday. Anil Sharma

### EXPLAINED A calculated move

YASHPAL ARYA'S return to Congress after nearly five years in BJP may be an indication of unease in the ruling party over the farmers' agitation, and its possible impact on the elections. Arya represents Bajpur, which has 85 per cent farmer population, a large section among them Sikhs. Sources said Yashpal as a minister had to face protests of farmers on a few occasions and had been wary of contesting on a BJP ticket. Joining the Congress may also help him garner support of the 8 per cent Muslim population in the constituency.

ence along with Venugopal, Rawat said more senior politicians would join the Congress soon.

Arya said it was a "homecoming" for him. "Congress has a his-

tory of sacrifice, a legacy that we are proud to carry forward. Democracy in the country can be strengthened only if the Congress is strengthened," he said.

## Day after quitting NC, Jammu leaders Rana, Slathia join BJP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JAMMU, OCTOBER 11

A DAY after they quit the National Conference (NC), Jammu leaders Devender Rana and Surjit Singh Slathia on Monday joined the BJP.

At the BJP headquarters in Delhi, Rana said he and Slathia would like to work in the BJP to push their idea of the Jammu



Rana (left) with BJP chief JP Nadda and Union minister Jitendra Singh at the BJP headquarters in Delhi. PTI

declaration, with an emphasis on a narrative from the Jammu region for the entire J&K. He said this narrative would strengthen the secular fabric of the region.

Meanwhile, several prominent NC faces and nearly three dozen activists resigned from the party in Jammu division Monday. They included province secretary Arshad Choudhary and Jammu (Urban) district president Dharamveer Singh Jamwal.

### LAKHIMPUR KHERI DEATHS

## Transport affected, bandh hits parts of Maharashtra

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, PUNE, OCTOBER 11

THE STATEWIDE bandh called by the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) allies to protest the killing of four farmers in Uttar Pradesh's Lakhimpur Kheri evoked a mixed response across Maharashtra, with several commercial establishments remaining shut in Mumbai and Pune on Monday.

Life was largely unaffected in rural and semi-urban areas of the state.

In Mumbai, public transport was also affected as BEST buses as well as autorickshaws and taxis kept off the roads till 4 pm. Traffic on roads was very light. The suburban train services were strained with most office-goers facing difficulties in reaching government and private offices, which were largely unaffected by the bandh call.

In Pune, officials said the bandh received a mixed response. While shops in Market Yard and Lakshmi Road were closed in the morning hours, most resumed functioning after 4 pm, they said.

Joint commissioner of the Pune city police, Ravindra Shisave, said even though there were protests at certain locations, the law and order situation was peaceful in the city.



A market yard in Pune shut on Monday as part of the statewide bandh. Pavan Khengre

Shiv Sena unions and cadre ensured commercial establishments complied with the bandh in Mumbai. Some shops opened up late in the evening after the bandh ended at 4 pm.

The Navi Mumbai Agricultural Produce Market Committee, meanwhile, kept its operation closed.

BEST buses went off the roads early morning after incidents of stone pelting were reported. "A total of 11 BEST buses were damaged by protesters in stone pelting in areas like Dharavi, Mankhurd, Shivaji Nagar, Oshiwara, Deonar, Inorbit mall and Charkop. No bus conductor or driver was hurt. But passengers



Anil Deshmukh

## CBI searches Deshmukh's residences in Mumbai and Nagpur

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 11

THE CBI on Monday searched the residences of the former Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh in Mumbai and Nagpur in connection with its probe into the leak of its purported Preliminary Enquiry (PE) in the case against Deshmukh.

Last month the CBI had arrested Deshmukh's lawyer Anand Daga and its own sub-inspector Abhishek Tiwari for allegedly leaking confidential PE report against Deshmukh. The PE report signed by Investigating Officer Dy SP R S Gunjyial had said no cognizable offence was made out against Deshmukh.

The CBI investigation against Deshmukh began after former Mumbai Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh alleged that the then minister was forcing policemen to collect bribes on his behalf from bars and restaurants in Mumbai.

After the CBI FIR, the Enforcement Directorate had also booked Deshmukh and two of his aides in connection with a money laundering case. His aides Sanjay Palande and Kundan Shinde have been arrested and chargesheeted.

The ED has also moved a local court against Deshmukh as he has not appeared before the agency for questioning in a money laundering case despite five summons issued by the agency. The court has directed Deshmukh to appear before it on November 16.



Power Minister R K Singh after a meeting with Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi on Monday. Anil Sharma

## Amid concern over 'electricity crisis', Shah meets Power and Coal ministers

ENS & PTI  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

AMID CONCERNS over a possible electricity crisis in the country, Union Home Minister Amit Shah Monday held a meeting with Power Minister R K Singh and Coal Minister Pralhad Joshi. The meeting was also attended by senior bureaucrats of the two ministries.

While officials refused to talk about whether the coal shortage, which is raising concerns regarding a power crisis, was discussed, sources said the issue was a part of the talks.

Several states have warned of a possible power crisis due to the shortage of coal supply to plants.

According to data, even as the coal shortage continues, the power consumption of 3,900 MU (million units) on October 8 was the highest this month so far (from October 1 to 9). On Saturday, Tata Power arm Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd, which operates in North and Northwest Delhi, had sent phone messages to its consumers saying, "Due to limited coal availability in generation plants across the north, power supply scenario between 2-6 pm is at a critical level. Kindly use electricity judiciously."

Apart from mining being low during the monsoon and extended rains, another reason for the coal shortage is plants cutting back coal imports due to high international prices.

In a statement, the Ministry of Power Saturday said, "It was noted that on 7th October, 2021, total dispatch of coal by Coal India limited (CIL) touched 1,501 MT, thereby reducing the gap between consumption and actual supply."

## Rlys braces to transport coal to power plants round the clock

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

AMIDST a reported shortage of coal at thermal power projects, Indian Railways has braced for transporting coal round the clock to power plants. The national transporter is internally treating the shortage as an "emergency". Instructions have gone out to the principal chief operations managers of all zonal railways to man operations control rooms round the clock and produce hourly bulletins for the ministry and the general managers.

Meanwhile, the number of coal rakes loaded per day rose to around 440-450 on Monday from about 430 at the time when the shortage came to light. On Monday 1.77 million tonnes of coal were moved, up from 1.48 million tonnes on the same day last year. Sources said that even if the demand reaches around 500



Pralhad Joshi was also part of the meeting. Anil Sharma

The Ministry of Coal and CIL have assured that they are making best efforts to increase dispatch to the power sector to 1.6 MT per day in the next three days and thereafter, try to touch 1.7 MT per day.

According to data, the peak power demand met or the highest electricity supply in a day from October 1 to 9 was 172.41 GW on October 8. This stood at 170.03 GW on Saturday.

The latest available data of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) show that coal stocks at power plants on October 7 were not adequate as there were 16 plants with a cumulative capacity of 16,880 MW which had the dry fuel for zero days. Besides, as many as 30 plants with 37,345 MW capacity had coal for just one day and 18 plants with 23,450 MW capacity had coal for two days as of October 7.

There were 19 plants with 29,160 MW capacity which had coal for three days and nine plants with 7,864 MW capacity had coal for four days.

Six plants with 6,730 MW capacity had coal stock for five days, while 10 plants with 11,540 MW capacity had coal for six days.

rakes a day, the transporter is geared up to handle it comfortably.

A large number of rakes of coal are coming from coal fields in the eastern part of the country and such areas serviced by the East Central Railway among others, officials said.

In a huddle with the Power and Coal Ministries, Railways has assured that carrying capacity was not a constraint for the national transporter and that it was ready to transport as much coal to power houses as required.

"The situation will not get back to normal in a day or two and we are fully geared up to meet the demand for coal transportation," said a senior ministry official.

Along with loading and unloading, the movement of empty rakes is also being strictly monitored and sources said that the wait is for November, the demand for power traditionally sees a dip.

## Central committee set to review daily cooking cost of mid-day meals

SOURAV ROY BARMAN  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

A COMMITTEE is set to review the daily cooking cost of mid-day meals served under the PM-Poshan scheme. Cooking cost gets the largest allocation among the components of the mid-day meal programme. The committee will soon be notified by the Union Ministry of Education.

Cooking cost includes the

prices of ingredients such as pulses, salt, vegetables, condiments, and fuel needed to prepare cooked meals. Currently, the daily cooking cost per child in primary (classes 1-5) and upper primary (classes 6-8) is Rs 4.97 and Rs 7.45 respectively.

The decision was taken after the Finance Ministry altered the system of annual revision based on consumer price index, said sources. "Apart from chalking out a new cooking cost, and re-

vising the methodology, the committee will look into the actual consumption of pulses and vegetables. The numbers related to cereal consumption are available since the Centre makes the entire allocation," a source said.

The decision also assumes significance in the light of demands by food rights campaigners and development economists to raise the "inadequate" allocation per child. In 2021-22, out of its total allocation of Rs

10,233 crore for PM-Poshan, the Ministry of Education has set aside Rs 7,412 crore for cooking cost alone.

"Department of School Education and Literacy will form a committee of experts to review the components of cooking cost, formula and methodology of its revision, actual consumption, coverage etc," the Centre communicated to the states and Union Territories on October 6 on the implementation of PM-

Poshan (Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman).

A senior government official said the formation of the committee is "in the works".

The Centre shares the daily allocation per child with states and Union Territories while contributing 100% in UTs without legislature. States and UTs that supplement the meals with additional items such as milk and eggs contribute more.

"The existing allocation is

grossly inadequate. Any sensible committee will recommend that it be raised and indexed to inflation. And any sensible government will accept and implement the recommendations. The total allocation for mid-day meal is nominally lower in 2021-22 as compared to that of 2014-15 under the UPA. If one takes inflation into account, the outlay should have increased. There may have been a drop in the

population of younger age groups due to dip in the fertility rate, or on account of children moving to private schools, but the budget cut still does not make sense," IIT-Delhi Associate Professor (Economics) Reetika Khara said.

The Centre's note to the states and UTs makes it clear that no additional budgetary allocation will be made under the scheme which covers 11.80 crore

children in classes 1 to 8. It has conveyed that they will have the flexibility to create "any new intervention and increase/decrease any norm in the scheme within the approved outlay". "The flexibility of changing the component-wise allocation within the approved outlay is given to the Programme Approval Board, which can decide on the allocation on an annual basis," said the Centre's note.



New Delhi





# 6 EXPRESS NETWORK

## BRIEFLY

### MAHARASHTRA

**Leopardess to be tranquilised, forest dept to prepare plan**

*Mumbai:* As the leopardess suspected to be behind at least eight attacks on humans in Aarey Milk Colony since September remains elusive, the state forest department has decided to attempt to tranquilise the problem animal. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests office has granted permission to tranquilise the leopard with the forest department being instructed to prepare a plan for the same, said officials. The department had installed five cages and 10 camera traps in the area since earlier this month, but the leopardess is yet to be trapped. It has, however, been sighted near a cage trap. Since August 31, eight persons in Aarey Colony, including a 68-year-old woman and a four-year-old child, have been injured in leopard attacks. **ENS**

### GOA

**Govt withdraws circular of approved leaders' photos**

*Panaji:* The Goa government on Monday withdrew a circular issued by its Department of Information and Publicity that approved photographs of various national leaders for official use by all government departments. The circular, issued on September 17, had mentioned the name of Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, but left out Goa's first chief minister Dayanad Bhandodkar and India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. Opposition parties, including Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party and Goa Forward Party, had lashed out at the BJP government in the state accusing it of "erasing" Goan history. **ENS**

### MADHYA PRADESH

**Burglar doesn't find much at official's home, leaves a note**

*Dewas:* Disappointed at not being able to find enough cash and valuables at the residence of a government official in Dewas district, a burglar left behind a note asking why the house was locked when there was no money kept at home, police said Monday. A copy of the note also surfaced on social media in which the burglar wrote "*Jab paisa nahi they toh lock nahi karna tha collector*" (when there was no money, it should not have been locked, collector). Kotwali police station in-charge Umrao Singh said Rs 30,000 cash and some jewellery items were stolen from the residence of Trilochan Singh Gaur, currently posted as sub-divisional magistrate at Khategaon town. **PTI**

## College holds garba, students among 4 held on Bajrang Dal 'love jihad' claims

### IRAM SIDDIQUE

BHOPAL, OCTOBER 11

FOUR YOUTHS have been arrested in Indore on charges of creating "public nuisance" after members of Bajrang Dal caught them outside a garba organised by the city's Oxford College on Sunday night, and handed them over to police saying the event, held in violation of Covid norms, promoted "love jihad".

While two of them, Adnan Shah and Kadir Mansoori, study at the college, Umar Khalid and Sayyad Sakib are their friends.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Superintendent of Police, Indore West, Maheshchand Jain, said the action against the four was "unfair" and that he had recommended against their detention. Malharganj SDM Parag Jain said the four were booked under "public nuisance" based on the police report. While he added they were sent to jail as the families failed to present bail bonds, the uncle of one of them said they were kept in the dark on the matter.

The owner of Oxford College did not respond to calls or mes-

sages seeking comment.

Bajrang Dal and VHP district in-charge Tarun Devda wrote to police saying the SDM had given the college permission for a garba with 800 students, in line with Covid norms, but it had sold tickets to around 3,000 people. The Bajrang Dal accused the college of "commercialisation", while assembling "young women" and promoting "love jihad", "distorting the purity of the event". Claiming to have photos and videos of the event, it sought an inquiry as well as action against the organisers.

One of the volunteers manning the entry at the college event, Habib Noor, a third-year B.Com student, told *The Indian Express* that members of the Bajrang Dal had picked out Mansoori in the parking lot, saying "Ye *unwala hai* (he is one of theirs)".

"Kadir tried telling them he was a student of the college, but they just dragged him away," Noor said, adding that when Mansoori called out to Adnan Shah to testify he studied with him, the Bajrang Dal caught hold of Adnan as well.

"The Bajrang Dal men then took them to the police van outside the

event ground."

Adnan's uncle Sajid Shah said they learnt of their detention at 11.30 pm Sunday. "...Be it garba or Republic Day, they participate in all college functions. What are they being punished for?" he asked.

Shah claimed that they were unable to reach police officials all of Sunday night.

"Early Monday morning police assured us that the four would be released but they were produced before the SDM, who instead of giving them bail, sent them to jail without our knowledge," said Shah.

SDM Jain said the organisers were found to have violated Covid norms, with around 5,000 people present at the garba venue, and had stopped it at 8 pm following the complaints. "...an FIR was registered against the organisers too." On action against them, the SDM said: "It's part of police procedure and not up to the SDM..."

SP Maheshchand said, "The action against the four youths is unfair... The action was taken despite me ordering against it."

**FULL REPORT ON**  
**www.indianexpress.com**

### CRUISE DRUGS CASE

**NCB zonal director meets DGP, claims he was followed**

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 11

NCB zonal director Sameer Wankhede along with Deputy DG Mutha Ashok Jain met the Maharashtra DGP, alleging that some persons in plain clothes had been following him for the past few days.

Wankhede has been investigating the Cordelia drug bust case, in which Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan was arrested last week. NCP leader Nawab Malik had alleged that the raid was 'fake'.

An NCB source said that even earlier this year there were instances where Wankhede was followed by a few persons and his movements were being tracked.

"Evidence including CCTV footage of him being followed has been provided to the DGP," a source said.

**Spl court to hear Aryan bail plea on Oct 13**

A special court here Monday said it would hear the bail application of Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan, arrested in connection with the case, on October 13 and directed NCB to file its reply on that date.

Special Judge V V Patil, hearing matters related to the NDPS Act, said the court would hear the bail plea on Wednesday after the NCB said there was "no extreme urgency" to hear the application. The defence said Aryan was "falsely implicated" and releasing him on bail would not stop the probe.

**-WITH PTI INPUTS**

## 3 arrested for 'humiliating' Dalits at garba in Gujarat

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
VADODARA, OCTOBER 11

THREE PEOPLE were arrested by Vadodara rural police on Monday for allegedly humiliating and abusing a Dalit man and his family at a garba event in his village.

The incident took place Sunday night at Pilol in Savli taluka. According to the 37-year-old complainant, the garba organisers not only humiliated his cousin's wife and 11-year-old niece by asking them to leave the venue, they also hurled casteist abuses at him.

"My cousin's wife and the niece joined the garba and even completed one circle of the dance when the village's third garba singer, Tara Lala Parmar, asked them to get out of the venue. She told them that they could not play at the same venue as the others. Both of them came out feeling humiliated and crying," the complainant stated.

He said he spotted the village sarpanch at the venue and tried to ask him to intervene in the matter. "The sarpanch did not respond. Three other people of our village - Chhatrasinh Parmar, Mukesh Parmar and Lala Shana Parmar - charged towards me and started abusing me," he said. He said the three threatened him and asked him to take away the women from the garba ground.

The complainant works as an office boy at a private steel manufacturing company.

Deputy SP D H Gor of the SC/ST Cell of Vadodara rural police said Mukesh, Chhatrasinh and Lala have been arrested. "We are also looking for the fourth accused, Tara Lala Parmar. She will be arrested soon," he said.

The FIR was lodged under Section 294 of the IPC for abusing the complainant as well as under relevant sections of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.



Security personnel carry out checks in Srinagar Monday. AP

## Two militants killed in separate J&K gunfights

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 11

A MILITANT wanted for the killing of a civilian on October 5 at Hajin was shot dead in a gunfight in a Bandipore village while another was killed in a separate encounter in Anantnag district on Monday, according to police.

The police said Intiyaz Ahmad Dar was killed in an encounter at Gund Jehangir village of Bandipore. They said Dar was responsible for the killing of civilian Mohammad Shafi, and had joined the militant ranks soon after his name surfaced during the probe.

According to police, after getting specific inputs about presence of militants, a joint team of police, Army and paramilitary forces cordoned off the village.

"During the search operation, as the presence of terrorists was ascertained, they were given opportunity to surrender. However, they fired indiscriminately upon the joint search party, which was retaliated leading to an encounter," the police said in a statement. "In the encounter, one terrorist, identified as Intiyaz Ahmad Dar, affiliated to proscribed terror outfit LeT (TRF), was killed and his

body was retrieved from the site of the encounter."

Dar's family, however, alleged that he was killed in a fake encounter. "A day after the incident [killing of Shafi on October 5], we were harvesting paddy at our land when a local boy called him. He told him to return home as the Army was searching for him," Dar's cousin Ishfaq Ahmad told *The Indian Express*. "He changed his clothes in the field and said he will return soon."

Ishfaq said that when he called Dar after some time, his phone was out of network coverage. "We haven't heard from him since," he said. "They [police] said he joined militants but it is not true. He has been killed in a fake encounter."

In a separate incident, a militant was killed in a "chance encounter" in south Kashmir. "A party from Anantnag police had gone to arrest one terrorist associate, Javid Ahmad Bhat. While the said police party was laying cordon around the house, the hiding terrorists fired indiscriminately upon the police party, which was retaliated," the police said. "In this chance encounter, one police personnel was injured while one unidentified terrorist was also killed."

### 16 ARRESTED FOR BID TO BURN YOGI EFFIGY

## 2 BBA students not involved, say parents, try to get sons freed

### AMIT SHARMA

MEERUT, OCTOBER 11

NEARLY A week after 16 people were arrested in connection with burning of an effigy of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in Meerut, Monu Chaudhary and his wife Poonam are still trying to secure bail for their son Dushyant, 18, a BBA first-year student.

On the evening of October 4, a group of people allegedly tried burning an effigy of Adityanath while protesting against the Lakhimpur Kheri deaths when some policemen tried to take hold of the effigy. In the melee, two policemen, including an inspector, sustained burn injuries, according to police.

All 16 arrested persons, including some Samajwadi Party members, have been booked for attempt to murder and two more non-bailable sections of IPC and CrPc. Two more persons have been named in the FIR but have not been arrested yet.

On Monday, they were produced before a court. The matter will be heard next on Wednesday.

Dushyant Chaudhary's parents said he and his friend Shekhar Dungar, also a BBA first-year student, were not involved in the protests.

Monu Chaudhary, 42, who runs a small dairy with his wife at Meerut's Ekta Nagar, said his son and Shekhar know a person named Pradeep Sardana, who is associated with the SP. "Pradeep had called Dushyant and Shekhar around 4.30 pm on October 4 and asked them to arrange for food and water for

him and others detained by police. The two of them went to the Civil Lines police station with water bottles and a bunch of bananas. Both were arrested."

Shekhar's father Arjun Dangar also claimed that his son was not involved in the protests. He said, "Shekhar accompanied Dushyant to the police station to give water bottles and fruit to the SP workers. But he too was arrested."

The police said they have evidence against all 16 people arrested in connection with the protests. "There were 300 protesters; we detained only 25, and the FIR was lodged against 18 persons. Sixteen accused have been arrested, while two are absconding," SSP (Meerut) Prabhakar Chaudhary told *The Indian Express* over telephone.

"We have gone through the video footage available and collected forensic evidence before making the arrests. No one has been arrested without proper scrutiny of evidence available - they were carrying petrol and other inflammable liquid. Two policemen have suffered burn injuries in the incident," the SSP said.

Rajpal Singh, who heads the local Samajwadi Party unit, said he has met the DM and the SSP for release of the two students, Dushyant and Shekhar. "The burning of the effigy is the simplest form of protest in a democracy. The career of students who have been arrested now stand ruined," he said.

Most of those arrested belong to lower-income groups, and their families cannot afford the legal expenses involved in ensuring bail, Singh said.

## Coal scam case: TMC MP's wife exempted from court appearance

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

THE DELHI High Court Monday passed an order exempting TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee's wife Rujira Banerjee from physical appearance before a court in Delhi, where she was summoned in connection with a money laundering case linked to an alleged coal scam in West Bengal.

Rujira has approached the High Court against the complaint filed against her by the Enforcement Directorate for allegedly not complying with the summons issued to her by the agency under Section 50 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. Taking cognisance of the complaint, the trial court had directed her to appear before it personally on October 12.

Listing her petition for hearing on October 29, Justice Yogesh Khanna Monday granted exemption to Rujira from personal appearance after Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta requested the court to take the matter for hearing after Dussehra holidays and submitted that she may not appear in person in the meantime.

## Congress: PSUs bought crude from Sandesara firm after he fled

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

THE CONGRESS Monday accused Indian PSUs of having purchased crude oil worth over Rs 5,000 crore from an entity associated with Nitin Sandesara's Sterling Biotech even after he and his family fled India in 2017 after their business had come under the scanner of investigative agencies.

The party alleged that from January 1, 2018 to May 31, 2020, shipments worth Rs 5,701.83 crore of crude oil were received from SEEPKO Nigeria by Indian oil PSUs. It claimed Sterling Oil Exploration and Energy Production Company Ltd. (SEEPKO) is a Sterling Biotech group entity.

The party's claim came days after *The Indian Express* reported that Sandesara had, after fleeing India, formed six offshore firms in 2017-18 to expand their oil trade with various countries, including India.

Attacking the government, the Congress sought to know why "oil PSUs indulge in repeated business with economic offenders".

## Sikhs of Shillong locality protest relocation decision, Dy CM says doing 'due diligence'

**TORA AGARWALA**  
GUWAHATI, OCTOBER 11

DAYS AFTER representatives of the Dalit Sikh community in Shillong's Them lew Mawlong area - also called Punjabi Lane - protested the Meghalaya Cabinet decision to relocate them in another area, Deputy Chief Minister Prestone Tynsong on Monday said the government was doing "due diligence" on the issue.

"We are following due diligence. It is not a question of throwing out the Sikh community from the area. Our aim is to relocate them to a proper place," Tynsong told *The Indian Express*.

On October 7, the Conrad Sangma-led Cabinet approved a proposal to relocate the Sikh residents from the area, based on a recommendation made by a committee headed by Tynsong.

The committee was formed in June 2018 to find a solution to the decades-old land dispute, following violent clashes between local Khasis and Sikh residents of the area the previous month.

While the government claims that the land belongs to Urban Affairs Department, the Sikhs say it was "gifted" to them by the Syiem (chief) of Hima Mylliem - one of the chiefdoms in Khasi Hills - in the 1850s. Today, Mylliem is one of the 54 traditional administrative territories under the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council, and Punjabi Lane is part of it.

According to the October 7 Cabinet decision, the Urban Affairs Department would take possession of the land from the Syiem of Mylliem within a week. Announcing the decision, Chief Minister Sangma tweeted that residents who are permanent employees of the Shillong

**EXPLAINED**  
**E** Simmering over the decades

THE 2.5-ACRE Punjabi Lane, next to commercial hub lewduh, has been home to Dalit Sikhs, who were brought by the British to work as scavengers and sweepers in the 19th century. For three decades, political groups have been demanding they be relocated - the argument being that a prime commercial area shouldn't hold a residential locality. Over the years, localised brawls between residents and Khasis have been reported, the biggest of them in May 2018.

Municipal Board, would be relocated to constructed quarters. "Further, we will request the other residents residing in the colony to shift to the designated locations," Sangma tweeted, adding that the Urban Affairs Department would "explore other locations" for them.

In response to the decision, the Harijan Panchayat Committee, which represents members of the Dalit Sikh community in Shillong, said it would "fight tooth and nail" to stop the government from carrying out the drive.

On Sunday, PTI quoted Punjab Deputy CM Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa as saying that he would take up with Union Home Minister Amit Shah the Meghalaya government's alleged move to "evict" Sikhs in Shillong.

On Monday, the National Commission for Scheduled Castes, on orders of its chairman Vijay Sampla, sent a notice to the

Meghalaya Chief Secretary and other senior officials, asking them to submit a report at the earliest.

Harijan Panchayat Committee Gurjit Singh told *The Indian Express* that the government's plan had caused "a lot of tension and anxiety" among the community members. "We have lived here for 200 years. Time and again, the government tries to move us and our people get scared," he said, adding that they had not received any official intimation yet.

He said they had two documents to prove that the land was "gifted" to them by the Syiem of Mylliem: a 1954 agreement and one more in 2008.

Tynsong said the Sikh community should not "get confused" that they were "being thrown out". "They are people of Meghalaya and we are here to help them," he said. **INPUTS FROM ENS, CHANDIGARH**

## 'He always astounded... had something unique to present'

**SHAJU PHILIP**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 11

NEDUMUDI VENU, a gifted and versatile actor who essayed a wide range of roles with a remarkable ease across 500-odd Malayalam films, died after a short illness in Thiruvananthapuram on Monday. He was 73.

In a career spanning four decades, Venu played the roles of protagonist, villain, comedian and character actor. He had a unique ability to bring out the inner persona of the roles assigned to him and keep the audience captivated by his stellar performance. Apart from being an actor, he was also part of Kerala's culture as a singer, dramatist and folk musician.

He is especially known for roles in which he would don various disguises, such as in the commercially successful movies



NEDUMUDI VENU  
1948-2021

*Chithram, His Highness Abdulla, Bharatham and Thenmavin Kombathu.*

Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted, "Shri Nedumudi Venu was a versatile actor, who could fill life into diverse roles across many genres. He was also a prolific writer and was passionate about theatre. His passing away is a loss to the world of films and culture. Condolences to his family and admirers. Om Shanti." Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi

Vijayan said: "A blessed actor, Venu had left an indelible presence in the minds of the audience. He loved film and literature alike. The actor has also captured the minds of many in other South Indian languages too."

Priyadarshan, the director of several blockbuster movies, said Venu had acted in his 33 films. "As an actor, he has always astounded me. In every film, Venu had something unique to present before the audience. His performance was natural and he did not require much preparation to become a character," he said.

Veteran Malayalam actor Mohanlal said: "We have acted in several emotional moments, which Malayalam film audiences have kept close to heart. With deep reading and the knowledge gained from it, Venu had been an irreplaceable personality. I can't even pay a formal tribute to my brother, Venu," he said.



New Delhi





TRACKING THE **SECOND SURGE**

**589** DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN  
**NEW CASES: 12,744**  
**ACTIVE CASES: 2,14,395**  
**TOTAL VACCINATION: 95,19,84,373**

DAILY DEATHS **178** | TOTAL DEATHS **4,50,960** | WEEKLY CFR **0.88%** | OVERALL CFR **1.34%**



TESTS TODAY: **12,25,382** | TOTAL TESTS: **58,48,56,872**  
WEEKLY POSITIVITY: **1.39%** | OVERALL POSITIVITY: **5.81%**

STATES REPORTING **MOST CASES**

STATE	NEW CASES	ACTIVE CASES	WEEKLY POSITIVITY	TOTAL VACCINATION
■ Kerala	6,996	1,01,933	11.66%	3,66,19,059
■ Maharashtra	1,736	32,115	1.77%	8,77,22,763
■ Tamil Nadu	1,303	15,992	0.96%	5,19,43,998
■ West Bengal	606	7,649	2.09%	6,44,11,444
■ Karnataka	373	9,935	0.41%	5,90,31,393

STATES REPORTING **MOST DEATHS**

STATE	TODAY'S DEATHS	TOTAL DEATHS	WEEKLY CFR	OVERALL CFR
■ Kerala	84	26,421	0.69%	0.57%
■ Maharashtra	37	1,43,173	2.06%	2.19%
■ Tamil Nadu	13	35,796	1.09%	1.35%
■ Karnataka	10	37,895	1.18%	1.27%
■ West Bengal	9	18,914	1.64%	1.21%

Note: Data as on Oct 11; vaccination numbers as of Oct 10. Deaths include those caused by comorbidities.

## 82 per cent in 18+ age group have antibodies, finds Kerala sero survey

**SHAJUPHILIP**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 11

THE LATEST sero-survey conducted by Kerala Health Department to estimate the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 infection in the state has revealed the presence of antibodies in 82.6 per cent of samples taken from residents aged 18 years and above.

The third phase of sero-prevalence survey was held in September among six categories of population — those aged above 18, pregnant women, children between 5-17, the tribal community, residents of coastal areas and urban slum dwellers — to diagnose the rate of infection. Unlike the previous sero-surveys held by the ICMR, this time the 13000-odd samples were collected from all districts.

Presenting the survey result

in the Assembly, Health Minister Veena George said the high prevalence of antibodies in the sample population could be due to the natural infection of the virus or vaccination coverage in the state. The survey revealed that the presence of antibodies was high among the tribal community (78.2 per cent), residents of coastal areas (87.7 per cent) and urban slums (85.3 per cent). However, the presence of antibodies was lowest among children in the age group 5-17 years (40.2 per cent). This assumes significance as Kerala is all set to open schools from November 1. The September sero-survey results are in stark contrast to an ICMR sero-survey in May. In the May survey, Kerala's seroprevalence at 42.2 per cent had been much lower than the national average (67.6 per cent). This had implied that over half of Kerala's population remained susceptible to Covid-19.

## Opp-ruled states did politics over O<sub>2</sub>: UP CM

**EXPRESSNEWSERVICE**  
LCKNOW, OCTOBER 11

UTTAR PRADESH Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday accused Opposition-ruled states of resorting to "blackmailing" the Central government over the oxygen shortage during the second wave of the pandemic.

Speaking at an event where he released a report by an IIT-Kanpur professor on the 'UP

Model' of tackling the Covid, Adityanath said, "You must have seen that various states were shouting for oxygen. As soon as the Centre declared an audit of oxygen, their demand fell to half. They had resorted to political blackmailing during the crisis."

The CM said that out of the 127 oxygen plants allotted to UP from the PM CARES Fund, 124 have been constructed.

Praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi for "focusing on

# Modi, Johnson talk vaccine certification, Afghan situation

**EXPRESSNEWSERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi and his British counterpart Boris Johnson on Monday held a telephone conversation during which they welcomed the UK's recognition of Indian vaccine certification and agreed on the need for a co-ordinated international approach to engage with the Taliban, according to a statement by the UK.

The telephone conversation came four days after the UK announced that Indian travellers fully vaccinated with both doses of Covishield or any other vaccine approved by it will not need to undergo a 10-day mandatory quarantine on arrival from October 11.

In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs said the two leaders reviewed the progress in bilateral

relations since their virtual summit earlier this year, and expressed satisfaction at the steps initiated under the Roadmap 2030 adopted during the virtual summit. They also reviewed the progress of the Enhanced Trade Partnership and agreed on the potential of rapidly expanding trade and investment linkages between both countries, it said.

It said the leaders held discussion on issues related to climate change, in the context of the coming UNFCCC COP-26 meeting in Glasgow in November. PM Modi conveyed India's commitment to climate action, as seen in its target for expansion of renewable energy and the recently announced National Hydrogen Mission.

The leaders exchanged views on regional developments, especially the situation in Afghanistan. In this context, they agreed on the

need to develop a common international perspective on issues regarding extremism and terrorism, as well as human rights and rights of women and minorities.

The British statement said the two prime ministers discussed the shared fight against coronavirus and the importance of opening up travel. "They agreed the UK's recognition of Indian vaccine certification is a welcome development to that end," it said. According to the statement shared with journalists by the British High Commission here, the two leaders discussed the strength of the UK-India relationship and climate action in the context of the coming COP-26 in Glasgow. "The leaders talked about the current situation in Afghanistan. They agreed on the need for a coordinated international approach to

engagement with the Taliban, emphasising the importance of upholding human rights in the country," it said.

The PMs welcomed the progress made on the 2030 Roadmap since it was agreed by Johnson and Modi in May. "This includes areas such as trade and defence. The leaders looked forward to the upcoming visit of the UK Carrier Strike Group to India and the deepening of the UK-India strategic partnership," it said.

In a tweet, Prime Minister Modi said, "Was a pleasure to speak to Prime Minister @BorisJohnson. We reviewed progress on the India-UK Agenda 2030, exchanged views on climate action in the context of the forthcoming COP-26 in Glasgow, and shared our assessments on regional issues including Afghanistan."

## Rajasthan HC gets 5 judges; 7 others shifted

**EXPRESSNEWSERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

THE CENTRE on Monday cleared the appointment of five new judges to the Rajasthan High Court, taking its working strength to 28 out of a sanctioned strength of 50. It also approved the transfer of seven judges of various High Courts.

Those appointed to the Rajasthan HC are judicial officers Vinod Kumar Bharwani and Madan Gopal Vyas, and advocates Farjand Ali, Anoop Kumar Dhand and Sudesh Bansal. The Collegium had recommended the names of Bharwani, Vyas, Dhand and Bansal on September 1.

The judges transferred are Justices Rajan Gupta from Punjab & Haryana High Court to Patna, T S Sivagnanam from Madras High Court to Calcutta, Sureshwar Thakur from Himachal Pradesh High Court to Punjab and Haryana, P B Bajanthri from Karnataka High Court to Patna, Sanjeev Prakash Sharma from Rajasthan High Court to Patna, T Amarnath Goud from Telangana High Court to Tripura, and Subhash Chand from Allahabad High Court to Jharkhand.

Home Minister Anil Deshmukh.

The duo were summoned for details of allegations against Deshmukh that he posted IPS officers based on lobbying. An official from the Home Department confirmed they have been summoned. Mumbai Police summoned Jaiswal to appear on Wednesday in the data leak case. In this case, the police have recorded the statement of IPS officer Rashmi Shukla.

It relates to purported call records of IPS officers lobbying for posts being leaked when Shukla was the SID Commissioner.

**COMRADES IN ARMS:** Bihar CM Nitish Kumar with former Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad on the occasion of JP's birth anniversary at Gandhi Museum in Patna, Monday. *PTI*

## Maharashtra Chief Secy, DGP get CBI summons

**EXPRESSNEWSERVICE**  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 11

AFTER MUMBAI Police issued summons to CBI director Subodh Jaiswal to appear before the BKC cyber police station in connection with the FIR registered in the data leak case, the CBI has issued a third summons to Maharashtra Chief Secretary Sitaram Kunte and DGP Sanjay Pandey to appear before it this week. Sources said this was the third summons to the duo in connection with the FIR registered by the CBI against former

## Chain snatching suspect tracked by drones; shot dead

**EXPRESSNEWSERVICE**  
CHENNAI, OCTOBER 11




A SUSPECTED chain snatcher was shot dead and his accomplice arrested in Chennai city suburbs Monday following a massive hunt involving at least 300 police personnel and drones. According to the police, both the suspects hailed from Jharkhand and did menial jobs in the suburbs.

The police claimed that the suspects tried to shoot at them, forcing them to retaliate. Another officer said the search teams were permitted to shoot if needed as they knew the targets were armed.

The deceased was identified as Murthasa, 25, while his arrested associate is Akhtar, 28. Apart from Sunday's chain-snatching incident, the police suspect the duo to have been involved in a similar incident on October 4 when an employee of a government-run liquor shop sustained bullet injuries after being attacked by a gang.

Sunday's incident triggered panic as the chain snatchers also fired in the air. "When these two men tried to snatch the gold chain of a 55-year-old woman waiting for a bus at a toll plaza near Sriperumbudur, she held on to the chain and raised an alarm. That is when they fired in the air before escaping with the chain. We had over 300 police personnel searching for the duo in the lake area from Sunday afternoon," said a senior officer involved in the operation.

"We have information that the deceased and his accomplice in custody brought the gun from north India," the officer said.



**ICAR- Indian institute of Vegetable Research**  
**P.B. No. 01, P.O. Jakhini (Shahanshapur) Varanasi-221 305 (U.P.)**

**F.No. 3-572/2021-Adm.I** **Dated: 01.10.2021**

**CORRIGENDUM**

An open tender was invited through E-procurement for the "The job work contract for providing, agricultural/horticultural field and allied services at the ICAR-Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi" vide F.No.. 3-572/2021-Adm.I dated 11.09.2021. In the above-mentioned tender documents, there are some minor typographical errors have been found.

**The above-mentioned errors will be read as follows:**

1. As per Government of India rule, EMD should be exempted it has already been mentioned on E-procurement portal.
2. The rates offered for job work service contract maintenance of agricultural/horticultural field work/ farm/ lab /administrative operations at IIVR, Varanasi in accordance with the highest standards as per the terms and conditions specified in the tenders, covering all acts on **minimum wages, EPF, ESIC as well as revised rates of Dearness allowances etc. will be applicable to both BOQ (Annexure A & B).**
3. The term Agency Commission may be read as Rate for providing manpower.
4. In BOQ- Annexure A- point number 25.01 & 25.02 will be read as **rate per 100 pots.**
5. In BOQ-Annexure B- points number 36.03 will be read as **Rate per 8 hours.**

This issues with the approval of the Director, ICAR-IIVR, Varanasi.

**Assistant Administrative Officer**



**EdCIL (India) Limited**  
(A Mini Ratna Category-I CPSE, Govt. of India)  
EdCIL House, 10A, Sector 16A, Noida-201301 (U.P.)  
Tel.: +91-120-4156001-12, 4514003, 2470205-07

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
EdCIL (India) Limited, A Mini Ratna Category-I CPSE, Govt. of India invites bids for the following work:  

S. No.	Reference No.	Name
1.	EdCIL/DES/RFP /RC/SC/2021	Engagement of Service provider for Entering into Rate Contract for Designing, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of NextGen Smart Classroom Solutions.

Note: The complete RFP is available on EdCIL website at <http://www.edcilindia.co.in> and <http://www.tenderwizard.com/EdCIL> for the purpose of downloading. Any Pre-Bid minutes corrigendum / Addendum and further information shall be published on the referred website only and bidders are advised to visit EdCIL website / Tender page for updates and no separate press advertisement will be issued.



**MAULANA AZAD NATIONAL URDU UNIVERSITY**  
(A Central University, Accredited "A" Grade by NAAC)  
Gachibowli, Hyderabad (Telangana)

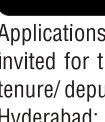
**EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION No. 61/2021**  
**Dated: 08.10.2021**

Applications from the eligible candidates in the prescribed form are invited for the following Statutory/Non-Teaching Posts on direct/tenure/ deputation basis for its Main Campus located at Gachibowli, Hyderabad:

1. REGISTRAR -1, FINANCE OFFICER-1, CONTROLLER OF EXAMINATIONS -1.
2. Pay Scales: ₹.1,44,200 -2,18,200/- (Level 14)

Application Forms along with Information Booklet relating to qualifications, experience, etc., can be downloaded from University website: [manuu.edu.in](http://manuu.edu.in). The last date for receipt of filled-in applications is **18<sup>th</sup> November, 2021**.

Sd/-  
**REGISTRAR I/c**



**Form No. 15**  
**BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, AT PATNA**  
**O.A. No. 184/2021**  
**Applicant: STATE BANK OF INDIA, (SARB), PATNA.**  
**Vs.**  
**Defendant(s): M/s Jagdamba Enterprises and Ors.**  
**SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993.**

To,

1. M/s Jagdamba Enterprises through its Proprietor Soni Devi, W/o Sri Ashish Kumar Singh, At Kakwara House, Gandhi Chowk, Banka-813102. (Borrower)
2. Soni Devi, W/o Sri Ashish Kumar Singh, At + P.O. Panjwara Banka, Banka-813102 (Borrower-cum-Mortgagor)
3. Ashish Kumar Singh, S/o Sri Birendra Kumar Singh, At + P.O. Panjwara Banka, Banka-813102. (Guarantor/Mortgagor)

**.....Defendant No.3**

Whereas the applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act 1993 against the defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 44,14,052/- (Rs. Forty Four Lakhs Fourteen Thousand and Fifty Two only)** together with current and future interest, costs and for other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendant/s is/are therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an advocate or duly authorized agent, in support of his/their defense to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on **16th day of Nov, 2021** at 10.30 a.m. (for noon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THIS TRIBUNALS ON THIS THE 30th DAY OF September 2021.

**Registrar**  
**Debts Recovery Tribunal, Patna**

## PM Modi to attend G-20 meet on Afghanistan today

**EXPRESSNEWSERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi will virtually participate in a G-20 leaders' summit on Afghanistan on Tuesday that is expected to deliberate on the overall situation in the war-torn country after its takeover by the Taliban.

Announcing Prime Minister Modi's participation, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said, "The agenda of the meeting will include a discussion on response to humanitarian needs and access to basic services and livelihood; security and the fight against terrorism; and mobility, migration and human rights."

"At the invitation of the Italian Presidency of the G-20, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the upcoming G-20 Extraordinary Leaders' Summit on Afghanistan on October 12 in virtual format," it said. Italy is the current chair of the G-20 that comprises 20 of the world's major economies.

Modi had also participated in the SCO-CSTO (Collective Security Treaty Organisation) outreach summit on Afghanistan last month.

Recently, External Affairs Minister Jaishankar participated in the meeting of G-20 foreign ministers on Afghanistan on the margins of the UN General Assembly in New York.



PM Narendra Modi

The MEA said G-20 is an important platform to help build international consensus and facilitate a coordinated approach between multilateral organisations, including the UN and its agencies, and global and regional actors to address the worsening humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.

In a separate statement, India on Monday condemned the terrorist attack on a mosque in the Afghan city of Kunduz during Friday prayers, that killed at least 100 people and left many injured.

According to reports, a suicide bomber carried out the attack, the deadliest since the US troops left the country.

"India stands committed in the fight against the scourge of terrorism and reiterates the importance of combating terrorism in Afghanistan...We stand with the people of Afghanistan and hope that perpetrators of this attack will be identified and brought to justice expeditiously," the ministry said.



**SOUTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**  
**TOLL TAX DEPARTMENT**

**NIT NO. ADC/TT/HQ/2021/D-786** **Dated: 11.10.2021**

**APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF "AUTHORITY'S ENGINEER"**  
South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) invites Applications from eligible candidate/applicant for engagement on the post "Authority's Engineer" in the Toll Tax Department of South Delhi Municipal Corporation as a Consultant for a period of 12 months on contract basis. The post is further extendable subject to satisfactory performance of the candidate. The last date of submission of application will be **26.10.2021 upto 5.00 PM**. For eligibility criteria and for other details please visit SDMC website <http://www.mcdonline.nic.in>

(Hemant Kumar Fauzdar)  
Additional Dy. Commissioner (Toll Tax)  
South Delhi Municipal Corporation

**RO No. 55/DPI/S/2021-22**



**State Bank of India**  
Central Recruitment & Promotion Department  
Corporate Centre, Mumbai  
Phone: 022-22820427; email: [crpd@sbi.co.in](mailto:crpd@sbi.co.in)

**RECRUITMENT OF PROBATIONARY OFFICERS**

Applications are invited from eligible Indian citizens for appointment as Probationary Officers in State Bank of India

**NUMBER OF VACANCIES: 2056**  
(including Backlog Vacancy)

Eligibility criteria (age, qualification, etc.), requisite fees and other details, along with the link for online submission of applications and online payment of fee, are available on Bank's website <https://bank.sbi/careers> OR <https://www.sbi.co.in/careers> under Advertisement no. **CRPD/PO/2021-22/18**. Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement and ensure their eligibility and other details before applying and remitting fees.

• **DATE FOR FILING ONLINE APPLICATION & PAYMENT OF FEES: 05.10.2021 TO 25.10.2021**

For any query, please write to us through link "CONTACT US" → "Post Your Query" which is available on Bank's website (URL- <https://bank.sbi/web/careers/post-your-query> OR <https://sbi.co.in/web/careers/post-your-query>)

Place: Mumbai  
Date: 05.10.2021

**General Manager**



**इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ बैंकिंग पर्सनल सेलेक्शन**  
**INSTITUTE OF BANKING PERSONNEL SELECTION**  
(An autonomous body set up by Reserve Bank of India, Central Financial Institutions and Public Sector Banks)  
असेसमेंट में, आप का पहला कदम है।  
In assessment, India trusts us  
Scan to visit Website

**Website: [www.ibps.in](http://www.ibps.in)**

**In case of queries/complaints please log in to <https://cgrs.ibps.in/>**

**COMMON RECRUITMENT PROCESS FOR RECRUITMENT OF CLERKS IN PARTICIPATING BANKS(CRP CLERKS-XI for Vacancies of 2022-23)**

The online examination (Preliminary and Main) for the next Common Recruitment Process for selection of personnel for Clerical cadre Posts in the Participating Banks is tentatively scheduled in December 2021 & January 2022.

All the tests other than Test of English Language in Both Preliminary and Main Examinations will be available in 13 Regional Languages in addition to Hindi and English.

The tentative schedule of events is as follows:

Activity	Tentative Dates
On-line registration including Edit/Modification of Application by candidates	07.10.2021 to 27.10.2021
Payment of Application Fees/Intimation Charges (Online)	07.10.2021 to 27.10.2021
Download of call letters for Pre-Exam Training*	November 2021
Conduct of Pre-Exam Training*	November 2021
Download of call letters for Online examination - Preliminary	November/December 2021
Online Examination - Preliminary	December 2021
Result of Online exam - Preliminary	December 2021/ January 2022
Download of Call letter for Online exam - Main	December 2021/ January 2022
Online Examination – Main	January/February 2022
Provisional Allotment	April 2022

\* In case it is possible and safe to hold PET  
Candidates are advised to regularly keep in touch with the authorised IBPS website [www.ibps.in](http://www.ibps.in) for details and updates.  
The candidates who have already registered successfully for this process during July 12-14, 2021, need not apply again. Their earlier application will be considered for further process.  
Before registering online candidates are advised to read the detailed notification carefully and follow the instructions mentioned therein.

Mumbai  
Date: 06.10.2021

**Director**



Office of the Chief Electoral Officer Cabinet (Election) Department

Sector 2, Dhurwa, Ranchi – 834004

Tender Notice

This Tender Notice is issued by Chief Electoral Officer, Jharkhand, Ranchi for inviting request for proposals from eligible firm/agencies for **“Providing Bulk Short Message Service (SMS) for Voter awareness and other SVEEP Activities”** in the State of Jharkhand during election and non-election period.

The time schedule for various activities flowing from the issue of this Tender Notice shall be as follows:-

1.	Date of Publication:-	12/10/2021
2.	Last date for Submission of Tender:-	08/11/2021 up-to 03.00 PM
3.	Date of opening of Technical and commercial bid:-	08/11/2021 at 04.00 PM
4.	Address for communication/ submission of the Tender:-	Office of The Chief Electoral Officer, Cabinet (Election) Department, Near Gayatri Mandir, Sector-II, Dhurwa, Ranchi – 834004, Jharkhand, Phone: 0651-2440077
5.	All terms, conditions and other features of this RFP	is available on the CEO, Jharkhand's Website - <a href="http://www.ceo.jharkhand.gov.in">http://www.ceo.jharkhand.gov.in</a> .

sd/-  
(K. Ravi Kumar)  
Chief Electoral Officer, Jharkhand.

PR 254905 Election(21-22)D

जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति का कार्यालय जमशेदपुर-831001					
अल्पकालिन ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना (Through E-Procurement mode only-www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in) NIT No-JNAC/epro- 18 /2021-22					
ग्रप सं०	कार्य की विवरणी	प्राक्कलित राशि (रु० में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रु० में)	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	
1	2	3	4	5	
1	मोहरदा, अर्जुन कोलोनी में रवि गोप के होटल से अनुराग चौरसिया के घर तक एवं मोहरदा आशु कोलोनी में मुख्य मार्ग से अंजनी कुमार चौधरी के घर तक सड़क का निर्माण।	1116813.00	5000.00	4 माह	
2	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 2श्री (ओमनगर) में रोड का निर्माण।	2183118.00	5000.00	6 माह	
3	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 3, ब्लॉक 'सी' में जीतेन गोप के घर से हरि मंदिर तक सड़क का निर्माण।	1560660.00	5000.00	4 माह	
4	मोहरदा, अर्जुन कोलोनी में कृष्णा दास के घर से राजीव झा के घर तक सड़क का निर्माण।	1090332.00	5000.00	3 माह	
5	बिरसानगर, 1 'बी' एवं जौन नं०-6 के विभिन्न सड़कों का मरम्मतोकरण कार्य।	1812900.00	5000.00	4 माह	
6	बिरसानगर रोड नं. 4 प्रथम नाला के पास से अंदर तक रोड निर्माण।	1122180.00	5000.00	4 माह	
7	बिरसानगर, जौन नं०-2, गुडिया मैदान के नजदीक सामुदायिक भवन से लेकर गैस गोदाम तक सड़क का निर्माण।	2473350.00	5000.00	4 माह	
8	जमशेदपुर नया कोर्ट में सड़क निर्माण एवं पेवर्स ब्लॉक का अधिष्ठापन कार्य।	2499021.00	5000.00	4 माह	
9	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 5 में स्थित गुरुद्वारा के समीप पेवर्स ब्लॉक का अधिष्ठापन तथा सिडि की निर्माण।	1180420.00	5000.00	4 माह	
10	लक्ष्मीनगर, रामाधीन बंगान में जोगिंदर यादव के घर से लेकर सुजीत सिंह के घर तक सड़क का निर्माण।	1132170.00	5000.00	4 माह	
11	बर्माइन्स इन्टर सिंह बस्ती में सड़क का निर्माण।	1598910.00	5000.00	4 माह	
12	गोलमुरी केबुल टाउन न्यू डी0एफ0 फ्लैट के फ्लैट नम्बर 1 से 65 ए0 तक पेवर्स ब्लॉक पथ का निर्माण।	2017170.00	5000.00	4 माह	
13	गोलमुरी केबुल टाउन न्यू डी0एफ0 फ्लैट के फ्लैट नम्बर 40 से 129 तक पेवर्स ब्लॉक पथ का निर्माण।	1225100.00	5000.00	4 माह	
14	बर्माइन्स स्थित ट्राफीक ट्रेनिंग इन्स्टीट्यूट में पथ का निर्माण।	2482690.00	5000.00	4 माह	
15	मईगडडी बाबुडीह पुलिया के बगल में सड़क का निर्माण।	1030620.00	5000.00	3 माह	
16	बारीडीह, भूषण कोलोनी में जर्जर सड़कों का मरम्मतोकरण कार्य।	1428450.00	5000.00	3 माह	
17	गोलमुरी दुईलाडुगुरी ब्लॉक-बी0 लाईन नं०-4 एवं रामदेव बंगान में मेन रोड से लेकर जी0 रोड (लिक रोड) तक सड़क का निर्माण।	1276975.00	5000.00	4 माह	
18	नौदैन टाउन एरिया लोथला स्कूल के पीछे हो.नं.1 श्री सचदेवा के घर से हो. नं.5 श्री प्रसाद के घर तक सड़क निर्माण।	1161400.00	5000.00	4 माह	
19	बिन्दुपुर रामदास महा ईस्ट में रोड नं०-4 के पीछे मकान सं०-54 से मुख्य सड़क तक पेवर्स ब्लॉक सड़क निर्माण।	1105000.00	5000.00	4 माह	
20	एरोइम सेक्टरगुरिया बस्ती, सोनारी में अमित के गोलाई के क्षेत्र का समतलीकरण एवं पेवर्स ब्लॉक अधिष्ठापन तथा ललितता दीप के घर से लेकर गोलाई तक पेवर्स ब्लॉक पथ का निर्माण।	1685900.00	5000.00	3 माह	
21	सोनारी जाहेरा कोलोनी से लेकर निर्मल नगर टी.ओ.पी. तक पेवर्स ब्लॉक पथ निर्माण।	2266700.00	5000.00	2 माह	
22	सोनारी कुंज नगर, महानन्दा अपार्टमेंट से लेकर चन्द्रज्योति नगर तक पेवर्स ब्लॉक पथ निर्माण।	1398870.00	5000.00	2 माह	
23	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 2 बी दीपा कोलोनी में शिव मंदिर पथ में श्री डी के सिंह के घर से श्री थापा जी के घर तक नाली का निर्माण।	1696760.00	5000.00	4 माह	
24	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 2श्री (ओमनगर) में नाली का निर्माण।	2052632.00	5000.00	4 माह	
25	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 2 'बी' में कार्गिल चौक के समीप रविदास बाबा का मंदिर के पास नाली का निर्माण।	1383000.00	5000.00	4 माह	
26	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 3, बी ब्लॉक में राजेश महतो के घर से छोटा लोहार के घर होते हुए बड़ा नाला तक नाली निर्माण।	1976770.00	5000.00	4 माह	
27	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 3, बी ब्लॉक में राजकीय उच्च विद्यालय से लेकर छोटा पुलिया तक नाला का पक्कीकरण (गार्डवाला) का निर्माण।	2181755.00	5000.00	6 माह	
28	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 2 में आदिवासी हो समाज के समीप नाली निर्माण।	2495591.00	5000.00	6 माह	
29	बिरसानगर जौन नं०-3डी0 में नीलडीह मध्य विद्यालय, बोक्सिंग सेंटर के पास गार्डवाला सहित नाली का निर्माण।	1049195.00	5000.00	4 माह	
30	बिरसानगर, सलोजी कोलोनी, जौन नं. 7 में गार्डवाला का निर्माण।	2445301.00	5000.00	6 माह	
31	प्राथमिक विद्यालय मोहरदा का चहारदीवारी का निर्माण कार्य।	1347522.00	5000.00	4 माह	
32	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 4, रोड नं. 3ए में ब्रांच नाली से मुख्य नाली तक नाली का निर्माण कार्य।	2003544.00	5000.00	4 माह	
33	बिरसानगर, जौन नं०-3, ए0ब्लॉक, टीवीएस शोरूम के पास नाली का निर्माण।	1117560.00	5000.00	4 माह	
34	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 2 बी, जाहेरस्थान पूजा स्थल गोमा किस्कु के घर से मनोज गौराई के घर होते हुए रघु मुखड़ा के घर के सामने तक नाली निर्माण।	1512072.00	5000.00	4 माह	
35	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 3, नीलडीह स्थित राजकीय मध्य विद्यालय का चहारदीवारी एवं नाली का निर्माण।	1596402.00	5000.00	4 माह	
36	मोहरदा साईंस सिटी, नटदु झा के फ्लैट के समीप नाली निर्माण।	2461735.00	5000.00	4 माह	
37	बर्माइन्स, भक्तिनगर चांद बाबा मजार के पीछे से पूंज कोलोनी पुलिया तक एवं भक्तिनगर में राजेश सिंह के घर से इराना लाइन तक नाली का निर्माण।	2479350.00	5000.00	6 माह	
38	बीपीएम +2 चक्र विद्यालय बर्माइन्स-वहारदीवारी ऊँचा करना एवं मरम्ती कार्य।	1184350.00	5000.00	4 माह	
39	गोलमुरी, विद्यापति मिथिला सांस्कृतिक परिषद, जमशेदपुर द्वारा निर्मित विद्यापीठ भवन में एक बरामदा एवं प्रथम तल पर समानागर का निर्माण।	1931490.00	5000.00	6 माह	
40	बर्माइन्स वरिष्ठ नागरिक परिसर के भवन, लाडवारी कम, किचन शीड, ग्रील तथा भवन के सामने वाहन पार्किंग हेतु शेंड का निर्माण।	1211450.00	5000.00	6 माह	
41	जेम्को छठ घाट का सौन्दर्यीकरण।	1122400.00	5000.00	4 माह	
42	बारीडीह बस्ती निराला पथ में छठ घाट का निर्माण।	2499870.00	5000.00	6 माह	
43	बारीडीह बस्ती, कदानी रोड, में नाली निर्माण।	1409150.00	5000.00	4 माह	
44	बारीडीह, बागुननगर, डी ब्लॉक, तांभी टोली एवं गांधी रोड में नाली निर्माण।	1339400.00	5000.00	4 माह	
45	बारीडीह बागुननगर सुभाष रोड में नाली निर्माण।	1140070.00	5000.00	4 माह	
46	बागुननगर में सूर्यमंदिर के पीछे चंद्रगुप्त सिंह के घर के सामने से गार्डवाला का निर्माण।	2457015.00	5000.00	6 माह	
47	बारीडीह, बागुनहातु, बिहारी बस्ती में छठ घाट का निर्माण।	2499870.00	5000.00	6 माह	
48	बारीडीह, बागुननगर, 'ए' ब्लॉक से गुजरने वाला बड़ा नाला घर गार्डवाला का निर्माण।	2457015.00	5000.00	6 माह	
49	जमशेदपुर पूर्वी विधानसभा क्षेत्रान्तर्गत बिरसानगर, गुडिया मैदान एवं मईगडडी चौक स्थित रिड्यू-कांडू के प्रतिमा स्थल का सौन्दर्यीकरण।	1863050.00	5000.00	4 माह	
50	सिंदगोड़ा टाउन हॉल के चारदीवारी निर्माण एवं कटौले तारों से घेराबंदी कार्य।	1114938.00	5000.00	4 माह	
51	सीतारामडेवा बिरसानुा प्रतिमा स्थल वाले मैदान के चारदीवारी का निर्माण।	1396635.00	5000.00	4 माह	
52	बारीडीह, मछली बाजार, छोटा पुलिया से मेन नाला तक नाली का निर्माण।	1014900.00	5000.00	3 माह	
53	बारीडीह, विद्यापति नगर, गांधी चौक स्थित पूर्वी सामुदायिक भवन के ऊपरी तल में एक हॉल का निर्माण।	2325820.00	5000.00	6 माह	
54	बिरसानगर, जौन नं. 2 'बी' में सामुदायिक भवन का निर्माण।	2498900.00	5000.00	6 माह	
55	जमशेदपुर पूर्वी विधानसभा क्षेत्रान्तर्गत पाँच अदर 12 मी0 हाई मास्ट लाईट का अधिष्ठापन।	2157803.00	5000.00	6 माह	
56	जमशेदपुर पूर्वी विधानसभा क्षेत्रान्तर्गत चार अदर 16 मी0 हाई मास्ट लाईट का अधिष्ठापन।	2164605.00	5000.00	4 माह	
57	माटिया बस्ती शिव पथ महावीर लक्ष्य अपार्टमेंट के गेट के बायीं ओर नाली निर्माण।	2025550.00	5000.00	5 माह	
58	हजरेत मुना साह बाबा के मजार शरीक, बिन्दुपुर के प्रांगण एवं आस-पास का सौन्दर्यीकरण कार्य।	2498300.00	5000.00	5 माह	
59	कदमा उलियान मेन रोड क्रॉस रोड वेस्ट रोड में शिव कुमार जी के घर से मेन रोड तक नाली और कलमर्ट निर्माण।	1719900.00	5000.00	5 माह	
60	सोनारी दोमुहानी से निर्मल नगर चौक तक 35 अदर पोल सहित स्ट्रीट लाईट का अधिष्ठापन।	1370477.00	5000.00	3 माह	
61	सोनारी निर्मलनगर हनुमान मंदिर से मेरिन ड्राइव तक 35 अदर पोल सहित स्ट्रीट लाईट का अधिष्ठापन।	1370477.00	5000.00	3 माह	
62	कपाली बस्ती में विभिन्न मुख्य नालियों का निर्माण।	2498100.00	5000.00	6 माह	
63	बैंक कोलोनी एवं ज्योतिर्गंग पुराना सोनारी में सिवरेज लाईन का निर्माण।	1489200.00	5000.00	6 माह	
1. ई0-निविदा प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक-30.10.2021 को 3:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।					
2. वेबसाईट पर ई0-निविदा अपलोड करने की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक-21.10.2021 को 5:00 बजे अपराह्न।					
3. बैंक ड्राफ्ट आदि जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं स्थान : दिनांक-02.11.2021 को 3:00 अपराह्न तक। जमशेदपुर अक्षे0रा0 कार्यालय में। जमशेदपुर अक्षे0रा0 कार्यालय में। जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति, जमशेदपुर।					
4. ई0-निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं स्थान : दिनांक-03.11.2021 को 4:00 अपराह्न। जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति, जमशेदपुर।					
5. ई0-निविदा आमंत्रण करने वाले कार्यालय का नाम एवं पता : जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति, जमशेदपुर।					
6. ई-मेल पता : jnacsr@gmail.com					
7. विज्ञापन दाता दूरभाष संख्या : 0657-2423280					
8. ई0-निविदा दाता को निविदा के साथ बैठ अवधि का निबंधन प्रमाण पत्र, अद्यतन आचार्य प्रमाण पत्र, पैन कार्ड, अद्यतन आयकर रिटर्न, जी0एस0टी0 निबंधन, अद्यतन जी0एस0टी0 रिटर्न की स्वअभिप्रमाणित प्रति संलग्न करना अनिवार्य होगा।					
9. निविदादाता द्वारा अपने निविदा के साथ संलग्न अतिथिखेले के सही (Genuine/Correct) होने का मूल शपथ पत्र देना होगा।					
नोट – नियम एवं शर्तें तथा अन्य विवरणी अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में किसी भी कार्य दिवस पर कार्यालय अवधि में या वेबसाईट <a href="http://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in">www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in</a> पर देखा जा सकता है।					
विशेष पदाधिकारी, जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति, जमशेदपुर।					
आदेशानुसार उपबुक्त महोदय, सौनीप।					
5148/HRY					



**KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED**  
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

No. A1 M1 B3/ MCL-CTA-RSR/October 2021 Dated: 12.10.2021

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
(Two Cover System) (Through e-Procurement Portal only)  
Tenders are invited from reputed companies/ persons having adequate knowledge, expertise and funds mobilization capacity for Liaisoning, Movement, handling and delivery of upto 12kH MT of raw coal from Mahanadi Coalfields Limited, Talcher in Odisha to Raichur Thermal Power Station (RTPS) in Karnataka by Rail-Sea-Rail route for a period of 6 months (upto 31st March 2022). Last date for receipt of the completed bids: 17.00 Hrs. on 25.10.2021. The tender document can be downloaded from Gok e-portal website <https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in> Further details can be had from The Superintending Engineer (Mines), KPCL, No. 82, Shakti Bhavan, 3rd Floor, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560 001. Telefax: 080-22203894. E-mail: [cefuels@karnataka.gov.in](mailto:cefuels@karnataka.gov.in) Website: [www.karnatakapower.com](http://www.karnatakapower.com) e-portal Helpdesk/HP Helpdesk: 080-46010000, 22631200.

Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal, Gol  
120, F-Wing, 1st Floor, Shastrri Bhawan,  
New Delhi- 110001, 011-23384106

**“Invitation of Bids for Auction of Coal Mines/Blocks for Sale of Coal”**  
In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 4(1) and 4(2) of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and Section 11A of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Rules made thereunder, the Government of India has directed the Nominated Authority to undertake the auction of 88 identified coal mines/blocks under 13th Tranche of Auction under CM(SP) Act, 2015 and 3rd Tranche of Auction under MMDR Act 1957. The tender process shall be launched on Tuesday, October 12, 2021. Tender Document and other details can be accessed on <https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/coalblock/index.jsp>  
davn 04101/11/0002/2122



**GOVT. OF ODISHA**  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER  
DRAINAGE CIRCLE, UNIT-8  
BHUBANESWAR- 751012

E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE NO. SEDC-BBSR-04/2021-22  
1st CORRIGENDUM

The critical dates for the tenders for the work 1. Improvement to Kusumi nalla from RD 11760 m to 33180m under DIP (New RD 69540 m to 48120m as per approved LS) 2. Improvement to Storm water drainage system of link drains of Debbotar nalla and Balangi Drainage channel in Nayagarh town under Nayagarh Constituency 3. Improvement to Barpa Nalla along with link drains of Kuanria system in Daspalla Constituency with bid BID/IDENTIFICATION NO. SEDC BBSR/DD-KHR-05/2021-22, SEDC-BBSR/DD-KHR-06/2021-22 & SEDC-BBSR/DD-KHR-07/2021-22 invited vide this office E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE NO. SEDC-BBSR-04/2021-22 are changed as follows:-

	As per DTCN	Revised/Changed Date
Bid Sale & Submission End Date (Last date of Availability On-Line)	01-Nov-2021 05:00 PM	28-Oct-2021 05:00 PM
Bid Opening Date	02-Nov-2021 11:00 AM	29-Oct-2021 11:00 AM

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.  
Sd/- Additional Chief Engineer  
Drainage Circle, Bhubaneswar  
OIPR-32409/11/0004/2122



**National Health Mission**  
Odisha State Health & Family Welfare Society  
Health & FW Department, Govt. of Odisha  
Annex Building of SIH & FW, Nayapalli, Unit-8  
Bhubaneswar-751012

Advt. No: 24/21 Date: 11.10.2021

**Request for Proposal (RFP) through online for Operation & Management of Primary Health Center (New) in partnership mode under NHM.**

Odisha State Health & Family Welfare Society invites online application as per the prescribed RFP document from credible entities registered under Society Registration Act/ Indian Trust Act/ Company Act./ Institutions like Medical Colleges/Hospitals run under Govt./ Public Sector/Pvt. Sector for operation & management of some Primary Health Centers (New) in partnership mode. The eligibility criteria and detailed requirements for “Operation & Management of PHC(N)” are set forth in the RFP document which can be downloaded along with user manual for online application from the website: [www.nhmodisha.gov.in](http://www.nhmodisha.gov.in). Interested bidders fulfilling the eligibility criteria may submit their online application & required documents as set forth in this RFP. The bidders have to submit EMD only in a sealed envelope through speed post/Registered post/Courier only clearly super scribing the name of the PHC(N) applied for management on the envelop to the CDM & PHO of the applied district on or before the last date for submission of online application mentioned in the RFP.

The interested bidders can apply online on the web link [www.nhmodisha.in/ngo](http://www.nhmodisha.in/ngo). The online applications complete in all respect should be submitted latest by 10/11/2021. Incomplete applications/applications received from the blacklisted NGOs/ Trusts will be summarily rejected. The authority reserves the right for cancellation of the Advertisement /selection / modification of guidelines for selection without assigning any reason thereof. No personal inquiry shall be entertained.

-Sd-  
Mission Director, NHM & Member Secretary, OSH&FW Society  
OIPR-10084/11/0022/2122

रेत के भंडारण की नीलामी सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि गांव जैनपुर में श्री मंगू व श्री सपटर पुत्रान श्री आसे पुत्र श्री चंदर निवासी जैनपुर, हसील व जिला सोनीपत की जमीन में रेत का स्टॉक पड़ा हुआ है जिसकी कुल मात्रा 34,646 एम.टी है। जिसका रिजर्व प्राईस 1,21,26,100/- रु. रखा गया है। की दिनांक 28.10.2021 को नीलामी की जाएगी। कोई भी व्यक्ति/कंपनी जिसको तय खनन-खनन विभाग को कोई भी राशि बकाया नहीं है वह इस नीलामी में भाग ले सकता है, जिसके लिए बोली शुरू होने से पहले रिजर्व प्राईस की 10 प्रतिशत राशि जो कि 12,12,610/- रु. बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में जमा करवाकर भाग ले सकता है। इसलिए जो भी व्यक्ति/कंपनी इस बोली में भाग लेना चाहता है वह दिनांक 28.10.2021 को समय दोहरा 12.00 बजे गांव जैनपुर में रेत भंडारण की उक्त मालिकों को जमीन में पहुंचकर नीलामी में भाग ले सकते हैं।

नीलामी की शर्तें:-

1. कुल खनिज (रेत) जो कि जैनपुर गांव में एक जगह पर पड़ा हुआ है जिसको 02 महीने के अंदर-अंदर ही उठाना है।

2. खनिज (रेत) की कुल मात्रा 34646 एम.टी. है। जिसका आरक्षित मूल्य 1,21,26,100/- रु. है।

3. नीलामी में भाग लेने के लिए आरक्षित मूल्य का 10 प्रतिशत अग्रिम राशि (12,12,610/- रु.) बैंक ड्राफ्ट खनन अधिकारी, सोनीपत के नाम के रूप में जमा करवानी होगी, जो कि नीलामी उपरांत उच्च बोलीदाता को छोड़कर अन्य सभी को अंत में वापस कर दिया जाएगा।

4. उच्च बोलीदाता को बोली समाप्त होने उपरांत उच्च बोली में से अग्रिम राशि घटाकर उच्च बोली की बकाया राशि 2 प्रतिशत टी.सी.एस. के साथ जमा करवानी होगी। उच्च बोलीदाता द्वारा बकाया राशि जमा न करवाने पर उसकी अग्रिम राशि जप्त कर दी जाएगी।

5. उच्च बोलीदाता को उच्च बोली की 25 प्रतिशत राशि सिक्कोरिटी के रूप में जमा करवानी होगी, जो कि खनिज उठाने के उपरांत वापस कर दी जाएगी।

6. बोलीदाता को बोली देने से पहले स्वयं मौका देखकर/रेत का भंडार देखकर खनिज का स्वयं आंकलन करना होगा। जो कि किसी भी प्रकार खनिज की कम मात्रा व राशि की हानि तथा 60 दिन के अंदर-अंदर (रेत) का उठान न करना इत्यादि। इन सभी के लिए उच्चतम बोलीदाता स्वयं जिम्मेदार होगा एवं विभाग जिम्मेवार नहीं होगा।

7. उच्चतम बोलीदाता को र. 12,37,700/- राशि संबंधित जमीन मालिकों को अलग से भी देनी होगी जिनकी जमीन पर यह रेत का स्टॉक पड़ा हुआ है। यह राशि वतौर उच्चतम जमीन मालिकों को दी जाएगी।

8. उच्चतम बोलीदाता को रेत उठाने के लिए स्टॉक तक खनिज वाहनों के आने व जाने के लिए स्वयं रास्ते का प्रबंध करना होगा।


9. उच्च बोलीदाता को विभाग के ई-रवाना पोर्टल पर स्वयं को एक सप्ताह के अंदर पंजीकृत करवाना होगा ताकि खनिज के निष्पादन के लिए ई-रवाना जारी कर सके। खनिज निष्पादन का 60 दिन का समय ई-पोर्टल पर रजिस्ट्रेशन की दिनांक से माना जाएगा।

आदेशानुसार  
उपबुक्त महोदय,  
सौनीप।

5148/HRY

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM  
THE INDIAN EXPRESS, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021


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



**Shaheed Hasan Khan Mewati Govt. Medical College, Nalhar, Nuh-122107 (Haryana)**  
Email: [shkmgmrecruitment@gmail.com](mailto:shkmgmrecruitment@gmail.com)  
Phone No. 01267-282007,  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is for the information of all concerned that due to administrative reasons, all vacant faculty posts which were published vide Advt. No. SHKM/Rectt/19/07 with closing date 09.12.2019 and 13.12.2019 (for remote area), in the various News papers is hereby withdrawn with immediate effect.  
Sd/-  
Director  
SHKM Govt. Medical College,  
Nalhar, Nuh

5140/HRY

**GUJARAT MARITIME BOARD**  
Sagar Bhavan, Opp. Airforce Station, Sector-10/A,  
Gandhinagar-382 010. Ph. No: (079) 23238346-47



**NOTICE INVITING ONLINE E-TENDER**  
Online tenders are invited from eligible agencies for “Selection of an Agency as Knowledge Partner to the GMB.” Detailed terms & conditions and other related information is given in the Bid Document available at <https://gmb.nprocure.com> or <https://gmbports.org>

Release of RFP	12 October, 2021
Pre- bid conference	27 October, 2021 @ 12:00 Hours
Last date for submission of the Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal online	29 November, 2021 by 18:00 Hours
Last date of submission of physical copy of the Technical bid by RPAD/Speed post only	06 December, 2021 by 16:00 Hours
T	



# Rlys to run premium train on Ramayan, Northeast, Char Dham circuits

DIVYAA  
BODH GAYA, OCTOBER 11

THE RAILWAYS has decided to open the premium Buddhist Circuit train for domestic travellers, renaming it the 'Dekho Apna Desh AC Deluxe Tourist Train'. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) – which operates the train – has devised several special routes between October and December, such as, the Ramayan, the Northeast, and Char Dham Yatra circuits.

On the N-E circuit, the premium train will take 150 people to explore five North-Eastern states. The first 15 days-14 nights' trip leaves Delhi on November 26, said Achyut Singh, Joint General Manager, Tourism, IRCTC.

An all-inclusive journey will cost around Rs 1 lakh per person, and only the fully vaccinated will

## ‘Diversion of fertiliser’: ED questions Gehlot’s brother

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED) on Monday questioned businessman Agrasen Gehlot in connection with its probe into alleged diversion of fertilisers during 2007-09. Agrasen is Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot’s elder brother. This is the third time that the ED has questioned him after registering a case last year.

Sources said Agrasen arrived at ED office around 11.30 am and was questioned till late in the evening. “We are probing the case with the angle of money laundering and he was interrogated about movement of money in the entire affair,” an ED official said.

The alleged scam concerns Muriate of Potash (MoP), which is imported by Indian Potash Limited (IPL) and distributed to farmers, through companies, at subsidised rates. IPL is concerned with import-handling, promotion and marketing of Potash in the entire country.

According to officials, between 2007-09, Agrasen Gehlot, who was an authorised dealer for IPL, bought MoP at subsidised rates and instead of distributing to farmers, sold it to few companies, which in turn exported it. MoP is under the list of items which are banned for export.

## Whoever wins Goa wins Lok Sabha polls: Chidambaram

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
PANAJI, OCTOBER 11

FORMER UNION minister and senior Congress leader P Chidambaram on Monday said that the party that wins the Goa Assembly polls goes on to win the general elections.

“There is no doubt about it. We won Goa election in 2007, we won Parliament election 2009. In 2012 we lost the Goa election, in 2014 we lost the Parliament election. This time we are determined to win Goa and then win India,” Chidambaram, senior AICC election observer to Goa, told party workers.

Speaking at a block Congress meet in Siolim, Chidambaram said the defections that took place in 2017 will never be repeated.

“We may forgive them (defectors)... but we will never forget the betrayal. They will never have a place in the Congress party in the future.... We must put an end to that shameful chapter. I apologise for what happened in 2017. I am deeply sorry. But we are determined that it will never happen again,” he said.

**Will give ‘alternative’ to Goa by Diwali: GFP**

**Panaji:** Goa Forward Party (GFP) president Vijai Sardesai on Monday took potshots at the Congress, saying if the principal opposition party in the state was not willing to bring the opposition together, his party would step in to give Goa the political alternative to the BJP it needs.

“If the principal opposition does not want to do it (bring opposition parties together), we will take the lead and by Dussehra, Diwali, we will bring the alternative to Goa,” Sardesai said. **ENS**

NEW TRAIN SERVICE “RED PANDA” BETWEEN KURSEONG-MAHANANDI-KURSEONG		
It has been decided to running of new train (52542) “Red Panda” between Kurseong-Mahanandi-Kurseong on DHR section with effect from 16-10-2021. Details are given below:		
Train No. 52542 Red Panda (Saturday & Sunday)		
STATION	Arrival Time	Departure Time
Kurseong	---	11.15
Mahanandi	12.05	12.20
Kurseong	12.55	---

**CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD**  
A CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

8, Jan Marg, Sector 9-D,  
Chandigarh

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Notice for inviting e-tenders for allotment of Built-up Residential/ Commercial Units in U.T. Chandigarh.**

Due to administrative reasons, the closing date and time for submission of e-bids has been extended from 12th October, 2021 to 19th October, 2021 (upto 10:00 A.M.). The e-bids will be opened on 19th October, 2021 (from 10:15 A.M onwards).

Other terms & conditions will remain the same as per the Public Notice dated 15.09.2021.

**Chief Accounts Officer,**  
Chandigarh Housing Board, Chandigarh.

**WEAR MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS, WATCH YOUR DISTANCE.**

**जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति का कार्यालय, जमशेदपुर – 831001**

**पुनः पारिगं बंदोबस्ती सूचना संख्या – 16/2021-22**

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि एक वर्ष के लिए जमशेदपुर अक्षेत्र050 क्षेत्रान्तर्गत क्षेत्रों में बाईक एवं कार की पारिगं की बंदोबस्ती जमशेदपुर अक्षेत्र कार्यालय में खुली डाक के माध्यम से की जायेगी। बंदोबस्ती अधिकतम डाक के आधार पर होगी। इस बंदोबस्ती में नगर विकास एवं आवास विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार, रॉदी के निबंधित सम्वेदक ही भाग ले सकते है।

क्षेत्रवार बंदोबस्ती की विवरणी, न्यूनतम बोली की राशि एवं अग्रघन की राशि की विवरणी निम्न प्रकार है :-

ग्राम/क्षेत्र	पञ्चायत का नाम	न्यूनतम बोली की राशि	बंदोबस्ती हेतु आवेदन पत्र का मूल्य	अग्रघन की राशि
1	जोपीगोरेसु बस पड़ाव स्थित चिन्हित स्थलों पर पारिगं	रु० 2.18.30.000.00, (दो करोड़ अठारह लाख तीस हजार रुपये मात्र)	रु० 20,000.00 (बीस हजार मात्र)	रु० 54,58,000.00, (पैंचन लाख ज़ेरो बायस नही किया जायगा।)


बन्दोबस्ती प्रपत्र बिक्री की तिथि : 20.10.2021 से 21.10.2021 तक प्रत्येक कार्य दिवस एवं कार्यालय काल में।  
(अंतिम तिथि को 200 बजे अपराह्न तक ही आवेदन प्राप्त किया जायेगा।)

बन्दोबस्ती प्रपत्र की बिक्री का स्थान : जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति कार्यालय।  
बंदोबस्ती प्रपत्र प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय : 23.10.2021 को दोपहर 2:00 बजे तक।  
बंदोबस्ती प्रपत्र खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : 23.10.2021 को दोपहर 3:00 बजे डाक की तिथि एवं समय : 26.10.2021 को दोपहर 4:00 बजे।

**नियम एवं शर्त :-**

- प्रत्येक ग्रुप के लिए अलग-अलग आवेदन पत्र समर्पित करना अनिवार्य होगा।
- आवेदन पत्र का मूल्य रु० 20,000.00 (बीस हजार रुपये मात्र) जो डिमाण्ड ड्राफ्ट के माध्यम से हो। डिमाण्ड ड्राफ्ट विशेष पदाधिकारी, जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति, जमशेदपुर के पद नाम से देय तथा जमशेदपुर में भुगतये हो।
- सभी प्रकार की भुगतये राशि यथा आवेदन पत्र की राशि, अग्रघन की राशि, डिमाण्ड ड्राफ्ट / बैंक गारंटी निबंधित फर्म या प्रोपराइटर के नाम से अंकित होना अनिवार्य होगा।
- बंदोबस्ती हेतु अग्रघन की राशि उपरोक्त विवरण में अंकित अनुप्रुप प्रत्येक ग्रुप के लिए अलग-अलग डिमांड ड्राफ्ट के माध्यम से समर्पित करना अनिवार्य होगा, जो विशेष पदाधिकारी, जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति, जमशेदपुर के पद नाम से देय तथा जमशेदपुर में भुगतये हो।
- समूह वार अलग-अलग वैध एवं सभी संलग्नकों के साथ संलग्न आवेदनों को ही बंदोबस्ती हेतु आयोजित होने वाली खुली बोली में शामिल किया जायगा।
- बंदोबस्ती में भाग लेने वाले आवेदक को भरे हुए अलग-अलग आवेदन के साथ निबंधन प्रमाण पत्र, अद्यतन आयकर रिटर्न, बैंक कार्ड, आधार कार्ड, जीओएसटी0 निबंधन प्रमाण पत्र, जीओएसटी0 रिटर्न प्रमाण पत्र, उपायुक्त द्वारा निर्गत वैध अथवा का चरित्र प्रमाण पत्र, स्थानीय थाना से चरित्र संबंधित अद्यतन प्रमाण पत्र की (मूल प्रति) संलग्न करना अनिवार्य होगा।
- किसी प्रकार की विवाद की स्थिति में जमशेदपुर अक्षेत्र050 का निर्णय मान्य होगा।
- पारिगं क्षेत्र के समूह वार विस्तृत विवरणी एवं अन्य शर्त जमशेदपुर अक्षेत्र के सूचना पट्ट पर कार्यालय अवधि में देखा जा सकता है।
- निर्धारित पारिगं क्षेत्रों में किसी भी प्रकार के विवाद की स्थिति में अंकित क्षेत्रों को घटाने या बढ़ाये जाने का अधिकार अयोहस्ताक्षरी को होगा।
- निर्बाकण बताये बंदोबस्ती रद्द करने का अधिकार अयोहस्ताक्षरी का होगा।

**विशेष पदाधिकारी,**  
जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति, जमशेदपुर  
**PR 254794 Urban Development(21-22)#D**

**State Bank of India**  
Stressed Assets Recovery Branch  
2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna - 800001  
Ph. No. (Office) : 0612-2219043, 2219385, Fax : 0612-2219385, E-mail : sbi.05176@sbi.co.in

**Rule - 8(1)**  
**POSSESSION NOTICE**  
**(For Immoveable Property)**

Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, a demand notice was issued on the dates mentioned against each account and stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice.

The Borrower/ Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower / Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said Act on the dates mentioned against each account.

The Borrower/ Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the STATE BANK OF INDIA for an amount and interest thereon.

The borrower's/ Guarantor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Name and Address of the Borrower	Description of the Property mortgaged / charged	Name of the Guarantors /Owner of the property etc.	Outstanding amount (as per u/s 13 (2))	Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession
<b>1. Md. Shakil Akhtar S/o Md.. Nasim Akhtar &amp; Md. Nasim Akhtar S/o Shahabuddin Ansari</b>	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of land, building & structures as per details hereunder: 1. Equitable mortgage of all that land & building in the name of Nasim Akhtar, Under Mauza-Madhurampur, Halka No.05, Khata No. 162, Plot No. 268, Thana No. 135, Thana & Anchal-Akhorigola,	<b>Md. Shakil Akhtar S/o Md.. Nasim Akhtar &amp; Md. Nasim Akhtar S/o Shahabuddin Ansari</b>	<b>Rs. Rs.15,87,035/- as on 23.07.2021 Plus further interest and incidental expenses, costs etc.</b>	<b>23.07.2021 06.10.2021</b>

measuring 02 Decimal, Distt-Rohlas of Deed No. 8069 dated 17.05.2013. **Boundary: North:** Khurshid Anwar Hal Kharidar, **South:** Rasta 3' Wide, **East:** Sarita Devi, **West:** Ramlal Mehta & Basropan Mehta.

<b>2. Pramod Singh S/o Sri Badri Singh</b>	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of land, building & structures as per details hereunder: 1. Equitable mortgage of all that plot of land vide Deed No. 4892 dated 12/04/2010 measuring 9 Decimal in the name of Sri Pramod Singh S/o Badri Singh under Mauza-Kajhaon, Pargana & sub-Registry Office - Sasaram, Thana No. 336, Halka No. 08, Khata No.34, Plot No.	<b>Pramod Singh S/o Sri Badri Singh</b>	<b>Rs. 15,52,772/- as on 19.05.2020 Plus further interest and incidental expenses, costs etc.</b>	<b>19.05.2020 06.10.2021</b>
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115, Thana-Shivsagar, Distt- Rohtas. **Boundary: North:** Nij Vikreta, **South:** Chhawar, **East:** Dharm Singh **West:** Kanhaiya Singh,

<b>3. Mrs. Lalita Devi W/o Sri Mohan Chaudhary &amp; Mr. Lala Chaudhary S/o Sri Mohan Chaudhary</b>	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of land, building & structures as per details hereunder: 1. Equitable mortgage of all that part and parcel of the property in the name of Smt. Lalita Devi W/o Mohan Chaudhary vide Deed No 12177 dated 18/07/2000 situated at Mohalla- Pratapganj Sasaram, Thana- Sasaram under Municipality Sasaram, Ward No.8, Municipal Plot 317, Khata No.56, Plot No.143, Area: 15 dhur.	<b>Mrs. Lalita Devi W/o Sri Mohan Chaudhary &amp; Mr. Lala Chaudhary S/o Sri Mohan Chaudhary</b>	<b>Rs. 20,79,975/- as on 20.07.2021 Plus further interest and incidental expenses, costs etc.</b>	<b>20.07.2021 06.10.2021</b>
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**Boundary: North:** Miz, **South:** Rasta 4 ft wide, **East:** Shivmuni Chaurasia, **West:** Miz.

<b>4. M/s IT Care (Proprietor: Sri Samarjeet Singh S/o Sri Bijay Singh)</b>	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of (and, building & structures as per details hereunde 1. Registered mortgage of all that part and parcel of the property in the name of Sri Bijay Singh, Mr. Samarjeet Singh, Sri Bhanu Pratap Singh, Sri Amarjeet Singh, Smt. Rajni Singh and Most. Urmila Kuer, situated at Mauza- Dehri (161),	<b>M/s IT Care (Proprietor: Sri Samarjeet Singh S/o Sri Bijay Singh)</b>	<b>Rs. 20,36,848/- as on 19.07.2021 Plus further interest and incidental expenses, costs etc.</b>	<b>19.07.2021 06.10.2021</b>
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Ward No. 10/33, Holding No.229, Dalmanagar Municipality Board Area, Rev. Thana- Dehri, Khata No.125, Plot No. 1065, Area: 3 decimal, Distt-Rohtas of Registered Mortgage Deed No. 1984 date 15/02/2014. **Boundary: North:** Bhagat Jee, **South:** Govt. Lands, **East:** Ram Sagar Singh, **West:** Gali.

<b>5. Sri Brijmohan Prasad S/o Sri Gopal Prasad</b>	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of land, building & structures as per details hereunder: 1. Equitable mortgage of all that part and parcel of the property in the name of Sri Brijmohan Prasad S/o Sri Gopal Prasad vide Deed No. 7531 dated 08/10/2014 situated at Mauza:	<b>Sri Brijmohan Prasad S/o Sri Gopal Prasad</b>	<b>Rs. 17,61,443/- as on 22.07.2021 Plus further interest and incidental expenses, costs etc.</b>	<b>22.07.2021 06.10.2021</b>
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Nasriganj, Ward No.9, Thana vo Anchal- Nasriganj, Sub-registry Office Bikramganj, Distt-Rohtas. Thana No.63, Khata No.815, Khesra No.3769, Area: 1 1/2 decimal. **Boundary: North:** Vishnvanath Ram, **South:** Miz, **East:** Gyanchand Prasad, **West:** Gali.

**Place : Nasriganj / Sasaram**  
**Date : 06.10.2021**

**(Authorized Officer)**  
State Bank of India, SARB, Patna

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ**

File No: C/JHS/341/STBA/PA  
Advertisement No.: 202-NSG-5&6/2021

Date: 06.10.2021


**Advertisement for Appointment of Station Ticket Booking Agent**

Divisional Railway Manager (commercial), North Central Railway, Jhansi for and on behalf of the President of India, invites applications from eligible candidates for selection of Station Ticket Booking Agent (STBA) at 36 different "NSG-5 & NSG-6" category stations, one at each station, of Jhansi Division on commission basis for issue of unreserved rail tickets through computerized Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS):-

S.N.	Station Name	Stn. Code	S.N.	Station Name	Stn. Code	S.N.	Station Name	Stn. Code
1	Pokhrayan	PHN	13	Matalita	MZX	25	Shanichara	SAC
2	Duriyaganj	DAY	14	Burhpura	BPW	26	Panchha	PIC
3	Ishanagar	ISHN	15	Khajraha	KHJ	27	Chirgaon	CGN
4	Khargapur	KHG	16	Bijauli	BJI	28	Nandkhas	NDK
5	Sarkanpur	SKNP	17	Kotra	KTRA	29	Parauna	PRN
6	Usargaon	URG	18	Anant Path	AEH	30	Bhua	BHUA
7	Sarsoki	SSKI	19	Antri	ARI	31	Teharaka	TKA
8	Aghosd	AGD	20	Sitihauli	STLI	32	Rora	RORA
9	Karonda	KOA	21	Rayaru	RRU	33	Mataundh	MTH
10	Mohasa	MXS	22	Sank	SANK	34	Khairar Jn.	KID
11	Jiron	JRO	23	Sikroda	SIKD	35	Dingwahi	DWI
12	Bijrotha	BJA	24	Helampur	HET	36	Hampur Rd.	HAR

Candidate may obtains the prescribed format of the application form along with all terms & conditions on payment of **Rs. 1180/-** (Rs One thousand one hundred eighty only-through money receipt issued by Railway Booking Office) from the office of Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, North Central Railway, Jhansi on any working day from date of publication of notification to 10.11.2021 from 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM. The application form along with term & condition shall be made available on the North Central Railway website "[www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in)" and the same can be downloaded and used as application form for submitting the offer. However, the cost as stipulated for application form will have to be submitted along with application form while submitting the application. Application submitted by the applicant without stipulated cost of the application form shall be rejected. The cost of application form amounting **Rs. 1180/-** (Rs. One thousand one hundred eighty only) should be paid in the form of Money receipt (Railway Booking Office)/Demand Draft/Banker cheque of nationalized/Schedule Bank drawn in favour of "Senior Divisional Finance Manager, North Central Railway, Jhansi." Application will be received in the office of Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, North Central Railway, Jhansi upto 15.00 hrs. of 11.11.2021 in the sealed box. Applications received after due date & time will not be entertained. Sealed envelop with clearly mentioned applicant name, address and station name of the application forms will be opened on 11.11.2021 at 15.30 Hrs in the office of Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, North Central Railway, Jhansi. Applicant may be present at the time of opening of sealed box. **1071/21 (A)**

 North central railways  [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in)  @CPRO NCR

**STATE BANK OF INDIA**  
Stressed Asset Recovery Branch (SARB)  
2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna-800001

**Rule-8(1). POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immoveable Property)**

Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, a demand notice was issued on the dates mentioned against the account and stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice.

The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Act on the dates mentioned against the account.

The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **STATE BANK OF INDIA** for an amount and interest thereon.

**The borrower's/Guarantor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.**

Name and Address of the Borrower/Guarantor	Description of the Immoveable Property	Name of the Guarantors/Owner of property etc.	Outstanding amount (as per u/s 13 (2))	Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession
<b>M/s Harkhen Kumar &amp; Sons Jewellers</b> Address: Gopali Chak Ara, District-Bhojpur, Bihar	All that Plot of land measuring 42 decimal situated at Mouza-Dhanupara, Town- Ara, PS- Ara Town, Thana No. 164. Sub & District Registry Office at Ara under Ara Nagar Palika, District- Bhojpur, Bihar, old Ward No. 32, Nagar Nigam Ward No. 34, Circle No. 09, Old Khata No. 183, Old Plot No.	<b>(i) Mr. Kamal Kumar Jain s/o Krishna Kumar Jain, (ii) Mrs. Anupama Jain w/o Kamal Kumar Jain, (iii) M. Aman Jain s/o Kamal Kumar Jain and (iv) Mr. Kushagra Jain s/o Kamal Kumar Jain.</b>	<b>Rs 3,08,13,723.00 (Rupees Three Crore Eight Lac Thirteen Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Three only) as on 26.07.2021 with future interest and other expenses costs etc.</b>	<b>26.07.2021 11.10.2021</b>

1334, New Plot No. 838, 839, 841, 842 part and 828. This land is registered in the name of (i) Mrs. Anupama Jain w/o Kamal Kumar Jain (ii) Aman Jain s/o Kamal Kumar Jain & (iii) Kushagra Jain s/o Kamal Kumar Jain vide Sale Deed No. 3730 dated 29/03/2012 **The Boundaries of this plot of land are: North - Road, South - Ram Adhar Rai, East - Madar Bux, West - Saroj Singh**

**Place: Ara**  
**Date : 11.10.2021**

**Authorised Officer**  
State Bank of India, (SARB), Patna

# APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR CELEBRATION OF MAHARISHI VALMIKI JAYANTI

Government of NCT of Delhi is inviting applications for celebration of Maharishi Valmiki Jayanti on 20.10.2021 under “**Scheme for Celebration of Birth/Death Anniversary of Eminent personalities**”.

Government of NCT of Delhi will provide assistance through empanelled agencies to the Organizations desiring to celebrate the event in the form of arrangement for tentage, sound, system, lighting, banners, chairs etc.

**Eligibility:-** NGOs/ Organizations involved in social activities are eligible for the assistance.

**Procedure for applying:**

The Organizations desiring to avail the assistance may submit their application duly recommended by area MLA submitted by the NGOs/Organization to the Department for the Welfare of SC/ST/OBC, GNCT of Delhi, B Block, 2nd floor, Vikas Bhawan, I.P. Estate, New Delhi- 02 by **14.10.2021** positively. **Application received thereafter will not be considered.**

Selected NGOs/Organizations have to provide photographs of the event organized by them and abide by stipulations of the department for proper organization of the event. Organizers will also be required to submit a declaration to the effect that Govt. guidelines/SOP application for organizing religious/cultural functions will be followed scrupulously to prevent spread of Covid-19.

**Note:-** The celebration of Valmiki Jayanti on 20.10.2021 is subject to the existing DDMA Guidelines related to prevent spread of Covid-19 pandemic and modifications, if any, in existing Guidelines. The assistance will be provided to only those organizations who will be able to produce the necessary permission as per DDMA guidelines from the concerned District Magistrate and other concerned agencies.



## SPECTRE OF SHORTAGE

Coal demand rises as supplies fail to keep up. Though the mismatch is easing, larger challenges in power sector remain

ON SUNDAY, THE coal ministry sought to assuage concerns over inadequate coal supplies for thermal power plants and dispel fears of disruptions in power supply across the country. This comes after several states had raised the issue of dwindling coal with the Union government. While the ministry has emphasised that there were sufficient stocks to meet the demand, over the past few months, coal stocks at thermal power plants across the country have been declining, and they remain below the buffer norms. As reported in this paper, around half of the major coal-based power plants that are closely monitored have less than three days' worth of stocks as per data from the Central Electricity Authority. In Delhi, three of the plants supplying power had coal stocks for only one day. Power plants are required to hold 15-30 days of coal inventory. States facing power shortages have thus been forced to buy power at much higher rates on the exchanges. On October 10, the average market clearing price rose to Rs 13.3 per unit compared to Rs 4.08 a month ago. This situation, a throwback to the years of shortages, has in fact forced some discoms to urge their consumers to use "electricity judiciously".

A combination of factors, operating in tandem, has resulted in this sharp demand-supply mismatch. First, on the supply side, with the rainy season stretching out this year, there has been a considerable delay in coal supplies returning to normal levels. Second, with economic activity being impacted during the second wave of the pandemic, coal stocks were not accumulated to the level required. Third, there has also been a sharp increase in the price of imported coal owing to a rise in global demand. This has complicated matters. On the demand side, the sharp pick-up in economic activities — large parts of the economy are operating near or exceeding their pre-pandemic levels — has led to an unanticipated surge in electricity demand. There are signs of the situation getting better. Coal dispatches are improving. On October 9, compared to a consumption of 1.87 million tonnes, 1.92 million tonnes of coal were dispatched to thermal power plants, up from 1.5 million tonnes at the beginning of the month. This points towards a build up in stocks.

This situation reflects poorly on Coal India, which is by far the largest supplier of coal to the power plants. It does not bode well that over the years Coal India's production has barely kept pace. On its part, the Centre has, reportedly, sought to rework the norms for supply and storage of coal at power plants. Though this may help at the margins, the larger issues that ail the power sector in India linger on.

## ON THE TIGHTROPE

For now, monetary policy stayed the course on repo rate and policy stance. But it is fast reaching a watershed moment

GOING INTO THE fifth bi-monthly policy review of 2021, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India had its task cut out. Unlike several occasions in the past when the MPC unanimously decided on one side of the growth-inflation trade-off — repeatedly holding back interest rates and flooding the market with liquidity to kick-start economic recovery while soft-pedaling on inflation — the developments of the past few months have resulted in that consensus becoming elusive. Should the RBI tweak its stance from "accommodative" to "neutral", thus rolling back its preference for supporting growth over containing inflation? Should it raise the repo rate (the interest rate RBI charges commercial banks when it lends money to them) to better manage inflation?

The MPC retained its forecast for GDP growth at 9.5 per cent for the current financial year and also projected a strong growth of 7.8 per cent for the next financial year (2022-23). On the inflation front, too, the news was sunny. The MPC dialled down its inflation forecast significantly from 5.7 per cent to 5.3 per cent for the current financial year. It is noteworthy, though, that the reduction is more a reflection of the lower inflation in the past couple of months while the RBI has not scaled back on the inflation forecast for the next two quarters (October to March). So, with inflation trending down and growth holding up, the MPC did what was predicted — it stayed the course on both repo rate and policy stance in order to do a tightrope walk between containing inflation while also supporting growth.

At the same time, however, it is clear that monetary policy is fast reaching a watershed after which interest rates will start going up. The governor also announced that the RBI will be using the reverse repo rate — the interest rate that banks earn when they park their funds with the RBI — to soak up the excess liquidity in the system. Commercial banks have been parking as much as Rs 9.5 lakh crore with the RBI and it suggests that this money is not being used to fund meaningful economic activity. If such high liquidity is not taken out of the system, it can only lead to asset price bubbles — such as high property prices. Between now and December, the RBI hopes to sharply reduce such funds. If growth and inflation forecasts hold up, reverse repo rates are likely to go up in December, followed by repo rates in February.

## ROGUE SCIENTIST

Driven by the urge for parity with India, AQ Khan was ready to steal and sell nuclear secrets

ABDUL QADEER KHAN, who died in Islamabad aged 85 on Sunday, was, to most of the world, a rogue scientist, who stole and sold nuclear designs to nation-states that were able and willing to buy them. His clients, reportedly, included North Korea, Libya and Iran. After the US blew his cover in 2004, Khan confessed on prime television that he had traded in nuclear secrets, describing his actions as "an error of judgement". Under pressure from Washington, the then Pakistan president, Pervez Musharraf, placed Khan under house arrest. A Pakistani court revoked the arrest soon after the general moved out though restrictions on his travels remained. None of this dented his popularity in Pakistan, where he continued to be hailed as a hero for delivering the nuclear bomb.

Khan was a beneficiary of the nuclear race in the Subcontinent. He was working in a uranium enrichment facility in Holland when India exploded a nuclear device in Pokhran in 1974. Khan, whose family had migrated from Bhopal after Partition, offered his services to Islamabad, which was looking to acquire nuclear capability and compete with New Delhi, and joined the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission in 1976. A Dutch court later convicted him for stealing blueprints for making centrifuges and other components. Pakistan first detonated a bomb in 1998, days after India exploded a second device in Pokhran, though it was rumoured to have acquired it in the 1980s itself. Khan was feted by the Pakistani state and venerated by citizens for the feat.

Khan came to embody the stealth of Pakistan's deep state that ignored the international norms and consensus on nuclear proliferation to pursue its goal of parity with India. He took the blame for proliferation to deflect the international opprobrium that came Islamabad's way, though the last word on the matter is yet to be said.



C RAJA MOHAN

LAST WEEK'S IN-PERSON summit in Delhi was with the Danish prime minister, Mette Frederiksen. This was apt, since Europe looms so large in the Indian diplomatic agenda today and smaller European states draw unprecedented political attention from Delhi.

If the Danish encounter highlighted India's immense possibilities with the smaller European countries, the prospects for larger strategic cooperation with the European collective have opened up with the articulation of a comprehensive Indo-Pacific strategy by the European Union last month. That Denmark, a country of barely six million people, can establish a significant green partnership with India, is a reminder that smaller countries of Europe have much to offer in India's economic, technological, and social transformation.

If tiny Luxembourg brings great financial clout, Norway offers impressive maritime technologies, Estonia is a cyber power, Czechia has deep strengths in optoelectronics, Portugal is a window to the Lusophone world, and Slovenia offers commercial access to the heart of Europe through its Adriatic sea port at Koper. The list goes on. As India begins to realise this untapped potential, there are new openings with the 27-nation EU headquartered in Brussels.

That the EU's Indo-Pacific strategy got little public attention in Delhi is part of the entrenched indifference to Europe in India's foreign policy discourse. To be sure, the release of the EU's approach to the Indo-Pacific was overshadowed by the controversial announcement of the AUKUS partnership on nuclear-powered submarines. The nuclear-powered submarines to be built by the US and UK for Australia won't sail the waters of the Indo-Pacific for years to come; but that generated much, if pointless, excitement in Delhi. The EU's Indo-Pacific strategy, hardly noticed in Delhi, is likely to have a much greater impact on the region more immediately and on a wider range of areas than military security. They range from trade and investment to green partnerships, the construction of quality infrastructure to digital partnerships, and from strengthening ocean governance to promoting research and innovation. Defence and security are important elements of the EU's Indo-Pacific strategy that "seeks to promote an open and rules-based regional security architecture, including secure sea lines of communication, capacity-building and enhanced naval presence in the Indo-Pacific".

For the first time since the European colo-



ROHAN KOTHARI

WE NEED to get one thing straight — our law does not require that drug users be imprisoned. This applies also to persons found in possession of "small quantities" of contraband meant for personal consumption. They can be let off with a fine of no more than Rs 10,000. The objective of the law is to prevent proliferation of commerce in narcotics, not the debasement of drug users. But what we have seen happen recently is quite at odds with this mandate.

The pandemic saw a rise in drug-related arrests and seizures. The local police seemed to become more active in its pursuit not only of pushers and peddlers but even the lowly downstream user. Even the Home Minister of Karnataka proclaimed that as of July 2021, drug seizures in the state were higher than all seizures for the last five years combined.

However, there is no empirical evidence to suggest that the number of drug users has increased in the last two years. In fact, the latest report by the National Crime Records Bureau notes a decrease of more than 27 per cent in crimes related to personal consumption of drugs from 2019 to 2020. Even crimes related to drug trafficking have seen a drop of 2 per cent in the same period. This begs the question: Why have we suddenly become so pre-occupied with the issue of prohibited substances? Narcotics have found a way into India through borders, ports, and the dark web for



# European booster shot

Europe promises to enhance India's quest for a multipolar world, rebalance Indo-Pacific

The nuclear-powered submarines to be built by the US and UK for Australia won't sail the waters of the Indo-Pacific for years to come; but that generated much, if pointless, excitement in Delhi. The EU's Indo-Pacific strategy, hardly noticed in Delhi, is likely to have a much greater impact on the region more immediately and on a wider range of areas than military security that the AUKUS focuses on. The EU strategy identifies several areas for cooperation with its Indo-Pacific partners. They range from trade and investment to green partnerships, the construction of quality infrastructure to digital partnerships, and from strengthening ocean governance to promoting research and innovation.

nial powers retreated from Asia amidst the surge of nationalist movements in the middle of the 20th century. Europe is returning as a geopolitical actor to Asia and its waters — the Indo-Pacific if you will. But the context is very different. Few Asian countries view Europe with strategic suspicion. Many in Asia see Europe as a valuable partner. A survey earlier this year of policymakers and thought-leaders in the ASEAN region put the EU as the most trusted partner in the region after Japan and ahead of the US. China and India are way down the list.

As the deepening confrontation between the US and China begins to squeeze South East Asia, Europe is widely seen as widening the strategic options for the region. The perspective is similar in Delhi, which now sees Brussels as a critical element in the construction of a multipolar world. As External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar puts it, India's strategy is to "engage America, manage China, cultivate Europe, reassure Russia, bring Japan into play". For the students of Indian foreign policy, the command to "cultivate Europe" is certainly new.

The Cold War, which divided Europe into East and West, had distorted India's perspective of the region. In the colonial era, both the nationalists and the princes developed a wide-ranging engagement with Europe. After independence, India viewed Western Europe as an extension of the US and saw Eastern Europe through Moscow's eyes. As it tilted to the Soviet Union during the Cold War, India developed a political prickliness towards the western part of Europe and took the East for granted.

As Europe launched the bold experiment to construct a Union in the 1990s, Delhi had a different set of diplomatic priorities — salvaging a relationship with post-Soviet Russia, normalising relations with China, connecting with the US, and managing a more troubled relationship with nuclear Pakistan. This left little diplomatic bandwidth in Delhi to think strategically about Europe. Asked to explain his remarks on 'cultivating Europe', at the Bled Strategic Forum in Slovenia last month, Jaishankar admitted that Delhi did not devote adequate attention in the past to Brussels. He added that Delhi is now focused on developing a strong partnership with Brussels and engage all its 27 members — big and small — individually. Brussels has long been ready to dance with Delhi.

The EU outlined a strategy for India in 2018 to focus on four themes — sustainable eco-

nomics modernisation, promotion of a rules-based order, foreign policy coordination, and security cooperation. At the summit in Portugal in May this year, the EU and India agreed to resume free trade talks and develop a new connectivity partnership that would widen options for the world beyond the Belt and Road Initiative. Above all, there is a recognition in both Delhi and Brussels that the India-EU strategic partnership is crucial for the re-balancing of the international system amidst the current global flux.

The clamour in Europe for "strategic autonomy" has certainly increased in the wake of AUKUS that pushed France out of its submarine deal with Australia. Washington has moved quickly to rebuild trust with Paris.

In a joint statement issued after talks with French President Emmanuel Macron, Joe Biden affirmed the "strategic importance of French and European engagement in the Indo-Pacific region, including in the framework of the European Union's recently published strategy for the Indo-Pacific." Whatever the specific circumstances of the AUKUS deal and its impact on France, the US wants all its partners, especially Europe, to contribute actively to the re-constitution of the Asian balance of power.

The EU strategy, in turn, sees room for working with the Quad in the Indo-Pacific, while stepping up security cooperation with a number of Asian partners, including India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Vietnam.

A stronger Europe with greater geopolitical agency is very welcome in Delhi. India is conscious that Europe can't match America's military heft in the Indo-Pacific. But it could help strengthen the military balance and contribute to regional security in multiple other ways. Delhi knows that Europe could significantly boost India's capacity to influence future outcomes in the Indo-Pacific. It would also be a valuable complement to India's Quad coalition with Australia, Japan and the United States.

It was Russia that defined India's discourse on the multipolar world after the Cold War. Today, it is Europe — with its much greater economic weight, technological strength, and normative power — that promises to boost India's own quest for a multipolar world and a rebalanced Indo-Pacific.

*The writer is director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore and contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express*

## HIGH ON OVERREACH

In going after the drug user, the NCB is straying away from the law's mandate

years now. Similarly, app-based aggregators and the postal service have been unwittingly used for minor drug deliveries for quite some time. In the absence of verifiable data, one can only surmise that what has changed — and drastically so — is the very approach of our law enforcement agencies to drug offences.

It seems to be that the unofficial official position of the police and the NCB is that "no seizure is too small". The trouble with this approach is that it goes beyond what Parliament prescribed. Yes, the NDPS Act does provide for extraordinarily harsh sentences for those convicted of offences involving commerce of contraband. The Act also reverses the burden of proof and presumes guilt (rather than innocence) in some cases. But we seem to have forgotten that the same legislation provides for an immunity from prosecution to those who are dependent on drugs (through Section 64), and provides for the setting up of treatment facilities for addicts (through Section 71).

When the NDPS Act was introduced in 1985, there was no immunity from prosecution for addicts, and there was no real difference in its treatment of the user and the dealer. This changed in 2001, when the Act was significantly amended and redesigned to become more tolerant, and more appreciative of the distinction between a drug user and a drug dealer. The objective of the amendment was

to stop thinking of and treating drug users as hardened criminals, which they seldom are. The law was recalibrated to focus on the bigger fish: Those who brought the contraband in, and those that facilitated its trade. Sadly, recent trends in law enforcement are making it clear that this recalibration is being ignored.

It is now routine to arrest those suspected of drug consumption, and those even in possession of quantities meant for personal use. In many cities, individuals are being subjected to drug tests without an order of a competent court, rendering the right against self-incrimination almost futile. It has fallen on the judiciary to continuously remind our law enforcement authorities that the ability to arrest does not mean that an arrest should always be made. Cameras are zoomed in on high-profile detainees. Law officers are fighting tooth and nail to obtain custody of individuals suspected merely of drug consumption. In such a situation, those without privileges stand to lose much of their liberty, despite the legislature having decided that they should not have to.

Whether this recent doggedness in pursuing drug offences is a matter of policy or political posturing is yet unclear. We can, however, be certain that it is not what our democratic process of lawmaking envisioned.

*The writer is a Bengaluru-based advocate*

## OCTOBER 12, 1981, FORTY YEARS AGO

### PUNJAB CRACKDOWN

THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT has renewed its crackdown on extremists to meet the threat of the "intensified" agitation by the Akali Dal (L). The Dal has worked out details of its proposed civil disobedience movement in the state. At a press conference in Amritsar, its chief, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, said the district and circle units of the Dal had already been alerted. The Dal had threatened to launch the movement if its demands, including the release of Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale by October 17 were not accepted. Puran Singh, a Nihang, was allegedly arrested from inside Gurdwara Darbar Sahib at Tarn Taran in Amritsar district

two days ago. Two Khalistan protagonists have been rounded up in Patiala and one Akali worker in Sirhind. Gurdev Singh Khalsa, press secretary of the Patiala district Akali Jatha (L), was arrested at Bassi Pathana on Saturday.

### AP CRISIS

THE CRISIS CREATED by the suspension of two ministers from the Andhra Congress-I by the APCC-I chief, K Prabhakar Rao, is yet to be resolved. The future of the two ministers, C Das and N Chandrababu Naidu, remains uncertain. All the key figures in the drama have been called to Delhi by the party high command. Prabhakar Rao told news-

men that he was not aware or concerned about the ministers' visit to Delhi.

### CHILDREN KILLED

NEARLY 100 SCHOOL children who were wounded in recent Teheran street demonstrations were taken from their hospital beds to the city's Erin prison last week and executed, the Paris office of the radical Muslim Mujahedin group said on Sunday. In a statement telephoned to Reuters in London, the Mujahedin added that the children's bodies, instead of being taken to the coroner's office to be prepared for Muslim rites as is usual, were buried in the "Infidel, cemetery".



# THE IDEAS PAGE

## Paying farmers not to burn crops will work

Results of a randomised control trial suggest that farmers are likely to switch away from burning paddy stubble if the state subsidises the entire cost. Health benefits of such a move make it worth it for society



KELSEY JACK, NAMRATA KALA, ROHINI PANDE AND SEEMA JAYACHANDRAN

IN A FEW weeks, millions in India will breathe much more polluted air as farmers across northern India burn stubble to clear fields for the winter wheat sowing season. It is both a health and an environmental hazard that repeats every year — one that a 2018 *Lancet* study found to be the number one reason for premature deaths in India. Cash payments — despite failed past attempts — remain a promising way to address this health emergency in the short run.

Annually, Indian farmers set some 92 million tonnes of crop residues on fire. Many are aware of the health costs to themselves and others. But they are caught between a rock and a hard place. Rules delaying onset of paddy sowing means later harvesting, leaving a short interval for field clearing. And financially strapped farmers often can't afford other methods of crop residue management.

In this setting, imposing and collecting fines for burning is not viable. Politically, penalising farmers who face financial distress is unlikely to pass muster especially in the run-up to state elections. Instead, based on a recent study, we see the potential in providing farmers financial incentives to not burn.

We studied crop residue management in 171 villages in Punjab in 2019 and ran a randomised evaluation of a cash payment programme through J-PAL South Asia that rewarded farmers who did not burn their paddy stubble in kharif 2019.

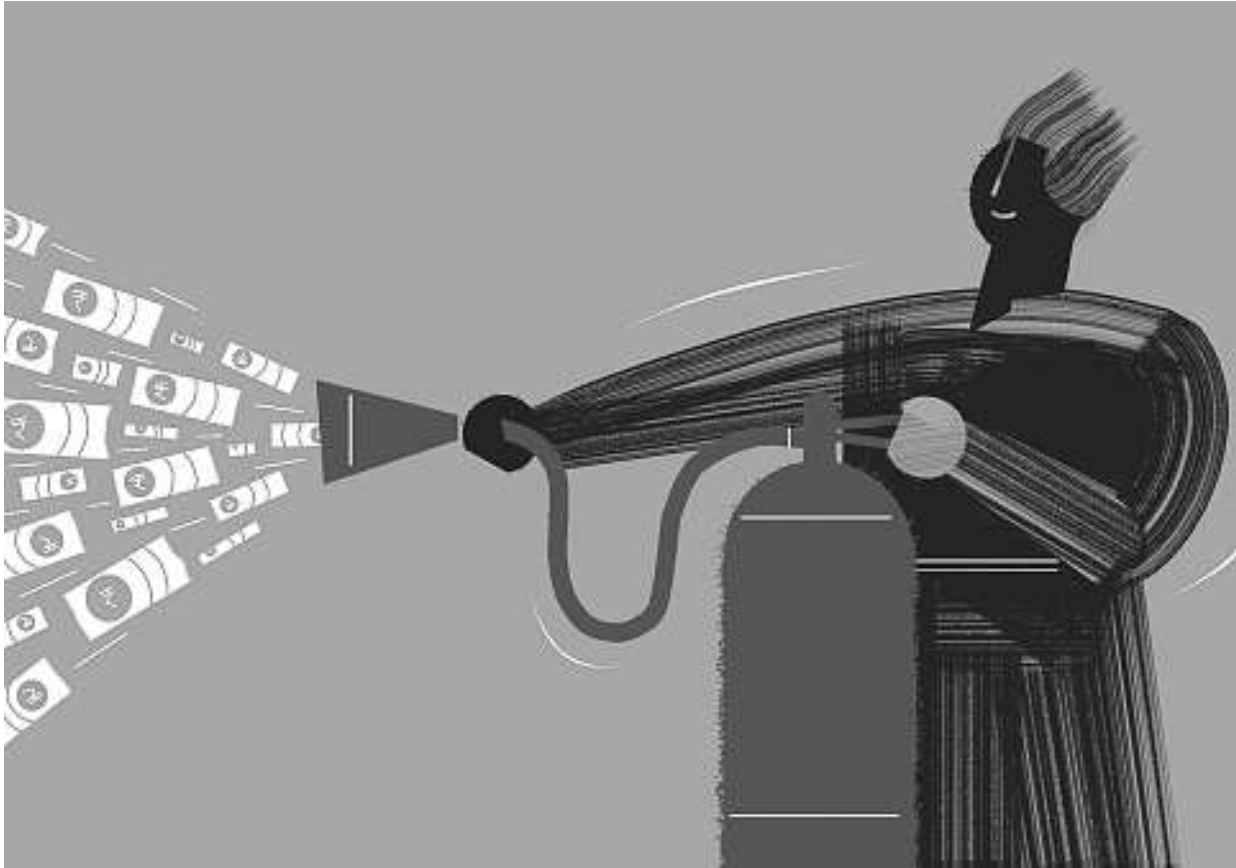
Our study revealed four important lessons for policy. The first two are about how farmers view the decision to burn and the other two are about how cash transfers can help.

First, farmers perceive the alternatives to burning as too expensive, even though the central government has subsidised equipment for crop residue management. For them, the subsidies have not changed the calculus that moving away from burning hurts their bottom line.

Second, farmers state a preference for ex-situ management equipment such as balers over in-situ machinery such as the Happy Seeder and the Super SMS. They prefer to remove the paddy stubble from the field rather than working it into the field.

The good news is that the cash transfers we offered succeeded in getting some farmers to switch from burning to residue management, in no small part because they began to change the financial calculus and allowed farmers to use the removal method they preferred.

The third lesson that emerged from our study pertains to the best format of cash transfers: It was critical to offer some of the payment upfront. In principle, one could



CR Sasikumar

ask the farmer to manage stubble without burning, verify that, and then pay him only afterwards. However, this approach did not work in our study. Cash rewards worked only if a portion of the payment was given at the beginning.

Why is partial upfront payment essential? One reason is that it builds trust. Without it, farmers do not trust that they will get the promised payment afterwards. It also gives farmers some financial cushion given they need to pay for the equipment rental. They need cash to manage the stubble, so providing it to them after they have demonstrated they managed it properly is too late.

The final lesson is that the rewards farmers are offered need to cover their costs of managing stubble without burning. In our study, we offered Rs 800 per acre to most farmers, which accounted for about a quarter of the costs of equipment rental. That sufficed to get some farmers to change behaviour — the programme succeeded in reducing burning. But the majority of farmers who were offered that payment level still burned their paddy stubble. The problem was that they were still being expected to cover the remaining costs themselves — upwards of Rs 2,000 per acre.

Our study results suggest that a subsidy of about Rs 2,500 per acre should be able to achieve a marked reduction in burning. This was the amount the states of Punjab and Haryana had planned to pay farmers in 2019. Widespread health benefits mean that subsidising the entire cost for farmers to make the switch away from burning their paddy stubble is worth it for society.

In light of these four lessons, there are different ways forward in dealing with the issue of crop burning in the short run.

The third lesson that emerged from our study pertains to the best format of cash transfers: It was critical to offer some of the payment upfront. In principle, one could ask the farmer to manage stubble without burning, verify that, and then pay him only afterwards. However, this approach did not work in our study. Cash rewards worked only if a portion of the payment was given at the beginning. Why is partial upfront payment essential? One reason is that it builds trust. Without it, farmers do not trust that they will get the promised payment afterwards. It also gives farmers some financial cushion given they need to pay for the equipment rental.

First, of course, the government could restart conditional cash payments. Our study shows that this strategy can work, if the policy is designed correctly.

Other options are also on the table, though it will be important to test both the design and impact of these options to ensure they actually reduce burning.

The government can subsidise ex-situ equipment. Policies that may reap benefits in the longer run include further encouraging the operation of biogas plants, which could reduce the net cost of ex-situ management because farmers can sell the crop residue, or to encourage innovation of new, much cheaper and more appealing farm equipment for in-situ management.

An effective policy solution will be one that takes into account farmers' preferred method of crop residue management (ex-situ right now) and recognises that they are making a financial calculation.

Testing effectiveness before these policies are scaled up is important for avoiding spending on things that don't work.

Finding effective ways to make farmers prefer crop residue management to burning would bring large gains to society. The budget allocation to such policies will pay for themselves many times over with improved health and economic productivity for everyone.

*Jack is associate professor of environmental and development economics, University of California Santa Barbara; Kala is assistant professor in applied economics, MIT Sloan School of Management; Pande is professor of economics and director of Economic Growth Center, Yale University; Jayachandran is professor of economics, Northwestern University*

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“For two investigative journalists to have to win the Nobel Peace Prize 2021 is not only an unprecedented accolade; in an increasingly repressive global environment, it has implications far beyond their own inspirational work.” — DAWN

## Recovery on uneven ground

RBI will continue to be tolerant of inflation until the economy is on surer footing



DHARMAKIRTI JOSHI

THE MONETARY POLICY Committee of the RBI kept the benchmark policy rates unchanged, and retained the accommodative stance in its October review. As expected, the policy statement was dovish. Clearly, Mint Road doesn't as yet want to call the ongoing recovery sustainable. As a corollary, it will tend to be tolerant of inflation till the Covid-19 pandemic abates significantly, and there is a broad-basing of recovery.

It's important to remember that monetary policy these days is influenced by both local macroeconomic developments and the global monetary policy direction, with the former playing a dominant role. Locally, after the second wave of the pandemic, a variety of indicators such as the Purchasing Managers Index (manufacturing and services), mobility indicators, government tax collections, exports and imports are pointing at an improvement in economic activity. CRISIL estimates real GDP growth at 9.5 per cent for the current fiscal. And nominal GDP growth is forecasted to be much higher at 17 per cent because of elevated inflation.

Then there is the good news on the monsoon front. With a late pick-up in rains, the cumulative deficiency in this monsoon season has come down to just 1 per cent of the long-period average (LPA). Moreover, sowing is now at 102 per cent of normal levels. Despite uneven spatial distribution and some damage from late rains, there is no indication of a major letdown. The average live storage at reservoirs has crossed the decadal average and reached 80 per cent of capacity. This augurs well for rabi crops, which depend on irrigation. Consequently, we expect agricultural GDP to grow by 3 per cent this fiscal.

To be sure, since the MPC's August 2021 policy review, Covid-19 cases have trended down and there has been admirable progress on the vaccination front. But there is no room for complacency — the virus is down, but certainly not out. The global experience, even in sufficiently vaccinated economies, shows that vaccines blunt the virus but do not defeat it — at least, not yet. The intensity of the third wave remains a key risk to growth and wellbeing for the rest of this fiscal. Also, despite high year-on-year growth numbers, the level of economic activity this fiscal will only be 1.5 per cent above 2019-2020. Both investment and private consumption remain weak. But there are some other disconcerting trends too.

To be sure, the government is doing its part. Capital expenditure of both the Centre and states is on track to meet the budgetary commitment, supported by healthy tax collections. And large companies in industrial sectors such as steel, cement, non-ferrous metals are operating at healthy utilisation levels, and have deleveraged their balance sheets.

But the going is not so good for the smaller ones. An analysis by CRISIL Research shows that last fiscal, utilisation at India's top five steel makers was 81 per cent on average compared to 62 per cent for the rest. For the top five cement makers, it was 71 per cent vs 54 per cent for the rest. Brownfield investments are being done by the larger companies. Clearly, smaller companies need policy support. The extension of the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme is a recognition of that.

Private consumption is not broad-based either. Even in goods consumption, which is faring better than services, the nature of demand seems skewed towards relatively higher-value items such as cars and utility vehicles (now getting hit by semiconductor shortages). On the other hand, demand for lower-ticket items such as two-wheelers remains subdued. This probably reflects the income dichotomy spawned by the pandemic. And also, while year-on-year growth in ACs, TVs, washing machines may be in double digits this fiscal, it is unlikely to cross the 2019-2020 levels.

As for inflation, its fall to 5.3 per cent in August offers only limited comfort for two reasons. One, core and fuel inflation, which have 54 per cent weightage in CPI, remain stubbornly high and will stay so for a few more quarters given the rise in crude oil prices, the continuing supply disruptions, and the spike in freight costs.

Second, food prices have nudged down overall inflation. The high base effect in food items will be at play till the end of 2021 and after that, non-food inflation will come down as supply-side disruptions ease. This seems to underlie the RBI's reduction of the CPI forecast to 5.3 per cent from 5.7 per cent for the ongoing year.

Domestic growth-inflation dynamics suggest that the RBI has little option but to remain more tolerant of persistent price pressures, and hope that these will eventually prove transitory because they have been primarily driven by supply shocks caused by the pandemic.

Globally, the monetary policy environment is veering towards normalisation/tapering/interest-rate rise largely due to an upward surprise in inflation, or because some central banks feel the objectives of quantitative easing have been met. Central banks in advanced economies such as Norway, Korea and New Zealand have recently raised rates, while those in Australia, Sweden, and the UK have trimmed their asset purchases. Emerging countries, particularly those that follow inflation targeting, have started raising rates. The two systemically important central banks — the US Federal Reserve (Fed) and the European Central Bank (ECB) — view the current spike in inflation as fleeting and have communicated greater tolerance for it for a longer period. While the Fed has advanced its tapering timeline, the ECB seems in no hurry.

We believe the process of mopping up excess liquidity will slowly gain pace over the next few months, followed by a policy rate hike sometime around early 2022. By then, there should be enough clarity on the third wave and the stance of the Fed and the ECB, who would be holding their review meetings in mid-December this year.

*Joshi is Chief Economist, CRISIL Ltd*



JAVED ANAND

IF RIGHT-WING HINDUS and right-wing Muslims are equally displeased with “elite Muslims” like Javed Akhtar and Naseeruddin Shah, they must be doing something right. In the latest salvo against them, A Faizur Rahman, a self-described moderate Muslim, accuses people like Akhtar and Naseeruddin Shah of fuelling Islamophobia, even if “unwittingly” (*The Prejudice Within*, IE, October 4). That's one way of saying they are being “anti-Islam”, “anti-Muslim”. Akhtar and Shah should perhaps be pleased with such labelling for this places them right in the company of liberal and progressive Hindus who are constantly targeted by right-wing Hindus for being “anti-Hindu”.

For Rahman, the original sins of Akhtar and Shah lie in signing a statement on the Taliban, along with over 150 other Indian Muslims, issued by “a Mumbai-based Muslim outfit”. (Full disclosure: the “outfit” in question is Indian Muslims for Secular Democracy [IMSD] of which this writer is the national convener). The statement had bemoaned the fact that “a section of Indian Muslims” were euphoric over the return of Taliban to power in Afghanistan. Rahman alleges that such “carelessly used phrases” end up “fueling Islamophobic suspicions about the ideological moderateness of Indian Muslims.”

That's curious logic coming from a person as well-read and well-informed as Rahman. No doubt, he has heard of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB), an umbrella

## Heed their words

Islamophobia is fuelled by silence of moderate Muslims, not by their criticism

body in which most Sunni religious bodies are represented. Rahman cannot be unaware of the Board's consistent claim that unlike the “man-made” laws, Shariah laws are “God-given” and therefore immutable for all times. Unfortunately for the Board, in a country such as India, allegiance to Shariah laws must remain confined to a dogged defence of Muslim Personal Law. But the ideal remains an “Islamic state” governed by God-given laws.

The day they assumed power the Taliban declared that Afghanistan will not be a democracy but an “Islamic Emirate” run in accordance with Shariah laws. That was the specific context of the IMSD statement calling upon Indian Muslims to reject the Islamic Emirate in Afghanistan. The opening paragraph of the statement read: “Indian Muslims for Secular Democracy rejects the very idea of a theocratic state anywhere in the world. It therefore questions the legitimacy of the ‘Islamic Emirate’ the Taliban seek to impose...” Bemoaning the fact that “a section of Indian Muslims” were delighted with the Taliban's capture of power, the statement added: “It is nothing but sheer opportunism and hypocrisy to stand in support of a secular state in a country like India where Muslims are in a minority and applaud the imposition of Shariah rule wherever they are in a majority. Such rank double-standard gives legitimacy to the sangh parivar's agenda for a Hindu Rashtra”.

IMSD's statement was issued following the statements of two top-level functionaries of

the Board and the Jamaat-e-Islami organisation, as also the feedback IMSD received from grassroots-level Muslim activists from several parts of the country. Who other than Rahman will deny that an organisation such as the Board, which can bring out tens of thousands of Muslims on the streets across India, does speak for “a section of Indian Muslims”?

If Rahman is to be believed, it is not the return to power of the Taliban with its Islamic Emirate agenda, or the welcome statement by some Indian maulanahs, which has fuelled Islamophobia, but the “carelessly used phrases” in the IMSD statement!

In his article Rahman cites former prime minister Manmohan Singh and prime minister Narendra Modi to establish that Muslim terror outfits have found hardly any takers among Indian Muslims. Isn't he chasing a red herring? What does that have to do with anything said by Akhtar, Shah or IMSD? Who has argued that religious fundamentalism, intolerance, orthodoxy AND support to the idea of a theocratic state per se equals support to terrorism in the name of Islam? What has been said, and rightly so, is that there exists a striking similarity in the world-views of the religious right, irrespective of the faith they claim to speak for.

The growth of Islamophobia in India and across the globe should certainly be a matter of concern for not only Muslims but all right-thinking, peace-loving people. Equally, we need to beware of what some call the “phobia

of Islamophobia” — a defence mechanism, a not-so-clever attempt to silence even rational criticism of Muslims or Islam, or the call for Muslim reform. Like charity, criticism must also begin at home.

Silence is not, cannot be an option for progressive Muslims for fear of feeding Islamophobia. If anything, the Islamophobes are forever asking the question: Why don't moderate Muslims speak? The sad fact is that very few moderate Muslim voices were heard when in July 2013, the Chennai police cancelled the lecture tour of the African-American feminist Islamic scholar Amina Wadud at the last minute because some Muslim outfit threatened to protest. Very few moderate Muslim voices were heard when in 2000 the Raza Academy threatened to burn alive the Bangladeshi writer in exile, Taslima Nasreen if she “dared” enter Mumbai. Or when, for fear of losing Muslim votes, the Left Front government in West Bengal airlifted her to the then BJP-ruled Rajasthan in 2007.

What fuels Islamophobia is not when Muslims like Akhtar and Shah, or IMSD, speak out against the unsavoury words and deeds of some Muslim organisation or individual. It is the near silence of the moderate Muslims in such situations that is taken by Islamophobes as proof that “all Muslims are like that only”.

*The writer in convener, Indian Muslims for Secular Democracy and co-editor, Sabrang India online*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### NAME GAME

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Much in a name’ (IE, October 11). The proposal to rename the Jim Corbett park is the latest in a series of name changes championed by the government. From streets and railway stations to renaming cities, the state has been accused, not without reason, of whitewashing history and attempting to erase our multicultural legacy. The proposal is all the more significant at a time when mining and other activities are given the green light without due consideration for ecological damage. The government should prioritise environment protection.

*Ila Railkar, Mumbai*

### VALID, PRIMA FACIE

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘How to reimagine nationalism’ (IE, October 11). The author argues for the constitutional turf as a meeting ground for the opposition. He also invokes the syncretic tradition of bhakti as the binding force of the majority of diverse cultural, lingual and religious background. In principle, there cannot be any doubt in the validity of these arguments. On the contrary, the opposition has a mindset that the winning formula could be only be what the ruling dispensation is making use of.

*G. Javaid Rasool, Lucknow*

### LOOK INWARD

THIS REFERS TO the report, ‘Hindus converting for marriage are committing

wrong, says RSS chief’ (IE, October 11). Recently, the Gujarat High Court has stayed the key provisions of Gujarat Freedom of Religion (Amendment) Act, and stated that if interfaith marriage is solemnised without force, allurement, or fraudulent means then such marriages cannot be termed as marriages for the purpose of unlawful conversion. The Supreme Court is also examining the constitutional validity of similar laws passed by Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh to halt the so-called “love-jihad”. The RSS ought to look inward as to why B.R. Ambedkar along with 3,65,000 of his Dalit followers left Hinduism and embraced Buddhism. And even today, many Dalits continue to do so.

*L.R. Murmu, Delhi*

### SOCIAL CONTROL

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Fixing the tax leak’ (IE, Oct 11). The inherent greed in human nature will keep outsmarting whatever measures nations take to control tax avoidance. Today's technology and globalisation makes it much easier to create webs to hide one's wealth. The only effective way of combating this menace could be use of communication technology to socially stigmatise these clever people. By continuously maintaining a negative focus on these worthies on all social media platforms, a scenario can be created that will force tax compliance as a lesser evil for these filthy rich people.

*Shubhada H, via email*



# 12 The World

## TOPOF THE WORLD



At an oil facility in the town of Zahrani, in Lebanon, Monday. *AP*

### LEBANON

## Massive fire extinguished at oil facility

FIREFIGHTERS EXTINGUISHED a huge blaze that broke out in a storage tank at one of Lebanon's main oil facilities in the country's south Monday after it sent orange flames and a thick black column of smoke into the sky. Energy Minister Walid Fayad said the fire broke out when workers were transferring gasoline from one storage tank to another in the coastal town of Zahrani. He said nearly 250,000 liters of gasoline were burnt during the blaze, which lasted more than three hours. The fire came as cash-strapped Lebanon struggles through a serious power crisis partly due to severe shortages in fuel that has resulted in electricity cuts lasting up to 22 hours a day. **AP**

### RUSSIA

## Navalny says his prison designated him a terrorist

JAILED KREMLIN critic Alexei Navalny said on Monday that a prison commission had designated him an extremist and a terrorist, but officially no longer regarded him as a flight risk. Navalny said on Instagram that he had been summoned before a commission which voted unanimously in favour of the change of status. The designation marks a further escalation of official pressure against President Vladimir Putin's most prominent domestic critic, currently serving two-and-a-half years in prison for parole violations he says were trumped up to thwart his political ambitions. **REUTERS**

### EGYPT

## Three held after Covid vaccines found dumped

EGYPT'S PUBLIC prosecution said on Sunday it had ordered the arrest of three people after thousands of unused Covid-19 vaccines were found dumped along a water channel. It said the vaccines had been allocated to the health directorate in the city of Minya, about 220 km south of Cairo, where 18,400 vaccine packages with a value of more than \$319,000 were found to be missing. An inventory found nearly 5,000 more packages had been lost from the depot because of storage at improper temperatures, a prosecution statement added. **REUTERS**

### POLAND

## Arrests after massive pro-EU demonstration

POLICE IN Warsaw said Monday that four people, including the prime minister's nephew, were detained during a massive protest against government policy that critics say could cost Poland its European Union membership. Organisers and city authorities say up to 100,000 people took part in the protest in Warsaw on Sunday to show their support for the EU. A nephew of Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki alleged a police officer kicked him in the head while he was on the ground being detained. **AP**

## UK police say won't act against Prince Andrew over abuse claim

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
LONDON, OCTOBER 11

BRITISH POLICE have announced they will not take any action against Prince Andrew after a review prompted by a Jeffrey Epstein accuser who claims that he sexually assaulted her.

Virginia Giuffre claims she was trafficked by Epstein to have sex with Andrew in London in 2001, when she was age 17 and a minor under US law. She is suing the prince in a US court.

Andrew, the second son of Queen Elizabeth II, denies the allegations. He told the BBC in 2019 that he never had sex with Giuffre, saying, "It didn't happen."

In August, London's Metropolitan Police force began a review of allegations connected to late convicted sex offender Epstein. Police chief Cressida Dick said at the time that "no one is above the law."

The force said late Sunday that its "review has concluded and we are taking no further action."

It also said it would take no action over allegations, first reported by Channel 4 News, that Epstein's alleged accomplice, Ghislaine Maxwell, trafficked, groomed and abused women and girls in the UK.

Maxwell, a British socialite, is in a US jail awaiting trial on charges that she recruited teenage girls for Epstein to abuse.



Prince Andrew

## Iraq says it has arrested top leader in Islamic State group

QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA  
BAGHDAD, OCTOBER 11

IRAQ SAID on Monday it has detained a top leader of the Islamic State group and a longtime al-Qaida operative in a cross-border operation.

Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi tweeted the news, identifying the man as Sami Jasim, who oversees the Islamic State group's financial operations and served as the deputy leader of IS under the late Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

Al-Kadhimi described it as "one of the most difficult" cross border intelligence operations



Customers enjoy a morning coffee as stores begin to open in a shopping centre after more than 100 days of lockdown, in Sydney on Monday. *AP*

## 'Freedom Day': Sydney reopens as Australia looks to live with Covid

RENJU JOSE & JONATHAN BARRETT  
SYDNEY, OCTOBER 11

SYDNEY'S CAFES, gyms and restaurants welcomed back fully vaccinated customers on Monday after nearly four months of lockdown, as Australia aims to begin living with the coronavirus and gradually reopen with high rates of inoculation.

Some pubs in Sydney, Australia's largest city, opened at 12.01 am (1301 GMT Sunday) and friends and families huddled together for a midnight beer, television footage and social media images showed.

"I see it as a day of freedom, it's a freedom day," New South Wales (NSW) state Premier Dominic Perrottet told reporters in Sydney, the state capital. "We are leading the nation out of this pandemic

## EXPLAINED Increasing pressure on Morrison

AUSTRALIA'S PRIME Minister Scott Morrison must call an election at some point in the next seven months, and he has come under increasing pressure to press all states to lift their lockdowns well in advance of the voting, and allow a semblance of normality by Christmas. The rest of the country will be closely watching New South Wales to see how it emerges out of a lockdown amid fears of a rise in cases soon after reopening.

but this will be a challenge."

Perrottet warned that infections would rise after reopening,

and virus-free states such as Western Australia and Queensland are watching what living with Covid-19 is going to look like amid concerns health systems could be overwhelmed.

While NSW's dual-dose vaccination rate in people above 16 hit 74%, in neighbouring Queensland, whose borders remain closed to Sydney-siders, the rate is only 52% and the state government is following an elimination strategy with rapid lockdowns to control any outbreak.

Perrottet has declared an end to lockdowns in NSW and has strong support for reopening in Sydney, whose more than 5 million residents endured severe restrictions from mid-June following an outbreak of the Delta variant.

The outbreak has since spread to Melbourne and Canberra, forcing lockdowns in those cities. **REUTERS**

## Cleric Sadr wins Iraq vote, ex-PM Maliki close behind, say officials

AHMED RASHEED & JOHN DAVISON  
BAGHDAD, OCTOBER 11

SHIA MUSLIM cleric Moqtada al-Sadr's party was the biggest winner in an Iraqi election on Monday, increasing the number of seats he holds in parliament, according to initial results, officials and a spokesperson for the Sadrist Movement.

Former prime minister Nouri al-Maliki looked set to have the next largest win among Shia parties, the initial results showed.

Iraq's Shia groups have dom-



Moqtada al-Sadr

inated governments and government formation since the US-led invasion of 2003 that toppled Sunni dictator Saddam Hussein and catapulted the Shia majority and the Kurds to power.

Sunday's election was held

## Merck asks US FDA to authorise promising anti-Covid pill

MATTHEW PERRONE  
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 11

DRUGMAKER MERCK asked US regulators Monday to authorise its pill against Covid-19 in what would add an entirely new and easy-to-use weapon to the world's arsenal against the pandemic.

If cleared by the Food and Drug Administration — a decision that could come in a matter of weeks — it would be the first pill shown to treat Covid-19. All other FDA-backed treatments against the disease require an IV or injection.

An antiviral pill that people could take at home to reduce their symptoms and speed recovery could prove groundbreaking, easing the crushing caseload on US hospitals and helping to curb outbreaks in poorer countries with weak health care systems. It would also bolster the two-pronged approach to the pandemic: treatment, by way of medication, and prevention, primarily through vaccinations.

The FDA will scrutinise company data on the safety and effectiveness of the drug, molnupiravir, before rendering a decision.

Merck and its partner Ridgeback Biotherapeutics said they specifically asked the agency to grant emergency use for adults with mild-to-moderate Covid who are at risk for severe disease or hospitalisation. That is roughly the way Covid infusion drugs are used.

"The value here is that it's a pill so you don't have to deal with the infusion centers and all the factors around that," said Dr. Nicholas Kartsonis, a senior vice president with Merck's infectious disease unit. "I think it's a very powerful tool to add to the toolbox." **AP**

## US: Taliban talks in Doha 'candid and professional'

Taliban officials say they welcome 'US offer of humanitarian assistance'

DAVID BRUNNSTROM  
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 11

THE UNITED STATES said on Sunday the first face-to-face meeting between senior US and Taliban officials since the headline group retook power in Afghanistan was "candid and professional" and that the US side reiterated that the Taliban would be judged on their actions, not just their words.

State Department spokesman Ned Price said the US delegation at the weekend talks in Doha, Qatar, focused on security and terrorism concerns and safe passage for US citizens, other foreign nationals and Afghans, as well as on human rights, including the meaningful participation of women and girls in all aspects of Afghan society.

He said the two sides also discussed "the United States' provision of robust humanitarian assistance, directly to the Afghan people".

"The discussions were candid and professional with the US delegation reiterating that the Taliban will be judged on its actions, not only its words," Price said in a statement.

It did not say if any agreements were reached.

The foreign ministry in Kabul said the two-day meeting went well. It welcomed the US offer of humanitarian assistance and said local authorities would facilitate delivery and cooperate with aid groups but said such assistance "should not be linked to political issues".

"Detailed discussions were held during the meeting about all relevant issues. And efforts should be exerted to restore diplomatic relations to a better state," the ministry said in a statement, adding that similar meetings would be held in future if required.

On Saturday, Qatar-based Al Jazeera television quoted Afghanistan's acting foreign



Taliban delegates in a plane in this handout photo released on Saturday, the day the latest round of talks began. *Reuters*

minister as saying that Taliban representatives asked the US side to lift a ban on Afghan central bank reserves.

It said the minister, Amir Khan Muttaqi, also said Washington would offer Afghans coronavirus vaccines and that the two sides discussed "opening a new page" between the two countries.

Biden administration officials told Reuters on Friday the US delegation would press the Taliban to release kidnapped American Mark Frerichs. Another top priority would be to hold the Taliban to their commitment not to allow Afghanistan to again become a hotbed for al Qaeda or other extremists.

The Taliban took back power in Afghanistan in August, almost 20 years after they were ousted in a US-led invasion for refusing to hand over al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden following the Sept 11, 2001, attacks on the United States.

The US officials said the weekend meeting was a continuation of "pragmatic engagements" with the Taliban and "not about granting recognition or conferring legitimacy" to the group.

US officials say they are in contact with dozens of Americans and legal permanent residents who wish to leave Afghanistan and there are thousands of US-allied Afghans at risk of Taliban persecution still in the country. **REUTERS**

## Pak journalist killed in bomb attack in Balochistan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
KARACHI, OCTOBER 11

A 35-YEAR-OLD Pakistani journalist was killed in an attack claimed to have been carried out by the banned Balochistan Liberation Army in the country's restive Balochistan province, media reports said on Monday.

Shahid Zehri, who has been associated with Metro 1 News, was travelling in a car in the town of Hub when he was attacked on Sunday, reportedly with a homemade grenade, Eidgah Station House Officer Nadeem Haider was quoted as saying by *Dawn*.

Zehri, who suffered critical injuries, and another injured person were initially taken to Hub Civil Hospital and subsequently brought to the Dr Ruth Pfau Civil Hospital Karachi, where Zehri was pronounced dead, the report said.

CCTV footage of the incident seen by *Dawn* showed an explosion that took place on the roadside near Zehri's moving car as

soon as it made a U-turn on a busy road. The nature of the bomb could not be confirmed immediately.

Later, the banned Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement.

In February, the Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors' (CPNE) Media Freedom Report 2020 had revealed that at least 10 journalists were murdered and several others threatened, kidnapped, tortured and arrested in Pakistan on trumped-up charges while discharging their professional responsibilities in 2020 alone, the *Dawn* report said.

"It is a matter of grave concern that the legal system of the country has become useless in protecting and providing justice to journalists," said the report.

Balochistan has been witnessing a spate of violence for years.

In 2019, the United States designated the BLA, which is fighting Pakistani rule in Balochistan province, as a terrorist organisation.

## Missing apostrophe in FB post lands man in defamation court

LIVIA ALBECK-RIPKA  
OCTOBER 11

A MISSING apostrophe could cost a real estate agent tens of thousands of dollars after an Australian court ruled a defamation case against him could proceed over a Facebook post.

The agent, Anthony Zadravic, who is based on the Central Coast in New South Wales, posted the message Oct. 22, accusing his former workplace and a man named Stuart Gan of not paying retirement funds to all its workers.

Less than 12 hours later, he deleted the post. But it was too late. Gan became aware of the message and filed a defamation claim against Zadravic, setting off a tus-

le over a punctuation mark no larger than a pinhead in a country that has earned a reputation as the defamation capital of the world.

In matters of punctuation, social media is the Wild West. In some corners of the internet, careless grammar is highly tolerated — even a badge of honour. In legal matters, however, disputed punctuation can cost millions.

One recent case in Portland, Maine, on overtime for truck drivers hinged on the lack of an Oxford comma in state law. The case, settled in 2018 for \$5 million, gained international notoriety when the 1st US Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the missing comma created enough uncertainty to side with the drivers. It gave grammar obsessives and those who

adore the Oxford comma a chance to revel in the victory.

In Zadravic's case, the Australian court scrutinised the word "employees" in his post criticising the company: "Oh Stuart Gan!! Selling multi million \$ homes in Pearl Beach but can't pay his employees superannuation," the post read. "Shame on you Stuart!!! 2yrs and still waiting!!!"

According to court documents, in his defence, Zadravic appeared to imply that he had meant to add an apostrophe.

But Thursday, a judge shot down his attempts to have the case throttled on the grounds that it was trivial, stating that the absent apostrophe could have been read to suggest a "systematic pattern of conduct" by Gan's agency. **NYT**



The Beatles, (from left) Ringo Starr, John Lennon, George Harrison and Paul McCartney. *Reuters file*

my life, so I wanted it to continue."

When the singer-songwriter was asked about his decision to strike out on his own, McCartney told the interviewer to "stop right there" before setting out his

explanation of what happened.

"Oh no, no, no, John walked into a room one day and said I am leaving the Beatles," McCartney said. "And he said, 'It's quite thrilling, it's rather like

a divorce'. And then we were left to pick up the pieces."

McCartney said the band would have continued if Lennon had not walked away.

"I thought we were doing some pretty good stuff — *Abbey Road*, *Let It Be*, not bad," he said.

McCartney claims after Lennon announced he wanted to leave, the remaining members of the group were advised by their new manager, Allen Klein, to keep their impending disbandment a secret while he tied up some loose ends.

"So for a few months we had to pretend," McCartney said. "It was weird because we all knew it was the end of the Beatles but we couldn't just walk away."

McCartney's full interview with the BBC will be broadcast on October 23.





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

# Public-private partnership breaches space frontier

PRANAV MUKUL & AASHISH ARYAN  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Monday launched the Indian Space Association (ISpA), an industry body consisting of various stakeholders of the Indian space domain. The members of the organisation include government bodies such as Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and private telecom companies such as Bharti Airtel's One Web, Tata Group's Nelcom, L&T, MapMyIndia, and others.

## Why is the formation of ISpA significant?

Ever since the race to reach the space and then land on the Moon began between the US and the erstwhile USSR, governments across the world have poured millions of dollars to push the envelope in term of exploring the edges of the space. With time, governments and government agencies collaborated to ex-

plore newer planets and galaxies in search of life forms that exist outside Earth.

In the recent past, private sector companies such as Elon Musk's SpaceX, Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic, and Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin have taken the lead in spaceflight, promising to start tourist flights to space.

Though India too has made significant strides in space exploration over time, state-run ISRO has been at the centre and front of this progress. Several private sector companies, however, have shown an interest in India's space domain, with space-based communication networks coming to the fore.

## What does ISpA aim to achieve?

One of the main goals of the organisation is to supplement the government's efforts towards making India a global leader in commercial space-based excursions. Of late, ISRO's rockets have been carrying the payload and communication satellites of various countries; now, private players will also look to broach



ISpA Director General Lt Gen A.K. Bhatt (retired), Chairman Jayant Patil, and Bharti Enterprises Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal at the launch. PTI

this space with the new organisation.

ISpA said it would engage with stakeholders across the ecosystem for the formulation of an enabling policy framework which fulfils the government vision of leading commercial space exploration. "ISpA will also work towards building global linkages for the Indian

space industry to bring in critical technology and investments into the country to create more high skill jobs," the organisation said.

## Who are the stakeholders in this organisation? How will they contribute?

ISpA will be represented by leading domestic and global corporations that have advanced capabilities in space and satellite technologies. The founding members include telecom service providers such as Bharti Airtel, engineering firm Larson & Toubro, and other companies such as Nelco of Tata Group, OneWeb, MapmyIndia, Walchandnagar Industries and Alpha Design Technologies.

Other core members include Godrej, Hughes India, Ananth Technology Limited, Azista-BST Aerospace Private Limited, BEL, Centum Electronics, and Maxar India.

In India, the space-based communications network has taken off with several Indian and international companies betting on it as the next frontier to provide high-speed and af-

fordable Internet connectivity to inaccessible areas as well. This includes SpaceX's StarLink, Sunil Bharti Mittal's OneWeb, Amazon's Project Kuiper, US satellite maker Hughes Communications, etc.

OneWeb, for example, is building its initial constellation of 648 low-earth orbit satellites and has already put 322 satellites into orbit. Its services are expected to begin this year to the Arctic region including Alaska, Canada, and the UK. By late 2022, OneWeb will offer its high-speed, low latency connectivity services in India and the rest of the world.

In addition, StarLink and Amazon are also in discussion with the Indian government for a licence to offer satellite-based Internet services. SpaceX has a plan to create a network of 12,000 satellites of which over 1,300 are already sky-borne.

## Why is satellite-based Internet important in India?

The expansion of the Internet in India is

crucial to the Modi government's dream of a digital India where a majority of government services are delivered directly to the customer. Although the government aims to connect all villages and gram panchayats with high-speed Internet over the next 1000 days through BharatNet, internet connectivity in hilly areas and far-flung places of Northeast India are still a challenge.

To overcome this, industry experts suggest that satellite Internet will be essential for broadband inclusion in remote areas and sparsely populated locations where terrestrial networks have not reached. As of now, however, satellite communications remains limited to use by corporates and institutions that use it for emergency use, critical trans-continental communications and for connecting to remote areas with no connectivity.

As of August this year, India had only 3 lakh satellite communications customers, compared with 45 lakh in the US and 21 lakh in the European Union.

## SIMPLY PUT

# Top prize for labour economics

The winners of the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel gave insights on the relationship between education and future earnings, and between minimum wages and employment

UDIT MISRA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

ON MONDAY, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2021 — often incorrectly referred to as the Nobel Prize in Economics — to three US-based economists. One half of the award has gone to David Card, who teaches at the University of California at Berkeley, and the other half jointly to Joshua D Angrist of MIT and Guido W Imbens of Stanford University. The prize money of 10 million Swedish kronor (Rs 8.60 crore) will be divided accordingly. Imbens, who answered the call from the Academy, was particularly thrilled to have received the award along with his long-time friends; he was not only Imbens's PhD supervisor but also the best man at his wedding.

## Cause & effect

The citation states: "This year's Laureates have provided us with new insights about the labour market and shown what conclusions about cause and effect can be drawn from natural experiments. Their approach has spread to other fields and revolutionised empirical research."

To understand, one needs to look at some of the most important questions in society today: Does immigration affect salaries and employment levels? Do investments in school education improve the future earnings of students? Will raising minimum wages lead to lower employment levels?

All these questions have been relevant and continue to be so across time and geographies. But what is particularly tricky about answering any such question is the inability to create a randomised control trial wherein one deprives some kids of school education and provides it to others to ascertain the answer.

This is where this year's winners stood out. They found ways to cut through the often observed correlations and established whether or not they exhibited causality. To be sure, correlation is simply the occurrence of two events together, but mere correlation does not imply causality (which requires a clear understanding that one event "causes" the other.)

## Card: wages & jobs

Card's use of so-called "natural experiments" (situations arising in real life that resemble randomised experiments) has been both revealing and exemplary.

For example, it is commonly held that raising minimum wages lead to lower employ-

## SVERIGES RIKSBANK PRIZE IN ECONOMIC SCIENCES IN MEMORY OF ALFRED NOBEL



DAVID CARD, 'for his empirical contributions to labour economics'

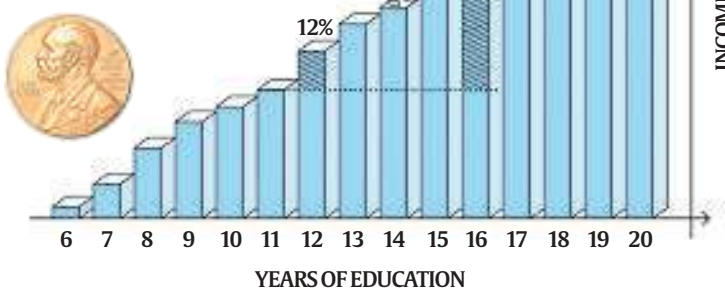


JOSHUA D ANGRIST (centre) & GUIDO W IMBENS, 'for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships'



## THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN EDUCATION AND INCOME

There is a clear correlation between years of education and income. But does this mean there is also causation?



Data from Angrist and Krueger (1991) show that people with 12 years of education have incomes 12% higher, and people with 16 years of education have 65% higher, than those of people with 11 years of education. [nobelprize.org](http://nobelprize.org)

ment. The argument is that higher wages will increase costs for the firms and lead to employers recruiting fewer people. But is it the case that higher wages "cause" employment to fall? Or, is it the case that just because the two things have been seen to occur on several occasions, one has, incorrectly, started believing that higher wages lead to lower employment?

Card used a "natural experiment" to test out this presumed causality. In 1992, the hourly minimum wage in New Jersey was increased from \$4.25 to \$5.05. Card, along with Alan Krueger, studied the effect on employment in New Jersey and compared it with employment in neighbouring areas of eastern

Pennsylvania. "The results showed, among other things, that increasing the minimum wage does not necessarily lead to fewer jobs," noted the Royal Swedish Academy. Card's "studies from the early 1990s challenged conventional wisdom, leading to new analyses and additional insights," they state.

## Angrist, Imbens: education, pay

Angrist and Imbens have been recognised "for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships". They helped make sense of the data from such natural experiments. This is crucial because unlike a clinical trial or randomised control trial, in a natu-

ral experiment a researcher is not in control of the experiment, making it difficult to draw precise conclusions and firm up causal links.

For example, extending compulsory education by a year for one group of students (but not another) may or may not affect everyone in the groups in the same way. "Some students would have kept studying anyway and, for them, the value of education is often not representative of the entire group. So, is it even possible to draw any conclusions about the effect of an extra year in school?" the Academy notes. "In the mid-1990s, the duo 'solved this methodological problem, demonstrating how precise conclusions about cause and effect can be drawn from natural experiments."

## The India context

The methodology, research and findings of these economists date back to the early and mid-90s and they have already had a tremendous influence on the research undertaken in several developing countries such as India.

For instance, in India, too, it is commonly held that higher minimum wages will be counterproductive for workers. It is noteworthy that last year, in the wake of the Covid-induced lockdowns, several states, including Uttar Pradesh, had summarily suspended several labour laws, including the ones regulating minimum wages, arguing that such a move will boost employment.

Leading labour economists such as Professor Ravi Srivastava, Director of Centre for Employment Studies in Institute for Human Development, and Radhicka Kapoor, Fellow at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, had argued against such deregulation last year. "Their studies did provide a justification for raising minimum wages in the US — a question on which the economics fraternity was very divided. I used it with other studies to justify a national minimum wage for India," said Srivastava.

Kapoor said the main learning from Card's work is that minimum wages can be increased in India without worrying about reducing employment. She pointed out that minimum wages in India are very low. The national minimum wage, for instance, is just Rs 180 per day.

Now, India has a minimum wages code; it will extend to unorganised sector workers. "So, enhancing minimum wages is very important to improve incomes in the unorganised sector as well," she said. "This (learning that raising minimum wages do not hold back employment) is particularly important given the aggregate demand constraints that exist in the Indian economy, especially among those who are at the bottom of the income distribution".

# Why Rajasthan's marriage registration Bill has kicked up a storm

APURVA VISHWANATH  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

A BILL passed last month by the Rajasthan Assembly, which amend a 2009 law on mandatory registration of marriages, including child marriages, has been embroiled in controversy. Amid demands to withdraw the Bill, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said Monday that the government would request the Governor to return the Bill. "We are getting it examined by the Law (department) and will request the Governor to send the law we've passed back to us. And we'll get it examined and post examination, we'll move it forward if needed, or not," he said.

The Bill was passed amidst opposition by the BJP, while civil society, women's organisations and the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) have written to Gehlot to withdraw the Bill on the ground that it legitimises child marriage. Petitions have been filed in the High Court and the Supreme Court.

## What is the amendment?

The Rajasthan Compulsory Registration of Marriages (Amendment) Bill, 2021 amends Section 8 of the Rajasthan Compulsory Registration of Marriages Act, 2009, which deals with "Duty to submit Memorandum". The Act itself defines Memorandum as the "Memorandum for registration of marriage."

Prior to the amendment, Section 8 read: "The parties, or in case the parties have not completed the age of twenty one years, the parents or as the case may be, guardian of the parties, shall be responsible to submit the memorandum within a period of thirty days from the date of solemnization of the marriage to the Registrar within whose jurisdiction the marriage is solemnized or both or any of the parties resides. (2) A memorandum, which is not submitted within the time limit specified in sub-section (1), may be submitted at any time on payment of penalty as may be prescribed."

After the amendment, which changes a key aspect in the age prescribed, Section 8 now reads: "The parties to the marriage, or in

case the bridegroom has not completed the age of twenty one years and/or bride has not completed the age of eighteen years, the parents or, as the case may be, guardian of the parties shall be responsible to submit the memorandum, in such manner, as may be prescribed, within a period of thirty days from the date of solemnization of the marriage to the Registrar within whose jurisdiction the marriage is solemnized, or the parties to the marriage or either of them are residing for at least thirty days before the date of submission of the memorandum."

Sub-section 2 has been amended to permit eligible parties — even if one or both are deceased — to submit the memorandum.

## Why has the amendment been made?

The state government, which has termed the amendment a "technical" one, argues that this would bring the age in line with central legislation which recognises the age of 18 as majority for a girl and 21 for a boy. Registration of child marriages would help in their faster annulment and help the government reach

out to more victims, particularly widows.

## Why has it been criticised?

Critics say compulsory registration of child marriage would legitimise it. Activists have also said the marriage certificate might in fact, contrary to government claims, become a hurdle in getting an annulment later as courts could cite lack of a marriage certificate as a reason to not grant an annulment. Child marriages are conducted mostly away from the public glare and could be hard to prove. But even prior to the amendment, registration of child marriages was compulsory under Section 8. The amendment only restricts its scope to women till the age of 18.

## How can a child marriage be registered?

Child marriages are not illegal *per se*, although there is a legal framework to prevent them. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, allows a child marriage to be annulled by either the bride or the groom who was a minor at the time of marriage when they attain the age of majority. So essentially, it gives them

an option to roll back the marriage as if it never happened. If the parties do not wish to annul the marriage, it would be considered a legitimate marriage. This shield is given to essentially ensure rights of minor girls in access to the marital home, marital property and ensure the legitimacy of offspring.

Child marriages under certain conditions however, are considered void automatically. This could be where the minor is forced, kidnapped for marriage, or is married for the purpose of human trafficking.

## Then how does the law strive to prevent child marriage?

Under Section 9, Prohibition of the Child Marriage Act, male adults shall be punished with imprisonment up to two years and/or a fine of Rs 1 lakh for marrying a minor girl. Under Section 10, "Whoever performs, conducts, directs or abets any child marriage shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment which may extend to two years and shall be liable to fine which may extend to one lakh rupees unless he proves that he had reasons

to believe that the marriage was not a child marriage." This enables the police to arrest not just the adult groom or parents facilitating a child marriage, but anyone who participates in solemnising such a marriage.

In *Independent Thought v Union of India* (2017), the Supreme Court refused to extend the protection of marital rape to child marriages. The court held that intercourse with a minor girl, even under marriage, would amount to rape. While marital rape is not punished under the law, intercourse with a minor is considered rape.

## Does registration make a marriage legal?

In *Seema v Ashwini Kumar* (2006), the Supreme Court ruled that registration of marriage must be made compulsory. Some states such as Karnataka and Uttarakhand have similar provisions for registering and recording child marriages. In 2019, the Kerala High Court also ruled that there is no bar in the law to register a child marriage, upholding a 2008 government circular framing rules for such registration.



## Classifieds

## PERSONAL

It is for general information that I,VIKRAM SEHRAWAT,Son of,Shri RAJBIR SINGH, residing at,House.No.41, Pochanpur-Village,New Delhi-110077, declare that name of my father has been wrongly-written as RAJBEE SINGH SEHRAWAT,in my 10th and 12th-Class Mark-sheet and Certificate. The actual-name of my father is RAJBIR SINGH,which may be amended accordingly.

0040587735-6

I,VIJAY KUMAR,S/O KRISHAN GOPAL SHARMA,R/O E-39,BETA-1, GREATER-NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDH-NAGAR, U.P.-201306,changed my name to VIJAY KUMAR SHARMA

0040587731-9

I,Sunita Kumari Chaurasia W/o Sh.Rajesh Kumar Chaurasia R/o B-6/7,Top Floor, Block-F, Near Bus Terminal, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017, have changed my name from SUNITA CHAURASIA to SUNITA KUMARI CHAURASIA for all future purposes. 0040587654-1

I,Satish Aggarwal S/O Late.Ram Karan R/O B-5/76, Sector-7,Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Satish Kumar Aggarwal. 0040587731-2

I,SUKHRAJ RAJBANS,W/O AJEET PAL SINGH RAJBANS,R/O CGG-053,DLF-CAPITAL GREEN,Tower-G,15 SHIVAJI MARG,MOTINAGAR,KARAM PURA,DELHI-110015,have changed my name to SUKHRAJ KAUR RAJBANS,for future purposes. 0040587749-3

I,SIMA KUMARI,W/O UDAY KUMAR SINGH,R/O VILL+POST DUMARI CHHAPIYA,DISTT-CHHAPRA,(SARAN) BIHAR-841417,have Changed my Name,from Sima Kumari to Sima Devi,Vide-Affidavit dated-11/10/2021,Before NCT-Delhi. 0040587749-1

I,SACHIN KUMAR SHARMA,S/O RAJKUMAR SHARMA,R/O C-43,GAGAN ENCLAVE, G.T.ROAD, AMRIT-NAGAR, GHAZIABAD, U.P.201001,changed my name to SACHIN SHARMA. 0040587735-2

I,Roop Wati Sharma,W/O Late.Murli Dhar Sharma(Service.No.258577)GR /O RZ-A-235,Gali.No-6,Road.No-4,New-Gurgaon Road,Mahipal Pur-Extn,New-Delhi-110037,State that the my name Roop Bati Sharma wrongly-mentioned in service-Record My correct-name is Roopwati Sharma and my correct-DOB is 01/01/1949 vide-Affidavit sworn before-Notary Mr.SD Atri dt-09/10/21 henceforth my correct-Name should be Roopwati Sharma and DOB is -01/01/1949. 0040587743-7

I,Raminder Singh Dhall,S/O Amarjit Singh Dhall,R/O-16/17,Block-16,Geeta-Colony, Delhi-31, have changed my minor daughter name Avleen Dhall to AVLEEN KAUR DHALL. 0040587735-3

I,Parul Sharma W/o Tarun Joshi, R/O House.No-C-78,1st-floor, Rosewood City,Sector-49, Nirvana Country,Gurgaon, Haryana-122018,Hereby declare change of my surname post marriage to Parul Joshi. 0040587670-1

I,NITIKA, W/O,RITESH ARORA, ADD-137 IST-FLOOR HARGOBIND ENCLAVE KARKARDOOMA, EAST DELHI-110092,changed my name to NITIKA ARORA,for all,future purposes. 0040587735-7

I,Muhammad Islam,S/O Mohammad Taiyab,R/O-K-49,Flat-102,Abul-Fazal enclave,Jamia-Nagar okhla,South delhi-110025,Inform that Given Name-Muajhid ul and Surname Islam,for all purposes. 0040587743-4

I,Luhar Ramilaben Kashnabahi,W/o 6499860N Rakesh Kumar,R/O-139, Bhanakhand Khand Maheloh Maheloh Panchmahals,Gujarat-389340,Changed my name to Baria Ramila Ben Rakesh Kumar. 0040587731-6

I,KRISHAN GOPAL,S/O ONKAR ANAND SHARMA,R/O C-1 NAHAR SUDH-COLONY SIMARAI OBEDULLA-GANJ, GOHARGANJ,RAISEN,M.P. 464993,changed my name to KRISHAN GOPAL SHARMA. 0040587731-8

I,KM RABINA,W/O-BHUPENDER SINGHH.No.578, ST.No.37, BLOCK-E-1, MOLARABAND EXTN., BADARPUR,NEW DELHI-110044,changed my name to RABINA YADAV, permanently. 0040587731-1

I Nagma wife of Mohd Fazil Khan r/o 229 gagan vihar krishna nagar delhi 51 have chage my name to Nagma Khan all future purpose 0040587442-2

I,Jugal Malhotra S/o-Sh.Roop Chand Malhotra R/o-40/24,Gali.No.14,Baldev Nagar, Gurugram-122001, have changed my name from Jugal Kishore,Jugal Kishore Malhotra to Jugal Malhotra for all,future purposes. 0040587737-1

I,Harsh Pundir S/O-Charan Singh R/O MIG-Flat-No-41, Forth-Floor Vikas-Apartment West-Enclave Pitampura,Delhi-110034,have changed my name to Harsh. 0040587743-9

I,Gopal S/o Rajkumar Sharma,R/o House.No-A-2/52 Alok-Park Near Modipon-Colony, Modinagar, Ghaziabad,UP,have changed my name to Gopal Sharma. 0040587731-3

I,Cheenu Goel W/O Amit Kumar R/O-524-A, The Magnolias,Golf Course Road, DLF Phase-5,Gurgaon, Delhi-122002,have changed my name to Cheenu Dahiya. 0040587743-3

I,Charan Singh Pundir,S/O Dhan Singh Pundir,R/O MIG-Flat-No.41, Forth-Floor Vikas Apartment West-Enclave Pitampura,Delhi-110034,have changed my name to Charan Singh. 0040587743-8

I,Bhabuk Sharma,S/O Sanjeev Sharma R/O-Village-Bohan P.O.Jwalamukhi Teh Jwalamukhi Himachal Pradesh-176031,have changed my name to Bhavuk Sharma. 0040587743-2

I,BABITA RANI,W/O VIMAL KUMAR, R/O C-II/58, RAJU PARK,KHAN PUR,DELHI-110062,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME BABITA PARMENTLY. 0040587743-1

I,Avdesh Kumar,S/O Suresh Chand R/O-H.No.526,Sector-31,Faridabad, Haryana,have changed my name to Avdesh Kumar Garg,for all purposes. 0040587735-4

I,Ashok Kumar S/o Naresh Kumar R/O B-34,Maharana Pratap Enclave,Pitampura, Delhi Changed Name to Ashok Mittal. 0040587731-5

I,Ajeet S/o Shri Ram R/o-H.No.-612,Dera-Village,New Delhi-110074,declare that my name is wrongly-mentioned as Jeet in my School-record where as my correct-name is Ajeet. 0040587749-2

I, Vimita Bhandari D/o Late Vimal Bhandari R/O 1515A/ 13 3rd floor left side goindpur Kalkaji New Delhi 110019 have changed my name to Arushya V Bhandari. My correct DOB is 26/09/1985. 0020428033-1

I,Teena Chaudhary W/o-Vivek Chaudhary R/O-87 Jonapur Village, Kapoor Factory, New Delhi-110047, have changed my name to Tina Ambawatta. 0040587735-5

I, Shweta Misra, D/O Vijay Bharat Misra, R/O Flat No-1, 1003, Skytech Matroct, Sector 76, Noida-201304, have changed my name from Shweta Dubey to Shweta Misra for all purposes. 0040587681-1

I, Saurabh S/o Naresh R/O House No. 3131,Housing Board Colony No.33, Ballabgarh Distt. Faridabad-121004, (Haryana) have changed my name from Saurabh to Saurabh Kumar for all future purposes. 0070756984-1

I, S Sanjeet Singh S/o Prithpal Singh R/O 5156, B-7, Near Jain Mandir, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070, have changed my name to Sanjeet Singh. 0040587655-1

I,Parul Sharma W/o Tarun Joshi, R/O House.No-C-78,1st-floor, Rosewood City,Sector-49, Nirvana Country,Gurgaon, Haryana-122018,Hereby declare change of my surname post marriage to Parul Joshi. 0040587670-1

I,NITIKA, W/O,RITESH ARORA, ADD-137 IST-FLOOR HARGOBIND ENCLAVE KARKARDOOMA, EAST DELHI-110092,changed my name to NITIKA ARORA,for all,future purposes. 0040587735-7

I,Muhammad Islam,S/O Mohammad Taiyab,R/O-K-49,Flat-102,Abul-Fazal enclave,Jamia-Nagar okhla,South delhi-110025,Inform that Given Name-Muajhid ul and Surname Islam,for all purposes. 0040587743-4

I,Luhar Ramilaben Kashnabahi,W/o 6499860N Rakesh Kumar,R/O-139, Bhanakhand Khand Maheloh Maheloh Panchmahals,Gujarat-389340,Changed my name to Baria Ramila Ben Rakesh Kumar. 0040587731-6

I,KRISHAN GOPAL,S/O ONKAR ANAND SHARMA,R/O C-1 NAHAR SUDH-COLONY SIMARAI OBEDULLA-GANJ, GOHARGANJ,RAISEN,M.P. 464993,changed my name to KRISHAN GOPAL SHARMA. 0040587731-8

I,KM RABINA,W/O-BHUPENDER SINGHH.No.578, ST.No.37, BLOCK-E-1, MOLARABAND EXTN., BADARPUR,NEW DELHI-110044,changed my name to RABINA YADAV, permanently. 0040587731-1

I Nagma wife of Mohd Fazil Khan r/o 229 gagan vihar krishna nagar delhi 51 have chage my name to Nagma Khan all future purpose 0040587442-2

I,Jugal Malhotra S/o-Sh.Roop Chand Malhotra R/o-40/24,Gali.No.14,Baldev Nagar, Gurugram-122001, have changed my name from Jugal Kishore,Jugal Kishore Malhotra to Jugal Malhotra for all,future purposes. 0040587737-1

I,Harsh Pundir S/O-Charan Singh R/O MIG-Flat-No-41, Forth-Floor Vikas-Apartment West-Enclave Pitampura,Delhi-110034,have changed my name to Harsh. 0040587743-9

I, Chhatra Pal, S/o. Mahabir Singh, R/o. G.909, Tower G, Uninav Heights, Raj Nagar Extension, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh - 201017, have changed my name from Chhatra Pal to Chhatrapal Sisodia for all purposes. 0070756971-1

I,Anwar Taqveem,W/O Haider Abbas, R/o-H.No.50,Parwana-Road, Jitar-Nagar,Delhi-110051, have changed the name of my minor son Syed Mohd Ramin Abbas age 08/10/2010 and he shall hereafter be known as Ramin Abbas. 0040587731-7

I,Abhishek V M S/o Anandan Mahibalan R/O House No. 1721, Housing Board Colony Sector-29, Faridabad-121008 (Haryana) have changed my name from Abhishek V M to Abhishek Vayalitharayil Mahibalan for all future purposes 0070756985-1

I, ARITRA CHAUDHURI, S/O Sh. JOYDEEP CHAUDHURI, R/o/H- 79 (SECOND FLOOR) RESIDENCY GREENS, SECTOR 46, GURGAON, PIN 122001, HARYANA I have changed my name ARITRA CHAUDHURI to ARITRO CHAUDHURI for all purposes. 0040587645-1

I V K Mishra S/o Late Ranjeet Mishra R/o House No.86, Village Tiker, Sultanpur, UP. I have changed my name from V K MISHRA to VIRENDRA KUMAR MISHRA. In future I will be known as VIRENDRA KUMAR MISHRA. vide affidavit dated 31st May 2021, 0040587646-1

I Sher Singh S/O, Mor Singh Bisht R/O E60/61 Mansa Ram Park Kali Mata Mandir Uttam Nagar Delhi 110059 have changed my name to Sher Singh Bisht for all purposes. 0040587665-1

I,Rajesh Kumar and Rajesh Chhabra S/O Late Mr. Wazir Chand Chhabra R/O House No-386 Ward No-20, Sitarganj Road, Khatima, Distt-Udhham Singh Nagar,Uttarakhand, Pin code-262308 are one and the same person.Above henceforth I shall be known by the name Rajesh Chhabra only for all purpose. 0040587663-1

I, Mohinder Paul Midha S/O Ratan Chand Midha R/O-355 First-Floor Double-Storey New Rajender-Nagar, Delhi-110060,changed my name to Mohinder Pal Midha. 0040587743-6

I,Poto Sah S/o Misri Sah R/O Ward No.5, Bhetuwa Mohammadpur, Dilip URF, Distt Sitamarhi, Bihar -843333 have changed my name to Foto Kumar Sah for all purpose 0040587690-1

I Kamlesh Chhabra and Kamal Chhabra W/O Mr. Rajesh Chhabra R/O House no. 386 Ward No. 20 Sitarganj Road, Khatima, Distt Udhham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand, Pin Code- 262308 are one and the same person. Above henceforth I shall be known by the name Kamal Chhabra only for all purpose. 0040587647-1

I Faik Ali S/o Masuq Ali R/O H. No.-70, K-Block, Street No.2, Sunder Nagar, North East Delhi, Delhi-110093, India, have changed my name to Fayak Ali for all future purposes 0070757007-1

I Akhlaque Ahmad S/O, Mahmoodul Khat R/O Flat No.-a-103 Bldg No.2 Ram Rahim Nagar Evershine City,vasai Palghar - 401208 have changed my name to Akhlaque Ahmad Khan 0040587662-1

I Abdul Rashid S/O Jalaluddin R/O Rehpuja, Pingwan, Mewat, Punahana, Haryana-122508, have changed my name to Rashid Khan 0070757001-1

## LOST &amp; FOUND

I,Ashok Kumar,S/o Gaya Prasad,have lost my original-documents rejistry of Plot. No. 14 and 15A select city Tilpat kasra No.917 found per Plz Contact-9716961626. 0040587743-10

I,Kamal Manchanda S/o Ram Lal Manchanda, have lost Original Agreement to Sell & Purchase Duly Registered as Registration-no.10,887 in Addl. Book-no.1, Vol-no.7603 on Pages 117-123 dt.31/08/2007 of Flat-no.970,Ground/Floor,Gali-no.31,Madangir,Delhi-110062,Find call:9899177375. 0040587735-11

I,Shweta Anand,W/O-Amit Kumar, R/o-H.No.09,Sector-27, Noida,U.P.,have lost my original Sale deed registered in the name of Shweta Anand of the property bearing Municipal no.-2732,Plot.No.22,Khasra No.29,BLOCK-P,Gali.No.23 & 24,185 Sq.cm,Narwala Estate,BeadonPura, Karolbagh,New Delhi-110005,Finder contact. 0040587735-10

I,Karuna Jaiswal D/o-Sh.Onkar Nath, C-1/477, Gali-No.6, Pusta-2/2, Sonia Vihar, Delhi-110094 declares that in my Caste Certificate my name is wrongly mentioned as Kruna Jaiswal. The correct name is Karuna Jaiswal. 0040587644-1

I, Kanjit Rani W/o Pawan Kumar R/O Gaon Kila, Zafargarh (26), Julana, Jind-Haryana 126101, Changed Name to Seema. 0040587731-4

I, KAILASH CHAND S/O RAM CHANDER SHARMA, R/O- FCA-2340 B, GALI NO-9, S G M NAGAR, FARIDABAD, HARYANA-121001, INFORM THAT KAILASH CHAND AND KAILASH CHAND SHARMA BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE PERSON. 0070756988-1

I,satish kumar,S/o kundan Lal R/O-A-297, phase-1, Vijay vihar, delhi-110085,Have changed my name to Satish kumar joshi,For all purposes. 0040587743-5

We Lost Original Documents of Property No.C-91/4 Wazairpur Industrial area like Demand letter, payment receipts, possession letter, NOC etc. Contact Ajay Khanjiyo.9811034640. 0040587735-10

Lost original Allotment Letter and Possession Letter issued by M/s DLF Ltd./DLF Universal Ltd for Apartment no. AR 0311, The Aralias, DLF Golf Links, Gurugram, if found please return to: Atul Aggarwal, 12 Southern Avenue, Maharani Bagh, ND-110065 0050185358-1

## SITUATION VACANT

Required Engineers for the position of Vendor Development and Procurement in an E-commerce Company. Contact +919881214000 0130021943-1

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed that my client Sh. Des Raj Arora S/O Late Sh. H.N. Arora & His Wife Smt. Late Arora, both R/O H.No. B-5/150, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110063 have severed all their relations with their son. Jatin Arora and his wife Smt. Ashima Monga Arora and disowned them from all their movable & immovable properties owned by them, jointly and individually. Any person dealing with them shall be doable and neither their own risks, costs and responsibilities. Puneet Ahluwalia (Advocate) Ch. No. 181, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110015 En. No. D-988/1994

My client Sh. Raghubar Dutt S/o Manoj Kumar, resident of E-291A, Street No.8, East Vinod Nagar, Delhi-110091, has severed all his relations with his younger son namely Kalash Chand and disowned him from all his movable and immovable properties due to his disobedience. Henceforth, my client and his family members and relatives shall not be responsible for any of the act(s) or activities of Kalash Chand. Sd/- Sandeep Kr. Gupta (Advocate) En. No. D/1041/05 20/465, Kalyanpuri, Delhi-91 M. 9811952831 & 8800648380

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## 15 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 60,135.78 ▲ 76.72 (0.13%) NIFTY: 17,945.95 ▲ 50.75 (0.28%) NIKKEI: 28,498.20 ▲ 449.26 HANG SENG: 25,325.09 ▲ 487.24 FTSE: 7,115.83 ▲ 20.28 DAX: 15,141.08 ▼ 65.05

International market data till 1900 IST

SECTOR WATCH  
POWER

## Clear dues to coal cos: Govt to 4 states with low stock, high thermal capacities

KARUNJITSINGH  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

HIGH OVERDUE payments to coal companies by certain states have contributed to the low levels of coal stocks at thermal power plants, as per government officials. The Power Ministry has written to four states — Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan — asking them to clear dues to coal companies.

The outstanding dues of the Maharashtra state utility to Coal India were Rs 3,176.1 crore at the end of FY21, while the dues of Uttar Pradesh utility were Rs 2743.1 crore. Dues of the Tamil Nadu state utility were Rs 1,281.7 crore, and that of the Rajasthan state utility were Rs 774 crore.

These states have among the highest thermal capacities that have either zero days of stock or just one day of stock as on October 10. Outstanding dues of state electricity boards and power generation companies to Coal India Ltd, which accounts for about 80 per cent of India's coal output, were Rs 21,619.7 crore at the end of FY21. "The Power Ministry has written to these states (about high dues to coal companies). While this is not the only reason behind the coal situation, this is a contributing factor," said a government official who did not wish to be quoted.

On October 10, Uttar Pradesh had 2,000 MW of capacity that had zero days of coal stock, Maharashtra had 1,920 MW of capacity with zero stock. Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan had 1,500 MW and 500 MW of capacity with zero days of stock, respectively.

## Full-time IEA membership

*Mumbai:* International Energy Agency (IEA) has invited India to become a full-time member — a proposal if accepted will need India to raise strategic oil reserves to 90 days criteria, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said. **PTI**

Thermal power plants across the nation are currently facing a shortage of coal due to a sharp uptick in power demand, restricted supplies due to heavy rainfall in September, low accumulation of stock in April-June, and a huge spike in the price of imported coal. India's coal fired power plants currently have about 4 days of coal inventory as against the recommended level of 15-30 days based on distance of the plant from the source of coal.

A total of 17 power plants with a capacity of 16,430 MW had zero days of coal stock on October 10, while a further 48 plants with 62,255 MW capacity had one or two days of coal stock remaining, of the 135 thermal power plants monitored daily, 115 had coal stocks of under 7 days.

Coal-fired thermal power plants account for 208.8 GW (54 per cent) of India's 388 GW installed generation capacity.

The share of coal-based power in India's power mix has risen to 66.4 per cent from 61.9 per cent in 2019. States like Delhi and Punjab have written to the Centre asking that coal shipments to their thermal power plants be expedited for fear of power cuts.

## QUESTIONS ZEE MOVE TO 'GIFT' 2% STAKE TO PROMOTERS

## Unjustified, opaque: Invesco on plan to hike Zee promoter stake

GEORGE MATHEW  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 11

INVESCO DEVELOPING Markets Fund, ZEEL's largest shareholder with an ownership interest of nearly 18 per cent, has questioned the merger proposal of the company with Sony stating that the move is against the interest of 96 per cent of the shareholders. In an open letter to Zee Entertainment Enterprises (ZEEL) shareholders, Invesco said the proposal to "gift" two per cent equity to the promoters' family and eventually raise the stake to 20 per cent is "unjustified" and "opaque".

"It is concerning that the current terms of the Sony-Zee announcement gift additional 2 per cent equity to the founding family via a non-compete that seems entirely unjustified, while also providing a pathway for the founding family to raise its stake from 4 per cent to 20 per cent via methods that remain wholly opaque," Invesco said.

"We are calling on Zee shareholders to join us in asking why the founding family, which holds under 4 per cent of the company's shares, should benefit at the expense of the investors who hold the remaining 96 per cent,"

## EXPLAINED

## Tussle for Zee Entertainment Enterprises

THE BATTLE for Zee Entertainment Enterprises is expected to intensify with both Invesco and Zee board upping the ante. Zee board had recently rejected the demand of Invesco to convene an extraordinary general meeting (EGM) for the removal of managing director (MD) and appoint six new directors.

the letter added.

Invesco said Zee needs a demarcation between the promoter family and the institution. "Its board needs to be strengthened with independent directors who take their jobs seriously, who robustly debate vital decisions and who serve as guardians of all shareholder interests. Strategic alignments are welcome but must be fair to all shareholders."

Weak governance and a permissive board have enabled Zee's growing entanglement with the financial distress of the founding family, Invesco said, adding, "This has brought extraordinary reputational damage and regulatory rebuke to Zee. Recent actions of

Zee's leadership and the board further confirm a deep apathy to shareholder rights."

"These actions and rhetoric are aimed at avoiding true accountability for the governance lapses and shareholder value destruction that the current leadership and board have presided over. As long-term investors and stewards of investor capital, the Invesco Developing Markets team takes its fiduciary duty very seriously and is committed to acting in the best interest of clients and shareholders," said Justin Leverenz, chief investment officer, developing markets equities, Invesco.

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), last week, di-

## 'Businesses look to rebuild and grow, bullish on hiring'

Indian businesses have bullish hiring plans and are investing in their workforce as they look to rebuild from the pandemic, an HSBC survey said

**BIGGEST HIRING SPREE** is expected from Indian (joint highest with Mexico) firms as 80% of the surveyed businesses expect to increase their full-time employee base over the next 12 months.

**TOP THREE OFFERINGS** by Indian businesses to its employees during Covid include flexible working hours (52%), improved health insurance (49%), and guidance and resources for wellbeing (49%)



**FLEXIBLE WORKING** has emerged as an optimal working arrangement for Indian businesses with 43% opting for it in a post pandemic environment, the highest across all markets surveyed

**SUSTAINABILITY** also emerged as an additional factor for businesses when attracting staff, with over a third of businesses (38%) in India

Source: HSBC/PTI

**Most prominent impact of remote or hybrid working will be on increased profitability (84%) and employee wellbeing (83%)**

**Survey details: HSBC's survey covered 2,130 business leaders globally, including over 219 respondents in India**

## BRIEFLY

## Oil extends rally

*Bengaluru:* Oil prices extended gains to scale multi-year peaks on Monday, fuelled by the rebound in global demand that has also contributed to power and gas shortages in key economies like China. Brent crude was up \$1.49, or 1.8 per cent, at \$83.88 a barrel by 1718 GMT, after hitting its highest since October 2018 at \$84.60 earlier in the session. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude rose \$1.69, or 2.1 per cent, to \$81.03, after touching its highest since late 2014 at \$82.18. **REUTERS**

## FinMin grant

*New Delhi:* The Finance Ministry said Monday it released Rs 9,871 crore of revenue deficit grant to 17 states.

## PFRDA on pension

*New Delhi:* The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) on Monday said the number of subscribers in various pension schemes rose 24 per cent to 4.63 crore as at the end of September.

## Digitising CAFs

*New Delhi:* Telecom operators have been allowed to digitise customer application forms, a move that is expected to ease updation of subscribers' data. The provision also frees telecom operators from storing paper customer application forms (CAFs) in warehouses.

## Srei group cos

*New Delhi:* The RBI on Monday said it has decided to retain the advisory committee of Srei Infrastructure Finance Ltd (SIFL) and Srei Equipment Finance Ltd (SEFL). **PTI**

## PM launches Indian Space Association for govt, pvt coordination

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 11

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Monday launched the Indian Space Association (ISPA), an industry body of government and private companies which aims to supplement the Centre's efforts in commercial space exploration and space-based communication. "Today is the day the Indian space sector receives new wings. For 75 years since independence, Indian space has been dominated by a single umbrella of Indian government and government institutions. Scientists of India have made huge achievements in these decades, but the need of the hour is that there should be no restrictions on Indian talent, whether it is in the public sector or in the private sector," Modi said while inaugurating the industry body.

Represented by founding members such as Larson & Toubro, Nelco (Tata Group), OneWeb, Bharti Airtel, MapmyIndia, Walchandnagar Industries and Ananth Technology Ltd and other members like Godrej, Hughes India, Azista-BST Aerospace Pvt Ltd, BEL, Centum Electronics and Maxar India, the organisation aims to



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the launch of the Indian Space Association. **PTI**

"engage with stakeholders across the ecosystem for the formulation of an enabling policy framework", said a government release.

OneWeb, backed by Bharti Group, announced that it entered an arrangement with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), the commercial arm of ISRO, to launch its satellite in India from 2022.

OneWeb is building its initial constellation of 648 low-earth-orbit satellites and has already put 322 satellites into orbit. Its services are expected to start this year to the Arctic region including Alaska, Canada, and the UK. By late 2022, it will offer its high-speed, low latency connectivity services in India and the rest of the world.

## UNDER INFORMATION EXCHANGE FRAMEWORK

## India gets 3rd set of Swiss bank details

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI/BERNE, OCTOBER 11

INDIA HAS received the third set of Swiss bank account details of with Switzerland as part of an annual exercise under which the European nation has shared particulars of nearly 33 lakh financial accounts with 96 countries.

The Federal Tax Administration (FTA) of Switzerland said in

**While the FTA did not disclose names and further details of all 96 countries, officials said details shared with Indian authorities pertained to a large number of individuals and companies**

a statement Monday that the exchange of information this year involved 10 more countries — Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Dominican, Ghana, Lebanon, Macau, Pakistan, Qatar, Samoa

and Vanuatu. While the exchange was reciprocal with 70 countries, Switzerland received information but did not provide any in the case of 26 countries — either because those countries do not yet meet

*New Delhi:* Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) witnessed a major drop in production last month owing to the shortage of semiconductor chips.

In a regulatory filing, the auto major reported total production of 81,278 units in September as compared with 1,66,086 units in September 2020.

"Production volume of the company in September 2021 was affected due to electronic components shortage," it noted.

## Jhunjhunwala-backed Akasa Air gets NOC

*New Delhi:* The Ministry of Civil Aviation has given a no-objection certificate (NOC) for the operation of Rakesh Jhunjhunwala-backed new airline 'Akasa Air' in India, a company statement said Monday.

The new airline aims to start operations by the summer of 2022, the holding company, SNV Aviation Private Limited, said.

Akasa Air is backed by investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala and ex-Jet Airways chief executive officer Vinay Dube

"We are extremely happy and grateful to the Ministry of Civil Aviation for their support and for

MSI said total passenger vehicle production stood at 77,782 units last month, as against 1,61,668 units in September 2020. Production of mini cars comprising Alto and S-Presso models stood at 17,163 units last month as against 30,492 units a year ago.

Similarly, manufacturing of compact cars, comprising WagonR, Celerio, Ignis, Swift, Baleno and Dzire, declined to 29,272 units from 90,924 units earlier, MSI said. **ENSWITHPTI**

**The new airline aims to start operations by the summer of 2022, the holding company, SNV Aviation Pvt Ltd, said**

the grant of the NOC," Dube, who is now the CEO of Akasa Air, was quoted as saying in the statement. "We will continue to work with the regulatory authorities on all additional compliances required to successfully launch Akasa Air," he added. **PTI**

the international requirements on confidentiality and data security (14) or because they chose not to receive data (12).

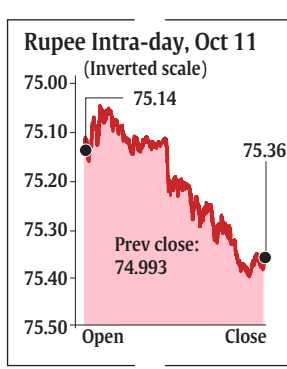
While the FTA did not disclose names and further details of all 96 nations, officials said India figured among those having received the information for the third year in a row and the details shared with Indian authorities pertained to many individuals and companies having accounts in Swiss financial institutions. **WITHPTI**

## Re falls to 75.36 against US dollar, bond yields at 18-month high

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 11

THE RUPEE fell 37 paise to close at 75.36 against the US dollar on Monday as rising crude prices and a stronger American dollar in the overseas market weighed on the investor sentiment.

"The Indian rupee moved at its lowest level in over six months intraday because foreign banks persistently pur-



chased dollars on behalf of oil marketing companies noting elevated Brent crude oil prices. The currency fell to its lowest level since April 22.

A UK-based bank and a US-based bank were among the major buyers of dollars today," IFA Global Research said.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) launched G-SAP after the outbreak of the Covid pandemic to address the concerns of the financial markets on liquidity.

**JAWAHARLAL NEHRU PORT TRUST**  
(Special Economic Zone)

ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 27001:2013, ISO 45001:2018 CERTIFIED

**TENDER NOTICE**

**Tender No. : 1. JNPT/JNPT-SEZ/PSC/2021/60**

JNPT invites bids for, **Project Support Consultant for Providing Master Planning Support to Special Planning Authority (SPA) of JNPT Special Economic Zone (SEZ) and Planning Division of JNPT.** The details of the tender are available in the notice placed on JNPT's website <https://www.jnpt.gov.in/> or <https://eprocure.gov.in> The tender is published on the portal on **12/10/2021.**

Email : [cmppd@jnpt.gov.in](mailto:cmppd@jnpt.gov.in)  
[phadke.rs@gmail.com](mailto:phadke.rs@gmail.com)

**Chief Manager (PPD)**

**NMDC Limited**  
(A Government of India Enterprise)

'Khanji Bhavan', 10-3-311/A, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad - 500 028.  
Corporate Identity Number (CIN) : L13100TG1958GQ001674

**CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT - e-tender Notification**

Tender Enquiry No: HO/CONTRACTS/DNM/SP-I/PPKG-I/2021/001/252 Dt. 12-10-2021  
MSTC Ref. No. : NMDC/HO/59/21-22/ET/274

NMDC Limited, A "NAVARATNA" Public Sector Company under Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India, invites **online bids** in two bid system from Domestic bidders for "Site Levelling and Auxiliary Building Works (Package-I) for Screening and Beneficiation Plant-II (SP-II) at Donimalai Complex, Karnataka" on item rate basis.

The detailed NIT and Bid documents can be viewed and / or downloaded from **12-10-2021, 11:00 Hrs. onwards from following website links ;**

- NMDC website - <https://www.nmdc.co.in/nmcdtender/default.aspx>
- Central Public Procurement Portal - <https://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app> and search tender through tender enquiry number.
- MSTC portal - [https://www.mstccommerce.com/eprocurement/nmcd/buyer\\_login.jsp](https://www.mstccommerce.com/eprocurement/nmcd/buyer_login.jsp).

For further help refer to 'vendor guide' given in MSTC website.

The last date for submission of tender is **15:00 Hrs on 11-11-2021** and the tender will be opened at **15:30 Hours** on the same day.

The bidders are requested to submit their bids online through MSTC Limited website. The details of submission of bid through online are given in NIT. The Bidders on regular basis are required to visit the above-mentioned websites for corrigendum / clarifications / time extension / amendments, if any, at a future date.

For further clarification undersigned can be contacted :

**General Manager (Contracts), NMDC Limited, Hyderabad, Fax No. +91-040-23534746, Tel No. +91-040-2353 2800, email : [contracts@nmcd.co.in](mailto:contracts@nmcd.co.in)**

**General Manager (Contracts)**



CROSSWORD 4558

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ACROSS

1 It's said they have no choice (7)

4 Tess and I change places (5)

7 As far as could be from the Mount of Olives (4)

8 Destined to be invested as a minister (8)

10 He earns his living by composing (10)

12 Not the only one to take a leading part from actors (2-4)

13 Heartbroken number show ill will (6)

15 Late, it turns in after me (6,4)

18 Notably well? (8)

19 Inclination to admit incompetence (4)

20 Irritable fictional friend of Mole and Toad (5)

21 Doesn't go out to support a wrong action (5,2)

DOWN

1 Not keen to be outspoken (5)

2 Way-out supporter (8)

3 The way a sailor put up beds (6)

4 Get to grips but in friendly fashion (5,5)

5 Fuel container in military vehicle (4)

6 Deduces it is wrong to be led astray (7)

9 Property tax will keep the gamekeeper busy (6,4)

11 Numbers making a noise in examinations (8)

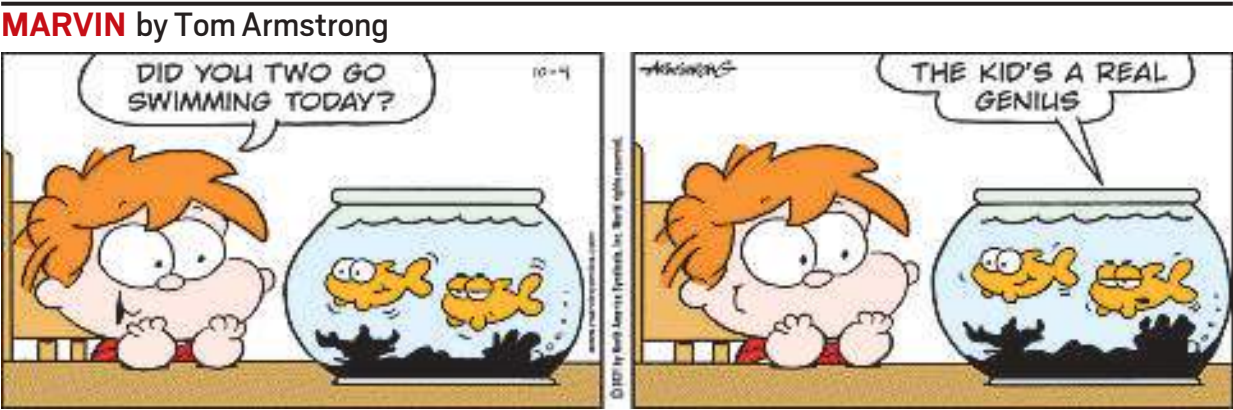
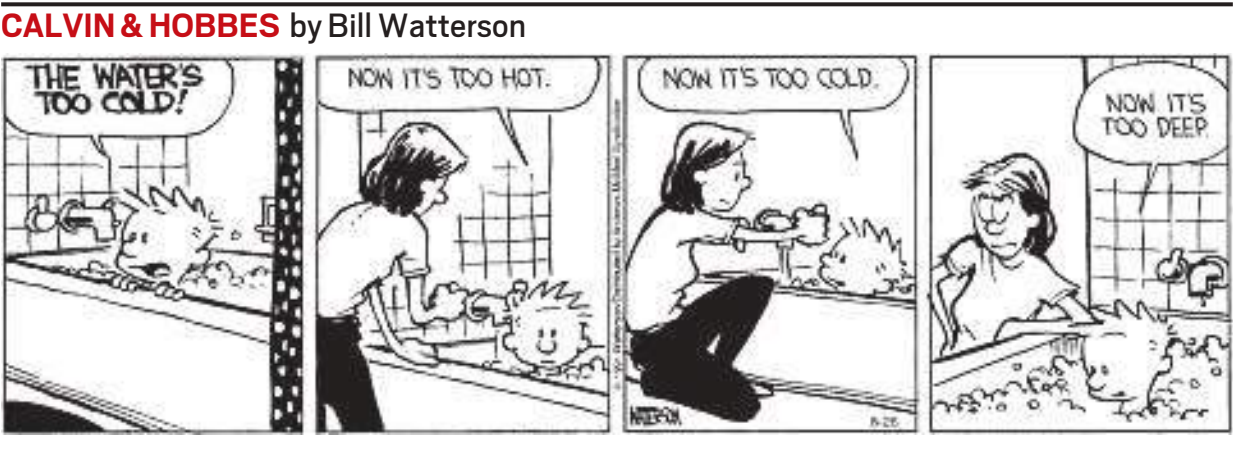
12 Tree yielding a fir cone (7)

14 Lets it change names (6)

16 We hear school meals should be this (5)

17 The black spot in Bligh's mutiny (4)

Solutions Crossword 4557: Across: 1 Imaginative, 9 Estoril, 10 Allah, 11 Vale, 12 Top-dress, 14 Innmate, 16 Join up, 18 Ten-to-one, 19 Agra, 22 Moral, 23 Intrude, 24 Thermometer. Down: 2 Motel, 3 Garb, 4 Nelson, 5 Trapdoor, 6 Villain, 7 Leave it to me, 8 Chess player, 13 Stroller, 15 Monarch, 17 Indigo, 20 Gauge, 21 Style.



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 clue.

To believe only possibilities is not faith, but mere \_\_\_\_ - Thomas Browne (10)

DVIOO

ILMYPP

LULSY

AKOOHH

Answers: To believe only possibilities is not faith, but mere credulity - Thomas Browne (10)

SUDOKU 4622

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 4621

8 2 7 3 4 9 1 6 5  
5 1 4 2 7 6 9 3 8  
9 3 6 5 1 8 7 2 4  
2 6 1 9 5 3 8 4 7  
3 7 8 1 2 4 6 5 9  
4 9 5 6 8 7 3 1 2  
7 8 2 4 6 1 5 9 3  
6 4 3 7 9 5 2 8 1  
1 5 9 8 3 2 4 7 6

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED

Corporate Identity Number (CIN) – U40109RJ2000SGC016483

Regd. Office : New Power House, Industrial Area, Jodhpur-342003. Phone: (0291) 2742223, Fax: (0291) 2746539

SHORT TERM E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

E-Procurement Short Term Tender is invited for Rate Contract of Pre Printed Continuous Computer Stationary (TN-1723)(UBN JVV2122GLRC00234). Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders areavailable on our website at [www.jdvvn1.com](http://www.jdvvn1.com) and also at <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)  
For Electricity Complaints Toll free No. 1800 180 6045

ग्रेटर नोएडा औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण

प्लॉट नं० 1, सेक्टर के.पी.-4, ग्रेटर नोएडा सिटी, गौतमबुद्ध नगर 201308, उ.प्र.  
website : [www.greaternoidaauthority.in](http://www.greaternoidaauthority.in), Email - [authority@gnida.in](mailto:authority@gnida.in)

पत्रांक : जी.एम.- (अभियंत्रण)/ 2021 / 2993 दिनांक : 08.10.2021

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

महाप्रबंधक (अभियंत्रण) ग्रेटर नोएडा औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा मुख्य कार्यालय अधिकारी, ग्रेटर नोएडा की ओर से ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या – जी.एम. / (अभियंत्रण) / 2021 / 2993 दिनांक 08.10.2021 के माध्यम से उल्लेखित क्रम संख्या – 01 से 23 पर अंकित कार्य की ई-निविदाये आमंत्रित की जाती है। समस्त नियम व शर्तें ग्रेटर नोएडा प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट [www.greaternoidaauthority.in](http://www.greaternoidaauthority.in) पर ई-निविदा लिंक एवं ई-पोर्टल <https://tender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है। किसी परिवर्तन, संशोधन व अतिरिक्त सूचनाओं के लिए उक्त वेबसाइट देखते रहें।

क्र.सं.	कार्य का नाम/वर्क सर्किल	अनुमानित लागत
1.	ग्राम पाली में शिव मन्दिर के पास पंचायत घर का अवशेष कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-6)	रु. 10.11 लाख
2.	ग्राम धूम मानिकपुर (धूम खेड़ा) में सी.सी. रोड को ऊँचा उठाने का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-2)	रु. 12.60 लाख
3.	ग्राम आमजपुरगढ़ी से अस्तीली तक रोड का पैच रिपेयर एवं रिसरफेसिंग का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-8)	रु. 28.85 लाख
4.	सेक्टर ओमीक्रोन-1 (लोहिया एन्क्लेव) बहु मंजिला बिडिंग में सबस्टेशन एवं फायर अलार्म एवं फायर फाइटिंग सिस्टम का वार्षिक संचालन एवं नान-कम्पैरेन्सिव वार्षिक अनुक्षण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-ई0एण्डएम0-1)	रु. 31.70 लाख
5.	ग्राम भोला रावल में सी.सी. रोड को ऊँचा उठाने का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-2)	रु. 39.94 लाख
6.	ग्राम अस्तीली, खेरली, हाकिजपुर, जानीपुरा, पालाखेड़ा, बृलन्खेड़ा, रोनी, कुंभपुरा, धीरसी एवं पंचायतन का खेड़ा, सलेमपुर, गुजर, दादपुर, पोवार, अटाई, गुरादपुर एल0डी0डी0स्ट्रीट लाईट का अनुक्षण अनुबन्ध कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-ई0एण्डएम0-3)	रु. 56.56 लाख
7.	ग्राम रोनी में रामराज घाट की बाजपेड़ीवाल, रोड, चबूतरा एवं पहुँच मार्ग का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-8)	रु. 59.93 लाख
8.	ग्राम चयूला में इण्टरलॉकिंग टाईल्स एवं ड्रेन का अवशेष कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-8)	रु. 63.93 लाख
9.	ग्राम रामनगपुर में इण्टरलॉकिंग टाईल्स एवं ड्रेन का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-8)	रु. 81.72 लाख
10.	ग्राम जिलपुरा गौशाला में मृत पशुओं की निस्तारण हेतु शवदाय संयंत्र की आपूर्ति एवं स्थापना व वस्तुमन्धित कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-स्वास्थ्य विभाग)	रु. 123.05 लाख
11.	ग्राम नानवा का राजपुर में इण्टरलॉकिंग टाईल्स एवं ड्रेन का अवशेष कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-8)	रु. 143.17 लाख
12.	स्मॉट विलेज अमीनाबाद उर्फ निधाना का विकास कार्य। (फेस-1) (वर्क सर्किल-8)	रु. 174.19 लाख
13.	ग्राम सेनी में 6%, 10% आबादी भूखण्डो का अवशेष विकास कार्य। (पार्ट-01) (वर्क सर्किल-2)	रु. 181.90 लाख
14.	सेक्टर अटका-2 में आन्तरिक सड़कों का रिसरफेसिंग का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-5)	रु. 197.26 लाख
15.	ग्राम शिपियाना बुजुर्ग में इण्टरलॉकिंग टाईल्स एवं आर.सी.सी. ड्रेन का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-1)	रु. 209.84 लाख
16.	ग्राम लुकरा में (पॉट-बी) में आबादी भूखण्डों का विकास कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-8)	रु. 223.83 लाख
17.	सेक्टर टैकजोन-4 में साईट में आकिस का निर्माण। (वर्क सर्किल-3)	रु. 225.39 लाख
18.	ग्रेटर नोएडा जोन-3 (सेक्टर-32, 33 (पार्ट-1, 2), 36, 37, सिग्मा-1, 2, 3, 4) में डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन वाईर लाईन का तीन वर्ष का अनुरक्षण कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-जल)	रु. 244.33 लाख
19.	सेक्टर चाई-फाई में 60 मी. एवं 45 मी. चौड़ी सड़कों का रिसरफेसिंग का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-4)	रु. 269.78 लाख
20.	सेक्टर ईकोटैक-3 यु0को-1 में नाइट सेल्टर ब्लॉक एवं लेबर हॉस्टल का निर्माण। (वर्क सर्किल-3)	रु. 310.44 लाख
21.	स्मॉट विलेज सटुल्लापुर (फेस-1) का विकास कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-2)	रु. 352.35 लाख
22.	स्मॉट विलेज तिलपता करनवास (फेस-1) का विकास कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-2)	रु. 413.01 लाख

(अ) जिन्हे क्रम सं. 01 से 12 तक दिनांक 13.10.2021 से 25.10.2021 को 5:00 बजे तक एवं अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप ई-निविदाओं की प्री-क्वालिफिकेशन दिनांक 27.10.2021 को 11:00 बजे तक खोली जाएगी।

(ब) क्रम सं. 13 से 14 तक दिनांक 18.10.2021 से 28.10.2021 को 5:00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप ई-निविदाओं की प्री-क्वालिफिकेशन दिनांक 01.11.2021 को 11:00 बजे तक खोली जाएगी एवं क्रम सं. 15 से 23 तक दिनांक 18.10.2021 से 01.11.2021 को 5:00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप ई-निविदाओं की प्री-क्वालिफिकेशन दिनांक 03.11.2021 को 11:00 बजे तक खोली जाएगी।

महाप्रबंधक (अभियंत्रण)

भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद्

(पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की एक स्वायत्त संस्था)

गो ऑफ न्यू फॉरेस्ट, देहरादून 248 006, भारत

INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India)

P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248 006, INDIA

कोटेशन आमंत्रण / Request for Quotations

भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद् (भा.वा.अनु.शि.प.) ने पारितंत्र सेवाएं सुधार परियोजना के अन्तर्गत प्रतिष्ठित बिडरों से मध्य प्रदेश ई.एस.आई.पी. के परियोजना क्षेत्रों के लिए 'वर्मी कम्पोस्ट के लिए केंचुओं' की सप्लाई हेतु कोटेशन आमंत्रित करती है।

कोटेशन आमंत्रण के निर्धारित प्रारूप भा.वा.अनु.शि.प. की वेबसाइट ([www.icfre.gov.in](http://www.icfre.gov.in)) पर उपलब्ध है। कोटेशन आमंत्रण के प्रस्ताव परियोजना निदेशक, ई.एस.आई.पी., कमरा सं० 143, भा.वा.अनु.शि.प., न्यू फॉरेस्ट, देहरादून, को जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 25 अक्टूबर 2021 (समय 11:00 बजे सुबह तक) है।

Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) invites Request for quotation (RFQ) from nationally reputed firms/bidders for 'Supply of Earthworms for vermi composting' in the project areas of Madhya Pradesh under Ecosystem Services Improvement Project (ESIP).

Necessary RFQ documents available on ICFRE website ([www.icfre.gov.in](http://www.icfre.gov.in)). Last Date for submission of RFQ to Project Director, ESIP, Room No. 143, ICFRE, P.O. New Forest, Dehradun is 25 October 2021 (11:00 AM).

परियोजना निदेशक, ई.एस.आई.पी., भा.वा.अनु.शि.प., देहरादून / Project Director, ESIP, ICFRE, Dehradun

भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद्

(पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की एक स्वायत्त संस्था)

गो ऑफ न्यू फॉरेस्ट, देहरादून 248 006, भारत

INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India)

P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248 006, INDIA

कोटेशन आमंत्रण / Request for Quotations

भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद् (भा.वा.अनु.शि.प.) ने पारितंत्र सेवाएं सुधार परियोजना के अन्तर्गत प्रतिष्ठित बिडरों से छत्तीसगढ़ ई.एस.आई.पी. के परियोजना क्षेत्रों के लिए 'वर्मी कम्पोस्ट के लिए केंचुओं' की सप्लाई हेतु कोटेशन आमंत्रित करती है।


कोटेशन आमंत्रण के निर्धारित प्रारूप भा.वा.अनु.शि.प. की वेबसाइट ([www.icfre.gov.in](http://www.icfre.gov.in)) पर उपलब्ध है। कोटेशन आमंत्रण के प्रस्ताव परियोजना निदेशक, ई.एस.आई.पी., कमरा सं० 143, भा.वा.अनु.शि.प., न्यू फॉरेस्ट, देहरादून, को जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 25 अक्टूबर 2021 (समय 11:00 बजे सुबह तक) है।

Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) invites Request for quotation (RFQ) from nationally reputed firms/bidders for 'Supply of Earthworms for vermi composting' in the project areas of Chhattisgarh under Ecosystem Services Improvement Project (ESIP).

Necessary RFQ documents available on ICFRE website ([www.icfre.gov.in](http://www.icfre.gov.in)). Last Date for submission of RFQ to Project Director, ESIP, Room No. 143, ICFRE, P.O. New Forest, Dehradun is 25 October 2021 (11:00 AM).

परियोजना निदेशक, ई.एस.आई.पी., भा.वा.अनु.शि.प., देहरादून / Project Director, ESIP, ICFRE, Dehradun

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Amrita

General public is hereby informed that this girl (depicted in the photo) namely: **Amrita D/o Golden Ram R/o C-12, Jyoti Enclave, Jyonti, Delhi-81** has been missing/kidnapped from the area of PS Kanjhawala since **20.09.2021**. In this regard DD No. **96A** dated **23.09.2021** has been registered at **PS. Kanjhawala, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far.

Her physical description is as under:-  
**Sex:** Female, **Age:** 22 years, **Height:** 4'9" ft., **Complexion:** Shallow, **Built:** Thin, **Face:** Long, **Hair:** Black.  
Any person is having information or clue about this missing/ Kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following:-  
**SHO**  
**Website:**<http://cbi.nic.in> **P.S. Kanjhawala Delhi**  
**E-Mail:** [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) **Ph. No.:** 011-25951486  
**Tel. No.:** 011-24368638/24368641 **Mob. No-** 8750870324  
**Fax No.:** 011-24368639 **DP/1119/RD/2021**

Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency,

First Floor, Directorate of Panchayatiraj, Opp-IT Park, Sahastradhara Road, Dehradun

संख्या: 1900 / आई 1-02(xvi)/ITCO/यु0आर0आर0डी0ए0/21 दिनांक: 11 अक्टूबर, 2021

1-02(xvi)/ITCO/यु0आर0आर0डी0ए0/21

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice

Date of release of invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 08-10-2021

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in [www.pmgstyendersuk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyendersuk.gov.in). The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (ii) of ITB with the NPCC LTD., 98-NEHRU COLONY, DEHRADUN (UTTARAKHAND) OR PIU NPCC, PMGSY, FIRST FLOOR, BICH GALI, NEAR INDIAN GAS AGENCY, CHAUKHITYA, ALMORA UTTARAKHAND on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid, either by registered post or by hand failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.

Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-tendering: 30.10.2021 01:00 PM

For further details please log on to [www.pmgstyendersuk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstyendersuk.gov.in)

Chief Engineer, URRDA, Dehradun.

\* Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

Note : For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2675725 number may be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM.

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, साहेबगंज

अल्पकालीन ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

निविदा सूचना संख्या- DWS/SAHIBGANJ-16/2021-22दिनांक :- 09.10.2021

क्र	कार्य का नाम	केन्द्र प्रायोजित योजना "जल जीवन मिशन" के अन्तर्गत :- Execution of Complete Raw Water Transport System from the proposed Intake at Neghra at Rajmahal, Sahibganj District upto Sundar Dam in Godda District through Ta. Ijhari & Borio blocks of Sahibganj District and Boarijhora, Mehra & Mahaganah blocks of Godda District. The work includes Designing, constructing and commissioning of A) Intake well cum pump house structure on turnkey basis by Floating Barge & 800m RCC Approach Bridge/Any other most suitable method at Village Neghra, Rajmahal Block of Sahibganj District (Lat 25° 02' 34.92"N & Long 87° 51' 31.88"E/Any other most suitable location in Rajmahal, capable of drawing 209.156 MLD of water during the whole year continuously, B) 104.38 Kms of Pipeline (MS 1100 to 1800 mm Dia & DI 750mm Dia) C) 6 Nos of Pump House & Raw Water Sumps, D) Supplying, Installing & Commissioning Centrifugal pumps and associated accessories etc. complete of various sizes, E) NH/Railways/Nala/River Crossings F) Complete SCADA System G) Staff Quarter, Approach Road, Boundary Wall etc. H) Preparation of LA Plan for temporary land Acquisition for pipeline laying I) Coordinating, Obtaining & Facilitating all required remaining permissions and EOC etc. and five year of operation and maintenance with allied work etc. all complete job on turnkey basis under Divisional Sahabganj for year 2021-22.
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1.	प्राक्कलित राशि	55401.82 lac
2.	अग्रधन की राशि (लाख में)	554.02 lac
3.	परिणामा विवरण का मूल्य	10,00,000
4.	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	30(तीस) माह + 3(तीन) माह (परिचालन एवं परीक्षण)
5.	वससाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय	25-10-2021
6.	Pre bid की तिथि	02-11-2021 को 01:00 बजे अपराह्न में अभियंता प्रमुख, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, जालखण्ड, रौंकी के कार्यालय में।
7.	निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	16-11-2021, 05:00 बजे अपराह्न तक
8.	पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, साहेबगंज में अग्रधन की राशि एवं परिणामा विवरण का मूल्य जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय	17-11-2021, 05:00 बजे अपराह्न तक
9.	निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	18-11-2021, 05:00 बजे अपराह्न तक
10.	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी एवं कार्यालय का पता	कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, साहेबगंज।
11.	निविदा खोलने वाले पदाधिकारी के कार्यालय का पता	कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, साहेबगंज।
12.	प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क नं०	9006611698
13.	ई- प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल का हेल्पाइन नं०	9006611698

कार्यपालक अभियंता,


पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल साहेबगंज।

PR 254888 Water Resource(21-22)D

DAY TODAY


BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)



This simply has to be a decisive time for your long-term aims and ambitions. Mars will be making some brilliant aspects over the rest of the year, urging you to take the initiative. Yet you are strangely cautious and unwilling to proceed. You're probably right to hang on for now.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)



Pluto has been working its magic through your relationships with the result that you no longer have time for people who do not value your friendship or appreciate your very real need to follow your own path. You're on course for creative fulfilment, by the way, although you're not prepared for the strange twists and turns of fate over the next six months.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)




You are supposed to be so fortunate at the moment, all on account of Jupiter's presence in powerful regions of your chart. However, this planet's retrograde motion has been causing significant delays, and it's unlikely that major plans will come to fruition until next year.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)




You can no longer rely on the emotional comfort to be gained from the Moon's recent passage through a sympathetic region of your chart. Instead, you should turn your attention to gritty issues, such as arranging your accounts and balancing the books.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)




As the Sun forms yet another series of emotional relationships, it might be a question of turning the other cheek unless you are happy to risk an explosion at home. Family members may be quite justified in nursing grievances, so it's up to you to extend the hand of peace.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)




You have wasted a lot of time waiting for other people to fulfil promised obligations. Now you must make it your aim to set the agenda, insisting that partners and colleagues be as well-organised and efficient as you. There is a wonderful excuse for getting out of a chore, but will you take it?

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)




Venus is now in a wonderfully protective position, although you must be aware that nobody will step in to save you from financial muddles that are of your own making. This is why it is important to be bold and assertive. You see, you can only expect other people to respect you if you respect yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)



Slowly but inexorably you are moving towards a showdown. This may be with partners at home or colleagues at work, or perhaps with a friend who has been testing your patience. At times like these you should always look before you leap. Otherwise you'll cause strains in a close relationship.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)




There's a great deal of optimism in the air. Don't let this lead you to misunderstand the situation, as it does seem likely someone has been going behind your back. Be sure to respond with your usual dignity, and leave a final choice until later.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)




The ground may have been swept from under your feet lately, partly due to the fact that your expectations were unrealistic. It's a good time to secure help and advice from old friends. In love, you're beginning to grow more secretive, and adventurous.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)



You are supposed to be direct and honest as a rule, but there are times when a little insincerity can help you get your way without offending anyone. In fact, partners may find your new manners rather endearing. Your business plans will be moving fast, but won't be finally completed until the middle of next year.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)



Venus' supportive relationship with Jupiter, your planetary ruler, has you purring with contentment and, if all goes well, you'll be having a very successful day. In fact, play your cards right and you'll have plenty to smile about. One thing you can count on, partners will be on your side.

CENTRAL RAILWAY

LEASING SPACE IN SLR's

TENDER NO.: NGP/C/1527/1/01 To 10/21 Dated 07.10.2021. Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Central Railway, Nagpur Invites Tenders from Registered Lease Holders of Nagpur Division for leasing contract of space of 3.9 & 4 ton in the SLRs of Mail/Express Trains as per terms and condition and eligibility criteria of the tender: Train No. 22125/02025, 12136/02036, 12140/02170 & 11403/01403 Earnest Money Deposit: Rs.1,00,000/- Cost of tender document: Rs.1000/- each. Validity of offer: 45 days. Period of contract: 5 Years Last date for submission of tender documents in official site [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in): 03.11.2021 up to 15.00 Hrs. Date & times of tender opening: 03.11.2021 up to 15.30 Hrs.

RailMadad Helpline 139

North Eastern Railway

Open Tender Notice No. : NER-BSB0sT-OT-21-2021

"Open Tenders" through Online (E-Tendering) are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecomm)/ Varanasi/N.E. Railway for and behalf of the President of India for the following works:

S.N. : 1. Tender Notice No. and Description of work : NER-BSB0sT-OT-21-2021 : Name of Work :- One time Repairing contract of defective cards of GGTronics Make Axle Counter installed in the section of SSE/Sig/BSB & SSE/Sig/CTC/GKP of BSB Division. Approx. Value : Rs. 9,96,950.00, Earnest Money : Rs. 00.00, Cost of Tender Form : Rs. 00.00, Completion Period : 03 Months. Tender Closing Date and Time : 08.11.2021 upto 15.00 Hrs. 1. Tender online will be submitted up to 15.00 hrs. on date 08.11.2021. 2. For full details and submission of bid kindly visit the official website of Indian Railways i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).

Divl. Rly. Manager (S&T) CPRO/Sig-4 N.E. Railway, Varanasi

About any Passenger Amentity complaint SMS on Mob. No. 09794845955

Do not smoke Bid/Cigarette in train

CONSTRUCTION OF MAJOR BRIDGES

Tender Notice No. : CON/2021/OCT/04, Dated 18.10.2021: E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work:- Tender No.: CE/CON/A/G/MB/2021/07: Name of Work : Construction of major bridges Br No. 195(253) (3 x 6.10m PSC Slab, substructure & superstructure at Ch. 95842.00), Br No. 206(264) (1x18.30 Composite Girder, substructure only at Ch. 100797.00), Br No. 212(269) RUB (2x30.5m Composite Girder, substructure only at Ch. 103172.00), Br No. 190A (248) RUB (1x30.50m OWG, substructure only at Ch. 93981.00), Br No. 191(249) (1 x 12.20 PSC Slab, substructure & superstructure at Ch. 94512.00) & Br No. 207 (265)(3x24.40m Composite Girder, substructure only at Ch. 100990.00) and balance work of Br No.190 (247) (9 x45.70m OWG, at Ch. 93855.00), including protection work and other ancillary works between Chainage 93.50km to 106.84 km in connection with Araria - Galgolia new BG line project of N. F. Railway. Approx. Value : ₹ 49,17,31,371.83; Date & Time of Closing of Tender at 14:30 hrs. on 02.11.2021; Date & Time of opening of Tender at 15:30 hrs. on 02.11.2021. The complete information with the tender documents of above tender will be available upto 14:30 hrs. of 02.11.2021 for respective tender in website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> and will also be available in N.F. Railway/ Construction website in [www.nfrlyconstruction.org](http://www.nfrlyconstruction.org). Dy. Chief Engineer/Con/3

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY (Construction Organisation) SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



# King without a title

Kohli on final day as RCB captain: Anger, disgust, frustration, ugly spat and an emotional farewell speech



RCB skipper Virat Kohli directed his ire towards umpire Virender Sharma during KKR's chase.

iplt20.com

SRIRAM VEERA  
OCTOBER 11

JUST AS the ball was jammed out for the winning run, Virat Kohli trudged from cover, head down, and glum. He snapped out of his reverie to shake hands with the players, slowly walked towards the stumps, and flicked the LED-lit bail off its perch. The lights went out metaphorically and literally on his last match as Royal Challengers Bangalore captain. No cup e-saala too.

What would the Kohli-cam show on his last day as RCB captain? Anger, disgust, frustration, nerve-popping celebrations, the occasional resigned-shrug-at-fate calmness, an ugly spat with an umpire, a sombre talk at the end about how he tried his best as captain, and a mentor-talk with Shubman Gill before the cameras finally looked away from his dark night.

Nothing much went right for Kohli on Monday, after a briefly-bright start. He made a tactical decision to take singles off the coterie of spinners from Kolkata Knight Riders and leave the hitting to Srikanth Bharat, who struggled to a 16-ball 9-run knock. When Kohli eventually tried to hit Sunil Narine, he lost his stumps and saw his team meander to a sub-par total.

When he led the team on to the field, the instruction to every fielder seemed to be to try to wear out the ball quickly by throwing it on to the ground at every opportunity possible. It seemed he too would go the KKR way and unleash his spinners on a sluggish wicket. But instead, he never used left-arm spinner Shahbaz Ahmed.

Just before the 12th over of the chase, Kohli sought out AB de Villiers and Glen Maxwell for a long chat. It's not known whether he agreed with or overruled them, but he brought on Dan Christian for a bowl. Three successive sixes flew off Narine's bat in that over that sealed the game.

In between, there was an angry confrontation with umpire Virender Sharma, as Kohli flung the ball to the ground in disgust, and later saw his team-mates drop catches. He sighed, shook his head, roared in brief celebration, before the light finally blew out of his campaign.

In the seventh over of the chase, bowled by Yuzvendra Chahal, Kohli's emotions bubbled over and he had a face-off with Sharma. The umpire had negated an LBW appeal by Chahal against Rahul Tripathi. And when the third umpire agreed with Kohli, scenes heated up. Kohli and Sharma had a chat and Kohli even flung the ball down in anger. He picked it up and continued the discussion till the new batsman arrived.

One has seen captains get into spats with umpires before. Once even MS Dhoni marched from the dugout to the playing arena to have a confrontation with an umpire. Sharma was decidedly having a bad night; not just with that dismissal but there were a couple during RCB's innings that went against Kohli's team. At the end of the Chahal over, Sharma walked briskly to Kohli and gestured him to come for another tete-a-tete. This time, it was Sharma who spoke at length and by the end, Kohli had a wry smile. Not long after when the Fair Play table showed RCB at the bottom, Sunil Gavaskar piped up on air to suggest that it wasn't a surprise after this game.

## Man of many moods

The monk-like calm visage also made its appearance. It was on the fifth delivery of the 11th over. Kohli had made visible peace with agitations of the recent past, and stood still like a rifle shooter on a range with his hands crossed behind his back, un-Kohli like, shaking his head. Sometime before that, the umpire had summoned him for a 'chill, Captain' lecture, urging him to calm down. Then Venkatesh Iyer was dropped by Ahmed - the ball bouncing off his uncertain palms. Iyer stuck his tongue out with a glint of mischief and replayed the arc of the shot. But Kohli responded to the drop by calmly standing there, shaking his head and willing himself to breathe deep. Not breathing fire, just moving on. Iyer would soon perish, caught behind from a chunky edge. And Kohli would return to his nerve-popping celebration, a bit abbreviated though. Like a roar-lite. A rationed celebration by his standards. He would immediately take a deep breath and adopt a monk's visage. Until the next wicket fetched up. The calm between wicket-induced storms was growing longer in Kohli-land.

The next over was the game-deciding move to bowl Christian. From then on, a sombreness settled in Kohli with the occasional moment of lung-clearing roars. There was even an ironic moment involving the minister of spirit of cricket Eoin Morgan. Dinesh Karthik had slid his bat in an effort to reach the crease at the non-striker's end and possibly affected Kohli from collecting the throw cleanly. As the ball scooted away from Kohli's grasp, Morgan and Karthik took the second run. It was Maxwell who shot a question to Karthik about the possible infringement and

the decision to run the second, but Kohli remained mostly silent. Or so it appeared. There was one final nerve-bursting Kohli scream when Karthik was caught behind but the poor man didn't have the luxury to carry on with his celebration for long as the umpires went upstairs to check the legality of the catch. It took several minutes to finally decide that it was a clean catch but by then passions too had evaporated.

## Crucial move backfires

Kohli had one final big decision to make. Should he go with Christian for the final over or bring on Maxwell (two left-handers Morgan and Shakib Al Hasan were batting) or even bring up Ahmed from the cold. He went with Christian and Shakib settled the game on the first ball with a paddled four. Seconds later, Kohli would flick off the bail.

He summoned up all the poise he could muster to speak about his contributions for RCB as a captain at the post-match ceremony. "I have tried my best to create a culture here where youngsters could come in and play with freedom and belief. It is something I have done with India as well. I have given my best. I don't know how the response has been, but I have given 120 per cent to this franchise every time, which is something I will now do as a player. It is a great time to regroup and restructure for the next three years with people who will take this ahead. I don't see myself playing anywhere else. Loyalty matters more to me than worldly pleasures. I would be in the RCB till the last day I play in the IPL," he said before wandering off to have a chat with Gill.

## FRANCE WINS NATIONS LEAGUE

Kylian Mbappé scored late as world champion France came from behind to win the Nations League with a 2-1 victory over Spain in the final. Mbappé netted with 10 minutes remaining as France was again forced to fight back, just as it had done in the semifinals against Belgium.

AP

## EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER



Hot heads, calm minds and everything in between at the game

## Bharat faces turners, turning tides



How things change overnight. There he was soaking up all the adulation after the last match heroics that included a last-ball six. But today Srikanth Bharat couldn't do much, struggling for a 16-ball 9 knock. The pressure was also on him due to the tactical decision RCB took in some respects. Virat Kohli went for the singles to give the strike to Bharat against the mystery spinners Varun Chakravarty and Sunil Narine. And against Shakib Al Hasan too. Barring one dot ball in this phase after power play when the

spinners twirled, Kohli took single of every ball he faced. But Bharat couldn't connect with his attempted aggressive hits. He was nearly stumped once, and kept mistiming Chakravarty and co. He couldn't reach the pitch of the balls - the spinners were brilliant with their lengths, and he couldn't find any timing. The shots kept getting more desperate but nothing clicked and the misery ended when he holed up to long-off. His innings sucked up all the momentum built during the powerplay.

## Sharma on a slow-turning rotisserie



It was the slowest decision by the on-field umpire Virender Sharma and the quickest reversal by the third umpire Anil Chaudhary. Shahbaz Ahmed had gone for a reverse sweep off Varun Chakravarty and it hit the edge and deviated the width of two stumps almost to hit his pad. Chakravarty appealed. And appealed. Shahbaz ran and reached the other end when Virender decided to wilt and put his finger up. The other batsman Glenn Maxwell was shocked and said "it hit bat!". Third umpire had one look and decided 'clearly off the bat', and said he didn't need any more replays or hawk-eye etc. And that was that.

## Shakib's tough easy four



Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib al-Hasan, a street-smart batsman, provided KKR with the one release shot to ease the pressure in a tense chase. Mohammed Siraj had pierced out the game-changer Sunil Narine and Dinesh Kartik in a space of three balls and though the equation was a run a ball, scoring runs on the slow wicket was tricky. Virat Kohli reposed faith in medium pacer Dan Christian who came up with a slow ball. Shakib may have been expecting it as he moved across off stump and helped the ball over the fielder inside the circle. Shakib had no pace to work with and there was danger of it popping up for an easy catch if he mistimed it. But on seeing the ball reach the boundary, he turned around to face captain Eoin Morgan and shrugged his shoulders. Easy-peasy skipper is what he seemed to be saying with a smile.

## Desert Arose

Far afield in England, a certain Asif Iqbal was basking in pride, as Royal Challengers Bangalore and Kolkata Knight Riders turned up in Sharjah for the IPL Eliminator. It's been four decades since Sharjah became a cricket venue and the former Pakistan captain, with a strong Hyderabad (India) connection, played a massive part in bringing the game to the desert. "When people still call me one of the chief architects of cricket in Sharjah, I feel proud. We started from scratch and now it has become the go-to venue for the



IPL also apart from a World Cup, just around the corner," Iqbal says, speaking to *The Indian Express*. His emotions at the moment are recollected in the cold and damp of London, where IPL is popular among cricket fans. "I enjoyed the last night's game. Today's match also, I am looking forward to top entertainment." As nostalgia kicks in, Iqbal spares a thought for those who, along with him, dared to dream. "Some of them are still alive, some of them are no more. Together we made it happen and the happiness lingers."

## CHALLENGE THWARTED

# Jack of all trades Narine displays mastery with bat and ball

**SYNOPSIS:** Narine carries KKR to victory, RCB choke again. Kohli signs off empty-handed

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY  
OCTOBER 11

KOLKATA KNIGHT Riders prevailed over Royal Challengers Bangalore in a game of punches and counter-punches because Sunil Narine made the difference in the Eliminator.

KKR seizing the moments was reflective of a side revelling under pressure. RCB, a team not used to winning knockout games in the IPL, was expected to hit their stride in Virat Kohli's final season as skipper. But they didn't, especially when KKR used their spinners to peg back the RCB innings.

Narine tilted the balance in his side's favour with three sixes in an over off Dan Christian, after RCB had rallied with Venkatesh Iyer's wicket - a nice topping on his match-winning 4/21. Kohli walked into his IPL captaincy sunset empty-handed. KKR, chasing 139 for victory, won by four wickets to go into Qualifier 2, against Delhi Capitals.

## Narine carries KKR to victory

RCB's batting stats had been underwhelm-

ing: Kohli, 39 off 33 balls, strike-rate 118, opening the innings. KS Bharat, nine off 16 balls, strike-rate 56. Glenn Maxwell, 15 off 18 balls, strike-rate 83. AB de Villiers, 11 off nine balls, strike-rate 122. RCB's innings didn't have a single six.

A middle-over meltdown brought about their downfall, but it wasn't a case of the batsmen throwing it away. Narine mesmerised them with his guile.

He was brought in to the attack in the 10th over, after the ball became a little older and started to grip on the surface. Narine started off with KS Bharat's scalp.

Ever since he came back with a remodelled action, the spinner has focused more on cutters than breaks. He no longer bowls a doosra, once his shock delivery, replacing it with a leg-cutter. For his off-spinners also, a lot of times during this year's tournament, Narine has been bowled with an upright seam, rolling his fingers over it like off-cutters. Today, he bowled conventional off-breaks and gave the ball a serious tweak. He read the pitch perfectly, but more than the revolution, the line did the trick. The six-metre Sharjah length was hit with precision. Also, Narine varied his pace beautifully.

Kohli's dismissal was a case in point. As runs dried up after the Powerplay, Kohli got impatient. An uncharacteristic slog-sweep ensued, but Narine probably had pre-empted it. He bowled the off-break a little slower, from close



Sunil Narine's spell turned out to be the downfall of RCB. The off-spinner bagged the scalps of Kohli, Maxwell, Bharat and De Villiers.

iplt20.com

to the stumps, ensuring that it wouldn't be going down with the angle. The ball went under the bat and disturbed leg stump.

De Villiers, too, was basically done in by the line. The off-and-middle line was tempting

enough to play it across, on the leg-side. Once again, Narine had bowled it slower, allowing optimum turn, and the ball went through the gate.

Maxwell twice tried to reverse-sweep

Narine in desperation. The latter cancelled the attempts through pace variations and an excellent line. A vicious off-break followed, forcing the batsman to slice his attempted slog-sweep.

Narine wasn't done yet. When the game was on a knife-edge and KKR needed an impact innings, his 26 off 15 balls at No.5 took the game away from RCB. Once the asking rate dropped below six, pressure eased off considerably.

## RCB choke again

With seven runs required off the final over, two experienced KKR batsmen, Eoin Morgan and Shakib Al Hasan, kept calm. RCB, on the other hand, surrendered the initiative, bit by bit. Devdutt Padikkal's drink's break was the first mistake.

RCB had raced to 49 for no loss after five overs, batting first on a Sharjah pitch that played true initially. Then, Padikkal became thirsty. As he came back, Lockie Ferguson castled him. The break didn't help the opener's concentration. "Why do you need a glass of water after five overs of play?" Sunil Gavaskar raised the question on air.

Bharat came at No.3 and went into a shell, putting extra pressure on Kohli at the other end. Instead of carrying the confidence of a last-ball six against Delhi Capitals, the wicketkeeper-batsman seemingly got overawed by the oc-

casión. When KKR batted, Shahbaz Ahmed dropped a dolly to give Iyer a reprieve, with the match intriguingly poised. Padikkal dropped Narine to deny the excellent Harshal Patel (2/19) his record 33rd wicket of the season. After Narine departed, an unnecessary throw from Maxwell allowed Morgan to go for an extra run. Yet again, RCB's customary big-game choke impeded them.

## Kohli signs off

As his RCB captaincy stint ends, an IPL title would be a glaring omission after nine years in charge. Kohli badly wanted to win, attested by his unhappiness with umpire Virender Sharma's decisions - three decisions getting overturned on review somewhat justified the anger. As regards to his moves in this game, Kohli probably missed a trick by not readily bringing back Yuzvendra Chahal after Iyer got out, giving the next over to Christian instead. The leggie (2/16) served another reminder to the national selectors ahead of the final October 15 T20 World Cup's squad deadline.

**BRIEF SCORES:** *Royal Challengers Bangalore: 138 for 7 in 20 overs (V Kohli 39, D Padikkal 21; S Narine 4/21, L Ferguson 2/30) lost to Kolkata Knight Riders: 139 for 6 in 19.4 overs. (S Gill 29, V Iyer 26, S Narine 26, N Rana 23; Y Chahal 2/16, H Patel 2/19) by four wickets*



# Gold but no glitter

Indian shooters top medal table at junior worlds but misleading results, rankings and Tokyo debacle call for realism

SHIVANI NAIK, SHAHID JUDGE & NITIN SHARMA  
OCTOBER 11

TWO MONTHS after the Indian shooters drew a blank at the Tokyo Olympics, a bunch of teens have returned from the Junior World Championships in Peru with table-topping 43 medals – 17 gold, 16 silver and 10 bronze. On the face of it, this was a timely balm for a sport desperate for good news. But this is no assurance of Olympic success.

The Junior Worlds results run the risk of starting another cycle of puffing up names and blundering on the way to the 2024 Games at Paris. Even at the senior level, the chatter of year-round triumphs in the dime-a-dozen World Cups hasn't been able to translate into that one shooting medal that matters the most. Headlines building up hype in India on every World Cup win – missing the context of field quality and pressure situations – in the run-up to Tokyo, led to miscalculations of what Indians were capable of.

"I was expecting approximately 10-12 medals at the Olympics. I was asked why shooting didn't get medals. Those athletes might have had a bad day. This is the only sport where India is number one, where we had 3 world champions. I can assure shooting will bounce back," Indian Olympic Association President Narinder Batra said at a Maharashtra Olympic Association event last Friday. Only 3 gold and 10 overall medals of these 43 have come in events that are on the Olympic program and can be considered as long haul gains in identify shooters of quality.

A reality check of this medal haul can also double up as a delayed Tokyo Games post-mortem.

### Reading results howler

Take the common link between the two events; pistol star Manu Bhaker, who got 4 golds and a bronze at Peru. For the 19-year-old Olympian and winner of multiple World Cup medals, this certainly wasn't a career-high or an early sign of a much-improved show at Paris in three years time.

Earlier this year, she went into Tokyo on the back of two 10m air pistol gold medals in senior World Cups (WC) and carried an impressive world ranking and medals won in mixed events and the Youth Olympics.

Tokyo showed that World Cups don't prepare shooters for the Olympics because the top shooters don't make it a point to



Manu Bhaker won 4 golds and a bronze at the junior worlds in Peru. File

turn up at them and in case they do, they don't really push themselves too hard. At the 2019 World Cup at Putian, Bhaker won gold with a score of 578. The final featured just four of the Tokyo 2020 last eight finishers. Olympic gold medalist Vitalina Bastarashkina would finish 8th. Bhaker's only other World Cup win, at Guadalajara 2018 (score 572), was a thin field, with three Tokyo's finalists present and only two making finals. At Tokyo, the finals cutoff was 577.

Crucially, Bhaker's performance at the big events had red flags: the 2018 World Championships with top names (13th, score 574) and Asian Games (fifth, 574). Finishing 12th at Tokyo (575) was in line with these scores and finishes where the level of competition and pressure are both high.

Another case of a muddled read on a shooter was air rifle specialist Elavenil Valarivan. She finished best among Indians, but her 626.5 for 16th place was off the Tokyo cut-off of 628.5. She hit her stride toward the end-2019 to leapfrog Anjum Moudgil and Apurvi Chandela who had won India the quotas when they finished second and fourth respectively at the Worlds.

And while the 22-year-old is prone to sublime world record scores and broke through at the WC Finals with 631.1, there were tell-tale signs at big events: 14th place at Asian Games with 620.8 and the bigger World Cups - Beijing 2019 (17th; 626.9),

Delhi 2019 (30th; 625.3), Delhi 2021 (12th, 626.7) and Osijek 2021 (55th, 621.1).

Moreover, when Valarivan won gold in Putian, only one player who made the Tokyo Olympics final was competing at the event – Korean Eunji.

### Misleading rankings

Rankings – another misleading metric used to lead fans to believe Indians only needed to turn up at Tokyo to win – saw course corrections immediately after the Games. The former top 5s in rifle slipped – Divyansh Singh Panwar is ranked 17, Valarivan is 18, Moudgil 23 and Chandela 37. As of October 9, Saurabh Chaudhary was 3, Abhishek Verma 4, Yashaswini Deswal is 3, Bhaker was 4, pointing to a confusing and irrelevant ranking system in this sport where top nations are very picky about where they compete.

India had two World No 1s going into Tokyo, five World No 2s and two World No 3s. That's 9 shooters ranked 1/2/3.

### The Croatia tour

Whatever the reasons for transplanting the shooters into Croatia in the months before Tokyo (pandemic or to keep focus), the NRAI had identified the correct competition, in hindsight. The World Cup in Osijek was the most accurate indicator of form.

Valarivan finished 55th in air rifle, and sixth with Panwar in the mixed event. This

## MISSING TARGET

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**PISTOL STAR** Manu Bhaker's performance can't be an early sign of a much-improved show at Paris in three years' time. At the 2019 World Cup at Putian, Bhaker won gold with a score of 578. The final featured just four of the Tokyo 2020 last eight finishers.

**RANKINGS SAW** course corrections immediately after the Games. The former top 5s in rifle slipped – Divyansh Singh Panwar is ranked 17, Valarivan is 18, Moudgil 23 and Chandela 37.

**43** Number of medals Indian shooters won at the Junior World Championships – 17 gold, 16 silver and 10 bronze medals.

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**NARINDER BATRA**  
PRESIDENT, INDIAN OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION

was explained away as being just a lung-opener to tweak techniques, while it was clear that the eventual Tokyo medallists had arrived in Croatia primed to peak form.

Sixteen shooters (eight pairings) made Stage 2 of the mixed event. In the four World Cups in 2019 and two in 2021 that the Indians won – a bulk of the eventual Tokyo finalists were not in contention. Two out of 16 at Delhi, six at Munich, five at Rio. Beijing had eight of the 16.

But it was at Osijek where 10 of the 16 showed up in rifle – five of those eight teams reached Stage 2 in the mixed event. And four of those teams finished better than the Indian team (sixth) in Croatia.

On the whole, the 16 shooters in the mixed rifle participated in an average of just 2.3 World Cups, while Indians went to at least 6 each. The one that mattered at Osijek, was waved away as 'finishing touches, technique tweaks.' It was sadly a harbinger of the wretched showing in Tokyo. Going to Croatia wasn't a mistake.

### The China Way

China first won a shooting Olympic gold medal in 1984, and were heading into Tokyo on the back of what Chinese news agency Xinhua called the "worst performance for the team since 1988." This was "only one gold, two silvers and four bronze medals" from Rio 2016.

Nobody proposes India blindly ape

China's highly controlled system of talent identification and micro-managing entire lives of young shooters, and NRAI president Raninder Singh was forthright in making this delicate distinction, leaning towards a more democratic process. But the shooting super-power was quicker in reacting to the pandemic postponement and in May 2020 called up an expanded squad for the national camp immediately thereafter – with the aim to build a larger pool to compete at the 2022 Asian Games and Paris 2024, according to Xinhua.

The Chinese put the squad through a nine-day tournament in Guangzhou that wrapped up a multiple-stop series in line with the Tokyo competition schedule. From that larger pool of shooters, 19 – with an average age of under 25 years – made the Olympic squad.

"The shooting team adapted the timetable and qualification system, increasing the gravity of qualification points for the last four stops. As a result, some big names, including Rio 2016 gold medalist Zhang Mengxue (women's 10m air pistol), world champions Zhao Ruozhu (women's 10m air rifle) and Zhang Jingjing (women's 25m pistol), lost their Tokyo slot to younger teammates," Xinhua quoted.

The recent Junior World event hints at depth for India. It also hints at a deceptive smugness of 43 medals which don't necessarily lead to an Olympic medal.

## BRIEFLY

### Devendro, Suranjoy new boxing coaches

**New Delhi:** CWG medal-winners M Suranjoy Singh and L Devendro Singh, whose stellar boxing careers were cut short by injuries, have been roped in as coaches for men ahead of this month's world championships. The 29-year-old Devendro and the 35-year-old Suranjoy are among 14 coaches that have been short-listed for the national camp in Patiala, starting this week. The world championship, featuring over 600 boxers from more than 100 countries, begins on October 24 in Belgrade, Serbia. The other prominent names in the coaching staff are head coach Narendra Rana, former junior coach M S Dhaka, the seasoned Dharmendra Yadav and former boxers Diwakar Parsad and Torak Kharkan among others.

### Thomas Cup: India blank Netherlands

**Aarhus:** The Indian men's badminton team blanked Netherlands 5-0 in its opening Group C tie to make a winning start at the Thomas Cup Final here. Taking the court first, Kidambi Srikanth beat Joran Kweekel 21-12 21-14 in a men's singles clash before the doubles duo of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty sailed past Ruben Jille and Ties van der Lecq 21-19 21-12. World championship bronze-medalist B Sai Praneeth then demolished Robin Mesman 21-4 21-12. MR Arjun and Dhruv Kapila next defeated Andy Buijk and Brian Wassink 21-12 21-13 in the second doubles tie before Sameer Verma made the clean sweep, beating Gijs Duijs 21-6 21-11 in the third and final singles match.

### Madan Maharaj record maiden win

**Bengaluru:** Nigerian centre back Loveday Okechukwu scored in the dying minutes of the game to seal a 1-0 win for Madan Maharaj FC over Ryntih SC in the I-League Qualifiers here on Monday. Ryntih SC dominated proceedings for the majority of the contest, but were left to rue their missed opportunities as the experienced Madan Maharaj side held on to snatch a late winner (90') at the Bangalore Football Stadium. The defeat ended Ryntih SC's chances of making it to the final round of the I-League Qualifiers.

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