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Centre starts talks for new IT law, looks at stalking to social media

AASHISH ARYAN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

MONTHS AFTER its new rules for social media intermediaries under the IT Act of 2000 triggered a faceoff with tech giants Facebook and Twitter, the Centre has started a fresh round of consultations for a completely new IT law "to deal with present and future circumstances", *The Indian Express* has learnt.

In February, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) had released stringent rules under the existing IT Act for social media intermediaries, which was challenged by multiple stakeholders in different high courts. Both the Madras and the Bombay High Courts have stayed operation of key parts of the rules. The Bombay High Court observed that the new rules are "manifestly unreasonable and go beyond the IT Act, its aims and provisions".

Senior government officials told *The Indian Express* that the new law, when it is put in place, "will subsume all these rules", including the setting up of a grievances redressal and compliance mechanism, and officers. "Our goal is to ensure compliance. If there can be compliance without litigation, why not do that?" a senior official said.

However, the official said, there may be some tweaks to remove any criminal liability on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

HARDENING OF POSITIONS IN BEIJING, NEW DELHI

China objects to Naidu Arunachal visit, India says no ground, solve LAC issue

Beijing statement days after failure of talks; Delhi says Arunachal integral, inalienable part of India

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

TWO DAYS after India and China blamed each other for failing to make headway in talks over the military standoff on the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh, Beijing Wednesday said it "firmly opposed" Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu's visit to Arunachal Pradesh last weekend. It asked New Delhi to "stop taking actions that would complicate

and expand the boundary issue". Within hours, the Ministry of External Affairs rejected Beijing's statement, saying Arunachal Pradesh is an "integral and inalienable part" of India and objection to visits of Indian leaders to a state of India "does not stand to reason".

In Arunachal Pradesh, the Vice President had addressed the state Assembly, interacted with "achievers", inaugurated the Assembly library, the Dorjee Khandu auditorium and a paper

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Naidu during his visit to the Arunachal Assembly on Oct 9. PTI

EXPLAINED Delhi's reminder

BY RAISING the LAC issue, New Delhi is underlining that Beijing's bid to alter the boundary status quo is behind the slide in ties. And that it cannot be delinked from any talks between the two sides.

BSF area expanded, Punjab, Bengal call it intrusion on rights

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, CHANDIGARH, KOLKATA, OCTOBER 13

THE MINISTRY of Home Affairs decision to extend the BSF's jurisdiction from 15 km to 50 km inside the international border along Punjab, West Bengal and Assam was meant to "improve operational efficiency" and "crack down on smuggling rackets", officials told *The Indian Express*.

But the move triggered furious reactions from Opposition-ruled Punjab and West Bengal, which described it as an "irrational decision", a "direct attack on federalism" and an attempt to "interfere through Central agencies".

In a gazette notification issued Monday, the Ministry said it was amending an earlier notification of 2014 on jurisdiction of the BSF to exercise its powers in states where it guards the international border.

It outlined the new jurisdiction as "whole of the area comprised in the States of Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland and Meghalaya and Union Territories



BSF jurisdiction extended to 50 km inside the border

of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and so much of the area comprised within a belt of fifty kilometers in the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, West Bengal and Assam, running along the borders of India".

The earlier notification of July 3, 2014, outlined the BSF's jurisdiction as "whole of the area comprised in the States of Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland and Meghalaya and so much of the area comprised within a belt of eighty kilometers in the State of Gujarat, fifty

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Lakhimpur: First visit by senior BJP leader, skips farmer homes

MAULSHREE SETH & ASAD REHMAN
LUCKNOW, LAKHIMPUR KHERI, OCTOBER 13

TEN DAYS after four farmers were killed in Lakhimpur Kheri when a group of farm protesters were hit by a convoy of vehicles, including one owned by Union MoS Ajay Mishra, and four others lost their lives in the violence that followed, UP Law Minister Brijesh Pathak Wednesday became the first senior BJP leader to visit the area.

But the Minister left after visiting the families of two of those killed: BJP worker Shubham Mishra and MoS Ajay Mishra's driver Hari Om Mishra. He did not meet the families of four others from the area who lost their lives: farmers Nachhattar Singh and Lovepreet Singh, BJP worker Shyam Sunder Nishad, and journalist Raman Kashyap.

The two other farmers who were killed, Gurvinder Singh and Diljeet Singh, were from the neighbouring Bahraich district.

When contacted by *The Indian Express*, Pathak said: "I will visit their families of Nishad and Kashyap as soon as the situation



A photo tweeted by UP Law Minister Brijesh Pathak (in glasses, white) with kin of a BJP worker killed in the incident

INSIDE

ASHISH DENIED BAIL
PM 'SILENCE': NIRMALA SAYS DON'T PICK AND CHOOSE

CONG LEADERS MEET PRESIDENT
PAGE 8

normalises in that region as they live close to the spot where the incident took place." The

Minister also said that he would hold talks with the families of the farmers who were killed "once the situation normalises".

Opposition parties, however, criticised Pathak's visit and described it as "an attempt to divert attention" from the incident. Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU) leader Rakesh Tikait warned that it "may be a bit too early for a BJP Minister to visit the families" of the farmers killed. "There may be a reaction from the families, so if someone has to go, permission

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Rewrite history texts to flag fightback, not losses: review panelist

Highlight resistance to invaders: former head of RSS education wing

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

SAYING THAT the existing curriculum in schools dwells "too much on defeats", National Book Trust chairman Govind Prasad Sharma has said that "in the light of new facts, history should be rewritten" and textbooks should talk about the "fighting spirit" of rulers such as Maharana Pratap in battles against foreign invaders.

Sharma is a member of the K Kasturirangan-led committee, set up by the Centre on September 21, to revise the National Curriculum Framework, which will lay down broad guidelines for school syllabus and textbooks.

On Tuesday, the 12-member committee entrusted with drafting the NCF had its first meeting, which was also attended by School Education Secretary Anita Karwal. The meeting discussed provisions of the National Education Policy, 2020, the Union Ministry of Education said in a tweet on Tuesday.

Speaking to *The Indian Express* on Wednesday, Sharma said, "The history that is taught today only talks about *hum ya-han har gaye*, *hum wahan haar gaye* (we lost here, we lost there). But we need to discuss the struggles, the valiant fights put up against foreign invaders during battles. We don't highlight enough of that."

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PANDORA PAPERS - PART 10

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

Oswal's BVI firm sold coal from Indonesia mine he partly owned

JAY MAZOOMDAAR
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

SHAEL OSWAL, singer and scion of Oswal Group, used his off-shore company in the British Virgin Islands to market coal sold by an Indonesian mining company that he partly owned, according to records in the Pandora Papers investigated by *The Indian Express*.

During 2010-2011, records show, almost the entire sale of coal mined by PT Garda Tujuh Buana TBK (GTBO) took place through Briskon Holdings Ltd (BVI) which also received over \$21 million

from the Indonesian company for supplying machinery.

Oswal did not respond to queries from *The Indian Express* on whether he had disclosed his ownership of Briskon Holdings to GTBO and its shareholders, and regulators.

In 2009, Oswal moved to Singapore, set up a company structure to hold a 30 per cent stake in GTBO through Alata Overseas PTE Ltd (Singapore), and became the beneficial owner of Briskon Holdings (BVI).

However, records of corporate services provider Asiaic Trust show that Oswal subsequently declined to comply with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Cong leaders caught talking Shivakumar's 'crores of commission'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 13

THE CONGRESS Wednesday suspended its media coordinator in Karnataka and issued a show-cause notice to a former MP after the two were caught on camera making serious corruption allegations against state party chief D K Shivakumar.

Saleem and former MP V S Ugrappa were caught discussing Shivakumar ahead of a press conference they had called over the BJP "silence" on the recent Income Tax raids believed to be linked to irrigation contracts under the former B S Yeddiyurappa government.

Shivakumar issued a statement saying the incident "has caused huge embarrassment to the party". "The statements which were made were neither connected to the party nor me. It was an internal conversation between the two and I do not deny their words."

In the video, Saleem is seen discussing Shivakumar's record as the Congress chief, and whispering into the ear of Ugrappa that the PCC president is a "collection *giraaki* (agent)", who has made crores of rupees as commission. Among the richest Congress leaders in Karnataka, who declared assets of Rs 850 crore ahead of the 2018

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THE WORLD



CHINA DEFENDS MILITARY DRILLS, TAIWAN SAYS DON'T GET TOO CLOSE

RUSSIA SETS NEW DAILY RECORD FOR COVID DEATHS
PAGE 16

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING
BY NEELKANTH MISHRA
PAGE 12

Narcotics Bureau to IT raids, Pawar slams Govt 'misuse' of agencies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 13

NCP CHIEF Sharad Pawar Wednesday accused the Modi government of misusing Central agencies to target its opponents, mentioning the raids on former party minister Anil Deshmukh and expressing concern over the conduct of officials in the alleged drug bust involving Aryan Khan, the son of Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan.

Addressing a press conference, the NCP chief said that having failed to "destabilize" the Maharashtra government, the Centre was targeting family

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



At press meet in Mumbai, raises presence of outsiders during raid. Ganesh Shirsekar

ARYAN BAIL HEARING PUSHED TO TODAY
PAGE 11

'MP aide said suicide... I saw a photo of my appa's body, he had injuries all over... Truth will come out'

PAGE 1
ANCHORARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, OCTOBER 13

THE DEATH of 57-year-old Govindarasu, a daily-wage labourer at a cashew processing unit owned by DMK MP TRVS Ramesh, came at the end of at least two rounds of torture on September 19, police sources said.

After the case was transferred from the local police to the CB-CID, five employees of Ramesh's cashew unit in Panruti, near Cuddalore, were arrested on Saturday, October 9, while the MP surrendered on Monday. On



Govindarasu (left) died on Sept 19; MP surrendered on Oct 11



Wednesday, a judicial magistrate court in Cuddalore granted 24-hour custody of Ramesh to the investigating agency.

Top sources in the Tamil Nadu CB-CID said Ramesh's arrest was based on his question-

ing and other evidence that point to his presence at the spot while the victim, Govindarasu, was being tortured.

While the accused told police that the security guards caught Govindarasu while he was going

home after work with cashew stolen from the processing unit, the victim's son denied the charge, saying his father already had issues with Ramesh's men for demanding a salary hike after working there for about seven years.

According to Govindarasu's son Senthil, a 36-year-old lorry driver who lives in Chennai, his father worked at TRV Gayathiri Cashews, the unit owned by Ramesh, for Rs 300 a day, sometimes working Sundays too.

"Nobody can steal anything from the factory — it is fully under CCTV surveillance. Workers leave even their lunch boxes at the security gate before entering the factory. Not even a plastic bag is allowed inside. Let them check

the CCTV cameras, the truth will come out," Senthilvel told *The Indian Express*.

At 2.25 am on September 20, Senthilvel received a call from his father's phone. "The person who spoke to me introduced himself as Natarajan, the private assistant of the MP. He said my appa (father) had consumed poison and died," recalls Senthilvel.

Natarajan was among those who were arrested on Saturday by the CB-CID. The others are factory manager Kandavel, and senior employees M Allah Pitchai, K Vinoth and Sundararajan.

Senthilvel says he called his cousins Anantharajan and Raguraman and asked them to rush to Panruti General Hospital.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

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WEB EXCLUSIVE



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For many viewers of Netflix's 'Squid Game', Ali and his tragic story have come across as surprising coming from South Korea

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FROM PAGE ONE

Venkaiah visit

recycling unit in Itanagar, besides meeting the state leadership including the Governor and Chief Minister. Beijing has objected to visits to Arunachal in the past by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in 2019, and Home Minister Amit Shah in 2020. Each time, its objection has invited a sharp response from India. But on Wednesday, New Delhi also underlined the border situation. China claims up to 90,000 sq km in Arunachal Pradesh in the eastern sector, while India sees China as illegally occupying 38,000 sq km in Aksai Chin in the western sector. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian, responding to a question on Venkaiah Naidu's visit to Arunachal Pradesh, said: "The Chinese government never recognises the so-called Arunachal Pradesh established unilaterally and illegally by the Indian side, and is firmly opposed to the Indian leaders' visits to the area."

"We urge the Indian side to earnestly respect China's major concerns, stop taking any action that would complicate and expand the boundary issue... It should instead take real concrete actions to maintain peace and stability," Zhao said.

Arindam Bagchi, spokesperson for the Ministry of External Affairs, said India rejects China's remarks. "Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India... Objecting to the visit of Indian leaders to a state of India does not stand to reason."

Bagchi then blamed the situation along the LAC on "unilateral attempts of Chinese side to alter the status quo in violation of the bilateral agreements". "Therefore, we expect the Chinese side to work towards early resolution of the remaining issues along the LAC in Eastern Ladakh while fully abiding by bilateral agreements... rather than trying to link unrelated issues."

On Monday, after the 13th round of Corps Commander-level talks, India said its delegation made "constructive suggestions" on resolving the situation, but the Chinese side "was not agreeable" and also "could not provide any forward-looking proposals". China, on the other hand, accused India of raising "unreasonable and unrealistic demands".

Lakhimpur

should be taken from the families," he said.

BJP district chief Sunil Singh said the family of Nishad, which belongs to an OBC community, has been assured that another delegation led by the party's state general secretary Amar Pal Maurya would visit Lakhimpur Kheri on October 16. He said Maurya's delegation would also visit the family of Kashyap.

The families of Nachhattar Singh and Lovepreet Singh were not available for comment. Guru Sevak, the brother of 18-year-old Gurvinder Singh in Bahrail, said the Minister "should not come for politics, but to share our sorrow". "If he wants to come, he should remove his party's flag and come," he said.

Talking to the families of Shubham Mishra and Hari Om Mishra, Pathak promised to fulfil their demands, including issue of "arms licence, status of BJP martyr and a fair probe in their killings".

Pathak told *The Indian Express*: "I visited the families to offer condolences and assure them of a fair investigation."

The family of Shyam Sunder Nishad, who was the BJP 'mandal mantri' for the Singahi area in Lakhimpur Kheri, told *The Indian Express* no one contacted them regarding Pathak's visit. "We would like to meet whoever wants to share our grief," said Nishad's brother Sanjay.

Nishad (30) is survived by his parents, wife and two daughters, one aged three and the other just seven months old.

Kashyap's family also said that no one had contacted them about the Minister's visit. "We are waiting for people to come and share our grief. He is a Minister, so he could have met us," said Kashyap's brother Pawan.

Apart from his father, Kashyap is survived by his wife and their two children, aged 11 and 3.

In the Shivpuri area, where BJP worker Shubham Mishra (26) hailed from, his uncle Anoop Mishra said: "The Law Minister met us at the venue for the *dasavan* (10th day since death). He wanted to come home but we were at the mourning site... He assured us that our family will be looked after, and that our daughter-in-law will get a job."

Shubham, who was a businessman, is survived by his wife and one-year-old daughter.

Pathak also met the family of Hari Om Mishra (27) in Parsehra village. "He promised us that our family will be looked after," said Hari Om's cousin, Rajnikant Mishra.

Asked about Pathak's visit, Congress state chief Ajay Kumar Lallu, who had visited Lakhimpur Kheri, said, "This is just an attempt by the government to divert the focus and course of investigation. This government protects criminals and such visits, 10 days after the incident, shows that they have no intention of ensuring justice for the victims."

SP spokesperson Rajendra Chaudhary said: "This visit is just a formality after so much pressure has been built by the Opposition."

Pandora Papers

due diligence requirements for Briskon Holdings. This "explicit refusal" prompted Asiatic Trust to brand Briskon Holdings as "not a suitable client", which "should be transferred" to an alternative provider.

An internal file note of Asiatic outlines the situation in a telephone conversation with Oswal's representative, who is identified only as "NS".

"NS further repeatedly stated that he and SO (Shael Oswal) would not provide documents or further details, as these were 'not our business' and that other service providers would not request them... (we) did not agree with this assertion, however, it was clear from NS's aggressive behaviour during the call that argument would be futile," the note said.

In two communications to Oswal in March and July 2012, Asiatic flagged "an increase in activity" of Briskon Holdings which was used for "purchase and sale of mining assets" until Oswal became the beneficial owner.

On the list of Asiatic's concerns were:

- No reason for change of beneficial ownership to Oswal.
- Uncertainty over number of operational bank accounts, including 10 in Asiatic's knowledge -- Credit Suisse, EFG, Societe Generale, Barclays Bank, Banque Pictet & Cie, DBS Bank, Overseas Chinese Banking Corporation, UBS AG, Bank of Singapore, ABN Amro Singapore.
- Source of assets significantly higher -- in excess of \$400 million with banks, and over \$400 million more in credit facilities -- than the previous understanding of the company's purpose.
- Nature of large-value transfers from Hong Kong and Middle East companies.

While he did not comply with the due diligence requests, Oswal made certain

disclosures for shifting Briskon Holdings to another service provider. These include:

- Two Singapore citizens, the original beneficial owners, transferred the ownership of Briskon Holdings, set up in 2008, in payment of a debt they owed to Oswal.
- All funds in Briskon Holdings belonged to Shael Oswal who inherited \$800 million and a listed coal mining business in Indonesia from his father Abhey Oswal.
- Receipts from Hong Kong and Middle East companies are connected to the family business in Indonesia's coal industry.

By September 2012, Oswal shifted Briskon Holdings to another corporate service provider in Singapore. In 2014, the offshore company was struck off the BVI Registry for non-payment of fees.

New IT law

the grievance and compliance officers appointed by intermediaries.

The new Act is also likely to contain provisions that cover "newer aspects of technology", such as blockchain, bitcoin and dark net, among others.

"The old IT Act of 2000 was drawn up mainly keeping in mind prevention of simple fraud, blocking of websites and illegal content of different kinds that existed then. A lot has changed. It would not make sense to amend the old Act," an official said.

The new law, sources said, will define various forms of online sexual harassment, such as stalking, bullying, morphing of photos, and other methods, while also laying out clear guidelines on punishment.

"There is no legal definition of what consists of online bullying, or stalking, or the exact penal provision for other forms of sexual harassment. The intermediaries are doing it, but it is on a case-to-case basis approach," an official pointed out.

The new IT Act will also increase the onus on intermediaries for the content on their platform. "The protection that Section 79 (of the current IT Act) offers is too wide-ranging. An intermediary cannot claim protection if it does not proactively work on removing illegal content on its platform such as porn, nudity, or messages that facilitate terror and disruption," an official said.

Another major change, which may also feature in the new Data Protection Law that is in the works, is a strict 'age-gating' policy, which will require the consent of parents when children sign up for social media websites. This plan has been opposed by social media intermediaries.

Earlier this year, the IT Ministry's new rules for social media intermediaries had led to a standoff with Facebook and Twitter with both finally appointing the grievance and compliance personnel mandated but also approaching court.

Shivakumar

Assembly polls. Shivakumar was minister for Water Resources during the Congress-JD(S) government that preceded Yediyurappa's regime.

Saleem, perhaps not realising the microphone is on, is heard telling Ugrappa: "It is a big scandal. If dug deeper, it will reach him (Shivakumar)". It was 6-8% before, then it became 10-12%. It is all DK 'adjustment'. Mulgund (apparently a reference to an aide of DK) has made Rs 50-100 crore. Imagine if Mulgund has this, then how much DK has!"

Saleem goes on to criticise Shivakumar's style of speaking, while praising rival Congress leader and former CM Siddaramaiah for sounding "very strict". Ugrappa replies that the Congress had failed to bounce back in the state under the leadership of Shivakumar, who took over in July 2020, months after his arrest on money-laundering charges.

After the video went viral, the disciplinary committee of the Congress suspended Saleem for six years and sought a response from Ugrappa. In a statement Wednesday, Ugrappa said he had known Shivakumar for decades and that the latter was a committed politician.

With the Congress attacking the BJP government over the IT raids, Karnataka Home Minister Araga Janendra said Wednesday that if Ugrappa was really concerned about

creating a corruption-free society, he should file a complaint.

A Congress source called the incident yet another fallout of the divide within the party, between the Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar factions. The core of the 68 Congress MLAs are known to be more aligned with Siddaramaiah.

Incidentally, sources said, the Congress fielded the two second-rung leaders for the press conference on Tuesday as senior leaders did not want to make a political issue of the IT raids.

Curriculum

"The fact that there were so many battles is only because they put up such strong resistance. For example, a narrative has been created that (Mughal emperor) Akbar defeated Maharana Pratap while the fact is that the two never had a face-to-face battle. In the light of facts, history should be rewritten. Or we can also say new facts should be included. The revised syllabi should also help develop social harmony and national pride," he said.

The NBT chairperson was responding to a question on "shortcomings" in the existing NCERT curriculum, taught in CBSE-affiliated schools across the country.

Sharma is a former president of the RSS education wing Vidya Bharati, which runs schools across India, and remains a central executive member of the body. Sharma has earlier been chairman of the Madhya Pradesh government's textbook writing standing committee.

Sharma said the committee, in its first meeting, decided to start working on 25 focus areas covering sectors such as evolution in technology, environment, India's traditional knowledge system, and culture.

"For one, there should be Vedic mathematics. Also, physics in ancient India and the country's overall contribution to science," Sharma said, adding, "We will take a forward-looking approach rather than spending time on the shortcomings."

The National Education Policy, 2020, says ancient Indian knowledge "will be incorporated in an accurate and scientific manner throughout the curriculum wherever relevant".

Factory worker

He says his cousins reached the hospital by 2.45 am.

"My cousins said *appa* had been beaten to death... that it's not a suicide. They took a picture of the body and sent it to me," says Senthilvel, adding that all this while, Ramesh's men were at the hospital. But as Anantharajan and Raguraman questioned their claim about the suicide, there was a minor scuffle, following which the MP's men allegedly fled.

Senthilvel says Govindarasu's TVS scooter was at the hospital when his cousins went there, though the key was missing. "Later, the scooter also disappeared. We don't know who brought it or where it is now," says Senthilvel.

He says he rushed to his village, about 200 km from Chennai, and headed straight to the Kadampuli police station. He says police initially refused to file an FIR citing technical glitches in the server. But with a crowd building up outside the police station and pressure by local leaders of the Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK) — a party known for its significant presence among the OBC-Vanniyar community — an FIR was filed by 3 pm on Monday.

A senior police officer in Cuddalore, who is related to the probe, said that around 10 pm on Sunday night, Ramesh's men had got the severely wounded Govindarasu to the Kadampuli police station, accusing him of theft.

"Officers refused to take him inside seeing the injuries. They asked Ramesh's men to take Govindarasu to a hospital. It was a mistake on their part... they should have taken him to hospital instead of asking the men who tortured him," the officer said, adding that the station's CCTV footage "speaks the truth".

Two official sources told *The Indian Express* that Govindarasu told the personnel at the police station that he was tortured. "He said the MP and his men beat up him badly. He said he would die," they said.

Senthilvel says that while he was

at the police station to file his complaint, Shanmugam, the watchman of the cashew processing unit, was brought in for questioning. "While we were there, Shanmugam told police officers that the MP was also part of the team that tortured him on Sunday. We do not know if his statement was recorded," says Senthilvel.

The officer related to the probe said they had evidence and statements by witnesses that show Ramesh was present while Govindarasu was being tortured. "There are credible statements that the victim was beaten up on Ramesh's directions... After the police sent them away, they tortured him again, but this time, Ramesh was not present. Govindarasu died the same night," the officer said.

Saying he wasn't confident of a fair post-mortem in Tamil Nadu, given that the MP belongs to the ruling party, Senthilvel moved the Madras High Court, demanding that the body be shifted to JIPMER Hospital in Puducherry. The court, while seeking a progress report on the investigation, ordered that the post-mortem be done by a panel of three experts from JIPMER. The report has been sent to the High Court.

Senthilvel says he can't forget what he last saw of his father. "There were injuries all over his face. His left eye and the bone next to it were damaged, disfiguring his face. There was blood in his nose and ears, besides other torture marks," he says.

Pawar questions

members and close associates of leaders of the Maha Vikas Aghadi.

"The Central government is misusing institutions, be it the CBI, Enforcement Directorate, Income Tax department or the anti-drugs agency Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)," Pawar said.

In a reference to the NCB investigation in the Aryan case, Pawar said, "My colleague Nawab Malik had made certain observations about an NCB officer. His name is (Sameer) Wankhede. I have heard stories about Wankhede from the time he was with the Customs as well."

He added: "The man made as *panch* (witness) by the NCB in this case is one K P Gosavi who is absconding and is being hunted by the Mumbai Police (a 'private investigator', Gosavi is facing a cheating case). If the senior NCB officer has chosen a *panch* like this, that just highlights the association of the officer with these kinds of people."

Pawar said the Mumbai Police does a far better job of controlling drugs in the city than the NCB, while the bureau was just "showboating to please its political masters in Delhi".

Citing the summons by the Enforcement Directorate and the subsequent raids on the residence of Deshmukh, the NCP leader who had to step down as home minister following corruption allegations, Pawar said he was surprised at the "behaviour" of agencies.

"Allegations were made against Deshmukh over complaints by a former Mumbai Police Commissioner. Deshmukh had to resign but the man who made the complaint is now nowhere to be seen. Deshmukh's residence was raided for the fifth time yesterday. I am surprised at the behaviour of the agency which needs to raid a place five times. The public also needs to understand this."

Recently, the Income Tax department also raided entities linked to Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, including the residences of three of his sisters.

BSF area

kilometers in the State of Rajasthan and fifteen kilometers in the States of Punjab, West Bengal and Assam, running along the borders of India".

Incidentally, the BSF's jurisdiction along Gujarat border has been reduced from 80 km to 50 km. A Union Home Ministry official said the changes were made under the Border Security Force Act of 1968, and that the aim was to keep the force's operational jurisdiction uniform in these states.

Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi tweeted: "I urge the Union Home Minister @AmitShah to immediately rollback this irrational decision."

West Bengal Transport Minister

and TMC leader Firhad Hakim said: "The Central Government is violating the federal structure of the country. Law and order is a state subject but the Central Government is trying to interfere through Central agencies."

Congress MP Manish Tewari tweeted that the Centre's decision "transgresses upon Constitutional public order & policing remit of States" and that "Half of Punjab will now fall under BSF jurisdiction".

He pointed out that under the BSF Act, "Section 139 (ii) gives sweeping powers of arrest to BSF. It has powers of preventive arrest... & post offence arrest... No mention of consultation with local police."

Punjab Home Minister and Congress leader Sukhinder Singh Randhawa compared the move to "internal emergency", and one that casts aspersions on the "patriotism of Punjabis". "There is a feeling that the government wants to teach a lesson to Punjab for raising its voice against the farm laws. I urge the Centre not to allow communal harmony to be destroyed," he said.

Randhawa also pointed to "difficulties" on the ground. "We have a piece of land in Chandu Wadala village near Kalanaur, which falls under the first line of defence. I, being the Home Minister and Deputy Chief Minister of Punjab, cannot go to my village. I have to seek permission from the BSF commandant. Even if permission is granted, my security cannot accompany me."

Responding to the Minister's remarks, a senior BSF officer said: "We have no power to stop anyone from going to their village. We will continue to work with the state police like now. Our jurisdiction is being enhanced, their jurisdiction is not being curtailed. Also, we can only arrest someone, it is the police that will prosecute eventually."

While former state Congress chief Sunil Jakhar blamed Chief Minister Channi for "unwittingly" handing over "half of Punjab", the Centre's move incidentally was supported by former CM Captain Amarinder Singh.

Jakhar had tweeted: "Be careful what you ask for! Has @CHARAN-JITCHANNI unwittingly managed to hand over half of Punjab to Central govt. 25000sq km (out of total 50,000sq km) has now been placed under BSF jurisdiction."

Randhawa rejected Jakhar's tweet. "The CM had only said that the borders should be sealed so that drones and drugs should be stopped," he said.

Tweeting on Amarinder's behalf, his media advisor posted: "Our soldiers are being killed in Kashmir. We're seeing more & more weapons & drugs being pushed by Pak-backed terrorists into Punjab. BSF's enhanced presence & powers will only make us stronger. Let's not drag central armed forces into politics."

Shiromani Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal hit out at both the Centre and the Punjab government for what he described as "Central rule by proxy".

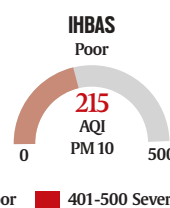
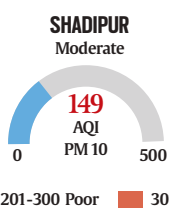
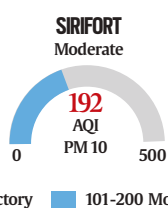
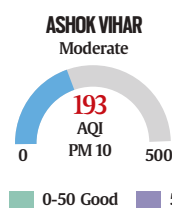
A Union Home Ministry official, however, rejected the allegations and said that the "sole aim of the notification is to improve operational efficiency of the BSF and help them crack down on smuggling rackets".

Asked why the BSF's jurisdiction has been reduced in Gujarat, the official said: "They had 15 km jurisdiction in some states and 80 km in Gujarat. So the idea was to make it uniform. In Gujarat, such a large operational area is not required since the border region guarded by the BSF is largely uninhabited with miles of Rann of Kutch."

The senior BSF officer said: "If Punjab has the problem of drugs and arms smuggling, Assam and West Bengal pose new challenges in the form of cattle and fake currency smuggling. These borders are also prone to illegal migration. We have been getting inputs about illegal activity deep in the hinterland but our hands were tied beyond 15 km."

(INPUTS FROM DEEPTIMAN TIWARY/DELHI, KANCHAN VASDEV/CHANDIGARH, ATRI MITRA/KOLKATA)

FULL REPORTS ON www.indianexpress.com



MAX: 34
1.0°C Above normal

MIN: 21
1.6°C Above normal

Behind political science lure, course, exam pattern refresh

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

IN THE last few years, BA (Hons) Political Science has emerged as one of the most popular draws for students seeking admission in undergraduate programmes at Delhi University. It is reflected in the high cut-offs for the course across colleges and seats being filled early. Behind the surge in popularity could be the introduction of applied papers of contemporary relevance and restructuring in the pattern of UPSC exam, teachers suggest.

In this year's admissions, two colleges — Hindu College and Ramjas College — had a 100% first cut-off for the programme and 10 colleges had a first cut-off of 99% or above. Admissions for unreserved seats in the programme closed in 13 colleges.

Last year, it was one of the courses for which LSR College had set a 100% cut-off. The high-



Best option for civil service aspirants, say teachers. *Praveen Khanna*

est first cut-off of 2019 was for Political Science at Hindu College.

Hena Singh, a teacher in the Political Science department at Miranda House, said: "It is a comprehensive programme; for students aspiring for civil services, it emerges as the best option. Earlier, there were two optional papers in the exam which have now been reduced to one and there is more

emphasis on the general studies papers, a good section of which gets covered in BA (Hons) Political Science papers such as those on constitutional democracy, India's foreign policy, public administration." The college had its highest first cut-off this year for the programme at 99.75%.

The course is also a popular draw for students who want to

study law after completing their under graduation.

The restructuring of the programme curriculum in the last decade is also something that teachers see as a draw. "There has been the introduction of a lot of applied papers such as public policy, international relations, as well as optional papers such as Public Opinion and Survey Research which helps in political research, which is in demand. The public policy paper has a lot of uses both in government and the private sector... Even an interdisciplinary area like feminism is an important part of the DU Political Science programme but with emphasis on what kinds of policies and budgets need to be made. With liberalisation, globalisation and market expansion, there are so many choices for students to explore with this background," said Tanvir Aejaz, a teacher in the Political Science department at Ramjas College.

Missing 9-yr-old boy found dead

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

DAYS AFTER a nine-year-old boy went missing from his home, his body was found inside a plastic bag in a neighbourhood in Dwarka.

Police said his family lives in Uttam Nagar and they had lodged a complaint Monday stating that the boy was missing. On Wednesday afternoon, his body was found inside a house in Uttam Nagar with injury marks on neck and other parts.

Shankar Chaudhary, DCP Dwarka said the family received ransom calls from an unknown person. His team traced the number and apprehended the man whose name it is in. The man, Bipin Bhandari (28), said that he didn't kidnap the boy. When police searched his house, they couldn't find anything. They then apprehended two other persons who live near Bhandari's room. During the search, the police found the boy's body on the second floor of a building. The house was vacant. All detained persons are being questioned.

"A team was sent to look for him following his family's complaint, and CCTVs in the area were scanned. A case of kidnapping was also registered. Based on enquiry, we searched houses in the area. On Wednesday afternoon, we received information regarding the incident. Prima facie, the boy was strangled to death," said an officer.

BRIEFLY

Former under-19 cricketer held by EOW

Gurgaon: Over a month after the economic offences wing of the Gurgaon police arrested three persons for allegedly conning several aspiring cricketers in return for a spot in domestic/state/IPL cricket teams, the police Wednesday arrested two including a former under-19 cricketer from West Bengal. The arrested have been identified as Danish Mirza and Anurag. Both are accused of taking money from an aspiring cricketer and offering him a spot as a bowler for an IPL team through their 'connections'. Police said Mirza, a former under-19 player from West Bengal, had also played league cricket in Bengal.

Three Afghan students seek supernumerary JNU PhD seats

New Delhi: Three students from Afghanistan who have completed their Master's from JNU this year are requesting the University to create supernumerary seats for foreign students in PhD programmes on "humanitarian grounds" to ease the continuation of their study and stay in India. The three students have been recipients of ICCR scholarships and have written the JNU entrance examination to PhD programmes and are awaiting the results.

Police cancel licences of firecracker vendors

New Delhi: The Delhi Police issued an order saying that they won't give temporary licences to vendors to sell or store firecrackers in the capital. The Licensing Unit of Delhi Police said they are complying with the order issued by the Delhi Pollution Control Board and won't issue licences to any of the vendors. On September 28, the Delhi government had imposed a complete ban on the sale and bursting of firecrackers in Delhi till January next year. The order was issued to prevent a Covid-19 case surge in the city and because of severe air quality that can affect the health condition of several people. **ENS**

NANAJI DESHMUKH VETERINARY SCIENCE UNIVERSITY
No.: Estt./Recruit./2021/2181 **JABALPUR (M.P.)** Date: 12.10.2021

ADVERTISEMENT No. 01/2021/2181

Applications in prescribed format are invited for the **Teaching Posts (Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor)** vacant in various colleges of **Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University, Jabalpur**. Application forms along with qualifications, experience, score card proforma and other terms and conditions can be downloaded from the university website www.ndvsu.org Application form and necessary enclosures along with prescribed fee as Bank draft shall reach the Registrar, Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University, Administrative Building, Adhartal, Jabalpur, M.P.-482004 on or before 16.11.2021, upto 5:00 PM. REGISTRAR

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Corrigendum

Name of Work: Metallising, assembling, linking by HSFG bolting, Providing H-Beam sleeper and Launching of steel girder on abutment of Bridge No. 100 (1X76.20m) by using calender-hamilton span as a launching nose to facilitate the end launching over Shah canal at Km 22/758.9 in between Patial-Hazipur in MEX-Talwara Section i/c with Nangaldam-Talwara new BG Line and taking over siding Mukerian-Talwara in the jurisdiction of Dy. CE/BL/TKJ. The Similar Nature of Work has been changed as under:- Similar Nature of Work: Any work related to Assembling erection and launching/re-girding of girders, through girders, plate girders, FOB.

Note: All other contents of the tender will remain same.

Tender Notice No. 32-W/BR-100-MET-ASSMBLY-HB
Dated : 12.10.2021 2338/2021

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NO FIRECRACKERS
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Delhi Pollution Control Committee has
PROHIBITED
the Sale and Use of Firecrackers in The National Capital Territory of Delhi upto January 1st, 2022
Process of grant of temporary licence is therefore dispensed with.

How Firecrackers are harmful to health:-

- Smog caused by firecrackers is harmful when inhaled
- The fumes that these crackers produce are harmful to the environment and us
- Causes irritation in the respiratory tract
- Reduces the oxygen carrying capacity of blood, leading to anaemia.

Delhi Police wishes citizens to celebrate a clean and pollution-free Diwali

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Write to CP, Delhi at P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi

FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP CALL : 112 **TO SHARE INFORMATION CALL : 1090**

DP/9294/2021

www.bankofbaroda.in

NOTICE OF EGM / SPECIFIED / CUT-OFF DATE
[IN RESPECT OF ELECTION OF ONE SHAREHOLDER DIRECTOR]

The Bank has decided to initiate the process of Election of One Director amongst the Shareholders other than the Central Government.

Pursuant to Bank of Baroda General (Shares & Meetings) Regulations 1998 as amended (The Regulations) and other applicable Rules, Notice is hereby given that **Friday, 29th October 2021** has been fixed as the **Specified / Cut-off Date** for the purpose of determining Shareholders who shall be entitled to participate (i.e., nominate, contest and vote) in the Election of One Director of the Bank, to be elected from amongst Shareholders other than the Central Government to be conducted pursuant to Section 9(3)(i) of the Banking Companies (Acquisition & Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and other extant laws at the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Shareholders of the Bank scheduled to be held on 07th December 2021 at 11.00 AM through Video Conferencing (VC) / Other Audio Visual Means (OAVM).

It is further notified that pursuant to the Regulation 65 (ii) of the Regulations the **Last Date** for submission of the nomination forms etc., will be upto 4.00 p.m on or before Monday 22nd November 2021.

In compliance of MCA Circular No. 10/2021 dated 23rd June 2021, electronic copies of the Notice of the EGM will be sent to all the shareholders whose email addresses are registered with the Bank/Depository Participant(s). Shareholders holding shares in dematerialized mode and whose email ids are not registered are requested to register their email addresses and mobile numbers with their relevant depositories through their depository participants. Shareholders holding shares in physical mode are requested to demat their holdings / furnish their email addresses and mobile numbers with the Bank's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent KFin Technologies Private Limited, at elward.ris@kfintech.com. The notice of the EGM will also be made available on the Bank's website, at www.bankofbaroda.in, the Stock Exchange websites and on the RTA's website, at <https://evoting.kfintech.com>

Shareholders will have an opportunity to cast their vote remotely on the business as set forth in the Notice of the EGM through electronic voting system. The manner of voting remotely for shareholders holding shares in dematerialized mode, physical mode and for shareholders who have not registered their email addresses will be provided in the Notice to the shareholders. The details will also be made available on the website of the Bank. Shareholders are requested to visit www.bankofbaroda.in to obtain such details.

Shareholders may please note that in term of aforementioned circulars, the Bank will not be sending physical copies of EGM Notice to the Shareholders.

For Bank of Baroda
P K Agarwal
Company Secretary

Place: Mumbai
Date: 13.10.2021

74/21-22

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*Conditions apply



VACCINATIONS IN
LAST 24 HOURS
1,01,891



TOTAL CASES		Total		Vacant
		HOSPITAL BEDS	17,150	
		ICU BEDS	3,854	3,788
	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Oct 12	34	38	0	61,094
Oct 13	31	58	0	65,548
Total	338*	14,13,856	25,089	2,84,38,626

Total active cases

‘STUBBLE BURNING SEASON DELAYED’

Delhi’s air quality starts dipping, farm fires in neighbouring states lower than last yr so far

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

DELHI’S AIR quality has dipped over the past week, based on data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). Stubble burning, meanwhile, appears to have begun over parts of Punjab and Haryana, going by fire spots mapped by NASA. However, data from Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (an instrument onboard the Suomi NPP and NOAA-20 satellites) show less number of fires this year in the two states compared to the same period over the last five years, indicating a delayed stubble burning season.

On October 13, the air quality index (AQI), calculated using data from CPCB’s 37 monitoring stations in Delhi, stood at 171, which is in the ‘moderate’ category. A ‘moderate’ AQI (ranging from 101-200) indicates that it could have possible impacts, including breathing difficulties for people with lung and heart diseases.

Pawan Gupta, senior scientist,

Earth Sciences at the Universities Space Research Association, NASA Marshall Space Flight Centre, USA, said: “Initial fires typically start near Amritsar district in early September. The exact start date changes from year to year and depends on many factors including weather.”

As per VIIRS data, on October 11 this year, the cumulative fire count in Haryana was 442. The corresponding figure was 750 in 2020; 723 in 2019; 619 in 2018; 988 in 2017; and 1,095 in 2016, going by VIIRS data provided by Gupta. In Punjab, the cumulative fire count on October 11 this year was 918, compared to 2,996 in 2020; 869 in 2019; 529 in 2018; and 1,392 in 2017.

The AQI appears to have crossed 125 from October 7 onwards, rising continuously thereafter. The last day when Delhi saw air quality in the ‘satisfactory’ category was October 4, when the AQI stood at 91.

The AQI recorded in October is in sharp contrast with the AQI for the last 10 days of September. From September 20-26, the AQI



NASA fire maps from Oct 1 (top) and Oct 13 (above)

was in the ‘satisfactory’ category, remaining well below 100. It rose to 120 on September 28 and fell

again to 84 on September 30.

NASA’s Fire Information for Resource Management System

(FIRMS) too shows a cluster of red dots in the northern part of Punjab and another in the north-western part of Haryana (around Kurukshetra and Karnal), indicating fire spots mapped by VIIRS over the last 24 hours.

Data from the past few years indicate that Sangrur, Bathinda, Firozpur, Patiala, and Moga see the highest number of fires in Punjab, while Fatehabad, Kaithal, Karnal, Jind, and Ambala in Haryana see the highest numbers, Gupta said.

On the satellite data, Gupta said: “The fire count from satellites is an indication of the number of satellite pixels which detected the fires. Each satellite fire pixel can represent one single fire or many smaller fires, and similarly, one big fire can be seen as many fire counts in satellite data. It depends on satellite resolution and fire size.”

Compared to fire dots mapped on October 1, the number of dots increased on October 12, the map shows, showing more intense red clusters in parts of Punjab and Haryana on

Tuesday. In the last week of September, on September 28 for instance, the number of red dots was even fewer with just one cluster in the northern part of Punjab and a few scattered dots across Punjab and Haryana.

Surprise inspection of construction site

Environment minister Gopal Rain, meanwhile, conducted a surprise inspection of the construction site of the WHO Building at IP Estate Wednesday and said they found “minor violations” of construction norms. A notice has been issued to construction agencies to comply with guidelines or pay a fine. “We observed most regulations and the 14-point anti-dust guidelines are being followed at the site. But we found some loose sand... If, in two days, the necessary rules won’t be complied with, penalties will be imposed,” he said.

So far, teams designated by the environment department inspected 522 construction sites. Fines of Rs 53.5 lakh have been imposed for violations at 165 sites.



Students staged a protest outside the Delhi Police HQ, Wednesday. Praveen Khanna

Police to probe ‘assault’ on women student activists

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

THE DELHI Police will conduct an independent enquiry against police personnel who have been accused of sexually assaulting two students of the All India Students’ Association (AISA) during a protest outside the Home Minister’s residence against the Lakhimpur Kheri violence on October 10.

The students alleged they were sexually assaulted; their clothes were pulled up and that personnel allegedly hit them on their private parts. Delhi Police refuted the allegations saying the personnel were only performing their duty and faced resistance from protesters who refused to get into buses.

On Wednesday afternoon, the students staged a protest against the personnel outside the Delhi Police Headquarters on Jai Singh Road. They demanded that the Assistant Commissioner of Police (Chanakyapuri) be sacked because she allegedly ordered her subordinates to assault the students.

One of the activists claimed the ACP ordered police personnel to hit her. “This was a pre-planned attack. They lifted my kurta in front of male police officers. I was groped and hit on my private parts. While other members were taken in one bus, my friend and I were taken in another bus. We were alone and police were threatening us. At Mandir Marg police station,

we asked for medicines and later complained that we want to lodge a complaint. The policemen didn’t help us and threatened that they would register a case against us. We were clueless,” she alleged.

AIPWA secretary Kavita Krishnan, who was also at the protest, said the activists and several other students posted about the assault on Twitter but police didn’t take any action.

“Delhi Police assaulted the students and threatened them. The students wanted to lodge a complaint but were scared. However, they did post about the assault on social media. Why didn’t police take action then? We have now drafted a memorandum explaining everything that happened outside the Home Minister’s residence. Women can’t be assaulted for protesting...,” said Krishnan.

Senior officers from the Delhi Police have now initiated an enquiry into the matter. No FIR has been registered in the case yet, but the complaint has been received, police said. The students submitted the memorandum and a letter to the Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana to look into the matter.

Jaspal Singh, Joint Commissioner of Police (New Delhi), said, “An independent enquiry will be conducted by the police into the allegations of assault. We are yet to receive details about the investigating team. However, legal action will soon be taken.”

Delhi govt will help contract teachers fired by MCDs: Atishi

ABHINAV RAJPUT
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

THE SOUTH MCD is yet to reinstate around 500 contract teachers who lost their jobs over the past few months even as the North MCD has re-hired 667 teachers that it had removed.

The issue has become latest flash point between AAP and BJP with AAP leader Atishi saying that Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia will now try to get them their job back under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). The Indian Express had earlier reported that the South and North MCDs have not renewed the contract of over 1,000 teachers leaving several of them, who have also worked in ration distribution during Covid, jobless.

A senior official of the South MCD said that unlike North and East’s contract teachers, those removed by South were not under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, but paid by South MCD. “When these enrolments were made, the financial situation of South MCD was good, which is not the case anymore” he said.

Education committee chairperson of South MCD Nitika Sharma said a correspondence has been made with the Centre and Delhi state to reinstate these teachers under the SSA and the corporation is hopeful that it would be done soon.

“There has been correspondence with deputy CM Manish Sisodia and education minister Dharmendra Pradhan in which the civic body has asked permission for enrolling these teachers under SSA,” she said.

These contractual teachers are paid Rs 35,420 per month.

Meat shops forced to down shutters for festival, cops step in

PAYNEET SINGH CHADHA
GURGAON, OCTOBER 13

MEAT SHOPS in Faridabad alleged they were forced to shut last week by right-wing groups in light of Navratri. Police said they have not received any complaint while the Faridabad district administration said no closure order has been issued. Shops are now open after police intervention.

On October 7, a group of men claiming to be from the Bajrang Dal allegedly coerced meat shop owners to close in Sanjay Colony, Sector 23, claiming they had permission from police and district administration.

Mohammed Hashim, who runs a meat shop in the colony, alleged: “A group of 8-10 men threatened that if we don’t close the shop, they will forcibly close it... We didn’t want trouble so we pulled down the shutters. Officers from the nearby station later came to enquire and assured us protection. We did not file a complaint and opened the shop. Police said there was no order for closure of shops.”

Sandeep Kumar, SHO of Mujesar police station, said, “I have seen the video of the incident. We spoke to the shopkeeper concerned and he has not filed any complaint. We are yet to identify the group of men.”

On October 6, a group of Hindu outfits, including Bajrang Dal, had submitted a letter to the Faridabad Deputy Commissioner, requesting that all meat shops be shut during Navratri. Jitender Yadav, Faridabad DC, said, “No order or permission has been issued by the administration regarding closure of meat shops.”

In Palwal, under the Kithwari police jurisdiction, a similar incident was reported a few days ago.

Vikram Singh, who claimed to be district vice-president of Rashtriya Bajrang Dal, Palwal, claimed: “We received certain reports that some meat shops were open. In Navratri, several illegal meat shops remain open and they throw the meat on the streets, which is disrespectful. So we went to the area and ensured shops were closed.”

Singh also claimed police had accompanied them. However, police denied this. A police officer, requesting anonymity, said, “We got information that a group of over 7 men had gathered and were asking a shopkeeper to shut his meat shop. A team went to the spot and settled the matter. To avoid a law and order issue, the shopkeeper was asked to close his shop at the time. The situation was peaceful.”

In Noida too, a row of meat shops in Harola have been shut since Navratri began.

Owners alleged local police had suggested shops should be shut in view of the festivities. “We are bearing a lot of losses... but we don’t want trouble,” said Mohammad Ashraf, who runs more than 40 meat shops in partnership with others in the area.

Noida Police denied this. “It is untrue that shops have been issued instructions to shut. We are ensuring peace in the region... Senior officials have been asked to check if certain outfits are trying to shut meat shops. An inspection was carried out and no such incident was reported,” said Gautam Buddh Nagar DCP Rajesh S. (inputs from Amil Bhatnagar)



ON ALERT

Police on patrol amid festive season at Lajpat Nagar market. Praveen Khanna

One dead, 4 injured after bus falls off flyover in Ghaziabad

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

ONE PERSON died and four others were injured after a bus fell from a flyover in Ghaziabad Wednesday night. According to officials, the private bus was ferrying passengers to Noida when the incident took place. The injured persons are currently being treated in a nearby hospital, police said.

“We received information that a bus has toppled from a flyover at Bhatia Mod. Prima facie, it appears that the bus lost control. There were few passengers on the bus. One person died due to fatal injuries and others have been rushed to the

hospital. Further investigation is pending,” said a senior Ghaziabad police official.

According to police, the bus changed lanes while driving on the flyover when it a motorcyclist came in the way. The bus tried to manoeuvre out of the way when the driver lost control and hit the railing. Due to the impact, the bus fell from the flyover onto the road.

One of the victims who sustained injuries was a passerby who was hit by a damaged portion of the bus.

Police are ascertaining the identities of the injured, said officials.

No complaint has been received by Sihani Gate Police in connection with the incident.

Haryana to identify land for ‘heli-hub’ in Gurgaon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 13

THE HARYANA government will soon identify land to set up a ‘heli-hub’ in Gurgaon, a proposal for which will be sent to the central government soon.

Interacting with media persons after meeting Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya M Scindia in Delhi on Wednesday, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said: “The Haryana government will soon identify the land and send a proposal to the Centre for setting up a heli-hub in Gurugram. As a result of this, the airport will also get support due to the facility of intercity and intracity helicopters.”

‘Terror suspect’ held: Police ask NIA to join probe

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

A DAY after a Pakistan-based terror suspect was arrested by the Delhi Police Special Cell from East Delhi, police said they have written to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to join the probe. The man, Mohd Ashraf Ali, was arrested Monday night from Laxmi Nagar’s Ramesh Park where he was allegedly living under a false name.

On Wednesday, police said they are investigating his role in terror strikes and bombing cases in Delhi and Kashmir from 2009-2017. A senior police officer said an NIA team, which was investigating the 2011 Delhi High Court bombing case, has interrogated him to ascertain his role in the case: “Ali has identified one of the convicts in the bombing case and said he worked with him. We spoke to NIA and their officers interrogated Ali.”

DGP (Special Cell) Pramod Singh Kushwah said, “He came to India in 2004-05 from Pakistan and was a sleeper cell. He was living under the name Ali Ahmed Noori in Delhi and worked as a ‘peer maulana’. He claimed he was involved in bombing cases, but we have to verify such claims. There’s no evidence to link him.”

The Special Cell received inputs about Ali two months ago and a team led by ACP Lalit Mohan Negi found him hiding in Ramesh Park on Monday night. Police suspect the accused was allegedly planning an attack during the festive season. He was allegedly trained by the ISI in Pakistan before he came to India.

DGP Kushwah said Ali befriended a maulana and al-



Mohd Ashraf Ali was arrested Monday night

legedly used his contacts to receive money from his handlers to not raise suspicion.

On his disclosure, police claimed to have recovered an AK-47 rifle, a hand grenade, two pistols and ammunition from his hideouts in the city. Police also found that the weapons, especially pistols and ammunition, were smuggled from the Indo-Pak border and made in China.

Meanwhile, residents at Ramesh Park identified Ali but refused to speak about him. A shopkeeper who didn’t wish to be named said, “I had no idea his name was Ashraf. He shifted here recently and would often come to the shop. I think he worked near a factory. I didn’t know he was a ‘peer maulana’.”

Ali’s former landlord at Shastri Park, where he lived 10-12 years ago, fears police action. His son Uzaib Ahmed (23) said, “My father, Nasir, got scared after he saw the news. Ali came here 10-12 years ago and lived here for a year. My father told me Ali worked at Ramesh Park. He wasn’t a ‘peer maulana’ then; we didn’t know that he was from Pakistan. He asked my father to help him get a ration and Aadhaar card. After he got his ID, he left in two-three months. We never heard from him again...”

ON LIST OF 16 ‘HERITAGE’ TREES RELEASED BY GOVT IN 2016

On Teen Murti Bhavan lawns, majestic Semal draws eyes

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND & ASHNA BUTANI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

A MAJESTIC semal tree on the front lawns of the Teen Murti Bhavan remains out of bounds to curious visitors for now, with access to it restricted to workers and security guards on the premises.

Has the tree ever met the famous, erstwhile occupant of the palatial home behind it? Security guards at the gate seem to think that the first Prime Minister of independent India might have seen the tree and its flaming red flowers. One guard hazards a guess and says the tree could be at least a

100 years old, while another lowers the estimate to around 80.

From the entrance gate, the tall tree, with branches reaching outwards almost symmetrically on either side of the trunk, nearly steals the Teen Murti Bhavan’s thunder.

A full view of Jawaharlal Nehru’s residence from the entrance is obscured by the tree — glimpses of the building’s façade visible through clusters of leaves.

A guard at the gate says work is underway on a new museum at the site, adding that it could take a long while before visitors might be able to walk into the premises. A Prime Ministers’ Museum is under construction within the estate.



A trench has been dug behind the tree and workers sit on the lawns close to it. Another semal tree stands nearby, and the two trees flower beautifully, the guards said. Semal trees flower in March, showing off flaming red blooms. A picture on the website of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library shows the lawn carpeted with red flowers with the Teen Murti Bhavan in the background.

The tree was featured on a list of 16 ‘heritage’ trees released by the Delhi government in 2016.

The towering deciduous tree is seen across the city, its flaming red marking the end of winter

The semal tree on the front lawns of the Bhavan. It is also known as the (red) silk cotton tree. Ashna Butani



TREES OF DELHI

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



DIAL H FOR HEALTH
WITH PRIME Minister Narendra Modi urging various ministries to incorporate the health factor into their development programmes, the Health Ministry has already started taking measures to ensure it is implemented properly. Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has instructed department officials to start a canteen with health food items in the ministry office.

BACK IN BUZZ
WITH ASSEMBLY elections coming up in several states, and ministers getting involved, the BJP's old headquarters at 11-Ashoka Road is buzzing with activity again. Party leaders, it is learnt, prefer to meet there since it is closer to offices of the ministers than the current party headquarters on Deendayal Upadhyay Marg. On Wednesday, a high-level meeting to discuss poll preparations was attended by Union ministers Amit Shah and Piyush Goyal, and party general secretary Arun Singh. Party chief J P Nadda was not present.

REPORT CARD STATUS
AMID SPECULATION over how the Congress Working Committee (CWC) would go on October 16, the release of its agenda has triggered fresh talks within the party. With preparations for the upcoming electoral battles set as the key agenda, a section of party leaders have questioned about the fate of reports submitted by the five-member team on the party's debacle in the March-April round of state elections. They pointed out that the CWC had made the decision to appoint a committee when it met in May after the defeats. The reports, which apparently include suggestions to rebuild the Congress in Assam, Kerala, West Bengal, and Puducherry, where it faced defeats, have not yet been discussed in the Congress's top decision-making body. These leaders say many in the party now fear the latest report will face the same fate as that of the A K Antony committee report on 2014 Lok Sabha defeat. That, too, was submitted but was never discussed, nor were the details disclosed.

HC allows IAS officer to join AGMUT cadre
New Delhi: Setting aside West Bengal government's decision to deny her the relieving order, the Delhi HC has said IAS officer Nidhi Malik will stand relieved within a week from West Bengal cadre. It asked the DoPT to consider its order as relieving order to enable Malik to join her post in the Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territory (AGMUT) cadre in Delhi. PTI

India lifts travel curbs on those arriving from UK

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

DAYS AFTER the UK government lifted restrictions on Indian travellers who are fully vaccinated with Covishield or another UK-approved vaccine, India has withdrawn a travel advisory that added Covid-19 related additional checks and restrictions on those arriving from Britain, including a mandatory 10-day quarantine.
"Based on the evolving scenario, it has been decided that the revised guidelines... stand withdrawn and the earlier guidelines on international arrival dated February 17, 2021, shall be applicable to all travellers arriving in India from the United Kingdom," Lav Agarwal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, said

Savarkar never apologised to British: Raut

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 13

SHIV SENA MP Sanjay Raut on Wednesday said V D Savarkar had never apologised to the British, a day after Defence Minister Rajnath Singh claimed that the Hindutva icon had written mercy petitions to the British on Mahatma Gandhi's request.
Talking to reporters in Pune, Raut said freedom fighters who languish in jail for more than ten years can adopt a strategy thinking they can do something after coming out of jail instead of remaining inside. "If Savarkar had adopted any such strategy it cannot be called an apology. Savarkar might have done that (adopted a strategy). This cannot be called an apology. Savarkar never apologised to the British," he said.
When asked about Rajnath's statement on Savarkar, Raut said he was not aware of it.

in a communication sent to all the states.
The memorandum has been sent to the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Ministry of External Affairs too.
According to the February 17 guidelines, all passengers arriving from the UK must have a negative RT-PCR report — the test must be done not earlier than 72 hours of the scheduled travel.
On October 1, India had imposed a new rule that British nationals arriving in India, irrespective of their vaccination status, will have to undergo 10 days of mandatory quarantine from October 4 as part of the reciprocal action initiated by the government following the vaccine certification row between the two countries.
India decided to impose reciprocal curbs as the contentious issue relating to the UK not recognising Indian vaccine certificates could not be resolved despite holding a series of technical-level talks.
The UK recognised Covishield vaccine produced by the Serum Institute of India but retained the 10-day quarantine period for fully vaccinated travellers from India. Later, British officials said the UK has issues with India's vaccine certification process and not with the Covishield vaccine. India made changes in the Covid-19 vaccination certificates by including the date of birth, but Britain took time to go through its internal processes before lifting the restrictions.
Last week, the UK finally decided to scrap the quarantine travel rules for 47 destinations, including India.
—WITH PTI INPUTS

IMPORTANT NOTICE
This is notified for the information of rail passenger that Railways have decided to revise timing of the following festival special trains with immediate effect as per the details given below:-

01667 JAYNAGAR - ANAND VIHAR TERMINAL FESTIVAL SPECIAL EXPRESS				
STATION	Existing Timing	Revised Timing		
Patna Jn.	ARR. 20.45	DEP. 20.55	ARR. 20.50	DEP. 21.00
Danapur	21.10	21.12	21.15	21.17

01637 BARAUNI JN. - NEW DELHI SUPERFAST FESTIVAL SPECIAL EXPRESS				
STATION	Existing Timing	Revised Timing		
Barauli Jn.	ARR. —	DEP. 19.30	ARR. —	DEP. 19.40

For any kind of information such as detailed Time -Table and stations enroute etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website: www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or NTES App.

All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 may please be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

RailMadad Helpline No. **139**

Visit RailMadad website: www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in
Download Railmadad App

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

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SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Govt & Politics 7
Abortion allowed till 24 weeks of pregnancy in special cases

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

THE GOVERNMENT has notified new rules under which the gestational limit for termination of a pregnancy has been increased from 20 to 24 weeks for certain categories of women.
The new rules come under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Act, 2021 passed by Parliament earlier this year.
Under the new rules, seven specific categories will be eligible for termination of pregnancy up to 24 weeks: survivors of sexual assault or rape or incest; mi-

nors; change of marital status during the ongoing pregnancy (widowhood and divorce); women with physical disabilities; mentally ill women; foetal malformation that has a substantial risk of being incompatible with life or if the child is born, he/she may suffer from serious physical or mental abnormalities; and women with pregnancy in humanitarian settings or disaster or emergency situations.
Earlier, abortion required the opinion of one doctor if done within 12 weeks of conception and two doctors if done between 12 and 20 weeks. According to the new rules, a state-level med-

ical board will be set up to decide if a pregnancy may be terminated beyond this period.
The rules state that such a decision can be taken by the medical board only after due consideration and ensuring that the procedure would be safe for the woman.
The function of the medical board shall be to examine the woman and her reports if she approaches for medical termination of pregnancy and provide the opinion with regard to the termination of pregnancy or rejection of a request for termination within three days of receiving the request.
—WITH PTI INPUTS

534146/2021/Power Deptt.

नई दिल्ली नगरपालिका परिषद
NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
पालिका केन्द्र, संसद मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-११०००१
Palika Kendra, Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110001

PUBLIC NOTICE

New Delhi Municipal Council ("Petitioner") filed Petition for True-up of FY 2019-20 & ARR for FY 2021-22 for Distribution (Wheeling & Retail Supply) Business which was admitted by Hon'ble Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission vide Order dated 19.02.2021. Highlights of the Petition were widely circulated through advertisements in daily newspapers. In pursuance of the advertisement, some of the consumers / consumer groups / stakeholders furnished comments and suggestions which were replied to by the Petitioner. The comments and suggestions of the public and/or their representatives and the arguments advanced by the Petitioner have been taken note of by the Hon'ble Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission.

After having considered the above, the Hon'ble Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission, vide its Press Release dated 30.09.2021, in exercise of the powers vested in it by the Electricity Act, 2003 and the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Wheeling Tariff and Retail Supply Tariff) Regulations have approved the Tariff Schedule to be applicable from 01.10.2021.

Tariff Schedule

The Tariff Schedule shall remain in force till new Tariff Order comes in place and/or amended, reviewed or modified in accordance with the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 and the Regulations made there under.

Sr. No.	CATEGORY	FIXED CHARGES	ENERGY CHARGES				
1	DOMESTIC						
1.1	INDIVIDUAL CONNECTIONS		0-200 Units	201-400 Units	401-800 Units	801-1200 Units	>1200 Units
A	Upto 2 kW	Rs. 20 /kW/month					
B	> 2kW and ≤ 5 kW	Rs. 50 /kW/month					
C	> 5kW and ≤ 15 kW	Rs. 100 /kW/month	3.00 Rs./kWh	4.50 Rs./kWh	6.50 Rs./kWh	7.00 Rs./kWh	8.00 Rs./kWh
D	>15kW and ≤ 25 kW	Rs. 200 /kW/month					
E	> 25kW	Rs. 250 /kW/month					
1.2	Single Point Delivery Supply for GHS	Rs. 150 /kW/month			4.50 Rs./kWh		
2	NON-DOMESTIC						
2.1	Upto 3kVA	Rs. 250 /kVA/month			6.00 Rs./kVAh		
2.2	Above 3kVA	Rs. 250 /kVA/month			8.50 Rs./kVAh		
3	INDUSTRIAL	Rs. 250 /kVA/month			7.75 Rs./kVAh		
4	AGRICULTURE	Rs. 125 /kVA/month			1.50 Rs./kWh		
5	MUSHROOM CULTIVATION	Rs. 200 /kVA/month			3.50 Rs./kWh		
6	PUBLIC UTILITIES	Rs. 250 /kVA/month			6.25 Rs./kVAh		
7	DELHI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LTD. (DIAL)	Rs. 250 /kVA/month			7.75 Rs./kVAh		
8	ADVERTISEMENT & HOARDINGS	Rs. 250 /kVA/month			8.50 Rs./kVAh		
9	TEMPORARY SUPPLY						
9.1	Domestic Connections including Group Housing Societies	Same rate as that of relevant category	Same as that of relevant category without any temporary surcharge				
9.2	For threshers during the threshing season upto 10kW/11kVA	Electricity Tax of MCD : Rs. 270 per connection per month	Flat rate of Rs. 5,400 per month				
9.3	All other connections including construction projects	Same rate as that of the relevant category	1.30 times of the relevant category of tariff				
10	CHARGING STATIONS FOR E-RICKSHAW-VEHICLE ON SINGLE POINT DELIVERY/ SWAPPING OF BATTERIES						
10.1	Supply at LT	-			4.50 Rs./kWh		
10.2	Supply at HT	-			4.00 Rs./kVAh		

Notes:

- For domestic category of consumers, fixed charges shall be levied on sanctioned load or the contract demand as the case may be.
- For all categories other than domestic, fixed charges are to be levied based on billing demand per kW/kVA. Where the Maximum Demand (MD), as defined in DERC (Supply Code and Performance Standards) Regulations, 2017, reading exceeds sanctioned load/contract demand, a surcharge of 30% shall be levied on the fixed charges corresponding to excess load in kW/kVA for such billing cycle only. Wherever, sanctioned load/contract demand is in kW/HP, the kVA shall be calculated on basis of actual power factor of the consumer, for the relevant billing cycle and in case of non-availability of actual Power Factor, the Power Factor shall be considered as unity for sanctioned load/contract demand upto 10kW/11kVA.
- Time of Day(ToD) Tariff**
 - ToD tariff shall be applicable on all consumers (other than Domestic) whose sanctioned load/MDI (whichever is higher) is 10kW/11kVA and above.
 - Optional for all other three phase (3) connections including Domestic connections. If the consumer who has opted for ToD, the charges for up-gradation of meters, if any, shall be borne by respective consumers.
 - The Commission has decided to retain the Rebate during the Off Peak hours and Peak hours Surcharge at 20%. Optional ToD Consumers will have the option to move back to non-ToD regime only once within one Financial Year. For other than Peak and Off-Peak hours normal Energy Charges shall be applicable.
 - The Commission has retained the time slots for Peak and Off-Peak hours as follows:

MONTHS	PEAK HOURS (HRS)	SURCHARGE ON ENERGY CHARGES	OFF-PEAK HOURS (HRS)	REBATE ON ENERGY CHARGES
May September	1400- 1700 & 2200-0100	20%	0400 - 1000	20%

- Rebate of 3%, 4% & 5% on the Energy Charges for supply at 11kV, 33/66 kV and 220 kV shall be applicable.
- Maintenance Charges on street lights, wherever maintained by DISCOMs, shall be payable @ Rs. 84/light point/month and material cost at the rate of Rs. 19/light point/month as per the Commission's Order dated 22nd September 2009 in addition to the specified tariff. These charges are exclusive of applicable taxes and duties.
- The valid Factory Licence shall be mandatory for applicability of Tariff under Industrial category: Provided that in case where the Factory Licence has expired and its renewal application is pending with the concerned authority, the DISCOMs shall bill such consumers as per Tariff applicable under Non Domestic category; Provided further that on renewal of the Factory Licence, the DISCOMs shall adjust the bills of such consumers as per applicable Tariff under Industrial category from the effective date of renewal of such Licence. (Explanation - The Factory Licence for the purpose of applicability of industrial tariff shall mean the license or permission or authorisation or any other document issued or granted by Directorate of Industries or Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises or MCD or any other Central or State Government Agency, as applicable, for running an Industry or Factory in respective field of operation.)
- The Distribution Licensee shall levy PPAC after considering relevant ToD Rebate/Surcharge on energy charges applicable to the consumers.
- For consumers availing supply through prepayment meters, the additional rebate of 1% shall be applicable on the basic Energy Charges, Fixed Charges and all other charges on the applicable tariff.
- The Single Point Delivery Supplier (Group Housing Societies) shall charge the Domestic tariff as per slab rate of 1.1 to its Individual Members availing supply for Domestic purpose and Non Domestic Tariff for other than domestic purpose. Any Deficit/Surplus due to sum total of the billing to the Individual Members as per slab rate of tariff schedule 1.1 and the billing as per the tariff schedule 1.2 including the operational expenses of the Single Point Delivery Supplier shall be passed on to the members of the Group Housing Societies on pro rata basis of consumption.
- Individual Domestic Consumers availing the supply at single point delivery through Group Housing Society shall claim the benefit of subsidy, applicable if any, as per the Order of GoNCTD. Group Housing Society shall submit the details of eligible consumers with consumption details and lodge claim of subsidy on behalf of individual members from DISCOMs.
- The Single Point Delivery Supplier availing supply at HT & above shall charge the tariff to its LT consumers and in addition shall be entitled to charge an extra upto 5% of the bill amount to cover losses and all its expenses.
- The Commercial Consumers of DMRC and DIAL who have sanctioned load above 215 kVA but served at LT (415 Volts) shall be charged the tariff applicable to Non-domestic LT (NDLT) category greater than 140kW/150kVA (415 Volts).
- The rates stipulated in the Schedule are exclusive of electricity duty and other taxes and charges, as levied from time to time by the Government or any other competent authority, which are payable extra.
- In the event of the electricity bill rendered by the Distribution licensee, not being paid in full within the due date specified on the bill, a Late Payment Surcharge (LPS) @ 15% per annum shall be levied. The LPS shall be charged for the number of days of delay in receiving payment from the consumer by the Distribution Licensee, until the payment is made in full without prejudice to the right of the licensee to disconnect the supply after due date, in the event of non-payment in accordance with Section 56 of Electricity Act, 2003. This will also apply to temporary connections and enforcement cases, where payment of final bill amount after adjustment of amount as per directions of the Court and deposit, is not made by due date.
- No payment shall be accepted by the Distribution Licensees from its consumers at its own collection centres/mobile vans in cash towards electricity bill exceeding Rs. 4,000/- except from blind consumers, for court settlement cases & payment deposited by the consumers at designated scheduled commercial bank branches upto Rs. 50,000/- Violation of this provision shall attract penalty to the level of 10% of total cash collection exceeding the limit.
- The payment of monthly electricity bills of all categories of consumers except Domestic, Agriculture & Mushroom Cultivation exceeding Rs. 20,000/- shall be paid Digitally through various platforms like NEFT, RTGS, IMPS, Credit Card, Debit Card, Wallets (like PayTM, Google Pay) etc.
- Wherever the Fixed or Energy Charges are specified in Rs. per kVAh, for the purpose of billing, the kVAh as read from the meter in the relevant billing cycle shall be used.

for New Delhi Municipal Council
Sd/-
Secretary

Date: 06.10.2021

DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE
(DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT)
4th FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-110006
Visit us at: <http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in>

PUBLIC NOTICE - BATTERIES MANAGEMENT

Batteries (Management & Handling) Rules, 2001 came into force w.e.f 16th May, 2001. These rules mandate various responsibilities on manufacturers, importers, assemblers, re-conditioners, dealers, recyclers, consumers, bulk consumers and auctioneers. Major responsibilities of each of these stakeholders are listed as under.

Manufacturers/Importers

- ✓ Shall ensure that the new batteries be sold only to the registered dealers and the used batteries are collected back as per the schedule against new batteries sold excluding those sold to original equipment manufacturer and bulk consumer(s).
- ✓ Shall file a half-yearly return of their sales and buy-back to the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) in **Form- I** latest by 30th June (for Oct-Mar) and 31st December (for Apr-Sept) of every year.
- ✓ Set up collection centres either individually or jointly at various places for collection of used batteries from consumers or dealers and shall ensure that the collected batteries are sent only to the registered recyclers.
- ✓ Shall ensure that necessary arrangements are made with dealers for safe transportation from collection centres to the premises of registered recyclers and shall ensure that no damage to the environment occurs during the transportation.
- ✓ Create public awareness through advertisement, publications, posters or by other means with regards to **(a) hazard of lead (b) responsibility of consumers to return their used batteries only to the dealer or deliver at designated collection centre and (c) address of the dealer and designated collection centres.**
- ✓ Buy recycled lead only from registered recyclers.
- ✓ Bring to the notice of the DPCC or the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India for any violation by the dealers.
- ✓ Importers shall apply for registration as per **Form II and Form III** on the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) online portal for a period of five years (link: <http://cpcbbrms.nic.in/>).

Assemblers/Re-conditioners

- ✓ Shall ensure that the used batteries collected back are of similar type and specifications as that of the new batteries sold and shall ensure that used batteries collected are sent only to registered recyclers.

Dealers

- ✓ Create public awareness through advertisement, publications, posters or by other means with regard to **hazards of lead.**
- ✓ Apply for registration by submitting online application in **Form- IV** available on DPCC website by creating user ID and password for the period of five years.
- ✓ Shall ensure that the used batteries are collected back as per the schedule against new batteries sold.
- ✓ Shall ensure safe transportation of collected batteries to the designated collection centres or to registered recyclers.
- ✓ Shall file a half-yearly return of their sales

Consumers/Bulk Consumers

- ✓ Shall ensure that used batteries are not disposed off in any manner other than by depositing with the dealer/ manufacturer/ registered recycler/ importer/ re-conditioner or at the designated collection centres.
- ✓ Bulk consumers shall file half-yearly return latest by 30th June (for Oct-Mar) and 31st December (for Apr-Sept) in **Form- I** to DPCC.
- ✓ Bulk consumers to their user units may auction used batteries to registered recyclers only.

Auctioneers

- ✓ Shall ensure that used batteries are auctioned to the registered recyclers only.
- ✓ Shall maintain records relating to receipt of used batteries, sources, quantities and metal yield and submit to DPCC.
- ✓ Shall file half-yearly returns of their auctions latest by 30th June and 31st December to DPCC in **Form-IX.**

Note:- As per Batteries (Management and Handling) Amendment Rules, 2010, every dealer of Lead Acid Battery shall obtain registration from DPCC, within 30 days of this Notice and in case of failure legal action including prosecution shall be initiated.

Member Secretary

and buy-back of old batteries to the DPCC and manufacturer in **Form-V** latest by 31st May (for Oct-Mar) and 30th November (for Apr-Sept) of every year.

Recyclers

- ✓ Shall apply for registration to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change or an agency designated by it (if not applied already), by submitting information in **Form VI.**
- ✓ Shall submit half-yearly returns as per **Form-VII** to the DPCC latest by 30th June (for Oct-Mar) and 31st December (for Apr-Sept) of every year.
- ✓ Shall make available all records relating to receipt of used batteries, sources, quantities and metal yield to be submitted to the DPCC.
- ✓ Create public awareness through advertisement, publications, posters or by other

8 EXPRESS NETWORK



Former PM was hospitalised in April after Covid

Post-fever weakness, Manmohan in AIIMS; under observation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

FORMER PRIME Minister Manmohan Singh was Wednesday admitted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) owing to weakness and exhaustion.

The senior Congress leader, who turned 89 last month, had been undergoing treatment for fever at home for the last couple of days.

He was admitted for observation at AIIMS on Wednesday. Singh had been admitted to AIIMS in April as well after contracting the coronavirus. A month later, he was hospitalised again owing to uneasiness.

Singh's office said he did not have a fever on Wednesday but was feeling tired and weak. He will be administered fluids for energy, it said.

The Congress, dismissing speculation about the former PM's health, said he was doing fine. "There are some unsubstantiated rumours with regards to former PM, Dr Manmohan Singh ji's health. His condition is stable. He is undergoing routine treatment. We will share any updates as needed. We thank our friends in media for their concern," tweeted AICC secretary in-charge of the communication department, Pranav Jha.

"The nation collectively prays for the speedy recovery & good health of our dear former Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh," the Congress tweeted. Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, too, wished Singh a speedy recovery. "Concerned about the health of former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh ji..My prayers and best wishes for his speedy recovery. May he get well soon."

Migrant staff's concerns being addressed: senior J&K officer

NAVEED IQBAL & ANANCHAL MAGAZINE
SRINAGAR, NEW DELHI, OCT 13

FOLLOWING THE recent targeted killings of minorities by militants in the Valley, Kashmir Divisional Commissioner K Pandurang Pole Wednesday stepped in to address concerns of migrant government employees, assuring them of safety.

After visiting transit accommodations for the migrant employees, Pole told *The Indian Express* that some of them had raised concerns that "have been taken note of".

On Wednesday, *The Indian Express* reported that the Divisional Commissioner had, on October 9, directed Deputy Commissioners of all 10 districts in Kashmir to ensure that migrant employees need not leave the Valley and that "whosoever will be absent shall be dealt as per Service Rules".

Pole attributed the directions with regard to presence of employees and in the minutes of the meeting to a "clerical error", stat-

ing that the purpose was security and not punitive action.

"The main focus of the minutes of that meeting is on the security of the employees but as far as presence of employees is concerned, there are hardly any who have left. The difficulties that they have expressed are being addressed," he said. "Most of the migrant employees are attending work. Some may be on leave due to festivities [Navratri] and some others go to Jammu around this time to drop off families and elderly as winter approaches here."

According to government estimates, 3,841 migrant employees are currently posted in Kashmir. However, apprehensions remain among several government employees, who left for Jammu after the killings, over returning to the Valley. Many are fearful of risking their lives by returning to work in the Valley.

"I had planned to take leave only for Diwali. The fear of inadequate security following the killings of minorities made me leave Kashmir in a hurry. It is not like we are evading work but the administration and the govern-

ment have not made any concrete security arrangements for return," said a Kashmiri Pandit employee who did not want to be named.

While the recent order has given rise to apprehensions about safety, several employees, especially those in lower ranks, said if action is taken against them, they would have to choose between quitting the job or returning with a constant fear for life.

Some said a few supervisors and District Development Officers have given a week or so to return to work. "Some supervisors are telling the employees from minority communities to return to work immediately. Some DDOs though have given the leeway of a few more days of leave," another employee said.

Divisional Commissioner Pole said measures were being taken over the concerns. He said some migrant families living in private rented accommodations are concerned about safety. "We have told them that construction work for their accommodation is being expedited and in the next few days, they will be provided with government accommodation," he said.

Bussy Anand, general secretary of All India Thalpathy Vijay Makkal Iyakkam, said of the 115 seats they won, victory in 13 seats, including four each in Kallakurichi and Kancheepuram, was unopposed. "Of the 115 winners, at least 45 are women. Otherwise, the candidates who contested under the banner of actor Vijay were from a cross section of our society," said Anand, a former Congress MLA

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, OCTOBER 13

THE RULING DMK in Tamil Nadu may have swept the rural elections held in nine reorganised districts, but a closer look at the results shows that actor Vijay – considered second only to megastar Rajinikanth in popularity charts – has taken a silent plunge into politics, through his fan club.

According to the results, Vijay's fan club won 115 of the 169 seats it contested, recording a 68% strike rate.



Mishra was earlier sent to three-day police custody. File

A LOCAL COURT in Lakhimpur Kheri on Wednesday denied bail to Ashish Mishra, the main accused in the murder of four farmers and a journalist who were allegedly run over by a convoy of SUVs, including a Thar jeep owned by his father and Union minister Ajay Mishra.

Three others were killed in subsequent violence at Tikonia on October 3.

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) of UP Police, meanwhile, arrested two more persons – 38-year-old Ankit Das and 37-year-old Lateef alias Kala – in connection with the incident, taking the total number of arrests in the case to six.

Ankit Das, a resident of Lucknow, is a close aide of Ashish Mishra and nephew of former

Rajya Sabha MP Akhilesh Das.

Lateef alias Kala, a resident of Lakhimpur Kheri, is an accountant of Ankit Das, said police, adding that he and Ankit Das were in one of the three vehicles in the convoy that ran over the protesting farmers.

Both were later produced be-

fore a local court which sent them to three-day police custody, beginning Thursday.

"The court allowed the SIT's application and sent Ankit and Lateef to three-day police custody," said government counsel (Lakhimpur Kheri) SP Yadav.

On Tuesday, Das and Kale had moved an application for surrender before the chief judicial magistrate after investigators summoned them for questioning.

In a video that went viral in the aftermath of the incident, a man with head injuries was heard telling a policeman that he was in the vehicle with four other people, including Ankit Das. The man in the video provided the registration number of the vehicle – described as a Toyota Fortuner – and

claimed that it belonged to Ankit Das. "Since police have arrested Ankit Das and Lateef we would request the court to expunge surrender application," said advocate Awadesh Kumar Singh.

LAKHIMPUR KHERI DEATHS

BJP won't act against MoS: Akhilesh

Lucknow: Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday hit out at the BJP, saying that the ruling party would not act against Union minister Ajay Mishra, whose son has been arrested in connection with the killing of farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri, as it "stands with criminals". Continuing with the party's 'Vijay Rath Yatra' in Jalaun and Kanpur Dehat districts ahead of the Assembly election in Uttar Pradesh, the former CM targeted the BJP government over several issues – from inflation to high fuel prices – and said it is a "feku (fraud)" and "bechu (seller) sarkar". **ENS**

claimed that it belonged to Ankit Das. "Since police have arrested Ankit Das and Lateef we would request the court to expunge surrender application," said advocate Awadesh Kumar Singh.

Monu Bhaiyaa this time," says one of the slogans on a wall.

"He sought the ticket in 2017 Assembly polls, but the party fielded Patel Ramkumar Verma," says a local BJP leader, referring to the Union minister's former political mentor. Nighasan is now held by Verma's son Shashank, who won the 2019 bypoll after his father's death.

According to a BJP leader in Lakhimpur Kheri, the farmer deaths may have dented Ashish's chances. "This time, Monu had a good chance of getting the ticket from Nighasan, but let's see what happens now," he says. "...The October 3 incident will definitely affect his chances. The country is talking about what happened in Tikonia. Party is under pressure,"

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com



At a Durga Puja pandal in Azad Hind Bag, in north Kolkata on Wednesday. Partha Paul

Stray tusker enters Jharkhand pandal, more than 20 injured in stampede

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
HAZARIBAG (JHARKHAND), OCTOBER 13

A TUSKER strayed away from its herd and entered a Durga Puja marquee at Daroo in Hazaribag district creating panic among devotees, about 24 of whom were injured in the stampede that took place subsequently, a

forest official said on Wednesday.

The tusker, which had trampled to death four persons in Hazaribag district during the past 30 hours, had strayed from a herd of 22 elephants and reached the puja pandal, divisional forest officer of Hazaribag West division, R N Mishra told PTI.

A member of the Daroo puja committee, Ranjit Sinha said that

Cong leaders meet President, want MoS sacked, judicial probe

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

SAYING THAT the "unforgivable and merciless murder of farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri" has "scarred the soul of India", a high-level Congress delegation led by Rahul Gandhi met President Ram Nath Kovind on Wednesday to seek the dismissal of Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Ajay Mishra and an "independent judicial investigation" by two sitting judges of the Supreme Court or High Court.

The Congress delegation included Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge and senior leaders A K Antony, Ghulam Nabi Azad and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. "This deliberate act of murder, in broad daylight, followed by the audacious reactions of the state and central governments, has completely eroded people's faith in those tasked with bringing these perpetrators to



Congress leaders after meeting the President in Delhi. Anil Sharma

justice," they said in a memorandum submitted to the President.

"In this context, it is important to note that on September 27th, the day of Bharat Bandh called by protesting farmers against the three black laws, Ajay Mishra, MoS Home, in a public function openly threatened the farmers and even boasted about his dubious antecedents. The video of his

speech...is available in public domain. How can justice be done when the original provocation came from Union MoS himself?"

Rahul told the media that family members of those killed believe an impartial probe will not be possible as long as Ajay Mishra remains MoS for Home.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Violence is absolutely condemnable: Sitharaman

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BOSTON, OCTOBER 13

THE LAKHIMPUR Kheri violence, in which four farmers were killed, is "absolutely condemnable," Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said, emphasising that there are issues of such nature happening in other parts of India equally which should be raised "when they happen and not when it suits others" because there is a BJP government in Uttar Pradesh.

Sitharaman, who is on an official visit to the US, was responding to a question during a conversation at Harvard Kennedy School on Tuesday about the killing of four farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri and the arrest of Ashish Mishra, son of Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Ajay Mishra. She was asked why there is no word on this from



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Boston. PTI

the prime minister, senior ministers and why there is a "defensive reaction" when somebody asks questions about such things. "No, absolutely not... It's nice of you to have picked up that one incident which is absolutely condemnable... Equally there are instances happening elsewhere, is my concern... I would like you, and many others... to raise it at every time when it happens, not just raise it when it suits us because it's a state where BJP is in power."

10 judges appointed to Telangana, Orissa HCs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

THE CENTRE on Wednesday notified the appointment of 10 more judges to the High Courts of Orissa and Telangana, and four additional judges to Kerala High Court.

Those appointed to Telangana HC are judicial officers P Sree Sudha, C Sumalatha, G Radha Rani, M Laxman, N Tukuramji, and A Venkateshwara Reddy, and Income Tax Appellate Tribunal member P Madhavi Devi.

The Supreme Court Collegium headed by Chief Justice of India N V Ramana had recommended their names on August 17.

Advocate Mruganka Sekhar Sahoo and judicial officers Radha Krishna Pattanaik and Sashikanta Mishra were appointed to Orissa HC as judges. Their names were recommended by the SC Collegium on September 29.

Those appointed to Kerala HC are judicial officers C K Jayachandran, Sophy Thomas, PG Ajithkumar, and C S Sudha.

Rao Inderjit's dig at BJP: Can't win Haryana again by seeking votes in Modi's name

SUKHBIR SIWACH
CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 13

UNION MINISTER Rao Inderjit Singh, whose name was dropped from the list of BJP's national executive recently, on Wednesday insisted that due importance ought to be given to party workers in Haryana as "there was no guarantee that the party will get votes only in the name of Modi-ji" to form a government in the state for the third time.

Rao Inderjit Singh had recently pitched for continuing a dialogue process with the agitating farmers, saying that the BJP and its leaders were now confined to a small pocket in "our area (Ahirwal)" in Haryana.

On Wednesday, Rao Inderjit was in Panchkula to address a meeting of the state council of BJP, which was attended by top leaders of the party's state unit – including Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, and state party president Om Prakash Dhankar.

Gurgaon MP Rao Inderjit Singh, who is a descendant of Rao Tulram – a king of Ahirwal region – had joined the saffron party ahead of the 2014 Lok Sabha polls after leaving the Congress.

Giving credit to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for BJP's electoral success in Haryana, Rao said: "All of us know that the BJP formed the government in the country because of Modi-ji. It had a cascading effect in Haryana... It's also a big achievement that the BJP government was formed in Haryana for a second time... in Haryana, the government changes after every term... But can we cross the figure of 45 seats a third time? Certainly, we should think about it."

Rao Inderjit said, "The voters may want to vote in the name of Modi-ji... But who will get the votes delivered? That has to be done by the workers of BJP who are present at the ground level... The morale of workers should not be broken... should they not be heard?"

Govt working on criteria for Sainik schools' affiliation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

THE UNION Cabinet's decision to expand the chain of Sainik Schools, where girl students will also be enrolled, by roping in private players, NGOs and state governments is receiving a "healthy response", a senior Defence Ministry official said on Wednesday.

The official said the qualifying criteria for setting up the proposed "affiliated Sainik Schools" was in the works and will soon be put up in the public domain. The government has estimated that up to 5,000 students are likely to enroll in class 6 from the 2022-23 academic year in the proposed 100 schools.

The government is expected to spend Rs 20 crore next year in funding scholarships for students enrolling themselves in these schools.

"We have started receiving a healthy and encouraging response," the official said.

With TN rural elections, actor Vijay makes a silent entry into politics



Vijay fan club won 115 of the 169 seats it contested

from Puducherry. He said those who won included farmers, students, traders, lab technicians and even school teachers.

The number of seats Vijay fans

EXPLAINED Change of heart

VIJAY'S POLITICAL entry raises many eyebrows as it was the same reason that led to a public tussle between him and his father S A Chandrasekhar after the latter tried to form Vijay Makkal Iyakkam (VMI), another outfit in his son's name though without his permission. Vijay had to make a public statement to disown links with VMI and also filed a case against his father and mother Shoba Sekar, urging them to refrain from using his name or photo for any sort of political meeting or activities.

contested or won in the village panchayat wards may appear insignificant as compared to the total 27,003 local body positions in the state but the taste of victory on debut may lead to a bigger role for the actor in state politics.

Anand, who is considered a messenger between Vijay and his fans holding organisational positions, said contesting the elections was not a planned move at all. "Suddenly, ahead of the polls, there were requests from many districts, seeking permission to contest," he said. "All of them were people who had been leading ac-

tivities in their own localities on behalf of our movement."

"When we discussed it with Thalpathy [as Vijay is fondly called by his fans], he agreed," said Anand. For candidate selection, Anand said, Vijay conveyed only two preferences – "educated youth" and "equal representation to women".

While campaigning was conducted using the group's flag and Vijay's picture, Anand was among those who travelled across the districts to meet as many candidates as possible.

Although the Thalpathy Vijay

Makkal Iyakkam extended support to the AIADMK in the 2011 assembly polls, following which it steered clear of electoral politics, this was the first time the fans' group with more than 10 lakh members in the state fielded candidates in an election.

According to Anand, after the announcement of the results, Vijay spoke to some of the winners on Wednesday.

"He said we should work towards a path that meets the expectations of people, who elected us," said Anand, referring to his phone call with Vijay after the victory.



Residential Coaching Academy (RCA)
A.M.U., Aligarh

Invites Online Applications for
Free Coaching for SSC-CGL - 2021-22
(for Minorities, SC, ST and Women Candidates)

- Boarding and Lodging for limited number of selected candidates.
- Central Waqf Council will help to meet fooding and lodging expenses for limited number of selected Muslim candidates.

Last date for submission of form : 20th October 2021
Entrance Test (Objective) : 28th October 2021
Application Fee : Rs. 500/-
For details visit: <https://amu.ac.in/academies/residential-coaching-academy>
Mobile : +91-7906631262 / 7895702533 (during office hours)
Director



Residential Coaching Academy (RCA)
A.M.U., Aligarh

Invites Online Applications for
Free Coaching for Judicial Services - 2021-22
(for Minorities, SC, ST and Women Candidates)

- Boarding and Lodging for limited number of selected candidates.
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Mobile : +91-7906631262 / 7895702533 (during office hours)
Director


NORTHERN RAILWAY	
Tender Notice No.-: Elect/TRD/MB/2021-22/TN-03 Date:- 12/10/2021	
Department:-	Electrical (TRD)
Tender No.-	T-01-TRD-MB-21-22-II
Name of Work:-	Replacement of Static control panel (including Relays) with Numerical Relay Panel (including Relays) at Traction Sub Station over Moradabad Division.
Tender Closing Date & Time:-	08.11.2021 15:00 Hrs.
Advised Value (Rs.):-	Rs. 27890192.04 (Incl. GST)
Earnest Money (Rs.):-	NIL in lieu of Bid Security Declaration
Tender Doc. Cost (Rs.):-	NIL
Validity of offer (Days):-	45 days
Period of completion:-	6 Months
Website particulars & Address of office.	www.iimps.gov.in Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Northern Railway, Moradabad.
2329/2021	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	

NORTHERN RAILWAY	
E-TENDER NOTICE	
Asst. Executive Signal & Telecom Engineer/Const./Northern Railway, New Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender for the following work :-	
1. Name of work & Place	Outdoor Signalling work in connection with Provision of Loop line with Telecom accessories and shifting of LC-41 at MOZ station i/cw doubling work of MOZ-TPZ in Delhi Division of Northern Railway.
2. Completion period	03 (Three) Months from the date of issue of LOA
3. Approx. Cost	Rs. 54,32,974.58
4. Earnest money amount	NIL
5. Date of opening of tender	Tender will be opened on 08.11.2021 at 11:30 hours
6. Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website	Tender documents will be available on IREPS website i.e. www.iimps.gov.in from 14.10.2021
No. 570-Sig-PS-Tender-116R2 Dated : 13.10.2021. 2336/21	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	




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CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.
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CIN : L6301DL19880003015 E-mail: investorrelations@concorindia.com
Tel. Nos.: 4122 2500/600 Website <http://www.concorindia.co.in>

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 47 read with Regulation 29 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, that a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on 21st October, 2021 to inter-alia consider and approve the unaudited Financial Results of the Company for the quarter and period ended on 30th September, 2021 and declaration of interim dividend for FY 2021-22, if any, to the shareholders.
Further, in terms of SEBI (PIT) Regulations, 2015, as amended, the Trading Window for dealing in Equity Shares of the Company is closed for all designated persons & their immediate relatives for the period from 01st October, 2021 till the expiry of 48 hours after declaration of the Financial Results of the Company for the quarter ended on 30th September, 2021.
This information is also available on the website of the Company and the websites of the Stock Exchanges where the Company's shares are listed viz. BSE Limited (www.bseindia.com) and the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (www.nseindia.com).
For & on behalf of Container Corporation of India Limited Sd/-
Place: New Delhi
Date: 12.10.2021
Executive Director (Finance) & CS



G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (NIHE)
Kosi-Kataramal, Almora - 263 643, Uttarakhand

Corrigendum
With reference to the advertisement for the post of Scientist - 'C' [01; Reserved for Economically Weaker Section (EWS)] published in the Indian Express on 15.09.2021, it is to inform that the last date to reach application in the Institute by Registered Post/Speed Post may be read as **25.10.2021**. All other contents of the advertisement mentioned ibid will remain as such.
Director




Varthana Finance Private Limited
(Formerly known as M/s. Thirumeni Finance Private Ltd.,)
Registered Office at : No. 58C-110, Varasiddhi, Outer Ring Road, Service Road, 3rd Block, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore-560043. Website www.varthana.com, Email: care@varthana.com, Phone: 080-68455777.
Branch Office: Block 57, Unit NO-14, 2nd Floor, Kaveri Centre (Land Mark Telephone Exchange Building) Sanjay Place, Agra-282002.

DEMAND NOTICE
Notice under Sub-Section (2) of Section 13 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 as amended by The Enforcement of Security Interest and Recovery of Debts Laws and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Act, 2016 (44 of 2016) and further Amended by The Security Interest (Enforcement) (Amendment) Rules, 2018, We, M/s. Varthana Finance Private Limited, (hereinafter referred to as "The Company" for sake of brevity and formerly known as M/s. Thirumeni Finance Pvt. Ltd.,) is a Non-Banking Finance Company, Incorporated under the Companies Act 1956 and registered with the Reserve Bank of India, having its registered office at Bangalore as mentioned in the above Address, and one of its Branches at Agra (hereinafter referred as "Branch") hereby issue the following notice under Section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 to You being the Applicant/Co-Appliants and the Mortgagor for the Recovery of the Outstanding dues. Demand Notice issued on 26.08.2021, the contents of which are being published herewith as per Sec. 13(2) of the Act R/w Rule.3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, by way of alternative service upon the Applicant & Co-Appliants No. 1 & 2 for service of notice, since notices could not be served on the given addresses.
You had approached our Agra branch for Credit Facility for school and accordingly made an application. The Company had considered your request and sanctioned the same, details of which are as hereunder.
Loan Account No: S18AGRA-AGR-000725. Sanctioned Loan Amount: Rs.20,31,350/-, Total Liability as on 26.08.2021 : Rs.25,19,076/-, Name & Addresses of Applicant & Co-Appllicants : 1).Choudary Balwant Singh Mahavidyalaya, Represented by It's Authorised Signatory, 2).Choudary Balwant Singh Jan Kalyan Shiksha Sanstha Trust, Represented by It's Authorised Signatory, No.1 & 2 are having office at Asrawali, Shaikhabad, Uttar Pradesh - 205141, 3).Pankaj Kumar, S/o. Shree Rajendra Singh, Aradi Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh - 205141, 4).Alka Yadav, W/o. Pankaj Kumar, Asraoli Hartha, Shikhabad, Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh - 205141.
You No.1-4 are Applicant/Co-Appllicants have executed the necessary security documents in favour of the Company to secure the repayment of dues and payable under the said Loan agreement.
The Manager/Collection Manager and other officers of the Company have repeatedly requested you all to pay the outstanding amount and to ensure that the account does not become a Non-performing Asset, but you wilfully and unjustifiably failed to pay and not heeded to the innumerable requests made to you from time to time and as a result, the above mentioned account has been classified as **Non Performing Asset** on 13.12.2019.
By virtue of the documents duly executed by the Mortgagor, the charge has been created in favor of the Company on the below mentioned Security. The Company hereby informs all of you that, under Sub-Section (13) of Section 13 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as the Act) you shall, after receipt of this notice refrain from either transfer by way of Sale, Lease or otherwise create third party interest in any of the below mentioned secured assets, without prior written consent of the Company. The Applicant/Co-Appllicants and Mortgagor attention is invited to sub-section (8) of Section 13 in respect of time available to redeem the Secured Assets.
In view of the above the Company hereby issues this notice under Sub-Sec (2) of the Section 13 of the Act and calls upon you all to pay, a sum of Rs. 25,19,076 /- (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Seventy Six Only) as on 26.08.2021, with interest from 27.08.2021, with agreed contractual rate of interest until the date of payment, together with incidental expenses, cost and other charges, within 60 days of receipt of this notice, failing which the Company shall be constrained to attach, sell and/or take all actions as envisaged in Sub-Sec (4) of Sec.13 of the Act and/or adopt any other legal proceedings against all of you before the competent Court/Authority.
If you have any representations to be made in response to this Notice, please mark the same to The Authorised Officer, The Varthana Finance Private Ltd., No.58C-110, 'Varasiddhi', 3rd Floor, Outer Ring Road, Service Road, 3rd Block, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore - 560043, to enable us to respond in time. Please note we shall not be responsible for not responding to any representations made in response to this notice if the same is addressed to any other person or place.
Details of Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Immovable Property bearing Khata No.84, Khasra No.299, Rakva 1.0190, Hect, (10190 Sq. Mt.) Situated at Asrawali, Tehsil Shikhabad, District Firozabad and bounded on, East By : Khet Omkar Singh and Gata No.298, West By : Rasta, North By Rasta after Khet Anar Devi, South By : Khet Majum Singh Ad. Memorandum of Deposit of Title Deeds executed by Choudary Balwant Singh Jan Kalyan Shiksha Sansthan Trust, Represented by its Secretary/Manager Mr. Pankaj Kumar, S/o. Rajendra Singh, dated 02.02.2018.
Note : Demand Notice dated 15th March 2021 is hereby withdrawn due to typographical error, hence this Notice.
Date : 14.10.2021
Place : Firozabad
Authorised Officer
Varthana Finance Private Limited,

NOTICE
Vide order no ZO/EKMZHRM/03/28 428 dated 11-10-2021, Mr. K. Venkatesan, General Manager and Zonal Head, of Ernakulam Zone of the Bank, as appellate authority, has disposed the appeal dated 13-09-2021 submitted by Ms.Kalpna Bastia, Ec.No.72020, ex-employee, against the order dated 24-05-2021 issued by Disciplinary Authority of the Zone. The said order of the appellant authority has been sent through registered AD to all available address with the Bank/email id of Ms.Kalpna. She may take note of the same.
Sd/- (ZIYAD RAHMAN)
Dy.General Manager & Dy.Zonal Head

"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.



REGIONAL OFFICE, GAYA:
2nd Floor, In Front of CRPF 159 Battalion, Jail Road, Gaya - 823001
E-mail- rm.gaya@bankofbaroda.com
legal.gaya@bankofbaroda.com

E-AUCTION - SALE NOTICE							
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6(2) & (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for recovery of below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower/s/Guarantor/s/ Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below-							
Sr/ Lot No.	Name & address of Borrower/s/ Guarantor/s	Description of the Properties	Total Dues	Date & Time of E-auction	Reserve Price of the Property EMD of the Property Bid Incremental Amount	Status of Possession (Constructive/ Physical)	Property Inspection date & time
1.	Shri Dhramendra Kumar Mishra S/o Late Chatrapati Mishra Base Branch: Bikramganj	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of House at Mauja-Silauta, PS-Bikramganj, Plot No.-11, Thana No. 499, Area-12, 1/2 dhoo in the name of Dhramendra Kumar Mishra s/o late Chatrapati Mishra. Bounded: North-Satendra Mishra, South-Nij, East-Rasta, West-Heera Singh.	₹8,32,327.75/- as on 31.03.2019 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹16,93,910/- ₹1,69,391/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
2.	M/s Jai Mata Ji Motor Parts and Tractor Parts Prop.: Vijay Kumar Singh S/o Sri Mahendra Rai, VIP Colony, Bikramganj, PO-Bikramganj, Dist.-Rohtas (Bihar), Pin-802212 Base Branch: Bikramganj	Land at Village-Dharupur, Ward no.-18, Railway Station, Thana-Bikramganj, Area-10 Decimal, Khata No.428, Khesra No.14, Thana No.526, Sale Deed No.2556 dated 16.04.2014 in the name of Vijay Kumar Singh S/o Sri Mahendra Rai. North-Nij, South-Nij, East-Rasta 8', West-Lalan Singh.	₹22,40,179.24 as on 31.03.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹24,75,000/- ₹2,47,500/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
3.	M/s Manjushree Automobile Prop.: Mr. Abhishek Kumar S/o Omprakash Singh residing at Boddipara, PO-Jamalpur, PS-Jamalpur, Dist.-Munger, Pin-811214 Base Branch: Munger	Registered Mortgage Deed No.852 dated 04.04.2018 of land & building in the name of Om Prakash Singh. Holding No.66/52B, Mauza & Mohalla-Nayagaon, Baddipara, Ward No.13, Khesra/Plot No.2663, Tauzi No.420, Jamabandi No.76, Khata No.32, Thana No.11, Anchal-Jamalpur, Registry & District-Munger, Area-1.24 decimal. Bounded: North-Mahadev Ram, South-3.5 fit gali, East-6 ft wide municipal gali, West-3 ft wide gali.	₹25,08,777/- as on 31.03.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹35,21,700/- ₹3,52,170/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
4.	M/s Rushtam Traders Prop.-Rustam Shekhar S/o Chand Shekhar Residing at Sandalpur, Near Durga Sthan, Post-Munger, PS-Kasim Bazar, Dist.-Munger, Pin-811201 Base Branch: Munger	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Mohalla and Mouza-Sandalpur, Thana-Kashim Bazar, MS Survey Sheet No.-12, Municipal Khesra/Plot No.-1726, Ward No.35, Tauzi No.513 in Jamabandi No.-20/32, Anchal-Sadar, Area-11.94 decimal within the registered sub-district Sandalpur and District-Munger. Bounded: North-Gali, South-Road and Deepak Yadav, East-Gali, West-Nago Pandit.	₹33,75,737.18 as on 06.01.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹81,88,200/- ₹8,18,820/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
5.	1. Mr. Lakshman Kumar S/o Late Arjun Tanti and 2) Mrs. Shakutala Devi W/o Late Arjun Tanti. Address of both: Residing at Nitibag Raisar Near Bari Bishari Sthan, Shankarpur Colony, Post Basudevpur, PS-Kotwali Dist.-Munger, Pin-811202 Base Branch: Munger	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Mauza-Raisar, Tauzi No.461, S. Sheet No.20,21, M.Khesra No.-3573, J.B. No.-258, Holding No.-330/624, Thana-Kotwali, Ward No.-13 (Old), 18(New), Mohalla-Nitibagh Raisar, Anchal-Sadar, Nagar Nigam, Sale Deed No.399/1995, Dt. 07.03.1995 with Land Holding Area-2.486 Decimal, Boundary as under: North-Niz Vendor Brinjiti Prasad Singh S/o Shi Prem Niti Prasad Singh, South-Kamla Devi, East-Municipal Road, West-Niz Vendor Brinjiti Prasad Singh.	₹10,16,476.43 as on 05.01.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹25,66,620/- ₹2,56,662/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
6.	M/s Nav Durga Mini Rice Mill Prop.: Sri Raj Mohan Pathak, Village-Panchpokhari, PO-Sakri, PS-Kudra, Dist.-Kaimur, and Tej Narayan Pathak S/o Late Awadh Bihari Pathak (Guarantor), Mr. Ram Singhasan Pathak S/o Late Awadh Bihari Pathak (Guarantor) Mr. Rajendra Pathak S/o Late Awadh Bihari Pathak (Guarantor) Base Branch: Sasaram	1. Mauza-Panchpokhari, Thana No.-670, PS-Kudra, Dist.-Kaimur bearing Khata No.90, Plot No.432, area 16 decimal in the name of Mr. Raj Mohan Pathak S/o Late Awadh Bihari Pathak, Boundary:North-Chat, South-Ganga Dayal Kuswaha, East-Plot No.432 Gopal Lal, West-Plot No.432, Sujit Kumar Gupta. 2. Mauza-Panchpokhari, Thana No.-670, PS-Kudra, Dist.-Kaimur bearing Khata No.90, Plot No.432, area 12.5 decimal in the name of Mr. Raj Mohan Pathak S/o Late Awadh Bihari Pathak, Boundary:North-Chat, South-Ganga Dayal Kuswaha, East-Plot No.432 Kewaladar, West-Plot No.432, Raj Mohan Pathak. 3. Mauza-Sakari, Thana No.659, PS-Kudra, Dist.-Kaimur bearing Khata No.153, Plot No.426, area 1.25 decimal in the name of Mr. Raj Mohan Pathak S/o Late Awadh Bihari Pathak, Boundary: North-Ram Singhasan Pathak, South-Rajendra Pathak, East-Rasta Plot No.432 after Sheshnath Choudhary, West-Ratan Choudhary. 4. Mauza-Sakari, Thana No.659, PS-Kudra, Dist.-Kaimur bearing Khata No.153, Plot No.426, area 1.25 decimal in the name of Mr. Rajendra Pathak S/o Late Awadh Bihari Pathak, Boundary: North-Raj Mohan Pathak, South-Rajgrihi Pathak, East-Rasta Plot No.26 after Sheshnath Choudhary, West-Ratan Choudhary. 5. Mauza-Sakari, Thana No.659, PS-Kudra, Dist.-Kaimur bearing Khata No.153, Plot No.426, area 1.25 decimal in the name of Mr. Tej Narayan Pathak S/o Late Awadh Bihari Pathak, Boundary: North-Birendra Prasad, South-Ram Singhasan Pathak, East-Rasta Plot No.426 after Sheshnath Choudhary, West-Ratan Choudhary. 6. Mauza-Sakari, Thana No.659, PS-Kudra, Dist.-Kaimur bearing Khata No.153, Plot No.426, area 1.25 decimal in the name of Mr. Ram Singhasan Pathak S/o Late Awadh Bihari Pathak, Boundary: North-Tej Narayan Pathak, South-Raj Mohan Pathak, East-Rasta Plot No.426 after Sheshnath Choudhary, West-Ratan Choudhary.	₹90,00,000.00 as on 31.03.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges ₹74,399.93 ₹5,48,165.81 Total ₹96,22,565.74 as on 31.05.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹86,56,200/- ₹8,65,620/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
7.	M/s Buddha Enterprises Prop.: Sri Kamlesh Kumar S/o Sri Budd Nath Singh and Sri Budd Nath Singh S/o Ram Chandra Singh (Guarantor) Base Branch: Sasaram	Registered Mortgage of land & building situated at Village-Uchitpur, Near Shero Showroom, Rev Thana No.154, PS Sasaram, Sub Div-Sasaram Dist. Rohtas Khata No.147, Plot No.1107(Part) Area-17.5 Decimal. Boundary: North-Pucca Road, South-Bajinath Singh, East-Manik Chand, West-Sri Kishun Singh.	₹30,00,000/- as on 31.05.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹40,99,550/- ₹4,09,955/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021

8.	Mrs. Kanchan Pandey W/o Birendra Pandey and Mr. Birendra Pandey Base Branch: Sasaram	Equitable Mortgage of Land and Building situated at Village-Kanserwa, Mohalla-Faisalganj, PS-Sasaram, Dist.-Rohtas, Bihar, Thana No.130, Plot No.334, Khata no.164, Area-4.5 Dec. Boundary: North-Rasta 8 Ft., South-Ashtosh Bahadur, East-Nij Vendor, West-Plot No.335.	₹14,35,886.02 as on 31.03.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹73,88,966/- ₹7,38,897/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
9.	M/s Maa Mundeshwari Traders Prop.: Mrs. Renu Devi W/o Mr Badri Singh Base Branch: Sasaram	Plot No.111, Khata No.29, Thana No.654, at Village-Bajrakona, Post-Kudra, Registered vide Sale Deed No.4180 in the name of Mr. Mananjay Kumar Singh S/o Mahendra Prasad Singh, Area-4.5625 Decimal. Boundary: North-Nirmala Devi, South-Nij Awadh Narayan Singh, East-Road, West-Madho Singh.	₹29,77,312.78 + ₹1,39,327.00 Total ₹31,16,639.78 as on 16.06.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹32,22,000/- ₹3,22,200/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
10.	M/s Pratap Mini Rice Mill, Prop.: Shri Saroj Kumar Singh Base Branch: Bikramganj	Equitable mortgage of land and building situated at Mauja-Tenduni, Thana No.-500, Khata No.-159, Plot No.-2380, Ward No.-16, Sub registry Office Bikramganj, Rohtas, Bihar area-5.62 dismils, Boundaries North-Chandrashekhar Singh, South-Lalmuna Devi, East-Rasta after than Shiv Dulari, West-Parik, Sale Deed No.5046 dated 02.09.2009	₹16,30,136.15 as on 31.03.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹14,72,850/- ₹4,17,285/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
11.	M/s JGD Automobiles Prop.: Shri Laxman Prasad S/o Shri Rameshwar Singh Kumar Base Branch: Daudnagar	A) All that part and parcel of the Land of Khata No.67, Plot No.829, Thana No.75, Area-1 decimal, Situated at Mauza-Bhakharua, Thana Daudnagar, Dist.-Aurangabad. Boundaries: North-Road, South-Yadu Tiwari, East-Niz Vendee, West-Suresh Prasad. B) All that part and parcel of the Land of Khata No.341, Plot No.828, Thana No.75, Area-1 decimal, Situated at Mauza-Bhakharua, Thana Daudnagar, Dist.-Aurangabad. Boundaries: North-Road, South-Niz Vendee, East-Sijatan Pandey, West-Saraswati Devi. C) All that part and parcel of the Land of Khata No.341, Plot No.826, Thana No.75, Area-5 decimal, Situated at Mauza-Bhakharua, Thana Daudnagar, Dist.-Aurangabad. Boundaries: North-Vendee, South-Ramashish Tiwari, East-Vendee, West-Ugarah Tiwari.	₹25,51,160.50 as on 31.05.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹88,46,179/- ₹8,84,618/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
12.	M/s Bharat Cycle Prop.: Mr. Ravi Kumar Base Branch: Aurangabad	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Plot No.433, Thana No.562, Khata No.33, Area 5.00 decimal, Mauza-Ramabandhr, at Tengra, PS-Barun, Thana-Aurangabad in the name of Mrs. Saroj Devi W/o Mr. Ram Pravesh Singh City-Aurangabad within the registered sub-district Aurangabad and District-Aurangabad. Bounded: On the North by Rohit Krishna and Nij Vikreta, On the South by Sakal Singh, On the East by Sakal Singh, On the West by Rasta by Vikreta.	₹10,60,815.00 as on 31.03.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹25,47,180/- ₹2,54,718/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
13.	M/s Baba Enterprises Prop.: Shri Sachin Kumar Srivastav Base Branch: Gaurakshni	All that part and parcel of the property situated at Ward No.34(New) & 06A(Old), Plot No.15 in Khata No.44, MS Khata No.-587, Chak-44, MS Plot No.1762 & 1763, at Hatipur, Sasaram, Near BSNL Office, within the registered sub-district-Sasaram and District-Sasaram, Area 14.00 Decimal, standing in the name of Shri Sachin Kumar Srivastava. Bounded On the North by-M.S. Plot No.1762, On the South by-M.S. Plot No.1764, On the East by-M.S. Plot No.1767, On the West by-Road.	₹80,30,537.00 as on 22.06.2021 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹85,05,000/- ₹8,50,500/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
14.	Mr. Jitendra Kumar And Mr. Pappu Kumar Chaudhary Base Branch: Mohania	All that part and parcel of the land and building/House situated at Mauza-Mohania bearing Khata no.164, Plot no.535, Area-3.00 Decimal, Thana no.537, Ward no.16, at Awari, PS-Mohania, standing in the name of Mr. Jitendra Kumar and Mr. Pappu Kumar Chaudhary. Bounded by: North-Rest Plot Nij, South-Fakirana, East-Plot No.531, Jayshanan Singh, West-Rasta 2 Ft.	₹7,75,000.00 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹14,23,827/- ₹1,42,382/- ₹50,000/-	Physical	On or before 10.11.2021
15.	M/s Shankar Jee Mini Rice Mill, Prop.: Mr. Ayodhya Prasad Base Branch: Buxar	1. Residential Land Building with existing structure in the name of Mr. Ayodhya Prasad S/o Ram Vachan Sah, situated at Mauza-Baghelwan, Thana No.172, Anchal-Rajpur, Sub Registration office-Buxar, Dist.-Buxar, bearing Khata No.chak-80, Plot No. chak-224&238, Area-03 Dec. The sale deed number of the property is 11802 dt.-28.11.2001. Bounded by: North-Vacant Land, South-Lalan Yadav, East-Road, West-Vacant Land. 2. Residential Land Building with existing structure in the name of Mr. Ayodhya Prasad S/o Ram Vachan Sah, situated at Mauza-Pandeypatti, Thana No.324, Anchal-Buxar, Sub Registration office-Buxar, Dist.-Buxar, bearing Khata No.504(new)/321(old), Plot No.470(new)/243(old), bearing sale deed number of the property is 3607 dt.-30.04.2007 & 5048 dt.; 04.06.2007, Area-1 Katha 5 Dhoor, Bounded by: North-Nij Manmokr, South-Nij Manmokr afterthan Saroj Devi, East-10 ft wide Rasta, West-Baij Nath Yadav, Area- 5 Dhoor, Bounded by: North-Ayodhya Pd. Sah, South-Saroj Devi, East-10 ft wide Rasta, West-Baij Nath Yadav. Total Area- 1 Katha 10 Dhoor.	₹82,86,497.61 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹36,80,640/- ₹3,68,064/- ₹50,000/-	Physical	On or before 10.11.2021
16.	Shri Kush Kumar Base Branch: Alipur (Gaya)	All that part and parcel of the land and building consisting of Plot No.464/469(O) & 654(N) in Survey No.-464/469(O), 654(N), City or Town Survey No./Khasra No.59/107(O), 167(N), Ward No.29, Nagar Nigam Gaya within the registered sub-district Chandauti and District Gaya. Bounded: On the North by-Proposed Road, On the South by-Property of Shri Navin Kumar Sharma, On the East by-Property of Shri Kripa Shankar Sinha, On the West by-Proposed Road.	₹20,53,271.00 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹84,88,000/- ₹8,48,800/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
17.	M/s YNRJI Industries Prop.: Rajiv Ranjan Pandey Guarantor: Sh. Rajni Kant, Smt. Jyoti Pandey Base Branch: Mahavir Tola	Immovable Property: Diverted land of 7.25 Decimal at Thana No.263, Khata No.617, Plot No.2980 at Mauza-Bichla Jangal, Pragana-Bihyan, Thana-Jagdishpur, Dist.-Bhojpur, Bihar. Bounded by: North-Paien, South-Raghubansh Pandey & Other, East-Niz Mahazan, West-Tapeshwar Pandey & Other.	₹21,36,000.00 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹28,29,901/- ₹2,82,990/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021
18.	M/s Siro Automobiles Prop.: Shri Kundan Kumar Base Branch: Horliganj, Jehanabad	Commercial land and building located at Plot No.2812(N)/1460(O), Khata No.278(N)/40(O), Thana No.428, Area-7.5 Dec (3267 sq.ft), Mauza-Muther, Main Gaya-Patna Road, Opp. Kamakhya Royal Enfield Agency, P.S.-Jehanabad, Dist. Regd. Off.-Jehanabd, Dist.-Jehanabd, Bihar in the name of Kundan Kumar Prop. Srio Automobiles. Boundary: North-Sri Girija Yadav, South-Plot no.1460, East-Pratap Singh, West-Road.	₹ 53,99,499.02 + unapplied interest and other charges	16.11.2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM	₹1,19,83,000/- ₹11,98,300/- ₹50,000/-	Symbolic	On or before 10.11.2021

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm> and <https://ibapi.in>. Also, prospective bidders may contact the authorized officer on Mob. No. 9264429614.

Date : 12.10.2021
Place : Gaya

Authorised Officer
Bank of Baroda

PTC

Top JeM militant killed in south Kashmir gunfight

BASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 13

A TOP Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) militant was killed in a gunbattle in south Kashmir on Wednesday. Eight militants have been killed in five separate encounters in the Valley in the past three days.

Police said top Jaish militant Shamsud-din Sofi was killed in a gunfight in Waggad village of Tral in south Kashmir's Pulwama district. Sofi was one of the oldest militants, they said.

On Wednesday morning, a joint team of J-K police, army and paramilitary forces cordoned off the Tilwani Mohalla of Waggad village in Tral after specific inputs about the presence of militants. As the joint team was zeroing in on the target, the trapped militant opened fire.

"During the search operation, the militants were given repeated opportunities to surrender. However, they fired indiscriminately upon the joint search party, which

was responded to, leading to an encounter," police said in a statement. "In the ensuing encounter, one terrorist was killed... He has been identified as Shamus-ud-Din Sofi alias Sham Sofi, a top commander of proscribed terror outfit JeM," said the statement.

Sofi, police said, joined the militant ranks in June 2019 and figured among the most wanted militants operating in the Valley. "(He) was first arrested in 2004 and detained under the Public Safety Act for providing logistic support and shelter to active terrorists in Tral," police said.

Police said Sofi was part of the militant groups involved in "several terror crime cases, including attacks on security establishments and civilian atrocities. (He was) the number one among the local JeM terrorists," they said.

Kashmir has seen a spurt in encounters since the civilian killings. On Tuesday, five militants were killed in two gunfights in south Kashmir's Shopian. On Monday, too, two militants were killed in as many gunbattles in south and north Kashmir.

ARYAN KHAN BAIL HEARING TO CONTINUE TODAY

NCB says probing global link; his lawyer calls it 'absurd'

SADAF MODAK
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 13

CALLING THE Narcotics Control Bureau's (NCB) allegations of "illicit drug trafficking" against Aryan Khan, son of Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan, as "inherently absurd", his lawyer - while arguing for bail on Wednesday - said a reformative approach is needed, as Aryan has suffered enough.

Senior lawyer Amit Desai said that the "very serious and frightening" term of "illicit drug trafficking" was being dumped on Aryan, though no drug or other material were recovered from him. The NCB opposed bail to Aryan and two others stating that though no drugs were found on him, he cannot be looked at in isolation and that it was investigating an "international drugs connection".

The special court will continue to hear arguments on the bail pleas of Aryan and two others on Thursday. On Wednesday, 10 days since Aryan was arrested along with his friend Arbaaz Merchant and model Munnum Dhamecha, the special court began hearing arguments on their bail pleas.

Appearing for Aryan, Desai said NCB officers searched Aryan on the cruise and found nothing. "As far as Aryan Khan is concerned, there may have been information that he was in possession of drugs but that was clearly wrong. Aryan had zero (drugs) and



Aryan Khan. File

there is also no material to connect him with the others from whom the agency claims drugs were recovered," Desai said. He added that the only connection the NCB has claimed is that a small quantity of 6gm of charas was found on Merchant.

Desai said that the NCB has attempted to create an impression that there is an "intrinsic connection" between others arrested in the case and Aryan. "There is a very frightening and serious term which they are dumping on Aryan of 'illicit drug trafficking'... There is nothing even remotely suggesting that this boy is involved in illicit drug trafficking."

"They have not even charged me under Section 27(A) pertaining to it. The NCB has put everyone in the same case, including peddlers and foreigners, and is claiming illicit drug trafficking," Desai argued on behalf of Aryan.

He said a reformative ap-

proach was needed. "Under the NDPS Act, it is a rare legislation, which has seen punishment for consumption decreasing from five-year jail term to a one-year term. Something needs to be done but this is not the way to do it by keeping youngsters in jails," Desai said.

Additional Solicitor General Anil Singh, representing NCB, said Aryan's WhatsApp chats allegedly show a discussion on bulk quantity of hard drugs with a foreign national, which could not have been for personal consumption alone.

"We are checking with the Ministry of External Affairs to find out if we can locate the person to carry out further investigation," Singh told the court. He added that the fact that no drugs were recovered from Aryan was "inconsequential", as he is charged with conspiracy and past chats denote that he was consuming drugs over the last few years.

In Bastar, tribals protest turning gram panchayats into nagar panchayats

GARGI VERMA
RAIPUR, OCTOBER 13

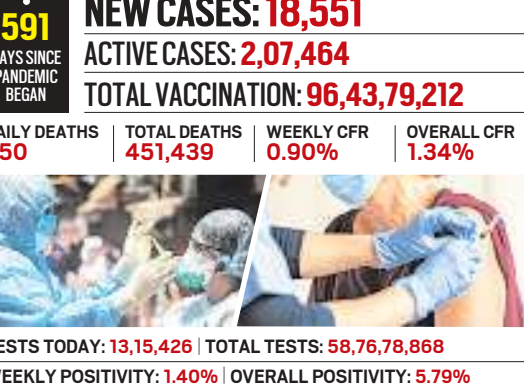
PEOPLE FROM tribal communities from 12 villages in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region marched to state capital Raipur on Wednesday to register their protest against converting their gram panchayats into nagar panchayats.

Over 200 people have decided to stay put in Raipur until the government takes heed of their demands, they said. Shivram Markam said he started marching towards Raipur on October 3, with no knowledge of when he would return. "We have come with ration and utensils. We are going to sit here until the government changes the status of our village back to gram panchayat," he said.

The protesters said converting gram panchayats into nagar panchayats hinders the basic rights of those living in these regions. "The benefits of MN-REGA and other government schemes won't be available for us under nagar panchayat. Even taxation and other levies would change," said Domay Maurya, chairman of Bastar Nagar panchayat. "We are residents of Fifth Schedule areas - without our consent our rural area is being converted into an urban area."

The protesters Wednesday met Governor Anusua Uikey. "The Governor told us she had already written to the government," Markam said.

TRACKING THE SECOND SURGE



STATES REPORTING MOST CASES

STATE	NEW CASES	ACTIVE CASES	WEEKLY POSITIVITY	TOTAL VACCINATION
Kerala	11,079	98,144	11.40%	3,68,96,498
Maharashtra	2,219	29,555	1.74%	8,93,33,716
Tamil Nadu	1,280	15,650	0.94%	5,23,79,870
Mizoram	1,224	13,526	14.46%	11,81,905
West Bengal	771	7,657	2.28%	6,55,04,434

STATES REPORTING MOST DEATHS

STATE	TODAY'S DEATHS	TOTAL DEATHS	WEEKLY CFR	OVERALL CFR
Kerala	123	26,650	0.72%	0.57%
Maharashtra	50	1,43,266	1.92%	2.19%
Tamil Nadu	19	35,833	1.07%	1.35%
West Bengal	11	18,935	1.46%	1.21%
Karnataka	10	37,916	1.28%	1.27%

Note: Data as on Oct 13; vaccination numbers as of Oct 12. Deaths include those from previous days.

1st batch of govt school students in Andhra to take CBSE exams in 2024

REENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 13

GOVERNMENT high school students in Andhra Pradesh will begin appearing for board exams conducted by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) from 2024 academic year as the state has started the process of board affiliation from this academic year. Education Minister Audimulapu Suresh said the aim is to bring 56,000-odd schools under the CBSE umbrella with at least 2,000 of them receiving the affiliation this year itself. These include 45,000 schools and 11,000 foundation schools being set up.

"I will be meeting the Union Education Minister, Higher Education Secretary, and CBSE Chairman this week with regard to affiliation to AP government schools. We will get affiliation to about 2,000 schools this year. Andhra Pradesh will have the highest number of schools with

Behind Andhra's CBSE push

THE ANDHRA Pradesh government plans to pursue CBSE affiliation for 45,000 schools and 11,000 foundation schools. It says CBSE lays a strong foundation for students, especially for higher education and competitive exams. It To meet CBSE criteria, the state is upgrading infrastructure at all government schools and increasing staff strength to meet the teacher-students ratio, which is pegged at 1:35 under the Right To Education Act, according to the state.

CBSE affiliation. The total number of CBSE affiliated schools, which is currently around 26,000 across the country, will more than double in a couple of years with this initiative," Suresh said. He confirmed that the first batch of high school students will write their CBSE exams in 2024.

For the first time, the state Education Department will also rank the performance of government schools through social au-

Will cross 100 cr jobs in Oct, exports not priority now: govt

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

STATING THAT the country will cross the 100-crore Covid-19 vaccination target this month, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Wednesday said the focus now is on vaccinating the entire eligible population at the earliest, and the government will consider exporting the doses only in the fourth quarter.

"Export of vaccines is not the priority now. We will see what the excess production is in the fourth quarter and decide on exporting," Mandaviya said.

More than three months after it put on hold export of the vaccines to combat the second wave, the Centre on Monday said that it will resume the Vaccine Maitri initiative from October, to reduce supply inequity in poorer nations. Sources said India is in the process of sending vaccine doses to Bangladesh, Iran, Nepal, and Myanmar.

Mandaviya had earlier said Indian manufacturers are expected to produce more than 30 crore vaccine doses in October for the domestic drive, and that the surplus supply will be used to fulfill the country's commitment towards the global fight against Covid-19.



Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya

According to a top source, India has not decided yet on providing booster doses for the vulnerable segment of the population yet. "There is no expert opinion in India over the booster doses," he said.

Experts from World Health Organization have recommended that booster doses should be offered to moderately and severely immunocompromised people.

India has already vaccinated 96 crore people - 73 per cent of the eligible population has received the first dose, and 29 per cent have received both jabs.

According to information, domestic manufacturers will produce 28 crore vaccine doses in October - 22 crore Covishield and 6 crore Covaxin. Sixty lakh doses of Zydus Cadila's three-dose vaccine ZyCoV-D are also ready for distribution.

The Ahmedabad-based pharmaceutical firm had received emergency use authorisation from the Drugs Controller General of India in August. ZyCoV-D, a needle-free Covid-19 vaccine, is the world's first plasmid DNA vaccine for Covid-19.

Kerala to give aid each month to BPL kin of Covid victims

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 13

THE KERALA government on Wednesday decided to give a monthly aid of Rs 5,000 for dependent, below poverty line (BPL) families of those who succumbed to Covid-19. This relief, meant for three years from the date of first payment, is in addition to the existing financial assistance, mainly ex-gratia of Rs 50,000, to the families of Covid-19 victims.

A note from the Chief Minister's Office said such BPL families will be eligible for the monthly aid of direct cash transfer even if they are already covered under other social welfare pensions. The assistance will be provided from the Chief

Minister's Disaster Relief Fund until the scheme gets a budget allocation and will be provided within 30 days of application.

In the case of natives dying of Covid-19 outside the state, the assistance will be given to their dependent families if they are permanently settled in the state.

Last month, Kerala issued orders for an ex-gratia of Rs 50,000 following a Supreme Court directive to all states. The government also announced a relief package for kids who lost their parents to Covid-19. Under the scheme, the children would get a monthly deposit of Rs 2,000 from the government until they are 18. The government will also start a fixed deposit of Rs 3 lakh in their accounts.

As on Wednesday, Kerala has reported 26,571 Covid-19 deaths.

4 arrested after dispute over slogans during school prayers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BHOPAL, OCTOBER 13

FOUR PEOPLE have been arrested for allegedly beating up a few students and teachers after a dispute over chanting 'Bharat Mata ki jai' following morning prayers in a school in Madhya Pradesh's Agar Malwa district.

The four who have been arrested are members of the same family and have, in turn, alleged that their children were forced to chant 'Jai Shri Ram'.


The FIR, based on a complaint by a student at a school in Barod town, said during the morning prayers Tuesday, four students refused to chant 'Bharat Mata ki jai'. The student said he and some others were beaten up by the relatives of the four students.

The police registered an FIR against nine people, of whom four have been arrested and identified as Raja Khan, Shakeel Khan, Azhar Khan and Arshad Khan. Two accused are minors.

Ejaz Khan, whose children study in the school, Tuesday submitted an application to the Agar Malwa SP alleging his children were compelled to chant 'Jai Shri Ram'. Later, he alleged, around 50 men came to his shop, ransacked it and threatened to kill them.

"It was when my brother Shakeel and nephew Raja Khan went to report the matter to the police that they were instead detained and booked. We have been told that if you want to live here, you'll have to chant 'Jai Shri Ram.'"

Agar Malwa SP Rakesh Sagar said the assault appeared to be a retaliation to "what happened on Tuesday morning".



STATE BANK OF INDIA
STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH
2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna - 800001
Ph. No. (Office) : 0612-2219043, 2219385, Fax: 0612-2219385, E-mail : sbi.05176@sbi.co.in

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE
Date of E-Auction - 02.11.2021

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

The undersigned as Authorized Officer of State Bank of India has taken over symbolic possession of the following property/ies u/s 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act., 2002 Public at large is informed that e-Auction (under SARFAESI Act, 2002) of the charged property/ies in the below mentioned cases for realisation of Bank's dues will be held on **"As is where is, As is what is and Whatever there is"** Basis. The Auction will schedule on **02.11.2021**. The other details of the Auction are as under :-

Sl. No.	Name of Borrower(s)	Amount of Demand (as per SARFAESI notice)	Description of the property (Property Id for e-auction: SBIN1275444116)	Name of Mortgagor/ Guarantor	Date of Demand notice under SARFAESI act	Reserve Price below which the property will not be sold EMD Bid Increment Amount
1.	M/s Chandra Thermoforming Industry, Prop. Shri Ajay Chandra, Shri Ajay Chandra S/o Shri Girish Chandra Prasad and Guarantor: (1) Smt. Sunita Sinha W/o Shri Girish Chandra Prasad and (2) Shri Girish Chandra Prasad S/o Late Lala Aditya Prasad	₹ 1,13,98,894.00 as on 19.11.2019 with further interest, cost charges Other miscellaneous expenses etc.	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 Smt. Sunita Sinha W/o Shri Girish Chandra Prasad vide Sale deed No - 17259 dated 28/12/1983 located at Mouza - Trigun Dehri, Thana - Dehri (161), Mohalla - Biran Bigha, Ward No - 12/27, Distt - Rohtas, Bihar under Khata No - 76, Plot No - 553 & Area - 14 Dhur 6 ½ Dhurki. Boundaries of the land are: North - Ram Chandra Mestiar, South - Shri Girish Chandra Prasad, East - Rasta & West - Shiv Narayan Mahto (2) Equitable Mortgage of all that land & building in the name of Shri Girish Chandra Prasad S/o Late Lala Aditya Prasad vide Sale Deed No - 17258 dated 28/12/1983 located at Mouza - Trigun Dehri, Thana - Dehri (161), Mohalla - Biran Bigha, Ward No - 12/27, Distt - Rohtas, Bihar under Khata No - 76, Plot No - 553 & Area - 14 Dhur 6 ½ Dhurki. Boundaries of the land are: North - Smt Sunita Sinha, South - Nanhak Chik, East - Rasta & West - Shiv Narayan Mahto.	1. Smt. Sunita Sinha W/o Shri Girish Chandra Prasad 2. Shri Girish Chandra Prasad S/o Late Lala Aditya Prasad	19.11.2019	₹ 76,50,000/- ₹ 7,65,000/- ₹ 10,000/-

(3) Equitable Mortgage of all that land & building in the name of Shri Girish Chandra Prasad vide **Sale Deed No - 8718** dated 07/07/1995 located at **Mouza - Trigun Dehri, Thana - Dehri (161), Mohalla - Biran Bigha, Ward No - 12/27, Distt - Rohtas, Bihar under Khata No - 76, Plot No - 553 & Area - 15½ Dhur. Boundaries of the land are: North - Sunita Sinha, South - Shri Girish Chandra Prasad, East - Rasta, West - Ganga Dayal Mehta.**
[Total area of entire land - 44 Dhur 3 Dhurki (actual possession - 41.5 Dhur 10.2 Dhurki)]

e-Auction Terms And Condition

- Date & Time of e-auction : 02.11.2021 (Tuesday) ; Time : 120 Minutes. Form 12:00 Noon to 02:00 PM. with unlimited extension of 10 Minutes each.**
- The auction will be conducted **through online mode only** and the Service Provider's website is **https://mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp**.
- The intending Bidders/Purchasers are requested to register on the portal (**https://mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp**) using their mobile number and email-id, and thereafter upload requisite KYC documents. Once the KYC documents are verified by the service provider (may take 2 working days), the Bidders/Purchasers have to transfer the EMD amount using online mode (NEFT) in his Global EMD Wallet. The registration, verification of KYC documents and transfer of EMD in wallet must be completed well in advance, at least two day before the e-auction.
- Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) amount may be Deposit through NEFT/Transfer after generation of Challan in bidders Global EMD Wallet. Payment of EMD by any other mode such as Cheques, etc will not be accepted. Bidders, not depositing the required EMD will not allowed to participate in the e-auction. The Earnest Money Deposited shall not bear any interest.
- MSTC Central Helpdesk Number (for any technical help):033-40645207, 40645316, 40602403, 40628253. SBI contact no (for property related enquiry): 9709119255, 7033092051.
- The **General Terms and Conditions of e-auction sale is available on the website: https://sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices/sarfaesi-and-others.**
- To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property/ies. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/rights/dues/affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The e-Auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the bank. The property is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to the bank. The Authorised Officer/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues. The sale shall be subject to rules/conditions prescribed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest act, 2002.

This publication is also a 15 days notice to all the borrower/guarantors require under Rule 8(6) of Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002.

NB: 15 days Sale Notice to Borrower/Guarantors has already been sent by Regd. Post at their last known address. In case they do not receive the said notice then this E-auction sale Notice may be treated as substituted mode of service.

Date : 12.10.2021
Place : Patna

AUTHORISED OFFICER
STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, PATNA

NEW DELHI

BENEFICIARY & CITIZEN

Human rights and basic needs are one and the same thing — the Prime Minister’s sequencing is fraught

SPeaking at the 28th Foundation Day of the National Human Rights Commission, Tuesday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke of human rights in ways that could potentially take the conversation further and deeper — but also in ways that run into familiar dead ends. The prime minister was right to point out that there is a political lens through which rights are viewed, but he made it sound like an accusation more dire than it deserves to be. Of course, there is a politics of human rights and, as the PM said, views can be and are “selective”. There are “my human rights”, versus “your human rights”, vantage points matter. That is in the order of political things. But to say that “selective outrage” over human rights is the biggest violation, that it hurts the country’s image and is “dangerous” for democracy, is surely to oversay it. This is still a country where, all too often, basic individual freedoms and rights are unprotected, and violated by a state that is excessively powerful and also armed with impunity — Lakhimpur Kheri is a reminder that the right to protest safely and the right to justice can be put to the test. But more significantly, perhaps, it is what the PM said about basic needs, his government’s achievements in delivery of goods and services that meet those needs, and the relationship between needs and rights, that opens a conversation, while pointing to the dead-ends.

In a capacious democracy, it would be narrowing the room for discussion severely to pose “basic needs” and “human rights” as separate from each other, or sequential, or in conflict — not as essential partners. Links need to be drawn and acknowledged — between meeting basic needs and asserting basic rights, between needs and development, between human rights and development. While doing this, it is important to see the people not as beneficiaries, but as those who are entitled to both the benefits of development and freedoms, economic, social and political. Moreover, the latter must be seen not as a means of achieving development but as a direct good in their own right. In this context, the PM’s emphasis on the delivery by his government of goods — he gave the example of Ujjwala gas cylinders, among others — is well taken. Indeed, the effect of the success of several of the government’s flagship schemes, which are essentially non-discriminatory in their targeting and their reach, cannot be underestimated in persuading voters, and also empowering them. But the PM’s stress on human rights mattering only when basic needs are fulfilled is problematic, in as much as it sees the two as disparate and divisible, and as counting for more and less.

The PM’s party’s own slogan seems to urge a more encompassing view. “Sabka saath, sabka vikas” now has “sabka vishwas” added to it. For earning the people’s trust, the need for the gas cylinder cannot be, it must not be, walled off from the right to justice. And special steps, beyond Direct Benefit Transfer, need to be taken to ensure that “sabka” translates into everyone, including the minorities, as well as the voiceless and the poor.

FOR THE KIDS

Clearance to Covaxin for younger children brings in another layer of protection, crucial when schools and colleges are re-opening

WITH BHARAT BIOTECH-DEVELOPED Covaxin receiving a recommendation for approval for use among children over two years of age, India is now the only country to have a Covid-19 vaccine for every age group. No other vaccine has so far been approved for infants and young children. Pfizer and BioNTech had announced last month that their vaccine had elicited robust responses among children of 5 to 11 years of age in phase 2/3 trials, but that is yet to be approved. As of now, only three vaccines are available for the 12-18 age bracket, those developed by Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna, and another by Zydus which was cleared by India in August.

The formal clearance to Covaxin for younger children brings in another layer of protection against Covid-19. This is crucial at a time when schools and colleges are opening up, and there is a discernible rise in the number of infections amongst children, even those below 10 years of age. As reported by this newspaper, the proportion of children in the new infections has been much higher in July and August this year, compared to any time earlier in the pandemic. This is not surprising given the fact that a large proportion of the adult population could have developed some immunity, either because of a prior infection, or due to vaccination. Reassuringly, there is no perceptible rise in serious cases amongst children.

There are still about 24-25 crore people in India above the age of 18 who are yet to get a single dose. Among them are the elderly and the sick, and those in remote areas where access to vaccines is not easy. Among those who have received the first dose, less than 30 per cent are fully vaccinated. The exercise to vaccinate children must not slow down vaccinations in this group, which must continue to remain the priority. Bharat Biotech is yet to release the data from phase 2/3 trials on the basis of which it has received the recommendation for approval for use among children. While the company says it would soon publish the results in a journal, it would have been better if it had made the results public before the approval — it would help build confidence among the public. Covaxin’s application for emergency use authorisation from the World Health Organisation has been pending for a long time now. Proactive disclosure of relevant trial data can help in clearing such bottlenecks.

SUPER AND QUEER

Revelation of the Man of Steel’s bisexuality is a win for LGBTQI+ representation in the superhero genre

TO THE SURPRISE and delight of many fans — and the grumblings of a few — Superman has come out as bisexual. Jon Kent, who has recently taken on the burden of the good fight from his father Clark Kent, is in a relationship with a male journalist named Jay Nakamura, according to publisher DC Comics, which shared some artwork from the fifth issue of the *Superman: Son of Kal-El* series this week.

It may seem to some that the writers are merely jumping onto a bandwagon of a sort — as alleged by Dean Cain, who played the character in the 1990s TV series. After all, Superman isn’t the first superhero to come out of the closet, especially in the last two decades. The list of queer heroes in DC alone includes Wonder Woman, Harley Quinn, Batwoman and the third Robin, Tim Drake, who came out as bisexual in *Batman: Urban Legends* in August.

Yet, the Man of Steel’s bisexuality is a big deal for many reasons, not the least of which is that this is yet another blow against the sexism and queerbaiting that has plagued the genre. LGBTQI+ fans of the comics have long lobbied for the queercoding in the stories — double lives and multiple identities, the homoerotic overtones of many of the male relationships, notably between Batman and Robin — to be elevated from subtext to text. And recently, it seems like the writers have listened, making explicit the queer aspects of existing characters, introducing new LGBTQI+ characters and canonising pet fan theories and “ships”. Still, a fuller representation was slow to come, especially as the largest populariser of the superhero genre, the Marvel cinematic universe (MCU), has stayed rigidly heteronormative (except in the case of Loki who was recently identified as gender-fluid and bisexual, like he has been in the comics). In such a context, a bisexual Superman — still the most popular superhero, despite the MCU juggernaut — is well worth celebrating.



NEELKANTH MISHRA

TO IMITATE AND to conform — do what others around us are doing — are common and very powerful human tendencies. Scientists ascribe the evolutionary success of these traits to benefits accruing to individuals (and hence the species), not least among them that the world is complex, and every individual cannot figure it all out, learn everything *ab initio*. Particularly in areas outside our expertise, it is efficient to follow what others are doing, like choosing the right subject to study at college, or more simply, the path to a railway station in Mumbai (I found the way to Churchgate by “following the herd”) or the queue for autos.

This comes with its own pitfalls, though. In financial markets, “herd behaviour” is a warning sign: When markets are doing well, people invest for no other reason than their neighbours having become wealthier (and vice versa). In the launch of a new mutual fund, for example, money flowed in from 93 per cent of India’s PIN codes. Even as we celebrate the deeper penetration of equity ownership and broader participation in wealth creation, it is reasonable to assume that a large part of this new capital is not as well informed as it should be: Even financial newspapers reach a small fraction of India’s PIN codes.

There is another human trait that affects markets — success increases risk appetite. If someone’s financial investments work, they are very likely to invest more, and ignore safety measures. The current rise of the Nifty is the highest without even a 10 per cent correction since 1992. This unbroken run itself is likely to have triggered larger and riskier investments, which are further pushing up stock prices.

Herd behaviour and risk-appetite-accentuation do not just affect new and amateur investors — they affect everyone. Similar frothy trends are visible in the private funding markets, where investors are assumed to be more sophisticated, and the source of funds is mostly institutional.

Theoretically, an economy India’s size is capable of absorbing the \$52 billion of PE funding seen over the last 12 months, but in practice, such a rapid surge creates allocation inefficiency. As investors rush to deploy ever-larger sums of money, they appear to be running out of companies to invest in that can productively deploy this capital. The result is

For now, flow of funds is a welcome booster for economy. But a rapid surge can create inefficiency

Theoretically, an economy India’s size is capable of absorbing the \$52 billion of PE funding seen over the last 12 months, but in practice, such a rapid surge creates allocation inefficiency. As investors rush to deploy ever-larger sums of money, they appear to be running out of companies to invest in that can productively deploy this capital. The result is companies’ valuations rising manifold within months and small firms getting more capital inflows than they can deploy, often resulting in wasteful business plans.

companies’ valuations rising manifold within months and small firms getting more capital inflows than they can deploy, often resulting in wasteful business plans.

Just to be clear, unlike some “pie-in-the-sky” businesses that got financed in the first funding-frenzy two decades back, most of these are real business opportunities, catalysed by momentous changes. Better physical infrastructure (rural roads, electrification, phone penetration, data access), several layers of innovation (universal bank account access, surging digital payments on the “India Stack”), 45 lakh software developers (largest in the world), maturing industries (for example, as research budgets of Indian pharmaceutical manufacturers have grown 10 times in the last 15 years, the ecosystem can take on more challenging projects now, versus just generic filings a decade back) and strong medium-term economic growth prospects create fertile ground for private equity investments.

For example, investors with patient capital (knowing that the businesses will not make money for several years) are now betting on and financing a faster transition to electric vehicles in both two-wheelers and cars than was earlier anticipated. In financial services, innovative methods of lending, insurance underwriting and wealth management are being experimented with, which are likely to only expand the market meaningfully. An army of Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) firms have been funded in the hope of revolutionising the development and distribution of software. There are also new-age distribution and logistics companies, education technology firms, and branded consumer goods suppliers, in addition to “normal” e-commerce, gaming and food-delivery startups.

Earlier this year, we at Credit Suisse listed 100 unicorns in India — unlisted companies with a value exceeding one billion dollars. We had not expected to find as many, and the feedback after the publication of our report suggests we missed quite a few more. We excluded private firms that belonged to established business houses, as we mapped the rapid transformation of India’s corporate landscape. Two-thirds of these firms had started after 2005, an extraordinary episode of new companies scaling up in what has tradition-

ally been a slow process. India has never lacked entrepreneurs (even in the 1980s, new companies formed at a rapid pace), but lacked risk capital given the low per capita wealth.

Growth in private equity changed that. As savers like pension and insurance funds in the developed world responded to record-low interest rates by allocating more to PE as an asset class, private funding markets have grown rapidly in the last 15 years globally. In India, PE funding has exceeded public-market fund-raising every year in the past decade; even this year, a record year for initial public offerings (IPOs), PE funding is three times more than the funds raised in IPOs so far, touching \$40 billion. While earlier, only a few business groups could muster sizeable amounts of risk capital to establish new businesses and disrupt old ones, entrepreneurs can now lay hands on hundreds of millions of dollars if the idea makes sense.

However, we believe there can be too much of a good thing in the short run — the reason business and market cycles exist. This is not uncommon in history. For example, when the Americas were emerging markets in the early 19th century, and savings from European countries were flowing in, there were repeated cycles of boom and bust. In fact, one adventurer in the 1820s even raised funds for a country that did not exist. Such outright fraud may be difficult to engineer today, but when investors rush to deploy funds, the risk of fraud rises — inadequate disclosures and weak due diligence are compounded by incentives to misrepresent financial data. The discovery of any such frauds would likely freeze funding for the industry for a few quarters.

For now, this flow of funds is a welcome booster for the economy as it recovers from the scars of the pandemic-driven lockdowns. As these firms scale, they will spend on hiring people (like software developers, teachers and delivery personnel), setting up infrastructure (data centres as well as physical warehouses), discounts or advertising — nearly all of it adding to the economy. While valuations can be volatile in the near term, we believe we are in the early stages of this reshaping of India’s corporate landscape.

The writer is co-head of APAC Strategy and India Strategist for Credit Suisse



SHWETA LUTHRA

IN A BID to protect the identities of those involved in POSH (prevention of sexual harassment) trials, the Bombay High Court, in a recent judgment, has set out guidelines that appear to be prohibitive and may set a dangerous precedent. The guidelines laid down by Justice Gautam Patel on September 24 (in *P.v.A&Ors*) prohibit the disclosure of the identities of the victim, accused and witnesses, and mandate that all such court hearings be held in-camera or in judges’ chambers, with only the court stenographer, plaintiff, defendant and their lawyers being present. Even court orders and judgments will not be delivered in open court. Parties to POSH trials are prohibited from disclosing any information relating to such trials (including the final order/judgment) to the media or publicising the same via social media, without permission from the court. Breach of these conditions will be contempt of court. Judgments in POSH cases will no longer be published or uploaded for public consumption without permission of the court, and, even then, publication of only a fully anonymised version can be allowed. For any lawyer to access this judgement, a court order will have to be obtained.

The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (POSH Act) mandates that government and private organisations redress complaints of sexual harassment at the workplace in a manner that is simpler and quicker than the judicial process. But these guidelines

A BLANKET COVER

Bombay HC guidelines on POSH trials risk shielding offenders, silencing victims

This blanket ban on revealing any information relating to POSH cases, including the identity of those found guilty of sexual harassment, could potentially result in habitual offenders hiding behind this veil of confidentiality and prevent the public from learning about the actions of powerful employers accused of protecting perpetrators.

stretch the need for confidentiality far more than necessary. Identities of victims/survivors of child sexual abuse and rape are required to be kept confidential from the media, unless they exercise their rights under Section 228A(ii)(b) of the Indian Penal Code. This is done to prevent victims from being ostracised. If this same privilege is extended to complainants and witnesses in POSH cases, that would be beneficial because there is reasonable expectation of retaliation at the workplace. It is for this reason that Section 16 of the POSH Act prohibits members of the internal committee and employers from revealing identities of those involved in POSH inquiries. However, unlike the blanket ban imposed by these guidelines, the POSH Act does not expressly prohibit complainants and respondents from themselves revealing this information.

Moreover, the POSH Act allows publication of the justice secured to a victim, which must also be revealed by every organisation in their annual report (without identifying the parties), in order to let the public know about the nature of action taken by employers in sexual harassment cases. Extending this veil of confidentiality to the respondent’s identity is a privilege that has not been given to those accused under any other laws. If the reasoning is to protect the accused from the label attached to an alleged sexual harasser, then it is unfathomable why the court would give such specific guidelines for proceedings in trials relating only to sexual harassment at workplaces.

This blanket ban on revealing any information relating to POSH cases, including the identity of those found guilty of sexual harassment, could potentially result in habitual offenders hiding behind this veil of confidentiality and could prevent the public from learning about the actions of powerful employers accused of protecting perpetrators.

Again, not allowing POSH judgments to be published without court approval, and restricting access to such information goes against the need for transparency and accountability in the judicial process. By allowing only advocates on-record to access these judgments after seeking the court’s permission, the guidelines prevent access to information that would otherwise assist in better resolution of sexual harassment complaints.

The reality of sexual harassment is that it goes unnoticed and unspoken about in a majority of cases. It takes a lot of courage to raise your voice against a powerful perpetrator, especially when you believe you may be the only victim. The #MeToo movement has shown us how one voice encourages many others to speak up, bringing to light a truth that is hard for society to accept. A court judgment like this could in effect lead to the silencing of many such voices, without doing anything much to prevent future sexual harassment.

The writer is a legal consultant with SASHA (Support Against Sexual Harassment At Workplace)



OCTOBER 14, 1981, FORTY YEARS AGO

PM-AKALI TALKS

PRIME MINISTER INDIRA Gandhi will meet the Akali delegation on October 16. Besides the Akalis, Mrs Gandhi will also meet important Hindu leaders of Punjab before her departure on a 10-day-tour abroad. The PM’s secretariat is busy arranging her meeting with the Akali leaders. Mrs Gandhi is not depending on the advice of either Home Minister Zail Singh or Punjab CM Darbara Singh. While Zail Singh has been in favour of a dialogue with the Akalis, Darbara Singh was not too keen on this. Mrs Gandhi is aware of the views of these two leaders. She may, therefore, seek the guidance of Swaran Singh, former minister of ex-

ternal affairs, to solve the Punjab tangle. It is possible that the Hindu leaders may be invited either on October 16 or even earlier. This is considered necessary, especially after the assassination of Lala Jagat Narain, which had generated a lot of tension in the state.

EVASIVE ZIA

PAKISTAN APPEARS NOT to have made up its mind yet about what it should do with the five hijackers who forced an Indian Airlines Boeing to land at Lahore two weeks ago. In an off-the-cuff talk with reporters after a function in Rawalpindi, President Zia-ul-Haq avoided a direct answer to a query about

Islamabad’s decision on the Indian request for the return of the hijackers. The decision would be made known later, officially, the general said. The Indian ambassador, Natwar Singh, made a formal request for the return of the hijackers led by Gajendra Singh of Dal Khalsa within hours of their arrest at Lahore on September 30 by Pakistani commandos.

CREDIT FOR GHANA

INDIA IS TO provide Ghana credit assistance of Rs 50 million according to one of the five agreements signed between the two countries to strengthen bilateral cooperation in economic, trade, scientific and cultural fields.

The handout myth

The middle class might complain, but money spent from the budget on free schooling and healthcare is not a ‘freebie’. It is a way for governments to prioritise spending, provide minimal level of services



RENUKA VISWANATHAN

A MESSAGE FLOATING around on WhatsApp groups is demanding that a “taxpayers’ union” should be set up and consulted by the government. An income tax officer has apparently made the suggestion, but this is difficult to believe, as it is rooted in an ignorance of facts and a poor understanding of political economy. Yet, the idea is being greeted with exclamations of enthusiasm by PLUs (people like us) of the middle class, who are convinced that their hard-earned taxes are being squandered on the undeserving poor through “populist” programmes announced before elections.

Underlying the proposal is the basic fallacy that income taxpayers are the main funders of government. Today, less than one-third of the combined spending of state and central governments in India is raised through income tax. It’s the taxes on commodities that meet more than half the expenditure of the government and these taxes are paid by all citizens, rich and poor; by those who are accused of getting “freebies” as well as by the middle class, which believes that they are being fleeced to pander to politically favoured groups. The rest of the spending comes from borrowings, grants, disinvestments and various non-tax revenues.

Besides, taxpayers already have a say in the government’s spending decisions. We do have a “taxpayers’ union” today. It consists of all the voters (including those who pay income tax) who elect legislators, who then approve government budgets after lengthy debate in state assemblies and Parliament. Are we now asking for an exclusive veto power over spending decisions for income taxpayers, who pay only one-third of the bill?

Beyond these fundamental flaws, there is an additional question: Which government programme would you call a “freebie”? From the sense of grievance felt by some income taxpayers, it appears that any special financial consideration given to a favoured group is a handout or “freebie”. The term “subsidy” has a specific meaning in economic parlance, but it is full of value judgement when it is used in popular debates. It has now become a loose synonym for profligacy, favouritism and injustice. What income taxpayers resent is apparently preferential payouts from the budget to a select group, and favourable treatment towards powerful lobbies.

Governments use different methods to target benefits. They spend more on some citizens and reduce prices on items needed by the poor. What most of us forget, however, is that they also demand lower taxes from different taxpayer groups. The income tax code has as many exemptions and special dispensations aimed at different professions for promoting various kinds of economic activity as the expenditure budget. A tax deduction is a dole just like any budgeted subsidy, when it is meant only for a select category of citizens. The standard deduction, which is treated as a right by the middle-class taxpayer, can be claimed only



C R Sasikumar

by the salaried — in the eyes of businessmen and farmers, it is another subsidy. The list of such tax benefits is legion. In the 1990s, they were compiled and published as a budget annexure called “Tax Expenditures”. Disgruntled income taxpayers should consult this document to discover the extent to which other citizens’ groups subsidise them.

Cooking gas and foodgrains are priced below market rates for poor families — these account for the big subsidy ticket of the central government. But the free power and water supplied in states like Delhi are available to all householders. In fact, Delhi has a higher free consumption slab than other states. Nonetheless, its resource conservation level is much better because this benefit is tied to mandatory metering. The state has also met its costs through better governance without raising taxes. Cheap power given only to farmers to run diesel generator sets is a subsidy, higher limits for free consumption for all consumers is hardly one.

We cannot complain about “freebies” without asking ourselves what we want from any government. Even selfish individuals want to live in a country full of educated and healthy people, since education and health can make citizens productive and efficient and raise the growth rates for GDP and per capita income. Like any other nation, we must together decide the minimum level of public services that we want for our country and demand sufficient numbers of good quality schools and clinics from our governments. Money spent from the budget on free schooling and healthcare is not a “freebie” when these facilities are available to everyone. And it is certainly a bonus when it comes without

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additional taxation as in Delhi.

A programme that demonstrates the confused thinking on subsidies is the Delhi scheme for free public transport for women. The debate was acrimonious but not always logical. The decision was perfectly constitutional and legal. It was taken by a duly elected government, which enjoyed a stupendous majority of 67 out of 70 seats in the Assembly and had been voted in with the support of 54 per cent of the electorate — a rare occurrence in a country like India which uses the first-past-the-post system. The decision also met every constitutional requirement, cabinet approval and legislative clearance before it became law. This subsidy benefits women, who are a majority of the voters. It empowers them and increases their participation in the workforce — these are the stated goals of all governments. It is environment-friendly as it encourages public transport and reduces pollution and congestion. It is user-friendly (no IDs are needed) and cheating is almost impossible. And it has been accomplished without higher taxes. What’s not to like about the programme? Those who want the money to be spent in other ways should lobby for a fresh debate in the Assembly.

Let us also launch a debate on every special budgetary dispensation and what we expect from our governments. And let us do this objectively and without bias, accepting the will of the people and democratic political processes and not letting semantics cloud our judgement.

Viswanathan is former Secretary to Government of India in Cabinet Secretariat. She contested the 2018 Karnataka assembly elections on an Aam Aadmi Party ticket

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“Good public administration draws on a range of expertise and experience. Confident, capable ministers look to those who will challenge as well as support. This government, though, is mainly interested in staying in power.”
— THE GUARDIAN

Nine days for Devi

Across the country, Navaratri is associated with worship of the goddess, in her many forms



BIBEK DEBROY

THIS IS the time of the year when Navaratri (or Navaratra) celebrations take place throughout the country. Navaratri simply means nine nights. The timing of the festival is decided according to lunar *tithis* and these don’t exactly correspond to solar days. The nine nights (days) are from Pratipada (first lunar day) to Navami (ninth lunar day), though celebrations can also spill over to Dashami (tenth lunar day).

There is Shukla paksha (the lunar fortnight when the moon waxes) and Krishna paksha (the lunar fortnight when the moon wanes). Typically, Krishna paksha is for *pitr*is (ancestor/manes). Devas and Devis will not be worshipped during Krishna paksha, only during Shukla paksha. Since every month will have a Shukla paksha cycle from Pratipada to Purnima (day/night of full moon), in the course of the year, we will have 12 such Navaratri cycles. From the point of view of worshipping Devi, all 12 are not equally important. There are four that are specific to worshipping Devi — Sharada/Ashvina Navaratri, Vasanta/Chaitra Navaratri, Magha Navaratri and Ashada Navaratri. Right now, we are in the middle of Sharada/Ashvina Navaratri. Most people I know have heard of Vasanta/Chaitra Navaratri, but have never heard of Magha and Ashada Navaratri. That is because the worship undertaken during Magha and Ashada Navaratri is secret, not public, and these are known as Gupta Navaratri.

There is an ancient tradition of Devi worship in India, going back much before what is perceived as recorded history. Regardless of which part of the country we are in, Navaratri is associated with Devi worship. The form differs. As texts go, one should mention ‘Devi Suktam’. There are several such Devi Suktams from different texts: (1) ‘Devi Suktam’ (Rig Veda); (2) ‘Shri Suktam’ (Rig Veda); (3) ‘Devi Suktam’ (from the tantra texts); (4) ‘Durga Suktam’ (Taithiriya Aranyaka); and (5) ‘Ratri Suktam’ or ‘Devi Stotram’ (from Durga Saptashati).

Apart from the ones from the Rig Veda, the others find their origin in a section of the Markandeya Purana known as ‘Devi Mahatmya’ or ‘Chandi’. For Devi worship, the Markandeya Purana is the most important in the Itihasa-Purana corpus. This does not mean that stories about Shiva and Parvati do not occur elsewhere in the Itihasa-Purana corpus. Not only does the Mahabharata mention both, the ‘Anushasana Parva’ of the Mahabharata describes an incident where Uma tells Shiva about the dharma of women. The Valmiki Ramayana has several references to Shiva and Parvati stories. Other than the Markandeya Purana and the Devi Bhagavata Purana, one should mention the Linga and Skanda Puranas from the Itihasa-Purana corpus. The ‘Lalita Sahasranama’, which gives us 1,000 names of Lalita, a manifestation of Devi, is from the Brahmanda Purana.

Devi is worshipped in many forms, such as Nava Durga or the nine forms of Durga — Shailaputri, Brahmacharini, Chandraghanta, Kushmanda, Skandamata, Katyayani, Kalaratri, Mahagauri and Siddhidhatri. Especially in the tantra forms of worship, she is worshipped as the 10 Mahavidyas — Kali, Tara, Tripurasundari (or Shodashi), Bhuvaneshvari, Tripurabhairavi, Chinnamasta, Dhumavati, Bagalamukhi, Matangi and Kamala. There is local worship of Devi, often specific to certain temples, at other times of the year. In the Panchayatana Puja (worship of five Murtis), it is customary for Devi to be worshipped along with Shiva, Vishnu, Surya and the specific *ishita devata*. If it is specific to Devi’s worship during Navaratri and the stories connected with the asura Mahishasura, the Markandeya Purana is the most important. This tells us the story of King Suratha and the Vaishya Samadhi. Reduced to a miserable state, they are advised by Rishi Sumedha to worship Devi. To understand Devi’s worship at the time of Navaratri, one should also consider the Devi Bhagavata Purana, also known as the Devi Bhagavatam. The seventh *skandha* from this text has the famous ‘Devi Gita’. Since one has mentioned ‘Devi Gita’, one should mention the Devi Upanishad. There are also other Puranas like the Kalika Purana and Chandi Purana.

In Bengal, at this time of the year, Devi worship is equated with Durga worship. Generations have grown up with the belief that Mahalaya signifies the onset of Durga Puja. Historically, Mahalaya has nothing to do with Durga Puja. Mahalaya signifies the beginning of Shukla paksha. Today, every Bengali thinks Durga Puja happens on *saptami*, *ashtami* and *navami*. That’s not true either. This is because of the standardisation brought about by community-driven Pujas.

Texts speak of seven different kalpas (modes) of worshipping Durga. (1) Starting on the Krishna paksha *navami* that precedes Mahalaya in the month of Bhadra and concluding on the Shukla paksha *navami* in the month of Ashvina, lasting for 15 days; (2) Starting on the Shukla paksha Pratipada and concluding on *navami*, lasting for nine days; (3) Beginning on *shashti* and concluding on *navami*, lasting for four days; (4) Starting on *saptami* and ending on *navami*, for a period of three days; (5) Beginning on *ashtami* and ending on *navami*, for a period of two days; (6) Only on *ashtami*; (7) Only on *navami*.

When non-community-driven Durga Pujas occur, a practice fast dying out, the other six modes are still followed. But because of the standardisation brought about by community Durga Pujas, most have been reduced to (4). If you want to read more about these other modes, I recommend the work of Raghunandana Bhattacharya, from the 16th century. He was known as Smarta Raghunandana and wrote copiously on several topics. For Durga Puja purposes, the relevant texts are Durgotsav Tattva, Durgapuja Tattva and Kriya Tattva. Raghunandan Bhattacharya wasn’t the only one who wrote about worshipping Durga. For example, before him, there was Acharya Shulapani.

The writer is chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the PM. Views are personal



SUJAN R CHINOY

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi completed 20 years in public service as head of a government at the state and national level on October 7, 2021. A gifted individual of humble origin, who rose to high office by dint of hard work and sacrifice, he epitomises the aspirations of the common citizen. As chief minister, Modi injected transparency in governance. He had a global vision for his state and reached out to invite investments and best practices from around the world.

As consul-general of India in Sydney, the author received an invitation to attend the 2007 Vibrant Gujarat Summit at which Chief Minister Modi, in keeping with his usual practice, personally interacted with many of the participants, encouraging them to promote Brand Gujarat globally. During incidents of assault on Indian students in Australia in 2007-2008, Modi was the only chief minister who took personal interest in the welfare of students from Gujarat.

It was not uncommon for state government officials to receive calls from the chief minister for one-on-one discussions. They were empowered and encouraged to take decisions but also made more accountable. A patient listener, he never permitted hierarchy and red tape to stymie good ideas.

When Modi moved to New Delhi, he brought with him the same dynamism and qualities that defined his long and successful innings as chief minister. As Prime Minister, he remains down to earth, with genuine compassion for the common man. An administrator with a clear vision, he has demonstrated a pragmatic problem-solving

A commitment to the future

As CM earlier, as PM now, problem-solving and vision define Modi’s tenure

approach in dealing with the most intractable of issues.

In personal interactions, he often startles visitors with his capacity to recall the minutest details of past interactions. He puts visitors at ease with affectionate and encouraging words.

The mandate given by him to the author on his appointment as ambassador of India to Japan was brief and to the point: To realise the fullest potential of India-Japan relations in the shortest time. His personal investment in deepening this strategic partnership has resulted in a huge upswing in India’s ties with Japan.

A key feature of the Modi government is zero tolerance for terrorism. This is unsurprising, given his long stint as chief minister of Gujarat, a border state that has often been targeted by Pakistan-sponsored organised crime and terrorism.

As PM, he has devoted his considerable energies to the challenge of achieving inclusive growth. His clarion call for Atmanirbhar Bharat, including in the defence sector, is aimed at equipping India with the necessary means to build a secure future.

Today, India’s choices at home and externally are deeply tessellated. There is a visible expansion in India’s global engagement, including with our neighbours such as Nepal and Sri Lanka who had not received a prime ministerial visit from India in decades.

Diplomacy under PM Modi is driven by the philosophy of *vasudhaiva kutumbakam* (the world is one family), most recently exemplified in the Vaccine Maitri programme

and the neighbourhood first policy.

Today, India has ensured a role for itself on the global stage. Personal diplomacy at the highest levels has resulted in mutually beneficial cooperation, including with many OIC countries.

On matters of personal probity, the Prime Minister has few peers. The smallest gift received in his official capacity is auctioned, with proceeds going to worthy causes. The work ethic in his government is different. Even young officials often find it difficult to match the indefatigable Prime Minister. Foreign visits are turbo-charged with back-to-back meetings. It is not unusual for refuelling stops, even at night, to be utilised to conduct official business.

Perhaps, no other global leader anywhere in the world has paid as much attention to the protection of national heritage. The return of India’s stolen antiquities is a recurrent theme during his visits.

Among several other attributes of diplomacy in the Modi era is the resurgence of indigenous strategic culture, marking a fuller appreciation of the rich contributions of Kautilya and Thiruvalluvar, as against a blind worship of Clausewitz and Metternich. Whether at the United Nations or national parliaments around the world, Hindi, yoga and Ayurveda are manifestations of India’s growing soft power. A foil to authoritarianism, democratic India advocates the Gandhian teachings of peace and non-violence. At the same time, India today has demonstrated the resolve and capacity for robust action in the face of security threats.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A DILEMMA

THIS REFERS To the article, ‘Growth first’ (IE, October, 13). In this era of global interdependence, it is important for the RBI to ensure high growth with contained inflation. The Fed and European central bank will tighten their monetary policy after the signs of a solid recovery. Consequently, the RBI likely fears the fleeing of capital and dipping forex reserves. Though RBI announced to stop its GSAP programme, the call rates are low, which suggest high liquidity in the system. With inflationary pressures and uneven growth, the RBI has little space to be accommodative stance.

Love Kumar Lalwani, Mehlsana

MIXED BAG

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘On the tightrope’ (IE, October 12). The MPC’s own current inflation outlook is a mixed bag. The projection for average inflation for the full fiscal year has been cut by 40 basis points to 5.3 per cent even as the committee stresses that with core inflation persisting at an elevated level, the Centre and states would need to further boost supply-side and cost pressures, including through calibrated cuts in indirect taxes on petrol and diesel. In an acknowledgment of the difficulty it faces in containing price pressures even as it keeps interest rates at growth-supportive lows, the monetary panel reiterated for authorities to step in and help contain inflationary pressures, especially the impact of high transportation costs.

Vandana, Chandigarh

NO ACTION

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Why we need saboteurs’ (IE, October 13). The revelations from whistleblower Frances Haugen about Facebook are not shocking — just deeply disheartening. When the government itself claims ignorance on big scandals like Pegasus, how can one expect it to take action against tech overreach? As long as big tech companies help governments and politicians to retain power, it is naive to expect any action against them.

Sandhya Singh, via email

VACCINE QUESTIONS

THIS REFERS TO the report, ‘Panel approval is in, Covaxin for children is one step away’ (IE, October 13). Finally, a vaccine for children seems just a step away. However, one hopes the vaccine is safe even though the Subject Expert Committee has thoroughly studied the clinical data before granting approval. Even adults are still wary about taking even the first dose of the vaccine. And not without reason, we have witnessed a number of Covid cases after taking the first dose and many have succumbed to the virus. Moreover, even those who have taken the mandatory two doses are not safe from the virus. Cases are still on the rise in Mumbai. Questions linger at the back of our minds: Is the vaccine safe, whether for adults or children? Is this vaccination programme turning out to be the biggest scam of the century?

Melville XD’Souza, Mumbai

**GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA****TENDER NOTICE**

S.R. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH.	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / BMD (APPROX.) IN BIDDERS	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH.	MODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	ANAPAL MITRITI (JALSHAK)	PURCHASE OF FEED INGREDIENTS & FEED GRADE CHEMICAL	15.10.2021 09.11.2021	1.56 CRORE	www.haryana.gov.in	9460707496 shajuphilip25@gmail.com
2	HSVP	SPECIAL REPAIR OF EXTERNAL ROADS (CIND LANE) START FROM PEER BABA TO PASTA MANGA DEVI PANDER BETWEEN SECTOR 1 & 4 MIDC, PANOHULA (JALSHAK) AND SURROUND OF 30 KM PER 100 SQM ROAD (PASTA MANGA DEVI PANDER) 200M THICK SC AND KERB AND CHANNELS ON DIVISION ROAD OF SECTOR 1 & 4 MIDC, PANOHULA INCLUDING 5 YEARS MTC & 5 DIRECT SUPPLY IN REPAIRS OF COTY. ANIMAL MAINTENANCE OF ROADWAY ROADS AT THE, SURROUND, PAVING, LAYING OF 75 MM THICK RUBB, PAVING & LAYING TACK COAT & 20 MM THICK RUBB, CARPET SEAL COAT TYPE "B" FOR PATCH WORK AND ALL OTHER WORKS (EXCLUDING THERIO), FOR 45 MM RUBB PAVING ROAD BETWEEN SECTOR - 12/3 & 25/36, LIE, SONAPAT, INCLUDING ONE YEAR MTC AND SUBJECT LAMINATE PER 4000 MM OF COTY	CLOSING DATE: 26.10.2021	70.05 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	9670318006 vishwakshi@gmail.com
3	HSVP	REPAIR WORK OF CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD (UPPER THICK WATER BLOCKS) ON BACK SIDE OF PLOT NO. 10 & 11 2.47 MIDC, TECHNOLOGI PARK, SECTOR 21, PANOHULA	CLOSING DATE: 16.10.2021 09.11.2021	31.25 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	01362233814 vishwakshi@gmail.com
4	HSVP	REPAIR WORK OF CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD (UPPER THICK WATER BLOCKS) ON BACK SIDE OF PLOT NO. 10 & 11 2.47 MIDC, TECHNOLOGI PARK, SECTOR 21, PANOHULA	CLOSING DATE: 16.10.2021 09.11.2021	70.05 LACS	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	9460707496 shajuphilip25@gmail.com

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

**BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION****ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT**
Central Offices, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560 027. Ph: 080-22537440/416/436

No: **BMTC/CO/ACC/B&F/119/2021-22** Date: **12-10-2021**

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation intends to invest **Rs. 03.20 Crores** (Rupees Three Crores Twenty Lakhs Only) in short term deposit in Nationalised Banks / Schedule Commercial Banks as per terms and conditions imposed in the circular issued by the Karnataka Government Secretariat bearing No: **FD 8 TAR 2020 dated: 12-03-2020** with regard to guidelines on investment of surplus funds (Nirbhaya). It is hereby requested to quote your interest rates for different periods from **30 days to 365 days**. Quote should reach this office within 04 working days from the publication of this notification.

DIPR/DO/Advt/21864/2021-22

Sd/- Chief Accounts Officer-F.A

कार्यालय आबकारी आयुक्त, राजस्थान, उदयपुर
क्रमांक:- प 32/बी) (1) आब/एल/2021-22/3286 दिनांक:- 12.10.2021

देशी मदिरा, विदेशी मदिरा एवं बीयर की कम्पोजिट टिंडर ऑफ़ दुकानों के अनुज्ञापत्र हेतु आवेदन एवं ई-नीलामी आमंत्रण बाबत सूचना फेज-XIV

1. सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि वित्तीय वर्ष 2021-22 के लिए राज्य में आबकारी बन्दोबस्त हेतु देशी मदिरा, राजस्थान निर्मित मदिरा (RML), भारत निर्मित विदेशी मदिरा (IMFL) एवं बीयर की टिंडर ऑफ़ दुकानों (कम्पोजिट दुकानों) के अनुज्ञापत्र जारी करने के लिए आबकारी नीति 2021-22 के अनुसार भारत सरकार के उपक्रम **एम.एस.टी.सी. लिमिटेड** के माध्यम से ई-नीलामी (ई-बोली) आयोजित की जा रही है। अभी तक XIII फेज में नीलामी सम्पन्न हो चुकी है।

2. वित्त (आबकारी) विभाग के पत्रांक प.4(1)वि/आब/2021 दिनांक 12.10.2021 के द्वारा ई-नीलामी से शेष रही मदिरा दुकानों के लिए रिजर्व प्रॉडर्स में कमी तथा संशोधित दुकान की कम्पोजिट फीस को वित्तीय वर्ष की शेष अवधि के लिये अनुपातिक किये जाने के क्रम में कम्पोजिट मदिरा दुकानदार संशोधित न्यूनतम रिजर्व प्रॉडर्स व संशोधित कम्पोजिट फीस विभागीय वेबसाइट <https://www.rajexcise.gov.in> पर दर्शित है। दर्शाई गई संशोधित "न्यूनतम रिजर्व प्रॉडर्स" वार्षिक (12 माह के लिए) है। वास्तविक गारंटी राशि एवं वार्षिक कम्पोजिट फीस की गणना अनुज्ञापत्र हेतु जारी स्वीकृति की तिथि से अनुपातिक आधार पर की जाएगी।

3. आवेदन शुल्क पूर्वानुसार "मूल न्यूनतम रिजर्व प्रॉडर्स" के अनुसार ही रहेगा।

4. **अमानत राशि**- आबकारी एवं मद्यसंयम नीति 2021-22 के बिन्दु संख्या 2.7 में अमानत राशि के बारे में प्रावधान किये गये हैं। परन्तु किसी भी फेज में एक बार यदि किसी **कम्पोजिट मदिरा दुकान** के लिए बोलीदाता द्वारा **बैकअउट** किया गया है तो ऐसी कम्पोजिट मदिरा दुकानों के लिए निम्नलिखित प्रकार से अमानत राशि निर्धारित की जाती है। शेष दुकानों के लिए अमानत राशि पूर्ववत् रहेगी।

श्रेणी	अमानत राशि (रु.)
वर्ष 2021-22 के लिए 50 लाख रुपये तक मूल न्यूनतम रिजर्व प्रॉडर्स वाली दुकान	2,00,000
वर्ष 2021-22 के लिए 50 लाख रुपये से अधिक एवं 2 करोड़ रुपये तक मूल न्यूनतम रिजर्व प्रॉडर्स वाली दुकान	3,00,000
वर्ष 2021-22 के लिए 2 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक मूल्य न्यूनतम रिजर्व प्रॉडर्स वाली दुकान	5,00,000

5. फेज-XIV में निम्नलिखित तिथि अनुसार ई-नीलामी (ई-बोली) आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

क्र.सं.	नीलामी की दिनांक	आवेदन करने की अंतिम तिथि
1	22.10.2021	21.10.2021

नीलामी का समय पूर्वानुसार प्रातः 11.00 बजे से सायं 04.00 बजे तक रहेगा। नीलामी एक कार्य दिवस में न्यूनतम पाँच घण्टे की होगी एवं उसके पश्चात् जब तक बोली लगती रहे जब तक 10 मिनट के अन्तर्न विस्तार (indefinite extension) तक जारी रहेगी।

6. आवेदन- फेज-XIV के लिए आवेदन की प्रक्रिया दिनांक 12.10.2021 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे से प्रारम्भ है तथा निर्धारित नीलामी की दिनांक से एक दिन पूर्व की रात 11:59 पी.एम. तक चालू रहेगी।

7. यदि आवेदक द्वारा दिनांक 12.02.2021 के पश्चात् <https://www.mscecommerce.com> पर पंजीकरण कराया है तो उन्हें पृथक् से पंजीकरण कराने की आवश्यकता नहीं रहेगी। पूर्व में आवेदित यूजर आई.डी. व पासवर्ड के माध्यम से ई-नीलामी हेतु आवेदन कर सकते हैं। यदि पूर्व में पंजीकरण नहीं कराया है तो <https://www.mscecommerce.com> पर जाकर नि:शुल्क पंजीकरण करा सकते हैं।

8. सफल बोलीदाता H1 के किसी कारण से बैकअउट होने पर द्वितीय उच्चतम बोलीदाता H2 को सफल बोलीदाता H1 द्वारा प्रस्तावित वार्षिक गारन्टी राशि पर उस मदिरा दुकान को लेने हेतु अवसर दिया जायेगा तथा द्वितीय उच्चतम बोलीदाता द्वारा H2 सहमति देने पर पूर्व में उल्लेखित प्रक्रिया अनुसार राशि जमा कराने पर उसके पक्ष में अस्थाई अनुज्ञापत्र की स्वीकृति जारी की जावेगी।

H2 द्वारा उपर्युक्त अवसर के बाद सहमती नहीं देने पर उसे उसकी स्वयं द्वारा बोली गई कीमत H2 पर मदिरा दुकान देने का अवसर दिया जायेगा। यदि इस कीमत पर भी H2 द्वारा मदिरा दुकान नहीं ली जाती है तो उसकी अमानत राशि जम्ब कर H3 को क्रमशः H1 एवं H2 द्वारा प्रस्तुत प्रस्तावित वार्षिक गारन्टी राशि पर उस मदिरा दुकान को लेने हेतु अवसर दिया जायेगा।

तृतीय उच्चतम बोलीदाता H3 द्वारा सहमति देने पर पूर्व में उल्लेखित प्रक्रिया अनुसार राशि जमा कराने पर उसके पक्ष में अस्थाई अनुज्ञापत्र की स्वीकृति जारी की जावेगी।

H3 द्वारा उपर्युक्त अवसर के बाद सहमती नहीं देने पर उसे उसकी स्वयं द्वारा बोली गई कीमत H3 पर मदिरा दुकान देने का अवसर दिया जायेगा। यदि इस कीमत पर भी H3 द्वारा मदिरा दुकान नहीं ली जाती है तो उसकी अमानत राशि जम्ब कर H4 को क्रमशः H1 एवं H2 द्वारा प्रस्तुत प्रस्तावित वार्षिक गारन्टी राशि पर उस मदिरा दुकान को लेने हेतु अवसर दिया जायेगा।

9. सफल बोलीदाता द्वारा समग्र धरोहर राशि दिनांक 28.10.2021 तक जमा करानी होगी।

10. सफल बोलीदाता को "निर्धारित अग्रिम वार्षिक गारन्टी राशि" एवं "निर्धारित कम्पोजिट फीस की न्यूनतम 50 प्रतिशत राशि" दिनांक 01.11.2021 तक जमा करानी होगी तथा निर्धारित कम्पोजिट फीस की शेष राशि 50 प्रतिशत राशि दिनांक 16.11.2022 तक जमा करानी होगी।

11. एम.एस.टी.सी. हेल्प-डेस्क पर कार्यालय समय में मार्गदर्शन लिया जा सकता है।

12. अन्य शेष पूर्ववत् रहेगी।

उपर्युक्त के संबंध में विस्तृत दिशा निर्देश, शर्तें तथा अनुज्ञापत्र हेतु उपलब्ध दुकानों की निर्धारित सूची मद्य विवरण विभागीय वेबसाइट <https://www.rajexcise.gov.in> एवं एम.एस.टी.सी. लिमिटेड की वेबसाइट <https://www.mscecommerce.com> पर उपलब्ध है।

हस्ता./-
आबकारी आयुक्त,
राजस्थान उदयपुर।

कार्यालय कार्यपालन यंत्री लोक निर्माण विभाग संभाग दतिया (म.प्र.)
Phone No. 292210 Email Address: eeppwdattia@mp.nic.in

क्रमांक 1824/टेंडर/2021-22 दिनांक 07/10/2021

निम्नानुसार कार्य की निविदा NIT No 09/2021-22/Datia, Date 08-10-2021 वेबसाइट <https://mptenders.gov.in/> पर आनलाईन आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र.	टेंडर आईडी	कार्य का नाम	लागत राशि (लाख रु.)	अमानत राशि	निविदा राशि	समयावधि
1	2021_PWDRB_159394.1	पावर हाउस भाइरड से मुख्य मार्ग से बढ़ते मार्ग निर्माण लं. 1.40 किमी (तृतीय आवरण)	62.85 लाख	62855.00	10000.00	8 माह वर्षाकाल सहित
2	2021_PWDRB_163153.1	बस स्टैंड से मेरीचुर पहुँच मार्ग लम्बाई 1.20 किमी	106.75 लाख	106750.00	12500.00	12 माह वर्षाकाल सहित
3	2021_PWDRB_163154.1	बीर बाबा चुनाघाट से चौकी (मारेरो) एम.एच मार्ग तक लं. 11.50 किमी	1201.84 लाख	1000000.0	30000.00	18 माह वर्षाकाल सहित

1 निविदा आनलाईन प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम दिनांक 25.10.2021 समय 17.30 तक


2 सम्पन्न दस्तावेज आनलाईन ही मान्य किये जावेंगे। निविदा प्रतियस्पर्धा में सफल ठेकेदार को आनलाईन दस्तावेज के साथ प्रस्तुत मूल शपथ पत्र अनुबंध के समय देना अनिवार्य होगा।

3 निविदा दिनांक 26.10.2021 समय 17.30 बजे मुख्य अभियंता उतर परक्षेत्र लोक निर्माण विभाग ग्वालियर में खोली जावेगी।

अन्य जानकारी उपरोक्त वेबसाइट पर देखी जा सकती है।

हस्ता./-
कार्यपालन यंत्री
लो.नि.वि. संभाग दतिया (म.प्र.)
G-18109/21

कोरोना से बचने की तीन बातें बहुत जरूरी, टीका लगवाना, मास्क पहनना और अपनाना दो गज दूरी।

**DELHI JAL BOARD, GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI****OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (PR) SR-I**
POCKET-D-7, ROHINI SECTOR-6, NEW DELHI-110085
Phone no. 27041218 Email:- eepr11@gmail.com

"STOP CORONA: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"
Press Note
NIT NO-01 (2021-22)

S. NO.	PARTICULARS	ESTIMATED COST / EARNEST MONEY	TENDER ID- TENDER E-PROCUREMENT SOLUTION	TENDER FEE	LAST DATE/TIME OF RECEIPT OF TENDER THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT SOLUTION
1.	"CROSSING OF ROHTAK ROAD+NH-10 BY 450 MM DIA HDPE PIPE SEWER LINE THROUGH- HDD METHOD BY TRENCHLESS TECHNOLOGY OPPOSITE / NEAR METRO PILLAR NO. 486 AND 548 FOR CONNECTING MUNDKA INDUSTRIAL AREA TO MUNDKA VILLAGE IN AC-08 MUNDKA ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCY DELHI"	Rs. 41.69,884/- EMD Rs. 84,000/-	TENDER ID:- 2021_DJB_209994_1 dated 12/10/2021	1500/-	Last date and time for tender download : 01.11.2021 up to 3.00 P.M. Last date and time for online submission of tender : 01.11.2021 up to 3.00 P.M. Date and Time for opening of Part A : 01.11.2021 at 3:15 P.M. Date / Time for opening of Part B (Financial Bid) : After completion of scrutiny of the received Technical Bids

Further details in this regards can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/> ISSUED BY PRO (WATER) Sd/- (Horender Kumar)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 487/(2021-22) EE (PR) SR-I

**सैनिक स्कूल अम्बिकापुर (छत्तीसगढ़)**
(सैनिक स्कूल सोसायटी रक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा संचालित)

निविदा सूचना

सैनिक स्कूल अम्बिकापुर, मेण्डाकला, जिला- सरगुजा (छत्तीसगढ़) में निम्नलिखित सामग्री की आपूर्ति/सेवाओं के लिए पंजीकृत फर्मों या अधिकृत विक्रेताओं से निविदाएं निर्धारित प्राप्प पर आमंत्रित की जाती है:-


क्र.	निविदा	निविदा फार्म की किमत (अप्रतिदेय)	धरोहर राशि (EMD)	अनुमानित वार्षिक खरीदी
Annual Tender				
1	अनाज (Cereal) की आपूर्ति लाख	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 80,000.00	Rs. 20 लाख
2	किराते (Grocery Item) के सामान की आपूर्ति	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 80,000.00	Rs. 20 लाख
3	धुलाई व इस्त्री (Washing & Ironing) कार्य की सेवाओं	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 80,000.00	Rs. 20 लाख
4	ब्रेड व अन्य बेकरी (Bread & Bakery items) सामानों की आपूर्ति	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 9,000.00	Rs. 03 लाख
5	मुद्रण कार्य (Printing Work)	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 15,000.00	Rs. 05 लाख
6	फसु आहार (Horse Feed) की आपूर्ति	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 9,000.00	Rs. 03 लाख
7	कार्यालय सामग्री (Office Stationary) की आपूर्ति	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 6,000.00	Rs. 02 लाख
8	टेलीफोन एवं इन्टरनेट (Telephone & Internet) की सेवाओं	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 9,000.00	Rs. 03 लाख
9	नाई (Barber) कार्य की सेवाओं	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 6,000.00	Rs. 02 लाख
Rate Contract				
10	यूनिफार्म, कलिंग एवं यूनिफार्म एक्सेसरीज (Uniform, Clothing & Accessories) की आपूर्ति	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 50,000.00	Rs. 13 लाख

GeM availability ID: GEM/GARPTS/11102021/CONL4XIHV7E

निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य रुपये 100/- है। जमा की गई निविदा प्रपत्र की किमत वापस नहीं होगी। निविदा फार्म अहस्तान्तरणीय होंगे। निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक **14 Oct 2021 से 06 Nov 2021** के मध्य सभी कार्यालयीन दिवसों पर सैनिक स्कूल अम्बिकापुर, मेण्डाकला, जिला- सरगुजा (छत्तीसगढ़), पिन कोड- 497001 से निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क जमा करके प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। निविदा प्रपत्र केन्द्रीय सार्वजनिक खरीद पोर्टल (CPP Portal) <https://eprocure.gov.in/cpublsh/app> एवं सैनिक स्कूल अम्बिकापुर की वेबसाइट www.sainikschoolambikapur.org.in से भी डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। पूर्ण रूप से भरे हुए निर्धारित निविदा फार्म को सिलबन्ध लिफाफे में अंतिम तिथि 05 Nov 2021 को सुबह 11.00 बजे या उसके पहले हाथों-हाथ या डाक के माध्यम से सैनिक स्कूल अम्बिकापुर में जमा किया जा सकता है। निविदा घेटी सैनिक स्कूल अम्बिकापुर, मेण्डाकला में दिनांक 06 Nov 2021 को सुबह 11.30 बजे खोली जाएगी।

सैनिक स्कूल अम्बिकापुर की वेबसाइट या केन्द्रीय सार्वजनिक खरीद पोर्टल (CPP Portal) से डाउनलोड किए गये निविदा फार्म के साथ निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क रुपये 100/- (अप्रतिदेय) का डिमांड ड्राफ्ट जो "प्राचार्य सैनिक स्कूल अम्बिकापुर" के नाम से देय हो को संलग्न करना अनिवार्य है। अन्यथा निविदा प्रपत्र स्वीकार नहीं किया जायेगा एवं निरस्त माना जायेगा। डाक विभाग द्वारा किसी भी प्रकार की देरी के लिए सैनिक स्कूल अम्बिकापुर प्रशासन जिम्मेदार नहीं होगा। प्राचार्य, सैनिक स्कूल अम्बिकापुर के पास किसी भी निविदा को किसी भी स्तर पर स्थगित / रद्द करने का अधिकार सुरक्षित है।

1034 प्राचार्य, सैनिक स्कूल अम्बिकापुर

**GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA**
Karnataka Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board
Kalyana Suraksha Bhavana, ITI Compound, Dairy Circle, Bannerughatta Road, Bangalore-560029
Phone: 080-29753354/56, E-mail: karbuildworkerswelfare@gmail.com

No. **Kbocwwb/TK-01toTK-06/2021-22** Date: **13-10-2021**

Short Term Tender Notification

Short term tender (Two bid system-Technical and Financial bids) are hereby invited from interested Agencies for the following Goods supply & period as per Terms of Reference described in this notification.


Indent no.	Name of Tender	Amount in Lakhs
DOL/2021-22/IND241	Selection of an Agency for Supply and Delivery of Bar benders Tool Kits in Jurisdiction of ALC-1, ALC2 , ALC3, ALC4 and ALC- Mysuru of Bengaluru1 Region & Bengaluru2 Region.	167.26
DOL/2021-22/IND248	Selection of an Agency for Supply and Delivery of Carpentry Tool Kits in Jurisdiction of ALC-1, Bengaluru1 Region.	107.12
DOL/2021-22/IND253	Selection of an Agency for Supply and Delivery of Electrician Tool Kits in Jurisdiction of ALC-1, Bengaluru1 Region.	127.69
DOL/2021-22/IND261	Selection of an Agency for Supply and Delivery of Painting Tool Kits in Jurisdiction of ALC-1, Bengaluru1 Region.	90.99
DOL/2021-22/IND252	Selection of an Agency for Supply and Delivery of Plumbing Tool Kits in Jurisdiction of ALC-1 and ALC2, ALC-3, ALC-4 and ALC-Mysuru , Bengaluru1 & 2 Regions.	229.91
DOL/2021-22/IND264	Selection of an Agency for Supply and Delivery of Mason Tool Kits in Jurisdiction of ALC-1, Bengaluru1 Region.	247.11


Tenders shall be submitted electronically through e-procurement portal www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in of the Government of Karnataka. Last date of applying is **29-10-2021 up to 5:00 p.m.** For further details & information can be obtained from the Joint Secretary, KBOWCWWB during office hours.


Sd/- Joint Secretary
KB&OCWWB


DIPR/DDU/RO1881/2021-22

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.

**Wear Mask**

**Follow Physical Distancing**

**Maintain Hand Hygiene**

**Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency**
First Floor, Directorate of Panchayatraj, Opp-IT Park, Sahasradhara Road, Dehradun

Ref. No. 1934/11-02(xix)/ITCO/URRDA/21 Dated: 13 -10-2021

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice-2021-22

The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of **Almora** for **01** number of Packages with estimated cost totalling to **Rs. 0.72 Crore** including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with PWD / CPWD or equivalent".

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: **16-10-2021.**

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in www.pmgstyendersuk.gov.in. 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 CONCERNED CIRCLE OFFICES, mentioned in SBD/MBD, only up to or before the time and date of the submission of the Bids (for World Bank funded works) and on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid (for Regular PMGSY Works), either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall 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-procurement: **23-10-2021 01:00 PM.**

For further details please log on to www.pmgstyendersuk.gov.in

Sd/-
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 0135-2608125 number may be contacted 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM.

Woman Army officer found dead in Pune; suicide suspected

Pune: IN A suspected case of suicide, a woman Army officer in her early 40s, who was undergoing training at the Military Intelligence Training School and Depot (MINTSD) in Pune, was found dead at her official accommodation on the premises of the establishment on Wednesday morning, police said. MINTSD, which trains officials and personnel for the intelligence stream of Indian Army, other services and friendly foreign countries, is lo-

cated in Wanawadi area. A police official said that according to their preliminary information, the officer of Lieutenant Colonel rank was found hanging with a dupatta in her official accommodation.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Zone 5) Namrata Patil said, "We were informed about a suspected case of suicide at the defence establishment and a probe has been launched."

Army statement said, "An incident of likely suicide by an officer has occurred on the premises of MINTSD, Pune..the matter is under investigation." ENS

**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

E-Tender Notice No. Y/E/29/2021-22/09
Dated: 07.10.2021

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works:

Description of Work	Approx. Value
Augmentation of power supply arrangements duly replacing old control panel at Mysuru.	Rs. 97.34,636/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Up to 15:00 hrs. of 29.10.2021**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Railway Manager/Electrical Mysuru
PUB/229/AAV/PRBS/SWR/2021-22
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

**SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**

Follow us on www.scrindianrailways.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (through <https://ireps.gov.in>)

CAO (Construction), S.C.Railway, Secunderabad invites e-tender on behalf of the President of India for the following work:-

S.No.01 NIT No.:-32-CAO-C-SC-2021
Date:12.10.2021
Name of work: SCR Construction Organisation - Kazipet-Balharshah section - Proposed Third line between Balharshah -Kazipet stations - Execution of Earth work in embankment & cutting, blanketing to the standards of RDSO, construction of minor bridges and execution of Miscellaneous works (Excluding Major Bridges) including clearing the S&T obstructions from Ch.172000 to 203000 between Makudi (incl.) - Sirpur Kaghaznagar (incl.) stations **(BALANCE WORKS IN REACH-V). Estimated Cost (₹) :** 41,12,27,061.81/- **EMD (₹):** 0.00/-
Completion Period: 14 (Fourteen) Months. **Date of Opening:** 09.11.2021 at 15.00 hrs.

1. For bid document and other details, please login to website <https://ireps.gov.in>.


2. The above tenders are exempted from Earnest Money Deposit. Hence, bid documents to be submitted as per the format given in the documents of the schedule. It is mandatory document.

3. Tenders can submit their offers online during tender submission period which is the fifteen days period prior to closing of tender.

4. Tenderers should watch for any corrigenda (issued online only) up to the date of commencement of the tender submission period.

Chief Administrative Officer, A1129 Const., Secunderabad

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at <https://www.ireps.gov.in> or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

**North Eastern Railway**

E-Procurement Tender Notice No. 4/Track/2021 Dated 11.10.2021

On behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Engineer, North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur invites the following E-Procurement Tenders:

S.No. : 1, Open Tender No./Due on : 15/10/2010A Due on 18.11.2021, **Description of Materials :** Manufacture and supply of :- (a) Plate Screws as per RDSO drawing No. RDSO/T-3911. Qty.: 32800 Nos., **Consignee SSE(P. Way)/TD :** Izzatnagar 7800 Nos., Varanasi 25000 Nos., (b) Plate Screws as per RDSO drawing No. RDSO/T-3912, Qty.: 52478 Nos., **Consignee SSE(P. Way)/TD :** Izzatnagar 8050 Nos., Gonda 31200 Nos., Varanasi 13228 Nos., (c) Plate Screws as per RDSO drawing No. RDSO/T-3915, Qty.: 14500 Nos., **Consignee SSE(P. Way)/TD :** Izzatnagar 5400 Nos., Gonda 4600 Nos., Varanasi 4500 Nos., **Delivery Period :** 04 Months, **Estimated Tender Value (Rs.) :** 33,46,408.22, **Earnest Money (Rs.) :** 66,930/-, **S.No. : 2, Open Tender No./Due on : 3/12/15082A** Due on 18.11.2021, **Description of Materials :** (a) C.I. Distance Bracket for 52 Kg Check Rail to be used on PSC sleeper B.G. 52/60 Kg as per Drg. No. RDSO/T-4784. Qty.: 5670 Nos., **Consignee SSE(P. Way)/TD :** Izzatnagar 1050 Nos., Varanasi 2000 Nos., Gonda 2620 Nos., (b) C.I. Distance Bracket for 52 Kg Check Rail to be used on PSC sleeper B.G. 52 Kg as per Drg. No. RDSO/T-4785. Qty.: 5550 Nos., **Consignee SSE(P. Way)/TD :** Izzatnagar 2950 Nos., Gonda 2600 Nos., (c) C.I. Bracket for 52 Kg Check Rail to be used on PSC sleeper B.G. 60 Kg as per Drg. No. RDSO/T-4917. Qty.: 1060 Nos., **Consignee SSE(P. Way)/TD :** Gonda 1060 Nos., **Delivery Period :** 04 Months, **Estimated Tender Value (Rs.) :** 58,42,522.60, **Earnest Money (Rs.) :** 1,16,970/-.

Note :- 1.0 The complete information along with tender document of above E-procurement Tender is available in website on <https://ireps.gov.in> up to 11.00 hrs. on the due date of tender opening. 2.0 Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with class III Digital signature certificates issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. 3.0 In case of any difficulty helpline available on the website of IREPS may be approached.

Dy. Chief Engineer/TP, Gorakhpur

CPRO/W-206
About any Passenger Amenty complaint SMS on Mob. No. 09794845955
Do not travel with Inflammable article in train

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TOP OF THE WORLD



University of Hong Kong students clean the 'Pillar of Shame' statue. *File*

HONG KONG

Tiananmen statue creator slams varsity's 'mafia' tactics

Hong Kong: The Danish sculptor of a statue that commemorates pro-democracy protesters killed during China's Tiananmen Square crackdown in 1989 has accused a leading Hong Kong university of "mafia" style tactics over its order to have it removed. Jens Galschiot loaned the eight-metre high copper sculpture called "Pillar of Shame" to a local civil society group. After the group disbanded last month, with some members accused of national security offences, the University of Hong Kong sent a letter to the alliance last week requesting it remove the statue from the campus by Wednesday. "I think this is a warning, that we want to destroy this sculpture if you don't pull it down. So this is a kind of mafia. I am really shocked," Galschiot said. **REUTERS**

RUSSIA

Putin: Relations with Biden are stable, working

Moscow: Russian President Vladimir Putin said Wednesday that the Kremlin has "constructive" relations with Washington and voiced hope that mutual interests would eventually help normalize US-Russia ties. Commenting on Russia-US ties, Putin said Russia's relations with the Biden administration have been "quite constructive" and he personally has developed "working, stable relations" with President Joe Biden. **AP**

GERMANY

Neo-Nazi buried at Jewish gravesite

Berlin: The burial of a Holocaust denier in the gravesite of a Jewish music professor has caused an uproar in Germany. The top German government official tasked with combating antisemitism, Commissioner for Jewish Life Felix Klein, criticized the action Wednesday, joining expressions of disbelief from some of the country's leading Jews. "This is obviously a very unfortunate mistake that happened here," Klein told news agency dpa. **AP**

UNITED STATES

Toddler finds gun, shoots mom on Zoom meeting

Altamonte Springs: Police in Florida have arrested the father of a toddler who found a loaded handgun in his backpack and fatally shot his mother while she was on a Zoom call for work. Veondre Avery was arrested Tuesday and charged with negligent manslaughter and unsafe storage of a firearm, police said. Investigators said the 2-year-old found the gun in the backpack on August 11 and fired a single shot that hit his mother, Shamaya Lynn, in the head. **AP**

China defends military drills, Taiwan says don't get too close

REUTERS

TAIPEI, BEIJING, OCTOBER 13

TAIWAN'S DEFENCE ministry warned China of strong counter-measures on Wednesday if its forces got too close to the island, as Beijing defended its incursions into Taiwan's air defence zone as "just" moves to protect peace and stability.

Military tensions with China, which claims Taiwan as its own territory, are at their worst in more than 40 years, Taiwan's defence minister said last week, adding China will be capable of mounting a "full scale" invasion by 2025.

He was speaking after China mounted four straight days of mass air force incursions into Taiwan's air defence identification zone that began October 1, part of a pattern of what Taipei views as stepped up military harassment by Beijing.

No shots have been fired and China's aircraft have stayed well away from Taiwan's airspace, concentrating their activities in the southwestern corner of Taiwan's air defence zone.

In a report to parliament, Taiwan's defence ministry said their forces will adhere to the principle of "the closer they are to the island, the stronger the



China mounted four days of air force incursions into Taiwan's air defence identification zone starting Oct 1. *Representative photo*

countermeasures", though it gave no details.

The ministry expressed concern again of China's growing prowess, with new aircraft carriers, nuclear-powered submarines and amphibious assault ships coming into service.

China blames Taiwan, and its most important international backer the United States, for the tensions, a point Ma Xiaoguang, the spokesman for China's Taiwan Affairs Office, made again in Beijing, pointing the finger at Taiwan's ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP).

Chinese drills are aimed at

"collusion" with foreign forces — a veiled reference to US support for Taiwan — and separatist activities, protecting the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, he added.

"They are absolutely just actions," Ma said. "The DPP authorities' hyping of the so-called 'military threat' of the mainland is to completely invert right and wrong, and a bogus accusation."

"If the DPP authorities obstinately persist in going about things the wrong way, and do not know how to draw back

EXPLAINED Escalating tensions

CHINA'S CONTINUOUS breaching of the air defence zone is seen as a tactic to test the capabilities of the Taipei defence forces. In response, Taiwan said that they are reviewing the extra military spending plan worth \$8.6 billion over the course of the next five years. The budget is meant for home-made weapons including missiles and warships.

from the edge, it will only push Taiwan into a more dangerous situation."

Despite Ma's comments, both Chinese President Xi Jinping and Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen made relatively conciliatory speeches at the weekend, even as Xi vowed to bring Taiwan under its control and Tsai said they would not be forced to bow to China.

Xi did not mention resorting to force over Taiwan, while Tsai reiterated a desire for peace and dialogue with China.



AP/PTI



Reuters

CAPTAIN KIRK BLASTS INTO SPACE

Having made a career out of playing an explorer of the cosmos, actor William Shatner (second from left) — Captain James Kirk of Star Trek fame — did it for real on Wednesday, becoming at age 90 the oldest person in space aboard a rocketship flown by billionaire Jeff Bezos's company Blue Origin. Shatner was one of four passengers to journey to the edge of space. "What you have given me is the most profound experience I can imagine," Shatner told Bezos.

‘Considering all options’: US signals tougher stance on Iran

REUTERS

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 13

THE UNITED States is ready to consider "all options" if Iran is unwilling to return to the 2015 nuclear deal, US Special Envoy for Iran Rob Malley said on Wednesday in what may reflect a tougher stance toward Tehran's new government.

In addition to using the phrase "all options", which is typically intended to include the possibility — however remote — of military action, Malley also said the United States and Israel were united in opposing Iran developing a nuclear weapon.

Beyond citing US consulta-

tion with Israel, which has previously struck nuclear sites in Iraq and Syria, Malley also said he would soon travel to Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Qatar to coordinate with the US Gulf allies.

"We will be prepared to adjust to a different reality in which we have to deal with all options to address Iran's nuclear program if it's not prepared to come back into the constraints" of Tehran's 2015 nuclear deal with six major powers, he said in a virtual appearance at a Washington think tank.

Malley stressed it was still Washington's preference for the United States, which abandoned the nuclear deal in 2018 during the Trump administration, and

Iran, which began violating its nuclear limits about a year later, to both resume compliance.

Iran struck the deal, formally named the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), in 2015 with Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States.

"There is every possibility that Iran will choose a different path, and we need to coordinate with Israel and other partners in the region. I will be traveling to Saudi Arabia, UAE and Qatar in just a matter of days to talk about efforts to come back to (JCPOA) and what options we have to control Iran's nuclear program if we can't achieve that goal," Malley said.

REIGNED FOR ONLY 33 DAYS

POPE JOHN PAUL I PUT ON PATH TO SAINTHOOD

Pope Francis has approved the crediting of what was described as the miraculous healing of a child to the intercession of John Paul I, advancing the cause for sainthood for one of his predecessors who died 33 days after being elected pontiff in 1978. Cardinal Albino Luciani was elected Pope on August 26, 1978 and was found dead in his bed on September 28 that year, setting off speculation that he had been murdered.



Russia sets new daily record for Covid deaths

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOSCOW, OCTOBER 13

RUSSIA ON Wednesday reported a new record of daily coronavirus deaths amid a slow vaccination rate and authorities' reluctance to tighten restrictions.

The government coronavirus task force reported 984 coronavirus deaths over the past 24 hours, the pandemic's new high. The country has repeatedly marked record daily death tolls over the past few weeks as infections soared to near all-time highs, with 28,717 confirmed new cases reported Wednesday.

The Kremlin has attributed the mounting contagion and deaths to a laggard vaccination rate. Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin said Tuesday that about 43 million Russians, or about 29% of the country's nearly 146 million people, were fully vaccinated.

The Kremlin has ruled out a new nationwide lockdown like the one during the first months of the pandemic that badly crippled the economy and dented Putin's ratings, delegating the power to enforce coronavirus restrictions to regional authorities.

The soaring infections have increased the pressure on Russia's health care system, with hospitals filling up quickly. Speaking at a Cabinet meeting Tuesday, Health Minister Mikhail Murashko said 11% of Russia's 235,000 hospitalized Covid-19 patients are in serious or critical condition.



A medical specialist transports a patient outside a Covid hospital in Moscow on Wednesday. *Reuters*

US to reopen land borders in Nov for fully vaccinated

ZEKE MILLER

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 13

THE US will reopen its land borders to nonessential travel next month, ending a 19-month freeze due to the Covid-19 pandemic as the country moves to require all international visitors to be vaccinated against the coronavirus.

Vehicle, rail and ferry travel between the US and Canada and Mexico has been largely restricted to essential travel, such as trade, since the earliest days of the pandemic. The new rules, announced Wednesday, will allow fully vaccinated foreign nationals to enter the US regardless of the reason for travel starting in early November, when a similar easing of restrictions is set to

kick in for air travel into the country. By mid-January, even essential travellers seeking to enter the US, like truck drivers, will need to be fully vaccinated.

Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said he was "pleased to be taking steps to resume regular travel in a safe and sustainable manner" and lauded the economic benefits of it.

Both Mexico and Canada have pressed the US for months to ease restrictions on travel that have separated families and curtailed leisure trips since the onset of the pandemic. The latest move follows last month's announcement that the US will end country-based travel bans for air travel and instead require vaccination for foreign nationals seeking to enter by plane. **AP**

FB to change rules on attacking public figures on its platforms

ELIZABETH CULLIFORD

OCTOBER 13

FACEBOOK INC will now count activists and journalists as "involuntary" public figures and so increase protections against harassment and bullying targeted at these groups, its global safety chief said in an interview this week.

The social media company, which allows more critical commentary of public figures than of private individuals, is changing its approach on the harassment of journalists and human rights "defenders", who it says are in the public eye due to their work rather than their public personas.

Facebook is under wide-ranging scrutiny from global lawmakers and regulators over its content moderation practices and harms linked to its platforms, with internal documents leaked by a whistleblower forming the basis for a US Senate hearing last week.

How Facebook, which has about 2.8 billion monthly active users, treats public figures and content posted by or about those figures has been an area of intense debate. In recent weeks, the company's "cross check" system, which the *Wall Street Journal* reported has the effect of exempting some high-profile users from usual Facebook rules, has been in the spotlight.

Facebook also differentiates between public figures and private individuals in the protections it affords around online discussion: for instance, users are

Company says changing its approach on harassment of journalists, human rights defenders in the public eye due to their work rather than their public personas

generally allowed to call for the death of a celebrity in discussions on the platform, as long as they do not tag or directly mention the celebrity. They cannot call for the death of a private individual, or now a journalist, under Facebook's policies.

The company declined to share a list of other involuntary public figures but said they are assessed on a case-by-case basis. Earlier this year, Facebook said it would remove content celebrating or mocking George Floyd's death, because he was deemed an involuntary public figure.

Facebook's Global Head of Safety Antigone Davis said the company was also expanding the types of attacks that it would not allow on public figures on its sites, as part of an effort to reduce attacks disproportionately faced by women, people of color and the LGBTQ community.

Facebook will no longer allow sexualizing content, derogatory sexualized photoshopped images or drawings or negative attacks on a person's appearance, for example, in comments on a public figure's profile. **REUTERS**

China envoy to Nepal bats for unity between Oli, Prachanda parties

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE

KATHMANDU, OCTOBER 13

THE VISION of unity between the KP Oli-led Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML) and the Maoist Center led by Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' is not yet a closed chapter, as far as Chinese Ambassador Hou Yanqi is concerned.

Virtually addressing an event Wednesday as part of the Communist Party of China completing 100 years, Hou made clear that though the merger between the two parties as the Communist Party of Nepal (CPN) may have lasted less than two years, she wants the two to reunite and take a consolidated communist movement forward.

"I wish that the UML and the Maoists remain true to their fundamental aspiration and take the communist movement forward together," she said.

However, Hou did not mention the other communist groups in Nepal, notably the Unified Socialists led by Madhav Kumar Nepal, which had split from the CPN-UML. The Maoist Center and the Unified Socialists are part of the Nepali Congress-led coalition government, while Oli's CPN-UML is the main opposition in Parliament.

This is not the first time that Hou has tried to unify the Oli and Dahal factions but each attempt has ultimately failed.

The body collector of Spain: When migrants die at sea, he gets them home

NICHOLAS CASEY & LEIRE ARIZ SARASETA

ALGECIRAS, SPAIN, OCTOBER 13

NO ONE knew the man's name when he washed ashore. His body had floated in the ocean for weeks, and it then sat much of the summer unidentified in a refrigerator in a Spanish morgue.

He was one among thousands lost at sea during what has been a record year for migrant drownings in Spain. And he might have been sent with the other unclaimed dead to an unmarked grave if Martin Zamora had not figured out that the body had a name, and a life.

He was Achraf Ameer, 27, a mechanic from Tangier. He had been missing for weeks when Zamora reached his family by WhatsApp. He had found their

son's body. He could bring it to them in Morocco, for a price.

"Sometimes, I get the feeling that some years ahead — in 30, 40, 50 years, I don't know how many — they will look at us like monsters," he said. "They'll see us all as monsters because we just let people die this way."

Zamora is the owner of Southern Funeral Assistance, a mortuary in Algeciras. But he has become more than that. Zamora is the body collector of those who don't make it to Spain alive.

Zamora, who says he has repatriated more than 800 bodies in two decades, has forged a business model like few others. He wrestles with municipal officials to hand over bodies so he can embalm them. He works with smugglers to find the relatives of the dead, and has made scores of trips to Africa.



Martin Zamora (left) and his son Martin Jr prepare the body of a migrant who drowned in the Mediterranean Sea. *NYT*

For families who had given up their loved ones as missing, Zamora's work can offer a kind of closure they had lost all hope for.

But his services come at a steep cost — he charges \$3,500 or

more to get a body home. No Spanish agency will pay for what he does, and the profit margins of the work are low, he says.

"My next worry is finding the money," Zamora said. "The fam-

ily has nothing."

Spain is witnessing a devastating procession of migrants drowning at sea.

During the first six months of the year, 2,087 people died or went missing trying to make it to the country's shores, including 341 women and 91 children, according to Caminando Fronteras, a nongovernmental group that tracks the deaths. The International Organization for Migration, a United Nations body that keeps a more conservative count, has recorded more than 1,300 deaths so far this year.

The body is the mystery. The clothes are often the only clues.

"It can be hard to identify someone's face," Zamora said. "But a shoe, a jersey, a T-shirt — suddenly a family member will recognize it, because it once was a gift." Just before the summer,

Zamora said he received a WhatsApp message from a man who identified himself as Yusef and said he worked at a mosque in the city of La Linea, across the border from the Rock of Gibraltar.

"There were two boys we don't know if they are alive or dead — surely they are dead," began the voice message. "The family was looking everywhere and I said we would ask someone we know who is involved in this kind of thing."

The next message contained a picture of three men in a dinghy with homemade life vests, taken moments before they left Morocco. One was Achraf Ameer, the illiterate mechanic from Tangier.

With that, Zamora contacted the local authorities, who had a body in the morgue. They gave

Zamora photographs of the man's clothes, and Zamora — helped by Yusef — located Ameer's sister in Tangier and showed her a photo of the clothes.

"The paint on his clothes was the paint he has on his clothes at work," the sister, Soukaina Ameer, 28, said in a telephone interview from Tangier.

Yet the work hardly felt finished. In the adjoining room sat stacks of case files, people whose bodies Zamora was still trying to locate after their relatives had gotten in touch with him. There was an Algerian man, born in 1986. There were two Moroccans who had been lost at sea; and a Syrian man, who once had a wife and lived in Aleppo.

And there was a ringing from the other room, and with it, another possible lead. **NYT**

Sharjah six

KKR enter final in dramatic fashion as Rahul Tripathi hits a penultimate-ball six to end DC's IPL



KKR's Rahul Tripathi clobbers a six off Ravichandran Ashwin to help pull-off a dramatic win in a topsy-turvy game against Delhi Capitals. *iplt20.com*

SYNONYM: . KKR's collective effort prevails on top of another middle-overs choke and Varun's brilliance.

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
OCTOBER 13

KOLKATA KNIGHT Riders almost snatched defeat from the jaws of victory, and losing this game from 125/2 after 16.3 overs would have been unpardonable. They were chasing 136 for victory, but as Shubman Gill departed, wickets tumbled and dot balls piled up. Dinesh Karthik, Eoin Morgan, Shakib Al Hasan and Sunil Narine returned to the dug-out without opening their account.

With seven runs needed off the final over, DC captain Rishabh Pant picked his most experienced bowler, Ravichandran Ashwin. Until then, the senior off-spinner had been overshadowed by his KKR counterpart Varun Chakravarty. As the now-or-never moment arrived, Ashwin rose to the occasion, dismissing Shakib and Narine in successive balls. KKR chief executive Venky Mysore held his head in his hands, while to paraphrase Tony Greig, DC fans danced in the aisles in Sharjah.

And yet, KKR were just one big hit away from victory and Rahul Tripathi delivered that secure a three-wicket win in the Qualifier 2, with one ball remaining, to take his team to the final.

KKR's collective effort

Time after time, throughout the second phase of the IPL in UAE, it has been a case of the whole being greater than the sum of its

parts. Only three KKR players are in their respective national teams for the T20 World Cup – Eoin Morgan, Varun Chakravarty and Lockie Ferguson.

Against a bunch of individual also-rans, DC boasted international pedigree. They surrendered to the collective strength of KKR, Tripathi's match-winning six epitomising it. Before him, Gill and Venkatesh Iyer put on 96 runs for the opening wicket, which eventually proved to be the difference.

Iyer's countering of Ashwin attested his cricketing example. The latter had just moved the deep square-leg fielder towards deep mid-wicket before going low-arm, outside the off-stump. Iyer swept it finer, through the vacant region for a four. Square-of-the-wicket, though, wasn't his go-to area. During his 41-ball 55, the left-hander mostly tried to play straight before his dismissal to a pull. The opener wasn't afraid of charging down the pitch against Kagiso Rabada. His reading of Ashwin was superb. Without his 320 runs in matches, KKR wouldn't have had this turnaround.

Middle-overs choke

Pitches in Sharjah have been tailor-made for KKR, their style of bowling to be precise, which revels in not giving the length and width to the batsmen. Batting first at this venue has been a problem, with the ball not coming on to bat after getting a little older and softer. Evening dew, resulting in the surface getting a tad greasy, made batting second comparatively easier.

As Morgan chose to field, the Powerplay was the key for DC to wrest the initiative, with Prithvi Shaw being their chief attacking weapon. Once Shaw was out early after a quick start, KKR put on the choke and DC



Venkatesh Iyer top-scored for Kolkata with 55 off 41.

gasped for breath.

Middle-overs have been KKR's domain in Sharjah; their spinners hitting good length and bowling straight on a slow pitch with low bounce. DC sent Marcus Stoinis as a pinch-hitter at No. 3, but it wasn't easy to force the pace on this surface.

Shikhar Dhawan at the other end took eight balls to get off the mark and apart from a couple of sixes against Narine, he never looked at his fluent best. DC scored 38/1 in the Powerplay and after that KKR tightened the screw even more. Between seven and 15 overs, DC scored 52 runs for the loss of two more wickets. Even in the final five overs, they failed to up the ante considerably, posting 135/5.

Every bowler contributed. After an ex-

pensive first over, Narine came back well to finish with 27 from four overs. Shakib recovered from a Shaw battering to concede 28 runs in his four overs. Lockie Ferguson bowled quick, claiming Pant's scalp in the process. Barring a no-ball that gave Shimron Hetmyer a reprieve, Shivam Mavi, too, wasn't leaky and cleaned up Stoinis. Hetmyer hit two sixes after the reprieve and Shreyas Iyer hit another maximum in the final ball of the innings to give DC's total a fighting edge. As for KKR, Varun Chakravarty was brilliant.

Varun's brilliance

On this form, he presents a strong case to be India's first-choice spinner at the T20 World Cup. Varun has been instrumental in KKR's middle-overs choke, maintaining an economy rate of less than seven runs per over in the UAE-leg of the tournament. The 30-year-old also has the ability to bowl inside the Powerplays.

Almost every time, when his team needed a wicket, Varun stood up to be counted. This game was no different. After Shakib and Narine were hit for plenty in consecutive overs, the unassuming spinner from Tamil Nadu came into the attack in the fifth over and trapped Shaw leg-before with a googly in his first ball. And with Dhawan looking to accelerate, Varun dismissed him with another back-of-the-hand delivery. He finished his spell with 2/26, taking his tournament tally to 18 wickets from 16 games.

BRIEF SCORES: Delhi Capitals: 135 for 5 in 20 overs (Shikhar Dhawan 36, Shreyas Iyer 30 not out; Varun Chakravarty 2/26) lost to Kolkata Knight Riders: 136 for 7 in 19.5 overs (Venkatesh Iyer 55, Shubman Gill 46; Kagiso Rabada 2/23, Anrich Nortje 2/31, R Ashwin 2/27).

EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER



armour Hot heads, calm minds and everything in between at the game

Daunted, defensive Ashwin



R Ashwin had to defend seven runs in the final over. *iplt20.com*

Perhaps, it was the dew factor but R Ashwin was too defensive for the first three overs, firing the ball across without much guile. He got a chance to redeem himself in the last over of the chase and nearly pulled it off too. He was defending just 7 runs after Kagiso Rabada and Anrich Nortje had sent a shiver down KKR's spine but Shakib Al Hasan and Sunil Narine were still there. Ashwin buckled his knees, stooped,

and side-armed loopy slow stuff this time. And Shakib fell, lbw and then Ashwin held his nerve to keep the ball slow and loopy to Narine who holed out to long-off. Then with 6 runs needed off the final two, Ashwin had his first mistake of that over. He went for the short and flat stuff and Tripathi walloped it for the match-winning six over long-off, with an unperishable grin in tow.

Candies & friendly full-toss

It was only a cursory smile, but its significance couldn't be understated. Shikhar Dhawan was looking a fish out of water against Lockie Ferguson's pace.



Ferguson bowled a 152-kph thunderbolt and Dhawan wanted to play it past point. But the Delhi Capitals opener was a little late and the ball zipped past. The next delivery came at 148 kph, the southpaw charged down the track, aiming to play it over point. Yet again, he was beaten for pace. Another express delivery followed, fuller and thudding on to the pad. Dhawan still wasn't off the mark. An over later, he was up against Sunil Narine's mystery and the first ball beat the bat again. Pressure was mounting, when Narine bowled a friendly full-toss, allowing Dhawan to break the shackles. The getting out of jail shot deserved a smile, relief writ large on his face.

Brusque Ananthapadmanabhan

Prithvi Shaw had no chance once he didn't read the ball from the hands of Varun Chakravarty. He had plonked his front foot forward



and across and waited for his doom. The ball from Chakravarty landed on a length and broke in to rap the pad first before it hit the bat. The appeal went up with the umpire K N Ananthapadmanabhan, who was a leg spinner with a good googly in his playing days who took his time to agree with the increasingly-anxious Chakravarty and Dinesh Karthik. Ananthapadmanabhan is well-respected in domestic cricket and his role model in umpiring is S Venkataragavan, whose brusque manner seems to have somehow rubbed off on him. He can be quite stern if the players carry on with their appeals or unnecessarily question his decisions.

Name's Rahul

KKR wanted 7 runs in 6 balls for a place in the final. Rahul Tripathi could have easily made it "1 run in 5 balls" had he shown the deserving disrespect to Ashwin's rank long-hop. He swung but the ball rolled to long-on, and equally slowly Tripathi dragged his feet to the other end. Had he missed the chance to be the hero? While the match swung to extreme emotions, Rahul would've stewed for not taking Ashwin's early gift. On second thoughts, had he killed the climax on the first ball of the final over, it would have been so un-IPLish. KKR, a franchise owned by a Bollywood star, reaching the final without drama so unreal. Next time Rahul was on strike, the ball sailed over long-on boundary. Tripathi gave his toothy smile to the de-



light of the KKR dugout and the pandals around the world. Rahul first tied himself in knots and when the world thought he was trapped, he cut loose. Just like those Bollywood Rahuls.

WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

Ugly stands: Hungary fans clash with police; bottles hurled at Poland players

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LONDON, OCTOBER 13

CROWD TROUBLE marred World Cup qualifiers as Hungary fans clashed with police during a 1-1 draw against England at Wembley Stadium and Poland's players walked off in Albania after bottles were hurled in another Group I match on Tuesday.

Karol Swiderski had just scored for Poland in the 77th minute when he was struck by a bottle thrown from the stands. It led to the game being suspended for around 20 minutes before Poland returned to the field and held on to win 1-0.

Euro 2020 finalist England is now three points clear of Poland, with games against Albania and San Marino remaining next month in the pursuit of automatic qualification for the World Cup in Qatar next year.

The disorder in London happened around kickoff after England players taking a knee had been booed by the visiting fans.

"Officers entered the stand to arrest a spectator for a racially aggravated public or-

der offence following comments made towards a steward," the Metropolitan Police said in a statement. "As the officers made the arrest, minor disorder broke out involving other spectators."

Police were seen wielding batons to hold back the visiting fans. The remainder of the game passed off largely peacefully. Luke Shaw's foul on Loic Nego led to Roland Sallai putting Hungary ahead from the penalty spot in the 24th minute. England equalized in the 37th when John Stones turned in a free kick from Manchester City teammate Phil Foden. England coach Gareth Southgate even took captain Harry Kane and Raheem Sterling off with 15 minutes to go for Jordan Henderson and Tammy Abraham.

But England couldn't produce a winner, dropping points in a home qualifier for the first time since a draw against Ukraine in September 2012.

"Disappointing performance," Southgate said. "Full credit to Hungary. I thought they caused us a tactical problem and I don't think we played at the level we needed to play. "We'll go away and think about the balance



Hungary fans clash with police officers in the stands during the World Cup Group I Qualifying match against England at Wembley Stadium.

SCORELINE

England 1 – 1 Hungary
John Stones 37' Roland Sallai 24' (P)

of the team but individually we can do better as well. We shouldn't just judge things on one game, right across the board we weren't sharp with our play, gave the ball away."

Disorder by Hungary fans – including racism – during the home match against England in Budapest last month led to Hungary having to play Saturday's game against Albania in an empty stadium. FIFA put Hungary on probation with the threat of another game being played without fans if there was further disorder at games.

England defender Tyrone Mings said he hopes "the punishment this time fits what happened."

FIFA opened disciplinary proceedings Wednesday after condemning disorder involving Hungary and Albania fans.

"Following an analysis of the match reports, FIFA has opened disciplinary proceed-

ings in relation to yesterday's England v. Hungary and Albania v. Poland FIFA World Cup qualifier matches," world football's governing body said in a statement.

Ronaldo hat-trick

A 58th career hat-trick from Cristiano Ronaldo helped Portugal stroll to a 5-0 home win over Luxembourg in Group A of World Cup qualifying on Tuesday.

The treble, which meant Ronaldo became the first man to net 10 international hat-tricks, takes his tally to 115 international goals from 182 caps as he continues to pull away as the top men's international goalscorer of all-time.

Victory ensures Portugal remain a point behind leaders Serbia, who moved onto 17 points with a 3-1 home win over Azerbaijan, with a game in hand and superior goal difference. Portugal had the game all but won within the first 18 minutes.

Ronaldo struck twice from the penalty spot before his Manchester United team mate Bruno Fernandes made it three as he fired in following good work from Bernardo Silva.

Thakur replaces Axar in T20 World Cup squad

DEVENDRA PANDEY
OCTOBER 13

SHARDUL THAKUR replaced Axar Patel in India's squad for the upcoming T20 World Cup on Wednesday. The decision — which comes a month after the Board of Control for Cricket in India's original squad announcement — now sees Patel replace Thakur on the standby list, joining Shreyas Iyer and Deepak Chahar.

The BCCI All-India Senior Selection Committee has also added Kolkata Knight Riders breakout star Venkatesh Iyer and seven others to the list of players who will assist the team in their preparations.

"After a discussion with the team management has added Shardul Thakur to the main squad. All-rounder Axar Patel, who was part of the 15-member squad will now be on the list of standby players," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said in a statement.

As per the ICC guidelines, any team taking part in T20 World Cup can change their squad by October 15.

There was no further reason given on why medium-pacer Thakur has replaced left-arm spinner Patel, who has performed decently till now for Delhi Capitals in the ongoing IPL. Patel took 15 wickets in 12 games for Delhi, with an economy of 6.65.

Thakur, meanwhile, has taken 18 wickets for the finalists Chennai Super Kings with an economy of 8.75.

The UAE leg of this year's IPL has seen spinners call the shots in most of the games. The India squad currently has Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami and Bhuvneshwar Kumar as pacers. It is highly unlikely that

Hardik Pandya will bowl in the T20 World Cup as the all-rounder hasn't bowled a single over in the IPL for Mumbai Indians during the second leg. As of now, the 28-year-old's role in the team looks to be that of a batsman.

Iyer to assist

The selection committee also added opener Venkatesh Iyer to the list of players who will "assist Team India in their preparations" for the tournament. Though Iyer can bowl, the 26-year-old has been a revelation for Kolkata Knight Riders with the bat. There is no clarity on the thought process of having Iyer on the list of players who will assist Team India. Along with Iyer, others joining the team's bubble in Dubai are pacers Avesh Khan, Umran Mallik, Harshal Patel, Lukman Meriwala, leg spinner Karn Sharma and spinners Shahbaz Ahmed and K Gowtham.

India's squad for ICC T20 World Cup: Virat Kohli (captain), Rohit Sharma (vice-captain), KL Rahul, Suryakumar Yadav, Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper), Ishan Kishan, Hardik Pandya, Ravindra Jadeja, Rahul Chahar, Ravichandran Ashwin, Shardul Thakur, Varun Chakravarty, Jasprit Bumrah, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Mohammad Shami

Stand-by players: Shreyas Iyer, Deepak Chahar, Axar Patel

The following cricketers will join the team bubble in Dubai and assist Team India in their preparations: Avesh Khan, Umran Malik, Harshal Patel, Lukman Meriwala, Venkatesh Iyer, Karn Sharma, Shahbaz Ahmed and K. Gowtham.

Dravid likely to be interim coach for NZ series

DEVENDRA PANDEY
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 13

RAHUL DRAVID is likely to be approached by the Indian cricket board to be the interim coach for India's home series against New Zealand. Head coach Ravi Shastri and the core of the support staff will move on after the T20 World Cup but the board has realised the

search for a new coach could take longer than expected and hence wants an experienced hand like Dravid at the helm as a stop-gap arrangement.

It's learnt that a few Australian coaches expressed interest in the job, but the BCCI isn't keen as they are focussing on an Indian for the role, before they look elsewhere. The BCCI had wanted Dravid to become the full-time coach of the

Indian team but he had refused, it's learnt, as he didn't want to travel too much.

Dravid the in-charge of the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru. The Indian board later approached a few more coaches but are yet to get a positive response. The BCCI has not officially put out an advertisement for the coach but has been looking around for a candidate who could fit the

bill. The Indian cricket board is first trying to find out the availability of potential candidates before putting out an advertisement.

"We wanted the candidate whom we feel is best suited for the job to agree first (to apply for the job)," a BCCI official explained their rationale to delay the advertisement. "We don't want a situation where we get applications but no one is seen as ideal. It will be em-

barrassing for the board and for the candidates too. So it's better to find a suitable candidate first, till then Dravid can be interim coach," a BCCI official said.

The board had initially considered the possibility of requesting Shastri to continue till that New Zealand series but have since changed their mind. Dravid has coached the second-string Indian team in Sri Lanka when the main

team were concurrently playing in Australia earlier this year. India are scheduled to play two Tests and three T20's against New Zealand immediately after the T20 World Cup.

The tenure of Shastri, bowling coach Bharat Arun and fielding coach R Sridhar comes to an end after the T20 World Cup. Indian team Trainer Nick Webb too will quit after the T20 World Cup.





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