



## Disha Ravi toolkit case: With probe making no headway, closure report may be an option

**JIGNASA SINHA**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

THE PROBE into the case against climate activist Disha Ravi, who was arrested February by Delhi Police in connection with a toolkit on the farmer protests, has hit a roadblock, with neither Google nor Zoom responding to queries by investigators.

Sources told *The Indian Express* that this means police will most likely not file a chargesheet against Ravi who was booked under IPC sections relating to sedition, promoting enmity and criminal conspiracy. One of the options on the table, sources said, is filing a closure report in the case.

Ravi, who was arrested from her Bengaluru home on February 13 and released on bail 10 days later by a Delhi court, was accused of being a "key con-



Google, Zoom have not replied to queries by officials

spirator" in the dissemination of a toolkit in the form of a Google document on the farmer protests, which was shared on Twitter by Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg. Mumbai-based advocate Nikita Jacob and engineer Shantanu were accused of making and editing the toolkit with her.

In the FIR lodged by Delhi Police against the creators of the toolkit, it was alleged that its contents made it evident that the January 26 "violence" in Delhi during a tractor rally by farmers was a "pre-planned conspiracy" aimed at attacking

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## Shah 'mann ki baat': why Pak, if talks are to be held, will do it with brothers, sisters of Valley

**NAVEEDIQBAL**  
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 25

UNDERLINING THAT "people of Kashmir have as much right on the country as I do", Union Home Minister Amit Shah said Monday that if talks on J&K have to be held, he will speak to "my brothers and sisters in the Valley, and the youth in the Valley".

On his first visit to the Valley following the August 2019 removal of J&K's special status under Article 370 and its bifurcation into two Union Territories, Shah told a public meeting at the Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar that he has been subjected to "many taunts", "cursed" repeatedly, and that the "strongest words" have been used to criticise him.

He asked for removal of the bullet-proof frame around the podium and told the crowd — it



Shah at a public meeting in Srinagar Monday. He asked for bullet-proof frame around the podium to be removed. ANI

included BJP workers, beneficiaries of government schemes, members of Panchayati Raj institutions — that he wished to speak his "mann ki baat".

"I read in the newspapers today that Farooq (Abdullah) Sahab's advice to me is that the Government of India should hold talks with Pakistan. He is an

experienced leader and has been Chief Minister. It is his advice, but I want to tell Farooq Sahab and especially people here that if talks are to be held, I will speak to my brothers and sisters in the Valley, and the youth in the Valley. Why shouldn't I speak to you?" he said.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## ARYAN BAIL HEARING TODAY

# Court denies Wankhede, NCB pleas for blanket order on extortion claim

Vigilance inquiry begins against Wankhede, he tells court he is facing 'lurking threat of arrest'

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 25

A SPECIAL NDPS court here Monday refused to pass a blanket order barring authorities from taking cognizance of an affidavit of an independent witness in the alleged drugs case involving Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan. In the affidavit filed Sunday, the witness, Prabhakar Sail, had accused Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Mumbai Zonal Director Sameer Wankhede and others of trying to extort money from Khan in the case.

The NCB filed an application and Wankhede separately filed an affidavit before Special Judge V V Patil, designated to hear cases related to the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, seeking that no cognizance be taken of Sail's affidavit. They argued that Sail's allegations were an attempt to scuttle the investigation into the case. In its affidavit, the NCB also sought orders to ensure there was no tampering with the

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

Wankhede at NCB office in Mumbai Monday. Ganesh Shirsekar

## Taking centrestage, a sideshow: the NCP minister vs the officer

**VISHWAS WAGHMODE & ZEESHAN SHAIKH**  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 25

ON OCTOBER 6, eight days after his son-in-law Sameer Khan was granted bail by a court in a drug case, NCP leader and Maharashtra minister Nawab Malik addressed a press conference accusing NCB Zonal Director Sameer Wankhede of foisting a false case, and acting as a "BJP pawn" to harass political opponents.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNNY



## IPL jackpot: Rs 7,090 cr for Lucknow, Rs 5,625 cr top bid for Ahmedabad

**EXPRESSAT**  
**T20 WORLD CUP****SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY**  
DUBAI, OCTOBER 25

ON A day when the Indian cricket board lined up an unprecedented windfall, their flagship tournament went truly global. At the auction to decide two new franchises in the Indian Premier League (IPL), Lucknow became the most-valued team ever and Ahmedabad got pocketed by one of the world's leading sports investors.

The Sanjiv Goenka-led RPSG Group will be guarding IPL's northern outpost after shelling out Rs 7,090 crore for Lucknow while private equity firm Irelia Company Pte Ltd (CVC Capital Partners) forked out Rs 5,625

**EXPLAINED**

### Now cricket's prime event

THE WINNING bids for the two new franchises show how the IPL has become the prime event in the cricket ecosystem, and underscore its economic model. From eight teams and 60 matches to 10 teams, 74 matches, the revamped tournament will test the international schedule.

crore to head west and make the world's biggest cricket stadium at Motera their home.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## Conversion law: UP says community interest over individual's

**ASAD REHMAN**  
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 25

WHILE DEFENDING the anti-conversion Act in the Allahabad High Court, the UP government has submitted that "it is well settled that the community interest will always prevail over individual interest".

The government made the submission in an affidavit filed by Special Secretary (Home) Atal Kumar Rai in the Allahabad High Court, which is hearing a batch of petitions challenging the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021.

The affidavit was filed in reply to the petition by Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives Trust (AALI). The matter will

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## Disgusted with Punjab Cong leaders, won't come to India: Aroosa

**KANCHAN VASDEV & DIVYA GOYAL**  
CHANDIGARH, LUDHIANA, OCTOBER 25

CAUGHT IN the midst of a slugfest between former Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh and Congress leaders, Pakistan journalist Aroosa Alam said she was "extremely disappointed and disgusted with Punjab



Hurt and heartbroken, she says

Congress politicians" and would "never come back to India" as she was "hurt and heartbroken". Last week, Punjab Deputy

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

### EXPRESS NETWORK



**DADASAHEB PHALKE AWARD FOR RAJINIKANTH** **PAGE 8**

## After film crew attacked, MP minister calls for prior nod for shoot

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
BHOPAL, OCTOBER 25

A DAY after Bajrang Dal members vandalised the set of Prakash Jha's Aashram-3 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra said the government would make it mandatory for filmmakers to obtain the approval of the district administration before shooting scenes that could offend religious sentiments.

Mishra also said he had asked the state police chief to review an advertisement for a fairness product that showed a lesbian couple celebrating Karwa Chauth, and ask the manufacturer to withdraw it.

The manufacturer, Dabur, has already apologised and pulled the ad from social media.

"Aapatti hai (we object)," Mishra said with regard to both

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

### THE WORLD



**GREENHOUSE GAS LEVELS HIT RECORD; WORLD STRUGGLES TO CURB DAMAGE**

**SUDAN'S MILITARY TAKES OVER, ARRESTS PM** **PAGE 14**

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# 3 THE CITY

## JANTAR MANTAR SLOGANS: POLICE FILE CHARGESHEET

# 'Accused used WhatsApp, Facebook to mobilise crowd'

**MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

FIVE WHATSAPP groups and a Facebook page have been identified by investigators probing the Jantar Mantar sloganeering case, with Delhi Police stating in its chargesheet that they were used by six of the nine accused to mobilise crowds.

The men were arrested for allegedly raising inflammatory, anti-Muslim slogans at Jantar Mantar during a protest march on August 8. The event, against "Colonial-era laws", was called by former Delhi BJP spokesperson Ashwini Upadhyay, who is now one of the accused.

"Apart from Ashwini, the arrested persons are Preet Singh (32), president of Save India Foundation; Deepak Singh (32), president of Hindu Force; Vinod Sharma (30), president of Sudarshan Vahini; Vinit Bajpai



The event was held on August 8. Archive

(26); Deepak Kumar (28), member of Hindu Raksha Dal and district president of Northeast Delhi Gau Raksha Dal; Sushil Tiwari (42), president of Hindu Army Sangathan; Uttam Upadhaya (27), associated with Bajrang Dal and president of BJP Kisan Morcha Mandal; and Bhupender Tomar alias Pinky (45), president of Hindu Raksha Dal," police said in their chargesheet.

The investigation officer, sub-inspector Ramkesh, stated: "The arrested men manage

WhatsApp groups through which they mobilised crowds. Deepak Singh is the admin of Hindu Force WhatsApp group; Vinod Sharma is also the admin of Sudarshan Vahini group; Sushil Tiwari is admin of Hindu Army Sangathan WhatsApp group; Uttam Upadhaya is the admin of a group, Bhagwadhari Yodha; Bhupender Tomar is the admin of Hindu Raksha Dal; and Vinit Bajpai has a Facebook page called Mahakal team."

Police said they have 18 witnesses in total — 13 policemen, deployed for security, four media persons, and an employee of a telecom service provider. "We checked phone locations after procuring reports from their mobile service providers and found they all were present at Jantar Mantar when the incident took place," the chargesheet states.

IO Ramkesh further states, "On July 30, accused Ashwini Upadhyay had filed an application with DCP (New Delhi dis-

trict) for permission to organise a rally at Jantar Mantar on August 8, but it was turned down. He sent another request on August 4, asking for space at Jantar Mantar and security for a rally where around 50-60 people would come, but it was rejected again. We found that Upadhyay had mentioned Preet Singh's name in his application for organising the event. They sent invites through social media and a large number of people reached (the spot) on August 8, in violation of social distancing norms."

In their chargesheet, police also attached an unsigned disclosure by Ashwini Upadhyay, purportedly stating that he called a press conference on July 11 where Preet Singh, Pinky Chaudhary and Vinod Sharma were present.

"He asked everyone to go on live on Facebook to spread their message. Our head constable, Anil, who was on duty, identified Ashwini when he went on stage," police have claimed.

## UP cops booked for extortion

**Noida:** Four UP policemen and two others were booked for allegedly extorting money from a Noida resident. According to police, an FIR was filed against Rajendra Yadav, his son Amit and four unidentified policemen after they allegedly extorted nearly Rs 10 lakh from the victim.

The police personnel are currently absconding, said officials.

"The complainant alleged that two persons came with policemen to take money from them. The victim alleged that they were taken to a police station where they were made to sign cheques. An officer has been sent to obtain any footage or relevant evidence..." said Vivek Trivedi, SHO of Phase 3 Police Station. **ENS**



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e-Tender for and on behalf of West Central Railways is invited in Two Stage bid System from bidders meeting qualifying requirements for the work of "Manufacturing and Supply of Elastic Rail Clip MK-V, RDSO Drgno. 5919. As per IRS Specification No. T-31-92 (Corrigendum no. 4 of December 2016) with latest amendment upto date of opening of tender for Katni Junction to Singrauli in connection with Katni-Singrauli Rail Project of WCR, Jabalpur (M.P.)

Estimated Cost	INR 5,16,76,800/-
Last Date and Time of e-Bid Submission	11.11.2021 up to 15.00 hrs (IST)

For further details, visit website <https://tenders.gov.in/e-procurement/app> Corrigendum, if any, would be hosted only on the website. Chief General Manager/Katni Project Office: First Floor, Near Jhijhira Police Station, NH-7, Jabalpur Road, Katni-483501 (MP)

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An Indian National/ Overseas citizen of India who intends to take admission in Higher education in Engineering & Technology Programme in Pakistan shall require to obtain No Objection Certificate from AICTE. The student should apply for such clearance in prescribed proforma available on AICTE website.

Advt. No: Approval Bureau/10(02)/2021

Member Secretary (AICTE)

## 1 dead and 3 injured as SUV hits tempo

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

A 35-YEAR-OLD tempo driver was killed while three passengers were severely injured after an SUV hit the vehicle in Southeast Delhi's Okhla early on Monday. Police said the impact of the crash was such that the tempo split into two.

The driver of the vehicle, an MG Hector, has been identified as Aditya Khurana (25). He has been arrested. DCP (Southeast) Esha Pandey said, "We found that Khurana was under the influence of alcohol. He was apprehended from the spot by picket staff and has been booked under sections of rash driving, causing hurt by endangering life and death by negligence."

The incident took place at 1.52 am on Outer Ring Road. The four men were pulled out from the tempo by local police staff and were rushed to AI-IMS Trauma Centre. The tempo driver, Radhey Shyam, was declared dead on arrival. His friends who were in the vehicle — Pankaj (21), Pankaj Pal (15) and Neeraj Aggarwal (36) — are undergoing treatment. Police said Shyam lived with his parents, wife and two children in Nangloi.

Khurana lives in Friends Colony and used to work as a marketing manager in a firm in Noida. He quit to prepare for the GMAT exam, said police.

In another incident, a 12-year-old boy died after a tempo allegedly hit him while he was playing outside his house in Majnu Ka Tila. The driver was caught by residents and beaten up. Police said he sustained injuries and was taken to Sushrut Trauma Centre.

### REMEMBERING ROHINI NAYYAR



31.10.1944 – 24.10.2021

#### Memorial Meeting

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

4:00-5:00 PM

Zoom Meeting ID: 882 2661 3518

Passcode: 309594

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Dhiraj Nayar & Divya Arora  
Gaurav Nayar & Naira Kalra

Rohit & Mina Chand  
Veena Khosla  
Vineet & Reva Nayar  
Kavita & Nripendra Vasudev

**Debts Recovery Tribunal-I, Delhi**  
4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building,  
Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

**O.A. No. 1341/2018**  
**Corporation Bank**  
Versus  
**Mr. Sumit Sharma & Ors.**

**To,**  
1. Mrs. Apurva Rao (Defendant No. 02)  
W/o Mr. Sumit Sharma, G-60, Govind Puram, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201013  
3. M/s P.S.A. Impex (Defendant No. 03)  
Pvt. Ltd. through Directors, Regd. Office: 8-A, Pocket A-2, Mayur Vihar, Phase-III, Delhi-110096. Corp. Office: B-7, First Floor, Sector-1, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 25,63,928/- (Rs. Twenty Five Lacs Sixty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Eight Only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before LD. Registrar on 27-10-2021 at 10.30 A.M. (for further details kindly visit DRT website [www.tribunal.gov.in](http://www.tribunal.gov.in)) Phone No. 011-23748473)

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Due to ongoing Pandemic Situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:-

(i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application / Software;

(ii) "Meeting ID" and "Password" for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by Registrar/Recovery Officer-I/ and Recovery Officer-II shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. "drt.gov.in" under the Public Notice Head.

(iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 011-23748473.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 31<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2021.

by order of this Tribunal  
for Registrar

Respondent may contact under mention phone number for further enquiry.  
Amit K. Dar, LD. Registrar, DRT-I, New Delhi  
Phone:- 011-23748473  
E-mail: drt1delhi-dfs@nic.in

<div>  <div> <b>टीएचडीसी इंडिया लिमिटेड</b>  <b>THDC INDIA LIMITED</b>            (श्रेणी-क, गिनी रत्न, सरकारी उपक्रम)            (Schedule - A, Mini Ratna, Government PSU)            CIN : U45203UR1988GOI009822         </div> </div>											
[Regulation 52 (8), read with Regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015]											
S. No.	Particulars	Standalone					Consolidated				
		Quarter ended	Six months ended	Year ended	Quarter ended	Six months ended	Year ended	Quarter ended	Six months ended	Year ended	
		30.09.2021	30.09.2020	30.09.2021	30.09.2020	31.03.2021	30.09.2021	30.09.2020	30.09.2021	31.03.2021	
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	Audited	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	Audited
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Total Income from operations	702.53	652.91	1018.80	1122.03	2501.93	702.55	652.91	1018.87	1122.03	2502.01
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	453.28	397.35	505.95	577.47	1383.31	453.30	397.36	505.03	577.47	1382.97
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	453.28	394.34	505.95	547.04	1347.65	453.30	394.34	505.03	547.04	1347.32
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	370.89	311.24	418.27	438.83	1092.41	370.71	311.24	418.34	438.83	1092.15
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	369.89	309.80	417.03	434.17	1052.72	369.91	309.80	417.10	434.17	1052.46
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	3665.88	3665.88	3665.88	3665.88	3665.88	3665.88	3665.88	3665.88	3665.88	3665.88
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	6477.74	6000.75	6477.74	6000.75	6251.55	6477.60	6000.75	6477.60	6000.75	6251.36
8	Securities Premium Account	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Net worth	10143.62	9666.64	10143.62	9666.64	9917.43	10143.48	9666.64	10143.48	9666.64	9917.24
10	Paid up Debt Capital/ Outstanding Debt	6480.59	5048.45	6480.59	5048.45	5547.73	6480.59	5048.45	6480.59	5048.45	5547.73
11	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Debt Equity Ratio	0.64	0.52	0.64	0.52	0.56	0.64	0.52	0.64	0.52	0.56
13	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 100/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) -										
1	Basic	101.12	84.91	114.10	119.11	297.99	101.12	84.91	114.11	119.11	297.94
2	Diluted	101.12	84.91	114.10	119.11	297.99	101.12	84.91	114.11	119.11	297.94
14	Capital Redemption Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Debt Redemption Reserve	103.75	53.50	103.75	53.50	79.50	103.75	53.50	103.75	53.50	79.50
16	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	0.95	0.85	1.04	0.92	1.78	0.95	0.85	1.04	0.92	1.78
17	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	4.74	5.95	2.72	3.68	4.35	4.74	5.95	2.72	3.68	4.35

# - Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items adjusted in the Statement of Profit and Loss in accordance with Ind AS Rules / AS Rules, whichever is applicable.

**Notes:**

- The above results have been approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 23.10.2021.
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of unaudited Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the unaudited Financial Results is available on the stock exchange websites, [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and on the Company's website [www.thdc.co.in](http://www.thdc.co.in)
- For the other line items referred in regulation 52(4) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, pertinent disclosures have been made to the stock exchanges and are available on the stock exchanges websites, [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com) and on the Company's website [www.thdc.co.in](http://www.thdc.co.in)

Place : New Delhi  
Date : 23.10.2021

For and on Behalf of Board of Directors  
Shri J. Behara, Director (Finance)/CFO  
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Bid Notice No. CGM (T)/HGCL/134/UC/2021-22 Date: 22-10-2021

**BID NOTICE**

The Hyderabad Outer Ring Road (ORR) is 158 km long 8 lanes Access Controlled Express Way with 19 interchanges having 180 toll lanes developed by Hyderabad Growth Corridor Limited (HGCL). The Road Users need to pay toll for using the ORR based on the distance travelled. **HGCL invites bids for "Collection of user fee/toll through an agency on the basis of competitive bidding on e-procurement basis for Hyderabad Outer Ring Road for a length of 158 km in the State of Telangana, India" for 18 months contract period.**

Sl. No.	Description of tender process	Date
1.	Bid document download start date	25.10.2021
2.	Pre-bid meeting	29.10.2021 at 11:00 AM
3.	Bid submission closing date & time	08.11.2021 at 3:00 PM
4.	Contract Period	18 months (Extendable for another 6 months)
5.	Minimum Annual Remittance Payable	Rs. 500.00 Crores

For further details and to download the Bid Document, log on to <https://tender.telangana.gov.in> or <https://www.hmda.gov.in>.

Any Amendments, updates regarding this Bid Notice will be published in the HMDA web site / e-Procurement Platform only.

For further queries please email: [cgmhgcl@gmail.com](mailto:cgmhgcl@gmail.com), Phone No. 040-29559433

CGM, HGCL

Form No. 3 [See Regulation-15 (1)(a)] / 16(3)

**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL DELHI(DRT 3)**

4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001.

Case No.: OA/156/2021

Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with sub-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993. Exh. No.: 3604

To, **BANK OF BARODA VS M/S FUTURESTIC INTERNATIONAL PVT. LTD. AND ORS.**

(1) M/S FUTURESTIC INTERNATIONAL PVT LTD AND ORS REGD OFFICE - 29/15, GROUND FLOOR, EAST PATEL NAGAR, Central, DELHI

(2) M/S MARG REALCON PVT LTD 28/6 GROUND FLOOR, EAST PATEL NAGAR, DELHI-110008

(3) MR PANKAJ MISHRA/OE-1/45, BLOCK E, PKT-1, SEC-18, ROHINI, DELHI

(4) MRS VANDINI GOEL R/O 5 HAUZ KHAS ENCLAVE, DELHI

(5) M/S AAA PAPER MARKETING LTD G-3 KIRTI MAHAL, RAJENDRA PLACE, DELHI-110008

(6) MR MANISH GARG R/O 705 GOVERDHAN TOWER, KAUSHAMBI NEAR ANAND VIHARBUS STAND, UP-201010

(7) MRS VINEETA GARG R/O 705 GOVERDHAN TOWER, KAUSHAMBI NEAR ANAND VIHARBUS STAND, UP-201010

**SUMMONS**

WHEREAS, OA/156/2021 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer/Registrar on 27/08/2021.

WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/ notice on the said Application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of Rs. 26769115.10/- (application along with copies of documents etc. annexed).

In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants are directed as under:

(i) to show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted;

(ii) to disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the original application;

(iii) you are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties;

(iv) you shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/ or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal;

(v) you shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realised by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.

You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before Registrar on 25/11/2021 at 10:30A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.

Due to ongoing Pandemic situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:- (i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the Cisco Webex application/software; (ii) Meeting ID and Password for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by Registrar/Recovery Officer /and Recovery Officer-II shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. [drt.gov.in](http://drt.gov.in) under the Public Notice Head. (iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph.No.23748469.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this date: 06/10/2021

Signature of the Officer Authorised to issue summons.

**EXPRESS Careers**

**KHALAPUR TALUKA SHIKSHAN PRASARAK MANDAL'S K.M.C. COLLEGE, KHOPOLI**

At. Post. - Khopoli, Tal. - Khalapur, Dist. - Raigad -410203.

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE POST OF **PRINCIPAL**

FROM THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022.

**AIDED**

(Second Advertisement)

The advertisement is approved subject to the final decision in the writ Petition No. 12051/2015. The above post is open to all however candidates from any category can apply for the post.

Reservation for women will be as per University Circular No. BCC/16/74/1998 dated 10<sup>th</sup> March, 1998. 4% reservation shall be for the persons with disability as per University Circular No. Special Cell/CC/2019-20/05 dated 05<sup>th</sup> July, 2019.

Candidates having knowledge of Marathi will be preferred.

"Qualification, Pay Scales and other requirement are as prescribed by the UGC Notification dated 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2018. Government of Maharashtra Resolution No. Nise-2018/C.L.56/18/UN-1, dated 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 and University circular No. TASS/CT/ICD/2018-19/1241, dated 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 and revised from time to time"

The Government Resolution & Circular are available on the website [mu.ac.in](http://mu.ac.in)

Applicants who are already employed must send their application through proper channel. Applicants are required to account for breaks, if any in their academic career.

Applications with full details should reach to the CHAIRMAN, KHALAPUR TALUKA SHIKSHAN PRASARAK MANDAL'S, K.M.C. COLLEGE, KHOPOLI, At. Post. - Khopoli, Tal. - Khalapur, Dist. - Raigad - 410203, within 15 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. This is University approved advertisement.

Sd/-  
CHAIRMAN



TOTAL CASES	HOSPITAL BEDS		Total	Vacant
	ICU BEDS		15,706	15,490
	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Oct 24	37	51	0	60,704
Oct 25	27	40	0	46,667
Total	307*	14,14,232	25,091	2,90,79,334

EXPERTS CALL FOR REGION-WIDE ACTION

# Pollution focus on Delhi, but NCR towns fare worse

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

WHILE DELHI is in the spotlight each time air quality takes a turn for the worse, other parts of the National Capital Region appear to be more polluted, data from the Central Pollution Control Board's (CPCB) daily bulletins shows.

As Delhi-NCR have the same 'airshed' — a region sharing a common flow of air — pollution in neighbouring cities adversely affects the national capital as well. As a result, experts have said measures taken to reduce air pollution in Delhi need to be applied across NCR.

Earlier this month, several cities in the NCR began to record worsening air quality. Ballabgarh, a town in Haryana's Faridabad district, for instance, recorded its first

'poor' air day (AQI of 221) this season on October 7. This was much higher than Delhi's AQI of 127 for the day. Faridabad similarly recorded a 'poor' AQI of 236 on the day, CPCB daily bulletins show.

While AQI of Ballabgarh and Faridabad was in the 'poor' category on October 8, Bhiwadi in Rajasthan's Alwar district, also recorded a 'poor' AQI of 242 on the same day.

While Delhi's AQI remained in the 'moderate' category, other areas in the NCR like Bulandshahr, Ghaziabad, Greater Noida and Meerut have been recording 'poor' AQI intermittently from October 9 onwards.

Delhi recorded its first 'poor' air day this season on October 16, remaining in the category on October 17 and 20. The same day, Greater Noida, Ghaziabad, Karnal, Noida and Bhiwadi all



Delhi saw its first 'poor' air day this season on Oct 16. *Archive*

saw AQI in the 'very poor' category. The air quality in Ghaziabad has, in fact, remained 'poor' or

'very poor' from October 16-24. From October 21-24, Delhi's AQI remained in the 'moderate'

## EXPLAINED Pollution sources: Study on Delhi, neighbouring cities

A source apportionment study for Delhi-NCR by TERI and the Automotive Research Association of India in 2018 had pointed out sources of pollutants through modelling studies. The annual emission inventory of pollutants in Delhi and NCR for 2016 shows that road dust, construction, and transport contribute the largest chunks to Delhi's PM 10 and PM 2.5 levels, while industries, residential sources, and agricultural burning contribute the largest shares to PM 10 and PM 2.5 levels in the NCR. There are, however, variations within the NCR — Ghaziabad and Faridabad, for instance, show significant influence of industrial emissions in winter, while Noida shows a slightly lower contribution of industries.

category, while Panipat and Sonipat deteriorated to 'poor' on October 21. AQI for Panipat re-

mained 'poor' on October 22, and Sonipat recorded 'poor' AQI on October 23 and 24 as well.

According to an analysis report by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), Delhi's winter PM 2.5 average was 192 last year (October 15, 2020 to February 15, 2021). Some parts of the NCR recorded higher levels. For Ghaziabad, this figure stood at 229, for Greater Noida it was 204, 203 in Noida, and 198 in Bulandshahr.

### How this affects Delhi

The Decision Support System developed by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, predicts the contribution of 19 nearby districts to PM 2.5 levels in Delhi, based on numerical modelling of atmospheric pollutants along with observational data from these districts.

The forecast for October 24 said that Faridabad is likely to contribute around 11.5% of PM 2.5

levels to Delhi around 6am, while Ghaziabad could contribute around 0.2% at the same time, and Bulandshahr could be 2.24%.

Scientists associated with the project maintained that precise contributions from these areas could be difficult to ascertain.

"When cool, calm conditions in winter trap pollutants, this happens across the Indo-Gangetic plain, and you can't create small green islands. Each city will require its own action plan and must take note of its local sources of pollution. But we also need a region-wide harmonisation of action. There is an asymmetry in action — Delhi might not have any coal-fired power plants, but the NCR has 11. We need strong regional action with clear targets," said Anumita Roychowdhury, Executive Director, Research and Advocacy, CSE.

## BRIEFLY

### HC: Rights of shoppers, hawkers need to be balanced

*New Delhi:* Observing that people have the right to have free access to market areas and demand a clean, hygienic and safe environment there, the Delhi High Court Monday said the number of vendors has to be determined keeping in mind the provisions of the master plan and other laws. It also said the condition of Nehru Place, a market which was developed primarily for selling computer hardware and related stuff, is "like a slum". However, it also clarified it was not against street hawking but said rights have to be balanced. The court was hearing a matter related to street vendors.

### Dengue cases cross 1,000

*New Delhi:* Dengue cases in Delhi have crossed the 1,000 mark this year, with 283 fresh cases reported in the last one week, as per a civic report released Monday. As per the report, one death and 1,006 cases have been recorded this season till October 23.

### Central Vista plea: SC seeks Centre reply

*New Delhi:* The Supreme Court Monday sought the Centre's reply to a plea challenging the proposed change in land use of a plot of land in the Central Vista area in connection with the construction of the official residence of the Prime Minister and Vice-President. A bench of Justices A M Khanwilkar and C T Ravikumar was hearing a plea by Advocate Rajeev Suri challenging the change in land use of the plot from recreational area to residential. **ENS**

# Never thought our next-door neighbour could do this: Mother of Dalit girl raped, killed in Gurgaon

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA  
GURGAON, OCTOBER 25

THE MOTHER of a five-year-old Dalit girl, who was raped and murdered in a village in Gurgaon on Sunday, said she had gone out to purchase bangles on Karva Chauth and left her daughter in the care of neighbours. "I was back in 20 minutes... I didn't know the man who lives next door from us would do this," she said.

Sitting on the floor outside her one-room house, she cursed herself as her daughter's body was taken for cremation on Monday afternoon.

"He (the accused) had been

drinking liquor since morning. I told his mother that I was going to the market for Karva Chauth shopping and will be back soon and left my daughter in her care. He has been living here for the past 6-7 months and on an earlier occasion too, I had asked them for help. So, I assumed my daughter was safe. A day earlier, we celebrated my daughter's birthday and all the tenants, including the accused, were present. I cannot trust anyone now," she said, breaking down several times.

The accused, a 22-year-old labourer, and his mother had rented the room adjacent to the victim's family.

Villagers said that at 10 am Sunday, the accused took her to a

deserted area in the hills behind their homes on the pretext of buying her sweets. "After she went missing, we looked for her for two and a half hours. At 1 pm, a teenage boy saw the accused carrying the girl in his arms. The accused seemed to be intoxicated. The boy alerted the villagers, who caught him. He was found sitting next to her body, not far from her house," said the landlord of the room the accused had rented.

The girl's father said he had accepted some part-time construction work for Rs 600 from the day and was out at the time of the incident.

"I work as a labourer, loading and unloading goods, six days a week. On Sunday, I pick up part-

time work to make ends meet. I rushed home as soon as my wife informed me that our daughter had gone missing... I want justice. There should be a speedy trial and the accused should get death penalty," he said.

On Monday, tension prevailed in the village after police booked 28 people for allegedly pelting stones and blocking the road outside the police station in the aftermath of the incident. The villagers had beaten up the accused and prevented him from being taken into custody, demanding that police hand him over so they could deliver "justice". Police then shifted the accused to another location after villagers gheraoed the police station.

An autopsy conducted by a medical board on Monday confirmed that the girl was raped and throttled. "As per preliminary examination, she was sexually assaulted and throttled. She had several injuries in her genitalia, on her face and neck," said Dr Deepak Mathur, a forensic expert who was part of the board that conducted the post-mortem.

Police said the pattern of injuries suggested that the accused gagged the victim. During questioning on Sunday, the accused admitted he committed the crime under the influence of alcohol. He was sent to judicial custody on Monday, said DCP HQ Ashta Modi, who has additional charge of DCP South.

# No general seats at SRCC, some colleges open in special list

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

AFTER COMPLETION of admissions against the third list and colleges releasing their special cut-off lists, both courses at Shri Ram College of Commerce are closed for unreserved seats.

On Monday evening, Delhi University released special cut-off lists of colleges for courses where seats are still vacant. Under this, only those who have registered for admissions but could not go through with it in the first three lists are eligible.

The 4th list — in which they will once again be able to seek options — will be released Saturday, and availability of seats will depend on the number of admissions taken under the special cut-off. In this special list, the cut-off in any given programme is the same as the last declared cut-off for it.

In the third list, both BA (Hons) Economics and B.Com (Hons) had been open at SRCC for all categories, at 99.5% and 99% for unreserved seats respectively. After the third list admissions, both are closed for unreserved seats though they continue to remain open for all reserved categories.

There are also very few openings at Hindu College where the

only two programmes that are not filled for unreserved seats are BA (Hons) Philosophy at 97.75% and BSc (Programme) Physical Science with Electronics at 96.33%.

On the other hand, while all Science programmes remain closed at Miranda House, BA (Hons) Economics and BA (Hons) History are not yet full with 99% special cut-offs for unreserved seats. Philosophy and Sociology are open in the special list. Popular courses like BA (Hons) Economics, B.Com (Hons), BA (Hons) Political Science and BSc (Hons) Statistics, which had been open at LSR College in the 3rd list, have now closed for unreserved seats.

However, there is still room in several courses at Kiriari Mal College, where admissions for unreserved seats have closed for only 8 out of 20 programmes which includes Honours programmes in English, Economics, B.Com, History, Physics and Chemistry. However, only 3 out of 10 BA (Programme) combinations continue to remain open.

At Ramjas College, all programmes, except BA (Hons) Political Science, B.Com and BSc (Hons) Botany, are open for most categories. At Hansraj College, popular courses such as Physics, Chemistry, Economics and History have not been filled yet.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

WITHIN TWO months, blue and pink electric autos will be competing with the green and yellow CNG autos on Delhi's roads. Around 1,400 of these will be reserved for women drivers and will be pink in colour, while the others will be blue.

The Delhi government has set up an e-auto fair at two locations to drive more people towards a cleaner mode of public transport. Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot Monday inaugurated the 7-day fair at the Institute of Driving, Training and Research (IDTR), Sarai Kale Khan, which will continue till October 31 between 9 am and 4 am each day. A similar fair is also being held at IDTR Loni.

"Visiting prospective auto drivers of Delhi will be able to see and drive all available models of e-autos and explore loan terms. E-Auto manufacturers Mahindra, Piaggio, ETO Motors and Saarthi and financiers like Mahindra Finance, Bajaj Fincorp, Convergence Energy Services Limited are participating in the mela. Experts at the mela will also guide applicants on how to register the e-autos... In another two months, these autos will start running on Delhi roads," a



Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot Monday inaugurated a seven-day e-auto fair in the capital. *Express*

statement issued by the Transport Department said.

The department has invited online applications for registration of 4,261 e-autos. Of these, 33% (1,406) will be reserved for women applicants. "E-autos will be blue in colour in line with the e-buses soon to be inducted into the DTC fleet. However, e-autos registered by a woman would be pink. The department has already received 6,352 applications as on October 25," the statement said.

Anyone with a valid driving licence for Light Motor Vehicle (LMV) or Three-Seater auto-rickshaws (TSR) can apply. The applicant should be a resident of Delhi and should have an Aadhaar card with a Delhi address. The applicant will have to obtain a Public Service Vehicle

badge within 45 days of draw of allotment. Applicants can visit transport.delhi.gov.in to apply and can call the 1076 helpline number for assistance.

The government is providing a purchase incentive of Rs 30,000 per e-auto and loans with a 5% interest subvention through empanelled agencies. Registration fee and road tax exemptions will also apply under the e-vehicle policy.

"Switching to non-polluting electric vehicles has been of highest priority to the government... With over 1,400 autos reserved for women, this would be one of the biggest steps any city has taken in the direction of increasing presence of women in public transport and overall women's safety," Gahlot said.

# VK Ohri, go-to lawyer for activists and the working class, dies at 64

ANAND MOHAN J  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

FROM WORKERS in Delhi's industrial areas to AIIMS doctors to protesters facing criminal charges for agitating against Queen Elizabeth's visit to India — a spectrum of groups were defended by veteran human rights lawyer V K Ohri, who passed away at AIIMS on Monday.

Ohri, known for winning both court battles and the hearts of those he defended, was 64. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

His doctor and long time friend, Anoop Saraya, told *The Indian Express*, "He was battling a long-term illness. I met him in 1986; at the time, I too was involved in agitations in Delhi. He helped us at the time when doctors were booked under criminal cases. From arguing with the local SHO to defending us in court, he did it all. He was the go-to man for any activist in Delhi."

His colleagues remember him as a "mercurial criminal lawyer" who defended a spectrum of people — from French serial killer Charles Sobhraj to a Supreme Court staffer who had levelled allegations of sexual misconduct against former Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi when she faced a cheating case.

Senior advocate K K Manan, who also represented Sobhraj, said, "He was an asset to the bar. Such an intelligent lawyer. All the big cases he used to look after at the time. He was a brilliant and honest lawyer and a loving father. I have such a weight on my mind."

Dr Aparna, President of the All India Federation of Trade Unions, recalled cases Ohri fought for working class people.

"Ohri also held the position of Vice President at IFTU in 1983. In the 80s, he fought cases for workers who faced serious criminal charges free of cost. There was also a case in

which a 14-year-old girl was raped inside a police station. Ohri pursued that case and got the three policemen convicted in 1986. Queen Elizabeth came in 1997 to Delhi and was met with protests after she was slated to visit Jallianwala Bagh. Ohri defended the protesters and got them all discharged. He was a worker's lawyer."

Advocate Prashant Bhushan was also defended in the trial courts in Delhi by Ohri.

"He has defended me in a criminal defamation case filed by Congress leader Kapil Sibal's son. He also defended social activist Medha Patkar as well as activists from the Narmada Bachao Andolan. It is truly a loss for activists and lawyers," said Bhushan.

Advocate S N Sharma struggled to come to terms with the loss. Ohri used to, in jest, call him a 'Rajya Sabha member' for holding a position in the Bar Council of Delhi, and the two spoke not long before his death.

"He said, 'Rajya Sabha member, when will you meet me? After I am gone?' I did not know he was in such a serious condition. Many judges in the district courts were his juniors at one point of time. We all owe him our careers," Sharma said.

Akshardham, a service road coming from the Noida U-turn, a service road from the Akshardham side, and a cycle track from Noida to Akshardham.

Construction on the project started in 2015 but saw a number of setbacks such as the land acquisition hurdle, the pandemic and a labour shortage. The deadline for the project has been shifted a few times, and the one set most recently is March 2023.

Phase 3 will improve connectivity between East and South Delhi and decongest a number of key stretches such as Ring Road, NH-24 and Noida Link Road.

## CONNECTING MAYUR VIHAR WITH SARAI KALE KHAN AND INA

# Barapullah Phase III: Work 80% done, land acquisition is final hurdle

ASHNA BUTANI  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

WORK ON Barapullah Phase 3, which aims to connect Mayur Vihar with Sarai Kale Khan and INA in South Delhi, is 80% complete, officials have said. Work on the project was stalled due to a land acquisition hurdle, which is now being resolved. The pending work can only be completed once the process of acquiring land is com-

plete, said officials. The Delhi government had issued a gazette notification regarding the land, which belongs to farmers in Nangli Razapur village, in September this year. Officials said the process is still on and once land has been acquired, it will take them a year and a half to complete work on it.

The notification read, "Whereas it appears to the Government that a total of 3.02425 hectares land is required in the village Nangli Razapur, Sub-

Division Defence Colony, District South-East Delhi for the public purpose, namely 3rd Phase of Elevated Road on Barapullah Nallah from Sarai Kale Khan to Mayur Vihar, Delhi."

It added, "This declaration is being made after hearing of objection of the persons interested and due enquiry as provided w/s 15 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013."

The six-lane elevated corridor, measuring 3.8 km, will meet the existing Barapullah flyover, ex-



plained an official.

Part of the project was inaugurated by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in August. This included a 'cloverleaf loop', service roads and cycle tracks. The parts that were inaugurated included a down-ramp for traffic coming from Noida to Mayur Vihar Phase-I, an up-ramp for traffic going from Mayur Vihar towards

Part of the project was inaugurated by CM Kejriwal in August. This included a 'cloverleaf loop', service roads, cycle tracks. *Archive*







# LET'S REDUCE POLLUTION BY REPORTING ON THE 'GREEN DELHI APP'

DIP/Shabdarth/D/0113/21-22

**To report the burning of garbage or biomass  
use Green Delhi App**

Green Delhi App has been launched by the Delhi Government to reduce pollution levels in Delhi. Through this app, Delhiites can report pollution-causing activities such as the burning of garbage or biomass in their vicinity. So, if you haven't downloaded this app yet, download it now and help us reduce pollution in Delhi.

## KEY FEATURES

-  One-stop solution platform to report pollution offenses such as road dust, smoke from vehicles, garbage burning, etc.
-  27 civic agencies of Delhi on one platform
-  Time-bound resolution of complaints
-  Features to track the status of complaints



Scan the QR code to download Green Delhi App





# 6 GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI **CONFIDENTIAL**



## ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

EVEN AS cricket fans were recovering from India's 10-wicket loss to Pakistan in the T20 World Cup, a high-profile guest from football's governing body FIFA paid a visit to Sports Minister Anurag Thakur on Monday. Youri Djorkaeff, the CEO of FIFA Foundation, met the minister and discussed with him measures to encourage football at the grassroots level and to expand it with more tournaments in India. After the meeting, Djorkaeff displayed his football skills in the lawns of Thakur's residence. Earlier in the day, Thakur, who is also the I&B Minister, attended the National Film Awards function, during which he broke protocol to help an elderly awardee get down from the stage by holding his hand. Shankar Lal Goenka was awarded for best Khasi film, *Levduh*.

## HELPING HAND

AS THE entire government machinery celebrates Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, commemorating 75 years of Independence, the Union Public Service Commission has found a unique way. It has launched a toll-free helpline for aspirants from economically weaker sections, the disabled as well as those from SC/ST/OBC communities. The candidates facing any difficulty in filling up forms for any UPSC examination may call this number and get help. The UPSC says it is also a part of its endeavors of "undertaking such candidate's friendly measures".

## IN NETAJI'S MEMORY

THE NETAJI Subhas Chandra Bose-INA Trust has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking to name a building or monument after the freedom fighter in the upcoming Central Vista revamp project. The trust made a list of 14 points to the PM. It said the response has been positive. Trust Chairman Brig R S Chhikara (ret'd) said Netaji could not get a "place of respect" in the national capital over the past decades as opposed to buildings named after former Prime Ministers.

## At CPM meet, majority against change in 2018 stance for 'mobilisation'

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

DESPITE SEVERAL members from Kerala arguing that the Congress cannot be the axis of any anti-BJP front and that the CPM should eschew any association with it, the majority opinion in the CPM central committee was against any change in the line that the party had taken in 2018.

Addressing reporters after the conclusion of a three-day central committee meeting, party general secretary Sitaram Yechury Monday argued that there was no discussion on the issue of association with the Congress.

In 2018, at the national conclave in Hyderabad, the CPM had decided the party should "cooperate with all secular opposition forces for a broad mobilization of people against communalism".

With the Central Committee giving its view, the CPM Politburo which will meet next month will now give final shape to the draft of the political resolution to be presented at next year's triennial national conclave – the Party Congress – in Kerala. Several Kerala leaders at the

meeting had argued that the Congress cannot emerge as the alternative to the BJP. Yechury said the alternative to the BJP will emerge from people's mandate and not by anyone's decisions.

Yechury indicated that the party is discussing an agrarian programme that proposes cooperative production and marketing to the farmers who have been protesting against the controversial farm reform laws. He also hit out at the government, questioning its free vaccination claims. He said Union ministers are making "preposterous claims" that the hikes in Central excise duties on petroleum products is financing free vaccinations and various social sector schemes being implemented by the government.

"This is ridiculous. If people are paying exorbitant prices, then vaccinations are not free. People are paying for it themselves. What happened to the budgetary allocation of Rs 35,000 crore for vaccinations? The budget has already accounted for nearly Rs 41 lakh crore for various Centrally-sponsored schemes and subsidies. Where has all this money gone?" he asked.

## Centre asks states to issue stock limit for edible oils before festival season

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

THE CENTRE on Monday asked states to speed up the process of issuing stock limit notification for edible oils before the upcoming festival season.

At a Monday meeting called by the Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD), chaired by Joint Secretary Partha S Das, states and Union Territories were informed that the stock limit of edible oil has to be notified by each state or UT based on their consumption pattern.

The meeting came even as the prices of edible oils continue to remain high. On October 25, the All-India average retail price

of groundnut oil was at Rs 181.71 per kg, of mustard oil was Rs 185.33 per kg, of vanaspathi was Rs 139.21 per kg, of soya oil was Rs 154.85 per kg, of sunflower oil was Rs 168.57 per kg and of palm oil was Rs 133.17 per kg.

The DFPD has communicated with states regarding imposition of stock limit three times this month.

"In this regard, Uttar Pradesh has taken lead and informed that they have already issued a stock limit order on October 12, 2021 which will soften the prices," the statement said.

"However, other states are either in consultation with the stakeholders or have already submitted the proposal to the State Government for approval," it said.

## PM launches mega health infrastructure mission, slams previous govts

**MAULSHREE SETH**  
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 25

ACCUSING PREVIOUS governments of neglecting healthcare, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched the nationwide Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission, which he said will strengthen health infrastructure, right from the village level, in the next four or five years.

"All this work should have been done decades ago," Modi said, launching the Rs 64,000 crore mission in Varanasi, his Lok Sabha constituency.

Earlier in the day, inaugurating nine medical colleges in Sidharthanagar district, the Prime Minister targeted the previous Samajwadi Party government in the state. He said it failed to provide facilities to the poor but "Bhastachar ki cycle" or cycle of corruption kept moving 24 hours and nepotism flourished.

Launching the health mission, along with development projects worth around Rs 5,200 crore for Varanasi, Modi said health infrastructure in the country did not get the required attention for a long time after Independence and the people suffered. He said previous governments deprived the people of healthcare facilities, adding that the mission would plug this gap.



Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath greets PM Narendra Modi in Varanasi on Monday. *Anand Singh*

Giving details, he said two aspects of the mission are creation of facilities for diagnostics, and treatment by opening Health and Wellness Centers in villages and cities. He said 35,000 new critical care-related beds will be added in 600 districts, and free consultation, tests and medicines would be provided. The third aspect of the mission, he said, would be expansion of research institutions that study pandemics. This will help prepare for future pandemics. "It is a part of the effort to achieve holistic healthcare," he said.

In Sidharthanagar district of Purvanchal, Modi praised the Yogi Adityanath government as he targeted the Samajwadi Party, taking jibes at its poll symbol cycle. "The

current governments at Centre and in Uttar Pradesh are the result of decades of hard work of several Karma Yogis," he said.

"The government that was there in Delhi seven years ago and the one in UP four years ago, what did they do for Purvanchal? Those who were there in the government in the past, they used to announce opening of dispensaries or small hospitals and people used to become hopeful. But for years either the building was not constructed, or if the building was there, machines were not there. And if both were there, doctors or staff were not there." To top it all, he said, "The cycle of corruption that looted crores of rupees of the poor continued to run 24 hours."

## PM to attend ASEAN-India Summit virtually on Oct 28

*New Delhi:* Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the 18th ASEAN-India Summit, to be held virtually on October 28, at the invitation of the Sultan of Brunei. He will also attend the 16th East Asia Summit to be held on October 27 virtually.

The ASEAN-India Summit will be attended by Heads of State or Government of the ASEAN countries.

The summit will review the status of ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership and take stock of progress made in key areas including Covid-19 & Health, Trade & Commerce, Connectivity, and Education & Culture, MEA said. The PM will also attend the 16th East Asia Summit. This summit is the premier leaders-led forum in the Indo-Pacific. **ENS**

### 'KEEPING PEOPLE'S SENTIMENTS IN MIND'

## Assam anti-pollution board bans Diwali crackers, CM says will review

**TORA AGARWALA**  
GUWAHATI, OCTOBER 25

THREE DAYS after the state Pollution Control Board (PCB) issued a ban on firecrackers on Diwali, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday said the decision was taken without "any consultation" with the government, and that it will be reviewed, keeping "people's sentiments in mind".

"Assam Pollution Control Board has, reportedly, suo motu, without any consultation with Govt, issued an order banning sale of firecrackers & other restrictions. We've taken note of this. The entire issue is being reviewed afresh, holistically, keeping people's sentiments in mind," Sarma tweeted on Monday evening.



Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma in Jorhat Monday. *PTI*

A PCB official told *The Indian Express* that the guidelines were issued by the National Green Tribunal (NGT), keeping Covid-19 situation in mind. "We have no comment on the government's response to the ban. We are answerable to NGT. We will be pulled up if we do not follow their directive," the official said.

## 9 new colleges, 9 names to woo different sections ahead of UP polls

**MAULSHREE SETH**  
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 25

THE NINE medical colleges in UP Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated on Monday have all been named keeping local caste equations in mind. They are named after a Brahmin leader, a woman Lodhi icon, a Kumi leader, Thakur freedom fighters, religious

leaders, and a goddess. The institutions were inaugurated in Siddharth Nagar, Etah,

Hardoi, Pratapgarh, Fatehpur, Deoria, Ghazipur, Mirzapur and Jaunpur districts. The college in Siddharth Nagar the PM inaugurated in person has been named after a Brahmin leader, Madhav Prasad Tripathi — the first UP BJP president. In recent months, SP and BSP have accused the government of bias against Brahmins and have tried to woo the community for next year's polls.

On Friday, the PCB had issued a notification that ordered a "complete ban" on "bursting and selling" all kinds of firecrackers, in compliance with NGT's November 2020 directives. It stated that bursting of firecrackers "releases copious amounts of harmful chemicals", and such pollutants can "further aggravate health conditions of COVID-19 positive persons". It made an exception for green crackers — under the guidelines, these can be sold, and burst for two hours during Diwali and Chhath Puja, and 35 minutes during Christmas and New Year's Eve.

The PCB has also directed the district magistrates, commissioners and superintendents of police to implement the guidelines and asked them to submit daily action reports to the Board.

## Govt panel to oversee NIPUN Bharat progress

*New Delhi:* The Centre's NIPUN Bharat mission, aimed at equipping every child till class 3 with basic comprehension and mathematical skills, received a push Monday with the Ministry of Education setting up a national steering committee to oversee its progress and provide policy-level guidance.

The steering committee, as envisaged in the NIPUN (National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy) Bharat guidelines, will be chaired by Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

The members include education secretaries of UP, Gujarat, Karnataka and Sikkim, and the Union school education secretary and NCERT director. **ENS**

## TMC 'connects' Goa with Bengal

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
PANAJI, OCTOBER 25

THREE DAYS ahead of West Bengal Chief Minister and Mamata Banerjee's maiden visit to Goa ahead of the Assembly elections in Goa, TMC leaders Saugata Roy, Mahua Moitra and Babul Supriyo released a document titled 'People's Chargesheet', listing out "20 years of political instability, misuse and suffering for the people of Goa".

The leaders also made a case for the "connect" between West Bengal and Goa, which made Goa a "natural destination" for the TMC. "Goa and Bengal are connected by heart. Two states that play football. What is your staple food? Fish and rice. We do the same... In terms of our enter-



TMC leaders in Goa

tainment, the way we think, the way we eat, if you see the number of Bengali tourists who come to Goa every year, you will understand that this is a very natural destination for the TMC...," said Supriyo, a former Union minister and BJP leader.

About fighting the perception of a political party from "outside",

## Can quash SC/ST Act cases if 'civil' offence: Top Court

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

THE SUPREME Court Monday ruled that its inherent powers under Article 142 of the Constitution or that of the High Court under Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure can be invoked to quash proceedings under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act), 1989.

"Where it appears to the court that the offence in question, although covered under the SC/ST Act, is primarily private or civil in nature, or where the alleged offence has not been committed on account of the caste of the victim, or where the continuation of the legal proceedings would be an abuse of the process of law, the court can exercise its powers to quash the proceedings," said a Bench of Chief Justice of India N V Ramana and Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli.

It said that in case of a prayer for quashing, on the ground that the parties have settled their differences, "if the court is satisfied that the underlying objective of the Act would not be contravened or diminished even if the felony in question goes unpunished, the mere fact that the offence is covered under a 'special statute' would not refrain" it or the HC "from exercising their respective powers under Article 142 of the Constitution or Section 482 CrPc."

The Bench said this while quashing a case against a resident of Madhya Pradesh, who was convicted for using casteist slurs against his neighbour — a Scheduled Caste woman — with whom he had a property dispute. While a trial court had convicted

the man, the Madhya Pradesh High Court had upheld the order.

"The SC/ST Act has been specifically enacted to deter acts of indignity, humiliation and harassment against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Act is also a recognition of the depressing reality that despite undertaking several measures, the Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes continue to be subjected to various atrocities at the hands of upper-castes. The courts have to be mindful of the fact that the Act has been enacted keeping in view the express constitutional safeguards enumerated in Articles 15, 17 and 21 of the Constitution, with a twin-fold objective of protecting the members of these vulnerable communities as well as to provide relief and rehabilitation to the victims of caste-based atrocities," said Justice Surya Kant, writing for the Bench.

He said the "courts ought to be even more vigilant to ensure that the complainant victim has entered into the compromise on the volition of his/ her free will and not on account of any duress" as SC, ST members belong to weaker sections that are more prone to acts of coercion "and therefore ought to be accorded a higher level of protection".

In the present case, however, the Bench noted that the matter had been settled between the parties, and the complainant had filed an application for compromise. The court said the genesis of the incident was the civil/ property dispute. "Considering this aspect, we are of the opinion that it would not be incorrect to categorise the occurrence as one being overwhelmingly private in nature, having only subtle undertones of criminality..."

## Naidu meets President, demands central rule in Andhra Pradesh

**MANOJ CG**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

DAYS AFTER several offices of the TDP across Andhra Pradesh were attacked allegedly by ruling YSRC workers and supporters, TDP supreme N Chandrababu Naidu on Monday arrived in Delhi and met President Ram Nath Kovind to demand imposition of President's rule in the state.

Naidu will meet Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday, and is expected to raise issue apart from other matters.

During his meeting with the President, Naidu said "state-sponsored" terror has reached "unimaginable heights" in Andhra Pradesh, threatening democracy, institutions and very fabric of the state. He also handed over to the President a 323-page document prepared by the party titled "state-sponsored terror in AP".

Arguing that "Article 356 is not something to be imposed in a cavalier fashion" and that the TDP "does not condone its imposition except in grave circumstances", the TDP in the document told the President that "we strongly urge you to see the current situation in Andhra Pradesh... over the past two and a half years, as constituting the

gravest of grave circumstances, nearly unprecedented in the history of independent India".

"Other states where Article 356 was imposed faced a complete breakdown of law and order, armed resistance by insurgents, mass opposition by the public, or political uncertainty in formation of government. I gravely submit that the case of Andhra Pradesh presents a unique set of circumstances," it said. "Breakdown of law and order is being facilitated by the ruling party and state government in collusion with the police system... The Centre must act before this state of lawlessness in AP leads to other dangers and social ills that could threaten both state and national security."

In a memorandum to the President, Naidu also urged him to "initiate a comprehensive investigation against the series of incidents which occurred across Andhra Pradesh against TDP offices and leaders on October 19 through the CBI, order an investigation into the criminal networks linked to the extensive drug hub operating in Andhra, direct the Union government to recall the DGP of Andhra Pradesh in view of his intentional colluding with the ruling YSRC party and eschewing his Constitutional duties and responsibilities."

## Former UP Cong leaders join TMC

*Kolkata:* Two former senior Congress leaders in Uttar Pradesh joined the TMC in the presence of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in Siliguri on Monday.

After inducting Rajeshpati Tripathi and Laliteshpatri Tripathi, who are the grandson and great-grandson of former UP chief minister Kamalapati Tripathi, Banerjee said she would visit Uttar Pradesh after Chhath Puja. "If they invite me then I will go to Benaras to offer puja," she said.

Responding to the Tripathis joining the TMC, state Congress president Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said, "What is Mamata Banerjee trying to do? Is she strengthening the BJP by breaking the Congress?" **ENS**



# CANCER AWARENESS TALK

## REVOLUTIONIZING KIDNEY HEALTH CARE

ADVERTORIAL



Public Awareness Initiative

## Signs and symptoms of Renal cancer

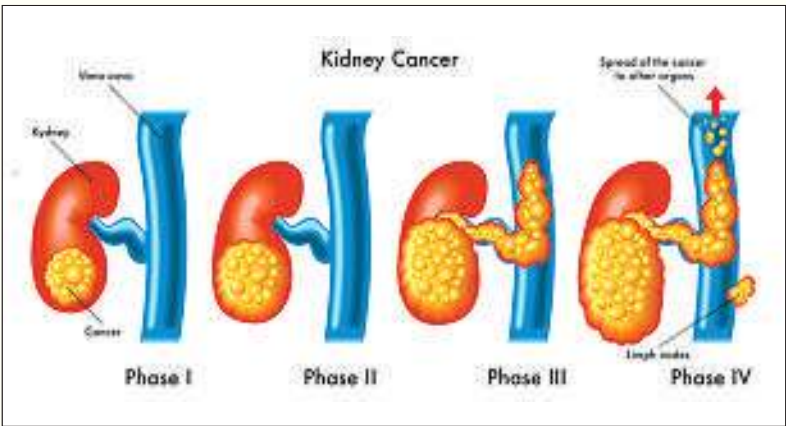


**Dr. Prashant Mehta**  
Senior Consultant & Unit Head Medical Oncology/Hematology/BMT, Asian Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi

Symptoms of kidney cancer can be seen all over body in different phases, however the initial symptoms can be seen in urine or lower back. Majority of the symptoms are associated or linked with kidney and related organs like, ureter and bladder. Also symptoms are associated with the type of cancer, site of tumour within kidney and stage of cancer. Majority of the time kidney cancer symptoms don't often appear until later stages, or until the tumor is large. Kidney cancer is most commonly diagnosed in people over 60 years old. It's often found by accident during routine imaging tests

**The most relatable signs and symptoms are:**

**Blood in the urine (Haematuria)** Haematuria, or blood in the urine, is one of the most common symptoms. It appears in 40 to 50 percent of people with kidney



cancer. Even a small amount of blood can cause a color change such as pink, brownish, or even red. The presence of blood can be inconsistent, appearing about every other day. Sometimes the amount of blood is so small it can only be detected during a urinalysis.

**Lower back pain** Back pain is also less commonly a symptom of kidney cancer. About 41 per-

cent of people with renal cell carcinoma report back pain. But most people don't experience back pain until the cancer is in the later stages.

The pain can range from a dull ache to a sharp stab on one side of your flank or below the ribs on your back. Your flank is the area between your lower back and the bottom of the backside of your ribs. It may also feel like side pain to some people.

The type of pain associated with RCC can vary. Some people report pressure instead of an ache or sharp pain. A mass or lump around your abdomen, a mass or lump in the abdomen, side, or back can also be a sign of kidney cancer. It can feel like a hard, thickening, or bulging bump under the skin. About 45 percent of people with RCC have an abdominal mass. But kidney lumps are hard to feel, especially in the early stages. That's because the kidney sits


deep in the abdomen.

**Anaemia and fatigue** Fatigue is one of the most common symptoms of any type of cancer. Cancer-related fatigue is persistent and interferes with daily activities. It can also intensify as time goes on.

About 21 percent of people with kidney cancer have anaemia, or low red blood cell count. Normally your kidneys signal your body to make red blood cells. Cancer can interfere with that signalling. Anaemia can also cause worsening fatigue, shortness of breath, dizziness, and pale looking skin.

**Unexpected weight loss** Unexpected and/or sudden weight loss is another common symptom of majority of cancer. About 28 percent of people with kidney cancer report weight loss. This usually happens quickly, as the tumor spreads to other organs.

### Treatment of kidney cancer



**Dr. Vineet Govinda Gupta**  
Senior Consultant Medical Oncologist, ARTEMIS Hospitals, Delhi

KIDNEY cancer is among the most common cancers in India. As with other cancers, there is a common misconception that kidney cancer is not curable. In fact, it is one of the cancers with the best prognosis.

Kidney cancer that has not spread is usually cured with surgery with or without targeted therapy/immunotherapy. Kidney cancer that has spread to distant organs generally requires targeted therapy, immunotherapy or a combination of therapies for long term survival.

**Surgery:** If the cancer has not spread beyond the kidneys, surgery to remove the tumor may be the only treatment needed. Surgery generally consists of removal of the tumor with whole or part of the kidney, as well as nearby tissue and lymph nodes. Surgeries can be performed by traditionally open approach or by using a laparoscopic approach.

For larger tumors, surgery may be a radical nephrectomy, where the complete kidney is removed with surrounding structures. It is understood that the other kidney will take over the functions for the rest of the patient's life. Patients with smaller tumors may undergo a partial nephrectomy where the complete kidney is not removed.

**Ablation:** Sometimes surgery is not recommended because of small size of the tumor and the patient's overall health. A small wire can be placed into the tumor under ultrasound guidance and the tumor can be burnt/destroyed without surgery. This is only possible for small tumors.

Recently there is emerging evidence that using targeted therapies or immunotherapies in selected patients after surgery can improve the cure rate.

**Systemic therapies:** These are mostly used in stage 4 cancer which has spread to far-away lymph nodes, liver, bone, lung, brain etc. Long survival can be achieved even at stage 4 by using targeted therapy and immunotherapy.


**Targeted therapy:** Targeted therapy includes tablets and injections that affect cancer cells to cause their death. Targeted therapy is unique because unlike chemotherapy, these therapies are specifically targeted to treat those pathways that are different in cancer cells and not in normal cells. The result is excellent tumor control with very low side effects. Most of these therapies are cheap, available as simple tablets, and can give survival of many years.

**Immunotherapy:** Immunotherapy refers to medicines and technologies that allow the body's own immune system to recognize and kill cancer cells. Cancer cells escape recognition by the immune system which allows them to grow. Immunotherapies reverse this situation allowing the immune system to win the battle. These therapies are generally given as IV injection every 2-3 weeks. They generally have low side effects with strong efficacy; however they are very expensive at present. Nevertheless, they are considered one of the best treatments for kidney cancer.

**Chemotherapy:** Chemotherapy is not very effective in renal cell carcinoma, so it is rarely used nowadays since better treatments are available.

**Prognosis:** Recent clinical trials have shown dramatic improvements in survival in renal cell carcinoma. Most patients with localized cancer can be cured by surgery. For patients with stage 4 disease, currently the average survival ranges from 2-5 years depending on patient's tumor type, treatments accessed and risk group. A subset of patients is expected to be cured or survive for a decade or more, based on genetic characteristics. Your medical oncologist can guide you to the best treatment and prognosis in this disease.

### Dietary management of kidney cancer



**Dr. Manish K Singhal**  
Senior Consultant Medical Oncologist, Apollo Cancer Institute, Delhi

ANAEMIA and fatigue is the most common symptoms in kidney cancer and remains during the management of it. Hence the nutritional support is very important to maintain the other health related factor so that body can cope up with the pressure of surgeries, chemotherapy, immunotherapy radiotherapies.

So having nutritional and health diet plays good and supportive role in maintain and improving the quality of life in cancer patients

**Fruits and vegetables:** Fruits and vegetables are high in soluble fibre and a good source of many essential vitamins and minerals. They also help to reduce cholesterol levels and control your blood sugar. You should aim to have between 5 and 10 servings of fruits and vegetables from a variety of sources every day.

**Whole grains and starches:** Some whole grains are high in phosphorus and potassium. Both of these can cause problems if you consume high doses of them while your kidneys aren't fully functioning. So, it's worth checking with your doctor about which whole grain foods may be best for you.

**Proteins:** Proteins are a necessary part of everyone's diet, as they help to build and maintain muscle mass. But too much protein for someone with kidney cancer can cause a build-up of food-derived waste in the bloodstream. This may cause symptoms like fatigue, nausea, and headache.

**What to avoid:** Several foods can increase your risk of kidney-related complications. Eat these foods in moderation or avoid them altogether:

**Foods that are high in salt:** Salt can disrupt the fluid balance in your body and lead to high blood pressure. This can make any loss of kidney function worse.

Processed foods are typically high in sodium, so it's in your best interest to avoid:

Fast food, canned food, salty snacks, deli meats

Whenever possible, use herbs and spices for flavoring instead of salt. However, if you're using exotic herbs, check with your healthcare provider.

**Foods high in phosphorus:** Phosphorus is a chemical element necessary for maintaining bone strength. But in people with kidney cancer, it may build up in your bloodstream and cause symptoms like itchy skin and joint pain.


If you're struggling with these symptoms, you may want to reduce your intake of high-phosphorus foods like: Seeds, nuts, beans, processed bran cereals

**Too much water:** Overhydrating may also create problems for people with kidney cancer. Having reduced kidney function can compromise your urine production and cause your body to retain too much fluid. It's important for everyone to drink plenty of water, but make an effort to monitor your intake of fluids so you're not consuming an excessive amount.

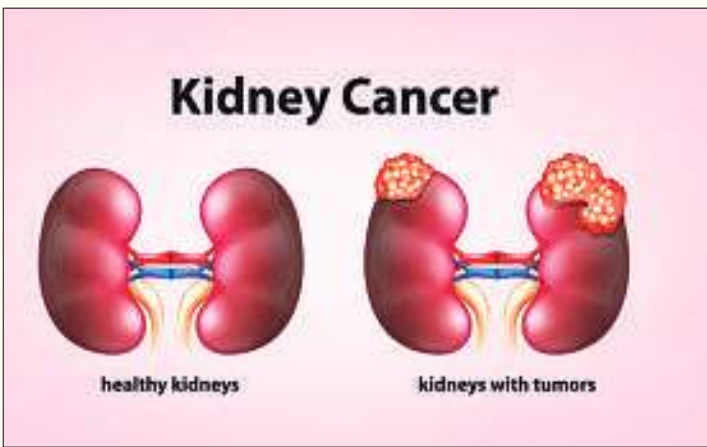
**Notes:** Cancer treatment can weaken immune system and make more susceptible to infection. Need to take extra precautions while preparing and storing meals.

Foods like meat, poultry, and eggs are well-cooked. Steer clear of raw foods like sushi, shellfish, and vegetable sprouts, and avoid drinking unpasteurized milk or juice.

### Risk factors for kidney cancer



**Dr. Siddharth Kumar Sahai**  
Senior Consultant & Unit Head Medical Oncologist, Venkateshwar Hospital, Delhi



THERE are several risk factors associated with kidney cancer. Many of the risk factors are associated with life style.

**The following factors may raise a person's risk of developing kidney cancer:**

**Smoking.** Smoking tobacco doubles the risk of developing kidney cancer. It is believed to cause about 30% of kidney cancers in men and about 25% in women.

**Gender.** Men are 2 to 3 times more likely to develop kidney cancer than women.

**Race.** Black people (Negros) have higher rates of kidney cancer.

**Age.** Kidney cancer is typically found in adults and is usually diagnosed between the ages of 50 and 70.

**Nutrition and weight.** Research has often shown a link between kidney cancer and obesity.

**High blood pressure.** Men with high blood pressure, also called hypertension, may be more likely to develop kidney cancer.

**Overuse of certain medications.**

Diuretics and analgesic pain killers tablet, such as aspirin, acetaminophen, and ibuprofen, have also been linked to kidney cancer.

**Exposure to cadmium.** Some studies have shown a connection between exposure to the metallic element cadmium and kidney cancer. Working with batteries, paints, or welding materials may increase a person's risk as well. This risk is even higher for smokers who have been exposed to cadmium.

**Chronic kidney disease.** People who have decreased kidney function but don't yet need dialysis may be at higher risk for the development of kidney cancer.


**Long-term dialysis.** People who have been on dialysis for a long time may develop cancerous cysts in their kidneys. These growths are usually found early and can often be removed before the cancer spreads.

**Family history of kidney cancer.** People who have a strong family history of kidney cancer may have an increased risk of developing the disease. This can include individuals with first-degree relatives, such as a parent, brother, sister, or

child. Risk also increases if other extended family members have also been diagnosed with kidney cancer, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and cousins. Specific factors in family members may increase the risk of a hereditary kidney cancer disorder, including diagnosis at an early age, rare types of kidney cancer, cancer in both kidneys (bilateral), more than 1 tumor in the same kidney (multifocality), and other types of benign or malignant tumors.

Genetic conditions that increase a person's risk of developing kidney cancer include:

- Von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) syndrome.
- Hereditary papillary renal cell carcinoma (HPRCC).
- Birt-Hogg-Dubé (BHD) syndrome.
- Hereditary leiomyomatosis and renal cell carcinoma (HLRCC).
- Tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC) syndrome.
- Succinate dehydrogenase (SDH) complex syndrome.
- BAP1 tumor predisposition syndrome (BAP1 TPS).



**Dr. Shyam Aggarwal**  
Senior Consultant, Medical Oncologist & Hematologist, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Delhi

**Some of the common myths and facts concerning kidney cancers and their various aspects:**

**Myth:** Kidney cancer primarily affects young people.

**Fact:** Not entirely a myth. Some cancers do disproportionately affect younger people, but, kidney cancer is not one of them. The average age of diagnosis being 64. Though present Indian study suggests more prevalence in the younger population with one-third being less than 50 years of age. Having said that changing lifestyle and food habits, more executive health check-ups lead to diagnosis of kidney cancers at an early stage and in younger generations. Familial cancers are a rare entity where early age could be affected.

**Myth:** Kidney cancer is rare.

**Fact:** Kidney cancer is one of the ten most com-

## Kidney Cancer: Myths & Reality



mon cancers in both men and women. Early cancers are picked up by the increase in the health check-ups done annually.

**Myth:** Smoking does not contribute to Kidney cancer.

**Fact:** In fact – smoking doubles the risk of developing kidney cancer – and is believed to cause about 30% of kidney cancers in men and about 25% in women.

**Myth:** Women are at higher risk of developing kidney cancer.

**Fact:** Kidney cancer is about twice as common in men as in women. Why? Increased smoking and exposure to cancer-causing toxins at the workplace may account for much of the difference.

**Myth:** Blood in the urine is a sure indication of kidney cancer.

**Fact:** Blood-coloured or burgundy urine can be a symptom of kidney cancer – but it can also be a sign of noncancerous conditions like a urinary tract infection

(UTI). The underlying message is that it should not be overlooked or neglected. However, while red-coloured urine should never be ignored simultaneously, do not think it means cancer always.

**Myth:** Kidney cancers are not curable

**Fact:** With the available diagnostic modalities, kidney cancer can be picked up at an early stage, and kidney-sparing surgeries can be offered. This can help a patient avoid losing his kidney and have a near-normal life with regular follow-up.

**Myth:** Kidney cancer amounts to the removal of the entire kidney always.

**Fact:** No. With a better understanding of the disease process and newer technology, entire kidney need not be removed. Only the tumour is removed, and the kidney remains in the body. This is called kidney-sparing surgery.

**Myth:** Kidney cancers are not hereditary.

**Fact:** Meagre percentage of kidney cancers can be familial (2-3%). Patients with a family history of kidney cancers should be vigilant and seek advice from their physician.

**Myth:** Robotic surgery in kidney cancer has no advantages.

**Fact:** Robotic platform provides increased magnification and dexterity to a surgeon in performing kidney surgeries, especially kidney-sparing surgeries. The 10x magnification improves accuracy & precision of surgery, amounting to lesser blood loss, early return to routine work/job, and better cancer outcomes for the patients in the long term.



### All about Kidney Cancer

### Revolutionizing Kidney Health Care



### Public Awareness Initiative



# 8 EXPRESS NETWORK

## BRIEFLY

### TELANGANA

#### 3 Maoists killed in joint operation, say police

**Hyderabad:** At least three senior Maoists were killed in an exchange of fire with a joint patrolling team near the Telangana-Chhattisgarh border on Monday, officials said. Wanted Maoist Madvi Hidma alias Santhosh is not among those dead, Mulugu SP Dr Sangram Singh Patil said. "Today morning, during a joint operation by Telangana and Chhattisgarh police forces, there was an exchange of fire at a place which is just across the Telangana border. Three Maoists have been killed. We recovered a light machine gun, one SLR and an AK 47, some explosives etc. The combing is still going on," Patil said. **ENS**

### NEW DELHI

#### SC to panel: Fix max water level in Mullaperiyar Dam

THE SUPREME Court asked the Supervisory Committee of the Mullaperiyar Dam to decide the maximum level of water that can be maintained in the 136-year-old reservoir amidst apprehensions raised about its structural security given the heavy inflow due to incessant rains. The court also asked parties to the matter, including Kerala and Tamil Nadu, to not make it a political slugfest. **ENS**

### UTTAR PRADESH

#### Zika in Kanpur: Centre sends team to UP

**New Delhi:** The Union Health Ministry on Monday sent a high-level multi-disciplinary team to Uttar Pradesh, where a case of Zika virus has been reported. "A 57-year-old male from Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, has tested positive for Zika virus disease on October 22," the Health Ministry stated. The ministry said a multidisciplinary team comprising an entomologist, public health specialists, and gynaecologists has been deployed to assist UP health authorities. **ENS**

## Youth and women, social media, eye on Ayodhya: BSP goes all out for UP polls

### LALMANI VERMA

LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 25

OUTREACH EVENTS targeting youth and women, a rising social media presence, spotlight on leaders other than the party chief, an eye on Ayodhya — and a "promise" to learn from the past.

Pushed to the electoral margins over the last decade, Mayawati's BSP is going all out this time with a revamped approach in the run-up to the UP assembly elections that goes beyond its previous pre-poll initiatives and Dalit vote base.

Several of its new initiatives are being steered personally by the party's top tier, including national general secretary and Rajya Sabha MP SC Mishra and his family members.

Last month, Mishra's son Kapil Mishra addressed meetings under the 'BSP Yuva Samvad' pro-

gramme that aims to engage directly with youth. At these meetings, Kapil Mishra spoke about the work done by Mayawati-led state governments even as representatives from different districts were allowed to share their opinions.

Mishra's wife Kalpana has been holding meetings under "Prabudha Mahila Vichar Ghoshti" and "BSP Mahila Sammelan" initiatives for interaction with women's groups from Brahmin and Dalit communities.

Mishra, meanwhile, has been pushing the party's established Dalit-Brahmin formulation -- both communities together have a 36 per cent vote share -- with meetings that stress on "bhaichara (brotherhood)" between the two. This time, there is a new slogan, too: "Jai Bhim, Jai Bharat, Jai Parshuram".

Over the past three years, beginning with the run-up to the 2019 general elections, the party



Mayawati

has also been increasing its social media presence.

Mayawati created a Twitter account in 2018. Misra joined Twitter in July this year and has started live streaming meetings of "Prabuddha Varg Vishal Ghoshti", a forum that primarily addresses Brahmins, on Facebook.

Moreover, in a key departure from the past when leaders were discouraged from speaking to the media, the party has appointed

### EX-BSP LEADERS TO JOIN SP

Former BSP leaders Lalji Verma and Ram Achal Rajbhar on Monday announced that they would join SP at a public meeting on November 7

ENS

spokespersons. Some of its recent videos show national coordinator Akash Anand meeting party leaders in Bhopal.

"The BSP is connecting with every section of society, including the youth, through social media. But the party is also working on ground," BSP spokesperson Faizan Khan said.

And in an image makeover exercise, Mayawati appeared to address criticism from the past about

public money being spent on parks, memorials and statues of herself by promising at a recent party event that she would focus only on the state's development.

She had also announced that the party will not give poll tickets to "bahubalis (strongmen)" and went on to deny a ticket to five-term MLA and gangster-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari. Before the 2017 Assembly polls, Mayawati had inducted Ansari and his family members in the party, and given them tickets. Ansari's eldest brother Sibgatulla recently joined the SP.

"If the Election Commission has allowed somebody to contest elections, Behenji (Mayawati) has given that individual a chance but only when that person promises to not indulge in any unlawful activity in future," Khan, the spokesperson, said.

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

### 4 DISCHARGED IN TERROR FUNDING CASE

#### Court: NIA didn't try to find out who made CD linking accused to banned outfit

### EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

DISCHARGING FOUR accused in a terror funding case while noting that drawing final presumption not based on facts was dangerous, a Delhi court observed that the NIA did not make any efforts to find out who made the CD containing conversations to link them to a banned terrorist organisation.

On October 21, Special Judge Parveen Singh discharged Mohd Salman, Mohd Saleem, Arif Gulam Bashir Dharampuriah and Mohd Hussain Molani — who were arrested by the NIA for allegedly receiving money from the Pakistan-based proscribed outfit Falah-i-Insaniat Foundation (FIF) for attracting a group of sympathisers and sleeper cells to "create unrest in India".

The prosecution contended that Salman was in touch with one Mohammad Kamran, who is said to be based in Dubai, made an accused but not arrested in the case, handled FIF operations and conspired with Jamat-ud-Dawa (JuD) founder Hafiz Mohammad Saad to launder money for terror-related activities.

The NIA's strongest piece of

evidence was a CD recovered from Dharampuriah, who was alleged to be Kamran's employee. The CD contained purported conversations between FIF's deputy chief Shahid Mahmood and Kamran, through which the prosecution sought to establish that they were "closely associated and involved in various illegal activities".

The court said, "There is nothing either on record or in submissions that what and if any efforts were made by the NIA to trace or find out the person who prepared this CD... However, at the same time, even the source of this CD is not clear or when it was prepared or the time frame in which it has been prepared."

The prosecution raised the contention that "Kamran was working very closely with Mahmood, he should have known that Mahmood was working for FIF and therefore, by his association with Mahmood, a further conclusion can be drawn that money which was being sent by Kamran belonged to FIF".

To this, the court said that the prosecution's contention "shows that there are many 'ifs' involved" and it is "not based on facts but on presumptions which leads to a final presumption..."

### NATIONAL FILM AWARDS



Rajinikanth with his son-in-law Dhanush (left), who received the best actor award along with Manoj Bajpayee (right), in New Delhi on Monday. *Praveen Khanna*

## Rajini gets Dada Saheb Phalke award

### EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

VICE PRESIDENT M Venkaiah Naidu on Monday conferred Rajinikanth with the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award and honoured other winners of the 67th National Film Awards. Other recipients of the awards include Rajinikanth's son-in-law Dhanush, Manoj Bajpayee (best actor) and Kangana Ranaut (best actress).

The award ceremony was held after two years due to the pandemic, and these awards, announced in March this year, were

for films released in 2019.

Addressing the winners, Naidu said films should be vehicles to serve a higher purpose, as a carrier of social, moral and ethical messages. "Films should refrain from highlighting violence and should voice the society's disapproval of social evils," he said.

Rajinikanth said, "I dedicate this (award) to my guru, my mentor K Balachander sir. I thank my brother Sathyanarayana Rao — he is a father figure in my life — for giving me great values." He also mentioned his "friend, driver and transport colleague, Raj Bahadur," who, he said, "spotted

the acting talent in me and encouraged me to join cinema. All my producers and directors, technicians, artists, distributors, media, and all my fans, and Tamil people."

While Dhanush was awarded best actor for his performance in 'Asuran', Bajpayee won for 'Bhosle'. Ranaut, was judged best actress for her performances in 'Manikarnika' and 'Panga'.

Malalayam film 'Marakkar: Arabikkadalinte Simham', directed by Priyadarshan, was adjudged the best film, while the award for best director went to Sanjay Puran Singh Chauhan for Hindi film 'Bahattar Hoorain'.

## Andhra Pradesh HC judge transferred to Calcutta HC

### EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

THE CENTRE on Monday notified the transfer of Andhra Pradesh High Court judge, Justice Joymalya Bagchi, to Calcutta High Court.

In decisions taken on September 16, the collegium headed by Chief Justice of India N V Ramana had recommended "re-transfer" of Justice Bagchi to his parent HC. Collegium did not provide reason for the transfer.

The recommendation comes nine months after Justice Bagchi was transferred to Andhra

Pradesh HC. The collegium had recommended his transfer from Calcutta HC on December 16, 2020, amid a controversy at the time over allegations by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy that a senior Supreme Court judge was interfering in the functioning of Andhra Pradesh HC.

While Justice Bagchi was transferred to Andhra Pradesh HC, the SC collegium, then headed by former CJI S A Bobde, recommended the transfer of then Andhra Pradesh HC Chief Justice J K Maheshwari as Chief Justice of Sikkim HC.

## 'Brazen acts of violence': Film unions condemn attack on Jha

### EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

MUMBAI, OCTOBER 25

ADAY after filmmaker Prakash Jha and his crew were attacked in Bhopal while they were shooting scenes for the web series 'Aashram', film bodies and the film fraternity on Monday condemned the incident and urged the government to take action against such "brazen acts of violence".

On Sunday, Bajrang Dal activists stormed sets of the series and threw ink at Jha, accusing him of portraying Hindus in poor light.



Prakash Jha

In a video of the incident, the activists are seen vandalising the set and assaulting a crew member.

The Producers Guild of India, in a statement posted on Twitter on Monday, said: "Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident and the Guild is alarmed to note the frequency with which both the production and exhibition sectors are severely and illegally disrupted

by various elements with impunity. Content production contributes significantly to local economies, generates employment and promotes tourism, which is why authorities in India and across the world formulate policies to attract producers."

The Federation of Western India Cine Employees (FWICE) in a press statement, appealed to the government to take cognizance of the incident.

Several filmmakers including Hansal Mehta, Sanjay Gupta, and Sudhir Mishra too criticised the attack.



Punjab Congress president Navjot Singh Sidhu addresses the all-party meeting with CM Charanjit Singh Channi in Chandigarh on Monday. *Kamleshwar Singh*

## Punjab all-party meet seeks BSF order recall, Mamata says let states be

### EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, KOLKATA, OCTOBER 25

AN ALL-PARTY meeting in Punjab, barring the BJP, Monday passed a unanimous resolution rejecting the Centre's notification enhancing the BSF's jurisdiction in border states, and said Punjab would take the legislative route if the government did not withdraw the move.

Addressing the media after the meeting that was called by him, Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi said the state will write to the Centre to withdraw the notification that expands the BSF's jurisdiction for search, seizure and arrest to 50 km from the border — from the current 15 km — in Punjab, West Bengal and Assam. Channi said he and Deputy CM Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa had written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue, but were yet to receive a reply.

"We will call a special Vidhan Sabha session to cancel the notification if Centre does not do so," Channi said, adding that they were ready to approach Supreme Court.

Addressing the media at a meeting in Siliguri, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee also said she had written a letter to the PM against "the attempt to interfere with the federal structure of the country".

Saying that the state faced no problems in border areas to warrant such a move, she added: "Earlier, they had jurisdiction up till 15 km, there were incidents of firing in Balughat or Cooch Behar. Now, they have extended it to 50 km. This is an attempt to interfere with the federal structure... We share very cordial relations [with neighbouring countries]. There is no need to create this confusion. Law and order is a state subject."

Linking the move to the upcoming Assembly polls, he said, "Whenever there are elections in Punjab, a 'law and order situation' is created. A State is being set up in another state... How is this not President's rule?"

## SIT gets production warrant against Dera chief in Bargari sacrilege case

### KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR

AMRITSAR, OCTOBER 25

THE SIT probing the 2015 Bargari desecration case has for the first time secured a production warrant for Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmmeet Singh Ram Rahim.

The production warrant has been issued by a Faridkot court for October 29 in FIR no. 63 registered at Bazakhana in 2015 over theft of Guru Granth Sahib from village Burj Jawahar Singh Wala in district Faridkot.

Singh, a rape and murder convict, has been locked up at Rohtak's Sunaria jail since 2017

and has been appearing for court hearings in different cases filed through videoconference.

"Punjab Police's application for production warrant has been allowed. Police has been asked to produce Gurmmeet Ram Rahim in Faridkot court on production warrant on October 29," said assistant district attorney Pankaj Taneja.

The SIT probing the case had made Singh an accused in the said FIR in July, 2020. However, no warrant was issued then. Earlier this year, SIT had arrested seven Dera Sacha Sauda followers in the same FIR and also filed chargesheet against them.

## After ABAP splinter group names outfit chief, second faction declares their own

### AVANEESH MISHRA

DEHRADUN, OCTOBER 25

DAYS AFTER a breakaway faction of seven akharas under the Akhil Bharatiya Akhara Parishad (ABAP) declared Mahant Ravindra Puri of the Mahanirvani Akhara as the outfit's president, the remaining groups on Monday declared his namesake from the Niranjani akhara as ABAP president, following an election in Prayagraj.

The president's post fell vacant after the death of Mahant Narendra Giri — found dead in his room in Baghambari Math in Prayagraj last month. The outfit comprises 13 akharas.

Last week, at a meeting in

Haridwar, the splinter faction elected ABAP office-bearers — while Mahant Ravindra Puri of the Mahanirvani Akhara was chosen president, Mahant Rajendra Das of Nimohi Akhara was chosen general secretary.

Das's appointment comes even as incumbent general secretary has two more years left on his tenure.

Speaking to *The Indian Express* Monday after the second group chose him ABAP president, Mahant Puri of the Niranjani akhara made it clear the outfit would support the BJP.

Asked about the breakaway group that declared their own ABAP office bearers last week, Puri said the declarations were "meaningless".



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## DIGITAL DEMONS

India is its biggest market, yet Facebook deploys hardly any resources here to tackle misinformation. This must change

SINCE 2016, AT least, Facebook has been under the scanner in the US for its alleged role in encouraging fake news, to the extent of affecting — and, in effect, subverting — elections, promoting hate speech and emboldening prejudice. In the dock before the US Congress, the social media giant spends 87 per cent of its global budget earmarked for tackling misinformation in North America — where only 10 per cent of its users reside. Now, for the first time, leaked internal reports have made it clear that the issues that plague social media in the US are also true for India, the company's largest market, with 340 million users.

Among the cache of internal documents accessed by Facebook whistleblower Frances Haugen, reported by *The New York Times*, several refer to India. In one instance, a Facebook researcher created an account as recently as February 2019 to see what it was like using the app in Kerala. The researcher simply liked and followed the pages and people the algorithm recommended. The report on the experience said: "The test user's News Feed has become a near constant barrage of polarising nationalist content, misinformation, and violence and gore." Other reports show how bots (AI) and fake accounts tied to political parties and cultural organisations tried to spread fake news, ostensibly to subvert elections. And in some cases, Facebook did little — if anything — to curb reported instances of hate speech against minority communities. Speaking to this paper, a Facebook spokesperson said that the internal reports "led to a deeper, more rigorous analysis" of its recommendation system in India.

The assurances by Facebook carry little water. Given the incongruity in the resources it deploys in its first market (the US) and its largest one (India), it is clear that the well-being of some users and geographies matters more than others. Most importantly, for over half a decade, in country after country, Facebook Inc has spoken of doing more to protect values of liberal, constitutional democracy and not allowing its platforms to be used to incite violence — in Myanmar and Sri Lanka, for example — but only after reports of its apparently cavalier and negligent behaviour came to light. It must, going forward, be more transparent and proactive in addressing the fundamentals of its algorithms and business models, which can clearly cause social harm. The onus, however, is not on the social media giant alone. Political parties and their proxies — groups representing narrow community interests — have used the platform to great effect for their own ends. In practice, their devotion to evidence-based discourse, to a digital public sphere that is not vitriolic and polarising, is often visible only in its glaring absence. For impartial and reasonable regulation of the digital sphere, the political class, too, must be willing to sacrifice the quick gains it has reaped on social media, sometimes at the expense of the guiding principles of constitutional democracy.

## EXIT PLAN

It will need greater clarity over durability of recovery for RBI to firm up its moves towards policy normalisation

IN ITS OCTOBER meeting, the monetary policy committee of the RBI chose to maintain the policy status quo, keeping the benchmark repo rate at 4 per cent and continuing with its accommodative stance, presumably as long as is necessary to revive growth. But the decision was not unanimous. MPC member Jayanth Varma voted not only against continuing with the accommodative stance, but also argued in favour of raising the reverse repo rate. Concerns over how long the MPC can continue with its policy stance appear to be gaining traction. Even though the other members stuck to their earlier positions, there appears to be a shift in the tone of the commentary, with a member, Ashima Goyal, arguing that "over-stimulus as after the global financial crisis, with delay resulting in sharp adjustment, has to be avoided."

So far, the MPC has continued to attach primacy to growth considerations. In their most recent comments, most members highlighted the uneven nature of the recovery — the scarring of small business and the informal sector. According to another MPC member, Mridul Sagar, of the 404 industries for which data is available, 63.4 per cent are operating below 2018-19 levels. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das also argued that the "informal sector is likely to take even longer to recoup as the impact of the second wave on this sector was relatively more pronounced." But the space for continuing with its current stance appears to be receding. On the inflation front, the MPC members were cognisant of the risks, as, even though headline inflation has dipped — CPI fell to 4.35 per cent in September, down from 5.3 per cent in August — core inflation remains elevated. As Varma noted, "inflationary pressures are beginning to show signs of greater persistence than anticipated earlier". Economists expect inflation to inch back upwards. According to the RBI's projection, it is expected to dip to 4.5 per cent in the third quarter, rising thereafter to 5.8 per cent in the fourth quarter.

The withdrawal of policy support is likely to be gradual with the process playing out at multiple levels — beginning with normalisation of liquidity, which has begun, followed by a hike in the reverse repo, a shift in the stance from accommodative to neutral, culminating in a repo rate hike. However, the duration over which this plays out is uncertain. Perhaps a few more months of data will provide greater clarity over the durability of the recovery, allowing the MPC to firm up its exit plans.

## WEIGHED DOWN

Weightlessness in space may be an equaliser, but on earth, sexism remains a major obstacle for women set to take off

IN 1983, WHEN astronaut Sally Ride became the first American woman in space, a lot of the media attention around her accomplishment focussed on one question: What make-up would she use aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger? Ride recalled this in an interview soon after she had completed her first space trip: "They didn't care about how well prepared I was to operate the [Space Shuttle] arm or deploy communications satellites".

Echoes of this question could be heard once again in the media focus on astronaut Wang Yaping, who is set to become the first Chinese woman to walk in space as she stays on board China's Tiangong space station for six months. An official from the China National Space Administration reportedly said on the state television network, "Female astronauts may be in better condition after putting on make-up." And there's been a lot of chatter about the fact that Wang has a five-year-old child — her two male colleagues were not asked about their families — and about how she would manage her menstrual cycle in space.

Over 50 years have passed since Valentina Tereshkova became the first woman in space and yet, so much of the curiosity, when it comes to female astronauts, remains centred on their bodies and the traditional duties they're expected to fulfil, even as, professionally, they match their male colleagues, step-for-step. The number of women in the space industry remains abysmally low: According to the UN, only 11 per cent of astronauts so far have been women. The skewed sex ratio perpetuates a vicious cycle, making it harder for women to enter this field, as when the first-ever all-women spacewalk was cancelled in 2019 because there were not enough space suits to fit them, or the fact that there is significantly less data on the effects of microgravity on women's bodies. The weightlessness experienced in space may be a "great equaliser", as Ride once said, but on terra firma, gender equality remains a distant dream.



PRATAP BHANU MEHTA

THE HARASSMENT OF Aryan Khan/Shah Rukh Khan evokes familiar political emotions of our time — sadness and dread. It is important to see this moment in its specificity. The institutional discussion of cases like this usually begins with the "system". Many of our laws, like the UAPA and laws governing drug possession, are products of an imagination that has scarce regard for basic liberties and presumptions of being innocent until proven guilty. Our helpless judges are bound by these laws. While celebrities draw attention, let us not forget the thousands of undertrials who languish in Indian jails in an interminable wait for bail. Our law enforcement agencies, from CBI to NCB, have never been made properly accountable. This is how the "system," works, you see.

There is analytical validity to this analysis. But the strange alchemy of our times is that these truths are not uttered in the service of justice, but to cover up political lies. The moral corruption of authoritarian regimes is that even truth is a form of deflection. Once something is attributed to the "system" — this anonymous force that mysteriously recreates itself — no one has to be held politically accountable. Second, this truth hides the bigger truth. One of the problems with the so-called "system" was that its seemingly overbearing architecture always had wide room for judgement, discretion and even arbitrariness. The decision to pursue a case, the way in which prosecution presents evidence, who it chooses to target and how, the use of process itself to intimidate, the use of selective leaks by the state to construct a political narrative, the judicial capacity to read down laws, and even the decision to grant bail are all specific decisions. So hiding behind the system, or the whataboutery that the law was made by the UPA, is simply an evasive cover-up for a political vendetta, the kind where we can appease our conscience by claiming that we stand for principle, without calling out the nonsense perpetrated by specific political or law enforcement actors.

It is also a hallmark of authoritarian regimes that cleaning up the system, cleansing it of corruption, is the pretext for authoritarian repression. Even Shah Rukh Khan's son is not exempt,

The utter sadness of the Aryan Khan case is that it evokes the pathos of a great ruin

The jailing of young students in CAA-related cases, the continued detention of many of the Bhima Koregaon accused, the targeting of Bollywood celebrities, or even the intensifying threats of using the Enforcement Directorate are all meant to send a signal, to create a generalised climate of fear, where everyone feels vulnerable. Second, there is an ideological war on a constructed 'Muslimness', which now has an ever-expanding definition. It starts with making Muslim religiosity invisible in public spaces, but is now expanding to curbing cultural articulation, from food to Urdu to Muslim celebrities.

we intone. It would indeed be a nice world where the privileged and celebrities were treated equally before the law. But let us be clear. There is nothing in the patterns about decisions to prosecute or the judicial practices of granting bail that even remotely suggest that all this is about equality before law. Just think of members of the ruling dispensation, or even celebrities close to it, who might warrant more serious scrutiny if this were the case. Just think of the instances where honourable justices of the Supreme Court in bail cases decide to exercise early morning bombast, and where they remain silent on basic constitutional principles. Occasionally, a judge will do the right thing. Perhaps, Aryan will get bail on Tuesday. But there is no getting away from the fact that this is not the "system" or some "law" that does not allow for the exercise of judgement. It is the decision to target particularly inconvenient individuals.

But talk of the "system" also throws a veil over the larger ideological connections. The first is the expansion of the empire of fear and cruelty. The point is not to say that Aryan Khan is equal before the law; the point is to say, "We can make life miserable even for Aryan Khan". The jailing of young students in CAA-related cases, the continued detention of many of the Bhima Koregaon accused, the targeting of Bollywood celebrities, or even the intensifying threats of using the Enforcement Directorate are all meant to send a signal, to create a generalised climate of fear, where everyone feels vulnerable. Second, there is an ideological war on a constructed "Muslimness", which now has an ever-expanding definition. It starts with making Muslim religiosity invisible in public spaces, but is now expanding to curbing cultural articulation, from food to Urdu to Muslim celebrities. And then the ultimate subliminal fear: How dare Indians, especially women, identify with Muslim heroes? It is hard to imagine being a minority and not being anxious.

The court will decide whether or not Aryan was guilty of consumption. But you have to be obtuse not to see the incredible charge that Aryan is part of some international conspiracy as one that reiterates the worst stereotypes: The insinuation is that deep down Muslim

celebrities uniquely have gangster connections. The issue is not whether these moves are being directed centrally or not. There could very well be an element of NCB resentment and extortion in all of this, and we will never know. But all this is being enabled by a cultural common sense that normalises this kind of targeting. Third, there is the ideological war on Bollywood: To move it from a broadly secular and patriotic cultural institution to a communal and jingoistic one. Every star must now be dimmed by an ideological shadow.

But the utter sadness of this moment is that it evokes the pathos of a great ruin. Bollywood can sometimes be an aesthetic abomination, its political economy dodgy, but it was still central to the grammar of emotions. One cannot presume to know what Shah Rukh Khan feels as an individual. But the inescapable structural loneliness is easy to discern. When does the public move from adulating fans to being led by something like a mob? When do the legions who identified with you become so cowed that they are afraid to call out an injustice or even express solidarity in terms strong enough to stand up to the mob, and predatory state agencies? Admittedly, the accused is Shah Rukh Khan's son, not the star himself, but, in the whole process, the target could not be clearer.

The point about taming Bollywood is not to show that stars are equal before the law. It is to demonstrate who has real power, and the ability to control the cultural order. The Shiv Sena perfected this playbook. No one expects Bollywood to be political heroes, and the onus is not just on them. There is some wisdom in having some spaces alive where not everything is over-determined by political meaning. But when politics is out to get you, the message you don't want to send is that stars survive by creeping, that behind the upright stature of the still great Amitabh Bachchan, is the ability to lie prostrate. This is not being about politics; it is conniving in the regime's desire to instil fear. If the stars are so easily crushed, what about all us ordinary grains of sand under the state's jackboot?

*The writer is contributing editor, The Indian Express*



CHETANA SACHIDANANDAN

LEARNING DISABILITIES are disorders of the brain that affect the ability of a normally intelligent child to learn despite having the resources and conditions to do so. But what does it actually mean to live with a learning disability? Listen to the story of Riyaz and Mithu.

It's exam time. Nine-year-old Riyaz and father are studying. Question 1: There are 250 students in the school. 115 are boys. How many girls are there in the school? Riyaz, bright eyes shining, ventures: "Addition?" Riyaz tries again, "Is it multiplication?" "Subtraction?" He gets it right, eventually. But did he just guess it? Riyaz still has to use his fingers to count while doing simple sums. At the shop he argues with the shopkeeper for change; everyone else is getting some money back, so why shouldn't he?

Mithu, 23, is the "absent-minded professor". She is always late and loses her way constantly. She has to secretly clench the fist of her "writing" hand to tell right from left. She does not remember birthdays, phone numbers or her bank balance. Riyaz and Mithu have dyscalculia. Numbers are a mystery to them.

Numbers are everywhere. In salaries and calories, BMIs and EMIs, in aggregates and averages. Most of us, even those who never liked mathematics, swim through this sea of numbers effortlessly. Not dyscalculics. Dyscalculia is a well-established Specific Learning Disorder (SLD) and about six per cent of school-age children might be affected. But it doesn't get diagnosed that easily — after all, many of us find mathematics tough. Even many teachers and special educators are unfamiliar with the con-

## IT DOESN'T ADD UP

Even many teachers and special educators are unaware of dyscalculia

dition. But a certified clinical psychologist can diagnose dyscalculia by running a number of standardised tests.

Math skills are, in fact, a combination of different skills. Math requires imagination, visualisation and abstraction. Then there are the symbols. For instance, 3 for three of any kind. None of this comes naturally to Riyaz and Mithu. But dyscalculia is more than just difficulty with math. There may be problems with working memory making it hard to keep track of multiple instructions such as those in a cooking video. Often there are spatial and visual orientation deficits like those that Mithu has; she has a tough time imagining different perspectives or following directions. Riyaz, on the other hand, is not good at seeing patterns and grouping things based on shape and size.

Many times, dyscalculia comes with other learning disorders such as dyslexia or dysgraphia. Dyscalculia runs in families; often one diagnosis of dyscalculia leads to revelations across the family. Brain scans of people taken while they were solving simple arithmetic problems show that dyscalculics use different regions of the brain to process math problems compared to neurotypical people. The connectivity between different regions of the brain may also be different in dyscalculics. We still know very little about the neurobiology of dyscalculia.

Mithu learned she had dyscalculia when she was 22 by accident, when she took the tests to help out a psychologist friend of hers. Suddenly her whole childhood made sense

to her. She remembered the pitiful looks she used to get from her teachers and family. All the times when she had to make excuses for turning up late to activities because she could never estimate time or distance. All the times she had felt stupid and dumb. But thanks to his father, Riyaz got diagnosed at 10. His parents and the school put together an Individualised Education Programme for him. The special educator worked with him using audio and visual teaching aids to explain the math concepts at his own pace. The school counsellor started working with him to address his math anxiety. He now gets extra time to complete his exam paper. He has the option to use calculators in the board exams. He can also choose the easier "basic" level math for the Class X exams. Once he gains a basic working knowledge of functional math in secondary school, which would be necessary for leading an independent life, he may even decide to drop math altogether and substitute it with other subjects offered by CBSE.

Mithu is studying to be a filmmaker. She has always been artistic, she sings and paints and writes poetry. She is a great storyteller and loves lending drama to her stories. She hopes to pull all these skills together to one day become India's own Steven Spielberg, who, incidentally, also grew up with learning disabilities.

*The writer is a scientist at CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, Delhi. October is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month*

## OCTOBER 26, 1981, FORTY YEARS AGO

### ZAIL SINGH'S WARNING

UNION HOME MINISTER Giani Zail Singh said that the government would not encourage secessionists and extremists to vitiate the peaceful atmosphere in Punjab or any other part of the country. He warned extremists not to underestimate the strength of the Centre to deal with secessionist elements. Addressing a public meeting to mark the 20th anniversary of the dedication of the Bhakra Nangal Dam to the nation, he said that the government was sufficiently prepared to deal with the secessionists sternly. He admitted that there was some delay in taking action against these forces but said

that the government was aware of its duty. He said that a war with Pakistan cannot be ruled out despite the best intentions of the people and the Government of India towards Pakistan.

### PM CRITICISED

THE FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE on the Garhwal by-election appointed by the Citizens for Democracy has strongly censured Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for her totally "unfounded and unfair" statement at a press conference. Mrs Gandhi had alleged an attack on some officials accompanying her on an election tour of the Garhwal constituency. The

committee maintained that the PM's claims were not borne out by facts. In Garhwal, all Congress (I) workers and the public had disclaimed any knowledge of the incident referred to by her.

### ASSAM CONG (I)'S CLAIM

THE ASSAM PRADESH Congress (I) and its legislature wing have jointly apprised the President of their party's workable majority in the assembly to enable it to form a popular ministry in the state. A 23-member delegation led by APCC (I) President D Das and ACLP (I) leader Anwara Taimur submitted a memorandum to the President.



New Delhi





# THE IDEAS PAGE

## The tumult next door

Whether it can or should make a difference to Pakistan's internal politics, India must pay greater attention to the internal dynamics of our most difficult neighbour



By C RAJA MOHAN

AS MULTIPLE CRISES in Pakistan come to a head, can Delhi remain a mute spectator forever? In most other countries of the subcontinent, India is drawn quickly into their internal political arguments. Delhi has always exercised some influence on the outcomes of those contestations. But Delhi has rarely been a decisive player in Pakistan's internal politics. India's intervention in 1971 to liberate Bangladesh — the 50th anniversary of which is round the corner — was an exception rather than the rule.

Whether it can or should make a difference to Pakistan's internal politics, India must pay greater attention to the internal dynamics of our most difficult neighbour and more purposefully engage a diverse set of actors in that polity.

This is not the place to get into the rights and wrongs of India's interventions in the internal affairs of its other South Asian neighbours. It is enough to note that India's interventions are a recurring pattern in the subcontinent's international relations. Even when Delhi is reluctant to get into the weeds of these conflicts, the competing parties in the neighbourhood demand India's intervention on their behalf. All of the contestants, of course, resolutely oppose India's meddling when it goes against them. If Delhi's interventions are part of South Asian political life, why is Pakistan such an exception? Delhi's hands-off attitude is surprising, given India's huge stakes in the nature of Pakistan's policies and their massive impact on regional security. Delhi is hesitant to articulate even basic interests in Pakistan in general terms, let alone take sides in its internal politics.

Indian media, which is so obsessed with covering the disputes with Pakistan, has no time for the internal politics next door. It hardly spends any resources covering the turmoil within Pakistan. India's political classes too seem utterly disinterested in Pakistan's domestic developments.

For Delhi, it is always about narrow political arguments with Rawalpindi and Islamabad; it is as if the people of Pakistan do not exist. This indifference is also rooted in profound pessimism — that Pakistan will never change and that there is little Delhi can do about it.

The depth of the current crises in Pakistan, however, should nudge India into overcoming this entrenched indifference. Delhi can't forget that change is an immutable law of nature and that Pakistan is not immune to it.

Among the many challenges confronting Pakistan is the fresh breakdown in civil-military relations as Prime Minister Imran Khan bites the hand that has nurtured his rise to power. Meanwhile, Pakistan's economy is in a tailspin as it struggles to negotiate a stabilisation package with the International Monetary Fund. The militant religious movement Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) has mounted a fresh march against the capital demanding the release of its arrested leader, Saad Rizvi. Meanwhile, a coalition of opposition parties is stepping up protests to highlight the economic misery of the people; it is



CR Sasikumar

betting that the Imran Khan government can be pulled down well before it completes its full term two years from now.

The internal crises are sharpened by worsening external conditions. In Afghanistan, Pakistan has succeeded in restoring the Taliban to power. The celebrations have not lasted too long; the long-awaited victory is turning sour. The Arab Gulf states that have been fast friends of Pakistan are now tilting towards India. Once a favourite partner of the West, Pakistan today faces tensions in its ties with the US and Europe.

More broadly, nuclear weapons and a powerful army seem unable to stop Pakistan's relative decline in relation to not just India but also Bangladesh. Pakistan's economy is now 10 times smaller than that of India and is well behind Bangladesh. This trendline is unlikely to change in the near future.

A reference to these crises could easily be dismissed as wishful thinking from Indian analysts. Even the sincerest well-wisher of Pakistan, however, can't miss the country's dangerous downward trajectory.

For India, this is not a moment for schadenfreude. It should be an occasion to reflect on the long-term regional consequences of Pakistan's internal turbulence. Many in Delhi would dismiss the cause for such concern. They would point to Pakistan's survival skills. After all, Pakistan's journey since independence has been a dangerous one marked by unending near-death situations. Pakistan has certainly endured.

Some would point to Pakistan's enormous political luck in finding external patrons eager to bail it out for geopolitical reasons. While the US and Saudi Arabia have done this in the past, they don't appear as enthusiastic today.

Some would continue to bet that China could still save its all-weather friend Pakistan from hurtling down the abyss. Until now at least, the Chinese seem tight-fisted in comparison to the West, which was generous to a fault when it came to Pakistan. There is also a growing frustration among Islamabad's friends that there is little that they can do if the Pakistani state has no will or capability to get its act together.

The key to Pakistan's near future may lie in the manner in which the current tensions between Army Chief General Qamar Jawed Bajwa and PM Khan are resolved.

Imran has made bold to challenge the paramount authority of the army chief. While the GHQ is quite capable of pulling down the Imran government, the PM is turning to religious mobilisation to secure his flanks. How this plays out will be of special interest to Delhi. Sceptics will, however, say the differences within the Pakistani establishment on the policy towards India are tactical and, therefore, not consequential. Realists might concede that unlike elsewhere in the neighbourhood, Delhi's leverage in Pakistan's politics is terribly limited. But it is by no means negligible.

Problems between the army and the political leaders have indeed been endemic in Pakistan's history. They acquired a particular intensity in the last few years as the previous prime minister, Nawaz Sharif, sought to assert himself on key issues relating to Pakistan's support for Islamic militants.

The army hounded Nawaz Sharif out of power and in the elections that took place in 2018, it installed Imran Khan as the prime minister by stitching together a majority coalition for his party, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). It was widely assumed that the deal between the army and Imran Khan would bring stability and efficiency to policy-making in a badly-governed Pakistan.

For once the army had someone different from the jaded mainstream politicians to work with. Imran's popularity with the younger generation and his promise to create a Naya Pakistan seemed just the right formula, one that the army needed. Three years later, this so-called hybrid regime is in tatters and civil-military relations are back in crisis mode.

This round began earlier this month with the army announcing several transfers of four-star generals, including the ISI Chief General Faiz Hameed. But Imran Khan has been reluctant to let the ISI chief go. What should have been a routine change has now become a battle of wills between General Bajwa and Premier Khan.

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Realists might concede that unlike elsewhere in the neighbourhood, Delhi's leverage in Pakistan's politics is terribly limited. But it is by no means negligible. After all, India looms so large in Pakistan's mind space. For Delhi, it may be worth trying to turn that into influence over Pakistan's policies if only at the tactical level and at the margins.

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

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“The question that needs to be addressed first and foremost is: What measures have we followed to ensure that human activities do not induce natural disasters?”  
— THE KATHMANDU POST

## After milestone, a long road

The 100-crore vaccination landmark owes much to systems developed in a short span to synergise efforts of scientists, industry and government



N K ARORA

ADMINISTERING 100 CRORE vaccine doses in less than 10 months is a remarkable achievement for a country as vast and diverse as ours. Vaccine *aatmanirbharta* (self-reliance) has helped India achieve this remarkable feat. The country is well-placed to vaccinate its 94-crore adult population by the end of this year.

This remarkable feat has been made possible by the concerted efforts of scientists, entrepreneurs, industry leaders, administrators and government. The country has taken crucial steps to strengthen the basic science research infrastructure in the last two decades, which helped in ramping up facilities for the development of vaccines. In March 2020, as soon as the pandemic struck the world, India invested huge funds to create an ecosystem that encouraged scientists as well as entrepreneurs to collaborate and take up the challenge of developing vaccines in such a short time. There were transformations in the research ecosystem: Major investments were made in high-risk projects, collaboration between academia and industry was proactively encouraged and infrastructure to support vaccine development was bolstered.

India's already-existing vaccine manufacturing infrastructure came in handy. The vaccination programme began in less than a year. Today, four vaccines are manufactured in India — Bharat biotech's Covaxin, Serum Institute's Covishield, Cadila Zydcus ZycovD vaccine and Russian-developed Sputnik V.

Since the vaccines were developed in a short time and accorded emergency-use authorisation, people had initial concerns about safety and efficacy. But it's not too well-known that to ensure safety, scientists across the world had started discussing possible side-effects of the vaccines around June-July 2020. By September-October last year, India had set up an expert panel including general physicians, pulmonologists, cardiologists, neurologists, hepatologists and other specialists to monitor Adverse Events Following Immunisation (AEFI) at the national level. The investigation and causality training for AEFI members across the country was organised in October-November and by December, most of them were trained to identify and address common adverse events as well as possible conditions that could theoretically have occurred with any new vaccine. Any clinical event or disease that occurs within 28 days of administering a dose of the vaccine is to be reported as AEFI. Unfortunately, the system is only able to capture events occurring in the first four-five days after the vaccine is administered. The AEFI surveillance system surely has a lot to improve on in the coming weeks and months. Routine AEFI surveillance, though, has improved and active surveillance systems have been set up at 20 to 25 sites across the country, both at hospitals as well as community sites. This is helping the system to rule out the possibility of long-term effects of the vaccines.

At every vaccination centre, a waiting area was set up where people can be observed for

30 minutes post-vaccination. The objective was to manage any severe reaction promptly and refer them to the nearest health facility. This approach has saved several hundred lives. Equally important is the role IT has played in the smooth delivery of vaccines.

Along with making vaccines available, it was important to convince people about the need for the shots and assure them of their safety. Initially, misinformation and rumours created vaccine hesitancy. Politicking complicated matters. But the country's experience during the long campaign for polio eradication came in handy while dealing with misinformation around Covid-19 vaccines. Communication experts were roped in to draft social mobilisation programmes in October last year. Iconic personalities, religious leaders, community leaders were also involved in awareness programmes.

Social media was scanned systematically so that rumours and misinformation could be countered methodically. Like an infectious disease, vaccine hesitancy can spread rapidly from one area to another unless there is prompt action. The proactive approach has turned hesitancy into vaccine eagerness.

India's vaccination campaign has been a well-coordinated operation involving several departments other than the health departments. India has even inoculated more than 2 crore people in a single day. Infrastructure for such a large-scale project does not come up in a short period. The country has already shown the capacity to immunise over 17 crore children with polio drops within seven days.

Covid vaccines were never available in unlimited quantities anywhere in the world. While all-out efforts were made to develop indigenous vaccines and manufacture locally under an international licence, attempts were also made to arrive at advance arrangements with international vaccine manufacturers in late 2020. The lessons from these negotiations reinforced India's resolve to bank upon locally manufactured vaccines. Many complained about the initial pace of immunisation but it was calibrated according to vaccine availability, beneficiary prioritisation and building the delivery infrastructure.

Mid-course corrections were amongst the highlights of the campaign. Each challenge was taken as a step towards making the programme more people-friendly.

Hundred crore doses is an important milestone. But the fact is that there is still a long road to effectively control Covid. A substantial number of adults, and all children, are yet to be vaccinated. The last mile could be a difficult road as we may come across pockets of vaccine hesitancy but concerted efforts to address contextual factors will help the country achieve full immunisation.

Covid immunisation will go a long way in protecting our population from developing severe diseases and mortality due to Covid-19. Equally important will be people's compliance with Covid-appropriate behaviour. Keeping a tab on the emergence of any new variants in the coming weeks and months and preparing the health system for any future upsurge of cases will help win this battle against Covid-19.

The overarching philosophy of vaccine *aatmanirbharta* will hold the key to accomplishing the tasks ahead.

The writer heads the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration



VAMSEE JULURI

AFTER SPENDING NEARLY three decades of my life in American universities watching the rise and spread of South Asia studies, I find myself remembering the opening lines of Allen Ginsberg's masterpiece *Howl* (“I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed by madness”) after Ashutosh Varshney's recent claim (‘Jim Crow Hindutva’, IE, October 19) that perhaps all those Nazi comparisons to Hindutva weren't quite right, but that it's really about “Jim Crow Hindutva.”

The idea here is that unlike the BJP's earlier run under Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, when the government only sought to make India “more Hindu in public symbolism and discourse”, now the Modi government is also using laws to make India “more anti-Muslim”. The first notion is a stock phrase in US media and implies that India was inherently not Hindu, or at least “less Hindu”, to begin with. As for the second point — alleged anti-Muslim laws — I will leave it to legal scholars to say more but I will note that invoking the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) as an example in this context is especially off-key at this time. It is not Muslims but the non-Muslim minorities of South Asia, the intended beneficiaries of this law, who have faced a spectacular outbreak of violence in the past few weeks — the 26-year-old ISKCON devotee Pranta Chandra Das murdered by a raging Islamist mob in Bangladesh; the numerous desecrated Durga puja pandals; before that,

## The ‘Jim Crow Hindutva’ canard

South Asia studies scholars continue to wield borrowed vocabularies

the poignant images of Afghanistan's Guru Granth Sahib being brought home respectfully and the Hindu and Sikh teachers targeted and murdered in Kashmir. All of these incidents make the characterisation of the CAA as evidence of an “anti-Muslim Jim Crow Hindutva” conspiracy sadly misplaced.

None of this is new. In the last 30 years, neither the purge of Kashmiri Pandits, nor multiple assaults on civilians in Mumbai, Hyderabad, Coimbatore, Delhi was noticed in South Asia Studies. It took 30 years, as far as I have known, for someone to say that perhaps the avalanche of Nazi-Hindu comparisons that have constituted the entire published careers of a generation of scholars, editorialists, and activists may not quite be accurate. And yet, it's not fully a recognition of reality. It's just an attempt at a new adjustment. The neologism now proposed by Varshney will probably have quite a good run too.

The comparisons, after all, were already in the works. Back in 2017, even as a bunch of newspapers in India and abroad, including, ironically, a German one, were busy spinning some obscure rural health programme for expectant mothers in the Hindi heartland into an RSS neo-Nazi eugenics scheme, leading magazines were flaunting cover stories of white-hooded masks with red tilaks on their brows (Hindutva-KKK stuff).

Both were certainly creative and sensational moments in the media's anti-Hindutva

resistance. But what of academia, where we face less of the daily and weekly pressures of editors and owners to sell and sensationalise? Have our concepts for what is happening in India and elsewhere been more reflective, responsive, accurate? Have scholars in South Asia studies come up with any compelling new ideas beyond the borrowed (or appropriated) vocabulary of the Jewish experience of Nazi anti-Semitism and the Black experience of Jim Crow to describe what they believe is India's growing capture by Hindutva?

Now, it may well be the case that they have good reasons to fit these Euro-American theatres of oppressiveness onto present-day South Asia, but have they tested those reasons with any real debate? Have scholars who disagree with their canonical assumptions about Hindutva, Hinduism, and Hinduphobia (its entrenched denial despite evidence of its usage from the 1850s is so obvious to anyone outside the ivory tower now) been invited to their conferences or journals? Have they at least been spared the discourtesy of gaslighting and censorship?

There was quite a commotion the past few months about a conference hosted by leading scholars, activists and academic institutions on Hindutva. Some of its supporters argued that they were not proposing to “dismantle” Hinduism but only Hindutva. Some of the presenters at the conference argued, though, that there was no difference. The Hinduism/

Hindutva distinction in their work all these years was too fragile to even be called a fig leaf.

But Hinduphobia, that one word being yelled from a place of alarm about the violence against Hindus in Kashmir, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and even in India, was never heard.

Some see Sanskrit in the Nazis, others see American slavery in India. Do they really see this, or is it the codes of their profession, the practices of academic omertà and the “restorative citation of antecedent authority” as Edward Said called it? Media being called Goebbelsian or Orwellian is one thing. But college professors, teachers, people who live for truth, ostensibly? What have we done with all this privilege, really?

I saw the best minds of my generation once, awakened by the suffering of others, turning their words and hearts to worlds not seen or heard before, in the name of the subaltern, the colonised, the powerless. Then, they saw that suffering, a great massive swathe of it, a billion bodies all, uphold a name they did not expect. These people, for all their pain, did not call themselves “brown”. Or “South Asian”. Or what the corporate-military-academic apparatus wanted them to. Instead, they called themselves “Hindu”. And I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed. By reality.

The writer is a professor of media studies at the University of San Francisco

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### FAULTY POLITICS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Simmering unease’ (IE, October 25). The Indian government needs to follow in the footsteps of the Bangladesh government to control the festering majoritarian violence in Tripura with a firm hand. PM Sheikh Hasina lost no time to control the situation after the violence on the eve of the Durga Puja. Regrettably, on our side in Tripura, Hindu mobs are targeting mosques and Muslim properties. This dreadful situation is continuing perhaps because the BJP leadership is busy in making out why the abrogation of Article 370 has not produced the desired results.

Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur

### JUDGE BY EFFECT

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘The great man syndrome’ (IE, October 25). The proclaimed followers of any great man who are opposed to diversity of ideas fail to be democratic at the outset. These leaders' ideas were like medical prescriptions for the various anomalies and maladies India was plagued with. Instead of comparing them in their past, it makes more sense to compare the fall-out/outcome of their aforesaid ideological prescriptions in terms of their relevance and application in contemporary India. Savarkar's Ratmagiri campaigns to uproot the caste system seem eclipsed by his followers who are hardly seen to stand publicly against upper caste per-

petrators of Dalit atrocities. Similarly, Mahatma Gandhi's fast unto death forced Ambedkar to sign the Poona Pact in 1932, with pious hope of a change of hearts among upper castes remaining a pipe dream. Ambedkar's advocacy for the empowerment of the Depressed Classes is currently on display on the eve of the UP and Punjab elections, where every political party is frantically trying to woo and mobilised Dalit and OBC support in the name of social justice.

L R Murmu, Delhi

### SOCIAL SECURITY

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Outside the propaganda’ (IE, October 25). The author has rightly observed that the value of human life cannot possibly be equated to Rs.50,000, which has been awarded under the Disaster Management Act, 2005. It is to be noted that this paltry sum has been awarded while invoking Section 12 (iii) of Act, 2005 relating to “ex gratia” assistance. The social security granted to the citizens of India under this Section is merely “ex-gratia” — is based on charity, rather than a concrete legal obligation. Neither bragging about the achievements of India's vaccination drive nor the whimpering over the failure of medical infrastructure will do any good. Covid-19 should be taken as a lesson for putting an effective social security policy in place.

Aerika Singh, Chandigarh



## Centre to HC: Marriage is between biological man and biological woman

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

THE LAW is settled that marriage is a term associated with a biological man and a biological woman, the Centre argued Monday before the Delhi High Court. After a brief hearing, the court listed petitions seeking recognition and registration of same-sex marriages under existing laws for a final hearing on November 30.

At least five petitions are pending before the court seeking legalisation of same-sex marriages under the Hindu Marriage Act, Special Marriage Act (SMA), Foreign Marriage Act (FMA) and a declaration that the right to legal recognition of same-sex marriage is a fundamental right under Articles 14, 15, 19 and 21 of the Constitution, irrespective of a person's gender, sex or sexual orientation.

At the outset of Monday's hearing, advocate Karuna Nundy, who represents one of the couples in the case, submitted that pleadings are not complete as a counter-affidavit has not been filed in her matter which has a distinct prayer.

Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta submitted that pleadings have been filed and only a question of law is involved. "Everything would depend on whether your lordship recognises the submission on the question of marriage and registration of marriage, whether it has to be between a biological man and a biological woman. The entire matter would depend on that," submitted Mehta.

"The law as it stands, either with or without Navtej Singh Johar case... the law is settled, the personal laws are settled... marriage which is contemplated is between a biological man and biological woman," he submitted.

### KERALA CHILD'S CUSTODY

# Court stays adoption process

**SHAJU PHILIP**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 25

IN A relief to former SFI leader Anupama S Chandran, who is fighting to get back custody of her one-year-old son after her parents handed him over to a shelter home for adoption without her knowledge, a family court on Monday stayed the adoption process.

The child was given in adoption in August this year but the process was in its final stage pending before the court.

After Anupama's demand to get back her child gathered support in recent days, the state government decided to inform the

family court about the latest developments.

On Monday, the government informed the court about the dispute over the child and urged it to delay its final decision on the adoption. After the government told the court about the stake claimed by the child's biological mother, the court observed that DNA test would be required to get clarity on her stake.

Posting the matter to November 1, the court instructed the child welfare committee to submit an affidavit on whether the child in dispute was abandoned at the state-run shelter or handed over to it by someone. Also, police were directed to submit a probe report in a sealed

cover by November 1.

Until a final decision is taken on the issue, the child was allowed the custody of the adoptive parents.

Anupama, who had earlier held a sit-in in front of the state secretariat seeking her child back, said, "I am happy and I hope I will get my son back soon. I am pained at the plight of the adoptive parents. Action should be taken on those who had facilitated the separation of my child."

Anupama also moved a petition to implead in the case. She said she had put her son in the care of her parents, but they did not give him back to her and gave away the baby to the child welfare committee for adoption.

In an earlier petition to the po-

lice, Anupama had alleged that the child was forcibly taken away from her three days after delivery when she was returning home from a hospital in Thiruvananthapuram rural district.

Anupama's parents and four others, who have been listed as accused in the case pertaining to kidnapping of the baby, have moved a local court seeking anticipatory bail. The plea would be considered on October 28.

Anupama, who is from a CPI(M) family, gave birth to the child on October 19 last year. At the time, her partner Ajith Kumar, then a local DYFI leader, was legally married to another woman and her parents disapproved of their relationship.

## J&K search op enters Day 15

**Jammu:** The joint operation to flush out militants hiding inside the dense forests in the twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri entered the fifteenth day on Monday, officials said.

The operation continued for the eleventh day in Bhata Durian area of Poonch district's Mendhar tehsil on Monday. While local residents said that there were explosions and heavy firing for nearly one-and-a-half hours in Bhata Durian forests on Monday around 7 am, sources said it was speculative fire by security forces to clear the area while moving deeper inside the jungle. There is very little area left to be searched now but the search parties, to avoid further

damage, are moving ahead with caution due to "thick wild growth", sources said. **ENS**

## Navlakha shifted to Anda cell in Taloja, says partner

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, OCT 25

ACTIVIST GAUTAM Navlakha, arrested in the Elgaar Parishad case, has been shifted from the barracks to the high-security Anda cell at Taloja earlier this month, causing further deterioration in his health, his partner Sahba Husain has said in a statement. Husain also said that the jail has discontinued phone calls due to the restrictions during the pandemic, "on the pretext that physical mu-lagats have been resumed".

Husain said that the 70-year-old was shifted to the "Anda circle" from the regular barracks on October 12. "...In the Anda circle, he is deprived of daily walks in the jail's non-concreted greener areas and fresh air, and his health has deteriorated further, making specialised medical care an absolute necessity, if he is to live to fight this unjust and false case foisted on him," the statement said.

A prison official did not respond to request for a comment.

Navlakha has been lodged in Taloja jail since last year following his arrest by the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

## Karnataka: Man killed over interfaith relationship, kin of woman arrested

**KIRAN PARASHAR**  
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 25

POLICE IN Karnataka's Vijayapura have arrested two persons in the case of a 32-year-old man being killed over his interfaith relationship with a 24-year-old woman, and detained six others for their alleged role in planning the crime.

The victim, whose body was found in a well Sunday, has been identified as Ravi Nimbargi, who was reported missing on October 21, and those arrested are Bandenawaz Gote (40) and Imam Sab Thambe (20), both family members of the woman.

"The maternal uncle and younger brother of the woman have been arrested so far. The investigations are continuing," said Vijayapura SP, H D Ananda Kumar. The incident occurred at Balagnur in the Sindgi taluk of Vijayapura, which is scheduled to witness an assembly bypoll on October 30.

Sources said police and Nimbargi's family were alerted by the woman about the victim going missing. The woman also told the police in a call to the control room that she suspected the role of her family members in the disappearance and that she feared they may have killed him, sources said. The woman was given police protection, they said.

The Vijayapura region is infamous for honour killings of this nature, police sources said. In June this year, a 19-year-old Dalit

boy and an 18-year-old Muslim girl were killed by the girl's family in a similar incident.

Nimbargi belonged to the dominant Lingayat community, worked as a security guard, and was in a relationship with the woman for nearly five years. The families of both had objected to the relationship and had reportedly issued several warnings to the couple, police said.

On October 22, Nimbargi's younger brother, Shashidhar, filed a complaint in the local Almel police station stating his brother had left their farm at 6 pm on October 21 to buy groceries and not returned. Shashidhar stated that another youth from the village had found Nimbargi's slippers, and a bag he was carrying, near another farm. Nimbargi's mobile phone was switched off, Shashidhar told the police.

Police then found out about the woman's call to the control room on the same day, and that she had alerted Nimbargi's family too.

"The preliminary probe has revealed that Ravi Nimbargi was murdered and thrown into the well. His legs and hands were tied. We do not know whether he was abducted or someone convinced him and took him to the site where he was killed," a senior police officer said.

"Both families have an agricultural background, are financially stable, and own several acres of irrigated land. The difference in faith was the root cause of the crime," the officer said.

### TRACKING THE SECOND SURGE

**603**  
DAYS SINCE  
PANDEMIC  
BEGAN

**NEW CASES: 11,393**

**ACTIVE CASES: 1,63,788**

**VACCINATIONS: 1,02,27,12,895**

**DAILY DEATHS**  
358

**TOTAL DEATHS**  
4,55,070

**WEEKLY CFR**  
1.97%

**OVERALL CFR**  
1.34%



**TESTS TODAY: 11,89,600 | TOTAL TESTS: 60,22,33,255**

**WEEKLY POSITIVITY: 1.17% | OVERALL POSITIVITY: 5.68%**

### STATES REPORTING MOST CASES

STATE	NEW CASES	ACTIVE CASES	WEEKLY POSITIVITY	TOTAL VACCINATION
■ Kerala	6,664	75,337	10.71%	3,80,62,503
■ Tamil Nadu	1,112	12,791	0.91%	5,65,32,357
■ Maharashtra	889	23,184	1.24%	9,52,79,770
■ West Bengal	805	7,869	2.35%	7,20,70,704
■ Assam	326	3,882	0.74%	12,71,16,500

### STATES REPORTING MOST DEATHS

STATE	TODAY'S DEATHS	TOTAL DEATHS	WEEKLY CFR	OVERALL CFR
■ Kerala	281	28,873	2.57%	0.60%
■ Tamil Nadu	14	36,033	1.26%	1.34%
■ Maharashtra	13	1,43,641	1.30%	2.18%
■ West Bengal	11	19,066	1.51%	1.21%
■ Karnataka	10	38,017	2.06%	1.28%

Note: Data as on Oct 25; vaccination numbers as of Oct 24. Deaths include those from previous days. Kerala added nearly 230 previously uncounted deaths as part of a data cleaning exercise.

## Dainik Bhaskar team gets Prem Bhatia Award for Covid reporting

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

THE TEAM of *Dainik Bhaskar*, which had extensively covered the under-reporting of Covid-19 deaths in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat, has won the Prem Bhatia Award for outstanding political reporting.

Vaishnavi Rathore of *The Bastion* digital magazine won the environmental and develop-

mental reporting award for her "wide ranging coverage of environmental degradation issues and displacement of Adivasis," the Prem Bhatia Memorial Trust said in a statement.

The *Dainik Bhaskar* group's newspapers had reported extensively about underreporting of Covid death in the second wave. In July, the Income Tax Department raided the group's owner's residential and office premises across 32 locations.

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## Kashmiri students assaulted over ‘slogans’ after India T20 loss to Pak

**KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR**  
AMRITSAR, OCTOBER 25

A SCUFFLE broke out between a group of Kashmiri students and those from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar at an engineering institute in Punjab's Sangrur district following the T20 World Cup match between India and Pakistan, police said Monday. Three Kashmiri students suffered injuries, police said. In another incident a Kashmiri stu-

dent was roughed up in Kharar.

The Kashmiri students later said their concerns have been addressed by the police even as National Conference (NC) leader Omar Abdullah said he was distressed to hear about the alleged physical assault and urged Punjab CM Charanjit Singh Channi to look into the matter.

The incidents took place after some slogans were raised after the match on Sunday night, police said. The incidents were reported from Sangrur's Bhai Gurdas Institute of Engineering and Technology (BGJET), and Kharar's Rayat Bahrat University.

### J&K: FIRs OVER VIDEOS

**Srinagar:** Police have registered two FIRs under UAPA and IPC after two purported videos of Kashmiris celebrating Pakistan's T20 win were shared on social media. The videos purportedly show students of Government Medical College and the Shere-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences. **ENS**

"Both sides have offered apologies in front of police and college authorities today. The issue has been settled," said Sangrur SSP Swapan Sharma.

### पुनः ई-निविदा सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि कार्यालय रक्षा सम्पदा अधिकारी, आगरा मण्डल आगरा छावनी द्वारा सर्वे संख्या 312 एवम 312-A, आगरा किला, बिजलीचर के पास आगरा छावनी स्थित रक्षा भूमि जिसका क्षेत्रफल लगभग 0.65 acre है, पर एक वर्ष के लिए कार, बस, स्कूटर इत्यादि पार्किंग के लिए इच्छुक व्यक्तियों/फर्म आदि द्वारा भारत सरकार, रक्षा मंत्रालय के Defence e-procurement site <https://defproc.gov.in> के माध्यम से ई-निविदा (E-Tender) आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा की शर्तें उपरोक्त पोर्टल पर अपलोड कर दी गई हैं। दस्तावेज डाउनलोड प्राप्त करने का दिनांक 26.10.2021 समय 09:30 बजे से तथा निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि 15.11.2021 समय 15:30 बजे तक रहेगी। उक्त सूचनाएँ छावनी परिषद आगरा के वेबसाइट [www.cbagra.org.in](http://www.cbagra.org.in) पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

(राजीव कुमार)

रक्षा सम्पदा अधिकारी

आगरा मण्डल, आगरा छावनी

पत्रांक:- B/48/X7

दिनांक:- 25/10/2021

## SEARCH FOR MISSING



**Mehnaz**

**Age:** 21 Years, **Height:** 5'2", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Hair:** Black, **Wearing:** Black Colour Kurta & Red Colour Salwar and Hawai Chappal in feet. Any person having any information/ Clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi at E-mail [Id-cbic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:Id-cbic@cbi.gov.in) or website: <http://cbi.nic.in> **Phone:** **SHO** **011-24368638, 24368641** **P.S. Uttam Nagar, New Delhi** **Fax No. 011-24368639** **Dwarka Distt., Delhi** **DP/517/DW/2021** **Ph. No. 011-25377600, 25377425**

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



was found dead at K.M. Pole No. 10/31, 11/1 UP Main Line, Delhi, on 20.10.2021 at 05:00 PM.

In this regard a DD No. 13 A, dated 20.10.2021 has been lodged at P.S.Subzi Mandi Railway Station, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following. **SHO**

**P.S. Subzi Mandi Railway Station, Delhi**  
**Ph.: 8750871303, 7678485705**

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



**Rama Devi**

General Public is hereby informed that one female **Name:** Rama Devi, **W/o:** Satvir, **R/o:** H.No. Q-4/38, Mangol Puri, Delhi, has been missing/ kidnapped since **21.09.2021** from the area of P.S. Raj Park, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 106-A dated 01.10.2021** has been registered at P.S. Raj Park, Delhi. The description of the missing female are as under: **Age:** 25 Years, **Height:** 5'2", **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Fair, **ID Mark:** A black mark on left hand, **Wearing:** Unknown colour saree. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the female but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this female kindly inform to the following.

**Website:** <http://cbi.nic.in> **SHO**  
**E-mail Id - [clc@cbi.gov.in](mailto:clc@cbi.gov.in)**  
**Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641** **P.S. Raj Park, Delhi**  
**Fax No. 011-24368639** **Ph. No. 011-27910070, 7065036123**  
**DP/1245/OD/2021**

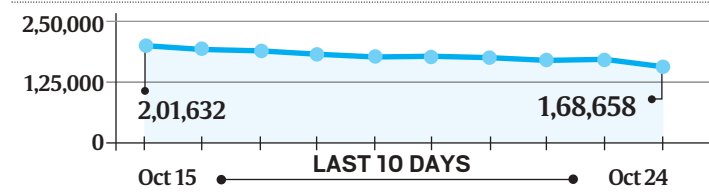
पत्रांक : 41/अधी0अनि0यु0/विद्युत/कैम्प-1(33)/21 दिनांक 20.10.2021

“Save Electricity Enhance National Productivity”



## INDIA ACTIVE COVID CASES

1,68,658



## SIMPLY PUT

## Climate targets set, missed

While countries at climate meetings regularly commit to collective action, few have been meeting their targets. These targets are not binding, and developing countries will require much more funding.

AMITABH SINHA  
PUNE, OCTOBER 25

THE ANNUAL climate meetings have succeeded in galvanising the world into taking collective action against climate change, but they have not been able to prevent the crisis from worsening in the last two decades. The quantum of action that these series of meetings has enabled has always been well short of what, science says, is required to avoid the catastrophic impacts of climate change.

Countries have missed their targets, reneged on promises made, and delayed their actions. The decision-making at these meetings has not always been guided purely by climate change considerations. Very often, economic and foreign policy imperatives have over-ridden environmental concerns.

As a result, the world seems to have got locked in a perennial firefighting mode, struggling to cope with the ever-increasing frequency of extreme weather events, which are a direct consequence of global warming.

### Missed chances

For most of the first two decades since climate change became a global issue — between 1990 and 2010 — very little action was taken to curb growing emissions. The first target, for the developed countries to return to their 1990 levels of emissions by 2000, was never taken seriously.

An international agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions was finalised at just the third climate change conference, in Kyoto in 1997, but it couldn't be operationalised until 2005 in the absence of the requisite number of ratifications. The United States, the world's largest emitter at that time, did not ratify the Kyoto Protocol and was thus not bound by it.

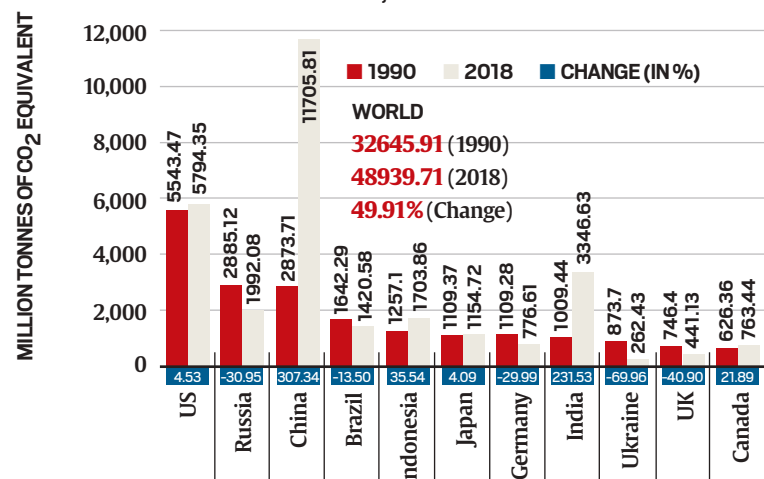
The Kyoto Protocol asked a group of 37 rich and industrialised countries to collectively achieve a modest 5 per cent reduction in their emissions from 1990 levels during the 'first commitment period' of 2008-2012. Except the European Union, and some of its individual member countries such as Germany and the United Kingdom (which was then in the EU), most of the countries did not achieve the target.

Russia and the east European economies, however, saw a dramatic drop in their emissions after the collapse of the Soviet era. It helped a great deal in ensuring that the collective emissions of this group of countries fell by 22 per cent, well above the 5-per-cent target.

Data from the World Resources Institute show that the emissions of the US in 2012 were marginally higher than they were in 1990, meaning there was no reduction. Australia's emissions went up by about 15 per cent.

Global emissions went up by 40 per cent between 1990 and 2012, thanks mainly to the rapid rise of China and India, which continues to this day. China overtook the United States as the world's leading emitter around 2007. Its current emissions are more than 4

### HIGHEST EMITTERS IN 1990, AND WHAT'S CHANGED SINCE



A coal-fired plant in Utah, US. NYT

### EMISSION REDUCTION: TARGETS & PROGRESS

COUNTRY	EMISSION REDUCTION TARGET	STATUS IN 2018
US	26-28% by 2025 from 2005 levels	10% reduction from 2005
EU (27)	40% by 2030 from 1990 levels	22% reduction from 1990
Australia	26-28% by 2030 from 2005 levels	3.48% above 2005
Japan	25.4% by 2030 from 2005 levels	2.66% reduction from 2005
Canada	30% by 2030 from 2005 levels	24.16% reduction from 2005
Russia	25-30% reduction by 2030 from 1990	30.95% reduction from 1990
China	Peak emissions in 2030	70.57% above 2005
Brazil	37% by 2025 from 2005 levels, 43% by 2030	29.13% below 2005
Indonesia	29% by 2030 from business-as-usual scenario	37.11% above 2005
Iran	4% by 2030 from business-as-usual scenario	45.58% above 2005

Source: Climate Watch, World Resources Institute

times the 1990 levels. India's emissions have grown over 3.5 times from 1990.

### Newly growing economies

But countries such as China, India and similar fast-growing economies such as Brazil, South Africa or Indonesia, were not mandated to cut down their emissions, because of well-justified reasons. Over 90 per cent of the accumulated greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, the reason for global warming, had come from the rich and industrialised countries over the last 150 years. Countries such as India and China had begun to develop only in the 1980s and 1990s, and needed the space to grow their economies in order make the lives of their people better. This is what gave rise to the principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC), the most endearing and empowering provision for the developing countries.

But while they had little contribution in the "historical emissions", industrial activity in China, India and other major developing countries was leading to their emissions growing at a very fast pace. That was a major grouse for

the developed countries, which felt that a free pass to these countries was also handing them an unfair economic advantage at their cost.

Thus began a systematic effort to erode the Kyoto Protocol and replace it with an architecture that put some constraints on the emissions of India and China as well. It was achieved with the finalisation of the Paris Agreement in 2015 and the formal demise of the Kyoto Protocol last year. In the process, the basic framework of the climate change architecture was severely diluted.

Instead of science-based emission-reduction targets, that were binding in nature, countries were only asked to do what they thought they were best capable of. There is little incentive, and no obligation, for countries to put their best foot forward in a system like this.

### Lack of money, tech

More than the lack of adequate action on emission reductions, the developed countries have been found wanting in their commitment to help and support developing countries, especially the least developed ones, in dealing with the impacts of climate

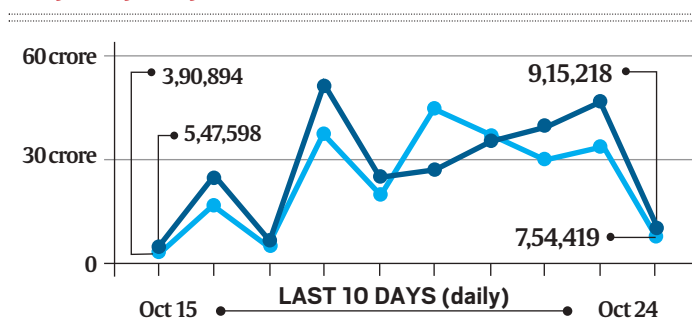
change. This included providing money and technology to facilitate adaptation to the changing environment, something that the developed countries are mandated to do, not just under the Kyoto Protocol but also in the successor Paris Agreement regime.

But hardly any meaningful amount of money, or transfer of technology, took place under the Kyoto Protocol. In 2009, at the Copenhagen conference, the then US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton announced that the developed countries would 'mobilise' \$100 billion in "new and additional" climate finance for developing countries every year from 2020. This promise got written in the Paris Agreement as well.

While the developed countries claim that this sum has already started flowing, developing countries say there is very little money on offer, and that a lot of what is being dressed as climate finance is actually pre-existing aid or money flowing for other purposes. Besides, \$100 billion now seems like a paltry amount when estimates suggest that trillions of dollars are required in climate finance every year.

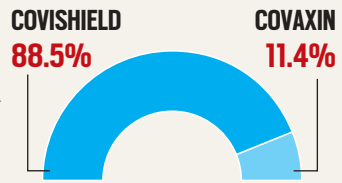
## CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

**TOTAL VACCINATED IN INDIA** (at least one dose)  
**71,64,87,728**



**TOTAL DOSES**  
**102,27,12,895**

(Sputnik V's 10.6 LAKH doses not represented in pie)



**DOSES ON OCT 24 16,69,637**  
**OCT 23: 80,14,847** (1st dose: 33,19,953; 2nd: 46,94,894)

**3,31,694**

Number of doses administered in Andhra Pradesh on October 24, the highest for any state.

**2,66,841**

West Bengal

**2,45,058**

Tamil Nadu

**1,34,485**

Bihar

**1,14,257**

Maharashtra

Note: The October 24 figures in these graphs are based on the government updates on October 25  
Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, updated at 11 pm on October 25

## THIS WORD MEANS TRIGONOPTERUS CORONA

Beetle species named after coronavirus. Before that, insects called *P. coronavirus*, *A. quarentnus*, *S. covida*



Clockwise from top left: *Trigonopterus corona*, *Stethantyx covida*, *Allorhogas quarentenus*, and *Potamophylax coronavirus*.  
Pensoft Publishers

ON THE Indonesian island of Sulawesi, museum scientists have discovered 28 new species of beetles. The species, all of which measure 2-3 mm, are described in the journal *Zookeys*.

One of them has been named *Trigonopterus corona*. This reflects the large impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on this project, Pensoft Publishers, which brings out the journal, said in a blog spot.

And it is not the only insect species to be named after the pandemic. In April, a new species of caddisfly (a moth-like insect) was collected near

a stream in Kosovo by a team of scientists, and named *Potamophylax coronavirus* (*Biodiversity Data Journal*).

The same month, out of six new species of Brazilian wasps described in the *Journal of Hymenoptera Research*, one was named *Allorhogas quarentenus*, a reference to the quarantine, which occurred while the authors were describing the species.

And earlier this month, out of five new wasp species discovered in Mexico, scientists named one *Stethantyx covida* (*Zookeys*).

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

### ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

IN LINE with growing concerns over expensive equity valuations, Nomura has downgraded Indian equities from 'overweight' to 'neutral', as it feels that while the upside is already priced in, there are headwinds emerging that could pose risks in the future.

Nomura has also said it is now recommending allocation to China and other ASEAN countries that have underperformed India in 2021.

### Recommendation

In a note on Indian equities, Nomura equity strategists Chetan Seth and Amit Phillips

downgraded India to neutral in their regional allocation.

"We now see an unfavourable risk-reward given valuations, as a number of positives appear to be priced in, whilst headwinds are emerging. We, thus, downgrade India to neutral in our regional allocation and will look for better entry points given our still-constructive medium term view. We like China (significant underperformer seeing stabilising sentiment) and ASEAN (tactically laggard reopening play)," they said in their note.

Stating that the valuations looked very stretched, they said that 77 per cent of domestic stocks in the MSCI index were trading higher than pre-pandemic or post 2018 average valuations.

Among the risks that India faced, Nomura

highlighted elevated commodity prices, sticky core inflation, and tentative signs of a slowdown in demand.

### Likely impact

While the concerns around valuations are rising, more such calls by global financial services firms to reduce India equity allocations will result in an outflow of funds going forward — and may lead to some correction in domestic equities.

FPI inflows have already started witnessing moderation. Against a net FPI inflow of Rs 13,154 crore into domestic equities in September, the month of October has witnessed a net outflow of Rs 2,331 crore till date.

In line with the growing concerns around expensive valuations, the broader indices too

have seen some correction over the last week. After hitting an all-time high of 62,245 on October 19, the Sensex has declined by over 1,400 points or 2.3 per cent.

If FPIs pull out more funds from Indian equities, it could lead to a deeper correction.

### Prescription

As the premier indices have rallied strongly this calendar year and continued to be strong over the last three months, domestic mutual funds and financial advisors are advising investors overweight on equities to go for reallocation, and reduce their exposure to equities.

They, however, maintain that those who have little or no allocation in equities, should start or continue with their equity investments.

# Queen Heo Hwang-ok of Korea, and her Ayodhya connection

SUANSHU KHURANA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

ON THE banks of the Sarayu in Ayodhya, acres of green space, mostly known as Ram Katha Park, have been through a major beautification exercise. Once inaugurated on November 4, the spruced-up space will be known as Queen Heo Hwang-ok Memorial Park, after a Korean queen believed to have had Indian roots.

Earlier this month, the Delhi-based Korean Centre for Culture, in collaboration with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, showcased a musical depicting the story of the queen at Kamani Auditorium. Directed by actor and director Imran Khan, The Legend of Princess Srinatna commemorated the completion of the park in Ayodhya.

### Who was Queen Heo Hwang-ok?

She was a Korean queen who is believed to have been born Princess Suriratna of Ayodhya, daughter of King Padmasen and Indumati. Padmasen ruled the ancient kingdom of Kausala, a region that extended from present-day UP to Odisha.

Her story is described in *Samguk Yusa* (*Memorabilia of Three Kingdoms*), a 13th-century collection of legends, folktales and history of Korea's three kingdoms — Goguryeo, Baekje and Silla — and some other regions.

In 48 BC, the princess, then 16, travelled to Korea from the ancient land of 'Ayuta' and married Kim Suro, founder and King of Geumgwan Gaya in south-eastern Korea. She travelled by boat along with an entourage, having been sent by her father, who is said to have had a dream about her marrying Suro. She became the first queen of

Geumgwan Gaya, believed to be located around modern-day Gimhae city in Southern Gyeongsang province. The couple are said to have had 12 children.

### What is her legacy?

More than six million present-day Koreans trace their lineage to Heo Hwang-ok. They belong to clans such as Gimhae Kim, Heo (the queen had asked the king that two of their sons be given her maiden name) and Lee. Her direct descendants include Kim Yoon-ok, wife of former South Korean President Lee Myung-bak. King Kim Suro and Queen Heo Hwang-ok birthed the Karak dynasty, whose descendants include former South Korean President Kim Dae-jung and former Prime Minister Kim Jong-pil.

For years now, many Koreans have visited Ayodhya to pay homage to the queen's



A stamp commemorating the Queen, released in 2019. postagestamps.gov.in

ancestral home. In Gimhae in South Korea, two tombs, believed to be of Kim Suro and queen Heo Hwang-ok, are maintained as a memorial park. A pagoda, believed to have

been brought by the queen from India to calm the ocean gods, is placed next to the tomb. Culturally, the queen has been part of Korea's popular culture for years, with many plays and musicals based on her.

### What led to setting up the memorial park in Ayodhya?

In 2000, India and South Korea signed an agreement to develop Ayodhya and Gimhae as sister cities. The memorial space was unveiled in 2001. In 2016, a proposal was sent by a South Korean delegation to refurbish the existing memorial. Subsequently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and South Korean President Moon Jae-in signed an MoU for developing the memorial. South Korean First Lady Kim Jung-sook attended the inauguration of the beautification work in 2018.

The memorial now comprises Queen and

King pavilions with their busts in place, and a pond to represent Princess Suriratna's journey. According to the legend, the princess had taken a golden egg to Korea, and the park includes an egg made of granite.

### How much of her Indian connection is established as fact?

The story has helped boost the relationship between India and South Korea. But there is some debate about her Indian origins. There are many versions of the same story. While *Samguk Yusa* talks about the queen from a distant land named Ayuta and popular culture considers it Ayodhya, no Indian document or scripture has any record of her. Some historians also believe that the princess could actually be from Thailand's Ayutthaya kingdom. But the kingdom in Thailand came about in 1350, years after Samguk Yusa had already been written.



# THE WORLD

## Nepal SC judges boycott meeting called by Chief Justice, demand his resignation

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE  
KATHMANDU, OCTOBER 25

FOURTEEN JUDGES of Nepal's Supreme Court boycotted the full-court meeting called by Chief Justice Cholenendra Shumsher Rana, and insisted that he resign. The judges also stayed away from the court's routine business for the day.

Rana has been at the centre of criticism from both inside the judiciary and outside, with many demanding his resignation following allegations regarding his interaction with politicians.

Out of the 21 judges of the Supreme Court, including Rana, two are away from Kathmandu another four are on leave. All the remaining 14 held a meeting and decided they that would meet Rana on Tuesday to demand his resignation. "We will decide the next course on the basis of Rana's response, but we are clear from our side that we cannot work any longer with him," a judge who attended the meeting said.

Rana had agreed to stop allocating cases to benches of his choice, and instead use a system by which the choice is made at random, from Tuesday. But that has not been enough to quell the controversy sparked by allegations that he pushed for the induction of his relative in the council of ministers. Rana's brother-in-law Gajendra Hamal was inducted into the council of ministers by Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba on October 8. Following the controversy, Hamal resigned less than 72 hours after his induction.

Rana has denied the allegation and has refused to resign.

The boycott of routine business by the judges has affected 261 petitioners who were waiting for final verdict in their cases.

## Sudan military takes power in coup, arrests Prime Minister Hamdok

SAMY MAGDY  
CAIRO, OCTOBER 25

SUDAN'S MILITARY seized power Monday, dissolving the transitional government hours after troops arrested the prime minister. Thousands of people flooded into the streets to protest the coup that threatens the country's shaky progress toward democracy.

Security forces opened fire on some of the crowds, and three protesters were killed, according to the Sudan Doctors' Committee, which said 80 people were injured.

The takeover comes more than two years after protesters forced the ouster of longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir.

After the early morning arrests of Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and other senior officials, thousands poured into the streets of the capital, Khartoum, and its twin city of Omdurman. They blocked streets and set fire to tires as security forces used tear gas to disperse them.

As plumes of smoke filled the



People gather on the streets of Khartoum on Monday. Reuters

air, protesters could be heard chanting, "The people are stronger, stronger!" and "Retreat is not an option!" Videos showed large crowds crossing bridges over the Nile to the centre of the capital. The US Embassy warned troops were blocking off parts of the city.

"We call for the military to immediately cease violence, release detained officials, and ensure the safety of Sudanese citizens demonstrating for democratic and civilian leadership," the embassy said, urging a return to a civilian-led government.

Pro-democracy activist Dura

Gambo said paramilitary forces chased protesters through some neighbourhoods of Khartoum. She said the sporadic sound of gunshots could be heard in many parts of the capital.

Records from a hospital in Khartoum showed some people admitted with gunshot wounds.

In the afternoon, the head of the military, Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan, announced on national TV that he was dissolving the government and the Sovereign Council, a joint military and civilian body created soon after al-Bashir's ouster to run the country. AP

## EXPLAINED Wait for full civilian rule continues

AFTER THE ouster of Omar al-Bashir, who ruled Sudan for 30 years, his government was replaced by a sovereign council consisting of military and civilian leaders. It was the council that appointed Hamdok as PM. On Nov 17, when the transition period was supposed to end, the military leaders in the sovereign council were expected to relinquish power, and pave the way for a fully civilian government for the first time in decades. However, military leaders have been worried by the investigations ordered by Hamdok into the military's role in violence and graft under al-Bashir. They also reportedly feared that civilian rule could deny them their significant involvement in the gold industry.

## MEXICO

### HURRICANE RICK HITS MEXICO'S PACIFIC COAST

Hurricane Rick roared ashore along Mexico's southern Pacific coast early Monday with 165 kmh winds and heavy rain amid warnings of potential flash floods in the coastal mountains. "During its passage over land, it will cause intense to torrential rains and possible mudslides and flooding, as well as rising levels in streams and rivers," Mexico's National Water Commission said.



## Greenhouse gas levels hit record; world struggles to curb damage

UN seeks dramatic increase in climate commitments, says world 'way off track'

EMMA FARGE & GERRY MEY  
GENEVA, GLASGOW, OCT 25

GREENHOUSE GAS concentrations hit a record last year and the world is "way off track" on capping rising temperatures, the United Nations said on Monday, showing the task facing climate talks in Glasgow aimed at averting dangerous levels of warming.

A report by the UN World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) showed carbon dioxide levels surged to 413.2 parts per million in 2020, rising more than the average rate over the last decade despite a temporary dip in emissions during Covid-19 lockdowns.

WMO Secretary-General Petteri Taalas said the current rate of increase in heat-trapping gases would result in temperature rises "far in excess" of the 2015 Paris Agreement target of 1.5 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial average this century.

"We are way off track," he said. "We need to revisit our industrial, energy and transport systems and whole way of life," he added, calling for a "dramatic increase" in commitments at the COP26 conference beginning on Sunday.

The Scottish city of Glasgow was putting on the final touches before hosting the climate talks, which may be the world's last best chance to cap global warming at



A WMO report showed CO2 levels surged to 413.2 parts per million in 2020, rising by more than the average rate over the last decade. File

the 1.5-2 degrees Celsius upper limit set in the Paris Agreement.

"It is going to be very, very tough this summit," British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said at a news conference.

"I am very worried because it might go wrong and we might not get the agreements that we need and it is touch and go... but I think it can be done," he said.

The German government announced Chancellor Angela Merkel will travel to Glasgow to take part.

The stakes for the planet are huge — among them the impact on livelihoods the world over and the future stability of the global financial system.

Saudi Arabia said Saturday that it aims to reach "net zero" emissions of greenhouse gases, mostly produced by burning fossil fuels, by 2060 — 10 years later than US. AP

## China to start vaccinating children from age 3 as Covid cases spread

HUIZHONG WU  
TAIPEI, OCTOBER 25

CHILDREN AS young as 3 will start receiving Covid-19 vaccines in China, where 76% of the population has been fully vaccinated and authorities are maintaining a zero-tolerance policy toward outbreaks.

Local-level governments in at least five provinces issued notices in recent days announcing that children ages 3-11 will be required to get their vaccinations.

The expansion of the vaccination campaign comes as parts of China's new clampdown measures to stamp out small outbreaks. Gansu, a northwestern province heavily dependent on tourism, closed all tourist sites Monday after finding new Covid-19 cases.

The National Health Commission reported 35 new cases of local transmission had been detected over the past 24 hours, four of them in Gansu. Another 19 cases were found in the Inner Mongolia region, with others scattered around the country.

China has employed lockdowns, quarantines and compulsory testing for the virus throughout the pandemic and has largely stamped out cases of local infection while fully vaccinating 1.07 billion people out of a population of 1.4 billion.

In particular, the government is concerned about the spread of the more contagious Delta variant by travellers and about having a largely vaccinated public ahead of the Beijing Olympics in February. Overseas spectators already have been banned from the Winter Games, and participants will have to stay in a bubble separating them from people outside. AP

**U.P. RAJKIYA NIRMAN NIGAM LIMITED**  
(ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company)  
Vishweshwariya Bhawan, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow

**Notice Inviting for short term e-Tender**

The General Manager, North West Zone, 108 Civil Lines Bareilly invites for and on behalf of Managing Director U.P. Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Ltd., online percentage rate bids in two bid system for the following work:

**NIT No.: 1254/B-IE-TENDER/RNN/2021 Dated: 16.10.2021, Name of Work :** Construction of 09 Court Room A.D.J. in District Judiciary Court, at Badaun U.P., Estimated Bid Value : Rs.1335.43 Lakh (Civil Works) : Rs. 1152.54 Lakh, Electrical Works : Rs. 182.89 Lakh), Earnest Money: Rs. 23.35 Lakh, Period of Completion : 15 Months. Last time and date of submission of bid up to 02.00 PM Hrs. on date 27.10.2021.

**NIT No.: 1254/B-IE-TENDER/RNN/2021-22 Dated: 16.10.2021, Name of Work :** Construction of Govt. Degree College, Shahabad, Milak at Rampur U.P., Estimated Bid Value : Rs.548.46 Lakh (Civil Works) : Rs. 492.69 Lakh, Electrical Works : Rs. 55.77 Lakh), Earnest Money: Rs. 10.97 Lakh, Period of Completion : 12 Months. Last time and date of submission of bid up to 02 PM Hrs. on date 27.10.2021.

The bid forms and other details can be obtained / downloaded from the website: <https://etender.up.nic.in>. The NIT is also available on <http://www.upnrm.co.in>

**पश्चिमांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि.**

ई-निविदा सूचना 1:- ई-निविदा सं. 26/2021-22/उपखंड ग्रामीण खतीली के क्षेत्र में द्वितीय चरण 2021-22 में द्वितीय आपस में क्षतिग्रस्त विद्युत लाइन का मरम्मत सम्बन्धित रमिका काक्रेट। 2:- ई-निविदा सं. 27/2021-22/33/11 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र टोडा पर स्थापित 10 एम्पली क्षतिग्रस्त पावर परिवर्तक को बदलने एवं स्थापित करने सम्बन्धित कार्य। 3:- ई-निविदा सं. 28/2021-22/33/11 के.वी. उपकेन्द्र खतीली टाउन के अन्तर्गत पूर्ण जग्य योजना में नवनिर्मित श्री हाकम सिंह विहार वेलफेयर सोसायटी के विद्युतीकरण सम्बन्धित कार्य। 4:- ई-निविदा सं. 01, 02 एवं 12/2021-22 को रिपेयरिंग किया जाता है जिसके खुलने की दिनांक 06.11.21 होगी। अन्य नियम व शर्तें ई.पोर्टल पर देखें। [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) पर ई-निविदा सं. 26 एवं 28/2021-22 के प्रथम एवं द्वितीय भाग दिनांक 22.11.2021 को 12.00 बजे तक भरा जा सकता है एवं ई-निविदाएं तदनुसार को ही 14.00 बजे के उपरान्त ई.पोर्टल पर खोली जायेगी। प्रति ई-निविदा शुल्क रु. 1180.00 एवं ग्योहर पोर्टल रु. 2000 मात्र होगा। निविदा विशिष्टीकरण एवं अन्य नियम शर्तें ई-निविदा पोर्टल पर देखें। अयोधस्ताशरी को बिना कारण बताये ई-निविदा निरस्त करने का पूर्ण अधिकार होगा एवं स्वयं को अपडेट रखने के लिये उपरोक्त वेबसाइट का नियमित अवलोकन करें। हरना./- अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत वितरण मण्डल द्वितीय मुजफ्फरनगर पत्रांक 1661/वि.म.द्वि./मु.नगर/केम्प दिनांक 25/10/2021

**RAIL COACH FACTORY KAPURTHALA**

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

On-line bids are invited by PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India for following items:

S.No.	Tender No. & Due Date	Description	Qty./Nos./Sets	EMD(%)
1.	17211438 / 18.11.2021	Automatic Smoke/Fire Detection with Alarm System.	As per tender	1144350/-
2.	13215671 / 15.11.2021	Flat Pallet size 2400 MM x 1200MM X 200 MM. Mech/MSP/PS500/GM/18. PL. No. N8415388	100 Nos.	54020/-
3.	05211425 / 17.11.2021	Lower Frame for VCP Coach	1800 Nos.	NIL
4.	07211721 / 28.11.2021	Copper Coated CQZ	27320 Kgs	162780/-
5.	07211721 / 12.11.2021	Steel Wire 1.2 MM PL	53000 Kgs	128210/-
6.	02211440 / 23.11.2021	Capacitor Bank (03 Types)	1734 Nos.	729830/-
7.	02211435 / 23.11.2021	Switch Plate Assemblies (08 Types)	1258 Sets	169840/-

1. For details and making On-line bids, visit Website <http://wires.gov.in> Drawings/specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF Website <http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in>. Class IIb digital signature certificate required for on-line bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at <http://www.cce.gov.in>

2. All Limited tenders and Advertised tenders will normally close at 11:25 Hrs and 14:25 Hrs respectively on the stipulated date and will be opened at 11:30 Hrs and 14:30 Hrs. 3. Tender at Sr. No. 1 & 2 will be opened at RCF, Kapurthala and Tenders at Sr. No. 3 to 7 will be opened at Titak Bridge, New Delhi-110002. 4. For queries contact IREPS Helpdesk at 011-23378855, 011-24105180 or RCF Helpdesk at 011-23378855. NOTE: \*GST No. of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them".

**Corrigendum :** 1. Corrigendum issued for item description against Tender No. 02211312 due on 10.11.2021 which is available on IREPS, bidders may please note and quote accordingly.

2. Tender No. 12211332 for Item Three types window regarding Drawing may be read as (i) Emergency Wider Window for LHB SCN Coaches (Size 1460 X 700, With Sliding Shutters), as per Drawing: LS54125 Alt c instead of Emergency Wider Window for LHB SCN Coaches (Size 1460 X 700, With Sliding Shutters), as per Drawing: LS54125 Alt b and (ii) Wider Window for LHB SCN Coaches (Size 1460 X 700, With Sliding Shutters), as per Drawing LS54124 Alt c instead of Wider Window for LHB SCN Coaches (Size 1460 X 700, With Sliding Shutters), as per Drawing LS54124 Alt b. All other Terms & Conditions of the tenders will remain Unchanged.

**Notice No.: G-RCF/12-01/Stores/085/2021-22 Dated: 25.10.2021** PCMM

**UJVN Limited**  
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dahadun-243006  
Telephones: 0135-2763304, Fax: 0135-2763505  
CIN No. U49101UR2001SGC025856, Website: [www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com)

**TENDER NOTICE** Date: 25.10.2021

Office of the Executive Engineer, Maintenance Chilla (Pauri - Garhwal), invites sealed tenders from experienced firms for following works/supply for Chilla Power House :-

**T-13/EEM/2021-22 :-** Repairing of safety relief valve, NRV, Vacuum breaking valve, Servo lube assembly, Support plates and adjusting bolts/ studs, CCU, OLU and GGP pumps of Chilla Power House.

**T-14/EEM/2021-22 :-** Works for MS Grid at Step Black Gate area for Chilla Power House.

**Estimated Cost - Rs 8,15,860.00 (Taxes Extra) & Rs 8,00,500.00 (Taxes Extra)**

**Date of availability of Tender document on website - 26-10-2021 (17:00 Hrs)**

**Date of Receipt of the tender - 16-11-2021 up to (11:00 Hrs)**

For all details, bidders are advised to visit our website [www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com) (Executive Engineer/EE)

**"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"**

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr.Pc.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Manmeet Singh S/o Shri Satender Pal Singh** R/o H. No. 108, Sector-22, NIT, Faridabad, Haryana has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 23/2010 U/s 498A/406/34 IPC** P.S. Gulabi Bagh, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Manmeet Singh** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Manmeet Singh** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Manmeet Singh** of **FIR No. 23/2010 U/s 498A/406/34 IPC** P.S. Gulabi Bagh, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 27.11.2021

By Order  
**Ms. Mahima Rai Singh,**  
Ld. Metropolitan Magistrate-02  
Room No. 273, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

**JHARKHAND TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY**  
(A Unit of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Caste, Minority and Backward Class Welfare Department, Government of Jharkhand)  
Dr. Ranganath Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute Campus, Tagore Hill Road, Morabadi, Ranchi-834008, Phone + Fax No. 9551-353388, Email: [spjtds@gmail.com](mailto:spjtds@gmail.com), Website: [www.jtds.jharkhand.com](http://jtds.jharkhand.com)

**Advt. No.: 27**

**Request for Proposals regarding Engagement of Firms/Consultants for the work of End Line Survey**

Jharkhand Tribal Development Society or JTDS (hereinafter called "Society") through The Government of Jharkhand has received financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) (hereinafter called "loan") towards implementing Jharkhand Tribal Empowerment and Livelihoods Project (JTLP) in selected villages of Jharkhand State.

The State Project Management Unit (SPMU), JTDS invites sealed bids including separate technical and financial bids as per schedule specified in the bid documents from eligible bidders for the work of End Line Survey. The interested eligible bidders may download bidding documents and other details from websites i.e. [www.jtds.jharkhand.com](http://www.jtds.jharkhand.com). Last date of receipt of applications by hand/speed post/courier only is 15:00 hours on 18th November, 2021 to the below office:-

State Project Director,  
Jharkhand Tribal Development Society (JTDS)  
Dr. R.D. Munda, T.W.R.I. Campus, Morabadi, Ranchi-834008

State Project Director, JTDS reserves the right of accepting or rejecting any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-  
State Project Director  
Jharkhand Tribal Development Society

## Pak govt releases 350 supporters of banned TLP party in bid to resolve tense standoff

M ZULQUERNAIN  
LAHORE, OCTOBER 25

THE PAKISTAN government on Monday released 350 activists of the banned outfit Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP), Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid has announced, as the radical Islamist party issued a two-day deadline for the release of their party chief Saad Rizvi and expel the French ambassador.

Opposition parties have termed the move as "total surrender" to the TLP's demands. "We have released 350 TLP



Supporters of the banned Tehrik-e-Labaik Pakistan protest in Karachi on Sunday. Reuters

workers up to now and we are waiting to open both sides of the road of Muridke as per the deci-

sion with the TLP," Rashid tweeted. More than 10,000 TLP supporters are currently camped

## Apple once threatened FB ban over maid abuse in West Asia

JON GAMBRELL & JIM GOMEZ  
DUBAI, OCTOBER 25

TWO YEARS ago, Apple threatened to pull Facebook and Instagram from its app store over concerns about the platform being used as a tool to trade and sell maids in West Asia.

After publicly promising to crack down, Facebook acknowledged in internal documents obtained by The Associated Press that it was "under-enforcing on confirmed abusive activity" that saw Filipina maids complaining on the social media site of being abused. Apple relented and



Assign in Manila, Philippines, about hiring domestic helpers for West Asia. AP

Facebook and Instagram remained in the app store.

But Facebook's crackdown seems to have had a limited effect. Even today, a quick search for "khadima," or "maids" in Arabic, will bring up accounts

featuring posed photographs of Africans and South Asians with ages and prices listed next to their images. That's even as the Philippines government has a team of workers that do nothing but scour Facebook posts each day to try and protect desperate job seekers from criminal gangs and unscrupulous recruiters using the site.

While West Asia remains a crucial source of work for women in Asia and Africa hoping to provide for their families back home, Facebook acknowledged some countries across the region have "especially egregious" human rights issues when it comes to labourers' protection. AP

## FB making online hate worse, whistleblower tells British MPs

KELVIN CHAN  
LONDON, OCTOBER 25

FACEBOOK WHISTLEBLOWER Frances Haugen told British lawmakers Monday that the social media giant stokes online hate and extremism, fails to protect children from harmful content and lacks any incentive to fix the problems, providing strong momentum for efforts by European governments working on stricter regulation of tech giants.



Frances Haugen

While her testimony echoed much of what she told the US Senate earlier this month, her appearance drew intense interest from a British parliamentary committee that is much further along in drawing up legislation to crack down on social platforms.

It comes the same day that Facebook is set to release its latest earnings.

Haugen told the committee of UK's Members of Parliament that Facebook amplifies online hate, saying algorithms that prioritise engagement take people with mainstream interests and push them to extremes. The former Facebook data scientist said the company could add moderators to prevent groups over a certain size from being used to spread extremist views. "Unquestionably, it's making hate worse," she said. AP





GOLD

₹47,023



RUPEE

₹75.08



OIL

\$83.21



SILVER

₹64,721

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of October 22

SENSEX: 60,967.05 ▲ 145.43 (0.24%) NIFTY: 18,125.40 ▲ 10.50 (0.06%) NIKKEI: 28,600.41 ▼ 204.44 HANG SENG: 26,132.03 ▲ 5.10 FTSE: 7,233.92 ▲ 29.37 DAX: 15,586.71 ▲ 43.73

International market data till 1900 IST

MARKETS WATCH  
REGISTRATIONSNSE investor  
count crosses 5 cr;  
Maharashtra leads  
with 17%, UP 2ndENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 25

THE NATIONAL Stock Exchange (NSE) on Monday said the number of unique registered investors crossed the 5 crore (unique PANs) level, with Maharashtra accounting for 17 per cent of the investors.

While the journey from three crore registered investors to four crore registered investors took about 15 months, the next one crore investor registrations took less than seven months, the NSE said. "Total number of client codes registered with the NSE stand at 8.86 crore (clients could register with more than one trading member)," it said.

At the state level, Maharashtra contributed 17 per cent followed by Uttar Pradesh with 10 per cent and Gujarat with seven per cent of new investor registrations, NSE said. The top 10 states accounted for 71 per cent of new investor registrations.

According to the NSE, the growth in investor registrations has largely been driven from non-metro cities. The cities beyond the top 50 cities accounted for 57 per cent of new investor registrations, while the cities beyond the top 100 cities, contributed to 43 per cent indicating that the growing interest in the equity markets is not restricted to the metros and a few tier 1

LESS THAN 7 MTHS FOR

1 crore

■ While the journey from 3 crore registered investors to 4 crore took about 15 months, the next 1 crore registrations took less than seven months, the NSE said

cities, it said. The total demat accounts in India held with the two depositories together are at around 7.02 crore which include multiple demat accounts held by a single investor having a unique PAN, NSE said. An investor can have more than one demat account and trading account with different depository participants and trading members which are linked to a single PAN, it said.

Vikram Limaye, MD & CEO, NSE said, "The milestone achieved today is culmination of efforts put in by the government, the regulators, and all stakeholders... We should be looking at increasing penetration further and touching the 10 crore unique investors mark over the next 3-4 years."

The NSE said the journey from 4 crore unique investors to 5 crore unique investors took about 203 days, with North Indian states contributing to 36 per cent of new investor registrations.

## ASKS AUDITORS TO CHECK RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

## RBI Guv flags 'camouflaged' transactions, fund diversions

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 25

WITH SEVERAL instances of fund diversion and transfer of profits to "connected parties" surfacing, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das on Monday asked auditors to identify and thoroughly scrutinise related or connected party transactions to ensure that there is no undue transfer of income or assets.

"Of late, several instances of related party transactions without following 'arms-length' principle and established transfer pricing mechanism have been observed," he said.

"There have been instances of diversion of funds and/or transfer of profits to connected parties through various means – intra-group loans on favourable terms,

EXPLAINED  
Why the push?

THREE MAJOR financial entities – IL&FS, DHFL and Srei firms – had come under supervisory action in the last three years due to fund diversion and mismanagement.

over or under invoicing of transactions, asset transfers without fair valuation, etc," Das said while addressing the National Academy of Audit and Accounts, Shimla.

"Auditors need to identify and thoroughly scrutinise related or connected party transactions to ensure that there is no undue transfer of income or assets," he

said. Three major financial entities – IL&FS, DHFL and Srei firms – had come under supervisory action in the last three years due to fund diversion and mismanagement.

"We have also seen cases of manipulation and misstatement of true nature of financial statements by employing opaque technological means (IT black boxes)," Das said. Real transactions are camouflaged beneath various layers of IT solutions by a few entities. As such, auditors need to be technologically savvy and be able to 'see-through' the layers of information technology to detect the real nature of hidden transactions, the Governor said.

"Such undesirable practices and structures should draw the attention of the auditors. Since RBI, as the supervisor of the financial system, relies and leverages on the work done by auditors, the audit

professionals are being sensitised through various fora to improve the quality of their reporting," Das said. "We are constantly engaged with individual auditors, audit firms and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) to improve the quality and depth of audit. A lot of work has been done in this area, but lot more needs to be done," he said.

He said inaccurate information may lead to sub-optimal decisions or excess resource allocation, which would be neither in public interest where a public authority is involved nor in the interest of individual stakeholders.

He said statutory auditors play a vital role in maintaining market confidence on audited financial statements. "In banking industry, this public role is particularly relevant for financial stability, given that banks hold public deposits."

## 'Solar power tariffs may rise next fiscal on increased taxes'

After the recent hike in taxes on critical components and the proposed customs duty on modules, solar power tariffs may rise to Rs 2.6-2.7 per unit next fiscal, a Crisil report said

THE GOVERNMENT increased GST recently on critical components of a solar project such as photovoltaic cells and modules from 5% to 12% with effect from the beginning of this month

THE TOTAL taxation on a solar project has risen from 8-9% to 12-13% and will more than double to 30% when customs duty of 40% on imported solar modules kicks in



from April 2022

Source: Crisil Ratings/PTI

Developers of already bid-out projects may pass on the impact of taxes and duties under the change-in-law clause

## PENDING SPECTRUM AND ADJUSTED GROSS REVENUE PAYMENTS

## Airtel opts for 4-yr moratorium to pay dues

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

BHARTI AIRTEL on Monday became the second of the three private telcos to opt for the option to defer by four years the payment of spectrum as well as adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues.

In a notification to the exchanges, Airtel said it would take both the options with immediate effect. Last week, Vodafone Idea (Vi) had told the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) that it

SECOND PRIVATE  
TELCO AFTER Vi

■ Bharti Airtel is the second private telco after Vodafone Idea (Vi) to opt for the option to defer payment of dues

would opt for the four-year moratorium for the deferment of the two dues, namely the spectrum

as well as the AGR dues.

The Centre recently approved a relief package for the sector that includes a four-year break for companies from paying statutory dues, permission to share scarce airwaves, change in the definition of revenue on which levies are paid and 100 per cent foreign investment via the automatic route.

The measures also include scrapping of spectrum usage charge (SUC) for airwaves acquired in future spectrum auctions. For the past dues, the Centre has allowed a moratorium or de-

ferment of up to four years in annual payments. The government last week wrote to telecom operators asking them to convey by October 29 if they would be opting for the four-year moratorium.

It has also given 90 days' time to the telcos to indicate if they want to opt for converting the interest amount pertaining to the moratorium period into equity. Along with this option, the audited financial statements of the immediately preceding financial year (FY21) would have to be submitted, as per the letter to telcos.

## Tesla market value zooms past \$1-tn on Hertz's 100K EV order

REUTERS  
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 25

TESLA INC surpassed \$1 trillion in market capitalisation on Monday after landing its biggest-ever order from rental car company Hertz. For Tesla and its investors, Hertz's decision to order 100,000 Tesla vehicles by 2022-end shows electric vehicles are no longer a niche product, but will dominate the mass car market in the future.

Tesla surged over 9.5 per cent intra-day to top \$995.75, making the company worth \$1 trillion, as per calculations based on its filing.

Tesla also said it had opened a new data and research center in Shanghai to comply with require-



Tesla shares surged over 9.5% intra-day to top \$995.75, making the company worth \$1 trillion. Reuters file

ments that data collected from vehicles in China stay in the country.

The world's most valuable carmaker will join an elite club that includes Apple Inc, Amazon.com Inc, Microsoft Corp and Alphabet Inc.

## LEVC to bring electric model TX to India

Mumbai: Commercial electric vehicle maker London Electric Vehicle Company (LEVC) is set to roll out electric TX vehicle in India, in collaboration with Exclusive Motors, a release said Monday. The partnership with Exclusive Motors Pvt Ltd extends to the Indian Subcontinent, it said.

LEVC said not only will it create significant employment opportunities in India, the e-city vehicle will also support a green future for the country with its innovative range extender. PTI

## Lal as Eicher MD gets shareholder approval

## Remuneration hike okayed, too

New Delhi: Eicher Motor shareholders have okayed a proposal to re-appoint Siddhartha Lal as the company's managing director for a period of five years with effect from May 1 this year.

The members also cleared the proposal to increase Lal's remuneration. In the latest round of voting, 93.75 per cent votes favoured the re-appointment, while 6.25 per cent votes opposed the proposal.

"The resolution was passed with requisite majority," Eicher Motors said in a regulatory filing. ENS WITH PTI

## BRIEFLY

## NPPA price cap

New Delhi: Drug price regulator National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has fixed ceiling prices for 12 anti-diabetic generic drugs.

## Groww funding

New Delhi: Digital firm Groww said it raised \$251 million in latest funding, at a valuation of \$3 billion.

## TechMbuy

New Delhi: Tech Mahindra will buy digital engineering quality assurance firm Lode-stone for up to \$105 million.

## ESIC members

New Delhi: Around 13.22 lakh new members joined ESIC-run social security scheme in August, as against 13.33 lakh in the previous month, official data showed.

## Telecom licence

New Delhi: The government amended telecom licence norms to lower tax burden on telecom operators. PTI

## Aus social media

Sydney: Australia plans to make social media companies obtain parental consent for users under the age of 16 and threaten fines of up to A\$10 million (\$7.5 million) for internet platforms which fail to comply. REUTERS



## AIR INDIA: GOVT, TATA INK PACT

Government officials on Monday sign share purchase deal with Tata Sons for sale of Air India for ₹18,000 crore. via @SecyDIPAM

■ Air India Director Finance Vinod Hejmadi (seated left), Ministry of Civil Aviation Joint Secretary S K Mishra (2nd from left), and Tata Sons Group corporate secretary Suprakash Mukhopadhyay (3rd from left) signing the agreement.

■ Aviation Secretary Rajiv Bansal (standing, 3rd from left), DIPAM Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey (4th from left) and Tata Sons Group CFO Saurabh Agrawal (5th from left), along with other government and Tata Group officials, were also present.

## No power shortage; wherever some, it's due to states' own constraints: Singh

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

POWER MINISTER RK Singh said on Monday that the nation's thermal power plants had sufficient coal stocks to meet power demand and that stocks at the plants were rising. India's coal-fired thermal power plants have been facing low coal stocks, with a number of states including Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh resorting to load shedding due to inadequate power supply.

As on October 24, the plants had an average of five days worth of coal stock, up from four days for most of October but still well below the 15-30 days of recommended levels based on their distance from the source of coal.

"There was no (power) shortage yesterday and it did not happen earlier also. Wherever there has been some shortage that has been because of their (states') own constraints," said Singh, adding that thermal power plants at present have 8.1 million tonnes of coal stock which is the highest level since October 1 and the situation would continue to improve.

He said dues from state and central power generation companies (gencos) to Coal India amounted to about Rs 16,000 crore, noting that unless power distribution companies pay gencos, they would not be able to pay for coal. "Dues of all generating companies (excluding state generating com-



Power Minister RK Singh at the launch of the GDAM. via @OfficeOfRKSingh Twitter

panies) are Rs 75,000 crore," Singh said, speaking at the launch of the Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM) for the trade of renewable power.

On the launch of the GDAM, he said "this will benefit both the distribution companies and the gencos", noting that the exchange would allow gencos to sell on the exchange any power that is not drawn by discoms.

Singh added that the exchange would "open the gates" for renewable power generators as it would allow generators to set up capacity without going through a bidding process by SECI, NTPC, NHPC or the states. "They can sell directly to any industry or any distribution company... If distribution companies want to buy they will have to do it in a competitive manner."

The minister said the exchange would also reduce pressure of renewable purchase obligations (RPO) on state distribution companies set by the Centre.

<u><b>Government of Rajasthan</b></u>	
<b>Department of Medical, Health and Family Welfare (I.E.C.), Jaipur</b>	
Telephone No: 0141-2222817, Email: <a href="mailto:directoriec-rj@nic.in">directoriec-rj@nic.in</a>	
<b>I.E.C./STORE/2021-22/398</b>	<b>Date: 21/10/21</b>
<b>NIB No. I.E.C./STORE/2021-22/245 Dated 07-08-2021</b>	
<b>EXTENSION for INVITATION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) THROUGH E-BIDS</b>	
With above referred bid, all the prospective Bidders are hereby informed that the department has extended the last date of bid submission for RFP upto 2.00 PM on 25.11.2021. For detail information visit SPFP, EPROC and department's website.	
<b>UBN No : MHS2122SLOB01844</b>	
<b>Sd/-</b>	
<b>(Meghraj Singh Ratnoo)</b>	
<b>Director (IEC),</b>	
<b>Medical and Health Department</b>	
<b>Rajasthan, Jaipur</b>	
<b>DIPR/C/10717/2021</b>	

	<b>NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED</b> (A Govt. of India Undertaking) NANGAL UNIT, NANGAL - 140126 (PUNJAB)			
<b>NOTICE INVITING TENDER</b>				
Ref.No. NFL/NGL/Materials/2021/			Date: 25.10.2021	
Online bids in two part bid system are invited for the following:				
<b>Work Description</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Last date &amp; time of on-line submission of tenders</b>	<b>Opening date &amp; time of on-line opening of tenders</b>	
<b>Procurement of Shunting Locomotive</b>	<b>Rs. 252 Lakhs</b>	<b>16.11.2021 up to 15.00 Hrs.</b>	<b>17.11.2021 up to 15.30 Hrs.</b>	
For further details please visit our website <a href="http://www.nationalfertilizers.com">www.nationalfertilizers.com</a> . Vendors are requested to visit our website regularly. Any amendment / corrigendum to the above will be displayed only on aforesaid website.				
<b>Sr. Manager (Materials)</b>				

CENTRAL POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE	
P.B. No.8066, Sadashivnagar PO, Bengaluru - 560 080	
Telephone No: 080-2207 2271, e-mail: <a href="mailto:purchase@cpri.in">purchase@cpri.in</a>	
web site : <a href="http://www.cpri.res.in">http://www.cpri.res.in</a>	
NOTICE INVITING TENDER - CPRI/BLR21NIT13 Date:26-10-2021	
Online e-tenders are invited from eligible manufacturers/suppliers/ service providers for the following in conformation to National / International standards wherever applicable :-	
(1) Supply of active & passive network components & Laying of OFC backbone to new Dynamic Lab of EVRC along with soil trenching/excavation works. (2) Supply of 16 Channel Sequential Controller. (3) Dynamic Signal Analyzer (8 channel data acquisition system) suitable for Fatigue testing on Conductor- Insulator Test system ( 80 m span). (4) Conductor – Damper Test System ( 40 m test span ).	
Tender documents with detailed specifications, terms & conditions, instructions, and other details be kindly availed/downloaded from CPRI website: <a href="http://www.cpri.res.in">http://www.cpri.res.in</a> and CPRI e-procurement portal: <a href="http://www.tenderwizard.com/CPRI">www.tenderwizard.com/CPRI</a> from 26.10.2021 onwards.	
CPRI/ADVT/29/2021	Purchase Authority-CPRI



New Delhi





Classifieds

PERSONAL

**I, K.G. Thangam** alias K G Subbalaxmi alias Kalpathy Gangadhara Iyer Thangam, W/O M.S Sundereswaran R/o B2/38 B Block B-2, Keshav Puram, Rampura, North West Delhi- 110035. have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as K.G. Subbalakshmi. 0070758605-1

**I Zarine Lord Sanjay Singh W/O, Sanjay Jasjit Singh R/o 10 Kushak Road, New Delhi- 11** have changed my name to **Zarine Lord Singh** for all purposes. 0040589139-1

**I Renuka Paliwal D/o Sh. Ramesh Chander Paliwal W/o Sh. Neeraj Bhardwaj R/o H.No.12, Ward No.12, Sujan Singh Park Extn., Sonipat, Haryana** have changed my name after marriage to **Renuka Bhardwaj** for all purposes. 0040589103-7

**I Rajnish Chander S/o Late Sh. Harish Kukreja R/o 83, West Avenue Road, Punjabi Bagh, West Delhi, Delhi-110026** have changed my name to **Rajnish Kukreja** for all purposes. 0040589103-6

**I Paritosh Pattnaik S/o Sanjeev Ranjan Pattnaik R/o WZ-41, S/F, Prithvi Park, M.B.S. Nagar, Tilak Nagar, West Delhi-110018** have changed my name to **Viraj Singh** for all purposes. 0040589103-8

**I Manish Kumar S/o Mohan Lal R/o 1905, Ff, Sector-46, Gurgaon** have changed my name to **Manish Sachdeva** for all purposes 0040589138-1

**I Madhavi Singh W/o Sushruta R/o J-6 C, J-Block, East Vinod Nagar, Patparganj, Delhi-110091**, have changed my name to **Madhavi Kumar** 0070758618-1

**I Jinnat Saroj S/o Diyar R/o Garthauri, Kadipur, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh-221104**, have changed my name to **Mohammad Seraj Shaikh** 0070758624-1

**I Ashutosh S/O, Chander Bhan Gupta R/o 553/1, Gopi Colony, Old Faridabad** have changed my name to **Ashutosh Jindal** for all purposes. 0040589134-1

**I Ashoo Bansal W/O, Ashutosh Jindal R/o 553/1, Gopi Colony, Old Faridabad** have changed my name to **Ashoo Jindal** for all purposes. 0040589135-1

**I VIJAY SHARMA, S/O LOKPAL SHARMA R/O H.No.318, Sector-12,Vasundhara, Ghaziabad,UP**, have changed my name to **VIJAY KUMAR SHARMA**. 00405891175-3

**I,SAMJIDA AYUB,W/O,AYUB MUMTAAZ ADD-8951,NAYA-MOHALLA PUL BANGASH AZAD MARKET NORTH,DELHI-110006**,Changed my name to **SANJIDA MEHAR**.Permanently. 0040589170-6

**I,Vijay Kumar Gupta S/o Shyam Lal Gupta R/o I-1/756,Sector-16, Rohini Delhi-110089** changed my name to **Vijay Kumar Garg** permanently. 0040589118-3

**I,Tulsi Regmi,D/o-Dev Singh Regmi,R/o-Plot No 84/A, S/Floor,Kh No.23/10/1,Vashist Park,Nangal Raya Delhi-110046**, have changed my name from **KM Tulsi Regmi** to **Tulsi Regmi** for all future purposes. 0040589170-10

**I,Syed Asgar Abbas Naqvi S/o Sh.Syed Sibtab Haider Naqvi R/O B-702, Today Homes Ridge Residency,Sec-135,Noida-201305,U.P.** have changed the name of my minor son **Syed Mihal Asgar Abbas Naqvi** alias **Syed Mihal Asgar Naqvi** aged 12 years and 01 month to **Minhal Abbas Naqvi** for all future purposes. 0040589119-1

**I,Sunil Patil,S/o Pandurang Patil Address:A1/802, Krishna-APra Gardens, Vaibhav-khand, Indirapuram,Ghaziabad U.P.-201014**,Changed my name to **Sunil Pandurang Patil**. 0040589152-3

**I,Subhash Sharma S/o Rich Pal Sharma R/O A-62, Sector-49, Noida (U.P)** have changed my name to **Subhash Chand Sharma** for all future purposes. 0040589116-1

**I,Sreemal Roy S/o Tustuchran Roy R/o House No.355,Pocket-00 A Sector-2 Rohini Delhi-110085** changed my name to **Sreemol Roy**. 0040589118-1

**I,Satya W/o Late Shri Karti Singh R/o RZ-136A, Block-J Dharampura,Najafgarh Delhi-110043** Have Changed My Name To **Satya Singh**. 0040589118-10

**I, Jitu Rawat S/o Ramkumar resident of village Akalpur Tehsil Pargana Jewar Gautam Budh Nagar U.P.** My brother **Nitesh Rawat S/o Ramkumar** is posted in Indian Army. In my relation certificate with him, the date of birth has been wrongly entered as 02/03/2000 which is wrong. Whereas my actual date of birth is 12/04/2002 which is mentioned in all other documents. So my actual date of birth (12/04/2002) should be considered in all documents. 0040588895-7

**I, Sanjay Jain S/o Mahavir prasad Jain R/o-38,AGCR-Enclave, Karkardooma Delhi-110092** hereby informs that my name is wrongly-mentioned **Sanjay Kumar Jain** instead of **Sanjay Jain**.The correct-name is **Sanjay Jain**,for all purposes in future 0040589127-2

**I, Samanan Avasthi S/o S.K. Avasthi R/o-2406 Tower-O Ajnara Homes G.R Noida, G.B. Nagar UP** have changed my name to **SAMMANAN AWASTHI S/o Sudhir Kumar Awasthi**. 0040589130-1

**I,SUSHIL KUMAR,S/O MANGE RAM,R/o H.No.85, Village-Karhera, Mohan-Nagar, Ghaziabad,UP**,have changed my name to **SUSHIL KUMAR NIRWAN**. 0040589175-1

**I,SURENDER KUMAR,S/O OM PRAKASH R/O-116,TILANG PUR,KOTLA,NEW DELHI-110043**,have changed my Minor son name,,from" **LAKSHAY CHANDEL**" to **"LAKSHAY CHANDELA**". 0040589170-1

**I,SUNIL KUMAR,S/O KALU RAM GUPTA,R/O-245/23, GALI.NO.5, SCHOOL-BLOCK,MANDAWALI-EAST,DELHI-110092**.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME **SUNIL KUMAR** & **SUNIL GUPTA** TO **SUNIL KUMAR GUPTA**,FOR FUTURE,ALL PURPOSES. 0040589170-2

**I,SANJAY KUMAR SINHA, S/O- GYAN CHAND SINHA,R/O:FLAT NO.1501, 14TH/FLOOR TOWER, ORANGE-COUNTY GH-4 A,K-1, Ghaziabad,-201014, U.P,** changed my name to **SMITA SINHA**. 0040589152-4

**I,RAJENDRA SINGH CHAUHAN, S/O BHISHAM SINGH CHAUHAN,R/O-C-605 PRATEEK WISTARIA SECTOR-77, GAUTAMBUDDH-NAGAR NOIDA-201301 (U.P.)**HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM CHAUHAN RAJENDRA BHISHAM SINGH TO RAJENDRA SINGH CHAUHAN, FOR FUTURE,ALL PURPOSE.

**I,PUNISH KUMAR, S/O: RAMESH CHANDER BAGGA,ADD.RZ-75, DURGHA VIHAR,PHASE-2, STREET.NO.10, DIMPUR, NAJFAGARH,NEW DELHI-110043**,changed my name to **PUNISH BAGGA**. 0040589152-9

**I,PAURAV VASHISHT,S/O SOM KUMAR,R/O I-90, ASHOK-VIHAR,PHASE-I,DELHI-110052**,DECLARE THAT I,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME,FROM PAURAV VASHIST TO PAURAV VASHISHT,FOR ALL,FUTURE PURPOSES. 0040589178-2

**I,Nitin S/o Subash Chand Arora,R/o-599/13 sikka Colony sonipat**,have changed my name to **Nitin Arora**,for all purposes. 0040589175-4

**I,Nisha Bhardwaj D/O-Ashok Bhardwaj R/O-1217,Bada Bazar,Kashmiri Gate,Delhi-110006**,Have Changed My Name To **Nisha Bhardwaj**,For All,Future Purposes. 0040589152-8

**I,SAMJIDA AYUB,W/O,AYUB MUMTAAZ ADD-8951,NAYA-MOHALLA PUL BANGASH AZAD MARKET NORTH,DELHI-110006**,Changed my name to **SANJIDA MEHAR**.Permanently. 0040589170-6

**I,Neeta Patil,W/o Sunil Pandurang Patil, Address: A1/802,Krishna Apra Gardens, Vaibhav khand, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad,U.P.-201014**, changed my name to **Neeta Sunil Patil**. 0040589152-2

**I,Prabpreet Kaur D/o Gursharan Singh Bhalla R/o-3620/21, Roshanara Road Delhi-110007** changed my name to **Prabpreet Kaur Bhalla**. 0040589118-4

**I,NEELAM SHARMA W/O VIJAY KUMAR SHARMA,H.No.318, Sector-12,Near-VV Shopping-Plaza,Vasundhara, Ghaziabad, UP**,have changed my name to **NEELAM**. 0040589175-2

**I,Md. Ershad Ahmad S/o Mohammad Mojibur Rahman R/o-02, Gali-No.-1, Amar Nagar, Agwanpur, Faridabad-121003** have changed my name to **Irshad Ahmed**. 0070758639-1

**I,Mani Ram,S/o Gaya Prasad,R/o-207,Gali.No.1,B-Block,Baba-Colony,Burari, Delhi-110084**,declare that My Name has been wrongly-written as **Pappu** my minor son's Santosh-school Documents.The actual-My-Name is **Mani Ram**.May be amended accordingly. 0040589170-9

**I,MANISH KUMAR SINHA, S/O,Gyan Chand Sinha, R/O:FLAT.NO.1501 14TH-FLOOR TOWER.NO.OC-03, ORANGE-COUNTY GH-4 A,K-1, Ghaziabad-201014, U.P,** Changed my name to **MANISH SINHA**. 0040589152-6

**I,Kawaljeet Kaur D/o Rajiender Singh R/o-WZ-21/D, S/F, Sant-Garh, Tilak Nagar,New-Delhi-110018**,have changed my name to **Kawaljit Kaur**,permanently. 0040589152-10

**I,KIRAN DEVI,W/o SANJAY KUMAR,H.NO.M-16,A DHARAMPURA, NAJAFGARH, NEW DELHI-110043**,Changed my name to **KIRAN**. 0040589170-7

**I,KAMAL BANSAL S/O PIARE LAL R/O WP-32A PITAMPURA Delhi-110034** have changed my minor Daughter's name **TANYA TO TANYA BANSAL**. 0040589118-7

**I,Amiit Swami S/o Sh.Y.D.Swami,r/o H.No.31, First-Floor,Chirag Delhi,New Delhi-110017**,Have Changed my name to **Amit Sharma**,for all,future purposes. 0040589118-7

**I,Avinash Kumar,S/o Durga Prasad,R/o-6571,Nabi-Karim,Pahar Ganj,New Delhi-110055**,Have changed my name to **Avinash**,for all future proposes. 0040589170-8

**I,Gian Chand Tayal S/o Sunder Lal Tayal R/O A-179 Surajmal Vihar Delhi-110092** changed my name to **Gyan Prakash Tayal**. 0040589118-6

**I,DAMYANTI CHAUHAN,W/O RAJENDRA SINGH CHAUHAN R/O-C-605,PRATEEK WISTARIA SECTOR-77,GAUTAM BUDH-NAGAR NOIDA-201301,(U.P.), HAVE CHANGED MY NAME DAMYANTI RAJENDR CHAUHAN TO DAMYANTI CHAUHAN,FOR FUTURE,ALL PURPOSES.**

**I,Bibi Gulmaj Begum W/O Wakil Ahmad R/O A-441,Block-A, Mangolpuri,Delhi-110083**,have changed my name to **Gulnaz Begam** 0040589152-1

**I, Jai Singh S/O Mata Din, R/o House No- 273, Budhera (43), Gurgaon, Haryana- 122505**, Declare that name of My Wife has been wrongly written as **Babli** in my minor **Son Deepak**, aged about 17 Years, In his 10th Class Certificate No- 17161792. The actual name of My Wife is **Chandervati** , which may be amended accordingly. 0070758595-1

**I,Amit Das,S/o Sh.Ram. Vilas Das,R/o D-11,Block-D-2,Om-Vihar Ph-5,Uttam-Nagar, New-Delhi-110059**,declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly-written as **Amit and Ram Bilas** in my 10th and 12th-class.marksheet and certificate and name of my father has been wrongly-written as **Ram Vilas** in my PAN.No.DZNP4254C and **Ram Bilas** in my Aadhar Card.The actual-name of mine and my father are **Amit Das and Ram Vilas Das**,which may be amended accordingly. 0040589178-1

**I,Nand Kishor Yadav,S/o-Ram Charan Yadav,R/o-Shivtara Sehramau,Baskhari, Allapur, Ambekdar Nagar,UP-224129**, that my name has mistakenly written,in my Passport-No.J6900718, as **Nand Kishor**,instead of **Nand Kishor Yadav**. 0040589175-8

**I,ATUL KUMAR GUPTA S/O SATYAPAL GUPTA R/O BM-142,BLOCK-BM,WEST SHALIMAR BAGH,DELHI-110088**.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **ATUL GUPTA**. 0040589152-7

**I,ALOK KUMAR S/O RAM BABU ROY R/O C-25,2nd-FLOOR, FRONT-SIDE,RAMDUTT-ENCLAVE,UTTAM-NAGAR, DELHI-110059**.CHANGED MY NAME TO **ALOK KUMAR ROY**. 0040589118-9

**I, Sweta Jain D/o Anil Jain R/o WZ-350, G-2-A Sri Nagar Shakur Basti Delhi-110034** changed my name to **Shweta Jain**. 0040589118-8

**I, Sunil Kumar, S/O Inderpal Aggarwal R/O N-45, 1st Floor, Jagat Ram Park, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi- 110092** have changed my name to **Sunil Kumar Aggarwal** 0070758612-1

**I,Shivani Kanwal alias Seema Bhatia, W/O Dinesh Kanwal R/o Kunjpura (75), Kamal, Haryana-130222**, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as **Seema**. 0070758597-1

**I, Shashi Kaushik S/o Rakesh Sharma R/o 2859, Street No- 213, Vishram Nagar, Onkar Nagar, New Delhi-110035** have changed my name to **Santosh Sharma** for all purpose. 0040589112-1

**I,Sandeep Kumar Saharaya S/o-Rajinder Singh Saharaya,R/O-Gali No.5,Preet Vihar, Sonipat, have changed my name to Sandeep,for all purposes. 0040589175-5**

**I,Sakshi Keshari D/O Rajesh Keshari, R/O CK 30/5, Gyanvapi, Chowki, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh- 221001**. have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as **Sakshee Keshari** . 0070758602-1

**I, Rakesh Kaushik S/o Ram Kishan Sharma r/o 2859, Street No.-213, Vishram Nagar, Onkar Nagar, New Delhi-110035** have changed my name to **Rakesh Sharma** for all purpose. 0040589112-2

**I, Rahul Kumar alias Rahul Arora S/o Sukhdev Raj, R/o Semal 205, Building 3a, Shipra Srishti Apartments, Ahinsa Khand- 1, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh- 201014**, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as **Rahul Kumar Arora**. 0070758600-1

**I, Pramod Joshi S/o L D Joshi R/o H172, 16th floor, Gulshan Bellina, Plot No.GH02A, Sector-16, Greater Noida West, G.B.Nagar- 201306** UP, inform that **Pramod Joshi** and **Pramod Kumar Joshi** is same and one person. 0040589122-1

**I, Poonam Pandey, W/O Ratanakar Dhar Dwivedi R/o Mahuapatna Post, Deoria, Uttar Pradesh- 274408**, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as **Poonam Dwivedi**. 0070758603-1

**I, Mohd Shahan Alam R/o C-21/02, Third Floor Backside, Okhla Vihar, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi 110025** have changed my minor son's name from **Mohammad Rayyan** to **Mohammad Rayyan Alam**

**I, DAYA SHARMA W/O DHANI Prasad,R/O-1ST-FLOOR SBI-BUILDING POOTH KHURD BARWALA,DELHI, HAS CHANGED MY NAME TO DAYA WATI SHARMA**

**I,Dipti Tayal W/o Gyan Prakash Tayal R/o A-179 Surajmal Vihar Delhi-110092** changed my name to **Deepthi Tayal**. 0040589118-5

**I, Manoj Patne, S/o Sh. Mohan Ganpatrao Patne R/o H65 3rd floor H Block sector 50 South City 2, Gurgaon 122018** Haryana have Changed my name from **Manoj Patne** to **Manoj Mohan Patne** for all purposes through affidavit no 51 AA 293326 dated 25 October 2021. 0070758620-1

**I, Naresh Kumar S/O Balkishan Gupta Employed as Junior Translation Officer, Posting Address: National Horticulture Board, Plot No- 85, Sector- 18, Institutional Area, Gurugram, Haryana- 122015 R/o House No-7499, Mohalla Rawali Hatt, Rewari, Haryana- 123401** having Permanent Address: House No- 7499, Mohalla Rawali Hatt, Rewari, Haryana-123401, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as **Naresh Kumar Gupta**. 0070758596-1

**I, Manisha Kumari, D/o Hardwari Lal, R/o H. No-180, Villagae Dungalwar (194), Dharuhera, Rewari, Haryana-123106**, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **Maniesha Bhatotia**. 0070758599-1

**I, KHADIJA MEHBOOB ELAHI D/O MEHBOOB ELAHI R/O, 5245 2ND FLOOR, BALLIMARAN CHANDNI CHOWK DELHI -110006**, have changed my name to **KHADIJA PERVEEN**, Permanently 0070758614-1

**I, Himanshi Pal D/o Sh. Devender Kumar, R/o S-9/7, Pandav Nagar, Delhi-110092** have changed my name **Himanshi** to **Himanshi Pal** for all future purpose. 0040589123-1

**I, Dr. Om Kumari Singh, W/o Rama Shanker Singh & Ashok Singh, S/o Ram Pal Singh, R/o B-105, Sector-51 Noida U.P** have lost my Lease Deed Allotment No. SR502-61292, 300 Sqmt. & Occupancy Certificate of House No. 200, Block-C, Sigma-2, Greater Noida, U.P. Mob. 8743904002. 0070758645-1

**I, Dilip Kumar Agarwal S/O S.S.Mittal, R/o House No- 1245, Sector-15, Faridabad, Escortsnagar, Haryana-121007**, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as **Dilip Mittal**. 0070758598-1

**I, Deepa Narang W/o Rajiv Chawla R/o S-20 Pratap Nagar Delhi-110007** have changed my name to **Deepa Narang Chawla**. 0040589118-2

**I, Chhaju R/o D/o H.no 5 Gali No 4/5 Near, Palam Vihar C-2 Ashok Vihar Phase 3 Gurgaon** have changed my minor son's name from **Sachin Kumar Jangra** to **Sachin Kumar** 0040589133-1

**I,Awantika Awasthi,W/o Vipin,R/O-221, Krishna Nagar,Kath Mandi Sonipat**, have changed my name to **Awantika Kaushik**,for all purposes. 0040589175-6

**I, Ashish Rana, S/o Raghuvansh Singh Rana, R/o Flat No-616, Ashiana Greenwood, Village-Todi, Ramjanipura, Jagatpura, Jaipur, Rajasthan-32017.1** have changed the name of my minor **Son Reyansh Singh Rana** aged about 6 years and he shall hereafter be known as **Riyansh Rana**. 0070758594-1

**I, Abdul Hasan, S/o-Yar Mohammad,R/O-D-18/3, Abul Fazal Enclave,Part-1, Jamia-Nagar,ND-25** have changed my name **Abdul Hasan**, from **Mohd Shaifi**, for all purposes. 0040589175-7

**I,AMRITA d/o JAGBANT SINGH R/o WZ-360, Rani Bagh, Shakur Basti, Delhi-110034** have changed my name to **AMRITA KAUR** 0040589111-1

LOST & FOUND

**Lost** Original Conveyance Deed of DDA-Flat.No+GG-1/121-C, Vikaspur, Smt. Delhi-110018, favouring Smt.Archana Gupta, W/o Late Sh.Sharad Chandra Gupta FIR Lodge.Vide-LR.NO-857275/2021, Founder-inform at above address or-Ph-9911385500 0040589127-3

**I, Anita Soni, D/o Late. S.S. Ghai, R/o D-321, Nirman Vihar, Delhi** have lost Certificate of Allotment & Possession Letter of Flat No- D-101, Plot No.8, Sector-3, HCGH Society Dwarka, issued by the society in my name. Finder contact- 9212424525. 0040589100-1

**I, Madhuri Saxena, W/o S.K Saxena, R/o OC-3/1004, Orange County, Ahinsa Khand-1, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, UP-201014** have lost my original Allotment Letter, Builder Buyer Agreement and Payment Receipt of Property 1701, Block OC-7 16th floor, Orange County Ghaziabad. 0070758642-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general Public at large that Our Client Sh. Mukesh Sharma, S/o Lt. Sh. Radha Kishan Tanwar, R/O M-281, Guru Harkishan Nagar, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110087 has become the sole and absolute owner of Plot No. 8744, Sector-4, Gurugram, admeasuring 550 sq. yds., by virtue of Will dated 22.11.2016 executed in his favour by his Late Father Sh. Radha Kishan Tanwar who was the actual owner of the said Plot.

Therefore, any person(s) having any claim in respect of the above referred Plot or part thereof, of whatsoever in nature, are hereby called upon to make the same known to Our Client within a period of 30 days of the publication hereof failing which the claim of such person(s) will be deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned.

Sd/-  
Rahul Chandhok (Advocate)  
487/6E, Outer Ring Road,  
Peera Garhi, Delhi-110087

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of my clients (1) SH. JATIN DHINGRA son of Sh. Ramesh Chander Dings and (2) MRS. YANDANA GULATI DHINGRA wife of Sh. Jatn Dhingra, both residents of House No.122, Avtar Endave, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi. are negotiating with (1) Sh. Surender Kumar Khurana son of Late Sh. N.L. Khurana & (2) Ms Megha Khurana daughter of Sh. Surender Kumar Khurana, both residents of 41, Avtar Endave, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi regarding purchase the Entire Property No.40, land area measuring 166.67 sq.yds., situated at Avtar Endave, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi who claims themselves to be the absolute owners of the said entire Property. Any person(s)/All persons) having any claim/demand/interest/right in respect of or against the above said property or any portion thereof in any manner or by way of any Agreement to sell or inheritance or share or sale or transfer or assignment or mortgage or gift or sale of possession or possession or covenant or easement or otherwise howsoever, is hereby called upon to bring the same before the undersigned in writing with all documentary proof(s)/evidence(s) at the office of the undersigned within ten days from the date of publication hereof of the present notice, failing which the claim/demand of such person(s), if any, shall be treated as null and void and he/she will not have any legal and/or any other sanctity, and shall be non-binding on my clients and the aforesaid proposed transaction of purchase of the said property shall be completed without any reference to any such claim/demand(s).

Sd/-  
Rajen Garg (Advocate)  
Rf-26, Outer Ring Road, Pitampura, Delhi-34  
Enrol.No.D/71386 Mob.9810039884

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF SH. BHARAT PARASHAR, L.D. DISTRICT JUDGE (COMMERCIAL) 01/ND NO. 308, CENTRAL, 718 HAZARI COURT, DELHI

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING ATTENDANCE OF DEFENDANT (Order S. Rules 20 of the Code of Civil Procedure)

SUIT NO. CS(COMM)-189/19 ... Plaintiff  
V/S  
A.JAK GUPTA & ORS. ... Defendant

1. SHRI AJAY GUPTA S/O SHRI RAM KISHAN GUPTA.  
AT: CO ARCH HEALTHCARE PVT. LTD. PROPERTY NO.4, WZ-271-A, NAWADA EXTENSION, OPPOSITE METRO PILLAR NO.717, MAIN NAJAFGARH ROAD, UTTAM NAGAR, DELHI-110059.  
2. SMT. RINA BANSAL W/O SHRI AJAY B. BOTH ALSO AT:  
R/O FLAT NO. 303, TOWER-29, COMMON WENTH GAMES VILAGE, JODHONG AKSHARDHAM, DELHI- 110049 BOTH ALSO AT:  
B-386, THIRD FLOOR, MEERA BAGH, PASCHIM VIHAR NEW DELHI.  
3. You are informally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the 25.12.2021, the day fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex parte.  
Given under my hand and the seal of the court, this 09.10.2021

SEAL

District Judge  
(Commercial Court)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to general public that my clients SMT. RENUKA KUMAR WIFE OF LATE SHRI. BHISHAM KAKKAR RESIDENT OF FD-7, TAGORE GARDEN, WEST DELHI- 110027, has deceased and I, your are informally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the 25.12.2021, the day fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex parte.  
Given under my hand and the seal of the court, this 09.10.2021

SEAL

District Judge  
(Commercial Court)

**I, Naresh Kumar S/O Balkishan Gupta Employed as Junior Translation Officer, Posting Address: National Horticulture Board, Plot No- 85, Sector- 18, Institutional Area, Gurugram, Haryana- 122015 R/o House No-7499, Mohalla Rawali Hatt, Rewari, Haryana- 123401** having Permanent Address: House No- 7499, Mohalla Rawali Hatt, Rewari, Haryana-123401, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as **Naresh Kumar Gupta**. 0070758596-1

**I, Manisha Kumari, D/o Hardwari Lal, R/o H. No-180, Villagae Dungalwar (194), Dharuhera, Rewari, Haryana-123106**, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **Maniesha Bhatotia**. 0070758599-1

**I, KHADIJA MEHBOOB ELAHI D/O MEHBOOB ELAHI R/O, 5245 2ND FLOOR, BALLIMARAN CHANDNI CHOWK DELHI -110006**, have changed my name to **KHADIJA PERVEEN**, Permanently 0070758614-1

**I, Himanshi Pal D/o Sh. Devender Kumar, R/o S-9/7, Pandav Nagar, Delhi-110092** have changed my name **Himanshi** to **Himanshi Pal** for all future purpose. 0040589123-1

**I, Dr. Om Kumari Singh, W/o Rama Shanker Singh & Ashok Singh, S/o Ram Pal Singh, R/o B-105, Sector-51 Noida U.P** have lost my Lease Deed Allotment No. SR502-61292, 300 Sqmt. & Occupancy Certificate of House No. 200, Block-C, Sigma-2, Greater Noida, U.P. Mob. 8743904002. 0070758645-1

**I, Dilip Kumar Agarwal S/O S.S.Mittal, R/o House No- 1245, Sector-15, Faridabad, Escortsnagar, Haryana-121007**, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as **Dilip Mittal**. 0070758598-1

**I, Deepa Narang W/o Rajiv Chawla R/o S-20 Pratap Nagar Delhi-110007** have changed my name to **Deepa Narang Chawla**. 0040589118-2

**I, Chhaju R/o D/o H.no 5 Gali No 4/5 Near, Palam Vihar C-2 Ashok Vihar Phase 3 Gurgaon** have changed my minor son's name from **Sachin Kumar Jangra** to **Sach**



Boxing Worlds: Mor outclasses opponent, Sanjeet gets RD 1 bye

BELGRADE: Debutant **Rohit Mor** (57kg) gave India a winning start after Asian champion Sanjeet (92kg) received a first-round bye, along with one other boxer from the country, as record participation presented an expectedly strong field across weight categories at the AIBA Men's World Championships here. Rohit defeated Ecuador's Jean Caicedo 5-0 in a confident opening-round performance this evening. Next up for him is Bosnia and Herzegovina's Alen Rahimic. The other Indian to get a bye is also a tournament debutant in Sachin Kumar (80kg). He will face American Robby Gonzalez in the second round on October 30. Sanjeet will be up against Russian Andre Stotskii in his opening bout on October 29. With more than 600 boxers from over 100 countries in fray, a



lot of competitors will have to win at least three bouts in some categories to get to the quarterfinal stage. Five-time Asian medallist Shiva Thapa (63.5kg) is one such boxer. Thapa who won a bronze at the world showpiece in 2015, will open his campaign against Kenya's Victor Odhiambo Nyadera on Tuesday.

PTI

U-23 Asian Cup qualifiers: India beat Oman 2-1

The Indian football team beat Oman 2-1 in the qualifiers of the AFC U-23 Asian Cup here on Sunday night. Rahim Ali put India ahead as early as the seventh minute when he successfully converted from the spot. Vikram doubled the lead in the 38th minute when he received the ball from Rahim Ali and placed his shot past the goalkeeper. Waleed halved India's lead when he scored in the 89th minute after receiving a cross from Abdullah. "It was an exciting game. We (India) were trying for an early goal and we got that. We were deserving of that goal. After that, we changed tactically. Once we got the goal, we did not have to

chase down the two centre backs," India head coach Igor Stimac said after the match. For the record, there are 20 players who have graduated from the Indian Arrows project into the squad of 23. "I'd say the Indian Arrows project helped us immensely -- not just for me, but for the entire batch. It helped develop our footballing ability and skill," said Deepak Tangri, who plays as a defensive midfielder. "The most important facet of the Arrows project is the exposure it gave us with regards to the multitude of opponents we faced in various countries at the U19 level. It built confidence in us.

PTI

Unvaccinated players can compete at Australian Open

Canberra: Unvaccinated athletes will be able to take part in next year's Australian Open after undergoing 14 days of quarantine, the WTA Tour has told its players, according to an email leaked to U.S. media. The email, obtained by freelance tennis journalist Ben Rothenberg, contradicts a statement made last week by Australia's immigration minister that players would need to be double vaccinated to get a visa to compete at the Grand Slam. A significant proportion of players on the women's WTA and men's ATP tour remain unvaccinated, and men's world number one Novak Djokovic has declined to disclose his vaccination status. In the email, the WTA said it wanted to "clear up false and misleading information" about the conditions players would face at the Australian Open.

REUTERS

Verstappen holds off Hamilton to double his Formula 1 lead

Austin: Red Bull's Max Verstappen doubled his lead in the Formula One world championship to 12 points after holding off charging title rival Lewis Hamilton to win the U.S. Grand Prix in Austin on Sunday. Mercedes' seven-times world champion Hamilton slashed the Dutch driver's lead with a late attack on fresher tyres but finished 1.333 seconds behind, with a bonus point for fastest lap at the Circuit of the Americas. Red Bull's Perez was a distant third, struggling with dehydration after a water bottle failure in the Texas heat. "I think I've aged about 25 years in that race," said relieved Red Bull team boss Christian Horner. "I really didn't think we were going to hang on." The win was Verstappen's eighth of the season, and first in America, but one he had to sweat for in front of a sell-out 140,000 crowd.

REUTERS

Economic potential, cricket in US: Reasons for CVC's entry

MIHIR VASAVDA  
OCTOBER 25

FORMULA ONE, football, rugby, and now cricket.

Private equity firm CVC Capital Partners, a major player in international sport, were announced as the owners of the new Ahmedabad-based Indian Premier League (IPL) franchise on Monday, with a winning bid of Rs 5,625 crore – an amount they'll pay the BCCI over the next 10 years.

It might seem an eye-watering figure but sports economics experts believe this is 'not just some random punt' by CVC, who have a reputation of ruthlessly pursuing profit in their other sporting ventures, especially Formula One. CVC's investment, they added, is evidence that they are 'attracted by the potential of the Indian market', an 'affirmation of the IPL's commercial trajectory', and 'a prelude to them seeking to establish a first-mover advantage in US cricket'.

At the same time, Monday's announcements by the cricket board regarding the two new IPL franchises could also be a pointer towards the direction Indian, and by extension, world cricket will be taking in the coming decade. "Sooner rather than later, we could see an expanded IPL, which could last up to four-to-six months and thus impact 50-over cricket. There's an inevitability about it," an industry observer said.

Simon Chadwick, director of the Centre for Eurasian Sport Industry at Lyon-based Emlyon Business School, pointed out that CVC's investment comes at a time when 'other global sports investors – such as Silver Lake and Mubadala – are already investing into Indian sport and the Indian digital economy.'

Apart from the obvious and lucrative commercial reasons, CVC's other motivation to invest in Indian cricket, Chadwick added, would be to gain a foothold in US cricket as well. "It is important as well to note that cricket is showing signs that it is gaining traction in the United States," Chadwick said. "CVC's investment into Indian cricket may serve as a prelude to them seeking to establish a first-mover advantage in US cricket."

But primarily, he added, the move makes "clear sense to CVC" in terms of commercial potential. "India's annual economic growth is heading towards 10 per cent, almost 50 per cent of its population can be labelled as being middle class, and there are more than two hundred billionaires in the country," Chadwick said. "Economically, the numbers appear to add up, especially when the country's digital economy is forecast to be worth \$800 billion by 2030. This is not just some random punt on CVC's part."



In August, CVC purchased a 10 per cent stake in the Spanish league for close to \$3 billion but the move was opposed by four clubs, including Real Madrid and Barcelona, who opted out of it, as per the NYT.

Apart from the obvious and lucrative commercial reasons, CVC's other motivation to invest in Indian cricket, Director of the Centre for Eurasian Sport Industry Simon Chadwick explains, would be to gain a foothold in US cricket as well.

Show me the money

By 2030, CVC "might look for an exit" from the IPL, sports lawyer Nandan Kamath added, unlike the owner of the new Lucknow franchise RPSC, who he added appear to be in for a long term. This implies high growth from the sale of IPL's media rights and sponsorship in the coming cycles, a portion of which is shared with the franchises. It is speculated that IPL's media rights auction for the next five-year cycle, from 2023 to 2027, could fetch the cricket board up to \$5 billion.

"With the US sports market being mature, private equity portfolios are diversifying to sports with different audiences such as rugby and cricket," Kamath said. "These are perhaps seen as having higher growth potential in 7-10-year periods when CVC might look for an exit."

The 10-year cycle is also in sync with other CVC sporting ventures, most famously Formula One. CVC owned F1 between 2006 and 2017, paying roughly £1.4 billion for a

majority stake. According to The Guardian, they made up to £3.5 billion in 10 years.

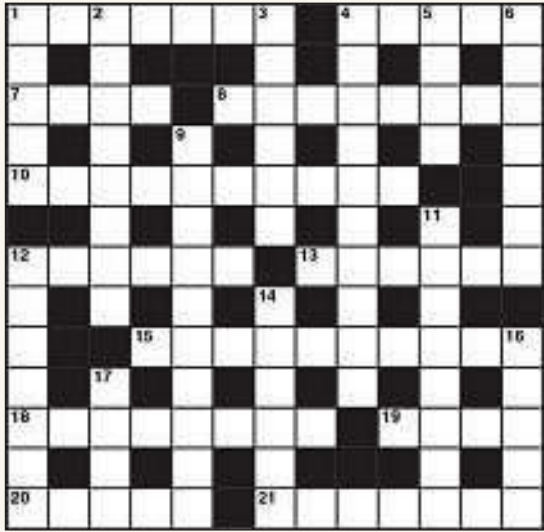
The report added that the then deputy team principal of Force India, Bob Fernley, accused CVC during that time of "raping the sport". "All their actions have been taken to extract as much money from the sport as possible and put as little in as possible," Fernley was quoted as saying.

The Financial Times reported there was similar wariness in Germany and Italy as well recently after the top football leagues of both countries turned down an investment from CVC. In August, the sports investors purchased a 10 per cent stake in the Spanish league for close to \$3 billion. The move was opposed by four clubs, including Real Madrid and Barcelona, who opted out of it, as per The New York Times. CVC has also made a total investment of approximately \$800 million in professional rugby.

Chadwick, however, believed CVC's entry into the Indian sporting market could propel a "commercially mature" IPL into the "commercial stratosphere".

"The IPL was a response to our time-impooverished, instant-hit consumption culture. If anything, its format and staging is even more relevant now than it was when first introduced. Its high-octane pace and celebrity associations are helping to render other cricket formats obsolete, especially the 50-over game," Chadwick said. "The IPL is already commercially mature, but with digital developments now giving it new impetus, the arrival of CVC suggests that it is about to enter the commercial stratosphere."

CROSSWORD 4570



ACROSS

- 1 Initial word of companion in the morning (7)
- 4 They may be simple plants to grow (5)
- 7 Some dishes in kitchen basin (4)
- 8 Deeply impressed and serious in intention? (8)
- 10 Fast death? (10)
- 12 It makes dough for bread - or vice versa (6)
- 13 Interrupts rest periods (6)
- 15 Sent crazy by other claims on your attention? (10)
- 18 Dependant paid for help when needed (8)
- 19 Craft exhibited by circle in club (4)
- 20 Examining some barley in granaries (5)
- 21 Horrified by current events? (7)

DOWN

- 1 They carry goods south in stormy seas (5)
- 2 Smuggled wines and rifles (8)
- 3 Very little time (6)
- 4 Where dockers may celebrate a boom? (7,3)
- 5 Wander over casually (4)
- 6 As used by back-seat drivers? (7)
- 9 Dominant reason for a horse being tired? (10)
- 11 A final observation? (4,4)
- 12 Odd sort of brazier (7)
- 14 Put emphasis on nervous tension (6)
- 16 Showing its age (5)
- 17 A case for sewers (4)

Solutions Crossword 4569: Across: 1 Scoutmaster, 9 Reredos, 10 Satyr, 11 Asia, 12 Butchers, 14 Sequin, 16 Write, 18 Fritters, 19 Scout, 22 Later, 23 Italian, 24 Straightway. Down: 2 Corgi, 3 Undo, 4 Mosque, 5 Sash cord, 6 Entreat, 7 Breaks a fall, 8 Prospecting, 13 Victoria, 15 Quintet, 17 Trying, 20 China, 21 Last.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given clue.

Love is a \_\_\_ in the \_\_\_. - Ben Hecht (4,5)

GLAE E



FIPULT



ALYOR



GOTUHH



SOLUTION: EAGLE, ROYAL, TUPPER, THOUGH  
Answer: Love is a hole in the heart. - Ben Hecht

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson

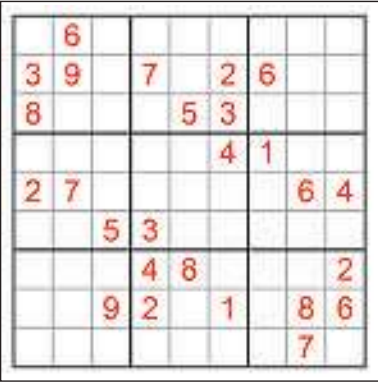


MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



Difficulty Level 5s  
Instructions  
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level  
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy;  
3s = Medium; 4s = Hard;  
5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 4635



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Continue to press on with what you know must be done, and don't put off your stride by people who see it as their divinely-inspired task to get in your way, wind you up and generally drive you to distraction. There are, by the way, big choices in the offing, so get ready.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Although there's still a good deal of background tension in the air, you seem particularly well set up. Your stars are basically favourable, and there seems to be little pressure on you to do anything against your will. If you're facing family arrangements, you can put off the inevitable for another few days.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Throughout every area of life, it's a question of dealing with fundamentals. Everything you do should have a beginning, a middle and an end. Deviate from this regular, ordered pattern and you'll run the risk of coming unstuck. But stay as you are and you may miss a major opportunity. You can always leave the final choice for another few months.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

There are decisions to be made, but first there are discussions to be held. You should know by now that the moment you rush ahead without consulting others, conflict invariably follows. It's time you broke this pattern and gave up your tendency to over-react.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

When it comes to finance, there are two rules at the moment. Where your own personal money is concerned, pay the most intense attention possible to every single detail. Where joint rearrangements are concerned, place the emphasis on getting on with people and reaching agreements.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sept. 23)

Your romantic stars are powerful, but partners may have the edge when it comes to a battle of wills. You may soon be obliged to accept an unhelpful situation as a fait accompli. At least, for now. In another couple of months, when circumstances have moved on, you'll be able to correct the situation in your favour.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23)

The accent is on pleasure over the coming days, and the best way to personal fulfilment is through devoting extra time to your creative Libran skills. Ideally, you should now be on holiday rather than at work! If you feel a little shaky, you can rely on a partner.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

Excellent prospects arise largely from the fact that you're left to pursue your own interests. There's no need to give in to the nine-to-five slog, and every chance to break out of your rut. Yet family pressures may very soon reach bursting point.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

Sort out your priorities and organise yourself to fit in a useful chat with a friend or someone you look up to. You may receive unsolicited advice which could help you out of a domestic impasse. Yet what is said today may be contradicted tomorrow.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Your energy should be high at present but, if you're one of those Capricorns who is feeling under the weather, the reason lies in your unhealthy lifestyle. The solution is to cut out all those bad habits. Public pressures may be easing, but you have to tie up loose ends first.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

If life has been a little confusing, you're entitled to blame Neptune, ruler of illusion, which has been making a subtle aspect to your sign. However, romantic undercurrents are steadily growing stronger and you should now be much more sure of your feelings.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Your short-term plans will soon receive a boost from some unexpected good news, although a slight adjustment will almost certainly be advisable. If you're taking major decisions it's imperative to consider all the angles and to take whatever time you need.

ICC offered teams to take a knee

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY  
DUBAI, OCTOBER 25

TEAMS AT the T20 World Cup have been taking the knee after the International Cricket Council (ICC) offered them the opportunity to show their support against racism and discrimination. The ICC didn't issue a directive in this regard, leaving it to respective cricket boards/team management instead to decide.

"After some teams expressed the desire to take the knee, the ICC offered all teams the opportunity to do so if they wished," an ICC spokesperson told The Indian Express.

Accordingly, India decided to take the knee before the start of their match on Sunday, while Pakistan players had hands on heart.

Before that, the Super 12 opener between England and West Indies saw both teams take the knee. Australia and South Africa also did it before their tournament opener in Abu Dhabi, although as an ICC media functionary confirmed from Sharjah, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh didn't do it ahead of their game on Sunday. At the same venue on Monday, however, both Afghanistan and Scotland took the knee before their game commenced.

As for the Indian team, once the BCCI approved the gesture, the team management informed the players about it. So, as Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul, the two openers took the knee inside the playing area, the other players did it outside the boundary rope.

Bowled over by India's gesture, former West Indies fast bowler Michael Holding, cricket's face in the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement, through his stirring message against racism on Sky Sports last year, texted the Indian team head coach Ravi Shastri to get the details.

"I was glad to hear and actually messaged Ravi to confirm what took place," Holding was quoted as saying by Cricbuzz. The 67-year-old Jamaican has also written a book - Why We Kneel How We Rise.

At the post-match press conference, India captain Virat Kohli confirmed that the players were told by the management to take the knee. "That was communicated to us by the management. The Pakistan team agreed to pay their tribute towards the same cause, and then we accepted our side of things, as well. Yeah, that's how it was decided," he said.

The ICC doesn't allow players to display messages "relating to political, religious or racial activities", but on the BLM movement, it decided to take a "common sense approach".

"The ICC stands against racism and is proud of the diversity of our sport. We support players using their platform to appropriately express their support for a more equitable society," the game's global body had said in an emailed statement to Reuters in June last year.





PLAYING TODAY

3.30pm: South Africa vs West Indies

7.30pm: Pakistan vs New Zealand

Live on Star Sports Network

QUICK SINGLES

Pakistan seek revenge against New Zealand

Sharjah: Pakistan will have "revenge" on their mind for a recent off-field snub when they take on New Zealand in the T20 World Cup here on Tuesday, looking to build on the historic high of beating arch-rivals India in their tournament-opener. Babar's team would be eyeing another big scalp in New Zealand, the team which recently withdrew from a scheduled series against Pakistan after landing there, citing a security threat which, according to the host country, did not exist. The pullout hampered Pakistan's World Cup preparations which took a further hit with England too withdrawing from the tour. Babar had hardly minced words in criticising the two sides saying that his country has "always tried to accommodate the interests of the game but others simply don't." Pakistan's batting, though not yet tested fully, seems to have the firepower with Babar and Mohammad Rizwan at the top. With seasoned pros like Fakhar Zaman, Mohammad Hafeez and Shoaib Malik making the middle order, it is safe to assume that New Zealand's bowlers have a task at hand. New Zealand have not had the best of build-ups to their campaign, having lost to Australia and England in the warm-ups.

SA, Windies aim for better batting display

Dubai: Smarting from opening game losses, a good batting display will be high on the agenda for South Africa and defending champions West Indies when the two teams lock horns on Tuesday. While South Africa were handed a five-wicket defeat by Australia, West Indies sank to six-wicket loss against England on Saturday. It will be imperative that both sides improve upon their batting. Put in to bat, both sides struggled to put runs on the board. West Indies were skittled for just 55 runs while the Proteas managed 118 in 20 overs thanks to Aiden Markram's 36-ball 40. Playing with a top-heavy side, South Africa were unable to overcome the loss of early wickets. However, armed with world class bowlers, South Africa made the run-chase tight. Pacers Kagiso Rabada and Anrich Nortje bowled fiery opening spells before the spin duo World No.1 bowler Tabraiz Shamsi and Keshav Mahara restricted runs in the middle over. West Indies, on the other hand, will have to regroup fast. Besides veteran Chris Gayle, none of the players managed to reach double digit scores. West Indies were guilty of losing nine of their 10 wickets while trying to hit a four or a six.

Kumara, Das fined for code of conduct breach

Dubai: Sri Lanka pacer Lahiru Kumara and Bangladesh batter Liton Das were on Monday fined 25 percent and 15 percent of their match fees respectively for breaching ICC's code of conduct with their aggressive actions. After getting involved in a heated exchange of words, the two cricketers tried getting physical with each other on the field forcing the umpire and the other players to intervene during their match on Sunday in Sharjah. "... Sri Lankan bowler Lahiru Kumara and Bangladeshi batter Liton Das Kumar were both fined for breaching level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel," the apex body said in a statement. "Kumara was fined 25% of his match fee and received 1 demerit point. Das was fined 15% of his match fee and received 1 demerit point," the ICC added. PTI

Sachin, former players, politicians back Shami after online abuse

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE OCTOBER 25

NO SOONER had India lost to Pakistan at the T20 World Cup than the bigoted hate machinery got into overdrive looking for convenient scapegoats. Mohammed Shami immediately came on their radar as many linked his religion to his expensive spell in Dubai on Sunday night. But the Indian cricket fraternity, led by Sachin Tendulkar, as well as some politicians, came out in support of the seamer, reminding those targeting Shami with abuse that he has represented the country with distinction over several years. "When we support #TeamIndia, we support every person who represents Team India. @MdShami11 is a committed, world-class bowler. He had an off day like any other sportsperson can have. I stand behind Shami & Team India," Tendulkar tweeted. Several of his erstwhile teammates joined

Tendulkar in backing Shami, who leaked 43 in his 3.5 overs. "Mohammed Shami has been a stellar performer for India for eight years, playing a significant role in many a victory. He can't be defined by one performance. My best wishes are always with him. I urge fans & followers of the game to support @MdShami11 and the Indian team," VVS Laxman posted on the micro-blogging site. Virender Sehwag wanted Shami to shut the hate-mongers up with an excellent performance in India's next game. "The online attack on Mohammad Shami is shocking and we stand by him. He is a champion and anyone who wears the India cap has India in their hearts far more than any online mob. With you Shami. Agle match mein dikado jalwa (show what you can do in the next match)," the former opener said on club cricket. Off-spinner Harbhajan Singh found the targeting of Shami after one indifferent performance "ridiculous." "It's just ridiculous to see such reaction against him. He is a cham-



Many linked Shami's religion to his expensive spell on Sunday night. AP

pion and our own proud Indian player who won so many games for us and made us proud," Harbhajan told The Indian Express. Former all-rounder Irfan Pathan referred to instances in his own playing career and

found the linking of Shami's performance and his religion uncalled for. "Even I was part of #IndvsPak battles on the field where we have lost but never been told to go to Pakistan! I'm talking about Flag of India of few years back. THIS CRAP NEEDS TO STOP. #Shami," he posted. Cricket commentator Harsha Bhogle took to Hindi to suggest that those abusing Shami were not fans of the game in the first place. "Jo log Mohammad Shami ke baare mein ghatiya baaten kar rahe hain, unse meri ek hi vinati hain. Aap cricket na dekhien. Aur aapki kami mehsoos bhi nahi hogi #Shami #355WicketsforIndia (I have just one request to those abusing Mohammed Shami. Don't watch cricket. You won't be missed)," Bhogle tweeted. The matter also made ripples in the political arena with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi expressing support for Shami. "Mohammad #Shami we are all with you. These people are filled with hate because nobody gives them any love. Forgive

them," he said. Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah claimed that the Indian team's support for the Black Lives Matter movement meant little if they can't prevent one of their own from getting abused. "#MohammedShami was one of 11 players who lost last night, he wasn't the only player on the field. Team India your BLM knee taking counts for nothing if you can't stand up for your team mate who is being horribly abused & trolled on social media," the vice-president of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference said. AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi felt the online abuse was a reflection of growing radicalisation in the country. "Mohammed Shami is being targeted for the defeat of the Indian team yesterday. This indicates that the radicalisation and hatred is growing against Muslims. A cricket team will have 11 members. There is one Muslim in the team and he is being targeted," the Member of Parliament from Hyderabad said.

Don of a new era

World's leading batsman is also aiming to take along a team, notorious for imploding, in his slipstream

EXPRESS AT T20 WORLD CUP



SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY DUBAI, OCTOBER 25

PAKISTAN'S HEADY start to the T20 World has a crisp shot of espresso tempering the dizzy intoxication of the 10-wicket win over India. "Overexcited na hona please, phir yeh request kar raha hoon (Don't get overexcited please, requesting this again). Kyunki yeh hamari aadat hai (Because we have developed this habit)," skipper Babar Azam was heard pleading to his band of boys in a YouTube video, after drubbing the Indians.

Much is known of Pakistan's mercurial habits. But little of Babar's unwavering ones: he can pull a shortish zipper through mid-wicket with elan and then leave the off-stump pinpoints and outswingers well alone, one after another. The man can curb enthusiasm. To understand why Babar, apart from his world-class batting, is the right man to lead the team to a 'naya daur', we have to rewind to his academy days. Mohammad Asif, the compulsive quick was once left startled. Teenaged Babar, had hit a bouncer through mid-wicket and much to Asif's chagrin, then Pakistan's National Cricket Academy (NCA) director Mudassar Nazar had foretold him – a frontline pacer in the national team at the time – about this outcome. Nazar recounts the story. "Asif was bowling with the old ball and said, 'I'll bowl a bouncer'. I told him, 'if you do that, he'll hit you through mid-wicket. He said, 'he is just a kid, what are you talking about?' I said, 'try it then'. Babar hit his bouncer through mid-wicket," Nazar recalled speaking to Indian Express. Nazar vividly remembers Asif's reaction. "He stood for a second and said, 'give me the new ball'. I gave him the new ball but I played a trick on him," he chuckles. Nazar told Babar, Asif was going to bowl an off-stump line first up and then the imminent outswinger from wide of the crease. "After three balls, Asif went wide of the crease and bowled an outswinger, and Babar left it again. Asif berated me for playing a trick on him. But more importantly, a young Babar had the cricketering intelligence to understand the tricks of the trade." Babar was 13 then.



A video clip posted on Twitter by Pakistani cricket statistician Mazher Arshad



Babar Azam's hard taskmaster father Muhammad broke down in the stands after Pakistan's win against India. File



Jump to another video clip from the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Twitter that came close on heels of the Sunday win. Babar, the team's captain, makes a matter-of-fact entry into the dressing-room before saying, "Dekho bhaiyon, yeh individual kisi ki credit nahi hai (Look brothers, this is not down to individual brilliance). As a team hum jite hai (We have won as a team). Yeh cheez chhodni nahi hai, kisi bhi time pe (We can't ditch team effort at any time). Abhi start hai (This is just the beginning). Enjoy karo, lekin over-excited nahi hona (Enjoy, but don't get over-excited). Hume aage focus karna hai (We have to focus ahead). Yeh guzar gaya (This is gone now). Focus humara ek hai, World Cup jina (We have just one goal, to win the World Cup)." His team-mates responded with a thunderous applause. Along with Mohammad Rizwan, he posted the highest-ever opening stand in T20 World Cups, surpassing Chris Gayle and Devon Smith's 145 against South Africa in 2007. Babar's T20 average is north of 48 over 62 matches. His ODI average is touching 57. Two years ago, on the current PCB chairman Samir Zaka's YouTube show, 'RamizSpeaks', Babar had revealed his coach Mama Juna's advice: "Play the first and the last ball of a match." Pakistan captain Asif Iqbal didn't bat an eyelid to call him the country's "finest limited-overs batsman ever." It's his captaincy though mirroring his batting – calm and measured, implosion-free – that can usher in the 'naya daur' Pakistan dreams of. Not many moons ago, when New Zealand and England abruptly cancelled their Pakistan tours, the PCB chief had urged the team to make a statement by winning the World Cup. Babar spoke about the hurt back then. He is oozing resolve now. Through their resounding win over India, Pakistan gave an impression that they meant business. A start of it at least.

says, speaking to this paper. His three cousins, Kamran, Adnan and Umar, played for Pakistan. Conspiracy theorists – and Shah swirls one of his own – say that Babar didn't get much help from the Akmal brothers, but during a conversation with this paper a couple of years ago, Kamran was full of praise for his younger cousin. "He (Babar) did a lot of hard work. When he started playing U-16 cricket, we saw the spark. There was a big enough hint that he would be a success," Kamran had said. Nazar takes us back to the NCA days, when Babar bowled a bit as well with a 'kink' in his arm. "We tried to rectify that. But he didn't show much interest. For him, it was only about batting. He was inquisitive, although it was more a case of me approaching him rather than the other way round. He was always very quiet, an introvert." Underneath that shy exterior, Babar, though, had steel and Nazar as his coach was very impressed. "He was very advanced for his years. And would often get to bat against Shoaib Akhtar and Asif. Of course Shoaib didn't go full-tilt but Asif, after being hit through mid-wicket, bowled top pace." He saw no fear whatsoever in Babar.

on Sunday went viral. Babar Azam's father Muhammad breaking down in the stands after his son led Pakistan to their first World Cup victory against India. Azam Sr was a hard taskmaster. But when the crowning glory arrived, toughness melted away. A stern upbringing toughened up Babar, although by his own admission, and to paraphrase a line from Raj Kapoor's Teesri Kasam, his was a case of ladakpan khel mein khoya (childhood being consumed by cricket). In a YouTube chat with Pakistani journalist Abdul Ghaffar, Babar gives a peek into his past. "Every Saturday night I used to play gully cricket by turning on the lights. Those were whole-night affairs. Eventually I graduated to club cricket." Babar's father had a small watch-repairing shop at Firdous Market in Lahore and Farrukh Anjan Shah has followed the family's upwardly mobile journey as a next-door neighbour. "They used to stay at a 660 square feet kholi (building) and young Babar's serious cricket education began when his father took him to a cricket academy at Model Town. Babar's childhood was basically spent, riding pillion on the motorcycle of his father going to different clubs. They have now moved to a haveli at Defence Colony," Shah

With time to regroup and recalibrate, India could script a redemption tale

SANDIP G OCTOBER 25

THERE IS nothing like a redemption story. The protagonist, beaten and battered, pushed to the edge, written off and forgotten, making a destiny-defying, jaw-dropping comeback, taking the audience through a rainbow of emotions. It is, any day, more riveting than a smooth-sailing success story, sans setbacks or desperation. Team India specialises in penning redemption stories, the box-office stuff. So, from 36 all out in Adelaide to the series triumph at the Gabba with half their regulars absent; from losing the first Test against England by 227 runs to thumping them 3-1; from capitulating to an innings defeat at Leeds to drubbing England by 157 runs at The Oval; they seem to derive a kick from turning stories around, knocking out adversaries after getting knocked out themselves. It's not the ideal way, not the way truly world-dominating sides stamp their dominance, but it's the way some teams are programmed. So, as embarrassing as the abject surrender to Pakistan was, it's both preposterous as well



A week-long gap should afford Team India ample time to reclaim their morale. AP

as premature to strip Team India of the contender's tag after two hours of insipid cricket. There are flaws, but redressable ones, which skipper Virat Kohli touched upon in the post-

match press conference: "We know how exactly the game went and where it went wrong and we have absolute clarity of that." Earlier, he admitted that his team was "outplayed" and

"there was no shaming in accepting that." These words of Kohli are hope-reaffirming, just as they are realistic. There is also an underlying belief that his team can bounce back, that it's not a team that would be emotionally tormented by miserable defeats. A defeat of this scale would, undoubtedly, hurt, but they would not wallow or brood on it endlessly. The time has not yet come to make radical changes to their first eleven.

Fine-tuning needed

It's not like the team has fundamental problems, something that cannot be fixed or altered, like the middle-order conundrum in the 2019 World Cup. The loss was a combination of Pakistan producing their best cricket, and India wilting in the face of the onslaught, struggling to find their groove and making too many mistakes. For all the criticism they are coping, they could still be a tournament-winning force. A first-ball duck doesn't make Rohit Sharma an inferior batsman, it doesn't make him suspect against a high-class left-arm pacer. He has waged enough battles to recover his pristine touch. An eight-ball three doesn't make KL

Rahul a brittle opener either or raise suspicions about his technique against the in-swingers. Both are no strangers to comebacks either. Or for that matter, wicket-less spells don't make Jasprit Bumrah or Mohammed Shami lesser forces. Bumrah's aura remains undiminished, next game he may turn into a wrecking ball. Shami, like his team, delights in making quick comebacks. Similarly, Bhuvneshwar Kumar too shouldn't be written off as a spent force either, yet. Mohammad Rizwan took a gamble against him and it came off in the first over. Kumar came back strongly after that and didn't leak any more boundaries. Varun Chakravarthy, too, bothered Babar Azam, who struggled to read his variations in the first spell. Time to bounce back There are, thus, reasons to not feel devastatingly deflated. Had the matches flown thick and fast, perhaps, the reverse momentum would have affected and devoured India. But a week-long gap before the next game, against New Zealand, should afford them ample time to weed out bitter memories and reclaim their

morale. Agreed Kohli: "I think it (the break) works really well for us from all points of view. We will have time to reflect and prepare again. It will help us to regroup as a team to get to the practice sessions, eager to execute the things we want to and prepare in a very confident manner and then arrive on the day again to make sure this time we execute our plan." The presence of past-masters of reversing setbacks too would benefit in soaking the pain of the defeat. Look not beyond team mentor MS Dhoni, who had his house almost vandalised after India's exit at the 2007 50-over World Cup, or coach Ravi Shastri, who had to deal with a string of setbacks in his career that only steeled him up. Each one in this team has a comeback story to narrate. So, it's unlikely that they would wilt. The format of the tournament is conducive for comeback stories too. Barring New Zealand, the group comprises Afghanistan, Scotland and Namibia. So, it's not all gloom and doom, yet. Rather, it's the perfect premise for a redemption story, though it could be an emotional ride for their fans. Once the dust settles, the storm could kick in.