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Indian Express
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EXCLUSIVE

FROM POPULARITY AMONG DALITS TO PROMOTION OF TOURISM: BUDDHISM'S NEW LIFE

Buddhism originated in India but slowly declined in popularity over the centuries. It now looks to be revived by a combination of factors

SCIENCE

ROMAN TOMB
REVEALS SECRETS

Constructed from
deposits of eruptions of
Alban Hills volcano

ENTERTAINMENT

BOLLYWOOD REWIND:
A LOOK AT JUNGLEE

Shammi Kapoor's
massy potboiler that
hasn't aged well

EXPRESS AUDIO

Game Time: IPL goes
global, de Kock's stand,
and Shami's trolling

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Discussing the latest IPL auctions, why
Quinton de Kock refused to take the knee,
and the trolling against Mohammed Shami

FROM PAGE ONE

Kohli stands up

of the bowlers could get any wicket, Shami's timeline had objectionable comments that referred to his religion.

Kohli said the team stands "200 per cent" behind Shami. "To me, attacking someone over their religion is the most pathetic thing that a human being

can do. Everyone has the right to voice their opinion over what they feel about a certain situation, but I personally have never even thought of discriminating (against) anyone over their religion. That's a very sacred and personal thing to every human being."

The skipper reminded the trolls of Shami's contribution to

the team's success over the years.

"People take out their frustrations because they obviously have no understanding of what we do as individuals. They have no understanding of how much effort we put on the field. They have no understanding of the fact that someone like Mohammad Shami has won India a number of matches in the last few years and he has been our primary bowler with Jasprit Bumrah, when it comes to making an impact in games," he said.

Kohli dared trolls to repeat their attacks on his teammate, adding that the team would rally behind Shami again.

"If people can overlook that and his passion for his country, honestly I don't even want to waste one minute of my life to give any attention to those people, and neither does Shami and neither does anyone else in the team. We stand by him fully. We are backing him 200 per cent, and all those who have attacked him can come with more force if they want to. Our brotherhood, our friendship within the team, nothing can be shaken," he said.

J&K funds

departments will pick up work and spending will improve," the official said.

Officials said spending on these schemes has historically been poor in Jammu and Kashmir. "Unlike previous years, our focus is on completion of projects in 2021-22. This will reflect in the next two quarters," the official said.

Heads of departments *The Sunday Express* spoke to pointed out that for Centrally sponsored schemes such as the NREGS (National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme) where utility certificates are not an issue since payments are credited through Direct Benefit Transfer, "funds have been delayed".

As per the Budget Estimate for 2021-22, the Jal Shakti Department outlay is the highest at Rs 5,477 crore. Despite an allocation of Rs 2,747.17 crore, the J&K government has not been able to draw funds from the Union government. It has an unspent balance of Rs 107 crore which, as per officials, could not be utilised fully in view of restrictions on fragmentation of tenders. "This is because of low bidding capacity of local bidders and reluctance of outside agencies to bid for works in J&K," explained an official.

Sources in the government said the UT administration has taken measures for addressing these issues and it is expected that "unspent balance shall be utilised by next month and first instalment of funds availed from Government of India".

A former J&K minister, who spoke to *The Sunday Express* on the condition of anonymity, said the figures point to a "stark shortage of funds, delays in work on the ground and leaving people's lives in limbo."

Meanwhile, departments with expenditure estimates of over Rs 1,000 crore, such as Health and Medical Education, School Education, Social Welfare Department, and the Public Works Department, have received 9.4 per cent, 18.6 per cent, 21 per cent and 27.4 per cent, respectively, of the target till the end of October.

Aryan out of jail

Rajgaria, who got bail on October 26, were the first among the 20 accused to get out.

On Saturday, Additional Sessions Judge VV Patil granted bail to nine more accused. Apart from Aachit Kumar, they included Nupur Satija and Gomit Chopra, accused of possessing intermediate quantities of drugs; Gopalji Anand and

the Prime Minister and the Pope discussed the pandemic and its consequences for people across the world. They also discussed the challenge posed by climate change.

"Prime Minister briefed the Pope about the ambitious initiatives taken by India in combating climate change as well as India's success in administering one billion Covid-19 vaccination doses. His Holiness appreciated India's assistance to countries in need during the pandemic," the MEA said.

The Prime Minister also told the Pope about India's steps to help people in distress across the world -- in Iraq, Yemen, Afghanistan.

A statement by the Holy

See said "the Holy Father Francis received in audience, in the Vatican Apostolic Palace, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Mr. Narendra Modi."

"Subsequently, in the Secretariat of State, the Indian Prime Minister greeted His Eminence Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin, and His Excellency Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher, Secretary for Relations with States."

"During a brief conversation, the cordial relations between the Holy See and India were discussed," it said.

The MEA said: "The Prime Minister extended an invitation to His Holiness Pope Francis to visit India at an early

date, which was accepted with pleasure."

In June 2000, then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had last visited the Vatican and met the then Pope, John Paul II. A year earlier, the Pope had visited India -- the last Papal visit to the country.

Modi is the fifth Indian Prime Minister to visit the Vatican. He was accompanied by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.

The Prime Minister gifted the Pope a silver candle-stand and a book on India's initiatives to combat climate change. In return, the Pope gifted him a plaque with the Old Testament inscription "the desert will be-

come a garden".

The MEA said India and the Holy See have friendly relations dating back to the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1948. "India is home to the second largest Catholic population in Asia," the statement said.

These meetings assume significance as they come at a time when Christians in parts of the country have been complaining of harassment and attacks on the community and its institutions.

Christians are the third largest religious community in India. According to Census 2011, they form 2.3 per cent of the population, behind Hindus (79.8%) and Muslims (14.2%).

Sameer Sehgal, directors of event company Canepus Trading Private Limited, and its employees Manav Singhal and Bhaskar Arora, who were booked for allegedly harbouring offenders; Shreyas Nair, who was reportedly arrested with 2 grams of charas, categorised as a small quantity; and Ishmeet Chadha.

The nine were told to furnish a personal bond of Rs 50,000 each with one or more sureties in the like amount. They were also asked to cooperate with the probe for early disposal of the trial, and warned not to tamper with the evidence in any manner. The accused were asked to visit the NCB office every week till filing of the chargesheet in the case.

The judge pronounced the operative part of the orders; the reasoned verdict will be made available in due course.

As the court allowed their applications for provisional cash bail, most of the accused got out Saturday.

Aryan and the others had moved the High Court after the special NDPS court denied them bail. He was released at 11 am on Saturday, nearly a month after he was detained on October 2.

A box at the jail where the release orders are placed was opened around 5 30 am. The orders were then taken inside the jail and after the barracks opened around 7 am, the counting of prisoners to be released on bail was done. Thereafter, procedures as per the jail manual, including counselling of the inmates to be released and handover of their belongings, were carried out.

There were huge crowds outside the jail and at Shah Rukh Khan's house, with slogans raised to welcome Aryan home.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson is in a similar situation. In the last couple of years, the United Kingdom has made the most ambitious announcements on climate change, clearly challenging Germany's traditional leadership on climate change within Europe.

In both Copenhagen and Paris, leaders had assembled to provide political heft to efforts to find a new international climate treaty, to replace the 1997 Kyoto Protocol which developed countries had become extremely uncomfortable with because it placed the entire burden of the fight against climate change on them. Copenhagen failed spectacularly, but Paris succeeded in delivering a new agreement, called Paris Agreement. Under this, countries agreed to cut emissions, commit to action plans.

Glasgow was supposed to be a "procedural" COP, its main job being to finalise the rules and procedures that would govern the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

These rules and procedures

have mostly been finalized, but one crucial piece has been hanging fire because of strong disagreements: provisions relating to creation of a new emissions trading mechanism. Glasgow should be considered successful if it is able to deliver this much.

However, circumstances have put the additional burden of expectations on Glasgow, being held one year late because of the pandemic.

In the six years that the world has spent quibbling over rules of the Paris Agreement, the climate crisis has worsened. There has been a spate of extreme weather events -- floods, forest fires, heat waves, many of these in the developed world.

Also, the Glasgow COP comes months after the latest IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) report warning that the world may be barely two decades away from becoming more than 1.5 degree Celsius hotter than pre-industrial times. This is a key milestone that, science says, the world needs to ideally avoid reaching, or at least delay as much as possible.

Then there is politics. US President Joe Biden, in desperate need to resurrect his image after the Afghanistan fiasco, has long eyed climate change as an area he can leave a permanent mark on.

But just getting the United States to re-enter the Paris Agreement, after his predecessor Donald Trump had walked out of it, is not a strong enough legacy. He is hoping to leave a much stronger imprint.

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Two most talked-about potential deliverables from Glasgow are an agreement by every country to accept a net-zero target year sometime around the middle of the century, and a commitment to make their respective climate action plans stronger and more ambitious. But both these look highly unrealistic right now.

Net-zero is a state wherein a country's emissions are completely offset by absorptions of carbon dioxide, like through forest sinks, and physical removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere using futuristic technologies. Though over 70 countries have signed on to a net-zero target, around 2050, several prominent developing countries, including India, have all but ruled it out, arguing that

this was akin to postponing or delaying climate action to a future date, when urgent and immediate action was required.

Similarly, several countries have also made upward revisions in their climate action plans, called nationally-determined contributions, or NDCs, in official language, many major ones haven't, and don't intend to. China updated its NDCs but reiterated its previous targets.

In the current state of play, an agreement on either of these issues looks extremely improbable.

Some countries like India have said they would like Glasgow to press for greater flow of climate finance from developed countries. The possibility of this happening is even more dim.

Developed countries committed themselves, way back in 2009 in Copenhagen, to "mobilise" US\$ 100 billion in "new and additional" climate finance every year from 2020. More than a decade later, that promise is yet to be fulfilled. In fact, just last week, this 2020 time-frame has been shifted to 2023. In the meanwhile, most estimates suggest that the yearly finance required to deal with climate change is in the order of trillions of dollars.

Amidst all the noise, the least talked about issue at Glasgow is carbon markets and emissions trading. This has eluded an agreement for three years now has a realistic chance of getting resolved. Quite a few compromise proposals are already on the table, and negotiations on these are likely to begin as soon as the conference starts Monday.

Mamata in Goa

further deterioration in the ties between the two parties, which have been taking swipes at each other lately, amidst the West Bengal-based party's attempts for a footprint outside the state, including in states such as Goa (scheduled to go to Assembly elections in early 2022) where the Congress is a strong force.

Several Congress leaders have defected to the TMC in recent days, including in Goa, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh.

TMC political strategist Prashant Kishor, who is managing the party's campaign in Goa, recently said the BJP would be at the centre of Indian politics for years to come, irrespective of whether it wins or loses, and questioned Rahul Gandhi's claim that it was just a matter of time before people threw the BJP away.

Asked about Kishor's statement on the BJP, Banerjee said:

"I feel he said that if we want to defeat the BJP, we cannot do it the way the Congress is heading. We have to give a strong fight to the BJP."

Asked whether she was in the race for prime ministership, Banerjee said: "There are some politicians who want to become VIPs, but I prefer to be an LIP, Less Important Person. Let us be street fighters."

The Congress has hit back, asking the TMC to introspect whether it was strengthening the BJP or trying to carve out a space for itself in Goa.

Addressing mediapersons, Banerjee said she wanted regional parties to be strong. "If the state is strong, then the Centre is strong... If we can win Goa, we can win India."

Banerjee also indicated that the party might not be averse to working with regional parties. The TMC had earlier said it was not looking at an alliance in Goa. Kishor's talks with Sardesai had reportedly broken down as the GFP was not on board with "merging" with the TMC.

Both Banerjee and Sardesai talked of "coming together" after their meeting Saturday. The TMC leader said, "We discussed the matter. Let us work together. But it (alliance or merger) is their choice."

Sardesai said: "Mamata Banerjee is a symbol of regional pride and we are also a regional party. Everybody needs to come together. Prashant Kishor has said one in three persons votes for the BJP. This means two don't. Our endeavour will be to bring those two together."

Banerjee signalled that there were no plans for an arrangement with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which also hopes to make an impact in the Goa polls. Banerjee, who has good equations with Arvind Kejriwal, said: "I love him (Kejriwal). I have no problem with that. In Delhi, they won because of Anna Hazare, you have to appreciate (it for that)... It is not that every time only one political party will emerge. Have I stopped them from going to Punjab? Why would they stop us from coming to Goa?"

In an address on the final day of her Goa visit, Banerjee said: "Regional parties are strong parties and we want to see a strong federal structure. We don't want outsiders' daadagiri (bullying), we want insiders to work. Local, regional parties that are committed to defeat the BJP, let us work together."

Goa was a "gold mine", but needed strong leadership, Banerjee said.

Covid distress

October 2020 (1.99 crore) and November 2020 (1.84 crore). In

pre-Covid times, the number of households availing of the MNREGS would cross two crores only in the months of May and June.

The monthly average figure for households availing of the MNREGS was 2.36 crore in the first half of the financial year 2021-22 -- higher than the monthly average of 2.28 crore for the whole of 2020-21. In 2019-20, the figure stood at 1.56 crore.

The continuous high demand for MNREGS work is significant as Covid restrictions have been lifted on most economic activities in recent months.

In September 2021, Tamil Nadu had the highest number of households (46.54 lakh) availing of the MNREGS, followed by West Bengal (23.47 lakh), Uttar Pradesh (19.57 lakh), Rajasthan (18.73 lakh) and Madhya Pradesh (14.56 lakh).

Arunachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Manipur and the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir saw an increase of over 30% in the number of households availing of the MNREGS between September 2020 and September 2021.

Over 11 crore people in all (7.5 crore households) availed of the scheme during the financial year 2020-21. During the current financial year, 8.57 crore individuals (6.02 crore households) had done so till October 30.

Under the MNREGS, every rural household is entitled to at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year. By October 30, 13.15 lakh households had completed 100-day employment during the current financial year. In all, 222.16 crore person days had been generated in this time.

Data on the MNREGS portal show Rs 70,135.57 crore expenditure had been incurred till October 30 during the financial year 2021-22, against availability of Rs 71,520.69 crore. However, Rs 10,087.06 crore more is due on account of wage payment, material cost and administration expenses as of October 30 during the current financial year, leaving a net balance or shortage of Rs 8,701.94 crore.

The net balance or shortage is for 22 states and Union Territories -- Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Gujarat, Meghalaya, Manipur, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Sikkim, Puducherry and Lakshadweep.

In a statement Saturday, the Ministry of Rural Development said that the government is "committed" to release funds for wage and material payments under the MNREGS. "Fund release towards wage and material is a continuous process. There has been an increase of more than 18% in fund allocation for the current financial year in comparison to the previous financial year as a budget estimate. During the current FY, so far more than Rs.63,793 crore funds have been released for implementation of the scheme in States/UTs. Currently Rs.8921 crore funds are available which can meet the wage liability equal to this current availability," the statement said.

"Whenever additional fund is required, the Ministry of Finance is requested to provide the funds. In the previous financial year, the Ministry of Finance allocated Rs 50,000 crore additional funds for the scheme over and above that of BE [budget estimate]," the statement said.

‘POOR’ AQI FOR FOURTH CONSECUTIVE DAY
Some respite from bad
air in the coming week

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

DELHI'S AIR quality remained in the 'poor' category on Saturday with an air quality index of 268. PM2.5 and PM10 were the main pollutants, according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) bulletin.

While the AQI is likely to remain in the 'poor' category on Sunday as well, it could improve on Monday to stand in the 'poor' to upper end of 'moderate' category since the wind direction is likely to change from northwesterly to southeasterly, according to the SAFAR forecasting system.

Northwesterly winds usually bring pollutants from crop residue burning from Punjab and Haryana.

The contribution of crop residue burning to PM 2.5 levels in Delhi was around 12% on Saturday, with an effective fire count of 1,826, the SAFAR forecast said. The share of stubble burning to PM 2.5 levels has dipped from that on Friday when it stood at around 20%.

While measures under the 'very poor' section of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) are to be enforced, a senior official of the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) said that inspections to enforce the ban on the use of diesel generator sets and industrial emissions would be conducted by the pollution control body, and the municipal corporations were responsible for enforcing most other measures under the plan.

A total of 33 teams of the DPCC, with around 4 to 5 members each, are on the field for inspections to monitor the burning of waste, adherence to norms



While AQI is likely to remain in the 'poor' category on Sunday, on Monday it could be in the 'moderate' category. Archive

AIR QUALITY EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FORECAST

■ The air quality over Delhi-NCT is likely to remain in the 'poor' category on October 31 and November 1

■ The outlook for subsequent 5 days: The air quality is likely to remain in lower end of 'very poor' category till November 3

at construction and demolition sites, and enforcing the ban on diesel generator sets. An official of the North MCD said directions had been issued to ramp up mechanical sweeping with the 18 existing machines, and night patrolling teams, comprising engineers and officials of the health wing, were being deployed to check burning of waste.

Anumita Roychowdhury, executive director, research and advocacy, Centre for Science and Environment said emergency measures help arrest the peaking of pollution, though we might not see a dramatic improvement.

GRAP is meant to reduce emissions at the local level to protect public health, pointed

out Dipankar Saha, former additional director, CPCB and former head of the air quality monitoring division in Delhi: "The impact of the plan can be demonstrated only when it is enforced properly across NCR and a toxicity analysis is carried out to determine if there has been a reduction in toxicity. That information is not yet available."

Using PM10 and PM 2.5 levels as a marker of effectiveness of the plan is not correct, he added, since pollutants are also brought into the area from outside. "We do not yet have data on pollutants coming from outside vis-à-vis what has been reduced locally due to implementation of GRAP," he said.

In Gurgaon, 2-hour window to
burst green crackers on Diwali

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

THE DISTRICT Magistrate of Gurgaon issued an order Saturday allowing bursting of green firecrackers for two hours on November 4, the day of Diwali.

The order states that permission for bursting of firecrackers would strictly be from 8 pm to 10 pm only on November 4. The order refers to a Supreme Court order from earlier this year that totally bans the use and sale of all types of firecrackers during the pandemic in cities and towns where the air quality falls under

the 'poor' and above category, but restricts the use of firecrackers to green ones in cities where the air quality is 'moderate' or below for a duration of not more than two hours.

Deputy Commissioner of Gurgaon Yash Garg said, "Right now, when we track the air quality for the past seven days, it has been in an acceptable category. We are just following the Supreme Court orders."

The order issued by him mentions that the Haryana State Pollution Control Board reports say that the AQI for Gurugram North and Gurugram South were in the satisfactory and

moderate categories between October 16 and 28.

The production and sale of firecrackers other than the green ones remain banned. The ones that can be used are 'reduced emission' firecrackers or green crackers that emit low sound and reduced emissions of nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide.

The order states that police are to ensure that there is no sale of banned firecrackers. Regional officers of the Pollution Control Board have been directed to monitor levels of aluminium, barium, and iron in order to help generate data on pollution caused by bursting of firecrackers.

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Hospitals may
use 1/3rd of
Covid beds
for patients of
vector-borne
diseases: Govt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

THE DELHI government has issued an order stating that all hospitals in the city may use one-third of beds reserved for Covid patients to treat patients of vector-borne diseases such as dengue, malaria and chikungunya if the need arises.

The order dated October 29 reads, "It is observed that the number of cases of Dengue/ Malaria/Chikungunya is on a rise, with the increasing demand of beds for these patients. Further many reserved for Covid cases are lying vacant due to the decline in the number of Covid cases."

"Therefore, in continuation of office order of even number dated 28/06/2021 and 18/10/2021, it is hereby directed that MD/MS/ Director of all hospitals under GNCT of Delhi may use one-third of beds reserved for treating Covid patients, including ICU beds, for treating patients of vector-borne diseases like Dengue/Malaria/ Chikungunya," it reads.

The order has been signed by S M Ali, Special Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, and was addressed to the Director, Directorate General of Health Services, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi and to all MD/MS/directors of city hospitals.



एक बलिदान
नो राष्ट्र की प्रेरणा बना

पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री, भारत रत्न

श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी

(19.11.1917 - 31.10.1984)

की पुण्यतिथि पर शत शत नमन

‘मुझे इस बात का गर्व है कि मैंने अपना पूरा जीवन अपने लोगों की सेवा में बिताया है। मैं अपनी आखिरी सांस तक ऐसा करती रहूंगी और जब मैं मरूंगी तो मेरे खून का एक-एक कतरा भारत को मजबूत करने में लगेगा।’

“यह उनकी भावना हम सबके लिए प्रेरणास्त्रोत रहेगी।”

अशोक गहलोत
मुख्यमंत्री, राजस्थान

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, राजस्थान



राजस्थान संवाद

#75YearsofAmul

MILESTONE
MOMENTS

Amul
75
YEARS OF
MILK & PROGRESS



THE IRON MAN.
THE VISIONARY
OF DAIRY COOPERATIVES.



1920 - POLSON DOMINATES
DAIRY AND PROFITS.



1946 - THE MEETING THAT
MADE AMUL, PRESIDED OVER
BY MORARJI DESAI.



1946 - REGISTRATION OF
KAIRA DISTRICT COOPERATIVE MILK
PRODUCER'S UNION (i.e. AMUL).



1946 - THE START OF KAIRA'S
FIRST MILK PROCESSING PLANT.



1949 - ARRIVAL OF
DR. KURIEN IN ANAND.



1949 - COOPERATIVES: THE NEW
UNIVERSAL RELIGION OF MILK.



1950 - KAIRA MILK UNION'S
MOBILE VETERINARY SERVICE.

Amul
75
YEARS OF
MILK & PROGRESS

#75YearsofAmul

DP/8300/2021

We Salute The Man
Who Integrated India
Into One Nation

Delhi Police Pays Tribute to
India's First Home Minister -The Iron Man of India

Commemorating
The National Unity Day
31st October, 2021





TOTAL CASES	HOSPITAL BEDS	ICU BEDS	Total	Vacant
			14,523	14,317
Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	0	59,293
Oct 29	37	48	0	59,293
Oct 30	37	22	0	59,090
Total	349*	14,14,385	25,091	2,93,71,002

*Total active cases

Impasse at Tikri border ends: Five-foot passage opened for 2-wheelers, ambulances

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
TIKRI, OCTOBER 30

A FIVE-FOOT passage on one side of the Rohtak-Delhi highway (NH-9) at Tikri border was opened for vehicular traffic on Saturday after farm leaders held a meeting with Delhi Police.

The leaders said they had agreed to allow passage of two-wheelers, pedestrians, and ambulances from 7 am to 8 pm till November 6, when a meeting of Sanyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) is scheduled in which the future course of action will be decided.

DCP (Outer Delhi) Parvinder Singh said, "We have reopened the carriageway (Rohtak-Delhi road) from our side completely. However, there are many tractors and trolleys on the route. At present, two-wheelers and LMVs can access the road."

Farm leaders said a meeting was held Friday in Bahadurgarh with officials of Haryana and Delhi Police and the district administration to discuss opening of roads at Tikri border. An agreement was reached that a five-foot passage — 2.5 feet for either side — for two-wheelers, pedestrians and ambulances would be allowed from Saturday morning.

Boota Singh Burjigil, Punjab state president of the Bhartiya



Farm leaders said they had agreed to allow passage of two-wheelers, pedestrians, and ambulances from 7 am to 8 pm till November 6. *Amit Mehra*

Kisan Union, Ekta Dakaunda, said, "Officials stated that the Supreme Court had said roads need to be opened and put forth a proposal to allow four-wheelers to pass. We informed them that it was police who had put up barricades and blocked the roads, prompting farmers to camp at the city's borders. We told officials that we cannot allow movement of four-wheelers and heavy vehicles on the highway due to safety concerns, especially in the wake of recent incidents (Lakhimpur Kheri and Bahadurgarh hit-and-run)..."

He added that decision to al-

low five-foot passage was taken keeping in mind the interests of people, especially labourers who work in the area.

Farm leaders said a few hours after Friday's meeting, police personnel arrived with a JCB machine, broke down the last layer of the concrete barrier, and allegedly tried to open the entire 40-foot passage on one side of the highway, "betraying" the agreement.

Meet Mann, general secretary, Zamindar Student Association, said, "In the past two days, police had used earth-movers to break down two lay-

ers of concrete barriers and concertina wires. At 8.45 pm, police broke the third layer of concrete and tried to open the entire 40-foot stretch to allow movement of vehicles. Following this, there was panic and tension and a large number of protesters gathered near the main stage at Tikri border and started protesting."

Farm leaders said after mediation, police put up the barricades at 10 pm.

DCP Singh, however, said, "Last night, we went with the JCBs to only remove a few layers of concrete structures and barricad-

ing from one side of the road. We weren't trying to remove tents. These are our barricades... we can remove them to make space or as per our security concerns."

Farm leaders added that the road had been open earlier for movement of people and was only blocked by police in the wake of the January 26 violence.

In a statement released Saturday, SKM said: "Farmers are pointing out that the possibility of accidents injuring and killing protesters will increase now. SKM has always maintained it is police who had blocked the roads, and the hasty removal of barricades clearly vindicates the stand of protesting farmers. If the government wants to open the passage completely, it also has to open the passage to fulfillment of the farmers' demands. Whether the agitation will continue in the same location or whether it will move into Delhi is a collective decision that will be taken at an appropriate time."

On Saturday evening, protesters took turns to sit on vigil at the barricades at Tikri border where vehicular movement has now been allowed. "We have created a security roster where volunteers would keep vigil here in case police try to open complete passage surreptitiously," said Harbans Singh, a protester from Mansa.

BRIEFLY

'Allow Chhath puja on banks of Yamuna'

New Delhi: North East Delhi MP Manoj Tiwari Saturday wrote to CM Arvind Kejriwal saying the government should reconsider its proposal not to allow Chhath Puja at Yamuna ghats. The DDMA Friday said Chhath puja will be allowed at designated sites except the banks of the Yamuna. AAP MLA Sanjeev Jha also wrote to L-G Anil Bajjal, requesting him to allow Chhath celebrations on the Yamuna banks.

Couple held for killing daughter

Gurgaon: In a suspected case of honour killing, a man and his wife were arrested for allegedly murdering their 16-year-old daughter at a village in Sonipat. Police said the parents also cremated her to destroy evidence. A preliminary probe has found that the parents allegedly gave their daughter poison, police added.

Fired from job, man 'poisons' 50 cattle

New Delhi: A Greater Noida resident was arrested for allegedly killing more than 50 cattle as revenge after being laid off from his job. Police said the accused worked in a dairy. "We received information from a business owner that his animals had died mysteriously," said Harish Chander, DCP, Gautam Buddh Nagar. **ENS**



BED OF FLOWERS

At the Ghazipur flower market on Saturday, where flower sellers prepare for the Diwali rush. *Praveen Khanna*

Firm proprietor held for 'embezzling' govt funds

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

POLICE ARRESTED a 59-year-old woman for allegedly embezzling government funds to the tune of Rs 13.85 crore from AIIMS, Delhi. The accused has been identified as Sneha Rani Gupta, a resident of Pitampura.

According to police, Dr Anoop Daga, medical superintendent of Rajender Prasad Eye Centre, AIIMS, lodged a complaint regarding alleged embezzlement of government funds to the tune of Rs 5 crore (raised to Rs 13.85 crore during investigation) on account of purchase of linen items etc.

Police said these items were purchased based on forged supply orders and payment was released to the supplier firm, M/s Sneh Enterprises. Investigation revealed that the goods i.e. linen items etc., against which payments were released to accused firm, were never delivered to AI-

IMS, Delhi, a senior officer said.

The firm's account statement confirmed receipt of payments for items which were never delivered. Scrutiny of e-way bills revealed that vehicles shown as used for delivery of those goods to AIIMS never delivered the same on any of the dates mentioned, the officer said.

This firm was a supplier and in business with AIIMS since many years. All manual and digital records maintained at AIIMS for the purpose of such supplies revealed criminal misdeeds of the accused in connivance with staff of AIIMS, police said.

The accused secured forged supply orders in connivance with staff of AIIMS. In response to forged supply orders, the accused firm submitted only invoices, delivery challans without physical delivery of goods, Additional CP (EOW) RK Singh said. Gupta was the sole proprietor of the firm M/s Sneh Enterprises, Singh said.

Deshbhakti curriculum: Govt schools told to start classes for grades IX-XII

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS have been instructed to commence classes for the government's new Deshbhakti Curriculum for grades IX to XII. Last month, the Delhi government launched the curriculum for classes VI to VIII and IX to XII.

Heads of schools have now been asked to ensure that two periods of 30-35 minutes be allotted for the curriculum each week. Nodal teachers for this programme will have to hold a detailed orientation for all teachers who are assigned to take these classes. Once classes begin, schools have been asked to maintain a detailed record of feedback received from teachers conducting the classes to conduct reviews at different levels.

For the classes, children will not have any textbooks. Instead, the teacher is to introduce each topic with a central question and act as a facilitator for discussions where children express their ideas and views. As homework, children will also receive questions on the topic to pose to older people around them, including their families, and will be expected to once again discuss the topic with the insights and responses they received while doing their homework.

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had said the curriculum will be activity-based and aims to inculcate patriotism among children: "This is not something that will require rote learning. Children will be told about the stories of the nation, there will be discussions about their responsibilities and duties to the nation and how they can contribute."

UNDER NEW EXCISE POLICY

Liquor prices in Delhi may rise next month

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

PRICES OF liquor in Delhi are likely to increase as the new excise policy comes into effect from November. As per an order from the Excise, Entertainment and Luxury Tax department, the wholesale price (WSP) per unit may increase between 8-9% depending on the type of liquor. Government officials are in the process of fixing the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) in view of the changed Excise Policy.

"Due to revised parameters incorporated in the cost card of Indian and foreign liquor vide new Excise Policy 2021-22, the new WSP to be arrived is likely to increase by approximately 8-9 per cent," the order said.

As per officials, in the new policy, excise duty and VAT have been subsumed in the licence fee. A nominal excise duty and VAT at the rate of 1% each on wholesale price (WSP) will be levied at the landing price to the retailer, said the order.

The impact on WSP due to incorporation of various factors like central sales tax among others will increase the price of whiskey in the range of Rs 10 per wholesale unit for McDowell's

EXPLAINED The new policy

The 2021-22 excise policy envisages uniform distribution of liquor outlets in the city, including at least two air-conditioned vends in every municipal ward, five super-premium stores, and 10 stores at the Indira Gandhi International Airport. The policy also makes it clear that the government will exit the business of selling liquor through its undertakings such as the Delhi Consumer's Cooperative Wholesale Store Ltd and Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation.

to Rs 25 per unit for Blenders Pride. A similar impact is expected on other categories of liquor as well, the order said.

As per the new policy, all 849 vends will be operated by private entities from November 17. "It would be a reasonable as-

sumption that since all vends shall be operated by private business entities in a competitive market environment, they would operate at their maximum efficiency and the market size in terms of number of casks sold is likely to show a significant increase as compared to 2019-20," the order further said.

There will be no capping of Rs 50 as retail margin on sale of IMFL (Indian-Made Foreign Liquor) and Rs 100 on sale of foreign liquor, read the order. There will be no cap on the retail margin of IMFL, foreign liquor, beer and wine and the competitive market forces will keep watch over the sale price to the consumer, the order said.

"It is important that the consumer should not be burdened with price increase. The changes brought about in the new excise policy will need reasonable time to play out in the market. In the overall interests of consumers of Delhi, to prevent interstate smuggling, the MRP for 2021-22 should as far as possible be in the same range as prevailing in Delhi," the order stated.

The impact of increase in WSP and prices of liquor in neighbouring states including Haryana, UP, Punjab and Rajasthan will also be taken into account while fixing MRP, the order said.

DU 4th cut-off list: Economics, BCom (Hons) open at some top colleges

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

WHILE MANY courses have closed in Delhi University's fourth cut-off list, some have opened again including BA (Honours) Economics at some prominent colleges.

While admissions to the Economics programme had been closed in the third list for unreserved seats at Miranda House and Kirori Mal College, it has opened up for both in the fourth list at 98.75% and 97.75% respectively. The programme also continues to remain open at Hansraj College at 98.75%, Ramjas College at 98.5%, and Kamala Nehru and Gargi College at 97.75%.

BCom (Honours) also continues to be open in many colleges for most categories, having closed for unreserved seats in only 18 colleges. It continues to remain open at Hansraj at 98.5%, Ramjas and KMC at 98.25%, Gargi at 97.25% and KNC at 96.25%.

However, BA (Honours)

Political Science has closed in 28 colleges for unreserved seats, and it is closed in all of the most popular colleges. It remains open at Gargi at 97.5% and Kamala Nehru at 96.75%.

Miranda House remains open for a few more arts courses—History at 99%, same as in the third list; Sociology at 98%, down from 98.25% in the third list; and Philosophy at 96.75%, down from 97.25. All science programmes of the college are closed.

Most science programmes have also closed at Hansraj, including Mathematics, Chemistry, Botany and Geology which were open in the third list. Among science programmes at the college, Chemistry is open at 96%, down from 97.66% in the third list; Electronics at 96%, down from 97%; Physics at 98.33%, down from 98.66%; and Zoology at 96.66%, down from 97.33%.

All programmes except Philosophy at 97.5% and BSc (Programme) Physical Science with Electronics at 95.66% are open at Hindu College.



BA (Honours) Political Science is closed in all popular colleges. *Archive*

Tytler named permanent invitee to Delhi Congress: BJP, SAD slam move

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

THE BJP and the Shiromani Akali Dal have hit out at the Congress's decision to appoint Jagdish Tytler as one of the 37 permanent invitees to the Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee. Tytler's name had earlier figured in connection with the 1984 anti-Sikh riots.

BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh has demanded that Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi and PCC president Navjot Sidhu clarify if they endorse the induction of Tytler.

In a statement, Chugh said, "Tytler has been named as one of the key Congress leaders in Delhi, but he... continues to be (among) the blue-eyed boys of the party in spite of the fact that their role in the riots against Sikhs has been always highlighted by many witnesses."

SAD leader Manjinder Singh Sirsa said Tytler's appointment is akin to rubbing salt on the wounds of the Sikh community.

Tytler refused to comment and only said, "Why don't you wait for the final decision."

A senior Congress leader, however, said the CBI court had filed a closure report and Tytler is barely active in politics. "He was chosen just as an advisor. One should read the judgments in this case rather than going by what the opposition says for electoral gains. The court has till now not convicted him... all these years, he has been treated as a convict due to which he already lost his political career."

The CBI had filed closure reports in the case against Tytler in 2007, 2009 and 2014. But the Karkardooma court rejected the closure report in 2015 following a petition and asked the CBI to continue its probe.

CONSCIENTIOUS TEACHER, SAY COLLEAGUES

Retired JNU History prof, an expert on the 18th Century, dies at 65

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

RAJAT DATTA (65), retired professor of History at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, known as much for speaking truth to power as his expertise on 18th Century Indian history, died of throat cancer Saturday morning. He was being treated at a private hospital in Pune.

Datta had retired from JNU in

January and travelled to the US to visit his daughter where he was diagnosed with cancer in September. He did his graduation from St Stephen's College, and his post-graduation from JNU. He then went to King's College, London for his PhD.

Professor Najaf Haider of the Centre for Historical Studies, where Datta taught, said he was "a very conscientious teacher" with expertise in the Economic History of the 18th Century. "He

was also an active member of the centre. Every Wednesday, we have a meeting and important decisions are taken after detailed discussions, not solely by the chairperson. Rajat's role was very prominent in that. He never compromised on his principles. In the last five years, with the new administration, he had taken a strong stand against what he said was a compromise in academic excellence and spoke out many times against them. He also paid



Rajat Datta (65)

the price for it," said Haider. Datta was among the six

teachers whose seniority was bypassed by the administration in appointing Dean of the School of Social Sciences in 2017. In 2019, he was one of the 48 teachers against whom disciplinary proceedings were initiated by the JNU administration for a one-day strike. Due to this, his retirement benefits were blocked earlier this year against which a case is pending in the Delhi High Court.

"We had approached the HC to provide a stay on the decision

(disciplinary action). The single bench and division bench both provided us with a stay..." said lawyer Abhik Chinnai.

In the last five years, Datta spoke several times against the "attack" on JNU. His politics was expressed as much in his speeches and protests, as in his witty comments on Facebook.

Samim Asgor Ali, a PhD student and chronicler of teachers and student protests at JNU, remembers how Datta had helped

him in collecting funds to buy a new camera when his broke during a protest: "He personally contributed Rs 5,000 and also got others to donate. Later when I was under economic stress once my scholarship had ended, he pitched in some funds and asked others to help as well. He was always there during any humanitarian crisis."

For Historian Harbans Mukhia, Datta started out as a student during his MA and MPhil days, later a colleague, and then

almost a family member: "He was a bright student who was constantly questioning any notion or theory he came across, including from me. He was a historian in the sense that he never accepted anything just because it was written in books or said in lectures. He had an inquisitive mind. He was recasting the whole image of the 18th Century in India, in terms of modernity. The economic, social and cultural dynamism is what he was recapturing."



New Delhi



In UP, setback to BSP as six suspended MLAs switch to SP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 30

IN A blow to the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), its six suspended MLAs on Saturday joined the Samajwadi Party (SP). Rebel BJP MLA from Sitapur Rakesh Rathore too switched to the SP the same day.

The six BSP MLAs are Sushma Patel (Mungra Badshahpur, Jaunpur), Aslam Ali (Dholana, Hapur), Hakim Lal Bind (Handia, Prayagraj), Mohammad Mujtaba Siddiqui (Pratapnagar, Prayagraj), Hargovind Bhargava (Sidhauri, Sitapur), Aslam Raini (Bhinga, Shravasti). They were suspended by BSP chief Mayawati after they had opposed the party's official candidate Ramji Gautam for the Rajya Sabha in October 2020. They had reportedly met SP chief Akhilesh Yadav in June this year.

Taking to Twitter, Akhilesh claimed that the BJP would not get enough ticket-aspirants "even if it declares 403 chief ministers" as the party was starting at a defeat in the Assembly polls. The strength of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly is 403.

In an audio clip earlier this year, MLA Rathore was purportedly heard criticising Prime Minister Narendra Modi for asking people to clap, and clang bells and plates during the Covid-19 pandemic. The BJP show-caused him to explain his alleged anti-party activities.

With the BSP crackdown on



Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav at a press conference in Lucknow on Saturday. Vishal Srivastav

rebels, the party's strength in the Assembly has dropped to seven MLAs, including jailed strongman Mukhtar Ansari, from 19. Ramveer Upadhyay (Sadabad, Hathras) and Anil Singh (Purwa, Unnao) are also among the suspended MLAs.

Addressing a press conference at the party's Lucknow headquarters, the SP chief welcomed the seven MLAs into the party saying that they were hopeful that the SP was going to form the government after the 2022 Assembly polls.

"... There is so much anger among the people that the BJP will be cleaned out from the state. Their slogan will change," Akhilesh said.

"I heard that the BJP, from the dais, had said that 90 per cent of its promises before the 2017 polls have been fulfilled and the

rest, it said, would be completed in the next two months. It seems they threw their manifesto into the dustbin after 2017. They never turned its pages... They have forgotten it. The first promise in their 2017 manifesto was that farmers' income would be doubled by 2022. All essential items have become expensive and sugarcane farmers are still waiting for their payment. You can look at any page in its manifesto. Not one promise has been fulfilled," the SP chief said.

On the Lakhimpur Kheri incident, Akhilesh said, "Is there anyone who did not watch the video where the MoS is heard saying that he is something else apart from being an MP and minister? Now, the same person is being welcomed on the stage by the BJP. Do you think justice will be done to the farmers?"

G-20 SUMMIT

India ready to make over 5 bn Covid vaccine shots next yr: PM

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

UNDERLINING THE need to address vaccine inequity across the world, especially in developing countries, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday told G-20 leaders that India is ready to produce over 5 billion vaccine doses by the end of next year.

Speaking at the first session on global economy and global health, he also used the opportunity to convey that the early emergency approval to Covaxin by WHO will facilitate India's efforts to help other countries.

Briefing reporters on Modi's intervention at the closed-door session, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said, "The PM conveyed that India has not only vaccinated over a billion of its citizens but more important is that we are ready to produce over 5 billion vaccine doses by end of next year."

This, Shringla said while quoting Modi, "obviously will be available not only for our citizens (but for) the rest of the world, and this is our own contribution to reducing... vaccine inequities, especially in the developing world."

He said, "We also believe that WHO's approval, the emergency use authorization, for Covaxin vaccine pending with them would facilitate this



Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets US president Joe Biden at the G20 summit in Rome on Saturday. PTI

process of our assisting other countries".

Shringla said Modi emphasised on vaccine research, manufacturing and innovation. The Prime Minister, he said, spoke about facilitating international travel and talked about the mechanism of mutual recognition of vaccine certification as a means of achieving this.

Modi also highlighted India's contribution in the fight against Covid-19. In this regard, he mentioned India's medical supply to over 150 countries. He spoke about India's vision of "One Earth One Health", or the need for a collaborative ap-

proach in the international domain in the fight against the pandemic. He said that the concept of "One Earth One Health" has been received well by the G-20 countries.

"This is very, very important to the international community and we are looking for comprehensive global solution that can address issues that also deal with problems of inequity, problems that developing countries face and this is again, another approach towards the overall concept of the global common good that the Prime Minister has spoken of a number of occasions," he

E **Pushing for nod to Covaxin**

PM NARENDRA Modi used the G-20 summit to push for faster approval of India's indigenous vaccine. India's priority to get Covaxin's approval was linked with ramping up of vaccine supply and addressing vaccine inequity in the world. Also, on the issue of minimum corporate tax, officials reminded that it was Modi who had proposed the idea in 2014.

said. The Prime Minister stressed on the need for resilient global supply chains and invited G-20 countries to make India their partner in economic recovery and supply chain diversification.

In this context, Modi will attend a side event on global supply chains on Sunday, for which he has been invited by US President Joe Biden, Shringla said. He said that "in some senses, the Prime Minister also brought out the fact that despite challenges of the pandemic, India continues to be a trusted partner in the context of reliable supply chains."

Rahul launches poll campaign: Won't let Goa become coal hub

MAYURA JANWALKAR
TALEIGAON, OCTOBER 30

SENIOR CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi Saturday promised that his party would stop Goa from turning into a coal hub and block contested projects in the ecologically-sensitive Western Ghats as he set the ball rolling for the campaign ahead of next year's Assembly elections.

In his first visit to the state ahead of the polls, slated for February 2022, Gandhi firmly kept the BJP in his crosshairs as he sought to frame the contest as an ideological battle, ignoring the newest challenger, Trinamool Congress.

During the one-day visit, he spoke with fisherfolk and mining dependents. He said the Congress would revive mining in the state following legal steps.

The Congress leader said his party was committed to not let the three linear projects in Goa that cut through the Western Ghats — the doubling of railway tracks, four-laning of a national highway and the Goa-Tanmar Transmission Project — continue. "Whatever happens, we



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi takes a ride on a motorcycle taxi known as 'Pilot', in Panaji on Saturday. PTI

won't let a beautiful place like Goa become a coal hub. We won't let the linear projects happen," Rahul said.

"I met fisherfolk, they said the railway line is being doubled, Goa is becoming a coal hub, mining-affected people also came to meet me, mines have been shut, lakhs of people have suffered. They said the same person will get the mines. They will be given to that one person by New Delhi," he told Congress workers at a programme in Taleigaon.

On a day West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who is also in Goa, attacked the Congress for letting Prime Minister Narendra Modi "get stronger", Rahul criticised the BJP, saying: "This is a political fight but it is also an ideological fight. We are not just fighting an election, we are fighting for what Goa is going to become. I want Goa to show the rest of India that it can stand together, maintain and protect its wonderful culture and environment."

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

CHRISTIANS BEING a community the party wants to establish as its support base to retain power in poll-bound Goa and Manipur, and to emerge as a formidable force in Kerala, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with Pope Francis and his invitation for the Pontiff to visit India are very significant, according to sources in BJP.

While there have been some voices of concern within the Christian community, cautioning Church leaders against trying to get closer to BJP, the leadership, including some from the influential Roman Catholics, has expressed keenness in engaging with the BJP leadership. Sources said there have been a series of dialogues between the two sides in Kerala in the last few months.

PM's "warm meeting" with the Pope on Saturday was welcomed by the Church.

Major Archbishop Baselios Cardinal Cleemis, who headed

the Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI) and had requested Modi to invite the Pope to India in 2014, saw it as a fresh opportunity for dialogue between the government and the community. "This has a historical importance," Cleemis said about Saturday's meeting. "The meeting should not be seen merely as one between two country heads; rather, it was the head of the largest democracy and an ancient culture meeting the head of the largest religious community in the world..."

"It would bring in positive efforts in India for a mutual trust and collaboration between people of different religious groups. It would also contribute to the need for dialogue. We are very delighted that the Prime Minister has opened ways for a Papal visit to India," Cleemis said.

The welcome note by Cleemis, and an earlier one by George Cardinal Alancherry, president of Kerala Catholic Bishops Conference, have rekindled hopes of building confidence among the community towards

the party, BJP leaders said.

For BJP, Christians, the third largest religious community after Hindus and Muslims, stands as a "prospective support base", according to a party leader. "The Goa experience has taught BJP the majority of Hindus and a section of Christians could make a formidable voter base — be it in Kerala, Manipur or other Northeastern states."

Disintegration of Congress as a political force in these states, he said, could help BJP.

Although BJP's earlier attempts to woo the Christian community did not yield much result in Kerala, the party is now trying to capitalise the increasing disenchantment among Christian leaders in the state over growing influence of Muslims in Congress-led UDF.

"Decline of Congress and hostile attitude of CPI(M) towards many factions of the community, particularly the Orthodox church, and in sharing minority reservation benefits for which CPI(M) has taken an explicitly pro-Muslim stand, have created a

conducive atmosphere for BJP in Kerala," said R Balashankar, co-convenor, training programme and publication in BJP.

There, however, have also been voices to the contrary from the Christian community in Kerala. 'Sathyadeepam', a publication of Syro Malabar Church, the most influential among Roman Catholics in the state, has come out against the latest developments. Alleging that "vested interests" of the Church leadership is making "compromises" with BJP-RSS leadership despite increasing attacks against the community, the weekly has stated that they failed to raise the issue of attacks.

A team of Association for Protection of Civil Rights, United Against Hate and United Christian Forum — NGOs — recently presented a report after visiting Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, stating that there has been a series of attacks against people from Christian community in these states.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

Can't let remote controlled govt rule in Goa: Tejasvi Surya


EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PANAJI, OCTOBER 30

THE BJP has a lot at stake in the coming legislative Assembly elections in Goa, said BJP MP and Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) National President Tejasvi Surya while addressing the workers of the youth wing in Goa on Saturday.

"We cannot let Mamata Begum enter the land of Parashuram and the land of Shivaji Maharaj. We cannot let copycat IIT engineers into the land of the original IIT chief minister (Manohar Parrikar) for the nation, we cannot allow governments which will be remote controlled from Kolkata or from Delhi come to Goa," he said.

During her three-day visit to Goa, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had said that TMC stood for Temple, Mosque and Church. Surya said, "I want to correct the meaning of the TMC. TMC stands for terrorism, mafia and corruption." He said the Congress, AAP and the TMC had nothing to offer Goan people and their leaders were just political tourists. "In Goa, they have no leader, no cadre, no voter and no future," he said.

Further attacking the TMC, he said Goa's culture was about harmony and no one got killed here for their political ideology.



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Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Government of India


National Unity Day


31st October 2021

On the Birth Anniversary of
Lauh Purush
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
the Grateful Nation pays tribute

“Sardar Patel used to say that we can take our country to loftier heights only through our united efforts. We can learn a lot from his life and thoughts. It is our duty that we must associate ourselves with some activity that conveys the message of national unity.

-Narendra Modi”





Scan the QR code to watch the video for details regarding various competitions on Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Live telecast of programmes on the occasion on Doordarshan network from 7:15 AM onwards

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#75YearsofAmul

MILESTONE
MOMENTS

Amul
75
YEARS OF
MILK & PROGRESS

1952 - KAIRA UNION'S OWN DAIRY.

1954 - DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD LAYS THE FOUNDATION OF KAIRA MILK UNION.

1954 - DR. DALAYA'S BREAKTHROUGH FORMULA FOR MILK POWDER FROM BUFFALO MILK.

1955 - INAUGURATION OF AMUL'S FIRST DAIRY PLANT BY THE PRIME MINISTER PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.

1956 - AMUL'S FIRST DAIRY PLANT WITH A CAPACITY OF 1 LAKH LITRES PER DAY (LLPD).

1964 - SHRI LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI VISITED ANAND TO INAUGURATE AMUL'S CATTLE FEED PLANT.

1965 - SECOND DAIRY PLANT OF KAIRA MILK UNION.

Amul
75
YEARS OF
MILK & PROGRESS

#75YearsofAmul

Grey Blue Yellow Black New Delhi Grey Blue Yellow Black

ADDRESSING MALNUTRITION

Govt suggests use of millets in mid-day meals

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

FLAGGING "CRITICAL" levels of malnutrition and anaemia among children, the Union Government has urged the states to explore the possibility of introducing millets in the mid-day meal scheme, now known as PM Poshan.

Millets or nutri-cereals, which include Jowar, Bajra, and Ragi, are rich in minerals and B-complex vitamins, as well as

proteins and antioxidants, making them an ideal choice for improving the nutritional outcome of children.

In their joint letter dated October 28, School Education Secretary Anita Karwal and Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Secretary Sanjay Agarwal wrote that consumption of millets remains low due to lack of awareness and availability.

"The Government of India is taking a series of initiatives to ameliorate this. As per National Family Health Survey-IV, 38 per

Centre also requested states to expedite use of fortified rice to address high malnutrition levels

cent of children under five years of age are stunted and 59 per cent of children are anemic, which is critical. Among one of the series of initiatives, to reduce malnutrition and anaemia, Government of India is laying emphasis on consumption of

millets," they said.

NITI Aayog has been advocating the need to introduce millets in the mid-day meal programme, moving away from rice and wheat. In 2019, it released a report showing the benefits of millets based on a study among adolescents in four Karnataka schools.

The study found "statistically significant improvement" in stunting and body mass index among children who were fed millets. India pushed a resolution to declare 2023 as the inter-

national years of millets which has been adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.

"You are requested to explore the possibilities to introduce millets under Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme, preferably in the districts where eating millets is a culturally accepted food habit..you may introduce millets (nutri-cereals) based menu once a week," said the Centre.

Under PM Poshan, the Centre bears the cost of food grains and their transportation. While the

menu differs from state to state, children are largely fed rice- and wheat-based preparations, but the scheme has a provision for supplementary nutrition in aspirational districts and those with high prevalence of anaemia.

The Centre has also requested the states to expedite the use of fortified rice to address high levels of malnutrition. Officials are hoping that offtake of fortified rice will pick up once schools start functioning at full capacity across states.

UTTARAKHAND
Shah launches poll campaign, targets Cong 'appeasement'

AVANEESH MISHRA
DEHRADUN, OCTOBER 30

HOME MINISTER Amit Shah Saturday launched the BJP's campaign for next year's Uttarakhand polls by attacking the Congress for "corruption, scams and appeasement" and applauding the "all-round development" ushered in by the BJP government at the Centre and the state.

At a rally in Dehradun, he pointed to the renovation of the Kedarnath shrine as well as the project to renovate Badrinath Dham as examples of the BJP's commitment towards "Devbhoomi Uttarakhand".

"The Congress was scared about doing such work. They were scared about what their vote bank would think if they rebuilt Kedarnath temple. You may be scared (Harish) Rawat ji, but we do not fear anything. Badrinath and Kedarnath Dham is not just of Uttarakhand but the pride of the entire country and reconstruction is a must," said Shah. He said a statue of Adi Shankaracharya will be unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Kedarnath on November 5.

Later in the day Shah visited Haridwar and met the chief of Shantikunj Haridwar Ashram, Pranav Pandya. He also paid a visit to the Parad Shiv Temple.

There, he said: "Even after 75 years of independence I see people protesting for the rights given in the Constitution. A lot of people become eager and forceful for the same. I have no objection to it. But the same Constitution has given us duties too. The day



Amit Shah

we demand our rights, fulfilling the duties becomes our responsibility."

In Dehradun, the Home Minister claimed that his convoy was once stopped on a highway in the state during Congress rule because of namaz being offered on it. "My convoy was stopped, and I asked what happened. They told me that it was Friday when the national highway is shut, and people are permitted to offer namaz on it. They even thought of declaring Friday as a holiday. Those who do appeasement can never work for the Devbhoomi... Congress party can never do the welfare of Uttarakhand and development came here only when BJP formed a majority government," said Shah.

The Home Minister claimed that the state government had fulfilled more than 85 per cent of the promises made in its manifesto. "Whatever work is remaining, the BJP is determined to complete under the leadership of young Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami," he said.

He accused Congress leaders of disappearing for years on end amid different crises, but suddenly emerging during election season with "newly-stitched clothes".

No talks with Cong, rapprochement time over, says Amarinder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 30

FORMER PUNJAB CM Amarinder Singh once again made it clear Saturday that he would not stay in the Congress.

Amarinder, who is yet to resign from the Congress, tweeted through his media adviser to say: "Reports of back-end talks with @INCIndia are incorrect. The time for rapprochement is over. The decision to part ways with party was taken after much thought and is final. I'm grateful to #SoniaGandhi ji for her support, but will not stay in Congress now". @capt_amarinder"

He also went on to reiterate that he would launch his own party soon. "I will soon launch my own party and will hold talks for seat sharing with @BJP4India, breakaway Akali factions & others for #PunjabElections2022 once farmers' issue is resolved. I want to build strong collective force in interest of Punjab & its farmers'. @capt_amarinder:"

The former Chief Minister also took on his successor Charanjit Singh Channi on Twitter asking him not to mislead the farmers by saying their government will reject the farm



Amarinder Singh

laws through legislation course.

This is for the first time Amarinder has attacked Channi. All this while he was perceived to be going soft on Channi but hitting out at PPCC chief Navjot Singh Sidhu.

Quoting Amarinder, his media adviser, tweeted: "My govt did all this @CHARAN-JITCHANNI. We spoke to farmer leaders on #FarmLaws & passed our own amendment laws in Assembly too. But Governor is sitting over them & he'll sit over any new laws. Pls don't mislead the farmers with false promises'. @capt_amarinder"

Amarinder's reaction was related to Channi's tweet: "Today, I spoke with Kisan Union leader Balbir Singh Rajewal Ji and discussed about the three Farm Laws imposed by Gol on us.

BYPOLLS FOR 3 LOK SABHA, 29 ASSEMBLY SEATS

Over 50% turnout recorded; stray incidents reported in West Bengal

WEST BENGAL: A turnout of about 71 per cent was reported for bypolls to four Assembly constituencies – Dinhati, Santipur, Khardah and Gosaba – amid reports of an altercation between BJP and ruling Trinamool Congress workers in Khardah. The Trinamool alleged that central forces personnel and the security escort of BJP candidate Joy Saha assaulted Aryadeep Sinha, the son of late Trinamool leader and the winning Khardah candidate in the Assembly polls earlier this year, Kajal Sinha. However, the BJP candidate denied the allegations claiming the Trinamool brought fake voters from neighbouring Bangladesh to win the election. The EC has sought a detailed report.

HIMACHAL PRADESH: The Mandi Lok Sabha seat from where Pratibha Singh – wife of late chief minister Virbhadra Singh – is contesting saw a relatively lower turnout of 57.73 per cent. She was pitted against BJP's Khushal Singh Thakur, a Kargil war veteran. The seat fell vacant after the death of Ramswaroop Sharma in March. The turnout for three Assembly seats – Fatehpur, Arki and Jubbal-Kotkhai – was 66.2 per cent, 64.97 per cent and 78.75 per cent.



Voters at a booth in Tamulpur constituency, Assam. Dasarath Deka

ASSAM: A turnout of approximately 73.38 per cent was reported in five Assembly constituencies -- Gossaigaon, Bhabanipur, Tamulpur, Mariani and Thowra. Ruling BJP has fielded candidates in three seats leaving the other two to alliance partner UPPL. Congress put up nominees in all five, while former allies, AIUDF and BPF, are contesting two and one seats respectively.

HARYANA: Over 73 per cent polling took place in Ellenabad constituency till 5 pm. The bypoll was necessitated after the resignation of INLD legislator from Ellenabad, Abhay Chautala,

in January. He had resigned in solidarity with farmers protesting against three new agriculture laws. Chautala again contested the bypoll as INLD candidate.

RAJASTHAN: The two Assembly seats of Vallabh nagar and Dhariawad in Rajasthan which went for bypolls witnessed 70.41 per cent voting. While Vallabh nagar recorded 71.45 per cent voting, Dhariawad reported a 69.38 per cent turnout.

TELANGANA: Polling in Huzurabad constituency was carried out successfully, officials said adding that voter turnout

was over 76 per cent. The bypoll was necessitated by the resignation of former health minister Eatela Rajender who was dropped from the Cabinet over allegations of land grabbing by a company owned by him. He was nominated by the BJP.

ANDHRA PRADESH: Over 60 per cent turnout was reported for the bypoll to Badvel Assembly constituency. The contest was necessitated by the death of sitting YSRCP MLA Dr G V Subbaiah in March this year. The party has fielded his wife Dr D Sudha who has no competition as TDP and Jana Sena decided not to contest.

BIHAR: As polling drew to a close at 4 pm, Kusheshwar Sthan recorded 51.17 per cent polling while Tarapur witnessed 52.66 per cent polling. The combined number of enrolled voters at both seats were 5,84,395, which included 2,73,208 women.

DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI: The bypoll for Dadra and Nagar Haveli recorded a 76 per cent turnout. The seat fell vacant after the death of Independent MP Mohan Delkar, who was found dead at a hotel in Mumbai on February 23.

ENS & PTI

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Bank employee found dead in UP; cops claim she left note naming IPS officer, two others

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 30

A 28-YEAR-OLD woman who was employed in a nationalised bank was found dead at her residence in Ayodhya on Saturday. Police said the victim died by suicide and added that they recovered a suicide note in which she held an IPS officer and two others responsible for her death.

The victim's family has filed a complaint with Ayodhya police against three persons who are named in the suicide note, police said.

The victim's uncle, also identified one of the other two named in the note as a police officer.

"She named... two police officers in her suicide note. A third man named in the note is a native of Lucknow and works in a private firm. Last year, a proposal was mooted from that man's end for marriage with the victim. However, due to

some reasons, it did not materialise. We don't know how the two police officers are connected with the matter," the uncle, also a businessman, said.

No FIR had been filed in the case till the time of filing this report. However, sources said it is likely to be registered soon.

The 2012-batch IPS officer did not respond to calls from this correspondent.

On Saturday evening, the victim's family staged a protest outside the mortuary where the post-mortem was to be conducted after learning that the police had not filed an FIR on their complaint. "We lodged a complaint with the police after she was found hanging. Police assured us that a case will be registered once the post-mortem is conducted. Now, they are saying that the FIR hasn't been filed and is pressuring us to take the body home. We will not take the body till police files an FIR in the matter. We suspect that she was murdered," added the vic-

tim's uncle.

The victim was a native of Lucknow and worked as a probationary officer at a nationalised bank in Ayodhya. She had been posted in Ayodhya for the last seven years and was staying in rented accommodation.

Police suspect that the man named in the suicide note told the victim he knew some people in the police department and may have taken the names of the officers during a conversation with her.

Director General, Lucknow zone, Satya Narain Sabat said the police are looking into the matter.

The victim's uncle said that on Friday evening, she did not respond to calls from her brother. Even on Saturday morning, she did not answer calls, which prompted her brother to ask her house owner to check on her. The house owner saw her dead at the house, and informed the family, her uncle said.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 30

THE RASHTRIYA Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) said PM Narendra Modi's meeting with Pope Francis, the head of the Catholic Church at the Vatican, only enhanced the country's stature. "What is wrong if the head of the government meets anyone in the civil system in the world? We welcome it because we believe in *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (the world is one family). We respect all religions," RSS general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale said on Saturday.

"Even we meet leaders of different religions. When the PM of our country meets important people in the world and increases the stature of the country, it should be a matter of happiness," he said.

Hosabale was speaking at a media interaction on the conclusion of the three-day Akhil Bharatiya Karyakari Mandal of



RSS general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale

the Sangh in Dharwad. To a query on a push by the BJP for an anti-conversion Bill in Karnataka, Hosabale said, "Increasing the number by any method cannot be accepted. There have been many resolutions passed in the country and many states have passed an anti-conversion Bill."

"There is the freedom to change one's religion by own personal will. But what is happening today is not that... There are people who get converted and do not reveal that, taking

double benefits. The RSS has always said that conversion should be stopped and if a Bill (against it) is passed, we will welcome it," he said.

On a question on the RSS's stand on moral policing in Karnataka, as was seemingly endorsed by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, he said "nobody has the right to do policegiri" even as he added that there will be reactions when sentiments are hurt. "The Sangh is of the opinion that there will be a reaction if anything hurts the feelings of a community or society. But the social leadership will have to take care that it does not become violent."

On October 13, Bommai, in a reaction to acts of alleged moral policing in Mangaluru, where a BJP MLA had gone to a police station to receive two men accused of attacking three women and a man over an inter-faith friendship, had seemingly endorsed moral policing by saying, "There are multiple

sentiments in a society and people will need to function in a manner that does not hurt sentiments. When sentiments are hurt, there will normally be action and reaction... Some youths need to ensure that the sentiments of their society are not hurt. This is a social issue and we need morality in society. We cannot live without morality."

The RSS general secretary said the government will introduce a Uniform Civil Code when it thinks it appropriate. "The political decision on when it should be implemented must be taken by them (government)," he said.

He said the Sangh has been seeking a national population policy for a while and that the RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat only reiterated it recently. "There should be a population policy... it has to be scientifically assessed how many people can be maintained in this country on the basis of the available natural resources," he said.

In SC, Karnataka revises stand on Rohingyas

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

AFTER SAYING it had "no immediate plans" to deport Rohingyas living in the state, BJP-ruled Karnataka has filed a fresh affidavit in the Supreme Court mentioning nothing of its earlier stand and agreeing to abide by whatever the court decides.

In the fresh affidavit, the state government said, "The Kamataka State Police has not housed Rohingyas in any camp or detention centre within its jurisdiction. However, 126 Rohingyas have been identified in Kamataka state."

The state also undertook to adhere to and follow in letter and spirit whatever order the court passes. The affidavit was submitted in reply to a plea filed by Advocate Ashwini Upadhyay seeking identification, detention and deportation of all illegal immigrants within a year.

In its previous affidavit, the government had said, "Bengaluru City Police have not housed Rohingyas in any camp or detention centre within its jurisdiction. However, 72 Rohingyas identified in Bengaluru City are working in various fields and Bengaluru City Police have not taken any coercive action against them as of now and there is no immediate plan of deporting them."

This raised questions as in August 2017, then Union Minister Kiren Rijju had told Parliament that states were directed to detect and deport illegal immigrants, including Rohingyas. Following this, two Rohingyas approached the Supreme Court against the deportation plans.

Responding to the plea, the Centre told the SC in an affidavit in September 2017 that the "illegal" influx of Rohingyas "using the porous border between India and Myanmar... and their continued stay in India, apart from being absolutely illegal, is found to be having serious national security ramifications and has serious security threats".

The Centre said that the "illegal influx" of Rohingyas started from 2012-13 — the UPA II was then in power at the Centre.



Fans gather outside Shah Rukh Khan's residence *Mannat* in Mumbai as the actor's son Aryan — an accused in the cruise ship drugs case — is released from jail. *Ganesh Shirsekar*

Drugs case: NCB team leaves Mumbai without statements of key witnesses

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 30

A SPECIAL team of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) investigating the cruise ships drugs case left for Delhi on Saturday without recording the statement of witness Prabhakar Sail, who had raised extortion charges against Mumbai zonal director Sameer Wankhede, an official said. Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan is one of the accused in the case.

The five-member team, headed by NCB Deputy Director General (northern region) Gyaneshwar Singh, reached Mumbai on Wednesday to record statements after a departmental vigilance probe was ordered against Wankhede and others following Sail's claims that a pay off of Rs 25 crore was discussed in connection with the case of which Rs 8 crore was meant for Wankhede.

In the last three days, the NCB team recorded statements of

eight people, including Wankhede, the official said. However, the team could not record the statements of Sail and KP Gosavi, another NCB witness in the case.

Sail, an independent witness, has alleged that he overheard Gosavi, arrested by the Pune Police in a separate cheating case on Thursday, discussing the Rs 25 crore demand. Sail used to work as a bodyguard for Gosavi. Wankhede has dismissed all allegations against him.

Officials of the NCB team had said that Sail was a "critical witness" in the inquiry and without his statement, the team will not be able to reach any conclusion.

DDG Gyaneshwar Singh had appealed to Sail through media to come forward to record his statement. Singh had also written to Mumbai Police Commissioner Hemant Nagrale to convey to Sail to present himself before the NCB team on Saturday, but Sail did not turn up.

As both Gosavi and Sail were not available, the NCB team left for Delhi, the official said.

Believe Wankhede belongs to SC community: NCSC vice-chairman

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 30

NATIONAL COMMISSION for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) Vice-Chairman Arun Halder on Saturday said that prima facie he believes that NCB Zonal Director Sameer Wankhede, who is facing allegations of faking his caste certificate, belongs to the Scheduled Castes (SC) community.

"I had a discussion with him on this issue and asked him if he belongs to Scheduled Castes. He showed me his certificates and said that he belongs to the Scheduled Castes. We will get to know after seven days what report the Maharashtra government submits to us. We will then take a decision on this issue," Halder told mediapersons in Mumbai after meeting Wankhede. Halder said that he personally felt that Wankhede hails from the SC community. "I believe that he truly belongs to the SC community and hails from the Mahar caste..."

NCP Minister Nawab Malik has alleged that Wankhede was a Muslim and secured a job in the IRS claiming to be from the SC category. He had claimed that Wankhede's father's name was Dawood and not Dyandev. Wankhede has denied the claim.

Drugs case: Spl court denies bail to Sushant Singh Rajput's flatmate

Mumbai: A special Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act court on Saturday denied bail to late actor Sushant Singh Rajput's flatmate Siddharth Pithani, arrested in May in connection with a drugs case lodged by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) last year after the actor's death.

The court had earlier rejected regular bail to Pithani, stating that he was not entitled to be released at that stage. It had given him interim relief for his wedding. Pithani was booked under Section 27A (financing illicit traffic and harboring offenders) of the NDPS Act among other offences. Special Judge D B Mane rejected Pithani's bail application on Saturday.

Advocate Taraq Sayed, appearing for Pithani, said Section 27A has been wrongly applied against his client and only a small quantity of contraband was seized from him. Special Prosecutor Advait Sethna, appearing for NCB, said that Pithani had not challenged the previous order in the Bombay High Court. The judge did not concur with Pithani's submissions and held, "The application is rejected and stands disposed off accordingly." **ENS**



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List of consignment which are to be sold on auction:-							
S/N	PWB No.	Consignment & Condition	Station from	Date of arrival	Date of inventory	No. of item	Weight
1	982937	No any item only packing material	DLI	16.02.2017	18.06.2017	01 no.	6 Kg.
2	904075	1 Hero Rajor cycle without seat (old & used)	JP	28.05.2018	22.09.2018	01 no.	40 Kg.
3	550093	1 Hercules MTB cycle (old & used)	RJPB	22.06.2018	22.09.2018	01 no.	40 Kg.
4	882179	2 GP bdl Box bed parts (old & used)	DMV	02.06.2018	22.09.2018	8 nos.	108 Kg.
5	550148	One steel trunk -2 small sound box & 1 united pressure cooker (5 Ltr.) (old & used)	RJPB	23.06.2018	22.09.2018	3 nos.	40 Kg.
6	987241	2 PP bdl- 1 Iron Ladle, 1 plastic ladle, 4 Iron tawa, 30 steel plate, 8 steel lola, 3 steel knife, 3 steel chanoita, 1 Iron Hasua, 3 Iron Chirma, 1 Iron Kudal, 3 steel kalchul, 1 tarpoline (damage) (all items are old and used)	GIMB	22.04.2018	22.09.2018	59 nos.	70 Kg.
7	020177	2 GP Bdl ARC welder 250amp.(1) & Electronic goods without trade mark. (1) (old & used)	UMB	13.12.2017	13.02.2018	02 nos.	59 Kg.
8	379574	1 GP bdl - 205 nos. LED Bulbs (no any manufacturing mark present)	ALD	19.02.2017	18.06.2017	205 nos.	17 Kg.
9	160078	90 nos. staves Jute mill parts (old & used)	JBN	11.03.2017	18.06.2017	90 nos.	109 Kg.
10	028333	1 PP bdl -7 nos. Usha sewing Machine parts only. (old & used)	YPR	12.05.2017	18.06.2017	7 nos.	26 Kg.
11	168299	1 PP Bdl-One Hero Bi-cycle without motor guard (old & used)	KYQ	29.08.2019	23.11.2020	1 no	40 Kg.
12	248824	1 PP Bdl-One Atlas Bi-cycle (old & used)	RE	23.01.2020	23.11.2020	1 no	40 Kg.
13	764828	One LG Refrigerator (old & used) Vol- 188 ltrs	JP	02.03.2020	23.11.2020	1 no	34 Kg.
14	874059	One GP Bdl Taxmo star brand 5 pcs Iron part (3 in round shape & 2 in rod shape)	MB	28.01.2020	23.11.2020	5 nos	26 Kg.
15	107772	One PP Bdl 227 nos urdu books in 54 packets.	LKO	06.05.2020	23.11.2020	01 no.	58 Kg.
16	567554	Marble Polishing Machine (old & rusty)	DLI	06.09.2017	13.02.2018	01 no.	137 Kg.
17	9725	1 bundle - 9 pcs. of Iron framed thela parts	COR	10.04.2017	18.06.2017	9 nos.	24 Kg.

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ADVERTORIAL



NATIONAL unity today has more names than there were during the post-independence India. Every year, since 2014, 31 October is celebrated as the 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas' or the National Unity Day to pay tribute to Late Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, a visionary who played a pivotal role in India's freedom struggle and integrated the country after the independence. His efforts brought more than 500 princely states in the country under one flag and align with Indian Union.

It was a remarkable milestone in nation-building. A press statement of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India had said, "The occasion will provide an opportunity to reaffirm the inherent strength and resilience of our nation to withstand the actual and potential threats to the unity, integrity, and security of our country."

The feat achieved by Patel was of profound significance in the 1950s. However, the relevance of a unified 'Bharat' has immensely enhanced today. With socio-political schisms, the economic divide between states, rising gap among people, and communal hatred amongst the various sects in the country against each other speak volumes about our dwindling social-economic, political order.

Moreover, the year 2020 has remained a turbulent year until now. The COVID-19 pandemic has hit the businesses hard. With millions of people losing their employment this year due to the pandemic, the country needs urgent help on various fronts. The catastrophe has exposed the levels of our preparedness toward disaster management.

What is needed?

In the present context, therefore, we need development catalysts, who not only play a pivotal role in unifying people but also strengthens the businesses and the economy – prime elements of growth. Business leaders, their businesses and their expertise in understanding and solving larger problems of the country needs are unparalleled. Political figures, development sector professionals, celebrities and leaders need the assistance of corporates.



SANJAY GUPTA, Chairman & Managing Director, APL Apollo Tubes Limited

A good strategy is to use the resources of companies and work towards the objective. Companies, big and small, are often involved in carrying out welfare activities through their corporate social responsibilities. A number of companies, in recent months, have shifted their focus on those who have lost their employment or have started focusing on regions, where there is a greater need for development.

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In the coming years, the requirement of structural steel tubes in India is expected to grow enormously as India is soon likely to become the second-largest consumer of steel. It is already on the path to becoming the world's largest producer of steel. Greater collaboration and development of the industry can also fulfil the Government of India's vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

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In line with the objectives of nation-building and unifying in these difficult times, the Company has a well-established framework for its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy. Under this, the Company conceptualises development programmes for the weaker sections of the society. "We continue to lend a helping hand to the underprivileged and continues to make healthy contributions to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund for Education of Poor Children and the World Hope Foundation," said Sanjay Gupta, Chairman, APL Apollo.

"We are innovation leaders. It is evident in our products across categories. However, we

designed to have a positive sustainability impact. It has led us to adapt innovative methods of production like DFT i.e. Direct Forming Technology, which saves materials and is more cost and time effective.

"Innovation is building a world where your products can cater to multiple industries simultaneously. Along with producing steel tubes and pipes at a fast pace, we are also reducing the usage of wood in various industries. We achieved this by providing alternate products that are durable and eco-friendly. Today, we take pride in developing the nation in an innovating way along with creating a sustainable future," added Gupta.

Leading by example, the Company has also pledged to save the environment and the bio-diversity of the country. Its campaign, 'Save Trees, Use Steel' has not only won accolades but has also made it stand out among other fellow corporates. As per the Company's estimate, around 250,000 trees are being saved every year with the use of steel doors and other related building products of the company.

Commenting on the benefits of structural steel tubes use, Gupta added, "Steel releases no harsh chemicals or toxins and can easily be retrieved from the environment with magnets. Use of structural steel tubes also reduces pollution as compared to other building methodology."

Celebrity endorsement is another way to bring in required support for development. The Company has roped in famous veteran star, Amitabh Bachchan and youth icon Tiger Shroff for its branding.

The need for cohesive action

To rise above and beyond the current challenges and build a unified country, all development stakeholders need to work on the lines of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals 2030 agenda. These Goals lay the basic structure for future sustainable growth that our country and the world needs. Collaboration across industries, nations and governments is an important driver for sustainable development. And companies such as APL Apollo are at the forefront of this change journey.



THE GAME CHANGER IN CONSTRUCTION

Make PEB structures at **10% lower cost** using Apollo Column tubes

BENEFITS:	Speed	Quality	Cost Advantage
	15% Less Steel Consumption	Low Civil Cost	Environmental Friendly

Suitable For: High Rise Buildings, Infrastructure Projects, Industrial Shed, Housing/Commercial, Hotels, Hospitals, Warehouses, Cold Storages, Schools



*APL Apollo Tubes Ltd. will not be responsible for the erection of the PEB Structures. Any relations undertaken with PEB Manufacturer(s) in pursuance of this shall not be deemed to result in any relations created with APL Apollo Tubes Ltd. and APL Apollo Tubes Ltd. shall not be responsible for any service provided by such PEB Manufacturer(s) in any manner whatsoever.

BRIEFLY

UTTAR PRADESH
Dacoit Gauri
Yadav killed in
'encounter'

Lucknow: The Special Task Force (STF) of Uttar Pradesh gunned down dacoit Uday Bhan Yadav alias Gauri Yadav in an alleged encounter in Chitrakoot district in neighbouring Madhya Pradesh on Saturday morning. Yadav was active in the ravines of UP and MP, and carried a reward of Rs 5.50 lakh — Rs 5 lakh by UP and Rs 50,000 by MP — for clues leading to his arrest, said Superintendent of Police, STF, Hemraj Meena. STF said Yadav used to be a member of a robbery gang led by Shiv Kumar Patel alias Dadua. He later joined hands with another dacoit Babuli Kol. Yadav formed his own gang after the death of Babuli Kol in an encounter in 2019. Police said Yadav had 50 criminal cases against him and police was actively pursuing him in connection with 18 cases.

ENS

ASSAM

Police: Severed
legs found near
dustbin, probe on

Guwahati: Two severed legs, wrapped in a polythene bag, were recovered from near a dustbin in Khanapara area of Guwahati on Saturday, a police officer said. The legs, first spotted by some local rag pickers, have been sent to the Gauhati Medical College and Hospital for examination, he said. The toes had nail paint on them, leading to the suspicion that they belonged to a woman. "We have alerted nearby police stations for any report on a missing person. We have also informed our counterparts in neighbouring Ri-Bhoi district of Meghalaya," he said. An investigation into the case has been initiated, the officer added.

PTI

J&K

15 bus conductors
terminated for
'misappropriation'

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir Road Transport Corporation on Saturday terminated 15 of its bus conductors on the charge of misappropriating revenue. "All these conductors have committed more than ten offenses of misappropriation of the corporation revenue for which they were given a number of opportunities to mend their ways... In order to make the corporation corruption free the services of these conductors were terminated," a statement said. As part of a process to remove "deadwood" from the administration, the Jammu and Kashmir government had Thursday terminated the services of eight of its employees including four J&K Administrative Service officers and a doctor, against whom there were already charges of corruption.

ENS

MAHARASHTRA

10 injured after
lift in 11-storey
building collapses

Mumbai: Ten people were injured when a lift collapsed in an 11-storeyed building close to JJ Hospital in Mumbai late on Saturday night, the fire control room said. Authorities said that the lift collapsed in Gulmohar Terrace building near the hospital. Members of the public took the injured to the hospital. Station officer M Varankar of Mumbai Fire Brigade said, "The building was 11-storeyed. There was a malfunction and it came crashing from tenth floor. Two women have fractures and three children have serious injuries. The rest have slight injuries. They were taken to JJ Hospital in private cars by people."

ENS

Father of Valley student booked for cheering Pak seeks 'forgiveness'; Mufti asks PM to intervene

BASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 30

MOHAMMAD SHABAN Ganai does not want to know why his son has been booked and arrested in Agra; he just wants him freed from jail. Which is why he apologises on behalf of his son. "I don't know whether he committed a mistake. I seek forgiveness for him. Even if he has not done anything, we still seek forgiveness. Please forgive him and free him," said Ganai, father of Showkat Ahmad, one of the three engineering students of Agra's Raja Balwant Singh Engineering College who were slapped with sedition for purportedly cheering



Mehbooba Mufti

Pakistan in last Sunday's India-Pakistan T20 World Cup game. Three Kashmiri students — Showkat, Inayat Altaf Sheikh and Arshad Yusuf Ahmad — were booked for sedition over a "WhatsApp status that celebrated Pakistan's win". They were detained a day after the game, which Pakistan had won. They were booked for sedition. A resident of Shahgunj village in Hanjini, Showkat, 21, is a fourth-semester student. "We

have sent two family members to Agra to meet him (Showkat). They have filed an application for that," Ganai said. "But there has been no response from the government (yet). We have appealed to the government here as well." At Dooniwari village of Chadoora, Shabir Ahmad Sheikh has no hope. He said while the family's pleas to the government have fallen on deaf ears, the lawyers' strike has shattered their hopes. "We have no clear idea what their crime was; Whatever we learnt is through media reports," said Sheikh, uncle of Inayat Altaf, 22. "We haven't been able to contact them so far. One of our family members has left for Agra,

but with lawyers deciding to boycott them, we have lost all hope," Sheikh said. On Saturday, former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and sought his intervention to seek release of the detained students and withdrawal of FIR against the medical students of Srinagar. "We had been waiting for the roll-out of a policy to address hearts and minds of the people, especially the youth," she wrote. "While the spree of raids, arrests, killings continue unabated, the level of repression and state intolerance has touched a new low. "A friendly cricket match be-

tween India and Pakistan that was solely a source of entertainment for people here, bruised by incessant lockdowns, Internet gag and restriction of movement, led to booking youngsters under the draconian UAPA for simply choosing to cheer the winning side." She wrote: "Our brightest young people pursuing courses like MBBS have been targeted and slapped with anti-terror laws. While within Kashmir, the youth are no strangers to state excesses, three students in Agra too have been arrested and charged with sedition for the same reasons. This, despite the college's own admission that they didn't engage in any activity that might be construed anti national."

2 soldiers die in landmine blast on LoC

ENS & PTI
JAMMU, OCTOBER 30

AN ARMY Lieutenant and a jawan were killed in a mine blast near a forward post along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's border Rajouri district on Saturday, officials said. The blast took place in Kalal area of Nowshera sector when an Army column was on patrol duty as part of measures to check infiltration of terrorists from across the border, officials said. Three Indian Army soldiers were injured, of which two of them were critical, a statement said. All three were evacuated to a nearby military hospital, where the two critically injured personnel succumbed to their injuries, it said. The third soldier is currently getting medical treatment and his condition is believed to be stable. Defence PRO Lt Colonel Devender Anand in Jammu identified the deceased as Lt Rishi Kumar of Bihar's Begusarai and Sepoy Manjit Singh of



Lt Rishi Kumar (left); and Sepoy Manjit Singh

Sirvewala, Bhatinda, in Punjab. "Lt Rishi Kumar and Sepoy Manjit were brave and extremely committed to the profession of soldiering and have made the supreme sacrifice for the nation in the line of active duty," the statement said. Officials said the area where the explosion took place is dotted with landmines planted by the Army as part of the counter-infiltration arrangement. The nature of the explosion is not immediately clear, they added, without ruling out the possibility of the use of improvised explosive device (IED) by terrorists to target the patrol team.

EXTORTION CASE

Second NBW issued against Param Bir

VALLABH OZARKAR
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 30

A non-bailable warrant (NBW) was issued on Saturday against former Mumbai Police commissioner Param Bir Singh by a Mumbai metropolitan magistrate court in connection with an extortion case being probed by the Mumbai Police Crime Branch. This is the second non-bailable warrant issued against Singh after a Thane court last week issued a NBW.

Apart from Singh, NBW has also been issued against two other accused — Vinay Singh and Riyaz Bhati. Based on a complaint lodged by Bimal Agarwal, a hotelier and civic contractor, the case was registered by the Goregaon police against Param Bir, Riyaz Bhati, Vinay Singh, Sumit Singh, Alpesh Patel and dismissed Mumbai Police officer Sachin Waze. Agarwal has alleged that Param Bir and Waze — currently in jail for his alleged involvement in the Ambani bomb scare and Mansukh Hiran murder case — extorted cash and valuables worth Rs 11.92 lakh from him.



Param Bir Singh

The case was initially registered at Goregaon police station on charges of extortion, criminal conspiracy and common intention, following which it was transferred to Crime Branch Unit XL. The police said while Alpesh Patel and Sumit Singh have been arrested, Param Bir, Vinay Singh and Riyaz Bhati were untraceable. While two notices each have been issued to them, notices have also been sent to their addresses, instructing them to appear before the investigating officer. "They did not appear or respond to the notices. Hence, the crime branch approached the magistrate court for NBW. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate S B Bhajipale on Saturday issued non-bailable warrant against all the three accused," said an officer. On Tuesday, the Thane court had issued NBW against Param Bir over with an extortion case lodged at Thane Nagar police station.



Fans carry the Kannada flag as they wait to pay their last respects to actor Puneeth Rajkumar at the Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru on Saturday. PTI

Karnataka postpones Puneeth Rajkumar's cremation to Sunday

KIRAN PARASHAR
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 30

KANNADA ACTOR Puneeth Rajkumar who passed away on Friday will be cremated next to his parents in Bengaluru on Sunday. The state government had initially decided to hold the final rites on Saturday but with fans flooding Kanteerava stadium — where Puneeth's body has been kept — to pay homage, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said on Saturday after speaking to the actor's family

that the funeral is postponed. Puneeth, 46, was declared dead on Friday after a heart attack. He is survived by wife Ashwini and two daughters. From Friday evening, thousands of people have been thronging the stadium where Puneeth's body is kept. Telugu film actors Chiranjeevi, Daggubati Venkatesh, Rana Daggubati, Nagarajun and Ali, multi-lingual actor Arjun Sarja and many others paid their last respects to the immensely popular actor. Many from different parts of the state

reached Kanteerava stadium on Saturday morning and stood in queue to pay homage. Puneeth's eldest daughter Drithi, who is studying in New York, reached Bengaluru on Saturday evening. According to officials, at least 20,000 police personnel have been deployed around the stadium. Home Minister Araga Jnanendra said 1,500 police personnel from around the state have been called to Bengaluru and 50 platoons of the Karnataka State Reserve Police and central forces have been deployed.

ATTACK ON DALIT FAMILY IN GUJARAT

Temple entry a trigger, probing political rivalry as well: police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
RAJKOT, OCTOBER 30

WHILE TEMPLE entry could have been the immediate trigger for the assault on six Dalit people in Gujarat's Kutch district, their upper caste assailants may have been motivated by a political rivalry with one of the victims, the police said Saturday. The police said the Dalit family could also have been targeted because they had stayed away from the temple construction project. "The Dalit family had entered the Ram temple in Ner village during installations of idols on October 20 and no one had protested. The construction of the temple was done around seven years ago and residents had donated money for it. The Dalits had stayed away from the project. But in the run up to the ceremony, Jagabhai Vaghela, one the victims, told village elders that Dalits would like to contribute. The village elders refused the offer saying the temple was complete," said Mayur Patil, The SP said: "We suspect the

Superintendent of Police (SP) of Kutch (west). As per two FIRs, Jagabhai, his wife Badhi, eldest son Bhura and nephew Hasnmukh were assaulted by a group of 20 men on October 26. The accused had let loose a buffalo herd loose in their farm. When Jagabhai's son Govind and younger brother Ganesha went to the farm, they were attacked. The same group then attacked Jagabhai and others at the family residence, said police. In their complaints, Govind and Jagabhai alleged that they were assaulted because they entered the Ram temple. The SP said suggestions that the entire village was against the Dalits were not correct. "It will not be factually correct to portray these incidents as Dalits versus the rest of the village as Jagabhai had won village panchayat election from Ward No.6, which is dominated by voters from Rabari community, by defeating Bhanji Suthar, one of the accused, three years ago," Patil said.

assault could have been motivated by political rivalry and the temple visit could be the immediate trigger. There are also allegations that the land being cultivated by the Vaghelas is pastoral land and occupation of most of the accused is cattle-herding and that they assaulted the Dalits for this reason," the SP said. Six people have been arrested in the case so far.




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पत्रांक सं. 809

e-Tender Notice दिनांक 29.10.2021

Office of the Executive Engineer (E&M), Maneri Dam, Maneri, Uttarakshi invited online bid from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:
Tender No.: (1) 07/EE(E&M)/Maneri Dam/2021-22 (2) 08/EE(E&M)/Maneri Dam/2021-22 (3) 09/EE(E&M)/Maneri Dam/2021-22
Name of work : (1) Supply Installation Testing & Commissioning of one Number of 50 KVA 415V DG set at Maneri Dam, UJVNL, Uttarakshi in Distt-Uttarkashi
(2) Supply and Replacement of Steel Wire Rope with socket and pin etc. for three numbers of Radial gates of Maneri Dam in Distt-Uttarkashi
(3) Design, Fabrication, Supply, Erection and Commissioning Of Trash Racks at Maneri Dam in Distt-Uttarkashi
Estimated cost : (1) ₹37,65,428.00 (inclusive GST) (2) ₹66,67,661.00 (inclusive GST) (3) ₹1,09,85,800.00 (inclusive GST)
Date of availability of bid document on website: 01.11.2021 at 10:00 hrs. Last date of submission of bid on website: 30.11.2021 at 17:00 hrs. For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal <http://uktenders.gov.in>.
Executive Engineer (E&M)
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"




KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

No.: AIMIB3/MCL-RCR-CTA/OCTOBER 2021 Date: 30.10.2021
SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through e-Procurement Portal only)(Two Tender Document System)
Tenders are invited from reputed companies/persons for transportation of coal supplies from Anantha & Jagannatha Mine loading points of MCL and having adequate knowledge & experience for the "Lifting, Movement, Handling & Delivery of approximately 1.24 lakh MTs of coal by Road-cum-Rail Route to Raichur Thermal Power Station (RIPS) including the works of liaisoning, supervision & monitoring of quantity and quality of coal for a period of two months" for the work of "Appointment of Coal Transportation Agency for transportation of coal from Anantha & Jagannatha loading points of M/s. Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) to nearest railway sidings & loading into Indian Railway Wagons for onward transportation to Raichur Thermal Power Station (RTPS) by Road-cum-Rail Route". The last date for receipt of the completed Bids: **08.11.2021, 17:00 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the office of **The Superintending Engineer(MINES) KPCL, No. 82, Shakti Bhavan, III Floor, Race Course Road, BENGALURU - 560 001.** Telefax No.:080-22203894, e-mail: cefulskpcl@karnataka.gov.in. Website: www.karnatakapower.com, e-portal helpdesk / Hp help desk: **+91-80 46010000, +91-80 22631200.**

उ.प्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड नया खाता सूचना एवं निविदा विस्तारित तिथि इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक-3414 दिनांक 25.10.2021 द्वारा आमंत्रित एवं इंडियन एक्सप्रेस, नई दिल्ली एवं हिन्दुस्तान, मुरादाबाद में दिनांक 26.10.2021 को प्रकाशित इस कार्यालय की सामान्य निविद संख्या-45, 46, 47 एवं 48/ई.टी.सी.एम./2021-2022 को, जो दिनांक 10-11-2021 को खोली जानी थी। इस मण्डल कार्यालय का चालू खाता संख्या-10896364702, IFSC Code-SBIN 0000682 (MICR No. 110024101) भारतीय स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, सिविल लाइन्स, मुरादाबाद का लेन-देन दिनांक 21-10-2021 से बन्द हो गया है। अब सामान्य निविदा संख्या-45, 46, 47 एवं 48/ई.टी.सी.एम./2021-2022 में फर्म/ठेकेदार/निविदादाता द्वारा निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य जीएसटी सहित तथा धरोहर राशि को आर.टी.जी.एस./

एन.एफ.आई.टी./बैंक गारन्टी के माध्यम से इंडियन बैंक, शाखा दिल्ली रोड बुद्धि विहार, आवास विकास, मड़ोला, मुरादाबाद में संचालित चालू खाता सं.-7107816836, IFSC Code-IDIB000D566 में जमा करें। यदि किसी फर्म/ठेकेदार/निविदादाता द्वारा दिनांक 21-10-2021 से पहले भारतीय स्टेट बैंक सिविल लाइन्स, मुरादाबाद के चालू खाते में निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य एवं धरोहर राशि को जमा कर दी गयी है, उसे स्वीकार किया जायेगा। उक्त सामान्य निविदाओं को दिनांक 12.11.2021 को खोली जाएंगी। उपरोक्त निविदाओं के सम्बन्ध में शेष नियम व शर्तें पूर्ववत् रहेंगी। हस्ता./- अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल-प्रथम मुरादाबाद। "राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचाएँ" पत्रांक 3473/ वि.पा.म.मु./ ई-निविदा/ 2021/22- दिनांक: 30/10/21



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
7th CIRCLE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT GOPESHWAR (CHAMOLI)
E-mail : sepwdgope@rediffmail.com

Letter No. 6262/122 Yatayat -7/2020 Date 28/10/2021

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
E-tender notice (Short Term)

The Superintending Engineer 7th Circle, PWD Gopeshwar on behalf of "Government of Uttarakhand" invites item rate in two bid system for the following work. Information regarding tender shall be available from **date 12-11-2021 on <http://www.uktenders.gov.in>**


Sl. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money (Rs. In lacs)	Validity of Tender (In Days)	Cost of tender document (In Rs.)	Time of completion (In Month)	Class of Contractor
1.	Under CRIF Scheme Improvement and bituminous work by BM/SDBC in Pokharanpryag motor road (length 25.735) in District Chamoli.	46.00	120 Day	5000+18% GST	18 Months	Registered in Class 'A' & above category in Road works in central Govt./State Govt. undertaking of central/State govt.

-Sd

(Er. Mukesh Parmar)

Superintending Engineer

7th Circle, P. W.D. Gopeshwar (Chamoli)



बिहार सरकार

पिछड़ा वर्ग एवं अति पिछड़ा वर्ग कल्याण विभाग

मुख्यमंत्री अत्यंत पिछड़ा वर्ग सिविल सेवा प्रोत्साहन योजना

संच लोक सेवा आयोग, नई दिल्ली द्वारा आयोजित सिविल सेवा (प्रारंभिक) परीक्षा, 2021 में उत्तीर्ण होने वाले बिहार राज्य के अधिसूचित अत्यंत पिछड़ा वर्ग के स्थायी निवासी अभ्यर्थियों के लिए आवश्यक सूचना

राज्य सरकार द्वारा लागू की गई योजना के तहत संच लोक सेवा आयोग, नई दिल्ली द्वारा आयोजित सिविल सेवा (प्रारंभिक) परीक्षा, 2021 में उत्तीर्ण होने वाले बिहार राज्य के अधिसूचित अत्यंत पिछड़ा वर्ग के स्थायी निवासी अभ्यर्थियों को एकमुश्त ₹0 1,00,000/- (एक लाख रुपये) मात्र की प्रोत्साहन राशि प्रदान करने हेतु ऑनलाइन आवेदन आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं।

1. अभ्यर्थी के लिए अहर्हा एवं शर्तें :-
(i) बिहार राज्य का स्थायी निवासी होना चाहिए।
(ii) बिहार सरकार द्वारा अधिसूचित अत्यंत पिछड़े वर्ग के कोटि का सदस्य होना चाहिए।
(iii) सिविल सेवा (प्रारंभिक) परीक्षा, 2021 में उत्तीर्ण होना चाहिए।
(iv) किसी भी अभ्यर्थी को इस योजना का लाभ एक ही बार देय होगा।
(v) पूर्व से किसी भी सरकारों/लोक उद्यक्रम/राज्य सरकार द्वारा वित्त संपोषित संस्थान की सेवा में कार्यरत/नियोजित अभ्यर्थी को इस योजना का लाभ नहीं दिया जाएगा

2. आवेदन की प्रक्रिया:-
(i) विभागीय वेबसाइट- <https://state.bihar.gov.in/bcebcbwelfare/CitizenHome.html> पर Login कर अभ्यर्थी के द्वारा दिनांक-30.11.2021 तक ऑनलाइन निबन्धन एवं आवेदन समर्पित किया जा सकता है। निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय के बाद प्राप्त आवेदन अमान्य समझे जाएंगे। किसी अन्य माध्यम से कोई भी आवेदन पत्र स्वीकार नहीं किये जायेंगे एवं ऐसे आवेदन पत्रों को निरस्त कर दिया जायेगा।
(ii) निबन्धन हेतु अभ्यर्थी द्वारा अनिवार्य रूप से फोटो, हस्ताक्षर, एडमिट कार्ड की स्वअभिप्रेमणित प्रति, जाति प्रमाण पत्र (सक्षम प्राधिकार द्वारा निर्गत), आधार कार्ड, आवासीय प्रमाण-पत्र (सक्षम प्राधिकार द्वारा निर्गत), बैंक पासबुक (जिसमें खाता संख्या एवं बैंक IFSC Code स्पष्ट रूप से अंकित हो) या हस्ताक्षरित रद्द चेक (जिसमें आवेदक का नाम अंकित हो) की Scanned प्रति ऑन लाईन पोर्टल पर अपलोड करना आवश्यक होगा।
(iii) अभ्यर्थी के पास ईमेल आई-डी होनी चाहिए। अभ्यर्थियों को आवश्यक सूचना उनकी ई-मेल आईडी पर दी जाएगी। अभ्यर्थी अपने ईमेल को प्रक्रिया पूर्ण होने तक सक्रिय रखेंगे। अद्यतन सूचना के लिए अभ्यर्थी को अपनी ई-मेल नियमित रूप से देखने की अपेक्षा की जाती है।
(iv) ऑन-लाईन माध्यम से आवेदन करते समय अभ्यर्थियों को वांछित सभी सूचनाएँ सही-सही अंकित करनी होंगी। इसमें किसी भी तरह की त्रुटि की जिम्मेवारी अभ्यर्थी की होगी।
(v) यदि किसी अभ्यर्थी के द्वारा गलत सूचना देकर इस योजना के तहत अनुमान्य राशि प्राप्त की जाती है तो उसके विरुद्ध वैधानिक कार्रवाई की जाएगी।

ऑनलाइन आवेदन करने की अंतिम तिथि:- 30.11.2021

• विस्तृत जानकारी विभागीय वेबसाइट- <https://state.bihar.gov.in/bcebcbwelfare/CitizenHome.html> पर देखी जा सकती है।

• विशेष जानकारी के लिए विभागीय दूरभाष संख्या-0612-2215406 पर संपर्क किया जा सकता है।

उप सचिव।

PR-08221 (BC & EBC) 2021-22

नोबल कोरोना के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी एवं सहाय्य हेतु Toll Free No.: **104** पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।



ONE of the grandest of Hindu festivals, Diwali marks the return of Lord Rama after 14 years of exile and his victory over the demon king Ravana. It is also the time when Goddess Lakshmi is believed to have come into her own, blessing the world with peace and prosperity. Celebrated in the Hindu month of *Kartika-masam* (usually between October and November), the festival is one of the most popular and widely celebrated across the globe. Ceremonially, it is about repairing the old and beginning anew. It is about celebrating life together in a moment, a participatory effort of sharing with and becoming part of humanity.

So the preparations begin with a symbolic cleansing of our souls and cleaning up our homes and workplaces. Throughout the country, houses, buildings, shops and temples are thoroughly cleaned, whitewashed and decorated with flowers and lighting. This is also the time for a cultural efflorescence as everybody tries their hand at a rangoli in front of their doorway to welcome Goddess Laxmi. In fact, the festival is part of a sub-continental culture of being one with the community. That's why people don their best clothes and exchange greetings, gifts and sweets. It is a public holiday in countries such as Nepal, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Malaysia, Mauritius, Fiji, Surinam, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago. It is also a school holiday in many states of the United States with a large Hindu population.

In some parts of India, the arrival of Diwali

marks the beginning of a new year. In many parts, Diwali is celebrated for five consecutive days. On Day One, people clean their homes and shop for gold or kitchenware to usher in good fortune. On Day Two, people give in to their creative side, decorate their homes with clay lamps and create design patterns called rangoli on the floor using flowers, coloured powder, rice paste or sand. On Day Three, the main day of the festival, families gather together for Lakshmi puja, followed by mouth-watering feasts and fireworks. On Day Four, friends and relatives visit with gifts and best wishes for the season. On Day Five, brothers visit their married sisters, who welcome them with a lavish meal.

Clearly, it is a season of indulgence, especially when it comes to food. Some of the traditional recipes include *gulab jamun*, *sooji halwa*, *rice kheer*, *moong dal ka halwa*, *gajar ka halwa*, *rasgulla*, *gujjias*, *desi ghee laddoos* and *samosas* among others. Not to mention that these luscious delicacies are a quintessential part of our culinary culture and are hot favourites when it comes to celebrating Diwali.

As the festive fervour picks up pace, the demand for shopping of fes-

Season of hope

tive essentials increases. The Indian business community and corporate majors know this and come out with a whole range of offers, deals and discounts on various categories, such as electronics,

home appliances, automobiles and many more. Even though COVID-19 has dented the buying potential of people, some recovery means that demand is slowly picking up and people are ready to

spend on their long postponed must-buy list.

Of course, the buying behaviour indicates that people have responded to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's clarion call for Atmanirbhar Bharat as the mantra now is to manufacture locally, buy locally and stay in tune with the 'Vocal for Local' initiative. People are clearly moving away from buying Chinese products to provide stimulus to our home-

grown brands, and this certainly presents a great opportunity for our local business community to manufacture festival-related products, such as fancy lights, home decoration goods, kitchenware and appliances, idols of Indian Gods, toys, wall hangings, lamps, home furnishing items, footwear, garments and apparel, gifting sets, electrical gadgets and so on.

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Govt. of NCT of Delhi
Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research University
Pushp Vihar Sector-III, MB Road, New Delhi-110017
Advertisement for Contractual Faculty

Contractual Faculty

The DPSRU invites applications, in the prescribed format, to fill up the posts of Assistant Professor on purely Contract Basis for 6 months in the DIPSAR/ School of Pharmaceutical Sciences/ School of Allied Health Sciences.

DPSRU Centre for Precision Medicine & Pharmacy

DCMPM invites applications to fill up the post of Nodal Officer on temporary/ contractual basis for 11 months.

The last date of submission of application is 10th November, 2021.

The candidates are advised to visit : www.dpsru.edu.in for details **Those who had applied against the advertisement of 14th August 2021 should not apply again.**

Dip/Shabdarth/0387/21-22

Registrar

विधान सभा सचिवालय, उत्तराखण्ड

विधान सभा भवन, डिफेंस कॉलोनी रोड, देहरादून।

वैबसाईट www.ukvidhansabha.uk.gov.in

संख्या:-470/वि.स./15/अधि./2001

दिनांक: 30 अक्टूबर, 2001

विज्ञापित/समय विस्तार सूचना

एतद्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि विधान सभा सचिवालय, उत्तराखण्ड द्वारा जारी विज्ञापन संख्या 395/वि.स./15/अधि./2001, दिनांक 30 सितम्बर, 2001 द्वारा विधान सभा सचिवालय, उत्तराखण्ड में समूह 'ख' एवं 'ग' के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न रिक्त पदों पर सीधी भर्ती द्वारा चयन के सम्बन्ध में प्रकाशित विज्ञापन की ऑनलाईन आवेदन की प्रत भरणे एवं शुल्क जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथियाँ निम्न प्रकार विस्तारित की जाती हैं :-

ऑनलाईन आवेदन करने की अन्तिम तिथि – 01.11.2021

ऑनलाईन शुल्क जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि – 03.11.2021

उक्त के अतिरिक्त विज्ञापन संख्या 395/वि.स./15/अधि./2001, दिनांक 30 सितम्बर, 2001 के शेष प्राविधान यथावत् रहेंगे।

सचिव (प्रभारी)

विधान सभा, उत्तराखण्ड।



INDIAN COUNCIL OF WORLD AFFAIRS

Sapru House, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi

REQUIRES RESEARCH FELLOWS

Applications are invited for the appointment of Research Fellows with requisite experience & qualifications for undertaking research, on a contract of two years at fixed gross monthly lumpsum remuneration. Vacancies are available for the following specializations : Central Asia, South-East Asia, Northern Indian Ocean/Gulf States, Latin America and Multilateral Organizations and Groupings. Applications in sealed covers addressed to Deputy Director General, ICWA must be received at ICWA, Sapru House by **19th November, 2021**. Intimation of application may be emailed to **ddgoffice@icwa.in** with copy to **gbgc@icwa.in**. Application forms, terms & conditions, qualifications etc. are available at: **www.icwa.in**.


SEARCH FOR ACCUSED PERSONS

General public is hereby informed that two accused person who are depicted in this picture, Namely- Unknown S/o Unknown R/o Unknown who are involved in the night burglary committed at 15th Floor, Aatma Ram House in the office of Vinmay Developers Pvt Ltd in the intervening night of 29/30/06/2021. In this regard, a Case FIR No. 90/21 dt. 30.06.2021, U/s 457/380/34 IPC has been lodged at PS- Barakhamba Road, New Delhi.



Sd/- SHO
PS: Barakhamba Road, New Delhi
Ph. No. 011-8700036832,
011-23413999, 23413800

DP/350/NDD/2021

 **NATIONAL LAW INSTITUTE UNIVERSITY**
Kerwa Dam Road, Bhopal-462044

Sealed Limited Quotations are invited for Printing, Flower Decoration, Light Decoration, Purchase of Medals, Robes, Transportation, Accommodation, Generator, Photography & Videography, Tents, Table and Chair & Purchase of mementos for conduct of Annual Convocation at the NLIU, Bhopal on Dated 20.11.2021. The Forms may be downloaded from **30.10.2021** from the NLIU Website **www.nliu.ac.in**.
Last date of submission of Forms is **06.11.2021 till 12:00 noon**.

M.P. Madhyam/102482/2021 **REGISTRAR**

DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS KATHUA
E-mail: sspkathua@jkpolice.gov.in
Fax/Phone No.: 01922-234010
LOOK OUT NOTICE

On 24.10.2021, one person namely Jallil Ahmed S/O Noorani R/ Village Sandhar Tehsil Basohli District Kathua approached P/S Basohli and lodged a written report at P/S Basohli stating therein that on 23.10.2021 his wife namely Reshma @ Roshni went to Basohli for purchasing some articles but did not return back. On this, missing report vide DOR No. 13 dated 24.10.2021 has been initiated at P/S Basohli.

During the course of investigation, best efforts were made to locate the missing individual whereas she is still un-traced.

As such Description Roll/Photograph of said missing individual is being shared with the appeal that anybody having clue/information about her whereabouts may inform us accordingly. The informer will be rewarded suitably:-

DESCRIPTION ROLL:

Name	Reshma @ Roshni
Husband	Jallil Ahmed
Permanent Address	Sandhar, Tehsil Basohli
Present Address	Sandhar, Tehsil Basohli
Tehsil	Basohli
Police Station	Basohli
Age	24/25 years
Height	05 Feet
Complexion	Wheatish
Build	Average
Eyes	Black
Languages known	Dogri/Hindi.

Any information related to the whereabouts of the subject may be communicated on following Contacts:-

1. DPO Kathua- 01922-234010 (Phone/Fax)
2. dpokathua@jkpolice.gov.in (Mail ID)
3. PCR Kathua- 01922-234311 (Phone/Fax)
4. Police Station Basohli – 01922-251205

Mr. Superintendent of Police
Kathua

PUBLIC NOTICE

KIND ATTENTION Citizens of Delhi : **Consumers of firecrackers and** **Retailers dealing in sale of** **firecrackers in NCT-Delhi**

All Delhites are hereby informed that Delhi Pollution Control Committee has issued directions under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 whereby **there is a 'Complete Ban' on sale, storage and bursting of all kinds of fire crackers in the territory of NCT of Delhi till 01.01.2022.**

All are requested to kindly cooperate and ensure that Diwali is celebrated in safe and clean manner without causing air pollution or fire hazards.

Action as per law shall be initiated against the violators for non-compliance of the said directions.

**Special Secretary (Environment) cum
Member Secretary (DPCC)**

DIP/SHABDARTH/0377/21-22

**GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL
TERRITORY OF DELHI
TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
(STATE TRANSPORT AUTHORITY)
5/9, UNDER HILL ROAD, DELHI-110054
PUBLIC NOTICE**

F.No.78/STA/TPT/2018

Dated:

The draft of the Combined Reciprocal Common Transport Agreement, among the Government of Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh for unrestricted movement of interstate contract and stage carriage vehicles in the National Capital Region comprising parts of adjoining States National Capital Territory of Delhi as defined in the Para 2.1 of the Regional Plan-2021, has been published in the Delhi Gazette Extra Ordinary (Part-IV) vide notification no. F.No. 78/STA/ TPT/ 2018/101191 on 27th October 2021 as per the requirement of section 88(5) of Central Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 for the information of the persons likely to be affected thereby. Copy of the same is also available on the official website of Transport Department i.e. <https://transport.delhi.gov.in>.

Notice is hereby given that the draft will be taken into consideration by the Government on or after the expiry of a period of thirty days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette.

The objections or suggestions in this behalf, shall be received by Secretary (STA), Transport Department, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi in his office at 5/9 Under Hill Road, Delhi-110054, during working hours.

(Dr. Navlendra Kumar Singh)
Joint Secretary (STA)

DIP/Shabdarth/0389/21-22

**GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI: TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
POLLUTION CONTROL DIVISION
5/9 UNDER HILL ROAD DELHI-110054**

PUBLIC NOTICE

**ATTENTION: VEHICLE OWNERS GOING FOR REFUELING THEIR
VEHICLES WITHOUT MANDATORY POLLUTION CONTROL
CERTIFICATE**

1. The General public is hereby informed that it is mandatory for every vehicle owner to carry a valid Pollution Under Control Certificate (PUC) to comply with the prescribed emission norms.
2. The Transport Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi in its ongoing efforts to control vehicular pollution and to improve Air Quality in Delhi, has launched a massive enforcement drive against the vehicles, which do not have valid PUC certificate, and against visibly polluting vehicles.
3. All Registered motor vehicle owners whose vehicles are more than 01-year-old from the date of registration (except electric/ battery driven vehicles) are requested to get their vehicle checked and obtain the PUC certificate from the authorised PUC centres.
4. The PUC facilities are widely available at most of the petrol pumps and Automobile Dealer workshops. The list of authorized pollution checking centres is available at the website of the Transport department, GNCT of Delhi. ([www.https://transport.delhi.gov.in](https://transport.delhi.gov.in))
5. All the registered vehicle owners are requested to show/display their validly issued PUC certificate while filling fuel at the fuel stations.
6. The vehicle owners who fail to get the validly issued PUC certificate are liable to be challaned under section 190 (2) of Motor Vehicle Act, 1993 and may lead to imprisonment up to 6 months or fine up to Rs.10,000/- or with both. They will also be disqualified to hold their Driving license for 03 months.

Sd/-

**Dy. Commissioner (PCD)
Transport Department**

DIP/Shabdarth/0338/21-22

Across
THE AISLE



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The Home Minister did not meet the leaders of any political party in J&K... There is no elected legislature, so he did not meet any legislators. No civil society organisation volunteered to meet him. If the Home Minister was not willing to talk to any one, it was not surprising that no one was willing to talk to him either

THE HOME Minister visited the 'Union Territory' of Jammu & Kashmir last week. It was his first visit after the Central government's provocative and controversial acts on August 5 and 6, 2019, of abrogating Article 370, splitting the state of Jammu & Kashmir (that included Ladakh) and reducing its status to two Union Territories (UT), namely, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. (Parliament passed a law endorsing the decisions of the government.)

Surprisingly, the Home Minister did not visit the erstwhile state for over two years after August 2019. Meanwhile, a number of ministers visited the UTs but they were totally boycotted by the people. The Defence Minister confined his visits to the stations and posts occupied by the defence forces.

The Central government had, by and large, left the two Union Territories to be administered by Lieutenant Governors (LG) and officers. The then Governor (Mr Satya Pal Malik) continued to be in charge until October 31, 2019, when the J&K Reorganization Act, 2019, came into effect. The first LG, Mr G C Murmu, held office for about nine months until August 7, 2020. The current LG (Mr Manoj Sinha) has been in office for a little over a year. I am sure the Home Minister would have found that there has been hardly any leadership in the administration of J&K.

THE NEW NORMALCY

The Home Minister's visit was pre-

ceded by numerous claims of 'normalcy' including his own. How 'normal' is J&K?

■ On the eve of the Home Minister's visit, 700 persons were detained including a few under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA);

■ Some detainees were moved to jails outside J&K;

■ The National Investigation Agency (NIA) arrested eight more persons suspected of a conspiracy to carry out terrorist activities (taking the number arrested to 13);

■ Snipers were posted along the roads travelled by the Home Minister;

■ Traffic restrictions were imposed in Srinagar, with those riding two-wheelers subjected to intensive security check (one report said two-wheelers had been 'banned').

■ The Home Minister justified the curfew and Internet restrictions imposed in J&K as "a bitter pill that saved many lives";

■ On the state of J&K's economy, the Home Minister said though J&K received the highest per capita grant, "poverty never reduced here" (contradicting government data that, in 2019, J&K's poverty ratio was 10.35 per cent — eighth among the best states — while the national average was 21.92 per cent);

■ The Home Minister asked, rhetorically, "before August 5, 2019, could the youth of J&K dream of becoming the Finance or Home Minister of this country?" (It must have slipped his mind that Mufti Mohamed Sayeed was Home

Minister of India in 1989-90);

■ He concluded with a flourish: "Terrorism has ended and stone pelting has disappeared". (The most reliable data base, South Asia Terrorism Portal, has given the following numbers of deaths between 2014 and 2021: civilians — 306, security forces — 523, and terrorists/militants — 1,428. In fact, October 2021 was the worst month in the last two years.)

On the last date of his visit, the Home Minister declared the policy of his government: "Dr Farooq Sahib has suggested that I talk to Pakistan. If I will talk, I will talk only to the people of J&K and its youth, **no one else.**"

VICTOR'S JUSTICE

The Home Minister did not meet the leaders of any political party; further, he demonized "three families" which had "brought ruin" to J&K. There is no elected legislature, so he did not meet any legislators. No civil society organisation volunteered to meet him. If the Home Minister was not willing to talk to any one, it was not surprising that no one was willing to talk to him either. The only conversation was between the Home Minister and the fawning bureaucrats at the *durbar*.

It is painfully clear that the J&K policy of the Modi government is based on Victor's Justice: (1) a secretly-hatched, rushed and unconstitutional law; (2) a bureaucracy of which it can be said that the "wood has entered (its) soul"; (3) draconian laws such as the PSA; (4) re-

strictions that curb the fundamental rights of speech, expression, movement, privacy, liberty, life and the rule of law; (5) a gerrymandered delimitation exercise before the elections to the State Assembly; and (6) no talks with Pakistan under any circumstances.

STEELING THE
RESISTANCE

Is this the normalcy and governance that the Modi government is offering the people of Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh? It appears so, but one thing is clear: such 'normalcy' and 'governance' will not lead to a political solution in J&K. It is obvious that the Modi government believes that there is no 'political' issue in J&K and, even if there had been one, it was 'resolved' by abrogating Article 370!

There can be no meaningful conversation if the Modi government brushes aside history, historical facts, the wars that were fought between India and Pakistan, promises, outcomes of past conversations (including round-table discussions and reports), political aspirations, excesses of the past, repressive government actions, the overwhelming presence of security forces, and continued distortion of the rule of law. The Home Minister did not succeed in stealing any hearts; unwittingly, he may have put steel in the hearts and minds of the people to resist peacefully the defilement of the Constitution and the denial of democratic rights.

Fifth
COLUMN

TAVLEEN SINGH

Twitter @tavleen_singh



Insecure
national
security

AS SOMEONE who believes that Aryan Khan was wrongfully jailed, it made me happy that he got bail last week in time to spend Diwali with his family. He should not have spent a single day in jail, and may not have, had he been chatting to his friends on Signal and not WhatsApp. The Government of India's mighty investigative agencies have started weaponising the private phones of private citizens and created a scary new standard in violating our right to privacy.

This is why the Supreme Court's decision to set up a committee to investigate the Pegasus case is the most important decision it has taken in a long while. If without the technology that Pegasus provides our cellphones can already be used to spy on us, imagine what will happen if the government is not severely reprimanded for buying this anti-terrorism software from Israel and using it against political opponents and journalists. We must hope that the Supreme Court's committee is allowed to do its job without interference.

The Supreme Court said something crucial when it announced that it would be investigating the Pegasus matter through its own committee. It said that national security could not be used as an excuse for spying on journalists and politicians. It made the point that the 'spectre of national security' cannot always be invoked to prevent judicial scrutiny of such things as the illegal surveillance of ordinary citizens.

No government in living memory has invoked this 'spectre' more than the government of Narendra Modi. Last week it was invoked to charge Kashmiri students with sedition for having celebrated Pakistan's victory over India on the cricket field last Sunday. The Indian cricket team was gracious in defeat and showed none of the belligerence that the BJP's national spokesmen showed when asked if it was not wrong to charge students with sedition simply because they cheered for Pakistan. In a tone of menace, the national spokesman who has become the TV face of the Modi government said, "They should be in jail and they should stay in jail. We did not win 303 seats in Parliament to allow people who speak against India to remain free. The times have changed, and as long as Modi is Prime Minister, this kind of thing will not be tolerated."

Those who speak for Modi appear not to have noticed that if students and dissidents constitute a real threat to India, then we should be ashamed. There is no point in banging on about how national security is safe in the hands of Modi if it becomes vulnerable when a handful of students behave stupidly after a cricket match. They were students, not jihadi killers, and yet the laws that have been used to arrest them in Srinagar and in Uttar Pradesh are anti-terrorism laws. We need to ask if it will make India safer to alienate ordinary Muslims in the name of national security.

This supposed concern for national security is mixed up with a poisonous kind of nationalism that allows thugs wearing saffron scarves to decide who and what is anti-national. In Bhopal last week the well-known film director, Prakash Jha, had black ink smeared on his face and his crew was attacked by a mob of 'nationalists' who objected to '*Aashram*' being the title of the drama series he was making. These thugs were not immediately jailed, as they should have been, they had time to give interviews on national television in which they said that *ashrams* had existed in India for centuries and so it was 'anti-Hindu' to make films about them. Bollywood has been under attack since Modi became Prime Minister for the same reason. Anti-Hindu is a synonym these days for anti-national, and it is now the prerogative of the Sangh Parivar's more violent spawn to decide who should be targeted in the name of national security.

As a result, there is palpable fear in the air these days. Journalists hesitate to speak to each other on the phone and hesitate even more to speak to one of their political sources, so conversations usually begin with, "I hope we are speaking on Facetime Audio or Signal." The Supreme Court while ruling on Pegasus said that the right of journalists to protect their sources was fundamental to freedom of the press. But, there are new realities. Journalists who have not accepted current realities and learned to kowtow, hesitate to report boldly on the things that are going wrong because they know that doing this immediately comes to the notice of the BJP's media managers and that this can lose them their jobs.

The irony is that the real threat to national security now comes from those who believe they are protecting it. By labeling dissidents as 'anti-nationals', you end up weakening democracy. By working on the assumption that if Muslim students cheer for Pakistan at the end of a cricket match, it is alright to conclude that they are traitors who must be jailed for sedition, the message that goes out to ordinary Muslims is that they are all suspect. How these things serve to protect national security is hard to understand, because by diminishing fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution, you end up weakening democracy. How will it help the cause of national security if ordinary people start to live in fear of their shadows and their cellphones?

Ambedkar & Adivasis:
Some myths, many truths

Dalitality

MADHAV
SARKUNDE



I WAS born in a tribal family in a small village tucked away in the hills of east Pusa in eastern Vidarbha. Like many people from my background, I was oblivious to the outside world, especially the social arc of the caste society in India. Under the influence of Brahminic Hinduism, my people practised untouchability. We kept a cautious distance from the Mahar and Mang people.

After my Class 6, because of our financial condition, I dropped out of school and worked in a landlord's field for six years. While taking the buffaloes out to graze, I chanced upon a book on Dr BR Ambedkar which left a lasting impression on my mind and heart. It was so strong that I decided then and there to resume my schooling.

I sought admission in the seventh class and did not stop till I had a post-graduate degree in English. Over time, I read more of Ambedkar's literature that took me closer to the Phule, Shahu and Ambedkarite movements. I was fully convinced that without following Dr BR Ambedkar, Adivasi people will have no salvation whatsoever.

However, for a few years now, a misconception about Dr BR Ambedkar's contribution towards Adivasi communities is doing the rounds among the Adivasi people in some states. Many tribal social workers, intellectuals, and even political leaders question Dr Ambedkar's credibility. They say that except two or three articles in the Constitution that seek to uphold Adivasi interests, we find nothing substantial concerning the overall development of us forest people. Worse, most Adivasis in India level a serious charge against Dr Ambedkar — that he destroyed their identity as Adivasi. He called the Adivasi people Scheduled Tribes in the Indian Constitution.

At the Constituent Assembly meeting held on September 5, 1945, there was an extensive debate on the question of the identity of Adivasis. Dr Rajendra Prasad, Jaipal Singh Munda, Ghanshyam Singh Gupta, AV Thakkar and others were in attendance. Most of the discussion was over the word Scheduled Tribes. Jaipal Singh Munda took objection to the committee's translation. He said the committee has translated the word tribes as *Banjati*

(*Vanjati*). It meant forest tribes. He argued that the translation should be Adivasi.

When the state lists of tribes were prepared, it was differently translated. For example, in Maharashtra, the word tribe is translated as '*jamati*'. The same word tribe is translated in four ways '*Vanajati*', '*Janajati*', '*Adimjati*' and '*Jamati*'. In the days to come, it may be translated in yet another way. I am at a loss to fault Dr Ambedkar for this.

Few know that Dr Ambedkar gave serious thought to developing tribal communities even before the promulgation of the Constitution. He held a conference in Mumbai on May 5-6, 1945, to suggest proper ways to achieve tribal progress. He had advised that a statutory commission based on the South African Constitution be created. Through this commission, an annual contribution of a prescribed amount would be set aside in each province for the protection and advancement of Adivasis.

In *Annihilation of Caste*, Dr Ambedkar has dedicated Chapter 8 to Aboriginal Tribes in India. He relevantly delineated the life of Adivasis in India and pointed out the root causes for their tragic conditions. Why they remained so backward over the centuries, how their Hindu brethren treated them, and what ways they should adopt to escape from this predicament, have found excellent expression in this small chapter.

After a close perusal of the Indian Constitution, we find that Dr Ambedkar has taken utmost care of Adivasi development. Even a cursory look at the scenario of Adivasi life, will show us that there is a large difference between pre-Constitution and post-Constitution life-conditions of the Adivasis. The Fifth and Sixth Schedule are a declaration of Adivasi development.

Dr Ambedkar had known that in the future, some non-Adivasis would encroach on their Constitutional rights. So he defined 'Adivasi' in Articles 366 (25) and 342. Apart from this, 34 Articles in the Constitution deal with Adivasi interests.

I believe Dr Ambedkar did everything possible to improve the plight of the Adivasis. It is a pity that Adivasis did not get a visionary leader like him in the post-Independence era. They were left to the grace of stooges of political parties. Therefore, the pace of Adivasi progress is too slow. But the educated younger generation has now realized the importance of Dr Ambedkar's teachings.

The writer is a poet and author, most recently of *Bhumkal: A Tale Of A Tribal Dropout Adivasi*

History
HEADLINE

HARIOM

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MAHARAJA HARI Singh acceded Jammu and Kashmir to India on October 26, 1947. The immediate fallout was the transfer of power from Jammu to Kashmir, specifically the Sheikh Abdullah-led National Conference (NC). The development came as a blow to the Dogras of Jammu. It was Jammu that had been at the helm of affairs in J&K since March 1846, when Kashmir became a part of the Dogra Kingdom under the Treaty of Amritsar, signed between Raja Gulab Singh of Jammu and the British. Secondly, Abdullah had consistently opposed the Treaty of Amritsar, and demanded independence from what he called the "oppressive Dogra rule", even launching a 'Quit Kashmir Movement' in 1946.

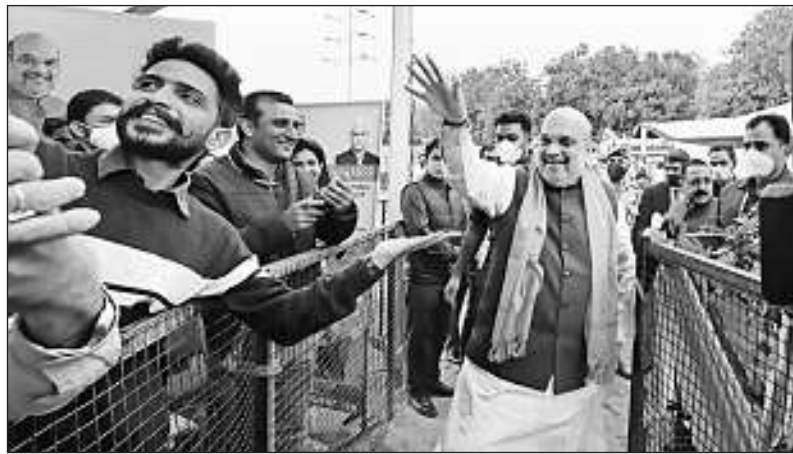
On November 17, 1947, Pt Prem Nath Dogra, who had to retire in 1932 from the post of Wazir-e-Wazarat Muzaffarabad under pressure from the government, founded the J&K Praja Parishad (PP) with several other leaders, with the objective of "integrating" J&K into India and fighting the "Jammu cause". Maharaja Hari Singh gave the PP his support.

During his recent visit to J&K, the first since abrogation of Article 370, Union Home Minister Amit Shah called Jammu the land of temples, Syama Prasad Mookerjee and Pandit Dogra.

Several factors helped the PP leaders expand their support base. These included the unilateral ceasefire by India on December 31, 1948, that let Pakistan hold on to the strategic Gilgit-Baltistan region and what we call Pakistan Occupied J&K; the forced exile of Maharaja Hari Singh on April 23, 1949; the adoption by the Indian Constituent Assembly (ICA) of a motion on September 27, 1949, which said all the four seats in the ICA allotted to J&K may be filled by the ruler of J&K on the advice of his PM Sheikh Abdullah; adoption by the ICA of Article 306 (later, Article 370) on October 19, 1949, which gave J&K a separate status on the "score of religion"; the preponderant representation to Kashmir despite being a smaller region (43 out of 75 seats in the Assembly, with 30 to Jammu and 2 to Ladakh); and lastly, the rejection of nomination papers of PP candidates for the J&K Constituent-cum-Legislative Assembly elections in 1951.

In 1952, Abdullah's insistence on hoisting the NC flag in Science College, Jammu, the parleys between him and Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru on the

The place Pandit Dogra
holds in Jammu's history



During his recent visit to Jammu, Union Home Minister Amit Shah called it the land of temples, Syama Prasad Mookerjee and Pandit Prem Nath Dogra. P/T

political future of J&K vis-a-vis India, and a speech he gave at R S Pura questioning the accession of J&K to India, set off a chain of protests across Jammu province as well as Delhi and neighbouring Punjab. Several sat on a hunger strike lasting days, many were held, around 16 youths lost their lives in police action.

Police invoked the J&K Constitutional Act of 1939, under which the final interpreter of its constitution was its Council of Ministers and not the courts, and the Press and Publication Act of 1932, under which the government could declare any article "seditious" and seize the press which published the article.

The PP under Dogra intensified its agitation against the Abdullah government. On June 19, 1952, they presented President Rajendra Prasad, who was visiting Jammu, a memorandum against the "separatist" moves of the government. On June 26, 1952, the PP held a huge demonstration outside Parliament to urge Nehru to reject Abdullah's moves for a "J&K republic within the Indian Republic".

On August 8, 1952, a PP convention held in Jammu to chalk out an action plan against laws "tending to make J&K an independent state", included Mookerjee among the participants. On November 17, 1952, the PP gave the slogan "*Ek Nishan, Ek Pradhan aur Ek Vidhan* (One flag, one prime minister, and one constitution)", which the BJP has adopted.

The Abdullah administration imposed

repeated curfews to control the situation. About 2,500 people were arrested, including Dogra and other PP leaders. There were reports of more than 30 deaths in police firing.

On May 11, 1953, Mookerjee, who had helped make the PP movement a national one, entered J&K through Lakhnapur. He died in Srinagar on June 23 in "mysterious" circumstances.

Finally, with pressure mounting on Nehru, Sheikh Abdullah was arrested on "sedition" charges and his government fell on August 9, 1953.

After the fall of Abdullah, the PP movement virtually collapsed, existing as little more than a chapter of the Jan Sangh. Dogra, who had become the Jan Sangh president in 1953, was elected as an MLA in 1957 along with four other PP leaders. In 1964, the PP officially merged with the Jan Sangh.

The last agitation led by Dogra was in 1967-68, over the difference in rates at which subsidised foodgrains were available between Kashmir Jammu. He died in Jammu on March 21, 1972.

Till the time he was alive, politicians from Kashmir would invariably visit his residence at Jammu's Kachi Chawani to seek his support before the *durbar* move to Jammu in November.

The writer is former head of History Department, Jammu University, and Member, Indian Council of Historical Research

On the
LOOSE

LEHERKALA

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WHILE LODGED in Mumbai's Arthur Road Jail for over a fortnight, Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan is said to have coped by reading. It's anybody's guess whether it was a question of (desperate) optics, but according to some newspaper reports, Aryan borrowed religious books from the meagre prison library. It was news to me that only very specific religious and philosophy texts are permitted in jails. Apparently, world over, prisoners are not always deemed worthy of the flights of imagination that fiction allows. Alas, in a penitentiary, even the freedom to choose what to read comes with strict riders.

At the most basic level, for centuries, the

In prison, the right to read... everything

idea behind incarceration has been to create an atmosphere that induces remorse for committing crimes. The severity of towering prison walls, barbed wire fences and dank, cheerless cells intentionally imparts fear that serves as a deterrent or a dire warning of the misery which awaits the unhappy being trapped within its walls. For someone suddenly thrust in a cell, chances are that the prevailing sentiments would be anguish and terror, much more than contrition for wrongdoings. How do you get inmates to reflect on their unsavoury behavior? There's certainly no penance in reading Stephen King. No wonder then, prisons focus on ancient religious and spiritual books that provide some sort of blueprint for a conscience — the presumption being that a lack of empathy and a flawed understanding of concepts of right and

wrong landed one in jail in the first place.

In the deeply discomfiting novel *The White Tiger*, the murderous protagonist observes, no boy remembers his schooling like the one who was taken out of school. Repeated studies have shown a connection between criminality, troubled childhoods and poverty. The shortfall in moral direction and education, denied to so many in their formative years by adverse circumstances, is, ironically enough, addressed in jail through learning programmes. A 2014 study by psychologists in the US found that bibliotherapy and access to libraries help ease inmates' depression and are an important tool for rehabilitation. A lot of people languishing in jails, like Aryan was, for instance, have not yet been convicted and may spend months or years awaiting trial. In this day and age, it's hard to justify deny-

ing prisoners a wide range of reading materials, newspapers and magazines, crucial to keep up with the dizzying pace of development in the outside world.

Earlier this year, a special court intervened and allowed lawyer-activist Sudha Bharadwaj, arrested in the Elgaar Parishad case, access to five books, after jail authorities refused to let her read *Empire of Cotton: A Global History*. It's an academic work on how European entrepreneurs recast the world's most significant manufacturing industry, contributing to their countries' imperialist ambitions. Hardly a topic that could instigate a fiery revolt in jail, but the power the State holds over prisoners in these matters is complete. The modern penitentiary may have done away with public hangings, whippings and solitary confinement, but they can break a spirit with small vindictive

penalties, just as easily.

One of the greatest challenges of this Covid year was to stay constructively occupied, on guard against the mind leaping all over the place. It's a pity that humanity hasn't come up with a more humane form of punishment for deviance than stripping someone of their liberty and locking them away, without both emotional and intellectual sustenance.

In *The Critique of Judgment*, Kant argued that appreciation of beautiful things — symphonies, art, literature — leads to moral improvement. Not only is sensory deprivation unnecessarily cruel, the sublime power of books to positively impact those dealing with excruciating confinement cannot be estimated.

The writer is director, Hutkay Films

15 SUNDAY STORY

THE SUNDAY PROFILE

The good friend

MANRAJ GREWAL SHARMA on Aroosa Alam, the Pakistani journalist and advocate of India-Pakistan peace, whose “pure, beautiful friendship” with Amarinder Singh is now at the centre of a public slugfest between the former Punjab CM and his estranged colleagues in the Congress



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

IT WAS a photograph of her sitting beside then chief minister Amarinder Singh, at the inauguration of the Jalandhar Press Club in 2005, that introduced Punjab to Aroosa Alam.

The media was fascinated by her “good looks”, and her easy familiarity with Amarinder. Such was the buzz that the state government machinery facilitated a press meeting with Aroosa in Chandigarh where she referred to Amarinder as a “good friend” and dwelt on Indo-Pak relations, which were seeing a renaissance under his watch. Amarinder had visited Pakistan twice during this tenure and invited his counterpart Pervez Ilahi for a Punjab-to-Punjab summit.

That was the beginning. Now, amidst a public slugfest between Amarinder and his estranged colleagues in the Congress, Aroosa, the journalist from Pakistan and Amarinder’s “good friend”, finds herself caught in the crosshairs. But unlike in the past, this time, the glare has been harsh.

Peacenik, social circuit regular

Soon after that Press Club appearance, Aroosa became a fixture in Amarinder’s social life amidst rumours that his wife, Patiala MP Preneet Kaur, had complained to Congress chief Sonia Gandhi about her. When elections came in 2007 and some wondered whether the relationship would hurt Amarinder, a senior Congress leader quipped that on the contrary, it had earned him brownie points in the hinterland, where men saw it as a “royal conquest by the maharaja of Patiala”.

Over the years, both when Amarinder was out of power for a decade and when he returned to power in 2017, Aroosa flew in and out of Punjab. But she was largely left alone, both by the media and politicians — whether it was when she accompanied Amarinder for the launch of his biography (it had a chapter dedicated to her) at a hotel in Chandigarh in February 2017, or when she was given the pride of place among VVIPs during his swearing-in ceremony as chief minister soon afterwards.

Until the latter half of 2020 — when she last left for Pakistan — Congress leaders would make a beeline to pay respects to her at functions, with a senior Amarinder aide even touching her feet.

A friend of Aroosa’s, who didn’t want to be named, recalls how, after dinner meetings at the CM’s residence, ministers and officers would not only walk up to Aroosa to wish her goodnight, but also make it a point to wave goodbye to her pet Shih Tzu.

All this changed last week when Deputy CM Sukhinder Singh Randhawa said he had ordered a probe into Aroosa’s “ISI links”.

The tide had changed. Now accused of misusing her clout in the Amarinder government for “kickbacks”, the woman who was always seen, though rarely heard, told *The Indian Express* recently that Congress politicians were “a pack of hyenas” and asked whether authorities who had given her the visa, year after year, were ISI agents too.

It’s a long way from the time Aroosa first met Amarinder during his trip to Islamabad in 2005 — she was then vice-president of the National Press Club and a budding peacenik.

A specialist in military and diplomatic affairs, she had reported two years earlier about a British diplomat’s dalliance with a woman staffer, in *Pakistan Observer*, leading to his unceremonious exit.

The high point of her journalism career had been a series of 22 investigative reports in *The Muslim* on Pakistan’s Agosta 90B submarine deals with France that led to the arrest of then Naval chief Mansurul Haq in 1997. Much later, an aide of former French president Nicolas Sarkozy was charged in the case in 2012.

Himself a military historian, Amarinder took great pride in introducing Aroosa as a defence journalist, who had done a course in strategic studies from the National Defence

University in Islamabad.

Journalist, ‘Gen Rani’s’ daughter

Aroosa’s brush with military affairs actually began much earlier. Her mother, Akleen Akhtar, was famously called “General Rani” because of her proximity to Pakistani dictator General Yahya Khan. Akleen, the feisty daughter of a landlord in Gujrat (a city in Pakistan’s Punjab), was married off to a police officer twice her age, and bore him six children. The rebellious Akleen is known to have walked out on her husband while on a vacation at Muree, a hill station near Rawalpindi.

An article in the May 2002 issue of *Newsline*

Punjab’s social circuit remembers her as a warm host who loved her garden at Amarinder’s farmhouse, spoke fluent Punjabi, and could even sing

(a monthly English magazine in Pakistan that stopped publication in 2019) referred to Akleen as “easily the most influential figure during Pakistan’s second military regime”, who “with the slightest gesture of her bejewelled hand could guarantee employment, ensure promo-

tions and bring about unwelcome transfers”.

That was the time when Aroosa was also coming of age. Married to Pakistan foreign services officer Ejaz Alam in the early 1970s, she gave birth to her elder son, Fakhr-e-Alam, in January 1976.

By that time, her mother had fallen on hard times. Soon after coming to power, President Z A Bhutto had put Akleen Akhtar under house arrest in 1972. She was released only when General Zia-ul-Haq toppled the Bhutto regime in July 1977.

In an earlier conversation, Aroosa spoke about how she began her journalism career in the mid-1980s, starting with reporting on society, before moving on to cover diplomatic

affairs for *Pakistan Observer* in 1986.

In 1988, she joined *The Muslim* as a defence reporter, and in 1997, went on to become the paper’s — and the region’s — first woman chief reporter. She rejoined *Pakistan Observer* in 2000 and, in 2002, began working as foreign correspondent for Japanese agency Kyodo.

By the time Amarinder came visiting in 2005, she had donned the role of a peacenik — she has been president of the South Asia Free Media Association (SAFMA) — and would often speak fondly about her visits to India.

Although it was in his ancestral home in Patiala that Amarinder first officially played host to Aroosa, while in India, she spent most of her time in Chandigarh. It was not uncommon to spot her grocery shopping in the city’s Sector 9 market.

Along the way, she became part of a social set that remembers her as a warm host who loved her garden at Amarinder’s farmhouse in Mohinderbagh, spoke fluent Punjabi, and could even sing. “She was a very nice person, never had any airs about her,” says a woman friend, who didn’t want to be named because of the present controversy. Another remembered her as a fitness buff, who never missed her daily yoga. “She called it the secret of her youthful looks.”

Aroosa also spoke fondly about her two sons, the younger one a barrister at Dhaka and Fakhr-e-Alam, who is now a top TV anchor and producer. Back in Pakistan, she is better known as the mother of Fakhr-e-Alam, who recently did a reality show with the Pakistan army, and is now hosting the ICC T20 World Cup at Ten Sports Pakistan and ASports. An aviator, he has circumnavigated the globe solo.

Harkirat Ahluwalia, a hotelier and family friend of Amarinder, recalls how easily Aroosa struck friendships. “All these politicians who are now casting aspersions at her used to hang on to every word of hers,” he says, adding it’s wrong to call her a gold-digger, for she remained with Amarinder for 10 years even when he was not in power.

While in India, her birthday on May 21 was a gala annual event, often celebrated at Mashobra in Himachal Pradesh with the who’s who of Punjab in attendance.

Though Amarinder’s family is said to have objected to their relationship, he remained adamant about her. Aroosa claimed to this paper earlier that she shared a warm relationship with Amarinder’s family. “Whenever I am in India, I do not just meet him (Captain) but also his family... everyone other than madam *maharani sahiba* (Preneet Kaur). In the beginning, my friends and I used to stay at Moti Bagh Palace in Patiala and we used to meet *maharani sahiba*. She was a good host. But later, we did not meet....,” she said.

One of the regulars at Amarinder’s Mohinder Bagh farmhouse says the two were very comfortable with their relationship. “I remember Aroosa telling us how they spend the mornings together. She told us, ‘While Capt *saab* reads the press clippings, I go through the papers. After that, we go our own ways’.”

In an interview with a Canadian radio channel, Aroosa said what she found most endearing about Amarinder was his “*aankh ki sharam* (consideration for others)”. Her friendship with Amarinder, she admitted, was a “sensitive matter” and could land her in trouble with fundamentalists back home. After the recent slugfest in Punjab, the two have been at great pains to clarify the nature of their relationship. In a Facebook post where he posted pictures of Aroosa with various dignitaries, including the late BJP leader Sushma Swaraj, Amarinder wrote, “I am going to be 80 in March and Mrs Alam 69 next year. Narrow-mindedness seems to be the order of the day.”

Aroosa told this paper, “When I met Capt *Saab* (in 2005), I was 50-plus and he was over 60. So if you call it a love affair and try to give it a romantic angle, it is very wrong...It’s a pure, beautiful friendship.”

== TAKE 5 == MATCHBOX, PRICE

V S SETHURATHINAM, 72,
SECY, NATIONAL SMALL MATCHBOX
MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION



5 lakh work in 350 matchbox units in TN, 90% are women

‘14 raw materials in a matchbox, cost of all is up... then the Rs 1.5 cr machine. Covid left huge debts’

From December 1, the price of a matchbox will be Rs 2, from Re 1 — the first time in 14 years that price of the matchbox has been hiked

JANARDHAN Koushik

1 Why were you seeking a hike in prices?

There are about 14 raw materials that are needed to manufacture a matchbox and the prices of all of those have gone up. A kilo of cardboard, which cost Rs 42 earlier, now comes for Rs 56; wax prices are up from Rs 62 to Rs 80; splints from Rs 42 to Rs 48; potassium chlorate from Rs 60 to Rs 85; red phosphorus from Rs 410 to Rs 825. Then, there are electricity charges and wages.

2 Does the government have a say in the price rise?

No, the government does not interfere in this. Five major matchbox manufacturers’ bodies, including ours, decide the price. Earlier we used to have 50 sticks in a box, but that was reduced to 25-30 and we sold it for Re 1. Now, we will once again put 50 sticks in a matchbox and will sell it at Rs 2.

3 How many matchbox manufacturing units operate in Tamil Nadu?

There are about 300 semi-mechanised units and 50 fully mechanised ones that manufacture about 100 crore matchboxes a month. About five lakh labourers are involved, with 90% of them women.

4 How did the industry survive the pandemic?

We had to keep the units running or else the workers would have moved to other companies. Matchbox is an essential commodity — like rice, sugar, etc. We operated even during the pandemic. The machine that is used to manufacture these matches costs around Rs 1.5 crore, we can’t let that stay idle. Due to the Covid curbs, we ran into huge debts.

5 Have lighters impacted the sale of matchboxes?

Lighters are available in large numbers only in metro cities, you don’t find them in rural areas. It does not affect our sales. In villages, people prefer a matchbox to a lighter, any day.

india 75
NUMBER PLATE
₹30

The daily allowance legislators were entitled to at the time of Independence. They were also given a conveyance allowance of Rs 15 per day. In April 1948, both the allowances were merged. In 1949, members took a voluntary cut of Rs 5. This continued until salaries, allowances of MPs were fixed by a law in 1954.

₹400

The monthly salary of MPs fixed by the Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament Act, 1954. In addition to this, the law prescribed an allowance of Rs 21 per day for parliamentarians on duty.

₹1 lakh

The monthly salary of MPs since April 1, 2018. Last year, this was cut by 30% for a period of one year commencing from April 1, 2020, to meet the exigencies arising out of the Covid pandemic.

₹2,000

The daily allowance MPs are entitled to since October 1, 2010. However, they have to sign every day the register maintained at the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha for the session for which the money is claimed.
HARIKISHAN SHARMA

‘We are all together in this’

DEBRAJ DEB

ON FRIDAY, the Jama Masjid at South Ramnagar joined mosques across Tripura in ‘*munajat*’ (a prayer for forgiveness and peace), as the community suspended a protest rally at Sepahijala to avoid any flare-up. Located just 500 metres from the India-Bangladesh border, South Ramnagar, a suburban locality of mixed communities in Agartala, has not known communal tension in nearly 30 years, since the Babri Masjid demolition of 1992. As repercussions of the violence in Bangladesh are felt in Tripura, the communities here are counting on old ties to ensure peace.

A small state 10,500 sq km in area, Tripura was irrevocably changed by the creation of East Pakistan during the Partition, and its transformation to Bangladesh in 1971. During successive waves of migration of Bengali Hindus from across the international border, which lies on three sides of Tripura, the state’s largely tribal population has been reduced to a minority. Of its 36 lakh people as per the 2011 Census, roughly 9% are Muslims. The Hindus carry the memory of persecution at the hands of the Pakistani Army, which caused them to flee.

However, if the Bangladesh violence



touched raw nerves, South Ramnagar is focusing on other memories: of years of living together without discord.

Abdul Rahim Chowdhury, the Imam of the locality’s Jama Masjid, says he won’t trade Tripura for his native place Silchar in Assam, where similar divisions of Partition are play-



At South Ramnagar Jama Masjid near the Indo-Bangla border on Friday, when prayers were held at mosques across the state for peace. Debraj Deb

ing out on the ground.

Chowdhury blames the incidents in Tripura, including attacks on some mosques, on “a few miscreants” and mischievous rumours. Says Chowdhury: “We protested too against the blasphemous incidents in Bangladesh (at Durga Puja pandals). We feel

there was some larger conspiracy at work there. But what happened in a foreign country has no connection with Tripura. We are all Indians here. Over 90% Hindus and Muslims in India are secular. A microscopic minority tried to create disturbance, but we survived it.”

Most of the incidents in Tripura followed

protests by right-wing Hindu outfits such as the VHP and Hindu Jagran Manch. The BJP government has acted swiftly, including stopping these outfits from taking out marches near minority-dominated areas. It has imposed Section 144 restrictions, deployed security in sensitive pockets including outside mosques, organised peace meetings, registered cases against those “spreading rumours”, and made arrests in cases of vandalism. Police say law and order has been restored across the state.

Appreciating the government’s actions, Imam Chowdhury says a lot of potential damage had been averted.

Babul Miah, 42, says the incidents were an aberration. “I have lived here for around 30 years. I have never seen any communal provocation. We join Hindus in their festivals, they join ours.”

Urging cooler heads to prevail on both sides, Babul Miah gives the example of a death in a Hindu family a few weeks ago. “There was no one to take him to the crematorium. We raised funds, carried him, joined the rituals and provided whatever help we could to the family. We are all together in this. I want everyone to realise this simple truth.”

Tinku Miah talks of celebrating Diwali and Kali Puja, which are days away, together

— like every year. A local club that organises Kali Puja with joint participation of both communities is bustling with activity.

Tinku says the tension feels far away. “We are going about our lives normally, working together, hanging out together.”

Members of the Hindu community say that when the Jama Masjid came up a few decades ago, the two sides had come together to build it.

Bishu Das, 42, a daily wage, lives next to the mosque, just a pond separating their walls. He says they came to know of the violence only over the news. “The administration and police have been regularly checking in,” Das says, hoping peace prevails.

A woman belonging to the Hindu community, who is in her 60s and saw the mosque come up, says: “We have lived in peace for so long. Here, we are all good neighbours.” As the CPM blames it for the violence, Tripura VHP secretary Purna Chandra Mandal denies any role, blaming “outsiders”. He also claims provocation from the other side. BJP spokesperson Nabendu Bhattacharya says the party is reaching out to ensure amity.

Kanan Das, 50, nods at the people around him in South Ramnagar. “We are the same, Hindus and Muslims. Can you tell one from the other here unless someone told you?”

16 THE WORLD

TOP OF THE WORLD



Fires burn in the town of Thantlang in Myanmar's Chin state. AP

MYANMAR

Army shelling blamed for setting 160 homes ablaze

MORE THAN 160 buildings in a town in north-western Myanmar, including at least two churches, have been destroyed by fires caused by shelling by government troops, local media and activists reported Saturday. The destruction of parts of the town of Thantlang in Chin state appeared to be the most extensive so far in the ongoing struggle between Myanmar's military-installed government and forces opposed to it. The army seized power in February from the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi, but has failed to quell the widespread resistance. AP

YEMEN

Explosion near Aden airport kills at least six

AN EXPLOSION near the entrance to the international airport of Yemen's southern port city of Aden on Saturday resulted in at least six deaths and around 20 injured, a senior security source and a medical source told Reuters, but it was not clear whether the incident was an attack. An airport official said a small truck blew up at an outer gate to the airport, while a local official and two security sources said the truck was carrying petroleum products. The blast was heard across the city. Nearby houses' windows were smashed. REUTERS

AUSTRALIA

Escapee, 64, sentenced after 29 years on run

A 64-YEAR-OLD fugitive who surrendered to Australian police because a Sydney lockdown left him jobless and homeless was sentenced on Thursday to an additional two months behind bars for escaping from prison almost 30 years ago. Darko Desic has been back in custody since mid-September when he walked into a police station in the beach suburb of Dee Why and confessed to breaking out of Grafton Prison, 620 km to the north, in 1992. He pleaded guilty to escaping from custody and was returned to prison. AP

LEADERS GATHER IN ROME AS WORLD REELS FROM PANDEMIC



World leaders pose with medical personnel for a group photo during the G20 summit in Rome on Saturday. AP

G20 opens with call for more vaccines for poor countries

NICOLE WINFIELD, DAVID MCHUGH & SYLVIE CORBET
ROME, OCTOBER 30

ITALIAN PREMIER Mario Draghi made a sharp call to pick up the pace in getting vaccines to poor countries as he opened a conference of the world's powerhouse economies, calling the gaping global Covid-19 vaccine gap "morally unacceptable".

Draghi, the host of the two-day Group of 20 summit in Rome, said Saturday that only 3 per cent of people in the world's poorest countries are vaccinated, while 70 per cent in rich countries have had at least one shot. "These differences are morally unacceptable and undermine the global recovery," said Draghi, an economist and former chief of the European Central Bank.

French President Emmanuel Macron has pledged to use the summit to press fellow European Union leaders to be more generous in donating vaccines to low-income countries.

But advocates of civil society which have held discussions with G20 officials before the summit were sceptical of the donation approach.

The UN World Health Organisation has backed a goal of



PROTESTS BREAK OUT: Climate activists trying to block traffic on one of the main roads leading to the Rome venue where the G20 summit is taking place, on Saturday. The summit has drawn laid-off factory workers, climate activists, anti-globalisation campaigners, unions, feminist groups and Communists to Rome to stage protests. AP

40 per cent global vaccination this year and 70 per cent in 2022.

"Without suspension of (vaccine manufacturers') patents, how will it be possible to reach" that target, Stefania Burbo, of Civil 20, told reporters as world leaders huddled in a Rome convention center a few blocks away on strategy to emerge from the pandemic.

Italian sources said many leaders in their discussions Saturday stressed the need to boost transfer of technologies in areas like Africa to be ready for

any future health emergencies.

Climate change, the pandemic recovery and international taxation were other issues challenging leaders at their first in-person summit since the pandemic took hold in early 2020.

The summit is confronting what is tantamount to what has been playing out as two-track global recovery in which rich countries are bouncing back faster.

Rich countries have used vaccines and stimulus spending to

EXPLAINED Vaccine goal presents big challenges

THE G20 countries have called for 70 per cent of the world's population to be vaccinated against Covid over the next eight months. This would require a massive increase in the number of vaccine doses made available to poorer countries. Promises made by the US and other major powers on providing doses to the rest of the world have not been enough to prevent stark vaccine inequality between rich and poor countries. According to an analysis reported in *The New York Times*, the G20 nations get 15 times more doses per capita than countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

restart economic activity, leaving the risk that developing countries that account for much of global growth will remain behind due to low vaccinations and financing difficulties.

Macron has told reporters he expects the G20 to confirm an additional \$100 billion to support Africa's economies. AP

USA

SLOW-MOVING STORM BRINGS HEAVY FLOODING

A large storm pushing through the Mid-Atlantic to parts of the US Northeast caused major flooding Friday and was expected to bring more over the weekend, the National Weather Service said. Heavy rain during high tides could lead to "astronomical surges" of ocean water, a forecaster said. Maryland could experience some of the biggest tidal flood events in two decades, the Weather Service said.

Pakistan allows Taliban-appointed envoys to take charge of Afghan missions

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, OCTOBER 30

PAKISTAN HAS quietly allowed the Taliban-appointed "diplomats" to take charge of the Afghan embassy and consulates in the country, a media report said on Saturday.

Although Pakistan does not recognise the Taliban as the legitimate government in Kabul, it still issued visas to the appointed "diplomats".

Sardar Muhammad Shokaib has started working as the first secretary in the Afghan embassy in Islamabad, while Hafiz Mohibullah, Mullah Ghulam Rasool and Mullah Muhammad Abbas have been assigned to the Peshawar, Quetta and Karachi consulates of Afghanistan, the *Dawn* newspaper reported.

Shokaib would effectively be the Afghan charge d'affaires in Islamabad.

The Afghan embassy here has been without an ambassador since July when the last envoy under the previous regime, Najibullah Alikhil, left because of controversy due to alleged abduction of his daughter Silsila Alikhil.



People arrive in Pakistan from Afghanistan at the Friendship Gate crossing point on the border after the Taliban seized power in Kabul. Reuters

No details about Shokaib were shared but according to a report by Voice of America, he is an ethnic Pashtun from Zabul province who served in the Information and Cultural Department in southern Kandahar and was associated with a Taliban magazine.

He reportedly once worked as the Taliban spokesman under the name of Qari Yousaf Ahmadi and was arrested in Pakistan and later lived in Peshawar for several years. Pakistan's Foreign Office spokesman Asim Iftikhar tried to play down the new appointments by saying that it was an "administrative matter". PTI

Pak cops shocked after TLP workers used sub-machine guns during protest: report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LAHORE, OCTOBER 30

SECURITY OFFICIALS in Pakistan are shocked after it emerged that members of the banned Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) party reportedly used sub-machine guns (SMGs) against policemen during anti-government protests, prompting the authorities to conclude that the hardline Islamists had been turned into a "militant group", a media report said on Saturday.

Mobile phone footage, which showed members of the party firing 80 rounds using SMGs at policemen in Kamoke, in Pakistan's Punjab province, on Thursday, was presented during a high-level security meeting, *Dawn* newspaper reported.

Other incidents of attacks were also recorded, which showed two policemen succumbing to bullet wounds, and 16 others sustaining injuries from the shots fired by TLP members, the report said.

"It has shocked police high-ups from where the TLP was getting weapons and training to use them," a police official was quoted as saying by the newspaper.

He added that all participants of the high-level security meeting had reached the conclusion that the TLP had been turned into a "militant group".

On Saturday, thousands of TLP workers were camped in Wazirabad, after talks between the government and the party leadership remained inconclusive, the *Express Tribune* reported.

Indian-origin CEO shot dead in US robbery bid

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW YORK, OCTOBER 30

AN INDIAN-ORIGIN top executive of a pharmaceutical company in the US state of New Jersey was shot dead by a gunman who followed him home from a casino, media reports said on Saturday.

Sree Ranga Aravapalli, 54, a resident of New Jersey's Plainsboro, was killed shortly after arriving home by a gunman who, according to authorities, followed him from a casino outside Philadelphia at around 3.30 am (local time) on Tuesday, the *CBC New York* newspaper reported.

The "wealthy pharmaceutical executive" was followed for 80 km from a Pennsylvania casino to his New Jersey home where he was murdered in an attempted robbery while his wife and daughter were sleeping, the *New York Post* newspaper quoted the police as saying.

Aravapalli cashed out his night's big winnings, about \$10,000, in the early morning hours of Tuesday at the Parx Casino in Bensalem when he was spotted with the loot by 27-year-old Jekai Reid-John, of Pennsylvania's Norristown, the *Post* reported.

The police have arrested Jekai Reid-John and charged him with first-degree murder.

Since 2014, Aravapalli was the CEO of Aurex Laboratories, which is described as a pharmaceutical company that develops clinical supplies, tablets and soft gelatin capsules.

German buddy act: Merkel invites likely successor to tag along

KATRIN BENNHOLD
BERLIN, OCTOBER 30

WHEN CHANCELLOR Angela Merkel of Germany meets US President Joe Biden at the Group of 20 summit in Rome this weekend, she won't come alone: Tagging along will be her likely successor, Olaf Scholz.

The buddy act between an outgoing centre-right chancellor and an incoming centre-left one

is striking even by Germany's hyper-bipartisan standards: After 16 years of representing Europe's biggest economy on the international stage and becoming an indispensable figure in global diplomacy, Merkel is not just introducing Scholz to the world, but also trying to reassure the world that Germany will remain in safe hands.

The aim, officials in Berlin said, is to signal "continuity" and a "smooth transition of power."



Olaf Scholz in Rome Friday. AP

"The German chancellor is changing, the main governing party is changing, but Germany's

commitment to the G20 is not," said a senior official.

Scholz, a Social Democrat who beat the candidate from Merkel's Christian Democrats in Germany's elections in Sept, is expected to be sworn in as chancellor in early Dec. This weekend, he will also join Merkel in talks with leaders like President Emmanuel Macron of France, Prime Minister Boris Johnson of Britain and President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey.

As finance minister, Scholz would have accompanied Merkel to the summit anyway. But inviting him along to private meetings with other leaders constitutes "a historic gesture," officials said. No departing German chancellor has taken a successor to a summit before, let alone one from a rival party.

Merkel's and Scholz's double act reflects Germany's ever more fluid political centre, where change and continuity now seem to go hand in hand. NYT

Trump wants call logs, aide's notes hidden from Jan 6 panel

ZEKE MILLER
OCTOBER 30

FORMER US President Donald Trump is trying to block documents including call logs, drafts of remarks and speeches and handwritten notes from his chief of staff relating to the Jan 6 Capitol insurrection from being released to the committee investigating the riot, the National Archives revealed in



Trump at a rally in Washington on Jan 6. AP file

a court filing early Saturday. Trump has sued to prevent the National Archives from transmit-

ting those documents, and thousands more, to the House committee investigating the attack. President Joe Biden declined to assert executive privilege on most of Trump's records after determining that doing so is "not in the best interests of the United States".

The Saturday filing, which was part of the National Archives and Record Administration's opposition to Trump's lawsuit, details the effort the agency has undertaken

to identify records from the Trump White House in response to a request from the House panel for documents pertaining to the insurrection.

Billy Laster, the director of the National Archives' White House Liaison Division, wrote that among the particular documents Trump has sought to block are 30 pages of "daily presidential diaries, schedules, appointment information showing visitors to the White

House, activity logs, call logs, and switchboard shift-change checklists showing calls to the President and Vice President, all specifically for or encompassing January 6, 2021"; 13 pages of drafts of speeches, remarks, and correspondence concerning the events of January 6, 2021; and "three handwritten notes concerning the events of January 6 from (former White House chief of staff Mark) Meadows' files." AP

As vaccination mandate looms, New York prepares for shortage of firefighters, police

PETERSZEKELY
NEW YORK, OCTOBER 30

NEW YORK City officials on Friday were preparing for shortages of firefighters, police officers and other first responders as a showdown looms between the city and its unvaccinated uniformed workforce, who face a deadline to be immunised.

Mayor of New York City, Bill de Blasio, who announced the mandate nine days ago, said officials would manage any staffing gaps with overtime and schedule changes and by enlisting private ambulance companies to cover

for the city's paramedics.

"We have all of the typical tools of how you use staff, move them around, how you use overtime," de Blasio told reporters on Thursday, adding that the city also faced staffing shortages last year when many first responders were infected with Covid.

Leaders of unions representing firefighters and police officers have said the city could put more than one-third of their members on unpaid leave when enforcement of the vaccine mandate takes effect on Monday.

Given the ongoing staffing shortages the department has been facing in a tight labour mar-



New York City Fire Dept union members and others protest last week. Reuters

ket, New York City should prepare to witness an "inevitable disaster by design" on Monday, Andrew Ansbrosio, president of Uniformed Firefighters Association, said at a

briefing on Friday.

Union leaders said members were not given adequate time to comply with the mayor's vaccination deadline.

Ansbrosio said his organisation wanted to negotiate with the city to allow members to seek an exemption from the order for those who have recovered from the disease, religious or medical reasons. De Blasio has repeatedly refused to negotiate, he said.

"Right now their livelihood is on the line and their paycheck is on the line," Ansbrosio said of his members.

The dispute in the United States' most populous city was the

latest in a series of clashes across the country over public and private vaccination mandates.

New York City's uniformed workers, including sanitation workers, have staged several protests this week, including one on Thursday. Many have said consideration should be given for the so-called natural immunity of those who have had Covid, which the firefighters' union says includes 70% of its members.

City health officials have said while research has yet to determine the degree of immunity that previous Covid infections yield, it is widely agreed that vaccines increase protection. REUTERS

Three people shot dead during huge protests against Sudan coup

KHALID ABDELAZIZ
KHARTOUM, OCTOBER 30

SECURITY FORCES shot dead three people during nationwide protests in Sudan on Saturday, a doctors committee said, as hundreds of thousands of people demanded the restoration of a civilian-led government after a military coup.

In Khartoum, security forces used teargas and gunfire to try to disperse a huge crowd after protesters had been setting up a stage and discussing the possibility of a sit-in, said a Reuters witness.

The Central Committee of Sudanese Doctors said three protesters were shot dead by security forces in the capital Khartoum's twin city of Omdurman. It said 38 people were injured, including



Protesters in Khartoum, Sudan, on Saturday. Reuters


some by gunfire.

Sudanese police denied shooting protesters during the demonstrations.

The demonstrations marked the biggest challenge to General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan since he ousted Prime Minister Abdalla

Hamdok's Cabinet on Monday.

"This has been a miscalculation from the start and misunderstanding of the level of commitment, bravery, and concern the street has about the future of Sudan," said Jonas Horner of the International Crisis Group. REUTERS



A-558


OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
RENGALI RIGHT IRRIGATION PROJECT,
DIST- DHENKANAL, ODISHA,
PIN: 759001
email: cerripdki@gmail.com
e Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No. CERRIP-EPC-03/2021-22

The Chief Engineer, Rengali Right Irrigation Project, Mahisapat, Dhenkanal on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites on line tenders on **EPC (Turn-key basis)** for the following works:-

- Name of Work:** 1) Appointment of Proof Engineering Consultant (PEC) for Implementation of UGPL system to the command area of RRIP (Phase-I), Dhenkanal, Odisha on EPC-Turn Key basis.
- 2) Appointment of Third Party Inspection Agency (TPIA) for Implementation of UGPL system to the command area of RRIP (Phase-I), Dhenkanal, Odisha on EPC-Turn Key basis
- Period of completion:** 24 (Twenty four) calendar months including rainy seasons.
- Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal:** From 02.11.2021, 10.00 AM. to 17.11.2021 up to 5.30 P.M.
- Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal:** 17.11.2021 up to 05.30 PM.
- Date & time of opening of tender:** 18.11.2021 at 11.00 AM
6. Name & address of the officer inviting Bid: Chief Engineer, Rengali Right Irrigation Project Mahisapat, Dhenkanal-759001

Further details can be seen from e-Procurement portal www.tendersodisha.gov.in
Any addendum/Corrigendum / Cancellation to the above notice will be published in the Govt. website www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Sd/- (Er. B.K. Samal)
Chief Engineer
Rengali Right Irrigation Project
OIPR-32351/11/0003/2122



NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice


Sr.DEN-1/IFZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.irps.gov.in with closing date **29.11.2021 up to 15.00 Hrs.** Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. In place of Earnest money deposit, "Bid Security Declaration" is to be submitted or prescribed format as available in document section on the portal.

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
Open	Works	Single Bid System	28.10.2021	15.11.2021	29.11.2021 15:00 Hrs.

S.N.	Tender No.	Details of Tender						
1	79-2021-22-ADEN-LDH	Repair and Maintenance of pipers & abutments and strengthening of Bridge no 5A(Important Bridge) Sutlej River Km 386/5-27 on SNL-JUC section, Improvement to existing bridging by mean raising of parapet walls Jacketing, strengthening of bridge etc in the section of SSEW/IFGW.						
		<table><thead><tr><th>Advertised Value (Rs.)</th><th>Validity of Offer</th><th>Period of Completion</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>3455578.92</td><td>45</td><td>12 Months</td></tr></tbody></table>	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion	3455578.92	45	12 Months
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion						
3455578.92	45	12 Months						
2	80-2021-22-ADEN-LDH	Raising of rail level/Low level passenger platform to high level and provision of 3.00 M wide FOB at Bahram, Banga & Nawansahr Stations on PGW-NSS-JJJ section under ADEN-LDH.						
		<table><thead><tr><th>Advertised Value (Rs.)</th><th>Validity of Offer</th><th>Period of Completion</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>37211503.06</td><td>45</td><td>8 Months</td></tr></tbody></table>	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion	37211503.06	45	8 Months
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion						
37211503.06	45	8 Months						
3	81-2021-22-ADEN-LDH	Replacement of 68 nos. SEJ & 275 No.s Glued Joints between km. 359.00 to 413.00 on SNL-JUC section, KM 367.00 to 384.00 on BTH-FZR section, KM 89.00 to 123.00 on LDHFZ section & Km 90.00 to 117.00 on JMC-FZR section under ADEN/LDH & ADEN-1/IFZR						
		<table><thead><tr><th>Advertised Value (Rs.)</th><th>Validity of Offer</th><th>Period of Completion</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>11438446.03</td><td>45</td><td>6 Months</td></tr></tbody></table>	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion	11438446.03	45	6 Months
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion						
11438446.03	45	6 Months						
4	82-2021-22-ADEN-LDH	Re-Development of old Bores and provision of new Tube Wells and replacement of MS Overhead Tank with SMC Tank at Ludhiana station and colony area under ADEN-LDH.						
		<table><thead><tr><th>Advertised Value (Rs.)</th><th>Validity of Offer</th><th>Period of Completion</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>23230124.73</td><td>45</td><td>6 Months</td></tr></tbody></table>	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion	23230124.73	45	6 Months
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion						
23230124.73	45	6 Months						

Note1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.
Tender Notice No:- 770-W/169/WA-1/IFZR/79.80.81&82-2021-22-ADEN-LDH 2484/2021

Serving Customers With A Smile



Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Directorate of Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir
Lal-Mandi, Srinagar 190008
Tel. No: 09194-2310604, Fax No: 0194-2311063 Email id: kashmirmerino.sheep@gmail.com

e-Nit No:-DSHK/ACCTTS/21-22/ 11008-11020 Dated:- 27 - 10 -2021

Subject: E-Procurement Notice for the supply of Drugs/Medicine.

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Union Territory of India, e-Tenders in two bid system (Technical-1 and Financial bid-2) through Chairman State Level Purchase committee, Sheep Husbandry Department, J&K, Kashmir (Directorate of Sheep Husbandry Department, Kashmir) are invited from manufacturers/ companies of national reputed of Drugs and Medicines for fixing the rate contract for supply of various Drugs/Medicines.

1. The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility, criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of supply/contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the e-procurement website www.iktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below.

Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28-10-2021
1. Period of downloading of bidding documents	28-10-2021 to 11-11-2021 (4:00 P.M)
2. Bid submission start date	28-10-2021
3. Bid submission end date	11-11-2021 (4:00 P.M)
4. Date and time of opening of technical bids (online)	12-11-2021 (2:00 P.M)


2. Instructions for bidders regarding e-tendering process:-

- Bidders are advised to download bids submission manual from the "Downloads option as well as from Bidders Manual kit" on the website www.iktenders.gov.in to acquaint themselves with bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process bidder has to get a Digital Signature Certificate (DSC), as per Information Technology ACT-2000. Bidders can get Digital Certificate from an approved vendor.
- The bidder has to submit their bids online in electronic format with the Digital Signature. No bidding will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per the schedule mentioned at Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason.

(Note: Scan all the documents on 100dpi with Black and White option.)

Sd/
Chairman
State Level Purchase Committee
Sheep Husbandry Department
Jammu & Kashmir

No: DSHK/ACCTTS/21-22/ 11008-11020 Date: 27 -10 -2021
DIPK-11575/21



Office Of The Superintending Engineer
9th Circle Public Work Department Dehradun
Office of the Superintending Engineer, 9th Circle PWD, Dehradun Uttarakhand
Website- <http://pwd.uk.gov.in> Email: sepdwddun@rediffmail.com


Letter No.8607/1C-9/21 Dated : 29.10.2021

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
e-tender Notice

The Superintending Engineer, 9th Circle, Public Works Department, Dehradun on behalf of "Governor of Uttarakhand" invites tender in two bid system for the following work. Information regarding tender shall be available on <https://www.uktenders.gov.in> from date 09.11.2021.

S. No.	Name of work	Earnest Money (Rs. in Lacs)	Validity of Tender (In days)	Cost of Tender Document (In Rs.)	Period of Completion (In Month)	Contractor Category of Registration
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Improvement and Bituminous work of Hayia - Alsi motor road from Km 1 to 5 in Chakrata Constituency Kalsi Block of district Dehradun under C.M. Ghoshna No.- 642/2021.	8.62	120	5000.00 + 18% G.S.T	18	Registered in 'A' & above category in Road works in Central Govt. State Govt/any Govt. Undertaking

Note:- The Tender Notice is being invited in anticipation of the administrative approval and financial sanction of the work.



E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, CD-I, Irrigation & Flood Control Department, GNCTD Opp. ESI Hospital, Basai Darapur Office Complex New Delhi-110027 invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate tender from approved and eligible contractors for the following works:-

1 **NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/63** (ID No. 2021_IFC_210206_1) H.O.A:- 4217-Plan (MLALAD), **Name of Work:-** Construction of 5 Nos Multi court in various societies/locations in Hari Nagar Assembly Constituency AC-28. **E.C. Rs. 65,74,755/- period of Completion** 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 05.11.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)

2. **NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/64** (ID No. 2021_IFC_210208_1) H.O.A:- 4217-Plan (MLALAD), **Name of Work:-** Providing and fixing Security gates (50 Nos), in Tilak Nagar Assembly Constituency. **E.C. Rs. 41,82,802/- period of Completion** 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 05.11.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)

3. **NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/65** (ID No. 2021_IFC_210210_1) H.O.A:- 4217-Plan (MLALAD), **Name of Work:-** Providing and fixing of outdoor fitness equipment (Open Gym) in park in Shankar camp in Bijwasan Constituency. Sub. Work:Improvement of Street Gali and drains in Gali No. 1 to 6 in Bijwasan, in Bijwasan Constituency AC-36). **E.C. Rs. 20,52,412/- period of Completion** 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 05.11.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)


4. **NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/66** (ID No. 2021_IFC_210211_1) H.O.A:- 2711-Non Plan, **Name of Work:-** Maintenance of N.G. drain free from hyacinth-patera, elephant grass, floating grass and floating material from RD. 20180 m to RD. 30180 m (i.e. from Dhoolsiras Bridge to Kakraula Regulator) for a period of 365 days. (During the year 2021-22). **E.C. Rs. 11,20,238/- period of Completion** 365 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 05.11.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)

5. **NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/67** (ID No. 2021_IFC_210213_1) H.O.A:- 2711-Non Plan, **Name of Work:-** Removal of existing standing hyacinth and maintenance of N.G. drain free from hyacinth, patera, elephant grass, floating material grass or any other water plant and keep the surface of water in the drain clean from one end to other end to entire satisfaction of Engineer-in Charge from RD. 0 m to RD. 11960 m (i.e. from Dhansa regulator to Jhatikra Bridge and parallel channel from RD 0m to RD 6000m) for a period of 365 days. **E.C. Rs. 29,08,631/- period of Completion** 365 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 05.11.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)

6. **NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/67** (ID No. 2021_IFC_210214_1) H.O.A:- 2711-Non Plan, **Name of Work:-** Repairing and Renovation of Khyala Bridge at RD 41490 and Raghubir Nagar Bridge at RD 42930 on Najafgarh Drain. **E.C. Rs. 36,70,076/- period of Completion** 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 05.11.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)

Notes:- 1) Details of above mentioned works & eligibility criteria can be seen and downloaded from the web site <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in> 2. Amendment(s)/ alteration(s) / corrigendum if any, will be available at website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer / CD-I
DIP/Shabdarth/0384/21-22



Paschimanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd.
Victoria Park Meerut

E-TENDER INVITING NOTICE 1. Short term tender is invited through e-tendering for supply of LT AB cable size 3x95+1x70+1x16 sq. mm 70 km against tender specification no. PVVNL-MT/MM/78(s)/21-22. **Earnest Money Deposit (EMD):- Rs. 1,59,000.00 Last Date of tender submission & Time: 15.11.2021 at 2:00 PM Date of tender opening (Part-Ist & IInd) & Time:- 15.11.2021 at 5:00 PM.** 2. Open tender is invited through e-tendering for supply of 33/11 KV 10 MVA Power transformer 8 Nos. against tender specification no. PVVNL-MT/MM/79/21-22. **Earnest Money Deposit (EMD):- Rs. 4,56,000.00 Last Date of tender submission & Time:- 30.11.2021 at 2:00 PM. Date of tender opening (Part-Ist & IInd) & Time:- 30.11.201 at 5:00 PM** Note:- In case of any amendment & detailed information in tender specification or date of extension, the same shall be uploaded on e-tender website www.etender.up.nic.in and www.pvvnl.org Superintending Engineer (MM-I) "Help line Number For Information of Theft of Electricity: "1800-180-3002 (Meerut), & 9412207451" Sd/- Superintending Engineer (MM-I) For Managing Director पत्रांक - 10002 दिनांक 30.10.2021



INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF 139 AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES (ATM) AT KATIHAR DIVISION

Tender Notice No. CMU/PW/ATM/Tender/21-02, Date: 25-10-2021. Open tender in sealed cover are invited for awarding contract for commissioning (operation and maintenance) of Automated Teller Machine (ATM) at the following stations/locations over Katihar Division for a period of five (05) years by the Public Sector Banks/Scheduled Commercial Indian Banks. **SL No: 1.** Location: Katihar Railway Station; No. of ATM : 04. **SL No: 2.** Location: Katihar DRM Building; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 3.** Location: Katihar Railway Colony; No. of ATM : 05. **SL No: 4.** Location: Katihar Railway Hospital; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 5.** Location: New Jaipatn Railway Station; No. of ATM : 04. **SL No: 6.** Location: New Jaipatn Railway Colony; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 7.** Location: ADMR/New Jaipatn Office; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 8.** Location: New Jaipatn Railway Hospital; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 9.** Location: Kishanganj Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 10.** Location: Kishanganj Railway Colony; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 11.** Location: Jogbani Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 12.** Location: Jogbani Railway Colony; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 13.** Location: Purnea Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 14.** Location: Purnea Railway Colony; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 15.** Location: Raiganj Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 16.** Location: Sitgunj Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 17.** Location: Sitgunj Railway Colony; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 18.** Location: Alubari Road Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 19.** Location: Araria Court Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 20.** Location: Barsoi Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 21.** Location: Dalkhola Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 22.** Location: Forbesganj Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 23.** Location: Forbesganj Railway Colony; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 24.** Location: Jaipatn Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 25.** Location: Samal Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 26.** Location: Araria Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 27.** Location: Azamgarh Road Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 28.** Location: Darjeeling Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 29.** Location: Haldibari Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 30.** Location: Harichandrapur Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 31.** Location: Kalyaganj Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 32.** Location: Kamespur Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 33.** Location: Kurseong Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 34.** Location: Lava Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 35.** Location: Salma Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 36.** Location: Sitgunj Town Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 37.** Location: Sonoli Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 38.** Location: Teta Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 39.** Location: Thakurganj Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 40.** Location: Bahugra Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 41.** Location: Ashkuni Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 42.** Location: Adina Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 43.** Location: Ambai Falakata Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 44.** Location: Bagdogra Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 45.** Location: Bangabandhu Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 46.** Location: Barhaha Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 47.** Location: Belakata Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 48.** Location: Bhalka Road Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 49.** Location: Buraipukur Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 50.** Location: Chhatnati Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 51.** Location: Dahan Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 52.** Location: Dandkhora Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 53.** Location: Dumdangi Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 54.** Location: Elahli Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 55.** Location: Gausal Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 56.** Location: Galsaria Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 57.** Location: Garhbanhi Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 58.** Location: Gayabari Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 59.** Location: Gazole Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 60.** Location: Ghum Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 61.** Location: Gursara Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 62.** Location: Gursara Railway Station; No. of ATM : 02. **SL No: 63.** Location: Hahar Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 64.** Location: Jalarganj Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 65.** Location: Jhausa Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 66.** Location: Kachna Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 67.** Location: Kanki Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 68.** Location: Kasia Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 69.** Location: Khural Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 70.** Location: Kumarganj Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 71.** Location: Kurtha Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 72.** Location: Kusarganj Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 73.** Location: Mangurjan Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 74.** Location: Mahanadi Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 75.** Location: Mahiyapur Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 76.** Location: Malhar Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 77.** Location: Malda Court Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 78.** Location: Mangang Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 79.** Location: Mukuria Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 80.** Location: Manyan Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 81.** Location: Manihari Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 82.** Location: Naksabari Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 83.** Location: Nijhari Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 84.** Location: Old Malda Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 85.** Location: Panipat Road Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 86.** Location: Rangapuri Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 87.** Location: Rangpur Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 88.** Location: Rani Nagar Jaipatn Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 89.** Location: Ranipatra Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 90.** Location: Sakna Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 91.** Location: Sakinagar Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 92.** Location: Radhikapur Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 93.** Location: Simraha Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 94.** Location: Singhabad Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 95.** Location: Sonada Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 96.** Location: Sukna Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 97.** Location: Sujakamal Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 98.** Location: Sudhani Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 99.** Location: Tindaria Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 100.** Location: Tirmila Hat Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 101.** Location: Tung Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 102.** Location: Udaipuri Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 103.** Location: Rampur Baran Railway Station; No. of ATM : 01. **SL No: 104.** Location: Sitgunj City Booking Office (SCRB); No. of ATM : 02. **Reserve Price for 1st year license fee for each Tender: ₹ 10. Earnest Money deposit (in ₹) for each Tender: 2% of the 05 years contract value for each ATM (As per offered license fee by Bank). Cost of Tender form (in ₹) for each Tender: ₹ 10000. (Date of Dropping/Submission is 15:00 hrs. on 29-10-2021 up to 13:00 hrs. on 29-11-2021. The Tender box will be opened at 11:00 hrs. on 30-11-2021 in the office of the undersigned. For details please visit website <http://www.nctr.indianrailways.gov.in>.**

Sd/- Railway Manager (Comm.), Katihar

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile



NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ
E-Tender Notice

Tender Notice No: T-21-22 SlidingDoor NOTICE Date: 29.10.2021
Chief Workshop Manager, Coach MLR Workshop, Jhansi for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender from reputed contractors for following work:-

Tender No.	Description of work	Qty.	Tender Cost	Completion Period
T-21-22 Sliding Door	Overhauling of doors of LHB coaches and their mounting mechanism at CMLR workshop, Jhansi	One Work	₹35,36,532.56 (Rs. Thirty Six Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Two & Paise Ninety Six only)	24 Months

Earnest Money: ₹0/-, Tender doc. cost: ₹0/-, 1. Tender will be closed at 15:00 Hrs. on 30.11.2021 and is available on Indian Railway E-Tendering website www.irps.gov.in. 2. For detailed information please visit Indian Railway E-Tendering website www.irps.gov.in. 1160/21 FA

North central railways www.norcentralrailways.gov.in North Central Railway/CFR/ACR



GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION, NASHIK
E-Tender Notice No. 45 for 2021-22 (Online)

ONLINE E-Tenders in "B-1" Form for the following works invited by Executive Engineer, P. W. Division, Nashik; Phone No. : (0253/2583761-64, 2575324) for and on behalf of Governor of Maharashtra State from Capable of P.W. Deptt. Registered/ Unregistered Contractor or International Contractor whose Sub company/ branch in India and also complete terms and conditions mentioned in tender document.

Tender document download on our web site <https://mahatenders.gov.in>. Right of rejection of E-tender/ cancellation of E-tender reserved by The Executive Engineer, P. W. Division, Nashik. *Conditional Tender will not be accepted.

Note : Above mentioned E-Tender Notice including Total 6 (Six) (Costing upto Rs. 500.00 Lakhs) Works and details of mentioned E-Tender Notice available on below web site.

1. www.mahapwd.com
2. <https://mahatenders.gov.in>

Tender Document Sale Start and End Date Time	01.11.2021	to	15.11.2021	
	From	11.05	Upto	17.00

* Blank E-Tender form Fees (Non-refundable) and EMD amount will be accepted Online only.


* Post Qualification criteria condition included in tender document.

* All eligible/ interested Contractors are required to be enrolled on portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in> before downloading tender documents and participate in e-tendering.

* The information of E-Payment Gateway available on E-Tendering web site <https://mahatenders.gov.in>

Please Note this to all Registered/ Unregistered Contractors.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Public Works Division, Nashik



कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, 8वां वृत्त लो. नि. ति. नई दिल्ली
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, 8th CIRCLE, P.W.D. NEW DELHI
Phone & Fax : 01376-232073, E-Mail- sepwdtdelhi@rediffmail.com


पत्रांक 6502/08 ईश-टेन्डरिंग-8/2021 दिनांक : 29/10/2021

अल्पकालीन राष्ट्रीय प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक ई-निविदा सूचना

महामहिम राज्यपाल महोदय उत्तराखण्ड की ओर से अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, 8वां वृत्त, लो.नि. ति. नई दिल्ली द्वारा केन्द्रीय सड़क अवरसंरचना निधि (CIRF) के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु ई-टेंडरिंग से टू-बिड सिस्टम से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा सम्बन्धी सभी सूचना <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> पर क्रमांक-01 दिनांक 10.11.2021 एवं क्रमांक-02 व 03 दिनांक 02.11.2021 से उपलब्ध होगी।

क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	घरहर घनराशि (रु लाख में)	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य रु में	निविदा की वैधता (दिवस)	कार्य पूर्ण करने का समय (माह में)	ठेकेदार की श्रेणी
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	माननीय मुख्यमंत्री जी की घोषणा संख्या-49/2021 से सम्बन्धित केन्द्रीय सड़क अवरसंरचना निधि के अन्तर्गत "जगन्नाथ दिहरी गढवाल के विधान सभा क्षेत्र नरेंद्रनगर में वर्ष 1929 में निर्मित लक्खन शूला सेतु के समीप 132.30मी. लम्बा के वैकल्पिक सेतु (बजरंग सेतु) का निर्माण कार्य।	82.00	5000.00 +GST	120 दिन	18 माह	किसी भी राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार अथवा उन्नत के उपक्रम में सेतु कार्यों हेतु श्रेणी-ए एवं उच्चतर में पंजीकृत।
2.	केन्द्रीय सड़क अवरसंरचना निधि के अन्तर्गत जगन्नाथ दिहरी गढवाल में विधानसभा क्षेत्र दिहरी के अन्तर्गत चम्पा कोटी कालोनी भागीरथीपुरम मोटर मार्ग के किमी. 0.00 से किमी. 21.00 तक मार्ग का सुदृढीकरण का कार्य।	43.00	5000.00 +GST	120 दिन	18 माह	किसी भी राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार में मार्ग कार्यों हेतु श्रेणी-ए एवं उच्चतर में पंजीकृत।
3.	केन्द्रीय सड़क अवरसंरचना निधि के अन्तर्गत "सुवाखली-कलसन्त-नवान-नगुण मोटर मार्ग का डी.बी.एम./बी.सी. द्वारा पक्कीकरण एवं सड़क सुवर्णा के अन्तर्गत केश बेरियर, डेलीनेटर, रेगुलेटरी, इन्फोमेटरी बोर्ड तथा 12 मोटर आर.सी. से. पुल का निर्माण (किमी. 01 से 61.500)।	73.00	5000.00 +GST	120 दिन	18 माह	किसी भी राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार में मार्ग कार्यों हेतु श्रेणी-ए एवं उच्चतर में पंजीकृत।

हस्ता.
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता



GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT
Government of hereby invites application/nomination for the post of Chairperson in Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (GERC)

The Hon. Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (GERC) has been Constituted under the provision of Section 5 of the Gujarat Electricity Industry (Reorganisation and Regulation) Act, 2003 with a Chairperson and two Members.

On expiry of term of appointment as Chairperson, GERC, in respects of Shri Anand Kumar, the post of a Chairperson of the Hon. Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (GERC) fell vacant w.e.f. 05.04.2021 (A.N.). For filling up of this post, a selection committee for obtaining the suitable names for the appointment, has been formed by the State Government. The Selection Committee will select and recommend the panel of suitable names. The State Government has, therefore, decided to prepare a list of persons who are interested to have their names for consideration of the selection Committee.

Desired Qualifications

In terms of Section 5 of the Gujarat Electricity Industry (Reorganization and Regulation) Act, 2003, Chairperson of the GERC shall be a person who has special knowledge and professional experience in the field of Finance, Commerce, Economics, and regulation of Industry, Law or Management.

Further, a person should be excellent ability, honesty, integrity, sincerity, dedication, commitment and standing with the adequate knowledge and experience and should have shown capacity in dealing with the problems relation to Engineering, Finance, Commerce, Economics, Law or Management.

Term of office and Conditions of service for the post:

The term of Office and Conditions of service for the person finally selected for appointment on the post of Chairperson, Hon. GERC, shall be as per the provisions of the Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conditions of Services of member) Rules, 2003, as amended from time to time (available at Department's website [www.gujepd.guj](http://www.gujepd.gujarat.gov.in)

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA
LOCAL HEAD OFFICE, PATNA-800001

TENDER NOTICE

STATE BANK OF INDIA, LHO, PATNA, Seeks Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputed Private Security Agencies for providing security guards for its Offices and firms for providing caretakers for its ATMs. For details, please visit Bank's Website <https://bank.sbi> under "Procurement News". Last date for submission is 19.11.2021

Circle Security Officer Phone No. 0612-2209040

Jammu & Kashmir Water Resources Regulatory Authority

Head Office: Ashok Nagar, Srinagar, Jammu - 180004
Toll No.: 0191-2458845 Fax No.: 2458933

Camp Office: Syed Chowk, Baramulla, Srinagar 190121
Toll No.: 0194-2421829, Fax No.: 2481867

Website: www.jkwrra.nic.in, E-mail: jkwrra@gmail.com

Abbreviated Notice Inviting Tender
NIT No. 01-JKWRRRA of October, 2021 dated 29-10-2021.

The J&K Water Resources Regulatory Authority invites offers from registered consultants/consulting firms for consultancy services for determining the water usage charges for different kinds of usages of water in the U.T of Jammu & Kashmir in accordance with the provisions of and parameters laid down under Jammu and Kashmir Water Resources (Regulation and Management) Act, 2010. The bidders can file the bid only through e-tendering at jktenders.gov.in. The tender details are also available on the official website of the Authority www.jkwrra.nic.in.

Important Timelines

a	Bid Document download start date	1400 Hrs. on 05-11-2021
b	Online Bid submission start date	1030 Hrs. on 16-11-2021
c	Online Bid submission end date	1600 Hrs. on 17-12-2021
d	Date and time for opening of bids (Techno-Commercial Bids)	1500 Hrs. on 20-12-2021

No: JKWRRRA/2021/ T-75/1330
Dated: 29/10/2021

Secretary
J&K Water Resources
Regulatory Authority

MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, KHUNTI

e-Procurement Notice

Tender Reference No. WRD/MID/KHUNTI/F2-3/2021-22
Date :-30/10/2021

1.	Name of the work	Renovation of Sosokuti Medium Irrigation Scheme in Block -Arki,Dist.-Khunti.
2.	Estimated Cost (Rs. In Lakh)	Rs. 248.22943 Lakh
3.	Time of Completion	335 days
4.	Date of Publication of Tender on website	16.11.2021 at 2 PM
5.	Last Date/Time for submission of Bids	23.11.2021 at 5 PM
6.	Date of opening of e-tender	25.11.2021 at 1 PM
7.	Name & address of office Inviting Tender	Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Khunti
8(a)	Contact no. of Procurement officer	06528-2221194/9162471448
(b)	E-mail of e-procurement Officer	ceemidkhun-cemr-jhr@nic.in
9.	Last date for receipt of bids fee, security and other documents.	24.11.2021 at up to 3 PM

Note :- Only e-Tenders will be accepted.

Further details can be seen on website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

Executive Engineer,
Minor Irrigation Division,
Khunti.

PR 256020 Minor Irrigation(21-22).D

Public Auction Notice

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL

A, B & F Wings, Karpuri Thakur Sadan, Ashiana Digha Road, Patna-800 025

State Bank of India, SARB, 2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna - 800001

Vs

M/s Jagdamba Rice Mills through Sri Deepak Kumar Singh & Others
(In R.P. Case No. 342/2018 arising out of Certificate No. O.A. Case No. 60/2018)

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

As per order dated 30.09.2021, under mentioned property will be sold by **public online e-Auction** on the date and time mentioned herein for recovery of **Rs. 59,98,352/- + interest/cost and other expenses from M/s Jagdamba Rice Mills through Sri Deepak Kumar Singh & Others**, the sum is recoverable together with interest, cost, charges, as per the certificate. The auction sale will be by way of **online e-Auction**.

Description of Property:

Description of Property	Reserve Price	EMD	Date and Time of Auction
Property standing in the name of Sri Deepak Kumar, Proprietor of Certificate Debtor Number one which has been mortgaged in favor of the certificate holder bank vide Sale Deed No. 1190 Dated 14.02.2012 situated at Mauza - Dumri, P.S. - Chariya, Bariyarpur, District - Begusarai under Khata No. 113, Khesra No. 101, Thana No. 410, Tauzi No. 9958, Area - 6.83 Decimals, Boundary:- North: Passage 6' wide; South: Chandrachud Choudhary; East: Satyabhama Devi and West: Niz.	Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lacs Only)	Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lacs Only) on or before 20/11/2021 upto 4.00 P.M.	23/11/2021 between 12.30 P.M. to 4.00 P.M. with auto extension clause in case of bid in last 5 minutes before closing, if required. The amount by which the bidding are to be increased shall be Rs. 10,000/-

Details of e-auction Agency:
Company Name/Address:- M/s E-Procurement Technologies Limited, A-801, Wall Street-II, Opp. - Orient Club, Nr. Gujarat College, Ellis Bridge, Ahmedabad- 380 006, Gujarat, India. **Contact No.** 079-61200548, **Website add:** <https://drt.auctiontiger.net>, **e-mail Address:-** bihar@auctiontiger.net, hardik@auctiontiger.net, support@auctiontiger.net, **Contact Person:** Mr. Marty Jhon (Mob. No. 9978434773).

Details of the facilitation Center:- Address: State Bank of India, SARB, 2nd Floor, Patna SBI Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna - 800001, Bihar, India, **E-mail ID:** sbi.05176@sbi.co.in, **Name of Contact Person:-** Mr. Nand Kishore Kumar, Chief Manager, SARB, Patna, Mob. No. 9709119255, e-mail ID: nand_kishore.kumar@sbi.co.in.

ACCOUNT DETAIL FOR ONLINE MONEY TRANSFER

ACCOUNT NO. & NAME	NAME	IFSC CODE
31472262527 SARB COLLECTION A/C	STATE BANK OF INDIA	SBIN0000152

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF SALE:-

- The property shall be sold "as is where is basis".
- The intending bidders should register the participation with the service provider well in advance and get user ID and password for participating in E-auction. It can be procured only when the requisite Earnest Money Deposit be paid by prescribed mode.
- To take part in Auction, each bidder shall deposit Earnest Money (EMD) @ of 10% of the Reserve Price which shall be paid by electronic transfer to the concerned Bank's EMD account or through DD/Pay order drawn in favour of Recovery Officer, DRT, Patna alongwith copy of PAN Card, Address Proof and Identity proof with E-mail ID, Mobile no of bidder. The Envelop containing EMD along with details of documents should be superscribed **R.P. No. 324/2018** and in case of the company copy of resolution by the Board members of the company or any other document confirming representation/attorney of the company should reach on or before 4.00 P.M. of **20/11/2021** in the office of Recovery Officer, DRT, Patna or should credit the amount in respective Bank's/Financial Institution's account. EMD received thereafter shall not be considered.
- The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% of the sale proceeds (including EMD) on the next working day of sale through the mode as stated above.
- The purchaser shall deposit the balance 75% of the sale proceeds before the undersigned on or before 15th day from the date of sale of the property, exclusive of such day or if the 15th day be Sunday or other Holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day alongwith the poundage fee @ 2% upto Rs. 1000/- and @ 1% on the excess of such gross amount over Rs. 1000/- by prescribed mode as stated above.
- In case of default of payment within the prescribed period, the property shall be resold, after the issue of fresh proclamation of sale. The deposit, after defraying the expenses of the sale, may, if the undersigned thinks fit, be forfeited to the Government and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claims to the property or to any part of the sum for which it may subsequently be sold.
- The Recovery Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any bid or bids or to postpone or cancel the e-auction without assigning any reasons.
- EMD of unsuccessful bidder shall be returned the same day of auction by DRT/ Bank by credit to the account of bidder mentioned in bid form.
- Prospective bidder may avail online training from service provider.
- Prospective bidders are advised to go through the website for details terms & conditions of sale before submitting their bids or contact Branch Manager of the concerned Branch.

Dated : 26/10/2021

(Kumar Rajiv Ranjan)
Recovery Officer

Public Auction Notice
Debts Recovery Tribunal

A.B & F Wings, Karpuri Thakur Sadan, Ashiana Digha Road, Patna - 800025

State Bank of India, SARB at 2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna - 800001

Vs

Sunil Kumar Thakur & Others
(In R. P. Case No. 337/2018 arising out of Certificate No. OA. 58/2018)

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

As per order dated 30/09/2021, under mentioned property will be sold by **public online e-Auction** on the date and time mentioned herein for recovery **Rs. 25,71,158/- + interest/cost and other expenses from Sunil Kumar Thakur & Others**, the sum is recoverable together with interest, cost, charges, as per the certificate. The auction sale will be by way of **online e-Auction**.

Description of Property

Description of Property	Reserve Price	EMD	Date and time of Auction
All that piece and parcel of land Vide Sale Deed No. 1729 dated 24.03.2014 in the name of Smt. Rupam Kumari, Certificate Debtor No. 2 situated at Mauza - Panhas (Lohia Nagar), Pargana - Balia, Thana, Sub - Division and District - Begusarai, Khata No. 160, Khesra No. 1344, Thana No. 355, Tauzi No. 603 area measuring 1 Katha. Bounded and buttied as follows - North: Gaya Singh; South: Indumati Jha; East : Purnima Singh; and West: Kacha Road.	Rs. 27,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Seven Lacs Only)	Rs. 2,70,000/- (Rupees Two Lac and Seventy Thousand Only) on or before 20/11/2021 upto 4.00 P.M.	23/11/2021 between 12.30 P.M. to 4.00 P.M. with auto extension clause in case of bid in last 5 minutes before closing, if required. The amount by which the biddings are to be increased shall be Rs.10,000/-

Details of e-auction agency :-
Company Name/Address:- M/s E-procurement Technologies Limited, A-801, Wall Street - II, Opp. - Orient Club, Nr. Gujarat College, Ellis Bridge, Ahmedabad - 380006, Gujrat, India.
Contact No. 079-61200548

Website add :- <https://drt.auctiontiger.net>

e-Mail Address:- bihar@auctiontiger.net hardik@auctiontiger.net support@auctiontiger.net

Contact Person :- Mr. Marty Jhon (Mob. No. 9978434773)

Details of the facilitation center:-
Address :- State Bank of India, SARB, 2nd Floor, Patna SBI Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna- 800001, Bihar, India. **E-mail ID :-** sbi.05176@sbi.co.in

Name of Contact Person :- Mr. Nand Kishor Kumar, Chief Manager, SARB, Patna, Mob No. 9709119255, e-mail ID : nand_kishore.kumar@sbi.co.in

ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR ONLINE MONEY TRANSFER

ACCOUNT NO. & NAME	NAME	IFSC CODE
31472262527, SARB COLLECTION A/C	STATE BNAK OF INDIA	SBIN0000152

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF SALE :-

- The property shall be sold "as is where is basis".
- The intending bidders should register the participation with the service provider well in advance and get user ID and password for participating in E-auction. It can be procured only when the requisite Earnest Money Deposit be paid by prescribed mode.
- To take part in Auction, each bidder shall deposit Earnest Money (EMD) @ of 10% of the Reserve Price which shall be paid by electronic transfer to the concerned Bank's EMD Account or through DD/PAY Order Drawn In Favour of Recovery Officer, DRT., Patna alongwith copy of PAN card, Address proof and Identity proof with E-mail ID, Mobile No. of bidder. The Envelope containing EMD along with details of documents should be superscribed **R.P. No. 337/2018** and in case of the company copy of resolution by the Board members of the company or any other document confirming representation / attorney of the company should reach **on or before 4.00 P.M. of 20/11/2021** in the office of Recovery Officer, DRT., Patna or should credit the amount in respective Bank's / Financial Institution's account. EMD received thereafter shall not be considered.
- The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% of the sale proceeds (including EMD) on the Next working day of sale through the mode as stated above.
- The purchaser shall deposit the balance 75% of the sale proceeds before the undersigned on or before 15th day from the date of sale of the Property, exclusive of the such day, or if the 15th day be. Sunday or other holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day alongwith the poundage fee @2% upto Rs. 1,000/- and @ 1% on the excess of such gross amount over Rs. 1,000/- by prescribed mode as stated above.
- In case of default of payment within the prescribed period, the property shall be resold, after the issue of fresh proclamation of sale. The deposit, after defraying the expenses of the sale, may, if the undersigned thinks fit, be forfeited to the Government and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claims to the property or to any part of the sum for which it may subsequently be sold.
- The Recovery Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any bid or bids or to postpone or cancel the e-auction without assigning any reasons.
- EMD of unsuccessful bidders shall be returned the same day of auction by DRT/Bank by credit to the account of bidder mention in bid form.
- Prospective bidder may avail online training from service provider.
- Prospective bidders are advised to go through the website for details terms & conditions of sale before submitting their bids or contact Branch Manager of the concerned Branch.

Dated : 26/10/2021

(Kumar Rajiv Ranjan)
Recovery Officer

SBI State Bank of India
STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH

2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna- 800001
Ph. No. (Office): 0612-2219043, 2219385, Fax: 0612-2219385, E-mail: sbi.05176@sbi.co.in

APPENDIX – IV – A
[See Proviso to Rule 8 (6)]

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

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

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **PHYSICAL POSSESSION** have been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, on 04.01.2021, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", As is What is" and "Whatever there is" on **09.12.2021**, for recovery of **Rs. 7,35,97,802.58 (Rupees Seven crore thirty five lakh ninety seven thousand eight hundred two and paise fifty eight only)** as on 30.04.2020, with further interest plus other charges, costs etc. and less deposit/recovery made if any thereafter due to the secured creditor from **BALAJEE INGOT INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED (Directors & Guarantors) Sri Additya Kanodia, Sri Ramesh Kumar Daruka, Sri Awdhesh Agarwal and Sri Nirmal Kanodia**. The reserve price will be **Rs. 9,50,00,000.00 (Rupees Nine Crore Fifty Lakh only)** and the earnest money deposit will be **Rs. 95,00,000.00 (Rupees Ninety Five Lakh only)**.

Sl. No.	Name of Borrower(s)	Amount of Demand (as per SARFAESI notice)	Description of the property Property ID: SBIN11316521050	Name of Mortgagor/ Guarantor	Date of 13(2) Date of 13(4) under SARFAESI Act	Reserve Price below which the property will not be sold EMD Bid Increment Amount
1.	Balajee Ingot India Private Limited Director & Guarantor: Sri Additya Kanodia, Sri Ramesh Kumar Daruka, Sri Awdhesh Agarwal and Sri Nirmal Kanodia.	₹7,35,97,802.58 as on 30.04.2020 with further interest plus other charges, cost etc.	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of land, building & structures as per details hereunder: Registered Deed No.270 dated 30.01.2018 executed by Sri Nirmal Kanodia the description of the properties is given below. SCHEDULE-I: All that peace and parcel of land measuring an area of 11 Decimal situated at Mauza-Mahsona, P.S-Lakhisarai, District-Lakhisarai in the State of Bihar bearing Thana No.-93, Tauzi No.-2913, Khata No.522, Khesra No.682(Part), Sub Registration Office and District Registration Office at Lakhisarai bounded at buttied as follows: North-Govind Mahto, South-Nawal	Sri Nirmal Kanodia	19.05.2020 14.09.2020 (Symbolic Possession)	₹9,50,00,000/- ₹95,00,000/- ₹50,000/-

Kanodia presently Nirmal Kanodia, East-Tunha Sao presently Nirmal Kanodia, West-Nawal Kanodia presently Nirmal Kanodia.

SCHEDULE-II: All that peace and parcel of land measuring an area of 62½ Decimal situated at Mauza-Mahsona, P.S-Lakhisarai, District-Lakhisarai in the State of Bihar bearing Thana No.-93, Tauzi No.-2913, Khata No.522, Khesra No.682(Part), Sub Registration Office and District Registration Office at Lakhisarai bounded at buttied as follows: North-Vendor Niz, South-Vendee Niz Nawal Kr. Kanodia presently Nirmal Kanodia, East-Road, West Shiv Shankar Sah.

SCHEDULE-III: All that peace and parcel of land measuring an area of 12 Decimal situated at Mauza-Mahsona, P.S-Lakhisarai, District-Lakhisarai in the State of Bihar bearing Thana No.-93, Tauzi No.-2913, Khata No.507, Khesra No.678(Part), Sub Registration Office and District Registration Office at Lakhisarai bounded at buttied as follows: North-Govind Mahto, South-Nawal Kr. Kanodia presently Nirmal Kanodia, East-Govind Mahto, West-Bodhu Sao.

SCHEDULE-IV: All that peace and parcel of land measuring an area of 1 Acre 28 ¼ Decimal situated at Mauza-Mahsona, P.S-Lakhisarai, District-Lakhisarai in the State of Bihar bearing Thana No.-93, Tauzi No.-2913, Khata No.522, Khesra No.682(Part), Sub Registration Office and District Registration Office at Lakhisarai bounded at buttied as follows: North-Vendor Niz, South-Bandh, East-Road Jamui, West-Rameshwar Mahto Khesra No.683.

SCHEDULE-V: All that peace and parcel of land measuring an area of 17 3/16 Decimal situated at Mauza-Mahsona, P.S-Lakhisarai, District-Lakhisarai in the State of Bihar bearing Thana No.-93, Tauzi No.-2913, Khata No.522, Khesra No.682(Part), Sub Registration Office and District Registration Office at Lakhisarai bounded at buttied as follows: North-Vendor Niz, South-Vendee Niz, East-Road Jamui, West-Rameshwar Mahto Khesra No.683.

SCHEDULE-VI: All that peace and parcel of land measuring an area of 25 Decimal situated at Mauza-Mahsona, P.S-Lakhisarai, District-Lakhisarai in the State of Bihar bearing Thana No.-93, Tauzi No.-2913, Khata No.475, Khesra No.684(Part), Sub Registration Office and District Registration Office at Lakhisarai bounded at buttied as follows: North-Nawal Kr. Kanodia presently Nirmal Kanodia, South-Bandh, East-Nawal Kr. Kanodia presently Nirmal Kanodia, West-Bhupal Mahto.

SCHEDULE-VII: All that peace and parcel of land measuring an area of 40 5/16 Decimal situated at Mauza-Mahsona, P.S-Lakhisarai, District-Lakhisarai in the State of Bihar bearing Thana No.-93, Tauzi No.-2913, Khata No.522, Khesra No.682, Sub Registration Office and District Registration Office at Lakhisarai bounded at buttied as follows: North-Vendee Niz, South-Vendee Niz, East-Shiv Shankar Sao, West-Vendee Niz.

E-auction Terms and Condition

- Date & Time of e-auction:** 09.12.2021 (Thursday); Time: 120 Minutes. From 12:00 noon to 02:00 P.M. with unlimited extension of 10 Minutes each. Date and time for submission of request letter of participation/KYC Documents/Proof of EMD etc.: On or before 07.12.2021 till 04:00 PM.
- The auction sale will be "online through e-auction". The intending Bidders/Purchasers are required to participate in the e-Auction process at e-Auction Service Provider's website <https://mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>.
- The intending Bidders/Purchasers are requested to register on portal (<https://mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>) using their mobile number and email-id. Further, they are requested to upload requisite KYC documents. Once the KYC documents are verified by e-auction service provider (may take 2 working days), the intending Bidders/Purchasers have to transfer the EMD amount using online mode in his Global EMD Wallet before the e-Auction Date and time in the portal. The registration, verification of KYC documents and transfer of EMD in wallet must be completed well in advance, before the auction.
- Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) amount as mentioned above shall be paid online through NEFT/Transfer after generation of Challan from (<https://mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>) in bidders Global EMD Wallet. NEFT transfer can be done from any Scheduled Commercial Bank, however for Transfer the bidder has to visit Indian Bank Branch. Payment of EMD by any other mode such as Cheques, etc will not be accepted. Bidders, not depositing the required EMD online will not be allowed to participate in the e-auction. The Earnest Money Deposited shall not bear any interest.
- MSTC Central Helpdesk Number (for any technical help): 033-40645207, 40609118, 40645316, 40602403, 40067351, 40628253. SBI contact no. (for property related enquiry): 7717749177 & 8986674108
- The General Terms and Conditions of e-auction sale is available on the website:** <https://sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices/sarfaesi-and-others>.
- To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property/ies. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/rights/dues/affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The e-Auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the bank. The property is being sold will all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to the bank. The Authorised Officer/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues. The sale shall be subject to rules/conditions prescribed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of security Interest Act, 2002. This publication is also a 30 days notice to all the borrower/guarantors require under Rule 8(6) of Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002. NB: 30 days Sale Notice to Borrower/Guarantors have already been sent by Regd. Post at their last known address. In case they do not receive the said notice then this E-auction Sale Notice may be treated as substituted mode of service. The other terms and conditions of the e-Auction are published in the following websites. <https://sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices/sarfaesi-and-others>

Date : 30.10.2021
Place : Patna

AUTHORISED OFFICER
STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, PATNA

**Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti PHE Ground Water Division,
Sgr.**

Place : Patna	(Authorized Officer)
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SPORTLINE: Back-woodsy village of Bangaon is the new spearing hub of the country

Javelin’s Little Finland in Haryana

ANDREW AMSAN
BANGAON, OCTOBER 30

IT WOULDN'T take more than five hours by road from Delhi to reach Bangaon, notified the Google Map. But add an hour more, as the final stretch weaves through endless fields of cotton and millet. Once past the main town of the Fatehabad district, there is hardly a streetlight.

But the quiet village of 5,000-odd residents is not as obscure as it may seem. On the athletics circuit, coaches casually refer to Bangaon as “Finland of Haryana”, owing to the surge in javelin medals from the region. At the recently-concluded Javelin Nationals in Delhi, girls from Bangaon grabbed all three spots on the podium in the U-16 category. Of them, gold-medallist Deepika, set an age-group national record too. In all, Bangaon residents bagged four medals at the event.

The person behind the spear revolution is a 39-year-old physical education teacher Hanuman Singh, also a resident of the village. Hanuman's trainees in the last few years have bagged at least two dozen national javelin medals so far.

Abandoned farm

With the nearest stadium with a synthetic track in the district 65 kilometres away, he decided to set up his academy in an abandoned chicken farm a relative owned in the village. It's just an uneven patch of land, an open shed and a tiny room with javelins and other training equipment. There is no fancy equipment, gym or refreshments.

Even before the warmups, the trainees have to untie the buffaloes in the shed and free them into the fields to find space. “*Din me gaushala, shaam mein training centre.* (A cattle shed during the day and training centre in the evening),” joked a trainee while shooting away the buffaloes.

Deepika, who bettered her own U-16 national mark at the Nationals with a throw of 49.31m (500g javelin), has the most important job in Hanuman's set-up. Since she lives adjacent to the training patch, and she's assigned the task of carrying a bucket of drinking water to the field and re-filling it when required.

“My daughter practically trains right outside our house,” says Deepika's mother. “I



have little idea about javelin but I feel so proud when she returns home with medals. I've never been to a stadium but I watch all her clips when she comes home.”

The humble arrangements are not an excuse to not win medals. “I don't like giving excuses. My athletes train here and compete against the best in the country, who have access to top-class stadiums. We have basic javelins and no synthetic track but we work a lot. We train twice a day, seven days a week,” says coach Hanuman.

Painstaking progress

Hanuman, who won the bronze at last month's All India Civil Services tournament, began coaching in his village in 2010. But it took time for his efforts to bear medals. The year 2017, according

to him, was the turning point. In 2017, Jyoti bagged the U-20 gold with a meet record at the Junior Nationals while Poonam Rani bagged silvers at the senior Fed Cup, Open Nationals and Interstate Meet. “It was



Hanuman Singh set up his academy on an abandoned chicken farm. It's a small patch of uneven land with a tiny room for javelins and some small training equipment. *Andrew Amsan*

Poonam's medal spree that ignited the spark. After that young girls started trickling in,” says Hanuman.

But getting into coach Hanuman's academy is not easy. The selection and weeding process are rigorous. He prefers to keep a small batch so that each student gets enough attention. “I pick kids with some potential. But if they don't put in the effort, I request them with folded hands to go home and con-

centrate on their studies. In studies, you don't have to be an India topper to do well, but in sports, you don't have a choice. You have to be the best in your country at least to make a future in sports,” says Hanuman.

He has one more condition. “No long hair,” says Hanuman, while quickly turning around to ensure the new trainee didn't hear him “She doesn't know about it so far. I will tell her slowly. Short hair helps in training

better,” adds Hanuman, who sports an army cut himself.

Hanuman's eight-year-old son Varun, too, trains here. Unlike most parents, Hanuman requested Varun's school management to go easy on him with the academics. “*Mujhe jyada padhai nahi chahiye.* (I don't want him to focus entirely on his studies). Classes for the rest go on till 3 in the noon but I have struck a deal with them and they send my son by 1 pm so that he can join us for training on time,” he says.

For him, javelin is much more than a sport. The event helped him put his “wayward” life back on track. “If it wasn't for javelin I would have been a petty criminal. I would have been behind bars for sure,” he says.

Reform road

After completing his 10th standard, Hanuman joined a Polytechnic course where he developed alcohol and cigarette addiction. He also joined a group of local small-time goons as a musclem. “I can't say too much now. I am a government employee now (laughs),” he says.

After his two-year course, Hanuman returned to his village and started accompanying his friends to the ground in a neighbouring village. That's where he met javelin thrower Lincoln.

“That's what everyone called him. I have no idea if that was his real name or not. I saw his practice and that was the first time I saw the javelin,” he says. It was almost love at first sight. “I started helping Lincoln retrieve the javelins, and in a few weeks, I started throwing better than him. I quit all my bad habits and focussed my energy on the javelin,” says Hanuman.

Although casually referred to as “Finland of Haryana”, Hanuman's throwers' second favourite is a German, Johannes Vetter. No prizes for guessing who their favourite is.

Sapna, who bagged the U-16 Nationals bronze recently, is a Vetter fan. “I love his throwing style. He's so powerful. His impulse stride (the last few steps before the block and throw) is also so good,” she says. Neeraj Chopra is without a doubt their favourite. “It would be a dream come true if he comes and watches us here at our village,” says Deepika.

In the women's circuit, Annu Rani is the best thrower by a mile. Since 2014, the Uttar Pradesh thrower has bettered her own national mark a staggering eight times. She has virtually won every national-level meet she has competed in. So the final query to the girls: “Do you know Annu Rani?” The first Indian woman to reach World Championship finals in javelin.

“Of course we do,” shoots back Deepika, before firming up her voice and adding: “We want to break her record.”

BRIEFLY

Sindhu loses in French Open semis

Paris: India's double Olympic medalist P V Sindhu failed to reach the women's singles summit clash after going down fighting to Japanese southpaw Sayaka Takahashi in three games at the French Open badminton tournament on Saturday. The 26-year-old from Hyderabad squandered a one-game advantage to lose 21-18, 16-21, 12-21 against the World No 15 Takahashi, a bronze medallist at the 2013 and 2014 Asian Championships. It was Sindhu's fourth defeat to the 29-year-old Japanese in eight meetings. Sindhu, the reigning world champion, had lost in the quarterfinals at the Denmark Open last week in Odense. This is Sindhu's second tournament since returning to action following a break after her campaign at the Tokyo Olympics, where she secured a bronze medal, five years after winning a silver at the Rio. **PTI**

Sumit in World Boxing pre-quarters

New Delhi: Indian boxer Sumit (75kg) sailed into the pre-quarterfinals of the AIBA Men's World Championships here on Saturday after notching up a comprehensive victory over Tajikistan's Abdumalik Boltaev. Sumit prevailed 5-0 in the bout against Boltaev, who wasn't lacking in intent but was definitely nowhere close to the Indian when it came to punching cleanly. Sumit maintained control over proceedings and was eventually declared victor by unanimous decision. **PTI**

Sathiyam-Desai win TT doubles title

Tunis: The Indian table tennis duo of G Sathiyam and Harmeet Desai on Saturday notched up their first international pro tour title with a dominating 3-1 win over Emmanuel Lebeson and Alexandre Cassin in the men's double summit clash at the WTT Contender in Tunis. Sathiyam and Desai beat the French duo 11-9, 4-11, 11-9, 11-6. The Indian pair pocketed the first game but they lost momentum and allowed the French to level the match. Sathiyam and Desai, however, clawed their way back by taking the lead once again and then hardly broke a sweat in winning the fourth game and the title. **PTI**

BRIDGE

Dealer: South Vulnerable: North/South

NORTH				
♠ Q874				
♥ Q742				
♦ AJ				
♣ Q74				
SOUTH				
♠ AKJ93				
♥ K83				
♦ Q109				
♣ 83				

The West Hand: S-105H-A109D-8763C-K962
The East Hand: S-62H-J65D-K542C-AJ105
South opens 1S in third seat and North responds with 2C. Drury. South has a full opening bid but facing a passed hand he estimates that game is not a good idea and he signs off in 2S. Dummy comes down with a maximum hand. Have you missed a game? Let's pretend that you are in a game. Blame partner if you wish, but try to take ten tricks. West leads two of clubs. Estimate your chances. West's club lead is not good for you because it tells you that East has at least one club honour. No club tricks for you. East wins the first trick with the ten and cashes the ace. South ruffs the third club and gets down to business. At this moment, you have to lose at least one heart and you need the diamond finesse. The diamond finesse is even money but the odds on losing just one heart are very slim. You have to start somewhere. Draw trump, which take two rounds. Now try the diamond finesse. It loses. Now, if you have bid to 4S, you are down for sure and you may be down two. It would be nice if the defense took the ace of hearts now but no. East leads a diamond to dummy's ace. If you are going to hold your heart losers to one, what has to happen? You need to find one of the opponents with a doubleton ace of hearts and you have to guess which opponent that is. Who do you think has the ace of hearts West is the leading candidate. East has already shown up with eight high card points and if he had the ace of hearts too, might have opened the bidding. So you come to your hand with a trump and lead a heart to dummy. Your wish is for the queen to win. If it does, you will lead to your hand and play low, hoping for West to have started with the doubleton ace. Well, the queen does win, but West started with three hearts, not two, and you had to lose two hearts. Four spades would be down two. Dealer: North Vulnerable: East/West

NORTH		SOUTH	
♠ 642		♠ QJ	
♥ J52		♥ AK1087	
♦ K74		♦ AJ6	
♣ KJ102		♣ Q87	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1S	Pass	Pass	1H
Pass	2H	Pass	3C
Pass	4H	Pass	Pass

West opens with ace of spades. Next the king of spades is led followed by the ten of spades, which you ruff. East has played the five, eight, and nine of spades in that order. You have lost two spade tricks and must lose a club to the ace. You also have two possible losing finesses in hearts and diamonds. How do you start?

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

The girl with a ___ avoids a man with a ___ - Evan Esar (6+4)

ANAER

ANAER

CILMUU

CILMUU

NUSTT

NUSTT

FIOFPP

FIOFPP

SOLUTION: ARENA, STUNT, CUMULI, RIFORP
Answer: The girl with a **stunt** avoids a man with a **past** - Evan Esar

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2345

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- Look forward to (6)
- Had a meal, ate dinner (6)
- Unwanted e-mail (4)
- Appraisal, estimation or rating (10)
- Jail (6)
- Unseemly (8)
- Good wishes (9)
- Press forward (4)
- Fearsome giant (4)
- Capable and organised (9)
- Retract; retreat (8)
- Based on 9s (6)
- Small portable radio (10)
- Thermal energy (4)
- Overly inquisitive (6)
- Entreat earnestly (6)

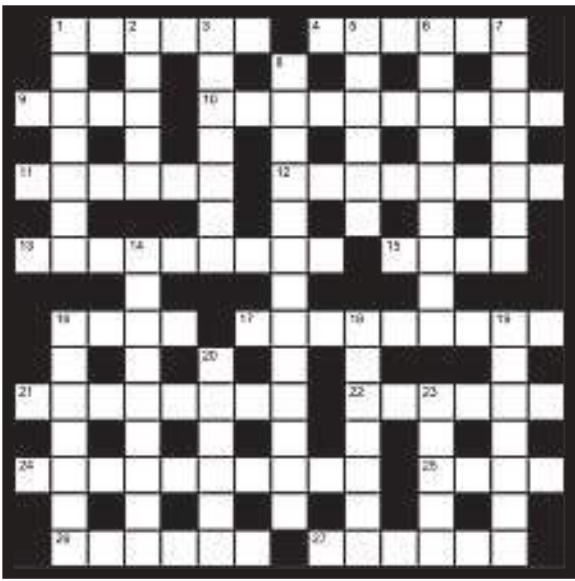
DOWN

- Ruler (7)
- Blows up tyres (5)
- Capital of Tamil Nadu (7)
- Seize and hold by force (6)
- Mixture of dried flower petals (9)
- Bishop's jurisdiction (7)
- Stealing (6,3,4)
- Items of headgear for radio craftsmanship (9)
- 15th Greek letter (7)
- Unheeded (7)
- Tell a story (7)
- Reach a point (6)
- First prime minister of India (5)

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- Friend has an attempt but it's insignificant (6)
- Can get tea container of inferior quality (6)
- Sound currency in Germany for Karl (4)
- Money you don't get for nothing? (4,3,3)
- NY heir requiring change for a sovereign, but which one? (5,1)
- Stick around with excursion, joining on near the back (8)
- Dull audience, like cauliflowers? (5,4)
- A double round to celebrate (4)



- Circumstance in which Penny joins an Englishman in Australia (4)
- General stew thickener (9)
- Change urges one to be kind (8)
- Say law is changed repeatedly (6)
- It's difficult on boats if they adopt such a tough attitude (4-6)
- Fence the track (4)
- Trickster offering an advertising leaflet for a shirker (6)
- Regard the last of them as after Nester's heart (6)

DOWN

- Her pads were misplaced in a local province! (7)
- Roman light and gold found in Egyptian town (5)
- Need about two dozen sheets (7)
- Significance of what's brought in (6)
- Produce more support - a lot of spectators (9)
- Sets out by toboggan, tangled with... (7)
- Timed, drinkers smash up carpet town (13)
- Praised for having the company-man's head put right (9)
- Looking dishevelled with no hair and

- speckled! (7)
- A hundred girls in school (7)
- First bit of yoghurt stirred in muesli mixture - heaven! (7)
- Moving a long way on to upright (6)
- Line up with points of deterioration (5)

Solutions to 2344

QUICK CLUES Across: 1 Shiver, 4 Shoals, 9 Bagpipes, 9 Consume, 11 Encounters, 12 Gash, 13 Elmi, 14 Termites, 16 Taskent, 18 Papal, 20 Tini, 21 Prominence, 23 Ethical, 24 Parades, 25 Dimple, 26 Adults.
Down: 1 Spawn, 2 Implore, 3 Expensive, 5 Hoods, 6 Assegai, 7 Bombshell, 10 Gestation, 13 Emaciated, 15 Reprimand, 17 Housing, 19 Preval, 21 Place, 22 Clefs.
CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 1 Swarms, 4 Hollow, 8 Fattest, 9 Gravats, 11 Monologues, 12 Duel, 13 Hosta, 14 Loch Ness, 16 Oris off, 18 Sword, 20 Otto, 21 Deep Purple, 23 Ignores, 24 Timming, 25 Scylla, 26 Stints. **Down:** 1 Shako, 2 Authors, 3 Muscovado, 5 Oris, 6 Lived on, 7 Witnessed, 10 Qualified, 13 Heritages, 15 Cashpoint, 17 Ecology, 19 Oarsman, 21 Dwell, 22 Links.

If it's your Birthday

Sunday October 31

There's a great deal to be said for keeping your head down and avoiding financial hassles. Your past excesses have a way of catching up with you. But it is good to have a second chance.

Monday November 1

You're in one of your super-sensitive states, and your moods could swing. The decisions you take now, could take you before the public eye over the coming year.

Tuesday November 2

Mercury and Venus are on your side, moving your affairs nicely. That all adds up to a background shift in the spirit of the times. The next month favours compromise, but think straight.

Wednesday November 3

It's a positive moment. Your greatest asset is your ability to have a go at anything, but your weakness is to spread yourself too thin. You need to enjoy life to the full.

Thursday November 4

Celestial alignments present you with at least two ways of accomplishing all your targets, from the trivial to the profound. Don't let anyone tell you that there's no alternative.

Friday November 5

You'll bring your current h goals to fruition, or risk losing your advantage. Now is a fine time to start making your travel plans. Stick to the straight and narrow.

Saturday November 6

The secret of success is to plan ahead. Get your priorities clear, tackle every task in the right order, and make sure that every detail is taken care of.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD



ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

You are to be congratulated for your ability to keep your feelings in check, but don't allow professional or worldly pressures to force you to blow a gasket. Realise that you still have much to learn, and it's important for you to accept that a partner might be right and you could be wrong.



TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Iron out the details of a social engagement, prior to a phase of major consolidation. Be sure to make the most of pleasant social stars, and take the initiative whenever necessary. Romantic hopes are pleasant, but remain a distant dream.



GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

There may well be a happy end to a current saga, and you might even glimpse the issues you once had but appear to have lost. There could be no going back, but at least you can happily lay old ghosts to rest. At work, you can increase your income and persuade partners to pay you your true worth.



CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Continue to take your time because, if you rush, you are bound to overlook certain essentials. The way to spice up your romantic life is to introduce a hint of the exotic, perhaps a dose of some culture radically different from your own. Creative Cancers are on to a winner.



LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Mars and Venus have now moved on but, having cast your spell and fired other people's imaginations, you simply cannot do away with the past. You may have to hang on in there even though you're not quite sure any more why you should. A flurry of financial activity works in your favour.



VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sept 23)

Are you certain that you genuinely want what is currently on offer, or would you rather wait a little while longer? The only problem is that if you sit on the fence, your choices may be rapidly narrowed down after the beginning of next month. And that would cause other delays.



LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23)

Recent planetary activity has certainly left you in a tizzy. Perhaps the one area of certainty is work, including housework, an area in which it looks as if you can shift your duties on to other shoulders. An old relationship may come back to life, though not as you expected.



SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

You have been taught many harsh lessons over the years, of which the most recent seem to have concerned home and family relationships. Current developments will take you to new heights of emotional experience, yet a fantasy may prove to be just that, a fantasy.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

You should consider taking a much firmer stand over emotional and financial issues, especially as these are now connected by the Moon's daily aspects. Focus on what you need to feel personally secure, and make it an absolute priority. A romantic hope may fade from view.



CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

If you fancy travelling, now is the time to set out - or, at least, to start making your plans. It's a moment for movement, for experimentation and for expanding your horizons. How you actually go about this is up to you, but after another year has passed you'll be seeing the world in a very different way.



AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Believe in yourself. Life is quite serious, but not excessively so. A continuing emphasis on monetary affairs carries a deeper psychological message. At root the real issue seems to be whether you can work out exactly what value you place on a special personal relationship.



PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Your talents as a social organiser are often underestimated, frequently by you. It takes a certain amount of confidence to whip other people into line, but that is just what you should now be able to do. A battle with authority could leave you feeling a little bruised, but much wiser.

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Quinton de Kock reversed his stance and came out in support of the BLM movement.

England thrash Australia by 8 wickets

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DUBAI, OCTOBER 30

JOS BUTTLER hammered a brutal 32-ball 71 not out to complement a superlative performance from the bowlers as England crushed Australia by eight wickets in their Super 12 match to inch closer to a semifinal spot at the T20 World Cup here on Saturday.

It was a thoroughly professional display by the ODI world champions as they bundled out Australia for 125 and then returned to overhaul the target of 126 in 11.4 overs to consolidate their top position in the Group 1 points table.

Buttler and Jason Roy (22) hammered the Australian bowlers all around the park to amass 66 runs for no loss in the powerplay, the highest by any team so far in the tournament.

Buttler was the most dangerous of the England batters as he slammed five fours and as many sixes during his unbeaten knock, which is the fastest fifty in the tournament till now.

Australia managed to get rid of Roy and Dawid Malan (8) but it made no difference as Jonny Bairstow joined Buttler in sending their opponents on a leather hunt. Bairstow smashed two sixes off Adam Zampa during his unbeaten 10-ball 16 run innings as England reached 126 for 2 to win the match with 50 balls to spare. England completed a hat-trick of wins, while Australia suffered their first loss of the tournament after beating South Africa and Sri Lanka in their previous two games.

BRIEF SCORES: Australia 125 all out in 20 overs (Aaron Finch 44; Chris Jordan 3/17, Tymal Mills 2/45, Chris Woakes 2/23) lost to England 126 for 2 in 11.4 overs (Jos Buttler 71 not out; Ashton Agar 1/15).

SA beat Lanka

Sharjah: South Africa defeated Sri Lanka by four wickets in their T20 World Cup match on Saturday. Chasing 143 for victory, South Africa reached the target with one ball to spare.

BRIEF SCORES: Sri Lanka 142/10 in 20 overs (Pathum Nissanka 72; Tabraiz Shamsi 3/17, Dwaine Pretorius 3/17) lost to South Africa 146/6 in 19.5 overs (Temba Bavuma 46; Wanindu Hasaranga de Silva 3/20).

Match winner Asif Ali's sixes help in healing his ailing heart

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
DUBAI, OCTOBER 30

ASIF ALI has a gut-wrenching backstory. For the rest of his life he will carry the pain of losing his daughter. Cricket can never be an adequate solace.

Two years ago, ahead of the 50-over World Cup, Ali's daughter Dua Fatima succumbed to stage 4 cancer. She was just 19 months old. A day after the funeral, Ali joined the Pakistan squad in England.

Media, both social and mainstream, showed enough insensitivity to tear into Ali when he didn't score runs. In the toughest fight of his life, which ended in heartbreak, Ali had his Pakistan Super League (PSL) franchise Islamabad United by his side. At the post-match press conference after Pakistan's win against Afghanistan on Friday, he spoke about not being a social media nerd, trying to hide years of hurt.

A seven-ball 25, including four

sixes in an over, saw off a tense chase for Pakistan. A cryptic message on Twitter followed.

"Aur koi hukam Pakistan? Shukriya @isbunited aur woh sub log jinho ne mere per belief rakha mere mushkil waqt mai. (Any more command Pakistan? Thank you Islamabad United and the people who kept faith in me in tough times)" Pakistan's former National Cricket Academy director Mudassar Nazar praised Ali's resolve, how the 30-year-old middle-order batsman fought through the pain. "It was hard, but he has come through those times. Hats off to him," the ex-Pakistan opener told *The Indian Express*.

He addressed the media flak issue with a hint of sarcasm.

"You can't talk about the media, because the media will have a go at you, especially Pakistan media will chase you if you aren't getting runs or taking wickets. They will come very hard. When a couple of years ago he lost his daughter, he was just coming into the Pakistan team. It was a very,

Beware: Kiwis ahead

Indian think tank under considerable pressure to get selections right against New Zealand

ICC event since 2013, match-winning percentage-wise, India have been pretty consistent in the big events.

There's a bit of Jose Mourinho in Kohli, the way he creates a siege mentality within the team. This has served India well. He can be faulted for sounding repetitive. Kohli doesn't mind.

"We as a group understand how we need to stick together, how we need to back individuals, how we need to focus on our strengths, and whether people on the outside portrayed it as being the fact that India cannot afford to lose a game, that's none of our business because we play the sport and we understand exactly how the sport goes. So how people think on the outside has no value whatsoever within our group." Kohli yet again channelled his inner Mourinho at the pre-match press conference on Saturday.

All said and done, India will have to get their selection right against New Zealand. On match eve, Indian players batted and bowled on a patch, adjacent to the main ICC Academy ground and a little away from the prying eyes of the reporters, whose movements are restricted due to bio-security protocols. Their stretching drills brought the entire team together and no one was missing. But coming back to selection, Pandya is likely to play only if he can bowl a couple of overs. Else, Shardul Thakur could be drafted in.

Kohli was cryptic about Pandya - "Hardik is fine, if you're talking about the blow on the shoulder, he's absolutely fine" - and open-ended about Shardul - "He's definitely in our plans, constantly making a case for himself. Now what role he plays or where he fits in, that's something that I cannot obviously talk about right now. But Shardul is someone who has great potential and he will add great value to the team."

He could chip in as the sixth bowler and would have done that against Pakistan also if India batted first. Evening dew in Dubai is crucial. It's not too heavy to put bowlers in a spot while gripping the ball, but effective enough to make the pitch a tad greasy in the second half. Sides batting second are getting that additional advantage and winning.

Hardik has been deemed fit after getting hit on the shoulder in the previous match, but whether he will be retained for the must-win game against New Zealand remains to be seen. And in case India don't take the right call, the Pandya dilemma can hurt them in Sunday's virtual quarter-final against New Zealand.

Dew factor

"It will continue to be a big factor. That's the nature of this tournament," Kohli agreed and Trent Boult dittoed: "I suppose it's a hard one to understand how much dew is going to come in."

A lot will depend on what transpires in the battle between him and his Mumbai Indians captain Rohit Sharma and Boult drew Shaheen Shah Afridi's reference. "... I thought the way Shaheen bowled the other night from a left-arm, watching on I thought it was amazing. But there's quality batsmen in that India line-up."

Afridi rattled India's top-order. Rohit and company should be careful against Boult. Whatever happens in the end, New Zealand, arguably the second-most favourite team for the Indian fans, will be applauded for their dignity, a team culture set by Williamson. "We try to go out there, play in the right spirit, play with a smile on our face," Boult said. You can't ask for more.

Without him bowling, the



To go with Hardik Pandya or not, seems to be the biggest selection headache for India ahead of the New Zealand match.

How a call on Hardik Pandya will decide India's fate at the T20 World Cup

TUSHAR BHADURI
OCTOBER 30

IT TOOK a comprehensive defeat against Pakistan for the debate over **Hardik Pandya's** place in the XI to start raging again. He hardly bowls these days and though he can be a big hitter of the ball - one of the most valuable skills in T20 cricket - whether that alone merits a spot in the team is the million-dollar question. Some quarters feel he shouldn't have been in the squad in the first place.

Hardik has been deemed fit after getting hit on the shoulder in the previous match, but whether he will be retained for the must-win game against New Zealand remains to be seen. And in case India don't take the right call, the Pandya dilemma can hurt them in Sunday's virtual quarter-final against New Zealand.

Hardik has been deemed fit after getting hit on the shoulder in the previous match, but whether he will be retained for the must-win game against New Zealand remains to be seen. And in case India don't take the right call, the Pandya dilemma can hurt them in Sunday's virtual quarter-final against New Zealand.

Why is it such an important selection issue?

Somebody who bats in the top six and bowls a few overs lends balance to a playing XI. Hardik was touted as the end of India's search for a seam-bowling all-rounder. He was, and still can be, destructive with the bat possessing a six-hitting capability comparable to anybody in world cricket. When he was bowling regularly, Hardik used to be brisk and useful, providing an extra option, especially in seamer-friendly conditions.

Without him bowling, the

captain is often short of options if one of the frontline operators is taken to the cleaners. If Hardik is a regular bowling option, there is scope to include an extra batsman or bowler as per requirement and tactics.

Why is he not bowling?

Alongstanding back issue has hampered his bowling ability. Hardik had surgery in 2019 to alleviate the problem, but his stints with the ball have remained rare, both for India and the Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League. He did bowl during India's limited-overs tour of Sri Lanka in July, but was not seen with the ball in the 2021 IPL, either in India or the UAE.

Why is Hardik being picked nevertheless?

Because of his destructive batting ability. In white-ball cricket, Hardik has the power to change the complexion of any game in a matter of balls. His unique method of min-imum movement, a still head, getting deep in the crease, and opening the hips provides great bat-speed which can target both fast bowlers and spinners, off front and back foot. He has won several matches for both India and Mumbai Indians with the bat only, though he has not done that too often of late.

What have the selectors done to cover up for Hardik's lack of bowling?

Shardul Thakur was included in the T20 World Cup squad to



provide an extra seam-bowling option. He has been quite impressive with the bat for India, especially in Test matches, and is a bit of a golden arm with the ball, getting movement both ways at a decent pace. He has an aggressive and no-fear approach, but has a limited sample size in international cricket, even if he could be an upgrade on Hardik with the ball.

Left-arm spinner Axar Patel was initially picked in the squad, but had to make way for Thakur once it was known that Hardik may not be able to bowl. Some former selectors have even opined that Hardik should have been left out if he wasn't able to bowl.

What is the team management's take?

Hardik played as a specialist batsman against Pakistan in India's opening match. Skipper Virat Kohli was of the opinion that what Hardik provided with the bat was valuable enough for him to be pencilled in the playing XI even if he doesn't bowl. He said there was hope that Hardik would do so sometime later in

the tournament.

"We strongly feel that we can make the most of the opportunity at hand till the time he starts bowling. We've considered a couple of other options to chip in for an over or two. So, we're not bothered about that at all. What he brings at that No.6 spot is something you cannot create overnight," Kohli had said on the eve of the Pakistan game.

"We understand the value he brings to the team as a No.6 batter, and in world cricket, if you look around, there are specialists who do that job. It's very important to have that guy, especially in T20 cricket, who can play an impact innings at that stage. Even when the chips are down, he's someone who can play a long innings in that way. So for us, that is way more valuable than forcing him to do something he's not ready for at the moment."

Has the scenario changed since?

After the defeat to Pakistan, India have little wriggle room in their next game against New Zealand on Sunday, when a loss can even spell doom for their aspirations in the tournament.

Not having a genuine sixth bowling option tied Kohli's hands as Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan took the match away from them. Hence, team composition will be debated vigorously ahead of the clash with the Kiwis. There is a school of thought that Thakur could be a better all-round option than Hardik and provide Kohli with cover if things don't exactly go to plan.

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23 ECONOMY

GROWTH IN NON-FOOD CREDIT AT 6.8% DURING 12 MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER

Credit offtake rises as home, gold, mid-sized industry loans pick up

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 30

NON-FOOD CREDIT offtake increased by 6.8 per cent, or Rs 6.89 lakh crore, to Rs 108.94 lakh crore during the 12-month period ended September 2021 from 5.1 per cent in the previous year, with the country lifting restrictions imposed in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic and the economy on the comeback trail.

The rise has been aided by growth in home loans, gold lending and higher credit offtake by medium-sized industries and the agriculture sector.

According to latest data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), credit to medium industries registered a robust growth of 49.0 per cent in September 2021 as compared to 17.5 per cent last year. In absolute terms, credit offtake by medium industries rose by Rs 57,540 crore during the 12-month period to Rs 1,75,081 crore. This was largely due to the packages announced by the government and the RBI to meet the challenges

posed by the pandemic.

Loans against gold jewellery jumped another 59.1 per cent, or Rs 23,700 crore, to Rs 63,770 crore during this period. Home loan offtake increased by 9 per cent to Rs 14.78 lakh crore and credit card outstanding rose by 9.5 per cent, or Rs 10,000 crore, to Rs 1.15 lakh crore. Consumer durables lending shot up by 40 per cent to Rs 10,904 crore as consumer confidence improved after the unlocking and decline in Covid cases.

The central bank said credit growth to industry picked up to 2.5 per cent in September 2021 from 0.4 per cent in September 2020. Credit to micro and small industries accelerated by 9.7 per cent in September 2021 from a contraction of 0.1 per cent a year ago. However, credit to large industries continued to contract at 1.0 per cent to Rs 22.59 lakh crore in September 2021 to as compared to a contraction of 0.2 per cent a year ago, the RBI said.

Agriculture loans rose by Rs 1.2 lakh crore in the 12-month period. "Credit to agriculture and allied activities registered a higher

EXPLAINED Major growth factors

WITH PEOPLE pledging gold for immediate cash requirements to meet hospital and other expenses, loans against gold jewellery saw a major jump. Housing loans, especially for affordable housing, saw a pickup as the RBI held rates and retained its policy stance. Credit offtake by industry, meanwhile, accelerated following relaxation in lockdowns across states since June.

growth of 9.9 per cent in September 2021 as compared to 6.2 per cent in September 2020," it said.

According to the RBI, personal loans registered an accelerated growth of 12.1 per cent in September 2021 as compared to

8.4 per cent a year ago, primarily due to faster credit growth in housing, vehicle loans and loans against gold jewellery.

However, credit growth to the services sector decelerated to 0.8 per cent in September 2021 from 9.2 per cent in September 2020, mainly due to contraction/deceleration in credit growth to NBFCs, trade and commercial real estate.

Ravi Subramanian, MD & CEO of Shriram Housing Finance, said "The RBI holding rates and maintaining an accommodative stance will aid credit flow to the housing sector. Affordable housing finance has seen a pick-up in tier 2 and tier 3 cities and festive cheer along with home loan affordability being low will aid credit offtake. Mortgage lending has been the key driver of incremental credit growth in the last one year, raising the share of mortgage lending to 11 per cent of GDP"

"The increase in bank credit reflects the low base effect and the easing of lockdown restrictions across regions in India, further supported by growth in the retail segment," Care Ratings said in a

report. Bank credit growth has remained tepid owing to risk aversion by both lenders and borrowers and regional lockdowns imposed by states in the earlier part of this year to curb the spread of coronavirus.

However, following the relaxation in lockdown since June 2021, bank credit growth has been improving gradually.

Within the industry, credit growth to all engineering, chemicals & chemical products, food processing, gems & jewellery, infrastructure, mining & quarrying, petroleum, coal products & nuclear fuels, rubber, plastic & their products, textiles, and wood & wood products accelerated in September 2021 as compared to the corresponding month of the previous year, the RBI said.

However, credit growth to beverage & tobacco, basic metal & metal products, cement & cement products, construction, glass & glassware, leather & leather products, paper & paper products, and vehicles, vehicles parts & transport equipment decelerated/contracted, it added.

Pre-owned car industry is expected to clock a growth rate of 15% in FY22

Growth drivers: As per the OLX Autos-CRISIL Study 2021, the Covid-19 pandemic, digitalisation, changing demographics and aspirations, first-time buyers, and availability of financing options will act as growth drivers

Supply levels are slowly normalising in 2021 with improved mobility, lesser restrictions, and lower reluctance to sell vehicles

'Used car market to grow 12-14% in next few years'

India's used car market is likely to reach over 70 lakh vehicles by 2025-26, from 38 lakh in FY21, rising at 12-14% over the next few years, a OLX Autos and CRISIL report showed



Rise in preference for utility vehicles was seen, with their share in pre-owned car market rising to 20% in FY21, from 18% in FY18

In terms of age of vehicles, those aged 5-7 years dominated the market with 31% share, followed by those with 8-10 years at 29% share

Source: OLX Autos & Crisil/PTI

Lower inventory gains limit rise in IOC Q2 net profit to ₹6,360 cr

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

INDIAN OIL Corporation (IOC) posted a marginal rise in net profit for the second quarter of the ongoing fiscal on Saturday, with lower inventory gains offsetting better operational performance. For the quarter under review, the nation's largest oil company

reported a net profit of Rs 6,360.05 crore, or Rs 6.93 a share, as against Rs 6,227.31 crore, or Rs 6.78 per share, in the year-ago period, the company's filing to the stock exchanges showed.

On a sequential basis, net profit was higher than Rs 5,941.37 crore earned in the April-June quarter. Officials said the flatish net profit was largely due to lower inventory gains during Q2FY22.

Inventory gains are reported when a company buys raw material (in this case, crude oil) at a particular price but by the time it is able to process it into finished products (petrol, diesel etc), rates have gone up. Since retail rates are benchmarked at prevailing international prices, an inventory gain is booked. Inventory loss is booked when the reverse happens. **WITHPTI**

Ahead of Epic Games hearing, Apple against links to outside payments

STEPHEN NELLIS
BEIJING, OCTOBER 30

APPLE INC on Friday outlined its objections to allowing app developers to link to third-party payment options ahead of a hearing next month that could determine whether a set of antitrust court orders is put on pause.

After a lengthy trial earlier this year brought by 'Fortnite' creator Epic Games, US District Court Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers issued a ruling that was largely favorable to the iPhone maker and upheld its practice of requiring developers to use its in-app payment system, for which it charges commissions. However, Gonzalez Rogers expressed concern that consumers did not have access to information about other ways to pay for apps. She ordered Apple to stop its ban on "buttons, external links, or other calls to action that direct customers to purchasing mechanisms" beyond Apple's own payment systems.

Apple has until December 9 to implement the order, but it has appealed the ruling and asked the order to be paused. **REUTERS**

With this, six road projects will be transferred to the newly-formed Roadstar Infra Investment Trust under IL&FS' InvIT Phase I

On transfer to the InvIT, these six SPVs would move away from debt servicing moratorium extended to the IL&FS Group companies and will start servicing their debt, resulting in resolution of these SPVs, the release from the company said.

IL&FS proposes to address more than Rs 16,000 crore through InvIT in phases. It will be adding additional five road assets in phase 2, on receipt of applicable approvals, it added. State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Canara Bank, Bank of India and Indian Overseas Bank are some of the key lenders to IL&FS Transportation Networks Ltd (ITNL), a subsidiary of IL&FS, and will largely benefit by the formation of this InvIT, the release further said. **WITHPTI**

IL&FS gets NCLT approval for launch of InvIT phase one

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

DEBT-LADEN NON-BANKING financier Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services (IL&FS) on Saturday said it has received approval from NCLT for launching phase I of its Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT).

In a release, the group said that the approval from the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) was received on Saturday.

With this, six road projects — Barwa Adda Expressway Ltd, Baleshwar Kharagpur Expressway Ltd, Sikar Bikaner Highway Ltd, East Hyderabad Expressway Ltd, Moradabad Bareilly Expressway Ltd and Jharkhand Road Projects Implementation Company Ltd — will be transferred to the newly-formed Roadstar Infra Investment Trust under its InvIT Phase I.

These six road projects' special purpose vehicles (SPVs) will be transferred to the InvIT at an aggregate valuation of Rs 9,214 crore — determined by an independent valuer appointed in accordance with Sebi InvIT regulations, the group said.

Applications invited for post of Sebi Chairman

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

THE FINANCE Ministry has invited applications to select the next Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) to succeed Ajay Tyagi, whose term comes to an end in February.

An IAS officer of Himachal Pradesh cadre of the 1984 batch, Tyagi was appointed Chairman of Sebi on March 1, 2017, for a period of three years. He was subsequently given a six-month extension, and in August 2020 his tenure was extended by 18 months.

In a public notice dated October 28, the Finance Ministry has invited applications from eligible candidates for the post of Sebi chairman for a maximum period of five years or till 65 years, whichever is earlier. Applications of eligible candidates in prescribed proforma along with certified copies of required documents may be forwarded, through a proper channel (wherever applicable) on or before December 6, 2021 a public notice issued by the Department of Economic Affairs said. **WITHPTI**

BRIEFLY Maruti output

New Delhi: Maruti Suzuki said production will likely be hit at its two plants in Haryana and parent Suzuki's Gujarat plant in November due to semiconductor shortage.

Vedanta warned

New Delhi: Sebi has warned Vedanta Ltd and Hindustan Zinc Ltd over non-compliance with disclosure norms.

Ficci DG

New Delhi: Industry chamber Ficci said Arun Chawla has been named its new director general.

Indian Bank/cs

New Delhi: Indian Bank has reported over Rs 266 crore worth of fraud to the Reserve Bank, relating to three NPA accounts.

Ujjivan SFB

New Delhi: Ujjivan Financial Services Ltd (Ujjivan) said its board has approved amalgamation of the company with its subsidiary Ujjivan Small Finance Bank, to comply with Sebi's minimum public shareholding norms. **PTI**

CRUDE WATCH

OIL DIPS AFTER HITTING MULTI-YR HIGHS

New York: Brent and US crude oil benchmarks both declined on the week after reaching multi-year highs last Monday. Brent crude, which is facing its first weekly decline in about two months, was at \$84.38. US West Texas Intermediate reached \$83.57 a barrel. **REUTERS**

POWER MINISTRY PROPOSES AMENDMENTS

Changes proposed to EC Act: Incentivising clean energy use, mandatory level of renewables

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 30

THE POWER Ministry has proposed amendments to the Energy Conservation Act, 2001, (EC Act) which are set to specify a minimum share of renewable energy in overall consumption by industrial units. The amendments are also set to incentivise the use of clean energy through carbon saving certificates and the issuance of carbon credits for the use of clean technologies.

"The proposal includes defining a minimum share of renewable energy in the overall consumption by the industrial units or any establishment. There will be provision to incentivise efforts on using clean energy sources by means of carbon saving certificate," the ministry said in a release issued on Saturday. The proposed amendments have been discussed with key stakeholders in multiple consultations according to the government.

The Centre recently notified rules aimed at preventing power distribution companies from backing out of power supply from renewable energy generators by classifying the latter as 'must-run' plants from which power supply cannot be curtailed except in cases of technical constraints or risks to the security of the power grid.

The proposed amendments are also expected to create a carbon market in the country and

CARBON MARKET

■ The proposed amendments to the Energy Conservation Act, 2001, (EC Act) are also expected to create a carbon market in the country and promote the consumption of renewable energy

promote the consumption of renewable energy either directly or from the power grid.

Carbon markets in other jurisdictions, such as the EU Emissions Trading System, set an absolute cap on the total emissions by selected entities per year. Entities that keep their emissions below prescribed levels are permitted to sell emissions allowances to entities that have not been able to meet emissions limits.

India does, however, have an Energy Savings Certificates (ESCert) trading market which implicitly covers carbon emissions in which designated consumers that overachieve their targets of reducing power consumption are allowed to sell energy certificates to other designated consumers on an exchange.

India aims to reduce the emissions intensity of the economy by 33-35 per cent in 2030 against the levels of 2005, and achieve 40 per cent of non-fossil fuel based installed power capacity by 2030.

Coal Ministry: Supply to power plants indicated steady increase in last few days

New Delhi: Coal Minister Pralhad Joshi on Saturday complimented coal companies, including state-owned CLIL, for record supply of 22 lakh tonnes of the dry fuel to thermal power plants.

In a statement, the ministry said Joshi has expressed happiness over coal ministry's achievement of attaining 22 lakh tonnes coal dispatch to thermal power plants on Thursday (October 28).

In a tweet, the minister said out the above quantity, 18 lakh tonnes have been supplied by Coal India Ltd (CIL).

Congratulating all coal companies for this feat, Joshi urged them to keep increasing coal production and offtake.

Joshi had on Thursday said CIL has stepped up fuel supply to meet the increased demand of the power sector and arrest shortages at thermal power plants caused due to rising cost of imported coal.

Average rise during the last one week is more than 2 lakh tonnes per day.

"Coal supply to power plants has indicated steady increase for the last many days," the coal ministry had said in a statement. **PTI**

G20 leaders endorse minimum corporate tax deal for 2023 start

REUTERS
ROME, OCTOBER 30

LEADERS OF the world's 20 biggest economies endorsed on Saturday a global minimum tax aimed at stopping big business from hiding profits in tax havens.

"We call on the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting to swiftly develop the model rules and multilateral instruments as agreed in the Detailed Implementation Plan, with a view to ensure that the new rules will come into effect at global level in 2023," the draft conclusions, seen by Reuters, said. The conclusions are to be formally adopted on Sunday.

Attending their first in-person summit in two years, G20 leaders broadly backed calls to extend debt relief for impoverished countries and pledged to vaccinate 70 per cent of the world's population against COVID-19 by mid-2022.

Italy, hosting the gathering in Rome, put health and the economy at the top of the agenda for the first day of the meeting, with



United States Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen arrives at the G20 summit in Rome, Saturday. She said the endorsement of the tax deal would help businesses and workers in the US. **Reuters**

the more difficult climate discussions set for Sunday.

Addressing the opening of the meeting, being held in a steel and glass convention centre, Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi said governments had to work together to face up to the challenges facing their peoples.

The corporate tax deal was hailed as a evidence of renewed multilateral coordination, with major corporations facing a minimum 15 per cent tax wherever

they operate from 2023 to prevent them from shielding their profits in off-shore entities.

US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said the endorsement of the tax deal would help businesses and workers in the US; but it also means many US-based companies, especially tech giants, will pay more tax. "This is more than just a tax deal - it's diplomacy reshaping our global economy and delivering for our people," US President Joe Biden tweeted.

Top US trade official Tai to visit India next month



US Trade Representative Katherine Tai will reach New Delhi on November 22. **Reuters**

LALIT K JHA

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 30

UNITED STATES Trade Representative Katherine Tai will travel to India next month, her office said. Tai will reach New Delhi on November 22 from South Korea.

She will begin her Asia trip from Tokyo on November 15.

"United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai and Deputy United States Trade Representative Sarah Bianchi will travel to Tokyo, Seoul, and New Delhi to meet with government officials and stakeholders to discuss the enduring US commitment to the Indo-Pacific region and to strengthen trade and economic relationships with key allies and partners," it said.

Tai will return to Washington, DC on November 24. **PTI**

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS MAGAZINE



READ INSIDE

A Place for All

Over the years, celebrations of festivals at the Rashtrapati Bhavan have upheld the country's diversity and syncretism

eye

DIWALI SPECIAL



PLUS

A Whole New World

In the long history of migration from Gujarat to faraway South Africa, the quest for home lies in the stories of ocean crossers, rebels and poets

HOMeward BOUND

Diwali is about the end of exile and coming home to a circle of love and warmth. Yet, home can also be a place of inequality, less a refuge, more a place of constraint. In these difficult, polarising times that force us to re-examine our relationships — both with people and with places — we look at the ways they have reshaped our ideas of home. First up in this special issue, a writer dwells on being at home in the world

Stephen Alter

IN 1933, my father, Robert Alter, travelled “home” to America for the first time in his life, at the age of five. Born in Srinagar, Kashmir, he was the youngest of four brothers. His parents, Martha and Emmet Alter, had come to India from the United States as missionaries in 1916. Until their retirement in 1952, they lived and worked in towns like Sialkot, Abbottabad, Rawalpindi, Srinagar and Mussoorie. For our family, “home” has always been an ambiguous concept, at best. Nevertheless, we use the word freely, despite the uncertainties it evokes, wound up inside a ball of nostalgic sentiments, displaced identities and a lost sense of direction. Of course, as a young boy, my father didn’t care about these things. He was setting off on an exciting adventure, through lands he’d never seen before, to destinations he’d only heard his parents speak about. New York and Boston sounded as exotic and foreign as the halts along the way — Baghdad, Damascus, Jerusalem, Famagusta, Istanbul and Venice.

Today, we travel nonstop from India to the United States in less than 15 hours but for my father and his family it was a journey that took three months. In Karachi, they caught a steamship to Basra from where they travelled upriver by boat and train to Baghdad. My grandfather was an avid photographer and he took hundreds of pictures along the way. In many of the photographs of monuments and landscapes, he posed one of his sons in the foreground to provide scale and perspective. He also had a fascination for motor cars and his pictures often include the vehicles in which they travelled.

To cross the desert to Damascus, they hired a weather-beaten Nash convertible. My father sat on his mother’s lap for 24 hours as the family squeezed into the dusty car, along with all their luggage. In those days, there was no road between Iraq and Syria. They simply drove across open miles of sand. After reaching Damascus, they continued overland through Trans-Jordan to Palestine, stopping at the Dead Sea, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Heading north into Lebanon, they took several ferries and boats to Cyprus, Rhodes, Istanbul, Athens and Naples (where the boys scrambled about near the smoking crater of Mount Vesuvius). Eventually, they ended up in Genoa, where a statue of Christopher Columbus stands watch over the harbour. Here, they boarded another steamer, the USS President Polk of the Dollar Line, on which they crossed the Atlantic.

For more than a hundred years, our family has lived between the east and the west.



PHOTOS COURTESY: STEPHEN ALTER



Though I grew up in India and consider this country my home, I am always conscious of being perceived as a “foreigner”. At the same time, whenever I travel to the United States, where my passport and ethnicity allow me to blend in, I feel an underlying sense of alienation. All of this has led me to question the concept of national homelands, which have become more and more insular and divided. At this point in history, when strident voices are clamouring against immigration and people are being excluded on account of their geographical origins, religion and race,

HERE & THERE

(Anti-clockwise from above, left) Photos taken by the writer’s grandfather, DE Alter, in 1933, on an overland journey from India to the US — Mussoorie, Mt Vesuvius, Jerusalem, New York

it is important to recognise that someone can be both an outsider and an insider at once.

I’ve always liked a quote from Gustave Flaubert, the French novelist: “As to the idea of a native country, that is to say a certain bit of ground traced out on a map and separated from other bits by a red or blue line: no. For me, my native country is the country I love, meaning the one that makes me dream, that makes me feel well. I am as much Chinese as I am French, and I cannot rejoice about our victories over the Arabs because I am saddened by their defeats.”

In 1977, returning home to India from the United States, after finishing college, the cheapest flight I could find was a one-way ticket to Delhi on Syrian Arab Airlines. When we broke journey in Damascus, there was a 12-hour delay. The transit lounge was a large, windowless room with broken chairs and a framed picture of president Hafez al-Assad on one wall, along with a makeshift canteen serving bitter coffee and dry, day-old sandwiches. However, my brief incarceration hardly compared to the fate of two Palestinians in their 20s who befriended me.

They spoke English well enough for us to carry on a conversation and I learnt that they had been stranded here for almost a month. The pair had arrived on a flight from Beirut but there were “problems” with their papers. The Syrian authorities would not allow them to leave the airport and they had no money to buy a ticket to somewhere else, so they were essentially trapped in that bleak, no man’s land of the transit lounge. One of them pointed to a small heap of luggage in the far corner of the room, where they slept on the floor. I bought them a cup of coffee each, for they seemed to be surviving off the charity of fellow travellers. The Palestinians asked me about America and what it was like to live there, with a hopeful inquisitiveness that made me uncomfortable. When I explained that I was leaving the US and going home to India, this puzzled them. What was it about India that appealed to me? Why would I leave America?

Whenever I think of those two men, I realise that I am fortunate to have a place that I can call home. Mussoorie is where I was born, and where my parents and grandparents lived. Over the years, my wife, our two children, and I have lived in many other places — Delhi, Cairo, Hawaii, Boston and Denver. In some ways, I consider each of those points on the map to be home, even if I always return to the familiar foothills of the Himalaya. Yet, equally important, Mussoorie is also a place from where I depart.

Journeys define us as much as the passports we carry. Having travelled all my life — on work, for leisure, or because of family — I am constantly reminded that whenever I leave home my identity may be challenged, confirmed or sometimes even changed by the destinations I choose. In many ways, I feel most at home being a foreigner, crossing borders and going to places where I don’t belong.

Inscribed on the ruins of a temple on the Turkish coast, close to the border of Syria, along the route my father travelled in 1933, are the words of the second-century philosopher Diogenes of Oenoanda. In a prayerful meditation on the meaning of displacement, he advocates compassion for, “Not least of those who are called foreigners, for they are not foreigners. For, while the various segments of the Earth give different people a different country, the whole compass of this world gives all people a single country, the entire Earth, and a single home, the world.”

Stephen Alter lives and writes in Mussoorie. His most recent non-fiction book is *Wild Himalaya: A Natural History of the Greatest Mountain Range on Earth* (2019) and his latest novel is *Feral Dreams: Mowgli and his Mothers* (2020)

Vatsala Mamgain

HOMECOMING WELCOME RUNS — IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION

Whenever my sisters or I came home, we knew that Daddy would be at the railway station to pick us up, pacing up and down with his impatient athlete’s energy. As the train steamed in, he would start jogging to where he thought our compartment might end up. We would laugh till tears ran down our faces, waving and shouting out to him through the frosted window panes of the AC compartment, as every single time, he sprint-walked his way in the wrong direction, sheepishly doubling back when the train finally stopped.

OF FULFILLS AND REFILLS

My mother’s famous mutton chops, her Hyderabad biryani, her meat loaf, her aloo tikkis, her mouth-puckering pomelo salad spiked with sugar and basil salt, which we ate sitting in the lawn in the winter sun... a list of my food cravings, as long as the perimeter of the former USSR, always arrived at my parents’ home before I did. Ma would be sure to punctiliously knock off every request before it was time for me to leave, even as I lay prostrate like a fat, overfed slug.

And yet, even the things she made routinely — a simple yellow dal with aloo sabzi, the arbi patta patore, the *pahadi palak* which wilted to a sweet vegetal moosh in the iron *kadhai*, the quickly whipped-up pakodas with diced potatoes and onions flecked with

green chillies, the hundred chutneys and salads that always arrived miraculously on the table — they were always fabulous and cosmically comforted me in a way that nothing I ate anywhere else ever did.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Daddy’s news was always vastly different from Ma’s. Spilled on the drive back home from the station, his news would likely cover how the un-repairable geyser had been repaired because of his ingenuity, his golf games, the Indian cricket team’s performance and an update on the dogs. Ma’s would wait for the ideal moment and be unveiled with all the pomp and ceremony that real news demands. Updates on births, deaths, career moves, marriages, rifts, petty squabbles and genuine heartaches of friends and family were all covered. Somehow, hearing it over the phone never felt the same as hearing it from Ma face to face — over guavas with masala in the sun, or sitting in their bed, curling one’s toes against the hot water bags as the temperature of the news and the water alternately harmonised and collided.

REVENGE VISITS

Every time we went home, Ma would make sheep’s eyes at us and tell us that no matter what happened, we “had to” visit a few people. “They love you and look forward to your visits,” she would cry, handing us the entire electoral roll of their little town.

Sometimes, she would also schedule random revenge visits. These were people who she didn’t ordinarily deem close enough for us to spend our precious time

That Thing We Had

Home is made of our stories of it — all the beautiful, sad, funny and love-filled tales that speak of who we are and how we began



ILLUSTRATION: SUVAJIT DEY

home visiting. But because their daughter had come from Dubai two months ago, and not only shown up at Ma’s door but also carried some dates stuffed with almonds, the only fitting reply would be a revenge visit by us, clutching something equal to, but not eclipsing, the social, financial or aesthetic value of the dates. We always told Ma that the only way she could actually get us to meet everyone she wanted us to, would be to hire an elephant to perambulate majestically across town with us atop it, like the children getting bravery awards on Republic Day, waving enthusiastically to all her friends and associates.

EAU D’HOME FOR THE HOMESICK

Daddy used Old Spice, a hugely generous slathering of Nivea face cream scooped out from the old-fashioned blue tin and a really vile smelling hair oil called Cantharidine, which I have never seen anywhere except on his dressing table. Ma used Johnson’s Baby Oil, Pond’s Dreamflower talc, and, pushed heavily by us, Nivea deodorant. Their garden smelled of flowers, of mowed grass, of whiffs of woodsmoke from the villages in the distance, of the fruits on the mossy trees. The house sometimes smelled of damp. The cutwork dining-table cloth and the towels, most of which I recognised from my childhood, all smelled of the sun. The dogs smelled of dog. There is a secret but precise alchemy with which these came together to create the most beloved, the one, the only — *Eau d’Home*.

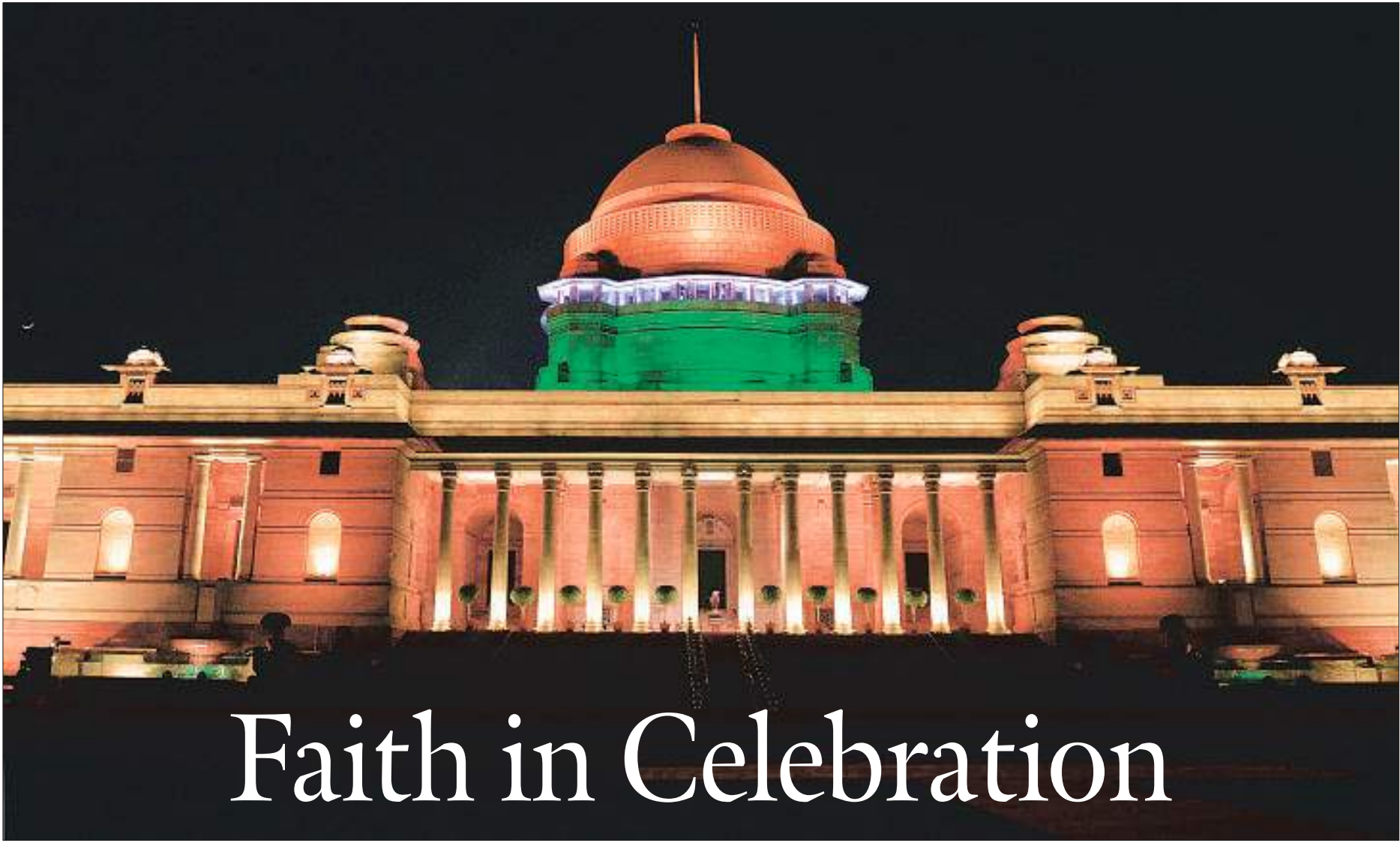
HOMECOMING WHEN YOU CAN’T GO HOME

My darling eldest sister, an ace at math, is so spaced out that we know she was abducted by aliens as a child and is, as we speak, being controlled by a benevolent alien mothership. We had a dog called Rakshi who won all the dog shows for obedience, and one called Honey who had trained us to expect that she would only ever sit on the couch and leap down just for food. My middle sister once had a too-enthusiastic tot of brandy the night before her board exams to cure a cold and walked around on her knees quacking like a duck instead of studying geography. My dad kept telling us to “Relax! Relax! Relax!” when we got injections, which was weird because we weren’t at all scared, but he would be so tense every time he got one that the needle would invariably break. My mother loved mangoes and would eat a kilo of *langda* every day in season and when she got sick from it, she would claim it was the *lauki* that did her in.

Home is our stories of home — all the everyday, ordinary, funny, sad, beautiful, rage-inducing, love-filled tales that speak of how we began and who we are. And, when there is no homecoming on the cards, because of where we are or how far we have travelled or because some of the people we call home are never going to be home anymore, that’s all we can do. Tell our stories, all of them, and let love lead us back home. This season of renewal and homecoming — happy Diwali!

Vatsala Mamgain is a glutton, cook, runner, tree lover, shopper, reader and talker

New Delhi



Faith in Celebration

COURTESY: RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN PHOTO ARCHIVES

Over the years, festivals have lit up the halls and corridors of the President’s Estate, honouring the country’s diversity and syncretic ideals

Sunil Trivedi and Ankit Jain

MANGEY RAM was entrusted with the task of maintaining the President’s library. And he was as passionate about organising the annual Ram Lila as he was about cataloguing books. The humble employee claimed to have directed many Ram Lilas that veritably proved to be nurseries for acting talents, even for Bollywood stars, including Shah Rukh Khan.

Mangey Ram had been a regular visitor to the Ram Lila at the Rashtrapati Bhavan even after his retirement in 2014, until last year, when the pandemic interrupted our lives. Mirza Nafees Baig, who retired as a chief cook, also had the distinction of playing the role of the demon king Ravana, with the ease of a consummate actor. There are many such stories within the 330-acre campus of the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

It is the festival season again, and we will be celebrating Diwali soon. The community of more than 5,000 people within the President’s Estate represents a cross-section of India at its most diverse, as do their celebrations. Last year, however, the pandemic had snuffed out celebrations at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

When C Rajagopalachari became the first Indian occupant of the Bhavan, religious events and celebrations resonated with India’s cultural vibrancy. During the Diwali of 1947 — the first festival of lights in independent India — Rajaji happened to be the interim governor-general as Lord Mountbatten was

away. He conveyed the greetings to the people on a sombre note that reflected the trauma of Partition: “We may not have the mind to indulge in festive rejoicings when we are surrounded by difficulties, and so deeply immersed in anxieties as we are today, but Deepawali is a great national day associated with hope and joy from time immemorial in India. The lights that are lighted on that day also represent the hope for more and more enlightenment...”

The first President, Dr Rajendra Prasad, started the tradition of Diwali celebrations at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. His diary has an entry, dated October 18, 1952, noting that he witnessed the Diwali evening illumination for two hours. He also mentions that there had been very little arrangement for Diwali celebrations in 1951 and many people, especially the Prime Minister, had desired that Diwali celebrations at the Bhavan must be better organised. Nowadays, the Rashtrapati Bhavan shines bright every evening with the dynamic facade lighting installed ahead of the Republic Day. The illuminated Rashtrapati Bhavan, with the North and South Blocks and India Gate, has become a visual symbol of a modern India on the move towards a brighter future.

The President’s Estate has a *mandir*, a *masjid*, and a gurdwara within it and a church adjoining it. Presidents have been visiting these places of worship. Former president Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed had sanctioned financial assistance for upgrading the mosque and



LOVE AND LIGHT

(From top) The dynamic facade of the Rashtrapati Bhavan against the night sky; president Rajendra Prasad receiving Diwali greetings; Mangey Ram with Shah Rukh Khan, when the actor received the Padma Shri in 2005



the temple in the Estate. Presidents have been taking part in the Khatam Shareef ceremony, which is held upon the completion of the recitation of the Quran during the month of Ramzan. There was a tradition of holding *iftar* parties during Ramzan, though it was discontinued during the presidency of APJ Abdul Kalam (2002-07), who decided to use the amount spent on them for distributing food, clothes and blankets to orphanages.

President Ram Nath Kovind celebrates Eid and Janmashtami every year with residents of the Estate. In 2020, he gifted a high-end racing bicycle to a talented schoolboy named Riyaz, who was passionate about cycling but could not afford a racing bike. The president’s gift was like *Eidi* (gift) for Riyaz.

Gurbani recital on Gurpurab, the birth an-

iversary of Guru Nanak, and meeting with Jain and Buddhist monks on Mahavir Jayanti and Buddha Jayanti have been regular events in which most presidents have participated. President Giani Zail Singh organised *gurbani* recitals at the Ashoka Hall. He also shared *langar* with the invitees in the true spirit of Guru Nanak’s message of *Naam Japo, Kirat Karo, Vand Chhako* (the three pillars of Sikhism — focus on god, honest living, sharing with others). Other presidents have also organised *gurbani* recitals and special programmes to celebrate Gurpurab. The gurdwara at the Rashtrapati Bhavan is managed by the President’s Bodyguard, the oldest regiment of the Army. President Kovind inaugurated the renovated gurdwara last year on the occasion of 550th birth anniversary celebrations of Guru Nanak.

The Bhavan also has living and growing links with the Buddha’s legacy. In November 2017, President Kovind planted a six-inch sapling from the Mahabodhi tree at Bodhi Gaya, Bihar, in the Rashtrapati Bhavan’s garden, in the presence of representatives of interfaith delegations and members of the Harijan Sevak Sangh; today it is six-foot tall. In July, he planted one more sapling from the Mahabodhi tree in the Rashtrapati Bhavan on the occasion of Asadha Purnima, which Buddhists observe as the Dharma Chakra Day. India has countless regional festivals, some of which are celebrated at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. In his memoirs *My Presidential Years* (1994, HarperCollins), president R Venkataraman recalls the celebration of Kolu — the festival of dolls — celebrated during Dussehra in Tamil Nadu. It was once organised in the Ashoka Hall under the guidance of the first lady, Janaki Venkataraman. “We had carried a Tamil Nadu tradition into the Ashoka Hall,” he wrote.

The warp and weft of the rich tapestry of Indian culture and spirituality have been woven and strengthened presidency after presidency at the President’s Estate by celebration of festivals. It is India at its festive and harmonious best.

Sunil Trivedi is Officer on Special Duty (Research), and Ankit Jain is Officer on Special Duty (Communications), at the Rashtrapati Bhavan

Staying Curious

Architect BV Doshi on how homes can be places for accidental dialogue



GETTY IMAGES

THE EARTH AND ITS FULLNESS

Homes should be living organisms that adapt to change

WHEN I decided to build a house in Ahmedabad in the late '50s, I wondered what kind it would be for us and our daughters. They were very young and had started school. I thought it would be good to plant some trees to invite the birds and butterflies. Then the flowers would come and we could talk about seasons and colours, the habits of plants and animals. And if all this could be given to them, then they would look at the sky, feel the rain, and find a place to play. In that way, they would be a part of a world that is constantly changing and growing.

The best part about life is change. It’s the sense of wonder and curiosity it allows. Today, when we make houses with glass and air-conditioning, we have forgotten what it is like to feel the heat and the cold, what rain sounds like or what seasonal flowers smell like. We have forgotten to think about our own skin. If one walks barefoot, one feels the pressure of walking over stones, the softness of sand, the splash of water on the feet. We dress up ourselves and our spaces so much now that we don’t feel the changing seasons any more.

So, how do we find ourselves in our homes? How does one know there are dark clouds in the sky, and thunder, and suddenly, there is rain. If that were to happen, and you feel like going out and playing in the rain, we don’t know how our bodies will react. Can we dance and sing in the rain? All those things that we had as a response to our environment have become mechanical now. Our organs were designed for evolution and experience which touches our hearts. If we can give that to people, then we have given them back their lives.

At the moment, I’m sitting in my house, it’s 4pm, and there’s such beautiful light streaming in as the sun sets. The shadows are changing as the light is changing. A house must make you feel alive, it should be a living organism that breathes and gives tonality to the elements and seasons.

The other thing about houses today is that we don’t know our neighbours. We don’t even hear them, we have only our TV sets. Life is to be seen and celebrated. And that celebration can happen only if we can integrate nature with humanity, with all its sounds and sights.

When I was growing up in Pune, every house had a verandah and a balcony. Neighbours were close enough to hear sounds from their houses. People would come and go through our homes — the carpenter, the goldsmith, the milkman and vendors. Festivals and birthdays belonged to everyone. Today, the terrace is gone, the balcony is gone.

In my childhood home, our doors were always open because we only had fans to keep the place cool. So, we were present with our neighbours, with all the sounds, we were fully alive. And whatever food they made, I could smell it in my house, and would invite myself over to my neighbour’s. There was always the element of surprise. There was sharing — of joys, of sorrows, of scarcity and life. This not only made us feel secure but it fulfilled every social, emotional and cultural need. We were never lonely.

Festivals were tied to seasons, to dance, drama, and dialogue. Men and women got together to gossip; I think the world needs gossip. Instead, we’ve become quieter and lonelier now. Rooms and living areas were shared, but now it’s his bed and her bed, his room and her room.

Homes must become places where accidental dialogues can happen, they have to once again become places of serendipity, of discovery.

As told to Shiny Varghese

Let the Lights Guide You Home

Diwali leads us to that place where we learn to become one with the self and the world

IF COVID-19 is the darkness that has challenged all of us in the past many months, then Diwali comes with positive reinforcement about what life really is. And how blessings can come our way when dealing with the pandemic, or feeling alive.

We are creatures of habit, and comfort lies in keeping things predictable, in not being open to new learning and discovery. The Diwali story teaches us to engage with the self and those we call family and friends, and to reach out to others. Its lessons are not just in-person exchanges, but are possible virtually as well. Whether we are broken by COVID or discovering ourselves for the first time because of novel challenges, Diwali gives us all a chance to bring illumined thinking to the fore.

In my own COVID darkness, even when I was completely alone in quarantine, I knew my family was waiting and watching, and that I would come out at the other end and experience their love and comfort in person again. But during the worst of my pain, I was momentarily gripped by fear and loneliness, by emotions and mortality. I lost my connection to my real being, that soul inside of me, my consciousness, my breath, my *sanctum sanctorum*. And then, I thought of the ebony-dark 15th day of Diwali — the night of Lakshmi Puja. That moment when we light lamps with hopes of driving away lugubrious thoughts and replacing it with enlightenment. It was this and other memories of Diwali, and the lessons I’ve learnt from my elders over the years, that brought me home to hope and living.

SLICE OF LIFE

Suvir Saran

Suvir Saran is a chef, author, educator and world traveller

Firecrackers and noisemakers — who would think that anything positive could come from polluting the already polluted air? When confronted with this question, my parents taught me that firecrackers and noisemakers bring us to an awakening and acceptance of the other and our place in this shared

world. They taught me about long silences and cacophonous moments and that, with both, we have to learn to make our peace.

Of course, there is only so much time that anybody with a thinking brain can spend outside in the smoggy Delhi night, and being indoors is where we all celebrate and connect with during Diwali. Food, gossip, teasing, singing, making merry and card games seem to occupy our minds happily.

When I asked my *dadi* what role gambling played during Diwali, she smiled, brought me close, and said, “Smart one, you think I will be befuddled by this question? Think again. Here, too, our traditions come with a life lesson. Win or lose, while gambling, you learn about taking risks. You might have to bluff and utter a white lie; you have to make do with what you have. With mindful attention and careful planning, you might expand your reach, but the best come to it with a commitment to act and change the environment around them.”

On the 17th day of Diwali, after we have settled back into our lives and made peace with who we are and what our lot in life really is, we again are called into action. Bhai Dooj is the day when a brother visits his sister to ensure that all is comfortable in her world. When I asked my *nani* why our family observed this festival with a daylong celebration of the bonds between siblings and relatives, she waxed poetic about how it is a lesson in sharing and caring, living and loving, and the acceptance of our life no matter what we might be living through at any given moment.



SUVIR SARAN

FULL CIRCLE

We feel at home wherever we are, and even when all alone

In our coming together, we learn about the protean act that is a lifetime. Good or bad harvest, rich or poor finances, the happiness or sadness of any given moment, our fortunes of luck and love are out of our control. To be happy, we must find contentment — and not the material hunger for more — and let that be our driving force.

Dadi and *nani* gave me broad and lofty lessons for my young brain. Over three decades, after conversations with these grandmothers, I can reflect, appreciate and comprehend their

storytelling. I’m most grateful for their words, but it was the back porch that called me then and in which I still find peerless joy. On that porch, my mother would work tirelessly to make an altar with grains, sweets, incense and oil lamps. She created beautiful, elaborate *rangoli* on the floor and placed countless candles and oil lamps within the pattern that enhanced the colours and made the shapes dance in the golden light. She placed multi-coloured plants and flower arrangements around the *rangoli* to make it even more festive.

From her amazing, beautifully circuitous and repetitive patterns, I learnt about the ups and downs of life, the complexity of our journey and existence, and how these festivals and customs connect us to our familial and individual past and to our hopes for future years. Diwali is about coming a full circle and yet always going forward.

When I remember these lessons of Diwali, I remember that home is where the heart is, and the heart is at home when one is at peace with oneself. We are not separated from one another when we are connected. Home is deep inside us, not grounded in a GPS location. It is a connection between mind and soul. If we have that connection working, and are feeding our soul with the nourishment of mindfulness, then we are at home and at peace with self, and at peace with the world at large. When the plumbing between our brain and our soul has a fluid passage, it is then that we live with a socio-emotional connect that is at once purposeful and fulfilling. We feel at home wherever we are, and even when all alone.

Diwali and its many stories shared by my family through our culture, tradition, rituals, took me beyond dogma, enlightened my soul, and brought me back to my inner core, to my home. A sometimes-dark place, mostly elusive and never fully comprehensible, it is that place to where, when I am anchored, my life has no more questions. Answers abound, possibilities seem endless. Hope is its currency, love its intrinsic nature, and trusting the self and others *dé rigueur*.

Whether eating, praying, gambling, lighting firecrackers, or being sick with or of COVID, Diwali is the light and the path that leads us home to that place where we learn to become one with the self and the world. What greater pleasure could one wish for?

Happy Diwali and enlightenment to all!



New Delhi





GETTY IMAGES

Borrowed Aching

In the battle for ownership, finding a shared home in each other’s pain

Devashish Makhija

Bengali by first name
Sindhi by surname
Calcuttan by habit
Bengalorean by upbringing
Occupationally Mumbaikar
Indian, yet stateless

AFTER NEARLY three decades trying to belong somewhere, I have ended up close to nowhere and far from anything I can dare to call “home”. I was born in a rented home occupied by roughly five refugee Sindhi families — my father’s and all his brothers’. I grew up in a small rented home in a *mohalla* populated by Bangladeshi refugee families. My father sold saris all his life out of a rented shop, mostly to immigrant Tamilian families in south Calcutta. And ever since I landed in Bombay 18 years ago, I have shifted in and out of nine rented homes, shared with diverse immigrant flatmates. As a result, I have grown suspicious of the idea of the “ownership” of things. The only thing I feel comfortable calling my own is my artistic output.

It’s not only geography, history or demographics that make me feel rootless, but also a sharply specific night that permanently altered any defined edges that my religion may have had up until then. On December 6, 1992, the aftermaths of the Babri Masjid demolition quickly reached our Calcutta *mohalla*. We were almost attacked that night. That night of dread — of the anticipation of murder, rape and vicious decapitation — burnt into my mind and heart permanently. I did not leave that night with hate though, but an all-consuming confusion. I didn’t know it then, but looking back many years later, I’ve started to understand, perhaps, why I balk at the idea of belonging, of roots, of home, of ownership — all joined at the hip. These are at the heart of all unnecessary human conflict.

In 2014, I had reached out to several wonderful folk in Pakistan to help me journey to Shikarpur, Sindh, where my parents came from, to understand if there’s a place that may “feel” like my own, perhaps to refute the frightening personal truths beginning to solidify within me. The day I was to board that flight to Karachi, there was a bomb attack at the Karachi airport. With flights cancelled, things never went back to how they used to be. Shikarpur was hard to access because of Taliban control. Finally, after years of wrestling with the voices inside my head, I began to embrace the fact that I may never “belong” to a place or people. I have been jettisoning chunks of my life ever since.

The only “things” I used to be possessive of were my books, until about a decade ago. Since then, I have been doing annual “book-adoption-drives” on social media, where I’ve given away more than 8,000 of my books by now.

By the end of 2014, my book of short stories was published. *Forgetting* (HarperCollins) — 49 stories about people trying to forget, recalibrate, shed old skins, carve new fate lines, all the things I have spent half a lifetime trying to do.

Realising that my own rootlessness and sense of unbelonging had no resonance in contemporary times, I began to seek my home in the stories of the “outsiders”, those who don’t find enough representation in what we call the “mainstream”. The violently dispossessed Adivasi (*Oonga*, 2013/’21, Tulika Books), the delegitimised, impoverished classes (*Ajji*, 2017), and migrant labourers (*Bhonsle*, 2018). I’ve tried to appropriate their sense of dislocation as my own, since mine — although painfully palpable to me — is, at most, an abstraction to others. Make no mistake, I indict myself of “appropriation”. I’m aware, no matter how much and how earnestly I research someone else’s “homelessness”, I may never truly know what it feels like to them, in the chilled marrow of their bones. At best, I can surmise on the basis of what my marrow feels like. And in that borrowed aching, I hope to someday alleviate my own.

Devashish Makhija is a Mumbai-based filmmaker and author



ILLUSTRATION: SUVAJIT DEY

Amrita Shah

FIFTYYEARS ago this week, on a late October day, Ahmed Timol, a South African anti-Apartheid activist of Indian descent died after falling from the 10th storey — the notorious Security Branch — of the John Vorster Square police station, Johannesburg. The police claimed Timol’s death was a suicide and joked that “Indians can’t fly”. A second inquest in 2017-18 held that Timol had been killed and charged Apartheid-era cop Joao Rodrigues with pre-meditated murder. Rodrigues died last month before his upcoming prosecution, leaving victims of Apartheid crimes, including many of Indian origin, with a sense of justice denied.

It is not in South Africa that I hear about Timol but in an Indian west-coast village, around 7,000 km away. In a photograph of Timol’s funeral, hundreds of men, distinctly Indian in appearance, surround the bier. Their roots can be traced to this village I have wandered into, in pursuit of information about a spontaneous migration of free-willed Indians to South Africa in the late 19th century; a phenomenon that is surprisingly little known in India, except in connection with MK Gandhi who went there as a young lawyer in 1893.

The background to Gandhi’s sojourn was the export of Indian indentured labour to British colonies in Africa and the Caribbean following the abolition of slavery by the UK in 1833. Indentured workers landed in Durban in 1860. The need to supply them with food and clothing created opportunities for trade. In 1877, Queen Victoria, crowned Empress of India, declared “Ourselves bound to the natives of our Indian territories by the same obligations of duty which bind us to all our other subjects.” The world’s largest reserves of diamonds and gold were discovered in South Africa. The new geography of the empire beckoned.

People in western India then, reeling under colonial taxes, had an unexpected windfall in a surging demand for Indian raw cotton, courtesy the American Civil War; the demand, though short-lived, provided enough spare cash to buy one’s way out. The traders went from the Gujarat coast: a few from Saurashtra like Gandhi’s host, Dada Abdulla, who was a Memon trader from his hometown Porbandar, and many from Surat and its rural outskirts.

A more extensive exodus, including individuals from other parts of the country followed, a group of migrants that came to be called “passenger Indians” because they paid their own fare unlike indentured workers. The first lot of migrants was exclusively Muslim, joined over time by Hindus willing to breach the taboo against crossing *kaala paani*. Young men packed their scanty belongings in trunks made from kerosene tins and left — some headed to Mauritius, where the first batch of indentured workers had gone, and some to South Africa.

THE GROUND BENEATH THEIR FEET

In a long history of migrants, indentured or willing, like the Gujaratis of South Africa, the quest for home comes alive in the stories of ocean crossers, rebels and poets



AHMEDTIMOL.CO.ZA



PHOTOS COURTESY AMRITA SHAH

Kholvad, a village on the banks of the Tapi, is 20 km outside Surat, a former Mughal port often referred to as the “Venice of the East”. I see gable roofs reminiscent of European merchant houses, an octagonal oriental window and richly panelled mahogany cabinets mouldering amid the clutter of domestic life. The walls of a former *musafirkhana* sport a mural of drapery, thick folds of green and maroon damask with looped frills and plump tassels, a *Trompe-l’œil* ballroom!

These exotic mansions probably belonged to rural grandees with a connection to trade. Around them, creating a palimpsest of transoceanic exchange, are more modest houses of *émigrés*, empty, with windows enclosed by boards the same colour as the walls, like shut eyelids. Lintels inscribed with phrases from the Quran indicate their owners are Sunni Bohra, Muslim agriculturist-traders, who, according to a 1963 golden jubilee souvenir of the Johannesburg-based Madressa Anjuman Islamia of Kholvad (MAIK), were “toiling tillers, with calloused hands, and sun-burnt skins...(a) humble and obscure community” to whom “came tales of the discovery of Gold in a far-off land, at the bottom of the continent of Africa”.

The pioneers built sprawling businesses overseas from trade, retail, real estate, and shipping. Their success and growing num-



LATITUDES OF LONGING

(Clockwise from top) Indentured labour to Africa were followed by passenger Indians; empty *énigré* houses in Kholvad; poet Idriss Issop Banian; the science hall donated by Hajee Yusuf Ahmed Bhabha of Standerton (SA) at MAI High School Kholvad; Apartheid-victim Ahmed Timol

bers provoked resentment among White settlers leading to the enactment of racially discriminatory laws and Gandhi’s celebrated Satyagraha campaign.

A clocktower flares over the river bank: it arrived from England in 1916, four dials of six-foot diameter each, and a bell weighing 14 mans (522 kg), a Big Ben on the Tapi. Overseas patrons have funded works of public utility and, in Kholvad, a flourishing school, the MAI High School with a science hall donated by “Hajee Yusuf Ahmed Bhabha of Standerton (SA)”.

Within its faded walls, I meet the bespectacled school librarian and find in his collection of magazine clippings and brochures names of expatriate sons/daughters, from the neighbourhood, who reprised the struggles of an earlier generation of migrants in resisting Apartheid. The charismatic internationalist, Yusuf Dadoo; Suliman “Babla” Saloojee, a member of the 1950s Picasso Club which painted political slogans in public places, killed in 1964, possibly by the security police; Amina Pahad; Zubeida Patel and other doughty women who took part in the historic 1956 Womens’ March to the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

Ahmed Kathrada, jailed with Nelson Mandela on Robben Island and a native of Lachpur village (his surname derives from the Gujarati word *katha*, a type of rope made along the coast for use on ships), writes in the

school’s 2014 centenary souvenir about his flat in the five-storey building “Kholvad House” on 27 Market Street in Johannesburg, a hotbed of activism, often visited by Mandela and other African National Congress leaders such as Walter Sisulu and Albert Luthuli.

Ahmed Timol, son of Haji Yusuf Timol of Kholvad, a teacher with a scholarship from the Kholvad Madressa, joined the then-banned South African Communist Party and became part of a peripatetic community of temporary exiles in training. One of the photographs in Imtiaz Cajee’s book *Timol-Quest for Justice: Ahmed Timol’s Life and Martyrdom* (STE Publishers, 2005) shows him in St Petersburg, Russia, and another, strolling with a friend in West Kensington, London. The friend in the picture is another Kholvad native Essop Pahad, who became a minister in the Presidency under Thabo Mbeki in 1999. On the cover is a portrait of Timol, young, dreamy-eyed, tacked onto a card marked “Case No.2361-71” against a tall building with gleaming glass windows

Electric cables hang loose over village lanes lined with small houses bearing names of absent families. Unlike indentured workers, passenger Indians kept a foot in the mainland. Goolam Vahed, a professor of history at Durban’s University of KwaZulu-Natal, whose grandfather went from Kothor, a village on the banks of the Tapi, to Natal as a five-year-old, inherited a pile of letters that had crisscrossed the ocean. The Desais, who own a chain of shops in Port Louis, are scattered by marriage between India and Mauritius. Abdoool Cader Kalla, a retired teacher in Mauritius, has a story about his ancestor’s Creole wife who “carried a pot of thyme with her which still grows in our Indian village.”

Over time, ties weakened and each successive generation in the diaspora visited less. I think about the concept of “home” and what it means in a long history of migration and globalisation and I see before me, on Kholvad’s sloping sunlit streets, a lovely sight: a pencil-shaped house with arches, carvings and motifs. Puzzled by a sudden sense of *déjà vu*, I glance at the sheaf of papers in my hand and realise that I have seen a photograph of the building in a 1990 article in the Parisian weekly magazine *Télé 7 Jours*, about a poet Idriss Issop Banian whose grandfather migrated to Reunion Island from Kholvad in 1897. I read a few lines from his poem *Mulakaat* (*Meeting*):

*Assalamo Alaikum/
O land of ancestors/
From which departed our fathers/
I am your faithful son/
Coming back/
For the desired Mulakaat...The djula is still/
But the well has come/
To hug me/
With its home-sick tears*

Amrita Shah is a writer based in Mumbai/Bengaluru

Precarious Living

At a time when the pandemic has unmoored our sense of place and comfort, what really does home mean?

Gigi Scaria

THE IDEA of home has been at the centre of discussions and debates in a constantly changing perspective introduced by the pandemic. Many of us had come back home, never to return to the places we used to work. Many were stranded, as if stuck in limbo, never imagining that their stay would be extended for so long. Many of us felt the frustration of being back to unwelcoming homes and imposed stays. Many heaved a sigh of relief to have a home to return to and enjoy its comfort — always impossible owing to our tight work schedules and constant travel earlier.

These thoughts bring me to the question of what constitutes a home? As we all know, the answer to that question is entangled in various factors. It will never be understood in the con-

ventional sense of the social system alone. Home is a comfort, a longing, a never-ending search for the pursuit of friendship and happiness, for mindfulness, understanding and connection with nature and family. But home is also understood by homelessness or a transit home, that offers temporary shelter; it is also a social and political construct. Home is something on sale when we look around in this vast urban reality. It is a built structure that keeps your entire life in debt to a bank or in mortgage. Nations are built on the permanent assurance to citizens that generations will be nurtured and will prosper on this land because of a secure environment for work and life. A false assurance that fell flat on the reality of internal migrations, farmers’ suicides, the widening gap of disparity between the haves and have-nots and the forced displacement from one’s land and livelihood.



COURTESY: GIGI SCARIA

HOME IS WHERE THE ART IS

Scaria’s brass installation *Home In/Out* (2021)

The hard reality of homecoming is further blemished by the uncertainty surrounding the home itself. Returning to one’s abode may also be met with alienation and unfamiliarity. Our mind has to be constantly readjusted to own the unfamiliar. There is an unsettling condition that is brought by the pandemic to reconfigure the reality we live in — a situation where our existence is on shaky ground, living through a prolonged experience of being nowhere along with the hope of “things will be all right in a few weeks or months”. The physical stagnation propelled the mind to wander for a time being, and then stooped into depression. With an unstable mind, we are witnessing changing ecosystems, shocking political indifferences and various mutations of the same virus. Homecoming or being at home continuously threatens our ability to own a space in the world. The price we pay for being and belonging is much higher than the one for the state of permanent transit. The current system of politics and their various cooperative initiatives make every citizen a fugitive in their own country, running away from the idea of belonging, home and homeland.

Gigi Scaria is a Delhi-based artist