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CASE RECORDS SHATTERED ACROSS U.S., EUROPE [PAGE 15](#)

Migrants in mind, Delhi says no new curbs for now; cases surge to 923

MALLICA JOSHI
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

EVEN AS the Capital reported 923 cases on Wednesday — the highest since May 30 (946) when the second wave was waning — and a positivity rate of 1.29%, officials said the Delhi government will not issue an “amber alert” for now, as it doesn’t want to trigger panic among migrant workers.

“The government is wary of creating a situation where there is a migrant worker exodus again because of panic. Moreover, bed occupancy in hospitals is still very low. Delhi is among the few states to have issued strict re-

strictions to control the spread of the Omicron variant and it was felt that stricter directions are not needed at this time,” said a senior government official, adding that an “amber alert” will not be issued even if the positivity rate is more than 1% for two consecutive days.

The decision was taken at the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) meeting on Wednesday, which was called to discuss further restrictions and the vaccination programme.

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MORE REPORTS
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AFTER MAHARASHTRA 2019 ELECTIONS

PM said think of tie-up, I said not possible: Pawar

‘Manmohan & I were against vendetta targeting CM Modi’

MANOJ MORE
PUNE, DECEMBER 29

NCP CHIEF Sharad Pawar said Wednesday that the BJP was eager to tie up with his party after the 2019 Maharashtra elections but he was not in favour of such an alliance and told Prime Minister Narendra Modi that “it was not possible”.

Speaking at the launch of *Ashtavdhan*, a coffee table book published by *Loksatta*, the



NCP chief Sharad Pawar with Bharat Forge MD Baba Kalyani at the book launch in Pune on Wednesday. *Arul Horizon*

Nitish push, CJI worry: With 3.5 lakh cases, prohibition clogs courts, jails

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, DECEMBER 29

BIHAR CHIEF Minister Nitish Kumar, currently on his statewide “Samaj Sudhar Abhiyan” (social reform campaign) yatra to create public awareness on liquor prohibition, slammed those opposed

to prohibition. He said those who drink and have a problem coming to Bihar because of the unavailability of liquor didn’t need to come to the state.

Delivering a speech last Sunday, Chief Justice of India N V Ramana had cited the Bihar prohibition law as one example of “lack of foresight” in drafting

legislation that leads to courts being inundated with cases and “a simple bail application” taking a year to be disposed of.

What Nitish glossed over is the fact that since the enforcement of the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act, 2016, courts have been clogged and jails overcrowded.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Hyderpora: J&K Police gives itself clean chit, now threatens critics

BASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 29

A DAY AFTER giving themselves a clean chit, the J&K Police’s Special Investigation Team (SIT) Wednesday issued an unusual warning threatening penal action against those critical of the police’s conclusions in the November 15 Hyderpora encounter. The SIT was constituted

on November 16 to probe the encounter following questions raised by families of the three civilians killed in the action by the security forces.

The SIT’s warning on Wednesday comes after a chorus of outrage from political leaders and people to police statements at a press conference on Tuesday that one civilian was killed by the foreign militant and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

NAGALAND KILLINGS

Army to give state probe panel access to personnel

KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

THE SPECIAL Investigation Team (SIT) set up by the Nagaland government to probe the Army operation at Oting village in Mon on December 4 that left six coal miners dead will get access to the soldiers involved in the incident. The government had called the incident a case of “mistaken identity”. In the violence that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

EXPLAINED
E Damage control

THE ARMY’S decision to allow the state inquiry panel access to its men is another step to contain damage from the incident. Earlier, the Centre announced a panel to review if AFSPA should be revoked in Nagaland.

Jharkhand’s unique petrol subsidy: Rs 25/litre for 2-wheeler owners

ABHISHEK ANGAD
RANCHI, DECEMBER 29

IN THE first such decision by a state to tackle rising fuel prices, Jharkhand will subsidise Rs 25 per litre of petrol for ration-card holders with two-wheelers, with a likely cap of 10 litres per family



CM Hemant Soren’s plan for those with ration cards

per month, officials said. The modalities of the move to be im-

plemented from Republic Day are still being worked out, they said.

In Jharkhand, petrol currently costs Rs 98.52 per litre, and diesel Rs 91.56.

On Wednesday, while announcing a slew of schemes to mark two years of the JMM-led coalition government,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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FROM PAGE ONE

Sharad Pawar

Marathi newspaper from *The Indian Express* Group, to mark his 81st birthday, Pawar said: "It is true that there was a discussion about an alliance between our two parties. The Prime Minister said we should think about it...However, I told him right in his office that it was not possible and I would not like to keep them in the dark."

Pawar was speaking to *Loksatta* Editor Girish Kuber about his political and social journey spanning more than 50 years after the book, written by eminent personalities from across different sectors, was unveiled by Bharat Forge MD Baba Kalyani.

Recalling the events following the state elections, Pawar said he had made a "mischievous" statement that NCP was seriously considering support for BJP. "This probably sowed doubt in the mind of Shiv Sena, which stepped forward for an alliance with Congress and NCP," he said.

Asked whether he had sent his nephew Ajit Pawar to team up with BJP leader and former CM Devendra Fadnis in what turned out to be an aborted bid to form a government, Pawar said: "If I had sent Ajit Pawar to BJP, then I would not have done an incomplete job."

He said the BJP might have considered a tie-up with NCP because relations between his party and the Congress were strained at the time. In the run-up to the 2019 elections in Maharashtra, the BJP and Shiv Sena had an alliance while the Congress and NCP fought together. The BJP emerged as the single largest party, but could not form the government as its alliance with the Sena broke down over the CM's post.

The BJP then tried to garner the support of a section of the NCP and even got Fadnis sworn in as CM with Ajit Pawar as deputy but this arrangement barely lasted a few hours. Eventually, the Sena switched camps and formed the government with NCP and Congress. "Uddhav Thackeray took a different position because what was decided between him and BJP was not being implemented," Pawar said, adding that the NCP backed the Sena for the late Balasaheb Thackeray, whom he described as a friend.

Asked about the assembly elections to be held in UP, Pawar said: "It is 50-50...there is no clear-cut winner. The way the PM went to UP and announced a slew of projects only shows that the party (BJP) has taken the situation seriously in the state." "Modi did the right thing by contesting the Lok Sabha poll from Varanasi... Because of his decision, the people of UP have rallied behind him... I contested 14 elections, seven of which were Lok Sabha polls, but I never thought of contesting from outside the state," he said.

Speaking about Modi, Pawar said: "He is ready to put in a lot of hard work and give time...He pays a lot of attention to the administration. However, if the general public's problems are not resolved, the impact will not be seen...I find him lagging here. He believes in strong implementation of policy decisions and he has his own style of taking his government forward."

He added that "when we meet, I never discuss state issues like ED (Enforcement Directorate) action against our leaders". On Wednesday, the ED submitted a supplementary chargesheet against NCP leader Anil Deshmukh in the money-laundering case filed in connection with alleged bribes collected from bar owners in Mumbai. Pawar referred to Deshmukh's case while speaking on "politics of vendetta". "Anil Deshmukh, who was Home Minister in the MVA government, has been arrested primarily on the charge of Rs 4 crore deposited in his bank account by a firm. On this one charge, a 700-page chargesheet has been filed. It shows the extreme attitude to-

wards an individual and a party," he said. The NCP chief said that he and former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh were against "politics of vendetta", which some Cabinet colleagues in the then UPA Government were in favour of, against Modi when he was Gujarat Chief Minister.

Asked whether he should have set up NCP before 1999, Pawar said: "Though my family had Left political leanings, I was inspired by the ideology of Gandhi, Nehru, and Yeshwantrao Chavan. I was suspended by the Congress for six years as I expressed my views openly in the party's meeting...After that, I had the task of providing a platform for my supporters...but I never left the ideology of Gandhi, Nehru and Yeshwantrao Chavan." He said that he had never wanted to return to Maharashtra politics in 1991 as Chief Minister. "But once I returned, I accepted it as a challenge," he said.

Asked about his relationship with the late Balasaheb Thackeray, Pawar said: "Balasaheb (Thackeray) never hesitated about using the choicest words against me...but we always remained friends, cooperated and often discussed issues affecting the state."

Responding to a question on tensions within the ruling coalition in Maharashtra, Pawar said he was "not worried" about the stability of the MVA government. "I was worried about the CM's health but in the last 10 days, he seems to be taking all the decisions," he said. Asked whether a change is possible in future elections, Pawar said: "On the election field, it is not important as to who is in front of you. If people decide, change takes place..."

He said that in elections after the Emergency, there was no leadership in front of Indira Gandhi. "But different parties came together and fought the election. Morarji Desai was not the Prime Ministerial candidate from the Janata party then. Today, the situation is the same...However, there is a need for different parties to come together and form a front."

Liquor cases

State police records show that 3,48,170 cases have been lodged

and 4,01,855 arrests made under the Bihar Prohibition and Excise law until October this year. About 20,000 bail applications relating to these cases have been pending for disposal before the Patna High Court and district courts in the state. The Patna High Court disposed of 19,842 bail pleas (anticipatory and regular) in liquor prohibition cases between January 2020 and November 2021, with the overall bail pleas disposed by the court during this period being 70,673. Until this November, 6,880 bail pleas in such cases have still been pending before the high court, with the overall bail pendency figure standing at 37,381.

Altogether Bihar's 59 jails have the capacity to accommodate about 47,000 prisoners. However, there are currently about 70,000 prisoners in these jails, nearly 25,000 of whom were booked under the liquor law, according to jail sources. With the Bihar police intensifying its drive against liquor prohibition violators since the hooch tragedies struck Gopalganj and Bettiah in early November this year, about 10,000 alleged violators were arrested in November alone. This has resulted in further crowding of jails across the state. Beur Central Jail in Patna has a capacity to accommodate about 2,400 prisoners, but it is currently packed with 5,600 prisoners.

A jail superintendent said: "Every third or fourth prisoner is an accused under the liquor law. This has been the trend since 2017. We had some respite in 2019 and 2020 with most getting bails, but the number of liquor law violators has been surging again in jails".

When reached for comment, Bihar additional director of police (Headquarters) Jitendra Singh Gangwar told *The Indian Express*, "IG (Prisons) can share details regarding liquor law". IG (Prisons) Mithilesh Mishra, was, however, not available. A home department source said: "The conviction rate in liquor cases is less than one per cent. But about 75 special courts are being set up for quick disposal of cases under the liquor prohibition and excise law".

Meanwhile, Nitish Kumar continues to double down on his campaign for liquor prohibition in Bihar. During his current yatra, the

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Doctors' protest, 5G, and Pak's concern for Indian Muslims

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CM had, in Gopalganj on 24 December, said: "Death sentence to 9 people (this March) by Gopalganj court in 2016 hooch case serves a big lesson to drinkers and traders. *Pyogto to maroge* (If you drink, you will die)".

Hyderpora

another in the crossfire. The third civilian from Ramban who was also killed in the encounter, the police said, was a militant, a claim denied by his father. The parties termed the police version as an attempt to "cover up" and "justify the murder".

The JK Police had called the press conference even as the findings of a magisterial inquiry ordered by the J&K Lieutenant Governor have not been made public. The press conference on Tuesday was addressed by Deputy Inspector General and SIT in-charge Sujit Kumar. J&K Director General of Police Dilbag Singh and Inspector General (Kashmir) Vijay Kumar were also present.

Observing that it had come across media posts which cast doubts on the evidence obtained by the SIT so far, the Chairman of the SIT (Sujit Kumar) said in a statement, "Today on 29.12.2021 SIT (Special Investigation Team) came across several posts in media from some political leaders and family members wherein they have cast doubts on the evi-

dence obtained by the SIT so far. These people have tried to call it 'Concocted Cover up Story', 'Ornamental Probe', 'Clean Chit to Killers', 'Fairy Tale of Police', etc."

"Such speculative statements from the political leaders have a tendency to create provocation, rumour, fear and alarm among the general masses or particular section of society. This kind of approach is against the rule of law and may attract appropriate penal provisions as envisaged under law," it said. The statement said that political leaders and family members should have approached the enquiry officer with "genuine evidence" after the District Magistrate invited the public to share any information about the incident. It further said, "The SIT constituted in the instant case is still investigating the matter, all such persons are once again advised to provide any type of evidence if they have regarding the incident so that every aspect of investigation is covered and concluded on merits."

Former Chief Minister and National Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah questioned the need for the police press conference, especially since the SIT was still investigating the case. The police want to get away with everything and want no questions asked, former Chief Minister and PDP President

Mehbooba Mufti told *The Indian Express*. "They want to continue enjoying this culture of impunity and punish anyone who comes in the way. Crushing dissent and threatening people into silence has been normalised under the garb of rule of law," she said.

CPM leader and PAGD spokesman M Y Tarigami said, "Police warning of a penal action is like a diktat and crossing all the limits of brazen bizarre display of authoritative tendency."

No new curbs

While the daily case count almost doubled from 496 cases on Tuesday, 73 new cases of the Omicron variant were reported on Wednesday. Delhi's total Omicron tally is now 238; 71,696 tests were conducted on Tuesday (reported a day later) in comparison to a daily average of just over 57,400 tests over the last seven days. According to authorities, about 38% of the total samples analysed at various genome sequencing laboratories in Delhi over the last one week have reported the Omicron variant, which has now overtaken Delta variant (31% of total samples).

Delhi saw two waves of migrant exodus -- in March-April 2020 after the first lockdown was imposed, and in April-May this year when cases spiked during the second wave.

Bed occupancy in city hospitals is low at present -- 262 Covid patients are admitted in hospitals, of which 27 are in ICUs and 15 are on ventilators; 97% of the 8,703 beds are unoccupied.

With the city reporting over 0.5% positivity rate since Sunday, the Delhi government issued a yellow alert under its Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) on Tuesday. All educational institutions, gyms, spas and sports complexes are closed, gatherings at weddings and funerals have been capped at 20, shops in markets and malls are open on odd-even pattern, and occupancy in public transport is capped at 50%.

The amber alert is triggered if any of three pre-decided conditions are met: positivity rate is more than 1% for two consecutive days; or 3,500 cumulative cases are seen in 7 days; or the average occupancy of oxygen beds in hospitals is 700 over a week. This will mean more restrictions, including closure of dining-in at restaurants, salons, barber shops and public parks, weekend curfew, and only 33% occupancy in Delhi Metro.

But, officials said, further restrictions could create panic among migrant workers and increase hardship, which could result in another round of job losses and migration.

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3 THE CITY

No travel, contact history in 60 omicron cases, DDMA accepts community spread possibility

ANONNA DUTT
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

THE POSSIBILITY of community spread of the omicron variant in Delhi was accepted by officials at the meeting of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) Wednesday after investigations into nearly 60 cases of omicron detected over the previous two days were found to have no history of international travel or contact with an international traveller. *The Indian Express* earlier had reported that 52 of the 63 new cases recorded on Monday did not have any history of travel or contact and were being investigated.

"After investigations, around 60 cases were found to have no history of international travel or contact with an international traveller. Hence, the possibility of community transmission of the new variant was accepted at the DDMA meeting," said a Delhi government official. Whether this will change containment, testing and tracking measures is not known yet.

With 73 new cases of omicron variant detected on Wednesday, Delhi again shot past Maharashtra with the highest number of such cases in the country. Delhi's total omicron tally stood at 238, according to government data. The increase in the cases of the heavily mutated new variant could be the reason for the recent surge in cases reported from Delhi.

In fact, omicron has overtaken delta variant in Delhi to be-



Even with milder symptoms, experts say it is better to mask up. Tashi Tobgyal

3 bars sealed over 'protocol violation'

New Delhi: Taking strict action in compliance with the Covid restrictions under yellow alert of GRAP, the Southeast District Magistrate has sealed three high-end clubs and bars — Underpass Cafe at Lajpat Nagar, Blaq at Defence Colony and Minky House Bar at Nehru Place for alleged overcrowding and violating guidelines.

Southeast District Magistrate (DM) Vishwendra said, "Keeping in view the

emergence of Omicron variant and persistent rise in Covid cases, we are conducting frequent raids and surprise inspection at restaurants and bars. During such a raid, these bars were found violating the Covid-appropriate behaviour (CAB). People were seen without masks and these places were overcrowded. We have sealed these premises for prevention of spread and containment of Covid." **ENS**

come the dominant one over the last week, according to data from the three labs that do genomic sequencing for Delhi samples — Lok Nayak, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, and National Centre for Disease Control. 38% of the total samples processed were of the omicron variants, whereas 31% was that of Delta, as per the data.

Aside from the cases previ-

ously investigated, *The Indian Express* has also learnt that 64 of the 73 new cases of omicron detected on Wednesday also do not have any history of travel or contact. In fact, almost all of the people who tested positive for the variant on Wednesday had received both shots of their Covid-19 vaccines, and a couple of them who had a history of international travel had also received a third

dose of Pfizer vaccine.

A second Delhi government official said, "Even till two or three days back we had hardly seen any omicron positive cases in the community. However, since then several such cases without any history of travel or contact are being reported. This clearly shows that the infection has started spreading in the community."

The hospitals treating omicron cases, however, say that the patients have not reported any severe symptoms. "So far we have treated 70 patients with omicron, of which 50 have been discharged. Almost all of them except for probably three persons were asymptomatic. And, even in those who did have symptoms, they had mild symptoms such as low-grade fever, sore throat, and one patient had diarrhoea," said Dr Suresh Kumar, director, Lok Nayak hospital. All but two persons were fully vaccinated; the two had received one dose, according to him.

Even with milder symptoms, experts say it is better to mask up. "So far, what we have learnt is that omicron variant does not cause very severe disease, hospitals have mostly seen people with fever, sore throat and body ache. However, what has also been seen is that the infection is happening even in those who have received both doses of the vaccine. What this means is that we have to depend on masking and social distancing more," said Dr Ekta Gupta, professor of virology at the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences.



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सोच ईमानदार काम दमदार



TOTAL CASES		HOSPITAL BEDS		ICU BEDS	
14,45,102		13,494		2,770	
		13,194		2,736	
	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests	
Dec 28	496	172	1	55,865	
Dec 29	923	344	0	71,696	
Total	2191*	14,17,804	25,107	3,25,75,392	

Genome sequencing: As cases rise, can Delhi keep up?

ANONNA DUTT
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

DELHI ON Wednesday reported 73 cases of the new omicron variant, shooting past Maharashtra again with the highest number of such cases in the country. The capital has reported 238 cases of the new variant since the first case was detected in the country in early December.

The high number of cases in Delhi could be owing to two factors – high traffic of international travellers at Delhi airport and the government sequencing all positive RT-PCR samples with “enough” viral load. Genomic sequencing is a highly sophisticated test that can map out the whole genetic makeup of the virus from a patient sample and assign it a category.

Whose samples get sequenced?

With the threat of the omicron variant, the government made genomic sequencing mandatory for all international travellers who test positive for Covid-19. As for community-level surveillance, for nearly four months, the government has been sequencing the samples of all those who test positive on RT-PCR and have a Ct value of less than 25.

The Ct value or cycle threshold is the number of cycles of amplification a patient sample

has to go through for the virus to be detected. A high Ct value is indicative of a low viral load. Any sample where the virus is detected in more than 35 cycles is considered to be negative, and could likely be from contamination.

“It is difficult to sequence a sample that has a very low viral load, so as per the instructions of the National Centre for Disease Control, we send all samples with Ct value of more than 25 for sequencing to the three designated laboratories,” said a Delhi government official. Both government officials as well as Delhi labs confirmed that they have been sending all positive samples for sequencing.

This, however, discounts those who test positive on the rapid antigen test, even though they are likely to have a higher viral load. Rapid antigen tests detect the virus without amplification and hence people test positive only when the viral load is high.

Over the last one month, almost 90% of the Covid-19 testing has been conducted using the more accurate RT-PCR method, which means samples of almost all those who tested positive for Covid-19 were sequenced.

However, with cases of Covid-19 sharply increasing in the capital, it would be difficult for genomic sequencing efforts to keep up.

How many samples can Delhi



Covid testing underway near the Delhi-Ghaziabad border. Praveen Khanna

labs sequence?

All samples from Delhi are sent to three genome sequencing labs – the National Centre of Disease Control, and the two state-run satellite labs under IN-

SACOG (Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium). The IN-SACOG consists of 10 central laboratories and at least 28 satellite laboratories.

The laboratory at Lok Nayak

hospital, which is the only government centre designated for the treatment of Omicron variant, has a capacity of 100 tests in each cycle.

Every batch of samples has to undergo a series of processes that take about three days before being put into the sequencer for a day, according to virologists working in genomic sequencing labs.

The laboratory at the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences has two sequencers – one that can process 96 samples in a batch and the other that can process 380 samples. The lab is currently using only one machine with the capacity of 380 samples because there is a shortage of smaller reagent kits in the market. Each day, the lab receives around 80 samples that

are processed and stored at -80 degrees Celsius and run together in the sequencer every fourth or fifth day.

At present, the turnaround time for genomic sequencing at the two labs is between five and eight days.

The National Centre for Disease Control, which comes under the Central government, can sequence up to 3,000 viral

genomes in a month. However, along with Delhi, this capacity is shared by east Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chandigarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir, and Punjab.

“Yes, it would not be possible to sequence all samples once the cases have increased. But this is a matter of policy decision. So far, we have instructions to send all samples for sequencing,” said an official from Delhi’s health department.

The official said that the government is likely to take a decision on the sampling for genome sequencing in a “couple of days”. “The government is likely to revert to the old sampling method,” the official said.

Initially, when the INSACOG started working in January this year, the objective was to sequence nearly 5% of the total positive cases. The sampling method was later changed to sentinel surveillance, wherein positive samples from selected sites – representative of the country’s geography – were to be sequenced in addition to samples from any cluster of infections or infections where the symptoms were not typical.

Other than not having the capacity to conduct the test, and the time-consuming, expertise-intensive nature of sequencing, it also costs a lot of money. Its reagents and consumables cost nearly Rs 3,000 to Rs 4,000 per test even at a government cen-

tre. For setting up a new lab, the cost for machines for genomic sequencing goes into crores, unlike RT-PCR for which the machine costs about Rs 15-20 lakh and can be used to diagnose other diseases. This is the reason for the rapid increase in the number of RT-PCR labs across the country.

Can private players sequence Sars-CoV-2 genomes?

In September this year, the government had agreed to allow private sector laboratories to conduct genomic sequencing, wherein anonymised samples will be sent to them. Detailed standard operating procedures for the involvement of the private sector were also released to that effect. However, no private laboratory across the country has been inducted into the IN-SACOG yet.

There are at least eight to ten laboratories across the country that can conduct genome sequencing and add significant capacity to the government’s effort. “With our current machines, we have a capacity to sequence 1,500 viral genomes a week, which can be doubled by increasing manpower. We are willing to join the government’s genome sequencing effort, especially in the light of the new omicron variant,” said Dr Harsh Mahajan, founder and chief radiologist, Mahajan Imaging, which also conducts Covid-19 RT-PCR tests.

Under fire, JNU ICC drops para from sexual harassment counselling announcement

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

AFTER FACING flak over the wording of its announcement of a counselling session on sexual harassment, Jawaharlal Nehru University’s Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) has modified the language.

One line, in particular, had led to raised eyebrows, wherein the ICC had said “girls (are) supposed to know how to draw a tangible line (between them and their male friends) to avoid any such harassments (sic)”.

The first of such monthly counselling sessions is scheduled for January 17. Apart from teachers and students criticising the announcement, National Commission for Women Chairperson Rekha Sharma also tweeted saying it should be withdrawn. “Why all the teachings are always for girls only? Time to teach harassers not the victims. The misogynist circular of #JNU should be withdrawn. Internal committee should have Victim-Centered approach and not otherwise (sic)” she tweeted.

The ICC on Wednesday modified the text twice. Under the subhead “why is this counselling session required”, the point about women drawing “a tangible line” was replaced by: “Boys will be counselled to clearly distinguish between friendship and behaviour that may be considered sexual harassment. Girls

will be counselled on how to avoid sexual harassment.”

However, in a further modification, the entire para was dropped. The invitation now has a section titled “what will be done” during the session: “To keep the students abreast of what constitutes sexual harassment, what could be the prospective repercussions if found guilty of sexual harassment, to answer their queries related to sexual harassment.”

ICC presiding officer Punam Kumari said the changes were made as their intent was misunderstood. “Once we saw the NCW Chairperson’s tweet, I wrote to her saying we had withdrawn it because we didn’t want to cause any hurt. There was also uproar on campus, and we didn’t want to escalate matters,” she said.

“What I meant by that sentence was only that girls should clearly convey what behaviour they like or don’t like. Till the time they don’t do this, they won’t get what they expect from boys. We have seen how not being vocal has caused misunderstandings. Even boys don’t know what impact sexual harassment cases can have on them. They don’t know that it can affect their career. So we needed to tell them about the repercussions of their actions. That was all we wanted. It’s possible the message we wanted to convey wasn’t conveyed clearly, but that will happen through the counselling session,” she said.

296 shelter homes in city, but many spending chilly nights on footpaths

GAYATHRI MANI
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

DESPITE 296 shelters, with over 9,000 beds, hundreds of homeless people continue to spend their nights on sidewalks and footpaths across the national capital – with reasons ranging from proximity to hospitals where they are seeking treatment to not finding enough room at the shelters.

For instance, Anurag, a 32-year-old daily wageer from Prayagraj, spent Tuesday night with his elderly father at AIIMS subway. “My father has stage IV cancer and needs injections five days a week. We could not secure a bed in AIIMS or in the night shelter tents nearby. I enquired at two-three places but all were full. My father cannot walk long distances, so we are taking shelter here,” he said.

Not far from the father-son duo was Anwari, who is suffering from liver disease. “I have been taking shelter in this subway for the last three years as I have to get dialysis frequently. There are no big hospitals back in Saharanpur,” she said. Asked why she did not seek refuge in a night shelter, she said, “My daughter went to look but the beds are full. Also, there are very few tents and shelter homes for women.”

The 40-year-old said people from an NGO provide them two meals a day but finding clean toilet facilities remains a struggle.

The subway, supposed to be used for pedestrian crossing, is occupied by dozens of people, most of whom are here for treatment in AIIMS or Safdarjung hos-



At Sarai Kale Khan. Gayathri Mani

pital.

The Indian Express visited permanent as well as porta cabin shelters at Kashmere Gate, Nigam Bodh Ghat, Hanuman Mandir, Yamuna Bazaar, AIIMS and Sarai Kale Khan, and found that some lacked basic amenities such as light fittings, toilets and water.

Though the shelters provide beds, mattresses, pillows and blankets, cleanliness remains a concern at several places. With shelters lacking ample space, maintaining social distancing too remains a difficult task.

Rihanna, a 15-year-old girl at the Sarai Kale Khan shelter home, said, “I was born and brought up in the area. My family lives here in a permanent one but some of us have been shifted to tents. Earlier, we used to sleep on the ground but now they have provided us with a bed, mattress and blanket. There are issues of safety at night and lack of toilet facilities for women and children, but we are managing. We will shift from here after the winters.”

Salma stays with a daughter and a three-month-old boy at the shelter near CP’s Hanuman

Mandir. “Toilets are not in a good condition; rest everything is fine. We are getting food three times a day,” she said.

Mukesh Kumar, who lives with his family of five, including a six-year-old boy, at the busy ramps of Sarai Kale Khan ring road, said they want to shift to night shelters but find it unsafe. “People consume drugs and drink inside the tents and it is not safe for women. It is just a matter of a month; we will adjust,” he said. Nearby, a 68-year-old from Ferozpur in UP said he tried getting a bed at shelter in Kashmere Gate but was told it’s full.

According to the occupancy report of the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB), there are 296 shelter homes, including four isolation centres. The original capacity is 19,734, while the revised capacity (revised after mattresses on the floor were replaced by beds) is 9,100. The report shows 7,927 beds were occupied as on December 28. Soon, the DUSIB will add 60 new temporary shelter homes. DUSIB member Bipin Rai said 60 more tents will be installed at several

locations across the city by the end of this week. “About 1,200 beds will be added then and DUSIB is also working to rehabilitate homeless people to shelter homes. The problem is that despite many efforts, people do not want to stay in shelter homes. They just refuse to come or will sneak out from the tents and sleep on footpaths. Secondly, many people seen sleeping on footpaths comes from Rajasthan, MP, UP and nearby states for just 20 days from December 25 to January 15 days because during this time, people donate food, money, clothes to the homeless.”

Rai acknowledged there is a lack of space near AIIMS and Safdarjung Hospital since the DUSIB can only install tents on PWD land. “We have space issue outside AIIMS. It is responsibility of the hospital to provide beds or another facility for visitors or family members to stay. We have written to the authority to give us space for temporary tents or a place where we can construct a permanent building or homes for patients and people sleeping on roads and footpaths,” he said.

LONG QUEUES were back at Metro stations, especially near business centres and residential areas, as the government imposed a fresh travel advisory.

New rules that came into effect on Wednesday allow Metro trains to operate at 50 per cent seating capacity, leading to long lines outside several stations, especially key ones like Rajiv Chowk, Mandi House and ITO.

Payal Sinha, a student who had to travel from Lakshmi Nagar to Karol Bagh, said, “This is being done to ensure less contact among people inside trains. But the exposure has only increased due to long queues outside the stations. So I don’t understand if it is of any use.”

The DMRC network’s current span is nearly 392 km with 286 stations (including the Noida-Greater Noida Metro Corridor and Rapid Metro, Gurgaon). Queues were also seen in NCR town stations.

The DMRC had earlier said that entry into Metro stations will be regulated by restricting the number of gates to ensure compliance with the guidelines. Out of 712 gates, 444 will be kept open as of now.

Pratham, who had to board a train from Connaught Place, said, “Instead of closing gates they should keep all of them open even if the entry is restricted. Keeping a few gates open causes long queues and leads to people coming into close contact.”

He said that the government should exert pressure on offices to allow people to work from home since many people do not want to venture out. “Many are left with no option as companies



At Connaught Place on Wednesday. Praveen Khanna

BRIEFLY

Gurgaon reports 151 cases, highest in 7 months

Gurgaon: The district on Wednesday reported 151 fresh cases of Covid, the highest single-day spike in more than seven months. On May 28, the district had reported 171 cases of Covid. According to the district health bulletin, the active cases currently stand at 502. The last time active cases had crossed 500 was on June 9, when Gurgaon reported 581 active cases. The positivity rate was between 1.5 per cent and 2 per cent, which was over 0.5 per cent a week ago. In the last 24 hours, 5,628 tests were conducted. **ENS**

Woman who filed 8 rape cases against 8 men arrested for extortion by Gurgaon police

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
GURGAON, DECEMBER 29

GURGAON POLICE on Wednesday arrested a 22-year-old woman for allegedly extorting money from a man after threatening to implicate him in a rape case if he refused to marry her or pay her money.

Police said that in the last 15 months, the woman has filed eight cases of rape against eight different men at seven police stations in Gurgaon – Rajendra Park, Sadar, Cyber, sector 5, New Colony, sector 10 and City. A closure report has been filed in at least three of the cases. Police said a probe has found that the woman’s mother and an uncle were also part of the alleged extortion “syndicate” and are absconding.

Preet Pal Sangwan, ACP Crime, said an FIR was registered against the woman on charges of extortion and conspiracy on December 23 after a resident of Karnal filed a police complaint alleging that she had been blackmailing him and coercing him to either get married or pay her money.

“He said that the woman had filed a false rape case against him at DLF phase 3 police station in October after he refused to marry her. During questioning, she claimed that she has filed eight cases of rape in Gurgaon. Probe has found that the purpose was extortion and her mother and uncle are also involved in the syndicate. Some cases have been cancelled and the charges of rape being levelled by her in other cases are being investigated,” said the ACP.

Police say her mother and uncle were also involved in the ‘extortion syndicate’. They are absconding

In the FIR registered against the woman, the complainant from Karnal alleged that he got acquainted with her when he rented a house owned by her relative in Gurgaon on October 15.

“He alleged that after exchanging numbers, the woman made repeated phone calls to him and put pressure for getting married. On October 24, the man’s family met the woman, her mother and an uncle to discuss the matter. At the meeting, the woman and her family told him

that she had filed several rape cases in Gurgaon and if he did not marry her immediately or make a settlement of money, she would file an FIR against him,” said ACP.

Police said the same day, the woman filed a case of rape against him at DLF phase 3 police station. “She sent him the FIR on WhatsApp, and the following day, told him that if agreed to marry her, she would make a medical excuse and not record her statement in court,” said ACP.

Police said that in most of the rape cases filed by the woman, she has alleged that the accused had raped her on the pretext of marriage.

On October 26, taking cognizance of the several rape cases filed by the same woman, the Haryana State Commission for Women had written to DGP Haryana police requesting them

to form an SIT for a thorough investigation into the matter. In November, an SIT, headed by DCP HQ Gurgaon, was formed.

Police said that so far, two people have filed a complaint of extortion against the woman.

Astha Modi, deputy commissioner of police (DCP), headquarters, who was heading the SIT, said, “As per our probe, out of the eight cases of rape registered by the woman, a cancellation report has been filed in three cases and in one case, the woman had turned hostile and not recorded her statement in court. In four cases, we have filed a chargesheet and a probe is ongoing, and another case is under investigation. Two people have filed a case of extortion alleging that she had blackmailed them into marrying her and filed a case against them on false charges.”

Bill to free temples from government control soon, says Karnataka CM

DARSHANDEVAIAHB P
HUBBALLI, DECEMBER 29

THE KARNATAKA government is planning to bring in a law to free Hindu temples and religious institutions from state control. Speaking at the two-day state BJP executive committee meeting in Hubballi on Wednesday, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said, "Currently, Hindu temples in the state are under different types of bylaws and rules. Temples that have suffered at the hands of bu-

reaucrats will be freed by our government. We will bring a law which will give rights to the temple management to look after their own development." "We are planning to bring in a new Bill in the next session to make our temples free from state control. The historic decision will be taken soon after consultation with senior party leaders." The Chief Minister said the new law will be prepared before the Budget session of the Assembly. "Before the Budget session a

law would be given shape to make our temples free from restrictions. The temples will be allowed to function freely, without any control or regulations from the state," he said. The announcement came days after the state Legislative Assembly passed the contentious Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Bill, 2021, commonly referred to as the anti-conversion Bill. The Bill is now pending for tabling and passage in the Legislative Council. Speaking about the anti-

conversion Bill, Bommai said, "The Bill will not only become a law, we will set up a special task force to implement it properly in the state." Targeting Leader of Opposition Siddaramaiah for his recent statement that the anti-conversion Bill will be scrapped if the Congress came to power, Bommai said, "His dream will not come true as they won't come to power in the next election. The law ensuring freedom for all to practice their religion will remain permanently."

BJP's salve for Bommai, state panel endorses him

KIRAN PARASHAR & DARSHAN DEVAIAH B P
BENGALURU, DECEMBER 29

IN WHAT will come as a much-needed breather for him, a two-day BJP state executive committee meeting that ended on Wednesday rallied behind Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, with sources saying a warning was issued against encouraging speculation that he was to be removed. The vote of confidence for Bommai comes amidst open calls by BJP leaders for change at the top, and Bommai himself saying in a tearful outburst last week that nothing was permanent. Brought in as a replacement for veteran B S Yediyurappa in July, Bommai, a former JD(S) leader, is considered a stop-gap by the many power centres in the state unit – the message being that the BJP will not go with him as its face for the 2023 Assembly polls.

The CM's position was further weakened after the BJP lost the bypoll from Hangal in his home district in November.

Minister of Large and Medium Industries Murugesh Nirani recently said Bommai was all set to move to the Centre as Union minister, like his father (SR Bommai). Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister K S Eshwarappa said Nirani himself would be the next CM. Though Nirani rushed to clarify that Bommai would lead the BJP by then rumours regarding the CM's removal had got fresh wind.

Other leaders suggested in private that Bommai's days were numbered. One said, "The void Yediyurappa has left in the BJP and among Lingayats can't be filled by Bommai. Factions within the party have directly or indirectly expressed their displeasure." Another leader said, "When a strong



Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommai in Hubballi on Wednesday. PTI

mass leader such as Yediyurappa was replaced by Bommai, the impression that went out among BJP leaders was that they also had a shot at the post." Names that started doing the rounds as possible replacements included Jagadish Shettar and Basanagouda Patil Yatal, apart from Nirani.

Then word got around that a knee problem was likely to put Bommai out of action. Some reports said he would be flying out of the country for treatment.

Given his socialist background, Bommai has been trying to bolster his Hindutva credentials so as to strengthen his position within the BJP, tacitly justifying moral policing incidents, introducing the anti-conversion Bill, and promising to free temples from government control.

National general secretary in-charge of Karnataka Arun Singh said the BJP will fight the 2023 Assembly elections under Bommai's leadership.

A changed man from last week, Bommai asserted that he will remain CM till the elections. "The central leadership has reposed faith in me," Bommai said on Tuesday.

Punjab ex-Congress MLA, who joined BJP, gets Z-category security

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

THE CENTRE on Wednesday granted former Punjab Congress legislator Rana Gurmit Singh Sodhi Z category security, days after he joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Sodhi has been accorded VIP security cover of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), sources said.


Sources said the intelligence Bureau made an assessment of threat on Sodhi's life and



Sodhi

gave a report to the Ministry of Home Affairs following which the Ministry issued orders to accord him CRPF security. Sodhi will have the cover whenever he is in Punjab or Delhi, they said. As part of his security detail, Sodhi will have a contingent of 6-8 commandos travelling with him at all times, the sources said.

Sodhi, 67, a four-time MLA, is considered close to former Punjab CM Amarinder Singh.



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CPRI invites application for one position of Project Associate on **purely temporary basis**, with qualification of B.E/B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering with First class with one year experience in CFD/Ansys Software Analysis. Emoluments Rs.20000/- per month (all inclusive) age limit 30 years, tenure initially for a period of one year. Interested candidates may refer CPRI website <https://cpri.res.in> for details regarding eligibility criteria, educational qualification etc. and submit their application as per the prescribed format posted in website with all relevant copies of documents by post latest by **12.01.2022**. Applications received after the due date will not be considered.

Chief Administrative Officer

EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME (ECHS) POLYCLINIC, BULANDSHAHR EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

1. Stn HQ, Babugarh (Distt-Hapur) invites applications to engage following staff on contractual basis for ECHS Polyclinic, Bulandshahr for a period of eleven/twelve months, renewable for additional period as per policy:-

Post	Vacancies	Salary	Max Age
Office-in-Charge	01	75,000/-	65 Years
Medical Specialist	01	1,00,000/-	70 Years
Medical Officer	02	75,000/-	68 Years
Dental Officer	01	75,000/-	65 Years
Dental A/T/H	01	28,100/-	58 Years
Lab Technician	01	28,100/-	58 Years
Nursing Assistant	02	28,100/-	58 Years
Lab Assistant	01	28,100/-	58 Years
Pharmacist	02	28,100/-	58 Years
IT Network Technician	01	28,100/-	58 Years
Driver	01	19,700/-	55 Years
Peon	01	16,800/-	55 Years
Female Attendant	01	16,800/-	55 Years

2. For terms & conditions, kindly visit our website www.echs.gov.in. For any other query, please contact tele. No. 0122-2338002 (Extn 2311) / 7599426822 between 0900-1300h. Last date of receipt of application is **15 Jan 2022** at Stn HQ, Babugarh, Distt-Hapur (UP), Pin Code-245201. Interview will be conducted on **25 Jan 2022** at **1000 hrs.** Candidates should bring original certificates at the time of interview. All Medical Officers and Medical Specialists should produce a certificate stating that "I will not do any private practice after selection in ECHS Polyclinic, Bulandshahr".

3. Candidates should enclose experience & salary certificates if any alongwith application and two passport size photographs. Medical/Para Medical candidates should have working knowledge of computers.

4. Medical fitness certificate from SMO/CMO should be attached with the application.

OFFER OPENING PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT UNDER REGULATION 18(7) OF SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA (SUBSTANTIAL ACQUISITION OF SHARES AND TAKEOVERS) REGULATIONS, 2011, AS AMENDED ("SEBI (SAST) REGULATIONS") AND CORRIGENDUM TO THE DETAILED PUBLIC STATEMENT FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC SHAREHOLDERS OF

STERLING AND WILSON RENEWABLE ENERGY LIMITED
(formerly known as Sterling And Wilson Solar Limited)
CIN: L74999MH2017PLC292281
Registered Office: 9th Floor, Universal Majestic, P. L. Lokhande Marg, Chembur (West), Mumbai – 400 043
Tel: +91 22 25485300; Website: www.sterlingandwilsonre.com

OPEN OFFER FOR ACQUISITION OF UP TO 4,91,37,420 FULLY PAID-UP EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF RE. 1 EACH ("EQUITY SHARES") AT A PRICE OF INR 375.00 PER EQUITY SHARE, REPRESENTING THE ENTIRE PUBLIC SHAREHOLDING CONSTITUTING 25.90% OF THE EMERGING VOTING CAPITAL (AS DEFINED BELOW) OF STERLING AND WILSON RENEWABLE ENERGY LIMITED (FORMERLY KNOWN AS STERLING AND WILSON SOLAR LIMITED) ("TARGET COMPANY") FROM THE PUBLIC SHAREHOLDERS (AS DEFINED BELOW) OF THE TARGET COMPANY, BY RELIANCE NEW ENERGY SOLAR LIMITED ("ACQUIRER") ALONG WITH RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LIMITED ("PAC 1") AND RELIANCE VENTURES LIMITED ("PAC 2") (HEREINAFTER PAC 1 AND PAC 2 ARE COLLECTIVELY REFERRED TO AS THE "PACS") ("OFFER"/ "OPEN OFFER").

This offer opening public announcement and corrigendum to the DPS (as defined below) ("Offer Opening Public Announcement and Corrigendum") is being issued by Edelweiss Financial Services Limited, the manager to the Open Offer ("Manager to the Offer" or "Manager"), for and on behalf of the Acquirer and the PACs, pursuant to and in accordance with Regulation 18(7) of the SEBI (SAST) Regulations in respect of the Open Offer.

This Offer Opening Public Announcement and Corrigendum should be read in continuation of and in conjunction with: (a) the Public Announcement dated October 10, 2021 ("PA"); (b) the Detailed Public Statement that was published in all editions of 'Financial Express' (English), 'Jansatta' (Hindi), 'Indian Express' (English) and 'Mumbai edition of 'Loksatta' (Marathi) on October 18, 2021 ("DPS"); and (c) the Letter of Offer dated December 23, 2021 along with Form of Acceptance ("LOF"). This Offer Opening Public Announcement and Corrigendum is being published in all the newspapers in which the DPS was published.

For the purposes of this Offer Opening Public Announcement and Corrigendum, the following terms would have the meaning assigned to them herein below:

- (a) "Emerging Voting Capital" means the total voting equity share capital of the Target Company expected as of the 10th Working Day from the closure of the tendering period for the Offer. This includes 2,93,33,333 Equity Shares to be allotted by the Target Company to the Acquirer in terms of the SSA.
- (b) "Public Shareholders" means all the public shareholders of the Target Company who are eligible to tender their Equity Shares in the Offer, except the Acquirer, the PACs, existing members of the promoter and promoter group of the Target Company and the parties to the underlying SSA and SPA including persons deemed to be acting in concert with such parties to the SSA and SPA, pursuant to and in compliance with the SEBI (SAST) Regulations.

Capitalised terms used but not defined in this Offer Opening Public Announcement and Corrigendum shall have the meaning assigned to such terms in the LOF.

- 1. **Offer Price:** The Offer Price is INR 375.00 per Offer Share payable in cash. There has been no revision in the Offer Price. For further details relating to the Offer Price, please refer to Paragraph 7.1 (Justification of Offer Price) beginning on page 48 of the LOF.
- 2. **Recommendations of the committee of independent directors of the Target Company:** The recommendation of committee of independent directors of the Target Company ("IDC") in relation to the Open Offer was approved on December 28, 2021 and published on December 29, 2021 in the same newspapers where the DPS was published. The relevant extract of the IDC recommendation is given below:

Members of the Committee of Independent Directors	1. Mr. Keki Elavia, Chairman 2. Mr. Anil Doctor, Member 3. Ms. Rukhshana Mistry, Member
Recommendation on the Open Offer, as to whether the Open Offer is fair and reasonable	The IDC is of the opinion that the Offer Price of Rs.375.00 per Equity Share offered by the Acquirer and the PACs vide Letter of Offer dated December 23, 2021 is in accordance with the SEBI (SAST) Regulations and is fair and reasonable. However, the shareholders should independently evaluate the offer, market performance of the Equity Shares of the TC and take informed decisions.
Summary of reasons for the recommendation	IDC has perused the Letter of Offer dated December 23, 2021, the Detailed Public Statement published on October 18, 2021 and the PA issued by Edelweiss Financial Services Limited (as the Manager to the Open Offer) on behalf of the Acquirer and PACs. IDC has also had engaged BDO India LLP to independently evaluate if the Offer Price is in accordance with the SEBI (SAST) Regulations. BDO India LLP have submitted their report dated December 28, 2021 to the IDC. Under their report, they have commented that the Offer Price is in compliance with Regulation 8(1) and Regulation 8(2) of the SEBI (SAST) Regulations and is fair and reasonable. IDC has also noted: <ol style="list-style-type: none">The Equity Shares of the Target Company are frequently traded in terms of Regulation 2(1)(i) of the SEBI (SAST) Regulations.The Offer Price is in accordance with Regulation 8(1) and 8(2) of the SEBI (SAST) Regulations.The Offer Price is the highest negotiated price per Equity Share of the Target Company i.e., INR 375.00, under the agreements which attracted the obligation to make this Open Offer i.e. the SSA and the SPA (as defined in the Letter of Offer dated December 23, 2021).The Offer Price is higher than the volume-weighted average market price of the Equity Shares i.e. Rs. 346.69, for a period of sixty trading days immediately preceding the date of the PA, as traded on NSE, being the stock exchange where the maximum volume of trading in the Equity Shares were recorded during such period. Based on the above, the IDC is of the opinion that the Offer Price of Rs. 375.00 per Equity Share is in accordance with the SEBI (SAST) Regulations and is fair and reasonable.
Disclosure of the voting pattern	The recommendations were unanimously approved by the members of the IDC.
Details of Independent Advisors, if any	BDO India LLP The Ruby, Level 9, North West Wing, Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar (W), Mumbai - 400 028

- 3. **Other details of the Open Offer**
 - 3.1. The Open Offer is being made under Regulations 3(1) and 4, and other applicable regulations of the SEBI (SAST) Regulations to the Public Shareholders of the Target Company.
 - 3.2. The Open Offer is not a competing offer in terms of Regulation 20 of the SEBI (SAST) Regulations. Further, there is no competing offer to this Open Offer. The Open Offer is not conditional upon any minimum level of acceptance in terms of Regulation 19(1) of the SEBI (SAST) Regulations.
 - 3.3. The LOF dated December 23, 2021 has been dispatched (through electronic mode or physical mode) by December 24, 2021 to the Public Shareholders as on the Identified Date (being December 17, 2021) in accordance with Regulation 18(2) of the SEBI (SAST) Regulations and as described in paragraph 8.1.1 of the LOF. It is clarified that all the Public Shareholders (even if they acquire Equity Shares and become shareholders of the Target Company after the Identified Date) are eligible to participate in the Open Offer.
 - 3.4. Please note that a copy of the LOF (which *inter alia* includes detailed instructions in relation to the procedure for acceptance and settlement of the Open Offer in Paragraph 9 (Procedure for Acceptance and Settlement of the Open Offer) of the LOF, as well as the FOA) is also available on the websites of SEBI, the Registrar to the Offer and the Stock Exchanges at www.sebi.gov.in, www.linkintime.co.in, www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com respectively. Further, a Public Shareholder who wishes to obtain a copy of the LOF and the FOA may send a request to the Registrar to the Offer at the email id mentioned at the cover page of the LOF stating the name, email id, address, number of Equity Shares held, client ID number, DP name / ID, beneficiary account number, and upon receipt of such request, a copy of the LOF shall be provided to such Public Shareholder.
 - 3.5. In case of non-receipt/non-availability of the FOA, a Public Shareholder may participate in the Open Offer: (i) by using the FOA obtained in the manner described above; or (ii) by providing their application in plain paper in writing signed by all shareholder(s), stating name, address, number of Equity Shares held, client ID number, DP name, DP ID number, number of Equity Shares being tendered and other relevant documents as mentioned in the LOF. Such Public Shareholders have to ensure that their order is entered in the electronic platform to be made available by BSE before the closure of the Tendering Period. Physical share certificates and other relevant documents should not be sent to the Acquirer, PACs, Target Company or the Manager.
- (a) **In case of Public Shareholders holding Equity Shares in dematerialized form:** Public Shareholders who are holding Equity Shares in dematerialized form and who desire to tender their Equity Shares in dematerialized form under the Open Offer would have to do so through their respective Selling Broker by giving the details of Equity Shares they intend to tender in accordance with the procedure as mentioned in Paragraph 9.4 of the LOF.
- (b) **In case of Public Shareholders holding Equity Shares in physical form:** Public Shareholders holding Equity Shares in physical form may participate in the Open Offer through the relevant Selling Broker by providing name, address, number of Equity Shares held, number of Equity Shares tendered and other relevant documents as mentioned in Paragraph 9.5 of the LOF. However, it is clarified that as on date, there are no Equity Shares held in physical form.
- 4. In accordance with Regulation 16(1) of the SEBI (SAST) Regulations, the draft letter of offer dated October 26, 2021 ("DLOF") was submitted to SEBI on October 26, 2021. SEBI issued its observations on the DLOF vide its letter bearing reference number SEBI/HO/CFD/DCR-III/OW/37330/1 dated December 14, 2021 and received by the Manager to the Offer on December 15, 2021. SEBI's observations have been incorporated in the LOF.
- 5. **Material Updates**
Public Shareholders are requested to note the following key changes to the DPS and DLOF as included in the LOF in relation to the Open Offer:

- 5.1. **Material update regarding the Acquirer**
Mr. Navin Wadhvani has resigned from the board of directors of the Acquirer with effect from December 15, 2021 and Sanjay Mashruwala has been appointed to the board of directors of the Acquirer as an additional director with effect from December 15, 2021 up to the date of the next annual general meeting of the Acquirer. This has been disclosed in paragraph 4.1.6 beginning on Page 19 of the LOF.
- 5.2. **Material update regarding the Target Company**
The name of the Target Company has been changed from Sterling and Wilson Solar Limited to Sterling and Wilson Renewable Energy Limited with effect from November 16, 2021. This has been disclosed in cover page and in paragraph 6.1 on page 40 of the LOF.
- 5.3. **Other key updates and changes in the LOF**
 - (a) Definitions of SSA Completion Date, SPA Tranche 1 Completion Date, SPA Tranche 1 Long Stop Date, SPA Tranche 2 Completion Date and SPA Tranche 2 Long Stop Date included in pages 10 and 11 of the LOF;
 - (b) Dates of receipt of shareholders' approval of the Target Company and in-principle approval of the Stock Exchanges for the Preferential Issue is included in paragraph 3.1.3 on page 13 of the LOF;
 - (c) Disclosure regarding directions subsisting or proceedings pending under SEBI Act, 1992 and regulations made there under against the Acquirer, PACs, Target Company and the Manager to the Offer is included in paragraph 3.1.11 on page 17, paragraph 3.2.11 on page 18, paragraph 4.1.11 on page 21, paragraph 4.2.10 on pages 29 and 30, paragraph 4.3.11 on page 37 and paragraph 6.18 on page 43 of the LOF;
 - (d) The latest shareholding pattern of PAC 1 as of December 8, 2021 is included in paragraph 4.2.8 on pages 28 and 29 of the LOF;
 - (e) Disclosure regarding interest of directors of PAC 2 has been updated in paragraph 4.3.8 on page 36 of the LOF;
 - (f) Disclosure regarding additional terms and conditions of the loan facility provided by PAC 2 to Sterling and Wilson Private Limited, an affiliate of the Sellers, have been included in paragraph 4.3.9 on pages 36 and 37 of the LOF;
 - (g) Status of compliance with minimum public shareholding ("MPS") requirements by the Target Company is included in paragraphs 6.13 and 6.14 on pages 41 and 42 of the LOF;
 - (h) Instances of non-compliances and / or delayed compliances by the promoters/ promoter group of the Target Company with the disclosure requirements as set out in Chapter V of the SEBI (SAST) Regulations, are included in paragraph 6.19 on pages 43 and 44 of the LOF;
 - (i) Details of the closing price of the Equity Shares of the Target Company as on the date of the Public Announcement and on the date preceding and the date after the Public Announcement included in paragraph 6.21 on page 46 of the LOF;
 - (j) The pre and post offer shareholding pattern of the Target Company as on the Identified Date assuming full acceptance under the Open Offer and related information has been updated. Please refer to paragraph 6.22 on page 46 of the LOF for further details;
 - (k) An update regarding receipt of the approval of the Competition Commission of India on December 15, 2021, which is required for completion of the underlying transactions and the Open Offer is included in paragraph 8.4.1 on page 53 of the LOF; and
 - (l) The list of documents for inspection has been updated to include copy of the Valuation Report dated October 10, 2021 by BDO Valuation Advisory LLP as provided in paragraph 11.9 on page 71 of the LOF.
- 6. **Status of Statutory and Other Approvals**
To the best of the knowledge of the Acquirer and PACs, as on the date of this Offer Opening Public Announcement and Corrigendum, there are no statutory or other approvals required to complete the Open Offer. If, however any statutory or other approvals become applicable prior to completion of the Open Offer, the Open Offer would be subject to such statutory or other approvals being obtained.
- 7. **Revised Schedule of Activities:**

No.	Activity	Schedule disclosed in DLOF (Day and Date)	Revised Schedule (Day and Date)
1.	Date of PA	Sunday, October 10, 2021	Sunday, October 10, 2021
2.	Date of publication of DPS	Monday, October 18, 2021	Monday, October 18, 2021
3.	Last day for filing of the DLOF with SEBI	Tuesday, October 26, 2021	Tuesday, October 26, 2021
4.	Last date for public announcement for competing offer(s) ²	Thursday, November 11, 2021	Thursday, November 11, 2021
5.	Last date for receipt of SEBI observations on the draft letter of offer (in the event SEBI has not sought clarifications or additional information from the Manager)	Thursday, November 18, 2021	Wednesday, December 15, 2021 ³
6.	Identified Date ⁴	Tuesday, November 23, 2021	Friday, December 17, 2021
7.	Last date by which the Letter of Offer is to be dispatched to the Public Shareholders whose names appear on the register of members on the Identified Date	Tuesday, November 30, 2021	Friday, December 24, 2021
8.	Last date for upward revision of the Offer Price and/or Offer Size	Friday, December 03, 2021	Wednesday, December 29, 2021
9.	Last date by which the committee of the independent directors of the Target Company is required to give its recommendation to the Public Shareholders for this Open Offer	Friday, December 03, 2021	Wednesday, December 29, 2021
10.	Date of publication of opening of Open Offer public announcement in the newspapers in which the DPS was published	Monday, December 06, 2021	Thursday, December 30, 2021
11.	Date of commencement of the tendering period ("Offer Opening Date")	Tuesday, December 07, 2021	Friday, December 31, 2021
12.	Date of closure of the tendering period ("Offer Closing Date")	Tuesday, December 21, 2021	Thursday, January 13, 2022
13.	Last date of communicating the rejection/ acceptance and completion of payment of consideration or return of Equity Shares to the Public Shareholders	Tuesday, January 04, 2022	Friday, January 28, 2022
14.	Last date for publication of post-Open Offer public announcement in the newspapers in which the DPS was published	Tuesday, January 11, 2022	Friday, February 4, 2022

(1) Where last dates are mentioned for certain activities, such activities may take place on or before the respective last dates.
(2) There is no competing offer as on the date of this Offer Opening Public Announcement and Corrigendum.
(3) Actual date of receipt of SEBI's final observations on the DLOF.
(4) Identified Date is only for the purpose of determining the names of the Public Shareholders to whom the LOF would be sent. It is clarified that all the Public Shareholders (even if they acquire Equity Shares and become shareholders of the Target Company after the Identified Date) are eligible to participate in the Open Offer

The Acquirer, the PACs and their respective directors, in their capacity as directors of the Acquirer and the PACs, accept the responsibility for the information contained in this Offer Opening Public Announcement and Corrigendum (except for the information pertaining to the Target Company, which has been obtained from publicly available sources or provided by the Target Company) and also for the obligations of the Acquirer and the PACs laid down in the SEBI (SAST) Regulations in respect of the Open Offer.

This Offer Opening Public Announcement and Corrigendum will be available on SEBI's website at (www.sebi.gov.in).

Issued on behalf of the Acquirer by the Manager to the Offer



Edelweiss Financial Services Limited
Edelweiss House, 6th Floor, Off CST Road, Kalina, Mumbai - 400 098, Maharashtra, India
Tel. No.: + 91 22 4009 4400
Fax No.: + 91 22 4086 3610
E-mail: sws.openoffer@edelweissfin.com
Contact Person: Lokesh Shah
SEBI Registration No.: INM0000010650

Registrar to the Offer

Link Intime India Private Limited
C-101, 1st Floor, 247 Park, Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg, Vikhroli (West), Mumbai 400083, Maharashtra, India
Tel: +91 22 4918 6200
Fax: +91 22 4918 6195
E-mail: sws.openoffer@linkintime.co.in
Contact Person: Mr. Sumet Deshpande
SEBI Registration Number: INR000004058

Place: Mumbai

Date: December 29, 2021

6 GOVT & POLITICS

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



HEALTH TIP

WITH PRIME Minister Narendra Modi repeatedly emphasising on the need to focus on sports in his interactions with BJP MPs, party leaders now have a fresh task — of not only picking sports talents, but also making themselves fit. BJP general secretary Arun Singh, who has a hectic schedule being the in-charge of Karnataka and Rajasthan, has decided to act on the Prime Minister's advice immediately. He has included in his routine a visit to Constitution Club every day to play badminton for an hour. Singh also persuades his fellow party leaders to join him.

THE VARANASI LINK

IT WAS a trip down memory lane for Hema Malini, who performed a dance drama at the Kashi Film Festival organised by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting along with Uttar Pradesh government on Tuesday. The actress-turned-MP, who started her acting at the age of 16, used to visit Varanasi for similar performances in the early days of her career. After her performance, she shared her experiences in the city. Her performance on Tuesday was based on Shiva-Durga and Mahishasura Mardini. After watching her performance, I&B Minister Anurag Thakur said that people used to call Hema Malini "Dream Girl", but from now she should be known as "Durga".

GENEVA ASSIGNMENT

SENIOR DIPLOMAT Anupam Ray has been appointed as India's next permanent representative to the UN Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Wednesday. Ray, a 1994-batch IFS officer, is currently serving as a joint secretary in the MEA's headquarters in Delhi. Ray will succeed Pankaj Sharma, a 1991-batch IFS officer, who has been appointed as India's next ambassador to Mexico.

Surya U-turn on his remarks came after rap from leadership

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

LS Tejasvi Surya, BJP's youth wing chief and Bangalore South MP, may have used communal rhetoric to build his political career so far, but there is now a growing uneasiness among party leaders about some of his controversial remarks, sources said.

This was reflected in the directive from the national leadership asking the 31-year-old to withdraw his recent remarks calling for Hindus to "dream big" and reconvert to Hinduism all those who had converted to Islam and Christianity, including Pakistanis, and saying that mutts and temples should be given annual targets for achieving this. Two days later, he withdrew his remarks, saying they have "regrettably created an avoidable controversy".

While the withdrawal of his remarks was seen in the context of the upcoming Goa elections, where the BJP is banking on a Hindu-Christian consolidation as it attempts to return to power, sources in the BJP said the directive from the party, a swift one compared to its reactions to his earlier inflammatory comments, came because the leadership of both the BJP and the RSS did not take to them kindly.

"He was asked to immediately withdraw his statement af-



BJP youth wing chief Tejasvi Surya

ter a number of leaders from both the BJP and the RSS took strong exception," said a party source in New Delhi.

"The directive asking him to withdraw came from the top leadership... It does not matter who delivered it to him. But the message was clear and unequivocal," said a national office bearer.

According to sources, even Sangh leaders in Karnataka have been "uneasy" about the way Surya has been trying to position himself as the "spokesperson" of Hindus. "Even the veterans were like: 'Is he Mohan Bhagwat to give such a call?'" said a party source.

Although Surya has in the past got away with many of his communal statements, the latest one that he made at a programme held in Udupi's Sri Krishna Mutt was not taken kindly.

When asked about Surya's comments, BJP national general secretary CT Ravi told The Indian Express: "I have no comments. Surya is our party leader and when there is any such issue, I would rather talk to him directly, not to the media."

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

IIT centre in calendar row offers courses in Vastu Vidya, Arthashastra

SANTANU CHOWDHURY
KOLKATA, DECEMBER 29

WITHIN DAYS of its inauguration by Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, IIT Kharagpur's Centre of Excellence for Indian Knowledge System, which aims to conduct interdisciplinary research on domains ranging from Indian history to cosmology and positional astronomy, counts among its achievements a calendar that questions the chronology of Indian history.

Launched on December 18 during the 67th convocation of the institute, the centre offers undergraduate and post-gradu-

ate courses in Vastu Vidya (architecture), Paribesh Vidya (environmental studies), Arthashastra (welfare economics) and "eventually Ganita (mathematics)", according to Chairperson Prof Joy Sen.

Sen said that while the intake of the core faculty is in progress, the centre has at present 11 associated faculty from other departments. The courses offered are elective and one of the courses, 'Introduction to Shatapatha Vastu and Nirman Vidya and Arthashastra' — which "integrates Indian architecture, Indian public health engineering and design engineering and welfare economics as one fold of knowledge system as per Indian

Speaker election: Pained by Maharashtra govt's threatening language, says Governor

MANOJ MORE
& YOGESH NAIK

PUNE, MUMBAI, DECEMBER 29

IN THE letter he sent to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray Tuesday, Maharashtra Governor B S Koshiyari said he was "pained" and "dismayed" over the "intemperate tone and threatening tenor" of a note sent to him by the state government over selection of the Speaker, and said it denigrated the high office he held.

The government had written to Koshiyari asking that elections be allowed by voice vote for the post of the Speaker, which has been vacant since the resignation of the Congress's Nana Patole. After Koshiyari turned down the request in the letter



B S Koshiyari

sent on Tuesday — the contents of which were revealed Wednesday — the election was cancelled. Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar said they had done so keeping in mind the prestige of the Raj Bhavan, and that they would meet the Governor again with their request.

In his letter to the government, Koshiyari said he had taken an oath to protect and defend the Constitution, and the Maha Vikas Aghadi's proposal for holding the Speaker's election seemed to be unconstitutional and illegal.

With Acting Speaker Narhari Zhirwal presiding, the state government had changed rules to allow the selection of the Speaker by voice vote instead of a secret ballot.

The Governor said that the government had cited Article 208 of the Constitution, but that it clearly specifies that a House of the state legislature may make rules for regulating its conduct "subject to the provisions of this Constitution".

Koshiyari also asked why it had taken the MVA government 11 months to start the process of choosing a Speaker, and said the impact of the "drastic" amendments in Assembly rules needed to be examined. As per the Maharashtra Assembly Rules, under Section 6 (3), elections should be held to the post of the

Speaker if more than one member has been nominated "by ballot". In July this year, the Rules Committee of the State Legislature made up of MLAs proposed that the Speaker be voted through a voice vote instead of a secret ballot.

The Governor said he had never questioned the prerogative of the House in the matter of its procedure/proceedings but he could not be pressured to give consent to a process "which prima facie appears to be unconstitutional and illegal, as enshrined in Article 208 of the Constitution".

Soon after the contents of the Governor's letter became known, the Shiv Sena said it was not the MVA government but the Centre which was putting pressure on Koshiyari.

Priyanka: UP govt can't fathom women power

Lucknow: Urging women to reject politicians who seek votes on caste, creed, and religion, Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Wednesday hit out at the BJP government in Uttar Pradesh, saying its mindset is that "they can set aside women by giving them one LPG cylinder".

Priyanka told women in Firozabad that the UP government has cast them aside in its list of priorities. "When women ask for what is due to them, they are beaten up by the police... This government rejects the rights of women... They are unable to understand their power." **ENS**

UP cadre officer Mishra to be new UP chief secy

New Delhi: The Centre Wednesday approved the repatriation of Durga Shankar Mishra, a 1984-batch Uttar Pradesh cadre IAS officer, to his parent cadre for "proposed appointment" as UP Chief Secretary.

Mishra, currently Secretary, Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, was set to retire on December 31. According to a DoPT order, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the repatriation of Mishra. Senior bureaucrat Manoj Joshi, took charge as Secretary, Housing and Urban Affairs, *PTI* reported, quoting an official. **ENS**



Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra at an event in Firozabad, Wednesday. *PTI*

Cong tried to falsely implicate Hindu groups in Malegaon case: Adityanath

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, DECEMBER 29

DEMANDING AN apology from Congress, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Wednesday accused the party of "encouraging" terrorists and falsely implicating members of BJP, RSS and other Hindu outfits in the 2008 Malegaon blast case.

This came after a witness in the case claimed he was illegally detained for seven days by the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) in 2008 and pressured to name five RSS members, including Adityanath.



UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath

At a public meeting in Farrukhabad, Adityanath said: "The Congress ruled the nation for a longest period of time. But in what manner were they ruling? You have seen a statement of the Maharashtra ATS... How they (Congress) were working to frame workers and leaders of BJP and RSS and Hindu leaders in false cases then. You have seen in the matter of Malegaon blast."

Higher capacity, more amenities: New Ayodhya station to be ready in March

SUKRITA BARUAH
AYODHYA, DECEMBER 29

ARS 126-CRORE project to redevelop and model the Ayodhya railway station building along the lines of the under-construction Ram Mandir — down to the stone used for construction — is set to be completed in March.

Two years ago, the facade of the small railway station (it has a capacity of 4,000 people per day) in Ayodhya town had been designed to resemble a temple, with a painting of Lord Ram at his throne with Sita, Lakshman and Hanuman at the entrance.

This structure is now dwarfed by a massive 10,000-square metre, two-storey station building nearing completion



An artist's impression of the new station. *Express*

next to it. The construction started in November 2018 and the first phase is set to be finished at almost the same time as the state's assembly elections.

Two shikhars (steeple) and four pyramid-like structures will be added to it to make it resem-

ble the Ram Mandir. The centre of the building will have a crown, and a bow and arrow atop.

According to RITES Ltd Joint General Manager A K Johri, the structure is being built with pink Bansi Paharpur stone from Rajasthan. This is the same ma-

terial that is being used for the Ram Mandir.

According to Railways officials, the redeveloped station will have a capacity of 15,000 passengers per day.

The plans for the redeveloped station include a 1,400-square metre waiting area, 14 retiring rooms, separate dormitories for women and men, two food plazas and seven shops. The number of platforms, however, will be the same as before — three.

"There are 22 mail express and 6 passenger trains which are currently scheduled here. Once the station is developed, we will see the demand and increase the trains accordingly if needed; we will take a decision on that," said Divisional Commercial Manager, Lucknow, Prateek Srivastav.



IIT Kharagpur. *File*

Tirtha international webinar (that aimed to trace the philosophical and scientific heritage of India). Two more webinars are being planned for 2022," said

Sen, who did his Bachelor's in Architecture from IIT Kharagpur. Sen, who has a double Master's from Iowa State University, USA, did his PhD from IIT Kharagpur.

Former Head of Department of Architecture and Regional Planning at IIT Kharagpur, he was also former Head of Ranbir and Chitra Gupta School of Infrastructure Design and Management at the institute.

Questioning the "current chronology of Indian civilisation", the IIT-Kharagpur calendar for 2022 said ancient history suffered from "suppression, compromises, contractions, and distortions".

"The calendar never focuses that much on whether the Indus

Valley Civilisation precedes or succeeds the Vedic age but has proved, based on race and genetics, that there was no Aryan invasion. The fallacy of the Aryan invasion myth is a matter for disapproval and rejection now, which is what the calendar does," explained Prof Sen.

However, the calendar has come in for criticism from experts who have questioned its contents.

Tony Joseph, Author of 'Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From', said, "Aryan Invasion" has lived on only in the imagination of rightwing polemicists for about half a century now. The reason is that they need a strawman to de-

Union minister receives police notice, asked to give info on son

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 29

THE POLICE in Maharashtra's Sindhudurg Wednesday issued a notice to Union Minister Narayan Rane, asking him to present himself before them and provide information on his MLA son Nitesh Rane, who is wanted in an attempt to murder case in the district.

Rane, the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises minister, was called to the police station on Wednesday in connection with his comment during a press conference held Tuesday.

In reply, Rane wrote to the police saying that he was occupied on Wednesday. He added that the police could come to his residence or speak to him through video conferencing. The police have not decided on a course of action.

The notice, which was also pasted on the minister's Sindhudurg residence, was issued by Inspector Sachin Hundalekar of Kankavli police.

In the notice to the minister, the police have referred to his statement to the media, where he had said he wasn't a "fool" to reveal the whereabouts of his son. "Even if we know, why should I reveal whereabouts of Nitesh Rane. Are we fools?" he had told reporters.

The notice added that based on what the Union minister said during the press conference, it appeared that he knew where Nitesh is. The notice asked him to ensure that his son appears before the police station that had summoned him earlier. It also asked him to present himself before the police station on Wednesday at 3 pm.

Meanwhile, a local court hearing the anticipatory bail ap-

10th installment of PM-Kisan to be released Jan 1

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will release the 10th installment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) scheme on January 1, 2022, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said Wednesday.

In a statement, the PMO said that an amount of more than Rs 20,000 crore will be transferred to more than 10 crore beneficiary farmer families.

This is "in line with the continued commitment and resolve to empower grassroots level farmers", the statement said.

"During the programme, the Prime Minister will also release an equity grant of more than Rs 14 crore to about 351 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), which will benefit more than 1.24 lakh farmers. He will interact with the FPOs during the event and will also address the nation," the statement said.

Under the PM-Kisan scheme, the government provides Rs 6,000 to the eligible beneficiary farmer families in a year and the amount is transferred to their bank accounts in three equal four-monthly installments of Rs 2,000 each. **ENS**



Union minister Narayan Rane

plication of Nitesh heard arguments from both sides on Wednesday and is set to deliver its order on Thursday. Nitesh has not been given any protection from arrest.

The police notice to Narayan Rane evoked a sharp reaction from the BJP. Senior leader Sudhir Mungantiwar said, "Narayan Rane is a union minister. On what basis can the police send him a notice? It shows the MVA govt's arrogance of power."

Senior BJP leader Ashish Shelar said, "Rane is being asked to present himself before the police without doing any crime. This government constantly takes the names of Mahatma Phule, Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj and Babasaheb Ambedkar and behaves like Taliban."

The case against Nitesh relates to complainant Santosh Parab (44), who has alleged that while he was going on a bike from Naravde naka in Kankavli last week, an Innova car without a number plate had hit his bike. A person had then allegedly climbed out of the car and said: "You do Satish Sawant's work right? I'll get back at you."

This person then attempted to kill Parab by stabbing him in the chest, the police have said. Parab has claimed that he heard the assailant tell another person in the car that they "should inform Gotya Sawant and Nitesh Rane" before fleeing.

Following this, Parab approached the police, which registered an FIR under sections 307 (attempt to murder) and 34 (common intention) of the IPC.

'Institutions must instil culture of entrepreneurship'

New Delhi: Union Minister of State for Education Subhas Sarkar on Wednesday called for concerted efforts by the country's higher educational institutions towards inculcating a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship among students and preparing the faculty members as innovators, outside-the-box thinkers, creative problem solvers and job creators.

He said this while launching the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA). The minister said more than quantity, the institutes should focus on the quality of innovation and research.

"This will help us achieve the Aatmanirbhar Bharat dream in true sense. 'Emphasis on Innovation' was among the three vows taken by PM Narendra Modi during his recent Kashi visit. The other two vows were for Swachh and Aatmanirbhar Bharat. Considering all these three vows, innovation is the only path for their fulfillment. Hence, we need to give a huge push to innovation and entrepreneurship in our educational institutions," he said. **PTI**



New Delhi





Pushkar Singh Dhami
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand



Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Dhami mein hai dum Modi ji hain Sang

Inauguration and foundation stone laying of 23 major development initiatives in Uttarakhand worth more than ₹ 17,500 Crores

Inauguration (₹3,420 Crore)

- ♦ **99 kms of road widening work on Nagina to Kashipur (NH-74) (Cost ₹ 2536 Cr.)**
Improved connectivity between Kumaon and Garhwal. This will save time and fuel along with resolving traffic jams. This project will increase tourism, industrial and commercial activities leading to direct and indirect increase in employment opportunities.
- ♦ **Road Widening Chyurani to Ancholi (NH-125), All Weather Roads Project-32 kms (Cost ₹ 284 Cr.)**
The road will make movement of army to the border region in Pithoragarh district easier and ensure all-weather accessibility for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra.
- ♦ **Road Widening Bilkhet to Champawat (NH-125) All Weather Roads Project-29 kms (Cost ₹ 267 Cr.)**
The all-weather road project is strengthening the road network in the Kumaon region. This will also enhance army movement to the border region in Pithoragarh district while enabling all-weather access for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra.
- ♦ **Road Widening Tilon to Chyurani NH-125 All Weather Roads Project-28 kms (Cost ₹ 233 Cr.)**
This will greatly benefit people living in the remote areas of the state. Also important from the strategic point of view and also for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra.
- ♦ **Hydroelectric Project Suringad Stage-II, 5 MW (Cost ₹ 50 Cr.)**
Along with electricity generation with the run of river programme, this project will also create employment opportunities for the local villagers.
- ♦ **Sewerage Work Namami Gange Programme-Nainital (Cost ₹ 50 Cr.)**
Construction of Two sewerage treatment plants of 7 MLD and 1.5 MLD capacity and related areas at Ramnagar, Nainital. This will prevent the contamination of the Kosi river.

Foundation Stone Laying (₹14,127 Crore)

- ♦ **Lakhwar Multi Purpose Project, 300 MW & 330 MCM, 6 Beneficiary States including Uttarakhand, 33780 Ha Irrigation (Cost ₹ 5,747 Cr.)**
The 330 million cubic metres water in its reservoir will supply irrigation and drinking water to Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi. This project will enable irrigation of about 34,000 hectare additional land while also producing 300 Mega Watt hydro power. It will enable development of the upper Yamuna region and generate employment opportunities on a large scale.
- ♦ **Moradabad-Kashipur Road (4Lane) Moradabad West including Kashipur Bypass, Udham Singh Nagar - 85.30 Km. (Cost ₹ 4,002 Cr.)**
This road will strengthen Garhwal and Kumaon connectivity. It will also save 1.5 hours while traveling to Corbett national park. It will ensure unrestricted traffic for the Kumaon and Terai regions.
- ♦ **Jal Jeevan Mission 73 Water Supply Schemes 13 Districts (Cost ₹ 1,250 Cr.)**
1.13 lakh rural families will benefit. With the provision of drinking water through pumping, people will save on time and efforts along with resolving their runaway problems. This will also boost home stay opportunities.
- ♦ **PMGSY-133 Roads, Length 1157 Km. (Cost ₹ 627 Cr.)**
The road connection will definitely strengthen the rural economy and generate employment opportunities on a large scale.
- ♦ **AIIMS Kumaon Satellite Center, Udham Singh Nagar (Cost ₹ 500 Cr.)**
Provide world-class medical facilities to people of Kumaon and the Terai regions. Further, people from bordering areas of Uttar Pradesh will also receive better medical facilities.
- ♦ **Jag Jeevan Ram Government Medical College, Pithoragarh (Cost ₹ 455 Cr.)**
Provide high level health facilities even in remote and rural parts of the state.
- ♦ **PMGSY-151 Bridges (Cost ₹ 450 Cr.)**
A total of 151 bridges will be constructed by September 2022. The construction will enable year road traffic on the roads which in turn will also strengthen rural connectivity in the state.
- ♦ **Water Supply Scheme-Haridwar and Nainital (Cost ₹ 205 Cr.)**
Set to benefit with 1.20 lakh consumers with 24x7 quality water supply.
- ♦ **River Rejuvenation, Namami Gange Programme, Udham Singh Nagar (Cost ₹ 199 Cr.)**
Nine STPs are being constructed to stop contamination of six local rivers in Udham Singh Nagar. Seventeen drains will be taped and water will be diverted to these STPs. 3 packaged STPs made in far-off areas.
- ♦ **Improved Road Connectivity with Nepal NH-109 D (Cost ₹ 177 Cr.)**
This includes construction of two VUP, one LUV, one big bridge cum underpass and one ROB. This will improve connectivity between Uttarakhand and Nepal while enabling unhindered movement of people and commodities. This will also increase economic activities with Nepal while also strengthening mutual relations.
- ♦ **PMAY(U), A.H.P-Kanakpur, Kashipur 1256 E.W.S. Units and Ukrauli, Sitarganj, 1168 E.W.S. Units (Cost ₹ 171 Cr.)**
Fulfilling the dreams of a home of 2,424 low income group families, homes for the low income group are being constructed in Udham Singh Nagar district. In the next two years, these homes will be made available to the allottees for residing.
- ♦ **Up-gradation of Sewerage System Nainital (Cost ₹ 78 Cr.)**
Construction of 3.04 kilometres sewer line and 17.5 MLD STP to benefit a population of about 50,000. The construction of this project will prevent the contamination of the Naini lake. This project will also enable the use of water received from the STP for irrigation.
- ♦ **Plastic Industrial Park, Sitarganj (SIIDCUL), Udham Singh Nagar (Cost ₹ 66 Cr.)**
A 40 acre plastic industrial park is being established in Sitarganj. There is a possibility of about Rs 250 crore investment in this facility which will provide direct employment opportunities to 2,500 persons.
- ♦ **Road Construction Madkota to Haldwani (SH-5) 22 Km. (Cost ₹ 58 Cr.)**
This road is a major road linking Delhi and other important cities of the plains here. It is also important for connectivity to Nainital, Almora, Pithoragarh, Kailash Mansarovar and other places. The widening of this road will directly benefit the SIIDCUL industrial areas in Rudrapur and industrial area in Lalkuan. This will also function as a major road for the proposed Amritsar economic-industrial corridor.
- ♦ **Road Construction Kiccha to Pantnagar (SH-44)-18 Km. (Cost ₹ 54 Cr.)**
This road will directly benefit SIIDCUL industrial area and the industrial area in Lalkuan apart from also working as a major road for the proposed Amritsar economic industrial corridor.
- ♦ **Khatima Bypass 2-Lane, Udham Singh Nagar-08 Km. (Cost ₹ 53 Cr.)**
One large bridge and three small bridges are proposed on this bypass. Construction of the Khatima bypass will save the time and fuel of travelers while also improving connectivity to Pithoragarh. Employment opportunities will be created with economic development of the region. Further, the connectivity to Nepal will also be improved.
- ♦ **Aroma Park (SIIDCUL), Kashipur, Udham Singh Nagar (Cost ₹ 35 Cr.)**
An aroma park on 41 acre area in Kashipur that includes a testing laboratory CETP, logistic and parking facility along with world class infrastructure. There is possibility of more than Rs 300 crore investment which will provide direct employment to 2,500 people while also providing a proper market to farmers.

By
Narendra Modi
Prime Minister
August Presence

Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Gurmeet Singh
Governor, Uttarakhand

Pushkar Singh Dhami
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand

Pralhad Joshi
Union Minister Parliamentary Affairs,
Coal & Mines

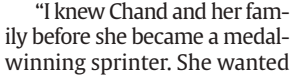
Ajay Bhatt
Union State Minister,
Defence & Tourism

December 30, 2021 at 11:45 am | Venue : M.B. Inter College Ground, Haldwani

Watch the programme live on DD News

Pak national among 3 militants killed in Kashmir encounter

Koshie broke the story of Dutee Chand, the Asian Games



Chand was overwhelmed by the support she received after

“We exposed how VFI signed an anti-player contract with Baseline Ventures, according to which the players could not play for the national team while playing in the PVL. According to the contract, even the selection process to the national volleyball

After the report was aired, the Sports Ministry derecognised eight sporting federations, including the VFI. The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) also formed a six-member committee and said that henceforth players would carry the IOA's flag instead of the federations they represented.

He said as the forces were

Another gunfight took place in Nowgam Shahabad area of Dooru in neighbouring Anantnag, the official said. In the initial firing, a police personnel was injured and he was shifted to hospital, the official added. The exchange of firing was going on, he said.

Nagaland killings

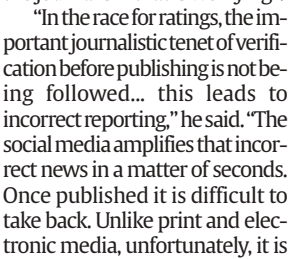
However, the Army version had raised questions, as the miners were coming back from work down a route that they routinely took. One of the survivors had told *The Indian Express* that the forces had shot straight at them.

State Finance Minister Rameshwar Oraon told *The Indian Express* that the government does not want to reduce VAT on petrol for everyone and will opt for "objective subsidy benefiting the poor".

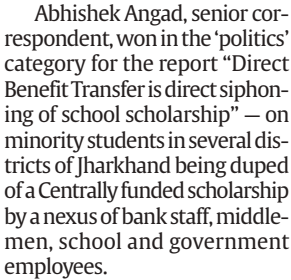
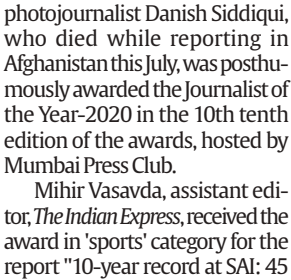
Last month, the Centre announced an excise duty cut of Rs 5 per litre on petrol and Rs 10 per litre on diesel, prompting some states to announce their own tax cuts to reduce prices. For instance, in Delhi, the price of petrol came down from a high of Rs 110 per litre in early November to Rs 95.4 per litre in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala and West Bengal are among states that have not cut state taxes on petrol and diesel.

According to police, the arrested accused told them that the girl was caught stealing from their house, and they have a video of her entering the house. However, police added, that the accused have not substantiated their allegation with any evidence.

Recalling his own brief stint as a journalist, the CJI referred to the struggles media professionals undergo. "Speaking truth to power and holding up a mirror to society is an immense responsibility.... There is enormous pressure and



He reminded journalists that "allowing" oneself "to be co-opted by an ideology or State is a recipe for disaster". "Journalists are like judges in one sense. Regardless of the ideology you profess and beliefs you hold dear, you must do your duty without being influenced by them. You must report only facts, with a view to give a complete, accurate picture."



The FIR says hate speeches were made during the programme against Muslim and Christians. The programme, 'Shivpratap Din', was organised by Samasta Hindutva Aghadi at Natubag in Shukrawar Peth to mark the killing of Adilshahi General Afzal Khan by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in 1659.

F. No. A-45011/9/2017-Admin.I (LD)
Government of India
Ministry of Law and Justice
Legislative Department

Legislative Department proposes to engage 04 Section Officer level and 01 Director level Consultants on Contract basis for a period of one year, the details are available on the website of DoP&T and on the website of the Department i.e. <http://http://legislative.gov.in/> under the heading "Recruitment". Interested and eligible candidates may submit their application in prescribed proforma available on the websites within 15 days of publication of this advertisement in Newspaper.

Sd/- (Uttam Prakash)
Deputy Secretary to Govt. of India
Legislative Department
Room No. 411-A, "A" Wing
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
Dapv 24301/11/0004/2122 Tel: 23389014

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, DELHI(DRT 3) 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
Case No.: OA/1129/2019
Summons under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, read with sub-rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1963. Exh. No.: 3750

ICICI BANK LIMITED VS TAREEF HUSSAIN AND ANR.

To, (1) TAREEF HUSSAIN AND ANR D/W/S/O-ABDUL HAMEED RUPRAKA (246) PALWAL NEAR ILIYAS HOTEL, HARYANA PALWAL, HARYANA - 121103 (2) HAMEED S/O HAMRAK, R/O RUPRAKA, PALWAL, NEAR ILIYAS HOTEL, HARYANA - 121103 PALWAL, HARYANA - 121103

SUMMONS

WHEREAS, OA/1129/2019 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer Registrar on 18/11/2021. WHEREAS the Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/notice on the said Application under section 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery of debts of RS. 5853953.34/- (application along with copies of documents etc. annexed). You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before Registrar on 03/01/2022 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence. Due to ongoing Pandemic situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:- (i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the Court Web-application software, (ii) Meeting ID and Password for the next date of hearing qua cases to be taken by Registrar/Recovery Officer and Recovery Officer shall be available one day prior to the next date at DRT Official Portal i.e. drt.gov.in under the Public Notice Headed, (iii) In any emergency qua that, the Advocates/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 23748669. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this date -29/11/2021.

Signature of the Officer Authorised to issue summons.

"IMPORTANT"

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All India Children's Educational Audio Video Festival

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET), a constituent unit of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) develops educational audio-video, multimedia interactive programmes and disseminates these through PM eVIDYA DTH TV Channels (One class-one channel), DIKSHA, epathshala, Radio broadcasts, podcasts etc. for students, teachers, teacher educators, parents etc. To motivate the stakeholders to be prosumers of quality digital content, CIET-NCERT invites entries from organizations and individuals to submit educational programmes (Audio, Video, New media/ICT/Digital Games) for children (aged between 3 to 18 years). The programmes must be produced during January 1, 2021 to January 30, 2022. The last date for submission of entries is **January 30, 2022**.
For details and entry form please visit: (https://ciet.nic.in/ict-mela.php?&ln=en)
davp 21104/11/0015/2122

Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET)
National Council of Educational Research and Training
Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi- 110016

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Offering e-Auctions of Residential, Commercial, Clinic, Nursing Home and nursery School Sites from 7 to 15 January, 2022

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e-Auction will start at 10:00 AM on schedule date of e-auction.

Registrations will close one day before the scheduled date of e-Auction, at 5:00 pm.

Sr No.	Date	Zone	Category
1	7th January, 2022	Rohtak Zone	Residential and Commercial
2	8th January, 2022	All Zones	Special Preferential/ Preferential Plots (Residential & Commercial)
3	11th January, 2022	All Zones	Nursing Home, Clinic & Nursery School Sites
4	12th January, 2022	Hisar Zone	Residential and Commercial
5	14th January, 2022	Gurugram and Panchkula	Residential
6	15th January, 2022	Gurugram and Panchkula	Commercial
		Faridabad Zone	Residential and Commercial

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Chief Administrator Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran
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☎ 0182-386 3033 📧 havp@hsvphry.org.in 📱 <https://hsvphry.org.in>

The detailed information of the sites and terms & conditions of e-auction will be available on <https://hsvphry.org.in>.

DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI)
5th FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI 110006

Visit us at <https://www.dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in>

PUBLIC NOTICE

Citizens of Delhi are advised to initiate the following steps in different categories of air quality. The air quality and category in which it falls i.e. Good, Moderate, Poor, Very Poor, Severe and Severe + is available at www.cpcb.nic.in.

- (1) MODERATE TO POOR CATEGORY** Ambient PM2.5 values between 61-120 ug/m3 or ambient PM10 values between 101- 350 ug/m3
- Keep engines of your cars/bikes/scooters properly tuned.
 - Maintain proper air pressure in tires of cars/bikes/scooters.
 - Keep your PUC certificate up to date.
 - When you are out for a drive, do not idle your vehicle , turn off the engine.
 - Do not dispose of waste / garbage in the open spaces.
 - Report air pollution activities through SAMEER App/Green Delhi App.

- (2) VERY POOR CATEGORY** Ambient PM2.5 values between 121-250 ug/m3 or ambient Pm10 values between 351-430ug/m3
- People to minimize the use of personal vehicles and use public transport.
 - Be sure to replace air filters at recommended intervals in your automobiles regularly.
 - Avoid dust-generating construction activities during the months of October to January, if possible.

- (3) SEVERE CATEGORY** Ambient PM2.5 values > 250 ug/m3 or ambient PM10 values >430 ug/m3
- Choose a cleaner commute - share a ride to work or use public transportation or walk or cycle.
 - People whose positions allow them to work from home should work from home.
 - Do not use coal and wood for heating purposes.
 - Individual house owners may provide electric heaters (during winters) to security staff to avoid open burning.
 - Combine errands and reduce trips. Walk to errand when possible.
 - Do not burn garbage, plastics and other discarded items.

- (4) SEVERE + CATEGORY** When ambient PM2.5 values > 300 ug/m3 or ambient PM10 values >500 ug/m3
- Children, the elderly and those with respiratory, cardiovascular, cerebrovascular or other chronic diseases stay indoors as much as possible, and to avoid outdoor activities.

Sd/-
Member Secretary (DPCC)

GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHALPRADESH OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE EAST SIANG DISTRICT: PASIGHAT			
No. J-4358/19-20/		Dated Pasighat the 28 th Dec' 2021	
ORDER			
<p>Whereas, the Commissioner (Home) Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh vide its letter No HMB (8/139/2018)Dtd. 18/10/2019 has directed the Deputy Commissioner-cum-licensing authority, East Siang District to revoke all the 109 (One hundred nine) nos of Arm licenses illegally issued by Shri T. Tatak, the then District Magistrate, East Siang District Pasighat during the period 2017-18, violating the Govt order on blanket ban on issue of fresh arm licences.</p> <p>And whereas, there is a standing govt. order No. HMB (8)-95/2015 dated 02/09/2016, putting a blanket ban on the issue of Fresh arm licences within the State of Arunachal Pradesh.</p> <p>Whereas show cause notices were issued to all these licence holders for revocation of licences, no satisfactory explanation was provided to the office of the undersigned.</p> <p>And whereas, upon perusal of records, it is revealed that all the 109 (One hundred nine) nos. of Arm licenses were issued by Shri T.Tatak, the then District Magistrate, Pasighat, East Siang District during the period 2017-18, violating the govt. order No. HMB (8)-95/2015 dated 02/09/2016.</p> <p>And whereas, all the 109 (One hundred nine) nos. of Arm licenses issued by Shri T.Tatak, the then District Magistrate, Pasighat, East Siang District are found to be illegal and invalid in contravention to the blanket ban order of Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh.</p> <p>Therefore, I Dr. Kinny Singh, IAS, District Magistrate Cum-Licensing Authority hereby revokes the 109 (one hundred nine) nos of Arms Licences, the details of which are listed below-</p>			
SL. NO	NAME & ADDRESS OF LICENSEE	LICENCE NUMBER	DATE OF ISSUE
1.	Shri Otten Tatak, S/o Tamiyo Tatak Village- Rani, PO/PS – Pasighat East Siang District Pasighat, AP.	8631/ESD	09/11/2017
2.	Shri Ram Kiran Shastri, S/o Balwant Singh Bhoir, Permanent Add-House No 23, Street No. 2, Near Aruna Park Shakarpur East Delhi (Delhi).	8638/ESD	16/01/2018
3.	Shri Atul Vaidhavy, S/o Krishna Kr. Mishra, Permanent Add-Apex Children's Hospital Juranchakra Main Road, Juran PO/PS Brahupur Dist. Mizaffarpur (Bihar).	8639/ESD	16/01/2018
4.	Shri Rajajoshi Bhardwaj, S/o Ranjit Kr. Bhattacherjee, Permanent Add- Village- Sonali Jayanti Nagar, Bohotia Plot PO-Jorhat, PS-Pulibor Dist. Jorhat (Assam).	8640/ESD	16/01/2018
5.	Shri Jitumoni Nath, S/o Niren Chandra Nath, Permanent Add- Village – Lakwa Ronga gora PO-Lakwa PS- Simoluguri, Dist. Sibsagar (Assam).	8641/ESD	16/01/2018
6.	Shri Saffkhai Muzuddin, S/o Mayuddin Bhai Mustafai Chouhan, Permanent Add-60, Pathan Fashiyua Kaplagadi, PO/PS – Jagadia, Dist. Bharuah (Gujarat)	8642/ESD	16/01/2018
7.	Shri Johnny Darang, S/o Daniel Darang Village- Napit, PO/PS – Pasighat, Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8643/ESD	16/01/2018
8.	Smty Iyia Tasing Moyong, W/o Kaling Moyong Village – Mirsam, PO/PS- Pasighat, Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8645/ESD	25/01/2018
9.	Shri Ramsahay J. Verma, S/o Jagram Verma Permanent Add-Rehel, PO Rampur PS – Goshalgajia, Dist. Faizabad (Ayodhya) U.P.	8652/ESD	08/02/2018
10.	Shri Govind Sarkar, S/o Jeevan Sarkar Village- Bahari, PO- Bahari (tent) PS-Tara Bari Dist. Barpeta (Assam).	8653/ESD	08/02/2018
11.	Shri Abdul Karim, S/o MD Mawalvi P/Add- Pasighat. Permanent Add-Village-Baradith, PO-Bairiya, PS-Kesariya, Dist- East Champaran (Bihar).	8654/ESD	08/02/2018
12.	Shri Kojum Koyu, S/o Karko Koyu Village – Koyu Po- Koyu, PS- Nari, Dist.-East Siang (A.P)	8655/ESD	09/02/2018
13.	Shri Satish Nandan Singh, S/o Ramakant Singh, Permanent Add- Village Baluahi, PO – Nayagaon PS- Sheohar, Dist. Sheohar (Bihar).	8656/ESD	09/02/2018
14.	Shri Pankaj Kumar Thakur, S/o KN Thakur, P/Add- Pasighat. Permanent Add-Village-Baluahi PO-Nayagaon, PS-Sheohar Dist. Sheohar (Bihar).	8657/ESD	09/02/2018
15.	Shri Ravi Nandan, S/o Jaglal Prasad, Permanent Add- Village- North Mandir Buddha Colony, PO/PS –Patna Dist. Patna (Bihar).	8658/ESD	09/02/2018
16.	Shri Shiv Prasad Mahato, S/o Ramgohar Mahato, Permanet Add- Village – Jahangipur Tok, PO-Thikham Basudewa PS- Motpur Dist. Muzaffarpur (Bihar).	8659/ESD	09/02/2018
17.	Shri Anil Kumar Shah, S/o Anik Kumar Shah Permanent Add- Village- Halimpur, PO-Rajwara PS-Saheganj Dist. Muzaffarpur (Bihar).	8660/ESD	09/02/2018
18.	Shri Bakin Darang, S/o Tagom Darang Village – Diking PO/PS- Pasighat Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8661/ESD	09/02/2018
19.	Shri Opang Taying, S/o Topa Taying Village – Ngorlung PO/PS – Rukhin, Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8662/ESD	09/02/2018
20.	Shri Obuk Panyang, S/o Anong Panyang Village – Rukhin PO/PS Rukhin, Dist. East Siang	8663/ESD	09/02/2018
21.	Shri Kalen Tatak, S/o Tamiyo Tatak Village-Rani PO – Rani PS – Pasighat, Dist. East Siang (AP).	8664/ESD	09/02/2018
22.	Shri Tatong Tatak, S/o Taget Tatak Village-Gune, PO- Balek, PS- Pasighat, Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8670/ESD	05/03/2018
23.	Shri Gohen Doke, S/o Gego Doke Village – Tabi-Ripo PO – Koyu, PS – Nari, Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8671/ESD	05/03/2018
24.	Shri Kaling Darang, S/o Alop Darang Village – Mirbuk PO/PS – Pasighat, Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8673/ESD	05/03/2018
25.	Shri Kojum Minung Nino, S/o Golo Minung Nino Village – Sika-Bamin PO/PS- Silie-Oyan Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8674/ESD	08/03/2018
26.	Shri Ranvijay Kumar Singh, Village – C/207, Police Colony, Anishabad, Bihar.	8678/ESD	19/03/2018
27.	Smti Kajal, W/o Ranvijay Kumar Singh, Permanent Add- Village – C/199, Police Colony, Anishabad, PO/PS – Gardahibash Dist. Patna (Bihar).	8679/ESD	19/03/2018
28.	Shri Gogom Nangkar, S/o Bereng Nangkar P/Add- Pasighat, Permanent Add- Village- Gosang PO- Yingklong, PS- Jengging Dist. Upper Siang (A.P).	8688/ESD	20/03/2018
29.	Shri Taming Jerang, S/o Tamat Jerang Village – Rukin, PO-Pangin, PS- Boleng, Dist. Siang	8690/ESD	21/03/2018
30.	Shri Gamte Takuk, S/o Lt Tagam Takuk Village – Tikang PO- Yagrum, PS – Pasighat, Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8691/ESD	23/03/2018
31.	Smti Tasanti Tangu, W/o Shri Aan Tangu Village – Mirsam, PO/PS Pasighat Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8692/ESD	23/03/2018
32.	Shri Dinesh Kumar Tiwari, S/o Lt. Harinadhav Tiwari, Permanent Add- Village – BelparanditPO/PS- Bhatelpur Kalc Dist. Deoria (UP)	8693/ESD	23/03/2018
33.	Shri Tayor Radeng, Lt. Talem Radeng Village – Ledum PO- Bilat, PS- Rukhin Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8720/ESD	07/05/2018
34.	Shri Laiti Padung, S/o Lt. Oren Padung Village – Ngorlung, PO/PS – Rukhin Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8721/ESD	11/05/2018
35.	Shri Tommy Paron, S/o Lt. Oton Paron Village – Rukung PO/PS – Rukhin Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8722/ESD	11/05/2018
36.	Shri Kadum Jamoh, S/o Shri Takosinh Jamoh Village –Mirbuk PO/PS – Pasighat, Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8723/ESD	17/05/2018
37.	Shri Pakyom Koyu, S/o Tapak Koyu Village – Sereen PO/PS – Nari Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8724/ESD	17/05/2018
38.	Shri Satish Yadav, S/o Shri Subhash Yadav, Permanent Add- Village – Chaumukha, PO-Vijaypur, PS- Gopalganj, Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar)	8725/ESD	22/05/2018
39.	Shri Anand Mishra, S/o Umesh Mishra, Permanent Add- Village Ramdas Bogohi, PO Bogohi Bazar, PS – Kateya Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar)	8726/ESD	22/05/2018
40.	Shri Arzind Mishra, Permanent Add-Village Ramdas Bogohi, PO – Begah Bazar, PS – Kateya, Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8727/ESD	22/05/2018
41.	Dr. Tonu Taki, S/o Shri Takom Taki Village – Rani, PO – Rani, PS – Silie – Oyan Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8728/ESD	22/05/2018
42.	Shri Md. Shaikh Kalim Ahmed, S/o Shri Shaikh Alamgiri, Permanent Add- Village- Miralpur PO- Miralpur, PS – Gopalganj Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8730/ESD	07/06/2018
43.	Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, S/o Lt. Kamaldev Singh Permanent Add- Village- Arar More, ward No 27 PO/PS – Gopalganj Dist. Gopalganj (A.P).	8731/ESD	07/06/2018
44.	Shri Sunil Kumar Gupta, S/o Rananath Pd. Gupta Permanent Add- Village – Kateya PO/PS – Kateya Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8732/ESD	07/06/2018
45.	Shri Israti Anari, S/o Shri Prakash Anar, Permanent Add- Village –Near Panchwati Hotel, Dhanad PO – Barwadwa PS – Dhanbad Dist. Dhanbad (Jharkhand).	8733/ESD	07/06/2018
46.	Shri Prabhakar Kumar Pandey, S/o Shri Dharmendoo Pandey, Permanent Add- Village-Jhilwania, PO- Jhilwania PS- Kateya (Bihar).	8736/ESD	12/06/2018
47.	Shri Omprakash Singh, S/o Shri Brijnandan Singh, Permanent Add- Village –Dasawha, PO – Dasawha PS – Barawapath (U.P)	8737/ESD	12/06/2018
48.	Shri Dharendra Sah, S/o Shri Hira Sah Permanent Add- Village-Lachpur, PO/PS –Ratunpura Kochaikat (Bihar).	8738/ESD	12/06/2018
49.	Smti Pushpa Devi, W/o Shri Tribhuvan Kumar Permanent Add-Village – Gandharpur, PO- Tikha PS – Mainwa Dist. Siwan (Bihar).	8739/ESD	12/06/2018
50.	Shri Manish Kumar Mishra, S/o Indradeo Mishra Permanent Add – Village – Ramdas Bogohi, PO – Bagahi Bazar PS – Kateya Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar)	8740/ESD	12/06/2018
51.	Shri Jitendra Prasad, S/o Shri Bhanu Prasad Permanent Add-Village- Mulang Sundandhi Riverside Chalyasi, PO – Chalyasi PS – Dhanbad Dist. Dhanbad (Jharkhand).	8741/ESD	12/06/2018
52.	Shri Raja Bhavani, S/o Lt. Brijkishor Prasad, Permanent Add-Village- Hospital chowk station road ward no. 25, Gopalganj, PO – Manikpur PS – Gopalganj (Bihar).	8742/ESD	12/06/2018
53.	Shri Mustafa Ansar, S/o Shri Ali Raj Ansari Village – Prasinadh, PO – Gaura PS – Kateya Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar)	8743/ESD	14/06/2018
54.	Shri Sonu Kumar Giri, S/o Shri Nand Kishor Giri Permanent Add-Village – Yazzamara A/20 Praggnagool Maharashtra PO – Newlink Road PS – Dahisar East Dist. Dahisar East (Maharashtra)	8744/ESD	14/06/2018
55.	Shri Tuntun Prasad Patel, S/o Shri Dhanehor Pd Patel, Permanent Add- Village – Sipalkhas, PO/PS – Boshoverpur Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar)	8745/ESD	14/06/2018
56.	Shri Krishna Pratap Singh, S/o Shri Uday Pratap Singh, Permanent Add-Village – Ranglithi, PO/PS – Dhanbad Dist. West Champaran (Bihar)	8746/ESD	14/06/2018
57.	Shri Mahendra Yadav, S/o Shri Munnar Yadav, Permanent Add-Village – Kandhwala, PO –Bajratpur Mohwan PS – Tarkulwa Dist. Deoria (U.P).	8747/ESD	14/06/2018
58.	Cst. Sushil Tiwari S/o Satya Deo Tiwari, Present Add: Sector 50 A.B. Govt. Housing Complex Villr- Sagar PO/PS – Mebo Dist. East Siang (A.P) P/Add – B-702 Sun Residency PO – Dhayari PS- Dhayari (Pune)	8748/ESD	28/06/2018
59.	Shri Tamat Darang, S/o LtTamam Darang – Village – Mirem PO- Bilat PS – Rukhin Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8749/ESD	16/06/2018
60.	Shri Manu Kamna Kumar, S/o Ramchandra Prasad Permanent Add- Village – Shyam Cinema Road, PO/PS – Gopalganj Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8750/ESD	26/06/2018
61.	Shri Umesh Namde Mane, S/o Namder Mane Permanent Add- Village – Taluka Malhiwas, PO- Dasur PS – Solapur Dist. Solapur (Maharashtra)	8751/ESD	26/06/2018
62.	Smti Usha Devi, W/o Shri Jitendra Yadav Permanent Add-Village – Khumrai, PO – Terkhemrajpur PS – Kateya Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8752/ESD	26/06/2018
63.	Shri Banti Singh, S/o Shri Sanjay Singh, Permanent Add- Village – Bhatipura, PO/PS – Manjha Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8753/ESD	26/06/2018
64.	Shri Gaurav Kumar Himanshu, S/o Shivmangal Singh Permanent Add-Village – Talayabandhi, PO – Mandohpur PS – Manjha (Bihar)	8754/ESD	26/06/2018
65.	Shri Nang Gao, S/o Shri Durga Gao Village – Sika- Bamin PO/PS – Silie-Oyan Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8755/ESD	27/06/2018
66.	Shri Tabir Tatin, S/o Lt. Tamok Tatin Village – Mirem PO – Bilat PS – Rukhin Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8756/ESD	27/06/2018
67.	Shri Robo Megu, S/o Shri Apok Megu, Village – Motum PO/PS –Mebo Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8767/ESD	05/07/2018
68.	Shri Md. Azizul Ali, S/o Md Hanif Ali Village – Graham Bazar, Gahbarupathar, PO/PS – Dibrugarh (Assam)	8768/ESD	05/07/2018
69.	Shri Oyin Paron, S/o Kokom Paron, Village – Ngorlung PO/PS Rukhin, Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8769/ESD	06/07/2018
70.	Shri Mubashhir Hasas, S/o Abdul Bari P/Add- Pasighat. Permanent Add- Village – Doodhpur PS – Kawarsi Dist. Aligarh (UP).	8770/ESD	11/07/2018
71.	Smti Hind Usmani, W/o Mubashhir Hasan, Permanent Add- Village – Alshahba, PO – Doodhpur, PS-Kawarsi, Dist. Aligarh (UP).	8771/ESD	11/07/2018
72.	Shri Ashok Kr. Singh, S/o Prem Bahadur Singh, Permanent Add-Village Yamuna Vihar 101, Vinayakpuram PO-Chinhat PS – Chinhat Dist. Lucknow,(UP).	8772/ESD	11/07/2018
73.	Shri Rakesh Paniker, S/o Rajendra Paniker Village – Anjali Aimmannam, PO – Kudamaloore, PS – Kattayam, Dist. Kottayam (Kerala)	8773/ESD	11/07/2018
74.	Smty Didi Padung Gao, W/o Shri Tapir Gao Village –Rukhin PO/PS – Rukhin, Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8774/ESD	11/07/2018
75.	Dr. Tayem Dupak, S/o Lt. Takom Dupak, Village – Ledum PO – Bilat, PS- Rukhin, Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8775/ESD	11/07/2018
76.	Shri Shanawaz Khan, S/o Shri Islam Khan, Permanent Add- Village – Gaura PO – Gaura, PS – Kateya Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8776/ESD	13/07/2018
77.	Shri Makbul Pertin, S/o Katan Pertin, Village – Sigar PO/PS – Mebo, Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8777/ESD	13/07/2018
78.	Shri Dakto Basar, S/o Kardak Basar, P/Add – Pasighat. Permanent Add-Village – Gori PO/PS – Basar Dist. West Siang (A.P).	8778/ESD	17/07/2018
79.	Smti Monisha Tangu, W/o Shri Anupam Tangu, Village – Mirsam PO/PS – Pasighat, Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8779/ESD	19/07/2018
80.	Smty Parwa Welly, W/o Er. Bimal Welly, P/Add- Pasighat. Permanent Add-Village – Chimpu PO – Chimpu PS- Itanagar Dist. Papumare (Chit.) (A.P).	8780/ESD	19/07/2018
81.	Shri Vikash Kumar, S/o Sunil Kumar, Village – Saraya ward no- 5, PO/PS-Gopalganj Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8781/ESD	24/07/2018
82.	Shri Mukesh Kumar Singh, S/o Srikanth Singh, Permanent Add-Village Bhowatibai enclave gali no 7, near Bhimpur Mandir, PO – KG Ashram PS – Saradwela Dist. Dhanbad (Jharkhand)	8782/ESD	24/07/2018
83.	Shri Jai Niwas Pandey, S/o Jamuna Pandey, Permanent Add-Village – Hirapur AHP School Road PO/PS – Dhanbad Dist. Dhanbad (Jharkhand)	8783/ESD	24/07/2018
84.	Shri Shekhar Kumar, S/o Hare Krishna, Permanent Add- Village – Manikpur, ward no. 13, PO/PS – Gopalganj (Bihar).	8784/ESD	24/07/2018
85.	Shri Anur Kumar Tiwari, S/o Mukhtinath Tiwari Permanent Add-Village, Gandkudichpur, PO – Titra Tola PS – Titra Dist. Siwan (Bihar).	8785/ESD	24/07/2018
86.	Smti Ramavati Devi, W/o Vinod Tiwari, Permanent Add-Village – Gandkudichpur, PO – Titra Tola PS – Titra Dist. Siwan (Bihar).	8786/ESD	24/07/2018
87.	Shri Umesh Chand Patel, S/o Chedi Prasad Permanent Add- Village – Sonara, PO – Sonara, PS – Maharaiganj (Bihar).	8790/ESD	06/08/2018
88.	Shri Faiz Akram, S/o Sharif Permanent Add- Village –Bagarwa, PO –Simoria PS – Kateya (Bihar).	8791/ESD	06/08/2018
89.	Smti Punom Upadhyay, W/o Bidyader Tiwari Permanent Add- Village –Pasarma, PO – Dasarma PS – Gopalganj (Bihar).	8792/ESD	06/08/2018
90.	Shri Dharmendra Kumar, S/o Ramder Prasad Singh, Permanent Add-Village- Khem Malhanian, PO – Kukakota, PS- Gopalganj (Bihar).	8793/ESD	06/08/2018
91.	Shri Radha Yadav, S/o Suryabali Yadav, Permanent Add- Village – Chaumukha, PO-Bijoypur, PS – Chaumukha, Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8794/ESD	06/08/2018
92.	Shri Saheb Singh, S/o Ramakant Singh, Permanent Add- Village –Muri Barari, PO – Muri Baran PS, Uchiagaon, Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8795/ESD	06/08/2018
93.	Shri Vivek Kumar Srivastav, S/o Sambhu Prasad Srivastav, Permanent Add-Village – Pachamawa Patti, PO/PS – Kateya Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8796/ESD	06/08/2018
94.	Shri Manish Kr. Mishra, S/o Krishna Kr. Mishra, Permanent Add- Village – Chatian, PO – Gigna Dubey, PS – Voreas Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8797/ESD	06/08/2018
95.	Shri Ganesh Pandey, S/o Rameshwar Pandey, Permanent Add-Village – Shri Ramchand Enclave Block-8-Flat No – 103, 1A, Shivpuri, PO/ PS – Lilo Nagar Patna Dist. Patna (Bihar).	8798/ESD	06/08/2018
96.	Shri Mino Tayeng, S/o Tozing Tayeng, P/Add- Pasighat. Permanent Add- Village – Roing PO/PS – Roing Dist. U/Dibang Valley (A.P).	8799/ESD	06/08/2018
97.	Dr. Tajir Tamuk S/o Tanyo Tamuk, Village – Niglok PO/PS-Rukhin, Dist. East Siang (A.P).	8800/ESD	16/08/2018
98.	Shri Anjay Choubey S/o Pradishnath Choubey, Permanent Add- Village – Jaisanli, PO/PS- Kateya Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8802/ESD	20/08/2018
99.	Shri Eten Moyong S/o Lt. Joir Moyong, Village- Kelek, PO – Balek, PS – Pasighat, Dist. East Siang (A.P)	8803/ESD	28/08/2018
100.	Shri Srikanth Singh S/o Kedar Singh, Permanent Add- Samsara PO/PS – Kuchayhat Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar)	8804/ESD	20/09/2018
101.	Shri Umesh Kumar S/o Upendra Pandey, Permanent Add- Village – Ballanswara PO/PS – Vishrampur Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8805/ESD	20/09/2018
102.	Shri Bipender Kr. Singh S/o Hardev Singh, Permanent Add- Village – Palam PO/PS – Delhi Dist. South Delhi (New Delhi)	8806/ESD	20/09/2018
103.	Shri John Zhume S/o Lt. Mitumang Perme, Village- Berung, PO/PS – Pasighat Dist. East Siang (A.P,md)	8807/ESD	20/09/2018
104.	Shri Samul Hoda Khan S/o Hoda Khan, Permanent Add – Village –10, Ambawadu Rsang Dixit Road Near High Way Vile Parle PO/PS – Mumbai (Maharashtra)	8808/ESD	20/09/2018
105.	Shri Ezzamel Houze S/o Abdul Monam, Permanent Add- Village – Jangliya ward no – 18, PO/PS – Gopalganj Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8809/ESD	20/09/2018
106.	Shri Satendra Kumar S/o Ramjee Prasad, Permanent Add- Village – Dandpur Khoti Taraknig Road No/20 Near MIT College, PO/PS – Muzaffarpur Dist. Muzaffarpur (Bihar).	8810/ESD	20/09/2018
107.	Shri Manoj Kr. Rai S/o Akhleshwar Rai Permanent Add- Village Khairi Barwa PO/PS – Khairi Barwa Dist. Deoria (Bihar).	8811/ESD	20/09/2018
108.	Shri Harender Sah S/o Hira SahPermanent Add – Village – Lachpur PO/PS – Ratampur Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar)	8812/ESD	20/09/2018
109.	Smti Sarita Kumar W/o Bhupender Kr. Singh, Permanent Add- Village – Bareya, ward No-3 PO/PS Gopalganj Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar).	8813/ESD	20/09/2018
(4 Four) Nos of Arms Licence No.8723/ESD,8722/ESD,8723/ESD,8724/ESD has already been revoked vide this office order No J-4358/18-19 dtd 12 th Feb 2021.			
All the concerned Arm licence holders who had obtained the arm licences during the said period are hereby directed to deposit the original arm licence in the office of the District Magistrate, Pasighat and the firearms if purchased against the said licences into the custody of Police Station Pasighat, East Siang District under Section 21 of Arms Act 1959 within 30(Thirty) days from the date of press publication of this order.			
Sd/- (Dr. Kinny Singh) IAS			District Magistrate-cum- Licensing Authority East Siang District, Pasighat
DIPR/ARN/2575-78			

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THE INDIAN EXPRESS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2021

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE
MUSIC IS THE UNIVERSAL
LANGUAGE OF MANKIND.
— HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

RISK AND FLOW

Banks have fared better than expected in pandemic, but there are also signs of stress building up

GOING BY THE Reserve Bank of India's Report on Trends and Progress of Banking in India, 2020-21, released on Tuesday, the Indian banking system appears to have weathered the Covid storm better than was expected. The asset quality of banks has improved over the past year or so, and on various other financial metrics too, both public and private sector banks are faring better than before. However, there is cause for concern. Even with the economy recovering to its pre-pandemic levels, the threat of Omicron notwithstanding, the report points out that banks must remain "vigilant of the evolving risks". In fact, according to the RBI's financial stability report released on Wednesday, banks may well witness a rise in bad loans over the coming year. Moreover, the withdrawal of monetary and fiscal measures means that banks will need to "further bolster their capital positions to absorb potential slippages as well as to sustain the credit flow."

At the aggregate level, banks' gross non-performing assets (GNPAs), which had begun to decline before the pandemic, have continued their downward trajectory. Bad loans stood at 7.3 per cent at the end of March 2021, down from 8.2 per cent in the previous year. Gross NPAs had earlier peaked at 11.5 per cent in March 2018. Provisional data suggests a further moderation this year — bad loans are estimated to have declined further to 6.9 per cent at the end of September 2021. However, this improvement is not only due to lower slippages, but is predominantly due to write-offs (banks wrote off Rs 2.08 lakh crore of bad loans), and policy measures taken by the central bank to lessen the fallout from the pandemic such as the asset classification standstill. In fact, according to the data presented in the report, recoveries from loans that have soured through all channels — Lok Adalats, debt recovery tribunals, the SARFAESI Act, and the IBC — have actually declined from 22 per cent (of the total amount involved) in 2019-20 to 14.1 per cent in 2020-21.

On other financial indicators, banks have seen an improvement over the past year — capital buffers are up, as are provision coverage ratios. However, there are signs of stress building up. Loans that are classified as SMA-2 (special mention accounts where the principal or the interest payment was overdue for 61-90 days) have risen, signalling impending stress. Stress is also building up in the MSME category. Bad loans may in fact take a turn for the worse in the months ahead. As per the financial stability report, GNPAs could rise to 8.1 per cent by September 2022 under the baseline scenario. If the economic outlook worsens, they may rise further to 9.5 per cent. Banks may thus need "higher capital infusion" to meet credit requirements and deal with the challenges. After all, how quickly credit flows through parts of the economy will have a bearing on the recovery.

THE MOVING TRIANGLE

Joint development of strategic Trincomalee oil tank farm by India, Sri Lanka could alter dynamic of Delhi-Beijing rivalry

SRI LANKA MAY be in the middle of an economic meltdown, its worst since the 1970s, caused by multiple factors. The Easter killings of 2019 dealt a hammer blow to the country's tourism industry, its main economic activity and source of revenue, a full year before the pandemic sealed its fate. Dwindling foreign exchange earnings have led to restriction on imports, which in turn has led to shortages of food essentials. Retail inflation is at a decadal high with skyrocketing food prices. An overnight switch to organic farming by government edict is threatening to decimate the paddy harvest and tea, Sri Lanka's main export. The country has shut down its only oil refinery because it does not have the money to import oil anymore. Sri Lanka's woes are compounded by its external debt. In 2022, the country reportedly will need to pay some \$4.5 bn to service its sovereign bonds. Nearly half of Sri Lanka's external debt is owed to international capital markets, and slightly below a quarter to international banks. Contrary to popular belief, China holds only about 10 per cent of Sri Lanka's debt stock, as does Japan. The International Monetary Fund has bailed out the country several times in the past, most recently in 2016, but Sri Lanka exited the programme in 2019 because of the tough conditions, and is reluctant to approach the Fund again.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said earlier this week that there was nothing to worry as promised inflows from China and India would improve Sri Lanka's forex reserves. Indeed, on Wednesday, the Central Bank announced year-end reserves of \$3.1 bn, up from \$1.6 bn last month, offering no explanation as to how the increase had come about, and triggering speculation that it had drawn on a March 2021 \$1.5 bn currency swap arrangement with China.

Delhi is also finalising an assistance package that will include a credit line for food and medicines to be purchased from India, and a second credit line to cover oil imports from India. The key to this package is the finalisation by the Rajapaksa government of a long pending deal for a joint India-Lanka development of the strategic Trincomalee oil tank farm. Sri Lanka's energy minister has said the deal will be finalised in January. If the assistance package including the modernisation of the oil tank farms does come through, it would signal an important shift in India-Sri Lanka relations, one with the potential to alter the dynamics of the Delhi-Beijing rivalry for influence in the Indian Ocean Region.

OUR NOTES AND THEIR

Airline and airport operators have been asked to play Indian music only. They'll have to define Indian music first

ON TUESDAY, THE Ministry of Civil Aviation wrote to the country's airline and airport operators asking them to consider playing "Indian music". The letter was sent out less than a week after Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) President Vinay Sahasrabudde met Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and asked him to make Indian music mandatory for the country's airlines and airports as it would help in "strengthening emotional connect of our people to our civilisational traditions in music and arts". The letter from the Ministry seeks to invoke nationalistic pride: "... jazz in American airlines or Mozart in Austrian airlines or Arab music in an airline from the Middle East. But Indian airlines seldom play Indian music on the flights..."

But how does one define Indian music, when music is a borderless concept, more so in a shrinking world? Does Dylan's *Blowin' in the Wind*, played by an American on a bamboo flute native to India, qualify? Should the decision depend on whether the piece is raga-based or derived from a folk tune? Does Ed Sheeran's *Shape of You* make the cut? It's based in Raag Bhimpalasi. And what about the music of the Symphony Orchestra of India, which revels in the glory of Mozart, Beethoven, and Bach? Should we shun them, as they play "foreign" music?

Even if Indian music is needed to connect people to Indian traditions, are flights and airports the place to do it? Most airlines choose soothing music for their flights as well as lounges at the airport. Piano and strings are the go-to choice for most carriers including Qatar Airways, Emirates, Cathay Pacific, and Singapore Airlines among others. Vistara has a lovely playlist, for instance, and plays John Lennon's *Imagine* and Steely Dan songs on board. Air India has often played old classical instrumental recordings and they are loved too. To ask airline and airport operators to confine themselves to the Indian music route is at best silly and at worst lip service to India's rich music traditions, which require more meaningful steps for preservation.



AMRIT GANGAR

INSTITUTIONS, ESPECIALLY PUBLIC-FUNDED cultural institutions anywhere in the world, have certain historical priorities while remaining flexible to the upheavals caused by technological and political exigencies. Historically, they have been known to perform better without the shackles of centralised power or unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles. Their ROCE (Return on the Capital Employed) is not as tangible as that of iron and steel — their intangibility lives in the collective pulse of the nation, which throbs in its artistic creations, including cinema. In this context, it would be interesting to try and understand the history of the four so-called media units of the central government — Films Division, Children's Film Society of India, National Film Archive of India and Directorate of Film Festivals — viewing the recent move to merge them with yet another almost non-performing unit, the National Film Development Corporation.

For many years, scholars have been questioning the treatment of cinema as an object of either "information" or "broadcasting" given that it is essentially neither. There is an obvious defect at the roots.

When, in 1964, the NFAI was established, 17 long years had elapsed since India's independence, during which time many of the extant negatives of feature films had perished, before they could make their way to the archival vaults in Pune. Imagine, we have no trace of our first talkie film *Alam Ara*, which released in 1931. Ninety years is not long on the archival timescale. But if we count the real time from 1964, we are left with only 33 years to enrich India's archival vaults, a country of so many cinemas. In this time, India had already produced over 7,500 feature films in all major languages.

Leave alone silent feature films (produced between 1913 and 1934; numbering over 1,300, of which barely 2 per cent survives), large chunks of early post-1931 talkie films have also disappeared. Once, the late PK Nair, the NFAI's founder-curator-director told me about meeting Ardeshir Irani at Jyoti Studio (where Irani's Imperial Films Company once stood) when he was looking for all the extant film prints in labs and studios in Mumbai. Irani

India's film heritage needs careful archiving. This process must guard against over-centralisation

When, in 1964, the NFAI was established, 17 long years had elapsed since India's independence, during which time many of the extant negatives of feature films had perished, before they could make their way to the archival vaults in Pune. Imagine, we have no trace of our first talkie film *Alam Ara*, which released in 1931. Ninety years is not long on the archival timescale. But if we count the real time from 1964, we are left with only 33 years to enrich India's archival vaults, a country of so many cinemas. In this time, India had already produced over 7,500 feature films in all major languages.

told him that a few prints of *Alam Ara* were lying in some corner around there, but then his son interjected, disputing him and added that "the old man had gone senile". The point, however, is an unhappy conjecture. Had the NFAI been established a decade earlier, perhaps its vaults would have possessed the prints of India's first talkie film, and much more. This only indicates how important it is to empower the archiving exercises at the national level. Federally, they need to be prioritised, empowering the film archiving body as an independent, less bureaucratically burdened body without recourse to over-centralisation and merging marriages.

The USA has over 30 major film archives, museums and libraries, most of which are public-funded bodies. The National Film Registry is the US's National Film Preservation Board's collection of films selected for preservation for their historical, cultural and aesthetic contributions while the massive Library of Congress has many search options available online for easy public access. It exists to serve the American citizens and the people of the world at large. A true Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

In fact, India should have as many archival facilities as the number of states and Union Territories so that poor students from far-off villages who wish to pursue research can have easier access to not only NFAI's collection of films, but also its books and other reading and viewing materials.

This could also be individually done by the Films Division (established in 1948), which is not only a production unit but also a repository of India's history on analogue and digital media since independence. Most of India's leading filmmakers, besides many younger filmmakers and artists, have made films for the FD, making the nation's cultural and audio-visual heritage rich and palpable. These need to be freely disseminated among people by preserving them carefully and compassionately. No private entrepreneur would have ventured into this realm as it would not be a good "commercial" proposition for him.

In its library, the CFSI has many films that need to be shown widely across the country. There are a number of national and interna-

tional award-winners, providing engagement to young minds. Over half a century ago, FD and CFSI made a wonderful bouquet of fiction and non-fiction animation and puppet films for inculcating good civic sense, too. I was part of the monthly Sunday morning screenings of CFSI's films at a cinema house in the suburb of Kandivali in Mumbai. They were organised by practising medical doctors attached to the Kandivali Medical Association. The screenings saw hundreds of children and young students enthusiastically gathering to see films; filmmakers would attend some of the programmes and interact with the children. All these activities were done with no profit motive in mind. The word "monetisation" hadn't entered our conscience.

NFAI organises regular screenings of rare films from its collection in its campus auditorium in Pune (open to the public on nominal membership basis), while the FD and the CFSI have their biennial international film festivals. I have closely followed the launch of the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) for documentary, short and animation films by the Films Division, which has groomed many young filmmakers in this country.

Then there is the DFF, founded in 1973, which, besides organising the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) and events abroad, also takes care of several other films-related events, including the Dadasaheb Phalke Awards.

All these bodies under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting function individually as well as in coordination, each carrying its own history, recording the many national ups and downs as public services with no domineering monetary or profit motive.

How about setting up an umbrella Chalachitra Academy? The only state that has one is Kerala which effectively and efficiently manages all film-related activities under the Kerala State Chalachitra Academy. Such an umbrella academy would help retain the cultural ethos of a nation under an over-centralised dispensation.

The writer is a Mumbai-based film scholar, curator, historian and writer



D RAJA

THE WIDELY TELECAST inauguration of the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor by Prime Minister Narendra Modi displayed the nefarious designs of the ruling regime. The invocation of Hindu symbols and ritualistic practices by the PM in a state function gave de facto official status to the majority religion. These developments throw open numerous questions regarding the relationship between the state and religion in a multi-religious, multicultural country.

While the Constitution categorically proclaims India to be a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic, the current ruling regime willfully ignores this promise. Choosing to stand true to the vision manufactured in Nagpur, this right-wing Brahmanical regime is prioritising intolerance. While direct physical violence by these forces is the most evident, one has to be equally wary of the deep discursive violence inflicted. For a political formulation whose imagination is propped up by religion, the multicultural reality of the subcontinent is unpalatable. While a single definition of secularism has been evasive, modern nation-states have since long grappled with this principle.

Scientific socialism since its inception understood the role religion plays in an unequal exploitative society. Marx famously wrote: "Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, and the soul of soulless conditions."

In India, too, reformers constantly tried to do away with the orthodoxy practised in the name of religion and bring our society in con-

FRAMED IN KASHI

BJP-RSS threaten to erase the promises and values of the freedom struggle

formity with modern democratic values.

While significant energies of our freedom movement were invested in driving away the British, at the same time, our leaders were conscious of how independent India would constitute itself. Secularism was a hallmark of the major participants in the freedom struggle. Gandhi, while proclaiming himself a Hindu, never tolerated religious discrimination. Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhas Bose, Sardar Patel, Maulana Azad and other luminaries were steadfast in their commitment to a future secular state. B R Ambedkar gave the clarion call for the annihilation of caste and initiated perhaps the greatest social reform on this land. EV Ramaswamy Periyar established rationality at the core of Tamil society and Sri Narayana Guru's calls for the end of discrimination based on one's birth found many echoes. From the leaders of the Ghadr Party to the Left revolutionaries led by Bhagat Singh, complete unanimity prevailed regarding the role of religion in the independent Indian state: It was to be a private affair with the state keeping equidistance from all organised religions. The republic that was inaugurated was a secular democratic republic with fundamental rights ensuring non-discrimination based on faith. The pro-British minority that advocated for a state religion or a theocracy found few takers among the people.

In India, we saw the rise of the RSS-BJP in the uncertain years after the financial crisis of 2008-09, riding the chariot of Hindutva. The Hindu religion had no institution akin to the

church and it remained heavily localised in practice. The RSS and its obsession with uniformity has propelled them to devise monolithic interpretations of certain strands of Brahmanical texts, which they wish to impose on this extremely diverse society. This thought is not only dangerous for communal harmony but it can also push us back by hundreds of years by diverting us from issues of material interest. Certain contemporary developments have been disturbing in this regard. Recently, a few municipalities in Gujarat embarked on a mission to outlaw the public sale of non-vegetarian food. A BJP MP from Gujarat issued an ultimatum to tribals that the benefits of reservation will be snatched away from them if they do not convert to Hinduism.

The elevation of the religion of the majority as the de-facto state religion becomes a real threat. We should be conscious of French thinker Voltaire's words: "... whoever can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities." The rise of religious common sense can be challenged and rejected only by bringing back the focus on the real and concrete issues of dignity, livelihood, health, employment and housing.

The important question before us is: Should we let religion interfere with, or take over, the workings of a secular state or should we resist this deviousness of the Hindu right? The lessons of our independence movement and the sacrifices of countless freedom fighters point us in only one direction.

The writer is General Secretary, CPI



DECEMBER 30, 1981, FORTY YEARS AGO

PM ON WARS

PRIME MINISTER INDIRA Gandhi said that in the past, India had been attacked "without reason or logic" and it was thus extremely difficult to prophesise if there would be war in 1982. Addressing a press conference at Raj Bhavan during her one-day visit to West Bengal, the PM said it was imperative for India to have full defence preparedness. "A lot of people are talking peace but are getting ready for war". She said India had been attacked five or six times and except for one occasion, the attacks had come from Pakistan. Besides, India had a vast coastline to guard. "India has never committed any aggression," Mrs Gandhi said.

AASU SETS TERMS

THE ASSAM AGITATORS could consider suspending their agitation to create a congenial atmosphere for the proposed tripartite talks if the Centre withdrew all the repressive measures in the state, the All Assam Students Union General Secretary Bhriгу Kumar Phukan said. He said that the government had failed to muster courage to fight the "tentacles of the octopus-grip of foreigners of various hues, ranging from ultra-left to the ultra-right".

SETBACK FOR CONG (I)

THE RULING CONGRESS (I) Party suffered a

humiliating defeat in the Sagar parliamentary constituency, when the BJP wrested the seat from it by a margin of 4,025 votes. However, the party managed to retain the Konta constituency by a margin of 103 votes. The BJP, whose demand for recounting at Konta was rejected, has lodged a strong protest with the Election Commissioner.

POLAND'S DECREE

THE POLISH GOVERNMENT has issued a decree making work obligatory for all men between 18 to 45 years. The decree was meant to force people who could not "justify" their income to work, state news agency Tass said.

THE IDEAS PAGE

The will to secular practice

It has been confined to the realm of beautiful language. The latest iteration of hate speech against Muslims should remind us of the fragility of the secular project



NEETI NAIR

THE RECENT ASSEMBLY of so-called sadhus at Haridwar in Uttarakhand has called for the mass murder of Muslims. The videos of the vitriolic, hate speeches have now been in circulation for a few days, and have been analysed by the media in some measure. Yet, with Covid surging and election news dominating headlines, this latest avalanche of hate speech has already begun to drop off the front pages of newspapers. We neglect this new low at our peril.

A little over 50 years ago, in May 1970, Lok Sabha witnessed a gloves-off contest between two ideas of India, one represented by the poet and rising star of the then Jana Sangh, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, and the other represented by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. During the discussion on communal disturbances in the country, Vajpayee declared “We should understand two things. Whatever the reason, our Muslim friends are becoming more communal (*sampradaya*) and in reaction Hindus are becoming more angry (*ugra*). For 700-800 years we have had a tradition (*parampara*) of accepting violence.” Coming in the wake of the horrific riots in Allahabad, Ranchi, Bhiwandi, Jalgaon, Jabalpur, Vajpayee’s speech flew in the face of evidence that Hindus would not, as he claimed, “start the violence”. Indira Gandhi, who usually let speeches be given uninterrupted, intervened to let Vajpayee know that he was saying things that would “deeply hurt all minorities” and that his speech would “create a bad atmosphere in the country.” In response, Vajpayee asked her to “resign and get out” and accused her of heading a minority government.

When elections were called the following year in early 1971, Vajpayee predicted that even if 95 per cent of rickshaw pullers voted for Indira’s Congress, supporting her on bank nationalisation, 95 per cent of Hindus would vote for the Jana Sangh on the Hindu-Muslim issue. As it happened, the Jana Sangh’s tally was reduced from 44 to 22 seats. Indira’s Congress won 352 seats in the Lok Sabha. Analysing this rout, the right-wing journal *Organiser*, which had predicted a massive victory for the Jana Sangh, now editorialised that they had made a mistake in contesting on finer points: “People in the mass understand and appreciate only bold actions.” It also concluded that her victory was “purely personal. There is no organisation or ideology behind it. Ideological parties like Jana Sangh may lose battles, but not the war. For while individuals may come and go, ideology abides.”

So, should the recent juggernaut of the BJP, successor to the Jana Sangh, propelling its way through parts of India, be read as evidence that the *Organiser* was right after all, and that the Opposition had no ideology behind it? Why did so many Hindus vote for Indira’s Congress in 1971? Was it because they supported her populist measures alone? Did ideology have nothing to do with her victory? It is notoriously difficult to read into the many factors that affect decision-making when individuals vote, and we know this to be true from so many exit polls that have gone wrong. Historians can only rely on the evidence of strong speeches and campaign manifestos and there, Indira’s Congress put up a good show. The preceding year had also seen a long-drawn debate on “Indianisation” — a thinly veiled attack on the patriotism of



CR Sasikumar

Indian Muslims.

Whereas at the national convention of the Jana Sangh in Patna in December 1969, Indianisation was defined as the “subordination of all narrow loyalties like those of religion, caste, region, language or dogma to the over-riding loyalty to the nation of all fissiparous elements, especially of those with extra-territorial loyalties... to the two-nation or multi-nation theory”, in Parliament, Vajpayee held that Indianisation was simply “a bid to make India strong”, to make sure India did not depend on the Americans or the Russians in determining her foreign policy. He went on to say that India did not become a Hindu rashtra after Independence because our *sanskriti* did not give us permission to do so. Secularism, he argued, was not “a slogan or innovation of the Congress party; this is a *mantram* created out of the culture of this country.” He lamented that secularism had come to mean “Hindu-virodhi” and declared that the prime minister too needed to be Indianised.

When it was the prime minister’s turn to reply to the debate, she acknowledged her absence in Parliament when Vajpayee had spoken. Therefore, she had read his speech in “cold print” wherein “his true intentions come out better when shorn of his ringing cadences.” She thought “his theory... not quite so innocent.”

“Who will judge the quantum or the quality of Indianness of any individual? ... We remember vividly the havoc caused in America by some people who declared other Americans to be un-American and, in the entire world, when some Germans maintained that other Germans were un-Aryan and, therefore, un-German... the test of any statement is not how you yourselves interpret it, but what impact it has on the people about

So, should the recent juggernaut of the BJP, successor to the Jana Sangh, propelling its way through parts of India, be read as evidence that the *Organiser* was right after all, and that the opposition had no ideology behind it? Why did so many Hindus vote for Indira’s Congress in 1971? Was it because they supported her populist measures alone? Did ideology have nothing to do with her victory? It is notoriously difficult to read into the many factors that affect decision-making when individuals vote, and we know this to be true from so many exit polls that have gone wrong.

whom you make that statement. ... I have given a good deal of time to Shri Vajpayee’s thoughts because I think that they merit it. I have tried to see through his words, behind his sweet phrases and his beautiful Hindi,” she said.

Indira’s English was no less beautiful. There was, in the pre-Emergency years, a clarity to her conviction. Whether it came from her advisers or speech-writers such as P N Haksar is not entirely the point. She knew what she stood for, and it was in the service of such an idea that she passed legislation through Parliament such as Section 153B of the Indian Penal Code that criminalised the actions of anyone who “asserts... or publishes that any class of persons shall by reason of their being members of any religious... or regional group... be denied... their rights as citizens of India.” It is a different matter that the courts have not lived up to their promise, letting the hate speech and hate-filled editorials of Bal Thackeray in the 1990s go unpunished, despite such laws.

Yet, the will to secular practice, whether in Vajpayee’s elaboration of secularism or Indira’s defence of it when “secular” was formally inserted into the preamble to India’s Constitution in 1976, has been limited to the realm of beautiful language. This latest iteration of diabolical hate speech against Muslims, on the eve of another momentous election campaign, should remind us that dangerous speech has consequences. The courts, the police, and the Election Commission of India ignore them to our collective peril.

Nair is associate professor of history at the University of Virginia. She is currently finishing a manuscript on hurt sentiments and state ideology in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“‘Another important question that the national security policy should pursue is trade with India. Since it is economic-centric, the policy requires an in-depth review of whether Pakistan will benefit more by trading with India instead of staying away.’” —DAWN

AFSPA in perspective

Abolish it, humanise it, but before doing so, ensure resolution of issues, socio-political or governance-related, which compelled state to invoke it



RAJENDRA PRAKASH

WITH THE KASHMIR Valley continuing to remain, sporadically, on the boil, and with violence re-emerging in the Northeast, the public and political discourse on the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) has taken on unusual stridency. But a debate which is swayed by emotion, prejudice or cultivated ignorance, instead of resting upon a bedrock of facts and realities, becomes an exercise in mere sophistry.

Before embarking on a re-examination of the AFSPA, a word about the Indian soldier is necessary. The soldier is a citizen with equal obligations and the same rights as any other Indian citizen; she/he is neither a “slave” of the state, nor is she/he a “dummy” to be manipulated by the exigencies of politics or populism. However, as long as a soldier wears the uniform, she/he voluntarily denudes herself/himself of three fundamental rights granted by Article 19 of the Constitution — the right of free association, the right of political activity and the right to communicate with the press and media. Further, a soldier voluntarily places her/himself under the statutory rigours of military discipline (under the Army/Navy/Air Force Acts) and swears an oath to obey all “lawful commands” of her/his military superiors “unto the peril of death”.

Next, the armed forces are the servants of the Indian state and its ultimate resort. They are duty-bound to do all that is necessary for the “safety, honour and welfare” of our nation and to this end, faithfully and efficiently execute all lawful commands, directions and policies of the government with fidelity and to the utmost of their ability. Reciprocally, it is the bounden duty of the state (i.e., the legislature, judiciary and the executive) to provide the armed forces the means and wherewithal essential to perform the responsibilities and tasks assigned to them.

Coming now to the AFSPA — except in war, or when guarding the international border, the Indian Army has no constitutional authority or legal powers to use force or firearms against anyone whatsoever. Like any other Indian citizen, the only legal right a soldier has is the right of “private defence” (of life or property), which must be proved post-facto in a court of law, and this takes many years of court hearings. The only other possibility of such use of force by the armed forces is when called out in “aid to civil authority”, for which a magistrate must be present at each spot to authorise the use of force in writing on a particular form. Only after completing these formalities/procedures can troops be “lawfully” ordered to use “minimum force” against civilians.

The current modus operandi of terrorists, insurgents and militants does not allow

the luxury of a magistrate’s presence at the time and place of an operation or encounter. Moreover, unless the security forces are quicker and forestall the adversary’s actions, they are likely to suffer heavy casualties. Thus, any military commander, army chief downwards, ordering his troops to operate in a counterinsurgency role (cordons and searches, ambushes, counter-ambushes, pitched battles) against folks of this ilk, would be giving an “unlawful command”, not liable to be obeyed. If obeyed, it could land all commanders, right down the chain — from corps, divisions, brigades, battalions, companies and, platoons to infantry sections — before the courts of law on charges of murder, assault, injury and destruction of property. Defending such cases, in courts, would, obviously, leave no time or resources for any other military responsibilities, for years.

To avoid such situations, and to ensure that the Army is able to perform its basic function of external defence and internal security of the nation, pragmatic lawmakers, in the 1950s, devised the AFSPA, exclusively for operations in the Naga Hills. Regrettably, it is now invoked as a “fire-fighting” measure, elsewhere too; not by the Indian Army but by the government when the civil administration is unable to cope and police forces fail to restore normalcy.

In a democracy, only the elected government is mandated to govern. If it fails or cannot find political solutions and needs to exert state power to enforce its writ, then the Army may be called in. Under such circumstances, ordering a soldier, who is also a citizen, to carry out counterinsurgency operations in the absence of any legal mandate, is to order her/him to commit murder and mayhem. This would not be a “lawful command” and is legally and morally open to disobedience.

However, once the AFSPA (or other enabling legal measure) is invoked, and it becomes a duly authorised operation, it will be executed in a military manner, with restraint and responsibility. Stringent rules, guidelines and advisories are in existence, regarding respect for human rights. However, soldiers are human, and aberrations do occur. When they do, military justice is dispensed swiftly and without bias.

In closing, some advice for all those frantically urging the removal of AFSPA. Abolish the AFSPA, humanise it or whatever, but before doing so ensure the resolution of issues, whether socio-political or governance-related, which compelled the state to invoke this Act in the first place. In other words, create conditions which will convince the insurgents to stop insurgency, militants to stop militancy, terrorists to stop terror, Naxalites to stop mayhem and Kashmiri youth to stop hurling stones.

From the Army chief downwards, no one can order a soldier to obey an unlawful command, i.e., to inflict violence without legitimate legal sanction. Thus, debates based on ignorance of ground realities are harmful for the community — akin to banning a book without having read it.

The writer is a retired Major General

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INSULT TO HINDUISM

THE OPEN CALL for genocide of minorities by some Hindu swamis in Haridwar and elsewhere is shocking. The perpetrators will surely be punished under the law of the land, because their statements are not only against existing legislation but against the very Constitution itself. By making such statements, they have distorted the great Vedantic principles of common welfare and brotherhood found in the Upanishads, which form the true basis of Hinduism, thereby insulting Hinduism itself. These events highlight the importance of re-energising the interfaith movement, which strives to bring together people of different religious persuasions in a harmonious and creative dialogue. In a multi-religious, multi-linguistic and multicultural nation like India, we simply cannot afford hostile and divisive statements from any religion, far less from Hinduism which represents the vast majority in the country.

Karan Singh, chairman, Temple of Understanding India Foundation

TINA PARADOXES

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘There is no alternative’ (IE, December 29). This refrain of defeatism is not shared by the voters as was evident by the massive defeat of the BJP in West Bengal. The problem is with the critics and opposition. The former exaggerate the negatives of Modi while people see things in their totality. Right now, for them, the more important issue is how the government is coping with the coronavirus and economy as against a perceived danger to democracy.

Y G Chouksey, Pune



SHANTANU GUPTA

THE TITLE OF Tavleen Singh’s article, ‘Give them circuses’ (IE, December 19), comes from the phrase, “Give them bread and circuses and they will never revolt,” coined by the ancient Roman poet Juvenal to describe a method by which a government can placate a population. Roman empires are history in Rome and political families from Rome in India are also in political oblivion but the cheerleaders of Roman folklore can still be found dancing in Lutyens’ Delhi.

By calling the prayers by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the rejuvenated Kashi Vishwanath temple a circus, calling saffron an exaggerated colour, calling Hindus as semi-literate and ahistorical and by comparing the lights of the aarti to disco lights, Singh has taken a leaf out of the outdated “How to tease Hindus” playbook. The only data point she provides to support her sweeping arguments is her one call with some anonymous priest of Varanasi. But let me present some hard verifiable data to the readers on how the double engine government of Modi-Yogi has transformed Uttar Pradesh.

In March 2017, when the BJP named Yogi Adityanath the Chief Minister after its landslide victory in UP, many political pundits

wrote him off even before he took the oath of office. Analysts thought a saffron-clad mahant can only teach lessons in dharma, and governance is not his cup of tea. This was a lazy analysis or perhaps hate for his saffron attire. In four-and-a-half years in office, Yogi has proved them wrong.

What the Yogi Adityanath government has achieved in a state like UP, which was at the bottom of all the development indices, is nothing short of a miracle. The only index UP topped during the tenures of Akhilesh Yadav, Mulayam Singh Yadav and Mayawati was “crime”. Yogi, a five-time member of Parliament, knew that to bring prosperity back to UP, to reinstate the trust of entrepreneurs in the state, he needed to fix the law and order of the state. He took the task head-on. By adding 1.5 lakh police staff in the rank and file, strategically bringing history sheeters and mafia to book in each district, protecting businesses from land grabbers and extortionists, he was able to convince industrialists to come back and expand in UP.

A safe UP under Yogi started getting investment proposals to the order of Rs 5 lakh crores every year and a high percentage of them started seeing ground-breaking ceremonies. In the last 4.5 years, UP jumped to

the second spot in the Ease of Doing Business ranking from the 12th position in 2017, beating industrialised states like Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Telangana.

Tightened law and order was coupled with the fast-paced development of infrastructure, increased availability of power and de-cluttering the red-tapism faced by entrepreneurs. This resulted in massive job creation in the state. Large-scale government recruitment is done transparently and fairly. Providing impetus to MSMEs through an innovative scheme like One District-One-Product (ODOP) added to the state’s employment generation drive. The per capita income in the state has almost doubled and the unemployment rate has come down to 4.1 per cent in February 2021, compared to 17.5 per cent in 2017, when Akhilesh Yadav left office. As a result, UP is now rapidly moving towards becoming the largest economy in the country. The state has jumped to the second position in Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) from the seventh position in Akhilesh Yadav’s time.

Whenever PM Modi invokes “double engine ki sarkar” in state election campaigns while urging people to elect the BJP, to work on the same frequency with the central gov-

ernment, many people see it as mere political rhetoric. But Yogi proved that “double engine” means “double growth” for the states. All the Centre’s development schemes have worked superbly well in UP and succeeded in meeting the targets under the Yogi government. UP is number one in almost 45 central government schemes. Yogi constantly brought senior cabinet ministers to the state to iron out pending issues and take on steeper targets for his state to complete. Now, be it gas stove distribution, or the construction of toilets or houses for the underprivileged UP is among the top achievers.

Instead of “give them circuses”, PM Modi and CM Yogi have given a new mantra to the Indian polity — “give them welfare and governance, and they will bless you”. And this new beneficiary vote bank has been giving its blessings to the Modi-led BJP in multiple state and central elections since 2014. One has to just come out of Khan market coffee shops and smell the cow dung in the hinterlands of Uttar Pradesh to notice this change.

Gupta is author of Yogi Adityanath’s biography, The Monk Who Became Chief Minister



New Delhi



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बर्लिंग अट्रिडेंट	शिक्षित	02	16,800/-

2. शर्तों व नियम, आवेदन फार्म तथा वेतन न्यून-वृद्धक एवं वेतन न्यून www.echs.gov.in देखें। अतिरिक्त जानकारी हेतु कृपया स्टेशन मुख्या. (ईसीएचएस सेल) उधमपुर में संपर्क करें। 01992-295581, वेबसाइट: www.echs.gov.in या ई-मेल आईडी: echsudhampur@gmail.com पर संपर्क करें। निम्नलिखित जानकारी हेतु संबंधित ईसीएचएस पॉलीक्लीनिक को भी संपर्क किया जा सकता है। प्रत्येक बर्ल पूर्व सैनिक को दे जायें।

3. हमारी वेबसाइट पर दिने गये प्रारूप के अनुसार आवेदन प्रार्थी की अंतिम तिथि : अंशदायी के अनुसार आवेदन तथा संपर्क योग्यता के समर्थन में सहायक को स्व. सहायता प्रार्थी और कार्य अनुभव के साथ ट्यूटोर में 19 जनवरी, 2022 तक ओआईसी, स्टेशन मुख्या. (ईसीएचएस सेल), उधमपुर में जमा करवायें जायें। 19 जनवरी, 2022 के बाद प्राप्त कोर्स भी अंशदायी संबंधित नहीं किया जायें।

4. साक्षात्कार की तिथि, समय व स्थान :- उम्मीदवार 1000 बजे से 1400 बजे के मध्य अंशदायी केंद्र जहां जाने वाले साक्षात्कार हेतु 27 से 29 जनवरी 2022 को 0800 बजे स्टेशन मुख्या. (ईसीएचएस सेल) उधमपुर पहुंच जायें। उम्मीदवारों को साक्षात्कार के समय 10वीं/मैट्रिक, 10+2 व प्रवेशपत्र/वेबट्रेड प्रवेशपत्र/डिप्लोमा/कोर्स के अंशदायी मूल प्रमाणपत्र/अंशदायी/डिप्लोमा, कार्य अनुभव तथा डिस्चार्ज बुक, पैनकार्ड, सर्विस रिकॉर्ड व 02 सेंटी अकार की रॉयल फोटो साथ लानी होगी। टैग/डैग, स्मॉक/गैर नहीं है। केवल कमान्डेंटिय अंशदायीओं को पूरा करने वाले ही आवेदन कर सकते हैं।

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION MANAGEMENT (MANAGE)
(An Autonomous Organization of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India)
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500 030.

CORRIGENDUM

The last date for receipt of applications to the PGDM (ABM) 2022-24 batch at MANAGE is extended up to **25th February 2022**.
For further details visit www.manage.gov.in
Sd/- Principal Coordinator PGDM (ABM)

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

E-TENDER NOTICE NO.- ECR-CAO-CON-NORTH-ETN-32-21-22 E-TENDER IS INVITED ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA FOR THE UNDER MENTIONED WORK. Particulars SL No. 1 Name of work: Design, Supplying Fabrication, assembling and launching of BOW string girder and its associated Road works for Railway portion in connection with Construction of ROB in lieu of LC-56 at Sitamarhi. 2. Approx cost of the work: Rs. 8,61,06,383.01 3. Date and time for closing of tender: 19.01.2022 at 14.30 hrs. 04. Website particular, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and addressed of the office from where the tender form be purchased etc. The above E-Tender, E-Tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. <http://www.ireps.gov.in>, and also can see in the office of CAO/Con/ECR, MHX, Patna Note: Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> atleast 10 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum/corrections etc in response to this E-tender

CAO/Con/North EC Rly, MHX, Patna
PR/001431/CON/ENGGR/7/21-22/36

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CIN:U31200UP2003SGC027460

ई-निविदा सूचना

1. विधिष्टीकरण सं० डीबीवीएनएल-एमएम/3163-2021: जनपद-झांसी में 33/11 के०बी० विद्युत उपकेंद्र-प्रथम, डिफेंस कॉरीडोर एच झांसी एवं तत्सम्बन्धित 33/11 के०बी० लाईनों का निर्माण कार्य पूर्ण जमा योजना में टर्नकी आधार पर कराये जाने हेतु, धरोहर राशि: ₹ 6,50,000/-, निविदा शुल्क: ₹ 5,900/- (जी.एस.टी. सहित)।

2. विधिष्टीकरण सं० डीबीवीएनएल-एमएम/3164-2021: जनपद-झांसी में 33/11 के०बी० विद्युत उपकेंद्र-द्वितीय, डिफेंस कॉरीडोर एच झांसी एवं तत्सम्बन्धित 33/11 के०बी० लाईनों का निर्माण कार्य पूर्ण जमा योजना में टर्नकी आधार पर कराये जाने हेतु, धरोहर राशि: ₹ 6,00,000/-, निविदा शुल्क: ₹ 5,900/- (जी.एस.टी. सहित)। निविदा शुल्क केवल ऑनलाइन, DVVN, AGRA की वेबसाइट www.dvnl.org पर वेबसाइट www.dvnl.org पर अपलोड की जायेगी। विवरण के लिए कृपया निविदा प्रपत्र ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ लें। 1. उपरोक्त निविदाएं निर्धारित दिनांक 21.01.2022 को 13:00 बजे तक ऑनलाइन अपलोड की जा सकेंगी एवं निर्धारित दिनांक 22.01.2022 को सांघ 16:00 बजे खोली जायेगी। 2. मंथन में यदि कोई संशोधन अथवा निविदा तिथि विस्तार होता है तो उसकी सूचना ई-टेंडर पोर्टल <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध करायी जायेगी। अधिक जानकारी हेतु कृपया <https://etender.up.nic.in> को लॉग-इन करें।

मुख्य अतिथि (01090)-1
(1283/अतिथि/साधु)-1/अध्यक्ष/विभाग दिनांक 28.12.2021

राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें

DISTRICT HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY, FARIDABAD

SHORT TERM NOTICE

Requirement of Alternate Vaccinator for Urban Areas

Application are invited for hiring of alternate Vaccinator for Vaccination in Slum areas under National Urban Health Mission. The alternate Vaccinator will be paid only Rs. 450 per session per vaccinator considering 25 working days in a month. Hiring is upto 31.03.2021 which may be extended with permission of MD, NHM Panchkula. The last date for submission of application in the O/o Civil Surgeon, Faridabad is 05.01.2022

Sd/-
Secretary cum Dy. Civil Surgeon, NHM
For Chairman Cum District Health & Family Welfare Society, Faridabad

MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, KHUNTI

e-Procurement Notice (2nd Call)

Tender Reference No. WRD/MID/KHUNTI/F2-7/2021-22
Date :-28/12/2021

1.	Name of the work	Renovation of Chonga Medium Irrigation Scheme in Block-Sonahatu, Dist.-Ranchi.
2.	Estimated Cost (Rs. In Lakh)	Rs. 195.59386 Lakh
3.	Time of Completion	335 days
4.	Date of Publication of Tender on website	12.1.2022 at 2 PM
5.	Last Date/Time for submission of Bids	20.1.2022 at 5 PM
6.	Date of opening of e-tender	22.1.2022 at 1 PM
7.	Name & address of office Inviting Tender	Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Khunti
8(a)	Contact no. of Procurement officer	06528-221194/7541842239
(b)	E-mail of e-procurement Officer	ceemidkhun-cemr-jhr@nic.in
9.	Last date for receipt of bids fee, security and other documents.	21.1.2022 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,
PR 260664 Minor Irrigation (21-22).D Minor Irrigation Division, Khunti.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PUNDRI	PROVIDING AND FIXING OF 7 MTR LIGHTS FROM HABRI ROAD GAMD TO AGGARWAL DHARMSHALA IN WARD NO 04, 05 AND 7 + 1 OTHER WORK	27.12.2021 10.01.2022	50 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in	SECRETARY/CPUNDRI01@GMAIL.COM

6550/HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM

Sr. No.	Name of Department	Old Reference/ NIT No.	Nature of Corrigendum	Website of Department	Nodal Officer/Cont. details/E-mail
1.	UHBVN	30/2021-22	TENDER CANCELLED DUE TO ADMINISTRATIVE REASON. CONST. OF TOILET, FLOORING & MISC. WORK IN SDO OFFICE AT DIVISIONAL STORE KARNAL. CLOSING DATE 20.12.2021 OPENING DATE 21.12.2021	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9556063248 xencivilhub@panchikula@gmail.com
2.	UHBVN	NIT NO.: E5/M&P/ROHTAK/2021-22 DATED: 05/08/2021	JEEP (BOLERO) REQUIREMENT OF 1 NO. VEHICLES FOR SDO M&P DIVN. ROHTAK THROUGH OUTSOURCING FOR TWO YEARS DATE OF RECEIVING WILL BE UPTO 06.01.2022 (13:00 HRS). OPENING OF TENDER AT 06/01/2022 (15:00 HRS). THURSDAY	www.uhbvn.org.in	0126226854 xencivilhub@uqbvn.org.in

6556/HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI

OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER (M-10)

ENGINEERS BHAWAN, 2ND FLOOR, ANDREWS GANJ, NEAR MOOL CHAND CROSSING, NEW DELHI - 110049

Mail Id: djb@gmail.com

No. DJB/ACE (M-10)/AEE(T)M-10/2021-22/164
DATED: 28.12.21

NIT NO. 9/ACE(M-10)/AEE(T)M-10/2021-22

S. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money	Tender Fee	Estimated Cost (in Lacs)	Completion Period	Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date/ time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solution
1	Rectification of leakage, refurbishment and strengthening of Srinivas pur UGR and BPS under AEE(M)-42	500/-	84,67,245/-	45 Days	28.12.2021	14.01.2022 3.00 PM	
2	Trapping of sewer discharge of MCD drain (near D-Block, Jangpura Extension) into 1600mm dia barrel by P/L 700 mm dia sewer line by trenchless method under EES(I) II (AC-42 Kasturba Nagar)	500/-	88,35,041/-	120 Days	28.12.2021	14.01.2022 3.00 PM	
3	Providing/Laying of 355 mm dia sewer line by trenchless technology at G-block road, MAHARANI BAGH in ward no. 89 S, under AC-51, KALKAJI.	500/-	36,04,828/-	90 Days	28.12.2021	14.01.2022 3.00 PM	
4	Replacement of main sewerline in front of DTC Depot outer Ring Road and outfall sewer of Nehru Place district centre by Pipe relubing Technology under AC-51 Kalkaji.	1000/-	Item Rate	90 Days	28.12.2021	14.01.2022 3.00 PM	
5	Improvement of sewerage system near old quila village near Begumpur under AC-43 Malviya Nagar.	500/-	25,83,004/-	60 Days	28.12.2021	14.01.2022 3.00 PM	

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://delhiprocurement.gov.in>

Sd/-
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advdt. No. J.S.V. 918(2021-22)
"STOP CORONA: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

ASSTT. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (TJM)-10
(Pukhraj Singh)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME

ECHS CELL, 7BRD AF STN TUGHLAKABAD

e mail: echstughlakabad7brd@gmail.com

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

1. ECHS invites applications to engage following Medical, Para Medical & Non Medical Staff on contractual basis in ECHS Polyclinic Khanpur for the period of one year for ESM and 11 months for the civil candidates.

Appointment	Minimum Qualification	No. of Vacancy	Fixed Remuneration
Medical Officer	MBBS	01	75000/-
Nursing Assistant	GNM Diploma / Class 1 Course (Armed Forces)	01	28100/-
Lab Assistant	DMLT/Class 1 Laboratory Tech course (Armed Forces)	01	28100/-
Lab Technician (Only for ESM)	BSc (Medical Lab Tech) OR (i) Matric/higher secondary / senior secondary (10+2) with science from recognized board (ii) Diploma in Medical Lab Technology from a recognized institution.	01	28100/-
Driver	Class -8 / Class 1 MT Driver (Armed Forces)	01	19700/-
Female Attendant	Literate	01	16800/-
Clerk (Only for ESM)	Graduate / Class 1 Clerical Trade (Armed Forces) (minimum 05 yrs experience)	01	16800/-

2. **For Terms & Conditions, Application Form & Remuneration.** Kindly see our website www.echs.gov.in For Additional details, please contact Stn HQ (ECHS Cell) 7 BRD, AF Stn Tughlakabad at Mob No. 8816006746, 7389846429 & e-mail id:- echstughlakabad7brd@gmail.com. Also approach concerned ECHS Polyclinic for details. Preference will be given to the Ex-Servicemen. 3. **Last date of receipt of application as per format given at our website.** Application as per requisite format along with self attested photocopies of testimonials in support of Educational Qualifications and Work Experience will be submitted to OIC ECHS Cell, 7BRD Air Force Station, Tughlakabad - 110080 by 01 Feb 2022 in duplicate. Any application received after 01 Feb 2022 will not be accepted.

4. **Interview Date, Timing & Venue.** Candidate must reach ECHS Polyclinic Khanpur C/O 7BRD Air Force Station, Tughlakabad at 1000 hrs on 15 Feb 2022 for the interview. Candidates must bring all the original Certificates/mark sheets degree of 10th/Matric, 10+2 & Graduation / Post graduation/ diploma/course, work experience and discharge book, PPO, service records and 01 PP size colour photographs at the time of interview. NO TA/DA is admissible. Only candidates meeting the Qualitative Requirements may apply.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE FOR ELECTRICAL WORK

Tender Notice No.: Sr. DEE/R88 GJBS/PIOT/21-22-15, Dated: 23.12.2021. Name of Work: Provision of Extension/Modification of control building at Bilaspur/South East Central Railway for new Eyal Rail Corridor project of CERL and Chhattisgarh East West Rail Corridor project of CEWRIL. Tender Value: ₹ 79,98,562/- Earnest Money Deposit: NIL

Tender Closing Date & Time: 20.01.2022 at 15.00 hours.

For further details, eligibility criteria and the complete details for the above work, please refer/download tender document which is available on our website: www.sreps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engg. CPRO10290 /RS&G/Bilaspur, South East Central Railway, Bilaspur

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tendering Notice

Sr. Divisional Materials Manager, N.E. Railway, Varanasi for and on behalf of President of India, invites tender through E-Procurement system "Open Tender" for the supply of the following item. Complete description of the item and other terms and conditions are available on website www.ireps.gov.in Sr. No.-1, E-Tender No.: 50215731, Due Date: 24-01-2022, Description: Supply of DWC pipes of HDPE, Qty Required: 20,000 Mts., Earnest Money: ₹ 81,690/- Note:- The Firms, who desire to participate in e-tender are advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a Class-III Digital signature Certificate Authority Licensed by CCA of India. Manual offers against e-tenders will not be considered.

Sr. Divisional Materials Manager CPRO/S-89 Varanasi

About any passenger amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No.: 09794845955

Do not smoke Bid/Cigarette in train.

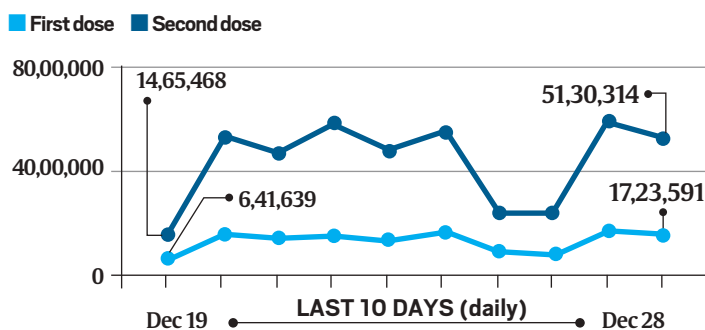


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If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

INDIA TOTAL DOSES 143,15,35,641
(1st DOSE: 83,99,87,000; 2nd: 59,15,48,641)

DOSES ON DECEMBER 28 68,53,905
DEC 27 : 76,56,082 (1ST DOSE: 17,66,859; 2ND: 58,89,223)

DAILY NEW CASES



ACTIVE CASES



NEW CASES ON DEC 28

TOP 5

Kerala	Maharashtra	West Bengal	Tamil Nadu	Delhi
2,474	2,172	752	619	496

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare; Dec 28 figures updated on Dec 29

Signs of an impending surge as cases shoot up in Delhi, Mumbai

AS NEW coronavirus cases in the US and most of Europe touched record highs, India too has started to show signs of an impending surge. More than 9,000 new infections were detected in India on Tuesday, the highest since December 8. The upward trend in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Delhi has been noticeable for at least a week now, but these increases were small and getting compensated by declining numbers in Kerala, so that the surge was not very visible at the national level.

But that is changing now. The seven-day average of the daily case counts, which smoothened daily fluctuations, has reversed direction and moved up to cross the 7,000-mark after ten days on Tuesday.

The sharpest turnaround is happening in Delhi and Mumbai, which usually have the largest number of arrivals from foreign countries. Delhi is back, after eight months, among the top five states reporting the most cases. On Wednesday, it reported 923 cases, almost twice the previous day's count. Mumbai has been witnessing an

even bigger rise. On Wednesday, it reported 2,510 new cases, more than the entire state of Kerala which has been detecting the highest number of cases for over six months now.

The surge can almost certainly be attributed to the Omicron variant, in keeping with trends elsewhere in the world, although the actual number of confirmed Omicron infections is still below 1,000. But that is only because the detection of any particular variant usually requires genome sequencing, and that takes time. Besides, only a small fraction of the

positive cases is sent for genome sequencing. The actual number of Omicron cases in India is expected to be several times higher than the reported number. Cases have begun to rise in West Bengal as well. On Wednesday, the state reported over 1,000 cases for the first time since July 4. In the last couple of days, case numbers have doubled in the state. Similar trends are being seen in Maharashtra and Gujarat.

AMITABH SINHA

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By Sahil Saini
STARTING FROM
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In Covid shadow, challenges from China and Afghanistan

The US exit and the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan have left India pondering how to deal with the new regime. China's continued aggression on the border and expanding footprint remain a major concern.

SHUBHAJIT ROY

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

AFTER ALMOST two years of disruption brought about by Covid-19, the world is looking at life beyond the pandemic. A look at six hard realities India faced on the diplomatic front in 2021, and six challenges and opportunities coming up in 2022.

HARD REALITIES

Rise of Taliban

The United States' chaotic exit after 19 years, and the Taliban's recapturing of Afghanistan have meant a challenging time ahead for India.

New Delhi, which had begun the process of re-engagement, was finally forced to shed its hesitations and established publicly declared contact. While making clear its redlines on extremism and rights of minorities and women, India expressed its readiness to extend humanitarian aid. Last year, it made a commitment of \$80 million — over and above its \$3 billion commitment in the last two decades. This means New Delhi is looking at the Taliban as a political actor, burying the ghost of the IC-814 hijack, although the Taliban are influenced and even controlled by military establishment in Pakistan — which has hailed the takeover.

China's muscle-flexing

A year and a half into the border standoff in eastern Ladakh, disengagement remains in two areas, while broader de-escalation is nowhere near the horizon.

In a world occupied with the pandemic, China has been flexing its muscle in the Indo-Pacific region. At the India border, it has deployed long-range strategic bombers, and there are reports of building of new runways and deployment of choppers and bombers in eastern Ladakh. In the recent past, Chinese naval or militia forces have rammed Vietnamese fishing boats, 'buzzed' Philippine naval vessels and harassed Malaysian drilling operations. China has raised fresh territorial claims with Bhutan, and is building villages in border areas of Arunachal Pradesh.

"What is clear is that Beijing's decisions must have been made at the highest levels for political and strategic, not just tactical reasons," former Indian National Security Advisor Shivshankar Menon wrote in *Foreign Affairs* earlier this month.

US under Biden

After four years of the unpredictable Donald Trump, US President Joe Biden took charge. He brought the US back to the global table by walking back into the Paris climate agreement and the UN and its agencies.

From India's perspective, he continued with the Trump administration's policies on China, and has made countering Beijing "Job 1" in foreign policy. The US has imposed trade tariffs on China, announced a boycott of the Winter Olympics, held the first-ever Quad Leaders' Summit — which was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi — and signed up on the famous AUKUS deal with UK and Australia, to counter Beijing's assertiveness.

But the hurried exit from Afghanistan and the signing of AUKUS deal, which angered US ally France, have raised questions about Washington's reliability. Kept in the dark about the US negotiations with the Taliban, India now finds itself having to deal with the diplomatic and strategic fallout of the Taliban takeover.

Unrest in neighbourhood

Myanmar was rocked by massive protests after the military coup on February 1. Aung San Suu Kyi was among the key people detained by the military following the coup. India, which had stopped short of condemning Myanmar's



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

NEW IN THE NEW YEAR 2022

STRATEGIC AFFAIRS

CALENDAR 2022

JANUARY: Possible visit by leaders of Central Asian countries for Republic Day

APRIL: Presidential elections in France

DATE TO BE DECIDED: Quad leaders' summit in Japan

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER: BRICS summit in China

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER: G-20 summit in Indonesia

NOVEMBER: US mid-term polls

NOVEMBER: Pakistan Army chief's term ends

... and with China

India's strategic response to the standoff with China has been guided by a thinking that one has to stand up to the bully, but that has come at a cost with soldiers braving the harsh winter in eastern Ladakh for two years. Beyond the border, New Delhi will need the continuing support of partners including the US, Japan, Australia, France, Germany, and the UK to counter the threat of China. A second Quad leaders' summit in Japan is expected to take place in 2022. A potential window of opportunity to unlock the standoff lies in the BRICS summit, scheduled in China. The Doklam border stand-off had been resolved days before the summit in September 2017 in Xian (China).

Former Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale writes in *The Long Game*, "As China becomes more powerful, both economically and militarily, and it seeks to establish its hegemony over the Indo-Pacific, the interests of India and China will begin to rub against each other; bringing to the fore more and more issues that may need to be resolved through negotiations."

Pakistan: civilian-military ties

A major shift will take place if Pakistan Army chief Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa's term ends in November. Jockeying for the position has begun, and civilian-military ties will be

tested. The competition could lead to bold decisions that may complicate the situation in the neighbourhood. Also, hosting the SAARC summit is an ambition Imran Khan may want under his belt before elections in 2023.

India & neighbours

India's challenges will exacerbate with China's growing footprint in the region. Besides wooing Sri Lanka's Rajapaksa brothers-led regime as well as Tamils, China has also been politically active in Nepal.

In a study by think tank Carnegie India published in October 2021, scholar Deep Pal says, "Due to India's historical, political, and social connections with these countries, there seem to be limits to how deeply entrenched China can become." However, he says, the balance is gradually shifting toward China, for the role it can play as a developmental partner as well as a balancing factor against the regional power, India.

Other challenges include the fact that 2022 is the year before elections in Maldives and Bangladesh. The anti-India rhetoric usually catches up before polls in the neighbourhood.

Outreach to the world

India has invited the leaders of Central Asian countries — three of whom share a border with Afghanistan — for the Republic Day parade (which may own depend on the pandemic situation). By the end of the year, it may be time to prepare for the G-20 summit in 2023.

South Block will be keeping a close watch on Presidential elections in France in April-May, and US mid-term polls in November.

Going into its second and last year at the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member, India would want to leave a lasting impact, just like it did with the UNSC resolution on Afghanistan under its presidency.

Domestic and foreign

Elections in high-stakes states, including UP and Punjab, could mean raising the rhetoric against neighbours.

India's domestic politics, including the recent Dharam Sansad, has meant a certain reputational loss for its secular credentials, and neighbours have raised their concerns.

On the other hand, countries in the region will look upon India as a leader in vaccines distribution and economic assistance as in the case of Sri Lanka and Maldives, and New Delhi will have to step up its game to match Beijing in such efforts. India may move on capacity-building on vaccines with the Quad vaccine initiative for the Indo-Pacific region and beyond.

TOMORROW: TECHNOLOGY

Rules that govern the transfers of land owned by Dalits in Uttar Pradesh

SHYAMLAL YADAV

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

THE GOVERNMENT of Uttar Pradesh has ordered an inquiry after an investigation by *The Indian Express* revealed purchases of land in Ayodhya by politicians and relatives of state officials that raise serious questions of propriety and conflict of interest. Some of the buyers are related to officials who are investigating the seller — Maharishi Ramayan Vidyapeeth Trust — for alleged irregularities in the transfer of the land from the original owners, who are Dalit.

The inquiry, which was ordered by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on December 22 after the publication of *The Indian Express* investigation, was supposed to be completed in a week.

Land transfer curbs

Under Section 98(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Revenue Code, 2006 — which was imple-

mented with the publication of the Uttar Pradesh Revenue Code Rules, 2016 — "no *bhumidhar* (land owner) belonging to a Scheduled Caste shall have the right to transfer, by way of sale, gift, mortgage or lease any land to a person not belonging to a Scheduled Caste, except with the previous permission of the Collector in writing".

The district collector can grant such permission under five specific conditions: if the SC *bhumidhar* has no surviving heir; if the person has settled or is ordinarily resident in a different district or state; if the person or a member of his family is suffering from a fatal disease; if the person is seeking permission to transfer in order to purchase any other land; and if the land held by the applicant on the date of application does not, after such transfer, reduce to less than 1.26 hectares.

Curbs prior to 2016

Prior to 2016, the UP Zamindari Abolition Act, 1950 was applicable. This was the law in 1992, when the Maharishi

Ramayan Vidyapeeth Trust (MRVT) bought land in Ayodhya, including some land from Dalit owners.

Under Section 157-A of the Zamindari Abolition Act, a person of Scheduled Caste had no right to transfer his land by sale, gift, mortgage or lease to a person of non-Scheduled Caste except with prior approval of the Collector. Collectors were barred from giving approval in case the landholding was smaller than 1.26 hectares.

Dodging provisions

In 1992, the MRVT bought nearly 21 bighas of land in Ayodhya's Barhata Manjha village from over a dozen Scheduled Caste persons. To bypass the restriction imposed under the Zamindari Abolition Act, the trust used a Dalit employee named Ronghai; all registries of land belonging to SCs were performed in his name.

Then, after about four years, the land was taken by MRVT as "donation" from Ronghai, using an unregistered donation

deed. Documents show that permission was not taken from the Collector before these 21 bighas were transferred from Ronghai to MRVT.

MRVT was registered in December 1991. Twenty-nine years later, its "Objects and Purposes" such as establishing "schools, colleges, vidyapeeth, vaidic schools and other institutions", and institutions "for the elevation of Ramayan", remain largely unfulfilled.

MRVT trustee Salikram Mishra told *The Indian Express*: "We are going to establish a university in this area very soon. The process is ongoing." Asked if the land of the trust could be sold, he said, "We sold only some small parts of the land after taking due permission from our headquarters in Delhi/Noida."

What happens now

As per provisions of the UP Land Revenue Code Rules, 2016, the 21 bighas in question in Barhata Manjha village of



On December 22, *The Indian Express* published an investigation on land purchases in Ayodhya

Ayodhya which was bought from over a dozen Dalits in the name of then MRVT employee Ronghai and subsequently "donated" to the trust, will go to the state government. In case there are complaints from any of the original Dalit owners, action under the SC/ST Act could follow.

The relatives of UP government officials who figured in *The Indian Express* report last week did not buy land out of these 21 bighas. Officials who have worked in vigilance and the CVC, however, said action could be initiated against the buyers if a conflict of interest is established.

The report of Radhe Shyam Mishra, special secretary in the UP revenue department, is likely to be based on a preliminary inquiry into violations of revenue rules. As per CVC guidelines, he cannot inquire into the roles of officers and others (such as mayor, MLA, OBC commission members, information commissioner, divisional commissioner) who are higher than him in protocol.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I Madhu Tiwari D/o Late Satya Narayan Tiwari R/o 1027, Third Floor, Ward no-8, Mehta Chowk, Mehrauli, Delhi-110030, have changed my name to Vijaya Tiwari

0070767024-1

I Kunal S/O Bhushan Grover R/O,H.No-9, Pocket-B-8, First-Floor Sector-3, Rohini Delhi-110085, have changed my name to KunalGrover.

0040597566-6

I Bhushan S/O Ajit Kumar Grover R/O,H.No-9, Pocket-B-8, First-Floor Sector-3,Rohini,Delhi-110085,have changed my name to Bhushan Grover.

0040597566-7

I Amit Kumar Thakur S/o Shri Ashok Kumar R/o C-67, First Floor, Pandav Nagar, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Amit Thakur

0040597535-1

I,BALRAJ SINGH/ RITU SHEHRAWAT, ADD-4533,GALI JATAN PAHARI DHIRAJ SADAR-BAZAR NORTH,DELHI-110006, changed my Minor Son name RANVEER to RANVEER MOTHSARA,permanently.

0040597588-2

I,ANITA KUMARI, W/O.SURYA MAL, H.No.728,GALI.NO.2,SURYA COLONY SEHATPUR,FARIDABAD HARYANA-121003. Changed my name to ANITA DEVI, permanently.

0040597588-4

I,Vinay Surya,S/o-Jai Prakash Aggarwal R/o-36/78,West Punjabi-Bagh, New Delhi-110026,have changed my minor son name,from Jaivardhan Surya(9years)to Jaivardhan Kaartik Surya,for all purposes

0040597587-9

I,Sumitra D/o Keshav Krishna Swami R/O BC-3G, DDA-Flats Munirka,New Delhi-110067, have changed my name to Sumitra Keshav,for all future purposes.

0040597587-5

I,Sempi Devi W/o Kanihya Ram R/o-Kohat cooperative-House Building,Kohat Enclave,Pitampura,Delhi.That My name has been written as Renu Devi in the record of the bank But my actual name is Sempi Devi for all future purpose.

0040597600-1

I,Saranya S.N.,Spouse of Rethish P N Resident of,Haridab, Sector-23A, Farousebad,Harayana-121005,have changed my name,from Saranya S.N. to Saranya S N vide- affidavit,dated-29-12-21.

0040597558-9

I,Sanjeev Kumar S/o Bihari Lal Chugh R/o-902 Rani Bagh Delhi-110034,have changed my name to Sanjeev Chugh.

0040597558-2

I,Sandeep Babbar S/o Gulshan Kumar Babbar, R/o 71/78, Prem-Nagar, Janak Puri,Delhi-58,have changed my name to Sandeep.

0040597588-10

I,SUNDAR LAL,S/O SHRI.MOHAN LAL PAL,R/o-Block-D,HOUSE.No.374A,SHIV DURGA-VIHAR, LAKKARPUR, SURAJKUND, FARIDABAD, HARYANA-121009,has changed my name to SUNDAR LAL PAL,permanently.

0040597558-5

I,SAJAD AHMAD GANIA, S/O,MOHAMMAD SULTAN GANIA, ADD-FLATA-205 ,PLOT.NO.30,SECTOR-4 DWARKA DELHI, 110075.Changed my name to SAJAD AHMAD,permanently.

0040597588-3

I,Ravi Sharma,S/o Suresh Kumar,R/o K-88, Amar-Colony,Kuamruddin Nagar, Delhi-110041,Have Changed my Name to Ravi Kumar,for all, future purposes.

0040597587-1

I,Paras Ram S/O Fakire R/O,Gram Kaimau Post-Kaimau Hardoi,Uttar Pradesh-241122,have changed my name to Parshuram.

0040597566-4

I,RITU, W/O,BALRAJ SINGH, H NO.402 SECTOR-17 FARIDABAD HARYANA-121002,Changed my name to RITU SHEHRAWAT, permanently.

0040597588-6

I,Praveen Singh S/o,Lal Muni Singh R/o-34-B,Paras-Nagar, Babyal,Ambala, Haryana-133005,have changed my minor daughter's name Pradnya Singh to Taarini Singh. aged-5-years.

0040597588-8

I,Pooja Surya W/o Vinay Surya R/o-36/78 West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi-110026,have changed my name to Puja Surya,for all purposes

0040597587-8

I,Pankaj Singh S/o-Shri,Devender Singh R/o-House.No.N-41,B-1,Near-Amar Market,Saurabh Vihar,Jaipur,Badarpur,South Delhi-110044,infrom that Pankaj Singh's Pinku Singh Chohan,both name,are same person.

0040597569-10

I,POONAM D/O ROSHAN LAL R/O 61,3rd-FLOOR,INDER-ENCLAVE,PASCHIM VIHAR,DELHI-110087.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO POONAM GOYAL.

0040597588-1

I,NEERAJ PALIWAL S/O T.C. PALIWAL R/O HNO.40,BLOCK-B,GALINO.8,BADLI EXTN,BADLI,DELHI-110042.CHANGED MY CHILD NAME MANYA/MAANYA TO MANYA PALIWAL.

0040597558-1

I,Meenu Singh,W/o Vivek Singh,R/o Flat No-B-1131Gaur Green-Avenue Abhay-Khand-2,Indrapuram Ghaziabad,UP-201014,have changed my name to Minu Singh,for all future purposes.

0040597587-2

I,Manjeet Singh Anand,S/O Jagjit Singh R/O A-104, Second-Floor Ganesh-Nagar Tilak Nagar,Delhi-110018,have changed my name to Manjit Singh.

0040597566-1

I,MOHAMMED AMAAN,S/O MOHAMMED SULEMAN R/O P-48/1 GALI NO-5 BATLA HOUSE JAMIA-NAGAR,N.DELHI-110025,IN MY PASSPORT MY NAME SPELLING IS WRONGLY, MENTION MOHD AAMAN BUT MY CORRECT-SPELING IS MHAMMED AMAAN.

0040597587-6

I,Lata Goel W/O Gyan Chand Goel,B-1/18-A,Paschim-Vihar,Delhi-110063 have changed my name to Prem Lata Goel.

0040597587-3

I,Kavita Mantry W/O Vasant Kumar Mantri,R/O E/341, First-Floor, Sector-7, Rajapur Kalan Rohini,Delhi-110085,Have Changed My Name To Kavita Mantri.

0040597587-7

I,KM ANU TYAGI,D/O DHARMENDRA KUMAR TYAGI, R/O:PLOT.NO.137, FLAT.NO.C2,SHALIMAR-GARDEN EXTN-1,SAHIBABAD,GAZIABAD,U.P-201005,changed my name to ANUKRITI TYAGI.

0040597569-1

I,Jamuna Devi,Dependent Mother of Deepak Sharma,resident of,House.No. 536,Street.No.6, Narayan-Nagar, Near-Suk Choi Mandir,Hoshiarpur-146001(Punjab)have changed my name from Jamuna Devi to Jamna Devi vide- affidavit,dated-29-12-21.

0040597558-10

I,HARSHIT BHARADWAJ,S/O DR.DEVI SHARAN SHARMA,R/O-2-1/835, Tyagi-Nagar, New-Shivpuri,Hapur,Uttar Pradesh-245101,have changed my name to HARSHIT BHARDWAJ,for all,future purposes.

0040597566-10

I,Gurwant Singh,S/o Gurvinder Singh R/o-B-136, Street. No.15,West Azad-Nagar Delhi-110051,have changed my minor son name from Rizzak Singh(14Years)to Rijak Singh,for all,future purposes.

0040597587-10

I,Braj Mohan Mishra S/O Radhey Shyam R/O, B-4, Hari-Enclave Part-2,Rohini Delhi-110086,have changed my name to Brij Mohan.

0040597566-8

I,Glan Chand Goel alias Gyan Chand,S/o Bhajan Lal,R/o-B-1/18-A,Paschim-Vihar, Delhi-110063,have changed my name to Gyan Chand Goyal.

0040597587-4

I,Geeta W/O-Virender Kumar R/O,J-363,Gali.No-7, Sardar-Colony Sector-16, Rohini,Delhi-110089,have changed my name to Saini.

0040597566-3

I,Gagandeep Khanna S/o Sh.Kartar Singh Khanna,R/o-H.No.C-202,Achievers Society, Status Enclave, Kalindi-Hills, Sector-49, Faridabad-121001 have changed my name Gagandeep Singh Khanna to Gagandeep Khanna, for all future purposes.

0040597481-1

I,CHARANJIT KAUR,W/O-INDER PAL SINGH AHUJA,D/O-HARJINDER SINGH,R/o-Ward-No.45,Dal-Bazar,Near By Canara Bank, Lashakar,Gwalior,Gird Gwalior,Madhya Pradesh-474009,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHELLY KAUR for all future purpose.

0040597549-1

I,BRAHAM JIT SINGH S/O ISHWAR SINGH R/O 173,WARDNO.27,GARHI-GHASITA,BEHIND HINDU-COLLEGE,SONIPAT-131001.CHANGED MY NAME TO BRHAMJIT SINGH.

0040597588-7

I,BHARGAVI, D/O BALRAJ ADD-4533,GALI JATAN PAHARI DHIRAJ SADAR BAZAR NORTH DELHI-110006.Changed my name to BHARGAVI MOTHSARA,permanently

0040597588-5

I,Amit Choudhary S/o Choudhary Rampal Singh R/O-Flat no.51, FF, Neelam Vihar, Kaushamb, Ghaziabad UP-201010 have changed my name to Amit Kumar Chaudhary for all purposes.

0040597493-1

I,Amar Kumar,S/O Subodh Paswan,R/O M-474-75,M-Block, J.J.Colony Shakurpur, Delhi,Changed Name To Amar Kumar Paswan.

0040597558-3

I,Alok Kumar Gupta,S/o-Om Prakash Gupta residing-A-41, Swasthya Vihar,Vikas Marg, Delhi-110092,have changed my name to Alok Gupta,for all purposes.

0040597588-11

I,Ahmad Ajal S/O Gulam Nabi R/O, E-12, 2nd-Floor Lajpat-Nagar-II,Delhi-110024 have changed my name to AIJAZ AHMED.

0040597566-9

I,ABHAY KUMAR,S/O PANNA LAL,R/O D-2/796,J.J.COLONY,MADANPUR KHADAR, SARITA-VIHAR,NEW-DELHI-110076,have changed my name to ABHAY RAJ,permanently.

0040597558-4

I, Vijay Kumar Dhawan, S/o Shri Badri Nath, R/O Ward No. 10, GohanaHoli Mohalla Gohana Distt. Sonapat (Haryana), do declare that VijayKumar Dhawan, Vijay Dhawan & Vijay Kumar are names of one andsame person. I further declare that hereinafter I will be known as VijayKumar Dhawan.

0040597490-1

I, Veerendra Kumar S/O-Parshuram R/O, J-363, Gali No-7, Sardar-Colony Sector-16, Rohini Delhi-110089, have changed my name to Virender Kumar.

0040597566-2

I, TANU PRIYA D/O TARA CHAND R/O B-131, B-Block, Gokal Puri, Delhi-110094 have changed my name to TANNU PRIYA for all purposes.

0040597405-1

I, Sourabh, S/o Shashi Kant Lal, R/O H No-54, Gali Number 14, Part-2, Pusta-1, Sonia Vihar, Karawal Nagar, North East Delhi-110094, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sourabh Shrivastava.

0070766997-1

I, Sonika, D/o Naraain Singh, R/o 701-A-2, Tulip ACE Appt, Pataudi Road, Sector-89, Gurgaon, Haryana-122505, have changed my name from Sonika to Sonika Yadav.

0070766991-1

I, Rajani Kannuajia, D/o Ashrfi Lal and W/o Navneet Kumar, R/o Harunagla, Bareilly, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh-243006, have changed my name to Rajni Patel.

0040597505-1

I, Sonali alias Sonali Mittal alias Sonali Mittal Dadu D/o Sh. Shyam Sunder Mittal W/o Sh. Vaibhav Dadu R/O House No.C-8, Varun Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Sonali Mittal Dadu for all purposes.

0040597464-2

I,Sheetal Kumar Gound S/o Harishchandra R/O 1330, Manegaon, Post Mekh, Narsinghpur, Madhya Pradesh-487114, have changed my name to Saurabh Kumar Dhurvey

0070767021-1

I, Shish Ram Gurjar, S/o Kailash Chandra, R/O A-1/109-110, Near A1 Bus Stop, New Kondali, Kondli, Delhi-110096, declare that name of mine and my Daughter has been wrongly written as Shagun and Shish Ram Saradhana respectively in my minor daughter Shagun Siradhana aged 14 years in her School Record. The actual name of mine and my daughter is Shish Ram Gurjar and Shagun Siradhana respectively.

0070766994-1

I, Shikha Dogra, W/o Barinder Bahadur, R/O Flat-409, Block-12, Kailash Dham, Sec-50, Noida, UP, have changed my name to Shikha Dogra Mathur for all for future purposes.

0070767004-1

I, Sarjo, W/o Ranjeet, R/o House No-321, Panna Milkana, Lal Chowk Nangal Thakran, Bawana, Delhi-110039, that name of mine has been wrongly written as Mr Suraj Kaur in my SBI Bank Account Number 10209557209. The actual name of mine is Sarjo.

0070767002-1

I, Sarita W/o Mahesh Kumar R/O-D-1/606, J.J. Colony, Bhalswa, Delhi-110042 have changed my name to Munni Shah

0040597588-9

I, Puneet Kumar Tomer R/o 867/55, Lekhunagar, Trinagar, Ganeshpura, North West Delhi, Delhi-110035 have changed my name from Puneet Kumar to Puneet Kumar Tomer.

0070766958-1

I, Neelu Jha D/o Jaldhar Jha R/o Ward No-7 Mahinathpur, Distt-Mahdubani, Bihar-847404, have changed my name to Lila Devi for all purpose

0040597487-1

I, Mukesh Kumar Bhardwaj, S/o Satya Prakash, Have Lost Old Original G.A Agreement to Sale will Receipt Affidavit Dt-20-12-1994 in Respect of Property No:E-142, Indra Park, Najafgarh, New Delhi-43. Finder Contact: 9212028757.

0070767003-1

I, Lakshay, S/o Subhash Chander, R/O WZ-31, Todapur Village, Central Delhi-110012, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Lakshay Saini.

0040597464-3

I, Iqbal S/o Late Amar Singh have lost/misplaced Recommendation letter no. F-33(31)297/86,L & B/ALT dt. 09/01/1992 for allotment of alternative plot.

0040597507-1

KRIPA DEVI W/O LATE SHRI RAJA RAM KASANA VILL-Rupwas G.B.Nagar have lost my original plot allotment letter PLOT.NO-50 vill-KHODNA KHURD AREA-110 sq.mtr allotment No-RUPM21003

0070766996-1

0070767026-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the Public at large that Sh. Sanjay Kumar Bhandari and Smt. Mona Bhandari are the "Title Holders" in possession of "Flat No. F-816, Eighth Floor, Block - F, Type - A, Jyoti Towers, AFNIB, Plot No. A-38/A, Sector-47, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh with Open Car Parking No. F-816", hereinafter referred to as "Schedule Property" vide Sub-Lease Deed dated 29th June, 2020, registered as Bahi No. 1, Zild No. 10218, pp. 183-228, Par Kraman No. 4400 on 22.10.2020 in the Office of the Sub Registrar - 1, Noida, Uttar Pradesh. That the "Original Documents" w.r.t. the Schedule Property, i.e. (i) Allotment Letter dated 09.07.03, (ii) Letter for Update of Construction dated 31.01.06, (iii) Demarcation Certificate dated 02.06.06, (iv) Intimation for Handing over Possession Letter dated 04.09.06, (v) Special Power of Attorney dated 14.02.08, (vi) Letter of Clearance & Possession dated 06.05.2008 and (vii) Certificate of Possession dated 09.05.2008, have been lost/misplaced/in original and are therefore unavailable for verification in original, in lieu of which Information Report dated 21.12.2021 bearing Diary No. 75 has been filed with the Uttar Pradesh Police at Thana Phase-3, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh and in furtherance of which this notice is issued to Public at Large, i.e. to any Person(s), Company(ies), Authority(ies), Financial Institution(s), Bank(s), HUF etc. having any knowledge/ Information/ Possession of the lost/ misplaced "Original Documents" w.r.t. the Schedule Property, as mentioned herein above or having any claims, rights, title, interests, possession etc. in the Schedule Property, by way of Ownership, Succession, Inheritance, Sale, Mortgage, Exchange, Charge, Lien, Gift, Trust, Encumbrance etc., or having any objection to the sale of the Schedule Property as is intended by the Title Holders, presently, may come forward with supporting documents, to be delivered to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of this Publication, post expiration of which, any claim(s) or objection(s), if raised or received, shall be treated as null and void and such claims or objection shall be treated as waived, and the Title Holders shall proceed to sell the Schedule Property as presently intended.

0040597549-2

I, Dunga Dev, S/O-Shri Banshidhar, R/O-853, Third Floor, Pocket GH-1, Sanskriti Apartment, Sector-28, Rohini, Delhi-110042, have changed my name to Dunga Dev Binwal.

0040597549-2

I, Astha Mohiley, R/o F1702, AVJ Heights, Plot No. GH12/2, Sector Zeta 1, Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201312, have changed my name to Astha Vinit Jhington.

0070767011-1

I, 2604629M, Rank HAVILDAR, Name REDDI RAMANA RAO, am serving in Indian Army and residing at Narayanapuram-VIII, Pedda Lamba-Post, Pathapatnam-Tehsil, Saravakota-(PS); Srikalulam-Dist, AP-532214, and have changed my mother name as REDDY AMMAVAMMA instead of AMMAVAMMA vide affidavit dated 27-Dec-2021 before Notary at Srikulam.

0070767010-1

I, Neeraj Gupta, W/o Ajay Kumar Gupta, R/o 36/200 A, Varshney Cloth Store, Opp. Old Thana New Agra Dada Bagh S/O Agra, Uttar Pradesh-282005, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Amisha Gupta.

0070766993-1

I,have changed my name from Ruby Gupta to Krishna Yadav. Krishna Yadav W/o Naveen Yadav, WZ-114A, Todapur, New Delhi-110012. All future purposes.

0070767007-1

I Vaman Verma S/o Rajesh Verma R/o H No. 25, Ghora Mohalla, Aya Nagar, New Delhi 110047 have changed my name to Riyanshu Lohiya

0040597505-1

I Sonali alias Sonali Mittal alias Sonali Mittal Dadu D/o Sh. Shyam Sunder Mittal W/o Sh. Vaibhav Dadu R/O House No.C-8, Varun Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Sonali Mittal Dadu for all purposes.

0040597464-2

I,Sheetal Kumar Gound S/o Harishchandra R/O 1330, Manegaon, Post Mekh, Narsinghpur, Madhya Pradesh-487114, have changed my name to Saurabh Kumar Dhurvey

0070767021-1

I Sanjeev Kumar S/o Sh. Ashok Kumar R/O V-210, Rajouri Garden, Tagore Garden, West Delhi, Delhi-110027 have changed my name to Sanjeev Anand for all purposes.

0040597464-1

I Rajni W/O-Bhushan Grover R/O,H.No-9, Pocket-B-8, First-Floor Sector-3, Rohini Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Rajni Grover.

0040597566-5

I, Madhu Bala Sharma W/O Kishan Kumar Sharma R/O 100, Panchdeep Group HS, Vikas Puri, Delhi-110018 Change My Name Madhu Sharma.

0040596819-1

व्यक्तिगत

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि पूर्व में मेरा नाम रायव S/O श्रवाण कुमार द्विवेदी था जिसे बदलकर रायव द्विवेदी S/O श्रवाण कुमार द्विवेदी कर लिया है भविष्य में कुमारे रायव द्विवेदी S/O श्रवाण कुमार द्विवेदी के नाम से जाना पहचाना जाए और मेरा पता है बरां विषय बैंक कानपुर/ Pin 208027

0040597588-9

I, Puneet Kumar Tomer R/o 867/55, Lekhunagar, Trinagar, Ganeshpura, North West Delhi, Delhi-110035 have changed my name from Puneet Kumar to Puneet Kumar Tomer.

0070766958-1

I, Neelu Jha D/o Jaldhar Jha R/o Ward No-7 Mahinathpur, Distt-Mahdubani, Bihar-847404, have changed my name to Lila Devi for all purpose

0040597487-1

I, Mukesh Kumar Bhardwaj, S/o Satya Prakash, Have Lost Old Original G.A Agreement to Sale will Receipt Affidavit Dt-20-12-1994 in Respect of Property No:E-142, Indra Park, Najafgarh, New Delhi-43. Finder Contact: 9212028757.

0070767003-1

I, Lakshay, S/o Subhash Chander, R/O WZ-31, Todapur Village, Central Delhi-110012, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Lakshay Saini.

0040597464-3

I, Iqbal S/o Late Amar Singh have lost/misplaced Recommendation letter no. F-33(31)297/86,L & B/ALT dt. 09/01/1992 for allotment of alternative plot.

0040597507-1

KRIPA DEVI W/O LATE SHRI

TOP OF THE WORLD



Harry Reid. NYT

UNITED STATES

Former Senate majority leader Harry Reid dies

Washington: Harry Reid, the son of a Nevada hard-rock miner who rose from poverty to become the US Senate majority leader and earned a reputation as a fierce partisan fighter during an era of political gridlock in Washington, died on Tuesday. He was 82. Reid, a former amateur boxer, represented Nevada in the US Congress as a Democrat for more than three decades in both the Senate and House of Representatives. The cause of death was not announced. Reid had undergone surgery for pancreatic cancer in May 2018. As majority leader, Reid served as Democratic President Obama's point man in Senate. Reid had five children. **REUTERS**

PAKISTAN

First body of Hindu leaders to manage temples

Islamabad: Pakistan on Wednesday announced that it has set up a first body of Hindu leaders to take care of the minority community's temples in the Muslim-majority country. The Ministry of Religious Affairs constituted the Pakistan Hindu Mandir Management Committee on the pattern of the already working Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee. According to an official statement, the inaugural meeting of the Pakistan Hindu Temple Management Committee was chaired by Minister for Religious Affairs Pir Noor-ul-Haq Qadri. Evacuee "The committee will look after matters related to Hindu places of worship," Qadri said. **PTI**

SUDAN

Mine collapse: 31 bodies found

Cairo: Sudanese authorities said Wednesday rescue workers retrieved at least 31 bodies from a collapsed gold mine in West Kordofan province. The country's state-run mining company said workers and villagers were still searching the Darsaya mine for more bodies or possible survivors. The mine is located in the Fuja village, around 700 kilometers south of the capital of Khartoum. The defunct mine collapsed earlier this week, killing at least 38 people, the company said. **AP**

PAKISTAN

Lankan man's death: 85 held

Lahore: Authorities in Pakistan's Punjab province on Wednesday said they have detained 85 main suspects after determining their role in the brutal lynching of a Sri Lankan national in Sialkot city earlier this month. Officials said over 100 other suspects were also included in the investigation but no evidence of their involvement in the case was detected, thus they were not named in the FIR and some of them detained were released. Officials said they were working "to present a strong case". **PTI**

HIGH VACCINATION: SPAIN PM rules out new Omicron restriction

Case records shattered across US, Europe

7-day avg shows 39% rise: WHO; Britain, Italy, Greece and others see new highs

THE NEW YORK TIMES
DECEMBER 29

THE US record for daily coronavirus cases has been broken, as two highly contagious variants — Delta and Omicron — have converged to disrupt holiday travel and gatherings, deplete hospital staff and plunge the US into another long winter.

As a third year of the pandemic loomed, the seven-day average of US cases topped 267,000 on Tuesday, according to a *New York Times* database. The milestone was marked after a year that has whipsawed Americans from a relaxation of rules in the spring to a Delta-driven summer wave to another surge that accelerated with astonishing speed as Omicron emerged after Thanksgiving.

The record came only a day after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reduced the number of days that infected Americans should remain isolated to five days from 10. The CDC changed course as Omicron's rapid spread has worsened a labour shortage, upending the hospitality, medical and travel industries, among others.

Across Europe, too, records for new coronavirus infections are falling by the day as the Omicron variant tears through populations with a swiftness outpacing anything witnessed

EXPLAINED
US new isolation norm gets mixed response

The decision by the US to shorten isolation periods drew both tempered support and intense opposition from scientists. While some saw it as a necessary step to shore up work forces in essential industries, for others letting thousands of infected people forgo those tests risks seeding new cases and heaping even more pressure on already overburdened health systems.

over the past two years of the pandemic. Britain, Denmark, France, Greece and Italy all set records for new daily cases this week. In each country, health officials suspect that Omicron is driving the infections.

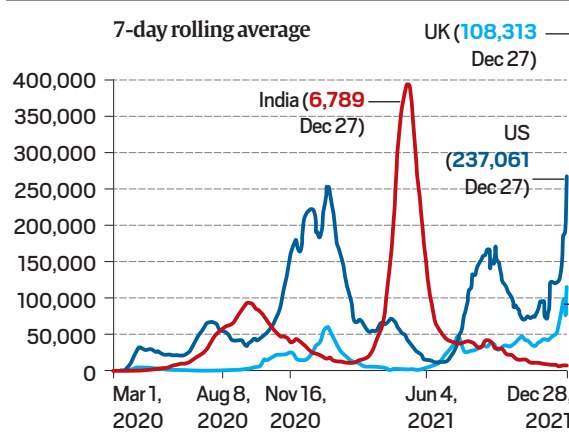
While there are early indications that the variant might be milder than previous versions of the virus — with vaccinations, boosters and previous infections all offering some protection against serious illness and death — the surge of infections is sowing its own chaos, as people scramble to obtain tests, businesses grapple with staff shortages and New Year's festivities are thrown into question.

XIAN LOCKDOWN: ON 7TH DAY, residents want to go 'home'

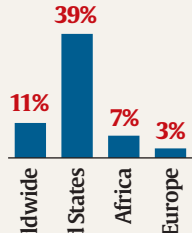


Picking up lateral flow Covid test kits on Tuesday at a pharmacy in Madrid. Reuters

DAILY NEW CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES



7-DAY RISE IN NUMBERS FROM DECEMBER 20-26



France reports record high of over 2 lakh new cases in a day

ASSOCIATED PRESS & REUTERS
PARIS, DECEMBER 29

FRANCE'S HEALTH Minister Olivier Veran announced that the country recorded a record high of 208,000 new Covid-19 cases in the past 24 hours.

Speaking at the National Assembly on Wednesday, Veran said the new figure is equivalent to two French testing positive every second, a surge fueled by the highly contagious Omicron variant.

Veran warned those not vaccinated: "There is really little chance that this time you can escape (Covid-19). The virus is spreading too fast."

France has vaccinated 77 per cent of its population and is



France's previous record of 1 lakh was set on Saturday. Reuters

rushing out booster shots. But more than four million adults remain unvaccinated.

More than 3,400 Covid-19 patients were hospitalised in intensive care units on Wednesday, an

increase by 10 per cent compared with last week.

Veran defended a government plan to allow only the fully vaccinated to enjoy continued access to places such as restaurants, cinemas, theaters, museums and sports arenas.

The seven-day moving average of new cases in France — which smoothes out daily reporting irregularities — rose to a new all-time high of 87,500. On Sunday and Monday, the health ministry reported only about 30,000 new cases per day.

On Monday, the government announced new measures to curb infections, including limits on the size of big gatherings, a ban on eating and drinking in transport systems and the mandatory wearing of masks again outdoors.

S Africa recalls new isolation, quarantine rules

Johannesburg: South Africa has recalled rules that no longer required people without symptoms of Covid-19 to isolate or test if they have been in contact with a positive case, the government announced on Tuesday, saying an amended circular will be re-issued.

Last week, the health ministry said that asymptomatic individuals who had been in contact with a case of Covid-19 no longer had to isolate but should monitor for symptoms for 5-7 days and avoid attending large gatherings.

It had added that only those people who developed symptoms needed to get tested and that those with mild symptoms should isolate for eight days and severe cases for 10 days. **REUTERS**

As cases surge across Australia, PM calls for emergency meeting

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SYDNEY, DECEMBER 29

CORONAVIRUS CASES surged across Australia on Wednesday as an outbreak of the Omicron variant exploded, prompting Prime Minister Scott Morrison to schedule an emergency national cabinet meeting.

The surge has already overwhelmed testing stations, prompted new vaccine mandates and caused at least one state to cut back on elective surgeries.

New infections in Sydney and surrounding parts of New South Wales state skyrocketed to over 11,000, up from 6,000 a day earlier. Victoria state also reported a record 3,700 cases, up by more than 1,000 from the previous record set on Tuesday.



People line up in cars for Covid-19 tests at a clinic in Sydney on Wednesday. AP

Morrison said the nation's leaders would meet ahead of schedule on Thursday.

He said he hoped the meeting would help give a clearer def-

inition on what constituted a close contact and which tests should be used in different circumstances as case numbers ballooned.

Other states also reported surging numbers, with more than 1,500 new infections in Queensland, 1,400 in South Australia, 138 in the Australian Capital Territory and 55 in Tasmania. Queensland health officials said about 80% of cases were the omicron variant.

Neighboring New Zealand also reported its first case of possible community exposure to omicron, when a returning traveler tested positive after leaving quarantine. However, health authorities said the traveler wasn't considered highly infectious and there was no evidence yet of any community spread.

THE GIRL WAS OUT SHOPPING FOR CHRISTMAS WITH MOTHER

Parents of 14-yr-old shot in dressing room by LA police call for justice

STEFANIE DAZIO, CHRISTOPHER WEBER & MORGAN LEE
LOS ANGELES, DECEMBER 29

A 14-YEAR-old was shopping for Christmas clothes last week with her mother when the pair heard screams and hid in a dressing room, where the girl was fatally shot by Los Angeles police after an officer fired a rifle at a suspect and a bullet pierced a wall, the family said Tuesday.

Valentina Orellana-Peralta died in her mother's arms last Thursday at a Burlington store in the San Fernando Valley's North Hollywood neighborhood. Her family said the teen loved skateboarding and had dreams of becoming an engineer to build robots.

After screams broke out in the store the day before Christmas Eve, the teenager locked the dressing room door.

"We sat down on a seat, holding each other, praying, when something hit my daughter, Valentina, and threw us to the floor," Soledad Peralta said Tuesday. "And my daughter died in my arms. I couldn't do anything."

The teen's family stood outside Los Angeles Police Department headquarters on Tuesday, next to a large photo of Orellana-Peralta wreathed in



Soledad Peralta, mother of Valentina Orellana-Peralta, outside Los Angeles Police Department Headquarters. AP

flowers, to call for justice and remember their daughter.

Speaking in Spanish and choking back tears as sirens wailed in the background in downtown LA, they said they had left Chile to get away from violence and injustice in search of a better life in the US.

The LAPD on Monday posted an edited video package online that included 911 calls, radio transmissions, body camera footage and surveillance video from the Thursday shooting at a store crowded with holiday shoppers. The department's pol-

icy is to release video from critical incidents, such as police shootings, within 45 days.

The family's attorneys — including civil rights lawyer Ben Crump — have sent a letter to the LAPD asking for more video.

Meanwhile, mourners left flowers and a votive candle outside the store on Christmas in a memorial for Orellana-Peralta. Her family said she earned good grades, even though English was her second language and she'd only been in the U.S. for about six months. Her father, Juan Pablo

Orellana Larenas, already had purchased tickets to relocate to the US when he learned of his daughter's death. They were planning to go to an NBA basketball game — she was a fan of star LeBron James — and see a favorite band perform, he said.

"That's very sad and very tragic," James told *The Associated Press* after Tuesday's Los Angeles Lakers game against the Houston Rockets. "Any time a family loses a loved one in such an incident like that, you can only just grieve with them and feel the sincerity of it, and just pray that no kid should ever, ever, have to lose their life over such an act like that."

"There's definitely a life gone too soon," he said, describing her as an angel now looking over her family. "I wish them nothing but comfort throughout these difficult times. And to know that she was a fan of mine, hopefully I'm still making her proud as she looks over me as well."

Outside LAPD headquarters, Orellana Larenas held up a brand-new skateboard, still in its plastic wrapping, that his daughter had ordered online. It was delivered after she died.

The family plans to leave the skateboard at her grave "so that she can skate with the angels," her father said. **AP**

In Hong Kong, pro-democracy news site raided, seven arrested

VIVIAN WANG
HONG KONG, DECEMBER 29

HUNDREDS OF Hong Kong police officers arrested seven people connected to an outspoken pro-democracy news website and raided the site's headquarters on Wednesday, in yet another government crackdown on the city's once-vibrant independent press.

Within hours, the site, *Stand News*, announced that it would shut down immediately, and its website and social media pages would be deleted within a day. All employees were dismissed.

"Stand News's editorial policy was to be independent and committed to safeguarding Hong Kong's core values of democracy, human rights, freedom, the rule of law and justice," the announcement said. "Thank you, readers,



Editor of Stand News Patrick Lam, centre, is escorted by police officers into a van after they searched evidence at his office on Wednesday. AP

for your continued support."

The seven were arrested on suspicion of conspiring to publish seditious material, according to the police. A senior official, Steve Li, accused the publication at a news conference of publishing "inflammatory" content intended to incite hatred toward the government and the judiciary, especially through its coverage of the city's fierce pro-democracy protests in 2019.

John Lee, Hong Kong's No. 2 of-

ficial, told reporters at a separate news conference that journalism could not be used as a screen for endangering national security.

"These are the bad apples who are abusing their position simply by wearing a false coat of media worker," he said when asked about Stand News. "They are the people who damage press freedom. Professional media workers should recognize this, say no to these people and stand far from them." **NYT**

China warns of 'drastic measures' if Taiwan 'provokes' on independence

Beijing: China will take "drastic measures" if Taiwan makes moves towards independence, a Beijing official warned on Wednesday, adding that Taiwan's provocations and outside meddling could intensify next year.

China claims democratically governed Taiwan as its own territory and in the past two years has stepped up military and diplo-

matic pressure to assert its sovereignty claim, fuelling anger in Taipei and concern in Washington.

China was willing to try its utmost to seek peaceful reunification with Taiwan but would act if any red lines on independence were crossed, Ma Xiaoguang, spokesman of the Taiwan Affairs Office, told a media briefing. "If separatist forces in Taiwan

seeking independence provoke, exert force or even break through any red line, we will have to take drastic measures," Ma said.

Taiwan has emerged as a key factor in strained relations between China and the United States, the island's most important international backer and arms supplier despite the absence of formal diplomatic ties. **REUTERS**

SEARCH FOR MISSING MALE

General Public is hereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo) namely Vivek Sharma S/o Shashi Kant Sharma R/o H.No.9, Panch Mahal Apartment, PPG I.P. Extn., Delhi Aged-46 Years has been reported missing since 01.11.2021 at 6:00 AM from his residence vide **DD No.28A Dated 18.12.2021** registered at Police Station Madhu Vihar, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-



Vivek Sharma

Complexion: Fair, **Height:** 5'7", **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Pant & shirt and shoes in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing male, may inform SHO, Madhu Vihar, Delhi at E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in or website : <http://cbi.nic.in> Sd/-

Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641 SHO, Madhu Vihar, Delhi
FAX No. : 011-24368639 Tel.: 011-22542992, 22441741
DP/847/ED/2021 Mob.: 8750870621

ANDHRA PRADESH MEDICAL SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Tender Notice No.17/APMSIDC/2021-22, Dated:28.12.2021

APMSIDC invites tenders through e-procurement platform (tender.approcurement.gov.in) for Equipment Wing: 1. Procure and supply of Equipment to various Govt. Hospitals in AP under different schemes of NHMFunds. 2. Procure and supply of 432 new vehicles for 104 MMU Services. 3. Procure and supply of Medical Equipment to Teaching Hospitals under DME Plan Budget. 4. Establishment of Standardization of Labour Rooms at various facilities in Andhra Pradesh. Drugs Wing: 1. T.No.130/APMSIDC/ Medicine Wing/2021-22 - Procure and supply of Hepatitis B Virus Vaccine.

APMSIDC will reserve the right to cancel the tenders at any time without assigning any reasons. Sd/- Managing Director

DIPR No.569PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22, Dt: 28/12/2021

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियंता, लोक निर्माण विभाग, रायपुर मण्डल क्रमांक 2 (छत्तीसगढ़)

ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट निविदा सूचना

दिनांक 27.12.2021

निम्नांकित कार्यों हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदा “ई” श्रेणी एवं अधिक श्रेणी के टेन्डरों हेतु निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। एन.आई.टी. क्र.-109 एवं 113 (प्रथम आमंत्रण) डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि 17.01.2022 एवं एन.आई.टी.क्र.-110 से 112 तक (द्वितीय आमंत्रण) डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि 10.01.2022 है।

एन.आई.टी क्र/ निविदा क्र	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की अनुमानित लागत (लाख में)
1	2	3
NIT NO. 109 Tender No.89593	बलौदाबाजार अनुविभाग के अन्तर्गत जिला एवं सत्र न्यायाधीश बलौदाबाजार हेतु 01 नग बी-टाईप शासकीय आवास गृह का निर्माण कार्य।	रु. 92.71 लाख
NIT NO. 110 Tender No.89594	धमतरी शंकरदाह कि.मी. 1/2 से 2/10=2.00 कि.मी. एवं कि.मी. 3/2 से 4/6=1.60 कि.मी. पर बी.टी. रीनोवल का कार्य।	रु. 77.13 लाख
NIT NO. 111 Tender No.89595	उपसंगम क्र.-2 (देवभोग) के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न मार्गों में बी.टी. रीनोवल का कार्य।	रु. 98.40 लाख
NIT NO. 112 Tender No.89596	कसडोल अनुविभाग अन्तर्गत विभिन्न 03 मार्गों बी.टी. रीनोवल का कार्य कुल लं. 8.00 कि.मी.।	रु. 146.76 लाख
NIT NO. 113 Tender No.89599	कुरुद अनुविभाग अन्तर्गत विभिन्न मार्गों पर बी.टी. रीनोवल का कार्य।	रु. 196.30 लाख

उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्यों की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट वेब पोर्टल <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> अथवा विभागीय वेबसाइट <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है। (राशि रु. 100.00 के नाम ज्यूडिशियल स्टाम्प पर निर्धारित प्रपत्र में शपथ-पत्र एवं न्यूनतम राशि रु. 10.00 के नाम ज्यूडिशियल स्टाम्प पर एनक्वयर-3 का शपथ पत्र बिड-केपेसीटी उपलब्धता बाबत जानकारी एवं अन्य जानकारी एनआईटी के 2.10 में संलग्न संशोधित प्रपत्रानुसार प्रस्तुत करें।) निविदा में देने वाले समस्त संशोधन का प्रकाशन केवल उपरोक्त वेबसाइट पर किया जावेगा, पृथक् से समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशन नहीं किया जावेगा।

हस्ता/-
अधीक्षण अभियंता,
लो.नि.वि., रायपुर मण्डल क्र. 2 (छ.ग.)

आपकी थी चाह, हमने बनाई राह

Government of Odisha
Office of the Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur
Tel-0663-2548268, E-mail idservicirclesbp@yahoo.com
No: 3606/WF Dated: 24.12.2021 Bid Identification No. Bridge Tender Bid - RWCSBP-38/2021-22

The Chief Construction Engineer Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites online percentage rate Bid from experienced & eligible bidders for 4 (Four) nos of Bridge works under BSY for the year 2021-22 in the District of Bargarh.

1 Name of work : Bridge works under BSY for the year 2021-22 in the District of Bargarh.
2 No of works : 04(Four) nos as per Annexure.
3 Estimated cost : Approximately varies from Rs. 224.50 lakhs to Rs. 790.21 lakhs.
4 Class of Contractor : 'B' and 'A', 'Special' and 'Super'
5 Cost of tender paper and mode of deposit. : Rs. 10,000/- per set, (to be deposited On-line) in favour of concerned Executive Engineer.
6 Mode of submission of tender : Tender should be submitted only On line in website www.tendersodisha.gov.in. (<https://tendersodisha.gov.in>)
7 EMD and mode of deposit : No. EMD is required but Bid Security declaration should be furnished by the bidders as mentioned in DTCN.

8 Summary of key dates are provided below :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Last date & time for seeking clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer Rural Works Circle Sambalpur	Bridge Tender Online - RWCSBP-38/2021-22	31.12.2021 at 11:00 AM	15.01.2022 upto 5:00 PM	11.01.2022 upto 1:00 P.M.	17.01.2021 at 11:00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

* Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal www.tendersodisha.gov.in (<https://tendersodisha.gov.in>)
* Subsequent modification/ corrigendum/Addendum if required shall appear in website only.
* The amount put to bid is exclusive of GST.
* Bidder should inspect the road before bidding and quote his rate accordingly.

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गढ़वा सहजिना मोड़, गढ़वा (झारखण्ड) पिन नं० 822114 Email : eedwsd.garhwa1@gmail.com

6th शुद्धि-पत्र
एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गढ़वा अन्तर्गत आमंत्रित ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट (1st Call) निविदा सूचना संख्या-DWSD/GAR/SVS (JJM)-18/2020-21 (Construction of Rural Pipe Water Supply Scheme through DT/HYDT/GPT (Solar based) under (JJM) जो PR No. 256897 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 21-22#D द्वारा प्रकाशित किया गया था, जिसमें 02 अदद ग्रूप यथा-ग्रूप संह-14 एवं 17 को अगले आदेश तक रोका गया था, जिसमें 01 ग्रूप निषादन किया गया, शेष बचे एक ग्रूप संख्या 14 की निविदा में अपरिहार्य कारणों से प्राकलित राशि, अग्रधन की राशि, तिथि एवं समय में निम्न प्रकार संशोधित किया जाता है :-

क्र.सं०	विवरण	पूर्व में प्रकाशित				संशोधित कर प्रकाशित		
	Construction of Rural Pipe Water Supply Scheme through DT/HYDT/GPT (Solar based) 01/2.0 H.P. DC Motor pump complete set for different tolas of concern villages which is not included/included in MVS and has no electricity or less electricity to supply water 2000 LPH maximum at least 15/30 year for 24x7 supply with 100% coverage by Tap water Facility under (JJM) For the year 2021-22	No. of Schemes	Estimated cost (in Rs.)	Bid Security (Rs.)	Cost of BOQ (Rs.)	Estimated cost (in Rs.)	Bid Security (Rs.)	Cost of BOQ (Rs.)
1	Duldulwa Group of SVS Scheme under Meral Block (Group No. 14)	32 Nos	3,02,07,603.00	6,04,500.00	10,000.00	3,04,64,543.00	3,05,000.00	वही
क्र०	विवरण	पूर्व में प्रकाशित			संशोधित कर प्रकाशित			
1	Date & time of Tender Uploading on Website	16.07.2021/12:30 P.M.			03.01.2022/12:30 P.M.			
2	Date & time of Document Download and Bid Submission start date	16.07.2021/12:35 P.M.			03.01.2022/12:35 P.M.			
3	Date & time of Pre bid Meeting	-			07.01.2022/12:30 P.M. Office of the Regional Chief Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Dept. Ranchi Zone, Ranchi.			
4	Last date & time of Bid Submission	27.07.2021/05:00 P.M.			15.01.2025/05:00 P.M.			
5	Last date & time of Submission Cost of BOQ and EMD (in Hard copy)	28.07.2021// 10:30 AM to 04:00 P.M. (1) Executive Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Garhwa. (2) Superintending Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Circle, Medininagar.			17.01.2022/10:30 AM to 04:00 P.M. (i) Executive Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Garhwa. (ii) Office of the Superintending Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation, Circle, Medininagar (iii) Regional Chief Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Dept. Ranchi Zone, Ranchi.			
6	Date & time of Opening Tender	29.07.2021/04:30 P.M.			18.01.2022/04:30 P.M.			

निविदा की तिथि एवं समय :-

नोट - (i) शेष सभी शर्तें यथावत रहेगा।

(ii) यह शुद्धि-पत्र परिमाण विपन्न का भाग होगा।

(iii) विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु वेबसाइट <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर कार्यालय में सम्पर्क कर जानकारी प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गढ़वा।
PR.NO.260603 Drinking Water and Sanitation (21-22):D

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गढ़वा, सहजिना मोड़, गढ़वा (झारखण्ड) पिन नं० 822114 Email : eedwsd.garhwa1@gmail.com

5th शुद्धि-पत्र
एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गढ़वा अन्तर्गत आमंत्रित ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट (1st Call) निविदा सूचना संख्या-DWSD/GAR/SVS (JJM)-04/2021-22, दिनांक-13.05.2021 (Construction of Rural Pipe Water Supply Scheme through DT/HYDT/GPT (Solar based) under (JJM) जो PR No. 256897 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 21-22#D द्वारा प्रकाशित है जिसमें 04 अदद ग्रूप यथा-ग्रूप संह-50, 51, 55 एवं 58 को अगले आदेश तक रोका गया था, जिसमें 02 ग्रूप निषादन किया गया, शेष बचे दो ग्रूप संख्या 50 एवं 55 की निविदा में अपरिहार्य कारणों से प्राकलित राशि, अग्रधन की राशि, तिथि एवं समय में निम्न प्रकार संशोधित किया जाता है :-

क्र० सं०	विवरण	पूर्व में प्रकाशित				संशोधित कर प्रकाशित		
	Construction of Rural Pipe Water Supply Scheme through DT/HYDT/GPT (Solar based) 01/2.0 H.P. DC Motor pump complete set for different tolas of concern villages which is not included/included in MVS and has no electricity or less electricity to supply water 2000 LPH maximum at least 15/30 year for 24x7 supply with 100% coverage by Tap water Facility under (JJM) For the year 2021-22	No. of Schemes	Estimated cost (in Rs.)	Bid Security (Rs.)	Cost of BOQ (Rs.)	Estimated cost (in Rs.)	Bid Security (Rs.)	Cost of BOQ (Rs.)
1	Garbandh Group of SVS Scheme under Nagar Untari Block (Group No. 50)	46 Nos	4,72,79,292.00	9,46,000.00	10,000.00	4,75,91,473.00	4,76,000.00	वही
2	Kalyanpur Group of SVS Scheme under Garhwa Block (Group No. 55)	39 Nos	4,26,67,726.00	8,53,500.00	10,000.00	4,09,23,853.00	4,09,500.00	वही

क्र०	विवरण	पूर्व में प्रकाशित	संशोधित कर प्रकाशित
1	Date & time of Tender Uploading on Website	25.11.2021/12:30 P.M.	03.01.2022/12:30 P.M.
2	Date & time of Document Download and Bid Submission start date	25.11.2021/12:35 P.M.	03.01.2022/12:35 P.M.
3	Date & time of Pre bid Meeting	30.11.2021/12:30 P.M. Office of the Regional Chief Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Dept. Ranchi Zone, Ranchi.	07.01.2022/12:30 P.M. Office of the Regional Chief Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Dept. Ranchi Zone, Ranchi.
4	Last date & time of Bid Submission	06.12.2021/05:00 P.M.	15.01.2025/05:00 P.M.
5	Last date & time of Submission Cost of BOQ and EMD (in Hard copy)	07.12.2021/10:30 AM to 04:00 P.M. (i) Executive Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Garhwa. (ii) Office of the Superintending Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation, Circle, Medininagar (iii) Regional Chief Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Dept. Ranchi Zone, Ranchi.	17.01.2022/10:30 AM to 04:00 P.M. (i) Executive Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Garhwa. (ii) Office of the Superintending Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation, Circle, Medininagar (iii) Regional Chief Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Dept. Ranchi Zone, Ranchi.
6	Date & time of Opening Tender	08.12.2021/04:30 P.M.	18.01.2022/04:30 P.M.

नोट - (i) शेष सभी शर्तें यथावत रहेगा।

(ii) यह शुद्धि-पत्र परिमाण विपन्न का भाग होगा।

(iii) विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु वेबसाइट <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर कार्यालय में सम्पर्क कर जानकारी प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गढ़वा।
PR 260608 Drinking Water and Sanitation (21-22)_D

भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड
Container Corporation of India Ltd.
(भारत सरकार का उपक्रम) (A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Tender Notice (E-Tendering Mode Only)

Online tenders in Single Bid system are invited for Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract For Operation and Maintenance of Fire Fighting and Fire Alarm Systems at CD/Kanakpura, Jaipur For 24 months only through e-tendering mode. The bid document can only be downloaded after paying Rs.1000.00 through online from the website (www.tenderwizard.com/CCL).

Tender No.	CONAREA-1/KKU/TECH/O&M FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEM/2021-22
Estimated Cost	Rs. 23,38,400/- (Inclusive of GST)
Period of the contract	24 Months (As per Clause-6 of Section-II)
Earnest Money Deposit	Earnest Money / Bid Security Declaration as per Annexure-VIII
Cost of Document*	Rs. 1000/- inclusive of all taxes and duties through e-payment
Tender Processing Fee*	Rs. 1378/- (Inclusive of 18% GST) through e-payment which is Non-refundable
Date of Sale (On Line)	From 30.12.2021 at 15:00 Hrs. to 14.01.2022 upto 16:00 Hrs.
Date & Time of submission	15.01.2022 upto 15:00 Hrs. (E-Tendering Mode Only)
Date & Time of Opening	17.01.2022 at 15:30 Hrs.

* Through e-Payment, CONCOR reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons therefor. For complete details login to www.tenderwizard.com/CCL.
Group General Manager/Technical (Area-1)

भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, जयपुर / Integrated Regional Office, Jaipur
ए 218 & बी 216, "ARANYA BHAWAN", Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur-302004
653
3.12.21 दृष्य / Tel No: 0141-2713858, 2713786 Email: iro.jaipur-mefcc@gov.in
पत्र संख्या - 8 बी.रा.ब/26/19/2020-ए.सी. दिनांक : 30th November, 2021
सेवा में :
श्रमण सचिव (वन), विभिन्न सचिवालय,
राजस्थान प्रान्त, जयपुर, राजस्थान।

(Online Proposal No: FP/RJ/ROAD/18883/2016)
विषय: Division of 4.47 ha forest land for widening and curve improvement on existing road alignment between chainage 17.350 Km to 19.600 Km of Kishanghar Hanumaanghar Mega Highway Project Village- Chakbeer, Tehsil- Roopangarh, District- Ajmer.

संदर्भ: सातन सचिव, राजस्थान का पत्रंक-प.1(38)चन/2020, जयपुर, दिनांक 18.08.2020, महीनर.

- Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
- Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over an area of 4.47 ha non-forest land in Compartment No. 754, Village Sawaiipura, Tehsil-Pisangan, District- Ajmer at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.
- The non-forest land proposed for CA shall be transferred and mutated in favour of State Forest Department.
- The non-forest land which is transferred and mutated in favour of State Forest Department for the purpose of compensatory afforestation shall be declared as Reserved Forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section- 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the State Forest Act prior to Stage-II approval.
- The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.
- The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value(NPV) for the 4.47 ha. forest area to be diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 30/10/2002, 01/08/2003, 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in IA No. 566 in WP (C) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letter No. 5-1/1998-FC (Pt. II) dated 18/09/2003, as well as letter No. 5-2/2006-FC dated 03/10/2006 and 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009 in this regard.
- User Agency shall pay penal NPV as there is violation of the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in the instant proposal, penal NPV shall be applicable as per para 1.21 (i) (a) and (b) of the guidelines for effective and transparent implementation of the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 released on 28/03/2019 vide Govt of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change letter No. F. No. 5-2/2017- FC.
- Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
- User Agency shall raise strip plantation on both sides and central verge of the road as per the IRC norms.
- Speed regulating signage will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas.
- The user agency shall provide suitable under/ over pass in Protected Area/ Forest Area as per recommendations of CWLW/NBW/L FAS/REC.
- The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- No tree felling shall be involved in the implementation of this project.
- User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
- The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.
- The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India.
- The KML file of the area to be diverted and the CA areas shall be uploaded on the e Green watch portal with all requisite details, before issuing working permission towards linear projects or submitting compliance report for seeking Stage-II approval, as the case may be.
- Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11-42/2017-FC dt 29/01/2018.
- Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
- All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal.
- The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>). After receipt of compliance report on fulfillment of all of the above conditions from the State Government, proposal will be considered for final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, by this office.
- The order for transfer of forest land to user agency shall not be issued by the State Government till final approval order for diversion of forest land is issued by Government of India.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer,
Rural, Works Circle, Sambalpur
OIPR-2509/11/100502122

DIPR/C/13153/21

सचिवीय
(ब्रज कुमार वर्मा)
उप वनमन्त्री/सह-मन्त्री

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male Namely Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, Age: about 25-30 years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Injuries: On head & left side of face, bruises on body. Wearing: Top nude & light white coloured Jeans pant, He was injured in train accident on 21.12.2021 near Pole KM No. 07/12-07/13 on the UP Line. He was admitted in LNJP hospital vide MLC No. 189552/21 and died during the treatment on 23.12.2021 at 12:15 AM. His dead body has been preserved in the Maulana Azad Medical College Mortuary for 72 hours for identification. In this regard a **DD No. 1A U/s 174 CrPC, dated 23.12.2021** has been lodged at P.S. Subzi Mandi Railway Station, Delhi. If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.



SHO
P.S. Subzi Mandi Railway Station, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23692455
Mob.: 8800154439

DP/431/RLY/2021

OSBI
Platform Engineering-I Department, State Bank of India, Global IT Centre, Sector-11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400614

CORRIGENDUM
Please refer to RFP no. SBI/GITC/Platform Engineering-I/2021/2022/809 Dated: 06.12.2021 for Procurement of Comprehensive Endpoint Security Solution for State Bank Group. Corrigendum dated 29.12.2021 can be accessed under procurement news at <https://www.sbi.co.in> and e-Procurement agency portal <https://tender.sbi/sbi/> Sd/-
Place: Navi Mumbai Deputy General Manager (Platform Engineering-I Department)
Date: 30.12.2021

भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान बरहमपुर
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Berhampur
Established by the Ministry of Education, Government of India

e-Tender Notice
ISER Berhampur invites e-Tenders for the below-mentioned goods/services:

NIT / Est. No. & Date	Detail of Goods / Services	Last Date of Submission
ISERBPR/S&P/IT/2021-22/21 dt. 22/12/2021	Multiple High-Throughput Gas Adsorption Analyzer	January 13, 2022 (15.00 Hrs)
ISERBPR/C&S/A&E/OV Kitchen/2021-22/01 dt. 22/12/2021	Est. for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commission of Modern Kitchen Equipment	January 05, 2022 (15.00 Hrs)
ISERBPR/S&P/2021-22/29 dt. 28.12.2021	Annual Rate Contract for supply of Gases	January 17, 2022 (15.00 Hrs)

For participation, please visit the website www.tenderwizard.com/ISERBPR. Complete details of specification of goods and services, and tender documents are available on the institute website i.e. <http://www.iserbpr.ac.in/tender.php> and <https://procure.gov.in>. Any corrigendum etc. will be notified on the above websites only. कृपया प्रस्ताव अधिकारी Store and Purchase Officer

भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड
CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.
(भारत सरकार का उपक्रम) (A Govt. of India Undertaking)
NSC New MDBP Building, 2nd Floor, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi-110020

TENDER NOTICE (E-Tender cum Reverse Auction Mode Only)
CONCOR invites Online tender in two bid system for Providing professional services for Cargo Handling and Terminal Transportation of containers at ICD/Kanpur only through e-tender cum reverse auction mode. The bid document can only be downloaded after paying Rs.1000/-.

Tender No.	CONAREA-IT/C/CH&TT/Kanpur/2021
Name of Work	Providing professional services for Cargo Handling and Terminal Transportation of containers at ICD/Kanpur
Estimated Cost	Rs.3,75,59,485/- (including GST) for 4 years
Period of contract	Four (4) years
Earnest Money Deposit	NIL, exempted for all bidders (Bid security declaration to be submitted)
Cost of Document	Rs.1000/- inclusive of all taxes and duties through e-payment
Tender Processing Fee	Rs.4,720/- inclusive of all taxes and duties (Non-refundable) through e-payment
Date & Time of Sale (Online)	From 30.12.2021 at 15:00 hrs. to 12.01.2022 (upto 16:00 hrs.)
Date & Time of submission of Tender	Upto 13.01.2022 at 15:00 hrs.
Date & Time of Opening of Tender	On 14.01.2022 at 15:30 Hrs.

17 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 57,806.49 ▼ 90.99 (-0.16%) NIFTY: 17,213.60 ▼ 19.65 (-0.11%) NIKKEI: 28,906.88 ▼ 162.28 HANG SENG: 23,086.54 ▼ 194.02 FTSE: 7,433.25 ▲ 61.15 DAX: 15,900.35 ▼ 63.35

International market data till 1900 IST

SECTOR WATCH
TECH MANUFACTURING

Lapses in staff living conditions: Apple puts iPhone plant on probation

Restructuring local management team, systems: Unit owner Foxconn



Foxconn plant at Sriperumbudur. Reuters file

EXPRESSNEWS
SERVICE

CHENNAI, DECEMBER 29

ONE OF the major assembling units of iPhone 12, in Sriperumbudur, near Chennai, has been placed under 'probation' by Apple, following findings that the Foxconn-owned unit had lapses in ensuring quality of living conditions for its employees.

Apple's action followed a Tamil Nadu government statement, on Saturday, asking Foxconn to come up with measures to improve the working conditions and quality of living of contract employees attached to their operations near Chennai.

The government intervention was in the wake of a protest and several complaints by employees of Foxconn, a Taiwanese electronic equipment major, about the poor amenities and denial of some basic employee rights at hostels and work. The turning point was a bout of food poisoning reported among dozens of employees, which led to hospitalisation. After employees went on a protest that affected traffic on the Chennai-Bengaluru highway, the state government and the district administration stepped in for negotiations.

In 2020 Foxconn had pledged to invest over Rs 7,000 crore in expanding facilities.

Sources familiar with the Foxconn operations and the latest developments said the action had come from Apple after they conducted a separate investigation and audit of

standards at Foxconn and other facilities.

An Apple spokesperson told *The Indian Express* that they hold their suppliers accountable to the highest standards in the industry and regularly conduct assessments.

"Following recent concerns about food safety and accommodation conditions at Foxconn Sriperumbudur, we dispatched independent auditors to undertake additional detailed assessments. We found that some of the remote dormitory accommodations and dining rooms being used for employees do not meet our requirements and we are working with the supplier to ensure a comprehensive set of corrective actions are rapidly implemented," the spokesperson said. "Foxconn's Sriperumbudur facility has been placed on probation and we will ensure our strict standards are met before the facility reopens. We will continue to monitor conditions closely."

A Foxconn statement said: "We have been investigating recent issues at our Sriperumbudur facility in Tamil Nadu and have found that some offsite dormitory facilities do not meet the required standards. We are very sorry for the issue our employees experienced and are taking immediate steps to enhance the facilities and services we provide at the remote dormitory accommodations. We are also restructuring our local management team and our management systems to ensure we can achieve and maintain high standards that are needed..."

FINANCIAL STABILITY REPORT: BANK BALANCE SHEETS STRONG

RBI red flags signs of stress in MSMEs, bad loans likely to rise

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, DECEMBER 29

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) has warned of a rise in bad loans in 2022 and emerging signs of stress in micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and the micro-finance segment, which call for close monitoring of these portfolios.

Macro stress tests for credit risk indicate that the gross non-performing asset (GNPA) ratio of banks may increase from 6.9 per cent in September 2021 to 8.1 per cent by September 2022 under the baseline scenario and to 9.5 per cent under a severe stress scenario, according to the Financial Stability Report (FSR) of the RBI.

NPAs at advances ratio declined from 8.2 per cent at end-March 2020 to 7.3 per cent at end-March 2021, and further to 6.9 per cent at end-September 2021.

However, the report said banks are financially healthy and strong. "Balance sheets of banks remain strong and capital and liquidity buffers are being bolstered to mitigate future shocks," RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said in the report. "While the pandemic induced bouts of volatility, spillovers and heightened uncertainty are challenging, the Indian financial system has stood up well and remains

SHAKTIKANTA DAS
Governor, Reserve Bank of India FileEXPLAINED
Slowdown in credit

CREDIT TO the micro, small and medium enterprise segment slowed down (y-o-y) by the end of September vis-a-vis March. The decline was particularly noticeable in the sub Rs 25 crore ticket size across major bank groups.

well prepared to meet the funding requirements of the economy," Das said.

The FSR said MSME portfolio of PSU banks and private banks indicates accumulation in NPA and SMA-2 categories in September 2021 relative to March 2021. NPA level was 18.5 per cent as of

September 2021, as against 16.8 per cent in March 2021.

Credit to the MSME segment slowed down (y-o-y) by the end of September 2021 vis-a-vis March 2021. The decline was particularly noticeable in the sub Rs 25 crore ticket size across major bank groups. Under the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS), loans amounting to Rs 2.82 lakh crore were sanctioned till November 12, 2021, of which Rs 2.28 lakh crore was disbursed (Rs 1.94 lakh crore by SCBs, forming 20.6 per cent of the incremental credit during the period), it said.

The report said the global economic recovery has been losing momentum in the second half of 2021 in the face of resurfacing Covid cases, the new variant Omicron, supply disruptions, elevated inflationary levels and shifts in monetary policy stances and actions across economies.

The report says, "But with the second supplementary demand of grants worth Rs 3.73 lakh crore, presented in December, the budgeted fiscal deficit of 6.8 per cent of GDP may come under strain?"

The capital to risk-weighted assets ratio (CRAR) of banks rose to a new peak of 16.6 per cent and their provisioning coverage ratio (PCR) stood at 68.1 per cent in September 2021.

Pvt cryptos pose risks: Regulator

Mumbai: The RBI has said private cryptocurrencies pose immediate risks to customer protection and anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism.

"They are prone to frauds and to extreme price volatility, given their highly speculative nature," the FSR said. "Longer term concerns relate to capital flow management, financial and macro-economic stability, monetary policy transmission and currency substitution," it said.

On stablecoins, the RBI said, "It raises concerns related to the potential for destabilising runs..." **ENS**

Relaxations for NRIs, OCIs

Mumbai: The RBI has said NRIs and OCIs do not require its prior approval for acquisition and transfer of immovable property in India, other than agricultural land, farm house and plantation property. **PTI**

Bajaj Auto to set up ₹300-crore EV plant

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
PUNE, DECEMBER 29

BAJAJ AUTO said on Wednesday it is investing Rs 300 crore to build capacity to manufacture 5,00,000 EVs per annum. It has commenced work on the new EV manufacturing unit, which will be housed at its Akurdi plant. The company said vehicles would roll out from the plant by June 2022 for both the domestic and export markets. This will be supplemented by another Rs 250 crore investments by vendors.

Rajiv Bajaj, managing director, Bajaj Auto, said going forward, all their R&D drive train resources would be laser focused on creating EV solutions for the future. "This alignment reflects our belief that light electric vehicles for sustainable urban mobility is an idea whose time may finally have come," Bajaj said. The shift in the company's focus is evident, as it plans to implement only one ICE platform that is currently under



'This alignment reflects our belief that light electric vehicles for sustainable urban mobility is an idea whose time may finally have come'

RAJIV BAJAJ
MD, BAJAJ AUTO

development.

Its investment in the new plant will be supported by a slew of investments also as vendors to create an EV ecosystem, who will invest another Rs 250 crore. **FE**

'E-comm hiring up 28% in 2021; 2022 may be more promising'

E-commerce and allied sector job opportunities rose 28% in 2021, and may gain momentum, as per TeamLease Services

E-COMMERCE SECTOR
GREW BY:

- 8% in 2020
- 30% in 2021

In 2022, for e-commerce and startups, many new job opportunities will be added and hiring will rise further by 32%

Source: TeamLease Services/PTI



राजस्थान सरकार
कृषि आयुक्तालय, राज. जयपुर
F4 () PPT-II/Light Traps/2021-22/26065 Date: 22.12.2021
Notice Inviting Bid
Bid for Light traps (Estimated cost 5,00,000 crores) are invited from interested bidders upto 12.01.2022 at 6.00 pm. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurements portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state; and www.krishi.rajasthan.gov.in in departmental website.
UBN. AGR2122GLRC00234
Sd/-
(Dr. Om Prakash)
Commissioner Agriculture
DIPR/C/13165/2021

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
Highways Department
Chennai Construction and Maintenance Circle
TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No. 28/2021-2022/HDO/Dated : 29.12.2021
For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Percentage tender through online only will be received upto 04.02.2022, 1.00 PM** by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Chennai Circle for work under CRDP 2021-22 (2 works) pertaining to Thiruvallur and Kancheepuram (H), C&M Division.
Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details will be available from **04.01.2022** onwards in the Government website <https://tntenders.gov.in> If any Changes/Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.
Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Chennai Circle.
DIPR/4352/Tender/2021
"சேரத்தொண்டி கட்டுத்து கட்டுத்திட்டம் அமைத்தேன், சாத்தனாக புதிதில் சமீபத்தியம் படைப்பேன்."

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT DISTRICT CIRCLE, JODHPUR
Tel - 0291-2651740, Fax: - 0291-2651740, e-mail-sephedjdp1@gmail.com
क्रमांक: एएसईडी/जी/जोधपुर-2021-22/असुका-316 दिनांक: 23.12.2021

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR WORKS
1.0 Online Tenders are hereby invited in two-envelope system on behalf of Governor of Rajasthan for the following works from contractors enlisted in classes as mentioned in Col. 8 table-1 with the PHED Rajasthan and contractors enlisted with CPWD/Postal, Telecom, Railway, MES, other state Govt./Central Govt. undertaking/organization equivalent to appropriate class) of Rajasthan provided they meet out prescribed eligibility after giving prescribed Earnest Money. Details of tender notification and pre-qualification criteria can also be seen in NIT exhibited on website www.dipronline.org, www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in. Tenders are to be submitted online electronic format on website <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> and will be opened online in the office of the Superintending Engineer PHED Dist. Cr., Jodhpur.

S. No.	पुनःआवृत्ति की शर्तों पर कार्य
1. NIB code PHE2122A5055 UBN: PHE2122WSOB10978	6. NIB code PHE2122A5060 UBN: PHE2122WSOB10983
2. NIB code PHE2122A5056 UBN: PHE2122WSOB10979	7. NIB code PHE2122A5061 UBN: PHE2122WSOB10984
3. NIB code PHE2122A5057 UBN: PHE2122WSOB10980	8. NIB code PHE2122A5062 UBN: PHE2122WSOB10985
4. NIB code PHE2122A5058 UBN: PHE2122WSOB10981	9. NIB code PHE2122A5063 UBN: PHE2122WSOB10986
5. NIB code PHE2122A5059 UBN: PHE2122WSOB10982	10. NIB code PHE2122A5064 UBN: PHE2122WSOB10987
Total NIT Work	10
Total Estimated Cost	1449.93 Lac
अनिवार्य निविदा फार्म मिलने एवं जमा करने की तारीख	17.01.2022 को 12.00 पी.एम.
इस कार्यवाही में मूल ई-आवृत्ति (कालान्तर) जमा करने की दिनांक व समय	17.01.2022 को 2.00 पी.एम. तक
अनिवार्य निविदा खोलने की तारीख	17.01.2022 को 3.00 पी.एम. तक

हस्ता/- (सरद कुमार माथुर)
अधीक्षक अभियन्ता,
जनसह. अभि. विभाग, जिलास्तर जोधपुर
DIPR/C/13178/2021

GST Council meet tomorrow: Textile rate, duty structure may be key issues

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

A DISCUSSION on rate rationalisation and inverted duty structure for some goods is likely to feature at the 46th meeting of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council on Friday. Some state finance ministers are also likely to take up the issue of the proposed hike in GST rate on textiles to 12 per cent from 5 per cent effective January 1, two state government officials said.

The meeting, to be chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, will be held a day after the pre-Budget consultations with state finance ministers on Thursday. The Group of Ministers (GoM) set up to review the current rate slab structure under GST had deferred its final meeting on November 27 to discuss various proposals for rate rationalisation and measures to shore up revenues.

The GoM is now expected to directly submit its report to the GST Council, which may not reflect the concerns raised by some states over recommendations of major rate tweaks by an officer-level fitment committee.

The officer-level fitment committee is learnt to have recommended raising of tax rates from 5 per cent to 7 per cent and 18 per cent to 20 per cent, for which some state finance ministers had

New FY21 GST return deadline

New Delhi: The government on Wednesday extended till February 28 the deadline for businesses to file Goods and Services Tax (GST) annual returns for 2020-21 fiscal ended March 2021. **PTI**

raised concerns over impact of such major rate changes. Some states had cited concerns about the inflationary impact of any such major rate hikes, especially in the aftermath of the pandemic.

The GST has five tax slabs: zero, 5 per cent, 12 per cent, 18 per cent and 28 per cent. A compensation cess, from 1 per cent to 290 per cent, is levied on demerit and luxury goods over and above the topmost rate of 28 per cent.

The decision on rate hike for textiles is also expected to be opposed by some states. Last week, Amit Mitra, the Principal Chief Advisor to West Bengal Chief Minister, had urged Sitharaman to roll back the proposed hike. He said the new rate structure would cause closure of around 1 lakh textile units and losses of 15 lakh jobs nationally.

Telangana Industries Minister KT Rama Rao too has urged the Centre to withdraw its proposed plan to hike GST rates.

Feb 2022 deadline for FY20 ITR e-verification

New Delhi: Taxpayers who have not e-verified their ITRs for 2019-20 can complete the verification process by February 28, 2022, as the Income Tax department has given a one-time relaxation to assesses, according to a December 28 circular by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).

Additionally, the CBDT notified the 'Faceless Appeal Scheme, 2021' to bring in changes to the existing faceless appeal scheme.

Meanwhile, over five crore income tax returns (ITRs) for the fiscal ended March 2021 have been filed so far, the I-T department said on Wednesday. **ENS, WITHPTI**

BRIEFLY
NSEIL case

New Delhi: The National Stock Exchange of India Ltd (NSEIL) settled with Sebi a case over alleged violation of Straight Through Processing (STP) services guidelines after paying Rs 4.87 crore towards settlement fee.

Sebi fine norms

New Delhi: Sebi issued guidelines to levy fines and take action for non-compliance with continuous disclosure requirements by issuers of listed non-convertible securities & commercial papers.

Lulu investment

New Delhi: UAE-based retail major Lulu group announced ₹500 crore investment for a food processing plant in Greater Noida.

Sahara funds

New Delhi: Sahara Group said it is unreasonable to ask it to deposit more money as funds totalling ₹24,000 crore lie unutilised with Sebi for last 9 years and it was hurting its business interests.

Egypt joins NDB

Beijing: The BRICS New Development Bank (NDB) on Wednesday announced that it will add Egypt as its new member. **PTI**

Intermediaries to keep current a/c in suitable number of banks: Irdai

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

IRDAI ON Wednesday said that insurance intermediaries, including entities sponsored by them, can maintain current accounts in appropriate number of banks so as to meet regulatory requirements and reinsurance businesses.

In August last year, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had instructed banks not to open current accounts for customers who have availed credit facilities in the form of cash credit or overdraft from the

banking system. Later, on a review, the central bank permitted banks to open specific accounts that are stipulated under various statutes and instructions of other regulators/ regulatory departments, without any restrictions placed in terms of its August 2020 circular.

An Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) circular said it has been observed that insurance intermediaries maintain multiple current accounts with banks at different operational levels (branch offices, corporate offices, etc), for regulatory and other purposes. **WITHPTI**

Speciality steel PLI: March 29 deadline for applications

New Delhi: The government on Wednesday said it has started inviting applications from investors looking to invest under the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for speciality steel.

March 29, 2022, has been fixed as the last date to submit the applications, the Ministry of Steel tweeted. On July 22, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi had approved a Rs 6,322-crore PLI scheme to boost production of speciality steel in India, attracting an additional investment of about Rs 40,000 crore. **WITHPTI**

Musk exercises all his stock options expiring next year

REUTERS
SAN FRANCISCO, DECEMBER 29


TESLA INC Chief Executive Elon Musk has exercised all of his options expiring next year, signalling an end to his stock sales that triggered a fall in the share price of the carmaker.

Musk said last week that he would reach his target of selling about 10 per cent of his stake in Tesla "when the 10b prepro-

ELON MUSK
CEO, Tesla Reuters file

grammed sales complete," likely referring to his options-related stock sales.

Since early November, he has exercised options expiring next year and sold a portion of Tesla stock to pay tax under a "rule 10b5-1" trading plan set up in September. With the option exercise on 1.6 million shares on Tuesday, he has exercised all of the options on 22.8 million shares, which are due to expire in August.



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RWS&S DIVISION, BARIPADA.
Tel No. 06792-254029, Fax No. 06792-259464, E-Mail: eerwss_bpd@rediffmail.com, eerwss_bpd@ori.nic.in
Govt. of Odisha e-procurement Notice.
Bid Identification No. 36 of 2021-22, Date: 24.12.2021.

1. **Nature of the work**

: Execution of Rural Piped Water Supply New Projects under different Blocks in Mayurbhanj district. in Percentage rate. (06 packages).

2. **Estimated Cost**

: 330.72 lakh to 400.52 Lakhs.

3. **Period of Completion**

: 11 months

4. **Date and time of availability of bid document in Portal**

: From 11 hour of 11.01.2022 to 27.01.2022 upto 17 hours.

5. **Last Date / time for receipt of bids in the portal**

: Both Technical & Financial Bid for each Package Upto to 17 hours of 27.01.2022.

6. **Name and address of the O.I.T.**

: Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Baripada.

7. **Date & Time for Opening of Tender**

: 28.01.2022 at 11.00 A.M.

8. **Corrigendum and addendum if any shall only be published in the above website**

<http://www.tenderodisha.gov.in>

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal: <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
RWS&S Division, Baripada
OIPR/25014/11/0015/2122

झारखण्ड सरकार
ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय
102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी रोड, राँची

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
ई-निविदा संख्या:- 148/2021-22/RWD/RAMGARH दिनांक :- 28.12.2021
मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र० सं०	आईडेंट्री फिकेशन संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रुपये में)		कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि
			अंक में	अक्षर में	
1.	RWD/ RAMGARH/ 03/ 2021-22	कस्मा महतो मार्केट से बुद्धाग्राम एन०एच०-33 माया अम्बाटांड तक पथ का सुदुर्घीकरण कार्य (लं- 6.200 कि०मी०)	2,89,37,200.00	दो करोड़ नवासी लाख सैंतीस हजार दो सौ रू० मात्र	15 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 07.01.2022

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- 19.01.2022 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे।

4. (क) मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी, राँची अथवा (ख) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, राँची अथवा (ग) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, रामगढ़ में से किसी भी कार्यालय में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रधन की राशि, शपथ पत्र के मूल प्रति एवं अपलोड किये गये तकनीकी योग्यता दस्तावेज की एक प्रति जमा करने की तिथि:- 20.01.2022 पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक।

5. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- 21.01.2022 पूर्वाह्न 11.30 बजे।

6. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी चौक, राँची, झारखण्ड, पिन:- 834001

7. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं०- 0651-2207818

8. निविदा शुल्क झारखण्ड राज्य में अवस्थित भारतीय स्टेट बैंक / अन्य राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निविदाकार के नाम / अकाउंट से ही निगम बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, रामगढ़ के पक्ष में एवं रामगढ़ में भुगतये होना जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

नौडल पदाधिकारी
ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट सेल
PR 260642 Rural Work Department(21-22)#D

INDIAN RAILWAYS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

Ministry of Railways, Government of India invites applications from eligible persons from any of the following for the post of Managing Director, Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS):
(a) Central Public Sector Enterprises
(b) Central Govt. including the Armed Forces of the Union and All India Services
(c) State Public Sector Enterprises
(d) Private Sector
For detailed advertisement, kindly refer to www.indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard Applications (02 copies), along with enclosures may be sent to:
Director (Deputation)
Ministry of Railways (Railway Board)
Room No. 107, Rail Bhawan
NEW DELHI-110001
Last date for receipt of applications is **05 PM on 28.01.2022**. Applications received late will not be considered and no correspondence entertained in this regard. 3080/2021



Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav



SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

झारखण्ड सरकार
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, रामगढ़
ई-अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई-निविदा सं० :-RDS/RAMGARH/21/2021-22
1.कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी :- MMGSY मद अन्तर्गत।

क्र० सं०	आईडेंट्रीफिकेशन संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	प्रखण्ड	ग्राम / पंचायत	योजना का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (लाख में)	अग्रधन की राशि (रु०)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रु०)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	RDS/RAMGARH/ MMGSY /01/2021-22	रामगढ़	लोधमा	रामगढ़ जिलान्तर्गत रामगढ़ प्रखण्ड के ग्राम लोधमा के पारगढ़ में बड़की नदी पर पुल निर्माण कार्य।	333.60	668000.00	10000.00	(15) पंद्रह माह

2. प्राक्कलित राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है, तदनुसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी।

3. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि :- दिनांक 04.01.2022

4. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय :- दिनांक 04.01.2022 से दिनांक 10.01.2022 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।

5. ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, रामगढ़ / मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रखेत्र, एफ०एफ०पी० भवन धुर्वा, राँची के कार्यालय कक्ष में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रधन की राशि, शपथपत्र के मूलप्रति एवं अपलोड किये गये तकनीकी योग्यता दस्तावेज की एक प्रति जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय दिनांक 11.01.2022 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।

6. निविदा खोलने का स्थान, तिथि एवं समय:- मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रखेत्र, एफ०एफ०पी० भवन धुर्वा, राँची दिनांक 17.01.2022 अपराह्न 2.00 बजे।

7. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का पदनाम एवं पता:- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, रामगढ़।

8. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं०- 7250895727, 06553-261524

9. निविदा शुल्क राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निगम बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में स्वीकार किया जायेगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा। बैंक ड्राफ्ट कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, रामगढ़ के पदनाम से देय होगा। जो स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, मुख्य शाखा, रामगढ़ (Branch Code-00164) में भुगतये होगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट Jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

नोट :- (10) दस) प्रतिशत से न्यून निविदाओं के लिए Additional Performance Security के क्रम में परिमाण विपत्र की राशि से- (i) 10 से 20 प्रतिशत Below तक की राशि का 20% तथा (ii) 20 प्रतिशत से अधिक Below की राशि का 30% अतिरिक्त जमानत का प्रावधान लागू होगा।

PR 260677 Rural Work Department(21-22)D

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, रामगढ़।



KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-31/12717/2021-22 **Date: 29.12.2021**
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK e – Procurement Portal Only)

Tenders under two cover system are invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors holding valid Class-I (Civil) issued from KPWD, Government of Karnataka who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following works of (1) Formation of Industrial layout including formation of 18m wide roads including asphalting, construction of RCC side drains, RCC cross drainage works, GLSR, Raising main, RWH and HDPE dual water supply pipeline at Mulwada Industrial Area, Phase-2, Kolhar Taluk, Vijayapur District-Package-2. (2) Formation of Industrial layout including formation of 30m wide roads including asphalting, construction of RCC side drains, RCC cross drainage works, Bridge and HDPE dual water supply pipeline at Mulwada Industrial Area, Phase-2, Kolhar Taluk, Vijayapur District-Package-1. The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **31.01.2022 upto 04:00 pm** Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

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



Wear Mask



Follow Physical Distancing



Maintain Hand Hygiene

हर काम देश के नाम
छत्तीसगढ़ कार्यालय, जालंधर छावनी
सार्वजनिक सूचना
सभी छवनी निवासियों को सूचित किया जाता है कि शहरी विकास एवं आवासीय मंत्रालय भारत सरकार के निर्देशानुसार छवनी बोर्ड के निम्नव्य संख्या 23 तिथि 23.12.2021 के अंतर्गत छवनी क्षेत्र को "वाटर + सिटी" घोषित कर दिया गया है, अगर किसी छवनी निवासी को इस सम्बन्ध में कोई आपत्ति हो तो वह अपनी आपत्ति इस सूचना के प्रकाशन के 15 दिनों के भीतर छवनी कार्यालय में प्रेषित कर सकता है।

दूरभाष : 0181-2260250
Email : cbjalandhar2013@gmail.com
मुख्य अधिशासी अधिकारी
छवनी परिषद् जालंधर।



UJVNL LTD.
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No:U40101UR2004SG0025866,
Website: www.ujvnl.com

Time Extension Notice –I
Due to unavoidable circumstances, the invited "e"-Tender No: 22e/EE(G)/CPH/2021-22 for "Re-tubing of Generator Stator Coolers of Unit No.3 (06 Nos.) & spare (01 Nos.) at Chibro Power House" and Tender No 23e/EE(G)/CPH/2021-22 for "Supply of Vapour Seal Assembly set for Unit No. 2&4 at Chibro power House" by the office of Executive Engineer (G) Chibro Power House is hereby extended as follows:
Last date of submission of bid in the portal : 05-01-2022 upto 17:00
Last date of submission of hard copy : 06-01-2022 from 15:00 Hrs.
Date of opening of the bid Part-I on website : 07-01-2022 from 10:00
All other condition shall be same as previous. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<http://uktenders.gov.in>"
पत्रांक: 1046 / दिनांक: 28.12.2021 **EE(G), Chibro**
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"



GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU - TIRUNELVELI HIGHWAYS (Construction & Maintenance) CIRCLE

TENDER NOTICE
T.N.No. 13 / 2021-22 / HDO, Dated: 24.12.2021
For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Percentage tender through online only will be received upto 07.02.2022 At 14.00 hours** by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Tirunelveli Circle for **CRIDP 2021-22 Works pertaining to Tirunelveli (4 Works)** (H) C&M Division.
Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from **04.01.2022** onwards in the Government website <https://tntenders.gov.in>. If any Changes/Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.
Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Tirunelveli Circle
DIPR/4349/Tender/2021
"சேராதனை கட்டுத்து கதத்தில் அடைந்தோம், எந்தனை புரித்து எந்திதும் படைப்போம்."



GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
MADURAI HIGHWAYS, (Construction & Maintenance) CIRCLE

TENDER NOTICE
T.N.No.16/2021-2022/HDO, dated: 23.12.2021
For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Percentage tender through online only will be received upto 07.02.2022 15.00 hours** by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, **Madurai** Circle under **CRIDP 2021-22**, Works pertaining to **Theni, Dindigul and Palani** (H) C&M Division.
Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from **31.12.2021** onwards in the Government website <https://tntenders.gov.in>. If any Changes/Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.
Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Madurai Circle.
DIPR/4360/Tender/2021
"சேராதனை கட்டுத்து கதத்தில் அடைந்தோம், எந்தனை புரித்து எந்திதும் படைப்போம்."

Office of the Superintending Engineer
Moradabad Circle, P.W.D. Moradabad
E-Procurement Notice Inviting Tenders

No:- 5326/E-Tender/MBD Circle/21-22 **Dated. 22.12.2021**
1. On behalf of the Governor of U.P. tenders for following work are invited by the Superintending Engineer, Moradabad Circle, PWD Moradabad online on website <http://etender.up.nic.in> & Prahari website <http://wms.uppwd.gov.in/prahari> from registered contractors from 31.12.2021 at 10.00 am to 06.01.2022 at 17:00 Hrs. Technical bid /Prequalification of tenders shall be opened on 07.01.2022 at 12:00 Hrs. in office of undersigned by tender committee in presence of authorised representatives/ bidders who wish to be present. Financial bid of the tenders' who qualify in technical bid shall be opened on date and time as specified by a notice in the office of undersigned. In case of Government holiday the required process shall be carried out on next working day. Amount mentioned in column 5 & 7 shall be mandatory deposited by net banking only on E-Tender Portal.

Sl. No	DISTRICT	Name of Work	Estimated cost (Rs. in Lac)	Bid Security (Rs. in Lacs)	Time of completion of the work (Including rainy season	Cost of tender documents including GST	Category of road contractor eligible
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Moradabad	Construction of Link Road of Atal Residential School in Moradabad District	312.00	17.60	08 Month	0.00	A (Road Category)

Rules/conditions & details of the tender are available at website <http://etender.up.nic.in>.
(Gyan Gupta)
Superintending Engineer
Moradabad Circle, PWD Moradabad.
Executive Engineer,
Construction Division-1 PWD Moradabad
UPID: 173062 DATE 28/12/2021
WWW.UP.GOV.NIC.IN
For and on behalf of Governor of UP
Mail ID:- semoradabad14@yahoo.com

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
जौनपुर-गाजीपुर, वृत्त, लो०नि०वि०,
जौनपुर

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना (एस०बी०डी०)-
(ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट सूचना)
पत्रांक:- 5645/एस०ई०डि०/जौ०गा० वृत्त/2021 दिनांक: 23.12.2021
महामहोदय राज्यपाल, उत्तर प्रदेश की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्यो हेतु ऑन लाईन निविदाये <http://etender.up.nic.in> के माध्यम से मार्ग कार्य में लो०नि०वि० के पंजीकृत फर्म/डेकेटर से दिनांक 01.01.2022 में दिनांक 07.01.2022 तक दोपहर 12.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा की प्री-क्वालिफिकेशन/ टेक्निकल विड 07.01.2022 अपराह्न 3.30 बजे अथवा/तत्पश्चात के कार्यालय कक्ष में उपस्थित लो०नि०वि० के पंजीकृत फर्म/ डेकेटर के प्रतिनिधि के साथ अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा गठित समिति के सदस्यों द्वारा ऑन लाईन खोलो जायेगी टेक्निकल विड में क्वालीफाईड पाये गये डेकेटरों की फाइनलियल विड अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय कक्ष में खोलो जायेगी। कार्यालय बन्द होने अथवा छुट्टी होने की दशा में प्री-क्वालिफिकेशन/टेक्निकल विड एवं फाइनलियल विड उन्ही क्रम एवं समयानुसार अगले कार्य दिवस में खोलो जायेगी। कार्यो का विवरण निम्नवत् है:-

क्र०पी०/लॉट सं०	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की अनुमानित लागत (लाख रु. में)	घोरेर धनराशि (रु. लाख में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	निविदा प्रचलन का मूल्य वा जी०एच०टी० सहित	डेकेटर के पंजीकरण की श्रेणी
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

स्वीकृत की प्रत्याशा में

1	वाराणसी-गोरखपुर मार्ग (एन०एच०-29) के वैनैज किमी० 69.730 से 86.900 तक राईडिंग क्वालिटी के सुधार का कार्य ।	1131.00	22.62	6 माह	रु. 5590.00	ए
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निविदा से सम्बन्धित नियम / शर्तों तथा विवरण <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है।
> बिल ऑफ कन्ट्रिक्टि में लगाई गईं दो जी०एच०टी० को छोड़ने एवं लगाई गयी है।
> कोविड-19 के संक्रमण को रोकने के सभी उपाय अगताते हुए भी सार्वजनिक कार्यो सम्पादित किये जायेगे।
> निविदा ऑनलाईन दिनांक 01.01.2022 से दिनांक 07.01.2022 अपराह्न 12:00 बजे तक अपलोड की जा सकती है। उक्त निविदा की तकनीकी विड दिनांक 07.01.2022 को 3:30 बजे खोलो जाएगी तथा अर्ह निविदादाताओं की विशेष विड कार्यालय आदेशानुसार निर्धारित समय दिनांक एवं स्थान पर खोलो जायेगी।
> शासनदेश संख्या-1/2018-3070/78-2-2018 / 42आई०टी० / 2017 (22) दिनांक 03.01.2018 में निहित व्यवस्थानुसार निविदा की तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय विड खोलो जाने के उपरान्त निविदादाता द्वारा मूल अंतिमलेख व्यक्तित्व रूप से विभाजन / कार्यालय में प्रस्तुत किये जाते हैं। निविदादाता द्वारा मूल अंतिमलेख प्रस्तुत न किये जाने की दशा में शासनदेश में निहित प्राविधानों के अनुरूप कार्यवाही की जाएगी।
> निविदा से सम्बन्धित अधिक जानकारी केवें साईट <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है।

प्रमाणित किया जाता है कि निविदा में लगायी गयी सप्तम शर्तों / नियमों को अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा जांच कर ली गयी है,जो सही है।

आर.ओ. संख्या-173028
दिनांक-28/12/2021
www.upgov.nic.in

(शशिपाल बौद्ध)
अधीक्षणी अभियन्ता
प्रांतीय खण्ड, लो०नि०वि०
गाजीपुर

(संजय कुमार मोरें)
अधीक्षणी अभियन्ता
जौनपुर-गाजीपुर वृत्त, लो०नि०वि०
जौनपुर

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, NATIONAL HIGHWAYS PROJECTS
e-procurement notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

1. The Superintending Engineer, National Highway Circle, HP-PWD, Shahpur invites Bids on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh for construction of works detailed in the Table.

TABLE						
Sr. No.	Name of work	Name of Division	Approximate value of work (Rs)	Bid Security(Rs)	Cost of documents (Rs)	Period of completi on
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Improvement of Junction at Km 63/660 at Mehranpukur for road safety NH-503 in the State of Himachal Pradesh	Executive Engineer, NH Division, HP PWD, Hamirpur	1,13,20,780	2,26,416/-	12000/- each set	Twelve Months

2. Period of availability of Tender on-line/Date & time of Pre-bid meeting/date and time of on-line bid submission and Date & time of opening of Bids are as given below:-

Availability of Tender on-line for bidders		Date & Time of pre bid meeting		Last Date & Time for on-line Submission of Bids		Date & Time of Opening of tender Technical Bid		Financial Bid
From	To							
08-01-2022 11:00 AM	12-02-2022 5:00 PM		17-01-2016 3:00 PM	08-01-2022 11:05 AM to 12-02-2022 5:00 PM		14-02-2022 11:30 AM		Date to be announce

3 Bidding documents can be downloaded from the web site <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>. The document downloaded from the web site should not be tempered, and if any such tempering is detected before or after the opening of bids, the bidder shall be penalized and black listed.
Other terms and conditions shall remain same as given in the bid document.

Superintending Engineer,
National Highway Circle, HP-PWD, Shahpur.

5910/HP

उत्तर प्रदेश शासन
न्याय अनुभाग-8 (लेखा)
संख्या: ए-172 /सात-न्याय-8(लेखा)-21-24/28/91 टी०सी०
लखनऊ: दिनांक: 27 दिसम्बर, 2021
विज्ञप्ति

उ०प्र० राज्य लोक सेवा अधिकरण, इन्दिरा भवन, लखनऊ में रिक सदस्य (न्यायिक) के 03 पद एवं सदस्य (प्रशासकीय) के 04 पदों अर्थात कुल 07 पदों पर उ०प्र० लोक सेवा (अधिकरण) अधिनियम, 1976 (यथासंशोधित) में निर्धारित अवधि 02 वर्ष अथवा 62 वर्ष की आयु तक, जो भी पहले हो, नियुक्ति हेतु आवेदन-पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते है:-
2- अतः सदस्य (न्या०) के पद पर उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य लोक सेवा (अधिकरण) अधिनियम, 1976 (यथा संशोधित) की धारा-3 (5), धारा-3(8) एवं सदस्य (प्रशासकीय) पद पर उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य लोक सेवा (अधिकरण) अधिनियम-1976 यथा संशोधित की धारा-3 (6), धारा-3 (8) के अन्तर्गत अर्हता रखने वाले इच्छुक अभ्यर्थी रिक पदों हेतु दिनांक-13 जनवरी, 2022 तक नियत प्रारूप पर आवेदन कर सकते हैं।
3- "कोई व्यक्ति न्यायिक सदस्य के रूप में नियुक्ति के लिए अर्ह नहीं होगा जब तक कि उसने जिला न्यायाधीश या उसके समकक्ष कोई अन्य पद धारण न किया हो।"
4- "भारतीय प्रशासनिक सेवा का अधिकारी या रुपए 18400-22400 या उससे अधिक के वेतनमान में प्रांतीय सिविल सेवा (कार्यकारी शाखा) का कोई अधिकारी किसी प्रशासकीय सदस्य के रूप में नियुक्ति के लिए अर्ह होगा परन्तु यह कि उसे न्याय व्यवस्था का पर्याप्त अनुभव हो।"
5- आवेदन-पत्र का प्रारूप न्याय अनुभाग-8 (लेखा) के कार्यालय द्वारा नियत किया गया है, जिसे न्याय विभाग की वेबसाईट <http://law.up.nic.in/> से डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। नियत प्रारूप पर पूर्ण रूप से भरे हुए आवेदन-पत्र प्रमुख सचिव, न्याय के कार्यालय में दिनांक 13 जनवरी, 2022 सायं 5.00 बजे तक स्वीकार किये जायेंगे।

प्रमोद कुमार श्रीवास्तव-II
सदस्य (सचिव/संयोजक) सर्च कमेटी
प्रमुख सचिव, न्याय एवं विधि परामर्शी
उत्तर प्रदेश शासन।

उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य लोक सेवा अधिकरण लखनऊ में रिक्त होने वाले सदस्य (न्यायिक) के 03 पद एवं सदस्य (प्रशासकीय) के 04 पदों पर चवन/नियुक्ति हेतु आवेदन-पत्र का प्रारूप

पासपोर्ट साइज का नवीनतम फोटो

1. आवेदक का पूरा नाम

- हिन्दी में :
- अंग्रेजी में :

(बड़े अक्षरों में)

2. पिता/पति का नाम

:

3. जन्मतिथि

:

4. स्थायी पता:

:

5. अस्थायी/वर्तमान पता :

:

6. सम्पर्क सूत्र

- दूरभाष संख्या (एस.टी.डी. कोड सहित) :
- मोबाइल नं. :
- फैक्स नम्बर :
- ई-मेल :

7. पैन नम्बर

:

8. शैक्षिक योग्यता

:

9. (क) क्या आवेदक विवाहित है

:

(ख) यदि हाँ तो क्या आवेदक की एक या एक से अधिक पत्नियाँ जीवित हैं

:

(पुरुष आवेदकों के लिए)

अथवा

क्या आवेदक ने ऐसे पुरुष से विवाह किया है

:

जिसकी एक पत्नी पहले से ही जीवित है

:

(महिला आवेदकों के लिये)

10. राष्ट्रीयता

:

11. (क) वर्तमान/पूर्व धारित अन्य विवरण (धारित पद का नाम किस अवधि तक पद धारित किया गया है, का उल्लेख अवश्य हो)

:

(ख) न्यायिक/प्रशासनिक अनुभव, यदि कोई हो (भारत सरकार राज्य सरकार के अधीन यदि कोई सेवा की गयी हो तो जिस पद पर सेवा की गयी हो, उसका पदनाम तथा अवधि का उल्लेख अवश्य किया जाय)

:

- अन्य विशिष्ट उपलब्धियाँ, यदि कोई हो :

:

12. आवेदक अपने बारे में निम्न सूचनाएँ/विवरण करेंगे:-

- शासकीय/अर्द्धशासकीय सेवा में रहने की स्थिति में यदि सेवाकाल के दौरान कोई विभागीय जाँच जिसमें आरोप-पत्र दिया गया हो, तो ऐसी विभागीय जाँच/कार्यवाही का विवरण दिया जाय, जिसमें आरोप-पत्र तथा विभागीय जाँच का अन्तिम परिणाम अवश्य अंकित किया जाय।

:

- आपराधिक प्रकरण में यदि प्रथम सूचना रिपोर्ट पंजीकृत की गयी हो ऐसे आपराधिक प्रकरण के सम्बन्ध में विवरण दिया जाए, जिसमें दर्ज की गयी प्रथम सूचना रिपोर्ट की गयी प्रथम सूचना रिपोर्ट थाने का नाम, जन्मपद का नाम तथा जिन धाराओं में प्रथम सूचना रिपोर्ट दर्ज की गयी है, का विवरण दिया जाय। यदि दर्ज की गयी प्रथम सूचना रिपोर्ट के आधार पर न्यायालय में आरोप-पत्र प्रस्तुत किया गया हो तो न्यायालय का नाम, न्यायालय द्वारा आरोप-पत्र का संज्ञान लेने की तिथि, वाद संख्या तथा न्यायालय द्वारा इस सम्बन्ध में प्रसारित अद्यतन आदेश का उल्लेख किया जाय:-

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- शासकीय/अर्द्धशासकीय सेवा या अन्य स्थिति में यदि कोई सर्वतकाल जाँच प्रारम्भ की गयी हो या प्रचलित हो, तो उसका विवरण दिया जाय :

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13. परिवार के सदस्यों, जिसमें माता-पिता, पति-पत्नी, बच्चे शामिल होंगे, के विरुद्ध भी यदि कोई आपराधिक वाद पंजीकृत हो, तो उसका विवरण प्रस्तर-12 (ख) के अनुसार दिया जाय।

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14. विगत 10 वर्षों में जिन-जिन स्थानों पर एक वर्ष से अधिक अवधि तक प्रवास किया गया हो, ऐसे स्थानों पर प्रवास की अवधि तथा निवास का विवरण दिया जाय:-

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नोट: यदि आवेदक भारत सरकार/राज्य सरकार या अन्य किसी शासकीय/अर्द्धशासकीय संस्था में कार्यरत है तो सक्षम प्राधिकारी से प्राप्त अनापत्ति प्रमाण-पत्र आवेदन-पत्र के साथ संलग्न किया जाय।

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घोषणा-पत्र

मैं आत्मज/आत्मजा/पत्नी श्री इस बात की घोषणा करता/करती हूँ कि मुझे कभी किसी न्यायालय द्वारा किसी अपराध के लिए गिरफ्तार, अभियोजित (Prosecuted) निरुद्ध (Kept in Detention) आबद्ध (Bound) दण्डित (Convicted) अथवा अर्धदण्डित (Fined) नहीं किया गया है। मेरे विरुद्ध किसी भी न्यायालय में कोई वाद घोषित नहीं है।

इस आवेदन-पत्र में उल्लिखित विवरण व तथ्य मेरे ज्ञान एवं विश्वास के अनुसार सत्य व पूर्ण हैं। कोई तथ्य असत्य नहीं है और न ही किसी तथ्य को छुपाया गया है। यदि इसमें कोई तथ्य कालान्तर में असत्य पाया जाये अथवा छुपाया गया पाया जाये अथवा अधूरा पाया जाये, तो मेरा अभ्यर्थन/नियुक्ति निरस्त कर दी जाय।

स्थान :

दिनांक :

आवेदक के हस्ताक्षर :
नाम :
(प्रमोद कुमार श्रीवास्तव-II)
प्रमुख सचिव, न्याय विभाग
उत्तर प्रदेश शासन।

New Delhi

The Pandemic year locked them in quarantines but athletes around the world found resilience to call time on people-pleasing and discovered their moral voice to say NO. Gymnast Simone Biles, tennis star Naomi Osaka and Virat Kohli spoke their minds and defied convention. The year also saw athletes discover the full potential of social media - not just the big names but even the hitherto unknowns from small towns became stars in their own right. There were also some breakthrough performances that will stand the test of time. The hockey captain who reawakened a country's nostalgic pride, a Mumbai-born New Zealand cricketer returned to his roots to create history, a badminton star who finally learnt how to marry art with commerce, and the man who launched his gold-plated javelin to quench a nation's thirst.

SHUNNED AS a distraction or relegated to the 'folded hands' emoji for long, social media has grown into an organic slice of an athlete's development. The accounts — first created to follow their role models and colleagues, later used to post training videos and gym photos — are now the tool to gain followers and secure brand partnerships, thus completing a user-content creator-influencer trajectory.

The rules of engagement have changed. Lazy selfies or uninspired clips just don't cut it anymore. The feeds are cleverly curated and managed, the endorsed brands and products vetted. Weekly reports of likes, views and follower counts are forwarded. This new breed of athlete-influencers has an eye on numbers both on and off the field.

Harmilan Bains, the 1,500m national record holder with 106k followers on Instagram and at least half a dozen brand partnerships, is one of the first athletes to realise it. "We have a life beyond sports. When I am on the ground I give it my 100 per cent but I leave it behind when I come home. I know how short a sportsperson's career is. We have to explore new avenues and I want to expand my social media presence further after I quit athletics," says the 23-year-old who broke the 1500m national mark in September.

Niharika Vashisht, a 26-year-old long and triple jumper who is yet to win a senior international medal, has earned several brand endorsements and a television commercial opposite Bollywood megastar Akshay Kumar, all thanks to her Instagram popularity.

Niharika and Harmilan aren't the only ones cashing in. Several fledglings are becoming sports content creators. Junior boxer Simran Verma, who has partnered with several brands, feels every athlete should have a well-maintained social media platform. For Simran, 17, social media isn't just a medium to build her brand but also a tool to bring out social change.

"I get a lot of messages from young girls like me who want to take up sports but their families are hesitant and I want to change that. There have been instances where girls have shown their parents my Instagram profile, where I regularly post-training clips, to allow them to take up sports. I use it as a tool for empowerment," says the Mumbai boxer.

Among the rapidly-growing number of social media platforms, Instagram seems to be the most popular among athletes. "Instagram is a visual medium and sports is all about visuals. You can easily record, edit videos and share videos on Instagram. An athlete would rather post a clip or photo than write about what they are doing," explains Priyanka Periera, founder of social media agency 'Phantom Words'.

The reach is massive. For instance, Harmilan's most-watched Reel (short video clip), a training clip with a few visual effects, has clocked a whopping 8.9m views and has been liked by 716k people. But such reach cannot be achieved overnight, nor is there a fixed formula. "Some people learn it the hard way. It takes them years to develop

YEARENDER 2021

1.5k on track, 100k on Insta

Runner Harmilan is one of the many athlete-influencers using social media to gain followers and secure endorsements. **Andrew Amsan** meets those with eye on numbers, both on and off the field



content but they get left behind in the race. Some people just go trial and error way and figure out what is working for them," says Priyanka, who has previously managed cricketer Rishabh Pant's Instagram profile.

For Niharika figuring out what works for her was easier as she had sports consultant Adithya Rai to guide her. Rai, a former athlete,

has been studying Instagram trends since 2016 and always believed it was an untapped market for Olympic sportspersons. When Aditya approached Niharika she had just 1,500 followers but in a span of a couple of years, she has crossed the 100k mark, with budding athletes being a major chunk of the followers.

"I saw potential in her. I just told her this is

social media and 'jo dikhta hai, woh bikta hai' ('what is seen is sold'). Your Insta following is not entirely dependent on your performance on the ground. This is the world of content creation and it is all about presentation. I guided Niharika on how to record clips and what to post and it worked for her," says Adithya, who has helped Harmilan and Asian Games gold

medallist triple jumper Arpinder Singh with their Insta profiles earlier.

Harmilan agrees that one doesn't need to have big medals under their belt to become an Instagram star. "There are several athletes who haven't performed that well on the field but they are still Instagram influencers. There are some athletes who post

"I once endorsed a product and then I saw a lot of negative reviews on it. I declined to work with them again. Now I am very careful of which brands I work with."

HARMILAN BAINS, 1500M NATIONAL RECORD HOLDER

only training videos that might help in army selection," she says.

The aforementioned athletes unanimously agree that the introduction of 'Reels', a feature that allows users to post short clips, has boosted their profiles on Instagram. Three of Harmilan's 'Reels' have crossed the million views mark. Her profile got a massive boost post her record-breaking run in August.

"I had around 40 thousand followers but after I broke the national record it just went crazy. I went from 40 to 100k in no time," says Harmilan.

Follow count has direct implications on the potential monetary benefits as contracts are signed on the basis of numbers. Athletes have to send weekly reports, which contain details like the number of views, likes, shares, comments and time engaged to the brands on their paid posts.

"If we have more views than anticipated we can negotiate better rates for the next post," says Adithya, who handles the paperwork for Niharika.

Both Harmilan and Niharika are very conscious about the brands they represent and have turned down multiple offers that didn't suit their image, or if the products turned out to be substandard. Niharika claims to have turned down at least 20 paid promotion offers in the last couple of years.

"I once endorsed a product and then I saw a lot of negative reviews on it. I declined to work with them again. Now I am very careful of which brands I work with," says Harmilan, who is now managed by Anglian Medal Hunt.

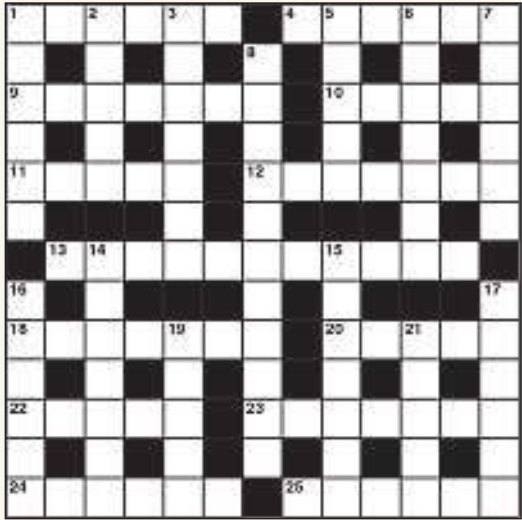
For the brands to even knock at the athletes' doors, they need to build a sizeable following. The Instagram profiles mentioned in the story seemingly follow a set pattern: training clips with catchy music, pictures in their best non-sporting attires and clips from competitions.

"I am very particular about what I post. I want my profile to look really good so I don't post anything randomly. My followers consider me a style icon so I dress up nicely and take pictures. Only high definition pictures so having a good phone is essential," says Harmilan.

There are several reasons why brands are reaching out to young athletes for promotion, with cost-effectiveness being the most significant.

"There are zillions of people on Instagram and that is the easiest way to reach out. Asking an athlete to just pose with their product as opposed to creating a full advertisement is way more economical for the brand," says Priyanka.

CROSSWORD 4625



- ACROSS**
- 1 Pass around please (6)
 - 4 A pinned on decoration (6)
 - 9 Port bar is built in time (7)
 - 10 Crunchy crackers (5)
 - 11 Hastily make and hoist a flag (3,2)
 - 12 Power to reorganise a helpful shipping line? (7)
 - 13 Dead tired? (3,6)
 - 18 International insurance show (7)
 - 20 Treated ill (5)
 - 22 A book-end (5)
 - 23 No women around - it's heavenly (3,4)
 - 24 Ambush a layabout in the street (6)
 - 25 Creatures that increase - but don't multiply? (6)
- DOWN**
- 1 Advise caution? (6)
 - 2 He breaks an oar (5)
 - 3 Sign of a poisonous insect (7)
 - 5 A way to make newer (5)
 - 6 Letters being sent to a distant branch (7)
 - 7 Lighter study for the tomboy (6)
 - 8 Sticking up for a potato insect? (11)
 - 14 Not shrewd? That's strange (7)
 - 15 Given an income but at the finish was in debt (7)
 - 16 Not many people with a dog will keep one indoors (6)
 - 17 A Spaniard is a Greek (6)
 - 19 She may be a flaming redhead (5)
 - 21 Opportunity for activity by cops out East (5)

Solutions Crossword 4624: Across: 1 Observe, 5 Raced, 8 Train of events, 9 Drill, 10 Evening, 11 Denude, 12 Impels, 15 Stand up, 17 Shame, 19 Interrogative, 20 Gored, 21 Bygones. Down: 1 Opted, 2 Stationmaster, 3 Rankled, 4 Effel, 5 Revue, 6 Consideration, 7 Dosages, 11 Dashing, 13 Mustang, 14 Aplomb, 16 Dared, 18 Evens.

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.

Through a painting we can see the _____ - Hans Hoffman (5,5)



ANSWER: MOWER, CELLO, DETACH, MINNOW

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



Difficulty Level 1s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 4699



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
You should by now see that recent events have had implications regarding the extent to which you value your worth and talents as well as pointing to different financial options. You may be inclined to make a complete break with those past habits that you have outgrown.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
At last your head should be ruling your heart, and should continue to do so if you don't want personal disputes to spill over into your business affairs. Emotional entanglements have a way of draining your resources, but don't let your health suffer too.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Try and see the advantages of a proposed arrangement, all the more so if you are inclined to dismiss the person or people involved as weak or incompetent. In fact, it's time to listen to wise counsel. And, when you have done that, you will be much better prepared to get your way.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
The good news regarding your work is that Mars, which has been responsible for various underlying conflicts, is no longer as important as it once was. Lose no time in discussing problems with your colleagues. And don't do anything precipitate in the financial field.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
Why ignore the fact that you have skills and talents as creative as anyone you know? This is no time to allow daily trivia to take up so much effort that you fail to develop your fascinating qualities. If work and hum-drum chores build up, I am afraid you'll just have to put up with it.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
Don't complain too strenuously about the lack of support you've received from people who are supposed to be on your side. They can't very well help you if you haven't told them what you're doing. If your work commitments accumulate, you're liable to do something rash, but keep an eye on the consequences.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
The situation at the moment seems to be improving steadily, although you are justified in being over-cautious and concerned, fearful that certain difficulties might return to haunt you. On the other hand, I can't see anyone getting the better of you.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
Other people may be hoping that they'll be the beneficiaries of whatever success or good luck you have created for yourself. Yet there really is no reason why you should allow yourself to be blackmailed. It's just that when you're not sure what partners are up to, you imagine the worst. Relax.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)
Give careful consideration to a proposition or offer put to you now, because the moment you decide to get involved in a new scheme, a series of obstacles will be removed, opening the way to other possibilities. And that just has to be good news, hasn't it?

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
Adverse or challenging planetary aspects have been associated with recent feelings of insecurity, yet now that astrological alignments are changing so fast, it's important to let go of past fears and worries. And, as it happens, you do have most of the best ideas at the moment.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
This is a testing time of the year for you although, in a sense, opportunities for change and improvement have never been as powerful as now. You must have faith in your ability to bring off a successful professional coup. You should also be convinced that you can win someone's heart.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
Decisive aspects during the next couple of weeks urge you to reach final decisions that will affect your work for years to come. In the meantime, listen to the words of wisdom that flow from those more experienced than you. After all, it is never too late to learn.

20 SPORT

BRIEFLY

Arjun Tendulkar in Mumbai Ranji squad

Mumbai: Legendary batsman Sachin Tendulkar's son Arjun Tendulkar has been included in the Ranji Trophy squad for Mumbai Ranji Trophy. The Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) senior selection committee, led by former India pacer Salil Ankola, picked a 20-member squad for the first two Ranji Trophy games against Maharashtra and Delhi to be played from January 13 in Kolkata. "Arjun (Tendulkar) has been bowling well, unfortunately, he was injured in between but he did well in whatever games he played thereafter. We have picked a team looking at the future of Mumbai cricket. Unfortunately Tushar Deshpande, our seamer, is injured but it's a promising team. It's a mixed team where we have picked players from under-19 and also who have been part of the Mumbai team for a few years." Ankola told *The Indian Express*.

SQUAD: Prithvi Shaw (Captain), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Aakrshith Gome, Arman Jaffer, Sarfaraz Khan, Sachin Yadav, Aditya Tare (W.K.), Hardik Tamore (W.K.), Shivam Dube, Aman Khan, Shams Mulani, Tanush Kotian, Prashant Solanki, Shashank Attarde, Dhaval Kulkarni, Mohit Awasthi, Prince Badiani, Siddharth Raut, Roystan Dias, Arjun Tendulkar

DEVENDRA PANDEY

Real quartet, Barca trio test positive

Madrid: Real Madrid's Thibaut Courtois, Federico Valverde, Eduardo Camavinga and Vinicius Jr have tested positive for COVID-19, the club said in a statement on Wednesday. Barcelona's Ousmane Dembele, Samuel Umtiti and Gavi are set to miss Sunday's trip to Real Mallorca after testing positive, the LaLiga club said on Wednesday. The Catalans have been hit by a number of cases in their squad, with Clement Lenglet, Dani Alves, Jordi Alba and Alejandro Balde also returning positive tests this week.

REUTERS

I-League suspended for at least a week

Kolkata: I-League was on Wednesday suspended for at least a week after Covid-19 breached its bio-bubble as eight players and three officials have tested positive for the dreaded virus. Five players and three team officials from Real Kashmir FC, one player each from Mohammedan Sporting, debutants Sreenidi Deccan FC and Aizawl FC returned positive in the tests conducted on Tuesday.

Humpy finishes 6th in Rapid title defence

Warsaw: Defending champion Koneru Humpy failed to live up to her billing, finishing sixth with 7.5 points in the women's section of the FIDE World Rapid Chess Championship 2021. In the open event, young Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh scored nine points to finish a creditable ninth, just half a point behind champion Nodirbek Abdusattorov (9.5).

PTI

If Shami doesn't get you, Bumrah will

Only Dean Elgar and iffy weather forecast stands between India and their attempt to breach South Africa's fortress at Centurion

SANDIP G
DECEMBER 29

A COMPELLING case could be made of the phalanx of India's bowlers as the most lethal in the world now. The year began with them—even without Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Shami—out-bowling their Australian counterparts Down Under, before they put to shade England's group, and by the end of this year, they out-bowled South Africa's pace pack at their fortress. If their coming of age have been unfolding in the last few years, this year has been their tour de force, when they made a re-sounding statement that, in their current form, they are the most dangerous in the world.

The natural culmination is series wins abroad. Having conquered Australia, twice in their last two expeditions, snatched a 2-1 lead in England, they are on the edge of wrapping up the first of the three Tests against South at Centurion. Defending 305, South Africa are already 94/4, their only hope of salvaging something from the match resting on the shoulders of captain Dean Elgar and rain and thunderstorm, which is forecast on the fifth day.

But on day four, the Indian seamers stole all the thunder with thunderous spells, full of sound and fury. But for Elgar's stoic resistance and copious fortune, the bowlers would have been enjoying a well-earned rest in their hotel-room. It was a luckless day for them—the devious cracks slumbered as the day progressed, an effect perhaps of the heavy roller South Africa used, they beat the batsmen on numerous instances, edges fell short of fielders or eluded—yet they plugged on relentlessly.

Relentless

It was their relentlessness—as much as their other vaunted skills and gifts—that sparked brighter than the bright sun. Bumrah embodied that in the day-ending spell of precision and aggression. It's usually the time fast bowlers are fatigued and forlorn, when cramps creep into their fiery souls. But Bumrah galloped in with the fresh legs of a thoroughbred and produced a furious two-wicket spell that restored India's ascendancy in the match.

The resilient Rassie van der Dussen was his first wicket, which came out of nowhere and emblazoned Bumrah's match-altering knack. He and Elgar had hung around for 22 overs and seemed to take the hosts to stumps without further damage. But then came a bolter from nowhere, one that, in the context of the game, could be compared to the Shaun Marsh curve-ball at MCG or the wicked half-volley (yes, he can even paint a half-volley wicked) that burst through Ollie Pope's defence and morale at Oval. From length, the Dussen ball spat and slithered back to blast the off-stump. So exaggerated was the movement that it stupefied him, who had shouldered arms thinking it would travel past the off-stump. Bumrah might have felt sorry for Dussen's innocence.

His uncanny knack to seize moments and open up games is a rare gift his captain Virat Kohli could always lean on. Later, he unfurled a devilish yorker on the last over of the day that would have uprooted the stumps of a better batsman than Keshav Maharaj, a nightwatchman albeit one with a Test hundred to his name. And even on a luckless day, he could find his scrap of fortune.

The trouble for South Africa, as it had been for Australia and England this year, is that it's not a matter of staving off Bumrah alone. If Bumrah is neutered, there is Mohammed Shami, if Shami endures a bad spell, there is Mohammed Siraj. If all three have a collective off-day, which happens rarely, there is Shardul Thakur and a sparsely-used off-spinner who

has a mere 427 wickets to his credit.

The five-wicket-hero in the first innings, Shami, was woefully unfortunate to not have added another scalp to his bounty after he prised out Aiden Markram. He had Elgar hopping, stabbing and prodding uncertainly, but a wicket eluded. But just when Elgar and Keegan Petersen somehow survived a torrid examination of their technique and mental strength, strode in Siraj, who calls upon a different set of challenges. Of the front-line trio, he is the most comfortable with the fuller length, harnessing the gift to swing the ball both ways.

Enthralling duel

Their duel was enthralling. The spy Indian seamer probed the fifth-stump line, alternating between good and full length, to woo an edge. But the South African, with a compact technique, besides a sparkling clarity of mind not only repelled difficult balls but also punished whenever the bowlers erred on the fuller side. He pulled out smooth drives and languorous punches off the back-foot.

But Siraj was no quitter—he bowled so spiritedly despite luck not rewarding his labour. He relentlessly strove for the one ball that could sow doubts in Petersen's mind. The swerving nip-backer from the fourth stump. He was getting the shape and angle, but not any alarming late movement. Finally, he conjured one and struck him on the knee-roll, which though the umpire deemed was not out, and the DRS left it as umpire's call, much to the indignation of Siraj and the fielders. But Siraj no doubt had delivered a psychological blow, and it was inevitable that Petersen poked at an away-swing, now that he was suspicious of the nip-backer and thus no longer assured of leaving the ball. He fell for the bluff, even though he could have played the ball better, but instead ended up pushing at the ball from the crease. It was not a ball propelled not with speed and movement, but with some indefinable extra ingredient. Extra heat, extra extra will. Like Bumrah, he has the ability to make things happen when nothing seems to happen.

And more worryingly for batsmen, their best could yet to be. Bumrah has just completed 25 Tests, Siraj is just a year into Test cricket, and Shami has just about cracked the consistency code. They could conspire a fast-bowling dynasty like the West Indies pace-pack of the yore. And Elgar and Co have a mountain to climb against India's redoubtable group of pacers, if they are to guard fortress Centurion.

SCOREBOARD

India 1st Innings: 327
South Africa 1st Innings: 197
India 2nd Innings: 174 (0/n 16/1)
Rahul c Elgar b Ngidi 23, Agarwal c de Kock b Jansen 4, Thakur c Mulder b Rabada 10, Pujara c de Kock b Ngidi 16, Kohli c de Kock b Jansen 18, Rahane c van der Dussen b Jansen 20, Pant c Ngidi b Rabada 34, Ashwin c Petersen b Rabada 14, Shami c Mulder b Rabada 1, Bumrah not out 7, Siraj b Jansen 0
Extras: (b 17, lb 4, nb 6) 27
Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-34, 3-54, 4-79, 5-109, 6-111, 7-146, 8-166, 9-169, 10-174
Bowling: Rabada 17-4-42-4, Ngidi 10-2-31-2, Jansen 13-3-4-55-4, Mulder 10-4-25-0
South Africa 2nd Innings: 94/4
Markram b Shami 1, Elgar batting 52, Petersen c Pant b Siraj 17, van der Dussen b Bumrah 11, Maharaj b Bumrah 8
Extras: (lb 1, nb 4) 5
Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-34, 3-74, 4-94
Bowling: Bumrah 11.5-2-22-2, Shami 9-2-29-1, Siraj 11-4-25-1, Thakur 5-0-11-0, Ashwin 4-1-6-0
South Africa need 211 runs
(Live: Day 5 from 1:30pm on Star Sports and Hotstar)



Mohammed Shami, who ran through South Africa with 5-44 in the first innings, removed Aiden Markram in the second over. AP

Going, going, gone

India's experienced middle-order trio of Cheteshwar Pujara, Virat Kohli, and Ajinkya Rahane hasn't scored big runs for a couple of years now and ended 2021 with a top score of 48 across their six knocks in the Centurion Test. Their dismissals in the second innings on Wednesday were a mix of the disappointingly familiar and the shockingly uncharacteristic.

KOHLI: TEN IN TEN

The India Test captain has sharpened the cover drive into a weapon of remorseless accumulation over the years. He also likes to reach out and feel deliveries in the channel, an area where convention dictates letting them pass. There have been calls for him to avoid the drive, but it is also the stroke that has brought him so many runs through his career, and runs are what he dearly needs at the moment. In any case, nicking off has clearly become an issue, now that he has fallen edging to either keeper or slip in ten successive overseas innings. India's lead had just gone past 200 when Kohli departed for 18, edging a big drive behind off debutant Marco Jansen. He'd fallen on the big drive in the first innings too. Lungi Ngidi's late away swing had done him in then; the left-arm's angle did the trick in the second innings.

When he is cover-driving well, he leans across to get as close to the ball as possible, which allows him to work his top hand into the shot. But when he is away from the ball, the bottom-hand takes over completely as he reaches out and it upsets the apple cart.

PUJARA: SOFT AND SOFTER

You may or may not agree with his methods, but there is no doubting that if there is a batsman who makes bowlers earn his wicket, it is Pujara. You don't associate soft dismissals with Pujara, especially if he's got his eye in. But



when it's not going your way, it really isn't. The golden duck in the first innings was only Pujara's second in 93 Tests. There was nothing really alarming about Lungi Ngidi's delivery – it moved in slightly after pitching – but Pujara managed to lob a bat-pad catch to short leg. The second-innings dismissal happens to unfortunate batsmen all the time. A nothing delivery angled down the leg side; how many times would Pujara have whipped those through midwicket or square leg? Not on Wednesday. He merely ticked it on its way into

the keeper's gloves.

He did have his luck earlier though when he almost scooped an on drive straight to mid-on where Kagiso Rabada dropped it.

RAHANE: SHORT AND ABORT

Ajinkya Rahane has had his problems with the short ball, most notably in New Zealand in 2020 and against the same opponents in the World Test Championship final this year. The latter one was somewhat similar to what happened in Centurion in the second innings. In Southampton, Rahane had seen square leg come in right after an awkward, airy pull. He'd played well until then for 49. Perhaps the fifty was on his mind, or perhaps the fielder; off the next ball, short again, Rahane played a weak, half-hearted pull straight into square leg's hands. On Wednesday, he'd raced to 20 off 22 with three fours and a six — a confident pull over fine leg off Jansen. With Rahane these days though, the rare passage of rhythm can just vanish. Soon he dragged a Jansen lifter from outside off without any conviction. Fine leg and deep square leg were in place; the ball found the latter.

These days, not just in this knock where the approach was understandable to an extent on a tough pitch, he seems to almost set himself for just a frenetic cameo. There is an apparent lack of trust in the defensive part of the game.

ABHISHEK PUROHIT

What are the chances of Stokes replacing Root as Test captain?

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
DECEMBER 29

ENGLAND LOST the Ashes in 12 days, after the team served their quarantine in Gold Coast for 14 days. 68 all out in Melbourne has added to the insult, resulting in an expected overflow of criticism. With the England Test team in crisis, those walking the tightrope are captain Joe Root, head coach Chris Silverwood and the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) chief executive Tom Harrison.

What has contributed to England's decline as a Test team?

Poor batting. For far too long, England's Test batting has been a one-man show, Root or bust. The captain has scored 1,708 runs in 15 Tests in 2021, including six hundreds. Rory Burns is the second-highest scorer with 530 runs from 10 Tests. A rewind to the Lord's Test against India earlier this year encapsulates England's plight. Root had scored 180 not out in the first innings and yet, his team lost by 151 runs. England have 54 Test ducks this calendar year.

Is there dressing-room unrest?

According to reports, the England dressing-room wasn't a good place to be in after the pink-ball Test in Adelaide. There was reportedly a spill-over from Root's post-match comment: "I don't think we bowled the right

lengths. If we're being brutally honest, we needed to bowl fuller." Ben Stokes, Root's deputy, spoke about an honest conversation after the second Test. And now, according to a *Daily Mail* report, split loyalties have emerged in the dressing-room, with players backing Root to stay as captain but seemingly have lost faith in Silverwood. Ashley Giles, the team's managing director, is due to arrive in Sydney in a few days to take stock of the situation.

What are the chances of Stokes replacing Root as Test captain?

Geoffrey Boycott thinks Root should go, but the call for a change is mainly coming from former Australia cricketers, apparently a common Aussie tactic of targeting the rival captain during the Ashes. Then again, on the fourth day of the second Test, when Root was hit on the box at the nets before the start of play and Stokes led for a while, England looked tactically a lot smarter. Speaking on Triple M Cricket, former Australia wicket-keeper Brad Haddin said as much: "What they did really well tactically was the fourth morning. Who was off? Joe Root."

Stokes has led England before in Root's absence. But he had his mental health struggles, forcing him into a break. Also, his world-class ability notwithstanding, the allrounder hasn't done much yet in the ongoing Ashes to become a shoo-in. Just 101 runs and four wickets in three Tests have been underwhelming for a player of Stokes' skill-set.



The call for Ben Stokes to replace Joe Root is mainly coming from former Australia cricketers, apparently a common Aussie tactic of targeting the rival captain. AP

What about Silverwood?

The ECB gave unprecedented power to Silverwood, when it abolished its selection panel and handed sole authority to the head coach. Results suggest that the restructuring hasn't augured well. Following the Ashes debacle, Silverwood's position appears to be the most vulnerable. Former England players

have been hitting out at him. On Sky Sports Cricket Podcast, ex-England batsman Rob Key called the head coach "out of his depth". Another former England opener Nick Compton, too, has called for a change, while mentioning that Giles is part of the problem as well.

Some former England cricketers want

Gary Kirsten as Silverwood's replacement. India became the ICC's top-ranked Test team under the South African's watch and also won the 2011 World Cup. In a Twitter post, an England fan voted for Ravi Shastri.

Does English cricket need a structural reset?

A few months ago, during an Idea Exchange with The Indian Express, former West Indies fast bowler Michael Holding, also a long-standing Sky Sports commentator who retired this year, described the ECB's backing for red-ball cricket as "lip service". The reality is that during peak summer, multi-day County matches are no longer the flavour of English domestic cricket. White-ball tournaments have taken precedence. Then, there's The Hundred, the ECB's potential cash cow, which aims to woo fans who have just a passing interest in the game. Dawid Malan returning to the Test fold during the home series against India, on the heels of just one red-ball innings for Yorkshire this year, highlighted the ECB's botched-up priorities.

"The (first-class) County Championship has been marginalised to the fringes of the season for the convenience of playing more limited-overs cricket. The ability to produce a solid defence has given way to the desire to hit ramps, scoops and towering sixes ... The message from the authorities is the

shortest formats are the only interesting or exciting versions of cricket," former England fast bowler Jonathan Agnew wrote in a BBC column.

Is Harrison facing revolt?

Back in November, The Guardian reported that the ECB chief executive was facing the prospect of a County rebellion, as anger grew over the parent body's handling of the Yorkshire racism scandal. Now, there's a school of thought that Harrison would be under even more pressure following the Test team's Ashes implosion.

Does English cricket need a radical overhaul?

Some radical suggestions have been put forward already, one of them being to send England players to play the Ranji Trophy. The Indian cricket's national championship does allow teams to sign up overseas players, and cricketers from England and the West Indies have played in the Ranji Trophy in the past. Former England women's team cricketer Isa Guha believes it would be a good idea. "Have been thinking – with the likes of Marnus Labuschagne, Ashwin Ravichandran & Cheteshwar Pujara honing their skills in different conditions would it not be worth cricketers spending time playing Shield & Ranji Trophy? Lions/A tours are good but also protective," she tweeted.

