



# Drishti IAS : Karol Bagh

# General Studies

(Prelims & Mains Foundation)

Batch begins with orientation class by  
**Dr. Vikas Divyakirti**

# 27<sup>th</sup> September

## 6:30 PM

### Key Features of the Course

- Team of best teachers led by Dr. Vikas Divyakirti
- 400+ classes of 1000+ hours
- Coverage of complete syllabus from basic to advanced level
- Proper emphasis on answer writing practice
- Hybrid Format : facility to revise offline classes on Drishti Learning App
- Regular Prelims and Mains class tests
- Complete Study Material (Notes, booklets and Magazines)
- Academic Support Team and a dedicated Batch Coordinator.

21, Pusa Road,  
opposite Metro Pillar Number 98,  
Block 8, WEA, Karol Bagh, Delhi, 110005

8010440440  
01143065089







**Rs 50,000 TO NEXT OF KIN;  
COVERS FUTURE VICTIMS**

## Covid deaths: Centre okays ex-gratia, state funds to cover it

Centre cites financial prudence; Kerala, Rajasthan minister say can't pass buck

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

THE NATIONAL Disaster Management (NDMA) has recommended an ex-gratia amount of Rs 50,000 for loss of life due to Covid-19 — an amount that will be provided by states from the State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF) and distributed by the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) or the district administrations.

In guidelines brought out to enable this, the Authority said that the payment, to be paid to the next of kin of the deceased, shall be subject to the cause of death being certified as Covid-19 as per guidelines brought out by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on September 3.

**EXPLAINED**  
**E** Definition holds key

WHILE OFFICIAL figures peg the Covid death count at 4,45,768, claims for compensation will depend on what constitutes a 'Covid death'. On September 3, the Centre had laid down guidelines specifying under what conditions official documents can be issued with 'Death due to Covid-19' as cause of death.

The payments, NDMA added, "will continue to be provided for deaths that may occur in the future phases of the Covid-19"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

**INSIDE****IDFC SHAREHOLDERS  
REJECT VINOD RAI****KERALA: DATA SHOW  
NO LOVE, DRUG JIHAD****ZEE ENTERTAINMENT,  
SONY MERGER** **PAGE 17****WOMEN IN NDA: SC  
WON'T DEFER** **P 9, 10**PM Modi leaving for US trip Wednesday. At a Covid Summit, presses for nations to mutually recognise certificates. **PTI P 10**

## UK updates, Covishield okay, not jab certificate; govt says not told reason

**SHUBHAJIT ROY &  
KAUNAIN SHERIFF M**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

A DAY after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar raised the issue of non-recognition of Covishield with newly appointed British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss, the UK updated its travel guidance, clarifying that the formulations of Covishield qualify it as an "approved" vaccine but not the Covid-19 certificates issued by India.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

**BUSINESS AS USUAL**

By UNNY



## A father's search of 14 months ends, identifies body of a jawan in Kulgam

**NAVEED IQBAL**  
SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 22

AFTER MORE than 14 months of looking for the remains of his son, on Wednesday, Manzoor Ahmad Wagay received a call from a relative in a nearby village. "They said a body covered in tarpaulin has been found in

Shakir Manzoor disappeared in August 2020. **Express**

## Air quality: New WHO norms, now almost entire India polluted

**ANURADHA  
MASCARENHAS &  
ESHA ROY**  
PUNE, NEW DELHI,  
SEPTEMBER 22

THE WORLD Health Organisation (WHO) on Wednesday released stringent air quality guidelines, lowering the recommended levels of pollutants that can be considered safe for human health.

While a PM2.5 concentration of 25 micrograms per cubic metre in a 24-hour period was considered safe earlier, the WHO has now said that a concentration of over 15 micrograms is not safe.

The recommended levels of six most common air pollutants — PM2.5, PM10, ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, and carbon monoxide — have all been revised downwards from the existing norms that have been in place since 2005.

PM2.5 and PM10 refer to particulate matters of sizes 2.5 microns or less, and 10 microns and less, respectively (micron is one

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## ₹80-cr deal for JD(U) leader's family, ex-Minister's nephew in long list of VIP contractors

**SANTOSH SINGH**  
MADHUBANI, ARARIA,  
SAMASTIPUR, SHEIKHPURA,  
SEPTEMBER 22

THERE'S NOTHING wrong in doing business. This was the response of Deputy Chief Minister and BJP leader



Tarkishore Prasad when he was asked about the Rs 53-crore Har Ghar Nal Kajal projects which, as *The Indian Express* investigation has found, were awarded to his daughter-in-law and two firms, one linked to his brother-in-law and the other to three aides. Prasad's is the most high-profile name on a list.

**JD(U)'s Anil Singh (top); Vinod Narayan Jha**

That shows how long is the shadow of political patronage in the award of contracts under Bihar's flagship scheme to take drinking water to the doorstep.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Fadle Chem is owned by family members of JD(U) ex-state secretary Anil Singh. **Santosh Singh**

## Taken serious note, will probe: Bihar Govt; Opp targets Deputy CM

**SANTOSH SINGH**  
PATNA, SEPTEMBER 22

IN THE wake of *The Indian Express* report that contracts worth at least Rs 53 crore were awarded under Bihar's Har Ghar Nal Kajal drinking water scheme to family members and aides of Deputy Chief Minister Tarkishore Prasad, the state government said it will probe the "process of bidding and tendering if there are specific complaints".

**Dy CM Tarkishore Prasad**

Late Wednesday, Prasad took part in a meeting of top BJP state leaders, including general secretary (organisation) Bhikhubhai Dalsaniya, at the residence of the other Deputy CM Renu Devi.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

**PART III: WHAT WORKS, WHAT DOESN'T —  
A TALE OF 2 VILLAGES****MARUTI SUZUKI****NEXA**

NEXA

**6**CREATING INSPIRING  
MOMENTS

## PRESENTING THE ANNIVERSARY EDITION RANGE.

Make the celebrations special with the Ignis, Baleno, Ciaz and S-Cross.

Scan the QR Code to  
experience the world of NEXA.

CREATE. INSPIRE.

VISIT YOUR NEAREST NEXA DEALERSHIP TODAY.

Contact us at

**1800-200-[6392]  
1800-102-[NEXA]**

www.nexaexperience.com

NOW YOU CAN ALSO BOOK ONLINE

<b>CENTRAL DELHI</b> NEXA DARYAGANJ TR SAWHNEY AUTOMOBILES PH: 8925200160	<b>SOUTH DELHI</b> NEXA LAIPAT NAGAR BAGGA LINK MOTORS PH: 9818199367	<b>EAST DELHI</b> NEXA AKSHARDHAM FAIRDEAL CARS PH: 999525161	<b>WEST DELHI</b> NEXA PATPARGANJ MAGIC AUTO PH: 8929400503	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA OKHLA PHASE 1 PREM MOTORS PH: 011-2900000, 7065074531	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA EAST OF KAILASH RANA MOTORS PH: 999788886	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SAFDARJUNG ENCLAVE TR SAWHNEY AUTOMOBILES PH: 7290099520	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA WAZIRPUR COMPETENT AUTOMOBILES PH: 9582797748	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA ROHINI SECTOR 10 JAGMOHAN AUTOMOTIVES PVT. LTD. PH: 7290549335	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA NARELA DD MOTORS PH: 9081900800	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA PITAMPURA KRISH MOTORS PH: 7838555047
<b>DELHI</b> NEXA GT KARNAL ROAD RANA MOTORS PH: 7289999111	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA PREET VIHAR TR SAWHNEY AUTOMOBILES PH: 7290091122	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA JAWAHAR FAIRDEAL CARS PH: 999525161	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SECTOR 16 FAIR DEAL CARS PH: 9953993450	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SECTOR 1 ROHAN MOTORS PH: 8376800026	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SECTOR 63 VIPUL MOTORS PH: 9999499797	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA INDIA AREA GREATER NOIDA ROHAN MOTORS PH: 8376800044	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA INT MANESAR PLATINUM MOTO CORP PH: 9953345301	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA MOTI NAGAR AAA VEHICLES PVT. LTD. PH: 8448993400	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA DWARKA SECTOR 14 COMPETENT AUTOMOBILES PH: 9811807307	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA DWARKA SECTOR 9 MAGIC AUTO PH: 7290075604
<b>DELHI</b> NEXA RAJOURI GARDEN DD MOTORS PH: 999525750	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA JAWAHAR FAIRDEAL CARS PH: 999525161	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SECTOR 16 FAIR DEAL CARS PH: 9953993450	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SECTOR 1 ROHAN MOTORS PH: 8376800026	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SECTOR 63 VIPUL MOTORS PH: 9999499797	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA INDIA AREA GREATER NOIDA ROHAN MOTORS PH: 8376800044	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA INT MANESAR PLATINUM MOTO CORP PH: 9953345301	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA MOTI NAGAR AAA VEHICLES PVT. LTD. PH: 8448993400	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA DWARKA SECTOR 14 COMPETENT AUTOMOBILES PH: 9811807307	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA DWARKA SECTOR 9 MAGIC AUTO PH: 7290075604	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA BATA CHOWK VIPUL MOTORS PH: 9599814771
<b>DELHI</b> NEXA MATHURA ROAD PASCO AUTOMOBILES PH: 9999120572	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SECTOR 62 VIPUL MOTORS PH: 7404666666	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA IDC SEC 14 GURUGRAM PREM MOTORS PH: 0124-4440000, 7065074501	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA MG ROAD PASCO AUTOMOBILES PH: 9711290001	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA RAJIV CHOWK GURUGRAM RANA MOTORS PH: 8585991111	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SECTOR 29 GURUGRAM TR SAWHNEY AUTOMOBILES PH: 999525740	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SOHNA COMPETENT AUTOMOBILES PH: 7290025353	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SOHNA PASCO AUTOMOBILES PH: 9899961000	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA SOHNA PASCO AUTOMOBILES PH: 9899961000	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA DELHI ROAD DINCO & WHEELS LLP PH: 7082100301	<b>DELHI</b> NEXA PALWAL CENTRAL AUTOMATION PH: 9311864040

\*T&C apply. Features and accessories shown may not be part of standard fitment. Black glass shade on the vehicle is due to the lighting effect. Images used are for illustration purposes only. All offers are brought to you by NEXA dealers only. Offers may vary subject to the model and variant purchased. Maruti Suzuki reserves the right to withdraw offers at any point in time without any advance notice. Maruti Suzuki Smart Finance is now available pan-India. Maruti Suzuki Subscribe available only in selected cities.

**SMART FINANCE**  
AN ONLINE END-TO-END  
CAR FINANCE SOLUTION

- Pre-approved loans
- Custom generated loans
- Multiple financiers
- Loan status tracking

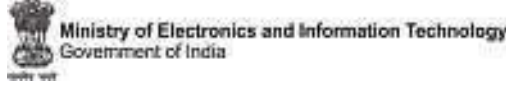
Scan to know more.











GLOBAL FINTECH FEST 2021  
FROM SEPTEMBER 28-30

ATTEND VIRTUALLY FOR FREE

www.globalfintechfest.com



SUPPORTING  
75+ PARTNERS & INSTITUTIONS

100+ EXHIBITORS

115+ COUNTRIES

300+ SPEAKERS

3500+ UNIQUE COMPANIES

25000+ DELEGATES



VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry,  
Minister of Consumer Affairs,  
Food and Public Distribution  
and Minister of Textiles,  
Government of India



INAUGURAL ADDRESS

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASHEKHAR

Union Minister of State for Skill  
Development and Entrepreneurship and  
Minister of State for Electronics and  
Information Technology,  
Government of India

SCAN TO REGISTER



WRITE TO  
yatin@iamai.in

POLICYMAKERS AND INFLUENCERS



Dr. R S Sharma  
Government of India



Amitabh Kant  
NITI Aayog



Shri Ajay Prakash  
Sawhney  
Government of India



Dr. Krishnamurthy  
V Subramanian  
Government of India



Shri T Rabi Sankar  
Reserve Bank of India



Shri G Mahalingam  
Securities and  
Exchange  
Board of India



Lord Mayor  
William Russell  
City of London



Shri Debashis Sen  
Government of  
West Bengal



Dr. Saurabh Garg  
Unique Identification  
Authority of India



Tobias Adrian  
International  
Monetary Fund



Dr. Christopher Sier  
Fintech North



V  
Balasubramaniam  
India International  
Exchange IFSC



Smt. Anna Roy  
NITI Aayog



Shri Jayesh Ranjan  
Government of  
Telangana



Smt. Abha Shukla  
Government of  
Maharashtra



Shri K.A.P Sinha  
Government of Punjab



Shri Vishal Kumar  
Dev  
Government of Odisha



G Padmanabhan  
Ex-Chairman  
Bank of India



Shri G P Garg  
Securities and Exchange  
Board of India



Shri P Vasudevan  
Reserve  
Bank of India



Prof Campbell  
R Harvey  
Duke University



Shri Vineet Kumar  
Government of  
Uttar Pradesh



Smt. Tanusree  
Deb Barma  
Government of Tripura



Sopnendu Mohanty  
Monetary Authority  
of Singapore



Preeti Sinha  
United Nations Capital  
Development Fund



Stuart Rees  
Australian Trade and  
Investment Commission



Kagiso Mothibi  
Financial Sector  
Conduct Authority



Rebecca  
Schot-Guppy  
FinTech Australia



Ashish Chauhan  
BSE India



Susanne Chishti  
FINTECH Circle



Aleski Grym  
Bank of Finland



AbdulAziz Abanmi  
Saudi Payments



Daniel Hahishvili  
Bank of Israel

FOUNDERS



Akash Sinha  
Cashfree



Anand Kumar Bajaj  
PayNearby



Dinesh Agarwal  
IndiaMART



Dr. Karin Lorez  
Lorez Legal



Oliver Prill  
Tide



Harshil Mathur  
Razorpay



Harshvardhan Lunia  
LendingKart



Jitendra Gupta  
Jupiter



Ketan Doshi  
Pay Point India



Kunal Shah  
CRED



Lalit Keshre  
Groww



Meghna Suryakumar  
Credibatch



Melissa Frakman  
EMVC



Nikolay Storonsky  
Revolut



Nithin Kamath  
Zeroth



Ramaswamy Iyer  
Vayana Network



Rivo Ubibo  
Modularbank



Sameer Nigam  
PhonePe



Shachindra Nath  
UGRO Capital



Upasana Taku  
MobiKwik



Varun Dua  
Acko General Insurance



Vipul Parekh  
Big Basket

BUSINESS LEADERS



Abhijit Bose  
WhatsApp



Ali Hassan  
DIFC Authority



Amnah Ajmal  
Mastercard



Anant Goenka  
The Indian Express  
Group



Ankur Mehrotra  
Grab Financial Group



Anup Bagchi  
ICICI Bank



Christian Catalini  
Diem Association



Deepak Khurana  
Refinitiv



Dhiraj Relli  
HSBC Securities



Dilip Asbe  
National Payments  
Corporation of India



KT Prasad  
Zendesk



Khalil Alami  
Telr



Milind Pathak  
Route Mobile



Naveen Surya  
Fintech Convergence  
Council



Navin Chandani  
CRIF High Mark



Nobutake Suzuki  
MUG Innovation  
Partners



Prashant Kumar  
Yes Bank



Praveena Rai  
National Payments  
Corporation of India



Prem Prakash  
Worldpay from FIS



Rajan Anandan  
Sequoia



Rajat Sharma  
eBaoTech Corporation



Rajiv Anand  
Axis Bank



Rana Ashutosh  
Kumar Singh  
State Bank of India



Ravi Sundararajan  
Gupshup



Sajith Sivanandan  
Google Pay



Sandeep Laxman  
Amazon Internet Services



Shalini Warriar  
The Federal Bank



Siddharth Rungta  
HSBC India



Smita Aggarwal  
Flourish Ventures



Srinivas Jain  
SBI Funds Management



TR Ramchandran  
Visa



Vikas Bansal  
Amazon Pay



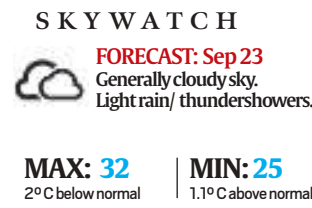
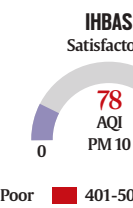
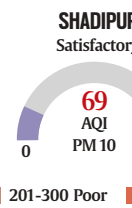
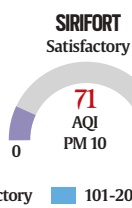
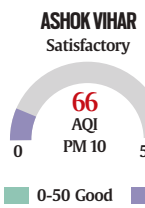
Zarin Daruwala  
Standard Chartered Bank

PARTNERS





## 6 THE CITY



# Among men who attacked Owaisi home: College dropout, nursing staffer who lost job

**JIGNASASINHA**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

A 'SENIOR' Hindu Sena member who dropped out of college, a nursing staffer who lost his job during the lockdown, an autorickshaw driver and two factory workers -- these are the five men who vandalised MP Asaddudin Owaisi's house at Delhi's Ashoka Road on Tuesday, and were subsequently arrested.

In a Facebook live video shot on Tuesday evening, one of the men, Lalit Kumar (25), can be seen claiming he is the

head of Hindu Sena's Delhi wing and calling Owaisi a "jihadi". "Main Asad Owaisi jihadi ke paas aaya hoon usko sabak sikhane (I have come to teach the jihadi Asad Owaisi a lesson)... Jai Shi Ram," he says. Two men can be seen breaking the nameplate with axes, while others are seen hurling stones -- and an axe -- at the house.

Kumar, who has been with Hindu Sena for over 3 years, has participated in several rallies and is a 'senior' member, others from the outfit said, adding that he often leads rallies in Mandoli and nearby areas.

Vishnu Gupta, national president of the Hindu Sena, said, "The five men have been working with us for years. Kumar was hurt when he heard Owaisi's speech. We are talking to his parents and want him to be released. They are all innocent. Owaisi is lying about the attack. Kumar and his friends would never hurt anyone."

Kumar's father sells construction material in Mandoli and is the sole breadwinner. Kumar dropped out of a private college and joined the Hindu Sena. He now works "full-time" with it.



**Owaisi said BJP had radicalised the accused**

Two of the other accused, Shivam Singh (24) and Vijay (24), work "under him" at the organisation, workers said. Shivam did a nursing course in Delhi two years ago and worked at a hospital in Ghaziabad, but lost his job during the lockdown and was looking for a new one. "He was studying physiotherapy for

some exams, but dropped out of the course. He only went to Ashoka Road to support Kumar since he respects the organisation. He would not indulge in violence....," said Nitin, his friend. Locals said that Vijay works as an autorickshaw driver and lives with his family in Mandoli.

Others seen in the video, Lalit Kumar (23) and Vijay Singh (26), work at factories near Ghaziabad and have families that are dependent on them, their friends said. "We didn't know they were going to Owaisi's house. I was shocked when I saw the video. Lalit and

Vijay said they were going with members of the Hindu Sena for a protest near Parliament Street. I thought it was against farmers. Later that night, we came to know that police had arrested them. They don't work for the Hindu Sena; we only attended a few rallies because our friends work there," said Mohit Kumar, Lalit's friend.

On Tuesday, Owaisi said: "These people (the accused) are being radicalised and the BJP is responsible for this. If a parliamentarian's house is being vandalised, then what message is being sent?"

## No survivor certificate needed for Covid relief

**EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

PEOPLE WHO have lost their spouse to Covid need not submit a surviving member certificate when they apply for compensation under the Delhi government's scheme to support families of those who lost members during the pandemic.

If the applicant who is seeking compensation is the spouse of the person who died, the document will not be needed for application. It will, however, be required in other cases, for example in case children of the deceased are the applicants.

The decision was taken at a meeting of Revenue Minister Kailash Gahlot with officials of

the department on Wednesday.

"It has been decided that under the 'Mukhyamantri COVID-19 Parivar Arthik Sahayata Yojna', there will no longer be a need for obtaining a surviving member certificate in cases where one of the spouses is alive," a revenue department statement said.

If the deceased was a single parent, surviving children are entitled to the ex gratia equally distributed among them, but for that, the name of the applicant should be reflected in the certificate.

If the deceased was an unmarried or a minor child, the father or the mother would get relief subject to their name appearing in the certificate, the statement said.

**ARMY WELFARE EDUCATION SOCIETY**  
(Registered under Society Act XXI of 1860)

**RETRACTION OF TENDER DOCUMENT FOR CONDUCT OF ONLINE SCREENING TEST**

All concerned are hereby informed that Army Welfare Education Society (AWES) has retracted Tender No. AWES-2021/12-1/OST-PTP with immediate effect. Fresh tender enquiry will be published / uploaded in due course of time.

**UJVN Limited**  
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprises)  
H.O. "UJJWAL" Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006  
Telephone-0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website: www.ujvnl.com

**e-Tender Notice** Date: 22.09.2021

Office of the Executive Engineer (M&G) Dhalpur Power House, invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

**Tender No:** e-14/EE/M&G/DLR/2021-22

**Name of works:** Procurement of WPIL make Oil lubricated & water lubricated damping pump spares & 60HP motor.

**Estimated cost:** Rs. 23,00,000/- (GST Extra)

**Date of availability of bid document on website:** 24.09.2021

**Last date for submission of tender on website:** 15.10.2021 upto 17:00 Hrs

For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal <http://uktenders.gov.in>

**Executive Engineer**

**"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"**

**UJVN LIMITED**  
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprises)  
H.O. "UJJWAL" Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006  
Telephone No. : 0135- 2763808, Fax: 0135- 2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvnl.com

**पत्र सं. 691, Corrigendum दिनांक: 21.09.2021**

Clause for "Similar nature of work" under Instructions to Tenderers and Eligibility Criteria of Tender No. 10/EE/M&G/DLR/2021-22 invited by Office of Executive Engineer (M&G), Dhalpur Power House shall be read as "Repair of 18" gate valve with pipeline/ Repair of 18" gate valve in annual maintenance of hydro power plant"

Other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged.

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website [www.ujvnl.com](http://www.ujvnl.com).

**Executive Engineer**

**"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"**

**JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED**  
(CIN : U40108JH2013SGC001702)  
Engineering Building, HEC, Dhurwa, Ranchi – 834004,  
Email:- [cecr2018@gmail.com](mailto:cecr2018@gmail.com),

**NOTICE**  
"TIME EXTENSION WITH AMENDMENTS"  
{NIT No. 112/PR/JBVNL/2021-22}

**Selection of agency for "Supply, Installation, Maintenance and Operation of Bill Collection Any Time Payment (ATP) machines at various locations under the jurisdiction of JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED under Rate Contract Arrangement"**

**Extended Timelines for participating in the above e-tender is detailed below :**

Sl. No.	Event	Timelines
i.	Last date & time of receipt of bid documents (Online)	Upto 30/09/2021 at 18:00 Hrs.
ii	Last date of physical submission of Tender Fee & EMD	Upto 04/10/2021 at 13:00 Hrs.
iii	Due date for opening of Technical Bid (Part-I)	04/10/2021 at 18:00 Hrs.

Bid uploading / opening will be through e-tendering norms only. **The complete Tender documents and amendments can be downloaded through website [www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in)** Bidder may contact help desk of e-Procurement system at the following web address: [www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in).

**Contact Officials:-**  
General Manager (Revenue)- 8987504018  
Electrical Executive Engineer (Revenue) – 9661842194

PR 253660 (Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd) 21-22 (D) **General Manager (Revenue)**

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

**ई-अल्पकालीन पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**

ई-अल्पकालीन पुनर्निविदा संख्या:- 34/RI/2021-22/RWD/DALTONGANJ दिनांक :- 22.09.2021

मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र० सं०	आईडेंटि फिकेशन संख्या / वैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	अंक में	अक्षर में	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि	टेंडर कॉल नं०
1.	RWD/ DALTONGANJ/ 01/ 2021-22	अस्का सुग्गी से श्रीकेशवाल शिव मंदिर तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य (लं- 3.200 कि०मी०)	1,14,91,466.00	एक करोड़ चौदह लाख एकावय हजार चार सौ छियासठ रु० मात्र	09 माह	द्वितीय

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 27.09.2021

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- 06.10.2021 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, झालदनगंज 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:- 08.10.2021 पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक।

5. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- 11.10.2021 पूर्वाह्न 11.30 बजे।

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

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 निर्यात बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, झालदनगंज के पक्ष में एवं झालदनगंज में भुगतान होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट [jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in) में देखा जा सकता है।

**नोडल पदाधिकारी**  
**ई-प्रोच्युरमेंट सेल**

PR 253693(Rural Work Department)21-22\*D

**Govt. of Jharkhand**  
**Office of the Executive Engineer**  
**Soil Investigation Division, Advance Planning,**  
**Road Construction Department, Ranchi.**  
**Nirupan Bhawan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room No. 413, Doranda, Ranchi-834002**  
**Email- [ceerdcapsid-jhr@nic.in](mailto:ceerdcapsid-jhr@nic.in)**

**e-Procurement Very Short Term Notice**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Call PR No:- PR 252592 Road (21-22) D**

**e-Tender Ref No: RCD/SID/RAN/13/21-22 Dated:- 21-09-2021**

Sl. No.	Name Of Work	Quantity
1	Name Of Work	Consultancy services for preparation of detailed project report (DPR) of the High Level Bridge at 19 <sup>th</sup> km over Damodar river (with approach road both side) in Tandwa Rai khelari road, District Chatra in the state of Jharkhand from the Consultants empanelled with RCD under category-II vide letter No. 686 (S) Dated 29.01.2019
2	Tentative Length of Bridge	150 m
3	Period of Completion of Work	90 Days
4	Date/Time of Publication of Tender on Website	22.09.2021 at 17:00 PM
5	Last Date/Time of Bid Submission	30.09.2021 up to 11:30 AM
6	Last Date/Time of Submission of Tender Fee & EMD	30.09.2021 up to 11:30 AM
7	Date and Time of Bid opening	01.10.2021 at 12:30 PM
8	Tender Inviting Authority	Executive Engineer, S.I.D, A.P., RCD, Ranchi, Chief Engineer (Communication), Road Construction Department, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Engineer Hostel No.-2, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
9	Bid Submission Address	
10	Mode of Bid Submission	e-tendering ( <a href="http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in">http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in</a> )
11	Address of Tender Inviting Authority	Nirupan Bhawan, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room No. 413, Doranda, Ranchi - 834002, Ph. 0651-2490406, Email:- <a href="mailto:ceerdcapsid-jhr@nic.in">ceerdcapsid-jhr@nic.in</a>

**Note:-** Details of locations of Bridge, its Span arrangement and Alignment can be seen in Tender documents. For further information please go through the website-tendering <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

**Sd/-**  
**Executive Engineer**  
**Soil Investigation Division,**  
**Advance Planning, R.C.D, Ranchi.**

**PR 253662 Road(21-22).D**

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

**ई-अल्पकालीन पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**

ई-अल्पकालीन पुनर्निविदा संख्या:- 10/RI/2021-22/RWD/DALTONGANJ दिनांक :- 21.09.2021

मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र० सं०	आईडेंटि फिकेशन संख्या / वैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	अंक में	अक्षर में	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि	टेंडर कॉल नं०
1.	RDD(RWA)/ DALTONGANJ/ 01/ 2020-21	नेउरा से बंदुआ होते हुए महुर्गोवा तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य (लं- 6.700 कि०मी०)	2,40,95,876.00	दो करोड़ चालीस लाख पचासहजार आठ सौ छित्तरह रु० मात्र	12 माह	द्वितीय

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 27.09.2021

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- 06.10.2021 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, झालदनगंज 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:- 08.10.2021 पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक।

5. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- 11.10.2021 पूर्वाह्न 11.30 बजे।

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

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 निर्यात बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, झालदनगंज के पक्ष में एवं झालदनगंज में भुगतान होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट [jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in) में देखा जा सकता है।

**नोडल पदाधिकारी**  
**ई-प्रोच्युरमेंट सेल**

PR 253646 Rural Work Department(21-22)D

**Government of Jharkhand**  
**Jharkhand Rural Health Mission Society**  
**Department of Health, Medical Education & Family Welfare**  
**Namkum, Ranchi**  
**Phone No: 0651-2261000, 2261856 & 2261002 Mail ID: [procurementjrhm@gmail.com](mailto:procurementjrhm@gmail.com)**

**e-Procurement Notice for supply of Printing items**

**Tender Notice No.: NHM/Nam/35/2021 Date: 22/09/2021**

In-Charge Procurement Cell on behalf of Mission Director, Jharkhand Rural Health Mission Society, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Jharkhand, Namkum, Ranchi, invites e-Tender from eligible bidders for supply of Printing items.

Blank tender documents with detailed conditions can be viewed or downloaded by the bidders from the website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> and bid should be submitted through e-procurement system only. Hard copies of technical bid and financial bid will not be entertained except Tender Fee & Earnest Money Deposit (EMD).

Evaluation and finalization of award of work will be based solely on e-bid submitted by the bidder. It will be sole responsibility of the bidder to scan and upload clear and legible documents for assessment, failing which the tender will be liable for rejection.

Sr. No.	Particulars	Details
1	Name of the work	Supply of Printing items
2	Date of Publication of Tender on website	24/09/2021
3	Date of Pre-bid meeting time	29/09/2021 at 3.00 PM
3	Last Date / time for receipt of bids on website	04/10/2021 to 16/10/2021 by 06.00 P.M
4	Date/Time for opening of Technical bid through website	18/10/2021 at 01.00 PM
5	Tender Document Fee (Non-refundable)	Rs. 5,000/- (Rs. Five thousand only)
6	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs.3,00,000/- (Three lakh only)
7	Contact person	9199969106/9065527504

Note: The specified dates and time may change due to abrupt declaration of holidays or any other unforeseen circumstances. The same shall be informed through web-portal as and when required. Sd/-

**In-Charge Procurement Cell**  
**JRHMS**

PR 253715 Jharkhand Rural Health Mission Society (21-22)\_D

**MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS, NEW DELHI**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
**NATIONAL HIGHWAY DIVISION,**  
**DIN DAYAL NAGAR, BOOTY ROAD, RANCHI-834008**  
**Pho. No. 0651-2360428, E-Mail ID- [eenhranchi-jhr@nic.in](mailto:eenhranchi-jhr@nic.in)**

**Notice Inviting Bid (5th Call)**  
**[Previous PR 244181 Road(20-21)\_D]**

**Bid/ Package no.- NH/RANCHI/ EPC/01/2021-22 Dated- 20.09.2021**

RFP for Construction of ROB at Km 116 of NH-99 (new NH-22) at Chandwa (LC No. 12A/T) in the State of Jharkhand on EPC mode (Job No. NH-99-(New NH-22)-JHR-2020-21/287). The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways through Chief Engineer, National Highway Wing, Jharkhand, Ranchi is engaged in the development of National Highways and as part of this endeavour, it has been decided to undertake Construction of ROB at Km 116 of NH-99 (new NH-22) at Chandwa (LC No. 12A/T) in the State of Jharkhand on EPC mode (Job No. NH-99-(New NH-22)-JHR-2020-21/287) through an Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contract.

[The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways/ National Highways Authority of India/ State Public Works Department/ Border Road Organisation represented by its DG(RD)&SS / Chairman/ CE (NH) PWD State-~~DEBRR~~ now invites bids from eligible contractors for the following project:

State	NH No.	Name of work	Estimated cost (in Rs.)	Cost of document (in Rs.)	Completion period	Maintenance period
Jharkhand	NH-99 (new NH-22)	Construction of ROB at Km 116 of NH-99 (new NH-22) at Chandwa (LC No. 12A/T) in the State of Jharkhand on EPC mode (Job No. NH-99-(New NH-22)-JHR-2020-21/287)	31,96,86,667.00 (including LC & GST)	10,000/-	24 (Twenty Four Months)	10 (Ten years) after Completion

The complete BID document can be viewed / downloaded from official portal of the CPPP website <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> from 30.09.2021 to 16.11.2021 (upto 15.00 Hrs. IST). Bidder must submit its Financial bid and Technical Bid at <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> on or before 16.11.2021 (upto 15:00 Hrs). Bids received online shall be opened on 17.11.2021 (at 15:30 hours IST).

Bid through any other mode shall not be entertained. However, Bid Securing Declaration, (Appendix – II) receipt of document fee, Power of Attorney and Joint Bidding Agreement etc. shall be submitted physically by the Bidder on or before 17.11.2021 (at 12:30 hours IST), Please note that the Ministry/Authority/ Executing Agency reserves the right to accept or reject all or any of the BIDs without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**Executive Engineer**  
**National Highway Division, Ranchi**  
**Phone: 7260095011, e-mail : [eenhranchi-jhr@nic.in](mailto:eenhranchi-jhr@nic.in)**

**PR 253718 Road(21-22)#D**

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

Sealed Tenders and empanelment of interest are invited for providing following services in the NLIU, Bhopal:

**Tenders :** 1. Cleaning Services, 2. Security Services 3. Canteen Services.

**Expression of Interest (EOI) :** 1. Empanelment of Interest of Vendors/ Suppliers Category-1, 2. Empanelment of Interest of Vendors/Suppliers Category-2

The Tender Forms/EOI may be downloaded from 21.09.2021 from the NLIU Website : [www.nliu.ac.in](http://www.nliu.ac.in)

Last date of submission of Tender Forms/Expression of Interest is 04.10.2021 till 03.00 PM.

M.P. Madhyam/102034/2021 **REGISTRAR**

**ANDHRA PRADESH POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LTD**  
**VIDYUTHI SOUDHA: VIJAYAWADA**

**NIT.No.E-610000864/HPC&HP/Hospital Services/APGENCO/2021**

APGENCO invites tender towards "Providing of primary health care services along with multi-specialty health services through advanced tele-medicine technology to the employees, retired employees, pensioners and their dependents, family pensioners and the villagers/residents residing in and around Onukudeli and Jalapat clinical areas pertaining to the Machkund Hydro Electric Scheme" through APGENCO e-Procurement platform. Bid Schedule available Date & Time : From 17.00 Hrs on 21.09.2021 onwards. Bid Submission Closing Date & Time : up to 15.00 Hrs on 18.10.2021. For further details visit website [www.apgenco.gov.in](http://www.apgenco.gov.in) or <https://etender.apgenco.gov.in>

Contact No: 0866-2526802.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**TENDER NOTICE**

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

S.N.	N.I.T. No.	128-W/269/O.E.T.-21-22-NRCH-05
1.	Name of work with its location	Annual Zone work of Central Hospital for the period ending on 30.06.2022 in the section of SSEW/NRCH under ADEN/NRCH. Definition Of Similar Work :- Any Civil work other than track work.
2.	Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 7999974.99
3.	Completion period of work	12 Months
4.	Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender.	Upto 15.00 hrs on 18.10.2021 Opening of tender at 15.00 hrs. On 18.10.2021
5.	Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>

128-W/269/O.E.T.-21-22-NRCH-05 Dated: 22.09.2021 2133/21

**GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA**  
**Department of Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development**  
**Office of the Executive Engineer**  
**MI & GWD Division, Mandya**

**TENDER NOTIFICATION NO : 07 / 2021-22 , Dated : 21-09-2021.**

Item Wise Tenders are invited from registered and eligible contractors under " e - Procurement " Portal as per the terms and conditions prescribed in standard tender bid documents KW-4. Under the Head of Account 4702: Anicut and Pickup there is one work namely "Construction of Check Dam across Shimsha river for Kabbare Lift Irrigation Scheme in Maddur Taluk Mandya District", amount put to tender **Rs. 423.00 Lakhs** and the EMD of **Rs. 634500**. Any information regarding this tender may be obtained from this office up to dated : **05.10.2021** during office hours. The tenders may be uploaded (Technical and Financial bids to be uploaded separately) with the prescribed E.M.D and requisite documents through website "[www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in](http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in)" upto dated : **06.10.2021 up to 17-30 Hours**. Technical bids of the bidders will be opened on dated : **11.10.2021 at 11.00 AM**. Financial bids of the bidders will be opened on dated : **16.10.2021 at 11.00 AM**. All the rights are reserved for postponement or cancellation of all works or any of the work of this tender by the under signed. Terms and conditions required for the each work is published in the " e - Procurement " Tender Portal. Any additional information is available at the office of the undersigned. Any corrections regarding the works will be published in "e-Procurement" portal only.

**Sd/-Executive Engineer,**  
**MI & GWD Division, Mandya.**

**DIPRAD-MDY/MCA/356/2021-22**





# MARANG GOMKE JAIPAL SINGH MUNDA OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME 2021



Dinesh Bhagat



Priya Murmu



Akanksha Mary  
Balmuchu



Anjana Pratima  
Dungdung



Ajitesh  
Murmu



Hercules Singh  
Munda

## GIVING WINGS TO THE FUTURE OF JHARKHAND

My best wishes to the inaugural  
cohort of Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh  
Munda Scholars

**SHRI HEMANT SOREN**  
Chief Minister, Jharkhand





CORONAVIRUS  
IN THE CAPITALVACCINATIONS IN  
LAST 24 HOURS  
1,96,152

		Total		Vacant
		HOSPITAL BEDS	16,404	
		ICU BEDS	3,566	3,475
		Recoveries	Deaths	
Sep 21	39	18	00	66,278
Sep 22	30	19	00	70,651
Total	411*	14,13,090	25,085	2,71,37,980

\*Total active cases

# Traffic police to create list of Delhi's 100 'most unsafe drivers', issue warning to them

JIGNASA SINHA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

THE DELHI Traffic Police will soon release a list of 100 habitual offenders involved in cases of road traffic violations in Delhi. The offenders will be warned that they are Delhi's "most unsafe drivers" and are risking lives every day.

This is for the first time that the Traffic Unit is preparing a list of drivers who have been 'challaned' multiple times yet

continue to break traffic norms. Police said this is being done to avoid road accidents and casualties.

Special Commissioner of Police Muktesh Chander (Traffic) said, "We have been thinking of this idea for a while. People who commit murder or are involved in other heinous crimes are often tagged as 'bad characters' or history-sheeters. This makes it easier for police to identify them. For offenders in road traffic cases, there are no such

rules. Many offenders jump red lights, drive rashly and are caught speeding several times. Even people who are involved in hit-and-run and drunk driving are let off easy. We want to create a more concrete structure to make people aware of road safety."

At present, when people break traffic rules, police send e-challans and offender can pay a fine of Rs 100 to Rs 5,000, depending on the violation. Each challan gets stored on the Delhi Traffic Police's e-challan

system. The police are now extracting data from this system to make a list of offenders involved in red-light jumping, speeding, rash driving and accidents. "The idea is to find people involved in maximum cases and take out their names. Once we have 100 names, we will start sending notices at their residence," said the police.

Police will also personally focus on individuals on the list. The Traffic Unit will ask the offenders to join road safety

classes. In case people don't show up or continue to break traffic norms, police will take action against them. "We will tell them that their driving is dangerous for pedestrians and for themselves. It will be a request for cooperation but we can also exercise our right to report to transport authorities. Under section 19 of the Motor Vehicle Act (power of licensing authority to disqualify from holding a driving licence), their license can be suspended or cancelled," said Chander.

The Traffic Police will also contact district units to check names on the list and share criminal history, if any. "Since we don't keep data of fatal accidents, district police will be asked to add inputs to the list," said the police.

Last year, 1,189 people died in road accidents in Delhi, while 537 were injured in hit-and-run accidents. Delhi recorded the highest casualties in road accidents followed by Chennai with 835 deaths and Bengaluru with 635 deaths.

## 5-star staffer held in connection with 15 snatching cases

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

A 35-YEAR-OLD employee at a five-star hotel group has been arrested by the South district police for allegedly committing around 15 snatching crimes across South Delhi. Police also arrested a jeweller, who was allegedly purchasing snatched chains from him.

DCP (South district) Atul Kumar Thakur identified the accused as Harish Chauhan (35) and Rajender Aggarwal (60). "After his graduation from Delhi University in 2006, Harish did a three-year degree course of hotel management from Pusa and started working at a five-star group at IGI Airport. Two years ago, he started gambling through online apps and lost money, leading to a huge debt," he said.

"To pay his debts, he decided to snatch valuables from soft targets near Saket Metro station and Ambedkar Nagar bus stand on MB Road. He is sharp-minded with a slim build and runs like a trained athlete. These qualities made him a notorious and desperate snatcher, like a wolf, and he operated alone," Thakur said.



The accused, Harish Chauhan (35)

Thakur said that several incidents of snatching by a 'lone wolf' snatcher were reported, targeting mainly women on morning walks or returning from office in the evening. "We formed a team led by inspector Atul Tyagi and sub-inspector Sanjay Singh. They scanned 200 CCTV clips over the last two months and got crucial leads. We also got inputs that Harish carried a pistol. We laid a trap at MB road and arrested him. He tried to whip out his pistol, but we overpowered him," he said. During questioning, he disclosed that he sold three snatched gold chains to Aggarwal, who runs a jewellery shop in Neb Sarai. "We have solved 15 cases so far with his arrest, further investigations are on," Thakur said.

### BRIEFLY

#### 3 arrested for stabbing 65-year-old

**New Delhi:** The Delhi Police arrested three men for allegedly stabbing a 65-year-old man after he resisted a robbery bid in Southeast Delhi's Sarita Vihar. Two of the accused were chased and caught by the police team minutes after the incident took place on Monday. The accused are involved in over six cases of attempt to murder, robbery, and theft. According to the police, around 8 pm Monday, the victim, Md Shams (65), and his brother were walking near the Jasola village when four persons accosted them.

#### No bail to man accused of forging Covid certificate to get son bail

**New Delhi:** The Delhi High Court has declined to grant anticipatory bail to a man accused of producing a fake Covid-19 test positive report in May to help his son, who is an accused in a case under the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act, get interim bail.

#### Traffic police launches drive to impound old vehicles

**Gurgaon:** The traffic police in Gurgaon Wednesday said they had started an enforcement drive to impound old vehicles that are operating in violation of the National Green Tribunal and Supreme Court orders, which stipulate that diesel vehicles that are older than 10 years and petrol vehicles older than 15 years, cannot ply in NCR in view of the rising levels of air pollution. Traffic police officials said that so far, they have impounded 208 vehicles in 2021. **ENS**



## CLASSROOM UNDER THE SKY

Students attend a class at an 'open school' at Yamuna Khader near Mayur Vihar Wednesday. *Amit Mehra*

## 'Mega PTM increased participation by parents'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

A STUDY on the Mega PTM in Delhi government schools in Central district has shown that 97% of the parents believed that more such meets should be organised to improve performance of children, their participation in the class and social and mental development of children.

The study was conducted by Assistant Professors of State Council for Educational Research and Training (SCERT) Delhi.

"It was found that almost 70% of the parents believed the educational environment in Delhi government schools has changed, schools are cleaner and better maintained than before. During the PTM, 71% of the parents and 61% of the teachers discussed the regularity of children, academic activities, improvement in learning level... The study also found that 40% of parents consider failure to be a part of the learning process. 97% agreed that Mega PTM should be organised more often to improve the performance of children, their participation in the class, social and mental development of the children," a statement issued by the office of education minister Manish Sisodia said.

## Prof Yogesh Singh appointed DU's new Vice-Chancellor

ARANYA SHANKAR  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

PRESIDENT RAM Nath Kovind Wednesday approved the appointment of Professor Yogesh Singh as the new Vice Chancellor of Delhi University (DU), while Professor Neelima Gupta was appointed the V-C of Dr Hari Singh Gour Vishwavidyalaya in Madhya Pradesh.

Yogesh Singh is currently the Vice-Chancellor of the Delhi Technological University (DTU). "DU is a different ball game altogether. It's a very old and important seat of learning. We will take all necessary steps which are required for the growth and development of the institution and focus on the interest of DU," he told *The Indian Express*.

"The administration will be action-oriented, positive and we will take everyone together... We will start at a very fast pace. I will meet all the Principals, Deans, Heads of Departments and student groups. We will consult everyone and form a strategic plan," said Singh.

Former DU V-C Yogesh Tyagi had been suspended in October last year by the President in his capacity as the Visitor of the university, for dereliction of duty. In his place,

Professor P C Joshi had been officiating as the V-C. On March



Prof Yogesh Singh

9, Tyagi wrote to the President and relinquished charge at the end of his five-year tenure.

Singh has previously been the Director of Netaji Subhas Institute of Technology, Delhi (2014-2017) and Vice Chancellor of Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Gujarat (2011-2014).

His other administrative roles include being Dean, University School of Information Technology (2001-2006), Controller of Examinations (2006-2011) and Director Students Welfare of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University.

According to DTU PRO Anoop Lather, Singh received his M.Tech (Electronics & Communication Engineering) and PhD (Computer Engineering) degrees from National Institute of Technology,

Kurukshetra, Haryana.

Singh is also a member of the Executive Committee of National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with effect from October 3, 2019, and Chairman of Governing Board of Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre, Gandhinagar, an Autonomous Inter-University Centre (IUC) of University Grants Commission. Singh has, in the past, faced some controversies. On July 23, a complaint was filed with UP Governor to remove Singh as a member of the Search Committee for Dr A P J Abdul Kalam Technical University Lucknow, for alleged self-plagiarism.

A complaint was also filed with the Deputy Chief Minister Delhi by an applicant for the post of Associate Professor, when Singh was the DTU V-C, where it was alleged that Singh along with other officials "violated all AICTE and UGC guidelines" in the appointment of Associate Professors and selected candidates on their "personal whims and wishes". It was alleged that he sought "financial benefits" for these appointments.

Singh has denied all allegations. On the issue of self-plagiarism, he said it was "simply not possible". He said the recruitment process in DTU was "completely transparent and stringent".

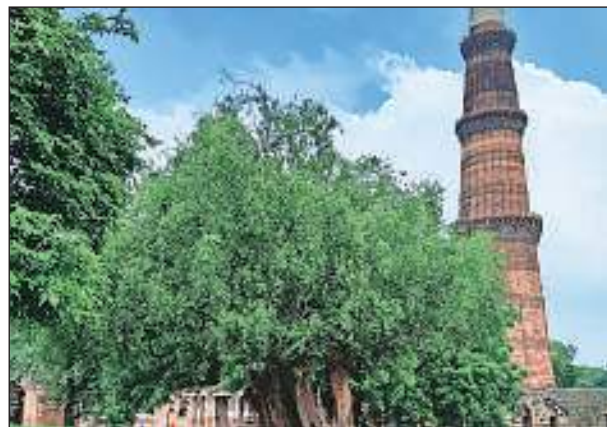
# In shadow of towering Qutub Minar, a rare Salvadora

ASHNA BUTANI &  
ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

THE QUTUB Minar watches over a short Khabbar tree (Salvadora Oleoides) that lies near a raised, grassy patch of the Qutub Complex, not far from the boundary wall. The gnarled trunk, with hollows and crevices, is etched with initials of those who visited, much like a monument itself. A squirrel scampers over the trunk, a mynah sits on a branch for a while,

and a family that comes to see the towering monument of the 13th century in the backdrop spends some time on the bench placed in the tree's shade.

A list of 16 'heritage' trees prepared by the Delhi government a few years ago mentions a Salvadora tree in the Qutub complex. Another Khabbar tree lies close to the ornately engraved Alai Darwaza, its trunk almost bent over and leaning towards the minar. The Khabbar trees are a little different from what appear to be their close cousins, the Salvadora per-

Khabbar is found "almost exclusively in Mehrauli". *Ashna Butani*

sica or Peelu, a specimen of which is also located in the complex. The Salvadoras in the Qutub complex also feature in Pradip Krishen's book, 'Trees of Delhi'.

While the Delhi golf course and graveyards in Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg are home to many Peelu trees, the Khabbar is said to be much rarer in Delhi. He writes that for reasons unknown, the tree is found "almost exclusively in Mehrauli". Smaller Khabbar trees can be spotted around walls of Lalkot in Mehrauli and there are two more such trees in Khuro Park, Nizamuddin. They can be distinguished from the Peelu tree by

their narrow leaves which are never more than 1.3 cm wide. Khabbar flowers have no stalks and their fruits are yellow when they ripen.

Empty cans and used straws litter the ground around the twisted trunk, scattered around plants that grow at the base, and even stuffed into some of the larger recesses in bark of the tree.

Awestruck by the monument behind, few tourists pay heed to trees in the complex. They flock to the nearest tree when sun gets too harsh. A child who tries to touch every tree he sees is rebuked by his mother: "Don't go close or a dragon will come out of it."

## FIR against YouTube channel for 'fake news on Khattar resignation'

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA  
GURGAON, SEPTEMBER 22

POLICE ON Tuesday night registered an FIR against a YouTube channel for allegedly spreading fake news that Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar had resigned. Police said action was taken after a resident of Chakkarpur filed a complaint.

As per the FIR, the complainant, Sandeep Kumar, claimed that on Tuesday, he was surfing the internet when he came across a video on YouTube run by a channel called 'nation TV'.

"The news said that Haryana chief minister Khattar had submitted his resignation and Viji (Haryana home minister) will take over as the new CM. The fake news had tickers flashing "masterstroke by PM, CM ne faika isteefa."

Kumar, who has a private job, told The Indian Express: "By

spreading such rumours and fake news, an attempt is being made to incite people of the state and disturb law and order. The intention is to destabilise the government and hurt sentiments of people. Despite knowing the facts and the truth, the channel is deliberately spreading fake news to provoke people and create instability in the administration, especially in the backdrop of farmers' protests."

A police officer said, "We will investigate who is running the channel and who had shared the alleged news item. No arrests have been made yet." The FIR has been registered under IPC sections 153-A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony) and 505(1)(b) (with intent to cause or which is likely to cause, fear or alarm to the public) at cyber crime police station, said police.



New Delhi





# 9 GOVT & POLITICS



## DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



### THE CANDIDATE

THE CONGRESS national leadership may have earned applause for its decision to pick a Dalit face for the Chief Minister's post in Punjab but an unrelated decision that followed has triggered widespread dissatisfaction among party leaders in Maharashtra. The central leadership has decided to nominate Rajani Patil for the sole available Rajya Sabha seat from Maharashtra. The name of Patil, who previously served one term each in the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, was also present in the list of nominated MLAs, which is still pending before the Governor. Patil was picked as the high command's choice even as the state party unit was considering several other names, including Mukul Wasnik, for the seat, sources said.

### TAKING STOCK

BISHWESWAR TUDU, Minister of State for Jal Shakti, on Wednesday visited the office of Namami Gange at National Stadium in New Delhi and reviewed the progress of various projects being implemented for cleaning of the river Ganga. The minister chaired the 8th meeting of the Empowered Task Force, which was attended by senior officials from the Jal Shakti Ministry and state government officials. It is learnt that during the meeting officials informed him about the Centre's plans regarding the face-lift of the temple town of Ayodhya by restoring old buildings and depicting murals and artwork in association with Ayodhya Development Authority.

### OFFICE, OFFICE

AFTER OPERATING for years from its plush office complex in Dwarka, the National High Speed Rail Corporation will get to be closer to the proverbial power centre - New Delhi - around 30 km away. It has started getting some work done from two rooms in the parent ministry, Rail Bhawan, so that coordination and general work gets done faster. The ministry, it is learnt, has allotted the rooms for its various entities such as NHSRCL, so that officials have a base to work from when they visit the ministry. Otherwise, it was common sight for MDs and other senior officers of PSUs to roam around in the corridors between scheduled meetings. Some officials in Rail Bhawan are of the view that it would help if the NHSRCL also shifts completely to a place closer to the centre of activity in the future.

### FORMER PUNJAB CM QUESTIONS DELHI 'HAND' IN STATE CONGRESS

## Will field 'strong' candidate against Sidhu, says Amarinder

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 22

FORMER Punjab chief minister Amarinder Singh Wednesday said he would field a candidate against Congress state president Navjot Singh Sidhu in the 2022 Assembly elections, while expressing "shock" at the way the party was being "run from Delhi".

Speaking to reporters here, Amarinder asked how Congress leaders like K K Venugopal, Ajay Maken or Randeep Surjewala could decide who was good for which ministry in the state, adding that as CM, he had called the shots and appointed own ministers as he knew the capability of each of them.

New CM Charanjit Singh Channi, accompanied by Sidhu, was in the Capital on Tuesday to discuss Cabinet formation with the high command.

In a swipe at the selection of Channi, the first Scheduled Caste CM of Punjab, Amarinder said: "Our religions teaches us that all are equal. I don't look at people based on their caste, it's about their efficiency."

The senior leader said Sidhu seemed to be calling the shots in the new dispensation, and that a PCC chief should concentrate on party affairs. "I had a very good PPCC president, I took his advice, but he never told me how to run the govern-



Punjab CM Channi with Sidhu at Golden Temple in Amritsar.

ment," Amarinder said. Accusing Sidhu of having failed to manage as a minister in his government, he said, "If he behaves as the super CM, the party won't function."

Amarinder also warned the Congress that under this "drama master's leadership", implying Sidhu, it might not manage even double digits in the Punjab polls.

While not specifying his future plans, Amarinder said he would only leave on a "high". "I was ready to leave after victory, but never after a loss," he said, claiming that he had even told Sonia Gandhi after leading the Congress to a win in the 2017 Assembly elections to let someone else become CM. "But that did not happen... so I will fight," he said.

Amarinder claimed he had repeated the offer three weeks earlier as well. "If she (Sonia) had just asked me to step down, I would

have... As a soldier, I know how to do my task and leave."

He questioned the way he had been subjected to "humiliation" instead, including by calling a meeting of the Congress Legislature Party without informing him. "Priyanka and Rahul are like my children... This should not have ended like this, I am hurt." He said the two were "quite inexperienced" and their advisors were misleading them.

Promising to field a "strong" candidate against Sidhu in the elections, the veteran leader repeated that he was "dangerous for the state". Channi was "intelligent" and "well-educated", he said, but had no experience in managing home affairs, which he called critical for a border state.

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



Mamata Banerjee at her first public meeting for Bhabanipur bypoll, on Friday. Partha Paul

### 3 months after 'attack', BJP poll candidate dies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 22

MORE THAN three months after an alleged attack on him by "TMC supporters", a BJP leader who contested the Assembly polls this year died at a private nursing home at Thakurpur in south Kolkata on Wednesday. His family and BJP leaders have demanded a CBI probe into the case.

BJP's Dhurjati Saha, also known as Manas, had contested the Magrahat Paschim constituency in South 24 Parganas district and lost to TMC's Giasuddin Molla by 97,006 votes.

Saha's son said the hospital had previously declared him fit and had even told the family to be ready for his discharge on Wednesday. But the family was informed in the morning that he had been shifted back to the ICU, where he died.

State BJP president Sukanta Majumder said that Saha's death was "unfortunate".

## Destiny that I should become CM through Bhabanipur: Mamata

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 22

IN HER first public meeting for the Bhabanipur Assembly by-poll on Wednesday, TMC chairperson Mamata Banerjee urged people not to take her electoral victory for granted, and asked them to vote to ensure that she remains the Chief Minister of West Bengal.

Banerjee said it was "taqdeer ka khel [fate]" that she has to get elected from Bhabanipur to become the chief minister.

She is contesting from Bhabanipur to retain her post following her defeat in Nandigram earlier this year. When TMC came to power in Bengal in 2011, Banerjee became the chief minister despite not contesting the election. In a by-poll later that year, she won the election from Bhabanipur. She finds herself in a similar situation again.

"Don't think that Didi's victory is secured and there is no point going out to vote for her... You will not get me as the chief minister if I don't get each vote... I am telling you this to make you understand why each vote is important," Banerjee said at a public meeting in Ekbalpur area.

"In 2021, my party had requested me to contest from Nandigram to support the farmers' movement. But you will be scared to know how unfairly I was defeated from there. A case is pending at the court [on counting of votes]. But it is destiny and taqdeer ka khel that Mamata Banerjee should become the chief minister from Bhabanipur."

Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, the TMC chief said, "Narendra Modi ji and Amit Shah bhai ji, don't think that you will turn India into a Taliban state." She later addressed another public meeting in Chetla.

## Ravi quits as Naga peace talks interlocutor

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

TAMIL NADU Governor R N Ravi on Wednesday resigned as interlocutor in Naga peace talks after serving several years in the post, during which he negotiated with key insurgent groups for the Naga Peace Accord.

Ravi's resignation comes days after he was moved out of Nagaland, where he also held the post of Governor. He was appointed Tamil Nadu Governor on September 9.

The development had come amid vociferous demand from NSCN(IM) to remove Ravi both as Nagaland Governor and Naga interlocutor following a verbal spat between the two through 2020.



Ravi: moved from Nagaland to TN Raj Bhavan on Sept 9

"Shri R.N. Ravi's resignation as interlocutor for the Naga peace process, submitted by him today, has been accepted with immediate effect by the Government of India," the Ministry of Home Affairs said in a statement.

Sources said former Intelligence Bureau special director Akshay Mishra is likely to replace Ravi as the new Naga

### In Cong, all eyes on Capt, his next move

KANCHAN VASDEV  
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 22

THE CONGRESS is keeping a close eye on the activities of former Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh who has opened a front against state party president Navjot Singh Sidhu but has not "admonished" the BJP over the contentious farm laws in a series of interviews he gave to the electronic media after tendering resignation on September 18.

Sources in Congress said the party was already watching Amarinder keenly on whether he was headed to BJP. "There are reports that he may be making a big announcement about his political future on October 2," a source privy to the development in the Congress said.

A Congress leader said, "The poster titled Captain 2022 (shared by Amarinder's OSD on Twitter), appeared to be making an announcement that he will be contesting the next year's elections in 2022 as 'Captain', clearly shows he has some plans."

## Mamata warns BJP of khela hobe in Goa, UP, Assam and Tripura

SHANTANU CHOWDHURY & MAYURA JANWALKAR  
KOLKATA, PANAJI, SEPTEMBER 22

TRINAMOLU CONGRESS (TMC) chief Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday shared her party's pan-India plans and vowed to defeat the BJP in several states, including Goa.

Ahead of the Assembly bypoll in Kolkata's Bhabanipur, Banerjee said, "We will contest in other states. We will contest in Tripura. Tripura *te khela hobe*, Assam *te khela hobe*, Goa *te khela hobe*, UP *te khela hobe*. BJP should know that the player who will defeat them has come."

The TMC is in talks with a senior Congress leader in Goa who may join the party, according to political sources. Assembly polls in Goa are expected to be held in February-March next year.

Goa Congress president Girish Chodankar, however, dismissed the speculation as "rumours". "We have full trust and confidence in our senior leader. His name is just being dragged into this for no reason," said Chodankar.

The Congress has five MLAs in the 40-member Goa Assembly.

Political strategist Prashant Kishor, who advised TMC during the West Bengal Assembly poll, has also made trips to Goa earlier this month and held discussions with political leaders. Kishore and senior TMC leaders are expected to arrive in Goa this week and a "major announcement" is expected over the next two days, political sources said.

## SC to Centre: Allow women to take NDA exams in Nov, 'can't belie their hope'

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

THE SUPREME Court on Wednesday refused to accede to the government's request to allow women candidates to sit for the National Defence Academy entrance exam only in May 2022, and reiterated its earlier direction to permit them to take the exams scheduled in November this year.

Entrance exams to the NDA are held twice a year. In an affidavit filed in the court, the Defence Ministry had asked for time until May 2022 to issue the notification allowing women to sit for the NDA exams so that the Academy — which until now enrolled only men — would have enough time to make changes, including in infrastructure and curriculum, to accommodate the women cadets.

On Wednesday, a two-judge bench headed by Justice S K Kaul did not accede to the government's request for more time, stating that the court had, in its interim order in August, allowed women candidate to take this year's exams in November and did not want to belie their hopes.

"I have fully understood your affidavit. We appreciate your endeavour to put before us different areas of concerns. You have referred to fitness test, accommodation, curriculum changes and so on... But what we are finding it difficult to accept is to postpone everything by a year. Having given a hope to women to take exam in November, we don't want to belie that hope," Justice Kaul said.

"This is the transition phase, we don't want to postpone the

transition. This exam may not give the best results. But we are looking at the future," observed Justice Kaul.

The bench also comprising Justice B R Gavai said in its order that it had given a thought to the matter, and the difficulties expressed by the armed services. "What effectively would mean by the submission of armed forces is, 'no jam today, jam tomorrow'. It will be difficult for us to accept that position, the aspirations of women having been arisen in view of the order, albeit subject to the final outcome of the petition. The armed forces having dealt with very difficult situations admirably, both in the border and in the country. To deal with emergencies is part of their training. We are sure they can deal with this emergency if it is so perceived... We would thus not like to effectively vacate the order passed, but keep the manner pending."

The court was hearing a plea by Advocate Kush Kalra seeking its intervention to allow eligible women candidates to appear for the NDA exam.

Initially, the government had termed the decision to restrict NDA to only male candidates as a matter of policy, but the court refused to accept this and said the policy "is based on gender discrimination".

Subsequently, the government agreed to allow women candidates to sit for NDA but prayed for time till May 2022 so as to put the necessary arrangements in place.

The court will now hear the matter in the third week of January 2022.

### 'Toolkit' case: SC says won't interfere with HC stay on probe

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

THE SUPREME Court Wednesday dismissed the Chhattisgarh government's plea challenging a High Court stay on a probe against former Chief Minister Raman Singh and BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra. The FIR against the two leaders was registered over their tweets referring to a purported "toolkit" allegedly created by Congress.

A bench headed by Chief Justice of India N V Ramana refused to interfere with the order of the Chhattisgarh High Court and asked it to decide the matter expeditiously.

The FIR against Singh and Patra was registered a day after Akash Sharma, the Chhattisgarh president of Congress student outfit NSUI, filed a complaint over their tweets on an alleged "toolkit" created by the Congress — to "defame" the country — on May 18.

The BJP leaders were accused of spreading unrest and provoking people through a fake story.

The state government told the Supreme Court that the High Court had erroneously granted the interim relief right at the stage of admission itself. The investigation was at a nascent stage, contended the state government.

### On UK vaccine row, minister points to 'best interest of people'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

WITH NEW Delhi and London trying to iron out differences over the issue of vaccine certificates and travel restrictions, the ruling BJP attempted to avoid an escalation of the matter saying "every sovereign country will take decisions which they believe are in the best interest of the people".

"There is no right or wrong... Some countries take decision on what vaccines are acceptable by their medical fraternity and their scientific community and some take a different view," Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar said when asked about some countries not recognising Indian vaccines. He pointed out that the science and the understanding of Covid was recent.

Chandrasekhar, who was in the BJP headquarters to brief the media about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US, said that countries reacted differently to the pandemic. "I think these things have to evolve as the assessment of risk of the disease gets mitigated over time. Till such time every sovereign government, every sovereign country will take decisions which they believe are in the best interest of the people."

### Retd HC judge to probe Karnal police lathicharge

Chandigarh: Haryana government on Wednesday appointed Justice (retd) Somnath Aggarwal as a one-man inquiry commission to probe the sequence of events leading to the police lathicharge on farmers at Bastara toll plaza in Haryana's Karnal on August 28. The retired Punjab and Haryana High Court judge will also probe the role of IAS officer Ayush Sinha, who, as then Karnal SDM, was caught on tape for his controversial "break the heads" remark.

The decision, taken during a Cabinet meeting chaired by CM Manohar Lal Khattar, comes 13 days after the government promised that it will get the incidents probed by a retired HC judge. **ENS**

## Air India Chairman Rajiv Bansal is aviation secy in reshuffle

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

RAJIV BANSAL, current Air India Chairman, was appointed the new aviation secretary as part of a top-level bureaucratic reshuffle by the Centre on Wednesday.

K Rajaraman, Additional Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, was appointed Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, according to an order of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. Rajaraman will take over the charge from Anshu Prakash, who is due to superannuate on September 30.

Rajiv Bansal, a 1988 batch IAS officer of Nagaland cadre, will replace Pradeep Singh Kharola, upon his retirement this month-end.

K Sanjay Murthy, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Limited, will be Secretary, Department of Higher Education, the order said.

Steel Secretary Pradip Kumar Tripathi has been appointed as the Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), it said.

Govind Mohan, Additional Secretary in the Department of Home, will be Secretary, Ministry of Culture, the order said.

Anurag Jain, Vice Chairman of the Delhi Development Authority, has been appointed as the Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Murthy, a 1989 batch IAS officer of Himachal Pradesh cadre, will take over the charge from Amit Khare, who retires on September 30.

Devendra Kumar Singh, Additional Secretary and Development Commissioner, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises will be Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation. **FULL REPORT ON**  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)





## BRIEFLY

## MAHARASHTRA

**Another warrant issued against Param Bir Singh**

**Mumbai:** The inquiry commission headed by retired high court judge Justice Kailash Uttamchand Chandiwal has reissued a bailable warrant against former Mumbai Police commissioner Param Bir Singh. The former Mumbai Police officer is facing a probe related to corruption allegations levelled by him against former state home minister Anil Deshmukh. The inquiry panel has issued summons several times but Singh has failed to appear before it so far. **ENS**

## TRIPURA

**African swine fever detected, culling begins**

**Agartala:** After infecting nearly 25,000 pigs over five months in Mizoram, the highly contagious African swine fever has now spread to Tripura — at Kanchanpur of North Tripura close to the Tripura-Mizoram interstate boundary. “We have identified an infected zone of 1 km radius from the epicentre of the outbreak. Culling was started as per Central government guidelines... 28 pigs and piglets were culled across seven nearby villages,” said Dr Mrinal Duta, nodal officer of Tripura State Disease Investigation Laboratory. **ENS**

## JAMMU &amp; KASHMIR

**‘Revival plan’: L-G flags off new buses**

**Jammu:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday flagged off the first lot of 95 new buses of the J&K Road Transport Corporation (JKRTC). The buses are part of the revival plan involving a major expansion of JKRTC’s fleet in a phased manner. Sinha reiterated the J&K government’s commitment to provide quality transport facilities to the public. He said the expansion will address the long pending demand of people living in remote areas as preference will be given to such areas, besides interstate routes. **ENS**

## NINTH ARREST

**Cleric held from Meerut for ‘illegal conversions’**

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 22

THE UTTAR Pradesh Anti-Terror Squad (ATS) on Wednesday arrested 64-year-old cleric Kaleem Siddiqui for allegedly being part of an illegal conversion racket. The ATS said his name came up during the investigation of a case filed in Lucknow in which cleric Umar Gautam and others have been charged.

According to the ATS, Siddiqui was arrested from Meerut around 9pm on Tuesday and was brought to the ATS headquarters in Lucknow.

Stating that it has formed six teams to probe the case, the ATS said it has moved a petition in the court seeking Siddiqui’s custody. Siddiqui is the ninth person to be arrested in the alleged illegal conversion racket.

“During the investigation, it came to light that Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui, a native of Muzaffarnagar, who mostly lives in Delhi, is involved in illegal conversions. It was found that in the garb of educational and social organisations, he was involved in illegal conversions across the country and was receiving funds from foreign countries for this. This conversion racket was being run in an organised manner and several

# In US, PM Modi pushes for ‘mutual recognition of vaccine certificates’

**KAUNAIN SHERIFF M & SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi, who left for the United States on Wednesday, said international travel should be made easier through “mutual recognition of vaccine certificates”.

In his video remarks at the Global Covid Summit hosted by US President Joe Biden, Modi also said India is ramping up production capacity of existing vaccines and the supply chains of raw materials must be kept open.

“The Covid-19 pandemic has been an unprecedented disruption. It is not yet over. Much of the world is still to be vaccinated. That is why this initiative by President Biden is timely, and welcome... We also need to focus on addressing the pandemic’s economic effects. To that end, international travel should be made easier



Prime Minister Narendra Modi checks files and other papers during his flight to the US. *Twitter photo/@narendramodi*

through mutual recognition of vaccine certificates,” Modi said.

“India is now running the world’s largest vaccination campaign. Recently, we vaccinated about 25 million people on a single day. Our grassroots-level healthcare system has delivered over 800 million vaccine doses so far. Over 200 million Indians are now fully vaccinated. This has

been enabled through the use of our innovative digital platform called Co-Win. In the spirit of sharing, India has made Co-Win, and many other digital solutions, available freely and open source software,” he said.

As India looks to resume export of Covid-19 vaccines to poorer nations, Modi said “supply chains of raw materials must

be kept open”. “As newer Indian vaccines get developed, we are also ramping up production capacity of existing vaccines. As our production increases, we will be able to resume vaccine supplies to others, too. For this, the supply chains of raw materials must be kept open. With our Quad partners, we are leveraging India’s manufacturing in producing vaccines for the India-Pacific region,” he said.

In his departure statement earlier in the day, Modi said he would review India-US ties with US President Joe Biden and exchange views on regional and global issues of “mutual interest”, and discuss cooperation in science and technology with Vice President Kamala Harris.

This clear demarcation of agenda items between the US President and Vice President sought to signal that the Prime Minister has separated the priority issues for his discussions with

both leaders.

Sources said Modi is expected to discuss the situation in Afghanistan, Pakistan’s role in fuelling terrorism in the region, Indo-Pacific strategy and China’s belligerence with Biden.

With Harris, who had called up Modi in June and conveyed the US decision to supply vaccines, sources said the cooperation in vaccine production and challenges due to the pandemic are expected to be on the agenda.

“During my visit, I will review the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership with President Biden and exchange views on regional and global issues of mutual interest. I am also looking forward to meeting Vice President Kamala Harris to explore opportunities for cooperation between our two nations particularly in the area of science and technology,” he said.

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

## UP recommends CBI probe into mahant’s death

**MANISH SAHU**  
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 22

THE UTTAR Pradesh government on Wednesday recommended a CBI probe into the death of Akhil Bharatiya Akhara Parishad (ABAP) president Mahant Narendra Giri, two days after he was found dead in Prayagraj’s Baghambari Math.

The state home department said in a tweet that the CBI investigation was recommended on the directions of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath who had said in Prayagraj on Tuesday that if anyone was found responsible for the “tragic death” of the mahant they would receive strict punishment.

The government’s announcement came on a day the police arrested three people on the charge of abetment of suicide in connection with the case, and, according to sources, a panel of five doctors conducted an autopsy to confirm that the cause of death was “antemortem hanging”.

Two disciples of the 72-year-old Hindu ascetic were among those arrested, the police said. The court of Chief Judicial Magistrate Harendra Nath sent them to judicial custody for 14 days while the third accused will be produced before the court on Thursday.

The police said they arrested Anand Giri (45) and Adhya Prasad Tiwari (55), and Tiwari’s son Sandeep (25) as the mahant allegedly blamed them in his “suicide note”. **FULL REPORT ON**  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)



Anand Giri at a court in Prayagraj on Wednesday. *PTI*



The body of Akhil Bharatiya Akhara Parishad president Mahant Narendra Giri being laid to rest in Prayagraj on Wednesday. *Ritesh Shukla*

has often claimed that he did so to gain a better understanding of the Vedas and Sanskrit. On his website, Anand Giri claims to have acquired a Bachelor’s degree from Banaras Hindu University.

Anand Giri later came to Baghambari math and became a disciple of Narendra Giri, the mahant of Bare Hanuman Mandir, who inducted him into his Niranjani akhara. Over the years, Anand Giri became one of Narendra Giri’s closest disciples and was often spoken of as his heir apparent.

As deputy mahant of the Bare Hanuman Mandir, which comes under Narendra Giri’s Baghambari math, Anand Giri, apart from conducting prayers at the temple, established him-

self as a yoga guru, travelling across the country and also abroad, giving lectures and reciting the Ram Katha.

Anand Giri’s rapid rise in the math and the akhara, coupled with his high-flying lifestyle, led to whispers among other disciples and sadhus, but Narendra Giri stood by his disciple.

But their relationship began souring earlier this year after Anand Giri started accusing his mentor of fraud in the alleged sale of land belonging to the akhara.

The akhara is said to have in its possession acres of land not just in Prayagraj and neighbouring districts but also in Haridwar, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan. Earlier this year, their rela-

## Bengaluru Uber driver held for ‘raping’ passenger

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 22

AN UBER driver in Bengaluru was Wednesday arrested on the charge of raping a young woman passenger. She had hired the cab in the early hours of the day to return home from a party.

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai Wednesday told the Assembly that an attempt to rape had taken place in a cab in Bengaluru.

The woman fell asleep in the cab after she was picked up around 3.30 am, police sources said. The victim, a resident of Jharkhand, was working in Bengaluru. The accused, who hails from Andhra Pradesh, had been working in the city for two years as an Uber cab driver.

Upon reaching the destination, the accused allegedly locked the car doors and tried to take advantage of the sleeping woman, sources said. When she woke up and raised an alarm, the driver allegedly fled. The woman then dialed the police control room to inform the incident.

The police recorded her statement and launched a hunt for the cab driver. A police team traveled to Chittoor, but he was, however, located in Bengaluru itself. Sources said the cab driver has “admitted” to “taking advantage” of the woman.

## Mysuru gangrape victim has given her statement, Karnataka CM tells Assembly

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 22

NEARLY A month after an MBA student was gangraped in Mysuru, Karnataka police have been able to convince her to provide her statement regarding the crime, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai informed the Assembly on Wednesday. The woman gave her statement before a magistrate on Wednesday, he said.

The court of II Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) in Mysuru recorded the victim’s statement in the August 24 assault and rape case.

## PM-CARES Fund not a fund of Government of India, HC told

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

PRIME MINISTER’s Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situation Fund (PM-CARES Fund), a charitable trust under the law, has told Delhi High Court that the trust’s fund is not a fund of the Government of India and its amount does not go in the Consolidated Fund of India.

“Irrespective of whether the trust is a “State” or other authority within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution of India and or whether it is a “public author-

ity” within the meaning of section 2[h] of Right to Information Act, Section 8 in general and that of provisions contained in sub-section [e] and [j], in particular, of the Right to Information Act, it is not permissible to disclose third party information,” Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, an Under Secretary at the PMO said in a reply.

The submission was made in response to a petition seeking that PM-CARES Fund be declared as “The State” under Article 12 of the Constitution. The plea contends that citizens of the country are aggrieved that a fund set up by the Prime

Minister and with trustees like the PM and ministers of Home, Defence and Finance has been declared to be a fund over which there is no government control.

Srivastava told the court he functions in the trust on an honorary basis and that the trust functions with transparency and its funds are audited by an auditor who is a Chartered Accountant from the panel prepared by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

“To ensure transparency, the audited report is put on the official website of the trust along with the details of utilisation of

# Pinarayi shows govt data to junk ‘narcotic jihad, love jihad’ claims

**SHAJU PHILIP**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, SEPTEMBER 22



Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan

AMID A raging debate over a Catholic bishop’s remarks about youths from non-Muslims communities being targets of “love jihad” and “narcotic jihad” in Kerala, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Wednesday quoted government data to dismiss all such claims, and sought to delink it from religion.

Vijayan told reporters that if data on those involved in religious conversion and narcotics are analysed, it is clear that minorities do not have any special role in such activities. There is no backing of facts for such claims, he said.

He said these issues – so-called “love jihad” and “narcotic jihad” – cannot be categorised with any particular religion.

Dismissing claims of “narcotic jihad” as baseless, he gave numbers from government data.

In 2020, as many as 4,941 cases were registered in Kerala under NDPS Act. Of the 5,422 accused, 2,700 (49.80%) people were Hindus, 1,869 (34.47%) Muslims and 853 (15.73%) Christians. “There is no unusual ratio in these figures. Narcotic business is not on the basis of religion,” he said.

The Chief Minister said there is no evidence to show that drug peddlers or drug users belong to a particular religion. “On school, college campuses, there are students from various communities. If any of them uses drugs or becomes part of the drug peddling network, it is puerile to analyse that as part of a concerted attempt of any religion,” he said. “Such campaigns would tantamount to sowing seeds of hatred in a state like Kerala where people from all communities live together.”

Early this month, bishop Joseph Kallarangatt of Palai diocese, during a sermon, had said

there were two types of jihad – “love jihad and narcotic jihad”. “The narcotic jihad is the activity of spoiling the life of non-Muslims, particularly youths, by making them addicted to drugs,” he said.

On the “love jihad” claim, Vijayan said, “When the government examined the claim that Christian women were trapped in love affair, converted to Islam and taken to extremist outfits such as IS, a different picture emerged.”

“Of the 100 who have reportedly joined IS from Kerala, 72 joined that outfit abroad where they had gone for job or other purposes. Of them, except a person from Kozhikode [a Hindu], others were born Muslims. Twenty-eight others joined IS from Kerala. Of them, five joined IS after converting. They converted after marriage. These figures do not substantiate the claim that women are converted to Islam after being trapped in love,” the Chief Minister said.

## 2 cops among six govt employees sacked for terror links in J&K

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 22

SIX GOVERNMENT employees, including two policemen, were on Wednesday dismissed from service for their alleged links with terrorists in J&K, taking the total number of employees sacked in last nearly six months to 25, officials said.

The six employees, include constable Showkat Ahmad Khan, a resident of Budgam; constable Jaffer Hussain Butt of Kishtwar; teacher Abdul Hamid Wani of Bijbehara in Anantnag district; a junior assistant in the Roads and Buildings Department, Mohd Rafi Butt of Kishtwar; teacher Liyaqat Ali Kakroo of Baramulla, and Range officer Tariq Mehmood Kohli of Poonch.

In an identical order about the dismissal, the General Administration Department said the Lt Governor was satisfied after considering the facts and circumstances of the cases and on the basis of the information available that the activities of these employees were such as to warrant their dismissal from service.

On July 11, as many as 11 employees, including two sons of the Hizbul Mujahideen chief, were dismissed from service.

## HC quashes FIR against Kashmiri Pandit activist over tweet

**ARUN SHARMA**  
JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 22

THE HIGH Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh Wednesday quashed an FIR against Kashmiri Pandit activist Sushil Pandit for a 2018 tweet that claimed that five CRPF personnel were killed during the Ramadan ceasefire in 2018.

Pandit had tweeted: “Just heard, 5 CRPF jawans martyred in Pampore. #RamzanCeasefire is working. Question is who is it working for!” The statement was untrue. Pandit deleted his tweet. The bench of Justice Rajesh Oswal said: “This court is of the considered view that the FIR impugned, is nothing but an abuse of the process of law.”

“A perusal of the petitioner’s tweet would reveal that it begins with words ‘JUST HEARD’, meaning thereby that what was uploaded by him was just heard by him and he had no personal knowledge of the same,” observed Justice Oswal.

Pandit had filed a petition under section 561-A (now 482) through advocate Ankur Sharma. Sharma submitted that the petitioner was not aware that his “accidental tweet” was probably saved by some persons “who would later on use it for their political end to harass him”.

funds received by the trust,” the reply said.

It said all donations received by the trust are through online payments, cheques and or demand drafts. The amount so received is audited and the expenditure of the trust fund displayed on the website, it said.

“In view of the specific provisions of Section 8 of the Right to Information Act, the relief against para 5.3 of the trust deed dated 27.3.2020 pales into insignificance,” Srivastava said, referring to a prayer against a paragraph in the trust deed which states that it was not created by

or under the Constitution or by any law made by Parliament or state Assembly.

The petition filed by Samyak Gangwal states that the PM-CARES Fund was formed by the Prime Minister in March 2020 for a noble purpose of extending assistance to the citizens in wake of Covid-19 pandemic and huge donations were received by it. However, the plea said, a copy of the trust deed was released by the PM-CARES Fund on its website in December 2020, according to which it is not created by or under the Constitution or by any law made by Parliament.



# Record drug haul: In June, same firm got similar consignment from Afghan source

**GOPAL KATESHIYA, AANCHAL MAGAZINE, SANDEEP SINGH & KARUNJIT SINGH**  
RAJKOT, NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

INVESTIGATIONS HAVE shown that the Andhra firm registered as the official recipient of the two containers in which 2,988 kg of heroin, valued at some Rs 21,000 crore, was found hidden at Mundra Port in Kutch by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), had imported a similar consignment from the same Afghanistan company in June this year.

That consignment too was sent by M/S Hasan Husain Ltd and declared as containing ‘semi-processed talc stones’. The invoice was in the name of one Kuldip Singh, from Alipur, Delhi.

The DRI has in its custody Chennai-based Machavaram Sudhakar and his wife Govindaraju Durga Purna Vaisali. Vaisali is the proprietor of the firm M/s Aashi Trading Company, registered in Andhra Pradesh’s Vijayawada.

The DRI said Wednesday that eight arrests had been made so far, including four Afghans and an Uzbek national. It also claimed that the total seizure was now up to 3,004 kg, with additional drugs (suspected to be heroin and cocaine) recovered from a house in Noida.

Apart from Noida, the DRI also conducted follow-up investigations in New Delhi, Chennai, Coimbatore, Ahmedabad, Mandvi, Gandhidham and Vijayawada. Officials from foreign intelligence agencies are expected to come to India to join the probe, sources said.

The DRI said the consignment was sourced from Kandahar in Afghanistan through Bandar Abbas port in Iran, and suspects the accused to be part of a “larger conspiracy”. Sources said Sudhakar has told the DRI that the firm was started in August last year and that the consignment was sourced from Hasan Husain Ltd in Afghanistan, through their local representative “Amit”.

According to sources, the DRI told a court in Bhuj that the consignment was of Afghan origin and that the accused were in touch with “Afghan and Irani nationals” and there was need to probe “probable threat perception involved”.

Earlier, on June 9, Aashi had imported a similar consignment of talc stones from Hasan Husain Ltd. *The Indian Express* has learnt that “the documents in original” regarding this were directly sent to a Customs House Agent in Gandhidham from Iran, since the vessel had already started sailing. For the second consignment,

Sudhakar allegedly received “two sets of import documents, containing invoice, packing list, certificate of origin”. Sudhakar has reportedly told the DRI that when he enquired with his contact in Iran, called “Javed”, from where the consignment had set sail, the latter had told him that “in the initial set of documents, the weight of the cargo as mentioned in the documents was 300 kg in excess (of) when it was actually weighed by the liner” and hence this was “rectified” and a second set of documents dispatched to his Chennai address.

Amit was the “marketing person” in India for Hasan Husain for both the consignments, as per Sudhakar. The accused has also said Amit would give instructions regarding whom the consignments were meant for.

Sudhakar has reportedly also said that for the June consignment, “Amit” had asked him to prepare an invoice in the name of “Shri Kuldeep Singh @ Alipur, Delhi”, and that the Customs House Agent concerned had delivered the consignment “directly from the port to the mentioned address”.

After the DRI had seized the second consignment several days ago, simultaneous searches were carried out across the country, including the Chennai residence of the accused, from where reportedly incriminating documents and materials were seized. *The Indian Express* has learnt that while the agency seized 1,999,579 kg of the contraband and immediately, subsequent investigations had led it to 988,631 kg more.

The heroin, according to the DRI, was concealed with talc powder in two 40-feet containers, for which the Bill of Entry dated September 11 was filed on behalf of Aashi at Mundra Customs, describing the imported goods as 40,940 MT of ‘semi processed talc stones’. The origin of the consignment was shown as Afghanistan, and it was loaded at Bandar Abbas in Iran.

Even as the DRI said that the three arrested Indian nationals include the holder of the Import Export Code (IEC), a check into the importing firm and its alleged founders draws a blank. The website of the Registrar of Companies does not show any company by the name Aashi registered with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. However, the company might be a sole proprietorship firm and details of such companies are not available on RoC website.

More such consignments of similar nature may have been diverted by now, two persons aware of the development said.

A senior DRI official said more details will be shared later. A senior Commerce Ministry official said, “We do not have information on the company on hand.”

## EXPRESS INVESTIGATION - PART 2 (FROM PAGE ONE)

# Kin on list, ex-Minister distances himself



From Samastipur to Madhubani and Jamui to Sheikhpura and at least 20 districts, *The Indian Express* has found, it covers a sweeping range of beneficiaries across the state’s political spectrum — from relatives of senior JD(U) and BJP leaders to an RJD leader.

Topping the list, in the amount involved, is JD(U) ex-state secretary Anil Singh’s family, which got contracts worth about Rs 80 crore. Anil Singh is still a key leader in state politics and attends all major functions of the ruling party led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

Also on the list: BJP MLA Vinod Narayan Jha’s nephew, who was awarded contracts worth around Rs 3.5 crore in 2019-20 when his uncle was PHED (Public Health Engineering Department) Minister.

Most of the projects under the scheme are implemented by PHED, which disburses Rs 30-57 lakh for each contract to companies or contractors selected through a bidding process. The department gives 60-65 per cent of the contract amount to contractors during the course of work and 35-40 per cent in equal parts for maintenance over five years.

Each project under the scheme involves setting up two plastic tanks of 5,000 litres each on a tower, pumping water to these tanks from a borewell to be maintained by the company operator, and supplying water through a pipeline to a brass tap at a location nearest to the entrance of a house — in each ward.

*The Indian Express* reviewed bid documents from 20 districts to find that several of these contracts went to family and associates of top political leaders — officials said all of these projects, except one mired in court cases, have been completed:

■ **Anil Singh, former JD(U) state secretary**  
**PHED contracts for two firms run by his son, daughter-in-law and associates. Cost: Rs 80 crore.**

Records show the contracts were awarded in Singh’s home district Samastipur to two firms: Alectra Infrastrate Ltd and Fadle Chem Pvt Ltd. According to Rajesh Kumar Roshan, the PHED executive engineer in

Samastipur, 60 per cent of the project cost has been disbursed to both firms. “Both Fadle Chem and Alectra Infrastrate have completed the work and have been paid for construction cost as per agreement. But there are some complaints that these two and some other companies are not doing the maintenance work properly,” Roshan told *The Indian Express*.

RoC records show that Ankita Singh, daughter-in-law of Anil Singh, is one of three directors in Alectra Infrastrate. The other directors are Ajay Kumar Singh and his son Kunal Kumar, both Samastipur residents and known associates of the JD(U) leader. The company was allotted 11 sets of contracts in 2018-19, each covering 2-4 wards, the PHED official said. The official said the PHED’s project cost for each ward is a minimum of Rs 40 lakh and can go up to over Rs 50 lakh, depending on size and population.

Records show that Mrityunjay Kumar and Ankita Singh, the son and daughter-in-law of Anil Singh, are directors of Fadle Chem Pvt Ltd, which was allotted contracts in 2019-20. Records list Fadle Chem’s address as New Colony, Dharampur, Samastipur, 848101 — the same address used by Anil Singh.

Anil Singh did not respond to queries from *The Indian Express*. His son Mrityunjay Kumar said: “Fadle Chem got Nal Jal contracts in over 200 wards of Samastipur. We have completed work in most of these areas.”

■ **Vinod Narayan Jha, former PHED Minister & BJP MLA**  
**Contracts for his nephew Sunil Kumar Jha. Cost: Rs 3.5 crore.**

Bid documents show that Sunil Kumar Jha, a Madhubani-based contractor, was allotted two sets of contracts in the district in 2019-20 worth around Rs 3.5 crore. Jha’s uncle Vinod Narayan Jha, who is now BJP’s Benipatti MLA in Madhubani, was Bihar’s PHED Minister at the time.

When contacted, Vinod Narayan Jha said: “I was not part of the process of awarding the contract...just because I became a minister did not mean that I would ask my relatives to quit their contract business. If some relatives have got the contracts, they would have qualified through the bidding process.”

Sunil Kumar Jha was not available for comment.

■ **Deepak Kumar, senior JD(U) leader**  
**PHED contracts awarded to Khushi Construction in**



BJP leader Rajan Tiwari’s company got contracts in Araria.

**which he and his relatives are partners. Cost: Rs 400 crore.**

Bid documents show that Khushi Construction, in which JD(U) leader Deepak Kumar, brother Rajiv Kumar and a relative are partners, was awarded contracts in over 900 wards across Purnia, Saharsa, Araria and Sheikhpura.

PHED officials said that about Rs 80 crore was disbursed to the company, which functioned till early 2020 when it faced court cases on charges of alleged violation of contract rules and forgery, and was debarred and black-listed.

Deepak Kumar was not available for comment. Rajiv Kumar, who holds power of attorney for Khushi Construction, told *The Indian Express* that the company had complied with all norms to get the contracts. “The matter is in the High Court. Although we have been blacklisted for now, we can still get back the work later,” he said.

■ **Rajiv Kamal alias Rinku Singh, RJD state general secretary**  
**PHED contracts in Jamui. Cost: Rs 4.5 crore.**

Kamal is a registered contractor with PHED and resident of Laxmipur in Jamui. He was allotted three sets of contracts in Jamui. Kamal was not available for comment. Kamal’s project engineer Raman Kumar said: “We have been allotted work in Digdighi panchayat of Laxmipur (wards 1,3,4,5,6,8 and 10), Gauda panchayat of Ghodpadan (wards 4 and 14), and one ward each in Barhat and Paro panchayats. We have completed the work.”

■ **Rajan Tiwari, BJP spokesperson**

**PHED contracts for his company, Jai Sri Shyam Construction. Cost: Rs 17 crore.**

Jai Sri Shyam Construction, owned by Tiwari, got PHED contracts in 2019-20 in 28 wards of Khaikha and Amhara panchayats of Araria. Tiwari is a close aide of Forbesganj MLA Vidyasagar Kesari and Araria MP Pradeep Singh. “I am also a businessman and have tried to do good work as a contractor,” Tiwari said.

■ **Manoj Gupta, ex-state coordinator, BJP business cell**  
**PHED contracts for his firm, R.M. Construction. Cost: Rs 23 crore.**

R.M. Construction was awarded 12 sets of contracts worth about Rs 23 crore in 2018-19 and 2019-20 in Samastipur. Gupta was not available for comment.

■ **Dharmendra Kumar Sah, president, JD(U) EBC wing, Samastipur**  
**PHED contracts in Samastipur. Cost: Rs 4 crore.**

Sah, a contractor, got two sets of contracts worth Rs 4 crore in 2019-20. He did not respond to requests for comment.

The other beneficiaries include:

■ **Ahmed Akhtar** (Congress, Bagaha): Got contracts totalling Rs 85 lakh in two wards in 2019-20. Akhtar said he works for JP Enterprises, which is owned by local resident Janardhan Prasad.

■ **Rishu Singh** (son of Ravindra Singh, a PHED office attendant in Sheikhpura): Got contracts in 2019-20 totalling Rs 1 crore in Sanaiya panchayat of Sheikhpura. He was not available for comment.

## ‘Asked dept secy to look into complaints’

Sources said the meeting discussed the findings of *The Indian Express* investigation.

Speaking to *The Indian Express* earlier, PHED Minister Ram Prit Paswan said: “We have taken serious note of the issue of political patronage. Though friends and relatives of politicians have every right to get government contracts through due process, we will scrutinise the process of bidding and tendering if there are specific complaints.”

He said: “I have asked the department’s secretary to look into such complaints...that someone did not get contracts because others with political connections were favoured.”

Paswan’s response came even as opposition parties, Congress and RJD, called for Prasad’s resignation.

Meanwhile, PHED Engineer-in-Chief and Special Secretary Daya Shankar Mishra said in a letter to *The Indian Express* that “the implementation of Har Ghar Nal Jal schemes in Katihar district has been carried out with a transparent tendering process as per the provisions” laid down by the government.

“No complaint against award of tender and/or deficiency in service has been received in the Department so far. In case any complaint is received or any adverse issue is flagged, strict action would be taken as per Government rules and provisions,” the letter stated.

Earlier Wednesday, Bihar’s Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Prasad Yadav dared Chief Minister Nitish Kumar to take action against Prasad. “This government has been mired in allegations of corruption.... Nitish Kumar often

talks of monitoring the Har Ghar Nal Jal scheme. But can he take action against his Deputy CM Tarkishore Prasad? Nitish Kumar is the CM on compassionate grounds and cannot take action against (other) NDA leaders,” said Tejashwi.

In New Delhi, Congress leader Randeep Surjewala described the scheme as “Har Neta Theka Yojana (contract for every leader scheme)”.

Referring to the findings of *The Indian Express* investigation, Surjewala targeted the BJP leadership and the Bihar government. “Isn’t this a conflict of interest? Shouldn’t Tarkishore Prasad resign immediately? Shouldn’t J P Nadda seek his resignation immediately? Shouldn’t (Prime Minister) Modi and (Union Home Minister) Amit Shahji come forward and speak against corruption? Why is (Chief Minister) Nitish Kumar silent?” he asked.

“Tarkishore Prasad should resign or be sacked,” Surjewala said.

However, Bihar BJP state president Sanjay Jaiswal defended Prasad, saying that his “family and aides had got contracts in 2019-20 when he was an MLA (in Katihar)”.

On Wednesday, *The Indian Express* reported that the scheme’s implementation has been marked by political patronage to a set of beneficiaries — from Prasad to senior JD(U) and BJP leaders of the ruling coalition.

The PHED, which is the scheme’s implementing authority along with the state’s Panchayati Raj and Urban Development departments, has awarded a bulk of the contracts.

contracts in Husainabad in 2019-20 worth Rs 45 lakh. He was not available for comment.

■ **Mukesh Singh** (son of Ramashish Singh, ex-JD(U) leader in Gopalganj): Allotted Panchayati Raj Department work in 12 wards — six each in Vishnupura and Basdiha panchayats — totalling over Rs 1.3 crore. Mukesh Singh said: “I was allotted work in 2016-17 and completed it long ago.”



**CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF HARYANA**  
NAAC Accredited 'A' Grade University  
**MAHENDERGARH - 123031 (HARYANA)**  
Advt.No.: 4/NT/R/2021 Date: 22.09.2021  
**EMPLOYMENT NOTICE**  
Online applications are invited from the eligible candidates for appointment to various **non-teaching posts**. Online Application Form and other related details are available on the University's Website **www.cuh.ac.in**. Any further information in this regard shall be uploaded on the University's website only. The last date for submission of online application is **22-10-2021, 05:00 PM**.  
**REGISTRAR**



**Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur**  
भारतीय अभियांत्रिकी विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, शिवपुर  
(An Institute of National Importance under Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)  
**SPECIAL DRIVE FOR FACULTY RECRUITMENT AGAINST BACKLOG RESERVED VACANCIES**  
Advt. No. RO/SE/21/12 Date: 22.09.2021  
Applications are invited from Indian Nationals for the posts of Assistant Professor Grade I (Level 12), Assistant Professor Grade II (Level 11) and Assistant Professor Grade II (Level 10) against the backlog reserved vacancies (ST, SC and OBC). The necessary qualifications, experience and emoluments will be as per the latest notifications issued by the Ministry of Education. Reservation rules of the Govt. of India will be followed strictly. The last date of submission of filled in application form is 21st October, 2021. For details please visit: **www.iiests.ac.in**  
**Dean (Faculty Welfare)**



**GOVERNMENT COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, KEONJHAR**  
(Formerly Orissa School of Mining Engineering [Degree Stream], Keonjhar)  
At: Jamunalia, P.O.: Old Town, Dist., Keonjhar, Pin: 758002 (Odisha)  
Web: **www.gcekr.ac.in** / Mail id- **principal@gcekr.ac.in**  
**Advertisement No.: 858 Date: 22.09.2021**  
**EXTENSION OF LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FOR RECRUITMENT OF REGULAR PROFESSOR AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**  
In continuation to this office advertisement No. 705. Dt.13.08.2021, this is for information of all concerned that the last date of submission of application for the recruitment of regular position of Professor and Associate Professor is extended up to **Dt. 21.10.2021**. The details are available at the Institute website **www.gcekr.ac.in**.  
**Principal**  
OIPR-14089/11/0003/2122

**DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS**  
**MAULANA AZAD MEDICAL COLLEGE**  
**NEW DELHI**

**ADVERTISMENT**

Proposals are invited for selecting the system-integrator for the pilot phase of Mission NEEV under DSHMFW and RBSK. Expression of interest document has been uploaded on **MAMC website (www.mamc.ac.in)** Last date for submission of On-line proposal is 4th October, 2021 before 17:00 hours.  
**Hon'ble Dean**  
**MAMC**  
DIP/SHABDARTH/0319/21-22

**DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS**  
**MAULANA AZAD MEDICAL COLLEGE NEW DELHI**

**RECRUITMENT ADVERTISEMENT**

Application are invited from eligible candidates to be appointed to work on purely temporary contractual basis, Mission NEEV, DSHM & RBSK programme for a period of 11 month in Genetic lab, Department of Pediatrics, Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi. The details of post available on website **www.mamc.ac.in**.  
Interested candidates may email duly filled applications in format uploaded on website with necessary enclosures at **neevmamc@gmail.com**  
**Last Date of receiving applications: 25th September 2021 before 5 P.M.**  
Date of Interview will be informed to shortlisted candidates on **MAMC Website www.mamc.ac.in** by 27.09.2021, 5 P.M.  
**Hon’ble Dean**  
**MAMC**  
DIP/Shabdarth/0320/21-22



12



THE INDIAN EXPRESS, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

## THE EDITORIAL PAGE

**WORDLY WISE**  
HAVE NO FEAR OF PERFECTION — YOU'LL  
NEVER REACH IT.  
— SALVADOR DALI

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

## AF-PAK AMBUSH

Resistance against inclusion of Taliban in SAARC is justified.  
The Islamist group has much to do to win world's trust

**N**O TEARS NEED be shed for the cancellation of the SAARC foreign ministers meeting on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York, given that so much in the region is lost already. Afghanistan was inducted into SAARC in 2007, a decision that recognised its struggle to emerge from years of war and isolation, and its historical, political, religious, economic and cultural links to the rest of the region. The takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban is a massive setback to South Asia. It is yet to be officially recognised by any country, or by the United Nations, though some Western nations are engaged with it to provide humanitarian aid. In the SAARC grouping, even Pakistan, which makes no secret of its support for the Taliban government, has yet to declare official recognition of the new set up in Kabul. So it is surprising that it wanted the Taliban symbolically represented at the planned regional meeting, with an empty chair (Amir Khan Muttaqi, the Taliban's "acting foreign minister", designated and sanctioned as a terrorist under United Nations Security Council resolution 1267 like many other Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan cabinet members, could not have attended). The move appears to have been an attempt to pressgang SAARC to grant de facto legitimacy to the IEA. It is not clear how many SAARC capitals pushed back against this, but it is certain Delhi would have been among them, and rightly so. As SAARC works by consensus, the meeting has had to be called off.

However, the larger issue of recognition of the IEA is looming. The IEA has written to the UN Secretary General to accept its own chosen Permanent Representative to the UN. But recognition is the only leverage the world now has with the Taliban, and it is in no position to grant this easily, especially as the IEA has conveyed quite clearly that it does not intend to address, at least to begin with, global concerns about a Haqqani heavy government without women and ethnic minorities. The UN should take its time considering the Taliban request.

It may be time to face up to the fact that there is no real chance of reviving an already moribund SAARC. It has been years since there was a summit, principally because it is Pakistan's turn to host it, and Delhi has refused to participate due to the tensions between the two countries over terrorist incidents and other issues. Other SAARC arrangements, including regional trade, have never been able to get off the ground due to the forever hostility between the two big neighbours. To get around this, there was already talk of a separate grouping that would be "SAARC minus 1". Now, with the Taliban in Kabul, and Pakistan playing its local guardian, regional cooperation in South Asia is bound to remain a chimera.

## DRAW THE LINE

The Delhi Police must make sure that those guilty of attacking  
Hyderabad MP's house are held accountable

**T**HE ATTACK ON the residence of Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi in the heart of the national capital marks a dangerous new low. That activists from a Hindu right-wing organisation are emboldened enough to gather at one of Delhi's most secure neighbourhoods, vandalise a parliamentarian's house, and chant communal abuses is a sign that the footsoldiers of polarisation have a disturbing confidence in their impunity. The Delhi Police, which has arrested five members of the Hindu Sena, must disabuse them of such notions — and ensure that the guilty are held accountable. Without any surprise, the Hindu Sena activists have defended their violent actions by accusing Owaisi of making "anti-Hindu" speeches. Owaisi had reacted to UP chief minister Yogi Adityanath's *abba jaan* slur in a recent speech about government welfare schemes. The attack on the MP's house is just another example of how the right to take offence is being legitimised by self-appointed custodians of religion and enforced by muscle power at the expense of constitutional freedoms of speech and expression.

This is not the first time in recent months that anti-minority rabble-rousing spectacles have been staged in the national capital — and its surrounds. Last month, at a Jantar Mantar gathering — again in the high-security Lutyen's Delhi — members of several Hindu right-wing organisations called for violence against the Muslim community. Not only was the alarming aggression on public display recorded on video by the activists, but also spread further through the velocity of social media. While arrests were made in that case, too, the growing clout of groups that preach violence in the name of religion must not be taken lightly. Indeed, across the country, a crude simmering mobilisation appears to have licensed violence against ordinary Muslims, whether it is a bangle-seller in Indore or a rickshaw-puller in Kanpur. It has led to umpteen instances of moral policing of women by proponents of the paranoia of "love jihad". It will also further ghettoise cities and villages into spaces for "us" and "them", and sow conflict and disharmony.

The history of this subcontinent has grim lessons on the consequences of such lawlessness. By hurling stones and axes at an MP's house in Lutyen's Delhi, the vandals of the Hindu Sena attempt to send a message to their radicalised base. But, for the Delhi Police, which reports to the Union home minister, the stakes are definitely higher. It must crack down on such displays of brazen aggression against the Hyderabad MP. Doing otherwise would run the risk of allowing a communal contagion to spread out of control.

## NOT TOO HOT

Pandas reproduce less when things get too good.  
Life, it turns out, is about the challenges

**S**OMETIMES, THE PORRIDGE needs to be too hot (or too cold), for there to even be a third bear. It turns out — according to a recent study in the journal *Conservation Biology* — that for giant pandas, there is such a phenomenon as too much of a good thing. From data collected at the Wolong nature reserve in China coupled with computer modelling, researchers have concluded that some imperfections in their habitat bring benefits when it comes to mating. Gene flow among giant pandas increases as the proportion of the ideal bamboo-rich habitat within a landscape increases but then sees a decline when this figure breaches the 80 per cent mark.

The panda, for long a symbol of endangered species (it's on the logo of the WWF), has seen a resurgence in recent years and has moved up the list to "vulnerable". This is no small feat, considering just how difficult it is to get pandas to mate, particularly in captivity. For example, Ying Ying and Le Le, a panda couple that resides in Ocean Park in Hong Kong zoo, managed to get together only after a decade in 2020, after various efforts from their human handlers. The insights into the ideal habitat for pandas to reproduce will certainly inform future conservation efforts. But for humans, too, there are lessons.

Among the possible reasons for the decline in fertility as habitats get more "ideal" is the fact that too much comfort reduces the drive to survive. And, of course, too much hardship does not allow beings to thrive. It is that fine balance that allows for ambition, for growth, and perhaps even creativity. Like Goldilocks, the lesson the rest of us can learn from the Ursidae is how to get things just right



RAJIV BHATIA

TWO MEETINGS OF the leaders of a plural lateral grouping within seven months is an exceptional development in world affairs, especially when it involves the US and its three Quad partners — Australia, Japan and India. Why the leaders are meeting again on September 24 and what they hope to achieve are matters of mounting public interest. This first in-person summit is especially significant — set against the backdrop of the Indo-Pacific region grappling with the repercussions of Afghanistan, the growing aggressiveness of China and the formation of AUKUS, a brand-new trilateral security partnership.

The leaders' summit of the Quadrilateral Framework will be hosted by US President Joseph Biden in Washington. It may be of greater substance than the inaugural virtual summit of March 12, because the context of the two summits is significantly different. In March, the Biden administration had just begun its innings; it was struggling to define its China and Indo-Pacific policies, and expectations from the Quad were low.

A substantive joint statement, reinforced by a smart op-ed by the four leaders in *The Washington Post*, drew global attention. Now, three weeks after the chaotic and mismanaged withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan, that country's future and regional security issues are bound to dominate the discussions. The onus is on the US to convince its partners that the Afghan experience has strengthened, not weakened, its resolve to defend its — and their — interests in the Indo-Pacific.

The AUKUS — the Australia-UK-US partnership — too will need some serious explaining, particularly to Japan and India, which worry about the emergence of an inner circle (US and Australia) within the Quad, which is now connected to the UK, a non-Quad partner. There are even reports that British Prime Minister Boris Johnson may be visiting Washington around the time of the Quad summit.

Indian experts are divided over the im-



REED HASTINGS

THE LAST 19 months of the pandemic have been some of the most difficult of our lives. We all spent more time isolated in our homes than ever before. But we found a universal connection in the remarkable stories we watched. The world rooted for their favourite characters and was transported to a reimagined Regency England, a college campus in Jaipur, the Louvre in Paris, a 1960s chess tournament in Moscow, a karate dojo in Los Angeles and a bank in Spain with people wearing Dali masks.

Stories have always been a source of comfort, joy and community for people around the world. Today the screen reminds us that great stories have the enduring power to unite, inspire and entertain. Storytelling goes to the heart of what it means to be human. When we watch stories, we forge new connections and build a deeper understanding of the world, making us all feel more connected. We have the responsibility of providing choice and control to our members, especially parents, so they can decide what their children watch.

India is home to the finest traditions of storytelling. Home to one of the world's most vibrant entertainment industries, India is remarkably well placed to lead in the era of internet entertainment. Brilliant creators and talent, spread across the country and united in their love for storytelling, are creating shows and films that can be watched by Indians on hundreds of millions of screens, be it a TV or smartphone.

Earlier this year, we joined hands with UNESCO to celebrate India's rich cultural



## Anchoring the Quad

Onus is on US to convince allies it will defend its  
interests in the Indo-Pacific and elsewhere

pact of AUKUS on the Quad. Some argue that it reduces the Quad's salience, while others maintain that the Quad is strengthened by the new trilateral. However, a sober evaluation suggests that AUKUS will have both positive and negative implications for the Quad; these will become evident after the forthcoming summit.

Another consequential development is the September 16 release of the European Union's Indo-Pacific strategy. A shorter version presented in April has now been given a comprehensive form. It paints the EU and the Indo-Pacific as deeply connected in diverse realms ranging from trade and investment to security and defence. The EU's determination to scale up and diversify cooperation with democratic and like-minded nations could be a boost to the Quad, provided the Europeans are ready to stand up to China's assertive behaviour, violations of international law and norms and increasing use of coercion.

These issues will dominate the headlines in Washington for sure. But the Quad also has to do the necessary and backbreaking work of institutionalising itself, and the fulfilling of past commitments. For instance, the joint vaccine production programme seems to be on track and their distribution first to needy Indo-Pacific countries will begin in early 2022. The working group on emerging and critical technologies too is reporting progress. A principal endeavour is to leverage the Open Radio Access Network (O-RAN) to derive benefits of interoperability of the 5G technologies offered by different vendors in the west.

On climate change, the focus of the third working group, some key issues remain unresolved — specifically, India is unable to show "more ambitions" regarding its climate goals, despite two visits to New Delhi this year by John Kerry, the US president's special envoy on climate. But efforts are underway to finalise technology-sharing and other cooperation to meet the challenges of climate change.

India should be cautiously optimistic about the role and prospects of the Quad. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Washington will be his first major voyage abroad in the Covid era, after his visit to Dhaka in June this year. His advisers expect India's strategic perspective will be fully factored in, considering that it is the only Quad power with land borders with China, and a proximity to the serious threat of terrorism, extremism and radicalisation emanating from Afghanistan.

## THE POWER OF STORYTELLING

Creativity in India, from India and by India can now go out to the world

heritage through the family favourite animation, *Mighty Little Bheem*. India has the vision and talent to export its best stories; and with our subtitles and dubs in over 30 languages, more people can now discover even more Indian stories and culture — wherever they live.

It's a huge privilege to be a part of the creative community in India. We've licensed hundreds of Indian films and shows for our members and invested in over 100 Netflix originals, almost all of which have been commissioned by Indian executives who live locally, know the culture and speak the language. It's testament to India's breadth of storytelling that these originals have been filmed in over 25 cities and towns across the country, from Lucknow to Lonavla, Mumbai to Madurai, Gulmarg to Goa, Kolkata to Kochi.

As a part of the growing creative community in India, we understand that telling stories that are made in India and can be watched by the world is a collective experience. These successful stories are born of partnerships with brilliant Indian creators, directors, writers, actors and crew. Our commitment to India is strong and growing. We want to deepen our partnership with Indian creators as they reinvent genres, stretch boundaries, and inspire new ideas. In the last year, we have supported multiple production workshops, and editing courses with the New York Film Academy. We will continue to build and nurture the next generation of creative talent — whether young animators in partnership with GLOBELINS L'école de l'image, one of the world's finest animation

schools, or entirely new talent through BAFTA Breakthrough India, an initiative to find 10 new voices across the country.

Inclusion in storytelling is important to us and we are proud that more than half of our films and series in India feature women in central roles. Since last year, we've worked with more than one thousand women creators, talent, and crew on and off the screen in India.

The popularity of Indian stories means that the entertainment industry is an important economic driver for India too. It's why we work so hard to find stories from across India, supporting our creative partners in bringing their visions to life.

Last year when the pandemic hit, we stood with the creative community and committed \$150 million to support the hardest hit workers on our own productions globally — carpenters, electricians, hair and make-up artists. We also helped the broader film and television industry through the creation of over 20 hardship funds in partnership with organisations from around the world, including the Producers Guild of India. It was inspiring to see the creative community of Tamil cinema come together for the nine-film anthology *Navarasam*, sending a message of resilience and solidarity during these tough times that echoed far and wide.

Working together is how we will usher in a new golden age of creativity in India, from India and by India, but that can be enjoyed all around the world.

The writer is founder and Co-CEO of Netflix

## SEPTEMBER 23, 1981, FORTY YEARS AGO

## US ON IMF LOANS

THE US TREASURY Secretary Donald Regan, who favours stricter IMF conditionalities about loans, says that his country still has questions about \$5 million SDR loan to India. In general Regan wants the IMF to be stricter about giving loans. The problems about India, he said, include continuing domestic and international deficits, failure to control the money supply and a general "inability to get their house in order." The Reagan administration's tough attitude towards the World Bank and other lending institutions — also stressed by Regan on Monday — has been known for a long time. It is being further de-

veloped in a detailed study, parts of which have already been leaked presumably.

## PUNJAB TENSION

APPEALING FOR COMMUNAL amity in Punjab, the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on Tuesday expressed her anguish at attempts to exploit religion for political ends. Describing the Akali Dal charge that a clash of two personalities in the state Congress (I) was responsible for the present tension as absolutely wrong, the Prime Minister told a news conference that the need of the hour was to create a congenial atmosphere. The clash of personalities was an apparent refer-

ence to reported differences between the Union Home Minister, Zail Singh, and the State Chief Minister, Darbara Singh, something the Prime Minister denied vehemently.

## GROMYKO'S CHARGES

SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER, Andrei Gromyko, has accused "certain quarters in Western countries" of interfering in Poland's internal affairs and trying to loosen its socialist foundations. But he told the UN General Assembly in a speech that these attempts will be futile. He also lashed out at what he termed hostile, criminal intrigues by the United States against Cuba.



New Delhi





# The perfect coalition for America

The Quad fits the Biden administration’s inclination towards flexible multilateralism, is consistent with the US president’s desire to see democracies deliver and provides a solution to the China problem



TANVI MADAN

ON FRIDAY, THE leaders of Australia, India, Japan, and the United States will meet for the first-ever in-person Quadrilateral (“Quad”) summit. A year ago, such a gathering would have been difficult to envision. Until January 2021, Delhi and Tokyo would not even use the word “Quad” in their statements. More significantly, with elections looming in the US, the fate of the Quad was unclear. The Trump administration had helped revive it in 2017, but the Joe Biden campaign had shown little interest in the Quad. Rather than take an Anything-But-Trump attitude, however, President Biden has not just embraced this coalition, but doubled down on it.

So, what explains the Biden administration persisting with the Quad, and even elevating it from the ministerial to the leader level? Utility trumped politics. The coalition fits with the president’s desire to see democracies try to deliver, and the administration’s broader foreign policy approach emphasising alliances and partnerships — and it helps provide a solution to its China problem.

Biden’s embrace of the Quad came early in the administration. Within a month of taking office, the administration hosted a ministerial, and then, a month later, a virtual Quad leaders’ summit. This was consistent with the administration’s desire to shore up alliances and partnerships, in part to build a “position of strength” from which to approach competitors such as China. As the first multilateral leaders’ meeting that Biden hosted, the Quad summit also reflected — and stemmed from — the administration’s intention to focus on the Indo-Pacific region. In addition, it helped signal that the administration would follow not a China-first approach, but an Indo-Pacific or Asia-first approach from which the China policy would flow. Moreover, like the Trump administration, Biden officials envisioned a significant role for non-all India in their strategy for the region — and the Quad provided a way to work with India beyond bilateral platforms.

The Quad also fits with the administration’s adoption of flexible multilateralism. This flows from a recognition that bilateral alliances and partnerships, as well as regional and international organisations are necessary but insufficient mechanisms to deal with today’s challenges. This is where coalitions come in, bringing together allies and partners aligned on certain issues or interests.

In the Indo-Pacific, a crucial interest for the Biden administration is maintaining a rules-based order, one that is being challenged by an assertive China. America’s hub-and-spoke alliance system is critical; ASEAN is important. But they are not enough, and an Asian NATO is impossible. Enter the Quad, which brings together countries that meet the three requirements of ideal coalition membership: They are relevant, resourceful, and ready to work together to tackle the challenges in the Indo-Pacific.

And make no mistake, for the Biden ad-



CR Sasikumar

ministration (and the other members), this challenge is significantly about China. The Quad leaders don’t mention the C word explicitly in their statements. Yet that country’s assertiveness in recent years is what has made the Quad both necessary and possible. Necessary because the challenges China has generated in the Indo-Pacific are acute and cannot be tackled alone. And possible because Beijing’s assertiveness — particularly vis-à-vis the Quad members themselves — has created the market for collaboration between these like-minded states who share concerns about Beijing’s behaviour. This behaviour has also helped strengthen the four countries’ bilateral and trilateral ties on which the Quad is built. And intensifying competition with China has contributed to the Biden administration overcoming any reluctance it might have had to embracing the Quad.

Nonetheless, the Biden administration and the other three governments have reframed the conversation around the Quad away from the Trump administration’s more explicit China framing. They have highlighted the Quad’s origins in the four countries’ collective response to the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, which led to the short-lived Quad 1.0 in 2007. And the first major collaborative initiative of Quad 2.0 involves providing 1 billion Covid vaccine doses in the Indo-Pacific by 2022.

The first helps highlight the Quad’s regional and organic origins. The second conveys a message that is more welcome in

In the Indo-Pacific, a crucial interest for the Biden administration is maintaining a rules-based order, one that is being challenged by an assertive China. America’s hub and spoke alliance system is critical; ASEAN is important. But they are not enough, and an Asian NATO is impossible. Enter the Quad, which brings together countries that meet the three requirements of ideal coalition membership: They are relevant, resourceful, and ready to work together to tackle the challenges in the Indo-Pacific.

Asia — that the grouping is not against something (that is China) but for something (offering solutions to regional problems and preserving a rules-based order). And both help counter Chinese talking points that either dismiss the Quad as useless or accuse it of being a US-imposed, exclusive, anti-China security alliance that will destabilise the region.

That’s not to say the Quad in the Biden era lacks a security dimension. The four navies and their special forces are indeed in the middle of conducting a military exercise. And the agenda at the summit will likely include a discussion on the state of the China challenge, maritime security cooperation, and critical and emerging technology collaboration. But it will also include combating Covid and climate change, enhancing regional connectivity, and fuelling innovation. It’s not that the countries won’t discuss building a balancing coalition in the region privately, but, publicly, they’re more likely to talk about building resilience in the region.

Given the month he’s had with the fall-out from the Afghanistan withdrawal and the AUKUS rollout, President Biden will also want to emphasise America’s resilience — and that reports of its decline are greatly exaggerated. And his Quad partners have traveled from afar to convey their belief — or at least their hope — that, that is indeed the case.

The writer is director of the India Project at the Brookings Institution in Washington DC

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“Undoubtedly, the shrinking of civic space is a major concern in Bangladesh right now. Freedom of expression and opinion is under severe threat as people’s voices are being suppressed using repressive laws such as the TSA.”

— THE DAILY STAR

# Reading Golwalkar and Savarkar

A syllabus has an educational objective. Censoring it under any pretext is unacceptable



APOORVANAND

KANNUR UNIVERSITY has reportedly decided to drop the writings of V D Savarkar and M S Golwalkar from its master of arts course on Governance and Politics. The university had included portions from Golwalkar’s books, including *Bunch of Thoughts*, and Savarkar’s *Hindutva: Who is a Hindu?* in the syllabus of PG Governance and Politics. This course is taught only in Brennen College, under Kannur University, so the syllabus was prepared by the faculty of the Brennan College, which is how it should be.

After opposition by the student wing of the Congress and the IUML, the CPM’s student wing SFI, which was earlier silent on the issue, found the readings unacceptable. The student outfits of the opposition parties agitated, alleging that the university was saffronising the syllabus by including these two ideologues of Hindutva.

The state government led by the CPM sought an explanation from the university. Vice-Chancellor Gopinath Ravindran rejected the charges, saying: “The saffronisation allegation is completely baseless. If you raise such allegations against Kannur University, you can raise similar charges against Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi also. V D Savarkar is included in the syllabus of JNU also.”

This is not a very sound argument. JNU cannot be a benchmark for all academic decisions. They should stand on their own merit. The VC was right to an extent when he said that the syllabus should have representation from all ideologies to allow students to study them critically with a comparative mind.

But a syllabus cannot fight politics. So, the VC had to form an external expert committee, which has apparently suggested that it be removed from the third semester.

This controversy reminded me of an unrelated incident. Approximately 15 years ago, when the UPA was in power and DU was looking for a new VC, I bumped into a leader of a communist party. She informed me that she had managed to stop a problematic academic from being considered for the post. How can a scholar who had made Savarkar part of the syllabus be allowed to head DU, she asked. I was dumbstruck. That having Savarkar in the PG course of political science would pollute the minds of the students was an absurd idea.

Hindutva is a political reality of our times and we need to understand how it works intellectually. Savarkar and Golwalkar are the most significant proponents of this ideology. Without reading them, how can you have an idea of this project which has overrun India and is attractive to many minds?

A syllabus is not a set of propaganda material. When we include readings of different kinds, we expect them to be read and

examined critically from all angles. Obviously, you do not compromise with some fundamental values. Genocide or racial supremacy cannot be treated as valid viewpoints. But we do need to understand how genocidal ideas turn into common sense. For that, we would need to study those who successfully drove their masses towards such an ideology. How do you understand fascism if you do not read Mussolini or *Mein Kampf*?

But we fight our syllabus battles in a very unacademic manner. It remains all about representation, be it historical figures or writers. We never look at the making of a syllabus from the pedagogical angle. In his essay, ‘Education after Auschwitz’, Theodore Adorno said that the primary task before education today is to not let another Auschwitz happen. How can you achieve this if you do not understand how people willingly became complicit in the crime and how others found it acceptable? Also, why did many people not think it their business to be bothered about it?

It would be instructive to look at the debate in Germany on the teaching of *Mein Kampf* in schools. After the expiry of the book’s copyright, its publication became possible. The German teachers’ union and Social-Democratic Party (SPD) asked for extracts from the book to be included in the school curriculum as a means of teaching students about the roots of racism and modern anti-Semitism in Germany.

It was argued that it was important to historically unmask this anti-Semitic, dehumanising polemical pamphlet. It could be done by explaining the propaganda mechanism with the help of appropriately qualified teachers.

The reference to *Mein Kampf* evokes strong emotions and the concerns of the Jews cannot be ignored. But by not critically analysing “this antithesis of humanity, freedom and openness to the world”, you leave it open to be read only as propaganda.

The VC of the Kannur University should have engaged the critics in a discussion on these lines, as to how we deal with an anti-human text to build society’s resistance to the temptation of such a monstrous ideology. It is not a question of doing a balancing act by having the texts of all ideologies together without any educational objective. In a country like India, where Islamophobia is ruining national life, the task of education is to make young minds aware of the theoretical underpinnings of this disease. It is all the more important as followers of Savarkar and Golwalkar do not want their writings to be discussed critically. The RSS wants to whitewash Golwalkar to hide his real intent. The task before the scholarship is to present him in his entirety to the students see what his ideology is.

While discussing syllabi and readings, we need to treat our teachers and students as intelligent, responsible beings. The teacher does not merely transfer something cooked and the student is not an inert recipient. This is what the VC of Kannur University should have conveyed to the government. And the government should not have interfered in the academic decision-making process of the university.

The writer teaches at Delhi University



AMAN WADUD

# Citizens without a country

Judiciary must re-examine how it has viewed citizenship question in Assam

EARLIER THIS month, a division bench of the Gauhati High Court stated in an order: “... citizenship, being an important right of a person, ordinarily, should be decided based on merit by considering the material evidences that may be adduced by the person concerned and not by way of default as happened in the present case.” The court was hearing the case of Asor Uddin, who was declared to be a “foreigner” by a Foreigners Tribunal through an ex parte order — in absentia. Ordinarily, this should not be big news — citizenship is indeed an important right, in fact, the most important right because it is the right to have other rights. But that’s not how the pillars of Indian democracy have treated citizenship. In Assam, any person, including decorated army officers, can be accused of being a “non-citizen”. Hence, this observation feels like a breath of fresh air.

The Ministry of Home Affairs revealed in Parliament that from 1985 to February 28, 2019, 63,959 people have been declared “foreigners” through ex parte orders by the Foreigners Tribunal in Assam — 62 per cent of the total people declared as “foreigners” in the state.

In a criminal case, however serious the charges might be, the trial doesn’t proceed without hearing the accused. But a person can be stripped of his citizenship in absentia — courtesy, the draconian pre-constitutional Foreigners Act of 1946. If a person sent notice by the tribunal fails to appear before

it to prove their citizenship, he is declared a “foreigner” through an ex parte order. The failure to appear could be driven by several factors — most commonly not receiving the notice, failure to afford legal representation and late issuance of a copy of documents by the executive.

The Foreigners Act’s roots lie in the Foreigners Ordinance, which was promulgated in 1939 to meet the emergency created by the Second World War. The Foreigners Act, 1940, replaced the ordinance — this was wartime legislation. Section 7 of the 1940 Act vested the burden of proof upon the foreigner. The Foreigners Act, 1946, repealed the 1940 Act. The burden of proof remained the same. Thus, a legislation which took birth during the Second World War is now being applied to vulnerable citizens — mostly poor farmers, daily wagers, destitute women, and widows. Moinal Mollah and Jabbar Ali were also declared “foreigners” through ex parte orders. Mollah spent almost three years in detention before getting released, he is now an Indian citizen. Jabbar died in detention as a “foreigner”.

The Foreigners Act was never meant to deal with persons who are considered citizens at one point in time. Section 2(a) of the 1946 Act defines “foreigner” as a person who is not a citizen of India. But almost every person tried by the foreigners’ tribunals in Assam was an Indian citizen, before being accused of being an “illegal migrant” and

“doubtful voter or D-voter” by the Assam Border Police and the Election Commission respectively. Both these exercises violate the fundamental right to a fair investigation.

The “burden of proof” has been validated by the Supreme Court in the *Sarbananda Sonowal* case. Sonowal challenged the Illegal Migration (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983, (henceforth IMDT), before the SC. IMDT emphasised procedural fairness, it had an appellate platform to ensure a fair trial, unlike the Foreigners Act, and the burden of proof was on the state. But the apex court found these procedures “extremely difficult, cumbersome and time-consuming” and held IMDT unconstitutional.

There is no end to where subsequent events proved *Sonowal* wrong. K K Venugopal argued for the state of Assam in favour of IMDT stating that as mandated in Article 21, no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law and that there has to be a fair procedure for expulsion of foreigners. The Bench rejected this argument by stating that, “This principle can have no application here for the obvious reason that in the matter of identification of a foreigner and his deportation, he is not being deprived of his life or personal liberty.” This is despite the fact that the Foreigners Act has provisions for detention and restriction of movements. Assam started detaining “declared foreigners” since 2010 to deport to the “country of

origin” but the failure to deport created a situation of indefinite detention.

The SC on multiple occasions in the *Sonowal* judgment has stated that there are “millions of illegal Bangladeshi nationals in Assam”. The court came to this conclusion largely based on a 1998 report by former Assam Governor S K Sinha. The report was not based on any scientific and empirical data, but was apparently prepared after inspection of border areas and districts, discussion with the Indian Ambassador in Bangladesh, and talks with political leaders — yes, political leaders. The judgment extensively quotes from the report, including the prediction that the demand for a merger of the Muslim-dominated districts of Assam with Bangladesh is just a matter of time — after 23 years of the Sinha report, that time is yet to come.

A search in the legal database Manupatra shows that the *Sonowal* judgment has been quoted 212 times by high courts across the country and seven times by the Supreme Court: *Sonowal* has become the jurisprudence of citizenship. If citizenship is an important right, as rightly stated by the Gauhati High Court, the *Sonowal* judgment should cease to be the touchstone to adjudicate citizenship cases.

The writer is advocate, Gauhati High Court, co-founder, Justice and Liberty Initiative and Fulbright Fellow at the University of Texas School of Law

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SHARE THE BLAME

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Slipping on ground’ (IE, September 22). The internal report of the CRPF that highlighted the issue of leadership at the operational level must be appraised at the home ministry, as this concerns the internal security of the country. But the entire culpability of this fall in the quality of operations in LW-affected areas mustn’t fall on the shoulders of the directly recruited CAPF cadet officers — a part of the responsibility has to be shared by the elite IPS officers who lead these forces at the higher rungs on the ladder. The entire purpose of having IPS officers in CAPF is to bring in better coordination between different security and intelligence agencies, and civilian departments. Performance deficit at the higher levels too affects the field operation on ground.

Sudip Kumar Dey, Barasat

### PAPER ALLIANCE

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Limits of Bhachara politics’ (IE, September 22). BSP supremo Mayawati’s move to repeat the success of the erstwhile Dalit-Brahmin social association formed for the UP assembly elections in 2007 for 2022 may not succeed because of the changed scenario in two respects. First, a social alliance is not a makeshift proposition. It needs uninterrupted nourishing, but Mayawati has conveniently forgotten this in her search for new allies. Secondly, now the Brahmins do not like to cling to Mayawati’s apron strings

when its natural patron BJP is catering to them through various laws and schemes.

Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur

### WATER QUESTION

THIS REFERS TO the report, ‘Eyes on the prize: Four schemes in one, from tanks to taps’ (IE, September 22). Bihar’s flagship initiative started in 2015 to provide tap water to poor, Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal, is a cluster of four state schemes. The goal of easy access to clean drinking water with the larger aim of improving public health seems betrayed by NFHS-5 (2019-2020) report showing highest rural (12.6 per cent) and urban (13.9 per cent) prevalence of diarrheal disease in children under five years of age. The irregularities in implementing the schemes brought out by *The Indian Express* investigation seem to have a bearing on the quality of water supplied.

LR Murmu, Delhi

### POLITICAL POLICE

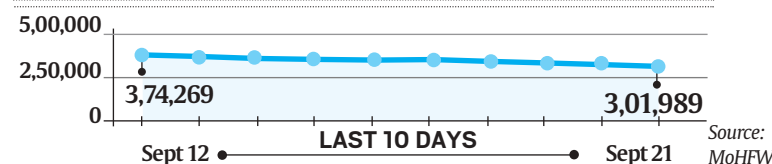
THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘A citizen’s police’ (IE, September 22). The why and how of police reforms have been studied by several commissions and committees, even before the Supreme Court’s directions of 2006. Yet, even as the state and political class continue to advise the police to serve fairly and fearlessly, they have tightened their iron grip with the result that the police force is now ready to crawl to political pressure enthusiastically, a few exceptions apart.

YG Chouksey, Pune



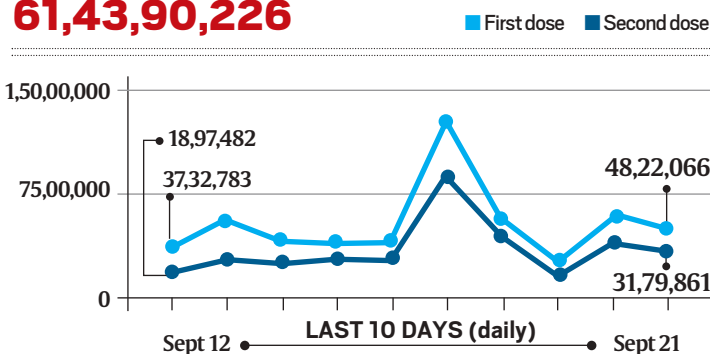






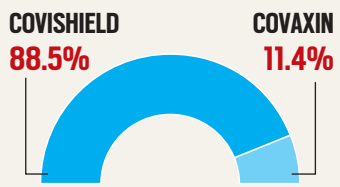
## CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

**TOTAL VACCINATED IN INDIA** (at least one dose)  
**61,43,90,226**



**TOTAL DOSES**  
**82,65,15,754**

(Sputnik V's 8,99,337 doses not represented in pie)



**DOSES ON SEPT 21 80,01,927**  
**SEPT 20: 99,45,683** (1st doses: 59,01,387; 2nd: 40,44,296)

Note: The Sept 21 figures in these graphs are based on the government updates on Sept 22  
Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, updated at 11 pm on September 22

## Genetic mutation that caused humans to lose their tails



Most primates, and almost all monkeys, have tails.  
Express Archive

ALL THE ancestors of humans had tails for about half a billion years — until they lost them about 25 million years ago. The change in our ancient anatomy was noted by Charles Darwin. But exactly how and why this came to be has remained unknown.

Researchers from New York have claimed to have zeroed in on a specific genetic mutation that may

covered a mutation that is shared by apes and humans, but is missing in monkeys — in a gene called TBXT.

While TBXT was one of the first genes to be identified by scientists nearly a century ago, the mutation that Bo Xia of the New York University School of Medicine and lead author of the study discovered, had not been observed before. It consisted of 300 genetic letters in the middle of the TBXT gene. This stretch of DNA was virtually identical in humans and apes, and was inserted in precisely the same place in their genomes.

To test the idea that the mutation was involved in the disappearance of our tail, the researchers genetically engineered mice with the TBXT mutation that is carried by humans. Many of the animals failed to develop a tail; others grew a short one.

The researchers have proposed that this mutation randomly struck an ape some 20 million years ago. This tail-less animal survived and thrived, and passed on the mutation to its offspring.

**THE NEW YORK TIMES**



**PAPER CLIP**

NEW RESEARCH

## SIMPLY PUT

## Income in poll-bound states

RBI data offer a snapshot of per capita incomes in UP, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Goa, and Manipur, which go to polls soon. How have per capita incomes changed in these states over the last five years?

UDIT MISRA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

LAST WEEK, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released the *Handbook of Statistics on the Indian Economy, 2020-21*, a key variable contained in which is the “per capita Net State Domestic Product”. In simple terms, this is the income per person in a state.

Several academic studies, both in India and elsewhere, have found a strong link between economic indicators such as per capita income and the electoral performance of governments.

While it must be underlined that economic performance is hardly the sole determinant of electoral outcomes in India, what does the RBI handbook say about per capita incomes in the five states where Assembly elections will take place in February-March 2022 — Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Goa, and Manipur?

### Per capita incomes

Chart 1 shows that per capita incomes in Goa (Rs 3.04 lakh), Uttarakhand (Rs 1.59 lakh), and Punjab (Rs 1.19 lakh) are higher than the national average of Rs 95,000.

But per capita incomes in Manipur (Rs 54,000) and Uttar Pradesh (Rs 44,600) are around half the national average.

### From poll to poll

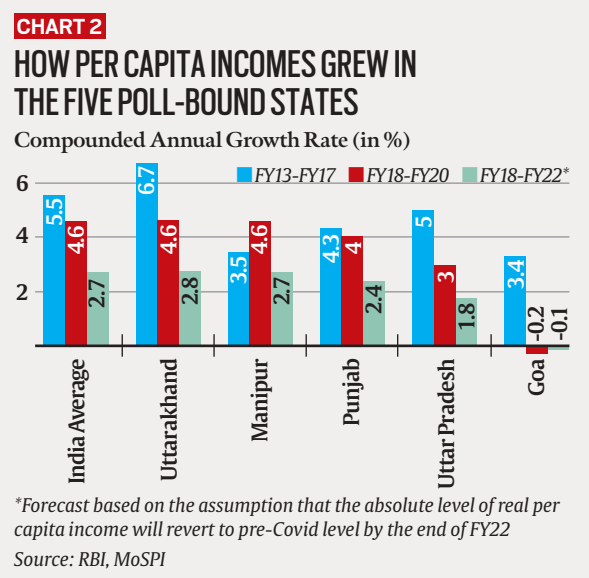
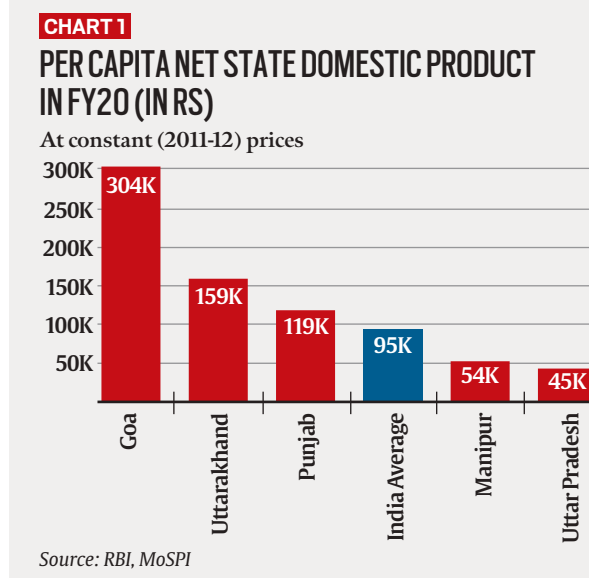
What was the growth rate of per capita income in the five years leading up to the elections? And how does it compare with the five years immediately before that?

Chart 2 provides a picture of how things may look to electors as they prepare to cast their votes. This chart plots the compounded annual growth rates (or CAGR) of real per capita income for each of the five states, as well as the national average for three time periods.

The first bar maps the annual growth rate between 2012-13 (FY13) and 2016-17 (FY17). This five-year period marks the tenure of the previous government in each state. So in UP, it refers to the term of the Samajwadi Party government, while in Punjab it indicates the growth rate during the regime of the Shiromani Akali Dal-BJP coalition.

The second bar refers to the growth rate during the first three years of the terms of the current governments — FY18 to FY20. This is a crucial number since this growth rate refers to the pre-Covid period.

The third bar is a forecast of the growth



rate in the current five-year term. It is based on the assumption that the absolute level of per capita income will revert to the pre-Covid level (FY20) by the end of FY22.

### State-wise takeaways

**UTTAR PRADESH**  
Even though UP is one of the biggest state economies in terms of total GDP, when it comes to per capita income, it ranks pretty low.

The data show that per capita net state domestic product (NSDP) grew at just 2.99% during the first three years (FY18 to FY20) of the BJP government. This is not only lower than the national average (4.6%) over the same period, but also much lower than the 5% rate registered during the Samajwadi Party's rule between FY13 and FY17.

By the end of FY21, after the pandemic had battered economies everywhere, UP's per capita NSDP had fallen sharply, resulting in an annual growth rate of just 0.1% for the first four years of the current government.

If we assume that all the contraction in per capita incomes in FY21 will be recovered in FY22, the annual growth rate of per capita income for the full five-year term from FY18 to FY22 would still be just 1.8%.

This growth rate will be significantly lower than the national average of 2.7% for the same five years.

On September 5, UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said in Varanasi that “in the next five years, per capita income of Uttar Pradesh

will exceed the country's per capita income”, news agency ANI reported.

For this to happen, UP's per capita income would have to grow at an annual rate of over 22% (assuming the national per capita income grows at just 5% each year) between FY23 and FY27 — a gigantic improvement over the 2.9% annual rate that the state registered in the three years before the Covid-19 disruption.

**PUNJAB**  
In the first three years of the term of the Congress government, before the pandemic struck, per capita incomes grew by 4% each year. This was a shade lower than the 4.3% annual growth rate under the SAD-BJP government, and also lower than the national average rate.

Thanks to Covid, the Congress government is likely to end with an annual growth rate of just 2.4% for its five-year term — again a shade lower than the national average of 2.7%.

**UTTARAKHAND**  
This state has had three Chief Ministers in the last four years of BJP rule — Trivendra Singh Rawat, Tirath Singh Rawat, and Pushkar Singh Dhami — and five CMs in all over the last nine years. Despite the seeming disruptions, it has registered above-average growth in per capita income.

Under the Congress rule between FY13 and FY17, the growth rate was 6.7% — far above the national average. In the first three years of the BJP government, per capita incomes grew

in sync with the national average.

Even after the Covid impact, the five years of BJP rule from FY18 to FY22 are likely to see per capita incomes grow at an annual rate that is a shade higher than the national average.

**GOA**  
Of the five states going to polls early next year, Goa has the highest per capita income. It has also had the same party in power (BJP) since the start of FY13.

However, as the almost non-existent bars for Goa show, per capita incomes actually contracted between FY18 and FY20. It is quite likely that in FY21 income levels would have fallen further; as of now, the RBI does not have FY21 data.

It seems probable that at the end of FY22, per capita incomes in Goa will be lower than in FY18. Over the past decade of BJP rule in Goa, per capita income would have grown at an annual rate of just 1.6%.

**MANIPUR**  
In the pre-Covid phase — FY18 to FY20 — of the current BJP government, per capita incomes in Manipur rose at 4.6% each year. This was in sync with the national average but, more importantly, significantly higher than the 3.5% annual growth rate achieved from FY13 to FY17, when the Congress was in power in the state.

Covid has dented per capita income levels, but the deceleration in growth rate is likely to be in sync with the national average between FY18 and FY22.

## Why Singh could be kingmaker again in Canada

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

CANADA'S LIBERAL Party won the largest number of seats in Monday's snap parliamentary elections, but Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's gamble to garner a majority failed.

The result is almost identical to the one in 2019, and Trudeau, who has been PM since 2015, will have to continue to rely on other parties — most importantly Jagmeet Singh's left-leaning New Democratic Party (NDP), and Yves-Francois Blanchet's Bloc Quebecois — to pass legislation and stay in power.

### Elections and results

Trudeau called the elections more than two years ahead of schedule, saying that he needed a clear mandate to guide Canada through the tail of the Covid-19 pandemic and the difficult economic recovery. The opposition led by Erin O'Toole's Conservatives denounced the attempted “power-grab”, and opinion polls

showed the majority of Canadians did not think the vote was necessary.

Latest results show Trudeau's Liberals have won or are leading in 158 electoral districts, one seat more than the number they won in 2019, and short of the 170 needed for a majority. The Conservatives have won 119 seats.

The NDP, his current allies, have won 25 seats — enough to continue to be the arbiter on policy on a case-by-case basis. Bloc Quebecois was projected to win 34 seats.

### New Democrats

Jagmeet Singh won from Burnaby South, a federal electoral district in British Columbia where more than 70 per cent of people identify as a visible minority. His party, however, did worse than in 2019, when it won 44 seats.

The NDP has said that it would stand by Trudeau's government on a range of social and environmental issues, but would keep the pressure on progressive issues, including forgiving student loans, and climate change. “We are going to continue fighting for you



(From left) Justin Trudeau, Jagmeet Singh, and Erin O'Toole during an election debate this month. Reuters File

just the same way we fought for you during the pandemic,” Singh said, according to a report by Canada's CTV news. “We are going to keep fighting to make sure the super-wealthy pay their fair share ... so the burden doesn't fall on you and your families.”

One of the main promises of Singh's campaign was to tax the ultra-rich. He told CTV that one of his priorities once the new government is formed would be to ensure that billionaires pay their fair share of the pandemic cost.

### Pro-Khalistan leader

A former criminal lawyer, Singh was born and raised in Canada. He won his first election in 2011, and soon became popular for his progressive politics, charismatic personality, and flamboyant dressing style.

He became leader of the NDP in 2017, and has repeatedly expressed his ambition to run for Prime Minister.

Singh's relationship with India has been complicated. His pro-Khalistan stance and vocal support of Punjab's right to self-determination have repeatedly placed him in controversies. Singh has accused India of “initiating a genocidal campaign against the Sikh minority” in the past, and had introduced a resolution in Ontario's Assembly to describe the 1984 anti-Sikh riots as a “genocide”.

## What is the Havana Syndrome, said to be targeting US officials?

DEEPTIMANT TIWARY  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

A US intelligence officer travelling with CIA director William Burns reported symptoms of ‘Havana Syndrome’ while the two men were in India earlier this month, according to reports in the American media.

### What is Havana Syndrome?

Havana Syndrome refers to a set of symptoms that typically include nausea, vertigo, and headaches, but also memory loss, hearing sounds without any outside noise being present, and certain issues with balance. A number of US intelligence and embassy officials have reported these symptoms in several countries around the world over the past few years.

The Syndrome was first reported in late 2016, about a year after the US opened its embassy in Havana. A report in *The New Yorker* in 2018 said between December 30, 2016, and February 9, 2017, at least three CIA officers in Cuba had reported troubling sen-

sations that seemed to leave serious injuries. The CIA sent reinforcements to Havana, and at least two of these officers were afflicted as well.

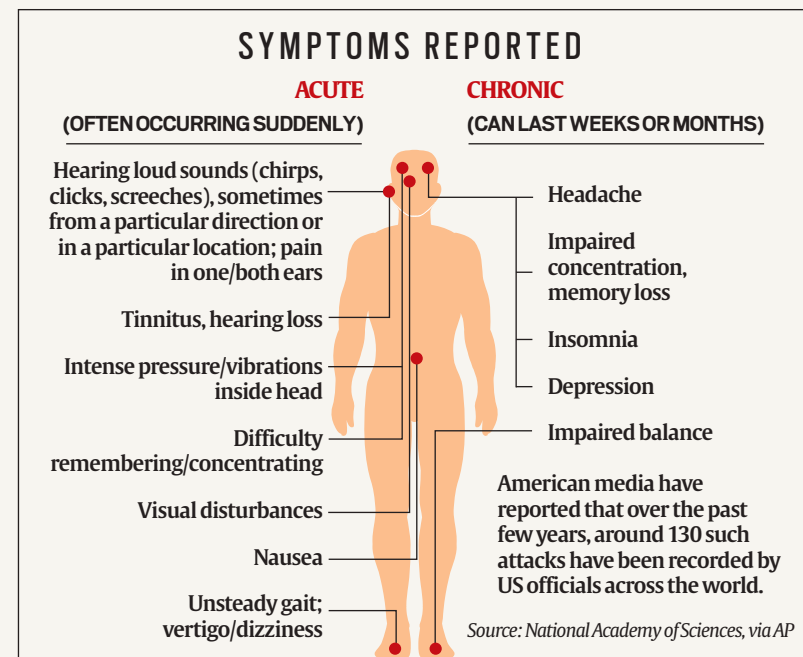
*The New Yorker* said specialists who studied the brains of the victims determined that their injuries resembled concussions, like those suffered by soldiers struck by roadside bombs in Iraq and Afghanistan. But there were no signs of impact.

### Where else has it been reported?

In April 2018, an employee at the US consulate in Guangzhou reported he had been experiencing symptoms since late 2017. An incident had previously been reported in September 2017 by a USAID employee at the American embassy in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan.

In 2019 and 2020, incidents have been reported from within the US, including at The Ellipse, a park adjacent to the White House in Washington DC.

American media have reported that over the past few years, around 130 such attacks have been recorded by US officials



across the world, including in Moscow in Russia, Poland, Georgia, Taiwan, Colombia, Kyrgyzstan, and Austria. Last month, Vice President Kamala Harris's visit to Vietnam was delayed for three hours just as she was about to fly to Hanoi, after a US official in Vietnam reported symptoms.

### What causes Havana Syndrome?

No one is entirely sure. It was initially suspected to be a “sonic attack”, but further study by scientists in the US and medical examination of the victims suggested that they may have been subjected to high-power microwaves that either damaged or interfered with the nervous system.

The microwaves are said to build pressure inside the brain that generates the feeling of a sound being heard. Longer exposure is believed to interfere with the body's sense of balance, impact memory, and even cause permanent brain damage. It is suspected that beams of high-power microwave are released by a special gadget that Americans have begun calling a “microwave weapon”. Experimentation with microwaves for

counter-intelligence operations has been ongoing since the Cold War. A BBC report this month quoted James Giordano, an adviser to the Pentagon and professor of neurology and biochemistry at Georgetown University, as saying both China and Russia have been engaged in microwave research, and could have re-purposed tools that were developed for industrial use.

Some medical experts in the US have debunked this theory, calling the syndrome psychological illness amplified by the widespread fear of being targeted.

### What about the report about India?

Sources in the Indian security establishment said they were not aware of any such weapon with an Indian agency. It was also highly unlikely that a foreign power would be able to use Indian soil to target US officials.

Security establishment officers, including former R&AW officers, said no cases of the Havana Syndrome had been reported by Indians in the country or in embassies abroad.

LONGER VERSION ON  
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM



## TOP OF THE WORLD



Investigators examine bullet holes in the aide's car. *Reuters*

## UKRAINE

## President's aide targeted in assassination bid

*Kyiv:* A volley of automatic gunfire hit a car carrying a senior aide to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Wednesday, an incident a senior official called an assassination attempt and Zelenskyy said may have been a message intended for him. The aide, Serhiy Shefir, survived unscathed but police said his driver had been wounded after more than 10 bullets hit the car near the village of Lesnyky, just outside the capital Kyiv. Zelenskyy, who is in New York for the U.N. General Assembly, said he did not know for now who was responsible for the attack. **REUTERS**

## EGYPT

## Former military ruler Tantawi dies at 85

*Cairo:* Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi, the former head of the military council that ruled Egypt temporarily after its 2011 popular uprising, has died at the age of 85, Egypt's presidency said on Tuesday, declaring three days of national mourning. Tantawi — a decorated veteran of wars against Israel in 1956, 1967 and 1973 — was defence minister for 21 years, covering most of the long presidency of Hosni Mubarak. He led the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) that ruled Egypt for a year — a half after Mubarak was pushed from power in February 2011 during the Arab Spring protest movement. **REUTERS**

## SRI LANKA

## Govt probes minister over prisoner threat

*Colombo:* Sri Lankan police are investigating an incident in which the government prisons minister allegedly threatened to kill two ethnic minority detainees inside a prison, an official said Wednesday. Lohan Ratwatte, state minister of Prison Management and Prisoners' Rehabilitation, resigned last week following a public outcry after he was accused of threatening to kill two Tamil prisoners. He was also accused of forcibly entering another prison with his friends to show them the gallows. Government spokesman Dulas Alahapperuma said a police investigation is underway. **AP**

## JAPAN

## Library devoted to Murakami to open in Tokyo

*Tokyo:* A library devoted to Japanese novelist Haruki Murakami's writings, scrapbooks and record collection opens on October 1 in Tokyo as a spot for literary research, cultural exchange and a gathering spot for his fans. The Haruki Murakami library at Waseda University, his alma mater, features a replica of his study with rows of bookshelves and a record player, as well as a cafe run by students that serves his favorite dark roast coffee. **AP**

## Taliban write to UN chief, ask for participation at General Assembly

Special envoys of China, Russia, Pak hold talks with top Taliban officials, Karzai, Abdullah

## PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

UNITED NATIONS, BEIJING, SEPTEMBER 22

THE TALIBAN have written to Secretary-General Antonio Guterres nominating their spokesman Suhail Shaheen as Afghanistan's new ambassador to the UN and have asked to participate and speak in the high-level 76th session of the General Assembly currently underway.

The nomination sets up a confrontation between the Taliban and Afghanistan's fallen government envoy, Gram Isakuzai, who has held his post so far.

On September 20, on the eve of the commencement of the high-level UN General Debate, the Secretary-General received a communication with the letterhead 'Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs' dated September 20, 2021, signed by 'Ameer Khan Muttaqi' as 'Minister of Foreign Affairs'.

In the letter, the Taliban requested to participate in the "76th session of the UN General Assembly on September 21-27."

Farhan Haq, the Deputy Spokesman for the Secretary-General, told *PTI* that the letter also indicates that as of August 15, 2021, "Mohammad Ashraf Ghani is ousted and (countries across the world) no longer recognise him as president".

The Taliban letter further in-



Taliban acting Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi; (right) Taliban spokesman Suhail Shaheen. *Reuters, file*



dicates that the mission of the Permanent Representative is considered over and that Isacazai no longer represents Afghanistan.

Haq said that on September 15, the Secretary-General had received a communication from Isacazai, containing the list of delegation of Afghanistan for the 76th session of the General Assembly.

These two communications have been sent by the UN Secretariat to the Credentials Committee, which will decide who represents Kabul at the UN. Meanwhile, special envoys of China, Russia and Pakistan met the top officials of the Taliban's interim government as well as Afghan leaders Hamid Karzai and Abdullah Abdullah in Kabul, a top Chinese official said on Wednesday.

The three special envoys visited Kabul from September 21 to 22 and held talks with acting Prime Minister Mohammad Hasan Akhund, acting Foreign

Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi and other high-level officials of the interim government, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said.

They also met former president Hamid Karzai and Abdullah Abdullah, president of the Council for National Reconciliation under the previous government.

This is perhaps the first time that the foreign diplomats met Karzai and Abdullah, who stayed put in Kabul after the Taliban seized power in Afghanistan last month ahead of the withdrawal of the US and NATO troops.

Besides coordinating closely with Russia on Afghanistan, Pakistan and China, who are playing a lead role after the Taliban seized Kabul, are trying to establish a new grouping of countries sharing borders with Afghanistan.

The new grouping includes China, Pakistan, Iran, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.



Taliban fighters patrol the streets of Kabul on Tuesday. *AP*

## Attackers strike Taliban in Jalalabad, 5 killed

## ASSOCIATED PRESS

KABUL, SEPTEMBER 22

ATTACKERS STRUCK Taliban vehicles in an eastern Afghanistan on Wednesday, witnesses said, killing at least two fighters and three civilians in the latest violence since the group's takeover of the country in mid-August.

In one attack, gunmen opened fire on a Taliban vehicle at a gas station in Jalalabad, killing two fighters and a gas station attendant, witnesses said. A child was also killed, they added. Another child was killed and

## MEANWHILE

## TRUMP SUES NEICE, NYT OVER TAX PAPERS

Donald Trump has filed a lawsuit accusing his niece Mary L Trump, *The New York Times* and three of its reporters of conspiring in an "insidious plot" to improperly obtain his confidential tax records and exploit their use in news articles and a book. That action, according to the lawsuit, breached a confidentiality agreement that was part of the settlement of litigation involving the will of the former US president's father, Fred C Trump.

## SUBMARINE DEAL FALLOUT

## Australia says trade pact would benefit EU in Indo-Pacific

## COLIN PACKHAM

CANBERRA, SEPTEMBER 22

AN AUSTRALIAN-EU trade deal would be mutually beneficial and allow EU members a greater presence in the Indo-Pacific, said Australia's trade minister, as Canberra tries to repair ties with Paris after the scrapping of a \$40 billion submarine deal.

Australia last week cancelled a deal with France's Naval Group to build a fleet of conventional submarines and will instead build at least eight nuclear-powered submarines with US and British technology after striking a trilateral security partnership with those two countries.

The cancellation has angered France, which accused both Australia and the United States of stabbing it in the back, and it recalled its ambassadors from both Canberra and Washington.

In solidarity with France, EU lawmakers have publicly questioned whether a trade deal with Australia could be possible.

Australia's Minister for Trade Dan Tehan on Wednesday urged the EU to progress ahead with a trade deal. "The Australia-EU FTA is in the best interests of all parties," Tehan said in a speech in Canberra. "The EU will use it as a way to strengthen its engagement with the Indo-Pacific because they realise that the region carries the economic weight of the world." **REUTERS**



French President Emmanuel Macron with his US counterpart Joe Biden. *File*

## France's envoy to return to US after Macron, Biden talks

*Paris:* France will send its ambassador back to Washington next week after French President Emmanuel Macron's phone call with President Joe Biden over a submarine dispute, the Elysee and the White House said Wednesday.

Both heads of state "have decided to open a process of in-depth consultations, aimed at creating the conditions for ensuring confidence," the Elysee and the White House said in a joint statement. Biden and Macron agreed "that the situation would have benefitted from open consultations among allies on matters of strategic interest to France and our European partners," the statement said. **AP**

## Carlos the Jackal seeks to reduce life sentence for deadly 1974 grenade attack

## REUTERS

PARIS, SEPTEMBER 22

CARLOS THE Jackal, the leftist militant who carried out attacks across the globe in the 1970s and 1980s, opened a bid in a French court on Wednesday to reduce the life sentence he had been given for a deadly grenade attack on a Paris shop in 1974.

The self-declared "professional revolutionary", whose real name is Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, has been behind bars in France since he was captured and spirited out of Sudan by French special forces in 1994.

He was found guilty in 2017 over a grenade attack in 1974 on a shop on Paris's Champs Elysees, the Drugstore Publicis, that killed two people and injured 36.

The appeal that started on Wednesday will not seek to overturn that conviction but will only concern how many years he should be jailed for, after the country's top court struck down the latest ruling over technicalities and sent it back to the lower court. The decision is expected on Friday.

Ramirez, who was born in Venezuela and is now aged 71, is already serving two other life terms and has lost appeals against them.



Ilich Ramirez Sanchez

## Biden calls on global partners to 'go big' in world's Covid response

## SHERYL GAY STOLBERG

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 22

DECLARING "WE need to go big," President Joe Biden on Wednesday called on other world leaders, pharmaceutical executives, philanthropists and civil society organizations to band together to forge a global consensus around a plan to fight the coronavirus crisis.

Speaking at the opening of a virtual Covid-19 summit he is convening in conjunction with the UN General Assembly meeting in New York, Biden cited two especially urgent challenges: vaccinating the world against

Covid-19 and solving a global oxygen crisis. "We're not going to solve this crisis with half measures or middle of the road ambitions — we need to go big," the president said, adding, "It's an all-hands-on-deck crisis."

But it may be hard to turn Mr. Biden's words into reality. Worldwide, 79 percent of shots that have been administered have been in high- and upper-middle-income countries, according to the Our World in Data project at the University of Oxford. Around the world, more than 4.5 million people have died of Covid-19 — a "global tragedy," Mr. Biden said.

White House officials have said that Mr. Biden's message to

the group will be that the United States cannot fight the pandemic, or address the global vaccine shortage, on its own. Earlier Wednesday, Pfizer-BioNTech announced that it had struck a deal with the Biden administration to sell the US an additional 500 million doses of its vaccine to be donated to nations that need them.

Mr. Biden heralded the deal, saying it would bring to 1.1 billion the total number of doses his administration has purchased for donation. "Put another way, for every one shot we've administered to pay in America, we have now committed to do three shots to the rest of the world," he said. **NYT**



## MELBOURNE PROTESTS COVID CURBS

Protesters rally against Covid mandates in Melbourne, Australia. Police arrested more than 200 people after projectiles thrown by protesters injured two officers on Wednesday - the third consecutive day of demonstrations against Covid curbs in the city. *Reuters*



Nurses treat Covid patients in the ICU at the Syrian American Medical Society Hospital in Idlib. *AP*

ravages of Syria's civil war have made the situation in Idlib uniquely terrible. Half of its hospitals and health centers have been damaged by bombing, and the

health system was close to collapse even before the pandemic. A large number of medical personnel have fled the country seeking safety and opportunities abroad.

## Pressure on Biden as some Haitians at US border released, others deported

## DAINA BETH SOLOMON

CIUDAD ACUNA (MEXICO), SEPTEMBER 22

AMID DETERIORATING conditions in migrant camps on both sides of the US-Mexico border, US authorities on Wednesday tried to deal with thousands of the mostly Haitian migrants that have gathered, releasing some in south Texas while deporting others on flights.

The US government said it was continuing to fly hundreds of people back to Haiti, which has been hit by recent political turmoil and natural disasters.

It has been trying to clear the encampment under the international bridge in Del Rio. Authorities have moved thousands away for immigration processing and deported more than 500 Haitians since Sunday.

A Department of Homeland Security (DHS) spokesperson said those who cannot be expelled under a sweeping public



US border agents attempt to contain migrants crossing into Texas from Mexico on Sunday. *AP*

health order will be placed in immigration hearings, without specifying who would qualify for those exemptions.

US. politicians from both parties have criticized Biden's handling of the situation. Republicans have said the Biden administration has encouraged illegal immigration by relaxing some of the hardline policies put

in place by his predecessor.

Democrats have expressed anger over an incident over the weekend in which mounted US border agents used reins like whips to intimidate migrants trying to cross the border.

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said the agents involved had been pulled from front-line duties. **REUTERS**

## UK: 3 Sikhs held for death of RSS man discharged

*London:* A UK court Wednesday discharged three British Sikhs arrested in Britain on suspicion of "conspiracy to a murder" in India 12 years ago, with India's appeal to extradite them dismissed due to insufficient evidence.

The arrests of Piara Singh Gill, Amritvir Singh Wahiwalwa and Gursharnvir Singh Wahiwalwa followed early morning raids on Indian extradition warrants ex-

ecuted by the West Midlands Police in December last year.

They were held in connection with the 2009 murder of Rulda Singh, a senior RSS member who was shot in Patiala and died a week after the attack.

"The accused have been discharged," said the UK's Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), which appears in court on behalf of the Indian authorities. **PTI**

## Will maintain friendly, balanced relations with India, China: new Nepal FM

## SHIRISH B PRADHAN

KATHMANDU, SEPTEMBER 22

NEPAL'S NEWLY-APPOINTED Foreign Minister Narayan Khadka said on Wednesday that he will work towards maintaining friendly and balanced relations with India and China and forge national consensus with political parties on the matters of foreign relations.

Khadka, 72, was sworn in as the Minister for Foreign Affairs on Wednesday. President Bidya Devi Bhandari administered the oath of office and secrecy to Khadka in a ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhawan, Shital Niwas, in the presence of Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba.

Talking to reporters after assuming office, Khadka said he will work towards ensuring extremely friendly, amicable, and balanced relations with both the immediate neighbours — India and China.

Arguing that the foreign policy of a country is not specific to any one particular political party, the senior Nepali Congress leader said he will work toward forging national consensus with other political parties on the matters of foreign relations. *My Republica* website reported. **PTI**



## 17 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 58,927.33 ▼ 7794 (0.13%) NIFTY: 17,546.65 ▼ 15.35 (0.09%) NIKKEI: 29,639.40 ▼ 200.31 HANG SENG: 24,221.54 ▲ 122.40 FTSE: 7,071.75 ▲ 90.77 DAX: 15,456.67 ▲ 108.14

International market data till 1900 IST

CORPORATE WATCH  
BOARDROOM

## IDFC shareholders reject nomination of Rai as director

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 22

SHAREHOLDERS OF IDFC Ltd have rejected the nomination of Vinod Rai, who is currently chairman of the company, as a director on the board of IDFC.

According to an exchange filing, 62.28 per cent votes from shareholders were against his nomination as director till May 22, 2023. Only 37.71 per cent votes of shareholders came in favour of Rai, who was earlier Comptroller and Auditor General of India. His name was proposed for the position of non-executive and non-independent director on the IDFC board.

The ordinary resolution needs 50 per cent for its passage. Meanwhile, shareholders voted in favour for the nomination of Jamini Bhagwati and Anil Singhvi as Directors on the IDFC board.

IDFC shares closed 2.02 per cent higher at Rs 55.65 per share on the BSE.

Vinod Rai has wide experience

62% VOTES AGAINST



File

■ According to an exchange filing, 62.28 per cent votes from shareholders were against Vinod Rai's nomination as director till May 22, 2023. Only 37.71 per cent votes of shareholders came in favour of Rai.

of working in various capacities at both the Central and State governments. His previous position was as Secretary in the Ministry of Finance in Delhi where he was responsible for managing the financial services sector, including banks and insurance companies.

## ENTITY TO ALMOST DRAW LEVEL WITH SECTOR LEADER STAR INDIA IN TERMS OF REVENUE

## Sony enters as 'white knight', to get 52.9% stake post merger with ZEEL

GEORGE MATHEW & PRANAV MUKUL  
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI, SEPT 22

PAVING THE way for the creation of a media giant, Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI) and Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL) Wednesday entered into an exclusive and non-binding agreement to merge the two companies.

The merged entity will almost draw level with sector leader Star India in terms of revenues and will potentially derive synergies from the varied presence of both ZEEL and SPNI. While ZEEL has a larger network viewership share than Sony, it derives most of its strength from regional general entertainment channels (GEC) and movies, whereas Sony has a stronger foothold in Hindi GEC and sports segments. The move is also aimed at scuttling the plan of Invesco Developing Markets Fund, a key investor, to take control of ZEEL.

SPNI had been on a lookout for a local partner in India to challenge the Star India leadership, and had also been in discussions with RIL-owned Viacom18 for a potential merger, but talks were called off last year after the firms couldn't agree on points such as valuation and some merger clauses.

For the year-ending March 2020, Star India had reported revenues of Rs 14,337.46 crore, while ZEEL reported consolidated revenue from operations of Rs 8,129.86 crore, and SPNI reported a top line of Rs 5,961.10 crore.

With the ZEEL partnership, Sony could also see some of the gaps, particularly in its bouquet of entertainment channels that have largely depended on seasonal productions, being filled. In the digital video streaming segment too, a possible combination of ZEE5 and SonyLiv could challenge Disney+Hotstar for the third position in viewership share after Amazon Prime Video and Netflix.

While Sony India, which has emerged as a white knight for ZEEL promoters, would hold a majority 52.93 per cent stake in the combined company, ZEEL shareholders would hold the balance 47.07 per cent. Current ZEEL managing director & CEO Punit Goenka will continue in the position for another five years as Sony has agreed on his continuance in the top position. The combined company's board of directors would include directors nominated by Sony Group, with the latter having the right to nominate the majority of board members. Under the terms of the agreement, Sony Pictures

EXPLAINED  
Power tussle

THE MERGER proposal comes a week after Invesco, the largest shareholder of ZEEL, sought an extraordinary general meeting of ZEEL for the removal of Punit Goenka and appointment of six directors. The tussle in the ZEEL boardroom is likely to continue if Invesco pushes to oust Goenka and bring in its six directors at the EGM.

Entertainment, the parent company of SPNI, would invest growth capital so that SPNI has a cash balance of around \$1.575 billion at closing for use to enhance the combined company's digital platforms across technology and content, ability to bid for broadcasting rights in the fast-growing sports landscape and pursue other growth opportunities.

ZEEL shares jumped 31.86 per cent to Rs 337.10 on the BSE after the merger announcement. The non-binding term sheet

provides an exclusive negotiation period of 90 days during which ZEEL and SPNI will conduct mutual diligence and negotiate definitive, binding agreements.

"The merger of ZEEL and SPNI would bring together two leading Indian media network businesses, benefitting consumers throughout India across content genres, from film to sports," the firms said.

"It is anticipated that a final transaction would be subject to completion of customary due diligence, negotiation, and execution of definitive binding agreements, and required corporate, regulatory and third-party approvals, including ZEEL shareholder vote," the statement said.

Two independent directors of ZEEL, Ashok Kurien and Manish Chokhani, resigned from the board of the company last week ahead of the company's AGM. Invesco and OFI Global — the largest shareholders of ZEEL — have proposed the appointment of six of its own nominees on the board of Zee. The proposed directors are: Surendra Singh Sirohi, Naina Krishna Murthy, Rohan Dhamija, Aruna Sharma, Srinivasa Rao Addepalli and Gaurav Mehta.

The exit of the directors and removal of the MD have come after proxy advisory firm Institutional

Investors Advisory Services (IiAS) raised serious corporate governance concerns in the company by asking shareholders not to vote for re-appointing the two directors on the company's board at the AGM.

"Zee promoters' stake would stay at 4 per cent (same as current) if they agree for non-compete agreement, they have the option to increase stake up to 20 per cent over a period of time. Effectively, Punit finds a white knight to salvage himself from being forced to move out," said Ashwin Patil, sr. research analyst (media), LKP Securities. "After the merger talks of Sony Entertainment with Viacom18 dropping, this consolidation will add synergies to the existing portfolio of both the entities, especially in the verticals of Sports and OTT," said Vivek Menon, co-founder of NV Capital. Further ZEE would also have access to Sony's international catalogue to exploit and monetise.

"The corporate governance overhang of ZEE Entertainment should also fade away with this merger and enhance investor confidence. The combined entity will be in a superior position to compete with Disney more effectively..." Menon said.

Full report on [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## 'Freedom from bureaucracy': Goyal launches single window for biz approvals

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

COMMERCE MINISTER Piyush Goyal on Wednesday announced the soft launch of a National Single Window System for approvals, adding the government is looking to remove irrelevant compliances to improve ease of doing business.

The portal is currently set up to provide relevant approvals from 18 Central government departments and 9 states, with another 14 departments and 5 states set to add their compliances to the portal by the end of December. The portal offers a single dashboard, allowing businesses to apply for clearances, track progress and respond to queries. "This is freedom from bureaucracy and from windows within windows," said the Minister, adding "nobody wants to be a detriment to doing business."

Goyal said the portal would become a "one stop shop" for state and Central government compliances and bring transparency, accountability and responsiveness in the ecosystem. The portal will also offer a Know Your Approvals service to inform businesses of the details of all the approvals they need to obtain as well as a common registration form, document repository and e-communication module.

## Telecom package opens door for new investments: Vi MD

AASHISHARYAN  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

VODAFONE IDEA (Vi), which has been trying to raise some funds for some time now, has seen renewed interest from investors following the reforms announced by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), the company's MD, Ravinder Takkar, said.

"For us, it (telecom package) opens the door for new investments. We have been in the process of fundraising for a while. There were concerns with respect to the investments in India and in the telecom sector even though they liked the sector and they liked the country. Those fears have now been removed. We think there is an opportunity for additional fund raising," Takkar said in his first media interaction following the announcement of the telecom reforms package.

The promoters, Vodafone Plc and the Aditya Birla group, who have in the past said that they would not be investing more funds into the company, will also have the option to participate in the



Vi MD Ravinder Takkar. File

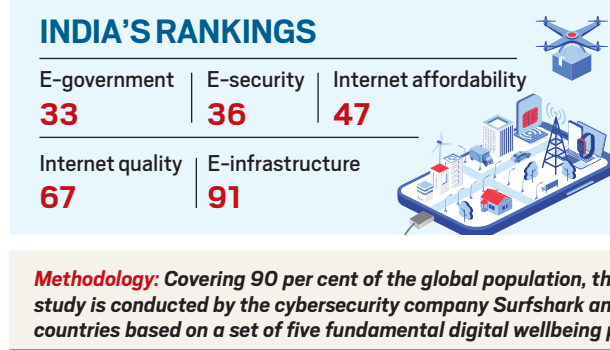
new round of fundraising that the company is doing, Takkar said.

"As a company we feel very confident about the fundraising given all the scenarios that we talked about. I think how much they (the promoters) will participate, what they participate in and what their intent is, is a question they have to answer. Certain as a company I think we are in a much better position to raise additional funding required by us to continue to be more competitive in the market," he said. The company's MD, however, did not specify if the new investments would be from a clutch of different investors or if the company was looking to bring in a new partner on board.

Full report on [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## 'Digital Quality of Life Index 2021: India drops to 59th'

The third annual edition of the Digital Quality of Life Index, conducted by cybersecurity company Surfshark, ranks India 59th among 110 countries, a drop of 2 places from last year



## DICGC to pay depositors of 21 banks

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 22

DEPOSIT INSURANCE and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) has announced that it will pay up to Rs five lakh to depositors of 21 co-operative banks, including scam-hit Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative Bank, towards settlement of deposit insurance claim.

When the RBI sacked the board of PMC Bank — with de-

posits of Rs 10,727 crore — in 2019, it initially slapped a deposit withdrawal restriction of Rs 1,000 per account which was later increased to Rs 50,000. About 78 per cent of the depositors have since been allowed to withdraw their deposits within the withdrawal limit of Rs 50,000. While this limit was further enhanced to Rs 1 lakh in June last year, many depositors who have bigger amounts parked in the bank are still not able to get their money back.

**Top 5**  
Denmark, South Korea  
Finland, Israel, and the US

**Bottom 5**  
Ethiopia, Cambodia, Cameroon,  
Guatemala, and Angola

**Overall**, the country now comes 17th in Asia

**E-security** has improved by 76 per cent since last year and now ranks higher than China

**The country outperforms** Bangladesh in four digital well-being pillars but falls short on e-infrastructure

The DICGC list also includes Kapol Co-operative Bank and Rupee Co-operative Bank. Out of the 21 banks, 11 banks are based in Maharashtra. Depositors of People's Co-Operative Bank, Kanpur, Hindu Co-Op. Bank, Pathankot and Deccan Urban Co-operative Bank of Karnataka will also get up to Rs 5 lakh. The verification and settlement of the claims on submission by the banks in the list should be done within the next 45 days by DICGC.

## India, UAE look to sign 'early harvest deal' by start of 2022

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

INDIA AND the UAE have launched formal trade negotiations aimed at concluding discussions on an early harvest agreement by December 2021 and sign a formal agreement in early 2022. The aim is to boost bilateral merchandise trade to above \$100 billion and services trade to \$15 billion in five years.

India is also aiming to sign free trade agreements with Australia, UK and the European Union in the near future. Early harvest agree-

ments are used to liberalise tariffs on the trade of certain goods between two countries or trading blocs before a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is concluded.

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi announced that formal negotiations for the India-United Arab Emirates Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) would start on Thursday. Goyal said India would aim to get access for Indian textiles, gems and jewellery, footwear and handicrafts as part of the early harvest

agreement. "Both sides have drawn up a very aggressive and ambitious timeframe, and aim to conclude negotiations by December 2021 itself," said Goyal adding that both sides aimed to sign a formal agreement in early 2022 after the completion of internal procedures and necessary ratification processes. Goyal added that negotiations on the CEPA would continue post the signing of the early harvest agreement.

The UAE would focus on areas such as fintech, petrochemical equipment and byproducts in the early harvest agreement, Al Zeyoudi said.

## Facebook wraps up deals with Australian media cos

*Sydney:* Facebook Inc has told Australian publishers it has stopped negotiating licensing deals, an email to the industry seen by Reuters showed, a move which came just six months after the passing of a law designed to make tech giants pay for news content.

While Facebook has announced deals with most of the country's largest news outlets, some companies including TV

broadcaster SBS and smaller publishers have been left out in the cold, raising questions about the scope and effectiveness of the ground-breaking law.

Australia is the only country with a law where the government may set the fees if negotiations between tech giants and news providers fail, but the rejected companies are left with little recourse for the time being. **REUTERS**

## Yes Bank takes possession of part of HDIL Towers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 22

YES BANK Ltd has taken possession of the office premises of a subsidiary of Housing Development Infrastructure Ltd (HDIL) located at HDIL Towers in Bandra, Mumbai, according to an advertisement released by the bank in newspapers. The bank in its possession notice said Privilege Industries Ltd and its two guarantors HDIL and Privilege Power and Infrastructure Pvt Ltd failed to repay a Rs 494 crore borrowed from the bank. The bank has taken possession of the third floor office of Privilege Industries measuring 7272 square ft at HDIL Towers.

"The borrower in particular and the public in general is cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Yes Bank for Rs 494.64 crore as on April 5 2021 together with further interest and other charges thereon with effect from April 6, 2021," said the notice.

## BRIEFLY

## ADB on GDP

*New Delhi:* The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has lowered India's growth projections for the current financial year by a percentage point to 10 per cent.

## IL&amp;FS chairman

*New Delhi:* The government on Wednesday extended the term of Uday Kotak as non-executive chairman of IL&FS by another six months.

## Banga to retire

*Washington:* Ajay Banga, Mastercard executive chairman, will retire at year-end.

## APSEZ, GPL

*New Delhi:* Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) on Wednesday said it has acquired Andhra Pradesh's 10.4 per cent stake in Gangavaram Port Limited (GPL) for Rs 644.78 crore.

## Ford settlement

*Chennai:* Ford India was in the process of announcing a settlement package with the employees, a Tamil Nadu Minister said. **PTI**



Evergrande's headquarters, in Shenzhen, China. Reuters file

fate has kept global stock and bond markets on tenterhooks as late

debt payments could trigger so-called cross-defaults.



CROSSWORD 4542

ACROSS

1 One way of remembering? (6,4)

8 Easily carried lamp (5)

9 Geraint turns out to be a thankless person (7)

10 Inferior tuft of horsehair (7)

11 The hump in the middle of bridges (5)

12 Provide two servings of dry wine in a bit (6)

14 A swift turnaround is considered proper (3,3)

17 Monastic practice (5)

19 He escaped to become famous (7)

21 It's extremely small and free of charge (7)

22 A league match (5)

23 Excitement experienced by novice poker player (5,5)

DOWN

2 Converting heights into parts (7)

3 Excel with an alfresco celebration (5)

4 Outcry of those who join in the chase (6)

5 Regalia thrown out by republic (7)

6 Animal from China for example? (5)

7 Lacking inspiration he goes for a walk (10)

8 Not right in front having been forgotten? (4,6)

13 He may bring food from the terrace (7)

15 Sprites arise if disturbed (7)

16 Agreeable question (3,3)

18 Only pretend it's a headland (5)

20 Customary order of a regular drinker (5)

Solutions Crossword 4541: Across: 1 Chumps, 4 Muscle, 9 Picture, 10 Claim, 11 Tot up, 12 Impetus, 13 Word picture, 18 Tripoli, 20 Outer, 22 Tails, 23 Asinine, 24 Canute, 25 Tsetse. Down: 1 Capote, 2 Uncut, 3 Plumped, 5 Uncap, 6 Coaster, 7 Enmesh, 8 Verisimilar, 14 Opinion, 15 Two bits, 16 Static, 17 Freeze, 19 Onset, 21 Taint.



JUMBLLED 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.

Doubt is not below \_\_\_\_, but above it. - Alain-René Lesage (9)

MTEEO

ALOPDG

CGULN

EINDKW

Answers: Doubt is not below LUNCE, LUNCE, LUNCE, LUNCE, LUNCE, LUNCE, LUNCE, LUNCE, LUNCE. But above it is EASE.

SUDOKU 4603

Difficulty Level 2s 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 4602

2	3	6	1	9	4	8	7	5
4	7	9	8	5	6	3	1	2
9	2	3	7	1	5	4	6	8
6	1	7	4	8	2	9	5	3
5	8	4	6	3	9	7	2	1
8	9	2	5	6	3	1	4	7
3	4	5	9	7	1	2	8	6
7	6	1	2	4	8	5	3	9

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, केन्द्रीय मण्डल, उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान, जल भवन, 'बी' ब्लॉक, नेहरू कालोनी, देहरादून

पत्रांक:-473 / ई-निविदा / 2021-22 दिनांक:- 21.09.2021

ई-निविदा सूचना

उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान की ओर से केन्द्रीय मण्डल, देहरादून द्वारा निम्न कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा, दृ-बिड सिस्टम (तकनीकी बिड एवं कॉमिशियल बिड) आधार पर निम्नानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा सं.	कार्य विवरण	घरोहर घनराशि रु.	निविदा पत्र डाउनलोड करने की तिथि एवं समय	ई-निविदा द्वारा निविदा प्रपत्र जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	तकनीकी बिड जाने की तिथि एवं समय	निविदा की वैधता	बि-निविदा से सम्बंधित सूचना/संबंधित ई-मेल वेबसाइट/ई-निविदा सूचना एवं ई-निविदा प्रपत्र जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय	
1	वॉर्क दर अनुवच पर, ISI marked C.I. Detachable Joints with full threaded bolts and nuts, rubber rings complete conforming to IS: 8794/1988 for water works purpose and C.I. Detachable Joints with full threaded bolts and nuts, rubber rings complete conforming to IS suitable for PVC Pipes की आपूर्ति।		60,000.00	26.09.2021 from 11:00 a.m.	12.10.2021 upto 5:00 p.m.	13.10.2021 upto 11:00 a.m.	120 upto 11:00 a.m.	बि-निविदा से सम्बंधित सूचना/संबंधित ई-मेल वेबसाइट/ई-निविदा सूचना एवं ई-निविदा प्रपत्र जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय
अर्हता:-	Only manufacturers of ISI marked C.I. Detachable Joints or agency authorised by manufacturer having BIS license for IS: 8794/1988 are allowed to take part in this tender.							
2	वॉर्क दर अनुवच पर, Three Core Copper Conductor Flexible PVC Insulated & Sheathed Flat Cable without earth continuity conductor for Submersible Motor-Pump generally conforming to IS: 694:1990 (Reaffirmed 1995) revised as IS: 694:2010 or its latest amendment(s) की आपूर्ति।	3,00,000.00	26.09.2021 from 11:00 a.m.	12.10.2021 upto 5:00 p.m.	13.10.2021 at 11:00 a.m.	120 upto 11:00 a.m.	30.09.2021	बि-निविदा से सम्बंधित सूचना/संबंधित ई-मेल वेबसाइट/ई-निविदा सूचना एवं ई-निविदा प्रपत्र जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय
अर्हता:-	Only manufacturers of Three Core Copper Conductor Flat Cable or agency authorised by manufacturer having license for IS: 694:1990 (Reaffirmed 1995) revised as IS: 694:2010 or its latest amendment(s) are allowed to take part in this tender.							

ई-निविदा से सम्बंधित समस्त जानकारीयों व शर्तें उत्तराखण्ड की वेबसाइट [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) एवं विभागीय वेबसाइट <http://ujs.uk.gov.in> पर ऑन लाइन देखी/प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

अधिशासी अभियन्ता

कार्यालय मुख्य अभियन्ता, म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग, उत्तर परिक्षेत्र, ग्वालियर

Web site: [www.mp.gov.in/pwdmp](http://www.mp.gov.in/pwdmp), E-mail: [epwdnorth@mp.nic.in](mailto:epwdnorth@mp.nic.in), phone: 0751-2340932, 2340731, Fax: 2341103

निविदा विज्ञापन-12

मध्यप्रदेश लोक निर्माण विभाग में केन्द्रीय पंजीकृत पंजीकृत केन्द्रीय से मध्यप्रदेश के राजस्वपत्र की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु सूचना कार्यों की दर अनुवचनी प्रभावशाली दिनांक 29.08.2017 तिथि आमंत्रण सूचना जारी होने के दिनांक तक समस्त संस्थानों सहित ई-टेंडरिंग पद्धति द्वारा ऑनलाइन निविदाएं ई.पी.सी. मोड के आर.ए.पी. में निहित शर्तों के अनुरूप आमंत्रित की जाती हैं, जिसकी विस्तृत निविदा सूचना एवं कार्यों का विवरण वेबसाइट <http://www.mplenders.gov.in> पर देखी जा सकती है। वेब-साइट पर होने वाली तकनीकी समस्याओं हेतु विभाग निम्नोक्त नही होगा।

दिशर आई. डी. क्र.	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित लागत जीएसटी सहित (करोड़ में)	अंतिम बनी दिनांक (करोड़ में)	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य (रु.)	कार्य पूरा करने की अवधि	गुण्यता की अवधि
1	संभाग स्तरीय। निर्माण कार्य अटलराष्ट्र से सम्बलक्ष, टैक्स से विकास, विकास, विकास का कुल सहरी भाग, विकास कार्य संस्करण, संस्करण से खोवने (गोवर्न), गोवर्न से एन.ए.ए.आई मोहन जलन कर मार्ग लम्बाई 107.605 किमी. अ), मार्ग की पोरसी-12 प्रशिक्षित जीएसटी सहित। रु. 140.66 करोड़ ब), विद्युत कार्य (1)पोलीसिडिग कार्य की पोरसी रु.3.46 करोड़ पर 12 प्रशिक्षित जीएसटी सहित। रु. 3.88 करोड़ (2) 5 प्रशिक्षित सुपरवीजन कार्य एम्पईवी को राशि रु. 3.48 करोड़ पर करनी होगी। रु.0.173 करोड़ (3)18 प्रशिक्षित जी.एस.टी. कार्य सुपरवीजन को राशि रु. 0.173 करोड़ पर करनी होगी। रु. 0.031 करोड़ चौग रु. 144.744 करोड़	144.744	1.45	50000+ Portal Charges	24 माह वर्षाकाल सहित	As per Artical-17 of tender Document
2	आयस्कनानुसार नदी नालो पर डायवर्सन भी विचार करने होगे। निर्माण कार्य मेजर बिज एन ग की राशि रु.5.87 करोड़ जीएसटी सहित शामिल नदी की गई है। इसकी निविदा सेतु संभन द्वारा अलग से लगाई जा रही है।					

क्र. कार्यक्रम का विवरण निर्माण निविदा कार्यक्रम की-देखें। एवं समय

1	ऑनलाइन टेंडर प्लेटफॉर्म दिनांक	15.09.2021 समय 17:30 बजे
2	निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड/ विकस प्रारंभ दिनांक	15.09.2021 समय 17:30 बजे
3	ऑन लाइन बिड सम्मिलन का प्रारंभ दिनांक	15.09.2021 समय 17:30 बजे
4	प्री-बिड मीटिंग	22.09.2021 समय 12:00 बजे
5	निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड/ विकस को अंतिम तिथि	01.10.2021 समय 17:30 बजे
6	ऑनलाइन बिड सम्मिलन का अंतिम दिनांक	01.10.2021 समय 17:30 बजे
7	बिड ओपनिंग दिनांक	05.10.2021 समय 11:30 बजे

उपरोक्त वेबसाइट ऑन लाइन भुगतान करने के उपरान्त निविदा प्रपत्र (टेंडर डॉक्यूमेंट)वेबसाइट के माध्यम से प्राप्त हो सकेगा। विस्तृत एन.आई.टी एवं अन्य जानकारी उपरोक्त वेबसाइट में देखी जा सकती है। कोरोना से बचने की तीन बातें बहुत जरूरी, टीका लगाना, मास्क पहनना और अपना ना दो गड़दू।

हस्ता:- ( आर.ए.ए. भारतीय ) मुख्य अभियन्ता लोक.नि. उत्तर परिक्षेत्र, ग्वालियर G1784121

E-Tendering Notice

U.P. POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD.

E-Tender Notice 09/ECTD/Agra/2021-22

E-Tender in two parts, Part-I & Part-II valid for four months are invited for the work mentioned as under:-

Tender Specification No.	Name of Work	Period of Work	Earnest Money	Tender Cost	Date and Time of Submission	Date and Time of opening
09	Maintenance & Repair Work in Residential Premises at 132 KV S/S Aurangabad (Mathura)	01 Month	3800.00	500 + 90 + 250 = 840	21.10.2021/ 12:00	22.10.2021/ 12:00

The tender document against this bid specification can be downloaded from e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in>. Tenders can only be submitted on e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> up schedule date & time as above. The bidder must go through properly pre-qualifying conditions and ensure that all related papers are uploaded. For participating in bids through the e-bidding system, it is necessary for the bidders to get themselves registered with UP Electronics Corporation Limited Lucknow. Undersigned reserves the right to amend or withdraw any of the terms and conditions contain in the tender document or accept or reject any bid without assigning any reason thereof. Please visit website <http://etender.up.nic.in> or [www.upptcl.org](http://www.upptcl.org) regularly for any correction /modification/amendments/extension till the date of submission of tender. Cost of Tender and Earnest Money Submitted in the Account of Executive Engineer, Electricity Civil Transmission Division, 220 KV S/S Sikandra (Agra) with A/C No.- 30065294923, IFSC Code- SBIN0005717 Payable at S.B.I Foundry Nagar (Agra) U.P. Pin Code-282006 through NEFT/RTGS. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, ELECTRICITY CIVIL TRANSMISSION DIVISION, AGRA. UPPTCL WEBSITE:- [www.upptcl.org](http://www.upptcl.org), E-PROCUREMENT WEBSITE: <http://etender.up.nic.in>. "SAVE ENERGY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION" पत्रांक: 903 निकलाप्राप्त सं/ आशर/ 22.09.2021

DELHI WAQF BOARD

(Govt. of NCT of Delhi)

5028, Darayaganj, New Delhi-110002

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Online tenders are invited through Delhi Govt eprocurement website: <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/nicgep/app> on behalf of Section Officer Delhi Waqf Board, regarding re-development of Wazoo Khana, Masjid Fatehpuri, Chandni Chowk, Delhi 110006. The Notice Inviting Tender (Press Notice) Percentage wise Rate as table given below.

1. NIT No.	F-08(008)/Tech.Sec./DWB/ Masjid Fatehpuri /2020-21/02
2 Name of Work & location	Re-development of Wazoo Khana Masjid Fateh Puri.
3 Sub Head	Re-development of Wazoo Khana Masjid Fateh Puri, Chandni Chowk, Delhi 110006.
4 Estimated Cost put to bid	Rs. 16,99,630/-
5 Earnest Money Deposit(EMD)	Rs. 33,993/-
6 Performance Guarantee	5% of Tendered Amount
7 Security Deposit	2.5% of Tendered Amount
8 Period of Completion	45 days
9 Publish Date (uploading)	23/09/2021
10 Document Download/ sale start date	24/09/2021 at 3:00 PM
11 Document Download/ sale end date	14/10/2021 at 3:00 PM
12 Date/Time of opening of Technical bids	19/10/2021 at 3:00 P.M
13 Date/Time of opening of Financial bids	After finalizing the technical bids
14 Further details can be seen for Tender ID No:	F-08(008) Tech. Sec./DWB/Masjid Fatehpuri /2020-21/02

Sd/- (Section Officer) DELHI WAQF BOARD

DIP/SHABDARTH/ 0317/21-22

Bureau of Investment Promotion

BIP/Info/9272 Notice Inviting Bid Date: 17.09.2021

Bids for Procurement of Services of Procurement of Services of Event Partner for Organization of Rajasthan Investor Summit-2022 are invited from interested bidders upto 2:00 PM on 30.09.2021. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajabasthan.gov.in>, <http://spgp.raj.nic.in>) of the state.

UBN: BIP2122SLOB00003 DIPRC/9513/2021

Commissioner (Inv. & NRIs)

Markfed

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

E- Tenders are hereby invited from reputed and experienced consultants. The e-tender forms can be downloaded upto 06.10.2021 upto 10.00 A.M. from e-tendering portal on Website [eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://eproc.punjab.gov.in). Other terms and conditions can be seen in the tender documents.

Sr.No.	Description
1.	Appointment of Industrial & Floor-cum-Techno-Economic Consultant for setting up of 80/100 TPD Wheat Atta Chakki Plant with facility to pack other Atta variants at Khanna, District Ludhiana, Punjab.
2.	Appointment of Industrial & Floor cum Techno-Economic Consultant for setting up of state of the art 150 TPD Cattlefeed Plant at Markfed Cattlefeed and Allied Industries, Gidderbaha District Sri Muktsar Sahib, Punjab.
3.	Disposal/sale of old machinery scrap lying at old Canneries, Markfed, Jalandhar.

Corrigendum/addendum/corrections if any will be published on the website.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Jal.) Markfed, Chandigarh Sd/- Executive Engineer (P&E) Markfed, Chandigarh

8136/PB

“IMPORTANT”

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

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM

Sr. No.	NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT	OLD REFERENCE/ NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	PANCHAYATI RAJ ROHTAK	8015/07.09.2021	CHANGES THE ESTIMATED COST OF VILLAGES OF BHALOT BLOCK ROHTAK.	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	8708577177 prexeeng.roh@hry.nic.in
2.	PANCHAYATI RAJ ROHTAK	8012/07.09.2021	CHANGES THE ESTIMATED COST OF VILLAGE OF KAKRANA BLOCK KALANAUR DISTT. ROHTAK	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	8708577177 prexeeng.roh@hry.nic.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: [www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)

4880/HRY

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURE

ASSAM, KHANAPARA, GUWAHATI-22

No: AGRI/IPMU(RKVY-NFSM)/E-BID/MICRONUTRIENT/2021-22/93

E-Procurement Notice

The Director of Agriculture, Assam invites bids in Two-Bid System through e-Procurement from eligible bidders for supply of **Micronutrient Fertilizer** for the year 2021-22. The important dates governing the bid can be seen below:

Date of release of invitation of e-Bid : 23/09/2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Date of Pre-Bid meeting : 30/09/2021 at 3:00 p.m.

Last date and time for submission of e-Bid : 15/10/2021 till 5:00 p.m.

Date & time of opening of Technical e-Bid : 16/10/2021 at 3:00 pm at Directorate of Agriculture, Khanapara, Assam.

The bidders can download the e-Bidding document available at <https://www.assamtenders.gov.in>.

Janasanyog No. 1436/21

Sd/- Director of Agriculture, Assam Khanapara, Guwahati - 22



# Fire in the belly

Delhi go atop as bowlers harry Hyderabad batsmen before Dhawan, Iyer and Pant complete 8-wicket win

**SYNOPSIS:** Sunrisers' talisman cuts sorry figure as Protea power sets up walk in the park for Delhi Capitals.

**TUSHAR BHADURI**  
SEPTEMBER 22

IT WAS a clash between teams at the opposite ends of the table when the Indian Premier League (IPL) resumed, and from the first ball to last, the match played out accordingly.

Delhi Capitals played like a well-drilled unit and now have one foot in the playoffs with five games left after an eight-wicket stroll with more than two overs left. Sunrisers Hyderabad, on the other hand, cut a sorry figure. Devoid of enterprise, they looked like a team going through the motions with nothing to play for.

## Talisman cuts sorry figure

David Warner hadn't played a competitive game since being summarily dropped from the playing XI and removed from captaincy. And the way he played the three balls from Anrich Nortje in the first over suggested he hadn't held the bat much in the interim. He was hurried with the express pace the South African generated, a slight for a batsman raised on fast and bouncy Australian pitches.

The first ball, at 148.7 km per hour, was at yorker length outside off-stump, and Warner was late on it. The next ball, at 145.5 kmph, targeted the off-stump and was pushed to cover.

The third one, bowled at 147 kmph, cramped the Australian for room – which has been his Achilles heel in recent times. Warner tentatively tried to turn it to leg, but a little bit of seam movement away from him resulted in a leading edge and a dolly catch to Axar Patel at point.

Warner, a talisman for Sunrisers, was a shadow of his dominating self during the first phase of the tournament in the Indian summer. Even when he did get a significant score, he was pretty slow in getting there and hurting the team's overall chances. It's anybody's guess if he would have found his way back in the XI had his opening partner Jonny Bairstow been available.

Soon to turn 35, one wonders if Warner's best days are behind him or he is keeping his powder dry for the T20 World Cup and the Ashes. With just one win from eight games, Sunrisers can more or less write this season off. And with a mega auction scheduled next year, Warner's days with the franchise also seem numbered.

## Protea power to the fore

Kagiso Rabada has fallen a bit off his proverbial perch of late. After being the leading wicket-taker last season, the South African seemed rather subdued in India in April-May. It didn't help matters that he missed his partner-in-crime Nortje in tandem for most of the stint. Back in the desert where he excelled in 2020, Rabada was expected to regain his intensity.

The start wasn't particularly auspicious. Brought on in the fifth over, Rabada saw his first ball being picked up by Wriddhiman Saha for a six behind square. But the South African got his act together, shifted his line to outside off-stump and bounced back with four dot balls. It forced Saha to take matters in his own hands but the wicketkeeper-batsman was woefully late on the pull shot to be caught at midwicket just outside the circle.

Rabada was not seen for the next five overs, but when he returned, he was on a hat-trick as he induced a leading edge off a delivery which cramped and got big on Manish Pandey for a caught-and-bowled dismissal.

His first two overs went for just 11 and with Sunrisers' top half gone, Rabada was expected to be miserly in the latter stages. But a no-ball and a few fortuitous slogs ruined his spell somewhat. But three wickets from one of the main bowlers – he dismissed Abdul Samad with a short ball after the batsman had slammed him for a boundary – is acceptable



Anrich Nortje's pace and bounce troubled SRH batsmen, including David Warner. [iplt20.com](#)

POINTS TABLE					
	M	W	L	NRR	Pts
DC	9	7	2	0.613	14
CSK	8	6	2	+1.223	12
RCB	8	5	3	-0.706	10
MI	8	4	4	-0.071	8
RR	8	4	4	-0.154	8
KKR	8	3	5	+0.110	6
PBKS	9	3	6	-0.345	6
SRH	8	1	7	-0.689	2

**Soon to turn 35, one wonders if Warner's best days are behind him or he is keeping his powder dry for the T20 World Cup and the Ashes.**

any day of the week. In any case, Nortje returning figures of 2/12 meant Rabada never felt much pressure.

## Walk in the park

He is no longer in India's T20 plans, but there are few players better than Shikhar Dhawan at anchoring a modest-to-middling chase. Capitals need a stabilising influence with the shot-a-ball Prithvi Shaw at the other end. Dhawan stayed true to his game – taking time to settle in before picking the bowlers and situations he wanted to target. The returning Shreyas Iyer was rusty to begin with but the task gave him enough opportunity to play himself in. With Rishabh Pant for company, Capitals got home with plenty to spare.

**BRIEF SCORES:** SRH 134 for 9 (Abdul Samad 28, Axar Patel 2/21, Kagiso Rabada 3/37, Anrich Nortje 2/12) lost to DC 139/2 in 17.5 overs (Shreyas Iyer 47 no, Shikhar Dhawan 42, Rishabh Pant 35 n.o.).

# SRH's Natarajan positive; six others in isolation

**DEVENDRA PANDEY**  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 22

SUNRISERS HYDERABAD pacer T Natarajan was placed in isolation after a second RT-PCR test on the player, ordered by the BCCI, also turned up positive for Covid-19.

The 30-year-old, though asymptomatic, had tested positive on Tuesday during the routine round of tests being conducted. However, *The Indian Express* understands that the BCCI decided on conducting a second test since the Board had previously experienced cases of players turning up with false positive results. The second test was conducted early morning on Wednesday. All players in the franchise were informed to isolate in their rooms till the results were out.

Following Natarajan's positive result, six more members of the Hyderabad team have been put into isolation as close contacts.

As per a press release, all-rounder Vijay Shankar, team manager Vijay Kumar, physio Shyam Sunder J, doctor Anjana Vannan, logistics manager Tushar Khedkar, and net bowler Periyasamy Ganesan have been identified as the six close contacts.

"The rest of the contingent including the close contacts underwent RT-PCR tests at 5 AM local time this morning and the test reports are negative," added the statement.

Despite the positive test, the BCCI decided that the Indian Premier League (IPL) fixture for Wednesday between the Hyderabad outfit and Delhi Capitals will go ahead as per schedule in Dubai and those players that tested negative will be allowed to play.

However, the BCCI has informed all teams that players and support staff will



T Natarajan was tested twice, on Tuesday and Wednesday.

have to wear masks while travelling in the team bus for practice sessions. At the same time, the cricket body stressed the need for players and team management to follow social distancing everywhere.

"We don't know how it happened and whether there was any breach? We are trying to find out but we have informed everyone to be cautious," a BCCI official said.

"The players are in a bio-secure bubble and Natarajan underwent six days of isolation here before joining the team. It's hard to tell from where he picked up the virus."

Natarajan has picked up 20 IPL wickets from the 24 matches he has played. The IPL 2021 season resumed on Sunday after it had to be halted in May due to multiple Covid-19 cases emerged despite the bio-secure bubble put in place while the event was being staged in India earlier this year.

## EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER



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

## Hulk's body goes into sulk again



Injuries have been part and parcel of Stoinis's career. [iplt20.com](#)

'Is Stoinis injured?' is a google FAQ. The poor man went down again in IPL. He ambled in to bowl and just as he gathered himself at the crease, he went limp. "Calf problem" sighed the commentators. The man with a swaying walk and the wide drop-jaw smile has had his fair share of injuries to most constituents of his anatomy: side strains, calf issues, shoulder, ankle... you name it, he has had it.

In that sense, he unfortunately mir-

rors the superhero he gets his nickname from: The Hulk. Marvel Comics's Hulk has been devoured by mutant roaches, punched into space, transformed into stone, and had his skin telekinetically flayed off, as per nerdy listicles. Stoinis got the moniker because it was felt that he celebrates his wickets in the vein-bursting fashion of the angry superhero. Pity, that the injuries too have tailed him, just like the comic avatar.

## Grumpy Bhuvu

Bhuvneshwar Kumar was an unusually grumpy man. He usually flashes a warm, benign smile, a half-smile at least, but here he was disturbed and agitated.

Perhaps it was the run-up, which he re-measured a couple of times or the ball not coming out of his hands as smoothly as it often does. Or the elusive rhythm. The swing metronome hardly found any lateral movement in his first over. His lines were awry, he strayed leg-side to Shikhar Dhawan and found the ball being picked from the square-leg fence.

He then could not latch onto a floaty, mistimed chip off Dhawan that eluded his stretched left palm by a couple of inches. Compounding his frustration, a lovely leg-cutter eluded Shreyas Iyer's outside edge. Two balls later, he found the edge of Iyer's bat, but the inside edge ricocheted onto his body and trickled to the keeper. By now, his grumpiness had developed shades of anger.



## Distraught David

As the ball ballooned towards the fielder at cover-point, from the leading edge of his blade, David Warner paused, looked suspiciously at the pitch, cursed and cursed himself, lingered at the crease and rehearsed the back-foot defence. Rather than looking to defend an Andre Nortje lifter, a heavy ball off hard length that bounced sharply and seamed a fraction away from him, Warner tried to work it onto the leg-side for a get-out-of-strike single.

For, he had looked disturbingly shaky—as he has been the entire year across formats. The first he'd have fleeced through cover in the past. But his heavy bat just stabbed muggy air. He grimaced. The second ball, on good length, was blunted to safety, tentatively.

He heaved a sigh of relief. Not for long, and he could only be content that his agony was not prolonged. A Goliath of T20 batting, he now needs to channel his inner David.



## Charmed life of Cricket's Mr Charming

Has Kane Williamson ever been involved in as bizarre a knock as the one on Wednesday night? Particularly the phase of five balls in the end where he gave three chances. First reprieve came off R Ashwin's carrom ball, wide of the crease. Williamson lunged at it to have a poke but Rishabh Pant was more intent in trying to stump – though Williamson's back foot was planted inside the crease – and clanged the regulation catch. Few balls later, Williamson drove Axar Patel straight to cover where Prithvi Shaw dropped a sitter. Next ball, Williamson holed out. Even the end was bizarre. He stepped down the track and never quite reached the pitch of the ball but nevertheless went through with it. The bottom hand came off the bat as he went for



a one-handed scoop to long-off to end his own misery. Quite un-Williamson like knock, if ever there was one.

# How Tyagi achieved the impossible with wide yorkers in last over

**SANDI PG**  
SEPTEMBER 22

The conventional yorker is a low-flung delivery spearing into the base of the off-stump. But with post-modern 360 degree pyrotechnicians on the prowl, yorkers have gone wider and wider from the off-stump in the shortest format, reaping considerable success, as did Rajasthan Royals' pacer Kartik Tyagi in his last-over heist for ages. The method has risks, among others requires a high degree of accuracy and pace, but is gaining in currency at the death.

## How did Kartik Tyagi execute the wide yorkers?

It's not like each of his six balls landed at the exact same spot, or were wide yorkers. The first ball was a low full toss outside the off-stump. The second landed on the fuller side of the good-length band. The fifth was a wide, full ball that shaped away a hint, which Deepak Hooda edged behind. Only his third, fourth and sixth balls could be categorised

EXPLAINED

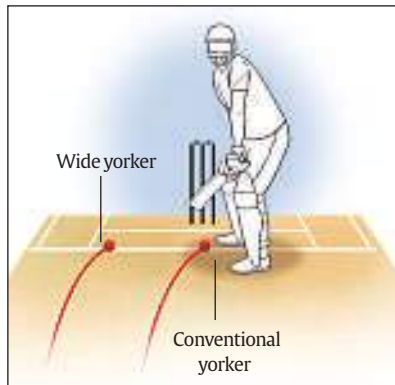
as wide yorkers, or rather yorkers away from the stumps. The third was pitched on the fifth-sixth stump line angling across the leftie, which Nicholas Pooran tried to stretch his bat and glide it past the keeper, but played it so far away from his body that he had little control. The fourth was the classical wide yorker, so far and wide that it almost hugged the tramline. Deepak Hooda was expecting the same the next ball, and hence premeditated to flay him over cover.

But Tyagi, while maintaining the line, pulled the length back a fraction and foxed him. The last ball, careful not to concede an unnecessary wide, he dragged the yorker closer to the stumps, in the fifth-sixth stump channel.

So it's not just blindly bowling wide yorkers that reaped his success, but subtly changing his line, and on a couple of instances, his length too.

## What is the idea behind a wide yorker?

The prime motive is to make batsmen reach for the ball. The wide line automatically means, he is stretching for the ball (unless he is preempting and has already made up his



**With batsmen ready to innovate, the wide yorker is a high-risk ball but if bowled in the 140s and at the right length, it can curtail runs scoring.**

mind to move across), usually just throwing his hands at it, playing so far away from the body that his balance goes off-kilter.

It's difficult to get under the ball and carve or cream it. It's difficult to get both power and precision, unless a batsman has

really fast hands. It limps the scoring areas (leg-side is out of bounds) as well as the scoring shots. There are only a few shots one could pull off – the steer, dab behind square, the crunch, smother through covers. Or the reverse sweep, which requires premeditation and accompanies a greater margin for error even at the best of times. It works on the principle that batsmen need room, but not too much room that could destabilise their balance and stability.

## What is the fundamental (and philosophical) difference between a conventional and wide yorker?

The conventional yorker was primarily designed as a wicket-taking, wrecker-ball, across formats. Fast, furious, sailing in wickedly, sometimes reverse-swing accentuated, battering toes and bat if those intervened. Usually stars in lower-order detonation in Tests and at the death in ODIs, though some of its finest



Kartik Tyagi

dealers have used it with great success against mainstream batsmen across formats. Conversely, the wide yorker is a run-denying, restrictive play, confined largely to T20s.

Some traditionalists even call it a negative play, equating it to the round-the-stumps leg-side tactic against right-handed batsmen. The fields are similar. In the latter instance, the leg-side is stacked with fielders; with wide yorkers, the off-side is invariably packed.

## What are the virtues a bowler needs?

Pace is paramount, perhaps more than the conventional version, where even medium-pacers could compensate for their lack of pace with accuracy and precision. Good batsmen could still harness pace to suit them, but lack of pace gives batsmen more time, and consequently, alternatives. And a batsman, when reaching out, could get more control over his shots when he is looking to play straight than square. Mixing the lines, too, is necessary, as batsmen could easily anticipate the delivery and set themselves up for it.

## What are the risk factors?

As the ball flirts with the tramline, there lurks

the danger of a wide being called. So many yorkers, unsurprisingly, end up as extras on the scoresheet. But then, there is a perception that in T20s, or at the death in ODIs, it is better to risk a wide than miss the length and get struck for a six. Bit more closer to the body, batsmen could guide it past the keeper. Messing up with lengths, though, pose more risk than missing lines. A bit fuller, batsmen with quick feet could shuffle across and pick his spots.

If the bowler errs on the shorter side, a good batsman could drag the ball onto the leg-side, where even if he edges, chances are that it could fall safely, as there are fewer fielders. A bit slower than 140kph, he gets ample time to free his arms and swing the blade.

## Are wide yorkers gaining in currency?

The variation predates the T20 era, but has always been an outlier. But of late, it has gained more popularity and acceptability. In the last two editions, bowlers have been using it frequently. Andre Russell is perhaps the finest example; so has been Kyle Jamieson.

Lastih Malinga was the high priest, and he, alongside Nuwan Kulasekara, had choked India with wide yorkers at the back of the 2014 World T20 final.



‘Batsman’ is now ‘batter’, will ‘third man’ be ‘third’?

'Batsman' has been amended to 'batter' in laws of cricket by the MCC. The change comes after usage of gender-neutral terms like the 'third' and 'nightwatch' in broadcast.

The Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), the body in London that upholds the laws of cricket, has officially introduced a change in the sport's terminology. Effective immediately, according to a statement on Wednesday, the term 'batsman' and/or 'batsmen' will officially be replaced by the gender-neutral term 'batter.' The terms 'batsman/batsmen' has been in use since 1744 according to *The Times*. However, the change has been implemented to make the sport gender-inclusive and more welcoming to women players.

**THE LAWMAKERS' TAKE** In a statement on its website, the MCC said: "At the time of the last redraft in 2017 it was agreed, following consultation with the International Cricket Council (ICC) and key figures within women's cricket, that the terminology would remain as 'batsman' and 'batsmen' within the Laws of the game. The changes announced today reflect the wider usage of the terms 'batter' and 'batters' which has occurred in cricketing circles in the intervening period. The move to 'batter' is a natural progression, aligning with the terms of bowlers and fielders that already sit within the Laws." Additionally, assistant secretary for cricket and operations at the MCC Jamie Cox claimed that the change was introduced keeping in mind the growth of women's cricket in the past few years. "The use of the term 'batter' is a natural evolution in our shared cricketing language and the terminology has already been adopted by many of those involved in the sport," he said in a statement. "It is the right time for this adjustment to be recognised formally and we are delighted, as the guardians of the laws, to announce these changes today."

**TESTING GROUND AT THE HUNDRED** At the inaugural season of 'The Hundred' in England (a women and men's 100-ball per innings tournament) this July, gender-neutral terms had been tried during coverage. The term 'batter' had been used commonly across the men's and women's competitions. Additionally, the fielding position 'third man' had been referred to simply as 'third.'

In an earlier Test involving the English women's team, the term 'nightwatchman' had also been referred to as 'nightwatch' by broadcasters. News reports by organisations like the BBC and Sky had also used these terms.



English cricketer Alexandra Hartley tweeted that she uses the terms 'Third/Short Third' and 'Deep Third' instead of the third man position. *File*

**'BATTER' THE ONLY CHANGE** Though other terms had been used by broadcasters and news agencies, 'batter' is the only change that has been implemented by the MCC at the moment. "The fielding position 'third man,' along with other cricketing terms like 'nightwatchman' and '12th Man' is not included in the Laws, and so any changes to such terms are outside of MCC's controls as Guardians of the Laws," read a message the MCC had posted on their *Twitter* handle. Meanwhile, 2017 women's World Cup winner Alexandra Hartley explained on *Twitter* that she "personally (called) them 'Third/Short Third' and 'Deep Third'" instead of the third man position. She also *Tweeted* that she "called them 'Nightwatcher' at the start of the summer."

**RISE OF WOMEN'S CRICKET** The MCC, in its statement, cited the increase in spectatorship of women's matches as a clear indication of the "unprecedented growth" women's cricket has experienced these past few years. The 2017 World Cup final in England, in which the hosts beat India, was played in front of a capacity crowd at Lord's, with around 24 thousand spectators turning up for the match. Shortly before the Covid-19 outbreak last year, 86,174 spectators turned up at the Melbourne Cricket Ground to watch the women's T20 World Cup final between India and eventual champions Australia. This match set a new record for most spectators at a T20 World Cup final (men or women), breaking the previous 66 thousand record set at the 2016 men's final between West Indies and England at Eden Gardens in Kolkata.

SHAHID JUDGE

News of mother's death kept from boxer during nat'l title run

Haryana boxer Akash's mother passed away day before the tournament

GAURAV BHATT  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

HARYANA BOXER Akash Kumar won the national title on Tuesday afternoon in Bellary, earning himself a berth at the World Championship next month. All through his long journey home — the six-hour ride from Bellary to Bangalore, the morning flight to Delhi, the metro to Bahadurgarh and the cab to his village Paluwas in Bhiwani — the 20-year-old had just one thought on his mind: "I will place this gold medal at my mother's feet." Little did he know that his mother had passed away on September 14, a day before the tournament kicked off.

"Yesterday evening, I was showing off the medal at the ceremony. I was celebrating, hoping the medal will put her in good spirits," Akash says of his mother Santosh, who died of a lung infection after contracting a viral fever earlier this month. "I reached home around 2 pm today and all the relatives were there. Nobody said anything. They just showed me the photo of my mother. I don't know how to process this. The last time we spoke, she made me promise that I will bring the gold medal home."

While the Services boxer was taking down favourites in the 54-kg category at the week-long national championships, his uncle Bhawar Singh and coach Narender Rana were battling emotions, keeping the news from him. Bhawar was heartbroken after Akash's bittersweet triumph on Tuesday. "There was always this fear that he would ask me why I didn't inform him," Bhawar told *The Indian Express* a day before Akash's arrival. "Before Akash left, his mother told him, 'I am here at a private hospital. Our relatives are with me. There is no need to worry. You go and win'. The son fulfilled the promise. *Par paramatma ne saath nahi diya* (God didn't help), she couldn't celebrate with her son."

Akash, though, understands why he wasn't told. "I know they kept it to themselves for my own good. I would have left the tournament midway. The run that I had, the top boxers that I defeated this week... I assure you, now I understand that it was all because my mother was in my corner."

Bhawar had discussed the situation with services coach Rana, who held up his end of the bargain.

"We decided that we wouldn't tell him... *seene pe patthar rakhi ke* (with a heavy heart)," says Rana. "There were posts about his



Akash Kumar became the 54kg national champion on Tuesday. After learning about his mother's death, the Haryana boxer said, "I won because she was in my corner". *BFI*

mother's death on Facebook. So I took his and the rest of the team's phones so he couldn't find out. I told him, 'You need to stay focussed on the ring'. During training sessions, my eyes would well up but I couldn't let him figure out that something was wrong. After each win, my hug was a little bit longer than usual."

Akash did manage to call home once, using a fellow competitor's phone.

"I asked uncle about my mother and he said, 'She's not doing too well. But it's okay. You focus on the bouts.'"

At stake was the national title and a berth to the World Championships, a huge breakthrough after a struggle-filled journey.

Tough journey

Akash's father Rajbir was a state-level wrestler who regularly took his two sons to the akhara. But after a certain Vijender Singh from neighbouring village Kaluwas won India's first boxing medal at the Olympics in 2008, Rajbir enrolled his sons into a boxing academy, and passed away later that year.

Akash's elder brother Suraj was a promising talent, winning the sub-junior national championship in 2012 and multiple medals for Haryana. But he is currently in jail in connection with a murder case.

"His friend invited him somewhere and there was a scuffle... All we know is he stayed

off the path," says Bhawar, who had been taking care of the two boys since brother Rajbir's death. "Akash learned a lot from the episode. The whole village is proud of him and loves his reserved nature."

"*Buri sangat* (bad company)," Akash sums up his brother's struggles. "But that made me realise that our family could not afford more ordeals. I had to live up to the expectations."

Last January, Akash won the Under-21 gold medal at the Khelo India Youth Games in Guwahati. He has been training at the Army Sports Institute in Pune under Rana and other coaches, and has been earmarked as the next big thing in the sport due to his aggressive style — the dash of swagger, long combinations and unrelenting pressure.

"Akash was by far the fittest boxer in the whole competition and beat tough opponents," says Rana. "Each time he won, I would break down but my coaches would shush me up... Trust me, you will be hearing Akash's name a lot in the future."

Up next is the World Championship in Belgrade, Serbia next month.

"It has been a quick turnaround, I could have never expected that I would be representing my nation all of a sudden," says Akash. "But I will do justice to my talent at the World's next month. And I know my mother will watch over me there as well."

Pak says threat to NZ players originated in India

REUTERS  
ISLAMABAD, SEPTEMBER 22

PAKISTAN HAS accused an unnamed individual in India of sending threatening emails that caused New Zealand to abandon its cricket tour in the country. New Zealand scrapped its tour to Pakistan moments before the start of the first one-day international in Rawalpindi last Friday, citing a specific threat to its cricket team. New Zealand did not share the details of the threat with Pakistan.

"The email was sent from an associated device in India using VPN, showing IP address location of Singapore," Pakistan information minister Fawad Chaudhry said Wednesday. The England and Wales Cricket Board followed New Zealand on Monday by canceling both its men's and women's cricket tours to Pakistan next month.

Chaudhry claimed that New Zealand received threatening emails before it arrived in Pakistan on Sept. 11, including an email sent to the wife of Martin Gupthill in which the opening batsman received a death threat.

The information minister said Pakistan's initial investigations revealed that the device from which an email to Gupthill's wife was sent was also registered in India.

Chaudhry said Pakistan will seek help from the INTERPOL to probe the matter.

"We believe this is a campaign against international cricket," Chaudhry said.

The British High Commissioner in Pakistan wrote on *Twitter* that he had not advised against the tour on security grounds and that the ECB took the decision on its own.

"The British High Commission supported the tour; did not advise against it on security grounds; and our travel advice for Pakistan has not changed," Christian Turner said. "This was a decision made by the ECB, which is independent of the British government based on concerns for players welfare."

**Pakistan information minister Fawad Chaudhry claimed that New Zealand received emails before it arrived in Pakistan on Sept. 11, including an email sent to the wife of Martin Gupthill in which the opening batsman received a death threat.**

Russia a real chance for Hamilton to secure 100th win

REUTERS  
SEPTEMBER 22

LEWIS HAMILTON has every chance of celebrating a record-extending 100th Formula One victory on Sunday, but the seven-time world champion can still take nothing for granted at Russia's Sochi circuit.

Hamilton's Mercedes team have won every race at the Olympic Park circuit since the first in 2014, the Briton triumphant in four of the seven and current teammate Valtteri Bottas in two including last year.

Past performance has not been the greatest of indicators this season, however, with Red Bull and championship leader Max Verstappen, 24 next week, pushing harder than ever in an increasingly intense title battle.

Verstappen's task is tougher this time due to a three place grid penalty imposed after he and Hamilton collided and retired at the Italian Grand Prix, with stewards ruling the Dutch youngster was mostly to blame.

Hamilton has not won since his home British Grand Prix at Silverstone in July but Sochi could bring him that 100th win at the fifth attempt.

No other team, not even Ferrari, have ever won the same race for seven years in a row, let alone eight, but Mercedes are still favourites.

"Lewis... is laser focused on what he needs to deliver in the next eight races," said team boss Toto Wolff ahead of the Black Sea resort's penultimate race before the Russian round moves to St Petersburg for 2023.

"As for Valtteri, he's driving better than ever... there's a calm determination about the team right now and the business end of a season, fighting for championships, is exactly what we enjoy the most."

While Red Bull have never been on pole in Sochi, a position only ever achieved by Mercedes and Ferrari drivers, Verstappen has started from the top slot in eight of 14 races so far including seven of the last eight.

None of his seven wins so far

in 2021 has come from lower than third on the grid, however.

The Dutch driver, five points clear of Hamilton in the standings while Red Bull are 18 behind Mercedes, was second in Sochi last year.

"We have been more competitive this year and we have a better package at the moment so it will be interesting to see how competitive we can be there this year," said Verstappen.

"It will be of course completely different to Monza and it looks like there might be some rain this weekend... I'm definitely looking forward to going back there and seeing what we can do.

"The penalty is of course not ideal but nothing is lost, that's how I look at it."

McLaren's Daniel Ricciardo led teammate Lando Norris in a one-two finish at Monza but Sochi was McLaren's only non-scoring race of the 2020 campaign. They will also be hoping past performance is no guide to current form, with both drivers fired up by the team's first win since 2012 and first one-two since 2010.

Ferrari, fighting McLaren for third place, will also be in the reckoning for solid points with Charles Leclerc and Carlos Sainz.

Leclerc to start from back of the grid

Leclerc will start Sunday's race from the back of the grid due to a change of power unit, the Italian team said on Wednesday. Ferrari said they would be introducing an updated hybrid system in Sochi, mainly to gain experience with it for the 2022 car project.

"A great deal of effort has gone into this, both technically and logistically, and so as to be able to use it as soon as possible, its introduction will be staggered between the drivers," Ferrari said.

"Charles will be the first to have the new hybrid system. This decision is a precautionary measure relating to the potential risk of using the battery pack damaged in his Hungarian GP accident."

**SBI State Bank of India**  
(Constituted under the State Bank of India Act, 1955)  
Shares & Bonds Department, Corporate Centre, 14th floor State Bank Bhavan, Madame Cama Road, Nariman Point, Mumbai – 400021  
Website: <https://bank.sbi> Email: [investor.complaints@sbi.co.in](mailto:investor.complaints@sbi.co.in)  
Phone No.: 022-22741474, 22740841, 22742403, 22740846, 22742842

**KIND ATTENTION: SHAREHOLDERS**  
**NOTICE FOR CLAIMING UNPAID / UNCLAIMED DIVIDEND FOR FY2014-15 ONWARDS**

Dear Shareholders,

In terms of Section 38A (3) of the State Bank of India (SBI) Act, 1955, any amount of dividend which remains unpaid or unclaimed for a period of seven years, shall be transferred by the Bank to the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF). Subsequently, such dividend can be claimed by the respective shareholder only through IEPF.

Therefore, we request you to send your claim for the unpaid/unclaimed dividend pertaining to financial years 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2020-21 (Bank has not declared any dividend during the FY 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20) to Bank's Registrar and Transfer Agent (RTA) at address given below by submitting documents detailed at <https://bank.sbi/web/investor-relations/share-holder-bond-holder-information> → Unclaimed Dividend

M/s Alankit Assignments Limited (Unit: State Bank of India), 205-208, Anarkali Complex, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi – 110055. Telephone: 7290071335, Email: [sbi.igr@alankit.com](mailto:sbi.igr@alankit.com)

**For State Bank of India**

**Sham K.**  
Assistant General Manager  
(Compliance & Company Secretary)

**Place: Mumbai**  
**Date: 23 September 2021**

Approved by AICTE and affiliated to Dr A P J Abdul Kalam Technical University, Lucknow

**KCC INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT**  
GREATER NOIDA

**B.TECH.**  
COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING WITH SPECIALIZATIONS

**SCHOLARSHIPS UPTO 100%**  
For Meritorious Students | For Wards of Defence Personnel | For Sports persons

**FEE : 47,400/- Per Semester**  
**ADMISSION OPEN**  
**CALL : 9210065555**

[www.kccitm.edu.in](http://www.kccitm.edu.in)

**CORRIGENDUM**  
Refer to the Public Notice published in this newspaper on 22.09.2021 for Migration of Licence No. 28 of 2013 and 83 of 2010. In continuation it may be noted that the following information was missing and is hereby brought to the notice "that No third party rights have been created over the licenced land".  
**for DLF Limited**  
**Neelu Goel**

**केनरा बैंक Canara Bank**  
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम A Govt. of India Undertaking  
**सिंडिकेट Syndicate**

**POSSESSION NOTICE [SECTION 13(4)] (For Immovable property)**  
Whereas, The undersigned being the authorized officer of the Canara Bank, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice on following date calling upon the following borrower under below mentioned borrower to repay the below mentioned amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.  
The Borrower/Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice in hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13 (4) of the said ordinance read with rule 8 and 9 of the said Rules on this following date  
The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Canara Bank** for below mentioned amount.  
The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of Borrower/ Mortgagee/Name of Branch	Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession Notice & Amount	Description of the Immovable Property
1. Binod Kumar, S/o Sri Sudarshan Prasad, Prop. M/S. United Consultech and Engineers, <b>Mortgagor:- Sri Sudarshan Prasad</b> <b>Patna Bailey Road Branch-Patna</b>	<b>11.05.2021</b> <b>16.09.2021</b> Rs. 16,86,094.34 as on 30/04/2021 + Interest + Sarfesi Charges & other Charges	All that part & Parcel of Land and building in the name of mortgagor:- Sri Sudarshan Prasad, S/O Sri Dashrath Prasad, bearing situated in Mauza – Danapur Sahajadpur, Mohalla – New Colony, Panchu Chak, Thana- Danapur in Thana No- 21, Taazi No-11/802, , Khata No-915, & 916, Survey Plot No- 112(Part), under ward no -19, Area of Land- 12.05 duj equivalent to 850.625 square feet as per Simple Mortgage Deed No - 13288 dated 24-11-2017. <b>Bounded By:-</b> North: Brijnandan Rai, South: Dashrath Prasad, East: Rasta, West: Dilip Rai
1. Sri Madhukar Verma, S/o Yadunath Verma, Prop. M/S. Riddhi Siddhi Enterprises <b>Mortgagor:-1. Smt. Yadhika Verma, 2. Smt Yadunath Verma</b> W/o Manisha Verma W/o Sri Madhukar Verma <b>Patna Bailey Road Branch-Patna</b>	<b>11.05.2021</b> <b>16.09.2021</b> Rs. 22,16,511.53 as on 30/04/2021 + Interest + Sarfesi Charges & other Charges	All that part & Parcel of Residential Flat No 1B on 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor in Bithika Enclave, including proportionate share in the name of mortgagor:- 1) Smt Bithika Verma, Mauza – Jalalpur, Thana – Danapur, Thana No -22, Taazi No- 5520, Khata No-99, Survey Plot no 72(part), Flat measuring 1260 square feet, along with one reserved car parking space as per Simple Mortgage Deed No -13583 dated 25-09-2019. <b>Bounded By:-</b> North: Open Space, South: Open Space, East: Flat No -1 A, West: Open Space
1. Sri Manoj Kumar Yadav(Mannu) alias Manoj Kumar, S/o Sri Ravi Rai <b>Patna Boring Road Branch-II, Patna</b>	<b>26.05.2021</b> <b>16.09.2021</b> Rs. 17,22,482.64 as on 30/04/2021 + Interest + Sarfesi Charges & other Charges	All part & Parcel of Residential land and building in the name of Manoj Kumar Yadav (Mannu) alias Manoj Kumar S/O Late Ravi Rai, Situated at Mauza Mainpura, Thana – Fulwarsharif, present thana Patliputra, District Patna, Thana No -02, Taazi No. 5236/5506, Khata No.461, Khesra No.1703(part)Ward No 22 Dist.- Patna. Area 816.60 sq ft (12 dhur) <b>Bounded By:-</b> North :Sri Chaitu Gope, South- Kesho Chaudhary , East:- Gali 6 ft, West:-Samrat Convent School

**Date : 22.09.2021**  
**Place : Patna**

**Authorised Officer**  
**CANARA BANK**

**VIT-AP UNIVERSITY**  
[www.vitap.ac.in](http://www.vitap.ac.in)

**Convocation 2021**

**Chief Guest**  
**NOBEL LAUREATE**  
(Awarded in 2019 for the development of lithium-ion batteries)  
**Dr. M. Stanley Whittingham, FRs**  
Member, NAE; Director, NECES  
Binghamton University (SUNY), USA

**Guest of Honour**  
**Ms. Mayurika Singh**  
Director - CE&S,  
Microsoft India

**Presided By**  
**Dr. G. Viswanathan**  
Founder & Chancellor, VIT

**on 23rd September 2021 (Virtual)**  
Watch live at 6 P.M. on  
[www.youtube.com/c/VITAP](http://www.youtube.com/c/VITAP)

**INAUGURATION OF NEW BUILDINGS**

**MAHATMA GANDHI BLOCK**  
Academic Block: G + 6 Floors: 4,61,300 sq. ft.

**NEELAM SANJIVA REDDY BLOCK**  
Men's Hostel Block – 3:  
G + 14 Floors: 2,36,956 sq. ft.

**ROCK PLAZA**  
Student Activity Centre: G + 3 Floor: 56,640 sq. ft.

**SAVITRIBAI PHULE BLOCK**  
Women's Hostel Block – 1:  
G + 14 Floors: 2,04,163 sq. ft.

**PROGRAMMES OFFERED**  
• B.B.A. - B.Com Finance  
• BA, LL.B (Hons) - BBA, LL.B. (Hons)  
• B.A. - M.A. (Public Service)  
• B.Sc. - M.Sc. (Data Science)  
• B.Tech. - M.Tech. - M.Sc. (Physics)  
• M.Sc. (Chemistry) - M.Sc. (Data Science) - Ph.D

**2021 BATCH FABULOUS PLACEMENTS**  
566 TOTAL NUMBERS OF OFFERS  
247 TOTAL SUPER DREAM & DREAM OFFERS  
₹20 Lakh Highest CTC per annum  
₹6.28 Lakh Average CTC per annum

**VIT-AP University**, Beside AP Secretariat, Near Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh - 522337  
Hyderabad Admin. Office: 4th Floor, Bansal Pride Building, Near YSR Statue, Madhapur, Hyderabad - 500081  
admissions@vitap.ac.in | 08632370444 | 7901091283  
04029559555 | 7901311658  
vitap.university | vitap-university | vit-ap | VITAPUniversity | VITAP

**RAIWEED #2**  
RANKED 2nd IN THE COUNTRY  
FOR BEST PLACEMENTS  
FOR THE LAST 5 YEARS

**Apply Knowledge. Improve Life.®**