

Dreaded gangster killed in shootout inside Delhi court

2 gunmen posed as lawyers, both shot



A video grab of the shootout in a Delhi court on Friday

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24



Jitender Maan alias Gogi

TWO ARMED men opened fire inside Delhi's Rohini court on Friday, killing dreaded jailed gangster Jitender Maan alias Gogi. Members of the Delhi Police Special Cell's Counter Intelligence team, who were accompanying Gogi, shot dead the assailants, with 27 bullets in all fired inside the courtroom.

In a major security lapse, the men — believed to belong to a rival gang headed by Sunil, alias Tillu Tajpuriya — managed to sneak into the courtroom with a .38 bore pistol and another of .30 bore posing as lawyers. Gogi received five-six bullet injuries, and was taken to a nearby hospital, where he was declared dead.

Just half an hour earlier, Tillu's lieutenant Sunil Maan had been produced in the same courtroom — No. 207 — in connection with the same attempt to murder case. Initial investigation

MORE REPORTS
PAGE 4

Modi's image in SC mails raises eyebrows; apex court objects, Govt rushes to remove

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

SINCE ITS launch six months ago, the Central Government has been going all out to promote the showpiece initiative, Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, to mark 75 years of Independence next year.

But this has now led to questions being raised over the inclusion of ads for the event with images of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in emails sent to advocates by the Registry of the Supreme



The Prime Minister's image with an SC email

Court. Several advocates confirmed to *The Indian Express* that the images were included as part of email signatures — and said this blurred the line separating the

FIRST MEETING AFTER BIDEN BECAME PRESIDENT

India-US ties about democratic values, diversity: Biden to Modi

Area of trade will be tremendously important this decade: Modi

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

UNDERLINING THAT the relationship between India and the US is "destined to be stronger, closer and tighter", US President Joe Biden said during his meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the White House Friday that the partnership is about a "shared responsibility to uphold democratic values" and their "joint commitment to diversity".

Pointing out that Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary will be marked next week, the US President said his message of "non-violence, respect, tolerance



PM Narendra Modi with US President Joe Biden on Friday. PTI

matters today maybe more than ever".
Modi, who spoke after Biden at the Oval Office, said the next

decade will be a "transformative period" in India-US relations, and referred to "democratic values,"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Modi and Harris discuss Pak support for terror

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

IN HER first meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US Vice-President Kamala Harris on Friday suo motu referred to terrorist groups operating in Pakistan and asked India's neighbour to ensure that these groups do not impact the security of the US and India, said Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla.

The Foreign Secretary, who was part of the talks between Modi and Harris, said she also agreed with the Prime Minister on the "need to rein in and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



DAY AFTER TWO KILLED IN ASSAM

33-yr-old's family in dark on video; 12-yr-old died on way to get Aadhaar

CM says don't go by 30-sec video, evictions will go on

TORA AGARWALA
DHOLPUR (ASSAM),
SEPTEMBER 24

A DAY after an Assam eviction drive against "encroachers" on government land left two dead and several injured, including policemen, the authorities were yet to officially release details of the deceased.

Darrang Superintendent of Police Sushanta Biswa Sarma confirmed to *The Indian Express* that the two included a 33-year-old, the video of whose shooting went viral on Thursday, and a 12-



Sheikh Farid; Moinul Hoque

year-old child, both of this area in Sipajhar.

Asked how the 12-year-old died, Sarma said he could not comment. "All this will come out in the inquiry."

Speaking to the local media, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

RELATED REPORT
PAGE 8

GOVT & POLITICS

OPP ATTACKS GOVT ON CASTE CENSUS, BJP SAYS WE STAND FOR ALL PAGE 5

Channi elevation, state elections test Punjabiyat with politics of caste, religion

MANRAJ GREWAL SHARMA
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 24

IN THE run-up to the 2017 Assembly elections in Punjab, an opinion poll on the suitability of AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal as Chief Minister threw up an interesting finding. The majority respondents rejected the idea for

just one reason: He was not a Punjabi. His religion, they made it clear, was inconsequential.

Five years on, as Punjab braces for the 2022 Assembly elections, it's witnessing an unusual focus on caste and religious identity after the elevation of Charanjit Singh Channi as the new Chief Minister, and the re-

jection of former PPCC chief Sunil Kumar Jakhar.

Ambika Soni, a veteran Congress leader, ruled out Jakhar's name for the top post saying Punjab is the only state where a Sikh should become Chief Minister.

Many are dismayed as political strategists trot out the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

WORLD



CHINA DECLARES ALL CRYPTOCURRENCY TRANSACTIONS ILLEGAL PAGE 12

Sensex races from 50,000 to 60,000 in eight months

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, NEW DELHI,
SEPTEMBER 24

RIDING ON hopes of a pick-up in consumption-led growth, and enthused by faster vaccinations and the possibility of a mild third wave of Covid, if at all, the Sensex breached the 60,000 mark on Friday — continuing the strong rally of the past two months.

The benchmark index at the Bombay Stock Exchange hit a high of 60,333 before closing at 60,048, a gain of 163 points. The broader Nifty at the National Stock Exchange rose 30 points to 17,853.2.

While the Sensex has risen from 50,000 to 60,000 over eight months — with retail investors, mutual funds, and foreign portfolio investors leading a sustained stock market rally as the economy recovered from the ravages of the pandemic — the bull run has been especially aggressive over the last two months.

Between August 1 and September 24 when it crossed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Heartiest Congratulations

26+ Selections

IN THE VERY FIRST BATCH FROM LevelUp IAS

OPTIONAL

FOUNDATION TEST SERIES DAMP

SOCIOLOGY ANTHROPOLOGY PSIR
MATHEMATICS HISTORY

FOUNDATION COURSE FOR OPTIONAL

ANTHROPOLOGY SOCIOLOGY MATHEMATICS
₹34000/- + GST ₹38000/- + GST ₹38000/- + GST

Comprehensive Coverage of UPSC Syllabus
Tailor-Made Handouts
Regular Zoom Sessions With Faculties
Online & Offline Support

GS FOUNDATION + CURRENT AFFAIRS
(Prelims-Cum-Mains 2022)

students@levelupias.com www.levelupias.com 8826486658, 8826496658
LEVELUP IAS, Shop No 6, 3rd Floor, Old Rajinder Nagar New Delhi 110060

SAHKAR SE SAMRIDDHI

Hon'ble Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** | Hon'ble Home Minister & Minister of Cooperation **Shri Amit Shah**

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE CONFERENCE

A Step towards Realizing the Dream of 'Sahkar Se Samriddhi' in India

Chief Guest

Shri Amit Shah

Hon'ble Home Minister & Minister of Cooperation

In Presence of

Shri B. L. Verma, MoS in the Ministry of Cooperation & Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Government of India

Shri Ariel Guarco, President, International Cooperative Alliance

25 September 2021, Saturday

Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi

Scan this QR code To watch the event LIVE

मिट्टी की जान... किसान की शान

BUSINESS AS USUAL
By UNNY

DOWNLOAD APP

- VISUAL STORIES
- DAILY BRIEFING
- PODCASTS
- CUSTOMIZABLE NEWS EXPERIENCE

Indian Express
★★★★★ 4.6

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE APP



WHY ISLAMIC STATE IN AFGHANISTAN HARKS ON THE CONCEPT OF KHORASAN AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR INDIA

The region of Khorasan is of special significance in the political and cultural history of Islam as well as in Islamic theology

SCIENCE



WHERE DID WATERMELON COME FROM?

Study solves the mystery of fruit's origin

ENTERTAINMENT



KOTA FACTORY SEASON 2 REVIEW

TVF acs the sequel test, delivers engaging and introspective series

EXPRESS AUDIO

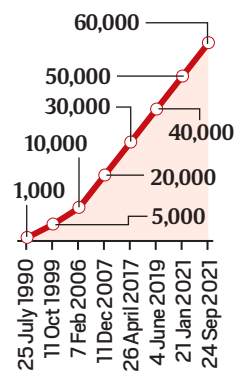
China's Evergrande crisis, PM Cares "not a govt fund", and Mahant Giri's death

Understanding China's Evergrande crisis, PM CARES fund "not a fund of the government" says its trust, and the controversy around the death of Mahant Narendra Giri

FROM PAGE ONE

SENSEX MILESTONES

Latest 10,000 in just 8 months



Sensex races

60,000, the Sensex has risen 7,462 points, or 14.2 per cent. Besides the pick-up in vaccinations and hope of an economic revival, the rally during this period has been helped by statements that the United States Federal Reserve has made.

In its statement issued at the end of July, the American central bank delinked the tapering of its bond purchase programme from the cycle of interest rate hikes. And on Wednesday, the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) said that it would maintain an accommodative monetary policy stance until the targets for inflation and employment were met.

The announcements allayed investor fears of a sudden and sharp withdrawal of the Fed's bond purchase programme, followed by a hike in interest rates. They have provided comfort that while the tapering will be spread until mid-2022, interest rates will begin to rise only towards the end of next year — which means there will be no sudden exits by FPIs.

In fact, the sharp rise in the Sensex over the last two days has come on the back of the Fed's announcement on Wednesday. Sentiments also improved as concerns waned over a possible default on debt repayment by the Chinese real estate behemoth Evergrande.

Modi, Harris

closely monitor Pakistan's support for... terrorist groups". This is the first time since the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan that a top US government leader has conveyed to the top Indian leadership their perception of Pakistan's role in terrorism.

Earlier this month, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken had told the US Congress that Pakistan has a "multiplicity of interests, some that are in conflict with ours", and that the US will be looking at its relationship with Pakistan in the coming weeks to decide what role

Washington would want it to play in the future of Afghanistan.

But Harris's words, as articulated by the Foreign Secretary, are much stronger in tone and tenor.

Responding to questions on the discussions at the meeting, Shringla said, "...when the issue of terrorism came up, the Vice President *suo motu* referred to Pakistan's role in that regard. She said that there were terror groups that were working there. She asked Pakistan to take action, so that these groups do not impact US security and that of India.

Shringla said Harris agreed with the Prime Minister's briefing on the issue of cross-border terrorism and the fact that India has been a victim of terrorism for several decades.

This was Modi's first meeting with Harris in her official capacity as Vice President. The one-on-one meeting was followed by delegation-level talks which had NSA Ajit Doval, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Shringla and India's ambassador to US Taranjit Singh Sandhu, among others. That such a high-level delegation accompanied the PM signifies the importance the Indian establishment gave to the meeting with Vice President Harris. Such high-level accompanying delegations are usually reserved for presidents and prime ministers.

Before the meeting started, Modi told Harris, "You are the source of inspiration for so many people across the world. I am completely confident that our bilateral relationship will touch new heights under President Biden and your leadership."

The Vice President — known for her views on democracy and human rights — told Modi that it was incumbent on the two nations to protect democracies in the best interests of the people of the two countries.

"As democracies around the world are under threat, it is imperative that we defend democratic principles and institutions within our respective countries and around the world. And that we maintain what we must do to strengthen democracies at home and it is incumbent on our nations to of course protect democracies in the best interests of people of our countries," she said.

Family in dark

Sarma said Friday: "Ten thousand people came out with sticks and spears and attacked police... Yes, I condemn what the cameraman did (stomping on the 33-year-old as he lay injured), but that is just 30 seconds of the entire episode. But what is going on for four months?" he said, adding there was no question of stopping the eviction drive.

A small, nondescript patch of earth at Dholpur 3 village is now enclosed by a bundle of twigs and a crumpled piece of white cloth, put up by villagers to mark the spot where Moinul Hoque went

India-US ties about democratic values, diversity: Biden to Modi

traditions to which both countries are committed" and said the "importance of these traditions will only increase further".

This was the first in-person meeting between the two leaders after Biden assumed office in January, although they had spoken thrice on telephone and participated in three virtual summits together.

On Friday, they also took part in the first in-person Quad leaders summit at the White House along with Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Japan's Yoshihide Suga.

During his meeting with Modi, Biden stressed on Covid, climate change and Quad as three topics of discussion. Modi spoke about tradition, talent, technology, trade and trusteeship (five Ts). They spoke for about 20 minutes and then had a meeting for about an hour or so.

"I think that the relationship between India and the United States, the largest democracies in the world, is destined to be stronger, closer and tighter, and I believe it can benefit the whole world," Biden said.

"Of course our partnership is more than just what we do. It's about who we are... It's about our shared responsibility to uphold democratic values, our joint commitment to diversity, and it's about family ties, including four million Indian Americans who make the United States stronger every single day," he said.

"The world celebrates Mahatma Gandhi's birthday

next week. We're all reminded that his message of non-violence, respect, tolerance, matters today maybe more than ever," the US President said.

Modi later tweeted that he "had an outstanding meeting" with Biden. "His leadership on critical global issues is commendable. We discussed how India and the USA will further scale-up cooperation in different spheres and work together to overcome key challenges like Covid and climate change," Modi said.

Biden said they are launching a "new chapter in the history of India-US ties", taking on some of the "toughest challenges we face together, starting with a shared commitment".

Apart from Covid and climate challenge, he said they will be talking about what more they can do to ensure stability in the Indo-Pacific, including with their partners.

Outlining a decade-long vision of bilateral ties, Modi said: "I find that under your leadership the seeds have been sown for Indo-US relations to expand, and for all democratic countries in the world, this is going to be a transformative period. I can see that very clearly."

While speaking about democratic "traditions", Modi also talked about talent.

"There are more than four million Indian Americans who are participating in the journey of progress of America. When I look at the importance of this decade, and the role that is go-

ing to be played by this talent of the Indian Americans, I find that the people to people talent will play a greater role and Indian talent will be a full partner in this relationship. And I see that your contribution is going to be very important in this," he said.

Speaking about "technology", Modi said "the most important driving force in the world today would be that of technology and the technology that is going to be for the service and for the use of humanity. I find that opportunities for this are going to be tremendous." India and the US have been partners in the defence, security and nuclear sectors.

The PM also touched upon the issue of trade, which has been a challenge between the two countries, and spoke about its "complementary" nature. "Between India and the United States, trade will continue to assume importance, and we find that the trade between our two countries is actually complementary. There are things that you have and there are things that we have, and then we in fact complement each other. I find that the area of trade during this decade is also going to be tremendously important," he said.

Referring to climate change, an issue of priority for the Biden-Harris administration, Modi said: "You just mentioned that on the second of October we will be celebrating the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi always used

to talk about the principle of trusteeship, trusteeship of the planet. It means that the planet that we have, we have to bequeath it to the following generations, and this sentiment of trusteeship is going to assume more and more importance globally, but also between the relations between India and the United States."

Biden also spoke about Vice President Harris' Indian origins and her mother being a scientist, while Modi said he had looked for Biden's ancestors in India and brought some papers about them.

The meeting was attended among others by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, NSA Jake Sullivan and Special Presidential climate envoy John Kerry. Modi was accompanied by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, NSA Ajit Doval, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla and Indian Ambassador Taranjit Singh Sandhu, among others.

Addressing the Quad leaders, meanwhile, Biden said this is a grouping of "democratic partners who share a world view and have a common vision for the future" and are "coming together to take on key challenges".

"Our vaccine initiative is on track to produce an additional 1 billion doses of vaccine in India to boost global supply," Biden said.

Modi said Quad has decided to "move forward with positive thinking and a positive approach", and "play the role of a force for global good".

down to bullets. In the video that went viral, he can be seen being beaten by policemen as he lies motionless on the ground, with the cameraman hired by the district administration, who was later arrested, punching him and jumping on him.

"Every time I think of the video, I tear up... To hit a man when he is already dead takes a special kind of hatred," says Saddam Hussain, 21, gathered with some others at the spot.

Moinul's family, huddled under a makeshift shelter put together with two tin sheets, a few kilometres away, says they haven't come across the video, nor have they seen his body so far. None of the family members has a phone, and police have not told them anything, they say.

Moinul's home, which he shared with his parents, wife and three children (ages 5, 9 and 13), was among the ones razed Thursday.

Patting his sobbing wife Maimona on the back to console

her, Moinul's father Maqbool Ali says they don't know what happened to the body. "Some people recognised him and brought word to us, so I rushed. But then I heard the sound of bullets and came back."

According to the family, as their home was being dismantled, Moinul heard that some settlement had been made with the authorities. "He went to find out more... the next thing we heard was that he was dead," says Maimona.

"Moinul was a labourer, and the only earning member of our family. My husband is old... Now how will we make a living?" she adds.

The family could save only a few things to carry to the shelter: some blankets, a folder of plastic documents and a few packets of *moori* (puffed rice).

The family of Sheikh Farid, 12, a Class 7 student, says he left home on Thursday afternoon for the post-office to get his Aadhaar. The card eventually made its way to the family; Farid returned home dead on a horse cart. Where Farid lived, across the

Brahmaputra tributary that runs through Dholpur 3, things were calm on Thursday afternoon. The residents had not been served notices, nor had anyone come with JCBs.

Around late afternoon, Farid's parents heard that their son was dead. "I don't know what happened... We are at a loss for words," says Khaleque Ali, Farid's father. He says he did not believe it at first, until someone showed him a photo of his son, bleeding.

Sitting nearby, his crying wife keeps fainting. The villagers, too, are unclear about what really transpired. "He was easily identifiable because his Aadhaar was in his pocket," says Abbas Ali, a neighbour, adding, "He was a good kid."

A local present at Farid's home adds that while no eviction notices have reached the part of Dholpur where they live, it does not mean they are not worried. "Even if we were saved this time, what if they come for us next?"

The family says Farid's body was taken away three hours after it arrived home. They managed

to retrieve the Aadhaar card.

SC mails

the apex court, was directed to drop that image from the footer of the emails originating from the Supreme Court."

"It was further directed to use the picture of the Supreme Court of India, instead. NIC has since complied with the directions..." it said.

The statement was issued hours after a lawyer red-flagged the ads in a message on the WhatsApp group of the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association.

"Sir, I have received this notice from the Registry with a snapshot of the Prime Minister. The same does not seem to be in order of the Supreme Court's position as an independent organ and not a part of the government. Request you to kindly take up the same with the Hon'ble Chief Justice with a note of protest if you deem appropriate," the message said.

Soon, even as the apex court's secretary general Sanjeev S Kalgaonkar said he was not aware of such incidents, the Advocates-on-Record association's secretary Joseph Aristotle said further course of action will be planned after a formal complaint is received from lawyers.

When contacted, an NIC official said: "This script is used in all NIC platforms. Today, we have taken steps to remove this from the Supreme Court platform... a message related to Gandhi Jayanti was being used earlier."

Hours later, the Registry issued its statement. "Late last evening, it was brought to the notice of the Registry... that the official emails of the Supreme Court of India were carrying an image as footer, which has no connection whatsoever with the functioning of the judiciary," it said.

Asked about the ads in emails, Senior advocate Chander Uday Singh described them as "highly objectionable". "The Supreme Court and all other courts of India

are not government offices and not intended to be used as propaganda machinery of the government," Singh said.

Another advocate, who did not wish to be named, said: "The Supreme Court must not only be independent but must also be seen to be independent. In the minds of people, if the image of the judiciary being separate from the political executive is to be maintained, any such association must be avoided."

Channi

math: Scheduled Castes form 32 per cent of the population, according to the 2011 census. Jat Sikhs (25%) and Hindus (38.4%) in a state that has always claimed to be different from the Hindi heartland with little impact of caste or religion on its voting patterns.

Jakhar says: "By choosing Charanjit Channi as CM, Rahul Gandhi has broken the 'glass ceiling'. This bold decision, though very much in sync with the ethos of Sikhism, is nevertheless a watershed moment not only for the polity but also for the social fabric of the state."

No one knows the caste fault lines better than Bhagwant Samon, state president of Mazdoor Mukti Morcha, who routinely highlights atrocities on Scheduled Castes by landed Jat Sikhs in the Malwa region of Punjab. But he warns against reading too much into Channi's elevation.

"It's a political move to deflect attention from the ruling party's failures. Yes, caste matters but we are not UP or Bihar. When it comes to polls, the lines tend to get blurred," he said.

Traditionally, Punjab politics has been dominated by Jat Sikhs who may be numerically small in number but own over 90 per cent of the landholding in the state. Since 1966, when Punjab was carved out, all the CMs of the state have been Jat Sikhs except for Giani Zail Singh.

A former Congress minister calls the attempt to underline the new CM's caste a bid to Mandalise state politics. Subhash Sharma, state general secretary of BJP, says the party wants political representation for people of all castes and religions according to their population, but the former Congress minister says it's not a good debate to have for the state.

For once, arch rivals Shiromani Akali Dal and Congress are on the same page. Incidentally, after Partition, Akali leader Master Tara Singh, who was born into a Khatri family, had spearheaded the movement for the Punjab Suba on linguistic lines.

Underlining that Punjab does not vote on religious lines, former Akali minister Maheshinder Singh Grewal, recalled how in 1997, he won the Ludhiana seat, which had 89,000 Hindu votes and only 8,000 Sikh votes, comfortably.

In 2014, BJP stalwart Arun Jaitley could not win from Amritsar because the two communities did not vote along the lines of religion. While his Congress opponent Captain Amarinder Singh garnered more votes in the Hindu majority urban segments, Jaitley polled more Sikh votes in the rural segments. In 2019 too, BJP Union Minister Hardeep Puri lost to local politician Gurjeet Singh Aujla, for he was considered an outsider.

Akali leader Dr Daljeet Singh Cheema says though caste is an important consideration in matrimonial alliances — courts in the state are flooded with runaway couples from different castes seeking protection — its role in electoral politics is muted.

"We have fielded an SC candidate from Jalandhar Central for 2022 even though it's not a reserved seat. There is no strict division of votes along the lines of caste even in panchayat and civic body elections. Since the reserved seats are very fluid, can-

didates are forced to muster the support of all communities," Cheema says.

Sociologists say Punjab is united by their homogeneous culture, a melting pot for unique identities. "Despite militancy, the state has never seen communal riots. Reductive though it may sound, this is also a reason why it has resisted the nationalistic Hindutva agenda, and the Bhindranwale brand of Sikhism too could not last here for very long," says Pramod Kumar, a chronicler of politics and culture in the state.

Jats and SCs, he says, are united by their common challenges in an agrarian economy. Satnam Singh Pannu, founder of the Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee (KMSC) which has a separate stage at the Singhu border protest site, is a Jat but his outfit is peopled by a large number of SCs. "The kind of discrimination you see in other states is not prevalent here," says Pannu, pointing out how "Kisan mazdoor ekta" is the slogan common to all farm unions.

But veterans are worried that parties and political tacticians, often parachuted into the state on the eve of the polls, could deepen the caste and religious fault lines to grab votes.

parties and political tacticians, often parachuted into the state on the eve of the polls, could deepen the caste and religious fault lines to grab votes.

Shootout

indicates Gogi's rivals were aware he would come and they decided to eliminate him during the court hearing. Police have also found the men were in the courtroom for around three hours.

According to police, Gogi and Tillyu have been running extortion rackets in Alipur and Sonipat for years, and the constant strife between the two gangs often ended in bloodshed.

Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana admitted there was a "security lapse" and said they had transferred the case to the Crime Branch. He said: "Our police personnel acted very swiftly... We will definitely look into it (the security lapse). The JCP (Northern Range) will inquire into the incident. We will take appropriate action."

A few months ago, Gogi's associate Kuldeep alias Fajja had escaped from GTB Hospital while in police custody. Since then, teams of the Special Cell had been directed by the Delhi Police headquarters to accompany prominent gangsters to court hearings. Just a few days ago, a Counter Intelligence team had gone to Panipat with Gogi for a hearing.

"A team of the Northern Range of the Special Cell was accompanying Sunil Maan, who appeared half an hour before Gogi. Around 1.15 pm, Gogi was produced in the courtroom. The two assailants, identified as Rahul Tyagi, a resident of Baghpat, and Jagdeep Jagga of Sonapat, were inside. They posed as lawyers and were sitting along with some police personnel. They had entered the court premises around 9.45 am and seconds after Gogi entered, they opened fire on him from close range. Gogi received five-six bullet injuries; they fired eight-ten rounds," said a police officer who was present in the courtroom at the time.

Another police officer said two men dressed as advocates and wearing masks had opened fire. "They kept firing and tried to escape from the judge's chamber. But the situation changed after one of the police personnel fired in retaliation."

An officer told *The Indian Express*, "In all, eight rounds were fired by the Special Cell. From the Northern Range, Head Constable Kuldeep Hooda fired two rounds, and from the Counter Intelligence side, Head Constable Sandeep fired four rounds and Constable Rohit fired two. A third battalion also fired on the assailants."

FULL REPORTS ON
www.indianexpress.com

Bihar State Milk Co-operative Federation Ltd.
DAIRY DEVELOPMENT COMPLEX, P.O. - BIHAR VETERINARY COLLEGE, PATNA-800014 (BIHAR)
E-Mail: engineeringcomfedpatna@gmail.com, Website: www.sudha.coop

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Though e-tendering mode only on website- www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)

NIT No. :Comfed:Engg :2766 Date :17.09.2021

1. Name & address of advertiser: Managing Director, Bihar State Milk cooperative Federation Ltd, Dairy Development Complex, PO-BV. College, Patna - 800014. 2. Date of issue of e - tender notice: 01.10.2021 (Friday) 3. Period for downloading the tender document: from 04.10.2021 (Monday) to 30.10.2021 (Saturday) up to 17.00 hours through above website. 4. Date & time of pre bid meeting: 11.10.2021 (Monday) at 11.00 noon at COMFED Hqr, Dairy Development Complex, PO-B.V. College, Patna - 800014. 5. Last date & time for uploading tender Documents by the bidders: 03.11.2021 (Wednesday) up to 17.00 Hours on www.eproc.bihar.gov.in 6. Last date, time & place for submission of original instrument of EMD & cost of tender: 06.11.2021 (Saturday) up to 15.00 Hours at COMFED HQ, Dairy Development Complex, P.O.-B.V. College, Patna-800014. 7. Date, time & place of opening of Techno commercial bid: 06.11.2021 (Saturday) up to 15.30 Hours on www.eproc.bihar.gov.in 8. Date & time of opening of price bid: Date & time will be communicated later subsequent to approval of techno commercial bid. Place - www.eproc.bihar.gov.in

9. Details of work :

Sl. No.	Name of the work/ item	Estimated amount	Cost of tender document (Non refundable)	Earnest money to be deposited	Bid processing fees to be paid through on line (Non refundable)	Completion Period per order
1	Supply and labour job for installation, testing and commissioning of utility/service piping as per drawing and BOQ at Jamshedpur Dairy.	₹ 42,33,826.00	₹ 5000.00	₹ 84,686.00	₹ 1000.00 + taxes	3 (Three) Months

10. For participation in the above e- tender process the bidders are required to get themselves registered as per details given at www.eproc.bihar.gov.in so that the user ID, Password and digital signatures are issued to them.

11. Tender Document can be seen and purchased on web site www.eproc.bihar.gov.in. Any modification/amendment in tender will be notified on e-portal. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

Managing Director

वीरमार्घो सिंह भण्डारी प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय
(Formerly Uttarakhnad Technical University)
कार्यालय पता- सुदीवाता, पोसोको चंदनवाडी, भ्रमनगर, चक्रवर्ती रोड, देहरादून
फोन नं० (0135-2774067, 2774068, 2774069) वेबसाइट: www.uktech.ac.in

पत्रांक - 1214 / काउंसिलिंग / 2021 दिनांक - 24.09.2021

ऑनलाइन प्रवेश (काउंसिलिंग) वर्ष 2021-22 की सूचना

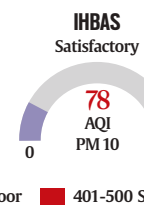
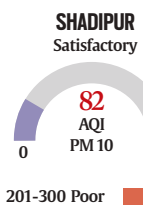
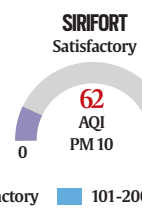
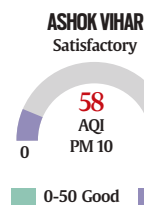
वीरमार्घो सिंह भण्डारी प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय के संघटक एवं समस्त सम्बद्ध सरकारीय / स्वायत्तशासी / निजी इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों एवं पतनगर विश्वविद्यालय में शैक्षिक सत्र 2021-22 हेतु बी.टेक. प्रथम वर्ष में प्रवेश हेतु ऑनलाइन प्रवेश (काउंसिलिंग) का आयोजन किया जा रहा है। प्रस्तावित प्रवेश (काउंसिलिंग) की अनुसूची (Schedule) का विवरण निम्नवत् है :-

Counseling Phases	Period of Counseling Fees Deposition, Online registration and Choice filling	Seat Allocation Date	Date of Reporting in Allotted Institutions by the candidate's
प्रथम चरण	27 Sep 2021 से 30 Sep 2021	03 Oct 2021	04 Oct 2021 से 07 Oct 2021
द्वितीय चरण	10 Oct 2021 से 13 Oct 2021	17 Oct 2021	18 Oct 2021 से 21 Oct 2021

प्रवेश (काउंसिलिंग) हेतु ध्यान-निर्देश :-

- ऑनलाइन प्रवेश (काउंसिलिंग) में अग्रणी विश्वविद्यालय की वेबसाइट www.uktech.ac.in में जाकर Online counselling tab JEE 2021 को Press करें। अग्रणी द्वारा काउंसिलिंग शुल्क ₹ 2000 / ऑनलाइन जमा कराया होगा।
- बी.टेक. प्रथम वर्ष पाठ्यक्रम में प्रवेश काउंसिलिंग में जेईईईटी रिक. प्राप्त अभ्यर्थियों को अपनी रिक. नम्बर की दृष्टि से वरीयता दी जायेगी।
- बी.टेक. प्रथम वर्ष में प्रवेश काउंसिलिंग में जेईईईटी रिक. प्राप्त अभ्यर्थियों को अपनी रिक. नम्बर की दृष्टि से 12वीं में प्राप्त की जायेगी।
- न्यूनतम अर्हता एवं अन्य विवरण जानकारी विश्वविद्यालय की वेबसाइट www.uktech.ac.in पर प्राप्त की जा सकती है। अग्रणी द्वारा जारी की प्रारंभ की संख्या से न्यूनतम अनु. विश्वविद्यालय के वेबसाइट नं० 8855004876, 8830332869 पर दिनांक 27 सितम्बर 2021 से प्रातः 10:00 बजे से सायं 5:00 बजे तक सम्पर्क कर सकते हैं, या email: counseling@uktech.ac.in पर मेल कर सकते हैं।

कुलसचिव



SKY WATCH

FORECAST: Sep 25
Generally cloudy sky
Light to moderate rain/
thundershowers

MAX: 33
MIN: 25
1°C below normal
1.1°C above normal

Pusa decomposer will cover more land, benefit more farmers this year

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

THE PUSA bio-decomposer, which is expected to help decompose stubble left behind after paddy is harvested, will be sprayed on around 4,200 acres of paddy fields in the capital from October 5. The Delhi government has started preparing the solution that will be used.

After inspecting preparations of the decomposer at the government seed farm in Kharkhari Nahar village near Najafgarh Friday, CM Arvind Kejriwal said it would be sprayed on fields of 844 farmers this year, up from around 300 last year. While it was sprayed only on non-basmati fields last year, basmati fields are also included this year, he said, adding that it can take around 15-20 days for stubble to decompose after spraying. The cost is being borne by the Delhi government.

A third-party audit of the decomposer done by WAPCOS indicated that carbon and nitrogen content in the soil increased as a result of spraying the decomposer, Kejriwal said.

The decomposer, developed



Kejriwal inspects the preparations. Prem Nath Pandey

by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), was sprayed on around 1,950 acres of land as a pilot project last year to prevent the practice of stubble burning to clear the field after a paddy harvest, before sowing the next crop.

Standing under a tent in the village on Friday, around 35 workers used vessels filled with around 25 litres of water each to

prepare the solution. The water is boiled with jaggery, allowed to cool, and then mixed with gram flour and capsules containing fungi. The vessels are then covered with muslin cloth for three-four days to allow the fungi to grow. Once sprayed, the microbes in the solution act on the stubble and turn it into compost that can be mixed with the soil. One acre of land requires around 10 litres

of the solution, and it can take around 10 days to prepare it.

Farmers in 59 villages in North, Northwest, Southwest and West Delhi have applied to get the decomposer sprayed this year, said AP Saini, Joint Director for Agriculture, Delhi government. Around 14,000 acres of land is under paddy cultivation in Delhi, he said.

To get the decomposer sprayed, farmers had to fill out applications between September 12 and 24. The decomposer is expected to benefit farmers with substantial residue on the field after harvest, like using combine harvesters, Saini said.

Some farmers who used the solution last year were happy with the results and intend to use it again. Others like Bhushan Tyagi from Hiranki in Northwest Delhi, who did not get it sprayed last year, chose not to use it this year too: "I took an application form but did not submit it. I harvested paddy around 10 days ago. By the time the decomposer arrives it will be late, since they will only spray it after October 1," he said. Tyagi plans on ploughing for the wheat crop around October 25: "It will take at least 10 days to

get the spray, and then another 15 days for it to work. Farmers want to harvest, and then leave the field for some time, before ploughing again to ensure a good crop."

He said he turned the soil and filled the field with water both this year and the last to decompose the stubble, which has made the field fertile. Last year, a rotavator helped to mix the stubble in the soil, and it took around 10 days to decompose, he said.

Indramani Mishra, head of the Agricultural Engineering Department at IARI, said: "The Haryana government has placed orders to spray 1 lakh acres of land with the decomposer, and the Punjab government has also placed orders. Ten manufacturers have been given licences to manufacture the decomposer. The Uttar Pradesh government plans to purchase from a licensed manufacturer."

Delhi's Environment Minister Gopal Rai told reporters Friday that more demand for the decomposer is likely, and the government is preparing for extra spraying. At a rate of Rs 1,000 per acre, Rs 50 lakh will be spent on making and spraying the decomposer, he said.

9-yr-old raped as she was Dalit: Chargesheet quotes witnesses

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

A PRIEST at a crematorium and a factory worker have admitted to allegedly raping a nine-year-old girl because she was a Dalit, before forcibly cremating her once she died, it is alleged in the Delhi Police chargesheet. The chargesheet quotes witnesses who claim to have been told about the incident by the accused.

The testimony of a public witness, who recorded his statement before a Magistrate on August 27, is part of the chargesheet.

Police have relied on two public witness accounts in preparing their case against the four accused — the priest Radhey Shyam (55) and three others, Kuldeep Singh (63), Laxmi Narayan (48) and Salim Ahmed (49). The two witnesses claim to have spotted Shyam and Kuldeep carrying the body of the girl from one hall to another, but "did not suspect that anything was wrong" at the time.

However, the first witness said he knew about the incident via a phone call later that evening from a local resident, who informed him that a Dalit girl had been raped and her body cre-

mated. He told the court that he reached the crematorium, where a crowd had gathered and the body was being burnt on a pyre.

The witness has claimed the four accused asked for his help and said they had raped and murdered the girl, the statement read. As per the chargesheet, when the witness asked them why they did so, Shyam and Kuldeep answered that she was "a Dalit by caste, that's why".

The witness told the court that he, along with others, tried to douse the pyre but police lathi-charged. He has named the local ACP, SHO and the IO as the officers who were at the spot.

The second public witness said he knew the victim for around five years and had also got a phone call in the evening informing him about the incident. He asked Salim why they

were cremating the girl against her parents' wishes. The chargesheet states that the accused took him away from the crowd and said they had raped the girl and cremated her by mistake. They also sought his help, according to the statement.

The accused have maintained that the girl died of electrocution but her family alleged that the suspects hurriedly cremated her.

The chargesheet, on the basis of Shyam's disclosure statement, stated that the girl was sexually assaulted in the past as well and that she died due to suffocation while Shyam and Kuldeep raped her. The accused then cremated her and got rid of crucial evidence like the bedsheet used, a mobile phone used by Shyam to watch pornography, and the girl's belongings, it is alleged in the chargesheet.

5 nabbed for stealing car with toy gun

Noida: Five men, including a former Justdial employee and a second-year B.Tech student, were arrested by Noida Police for using a lighter shaped like a pistol and an airgun to allegedly threaten a car driver and steal his vehicle.

According to police, a complaint was filed at Sector 58 police station four days ago that an i20 vehicle was stolen at gunpoint by several assailants. As police probed the case, five men were identified and it was found that they used a gun-shaped lighter to threaten the victim.

"We scanned footage from multiple cameras and the accused were identified. They had tried to steal another car the same evening but were unsuccessful. Spotting the i20, they got the driver to stop and threatened the victim with an airgun and a lighter that looked like a pistol," said DCP (Noida) Rajesh S, adding that the vehicle was recovered.

Police said Vikas and Kartik along with Yuvraj Vinayak, Abhishek Sharma, and Shivam Valmiki, spotted an i20 and asked the driver to check his 'damaged bumper'. As the driver got out, Vikas and Kartik held him at gunpoint and took the car keys. They later fled to Delhi with the car. ENS

Forged details to help criminals stay, hotel manager booked

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

THE MANAGER of a leading five-star hotel at Connaught Place was arrested Friday for allegedly accepting Rs 5,000 from two criminals from Assam who are on the run and giving them a room after faking their details.

The two men have been absconding since an FIR was registered against them at Dispur police station on September 8 by the Chief Minister's Office for allegedly forging the signature of Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma. The FIR was filed after the CM came to know they had forged his signature in a note given to the chief engineer of the Public Health Department for a project to be allotted in the name of Lohit Construction.

DCP (New Delhi district) Deepak Yadav said, "We have registered an FIR at Connaught Place police station against two managers — Rohit Kumar and Anil Goel — of the five-star hotel. We have arrested Rohit and are searching for Anil."

The FIR was registered after

police received a complaint from Inspector Ram Niwas.

"On September 10, we coordinated with Additional SP (Assam police) Vivek Kumar and he told us that their team, with the help of technical surveillance, has found that the two absconding accused, Imran Shah Chaudhary and Rajib Kalita, were hiding at Ashoka Road. There are four hotels on that stretch, and we started checking details of customers in their registers," Inspector Niwas stated in his complaint.

"On September 11, additional SP Vivek again informed me that one of the accused, Rajib, had taken a flight to Guwahati and was detained. During questioning, he disclosed that he, along with the other accused, stayed in one of these hotels at Ashoka Road," he added.

A Delhi Police team visited the hotel and checked the entries on their computer. "We found that the name of one of the guests, Raju, was removed from the list. We also found Anil had filled in wrong details about them and Rohit took the money," claimed Niwas.

Our beloved Manju Kapoor



Oct. 20th, 1945 - Sept. 23rd, 2021

In compliance with pandemic related protocol, the remembrance gathering will be held via Zoom at 4:30 on Sunday, September 26, 2021.

Well wishers are requested to join the Zoom link below:

Meeting ID: 849 4365 0461 Passcode: 951074

Pamela Dua (Sister)
Ranjeet & Indu Nanda (Brother & Sister in Law)
Raghav & Jyoti Nanda
Lakshmi & Roopa Nanda

Vijai Kapoor
Mini Kapoor
Anjali & William Bissell
Sara & John Bissell

Jantar Mantar sloganeering: Bail for event organiser

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

THE DELHI High Court Friday granted bail to Preet Singh, one of the organisers of the event where anti-Muslim slogans were raised at Jantar Mantar last month.

On September 15, he had argued that the demand for a Hindu Rashtra would not amount to promoting enmity between religious groups. Justice Mukta Gupta in the order said it would not be appropriate for the court to express any opinion on whether the words spoken by Singh make out an offence under IPC Section 153-A or not as the same is required to be looked into at the stage of charge or during trial.

The court further said the interview given by Singh, in which he mentioned Hindu Rashtra, was not an isolated interview and was part of a simultaneous conversation with a number of speakers.

"Further, large number of people gathered at the spot due to petitioner co-organising the protest and, therefore, the petitioner would be liable for any offence committed in fur-

therance of the common object of the assembly. However, as per the video footage and call records of the petitioner, he left the spot around 2 pm whereafter the main provocative words/slogans were shouted by the co-accused around 4 pm," the order reads. Singh's counsel, advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain, during the bail plea hearing had submitted that if the court holds that the demand for Hindu Rashtra comes within the purview of IPC Section 153-A, he will not press the application.

The court had then reprimanded Jain and said he was not at a platform where he was giving a speech: "You cannot say the same fact four or five times. Show the judgment... You say it in one sentence or forcefully say it in 10 sentences, the sentence will be the same. What is this? Address like a counsel."

On August 27, a lower court had dismissed Singh's bail application saying that he not only voluntarily organised the event but also actively participated and provided support to the views and contents of inflammatory speeches made by participants.



Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti

An Autonomous Organization Under Ministry of Education

Department of School Education & Literacy, Government of India



Admission to Class VI in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas through Selection Test for the session 2022-23



Online Application Window is Open Now

Examination Date 30.04.2022

Last Date to Apply 30.11.2021

Eligibility for candidates

- Studying in Class V in academic session 2021-22 and completing the session from Govt. / Govt. recognized school in the same district, where JNV is functioning and to which candidate is seeking admission.
- Studied full academic session in each class and passed classes III & IV from Govt. / Govt. recognized school and born between 01.05.2009 to 30.04.2013 (Both the days inclusive)

Salient features

- Co-educational Residential School in every District.
- Separate Hostel for Boys & Girls
- Free Education, Board and Lodging
- Wide Cultural exchange through Migration Scheme



Achievements

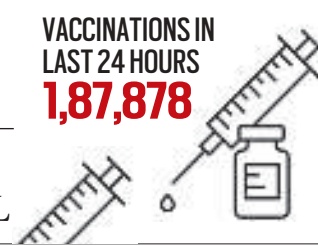
- JEE MAIN-2020 : 3628 (44.04%) students qualified out of 8237
- JEE Advanced-2020: 1076 (29.66%) students qualified out of 3628
- NEET-2020: 11027 (82.71%) students qualified out of 13332
- Board Class Pass % (2020-21) X : 99.99% & XII : 99.94%

For more details and to apply online please visit: www.navodaya.gov.in

Issued by: Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti



VACCINATIONS IN
LAST 24 HOURS
1,87,878



		Total	Vacant		
TOTAL CASES		16,354	16,092		
HOSPITAL BEDS		3,558	3,476		
ICU BEDS					
		Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Sept 23		48	26	0	70,533
Sept 24		24	66	0	69,465
Total		391*	14,13,182	25,085	2,72,77,978

*Total active cases

SHOOTOUT AT ROHINI COURT

Courtroom bloodbath

‘Staff ducked for cover, judge ran to chambers’: Witnesses recall chaos during gunfire

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

THE TWO assailants were dressed like lawyers in black blazers, trousers, shoes, and a white collar. But they stood out like a sore thumb as they walked into Rohini district court's room number 207 — they didn't bow before the judge, carried empty files, and had their hands tucked in their pockets.

Next to them was advocate Tushar Mann, who was busy making mental notes for bail arguments. “Something was off about them. They carried empty files and had their hands inside their pockets. Which lawyer carries an empty file into a courtroom?” he told *The Indian Express*.

Additional Sessions Judge Gagandeep Singh had just started hearing regular matters in his courtroom, which had 30 matters listed.

Around 1.15 pm, gangster Jitender Maan alias Gogi entered the courtroom, accompanied by members of the counter intelligence team. A handful of lawyers were inside at the time.

“We all stood for the judge, but these two men did not. I was thinking they have no respect for the law. Then, they opened fire. Court staff ducked for cover, the judge ran towards his chamber. We all ran out of the courtroom. It was chaos,” Mann recalled.

Eyewitnesses recalled that while some hid behind almirahs containing case files as the shooting started, others froze. Some litigants, meanwhile, rushed out with their children.

“I just ducked under my seat. I could not react,” said a

court staff.

On August 28, ASJ Gagandeep had issued production warrants for Gogi and a co-accused from the rival gang, Sunil Mann. They were among six accused in an attempt to murder case registered at Alipur police station in 2010.

One of the co-accused in the case, Arun, was out on bail. His main counsel could not come to court, so junior advocate Nitin was sent instead. He reached the courtroom early in the morning; this was the first case on the cause list. “The judge said this was a high security case and he would take up the matter later,” Nitin said.

He marked his attendance at the court and stood outside as he saw Gogi being produced. The next date of hearing had been decided for December, and all that was left was for Gogi to sign the production warrant. He came accompanied by the security detail, his hands tightly clasped by an officer to ensure he does not flee. “As I was waiting, I heard a lot of firing. Police took litigants out of the courtroom first and lawyers were evacuated later,” Nitin said.

Right across ASJ Gagandeep's courtroom is Additional Sessions Judge Shivaji Anand's courtroom. A crowd of litigants and lawyers stood outside. Among them was advocate Yogesh Pandey, who had caught a glimpse of Gogi before he stepped into the courtroom.

“We heard the sound of bullets. I tried to flee with my juniors. It was only when it turned quiet that we knew it was all over. It is shocking the assailants came dressed as lawyers,” he said.

In the evening, Rohini District Court Association members attended a meeting with DCP (Rohini), DCP (Third Battalion) and both District Judges. “This was a total security lapse,” said Rohini Bar Association president Inder Singh Saroha.

Saroha has flagged the issue of security in the past too. In fact, during a meeting on Thursday, he had raised the issue of malfunctioning metal detectors. “We need the Delhi High Court model of security. In Rohini court, many gang-related cases are heard. There must be a security check of their associates who come to court; vehicles need to be checked inside court premises and passes for litigants are a must. There will now be a security check of lawyers too,” Saroha said.

In February 2020, the Delhi High Court had heard a petition seeking an increase in the number of police officials in courts for the purpose of security. The hearing has not taken place since then on account of the pandemic. The petition also prayed that X-Ray machines, CCTVs and metal detectors already installed in various district courts be made operational since they were not functioning.

And in an order passed on January 28 this year, Principal District and Sessions Judges Suresh Kumar Gupta and Swarasa Kanta Sharma spelt out protocol to be followed while producing undertrial prisoners.

Courts have stressed on the need for physical production of the accused “only when necessary”, and if the proceedings can be conducted by exempting the undertrial prisoners, the same be preferred.



Gangster Jitender Maan alias Gogi and two assailants were shot dead inside the court on Friday. Amit Mehra

Gogi vs Tillu: Capital's killer rivalry

MAHENDER SINGH
MANRAL
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

IT WAS IN 2016 that gangster Jitender Maan alias Gogi managed to escape from police custody and, in the hopes of killing his rival Sunil alias Tillu Tajpuriya, formed a gang with two key lieutenants — Kuldeep alias Fajia and Rohit Moi.

But the balance of power shifted against him when the trio was arrested from a flat in Gurgaon even as Tillu joined hands with other prominent gangsters — Neeraj Bawana, Naveen Bali, Sunil Rathi and Cheenu.

Earlier this year, Gogi was booked under the Maharashtra

Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA) for hatching a conspiracy to aid Fajia's escape — a last ditch attempt to revive his gang.

“Gogi had a ‘signature move’ — of shooting his victims in the face. But after his arrest last year, his rivals joined hands and started targeting his associates. Plus, police arrested 16 of his gang members and six months ago, Fajia was killed in a police encounter,” said a senior officer.

Around four months ago, Gogi was shifted to solitary confinement and was further disconnected from his associates. “His rivals were looking for an opportunity to kill him, and they found one when they discovered that he and Tillu's associate Sunil Mann had to appear before a Delhi court in the same case.

Two of Tillu's associates, Rahul Tyagi and Jagdeep Jagga, were asked to execute the murder. Tyagi was wanted in a murder case and Jagga had killed Gogi's associate earlier,” said the officer.

Police said Gogi's most high-profile victim was Haryana singer Harshita, who was shot dead on October 17 last year by four men, led by Gogi, in Panipat. He committed the murder at the behest of Karala, her brother-in-law who he had befriended in jail.

Gogi's mother Padmeshwari had earlier told *The Indian Express*, “He had won medals in volleyball, representing his school at competitions in Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir. When he was 17, he injured his right shoulder in an accident, and could never play again.”

UNSAFE COURTS

MAY 2014 10 men from Neeraj Bawana-Naveen Bali gang held at Rohini court; allegedly planned to kill rival gang member

DEC 2015 Head constable shot dead in firing at Karkardooma court. Target was undertrial prisoner

APRIL-MAY 2017 Undertrial prisoner shot at by 2 armed assailants at Rohini court

NOV 2017 Undertrial prisoner shot dead at Rohini court. Shooter held

Question mark over security at courts

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

THE SHOOTOUT at Rohini court has raised questions about the security arrangements at courts, where high-profile criminals are most exposed.

Gogi's murder came despite him being accompanied by a team of Counter Intelligence officials. Retired police officers told *The Indian Express* that this is the first incident in recent history where bullets have been fired in front of a judge in such a brazen fashion.

LN Rao, a retired Delhi Police DCP and a practising lawyer, said, “There have been incidents of firing at courts, especially Rohini and Dwarka, but all these happened on the premises, never in a courtroom.”

“I have been told that metal detectors weren't working. Also, the accused posed as lawyers and security personnel did not frisk them. Since the 2019 Tis Hazari court clash (between police and lawyers), many policemen refrain from interacting with lawyers. Lawyers only have to walk through metal detectors but aren't frisked. I think the assailants knew this and had also conducted a recon at the court beforehand,” he said.

Another retired Delhi Police officer, who did not wish to be named, said, “When I was in the Special Cell, we had cases of firing inside Karkardooma court and also Rohini court. There should be more stringent measures taken for security — even if metal detectors or frisking points were functional, this incident could have been averted.”

BRIEFLY

Full support for redevelopment of New Delhi rly station: CM

New Delhi: Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said he will support the redevelopment of the New Delhi Railway Station, which is being undertaken by the Ministry of Railways. A meeting was held between the CM, L-G, Delhi Chief Secretary, DDA Vice-Chairperson, Niti Aayog CEO and senior officials from departments concerned Friday to discuss the plan. It envisages state-of-the-art amenities and facilities for passengers and congestion-free connectivity to the station and commercial areas. Kejriwal said, “...I hope this project is completed quickly so we can see New Delhi Station become one of the most beautifully developed stations soon.” **ENS**

Forest dept staff get khaki dress, badge, baton

New Delhi: Forest and wildlife department personnel in Delhi will now be dressed in khaki shirts and pants and will always carry a baton in the field. The Delhi government notified the dress code for staff of the Forests and Wildlife Department Thursday after four employees were injured in an attack by ‘bootleggers’ in the Asola Wildlife Sanctuary. Officials said the uniform will provide staff an identity and improve law enforcement. **PTI**

Second year in a row, govt schools step in to help students pay Board fee

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

TEACHERS HAVE started dipping into their pockets and schools are trying to ‘crowdfund’ funds, with less than a week left to collect CBSE exam fees and submit the list of class X and XII students who will be appearing in the first-term board examinations. The process began on September 17 and the last date is September 30.

The Board had in 2019 sharply increased its examination fees, making it Rs 1,200 for SC/ST students and Rs 1,500 for the rest in both classes X and XII. That is the base fee for five subjects. With the additional amount for each subject's practical and additional or optional subject, the fee goes up to around Rs 2,500 for many class XII students.

This amount is too high for many government school students from lower middle class and working-class families. There are over 3.5 lakh children studying in these two grades in government schools.

In 2019, the Delhi government



In 2019, CBSE had sharply increased its examination fees for Class X and XII students. Praveen Khanna

had announced it would cover the complete exam fee for all Board-year students in its schools and had paid for as many as 3.14 lakh students following a Cabinet meeting decision. It did not do so last year citing a financial crunch.

“This year too, the fund situation is not so great. There is no proposal from the government on this so far,” a senior official in the education department had said.

Pushpa, the mother of a class XII student in Mangolpuri who needs to pay a fee of Rs 2,100, said she has told the school that she is

finding it difficult to gather the amount. However, her daughter's class teacher told her she is running out of time and will need to do it within the next few days.

“My husband used to work as a labourer through a contractor, but that stopped since the pandemic. Now, he only makes money on days when he gets daily wage work. For a household like ours, Rs 2,100 is a lot of money... I'm trying to see if anyone will lend me the money,” she said.

The teacher at a government school in East Delhi said parents

have been pleading with the school head to waive the fee, believing that the school is demanding it. “Every class teacher in class X and XII is paying Rs 8,000-10,000 from their personal funds to help the most hard-pressed students. They are stressed; this is the second year they are dipping into their pockets. The government is paying to the IB for a handful of students, but this is for the welfare of a majority of its students,” the teacher said.

Other schools are returning to ‘crowdsourcing’ tactics they had used in 2020 to raise money.

Last year, Government Co-Ed Sarvodaya Vidyalaya in Sector 8 Rohini had raised funds for the fees of 100 students. “We have reached out to a major publisher in Darya Ganj who had helped us last year; they have asked for the names of 100 students whose fees they have offered to cover. A businessman has promised Rs 30,000, which will cover the fees of around 18 students... and a doctor has also said he will contribute,” said principal Awadhesh Jha.

‘Popular courses to see higher cut-offs’

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

WITH THE number of students scoring 95% and above in the Class XII boards going up, cut-offs are bound to increase this year, especially for the more sought-after courses, Ramjas Principal Manoj Khanna tells *The Indian Express*.

What can students expect in terms of cut-off marks for admissions this year?

Due to a large number of students having scored more than 95% in Class XII (CBSE), the cut-off percentage for admission is bound to increase compared to



Ramjas College principal Manoj Khanna

the previous year. This will be evident for popular courses such as B.Com (Hons), BA (Hons) English and Political Science (Hons).

What has the experience of teaching-learning during

Covid been like? How has the college adapted?

It was a challenge to face the ‘unknown’. After a break during the lockdown, the college resumed teaching through online platforms. Activities including admissions, academic programmes, and cultural activities were conducted through this medium.

Could you tell us a little bit about the college and the courses it offers?

The college offers undergraduate and postgraduate courses in arts, sciences and commerce. The institution also takes pride in its School of Foreign and Indian Languages (SFIL) which facilitates Certificate and Diploma courses

in various languages.

What are some of the unique things about the college that might interest students?

The institution is gifted with a spacious campus, state-of-the-art infrastructure, dedicated faculty and non-teaching staff marching together towards integrating the principles, values and practices of sustainable development into all aspects of teaching and learning. The college provides diverse forms of opportunities to students through various clubs and societies in order to enhance their knowledge and skills, reach excellence in different fields, and achieve all-round development.

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
AKERA, NUH, SEPTEMBER 24

THREE PEOPLE, including a 12-year-old boy, have died in Nuh's Akera village in just a week, with officials suspecting dengue as a possible cause. The health department has started screening all suspected fever cases in the village for dengue and malaria.

Their families said they had dengue-like symptoms and died within 3-4 days of contracting a fever, between September 15 and 22. Residents also claimed the department only swung into action after a boy, Samin, died Wednesday. But officials said they routinely conduct fogging and that cases of viral fever are generally high during monsoons.

On Friday, Samin's mother Wakeela said, “He had high fever on September 19. We took him to a local doctor, who gave him an injection, but his platelet count dipped. When the fever did not subside, we took him to Nalhar medical college. He was then admitted to a private hospital in Alwar, where he died.”

“He was running around till a week ago,” she said, in tears.

Officials and villagers said the first death was reported on September 15 night. Iqbal Khan (45), who ran a transport business in Bhiwadi, caught a fever on September 11 and died four days later. Said his brother-in-law Imran Khan: “His condition quickly deteriorated. We took him to a hospital in Bhiwadi on September 15 when his platelet count was 4,000. Doctors termed it a serious case and referred him to Solanki hospital in Alwar, where tests confirmed he had dengue and kidney damage. He was referred to a hospital in Jaipur but he died en route.”

Iqbal's family said his two children, a 10-year-old son and a



25 dengue cases have been reported in Nuh. Abhinav Saha

17-year-old daughter, had been treated for high fever at a private hospital last week.

The same day, Mohammad Shakir (32), who worked in construction, reported a high fever. Over the next three days, his condition deteriorated. His family rushed him to a doctor in Pinangwan and then admitted him to a government hospital in Nalhar on September 18. He died the next morning.

His father Jan Mohammad said, “Doctors told us he had dengue-related symptoms. Before we received a report, he died. He had no prior health ailments. He has left behind his wife and six children.”

So far, 25 cases of dengue and four cases of malaria have been reported in Nuh. Surender Yadav, the chief medical officer, said though a final report was awaited, it is suspected that the deaths in Akera occurred due to dengue: “In Iqbal's case, the Elisa test was not conducted. His kidneys were damaged. The rapid test kit report from Alwar was positive. We will collect the report from the hospital concerned and check. Shakir... died in Nalhar. His report was negative for dengue. In the recent death of 12-year-old boy, we are yet to collect his file and report.”

Two teams of the district

health department are now collecting samples to test for malaria and dengue among the 10,232 residents in Akera. On Thursday and Friday, officials conducted a source detection exercise and collected larvae.

Dr Mangeram, from the health and wellness centre in Akera, said, “Health workers are conducting a door-to-door survey and testing all suspected fever cases. Out of 200 rapid diagnostic tests for malaria so far, all have tested negative. We've also broadcast messages from a local mosque to spread awareness.”

CMO Yadav said after heavy rainfall in recent weeks, stagnant water had collected around the village: “Our team is conducting extensive fogging. We have collected samples and larvae from the village for testing; a final report is awaited. We are also making people aware of precautions to be taken. Every four years, the strain of dengue changes.”

However, Mohammad Javed, a local resident, claimed that since the monsoon season began, there had been no fogging.

Nuh SDM Saloni Sharma said several preventive measures have been taken: “Apart from fogging and fumigation, anti-larvae medicine has been sprayed in drains...”

5 GOVT & POLITICS

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



UNUSUAL DEMAND

IN LOK Sabha, Speaker Om Birla may have heard many a times MPs from the southern states complaining about the translation service getting interrupted during speeches and interventions in Hindi. But he faced an unexpected demand on Friday while he was addressing a joint session of the Karnataka legislature. During his address in Hindi, an MLA demanded that Birla speak in Kannada. JD (S) MLA K Annadani's demand stunned the ruling BJP leaders for a while, but the Speaker continued his speech in Hindi.

THE CHANGE

THE CONGRESS Friday appointed Birajit Sinha, a veteran leader, as president of its Tripura unit. A five-time MLA, Sinha had previously served as the chief of the state unit in 2000-05 and 2015-19. Hours before his appointment, state youth Congress president Pujan Biswas resigned. Pujan is the son of Pijush Kanti Biswas, who is being replaced by Sinha. Pijush quit in August, but later withdrew his resignation. Sinha's Twitter cover picture features royal scion Pradyot Debarman, who was the Congress's working president during the 2019 polls. Debarman has since quit Congress and floated TIPRA Motha, which secured the majority in the tribal autonomous district council polls earlier this year.

FACT CHECK

DELHI POLICE Thursday called out a communally sensitive social media post by Panchjanya editor Hitesh Shankar. Following a tweet by Shankar that a temple had been demolished in Muslim-dominated Noor Nagar and that a temple would have to be built at the same place, the police rebutted the claim, saying no temple was destroyed. "Local police visited the spot to verify the contents of the tweet. The property belongs to a member of the Hindu community who himself was dismantling/clearing the built up area adjacent to the temple in his own property. No harm to the temple has been caused and it is intact," Delhi Police tweeted.

Pilot meets Rahul again, Priyanka joins deliberations

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

AFTER HAVING replaced its Chief Minister in Punjab, the Congress leadership has now turned its attention towards Rajasthan to set its faction-ridden house in order in the state. The immediate outcome of the meeting could be expansion and reshuffle of the Ashok Gehlot Cabinet to include several loyalists of Pilot.

For the second time in a week, Gandhi met Pilot on Friday. AICC general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra too joined in the deliberations. While some of the leaders in the Pilot camp said the meeting was "very positive", the key question is whether the Congress leadership, if not immediately, was looking at a leadership change in Rajasthan as well.

A senior Congress leader said "things are moving in the right direction" in Rajasthan, signalling that a Cabinet reshuffle would be the first of the many changes that will take place in the state. While Assembly elections are still a little over two years away, the party has signalled that it has already started applying its mind on how to retain power in the state.

Pilot, who waged a revolt against Gehlot last year, is eager to take over as Chief Minister but the central leadership is said to be not in a hurry. But sources said all issues, including a succession plan, were on the discussion table. But unlike in Punjab where the Congress MLAs deserted Amarinder Singh, Gehlot enjoys the support of the majority of the MLAs.

"Punjab has shown that MLAs are ultimately with high command. The leadership has to take a call. Let's see what happens and how it happens," a senior AICC functionary said.

While there was speculation that Pilot could be made an AICC general secretary and given charge of an Assembly election-bound state, sources close to the former Deputy Chief Minister



A file photograph of Rahul Gandhi with Sachin Pilot.

said he is not really keen to move out of Rajasthan. Neither is he agreeable to any proposal to reinstate him as the state Congress president.

Pilot was sacked as Rajasthan Congress president after he revolted against Gehlot last year. He was stripped of the post of Deputy Chief Minister too. "Returning to these posts is not on his agenda. He had been PCC president for seven years," a leader close to him said.

Interestingly, Pilot had a meeting with Rajasthan Assembly Speaker and veteran Congress leader CP Joshi too earlier this week, which spawned all sorts of speculation. The meeting came days after the Speaker had a tiff with Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shanti Dhariwal in the Assembly after which he announced adjournment of the House sine die surprising everyone. Joshi later relented and agreed to reconvene the session.

Gandhi and Pilot had met on September 17 too. According to sources, the Gandhis had given an indication to Pilot last year that he would be made Chief Minister at least a year before the Assembly elections.

Forcing Gehlot to include some of the loyalists in his cabinet thus would be the first victory for Pilot after his disastrous revolt last year which saw him lose both the deputy chief minister and PCC president post.

BJP wants inequality: Cong; Lalu says it hates backwards

After govt says caste census not feasible, Opp attacks BJP; ruling party says stands for all

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

A DAY after the government informed the Supreme Court that it would not be feasible to carry out a caste census, parties in the opposition questioned the BJP's commitment to the Other Backward Classes (OBCs).

The Congress said the government wanted to "perpetuate the caste system", and RJD leader Lalu Prasad said the BJP/RSS "hated" backwards.

"They don't want the real picture to come out, they don't want a casteless society, they want inequality in the country to prevail... Their rule is like the British rule, the divide and rule policy. I am saying, let the real picture (on caste) come out..." said M Veerappa Moily, head of a seven-member committee set up by Congress president Sonia Gandhi to study matters related to the caste census.

"They want to perpetuate caste system. Ultimately, if scientific data is available and from time to time reviews can be done, this data will be useful for



Lalu Prasad; Veerappa Moily

all socio-economic programmes. Even politically, many communities and castes will be exposed," Moily told The Indian Express on Friday.

BSP chief Mayawati said the BJP's submission to the court had exposed its "vote-bank politics" around the OBCs.

"...It is very serious and very worrying, it exposes the BJP's vote-bank politics over OBCs, and the difference between their words and deeds. Need to be careful," Mayawati posted on Twitter on Friday.

RJD supremo Lalu Prasad posted two strongly-worded tweets saying, "All kinds of birds, animals, and trees can be counted, but not the people of the backward classes! Why does the BJP/RSS hate backwards so

much? The caste census will benefit all sections..."

"The BJP/RSS are cheating the backward and extremely backward classes. If the central government cannot add a column in the census form to put a number to more than 60 per cent of the country's population, then shame on its MPs and ministers. They should be boycotted."

RJD leader Manoj Kumar Jha said "the purpose of the demand raised by parties like RJD is to make public the unseen aspects of each caste's population, and their share in resources". This, he said, would show not just the population of each caste, but also "how inclusive and homogeneous the development process has been over the last seven decades".

National president of the JD(U), a BJP ally, Rajiv Ranjan 'Lalan' Singh told The Indian Express: "We still hope the Centre would listen to our plea on caste census. An 11-member all-party delegation led by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar had met the Prime Minister demanding caste census... Just because the central government

filed an affidavit in the court does not mean that there cannot be change in policy."

CPI general secretary D Raja said: "How to formulate policies for affirmative action? For that you need some data. This government announced 10 per cent reservation for economically weaker sections... On what basis, what is the data they have?" Raja said.

At a press conference, BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi said leaders who liked to project themselves as standing for deprived communities were in fact, promoting their own families. The government has taken a position on "technical grounds", he said.

Trivedi said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's policy is "sabka saath, sabka vikas", and the benefits of the government's programmes were for the poor, irrespective of caste and community. "We stand for respecting all, giving space to everyone and progress of all," he said.

Asked about BJP allies differing with it, Trivedi said parties are free to take independent positions.



Speaker Om Birla at the Karnataka House on Friday.

Need discussion, not obstruction, in House: Speaker

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 24

THERE SHOULD be discussions and not obstruction or ruckus in the House, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said while addressing a joint session of Karnataka legislature on Friday.

In his address on 'Democracy - Safeguarding Parliamentary Values', Birla said: "We as legislators should make an effort to have more active participation while framing laws. There should be discussions and there should be no obstruction or ruckus in the House."

Birla's comments came in the wake of repeated disruptions by the Opposition during the Monsoon Session of Parliament. During the session, Bills were passed with minimal discussions amid ruckus and disruptions by the Opposition. The Winter Session of Parliament is expected in the third week of November.

"When the Constitution was drafted, the sentiment was to make our legislature more aware, dutiful, honest and responsible so that a path could be paved for the social and economic betterment of people," Birla said.

He emphasised that disciplined and dignified behaviour of legislators, in both personal and public life, is needed to earn the respect of the people.

"There is a need to maintain discipline, honour and dignity in Parliament and legislatures across the country. It is expected

of the members of the legislatures and Parliament to behave in a dignified manner in their public and personal life so that people draw inspiration from them," Birla said.

"There was a need to discuss how to make the democratic institutions more answerable to the people. Parliament and legislatures are the souls of Indian democracy and it will strengthen when people's welfare is given priority," he said.

The opposition Congress boycotted Birla's address, despite a request by Assembly Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri.

Congress leader D K Shivakumar said his party will not attend the address as there is no provision for anyone other than the President or the Governor to address the state's legislators. He said it was planned without even consulting the Opposition.

BSY named best MLA

Former chief minister B S Yediyurappa was Friday named the best legislator of 2020-21 by the Assembly. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla presented Yediyurappa a memento. "Like the best parliamentarian award is given in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha annually, Karnataka from this year will have the best legislator award for members of the Assembly. Senior legislator Yediyurappa has served as MLA, Opposition party leader, deputy chief minister and Chief Minister of the state," said Assembly Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri.

BHABANIPUR BYPOLL CAMPAIGN



Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee during her election campaign in Kolkata on Friday. The party's Rajya Sabha MP Jawahar Sircar was present along with TMC senior leaders. Express

How were the crores donated to PM-CARES fund used: Mamata

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 24

CHIEF MINISTER Mamata Banerjee on Friday lashed out at the Centre for claiming that PM-CARES was not a government fund, and asked how the "lakhs of crores of rupees" donated had been used. Banerjee said complete transparency should be maintained in the transactions made with the money collected by the trust.

Hitting out at the Centre while campaigning for the Bhabanipur by-poll in which she is a candidate, the Trinamool Congress chief pointed out at the PM-CARES Fund bore the national emblem. She added that the Union government's statement had left everyone confused.

"The Chief Minister Relief Fund is regularly audited. PM CARES FUND was formed for Covid-19, but yesterday they [Centre] told the court that it is

not a government fund. Government employees have donated money there, funds through CSR have been donated there, lakhs of crores of rupees have been donated. So where is that money?" Banerjee said.

In an affidavit submitted to the Delhi High Court, an Under-Secretary at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), who is discharging his functions in the PM-CARES Trust on an honorary basis, said the fund was not a government fund as donations to it do not go to the Consolidated Fund of India. The PMO official told the court that no third party information could be given out irrespective of the fund's status under the Constitution and the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

The bureaucrat told the court that the trust functions with transparency and gets its funds audited by an auditor — a chartered accountant drawn from a panel prepared by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG).

FIR against BJP leaders over scuffle near CM's home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 24

THE KOLKATA Police on Friday registered a suo motu FIR against BJP leaders, including state BJP president Sukanta Majumdar, for trying to hold a protest the day before near Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's residence in the city's Kalighat area with the body of a BJP leader who died earlier this week. In the evening, the BJP filed a complaint with the EC against a senior police official, accusing him of molesting its Bhabanipur by-poll candidate Priyanka Tibrewal during a scuffle during the demonstration on Thursday.

The saffron party got into the scuffle with the police while trying to hold a protest with the body of Dhrujati Saha who unsuccessfully contested the Magrahat Paschim seat. Saha was grievously injured in an alleged attack by TMC workers on May 2, the day poll results were declared, and died of his injuries Wednesday.

BJP, Nishad Party tie up for UP polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 24

UNION MINISTER Dharmendra Pradhan Friday announced that the BJP would contest next year's Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections in alliance with the Nishad Party led by Sanjay Nishad. The Apna Dal (Sonelal) is already a part of the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

The Nishad Party, or Niral Indian Shoshit Hamara Aam Dal, had contested the 2019 Lok Sabha elections in alliance with the BJP, which had fielded Sanjay Nishad's on Praveen Nishad from Sant Kabir Nagar. Praveen was elected to Parliament but soon there was talk of the Nishad



Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan with Nishad Party chief Sanjay Nishad in Lucknow on Friday. Vishal Srivastav

Party distancing itself from the alliance after Sanjay Nishad said the NDA had not kept the prom-

ises it made to his organisation. He also demanded that a deputy chief ministerial face from his party be announced ahead of the polls. The Nishad Party is said to have influence among fishermen and boatmen in eastern Uttar Pradesh, especially around the Gorakhpur region.

But dismissing speculation about their differences, the two parties announced the tie-up for the 2022 polls. "We will have an alliance with the Nishad Party. We will fight the Assembly elections together," Pradhan told reporters in Lucknow.

He was accompanied by BJP state president Swatantra Dev Singh, state Cabinet minister Sidhartha Nath Singh, and Sanjay Nishad.

Bharat bandh: Haryana farmers plan to block highways for 10 hrs on Sept 27

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 24

ON THE call of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM), Haryana farmers have resolved to block all state and national highways for ten hours (6 am to 4 pm) on September 27 as part of the Bharat Bandh to demand repealing of three farm laws.

The call of bandh has been given on the completion of ten months of farmers' agitation against the contentious laws. Haryana has emerged as epicentre of the agitation with thousands of farmers protesting against BJP-JJP leaders in the state.

Haryana BKU leader Gurnam Singh Chaduni said ambulance and other emergency services will be exempted from the bandh call. He said: "We are expressing our resentment against government policies but don't want to cause any inconvenience to the public. We have also urged shopkeepers, workers and employees to join and support the bandh call."

In a statement, the SKM said: "From 6 am to 4 pm on September 27, everything will be closed throughout the country... Public and private transport will also come to a halt during this period." It said emergency establishments and essential services including hospitals, medical stores, relief and rescue work and people attending to personal emergencies will be exempted.

'Members being targeted': BJP leaders meet kin of tribal leader shot in Ranchi

ABHISHEK ANGAD
RANCHI, SEPTEMBER 24

THE BJP has alleged that its workers are being targeted in Jharkhand after a party leader was shot dead in Ranchi — hours after he protested over a Congress leader's purported audio clip about the death of a woman police officer.

Rajya Sabha MP and BJP State President Deepak Prakash as well as former CM Raghubar Das Friday met the family of BJP Ranchi ST Morcha (Rural) President Jeetram Munda, who was allegedly killed on Wednesday evening. Prakash said that from ordinary men to VIPs, no one was safe in the state. He alleged the law and order has deteriorated and BJP workers are being 'targeted'.

Munda was protesting against Congress MLA Bandhu Tirkey, who was purportedly heard asking the family mem-

bers of Rupa Tirkey to "settle the matter" — the officer allegedly died by suicide on May 3 with the Jharkhand High Court recently ordering a CBI probe into her death.

Ranchi SP Naushad Alam said, "We have detained a few people and there seems to be progress in the case. Soon, the mastermind will be arrested." Police said that Munda was rushed to the hospital but was declared dead.

Munda's family has demanded a CBI probe into the matter. Munda's wife Gayatri Kumari told Prakash and Das that her husband worked day and night for the party. "We need justice. My husband worked for the party and could not even give enough time to the family. The party needs to now support us," she said.

Munda was a father to three children, including a three-year-old daughter.

Karnataka Cong calls NEP 'Nagpur Education Policy', CM defends it

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 24

THE KARNATAKA Assembly witnessed a slug fest Friday over the National Education Policy with the Congress referring to it as the "Nagpur Education Policy" and Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai responding that even if NEP is an RSS agenda, it is meant to bring about change in education.

The war of words occurred after Congress legislators entered the well of the house protesting the "failure" of the session to address the problems of common people and issues like NEP, which Karnataka has become the first state to adopt.

Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah and state Congress chief D K Shivakumar said the NEP should be called the "Nagpur Education Policy".

Siddaramaiah said the NEP was part of the RSS agenda for education and is being implemented without discussion.

Bommai said the NEP is meant for national development through education. "Nation, Nationalism and RSS are the same. RSS means nationalism. There is nothing wrong if National Education Policy is an RSS agenda. It is good for the country. NEP is to prepare children for the future," said Bommai, who has no roots in the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh.

Delhi High Court extends deadline to seed Aadhaar with UAN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

THE DELHI High Court has extended the date for completing the seeding of Aadhaar numbers with employees' Universal Account Numbers (UAN) till November 30 and ordered that the employers in the meantime be permitted to deposit provident funds for those employees whose seeding has not taken place yet. No coercive action shall be taken against them for non-seeding, the court added.

"Insofar as the employees qua whom Aadhaar numbers have already been provided to the EPFO are concerned, the provident fund shall be permitted to be deposited by the employers without awaiting verification from the Unique Identification Authority of India. The process of verification shall however continue," said Justice Prathiba M Singh in an order.

BRIEFLY

CHHATTISGARH

Disabled minors allege rape, two arrested

Raipur: The police Friday arrested two staffers of a government-funded residential training centre in Jashpur district for the alleged sexual abuse of six disabled minor girls. The girls accused the storekeeper and watchman of sexually abusing them on September 22. A woman staffer of the centre informed the police about the incident on Thursday. "With the help of sign language interpreters, we found that a 17-year-old had been raped by one staffer and five other girls, aged 14-16 were molested by both," said SP Vijay Aggarwal. **ENS**

MAHARASHTRA

3 more arrested over gangrape of 15-year-old

Mumbai: The Thane police Friday arrested three more persons in connection with the 15-year-old girl's gangrape by 33 people, taking the total number of arrests in the case to 29. The police have also formed teams to inspect the spots where the alleged sexual assault on the minor took place, and seized the mobile phones of the accused to ascertain if there was any video of the act in their phones which was allegedly used to blackmail her. **ENS**

GUJARAT

Assembly to get its first woman Speaker

Gandhinagar: Senior BJP MLA from Bhuj constituency Nimaben Acharya filed her nomination for the post of Speaker of the Gujarat Assembly Friday. Acharya is likely to be elected unopposed as the opposition Congress has supported her nomination. She is set to become the Assembly's first woman Speaker. The post fell vacant last week after Rajendra Trivedi resigned, hours before he was inducted as a minister in the new government. **ENS**

ANDHRA PRADESH

VIT holds virtual convocation for class of 2021

Amaravati: VIT-AP University conducted virtual convocation for the class of 2021 on September 23, with Nobel laureate Dr M Stanley Whittingham as chief guest who delivered the convocation address and inaugurated several blocks of the varsity, according to a release. Whittingham mentioned three key points from his Nobel speech: "Science is interdisciplinary, science is international, and science can solve pandemics — be it Covid or global warming." **ENS**

KARNATAKA

Lankesh killing: All 17 accused to be relocated

Bengaluru: The Principal sessions court in Bengaluru has directed the relocation of all accused arrested in the murder of journalist Gauri Lankesh from prisons around the state to the central prison in Bengaluru to begin the trial process. The court has also asked police to provide the IP address of Arthur Road Jail in Mumbai to facilitate the appearance of accused persons lodged there — via video conferencing — to begin the process of framing of charges. **ENS**

Dream chasers: Bihar's Shubham tops UPSC exam, Bhopal's Jagrati second

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR, SOURAV ROY BARMAN & ESHA ROY
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

A FREELANCE photographer, a dentist, a serving IPS officer who wanted to be in the IAS, the younger sister of a past UPSC topper, the son of an industrialist, a graduate of forensic sciences, a CBSE Board exam topper, and chasers of a dream that most Indians dream.

The list of top-20 rank holders in this year's UPSC Civil Services Examination, touted as the toughest exam in the country, is a varied mix.

Shubham Kumar from Bihar, and Jagrati Awasthi from Bhopal — both engineering graduates — bagged the first and second ranks, respectively.

A total of 761 candidates have cleared the civil services examination, 2020, the UPSC stated in the results declared on Friday. A total of 545 men and 216 women have cleared the examination and recommended for various civil services by UPSC, the Commission said in a statement. It said there are 13 men and 12 women in the list of top 25 candidates.

Shubham Kumar, a Civil Engineering graduate from IIT-Bombay who is undergoing training as an Indian Defence Accounts Service probationer in Pune, has qualified the examination with Anthropology as his optional subject, while Awasthi, who did B.Tech (Electrical Engineering) from Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology, Bhopal, qualified the examination with Sociology as optional subject.

Shubham's father Devanand Singh told The Indian Express: "My son has done not just us proud but has brought laurels for the whole of Bihar."

Asked about the mantra behind her success, Awasthi, 24, said, "Nothing can substitute hard work, but work smart, not just hard. Most importantly, understand requirements of the examination."

Ankita Jain was ranked third. Ria Dabi, 23, whose elder sister Tina topped the UPSC exam in 2019, secured 15th rank in the examination. She said: "Caste system is extremely rigid and I think it should not exist. I was 18 when my elder sister came first in UPSC. It was highly motivating. But if you ask me who my inspiration is, I would say it's my mother."

Tina was the first candidate from the Dalit community to top the civil services exam.

Satyam Gandhi, 22, who ranked 10th and comes from Dighra village in Bihar's Samastipur district, cycled 5 km to school every day. He topped his school in both class X and XII Boards, and did his graduation in Political Science from Delhi's Dayal Singh College. Satyam supported his stay in Delhi and preparations for the UPSC by working as a freelance photographer.

Asked how she would like to serve her country, Meera K, 27, ranked sixth, said: "I trust the system. Whatever assignment I get, I will give it my best. No work is too small." This was the fourth attempt, and second interview, for the Mechanical Engineering graduate from Government Engineering College in Kerala's Thrissur — she had missed out by 12 marks in her last attempt.

Most of the candidates in the top-20 list are engineers, who repeated their attempts at cracking the UPSC exam. Topper Shubham was ranked 290th last time.

Some had cleared the exam earlier and are already employed by the government but were still



(Top) Second rank holder Jagrati Awasthi with her family in Bhopal on Friday; (Left) Mayuri Mukherjee of West Bengal secured the 159th rank. *Express*

chasing their dreams. Jivani Kartik Nagjibhai, 26, ranked eighth, is undergoing training as an IPS officer, which he had cracked in his third attempt, falling just short of getting the IAS. His father owns an education campus with an engineering college, an institute of pharmacy, an MBA programme, and a high school. Nagjibhai's family also owns Ribosome Research Private Ltd, which does preclinical research for pharmaceuticals.

"I am inspired by legendary bureaucrat S R Rao, who is credited with transforming Surat after the 1994 plague," Nagjibhai said. Praveen Kumar, 27, from Jamui in Bihar, who secured sev-

enth rank, is working as an engineering officer in the Railways.

Mamata Yadav, 24, ranked fifth, is originally from Haryana but is now based in Delhi. She is training to be an Indian Railway Personnel officer but decided to chase her dream of being in the IAS. "I love reading fiction — Khaled Hossaini's 'Kite Runner' is my favourite," said Yadav, who did BSc from Delhi University's Hindu College.

Coming from an Army background, this was dentist Apala Mishra's third attempt to get into the IAS. She secured ninth rank. After completing BDS in 2017, she started preparing for UPSC.

WITHENS

CRACKING INDIA'S TOUGHEST EXAM

■ Educational qualifications of top-25 range from graduation in engineering, humanities, commerce and medical science

■ The examination was conducted to fill 836 posts of different civil services.

■ Civil services (preliminary) examination-2020 was conducted on October 4 last year

■ Of successful candidates, 263 are from general category, 86 from economic weaker section (EWS), 220 from Other Backward Classes (OBC), 122 from Scheduled Castes (SC) and 61 from Scheduled Tribes category.

Extortion FIRs: DGP proposes suspension of Param Bir, other cops

YOGESH NAIK & MOHAMED THAYER
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 24

MAHARASHTRA DGP Sanjay Pandey has proposed to the state Home department that IPS officer Parambir Singh and all other policemen named in five FIRs registered against former Mumbai

Commissioner on charges of extortion be suspended.

The proposal seeks the suspension of over 25 police officers, including Singh, a DG rank officer, and at least four DCP rank officers, along with several ACP rank officers named as accused in the various cases.

A senior state government official said the file was sent back to

the State police headquarters on Thursday seeking more clarity on the proposal, and the exact roles of the officers and constabulary in the offences.

"We can't paint everyone with the same brush and need exact roles of officers and men involved. Some will have a major role and some may have a minor role in the matter. We have asked the DGP to

give exact roles of each one," the official said. "Once they give a reply, the government will take a call. Since there are some DG and SP rank officers, who are class one officers, involved, the file will also go to the Chief Minister. We are awaiting a reply from the DG."

The Home department is wary of suspending so many police officials, and of the damage it

can do to the image as well as morale of the police force.

The first FIR was registered against Singh and 16 other police officers by Akola police based on a complaint by inspector Bhimrao Ghadge. Following this, on July 23, an FIR was registered at the Marine Drive police station. The next day, another FIR was registered by Kopri police.

CBI registers FIR in Narendra Giri death case

Lucknow: Two days after the Uttar Pradesh government recommended a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the death of Akhil Bharatiya Akhara Parishad (ABAP) president Mahant Narendra Giri, the agency's special crime branch in Delhi took over the inquiry on Friday. A CBI team arrived in Prayagraj in the evening, and asked the police for case files.

The agency has invoked IPC Section 306 (abetment of suicide) in the FIR. Three people, including two disciples of the Hindu ascetic, are in judicial custody at present.

Meanwhile, earlier in the day, the Prayagraj police visited Naini Central Jail to question the accused. "On court's permission, a police team came to the jail and questioned the persons arrested in connection with the death of Narendra Giri," said police. **ENS**

ODISHA

Reporter covering elephant rescue drowns

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BHUBANESWAR, SEPT 24

A TELEVISION journalist accompanying an elephant rescue team died after their boat capsized in the Mahanadi river at the Mundali bridge in Odisha's Cuttack district, officials said.

The boat was carrying personnel of the Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF) which was attempting to rescue the tusker trapped in the river. One of its members, Sitarum Murmu, is missing. A search is underway for him. The boat overturned owing to the strong current in the river.

The journalist, Arindam Das, died after falling into the river. His



HIMALAYAN FILM FEST LAUNCHED

Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur (centre) launches a poster at the inauguration of the first Himalayan Film Festival in Ladakh on Friday. The five-day film festival is part of the celebrations of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', commemorating 75 years of independence. (From left) Lok Sabha MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, actor Siddharth Malhotra, Lt Governor R K Mathur and filmmaker-producer Vidhu Vinod Chopra were present at the event. Thakur also felicitated Malhotra during the event.



Arindam Das

colleague, Prabhat Sinha, a video journalist, was hospitalised and is in critical condition. Das worked for the Odiya TV news channel 'OTV'. He is survived by his wife and a two-year-old son.

The emergency officer of Cuttack's SCB Hospital, Bhubanananda Maharana, said Das had died before admission. "The doctors tried to revive him for an hour but failed," he said.

A team of 80 forest officials from two divisions of Odisha and members of ODRAF were part of

the elephant rescue operation.

The Odisha State Disaster Management Authority has initiated an investigation into how two mediapersons were allowed to accompany the rescue team. "The incident is unfortunate and the matter will be investigated. Even in normal conditions it is not advisable for anyone to accompany a rescue team under such harsh conditions," a senior OSDMA official said.

According to the forest officials, the trapped elephant, a sub-adult male, was a part of a 17-member herd which was trying to cross the Mahanadi river from Chandaka to Banki late Thursday night. Around 10 elephants were stuck due to the strong currents in

NEET-ALL INDIA QUOTA

Top court sets aside Madras HC order on EWS quota

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

SUPREME COURT on Friday set aside a part of the Madras High Court order, which said reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in the NEET-All India Quota cannot be permitted without approval of the top court, stating that the court which said so in a contempt plea had "transgressed the boundaries of contempt jurisdiction".

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud and B V Nagarathna said it was not setting aside the particular direction on merits but for the reason that it was outside the scope of the contempt jurisdiction.

The Supreme Court said the specific direction in the August 25 HC judgment "was unnecessary for the purpose of contempt plea". "We, therefore hold that direction issued... is alien to the exercise of contempt jurisdiction," it said.

The HC, which was considering a petition filed by Tamil Nadu's ruling DMK — seeking contempt proceedings against the Centre for allegedly not following a July 2020 order — cited the 50 per cent quota cap to rule that allowing the 10 per cent EWS quota will take the total reservation beyond 50 per cent. "The additional reservation provided for economically weaker sections... cannot be permitted, except with approval of Supreme Court..." it said.

Setting this aside, the top court said the HC having concluded that no contempt was made out, had

SC STAYS KERALA HC PROCEEDINGS

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday stayed proceedings before Kerala High Court on a plea challenging the Centre's decision to grant 10 per cent reservation in jobs and admissions to EWS candidates. A bench comprising Chief Justice of India N V Ramana and Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli also issued notice on the plea filed by the Centre seeking transfer of the case from the High Court to the apex court, which had earlier referred to the similar case for adjudication to a five-judge Constitution bench. **PTI**

gone into a wider spectrum which it should not have. "We are of the view that HC has transgressed the limitations of contempt jurisdiction by entering into areas which was alien to the issues raised of compliance with earlier order," it bench.

The top court was hearing a plea by the Centre against the HC direction.

The SC, which also took up petitions that challenged the July 29 central notification allowing 27 per cent OBC quota and 10 per cent EWS quota in the All India Quota, said it will go into the merits of the issue while hearing these petitions. Issuing notice on the petitions, it fixed October 7 for hearing them.

India rejects China claim on Galwan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

INDIA ON Friday rejected Beijing's claim that the Galwan valley incident took place because India violated all agreements and encroached upon China's territory.

Ministry of External Affairs' official spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said, "We reject such statements. Our position with regard to developments last year along the LAC in Eastern Ladakh has been clear and consistent. It was the provocative behavior and unilateral attempts of the Chinese side to alter the status quo in contravention of all our bilateral agree-

ments that resulted in serious disturbance of peace and tranquility."

Earlier in the day, while responding to a question on the Quad summit, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said in Beijing that "a closed, exclusive clique targeting other countries runs counter to the trend of the times and the aspirations of regional countries". He added it will find no support and was doomed to fail.

The Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said "relevant countries" should view China's development in correct light and do more to promote solidarity and cooperation among countries in the region.

Rape accused IIT-Guwahati student expelled

SOURAV ROY BARMAN NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

IIT-GUWAHATI has expelled a student accused of raping a female student on the campus, observing that it was "necessary to confer exemplary punishment on the offender".

It is learnt that the decision was taken earlier this month by the Senate, which is the highest decision making body of the institute on academic matters.

When contacted, an IIT-Guwahati spokesperson said "the student from IIT-G has been expelled" adding that the "institute cannot comment further the as matter is subjudice".

The student was arrested in connection with the incident which allegedly took place on March 28. However, on August 13, the Gauhati High Court had granted him bail, observing that while there is a "clear prima facie case" against the accused, both the victim and the accused were "talented students" and the "state's future assets". The court had also ruled out any possibility of the accused tampering with evidence.

Sources said that at the senate meeting, IIT-Guwahati's director said the institute, which suspended the student on April 4, was deeply concerned about such untoward incidents. Subsequently, the associate dean of students informed the senate members about the sequence of events on the night of March 28.

Referring to the court order, the dean of student affairs is learnt to have told the senate that the "court has said that there was a clear prima facie case against the accused and the investigation in the case is also complete".



Prime Minister Modi with Australian PM Scott Morrison

PM meets Australian, Japanese counterparts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WASHINGTON, SEPT 24

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi held separate bilateral meetings with his Japanese counterpart Yoshihide Suga and Australian counterpart Scott Morrison, during which they discussed a wide range of issues from maritime security to low emissions technology partnership.

After the meeting, Morrison said, "I've just come from a meeting with one of my Quad partners, Prime Minister Modi, a dear friend and great friend of Australia. We've been working together for some years now. Today, at our meeting, we were able to agree on some important new initiatives."

"At our meeting today we agreed to go forward with a low emissions technology partnership, a partnership that will focus on hydrogen development, ultra low cost solar programs, to support their energy transition," he said.

India currently has the world's fastest-growing solar energy programme and has expanded access to clean cooking fuel to cover over 80 million households, making it one of the largest clean energy drives globally. One of the key points, Morrison said, they continue to make about addressing climate change is to ensure that there is a technology transfer from developed to developing economies. "If we want to address climate change, we need to address the change that is necessary in developing economies, so they can grow their economies, build their industries, make the things the world needs. And, to do that, you need an energy economy that

supports those objectives. And so, we'll work together closely with our good friends in India, to work with the comparative advantages that Australia has, particularly in the area of hydrogen..." he said.

During the meeting between Modi and Suga, both leaders reaffirmed the importance of maritime security towards the realisation of a "free and open" Indo-Pacific as they shared strong opposition to the "economic coercion and unilateral attempts" to change the status quo by force in the East and South China Seas, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said.

The two Prime Ministers reviewed the bilateral relationship and exchanged views on recent global developments, including in Afghanistan. They agreed to enhance bilateral security and defence cooperation, including in the area of defence equipment and technologies, according to a statement issued by the MEA.

Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla, briefing the media on the meeting, said that it was their first in-person meeting. "The issue of China as a very major global player did come up and this is one of the many issues that were discussed," he said when asked whether China came up during the meeting. The two leaders concurred that they would continue to cooperate in tackling Covid-19, as well as in the security field.

agreements through direct purchase of eligible products and services from Indian offset partners.

While officials have been tight-lipped about the deal, sources say it is estimated at over Rs 20,000 crore. The programme will involve the development of a complete industrial ecosystem — from manufacturing, assembly and tests to delivery and lifecycle maintenance.

All the aircraft will be equipped with an indigenous Electronic Warfare Suite and handed over in a transport configuration. The government has

KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

INDIA Friday signed a contract estimated to be worth Rs 20,000 crore with Airbus Defence and Space to procure 56 C-295 military transport aircraft.

The new aircraft will replace the IAF's Avro-748 planes. The first 16 of these will be delivered in flyaway condition from Spain between the next two and four years.

The remaining 40 will be manufactured by Tata Advanced Systems along with Airbus in India. These deliveries will begin from the fourth or fifth year from now and end by the tenth year.

This is India's first aerospace programme in the private sector. The Cabinet Committee on Security approved the deal, which has been in the works for a decade, earlier this month. On Friday, besides the deal, the Defence Ministry signed an offset contract with Airbus. As part of this, company will discharge its offset obli-



The Airbus C-295 aircraft. Airbus

gations through direct purchase of eligible products and services from Indian offset partners.

While officials have been tight-lipped about the deal, sources say it is estimated at over Rs 20,000 crore. The programme will involve the development of a complete industrial ecosystem — from manufacturing, assembly and tests to delivery and lifecycle maintenance.

All the aircraft will be equipped with an indigenous Electronic Warfare Suite and handed over in a transport configuration. The government has

called this a "big step towards modernisation of the IAF transport fleet".

Sukaran Singh, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Tata Advanced Systems Ltd, told reporters that the company, along with Airbus, has considered more than a hundred sites to set up the production facility. A final call, in consultation with all stakeholders including the local residents, is yet to be taken.

Remi Millard, President and MD, Airbus South Asia, said the project is much more ambitious than a mere technology transfer,

as it is aimed at manufacturing the aircraft in the country. He said this will place India on the global map to manufacture such aircraft.

His colleague Jean-Brice Dumont, Executive Vice-President, Military Aircraft, said there is a "real" export potential from these facilities, but the priority is to honour the commitment to the Air Force. He said that the engines for the 40 aircraft manufactured in India will have to be imported. But, he added, the technology transfer to make engines within the country is just a "matter of time".

According to Airbus, the C-295 has a proven capability of operating from short or unprepared airstrips, and can be used for tactical transportation of up to 71 troops or 50 paratroopers. It can also be deployed for logistics operations to locations inaccessible to heavier aircraft. It can airdrop paratroops and loads, and also be used for casualty or medical evacuation. It can perform special missions as well as disaster response and maritime patrol duties.

Monsoon withdrawal likely to start by first week of Oct: IMD

Pune: The Southwest Monsoon is likely to start withdrawing from parts of northwest India only by October first week, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). If realised, 2021 could be the second most delayed commencement of monsoon retreat in 47 years.

Though the normal date for monsoon withdrawal commencement is Sept 17, this month has seen four low-pressure systems developing over the Bay of Bengal till date. Extended Range Prediction forecasts say monsoon activity is likely to prevail till Oct 6 over parts of Punjab and Rajasthan — the regions from where the retreat commences.

monsoon withdrawal commencement is Sept 17, this month has seen four low-pressure systems developing over the Bay of Bengal till date. Extended Range Prediction forecasts say monsoon activity is likely to prevail till Oct 6 over parts of Punjab and Rajasthan — the regions from where the retreat commences.

HARYANA STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION BAYS NO. 67-70, SECTOR-2, PANCHKULA-134151 (www.hssc.gov.in)

Result of Written Examination and notice to candidates for Online Scrutiny of Documents for the post of Sheet Metal Worker Instructor (Theory), against Advt. No. 12/2019, Category No. 80 of Skill Development & Industrial Training Department, Haryana.

On the basis of written examination held on 13.12.2019 for the post of Sheet Metal Worker Instructor (Theory) against Advt. No. 12/2019, Category No. 80 of Skill Development & Industrial Training Department, Haryana, Panchkula, the candidates bearing following Roll Nos. have been Shortlisted for Scrutiny of Documents provisionally to ascertain eligible candidates and further subject to the fulfillment of their eligibility conditions as per advertisement and service rules.

Advt. No. 12/2019, Cat. No.80, Sheet Metal Worker Instructor (Theory) (Total 07 Posts)

1219800001	1219800015	1219800023	1219800041	1219800048	1219800063
1219800066	1219800068	1219800072	1219800076	1219800077	1219800086
1219800140	1219800144	1219800154	1219800161	1219800170	1219800173
1219800178	1219800185	1219800196	1219800197	1219800199	1219800201
1219800205	1219800213	1219800217	1219800218	1219800243	1219800255
1219800257	1219800258	1219800259	1219800262	1219800264	1219800268
1219800272	1219800275	1219800277	1219800283	1219800288	1219800294
1219800295	1219800301	1219800302	1219800315	1219800322	1219800332
1219800335	1219800337	1219800338	1219800339	1219800349	1219800354
1219800357	1219800358	1219800371	1219800382	1219800383	1219800388
1219800392	1219800396	1219800399	1219800405	1219800409	1219800415
1219800418	1219800424	1219800426	1219800427	1219800431	1219800442
1219800471	1219800474	1219800475	1219800477	1219800487	1219800488
1219800514	1219800519	1219800534	1219800546	1219800553	1219800554
1219800556	1219800576	1219800592	1219800597	1219800599	1219800600
1219800604	1219800617	1219800619	1219800623	1219800625	1219800640
1219800643	1219800648	1219800655	1219800673	1219800679	1219800681
1219800689	1219800691	1219800701	1219800716	1219800723	1219800730
1219800735	1219800739	1219800744	1219800747	1219800749	1219800751
1219800756	1219800765	1219800775	1219800777	1219800780	1219800787
1219800793	1219800796	1219800799	1219800800	1219800810	1219800813
1219800815	1219800817	1219800822	1219800825	1219800827	1219800838
1219800840	1219800842	1219800843	1219800846	1219800853	1219800876
1219800885	1219800894	1219800899	1219800901	1219800909	1219800938
1219800944	1219800947	1219800950	1219800963	1219800970	1219800976
1219800980	1219800985	1219800991	1219801015	1219801020	1219801022
1219801023	1219801033	1219801037	1219801054	1219801061	1219801065
1219801072	1219801083	1219801095	1219801097	1219801099	1219801106
1219801118	1219801120	1219801121	1219801125	1219801134	1219801146
1219801154	1219801156	1219801158	1219801178	1219801180	1219801182
1219801188	1219801193	1219801198	1219801226	1219801227	1219801259
1219801262	1219801283	1219801284	1219801285	1219801286	1219801289
1219801293	1219801296	1219801297	1219801300	1219801301	1219801306
1219801330	1219801355	1219801361	1219801369	1219801376	1219801379
1219801386	1219801398	1219801400	1219801420	1219801429	1219801432
1219801435	1219801442	1219801446	1219801447	1219801449	1219801456
1219801457	1219801463	1219801470	1219801487	1219801490	1219801491
1219801492	1219801496	1219801497	1219801505	1219801517	1219801521
1219801537	1219801539	1219801542	1219801543	1219801544	1219801548
1219801550	1219801558	1219801558	1219801567	1219801572	1219801580
1219801586	1219801593	1219801610	1219801619	1219801620	1219801623
1219801626	1219801641	1219801659	1219801671	1219801674	1219801676
1219801685	1219801687	1219801691	1219801713	1219801720	1219801733
1219801743	1219801748	1219801755	1219801760	1219801762	1219801771
1219801776	1219801838	1219801846	1219801849	1219801851	1219801854
1219801855	1219801858	1219801861	1219801865	1219801872	1219801874
1219801875	1219801879	1219801884	1219801887	1219801890	1219801893
1219801895	1219801898	1219801900	1219801917	1219801918	1219801929
1219801938	1219801950	1219801970	1219801972	1219801974	1219801986
1219801987	1219801991	1219802005	1219802008	1219802010	1219802012
1219802014	1219802015	1219802021	1219802022	1219802027	1219802036
1219802037	1219802050	1219802056	1219802067	1219802071	1219802073
1219802100	1219802103	1219802112	1219802116	1219802120	1219802135
1219802141	1219802142	1219802148	1219802152	1219802158	1219802167
1219802189	1219802197	1219802201	1219802219	1219802220	1219802223
1219802228	1219802233	1219802239	1219802242	1219802262	1219802266
1219802271	1219802287	1219802291	1219802298	1219802300	1219802305
1219802311	1219802319	1219802325	1219802326	1219802328	1219802334
1219802343	1219802356	1219802360	1219802364	1219802375	1219802378
1219802388	1219802393	1219802402	1219802404	1219802405	1219802412
1219802416	1219802426	1219802427	1219802456	1219802463	1219802464
1219802471	1219802472	1219802478	1219802486	1219802487	1219802489
1219802501	1219802515	1219802525	1219802526	1219802535	1219802538
1219802541	1219802545	1219802546	1219802548	1219802554	1219802557
1219802558	1219802561	1219802576	1219802577	1219802581	1219802590
1219802594	1219802595	1219802597	1219802622	1219802627	1219802630
1219802633	1219802635	1219802642	1219802644	1219802652	1219802653
1219802662	1219802664	1219802669	1219802677	1219802687	1219802703
1219802722	1219802724	1219802739	1219802741	1219802745	1219802750
1219802751	1219802764	1219802772	1219802783	1219802795	1219802803

NOTE:-

- The candidates are not required to physically appear/present in office of Commission with documents as the scrutiny will be carried out online only and no documents will be taken through offline mode/manually. Candidates can fill scrutiny form and upload documents through website of Commission from 24.09.2021 to 01.10.2021.
- The candidates are also advised to upload documents online from 24.09.2021 to 01.10.2021 after which link shall be disabled.
- In case a candidate does not Upload Documents for Online Scrutiny of Documents, no further opportunity will be given thereafter.
- While every care has been taken in preparing and uploading the result, possibility of inadvertent/technical errors cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves the right to rectify the same later on.
- The result is also available on the website of HSSC i.e. www.hssc.gov.in also published in newspapers (Five Hindi and Two English) i.e Dainik Jagran, Dainik Savera, Hari Bhoomi, Punjab Kesari, Dainik Bhaskar, The Times of India and The Tribune.

Sd/-
Secretary
Haryana Staff Selection Commission
Dated:-23.09.2021
4916/HRY

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

Various Electrical (Tr-D) Works
E-Tender Notice No. TRD/NGP/21-22-15, dated 21.09.2021
Tender Notice No. TRD/NGP/21-22-15, dated 21.09.2021
IRPSM ID: 15.02.36.21.4.51.009
Name of the Work: Provision of Earth Pit in Durg-Nagpur Section in Nagpur Division. Tender Cost: ₹ 51.48.191.63.

Tender Notice No. TRD/NGP/21-22-25, dated 21.09.2021
IRPSM ID: 15.02.36.21.4.51.007
Name of the Work: Electrification of line No. 2 of DEMU Shed Gondia for maintenance of Memu Rakes. Tender Cost: ₹ 8.17.682.30.

Tender Notice No. TRD/NGP/21-22-14, dated 21.09.2021
IRPSM ID: 15.02.36.21.4.51.007
Name of the Work: (A) OHE Modification work in connection with construction of ROB in lieu of LC gate No. 548 km 1088/5-7 between Rowal-Tarsa station & LC 559 km 111/2-14 near Kanhan station in Nagpur Division of South East Central Railway. (B) Extension of isolated zone oil tanker unloading line of 500 MWCHP of T.P.S. Kshaperkheda. Tender Cost: ₹ 15.59.528.32.

For all the above tenders:- Last date of submission of electronic offer (online): 14.10.2021 at 15.00hrs. For the above tenders, please visit website www.treps.gov.in for further details.
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (Tr-D), S.E.C. Ry., Nagpur
Clean India Drive

IN THE COURT OF THE PRL II CIVIL JUDGE BANGALORE RURAL DISTRICT AT BANGALORE

O.S. No. 353/2020
Between: Mr. VIVEK SATPATHI, S/o Srivats Satpathi, aged about 38 years, Residing at No. 54/192, Shiva Mandir Road, College Ward, Daganu, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492002. ... Plaintiff
AND: Mr. HRIDESH LAL, ... Defendant
SUMMONS/NOTICE TO DEFENDANT
Mr. HRIDESH LAL S/o. Sri Shil Lal, aged about 46 years, R/at Flat No.616, 6th Floor, Sumadhura Anandam, Whitefield Post, Borawell Road, Bengaluru-560066.
With permanent Address of: D 57, Retreat Apartments, IP Extension, 20 Patparganj, New Delhi-110092.
And office Address: GE Digital Hub India, Preestige Shantiniketan, Thigalarapalya, Hoodi, Bangalore, Karnataka-560048.
You are hereby summoned to appear before this Honble Court in person or by a pleader duly instructed and able to answer all material questions relating to the plaint on 07.10.2021 at 11.00 am, to answer the questions. Failing which, the suit will be disposed off in your absence as ex-parte.

SCHEDULE
All that part and parcel of the flat No.616, 6th Floor, Sumadhura Anandam, Whitefield Post, Borawell Road, Bengaluru-560066. And measuring 1130 Sq.ft. of super build up area with one dedicated covered car parking space with wardrobe in all beds rooms geyser in one bathroom and modular kitchen with necessary electrical fittings in all rooms along with the following fixtures:
1. 2 bed room with wardrobes and curtain rods
2. 2 bathrooms attached with all modern fittings including all amenities.
3. Cabinets in the kitchen chimney and Hub.
4. Living/dining room with curtain rods.
5. Study computer in unit bedroom.
6. Lights fittings and 4 ceiling fans, 1 Geyser. Given under the Hand and Seal of the Court this 07.10.2021
By order of the Court, Pr. 2nd Civil Judge Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore.
Advocate Plaintiff: SANTHOSH KUMAR S #88, Evoma Business Center, Borawell Road, Whitefield, Bangalore-66.

Form No. 15 BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, AT PATNA O.A. 40/2021

Applicant: STATE BANK OF INDIA, STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH (SARB), PATNA
Vs.
Respondent / Defendant(s): Rakesh Kumar & others
SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993.

- Rakesh Kumar (Borrower), S/o Deekshore Mishra, Resident of West of D-11, Saket Vihar, Mitra Mandal Colony, Anisabad, Patna-800002. (Nigeria Address - #513, 1004 Estate, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria).
- M/s Horizon Concept Pvt. Ltd. a company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act 1956, having its registered office at 8/11, First Floor, Sahi Hospital Road, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi-110014.
- The Managing Director, M/s Horizon Concept Pvt. Ltd. a company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act 1956, having its registered office at 8/11, First Floor, Sahi Hospital Road, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi-110014.

Whereas the applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act 1993 against the defendants for recovery of a sum of Rs. 32,99,398.98 as on 24/7/2020 together with current and future interest, costs and for other reliefs.
The above mentioned defendant/s is/are therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an advocate or duly authorized agent, in support of his/his defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on 08/10/2021 day of at 10.30 a.m. (forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.
Take notice that in case of default the application with heard and determined in your absence.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THIS TRIBUNALS ON THIS THE 27th DAY OF August 2021.

REGISTRAR
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL

HARYANA STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION Bays No. 67-70, Sector- 2, Panchkula-134154 (www.hssc.gov.in)

Result of Written Examination and notice to candidates for Online Scrutiny of Documents for the post of Mechanic Computer Hardware Instructor (Theory), against Advt. No. 12/2019, Category No. 40 of Skill Development & Industrial Training Department, Haryana.

On the basis of written examination held on 18.12.2019 for the post of Mechanic Computer Hardware Instructor (Theory), against Advt. No. 12/2019, Category No. 40 of Skill Development & Industrial Training Department, Haryana, Panchkula, the candidates bearing following Roll Nos. have been Shortlisted for Scrutiny of Documents provisionally to ascertain eligible candidates and further subject to the fulfillment of their eligibility conditions as per advertisement and service rules.

1219400032	1219400064	1219400073	121940
------------	------------	------------	--------

GANGS OF DINDIGUL: 3 DECADES AND A DOZEN MURDERS

2 days after woman beheaded in 'revenge murder', 3 held

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, SEPTEMBER 24

TWO DAYS after a 70-year-old woman, accused in the murder of Dalit leader C Pasupathy Pandian in 2012, was hacked to death in Dindigul, near Madurai, was beheaded, and her head placed outside Pandian's house as an 'offering', three of eight men suspected to have killed her were arrested on Friday.

The woman killed on Wednesday — P Nirmala Devi — was the fifth victim since Pandian's murder nine years ago. All five murders are suspected to be result of a rivalry between the gangs of Pandian and Subash Pannaiyar that began nearly three decades ago, with the murder of an elderly relative of Pannaiyar in January 1993.

Pannaiyar believed Pandian was behind that killing, and allegedly retaliated, sparking off a series of revenge killings by both sides which has claimed at least 12 lives, including Nirmala Devi's, since 1993, according to police. Pannaiyar was among the 18 people accused of Pandian's murder in 2012 — a case is still at trial stage in a Dindigul court.

On Wednesday's murder, a senior police officer in Chennai who is monitoring the case said the accused escaped after placing Nirmala Devi's head at the gate of Pandian's house but met with an accident soon after. "Preliminary investigation reveals at least eight people were directly involved in Devi's murder. Three of them were arrested on Friday... others will be nabbed soon," the officer said.

Following the accident, the suspects quickly arranged another getaway vehicle, the officer said. On the decades-long rivalry



Pasupathy Pandian, Nirmala

between the gangs, the Chennai police officer said the first victim was Sivasubramaniyam, an elderly person in Pannaiyar's family. Then studying in Salem, Pannaiyar returned to his village to join a relative, Venkatesa Pannaiyar, to allegedly avenge the murder. Sivasubramaniyam was Venkatesa's uncle.

According to police, Subash and Venkatesa led a counter-attack within three months — while Pandian had a narrow escape, he lost a close aide, Pon Essaki, in the April 1993 attack.

Pandian's gang struck back within three months, allegedly killing Venkatesa's grandfather, Asuvathy Pannaiyar, according to police.

"Pandian, a powerful local Dalit leader, was main accused in that case," a senior officer who has served in Dindigul said. "The beginning of these revenge killings by Pandian was locally seen as a reaction to harassment meted out to Dalit labourers who worked under the Pannaiyar family, mainly over issues such as water scarcity and disputes over a salt pan in Tiruchendur."

Thereafter, the officer said, there have been "at least 12 murders, including Nirmala Devi's."

In 2003, Venkatesa was shot by police in Chennai. The gang's power cut down, Subash Pannaiyar subsequently joined

All-India Nadar Protection Forum, linked to the powerful OBC Nadar community in southern Tamil Nadu, to draw wider community support, police said.

In 2006, Pannaiyar gang allegedly played a role in killing Pandian's wife, Jacintha. In 2012, Pandian, accused in at least eight murder cases, was himself killed. M Muthupandi, one of the accused in Pandian's murder, was killed in Madurai in April 2014.

While Subash Pannaiyar is backed by his Nadar outfit, Pandian also had the backing of community and political outfits such as Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK), a party supported by Vanniyaars, classified as a Most Backward Caste community, Pandian, who belonged to the Dalit community Pallar, later started the Federation of Devendrakula Vellalaras, a community seen as evolving as a vote bank in recent decades.

Dindigul SPVR Srinivasan said the accused arrested Friday are primarily daily wage workers from villages. "Caste affinity motivates them," he said.

Another officer monitoring the probe said none of the accused were hired killers. "They all had a collective motive — of revenge. Nothing could have stopped them," he said.

The feud between Pannaiyar and Pandian groups also has an underlying caste motif — the locally dominant caste versus the Scheduled Castes. According to an officer familiar with these cases, many victims, on either side, were beheaded — their heads were "offered" to the victim murdered before. "This was repeated in many other (earlier) cases," the Dindigul police officer said.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

ASSAM EVICTION DRIVE

Under tin sheets, belongings strewn, families say: 'As good as being dead'

TORA AGARWALA
DHOLPUR (ASSAM),
SEPTEMBER 24

UTENSILS, A bundle of clothes, a few packets of moori (puffed rice), a rickety bench and a tin sheet overhead — since Thursday, that's what makes up Harmuz Ali and Shahana Khatun's home for their family of five. "If you can call it a home," says Khatun quietly, her four-year-old on her lap, sweating in the scorching heat.

On Wednesday night, when the notice came from the district administration, Harmuz and Khatun, and their neighbours, had immediately begun gathering their things. By morning, the JCBs arrived, and families, including theirs, carried what they could to the patch of land allotted by the government to them across the small tributary of the Brahmaputra that runs across Dholpur 3 village.

Since then, it has been, in Harmuz's words, "as good as being dead". "We have barely eaten or slept. Under tin sheet after tin sheet, lie similar remnants of home, with an occasional Godrej steel almira, a sign of relative prosperity.

Where the families lived till Thursday morning — for 40 years, they claim — now stretches vast barren ground, barring pieces of



The parents of Moinul Haque, 33, whose death was captured in a viral video, at the shelter they have moved to with his wife and children. Tora Agarwala

broken roofs and tin sheets. Most families claim they had bought land at the plot. Many transactions though happened without documents, and hold little legal validity.

Zamir Nessa, 25, says her husband moved here after his home was "eaten up by the river" in Goalpara. Harmuz Ali claims he shifted back in 1979 from Barpeta, following erosion by the Brahmaputra. "My father bought the land for Rs 10,000," he says.

Khaleque Ali says it doesn't matter whether they have papers

or not. "It's just that we are Miyas (Bengali-speaking Muslims), and they think we are Bangladeshis."

On Friday, with police gone, many were trying to retrieve what they could from their old homes — pressure cookers, cupboards. About Thursday's violence, people insist they had organised a "peaceful protest". "We requested better rehabilitation and other facilities. The administration agreed and said they will put the eviction on hold, till they arrange it," says Idur Ali.

However, a short while later,

Jamiat faction writes to Shah on 'brutality'

New Delhi: The Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind (Mahmood Madani faction) on Friday wrote to Home Minister Amit Shah condemning the "police brutality" during the eviction in Assam, and demanded that action be taken against police officers responsible. It also demanded a high-level judicial probe, compensation to the next of kin of victims and rehabilitation of those displaced. Madani also wrote to Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma, the National Minorities Commission and the Human Rights Watch. ENS

the JCBs were at work. "One young girl was trying to hold on to a part of her home, when police started hitting her. That's when everyone got angry. We never attacked, police opened fire on us," he says.

SP Sarma told *The Indian Express* Thursday that the locals started the attack. According to Sahinur, it was

the SP, who is incidentally the brother of CM Himanta Biswa Sarma, who "insisted" that the evictions be carried out. "A clip I received on my phone shows him telling the villagers that it does not matter if 'the world turns upside down... but you will be evicted.'" CM Sarma had promised to get the Sipajhar land, especially around a temple, cleared during a visit to the area in June, and allot it to "indigenous landless people".

On Friday, the CM told the local press that as per the land policy, it was agreed that everyone evicted would get 6 bighas of land. "I said that the poor, landless people will get land. But we can't give land to people who come from Baghor... Barpeta," he said. "They have land in their place of origin... How can I give them land? This is not my personal property."

Barpeta, in lower Assam, is home to a large number of Bengali-speaking Muslims.

The CM said he felt a third party was involved and instigating this violence. "Tomorrow they will encroach on the Kamakhya (temple), then what will we do?"

Just 14 and in Class 9, Sahinur says it comes down to the "deep-rooted hatred". "They called us Bangladeshis, so we went for hearings and showed our documents. But even that's not enough."

Father, son booked for 'illegal conversion'

IRAM SIDDIQUE
BHOPAL, SEPTEMBER 24

THE MADHYA Pradesh police have booked a father-son duo in Agar Malwa district for allegedly coercing a 31-year-old man to convert his religion.

The man, identified as Dashrat Malviya, approached Kotwail police station on Thursday saying

that he used to work at Nasir Lala's private clinic in Agar town and that Lala and his son Zubair Khan forced him to convert and even got him circumcised in 2020.

Lala's family has, however, refused the allegations and said Dashrat had fled with some money from the clinic and that he has filed a false case as they pressured him to return the money.

An FIR has been registered un-

der section 3 and 5 of Freedom of Religion Act, 2020 based on Dashrat's complaint.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, town Inspector, Ranjeet Singh informed said Dashrat who is a resident of Rajasthan, had come to Agar Malwa in search of work in 2007, and started working at the clinic. Dashrat has alleged that he was stopped by the duo from visiting temples.

Maharashtra schools to reopen

VISHWAS WAGHMODE
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 24

IN FURTHER relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions, the Maharashtra government on Friday announced that schools and places of worship in the state will reopen in the first week of October.

From October 4, 19 months after they shut down, schools will reopen their premises for classes for students of classes 5 to 12 in rural areas, and from

classes 8 to 12 in urban areas. Residential schools, will, however remain shut. Pre-primary kindergartens and pre-schools will not reopen either. All places of worship will be allowed to reopen from October 7, the first day of Navratri.

School Education Minister Varsha Gaikwad said that CM Uddhav Thackeray has given his approval for reopening of schools. The government earlier dropped plans to reopen schools after objections from the state Covid task force.

Gujarat nod for Navratri garba

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 24

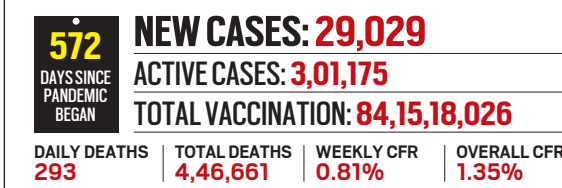
THE GUJARAT government on Friday permitted Navratri garba festivals to be organised October 7 onwards within resi-

dential neighbourhoods, societies and apartments involving a maximum of 400 persons.

However, commercial garba venues have been discouraged. Last year during Navratri, the government disallowed garba and permitted only prayers to be conducted, with a maximum of 200 persons in attendance.

Along with Shri garba, the government has also permitted organising Durga Puja, Vijaydashami Utsav and Sharad Purnima with a limit of 400 persons. However, the government said it will not give permission for any commercial garba venues. The government has also relaxed the night curfew timings in eight major cities.

TRACKING THE SECOND SURGE



TESTS TODAY: 16,42,425 | TOTAL TESTS: 56,15,75,134
WEEKLY POSITIVITY: 1.91% | OVERALL POSITIVITY: 5.99%

STATES REPORTING MOST CASES

STATE	NEW CASES	ACTIVE CASES	WEEKLY POSITIVITY	TOTAL VACCINATION
■ Kerala	17,983	1,63,339	16.35%	3,46,73,055
■ Maharashtra	3,286	38,491	2.05%	7,6,92,190
■ Tamil Nadu	1,733	17,196	1.09%	4,36,99,126
■ Mizoram	1,257	14,461	16.93%	10,93,185
■ Andhra Pradesh	1,246	13,535	2.17%	3,88,17,800

STATES REPORTING MOST DEATHS

STATE	TODAY'S DEATHS	TOTAL DEATHS	WEEKLY CFR	OVERALL CFR
■ Kerala	127	24,397	0.56%	0.56%
■ Maharashtra	53	1,42,340	3.03%	2.19%
■ Tamil Nadu	27	35,454	1.50%	1.35%
■ Karnataka	23	37,706	1.88%	1.27%
■ West Bengal	13	18,716	1.84%	1.20%

Note: Data as on Sept 24; vaccination numbers as of Sept 23. Deaths include those from previous days.

Karnataka govt allows theatres to run at 100% capacity; pubs to reopen Oct 3

Bengaluru: The Karnataka government has decided to allow 100 per cent occupancy in cinema theatres from October 1. According to officials, the relaxation will come into effect in districts where the Covid-19 positivity rate is below one per cent.

The government has also allowed pubs in the state to reopen from October 3.

The decisions were taken during a meeting Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai held with technical experts on Friday.

According to a government release, "The entry is restricted to those who have been vaccinated at least once." Patrons entering auditoriums will be asked to furnish vaccination certificates, it said.

Pregnant women and the elderly have been advised against visiting theatres, auditoriums and other such public places.

In places with a positivity rate over 2 per cent, theatres will be allowed to operate at 50 per cent seating capacity and bars and pubs will remain closed, Chief Minister Bommai said.

ENS

HC seeks MP response on prof's plea against police 'warning' on webinar

IRAM SIDDIQUE
BHOPAL, SEPTEMBER 24

THE JABALPUR bench of Madhya Pradesh High Court has sought the state government's response on a writ petition filed by a professor of Sagar-based Dr Harisingh Gour University, accusing the Superintendent of Police (SP) of Sagar district of "endorsing malicious propaganda of a group" and making the university pull out of an international webinar in July "under coercion" of the complainant group.

On Thursday, the bench of Justice Sanjay Dwivedi gave

the State three weeks to file a reply, as was sought by the State's counsel.

In his petition, Prof Rakesh Kumar Gautam, the varsity's vice-chancellor, cautioning of possible action under IPC Section 505 (statements conducing to public mischief) "if religious and caste sentiments are hurt". The letter came reportedly following a memorandum from ABVP, the RSS's students' wing, objecting to some of the speakers at the webinar, which included Prof Apoorvanand and scientist-poet Gauhar Raza, among others.

The university subsequently asked the department to write to the Union Education Ministry, seeking permission for the event. After

On July 29, a day before, Singh wrote to the university's vice-chancellor, cautioning of possible action under IPC Section 505 (statements conducing to public mischief) "if religious and caste sentiments are hurt".

The letter came reportedly following a memorandum from ABVP, the RSS's students' wing, objecting to some of the speakers at the webinar, which included Prof Apoorvanand and scientist-poet Gauhar Raza, among others.

The university subsequently asked the department to write to the Union Education Ministry, seeking permission for the event. After

Gautam failed to secure a reply from the ministry, the varsity pulled out of the webinar.

In his petition, Gautam stated that the issue of "administration's approval was never raised earlier and this helplessness and last-minute excuses was a fallout of the letter by the Superintendent of Police".

The petitioner stated that Singh's move to endorse the "prohibition" on holding academic seminars, without first having the list of speakers and topics of discussion, severely restricted his academic freedom and had a "chilling effect" on his speech and actions.

Migration due to demographic change in certain areas: Uttarakhand govt

LALMANI VERMA
DEHRADUN, SEPTEMBER 24

THE PUSHKAR Singh Dhami government on Friday alleged instances of "migration" due to a "demographic change" in specific areas and directed the administration and police authorities to prevent sale of properties under pressure and threats.

A "demographic imbalance" has taken place due to a rise in population in certain areas and the government apprehends

communal disturbance, according to a release issued by the Information department. "The government has directed DGP, all district magistrates and SSPs to take precautionary measures," the government said in the release.

The government has sought a district-wise list of those with criminal history who have settled in Uttarakhand from other states. District Magistrates have been directed to keep a special vigil on any illegal sale and purchase of land in "such areas" and to ensure that no transaction takes place un-

der fear or pressure. Cabinet minister and government spokesperson Subodh Uniyal said that he was unaware about such government directives.

Refusing to specify the names of the areas where alleged instances of migration due to "demographic imbalance" have taken place, a home department official, on the condition of anonymity, said, "There were intelligence inputs about few instances of migration due to demographic imbalance from both plains and the hills."

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
सातवां वृत्त, लो.नि.वि., गोपेश्वर
Office of The Superintending Engineer, 7th Circle Gopeshwar
Email : sepwdgope@rediffmail.com

S.N. 5680/544 याता-7/21 **Short-Term E-Tendering** Date 23.09.2021

Superintending Engineer, 7th Circle, Public Works Department, Gopeshwar on behalf of "Governor of Uttarakhand" invites through E-tendering Two Bid System Anticipation of Administrative & Financial Approval, for the following works. Information regarding bid will be available from Dated 01-10-2021 on <http://www.uktenders.gov.in>.

S. No.	Name of Work	Amount of Security (Rs. Cr.)	Validity of tender	Cost of Tender Document	Completion Period (in Months)	Contractor's Category of Registration
1.	Construction of Civic Amenity Building under Shri Badrinath Dham Master Plan.	2.7	45 Days	5000+ G.S.T	09	Category A and above for Building / Road Work in any State / Central Government of India
2.	Construction of One Way Loop Road Facade enhancement work under Shri Badrinath Dham Master Plan.					
3.	Lake Front Development work (B+C) (Badrish Lake, linear park) under Shri Badrinath Dham Master Plan.					
4.	Refurbishment of ISBT Building & parking Development / Construction work under Shri Badrinath Dham Master Plan.					
5.	Lake Front Development work (A) (Shesh Netra) under Shri Badrinath Dham Master Plan.					
6.	Construction of Hospital Extension Building work under Shri Badrinath Dham Master Plan.					
7.	Construction of B.R.O Bypass Road under Shri Badrinath Dham Master Plan.					
8.	Construction of tourist arrival plaza and tourist management centre (interpretation center + command control centre) under PRASAD Scheme for spiritual smart hill town Badrinath Project.					

Bid will be submitted online at website www.uktenders.gov.in.
Before opening of bid upto 1.00 PM following documents to be submitted physically to this office of Superintending Engineer, 7th Circle Gopeshwar and Executive Engineer, P.I.U.P.W.D Badrinath (HQ-Joshimath) along with online submission-
1- FDR of earnest money. 2- DD of Tender Cost. 3-Rs. 100.00 non-judicial stamp with Rs.1.00 signed Revenue ticket for bid validity. 4- Required category Registration-copy.

Sd/-
Er. Mukesh Parmar
Superintending Engineer
7th Circle, P.W.D. Gopeshwar

NORTHERN RAILWAY
CORRIGENDUM

Ref. (i) Tender Notice No. 22/2021-22 dated. 26.06.2021 (S.No. 19) (ii) Tender No. 09215001A Due on 30.11.2021. In reference to above tender, the due date has been preponed from 30.11.2021 to 26.10.2021. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged. The corrigendum has been published on website www.ireps.gov.in. 2165/2021

Serving Customers With A Smile

Notice Inviting Tender

NABARD, Telangana Regional Office, Hyderabad intends to invite e-tender under two-bid system for External and Internal Repair/Renovation Works in NABARD Staff Quarters, Krishi Vihar, 7-1-58, Ameerpet, Hyderabad-500016. Last date and time for submission of e-tender: 21st October 2021 (Thursday) by 2:00 PM. For tender documents and more details, please visit <https://www.nabard.org/and> and <https://nabard.eproc.in/>.

Date: 25-09-2021
Chief General Manager
NABARD, Telangana R.O., Hyderabad

IT DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (ITDA)
Information & Science Technology Department
Government of Uttarakhand
IT Bhawan Plot No IT-07, IT Park
Sahastradhara Road Dehradun
0135-2608330 diritda-uk@nic.in

e-Tender

Tender Notice No.10/ITDA/efile-2916 / 2021 dated 24/09/2021
Request for Proposal (RFP) for Disposal of E-Waste Item viz. IT Infrastructure, other Electrical and Electronic equipment's at ITDA through registered E-Waste empanelled agencies

RFP (Request for Proposal) is being issued by ITDA Department of IT, Uttarakhand, Dehradun for inviting proposal from firms registered/empanelled with Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board/Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) as per the latest E-waste (Management) rules published by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Govt of India and Govt of Uttarakhand as e-waste management vendor/Recycler/Dismantler of E-waste for Disposal of E-Waste Item viz IT Infrastructure, other Electrical and Electronic equipments at ITDA.

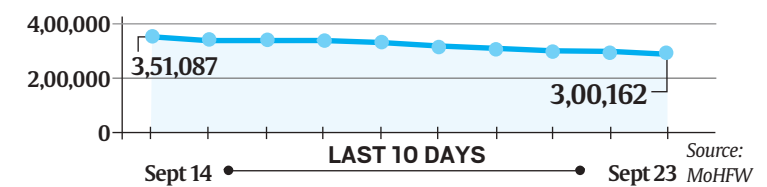
The RFP document can be downloaded from www.uktenders.gov.in from 25/09/2021 (10.00 Hrs). The tender document fee of Rs 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand Only) through demand draft (non-refundable) favouring Director, ITDA, payable at Dehradun should be submitted along with the Bid. The parties willing to participate in the bidding will have to apply through the Electronic Tendering Procedure (e-Tendering) as per the guidelines issued by Government of Uttarakhand available on the above mentioned web site under the link "Bidders Manual list".

The amendments in RFP in future, if any, would be published in the website www.uktenders.gov.in only. No other notification would be published separately. Director ITDA reserves the right to cancel the tender at any point of time, without assigning any reason therefor.

DIRECTOR

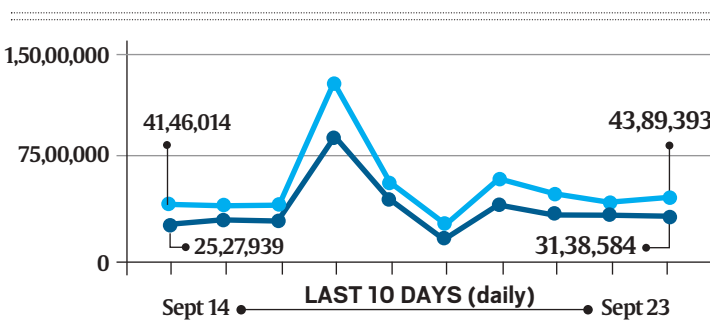
GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM

Sr. No.	Name of Board Corp./Auth	Old Reference/Net No.	Nature of Corrigendum	Website of the Board Corp./Auth	Nodal Officer/Contact Details/Email
1	HVPL	QDP NO 1315 NIT NO 1198 DATED 21.06.2021	THE LAST DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION IS EXTENDED UP TO 11.10.2021 UP TO 17:00 HRS.	www.hvpl.org.in	01722583789 prof@hvpl.org.in
2	HVPL	QDP NO 1335 NIT NO 1218 DATED 16.08.2021	THE LAST DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION IS EXTENDED UP TO 08.10.2021 UP TO 17:00 HRS.	www.hvpl.org.in	01722583789 prof@hvpl.org.in
3	HVPL	2021_HBC_188360_149/TSKNL/2021-22 DT 15.09.2021	THE TENDER WAS TO BE OPENED ON DATED 22-09-2021, NOW DATE EXTENDED UPTO 28-09-2021, DUE TO NON TURNING UP MINIMUM BIDDERS I.E. 03 NOS. BIDDERS	www.hvpl.org.in	01722583789 prof@hvpl.org.in
4	HVPL	QDP NO 1329 NIT NO 1212 DATED 19.07.2021	THE LAST DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION IS EXTENDED UP TO 07.10.2021 UP TO 17:00 HRS.	www.hvpl.org.in	01722583789 prof@hvpl.org.in
5	HVPL	NIT NO 1210 QDP-1127 DATED 14.07.2021	THE LAST DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION IS EXTENDED UPTO 08.10.2021 UP TO 17:00 HRS.	www.hvpl.org.in	01722583789 prof@hvpl.org.in
6	HPSCL	NIT NO 05/PTPS/CHD-C/1173 EVENT NO 2021_HBC_181264.3	START DATE 27.07.2021 & LAST DATE 11.10.2021 FOR THE WORK OF INSTALLATION OF 2 NO. DEEP BORE WELLS AND SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF PLC BASED WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR RESIDENTIAL COLONY AT PTPS, HPGCL, RAJAPAT	www.hpscl.org.in	0180-2565015 Xenmpt@ptps@hpscl.org.in
7	UHMVN	NIT-01/NET/04/2021/09/ASD	HERING OF ONE VEHICLE (FULL BODY OF TUBULAR) FOR SDO "OP		



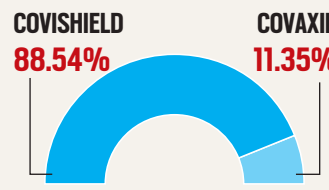
CORONAVIRUS DASHBOARD

TOTAL VACCINATED IN INDIA (at least one dose)
62,29,02,393



TOTAL DOSES
84,15,18,026

(Sputnik V's 9,09,188 doses not represented in pie)



DOSES ON SEPT 23 **75,27,977**

SEPT 22: 74,74,295 (1st doses: 41,22,774; 2nd: 33,51,521)

Note: The Sept 23 figures in these graphs are based on the government updates on Sept 24
Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, updated at 11 pm on September 24

SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

Naga talks: so far, what now

Tamil Nadu Governor R N Ravi has resigned as interlocutor for peace talks with Naga insurgent groups. Why has the peace process for a Naga Accord been stuck, and what is the way forward?

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY & S SHAROY
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

TAMIL NADU Governor R N Ravi on Wednesday resigned as interlocutor for the Naga peace talks. The government is understood to be unhappy over the handling of the Naga peace process by Ravi — who was earlier also the Governor of Nagaland — over the past year and a half, during which time he disagreed openly with the insurgent group NSCN(IM), queering the pitch for the negotiations. Naga sources have said the NSCN(IM) views Ravi's removal as Governor of Nagaland and interlocutor as a victory.

What is the Naga peace process?

It refers to ongoing talks between the Indian government and Naga insurgent groups, in particular the NSCN(IM), since 1997 with the aim to sign a Naga Peace Accord.

The Naga insurgency, rooted in Naga nationalism, is one of the oldest insurgencies in the country. The Naga-inhabited areas of the Northeast never considered themselves part of British India, and on August 14, 1947, the Naga National Council (NNC) led by Angami Zapu Phizo declared independence for Nagaland. Phizo formed an underground Naga Federal Government (NFG) and a Naga Federal Army (NFA) in 1952, in response to which the Centre sent in the Army and enacted the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, or AFSPA. After years of talks, the Shillong Accord was signed in 1976 with underground groups of Nagaland, but it was rejected by many top NNC leaders on the ground that it did not address the issue of Naga sovereignty and forced Nagas to accept the Indian Constitution.

Five years later, Isak Chishi Swu, Thuingaleng Muivah, and S S Khaplang split from the NNC and formed the NSCN to continue the armed struggle. In 1988, the NSCN split again into NSCN(IM) led by Isak Muivah and NSCN(K) led by Khaplang. The NSCN(IM) is dominated by the Tangkhul tribe of Ukhrul, Manipur (to which Muivah belongs) and the Sema tribe (from which Isak hailed) of Nagaland. In 1997, the NSCN(IM) entered into a ceasefire with the Indian government, which gave rise to hope for a final settlement.

What has happened since?

There have been nearly 100 rounds of talks. In August 2015, the group signed a framework agreement with the Indian government for the Naga Peace Accord. Ravi was appointed inter-



Then Nagaland Governor R N Ravi with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Now Tamil Nadu Governor, Ravi has quit as interlocutor for the Naga peace talks. ANI/File

locutor to take the talks to their conclusion.

But while both the government and Naga groups said the talks successfully concluded on the government's deadline of October 31, 2019, no accord was signed. Relations between Ravi and the NSCN(IM) unravelled after the talks concluded. In January 2020, the government had IB special director Akshay Mishra step in and continue the engagement.

How did things go wrong?

Why the IM hardened its stance has never been made public. Sources in the security establishment say things started to go sour after Ravi realised that the NSCN(IM) and the Indian government differed in their understanding of the framework agreement. The group was insistent on a Naga constitution, and was pushing for a Greater Nagalim stretching beyond the boundaries of the present Nagaland state. Naga sources, however, say that during the talks, the IM had softened its stance on the demand for a separate flag and constitution. Sources say even the various competencies of the accord had been agreed upon, although a few bones of contention remained.

In November 2017, Ravi signed an agreement with seven groups who had come together under the banner of the Naga National Political Groups (NNPGs), which did not include the NSCN(IM). The IM, which considers itself the principal representative of Naga aspirations, has been a rival of many of the NNPG groups. In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2020, the IM accused Ravi of attempting to "segregate the Naga civil society".

After becoming Nagaland Governor in 2019, Ravi expressed frustration at the delay

in concluding the deal. In October 2019, after talks with Naga society representatives, Ravi said the NSCN(IM) had "adopted a procrastinating attitude to delay the settlement" by raising the "contentious symbolic issues of separate Naga national flag and constitution". A mutually agreed draft comprehensive settlement was ready to be signed, he said.

Ravi wrote a scathing letter to Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, calling the NSCN(IM) an "armed gang", and accused it of running a "parallel government" and engaging in extortion. In response, the NSCN(IM) hardened its position, saying the Naga flag and constitution were non-negotiable. It claimed the framework agreement included the idea of unification of all Naga inhabited areas in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, and Manipur. It accused Ravi of twisting the document by deleting key words that suggested Nagaland would co-exist with India as a sovereign.

Ravi rejected the demand for a separate flag and constitution outright, and warned that "any misadventure to disintegrate this great nation shall not be tolerated". The IM responded by calling Ravi's actions "mischief", and demanding his ouster. Ravi, meanwhile, continued to engage with the other Naga groups, and declared that the Accord would be signed with or without the NSCN(IM).

Amid all this, what are the real issues?

Sources in the security establishment say the enthusiasm with which the framework agreement was announced led to unreasonable expectations of an imminent Accord.

"The Naga issue is very complex, and the NSCN(IM) is in a delicate position. It is led by a

Tangkhul from Manipur, for whom it is difficult to abandon the demand for a Greater Nagalim. But India cannot accept that demand, and a middle path has to be found, which may take some time," a senior official said.

Sources said there was no way the government would accept a separate constitution for Nagaland. "This was never under discussion. There was, indeed, an opinion that the flag could be given. But that went off the table after the decisions of August 5, 2019 in Kashmir, when the region's flag was taken away," another official said.

Ravi's open criticism made the NSCN(IM) publicly harden its position, officials said. "There was already pressure on the NSCN(IM) because of NIA cases against its members... There was no need to openly chide them. You can't be the good cop as well as the bad cop as a negotiator," a Home Ministry official said.

The move to appoint Ravi as Governor too, did not go down well with the IM. And Ravi's enthusiasm in matters of governance was taken by the state government as interference.

What is the way forward?

The government has roped in former IB officer Mishra as the new pointperson for talks. Mishra had some representatives of IM this week, after Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and Rio met Muivah and others. Mishra, who sources say could be formally appointed the new interlocutor, is known to be a quiet worker, and has been talking to Naga groups since January 2020.

"It is important to understand that there cannot be an accord without the NSCN(IM). It continues to get young recruits and wields considerable influence in the region. The idea is to slowly bring them to accept what India can give," a senior official said.

One of Mishra's tasks would also be to delicately close the gap between the IM and NNPGs, which shared a good relationship with Ravi. Sources in the NNPGs have said they are not averse to working with Mishra; however, they have pointed to the "ambiguity" of his role since, they argue, following the conclusion of the talks on October 31, 2019, "there is no longer a need for an interlocutor".

Some demands that need ironing out include one for a bicameral Assembly with at least 40 nominated members representing different tribes; absorption of cadres as local armed forces or in the Indian paramilitary; setting up of autonomous councils in Naga-dominated areas of neighbouring states; and the use of the Naga flag for at least customary events.

What samples brought back by China mission tell us about Moon

ON DECEMBER 16, 2020, China's Chang'e-5 lunar mission delivered to Earth nearly 2 kg of rocky fragments and dust from the Moon. At the ongoing Europlanet Science Congress (EPSC) 2021 virtual meeting, Yuqi Qian, a PhD student at the China University of Geosciences, presented early-stage findings that use geological mapping to link 'exotic' fragments in the collected samples to features near the landing site, the Europlanet Society said in a press release.

Chang'e-5 landed on an area of the Moon (the 'far side') not sampled by the American or Soviet missions nearly 50 years ago, and thus retrieved fragments of the youngest lunar rocks ever brought back for analysis in laboratories on Earth. The rocks are also different to those returned decades ago.

THE FINDINGS: According to the Europlanet Society, the study presented by Qian suggests that 90% of the materials collected by Chang'e-5 likely derive from the landing site and its immediate surroundings, which are of a type termed 'mare basalts'. These volcanic rocks are visible to us as the darker grey areas that spilled over much of the nearside of the Moon as ancient eruptions of lava. Yet 10% percent of the fragments have distinctly different, 'exotic' chemical compositions. **WHY IT MATTERS:** The distinct 10% fragments may preserve records of other parts of the lunar surface as well as hints of the types of space rocks that have impacted the Moon's surface. Qian and colleagues from Brown University and the University of Münster have looked at the potential sources of beads of rapidly cooled glassy material. They have traced these glassy droplets to extinct volcanic vents known as 'Rima Mairan' and 'Rima Sharp'. These fragments could give in-



The Chang'e-5 sample 'CE5C0400' from the Moon's surface; it weighs nearly 35 grams and was collected by a robotic arm. CNSA/CLEP via Europlanet Society

sights into past episodes of energetic, fountain-like volcanic activity on the Moon, the release said.

The team has also looked at the potential sources of impact-related fragments. The young geological age of the rocks at the landing site narrows the search, as only craters with ages less than 2 billion years can be responsible, and these are relatively rare on the side of the Moon that faces Earth. The team has modelled the potential contributions from specific craters: Aristarchus, Kepler, Copernicus, Harding, and Harpalus. Qian's findings show that Harpalus is a significant contributor of many exotic fragments among Chang'e-5's sample haul, and these pieces of rock could offer a way to address persisting uncertainty about this crater's age, the release said.

Source: Europlanet Society

Punjab CM's seat: Sikh history, current politics

MANRAJ GREWAL SHARMA
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 24

PUNJAB Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi represents the Assembly constituency of Chamkaur Sahib, which is of significance in Sikh history as well as contemporary politics — it was in the news recently when the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) gave it to the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) amidst opposition from leaders in Punjab. Historically, this was where that Guru Gobind Singh lost two of his elder sons in a battle with the coalition forces of Mughals and the hill rajas.

What was the recent political row about?

Following the SAD move giving the reserved seats of Chamkaur Sahib and Fatehgarh Sahib to the BSP in June, many including Congress MP Ravneet Bittu had slammed the SAD for giving away two seats of such religious importance. The SAD retaliated by accusing Bittu of being casteist, and also complained to the Punjab State Commission for Scheduled Castes, following which Bittu apologised.

Within the SAD, a senior leader quit in protest. With the new CM representing it, Chamkaur Sahib and its history are again in focus.

What is this history?

The coalition forces of Mughals and hill rajas led by Wazir Khan, the Nawab of Sirhind, had laid siege to Anandpur Sahib in the hope of capturing Guru Gobind Singh in May 1704. After seven months of fighting and heavy losses, the coalition forces offered a safe passage to the Guru and his followers. The heads of the coalition pledged they would not harm the Guru, his family, or his soldiers. Col Jaibans Singh, a military historian, writes that the peace treaty was sent in the name of Emperor Aurangzeb himself. But when Gobind Singh and his followers stepped out of the Anandpur Sahib fort on the night of December 20, they were attacked. They fled towards Ropar and the swollen Sarsa river. It was while crossing the river on their horses that Gobind Singh was separated from his wife Mata Gujri who was with their two younger sons.

What happened at Chamkaur Sahib?

Amarjit Singh, director of Guru Granth Sahib Studies at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, said the Guru, accompanied by *panj piaras* (the five Sikhs he had initially baptised), his elder sons Ajit Singh (18) and Jujhar Singh (14), and around 40 soldiers, regrouped in a fortress-like two-storey house, with high compound walls made of mud. They were surrounded by an army commanded by Wazir Khan and Sher Mohammed Khan, the younger brother of Malerkotla's chieftain.

The Guru sent out soldiers in small squads for hand-to-hand combat. Two such attacks were led by his sons, both of whom died fighting. Three of the *panj piaras* — Mohkam Singh, Himmat Singh and Sahib Singh — too died fighting.

Bir Devinder Singh, former Deputy Speaker of the Punjab Assembly and a keen student of history, said Guru Gobind Singh gave an account of the battle in Zafarnama, his letter to Aurangzeb.

How did the battle conclude?

When very few soldiers were left, they decided the Guru should leave so that he could

carry on his mission. "It was at the Chamkaur *ki garhi* (fort) on December 22 that *panj piaras* issued an edict (*hukamnama*) ordering the Guru to leave. This was the first edict issued by *panj piaras* after the formation of the Khalsa on April 13, 1699. They told the Guru, 'You can get many like us, but we won't be able to get the like of you,'" says Bir Devinder.

Before leaving, the Guru gave his attire and distinguishing *kalgi* to Sangat Singh, a Mazhabi Sikh who resembled him. Three other soldiers too left the fort, and went in separate directions. The following day, the enemy forced their way inside to find only two soldiers who fought till their last breath.

Five days later, Guru Gobind Singh's two younger sons, aged nine and seven, were bricked alive for refusing to convert.

How is the battle remembered?

Col Jaibans Singh writes that the battle infused the peasantry with military zeal. Every year, a shaheedji mela, marked by prayers and *langar*, is held to commemorate the martyrdom of Guru Gobind Singh's young sons and his soldiers.

What's new in Arjun Mark-1A, and why its acquisition is significant

SUSHANT KULKARNI
PUNE, SEPTEMBER 24

THE MINISTRY of Defence said on Thursday that it has placed an order worth Rs 7,523 crore to Heavy Vehicles Factory (HVF), Chennai for supply of 118 units of the Main Battle Tank Arjun's Mark-1A variant for the Army.

What's new in Arjun Mark-1A?

The development of Arjun was started by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in the late 1980s, primarily to augment the predominantly Russian-made armoured fleet until then.

Trials of the earliest Arjun variant began in the early 1990s and the tank was inducted in 2004. Work on the variant Mark-1A, or Mk-1A, began in June 2010 and the tank was fielded for trials in June 2012. For the next three years, extensive trial evaluations were conducted by both the DRDO and the Army,

followed by more trials, including field trials, in subsequent years.

The Mark-1A variant adds 72 new features — 14 major and 58 minor — to the previous variant Mark-1. These additions have resulted in better all-terrain mobility and manoeuvrability in different modes of operation, better target acquisition, and precision firing during both day and night with a 360° view, and a multi-layered robust protective armour named 'Kanchan'. The additions, along with its robust 120 mm rifled gun, have contributed to its categorisation as the 'hunter killer'. The DRDO is currently conducting trials of firing guided missiles from Arjun.

The Defence Ministry has said Mk-1A has more indigenous content than Mk-1, thus reducing dependence on foreign vendors. The new variant is also said to have added some comfort features for the four-member crew, who operate in tough conditions when deployed, and has a better transmission system. Some of the features also prepare the tank



The Defence Ministry has placed an order worth Rs 7,523 crore for 118 Arjun Mark-1A tanks. PIB

better for network-centric warfare — or effective use of information technology and computer networking in the battlefield.

What is the significance of the acquisition?

The acquisition of 118 tanks would equip three armoured regiments, as one regiment comprises 40 to 50 tanks. This acquisition holds significance in light of the Pakistan Army's latest acquisition of two tanks, PK-4

and Al-Khalid. Both tanks, which are of Chinese origin, are comparable to the Russian origin T-90 tanks that are in use by the Indian Army.

Arjun Mark-1A is ideally suited for desert terrain, and even more effective and lethal compared to earlier variant due to the new additions. In exercises where Arjun squadrons were pitched against those of the T-90, Arjun is said to have matched the Russian opponent in some aspects and out-

performed in some others.

However, the weight of the tank puts a limitation on its deployability in high-altitude terrains. While the 72 new additions have significantly increased efficacy, they have also added somewhere between 5 and 6 tonnes to a system that was already on the heavier side.

The Defence Ministry said in a press statement: "By virtue of these capabilities, this indigenous MBT proves to be at par with any contemporary in its class across the globe. This tank is particularly configured and designed for Indian conditions and hence it is suitable for deployment to protect the frontiers in an effective manner."

How big a stride is this for indigenous capability?

The new variant is said to have increased the proportion of the indigenous components. The Ministry has said the order will provide a further boost to the 'Make in India' initiative in the defence sector and is a big step towards 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'. "This

production order to the Heavy Vehicles Factory opens up a large avenue in defence manufacturing for over 200 Indian vendors including MSMEs, with employment opportunities to around 8,000 people. This will be a flagship project showcasing the indigenous capability in cutting-edge defence technologies."

Senior DRDO officials have said that from their perspective, Arjun Mark-1A was ready for induction into the Army by 2018-19. The development of the tank was led by the Chennai-based DRDO facility Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE) along with the other DRDO laboratories.

In February, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had handed over the prototype Arjun Mk-1A to Chief of Army Staff General M M Naravane at a ceremony in Chennai. Officials from the Ordnance factories have said it will take at least two-and-a-half to three years till the first batch of the tank is delivered to the Army.



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

PLUG THE LEAK

Bihar government must correct systemic flaws in its flagship water supply scheme, remove cronyism

FOR THE BETTER part of his long stint as Bihar Chief Minister, the sobriquet Sushasan Babu seemed well-earned for Nitish Kumar. Women's welfare schemes, better roads, improvement in law and order and increased access to electricity are testaments to his governance successes. In the past five years, however, shelter home abuse cases, encephalitis deaths and mishandling of the problems of the flood-affected have taken away much of the sheen of Kumar's record. The state's recent success in providing tap water to the poor — the "Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal" project, which has covered 95 per cent of its target — could have gone a long way in repositioning good governance as the Bihar administration's centrepiece. However, a four-month long investigation by this newspaper has revealed glaring irregularities in the implementation of the scheme — the Nitish Kumar government's largest welfare initiative in terms of scale and reach. The beneficiaries of political patronage involved in the scheme are long. Amongst those who have manipulated due procedures to corner contracts for infrastructural facilities under the project are members of Deputy Chief Minister Tarkishore Prasad's family, a nephew of an ex-minister and a long list of VIP contractors. What makes this unseemly spectacle even more sordid is that Prasad has chosen to brazen out the charges of cronyism. "We are in business, should we not do it," he told this paper.

Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal started out as a poll promise by Janata Dal (U) in 2015. Launched a year later, the scheme has provided more than 150 lakh tap water connections, changing lives for the better in villages that were dependent on the declining water table. But a tap water connection hasn't always ensured supplies. Last mile delivery failures — such as the lack of an electricity connection to pump water from borewells to tanks — have deprived the project from reaching all its intended beneficiaries. This, of course, is a familiar failing of several social sector projects in the country, especially water supply schemes. But in Bihar, the possibilities of corruption were built into the bidding process of the state's flagship water supply project. The system did not have a way to check dummy competitors and gave ample opportunities to privileged players to game the bidding process. Given that contracts have been given for five years, the possibility of issues related to infrastructure maintenance dogging the scheme in the future cannot be ruled out.

Bihar has a history of people's health being affected because of using groundwater contaminated with arsenic and fluoride. The state can ill-afford the Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal project to go wrong. The Bihar government has promised an investigation in the wake of this newspaper's investigation. It must hold the culprits to account; more importantly, the Nitish Kumar government must also address the systemic failures that fostered corruption in the first place.

THE DANGEROUS SLIDE

The violence during an eviction drive in Assam is born out of a divisive politics. Government must step back and reach out

AN EVICTION DRIVE that ends in the death of two people — one a 12-year-old — injuries to policemen, and macabre footage of a photographer embedded with the state police stamping on a dying man is not just a breakdown of order; it warns of a dangerous slide into sectarianism. How the Assam government's action in Darrang district against alleged encroachers, largely drawn from the Bengali Muslim community, escalated into a situation in which the police opened fire, allegedly in "self-defence", is now the subject of an inquiry by a retired judge of the Gauhati High Court. But this much is undeniable: Nowhere was the moderating hand of the state government, whose responsibility is to engage with people and assuage their disgruntlement, visible in Darrang. Despite the dissatisfaction of the several hundred families served eviction notices with rehabilitation options, the district administration did not stop to accommodate their concerns. Chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma cast it as a way to free up land for the "indigenous" by ousting "illegal settlers".

While the government is within its rights to remove encroachers, the fact remains that the BJP's consistent anti-immigrant and anti-minority narrative has resulted in a gulf of suspicion between the state and the Bengali Muslim community. This echoes a history of insider-outsider antagonism in the state. Land is at the centre of this mistrust. Beginning in the late 19th century, British colonial interests had settled peasants from adjoining East Bengal in the fertile fields of Assam, creating an anxiety about the Bengali immigrant that persists to this day. In recent times, the BJP's bruising CAA-NRC politics has deepened those fault lines and overlaid it with a distinct Hindutva agenda. Sarma fought and won the BJP's second stint in power in Assam by framing it as a contest between "65 per cent (Hindus) and 35 per cent (Muslims)" and stoking the antagonism towards the "Miyai Muslim". A rhetoric that dehumanises people as "illegals" or "termites" or "Bangladeshi immigrants" also sets them up as targets for violence; legitimises social prejudice and hate.

Governance does not call for polarising rhetoric, but the will to take along the whole electorate, whatever their identity. Those responsible for Darrang's shameful descent into violence must be held to account. Instead of coming down with a heavy hand on a destitute population that has been turned homeless, the state must reach out to them in a language of humane accommodation. Assam's people have paid the cost of uncompromising identity politics with bloodshed before. It must walk away from that path of confrontation.

TAP TWICE FOR SRK

Shah Rukh Khan is now in the Indian Sign Language dictionary, but not how you would expect

BRING THE MIDDLE and index fingers of your right hand together and tap the left side of your chest twice. You've just said "Shah Rukh Khan" in the Indian Sign Language (ISL). The actor's name is among this year's inclusions in the ISL dictionary, a signal honour and — to many fans — a slightly puzzling one given that SRK already has one physical gesture that is so universally identified with him that it's even been the subject of parodies by comedians and other actors, not to mention Khan himself — even the Assam Police had jumped in last year with a poster that showed SRK performing this gesture in order to illustrate the pandemic's social distancing protocol.

We are, obviously, referring to the actor's signature arms-wide-open pose, with a slight bend in the right knee and a come-hither smile (he was masked in the Assam Police poster, but the smile may be taken as read). As would be evident to anyone who's watched his films, not one of them is complete without the actor striking this pose, usually in a song. And if it has been synonymous with Khan for over two decades, surely it's good enough for inclusion in the ISL dictionary?

To that, one could argue that there is no debate about the appeal of the signature SRK pose: Those wide open arms coupled with the dimpled smile are an invitation to romance and excitement like no other. But the gesture itself, in all its grandiosity, is one that belongs to the language of the silver screen, capturing in one sweeping move the movie star we love, who brings his irresistible charm to even the deadest of cinematic duds. For an everyday language such as the ISL, what is needed is a smaller, more intimate gesture of what SRK means, especially to his fans. Two taps on the heart? What could be more appropriate than that to say, "Shah Rukh Khan, Bollywood's King of Romance"?

Welcome to China 3.0

Chinese government's decision not to intervene to save Evergrande signals that no corporate is 'too big to fail'



JAHANGIR AZIZ

IN EVALUATING THE 2017 19th Communist Party (CCP) conference, we had stated that it would turn out to be China's watershed moment (IE, November 3, 2017). While media and market attention was focused on the elimination of the 10-year term limit for Party leadership and the presidency, we viewed the restating of the "principal contradiction" facing China by the CCP as being more important.

The notion of principal contradiction is central to how the Party sees the economy, politics, and society. Given the dominance of the Party, this, in turn, sets out the overarching framework for policies at all levels of government. After the economic destruction resulting from the Cultural Revolution, the 1981 Congress under Deng Xiaoping restated the "principal contradiction" as the tension "between the ever-growing material needs of the people and backward social productivity" instead of the "class struggle between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie" as identified by Mao Zedong. To resolve this contradiction, policies were changed and the economy reformed to deliver and sustain a stunning 10 per cent average growth over the next three decades. But the growth also brought with it extensive collateral damage, ranging from high leverage to severe environmental degradation. While in 2010 the central government initiated a process to rebalance the economy, progress on the ground was slow; often circumvented by local administrations still operating under the Party objective of focusing on growth and employment.

To align the objectives of the Party and that of all levels of government, the 2017 Congress restated the principal contradiction as the tension between "unbalanced and inadequate development" and the "peoples' ever-growing need for a better life". This radically altered how the Party saw China: No longer a low-income economy needing to generate millions of new jobs every year to maintain social stability, but a rising middle-income nation aspiring for a better quality of life. The new CCP framework, we assessed, would have as dramatic an impact as the

1981 restatement did — growth would be slowed, regulations tightened, and leverage reined in.

This scenario has broadly played out since 2018, despite two large shocks — heightened tensions with the US and the pandemic. We view the relatively tight fiscal and monetary policies; the persistent tightening in the housing market; the re-designation of private tutorials as non-profit; the economy-wide push to de-carbonise; and letting corporates with weak balance sheets to default, as elements of the regime change foretold at the 19th Party Congress. In its latest version, the policy changes are couched in terms of the "Common Prosperity" objectives.

So where does the credit stress in Evergrande fit into all this? It is another manifestation of the regime change underway, albeit with one big difference. The market would have taken the stress in its stride (as it has the increasing frequency of defaults over the last three years) if this was a run-of-the-mill property company or a mid-sized bank. But Evergrande is the biggest property developer in China and among the largest in the world. Given the size, it is not unreasonable to fear that the direct impact or the financial contagion can be large. However, such fears are overstated. First, while still a substantial part of the economy, the real estate sector's contribution to the post-pandemic recovery has been modest. In addition, there was no expectation of a significant turnaround in this sector to buoy the recovery in 2022. Consequently, the impact on growth is likely to be limited. Second, the financial liabilities of the company, while large in absolute terms, make up about 0.65 per cent of China's corporate and government debt combined (the stock of total social financing) and bank loans per se just 0.25 per cent of total bank credit. Linkages to offshore banks and financial institutions are even smaller.

That said, all is not well with the property sector. Balance sheets of many property developers have also weakened in the past few years because of the policy-induced slowdown in sales and prices. Stress tests suggest

that the banking sector can be challenged if default rates reach historical highs. However, China's banks, on average, are well provisioned and capitalised. And importantly, authorities are unlikely to allow a large-scale credit event to unfold. Despite China's very high debt stock (close to 300 per cent of GDP), the government and central bank still retain sufficient policy space to ensure that such system-wide stress is avoided.

So why did the authorities not intervene to prevent the collapse of Evergrande? Because not doing so is the strongest signal yet that no corporate is "too big to fail" and that there are no state guarantees for them. For years, investors and analysts (including multilateral institutions) have exhorted China to allow defaults as a way of eliminating the market's presumption of implicit state guarantees, which has obfuscated any meaningful distinction between good and bad credit leading to a distorted allocation of capital and substantial loss of efficiency. While there could be short-term pains and even some spillover into the wider financial system, over the medium term this "inaction" is likely to improve the pricing of credit and efficiency of capital.

While we expect the Chinese economy to recover in the coming quarters from likely near-zero sequential growth in 3Q (on a year-on-year basis, growth should remain above 6 per cent), over the medium term, growth is headed to the 4-5 per cent range, with significant rebalancing of the growth drivers, including sectoral shifts, redistribution of income towards households and away from corporates, and a rotation towards more services consumption. To implement these changes, China's policy and regulatory regime will be altered radically. That process is already underway. And in the cross-hairs are also countries with strong trade and financial ties with China. If China changes, so will these linkages. The world needs to ready itself for China 3.0.

The writer is Chief Emerging Markets Economist, J.P. Morgan. These are his personal views



ARPAN TULSYAN

EARLIER THIS MONTH, while speaking at the Shiksha Parv conclave, the prime minister emphasised the need for inclusive and equitable education. In the same week, the Kerala High Court brought attention to medical textbooks that described non-binary gender identities as "offensive perversions" and "mental disorders". This had continued despite Kerala becoming the first state to adopt a transgender policy six years ago. A similar concern over "queerphobia" in medical education was raised by the Madras HC earlier this year.

The transgender community is arguably the most marginalised in India — including educationally. As per the 2011 Census, there are 4.8 million transgender persons in India, with a literacy rate of just 46 per cent, compared to 74 per cent of the general population. In 2020, there were only 19 transgender candidates among the 18 lakh students appearing for the class 10 board exams. A study by the National Human Rights Commission in 2017 found that over two-thirds of transgender children drop out of school before completing class 10 in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh.

The educational experience of transgender children who do make it to school and several others who do not conform to the gender binary are marked by bullying, labelling, rejection and humiliation. In my study of primary schools, I found that gender conformity was imperative for both teachers and peers. Students could be pulled up if they showed the slightest traits of alternative sexuality. For instance, a girl in class 5 was mocked by teachers and students for using a handkerchief that

FOR A RAINBOW CLASSROOM

For LGBTQ+-inclusive schools, system must go beyond removing barriers to access

looked like a boy's. Teachers often interpreted gender-atypical behaviour as deviant and actively resorted to negative reinforcement tactics like identifying it with displeasure or even resorting to punishment to "correct" it. A reputed Kolkata school forcing 10 of its female students to write a confession letter stating "I am a lesbian" in 2018 is a case in point.

A UNESCO survey in 2018 in India revealed that 60 per cent of those who identified as transgender reported experiencing physical harassment in high school; 43 per cent even stated being sexually harassed in elementary school. Only 18 per cent reported incidents of abuse and harassment to school authorities. The consequences of such bullying and intimidation were often severe in terms of mental health as well as academic outcomes. These included reduced interactions with peers (73 per cent), depression and anxiety (70 per cent), decreased academic concentration (63 per cent) and school absenteeism (53 per cent).

The National Education Policy 2020 recognises transgender children as educationally disadvantaged and recommends widening their educational access through a Gender Inclusion Fund. However, the NEP and Shiksha Parv concept note on nurturing inclusive classrooms do not go beyond conditional cash transfers, distribution of bicycles, provision for sanitation and toilets and countering barriers of access. Access is only the first step. Focus must also be accorded to enhancing awareness and acceptability of the LGBTQ+ community through education. Schools must become a site for contestation of homophobic ideas, a

space where battles of acceptance and inclusion are won. India can learn from Scotland, which became the first country to have an LGBTQ+ inclusive school curriculum in 2021.

Beyond infrastructure and process revamp, reforms are needed in curriculum and teacher education. Stories like *Heather had Two Mommies* or notable people who identified themselves as LGBTQ+ can be included in the curriculum. Focus must also be on inclusive language like using "partner" instead of "husband/wife" or "them" instead of "him/her". Teachers can be allies who model inclusive behaviour and confirm that schools are safe, supporting places for LGBTQ+ students.

Safe space signage in schools, like anti-ragging messages, can be helpful too. Comprehensive sex education must support young lives in exploring sexualities rather than viewing homosexuality as a disease or disorder, with age appropriate-learning to reduce high-risk behaviours. Through the parent-teacher associations and school management committees, attempts can be made to find queer students support in families and communities. Besides inclusiveness and equity in access, integration of themes like identity, diversity and social justice is the most urgent need of the modern Indian classroom. As they go back to school after more than a year's break in a context of widespread anxiety and uncertainty, we owe all Indian children an improved, safer and affirming environment in our schools.

The writer is an independent researcher

SEPTEMBER 25, 1981, FORTY YEARS AGO

KAMPUCHEA QUESTION

PRIME MINISTER INDIRA Gandhi strongly defended the decision to recognise the Heng Samrin government in Kampuchea. Addressing a press conference in Jakarta, she recalled that her party had decided to recognise the Heng Samrin government even before the general elections of January 1980. Sharply reacting to a correspondent's question on what India had gained from it, she said, "We do not take these decisions on the basis of deriving any benefit". "The general applied by India was that any government that was operating de facto should be recognised". Asked whether Kampuchean ques-

tion figured in here discussions with President Suharto, and if there were differences with him, Mrs Gandhi said with a smile, "We both agreed that the situation should be resolved. There are bound to be differences between nations and leaders".

ANTULAY PETITION

JUSTICE SC Pratap of the Bombay High Court admitted the writ petition against A R Antulay and the state of Maharashtra by PB Sawant, Mrinal Gore and Kamal Desai challenging the allocation and distribution of cement. Justice Pratap said that the petition succeeded in making a prima facie case. The

court also directed that a show cause notice be issued to Umesh Balachandra Tipnis, secretary food and civil supplies, Maharashtra government, who had filed an affidavit against the admission of the petition. It asked why a case against contempt of court shouldn't be made against him.

US-USSR TALKS

US SECRETARY OF State, Alexander Haig and the foreign minister of the Soviet Union, Andrei Gromyko, agreed that the two countries should begin negotiations on November 30 in Geneva to reduce medium range nuclear forces in Europe.



THE IDEAS PAGE

The strategic public sector

Privatisation compromises India's sovereignty and economic freedom, threatening its energy security and strategic posture



AJAY SHANKAR AND
SUSHIL KHANNA

ASPECTRE HAUNTS the Western world. The spectre of Chinese State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and their control over the "commanding heights" of the global economy.

The strategic establishments were started when the *Fortune* Global 500 list 2020 revealed that Chinese large firms had overtaken US-based firms. China today has 124 firms in the *Fortune* list, of which 95 are SOEs, compared to 118 from the US. Many so-called private Chinese firms like ZTE and Lenovo are known to be controlled by SOEs.

The next group of 26 SOEs are from the OECD countries, while emerging market countries like Brazil, India, Mexico add another 17 to make a total of 135 SOEs in the list. This may be compared to a mere 45 SOEs in the 2005 list (figure 1). Today, 28 per cent of the world's largest and most powerful economic entities are state-owned, dominated largely by the Chinese SOEs.

The rise of Chinese SOEs in the global economy can be traced to the strategic vision and plan articulated in 1998 at the 15th Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC). The Congress approved a radical restructuring of the state sector with the policy of "grasp the large and let go of the small". China had more than one lakh SOEs, covering all services, retail, construction, industrial and agricultural sectors. It quickly let go of the small and shut down or privatised 90,000 enterprises, with little impact on the share of SOEs in total output. The reforms launched by the 15th Congress were to restructure larger SOEs, "corporatise" them and list several on the stock market, making them profitable and competitive in global markets. Simultaneously, China set up 37 new SOEs in new emerging industries and technologies.

The last two decades have witnessed Chinese SOEs acquiring several American and European technology companies, from IT to oil fields, coal to strategic minerals, telecom to mobile phones and solar wafer to computer chips. By 2010, Chinese SOEs controlled overseas assets worth a whopping \$586 billion. According to the US Centre for Strategic Studies, in 2019, China's investment in the US was \$2.7 trillion, while Europe received another trillion dollars. Compare this to India's current GDP of \$2.8 trillion.

The rise of Chinese SOEs has far-reaching consequences for global competition and control over strategic technologies and resources. China's rise to seek its "legitimate" place in the sun, long dominated by the West with its multinationals and military power, has more to do with the power of its SOEs than its guns or warships. This has alarmed global observers but has strangely bypassed Indian policymakers embarking on a frenzied privatisation drive.

In 1998, under prime minister A B Vajpayee, India too embarked on public sector enterprises (PSEs) reforms with the Navratna Scheme. The large profit-making PSEs were granted autonomy in strategic and operational decisions, including investment, acquisitions, and borrowings. The Vajpayee government

FIG 1: SOEs IN THE FORTUNE GLOBAL 500 LIST

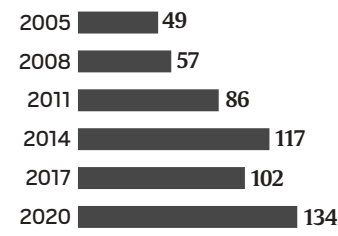


FIG 2: NET PROFIT/LOSS OF INDIAN CENTRAL PSEs -1995-96 TO 2018-19 (in Rs. Crores)

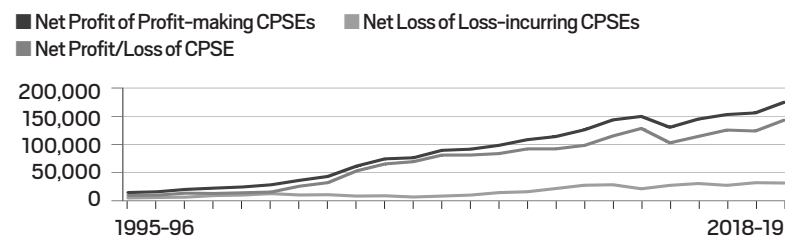
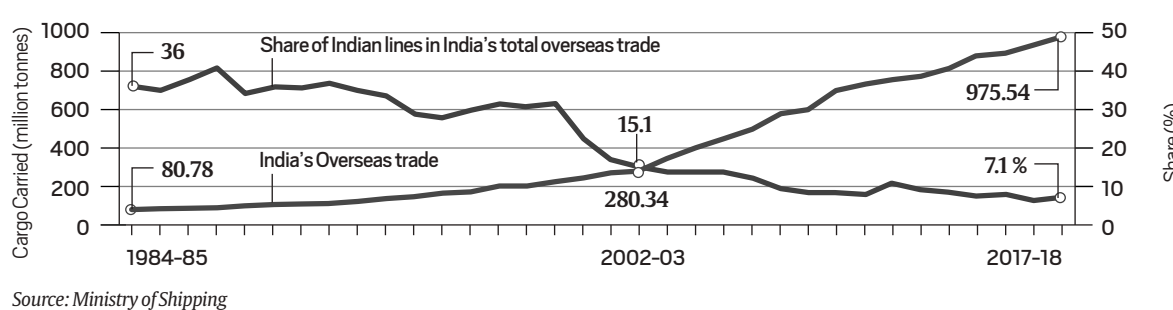


FIG 3: INDIA'S OVERSEAS TRADE AND THE SHARE OF INDIAN SHIPS IN INDIA'S OVERSEAS TRADE



Source: Ministry of Shipping

Graphics: Ritesh Kumar

also encouraged these PSEs to become "global" and acquire assets and strategic minerals abroad. However, the PSEs were denied any fiscal support, rather the government insisted on taking large dividends. This is in stark contrast to China where SOEs are liberally funded to grow and become global.

The Vajpayee government promoted the private sector in areas that were dominated by the public sector and privatised many PSEs. It undertook a series of sectoral price reforms where PSEs were dominant such as in power, petroleum, fertiliser and chemicals. Low prices of PSE products had made private entry unattractive. The PSEs were encouraged to charge full-market prices or even global prices to facilitate private entry.

The UPA in 2004 deepened the Navratna policy by including several more PSEs, and in an Indian version of "let go the small and weak", set up the Board for Reconstruction of PSEs (BRPSE) to turn around or shut down loss-making companies.

An unintended consequence of NDA's price reforms was that the inherent strength and efficiency of PSEs became apparent. They had long attracted the best engineering and management talent in the country. The profits of Central PSEs by 2018 stood at Rs 1,75,000 crore, up from Rs 43,000 crore in 2003-04 (figure 2).

The rising profitability meant that Indian PSEs were investing more and expanded rapidly to become darlings of the stock market. As the Indian economy accelerated under UPA-I, with its total domestic investment rising to almost 40 per cent of GDP by 2010 from 26 per cent in 2002-03, the PSEs played a major role in increasing capital formation and accelerating growth. ONGC even acquired a private Indian refinery. With government encouragement but negligible financial support, PSEs were acquiring assets and resources abroad, often clashing with Chinese SOEs vying for the same assets. Till 2007, the PSEs were the largest outward investors from India. As the private sector has cut back its investment over the last several years, PSEs have become important drivers of industrial investment.

Today, as the Indian government readies

The government's refusal to support PSEs at critical moments has left wide gaps in key industrial capabilities. With the collapse of HMT, India is forced to import 80 per cent of its machine tools, the bedrock of manufacturing. The undermining of the pharmaceutical PSEs like IDPL and HAL, once India's pride, make them dependent on active ingredients from China. The government's reluctance to support BHEL has flooded the Indian power sector with Chinese equipment. Moreover, India is largely absent in emerging technologies like solar wafers, computer chips or EV batteries. India needs to imitate China in establishing new PSEs in strategic and emerging industries which require patient capital and greater risk.

to privatise India's most vital and significant PSEs—Bharat Petroleum (a Fortune 500 company) BEML, and the Shipping Corporation—and dismember ONGC, the Chinese may be happy to acquire these firms and their assets, through a chain of firms they would control. Yet, these firms are important strategic assets to confront a rising China, more valuable than Rafale jets or leased Russian submarines. Bharat Petroleum has assets in 17 countries and holds part of India's strategic oil reserves. Declining support to SCI and Indian shipping has meant that the share of India's maritime trade carried by Indian ships is today a minuscule 6 per cent, down from 40 per cent in 1989 (figure 3). No prizes for guessing whose ships transport India's trade.

The government's refusal to support PSEs at critical moments has left wide gaps in key industrial capabilities. With the collapse of HMT, India is forced to import 80 per cent of its machine tools, the bedrock of manufacturing. The undermining of the pharmaceutical PSEs like IDPL and HAL, once India's pride, make them dependent on active ingredients from China. The government's reluctance to support BHEL has flooded the Indian power sector with Chinese equipment. Moreover, India is largely absent in emerging technologies like solar wafers, computer chips or EV batteries. India needs to imitate China in establishing new PSEs in strategic and emerging industries, which require patient capital and greater risk. In the development of a civilian aircraft, India has lost a decade due to the ideological reservation about spending public money for developing anything outside defence.

At this critical juncture, the sale of giants like BHEL, BEML or SCI would undermine India's "Atmanirbhar" goal. Privatisation compromises India's sovereignty and economic freedom, threatening its energy security and strategic posture. If India is not to hide behind the tailcoats of Western powers as it confronts a rising China, it must strengthen its public sector enterprises.

Shankar is former Union secretary, DIIP and Khanna taught at Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"We must warn solemnly Japan, India and Australia not to follow the US too far in confronting China. Once they step on the red line of China's core interests, China will not care about their relations with the US, and China will not hesitate to punish them."

—GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

Why Mohan Bhagwat is right about the Raj

British did indeed create Hindu-Muslim division for their own ends. RSS chief should prevent ruling forces from exacerbating this colonial policy



FAIZAN MUSTAFA

THE RSS CHIEF has once again made a positive statement about Indian Muslims while addressing some Muslim intellectuals in Mumbai. This author has consistently maintained that only Mohan Bhagwat can tame hardcore Hindutva foot soldiers and initiate Hindutva's perestroika. Liberal scholars are not yet impressed because of the inconsistency in Bhagwat's statements and because some BJP leaders continue to make highly provocative statements. The recent reference to "abba jaan" by the UP CM regarding food distribution was not only factually wrong but was also a clear case of hate speech.

Bhagwat himself is receiving brickbats from Hindutva groups and activists. Bhagwat was also criticised for his statement about Hindus and Muslims having the same DNA.

In his latest address, Bhagwat rightly blamed the British for sowing the seeds of communalism in India. He said that the British told Muslims that in a Hindu majority state, they would be at a receiving end with no power, position or influence. They similarly convinced Hindus about the dangers of staying with Muslims, who they claimed are by nature extremists. After 1857, the British adopted the systematic policy of divide and rule. Lord Elphinstone famously said that "divide et impera was the old Roman motto, and it should be ours."

The British realised that despite the exploitation of peasants by the Mughals, people still saw them as their own. So, they encouraged enmity first between Muslims and Sikhs and underplayed the cordial relationship between Akbar and Guru Amar Das. Second, the British distorted history to demonstrate how Muslim rulers always discriminated against Hindus. To weaken the freedom movement, after 1870 and particularly after the formation of the Indian National Congress in 1885, the British changed their attitude of distrust towards Muslims and tried to emerge as their saviours.

Modern Hindu-Muslim identities were a British creation and the 1871 census greatly contributed to this. The British partitioned Bengal in 1905 to divide Bengali nationalism and brought the communal MacDonald Award with separate electorates, which eventually led to Partition. British officers pulled strings from behind the scenes to facilitate the Aga Khan-led Simla deputation of 35 prominent Muslims and the formation of the Muslim League in 1906. Lady Mary Minto's diary referred to the statement of a top official who attended this meeting: "A very big thing has happened today. A work of statesmanship that will affect India and Indian history for many a long year. It is nothing less than the pulling back of sixty-two millions of people from

joining the ranks of seditious opposition."

Unlike the British and Taliban, India's Muslim rulers had demonstrated tolerance and contributed to creating the country's composite, syncretic culture. Shariah was not strictly enforced by Muslim rulers. The king's sovereignty, rather than God's, was the central concept of their statecraft.

After the conquest of Sindh in 712, Arab rulers treated Hindus at par with "people of the book" — Jews and Christians. Hindu places of worship were protected, grants made to Brahmins by the earlier Hindu kings were continued and the Hindu priests were given a share in the taxation. Similarly, there is no authentic evidence of large-scale forced conversions through the proselytising activities by the state. No authoritative source tells us even about the mass voluntary conversions by the Sufi saints, as is commonly believed by Muslims.

Though Islam prohibits idol worship, the Delhi Sultanate did not hesitate in constructing Hindu temples. In 1353, Feroz Tughlaq built a sun temple at Gaya. Its Sanskrit inscription mentions the sultan's name twice. During the Tughlaqs' reign (1320-1413), several Hindus were appointed as provincial governors. During the Delhi Sultanate, the extremely important revenue department was largely in the hands of Hindu Khatri officers.

Akbar's attitude towards non-Muslims may be gathered from the following decree issued by him that "If a Hindu woman fell in love with a Muhammadan and changed her religion, she should be taken from him by force and be given back to her family. People should not be molested if they wish to build churches and prayer rooms or idol temples or fire temples."

My teacher Athar Ali's remarkable work on the composition of Mughal nobility has authoritatively proved that in 1595, out of 279 Mansabdars, 47 (16.8 per cent) were Hindus and as many as 75 were Shias. During Jahangir's reign, out of 172 high holders of mansabs in 1621, 17.4 per cent were Hindus. During Aurangzeb's rule, the figure reached 31.06 per cent. Even Marathas comprised some one-sixth of Aurangzeb's nobles of 1,000 zat (horsemen) and above.

In 1584, Akbar issued a farman ordering his officials not to allow the slaughter of animals during the 12 days of the Jain Paryushan festival in the vicinity of Jains. Jahangir, out of respect for Jain subjects, used to abstain from non-vegetarian food on these days.

The ruling elite of all religions oppressed peasants, indulged in plunder and at times, for purely political reasons, destroyed religious places. But there was no state policy to promote hatred and hostility between ordinary Hindus and Muslims. Bhagwat is right. The British created this hostility. If the RSS is interested in true nation-building, it has to lead the battle against communalism and prevent today's ruling dispensation from continuing the British policy of divide and rule.

The writer is vice-chancellor, NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad. Views are personal



BINOY VISWAM

The new united front

Call for Bharat Bandh expresses farmer-worker unity against Centre's policies

ABOUT 100 YEARS ago, the Champaran farmers' agitation ignited the fighting spirit of the Indian freedom movement. Though it took place in a remote village in Bihar, its vibrancy reached every nook and corner of the country. Mahatma Gandhi's visit to Champaran and his words to the peasants there travelled swiftly and penetrated the heart of every freedom-loving Indian. Thus, Champaran became a milestone in the saga of the freedom struggle.

The indigo cultivators, ignorant and ignored, were suddenly elevated as the makers of a new history. Their struggle was a natural outburst of anger against the foreign rulers who imposed unjust conditions on them. It marked an awakening among Indian peasants, who constitute a major chunk of society. Now, 100 years later independent India is witnessing a new awakening of farmers as the 75th anniversary of our freedom draws closer. To give an impetus to the ongoing farmers' agitation, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha is preparing for a Bharat Bandh on September 27. The call was supported by the joint platform of trade unions. Various political parties have also supported the call.

About a year ago, when the farmers announced a march to the national capital, no one expected the movement to become so massive. At the borders of the national capital, the farmers were hindered by the gov-

ernment. The "annadatas" of the country were denied entry into its capital. They were forced to sit at the places where they were stopped. That is how Singhu, Tikri, Ghazipur and Shahjahanpur became the symbols of peasant resistance. The RSS-BJP government converted these places into battlefields. Thousands of security personnel were deployed. Concrete barricades, thorny iron fences, water cannons, and all other arms and ammunition were set ready for action. Along with these, the government and its propaganda army unleashed a vicious campaign depicting the farmers and their supporters as "Khalistanis" and "urban Naxals". Braving all these oppressive measures, the farmers continued their peaceful agitation. The severity of the changing weather did not affect their determination. The historic farmers' struggle is undoubtedly the longest and largest in India since Independence.

The class content of the farmers' struggle also makes it different. It is a resistance raised by those farmers who contributed significantly to the economic growth of the country. The peasants and workers in the agrarian sector constitute the biggest segment of the working masses of the country. Hypocritically, the government often calls them "annadatas". But when talking about the wealth creators, they are always neglected. Middle and marginal farmers

and agricultural labourers are not even allowed to raise their concerns. India's rural economy is built upon their sweat and labour. But they never get remunerative prices for their produce and labour. Even the Swaminathan Commission Report was adopted partially and halfheartedly by the government. For the meaningful growth of the rural economy, the productive forces in agriculture should be liberated from the clutches of corporate looters. The politics and economics of agrarian relations were never taken seriously by the policymakers of free India. The peasantry, due to several reasons, were scattered and remained helpless before this discrimination. The ongoing farmers' strike marks a distinctive shift in these conditions. Farmers have begun to react and resist.

The three farm laws enacted by the government were not for the betterment of agriculture. None of the concerns of the farming community was addressed in those dark laws. The government of "Atmanirbhar Bharat" has betrayed self-reliance and national interest. The laws were aimed at the corporatisation of Indian farming. They throw the farmers, 86 per cent of whom hold less than two hectares of land, to the mercy of contract farming and FDI. The government's rhetoric on MSP is also a lie. The recent proclamation of support price for Rabi crops proved this. When

compared to the inflationary trends in the economy, the new support prices are un-supportive — they are 4 per cent less than before in real terms.

Peasants understood the hidden danger in the laws and came forward to oppose the government's onslaught. The slogan to repeal the dark laws acted as a clarion call for rural India. The lessons from this struggle have to be analysed by Left and democratic forces to understand the emerging dynamics in rural India.

The farmers' agitation, together with the workers' support, has great political significance. It challenges the anti-people, anti-national policies of the government. The Bharat Bandh call will have resonance with the political churn underway in India. The emerging worker-peasant unity would give a new direction to protest movements. Agitating farmers have concluded that the Modi government is not for the peasants and workers. During elections, they raised a one-point agenda — "defeat BJP". If this slogan starts reverberating among all the working masses, such a change is possible. The question, however, is whether the forces that oppose the government on policy matters will rise to the occasion.

The writer is secretary of the Communist Party of India, National Council and leader of the CPI in Parliament

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WELCOME PROBE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Court is watching' (IE, September 24). It is heartening to see the Supreme Court's active intervention in the Pegasus Project, notwithstanding the Centre's flimsy excuses. Since the Court has declared privacy as a fundamental right, the matter assumes more importance. Fears that an authoritarian government has used such spyware to target dissidents and "trouble makers" has been mounting. The state's efforts to block investigations only add fuel to the fire. It is hoped that the Court appointed panel reveals the truth and renders justice at the earliest.

Ila Raikar, Mumbai

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Court is watching' (IE, September 24). The move by the Supreme Court to appoint an experts committee to probe the Pegasus matter is welcome considering that basic liberties of people are at stake and also because the government has not provided convincing reasons for not probing the matter itself. Several countries similarly affected have initiated inquiries, and the government's hesitation in doing so is surprising. The choice of experts will be critical to a fair probe and should avoid any controversy.

Hemant Contractor, Pune

PROCEDURE EXCUSE

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'Govt to SC: No caste census, conscious policy deci-

sion' (IE, September 24). As such, the government and courts have justified the need for accurate and quantifiable data for making evidence-based caste-based welfare policy initiatives. It is intriguing that Centre is dithering on caste census when all political parties have supported the Constitution 127th Amendment Bill to restore power of the states and Union Territories to draw their own OBC list. The difficulties of "operational feasibility" cited before the Supreme Court may not be too arduous for a Government committed to implementation of the CAA-NRC, which is far more complex and complicated logistic process. Or does the BJP want the judiciary to take a call on contentious issue of caste census, and save itself from the backlash of the upper castes, its core constituency of Hindutva?

L.R. Murmu, Delhi

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Af-Pak Ambush' (IE, September 23). Though the cancellation of the SAARC foreign ministers' meeting is not a happy event, it was bound to occur. Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan is indeed an ominous development in the region, posing a threat to world peace and Pakistan's stark support to it further exacerbates the threat perception. The cancellation of the meeting signifies the collective will of the member nations to snub Taliban in a most effective and civilised way.

Ravi Mathur, Noida

TOP OF THE WORLD



Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

UNITED NATIONS

Tedros poised for reelection at WHO as support grows

TEDROS ADHANOM Ghebreyesus has gained wide support for a second term as head of the World Health Organisation, formally nominated by at least 17 European Union members and backed by countries in other regions, diplomats said on Thursday. As the deadline for nominations elapsed, diplomats said they were unaware of any other names being put forward to lead the UN agency, suggesting that Tedros will stand unopposed in the May election. Tedros, a former health and foreign minister of Ethiopia, elected as WHO's first African director-general in May 2017, has led the global fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. He has steered WHO through attacks on its handling of the crisis. **REUTERS**

AUSTRIA

CIA Vienna station chief removed amid 'Havana syndrome' criticism: report

THE CIA has removed its Vienna station chief following criticism of his management, including what some considered an inadequate response to reports of "Havana syndrome" incidents at the US embassy there, the *Washington Post* reported on Thursday. The *Post*, which cited unnamed current and former US officials, reported the action would send a message that leaders must take seriously the Havana syndrome, a mysterious set of ailments that include migraines, nausea, memory lapses and dizziness. A CIA spokesperson said the agency does not comment on specific officers. **REUTERS**

USA

Gunman kills 1, wounds 12 in Tennessee store

A GUNMAN opened fire inside a grocery store in Collierville, Tennessee, on Thursday, killing one person and injuring at least 12 others as panicked employees and customers ran for safety, hiding in freezers and locked offices, the authorities said. Police found the gunman in the back of the store, and was believed to have been killed by a self-inflicted gunshot wound, Dale Lane, the Collierville police chief, said at a news conference. One worker who was on the roof was brought to safety. **NYT**

Afghan Taliban defence minister orders crackdown on misconduct by fighters

REUTERS
PESHAWAR, SEPTEMBER 24

THE TALIBAN'S new defence minister has issued a rebuke over misconduct by some commanders and fighters following the movement's victory over the Western-backed government in Afghanistan last month, saying abuses would not be tolerated.

Mullah Mohammad Yaqoob said in an audio message that some "miscreants and notorious former soldiers" had been allowed to join Taliban units where they had committed a range of sometimes violent abuses.

"We direct you keep them out of your ranks, otherwise strict action will be taken against you," he stated. "We don't want such people in our ranks."



Some Kabul residents have complained of abusive treatment at the hands of Taliban fighters. *Reuters*

The message from one of the Taliban's most senior ministers underlines the problems Afghanistan's new rulers have sometimes had in controlling fighting forces as they transition from an insurgency to a peacetime administration.

Some Kabul residents have

complained of abusive treatment at the hands of Taliban fighters who have appeared on the streets of the capital, often from other regions and unused to big cities.

There have also been reports of reprisals against members of the former government and military or civil society activists, despite promises of an amnesty by the Taliban.

Yaqoob said there had been isolated reports of unauthorised executions, and he repeated that such actions would not be tolerated. "As you all are aware, under the general amnesty announced in Afghanistan, no mujahid has the right to take revenge on anyone," he said.

It was not clear precisely which incidents he was referring to, nor what prompted the message, which was published on

Taliban Twitter accounts and widely shared on social media.

There have been reports of tensions within the movement between hardline battlefield commanders and political leaders more willing to seek compromise with governments outside Afghanistan.

Yaqoob also said patrols should be restricted to areas where they were assigned and criticised the fondness of some fighters for going into government offices where they had no business and taking selfies. "This is highly objectionable as everyone is taking out mobile phones and taking snaps in the important and sensitive ministries without any reason," he said. "Such hanging out and taking snaps and videos will not help you in this world, and also in the hereafter."



YOUTH RETURN TO STREETS IN CLIMATE FIGHT

Swedish environmental activist Greta Thunberg at a Global Climate Strike event in Berlin on Friday. Young people around the world began taking to the streets on Friday to demand urgent action to avert disastrous climate change, in their largest protest since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. The strike takes place five weeks before the UN COP26 summit, which aims to secure more ambitious climate action from world leaders to drastically cut the greenhouse gas emissions heating the planet. *Reuters*

'Death sentence': Low-lying nations implore faster climate action at UN

DAPHNE PSALEDAKIS & MICHELLE NICHOLS
UNITED NATIONS, SEPT 24

FACED WITH what they see as an existential threat, leaders from low-lying and island nations implored rich countries at the United Nations General Assembly this week to act more forcefully against a warming planet.

The failure by developed economies to effectively curb their greenhouse gas emissions contributes to rising sea levels and especially imperils island and low-lying nations at the mercy of water.

"We simply have no higher ground to cede," Marshall Islands President David Kabua told leaders in a pre-recorded speech at the high-level gathering on Wednesday. "The world simply cannot delay climate ambition any further."

Countries agreed under the



Palau's President Surangel Whipps at the UN General Assembly. *Reuters*

2015 Paris Agreement on climate change mitigation to attempt to limit the rise in global temperatures to 1.5 degrees Celsius, the threshold scientists say would head off the worst impacts of warming. To do that, scientists say, the world needs to cut global emissions in half by 2030, and to net-zero by 2050.

"The difference between 1.5 degrees and 2 degrees is a death sentence for the Maldives,"

President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih told world leaders on Tuesday.

Guyana President Irfaan Ali criticised large polluters for not delivering on promises to curb emissions, accusing them of "deception" and "failure" and warning that climate change will kill far more people than the Covid pandemic.

"We hold out similar hope that the world's worst emitters of greenhouse gases that are affecting the welfare of all mankind will also come to the realisation that, in the end, it will profit them little to emerge king over a world of dust," Ali told world leaders on Thursday.

He said small island states and countries with low-lying coastlines, like Guyana, will bear the full brunt of the impending disaster despite being among the lowest emitters of greenhouse gases.

"This is not only unfair, it is unjust," he said. **REUTERS**

N Korea offers talks, likely trying to get sanctions relief

Seoul: The influential sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said Friday her country is willing to resume talks with South Korea if conditions are met, indicating it wants Seoul to persuade Washington to relax crippling economic sanctions.

Kim Yo Jong's statement came days after North Korea performed its first missile tests in six months, which some experts said were intended to show it will keep boosting its weapons arsenal if the US-led sanctions continue while nuclear diplomacy remains stalled.

She offered the talks while mentioning South Korean President Moon Jae-in's call, issued in a speech at the UN General Assembly, for a political declaration to end the 1950-53 Korean War as a way to bring peace to the peninsula. **AP**

MEANWHILE

'VIEW' HOSTS TEST POSITIVE, HARRIS INTERVIEW DELAYED

A live TV interview with US Vice President Kamala Harris was delayed Friday after two hosts of the 'The View' learned they tested positive for Covid moments before they were to interview her. Hosts Sunny Hostin and Ana Navarro both learned they tested positive for breakthrough cases ahead of the interview. Both were at the table for the start of the show, but then were pulled from the set.

China cracks down on cryptocurrency, bans all transactions

Price of Bitcoin falls over 9%, to \$41,085, after announcement

AP & NYT
BEIJING, SEPTEMBER 24

CHINA'S CENTRAL bank on Friday declared all transactions involving Bitcoin and other virtual currencies illegal, stepping up a campaign to block use of unofficial digital money.

Friday's notice complained Bitcoin, Ethereum and other digital currencies disrupt the financial system and are used in money-laundering and other crimes.

"Virtual currency derivative transactions are all illegal financial activities and are strictly prohibited," the People's Bank of China said on its website.

The price of Bitcoin fell more than 9%, to \$41,085, in the hours after the announcement, as did most other crypto tokens. Ethereum skidded almost 10%, falling from \$3,100 to around \$2,800.

Chinese banks were banned from handling cryptocurrencies in 2013, but the government issued a reminder this year. That reflected official concern cryptocurrency mining and trading might still be going on or the



Regulators in other countries have increasingly warned that cryptocurrencies need greater oversight. *AP file*

state-run financial system might be indirectly exposed to risks.

Promoters of cryptocurrencies say they allow anonymity and flexibility, but Chinese regulators worry they might weaken the ruling Communist Party's control over the financial system and say they might help to conceal criminal activity.

The People's Bank of China is developing an electronic version of the country's yuan for cashless transactions that can be tracked and controlled by Beijing.

Regulators in other countries have increasingly warned that cryptocurrencies need greater

oversight. In the US, Gary Gensler, the chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, has said that investors need more protection in the cryptocurrency market, which he called "rife with fraud, scams and abuse" and compared to the "Wild West."

The SEC has won dozens of cases against crypto fraudsters, but Gensler says the agency needs US Congress to give it more authority and funding to adequately regulate the market.

In some smaller nations, like El Salvador, which adopted Bitcoin as legal tender, the open, global financial system fuelled by cryptocurrencies is being promoted as a tool to foster financial inclusion that will attract capital and create new industries and jobs.

Questions have been raised about cryptocurrency's adoption in El Salvador, but some tech and human rights advocates say the project has great promise.

"Bitcoin has a strange mechanism," said Alex Gladstein of the Human Rights Foundation. "It turns people's greed and self-interest into greater human freedom."

CDC endorses Covid booster for millions of older Americans, people with risky jobs

LAURAN NEERGAARD & MIKE STOBBE
SEPTEMBER 24

THE US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Thursday endorsed booster shots for millions of older or otherwise vulnerable Americans, opening a major new phase in the US vaccination drive against Covid-19.

CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky signed off on a series of recommendations from a panel of advisers late Thursday.

The advisers said boosters should be offered to people 65 and older, nursing home residents and those ages 50 to 64 who have risky underlying health problems. The extra dose would be given once they are at least six months past their last Pfizer shot.

However, Walensky decided to make one recommendation that the panel had rejected.

The panel on Thursday voted against saying that people can get a booster if they are ages 18 to 64 years and are health-care workers or have another job that puts them at increased risk of being exposed to the virus.

But Walensky disagreed and put that recommendation back in, noting that such a move aligns with an FDA booster authorisation decision earlier this week. The category she included covers people who live in institutional settings that increase their risk of exposure, such as prisons or homeless shelters, as well as health care workers. **AP**



At a vaccination site in Santa Ana, California. *AP*



CNN anchor Chris Cuomo

Chris Cuomo accused of sexual harassment by his former boss

REUTERS
NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 24

A FORMER ABC News executive accused CNN anchor Chris Cuomo of sexually harassing her, describing in an essay published on Friday in the *New York Times* how he grabbed her buttocks at a colleague's farewell party in 2005.

Shelley Ross had been Cuomo's boss when he worked at ABC, a role she had just left when Cuomo embraced her at the party in New York City, according to the essay.

"I can do this now that you're no longer my boss," Ross quotes Cuomo as telling her after he gripped her in a bear hug and moved one hand down to "firmly grab and squeeze the cheek of my buttock." Ross wrote that she pushed him away, and Cuomo then noticed her husband was behind her, watching.

Earlier this year, Cuomo was forced to apologise to CNN viewers for giving advice to the staff of his brother, Andrew Cuomo, who at the time was facing calls to resign as governor of New York after multiple women accused the powerful politician of sexual harassment. Chris Cuomo said it was inappropriate for him to advise on the scandal while working as a CNN journalist.

In a statement, Cuomo acknowledged the 2005 episode, saying it was not sexual in nature. "It happened 16 years ago in a public setting when she was a top executive at ABC," Cuomo's statement said. "I apologised to her then, and I meant it."

Ross's essay reproduced an apologetic email from Cuomo sent within hours of the party in 2005 in which he wrote "I am ashamed...though my hearty greeting was a function of being glad to see you..." In the email, he also apologised to her husband, writing that as a married man he could empathise with "not liking to see my wife patted as such..."

Ross wrote in her essay that she does not want Cuomo fired, but asked instead that he "journalistically repent" by devoting airtime to reporting on sexual harassment in workplaces.

A CNN spokesperson said the network had no comment beyond that issued by Cuomo.

DEAL TO RELEASE MENG COULD SIGNAL A MORE CONCILIATORY APPROACH IN WASHINGTON'S STANCE TOWARD BEIJING

US reaches agreement to release Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou

KATIE BENNER & DAN BILEFSKY
SEPTEMBER 24

THE US Justice Department has reached an agreement that will allow Huawei Technologies' chief financial officer, Meng Wanzhou, to return to China in exchange for admitting some wrongdoing in a sanctions violation case, a person familiar with the deal said on Friday.

Meng, who has been detained in Canada since 2018, has agreed to a deferred prosecution agreement that is expected to be entered in federal court in Brooklyn on Friday afternoon.

She will admit to some wrongdoing, and federal prosecutors will defer and then ultimately drop the charges against her, the person said. As part of the agreement, she will not enter a guilty plea.

The case has become a symbol of the tumultuous relationship between two global superpowers, the United States and China, which is at its lowest level in decades. And it has created a diplomatic challenge that has put Canada in the middle.

The deal to release Meng could signal a more conciliatory approach in Washington's stance toward Beijing under the Biden administration.



Meng, 49, is the chief financial officer of Huawei, and the daughter of the tech giant's founder Ren Zhengfei. *AP*

Meng appeared by video-conference for Friday's hearing. The Canadian authorities ar-

rested Meng, 49, the technology giant's chief financial officer, in December 2018 at Vancouver

International Airport, at the request of the United States. Meng, the daughter of Huawei's founder and chief executive, Ren Zhengfei, instantly became one of the world's most famous detainees.

The Justice Department indicted Meng and Huawei, the telecom company founded by her father, Ren Zhengfei, in January 2018. It accused the firm and its chief financial officer of a decade-long effort to steal trade secrets, obstruct a criminal investigation and evade economic sanctions on Iran.

The charges underscored efforts by the Trump administration to directly link Huawei

with the Chinese government, after long suspecting that the company worked to advance Beijing's economic and political ambitions and undermine American interests.

The release of Meng could play into the fate of two Canadians imprisoned in China.

China detained the former diplomat Michael Kovrig and the businessman Michael Spavor, soon after Meng's arrest, in what has been widely viewed in Canada as hostage diplomacy. China has denied they were connected. In August, a court in northeastern China, where Spavor has lived, sentenced him to 11 years in

prison after declaring him guilty of spying.

If the two men are released, it could provide a lift to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada, who was re-elected this week with a minority government after calling an unpopular snap election.

Throughout her extradition hearing in Canada, Meng's defence team professed her innocence. They argued that former US President Donald Trump politicised her case and that her rights had been breached when she was arrested in Vancouver. **NYT**



GOLD

₹45,141



RUPEE

₹73.68



OIL

\$74.73



SILVER

₹59,429

Crude oil (Indian basket) as of September 23

SENSEX: 60,048.47 ▲ 163.11 (0.27%) NIFTY: 17,853.20 ▲ 30.25 (0.17%) NIKKEI: 30,248.81 ▲ 609.41 HANG SENG: 24,192.16 ▼ 318.82 FTSE: 7,046.88 ▼ 31.47 DAX: 15,515.06 ▼ 128.91

International market data till 1900 IST

CORPORATE WATCH
COMPETITION'Beer cartelisation':
United Breweries,
Carlsberg, others
fined over ₹873 crENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

THE COMPETITION Commission of India (CCI) has imposed penalties totalling over Rs 873 crore on United Breweries Ltd (UBL), Carlsberg India Pvt Ltd (CIPL), All India Brewers Association (AIBA) and 11 individuals for cartelisation in the sale and supply of beer in 10 states and Union Territories, including Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Delhi and Maharashtra. The regulator concluded United Breweries, Carlsberg India and Anheuser Busch InBev India colluded to fix beer prices from 2009 to at least October 2018.

A government release said the CCI had passed orders against UBL, AB InBev and CIPL "for indulging in cartelisation in the sale and supply of beer ... including through the platform of AIBA." The Commission decided to give a 100 per cent penalty reduction to AB InBev as the company explained the nature of the cartel and submitted evidence of email communications between key managerial personnel at the companies being investigated. The final penalty of Rs 751.8 crore on UBL and Rs 120.6 crore CIPL also included reductions in penalties of 40 per cent and 20 per cent, respectively, for cooperation with the probe by the CCI.

The search and seizures conducted by the Director General of the CCI find regular communications between the three companies.

Key managerial personnel

The CCI concluded that United Breweries, Carlsberg India and Anheuser Busch InBev India colluded to fix beer prices from 2009 to at least Oct 2018

>Emails recovered during the investigation showed executives sharing proposed price changes and coordinating the timing for applying to state authorities for price changes. The CCI noted that such state policies "cannot be taken as an excuse for entering into price co-ordination by parties." In case of Maharashtra, the CCI found price revisions by UBL and AB InBev since 2011 showed an "uncanny closeness" in timing, with Carlsberg India also joining the two companies in making revisions around the same time since April 2014.

UBL, AB InBev and CIPL did not respond to emailed requests for comments as of press time on Friday.

RATE RATIONALISATION, EXEMPTIONS TO BE TAKEN UP

GST revenue buoyancy a worry,
GoM panels to reassess slabsAANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

AS BUOYANCY in Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenues poses a concern, the ministerial panels to be constituted under the GST Council is likely to also carry out a review the key tax slabs under the indirect tax regime. This will be in addition to rate rationalisation, correction of inverted duty structure, relook at exemptions, e-way bill systems, e-invoices, FASTag data and other technological measures, which would be reviewed by the ministerial panels as part of its broader revenue augmentation mandate.

The lower-than-expected revenue buoyancy and the slipping of the revenue neutral rate under GST is being seen as one of the major concerns for sustenance of the revenue trend going ahead, especially after the legally mandated compensation to states for revenue shortfall from the GST implementation comes

Complete GST probes in a year: CBIC to taxmen

New Delhi: The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs has asked field offices to draw up an action plan so that no case of GST evasion is pending investigation beyond one year. In an instruction to field formations, the CBIC has also asked GST officers to speed up investigation and issue show-cause notices in evasion cases, so that enough time is left with adjudicating authority to pass orders. PTI

to an end in June 2022.

"Revenue (under GST) is a concern. Next two-three months will be focused on steps such as rate rationalisation. The GoM will relook at tax slabs and look at the possibility of merger of some slabs. They may look into it now and recommend changes, which

may get implemented later, depending on other factors such as market and economic conditions at that point of time," a senior government official told *The Indian Express*.

Any such recommendation of tweaks in rates or tax slabs by the GoM would then require final approval of the GST Council. The GST has five key tax slabs: zero, 5 per cent, 12 per cent, 18 per cent and 28 per cent. A compensation cess, ranging between 1 per cent to 290 per cent, is levied on demerit and luxury goods over and above the topmost rate of 28 per cent. A merger of 5 per cent and 12 per cent slabs or 12 per cent and 18 per cent slabs has been deliberated upon earlier as well but has not been taken up formally for a decision.

The GST Council in its 45th meeting held in Lucknow had deliberated upon the revenue situation and the revenue neutral rate having fallen to 11.6 per cent from 15.5 per cent. The Council had then decided to form two GoMs to look at inverted duty

structure and compliance measures through e-way bills, composition schemes. The constitution of the two GoMs is expected to be announced soon.

"The Revenue Neutral Rate of 15.5 per cent coming down to 11.6 per cent is because of course, the Council in its wisdom probably over the years had reduced the rate of many many items and not just the reduction, but the resultant refund due to the inversion have resulted, net net, in the collection coming down from the revenue neutral levels. As a result we feel that the overall collection has come down. We also feel why it has come down. But if we all put together we can all see that we are far below the revenue neutral rate," Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said after the Council meeting.

The mandate announced for the GoMs after the Council meeting last week did not include a review of tax slabs. Sitharaman had said the terms of reference would relate to correction of inversion and rate rationalisation.

AT ₹5.7 LAKH CRORE TILL SEPT 22

Net direct tax mop-up rises 74% so far this fiscal

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

GROSS DIRECT tax collections have risen 47 per cent year-on-year to Rs 6.45 lakh crore during April 1-September 22 this year with net direct tax collections growing 74.4 per cent year-on-year to Rs 5.7 lakh crore, the Finance Ministry said in a statement on Friday. Advance tax mop-up also registered a 56.4 per cent growth to Rs 2.53 lakh crore during the same period, indicating a pickup in economic recovery after the impact of the first wave of Covid-19 pandemic last year and a greater compliance by bigger businesses.

Advance tax collection in the July-September quarter of 2021-22 financial year is Rs 1,72,071 crore, up 51.5 per cent over the corresponding period last fiscal.

Net direct tax collections, which are the tax collections after adjusting for refunds, stood at Rs 5,70,568 crore in the current fiscal so far (till September 22). This includes Corporation Tax (CIT) at Rs 3.02 lakh crore and Personal Income Tax (PIT) at Rs 2.67 lakh crore.

"The net collection (as on 22.09.2021) in FY 2021-22 has registered a growth of 27 per cent over FY 2019-20 when the net collection was Rs 4,48,976 crore," the ministry said. In the 2020-21 financial year, the net collection was over Rs 3.27 lakh crore.

The gross collection was 16.75 per cent higher than Rs 5.53 lakh crore collected in 2019-20 fiscal (April-September 22). Gross corporate income tax mop-up was Rs 3.58 lakh crore and personal income tax collection was over Rs 2.86 lakh crore. Refunds amounting to Rs 75,111 crore have also been issued so far this fiscal year.

ADVANCE TAX TO RISE FURTHER

■ The advance tax collection of Rs 2.53 lakh crore till September consists of Corporation Tax at Rs 1,96,964 crore and Personal Income Tax at Rs 56,389 crore. This amount is expected to increase as further information is awaited from banks, the Finance Ministry said.

"Despite extremely challenging initial months of the fiscal year 2021-22, the Advance Tax collection in the second quarter (1st July, 2021 to 22nd September, 2021) of FY 2021-22 is Rs 1,72,071 crore which shows a growth of 51.50 per cent over the corresponding period in FY 2020-21 when the Advance Tax collection was Rs 1,13,571 crore," the ministry said. Compared with FY 2019-20, the advance tax collections have grown 14.62 per cent, it said.

The advance tax collection of Rs 2.53 lakh crore till September consists of Corporation Tax at Rs 1,96,964 crore and Personal Income Tax at Rs 56,389 crore. This amount is expected to increase as further information is awaited from banks, the ministry said.

Sandeep Jhunjhunwala, Partner, Nangia Andersen LLP said businesses, although not unscathed, were better prepared to ride this wave. "The 27 per cent improvement in tax collection from FY 2019-20, when the economy was more stable than it is today, may be more reassuring than the 74.4 per cent improvement from FY 2020-21 when businesses experienced a significant dip."

'Over 2/3rd customers willing to switch to digital-only bank'

Over two-thirds of Indians surveyed are willing to switch to a digital-only lender for their banking needs, according to a McKinsey report

IN THE past, banks have said they will need to have a physical network, but the work that happens in a branch will be changing a lot

LOW-COST digital-only banks and robo-advisors could pose a fierce challenge to incumbent banks

Methodology Approximately 4,000 respondents were surveyed by McKinsey as part of a global report, which came at a time when digitalisation is growing and a slew of 'neo-banks' are coming up

THE SURVEY, which included respondents in tier-I and tier-II cities having a savings account, showed willingness towards digital forms of banking, with 91 per cent saying they use digital banking at least once a month

DIGITAL BEHAVIOUR from



'digital first' customers is relatively higher for the younger age group at 36 per cent as against the 31 per cent level overall

HALF OF those surveyed said they use fintech/

e-wallet services

A MAJORITY of consumers surveyed were digitally capable, with 31 per cent 'digital first' and 67 per cent multi-channel, as per the report

Source: McKinsey/PTI

BRIEFLY

Anti-dumping

New Delhi: The Commerce Ministry has recommended imposition of anti-dumping duty on a pharma raw material, Ceftriaxone Sodium Sterile, from China.

CAG Murmu

New Delhi: Comptroller and Auditor General G C Murmu was on Friday selected as the external auditor of International Atomic Energy Agency.

Drone operations

New Delhi: The government on Friday released an interactive digital airspace map for drone operations that demarcates areas into zones, including yellow and red, across the country for flying drones.

Sebi, Kotak Bank

New Delhi: Sebi disposed of proceedings against Kotak Mahindra Bank in a matter pertaining to breach of investment limit in the scrip of Sathavahana Ispat Ltd by two foreign portfolio investors.

Tehri Dam

New Delhi: The Tehri reservoir touched the level of 830 m, its full-reservoir level, for the first time on Friday. ENS

Oil near 3-yr high

New York: Oil prices rose to a near three-year high on Friday as they headed for a third straight week of gains, supported by global output disruptions and inventory draws. Brent futures was up 88 cents, or 1.1 per cent, to \$78.13 by 1:15 pm EDT.

Uber UK pension

London: Uber Technologies said it would start rolling out its pension plan to all eligible drivers in the UK. REUTERS

Google plea attempt to frustrate probe: CCI
Why has Google approached the court?SOFIAHSAN
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

THE COMPETITION Commission of India (CCI) on Friday told the Delhi High Court that Google had threatened to sue the competition regulator and its petition, accusing the Commission of leaking the confidential report, and it was only an attempt to frustrate the ongoing probe against it.

"Advise your client. Just because he is there (in California) ... he has to know that if he wants to function in a country, he has to know the law. This I don't appreciate," observed Justice Rekha Palli during the hearing of Google's petition seeking protection of the confidential information contained in the DG's probe report about the company's Android smartphone agreements.

While opposing the petition, ASG N Venkatraman said: "It will send a completely wrong signal. This is just to frustrate proceedings. Please dismiss it..."

Labour codes: 15 states release draft regulation

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

AS MANY as 15 states have prepared draft rules under the four labour codes passed by Parliament between 2019 and 2020.

As per the Labour Ministry's Cabinet note, the Centre has finalised rules for the 3 codes other than social security code, the rules under which are yet to be vetted by the legislative department. As per the note, 15 major states like Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat have already 'pre-published' draft rules under code on wages and code on industrial relations. Nine states including Odisha, UP, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh have prepared rules under both social security and occupational safety & health code. FE

KARUNJIT SINGH
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

GOOGLE HAS moved the Delhi High Court against the Competition Commission of India (CCI) over the leak of a report entailing allegations of abuse of dominance in the Android smartphone market.

The probe by the investigative arm of the CCI had concluded that Google had "restricted" the ability of manufacturers to develop and reportedly sell alternative versions of its Android operating system.

Why has Google moved the high court?

Google has moved to the high court protesting against the leak of the report, claiming that the leak impairs the com-

pany's ability to defend itself. An investigative report by the Director General of the CCI does not constitute final orders by the CCI and is reviewed by members of the CCI before the regulator passes any final orders which could include penalties.

Google said in a statement it was "protesting against the breach of confidence which impairs Google's ability to defend itself and harms Google and its partners."

The company added that it had "cooperated fully and maintained confidentiality through-

out the investigative process," and expected the "same level of confidentiality" from the CCI.

What are the allegations against Google?

The CCI had in April 2019 ordered an investigation into the conduct of Google in the smartphone market over allegations that agreements that the firm required smartphone manufacturers to sign to pre-install google play store restricted the ability of manufacturers to develop and sell alternative versions of Android.

The commission had also noted that a requirement by Google that any manufacturer pre-installing the google play store on their devices also pre-install the entire suite of google apps was also prima facie a violation of competition law.

Google is also facing a similar antitrust probe for its conduct in the smart television market.

Master direction: Banks can now sell fraud loans to ARCs

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 24

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) on Friday allowed banks to sell fraud loan exposures to asset reconstruction companies (ARCs). Banks will now be able to transfer to ARCs loan exposures classified as fraud as on the date of transfer, provided that the responsibilities of the bank with respect to continuous reporting, monitoring, filing of complaints with law enforcement agencies and proceedings related to such complaints shall also be transferred to the ARC.

"The transfer of such loan exposures to an ARC, however, does not absolve the transferor from fixing the staff accountability as required under the extant instructions on frauds," the RBI said in its



The RBI guidelines said lenders must put in place a board-approved policy for transfer and acquisition of all loan exposures. File

master direction on transfer of loan exposures.

The guidelines said lenders must put in place a comprehensive board-approved policy for transfer and acquisition of all loan expo-

sures. The board-approved policies of every lender on transfer or acquisition of stressed loans shall cover the norms and procedure for transfer, the valuation methodology to be followed, delegation of powers to various functionaries for taking decisions on the transfer of loans, stated objectives for acquiring stressed assets and the risk premium to be applied.

When negotiated on a bilateral basis, the negotiations must necessarily be followed by an auction through the Swiss challenge method if the aggregate exposure of lenders to the relevant borrower is ₹100 crore or more. In all other cases, the bilateral negotiations shall be subject to the price discovery and value maximisation approaches adopted by the transferor as part of the board-approved policy, the RBI said. FE

To give growth a push, FinMin pulls back spending restrictions

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

WITH GOVERNMENT revenues picking up, alongside the economic recovery, the Finance Ministry on Friday removed the expenditure curbs imposed on various ministries for the July-September quarter. As a cash management exercise, the government had earlier asked various ministries and departments (in category B) to "restrict the overall expenditure within 20 per cent of BE 2020-21 in Quarter 2 (July to September, 2021)".

The government did not impose any spending restrictions on the Ministries of health, rural development, railways, agriculture, MSME (micro, small and medium enterprises) — the ministries and department in the Category A specified by the Finance Ministry. Expenditure curbs were imposed on demands/appropriations re-

PICK UP IN ECONOMY

■ As economic recovery picks up, the government has a better handle on its finances and revenues. Plus spending by the government, especially capital expenditure, is needed to sustain the recovery.

lated to ministries and departments such as civil aviation, home, labour, mines, power, telecom and post, consumer affairs, fisheries, revenue, economic affairs, financial services and heavy industries, among others, in Category B.

The Finance Ministry has now removed the restriction on limiting the expenditure to 20 per cent of Budget Estimates 2020-21 in July-September quarter. Ministries

and departments are now permitted to spend as per their approved monthly and quarterly expenditure plans. Also, restrictions imposed on bulk expenditure items of Rs 200 crore and above have also been removed for Budgeted capital expenditure for remaining part of the year.

As economic recovery picks up, the government has a better handle on its finances and revenues. Plus spending by the government, especially capital expenditure, is needed to sustain the recovery. "The government's spending had contracted by 5 per cent in April-July 2021 on a YoY basis, and stood at 29 per cent of the Budget Estimates. With the withdrawal of the expenditure management guidelines, we anticipate that spending will gather pace in the second half of this year, which will be critical to unleash animal spirits and drive a faster recovery in economic activity," said Aditi Nayar, chief economist, Ica.

Relentless reforms by Centre since 2014: FM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 24

FINANCE MINISTER Nirmala Sitharaman said on Friday "relentless reforms were brought by the Central government since 2014 to shift the economy from being fragile to the fastest growing economy".

"... Since 2014, relentless reforms are brought by the Central government. From legislative corrections to administrative corrections, every possible effort was made to take India on the *atmanirbharta* track and shifting the country's economy from being fragile to fastest growing economy," she said, according to a release issued by the Haryana government.

Sitharaman was in Panchkula on Friday.



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. File

The Minister added various digital and economic reforms have been brought in every sector.

"I can see very clearly signs of revival and good signs of revival. Otherwise my revenue collection would not be where it is, both the GST and direct taxation," Sitharaman was quoted by PTI as saying while addressing a separate press conference in Chandigarh.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, LAITA PRAJAPAT, W/O PUKHRAJ PRAJAPAT, H.NO.178-M/11, WARD.NO.2, MEHRAULI, NEW DELHI-110030. Changed my name to LALITA PRAJAPAT, permanently. 0040585823-1

I, Kumar Sunny Raja, S/o Dilip Kumar, R/o 1st Floor, S-230, Scottish Sector-4, Uppal South End, Sector-49, Sohna Road, Gurgaon, Haryana-122018. I have changed the name of my minor Daughter Aanya Kumari aged about 7 years and she shall hereafter be known as Aanya Sah. 0070755047-1

I, Kiran Bala and Kiran Bala Khatreja, W/o-Manoj Khatreja, R/o-590, Sector-12, Sonapat, have changed my name to Kiran Khatreja, for all purposes. 0040585812-5

I, Kaushallya Lakhya, spouse of Lt Sh Hans Raj Ahuja R/o G-4/76-77, Gf, Sec-16, Rohini, Delhi-110089 have changed my name from Kaushallya Lakhya to Kaushalya Ahuja as per Affidavit No. IN-DL27523679317003T Dated 23rd Sept. 2021 0070754928-1

I, Karanbir Singh Sandhu r/o M-443, Third Floor, Guru Harkishan Nagar, Paschim Vihar, Delhi have changed my minor son's name from Agamjot Singh to Agamjot Singh Sandhu. 0040585762-2

I, Jitendra Gupta S/o Om Prakash Gupta R/o C-127, 2nd-Floor, Preet Vihar, Nirman Vihar, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Jitender Gupta. 0040585817-9

I, Divya Malik w/o Deepak Kataral r/o 53, DDA Flats, Back Side Jwala Heri Market, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063 have changed my name to DIVYA KATYAL. 0040585755-1

I, DINESH KUMAR KUKREJA, S/O KEVAL RAM KUKREJA R/O FC-109, TAGORE GARDEN, WEST DELHI, NEW DELHI-110027, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO DINESH KUKREJA, FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040585823-2

I, Anuradha W/o-Dr. Nikunj Kumar R/o-326/G-2, Shalimar Garden, Extn.-1, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201005, have changed my son's name from Nilay to Nilay Singh, DOB-11.22.2006, for all, future purpose. 0040585812-9

I, Anish Jacob R/o Flat No.607, Sapphire-2, Sector-104, Hazipur, Noida, UP-201304 declares the name of mine, my wife and my minor son's has been wrongly written as ANISH, MARINA and ASHWIN in his school records. The actual name of mine, my wife and my minor son's are ANISH JACOB, MARINA MAGRET and ASHWIN ANISH respectively, which may be amended accordingly. 0040585750-9

I, Amisha w/o Chandra Mohan Kumar R/o B-1/105, Paradise Apartment, 40, IP Extension, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to AMISHA SINGH permanently. 0040585786-1

I, Ajay Kumar Gaur S/o Masuriya Gaur R/O-60, 2nd-staff quarter, Opp-Masjid, New Friends Colony, New Delhi-110065, confirm that in my Passport my Father name was wrongly mentioned-as Bachhal Agar instead of Masuriya Gaur. My Father's correct name is Masuriya Gaur. 0040585750-6

I, Sanjeev Kumar Tuli S/o Sh. Amar Nath Tuli R/o House No. 6/6, 3rd Floor, Shiv Puri Extn., Delhi-110051 have changed the name of my minor son from Ansh to Ansh Tuli for all purposes. 0040585727-8

I, SHAUKAT ALI S/O ABDUL GHAFOOR, R/O-H.No. 400 Gali Pahar Wali Chhatta Lal Mian Darya Ganj Central Delhi, Delhi-110002, have changed my name from SHAUKAT ALI to SHUKAT ALI for all future purposes 0040585791-1

I, Harish Chander S/O Kasturi Lal R/o-G-136, Palam Vihar, Gurugram-122017 have changed my name to Harish Mahajan permanently. 0040585750-2

I, Rimpay Rani W/o-Sh. Inder Pal R/o-Plot No.80, Pocket-7, Sector-2, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Pinky for all purposes. 0040585736-1

I, Rakesh Kumar Yadav R/O HNO.103 STREET NO. 35 Vipin Garden EXTN. ND-110059 have changed my minor child aged 17yrs from Chandra Rishabh Singh to Chandra Rishabh Singh Nahriya. 0070755055-1

I, Prabhsh Kumar Alok, s/o Arun Kumar Lal and Triveni Devi, R/O, House no. 431, Street no. 9, Block-D, Swaroop Nagar, Badli, North West Delhi-110042, do hereby declare that I have changed my name to Prathna Alok and gender as Female, vide affidavit sworn before Alipur Court, Delhi certificate. no.IN-DL26415349283590T dated 21/09/2021. Henceforth, Prabhsh Kumar Alok and Prathna Alok is the same and one identical person in all future purposes. 0070755064-1

I, NIKISHANT RAVI S/O DEVENDER KUMAR R/O 134, JATAV-MOHALLA NEAR CHURCH ASOLA VILLAGE-FATEHPUR BERI SOUTH DELHI-110074, have changed my name NIKISHANT RAVI to NISHANT RAVI and I shall hereafter be known-as NISHANT RAVI. 0040585750-5

I, Jaspal Singh S/o Late Sh. Jeet Singh R/o 1917-A/19, Govindpuri Extn., Kalakaji, South Delhi, Delhi-110019 have changed the name of my minor daughter from Navya Rehal alias Naira Rehal alias Naira to Naira Rehal for all purposes. 0040585727-9

I, Bimla Devi W/O Late Birender Sah R/O Gauri Shankar Enclave, Prem Nagar-III, Kirari Suleman Nagar Delhi-110086 is also known as Bimla Shah. Both Names are of one and the same person. 0040585727-7

V, Rendre Kumar, S/o Ish Kumar Chaudhary, R/o-109-R, Model Town, Sonapat-131001, Haryana have changed my name to Virender Kumar Choudhary, for all purposes. 0040585812-10

I, Vandana D/o-Puran Singh, W/o Mr. Saurabh Rawat, R/o-H-55, Garwalli Mohalla, Block-4, Laxmi-Nagar, East Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Vandana Rawat. 0040585806-2

I, Mohamad Iftikhar Alam, s/o mahfooz Alam, R/O-sakin mahallaha Choa lall Ilean, Khan-Colony, mogalpur, pin- 800008, have Change my name Monamad intkhar Alam khan to Mohamad intkhar Alam. s/o My identify only for Mohamad Iftikhar Alam. 0040585832-2

We, Raghvesh Agarwal and Mrs. Sonia Agarwal both R/o Flat No.03182, ATS Advantage, Ahinsa Khand-1, Near Swarn Jayanti Park, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, UP-Pradesh-201014 have changed the name of our minor daughter Ria Agarwal and she shall hereafter be known as Riya Agarwal. 0040585814-1

IT IS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION THAT I, MRS. CHANDRO AGED 75 YEARS W/O LATE DALCHAND SAINI RESIDING AT HNO.246,VILLAGE SHALIMAR, NEW DELHI-110088 DECLARE THAT THE NAME OF MINE MENTIONED IN HIS DOCUMENTS CHANDRANKANTA (HUSBAND WAS GOVT SERVANT AND HIS NOMINEE MY NAME WAS RECORDED IN THE GOVERNMENT PAPER AS CHANDRANKANTA. THAT BOTH NAME AS STATES ABOVE ARE OF THE SAME PERSON, RESPECTIVELY WHICH MAY BE AMENDED ACCORDINGLY 0040585812-4

I, Anish Jacob R/o Flat No.607, Sapphire-2, Sector-104, Hazipur, Noida, UP-201304 declares the name of mine, my wife and my minor son's has been wrongly written as ANISH, MARINA and ASHWIN in his school records. The actual name of mine, my wife and my minor son's are ANISH JACOB, MARINA MAGRET and ASHWIN ANISH respectively, which may be amended accordingly. 0040585750-9

IT IS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION THAT I BALRAJ SINGH TOKAS S/O KHILLI RAM R/O H.NO.80 D, NEAR CANARA MARK, MUNIRKA VILLAGE, SOUTH WEST DELHI-110067. DECLARE THAT THE NAME OF MINE HAS BEEN WRONGLY WRITTEN AS BALRAJ SINGH IN MY DOCUMENTS. THE ACTUAL NAME OF MINE IS BALRAJ SINGH TOKAS RESPECTIVELY WHICH MAY BE AMENDED ACCORDINGLY 0040585744-2

I, kshayama Nidhi Biswal s/o Harish Chandra, R/o-374/3 Omicolony, Sarai-Khwaja Faridabad-121003. WrONGLY-written in daughter's adhaar-card kshamanidhi Biswal my correct-name is Kshayama Nidhi Biswal. 0040585806-4

I, Yash Maheshwari, S/O-Swadesh Kumar Maheshwari R/o-C-8/174, Yamuna-Vihar Delhi-53, declare that name of my father, has been WrONGLY-Written as SWADESH Maheshwari in my all educational.Documents.The actual,name of my father is SWADESH KUMAR MAHESHWARI. 0040585815-8

I, Varshat Gupta, W/O Late. Kailash Gupta, House.No.119, Gali.No.-2 GovindPuri, Kalika Ji, New Delhi-110019, Have changed My name, from Varshat Gupta to Varsha Gupta, for all, Future purpose. 0040585806-8

I, Usha Rani Tanwar, W/O Pratap Singh R/O.B-69,Vasant Kunj Enclave, New Delhi-110070, have changed my name to Usha Tanwar, permanently. 0040585806-6

I, Upendra Singh S/o Jitendra Bahadur Singh, R/o H.No.512, Haliyapur, Sultanpur, H.No. 1112, Parvatiya Colony, Faridabad, Haryana, changed my name to Upender Singh. 0040585817-7

I, Sushil Kumar, R/o-H.No.129-C, BHEL Township, Sector-17, Noida Distt.-G.B. Nagar, U.P.-201301, do hereby declare that name of my minor daughter Niharika to Niharika Kashyap for all future purposes. 0040585815-4

I, SUPRIYA PANDEY, W/O-HEMANT KUMAR PANDEY occ-HOMEMAKER, R/O FLAT.NO-5/226 GYAN-KHAND-1 INDIRAPURAM, GHAZIABAD UP-201014, changed my name to SUPRIYA KUMARI PANDEY. 0040585817-8

I, Sudhesh W/o, No.2877584K TS-NK Dharampal Singh R/o H/No-46, Gavid, Mohalla Andha, Pana, Nizampur, Rashidpur, Delhi have changed my name to Sudehs. 0040585815-6

I, Smt. Mamta Barrett, W/O Julius Raymond Barrett, R/O 117-D, Pkt-A-3, Mayur-Vihar Phase-3, Mayur-Vihar Phase-3, East New Delhi-110096, inform that my minor daughter's name has been wrongly-mentioned as Rachel Emilia Barrett in 10th-class, form instead of correct name Rachel Emilia Barrett. 0040585823-9

I, Shivam Joshi S/O Late Purnan Chandra Joshi R/O T-29 Sector-11 Noida, UP-201301 have changed my name to Shashank Joshi for all purposes. 0040585766-1

I, RAVINDER SINGH S/O TEJ VIR SINGH GURJAL R/O-A/10 RAMA ROAD, ADARSH NAGAR DELHI-110033, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RAVINDER SINGH GURJAL. 0040585817-6

I, RAJANDER KUMAR ARYA, S/O SHRI. BRAHAM SWARUP ARYA, R/O-RZB-1/62, GALLI.NO.4, NEW-ROSHANPURA, NAJFARGARH, NEW DELHI, declare that RAJANDER KUMAR ARYA, RAJINDER ARYA, RAJINDER KUMAR ARYA, RAJENDER ARYA, RAJENDER KUMAR ARYA, all are one and the same person. 0040585766-2

I, Balvinder Kaur, W/O Gurmeet Singh, R/O B-20, Center Market, Madangir, Dr. Ambedkar Nagar, Delhi-110062, have changed my minor son's name from Prabjeet to Prabjheet Behl. 0040585823-4

I, BRUBASHI VERMA, S/O SHRIVATH PRASAD, R/O MAIN MARKET FAL MANDI, SISWA BAZAR, SISAWA BUZURG, MAHARAJGANJ, U.P.-273163, changed my name to BRIJVASI PRASAD. 0040585806-7

I, Ankit S/o Ashok Kumar, R/O H.No.-9, M.R Block, Prem Nagar Phase-2, Najafgarh, Delhi-110043, have changed my name to Ankit Yadav. 0040585806-3

I, Phoolwati Devi D.O.B.-01.01.1946, D/O-Late Chirangi Lal, R/O-DG2, 215-B, Vikas puri, New Delhi-110018, have changed my name from Phoolwati Devi to Phoolwati for all future purposes. 0040585815-3

I, Nidhi Gogia D/o, Chander Mohan Gogia R/o, A/A-125, Near Fortis hospital, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088, have changed my name from Nidhi to Nidhi Gogia for, all purposes. 0040585815-5

I, Navshad Ahmad S/O Irshad Ahmad R/O-H.N.152 Gali No.5, Ambedkar Basti, Majipur, Delhi-110053, Have Changed My Name to Naushad Ahmad, For All Purposes. 0040585817-5

I, Minakshi W/o-Shri Dushyant Singh Chauhan R/O-Village-Sadarpur, Sector-45, Noida-201301, Gautam Budh Nagar, UP, have change my name from Minakshi to Minakshi Chauhan, for all purposes. 0040585812-3

I, Manoj Bhardwaj, S/O Late Shri Shashi Bhushan Bhardwaj, R/O L-90, Vijay Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi-110085, have changed my minor son name from Kartik to Kartik Bhardwaj. 0040585815-2

I, MEHNAZ BEGUM, W/O, MOHD IMTIAZ, ADD-A-194, AFGHANI-CHOWK, GALLI-NO-9, WAZIRABAD NORTH, DELHI-110084, changed my name to MEHNAZ ADD BEGUM, for all, future purposes. 0040585817-1

I, Kaushalya W/o-Naveen Gupta R/O-C-3/74, Sector-5, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Lata Gupta, for all purposes. 0040585806-5

I, Jasbir Pal, S/O Jeet Ram Add-D-130, Govind Puri, Modi-Nagar, Sara, Ghaziabad, UP-201201, changed my name to Jasvir Pal. 0040585823-2

I, J.C.-660393H, EX Honey Sub Major Mohinder Singh Banyal, S/O-Late shri Karam Singh Banyal r/o-village Baggi PO-Bhakerri, Thisell-I, Barsar, District-Hamirpur, H.P., declares that, my wife name spelling in, my service documents is wrongly-written. Rattani Banyal, whereas her, correct name spelling is Rattani Banyal as per Aadhar-card, PAN-Card and passport. That in my service- documents the name of, my wife be changed from Rattani Banyal to Rattani Banyal. 0040585815-7

I, JASKERAT SINGH MARWAH, S/O Harvinder Singh Marwah, R/O WZ-44C, Mukherjee Park, Tilak Nagar, Delhi-110018, have changed my name JASKIRAT SINGH MARWAH. 0040585823-5

I, IMTIYAZ ANSARI, S/O, MOHD MUKHTAR AHMAD, ADD-A-194, AFGHANI CHOWK, GALLI-NO-9 WAZIRABAD, NORTH DELHI-110084, changed my name to MOHD IMTIAZ., for all, future purposes. 0040585806-10

I, GANGA ram s/o-Ram Chandra Sharma r/o b4/3067, vasant kunj, New Delhi-110070, have changed my name to ganga ram sharma. 0040585806-9

I, FIROZ, S/O, MOHD SHAFIQUE, ADD-C-53/29, STREET.NO-30, JAFRABAD GARHI MENDU NORTH EAST DELHI-110053, Changed my name to MOHD FIROZ, permanently. 0040585817-4

I, Dushyant Singh, S/o-Shri Rajveer Singh, Village-Sadarpur, Sector-45, Noida-201301, Gautam Budh Nagar, UP, have change my name from Dushyant Singh to Dushyant Singh Chauhan, for all purposes. 0040585750-8

I, Sarla W/O Krishan Arora R/O-2252, Sector-12, Sonapat have changed my name to Sarla Arora for all purposes. 0040585812-7

I, Shubham Kumar Jha S/o Shri Virender Jha R/O R-Z-K-2/391, Nihal Vihar, Nangoli, West Delhi, Delhi-110041, That I am declaring to have changed my name from SHIVAM KUMAR JHA to SHUBHAM KUMAR JHA for all future purposes. 0040585750-9

I, Rajesh Kumar S/O Vaishno Dass Arora, R/O 429, Kakkar Hospital, Green Avenue, Amritsar-1, Punjab-143001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Rajesh Arora. 0070755043-1

I, Dushyant Singh Chauhan, R/O-Village-Sadarpur, Sector-45, Noida-201301, Gautam Budh Nagar, UP, have change my minor daughter's name from Vanshika to Vanshika Chauhan, for all purposes. 0040585812-1

I, Dinesh Kumar, F/O-Shivani Divakar, R/O-145/30, Gali, No.-3, Krishna Puri, Mandawali, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092, inform that in Daughter's, (Shivani Divakar) 10th records my name & her mother name has wrongly mentioned as Dinesh Kumar Divakar & Jayawati instead of Dinesh Kumar & Jaywati. 0040585815-1

I, DOLL D/O RAJEEV JAIN R/O Mayfield Gardens, Gurugram (LIC Policy-33193042) have changed my name to GLORY JAIN for all purposes. 0040585766-2

I, Balvinder Kaur, W/O Gurmeet Singh, R/O B-20, Center Market, Madangir, Dr. Ambedkar Nagar, Delhi-110062, have changed my minor son's name from Prabjeet to Prabjheet Behl. 0040585823-4

I, BRUBASHI VERMA, S/O SHRIVATH PRASAD, R/O MAIN MARKET FAL MANDI, SISWA BAZAR, SISAWA BUZURG, MAHARAJGANJ, U.P.-273163, changed my name to BRIJVASI PRASAD. 0040585806-7

I, Ankit S/o Ashok Kumar, R/O H.No.-9, M.R Block, Prem Nagar Phase-2, Najafgarh, Delhi-110043, have changed my name to Ankit Yadav. 0040585806-3

I, Anil Kumar Aggarwal & Anil Aggarwal S/O Kalyan Dass Aggarwal R/O-H.No.137, Ram-Vihar, Delhi-92, changed my name to Anil Aggarwal. 0040585823-8

I, Aman Maheshwari, S/O-Swadesh Kumar Maheshwari, R/O-C-8/174, Yamuna-Vihar, Delhi-53, declare that, name of my father has been WrONGLY-Written as SWADESH Maheshwari in, my all educational.Documents.The actual name, of my father is SWADESH KUMAR MAHESHWARI. 0040585832-1

I, Alka Chadha D/o-Ashok Chadha, R/O-D-28 A, DDA-Flats, Shivaji-Enclave Delhi-110027, have changed my minor daughter's name from Sidhi to Driшти. 0040585812-6

I, AJAY, S/O, KANCHI, ADD-L-BLOCK L-70 1ST FLOOR LAJPAT NAGAR-II, EAST DELHI-110024, Changed my name to AJAY Kumar. PERMANENTLY. 0040585823-6

I, sanmeet singh, S/o- jagjeet singh, Add-738- near- jyoiti Mandir dadabari kota rajasthan-324009, changed my name to sunmeet Singh rajwanshi. 0040585823-3

I, Vinod Borasi S/O Ramdas Borasi, R/O House No- 78, Dheeraj Nagar, Ring Road, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452011, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Vinod Oshogautam and I have changed only my name not my Religion. 0070755049-1

I, Vijay Lakshmi Gupta W/O Late Gopi Chand Gupta, R/O 27 D Sfs, Pocket B Outer Ring Road, Crpf Camp, Vikas Puri Extension, West Delhi, Delhi-110018. Declare that Name of Mine has been wrongly written as Vijay Gupta in my Husband Service Record PF No- 573027 and Death Certificate No-MCDOLIR- 0221- 202225. The actual name of Mine is Vijay Lakshmi Gupta, which may be amended accordingly. 0070755044-1

I, Sunil Kumar Rai R/O L-19, Hamilton Road, Mori Gate, Delhi-06 hereby declare that correct name of my son is Manas Shubhankar Rai and his correct date of birth is 26.05.2005 0040585772-1

I, Sudhir Kumar Sinha S/o Sh. Ram Anurag Prasad R/O Flat No.133, DDA SFS Flat GJA, Sector-11, Rohini, New Delhi-110085 have changed my Daughter's name from Manasshvi Srivastava to Manasshvi S Srivastav for all purpose. Manasshvi S Srivastav is one and the same person 0040585798-1

I, Shukla Rani D/o S K Gupta R/O-G-136, Palam Vihar, Gurugram-122017 have changed my name to Pooja Gupta permanently. 0040585750-10

I, Shubham Kumar Jha S/o Shri Virender Jha R/O R-Z-K-2/391, Nihal Vihar, Nangoli, West Delhi, Delhi-110041, That I am declaring to have changed my name from SHIVAM KUMAR JHA to SHUBHAM KUMAR JHA for all future purposes. 0040585781-1

I, Sarla W/O Krishan Arora R/O-2252, Sector-12, Sonapat have changed my name to Sarla Arora for all purposes. 0040585812-7

I, Saileene Tripathi W/O Dilip Tripathi R/O Flat No.6 Dth Floor, Tower-24, Gulmohar Greens, Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad, UP-201007 have changed my name to SHALINI TRIPATHI for all future purposes. 0040585750-11

I, Ravi Yadav S/O Dharampal Yadav and Usha Yadav W/O Ravi Yadav Lost, my Original Sale deed Chains, and Last Sale Deed, Dated 09/09/2021, Reg.No.8655, of Flat, No.A-1, Luxmi, CGHS Ltd. Rohini, Sector-13, Delhi-110085, finder, Cont. 9818694562. 0040585817-10

I, Sudesh Lamba D/o Sh. Ram Lal R/O K-9A, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi have lost my Original Sale Deed dated 23.10.2008 executed by Mrs. Neelam Jajoo in favour of Mahendra Ladda of K-8, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092 regd.with Sub-Registrar, Delhi, Document No.14731 in Addl. Book No.1, Volume No.3748 on pages 104 dated 23.10.2008. Finders may contact at Mobile No.9873160508. 0040585727-10

I, Poonam Singh have lost original property Papers of 1/4649/91a New Modern Shahdra, Mandoli road, Shahdra, Delhi 110032. finder please call 9811693445 0040585702-1

I, Amandip Singh Gill S/O Late. Vasan Singh and Smita Gill W/O Amandip Singh Gill R/O 20232, ATS Advantage-2, Ahinsa Khand-1, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad-201014, UP, have lost my Original Possession Letter for above mention Address. Finder Contact-9873155558 0040585750-11

I, Deepansha Khurana, D/O-Rajesh Khurana, R/O-933, Sector-15, Sonapat have lost, my original GSCP, CBSE 10th-class certificates cum marksheet, year-2017, Roll No.2202349, lost near sector-15 Market, Sonapat dated-10-06-2021, Finder contact-9215621400. 0040585812-11

I, SANTOKH SINGH GURJAL R/O-20A/6B Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018, have changed my name to SANTOKH SINGH for all Purposes. 0040585750-4

I, Rahul S/o Mrs. Rani, House no. 253, Pipili(12-R), Sonapat, Haryana-131402, have changed my name to Rahul Dahiya 0070755053-1

I, Raghunath Pandit S/O Late Naurang Pandit, R/O Angarpathra, AkashKanali, Dhanbad, Katragarh, Jharkhand-828113. Declare that Name of My Father has been wrongly written as Kali Pandit in my Educational Documents. The actual name of My Father is Late Naurangi Pandit, which may be amended accordingly . 0070755046-1

I, RATTI RAM, resident of 107, Saksham Apartments, Plot No.40B, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075, have changed my name from RATTI RAM to RATTI RAM AGGARWAL vide Affidavit dated 22.09.2021 at New Delhi. 0040585738-1

I, Pooja Mahajan D/o S K Gupta R/O-G-136, Palam Vihar, Gurugram-122017 have changed my name to Pooja Gupta permanently. 0040585750-3

I, PRITI, W/O, GAGAN SARAOGI, ADD-B-40, 2ND-FLOOR, SOUTH EXTENSION PART-2 SOUTH/DELHI-110049, changed my name to PRITI SARAOGI, permanently. 0040585817-3

I, NIRMLA r/o A-551, Hastals Road, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 have changed my name to NIRMALA DEVI. I changed my minor daughter's name from KIRTI to KIRTI SHANKHLA. 0040585763-1

I, NAZMA KHATOON W/O MOHD. IMRAN R/O S/7, KARBALA MASJID, NEW DELHI-110003, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO AFSHEEN BEGUM FOR ALL FURTHER PURPOSE. 0040585767-1

I, Mohit S/O Krishan Dutt R/O-145, VPO Jatheri Sonapat, have changed my name to Mohit Kaushik for all purposes. 0040585812-8

I, Mohd Saif S/O Saleemuddin R/O 591-C, Nyaykhand-11, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, declare that my Mother's name is wrongly written as Nasheen in my 10th Marksheets, Migration Certificate. Actual name is Nasreen, which may be amended accordingly. 0040585797-1

I, Mira Tripathi W/O Biswanath Tripathi R/O Village-Amlora, Post-Reusa, Biswan, Distt-Sitapur, UP-261205 have changed my name to MIRA TRIPATHI for all future purposes. 0040585750-7

I, Maithili Patil D/o Nitin Patil R/O C-3/168, Sector-36, Noida, Distt.-GautamBudh Nagar, UP, have changed my father name from Nitin Rambhau Patil to Nitin Patil for, all future Purposes. 0040585750-10

I, Ravinder Kashyap S/O. Suresh Chand R/O. H.No. K-334, Naveen Shahdara, Delhi-110032, have changed my daughter's name from Disha Kashyap to Ravika Kashyap. 0040585764-1

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, भोपाल
यांत्रिक विभाग (मुख्यालय) गोविंदपुरा (बी.एच.ई.एल.)

क्र.153/यां.वि./2021 प्रथम निविदा आमंत्रण घोषणा-पत्र भोपाल, दिनांक 23/09/2021

निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु दो लिफाफा पद्धति के अनुसार म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में केन्द्रीकृत व्यवस्था के अंतर्गत पंजीकृत ठेकेदार परसेन्ट्रज मोडर बंद निविदायें निर्धारित प्रपत्र पर ऑनलाईन आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

क्र.	ऑनलाईन निविदा क्र.	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित राशि	शरीर राशि	प्रपत्र राशि	कार्य हेतु निर्धारित एच.ओ.आर.	कार्य की अवधि
1	2021_UAD_161193_1	CONSTRUCTION OF COMMERCIAL COMPLEX BLOCK 03 (G1) AT NADRA BUS STAND COMPOUND (GOLDEN LODGE) WARD-18 ZONE-04 BHOPAL	165.19 lakh	165191/-	12500	MP UAD ISSR 2021 Non sor Item	12 (TWELVE) Months including rainy season

- Interested bidders can view the NIT on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in/>
- The bid document can be purchased only online from 10:30 A.M. (time) 24.09.2021 (date) to 17:30P.M. (time) 25.10.2021 (date)
- Structural design and drawing provided by contractor to the engineer-in-charge should be approved by Govt.
- For electrification related works : It is mandatory for bidder should have own "A" Class electrical registration or agreement with "A" Class electrical registration holder (Attach as per)
- Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in/> only, and not in newspaper.
- The initial period of 3 (three) year or 3 rainy season after completion shall be treated as Defect Liability Period (DLP).
- The bidder should have own plan and machinery for asphalt road work and c.c. batch mix plant and having ownership/ agreement paper for plant and machinery.
- Design and drawings (structural design & drawing should be provided by contractor)
- Own copy of the drawings to be kept on Site, (drawing should be proof checked by govt. institute)

Sd/-
In Chief Engineer
Municipal Corporation Bhopal
District Bhopal

T.N. 639/021/022

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SEWERAGE & DRAINAGE
DIVISION No: 1st SULIMAN COMPLEX DALGATE SRINAGAR
GIST OF E-NIT No: 14 of 2021-22

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer S&D Division Ist UEDD Srinagar invites online e-bids in 2 cover system from Registered Firms/ Agencies having expertise in O & M of STPs, ETPs or WTPs as detailed in the tender document for the following work.

S. No	Name of work	Cost of work (Rs. In lacs)	Cost of T/doc. (In rupees)	Time of operation & maintenance	Class of contract
1	Operation, routine maintenance and breakdown maintenance of 0.15 MLD (Peak Flow Capacity) with SCADA System Sewage Treatment Plant based on SBR technology at GB Pant Hospital, Srinagar for One Year	11.49	500/- (Revenue Head 0217)	01 Year	Registered Firms/ Agencies

IMPORTANT DATES

1	Date of publishing	21-09-2021
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	21-09-2021 to 12/10/2021 up to 4:00 PM
3	Bid submission Start Date	21-09-2021 from 4:00 PM
4	Bid submission End Date	12-10-2021 up to 4:00 PM
5	Start & time of opening of bids (online)	13-10-2021 at 11:00 AM or any other convenient date.

Tender Receiving Authority: Executive Engineer S&D Division Ist Sulaiman Complex Dalgate Srinagar

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
S&D Division-I, Srinagar

No: SDDI/CC/1610-19
Dated: 21/09/2021 DIPK-9231

CHENNAI BENGALURU INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR-TUMAKURU INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP LTD (CBIC-TITL)
5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560 001.
Phone No. 22267900, Fax : 22267901 website : www.kiadb.in
email: mdcbic23@gmail.com

No. CBICITL/ENGG/ETND-EP-01/7816/2021-22 Date: 24.09.2021

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK e – Procurement Portal Only)

Request For Qualification cum Request For Proposal (RFQ cum RFP) under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 and other relevant Acts through electronic procurement, Government of Karnataka from eligible Agencies, firm, companies, etc who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below:

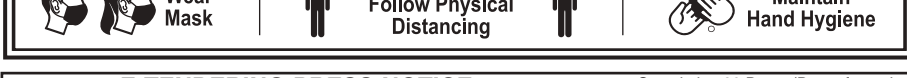
Sl. No	Name of the Work	Approx cost put to tender (Rs.in Crores) (Including all Taxes and GST)	Bid Security (Rs. in Crores)	Time for completion including Monsoon
1	Design, Construction, Testing, Commissioning and Operation & Maintenance of Infrastructure Works at Activation Area Phase-A of Tumakuru Industrial Node under CBIC Scheme, Vasanthanasapura Industrial Area 4th Phase, Tumakuru Taluk & District including Roads, Cross Drainage Structures, Bridges, Utilities, Area Landscaping, Potable & recycle Water Supply Network, Firefighting System, Storm Water Drainage, Residential/Industrial Sewage Network, Industrial Effluent Collection Network, Power infrastructure work including Substation, Sewage/Effluent Pumping Stations, Rising Mains, Water Treatment Plant (WTP), Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP), Administrative Building on EPC Basis including 4 year Operation and Maintenance.(2nd Call)	840.00	16.80	36 Months

The salient features of the project, eligibility criteria and prescribed formats for submission can be accessed in the RFQ cum RFP document uploaded on the website from Government of Karnataka Procurement Portal www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in after 27.09.2021.

Sd/-
Managing Director, CBICITL, Bengaluru

DIPR/DDU/Zen/R.O.1684/2021-22

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



E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No. V, Irrigation and Flood Control Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Near Paryavaran Complex, Saidulajab New Delhi 110030 invites on behalf of President of India, on line percentage rate tender from approved and eligible contractors registered with Irrigation and Flood Control Department up to 3:00 PM on dates mentioned as below.

- NIT 09/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208529_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 4406 Forest. N.O.W. Providing and fixing stone pitch for accumulating rain water in water body near Neeli -Jheel under South Forest Division. E.C. Rs. 78,62,910/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 120 Days. (Date of opening 04.10.2021).
- NIT 25/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208504_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W. Demolishing and reconstruction of roads street at Valmiki Mohalla and Jogi Mohalla Tekhand village in Tughlakabad Constituency AC-52. E.C. Rs. 50,02,547/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of opening 29.09.2021).
- NIT 26/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208532_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W. Demolishing and reconstruction of main road Tekhand village (Durga Mandir to Rohasth electronics and Rohasth electronic to alla Mohalla Tughlakabad Constituency AC-52. E.C. Rs. 80,88,795/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 120 Days. (Date of opening 04.10.2021).
- NIT 27/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208508_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Raising of boundary wall of park in Okhla ward in Okhla Constituency AC-54. E.C. Rs. 23,09,215/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of opening 29.09.2021).
- NIT 28/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208510_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Construction of park near by Abul Fazal Enclave in Okhla Constituency AC-54. E.C. Rs. 14,33,412/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of opening 29.09.2021).
- NIT 29/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208536_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Construction of Gully traps with 150 mm dia RCC pipe and improvement of Syed Road in Okhla Constituency AC-54. E.C. Rs. 75,02,819/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of opening 04.10.2021).
- NIT 30/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208513_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Supplying of RCC Manhole covers and RCC Grating with covers for various drains in Okhla Constituency AC-54. E.C. Rs. 18,44,160/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 45 Days. (Date of opening 29.09.2021).
- NIT 31/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208515_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Providing and fixing Concertina coils fencing and interlocking tiles at Som Vihar Colony in the R.K. Puram Constituency AC-44. E.C. Rs. 33,43,956/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of opening 29.09.2021).
- NIT 32/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208520_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Providing and fixing of 30 Nos. of Security Gates at Greater Kailash Constituency AC-50. E.C. Rs. 25,99,509/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 60 Days. (Date of opening 29.09.2021).
- NIT 33/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208528_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Providing and fixing 50 Nos. Porta Cabin for Guard in various location of R.K. Puram Constituency AC-44. E.C. Rs. 25,35,550/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of opening 29.09.2021).
- NIT 34/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208543_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Providing and fixing 500 Garden benches at various places in Greater Kailash Constituency. E.C. Rs. 71,95,450/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 150 Days. (Date of opening 04.10.2021).
- NIT 35/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208524_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Providing and fixing of 20 Boom barriers at various places in Greater Kailash Constituency AC-50. E.C. Rs. 35,27,043/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 60 Days. (Date of opening 29.09.2021).
- NIT 36/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208544_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Demolishing and reconstruction of roads and street at G-Block Harkesh Nagar Tughlakabad Constituency AC-52. E.C. Rs. 85,81,323/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 120 Days. (Date of opening 04.10.2021).
- NIT 37/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208541_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 2711 Non Plan. N.O.W.- Improvement of RME Pusta road from 0 Mt. to RD 3550 Mt. (Madanpur Khadar to Jaitpur Police Chowki) E.C. Rs. 72,93,025/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 60 Days. (Date of opening 04.10.2021).
- NIT 38/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208545_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Construction of road beside Gurgaon Canal from Molarbund pump house to Shamshah Ghat in Badarpur Constituency AC-53. E.C. Rs. 1,67,97,084/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 180 Days. (Date of opening 04.10.2021).
- NIT 39/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208547_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 4406 Forest. N.O.W.- Construction of 10 Km long boundary wall under South Forest Division. E.C. Rs. 6,45,05,083/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 365 Days. (Date of opening 04.10.2021).
- NIT 40/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208548_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 4406 Forest. N.O.W.- Repair of 10 Km long boundary wall under South Forest Division. E.C. Rs. 5,14,21,479/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 365 Days. (Date of opening 04.10.2021).
- NIT 41/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208552_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 4515 DVDB. N.O.W.- Construction of pipe drain from Indra Enclave Neb Saral water body to Z mode main IGNU road in Chhattarpur Assembly Constituency 46. E.C. Rs. 49,35,815/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of opening 29.09.2021).
- NIT 42/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208554_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 4515 DVDB. N.O.W.- Renovation /Improvement of remaining streets in Saidulajab in Chhattarpur Assembly Constituency 46. E.C. Rs. 20,78,448/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of opening 29.09.2021).

Note:-

- The enlistment of the contractors should be valid on the last date of opening of tenders. In case the last date of opening of tender is extended the enlistment of contractor should be valid on the original date of opening of tenders.
- Details of above mentioned work can be seen and downloaded from website <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>
- Tender submitted through e-procurement portal shall be accepted only.
- Corrigendum, if any will be published on e-procurement web site only.

Sd/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CD-V,
DIP/Shabdath/0325/21-22

NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED
(A Government of India undertaking)

CIN: L74899DL1974GO0007417
A-11, Sector-24, Noida-201301
Phone No: 0120-2412284, Extn-2220

Ref. No. 08-2021-22-NPS-NPK-05EW Date: 25.09.2021

NOTICE INVITING GLOBAL E-TENDER

Bids are invited for supply of loose bulk fertilizers as detailed below:

E-tender No.	Product	Qty. [in MT]	Coast	Last date of bid submission
2021_NFL_89264_1	NPS (20:20:0:13)	25-30,000	ECI	04.10.2021 till 1230 Hrs
	NPS (20:20:0:13)	25-30,000	ECI	
	NPK (12:32:16)	25-30,000	WCI	

For details, visit websites: www.nationalfertilizers.com or <https://etenders.gov.in/procure/app> . Corrigendum/Addendum, if any, shall be published only on above websites.

Executive Director (Marketing)

@NFL_Kisan @nationalfertilizers National Fertilizers Limited

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON (SEE SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person (1) Sunil Kumar S/o Shri Rajendra Singh, (2) Roshni Devi W/o Shri Rajendra Singh, (3) Sonia W/o Sanjay Bhola Three R/o H. No. 171, Bank Wali Gali, Village Auchandi, Delhi has committed (or are suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 461/18 dated 26.11.2018 U/s 498A/406/34 IPC P.S. Bawana, Delhi and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused persons (1) Sunil Kumar (2) Roshni Devi (3) Sonia can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused persons (1) Sunil Kumar (2) Roshni Devi (3) Sonia have absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant), Proclamation are hereby made that the said accused persons (1) Sunil Kumar (2) Roshni Devi (3) Sonia of FIR No. 461/18 dated 26.11.2018 U/s 498A/406/ 34 IPC P.S. Bawana, Delhi are required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before dated 10.11.2021.

By Order
Sh. Vaibhav Mehta
Metropolitan Magistrate-05 (North)
Room No. 114, Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/1285/ON/2021
(Court Matter)

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that this person Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 50-55 Years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Shallow, Build: Normal, Wearing: Only Brown Colour Underwear, was found dead at Train Washing Area in New Delhi Railway Station, on 21.09.2021 at 02:15 PM.

In this regard a DD No. 30 A, dated 21.09.2021 has been lodged at P.S. New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO
P.S. New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi
DP/274/RLY/2021 Ph: 011-23744073, 8750871305

E TENDERING PRESS NOTICE.

The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No.V, Irrigation and Flood Control Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Near Paryavaran Complex, Saidulajab New Delhi 110030 invites on behalf of President of India, on line percentage rate tender from approved and eligible contractors registered with Irrigation and Flood Control Department up to 3:00 PM on dates mentioned as below.

- NIT 43/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208591_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Providing and fixing garbage collection box in Devi Assembly Constituency 47. E.C. Rs. 40,26,737/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of opening 30.09.2021).
- NIT 44/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208592_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 8443 Deposit under MLALAD Fund. N.O.W.- Providing and fixing of M.S. Gate with welcome sign boards at various location in Devi Assembly Constituency AC-47. E.C. Rs. 84,92,521/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 270 Days. (Date of opening 30.09.2021).
- NIT 45/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208595_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 4515 (DVDB). N.O.W.- Improvement of sazra road from Maidan Garhi to Rajpur village Primary School in Chhattarpur Assembly Constituency AC-46. E.C.Rs. 42,41,438/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 120 Days. (Date of opening 30.09.2021).
- NIT 46/2021-22/EE/CD-V/Acs/(ID No. 2021_JFC_208597_1 (Percentage rate). H.O.A:- 4515 (DVDB). N.O.W.- Development of road from MG road CRC House Building to Khari ki chaupal at village Sultanpur in Mehrauli Block. E.C. Rs. 43,27,741/- Earnest Money- Nil. Period of Completion 120 Days. (Date of opening 30.09.2021).

Note:-

- The enlistment of the contractors should be valid on the last date of opening of tenders. In case the last date of opening of tender is extended the enlistment of contractor should be valid on the original date of opening of tenders.
- Details of above mentioned work can be seen and downloaded from website <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>
- Tender submitted through e-procurement portal shall be accepted only.
- Corrigendum, if any will be published on e-procurement web site only.

Sd/-
Dip/Shabdath/0324/21-22
Executive Engineer C.D.V.

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम का कार्यालय नगर पंचायत कोडरमा

(द्वितीय) अति अल्पकालिन ई - निविदा आमंत्रण संख्या - 02/2021-22 दिनांक 23.09.2021

क्र.सं	वार्ड सं	कार्य का नाम	निविदा की राशि	अग्रघन की राशि	परिमाण विमत्र का मूल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1		Construction of Multi Purpose Cultural Complex, in ward 01, Under Nagar Panchayat Koderma.	34477200.00	689544.00	10000.00	9 Months

A	Date of Publication of Tender on website	27-09-2021
B	Last Date / Time for receipt bid on online	11-10-2021
C	Date of Hard copy receiving	18-10-2021
D	Date of opening Tender	20-10-2021
E	Name & Address of office inviting tender	Executive Officer Nagar Panchayat Koderma
F	Helpline No.	8434850985

नोट :- उक्त कार्य के निविदा की राशि में GST की राशि सम्मिलित नहीं है, GST की राशि के लिए सरकार से अधिवाचना की गई है।

हो/-
प्रसासक
नगर पंचायत कोडरमा

PR 253815 Urban Development(21-22)D

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम का कार्यालय नगर पंचायत कोडरमा

(द्वितीय) अति अल्पकालिन ई - निविदा आमंत्रण संख्या - 02/2021-22 दिनांक 23.09.2021

क्र.सं	वार्ड सं	कार्य का नाम	निविदा की राशि	अग्रघन की राशि	परिमाण विमत्र का मूल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1		Construction of Multi Purpose Cultural Complex, in ward 01, Under Nagar Panchayat Koderma.	34477200.00	689544.00	10000.00	9 Months

A	Date of Publication of Tender on website	27-09-2021
B	Last Date / Time for receipt bid on online	11-10-2021
C	Date of Hard copy receiving	18-10-2021
D	Date of opening Tender	20-10-2021
E	Name & Address of office inviting tender	Executive Officer Nagar Panchayat Koderma
F	Helpline No.	8434850985

नोट :- उक्त कार्य के निविदा की राशि में GST की राशि सम्मिलित नहीं है, GST की राशि के लिए सरकार से अधिवाचना की गई है।

हो/-
प्रसासक
नगर पंचायत कोडरमा

PR 253815 Urban Development(21-22)D

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

No. GBPI/Admn/2021/ Corrigendum Date: 24.09.2021

With reference to the advertisement No. GBPI-3/2021 of the Institute (GBPNIHE), which was published in Indian Express on 12.04.2021. It is to inform to all concerned that the advertisement for the post of Scientist-C (EWS) of the said advertisement (Sl. No. 2 of detailed advertisement) is cancelled due to unavoidable circumstances. The application fee of Rs. 500/- received from the candidates whose applications have been received by the Institute will be sent back through speed post. All other contents of the advertisement mentioned ibid will remain as such.

Administrative Officer

verka
The Punjab State Cooperative Milk Producers Federation Ltd, Chandigarh procuring Packaging Materials i.e. Compagated Boxes for Different Milk Products, Defense and Export Ghee Tins for the period of three months through e-Auctions at NCDFI e-Market across Punjab from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM on 27.09.2021. Interested suppliers/vendors are invited to register and participate in above said e-auction through www.ncdfimarket.com portal.

For registration:
Contact: + 91 8058926531; +91 8978601585
e-mail: contracts@ncdfimarket.com

उष्ण कटिबंधीय वन अनुसंधान संस्थान
(भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद)
(पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की एक स्वायत्त परिषद)
डकसर - आरएफओआरसीओ, मण्डला रोड, जबलपुर-482 021

TROPICAL FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education)
(An Autonomous Council under the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change Govt. of India)
P.O.-R.F.R.C, Mandla Road, JABALPUR- 482 021 (M.P)
No. 15-1(B)/Equipment/2021-22/Pur/TFRI/JBP/881 dt. 24/09/2021

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR : SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENTS
No. 2021-22/TFRI/JBP/01

Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur invites online tenders for the supply of equipment from eligible bidders. Details may be obtained online at MoEFCC web site <http://moefcc.eunivbidsrde.com> and <http://tfri.icfre.org>. Last date for submission of bids is 25/10/2021. Bids shall be submitted online only at MoEFCC web site. Manual bids will not be accepted.

Sd/-
Co-ordinator (F), TFRI, Jabalpur

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male Namely Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown Age: about 50-55 years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Hair Beard & Moustache: Black & White, Wearing: White coloured shorts and Barefoot, was lying in dead condition on 20.09.2021 Near Kodya Pul, H.C. Sen Marg, Chandni Chowk, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for 72 hours at the mortuary of AAAG Hospital, Subzi Mandi, Delhi. In this regard a DD No.68-A, dated 20.09.2021 u/s 174 Cr.P.C. has been lodged at P.S. Kotwali, Delhi.

If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.

SHO
P.S. Kotwali, Delhi
DP/1537/N/2021 Ph.: 011-23977100, 23953442

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of work and its location	30-Elect-06-T-2021-22-E3 Electrical work in connection with renovation of 3rd floor of Rail Bhawan including setting up of war room, meeting room, visitor lounge, VC room and other offices.
Approx cost of the works	Rs. 94.23 lacs
Address of the office	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.
Earnest Money	Rs. 00.00
Date & time of submission of tender	18.10.2021, 12.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender	18.10.2021, 12.00 Hrs.
Website & notice board	www.irps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

2148/2021

Serving Customers with a Smile

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of work and its location	30-Elect-06-T-2021-22-E3 Electrical work regarding 300 KVA electrical connection for food plaza at New Delhi Railway station Ajmeri Gate side.
Approx cost of the works in	Rs. 37.85 lacs
Address of the office	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
Earnest Money	Rs.00.00
Date & time of submission of tender	18.10.2021, 12.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender	18.10.2021, 12.00 Hrs.
Website & notice board	www.irps.gov.in & Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi

2150/2021

Serving Customers With A Smile

महाराष्ट्र रेल इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर डेवलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड
MAHARASHTRA RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(महाराष्ट्र शासन आणि रेल्वे मंत्रालय यांचा संयुक्त उपक्रम)
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of Maharashtra and Ministry of Railways)

Notice Inviting E-Tender
E-Tender No. MRIDC/PROJ/e-TENDER/CSB/TILAK/2021/134

MRIDC is inviting E-bids from the eligible bidders for the work mentioned below:

a. Name of Work: Construction of Cable Stayed Road Over Bridge (Tilak Bridge) Near Dadar Railway Station, connecting Dr. N.C. Kelkar Road & Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Road (in between Railway Km. EP/9/108 to EPDR 8002) in Mumbai Suburban B. Estimated Cost: ₹ 216,16,04,767/- c. Completion Period: 640 Days. d. Last Date and Time for Submission of Bid: 19/10/2021 up to 15:00 Hrs.

Interested bidders who wish to participate should visit MRIDC's official website www.maharail.com or e-bidding portal www.tenderwizard.in/MAHARAIL to bid their offer.

Any Addendum / Corrigendum to this notice will be uploaded on the above-mentioned websites only. MANAGING DIRECTOR

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED
"A State Government Undertaking"

"PRESS TENDER NOTICE"
(E-Tendering Mode only)

FC Goa thrash Delhi FC 5-1 to enter Durand Cup semis



FC Goa players celebrate a goal in their 5-1 win over Delhi FC during their Durand Cup quarterfinal. Durand Cup

FC Goa marched into the Durand Cup semi-finals with a dominating 5-1 win over Delhi FC in Kalyani, West Bengal on Friday. Goals from Devendra Murgaokar, Muhammed Nemil and Brandon Fernandez in the first-half, along with strikes from Leander D'Cunha and Romario Jesuraj in the second half added to the Goa club's tally at the Kalyani Stadium. Delhi FC's consolation goal came courtesy Nikhil Mali.

In the 15th minute, Murgaokar scored the opener and his fourth of the tournament to put the Gaurs ahead. Nemil scored the second goal three minutes later to double the lead. Brandon then lobbed a curler from the left flank over Delhi keeper Lovepreet in added time to give Goa a

three-goal cushion at half time. Delhi FC looked the better team after the restart and started to dictate play. They pulled one back in the 82nd minute through Mali, who scored after Plaza's dummy left him with enough space to find a finish.

It took Goa just a couple of minutes to regain the three-goal margin D'Cunha scored from mistimed overhead kick. Jesuraj scored the fifth goal in injury time to seal a spot in the semi-final for FC Goa. The Goa team will next play the winner of the fourth quarterfinal between Bengaluru FC and Army Green, for a spot in the final.

The other semi-finalists are Mohammedan Sporting and Bengaluru United. PTI

Former Real Madrid coach is now East Bengal assistant coach

Former Real Madrid coach Angel Puebla Garcia has been appointed as the deputy to SC East Bengal head coach Manuel 'Manolo' Diaz, the club announced on Friday. He will also be fulfilling the responsibilities of a strength and fitness coach. With close to two decades of coaching experience, Garcia worked with the likes of Vicente del Bosque at Real Madrid between 1993-94 and Rafael Benitez in Real Madrid and Real Valladolid between 1994-1996 as both football conditioning and assistant coach. A UEFA Pro License holder who has also cut his teeth in sports science, fitness and conditioning with multiple degrees to show for, Garcia has worked closely with players of the ilk of David Villa and David Silva also working with the Georgia national team in 2008.

"I am happy to be part of such a big club like SC East Bengal. I have worked in some of the finest football clubs and with some of the best coaches. I know what it takes to bring the winning mentality and that is what we will try to do here," Garcia said. PTI

Indian women's team to travel abroad for friendly matches

The Indian women's football team will play multiple international friendlies, starting next week in the UAE, as part of its preparation for the 2022 AFC Asian Cup at home. The team, that has been training in Jamshedpur for a month, will play two friendlies against the United Arab Emirates and Tunisia. The team will leave for the UAE on September 30. The team will then travel to Bahrain to play two more friendlies against Bahrain and Chinese Taipei. That is likely to be followed by a brief stint in Sweden, where they are set to face two Damallsvenskan league teams, subject to permission from authorities about Indians arriving in Sweden.

Head Coach Thomas Dennerby said in a release issued by AIF: "We are in the process of sorting out the travel protocol to the country as entry of Indian citizens to Sweden is still not open yet. Unfortunately, the current pandemic situation is tough and the reality is that there are different quarantine restrictions in different countries." PTI

How Hamilton's stranglehold on the F1 title is being challenged

Red Bull driver Verstappen has a five-point lead over Hamilton

SHASHANK NAIR
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 24

LEWIS HAMILTON'S dominating five-year run at the apex of Formula One is being challenged for the first time. Nico Rosberg, who won the 2016 World Championship, was the last person to thwart the Brit. This time Red Bull's Max Verstappen has put up a strong challenge for Hamilton's throne. The Belgian-Dutch driver is 23-years-old - a year older what Hamilton was when he won his first world title with McLaren. This will also be the first time since 2012 that a car from another team is challenging for Mercedes' crown. The youngster made his F1 debut in 2015, the year Hamilton won his third title. His season best so far was when finished third the past two years.

How is Mercedes' dominance being challenged?

The Mercedes F1 team has been at the apex of the sport for the past five years. It has done so by combining a superior car and the skilled driver in Hamilton, who is now closing in on breaking Michael Schumacher's record for most world titles - both have won seven World Championships each. But all great cycles in sport come to an end. While Mercedes continues to have a car worthy of winning the World Championship, Red Bull have created a vehicle that can compete against the German manufacturers. At the helm of it is Verstappen, a young Dutch driver who has a five-point lead over Hamilton with eight races left in the season. Verstappen has benefited from an RB16B car that is able to accelerate from slower corners better than most other cars on the circuit.

Which circuits help which of the two drivers in the final eight races of the season?

The Russian GP, which is set to have its qualifying session on Saturday, has historically been a Mercedes stronghold. But this is the best Red Bull car in years and Mercedes winning this race is not set in stone. As for the rest of the circuits, both the Mexican and Interlagos (Brazilian) GP are high downforce tracks and play right into the hands of Red Bull. Other than Russia,



Belgian-Dutch driver Max Verstappen is in a strong position to end Lewis Hamilton's reign as Formula One World Champion. AP

there really is no track that Hamilton and the Mercedes engineers could point to and call their own. Both Austin (US) and Istanbul (Turkish), set to host their own GPs, have a combination of high speed sweeps that Mercedes seems to excel in, and also the slower corners from where Verstappen can shoot out faster than any car in the F1. Since there will be no Japanese GP, reports seem to suggest that Qatar would host it instead.

Is there a rivalry between the two?

Aside from which circuit favours whom, there is also the matter of a personal rivalry that has grown between the two.

Monza showed that Verstappen would rather crash into the Brit driver than give him room to overtake. Verstappen cannot say the same for Hamilton. There have been instances this season where Hamilton has allowed room to pass. As the 36-year-old's experience has grown, so has the knowledge that one corner or one lap might not always decide a race. "That's really just through experience you find that balance and you know it's not all won on one corner, so there will be other opportunities," Hamilton said ahead of the Russian GP. "I know what it's like having to fight for your

first championship and your eagerness and you go through lots of different experiences and emotions during that time. I do believe that we will continue to get stronger and I'm hopeful that we won't have any more incidents through the year."

Hamilton also spoke about how the pressure was going to keep mounting on Verstappen in his first ever real challenge for the title. The youngster though pleased with Hamilton's comments and said, "Yeah, I'm so nervous I can barely sleep. I mean, it's so horrible to fight for a title. I really hate it. Those comments, it just shows you that he really doesn't know me - which is fine. I also don't need to know him, how he is. I'm very relaxed about all those things and I really can't be bothered, I'm very chilled."

Whose engine can hold on longer?

There is also the issue of engines. Because Verstappen lost his power unit during a crash at Silverstone, he will most likely need to serve a grid penalty. Considering that he will be also facing a three-grid penalty for the Monza incident, now might be a good time for Red Bull to get the engine penalty out of the way as well.

The new power unit will ideally put the advantage on the back of Verstappen's car with a fresher engine for the remainder of the season. But this could be mitigated if Mercedes too pull the plug on their engine and get Hamilton to serve out a grid penalty.

Aus women hold nerve, beat India in last-ball thriller

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MACKAY, SEPTEMBER 24

India and their premier bowler Jhulan Goswami failed to keep their nerves in a dramatic final over as Beth Mooney's brilliant unbeaten hundred ensured a five-wicket win for Australia - their 26th on the trot - in the second women's ODI here on Friday. Australia thus took a 2-0 lead in the three-match WODI series and India's fragile bowling attack will now come under the scanner. It was a match that was in India's pocket till the 25th over of the Australian innings but Mooney, with an unbeaten 125, stunned the visitors in the third highest chase of all-time in women's cricket by knocking off a target of 275.

In fact, the Indian team prematurely celebrated when Goswami's waist high full-toss was hit straight to mid-wicket by Mooney but, to their horror, it turned out to be a no-ball. It was marginal as Goswami's last ball was sent towards wide long-on for a couple to finish the match.

With 13 needed off the last over, old guard Goswami was handed the ball with Mooney (125 off 133 balls) and Nicola Carey (39 not out off 38 balls) on the rampage on a dew-laden night.

Keeper Richa Ghosh and Poonam Yadav were put under extreme pressure as they got five off first two and Goswami accidentally bowled a beamer that hit Carey flush on the helmet with the umpire rightly signalling a no-ball.

Ghosh's inexperience was once came through as she missed a run-out when five were required off last two balls as the no-ball drama changed the course of the game. But it was more about poor show from Indian spinners Deepti Sharma and Poonam Yadav that led to Australia making a comeback after being 52 for 4.

It was the highest total scored against Australia since their winning streak started in 2018.

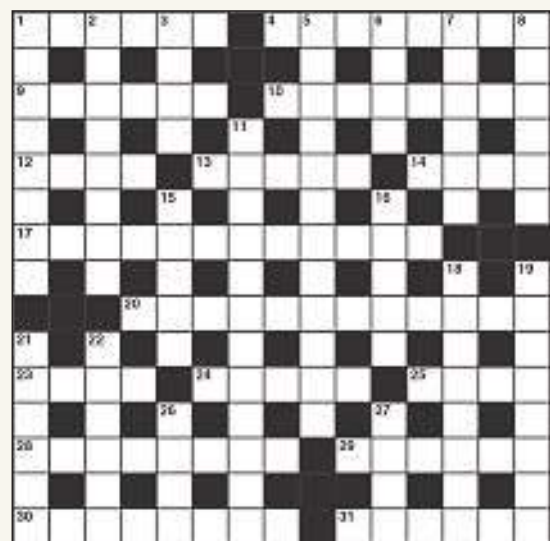
Mooney and Tahlia McGrath (74 off 77 balls) consolidated in style during their 126-run fifth-wicket stand.

Meanwhile Gayakwad was steady with her wicket-to-wicket lines, young Meghna and seasoned Jhulan also tried keeping things tight.

However, in the 42nd over bowled by Vastrakar, the seasoned Mooney got two boundaries to put Mithali Raj's brigade under real pressure. Earlier, Mandhana hit a fluent 86 to guide India to a competitive 274 for 7 as India batters gave a far better account of themselves compared to the first WODI.

BRIEF SCORES: India 274 for 7 (Mandhana 86, Ghosh 44, Goswami 28*, McGrath 3-45, Molnueux 2-28) lost to Australia 275 for 5 (Mooney 125*, McGrath 74, Carey 39*) by five wickets.

CROSSWORD 4544



- ACROSS**
- Choke that adjusts itself (6)
 - Bitterness shown by Army CO in trouble (8)
 - Roadworks in order (6)
 - Cut off with wrongly set compass (8)
 - Takes pleasure in excavations (4)
 - About to bet on a race (5)
 - Fruitless sort of raid (4)
 - Marvellously impressed? (12)
 - They need money to pursue their hobby (12)
 - Small number preceding on time (4)
 - A capital atmosphere in a small business house (5)
 - Work not for bread alone (4)
 - One can't sleep through it (8)
 - No rise for those more advanced in service (6)
 - Aviation spirits (8)
 - Make sharp attack upon Reformed Church (6)
- DOWN**
- One way to get a rate reduction (4,4)
 - Poor inn I'd get organised properly (8)
 - Placed a cover outside (4)
 - Odd thing to say (6,6)
 - Anger about a point in the matter (2,2)
 - They have news or distribute it (6)
 - Admits defeat and returns (6)
 - Drops from hard work (12)
 - Agitated man gets put out (3,2)
 - Novelist and explorer (5)
 - Subject of reforming eastern nations (8)
 - See Corfu anyway, even if you have to press for it (3,5)
 - Close to a conclusion (6)
 - Mix us some dessert (6)
 - Foreigner? Nominally a man who raises fruit (4)
 - Block vote? (4)

Solutions Crossword 4543: Across: 1 Holes, 4 Trigger, 8 Add, 9 Escalator, 10 Decimal, 11 Cedar, 13 Rookie, 15 Stocks, 18 Pesos, 19 Regiment, 21 Priceless, 23 Tub, 24 Riposte, 25 Order. Down: 1 Hoarder, 2 Ludicrous, 3 Steam, 4 Tackle, 5 Illicit, 6 Gut, 7 Rarer, 12 Decimated, 14 Insteps, 16 Sand bar, 17 Grieve, 18 Paper, 20 Gusto, 22 Imp.

JUMBLED WORDS

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

Rules are not necessarily sacred, ___ are - Franklin D. Roosevelt (10)

PPEIR EGORCN

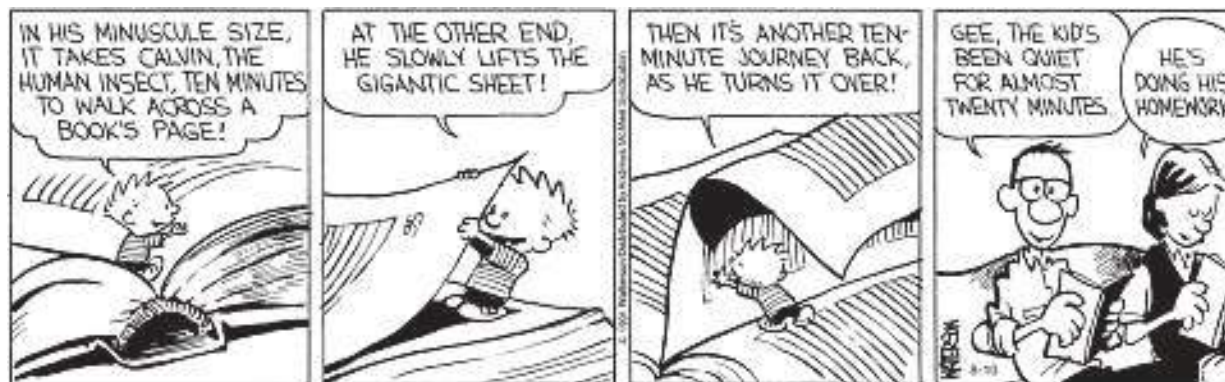
CEILS IOTTPP

SOLUTION: PPEIR, PEPER, SICE, CONFER, TITTOP

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4605

Difficulty Level 3s
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 4604



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
Your interest in exotic places and foreign cultures will soon inspire you to plan an overseas break. Accept opportunities which come your way, and in the meantime focus your energy on co-operation in all routine affairs; the way to prepare the ground for adventure is to deal with the details first.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
Put extra effort into domestic and routine affairs, and get escalating chores under control. But do take advantage of spreading social opportunities. There may not be much to worry you, so be sure to fulfil previous engagements and, if time permits, accept new invitations.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Make an early start, especially if you've vital correspondence to catch up with or short journeys to make. You may hear some interesting news about a relative or close companion, and must rearrange your plans accordingly. By the way, there is much to be done before partners are ready to see your point of view.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
If necessary, spend some time sorting out your financial affairs and making plans for future investments and purchases. Resolving a complex relationship may be rather hard work, but will be well worth the effort in the long run. Strangely, in the short term, domestic pressures will ease.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
You may have cause to be out and about on family business, perhaps making profitable arrangements. The Moon, though, points to sharp swings in mood as time progresses. I am afraid that is unavoidable, but then you'll also have the chance to duck out of a tedious responsibility.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sept 23)
This should be a lively period, but you'll be able to take events at your own pace. If you've been in a rather solitary mood, you may now begin to feel more active, outgoing and sociable. And that has to be good news, especially if you are determined to right an old wrong.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23)
Balance professional demands with family commitments. Work hard and play hard is the message, though perhaps an unexpected one for your sign. You're in the mood for a flutter, and may be on a winning streak. But, there could be twelve weeks of wrangling before your goals are finally reached.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)
It's a time to think about your ideals and vision of the future, and plans formulated now could prove to have fascinating effects when implemented. Certainly, friends and associates will be pleasantly surprised by your change of approach.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)
Get your cash-flow under control now, otherwise you will find money draining away in a trickle that is in danger of becoming a flood. You are under broadly helpful influences if travel plans are under way, although many short journeys are more likely than one long one.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
Your personal interests may take second place today, which is not necessarily a bad thing. Use the opportunity to see what you can learn from colleagues, and take a leaf out of someone else's book as far as emotional issues are concerned. After all, if they're doing it right, you have something to learn.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
An active time coping with mundane tasks should prepare you adequately for future responsibilities. Romantic trends are now prospering from Venus' positive position, and you may make extra time for unexpected socialising. Watch out for hidden costs, including emotional ones, though.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
Entertainments and enjoyable encounters may have to be delayed if working responsibilities and domestic chores are not settled soon. Above all, keep others well informed of your plans and progress. If there was ever a time to tell partners what you're doing, this is it.

Bravo Chennai

A sharp spell by all-rounder & solid batting set up CSK's 6 wicket-win over RCB; Dhoni's side go atop table



Dwayne Bravo pulls out the 'Champions' dance after dismissing RCB skipper Virat Kohli. [iplt20.com](#)

SYNOPSIS: CSK's man for all seasons sets up easy chase as RCB's conservative approach backfires

TUSHAR BHADURI
SEPTEMBER 24

IT WAS a captaincy contest between the mentor and his protégé, and M S Dhoni won it hands down. Sharjah is known as a graveyard for bowlers, but not only did the Chennai Super Kings skipper keep Royal Challengers Bangalore to a modest score – despite an opening century partnership – his batsmen then showed how to keep the foot on the accelerator throughout. CSK reclaimed top spot on the points table as RCB suffered a second straight loss after the restart.

Man for all seasons

Ruturaj Gaikwad saved CSK from embarrassment in their previous match, and showed that he can adjust admirably to a different match situation. Chasing a moderate total, Gaikwad and Faf du Plessis made good use of the new ball, which seemed the easier time to bat, to put their team well on its way.

Their stand of 71 in little more than eight overs dashed any realistic RCB hopes of successfully defending a score of 156. Both got out at the same score, and despite the pitch offering decent assistance to leg-spinners Yuzvendra Chahal and Wanindu Hasaranga, the chase was always in control and completed with 11 balls to spare.

The veteran South African showed his intent early by engineering a daring scoop shot off speedster Navdeep Saini, before Gaikwad took charge against the spinners using his feet to hit straight and also bringing out both versions of the sweep.

Gaikwad showed an aggressive streak walking down to Harshal Patel and slamming

	M	W	L	NRR	Pts
CSK	9	7	2	+1.185	14
DC	9	7	2	+0.613	14
RCB	8	5	4	-0.720	10
KKR	9	4	5	+0.363	8
RR	8	4	4	-0.154	8
MI	9	4	5	-0.310	8
PK	9	3	6	-0.345	6
SRH	8	1	7	-0.689	2

him past mid-off while du Plessis ended the Powerplay by taking Saini to the cleaners, ensuring that the likes of Moeen Ali, Ambati Rayudu and Suresh Raina didn't face much pressure.

Conservatism backfires

With a first over bringing 13 runs, RCB fans would have been looking at a 200+ score. But the openers took the conventional route, setting the platform for an onslaught later on. Kohli and Devdutt Padikkal were steady and consistent, rather than electric, an approach probably more suited to conditions in Dubai or Abu Dhabi.

With AB de Villiers and Glenn Maxwell to follow, an opening partnership of 111 in just over 13 overs was a two-edged sword. Kohli and Padikkal looked in control for the most part, but in hindsight, needed to push the pedal a bit more after settling in. If anything, the stand went the other direction.

Being 55/0 after the Powerplay should have allowed a more aggressive approach. Even at 90/0 at the halfway stage, there was hardly an inkling that the subsequent 10 overs would yield just 66 runs. The openers got their individual half-centuries, but once the stand was broken, RCB slumped to 45/6 in 6.5 overs.



CSK's Ruturaj Gaikwad scored 38 off 26 to forge a 71 run opening partnership with Faf du Plessis. [iplt20.com](#)

The subsequent batsmen struggled to come to terms with a slower-than-expected surface. They knew the history of the venue where 220-plus has not always been a safe score, but in the quest for a bigger score surrendered the initiative altogether.

Both De Villiers and Maxwell hadn't had any competitive cricket since the IPL was suspended in early May, and even for pedigreed performers like them, it may have been too much to expect them to hit the ground running against bowlers who executed their skills admirably at the death. They managed the odd big hit, but it wasn't enough for the team's cause. RCB batting is usually top-heavy and there was precious little contribution from those following them.

Banker leaks runs

Deepak Chahar has often been Dhoni's banker in the Powerplays, getting vital wickets with a swinging ball as batsmen falter while taking the game to him. He is not the quickest, but movement either way frustrates those going for the big hit. Often, the skipper would use him for three of the first six overs and sometimes even bowl him out in one go.

But on a postage-size ground with a flat pitch, Chahar's Plan A was found wanting. When he tried to extract swing by bowling it full, he found little joy as he was spanked for three boundaries by Kohli and Padikkal in the first over. The first ball drifted into Kohli's pads and was tickled to the fine-leg fence. Next ball, the RCB skipper flicked an incoming delivery over midwicket for another four. The last ball of the over was a long half-volley which Padikkal creamed through the covers.

Things didn't look up for Chahar in his second over either. A wide offering to the left-handed opener got what it deserved. That forced the bowler to go his variation of a knuckleball, but Kohli came down the pitch and used a tennis forehand-style shot for another boundary.

His first two overs went for 23 and forced Dhoni to bowl Josh Hazlewood for three overs in the Powerplay.

When Chahar returned in the 12th over, it didn't start well for him again. A short and wide cutter from round the stumps was clobbered by Padikkal through the off-side.

But with the other CSK bowlers rising to the challenge, and using pace off the ball and pulling their length back – Dwayne Bravo and Shardul Thakur were the chief protagonists – RCB were kept well below what would have been a par score at Sharjah.

BRIEF SCORES: Chennai Super Kings 157 for 4 (Gaikwad 38, Rayudu 32, Harshal 2-25) beat Royal Challengers Bangalore 156 for 6 (Padikkal 70, Kohli 53, Bravo 3-24, Thakur 2-29) by six wickets

EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER

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

The first scoop of delight



Faf du Plessis scored 31 off 26 against RCB. [iplt20.com](#)

Even as Faf du Plessis shuffled across to lap-scoop a pacy delivery from Navdeep Saini to the fine-leg boundary, Simon Doull and Murali Kartik on air started to discuss who was the inventor of that shot. Doull reckoned Zimbabwe's Flower brothers, Andy and Grant, and Guy Whittall had attempted these. Murali Kartik plumped for Douglas Marillier, who swatted Glenn McGrath in a thrilling last over in 2001 (he lapped two fours off attempted yorkers but Zimbabwe lost by a run). Doull cued up Australia's Ryan Campbell who played the closest to the modern-day lap in 2002 against Sri Lanka's Nuwan Zoysa. "I am just wondering someone in 90s played that shot," went Doull. Hey Doullie, perhaps you are remembering your countryman Dion Nash in 1998. Another last over thriller it was. Shaun Pollock

had the ball with New Zealand needing 7 off 2. Nash shuffled a touch towards off, bent down and paddled Pollock to fine-leg. The exhilaration at the choice of shot (Tony Greig on air would manage "what a beautiful little paddle shot!") was brutally cut short as the commentators, players, and umpire started to sweat whether it was a six or a four as it had landed on the rope. Rope meant four then. There were two ropes adjacent to each other which overlapped at one point and after replays, it was judged to be a four. Nash would hole out to deep mid-wicket next ball when Lance Klusener took a good running catch and a distraught Nash trudged off. History would perhaps be kinder to him as that "beautiful little paddle shot" was perhaps the real progenitor of the modern-day version of the lap.

To yawn is human...Davidine

Tim David let out a yawn on the sprawling sofa inside the dressing room. In full gear, baring the helmet. He stretched his limbs,

slumped back over the sofa, tilted his head, and kept yawning, his mouth agape. The moment, funnily or embarrassingly, was caught on the camera. In the dug-out that hugged the pitch, Simon Doull was mining info on the latest IPL debutant, who turns up for Singapore, from Sanjay Bangar, and the smart producer might have thought it was the appropriate time to introduce David to the world. The timing was incredible—he was yawning just when Bangar was waxing lyrical on David's energy and intensity. Maybe, he was still jet-lagged, maybe the action that was unfolding in the middle wasn't thrilling enough (Virat Kohli and Devdutt Padikkal were dealing at a strike rate of 130-135 thereabouts, while our hero belts at 154), or maybe it was his way of dealing with nerves (yawning, some neuroscientists believe, is a stress-buster), or maybe it was the sheer restlessness of sitting geared-up for his IPL debut. His wait only stretched longer, as the openers ate up 13.2 overs. And instead of him, they sent AB de Villiers next. You could imagine how he would have reacted to the decision. With a yawn obviously! To yawn, after all, is human.

Oi! goes Kohli, Jads like that



The exclamation escaped Virat Kohli's lips after he was stunned by how much Ravindra Jadeja spun the ball. It had landed outside leg stump and broke right across his startled jab and went past the off stump. Oi! went Kohli. He let out a chuckle. So did Jadeja. Only man who didn't show much surprise was of course MS Dhoni who had his right gloves in the right place to pouch it. Where did that turn come from, though? In fact the top soil came off a touch on that occasion – a puff of dust flew up as the ball gripped and spun. This pitch isn't known for much turn. Perhaps, it's down to the newly-re-laid surface after the last IPL which is yet to settle down, maybe. Kohli fell next over, swat-flicking Dwayne Bravo straight to the deep midwicket fielder. And Kohli had a wry smile at the missed six.

How Chakravarthy can be India's main weapon at World T20



Spinner Varun Chakravarthy prefers the flat tracks where he can hustle with his pace and slight turn.

SRIRAM VEERA
SEPTEMBER 24

DURING THE last year's IPL, not long after he took out MS Dhoni twice among others, Varun Chakravarthy has been inked as the main weapon in Virat Kohli's T20 World Cup plans. It's learnt that the team management had apprised him of their plans and told him to get his fitness sorted. As it turned out, he would fail a fitness test a couple of months later but clearly, he will be India's main spinner in the next month's ICC event. He has sparkled in the couple of games, this IPL as well.

How did he take out Dhoni last year?

The first dismissal had shown his character. A short of a length ball outside off had been skewered to the extra cover boundary but he bounced back with a slightly slower, fuller slider that landed on the off and pegged back the middle and leg stump, beating a hook. The dismissal in the next encounter between the two was more memorable. It revealed his guile and the ability to surprise even a veteran like Dhoni. This time,

it was a pacy 107 kmph snorter that skidded on towards the middle to beat Dhoni's hurried stab and knocked out the leg stump. Almost immediately Dhoni looked across at Chakravarthy with a bemused look. Chakravarthy of course was busy wiping off any possible emotion from spilling out of him and walked away slowly. The two would later have a chat at the end of the game.

Do we know why he doesn't celebrate more?

In a recent televised chat with his team-mate Andre Russell, he explained his 'yeah whatever shrug' after taking wickets. It's because he "doesn't want to get off from my process. If I end up celebrating too much, I can forget what I have to do next ball. But later on, I do celebrate!"

How did he go against Mumbai Indians on Thursday night and in his first game against RCB?

Very economical. He finished his four overs within the first 11 overs, giving away just 22 runs. Mumbai were going hammer

and tongs at the start but it was Chakravarthy and Sunil Narine who applied the brakes in some style. With his combination of finger-flicking sliders and googlies, he kept the batsmen quiet.

Against RCB, he was rewarded with three wickets. He got two in two, taking out Glenn Maxwell and Hazaranga with googlies. Maxwell had lined up for his big swipe but it broke in and went past the bat to fall on the leg stump. Hazaranga prodded forward without much clue and was taken out lbw.

What sort of pitches does he prefer?

He says he prefers the flat tracks where he can hustle with his pace and slight turn. "For my style of bowling, turning wickets don't suit much. Like in Chennai (turners). But flat tracks suit me." With the T20 world cup to be played in UAE, it would be perfect for him and India.

Is he good against the left-handed batsmen too?

Yes, the wickets of David Warner and Nicolas Poonan are reminders of his ability. He took out Warner last year with a googly from the middle stump line. Warner shaped to defend to the on side but got a leading edge back to the bowler. "I wanted Warner's wicket. I was preparing for him," he would say later. He has taken out Poonan and Rishabh Pant too.

What did Kohli say when Chakravarthy failed the 'yo-yo' test last March?

"Look individuals need to understand the systems that have been created for the Indian cricket team. We should operate at the very high levels of fitness and skills and that's why this (India team) is top of the ladder when playing cricket, in our country. We would expect players to abide by what's required to be a part of Team India. There shouldn't be space for any compromise, in that regard," Kohli said on March 12. Just a day earlier, the KKR CEO Venky Mysore had tweeted about Chakravarthy: "he has more skills than most we have seen, but maybe a few seconds slower in a sprint...I wonder how many greats of yesteryears, cricket would have lost, based on the current "standards"!"