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The pandemic has prompted many to leave cities and find peace in smaller places, or to return to their family homes PAGES 16, 17, 18



IASBABA

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Our UPSC-CSE 2020 Toppers





Jagrati Awasthi **RANK 2**



Arth Jain RANK 16



Podishetty Srija RANK 20



Vaishali Jain RANK 21



Pulkit Singh RANK 26



Divya Mishra **RANK 28**



Divyanshu Choudhary RANK 30



Varuna Agrawal **RANK 38**



Anant Dwivedi RANK 40



Ashish Kumar Mishra RANK 52



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Baba's Foundation Course

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Features

- One-to-One Mentorship
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- Focus on Fundamentals & Conceptual Understanding
- Total -75 Prelims Tests and 34 Mains Tests (including 10 Essay Test)
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- Connecting the Dots Sessions by Experts & Toppers
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- **Extra-Curricular activities**

New Batch Starts on October 18th at Delhi



Gurukul

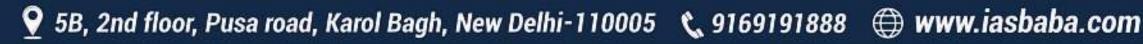
A Rigorous & Intensive Test based Program under the Guidance of Mohan Sir (Founder, IASBABA)

- One-to-One Mentorship by Mohan Sir
- Integrated (Prelims + Mains+ Interview) Course Duration of 8 Months -October 2021 to May 2022.
- Total 138 Tests 75 MAINS Tests + 63 PRELIMS Tests (including 10 CSAT)
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- Strong Peer Group and dedicated Study Centre
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- Babapedia-One Stop Destination for Current Affairs

Note: The 2nd Entrance Test is Scheduled on October 16th



ADMISSIONS OPEN









Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,intend to change the name of my wife mistakenly written as Sujata in my service documents while as the correct name of my wife is Sigirisetty Sujatha and same will remain forever. If anybody having objection any report in my office is 15 Corps Engg Sig Regt.C/O-56 APO station, Old Air Field Budgam.

0020427408-I,YATIN S/O HARBANS GULATI R/O 152/15 ASHOK NAGAR. ROHTAK-124001.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO YATIN GULATI, FOR ALL PURPOSES.

0040585947-4

I.Vishwa Bandhu.S/o-Shvam Sunder Sachdeva, R/o-90/51, SF, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017, have changed my name from Vishwa Bandhu to Vishwa Bandhu Sachdeva for all future purposes. 0040585957-1

I,Shyam Sunder,S/o D R Sachdeva.R/o-90/51.SF. Malviya Nagar New Delhi-110017, have changed my name from Shyam Sunder to Shyam Sunder Sachdeva for all future purposes. 0040585957-2 I,Sharvan Kumar,R/o-

6080,Gali.No.2, Block No. 2,Dev Nagar,Karol Bagh, New Delhi, inform that in my Son's (Dipanshu Sablania)School records, my name & his mother name has wrongly mentioned as Sharwan Sablania, Dipanshu Sahlania & Geeta Sahlania instead of Sharvan Kumar, Dipanshu & Geeta Rani. Affidavit, No.-IN-L27276361578292T Issue Date-22-September 2021.

0040585957-4

I,Sushila Devi is legally wedded spouse of TL-6136A .Sub Gulab Singh, presently residing at Khar Khari Sohan, Tehsil-Tosham, District-Bhiwani (Haryana)-1270040. In my husband's service documents my name has been wrongly mentioned as Sushil Devi instead of Sushila Devi.It needs correction. Objections be filed to concerned authorities within seven days.

0020427406-1

I,Sanjeev Kashyap,S/o Dharmveer R/o-25/122A. Gali No.10, Vishwas Nagar, Shahdara Delhi-110032, have changed my name to Sanjeev Kumar Kashyap, for all purposes 0040585947-9

Mahinder Singh Bhardwaj, R/o 29-D.Plot. No.108, IP.Extension. Near Max Hospital, Sanchar Lok Apartment, Patpar Ganj, East-Delhi, Delhi-110092, have changed my minor daughter's name,from Suhani aged-15 years to Suhani Bhardwaj, for all future purposes. 0040585952-7

I,Roopak Bhardwaj,S/o

I,Rama Kumari,W/O Mahinder Pratap Wig R/o.H.no.124 H.B colony-Sector-23 Faridabad Haryana-121005, Have Changed my Name to Rama Wig, for All purposes 0040585952-2

I,RAMAN KUMAR,S/O Nanak gali.no-13, Harsh vihar, Delhi-110093.have changed the name of my minor son Onand age-14years and he shall hereafter be known as AYANSH RAMAN, for all the, future purposes.

0040585952-9 I,RAJ RATAN S/O SAKET BIHARI, R/O 347. JAIN NAGAR, KARALA. DELHI-110081.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RAJ RATNA.

0040585947-5 **I,Parveena** Negi,W/O Lachaman Sinah Neai R/O.H.No-218. Phase-1A, Om Vihar, Uttam Nagar, New-Delhi-110059, Have Changed my Name to Praveena

I.Montul Rajak.S/O-Shri Bindeshwari Raiak, R/O-Jhuqqi No-1917,Block-E, JJ Colony, Shahbad Dairy, Sahibabad Daulat Pur, Delhi-110042, have changed my name to Mantun Raiak. 0040585957-3

Negi.

LMohanlal Gunta S/o Ravi Shankar Gupta R/o H.No. 230/25, Gali.No.9, Railway Colony, Mandawali Fazalpur, Delhi, have changed my name to Mohan Gupta.

0040585952-1

0040585952-5

I,Mohammad Aslam Sheikh,S/O Sattar Mohammad Sheikh, R/O A-2/S-7, Kartik Villa-3, Shalimar-Garden, Extn-2 Sahibabad, Ghaziabad-201005, have changed my name to Sheikh Mohammad Aslam.

0040585947-6

I,Megha Jogeshwar,W/o Tarun Behrani R/o Flat. No.84, Bhagirathi Apartment, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Megha Behrani.

0040585952-6 **I,Lokesh** Jolly,S/O Late.Harish Chander R/O.T-47.Baba Farid-Puri, West Patel-Nagar, New Delhi-110008, have changed my Minor Son Name JEEVANSH SHARMA TO JEEVANSH JOLLY, for all purposes.

0040585947-7

I,Kamla W/o-Sh.pawan kumar sharma R/O-H.No-F 608.Raniit Vihar-I, Dwarka, Sector-22, Raj Nagar-II, South West, Delhi-110077, have changed my name to Kamla Sharma for all, future purpose.

0040585957-6

I,Kamla Devi W/o Mukesh Kumar R/o-C-1216, Sangam-Vihar,New Delhi-110062,that Kamla Devi & Kamlesh is the one and Same Person

CLASSIFIEDS & TENDERS

0040585927-1

0040585957-8

I,Chander Kanta Trikha D/o-Sh.Ravi Shankar Trikha R/o-D-68.Hastsal Vihar.Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, inform that Chander Kanta Trikha & Chander Kanta, both name are same person.

I,Ardra Glory,D/O Glory Kuniumon R/O- Puthen Pura House Cherumoodu Vellimon P.O Kundara Kollam Kerala. have changed my Name Anna Glory, for all, future purposes. 0040585947-8

I, Wassim Akhtar S/o Md Yasin R/o B-388 Aman Vihar Kirari Suleman Nagar Delhi have changed my minor daughter name from Mosina To Mohsina 0040585934-1 permanently.

I, Virendra Singh Verma S/O Ram Bharosey Verma,R/o B-62, Deendayal Nagar, Jhansi khas, Spiri Bazar, Uttar Pradesh-284003. I have changed the name of my minor daughter Subhi Arya aged about 15 years and She shall hereafter be known as Shubhi 0070755216-1 Verma.

I, Tanu, W/o Sh. Manav Maini, R/o-M-30, First-Floor, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi-110015, have changed my name Tanu Kalvan 0040585957-9

I, Reshma Ahmed W/o Rais Ahmed R/o H.No-175/18 Zakir Nagar, Okhla Delhi-110025, Have Change My Name To Reshma 0040585952-8 Begum.

I, Ramesh Kumar Gopichand Saini S/o Saini Gopichand Bhagwanaram R/o 213/B, Bahubali Apts, CHS, Sai Baba Nagar, Sudarshan Cross Lane, Navghar Rd, Bhayander East, Dist Thane-401105 have changed my name as Ramesh Gopichand Saini permanently.

I, Pradeep Kumar Raghav, S/o Raiveer Singh Raghav, R/o 707 S4, SK-3, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, have changed my name to Pradeep Raghav.

0070755137-1

0040585813-1

I, Pinnapathruni Swathi W/O Pinnapathruni Revathi Naresh Kumar, R/o 9-7-13/13 Sri Durga Towers, Six Taps Junction, Shivajipalem, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh-530013. I have changed the name of my minor Son Pinnapathruni Shreyas aged about 13 Years and He shall hereafter be known as Pinnapathruni Agasthyanand.

0070755222-1 I, Nikshith alias Nikshith Manoj Kumar Pariyani S/O Manoj Kumar, R/o Padinjare Kollaikkal House, Pampady

East, Thiruvilwamala, Thrissur, Kerala, 680588, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Nikshith Nair. 0070755227-1

I, Nij Khemani S/O Lakhu Dev Khemani R/o.60 Pratiksha Enclave, Dayal Bagh, Agra, Uttar Pradesh-282005, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Yash

I, Narender Kaur Alias Narinder Kaur Pruthi, D/o Manjeet Singh and W/o Amarieet Singh, R/o-A-9, First Floor F-2, Surya Nagar, Chander Nagar Ghaziabad, U.P-201011, have changed my name to Narinder 0070755140-1

I. Mohammad Anas S/o Shah Alam R/o h.No. 1063/A st.no.34 Jafrabad, Delhi, 110053.have changed my name to Mohd 0040585947-1 Anas.

I, Kotha Narender S/O Kotha Uppalaiah, R/o 2-19, Dumpillagudem, Govindaraopet, Jayashankar, Telangana- 506344, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Kotha Narender Reddy. 0070755219-1

I, Gurvinder Singh Matharu, S/o Gurdial Singh residing-H.No. 677/7, Govindpuri, Kalkaji Delhi.have changed my name to Gurvinder Singh,for all 0040585957-5 purposes.

I. Geetaniali W/O Puneet Goomar, R/O 1/10, Ashok Nagar, Delhi-110018, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Geetanjali Goomar.

0070755169-1

I. Faheem Anis.S/O Anis ur Rehman,R/O 2171 Addan Street, Pahari Bhojla, Turkman Gate Delhi-110006.have changed my name to Faheem 0040585947-3

I, Aji. P.G, S/o Gopalan, R/o H. No-104. Police Colony, Hauz Khas S.O., South West, Delhi-110016, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ajith P.G. 0070755136-1

I, Dantuluri Sushmitha W/O Pinnamaraju Prasanth Varma R/o 13-1372, Vikalangula Colony, Near Durga Devi Temple, Balaji Nagar Arilova, Visakhapatnam, Govt Dairy Farm, Andhra Pradesh-530040 I have changed the name of my minor daughter Pinnamaraju Lakshmi Narasimha Hemani Prashmitha Varma aged about 1 Year and She shall hereafter be known as Pinnamaraju

0070755224-1

I, Chhaya Devi W/o-Shri.Kuldeep Singh R/o-House.No.E-1-18, Gali.No.-1,Jaitpur Extn., Part-I, Badarpur, New Delhi-110044, inform that Chhaya Devi and Sapna both name are Same lady

0040585957-7

I, Boboi Sangtea S/O Mani Raj Lama, R/o Loktak Project, Kom Keirap Village, Charoi Khullen, Churachandpur, Manipur-795124. Declare that Name of My Father has been wrongly written as Mang Rem Lama in my Pan Card No- FUNPS38271. The actual name of My Father is Mani Rai Lama, which may be amended accordingly.

I, Amanjit Singh, S/o Sucha Singh, R/o H.No-51, Sector 7A, Faridabad - 121006, have changed my name to Amanjeet Singh for all future purposes.

0070755217-1

0070755131-1

I. Abhishekh Kumar Chaudhari. S/o Ganga Prasad Chaudhari, R/o 4F, I Pocket, Sheikh Sara, Phase-2, Malviva Nagar, South Delhi-110017. I have changed the name of my minor Son Aamir Choudhari, aged about

15 years and he shall hereafter be known as Atharv Choudhary. 0070755139-1 I, A Mokshyagna Kalyan Ram Chand S/O Uma Maheshwar Chand, R/o 502, A, Gangavaram Port Road, Novus Florence

Pedagantyada, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh-530044, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as ABBURU MOKSHYAGNA 0070755226-1 KALYAN.

Village Kanithi Village,

I hitherto known as Pramod Mudgal alias Pramod Kumar Mudgal alias Pramod Kumar S/o Ram Chander Sharma R/o 692, Type 3, Block 4, New Tihar Complex, Janak Puri, D-110096. have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as PRAMOD KUMAR.

0070755228-1

I VIRENDER SINGH,S/O PRITAM SINGH R/O 2220, OUTRAM LINES, GTB-NAGAR, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO VIRENDER SINGH TAKKAR.

No.2670760K Ex Sep Mahipal

Singh S/o Sh.Bhagwan Singh

R/o VPO-Bijwasan, New Delhi

I Sulochana Devi W/o

0040585952-4

have changed my name to Salochna Devi for all purposes. 0040585882-5 I Subham Shorewala S/o Manish Shorewala R/o House Number-14B, 16 Alipur Road, Near Civil Line Metro Station. Civil Lines, Delhi-110054, have

Shorewala. 0070755218-1 I Shweta Dahiya alias Shweta D/o Sh.Mukesh Dahiya W/o Sh. Mohit Malik R/o H.No.A-87,Gali No.3. Shiv Mandir Road, Saroop Nagar, Libas Pur, North West Delhi, Delhi-110042 have changed my name to Shweta

 $changed\,my\,name\,to\,\,Shubham$

for all purposes. 0040585882-6 I SASI K & LIJI AK Will be Expended Their Name as SASI KOCHHPILLAI & LIJI ALISSERIL KAUTHUKAMANI, This Necessitated for Registration of Name for CBSE 10th STD of their Daughter Ms. ARDRA, 10th Class, APS Shankar Vihar. for all Purposes. 0040585922-1

Vishal Thakur S/o Sh.Raiesh Kumar R/o Block P3/263, Sultan Puri, Delhi-110086 have changed my name to Vishal for 0040585882-4 all purposes.

I SAMSON S/O FAQUIR MASIH R/O A-242, 4TH-FLOOR, GALI-3 HARIT VIHAR BURARI DEI HI-110084, HAVE CHANGED MY

NAME TO SAMSON MASIH. 0040585952-3

I Nagma.W/o Mausam ali.R/o 2533 bada chaman wara tilak bazar delhi-110006.have changed my name to Nagma 0040585947-2

I MOHAMMAD EKBAL AHMAD S/0 ANISH AHMAD, C-51 CHOTPUR COLONY, SECTOR 63A, NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR-201301 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO EKBAL AHMAD.

0070755163-1

I, MOHD MUSHARRAT, ADD-E-78, 3RD FLOOR, ABUL-FAZAL **ENCLAVE PART-1 JAMIA NAGAR** OKHLA, SOUTH EAST DELHI-110025, changed my minor daughter name AOSA MUSHARRAT to AQSA MUSARRAT, permanently. 0040585521-6

LOST & FOUND

I, Soma Rani D/o Shuagan Chand R/o 19-C, Neelkanth Apartments, I.P.Extension, 46, Patpargani, Delhi-110092, I had lost my share certificate of above mentioned property

Finder contact 9880096422

My Sports Person Villa, Unit No. SV-25, Jaypee Greens, Greater Noida, Original mutation letter is lost somewhere. Vandana Rakesh Singh w/o Mr. Rakesh Singh B-3/58, SF Block-B-3. Safdarjung, Delhi 0040585938-1

WE KAMAL JIT GUJRAL and KIRAN WALIA AIYER BOTH DAUGHTERS OF LATE MAJOR DEVINDER SINGH (RETD.) have lost the ORIGINAL PERPETUAL LEASE DEED DATED 2 ND JULY. 1980 QUA PROPERTY BEARING NO.A-186, DEFENCE COLONY, NEW DELHI in case found. please contact at above 0040585882-7

PROPERTY FOR RENT/SALE

AVAILABLE 2 BHK Flat For Rent/Sale Panchsheel Vihar Malviya Nagar New Delhi-110017 Contact-9871878170.

0040585952-10



DOCTORS

Looking for Punjabi Sikh Computer Engineer Boy 5'10"/18 8 91/18 PA Canada return, Kennel & Livestock Medical Business & live in Chattarpur Farms Delhi, Seeking B'ful, Doctor(Veterinery,Medical field), girl#989101313, Email:teghakennel@gmail.com

0040583757-3

0040584958-2

KAYASTHA

Looking for Kayastha Girl, working in Bihar Government Boy, 30 Years, 5' 8", B.Tech, Mechanical Engineer, residing in Patna. Contact#8544413292.

Suitable match for handsome, turbaned Jat Sikh boy, 1983 born, 5' 9 1/2", B.Tech, MBA(UK). Canada PR. Working in reputed MNC. Father Doctor. Email: edevh83@gmail.com

SIKH/PUNJABI

0040585387-1



MALYALEE KERALITE

ISKCON NAIR VEGETARIAN BEAUTIFUL GIRL 22/5.7 POORADAM Bcom Thrissur 7025825201 gopi20051966@gmail.com

0050184402-1

OTHERS

Suitable Match for Nair boy Delhi/abroad for delhite Nair girl 31/5'2/Avitam, MBA HR. **Employed Mother central Govt** leaguepact@gmail.com

0040585624-1

RAJPUT

Match for Rajput (Rana) Manglik 3-7-1990, 10 AM, Height 5'3" Chandigarh, JOB - Govt. job on (OUTSOURCING) as Clerk. Seeking cultured boy for nice family, Send biodata After Matching Kundli. 7888587804

0020427197-1

COURT NOTICE

In the Court of Sh. Jagdish Kumai ASJ/SPL/FTC North District, Rohini Courts Room No. 204, Rohini Courts, Delhi Case Reg. No. 77/20, P.S.: Mukh. Nagar U/S: 138 NI Act

Lagan Kapoor

Gaurav Kapoor Smt. Madhulika Bakshi W/o Shri Avtar Kishan Baksh R/o 52, Aruna Nagar, Civil Lines, Delhi-110054 .application has beer made before me & you are hereby informed through this notice. You are hereb required to appear in person or by pleader or 05-10-2021 at 10.00 AM.

> ASJ/SPL/FTC North District Rohini Courts, Delh

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE

measuring 106 sq. yds. out of Khasra No. 4049 3026, 4051/3026, situated in the residentia 3020, 405 ISO20, Studied III III desirabili III accolony known as Cancon Endawe, Section 4, Tehsil & Distt. Gurgaon, Haryana (hereinafter referred to as said properly). NOTICE is hereby given to general publicitia our clients, Mr. Vivek S/o Shi Sombir and Mrs. Krishna Dev WWO Shi Sombir RoH House No. 528/B, Cancon Endawe, Sector 4, Ourgaon Henandon, and the outened if the ofference in the outened in the ofference in the outened in the ofference in the outened in the (Haryana), are the owners of the aforesaid property (each having 1/2 undivided share) vide ransfer Deeds registered as Documen os. 6133 dated 19/02/2021 and 6340 date Nos. 6133 dated 19\(^1022021\) and 6340 dated 26\(^1022021\) respectively. In this connection, our clients have further informed us that the said property was initially purchased by Mrs. Kirshna Dev from Mrs Swatantra Asian Chemical Private Limited vide sale deed registered as document(No. 1210, Book Not.). Volume No. 6524(655, pages 11-12/177, on 26/04/2001 (thereinafter retiered to as "said document") in the office of Sub Registra; Gurgaon. The said document in original, has been lost/misplaced and insoftraceable. If the aforesaid original Sale Deed (said document) is found or has been found by any person, the same may be returned and person, the same may be returned an understgned at the address menitoned herein below within 07 days of publication of this notice. Otherwise, after expiry of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, no objection shall be acceptable. General Publichary adsolate note inatarry deal or transaction done by anybody on the basis of the said Sale Deed (said document) shall be illegal and not binding on our clients. The person doing so shall be liable to be present det under the law prosecuted under the law.
Vikas Sharma Advocate
For M/s Intellective Law Offices, A-74
LGF, Defence Colony, New Delhi-24

declared to the public at large that Dient Sh.Nisar Ahmed S/O Sh. Anza Huq R/O B-1/9, Ground floor,Sara IL- Hud RIO B-1/9, Ground moor, Sarrhalli, Sadar Bazar, Near Singhara Chow Delhi-110006, has debarred, Disowne Id disinherited his daughter & Sor -Law (Hida Nasreen & Rayan @ Jeet from his all movable and immovabl operties (Situated at Delhi or Out Sid albit due to their misconduct dischadies hil) due to their misconduct, disobedied d disrespectful behaviour. They ar ng separate and have no concern wit of ient. Whosoever deals with them may on his own risk. My client shall not be sponsible for any activity/transactior ade with above said persons. AVDHESH NUNIWALA,ADVOCATE CHAMBER NO 09,CIVIL SUPPL BUILDING TIS HAZARI COURT DELHI - 5

PUBLIC NOTICE clients Mrs. Rajinder Kaur wife of late Shri Joginder Singh Mahant resident of E-204, Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-110048

have disentitled/disowned her daughte Aniu Modi and her children namely Karan Modi-son & Sarah Modi-daughter from all her moveable and immovable properties rights and titles due to their bad behavior. Public at large is notified that anybody dealing with them shall be doing it at their own cost and risk and my client shall not be held liable for any dealing/transaction AKSHAY KUMAR (Advocate Ch. No. 95, Patiala House Court, New Delhi-01

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to public at large that my client Sh. Manish Choudhary Sio Sh. Ranjeet Singh R/o Plot No. 13, 1st Floor, Vigyan Lok, Delhi-110092, has lost his Agreement to Sell and previous chain of his mentioned property, area measuring 7485c, 4/ds. bearing property no. C-10, out of Rect. No. 21 & Killa No. 3/1, Situated at Patel Vihar, Harijan Basti, Situated at Patel Vihar, Harijan Basti, Situated at Patel Vihar, Harijan Basti Village Karawal Nagar, Delhi 110094, in this regard NCR has beer Lodged bearing LR No 748906/2021. If anyone found the same kindly contact me on the above

PUBLIC NOTICE

ASHISH KUMAR UPADHYAY
Office:- E-223, Shop No. 1, E-Block
Main Road Khajoori Khas, Delhi-94

PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform to General Fubilic trial clients Mrs. Rajinder Kaur wife of late S Joginder Singh Mahant resident of E-204 Greater Kailash-II New Delhi-110048 have disentitled/disowned her daughte namely Rashmeet Gulati & Anjuman Hasmi- daughters from all her moveable and immovable properties rights and titles due to their bad behavior. Public at large is notified that anybody dealing with their shall be doing it at their own cost and risk and my client shall not be held liable for any dealing/transaction hereinafter with the

PUBLIC NOTICE clients Mrs. Rajinder Kaur wife of late Shr Joginder Singh Mahant resident of E-204 Greater Kailash-II. New Delhi-110048 have disentitled/disowned her daughter from all her moveable and immovable properties rights and titles due to their bad behavior. Public at large is notified that anybody dealing with them shall be doing it at their own cost and risk and my clien shall not be held liable for any dealing/

Ch. No. 95, Patiala House Court, New Delhi-01

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE
General public is hereby informed that my client SH. SURESH KUMAR S/o LT. MOTI RAM SHARMA and SMT ARVINTA SHARMA H.No-49-A, CBI COLONY VASANT VIHAR DELHI-110057 have severed all relations from their son namely ANSHUL SHARMA due to his disobeying and harassing behavior towards my above named clients and they have disowned and debarred him from all their movable and immovable assets/properties, anyone debarred him from all their movable and immovable asset/sproperties, anyone dealing with him in future in any manner shall do so at his/her own risk and consequences, my client will not be responsible for any of his acts and deeds done by him in future with immediate effect. ROBIN KUMAR AMBAWATA Ch. No-735A Western Wing Tis Hazari Court Delhi-1 10054

PUBLIC NOTICE It is to all that my client Shri Moti Lal, S/o Late Shri Basant Lal, residents of 8-468, Gali No. 6, Prem Vihar- Shiv Vihar, Krawal Nagar, Dehi-110094, do hereby disinherit/ disowned his son Shri Gaurav and his wife Smt. Pooja and their daughter baby Priyanshi, from all his movable and immovable properties including the present one and has severed all connections with them due to their bad behavior and out of control. Anybody dealing with him, my client and other family members shall not be liable or responsible for their act

liable or res sible for their a nd conduct and to who eal with them will deal at his ov Sd/- MOHD SARFARA (ADVOCATE Ch. No. 330, Block-I, Delhi Hig Court, New Delhi-11000

PUBLIC NOTICE

Know all men by these presents that m client namely Shri Vinod Kumar Singh Si Late Shri Brji Mohan Sharma, Rio E-32A Gali 26G, Molarband, Extn. Badarpur, Ne-belhi-44, who is an absolute owner an exclusive in physical possession of the property: Khewat/ Khata No. 2011/97 Khasra No. 256, Plot No. 65 & 90 admeasuring 301 Sq. Yok, (66X411) Mouja Tilpat, Tehsi & Distt. Faridabad, HR, b virtue of a Will Dated 05.08.2021 execute by Late Shri Chautr Dev Sharma Sio Lat white of a Viii Dated 05.052 to Section Section Sharma S/o Lat Shri Brij Mohan Sharma in favour of m client, if any one deals or enter into an agreement, sale documents, etc. with Sm Renu Sinha W/o Late Kumar Chander Man No Late Shri Chatur Dev Sharma, or nrough her attorney etc. in respect of th bove said property, the said document will be null-n-void, it will be his/her/their ow responsibility, risks, & costs, they may b prosecuted by my client as per law. Sd/- Yogendra Kumar (Advocate Mobile No. 981019848

PUBLIC NOTICE Public at large is hereby informed that my client(s) is /are interested to buy Freehold Property Bearing Flat No-200+H, Third Floor, DDA MIG FLAT, with Garage, situated at Rajouri Garden, New Dehi, presently owned & possessed by Smt. Monika Sindhwani W/o Sh. Pankaj Gera by virtue of Sale Deed duly registered vide Red, No.8639, dated 08.05.2007, & as per owner control with the control of the co by white of sale developing. As as per owner version the said property Flat Is/are fee from all sorts of enoumbrances. Link documents are missing & duly informed wide DDN. 1613 date 2712.2006, white Ps. Tilak Nagar, Distt. (West), Delhi. It is hereby notified that any person or entity, Firm/ Company, Bank, HUF/ member of HUF, Financial Institution having any claim, any charge, interest or lien or dain on the basis of documents and/or objection to thereof, he/ shet they may lodge/ notify the same to the undersigned with documentary proof; court judgement within 15 days from the day of publication of this public notice, failing which any further/ future claim/ objection(s) shall be rejected & my client/ prospective buyer(s) as a any further future calmy objection(s) shall be rejected & my client/ prospective buyer(s) as a bona-fide purchaser conclude the Title / Sale Deed proposed to be executed in favor of my client or in the name of his/ her/ their nominees shall be deemed to be clear & marketable with-out any defect, encumbrances, flaw & impediment. Mithilesh Kumar (Advocate) Ch. No. 717 District Courts Rohini, Delhi- 85 # 9810593108

PUBLIC NOTICE To, be known to all that my client, SH.

DEEPAKJHAMB S/O LATE SHRI OM PRAKASH.

NAJAFGARH, NEW DELHI-110043, is the
substitute/owner of DDA LIGF LAT NO.9.1

LOKMAYAR PURAM, NEW DELHI, VIDE DDA

LOKMAYAR PURAM, NEW DELHI, VIDE DDA

FILE NO. L/483(13)32006/6AV/V. IN, have
applied for Substitution and Conversion of e. DEMAND LETTER NO. 58742 of the above said property have been lost on misplaced by my client and is no raceable inspite of his best efforts. A I.R./NCR to this effect has been lodg LR No. 731255/2021 dated 23.09.202 Any person(s) claiming any rights interest, having any objection or found possession of original occurrents, mar write/contact with above named persor at above Address/Phone No.987111122 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming an right, interest, objection with respect it this property, can personally inform o write to Deputy Director LIG (Housing) of Director (Housing), Vikas Sadan, New Delhit. Delhi. Naveen Aggarwal (Advocate) Chamber no. M-7, Near SBI, Western Wing Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-110054

LOST & FOUND ertificate(s) of 325 share registered olio no.C2S-2649 of TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES LIMITED (TCS) Certificate No.B3 1420213 Distinctive No. 1970508492 1970508816 issued to Shweta Sharma has been actuall lost/misplaced. Finder may contact Shweta Sharma D/o Late Chande Sekhar Sharma R/o 313/105 G, Tuls Nagar, Near Inderlok, Delhi-110035

> PUBLIC NOTICE Public at large is hereby informed that Entire First Floor of Freehold Property Bearing No. 20, Street No. E-1, measuring 590 Sq.Yds, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, presently owned & Possesseed by Shri Rajiv Anand by Virtue of Sale Deed duly registered vide Regd. No. 4289, dt. 09.09.2021 & as per owner version the said property/ Flat is/are free from all sorts of encumbrances. The property is at present mortizage ned tha Tree from all sorts or encumbrances. The property is at present mortgage with Standard Chartered Bank. It is hereby notified that any person or entity, firm/ company, Bank, HUF/ member of HUF, financial institution (except mentioned above) having any claim any charge, interest or lien or claim on the basis of documents and/or objection to hereofyle/ shef they may objection to thereof,he/ she/ they ma lodge/ notify the same to the undersigne rith documentary proof/court judgemen rithin 15 days from the day of publication f this public notice, failing which any furthe future claim/ objection(s) shall be rejected lithilesh Kumar (Advocate) Ch. No. 713 skirtic Courts Robio Jebils, 85 48416533108

Mobile No. 9911961171, 9910907314.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHEREBY INFORMED THAT MY CLIENT M (HA SHARMA D/O SH. K. L. SHARMA R/O , GROUND FLOOR, NEW FRIEND LONY, NEW DELHI, IS THE OWNER (CIETY BUILT - UP FLAT BEARING NO. 13 SUE OF THIS NOTICE

ASHISH SAPRA (Advocate)

Enrl.D/2468/2008

SMT. SEEMA ARORA W/O LATI 1. P.P. AROPA RIO H-1982, SECTOR SHINI, DELH-11008S, IS THE OWNE PROPERTY NO. 82, IN BLOCK-1 CKET-19, STILATED AT SECTOR-HIMIN, DELH-11008S AND SHE HA SPLACED/ LOST THE ORIGINAL DIA POSSESSION SLIP II SIGNAL DIA POSS

PUBLIC NOTICE

871112658.
F ANY OTHER CLAIMENT HAS AN IGHT IN THE AFORESAID PROPERT E/SHE SHOULD FILE AN FIR & GIN TIMMATION TO DY/ASST. DIRECTO! AB(RO), DDA VIKAS SADAN, INA, NE ELLHI WITH IN 30 DAYS FROM THE DAT IF ISSUE OF THIS NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public at large is hereby informed that my
client(s) is/are interested to buy Freehold Property
Bearing No. 317, Block-C-6, Measuring 35 Sq. Mtrs, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi, presently owned & Possessed by Smt. Kuntal Rani Sharma by virtue of Conveyance by Smt. Kuntal Rani Sharma by virtue of Conveyance Deed, duly registered vide Regd. No. 3748, dated 03.10.1994 and as per the present owner(s) informed & assured that the said Property /Flat is / are free from all sorts of encumbrances. It is hereby notified that any person or entity, Firm/ Company, Bank, HUF/ member of HUF, Financal Institution having any claim, any charge, interest or lien or claim on the basis of documents and/or objection to thereof, he/ she/ they may lodge/ notify the same to the undersigned with documentary proof/ court judgement within 15 days from the day of publication of this public notice, failing, which publication of this public notice, failing which any further/ future claim/ objection(s) shall be any Turner/ Nutre Claimy objection(s) shall be rejected & my client/ prospective buyer(s) as a bona-fide purchaser conclude the Title / Sale Deed proposed to be executed in favor of my client or in the name of his/ her/ their nomines shall be deemed to be clear & marketable with-out any defect, encumbrances, flaw & impediment. Amit Chaudhary (Advocate) Ch.No. 561, Salect Ourls, N. Deihi (M) 9910147876

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mrs. Usha Kani acquired Residential Vacant Plot bearing No. 154, area measuring 100 Sq. Yards i.e. 83.61 Sq. Meters, out of Khasra No. 240/19, Situated at Pushpanjii Colony at Village Dharoti Khurd, Pargana & Tehsil Loni, District Ghaziabad vide Sale Deed dated 03.09.2021 executed by Mr. Sant Ram in respect of said property, duly registered as Doc. No. 9818, Now Mrs. Usha Rani is the undisputed owners of above said properties. Any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the said Property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or claim, if any, with all supporting documents at below mentioned address. share or claim, if any, with all supporting documents at below mentioned address. After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and also treated as waived and not binding on our client. Ajay Kumar Giri, Advocate "H.No. 26/161, Basement, Vikram Vihar, I ainst Nagar M. Naw, Delhi 11/10/21. No. 26/161, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi 110024"

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to notify general public that there i Hon'ble High Court of Delhi qua land measuring 3400 sq. yards in Khasra No. 348/2, Shahabad Mohammadpur New Delhi-110061, and the dispute to the title of the said land property is between Prem Bansal of Le Mod eather Pvt Ltd as well as Ms Anu Bansal and our clients Sh. Rai Kumai Gupta in favour of whom Hon'ble District Court Dwarka has passed the judgment against which the matter i pending in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, and vide order dated 29.05.2021 status quo is to be maintained qua the said Khasra land therefore, any one dealing for sale or purchase /leasing /renting of the said Khasra land property will be doing the same on its own peril and our clients

I not be responsible for the same. Rajesh Khaware, Advocate 525, Lawyers Chambers Patiala House Courts New Delhi-01 M: 9953064640

"IMPORTANT"

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New Delhi

SALUTE THE SOLDIER









दिनांक 24.09.202

Remembering the supreme sacrifice of the Immortals of Samba who fearlessly laid down their lives battling terrorists in OP CARNATIC on 26th September 2013

महर्षि दयानन्द सरस्वती विश्वविद्यालय. अजमेर क्रमांक एफ-2()/सा.प्र./मदसविवि/2021-1325 ई-निविदा सूचना सं.-18

Comdt & All Ranks, 16th Light Cavalry

UBN-MDU2122GLOB00003 महर्षि दयानन्द सरस्वती विश्वविद्यालय, अजमेर की वर्ष 2018, 2019 एवं 2020 की परीक्षाओं मे प्रयोग ली गई उत्तर पुस्तिकाऐं एवं अप्रयुक्त प्रश्न पत्र जिनका अनुमानित वजन लगभग 220 टन है, की बिक्री हेतु पंजीकृत एवं अनुभवी फर्मों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-टेन्डरिंग प्रक्रिया द्वारा ऑन-लाइन निविदाऐं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा प्रपत्र विश्वविद्यालय की वैब साईट www.mdsuajmer.ac.in तथा राज्य सरकार की वैब साईट sppp.rajasthan.gov.in एवं eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है। निविदा आवेदन डाउनलोड करने की अविध दिनांक 26.09.2021 को प्रातः 10.00) बजे से दिनांक 04.10.2021 को अपरान्ह 2.00 बजे तक एवं ऑनलाईन प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 05.10.2021 को अपरान्ह 12.00 बजे तक एवं हार्ड प्रति कार्यालय में प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 05.10.2021 को 2.00 बजे तक रहेगी। निविदा दिनांक 05.10.2021 को अपरान्ह् 4.00 बजे खोली जावेगी।

UJVN LTD. H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road Dehradun-248006 Telephones: 0135-2763508, 2763808 & Fax: 0135-2763507 CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website: www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.

Ro.No. - 714 <u>Corrigendum</u> Due to clerical error, in tender No. 21/EE(M&G)/MPH/ 2021-22 invited by office of Executive Engineer(M&G), Mohammadpur Power House on e-procurement portalfor 3D Mapping & Inspection of Bypass gates, the last date of submission of tender on website shall

be read as 11-10-2021 upto 11:00 Hrs & date of opening of tender or

website shall be read as 11-10-2021 from 15:00 Hrs Other terms

and conditions are remains unchanged. For further details, may be seen at e-procurement portal http://uk<u>tenders.gov.in</u>

Executive Engineer(M&G) "Avoid wasteful use of Electricity" H.O.: 'UJJWAL', Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006 Telephones : 0135-2763808 & Fax : 0135- 2763507 CIN No.:U40101UR2001SGC025868, Website.: www.ujvnl.com

Short term "E" Procurement notice Dated 24.09.202 Office of the Executive Engineer, (M&G) Mohammadpur Power House, GurukulNarsan -Hardwar invites sealed tenders from experienced firms for following works/supply for Mohammadpur Power House:-

Tender No -21/EE(M&G)/MPH/2021-22 Name of work - 3D Mapping & Inspection of Bypass gates. Estimated Cost - Rs 6,70,000.00 (GST Extra).

(11:00 Hrs) Last date of submission of tender on website - 10-10-2021 up to (17:00 Hrs) or all details, bidders are advised to see "E" Procurement Portal

Date of availability of Tender document on website - 25-09-2021

"Avoid Wasteful use of Electricity"

कार्यालय नगर निगम हल्द्वानी-काढगोदाम पत्रांक : 1120/2021-22

uktenders.gov.in

ई-निविदा सुचना नगर निगम हल्द्वानी-काठगोदाम क्षेत्रान्तर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है, निविदा के

	सम्बन्ध में समस्त शर्ते एवं सूचनाएं http://www.uktenders.gov.in पर दिनांक 27.09.2021 को अपरान्₹2.00 बजे से दिनांक 11.10.2021 को अपरान्ह् 12.00 बजे तक उपलब्ध रहेगी।							
क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित लागत (रू. लाख में)	कार्य की धरोहर राशि (रू. लाख में)	निविदा फार्म का मूल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	निविदा की वैधता		
1.	जनपद नैनीताल के विधानसभा क्षेत्र, कालाढूंगी के अन्तर्गत कठघरिया से चम्बल पुल तक मार्ग का डी.बी.एम./बी.सी. द्वारा	69.94	1.40	5000+ 18% G.S.T.	3 माह	45 दिन		

सधारीकरण का कार्य। (डा. जोगेन्द्र सिंह रौतेला) महापौर

नगर निगम हल्द्वानी

(पंकज कुमार उपाध्याय) नगर आयुक्त नगर निगम हल्द्वानी

Executive Engineer (M&G)

SOUTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OFFICE OF THE ADDL. D.H.A (Hosp. Administration) Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Civic Centre, E-I Block (18th Floor)

Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, New Delhi-110002 Tel: 23226824, 23226859

No. Addl. DHA /M& TB/SDMC/2021/787 Dated: 24/09/2021

Tender Notice On line Tenders under two bids system (Techno-commercial & Financial) are invited for Fixing Rate, Contract and Agency for Drugs etc. for Institutions under Health Department of SDMC for the year 2021-24, under 04 Groups- A, B, C,D, Approx liability of the Tender is Rs. 17.00 Crore each year. Cost of Tender is Rs. 2000/-, for each Group., EMD for each group is as detailed in Tender document; Tender will become live on 27/09/2021 at 10.00 AM; Tender Closes on 18/10/2021 at 03.00 PM Samples can be submitted with CMS till 12.00 noon of 18/10/2021; Manua bids will be accepted till 03.00 PM of 18/10/2021 in the O.O. Addl. DHA (Med); Other details of terms and condition of Tender are available on the Website: www.mcdonline.nic.in While Tenders can be downloaded from e-tendering site of SDMC: https://etenders.gov.in

R.O. No. 51/DPI/S/2021-22 AddI.DHA (M&TB), SDMC 🚳 CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS 🚳

OPEN TENDER No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162Date: 20/09/2021. The following

e-Tenders can be accessed under the link www.freps.gov.in. Offers

for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing

the link noondreps gov.In→ login→E-Tender Stores/Supply. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any Dv.CMM/HO/CEW/Chittaranian, 0341-2525594 or SMM/CON/HO 0341-2535631. St. No.; Tender No.; Brief Description of Item; Qty.; Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.); Tender Closing Date & Time (IST): [1]; 70211135E (1) IGBT based 3-phase drive propulsion equipment with complete Panel A, Panel C(without diagnostic terminal). Panel D, Physical Medium i.e. ESD/EMD/OFG For Multi Functional Vehicle Bus (MVB) As Per IEC 61375, Terminal Bracket, Bus Bar Link and Cu BRAID required for connection between main transformer and tractionconverter, auxiliary converter, interfacing connectors cables and cable looms required for connection from VCU1/2 to SB1/2 Panel. As per Specn. I) RDSO/2008/EL/SPEC/007t, REV.5 for IGBT based 3-PHASE drive propulsion equipment, II) CLW/ES/3/0239 ALT.B for panel A, III) CLW/ES/3/0240 ALT.A for panel C without diagnostic terminal IV) CLW/ES/3/0241 ALT.A for panel D. V) CLW/ES/3/0458 ALT.E for control cables: VI) CLW/ES/3/0459 ALT.B for screened cable. VII) CLW/ES/3/0124 ALT.O. (2) Comprehensive Annual Maintanance Contract [AMC] of IGBT based 3-phase drive propulsion equipment to SPECN, no. CLW/AMC/C-D&D/01 issued in march-2016;(1)225.00 Set. (2) 225.00 Set;5000000.00; 18/10/2021 at 11:00AM, [2]; 752141315 CUBICLE F-DRIVER'S CAB: 779.00 Numbers: 135230.00: 20/10/2021 at 11:00AM, [3]: 91210052; Accessories of 3Phase Stator Chamber Type 6FRA-6068; 1202.00 Set; 191790.00; 08/11/2021 at 11:00AM, [4]; \$3210881B; non-standard hardware kit; 1366.00 Set; 0.00; 22/11/2021 at 11:00AM. [5]; 83210421A; set of stator and rotor stamping for traction motor type 6FRA-6068; 1055.00 Set; 2000000.00; 18/10/2021 at 11:00AM, [6]; 91210884A; Machined Stator Assembly [Modified]; 897.00 Set; 2000000.00; 19/10/2021 at 11:00AM. [7]; 91211011; Rotor Shaft [Finish Machined]; 269.00 Numbers; 720.00; 25/10/2021 at 11:00AM. [8]; 75214157B; Bracket Assly. for inverted under frame equipments for WAG-9HC;Loco357.00 Set; 249900.00; 18/10/2021 at 11:00AM. [9]: 75214080: MC room door for WAG-9/WAP-7/WAP-5; 306.00 Set; 500370.00; 29/10/2021 at PR6-228 Principal Chief Materials Manager/CLW/CRJ

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THE SUNDAY EXPRESS MAGAZINE Country roads, take me home

The pandemic has prompted many to leave cities and find peace in smaller places, or to return to their family homes

PAGES 16, 17, 18

After exit of key young leaders, Congress looks at Mevani, Kanhaiya

MANOJCG NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

INDEPENDENT GUJARAT MLA Jignesh Mevani announced Saturday that he will join the Congress on September 28 along with former JNU student leader Kanhaiya Kumar — a move that has been in the making, and was confirmed by party leaders in

They will join in the Capital, in the presence of Rahul Gandhi and Gujarat Congress working president Hardik Patel. The date has a symbolic value as it is Bhagat Singh's birth anniversary.

A Dalit leader, Mevani, 41, first emerged along with Hardik and Alpesh Thakore as the youth face challenging the BJP dominance in Gujarat during the 2017 Assembly elections. Kanhaiya, 34, is the firebrand former JNU student union president who caught



Iignesh Mevani, Kanhaiya Kumar to join Cong Sept 28

national attention with speeches against the Modi government, and then went on to unsuccessfully try his hand at electoral politics as a CPI candidate.

However, since then, much water has flowed under the bridge for both leaders — even as the Congress is in rockier waters than before. So, what do the two bring to the party table? The opinion in the grand old party, as usual, is divided. Some leaders dismayingly see in it the Gandhi **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

QUESTIONS BEING RAISED ABOUT UN: MODI TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PM: Democracy to diversity, terror fight to vaccine — when India grows, so does world

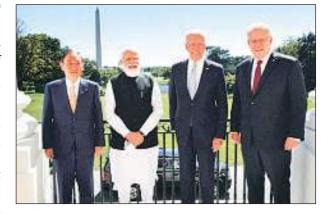
Targets Pak over Kabul; 'science-based' vs 'regressive' thinking

SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

DAILY FROM: AHMEDABAD, CHANDIGARH, DELHI, JAIPUR, KOLKATA, LUCKNOW, MUMBAI, NAGPUR, PUNE, VADODARA

ARTICULATING A broad vision of India's role on the world stage and raising questions on the effectiveness and reliability of the United Nations, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday described India as the "mother of democracy", and said "democracy can deliver" and "has delivered".

In his 21-minute speech at the United Nations General Assembly — this was his fourth speech from the podium since 2014 — the Prime Minister took on China's expansionism in the CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



PM Narendra Modi with Japanese PM Yoshihide Suga, US President Joe Biden, Australian PM Scott Morrison before the Quad meet at the White House on Friday. PTI MORE REPORTS, P7

Quad message to China: 'Undaunted by coercion'

SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

IN A clear signal to Beijing and its growing belligerence in the Indo-Pacific region, leaders of the Quad grouping said Saturday that they "recommit to promoting the free, open, rules-based order, rooted in international law and undaunted by coercion, to bolster security and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific and beyond"

The reference to "undaunted CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Options for region

THE QUAD initiatives are to counter China's assertion, especially in the Indo-Pacific region. To provide an alternative to Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative, the Quad has decided on an infrastructure coordination group.

SUNDAY STORY



Echoes in a walled city

New policy on cooperatives soon... no fight with states: Shah



Amit Shah at the conference on Saturday. Prem Nath Pandey

Bishan Singh Bedi's 75th birthday is gift for family, friends: 'We got him back' decision of her life - and per-

NIHAL KOSHIE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

ON FRIDAY, a day before his 75th birthday, at the launch of a book on him (The Sardar of Spin), sits Indian cricket legend Bishan Singh Bedi, in a wheelchair, ringed by doting fans and former

he doesn't let his mask slip, is wife Anju, as she recalls that grim day this February when she had to take the most important

haps his, too.

Three days after his heart surgery, Bedi had a stroke because of a brain clot. A risky surgery was needed and she was asked for her consent.

"Bishan was lying in the Operation Theatre. Something which he always says sort of enveloped me. He would tell the boys, 'The game is never over until the last ball is bowled'. That's when I instantly made the decision and I said. 'Go ahead with **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**



KAMLA BHASIN, **ACTIVIST, POET AND AUTHOR, DIES AT 75**

MONEY TAKEN TO INSTIGATE PEOPLE: SARMA ON ASSAM EVICTION PROTESTS

REFORM LAWS TO MATCH PRACTICAL REALITIES: CJI P7, 8

In Mainpuri school, first lesson for SC students: Keep your plates apart cently that officials discovered the complaint of caste discrimi-Headmistress has

been suspended; cooks removed

ASAD REHMAN LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 25

SIXTY OF the 80 children at Daudapur Government Primary School in Mainpuri district of Uttar Pradesh belong to Scheduled Castes. But it was only when a complaint was made re-

that the utensils that these children used for their mid-day meals were kept apart on the premises, and washed by the children themselves.

After officials visited the school in Bewar block, Headmistress Garim Rajput was suspended on Friday. The two cooks were relieved of their duties after they said they "could not touch" utensils used by the SC students.

Mainpuri Basic Shiksha Adhikari (BSA) Kamal Singh said nation at the school, made by the husband of the newly elected sarpanch Manju Devi, had been found to be true. "We received a complaint re-

garding this on Wednesday and a team was sent to the school to carry out an inspection," he said. "The utensils used by the Scheduled Caste children and other children were kept separately. The Block Development Officer and other officials visited the school, During the visit, the **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

HARIKISHAN SHARMA NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

UNVEILING THE roadmap of the new Ministry of Cooperation, Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation Amit Shah on Saturday announced that the government will bring a new cooperative policy during 2021-22.

To allay apprehensions, he said the ministry has been created "not to fight with anyone but to cooperate with all States" and "we will take everyone along" to "take the movement forward"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Watching him, mindful that Bishan Singh Bedi with his family in New Delhi on Friday. Anil Sharma

ONLINE & OFFLINE



to be great to start. But you have to start to be great...

You don't have





KIRT Shares her Struggle & Success

PREPARATION PLAN

syllabus and divided my time for all subjects which I had to read together. Ambition's Bare Act

WHAT'S IMPORTANT Important -**AND WHAT'S NOT**

proved beneficial for Prelims & Mains, both.

Continuance and dedication. Not important - distraction & demotivation of failure.

MAINS **STRATEGY** During preparation for Mains, I faced time problem. To overcome this I used to put

alarms for specific intervals everyday and tried to complete practice paper of Ambition Law Institute in that time from only.

Credit goes to Papa, Maa, My Brother, Teachers, **Entire Team of Ambition** Law Institute, My Seniors & God for the success.

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When I was pursuing LL.B., one of my seniors cracked this exam. That was the time I determined myself to prepare for

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Delhi which I consider to be my first step towards my journey. Definitely, while I was in **TIME**

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My parents, they constantly **Credit Goes** supported me throughout my journey. I believed that

God has been very kind to us. I would also like to thank Ambition Law Institute for guiding me through this journey.

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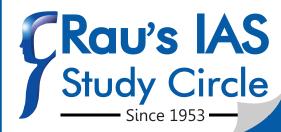
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SOUTH AFRICAN RIOTS AND A TOWN THAT TOOK TO VIGILANTISM

In July, former president Jacob Zuma's arrest for failing to appear at a corruption inquiry triggered days of riots, destruction of public and private property and looting in many parts of the country

BOLLYWOOD REWIND



JAGTERAHO Starring Raj Kapoor, the 1956 film examines the hypocrisy of the civilised society

3 PRO REVIEW **Does it**

REDMI EARBUDS

TECH

sound as good as it looks?

EXPRESS AUDIO

Into the bizarre world of NFTs, and what it means for sports fans

What are NFTs? What does it mean to own one? And are there any downsides to it? In this episode, hosts Gaurav Bhatt and Mihir Vasada, and producer Shashank Bhargava talk about the bizarre world of NFTs, and what it means for sports fans and artists

FROM PAGE ONE

Quad message

by coercion" is the most direct articulation against China from the leaders of four "like-minded democracies" who met for the first-ever in-person Quad summit at the White House.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US President Joe Biden, Australian PM Scott Morrison and Japan's outgoing PM Yoshihide Suga met for about two hours and pledged to ensure a "free and open" Indo-Pacific which is also "inclusive and resilient" at a time when China's assertiveness is growing in the region.

And for the first time, the Quad leaders discussed Afghanistan and agreed to deepen their cooperation in South Asia - an important development since Beijing has been expanding its strategic footprint in India's neighbour-

Their joint statement said: "In South Asia, we will closely coordinate our diplomatic, economic, and human-rights policies towards Afghanistan and will deepen our counter-terrorism and humanitarian cooperation in the months ahead in accordance with UNSCR 2593."

"We denounce the use of terrorist proxies and emphasised the importance of denying any logistical, financial or military support to terrorist groups which could be used to launch or plan terror attacks, including cross-border attacks," they said, in a thinly-veiled reference to Pakistan.

"We stand together in support of Afghan nationals, and call on the Taliban to provide safe passage to any person wishing to leave Afghanistan, and to ensure that the human rights of all Afghans, including women, children, and minorities are respected," the joint statement said.

The Quad leaders also signed on a new statement called the "Quad Principles on Technology Development, Governance, and Use" — one of the important principles stated: "Technology should not be misused or abused for malicious activities such as authoritarian surveillance and oppression, for terrorist purposes, or to disseminate

This is aimed at countries like China, but assumes significance given the debate in India over the alleged use of the Pegasus spyware for surveil-

Building on the virtual summit in March this year, the Quad leaders agreed to cooperate in a range of fields - vaccines, infrastructure, semiconductor supply chain, cyber security, satellite data, and develop expertise in STEM. And, in each of these fields, Beijing has been perceived to be aggressively pushing its agenda, and the Quad, with its soft power, is seeking to provide alternatives to the

■ The Quad Infrastructure Coordination Group: "A senior Quad infrastructure coordination group will meet regularly to share assessments of regional infrastructure needs and coordinate respective approaches to deliver transparent, high-standards infrastructure. The group will also coordinate technical assistance and capacity-build-

CORRECTION

ON 25.09.21, PAGE 9

In 'The Punjab CM's seat: Sikh history, current politics', Mata Gujri should have been described as the mother of Guru Gobind Singh, and not as pub-

The error is regretted.

ing efforts, including with regional partners, to ensure efforts are mutually reinforcing and complementary in meeting the significant infrastructure demand in the Indo-Pacific.

China's Belt and Road Initiative. ■ Vaccines: As Quad countries, "we have pledged to donate more than 1.2 billion vaccine doses globally, in addition to the doses we have financed through Covax. To date we have collectively delivered nearly 79 million safe and effective vaccine doses to the Indo-Pacific region. Our Vaccine Partnership remains on track to expand manufacturing at Biological E Ltd this fall, so that it can produce at least 1 billion doses of Covid-19 vaccines by the end of 2022."

One of the key takeaways of the first Quad leaders' summit in March was the formation of the Quad Vaccine Initiative, a vaccine supply chain to manufacture Covid-19 vaccines for India, the US, Japan and Australia. The Biological E Limited was chosen for producing a billion doses of Covid-19 vaccines.

Quad Senior Cyber Group: "Leader-level experts will meet regularly to advance work between government and industry on driving continuous improvements in areas including adoption and implementation of shared cyber standards; development of secure software: building workforce and talent; and promoting the scalability and cybersecurity of secure and trustworthy digital infrastruc-

Australia, India, Japan, and the

United States.' The leaders agreed that they and their Foreign Ministers will meet annually and senior offi-

Addressing the summit, Biden said this is a grouping of "democratic partners who share a worldview and have a common vision for the future" and "coming together to take on key challenges of our age, from Covid to climate to emerging

technologies". He said: "Our vaccine initiative is on track to produce an additional 1 billion doses of vaccine in India to boost global

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

Bedi's birthday

This is a direct alternative to

■ Semiconductor Supply Chain Initiative: "Quad partners will launch a joint initiative to map capacity, identify vulnerabilities, and bolster supply-chain security for semiconductors and their vital components. This initiative will help ensure Quad partners support a diverse and competitive market that produces the secure critical technologies essential for digital economies globally."

■ Satellite data sharing: "Our four countries will start discussions to exchange Earth observation satellite data and analysis on climate-change risks and the sustainable use of oceans and marine resources. Sharing this data will help Quad countries to better adapt to climate change and to build capacity in other Indo-Pacific states that are at grave climate risk, in coordination with the Quad Climate

Working group. ■ The Quad Fellowship: "The Fellowship will sponsor 100 students per year -- 25 from each Quad country -- to pursue masters and doctoral degrees at leading STEM graduate universities in the United States. It will serve as one of the world's leading graduate fellowships; but uniquely, the Quad Fellowship will focus on STEM and bring together the top minds of

cials will meet regularly.

supply."

force for global good".

the surgery'. Everybody thought

PM: Democracy to inclusivity, terror fight to vaccine — when India grows, so does world cratic values" and their "joint lives of people today, "with

Indo-Pacific and its capacity to undermine international institutions. He cited the example of the manipulation of World Bank's ease of doing business

Underlining that the world is facing an "increased threat of regressive thinking and extremism", Modi told the global community that it needs to ensure that no country takes advantage of "the delicate situation" in Afghanistan. Following his discussions

President Joe Biden, he drew attention to Islamabad's "regressive thinking" and its use of "terrorism as a political tool". Modi called upon the international fraternity at the UN not

to abandon Afghanistan.

with leaders of the Quad and US

Fresh from the Quad summit which dealt with the concept of a free and open Indo-Pacific, he said: "We must only use ocean resources and not abuse them. Further, our oceans are also the lifeline of international trade. We must protect them from the race for expansion and exclusion. The international community must speak in one voice to strengthen a rule-based world order. The broad consensus reached in the Security Council during India's presidency shows the way forward for maritime security."

He used Beijing's bullying in global governance to argue in favour of reform of international institutions, "If the United

Nations wants to remain relevant, it will need to improve its effectiveness, and enhance its reliability. Today, all kinds of questions are being raised about the UN, related to the climate crisis, during Covid. The proxy war going on in many parts of the world, the recent Afghan crisis have further highlighted the seriousness of these questions. With regard to the origin of Covid, or regarding the ease of doing business rankings, institutions of global governance have damaged the credibility they had built," he said in a sharply-worded but carefullycrafted critique of the UN sys-

In contrast to China, the Prime Minister invoked India's "great tradition of democracy", and said, "Our diversity is the identity of our strong democracy. It is a country that has dozens of languages, hundreds of dialects, different lifestyles and cuisines. This is the best example of a vibrant democracy. The strength of our democracy is demonstrated by the fact that a little boy who at one time used to help his father at his tea stall at the railway station is today addressing the UN General Assembly for the fourth time.'

His statement came a day after President Biden, during their meeting at the White House, said the Indo-US partnership is about a "shared responsibility to uphold democommitment to diversity". Recalling that he will soon

have spent 20 years serving the country — first, as the longest serving Chief Minister of Gujarat and then, as PM for the last seven years, he said, "Yes, democracy can deliver. Yes, democracy has delivered."

Invoking Deen Dayal Upadhyay – it was his birth anniversary Saturday -- Modi spelt out his governance vision where no one is left behind.

"Our priority is that development should be all inclusive, all pervasive, universal, and one that nurtures all," he said as he counted the beneficiaries in the government's flagship schemes of Jan Dhan, Ayushman Bharat. And he linked India's

progress to the global development trajectory when he said: "Every sixth person in the world is Indian. When Indians make progress, it also gives an impetus to the development of the world. When India grows, the world grows. When India reforms, the world trans-Speaking on the develop-

ment of the world's first DNA vaccine, an mRNA vaccine and work underway on a nasal vaccine, he also reaffirmed India's decision to export vaccines once again after a hiatus. He called vaccine manufacturers to make vaccines in India.

He also stressed on the importance of technology in the democratic values".

As he spoke of India's record on climate action, he also critiqued the developed countries, "I am sure that you all also feel proud of the efforts made by India, with regard to climate change compared to those of big, and developed nations."

On the occasion of the 75th year of its Independence, he said India is going to launch 75 satellites made by Indian students in schools and colleges.

On the threat of extremism and the issue of Afghanistan, he said: "Today, the world is facing an increased threat of regressive thinking and extremism. In such a situation, the entire world must make science-based rational and progressive thinking the basis for dev elopment." He outlined India's approach in its school curriculum through 'Atal Tinkering labs'.

On the other hand, he said, "countries with regressive thinking using terrorism as a political tool... these must understand that terrorism is an equally big threat for them also".

He concluded his address by quoting Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore who called for "boldly proceeding on your path of good deeds. May you overcome all weaknesses and doubts". This message, he said, is as relevant to every responsible nation, as it is to the **Ûnited Nations.**

cannot do this. Bank kagaz man-

genge. Are bhai, iske paas kagaz hota toh hazaar rupiya lene ko

kahe ko aata. Kagaz nahin hai

(Bank will want documents. If

the person has documents, then

why will he come for a loan of

Rs 1000. He doesn't have docu-

He said his ministry will

work with other ministries to

ensure that cooperatives also

play an important role in prior-

ity sector lending across all sec-

tors. The ministry, he said, is

working on a legal framework

under which self-help groups

(SHGs) can also form their own

Service Centres are being

planned and the ministry is

moving forward in the direction

of creating a national database.

from four places to establish the

University... There is a need to

establish a National Cooperative

prehensions regarding the

State subject. I don't want to get

into the Centre-State fight, a le-

gal answer can be given easily."

the Ministry of Cooperation,

formed under the leadership of

Modiji, is not there to fight with

anyone but to cooperate with all

States. Therefore, there is no

need to think whether it is a

State subject or a Central sub-

ject. We can help everyone; we

will also help the States; we will

take everyone along, and will

take the movement forward,"

Asking cooperative organi-

sations to ensure training, skill

development and transparency

"But I only want to say that

He also sought to dispel ap-

"Many people say this is a

"We have received requests

Common

ments)," Shah said.

societies like Amul.

Sahakaarita

University," he said.

Ministry of Cooperation.

problems of taxation and discriminatory behaviour of government officials. I am aware of all these things. I want to assure you that no one will be able to do injustice with this sector," he

Mevani, Kanhaiya siblings' proclivity to lurch towards the Left.

In a brief statement, Mevani, who had won from the reserved Vadgam Assembly seat in north Gujarat in 2017, with the backing of the Congress, said: "On September 28, I will be joining the Indian National Congress along with Kanhaiya Kumar. I have nothing more to say till then."

Welcoming "all revolutionary leaders willing to work for the country and strengthen the Congress" Saturday, Hardik said they should do so "without worrying about their personal ambitions and challenges". Calling Mevani "an old friend" while speaking to PTI, he said Mevani's entry would strengthen the Congress in the state and at the national level. Hardik's reference to "per-

sonal ambitions" is interesting given his own frustration within the Congress, which he joined in 2019 after leading a successful Patidar agitation against the BIP. In an interview to The Indian Express, he had said the state leadership did not give him any work and was trying to "pull me down".

During the debate for the JNU student union president's post in 2015, Kanhaiya, the candidate of the CPI student wing AISF, had shown his oratorical skills with paraphrasing of a couplet to famously attack both the BJP and Congress: "Barbaad Hindustan karne ko ek hi Congress kafi tha... Har rajya main BJP baitha hai, barbaad e gulistan kya hoga."

Apart from the fact that both Kumar and Mevani are fiery speakers, the Congress also has state-specific calcula-

While Mevani was in talks with the Congress much before the BJP changed its entire ministry in Gujarat, the revamp has made his choice even more significant for the party given the new caste dynamics. The BJP's new chief minister is a Patel, while AAP too is focusing on the community in its foray into the state that goes to polls next year. The Congress strategy seems to be to woo the OBCs and Dalits. Mevani had emerged as the face of the Dalit protests in Gujarat in the wake of the Una flogging incident.

Hardik, who has been trying for the Congress to make him the state chief, is said to have worked behind the scenes for Mevani's induction.

Many Congress leaders in Gujarat see the move as timely, given the long stasis in the state unit. The party has not been able to appoint an AICC incharge for Gujarat since Rajiv Satav's death in May. Party leaders have been pushing for a clear signal to the OBC and Dalit community.

Mevani's induction, along with the elevation of Scheduled Caste leader Charanjit Singh Channi as Chief Minister of Punjab (also seen as a pick of the younger Gandhis), is expected to give the Congress talking points in its quest to reach out to the com-

In Bihar too, the Congress has been stuck in a limbo, with AICC in-charge Bhakta Charan Das giving multiple proposals to the high command for reorganisation of the Bihar unit without a decision. Sources said the party had delayed the appointment of a new state president in view of Kanhaiya's

The Congress has been in

political wilderness in Bihar for the last three decades, even seen as dragging down ally RJD in the Assembly elections last year. It had won only 19 of the 70 seats it contested. Mevani and Kanhaiya fit in

with the former Left leaders who are part of Rahul and Privanka Ĝandhi Vadra's tight circle now. For instance, a key member in Privanka's team is Sandeep Singh, a former AISA leader from JNU. AISA is the student's wing of the CPI(ML) Liberation. Mohit Pandey, another former JNUSU president from AISA, used to head the social media department of the Uttar Pradesh Congress, which Privanka oversees as AICC general secretary.

Apart from this, the Congress hopes the entry of Kanhaiya and Mevani will be good optics given the fact that several young leaders --Jyotiraditya Scindia, Sushmita Dev, Jitin Prasada, Priyanka Chaturvedi and Laliteshpati Tripathi – have left the party in the last two years. The first battleground where the party may use the two is Uttar Pradesh.

WITH ENS, AHMEDABAD

Mainpuri school cooks Somvati and Laxmi Devi

refused to touch the utensils of the Scheduled Caste students, and said they can't work at the school if they were forced to do so. They also used caste slurs," Singh said, adding that action against the cooks had been taken by the Management Committee.

Sarpanch Manju Devi's hus-

band Sahab Singh said some parents had told him about the discriminatory practice on September 15, "On September 18, I went to the school for a meeting. I saw the kitchen was dirty and that only 10-15 plates were kept there. I asked the cooks where the other thaalis were, and they said the ones in the kitchen belonged to Backward and General Category students, while 50-60 thaalis were kept separately. I was also told that students belonging to Scheduled Castes were forced to wash their own dishes and keep them, as no one belonging to other castes was willing to touch them," Sahab Singh said, adding that after he complained, local journalists and officials took up the matter.

Sahab Singh said while around 35% of the population of the village is Dalit, the Thakurs make up a similar number, with the rest belonging to Backward

Mainpuri is Samaiwadi Party founder Mulayam Singh Yadav's bastion. Shubham Singh, who won a Mainpuri zila panchayat seat backed by the SP, said he had visited the village. "The BJP makes big claims of Dalit upliftment. They give token posts to some leaders from the community, but this is the reality of UP... decades after Dr B R Ambedkar faced such issues in his school days."

Since the action was taken by officials, several videos have been doing the rounds of social media, of children of Daudapur school using a handpump to wash their thaalis, of children talking of keeping their utensils apart from those of the others in their classrooms, and of a Dalit parent saying he had raised the issue. In the video, the parent says, "Yahaan bachche aate hain, yahaan bartan dhulwaye jaate hain. Master log dhulwaate hain. Maine khud dekha hai. Master se kaha, unhone ansuni kar di. Bachchon ne bhi bataya, ghar pe bhi bataya (Children come here, they are made to wash utensils. The teachers make them do it. I have seen it myself. I told the teacher, but he ignored me. The children talk about it, at home

said to myself. 'Surely your game is not over'," says Anju

with a smile whose warmth

Seven months after that surgery, Bedi, slightly frail, cuts a cake shaped like a cricket ball, his son Angad and daughter Neha stand on either side; Anju, behind him, leans over to plant a kiss on his cheek. Each one is aware that this picture-perfect frame is a very special gift they

For, nothing was sure when he was discharged from hospi-

Bedi, at times, couldn't recognise those around him, he had to virtually learn to walk again. To complicate things, he tested positive for Covid-19. Given this, for many on Friday, watching Bedi laugh at old anecdotes or even acknowledge the presence of friends – journalist Gulu Ezekiel read a tribute -- was nothing short of a miracle.

Anju underlines that, "Being bed-ridden for almost three months and not being able to speak or say a word and now coming back to life has been a miracle not only for me but for everybody at Ganga Ram Hospital, including the doctors. Bishan fought very bravely, the

doctors stood by him." Says Bedi's daughter Neha, a lifestyle columnist and vlogger: "He has been through a lot this entire year...We are very fortunate...Basically, we got him

Son Angad, an actor, talks about how the family's now closer. "These were tough times and tough people survive and he is that man. We as a family supported each other. Now he is in a good space. Prayers have been answered. He has a lot more to offer to Indian cricket, he is not done yet," Angad says.

The support of Bedi's crick-The existing National Policy eting family, spread around the on Cooperatives was brought in world, was strong, too. Anju says that among regular visitors was Kapil Dev who made his debut under Bedi's captaincy. Players

to their skipper who stood for them and who spoke his mind. Kapil would be in tears watching his captain struggle to coordinate his movements.

"When Kapil visited, he cried like a baby and I felt very bad. Madan Lal, Kirti Azad Maninder Singh, and Gursharan Singh visited and were my pillars of strength. Also, people love him across the border. From Pakistan players like Intikhab Alam, Mushtag Mohammad, Zaheer Abbas, Majid Khan and Sarfaraz Khan...all have been on the

phone," Anju says. Azad, the former allrounder, who visits his boyhood hero almost every week, says Bedi's health is on the mend. "He has improved from what I initially saw. I am sure in a couple of months he will be the old Bishan Singh Bedi. He taught us how to be patient and get to a 100 once you score a 50. He will do the same," Azad said. "Now he recognises me and remembers things, so that is a good

A fortnight ago, when Azad met Bedi, they played cricket. Bedi sat in a chair on the lawn and bowled while Azad batted a few metres away.

"It was a child-like game. He would sit and bowl and there were stumps and I would bat," Azad says.

Co-op policy

Addressing the National Cooperative Conference, Shah said: "We have decided that within a short time, a new cooperative policy will be released. First, Atalji had brought it in 2002, now Modiji will bring it in 2021-22. This is the 75th year of India's independence. Therefore, as part of the Amrut Mahotsav, we will begin drafting the new cooperative policy."

March 2002 by the then NDA government. The National Cooperative Conference, the largest event

it was the end of the road but I of Kapil's generation looked up since the formation of the cieties on the ground. A bank Ministry of Cooperation in July this year, has been organised by cooperative organisations including IFFCO, National Cooperative Federation of India, Amul, Sahakar Bharati, NAFED and KRIBHCO.

Sharing plans of the ministry, Shah announced that the Centre will soon amend the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002, to facilitate the functioning of multi-state cooperative societies.

Observing that 65,000 Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) are not sufficient to cater to the needs of 6 lakh villages, he said: "We will set a target to establish a PACS in every second village in the coming five years. To increase the number of PACS from 65,000 to 3 lakh, the Ministry of Cooperation will prepare a proper legal framework that will be advisory in nature. We will send it to the state governments. States can make changes in their laws."

"The biggest problem is that if a PACS becomes bankrupt, you cannot form a new PACS until you complete the winding-up process of the old. A legal framework is required for this, so that the winding-up process and formation of the new PACS can go side by side,"

The Centre, he said, will ensure that computerisation of all PACS is completed in a short time. He said a software is being developed to integrate PACS, DCBs (District Cooperative Banks) and NABARD.

Underlining the need for skill development in the cooperative sector, Shah said the ministry is preparing an action plan for it. He said there is a need to

strengthen and expand the role

of PACS so that even the most marginalised person gets credit. Citing an example, he said if a person needs Rs 1,000 for Diwali, he or she should get that loan amount.

"We need these types of so-

in recruitment and elections, Shah said they cannot progress without this He also asked cooperative organisations to introspect on the internal changes "I am aware of the problems

of urban cooperative banks,

0-50 Good 51-100 Satisfactory

101-200 Moderate 201-300 Poor 301-400 Very Poor 401-500 Severe

SKYWATCH

Light rain/thundershowers

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'NOT JUST A MAN'S JOB ANYMORE'

In a first, six women IPS officers are district DCPs

JIGNASA SINHA NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

IN A first, six of the 15 districts in Delhi will have women as Deputy Commissioners of Police. While the capital had three women DCPs so far, an order released by the Home department in the Home Ministry, with the L-G's approval has confirmed three more postings.

"I'm glad everyone is being given an equal opportunity. Officers of all genders are tested by the same exams and training. There was no disparity then... there should be none now. I hope I live up to expectations," officer Benita Mary Jaiker, who will soon run the South district as the DCP, told The Indian Express.

Jaiker, a 2010 IPS batch officer, has been serving in the Delhi Police for more than 10 years now. She was posted as DCP at

the 7th Battalion before this. Esha Pandey will take charge

20 students from

centre clear UPSC

New Delhi: Twenty students

from Jamia Millia Islamia's

Residential Coaching Academy

(RCA) cleared the civil services

examinations, the results of

which were announced Friday.

ment said 15 students from the

RCA run by the Centre for

Coaching and Career Planning, Jamia Millia Islamia, have been

selected for the civil services. Five

students of the RCA who were

provided coaching for Personality

Test have also been selected. **ENS**

The Iamia PR office in a state-

Jamia coaching











(From left) Benita Mary Jaikar, Esha Pandey, Shweta Chauhan, Priyanka Kashyap, Urvija Goel, Usha Rangnani

as DCP Southeast district, and Shweta Chauhan will lead the Central district. IPS officers Usha Rangnani, Urvija Goel and Priyanka Kashyap are posted as DCPs in Northwest, West and

East districts respectively. "When I joined Delhi Police as a probationer 10 years ago, I was posted in the South district. I was working during the December 2012, gangrape-murder case. I feel I am familiar with the district and work. There will be new challenges for a DCP, but I am ready,"

said Jaiker.

Chauhan, an IPS officer from the 2010 batch, was in the Delhi Police HQ and also looked at recruitments. She has been transferred to the Central district. "It does not look like 'it is a man's job' anymore. When I saw the order, I felt the top leaders didn't discriminate against women officers and gave postings based on merit and experience. It will be wonderful to see women leading six important districts. The public will appreciate the decision," she said.

posted at Police Control Room as

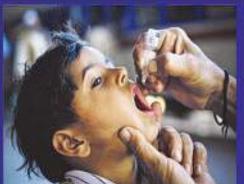
Urvija Goel, who is already posted as DCP in the West district, said the decision will encourage many women officers in the future: "It feels good that more women officers are being given important districts. Earlier, four women officers were given important districts at one time. This time, I know my seniors will perform well and pave the way for young women officers.'

Officer Esha Pandey was

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Intending Bidders are hereby informed that the E-Auction for CNG sites shall be held on 14.10.2021 (Thursday) from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. instead of 29.09.2021. The last date for online submission of mandatory documents with EMD shall be 11.10.2021 (Monday upto 6.00 P.M.). There is no change in the E-Auction programme of other properties of 13th phase. For further details of modification/ addendum of terms and conditions of CNG sites, kindly visit our website www.dda.gov.in or www.ddaeauction.co.in (Neeraj Bharati)

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Covid-19 से संबंधित प्रोटोकॉल का पालन करे



















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SHOOTOUT AT ROHINI COURT

Gogi killers partied before courtroom shootout, 2 held for helping assailants

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

A DAY after two armed men posing as lawyers killed gangster litender Maan alias Gogi inside Rohini district court before being gunned down by police personnel, the Special Cell has arrested two men and recovered a car used to drop the assailants to court. One of the arrested men is a close associate of Sunil

Investigation has also revealed that the murder plot was allegedly hatched by Tillu from inside Mandoli jail.

alias Tillu Tajpuriya, Gogi's long-

Police said the arrested men have been identified as Umang (22) and Vinay Mota (19). "They were nabbed by a team of the New Delhi Range of Special Cell. During investigation, we found that one Naresh Kumar alias Sonu, a sharpshooter from Tillu's gang, roped in his friend Umang to work for them," a senior police officer said.

During questioning, Umang told police that the courtroom attackers - Rahul Tyagi and Jagdeep Jagga — reached his home in Northwest Delhi's Haiderpur on September 20.

"Vinay took them to a nearby market where they bought white shirts, black trousers, shoes and black coats to impersonate lawyers. They



DELHI'S PRISONS ON HIGH ALERT

New Delhi: A day after jailed gangster Jitender Maan alias Gogi was shot dead inside Rohini district court, Director General (Delhi Prisons) Sandeep Goel issued an order Saturday to maintain maximum alert in all jails to prevent incidents of fights or assaults among

Speaking to The Indian Express Goel said, "We are staying alert in all jails and

will keep a greater vigil on all gang members." The order lists 11 points that including identifying taking proper precautions

If members of rival

Security ramped up at

"At 10,20 am Friday, Umang, Vinay and another associate reached Rohini court along with the attackers in a Hyundai i10. They dropped the duo and went to park their car. They then went inside to show Tyagi and Jagga courtroom number 207,

"As you know the economic

impacts of Covid-19 have been

severe. The pandemic has created

an economic crisis, shuttering

businesses and cutting jobs

around the world... On one hand,

many families have lost their

close ones and on the other, many

of them have become unem-

ployed due to the ongoing pan-

demic," Director Udit Prakash Rai

wrote in his letter to the board.

for a waiver, he requested that

the fees of students of schools

run by the Delhi government,

government-aided, Patrachar

Vidyalaya, New Delhi Municipal

Council, Delhi Cantonment

Citing requests from parents

where Gogi was supposed to appear for the hearing, and left," an officer said.

Incidentally, just half an hour earlier, Tillu's lieutenant Sunil Maan had been produced in the same courtroom in connection with an attempt to murder case in which Gogi too was an

"Around 1.15 pm, Gogi was produced in the courtroom. The two assailants, posing as lawyers, were sitting close to some police personnel. Within seconds, they opened fire at Gogi from close range. He received five-six bullet injuries; they fired eight-ten rounds," said a police officer who was present in the courtroom at the time. The attackers were shot dead by the Counter Intelligence team accompanying Gogi.

"During investigation, we found that Tyagi was carrying a phone without a SIM card, which was damaged after it was hit by a bullet. We also found Rs 210 in his pocket," the officer said.

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

Last December, police said, Tyagi and four of his associates had killed one Bharat Solanki alias Yuvin, a close associate of Gogi, in Rohini's Sector 24. Jagga, too, was involved in a murder case in Sonipat.

Board, and Department of Social

Welfare be waived. Except in

Delhi, most schools affiliated

with the CBSE are private schools.

been received from parents, ex-

pressing their inability to pay the

fee due to loss of income in the

nounced a fee exemption for stu-

dents who lost both their par-

ents or their lone surviving

Board officials did not re-

spond to queries from *The Indian*

Express on whether they are

considering the Delhi govern-

parent to Covid.

ment's request.

The board has already an-

ongoing pandemic," he wrote.

"... A number of requests have

'He promised he would be home soon'

AMIL BHATNAGAR

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

UNDER A blue tent, people sat huddled in slain gangster litender Maan alias Gogi's house in Alipur. The silence was occasionally interrupted by news bulletins playing on phones, describing Friday's shootout at Rohini court where the gangster was killed. In the main compound, Gogi's

mother Parmeshwari sat waiting for his remains to arrive. She said the last time she met him was in jail, during the first week of September. He asked about her health and promised he would return home soon. She alleged that her son had been killed as part of a "conspiracy". She also claimed that a close aide of her son had told her last month that "Dilli wale maarenge Jitender ko (People from Delhi will kill Jitender)".

Local police and CRPF were deployed in heavy numbers at the village as the post-mortem began on Saturday morning in Dr Ambedkar Hospital.

With the body yet to reach by evening, the family became restless. "However he was, whatever he did, we just want the body. It is our right," said his mother.

55 CCTVs, four personnel to keep track of conman Sukesh at Tihar

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

FROM INSTALLING 55 CCTV cameras around his ward in Tihar Jail to deploying two personnel of the Tamil Nadu Special Police (TNSP) and two jail wardens outside round the clock these are some of the special arrangements made by the prison administration to keep tabs on conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar, who has been accused of extorting Rs 200 crore from former Fortis Healthcare promoter Shivinder Singh's wife Aditi Singh while sitting in jail.

Aditi had filed a complaint alleging that she was cheated by a man posing as a law secretary, who promised to help with her husband's legal cases.

Sukesh, his lawyer B Mohan Raj, actress Leena Paul, her manager Joel Jose Matthews, Kamlesh Kothari, who helped Sukesh buy a bungalow in Chennai, and Arun Muthu, who helped him buy luxury cars, have since been slapped with the stringent Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA).

"A few days ago, Sukesh was sent to judicial custody at Tihar. This time, the administration has made proper arrangements to keep tabs on him. His cell is next to Congress leader Sajjan Kumar's. Around 50 CCTVs have been installed in his ward and five high-end CCTV cameras in his cell," a senior jail official said.

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Posters have been put up outside his cell stating that entry is prohibited without permission of a senior official. "We have made a double security layer outside his cell and deployed two personnel of TNSP and also a head warder along with a warden," the official said.

The Tihar Jail administration, during an internal probe into an extortion racket being run from Rohini jail, has found that Sukesh was using mobile phones and was helped by prison officials.

"He was being given certain favours... While in jail, he used his bedsheets as curtains for his barracks to avoid being caught on CCTV," said a source.

Officials said two blankets have been provided by the jail administration, and "regular water" is being given to him now. "He had requested the jail superintendent to provide him with a special diet – B class food (made for jail officials and on special request), but his request has been turned down," an official said.

An official said that in 2018, a head warder was suspended after the jail administration found that Sukesh's girlfriend Leena had come to meet him on his birthday and they organised a

BRIEFLY

Officials to **Covid victims** to help with

of Covid officially so far.

campaign:

ernment has reached out to RWAs to participate in this week's '10 Hafte, 10 Baje, 10 Minute, Har Sunday Dengue Par Vaar' campaign being run by the Delhi government against dengue. CM Arvind Kejriwal has asked all RWAs to participate in the campaign

relief scheme

New Delhi: Revenue min-100 officials to visit the families of those who scheme which makes them eligible to get a one-50,000, or an amount of 25,085 people have died

Dengue out to RWAs

New Delhi: The Delhi govand raise awareness. ENS

visit homes of

ister Kailash Gahlot has directed district magistrates to utilise a pool of died of Covid since last March to inform their time compensation of Rs Rs 2,500 per month (if they are eligible), and assist them in filling out applications. In Delhi,

Govt reaches

need to be followed in jails, members of rival gangs and while taking them to courts, hospitals.

gangs are lodged in the same jail, their cells will not be opened at the same time, added the order. ENS

Rohini court on Saturday, a day after the shooting. Praveen Khanna

stayed in his house and had a party on September 22. They also gave Tyagi and Jagga two pistols – .38 bore and .30 bore," the officer said.

Sixth sero survey: 28k samples will be analysed, says Jain

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI SEPTEMBER 25

THE SIXTH sero-survey for Covid-19, which started Friday, will see 28,000 samples being analysed to determine the Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain said Saturday.

This is the first survey to be done after Delhi was hit by a fourth Covid wave in April and May, and the sixth to be conducted in the city.

As per the last such survey, it was determined that 56.13 per cent of the 28,000 people surveyed had developed antibodies against Covid

"The survey will be carried out in 280 wards of Delhi, including New Delhi Municipal Council and Cantonment Board wards. 100 samples from each ward will be collected. The government aims to collect 28,000 samples randomly from people from all 280 wards of the city in the survev. It is one of the biggest serological surveys and we are hoping for a more accurate and positive report after the survey is over," Jain said.

The government said in an official statement that experts expect a high sero-positivity during this round, as it comes after the wave in April and May, when the peak cases touched almost 28,000 in a day.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE GURGAON, SEPTEMBER 25 FOUR MEN suffocated to death after allegedly inhaling a poisonous gas while attempting to clean a borewell in Nuh's Neemka village on Saturday. Police said they have initiated inquest proceedings under CrPC Section 174, adding that no com-

4 die after inhaling

cleaning borewell

poisonous gas while

The victims have been identified as Jamshed (45), Shahid (21), Zakir (17), Yahya (17) from Neemka. Ajay Veer Singh Bhadana,

SHO, Bicchod police station, said, "Four people had climbed down a 10-feet borewell to open a valve and to clean it. The borewell is built on land belonging to the family of one of the deceased [Shahid]. It had about 4 feet water. It is suspected they inhaled a poisonous gas, which had built up inside. One person entered the borewell and then others followed one by one to rescue them. The exact cause of death will be known once the post-mortem report is out. No complaint has

been received so far.' Police said Jamshed, who worked as a labourer, was hired by Shahid's father, Hanif, to clean a borewell on their land to make water available for the upcoming sowing (Rabi) season.

According to police and villagers, the incident took place around 11.30 am. Jamshed was reportedly the first to enter the 13-feet deep borewell, which had about 4-5 feet water.

Arshad, brother-in-law of the village sarpanch, said Jamshed was fixing a valve and cleaning the borewell when he felt a little breathless and requested for help. Shahid then climbed down and they tried to fix a pipe. In a few minutes, both complained of dizziness and shouted for help. Hanif, who was nearby, rushed to call villagers. "We suspect that some gas had built up both fell unconscious," he said.

Police said Yahya and Zakir who were cousins and lived nearby, rushed to the borewell and climbed in to rescue them but also fell unconscious.

Shahid's cousin Sakir said, 'One person wrapped a cloth around his face and tried to rescue them, but he returned as he was scared of the gas. After half an hour, their bodies were retrieved using a rope and an agricultural tool. All four were rushed to PHC Punhana, where doctors declared them dead on arrival. Another villager who had felt breathless while helping them out was provided treat-

ment and is stable.' "It is an unfortunate incident. We have not filed any complaint against anyone." he added.

Police said the bodies were taken to Mandikhera government hospital for post-mortem.

Arshad said that since the ground water level was low in the village, borewells were dug to pump water and these are usually cleaned before the sowing season. "It has been covered now," he added.

DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM HAS BEEN DEVELOPED BY IITM

WORK IN PROGRESS

Construction underway on the new Parliament building, Saturday. Praveen Khanna

Board fee deadline nears, education

director writes to CBSE for waiver

September 17 and has to be

completed before September 30.

fee in 2019, it is Rs 1,200 for SC/ST

students of Delhi government

schools and Rs 1,500 for others.

That is the base fee for five sub-

iects. With the additional amount

for each subject's practical and

additional or optional subject, the

fee comes to around Rs 2,500 for

Express, with the Delhi govern-

ment not covering the cost and

many parents unable to pay,

some teachers are reaching into

their pockets or resorting to

crowdfunding to help students.

As reported by The Indian

many class XII students.

Following a steep hike in the

This year, new system to pinpoint sources of air pollutants in Delhi-NCR

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND NEW DELHI. SEPTEMBER 25

A NEWLY developed Decision Support System (DSS) that will attempt to determine the source of air pollutants in Delhi-NCR will be a part of the existing air quality forecasting system this year.

An air quality early warning system, developed by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, has been operational in Delhi-NCR since 2018. Based on forecasts, the system provides warnings on severe air quality events. The DSS, which is likely to be introduced for the first time this year, is an extension of the existing system, said Gaurav Govardhan, scientist, IITM.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE DIRECTOR of Education in

Delhi has written to the CBSE re-

questing it to waive the exam fee

for the current academic year for

students of government-run

schools as a one-time measure.

exam fees and finalising the lists

of candidates for the upcoming

class X and XII board examina-

tions is currently underway in

CBSE-affiliated schools across

the country. To be included in

the list, students have to pay the

fees. The process began on

The process of collecting

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

"In addition to forecasting severe air quality events, the DSS can tell us which regions could be responsible for the pollution how much of the pollution is coming from Delhi and how much from nearby districts," said Govardhan, who is part of the team that developed the system.

IITM began to develop DSS in February-March this year, with the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) having stated a requirement for it,

Govardhan said. Apart from Delhi, data on

pollutants will be collected from 19 nearby districts including Jhajjar, Sonipat, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Ghaziabad, Panipat, Rohtak, Gorakhpur, Rewari, Meerut, Bulandshahr and Alwar,

The data on PM 2.5 levels is collected from 43 stations of the Central Pollution Control Board and assimilated into the DSS and the air quality warning system. The forecast provided for the next five days will be based on numerical modeling, in addition to observational data from the stations. The DSS also provides 'real-



The system will also provide emission contributions of different sectors within Delhi. Archive

time source apportionment' information - it will provide emission contributions of different sectors within Delhi, Eight sectors have been factored into the system to check their contributions to emissions - energy, residential, transport, waste burning, construction, road dust, industries (in Delhi and peripheral ones), and 'others'.

"The data from DSS can then help make policy-level interventions. Different scenarios can be attempted. That is, if you reduce transport sector emissions, what sort of improvements can be made to reduce pollution. The

New Delhi

objective is to help policy makers decide what choice to make," Govardhan said. This is the first time that source

apportionment will be factored into the system to pinpoint the sources responsible for pollutants. "The codes in the modeling

system help segregate the pollutants as per contributions from various sectors and different districts. A 'tracer' approach, which is used in numerical modeling of atmospheric pollutants, is used in this case. A total of 470 'tracers' are incorporated in the model, enabling source apportionment of PM 2.5," Govardhan said.

reducing pollution from certain sectors by a certain percentage to see what effect it will have on air quality," Govardhan said. The IITM team, headed by scientist Sachin Ghude, will run the model and publish results on the website. "Final approval is awaited from CAQM and the

The website, once officially

launched, will be accessible to

the public. "In addition to the

source contributions and control

strategies, it will be possible to

create scenarios on the website

Ministry of Earth Sciences before we can go public with the website," Govardhan added.

GOVT & POLITICS

FIRST BILATERAL MEET

PM, Biden talk Pak role in Afghanistan

SHUBHAJITROY

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

IN HIS first meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. US President Joe Biden discussed Pakistan's role in Afghanistan as one of the key challenges, and there was a sense that it needs a more "careful monitoring", Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said on Saturday.

This is in sync with US Vice President Kamala Harris and Secretary of Antony Blinken's comments on Pakistan.

While Harris had conveyed her perception in a bilateral meeting with Modi, Blinken had conveyed it to the US Congress.

Biden also reaffirmed to strengthen the defence relationship and his unwavering commitment to India as a major defence partner, a process started during the Obama administration when he was Vice President, and consolidated during the last four years of the Trump administration.

Modi raised several issues involving the Indian community in the US, including access for Indian professionals there and H-1B visas, Shringla said. They also laid "strong emphasis" on developing trade and economic relations with the US, Shringla said

Biden welcomed Modi to the White House on Friday, and the meeting of the two leaders in the Oval Office lasted for more than 90 minutes, instead of the sched-

Asked about Biden's comments on the "shared responsibility to uphold democratic values" and their "joint commitment to diversity", Shringla said, "I would see the President's remarks in that context that we are all countries that have...the points you mentioned in terms of shared responsibility is diversity, family ties, emphasis to family ties, emphasis on non-violence, tolerance, respect — those that we fully believe in. In fact. India is ingrained in exactly those areas....So I would see it as a reaffirmation of our democracy. A sense of the fact that India and the United States represent two

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

WITH THE Taliban taking control

of Afghanistan, the world is real-

ising India's concerns surround-

ing radical groups backed by

Pakistan, Defence Minister

Rajnath Singh said Saturday. He

said the turmoil in the region has been caused by active support to

non-state actors by "irresponsi-

of what India has been voicing for

long, with regard to the active sup-

port of Pakistan to violent radical

and terror groups. Today the

world is witness to the destabilis-

ing effects of terror and the espe-

cially dangerous precedence of vi-

olent radical forces attempting to

gain legitimacy by creating a new

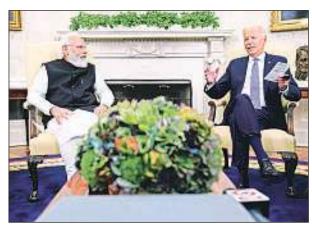
25 SEP 2021

"There is growing realisation

ble" countries.

World realising India's

concerns on Pak: Rajnath



PM Narendra Modi with US President Ioe Biden in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington. AP Photo/Evan Vucci

tant resolution which reflected

the international community's

general view on the situation in

Afghanistan and obligations of the

ruling dispensation there to fulfill

certain conditionalities that the

international community faced

the importance of combat and

terrorism in Afghanistan. They

called on the Taliban to adhere to

these and all of its commitments

under resolution 2593," Shringla

said. "That includes, obviously, the

issue of ensuring that Afghan ter-

ritory is not used to threaten at-

tack against any country, shelter

any terrorist groups or finance ter-

rorist attacks and underscores the

importance of combating terror-

itself as a facilitator, has been in

many senses an instigator of some

of the problems that India has

been dealing with in its neigh-

sions as well as in the forum dis-

cussions there was the clear sense

that a more careful look, and a

more careful examination and

monitoring of Pakistan's role in

Afghanistan, Pakistan's role on the

issue of terrorism had to be kept.

and that certainly whether it is

Quad or its other partners have to

keep track of that factor," Shringla

"Both in the bilateral discus-

bourhood, Shringla said.

Pakistan, which is projecting

ism in Afghanistan.'

"So, the two sides underscored

are important, he said.

vibrant dynamic democracies on the move.'

While Harris had also said earlier that it is incumbent on the two nations to protect democracies in the best interests of people of these countries. Biden's message on democracy was clear that the administration was driving it's

In sync with Harris's discussions with Modi earlier, Shringla said that during the bilateral discussions at the While House, there was a clear concern expressed on Pakistan's role in Afghanistan and the continuing support for an approach that did not seem to be conducive to the international community's expectations of what the war-torn country should

During the meeting, both India and the US agreed that the issue of terrorism is very important. Both sides denounced any use of terrorist proxies and emphasised the importance of denying the logistical, financial or military support to terrorist groups, which could be used to plan, or launch terror attacks, the Foreign Secretary said.

Noting that there was quite a bit of discussion on Afghanistan, Shringla said there was a lot of importance attached to the fact that UN resolution 2593 was adopted and India's presidency of the

the "turmoil caused in the region

has been brought about by ag-

gressive designs and active sup-

port to non-state players by irre-

sponsible states" and that today.

"there is widespread realisation

amongst all responsible nations,

towards a common understand-

ing and the need to come together

the National Defence College, he

told the officers that as students of

strategic affairs, they should draw

lessons from the events in

Afghanistan "that are far beyond the

immediate reverberations that are

being felt in the region and beyond".

ber challenges, success can only

come by unifying our national di-

"Be it against terrorism or cy-

Speaking at the convocation of

against this common menace."

India on Imran remarks: Pak is 'arsonist' disguising as 'firefighter' YOSHITA SINGH

UNITED NATIONS. SEPTEMBER 25

PAKISTAN, WHERE terrorists eniov free pass, is an "arsonist" disguising itself as a "firefighter", and the entire world has suffered as it nurtures dreaded terrorists like Osama bin Laden in its backyard, India has said in a blistering retort after Prime Minister Imran Khan raked up the issue of Kashmir in his address to the UN General Assembly.

"We exercise our Right of Reply to one more attempt by the leader of Pakistan to tarnish the image of this august Forum by bringing in matters internal to my country, and going so far



First Secretary Sneha Dubey at UNGA. Twitter/IndiaUNNewYork

as to spew falsehoods on the world stage," First Secretary Sneha Dubey said in the UN General Assembly on Friday.

"We keep hearing that

This is the country which is an arsonist disguising itself as a firefighter. Pakistan nurtures terrorists in their backyard in the hope that they will only harm their neighbours. Our region, and in fact the entire world, has suffered because of their policies. On the other hand, they are trying to cover up sectarian violence in their country as acts of terror," the young diplomat said. In the Right of Reply, Dubey

strongly reiterated that the entire Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh "were, are and will always be an integral and inalienable part of India. This includes the areas that are under the illegal occupation of

12th century Nataraj to 2nd century vase: US hands over 157 antiques

DIVYAA

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

AS MANY as 157 artefacts and antiquities were handed over by the United States during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the country The list has a diverse set of

items - a 1.5-metre bas-relief panel of Revanta in sandstone made in the 10th century, an 8.5 cm tall bronze Nataraj figure from the 12th century, 56 terracotta pieces, several bronze figurines and copper objects, among others.

The items, which were stolen or smuggled out of India over a period of time, mostly belong to the period between 11th and 14th centuries. The returned antiquities include an 18th-century sword in its sheath, with the inscription mentioning Guru Hargobind Singh in Persian.



PM Modi looks at artefacts and antiquities. PTI

There are several historic antiquities as well, including a copper anthropomorphic object from 2000 BC and a terracotta vase from the 2nd century, the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement on Saturday. While 71 artefacts are cultural, the others comprise figurines relating to Hinduism (60), Buddhism (16)

Their make spreads across metal, stone and terracotta. In 2019, an ASI team had vis-

and Jainism (9), it stated.

ited New York and identified close to a hundred of these artefacts, seized in the US, as "original Indian antiquities of tremendous value", known to be stolen from temples in Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh and smuggled abroad. ASI ADG Archaeology Urmila Sant, who was part of the team, had told the Indian Express that they visited the US following a call from the office of Consulate General of India about the seized artefacts.

During the meeting between Modi US President Joe Biden, the two leaders also "committed to strengthen efforts to combat theft, illicit trade and trafficking of cultural objects", it an-

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

Delivered 202 of 505 poll promises: Stalin

Chennai: Tamil Nadu Chi Minister M K Stalin on Saturday said his government has kept up its poll assurances, delivering 202 among the 505 promises made in the run up to the Assembly polls to the State besides other announcements made in the legislative Assembly.

The Chief Minister assured to meet the people once every three months, with a list of achievements, to inform them about his government's progress. "Will meet you once every 3 months to let you know of the progress we made with the list of achievements," Stalin said in a video message posted

instigate people, Assam govt can't be cowed: Sarma **TORA AGARWALA** GUWAHATI, SEPTEMBER 25

Money taken to

ASSAM Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Saturday accused "certain people" of taking money and mobilising protests against the eviction drive in the state, claiming inputs on six people specifically, including "an Assam college lecturer". He also claimed the judicial probe would reveal "a lot more explosive information".

Two days after an eviction drive in Dholpur area of Darrang district's Sipajhar turned violent, leaving two dead, the CM said: "Certain people have collected Rs 28 lakh from poor, landless people in the last three months, and were telling them that there will be no eviction and that they have convinced the government... They mobilised those people and created havoc on that particular day." The SP of Darrang district, Sushanta Biswa Sarma, is the CM's brother.

Sarma also named the Popular Front of India (PFI), a Muslim outfit that has been under the scanner of government organisations. "Prior to the day of the incident, in the name of food for evicted families, the PFI visited the site," the CM said.

Assam minister and BJP leader Ashok Singhal told The Indian Express that while he didn't want to take names, a "third force was involved... organisations and people who want to destabilise and malign the people of Assam"

Sarma said he had had several meetings with the All Assam Minority Students' Union (AAMSU) and that they had agreed to the eviction. "I had said that if people are landless, they will get two acres. Only thing is, they can't have land elsewhere. But most people have land... they are not landless, as portrayed in the national media... They have their land in ancestral villages like Baghbor (Barpeta)," he said.

Barpeta in lower Assam is dominated by Bengali-speaking Muslims. The eviction drives have been concentrated in areas inhab-

He said he explained the same thing to Congress legislators when they came to meet him. "They ernment has taken a stand to settle landless people... Thereafter they created mayhem," the CM said. The Congress has condemned

the "barbaric act of police firing and inhumane act on protesters".



Himanta Biswa Sarma also alleged a PFI role File/Express

State chief Bhupen Kumar Borah has also demanded suspension of the Deputy Commissioner and Darrang SP, while urging Sarma to "watch his words and orders... to maintain sanity in the police force and peace in Assam".

In a tweet with the hashtag 'Assam', Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said what was the point of the Centre's 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to mark 75 years of Independence "if there is so much hatred being spread in the country".

Sarma accused the encroachers of using two things like a "mantra": floods and erosion. "But we cannot be silent any more. The Assam government cannot cow down.' Many of the evicted people

The Indian Express spoke to Friday said they had moved to Dholpur areas after losing lands to the Brahmaputra. They also claimed to have bought land in Dholpur.

Sarma appealed to the "national media" to "hear" Assam's side of the story. "You cannot take sides... so-called national media, left liberal media, without going into the details," he said. "We (the Assamese) are getting outnumbered every day

The CM said there have been efforts to evict people from Sipajhar since 1983. "In 1983, they (the encroachers) killed seven-eight people.Thereafter...thelocalAssamese people have been murdered every two-three years," he said.

Sarma repeated that what happened during the Dholpur drive, with a cameraperson hired by the district administration stomping on a protester as he lay dying-captured in a video--was an "aberration". "We have ordered a CID inquiry. But that doesn't mean we will not investigate who mobilised 10,000 people their You have to see the total video... That particular person, according to the video, had attacked that guy... We do not justify that. But... please give the entire sequence," he said.

Ahead of Kerala Cong reshuffle, veteran leader resigns from party panel

SHAJU PHILIP THIRUVANANTHAPURAM SEPTEMBER 25

FRESHTROUBLE seems to be brewing in the Kerala unit of Congress ahead of the new state committee's reshuffle with party leader V M Sudheeran quitting the political affairs committee Saturday.

Sudheeran, a former state party chief, said he had handed over his resignation to the current Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee president K Sudhakaran. He did not mention the reason for his exit.

Sources close to him said the resignation was a fallout of the continuing unease among senior leaders in Kerala ahead of the

loan from Japan International

Cooperation Agency (JICA),

while around 3.000 km of two

DFCs are being constructed with

aid from the World Bank in the

eastern part of India and from

ment to carbon reduction, the

share of Railways in freight must

increase from the current 27% to

As part of national commit-



sader within the Congress, has been keeping away from all the dominating groups. Expressing his displeasure,

Sudhakaran said: "I don't know the reason. I have already stated that we are open for discussions on all issues, including reshuffle...Sudheeran was not picking up my calls," he said.

Opposition leader V D Satheesan also said he was unaware of the reason behind Sudheeran's resignation.

Rajnath Singh during a convocation ceremony at the National Defence College, in New Delhi. PTI

Prashant Kishor in Bhabanipur voter list: BJP

Kolkata: In a jihe at the ruling TMC the BJP on Saturday said Prashant Kishor, who was the poll adviser of the Mamata Banerjee-led party in the recent West Bengal elections, can be called a "bohiragato" (outsider) being enrolled as a voter in the Bhabanipur constituency where by-election will be held on September 30.

Baneriee is contesting the bypoll from the Bhabanipur seat to retain her CM's chair, and is up against BJP's Priyanka Tibrewal.

Long before the by-election was announced, a person with the name Prashant Kishor was included in the list of the electorate in Bhabanipur, according to the EC website.



MAN ON THE STREET: Tamil Nadu CM M K Stalin meets residents during a cycling break in Chennai.

After MEA refuses permission for Rome trip, Mamata says: Can't stop me forever Teresa along with Italian Prime

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 25

MINISTER Mamata Banerjee on Saturday reacted sharply to the denial of permission by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to her to attend the World Peace Conference at the Vatican in Rome — scheduled in October.

On the campaign trail for the Bhabanipur Assembly by-election on



Mamata in Bhabanipur on Saturday. CMO

September 30, Banerjee said, "How many places will you (Centre) not let me visit? You can't stop me forever."

The MEA denied her permission to attend the conference saying the "event is not commensurate in status for participation by the chief minister of a state".

The World Peace Conference would be held over two days, on October 6 and 7, in the Italian capital. Pope Francis will grace the event centered around Mother Minister Mario Draghi. German Chancellor Angela Merkel is also among the dignitaries invited. Banerjee is the only leader from

India to have received an invitation. The Italian government, while

higher-income passengers, the

Bank notes, while there would

be a rise by 20% in traffic being

carried on freight corridors.

extending the invite, mentioned her "significant election victory" and "the important work for social justice, for the development of your own country, and therefore, for peace."

impending reshuffle. Sudheeran, who has built an image of a cru-

ment from private sector and financial institutions is key to the success of the plan, and the World Bank's pitch is being viewed in that context.

Sources also pointed out that things would ultimately

boil down to specific numbers regarding how much the World Bank is willing to fund. "Global financial institutions have a limit regarding the exposure they can have in one sector, in a country or even a region," an official said.

Finance to upgrade, World Bank offers plan for Railway expansion Delhi-Chandigarh-Amritsar, shared its vision for the Railways The presentation, seen by Once developed, the comspeed railway line from Mumbai muter networks will attract to Ahmedabad is being laid with

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE WORLD Bank has outlined the role it can play as India looks to fund its ambitious National Rail Plan over the next 30 years, which envisages almost 8,000 km of high-speed corridors and another 8.000 km of dedicated freight corridors (DFCs), involving funds to the tune of Rs 40

The World Bank top brass

and what it proposes at a presentation to Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and other top brass last week. The National Rail Plan and

the National Infrastructure Pipeline recommend a total of 13 bullet-train corridors across India, including the under-construction Mumbai-Ahmedabad one. They are on routes like Mumbai-Nagpur, Hyderabad-Bengaluru, Varanasi-Patna, Patna-Kolkata, Delhi-Udaipur,

Nagpur-Varanasi, Amritsar-Pathankot-Jammu, Chennai-Mysuru via Bengaluru, Mumbai-Hyderabad, and Varanasi-Delhi via Ayodhya. However, there is no clarity on how to fund them, or the new

The Bank has offered its expertise starting from handholding execution of partnership with private players, to development of intermodal stations and upgrading of ex-



Ashwini Vaishnaw isting lines. "Aim to build 8000

km of DFC and 8,000 km of High Speed Railway in 30 years. How to pay for it?" the presentation poses, offering "World Bank interventions" as a solution.

The Sunday Express, foresees "open access" in future DFCs, and within three years, commercial financing of the country's freight infrastructure, through "asset recycling", "bond issuance" etc. In passenger services, the

Bank proposes PPP partnership in developing new high-speed routes as well as the commuter rail network. World Bank India

spokesperson did not respond to queries regarding the meeting.

According to the presentation, together the measures would reduce Indian Railways share of infrastructure ownership costs by \$6.5 billion, and ultimately help the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation Limited to finance

the expansion of its network. Currently, the 508-km high-

New Delhi

45% by 2030.

JICA in the west.

Officials noted that invest-

Express Network

PUNJAB RESHUFFLE

Channi gets new Cabinet today but list not official

KANCHAN VASDEV

CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 25

PUNJAB CHIEF Minister Charanjit Singh Channi will get his Cabinet team Sunday with 15 ministers set to take oath of office at Punjab Raj Bhawan. The Congress, however, is yet to release the list of ministers officially. Another video link meeting between AICC leader Rahul Gandhi and Channi was underway at the time of going to press.

The swearing-in ceremony will be held at 4:30 pm Sunday Channi's Cabinet will have all 18 seats filled. The CM met Governor Banwarilal Purohit on Saturday to finalise the swearing

Earlier, the list of 15 ministers was finalised by AICC leader Rahul Gandhi in a meeting with Channi and other Congress leaders, including K C Venugopal, Harish Rawat, Harish Chaudhary, Ajay Maken, that went on till 1 am on the intervening night of Friday and Saturday.

The party may, however, tweak the list further as there have been several red faces after

Ram temple case

victory dies at 75

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

Architect of

Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi meets Governor Banwarilal Purohit in Chandigarh on Saturday. PTI

the list was finalised. Rahul, who is in Shimla is learnt to have scheduled a video conference with Channi for midnight. A four-time MLA from Amloh, Kaka Randeep Singh Nabha is upset at being ignored. "I am upset. It is really unfair on me. I have been ignored for the third time, twice by Capt Amarinder and now by Channi. I will soon decide my further course of action," Nabha told The Indian Express.

In the centre of Nabha's protest is shortlisting of Khanna MLA Gurkirat Singh Kotli, who is iunior to Nabha and is a twotime MLA. Also, Kuljit Singh Nagra is also a two-timer and is the PPCC working president. "Why should a leader, handed the responsibility of organisation, should eye Cabinet?" asked a leader on anonymity.

While Channi is learnt to have called up a few MLAs for a meeting at his residence Saturday evening and informed them about their induction, a few others said they had not heard from the party yet. All the MLAs have, however, been invited for the

Sources said the party has been able to reach a consensus on inducting seven MLAs and dropping five from former Chief Minister Amarinder Singh's

Sources said in the meeting a consensus was reached on dropping former Health Minister Balbir Sidhu, Revenue Minister Gurpreet Singh Kangar, Industries Minister Sunder Sham Arora, Social Welfare Sadhu Minister Singh **Dharamsot and Sports Minister** Rana Gurmit Singh Sodhi.

It was also decided to re-induct former Irrigation Minister Rana Gurjit Singh. He was earlier a minister in Amarinder's Cabinet but who had stepped down after an alleged scam in allotment of sand mines to his ex-employees.

Others, whose names were finalised include PPCC chief Navjot Singh Sidhu's choices in PPCC general secretary incharge Pargat Singh, PPCC Working President Kuljit Nagra and Gidderbaha MLA Amrinder Singh Raja Warring.

FULL REPORT ON

In Channi's new team, Doaba hopes to get its due

ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHABA JALANDHAR, SEPTEMBER 25

PUNJAB'S DOABA region is finally set to get its due with three Cabinet hopefuls making it to the list of Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi's new

Doaba has 23 Assembly segments and 18 Congress MLAs in the Punjab Assembly. But it had only one Cabinet minister— Hoshiarpur district's Sunder Sham Arora. In Amarinder Singh's Cabinet, Doaba was highly under-represented - out of 16 ministers, 10 were from the Malwa region, five from Majha region and one was from Doaba. Even PPCC Chief Navjot Sidhu was also a minister from Majha who had stepped down later.

Doaba which has 1/5th of Assembly seats in Punjab is likely to get the same representation in Channi's cabinet in the same proportion as its seat share.

came into power two ministers were chosen from Doaba including Arora and three-time MLA from Kapurthala Assembly constituency Rana Gurjit Singh.

In 2017, there were 15 MLAs from Doaba in the Assembly and then Congress won two more Assembly seats from here in 2018 and 2019 the bypolls in Shahkot and Phagwara Assembly segments and then rebel MLA of AAP from Bholath, Sukhpal Singh Kahira, also joined his parent Congress party taking Congress MLAs its tally to 18 in Vidhan Sabha from Doaba, which has four districts including Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Hoshiarpur and Nawanshahr.

There are six Congress MLAs from Jalandhar out of nine seats. In Kapurthala, all the four MLAs of Congress. Nawanshahr has two Congress MLAs out of three seats, and Hoshairpur has six Congress MLAs out of its seven

CJI Ramana at the newly-inaugurated building of the Odisha State Legal Service Authority in Cuttack on Saturday.

Laws must match reality, need reform by legislature: CJI

Executive has to match legislature's efforts by simplifying rules, he says

AISHWARYA MOHANTY BHUBANESWAR, SEPT 25

REITERATING HIS call for Indianisation of the justice delivery system, Chief Justice of India N V Ramana Saturday emphasised that "our laws must match with our practical realities" and asked the "legislature" to "revisit the laws and reform them to suit the needs of time and people".

Addressing a gathering on the occasion of the inauguration of the new building of Odisha State Legal Service Authority (OSLSA) in Cuttack, the CJI said there is "general understanding of the people that it is the court's responsibility to make laws".

"This notion has to be dispelled," he said, pointing to the role of the other two organs legislature and executive — in this.

CJI Ramana said that the executive has to "match" the efforts of the legislature by simplifying rules. The two "should function in unison in realising the Constitutional aspirations", he said. "It is only then that the judiciary would not be compelled to step in as a lawmaker and would only be left with the duty of applying and interpreting the same," he said.

Only a "harmonious functioning of the three organs of the State can remove procedural barriers to justice", he said.

Explaining the issues he Indianisation, the CJI said that "even after 74 years of independence, traditional and agrarian societies which have been followfeel hesitant to approach the courts. The practices, procedures, language and everything of our courts feels alien to them. Between the complex language of the Acts and the process of justice delivery, the common man seems to lose control over the fate of his grievance. Often, in this trajectory, the justice-seeker feels like an outsider to the system".

He said it is a harsh reality that "often our legal system fails to take into consideration the social realities and implications. Sadly, our system is designed in such a way that by the time all the facts and law are churned in the court of law, much gets lost in the process. People might be bringing their problems to the courts, but what remains at the

end of a day is yet another case." Apart from the need for Indiansiation, CII Ramana said the other challenge faced by the country's judicial system is enabling the people to "decode the justice delivery system by raising awareness", and pointed to the role of legal services authorities in achieving this. "The concept of access to justice in India is much broader than simply providing lawyers for representation before the courts," he said. "The task to facilitate access to justice to the

services institutions. The CII said that it is necessary to strengthen the judicial infragrammes "if we want to retain the faith of our people". He also announced that a country-wide, robust legal awareness mission will

poor and the marginalised has

been conferred upon the legal

ing customary ways of life still be launched in the coming week. Partition done on false

PARTITION took place "on a false

unlike many other partitions seen in other countries in that

drawing of boundaries.... The Partition was not just partition of territories but also of minds. which needs to be seen with utmost seriousness and care. We need to build a united Indian society. It can happen only if the leadership and elements that believe in separatism and communal separation are discouraged.'

period, was not just a simple re-

needs to be encouraged," he said. leader Sahasrabuddhe said there are "elements who do not want to see a unified and integrated India". JNU vice-chancellor M lagadesh Kumar said the groundwork for Partition was "done during the World War-II itself", when the British established a "connection with Jinnah".

LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 25

SENIOR VISHWA Hindu Parishad leader Triloki Nath Pandey, considered an architect of the legal victory in the Ram Janmbhoomi title suit in the Supreme Court, died at 75 at Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital in Lucknow on Friday night after a prolonged illness.

Pandey was the decree holder of the Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Kshetra due to his status of "fast friend" of Bhagwan Ram Lalla.

His death was confirmed by his family members early on Friday. He was admitted to the hospital 15 days ago.

Pandey was a key litigant in the Ram Janmabhoomi title suit from the Hindu side. After the Allahabad High Court decision in 2010, which ordered a threeway division of the then disputed land, Pandey had moved the Supreme Court.

and Thakur Prasad Verma, Pandey was the third person to take over as the "fast friend" sta-

While in 1989, Devki Nandan

Agrawal first lodged the case on behalf of Ram Lalla Virajman in a Faizabad court in 2002. Varma took up the legal battle after Agarwal died. In 2008 Verma handed over the mantle to

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

LIP'S SAMASTIPUR MP Prince Raj

was Saturday granted anticipa-

tory bail in a rape case with a

Delhi court observing a "possi-

Special Judge Vikas Dhull ob-

served there was a "possibility of

false implication being prima fa-

cie established and there being

no chance of tampering with the

evidence or applicant/accused

bility of false implication".

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

Unacademy educator calls tribals stupid in lecture, firm regrets

SOURAV ROY BARMAN NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

A SHORT clip showing an educator of ed-tech platform Unacademy making racist remarks against indigenous communities sparked outrage Saturday. In a statement, Unacademy said it "unconditionally regrets the comments".

Hengam Riba, a student of Tata Institute of Social Sciences Mumbai, who hails from Arunachal Pradesh, was among those who first flagged the clip on Twitter— it was taken down from the Unacademy YouTube page following outrage.

In the clip, the educator Siddharth Singh, who takes classes on UPSC General Studies, could be heard saying in Hindi, "Tribal log jo hota hai humare, dimaag toh hota nahi unke paas koi. kanooni koi kagaaz hote hai zameen zaydad ke (Tribal people are stupid. They also lack legal documents related to land and property).'

He made the remarks during a session on slash and burn farming, which is popularly known as 'jhum' cultivation across Northeast India.

According to Singh's profile on the Unacademy portal, he has

MP gets anticipatory bail in rape case

LIP MP

"...it was in fact prosecutrix,

who was trying to threaten the

applicant/accused to defame

him by circulating his

picture/video which were in her

possession and she also corrob-

orated the allegations made in

the FIR lodged by applicant/ac-

cused that they had consensual

Prince Raj

'Possibility of false implication': LJP

been associated with the platform since June 24, 2020. When contacted, Riba said,

"The remarks made by Siddharth Singh reflect the systematic social, cultural structural bigotry in regards to that of the tribal communities in India."

The Unacademy, one of the country's biggest ed-tech unicorns, said in a statement that it has been brought to its notice that Singh made "discriminatory and hurtful comments against people from indigenous tribes". "Unacademy has deleted the original video and has penalised the educator in compliance with our internal Code of Conduct guidelines. Unacademy unconditionally regrets the comments made by the Educator and the hurt the comment has caused," it

According to the company, it has over 4,000 educators across and rigorous code of conduct trainings before they start teaching on the platform, and at periodic intervals thereafter. The trainings specifically guide educators against making any discriminatory and hurtful com-

Unacademy did not respond to a query on the specific nature of the penalty that has been imposed on the educator.

physical relationship," court said.

registered FIRs against each other.

Raj had alleged that the woman

had tried to extort Rs 1 crore from

him and implicate him in a false

rape case by leaking obscene pho-

tos on social media. After three

months, the woman approached

the police accusing the MP of rape.

The court noted that there is "an

unreasonable delay in lodging the

FIR by prosecutrix". It said noth-

ing expressed in the order "shall

tantamount to expressing any

opinion on the merits of this case".

Both Raj and the woman had

Regional outfits put up show of strength at INLD event

BJP's Birender Singh, SAD's Parkash Singh Badal, INLD's OP Chautala, NC's Farooq Abdullah

and JD(U)'s KC Tyagi at the INLD programme to commemorate Devi Lal. Manoj Dhak

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 25

gramme to mark the 108th birth anniversary of the late deputy PM Devi Lal saw several regional political outfits such as the Shiromani Akali Dal, Janata Dal (United) and the National Conference putting up a show of strength where they backed the ongoing agitation against the agri laws and urged the electorate to "strengthen" them if they want their voices to be heard.

The "Samman Diwas Samaroh" at Jind's Anaj Mandi also saw the surprise participation of BIP leader and former Union minister Birender Singh.

While Akali Dal was represented by former Punjab chief minister Parkash Singh Badal, former Jammu and Kashmir CM Farooq Abdullah and KCTyagi attended on behalf of NC, and JD(U) respectively. Former Haryana CM Om Prakash Chautala, organised the event.

Birender Singh said Devi Lal had taught farmers to struggle for their rights. "Today, again the fight is for farmers' rights. A moment will come that farmers will get united and follow the right man. Then, they shall succeed.' the former Union minister said. Badal urged people to

Will quit if any risk to MSP: Haryana Dy CM

Nuh: Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala Saturday declared that his Jannayak Janta Party MLAs would guit "in a minute" if there was any threat to farmers' concerns related to minimum support price (MSP), mandis or land.

'Three things have been claimed-MSP will be scrapped, mandis closed and farmers' lands usurped. If there is any threat to any of these, all 10 [MLAs] from our party will resign in a minute," he said.

Chautala was speaking in Hilalpur village in Nuh, where a 42-foot statue of former deputy PM Chaudhary Devi Lal was unveiled on the latter's 108th birth anniversary Saturday. JJP national president Dr Ajay Singh Chautala and

strengthen regional outfits for the resolution of their issues. Abdullah said the Union gov-

ernment is in the "grip of industrialists and that is why they want to sacrifice farmers". He stressed on making friends

with the neighbouring countries even as he lashed out at the BJP senior party leaders were present on the occasion.

"People said mandis will

close down. Our government has recently bought land for a 56-acre mandi in Sirsa. There is a proposal for four new mandis in Haryana. Wheat is now procured at more than 400 centres. as compared to 190 centres earlier. If mandis were closing, would the procurement happen at so many centres? This talk of farmers' lands being usurped [by industrialists] is delusion. In the last ten months, has there been a single such case reported?" he asked.

His party had ensured the passage of a law for 75 per cent reservation for unemployed youth, he said, adding it will be implemented on 15 October. -PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA

over abrogating Article 370 and accused the saffron party of trying to appropriate Lord Ram who, he said, was a god not only of the Hindus but of the entire world.

OP Chautala said: "Four farmer agitations have been successful in the past. This one will also succeed.'

premise: Madhav at JNU **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

premise that Hindus and Muslims need separate nations, although they had been living together despite their different practices" for long, RSS leader Ram Madhav said Saturdav. It was not just a separation of territories but also a division of minds, he said at a webinar organised by JNU.

Madhav claimed that Mohammad Ali Jinnah was allowed to "grow into a monster" during the freedom struggle, and was "hell-bent on partition".

He said: "Partition of India.

"A sense of one nationhood

'A pioneer... she was a South Asian feminist icon, not just an Indian icon' Writer and publisher Ritu of activists and energised concerned about people incar-

fleeing from justice".

ARANYA SHANKAR NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

FEMINIST ICON, poet, author and a pioneer of the women's rights movement in South Asia, Kamla Bhasin, died in Delhi late Friday night after a short but spirited battle against liver cancer. She

to the causes she fought for until the very end, participating in an online meeting from her ICU bed iust hours before her death.

Bhasan remained committed

"We had a meeting of the PIPFDP (Pak-India Peoples Forum for Peace and Democracy) yesterday around 4:30 PM and she had appeared

for some time from the hospital. She said she was glad to be there, and tried to speak some more but there were some audio issues... Some doctors then walked into her room, and she told us. 'I will be back' before disconnecting. That was her spirit even then," said Zafar Bakht from

Bhasin was diagnosed with cancer at the end of June, and breathed her last at around 2:45 AM Friday. Her sister and Congress politician Bina Kak said: "There was fluid build-up in the lungs and doctors wanted her to be hospitalised. At night, she started losing her breath and

started deteriorating.'

her late ex-husband-daughter Meeto, who died by suicide in 2006, and son Jeet, 41, who has cerebral palsy and is dependent on caregivers. Those close to her say she was a doting mother and worried about her son's future in Born in 1946 in Pakistan's

Shahidanwali village, Bhasin completed her graduation from Maharani College, Jaipur, and post-graduation from Rajasthan University, before moving to Germany to study sociology. After returning to India, she worked with the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization for 25 years. During this time, she reached out to women across



network, and co-founder of Jagori, a women's resource centre. She was also the South Asian coordinator of the One Billion Rising campaign, besides being associated with several other organisations.

She is known for improvising and popularising in India the 'Azadi' slogan, which she picked up from Pakistani feminists, as well as for her poems written for children, the most notable being 'Because I'm a girl, I must study'. She wrote more than 30 books on women's rights and eight children's books, along with several songs and poems.

Jagori said in a statement: Bhasin was the founder of "Through her songs and posters, she has reached out to millions

protests... Using simple language to demystify concepts, she was able to reach out the ideas of feminism and patriarchy to the lay person without jargon." Her friends and comrades remember her as a feisty, positive

and warm person who wished to celebrate life-no matter what it threw at her. Activist Kavita Srivastava was among the friends who visited Bhasin in her Anand Lok residence multiple times in the last few months when her treatment

began. They would sing and

"She was enjoying every moment, even towards the end. She would tell a lot of stories. She was

cerated, even in the end she was thinking about others. I told her—You're going to win over the emperor of maladies. She wrote back saying 'No Kavita. I don't think so, but I will not treat it as a defeat. I will just transcend into another world'.' "Kamla was one of the pio-

neers of the Indian feminist movement since the 70s. She was active during the Mathura rape case, the Shah Bano, as well as with anti-dowry, anti-rape movements. She was a South Asian feminist icon, not just an Indian icon. She helped build bridges between India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka," she said.

that was exceptional. To be touched by her love was to expe-

Menon, Bhasin's co-author of

'Borders & Boundaries: Women

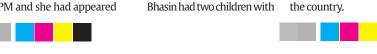
"There was a quality to Kamla

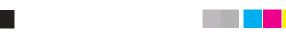
in India's Partition', said Bhasin's

legacy was "enormous".

rience something unique. That warmth she radiated, it encompassed almost everything she came in contact with. Her legacy is in the songs she wrote, the slogans she raised, the connections she made, the hearts she touched, the issues and campaigns she fought. It's the generosity, spontaneity, warmth and intelligence of her struggle. That is her legacy for the entire subcontinent," she said.

New Delhi





the country.

1946-2021

Sangat, a South Asian feminist

share stories.

Maharashtra: Cinema halls, auditoriums to reopen from October 22

VISHWAS WAGHMODE MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 25

IN A further relaxation of lockrestrictions, the Maharashtra government on Friday announced that cinema halls, multiplexes and auditoriums will be allowed to reopen from October 22 while observing Covid-19 safety protocols.

While the standard operating procedure (SOP) will issued next week, Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut said cinema halls, multiplexes and auditoriums will be allowed to operate at 50 per cent seating capacity.

Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray made the announcement after meeting a delegation of film producers on Saturday. The meeting was attended by Raut, Chief Secretary Sitaram Kunte, health officials and Covid-19 task force members.

On Friday, the government had announced that offline classes in schools will resume for students from classes V to

classes VIII to XII in urban areas from October 4. Also, all places of worship will be allowed to reopen from October 7 – the first day of Navratri.

"Seating capacity of halls, staggering of show timings and serving food and beverages to people were discussed in the meeting. The detailed SOP will be issued either on Monday or Tuesday," said Kunte.

Speaking to The Indian Express, Raut said, "The film industry was born in Maharashtra. It has been shut for one-and-a-half years. It has been decided that cinema halls and theatres will be allowed to operate with 50 per cent capac-

Sources said show timings would be staggered to ensure there is no crowding at one time in multiplexes. "Similarly, it will also not lead to crowding for food and beverage during the interval in a film," said an official present in the meeting. The official added that no decision was taken on whether only fully

lowed in cinema halls and auditoriums.

The official further said that those performing in auditoriums may need to be fully vaccinated. "The audience can wear masks and watch movies and theatre.'

Sources in the government said that the decision of relaxing curbs has been taken considering that Covid-19 cases in the state are under control and over 7.5 crore people have been vaccinated.

"We have also taken precautions by issuing directions to liquid medical oxygen manufacturers and refillers to ensure that storage is maintained at 95 per cent of the capacity till September 30. The 12,000 metric tonne (MT) of oxygen from private sector and over 3,000 MT from smaller units in districts can be stored," said an official.

"Today, during a review, we found that 11,500 MT and 2,000 MT of oxygen have been stored for use during possible third wave," the official added.

TRACKING THE SECOND SURGE

NEW CASES: 31,571 ACTIVE CASES: 3,07,503

TOTAL VACCINATION: 84,89,29,160

TOTAL DEATHS | WEEKLY CFR 4,46,919 | 0.84%



TESTS TODAY: 17.89.293 | TOTAL TESTS: 56.34.50.676 WEEKLY POSITIVITY: 1.87% OVERALL POSITIVITY: 5.97%

STATES REPORTING MOST CASES

STATE	NEW	ACTIVE	WEEKLY	TOTAL
	CASES	CASES	POSITIVITY	VACCINATION
■ Kerala	20,671	1,69,648	16.66%	3,48,70,128
■Maharashtra	3,276	37,984	2.02%	7,74,65,734
■Tamil Nadu	1,724	17,263	1.09%	4,39,23,503
■Mizoram	1,322	15,081	16.19%	11,03,556
■ Andhra Pradesh	1,167	13,208	2.16%	3,89,30,753

STATES REPORTING MOST DEATHS

STATE	TODAY'S Deaths	TOTAL Deaths	WEEKLY CFR	OVERALL CFR
■ Kerala	120	24,517	0.57%	0.56%
■Maharashtra	60	1,42,400	3.11%	2.19%
■ Tamil Nadu	22	35,476	1.49%	1.35%
■ Karnataka	11	37,717	1.89%	1.27%
■West Bengal	11	18,727	1.79%	1.20%

 $Note: Data as on Sept \, 25; vaccination numbers as of Sept \, 24. \, Deaths include \, those \, from \, previous \, days.$

XII in rural areas and from vaccinated people would be al-FIR against Cong leader, MLA daughter after

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 25

AN FIR was registered against senior Congress leader Pramod Tiwari and his daughter and MLA Aradhna Mishra, hours after party supporters clashed with BJP workers at a Gareeb Kalyan Mela organised at Sangipur development block of Pratapgarh district on Saturday.

According to local reports, the clash broke out after supporters of local BJP MP Sangamlal Gupta and Tiwari ran into each other. While it was alleged that Gupta was attacked by the supporters of Tiwari and his MLA daughter, senior police officers confirmed that

22-yr-old cadet

from Maldives

collapses, dies

during training

activity at NDA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

A 22-YEAR-OLD cadet from

Maldives undergoing training

at the National Defence Academy (NDA) in Pune col-

lapsed and died during a train-

ing activity on Saturday afternoon. The academy said that a

Court of Inquiry has been ordered to investigate into the in-

Police officials said the incident took place around 1 pm on

The NDA said in a statement, "Cadet Mohammad

Sulthan Ahmed of Maldives

collapsed during an organized

training activity at the National Defence Academy

September 25. Despite best ef-

forts the cadet could not be revived. A post mortem will be

conducted to ascertain the

cause of death. The cadet had

reported to NDA on March 12 as part of the 145 course and was in the second term. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to investigate the incident." The statement added, "All arrangements are being made to provide a befitting send-off to the deceased with appropriate Military Honours, in consultation with the Maldives

TENDER FOR CONFIDENTIAL CODING & DECODING A PROMINENT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE INTENDS TO ENGAGE

EXPERIENCED CONFIDENTIAL

COMPUTER AGENCIES FOR

CODING & DECODING OF

ANSWER BOOKS.

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AGENCIES EXCLUSIVELY DOING

THE JOB MAY SEND THEIR

INTEREST THROUGH EMAIL

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TILL 04,10,2021.

Embassy.'

Saturday when a group of cadets was undergoing outdoor

physical training activity.

PUNE, SEPTEMBER 25

clash with BJP workers abuses were hurled, stones pelted and a few vehicles parked in the area were damaged. A purported video clip of the entire incident

> has gone viral on social media. Putting out a statement on video later, the BJP MP called it a planned attack, claiming that Congress supporters were waiting for them with stones and bricks. The FIR registered was registered on Gupta's complaint.

> Apart from the Congress leader and his MLA daughter, the FIR named 25 Congress leaders and supporters, along with another 50 unidentified persons.

> Tiwari, however, blamed the incident on the BJP leader and his supporters. He also accused the police of thrashing his supporters.



Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical **University for Women**

(Established by Govt. of Delhi vide Act 09 of 2012) Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006 University website: www.igdtuw.ac.in

> **MBA ADMISSIONS 2021-22** SPECIAL SPOT ROUND

IGDTUW is a university exclusively for women established by Govt. of NCT Delhi and is currently having more than 3500 students at Kashmere Gate

Applications are invited for the Special Spot Round for admissions to the MBA Programme for the academic year 2021-22. Female Candidates who have passed any Bachelor's degree programme with minimum 60% marks are eligible to apply. Candidates appearing in final year examination in 2021 may also apply subject to fulfillment of minimum eligibility criteria.

Start date of online applications: 27-09-2021 Closing date of online applications: 06-10-2021 Special Spot Round of Counselling: 08-10-2021 (Friday)

For further details and regular updates, candidates may visit https://igdtuw.ac.in.

Registrar

DIP/Shabdarth/0330/21-22



Dharamdeo Prasad

Kishori Mahto S/o

Gagandeo Mahto,

At+PO-Bakhtaura.

PS-Darpa, Dist-

East Champran,

Bihar-845301

Date : 25.09.2021

Guarantor:

सेन्ट्रल बेंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Central Bank of India

Regional Office, Balluatal, Motihari, East Champaran-845401

POSSESSION NOTICE [UNDER RULE 8 (1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002]

Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of (Security) Interest Act. 2002 (54 of 2002), and in exercise of the power conferred under sub-section (12) of section 13 read with [rule 3] of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule 2002. The Authorized Officer issued a Demand Notice on the dates noted against account as mentioned herein after, calling them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The borrower/guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the under noted borrower/guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sec. 13(4) of Section 13 of Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned against account. The borrower/guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of Central Bank of India for the amount and interest thereon mentioned against account herein below. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section (13) of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the

SI. No.	Name of the Branch	Name of the Accounts/ Borrowers	Name of the owner & Description of the property mortgaged	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession Notice Affixed	Amount out- standing as on date of Demand Notice
1.	Dhaka	Borrower: Mr. Md. Nasim Alam S/o Late Md. Mansoor Alam R/o Ward No.13, Mahabbatpur Dhaka, PO-Dhaka, PS-Dhaka, East Champaran-845418	Description of the Immovable property (Land & Building) Name of the Mortgagor: Mr. Md. Nasim Alam S/o Late Md. Mansoor Alam. Address of the Mortgagors: Ward No.13, Mahabbatpur Dhaka, PO-Dhaka, PS-Dhaka, East Champaran-845418. Full particulars of Property: Gift Deed No.8676 dated 26.10.2007, Area 2 Kathas and 6 Dhur, Thana No106, Tauzi No299, Khata No 366, Khesra No1840. Location of the property: Mauza-Dhaka Ramchandra, Thana-Dhaka, DistEast Champaran. Boundary: North-Mehul Haque, South- Bandh, East-Mehul Haque, West-Abdul Khair.		21.09.2021	Rs.3,26,548/- (Rupees Three Lakh Twenty Six Thousand Five Hundred Fourty Eight Only) with future Interest and incidental charges w.e.f. 28.04.2021
2.	Palanwakhas, Raxaul	Borrower: Shri Abdul Wadood Ansari S/o Late Ishhaque Joint Applicant: Sabra Khatoon W/o Abdul Wadood Ansari Guarantor: Bilkish Begam D/o Abdul Wadood Ansari, VillBada Pareua, Ward No.17, Madarsa Gali, P.O+PS- Raxaul, DistEast Champaran, Bihar, Pin-845305	Description of the Immovable property. Name of the Mortgagor: Bibi Sabra Khatoon W/o Abdul Wadood Ansari. Address of the Mortgagors: VillBada Pareua, Ward No.17, Madarsa Gali, P.O+PS-Raxaul, DistEast Champaran, Bihar, Pin-845305. Full particulars of Property: Deed No15154 of 1993, area-2.75 dhur, Thana No.10, Khata No8, Tauzi-951, Khesra No726. Boundary: On the North by-Mehdi Miyan, On the South by-Nij Mokir, On the East by-Road 3 feet, On the West by-Manjur Miyan		24.09.2021	Rs.21,38,390/- (Rupees Twenty one lakh thirty eight thousand three hundred ninty only) with future Interest and incidental charges w.e.f. 17.10.2020
3.	Palanwakhas, Raxaul	Borrower: Shri Jayram Kumar Sah S/o Binda Sah Guarantor: Binda Sah S/o Janki Sah, Nahar Se South, Ward No.10, PO+PS- Raxaul, Dist-East Champaran, Bihar, Pin-845305	Description of the Immovable property. Name of the Mortgagor: Shri Jayram Kumar Sah S/o Binda Sah. Address of the Mortgagors: Nahar Se South, Ward No.10, PO+PS-Raxaul, Dist-East Champaran, Bihar, Pin-845305. Full particulars of Property: Deed No1235 of 2005, Area-4 Dhur, Thana No.10, Khata No.76, Khesra No473, Tauzi No951, Location of property: At-Mauza, Dhangadhwa, Tola-Pareua, PS+PO-Raxaul, Dist-East Champaran. Boundary: On the North by-Lorik Baitha, On the South by-Road, On the East by-Neeli Singh, On the West by-Ganesh Raut & Chandrakishore Prasad.		24.09.2021	Rs.5,38,488/- (Rupees Five lakhs thirty eight thousand four hundred eighty eight only) with future Interest and incidental charges w.e.f. 24.12.2019
4.	Palanwakhas, Raxaul	Borrower: Shri Shiv Shankar	Description of the Immovable property. Name of the Mortgagor: Shri Shiv Shankar Prasad	23.12.2019	24.09.2021	Rs.12,90,707/- (Rupees Twelve

S/o Dharamdeo Prasad. Address of the Mortgagors:

Bihar-845301. Full particulars of Property: Deed No.

329 of 2012, Area-2 Kattha 2 Dhur, Thana No.-63, Khata

No.-29, Khesra No.-925, Tauzi No.-951. Location of

property: At-Siswania, PO+PS-Ramgarhwa, Dist.-East

Champaran, Boundary: On the North by-Mr. Bindeshwar

iwari, On the South by-Mr. Manjur Alam, On the East by-

Pitch Road, On the West by-Mr. Asharfi Sah.

At+PO-Bakhtaura, PS-Darpa, Dist-East Champran

Five-day-old baby stolen from Andhra hospital

Machilipatnam: A five-day-old baby was stolen from the Krishna district government hospital here in Andhra Pradesh on Saturday evening, police said.

The baby belonged to Sinduja and Yesoba of Pedamaddla village, hospital superintendent M Jayakumar and Circle Inspector R Ankababu said.

It is suspected that a woman in her mid-40s stole the baby, born on September 21, after attending to the Sinduja following the delivery, police said. PTI

MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES DAY: 26 SEP 2021

1. The Military Engineer Services (MES) is a premier construction agency and one of the pillars of Corps of Engineers of the Indian Army which provides rear line engineering support to the Armed Forces and associated organisations of the Ministry of Defence (MoD). It is one of largest construction and maintenance agencies in India with a total annual workload to the tune of approximately



2. The MES which carries out multifarious construction activities such as residential and office buildings, hospitals, roads, runways and marine structures across the country including border areas. Besides conventional buildings, MES is also involved in the construction of sophisticated and complex laboratories factories, workshops, hangars, ammunition storage facilities, dockyards, jetties/ wharves and other complex/ special structures.



3. This year the world witnessed an unprecedented crisis in terms of COVID-19 affecting the construction industry and the MES was also not left untouched. However laudatory efforts put in by the MES ensured "Uninterrupted Essential Services" in all military stations. The MES has also played a key role in creating and modifying existing assets into COVID care facilities across the country in stipulated time frame. A multispecialty hospital constructed by the MES in Pune providing state of the art medical facilities has been inaugurated in Jan 2021.

4. To keep abreast with contemporary construction technologies, the MES has adopted Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) methodology of tendering for large value projects incorporating latest construction techniques. In consonance with the Government policies, vision and with the intent of promoting ease of doing business, important procedures, policies and regulatory documents have also been updated recently.



5. MES has also been in the forefront in ensuring overall fiscal prudence and reducing electricity tariff By adopting Solar Power projects, LED-isation and GRIHA green building norms, MES is totally committed towards energy conservation and eco-system preservation. A major drive has also been undertaken to automate various functions of the MES which will not only cut down the time delays, but also transform works environment by unlocking latent productivity, foster transparency and

6. On the occasion of the 99th Military Engineer Services Raising Day, Lt Gen Harpal Singh, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC Engineer-in-Chief, congratulates all the Military Engineer Services personnel and urges them to continue dedicating themselves to this great organisation and contribute towards Nation Building by providing better services to the Armed Forces.

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI DEPARTMENT OF TRAINING & TECHNICAL EDUCATION MUNI MAYA RAM MARG, PITAM PURA, DELHI-110088

NOTICE

Online applications are invited from qualified candidates of Common Entrance Test conducted by DSEU for Admissions to the first year Full Time Diploma Courses and from XII Pass/ITI Passed out or appeared candidates for admission in analogous trades second Year (Through Lateral Entry online Common Entrance Test to be conducted) in Government Aided and Private Institutes affiliated to Board of Technical Education, Delhi, that are approved by AICTE

Non-Refundable fee of Rs 500/- plus Bank Charges as applicable are to be deposited by the candidate through Net Banking/ Debit Card/ Credit Card to participate in the admission process of BTE affiliated Institutes.

Before submitting the Online Application form and fee, candidate must refer to the Information Bulleting available on website www.tte.delhigovt.nic.in, and http://dtteonline.in and check eligibility criteria and schedule for counseling/test for lateral entry.

Registration process will start w.e.f. 28.09.2021.

Sd/-

Dip/Shabdarth/0326/21-22

Train No. & Name

Director (TTE)

(from the Originating Station)

KIND ATTENTION RAIL PASSENGERS!

SHORT TERMINATION & REGULATION OF TRAINS

In order to upgrade the infrastructure. Northern Railway will take power-cumtraffic block of both UP/DOWN Lines for erection/launching of Footover Bridge 3.00M wide at Bari Brahman Railway Station at K.M. 88/075 in connection with development of freight terminal on Pathankot-Jammu Tawi Section dated 27.09.2021 from 01:00 to 06:00 hrs. (i.e. 05:00 hrs.). To execute this work suitable traffic blocks will be taken. During this period following trains will be affected on the dates shown against each:-

PARTIAL CANCELLATION OF SPECIAL TRAINS

Short Terminate at/

Short originate from

09225 Jodhpur-Jammu Tawi Express	s Special	At Pathankot	26.09.2021
09222 Jammu Tawi-Ahmedabad Exp	ress Special	From Pathankot	27.09.2021
		,	
RE	GULATIO	N OF TRAIN	S
Train No. & Name	Re	gulation	Date (From the Originating Station)
02461 New Delhi- Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Express Special		ed for "165 minutes" zpur Division	26.09.2021
04609 Rishikesh-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Express Special		ed for "120 minutes" zpur Division	26.09.2021
02425 New Delhi-Jammu Tawi Express Special	will be regulated for "115 minutes" on Firozpur Division		26.09.2021
04645 Jaisalmer-Jammu Tawi Express Special		ted for "90 minutes" zpur Division	25.09.2021
02445 New Delhi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Express Special		ted for "90 minutes" zpur Division	26.09.2021

For any kind of information such as detailed Time-Table and stations enroute etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or NTES App.

All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 including Social distancing, sanitization etc., may be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

Visit RailMadad website www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in Download RailMadad app

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w.e.f. 23.12.2019





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Nadda: Govt's programmes guided by Deendayal Upadhyay's principles

New Delhi: BJP president J P Nadda on Saturday said the Modi government's policies and programmes are guided by the principles espoused by the party's ideologue Deendayal Upadhyay, as he paid tribute to him on his 105th birth anniversary.

Be it economy or social sector, Upadhyay's mantras of "integral humanism" and "antyo-

🚳 EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY 🚳

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

DRM(Electrical)/TRD/ECR/ Dhanbad for

and behalf of the President of India invites e-

tender for execution of the work indicated as

YD2/2021-22

nder: E-Tender No. TRD/OT/05/MHDA/

1. Name of work with location and

completion of work: Upgradation of mahadaiya yard due to doubling work and

connectivity to PRL siding at Gorbi Block-B (Under deposit terms for 2 lines only

including shunting neck and connecting with PRL siding), (Completion period (06) six

Months) 2. Approx cost of the work: Rs.66,45,038.81/-(Cost of e-tender from-

Nil), 3. Earnest Money to be deposited:

Nil, 4. Date & Time for submission of

closing and opening of E-tender: Closing of E-Tender On 18.10.2021 at 11:00

hrs.,Opening of E-Tender On 18.10.2021 at

5. Website particulars: Website:

www.ireps.gov.in, Manual tender

offer note accepted under e-tender

PR/0869/DHN/ETRD/T/21-22/32

Divl. Railway Manager (Elect.)/TRD

East Central Railway, Dhanbad

daya" have been the driving force of the government's programmes, Nadda said in a statement, adding that Modi's emphasis on "sabka saath, sabka vikas" is guided by this.

On the occasion, Nadda also felicitated veteran workers of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the precursor to the BIP, at the party headquarters here.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY E-Notice of Invitation Tender

following works on the date shown a

download: www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Railway Manager, N.W.RI Bikaner for and on behalf of President of India invites sealed open tender for the pelow: Tender No.: S&T/BKN/ET 207 Name of Work with its location: "Upgradation and augmentation of IT infrastructure at divisional office, Bikaner" Approx Cost of Work: 2466221.21, Date & Time for submission of Tender & opening of tender: Up to 15.00 Hrs

omplete Tender details can be seen 8

Please join us on F B D /NWRailways

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL, RNT MEDICAL COLLEGE & CONTROLLER ASSOCIATED GROUP OF HOSPITALS, UDAIPUR (Raj.) No. RNT/Pur-I/F.16/(e-Tendering Proc)/2021-22/905 I Notice Inviting Bid No. 15/2021-22 (e-Tender)

Bids for Medical Equipments are invited from interested bidders upto Date:- 12.10.202 Time:- 10.30 AM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement port (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://spp.raj.nic.in) of the sta UBN- MCU2122GLOB00082, MCU2122GLOB00084, MCU2122GLOB00085, MCU2122GSOB00086.

(Dr. Lakhan Poswa

PRINCIPAL & CONTROLLER

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE LOCO SHED GONDA Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRS)/N.E.Railway/Loco Shed Gonda acting for and on behalf of the President of India for the following work: Tender Notice No. 8. Description: No.-M-GD-AL-TRANSFORMER Repair, Reconditioning, Rehabilitation and Testing of 5400 KVA Loco Main Transformer (Aluminium Winding Transformer (Australian Winding Type) of Electric Locomotives WAP-4/WAG-7 for 02 years.", Approx Value (Int): 85,60,318.44, E.M.D. Money(Int): 0. Cost of Tender form: D. Contract period: 24 Months. + E. Tender can be uploaded by tenderer up to 12:00 Hrs. on 01.11.2021 and will be opened after 12:00 Hrs. on 01.11.2021 - Detailed information. minimum eligibility criteria, Terms and conditions regarding this e-tender are wallable at website www.ireps.gov.in. Tenderer should check any correction/corrigendum related to this e tender notice on website before

Divl. Mech Engineer (Diesel) About any passenger amenity comple SMS on Mobile No. 00794845955

DO NOT TRAVEL WITH INFLAMMABLE ARTICLE IN TRAIN-

क्षिणांचल विद्युत वितर<u>ण</u> निगम <u>लि</u>० वेवरणानुसार दो भागों में दिनांक—07.10.202 को समय 18:00 बजे तक प्रतिष्टित एवं योग्र ठेकेदारों / निविदादाताओं से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु ई–निविदा आमत्रित की जाती है एव दिनांक-08.10.2021 को समय 13:00 बर्ज खोला जायेगा। विस्तृत जानकारी उ०प्रत रासिन की आधिकारिक ई—प्रोक्योरमैंट पोर्टल nttps://etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है: 1.ई—निविदा विशिष्टीकरण संख्या—03/SE/ EDCCkt/2021-22 कार्यः विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-चित्रकूट की सीमान्तर्गत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड—कर्वी प्रथम के अधीन वर्ष 2021—22 हेतु पूर्ण जमा योजना के अन्तर्गत झटपट पोर्टल, निवेश म़ित्र पोर्टल, आदि से प्राप्त संयोजन को शासन की मंशानुरूप अतिशीघ्र संयोजनो को ऊर्जीकृत करने का कार्य। धरोहर धनराशि—रू० ४०००.००, निविदा शुल्क—रू० 1180.00 (जी०एस०टी० सहित)। 2. ई-निविदा विशिष्टीकरण संख्या-04/SE/EDCCkt/2021-22 कार्यः विद्युत वितरण खण्ड–चित्रकूट की सीमान्तर्गत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड–कवीं द्वितीय के अधीन वर्ष 2021—22 हेतु पूर्ण जमा योजना के अन्तर्गत झटपट पोर्टल, निवेश मित्र पोर्टल, आदि से प्राप्त संयोजन को शासन र्क मंशानुरूप अतिशीघ्र संयोजनो को ऊर्जीकृत करने का कार्य। धरोहर धनराशि—रू(4000.00, निविदा शुल्क—रू0 1180.00 (जी0 एस०टी० सहित)। ३. ई—निविदा विशिष्टीकरण संख्या— 05/SE/EDCCkt/2021-22 कार्य विद्युत वितरण खण्ड—चित्रकूट की सीमान्तर्गत विद्यत वितरण उपखण्ड-भरतकप के अधीर वर्ष 2021—22 हेतु पूर्ण जमा योजना के अन्तर्गत झटपट पोर्टल, निवेश मित्र पोर्टल, आदि र प्राप्त संयोजन को शासन की मंशानुरू अतिशीघ्र संयोजनो को ऊर्जीकृत करने क कार्य । धरोहर धनराशि—रू० ४०००.००, निविदा शुल्क—रू० 1180.00 (जी०एस०टी० सहित) 4.ई–निविदा विशिष्टीकरण संख्या–06/SE EDCCkt/2021-22 कार्यः विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-राजापुर की सीमान्तर्गत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड—राजापुर के अधीन वर्ष 2021—22 हेत् पूर्ण जमा योजना के अन्तर्गत झटपट पोर्टल, निवेश मित्र पोर्टल, आदि से प्राप्त संयोजन को शासन की मंशानुरूप अतिशीघ्र संयोजनो को ऊर्जीकृत करने का कार्य। धरोहर धनराशि—रू० ४०००.००, निविदा शुल्क—रू० 1180.00 (जी0एस0टी0 सहित)। 5. ई—निविद विशिष्टीकरण संख्या-07/SE/EDCCkt/2021

शुल्क—रू० 1180.00 (जी०एस०टी० सहित)। अधी०अभि०, वि०वि०मं०, चित्रकूट

22 कार्यः विद्युत वितरण खण्ड–राजापुर की

सीमान्तर्गत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड–मऊ व

अधीन वर्ष 2021—22 हेतु पूर्ण जमा योजना व

अन्तर्गत झटपट पोर्टल, निवेश मित्र पोर्टल,

आदि से प्राप्त संयोजन को शासन की

मंशानुरूप अतिशीघ्र संयोजनो को ऊर्जीकृत

करने का कार्य। धरोहर धनराशि—रू०

4000.00, निविदा शुल्क-रू० 1180.00 (जी

एस०टी० सहित)। ६. ई—निविदा विशिष्टीकरण

संख्या—08/SE/EDCCkt/2021-22 कार्य

विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-राजापुर की सीमान्तर्गत

विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड-रामनगर के अधीन

वर्ष 2021–22 हेतु पूर्ण जमा योजना के अन्तर्गत

झटपट पोर्टल, निवेश मित्र पोर्टल, आदि उ

प्राप्त संयोजन को शासन की मंशानुरूप

अतिशीघ्र संयोजनो को ऊर्जीकृत करने का

कार्य। धरोहर धनराशि—रू० ४०००.००, निविदा

राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें

KARNATAKA

Dalit man made to spend Rs 11K on feast for entering temple

Koppal: Close on the heels of a family from the Dalit community being penalised Rs 25,000 over their two-year-old son entering a temple in Karnataka's

Kustagi, a man from the Dalit community was forced to arrange a feast, spending Rs 11,000, for entering a Lakshmi Devi temple in a village at Karatagi about 11 days ago, a police officer said.

"Yes, it is true that the man spent Rs 11,000 to arrange feast for entering the temple. Our officers are investigating the matter," superintendent of Police T Sreedhara said. He said a few months ago, a theft had taken place in the village and it was decided that no one should enter the temple except the priest. PTI

INDIAN RAILWAYS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAILWAY BOARD)

E-TENDER NO. 2021RSI8741TC Director, Railways Stores (W), Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, Government o India invites e-tender for procurement of **1,45,532** Nos. Low Torque Grease Seal to RDSO Specification No, WD-63-Misc-2020 of Oct 2020 or latest amendments, if any for AAR Standard Upgraded Class 'E' (6" x 11") Cartridge Tapered Roller bearing: used in freight stock.

- 2.0 The interested tenderers are advised to visit the website http://ireps.gov.in fo
- details of the tender and submission of their e-bids.

 3.0 No manual offers will be accepted against e-tender.

4.0 Tender will be closed at 15:00 hours on 28.10.2021.

Director, Railway Stores (W), Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, New Delhi, for and on behalf of the President of India. SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SUPPLYCO-

KERALA STATE CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LTD

Purchase Section - Ph No: 0484-2207924, 2206786, E-Mail: agmp@supplycomail.com

TENDER NOTICE

The Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd (Supplyco) intends to purchase Pulses, Spices, Rice, Sugar etc through e-auction and e-tender The e-tender will be accepted up to **2.00 PM on 05-10-2021.** For details visit www.tenderwizard.com/KSCSC. Only suppliers possessing digital signatures will be permitted to participate in the e-tender. For e-auction

please visit https://market.neml.in Corrigendum if any, will be published in the above said website only. Additional GM (Purchase

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one person namely **Kanishk** Bhalla S/o Sh. Gulshan Bhalla R/o H.No. 19/238, 2nd Floor, Basti Sarai Sarai Rohilla, Delhi has been kidnapped from PS Sarai Rohilla. In this regard a FIR No. 499/21 dated 20.08.2021 has been lodged at PS, Sarai Rohilla, Delhi. The description of kidnapped person is as

Name: Kanishk Bhalla, Father's Name: Sh. Gulshan Bhalla Age: 22 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Fair, Built Medium, Wearing: Jeans & T-Shirt ID Mark: Three Tattoo in Righ

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the

undersigned. Website : http://cbi.nic.in e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in

Ph.: 011-23014046 (Direct)

23015229 & 23015218 Extn.-210 P.S., Sarai Rohilla, Delhi

DP/1482/N/2021

Ph.: 011-23691106, 8750870133

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

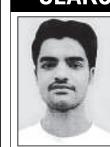
Open tender through E-tendering are invited by Sr. Divisional Electrica Engineer/TRS, Electric Loco Shed, Khanalampura Yard, Northern Railway Saharanpur (Ambala Division) for and on behalf of the President of India fron the registered tenderer on website www.ireps.gov.in for the following work upto 11:00 hrs on the date of closing shown against the work and will be opened

thereafter.	
Open Tender No.	ELS_SRE_ T-17 RT4
Name of Work	Repairing and overhauling of ELGI make TRC 100 MN and TRC1000 MNUG main compressors of WAG-7 Locomotives for one year.
Date of Closing / Opening	18.10.2021
Approx. Cost	17,88,675.00
Earnest Money	NIL
Completion Period	12 Months
Validity Period	45 days
Cost of Tender Form	'Free of Cost'

1. Tenderer(s) should have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in E-Tendering of Works Tenders. 2. Tenderer are required to upload self-attested scanned copies of all related eligibility documents as per conditions. 3. Taxes 8 Charges will be applicable as per extant rule. 4. For details, please log on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in

E-TENDER NOTICE No. ELS SRE T-17 RT4 dtd. 25/09/2021 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that one person Namely: Mushahid, S/o: Mohd. Ilyas, R/o: H.No. D-199, Sec-3, Dsiidc, Bawana, Delhi, Age: 19 Years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Fair, Face: Long, Built: Thin, Wearing: Black Colour T-Shirt, Blue Colour Jeans and Red Colour Slipper in feet has been missing with Motor Cycle No. DL8SCV-6280 FZ Black Colour since 29.08.2021 from the area of P.S. Bawana, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 93A, Dated 30.08.2021, has been

MUSHAHID

lodged at P.S. Bawana, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing person but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing person please inform

the undersigned. Web-site: http://cbi.nic.in E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-23011334 DP/1275/0N/2021

P.S. Bawana, Delhi Ph.: 011-27752534

TMC 'serious' about Goa elections, 'in talks' with leaders from other parties

MAYURA JANWALKAR PANAJI, SEPTEMBER 25

HAVING STEPPED into the election arena in Goa, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) is preparing to contest all 40 seats in the state Assembly elections, expected early next year, and has no plans for an alliance so far,

While speculation was rife over a senior Goa Congress leader joining TMC months before the elections, TMC sources said the party has been in talks with political leaders from not only the Congress but also the BJP and members of the civil

Senior TMC leaders, including some party MPs and MLAs, are expected to be stationed in Goa for about five months in the run-up to the Assembly polls. The party is expected to announce its electoral plans in October.

Trinamool Rajya Sabha MP Derek O'Brien, who arrived in Goa on Friday, said, "Whatever we do in Goa will be for, of, and by the people of Goa.'

The party has said that it will not fol-

low a "high command culture" like in the Congress or BJP but let the people from Goa coming on board decide the course they want to take in the state.

A team from political strategist Prashant Kishor's Indian Political Action Committee (I-PAC) has been assessing the political situation in Goa for about three months. The political advocacy group, which advised TMC before the Assembly polls in West Bengal, will continue to work with the party in Goa. The party has also launched its Goa pages on social media.

Sources said TMC is "very serious" about contesting elections in the state with an eye on expanding its national footprint. The party is aiming to make gains in states such as Goa and Tripura to strengthen Banerjee's position as a national leader, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's most formidable opponent before the 2024 General Election.

The BJP, Congress, Aam Aadmi Party, Nationalist Congress Party, Shiv Sena and now TMC will be in the poll fray in Goa, in addition to regional parties such as Goa Forward Party and Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party.

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता प्रथम मण्डल गिंचाई कार्य मेरत

ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या-01/एस.ई.-1/2021-22 महामहिम राज्यपाल, उत्तर प्रदेश की ओर से सिंचाई विभाग निम्नानसार श्रेणी के पात्र पंजीकृत निविदादाओं से ऑनलाईन टैण्डरिंग के माध्यम से नीचे दर्शाये गये कार्य हेतु निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की अनुमानित लागत (लाख रु. में)	कार्य को पूर्ण करने की	धरोहर धनराशि (लाख	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य (रु. में)	पंजीकृत क्षेणी	कार्य से स अधिकारी व अधिशासी		l
		(((() () () () () () () () (अवधि	रु. में)			आवशासा अभियन्ता	अधाद्मण अभियन्ता	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1-	अनूपशहर शाखा के कि.मी 69.600 पर वी.आर.बी के निर्माण का कार्य		12 माह	1.58	रु 300.00 + 18% GST नियमानुसार + रु. 2000 स्टेशनरी चार्ज	से ऊपर	अधिशासी अभियन्ता, अनूपशहर शाखा खण्ड, गंगा नहर, मेरठ	अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, प्रथम मण्डल, सिंचाई कार्य, मेरठ	
2-	अनूपशहर शाखा के कि.मी 77.400 पर वी.आर.बी के निर्माण का कार्य		12 माह	1.60	रु 300.00 + 18% GST नियमानुसार + रु. 2000 स्टेशनरी चार्ज	बी एवं बी से ऊपर	अधिशासी अभियन्ता, अनूपशहर शाखा खण्ड, गंगा नहर, मेरठ	अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, प्रथम मण्डल, सिंचाई कार्य, मेरठ	
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बिड डाक्यूमेन्ट वेबसाईट http://etender.up.nic.in पर दिनांक 27.09.2021 की पूर्वान्ह 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 04.10.2021 की पूर्वान्ह 11.00 बजे तक उपलब्ध हैं, अपलोड किये जा सकते हैं। इसकी तकनीकी बिड दिनांक 04.10.2021 की दोपहर 03.00 बजे खोली जायेगी

निविदा से संबंधित अधिक जानकारी वेबसाईट http://etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।

कारपोरेशन

UPID-167783 Date 25/09/2021

ट्रांसमिशन

अधीक्षण अभियन्त प्रथम मंडल सिंचाई कार्य मेरठ E-mail Id: se.iwcl@gmail.com

अभियन्ता के उपयोगार्थ हेतु 01 ए नं. डीजल

निविदा नेम्नलिखित कार्य/आपर्ति हेतु सामान्य नेविदाएं दो भागों में (जी.एस.टी.) में प्रतिष्ठित देकेदार/फर्मों से दो भागों में 1300 बजें तक आमन्त्रित की जाती है जो कि उसी दिन 15:00 बजें निविदाताओं के समक्ष खोली जायेंगी। उपरोक्त तिथि का अवकाश घोषित होने पर निविदायें अगले कार्य दिवस को नियत समय पर खोली जायेगी। निविदा मूल्य जीएसटी सहित तथा धरोहर राशि आर.टी.जी.एस. / एन.एफ.आई.टी. / बैंक गारन्टी के माध्यम से अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल, मुरादाबाद के भारतीय स्टेट बैंक, मुख्य शाखा मुरादाबाद में संचालित चालू खाता सं.-10896364702, IFSC Code-SBIN 0000682 (MICR No. 110024101) में निर्धारित समय तक जमा करें। प्रत्येक निविदा प्रपत्न के प्रथम भाग में निर्धारित धरोहर राशि बैंक में जमा की गयी राशि का प्रमाण पत्र (Deposit Slip) तथा दूसरे भाग में व्यवसायिक प्रपत्न होने चाहिए। धरोहर राशि के बिना तथा सशर्त निविदायें नहीं खोली जायेंगी। अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के पास बिना कोई कारण बताये एक या समस्त निविदाओं को अस्वीकृत करने का पूर्ण अधिकार सुरक्षित रहेगा। अन्य नियम एवं शर्ते विभाग के निर्धारित नियम एवं शर्ते उ.प्र. पावर कारपोरेशन लि. के फार्म ए/बी के अनुसार होंगी जिन्हें किसी भी कार्यदिवस में अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में देखा जा सकता है। **सामान्य निविदा खुलने का** दिनांक- 26.10.2021 1. निविदा संख्या-45 / ई.टी.सी.एम. / 2021-2022 विद्युत पारेषण खण्ड-सम्भल के अधिशासी

चालित वाहन (चालक सहित) 12 माह हेत् उपलब्ध कराने का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 2500/-, निविदा प्रपत्न का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रु 590/- 2. निविदा संख्या-46 / ई.टी.सी.एम. / 2021 - 2022 पारेषण खण्ड-प्रथम, मुरादाबाद के अन्तर्गत उप खण्ड अधिकारी. विद्युत पारेषण उप खण्ड, मुरादबाद के उपयोगार्थ 01 नं. डीजल चालित वाहन (चालक सहित) 12 माह हेतु उपलब्ध कराने का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 2500/-, निविदा प्रपत्न का जीएसटी सहित मुल्य रु 590/- 3. **निविदा संख्या**-47/ई.टी.सी.एम./2021-2022 पारेषण खण्ड-द्वितीय, मुरादाबाद के अधिशासी अभियन्ता के उपयोगार्थ 01 नं. डीजल चालित वाहन (चालक सहित) 12 माह हेतु उपलब्ध कराने का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 2500/-, निविदा प्रपत्न का जीएसटी सिहत मूल्य रु 590/- 4. निविदा संख्या-48/ई.टी.सी.एम./2021-2022 पारेषण खण्ड–सम्भल के अन्तर्गत उप खण्ड अधिकारी, विद्युत पारेषण उप खण्ड, सम्भल के उपयोगार्थ 01 नं. डीजल चालित वाहन (चालक सहित) 12 माह हेतु उपलब्ध कराने का कार्य। धरोहर राशि रु. 2500/-निविदा प्रपत्न का जीएसटी सहित मूल्य रु 590/- नोट:- उक्त सामान्य निविदा हेतु प्रपत्र कार्यालय से निविदा मूल्य ऑनलाइन जमा किए जाने की प्राप्ति प्रस्तुत कर किसी भी कार्यदिवस में क्रय किये जा सकते हैं। हस्ता./- अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत पारेषण मण्डल-प्रथम मुरादाबाद। ''राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचाएं'' पत्रांक 3100/ वि.पा.स.मु./ ई-निविदा/ 2021-दिनांक: 25.09.2021

राजस्थान मेडिकल सर्विसेज कॉर्पोरेशन

तींत्र. कार्याज्यः नांधी वर्षात्, व्याव्य भवन, तिव्रक्त बार्ग, भी-व्योष, प्रयूष्ट् इ-नेत्र:misc.supply1@gmail.com परेन नं. 0141-2220061-62, फैक्स नं. 0141-222065 CIN: U24232RJ20115GC05067 Website: http://rmsc.health.rajasthan.gov.in लांक : रफ.4 [1]/आररनएससी/विशेषपिकारी/अनार DDW परिवान/2021-23/1764

ई-निविद्य सूचना

प्रिम्म के जिला/मेरिकल कोनेज ओवंचे बमान वृद्धे (start DIW/MCHW) के जीवीकरी/ वर्जिकला/बृज्यों आदि के ताल के जिला मुख्यालयों पर रिश्वर जिला ओवंचि बमान मूर्त कार अनार दिला ओवंचे बमान पूर मेरिकल कार्च (start DIW/MCHW Teander) एवं NGSO ओवंचित्रों के राज्ये पर नाल से कार्टर परिवार के पुर कार के लिए का मंदिक हेतु परिजान साम्बन्ध अन्तरीत पेजीवृत्य/अनुमानी संस्थाओं/कोनिकर बेचा बचानाओं से ई-मिरिकर्स अमेरिक की जानी है। ई-स्थितिक राज्य में हैं। स्थान होंगे अमेरिकर के प्रशास की मिर्कर से दिनांक (2.16.20) को काल्य 12.00 वजे तक प्रस्तुत की जरेगी एवं विशेष 12.10.2021 को साथ 64.00 वजे जानियत वि-निविधायताओं के समक्ष निगम मुख्यालय पर खोजी जाएगी।

71			(शर्मको में) 2% के पेट प्रोपमा पत्र		38,00	विकेष च समय	विक्रम की प्रतिक की विक्रि			प्रोत्तने पर तिति। एवं समय
1	जीत्व पेन जनमंत्र जीमध्य जीव के कार्ट्स जीता जिला। मेरिकारा क्षेत्रिक स्टेमीर सम्बद्ध एक (base (मार्काराकर) मिक्स मुख्यालय पर परिवाद कार्य (नाज्य एवं राज्य से बहर)	120:00	2.40	2000.00	(000/-	27.9.2001 950 3.00 93	30.9.2021	100000	12 10 2021	1230 2021 Vrig 4:00
2	প্রিণ করিত দিশ প্রবর্গন প্রাথানির/ প্রায় ক কর্মেশ প্রাথানির বিজ্ঞানিকরে কর্মিক প্রাথানিক ক্ষেত্রত ক্রিক									

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राज संवाद/गी/6506/21-22

Marriages Bill gives legitimacy to child marriages, NCPCR tells Rajasthan exceed Rs 1 lakh unless he proves that

ESHAROY

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE NATIONAL Commission for the Protection of Child Rights Saturday asked the Rajasthan state government to reconsider the provisions of the Rajasthan Compulsory Registration of Marriages (Amendment) Bill 2021, recently passed by the Assembly. It said the Bill gives legitimacy to child marriages and is in contravention of several child protection laws.

NCPCR Chairperson Priyank Kanoongo Saturday wrote to Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, pointing out that the provisions of the Bill may have a serious impact on the "physical, psychological, social and education of minors in the state".

'The Rajasthan government is demolishing the work that Mahatma Gandhi had done against child marriages. We will not allow this to happen. It is in direct contravention to child rights in the country and the NCPCR will approach the Supreme Court against this Bill if need be," Kanoongo told The Sunday Express.

"The Commission would like to state that the Prohibition of Child Marriage act, 2006 is the central Act which prohibits solemnisation of child marriages and constitutes child marriages by a male adult with a girl child as an offence under Section 9. Section 10 of the Act further provides that whoever performs, conducts, directs or abets any child marriage shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment which may extend to two years and shall be liable to fine which may

he has reason to believe that the marriage was not a child marriage." Kanoongo has said in his letter.

Section 11 of the Prohibition of Child Marriages Act also provides punishment for promoting or solemnising of child marriages and Section 12 holds that any marriage solemnised by deceit, force or enticement of a minor, is held void. All offences under the Act are cognizable and non-bailable.

Under the Juvenile Justice Act Section 2(14, xii), a girl child who is in imminent risk of marriage before the age of 18 years is a "child in need of care and protection". The JJ Act further says that efforts must be made to ensure the care, protection, appropriate rehabilitation or restoration of a girl child who is at imminent risk of marriage and therefore a child in need of protection.

"This move by the Rajasthan government is in clear contravention of all these existing laws. It is clear that this Bill is entirely politically motivated to satisfy vote banks," Kanoongo said.

While Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot could not be reached for comments, his Officer on Special Duty (OSD), Lokesh Sharma, had said that "registration of marriage in itself is not a proof that the marriage is valid." Sharma had cited a 2006 Supreme

Court judgement in Seema vs Ashwani Kumar case to say that registration of every marriage is "compulsory". During the debate on the Bill in the

Assembly, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shanti Dhariwal said that the Bill "nowhere says that underage marriages will be legal'

-WITH ENSINPUTS FROM JAIPUR

Held in drugs case after Sushant death, SA national arrested again

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE PANAJI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE NARCOTICS Control Bureau (NCB), Mumbai and its Sub Zone Goa arrested South African national Agisilaos Demetriades, 31, in North Goa after he was allegedly found in possession of "a small quantity of hashish/charas". Demetriades was arrested from a residential complex in Pernem, Goa's northernmost taluka, for "illicit possession of the recovered drug" on Saturday, the NCB said in a statement.

Last year, the NCB had arrested the NCB said.

Uttarakhang Salisanik olinis...
Website. www.usvv.ac.in
Short-term E-Tender Notice No. E-02/USVV/RUSA/2021-22 Uttarakhand Sanskrit University, Haridwar

Uttarakhand Sanskrit University, Haridwar

invites Short-term E-tender for Procurement of GYM Equipment. Interested firms may apply through Uttarakhand Govt. e-portal for submission of tender in www.uktender.gov.in. Detail available on Govt eportal www.uktender.gov.in

Girish Kumar Awasthi, Registrar

On hehalf of Air

AIR FORCE SCHOOL, PRAHLADPUR 27 ED; **LIMITED TENDER ENQUIRY**

Prahladour, bids in sealed cover ar

nvited for Renovation of Children's Washrooms at AF School Prahladpu The firms dealing with Civil works may quote for technical bid as well as Commercial bid sealed separately i single envelope. The firms interested are to visit the school for assessmen and obtaining RFP before submitting oids. The last date for submission of bid Technical bid as well as Commercia oid) is 11 Oct 21. The bids are to be dropped in the tender box kept at the nain gate of Air Force Station Prahladpur, 27ED. Date of opening o Technical bid is 13 Oct 21 and Commercial bid is 20 Oct 21. The bids re to be addressed to Chairman, Air Force Prahladpur 27ED. For any guer Address: 27 Equipment Depot Ai Force Palam, Delhi Cantt New Delh

🔊 EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY 🛭 **E-TENDER NOTICE**

21-22/11, Date: 23.09.2021 Online (through E-Tendering)for the

following work is invited by DRM/ Elect DDU for and on behalf of the President of India from experienced and financially as well technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD BSNL, MES, PWD and other public sector undertakings

1. Name of work with its location No.DDU/EL/G/P/21-22/01 R Sub- Provision of facade lighting for Newly constructed extended frontal building of DDU Approx. cost of the work: Rs. 26,72,318.57 3.Tender Closing Date Time: 18.10.2021, 15:00 hrs 4. Website particulars of E-Tendering: www.ireps.gov.in

Astt.Divnl. Elect.Engr.(G) For Sr.Divnl.Elect.Engr.(G) E.C.Rly.D.D.U PR/0868/DDU/T/21-22/32

Demetriades in two other cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS). He was first arrested in a drugs case lodged following actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death in June 2020. While he was granted bail by a special court in November 2020, the NCB had arrested him again in connection with another drug case, in which Dharma Productions executive producer Kshitij Prasad was also arrested. Demetriades

was released on bail in December 2020. After his arrest on Saturday, Demetriades was produced before a court and remanded to judicial custody,

> of South African model Gabriella Demetriades, who is actor Arjun Rampal's partner. In a statement issued on Saturday, Rampal, who is currently filming in London, said: "As far as my family and I are concerned, my direct family and I are lawabiding citizens. And while the incident involves a person who is a relative of my partner, I have no other connection or relationship other than that with this person... I have faith in our legal system and whoever is on the wrong side of the law should be treated as the judiciary deems fit..."

Demetriades is the brother

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY NOTICE OF INVITING E-TENDER

DRM (S&T)/ North Western Railwa Jaipur, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite E-Tenders from registere tenderer/bidders for the following work: Sr No. 1. Particulars: Name of work i location: Description: Signalling work i sets (1 in 12-163 sets& 1 in 8.5-19 sets i Jaipur Division. Sr. No. 2, Particulars Approx Cost of work (Rs): Description Rs. 1,20,72,433.97/-, Sr. No. 3 Particulars: Earnest Money (Rs Description: 0/- (Online Payment Only) Sr. No. 4, Particulars: Date & Time for Submission up to on www.ireps.gov.ir **Description:** 14 10 2021 Up to 15 00 hrs Sr. No. 5, Particulars: Website Description: www.ireps.gov.in and DRM office/NWR/ Jaipur

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

NOTICE OF INVITING E-TENDER E-Tender Notice No. SNT-JP-21R-2021-2

DRM (S&T)/ North Western Railwa

Jaipur, for and on behalf of the President India, invite E-Tenders from registere Sr. No. 1. Particulars: Name of work wit it location: Description: Provision of RDSO approved Automatic fire detection and alarm system for S&T installation and Air Condition in Relay Room at 32 Stations in RPC and SIKR-LHU Section of Jaipu Division., **Sr. No.** 2. **Particulars:** Appro Cost of work (Rs): Description: Rs 1,56,83,588.51/-, **Sr. No.** 3. **Particulars** Earnest Money (Rs): **Description:** 0 (Online Payment Only), **Sr. No.** 4 **Particulars:** Date & Time for Submission up to on www.ireps.gov.in: **Description** 18.10.2021 Up to 15.00 hrs, **Sr. No.** 5 Particulars: Website Particulars & Notice board location: **Description** www.ireps.gov.in and DRM office/NWR



protesting decision to vacate a hostel. PTI

SC/ST students injured in lathicharge

Patna: About half a dozen SC/ST students were iniured in police lathicharge in Patna on Saturday afternoon. Over 200 students, under the Ambedkar Kalyan Chhatravas Sangh, had been protesting against the Patna district administration's decision to vacate Ambedkar hostel - meant for SC/ ST students - for sanitisation and repairs. The police action came as students, mostly pursuing undergraduation courses, announced to march towards Vidhan Sabha, where prohibitory orders are in place. ENS

KERALA

Moral science teacher jailed for minor's rape

Thiruvananthapuram: A moral science teacher at a CBSE-affiliated school in Kerala's Thrissur district was sentenced to 29 years and 6 months in jail under various sections of POSCO Act, IPC and Juvenile Justice Act in connection with the sexual abuse of a six-yearold girl. The incident took place on board a bus during a one-day school trip in November 2011. A medical examination ascertained the abuse and the accused, father of four children, was nabbed.

UTTAR PRADESH

2 arrested for 'abusive video' on PM, Yogi

Ballia: Two people were

arrested on Saturday for allegedly posting a video on social media containing abusive language against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, police said. The video was posted on Twitter, Facebook, WhatsApp, police said, adding Prakash Verma and Ramesh Yadav of Sher (Badki Seria) village were booked over the

complaint of Mantu Ram,

the in-charge of Bansdih

Road police station. PTI

WEST BENGAL

Govt plans big vaccine drive for students

Kolkata: The West Bengal government, which is considering reopening colleges, universities and other centres of higher learning in November, after the conclusion of festivities around Durga Puja and Diwali, has decided to conduct a massive vaccination drive for students in the coming days and weeks. The aim, said officials, is to ensure safe resumption of offline academic activity.

Former J&K Dy CM's Nagrota house built illegally: ÚT admin in RTI reply

2 illegal constructions reported, including that of Nirmal Singh's bungalow, says J&K official

Building Operation Act, 1988, Chib

said, quoting information pro-

vided by the APIO/Tehsildar.

Despite requests from her, the

APIO/Tehsildar also did not pro-

vide information about officials

who were posted in Ban and

Panjgrian villages to report cases

of illegal constructions to the au-

thorities concerned, she stated in

She stated that as per

APIO/Tehsildar Zone C/D JDA, var-

ious civic officials have made sur-

prise visits to the area between

light to moderate intensity rain

(2.4mm to 644mm in 24 hours)

over West Bengal, Odisha and

very heavy to extremely heavy rain

(115.6mm to over 204,4mm in 24

hours) over south Odisha and north

coastal Andhra Pradesh on Sunday.

Telangana, north-interior Odisha

Heavy rain is also likely over

The Met office has warned of

coastal Andhra Pradesh.

her reply.

Cyclone Gulab to hit south Odisha

and north Andhra Pradesh today

The projected track of Cyclone Gulab. Photo courtesy: IMD

Like most recent storms that

have crossed Indian coasts, this

system is also rapidly intensifying.

In less than 48 hours, it intensified

from a low-pressure system

34kms/hour) to a deep depres-

speed less than

(wind speed 51 to

In the wake of the approach-

ing storm, the IMD has forecast

ARUN SHARMA

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 25

THE PALATIAL bungalow of Dr Nirmal Singh, former deputy chief minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, at village Ban was constructed illegally, according to the Union Territory administration.

Quoting the APIO/Tehsildar, Zone C/D JDA, Dr Kusum Chib, Jammu Development Authority (JDA) Collector, Land Acquisition, and Public Information Officer, said this in reply to an RTI application filed by Muzaffar Ali Shan, an advocate, seeking information about illegal constructions raised at Ban and Panjgrain villages between January 2016 and December 2020.

Messages sent to Singh, a senior BJP leader, for a comment did not elicit a response.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

CYCLONE GULAB has formed in

the Bay of Bengal, the Indian

Meteorological Department

(IMD) said on Saturday evening. It

is expected to hit southern Odisha

and north Andhra Pradesh on

5.30 pm, the cyclone was located

Bay of Bengal and was 370 km

east-southeast of Gopalpur,

Odisha and 440 km east of

Kalingapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

2021 after Tauktae and

Yaas, which had formed in May

and 2021 show that only 14 cy-

clones have developed during

September (see box), with

only three storms between 2011

and 2021 (excluding Cyclone

This is the third cyclone of

Cyclone data between 1990

As per satellite observations at

northwest

Gulab).

sion

61kms/hour).

PUNE, SEPTEMBER 25

Sunday evening.

this year.

In her reply to the RTI query, Chib stated, "Two cases of illegal



Singh had moved into the new bungalow in July, 2020. Express

constructions were reported one by Sh. Nirmal Singh, ex-Dy CM, and second by Sh. Vijay Kumar Shrma."The Jammu masterplan for 2032 was notified through SRO 90, dated March 3, 2017, she stated

About the present status of these constructions, she said that the matter regarding Nirmal Singh is "under Govt of Law", and "work is stopped till date" in the

In both cases, no action has been initiated by JDA under the

Singh

moved into the new bungalow, near the Army's ammunition subdepot (ASD), on

December

Singh and

his family had

2020.

July 23 last year, even though the High Court had in May 2018 directed the authorities to ensure "strict implementation" of a 2015 notification barring general public from construction within 1,000 yards of defence works.

The May 7, 2018 HC order was in response to a writ petition filed by the Centre, challenging construction of a bungalow on the site. The petition stated that the under-construction house was only 580 yards from the perimeter boundary wall of the ASD in Nagrota. The petition was filed after civil and police officials did not stop construction activity being

CYCLONES FORMED

BENGAL IN SEPTEMBER

IN THE BAY OF

1991

Source: IMD

carried out by Mamta Singh, wife of Nirmal Singh, then Speaker of J&K Assembly, despite written requests from top Army officials at Nagrota-based Headquarters.

The Centre moved HC twice on May 15, 2018, and December 20, 2018 - seeking initiation of contempt proceedings against officials of the then state government for wilfully not implementing the court's May 7 order.

The court issued notice to then Jammu Divisional Commissioner Hemant Sharma; Jammu Deputy Commissioner Kumar Rajeev Ranjan; and then Jammu SSP Vivek Gupta and asked them to file a compliance report.

Even as the writ petition and the contempt petitions were pending disposal in High Court, Mamta Singh posted a picture of hers along with her grandson at the newly constructed house on July 25 last year on Facebook.

She later deleted the post.

Devas-Antrix case: ED plea rejected, court says no shortcut

the Enforcement Directorate for splitting of trial in a money laundering case linked to the 2005 Multimedia-Antrix Corporation fraud case, a special court in Bengaluru has pulled up the agency for seeking a "shortcut" without serious efforts to

The ED has failed to serve summons on a US-based CEO of Devas Multimedia, Ramachandran Vishwanathan, and a US subsidiary, Devas Multimedia

two accused who are in the US.

"If every case is split up plea on Thursday.

Bengaluru: Rejecting a plea by serve summons on the accused.

America Incorporated.

Despite a gap of three years since the filing of chargesheet, the ED has reported that it has not been able to serve summons on resulting in the stalling of the trial.

merely because it is difficult to serve the accused it would lead to multiplicity of proceedings," the court said while rejecting the

rebellion 'planned genocide' of Hindus The UP CM said unfortu-**DEEPTIMANTIWARY** NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at a 'Janata

UP CM says Moplah

Darshan' in Gorakhpur on Saturday. Express

LITTAR PRADESH Chief Minister

Yogi Adityanath Saturday claimed that the 1921 Moplah rebellion of Kerala was a planned genocide of Hindus by "jihadi elements". He said as India celebrates the 75th year of independence, it was a time to reflect on "liberating humanity from Jihadi thought" and ensuring that the "Malabar genocide" is not repeated.

Adityanath was addressing a discussion organised by the RSSaffiliated magazine Panchjanya on the Moplah rebellion. "This is an occasion of deep

reflection and discussion. We have to think how we can liberate humanity from Jihadi thought. How we create an environment so that Malabar genocide is not repeated. For this all Indians have to come together determination," Adityanath, who is seeking a second term as UP CM in the forthcoming elections, said.

He said India was remembering the sacrifices of its freedom fighters in the 75th year of independence. "It is important at this time also to understand our history in right perspective. A nation that does not know its history, cannot protect its geography," he said.

Detailing the 1921 incident, Adityanath said, "A 100 years ago, in Kerala's Moplah, the state's Jihadi elements had massacred thousands of Hindus. This genocide continued for several days in a planned manner. According to one estimate, more than 10,000 Hindus were killed brutally. Thousands of mothers and sisters were assaulted. Several temples were destroyed."

nately, to hide this "massive genocide", several names were coined and asked if it was carried out because Hindus refused to

"Some people called it anger in the Muslim community due to failure of the Khilafat movement. Some people called it the Moplah rebellion. These people say that the landlords there were exploiting Muslims. If it was only about landlords then why did so many common Hindus get killed? Just because they refused to convert? The truth is those who have written history from the prism of leftism and pseudosecularism held up the policy of appeasement. This effort was supported by parties who engage in votebank politics," Adityanath said.

The Moplah rebellion has been described by historians and scholars as a peasant uprising against the British and the Hindu landlords patronised by them. In 1971, the Government of Kerala] officially recognised the active participants in the events as freedom fighters".

However, the Sangh parivar has contested this articulation and is currently running a campaign to retell the story from the perspective of targeted killing of Hindus. Pranjya Pravah, an RSS think tank, has demanded for a 'genocide memorial" to commemorate the Moplah rebellion. It has also organised an exhibition on "100 years of 1921 Malabar Hindu Genocide" at Raiiv Chowk

According to reports, a committee formed by the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) is considering removing 387 names associated with the rebellion from the list of freedom fighters.

AMENDED GUJARAT FREEDOM OF RELIGION ACT

Daughter lured into marriage, forcibly converted: plea in HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 25

A MUSLIM man from Khambhat in Anand has moved the Gujarat High Court seeking lodging of a police complaint under the amended Guiarat Freedom of Religion Act, after his daughter allegedly eloped with a Hindu man.

According to the petitioner, his daughterwent missing on June 16, 2021, and he later learnt that a man had "allured" her into marriage and "forcibly converted her religion".

The man then filed a complaint with the Khambhat city police station, on "abduction of his daughter... and subsequent forceful conversion and marriage", the petition states. However, no FIR has been registered, the complainant stated.

The petitioner subsequently filed a complaint before the district superintendent of police of Anand on June 24 under provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code(CrPC) for getting an FIR filed.

On Friday, the court of Justice Ilesh Vora directed the state counsel to "take necessary instructions with respect to the complaint

dated 24.06.2021... on, or before, the next date of hearing" on October 27.

The amended Gujarat Freedom of Religion Act came into force from June 15 and in August, the Gujarat High Court stayed several provisions of the amended Act.

According to the petitioner. the man who married his daughter committed offences under sections 3 and 5 of the Act that have been stayed by the High Court. Section 3 deals with "prohibition of forcible conversion" and Section 5 stipulates district magistrate's permission in case of religious conversion.

The Gujarat HC is also seized of a consent quashing petition where provisions of the Act were invoked involving a married couple from Vadodara. While the accused and complainant in the case sought quashing of the FIR, the state had objected to it. Contesting the complainant woman's assertion that the FIR registered contains "untrue" details that were not part of her complaint, the state said that the woman "never raised any grievance at any point of time that the FIR was an exaggerated

and Chhattisgarh. **CONSTRUCTION OF JHARKHAND HC NEW BUILDING**

Irregularities: Action on 14 govt engineers, firm's contract ended

Due to rough sea condi-

tions and intense winds, fish-

ermen have been advised

against venturing into sea till

ABHISHEK ANGAD RANCHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THREE YEARS after Jharkhand's Building Construction Department had told the High Court and the Assembly that it will take action against "culprits" for "irregularities" in construction of the new High Court building, the department on Friday acted against 14 current and former

Secretary, Construction Department, Sunil Kumar told The Sunday Express that they have terminated the contract of 'Ram Kripal Singh Construction Private Limited' from the construction project and floated a fresh tender to complete the work remaining.

Kumar said: "We have suspended eight government engineers, initiated department inquiry against three engineers and issued a show-cause (notice) to three retired engineers. The irregularities pertains to not adhering to the detailed project report submitted for construction of the High Court building and construction of certain parts of the building, which was not required." The latter, he explained, re-

Soren govt launched ACB probe last year to look into 'financial irregularities'.

sulted in "expenditure in unplanned construction".

Attempts to contact Ram Kripal Singh Constructions did not elicit response. Two cellphone numbers listed on the company website was found switched off. An on-site supervisor of the company in Begusarai, Bihar, said he did not know about the construction project in Ranchi.

The same company has also constructed the Jharkhand Stadium and the new Assembly The project was initiated un-

der the Raghubar Das government and the construction company had won the bid. The government had initially

said that an administrative approval of Rs 365 crore was given

for construction of the new HC building. Later, the tender was awarded to Ram Kripal Singh Constructions for Rs 265 crore, reducing the bid by Rs 100 crore. Later, in revised estimates, the contractor increased its amount to Rs 697 crore.

However, Sunil Kumar said, "we had only given administrative approval for an additional Rs 100 crore (not 432 crore to make it Rs 697 crore). We (have) also terminated the contract of Ram Kripal Singh Constructions. We floated another tender for completion of the remaining work; the bidding process for that ended on ptember 24.'

Last year, the Hemant Soren government launched a probe by the Anti-Corruption Bureau to look into alleged financial irregularities in construction of both the Assembly building and the ongoing work of Jharkhand HC's new building. In 2018, under the then BJP-led

government, Arup Chatterjee, the MLA from Nirsa, had asked in the House whether the revised technical approval amount for the construction of new HC building was Rs 697 crore. As per Assembly records, the Building Construction Department replied in affirmative.

in Singh Deo's presence **PRESS TRUST OF INDIA** RAIPUR, SEPTEMBER 25

'Kaka' is still alive, CM

Baghel tells supporters

AMID UNCERTAINTY over whether Chhattisgarh would see leadership change, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on

Health minister TS Singh Deo, his rival in state Congress, was present on the stage.

Saturday said "Kaka" is still alive.

Baghel sometimes refers to himself as 'kaka' — a local term for uncle - of the youth and children in the state.

Addressing a function organised by the state unit of Indian Pharmacists Association on World Pharmacists Day, he said Chhattisgarh is rich in medicinal plants, and his government will support those who want to manufacture medicines using them.

When some people from the gathering shouted "Bhupesh kaka zindabad," a smiling Baghel responded, "Kaka abhi zinda hai (uncle is still alive)," eliciting laughter from the crowd.

A video clip of Baghel's oneline remark was widely shared by his supporters on social media. The CM himself posted the clip on his Twitter and Facebook accounts with the caption "Kaka abhi zinda hai".

Addressing the programme, Singh Deo praised Baghel for dealing with demands of all departments, including Health, with sensitivity. Chhattisgarh has emerged as a model state on many fronts under Baghel's leadership, he said.

Later, asked by reporters about the so-called power-sharing formula under which he and Baghel were supposed to be CM for two and a half years each, Singh Deo said the issue will be resolved soon.

"This question comes up everywhere. I believe it will be resolved soon.... There is so much curiosity that only one question is asked at every press confer-

For dam-rehabilitated villagers in Odisha, a three-decade fight for a name

AISHWARYA MOHANTY KORAPUT, SEPTEMBER 25

A SIGNBOARD at a narrow deviation from the Koraput-Kotpad road leads to a village of 500 peo-

ple around two kilometers away. Its residents were all rehabilitated here in 1988 after the Upper Kolah Dam in Odisha's Koraput district, constructed in 1976 over the Kolab river, submerged their ancestral homes.

Its name changes depending on who you ask. It is Colony 6 in official records, Baikunthapur if vou go by its residents, and Camp 6 in local parlance. The signboard bears out this confusion, carrying the last two names in English and Odia.

"When we moved here initially we were told that we were being moved to camps. Then eventually when we got official documents like our Aadhar cards, it said we lived in colonies. But we are still identified as residents of camps," says resident Gangai

This is a grievance one hears in multiple dam rehabilitation camps in the district — they never got an official name for decades.

In 2018, the residents of Colonies 5, 6 and 7 — three of the

five villages without an official name — decided to act. Between April and May, they put up boards declaring 'Santoshpur,' 'Baikunthapur'

'Purshottampur' at the entrance to these villages. These are also the names that now appear in some of their postal addresses. Baikunthapur and Santoshpur fall under Batasuna gram panchayat while Purushottampur falls under SB Nuagaan GP. The names, however, are yet

to be officially added in land and revenue records. Back in 1988, each affected

family was given 3 acres of land for



Baikunthapur is yet to be added in land, revenue records.

constructing a house and farming, and Rs 14,000 as compensation. After 2000, these camps started

getting basic facilities such as drinking water, electricity, schools and anganwadi centres.

But the lack of an official name

"This keeps reminding us of being displaced from our own ancestral village where we grew up. It does not help us feel settled," says Burudi

Over 3,000 families from 57 villages were displaced by the Kolab Dam project. About 52 per cent of the affected people are Paraja tribes and 17 per cent are Dalits, according to a study by the South Orissa Voluntary Action, an NGO in Koraput.

Tehsildar Janardhan Dalai said: "Some of the villages have changed their names voluntarily but that is

New Delhi

 $not \, legally \, acceptable. They are \, still \,$ registered as Colony 6,7 etc, as per revenue records. But these hamlets can approach us for changing their names. No such change is in process at the moment from our end,". In Camp 4A, with a population

of 603, Kuma Muduli says residents have held consultations with block-level officers but to no avail. "We initiate the dialogue with one official and by the time the papers are to be processed a new official comes in and we are back to zero. Villagers also keep getting anxious that they would have to go through so many procedures all over again. But we are

change the name of our village, not just ourselves but officially as well," Muduli says. Harihar Nayak (60) from Colony 7 says, "When you are up-

still at it and we would want to

rooted and moved to another location, there are a lot of things in mind to begin with, a lot of basic facilities. But eventually one realises that we have been reduced to camps and colonies. A person anywhere in the world derives his or her identity from the place they come from. We come from a camp. Our Aadhaar says we live in colony number 7. It feels like we do not belong here.'

Across **THE AISLE**



PCHIDAMBARAM

Website: pchidambaram.in Twitter@Pchidambaram IN

The Prime Minister and the Home Minister should deprecate talk of jihad, love or narcotic. They should also comment on the seizure of 3,000 kg of heroin. These are issues that have serious consequences for the internal security and social harmony

Mischievous and Fake Crusades

I READ a page from history. The Crusades were religious wars that began toward the end of the 11th century. The wars are believed to have been fought between 1095 and 1291. History records that they were organised by European Christians, with the support of the Latin Church, to check the spread of Islam, roll back Muslim expansion (in Palestine, Syria, Egypt) and take back the Holy Land in the eastern Mediterranean.

The wars were waged a thousand years after Jesus Christ and 450 years after Prophet Muhammad. Both preached monotheism. Both were inspired by Abraham and Moses. Among Muslims, they are Ibrahim and Musa. Along with Judaism, the three faiths are called Abrahamic religions. Therefore, the justification for the wars is inexplicable. Despite the wars, Christianity and Islam have survived to this day with millions of followers; most are tolerant and peaceful, some are warriors. Europe is largely Christian; Palestine, Syria, Egypt and some other territories over which the wars were fought are predominantly

Muslim nations. The moral of the story is that no religion or religious group can vanquish an-

What is jihad?

Yet, the word jihad is in currency. Jihad, in Islam, according to Britannica, is a meritorious struggle or effort, primarily the human struggle to promote what is right and to prevent what is wrong. In modern times, however, it has become a synonym for violent campaigns.

Love jihad was a monster invented by the Hindu radical right to terrorise young men and women. Narcotic jihad is the new monster, and it pains me and millions of Indians that an ordained bishop, Bishop Joseph Kallarangatt of Pala, should be its author. While 'love' and 'narcotics' are real, to attach the word iihad to love (a natural human emotion) and to narcotics (an analgesia and an addictive drug) reveals warped thinking.

The intention is clear. It is to provoke distrust and communal conflict between followers of a religion (Hinduism or Christianity) on the one hand and Islam on the other. Islam is the 'other' and Muslims are the 'other' people to fanatics. A secular nation must stamp out such fanaticism whether it is expressed in words or deeds or through subtle means of discrimination.

No Evidence

There is no evidence that Islam is 'expansionist' in India. The PEW survey, published in June 2021, has blown away many myths and falsehoods. The religious composition of India has been reasonably stable between 1951 and 2011. There is a slight increase in the proportion of Muslims because of migration and because the fertility rate among Muslims, though it has fallen sharply from 4.4 (1992) to 2.6 (2015), is slightly

more than the fertility rate among Hindus and other religious groups. Yet, even by 2050, Hindus will constitute an overwhelming 77 per cent (1,300 million) of the population. Among the respondents in the PEW survey, 81.6 per cent said they were raised as Hindu and 81.7 per cent currently identify as Hindu; 2.3 per cent said they were raised as Christian and 2.6 per cent currently identify as Christian. Mass conversion to Islam is a lie.

There is no surprise in the Hindu radical right springing to the support of the Bishop of Pala. Both target the 'other', meaning the Muslims. We must remember that there have been occasions when the Hindu radical right has treated the Christians as 'other'. The 'othering' of any section of the people is unacceptable.

My School EXPERIENCE

I studied in a school run by Christian missionaries. The overwhelming majority of pupils were Hindus from all sections of society. There was a small number of Christians and a sprinkling of Muslims. Each class was divided into many sections, but there was a Class Leader, chosen by the Headmaster, the legendary Kuruvilla Jacob. In the five years that I studied from Class VI to Class X, the Class Leader was A K Moosa, a jovial, friendly but average student. In Class XI, the final year, the Class Leader

automatically became the School Pupil Leader. The Headmaster wanted a student who was tall and impressive and who could speak English fluently at school functions and at the Annual Day. Who did he choose? Lo and behold, he nominated Mr Haroon Mohammed! None of the students, and certainly not the Hindu or Christian pupils, thought that something unusual had been done. The word 'appeasement' was totally unfamiliar to us.

I am glad that the Chief Minister, Mr Pinarayi Vijayan, has read the riot act to the Bishop. I am gladder that the Leader of the Opposition, Mr V D Satheesan, has supported the Chief Minister's statement that the government will be "unsparing against those who propagate such false theories"

Those who talk mischievously about narcotic jihad should ponder over the unprecedented haul of 3,000 kg of heroin (that is three tonnes!) seized by the authorities when it was attempted to be 'imported' through a port in Gujarat. I can say with authority that no one would have dared to 'import' such a humongous quantity unless he/she (a couple – not Muslims – have been apprehended) enjoyed official patronage at a fairly high level.

The Prime Minister and the Home Minister should deprecate talk of jihad, love or narcotic. They should also comment on the seizure of 3,000 kg of heroin. These are issues that have serious consequences for the internal security and social harmony of the country.

of the country inside

KEEPING HIM WAITING

COOMIKAPOOR

Narendra Modi recently showered praises on Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at a function in Aligarh. However, the CM has been unable to go ahead with his plans to induct new ministers in his Cabinet such as Jitin Prasada and Sanjay Nishad, before the Assembly elections next year. By the year-end, any Cabinet changes will be problematic since it will be too close to the February polls. Interestingly, though Amit Shah normally goes into overdrive when an important Assembly election is due, as in West Bengal, Shah is gearing up for the UP campaign at a leisurely pace.

OFF WITH THEIR HEADS

It came as a shock to other BJP-ruled states that Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, along with his entire Cabinet, was replaced a fortnight ago with a first-time MLA, Bhupendra Patel. But it came as no surprise to the people of Gujarat who have seen such off-with-all-heads purges in the past under Narendra Modi. Such complete overhauls are seen as a way of softening an anti-incumbency mood just before an election. It has happened earlier in several local self-government bodies in Surat and Saurashtra. The BJP leadership was conscious of the unpopularity of the Rupani government. The reason why the complete change of guard in Guiarat went off with barely a whimper. despite discontent among some communities like the Koli Patels, is because of C R Paatil, the BJP state chief. The former police constable and close aide of Narendra Modi, who worked with Amit Shah in the 2019 poll, has a tight grip over the state, even though he is not a Gujarati but a Maharashtrian.

COMMON FOE

Amarinder Singh and the late Arun Jaitley may have fought a bitter parliamentary election against each other in Amritsar in 2014, but they remained friends. They were united in their dislike of a common enemy, Navjot Singh Sidhu. Jaitley believed that Sidhu and his politician-wife, Navjot Kaur, sabotaged his Amritsar campaign. He ensured that the Sidhus were thrown out of the BJP. When Sidhu joined the Congress, Singh turned to Jaitley for ad-

vice. The latter warned that Sidhu would undermine him. The Captain was so enraged by Sidhu's entry into the Congress that he even contemplated floating his own political party if he could tie up with the BJP. The plan never fructified since the BJP stuck with the Akalis.

OFFER OR BANTER

It is a debatable whether Rajya Sabha MP Ambika Soni was seriously offered the Punjab chief ministership or if the suggestion was made as light-hearted banter by Rahul Gandhi at a meeting of Punjab legislators, Gandhi was responding to Soni's stout rejection of a proposal to make Sunil Jakhar the chief minister, on the grounds that he is not a Sikh. At 78, Soni may be five months younger than Captain Amarinder Singh, but was in no position to take over as chief minister. In fact, in August 2019, she had written to Sonia Gandhi, saying she would like to step down from active politics, but received no reply. Although she is no longer general secretary, Soni is utilised by the party high command to counter her contemporaries and old colleagues such as Ghulam Nabi Azad, Kapil Sibal and Manish Tewari, who are part of the G-23 dissidents.

INTERPRETING WORDS

Nitin Gadkari is known for his refreshing candour and humour. This month, he delivered a speech to Rajasthan legislators on 'Parliamentary System and People's Expectations', which created a buzz. Politics, Gadkari noted, should not be about individuals and power but adhering to a particular party and its philosophy. When he was BJP president, Gadkari remarked, he found most politicians were unhappy. MLAs wanted to be ministers, while ministers aspired to be chief minister and chief ministers lived in constant fear that they would be axed. Reciting a poem by Sharad Joshi, Gadkari observed that people not performing well in the state were transferred to Delhi, when they failed in Delhi, they were made governors, and when found inadequate as governors, they were appointed ambassadors. There was much laughter from the audience. The next day, the media interpreted the speech in various ways. Some saw it as a reference to Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot, whose position post Amarinder Singh's departure, is shaky, others suggested he was pointing a finger at his own party. Gadkari, however, clarifies that he was speaking in general terms about power politics and feels the media was unethical to give their own individual spins to

history HEADLINE PRAMOD KUMAR



HISTORY PULSATED with life again during the recent political turmoil in Punjab, as leaders of the ruling Congress fought for power. A party spokesperson announced that a Sikh should be the Chief Minister, forcing the Congress to backtrack on plans to name. By evening, a Scheduled Caste had been appointed as the CM. The entire history of Punjab was reversed.

This issue was at the centre of politics during the Punjabi Suba movement in the mid-Sixties and the basis of the political combat between the Congress leadership claiming to speak for "secular nationalism" and the Akali leadership seeking Sikh predominance in a "reorganised Punjab". The question arises: what is the long-term significance of these discriminatory public pronouncements on peace, harmony, and parliamentary democracy in Punjab?

Punjab has seen a number of upheavals. Both the Partition that led to the division of Punjab in 1947 and the Punjabi Suba movement which led to its reorganisation have lessons for contemporary politics. However, despite the Partition killing thousands and leaving about 13 million displaced, the political leadership did not make any efforts to bring about a closure. Instead, they continued to give expression to the pre-Partition politics of identity, intermeshed with religion.

In December 1953, the Government of India appointed the States Reorganisation Commission. In an interaction with the then Chief Minister Bhim Sen Sachar on January 21, 1955, asked whether he wanted a land where the Sikhs would dominate, Master Tara Singh, the prominent Akali leader, stated, "This is exactly what I have in mind." It might have called for a separate province on linguistic and cultural basis, but at the popular level, the Shiromani Akali Dal tended to mix religion with language.

The same year as Master Tara Singh's statement, the Akalis launched a non-violent agitation for a Punjabi Suba. The States Reorganisation Commission given the recent past of Partition along religious lines — maintained that Punjabi was not sufficiently distinct from Hindi and the demand for a Punjabi-speaking state was a disguise for a religion-based Sikh state. This stand was condemned as discrimination against the Sikhs, as all the other 14 official languages (at the time) had a state of their own.

In response, a parallel agitation for

Cong cracks and the old fissures of Punjabi Suba



Amarinder Singh, Akali leader Parkash Badal at Tara Singh Memorial College, Ludhiana, in 1983. Tara Singh was among stalwarts of Sikh state demand. Archives

Hindi was launched, which advocated a 'Maha Punjab' irrespective of language.

The increasing strength of the Akali Dal alarmed the Congress leadership, and in 1956, the two parties reached an understanding. A regional plan was conceived, and was accepted by the Akalis at a meeting on September 30, 1956. The new state was to be divided into "Punjabispeaking" and "Hindi-speaking" regions, and as such, two regional committees with MLAs belonging to the respective regions were to be constituted.

However, this formula could not be implemented as Partap Singh Kairon, the then CM of Punjab, while speaking in the Punjab Assembly, laid emphasis on a zonal scheme, whereby Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi and Raiasthan were to be made into one zone. with the regional committees not carrying much weight. The Akalis walked out of the arrangement and did not contest the second general election of 1957. Soon, the Punjabi Suba agitation was back on track.

The Congress fought the 1962 general election as a referendum on the Punjabi Suba issue, a challenge which was accepted by the Akali Dal. However, not only did the Akalis lose, they won only 19 of 154 seats, losing even in Punjabi-speaking areas. Already discredited due to the failure of the earlier agreement, Master Tara Singh was held responsible for this defeat. A split in the Akali Dal followed.

Finally, the state was reorganised on a linguistic basis in September 1966. This coincided with the start of the Green

Revolution, marking another turn in the state's history. The Green Revolution empowered the Sikh Jat peasantry, but made its gap with the trading classes wider even seeing a shift in political discourse from the political deprivation of 'minorities' to economic discrimination. Therefore, while the demand for a separate Sikh state could not find expression, greater state autonomy became an issue due to emerging agrarian interests.

In the 1980s, the demand took the shape of call for a monolith Sikh State. What followed was the agitation for Khalistan, and the darkest phase of Punjab's history.

In the years since, even parties which historically articulated the language question along communal lines have shifted stance. For instance, the Akali Dal-BJP in their Common Minimum Programme (1997) asserted, "Punjabi being our mother tongue is the State language of Punjab. Every Punjabi is proud of the richness of Punjabi language and culture." It was asserted that the non-acceptance of demands of Punjab would be anti-Punjabi rather than anti-Sikh alone.

Now, in the churning within the Congress, politics seems to be again going back to the harking of monolith categories like Sikhs, Hindus and the Scheduled Castes. However, it may not succeed. Punjab's history shows it has no space for mobilisation of exclusivities

> The writer is Director, Institute for Development and Communication,

Fifth TAVLEEN SINGH

Time to speak for liberalism

THE WORLD has changed since the Prime Minister of India last made an important foreign visit. The pandemic grounded him. In that time political leaders changed and the man whom Narendra Modi endorsed when he last visited the United States is no longer President. With Donald Trump there was a friendship so special that Modi said at 'Howdy! Modi' in Houston, 'Ab ki baar, Trump sarkaar'. Then, holding hands, the two men took what looked like a victory lap. Six months later, even as Covid had begun to spread, there was another vast gathering, for Trump in Gujarat, at which the American President and his family were treated like royalty. Then Trump lost.

The man who won instead has indicated more than once that he sees the world as divided into autocracies and democracies. In his speech to the UN General Assembly last week, President Biden said that he did not want a new Cold War to start but that he fully intended to stand on the side of democracy. If this happens, the world could become a place in which democratic rights are as valued as economic and military strength.

When our Prime Minister met Vice President Kamala Harris, she also talked of the importance of democracy, although this part of her speech was played down by Indian government spokesmen. It is silly for them to have done this because the other things that Modi would have talked to with the new leaders of the United States were obvious. Jihadi terrorism, Afghanistan, climate change and Covid would naturally have been discussed. But should the Indian Prime Minister worry about this new emphasis on democracy? He should. This is because the 'new India' that he speaks of with the pride of its creator, is being seen as an 'illiberal democracy' that punishes dissidence. Sometimes brutally.

When the Prime Minister returns home he would do well to spend an afternoon with his media team and find out why it is only 'friendly' journalists that get to meet him. And, why newspapers like Dainik Bhaskar and news portals like Newslaundry and NewsClick have been recently subjected to tax raids. He should also ask the Home Minister why so many dissidents have spent months in jail simply because they were arrested under preventive detention laws that do not require specific charges before an arrest is made. Bail has $been \, repeatedly \, opposed \, by \, his \, officials \, on \,$ grounds that the courts have begun to question. No country that treats dissidents and political opponents this way counts as a liberal democracy.

The word 'liberal' is used as a term of abuse so often these days by Modi's devotees on social media that it is time for us liberals to stand up and speak out. Modi's followers appear to have limited political understanding. So, they usually use 'liberandus and lefties' in the same vituperative sentence. They appear not to have noticed that there are liberals, like your columnist, who are politically conservative and economically way, way on the right. My point is that if India is to avoid ending up in the autocracies corner, liberals need to make their voice heard louder than they have in the past seven years. We need to speak out against the brutal suppression of dissent in the 'new India'. In that old India in which Indians of my age grew up, tax raids were usually reserved for businessmen, movie stars and political opponents. But a high degree of dissidence was permitted as long as you did not pick up a gun to make your point.

Democratic freedoms include not just the freedom to speak and dissent but the freedom to worship. In the 'new India' this is becoming difficult because gangs of thugs have started wandering about our cities seeking out helpless Muslims and ordering them to say 'Jai Shri Ram' or risk being beaten within an inch of their lives. Sometimes they are beaten up even as they say 'Jai Shri Ram' in voices trembling with fear. The police look the other way in states governed by the BJP, but when arrests are made, the thugs are nearly always found to be linked to the Prime Minister's alma mater. The RSS does not ever admit that they encourage young Hindus to fight against Muslims but there has never been any attempt to deny that the Bairang Dal is one of the Sangh Parivar's uglier spawns.

Indian reporters who travelled to the United States to cover Modi's visit appear to think that one of the greatest achievements has been India's inclusion in the Quad. Some foreign policy 'experts' have actually boasted about this as a major triumph since Pakistan has not been included in this group. What they forget is that the Quad is a grouping of democratic countries that has been formed specifically to challenge autocratic China's malign influence that sadly continues to grow and spread.

India's credentials for being in the Quad may be many, but possibly the most important among these is that we remain a democracy. It is time for liberals to stand up and speak out to ensure that we remain not just a democracy but the liberal democracy that we have always been. Every right guaranteed to us by our Constitution needs to be defended publicly against 'nationalists' who make it very clear that they see liberal democracy as a nuisance.

She **AZIZA SARWARI**

ABOUT 10 days ago, my mother went out of our home for the first time since the Taliban took over our province. She didn't want to, but she had no choice. The groceries were over and my father was not in town to go out. Since women are not allowed without a male escort, she took my younger brother with her. She kept praying no one would hit her for being out without her husband. That night, when I spoke to her, I felt so sorry for her because here I am, in India, with every imaginable freedom, and for my mother, even a visit to the market is fraught with fear.

I belong to Lal wa Sarjangal district of Ghor province, which is mainly populated

'What future do I have in Afghanistan now?'

by the Hazara community. We are four brothers and two sisters, I am the youngest. My eldest brother is studying abroad on a scholarship and so am I, in Pune. My younger sister, a school teacher, was supposed to get out this year, but we don't know what will

happen, now that flights are truncated. I must have been a year old when the Taliban were driven out of Afghanistan, so I have never seen them in action. I have heard stories, from my mother, teachers and other women — of the hardships they had to face. They said it was as if the Taliban hate the existence of women.

Growing up, life was hard since we didn't have the kind of facilities you all have here. The terrain is tough, we had just one government school and it was a temporary structure with mats on the ground. Education up to Class 5 was in Persian and "Here I am, in India, with every imaginable freedom, and for my mother, even a visit to the market is fraught with fear of the Taliban"

 $while \, English \, was \, one \, of \, the \, subjects \, later \,$ on, I didn't study it because we couldn't find an English teacher.

Our society has always been a traditional one and we were required to wear the hijah: I have worn it since I was nine. We were not allowed to talk to boys and if we were caught talking to them, there would be 'severe consequences'.

But at least there was some freedom. I could go to school, even if it was just a girl's school. I could study what I wanted to. I could go to the market on weekends with my mother and sister, without a male escort. Most importantly, there was no fear.

After my Class 12, I went to Kabul to study. It was there that I heard about and applied for the ICCR (Indian Council of Cultural Relations) scholarships. And then, I came to India. After my Bachelor's in Business Administration, I joined the MBA course in Pune University. I learnt English here. India feels so much freer than Afghanistan.

This time, the Taliban say they are different, that they will allow women to work and study, but the truth is, no woman is going out to work or study. In the initial days of the Taliban takeover, their soldiers went house to house, searching for women. That's when my family sent my sister to my uncle's house because his village is remote.

Only a few of my friends in Kabul are

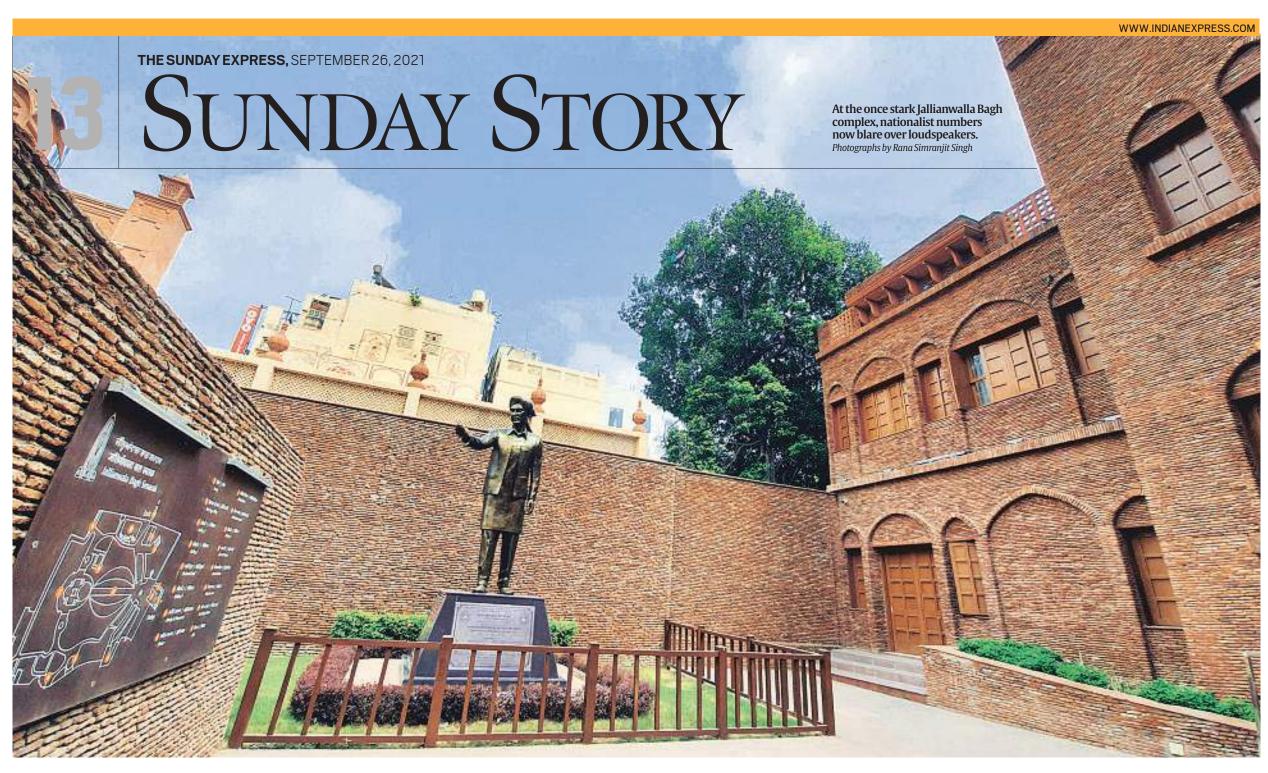
going to college. Those who do say classrooms are now segregated spaces. Worse, women have to wear the Taliban-prescribed niqab. We would cover up earlier too, but have you ever experienced the niqab? You cannot see your own waist, vou trip and fall. It is so suffocating... you cannot breathe.

As of now, life has come to a standstill in my home country. I was hoping to return to Afghanistan after graduating but what future do I have there now? I don't know if, and when, I can ever return to my home country and touch my mother's face. Now I only see her on video calls.

Aziza is a 22-year-old first-year student of MBA at the University of Pune

New Delhi

(As told to Alifiya Khan)







IN AMRITSAR, the onus is on the mask-wearer to explain herself. Inside the Golden Temple complex, where covering your head is mandatory, and enforced strictly, you scarcely spot a person with a mask. At the Temple, it is easy for anxieties — including Covid fears amid a still raging pandemic — to be soothed by the unchanged rhythms of piety.

As always, the blue of the holy sarovar opens up to the skies above, the Harmandir nds hathed in calm gold. The devotees and tourists remain unhurried and patient as they complete the parikrama and wait in long queues for darshan, and everything and everyone is touched by the grace of the gurbani. It was, it is, a place to hope for the better and suspend disbelief.

But outside, lies a city that is changing, one that sounds more disconnected to its past moorings, more anxious and despairing - and more accusing.

In Amritsar, the taxi driver, who is also a farmer, looks out of the window with a furrowed brow at the possibility of clouds and informs you that rain at this time will not be good news for the paddy crop. He has gone to Singhu border "two-three times", and his brother makes the trip to the site of the farmers' agitation more regularly. "How many Gujaratis join the Indian Army?", catching your eye in the rearview mirror, he asks challengingly.

That Punjab's contribution to keeping India safe and fed is not acknowledged by the rest of the country, especially under the Narendra Modi-led Centre — is the oft-echoed grouse in a city intimately tied to the village.

Dark speculation about Punjab's two main political rivals being hand in glove behind the people's back festers alongside grim rumour about the Centre wanting to impose President's Rule. The latter rumbling is now encouraged by the roiling of the numbers' game in Chandigarh with the change of chief minister ahead of next year's Assembly polls.

The heavily Bollywood-inspired drumbeats and war cries of the daily beating retreat ceremony at the Attari-Wagah border have resumed after a Covid-induced break. They now find a kindred echo at a sombre memorial in the centre of the walled city.

At the newly renovated Jallianwalla Bagh complex, the starkness has been broken by the throb of nationalist numbers that play on loudspeakers.

Sound, colour, mural, landscaping have been added to the enclosed ground where General Dyer's troops fired at Indians protesting against the Rowlatt Act in 1919, killing hundreds. An exit has been added, too, at a distance from the narrow lane that was, at the time of the massacre, the only point of entry and exit it breaks the oppressive sense of being closed-in that the empathic visitor could partake of, even if fleetingly.

"Bureaucracy views everything that is memorialised as something to be celebrated. Sensitivity to place, memory in the right context, is missing," says Prof Sarbjot Singh Behl, head of the Architecture Department at Guru

Echoes in a walled city

Amid the recent political upheaval in Punjab, VANDITA MISHRA travels to Amritsar, the state's political, religious and cultural hub, and sees — in the queues outside IELTS coaching centres, in the farmer protests, in suspicions about the political class, in the renovated Jallianwalla Bagh the slow slipping away of an older city. What it is being replaced with, no one is really sure





With Captain no longer CM, it remains to be seen if Bargari sacrilege will be an election issue; in Amritsar, the young continue to line up at IELTS coaching centres

The farm protest is

anxieties and

gathering unto itself

insecurities borne of

Punjab's other crises

—lack of industrial

development, low

quality education,

rampant corruption

Nanak Dev University (GNDU). The glass that has been used, ostensibly to give a better view of the Martyrs' Well, interferes with a direct connection, he says. "As a child, I remember peering into that well... A museum could have been added to its surroundings, without interfering with the main space. Space is sacrosanct, space is memory."

Amritsar has suffered the loss of memory before. The circumference around the Golden Temple was demolished in the late '80s, for the Galiara project, citing security considerations, a fallout of Operation Blue Star. It was the oldest layer of the city.

Now the slow slipping away of an older Amritsar, more scarred but also more gracious, may go unlamented. "I organised a lecture, there were 150 students of architecture in that hall, none of them had gone to the renovated Jallianwalla Bagh," says Professor Behl.

"I don't want to go there now," says Satpal Danish, painter and photographer, whose grandfather did some of the fresco work on the main dome of Darbar Sahib, and whose uncle was martyred at Jallianwalla Bagh, a young man of 17. "He had gone there with his father, his body was found the next day... Uss mitti mein shaheedi ki mehak nahin hai (that soil is no longer redolent of martyrdom)," he says.

The generation that narrated the stories of Partition, and about Lahore, Amritsar's twin city, is fading. "Our elders were connected to Pakistan. We have heard from our fathers and mothers, our fathers and mothers in-law. about the journeys they made. I got goosebumps when I took some students on an exchange programme to Pakistan about 15 years ago... The next generation will not have those storytellers or stories," says Amandeep Bal, professor of history at GNDU.

Outside the Partition Museum in the historic Town Hall building, full of poignant, carefully documented frames of people buffeted by nations, Baldeep Kaur, a UPSC aspirant, who is visiting from Jalandhar, says: "How will change come if people like me go abroad? My family wants me to go, but I have this keeda (stubborn streak), I want to stay."

Anyone with an ear to the ground in Amritsar will tell you that Baldeep's voice risks being drowned out by the thumping chorus of

The young continue to line up at the IELTS

coaching centres — passing the International English Language Testing System is necessary for students who want to go abroad for study, work or migration. The sprawl of the IELTS industry points to an older Punjabi wanderlust, a will to make a better life, and higher aspirations in the state of the Green Revolution.

But it also points to something less robust – a vote of no-confidence in a state where the successes of the Green Revolution also laid the ground for complacency and lack of political vision; and where, together with the decade lost to terrorism, they contribute to presentday absences in a state lagging behind in industrialisation and the dotcom revolution.

Matrimonial ads mirror a desperation to leave, and also a reversal of the dowry

trend. As hard-working daughters overtake spoilt sons in academic achievement, the greater demand is for the bride who clears the IELTS and sponsors the groom – all expenses paid by his family.

The bride's family dictates the terms: "Jat Sikh ladki jisda Canada da visa aaya hoiya layee... ghatto-ghat 10 kille waale ladke di lorh... saara kharcha mundeyaan wallon (For a Jat Sikh girl, or missing jobs Canada-bound, needed a boy with at least 10 acres of

land, all expenditure to be borne by the boy's side).""Vyaah pakka (marriage assured)" some ads also promise — to assuage growing fears about contract weddings.

Another trend, many say, may be catching on in town and village, Earlier, sons and daughters who went abroad sent money back to rebuild homes into grand residences with columns and chandeliers. Less and less so. Now, families speak of selling land, and winding up businesses, to join their children on foreign shores.

Outside KPC Academy, an IELTS coaching centre in the upscale market complex on Amritsar's Ranjit Avenue, Talwinder, 24, and Simranjit Kaur, 23, are waiting for their morning class to begin.

Simranjit has done B.Com and wants a business of her own. "There is no freedom, no opportunity here. I want to go to Brampton, I want my own restaurants and stores." Talwinder, a mechanical engineer, wants to set up a repair workshop in Toronto. "My father has a workshop here. But you go out, he says.'

Meet the parents in different settings in Amritsar, and it's the same story, over and over again. In a group of businesswomen at an event organised by FICCI Floin a plush hotel, many have stories of breaking a glass ceiling, but no one wants their children to stay in Punjab. Because "there is no industry, no jobs". Because "expectations are high, and also the frustration". Because "I am married to a broad-minded man, but my daughter may not be so lucky".

The continuing exodus of the young has accentuated the crisis of the classroom - "we would get at least 100 applications for the 30odd seats in the Master's programme in his-

tory, but now anyone who applies gets in", says Professor Bal. Very few of her colleagues in GNDU have not sent their own children abroad, she says.

A group of businessmen sitting at the city's wellknown Giani tea stall after their morning walk, count out the reasons for pessimism: "Price rise, unemployment, drugs, electricity prices, no industry, social insecurity". Once a bustling trading centre, Amritsar has been steadily losing its industry, including the textiles it was famous for,

to other states. There are no signs of IT hubs coming this way either, they say. You can almost touch the fear: If the chil-

dren don't go abroad, they will fall into drugs, become "vela" or wastrels.

In conversations across the city, people cast the onus of bringing the farmers' agitation to an end firmly on the Centre. The Centre, or PM Narendra Modi, is widely seen as, if not outrightly anti-Punjab, insensitive and obstinate.

It is also clear that what started out as a popular opposition to the Centre's three farm laws, pushed through amid a pandemic, without consultation with stakeholders or parliamentary debate, is becoming more amorphous.

The movement has rallied farmers who have hardly any security or safety nets, and who fear being abandoned to the greed of large corporates. It has united students, traders, professionals, homemakers and others, who are emphatic in their support for

the farmers' cause.

But it is also gathering unto itself anxieties and insecurities borne of Punjab's other crises be it lack of industrial development, low quality education, rampant corruption or missing jobs. It is invoking past traditions of Sikh valour and resistance against Mughals, Afghans and the British.

It is being led by farm union leaders who speak in many voices on the endgame.

At the district office of the Jamhoori Kisan Sabha, part of the 32 outfits that make the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), and affiliated to the Communist Party Marxist (Punjab), Ratan Singh Ajnala, vice president, acknowledges the challenges of a movement that goes on for so long: "Spontaneous mobilisation has reduced, people's attention will be diverted by the election campaign. Now we have to do more meetings and announcements in villages... We also have to steer our sangathan away from the fanatics." The prime goal is repeal of the "black laws". And then, "to defeat the BJP". "Even if the BJP repeals the laws, the country is not safe in its hands," he says.

About 25 km from Amritsar, Satnam Singh Pannu, who leads the Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee, which is active and has a following in the Majha area, says: "We have a separate stage, but we coordinate with the SKM." Pannu's outfit was accused by other unions of breaking ranks and moving to the Red Fort on January 26, the day the movement lapsed into violence.

"For us, all parties are the same. Our fight is against the system, and the big corporate. Even if the laws are repealed, *kheti ka sankat* (agriculture crisis) will remain, and a *kheti* neeti(farm policy) will need to be fought for,"

Lives have been lost in the course of this movement; the investment of sentiment, energy, time and resources only grows; and anyone who negotiates a compromise risks being called "gaddar (traitor)". "The agitation has gone beyond the three laws, a new leadership of peasants has come to the fore. I see a new beginning," says Prof JS Sekhon, former prof of political science, GNDU.

In village Jahangir, on Amritsar's edge, a group of elderly farmers who have gathered in the pind disath (village commons) talk of the trips that continue, one tractor goes every 15 days as one comes back, from the village to

"I stayed at Tikri for a month," says Mukhtar Singh. "My daughter-in-law and grandson, who are abroad, call me and say: 'Go bapu, go to Tikri'," Tirlok Singh says. "If you sleep now, your land will go. What else is there, what will remain, they say.

An election is coming to Punjab, along with the winter. It is early days yet, but take a straw poll in Amritsar, and the incident of be-adabi (sacrilege) at Bargari is a prominent issue.

An act of sacrilege was reported in 2015 from Burj Jawahar Singh Wala village near Bargari town in district Faridkot, followed by police firing on protesters in Kotkapura and Behbal Kalan, in which two protesters were killed. Arrests were made, a main accused was killed in prison, many got bail. In popular perception, justice has not been done — because of alleged collusion between the Badals, who were in power when the desecration and police firing took place, and Captain Amarinder

Singh, who formed the next government. Now that Captain is no longer CM, it remains to be seen if the Bargari issue will have as salient a place in the election that will come. This will also be the first Assembly election after the farmers' movement began, in a bi-po-

performance in 2017. This time, the Congress's appointment of a Scheduled Caste CM, Charanjit Singh Channi, a first in the state, could also create a new political fact on the ground. Or not.

"Dharam pyaara ya dharaa pyaara/dharam naalon dharaa pyaara". Is faction more dear than faith/ faction is more dear than faith that Punjabi folk saying may point to a larger reality of politics in Punjab.

The "dharaa" or faction is seen to matter more in a political culture in which the edge is taken off caste and community differences by the gurus' egalitarian message and philosophy.

If you belong to a "dharaa", you are protected from "dhakka" or being pushed around by the powerful, and get your problems attended to - not if you stay non-aligned. Dharaas are entrenched in every village, they have a long life of their own.

People may sympathise with the farmers, but they will vote according to the dharaa they have aligned themselves to in their village, that gives them protection and patronage — that is the hope of the Punjab politician, conspicuously sidelined by the farmers' mobilisation in the state. "On farmers, people may be united, but otherwise, it will be political division as usual," a senior Akali politician in Chandigarh says.

After the exit of Amarinder Singh as chief minister, Amritsar's Navjot Singh Sidhu has taken centrestage. For now, Sidhu is seen as the power behind the new CM Charanjit Singh Channi. Even Congress politicians who earlier professed allegiance to Captain, now speak of Sidhu's vote-catching potential, allegedly captured in a Prashant Kishor survey.

Why Sidhu? A senior minister in the outgoing Amarinder Singh cabinet describes a larger predicament: "A party needs to invest in peole, not surveys. Punjab seriously lacks talent in the political class."

The problem also lies in the nature of party decision-making, he says. "An MLA needs at least two years' work to win an election — getting things done for constituents, making an appearance on occasions that matter to them. But tickets are distributed with only days to go before the election. This then leads the party, gasping for breath, to

look for the wonder weapon." Is Sidhu the solution to the problem, or its symptom? There are no answers yet, only this question in Amritsar.

New York: Oil prices rose for a third week in a row to a near threeyear high on Friday. Brent futures rose 84 cents, or 1.1 per cent, to settle at \$78.09 a barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate crude rose 68 cents, or 0.9 per cent, to settle at \$73.98. **REUTERS**

PROCESS SLOW IN SOME STATES

Land record digitisation: Report state of implementation, Centre tells banks

■ In addition to helping in

and MSME sectors, land

record digitisation and

online creation of bank

charge also helps in

credit growth in agriculture

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE GOVERNMENT has sought from banks the status regarding digitisation of land records and online creation of equitable mortgage that would help in faster disbursement of agriculture loans.

The Finance Ministry has been nudging states to digitise land records and notify all districts for the purpose of creating online mortgage charge. While several states have already implemented these measures, the Central government is pushing for the online facility to direct credit flow in districts that are vet to roll it out.

"States including Karnataka Rajasthan, Kerala, UP, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have fully digitised their land record, enabling banks TO BETTER AGRI CREDIT FLOW, REDUCE FRAUDS

■ A government official said Karnataka, Rajasthan, Kerala, UP, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have fully digitised their land record, enabling banks to create online bank charge on land records and helping in better credit delivery

to create online bank charge on

land records. This helps in better

credit delivery. But several states,

and districts in some states such

as Maharashtra, are vet to fully im-

plement this. We are in discus-

sions with banks to effectively im-

plement this for ensuring smooth

flow of credit to the farmers," a

government official said.

Ministries and

departments in

asked to "restrict

within 20% of BE

category B had been

overall expenditure

2020-21 in Quarter 2"

The curbs have been re-

moved as government tax rev-

enues picked up. Gross goods

and services tax (GST) collec-

tions in August (for sales in

July) crossed the Rs 1-lakh

crore mark. The August collec-

tions at Rs 1,12,020 crore were

29.6 per cent higher than in

months, GST collections have

consistently remained over Rs

1 lakh crore, except in June (for

sales in May). The second

wave was also the most brutal

in April-May. The gross direct

tax collections for FY22 were

at Rs 6,45,679 crore, against Rs

4,39,242 crore (as on Septem-

ber 22) in the corresponding

period of the preceding fiscal,

a 47 per cent growth. The gross

collection (as on September

22) in FY22 has risen 16.75 per

cent over FY20, when the

number was Rs 5.53.063 crore.

As economic recovery

picks up, the government has

a better handle on its finances

and revenues. Moreover.

spending by the government.

especially capital expenditure,

is needed to sustain the recov-

ery. For instance, industrial

output rose by 11.5 per cent

this July, against a 10.5 per cent

www.indianexpress.com

Full report on

contraction in July 2020.

Likely impact

reducing instances of frauds, according to a senior banker with a public In a circular to banks in January, the Finance Ministry had asked lenders to finalised "modalities for entry of loan/charges

linking land record databases with banks and financial institutions." A senior banker with a public sector bank said that the govern-

ment held discussions with the

against parcel of land to facilitate

emphasised that the remaining districts should also be notified for the purpose of online charge on land parcels for sanction of loans. In districts which have not yet

been notified for creation of mortgage charge by the banks, farmers have to approach lenders in districts where this facility is available, leading to delays in sanctions and disbursements of credit. "Apart from helping in credit

growth in agriculture and MSME sectors, land record digitisation and online creation of bank charge also helps in reducing instances of frauds," the banker said.

In the Union Budget 2021-22, the government has raised the target for agricultural credit to Rs 16.5 lakh crore, from Rs 15 lakh crore in 2020-21, with greater focus on lending to animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries. In the

agriculture credit disbursement target of Rs 13.50 lakh crore, actual disbursement was Rs 13.93 lakh crore, according to data from the Finance Ministry.

As per Reserve Bank of India guidelines on priority sector lending, banks have to extend 40 per cent of ANBC (adjusted net nank credit) for total priority sector advances. The priority sector advances comprise 18 per cent of ANBC for agriculture sector and 8 per cent is kept for the small and marginal farmers.

To boost credit flow to the farm sector, the government provides interest subvention reducing the rate for short term crop loans up to Rs 3 lakh to 7 per cent. For farmers who repay on time, an additional incentive of 3 per cent is given, reducing their rate of interest to 4 per cent.

FLEXIBLE, SUSTAINABLE

Companies are consciously

flexible and sustainable

their business model

identifying blind spots across

their operations to incorporate

initiatives as an integral piece of

E-Commerce will continue to

grow faster in some categories,

such as cosmetics, baby care,

CHARGING TECH: APPLE'S PROPRIETARY CONNECTOR UNDER SPOT

USB-C for all: Why EU wants same port across electronic devices

AVAILABLE CHARGER PORTS



USB-C CABLE Supported devices: Most new Android phones, tablets, portable speakers, some iPads and some MacBooks (Source: Samsung)



LIGHTENING CABLE Supported devices: iPhones, most iPads, most iPods, some wireless headphones (Source: Apple)



MICRO USB CABLE Supported devices: Older Android phones, tablets & power banks, speakers, handheld videogame consoles (Source: Samsung)

POLICY WATCH **GOVT EXPENDITURE**

Cash management: Cause, impact of spending curb removal by FinMin

SUNNY VERMA NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

WITH GOVERNMENT revenues picking up as the economic recovery gains strength, the Finance Ministry on Friday removed expenditure curbs that were imposed on various ministries for the July-September quarter. As a cash management exercise, the Centre 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)". This restriction has been withdrawn.

The change

The government did not impose any spending restrictions on the ministries of health, rural development, railways, agriculture, MSME (micro, small and medium enterprises) – which are in the Category A specified by the Finance Ministry. Expenditure curbs were imposed on demands/appropriations related 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 Centre has now removed the restriction on limiting the expenditure to 20 per cent of Budget Estimates (BE) 2020-21 in July-September quarter. Ministries and departments are now allowed to spend as per their approved monthly and quarterly expenditure plan.

Reason for removing curbs

BOUNCE BACK FROM COVID

'FMCG, retail industry showing resilience to grow and evolve'

FMCG companies should redefine channels to create a digital ecosystem to reach end-consumers and focus more on sustainable initiatives, a Deloitte-FICCI report said



HIGHER VALUE CREATION: The FMCG (fast moving consumer goods) and retail industry is exhibiting "resilience"

create more value in the future for the entire chain and bounced back from the second Covid wave

New models such as 020 to grow and evolve in ways that (online-to-offline), social

commerce, subscription services, EBOs, will have a sizable share of the retail pie

NEW MODELS:

Growth prospects for mom-and-pop stores: Growth in evolved mom-and-pop stores (called evolved GT) will be fuelled by technology adoption, digitisation, and urbanisation Source: Deloitte & FICCI/PTI

authentication

for GST refund

New Delhi: The government

has made Aadhaar authenti-

cation of taxpayers manda-

tory for claiming GST refund.

The CBIC has amended GST

rules bringing in various anti-

evasion measures, including

disbursal of GST refunds only

in the bank account, which is

linked with same PAN on

which GST registration has

containers are re-exported in a

isting policy was creating "a per-

verse incentive among shipping

lines to export empty containers

to evade duty payment on con-

Centre to restrict outward ship-

ment of empty containers from

Indian ports, with empty contain-

ers fetching a premium in the

global market as exporters around

the world deal with the shortage.

Exporters had approached the

tainers which are lying empty."

The release noted that the ex-

been obtained. PTI

laden condition.

To curb shortage, govt eases re-export timeline of containers by 3 mths

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU

IN AN attempt to ease the container shortage being felt by exporters, the government on Saturday announced a three-month extension for re-export of containers without attracting import duty to prevent export of empty containers. Ordinarily, containers kept in the country beyond six months are subject to import duty to promote faster turnaround. However. the rule was seen as an incentive for the export of empty containers to avoid the duty even as Indian exporters deal with high freight rates and delays due to low availability of empty containers.

"As a temporary measure to improve containers available presently for export of containerised cargo and with the aim of promoting export of laden marine containers, the CBIC (Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs) has issued a guidance to field offices to extend this period by 3 months," a government release said. The exemption is available in cases where the expiry of the initial six-month period is on or before March 31, 2022 and the

'safe harbour' rates for transfer pricing Aadhaar

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU

CBDT notifies

THETAX department has notified the 'safe harbour' rates for FY21 for calculation of transfer pricing by foreign companies in India. Generally, safe harbour is defined as circumstances in which the tax authority shall accept the transfer price declared by the taxpayer to be at arm's length. The Central Board of Direct

Taxes, via a notification, has extended the applicability of Safe Harbour Rules (SHR) to 2020-21. As per the notification, the

rates under SHR applicable from 2016-17 to 2018-19, and later extended to 2019-20, will continue to apply for 2020-21 as well.

Transfer pricing implies the prices at which various overseas divisions of a company transact with each other. Following international best practice, India introduced the concept of SHR in Finance Act 2009.

Post that, the first round of SHR provisions were introduced in August 2013 for a period of three years, followed by a revision in 2017 in the SHR which was ap-

WPP settles with US SEC charges

PRANAV MUKUL

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE EUROPEAN Commission has proposed a plan to harmonise charging ports and fast charging technology for electronic devices – something that could force OEMs to adopt a single technology for most of their devices. The executive arm of the European Union (EU) has proposed that USB Type-C will be the common port, and this move is expected to hit iPhone maker Apple the most given that it uses its proprietary Lightening connector for iPhones and most iPads.

What exactly is the proposal?

The European Commission has proposed USB-C to be the common charging port to allow consumers to charge their devices with the same USB-C charger, regardless of the device brand. It is also un-EXPLAINED

bundling the sale of charger from the sale of electronic device to limit the number of "un-wanted chargers" purchased or left unused.

through, original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) will have to provide the common standardised port for devices such as smartphones, tablets. cameras, headphones, portable speakers and handheld videogame consoles.

The proposal, however, only covers wired chargers and excludes wireless charging from its ambit, meaning that only if a device uses a cable to be charged will it need to have a USB-C port. In case the device is only to be charged wirelessly. there is no compulsion to have a USB-C port in the device.

Moreover, the proposal to harmonise fast charging technology could address the concern with USB-C chargers. where a number of users have experienced their devices going kaput because of mismatch in the input power being provided and the output power that the devices can handle.

Why has the EU brought in this proposal?

The European Commission

has said that on average, consumers in the EU own around three mobile phone chargers, of which they use two on a regular basis. Despite this, 38 per cent of consumers have reported having experienced problems at least once that they could not charge their mobile phone because available chargers were incompatible. It added that consumers spend approximately €2.4 billion annually on standalone chargers that do not come with electronic devices.

In addition, disposed of and unused chargers are estimated to pile up to 11,000 tonnes of ewaste every year.

Margrethe Executive Vice-President for a Europe fit for the Digital Age, said: "European consumers were frustrated long enough about incompatible chargers piling up in their drawers. We gave industry plenty of time to come up with their own solu-

tions, now time is ripe for legislative action for a common charger. This is an important win for our consumers and environment, and in line with our green and digital ambitions."

stack up against Apple's Lightening connector?

The Lightening connector was introduced in 2012, two years before the USB-C standards were finalised and at the time, the other primary means of device charging was the microUSB port, which was significantly inferior to the Lightening connector in terms of durability, power and ease of use. Some of these concerns with the microUSB were addressed in the USB-C connectors when they were introduced in 2014.

However, the Lightening connectors continued to have some durability advantages over the USB-C cable. For instance, the connector tabs on the Lightening chargers were placed on the cable itself, instead of being placed on the device. Because of this, in case of any malfunction of the connector tab, the consumer would simply need to replace the cable. In case of the USB-C protocol, the connector tabs are provided in the device ports,

significantly slimmer devices. The USB-C port also carries some advantages to it, one of which is its ability to handle higher power. The Lightening cable is known to have handled up to 18 W of power output, but

meaning any malfunction of

these tabs would require re-

are slimmer than USB-C con-

nectors allowing Apple to build

Also, Lightening connectors

placement of the port.

since there are only a limited number of devices that use the Lightening cable to get charged, the output handling is restricted by what the devices can handle, as opposed to what the cable itself can. USB-C, on the other hand, is designed to handle up to 100 W of power output, making it more ubiquitous for the entire device ecosystem, including heavier products such as laptops.

What could be the impact of the proposal?

The European Commission's proposal will now need to be adopted by the European Parliament and the European Council by ordinary legislative procedure, and a transition period of 24 months from the date of adoption will give the industry time to adapt before the en-

According to Reuters, Apple said in a statement that it disagreed with the proposal. "We remain concerned that strict regulation mandating just one type of connector stifles innovation rather than encouraging it, which in turn will harm consumers in Europe and around the world," an Apple spokesper-

son told the news agency. However, if passed, the new rules could force Apple to introduce USB-C ports on its devices. Given the value that Apple derives from uniformity in its production lines for markets across the globe, this could potentially result in Apple devices being changed for other jurisdictions as well.

It is noteworthy though that over the years Apple itself has been moving away from the Lightening cable. It has already introduced MacBooks and iPads that use USB-C charging ports.

Also, it is rumoured that Apple has been working on a port-less iPhone that would be exclusively charged using a wireless charger.

portation business is one of the

major economic drivers," said Saju

Nair, EVP and head of commercial

After Chennai, the company

vehicle business, Piaggio India.

further looks to expand its EV

presence in various other markets

in Tamil Nadu, Nair added. Piaggio

had recently launched its FX range

Piaggio arm sets up first

EV facility in Chennai

BRIEFLY —

Air India bids

Srinagar: Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said technical bids for privatisation-bound Air India were being analysed before the financial bids are opened.

IndiGo promoters New Delhi: The London

Court of International Arbitration has given the final arbitration award in the matter related to the spat between IndiGo promoters.

HDFCsharesale

New Delhi: HDFC said it has sold a part of the shares, invoked by it of Ansal Housing, to recover its dues. PTI

Forex reserves slip on slump in currency assets, down \$1.4 bn

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE COUNTRY'S foreign exchange reserves declined by \$1.47 billion to \$639.642 billion in the week ended September 17. RBI data showed on Friday. In the week previous ended September 10, the reserves had dipped by \$1.34 billion to

\$641.113 billion. During the reporting week ended September 17, 2021, the drop in the forex kitty was mainly on account of a decline in the foreign currency assets (FCAs), a major component of the overall reserves. FCAs slumped by \$892 million to \$577.986 billion, weekly data by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) showed.

Gold reserves were down by \$567 million to \$37,103 billion in the reporting week, as per the data. The special drawing rights (SDRs) with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) declined by \$4 million to \$19.434 billion.

The country's reserve position with the IMF also decreased by \$8 million to \$5.119 billion in the reporting week, the data showed.

of bribery, other FCPA violations **PRESSTRUST OF INDIA** NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

THE WORLD'S largest advertis-

ing group WPP plc will pay more than \$19 million to the US markets watchdog SEC to settle charges of various violations, including that of bribing of Indian government officials by one of its subsidiaries in return for advertising contracts.

Issuing an order after accepting WPP's offer to settle the matter, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) said the bribery scheme took place at a WPP's majority-owned subsidiary in India, which through intermediaries paid as much as a The US SEC said the bribery scheme took place at a WPP's majority-owned subsidiary in India, which through intermediaries paid as much as a million dollars in bribes to Indian officials to obtain and retain government business

million dollars in bribes to Indian officials to obtain and retain government business

"As a result of the bribery schemes at India subsidiary, WPP was unjustly enriched by \$5,669,596," the watchdog said in an order issued on Friday.

Further, it noted that WPP benefited from other illicit schemes at its subsidiaries in China, Brazil and Peru.

The SEC said that without admitting or denying its findings, WPP agreed to cease and desist from committing violations of the anti-bribery, books and records, and internal accounting controls provisions of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), It will pay \$10.1 million in disgorge-

ment, \$1.1 million in prejudg-

ment interest, and an \$8 million

New Delhi

penalty

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

PIAGGIO GROUP'S Indian subsidiary Piaggio Vehicles Pvt Ltd has set up its first electric vehicle (EV) outlet in Chennai, a first-of-its kind facility in Tamil Nadu, the company said on Saturday.

Inaugurated by Minister for Medical and Family Welfare of Tamil Nadu, M A Subramanium, the experience centre (EV showroom) will allow customers to access Piaggio's entire range of EVs, the Italy-based company said.

"We are happy to open our first EV exclusive showroom in Tamil Nadu at Chennai. Chennai being a big metro and a major business hub, inter-city trans(fixed battery) of EVs in both cargo and passenger segments. These products will be available at the Chennai outlet, the company said. "With the TN government's focus on eco-friendly technolo-

gies, EV vehicles are going to be of extreme importance in the future. Our EV policy is drawn in order to facilitate multi-fold increase in production and infrastructure development of electric vehicles,' said Subramanium at the launch.

15 THE WORLD

of a supportive government in

Kabul after the US drove the

Taliban from power following the

Sept. 11, 2001, attacks as extrem-

ist groups took refuge in eastern

Afghanistan and launched deadly

But the US wants Pakistani co-

operation in counterterrorism ef-

forts and could seek permission

to fly surveillance flights into

Afghanistan or other intelligence

cooperation. And Pakistan wants

US military aid and good relations

with Washington, even as its lead-

ers openly celebrate the Taliban's

"Over the last 20 years, Pakistan has been vital for various

logistics purposes for the US mil-

itary. What's really been troubling

is that, unfortunately, there has-

n't been a lot of trust." said US Rep.

Raia Krishnamoorthi, an Illinois

Democrat who sits on the House

Intelligence Committee. "I think

the question is whether we can

get over that history to arrive at a

rise to power.

attacks throughout Pakistan.



La Palma Island

FLIGHTS CANCELLED DUE TO VOLCANIC ASH

Flights to and from the Spanish island of La Palma were cancelled Saturday because of an ash cloud spewing out of a volcano that has been erupting for a week. La Palma Airport operator Aena said on Twitter that plane traffic was suspended "due to the accumulation of ash" in the air. The company said other airports in the Canary Islands were still operational.



Ocasio-Cortez

AOC apologises for voting 'present' on Iron Dome funding

REPRESENTATIVE ALEXANDRIA Ocasio-Cortez, Democrat of New York and the highest-profile progressive in the House, apologised on Friday to her constituents for an abrupt decision to pull back her vote against providing \$1 billion in new funding for Israel's Iron Dome missile defence system, suggesting she had done so after being subjected to "hateful targeting" for opposing it. Ocasio-Cortez, was one of two members who voted "present" as the measure to help Israel replace missile interceptors passed the House Thursday on a vote of 420 to 9. She was seen weeping on the House floor after she switched her vote from "no" to "present".

RUSSIA

Church of Scientology groups face ban

RUSSIA DECLARED two organisations linked to the Church of Scientology "undesirable" on Friday, paving the way for the group to be formally banned. The Prosecutor General's Office said the World Institute of Scientology Enterprises International and the Church of Spiritual Technology, which are both based in California, were "a threat to the security of the Russian Federation". Russia has banned more than a dozen foreign groups under legislation against undesirable

HONG KONG Group behind

Tiananmen vigil disbands

A HONG Kong group that organises an annual vigil on June 4 to remember protesters killed in China's 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown will disband, it said on Saturday, after facing national security charges. The democracy group is the latest of dozens of civil society bodies to fold over the past year, from a key trade union grouping to the largest teachers' union, after Beijing im-

SWITZERLAND

posed a sweeping na-

tional security law in the

city. A vote on Saturday to

disband was supported

by 41 of its members with

four opposed. REUTERS

Voters to decide on same-sex

marriage

VOTERS IN Switzerland will decide Sunday whether to allow samesex marriages in the Alpine country, one of the few in Western Europe where gay and lesbian couples do not already have the right to wed. Switzerland has authorised same-sex civil partnerships since 2007. The Swiss government, which has endorsed the "Marriage for All" referendum, says passage would put same-sex partners on equal legal footing with heterosexual couples by allowing them to adopt children together and to sponsor a spouse for citi-

zenship.

TOPOFTHE US, Pak face each other on Afghan threats

Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi meets US Secretary of State Antony Blinken on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York on Thursday. AP

NOMAAN MERCHANT

WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 25

THE TALIBAN'S takeover of Kabul has deepened the mutual distrust between the US and Pakistan, two putative allies who have tangled over Afghanistan. But both sides still need each other.

With the Biden administration looking for new ways to stop terrorist threats in Afghanistan, it will likely look again to Pakistan, which remains critical to US intelligence and national security because of its proximity to Afghanistan and connections to the Taliban leaders now in charge.

Over two decades of war, American officials accused Pakistan of playing a double game by promising to fight terrorism and cooperate with Washington while cultivating the Taliban and other extremist groups that attacked US forces in Afghanistan. Islamabad, meanwhile, pointed to what it saw as failed promises

unique history and heritage.

The proclamations came after

Hindu organisations in the US an-

nounced an entire month of festi-

vals in October to be celebrated as

The declarations issued re-

cently from the office of the gover-

men and Senators noted,

'Communities of the faith have

long served as beacons of hope,

sharing their beliefs and bettering

their communities through service; improving and inspiring the

lives of thousands of followers

around the world. Hinduism has contributed greatly to our state

and nation through its unique his-

now campaigning for the decla-

These events will follow Covid

protocol and will be both in-per-

son, as well virtual.

Hindu groups in America are

tory and heritage.'

the Hindu Heritage Month.

Myanmar will not address world leaders at UN, but Afghanistan envoy will

MICHELLE NICHOLS UNITED NATIONS, SEPT 25

NO REPRESENTATIVE from Myanmar is scheduled to address the annual high-level UN General Assembly, a UN spokesman said on Friday, amid rival claims for the country's UN seat in New York after a military coup ousted the

elected government. Competing claims have also been made on Afghanistan's UN seat after the Taliban seized power last month. The ambassador for the ousted government is set to give his speech on Monday.

"At this point, Myanmar is not speaking," UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric said. Myanmar's current UN Ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun - ap-

pointed by Aung San Suu Kyi's elected government - had initially been expected to address the General Assembly on Monday. But diplomats said China. Russia and the United States had reached an understanding, where Moscow and Beijing will not object to Kyaw Moe Tun remaining

during the high-level meeting. "I withdrew from the speaker list, and will not speak at this general debate," Kyaw Moe Tun said.

in Myanmar's UN seat for the mo-

ment as long as he does not speak

TALIBAN HANG BODY IN AFGHAN CITY SOUARE

Kabul: The Taliban hanged a dead body from a crane parked in a city square in Afghanistan on Saturday in a gruesome display that signaled the hard-line group's return to some of its brutal tactics of the past. Taliban officials initially brought four bodies to the central square in the city of Herat, then moved three of them to other parts of the city for public display, said Wazir Ahmad Seddiqi, who runs a pharmacy at the square. Taliban officials said the four were caught taking part in a kidnapping earlier Saturday and were killed by police. AP

Afghanistan representative inscribed on the list for Monday is

Mr Ghulam M. Isaczai." Isaczai is the current UN ambassador, who represents Afghanistan's government ousted by the Taliban. Taliban Foreign Minister Amir

Khan Muttagi on Monday asked to address the gathering of world leaders at the United Nations and nominated the Islamist group's Doha-based spokesman Suhail Shaheen as Afghanistan's UN am-**REUTERS**

China releases Canadians

END TO 3 YRS OF GEOPOLITICAL WRANGLING

as it welcomes Huawei executive's return home

ROB GILLIES

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 25

CHINA, THE US and Canada completed a high-stakes prisoner swap Saturday with joyous homecomings for two Canadians held by China and for an executive of Chinese global communications giant Huawei Technologies charged with fraud, potentially bringing closure to a three-year feud that embroiled the three countries.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau hugged diplomat Michael Kovrig and entrepreneur Michael Spavor on the tarmac after they landed in Calgary, Alberta early Saturday. The men were detained in China in Dec 2018, shortly after Canada arrested Meng Wanzhou, Huawei Technologies' chief financial officer and the daughter of the company's founder, on a US extradition request.

Many countries labelled China's action "hostage politics," while China accused Ottawa of arbitrary detention.

These two men have been through an unbelievably difficult ordeal. For the past 1,000 days, they have shown strength, perseverance and grace and we are all inspired by that," Trudeau said. Meng's return to China later

TV, underscoring the degree to which Beijing has linked her case with Chinese nationalism. Wearing a red dress matching the color of China's flag,

Meng thanked the ruling

Saturday was carried live on state

China of two detained Canadians cannot yet be seen as a thaw in the relations between Washington and Beijing, experts say. Although Biden and Xi talked on the phone about the need to improve ties that are at their worst point in decades, it is felt that disagree-

THE SETTLEMENT of the

US case against the

Huawei CFO, and the

subsequent release by

"I have finally returned to the

Unlikely to be signal of thaw in ties ments over issues such as human rights, Hong Kong and the South China Sea are unlikely to

be resolved without ma-

(*Above*) Meng Wanzhou, CFO

of Huawei, after reaching

Shenzhen city on Saturday.

(Left) Michael Spavor and

Michael Kovrig, who were

detained in China. Reuters

jor policy concessions. The settlement in the Huawei CFO's case has reportedly come amid uncertainty among US officials about whether the extradition case would go in their favour, and may not even be an attempt to mend ties.

Communist Party for supporting her through more than 1,000 days in house arrest in Vancouver, where she owns two multimillion dollar mansions.

Chinese citizen going through this difficult time, I always felt the warmth and concern of the party, the nation and the people." AF China urges cartoon producers

warm embrace of the mother-

land," Meng said. "As an ordinary



Al-Shabab Attack In Somalia Kills 8

A police officer keeps watch as medical workers arrive at the scene of a car bomb explosion checkpoint leading to the entrance of the Presidential Palace in Somalia, killing at least eight people, police said. The al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab extremist group has claimed responsibility. The group often carries out such attacks in the capital. Reuters

to resist 'unhealthy' content in an notice posted late on

REUTERS SHANGHAI, SEPTEMBER 25

CHINA'S BROADCASTING regulator said it will encourage online producers to create 'healtĥy" cartoons and clamp down violent, vulgar or pornographic content, as Beijing thriving entertainment indus-

The National Radio and Television Administration said Friday that children and young people were the main audience for cartoons, and qualified agencies need to broadcast content that "upholds truth, goodness and beauty".

China's ruling Communist Party has stepped up a campaign to clean up its entertainment inaction against "online idols" and promising tougher penalties for celebrities who engage in illegal or unethical behaviour.

The campaigns have been part of a wider effort to intervene in all aspects of the country's culture and economy, with the government also promising to tackle inequality, soaring property prices and profit-seeking education institutions.

The Communist Party celebrated its centenary in July, and occasion by promising to "enhance" the party's powers and strengthen the unity of the Chinese people.

Truck driver shortage: UK set to ease visa rules

MICHAEL HOLDEN LONDON, SEPTEMBER 25

BRITAIN IS expected to announce ration of a "Hindu Heritage Month" by the US government. plans to issue temporary work "Hindu heritage and culture visas to truck drivers to ease an are thousands of years old; it is acute labour shortage that has led to fuel rationing at hundreds our duty to share it with the world and pass it onto our next generaof gas stations and long queues tions for them so that they take to fill up — with pumps running dry in some places.

pride in their roots," said Sanjay Kaul, vice president of the World As retailers warned of significant disruption in the run-up to Hindu Council of America. According to the organisers, Christmas, Prime Minister Boris the celebrations will include cul-Johnson's office said it was looktural programmes, fashion ing at temporary measures to shows, webinars, multi-day conaddress the shortage of heavy ferences, walkathons and more. goods vehicle (HGV) drivers.

> Newspapers reported that the government would allow up to 5,000 foreign drivers into



Lorries parked in Cobham,

Britain on short-term visas, a measure that logistics companies and retailers have demanded for months but which the government had previously ruled out. The UK's Road Haulage

Association (RHA) says Britain needs 100,000 more drivers if it

Shortages of truckers have been caused partly by Brexit and Covid, which put a stop to driver training for about a year.

"We're looking at temporary measures to avoid any immediate problems, but any measures we introduce will be very strictly time limited," a spokeswoman for Johnson's Downing Street office said in a statement.

Downing Street declined to give further details.

Ministers have cautioned against panic buying, and oil companies say there is no shortage of supplies, merely problems delivering the fuel to gas stations.

However, there were long lines of vehicles at filling stations as motorists rushed out to fill up, and some forecourts closed as

their supplies ran out.

The issue came to the fore after BP said it had to close some of its outlets due to the driver shortages, with Shell and ExxonMobil's Esso also reporting problems with supplies.

EG Group, which runs 341 forecourts across Britain, said on Friday it would impose a purchase limit of 30 pounds (\$41) per customer for fuel due to the "unprecedented customer demand".

"I regret what we're seeing at the forecourt," Huw Merriman, chairman of parliament's transport committee, told BBC. "I was out on my bike ... and came past my BP garage and it was chaos. As soon as the message gets out there might be a fuel shortage, people understandably react." **REUTERS**

Neo-Nazis are still on Facebook, and are making money

ERIKA KINETZ BRUSSELS, SEPTEMBER 25

IT'S THE premier martial arts group in Europe for right-wing

extremists. German authorities have twice banned their signature tournament. But Kampf der Nibelungen, or Battle of the Nibelungs, still thrives on Facebook, where organisers maintain multiple pages, as well as on Instagram and YouTube, which they use to spread their ideology, draw in recruits and make money through ticket sales and branded merchandise.

The Battle of the Nibelungs – a reference to a classic heroic epic much loved by the Nazis – is one of dozens of far-right groups that continue to leverage mainstream social media for profit, despite Facebook's and other platforms' repeated pledges to purge themselves of extremism.

All told, there are at least 54 Facebook profiles belonging to 39 entities that the German government and civil society groups have flagged as extremist, according to research shared with The Associated Press by the Counter Extremism Project, a non-profit policy and advocacy group formed to combat extremism. The groups have nearly 268,000 subscribers and friends on Facebook alone.

CEP also found 39 related Instagram profiles, 16 Twitter profiles and 34 YouTube channels, which have gotten over 9.5 million views. Nearly 60% of the profiles were explicitly aimed at mak-



At a far-right protest in Chemnitz, Germany. AP

ing money, displaying prominent links to online shops or photos promoting merchandise. Click on the big blue "view

shop" button on the Erik & Sons Facebook page and you can buy a T-shirt that says, "My favourite colour is white," for 20 euros (\$23). Deutsches Warenhaus offers "Refugees not welcome" stickers for just 2.50 euros (\$3) and Aryan Brotherhood tube scarves with skull faces for 5.88 euros (\$7). The Facebook feed of OPOS Records promotes new music and merchandise, including "True Aggression," "Pride & Dignity," and "One Family" Tshirts. The brand, which stands for "One People One Struggle," also links to its online shop from Twitter and Instagramme.

in CEP's dataset are a who's who of Germany's far-right music and combat sports scenes. "They are the ones who build the infrastructure where people meet, make money, enjoy music and recruit," said Alexander Ritzmann, research leader of CEP. "It's most likely not the guys I've highlighted who will commit violent crimes."

The people and organisations

JAPAN Ex-Emperor's Granddaughter's Wedding Has Been Delayed For Yrs

Princess Mako to give up one-off payment for marriage

REUTERS

TOKYO, SEPTEMBER 25

JAPAN'S PRINCESS Mako is set to forego a one-off million-dollar payment for giving up her royal status to wed a college classmate, media said on Saturday, clearing the way for a marriage delayed for years by controversy over her fiance.

The 29-year-old grand-daughter of then-Emperor Akihito and her former college classmate, Kei Komuro, announced their engagement in 2017.

But the marriage was put off after reports of a financial disbetween Komuro's



Princess Mako

Under Japan's royal succession law, female members of the imperial family lose their status on marrying commoners

The government is set to agree that the princess forego the payment, worth up to 150 million ven (\$1.35 million) for royals giving up their status to marry commoners, amid public criticism over her fiance, public broadcaster NHK and

mother and her former fiance.

others said.

NHK said the wedding date may be announced in October. Officials of the Imperial Household Agency were not immediately available to comment.

A Japanese broadcaster, anticipating an imminent wedding, recently tracked down Komuro in New York. He was shown sporting a ponytail, a detail that has caused an uproar among some Japanese users of

Media have said the couple plan to live in the United States. Under Japan's males-only royal succession law, female members of the imperial family lose their status on marrying commoners.



The COVID-19 pandemic has induced a shift in the idea of urban living, prompting many to leave cities and find peace in smaller places or to return to the security and skirmishes of their family homes

A sense of

community and a

creative eco-system

seem to be a magnet

for many who are

choosing Goa as a

pit stop... But, on the

flip side, realty prices

have soared

Shiny Varghese

AMA, chhi, chhi," squealed two-year-old Rudra. He was in a park with his mother Neha Dara, when he walked into a puddle on a rainy day. Dara, a travel writer who has spent most of her working life trekking in the Himalayas and exploring local markets in small towns, was horrified. Not because of the slush on his ter way he could connect to the natural world.

"We initially moved from Delhi to Chandigarh in 2017. But with the pandemic, even in the parks and forests of the city, we felt ill at ease if people were not maintaining distance or wearing a mask. That's when we decided to move to the hills. We rented a cottage outside Raigarh town in Himachal Pradesh's Sirmaur district, last October," says Dara, business head at RoundGlass Sustain, a website on wildlife conservation and biodiversity.

Moving cities is not new to a pandemic. Mobility was an answer to the plague even in the early 16th century. Young Tudor king Henry VIII would often leave the neighbour-

hood, travelling a few miles away, "essentially trying to outrun the spread of infection", says Euan Roger, principal medieval records specialist at The National Archives, the UK, in an online lecture. "It was very much for the wealthy. You had to have a second home or a place to stay in the countryside,"

says Roger. In early 2020, the pandemic came with its scythe to mow down health, jobs, lives and livelihoods. In January this year, the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy reported that in the services sector,

employment fell to 128 million in the quarter I knew there was nothing to hold me back. I of June 2020. Many chose to move to smaller towns, away from high rents and hamster cages of metro living, and the sight of migrant workers walking home will forever be representative of the pandemic's hard economic lessons. For many among the privileged, though, it opened up doors to greener pastures and was a sign to embrace more thoughtful living. Bloomberg News (in a report on April) called this global phenomenon an "urban shuffle". It was not really an urban exodus. Most of these shifts have been within the 300 km radius of a larger city.

For Rudra, this has meant finding mountain trails, gaining confidence in climbing slopes and being all right with mud on his sandals. "He's learning that there are others in the world around him and that it's important to accommodate their needs as well. For instance, in the winters, he knows we have to return home by 5 pm because after that the leopards come out. He turns three in a few months, and if we were in the city, he'd be in playschool learning his ABCs. But here, he's

learning so much more, and that, for us, is invaluable," says Dara, 38.

While such a shift may seem to be an act of privilege, relocation can also mean relearning how to negotiate space even within family structures. Last year, after four years in the Capital, comedian-anchor-writer Kabir Singh Bhandari packed his bags for Kolkata, his hometown. "I wasn't in a full-time job anymore and couldn't afford rent for my 1BHK in Lajpat Nagar. Moving in with my parents seemed like the best option. The house had a balcony, the air-conditioning worked, my mother would enquire daily about what i wanted for lunch and dinner. Then, slowly the frictions began. First, it was a light I hadn't switched off or a fan that was running if I was in the next room. It came to a point that I sat down and told them that I love them too much to be fighting over such issues. It wasn't such a big deal, like I had let loose a serial killer in the house," says the 34-year-old. He is aware that the arguments are a small price to pay for the advantage of coming home to parents who have no objection to supporting him. "Of course, unlike in Delhi and Mumbai, where I could bring my girlfriend home, here I can't, but then I remind myself I've already broken up, and it seems like everyone, including my

exes, are already married. On the bright side, Kolkata still has the best kathi rolls in the country. But, end of the day, I get to spend time with my parents and it's made me realise that there are a lot of things in their lives I was oblivious to," says Bhandari.

For music composer Azaan Khan, grandson of legendary sitar player Ustad Vilayat Khan, moving to Goa late last year came with its uncertainties. "When projects at OddBird Theatre & Foundation (a collaborative centre for the arts) were put on hold in Delhi,

am quite a recluse and the city never held any charm. But, I had to look for work to pay my bills. Thankfully, I found a few online teaching assignments. I've realised conversations here are different as well. In the cities, people can't stop talking about the money they make or the cars they drive. The fear of the pandemic is inherent. In Goa, people move on with their lives and COVID-19 or vaccines never come up in discussions. I'm told my latest album, too, has more organic, tribal sounds. I take more time to write my songs, as well," he says. He even convinced his father, sitar player

Ustad Shujaat Khan, and his mother Parveen to move out of Delhi a few months ago. "For my parents, it's meant long walks in the forests, attending neighbourhood ceremonies and filling their lungs with fresh air," says

A sense of community and a creative ecosystem seem to be a magnet for many who are choosing Goa as a pit stop. For Delhi-based architect Verendra Wakhloo, 64, it was about doing away with excesses. With the lockdown

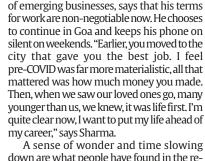






in March 2020, design projects were fewer and the need to connect with the outdoors

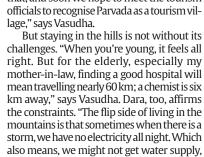
grew. "While it's too early to write an obituary to the city, there is the need to find smaller communities where people can anchor meaningfully. I carry a certain naivety about life, and in Goa, my need to feel wondrous finds a response in the bounty of nature. In Benaulim, south Goa, where I've taken a house, people are doing amazing things,



Sharma, who works for a start-up as head

down are what people have found in the relocation. Just as Dara cherishes reading stories to Rudra at bedtime, as the sun sets through the pine trees, for Khan, it is about swimming in the ocean and eating off the earth. "Goa's masterplan has so far maintained a balanced arrangement of settlement, orchard and agriculture. So, there is a river of landscape that meanders between houses. In a city, our sights are often stymied by the boxes that surround us. In the countryside. what you experience is the vastness and beiore mai green expanse, y your mortality," says Wakhloo.

For Vasudha Sondhi, 56, and Sanjay Sondhi, 58, the pandemic offered a fresh start. The couple had finished building a place in Uttarakhand in 2018 and had imagined it as a home. But work in Delhi kept them busy. Their core business is to manage outsourced sales and marketing for national tourism boards and international hotels and destinations. However, with the rise in COVID-19 cases last year, international business was in the deep freeze. They chose to move to their place in Parvada, a village barely 10 km away from Mukteshwar. Sanjay, who always wanted to farm, took over the plantation across their three-acre estate, filling it with apple, apricot, plum, peach, Rhododendron and pear trees. Meanwhile, Vasudha put her energies into training the local staff and furnishing the homestay which they call Parvada Bungalows@VS Fruitree Estate. "The homestay has given us the opportunity to know the village and its people better. There are boys from the village who work with us now and some want to set up rooms in their own homes for tourists. We've helped them do that, and soon we hope to meet the tourism



and the tank runs dry — not the easiest time with a sick child." What is it about the city then that makes people restive? Architect-academic Durganand Balsavar, dean, Saveetha College of Architecture, Chennai, 55, says it has to do with the inaccessibility of public spaces and public institutions. "With the lockdown last year, there were no urban open spaces, park, beach or university to go to. Our cities were long overdue for change, even before the pandemic. There is little agency to appropriate and inhabit an urban space. We need to keep our conversations open, and each city and neighbourhood needs to take the initiative to know how they want to inhabit urban space. A phase is emerging, where civic society with all its diversity, is rethinking the nature of change. This needs to be complemented by urban planning authorities, with more vigorous institutional explorations in universities," says Balsavar.







TIME OUT

(Clockwise from left) Rudra in his hill home in Himachal Pradesh; Vasudha and Sanjay Sondhi at their estate; Parvada Bungalows in Uttarakhand; Abhimanyu Sharma at home in Goa; Azaan Khan

growing their own food, making things with

their hands, there seems to be a possibility of

holistic living, where you feel you don't need

the city," says Wakhloo. On the other hand, with many people opting for Goa, its realty prices have soared. Abhimanyu Sharma became aware of this when he moved last year from Ahmedabad to Siolim, north Goa, with his wife, Shreva.

"Property prices have skyrocketed and rents are steep. Currently, in Siolim, for a 1,200-1,400 sq. ft two bedroom, you would pay nearly Rs 40,000, but if you go deeper into Moira, you could get it for Rs 25,000-30,000. When I lived in Gurgaon, I was paying the same rent for a bigger house. So, you can compare and then you can't. Here in Goa, I don't mind driving a smaller car or having a cheaper phone, but it pays off when I can sleep well at night, watch the bamboo trees outside my window, or walk

down the beach," says the 34-year-old.

DOWN IN JUNGLELAND



Ranjit Lal

Ranjit Lal is an author, environmentalist and

Aces of the Air

How the dragonfly and damselfly outgun avian to terrestrial hunters

ECENTLY, I waxed eloquent on the astonishing prowess of birds that hunted flying and mov-ing prey — from glamorous peregrines and super-fast swifts to acrobatic flycatchers. Alas, they all have been completely outgunned — as have other terrestrial hunters (African wild dogs, lions and tigers) – by, worse, a creature that evolution designed perfectly 320 million years ago. They were much larger then — the dragonflies (and their slender cousins, the damselflies) — and we ought to be thankful for that!

Peregrines have a 23.1 per cent successful kill rate, hawks 22.5 per cent, owls 25 per cent, lions less than 30 per cent and wild dogs 67 per cent. Topping them all are (the ICSE topper-equivalent) dragonflies who score 95 per cent! Evolution got the design and engineering so perfect that no changes (except in size) were necessary.

Flight in most insects is powered by indirect flight muscles which are attached to the thorax, which are attached to the wings, making them vibrate and flutter. Dragonflies have very powerful direct flight muscles attached to the base of each wing that operate each wing. The muscle contraction causes each wing to flap — completely independent of one another if necessary – as the flight situation demands. This enables the dragonfly to fly forward and backward (by "standing up" perpendicular in mid-air and reversing thrust), upwards and downwards, hover and dart sideways and accelerate at

"Counter-stroking" occurs when the forewings and hind wings beat 180 degrees out of phase with each other; which gives them one hell of a lift and enables them to hover and fly slowly. More thrust but less lift is generated by "phased stroking" when the hind wings beat 90 degrees ahead of the forewings - and is useful for high speed. With "synchronous stroking" the hind and forewings beat in rhythm enabling lightning acceleration and deft direction changes. Dragonflies clock 50 kmph, one report even claimed 90 kmph. Their body acts as shock absorbers. They may choose not to flap their wings at all and simply glide on air currents like many birds of prey.

The wings, made of flexible transparent chitin, often beautifully stained, are not flat, but lined with ridges veins — adding to structural integrity and functional ef-



POWER RANGERS Counter-stroking gives dragonflies one helluva lift

ficiency, and prevent the wing from warping and deforming. But the masterstroke is the little colour strip on the leading edge of the forewing of every dragonfly. Called the pterostigma, it is heavier than the rest of the wing and acts like a counterbalance preventing the leading edge from fluttering, going berserk and causing the insect to stall.

The "wrap-around" bulbous eyes of the dragonfly (giving it a field of vision of almost 360 degrees) comprise over 30,000 individual facets, each a miniature telescope that can see colour from orange to UV and are particularly sensitive to movement. The eye's top section is especially sensitive to the blue range of the spectrum and the mid and lower parts to a wider spectrum. Patrolling low over the water, dragonflies are quick to spot an insect flying above, contrasted against the piercing blue of the sky.

Two hunting strategies are used: Tracking and interception. For the former, the insect keeps its target in its field of vision and spirals towards it, its advantage in speed eventually enabling it to nab it. In the latter, it must predict the spot where the victim would be and fly towards that spot – requiring more brainpower, but less energy and is the one the insects prefer. The target is kept in the eye's sharpest-focusing section and the whole head can move around to enable this. We have to learn how to intercept a target — in dragonflies the ability is hardwired into their nervous system.

From a wingspan of 70 cm, dragonflies over the millennia have shrunk to a wingspan of just 16 cm. One theory suggests that this was because the oxygen in the air reduced from 35 per cent, 320 million years ago, to 20 per cent today, causing the insects to reduce in size. Another suggests that 150 million years ago birds and other flying reptiles evolved and out-competed large dragonflies in hunting larger prey, and so, only the dragonflies that hunted smaller prey survived. Whatever be it, we ought to be grateful, or else we would be ducking

Needless to add, biomimicry projects are desperately trying to emulate dragon flight. Many prototype "dragons" have been flown, but the real thing still blithely patrols the skies and waterbodies, grabbing insects in the barbed-wire basket that comprises its legs, chomping them up mid-air with their formidable mandibles. Then, it will land on a stalk, its head and great jewel eyes will moving around as it looks for its next kill.

THE SCENT OF A ROYAL

A new virtual exhibition takes audiences through the fragrant worlds of Indian miniatures, one note at a time

Benita Fernando

NA miniature painting from 18th century Rajasthan, now in the Smithsonian in Washington DC, a dressed-up Radha, seated on a bed of flowers in a clearing framed by a thick forest, waits for her lover Krishna. It's twilight. Will Krishna turn

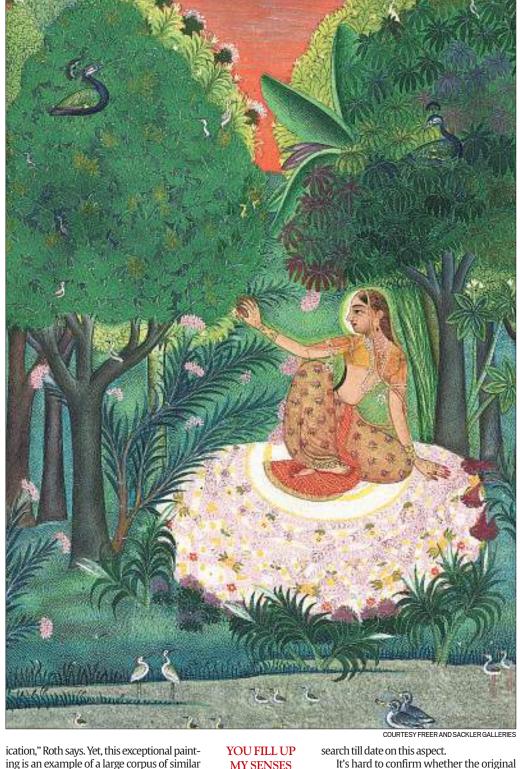
up for this tryst? Or is he going to stand her up? The painting is part of a ragamala (a set that illustrates Indian classical-music ragas) and conveys the pain of longing. Radha's desire seems to be projected on the forest, set with blooming shrubs and birds in boughs. Instead of vague floral decorations, the artists of Kota went for detail and specificity — creamy frangipani and champaka, pink oleander, thick sheaths of a plantain, velvety celosia, and spiky flowers of the pandanus, called kewra in parts of India. We can see the fragrant forest, but what if we could smell it, too?

Pune-based independent perfumer Bharti Lalwani, 40, and, scholar in South Asian Studies, Nicolas Roth, 32, launched a virtual exhibition, "Bagh-e-Hind" (Baghehind.com), on September 10, letting viewers explore the lush worlds of Mughal and Rajput miniatures through scents and smells.

The idea was sparked off some years ago after Lalwani saw a 17th century painting of emperor Shah Jahan admiring jewels and ornaments with his son Dara Shikoh. The ornate frame around the scene was an explosion of flora and fauna, as elegant as the subjects of the painting, yet wild and uncontrollable. The King of the World could have his jewels but the natural world was beyond his purview, it seemed to Lalwani, who says, "These paintings communicate a lot of smell. Contemporaneous audiences would have known them — this idea of a summer garden, pleasure garden, abundance in nature - parrots digging into mangoes or bees drunk with honey."

 $The \, curators \, categorise \, the \, exhibition \, into \,$ five sections, not all of them are flower-based. Rose (led by a gulab bari garden), iris, narcissus and kewra are themes here, but so is smoke (a fireworks display). It's a layered idea of what the olfactory could mean in Indian paintings.

Roth, based out of Cambridge, the US, has a $PhD\, from\, Harvard\, University\, on\, garden\, culture$ and horticultural writings of 16th-18th century Mughal India. He chose paintings with prominent olfactory elements as well as those representative of a particular genre convention. In the Narcissus section, for instance, the lead has two aristocratic young men sitting across each other on a garden terrace, sniffing sprigs of narcissus, with a bowl of, perhaps, jasmines between them. "The allusion to fragrance is clearly a pivotal aspect of the image, with the narcissi beautifully and naturalistically rendered. Narcissi are frequently referenced in Persian and Urdu poetry, where they commonly represent beautiful eyes and thus allude to vision and insight, but also to flirtatious glances and intox-



MY SENSES (Clockwise from above) Kamod Ragini from Kota, Rajasthan, 1770-1775; A Prince Having an Audience, Mughal painting from the school of Jahangir, 17th

century; curators

Nicolas Roth and

Bharti Lalwani

It's hard to confirm whether the original audiences of these paintings approached the works in the manner in which the exhibition encourages us to. Roth says he's yet to find evidence of painters specifically trying to evoke olfactory experiences. But the wealth of detailed depictions of fragrant flowers, perfume bottles, incense burners and similar objects, and frequent and extensive references to scents and perfumery in contemporary literary texts strongly suggest this was something very intentional on the painters' part, he adds.

It's ironic that the exhibition has opened virtually during a pandemic, one in which we are desperately trying to protect our noses and mouths. In an attempt to overcome the current fate of humanity, the curators aim to tease our noses and taste buds by using language loaded with olfactory references, snatches of







their conversations, poetry, historical objects associated with the paintings, and flowers from Roth's personal garden. Also, sound design created by Berkeley-based landscape architect Uzair Siddiqui.
The highlight — at Rs 27,000 each — is

Lalwani's "synaesthesia box", custom-made for each section. Lalwani, who's been creating perfumes since 2018 under the label Litrahb Perfumery, put together attars and trademarked "edible perfumes" section-wise. These respond to the cues in the paintings, mixing and matching them with other notes. The Rose section's edible perfume, for instance, translates a hot and sweaty summer in India using a dark chocolate spread created with vetiver, groundnuts and jaggery.

Much like South Asian art history, where some of the finest works were smuggled or looted out of their lands of origin, perfumery has a problematic history too. Lalwani explains how the raw materials used in perfumery are often exploitative in nature, such as natural civet musk, which is extracted after great pain to the animal. Furthermore, perfumers have often cast an Orientalist eye towards South Asia and Mughal gardens to seek inspiration for their products. Take Guerlain's Shalimar, created in 1925, inspired by Shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal's love story. Their advertisement from a few years ago features a Russian model awaiting her lover, and the Taj Mahal sprouting out of a lake in Rajasthan. If the commerce of perfume and paintings is troublesome, Lalwani hopes "Bagh-e-Hind', in contrast, offers a lot of beauty and a lot of stillness".

The exhibition presupposes audiences' familiarity with scents. So, if we've never seen or inhaled a narcissus, much is left to the imagination. And, it's equally possible that our familiarity with some scents means the paintings evoke associations that are far removed from their original intent. Kewra, for instance, is used as cheap biryani flavouring today, unlike its historic use, as Roth discovered, when it was a coveted perfume ingredient. So, while the kewra intoxicates a Radha with longing for her missing date, it's perfectly acceptable if audiences are reminded of the best, or worst, biryani or korma they ever had.

No Child Left Invisible

Pandemic memories will shape our children's storylines; what role do we play in this history in action?



BY SHELJA SEN

AS SCHOOLS gradually open and welcome children back, there's a sense of trepidation among adults — "They have lost the skill of socialising", "they have become addicted to screens", "there is no routine". The children have another perspective on it, "I've put on so much weight, will I be body-shamed?", "Will everybody act like everything is back to normal and how much will we have to catch up on our studies?

Meet them where they are, not where you want them to be

Society wants all children to fit into and conform to its iron-cast expectations. Pandemic or no pandemic, we want children to slip into these moulds and fast! Too bad that the last one-and-half years were extremely hard on them — the fears, losses and uncertainty. It's time to "pull up the socks" and get on the assembly line of performance.

Postmodernist Michel Foucault, a French historian who studied schools and prison systems (that says a lot!), called the effect of this automatic indoctrination as the "gaze".

Schools are fertile ground for this scrutinous gaze as children are weighed and evaluated against each other. No surprise that most children preferred to keep their cameras off during online classes.

compositions – pairs of men or individuals, on

garden terraces, surrounded by various accou-

trements of the good life, as imagined by early

known to be instant and instinctive. It's the

whiff of cake baking at our neighbour's that re-

minds us of a grandmother who's passed

away; or the hint of cologne that reminds us

of a former lover. They spark off emotions and

nostalgia, like (novelist Marcel) Proust's

madeleine moments, and at the very least,

there's something primal and pheromonal

about them. Given the vivid detailing in Indian

miniature paintings, one may think that the

olfactory aspect is therefore an obvious one.

Yet, among the small number of scholars who

study Indian miniatures, there's hardly any re-

Smell associations, more than sight, are

modern South Asian elites, Roth adds.

When children return to physical classes, let's reflect on — what effect will this expectation for them to "get back on track and do it fast" have on their mental health? In our hurry to "return to normality", will we push our children into internalising their struggles as something "wrong with them" and not being "worthy"? Is it fair on our children who have already been through so much?

Each child is wired and

inspired differently One size does not fit all. That's not a limitation, that's what makes our homes, classrooms, schools and this world neurodiverse. Children responded to the pandemic in myriad ways, too. Maya was described as "distracted" as she, like many others, could not engage with online learning. Rhea, who was considered "introverted", "shy", really thrived during the lockdown as no social demands were placed on her. Varun, energised by social interactions, had significant run-ins with frustration as he could not meet his friends.

Will we learn to respect children's diversity of wiring and experiences, or would the coming months become about a constant battle of comparison, criticism, blaming and shaming?

Ask what they learnt, not what they don't know

Children are not passive recipients of hard-



OF NOD what they can to survive and sustain themselves through the most challenging times. We make stories and Some questions that children have asked me stories make us. should we act as if everything is normal, start What stories of the from where we left off? Will no one discuss pandemic will they what we've learnt about life, relationships and grow up with? what really matters? I'd want my teachers to know how I took care of myself when both my

> wants me to forget about it and "move on"? More and more classrooms need to build emotionally safe spaces where teachers, children and parents could discuss

parents were down with COVID-19. I lost my

grandfather to COVID, but it seems everybody

- What steps did they take that helped them?
- What did they realise that they
- really valued? ■ Which are the communities that
- supported them? ■ How can they build this community
- in school? ■ What sustained them through the
- toughest times?

Only when we invite agency from our children can real learning happen.

The way we talk about our children becomes their life stories

Stories don't just describe our world but shape it. We make stories and stories make us. It might become very convenient to pigeonhole children into single stories - "he's become addicted to the screen", "pandemic has made her so lazy", "he's really fallen behind". These are the words that will become woven into the single stories of their life.

Single stories can make children invisible (see author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's 2009 TED talk The Danger of a Single Story on Ted.com)

Over the years, they start internalising the single-story and believe there's something intrinsically wrong with them, that they don't belong, that they are unworthy. "There's something wrong with me", "I don't deserve love", "I feel invisible in my classroom, as if I don't exist", "I feel like a ghost".

Memories shape our storyline and our storyline shapes memories. What stories of the pandemic will they grow up with?

After anonymity of the online classes, it could be a daunting task to return to school after one-and-a-half years with the fear of scrutiny, ridicule and rejection. How could we welcome them back with an "I see you" which is respectful, inclusive and inclusive of all diversity. If you've been lucky to have a teacher who practised "I see you" when they met you, you know what I mean. If you're one such teacher, your students will tell this story one day.

Imagine! As schools reopen, children walk into the class and teachers do an "I see you" with their whole being — touch, eyes, smile and heart. And imagine each child walking through the corridors of life, classrooms of learning, sports fields of exploration, assemblies of appreciation, with an "I see you" at every step. "I accept and love you as you are. You are unique, you are you. I'll neither compare nor demand what might be difficult for you".

To be included, acknowledged, welcomed! As we make our way out of this pandemic fog, let's commit to a better world where no child is left invisible.

Shelja Sen is a narrative therapist, writer, cofounder. Children First. In this column, she curates the know-how of the children and the youth she works with. She can be reached at shelja.sen@childrenfirstindia.com



Set in Bundelkhand (left), Chaturvedi's (inset) novel Baramasi sparkles with a wit intrinsic to the language and

culture it is located in

TURNING

BACK TIME

The Lost World

An English translation of a contemporary Hindi classic allows a glimpse into a vanished way of life but its emotional resonance feels a little more laboured

Pratap Bhanu Mehta

YAN CHATURVEDI is a Hindi writer of dazzling brilliance. His novels are often riotously funny. But they also open up windows to underlying existential tragedies. His first novel, Narak Yatra, was set in the corrupt world of Indian medical colleges, where the exercise of petty power is the raison d'etre of education, more than the healing of the body or enriching of the mind. The novel is like a dark Raag Darbari (Shrilal Shukla's 1968 novel) of Indian education. There is a particular genre of Hindi literature that is hard to describe It is not quite satire because it does not mean to mock. But it is not quite idle humour either. It is SUVAJIT DE a form that is acutely realist in its descriptions.

But it is laced with comic effect, not because it is making fun of reality, or because it makes light of human suffering. It is comic because characters use language that embraces a kind of absurdity. This is their way of holding onto meaning in a world that otherwise does

Alipura, a translation of Chaturvedi's clas-

BY MAMTA NAINY & SANKET PETHKAR

Pickle Yolk Books

Appropriate for: 5+ years

32 pages; ₹350

sic Baramasi (1999), is the story of an impoverished family in Bundelkhand. It begins with the daughter of the family Binno waiting for an appropriate groom to accept her. But the canvas then shifts also to the lives of her four brothers: an older brother who cannot seem to bear the world, another who is waiting to

> a third one, who seems to be both too clever by half and heading nowhere and a younger one whose studiousness might just allow him to escape into the middle class. But this is also the world of the sacrificing mother, some colourful relatives, and the town of Alipura as a whole.

pass an exam that forever eludes him;

In all his novels, Chaturvedi is a master of deft characterisation. But he also opens up a window to a whole social milieu. In this case, it is the town of Alipura, at the margins of history, where the passage of time is vicariously marked

by Dilip Kumar being replaced by Dharmendra and then Dharmendra being replaced by Amitabh Bachchan on calendars.

In the translation, the title has been changed to Alipura, suggesting the novel is about a place, with all its texture and thicket of social relationships. This is a place where the ability to wield a lathi is a badge of honour and



BY GYAN CHATURVEDI; TRANSLATED BY SALIM YUSUFJI Juggernaut Books 344 pages



being a dacoit is an open social role, not a crime. Alipura is precise and evocative in its physical descriptions. It conjures up a whole world by placing telling details in all the right places. It is worth reading just for its recreation of a vanished world. But it is also deft in its portrayal of characters. For all their volubility, each of the siblings has a strange inwardness. Like the town as a whole, they are stuck in the gap between dreams and reality. In some ways, the novel is far more than just about a place. It is more about a condition than a location. This is, perhaps, something that changing the title of the book to Alipura might not quite capture. It is about the passage of time, where time changes, but little else does other than the slipping away of dreams. It is, above all, about lives that are marked by disappointment; the sense of not being able to measure up to the norms of success or feeling wanted.

Alipura pulls off the interesting feat of suspending the reader between two contradictory dispositions. On the one hand, the social world the characters inhabit appear utterly meaningful to them; yet, there is a tragic absurdity to their situation that does not make sense. This split in the self is captured and managed through the medium of language. It is through language that drips with contemptuous wit that they can achieve a measure of freedom. Just the freedom to say as a character says at one point, "Chhodo raja, kaun saala harami nahin hain", is an act of clarity that compensates for the

sense of helplessness.

But this poses a problem for translators. So much of the force of Chaturvedi's novels depends upon the cadence of the language, reading them aloud in Hindi produces an effect that is almost impossible to reproduce in English. Salim Yusufji has done a commendable job. But I must confess that Alipura is the kind of novel that runs up against the limits of translation very quickly. Take a small example. In the book, there is a hilarious moment. Chhuttan and Bibbo are two characters. The Hindi sentence goes, "Chhuttan tatha Bibbo ke beech gobar aa gaya aur sab gudgobar ho gaya." Part of the effect comes from the play on "gobar" and "gudgobar". But how do you translate this? Yusufji translates it as "the two piles of excreta should have intervened so forcefully and turned Chhuttan's chances to shit." It's not exactly wrong, but it cannot capture the delicacy, alliterative power or existential irony of the Hindi novel. It is a cliché that all translations are incomplete or imperfect. But it is, perhaps, even truer of novels where the central character is language itself in all its rambunctious glory. Alipura is worth reading in English for the access it gives to a vanished world and the lives of its characters. But, somehow, the emotional resonance of this sad and comic world feels a little more laboured in Englishthan in Hindi.

> Pratap Bhanu Mehta is contributing editor, The Indian Express

The Utopian Dream

History, memoir and biography come together in this fascinating retracing of the birth of Auroville

Aditi Sriram

KASH KAPUR'S Better to Have Gone: Love, Death, and the Quest for Utopia in Auroville is an ode to two loves: his wife and his hometown. It is also a celebration of other loves: filial, devotional, communal and botanical. Kapur presents all of these through the haunting story of his childhood home, an "intentional community" in south India called Auroville.

This is not Kapur's first time writing about utopia – which Auroville is sometimes described as — and he is honest about its slippery texture. "There is always the danger that context will drown out story, that the need for elucidation will overwhelm narrative," he explains in a 2018 anthology about Auroville. But Kapur is able to navigate Auroville's elusiveness by approaching his subjects with patience and, that word again, love. The result is his most original work yet.

A book about Auroville requires a brief history lesson. Early on, Better to Have Gone introduces Aurobindo Ackroyd Ghose, a Bengali freedom fighter wanted by the British, who flees in 1910 to Pondicherry, which is under French jurisdiction. His movements restricted, Ghose finds himself withdrawing deeper into his thoughts; Known by the 1920s as Sri Aurobindo, he proceeds to spend the rest of his life in Pondicherry where he creates an ashram that attracts disciples from all over the world. His foremost disciple is a French woman named Mirra Alfassa. A profound spiritual partnership develops between them, and in 1926. Sri Aurobindo appoints her as "the Mother" to the Ashram. Indeed, his devotees take to her as children to a mother. She successfully runs the Ashram and until her own death in 1973.

Around the mid-1960s, the Mother shares her vision of "a place of peace", that will be "a living embodiment of



BETTER TO HAVE GONE: LOVE DEATH, AND THE **QUEST FOR** UTOPIA IN **AUROVILLE** BY AKASH KAPUR 368 pages ₹699

it Auroville: it means "city of dawn" and is an homage to her guru. Her followers clamour to build it with her, and for her, on a deserted plateau about five miles north of Pondicherry. Among them are John Walker and Diane Maes. The Maes are early arrivals to Auroville, in the 1970s. The book also follows a third Aurovilian, Satprem-née-Bernard, who survives Ĝestapo and Nazi torture before finding peace in India. Like dozens of others drawn to this corner of the world, John, Diane and Satprem are inherently conflicted individuals, trying to make sense of their lives

an actual human unity." She calls

The initial years are gruelling, for Auroville and Aurovilians both. Progress on the barren, scorched earth is jagged and jarring. They must, alongside, learn how to ex-

press themselves, what to believe in, and ultimately, how to survive. John and Diane do their best to raise their daughter Auralice — whom Kapur goes on to marry — in this strange, sacred wilderness. But when she is just 14, they both die, one day apart. Their deaths don't appear accidental, How does Auroville continue in spite of such trauma, Kapur asks, and answers, defending his characters' choices. "I've spent almost 10 years chasing this story, and I know that there were many versions of reality, many versions of the truth, that played out in my hometown. I'm not prepared to say which one was right," he writes.

Rather, Kapur is tender, respectful. The book's structure parallels Auroville's origin story: discrete parts that merge into a whole. Part I is parcelled as several sections, each led by a different protagonist. By Part II, the chapters unfold as a chorus. Kapur keeps his sentences and paragraphs short, making it easier to absorb his amazing range of sources: facts, dates, letters, archival material and "hundreds of interviews." Most of the book is in present tense, which amplifies Auroville's alive-ness. The final chapters bring out individual voices once again, a harbinger of these characters' separation from other Aurovilians: When they began, John, Diane and Satprem wanted to

live for Auroville; now, all three want to die for it. Kapur is in awe of John and Diane's journeys, though Auralice is sceptical throughout. Still, she has moved back to Auroville with her husband and sons, and reclaimed it as home. Auro, Aura, and Akash — the dawn, the atmosphere, and the sky – seem to be forever intertwined. Perhaps, that unity is what the quest for utopia is about.

Sriram is assistant professor of academic writing, Ashoka University

By the Book

A CURATED RECOMMENDATION LIST FOR THE YOUNG 'UNS

Hope and a Little Sugar

IN A Facebook post addressed to Indian parents seeking reading recommendations for their children, author Venita Coelho spoke eloquently of creating "a landscape of belonging" by giving children stories set in a familiar milieu, to allow them the opportunity "to learn that heroes and heroines come in many more shades than white" and to discover writers who "reflect their reality back to them". Mamta Nainy and Sanket Pethkar's book serves as a perfect example of all that Coelho promises from contemporary Indian writers of children's books.

Aai and I is the story of a little Maharashtrian girl, Aadya, who awaits her mother's return from the hospital where she's gone for an urgent surgery. It's the day of her return and the little girl can't wait, her anticipation spreading like a warm glow to everyone

around her – from the family pet Nimki to her Ajji, busy preparing kande pohe just the way her mother loves it. It's Ajji who always tells Aadya how closely she resembles her mother, a fact that she takes great pride in. But now, when her mother returns after surgery, there's something that's not quite the same about her any longer. Can Aadya figure out a way to make things go back to before?

From its use of names of endearment to food to the way the English language gets moulded on Indian tongues, Nainy's story is alive to the nuances of the local and the regional. Aadya's search for her identity, though, is a universal story. Nainy brings in a tenderness to Aadya's engagement with what makes her who she is - a repository of larger legacies of family and community but also her



own unique empathy and innocence that lends her a personality that is entirely her own. Pethkar's illustrations, in a palette domi-

nated by earthy mustards, yellows, greens and blues, sparkle with references that can only be found in South Asian homes - jhoolas and pressure cookers; kolams and nauvari-sari drapes and unruly tresses with the most gorgeous curls.



BY TOMOS ROBERTS & NOMOCO HarperCollins; 32 pages; ₹499 **Appropriate for:** 5+ years

IN APRIL last year, a video by London-based Welsh spoken-word poet Tomos Roberts had gone viral with over 60 million hits. Titled The before the pandemic and how it could be transformed for the better afterwards. The unprecedented success of Roberts' post-pandemic bedtime fable, that he'd created for his younger siblings, led to the video being turned into a picture book. Now, Roberts, or Tomfoolery as he is known as in the online universe, is back with another picture book in verse. The World Awaits picks up on the themes of kindness and thoughtful action that had made Roberts' previous book so uplifting and speaks of how every act of consideration, however tiny or insignificant, makes a difference. "In our core is a plus and minus,/ and they're eternally at play./They give us the power/ to add goodness to the world,/ or to take some good away," he writes.

Great Realisation, it spoke of what life had been

Tokyo-based Nomoco is known for her illustrations in a range of media, including silk screen, inks and lithography, and much of the book's charm derives from the pop of bright colours that light up Roberts' cheerful words.

PAROMITA CHAKRABARTI

The Swish of the Curtains

A walk through the history of modern Indian theatre with its foremost practitioners

Surendranath S

HISTORIAN AND theatre critic Penelope J Corfield writes in her article, 'Why History Matters': "All people and peoples are living histories. To take a few obvious examples: communities speak languages that are inherited from the past. They live in societies with complex cultures, traditions and religions that have not been created on the spur of the moment... So understanding the linkages between past and present is absolutely basic for a good understanding of the condition of being human...That, in a nutshell, is why History matters. It is not just 'useful', it is essential." Theatre, too, needs to be connected with the past if it wants to break away into new norms. This is why Shakespeare, Bhasa, (Henrik) Ibsen, (Mohan) Rakesh, (Anton) Chekhov, (Badal) Sircar are still relevant. Unless one is aware of the past, nothing new can be created in the present. It is precisely what Feisal Alkazi's book Enter Stage Right does — connect the past with the present. In fine prose, Feisal meticulously narrates the history of the first person of Indian modern theatre; his father Ebrahim Alkazi, Alkazi saab to all of us. While narrating the life of Alkazi saab, he also narrates the history of Bombay-Delhi-Indian the-

When I joined the National School of Drama (NSD) in 1977, Alkazi saab had just resigned, leaving the second- and third-year students in a lurch. No, he had not left. He was there. In the next four years that I spent at the NSD, I could see him all around — in the library, in the costume department, in the carpentry workshop, in the corridors, in the plays that he had directed for the repertory. I wouldn't be wrong if I said more than half of my generation of theatre workers in India is influenced by Alkazi saab.

There is a reason why Feisal begins the memoir with a fine introduction of his maternal grandmother, Kulsumbai Padamsee. "My father's career at the NSD is better known and often written about. His training at RADA (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, London) is also frequently written about. But those formative years in Bombay, with Sultan (Feisal's uncle), and later, in the enveloping Padamsee clan, are absent and these days are crucial to understand him. What actually was his 'story' before he came, at 36, to helm the NSD?" Hence, Feisal begins the story from the beginning - a horseshoe table on Kulsum Terrace, where "English theatre in Bombay was born in 1943," and where the first seeds of Indian modern theatre was sown and the Theatre Group was founded. It was here that Alkazi saab was initiated into theatre by Sultan Bobby Padamsee. Thus began the story of the first family of Indian modern theatre — the Padamsees and the Alkazis.

A few years later, after returning from RADA, Alkazi saab was a different man. "Alkazi's was more of a thinking man's theatre than entertainment," writes Feisal in the book. For Alkazi saab, theatre was life and religion. So differences were bound to crop up. Alkazi saab walked away with a handful of Theatre Group members to form his own troupe Theatre Unit (After he moved) to Delhi to head the NSD, Satyadev Dubey saab took over

and directed many iconic productions). On the one hand, Alkazi saab had broken away ₹699 from the Padamsees, on the other, he married Roshen, the eldest daughter of Kulsumbai, thus making

Padamsee-Alkazi one of the big theatre families in India. In 1962, Alkazi saab moved to Delhi. For

the next 15 years, till he resigned, he rewrote

the narrative of Indian modern theatre. He

PADAMSEE FAMILY MEMOIR BY FEISAL ALKAZI Speaking Tiger 256 pages

formative years as a director to becoming one

Delhi, and gave them a national presence, raising them to ultimate theatrical experiences. After Alkazi saab resigned from NSD, Feisal writes, "he wrote one of his rare letters to me at the time... 'For the first time in 15 years, I shall not be returning to the NSD... I shall miss it to some extent but honestly, I do not have much regret." Further, Alkazi saab writes, "The theatre is a dangerous activity, full of temptations for the ego, it encourages one's narcissism and one's sense of vanity. One is working all the time with living human beings, and moulding them to one's own vision and the danger is of going into a self-indulgent space. It requires an innate humil-

produced "language" plays in

ity to realise how little one knows." That is theatre in a nutshell! Feisal narrates two lives here: As Alkazi saab was shaping Indian theatre, Feisal writes about his part in Indian theatre, from his

of its leading practitioners. Even though this

influences of two women that made him: his grandmother and his mother. After his parents separated, he was more attached to his mother. The separation "did create a distance between father and son... from the age of nine I had lived exclusively with my mother, as did my sister. Amal (Feisal's sister and one of India's leading directors) had the advantage of seeing my father every day, as she was a student at NSD. But though my mother valiantly strove to keep father and son together, I never had the same rapport with

my father's son." Alkazi saab "was the last survivor of those who had gathered at the horseshoeshaped dining table 77 years earlier to establish the Theatre Group." With his exit, an age ended forever.

him as I did with her..." But in theatre, Feisal

followed his father's steps. "I am very much

is a memoir, he also delineates Indian modern theatre's development in all its political

and cultural contexts, thus making the mem-

On a personal note, he acknowledges the

oir a study of Indian modern theatre.

 $Surendranath\,S\,is\,a\,theatre\,director\,based\,out$

Bruno takes penalty ahead of Ronaldo, misses in 1-0 loss



Manchester United midfielder Bruno Fernandes had converted a penalty in all three of his prior Premier League appearances against Aston Villa. AP

Manchester: BRUNO FERNANDES missed an injury-time penalty as teammate Cristiano Ronaldo looked on in Manchester United's 1-0 home loss to Aston Villa in the Premier League on Saturday. Villa defender Kortney Hause was the hero for the visitors after he flicked a header into the net off a corner in the 88th minute for his team's first win over United since 2009. But Hause was then whistled for a handball to set up the spot kick as United tried to rescue a point at Old Trafford.

Fernandes, who had converted a penalty in three consecutive Premier League games against Villa, adjusted the ball as Ronaldo stood nearby and then blasted it high over the crossbar. United amassed 28 shots but just four were

Warriors' Wiggins denied religious exemption for vaccine San Francisco: Golden States Warriors forward

Andrew Wiggins' request for religious exemption from the COVID-19



vaccine has been denied and he will not be able to play in his team's home games without being vaccinated, the NBA said on Friday. The 26-year-old Canadian, who averaged

18.6 points and 4.9 rebounds in 71 games with the Warriors last season, was seeking an exemption given the city of San Francisco has a vaccine requirement for large indoor events. "Wiggins will not be able to play in Warriors home games until he fulfills the city's vaccination requirements," the NBA said in a statement. The Warriors have preseason homes games scheduled for Oct. 6, 8 and 15 and will play their regular-season home opener on Oct. on target as it failed to score in a home Premier League game for the first time in 16 games.

Manchester City broke its run of losses to Chelsea by handing its Premier League title rival a first defeat of the season thanks to Gabriel Jesus' deflected goal in a 1-0 win on Saturday. In the latest match to highlight City's need for a striker, Pep Guardiola's team required a dose of fortune for the winner as Jesus took aim from just inside the area and the ball squirmed into the bottom corner off Chelsea midfielder Jorginho's heel in the 53rd minute.

Chelsea had beaten City in their last three meetings — most recently in the Champions League final in May - but was largely outplayed at Stamford Bridge.

Koeman gets 2-match ban for complaining after Cadiz draw *Madrid*: The troubles for Barcelona coach

Ronald Koeman keep piling up. Koeman received a two-match ban on Friday for complaining at the end of Barcelona's 0-0 draw at Cadiz in the Spanish league the day before. The result extended Barcelona's winless streak to three matches and increased the pressure on Koeman. Koeman was sent off deep into stoppage time for complaints directed at the fourth official. The Spanish federation determined that this merited a two-game suspension than the automatic one-game ban for a red. Koeman will miss Barcelona's home match against Levante in the Spanish league on Sunday, as well as the team's visit to Atletico Madrid next weekend. One of the reasons that upset the Dutch coach was the sending off of midfielder Frenkie de Jong after a second yellow card earlier in the match, Barcelona argued that De Jong touched the ball before contacting his oppo-

Abuse in sport a poll issue in Germany

Rare cross-party consensus on the issue of safeguarding young athletes ahead of federal election

SHIVANI NAIK

MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 25

WHILE MEDALS are considered the ultimate metrics of sporting success in Olympic seasons around the world, Germany spent a large part of 2020-21 confronting the underbelly of some of its highly successful mass and elite training systems, holding a mirror

Pitching for an independent centre for Safe Sport to protect young athletes, vulnerable to sexual and other forms of abuse — the lead-up to Sunday's federal election has seen rare cross-party consensus on the issue of safeguarding young athletes.

Cases of violence and abuse in German elite sport (gymnastics, swimming, boxing) were revealed last October, with gymnastics confronting entrenched abuse at one of its National Training Centres. National politics got involved as the federal government is responsible for funding elite sport and these centres. As the country elects a new Chancellor and members of the 20th Bundestag on Sunday, election manifestos committed funding and support to the issue of tackling child abuse in sport.

While leading parties CDU/CSU affirmed their commitment to setting up a Safe Sports centre if elected, SDP too promised an independent point of contact. Alliance 90/The Greens went deeper, with their election programme saying, "We advocate for a national strategy against psychological, physical and sexual violence in sport, of which the establishment of an independent centre for safe sport is an integral part." They also demanded a study financed by the federal government to research the extent of sexualised violence in mass sports in past cases (called 'Aufarbeitung").

The FDP has spoken of counsellors at every federal state centre, while the Left too stressed on "better processing of past and present cases of sexualised violence. We want to seriously examine the proposals for the creation of an independent centre for safe sport."

Call for autonomous oversight

Maximilian Klein, Representative for International Sport Policy at Athleten Deutschland (AD), an athletes' rights group, led with a discussion paper that called for an independent oversight organisation, separate from sports federations. "Since then (the paper), the debate gained very good momentum, a broad alliance of stakeholders and parties is supporting the idea; and it was written down in some election programmes of our major parties," he said of a movement that ran parallel to the pursuit of Olympic medals - Germany finished ninth with 37 medals at Tokyo.



The Independent Inquiry into Sexual Child Abuse in Germany found that thirty-seven per cent of team athletes surveyed since 2019 had experienced sexual violence. AP file

The Independent Inquiry into Sexual Child Abuse in Germany started looking into cases of abuse since 2019, gathering testimonies of past cases and looking into reasons why there were cover-ups.

Thirty-seven per cent of team athletes surveyed had experienced sexual violence, "Apart from supposedly mild forms of violence, such as verbal sexualized remarks, 12 per cent of the athletes – 7 per cent of men and 16 per cent of women — have experienced severe forms of sexual violence in the context of sports, e.g., child sexual abuse, rape, unwanted sexual contact, or repeated sexual harassment," AD's discussion paper stated adding that it had crimi-

The call for establishing contact points for young athletes, independent of their sport clubs and families to report abuse, gained decibel after about 100 victims came forward with their stories to the Commission.

"After a public hearing by the German truth and reconciliation commission dealing with child abuse in sport, we were looking for ways of structural reforms, had a look at the debate abroad (such as in the US or Switzerland) and wrote a discussion paper calling for an Independent Centre for Safe Sport in Germany," Klein recalls.

While the commission findings were followed by a belated apology from members of

We advocate for a national strategy against psychological, physical and sexual violence in sport, of which the establishment of an independent centre for safe sport is an integral part."

ALLIANCE 90/THE GREENS

GERMAN GREEN PARTY'S ELECTION PROGRAMME ON ISSUE OF ABUSE IN SPORT

the Olympic committee, resistance to an independent authority to monitor cases slowly saw political parties putting their foot down and taking a stand.

Unequal relationships

Klein explained the need for an independent body was acutely felt because, "of very asymmetrical power relationships between athletes and coaches, as well as conflicts of interest of acting persons."

Several testimonies had spoken of athletes' hesitancy to contact their own federation or assigned ombudsman offices, fearing they wouldn't be heard, believed or protected from staying anonymous, having to alone bear the consequences for reporting abuse.

The United States had set up the US Center for Safe Sport through the Protecting

Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017, and between March 2017 and February 2020 reported a staggering 5,000 cases of violence and abuse in sport, according to the AD paper.

Klein says that cases of abuse in gymnastics spilled over like a wave into many other countries after the Nassar revelations in US gymnastics, and athletes finally dared to tell their own stories, starting a worldwide debate including at the German Olympic Training Centre.

"Here, too, the structural deficits of a closed eco-system without any control, and athletes in strong dependency relationships, became apparent - although many knew about it for a long time," he said.

"The national federation, for example, still faces legal difficulties in dismissing the coach. Unfortunately, it took these horrific revelations around the world to bring awareness to the minds of officials. The pressure became far too great than to look the other way any longer," Klein said, talking of why governments had to mandate measures.

"The culture of elite sport must be aligned in such a way that medals do not come at the expense of the health, wellbeing, and human rights of athletes, including minors. A speakup culture must become the norm," he

BRIDGE

♠ AK102 WEST NORTH EAST **♦** 853 **9863** Pass 6NT Pass ♠ QJ3 **₩** A76 **853 ♣**9863 South plays in 6NT, a pushy contract that does have some play. West leads

the ten of hearts. South hopefully tries the jack from dummy. East has the queen so South must win in his hand.

This is an under-stuffed contract, South having only 31 high card points to miss a numer-sume ucontact, coolumning up 3 mg/mcan points to work with. BNT is going to need some luck. Specifically, South needs both of the minor suit finesses to work. South goes to dummy with the ten of spades and takes a club finesse. It wins but West shows out. Well, I suppose that is better than West's hav-

ing the king. What is South's plan? The West Hand: S-974H-109843D-J10942C

The East Hand: \$-965H-Q\$2D-K7C-K7542

South has lots of entries to dummy and he uses them. He leads the jack of spades to the ace and takes the proven club finesse. Then he leads the queen of spades over to the king. Some good luck comes again when the spades divide 3-3. That allows South to cash the two of spades. There is still a bit of work to do. South takes the proven club finesse and after that goes over to the king of hearts to take the diamond finesse. Some hands are fated to succeed, and this one does too when the diamond finesse works. At the end there is a diamond loser but twelve tricks are all that South wants.

"Let me see," says North, "You had the AKQJ10 of spades and you still

needed a 3-3 split to take four spade tricks?"

South looked at North but North was smiling at his joke, so nothing more

That was a bit lucky," noted West.

Lucky, yes, but well done too. South's clubs were too good. If South had the AQ109 of clubs and North the J863, the play would be much easier since South can lead the jack of clubs and repeat the finesse. This would reduce South's need for entries. Dealer: South Vulnerable: East/West

4	IORTH ≥ 1072 ► KQ ► AQJ6 ≥ A953	SOUTH (YOU)			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH		
Pass Pass	1NT 4NT Pass	Pass Pass	6NT		

South opens 1NT and gets an invitational 4NT bid from North. Since South South opens in it and gets arinvitational 441 bid infinitivity. Since south can not have more than the seventeen points he has, he goes on to 6NT. West's lead, the ten of hearts, is a safe lead for West, giving nothing away to South. South counts his tricks and gets to eleven sure winners. A twelfth trick may come from a 3-3 club break or from a spade finesse. Any ideas or

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2340

nent and shouldn't have been booked.

- Successfully obtain a position (4,4) Not perfectly circular? (6)
- 10. Hand game rock, paper,
- 12. Concerts (4) Put out of joint (10)
- 15. Ridiculous; impossible (12) 18. Former Captain of the English Cricket team (4,8)
- 21. Pulling or twisting out of shape; misrepresentation of facts etc.
- 22. Move slowly (4) 24. Wraiths (8)
- 25. African republic (6) 26. Inhabit or live in (8)
- 27. Disagree in opinion?

DOWN

- Temporary expedients (8) Fine metal lacework (8)
- N. England river (4) $Increase \, in \, speed \, (12)$
- Hopeless endeavours Second largest city and port in
- Portugal (6)
- End of rugby game (2-4)
- 11. Ill-usage (12) Level (10)
- 16. Deadlock or impasse
- 17. Being broadcast? (2,3,3)
- 19. Totals (4,2) 20. In the land of Nod (6) 23. Against (4)

CRYPTIC CLUES ACROSS

1. Puck plays a major part in one version of it (6)

10. Will this be it?(8)

- Henry's initial hesitation between $doing\,drugs\,and\,acting\,as\,an\,escort$ Unopposed in Rome, in short (3,3)
- 12. Letters of credit (4)
 13. Like a millpond, it's just above
- freezing-point (5,5) 15. Nothing blue it's pure
- entertainment!
- life?(4-4,4) 21. Instrument noted for precision
- (6,4)22. To get your old man into the House, just add a little water

SUDOKU

- (4,5,3)18. Distorted opinion the rooster has of
 - 7. It's about five hundred to one love. they're not very bright
 - 8. Raised support in an attempt at backing a horse (6)

24. Top Tory after european seat of

25. Fashionable greeting, but over-

1. Draperies not approved by most

2. Discover a voucher has a note

3. Land in Palestine to get fashion

5. North of the border a few feet

where copper can be found

6. Arranged nudes around 11-2 for

autopsy evidence, maybe

modern societies (8)

government! (3,5)

affected (6)

inside(4,4)

hacking(4)

good(6) **DOWN**

- 11. Fortune a run uncovered (6,2,4)
- 14. Report a group of conservationists or an office worker (10) 16. Faced inn brawl with money

6 9

- 17. Giving this for that? (8)
- 19. Tastes differ in America
- 26. Ask was it arranged to mark Hitler's 20. Article a member brought back for agirl(6) 27. Sycophant backing ally's party-
 - 23. Articles written by a woman (4)

Solutions to 2339

QUICK CLUES Across: 1 Decree, 4 Hearsays, 9 Splits, 10 Trestles, 12 Oriental 13 Usable, 15 Gopal Krishna, 18 Skeleton keys, 21 Tasman, 22 Apostate, 24 Warriors, 25 Bantam, 26 Deriding, 27 Ostend, Down: 1 Dislodge, 2 Calliope, 3 Eating like a bird, 5 Earn, 6 Rests on on oars, 7 Ad-libs, 8 Sister, 11 Laurels, 14 Isotope, 16 Repartee, 17 Esteemed, 19 Stewed, 20 Usurer, 23 Erin.
CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 1 Shrews, 4 Rolled up, 9 Regain, 10 Reindeer, 12 Palatial, 13 Swoons, 15 In triplicate, 18 Ugly customer, 21 Opined, 22 Atheling, 24 Minstrel, 25 Target, 26 Convents, 27 Stasis. **Down:** 1 Seraphic, 2 Regality, 3 Whistling kettle, 5 Owed, 6 Link with the past, 7 Drew on, 8 Purist, 11 Valleys, 14 Actuate, 16 Impinges, 17 Frigates, 19 Formic, 20 Sign on, 23 Feat.

If it's your Birthday

Sunday September 26

Focus on your dreams. It's an inspired day, You'd do best to give orders and wait for people to carry them out.

Monday September 27 Choices, that's what today is about. It's

worth chatting to people because you will pick up ideas. The coming year bodes well for success.

Tuesday September 28 Your stars are showing a balance

between expansive and restrictive alignments. With commonsense you'll achieve a balance between pleasure and your sense of responsibility.

Wednesday September 29

Question your plans. By revisiting longheld assumptions you will work out a better path for the future. By making hard decisions, you will make life easier over the next year.

Thursday September 30 You're able to charm people with your

ways or threaten them with a proverbial stick. Both strategies are central to your success. Check out professional offers.

Friday October 1

You need to feel safe and secure. Your finances need attention. If you get this sorted first, you'll create space to try new ideas and time to develop a romantic relationship.

Saturday October 2

It's time to dream a little, let your mind wander. The coming year could be a time when you'd be advised to pay more attention to your imagination.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) Keep going until all your domestic ambitions are

put in that extra bit of effort to persuade family members that vour plans are the best. Above all. n't give in to emotional blackmail from those who want life to remain as it is.

accomplished and

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) It can be tiresome

when so many friends and family members look to you for guidance, support and practical assistance. What so few people seem to realise is that you need some timely advice

vourself. In fact, there's no better

time than the present to sit down

and mull over big changes that

have altered your life. GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

past patterns.

It's no use feeling sorry for yourself if you're caught in a catch 22. situation in relationships, unable to please partners no matter what you do. Look hard and you'll see that in fact everything is fine and that the problem lies with you and your refusal to break with

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Your dogged pursuit of your deepest ambitions will

undoubtedly be responsible for future successes in personal as well as professional fields. Yet your fear of failure all too easily acts as a brake on your many achievements, and vou need to keep your eyes on your final goal. Don't allow distractions to overwhelm you.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23) Agreat deal that is in your favour still

appears to be going on behind the scenes, although you could be forgiven for imagining that someone is not on the level. However, sometimes your feelings of uncertainty and confusion can get the better of you. Be honest with yourself about your own needs and desires

VIRGO Aug 24 - Sept 23)

New Delhi

Romantic affairs depend on your reaction to change. If you are determined

to hang on to an old lifestyle, with all that it entails, you'll give yourself a bumpy time at home Family members may well be iustified in their views. There are new developments yet to come and your emotional life could grow more expensive.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23)

You'll be spoilt for choice, but this is not $the\,time\,for$

really want to make the most of current opportunities in your work then pull out all the stops id aim for the top. Even if you fall short, you'll still achieve more than seemed possible a short while ago.

indecision. If you

SCORPIO Oct 24 - Nov 22)



assuming you've laid the groundwork well, recent restrictions should lift, paving the way for easier financial circumstances. Family members or close friends may prompt you to throw caution to the wind.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22) Your celestial influences are

positive but you may feel trapped between a great opportunity and a strange

invitation, with new responsibilities facing you whichever way you turn. It's important to realise that any good fortune is of your own making, partly the result of a long-standing ambition to help other people.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20) This is the time to

seek new friends and interests. Don't allow imaginary fears or suspicions to hold you back. Take a few risks, lay yourself on the line and you'll soon be surprised how willingly friends and lovers follow

open up and go out to

The stars are on your side. At all times, and in all situations, consider only what is

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

important in the long run. This applies to your work, especially if you have ideas and skills which have been undervalued. However, assuming that financial, domestic and family issues have been taken care of, you'll do best by ironing out inconsistencies.

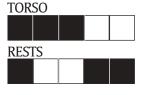
PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

This is a perfect time to show what you're made of, Secretly, you're much more ambitious than people think, and over the past few

months there have been plenty of dramatic breaks. If you've taken a few risks, the chances are you've done rather well, so now's the time to sit back and bask in

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip. _. - Pearl S. Buck (6,5)





Answer: Love dies only when growth stops. - Pearl S. Buck SOLUTION: ROOST/ROOTS, TRESS, UPSHOT, AWEIGH

Difficulty Level 4s 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

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s =

9 8 5 6 8 6 3 4 6

5 4

9

6

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4605 3 8 4 5 9 1 7 6 2 9 2 6 8 7 3 4 1 5 7 5 1 6 4 2 9 8 3 4 8 7 5 9 3 2 6 2 9 3 4 1 6 8 5 7 5 6 7 2 3 8 1 9 4 6 1 5 3 8 7 2 4 9 4 3 9 1 2 5 6 7 8 8 7 2 9 6 4 5 3 1

The gist of basically what (Tiger Woods) said was I'm cheering you guys on, I'm right there with you and go fight and make us proud. We were able to do that and if TW's watching, thanks for that text, brother, I think it helps us a lot."

TONY FINAU, AMERICAN GOLFER SAYS A TEXT FROM TIGER WOODS INSPIRED THE TEAM TO A BIG LEAD ON FIRST DAY OF THE RYDER CUP

BRIEFLY -

Aditi in fifth place at Arkansas C'ship

Rogers: A flawless six-under 65 gave Indian golfer Aditi Ashok a flying start in the first round of the Walmart NW Arkansas Arkansas Championship. The 23-year-old Indian had six birdies and no bogeys as she was two shots behind the leading trio of A Lim Kim, Katherine Kirk and Eun-Hee Ji, who all recorded 8-under 63s to sit atop the leaderboard. Aditi has been looking for a couple of solid finishes to ensure a move up from her current position of 87th on the Tour. She started from the 10th and twice had back-to-back birdies on 15th and 16th and again on first and second. Her other birdies came on seventh and ninth. Kim's 63 is her careerbest score, while Ji tied her low mark, which she last recorded in the first round of the Honda LPGA Thailand. Kirk's round is her lowest since a 62 at the 2018 Thornberry Creek LPGA Classic, Kirk has played in every edition of the tournament since its inception. One stroke behind the leaders was Sarah Burnham after she recorded a career-low 7under 64, thanks to seven birdies on the day to sit in solo fourth.

Archery Worlds: Two silver medals for India

Yankton: The Indian women's and mixed pair compound archery teams signed off with silver medals after lop-sided losses to Colombia at the World Championships. India were in pursuit of their first ever gold medal at the world event. For a country that doesn't have a gold yet, India have climbed the most podiums at the event -- 10 --, appearing in eight finals and leaving with silver each time. The Indian mixed pair duo of Abhishek Verma and Jyothi Surekha Vennam, who stood fourth in the ranking round, started off with a one-point lead but Colombia dominated thereafter. The Indians went down by a four-point margin (150-154). The seventh seeded women's team of Jyothi, Muskan Kirar and Priya Gurjar, on the other hand, lost by a margin of five points (224-229) against the troika of Sara Lopez, Alejandra Usquiano and Nora Valdez.

Sania reaches final in Ostrava with Zhang

Ostrava (Czech Republic): Veteran Indian tennis player Sania Mirza reached her second final of the season with partner Shuai Zhang following a straight set win over Makoto Nonomiya and Eri Hozumi at the Ostrava Open, on Saturday. The second seeded Indo-Chinese duo defeated the Japanese pair 6-2 7-5 in the semifinals in one hour 21 minutes. The 34-year-old Sania now has a chance to win her first title of the 2021 season. She had a runnersup finish at the WTA 250 Cleveland event in the USA last month with Chirstina Mchale.

Slow track, sluggish Royals

Spirit-less Rajasthan surrender tamely to a disciplined Delhi Capitals bowling attack in a low-quality encounter

SRIRAM VEERA SEPTEMBER 25

IN A low-quality encounter on a pitch where the ball held up a bit. Delhi Capitals snubbed out Rajasthan Royals with their better bowling attack. Rajasthan batted as if they gave up the chase of 155 in the second over itself when they lost both openers. Even Sanju Samson, Rajasthan's captain, absolved the pitch from any blame. "It was not that slow, it was holding up a bit, but we kept losing wickets."

The grass-less pitch was a bit tacky perhaps, with the ball coming on a touch slowly, but batsmen didn't extend themselves to try to adapt to the situation. They didn't knock it around for singles, they didn't try hitting, they didn't try to force the bowlers to change lines or lengths ... they were on an auto-pilot to nowhere. And they succeeded.

From that second over, until the 15th over when Samson picked up three fours, it was a strange yawn-fest. Delhi kept plugging on, with a mix of spin and seam, and Rajasthan kept pushing and prodding. Regular programming returned after that 15th over and

A team can be understandably a bit surprised by the slowness of the pitch had they batted first - it wasn't that drastic but enough sluggishness in there to upset their natural bat-speeds, but to have seen Delhi bat and then go into this sleep mode in the chase should call for some introspection. "With the quality of the batsmen in our team, I thought it was an easy choice. But we kept losing wickets and didn't have the momentum to go after it," Samson would summarise it later.

The Delhi bowlers though did most things spot on — be it R Ashwin and Axar Patel or the seamers Anrich Nortje and Kagiso Rabada, they all kept it tight enough to let Rajasthan tie themselves up in knots. Nortje burned up the track with his pace even on this slow track while Rabada threw in his mix of slower ones and surprise bounc-

A low-quality encounter

One wonders at what stage in their innings, Delhi decided that 150 would be a good score. Shikhar Dhawan fell early after a defensive pat proved so soft that the ball rolled back on to the stumps and Prithvi Shaw prodded around before he fell to Chetan Sakariya, miscuing a swipe across the line to a ball angling across him. From then on. Delhi slowly turned cautious as they started to find more about the pitch. Shreyas Iver and Rishabh Pant were the ones who dealt with the middle overs but slowly found out that this track wasn't too ideal for big hits. And so they adjusted and started to rotate the strike.

It was left to Shimron Hetmeyer and an average second spell from Kartik Tyagi to get them past 150. In the 16th over, Hetmeyer slammed three fours as Tyagi leaked 16. He repeatedly made room to the leg side and carved the full, length, and short deliveries behind square on the off side. In his next over, he slipped out two wides and ended up giving 11 more. Those 27 runs from two overs of Tyagi helped Delhi move past 150, which proved more than enough.

BRIEF SCORES: Delhi Capitals 154 for 6 (Iyer 43, Hetmyer 28, Pant 24; Rahman 2/22) beat Rajasthan Royals 121 for 6 (Samson 70*; Nortje 2/18) by 33 runs



 $Rajas than \, captain \, Sanju \, Samson's \, unbeaten \, 70 \, went \, in \, vain \, against \, a \, Delhi \, attack \, starring \, the \, likes \, of \, pacer \, Kagiso \, Rabada. \, iplt 20. com$

No holding on for SRH despite paltry target vs Kings

SYNOPSIS: Lone ranger Holder falls short as Shami & Bishnoi help Punjab Kings defend paltry total

TUSHAR BHADURI

SEPTEMBER 25 The best player in the match – by a country

mile - finished on the losing side. Jason Holder was the highest scorer with the bat and had the best bowling figures. But such is the current state of the Sunrisers Hyderabad outfit that nobody else seemed ready to provide any support to their main man. A target of 126 – even if the pitch is not a featherbed - should be a smooth chase on most occasions. But they seemed to have given up on the current season already. Punjab Kings lost their last match which they should have won, but the five-run win at Sharjah on Saturday just about kept them in the reckoning.

Holder the lone ranger

Holder came into the Sunrisers set-up as an injury replacement for Mitchell Marsh, but the tall Barbadian hadn't always got into the playing XI. When Jonny Bairstow was available and the team management was concerned about the batting, they ended up playing the Englishman along with David Warner and Kane Williamson in the line-up. Rashid Khan is a bona fide match-winner with the ball, and it didn't leave room for any other overseas player. The decision-makers took their own time to realise what seemed bleed-



PBKS' Ravi Bishnoi picked up three crucial wickets giving away 24 runs.

ingly obvious. Holder brings depth to a team with both bat and ball. He made his presence felt - first with the ball - with a spell that put the skids under the Punjab Kings. Figures of 3/19 from four overs will make a tangible difference to the fortunes of any team, especially one down in the dumps like Sunrisers.

Holder pitched the ball relatively up to the bat, but his extra height (he stands at 6-foot-7) meant the ball made contact a bit higher up the willow than was expected. And the slower nature of the wicket resulted in shots going in the air. KL Rahul's flick found shortmidwicket, opening partner Mayank Agarwal's drive landed in mid-off's hands while Deepak Hooda's attempt to raise the tempo towards the end finished in an acrobatic catch at short cover.

Holder could have won it with the bat as well, even after Sunrisers were reduced to 60/5 with seven overs left. His unbeaten 47 off 29 balls - with five sixes - suggested he

9 7 2 +1.185 14 9 5 4 -0.720 10 5 +0.363 8 KKR 9 4 10 4 6 -0.271 8 MI 9 4 5 -0.310 8 9 4 5 -0.319 8

POINTS TABLE

M W | L | NRR | Pts

10 8 2 +0.711 16

9 1 8 -0.637 2

was playing on an altogether different surface. But nobody else in the team managed a strike rate more than 100.

Needing 17 off the final over bowled by Nathan Ellis, Holder hit a six on the second ball to bring the equation down to 10 off four. But a combination of good death bowling and fatigue came into play even though the West Indian would feel he could have done more with the final ball – a full toss – when six were needed to force a Super Over

Shami gets the big fish

After the duck off three deliveries against Delhi Capitals the other evening, David Warner faced as many balls on Saturday ending up getting two. It was two more than the Aussie looked good enough to get.

Mohammed Shami's first delivery to the left-hander was on the stumps, and was defended back to the bowler. The next one was around off-stump. Warner tried to force it

through the off-side and was lucky an inside edge eluded the stumps and went towards fine-leg for a couple.

The third ball was a short and wide one, which Warner in his prime would have savaged through the covers. But his feet seemed stuck in concrete as a desperate waft only found the toe end of the bat on the way to the wicketkeeper. In contrast, Williamson always seems composed and in control against the best of bowlers. But the Kiwi maestro was found wanting against Shami on the night. The Indian seamer cramped the Sunrisers skipper and when he bowled a decent length just outside off-stump, Williamson felt an opportunity to break loose. But a hint of movement resulted in an inside edge that crashed into the leg-stump. Shami's spell wouldn't have been out of place on the first morning of a Test match. Figures of 2/5 from his first three overs gave Punjab Kings a chance to defend their sub-par total.

Bishnoi casts a web

Indian batsmen are considered good against this skill, but one would cast a doubt on that statement judging by how Sunrisers batsmen played Bishnoi.

Manish Pandey played all around a delivery, predicting it will spin away. Kedar Jadhav chopped one on, trying to late-cut a ball too close for that shot, while Abdul Samad's heave reached as far as short third-man.

BRIEF SCORES: Punjab Kings 125 for 7 (Markram 27, Holder 3-19) beat Sunrisers Hyderabad 120 for 7 (Holder 46*, Bishnoi 3-24, Shami 2-14) by five runs

How chart-topper Harshal uses off-cutters to take wickets

SANDIPG SEPTEMBER 25

IT CANNOT be sheer fluke or happenstance that Harshal Patel continues his merry wickettaking ways-he snared two at the backend in the game against CSK, briefly igniting a comeback. More than half the season into this edition, he leads the charts 19 wickets, four more than second-placed Avesh Khan, and eight more than Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Shami in the same number of games (11). No one has picked more wickets than him in the last five overs either (12) in this edition. This is not to say that he's better than India's firstchoice pace-pair across formats, but just that this season, there's something that's clicking in his methods.

Why has his prolific season surprised many?

Tried, tested and flopped-if not for this season, his IPL career could have been summed up thus. In the previous eight seasons, wherein his appearances were sporadic than sustained but for the 2015 edition in which he sparred in 15 games, he had just featured in 48 games, in which he had wheedled out only 48 wickets, conceding close to 10 runs an over. There was nothing standout. forget eye-catching about him. He had none of the T20 staple, neither the pace, he rarely nudged the speed-gun beyond 135kph, nor the variations for someone without express pace. He did swing the ball, has a sumptuous out-swinger, but swing is seldom a fast-moving currency in this format. He is reputed for his lusty blows down the order in the domes-



Harshal Patel is currently the leading wicket-taker this season with 19, four more than second-placed Avesh Khan, and eight more than Bumrah and Shami. iplt20.com

tic, but at this level hasn't replicated it. At 30, he is not quite either for franchises to furnish him an extended run. But an uncapped, local bowler is handy as a back-up or emergency option, and all his outings in the last five editions have arrived thus. Had he not picked a five-for in his first game this season—against the mighty Mumbai Indians—he would have

What have been his key weapons?

continued to be one.

Apart from enhanced precision, he has sharpened his yorkers and added a highly effective off-cutter. He uses them cleverly. His yorkers seldom stray beyond the off-stump, in which case it could be fodder for ramp and the pick-up shot. He lands them mostly between the tramline and fifth stump. At his pace, rather lack of pace, his wide yorkers are incredibly difficult to hit.

The batsman has to generate all the impetus for his strokes while having to reach for the ball and impart power into the strokes. It's a reason a lot of wickets are from mistimed shots, batsmen caught in the inner ring.

But a bigger weapon has been his off-cutter, bowled without any decipherable change in the action, wrist position or release point. It grips the surface, bounces, and stops at batsmen. The reduction of pace is not dramatic (from an average of 132kph to 115kph), but the over-spin-induced extra bounce surprises the batsman. As many as nine of his 19 wickets were bargained through the offcutter, and according to CricViz, he picks one wicket off every six off-cutters. It's his most economical ball too, batsman managing only 6.71 runs, as compared to his overall economy rate of 8.89. He also, occasionally, slips in the low, slow wide full toss, which again is difficult to hit out the park.

But why then is he on the expensive side?

Two reasons. Primarily, he bowls at the death over, when the batsman is looking to hit every ball out of the park. As he is not a bowler who looks to contain the batsman, he has to trade a few boundaries for his wickets. Even if he strays slightly off-length, he becomes easy meat and drinks for the batsmen. Secondly, he mostly toggles between good and fuller lengths, and is hence prone to blows down the ground and the leg-side. Most of the runs, he concedes are in the arc between long-off and mid-wicket. It's the

> price he usually pays for his length. Then, even Bumrah concedes around 8.40 runs an over in the final four.

In fact, Royal Challengers has a better economy rate in the last five (10.09) than Mumbai Indians 10.28) and Delhi Capitals (10.63),

two teams with the most destructive fastbowling ammo. So, Patel might leak some runs but would produce game-altering wickets, and thus, has been RCB's most influen-

Who has been amongst his

wickets? It's not like he has been getting cheap wickets, but rather the prized scalps of renowned big-hitters. His wickets include, among others, Hardik Pandya, Kieron Pollard. Eoin Morgan, Andre Russell, Chris Morris, Faf du Plessis, Suresh Raina, Prithvi Shaw, and Marcus Stoinis. All those that are capable of unleashing fury at the death. There have been games he has got the stick, like against Punjab Kings (0/53) or 37 runs Ravindra Jadeja looted in an over, but he has been RCB's chief wicket-taker at the death, picking up two or more wickets on six instances in the league. He will have his off-days, or rather off-overs, but he compensates those with wickets. And those that have underestimated him have returned to the pavilion with a burned ego.

Norris takes first pole as Hamilton hits the wall

Sochi: MCLAREN'S LANDO Norris seized his first Formula One pole position at the Russian Grand Prix on Saturday after seven-time world champion Lewis Hamilton hit the wall in a damp and dramatic qualifying session.

Ferrari's Spaniard Carlos Sainz joinedthe young Briton on the front row in Sochi with Williams' George Russell, Hamilton's Mercedes team mate from next season, completing a sensational top three against all odds. Hamilton, who had been on provisional pole before everyone switched to slicks on a drying track, qualified fourth -making it three Britons in the top four -- after a brush with the pit lane wall.

The team hurriedly swapped the front wing and got him back out on slicks in time for one more flying lap to the chequered flag but the tyres had lost temperature and Hamilton spun, with his fastest time remaining that set on the intermediates.

Hamilton can still expect to retake the overall lead from Red Bull rival Max Verstappen on Sunday with the 23-year-old Dutch driver starting at the back due to engine penalties. Mercedes have yet to be beaten in Sochi since the first grand prix there in 2014. Sainz had set the pace on slicks but Norris, 21, produced a final effort half a second faster in a qualifying session that had looked in doubt earlier in the day as rain swept in. The 21-year-old Briton whooped in delight at what he hoped would be the first of many poles

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