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**DARA SINGH CHAUHAN, EX-CHIEF OF BJP OBC MORCHA, LEAVES**

## OBC swap: Second UP minister quits, eyes SP; BJP gets 2 MLAs

Rattled by exits, BJP readies campaign to reach out to OBCs, SCs

**LALMANI VERMA**  
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 12

A DAY after OBC leader Swami Prasad Maurya resigned as minister from the Yogi Adityanath government and met SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, the BJP was jolted again Wednesday when Dara Singh Chauhan, another UP cabinet minister, resigned and met Akhilesh Yadav, indicating that he too was headed there.

Chauhan is a former head of the BJP's OBC Morcha. Like Maurya, he has a BSP past.

Also Wednesday, Avtar Singh Bhadana, BJP MLA from Meerapur in Muzaffarnagar, joined the RLD, an ally of the SP in this election. Bhadana was with the Congress earlier and had been elected four times to Lok Sabha. A leader of the RLD said Bhadana will be contesting this Assembly election too.

There was relief, however, in the BJP camp when Naresh Saini, Congress MLA from Behat in Saharanpur, and Hariom Yadav, SP MLA from Sirsaganj in Firozabad, along with former SP MLA Dharampal Yadav, joined the ruling party in New Delhi.

Representing the Madhuban constituency in Mau, Chauhan was Minister for Forest, Environment and Animal Husbandry in the Adityanath government.

In his resignation letter, almost identical to one submitted by Maurya a day earlier, Chauhan said he was upset with the government's "neglect" of Dalits, backwards, deprived, farmers and unemployed youths, and with the "khilwad" (not being serious) on reserva-



(Right to left) Former Cong MLA Naresh Saini with UP Dy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya, BJP UP chief Swatantra Dev and Dy CM Dinesh Sharma in New Delhi on Wednesday. Prem Nath Pandey

### INSIDE

**MANN'S WAIT LONGER, AAP PUTS OFF CM CALL****INTERVIEW: SCs, BRAHMINS WITH US, SAYS BSP'S MISHRA**

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**DECISION 2022**

tion for backwards and Dalits. Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya, who had urged Swami Prasad Maurya a day earlier to hold talks and not act in haste, also urged Chauhan to "reconsider".

Calling Chauhan his "elder brother", Maurya, in a Twitter post, said: "When a member of the family goes astray, that hurts. I will request those leaving not to board a sinking ship because it will be their loss."

Rattled by these exits, the BJP sources said, has decided to depute its OBC and Scheduled Caste leaders to each Assembly constituency to reach out to communities and spread the word that the party is their well-wisher.

Sources said efforts will also be made during the Samajik Sampark campaign to persuade

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## Caught in Kazakh unrest with no word on return, Indians say get us home

**SOURAV ROY BARMAN**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

SOON AFTER the Asiana Airlines flight from South Korea's Incheon city landed in Almaty at around 8 pm on January 5, the public announcement system crackled, with the captain instructing passengers to remain seated.

Luiramsing Zimik, who was, in all likelihood, the lone Indian passenger in the aircraft, initially thought Covid-19 protocol in Kazakhstan's largest city could be causing the delay — an assumption that was shattered when the pilot spoke next.

"We were told that we will be evacuated to the nearest fire station. The authorities had lost control of the airport. In the next hour, we found ourselves in the



Sumit Nagpal with his family in Almaty. Express

fire station where we were asked to spend the night as clashes had broken out across the city," Zimik, a resident of Manipur's Senapati district, told *The Indian Express* over the phone from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Photo tweeted by SP chief Akhilesh Yadav of a meeting with leaders of alliance parties in Lucknow on Wednesday

## Under shadow of exits, on BJP table, Adityanath from Ayodhya seat

**LIZ MATHEW**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

AS A series of defections by sitting MLAs rattles the BJP, the party is considering fielding Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, who announced earlier that he would contest the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, from Ayodhya. The move is being seen in the party as one that would amplify the Hindutva message and galvanise the cadre. More so when the Ram temple project is

well under way.

Sources said this proposal was discussed at the high-level meeting held at the BJP headquarters in the national capital on Tuesday, attended among others by Adityanath, UP Deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya, party state chief Swatantra Dev Singh and Home Minister Amit Shah.

"The CM contesting from Ayodhya would help the party highlight the narrative it has been emphasising on," a source in the BJP said, adding that many

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## On Covid, Govt's twin concerns: spreading reach, rising case count

**KAUNAIN SHERIFF M**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

THE CENTRE Wednesday said that while hospitalisation at current levels may be low amid the Omicron surge, Covid cases are spreading at a large scale, with a progressive increase in the number of districts reporting a rise in positivity — in just one week, ending January 11, 300 districts reported more than 5 per cent positivity rate compared to just 78 in the previous week.

And while Dr V K Paul, who heads the national Covid task force, described the positivity rates as "phenomenally high", the Union Health Ministry flagged a spike in the total number of active cases reported from several pockets in states across

the country.

Elaborating on the "twin concerns", the Ministry flagged eight states with rising positivity rates and a significant increase in caseload: Maharashtra, West Bengal, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, and Gujarat (*see box*).

The Ministry also pointed to six other states that have reported more than a six-fold rise in cases from the previous week. Bihar tops this list with a 11-fold rise in cases followed by Madhya

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### THE CITY

**27,561 CASES, 40 DEATHS IN DELHI**  
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## As ISRO prepares for manned mission, its new chief is man for the moment

**PAGE 1 ANCHOR****JOHNSON TA**  
BENGALURU, JANUARY 12

ONE OF the main speakers at the annual conference of the Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine in September 2018 was a top rocket scientist from ISRO. During an interval in the meeting, the scientist stayed back in the empty lecture hall to pore over his presentation a final time, rather than joining IAF officers and others for a coffee break.

"Sending a human being into space is a different ball game



Dr S Somanath

compared to sending a passive satellite into orbit. The orbit is a zero gravity environment and we need to keep a person alive

and ensure survival during return to earth. It is quite easy to launch a person into space, but quite difficult to bring him back," Dr S Somanath, the director of ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, who was named the next chairman of ISRO on Wednesday, said when his turn came at the conference.

"The immediate milestone is to put a man in orbit by 2022, and to see how we can do that with current levels of knowledge and the new knowledge that has to be created," Somanath said.

As he takes over as the 10th ISRO chairman, succeeding K Sivan, that will be one of the biggest challenges before Somanath — putting the

agency's human space flight programme back on track following setbacks due to launch failures, the Covid-19 outbreak, and a general slowdown since the failure of the Chandrayaan 2 robotic moon landing mission in September 2019.

As director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre since 2018, and as head of the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre, Somanath has been closely associated with developing the key rocket technology that will go into the mission.

He was the project director and mission director for the development of the GSLV Mk-III rocket that will be used for the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

### BUSINESS AS USUAL

BY UNNY



## Food prices push retail inflation to 6-month high

**AANCHAL MAGAZINE**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

THE RETAIL inflation rate rose to a six-month high of 5.59 per cent in December, primarily due to increase in food prices, according to data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO).

Another set of data released by NSO Wednesday showed that industrial output grew by 1.4 per cent in November despite a low base of (-)1.6 per cent in the previous year, as manufacturing and mining outputs were subdued amid weak investment and consumption demand.

The low base effect and higher food inflation pushed up the headline retail inflation, with core inflation — non-food, non-fuel — hovering near 6 per cent and the impending full pass-through effect of the telecom price hike yet to filter in.

Also, with retail inflation inching closer to the upper tolerance level of the 4+/-2 per cent target of the RBI, economists expect only a negligible chance of a

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### PM SECURITY BREACH

## SC flags war of words, names probe team head

Ex-Judge Indu Malhotra to chair a five-member committee

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

SAYING THAT the "blame game" and "war of words" between the Centre and Punjab government may "impair the need of a robust mechanism to respond at such a critical juncture", the Supreme Court on Wednesday appointed its former judge, Justice Indu Malhotra, to head a five-member committee to probe the security breach during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Punjab on January 5.

While both the Centre and the Punjab government had set up separate probe panels, the bench headed by Chief Justice of India NV Ramana said it is "of the considered opinion that these questions cannot be left to be resolved through one-sided enquiries", and a "judicially trained independent mind" is needed.

"Till conclusion of the proceedings of the enquiry committee..., the enquiries ordered by the central government and the state government shall be kept in abeyance," said the bench, also comprising Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli.

Besides Justice Indu Malhotra, the probe panel will include Director General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) or his nominee not below the rank of Inspector General of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Union minister Smriti Irani ahead of a press conference in New Delhi on Wednesday. Prem Nath Pandey

## 6 BJP CMs allege plot: 2 invoke Khalistan, one calls for Channi's arrest

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

ON A day when the Supreme Court flagged the "blame game" and "war of words" between the Centre and Punjab government over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's security breach, chief ministers of BJP-ruled states came out to accuse the Congress and its government in Punjab of a "pre-planned, well-orchestrated conspiracy".

At least two chief ministers, Himanta Biswa Sarma (Assam) and Biplob Kumar Deb (Tripura), alleged the involvement of "Khalistanis", with Sarma even demanding the arrest of Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh

**EXPLAINED**  
**E** Divide hardens in poll season

BY GETTING its CMs to launch a concerted attack on the Congress government in Punjab, the BJP is raising the pitch on the PM's security breach. Just a month to go for polls in a state where it lost face over the farm laws, invoking Khalistan and a plot to kill will deepen fault-lines.

Channi for the "conspiracy to kill" the PM.

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Punjab DGP Viresh Kumar Bhawra and Punjab Intelligence chief A S Rai were not available for comment. Following the se-

use. Number two, experts present at the meeting opined that there is a rampant and irrational use of Molnupiravir. Number three, efforts should be made to restrict its use," Bhargava said.

"Number four, the currently available synthesised evidence was reviewed, and the members unanimously agreed that it does not merit the inclusion of Molnupiravir in national treatment guidelines," he said.

"Lastly, it was further high-

Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan alleged that the security breach was a "pre-planned", "sponsored conspiracy". "Why were the chief minister, chief secretary and DGP not with the PM? Does this not show that they knew what would happen. Who revealed the PM's route to the protesters? How did the protesters gather in such a large number within such a short time period, despite police presence?" Why did the DGP tell the PM's security team that the entire route was safe," he said.

Chouhan alleged that Channi did not respond to calls either. "Even calls made by BJP national president J P Nadda went unanswered. It shows that the conspiracy is linked to the Congress high command," he alleged.

"The flyover on which the PM's cavalcade was stuck was just a few kilometres away from the Pakistan border, surrounded by highrises and trees," said Chouhan.

"The Congress, in the process of hating Narendra Modi, has developed a hatred for the country, the PM's position, the Constitution, Army, security and national interest," he said.

In Agartala, Deb alleged that the security breach was "pre-planned and part of a well-orchestrated conspiracy to put the PM's life in danger".

"Khalistani organisations who foster anti-India sentiments were involved in the se-

those associated with the BSP and SP to join the BJP.

BJP OBC Morcha state president Narendra Kashyap said the Samajik Sampark campaign had nothing to do with the "current circumstances" and it was planned for January 14.

"This is a mega campaign for dialogue with every community in society. It will formally start from January 14. It has already started in certain districts. Earlier, grand sammelans of the Morcha had been held in all 75 districts of the state," he said.

Meanwhile, Akhilesh Yadav, after meeting Chauhan, called him a "soldier of social justice" and welcomed him to the SP.

Arora, between December 31 and January 4 (a day before the PM's visit), to district SSPs and other field officers. Some letters reviewed by *The Indian Express*, clearly warned police officials that protesters could block roads and urged them to make security arrangements.

The India Today report Wednesday said that apart from Arora's letters, intelligence officials in the field had also informed senior officials that protesters were likely to disrupt the PM's visit to Ferozepur.

Punjab DGP Viresh Kumar Bhawra and Punjab Intelligence chief A S Rai were not available for comment. Following the se-







# 4 THE CITY


**VACCINATIONS IN  
LAST 24 HOURS**  
**1,88,395**
**OMICRON  
CASES**  
**546**
**PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: 2,363**  
**OXYGEN SUPPORT 648**  
**VENTILATOR SUPPORT 91**
**DELHI: TOTAL  
CASES**  
**16,17,716**
**HOSPITAL BEDS**  
**ICU BEDS**
*Total active cases in Delhi*
**Total**  
**15,330**
**Vacant**  
**12,954**
**Recoveries**  
**15,05,031**
**Deaths**  
**25,240**
**Tests**  
**3,37,48,408**
**NOIDA**  
**Cases**  
**1,680**
**Jan 11**  
**1,992**
**Deaths**  
**0**
**Gurgaon**  
**Cases**  
**2,385**
**Deaths**  
**0**

## JANUARY TOLL CROSSES 100

# 40 deaths as infection surge continues

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

DELHI REPORTED 40 deaths due to Covid on Wednesday, pushing January's toll past 100. The cases shot up to 27,561 on Wednesday, inching close to a peak of 28,395 cases during the delta variant-driven wave of infections in April-May last year.

This comes after a slight plateauing in cases seen over the last two days when there were fewer tests conducted.

There have been 133 deaths since January 1. In comparison, there were only nine deaths reported in December, seven in November, four in October, and five in September.

So far, 25,240 people have died of the infection in Delhi since the pandemic began.

The deaths, however, are fewer than those recorded during the delta-driven wave in April-May last year. There were over 300 deaths due to the infection reported each day at the time when the number of cases was over 20,000.

City doctors have also said that a majority of deaths reported this time are in patients seeking treatment for other conditions like cancers and kidney diseases who incidentally tested positive for Covid.

The positivity rate — the proportion of total samples that



A crowds of shoppers seen at the Meena Bazar in Old Delhi on Wednesday, as the city saw 27,561 cases at a positivity rate of 26.22%. *Tashi Tobgyal*

turn positive — increased to 26.22% on Wednesday, meaning more than one in four persons who get tested for the infection have it.

The positivity rate has increased from less than 1% to more than 26% in just 15 days. It took 29 days for a similar increase during the delta-driven wave, the data shows.

1,05,102 tests were conducted, of which 81% were conducted using the more accurate molecular methods like RT-PCR, CBNAAT, or TrueNat. The 85,349 molecular diagnostic tests conducted on Tuesday, as reported a day later in Wednesday's bulletin, is the highest number of such tests ever conducted in the city.

The *Indian Express* had earlier had reported that an increase in the number of private labs and capacity at government labs helped the government scale-up testing. Of the 87,445 persons with Covid at the moment, as per the bulletin, 2,363 are in hospitals. There are 91 patients on ventilator support and 648 on oxygen support.

## Of 97 deaths in past four days, 62 aged under 60, data shows

**MALLICA JOSHI**  
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

IN THE past four days, a total of 97 Covid deaths have been recorded in the city, including 40 on Wednesday alone.

According to data, of the 97 people who died after testing positive, 37 were between 41 and 60 years of age; 27 were between 61 and 80 years; eight were above the age of 80. Of the remaining 25, 7 were minors and 18 were between 19 and 40 years of age.

According to sources, the Delhi government's health department has formed a team to look into vaccinations status, comorbid conditions, and status of these patients at the time of admission. "A more detailed analysis of deaths is being carried out. This will help us understand exactly what diseases these people were suffering from and in what condition they had come to the hospital," said a senior government official. A similar analysis was presented to the Delhi L-G

and Chief Minister earlier this week, according to which, out of the 46 people who died with a Covid diagnosis between January 5 and January 9, only 11 were vaccinated. Of the 46, 23 were above the age of 60 years; 34 had comorbid conditions while 21 tested positive after being admitted to hospital for some other ailments. A senior health department official said that out of the 133 deaths recorded in the city so far this month, most have been among those suffering from serious comorbid conditions.

"In these cases, Covid was an incidental finding when they were tested, as is a routine procedure, at the time of admission for some other disease," a senior health department official said.

According to the communication between the Delhi Directorate of Health Services and hospitals over the past few days, among the most common comorbid conditions seen in those testing positive after admission are cancer and liver and kidney diseases.

## Police give clean chit to BJP councillor in 2020 riots chargesheet

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

THE DELHI Police in their chargesheet filed in a Northeast Delhi riots case have found no evidence against a Bharatiya Janata Party councillor, who was accused of giving hate speeches.

A complaint had been filed by Nisar Ahmad, who alleged that his house was vandalised and ransacked during the riots in 2020.

He also submitted, through his lawyer M R Shamshad, that on February 24, 2020, some locals with microphone and speakers had called for violence against Muslims to a crowd of 500-600 people at Bhagirathi Vihar.

Ahmad accused local BJP councillor Kanhaiya Lal of "giving hate speeches" during the event and being the "direct cause of the violence".

He had also made allegations that Muslim women were killed, to which a court ordered the police to investigate.

Police in their final report filed at the Karkardooma court stated that three men, Kanhaiya Lal, Mukesh and Gagan, were interrogated. However, "no sufficient evidence came against them".

On the allegations made by Ahmad that Muslim women were killed, the final report of police stated that "no female body related to riot cases was found".

Police chargesheeted eight persons under sections of the Indian Penal Code relating to rioting, theft, house trespass and punishment for criminal intimidation, among others.

## Some hope: As Covid hospitalisations begin to plateau, health minister says cases may dip soon

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

HOSPITALISATIONS WITH Covid have either stagnated, or in some cases started going down, even as Delhi continues to report over 20,000 cases of the infection each day, according to doctors. As per the government's daily health bulletin, the number of hospitalisations has increased from under a 1,000 to 2,363 in seven days, yet the hospitals have started seeing a changing trend.

At Delhi government's largest hospital, Lok Nayak, new admissions dropped to 20 in the last 24 hours as compared to 35 to 40 patients they were seeing each day earlier. "With the num-

ber of cases going up, we had anticipated that the number of hospitalisations will also continue to increase. However, we saw only 20 admissions today compared to 35-40 we were usually seeing each day. This is the first time numbers have gone down during the current wave," said Dr Suresh Kumar, medical director, Lok Nayak hospital.

This drop in numbers, however, could be a reflection of the change in the testing strategy. All hospitals have been reporting a majority of Covid-19 as an "incidental" finding in patients that come in for the treatment of other conditions. The new testing strategy by the union health ministry released two days ago states, "Asymptomatic patients

undergoing surgical/non-surgical invasive procedures including pregnant women in/near labour who are hospitalised for delivery should not be tested unless warranted or symptoms develop."

Earlier, all patients needing admission or undergoing any procedure were being tested in order to prevent in-hospital spread of the infection.

At the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), a senior doctor said that the total number of admissions has almost stagnated.

"The number of patients coming in and those dying or being discharged is almost the same, hence the total number of admissions have stagnated. It looks like we are close to the

peak of the current wave of infections" the doctor said.

The situation is similar at Delhi government-run Guru Teg Bahadur hospital in the trans-Yamuna area.

"There are around 24 patients currently admitted to the 500 Covid-19 beds we have at the Ram Leela ground. The number has remained between 18 and 25 for the last few days," a senior official said.

"There are 20,000 cases being recorded for some days now, the positivity has also remained close to 25%. The hospital admissions are also not going up, they have plateaued. This is a good sign. Yesterday, only 2,209 beds were occupied and 12,400 beds were free. Nearly six times the beds are vacant and the occu-

pancy is less than 15%. This is when we have just released 15,000 beds; we have preparation for 37,000 beds," said Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain on Wednesday.

He added, "It seems like the cases will start going down soon. The restrictions will be eased when the cases start going down."

Currently, there are around 74,000 active cases of whom around 2,000 are hospitalised. In comparison, when there were 74,000 active cases during the Covid-19 wave in April-May last year, there were almost 14,000 persons admitted to city hospitals.

The wave peaked at around 20,000 hospitalisations and over 28,000 new cases a day.

## Of 4,626 beds at Covid care centres, 13% occupied

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

OF THE 4,626 beds readied at Covid care centres in the city, 12.75% are occupied. A total of 590 patients are admitted at these makeshift care facilities, up from 324 a week ago, on January 4. Eight such centres have been readied so far.

At the Commonwealth Games Village Covid care centre in East Delhi, for instance, 84 patients were admitted as of Tuesday. Most people admitted there are mildly symptomatic, with fever and severe body ache. "In this wave we are not seeing much oxygen needs except 2-3 patients that have associated comorbidities," said Dr Prakerti Kashyap, who is part of Doctors For You, the NGO running the centre.

While the centre had around



A total of 426 beds have been readied at the Commonwealth Games Village Covid care centre. *Abhinav Saha*

135 patients admitted till Monday, many were discharged, as now the guidelines allow that after seven days of testing positive for Covid, she said.

Children from an orphanage, who had tested positive, constituted the bulk of the patients ad-

mitted at the centre, though many were recently discharged.

The facility is equipped with 500 oxygen concentrators and three oxygen plants, ensuring adequate supply. A total of 426 beds have been readied at the centre so far, and the number

can be scaled up to 500, with beds at multiple halls of the centre. The centre was not closed down when the caseload fell after the second wave, though the number of functional beds was reduced, Dr Kashyap said.

They were directed to oper-

ate with 50 beds, occasionally attending to people with post-Covid complications. The centre also provides recreational facilities like games and activities arranged for the children, besides yoga.

If a patient's condition worsens at the centre and treatment is to be escalated, they are shifted to Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan Hospital. For now, the facility has enough staff for around 500 patients, Dr Kashyap said. Additional staff can be mobilised when required since the organisation has a database of healthcare workers who can be contacted, she added.

Doctors For You also manages another centre at the Yamuna Sports Complex. The facility, which can accommodate upto 800 beds, has not yet begun admitting patients. This centre also has a separate paediatric care facility.

## Marital rape hearing: Amicus argues against exception to IPC section 375

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

SENIOR ADVOCATE Rajshelkar Rao, an amicus curiae in the case challenging the legal exception that protects men who have forced, non-consensual intercourse with their wives, Wednesday told the Delhi High Court that every day the provision remains on statute books, women are denied the ability to call a rape a rape. Rao added that no amount of telling the woman that she can prosecute the man under ten other provisions of law can undo the indignity she faces on account of being violated by the person who is supposed to be her companion or husband.

"In the context of rape, your lordships have effectively said that it dehumanises the very existence of woman," submitted Rao, while referring to various judgements of the courts in India, before the division bench of Justices Rajiv Shakti and C Hari Shankar.

"The question we all have to ask ourselves is ... can the court and should the court sit by and watch a provision which aids in the possibility of a married woman being dehumanised every day? I am using the expression very carefully ... 'in the possibility' ... We all understand it does not happen in every household but we also understand it happens in many households," said Rao, adding that the mere fact that there are not many reported numbers should not be a reason for the court to not go into a constitutional question of whether the exception violates Article 21 and Article 14.

"Five minutes before the marriage if the act occurs, it is an offence and five minutes after the marriage, if the act occurs, it is not an offence. At the end of the day, the woman does not have recourse to prosecute the

man for the act. She has the ability to prosecute him for that act under various other provisions of law but she cannot call it a rape anymore," contended Rao.

Referring to the rape laws in India, Rao submitted that there is a "subtle statutory distinction and statutory recognition" of the fact that if somebody in a position of trust violates that trust, they deserve to be punished. "The law places a premium on relationships and a greater responsibility on somebody who has a fiduciary capacity," he added.

However, Justice Shankar said that the word 'trust' and 'fiduciary' has been used in the law keeping in mind the fact that the exception is in place under IPC Section 375 (rape). "To say that 'that will also mean that there is an implicit recognition of the situation which applies in a married couple's case' may not be very correct," observed the judge.

"There is no question of saying that such an act should not be punished. We are concerned with whether this act should be punished as a rape, whether this should be made rape. It is not that the legislature says that this act should not be criminally punished. The legislature has made the act criminally punishable under various statutes but the legislature has taken a decision that this act should not be treated as a rape," he said further.

The intervenors opposing the petitions argued that striking down the exception would put a husband in a "worse position" when it comes to punishment and that India need not "copy-paste western concepts or trends".

Men Welfare Trust, an NGO for men's rights, submitted that the exception is not a license to commit crime and does not take away the right of a married woman to withdraw her consent.

## Civil defence volunteer accuses senior of sexual harassment at SDM office

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

A CIVIL defence volunteer has alleged she was sexually harassed by a deputy division warden at the sub-divisional magistrate's office in East Delhi. Police said a case has been registered and an internal enquiry by the department is also being conducted to look into allegations that he sexually harassed, threatened and abused the volunteer.

According to police, the civil defence volunteer, who is in her 20s and was deployed at the SDM's office, came to the police station with an NGO counsellor on Sunday.

Priyanka Kashyap, DCP (East), said, "The complainant alleged that the deputy division warden at her office harassed her for sexual favours. He also threatened to terminate her if she told anyone about it. Recently, he passed indecent comments at her. On December 31, he again forced the victim into physical relations. When the woman resisted, he abused and threatened her."

The woman also alleged that she tried to lodge a complaint with her seniors but was threatened by associates/friends of the accused. She also told police she went to the SDM's office but a group of men standing at the door "scared her".

A case under sections of sexual harassment and insulting the modesty of a woman has been registered.

No arrest has been made so far, and police said they are verifying the allegations. "An internal enquiry is also being conducted by the SDM's office and we are coordinating with them," the police said.

An official from the SDM's office said, "We received the complaint this week. We are conducting an enquiry and the volunteer is being counselled by an NGO."

Last week, a 25-year-old civil defence volunteer, who was working at SDM's office in Narela, had committed suicide after allegedly facing sexual harassment by other volunteers deployed at the office. Police had booked and arrested two of her colleagues for abetment to suicide.

## BID TO COVER ALL IN 15-17 AGE GROUP

# For children out of schools, vaccination camps at childcare centres

**SUKRITA BARUAH**  
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

SCHOOLS ARE doubling up as centres for vaccinating children in the 15-17 age group in Delhi, attempts are also being made to reach those outside of school, including setting up camps at childcare institutions.

Camps at schools have played a crucial role in speeding up the vaccination process for teenagers. At Mount Abu Public

School Rohini, 85% of the approximately 500 eligible students were vaccinated on the school premises in a two-day camp. At Sarvodaya Bal Vidyalaya Peeragarhi, around 31% of the 1,115 eligible students have been vaccinated so far at two school vaccination centres and one dispensary nearby. The head of the school, P D Sharma, said he is trying to complete the vaccination by next Wednesday.

However, this is also the age group with the highest number

of children not attending school. The Delhi government's socio-economic survey conducted between November 2018 and 2019 had found that 1,15,465 children aged 14 and above were not attending school.

The Women and Child Development department is working with district administrations to vaccinate all eligible children in childcare institutions and homes. For instance, all 120 teens eligible in Asha Kiran Complex have been vaccinated.



"This time, we've re-strategised and learnt from past lessons that we should not wait for people to come to centres but go to them where they are. The focus right now is to reach all those who are under institutional cover — be it schools or childcare homes. After that, we will think

Camps at schools have played crucial role in speeding up vaccination process for kids *Abhinav Saha*.

more about those who are covered by neither. We have already vaccinated all eligible children currently in institutions and welfare homes in the district. We have also provided the information of all centres to NGOs working in the area, and if they find any eligible children who are not covered, they can direct them to those," said Northwest Delhi district magistrate Cheshta Yadav.

"We are trying to maximise coverage through the maximum number of channels. We're in

touch with NGOs, RWAs and civil society organisations. They have been active during the pandemic, assisting us with vaccination camps for other categories and they have networks in their areas," said South Delhi DM Sonalika Jiwani.

An issue that some DMs have flagged, though, is that a large number of those administering vaccines have contracted Covid during the ongoing third wave, meaning that resources are currently stretched.



New Delhi





AHEAD OF ARMY DAY

China threat on, says Army Chief, rejects land border law

**KRISHN KAUSHIK**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

AS INDIAN and Chinese Corps Commanders met for the 14th round of discussions to resolve the 21-month-long standoff in eastern Ladakh, Army Chief General MM Naravane Wednesday said the Chinese threat in the region had not reduced in any way despite partial disengagement at multiple friction points.

Speaking to the reporters ahead of Army Day on January 15, Naravane also rejected China's land boundary law that came into force on January 1, saying it was not legally binding on India.

along the Line of Actual Control.

Naravane said the situation along the LAC "is stable and under control". He added, however, that India is in a position "to meet whatever is thrown at us in the future". "War or conflict is always an instrument of last resort. But if resorted to, we will come out victorious."

On the talks with China on Wednesday, Naravane said: "We are hopeful that we will be able to resolve the issues at PP15 (Hot Springs), which is the one which is pending as of now".

Once that is done, he said, "we will go on to the other issues which pre-date the current stand-off, we are hopeful that too we will



Gen Naravane in New Delhi on Wednesday. ANI

some "civilians" have pitched tents on the Indian side of the LAC.

The talks began Wednesday morning on the Chinese side of the Chushul-Moldo border personnel meeting point. The Indian side was led by XIV Corps commander Lt Gen Anindya Sengupta, and the Chinese side by Maj Gen Yang Lin, commander of South Xinjiang Military District.

Stressing on the need for dialogue, he said it is unreasonable to expect an outcome after every round of discussions.

"A number of rounds will be required to deal with this situation and resolve them, one at a time," said the Army Chief.

action will be taken. I would like to clarify that the law of the land is paramount, and we will always uphold that and will take action as required in upholding the law of the land."

He added: "Appropriate action will be taken and corrective measures instituted, based on the outcome of the investigation."

Naravane said the Army would want to "progressively increase the number of Assam Rifles battalions for border guarding" of the boundary with Myanmar.

He flagged an "increase in concentration of terrorists in various launchpads" and "repeated attempts at infiltration" along LoC, despite ceasefire with Pakistan.



Bikram Singh Majithia

SIT chief had no locus standi to conduct probe against me: Majithia

**NAVJEEVAN GOPAL**  
CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 12

THE PUNJAB drugs case on Wednesday took a new twist with Akali leader Bikram Singh Majithia telling the Special Investigation Team (SIT) that Punjab's anti-drug Special Task Force (STF) chief Harpreet Singh Sidhu had no locus standi to conduct any probe against him as he was his "relative"; was involved in a relatives' property dispute; and that guard of Sidhu's father who was a brigadier in the Army had fired at his grandfather."

Harpreet Sidhu refuted the allegations. He told *The Indian Express* that "The property dispute was between my cousins and my mother and maternal aunts. The cousins had filed a case against them and lost it outright. Neither I nor BS (read Bikram Singh) Majithia have anything to do with it and are not parties to the case or have any interest in the property."

On allegations of firing, Sidhu said, "His (Majithia's) grandfather visited my father in Assam and when they were traveling, a security naka of the army fired on them in a case of mistaken identity. My father was injured and admitted to army hospital where he recovered. It is amazing that he (Majithia) thinks that the incident [which] probably [occurred] in 1991 or so has any connection with the allegation of smuggling of drugs against him." Sidhu said.

Based on ED findings after he was entrusted by the Punjab and Haryana Court to submit a report and broadly on the bases of which FIR registered against Majithia, Sidhu had stated, "For the purpose of record it is stated that I have cousin brothers named Arjun Singh Majithia & Gobind Singh Majithia sons of late Jasjit Kaur (my maternal aunt) who are further ahead related to Bikram Singh Majithia. Late Jasjit Kaur passed away in the year 1987 and to the best of my knowledge, I have had no contact with her family atleast for the last about 14 years."

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



**TEST DRIVE**

TRINAMOOLO CONGRESS MP Abhishek Banerjee marked Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary on Wednesday by carrying out a unique drive in his Lok Sabha constituency Diamond Harbour – that of Covid tests. As many as 53,203 Covid tests were carried out in the constituency at the rate of 27,000 tests per million population. The MP said this was one of the highest ever number in a single day in a constituency across the country. Banerjee also claimed that his constituency has the lowest Covid positivity rate among the Lok Sabha seats in the state.

**X FOR LAXMAN?**

THE VISHWA HINDU Parishad (VHP) wants the English alphabet chart to be Indianised. Pushing aside the A for Apple, B for Ball chart, the outfit wants children to learn alphabet from a new chart it has prepared – of prominent Indian personalities and religious figures among others. So, the chart has A for Ambedkar, B for Bhagat Singh, C for Chanakya, D for Dayananda... K for Kalam APJ. There are some modifications as well to meet the purpose: X for LaXman, W for Walmiki (Valmiki) and Z for Zulehal (Jhulehal). Y, of course, is for Yoga.

**ACCOUNT HACKED**

THE INFORMATION and Broadcasting Ministry had to face some embarrassment on social media Wednesday morning. The ministry's official Twitter handle was hacked, and its name changed to that of American billionaire Elon Musk. For more than one hour, the control of the handle, with over 1.4 million followers, remained with the hackers, who kept putting out comments such as "Hurry up!", "Great job!" and "Love you guys!! My gift here!!". A little after 10 am, the ministry officials finally managed to get back its control, and deleted all the spam tweets. "The account @Mib\_india has been restored. This is for the information of all the followers," the ministry then tweeted.

SP, allies discuss seat-sharing formula, to announce 'soon'

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 12

SAMAJWADI PARTY (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday chaired a meeting with his party's alliance partners at SP's headquarters here to discuss seat-sharing arrangement. The Opposition party announced that the alliance would conduct a door-to-door campaign.

Among the leaders present were Pragatisheel Samajwadi Party (Lohia) president and Akhilesh's uncle Shivpal Yadav, his son Aditya Yadav; Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) chief Om Prakash Rajbhar; Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) state chief Masood Ahmad; Janwadi Party (Socialist) chief Sanjay Chauhan; Mahan Dal president Keshav Dev Maurya; Apna Dal (Kamerawadi) chief Krishna Patel and NCP's KK Sharma.

SP national spokesperson Juhie Singh said the seat-sharing formula will be announced this week. "I think the party will make things public soon," she added.

Senior party leaders said the SP would contest around 300 seats while the rest will go to its allies. "Some of the candidates of our allies will contest on our symbol while some of the allies' candidates will contest on the SP symbol," said one leader. "We have reached an agreement, and we are on same page as them."

Without mentioning how many constituencies the SBSP would contest, Rajbhar told a news channel, "We are not contesting in the first three phases. We will field candidates from the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh phases... Our seats are finalised."

After failure of alliances with Congress in 2017 Assembly polls and BSP in 2019 LS polls, the SP had said it would ally only with smaller parties for upcoming state elections.

**SREENIVAS JANYALA**  
HYDERABAD, JANUARY 12

ON TUESDAY, Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao had an unlikely visitor – Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav, who flew in to Hyderabad with a team of his party leaders. The meeting, which comes a week after CPI(M) and CPI leaders met KCR, and a month after KCR met his Tamil Nadu counterpart M K Stalin, sparked off speculation about the formation of a possible Third Front ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, and the Telangana CM's role in such an alliance.

While TRS leaders said nothing much should be read into Tejashwi's meeting with K Chandrashekar Rao, they admitted that a clearer picture would emerge after the outcome of the upcoming elections in five states.

Prior to the 2019 elections, KCR had explored a role for himself in national politics, and had talked about forming a non-Congress, non-BJP alliance comprising regional parties. K Chandrashekar Rao had reached out to Biju Janata Dal (BJD) chief Naveen Patnaik and TMC chief Mamta Banerjee in a bid to forge a Third Front. Making his intentions clear, he had then said that "a Third Front is necessary to ignite a change in governance".

Expressing his intention and ambition to take a leadership role at the national level he had said: "The people of this country are looking for a qualitative change in governance and in the society. In the last 70 years, the political system, whether ruled by Congress or BJP, has failed to deliver, has failed miserably to bring a qualitative change in the lives of the people. The country is now desperate for a qualitative change in politics."

However, he shelved the idea



Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao (right) with Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav. Twitter/@RJDforIndia

after the NDA's decisive win in the elections that year. But, of late, he has become increasingly vocal against the BJP at the Centre. His MPs had disrupted Parliament's Winter Session proceedings over the paddy procurement issue, and the party, which has on many occasions sided with the Bharatiya Janata Party government and backed it on crucial Bills, including the farm laws, was even part of an Opposition joint statement condemning the suspension of 12 Rajya Sabha MPs.

Yet, KCR himself hasn't, since the 2019 Lok Sabha results, spoken about his national ambitions. But he set off a buzz when on December 14 last year, he called on Tamil Nadu CM M K Stalin, amidst the paddy row. It was described as a "courtesy call" as KCR was visiting the Ranganatha Swamy temple in Srirangam, Tamil Nadu, and decided to pay Stalin a visit. TRS leaders maintained that since the families of both the CMs were also present, politics wasn't discussed.

Last Friday, top leaders of the CPI and CPM also paid a visit to the Telangana CM, and they reportedly discussed the formation of a secular front to counter the BJP. None of the TRS leaders were willing to talk about the meetings.

While the CPM leaders -- including national general secre-

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER Date:- 13.01.2022

NIT No.	Brief Works Description	Estimated Cost (INR, Lakhs)	Cost of EMD (INR, Lakhs)	Prebid Meeting Date	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Bid Opening
AMIL/2021-22/07	Proto Assembly & Type Testing of 04 types (DA,DB,DC & DD) towers for ±320KV HVDC transmission Line with +9 Mtr extension (Wind Zone -3)	379.5	3.8	19/01/2022 11:30 Hrs	29/01/2022 17:00 Hrs	31.01.2022 17:00 Hrs

All Materials & Services will be as per AMIL Specifications / BOQ.  
All Prebid Meeting will be done electronically / telephonically due to Covid19 restrictions.

For details with respect of Service/ Material, Qualifying Requirement , Terms & Conditions, Services / Submission of Tender Documents, etc., please visit our web site :- [www.adanielectricity.com](http://www.adanielectricity.com) --> Tenders --> Open Tenders. The Tender document will be available on said link by 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2022

Tenderer must submit their bids online / electronic submission. Vendor should visit the website [www.adanielectricity.com](http://www.adanielectricity.com) for any Corrigendum / Amendments; no separate information regarding Corrigendum will be published in the newspapers.

Date: 13.01. 2022

Central Procurement Group

adani Electricity

NOTICE INVITING TENDER Date:- 13.01.2022

NIT No.	Division	Brief Works Description	Estimated Cost (INR, Lakhs)	Cost of EMD (INR, Lakhs)	Prebid Meeting Date	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Bid Opening
AEML/MTB/ 2021-22/13	Transmission	Replacement of in-service Polymer insulators with high creepage polymer insulators in Cold line at critical locations in Mumbai & Dahanu	56.8	0.5	19.01.2022 11:30 Hrs	27.01.2022 17:00 Hrs	28.01.2022 17:00 Hrs
AEML/MDB/ 2021-22/77	Distribution	Appointment of Architect for Kiosks and offices etc. across AEML locations in Mumbai	75.0	0.8	17.01.2022 11:30 hrs	27.01.2022 16.00 hrs	28.01.2022 16.00 hrs
AEML/MDB/ 2021-22/78	Distribution	Misc Civil Works at Erangle Receiving Station	55.0	0.6	18.01.2022 11:30 hrs	25.01.2022 16.00 hrs	27.01.2022 16.00 hrs

All Materials & Services will be as per Adani Electricity Mumbai Limited Specifications / BOQ.  
All Prebid Meeting will be done electronically / telephonically due to Covid19 restrictions.

For details with respect of Service/ Material, Qualifying Requirement , Terms & Conditions, Services / Submission of Tender Documents, etc., please visit our web site :- [www.adanielectricity.com](http://www.adanielectricity.com) --> Tenders --> Open Tenders. The Tender document will be available on said link by 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2022.

Tenderer must submit their bids online / electronic submission. Vendor should visit the website [www.adanielectricity.com](http://www.adanielectricity.com) for any Corrigendum / Amendments; no separate information regarding Corrigendum will be published in the newspapers.

Date: 13.01.2022

Central Procurement Group

<b>TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES LIMITED</b>				
Registered Office: 9 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Nirmal Building, Nariman Point, Mumbai 400 021. Tel: +91 22 6778 9595 Fax: +91 22 6778 9660 e-mail: <a href="mailto:investor.relations@tcs.com">investor.relations@tcs.com</a> website: <a href="http://www.tcs.com">www.tcs.com</a> CIN: L22210MH1995PLC084781				
Extract of the audited consolidated interim financial results for the quarter ended December 31, 2021				
	Three month period ended December 31, 2021	Nine month period ended December 31, 2021	Three month period ended December 31, 2020	(₹ crore)
Revenue from operations	48,885	1,41,163	42,015	
Profit before tax (before exceptional item)	13,191	38,323	11,692	
Profit before tax (after exceptional item)	13,191	38,323	11,692	
Profit after tax	9,806	28,490	8,727	
Total comprehensive income for the period	9,555	28,269	9,142	
Paid up equity share capital (Face value: ₹1 per share)	370	370	375	
Total reserves (including non-controlling interests)*	86,738	86,738	84,374	
Earnings per equity share:- Basic and diluted (₹)	26.41	76.77	23.19	
*Balances for three month and nine month period ended December 31, 2021 represent balances as per the audited consolidated balance sheet for the year ended March 31, 2021 and balances for three month period ended December 31, 2020 represent balances as per the audited consolidated balance sheet for the year ended March 31, 2020 as required by Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.				
Extract of the audited standalone interim financial results for the quarter ended December 31, 2021				
	Three month period ended December 31, 2021	Nine month period ended December 31, 2021	Three month period ended December 31, 2020	(₹ crore)
Revenue from operations	40,845	1,17,882	34,957	
Profit before tax (before exceptional item)	12,879	37,097	11,844	
Profit before tax (after exceptional item)	12,879	37,097	11,844	
Profit after tax	9,959	28,392	9,242	
Total comprehensive income for the period	9,885	28,326	9,150	
<b>Notes:</b>				
1. The audited consolidated interim financial results and audited standalone interim financial results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on January 12, 2022. The statutory auditors have expressed an unmodified audit opinion on these results.				
2. The Board of Directors at its meeting held on January 12, 2022, has declared an interim dividend of ₹7.00 per equity share.				
3. The Board of Directors at its meeting held on January 12, 2022, has approved a proposal to buy-back upto 4,00,00,000 equity shares of the Company for an aggregate amount not exceeding ₹18,000 crore being 1.08% of the total paid up equity share capital at ₹4,500 per equity share subject to approval from shareholders.				
4. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format for three month and nine month period ended December 31, 2021, are available on the BSE Limited website (URL: <a href="http://www.bseindia.com">www.bseindia.com</a> ), the National Stock Exchange of India Limited website (URL: <a href="http://www.nseindia.com">www.nseindia.com</a> ) and on the Company's website (URL: <a href="http://www.tcs.com/investors">www.tcs.com/investors</a> ).				
For and on behalf of the Board of Directors				
Mumbai January 12, 2022	Rajesh Gopinathan CEO and Managing Director			



# CORONA ISN'T OVER REMEMBER TO FOLLOW ALL COVID PRECAUTIONS



## Wear a mask properly

Wear your mask before stepping out of the house.



## Wash your hands frequently

Wash your hands regularly with soap or use sanitizer for atleast 20 seconds.



## Practice social distancing

Avoid going to crowded places, and remember to maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet.

"According to experts, Omicron spreads very rapidly, but there is no need to panic. Continue to wear your mask and remember to follow all covid norms."

– Arvind Kejriwal





11 MEDICAL COLLEGES INAUGURATED IN TN

MBBS, medical PG seats up 80% since 2014: PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
CHENNAI, JANUARY 12

PRAISING TAMIL language and Tamil Nadu's contribution in producing some of the world's top engineers, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday inaugurated 11 new medical colleges and a Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT) in the state and said that there has been an 80-per cent increase in the number of MBBS and medical PG seats in India since 2014.

Modi inaugurated the projects virtually from New Delhi. Referring to the shortage of doctors in the country, he said that "perhaps vested interests did not let previous governments take the right decision" and address this issue. He pointed out that access to medical education is another issue that needs to be addressed and said there were only 387 medical colleges in India in 2014. That number, he pointed out, has increased to 596 in the last seven years since his government took charge.

He said there were only 82,000 MBBS and PG Medical seats in 2014, which now stands at 1.48 lakh seats — "an increase of 80 percent". He said the number of AIIMS hospitals has also increased from seven in 2014 to 22 (number of projects approved) now.

Modi said regulations to set up medical colleges were regularised by his government without compromising quality.

On the new projects, he said, "Maybe it was the first time in the country to have inaugurations of 11 medical colleges at one stroke. I had inaugurated nine medical colleges in Uttar Pradesh only a few days ago, so I am getting to break my own record."

Modi said it is "good to see that two of the medical colleges inaugurated today are in aspirational districts — Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar" — which, he added, require special attention in development.

Nilgiris, Tiruvallur, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Dindigul, Kallakurichi, Ariyalur, Krishnagiri and Tirupur are the other districts where the medical colleges were inaugurated.

"The Covid-19 pandemic has reaffirmed the importance of the health sector. The future belongs to societies that invest in healthcare," he said, referring to several reforms and schemes launched by



PM Modi speaks at the inauguration of the 25th National Youth Festival in Puducherry, via video conferencing. PTI

his government in health the sector, including Ayushman Bharat Yojana and the network of Jan Aushadhi stores.

Modi said one of the happiest moments in his life was the opportunity he had to speak a few words in Tamil at the United Nations.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin, who attended the event from Chennai, thanked Modi and said this was a day that fulfilled a long-pending dream of the state to have medical colleges in all districts. Asserting that the state has the maximum number of medical colleges in India, he said the 11 medical colleges and the new classical Tamil institute were dreams of his late father and former CM, M Karunanidhi.

Stalin said the admission policy of Tamil Nadu plays an important role in the state's health infrastructure and all advanced health practices it had attained. To protect this, he reminded Modi about the state's long-pending demand to get exemption from NEET exam.


Raising marriage age will help women build career: PM

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi on Wednesday said the government has decided to raise the marriageable age of women from 18 to 21 so that they can build their career. Modi was speaking at the inauguration of the 25th National Youth Festival in Puducherry via

video conferencing. "We believe that sons and daughters are equal. Keeping this in mind, the government has decided to raise the age of marriage to 21 years for the betterment of daughters. Daughters can also make their career, they

get more time, this is a very important step in this direction," Modi said.

The government had introduced the Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill during the winter session of the Parliament.




**M. P. ROAD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.**  
(M.P. State Highway Authority) (Govt. of MP Undertaking)  
**45-A, Arera Hills, Bhopal-462011 (CIN : U45203MP2004SGC016758)**  
Phone : 0755-2597290/2765205, Fax : 2572643, Website : [www.mprdc.gov.in](http://www.mprdc.gov.in)  
**No. 14987/MPRDC/858/HR/BDC/2022 Bhopal, Date : 12.01.2022**

MP Road Development Corporation Ltd. has been deputed as the executing agency for construction of various building projects of GoMP. To meet the man power requirement of Building Project, MPRDC invites applications for following 01 indicative posts from eligible candidates :-

S.No.	Name of Post & Salary	No. of Post	Remarks/Qualification/Experience
1	Engineer in Chief (Contract) (Last Pay (-) Pension)	UR-01	1. Worked as Engineer in Chief/Chief Engineer (Civil) in Govt./Semi. Govt. Organisation. 2. Total 20 years experience in the field of Building/ Road Project.

**The General Terms and Conditions :**  
1. Application form should be submitted in prescribed format at office of Chief General Manager (Admn.), 45-A, Arera Hills, Bhopal only.  
2. The selection will be made on the basis of merit cum interview.  
3. The appointment is initially for One year, which can be extended, based upon satisfactory performance and mutual consent as per the requirements of the MPRDC.  
4. MD, MPRDC reserves the right to increase or decrease the positions (no. of post, based on actual position required) advertised and to fill/not fill them from the merit/waiting list. MPRDC reserves the right not to declare any waiting list.  
5. MD, MPRDC will have full right to accept or reject any or all applications without assigning any reason thereof.  
6. The **last date for submission of application is 24.01.2022.**  
7. All details are mentioned on the Rule Book, the application form and rule book are also showing on [www.mprdc.gov.in](http://www.mprdc.gov.in)  
M.P. Madhyam/103270/2022 **CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (ADMIN.)**



**75**  
Azadi Ka  
Amrit Mahotsav

**Together We Can Stop COVID-19**

**Both Covid-19 Vaccine doses are free**

**Vaccination for the adolescents in the age group of 15 to 18 years has started**


**Booster dose for elderly persons above 60 years of age**


**Avoid travelling if not necessary**

**Sanitization**

**Mask**

**Social Distancing**



**Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana**  
[www.prharyana.gov.in](http://www.prharyana.gov.in) |  @DiprHaryana

[Pursuant to rule 17 of the LLP Rules, 2009]  
**Before the Registrar of Companies, Patna**  
In the matter of sub-section (3) of Section 13 of LLP Act, 2008 and Rule 17 of the LLP Rules, 2009

**AND**  
In the matter of V.K. TULSYAN & CO. LLP (its registered office at: Flat No. 205, Siddhant Apartment, Moraria Colony, Near Shyam Mansi, Patna - 800016, having LLPIN: AAE-2275.

.....Applicant

Notices is hereby given to the General Public that the Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) proposes to make application to the Registrar of Companies (ROC), Patna under section 13 of LLP Act, 2008 read with Rule 17 of the LLP Rules, 2009 seeking confirmation for alteration of the LLP Agreement in terms of the resolution passed at the meeting of Partners held on 16th January, 2022 to enable the LLP to change its Registered Office from "State of Bihar" to "State of West Bengal".

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the LLP may send by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of opposition to the ROC-cum-Official Liquidator, Ministry Of Corporate Affairs, High Court Of Patna, Maurya Lok Complex, Block "A" 4th Floor, Dak Bungalow Road, Patna-800001, Bihar within 21 days of the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the applicant LLP at its registered office.

For and on behalf of the Applicant  
Sd/-  
Vishnu Kumar Tulsyan  
Date : 11.01.2022 (Designated Partner)  
Place: Patna (DIN: 09638832)

**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, MEDICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING, UTTAR PRADESH, 6th FLOOR, JAWAHAR BHAWAN, LUCKNOW.**  
No. ME-3/2022/80 Lucknow, Dated: 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2022

**The Time Schedule of First Round of Online Counseling of UP NEET PG-2021**

The Time Schedule for the Admission through Online counselling in the State Uttar Pradesh for Government / Private Medical College / Institutions / Universities for Postgraduate Courses (MD / MS / Diploma) is as follows:-

Date of Online Registration (MD / MS / Diploma)	12 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 (From 2:00 PM) To 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 (Till 2:00 PM)
Date of Security Fee Deposition	12 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 To 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
Expected date of Declaration of Merit List	18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
Date of Online Choice Filling	20 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 (From 2:00 PM) to 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 (Till 12:00 AM)
Declaration of result of seat allotment	25 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
Date for downloading allotment letters and admission date	27 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 to 02 <sup>nd</sup> February 2022 (Except Sunday & Government Holidays)
Session start from	01 <sup>st</sup> February 2022

• Registration fee & Security fee should be submitted by Debit card/Credit card & E-challan.  
• For PH Candidates, please see the Government of India Notice dated 01-12-2021, the above notice contains the list of centers which will issue the Disability Certificate. The Notice dated 01-12-2021 of Government of India has also been displayed on the departmental website [www.dgmeup.in](http://www.dgmeup.in)  
• For further important and detailed information kindly visit the website. <https://upneet.gov.in> & [www.dgmeup.in](http://www.dgmeup.in).

Director General



POLL CODE BREACH: UP MINISTER, OTHERS BOOKED

Muzaffarnagar: Uttar Pradesh minister Kapil Dev Aggarwal was on Wednesday booked for violating the model code of conduct and the Covid protocol for allegedly holding a rally at a public ground without permission. The UP minister for Vocational Education and Skill Development was booked along with 40 BJP workers after they held the publically at Ramliila Tila locality under the Kotwali police station area of the district on Tuesday, police said, adding that they were all booked based on the video evidence of the rally.

PTI

Karnataka college bans hijabs, saffron scarves on campus

EXPRESSNEWSSERVICE  
BENGALURU, JANUARY 12

A STATE-RUN college in Balagadi village in Karnataka's Chikkamagaluru district has decided to ban hijabs and saffron scarves on the campus. The decision was taken at a meeting with the parents of students on Wednesday.

Last month, a section of students had turned up wearing saffron scarves and asked their female Muslim classmates not to wear hijabs during classes.

Principal Ananth Murthy told *The Indian Express*, "The officials were part of the meeting and it was decided that Hindu students will not sport saffron scarves and Muslim girl students will not wear hijabs but they can wear a shawl to cover their heads. If anyone violates the rule, they would be dismissed from the college."

The degree college has around 850 students of which a quarter are Muslim. A faculty member, who did not reveal his name, said some people were trying to instigate hatred.

It was decided Hindu students will not sport saffron scarves and Muslim girl students won't wear hijabs, says principal

Notably, most government-run degree colleges in the state do not have uniforms though the one in Balagadi is an exception. In 2018, the college had faced the same issue and the rule was brought. An officer working in

the higher education department said that the issue of dress code "has cropped up in recent years." Campus Front of India (Karnataka) state secretary Syed Sarfaraz Gangavathi welcomed the decision of the college authorities. "The Constitution allows the wearing of hijab or saffron shawls but it should not be instigated by anyone or politically motivated," he said.

Former National Secretary of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) Harsha Narayan said that schools and colleges should be kept away

from religious practices. "We are ready to join any organisation (including Campus Front of India) to keep away religious practices from schools and colleges," he added.

Recently, the principal of a government PU college in Udipi district stopped Muslim girls from entering the campus as they were wearing hijabs. However, the latter were allowed entry after they approached the deputy commissioner of Udupi, Kurma Rao, stating that their constitutional rights were being violated.

PLEA AGAINST TALAQ AL-SUNNAH

Delhi HC to hear plea as Centre says other forms of talaq not illegal in law

SOFIAHSAN  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

THE DELHI High Court on Wednesday agreed to hear a petition seeking to declare talaq al-sunnah, a type of divorce in Islamic jurisprudence, as unconstitutional and discriminatory, after the Centre submitted that the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019 — which criminalises instant triple talaq — does not render the other forms of talaq illegal.

Issuing notice to the Centre, the division bench of Justices Vipin Sanghi and Jasmeet Singh asked the authorities to file a response within eight weeks and listed it for hearing on May 2.

Dismissing the same petition filed by a Muslim woman, apprehending divorce by her husband, the court had, on September 23, said that the plea is completely misconceived in light of the 2019 law, and in particular its provision declaring pronouncement of talaq as illegal.

The petitioner later sought a review of the order.

Section 2(c) of the 2019 Act states that talaq "means talaq-e-biddat or any other similar form of talaq having the effect of instantaneous and irrevocable divorce pronounced by a Muslim husband". Talaq al-sunnah, which also involves pronouncement of 'talaq' by the husband, is revocable, as it involves the feature of a certain waiting period before it can be considered final.

Advocate Monika Arora, representing the Centre, told the court on Wednesday that while

one form of talaq (instant talaq) has been declared illegal, the other two forms were not specifically covered by the 2019 Act. "If you say 'talaq' one after the another, that was declared to be an offence by the Act of Parliament. But if you say it three times in three months, or with a gap, it is still not declared to be illegal," Arora submitted, while seeking time to file a reply on behalf of the government.

The review petition against the September 23 HC order had been filed by the petitioner to seek a clarification whether talaq al-sunnah also falls within the meaning of talaq under Section 2 (c) of the 2019 law. Following the Centre's submission, the court said that the review petition deserves to be allowed.

While recalling the dismissal order passed last year, the court said that it had proceeded on the basis that talaq al-sunnah is covered by the 2019 Act on the assumption that talaq al-sunnah is also a pronouncement of talaq by a Muslim husband upon his wife, by words, either spoken or written or in electronic form or in any other manner. However, the court said, it appears that talaq al-sunnah is not covered by the definition of talaq under the 2019 law.

The petition before the court states that it challenges the "assumed absolute discretion" of a Muslim husband to give divorce to his wife "at any time without any reason and without advance notice to wife and without presence of wife on the grounds of being arbitrary, anti-shariat, unconstitutional, discriminatory, barbaric and illegal".

Eight aides of splinter Maoist group held: cops

EXPRESSNEWSSERVICE  
RANCHI, JANUARY 12

JHARKHAND POLICE on Wednesday said they have arrested eight aides of Peoples' Liberation Front of India (PLFI), a splinter group of the banned CPI(Maoist), in an operation spanning six days. They claimed to have seized arms and ammunition and more than Rs 64 lakh in cash during the operation.

The police identified them as Nivesh Kumar, 32; Subham Poddar, 20; Dhruv Kumar Singh, 32; Amir Chand, 29; Aarya Kumar Singh, 19; Ujjawal Kumar, 18; Pravin Kumar, 35; and Subhash Poddar. They said Aamir and Aarya were first to be arrested on January 6 in Dhurwa, Ranchi. Sleeping bags, portable tents, PLFI pamphlets and Rs 3.5 lakh cash along with two SUVs were seized from them.

Ranchi SSP Surendra Kumar said three other suspects — Nivesh, Subham and Dhruv — managed to escape from the spot. A subsequent search at Nivesh Kumar's residence in Ranchi led to the recovery of Rs 61.31 lakh in cash, a 7.65 bore open pistol and a large number of cartridges, the police said.



An opportunity to give medical service to India's lifeline



Northern Railway conducts a Walk-in-interview for engagement of CMPs for COVID Isolation ward of Northern Railway Central Hospital on contract basis

No. 752E/Contract/COVID/NRCH/2022 Dated : 12/01/2022  
Sub : Walk-in-interview for engagement of Contract Medical Practitioners (CMPs) for COVID Isolation Ward in Northern Railway Central Hospital New Delhi on contract basis for a duration up to 31.03.2022 & further extendable as per requirement as shown below and to prepare a wait-list for vacancies that may arise in future.

ITEM NO.	CATEGORY	SPECIALTY	NO. OF POSTS	PLACE OF POSTING
01.	CMP	(Specialists Medicine/Anesthesia/Pediatrics/Critical Care)	Ten (10)	NRCH, New Delhi
02.	CMP	(General Duty Medical Officer)	Ten (10)	NRCH, New Delhi

Note: - 1. Depending on administrative exigencies, Railway Administration have reserved the right to modify number of vacancies and place of posting. In case, sufficient Specialists are not available, posts will be filled by GDMOs.  
2. Term/period of the contract is further extendable as per requirement for each category of staff if such directions are received from Railway Board.

Reservation will be as under:

ITEM NO	CATEGORY	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	UR	TOTAL
01	CMP Specialist	01	NII	02	01	06	10
02	CMP (GDMO)	01	NII	02	01	06	10

Note :- In case, reserved candidates are not available, reserved posts will be filled by UR candidates because the appointment is to be done in Emergency for COVID-19

The reservation will apply as per rules in vogue. The actual reservation of vacancies would depend upon the prevailing sanctioned strength at the time of engagement. In case required number of reserved slots are not filled in, it will be open to fill the seats with unreserved candidate in terms of Rly Bd's directives issued vide No. 77 E (SCT) 15/18 date 22.7.1977 in view of emergency.

Date, Time & Venue of Document verification, walk-in Interview & Medical Examination:- The interested candidates can appear in online/Walk-in-interview followed by Medical Examination at the following venue:-

Date	Time	Categories	Venue
17.01.2022	10:00 Hrs. to 15:00.	CMPs	Auditorium, Northern Railway Central Hospital, Basant Lane, New Delhi

Medical Examination of suitable candidates will be held after Walk-in-Interview.

Note :- Candidates should submit their application in duplicate on prescribed proforma enclosed herewith latest by 09:00 AM at above mentioned venue on the dates of Documents Verification and walk-in-interviews.

In case, it is not possible to interview all candidates on nominated day, they will be interviewed on next working day/days. Thus, the candidates should make their own arrangement for stay and come prepared accordingly.

Remuneration:-

S. NO.	CATEGORY	SALARY PER MONTH
1	CMP (Specialists)	Rs. 95000/-
2	CMP (GDMOs)	Rs. 75000/-

a) For Category 1 & 2: Consolidated remuneration at the rate of Rs. 75,000/- for General Duty Doctor and Rs. 95,000/- for Specialist Doctors per month will be admissible, if Govt. accommodation is not provided. If Govt. accommodation is provided, an amount equivalent to House Rent Allowance payable to a fresh entrant to Group 'A' Jr. Scale and License fee of Railway accommodation so provided shall be deducted from the monthly remuneration payable to the CMP.

Age Limit

Candidate should not have completed more than 53 years, age as on 13.01.2022. However, age relaxation of 05 years for SC/ST and 03 years for OBC candidates is admissible.

Terms and Conditions:-

Engagement of Doctors would be on contract basis initially for a period up to 31.03.2022, further extendable as per administrative requirement & on the basis of assessment of performance of CMPs as well as the situation of COVID-19 Pandemic if such observations are received from Railway Board. However, services of these doctors can be terminated even before 31.03.2022 giving 15 days notice on either side. Railway Administration reserves the right to terminate the contract at any time during the contract by giving 15 days notice or payment of 15 days remuneration without assigning any reason whatsoever. The services rendered as contractual staff is a stop gap arrangement and will not confer upon them any right for regularization or permanent absorption in the Railway. The engagement shall be purely on contract basis for a period upto 31.03.2022 or extended term as may be required.

Essential Educational Qualification

- For General Duty Doctors: MBBS degree (with completion of internship) from any University/Institution recognized by Indian medical Council.
  - For Specialist Doctors: MBBS degree and Post Graduate Medical Degree/Diploma in subject concerned from any University/Institution recognized by Indian medical Council.
- Experience  
For specialist Medical Practitioners for General Duty Doctors, the candidate with experience will be given preference.

Contract is liable to be terminated, if the Contract Medical Practitioner is found to be mentally or physically incapacitated.

Note :-

- Candidate should bring their Application form along with original and attested copies of all certificates & mark-sheets. No TA/DA is admissible.
- The offer of engagement to selected candidates shall be issued subject to availability of

is where basis is". Administration reserves the right to change the posting as per administrative needs. The CMP Specialist Doctors so selected shall also have to carry out general duties as and when required by Railway Administration in addition to their specialty work.

- If posts of specialists not filled up the vacancies may be filled up by General Duty Medical Practitioners temporarily.

- The number of notified vacancies may be changed as per requirement of the administration.

- The notification can be downloaded from Northern Railway's websites [www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in) and [www.nr.railnet.gov.in/dept/personnel/pnew.html](http://www.nr.railnet.gov.in/dept/personnel/pnew.html)

- After approval of the panel by competent authority, the panel will be uploaded at NR's websites [www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in) and [www.nr.railnet.gov.in/dept/personnel/pnew.html](http://www.nr.railnet.gov.in/dept/personnel/pnew.html). Suitable candidates will be intimated through speed-post, Telephone calls and e-mail/ SMS to report at Northern Railway's Central Hospital New Delhi for posting. The candidates who do not report at the assigned date and time will forfeit their chance of contract engagement and vacancies may be filled up from the next empanelled candidate.

Enclosed : As above.

APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF SPECIALIST DOCTORS OR GENERAL DUTY DOCTORS

(Kindly indicate)

Whether applicant is Ex Railway/Central/State Govt. Doctors/Ex SM

(Kindly indicate)

Specialist Doctors may indicate if he/she wants to be empanelled as a General Duty Doctors also- Willing/Not willing (Kindly indicate)

The Medical Director,  
Northern Railway Central Hospital  
Basant Lane  
New Delhi.

- Name (in block letters) : .....
- Father's/Husband's name (in block letters) : .....
- Permanent Address : .....
- Postal Address : .....
- Email address in very clear words : .....
- Mobile No. & DOT (with STD code) : Mobile No. .... : DOT No. (With STD code) : .....
- Date of Birth : .....  
Age as on 13.01.2022 (.....) Years (.....) Months (Days)
- Category to which belongs : .....  
SC/ST/OBC/EWS/UR/  
Ex-Serviceman (Please write)
- Nationality : .....
- Have you worked in Railways as a CMP / : .....  
yes; give details
- Educational/Professional Qualifications : .....

Examination	Year of Passing	Medical College & University	No. of attempts	Percentage
High School/equivalent				
Intermediate/equivalent				
MBBS Part I				
MBBS Part II				
MBBS Part III				
Aggregate % in MBBS				
PG (MD/MS/Dip.) All are taken to be PG equivalent (Kindly indicate discipline)				

- Registration No. of Medical council ..... State where registered .....
- Experience, if any .....
- Attested documents required along with the original, are as under:-
  - Two recent passport size photograph
  - Certificate indicating date of birth (High school/equivalent)
  - MBBS Degree with mark sheets (All parts) and Certificate of any higher Medical Qualifications, if any, of Recognized University (For the candidates applied for General Duty Doctors)
  - Mark-sheets and certificate of PG along with MBBS Degree with mark-sheets of all parts (For candidates applying for Specialist Doctors).
  - Internship completion certificate.
  - Registration certificate of Medical Council of States/India.
  - House job certificated/EWS, Ex- Serviceman, if any.
  - Certificate in support of caste in case of SC/ST & OBC issued by the appropriate authority.
  - Attested copy of Pension Payment Order (PPO) in case of Retired Railway Doctors and Ex- Central/State Govt. Staff only.

I hereby declare that all the statements made in this application are true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that in the event of any information given herein is found false or incorrect or concealed, the contract will be liable to be terminated and any civil/criminal legal action can be taken against me for this. I understand that I am not eligible for any TA/DA for this interview.

Place : .....

Date : .....

Candidate

Signature of the

Note: This application can be given at the time of walk-in-interview. It will thereafter be initiated by the three officers taking interview and kept in record for subsequent proceeding.

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**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
(Through e-tendering)  
**Tender No. 558-Sig-16-Tele-OT-942** Dated: 12.01.2022  
Name of work with its location Replacement of Electronic Exchange (OMNI-230) of DRM office, New Delhi.  
App. Cost of the work (₹) ₹ 89 04 677.44/- only  
Earnest Money Deposit(₹) ₹ 1,78,100/- only  
Address of the office Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-C, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annexe-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055.  
Date & Time for upload the tender / closing of tender Tender uploading / closing date & time- 09.02.2022 up to 15.00 hrs.  
Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc. See the Northern Railway website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055  
74/22  
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**SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE**  
  
General public is here by informed that this Female **Namely: Kunti, W/o Lt Ramji Lal, R/o H. No. E-57/A-374, Sunder Nagri, Delhi, Age: about 32 Years, Height: 5', Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: Sky Blue color Suit-Salwar and Slippers in Feet** has been missing from her house since 07.12.2021.  
In this regard a DD No. 48-A dated 17.12.2021, has been lodged at P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi.  
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this Female but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information or clue about this Female kindly inform to the following.  
SHO  
P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi  
Ph. 011-22585985, 8750870733  
DP/1258/NE/2021  
E-Mail: [cic@cbl.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbl.gov.in)  
Website: <http://cbl.nic.in>  
Fax: 011-24368639  
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641



## 9 DECISION 2022



UTTAR PRADESH • UTTARAKHAND • PUNJAB • GOA • MANIPUR

## HASHTAG POLITICS



## ● Cong's women empowerment pitch in UP

Women's empowerment remains the catchphrase for the Congress in UP during this election. In a series of tweets tagged with #hum\_vachan\_nibhaenge, @INCUPradesh promised special schools, scholarships and smartphones for girls.

## ● BJP's 'poetic' take on SP

@BJP4UP took potshots at the Samajwadi Party in a 'poetic' post. Along with a short video clip, the party 'reminded people that the state has not forgotten the corruption and gundaraj' of the Akhilesh Yadav-led SP government.

3.3K LIKES, 1.3K RETWEETS IN 14 HOURS

## ● Kejriwal's salvo at 'old parties' in Punjab

Delhi Chief Minister and AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal tweeted, "Held door-to-door campaign in Punjab's Kharar Vidhan constituency today. People of Punjab are saying that the old parties have looted everything. Punjab is ready for change this time."

5K LIKES, 1K RETWEETS IN 8 HOURS

## BALLOTIN

## AAP gets notice over poll code

KHARAR RETURNING Officer (RO)-cum-Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Abhikesh Gupta Wednesday issued a show-cause notice to the AAP for an alleged violation of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC). The notice was issued while the party's convener and Delhi Chief Minister (CM) Arvind Kejriwal was also campaigning in the town. The notice had been issued after the video surveillance teams monitoring for any poll violation found that during the door-to-door campaign more than five people were present which is a violation of MCC. The SDM told *The Indian Express* that the notice was issued after the violation was found on Wednesday afternoon. They said that a complaint was received regarding the door to door meetings, following which a team of the administration and flying squad conducted raids at the sites. In the notice issued, the RO directed them to explain their stand on the presence of more than five people during the campaign. **ENS**

## '73,000-litre liquor seized in UP'

AUTHORITIES HAVE seized 73,000 litres of liquor worth over Rs 1.45 crore and 1,825 kg of cannabis valued at Rs 2.5 crore since the imposition of the model code of conduct in poll-bound Uttar Pradesh, the state's Chief Electoral Officer Ajay Kumar Shukla said on Wednesday. Also, over 25 lakh political campaign items were removed from government properties and private land. Shukla said the police department has so far got 2,01,639 licensed arms deposited, while 88 licences have been confiscated and 190 cancelled. **PTI**

## Mann waits in wings as Kejriwal won't unveil CM candidate yet

MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA  
CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 12

AMID SPECULATION and hectic internal lobbying, Aam Aadmi Party national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday said the party's chief ministerial candidate for the Punjab Assembly elections would be announced next week.

While state AAP president Bhagwant Mann has been the frontrunner for the post, the party has so far refrained from naming him as its chief ministerial face.

At a press conference he addressed in Chandigarh, when asked if Mann would be the party's CM face, Kejriwal said, "When you have waited so long for the name, why not wait a little longer?"

The question of who would lead the party into the polls has been a subject of heightened speculation within and outside the party. With the party showing no signs of projecting him, Mann had sulked for months last year, even skipping party events.

There had also been reports that AAP was considering Balbir Singh Rajewal, a farm union leader of the state, as its CM candidate. But with Rajewal deciding to float a separate farmers' outfit, Sanyukt Samaj Morcha, to contest the polls, Mann's name has again come up.

Before Rajewal's name cropped up, a Dubai-based businessman, S P S Oberoi, had claimed that he turned down AAP's offer to be its CM face. Oberoi is well known in Punjab for his philanthropy, and has helped several Punjabi youth stuck in the UAE secure freedom. The AAP leadership, however, denied approaching Oberoi with the offer.

Mann, the two-time party MP from Sangrur, has been state president for more than three years now and is widely credited for bringing the party back in con-

Arvind Kejriwal, Delhi Chief Minister and AAP convener, in Chandigarh on Wednesday. *Jasbir Malhi*VOTING ON  
FEBRUARY 14

tention after its subpar performance in the 2017 election, when it won 20 seats, and the 2019 elections — of the party's four sitting MPs, Mann was the only one who could retain his seat.

A former comedian, Mann is a well-known face in Punjab for his performances highlighting social ills. He has also acted in several movies and television shows. He was once a contestant on a comedy show where Navjot Singh Sidhu, now Punjab Congress president, was the judge.

At a rally in Barnala in January 2019, Mann, in the presence of his mother and Arvind Kejriwal, took a vow not to "touch liquor". He had earned high praise at the time from Kejriwal for his public vow, yet, party sources say, there is still some unease amongst the AAP leadership over naming him as the CM candidate.

His supporters say that what

would eventually tilt the scales in his favour is his popularity and the fact that he has a direct connection with voters.

Meanwhile, speaking to the media at the Chandigarh airport after arriving in the state on a two-day visit, Kejriwal hit out at the Congress government, saying the law and order situation in the state has been deteriorating and that the incidents of sacrilege, the Ludhiana bomb blast and the breach in the PM's security perimeter were proof of this.

"The Channi government is unable to handle law and order. People are very scared. When our government comes to power, we assure that we will take steps to improve law and order. We will also ensure that all those guilty of previous incidents of sacrilege are punished," he said, adding, "For many years now, the Congress and Badals have been looting Punjab. This will now come to a stop. Punjab will be prosperous now and its good days are about to begin."

AAP has announced its can-

## AAP unveils 'Punjab Model'

MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA  
MOHALI, JANUARY 12

AAP CHIEF Arvind Kejriwal Wednesday launched the party's ten-point 'Punjab Model' for the forthcoming Assembly elections.

He promised justice in sacrilege cases, jobs to youth, corruption-free governance, and asserted that people want to bring his party to power to break the "partnership" between the Badals and the Congress.

For the first time, Kejriwal accepted that Sanyukt Samaj Morcha (SSM) not entering into an alliance with AAP will cost the party some votes.

The Delhi CM also said that SSM leader Balbir Singh Rajewal had come to him with a pen drive with some allegations against AAP leadership.

"Rajewal saab had come to meet me. He gave me a pen drive with an audio clip. In that clip two people are heard talking. They were saying Arvind Kejriwal and Manish Sisodia take money. They were saying Raghav Chadha goes to 5 star hotels. These are absurd things... Rajewal ji is a simple man and someone has misled him," he said.

didates for 109 of the 117 Assembly seats in Punjab.

The Punjab Assembly election will be held in a single phase on February 14 and the votes will be counted on March 10 along with those in Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Manipur and Uttarakhand.

INTERVIEW: S C MISHRA,  
BSP NATIONAL GENERAL SECRETARY

## 'SCs and Brahmins with us... Only the weak need alliances'

ASAD REHMAN  
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 12

There is talk that the BSP is isolated and that the 2022 fight is between the SP and BJP...

Not at all. We are fighting alone because we are strong. We had announced long ago that we won't form any coalition this time. The SP is looking for borrowed people... it's the same for the BJP. They have 10 contenders for each seat. That's why they have not been able to announce any candidates. It's the weak who need alliances.

You have been holding a series of outreach meetings focused on Brahmins. Is that part of your strategy to take on BJP?

No one has been addressing the issues of the Brahmin community. What have they got in the last five years, except being targeted and killed in shootouts? More than 500 Brahmins have been killed, while another 100 have been killed in encounters. Did they vote for the BJP for this? Under our government, the community was happy. It is not enough for BJP to take Lord Ram's name. Even we do that. Everyone does. BJP has been exposed. They see only one caste...

This time, your party's outreach to the Muslim community has not been that much. Is it strategic?

See, Muslims have always been with the BSP. Under the Samajwadi Party government, 134 riots happened in UP. Under the BSP government, there was not even a single skirmish...

How is the BSP going to cope with the election moving into digital mode?



'Our target is to... form the government with an absolute majority'

We have been active in the digital space for a while now. I held 96 rallies across the state last year, and all our rallies were broadcast live on Facebook and other mediums. Behenji's programmes are also transmitted digitally, including on YouTube, Facebook, etc.

The BSP never releases a manifesto, but what are you telling the voters this time?

We will tell them what we did while we were in power last time (2007-2012)... And we did a lot — we built expressways, started the Lucknow Metro and we changed the face of Noida and Lucknow. We built more than half a dozen medical colleges, but not like the current government, which only converts government hospitals into medical colleges and claims it has built so many medical colleges... We created 23 new districts, and seven new zones in the state. All these will be reasons for the BSP to form the government.

What is your formula for the BSP to come back to power?

Our target is to win maximum seats and form the government with an absolute majority. In 2007, when we formed the government, we got 30 per cent of votes. In 2012, our vote share was 29 per cent... The BJP knows that Brahmins have gone to the BSP. The Scheduled Castes, who are 23 per cent, and Brahmins are with us... we are confident of forming the government. The SCs have seen how the girl's body was burnt at 2 am in Hathras.

## 'Anti-party activities': former Uttarakhand Congress chief fired from posts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
DEHRADUN, NEW DELHI,  
JANUARY 12

DAYS AFTER former Uttarakhand Congress president Kishore Upadhyay met senior state BJP leaders, the Congress party on Wednesday removed him from all posts for "anti-party activities", pending further action in the matter.

Upadhyay was chairman of the Uttarakhand Congress Coordination Committee and was a member of the state Congress Core Committee and the Uttarakhand Congress Pradesh Election Committee.

In a letter to Upadhyay, the Congress's Uttarakhand in-charge Devendra Yadav accused him of "continuous anti-party activities" and "hobnobbing" with the ruling BJP in the poll-bound state.

On January 3, Upadhyay had met senior Uttarakhand BJP leaders at the residence of BJP organisational general secretary Ajeya Kumar. The meeting, in which BJP election in-charge Pralhad Joshi was also present, triggered speculation about Upadhyay joining the saffron party.

"People of Uttarakhand are yearning for change and are waiting to throw out the corrupt BJP government. There is wide spread anger with the maladministration, misgovernance and all-round corruption aided and abetted by the BJP leadership. It is the solemn duty of each one of us to rise to the challenge and serve the Devbhumi of Uttarakhand as also its people. Sadly, you have been hobnobbing with BJP and other political parties with a view to undermine this fight and weaken the cause of the people," Yadav alleged in his letter.

The Congress in-charge stated that despite multiple warnings given to him, Upadhyay's alleged anti-party activities have continued. "You (Upadhyay) are therefore removed from all party positions, pending further action in the matter," the letter added.

## Goa: AAP, TMC rebuff each other, but keep post-poll options open

SOURAV ROY BARMAN  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

EAGER TO emerge as a key player in Goa's packed electoral battlefield in its second attempt, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is in no mood to enter into any pre-poll pact with the Trinamool Congress (TMC), which recently made overtures for a larger coalition to defeat the ruling BJP.

The TMC, which is also keen on leaving a mark in its maiden political venture in the coastal state, maintains that the AAP does not figure in its calculations either and that it is "acting more as the BJP's B-team". However, mindful of the consequences of a multi-cornered contest in the state that has around 11.11 lakh voters, both the parties, which had friendly ties until their in-

terests clashed in Goa, are keeping their options open anticipating a fragmented verdict.

While TMC Goa in-charge Mahua Moitra had revived speculation regarding an Opposition alliance, saying defeating the BJP was the primary objective, AAP Goa in-charge Atishi, who had last month ruled out an alliance with the TMC, on Monday said the party's position remains unchanged.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Atishi said, "There is no question of the AAP joining any pre-poll alliance. The AAP is trying to introduce a new brand of development-centric politics in Goa. So far, the election discourse in Goa was about pre-poll or post-poll alliances, so much so that even the visits of leaders of national parties were essentially defined by joinings.

AAP is trying to change that political culture. AAP has a vision and agenda for the state and its people are yearning for change."

The performance of indigenous parties such as the Goa Forward Party and the Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party, which had helped the BJP form the government in 2017, will also have a bearing on a possible post-poll alliance. The MGP has tied up with the TMC while the GFP is in an alliance with the Congress.

A senior AAP leader, actively working in Goa, which has 40 Assembly seats, said the possibility of a post-poll alliance cannot be ruled out due to the nature of the contest, which may throw up a fragmented verdict. But the TMC does not figure anywhere in this calculation, the leader asserted.



AAP Goa in-charge Atishi; TMC Goa in-charge Mahua Moitra

VOTING ON  
FEBRUARY 14

"The constituencies in Goa have an average of 25,000 voters. Apart from the BJP, Congress and the AAP, some seats will have a fourth player as well in the form of strong Independent faces and regional parties like the MGP, GFP and the new entrant Revolutionary Goans. There may

be a situation where a candidate will emerge as the winner in a seat with 5,000-6,000 votes. So anything can happen. But TMC does not figure anywhere in this multi-cornered contest," the leader said, on the condition of anonymity.

TMC sources hit back, alleging that AAP is "colluding" with the BJP on the ground.

"There are constant attempts to play down the TMC's chances. It is a reality that people are not sure if the TMC is well-placed to defeat the BJP in Goa but it is a fact that they see Mamata Banerjee as a credible adversary to the BJP. But they (people) are also wary of a split in votes. That's why we floated the idea of an alliance. And you must keep in mind that the TMC did not reach out to AAP through that tweet made by Mahua Moitra. She added AAP's

name only as an afterthought while responding to a question in a press conference," said a TMC leader, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

On January 7, Moitra had tweeted, "Rest assured, we the AITC will do everything possible to defeat BJP in Goa @Goaforwardparty, @INCGoa @AITC4Goa and #MGP. @Mamataofficial has done it in past & will not shy away from walking extra mile in Goa too." Later, speaking to reporters on a possible tie-up with the AAP, she had said: "AAP is also part of the anti-BJP space. We may not have added AAP to the tweet but have included them in this. There is no problem between us."

The TMC leader added that the party's door-to-door campaign, especially with its Griha Lakshmi cards, have generated a

buzz among people. The TMC had announced that all senior women would receive Rs 5,000 a month if the party is voted to power.

"People feel the AAP is not even focusing on Goa as it is excited with the prospect of winning Punjab," the leader said. Incidentally, the AAP has also promised to transfer Rs 1,000 per month to every woman aged 18 and above if it wins. While the TMC has not announced any candidates so far, the AAP has released the names of 20 candidates so far, including state convener Rahul Mhambre, a chartered accountant by profession. The names include several former BJP and Congress legislators and leaders.

An AAP leader also said there are some seats where the results will be influenced by the presence of strong local faces.

## ANOTHER RESIGNATION

## UP OBC leader's stint was 'uneasy' with BJP, journey started from BSP

Second minister to resign from Yogi Adityanath Cabinet, Dara Singh Chauhan is also headed to the SP ahead of the UP Assembly elections

LALMANI VERMA  
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 12

A DAY after the BJP's senior OBC leader Swami Prasad Maurya resigned from the Yogi Adityanath Cabinet less than a month before the UP Assembly elections while signalling that he was headed to the Samajwadi Party (SP), another senior OBC leader Dara Singh Chauhan resigned from the Adityanath ministry on Wednesday. Chauhan met SP president Akhilesh Yadav in an indication that he may also join the BJP's principal rival ahead of

the polls beginning 10 February. Chauhan tendered his resignation from his position of Minister for Forests, Environment and Animal Husbandry. In his resignation letter to UP Governor Anandiben Patel, which was identical to the one submitted by Maurya on Tuesday, he stated that he was upset by the Yogi Adityanath government's alleged neglect of backward communities, deprived sections, Dalits, farmers and unemployed youths, and by BJP government's "khilwad" (play) with reservation of backwards and Dalits.

After meeting Chauhan, the SP chief called him a "soldier of social justice" and welcomed him into his party fold. "Sabko samman, sabko sthan," (Respect for everyone, place for everyone), Akhilesh stated while tweeting the photograph of Chauhan meeting him.

Chauhan, who belongs to the backward Lonia-Chauhan caste concentrated in east UP's Azamgarh and Varanasi divisions, had started his political career with the BSP and was elected to the Rajya Sabha in 1996 as its nominee. He then joined the SP and was elected to the Rajya

Akhilesh Yadav with Dara Singh Chauhan, Wednesday. *Twitter/@yadavakhilesh*

Sabha in 2000 as an SP candidate. He also became a member of the SP's National Executive.

Later, Chauhan returned to the BSP and became Ghosi MP in 2009. He was then also appointed as the leader of the BSP parliamentary party in the Lok Sabha. In 2014, he contested from Ghosi as a BSP nominee but lost against the BJP. After his expulsion from the BSP, Chauhan switched over to the BJP in 2015. He subsequently impressed top BJP leader Amit Shah by organising a huge rally of backwards in Azamgarh. Shah was the chief guest in that rally. A few days later, Singh was

appointed the national president of the BJP's OBC morcha.

The BJP fielded Chauhan from the Madhuban constituency in Mau district in the 2017 UP Assembly polls. He won the election comfortably and was inducted as a minister in the Adityanath Cabinet.

"But he was not comfortable with BJP workers. He used to move with those associates who had been with him from his BSP days. BJP cadre was upset with him. He had sensed that he may lose the next election on BJP ticket due to resentment among party workers. He had started express-

ing displeasure with the Adityanath government six months back. The BJP had guessed his possible move and hence he was not engaged in Jan Vishwas Yatra when it travelled in Mau district," claimed a Mau BJP leader.

On November 22 last year, Chauhan had posted a message on social media to wish SP founder Mulayam Singh Yadav on his birth anniversary. In that message, he had called Yadav, "Garib majloomon ka maseeha, picdon ke karmdaar aur pure awaam ki akeez" (messiah of poor and oppressed, leader of backwards and voice of all people).



# JD(U) seeks action against BJP leader who likened Ashok to Aurangzeb

**SANTOSH SINGH**  
PATNA, JANUARY 12



**BJP leader  
Daya  
Prakash  
Sinha**

THE RULING JD(U) in Bihar has demanded action against BJP leader and writer Daya Prakash Sinha for likening emperor Ashok to Mughal ruler Aurangzeb and citing Buddhist literature to refer to him as “Kamashok” and “Chandashok”. The opposition

had marks and he was lustful in his early days. Buddhist works also refer to Ashok as Kamashok and Chandashok...”

Rajiv Ranjan Singh, national president of JD(U), an ally of the BJP, tweeted: “Criticism of one of the greatest kings in ancient India cannot be accepted. A person who used offensive words against the celebrated king does not deserve accolades. I request the President of India to take back Padma Shree from Sinha and also request the authority concerned to take back his other awards.”

A retired IAS officer, Sinha is national convener of BJP’s cultural cell. He is also vice-president of Indian Council for Cultural Relations. A Padma Shree awardee, he received Sahitya Akamemi award 2021 for his drama, ‘Samrat Ashok’.

In a recent interview to Hindi newspaper *Navbharat Times*, Sinha said Ashok was similar to Aurangzeb. He said: “...while doing research on Samrat Ashok, I was greatly surprised by several similarities between him and Mughal emperor Aurangzeb. Both had committed many sins in their early days and later resorted to over-religiosity to hide their sins so that people were disressed towards religion and their sins were overlooked.”

Referring to early literature, Sinha said in the interview, “Three Buddhist works – Deepvansh, Mahavansh and Ashokavadan – and writings of Tibetan writer Taranath, say that Samrat Ashok was ugly. His face

JD(U)’s parliamentary board chairman Upendra Kushwaha asked the BJP to take action against Sinha. “If no action is taken against him immediately, the BJP will suffer losses,” he said.

RJD national spokesperson Subodh Mehta told *The Indian Express*: “We will soon lodge an FIR against Sinha in Patna for hurting sentiments of lakhs of people with his remarks on Samrat Ashok.”

Sinha also faced criticism from Samrat Choudhary, BJP MLC and minister. In a video message on Twitter, Choudhary said that insult of Samrat Ashok cannot be accepted. He said the Mauryan age was taken as “golden era” of Indian history.

## HATE APPS MUST BE CONDEMNED: UN OFFICIAL

**New Delhi:** UN Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues Fernand de Varennes has condemned the web-based hate apps targeting Muslim women, and said action in such cases should be taken as soon as they occur. “Minority Muslim women in India are ha-

rassed and ‘sold’ in social media apps, #SulliDeals, a form of hate speech, must be condemned and prosecuted as soon as they occur. All Human Rights of minorities need to be fully and equally protected,” Varennes tweeted Tuesday evening. **ENS**

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE						
Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE KALAYAT	CONSTRUCTION OF MRF CENTER IN KALAYAT/KAL06520211111154235 + 3 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 19.01.2022	35.70 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in	secretarymckalayat@gmail.com

6860/HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: [www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM						
Sr. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	OLD REFERENCE/NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL	
1.	THE BALLABGARH COOP MILK PRODUCERS UNION LTD	MPF/PUR/2021/6202-09 DT 15.12.2021 2021_HBC_200240_1	THE LAST DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION IS EXTENDED UPTO 27.01.2022 SUPPLY OF IR BASED RAW MILK ANALYZERS WITH ADULTERATION TEST	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9968604725 vitabob@gmail.com	

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: [www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in) 6861/HRY

## Office of the Executive Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, CHATRA

### Corrigendum

The following changes have been done due to some unavoidable circumstances in Tender Notice No. DWSD/JIRWAKHURD/RPWS/CH/28/2021-22 (1<sup>st</sup> Call) Detailed survey, designing and drawing, Construction of RCC Intake Well-Cum-Pump House, RCC Gangway 50 M long and 3.00 Mtr Wide, 5.50 MLD Capacity Conventional Water Treatment Plant, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir-04 Nos, Approach Road, NH Crossing, Staff Quarter, Compound Wall, Supplying and laying Raw and Clear Water rising main and Distribution Network, House Connection Supplying and Installation of VT and Centrifugal pump motor and Five Years Operation & Maintenance with allied works etc. all complete job for Jirwakhurd & Adjoining Village Rural Pipe Water Supply Scheme “On Turnkey Basis” Under D.W.&S. Division, CHATRA for the Year 2021-22 under (State Plan) published vide P.R. No. – 261399 (DWSD) 2021-22

Sl. No.	Particular	Previously Published	Amended as follow
1.	Estimated Cost	Rs. 47,15,34,000/- (Forty Seven Crore Fifteen Lac Thirty Four Thousand Only)	Rs. 47,15,35,000/- (Forty Seven Crore Fifteen Lac Thirty Five Thousand Only)
2.	Last Date & Time of Receiving EMD/Cost of BOQ (Hard Copy)	28.01.2022 up to 3:00 P.M In the Office of (i) Executive Engineer, D.W & S. Division, Chatra (ii) Regional Chief Eng. DW&SD, Ranchi Zone, Ranchi AND (iii) Eng.-in-Chief, DWSD, Nepal House, Doranda, Ranchi.	28.01.2022 up to 3:00 P.M In the Office of (i) Executive Engineer, D.W & S. Division, Chatra (ii) Suprintending Engineer, D.W&S. Circle, Hazaribagh AND (iii) Regional Chief Eng. DW&SD, Ranchi Zone, Ranchi.

• Other Terms & condition will be same as mentioned in NIT & B.O.Q

PR.NO.261586 Drinking Water and Sanitation(21-22):-D Executive Engineer  
D.W.&S. Division, CHATRA

## GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER: PWD: BUILDING: ASSAM: CHANDMARI: GUWAHATI-3. No. CE/TB-III/83/2021/2

### PRESS NOTICE

The Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Buildings) Health & Education, Assam, on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites bids for the following works under P.W.D. (Bldg.), Assam from registered contractors having requisite experience in similar nature of work. Details may be seen at e-procurement portal website i.e. [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in)

Sl. No	State/Package	Name of Work	Approx. Value of Work (Rs. in Lakh)	Time of completion	Bid Security (2% for General, and 1% for Reserved category) to be drawn in favour of	Cost of Bid (Rs.)
1	SSUHS/BW	Construction of boundary wall along with gate and guard room near gate and site office (Assam Type) at the permanent site of Srimanta Sankardev University of Health Science.	495.13	24 months	Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Jalukbari & Guwahati West Territorial Bldg. Division	9,900.00

Note :- 1. NIT value may be changed during uploading of tender in the website, which may be seen in Detailed NIT of the bid document.  
2. The bidders must be enrolled in [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in)

Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Building),  
Health & Education  
Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3.  
JANASANYOG/C/10580/21

## ASSAM SEEDS CORPORATION LTD. KHANAPARA, GUWAHATI-22 E-Procurement Notice

The Managing Director Assam Seeds Corporation Ltd., Khanapara, Guwahati, Assam invites bids in electronic tendering system from eligible bidders for **empanelment of suppliers for supply of different seeds** as mentioned in the bid document. The bidding document is available online and the bid should be submitted online on website <https://assamtenders.gov.in>

**Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement:** 13th January 2022 from 4:00 PM.

**Availability of bid documents and mode of submission:** The bid document is available online from 13th January 2022 from 4:00 PM. and the bid should be submitted online in <https://assamtenders.gov.in>. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids the bidder is required to have digital signature certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized certifying authorities (CA) as indicated in the website: <https://assamtenders.gov.in>. Last date/ time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 27th January 2022 at 4:00 PM

For further details please log on to <https://assamtenders.gov.in>

SD/-  
Managing Director, ASC Ltd.  
Khanapara, Guwahati-22  
JANASANYOG/CF/2851/21

## GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER: PWD: BUILDING: ASSAM; CHANDMARI: GUWAHATI-3. Na.CE/TB-III/83/2021/4

### PRESS NOTICE

The Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Buildings) Health & Education, Assam, on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites bids for the following works under P.W.D. (Bldg.), Assam from registered contractors having requisite experience in similar nature of work. Details may be seen at e-procurement portal website i.e. [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in)

Sl. No	State/Package	Name of Work	Approx. Value of Work (Rs. in Lakh)	Time of completion	Bid Security (2% for General, and 1% for Reserved category) to be drawn in favour of	Cost of Bid (Rs.)
1	ECRP-II/(25)	Establishment of i) 32/42 Bedded Paediatrics Care Unit, ii) 10 Bedded Intensive Care Unit iii) RT PCR laboratory and iv) LMO tank with MGPS at District Hospital/SDCH in various districts of Assam under ECRP II, (Including Electrical works) at Charaideo	146.92	02 (two) months	Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Charaideo, District Territorial Building Division	2940.00
2	ECRP-II/(26)	at Dibrugarh	220.89	02 (two) months	Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Dibrugarh, Moran, Lahowal & Tingkhong Territorial Building Division	4420.00

Note :- 1. NIT value may be changed during uploading of tender in the website, which may be seen in Detailed NIT of the bid document.  
2. The bidders must be enrolled in [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in)

Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Building),  
Health & Education Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3.  
Janasanyog /C/10577/21

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE						
Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	GMDA GURUGRAM	CONSTRUCTION OF SERVICE ROAD (LEFT OUT STRETCH, 200 MTR) OF MASTER ROAD OF SECTOR 59/61 (ASSET ID 154), GURUGRAM.	11.01.2022 18.01.2022	41.65 LACS	<a href="https://www.gmda.gov.in">https://www.gmda.gov.in</a>	xen1nfra1.gmda@gov.in

6870/HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: [www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE						
Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BHIWANI	CONST OF IPB STREET FROM KRIPAL AASHRAM TO H/O NAU-RANG TO H/O BLENDER TO SANTOSH MATA MANDIR, PIPLIWALI JOHRI, HANUMAN DHANI, W/NO. 15, BHIWANI + 24 WORKS	11.01.2022 27.01.2022	2.72 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9810880504 eo.mcbhiwani@gmail.com

6857/HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: [www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR (Telefax: 0194-2496089, E-mail ID: xenmhchdk@yahoo.in) (Short Term)

**GIST of E -NIT NO: MHCHD/TS /2021-22/278/e-tendering Dated:-11-01-2022**  
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited from registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work:-

Name of Work	Est. Cost. (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rupees)	Time of Completion (in Days)	AA Accorded Vide No:	TS No.	Earnest Money (in Rs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Shifting of 625 KVA DG Set from Govt. SMHS Hospital to Children Hospital, Bemina, Srinagar along with other allied works.	1.50	200	05	HME/Acct s/LP/14/2019 Dated: 19.08.2020	MHCHD/TS/ 205 Dated 01/22	3000

1. The Tender document Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) from 11.01.2022 (18.00 hrs).  
2. The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site from 12.01.2022 (10.00 hrs), to 17.01.2022 (15:00 hrs) in two (02) cover.  
3. The bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on 17.01.2022 (17.00 hrs) or any date convenient to the department in the office of Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar.

No: MHCHD/TS/9415-19  
Dated:-11-01-2022  
DIPK-16546  
Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
MHCHD, Srinagar

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (T) M-6 D-BLOCK: MOTI NAGAR: NEW DELHI-110015			
PRESS NIT NO. 53 (2021-22)			
Item No.	Name of Work	Estimated cost	Date of release of tender in E- procurement solution Last date/ time of receipt of tender through e procurement
1.	Replacement of old/damaged CI water line in Deepali Enclave area in AC-15 under EE (NW) III.	Rs. 1,43,64,199/-	Tender ID No. 2022_DJB_214465_1 on 10.01.2022 at 5:21 P.M
2.	Replacement of old deep/damaged water line by DI water line dia (100 mm/150 mm dia) in pushkar Enclave Paschim Vihar under the EE (NW) III AC-15.	Rs. 56,02,336/-	Tender ID No. 2022_DJB_214465_2 on 10.01.2022 at 5:27 P.M
3.	Regarding of outfall sewer line by P/L 400 mm dia sewer line by trenchless method for Sainik Vihar under AEE M-15 in AC-15	Rs. 41,70,709/-	Tender ID No. 2022_DJB_214465_3 on 10.01.2022 at 5:32 P.M
4.	Regarding of outfall sewer line by P/L 400 mm dia sewer line by trenchless method for Deepali Enclave under AEE M-15 in AC-15	Rs. 45,78,851/-	Tender ID No. 2022_DJB_214465_4 on 10.01.2022 at 5:37 P.M
Further details in this regard can be seen at <a href="https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in">https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in</a>			
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 993(2021-22)			Sd/- (Trilok Chand) Ex. Engineer (T) M-6
“STOP CORONA: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene”			

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE						
SR. NO	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT / END (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	PWD B&R SIRSA	ADDITIONAL ALTERATION IN VIDEO CONFERENCING HALL IN THE JURISDICTION OF ADMPL BLOCK NO. 1 IN MINI SECTT. SIRSA AND 5 NOS. OTHER WORKS	06.01.2022 20.01.2022	6.73 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01566320530 pwd-eeapl-sirsa@hry.nic.in
2	PWD B&R AMBALA	REPAIR AND RENOVATION OF HOUSE NO.1,2 IN THE CAMPUS OF DOCTOR COLONY IN THE CAMPUS OF CIVIL HOSPITAL AT AMBALA CITY IN AMBALA DISTRICT	10.01.2022 24.01.2022	14.94 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	0175797224 pwd-eeapl-ambala@hry.nic.in
3	PWD B&R GURUGRAM	PROVIDING AND FIXING OF KIDS PLAY AREA AT HARYANA GOVT. HOUSING COMPLEX, SHAHLIAR BAGH, DELHI (RECALL)	CLOSING DATE 24.01.2022	9.97 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01242577767 pwd-eeapl-gurgaon@hry.nic.in
4	PWD B&R ROHTAK	WORK OF PDG. 50MM THICK DBM & THICK 30MM THICK BC ON NH-71 (NEW NH NO.352) FROM KM. 334.750 TO 337.450 IN VILLAGE LAHAWA MUJRA.	04.01.2022 24.01.2022	205.78 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9416835641 pwd-eeapl-rohtak@hry.nic.in
5	PWD B&R GURUGRAM	CREATION OF OPEN GYM AT HARYANA BHAWAN, NEW DELHI (RECALL)	CLOSING DATE 24.01.2022	7.99 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01242577767 pwd-eeapl-gurgaon@hry.nic.in
6	PWD B&R KARNAL	STRENGTHENING WITH WBM + 50MM BN + 20MM PC, RELAYING OF CC BLOCKS AND 80MM IPS IN ABADI PORTION ON KULPURA TO KALWHERI ROAD (ROAD RD-7225) RD 0 TO 3700, IN KARNAL DISTRICT	13.01.2022 03.02.2022	165.03 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9050620000 pwd-eeapl-karnal@hry.nic.in
7	PANCHAYATI RAJ SIRSA	BEAUTIFICATION OF POND AT VILLAGE CHAULTALA AND 5 NOS. OTHER WORKS	03.01.2022 24.01.2022	1.96 CRORE	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01566247479 prexeeng.srs@gmail.com
8	SHKM GMC NALHAR MUH HARYANA	ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE (INCLUSIVE OF REQUIRED CONSUMABLE AND SPARE PARTS OF FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEM INSTALLED IN SHKM GMC NALHAR PREMISES	17.01.2022 27.01.2022	1.20 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01267282007 tendereng.mcmewell@gmail.com
9	PANCHAYATI RAJ PANAGT	RETENDER CONST. OF COMMUNITY CENTRE AT VILLAGE CHANDOLI + 1 OTHERS	13.01.2022 20.01.2022	53.20 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9355815400 prexeeng.pnp@hry.nic.in
10	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA PANCHKULA	PROVIDING CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR CARRYING OUT SURVEY, ASSESSMENT OF DISCHARGE & HFL, GEO TECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS, DETAIL DESIGNING, WORKING DRAWINGS, DETAILED ESTIMATES WITH BOQ, BBS, OTHER MECHANICAL WORKS LIKE BEARING AND OTHER ALLIED WORKS ETC. AND SITE VISITS INCLUDING PROOF CHECKING FOR THE WORK OF "CONSTRUCTION OF HL BRIDGE 4 SPAN, 20 METER EACH OVER TANGRI RIVER FROM RATTIWALI TAPURIAN".	CLOSING DATE 28.01.2022	3 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	0172570325 xenconsl@yahoo.com
11	HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT HARYANA	PURCHASE OF MATERIAL REQUIRED FOR RAISING OF VEGETABLE SEEDLINGS UNDER HIGH TECH GREEN HOUSE AT IHDC SUNDRAH, NARWAHL	11.01.2022 18.01.2022	1 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9416899427 hndharyana@gmail.com
12	HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT HARYANA	PROPOSAL FOR PROVIDING AND FIXING OF POLYNET	11.01.2022 18.01.2022	1 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9416488940 ddhgddh@redn@gmail.com
13	PANCHAYATI RAJ PALLUHAL	CONST. OF 29 NO. GREY WATER MANGEMENT & TREATMENT UNDER SBM-G PHASE 2	14.01.2022 20.01.2022	9.20 CRORE	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	8168399369 prexeeng.pwl@gmail.com
14	PANCHAYATI RAJ AMBALA	CONST OF MODEL POND AT VILLAGE CHOWAL BLOCK NARAINGARH DISTT AMBALA	11.01.2022 18.01.2022	11.09 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01752551368 prexeeng.amb@hry.nic.in
15	PANCHAYATI RAJ HISAR	RE TENDER FOR GREY WATER MANAGEMENT AT VILLAGES DHANI KUMHARAN, KHERI ROJ, MOTI KARNALI, GAIRI NAGAR, KHERI LOCHAB BLOCK NARNAUD	14.01.2022 20.01.2022	47.63 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9416498853 prexeeng.hsr@hry.nic.in
16	PANCHAYATI RAJ BABAIN	RETENDER CONST. OF LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT RICE HUSK SYSTEM (BOQED) AT VILLAGE BABAIN IN BLOCK BABAIN	12.01.2022 18.01.2022	10.97 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	7015915218 bdpo.babain@hry.nic.in
17	PANCHAYATI RAJ NARNALI	PUBLICATION OF TENDER NOTICE CONT. OF BIO GAS PLANT (4000M <sup>3</sup> /DAY CAPACITY) IN VILL- KATKAI, BLOCK: ATELI	13.01.2022 19.01.2022	85.41 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	8529595862 prexeeng.nrn@hry.nic.in
18	PANCHAYATI RAJ JIND	DEVELOPMENT OF POND	13.01.2022 27.01.2022	2570.72 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01681245124 xengjind@gmail.com
19	PANCHAYATI RAJ PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF GOBAR GAS PLANT IN VILLAGE REHORE BLOCK BARNWALA DISTRICT PANCHKULA	12.01.2022 19.01.2022	72.29 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01722576698 PREXEENG.PKL@HRY.NIC.IN
20	PANCHAYATI RAJ PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF BOUNDARY WALL IN VILLAGE CHANDI BLOCK MORNI DISTRICT PANCHKULA	13.01.2022 27.01.2022	10.62 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01722576698 PREXEENG.PKL@HRY.NIC.IN
21	HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT BHJNA FATEHABAD	PROVIDING AND FIXING OF POLY NET AT GGN, BARNWALA (HISAR).	14.01.2022 25.01.2022	2 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9891785325 sragegg@barnwala@gmail.com
22	FOREST DEPARTMENT HARYANA PINDORE	SOIL AND MOISTURE CONSERVATION WORK IN BALOUTI BLOCK, PANCHKULA RANGE+ 2 OTHER WORK	08.01.2022 14.01.2022	11.11 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01733230537 dfoemrni@gmail.com
23	FOREST DEPARTMENT HARYANA PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTER SHED FOR WILD ANIMALS FROM RAIN, WINTER AND SUN WARM AT CONSERVATION RESERVE SARASHATI DISTRICT KATHNAL + 2 OTHER WORKS	11.01.2022 21.01.2022	6.89 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9466467787 pcdhry@gmail.com
24	FOREST DEPARTMENT HARYANA PANCHKULA	CLEARING OF FIRE LINE AT BIR SHIVGARH WLS, DISTRICT PANCHKULA	11.01.2022 21.01.2022	2.87 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9466467787 pcdhry@gmail.com
25	FOREST DEPARTMENT HARYANA PANCHKULA	CLEARING OF FIRE LINES , DHAR LINE AND INSPECTION PATH (4 FOOT) AT KALESAR NATIONAL PARK, DISTRICT YAMUNANAGAR + 2 OTHER WORKS	11.01.2022 21.01.2022	19.88 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9466467787 pcdhry@gmail.com

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



Top court pulls up Stalin govt over manner of former state minister’s arrest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

THE SUPREME Court on Wednesday came down hard on the M K Stalin government in Tamil Nadu over the manner in which former state minister K T Rajenthra Bhalaji was arrested in connection with an alleged job scam while his appeal against rejection of anticipatory bail by Madras HC was pending before it, observing that the turn of events called for a judicial inquiry.

Overruling the state’s objection, a bench headed by Chief Justice of India N V Ramana also granted four weeks bail to Bhalaji, subject to conditions that he shall not leave jurisdiction of the police station where the offence was registered, surrender his passport to the concerned magistrate and participate and cooperate with investigation.

The bench, also comprising Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli, directed that the order be communicated to the concerned magistrate or the in-charge magistrate for forthwith compliance.

Quizzing the DMK government over the manner of arrest, the SC asked the state to file a detailed affidavit explaining its stand.

The bench also criticised the state government regarding the police raid on the lawyers of the petitioner.

“It is clear that the filing of SLP in the SC was informed to you, yet you are going and raiding... If this is the way, we will have to order inquiry into how... your police is behaving with advocates,” CJ Ramana told senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, who appeared for the state.

“In what manner has the liberty of a man been snatched? Was the lawyer harbouring the accused? Doesn’t the accused have the right to go to a lawyer? Police say the wife of the accused generously opened the house and allowed them to inspect the house... That shows the threat of uniform,” remarked Justice Surya Kant.

“The manner in which he was arrested, the manner in which the lawyer’s office was raided...It is objectionable,” the judge added.

The court also asked why, after arrest, Bhalaji was taken to Trichy prison which is 300 km away from the Madurai prison which was the jurisdictional prison. “Why did you take him 300 km away from the place of arrest,” the CJ asked another senior counsel appearing for Tamil Nadu, who said it was to ensure his safety. “Why? Was he some targeted person?” asked the CJ, adding, “It is a matter of serious consequences...It requires a serious view and we will have to order investigation.”

FIRST TIME IN 8 YEARS

Kala azar death in Jharkhand; state says cause comorbidities

ABHISHEK ANGAD  
RANCHI, JANUARY 12

FOR THE first time in eight years, Jharkhand reported a death due to kala azar in the state, even as the total cases continue to decline. While 752 cases were identified as positive in 2015, the number of provisional cases last year till November was 242, as per data on the National Centre for Vector Borne Disease Control portal.

The state government however said the eight listed on the central portal as deaths due to kala azar in 2021 were only suspected casualties due to the disease.

A parasitic disease spread by sandfly bites, kala azar (meaning black death) or Visceral leishmaniasis is almost always fatal if not treated. In Jharkhand, it is endemic to four districts, especially their rural areas: Sahebganj, Godda, Dumka and Pakur, covering 33 blocks. The disease is considered endemic if there is more than one case per 10,000 population.

Data regarding kala azar in the state is available since 2014. However, even in 2015, when Jharkhand reported a high of 1,358 cases, no deaths were seen.

State Malaria Officer who also looks after kala azar prevention in the state, Dr Shesh Narayan Jha, said the eight deaths in 2021 of patients with kala azar were due to comorbidities. “In one case the patient had renal failure and in another, the patient had tuberculosis.”

Cases surge in Mumbai; positivity rate up to 24.3%

RUPSA CHAKRABORTY & YOGESH NAIK  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 12

AFTER WITNESSING a drop in Covid-19 cases for the last four days, Mumbai on Wednesday saw a massive surge in new cases with the city recording 16,420 fresh infections. The surge in daily cases corresponds with a rise in daily positivity rate, which increased from 18.7 per cent on Tuesday to 24.3 per cent on Wednesday.

The number of fresh cases in Maharashtra also increased by 35.7 per cent from 34,424 cases recorded on Tuesday to 46,723 on Wednesday. More concerning, the state has been recording a spike in deaths – 32 deaths were recorded on Wednesday compared to 22 deaths on Tuesday and eight on Monday.

Warning people against lowering their guard, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray said the state is likely to witness a massive surge in cases and hospitalisation in the last week of January or first week of February.

“The use of medical oxygen in the state is slowly increasing. At present, the consumption has increased to about 400 metric tonne per day. If 700 metric tonne of oxygen is required per day, then strict restrictions need to be imposed in the state,” a statement issued by the CM’s office said.

On January 7, Mumbai had recorded 20,971 daily cases, which dropped to 20,318 on January 8. The next day, it dropped further to 19,474. On Monday, it dropped exponentially to 13,648 cases by recording a 30 per cent plunge. On Tuesday, the city recorded a 14.6 per cent drop in cases with 11,647 new cases. But Wednesday, the downward spiral of cases moved upward with 16,420 new cases, with a 40 per cent rise in cases within 24 hours.

Karnataka march: HC asks govt, Cong to explain

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
BENGALURU, JANUARY 12

THE KARNATAKA High Court on Wednesday asked the BJP government in the state to explain how the Congress party was being allowed to hold a 10-day march over the Mekedatu reservoir project despite a rise in Covid-19 cases.

A division bench headed by Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi also asked the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) if they had sought permission for the protest march, and if participants were following the appropriate Covid protocol.

The High Court queries came as it heard a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by activist Nagendra Prasad A V.

The Opposition party’s 100-



A teenager gets vaccinated at a centre at Belapur in Navi Mumbai. Narendra Vaskar

Covaxin booster neutralises both Omicron and Delta variants of SARS-CoV-2: study

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PUNE, JANUARY 12

PHARMACEUTICAL FIRM Bharat Biotech on Wednesday announced results from a study, conducted at Emory University, demonstrating that sera from subjects who received a booster dose of Covaxin (BBV152) six months after getting a primary two-dose series of the vaccine neutralised the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron and Delta variants. Earlier studies have demonstrated the neutralising potential of Covaxin against SARS-

CoV-2 Variants of Concern Alpha, Beta, Delta, Zeta and Kappa.

The study will be published on the pre-print server, medRxiv, an official statement issued by Bharat Biotech said.

Sera samples from individuals who received a booster of Covaxin were observed to be effective in neutralising Omicron and Delta variants on a live virus neutralisation assay. The neutralisation activity of Covaxin-boosted sera was comparable to what has been observed in mRNA vaccine boosted sera against the

Omicron variant.

More than 90% of all individuals boosted with Covaxin showed neutralising antibodies. All participants received an initial two-dose schedule of Covaxin on Day 0 and Day 28. “As the dominant Covid-19 variant throughout the world, Omicron poses a serious public health concern,” said Mehul Suthar, assistant professor at Emory Vaccine Centre who led the laboratory analysis.

“Data from this preliminary analysis show individuals receiving a booster dose of Covaxin have a significant im-

Kerala reports 76 new cases of Omicron variant; tally rises to 421

Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala on Wednesday reported 76 new Covid-19 cases due to the Omicron variant. Besides, an Omicron cluster has emerged in Pathanamthitta district, said Health Minister Veena George.

The minister said the cluster has been reported at a private nursing college where students were believed to have got infected from a person who had recently come from abroad. Of the 76 new cases confirmed, 59 had travelled from low-risk countries, seven from high-risk countries and nine infected through contact. So far, 421 Omicron cases were reported in Kerala while 290 of them are people who travelled from countries considered low-risk. ENS

mune response to both the Omicron and Delta variants. These findings suggest that a booster dose has the potential to reduce disease severity and hospitalisations,” said Suthar.

Dr Krishna Ella, chairman and managing director of Bharat Biotech, said, “We are in a continuous state of innovation and product development for Covaxin. The positive neutralisation responses against the Omicron and Delta variants validate our hypothesis of a multi-epitope vaccine generating both humoral and cell mediated immune responses.”

GOVT TAKES ACTION

FOLLOWING THE high court observations on Wednesday morning, the Karnataka government issued an order prohibiting transport of people on vehicles for the Congress protest march. The government order stated that “all inter district and intra district (within Ramanagar) movement of vehicles and persons for participating” in the padayatra is prohibited.

nas, more particularly the rally/padayatra held by respondent No. 6 (KPCC) is being permitted to continue and why no appropriate action has been taken by the state authorities to restrain respondent No. 6 from any such activities,” the High Court said.

The court also questioned the Congress’s decision to hold the rally. It said: “Respondent No. 6 (KPCC) is hereby called upon to inform as to whether any due permission was taken by them to hold the impugned rally and whether in the said rally, they are taking all appropriate steps to ensure compliance of the Covid protocol, guidelines and standard operating procedure issued by the state government and what measures have been taken and are being taken by them to adhere to the above and in case of violation, what action they propose to take.”

Former Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah and KPCC president D K Shivakumar at a press conference before the start of the 3rd day of the 10-day march, near Bengaluru on Tuesday. PTI

km ‘walk for water’ march for the project on the Cauvery River, which will facilitate drinking water supplies to Bengaluru and its surrounding areas, began January 9. Amid a surge in Covid

cases and a looming Omicron threat, restrictions on public gatherings have been in force across Karnataka since January 6.

“Looking at the present Covid pandemic situation and taking

into consideration the large increase of Covid cases per day in the state, we call upon the state government to inform the court as to how and why the rallies, protests, demonstrations or dhar-

CJI REMARKS ON CLOGGING OF COURTS

Bihar minister Choudhary says judiciary, legislature, executive should respect limits

SANTOSH SINGH  
PATNA, JANUARY 12

DAYS AFTER Chief Justice of India N V Ramana cited the 2016 Bihar prohibition law as an example of “lack of foresight” in drafting legislation that leads to clogging of courts with bail petitions, Bihar Minister and senior JD(U) leader Vijay Kumar Choudhary on Wednesday said judiciary, legislature and executive “should respect their limits as all three had been equally important” for proper functioning of democracy.

Asked how the state government took the CJ’s remarks, made at an event in Vijayawada on December 26, Choudhary told The Indian Express: “The CJ

has not attacked the spirit of the Bihar liquor law. The prohibition law has been in consonance with the Directive Principles of State Policy. While the CJ talked about clogging of courts, he also talked about lack of number of judges.”

He said special courts were being set up to deal with pending cases under the prohibition law.

On the apex court on Tuesday dismissing the Bihar government’s set of appeals, challenging grant of regular and anticipatory bails by Patna High Court, the state Education Minister said it is a matter under the court’s domain.

“As for the rejection of our recent petitions challenging granting of bails, we have nothing to say as it comes under domain of a court. It is part of procedure....

We are talking in terms of larger debate and hold that judiciary, legislative and executive should respect their limits as all the three had been equally important for functioning of a democracy,” he said.

Opposition RJD national spokesperson Subodh Mehta said changes should be brought in to cut down the number of cases.

“The state government must take corrective measures. Why should drinkers be treated as criminals? They can only be fined and sent to de-addiction centres if needed. Stringent action should be taken against only traders, distributors and manufacturers of liquor. This alone will cut down cases under the prohibition law.”

AHEAD OF BMC POLLS

Maharashtra shops told to display signs in Marathi

VISHWAS WAGHMODE  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 12

AHEAD OF THE Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporations (BMC) polls, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray-led government has taken a decision mandating all shops and establishments in the state to display signboards in Marathi. The amendment also mandates that the font of the Marathi-Devanagari script cannot be smaller than that of other scripts.

Sources said that the decision on Marathi signboards is

Shiv Sena’s attempt to consolidate Marathi vote bank for civic polls, which are likely to be held in the next few months.

The state cabinet chaired by Thackeray on Wednesday approved the amendment to the Maharashtra Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2017. The amendment mandates shops and establishments with less than 10 workers to display nameplates in Marathi.

Subhash Desai, senior Shiv Sena leader and minister for Marathi language, said that af-

ter the 2017 law came into force, it was found that establishments and shops with less than 10 workers were evading the rules. “The government had received such complaints and there was a demand for redressal. So, today, the state cabinet decided to amend the 2017 Act to fix the loopholes. Therefore, the boards of small shops will have to be displayed in Marathi just like the big shops,” said Desai.

The minister further said that considering most of the shops and commercial establishments have less than 10

workers, the nameplates on all the shops along the road will be seen in Marathi from now on.

“An amendment also mandates that the letters in Marathi-Devanagari script cannot be kept shorter than letters in other (English or other) scripts,” said Desai, adding that a bill would be tabled in the budget session of the legislature to give effect to the amendment.

In the last two years, the Sena, which is an alliance partner in the state’s ruling Maha Vikas Aghadi government, has been taking forward its agenda on the Marathi language.

Hate speech: SC notices to Centre, Uttarakhand govt, Delhi Police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

THE SUPREME Court on Wednesday issued notices to the Centre, Delhi Police and Uttarakhand government on a PIL seeking a probe into the alleged hate speeches by participants at two separate events in Haridwar and Delhi last month.

The plea was filed by Delhi resident Qurban Ali and Senior Advocate Anjana Prakash. Appearing for the petitioners, Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal sought an early listing of the matter, saying another dharam sansad was scheduled to be held in Aligarh on January 23.

“Next date is in Aligarh on (January) 23rd, in the midst of elections. We want something before that... If quick steps are not taken, more sansads will take place” and “entire atmosphere of this country will be vitiated,” he said.

But the bench of Chief Justice N V Ramana and Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli said some related matters seemed to be already pending before other benches and it would have to ascertain this first before listing the matter.

It said it would restrict itself to issuing notice for now. “We will issue notice. List after 10 days. We will see if it’s connected to any other matters. If not, we will hear it separately,” said the CJ.

On Sibal’s contention of possible future events, the court said “the petitioners are at liberty to make a representation to, or bring it to the notice of, the concerned local authorities”.

In their plea, the petitioners sought the court’s urgent intervention “in respect of the hate speeches that have been delivered between the 17th and 19th of December, 2021 in two events organised in Haridwar (by one Yati Narsinghanand), and in Delhi (by an organisation self-styled as ‘Hindu Yuva Vahini’)... with the apparent objective of declaring war against a significant section of the Indian citizenry”.

CPM plans memorial for killed SFI activist

SHAJU PHILIP  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JANUARY 12

THE CPI(M) has announced plans to build a memorial for Students’ Federation of India (SFI) activist Dheeraj Rajendran, who was stabbed to death, allegedly by a Youth Congress (YC) leader at an engineering college in Kerala’s Idukki district on Monday.

Rajendran, from Kannur district, was killed allegedly by Nikhil Paily on Monday afternoon at Government Engineering College, Idukki, amid tensions over a campus election.

On Monday night, the CPI(M) bought eight cents of land next to Rajendran’s house at Pattappara village near Taliparamba in Kannur. His body was cremated at the plot in the early hours of Wednesday.

M V Govindan, senior CPI(M) leader from Kannur and minister of local self-government in Kerala, said the party would construct a memorial for Rajendran at the plot.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER CASE

Won’t act against MLA till bail plea decided, HC told

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 12

THE MAHARASHTRA Police on Wednesday continued its oral assurance to the Bombay High Court that it would not take any coercive action against BJP MLA Nitesh Rane, son of Union Minister Narayan Rane, in an attempt-to-murder case filed against him in Sindhudurg district last month, till his plea is heard and decided by the Court.

The case against Nitesh relates to complainant Santosh Parab (44), who has alleged that on December 18, last year, while

“The aforementioned hate speeches consisted of open calls for genocide of Muslims in order to achieve ethnic cleansing. It is pertinent to note that the said speeches are not mere hate speeches but amount to an open call for murder of an entire community. The said speeches thus, pose a grave threat not just to the unity and integrity of our country but also endanger the lives of millions of Muslim citizens,” they said.

The petitioners said “no effective steps have been taken by the police authorities”. Though two FIRs were registered against 10 people who took part in the Haridwar event, only IPC Sections 153A (promoting disharmony, enmity or feelings of hatred between different groups), 295A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings) and 298 (deliberate intent to wound the religious feelings of any person) were cited, they said.

“It is also relevant to note that no action whatsoever has been taken by the Delhi Police in relation with the event held in Delhi, despite the fact that open calls for genocide, that are available on the internet, were made therein,” they said.

Saying that the “recent speeches are a part of a series of similar speeches that we have come across in the past”, the petitioners said “not only (does) the inaction of the police allow delivery of hate speeches with impunity but also shows that the police authorities are in fact hand in glove with the perpetrators of communal hate”.

“That the contents of the speech feed into an already prevailing discourse which seeks to reimagine the Indian Republic as exclusivist, and that which has no space for other cultures, traditions and practices. Such a discourse is in itself violative of constitutional guarantees provided to minority cultures and religions in India,” said the petitioners, adding that “the impact of such repeated speeches shows a rise in structural...and physical violence”.

“A study and research centre will come up as part of the memorial. It will have residential facilities for students. The building will also house an office of the SFI,” the minister said.

CPI(M) leaders in Kannur had on Monday night itself decided to buy the vacant plot and conduct the cremation there.

In Kannur, the CPI(M) has erected memorials for several of its activists who died in political violence over the years. Most of these memorials have been wayside columns and bus stops.

When SFI leader Abhimanyu was stabbed to death by activists of the Campus Front, the students’ wing of the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), at Maharaja’s College in Ernakulam in 2018, the CPI(M) mobilised Rs 3.10 crore as a “martyr fund”. Using a portion of this fund, the party constructed a new house for Abhimanyu’s parents in Idukki. The money was also used to construct a training and accommodation centre for Dalit students in Ernakulam.

he was going on a bike from Naravde naka in Kankavli, an Innova car without a number plate had hit his bike. Parab claimed that he was assaulted and that he heard the assailant tell another person in the car that they “should inform Gotya Sawant and Nitesh Rane” before fleeing.

Nitesh moved the HC after a Sindhudurg special judge on December 30, 2021 rejected his pre-arrest bail plea in which he claimed he had been booked “out of political rivalry and mischievously”.

The High Court will continue hearing in the case on Thursday.



# Twist in UP plot

Swami Prasad Maurya's exit from BJP steps up the heat, opens up new alignments, ahead of a hard-fought poll

THE TWO MINISTERS in the Adityanath government and at least four MLAs who quit the BJP in UP soon after the announcement of assembly election dates, have sought to give an ideological veneer to their resignation from the party. Speaking for the group, Minister for Labour and Employment and influential OBC leader Swami Prasad Maurya said the decision to leave the BJP — by all accounts, they are poised to join the Samajwadi Party — was provoked by the alleged neglect of “Dalits, backwards, farmers, unemployed and small traders” by the Adityanath government. Maurya's reference to Dalits and backwards is a pointed invocation of caste in the UP poll matrix in a time when the BJP is perceived to have successfully subsumed it in an overarching Hindu identity.

Since the 1990s, Mandal and Mandir have been the ideological poles in UP politics. If Mandal mobilisations helped bring caste identities to the fore and enabled political parties that spoke for the empowerment of Dalits and backward castes to win office, the BJP used the Mandir project to paper over the hierarchies and cleavages within Hindu society and presented itself as the custodian of Hindu interests. Further, the BJP has deftly wedded the Mandir agenda to nationalism and development to consolidate its position and shrink the space for the SP and BSP, beneficiaries of Mandal. At the same time, since the 2014 general election, the BJP has also used Mandal to defeat Mandal. While championing the Hindutva agenda, it has not shrunk from playing the caste game itself, stitching together a social coalition of various castes to counter its political opponent, according to the local configuration, ahead of every election. This helped the party triumph over the SP and BSP in the 2017 assembly polls as well the 2019 general election. The BJP's domination of UP through its playing of both the Mandir and Mandal cards has helped the party to further the perception of invincibility nationally, even as, during the same period, it lost elections in West Bengal, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand as well as in the five big southern states, where Mandir has far less traction and social justice politics follows an older and different trajectory.

The interplay of Mandal and Mandir that has defined politics in the Hindi heartland since the 1990s may see a rerun in UP 2022. The SP has been working on building an alliance of smaller OBC-centric outfits and leaders to undo the social engineering of the BJP ahead of the 2017 polls. Under the saffron-robed Adityanath, who was pitchforked into the chief minister's office after the 2017 elections, the BJP was seen to relegate caste appeals and focus on Hindutva. It is anybody's guess if the current round of defections in UP, in the name of “social justice”, can undercut the BJP's Hindutva project in the state. Whether or not the defections of Maurya and others become a turning point, or are only plot twists among many more to come in the UP poll arena, remains to be seen.

# SALIL'S STORY

The life and death of a 36-year-old gig worker tells a larger story of India's pandemic experience

EVERY YEAR, A little over a lakh people die in traffic accidents on India's roads. And so, it is not impossible to see 36-year-old Salil Tripathi's death — knocked down by an SUV driven by a police constable as he waited to pick up a food order — as one more addition to that grim statistic, the cruel result of a random roll of dice. But, in this moment, as a third wave sweeps across a country yet to recover from the battering from the earlier waves of Covid-19 infections, the life and death of this Delhi resident tell a larger story — of a pandemic of precariousness silently sweeping through families. It resonates with the immense loss, both financial and human, that millions of others have experienced.

If it were not for Covid's many blows, Tripathi's would have been a story of aspiration and upward mobility. He was a hotel management graduate working his way up jobs in the restaurant industry during the pandemic struck. According to a study by the Azim Premji University, 15 million workers had lost jobs permanently by December 2020, forcing salaried workers into informal work. Tripathi was one of them: Without the job as a restaurant manager in north Delhi, he signed up as a gig worker, doing food deliveries for Zomato, to earn a living and support his wife and son. The second wave in 2021 took a greater toll, as his father died of Covid-19 — a sense of devastation and grief that the family shares with lakhs of Indians. Tripathi's sudden, senseless death leaves behind a grieving family with an uncertain future. It has led to an outpouring of sympathy from strangers and offers of financial aid. In this, too, Tripathi's story reflects the pandemic experience. For, whether during the exodus of migrant workers from hostile cities during the first wave, or the mortal crisis of oxygen and beds during the second, ordinary Indians have stepped in the breach left by an inept, sometimes uncaring, state. But while there might be some succour for one family, the shrinking of aspiration of a nascent middle-class is an unmistakable, untold Covid story.

There is one more reason, perhaps, why, in his death, Tripathi stands in for other losses. If only for a moment, the stark story of a young life salvages the tragedies of the larger society from cold statistics — whether it is the debate over excess mortality or figures of unemployment — and makes space for an acknowledgement of a collective loss.

# MAYA ANGELOU QUARTER

US coin depicting the black poet, writer and civil rights activist was a long time coming

IT SEEMS FITTING that the first quarter minted under the American Women quarters programme — to commemorate notable women in US history — should feature Maya Angelou, the globally loved writer, poet and memoirist who died in 2014. In her long and astonishingly creative life, Angelou was many things. Apart from building a prolific career in letters, she had also been, at different times, a singer, actor, dancer, composer, journalist and teacher, as well as Hollywood's first black female director. With the new commemorative quarter, she's also become the first black woman to feature on a US coin.

Many Americans view the development as one that has been a long time coming. It was in the Obama era that the proposal to put a black woman on US currency was first mooted — the \$20 bill, which currently features the seventh US president, Andrew Jackson, was to be redesigned to feature the abolitionist and political activist Harriet Tubman. The project fell by the wayside during the Trump presidency, although the current president, Joe Biden, announced last January that the proposal for the Tubman \$20 bill will be revived and the process “speeded up”.

The demand for more diverse representation in official iconography as well as in public art, street names etc — especially of women and people of colour — has been growing louder in the US and elsewhere in the world. It comes on the back of movements, such as Black Lives Matter and #MeToo, that seek to remake the world, not only in its essence — through the politics of empowerment — but also in its visual iconography and symbolism. This was what lay behind the scene, a few years ago, when BLM protestors toppled a slave trader's statue into the sea at Bristol, UK. While there has been a conservative resistance to this impulse, which is sometimes (mis)characterised as a part of “cancel culture”, the inclusion of Angelou on official currency has elicited little backlash. This is a welcome development in a hopefully more inclusive world.



PRATAP BHANU MEHTA

THIRTY YEARS AGO, on January 12, 1992, it seemed that the pulsating rhythms of the universe had gone silent forever. On this date, Kumar Gandharva drew his last breath. We are yet to fathom the full measure of this loss or take full stock of his legacy. One of the up-sides of living in our age is the unprecedented availability of the recorded archive. When we were students in college it was hard to access more than a few stock recordings. Anyone who had access to rare or private recordings became our best friend. His Kabir recordings (the one oeuvre Kumarji was sent to this earth for) were, of course, freely available and widely known. But getting our hands on other cassettes was pure gold.

But now, thanks to newly released archives, his corpus comes into full view. The full range of his *nirguna bhajans*, Marathi *natya sangeet*, even his incredibly playful compositions on ordinary life and the seasons, all can be heard in relation to each other. In other artistes, this over availability can be a liability: You have to sift through, to get to the peaks. In Kumarji's case, it has the opposite effect: Almost each recording seems like a discovery of a new summit, a different way of capturing a haunting incandescence, and weaving his whole being, and ours, in a melodic current.

The attempt to measure the loss or legacy of Kumarji seems totally out of place for both practical and philosophical reasons. Much superfluous ink has been spilled on issues that almost seem beside the point. The first is the question of his innovation: His departures from tradition, much to the consternation of purists who would want to reduce tradition to mere convention. Of course, he was innovative, even revolutionary, in almost everything he did. There is a cottage industry cataloguing his innovations: From the *bol aalaps*, the incredible use of short *taans*, the new bandishes. But, as he always insisted, juxtaposing innovation against tradition is a serious mistake.

A tradition is more like a foundation on which more has to be built; a grammar is meant for expanding language, not constricting it. The second is the constant opposition between the folk and the classical. It was of-

Remembering Kumar Gandharva, who exemplifies the unity of form, meaning and being

ten said he made high classical popular (by departing from convention), and he made popular folk classical. In retrospect, these categorisations, while useful for some pedantic scholarly purposes, seem almost antithetical to the singularity of what he did and the unity of the musical experience he produced.

The title of one poignant set of homages to him, “Kaaljayi”, one who has conquered time, is probably as apt a title as one can give. But conquering time does not mean eternal — a kind of fixity that transcends all flux. In his interviews, he always comes across as impatient with that kind of talk. He also had a particular allergy to the word often used in connection with music, spiritual, as if it were one part of life, not life itself. These are very tempting terms that we lazily use to lock us into the binaries he was always trying to unsettle.

His music has the intense and blazing energy of the whole of creation pulsating through that connection between *sabda* and *raga* that only he could produce. He is unusual in how much the *bols* of the *bandish*, or the *sahitya*, is important to him and how much care he took to explain them. Listening to Kumar Gandharva, it is difficult to agree with the great TM Krishna's claim in *A Southern Music* that in the musical experience language is important only as sound, not linguistically; words have to be conceived as a musical form not a poetic form. In a sense, this is true; after all it is the raga that shapes the form and the musical experience is accessible even without the linguistic meaning. But in Kumarji — what made all his recordings so exceptional — the music was a vehicle for not just sound but meaning. His particular emphasis in singing was also a vehicle for meaning, not just sound.

It is just hard to fathom the full power of all those glorious moments in his singing without meaning: The explosive “*Oham Soham Baaja Baje/Trikuti Dham*” or the erumpent, “*Ganga Gangana*” in his great Raga Shankara. Or, even more mischievously, the bandish he composed “*Karan De Re Kachhu Lalla Re*” (imploiring his toddler son to let him work). Even the sound “*jha*” in *jhini*, is meant not just as sound, but to accentuate the ef-

fect of the meaning “*jhini*” has. You almost get the sense that it was the careful deliberate braiding of sound and meaning that lifted Kumarji beyond the mere virtuosity of many great artistes. To claim this is not to deny the autonomy of music, or to reduce it to its meaning. But it is to return to one central point: Kumarji exemplifies the unity of form, meaning and being.

Kumarji always acknowledged his debt to the folk traditions, not just for the musical forms they bequeathed to him. But like Tagore, taken in by the Baul singers, what the “folk traditions” offered was not just musical forms to be shaped, but the unity of life and music. Singing or being in communion with a *nirgun bhajan* was not a matter of just meaning or musical form: It was being in a non-attached carefree state. The timelessness is not a sense of the eternal, it is just the sense that no moment is instrumental to anything else, especially the future. As he once put it, “without having that kind of nature, you cannot put forth that kind of (*nirguna*) voice. The voice has to match the mind.”

A programme announcement of the Indian State Broadcasting Service in the *Indian Listener* of June 7 1936 lists Kumar Gandharva as a “boy prodigy.” On August 15, 1947, as India gained independence, if Raghava Menon is to be believed, he was singing Raga Chandrakauns on radio. He then battled with TB and lost his voice for a full six years. By the time he took his last breath, he had not only become one of the greatest musicians of all time, he had arguably become the highest point of Indian culture, embodying its form, meaning and even sense of play. He created a world — free, expansive and liberating, and unsettling in the deepest sense. As Madhu Limaye who listened to Kumarji in jail during the Emergency wrote to him, he gave us a glimpse of the secret vibrations of the universe. But Kumarji would have smiled: “*Yeh Khel Roop Ka/Khele Mahadhir*. (This play of forms/plays the Mahadhir).”

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DARSHANA S MINI

IN APRIL 2021, SAG-AFTRA, the union of entertainment industry professionals in the US, standardised its procedures for filing sexual harassment claims through a digital platform called “Safe Place”, which would locate patterns in the complaints and prevent repeat offenders from going unchecked. While the #MeToo movement in the US has led to some positive actions, such as the creation of the Hollywood Commission headed by Anita Hill, the response to the movement has been tepid — even hostile — elsewhere, including South Korea and India.

Take the case of the 2017 assault against an actor in Kerala. The crime and the ensuing events — which resulted in the survivor recently making her identity public and seeking the chief minister's intervention to ensure justice — are a blatant exhibition of male privilege. They show a disregard for the professional and personal dignity of women who work in the industry. Most telling is the sheer apathy with which even the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA) responded to the assault, which was allegedly masterminded by another actor. While both actors remained part of the organisation, the survivor received little support.

The formation of the Women in Cinema Collective in 2017 was a result of such institutional silences. Right from its inception, there have been concerted efforts to delegitimise the WCC as an exclusive space built through a nexus of class privilege. This can be observed in how the WCC's actions are

# Justice in slow motion

Case of assault on female actor in 2017 shows little has changed in Kerala film industry

monitored and held to higher standards than organisations such as AMMA or the Film Employees Federation of Kerala (FEFKA). Even media platforms are guilty of perpetuating such gendered expectations. Take the press conference in 2018, when WCC members were met with a barrage of questions demanding that they reveal the names of harassers, as if only the declaration of names could legitimise their claims. Not long after the formation of the WCC, AMMA staged a “comic” skit that portrayed a fictional organisation called “WhatsApp Women Empowerment Group”, a thinly-veiled reference to the WCC. Among its many offensive strategies was the inclusion of a character who was shown to be negotiating an abusive marriage — a tactical move to delegitimise the political awareness that led to the constitution of WCC in the first place.

When one considers the focus of the WCC, it's not hard to see why such responses emerge. The WCC demands accountability from film organisations and seeks the constitution of an internal complaints committee (ICC) as per the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. In 2017, the Kerala state government constituted a three-member commission headed by the retired High Court Justice K Hema, to explore ‘options for improving women's safety, security, a better salary, service conditions and creation of a conducive working environment’. Despite the submission of the report to the government in December 2019, it has not become a public document yet.

In 2017, the Kerala state government constituted a three-member commission headed by the retired High Court Justice K Hema, to explore ‘options for improving women's safety, security, a better salary, service conditions and creation of a conducive working environment’. Despite the submission of the report to the govern-

ment in December 2019, it has not become a public document yet. While it is necessary to guard the confidentiality of the respondents, one wonders if an amended version redacting the concerned portions is not within the scope of legal and ethical possibilities. The material collected by the Commission is crucial for policy-level actions pertaining to gender equity in the film sector.

What we require are not just judicial commissions, but tangible possibilities of implementing measures to ameliorate the conditions of women in the industry. Alongside infrastructural support and financial resources, work conditions have to be inclusive enough for any long-term change. While the state government's decision to constitute a cinema regulatory authority for resolving labour disputes is welcome, only careful deliberation can tell us whether it will have the desired impact. Since we do not have any comprehensive data set on issues related to gender, wage, and labour rights in the film industry, the time is ripe for considering the inputs of cine-workers. And at every step, we must remember that it is never a question of either labour or gender, but about labour and gender. Intersectional thinking is key for lasting change in the industry. As Audre Lorde said: “There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives.”

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# January 13, 1982, Forty Years Ago

ANTULAY RESIGNS  
CHIEF MINISTER OF Maharashtra A R Antulay resigned on Tuesday night following the verdict against him by the Bombay High Court in the cement allotment case. Antulay submitted his letter of resignation to Maharashtra Governor O P Mehra. The governor accepted the chief minister's resignation but has requested Antulay to continue in office until alternative arrangements are made, the Raj Bhavan announced. In his judgment, Justice B Lentin of the Bombay High Court held as justified the allegations that Antulay had arbitrarily allotted cement from the ad hoc quota to certain builders in consideration for donations to

two trusts floated by him.

## SUCCESSOR SEARCH

NOW THAT A R Antulay has stepped down, the search has begun for his successor. Antulay will play a major role in selecting his successor because of the massive support he enjoys in the legislature party. But it is also likely that his supporters will desert him as he would no longer be in a position to oblige them. Although the final choice will naturally rest with the high command which, in the Congress (I) hierarchy means Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Antulay is likely to support N M Tidke, labour minister in his

cabinet, or Finance Minister Ramrao Adik. The high command may also try to send a non-controversial person from the Centre like Shivraj Patil.

## PAK CHAMPIONS

PAKISTAN DEFEATED WEST Germany 3-1 to retain the World Cup at the Wankhede Stadium. It was a convincing win for the hockey maestros, who trailed 0-1 within five minutes of the start. Pakistan levelled through centre-forward Hasan Sardar in the 26th minute and forged ahead a minute later through a gem of a goal by Manzoor Jr Kaleemullah.



# Taking the fair call

The impression that access to government is unequal in the telecom sector must be dispelled. Having taken commanding stake in Vodafone, government can consider merging it with BSNL



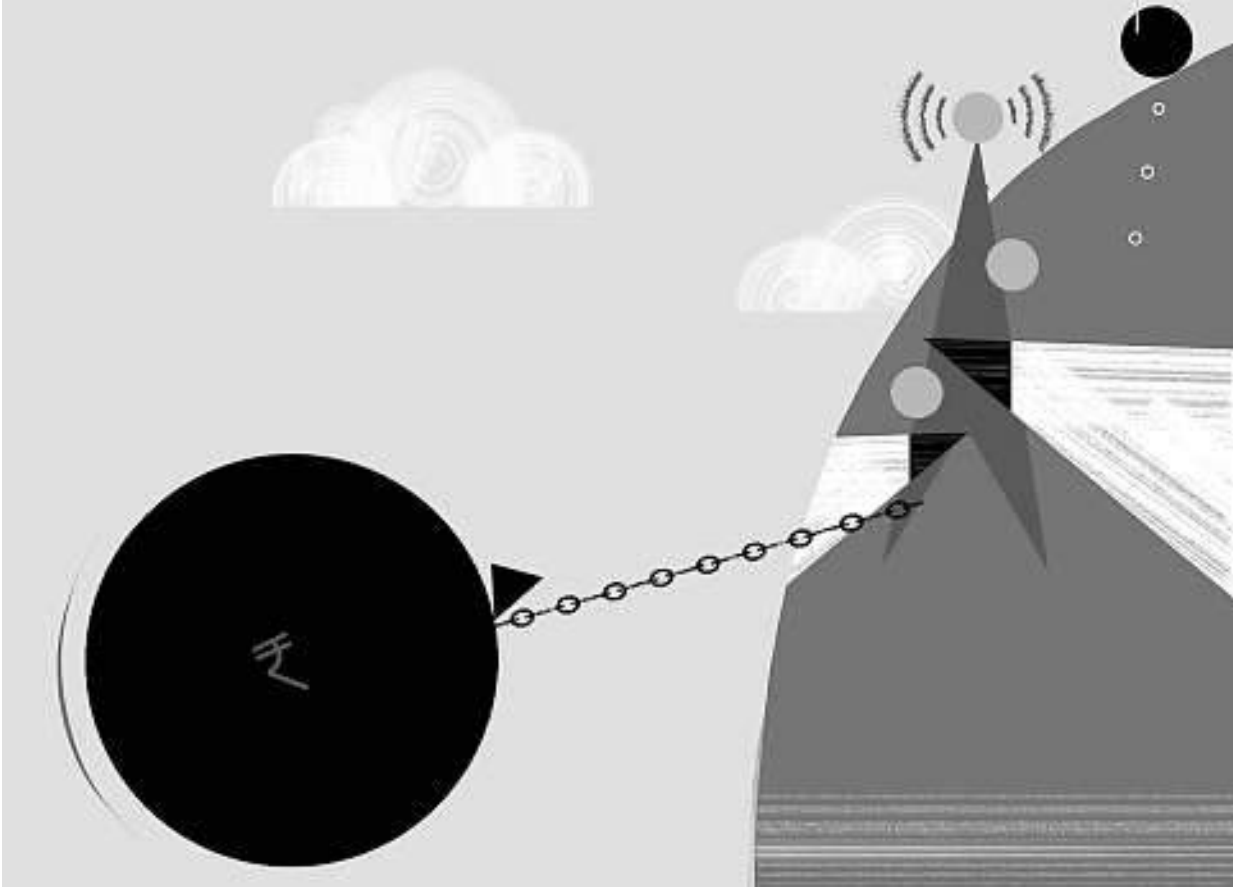
RAJAT KATHURIA AND ISHA SURI

WE HAVE just witnessed another episode in the evolving saga of the telecommunications sector in India. The board of Vodafone Idea (Vi) has approved the conversion of part of their liability owed to the government into equity. Thus, roughly Rs 16,000 crore of the interest on the deferred spectrum and adjusted gross revenue (AGR) liabilities will now be converted to government equity, making it the single-largest stakeholder, owning 35.8 per cent of the entity. If the conversion of debt to equity goes through the complicated processes of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), it will dilute the shareholding of promoters Vodafone Group and Aditya Birla Group to 28.5 per cent and 17.8 per cent respectively. Chances are it will because this is part of the relief package proposed by the government itself in October 2021 to save the beleaguered operator from exiting and thus protect competition in a market rapidly hurtling towards an effective duopoly between Jio and a stressed Airtel.

To be gracious, one can see the Indian telecom glass as half full or half empty. There have been seminal achievements interspersed with colossal mistakes. While optimists like us would like to focus on the glass half-full, it would be prudent to devote some mind space to the mistakes to draw lessons from that experience. For, perhaps the best policy advice that one can volunteer is what not to do, rather than the other way round.

Telecom in India, much more than elsewhere, is not a business for the faint-hearted. The stakes are huge, running into billions of dollars and perennial litigation has been a drain on resources, used as much if not more for strategic manoeuvring as for seeking justice. Every stakeholder including the government has sought the courts' intervention at some point or the other and not always to correct a perceived wrong. Vodafone entered the Indian market purchasing Hutch in an off-shore deal in 2007 that was compliant with the prevailing law. Fairness would demand amending the law — if it was being abused — prospectively and not retrospectively. The retroactive amendment was a body blow, with Vodafone receiving a standing count.

The government has also often used the telecom sector for much-needed cash. It is relevant to ask whether the sequence of adverse events have irreversibly crippled the goose that laid golden eggs. In the Bollywood blockbuster *Deewaar*, Amitabh Bachchan saves his own life by pointing out the fallacy of tearing into the entrails of the bird to extract all the eggs in one swoop, he being the metaphorical goose. Bachchan's advice has been largely ignored outside the film. To cite a few examples, constituents of AGR include non-telecom revenues under the licence and part of the Rs 16,000 crore cited above is the erstwhile disputed amount and accumulated interest and penalty on the unpaid licence fee. The idea of a licence fee based on AGR is an artefact of an era when there were no spectrum auctions. Having introduced highly lucrative spectrum auctions, the government could have eschewed other forms of licence



CR Sasikumar

fee from operators that bid for spectrum, including the spectrum usage charge (SUC). A nominal administrative fee could have been charged to administer licences. In addition, allowing "back door entry" into the mobile sector in 2003, the noxious spectrum assignment by the "first come first served" (FCFS) method of 2008 and looking the other way when a deep-pocketed Jio aggressively entered the market in 2016 are instances of inequity that have had a debilitating impact on competition in the sector.

Vodafone, Idea, Airtel and Jio are all professionally managed companies with arguably equal access to technology, network services, financial and marketing skills. One would expect competition to thrive in such a scenario that could well have become the envy of the world. But access to government, seemingly is unequal (at least in outcomes) and that is the enduring lesson from the two decades or more of previous experience. The system ought to correct this failing and should not only be fair but also be perceived to be fair to all entities. Sometimes in India, inertia results in decisions that favour one over the other operator not because there is bad intent, but because the system is such that the status quo is the dominant response. That should also be studiously avoided to the extent possible by summoning high-level intervention.

Back to the present and the fortuitous opportunity of the moment. In the last few years, the government has been struggling to bail out a heavily indebted industry, the proximate reasons for which, (a few also stated above), are an intense and debilitating price war, an unreasonable definition of AGR, an extractive spectrum auction regime and, of course, the march of technology impacting the revenue streams of operators straddled with legacy networks adversely. The implementation of this relief package means the Government of India will own stakes in two out of four major telecom operators in the country, namely BSNL (100 per cent) and Vi (35.8 per cent). With the exception of China,

Another aspect worthy of consideration is that the current licencing conditions prohibit any company/legal person either directly or through its associates from having substantial equity holding (defined as equity of 10 per cent or more) in more than one licencee company in the same area for the same service. In order to comply, the government may have to dilute its share or explore the option of merging BSNL and Vi. The latter is attractive for multiple reasons.

no other country in the world has wholly-owned government entities in the telecom sector. And in recent times, even the Chinese government has been encouraging private sector participation to boost competition in a market that has thus far witnessed monopolistic and unfair competition. In France and Germany, the government has diluted its stakes in erstwhile public sector entities to a minimum. Telecom almost everywhere is the domain of private enterprise.

Another aspect worthy of consideration is that the current licencing conditions prohibit any company/legal person either directly or through its associates from having substantial equity holding (defined as equity of 10 per cent or more) in more than one licencee company in the same area for the same service. In order to comply, the government may have to dilute its share or explore the option of merging BSNL and Vi. The latter is attractive for multiple reasons.

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## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Suu Kyi's case should also ring a warning bell for those who harbour authoritarian nostalgia, no matter how tiresome the current forms of government and politics are."

— KATHMANDU POST

# For order to prevail

Seventh Schedule should be re-examined for better delivery of public goods



BIBEK DEBROY

THE USE of the expression "law and order" is very common and the terms "law" and "order" have been coupled for centuries. Everyone understands "law". What is "order"? In whichever way the word is defined, typically as the opposite of disorder in society, "order" has a connotation of enforcement of the law. In other words, "order" requires the efficient functioning of the courts and police. Economists have a technical definition of "public good". Ignoring that narrow and technical definition of public good, loosely, we understand "public good" as something that must be delivered by the government. It cannot, or should not, be delivered by the private sector. Notwithstanding the use of private security guards, most people will agree "law and order" is a public good. If not delivered efficiently by the government, in the real — or reel — world, the private sector may step in to fill the breach, with undesirable consequences. The expression "government" should not be used in the singular, since there are layers in our three-tiered structure of governance. Article 246 of the Constitution mentions three lists in the Seventh Schedule — union, state and concurrent lists.

The union list makes no mention of "order". It only mentions: "Deployment of any armed force of the Union or any other force subject to the control of the Union or any contingent or unit thereof in any State in aid of the civil power; powers, jurisdiction, privileges and liabilities of the members of such forces while on such deployment." The state list mentions "public order" and "police (including railway and village police)".

"Notwithstanding anything in the two next succeeding subsections, the Federal Legislature has, and a Provincial Legislature has not, power to make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in List I in the Seventh Schedule to this Act." Other than those steeped in constitutional history, I don't think too many people will recognise this quote. It comes from Government of India Act, 1935 and is not a quote from the present Constitution. The present Seventh Schedule and union (at that time Federal) list, state (at that time Provincial) list and concurrent lists are inherited from that 1935 piece of legislation. Every public good is optimally delivered at a certain level of government. Delivery becomes sub-optimal both above that level and below that level. Most public goods people will think of are efficiently delivered at the local government level, not Union or state level. There is a Seventh Schedule issue that is thus linked to the insertion of a local body list. Countervailing pressure by citizens increasingly demands efficient delivery of such public goods. But

without delegation of funds, functions and functionaries, presently left to the whims of state governments, local governments are unable to respond.

In hindsight, it is a bit surprising that Constituent Assembly debates (in 1949) on Article 246 (at that time Article 217 in the Draft) were so perfunctory. B Das (former chief minister of Odisha) did raise the issue. "There are, Sir, 91 items in List I alone. There are of course some honourable members who have given notice of amendments with particular items. But if there is a general discussion concerning the principles involved in the Union, Concurrent and State lists, it will considerably clarify the position and will help us to understand the lists much better." Rajendra Prasad, who was chairing the debate, didn't agree and the discussion was limited to the items included.

The point was raised again in 1971 by the Rajamannar Committee — formally known as Centre-State Relations Inquiry Committee — set up by Tamil Nadu. "The Committee is of the opinion that it is desirable to constitute a High Power Commission, consisting of eminent lawyers and jurists and elderly statesmen with administrative experience to examine the entries of Lists I and III in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution and suggest redistribution of the entries," it noted. Why should one take the Seventh Schedule as given, simply because the Government of India Act of 1935 gave us those principles? One shouldn't convey the impression that today's Seventh Schedule is identical to the one in 1950. Items have moved from the state list to the concurrent list and from the concurrent list to the union list. Hitherto, such limited movements have reflected greater centralisation, such as in 1976. But scrutiny on the basis of first principles need not always lead to greater centralisation. The Rajamannar Committee was set up by a state government.

Take police, which is squarely in the state list. We know that the states have been lackadaisical in implementing the 2006 Supreme Court ruling in the Prakash Singh case. In the quote from the union list, there is a reference to "Central Armed Police Forces" and there are seven of these. That perfunctory implementation may be the reason why states frequently ask for Central police forces to enforce law and order. This is similar to state highways being converted to national highways, so that they are taken care of better. A couple of years ago, on the basis of first principles, the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy brought out a report on how the Seventh Schedule might be cleaned up. N K Singh, Chairman of 15th Finance Commission has also often made this point, in addition to scrutiny of Article 282. The 1983 Sarkaria Commission and the 2002 National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution ducked the issue. For the sake of better governance, it's not an issue that should be ducked and the basic structure doctrine doesn't stand in the way.

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IN GOOD FAITH  
NANDITESH NILAY

ALONG WITH the new year, the third Covid wave is upon us and the only way we can get to the other side is to get ourselves and our loved ones vaccinated, wear masks and follow Covid-appropriate behaviour and trust science to lead the way. Also, in the new year, the prime minister's cavalcade was stalled on a flyover and some say this was a plot to target him by those fired by hatred. There are others, including those whose job it was to ensure the PM's security, who say trust us, this was nothing more than a traffic jam. Common to both is trust, its crucial significance and the implications of its loss.

What is trust? It's our firm belief in an idea, a person or, even, a thing.

Trust is the fulcrum around which our lives revolve. In infancy, we trust our parents as we stumble towards them learning to walk, a family trusts each other, neighbours trust each other when they switch their lights off. A society needs trust like glue, a nation depends on institutions and leaders it can trust. Political and social scientists have studied how the quality of a democracy is linked to whether its society and institutions inspire low trust or high trust. When trust erodes, things begin to crumble.

In our country where colonialism, feudalism, casteism have bred mistrust and suspi-

cion, created inferiority and superiority complexes, where lack of opportunity and the absence of a level-playing field have celebrated the crooked shortcut to success, trust has always been in short supply. Today, algorithms on social media undermine trust by strengthening the walls of our echo chambers.

Yet, this new year there is hope. Ironically, it comes from the market and technology. Certain aspects of new technology are forging new bonds of trust. So, while we distrust how our data and personal details are being used by big technology companies, we know and are aware how in our daily lives, technology has helped build trust. During the lockdown, we trusted apps that, in turn, trusted a network of delivery personnel to deliver what we need. One phone call, a credit card swipe, an OTP — OTP itself is a device to build trust — and in half an hour a stranger who has a name, a rating and, these days, a vaccination certificate, is at our doorstep with whatever we ordered. We collect, we unpack the bundle trusting that the seal wasn't broken along the way.

The next morning, we trust our oximeters, our RT-PCR test reports, our vaccines, we trust brands, their products, processes, devices, technology. The market and our transactions also build trust.

We trust that the new 3BHK we have bought will bring us comfort and, who knows, happiness, too. We trust our workplace to be fair when it comes to appraising us, we trust our colleagues to be fair. At the restaurant, we

trust the chef and waiter. Our food supply chains and hygiene, once notorious for their standards and unreliability, are today almost taken for granted. So we trust the process, we trust the brand, what about people? That's where the problem lies. Trust has travelled towards a product, a service, a thing we have paid for, rather than the person or persons responsible for the product or service.

When it comes to people, it's easy to trust a leader or a boss because they transform themselves into impersonal products and promise a better life, just rewards, and a system of fairness. So trust travels from products and processes to those with profiles and positions, with blue ticks and followers. The market, it seems, controls our interactions and quietly, effortlessly, we have undermined the most vulnerable and at the same time the most powerful aspect of human beings, their trustworthiness. For, we have divided people into various strata and clusters in the name of caste, class, religion, geography, even pin code.

Trust travels up the hierarchy but why doesn't trust travel down? When the delivery boy drops off our favourite food on time, it's the service we trust, its system of checks and balances, its GPS maps and rating systems, not the young man standing at the door. When the share-taxi driver drops us off and is polite, we give him a five-star rating but we rarely address him by his name, he remains the Uber/Ola driver. When migrants during the lockdown headed for home, they trusted their

families in the villages, they didn't trust the impersonal city or their employers.

Researchers have identified that in low-trust societies, ethical values are not shared and so the moral consensus is missing. An important aspect of such societies is a continuous decline in people's social and political trust. If politics is to create an environment of happiness, oneness, trust will travel down. In 1947, an independent India was born and yet scarred by huge mistrust between two communities. Today, as we mark the 75th year of that defining moment, we see attempts to deepen that divide. A politics that feeds mistrust can get short-term gains but the fact is this politics is against the irreversible force of change. Because, as human beings, we know it's easier to trust than it is to mistrust. To deceive, we need to weave, as Sir Walter Scott said, a web more tangled. So it's far easier to trust. Anyone who thinks otherwise is on the wrong side of history.

Let this be our new year wish: Let trust travel, not only up, but down, too, left and right. It's heartening that we have begun to trust some processes as part of our daily life. But it's only when we begin to trust those who are less powerful than us, that we will increase our own trustworthiness.

*The writer is the author of Being Good, Aaiye, Insaan Banein, and Ethikos. He teaches and trains courses on ethics, values and behaviour*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### JUDICIAL LAW

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'A crowded field of defectors' (IE, January 11). It is ironic that our democracy — the biggest in the world — offers us a wide choice of persons whom we can elect as our representatives for Parliament, the assemblies, etc, but they are found to lack the required qualities for this purpose. Our search for the ideal representative is, therefore, like looking for a needle in a haystack. Presently instead of being our role models, our elected representatives are like rolling stones that damage the sineews of our hard-earned democracy. They are now using all their dirty tricks in Goa to outsmart one another.

*Tarsem Singh, Mahilpur*

### LAW AND COURT

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Erratic Interpretations' (IE, January 11). The incorporation of international law (IL) in India's domestic law by the judiciary not just "legitimises the democratic deficit", it doubles down on it. The judiciary is a non-democratic organ of the state. Thus, any lawmaking by it is not reflective of citizens' wishes. This issue becomes more concerning if the incorporated IL is made a part of the constitutional sphere, especially fundamental rights — as it shrinks the legislative power of the state. The constitutional courts should be circumspect while filling the necessary gaps in the legal regime, as it often results in an eternal deprivation of democracy.

*Ayush Baheti, Jaipur*

### IRRELIGIOUS, ILLEGAL

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'No one wins if justice fails' (IE, January 11). The abominable incidents of sacrilegious at Amritsar or elsewhere were condemnable and they were unequivocally declared as such. Though lynchings are also being reported from other parts of India for other reasons as well, like the cases of cow vigilantism, the silence over the lynching of the alleged accused has raised questions of law for the state, and morality for the followers of any religion. The lackadaisical approach of the state and political leaders stems from the compulsions of electoral arithmetic. This inhibits them from taking firm legal action against violence perpetrated as retribution, lest they are seen to be anti-religion. However, the scholars and authorities belonging to all religious denominations are free from aforesaid compulsions and ought to be guided by the core values of the religion. They should take a firm stand against this type of violence in the name of religion rather than be seen to be kowtowing the politicians. For instance, the 10th Guru, Gobind Singhji, clearly delineated revenge from justice in *Zafarnamah*, an oft-quoted and much-admired philosophical epistle, where he discussed alternatives available to people seeking redress. He concludes that only when all other means have failed, it is just and right to take to the sword. Moreover, religious polarisation could prove to be a shrewd distraction for the voters from the pertinent issues.

*LR Murmu, Delhi*









## PRESS NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The undersigned for and on behalf of the Governor of Tripura invites e-Tender from the Sugar Mills / Sugar Importers / Bulk Sugar suppliers of India for supply of total 11280.00 M.T. (tentative) ISS Grade S-30/S-31 Sugar out of 2021-22 seasons production to different State Food Godowns of Tripura during the period from April 2022 to March 2023 with an option for further 06 (six) months extension at the sole discretion of the Food CS&CA Department.

Interested Bidders may see & download the NIT Document from the website **'www.tripuratenders.gov.in'** & **'www.tenders.gov.in'**. However, e-Bidding to be made only through **'www.tripuratenders.gov.in'**. Last date & time of submission of tender is 02.02.2022 up to 3.00 PM.

Sd/-  
(T. K. Das)  
**Addl. Secretary & Director Food, Civil Supplies & CA Government of Tripura.**  
ICA-C-3317-22

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM  
THE INDIAN EXPRESS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022

 <b>Govt. of Jharkhand</b> 	
<b>Office of the Executive Engineer</b> <b>Soil Investigation Division, Advance Planning,</b> <b>Road Construction Department, Ranchi.</b>	
<b>NirupanBhawan,3<sup>rd</sup>Floor,Room No. 413 ,Doranda, Ranchi-834002</b>	
<b>Email- eercdapsid-jhr@nic.in</b> <b>e-Procurement/Very Short Term Notice</b>	
<b>e-Tender Ref No: RCD/SID/AP/RAN/23/2021-22Dated-11.01.2022</b>	
1	Name Of Work Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report for Strengthening and Widening/ Re-construction of Matkamhatu Primary School to Kokatta via Kundubedra- Kuchiya, Kenjara Road (Chalbasa) from the consultants empanelled with RCD under category- I vide letter No. 686(S) WE Dated 29.01.2019.
2	Tentative Length of Work 32.00 Km
3	Period of Completion of Work 90 Days
4	Date/Time of Publication of Tender on Official Website 12.01.2022, 05:00 PM
5	Last Date/Time of Bid Submission 20.01.2022, 11:30 AM
6	Last Date/Time of Submission of Tender Fee & EMD 20.01.2022, 11:30 AM
7	Date and Time of Bid opening 21.01.2022, 12:30 PM
8	Tender Inviting Authority E.E. S.I.D, A.P, RCD,Ranchi Ph.-0651-2499406
9	Bid Submission Address Chief Engineer(Communication),Road Construction Department,1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Engineer Hostel No-2, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
10	Mode of Bid Submission e-tendering(http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in)

For further information please go through the website e-tendering (http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in)

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

PR 261587 Road(21-22)D

## MINERAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT DIRECTORATE OF GEOLOGY AND MINING, MADHYA PRADESH

29- A Khanij Bhawan, Arera Hills Bhopal  
Phone and fax 0755-2551795 Email:geology.dgm@mp.gov.in

No- 211/Auction/Geology/ F.No.-7/2022-23 January 05, 2022

### Notice Inviting Tender

**“Invitation of bids for grant of Mining Lease for Limestone, Bauxite, Iron Ore, and Goldminerals and for grant of Composite Licence for Manganese ore, Bauxite and Limestone mineral”**  
In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 10A(2)(d), Section 10B and Section 11 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 notified thereunder, as amended from time to time, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has identified:

- 12 mineral blocks (8 blocks of Limestone, 2 blocks of Bauxite, 1 block of Gold and 1 block of Iron Ore) for electronic auction and hereby invites tenders for the purposes of grant of Mining Lease.
- 9 mineral blocks (7 blocks of Manganese ore, 1 block of Bauxite and 1 block of Bauxite and Limestone) for electronic auction and hereby invites tenders for the purposes of grant of Composite Licence.

Accordingly, financial bids are invited in digital format only and technical bids are invited both in digital and physical format from eligible bidders.

Eligibility conditions, date and time, terms, and conditions etc. for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. Detailed Tender Documents along with timelines, notifications, updates and other details for the e-auction process for the mineral blocks are available in electronic form only and can be downloaded from the e-auction portal of MSTC Limited (<https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcl/index.jsp>).

Interested and eligible bidders can register themselves on the above e-auction portal. On successful registration, eligible bidders will obtain login ID and password necessary for participation in the e-auction process. Interested and eligible bidders can participate in the bidding only after online purchase of the Tender Document on payment of the Tender fee from the above e-auction portal. Any revision, clarifications, addendum, corrigendum, time extensions, etc. to the tender document will be hosted on the above e-auction portal and on <https://www.ekhanij.mp.gov.in/> only and no separate notifications shall be issued in the press.

Model Tender Document and Mineral Block Summaries are available free of cost on the e-auction portal of MSTC Limited website (<https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcl/index.jsp>) and Directorate of geology and Mining website (<https://www.ekhanij.mp.gov.in>).

### List of Mineral Blocks being put up for Auction

Sr. No	Name of the Block	District	Mineral	Price of Tender Document (In Rs.)
<b>Blocks being put up for Mining Lease</b>				
1.	Pahari, Narora, Tiloura	Satna	Limestone	5,00,000
2.	Pahari-Narora-Tiloura-Tanaja Bansipur	Satna	Limestone	5,00,000
3.	Atarhara Parsokha	Satna	Limestone	5,00,000
4.	Bara Khurd	Satna	Limestone	5,00,000
5.	Chorgadi – Puraina	Rewa	Limestone	5,00,000
6.	Bhatia	Satna	Limestone	5,00,000
7.	Ghuinsa	Satna	Limestone	2,00,000
8.	Kharoundi	Satna	Limestone	2,00,000
9.	Dhaukan - Dhaurra - Urdaurra	Niwari	Iron Ore	5,00,000
10.	Gurhar Pahar	Singrauli	Gold	5,00,000
11.	Pipariya Mal	Dindori	Bauxite	5,00,000
12.	Baruyee	Satna	Bauxite	1,00,000
<b>Blocks being put up for Composite Licence</b>				
13.	Botejhari	Balaghat	Manganese	25,000
14.	Jam	Balaghat	Manganese	25,000
15.	Budbuda	Balaghat	Manganese	25,000
16.	Naganwat-Chhoti	Jhabua	Manganese	25,000
17.	Palasdor	Jhabua	Manganese	25,000
18.	Nandia Loharpura	Khargone	Manganese	2,00,000
19.	Dhobitola	Seoni	Manganese	25,000
20.	Kubri	Satna	Bauxite & Limestone	1,00,000
21.	Jamuwanikala	Katni	Bauxite	25,000

### Note:


1. Auction of all the blocks are being considered as “First Attempt”
  2. The price of Tender Document is exclusive of GST.
- The following mineral blocks are being put up for auction in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d) of the Act:

- 1) Pahari, Narora, Tiloura Limestone Block
- 2) Pahari-Narora-Tiloura-Tanaja Bansipur Limestone Block
- 3) Atarhara Parsokha Limestone Block
- 4) Bara Khurd Limestone Block
- 5) Kharoundi Limestone Block
- 6) Kubri Limestone and Bauxite Block
- 7) Jamuwanikala Bauxite and Laterite Block
- 8) Baruyee Bauxite Block
- 9) Botejhari Manganese Block
- 10) Jam Manganese Block
- 11) Budbuda Manganese Block
- 12) Naganwat-Chhoti Manganese Block
- 13) Palasdor Manganese Block
- 14) Nandia Loharpura Manganese Block
- 15) Dhobitola Manganese Block

Not with standing anything to the contrary in the Tender Document for these 15 (fifteen) afore mentioned blocks, the State Government makes no representation whatsoever, express, implicit or otherwise, regarding the accuracy and/ or completeness of the information provided in the said geological report and the Bidder confirms that it shall have no claim whatsoever against the State Government in this regard. The Bidder acknowledges and hereby accepts the risk of inadequacy, mistake or error in or relating to said geological report and hereby acknowledges and agrees that the State Government shall not be liable for the same in any manner whatsoever to the Bidder and their associates or any person claiming through or under any of them. The Bidders agree and acknowledge that any mistake or error in or relating to the said geological report shall not vitiate the tender process, Mining Lease and/ or MDPA, or render the same voidable.

The block specific Tender documents are available for purchase on the e-auction portal of MSTC Limited (<https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcl/index.jsp>). Last date for purchase of Tender Document, on the e-auction platform is **Tuesday, February 15, 2022** and the last date for submission of the bid is **Tuesday, February 22, 2022** on or before 17:00 hours (Indian Standard Time).


Sd/-  
**Director**  
G-21110/21 **Directorate of Geology and Mining, Madhya Pradesh**


 <b>HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRONICS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED</b>	
<b>1st &amp; Ground Floor, I.T. Bhawan, Mehli, Shimla-171013</b> <b>Tel. No. 0177-2623259, 2623513, 2626320, 2623513</b> <b>2623043, FAX: 0177-2626320 Website: www.hpsecd.in</b>	
<b>Tender No.: HPSEDC/FACE/BIOMETRIC/2K22-8201</b>	<b>Date: 12-01-2022</b>
<b>e-TENDER NOTICE</b>	
e-Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for Rate Contract for supply of Biometric face detection machine. Pre-Bid meeting will be held on 18/01/2022 (11:30AM) through Video Conferencing.	
Last date for online e-bid submission is 02/02/2022 (upto 02:30 PM) and shall be opened on 03/02/2022 at 2:30PM. Detailed Tender Document containing Technical Specifications and Terms & Conditions are available on HPSEDC website <a href="http://www.hpsecd.in">www.hpsecd.in</a> and <a href="https://hptenders.gov.in">https://hptenders.gov.in</a> .	
<b>Sd/-</b> <b>General Manager (Technical)</b>	
0643/HP	


 <b>Dakshin Gujarat Vij Company Ltd.</b>	
<b>CIN U40102GJ2003SGC042909</b> <b>Regd. &amp; Corp. Office: 'Urja Sadan', Nana Varachha Road, Kapodara Char Rasta, Surat 395 006 GUJARAT</b>	
<b>DGVCL Toll Free No. 19123 (Or 1800 233 3003)</b>	
<b>Tender Notice</b>	
Details for the tenders mentioned hereunder are available on <a href="http://www.dgvcl.com">www.dgvcl.com</a> (for view and download tender documents) and <a href="http://www.dgvcl.nprocure.com">www.dgvcl.nprocure.com</a> (for view, download and online tender submission).	
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Tender No.</b>
1	DGVCL/SP / 2231 / 22KV G.I. Pin
2	DGVCL/SP/GPRD / 2245 /Helmet Mounted Non-Contact AC High Voltage Detector
3	DGVCL/SP/ 2244 /LT Bill Forms on A-4 Size Paper
<b>Note : Bidders may visit the Company website/s for regular updates till opening of the tenders.</b>	
<b>CE (P), DGVCL, Surat.</b>	

<b>OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER</b> <b>MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION HAZARIBAG.</b>	
<b>e-Procurement Tender Notice</b>	
Tender Reference No.WRD/MID/HAZARIBAG/F2-18/2021-22	
<b>Letter no - 37</b>	<b>Date :- 11.01.2022</b>
1.	Name of the work Construction of Check Dam no. 02 on Khorha Nala Block – Keredari, Dist – Hazaribag.
2.	Estimated Cost (Rs.) <b>Rs. 1,03,19,090.00</b>
3.	Time of Completion 11 Months
4	Date of Publication of Tender on website 24.01.2022 at 1:00 PM
5.	Last date/Time for Submission of bids 01.02.2022 up to 5:00 P.M.
6.	Date of opening of e-Tender 03.02.2022 at 1:00 PM
7.	Name & address of office Inviting tender Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Hazaribag
8(a)	Contact no. of Procurement officer 06546-270485
(b)	E-mail of e- Procurement officer eemidhbg-cemr-jhr@nic.in
9.	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell 0651- 2214784
10	Last Date of receipt of bids fee, security and other Documents. 02.02.2022 up to 5:00 PM

**Note:- Only e-Tender will be accepted.**  
Further details can be seen on website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>  
**Executive Engineer,**  
PR 261638 Minor Irrigation(21-22)\_D **Minor Irrigation Division, Hazaribagh**

 <b>RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED</b>	
[Corporate Identity Number (CIN): U40109RJ2000SGC016485] Regd. Office: Vidyut Bhawan, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur 302005 Tele: 0141-2740226 Email: <a href="mailto:sr.aa.br@rvpn.co.in">sr.aa.br@rvpn.co.in</a> Website: <a href="http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpng">energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpng</a>	
<b>CALL OPTION NOTICE TO BOND HOLDERS OF RRVPN 9.30% 2025</b>	
<b>LISTED UNSECURED NON-CONVERTIBLE REDEEMABLE TAXABLE BONDS</b>	
Notice is hereby given to the Bondholders of 2574 Nos. RRVPN 9.30% 2025 Listed Unsecured Non-Convertible Redeemable Bonds (NCDs) of Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited ("the Company"), issued on Private Placement Basis, that, the Company is exercising "Call Option" to fully redeem the NCDs pursuant to the Disclosure Document dated 05th January 2013 which states that "these bonds also carry a Put and Call option at the end of 9th year and would be fully redeemed at the end of 9 years if either of the put or call option is exercised". The specific terms of the redemption are given below:	
ISIN No.	INE572F08030
Issue Description	RRVPN 9.30% 2025
Face Value (Rs./Bond)	Rs. 10,00,000/-
Coupon Rate	9.30% p.a.
Deemed Date of Allotment	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2013
No. of Bonds issued	2574
Issue Price & Redemption Price	At Par
Tenure	12 Years from the Deemed Date of Allotment
Date of Maturity	30% on 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 30% on 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 40% on 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Put/Call Option for seeking early redemption	At the end of 9 <sup>th</sup> year from the Deemed Date of Allotment
Call Option Date	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
Record Date for determining the Beneficial Owners for the purpose of payment of principal amount and final interest accrued thereon	29 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 (Scheduled Record Date 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 being holiday)
Listed on	BSE
Depositories	NSDL and CDSL
Registrar & Transfer Agent	Link Intime India Pvt. Ltd.
The redemption amount shall be paid to Beneficial Owners of above NCDs as existing on the Record Date by crediting the redemption amount to the bank account appearing in the demat account of respective beneficial owners. Address/Bank Particulars in the demat account as appearing in the details provided by National Securities Depository Limited ("NSDL") / Central Depository Services (India) Limited ("CDSL")/Registrar & Transfer Agent ("R&TA") only will be considered for payment of Redemption Amount, pursuant to exercise of Call Option. The Bonds shall be taken as discharged on payment of the redemption amount by the company to the list of Beneficial Owners as existing on record date. The Company's liability to the Bondholders towards all their rights including payment or otherwise shall cease and stand extinguished from the due date of redemption in all events. Place:Jaipur. (Vijay Mathur) Date:12.01.2022 Jt. Director (Corporate Affairs) cum Raj.Samwad/C/21/10421 RRVPN/TR-5323/2022 Company Secretary	

 <b>PIMPRI CHINCHWAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION</b>									
<b>CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT</b>									
<b>TENDER NOTICE No: - CIVIL/B HO/113/2021-2022</b>									
Offers by way of e-tendering (Percentage) are invited by the City Engineer, Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation from contractors in e-tendering system for following works.									
1) The contractor shall quote his Percentage offer on the Cost of work excluding Royalty and material testing charges as mentioned below.									
2) The offer for work shall be exclusive of GST. The GST at the applicable rate shall be paid separately by PCMC for work									
3) Regarding the Royalty, the policy that the corporation determines will be binding on you.									
<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Name of work</b>	<b>Estimated cost put to the Tender (Rs) (4+6)</b>	<b>Cost of Work excluding Royalty &amp; Material testing charges (Rs)</b>	<b>Royalty (Rs)</b>	<b>Material Testing Charges (Rs)</b>	<b>Earnest money (Rs)</b>	<b>Security Deposit (Rs)</b>	<b>Time limit in calendar Months</b>	<b>Cost of Tender Document+ With GST (Non Refundable) (Rs.)</b>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT OF D.P ROAD IN VIKASNAGAR, MAMURDI, WITHIN ACQUIRED LAND IN PRABHAG NO.16	15,24,95,268	15,23,21,068	23,66,880	1,74,200	7,62,476	76,24,770	24	37,430
<b>Time table for the tenders shall be as follows:</b>									
Online sale of tenders	-:-	Date- 13/01/2022 to Date - 09/02/2022							
Last date of submission of tenders	-:-	Date - 09/02/2022 up to 3.00 pm							
Pre Bid Meeting Date & Time	-:-	Date - 20/01/2022 at 3.00 pm							
Place of Pre Bid Meeting	-:-	Office of City Engineer, 1st Floor, PCMC Main Building Pimpri, Pune - 411018							
Date of opening of tenders	-:-	Date - 10/02/2022 at 3.00 pm (if possible)							
The Municipal Commissioner PCMC reserves the right to accept or reject any tender partially or completely without any reason thereof. The details of above works, such as Security Deposit, Earnest Money Deposit, Terms & Conditions of the Tender and Schedule of works, are available on web site <a href="http://www.pcmcindia.gov.in">www.pcmcindia.gov.in</a> , <a href="http://mahaltenders.gov.in">http://mahaltenders.gov.in</a> . In case of any technical problem related to the tender document, the same can be referred to the NIC email support at <a href="mailto:eproc@nic.in">eproc@nic.in</a> or on telephone numbers 0120-4200462, 0120-4001002, 0120-4001005, 0120-627787.									
Sd/- <b>City Engineer,</b> Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation, Pimpri - 411 018.									

 <b>KALOJI NARAYANA RAO UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, TELANGANA STATE</b>	
<b>NOTIFICATION FOR MANAGEMENT QUOTA PG ADMISSIONS 2021-22</b>	
Application forms online are invited from candidates qualified in NEET-PG-2021 for admission into PG Diploma / Degree Courses 2021-22 for Management Quota Seats in Private Medical College affiliated to KNRUHS, Warangal from 15-01-2022 to 22-01-2022. For detailed Notification and Prospectus refer to KNRUHS website : <a href="http://www.knrnuhs.telangana.gov.in">www.knrnuhs.telangana.gov.in</a> . Dated : 12-01-2022	
<b>DIPR No. : 2567-PP/CL-Agency/Advt./1/2021-22</b>	<b>Sd/- REGISTRAR</b>

 <b>JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED</b>	
<b>(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR, PRAGATI SADAN, KUTCHERY RANCHI, JHARKHAND</b> <b>Ph. No.: +91-651-2225878, Mob. No.: +91 9471006062</b> <b>e-mail Id-juidcolimited@gmail.com</b> <b>CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752,</b>	
<b>Corrigendum-1</b>	
PR.No.:260244 NIT No.: JUIDCO/DPR-PMC/SWM-Mahagama/2925/2021/433 Tender ID:2021.UDD.54677_1 Project Name: Request for Proposal(RFP) for Selection of Consultant for providing Consultancy Services for preparation of DPR of Solid Waste Management(SWM) Project and Project Management Consultancy (PMC) at Mahagama.	


All the bidders are hereby informed that Corrigendum-1 for the Tender ID: 2021.UDD.54677\_1, Name of the work: "Request for Proposal(RFP) for selection of Consultant for providing Consultancy Services for preparation of DPR of Solid Waste Management(SWM) Project and Project Management Consultancy (PMC) at Mahagama." has been published on the e-procurement website of Government of Jharkhand (<https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>) and they may submit their bid proposal accordingly.

Sd/-  
**Project Director (Technical)**  
PR 261665(Urban Development)21-22'D JUIDCO Ltd.

 <b>JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED</b>	
<b>(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR, PRAGATI SADAN, KUTCHERY ROAD, RANCHI, JHARKHAND</b> <b>Ph. No.: +91-651-2225878, Mob. No.: +91 9471006062</b> <b>e-mail Id-juidcolimited@gmail.com,CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752,</b>	
<b>Corrigendum-1</b>	
PR.No.:260248 NIT No.: JUIDCO/DPR-PMC/SWM-BARHARWA/2928/2021/431 Tender ID:2021.UDD.54672_1 Project Name: Request for Proposal (RFP) for Selection of Consultant for providing Consultancy Services for preparation of DPR of Solid Waste Management (SWM) Project and Project Management Consultancy (PMC) at Barharwa.	

All the bidders are hereby informed that Corrigendum-1 for the Tender ID: 2021.UDD.54672\_1, Name of the work: "Request for Proposal (RFP) for election of Consultant for providing Consultancy Services for preparation of DPR of Solid Waste Management (SWM) Project and Project Management Consultancy (PMC) at Barharwa." has been published on the e-procurement website of Government of Jharkhand (<https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>) and they may submit their bid proposal accordingly.

Sd/-  
**Project Director (Technical)**  
PR 261659 Urban Development(21-22).D JUIDCO Ltd.

 <b>District Mineral Foundation</b> <b>Keonjhar</b> <b>Government of Odisha</b>		
<b>RFP No: 1,VI-11/2021</b>	<b>Date: 10.01.2022</b>	
<b>REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL</b>		
<b>Selection of Agency for Establishment and Running of Programme Management Unit (PMU) for District Mineral Foundation (DMF), Keonjhar</b>		
District Collector -cum- Chairman and Managing Trustee DMF, Keonjhar, Govt. of Odisha invites sealed proposals from eligible bidders to carryout "Selection of Agency for Establishment and Running of Programme Management Unit (PMU) for District Mineral Foundation (DMF), Keonjhar". Bidders fulfilling the prescribed eligibility criteria of the RFP can access and download the complete RFP Document and other details from <a href="https://kendujhar.nic.in">https://kendujhar.nic.in</a> . The major events under the bid process are:		
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>List of Key Events</b>	<b>Critical Dates</b>
1	Date of Issue of RFP	10.01.2022
2	Last Date for Submission of Bid	31.01.2022 by 5.00 PM
3	Date of Opening of Technical Bid	01.02.2022 at 11.00 AM
4	Date of Technical Presentation	04.02.2022 at 11.00 AM
5	Date of Opening of Financial Bid	14.02.2022 at 11.00 AM
The proposal complete in all respects must reach the undersigned by <b>Speed Post/Registered Post</b> only latest by <b>31.01.2022 before 5.00 PM</b> in a sealed envelope clearly mentioning on the top of it "SELECTION OF AGENCY FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND RUNNING OF PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT UNIT (PMU) FOR DISTRICT MINERAL FOUNDATION (DMF), KEONJHAR". The proposals received beyond the last date and time will be rejected. The authority reserves the right to reject any/ all proposals without assigning any reason thereof.		
<b>Address for Submission of Proposal:</b> <b>PD DRDA-cum-Chief Executive,</b> <b>DMF Keonjhar, Ground Floor, DRDA,</b> <b>District Collectorate, Keonjhar, 758001, Odisha</b>		
Sd/- <b>PD DRDA-cum-CEO</b> <b>DMF Keonjhar</b>		



New Delhi





Classifieds

PERSONAL

**I,Shweta W/o Tarun Kumar,R/O House No-177, 3rd-Floor,Bhock NO-13,Geeta Colony Delhi-110031,have changed my name Shweta kumar,for Future.**

0040599141-9

**I,SHEIKH ANWARUL HAQUE S/O-SHEKH BHOJPUR HUSSAIN R/O VILLAGE-BHOGARI POST HARPUR TOLA PS,MAJHAULIA BETTI AH,BIHAR- 845454,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ANWARUL HAQUE.**

40599141-6

**I,Rahul Chakraborty,S/o Deepak Chakrawarti,R/o Flat.No-20, Gate-7,Poland Enclave-50 M,Santipath, Chanakya-Puri,Delhi-110021,have changed my name to Rahul Chakrawarti, permanently.**

0040599149-5

**I,RUBY D/O MANGU JAISWAL, R/O H-2/5, PHASE-1,BUDH VIHAR, DELHI-86,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RUBY KUMARI,FOR ALL PURPOSES.**

0040599159-3

**I,RAHUL YADAV S/O RAM MURAT YADAV R/O H.No.4/44, 4th Floor, West Punjabi Bagh, West-Delhi-110026,have changed my name,for Rahul to Rahul Yadav.**

0040599141-5

**I,Parveen Kaur D/O,Surinderpal Singh R/O,WZ-64/1A,Gali.no.25, sant-garh, Tiлак-Nagar,New Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Parveen Kaur Virdi,for all purposes.**

0040599141-10

**I,PRADEEP SINGH,S/o RAJ NARAYAN SINGH,R/O-E-70/188 T-HUTS,KISHAN KUNJ EXTN ,LAXMI-NAGAR DELHI-92,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SHIBBU SINGH,FOR ALL PURPOSES.**

0040599159-1

**I,Nirpal Singh,S/o-Partap Singh,R/o-H.No.5,Safiyabad Road,Gautam-Colony, Narela, Delhi-40,that my son,Gourav 10th-class,CBSE certificate,hav mistakenly written my name as Nirpal, Correct-name of mine,is Nirpal Singh**

0040599159-2

**I,Manju Bhadana w/o Narendar Kumar R/O H.No-93,Gram Ullawas(83)Gurgaon Haryana- 122101,have to change my name after marriage Komal,for all purposes.**

0040599141-1

**I,Lalwani Veena Sushil alias Muskan Nasha D/o Kanta W/o Ashish Nasha R/O 243,Shree KrishnaAvenue Phase-I, Khandwa,Road,Limbodi Indore Madhya Pradesh-452020,have changed my name to Muskan Nasha.**

0040599161-5

**I,Jatinder,S/o Jai prakash Bhardwaj, Address Rznj 290/291 gali no- 10, rajnagar part-2 palam-colony,Delhi 110077,Changed my name to Jitender Bhardwaj, permanently.**

0040599141-4

**I,Hritik Malya S/o Jitender Malya,R/O H.No-RZ-1A, Bharamapur, Pankha-Road, Nangli Raya, Delhi-110046,have changed my name to Ritik.**

0040599141-3

**I,Harkesh Kumar Dang S/o Sh. Vijay Kumar Dang R/o 1205A Tower-E Amarapali Princely Estate Sec-76, Noida Have changed my name to Harkesh Dang**

0040599117-1

**I,HASANUZZAMAN S/O MASUDAR RAHAMAN R/O 4405.NO-7,NEAR SEELAMPUR METRO,AJIT NAGAR,GANDHI NAGAR,PIN code:110031,HAVE CHANGED,MY NAME,FROM MOHAMMED HASANUZZAMAN TO HASANUZZAMAN FOR ALL PURPOSES.**

0040599159-4

**I,ARUCHAMY KUMARASAMI,son of,Late Sh. Kumarasamy, Presently residing at NCS(E), Billet No-5, SWO Office, Air Force Station, New Delhi-110003,have changed my name,from ARUCHAMY KUMARASAMI to ARUCHAMY KUMARASAMY,vide-affidavit, dated-12-1-2022.**

004599161-4

**I,Minder Kaur w/o Hardeep Singh R/o D-186/B-1, Shyam Park Extension, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad,Uttar Pradesh-201005, have changed my name to MANINDER KAUR permanently. MANINDER KAUR and MINDER KAUR both are same and one person.**

0040599102-3

**I,Herdeep Singh s/o Chanan Singh R/o D-186/B-1, Shyam Park Extension, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad,Uttar Pradesh-201005, have changed my name to HARDEEP SINGH permanently. HARDEEP SINGH and HERDEEP SINGH both are same and one person.**

0040599102-2

**I, Dhama Singh, D/o Late Baldev Singh Mahalawet, R/o H.No-1037, Sector-14, Faridabad, have changed the name of my minor daughter from Jaskirat Kaur Makkar and Jaskirat Makkar to Vaniya Singh for all purposes.**

0070768449-1

**I,ASTHA LAMBA W/O PUNEET LAMBA R/O FLAT-7017,TOWER-C, 16-AVENUE GOURCITY-2 NOIDA-EXTENTION GREATER-NOIDA WEST GAUTAMBUDH-NAGAR,UP-201309,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME ASTHA SHARMA.**

0040599159-5

**I,Jas Beer S/o Suraj Mal,R/o H.No.71, Maidawas, badshahpur(Gurgaon),have changed my name to Jasbeer Singh.**

0040599149-6

**I, Jagira Rani W/O TEJPA R/o G-1349 3rd-Floor, Chitaranjan Park, Delhi-110019,changed my name to Jageshji Nagar.**

0040599149-7

**I,GEETA DUGGAL,W/O DEVENDRA KUMAR R/O QU-49-C LIG FLATS PITAMPURA-110034,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO GEETA KUMARI.**

0040599149-1

**I,DEVENDRA KUMAR,R/O QU\_49\_C LIG-FLATS PITAMPURA-110034,HAVE CHANGED MY MINOR SON NAME SHUBHAM DUGGAL TO SHUBHAM KUMAR, PERMANENTLY.**

0040599149-4

**I,Bunty Chauhan S/O Virendar Singh R/O RZCD-71,Mahavir Enclave Palam Village New Delhi-110045 have changed my name to Yogesh Chauhan for future purposes**

0050190268-1

**I,Bhawana Thapar,W/O Amit Thapar,R/O 22P and T Colony,Sandesh Vihar, Pitampura,Delhi Changed Name to Bhawna Thapar.**

0040599149-3

**I,Bablu,S/o Ranbir,R/o-a-116, Vijay-Vihar phase-1, Avantika delhi-85 have to change my name Aditya Baghel,for all purposes.**

0040599141-2

**I,B.S. SANJAY S/o Shri Bhudev Ram,R/O J-49,Dakshinpur, Sector-5,Delhi-110062,have changed my name to SANJAY, for all purposes.**

0040599141-8

**I,Ashish Kumar Thakur S/o Bimal Kant Thakur,R/O-A-239, Street-3, Chhattarpur-Enclave,Phase-1, Chhatarpur, Delhi-110074,have changed my name to Ashish Thakur.**

0040599141-7

**I, Yugal Kumar, S/o Rohtas Kumar, R/o B-549, Avantika, Sector-1, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Yug Sharma.**

0070768493-1

**I,Vansh Verma S/O, Simran Sharma R/o RZ-42, Street. No.6, Tughlakabad Extension, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, have changed my name to Vansh Sharma, for all purposes in future.**

0040599149-9

**I,Sudhir Bansal, S/o Surender Kumar Bansal, R/o 66, GF, Jaipuria Enclave, Kaushambi, Ghaziabad-201010, have changed my name to Sudhir Kumar Bansal.**

0070768489-1

**I, Simran Kaur D/o Interpal Singh R/o J-2/20, Rajouri Garden Delhi-110027 have changed my name to SIMRAN WALIA permanently.**

0040599102-1

**I, R. Om Vikash, S/o Ram Lal Yadav, R/O-L-429, Jalvayu Vihar, Sector-P-4, Greater Noida, U.P., have changed my name to Om Vikash for all future purposes.**

0070768491-1

**I, Pritee Singh, was also known as Pravesh Bala and Pravesh Singh, W/o Late Baldev Singh Mahalawet, R/O H.No-1037, Sector-14, Faridabad, have changed my name to Priti Singh Mahalawet for all purposes.**

0070768448-1

**I, NAGENDER KUMAR S/o Satvir Singh, residing at 336/5, Master Colony, Tughlakabad Village, New Delhi-110044 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as NAGENDER MALIK**

40599128-1

**I, Dimple, D/O Sheela Saini R/o 49 Bharat Nagar,New Friends Colony have changed my name to Dimple Saini for all purposes**

0040599124-1

**I, Alexander KL, S/o Late Shri G Lukose, R/O Charuvilla Puthen Veedu, Valakom P.O. Kottarakkara-691532, Kerala, have changed my name to Baba Alexander, for all purposes.**

0040599061-1

**I,Pawan Kumar S/o Sh. Kewal Krishan R/O 145 Mukherjee Park, Tiлак Nagar, New Delhi -110018 declare that Pawan Kumar & Pawan Kaura is the same person.**

0050190280-1

**I,Mohammad Saqib Qureshi S/o Mohammad Merajuddin R/o H.No.8208-9, Gali Chhimi Mill, Rani Jhansi Road, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Mohd Saqib for all purposes.**

0040599097-7

**I,Arti Dayal alias Arti Mathur D/o Late Sh. Narendar Dayal W/o Sh. Sunil Mathur R/O 192-A, Jor Bagh, Delhi-110003 have changed my name to Arti Mathur for all purposes.**

0040599097-8

**I,SHUBHAM DUGGAL,R/O QU-49\_C LIG-FLATS PITAMPURA-110034,HAVE CHANGED MY MINOR SON NAME SHUBHAM DUGGAL TO SHUBHAM KUMAR, PERMANENTLY.**

0040599149-2

**I,DAVIDER KUMAR,S/O BIHARI LAL R/O QU-49\_C LIG-FLATS PITAMPURA-110034,CHANGED MY NAME TO DEVENDRA KUMAR,FOR ALL,FUTURE PURPOSE.**

0040599149-3

**I,Shreya D/o Vinay Kumar Sugla R/O E-54, Sector-40, Noida, G.B.Nagar(U.P.) Infolra that Shreya and Shreya Sugla are same and one person.**

0040599106-1

**I, Arvind Kumar Son of Late Ram Bahadur Singh, R/o village-Ramdri, Tola-Nakti, P.s.- Mathani, District-Begusarai, Bihar, Pin code-851129, do hereby declare that my name is Arvind Kumar also known as Arvind Kumar Singh but in writing I always used to write my name as Arvind Kumar. In previous voter list my name written as Arvind Kumar Singh which has already been corrected, and now everywhere my name is Arvind Kumar. Rahul Kumar is my son.**

Public Notice

It is for general information that I, YOGESH KUMAR JUNEJA S/O KIMATI LAL JUNEJA, residing at: B2-B4/3, Jangrahar, Delhi-110058 declare that in my Passport No. 8688290 my Father's and Mother's name were wrongly written as KUMATI LAL JUNEJA and PAYARI DEVI JUNEJA. The actual names of my Father and Mother are KIMATI LAL JUNEJA and KAMELISH JUNEJA, respectively. That I affirm this statement vide affidavit dated 10 January 2022, sworn before notary Sh. S.D. ATRI (Advocate) Regd. No-11026, New Delhi.

LOST & FOUND

**I Sandeep Vij s/o Late Shri Ajudhia Nath Vij Have Lost The Original Allotment Letter And Possession Letter Of My Flat No. C702 Pawtitta Apartments Plot No. 12, Vasundhara Enclave, New Delhi 110096, At Greater Kailash Delhi. If Found Please Contact 9310155269**

0050190289-1

**I,Naresh Kumar Garg,S/o Hukam Chand Garg,R/o-258, Sainik-Vihar,PitamPura,New Delhi-110089,have Lost my Prvious Original-Property paper Rakba-S.Kanal-o,Marle Khewat Number 299,Minr/298, Village-Kasaar,tehsil Bahadurgarh Distt.Jhajjar, Haryana,Stamp.No. JCQ2017G123 GRM No.29342204 date-17.07.2017. Finder-please Contact above address#9818921217.**

0040599159-6

LOST & FOUND

It is to inform all that Original Allotment Letter, Buyer Agreement and payment receipt etc Unkled related to property Unit no. 68, Block-A, Arcadia-South City-2, Gurgaon, has been lost which belongs to Mrs. Navneet Behlra W/o Subhash Chandra R/o 24, The Palms, Plot 13-B, Sector-06, Dwarka, Delhi-110075 and NCRI/RI LR No.19693222 has been lodged on 06.01.2022, Police Station Crime Branch, Delhi. Finder may send to the under signed.

Ram Kumar (Advocate)  
Ch. No.246-A,Block-I, Delhi High Court, Mob.: 9711376612

Public Notice

I Deepak Jain S/o Ram Niwas Jain R/o: B 2/12, second floor, Rana Pratap Bagh, New Delhi-110007 have lost my original Sale deed Registration no 2515 in Add book no 1 Volume no 796 on Pages 108-122 registered on 21-03-2007 between Ashwani Kumar Dhawan and SGS Narda, director of SN Builttech Pvt. Ltd. All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing document. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform on the above mentioned address within 7 days of the present. Sunny Jain#9910045679

CORREGENDUM

A public notice was published in 18th December 2021 regarding Plot No. 32, (1050 sq.yds./Sector 21A, Urban Estate, Faridabad, Haryana inviting objections from general public for sale and mortgage of the said plot. Somehow a typographical error occurred due to which plot number was mentioned as 21 instead of 32. Therefore, the plot number be read as 32 and not as 21 for all purposes. Rest of the contents of notice remain the same.

Prachi Narang (Advocate)  
GNA & Associates  
D-28 (LGF) Jangpura Extension, New Delhi

Public Notice

Information is given to general public at large that our client Mr. Sanyal Pradeep is the owner of Residential Flat No. K-205, 2nd Floor, Tower-K in Group Housing Residential Complex "Prateek Laurel" located at Plot No. G4-01, Sector-120, NOIDA, Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. Initially, the said Flat belonged to Mrs. Sneha Prabha Bhatti by virtue of Sub Lease deed dated 03.03.2016 executed by Noida (Lessor) and M/s Prateek Realtors India Pvt Ltd. After demise of Mrs. Sneha Prabha Bhatti, my client being legal heir applied for mutation in his favour. Submitting all the necessary documents/NOI/Indemnity Bond and got his name mutated in the record of Noida Authority vide Mutation letter dated 23.07.2019. Now, he intends to sell the said property. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the said property please contact us within 07 days from the date of this notice on the number & address mentioned herein below, failing which my clients shall not be held responsible in any manner whatsoever.

Md. Khairul Hussain (Advocate)  
Ch.No.214, 2nd Floor, Delhi High Court New Delhi-110001, Mob.-9810391672

Public Notice

Ref: Southern Side Portion on First Floor, plinth area measuring about 62.72 sq. mtrs. "said portion" part of Property bearing M.C. No. 2609, total plot area measuring 167.22 sq. mtrs, situated at Chhatra Parlop Singh, Kinari Bazar, Delhi-110006; hereinafter referred to as "said property".

Notice is hereby given to the general public including Banks, Financial Institutions; etc. that, as informed by my clients, Santu. Mittha Dhara W/o Shri Kirish Nandan Dhara/R/o G-48, G Block, Jagjit Nagar, Delhi-110053, she is the owner and in possession of the said portion of the said property vide Sale Deed dated 23.1.2013 executed in her favour by Mr. Jha Jindal in respect of the said portion and registered as Document No. 9991, in Book No. I, Volume No. 5543, pages 139-147, on 20.11.2014. (SRO-I) and since then she is the owner in Possession of the said portion without any objection/s or claim/s by any person in general. Our clients has further informed us that initially, the said property was owned by S/Shri Faquir Chand and Laxmi Haranv side Sale/Partition Deed dated 26.06.1947 and after their death, the property devolved on their legal heirs namely Mrs.Laxmi Devi D/o Shri Faquir Chand, S/Shri Ram Nath and Bhagwat Parshod (sons of late Shri Laxmi Narain), and Mrs. Maya Devi, Mrs. Vidya Devi, and Mrs. Durga Devi (all daughters of late Shri Laxmi Narain). Subsequently, Mrs Laxmi Devi, Mrs. Maya Devi, Mrs. Vidya Devi and Mrs. Durga Devi executed a Deed of Release vide document No.188 dated 26.12.1996 in favour of Mr. Ram Nath and Mr. Bhagwat Parshod in respect of their shares in the said property. Thus, Shri Ram Nath and Bhagwat Parshod became joint owners of the said property and executed a sale deed vide document No. 9473 dated 23.09.2010 in favour of Mrs.Jha Jindal in respect of First Floor (without roof rights) of the said property. Now, Our clients intend to mortgage the said portion with IDFC FIRST Bank Limited for availing loan facility. We have been further informed by our clients that the said portion is not mortgaged anywhere and there is no charge or dispute or any litigation pending.

If any person, society, bank, financial institution or other institutions have any objection against the absolute ownership of our clients on the said portion and subsequently rightful mortgage of the said portion in favour of IDFC FIRST Bank Limited by our clients, may raise his/her, their objection/s, in writing, by Registered AD post, to the undersigned, within 07 days, on address mentioned below. Otherwise after expiry of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, the said portion shall be mortgaged by our clients in favour of IDFC FIRST Bank Ltd. and no objection shall be acceptable against such mortgage.

Anil Kumar Khurana, Advocate  
M/s Intellectual Work Offices  
A-74, LGF, Defence Colony, New Delhi-110024

Public Notice

Be it inform to General Public At large that that my clients Mohd. Inam Ansari son of Mohd. Ayub Ansari R/o 1353, Gali No. 4 Faiz Ganj, Bahadur Garh Road, Azad Market, Delhi-110006, have purchased the property No. 1351-59, situated at Gali No. 4, Faiz Ganj, Bahadur Garh Road, Azad market, Delhi-110006, if any person/ persons claim, right, title, interest in the said property please notice to me within 15 days, otherwise my client will not be responsible.

H.S. BHATI (Advocate)  
Ch. No. 946, Patiala House Court, New Delhi-110001

Be it known to all concerned that I, Dinesh Sibal, S/o Late Sh. Hazari Lal Sibal, R/o AG-50, Aspen Green, Newwa County, South City II, Gurgaon, Haryana 122018, has disowned my Son Mr. Aakash Sibal S/o Dinesh Sibal Currently R/o AG-50, Aspen Green, Newwa County, South City II, Gurgaon, Haryana-122018, from all his movable and immovable properties and has severed all his relationships with him and Aakash Sibal shall have no claim over any of my assets and shall be free to self/transfer, etc, any of my movable or immovable properties to anyone and Aakash Sibal will have no objections to the same. Henceforth I shall not be responsible for any of the acts and deeds of my above-named son & anyone dealing with him, in any manner, shall be doing so at his/her own responsibility.

Kapil Raghav (Advocate)  
Ch. No. 239, Patiala House Court, New Delhi-

Public Notice

Public in general is hereby informed that my clientess Smt. Sumita Mittal W/o Sh. Dayanand Kishan Ch. Sh. Dayanand Mittal S/o Late Kishan Chand both R/o E-01, Sushila Road, Ashraf Nagar, Delhi-110083, have severed all their relations and social connections with their son Sandeep Mittal, has become source, of nuisance and misbehave my clients and have debarrd him from inheriting their share in all their immovable properties of my clients and my clients shall not be responsible for his actions in any manner whatsoever, if any person deals with their son Sandeep Mittal he/she will be doing so at his or her own, cost and consequences.

Sd/-  
Nikhil Garg (Advocate)  
Ch. No. V-8, Opp. SBI Bank, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

Public Notice

Be it known to all the concerned that my client Smt. Shanti W/o Lt. Sh. Haghuramadas Gupta R/o Plot No-17 & Mandar Wal Gali St-Paatala Road, Delhi, have severed all her relations till the time she is alive with her son Sandeep Singh and her children namely Mohsh Gupta and Yashwan from all her movable and immovable properties as they and her son, Reston Court, New Delhi-110027, through sale deed dt. 25.09.1994. Sale deed dt. 30.01.1974 executed by Yashwan in favour of Subhash Singh and Chandan and Prem Pal doc no. 1573, Release Deed dt. 07.04.1995 executed by Yashwan Singh and Tejinder Singh in favour of Kamal Kishan Khanuja doc no. 2408, Sale Deed dt. 31.01.1974 executed by Yashwan in favour of Raminder Singh and Jagdish Chander doc no. 1572, Release Deed dt. 03.03.1984 executed by Jagdish Chander in favour of Raminder Singh, Chibber doc no. 1862, and Sale Deed dt. 18.10.1984 executed by Raminder Singh in favour of Kamal Kishan Khanuja and Mst. Amaradeep Singh Bangee and Mst. Tejinder Singh doc no. 10702 are. Lost. In original. As of now Harbansh Singh and Mst. Reston Court India Pvt Ltd. are the undivided owners of the above said property. Or Any person/ r/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 of co-ownership however or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her 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. 26/181, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar-4, New Delhi 110024

Public Notice

It is notified for the information of General Public that my client, Nidhi Sharma, aged about 51 years, wife of Late Mr. Rajeev Sharma, and presently residing at R-84-S5, Shivaji Endave, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi-110027, has debarred and disowned her son namely Mr. Aditya Sharma, aged about 23 years, 10 years, from all her movable and immovable assets and properties, and she has severed all her relations with him. In case, any person deals with Mr. Aditya Sharma in any matter, they shall do so at their own risk and responsibility. My client shall not be responsible in any which way, for Mr. Aditya Sharma's dealings with any third party, or for all his actions or inaction in this regard.

Adv. Adab Singh Kapoor  
Enrl.No. D/1275/2009

“IMPORTANT”

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SRI SRI ANIRUDDHADEVA SPORTS UNIVERSITY  
(A State University, Recognized by UGC under 2f Category)

Dibrugarh, Assam - 786003

No. SASU/CHB/LIB/72/2021/505

EMPANELMENT OF BOOK SUPPLIERS

The applications are invited for empanelment of Book Suppliers at the Library, Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University (SASU), Chabua, Dibrugarh, Assam for a period of 01 year, which may be extended up to a stipulated time as per the decision of the University. Last date for submission of Bid documents- 04.02.2022 at 1.00 P.M.

For details of the tender documents kindly visit our website [www.sasu.ac.in](http://www.sasu.ac.in).

JANASANYOG / CF/ 2836/21

Registrar, SASU

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
PLANNING AND INVESTIGATION DIVISION  
ROAD CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT (RCD),RANCHI  
Nirupan Bhawan,3<sup>rd</sup> Floor,Room No. 401,56-Set, Doranda,Ranchi-834002

e-Procurement (Very Short Tender Notice)  
Letter of Invitation (LOI) No.-33/2021-22  
2<sup>nd</sup> Call  
e-Tender Ref No:- RCD/PI Div./Ranchi/33/26  
Date:-11/01.2022

1	Name Of Work	Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report of (i) At Kumbatoli of Nagari Block to Singpur -Baddaiya to Pandhinga to Vridhda Ashram Via Pandu Chowk- Jhariya Tola Road (ii) Kulgu to Balalong Via Kelende Road (iii) Singpur to Jaratoli Via Dhoni Farm House upto Sembo Ring Road including replacement of Culverts, Bridges, Land Acquisition Proposal, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Proposal and Forest Diversion Proposal (If any) in the State of Jharkhand. From empanelled consultant with RCD under category-I vide letter No. 686(S)/WE Dated 29-01-2019.
2	Tentative Length	29.00 Km
3	Period of Completion of Work	90 Days
4	Cost of Tender documents	Demand Draft/Banker Cheque of any Scheduled Bank (non-refundable fee) of Rs 5 ,000/- (Five Thousand) only. EMD> 2 % of the quoted amount (Net of GST) in the form of current issue of NSC, Fixed Deposits of a Scheduled Bank (all the above mentioned form of Security deposits money issued within the State of Jharkhand), Bank draft and Bank Guarantee issued by any Scheduled bank anywhere in India payable at Ranchi in favour of Executive Engineer, Planning& Investigation Division, Road Construction Department,(RCD), Ranchi for a period of 45 days beyond the validity of bid.
5	Mode of Bid Submission	e-tendering( <a href="http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in">http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in</a> )
6	Date/Time of Publication of Tender on Website	19.01.2022,10:30 AM
7	Last Date/Time of Bid Submission	27.01.2022 12:00PM
8	Last Date/Time of Submission of Tender Fee & EMD	27.01.2022 12:00PM
9	Date and Time of Bid opening	28.01.2022 12:30 PM
10	Bid validity	120 days
11	Bid Submission Address	Chief Engineer(Communication), Road Construction Department,1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Engineer Hostel No.-2, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
12	Designation and Contact no. of Tender inviting Officer	Executive Engineer, Planning and Investigation Division,RCD, Ranchi Mob-94311-65712
13	Previous PR No.	260041 Road(24&22)M

Note:-Only e-Tender shall be accepted.

Executive Engineer,  
Planning & Investigation Division,  
Road Construction Department (RCD),  
Ranchi-834002.

PR 261567 Road(21&22)D

Public Notice

This is to notify the general public that my client Smt. Phool Kumari W/o Late Ram Ramchand R/o H-44, Karampura, New Delhi-15 has disowne/disinherited her Son Sh. Ashok & his wife Smt. Seema alias Shivani from all her movable & immovable properties with immediate effect. Anybody dealing with them in any manner shall do so at his/her own cost, risk & responsibility. My client shall be in no way responsible for any acts, deeds & things done by them.

Sanjay Kapoor & Associates  
788, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

Public Notice

My Client Smt. Santosh Vohra W/o. Late Sh. Roshan Lal Vohra R/o. G-69, Puchkar Enclave, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110063 Heresby Dishonored and Debarred her daughter Sangeela Tandon O/o. Village- Ajnali, Mandi, Govindgarh, Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab- 147301 from all her immovable and immovable properties/assets due to her misconduct and misbehaviour. My client will not responsible for her any illegal activities in future.

Sd/-  
Anubhav Kaur (Advocate)  
Office Plot No- 70-73 Vikas Ngr. Uttam Ngr.

सार्वजनिक सूचना

मेरे मुखकिले प्रीत पाल हार्न पुन स्वामी श्री खेमदेव श्रीनी अमिता परनी मीत पाल हार्न निवासी मरान 47 A, हर्मपुर कौलीनी फर्स्ट नवफार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110043 ने अपने पुन महेरा कपूर व पुनपुन मीता को जो कहने से साबित है और अलग रहते है को बारम्बार सख्त से सख्त (अपनी घर-परल स्वामित्व से काई देवरात कर दिया है) को कोई भी इनसे सन-डेन करेगा वह स्वयं किम्बर होत!

Pankaj Kumar - Advocate  
Z-17, Shyam Vihar Gali No.-2, Phase-I, ND-43 Enrl. No. D918111

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE						
SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	INDIRA GANDHI UNIVERSITY, MEERPUR (REWARI)	SUPPLY OF 268 NOS. DESKTOP COMPUTERS (HP PRO ONE 400 G6 24" (ALL IN ONE) FOR INDIRA GANDHI UNIVERSITY, MEERPUR, REWARI.	10.01.2022 15.02.2022	3.21 CRORE	www.igu.ac.in	8814950400
6869HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: <a href="http://www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in">www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a> or <a href="http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in">www.etenders.hry.nic.in</a>						

Office of the Executive Engineer  
Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, CHATRA

Corrigendum

The following changes have been done due to some unavoidable circumstances in Tender Notice No. DWSD/DHARAMPUR/RPWS/CH/26/2021-22 (1<sup>st</sup> Call) Detailed survey, designing and drawing, RCC Intake Well-Cum-Pump House, RCC Gang Way 2.10 MLD Capacity Water Treatment Plant, ESR-01 2.55 Lakh Litre capacity with 22M, ESR-02 3.00 Lakh Litre capacity with 20 M staging, Staff Quarter, Compound Wall, Supplying and laying Raw/Clear Water rising main and Distribution Network, House Connection, Approach Road, Supplying and Installation of VT and Centrifugal pump motor, Construction of Five Years Operation & Maintenance with allied works etc. all complete job for Dharampur Rural Pipe Water Supply "On Turnkey Basis" Under D.W.&S. Division, CHATRA for the Year 2021-22 under (State Plan) published vide P.R. No. –261





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#ExpressExplained

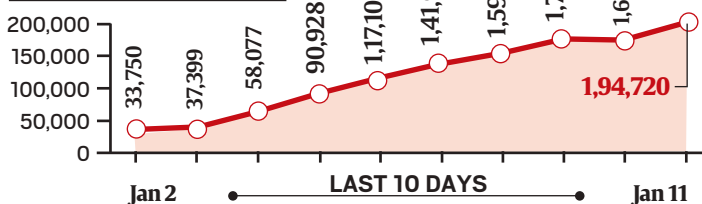
If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to [explained@indianexpress.com](mailto:explained@indianexpress.com)

## TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

### DASHBOARD, AS ON JAN 11

<b>681</b> DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN	<b>New cases</b> <b>1,94,720</b>	<b>Active cases</b> <b>9,55,319</b>	<b>Deaths</b> <b>442</b>
Weekly CFR: <b>4.17%</b>   Overall CFR: <b>1.39%</b>   Total deaths: <b>4,84,665</b>			

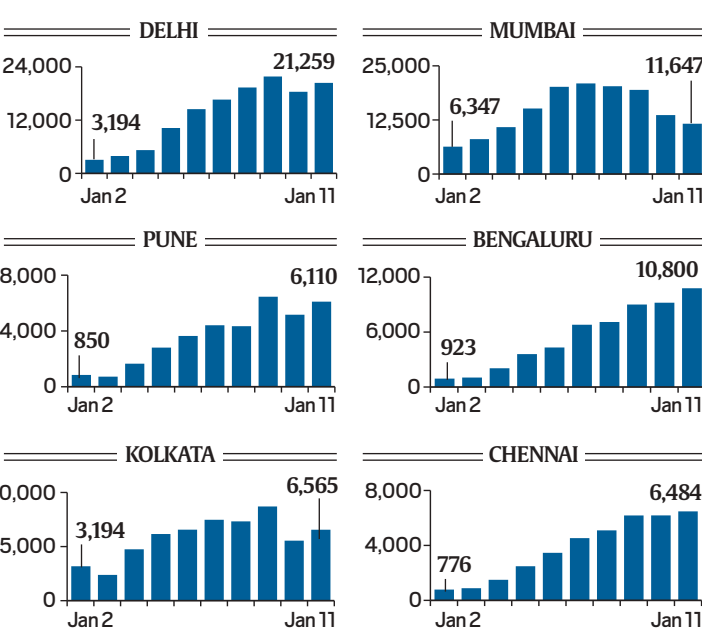
### NEW CASES, DAILY



### SURGE IN THE STATES

State	ON JANUARY 9			Weekly positivity
	New Cases	Active Cases	Deaths	
Maharashtra	34,424	221,477	26	18.13%
Delhi	21,259	74,881	23	19.60%
West Bengal	21,098	102,236	19	29.52%
Tamil Nadu	15,379	75,083	20	7.87%
Karnataka	14,473	73,289	5	5.88%

### SURGE IN THE CITIES, LAST 10 DAYS

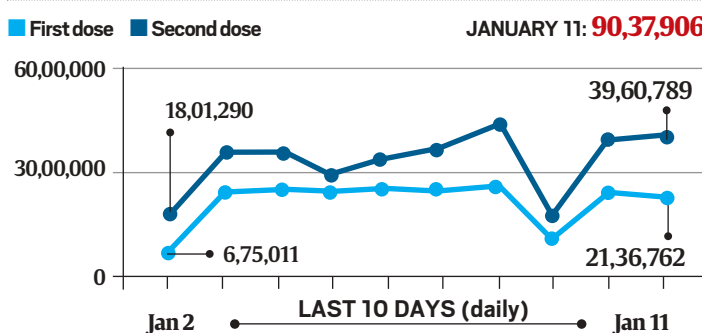


### TOTAL TESTS

TESTS ON JAN 11	WEEKLY POSITIVITY	OVERALL POSITIVITY
<b>21,19,100</b>	<b>9.18%</b>	<b>5.19%</b>

### INDIA TOTAL DOSES

**153,80,08,200**  
(Adults 1st dose: **86,62,30,600**; adults second dose: **64,16,17,038**;  
15-18 age group 1st dose: **2,82,74,847**; precautionary doses: **18,85,715**)



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## SIMPLY PUT

# Rise in cases, slower growth

After dipping in Delhi and Mumbai, the daily case count has risen again on Wednesday. Nationally, deaths outside of Kerala have jumped. And cases are still climbing, although the rate of growth has declined.

AMITABH SINHA  
PUNE, JANUARY 12

MORE THAN 2.3 lakh new cases of coronavirus infections were reported from across the country on Wednesday, a big jump compared to the last few days, indicating that it was still premature to read much into the apparent recent slowdown in cities such as Mumbai and Delhi.

Another concern has been the sharp rise in the number of coronavirus-related deaths in the country. Deaths outside of Kerala have almost doubled in just the last three days, crossing 170 on Wednesday. Kerala has been adding a large number of previously uncounted deaths into its tally every day, thus contributing most to the daily count of deaths in the country. But there is a significant rise in the number of deaths being reported from other states now. Delhi alone reported 40 deaths on Wednesday.

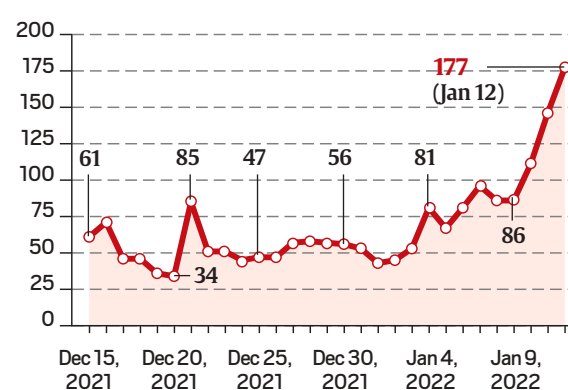
### Slowdown

The sharp decline in the new cases in Mumbai in the last five days had given rise to hopes that the city had already attained the peak of the third wave. A part of it was due to the weekend dip in testing, but the downward trend had continued till Tuesday. Compared to nearly 21,000 new cases last Friday, its all-time peak, Mumbai reported 11,647 cases on Tuesday. But a sharp rise was seen on Wednesday, with the detection of 16,420 cases.

Delhi, the first city to experience the surge in the third wave, also seemed to have entered a slowdown after the sharp rise in cases in the first week of this month. On Wednesday, however, more than 27,000 cases were detected in the city, very close to its all-time high of 28,395, attained during the second wave.

Maharashtra, the largest contributor of cases in the country, is in a similar situation. The state reported more than 40,000 cases on January 7, but it hasn't increased significantly after that, thanks mainly to the dip seen in Mumbai. On Wednesday, however, Maharashtra reported over 46,000 cases, the highest in the current wave.

### SPIKE IN DEATHS (NOT COUNTING KERALA)



In the last five days, a slowdown could be noticed at the national level as well, with the rise in daily cases not being as rapid as in the first week of January. The seven-day moving average of new cases has been increasing at a much slower rate (see chart). It took just eight days for the daily case count to increase from less than 10,000 to over a lakh. In the last five days, it has moved from 1.40 lakh to 1.95 lakh.

But this could change anytime. Wednesday already saw a large increase in cases. With ten relatively smaller states and Union Territories yet to report their numbers, the case count has already gone beyond 2.3 lakh.

### Just starting in some states

While states such as Maharashtra and West Bengal went into the third wave early, several states are just beginning to see a surge in their numbers. This includes large states such as Uttar Pradesh and Bihar which, because of their populations, have the potential to log in very large numbers of infections. During the second wave, UP had reached a peak of over 37,000 cases, while Bihar had clocked close to 16,000. On Wednesday, UP reported 13,592 cases while Bihar had 6,413.

In fact, among the major states, only

West Bengal has so far crossed its second wave peak. Other states, including Maharashtra, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh are well below their peaks right now.

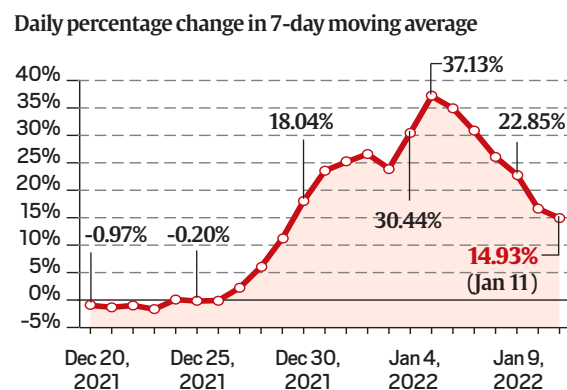
### Relatively low positivity

India's positivity rate has risen sharply in the last two weeks, but is nowhere close to the levels seen during the second wave last year. The positivity rate, which is the proportion of people who test positive out of the total number of people being tested, is a good indicator of the spread of the disease in the population. As on Tuesday, India's weekly positivity rate had risen to 9.18%, compared to just about 1% at the beginning of the year, suggesting a quick spread of infection during this time.

During the peak of the second wave last year, the weekly positivity rate had crossed 22%. But that was also because the peak then was reached in a much gradual fashion with a very large number of people testing positive for a prolonged period of over two months.

This time, the rise has been sudden, and steep. Also, the third wave is nowhere near its peak right now, with several estimates suggesting that it would easily cross the 4.14 lakh mark attained during the second wave.

### CASES GROWING, BUT SLOWER (ALL INDIA)



### Deaths

The most noticeable indicator right now happens to be the death count, however. With the Omicron variant, which is driving the third wave, known to result in mostly mild diseases, it was not expected to cause many deaths. But as the third wave entered into the second week in India, the death count is showing a very clear upward move.

Non-Kerala deaths crossed the three-figure mark for the first time on January 10, and has risen sharply after that. The last three days have seen 111, 146 and 177 deaths being reported respectively from states other than Kerala.

On Wednesday, Delhi reported 40 deaths, the highest outside of Kerala, while Maharashtra and West Bengal reported 37 and 23 respectively. As many as six states, apart from Kerala, are now reporting double-digit deaths. Until the last week of December, about 20 states had been reporting zero deaths. That has come down to less than ten states now.

Health authorities say that most of the deaths are still incidental, with people dying of other causes after getting detected as Covid-positive. Deaths due to coronavirus are still very few, and only among people with serious co-morbid conditions.

## THIS WORD MEANS: arXiv.org

# Free online repository of 2 mn research papers

OVER THE last two years, non-science specialists and other lay people have read references to "bioRxiv" and "medRxiv" in news reports on the Covid-19 pandemic, frequently described as "preprint servers".

Both bioRxiv and medRxiv, which have played an invaluable role in quickly disseminating the conclusions of scientific research on the coronavirus to doctors, scientists, and health policymakers around the world, were inspired by *arXiv.org*, the original preprint server that published its two millionth paper — a numerical analysis titled 'Affine Iterations and Wrapping Effect: Various Approaches' — earlier this month.

arXiv — pronounced 'archive' because the 'X' stands for 'chi', the 22nd letter of the Greek alphabet — is a gigantic online repository of research that physicists, astronomers, computer scientists and mathematicians among others find indispensable.

### For 30-plus years

arXiv "started out in 1989 as an e-mail list for a few dozen string theorists", according to a long profile published on



Physicist Paul Ginsparg.  
Cornell University

January 10 in *Scientific American* magazine. In 1991, physicist Paul Ginsparg, who was then a technical staff member at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, automated his colleague Joanne Cohn's e-mail list, turning it into a repository which anyone could access or submit to, says the article.

Thus was born arXiv, to which as many as 500,000 papers had been submitted by 2008. It took only six years until 2014 for this number to double to a million, and seven more years to double again.

Ginsparg is now at Cornell University, where arXiv is also located legally. Cohn, whose exchange of string theory manuscripts seeded the idea of arXiv, is at UC Berkeley.

### Fast and free

While the material posted on arXiv is not peer-reviewed, it allows the wider community of researchers to circulate their findings quickly and freely pending peer-review. Research could appear online within a day of submission, compared with perhaps several months at the traditional journals. This holds true for the life sciences preprint servers bioRxiv and medRxiv as well — and made an immense contribution to speeding up biomedical research in the literally life-and-death situation of the pandemic.

"It's like the backbone for our field," the *Scientific American* article quoted Alex Kohls, head of the Scientific Information Service at CERN, as saying. "It's not only a tool for physicists and computer scientists — it has had an impact on the overall scholarly communication process."

The *Scientific American* quoted the work of Lanu Kim, who led a study that found that authors of highly-cited arXiv papers were increasingly likely not to publish in a traditional journal at all. Kim's team, the article said, found that the journals still had a significant impact on citations, but they

were now more like curators than the main distributors of research.

### Some concerns

But there are problems as well. arXiv acknowledges support from the Simons Foundation based in New York City and a large number of academic and research institutions around the world but is still short of resources. A small paid staff helps volunteer moderators handle up to 1,200 submissions every day, according to the *Scientific American* article. "We are understaffed and underfunded — and have been for years," the article quoted Steinn Sigurdsson, the scientific director of arXiv, as saying.

The article also flagged concern over some of the moderation policies at arXiv, quoting, among others, physicist Deepak Vaid of the National Institute of Technology Karnataka, Surathkal: "They are taking actions which seem to go against what the role of a preprint server should be." Dr Vaid, the article said, pointed to "inconsistent moderation and a lack of transparency".

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

# Strategy and ambition: In Wang Yi visit, China's long Africa game

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
CHENNAI, JANUARY 12

WHEN CHINESE Foreign Minister Wang Yi visited Eritrea, Kenya, and Comoros in the first week of January as part of a five-nation tour that also included Maldives and Sri Lanka, he was observing a 32-year-old Beijing ritual of visiting Africa at the beginning of every year. In fact, China's links with the continent go back farther than the last three decades.

### Old ties

In the Cold War years, as the US and Soviet Union jostled for influence over Africa, China maintained an ideological presence on the continent.

In 1966, after Kwame Nkrumah was ousted in a coup while he was in Beijing, the Chinese put up the Ghanaian independence leader for a few days before he decided to leave for Guinea.

The first Chinese infrastructure project on the continent was the 1,860-km Tanzania-Zambia railway in the 1970s — the first transnational railway in Africa — which in

addition to carrying passengers, transported ore from Zambian copper mines to the port city of Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania.

Since the 1990s, China has successfully used its old ties with several African countries to remodel the relationship, using the abundant natural resources of the continent to service its own massive growth.

### Current visit

Since 2014, when he became Foreign Minister, Wang has visited 35 African countries during his annual visits. This year's tour followed the triennial ministerial conference of the Forum for China-Africa Co-operation in Dakar, Senegal, in December 2021, when Wang also visited Ethiopia in an expression of solidarity with Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed in the civil war in Tigray, and against the role of "external forces" — read the United States — in fuelling the conflict.

Wang's visit last week to Eritrea, which has backed the Ethiopian leader, was in this sense an extension of the earlier visit to Addis Ababa.

In Kenya, Wang took part in the completion ceremony of the Chinese-built oil ter-



Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi with his Kenyan counterpart Raychelle Omamo in Mombasa last week. Reuters

minal at the port city of Mombasa. China has undertaken major Belt and Road initiatives in Kenya, including building a railway line from the capital Nairobi to Mombasa.

In the Comoros Islands, off Mozambique, he promised more development assistance.

### Strategic ambitions

Wang announced a special envoy to the Horn of Africa where Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, Djibouti and Kenya are located. It was an indication of the strategic impor-

tance of this Indian Ocean region for China, as well as its political and economic clout — plus the aspiration to play the role of mediator in the region's conflicts.

Since 2017, Beijing has had a military base in Djibouti with 400 soldiers of the PLA, in close proximity to a French and an American base. A Chinese-built railway line connects Djibouti to the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

### Loans and trade

For a dozen years, China has been Africa's

biggest trading partner. Two-way trade in 2020 was \$ 187 billion, according to the 'China-Africa Annual Economic and Trade Relationship Report 2021', released last September. The balance of trade is heavily in favour of China.

According to the report, China invested \$ 2.96 billion in Africa in 2020, an increase of 9.5 per cent over 2019, making it one of the largest investors in Africa. Data collated by the China-Africa Research Initiative of the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies shows Chinese FDI stock in 2019 totalled \$44.4 billion, ahead of the United States.

The top five African recipients of Chinese investments are South Africa, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Ethiopia, and Zambia.

While the main investments in countries across Africa are in infrastructure construction projects and mining, China is also investing in transport, scientific research, and the services sector.

SAIS-CARI estimates that between 2000 to 2019, Chinese financiers signed 1,141 loan agreements worth \$ 153 billion, the biggest

chunk of these going to the transport, power and mining sectors in that order.

The top loan receiving countries from 2010 to 2018 were Angola, Ethiopia, Zambia, Kenya, and Nigeria.

### Tussle with US

The rivalry between the US and China in Africa has been simmering for long, but it has come into sharper focus over the last few years, with the deterioration of bilateral relations in the Trump years, and the increasing tensions in the Indo-Pacific.

The US realises that China has made friends in Africa with its money, ports, railways, and other infrastructure projects under BRI, and is now seeking to offer a counter with its measures such as the Development Finance Corporation (also known as the International Development Finance Corporation), to be deployed by the Biden Administration for the G-7's Build Back Better World initiative.

In December, the DFC announced the launch of a new platform "designed to boost investment in fragile and conflict-affected states in Africa."



TOPOF THE  
WORLD

Magawa wearing his PDSA Gold Medal. AP

## COMBODIA

## Landmine-sniffing 'hero' rat Magawa dies in retirement

*Phnom Penh:* A land mine-detecting rat in Cambodia who received a prestigious award for his life-saving duty has died in retirement, the charity for which he had worked has announced. Magawa, an African giant pouched rat, passed away last weekend, said an announcement on the website of APOPO, a Belgium-headquartered non-profit group. The organisation trains rats and dogs to sniff out land mines and tuberculosis. "All of us are feeling the loss of Magawa and we are grateful for the incredible work he's done," the announcement said. Magawa was born in November 2013 in Tanzania, where APOPO maintains its operational headquarters. He was sent to Cambodia in 2016. AP

## SRI LANKA

## Govt seeks \$1 billion loan from India

*Colombo:* Sri Lanka is negotiating a USD one billion loan from India to import goods from the country, the governor of the Central Bank Ajith Nivard Cabraal said on Wednesday, amidst a shortage of almost all essential commodities. Cabraal also said Sri Lanka is negotiating another loan from China as part of an attempt to restructure its debt repayment. The loan amount has not been decided. PTI

## MYANMAR

## 'Junta replaces air force chief'

MYANMAR'S MILITARY leader has removed the head of the air force, local media and four sources close to the armed forces said, replacing one of the most senior figures in a junta that has carried out bombing raids to try to crush resistance. The sources said 57-year-old Maung Maung Kyaw had been ousted from the post he had held since 2018. REUTERS

## SOMALIA

## Car bomb in capital kills 8

*Mogadishu:* A car bomb exploded on a road leading to the airport in the Somali capital Mogadishu on Wednesday, killing at least eight people, the head of the city's ambulance services said. It was not immediately clear who was responsible for the bombing. A resident said he had seen nine bodies at the scene. Abdikadir Abdurahman, director of Aamin Ambulance service, put the death toll at eight. REUTERS

## KAZAKHSTAN

## 1,700 detained in 24 hours

*Moscow:* Kazakh authorities said on Wednesday they detained 1,678 more people in the past 24 hours over their alleged participation in the violent unrest that rocked the former Soviet nation last week. The additional detentions, reported by authorities in Almaty brought the total number of arrests to about 12,000. AP

## Omicron prompts shift in testing methods across many countries

US administration plans to give schools millions of free coronavirus tests

THE NEW YORK TIMES  
JANUARY 12

RAPID ANTIGEN testing kits have flooded into supermarkets, online shops and pharmacies around the world as countries race to keep up with the Omicron variant's swift pace of transmission, marking a shift to the self-administered tests from PCR testing, which has long been considered the gold standard for detecting the coronavirus.

But there is no definitive international guideline for the use of antigen tests for Covid-19, and a global patchwork of policies has emerged as each country weighs the advantages and risks of the alternative testing method.

Britain has used at-home rapid antigen tests to fight outbreaks since 2020, even before Omicron, and makes them freely available. France began letting supermarkets sell them late last month. The Biden administration recently said that it planned to make 500 million tests available free and that Americans could request that tests be sent to their homes.

Singapore has allowed people



Protesters opposing Covid restrictions in Bulgaria clashed on Wednesday with police as they tried to storm the Parliament in the capital of Sofia. AP

ple to leave isolation if they get a negative antigen test result after 72 hours. Israel is asking people to swab their throats when using rapid antigen tests, not just their nostrils, to increase the chances of detecting the virus even if it goes against the manufacturer's instructions.

"There are hugely variable approaches into where, when and how antigen tests are used across

different countries," said Deborah Williamson, a professor of public health at the University of Melbourne in Australia.

The lack of consistency in how antigen tests are deployed raises a question of how the world should monitor the severity of the pandemic, she said, when some countries are identifying every single case and others are prioritising severe ones.

Meanwhile, as debates have raged over whether schools should continue in-person instruction amid an Omicron-driven surge of cases, the Biden administration said on Wednesday that it would distribute millions of free coronavirus tests to schools across the United States to try to keep classrooms open.

Five million rapid antigen tests will be made available to K-12 schools across the country, the administration said, but states will have to apply for them. Once such requests are made, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will work to deliver the first shipments as early as this month.

The White House also promised to make lab capacity available for five million free PCR tests, facilitated through regional providers. "These additional tests will help schools safely remain open and implement screening testing and test-to-stay programs," the White House said, adding that the moves would help schools double their Covid testing capacity compared with November.



The northern Chinese city of Tianjin ordered a second round of Covid-19 testing of all 14 million residents on Wednesday following the discovery of 97 cases of the Omicron variant during initial screenings that began on Sunday. Authorities have carried out almost 12 million tests so far, with 7.8 million samples returned. Infections were first reported on Saturday in the city that is only about an hour from Beijing, which is to host the Winter Olympics from February 4. AP

## German President calls for debate over vaccine mandate

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
BERLIN JANUARY 12

GERMANY'S PRESIDENT called on Wednesday for a thorough debate over plans for compulsory coronavirus vaccinations for all adults in the country, saying such a drastic measure needs to be fully justified. Chancellor Olaf Scholz has backed calls for a vaccine mandate and lawmakers are expected to begin debating a bill later this month. Polls show a majority of people in Germany back compulsory vaccination against Covid-19, but a vocal minority opposes the idea.

"I, for one, consider it neces-

sary and will actively campaign for it," Scholz told lawmakers in Parliament in Berlin.

At a roundtable debate with citizens on the issue, however, German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier said "the exceptional situation of a pandemic increases the pressure for the state to act, but it doesn't replace the requirement to weigh up arguments and balance interests."

"A vaccine mandate means a debate mandate," he added. Steinmeier said he wouldn't take sides in the debate but urged those involved to have "respect for other positions, but also respect for facts and reason, that must be and remain our common currency."

## Four sentenced to death in blast case in Pakistan

*Lahore:* An anti-terrorism court in Pakistan on Wednesday sentenced four people to death for their role in triggering a powerful car bomb blast outside Mumbai attack mastermind and JuD chief Hafiz Saeed's house in June last year that killed three people, according to a court official.

Anti-Terrorism Court Judge Arshad Hussain Bhutta also handed down five years imprisonment to a woman, identified as Ayesha Bibi, during the in-camera trial proceedings at the high-security Kot Lakhpat Jail. Three people were killed and over 20 others injured in the blast outside Saeed's Jauhar town residence here on June 23, 2021 that also damaged a number of houses, shops and vehicles in the area.

"The Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) Lahore awarded death sentence to Eid Gul of banned Tahreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Peter Paul David, Sajjad Shah and Ziaullah on nine counts. Another suspect Ayesha Bibi was handed down five years imprisonment," the court official told. PTI

## Pakistan's new security policy seeks 'peace' with India: Report

SAJJAD HUSSAIN  
ISLAMABAD, JANUARY 12

PAKISTAN IS willing to make peace with immediate neighbours, including India, under its first-ever National Security Policy which leaves doors open for trade with New Delhi even without the settlement of the Kashmir issue provided there is headway in bilateral talks, according to a media report.

The National Security Policy, separately endorsed by the



Pakistan PM Imran Khan

National Security Committee and the Cabinet last month, is scheduled to be formally unveiled by Prime Minister Imran Khan on Friday.

Peace with immediate neighbours and economic diplomacy will be the central theme of Pakistan's foreign policy in the new

National Security Policy, the *Express Tribune* reported on Tuesday.

The five-year-policy document covering a period between 2022-26, is being propped up by the Pakistan government as the country's first-ever strategy paper of its kind that spells out the national security vision and guidelines for the attainment of those goals.

"We are not seeking hostility with India for the next 100 years. The new policy seeks peace with immediate neighbours," the official said on condition of anonymity. PTI

## Singapore govt bans book on political cartoons for its 'offensive' religious content

*Singapore:* Singapore has banned a book on political cartoons due to its "offensive content", with the government on Wednesday defending its move saying the publication contained material that denigrated several religions and religious figures.

Social and Family Development Minister Masagos Zulkifli, who is also the

Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs, told Parliament on Wednesday that pictures in the book titled "Red Lines: Political Cartoons And The Struggle Against Censorship" are offensive to Muslims even if they are published in the name of free speech, academia or otherwise. "The book also included images insulting to other religions.

The authors may say that they do not intend for the publication to be insulting or demeaning, and their intention is to educate, but the government rejects that," he said.

The book, by Hong Kong Baptist University's professor of media studies Cherian George and graphic novelist Sonny Liew, has already been distributed in other countries, like the US. PTI

## MEANWHILE

## KIM KARDASHIAN, FLOYD MAYWEATHER SUED

Reality TV star Kim Kardashian and boxing legend Floyd Mayweather Jr. are facing a lawsuit alleging the celebrities misled investors in their promotion of a cryptocurrency token. The lawsuit, filed January 7 in Los Angeles federal court, claims the celebrities touted tokens sold by EthereumMax, or EMAX, in order to boost its price and make themselves a profit "at the expense of their followers and investors."



## UK's Johnson apologises over a garden party held during Covid lockdown

WILLIAM JAMES & KYLIE MACLELLAN  
LONDON, JANUARY 12

BRITISH PRIME Minister Boris Johnson offered his "heartfelt apologies" on Wednesday for attending a "bring your own booze" gathering at his official residence during the country's first coronavirus lockdown as opponents said he must resign.

Johnson admitted for the first time that he had attended the party at 10 Downing Street on May 20, 2020, when Covid-19 rules limited social gatherings to a bare minimum, and said he understood the anger the revelations had caused.

"I know the rage they feel with me over the government I lead when they think that in Downing Street itself the rules are not being properly followed by the people who make the rules," an ashen-faced Johnson told parliament.

Johnson, who won a landslide 2019 election victory on a promise to secure Britain's exit from the European Union, said he regretted his action and had thought the gathering was a work event - drawing jeers from



Boris Johnson speaks during the weekly question time debate at Parliament on Wednesday. Reuters

opposition lawmakers.

"I went into that garden just after six on the 20th of May 2020 to thank groups of staff before going back into my office 25 minutes later to continue working," he said. "With hindsight, I should have sent everyone back inside."

Opposition Labour Party leader Keir Starmer said Johnson must now resign and that the public thought him a liar. "The party's over, Prime Minister," Starmer told him. "After months of deceit and deception, the pathetic spectacle of a man who has run out of road. His defence that he didn't realise he was at a party is so ridiculous that it is actually offensive to the British public."

## 'Omicron may be headed for a rapid drop in Britain, US'

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
JANUARY 12

SCIENTISTS ARE seeing signals that Covid-19's Omicron wave may have peaked in Britain and is about to do the same in the US, at which point cases may start dropping off dramatically.

The reason: The variant has proved so wildly contagious that it may already be running out of people to infect, just a month and a half after it was first detected in South Africa.

"It's going to come down as fast as it went up," said Ali Mokdad, a professor of health metrics sciences at the University

of Washington in Seattle.

At the same time, experts warn that much is still uncertain about how the next phase of the pandemic might unfold. The plateauing or ebbing in the two countries is not happening everywhere at the same time or at the same pace. And weeks or months of misery still lie ahead for patients and overwhelmed hospitals even if the drop-off comes to pass.

"There are still a lot of people who will get infected as we descend the slope on the backside," said Lauren Ancel Meyers, director of the University of Texas Covid-19 Modeling Consortium, which predicts that reported cases will peak within the week.

## Prince Andrew must face sex abuse accuser's lawsuit: US judge



Prince Andrew

New York: Prince Andrew failed to persuade a US judge to dismiss Virginia Giuffre's lawsuit accusing the Duke of York of sexually abusing her when she was underage, and being trafficked by the late financier Jeffrey Epstein.

In a decision made public on Wednesday, US District Judge Lewis Kaplan in Manhattan said Giuffre, 38, was entitled to pursue claims that Andrew battered her and intentionally caused her emotional distress.

The judge said it was premature to consider Andrew's efforts to "cast doubt" on those claims, though the 61-year-old prince could do so at a trial.

Lawyers for Andrew and Giuffre did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The decision keeps Giuffre's case against Andrew on track for a trial that Kaplan has said could begin late this year. REUTERS

## Deep divides remain after Russia-NATO latest talks on Ukraine

THE NEW YORK TIMES  
BRUSSELS, JANUARY 12

RUSSIAN AND NATO officials said they remained far from agreement after four hours of talks on Wednesday that the United States and its allies hoped would hold off a further Russian invasion of Ukraine and calm tensions between Moscow and the West.

"Our differences will not be easy to bridge," the NATO secretary-general, Jens Stoltenberg, told a news conference after the talks at the bloc's headquarters in Brussels.

At a separate news conference, Alexander V Gushko, a Russian deputy foreign minister, said: "The discussion was rather honest, direct, deep and comprehensive. But at the same time it showed a great amount of divergence on fundamental questions."

Stoltenberg said NATO allies urged Russia to "immediately de-escalate the situation in Ukraine," where close to 100,000 Russian troops have massed near the bor-



Dr Anthony Fauci. Reuters

## US Senator driving violent threats against me, says Fauci

REUTERS  
WASHINGTON, JANUARY 12

DR ANTHONY FAUCI, the top US infectious disease official, on Tuesday accused Republican Senator Rand Paul of spreading misinformation that has sparked threats of violence against him and his family while distracting the public from the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic.

At a Senate health committee hearing, Fauci had his latest heated back-and-forth with Paul, a lawmaker from Kentucky and supporter of former President Donald Trump. Fauci said Paul was focused on misinformation attacks rather than oversight aimed at addressing the healthcare crisis that has so far killed more than 800,000 people in the United States.

Paul's website accuses Fauci of "ignoring good advice, and lying about everything from masks to the contagiousness of the virus" and on Tuesday the senator accused Fauci of smearing other scientists who disagreed with him.

Fauci said Paul was distorting the truth. "There you go again, you just do the same thing every hearing," Fauci told the senator, accusing him of making personal attacks that had no relation to reality.

"He's doing this for political reasons," Fauci continued, pointing to fundraising appeals on Paul's website next to a call to have Fauci fired.

"It distracts from what we're all trying to do here today, (which) is get our arms around the epidemic and the pandemic that we're dealing with, not something imaginary," Fauci said.

EXPLAINED  
When will any decisions be made?

A SERIOUS negotiation could take many months, and both the US and NATO have said they will negotiate with Russia only if it de-escalates and redeploy its thousands of troops away from the border with Ukraine. Both the US and Russians say after this week, they will discuss whether these discussions will lead to negotiations.

ers, and to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of its neighbours. Russian representatives did not commit to pulling back the troops, nor did they reject the demand, officials said.

Wendy R Sherman, the deputy secretary of state who led the US delegation to the talks, called some of Russia's demands "simply non-starters."

## ZIMBABWE, OTHER SOUTHERN AFRICAN COUNTRIES SAW STEEP INCREASE IN PREGNANCIES AMONG GIRLS DURING PANDEMIC

## With more girls pregnant, Zimbabwe pushes a return to school

FARAI MUTSAKA  
MUREHWA, JANUARY 12

INSIDE A sparsely furnished two-room home in rural Zimbabwe, a 3-month-old baby cries. His mother, Virginia Mavhunga, spends her days making trips to the well with a bucket on her head, selling fruits and vegetables at the roadside, cooking, cleaning, washing clothes - she has too much on her hands to offer her child, Tawanyasha, much comfort.

"That's my life now, every day," the new mother said.

Between the chores of her strict routine, Virginia prepares her four younger siblings for

school and helps them with homework when they return. It's these tasks that hit Virginia the hardest - because, at age 13, she, too, would rather be in school.

Virginia is part of a steep increase in pregnancies among girls and teenagers reported in Zimbabwe and other southern African countries during the pandemic. Zimbabwe has long struggled with such pregnancies and child marriages. Before Covid-19 hit, one of every three girls in the country was wed before age 18, many with unplanned pregnancies, because of lax enforcement of laws, widespread poverty, and cultural and religious practices.

The spread of Covid intensi-



Virginia Mavhunga accompanies her parents to sell fruits and vegetables by the roadside in Murehwa. AP

fied the situation. The country of 15 million people imposed a strict lockdown in March 2020, closing schools for six months

and reopening them only intermittently. Girls in particular were left idle and shut out from access to contraceptives and

clinics; the troubles of impoverished families worsened.

Faced with the rising numbers, the government in August 2020 changed a law that had long banned pregnant students from schools. Activists and authorities hailed the move as a significant step in the developing nation, but so far the new policy has largely failed. Most girls haven't returned to school, with authorities and families citing economic hardship, deep-seated cultural norms, and stigma and bullying in class.

Virginia tried to return to school while pregnant under the policy change. Officials encouraged her and her parents. But she was the butt of jokes and the sub-

ject of gossip in a community not accustomed to seeing a pregnant girl in a school uniform. "People would laugh at me. Some would point and ask in ridicule: 'What's up with that belly?'" she said.

Zimbabwe does have figures on pregnancies in girls who drop out of school - and while they show an alarming increase, officials say they, too, likely reflect an undercount, as many girls simply leave without giving a reason.

Across Africa, Zimbabwe isn't alone: During the pandemic, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, South Africa and Zambia "all recorded a steep rise in cases of sexual and gender-based violence, which has con-

tributed to a reported increase in pregnancies among young and adolescent girls," according to an Amnesty International report.

Virginia, however, vows to return to school someday, though. She misses her classes, her peers. She wants to graduate and be accepted to a university, so she can get a degree and repay her parents' faith in her by building them a bigger home. "I would rather return to school than get married," she said. "I am not afraid of going back to school once my child is older. They may laugh at me now, but I am dedicating all my spare time and weekends to reading and catching up. This is not the end of the road, just a forced break." AP



## 19 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 61,150.04 ▲ 533.15 (0.88%) NIFTY: 18,212.35 ▲ 156.60 (0.87%) NIKKEI: 28,765.66 ▲ 543.18 HANG SENG: 24,402.17 ▲ 663.11 FTSE: 7,534.11 ▲ 42.74 DAX: 15,970.02 ▲ 28.21

International market data till 1900 IST

SECTOR WATCH  
E-COMMERCE

## Demand surges at e-grocers across cities amid Covid wave, local curbs

PRANAV MUKUL  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

GROCERY ORDERS on e-commerce platforms, such as Tata-owned e-grocer Bigbasket, across multiple addresses in Delhi's residential suburbs have started to show two-day delivery timelines, compared to what took under six to eight hours just a fortnight ago.

The delivery timeline is similar at addresses in Kolkata and Ahmedabad, while in Mumbai and Bengaluru, the timeline for order deliveries was up to one day. Bigbasket isn't the only one facing issues.

The escalating delivery timelines is reminiscent of the first wave of Covid-19 lockdowns, when online grocers were faced with an overnight surge in demand caused by people stocking up on essentials such as soaps, staples and even easy-to-consume items such as noodles and biscuits.

Online grocers are seeing this trend by across the board. Seshu Kumar Tirumala, national head—buying and merchandising, Bigbasket, said the grocer is seeing a 25-100 per cent growth across all geographies. "Growth is across the country. Cities which have stricter lockdowns like Mumbai, Pune, Ahmedabad are seeing higher growth."

Swiggy, for instance, which operates e-grocery delivery services under the Instamart banner, said it has recorded "a surge to the tune of 25-30 per cent in orders, with weekends seeing even higher demand" in the past few weeks. And this surge has come from across the country. "We have seen a surge in most top cities like Bangalore, Mumbai, Delhi, and Hyderabad. Notably, even non-metros like Jaipur, Ahmedabad, and Lucknow have seen an increase in demand in the last few weeks," a Swiggy spokesperson said.

Similarly, 10-minute grocery delivery app Zepto saw significant growth across categories. Aadit Palicha, Zepto CEO and co-founder, told *The Indian Express*, "We have seen significant sales growth in the last one week. We grew by 36 per cent week over week. Consumers have been doing some pantry loading of categories like cooking essentials



A Swiggy delivery partner in Mumbai. File

and packaged food... We have seen explosion of small brands in the food categories in times of pandemic. However, consumers have reaffirmed their trust in the top brands in the FMCG non-food space."

This growth has been in line with the announcements of mini-lockdowns and curfews across the country by various state authorities. Over the last weekend (January 8-9), Delhi underwent a week-end curfew, and earlier this week, ordered closure of all private offices with certain exemptions. Tamil Nadu has announced Sunday lockdowns. West Bengal, meanwhile, has declared "pocket lockdowns" in districts with higher incidence of Covid-19 cases.

The surge at the downstream end of the grocery pyramid was reflected at the top end too, as the rise in demand was felt by FMCG manufacturers, who say they have added capacity to meet requirements, particularly at a time when they are facing inflationary pressures for raw materials.

However, for online grocers, though, availability of labour is seemingly getting to be a bigger concern than availability of supplies. Palicha said: "We are taking measures to ramp up our delivery fleets aggressively due to the surge in demand we're seeing. We're forecasting anywhere between a 50-100 per cent surge in demand over the next month or two, depending on the severity of the situation. Also, we're in a position right now where we've extensively started hiring delivery partners and hiring other folks on the ground to help us with stand and capture that scale."

Swiggy said it has advised all sellers at dark stores to take weekly RT-PCR tests among staff. Bigbasket said it is working on raising capacities to "ensure timely deliveries".

UP 22.27% IN APR 2020-MAR 2021 ON ANNUALISED BASIS: RBI

## Over 4L complaints to ombudsman; most on cards, phone, e-banking

GEORGE MATHEW  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 12

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) witnessed a 22.27 per cent rise in the volume of complaints under various ombudsman schemes during April 2020-March 2021, with ATM and debit cards, mobile banking and credit cards accounting for a bulk of the complaints. The volume of complaints stood at 4,04,143 during the period on an annualised basis.

Chandigarh, Kanpur and Delhi got the maximum number of complaints, the RBI said in its Annual Report of the Ombudsman Schemes for the year 2020-21. The major areas of complaints under the schemes pertained to ATM/debit cards, mobile/electronic banking and credit cards, which collectively accounted for 42.74 per cent of the total number of complaints as compared to 44.65 per cent in the previous year, the RBI said. It has changed the reporting period to April-March.

"Complaints relating to credit cards, failure to meet commitments, direct selling agents (DSAs) and recovery agents increased during July 1, 2020 to March 31,

EXPLAINED  
Major areas reported

UNDER THE various ombudsman schemes, the RBI noted in its report that most complaints pertained to ATM/debit cards, mobile/electronic banking and credit cards. In alignment with the change in the financial year of the RBI from 'July-June' to 'April-March', the volume of complaints reflects a 22.27 per cent rise on an annualised basis.

2021 as against July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 period, with complaints related to DSAs and recovery agents registering a surge of over 60.66 per cent," the RBI said.

There were 60,203 complaints about ATM and debit cards, 40,721 about credit cards and 2,440 against DSAs and recovery agents.

Within the total complaints, the shares of complaints related to ATM/debit card, mobile/electronic banking and credit card received

during July 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021 stood at 17.40 per cent, 12.98 per cent and 12.36 per cent, respectively. The corresponding percentage of complaints against these grounds during July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 were 21.97 per cent, 13.38 per cent and 9.30 per cent, respectively, the RBI said.

RBI data shows that Chandigarh received the maximum complaints (28,019) during July 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021, accounting for 10.26 per cent of the total complaints, followed by Kanpur (21,168) and New Delhi (18,767), accounting respectively for 7.75 per cent and 6.87 per cent of the total complaints received by the 22 Offices of Banking Ombudsman (OBOs).

Continuing the trend and owing to huge volume of complaints received at the ombudsman offices of Chandigarh and New Delhi, the North zone accounted for the maximum share of complaints (43.10 per cent) in 2020-21, followed by the West zone (24.35 per cent) and the South zone (19.18 per cent). East zone (13.37 per cent) continued having the least share of complaints. In terms of growth of complaints, the West zone registered the highest year-on-year growth at 13.51 per cent, followed

by North zone (12.65 per cent) and East zone (9.00 per cent) and South zone (4.73 per cent).

The banking ombudsman scheme accounted for 90.13 per cent of the total complaints (2,73,204) received under the three ombudsman schemes. The number of complaints received against NBFCs and digital transactions stood at 8.89 per cent and 0.98 per cent, respectively, of the total number of complaints.

The overall disposal rate improved to 96.59 per cent from 92.52 per cent in the previous year, despite higher volume of complaints, which can be attributed to the end-to-end digitisation of complaint processing in CMS (Complaint Management System), the central bank said.

Regarding NBFCs, the RBI said the major areas of complaints were non-adherence to Fair Practices Code, non-observance to RBI directions and levy of charges without prior notice, accounting for 75.32 per cent of the complaints as compared to 63.23 per cent in the previous year. The overall disposal rate improved to 96.59 per cent from 92.52 per cent in the previous year, despite higher volume of complaints.

## US consumer prices post biggest rise in nearly 40 yrs

Washington: US consumer prices increased solidly in December as rental accommodation and used cars maintained their strong gains.

The consumer price index rose 0.5 per cent last month after advancing 0.8 per cent in November. In the 12 months through December, the CPI surged 7.0 per cent. That was the biggest year-on-year increase since June 1982 and followed a 6.8 per cent rise in November. This bolstered expectations that the Federal Reserve will start raising interest rates as early as March. **REUTERS**



**Credit growth across sectors saw a visible expansion in Q3 of FY22, with incremental CD (credit-deposit) ratio at 133 in Q3 as against only 2 in H1**

Source: SBI Research/PTI

## 'Fast rising credit demand in Q3 indicates pvt capex cycle revival'

*Credit growth, which has been lagging deposits for years, turned buoyant in Q3 at ₹3.5 lakh crore as against a steep ₹2.2 lakh crore fall in deposits, an SBI Research report said*

**Credit growth across banks** picked up significantly and was at 7.3% to the week to December 17, 2021 — a tad lower than pre-pandemic level of 7.5% in December 2019

**Deposits**, which was consistently in double-digits since the beginning of the pandemic and was at 12.3% in March 2021, decelerated to 9.5% in December 2021 — lower than the pre-pandemic level of 10%

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 12

TATA CONSULTANCY Services (TCS) on Wednesday posted a 12.27 per cent rise in consolidated net profit of Rs 9,769 crore for the quarter ended December 2021, against Rs 8,701 crore a year ago. TCS also announced a share

buyback of Rs 18,000 crore at a price of Rs 4,500 per share. The buyback is at a premium of 16.66 per cent, compared to Wednesday's closing of TCS shares at Rs 3,857.25 which closed with a loss of 1.50 per cent. This is fourth buyback of the shares by TCS. Revenue from operations rose 16 per cent to Rs 48,885 crore in the third quarter.

Rajesh Gopinathan, CEO and MD, said, "Our continued growth momentum is a validation of our collaborative, inside-out approach to our customers' business transformation needs."

**Infy net up, Wipro profit falls** Infosys on Wednesday posted 12 per cent rise in consolidated net profit at Rs 5,809 crore for the

## TCS unveils ₹18K-cr buyback; Q3 net up 12%

## BRIEFLY

## Benz EVs

**Mumbai:** Mercedes-Benz India delivered 11,242 units in the January-December 2021 period, registering 42.5 per cent sales growth. In 2022, it will launch the first-ever all-electric luxury sedan and the company will also commence local production of this luxury EV in India, said Martin Schwenk, MD & CEO, Mercedes-Benz India. **ENS**

## WB, growth

**New Delhi:** The World Bank has retained India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal at 8.3 per cent while upgrading outlook for 2022-23 and 2023-24 to 8.7 per cent and 6.8 per cent, respectively.

## Labour Ministry

**New Delhi:** Labour Minister Bhupendra Yadav stressed on the need for women in higher positions for decision making to boost their participation in the workforce.

## NCLAT, Amazon

**New Delhi:** The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) will Thursday hear a petition by Amazon, challenging a recent Competition Commission order. **PTI**

## Sebi bans 6 persons for misusing social media to make 'illegal profits'

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 12

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has banned 6 persons from securities market till further orders for alleged involvement in using social media platforms like Telegram and Twitter to artificially influence stock prices and make illegal profits.

The six persons are Himanshu Mahendrabhai Patel, Raj Mahendrabhai Patel, Jaydev Zala, Mahendrabhai Becharadas Patel, Kokilaben Mahendrabhai Patel

and Avaniben Kirankumar Patel. The regulator also impounded bank accounts of the six persons for an amount of Rs 2.84 crore.

"The modus operandi indicated that certain entities actively operating through social media channels are first taking a position (purchasing shares) in small cap companies in bulk quantities and then sending baseless and fraudulent messages indicating strong possibilities of immediate price hike in such scrips through such social media channels thereby instigating others to take bullish position in those scrips," said a Sebi

order. Ultimately after the prices go up, they take contrary positions (selling their previously acquired shares) thereby making profits out of such trades executed under such fraudulent scheme and device, Sebi said.

Their Telegram channel provided recommendation to its subscribers for trading in both cash as well as derivatives segments, for both intra-day as well as positional trades.

The recommendations issued with respect to the cash segment are majorly focused on small cap scrips, Sebi said.

## 'Google offers to exclude Showcase from general searches in Germany'

REUTERS

BERLIN, JANUARY 12

GOOGLE HAS offered to remove Google News Showcase content from general search results in Germany in a bid to end a competition inquiry, the country's Federal Cartel Office said on Wednesday.

Google launched Google News Showcase in 2020. The platform promotes content from more than 1,000 publishers that



Google's office, Germany.

Reuters file

have agreed to license content for a fee.

Germany's Cartel Office said in June that it was investigating Google's Showcase product under new powers to regulate internet companies, after a complaint by Corint Media, which manages the rights of German television and radio stations.

The Bonn-based Cartel Office was concerned that Google's deal-making power could lead to some news providers being squeezed out of the market.

<p><b>RailTel</b> (A Government of India Undertaking) CIN No L64202DL2000GO107905</p> <p>Tender No: RCIL_ER_2021-22_1344. Dated: 12.01.2022</p> <p>RailTel/Region invites e-tender from eligible bidders for the work of "Replacement of patches of OFC by supply and laying of PLB HDPE Duct and armoured OFC including all protective materials and commissioning of the links by integrating with the existing OFC including mid-section splicing and termination at repeaters at various locations of RailTel/Eastern Region".</p> <p>Tender Notice &amp; Tender Document are available on <a href="http://www.railtelindia.com">www.railtelindia.com</a> and <a href="https://www.ireps.gov.in">https://www.ireps.gov.in</a>. All future Addendum/corrigendum etc will be uploaded in RailTel website and IREPS Portal only.</p>	<p><b>RailTel</b> (A Government of India Undertaking) CIN No L64202DL2000GO107905</p> <p>RailTel/Region invites E-tenders from eligible bidders for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supply of Underground Railway Jelly Filled Telecom Quad Cables as per RDSO Specification IRS-TC 30/2005 Ver-1 (with latest amendments). Estimated cost: Rs. 1,25,09,640/-</li> <li>Supply of Railway Signalling Cable of 12CoreX1.5 SQ.MM size as per RDSO specification no. IRS-S-63/2014 (Rev.4.0) (with latest amendments). Estimated cost: Rs. 12,67,89,817/-</li> </ol> <p>Date of opening: 02-02-2022</p> <p>Tender Notice &amp; tender documents are available on <a href="http://www.railtelindia.com">www.railtelindia.com</a>. Addendum/ corrigendum will be uploaded in RailTel website only.</p>
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<p><b>KERALA WATER AUTHORITY - e-Tender Notice</b></p> <p>Tender No : 1RE18.19.28/SE/PHCK/2021-22. JMM- 2020-21 - ERUMELI PANCHAYATH - KOTTAYAM DISTRICT PHASE II- PACKAGE 2 - PROVIDING ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION LINES EXTENDING DISTRIBUTION LINES IN ZONE III Distribution from GLSR at Karinkallumoozhay AND PROVIDING FHTCS. IN ZONE I Distribution from GLSR at WTP and Zone II Distribution from GLSR at Pallikunnu AND PROVIDING FHTCS. JMM-2021-22- SLSSC- 3 - WSS TO MANIMALA PANCHAYAT-CONSTRUCTION OF 3 LL OHSR AT MUKKADA, SUPPLYING AND LAYING CWP/ FROM KARINKALLUMOOZHAY, DISTRIBUTION NETWORK IN MUKKADA ZONE AND PROVIDING FHTCS. EMD : Rs. 2,00,000/-, each. Tender fee : Rs. 10,000+18% GST each. Last Date for submitting Tender : 03-02-2022 03:00 pm. Phone : 0481 2562745. Website : <a href="http://www.kwa.kerala.gov.in">www.kwa.kerala.gov.in</a> <a href="http://www.etenders.kerala.gov.in">www.etenders.kerala.gov.in</a></p> <p><b>KWA-JB-GL-6-883-2021-22</b></p> <p>Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kottayam</p>
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<p><b>JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED</b> Corporate Identity Number (CIN) :-U40108RJ2000SG0016483 Regd. Office: New Power House, Jodhpur- 342003</p> <p><b>OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (CSS)</b> Phone No: 0291-2742336, Fax No: 0291-2745259</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:sekusumindvnl@gmail.com">sekusumindvnl@gmail.com</a>, Web site: <a href="http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvnl">energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvnl</a></p>	<p><b>E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE</b></p> <p>E-bids in two part(Techno-commercial and Price bid) are invited from eligible bidders for DESIGN, SURVEY, SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND OPERATION &amp; MAINTENANCE OF GRID CONNECTED 1.75 MWp SOLAR POWER PLANT, ITS ASSOCIATED 33KV LINE AND RMS OF SOLAR POWER PLANT &amp; 188 nos. AG. CONSUMERS FOR 25 YEARS against TINTW- 599(UBN- JV2122WLOB080394) for 33/11KV DERA SUBSTATION UNDER AEN (OSB) SEKHALA DISTRICT UNDER SE (D/C) JODHPUR and DESIGN, SURVEY, SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND OPERATION &amp; MAINTENANCE OF GRID CONNECTED 11.47 MWp SOLAR POWER PLANT, ITS ASSOCIATED 33KV LINE AND RMS OF SOLAR POWER PLANT &amp; 262 Nos. AG. CONSUMERS FOR 25 YEARS against TINTW- 599 (UBN- JV2122WLOB080395) FOR 33/11KV NOSAR SUBSTATION UNDER AEN (O&amp;M) MATODA, UNDER SE (D/C) JODHPUR on turnkey basis.</p> <p>Details regarding district wise/circle wise, Tender No., Tender cost, Earnest money, Date of tender opening etc. are available websites <a href="http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvnl">http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvnl</a> <a href="http://sppp.rajasthan.gov">http://sppp.rajasthan.gov</a>. The bidders, in their own interest are requested to read very carefully the tender documents before submitting the bid through on line on website <a href="http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in">www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in</a></p> <p>Note: Interested bidders please note that in future the any other notices/information regarding amendment/corrigendum/addendum/dates extension etc. for above tenders will be available only on aforesaid websites.</p> <p><b>SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (CSS)</b> Raj.Samwad/C21/10427</p> <p>बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045</p>
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<b>GOLD</b>	<b>RUPEE</b>	<b>OIL</b>	<b>SILVER</b>
₹46,812	₹73.93	\$81.12	₹59,932

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of January 11

## Govt to hold Vi shares via SUUTI, process to be over in 'coming months'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

DEBT-LADEN TELECOM service provider, Vi, formerly Vodafone Idea, which opted for the interest-to-equity conversion scheme of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), will issue the 35.8 per cent shares to the government on a preferential basis through the Specified Undertaking of the Unit Trust of India (SUUTI), the company's managing director and chief executive officer, Ravinder Takkar, said.

"Following conversion, the government will likely hold around 35.8 per cent stake while both the promoters (Vodafone Group and Aditya Birla Group) will jointly 46.3 per cent. The equity shares will be issued post confirmation of the final amount, as well as some procedural clarifications from the DoT. We believe the entire exercise will be completed in the coming months," Takkar said at a virtual press conference on Wednesday.

Currently, Vodafone Group owns close to 45 per cent of Vodafone Idea, while Aditya Birla Group owns roughly 28 per cent stake.

Vi had early morning on Tuesday said that its board of directors had approved the company's plan to opt for the DoT's offer of converting interest on deferred spectrum auction payments and adjusted gross revenues (AGR) to equity.

In its release to the exchanges, Vi said the net present value of interest related to spectrum auction dues and AGR would come to around Rs 16,000 crore.

Since the average price of Vi's shares on August 14, 2021, which the Supreme Court decided would be the cut-off date, was below par value, the company would issue shares to the Government at par value of Rs 10 per share.

By another resolution, the current promoters also agreed to amend the shareholder agreement and brought down the

**"The equity shares will be issued post confirmation of the final amount, as well as some procedural clarifications from the DoT"**

RAVINDER TAKKAR  
MD & CEO, Vi

minimum qualifying shareholding threshold from 21 per cent to 13 per cent.

This means that both Vodafone Group and Aditya Birla Group will continue to hold rights to make important decisions about the company, such as appointment of directors and other key officials.

On Wednesday, Takkar also clarified that though the government would be the single largest shareholder post the equity conversion, it had not expressed any interest in running the company.

"In all of our interactions with the government...it has been very clearly stated that they do not want to run this company. They do not have the desire to take over the operations of the company. They want three private players in the market and certainly do not want a duopoly or monopoly," Takkar said.

Vi, which is reeling under debt in excess of Rs 2 lakh crore, has been looking to raise funds from investors for quite some time. The government's offer of deferred payment of adjusted gross revenue dues came as a major breather for Vi, which owed the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) more than Rs 58,000 crore just as AGR.

On Wednesday, Takkar also said that its plans to raise funds could materialise soon. He, however, refused to provide any details on the timeline.

Analysts, however, believe that in order for the company to survive the long run, it will have to raise tariff in the coming times, and aim for an average revenue per user (ARPU) of up to Rs 300, which is nearly three times the current ARPU of Rs 109.

<p><b>RailTel</b> (A Government of India Undertaking) CIN No L64202DL2000GO107905</p> <p>Tender No: RCIL_ER_2021-22_1343. Dated: 12.01.2022</p> <p>RailTel/Region invites e-tender from eligible bidders for the work of "Fabrication, Transportation, Supply &amp; Erection of 30 Mtr. Ground based self-supporting Tubular Tower including supply of material and execution of foundation work".</p> <p>Tender Notice &amp; Tender Document are available on <a href="http://www.railtelindia.com">www.railtelindia.com</a> and <a href="https://www.ireps.gov.in">https://www.ireps.gov.in</a>. All future Addendum/corrigendum etc will be uploaded in RailTel website and IREPS Portal only.</p>
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<p><b>Rajasthan State Mines &amp; Minerals Limited</b> (A Government of Rajasthan Enterprise) Corporate office-4, Meera Marg, Udaipur (Raj)-313001 Phone-0294-2428743, 2428764-67 Fax: 0294-2428768 Email- <a href="mailto:mktgcor.rsmml@rajasthan.gov.in">mktgcor.rsmml@rajasthan.gov.in</a>, <a href="mailto:rsmmlphosphate@gmail.com">rsmmlphosphate@gmail.com</a></p> <p>RSMM/CO/MKT/2021-22/403</p> <p><b>Corrigendum-3</b> Date:10.01.2022</p> <p>In connection to RSMM/CO/RSMM/CO/MKT/2021-22/335 dated 02.11.2021 inviting Proposal for Long Term Supply of Chalky Limestone from RSMM/LS Sanu mine no. 1 &amp; 2, Jaisalmer Mines for Captive Use. This is to inform that the last date for submission of bids under EO(s) has been extended to 10.02.2022.</p> <p>Interest parties may visit our web site <a href="http://www.rsmml.com">www.rsmml.com</a> for details and submit their proposal to the undersigned.</p> <p>Proposal to the undersigned Raj.samwad/C21/10423</p> <p><b>GGM (Centralized Marketing)</b></p>
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<p><b>कार्यालय अधिशाषी अभियन्ता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, खण्ड-श्रीगंगानगर</b></p> <p>क्रमांक:-3489 दिनांक :- 5/1/2022</p> <p><b>ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या: 11/2021-22</b></p> <p><b>NIB Code PWD2122A2719</b></p>	
<p>राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से भवन निर्माण/सड़क निर्माण कार्य हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत सवेदकों एवं केन्द्रीय/राज्य सरकार व उनके अधिकृत संयन्त्रों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ढाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत सवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के विभिन्न श्रेणी के सवेदकों के समकक्ष हों, से निर्माण प्रारंभ में कुल 1 कार्य निम्न की कुल लागत राशि रुपये 242.16 लाख है के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन लाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाइट <a href="http://www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in">www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in</a> पर एवं निविदा दस्तावेज का विवरण वेबसाइट <a href="https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in">https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in</a> पर <a href="http://sppp.raj.nic.in">sppp.raj.nic.in</a> पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया <a href="https://eproc.rajasthan.in">https://eproc.rajasthan.in</a> पर ऑनलाइन समायोक्त की जावेगी। कार्य का दोष निवारण एवं उनके सुधार (डिफेक्ट लाईमिटी) पोरिगड का उत्तरदायित्व कार्य पूर्णता के पश्चात 5 वर्ष नियमानुसार रहेगा।</p>	<p>कार्य का नाम</p> <p>डिफेक्ट लाईमिटी आक कल रोड (MDR, ODR, VR) अग्रह सा.नि.वि. खण्ड श्रीगंगानगर फैकन संस्था आर.के. 31-01/आरडीएफ-27/2021-22 फिल श्रीगंगानगर</p>
<p>ऑन लाईन निविदा फॉर्म विक्रय/दान/लेन एवं अपलोड जमा करने की सारीच एवं सम</p>	<p>दिनांक 11.01.2022 को प्रातः 9.30 बजे से दिनांक 01.02.2022 को सांय 6.00 बजे तक</p>
<p>निविदा शुल्क</p>	<p>2000/- अर्द्ध करो (रुपे 150 लाख से 400 लाख तक) (विशेष विधायन के परिचय संख्या प. 6 (5) विच/सा.नि.वि.2018 जयपुर दिनांक 27.04.2020) के अनुसार ऑनलाइन देय होनी।</p>
<p>प्रोसेसिंग फीस</p>	<p>1000/- (विशेष विधायन के परिचय संख्या प. 6 (5) विच/सा.नि.वि.2018 जयपुर दिनांक 27.04.2020) के अनुसार ऑनलाइन देय होनी।</p>
<p>निविदा खोलने की दिनांक</p>	<p>दिनांक 03.02.2022 को सांय 4.00 बजे</p>
<p>निविदा शुल्क/धरोहर राशि प्रोसेसिंग फीस राशि</p>	<p>संयुक्त जासन सांचेच विच (सामान्य विधायन एवं लेखा नियम) विभाग राजस्थान जयपुर के आदेश क्रमांक एफ.2(1)विच/ जोएफडी-ए/एससीएनसी/2017 दिनांक 23.12.2020 के अनुसार सवेदकों को धरोहर राशि के समर्थन में 50 रुपये के स्टाम पर निश्चित घोषणा पत्र (Declaration) ऑनलाइन दिनांक 11.01.2022 को प्रातः 9.30 बजे से दिनांक 01.02.2022 को सांय 6.00 बजे तक प्रस्तुत करना होगा।</p>
<p>UBN No. PWD2122WLOB13359</p>	<p>हस्ता/- (पवन कुमार यादव) अधिशाषी अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि.खण्ड श्रीगंगानगर</p>
<p>DIPR/C231/2022</p>	







Indian off-spinner Washington Sundar was ruled out of the upcoming three-match ODI series against South Africa starting January 19 after testing positive for COVID-19 and Jayant Yadav was named as his replacement. Pacer Navdeep Saini was also added to the ODI squad as a backup for pacer Mohammed Siraj. **PTI**

## BCCI's Plan B: IPL in South Africa or Sri Lanka

**SANDEEP DWIVEDI**  
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

INDIA'S TOP cricketers might be returning to South Africa in a few months time. With India's Covid-19 curve showing an alarming upswing, the BCCI has put in place a contingency plan of holding the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) on foreign shores. In case the virus surge doesn't dip by April, when the newly expanded 10-team event is expected to kick-off, the Indian board is inclined to move the IPL's Season 15 to South Africa, which had earlier hosted the T20 league in 2009.

The BCCI is also exploring the Sri Lanka option as it puts on paper its pandemic-time Plan B.

It is learnt that in wake of the rising Covid count and increasing positivity rate, the BCCI secretary Jay Shah's office was forced to re-draw BCCI's 2021 schedule. Around the time the postponement of the Ranji Trophy tournament was announced, the talk about the possible shifting of IPL was initiated. Later when the domestic under-19 Cooch Behar Trophy had to be stopped mid-way because of several positive cases, the specifics started taking shape.

Unlike the past two years when BCCI's flagship event with international flavour was fully and partially held in the UAE because of the pandemic situation in the country, the Indian board was keen to look beyond the Gulf venue this time. "We can't be dependent on UAE all the time so we decided to explore more options," said a BCCI official.

What made the Indian board look at South Africa was the success of the ongoing series and also the India A tour before that.

### Sprawling hotels, resorts

Feedback from the Test team has played a key role in the BCCI's decision. Though the team have been in a bio-bubble since the start of the tour last month, the sprawling hotels and resorts that the hosts, Cricket South Africa, have earmarked for the tour party have come as a welcome relief for players. Since the restart of sports in pandemic time, there have been concerns about the mental health of players as they have remained isolated for long spells. With the IPL consisting of 10 teams, Season 15 is to be the longest ever.

"The place where the team was staying for the second Test is spread over several acres. There were walking tracks and even a pond on the property that has made things easier for the players, who over the last couple of years have been confined to their rooms on several overseas tours," said an official.

Before the Indian team landed in South Africa last month, there were doubts around the tour. That was the time South Africa had identified the new Covid-19 variant Omicron. There was global panic as Gauteng province, which was to host the first two Tests, had seen a spike in the cases and hospitalisations. The Netherlands team had cut short the tour and the India A series was under a cloud of uncertainty.

These events compelled the SA board and BCCI to rejig the tour dates and delay the start of the Test series. However, with the implementation of a strict Covid protocol and the dramatic fall in the virus spread, the India-South Africa Test matches went ahead without disruption so far.

With fresh Covid-19 data emerging from South Africa pointing to a daily decline in infections, in a matter of months, the perception of South Africa as a sporting destination has changed.

# Boom echoes through Table Mountain

After a disappointing second innings at Jo'burg, Bumrah bounces back with 5-wicket haul to hand India advantage at Cape Town

**ABHISHEK PUROHIT**  
JANUARY 12

IN THE dying moments of Day One, Jasprit Bumrah had nipped out Dean Elgar. With the second ball of Day Two, he hit Aiden Markram's off-stump. In the afternoon heat, he returned to bowl an extended spell to dislodge South Africa's top-scorer Keegan Petersen; he persisted until he ended the hosts' innings on 210 to squeeze out a 13-run lead for India. In a nutshell, Bumrah was all over South Africa at Newlands, the venue where his Test career had begun four years ago.

Combined with Mohammed Shami's twin timely incisions, Bumrah's ability to maintain his intensity throughout the day – he had figures of 23.3-8-42-5 – enabled India to come back into the game after a palpably under-par first-innings score of 223.

Virat Kohli and Cheteshwar Pujara ensured that hard-earned advantage remained with the visitors after they had been reduced to 24/2 in the second innings. India go into Day Three effectively 70 runs ahead with eight wickets remaining. The vaunted depth of the Indian pace attack was on display in the second Test at Wanderers when fourth seamer Shardul Thakur produced a seven-wicket burst after the luckless lead cast of Bumrah and Shami couldn't break through and Mohammed Siraj had done his hamstring.

In Cape Town, the lead cast was back to do the heavy lifting, and did it successfully. Thakur was needed for only 12 overs even as Bumrah ended up sending down nearly double as many. The spearhead's load increased further as Shami did not take the field after tea with what seemed to be a knee niggle.

Umesh Yadav, who'd taken the new ball ahead of Shami on the second evening, plucked out two wickets but also went at four runs an over in what has been a low-scoring game thus far. That is always the risk one takes with him, which is why there was also a case for Ishant Sharma's better control, but the team management preferred Umesh's extra pace and zip.

### India's talisman

But as is often the case these days, India seem to rise and fall with Bumrah. He'd returned 0/70 in 17 overs with only two maidens as South Africa chased 240 in Johannesburg. On Wednesday, he bowled eight maidens. When Bumrah is stringing together maidens, one can sense he is in command of the situation and that a wicket is around the corner.

He'd been driven repeatedly through the covers during the Wanderers chase as he strove to make something happen with a wet ball on the fourth evening. At Newlands, he didn't allow a single cover-driven boundary. Among the only three fours taken off him was an inside edge past the 'keeper.

Much has been spoken, and rightly so, about Kohli being super selective about the cover drive in the first innings. Here was an equally good exponent of the opposing art shutting out the same option for batsmen, an option he had provided to his team's ultimate detriment in only his previous innings.

On a pitch which was not doing as much as the previous two in the series, Bumrah kept hitting the good and short-of-good lengths in his hard, heavy manner. But Petersen was able to get behind those lengths and defend solidly.

It was also a surface where if the bowler strayed in line a bit on those lengths, he could easily be punched off the back foot for runs. Which Petersen, again, did regularly. It was then quite an effort from Bumrah to produce an edge eventually, making him play the incoming angle and straightening the delivery.

### Kohli intensity

That ball carried comfortably to Pujara at first slip, but a few hadn't in the morning. A

**Combined with Mohammed Shami's twin timely incisions, Bumrah's ability to maintain his intensity throughout the day enabled India to come back into the game after a palpably under-par first-innings score of 223.**

couple of run-out chances were missed. A couple of LBW reviews showed the ball going over the stumps. Meanwhile, Petersen put on 67 for the fourth wicket with Rassie van der Dussen, and 47 for the fifth with Temba Bavuma. South Africa were getting closer and things weren't quite going India's way.

But their captain – absent at Wanderers with a back spasm – didn't let spirits flag for an instant with his trademark intensity from second slip, in addition to taking a sharp and another spectacular diving catch there.

As a Bumrah in-cutter agonisingly bounced just over Petersen's stumps – similar to the one that had castled Markram – Kohli exhorted, 'matter of time, lads.'

Later, Bavuma was put down by Pujara as Rishabh Pant leaped in front of him disturbing his view. Kohli wasn't holding back though. 'Another cut coming, another cut coming,' he went when Bavuma came on strike later.

After Yadav had bowled a couple of peaches in an over, Kohli ran up to the bowler to encourage him to stick to his spot, pointing out how good those two balls had been. With no crowd around to create any atmosphere, Kohli got the reserve players in the Indian dugout to start clapping rhythmically in unison to get behind his bowlers. When umpire Marais Erasmus warned Shami for running onto the danger area, and replays showed Shami hadn't really transgressed, Kohli raised his arms in protest and ran up to have a word with the official.

Even as Shami sent back Bavuma and Kyle Verreynne in the same over, Kohli saw the opportunity to egg his troops on further. 'Eight by tea, eight by tea,' he shouted.

He didn't get eight, but Bumrah sure enough delivered the seventh at the stroke of tea with the image of the day – it showed him standing and staring with cold aggression towards Marco Jansen, with whom he had had a face-to-face confrontation in Johannesburg, and whose off stump he'd just sent cartwheeling past a futile forward defensive.

### SCOREBOARD

**India 1st innings: 223 all out**

**South Africa 1st innings: (overnight 17/1)**

D Elgar c Pujara b Bumrah 3  
A Markram b Bumrah 8  
K Maharaj b Yadav 25  
K Petersen c Pujara b Bumrah 72  
R van der Dussen c Kohli b Yadav 21  
T Bavuma c Kohli b Shami 28  
K Verreynne c Pant b Shami 0  
M Jansen b Bumrah 7  
K Rabada c Bumrah b Thakur 15  
D Olivier not out 10  
L Ngidi c Ashwin b Bumrah 3  
**Extras** (b 4, lb 4, nb 4, w 1, pen 5) 18  
**Total** (76.3 overs): 210

**Fall of Wickets:** 1-10, 2-17, 3-45, 4-112, 5-159, 6-159, 7-176, 8-179, 9-200, 10-210

**Bowling:** Bumrah 23.3-8-42-5, Yadav 16-3-64-2, Shami 16-4-39-2, Thakur 12-2-37-1, Ashwin 9-3-15-0

**India 2nd innings: 57/2**

KL Rahul c Markram b Jansen 10  
M Agarwal c Elgar b Rabada 7  
C Pujara batting 9  
V Kohli batting 14  
**Extras** (b 8, lb 4, nb 5) 17  
**Total** (17 overs) 57/2

**Bowling:** Rabada 6-1-25-1, Olivier 2-0-13-0, Jansen 5-3-7-1, Ngidi 3-3-0-0, Maharaj 1-1-0-0

**India lead by 70 runs**



Jasprit Bumrah (5/42) recorded his seventh five-for overall, and his second in South Africa. Reuters

## Three balls, two wickets: How Shami's unique skills get India back in game

**SRIRAM VEERA**  
JANUARY 12

IT'S SOMETHING that Mohammed Shami did as the ball got older, around the 40-50 over mark in the middle of the day, that sets him apart from other fast bowlers on the planet. It's what enabled him to crack open the dogged South Africans and allowed Jasprit Bumrah to run through the lower order.

Before one analyses what Shami did, here is what the South Africans did, just to appreciate what Shami was up against. All the top-order South African batsmen stood on off-stump, with barely any trigger movement.

Keegan Petersen and Temba Bavuma had tackled all the Indian bowlers with assurance. The off-stump guard, combined with minimal movement, meant they knew where their off-stump was. Until Shami came back in the middle of the second session.

Shami doesn't cut his fingers across the seam. At times, especially as the ball gets a touch older, he doesn't even angle the seam either side too much. There is almost no indication about what he wants the ball to do. There are no visible cues, elsewhere too. The bowling arm is almost ramrod straight. No angles there, no crooked elbows to discern anything about the ball's behaviour.

It's not as if Shami just sends it on a prayer. But he meddles the least with the leather. A couple of years ago, Bharat Arun, then India bowling coach, explained it to this newspaper. "He isn't trying to cut the ball all that much. As in you won't see his fingers whipping across the seam and stuff like that. So, all the focus is on releasing it with a proud seam position. The important thing is still the smooth action and the way you release, of course, which comes naturally to him. Combined with the proud



Mohammed Shami's straight high arm and fingers on the seam's edges ensure the ball does not wobble much. Reuters

seam, the ball skids. And he attacks the stumps more than anyone on such surfaces." That was said for pitches where the ball can skid.

Not many use the pitch in the way Shami does. He sends the ball with seam upright, and that straight high arm and fingers on the seam's edges ensure not much of a wobble.

"Shami focuses on getting a half-a-bat-width movement, just enough to beat the bat and either hit the edge, or the pad or the stumps," Arun says.

Identifying the lengths is the key to Shami's success. It's the lengths and, by extension, the vagaries of the pitch that is Shami's focus.

"He takes his time to sort out the lengths to bowl on a pitch. The line is always spot-on for him. Depending on the session, he will observe what lengths work. Where to release the ball so that it either skids or bounces," Arun says.

Shami had troubled Petersen with the new ball by curving it away with bounce. Couple of edges didn't settle into the palms in the slips. Subsequently, he had another go but this time Petersen negotiated him well. "Shami will release the ball a tad earlier in the action, when he wants the length to be fuller. If he wants it to bounce higher from a shorter length, he will release the ball later during the action," Arun says. "He identifies the length and then the way he targets that area determines the way the ball goes: skiddy or bouncy," Arun says.

He re-entered the stream in the 54th over. Length, length and then a couple of them fuller, trying to sneak in through Bavuma's defence. One nearly did, but the ball clipped off the inner edge onto the pad. The ball after, he goes for the heavy ball, Bavuma is up to the task.

First ball next over, Shami tries to get one to kick up from a length. Bavuma, on off-stump guard, stirs as he picks up the length and creams it dreamily on the up through covers.

Next ball, a tad shorter, and kicking up even as it straightens outside off-stump. Bavuma isn't forward or back. Freezes, almost but still does other things right. The bottom hand is off the handle and he tries his best to jerk back the hand that holds the bat. Too late, though. The ball has already ricocheted off the edge towards second slip where Virat Kohli divided low to his left and forward.

Kyle Verreynne lasted two balls. Shami had sensed that the fuller length was the way to go, and produced the unsurprising edge. From 159 for 4, after that 47-run promising partnership, Shami had left South Africa on the edge. The door was ajar and Bumrah stormed in.

## UNFORCED ERRORS

# Novak admits attending interview after positive test, wrong info in form

**JOHN PYE & ROD MCGUIRK**  
JANUARY 12

NOVAK DJOKOVIC knew he'd tested positive for COVID-19 when he attended a newspaper interview and photo shoot in Serbia last month, saying Wednesday he made an "error of judgment" and should have immediately gone into isolation.

In a statement posted to his social media accounts, the tennis star also blamed "human error" by his support team for failing to declare that he had traveled in the two-week period before entering Australia.

Upon arrival, his visa was revoked and then later reinstated in an ongoing saga over whether he should be allowed into the country despite not being vaccinated against COVID-19. The news that Djokovic was granted an exemption to vaccination rules to enter the country provoked an initial outcry and the ensuing dispute has since overshadowed the lead-up to the Australian Open.

Djokovic acknowledged the lapses when he sought to clarify what he called "continuing misinformation" about his movements

after he became infected last month – though he did not spell out what inaccuracies he was referring to.

The statement was posted while the men's tennis No. 1 was in Rod Laver Arena holding a practice session, his third on the tournament's main court since being released from four nights in immigration detention.

The nine-time and defending Australian Open champion remains in limbo before the year's first tennis major starts next Monday. The stakes are particularly high since he is seeking a men's record 21st Grand Slam singles title.

He won a legal battle on procedural grounds Monday that allowed him to stay in the country, but he still faces the prospect of deportation because his exemption from COVID-19 vaccination rules has been questioned. That decision is entirely at the discretion of Australia's immigration minister if deemed to be in the public interest for health and safety reasons.

Deportation could result in sanctions ranging up to a three-year ban from entering Australia, a daunting prospect for a player who has won almost half of his 20 Grand



Novak Djokovic practises at Melbourne Park on Wednesday. Reuters

Slam singles titles here.

Court documents detailing Djokovic's positive test sparked speculation over the star player's attendance at events in his na-

tive Serbia last month. Further questions also were raised about errors on his immigration form that could potentially result in the cancellation of his visa.

On the form, Djokovic said he had not traveled in the 14 days before his flight to Australia, despite being seen in Spain and Serbia in that period.

In his statement, Djokovic described recent commentary as "hurtful" and said he wanted to address it in the interest of "alleviating broader concern in the community about my presence in Australia."

The 34-year-old Serb said he'd taken rapid tests that were negative and he was asymptomatic before he received his positive result from a PCR test he undertook out of an "abundance of caution" after attending a basketball game in Belgrade on Dec. 14.

He received the result late Dec. 17, he said, and scrapped all his commitments except a long-standing interview with L'Equipe newspaper the following day.

"I felt obliged to go ahead ... but did ensure I socially distanced and wore a mask except when my photograph was being taken," Djokovic said. "While I went home after the interview to isolate for the required period, on reflection, this was an error of judgment."

Serbia requires those who are infected with COVID-19 to isolate for eight days, but

they can get out early if they test negative.

The L'Equipe reporter who interviewed the athlete wrote in the newspaper that he and a photographer were also masked during the session – and kept their distance except for a brief moment as Djokovic said goodbye. The reporter said he tested negative for COVID-19 on Monday, and did not mention the photographer's status.

Meanwhile, Djokovic addressed the Australian travel declaration by saying it was submitted by his support team and "my agent sincerely apologizes for the administrative mistake in ticking the incorrect box."

"This was a human error and certainly not deliberate," he wrote. "My team has provided additional information to the Australian Government to clarify this matter."

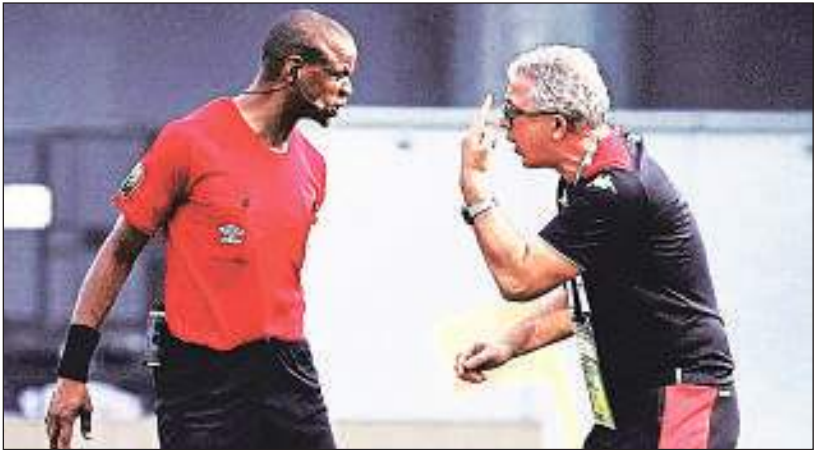
The decision could take a while – but there is time pressure since the draw to determine brackets for the Australian Open is set to take place Thursday.

Immigration Minister Alex Hawke's office issued a statement saying Djokovic's legal team had filed further documents and added: "Naturally, this will affect the timeframe for a decision." **AP**



# Full-time at 85 minutes, restarts, a tainted referee

### 87': Controversial red card



**Tunisia head coach Mondher Kebaier remonstrates with referee Janny Sikazwe after the match.** *Reuters*

Twenty minutes after the 'full-time' whistle, Mali coach Mohamed Magassouba was speaking at the post-match press conference when the Confederation of African Football (CAF) officials interrupted the proceedings, implying that the remaining time would be played out. A full 40 minutes later, it was decided that the match would indeed resume. Mali players re-emerged on the pitch and fourth official Helder Martins de Carvalho replaced Sikazwe as the main referee. However, Tunisians did not turn up.

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

# Young guns versus the experienced guard

Malvika Bansod, 20, and Mithun Manjunath, 23, will look to upset established stars

**SHIVANI NAIK**  
MUMBAI, JANUARY 12

Coach Vimal Kumar had repeated this, and



**Mithun (left) and Malvika will face Prannoy and Nehwal respectively. BA**



## Malvika vs Saina

Young Malvika Bansod, 20, will need to prey on Saina Nehwal's dodgy fitness, because she's as tough as nails senior, even at an admittedly 60-70 percent, can stand in one spot, roll her wrist over the shuttle, and make Bansod look

Bansod never played Nehwal before. But she would like to become the first Indian - beyond PV Sindhu - to inflict a loss. She's looked upto Saina all these years, but there's no dearth of competitiveness in her: "I've been like that always," she says pithily.