

**ACCEPTS PARTIES' DEMAND**

In rare move, EC pushes Punjab polls to Feb 20

Done to allow people to join Guru Ravidas Jayanti celebrations in Varanasi

ANISHA DUTTA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

IN A rare move, the Election Commission announced Monday that it had postponed the date of the Punjab Assembly polls from February 14 to February 20.

This was done after Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi and other political parties requested the Commission to change the voting date given that a large number of people would be travelling to Varanasi for the Guru Ravidas Jayanti on February 16.

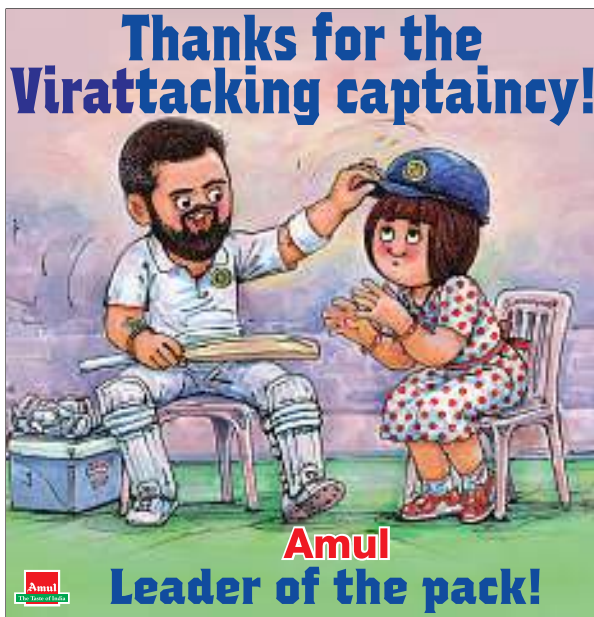
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EXPLAINED Eye on SC votes

SCHEDULED CASTES account for 32% of Punjab's population, a significant chunk of the electorate. So when there were representations to defer the polling to allow people to travel to Varanasi and back for the Guru Ravidas Jayanti celebrations, all parties backed the call, and the CM took the lead.

THE POWER OF DERA BALLAN

EXPLAINED, PAGE 13



daCunha/AB/789

DECISION 2022



UTTARAKHAND CONG DIVIDED OVER RETURN OF HARAK SINGH RAWAT

NARROW MARGINS IN 47 SEATS IN U.P. IN 2017, BJP WON MOST

PAGES 6, 7

Cong Twitter handle posts video projecting Channi as CM face in Punjab



36-second video has Channi making an appearance 12 times

KANCHAN VASDEV & MANOJ CG
CHANDIGARH, NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

AMID A bitter power struggle between Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi and state Congress president Navjot Singh Sidhu, the Congress on Monday put out a video on its official Twitter handle virtually projecting Channi as its chief minister face.

The move also comes a day before the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which is seen as the Congress's main challenger in the state, is set to announce its chief ministerial candidate. Sources in the Congress said the video was not put out "just like that" and argued it was part of a "calibrated" strategy.

The Congress, party sources said, believes Channi is its "best bet" in Punjab. "Nothing happens on its own," a senior leader told *The Indian Express*.

Sources said the party was for now projecting Channi as the leader. "That is the reason the official handle of the Congress tweeted the video. Channi is popular in the surveys. He has

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

PM: Best time to invest in India, multilateral institutions need reforms

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

CITING VARIOUS reform measures taken by the Government, such as the removal of retrospective taxation, reduction in compliance requirements and simplification of the corporate tax rate structure, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Monday made a strong pitch for India as an investment destination and said this is "the best time" to invest in the country.

Addressing the World Economic Forum's online Davos Agenda 2022 summit, Modi said India is committed to be a reliable partner in the global supply chain, and is saving countless lives by sending medicines and Covid vaccines to several countries.

He highlighted India's "multi-lingual" and "multi-cul-



PM Narendra Modi speaks at the WEF's online Davos Agenda 2022 summit. PTI

tural environment", which he said was a source of "great power not only of India but of the whole world".

Welcoming the world to invest in India, Modi said: "Today, India has the third largest number of unicorns in the world. More than 10,000 start-ups have been registered in the last six

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

J&K govt disbands, takes control of Kashmir Press Club: 'bid to stifle voice'

BASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, JANUARY 17

DAYS AFTER the J&K administration put on hold the re-registration of the Kashmir Press Club, it moved to take control of the premises, citing a "potential law and order situation" and saying the club "ceases to exist as a registered body".

Reacting to the government's move, the elected body of the Kashmir Press Club said the aim of the government was to shut down the club and "stifle the



Outside Kashmir Press Club on Monday. PTI

voice of journalists in Kashmir". The club, which has over 300

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNNY



Suspected drone attack on Abu Dhabi by Yemen rebels kills two Indians

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

TWO INDIANS were among three people killed in a suspected drone attack carried out by the Iran-backed Houthi militant group on three petroleum tankers in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, on Monday afternoon. A Pakistani national was also among the casualties. Six persons sustained mild and moderate injuries, police said.

While the UAE didn't imme-



After the suspected drone attack in Abu Dhabi. UNI

diately blame anyone for the attack, Yahia Sarei, a military spokesman of the Houthi group,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Kathak doyen who embodied virtuosity and expression, grace and control

PAGE 1
ANCHOR

SUANSHU KHURANA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

BACK IN 2010, at a concert in Delhi's Kamani auditorium, Girija Devi sang the lilting *hori*, *Rang daarungi nand ke laalan pe, rang daarungi*, a Braj Bhaasha piece about Radha's explicit desire to colour Krishna. Next to her sat Pandit Birju Maharaj, who embodied the Radha in the *hori* — *adakaari* in place, heart in tow. As Maharaj interpreted this one line in numerous ways, he articulated



PANDIT BIRJU MAHARAJ 1938-2022

the desire of a woman, in all its sensuality. At the end of it, Girija Devi draped her shawl over

Maharaj's head. Maharaj acknowledged, turning the shawl into his veil. Tumultuous ap-

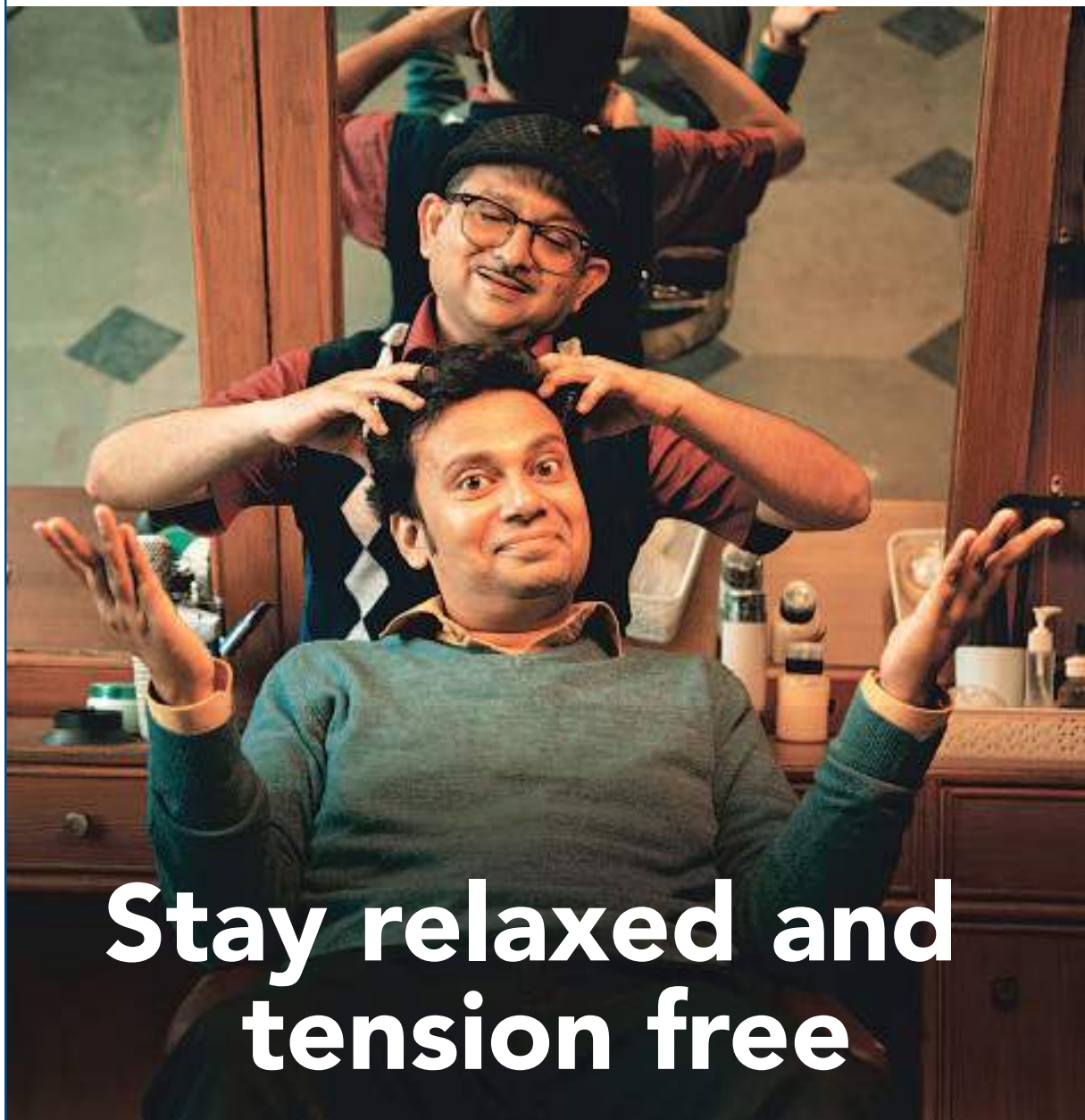
plause followed. "I can't think of any woman dancer who can be a better Radha," Devi would often say.

A rare combination of virtuosity and expression, grace and control, Pandit Birju Maharaj, who became synonymous with Kathak, passed away in Delhi at the age of 83. He suffered from kidney ailments and had been on dialysis for some months. He contracted Covid a few days ago and had a heart attack on Monday morning.

Maharaj's oeuvre was not just about dazzling performances, choreographies, and that delicate glance of the eye. It was

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CAN RUN 120 KM ON SINGLE CHARGE

Delhi gets first electric bus, CM says 300 more by April



CM Arvind Kejriwal and Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot flag off the bus at Indraprastha bus depot.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

CHIEF MINISTER Arvind Kejriwal Monday flagged off the first electric Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) bus, and said that another 300 are expected to ply on the roads by April.

"This is the first electric bus in Delhi to become operational. It is important in many ways. It is the beginning of a new era in the transport sector in Delhi with the first electric bus hitting the road today. The bus takes 1-1.5 hours to charge fully, as per fast charging. In one complete charge, it can travel up to 120 km minimum. All depots are being equipped with charging facilities," the CM said.

The bus, number E-44, was operational between IP Depot and Pragati Maidan on Monday, and the service will be available from 5.30 am to 8.20 pm every day. It will be a circular route from DTC's Indraprastha Depot via ITO, AGCR, Tilak Marg, Mandi House, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, Janpath, Rajesh Pilot Marg, Prithvi Raj Road, Aurobindo Marg, AIIMS, Ring Road, South Extension, Ashram, Bhogal, Jangpura, India Gate, High Court, Pragati Maidan, and will end at IP Depot.

"I believe electric buses will



Amit Mehra

NEW FLEET

ROUTE: Circular route starting from and terminating at IP Depot via ITO, Mandi House, Connaught Place, AIIMS, South Extension, Jangpura, India Gate, High Court etc.

■ Time taken for full charging: **1-1.5 hours**

■ Distance covered in one charge: **120 km minimum**

CHARGING POINTS: Currently at IP Depot, to be made available on other depots eventually

FACILITIES: Kneeling ramps for differently abled passengers, CCTV cameras connected to a two way Central Command and Control Centre (CCC) at Kashmere Gate, 10 panic buttons

gradually replace the old buses. It is a major step towards controlling pollution in the city. It is noise free and has zero emissions... By April, we expect another 300 buses to reach Delhi. Our target is to run around 2,000 more electric buses in the com-

ing years," Kejriwal said. The Delhi government said the total fleet of 300 buses will run from Mundela Kalan (100 buses), Rajghat (50) and Rohini Sector 37 (150 buses). These buses have kneeling ramps for differently abled passengers, and

special pink seats for women. They are also equipped with CCTV cameras, connected to a two-way Central Command and Control Centre (CCC) at Kashmere Gate, 10 panic buttons in each bus and a hooter, the government said.

Kejriwal also said the electric bus was the first bus to be inducted in the DTC fleet since 2011: "Another important development is that since 2011, not a single new bus had been inducted in the DTC fleet. There was some jinx; whenever we tried, we ran into some problem. Today, this bus has been added to the DTC fleet finally."

He said a 'havan' was conducted in the hope that the jinx would break and more buses would be added to the DTC fleet. Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot and senior officers and employees of the DTC were also present on the occasion. Kejriwal and Gahlot also inspected the facilities provided for the passengers inside the bus.

Meanwhile, BJP MP Manoj Tiwari hit out at Kejriwal for inducting just one electric bus in seven years in DTC's fleet and said Monday's ceremony was only for "hogging publicity". "Had Delhi procured 11,000 buses - 6,000 e-buses and 5,000 CNG propelled buses - citizens of Delhi would have clean air to breathe," he said.

Pet dog bites 10-year-old in Noida, owners arrested

Noida: Two men have been arrested by Noida Police after their pet dog bit a 10-year-old boy on Monday. Police said the duo, Ravinder and Saurabh, also allegedly assaulted the boy's family when they protested.

Police said the child received stitches and was sent home. "We received information that a boy had been bitten by a dog in Sadopur village; a video of the same had gone viral on social me-

dia. A complaint was received against the dog owner. The accused allegedly led the dog attack the minor and assaulted the family when they protested. Two persons have been arrested while another is absconding," said a police officer at Badalpur police station.

According to police and locals, the accused owned a Rottweiler which they kept chained within the compound of their house. **ENS**

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GUWAHATI

GUWAHATI 781 039, ASSAM

Admission to Master of Business Administration (MBA) Programme for Academic Year 2022-2023

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for admission to Master of Business Administration (MBA) programmes of the Institute. Online application process has started. For more details, visit <http://www.iitg.ac.in/acad>.

ADVT. NO. ACAD/Admissions/01/2022

National Centre For Cell Science, Pune

NCCS Complex, S. P. Pune University Campus, Ganeshkhind, Pune - 411 007. Advt. No. NCCS/NCMR/P01/2022

RECRUITMENT FOR PROJECT POSITIONS

NCCS invites online applications from Indian nationals for the following posts on the Project entitled 'Establishment of Centre of Excellence for National Centre for Microbial Resource (NCMR)' purely on temporary basis till the end of the project i.e. up to September 30, 2022.

Sr. No.	Name of the post	Number of post
1)	Consultant	02
2)	Scientist 'C'	03
3)	Scientist 'B'	03
4)	Technician 'C' (Lab)	03
5)	Technician 'B' (Lab)	05
6)	Technician 'B' (Computer)	01

The prescribed application format, detailed specifications, and other terms and conditions of the positions; please see our Advt. No. NCCS/NCMR/P01/2022 under the Careers tab in project positions on our website (<http://www.nccs.res.in>). For any updates, Please check our website. English, Hindi & Marathi version of this advertisement is available on our website.

The Director, NCCS, Pune

उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग

हरिद्वार
फ़ोन नं.- 249404

संख्या : 22B/05/E-4/D(R/AE)/2021-22 दिनांक : 17 जनवरी, 2022

विज्ञापित

एतद्द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि 'उत्तराखण्ड सशस्त्रित राज्य अभिव्यक्ति सेवा परीक्षा-2021' हेतु प्रकाशित संख्या-A-2/E-4/E/2021-22 दिनांक 01 सितम्बर, 2021 एवं विज्ञापित संख्या-148/05/E-4/D(R/AE)/2021-22 दिनांक 21 सितम्बर, 2021 के अन्तर्गत आवास विभाग में सहायक अभियन्ता (सिविल) के 16 पद (अनाख्यति-08, अनु० जाति-03, अयोग्य वर्ग-02, अनु० जन्मजाति-01, आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर वर्ग-02) विज्ञापित किये गये थे। उत्तराखण्ड शासन के पत्र संख्या-464/000/21/2021-20/04/2020 दिनांक 03 जनवरी, 2022 एवं पत्र संख्या-1831/4/2/21/22/आ/01/2018 दिनांक 27 सितम्बर, 2021 द्वारा आवास विभाग के जलानि विज्ञापित सहायक अभियन्ता (सिविल) के पदों में से अनाख्यति श्रेणी के 01 पद को प्रत्याख्यति किये जाने का अनुरोध किया गया है। आयोग द्वारा सिद्द पत्र निर्णय के अनुक्रम में आवास विभाग के अन्तर्गत सहायक अभियन्ता (सिविल) के विज्ञापित अनाख्यति श्रेणी के 01 पद को शासन को प्रत्याख्यति किये जाने के कारण पदों की संख्या 15 पद (अनाख्यति-07, अनु० जाति-03, अयोग्य वर्ग-02, अनु० जन्मजाति-01, आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर वर्ग-02) होगी। प्रसंगत भर्ती से सम्बन्धित अन्य समस्त शर्तें व्यापक रहेंगी।

(कर्मन् सिंह) सचिव।

Office of the Chairman, NEET UG Medical & Dental Admission / Counseling Board-2021

Government Dental College (RUHS College of Dental Sciences), Subhash Nagar, Behind T.B. Hospital, Jaipur, Rajasthan Phone: 0141-2280909 Websites: www.education.rajasthan.gov.in/medicaleducation, www.rajneetug2021.com

No. State UG Counseling Board/2021/508 Dated: 17.01.2022

NOTIFICATION

NEET UG (MEDICAL / DENTAL) COUNSELLING 2021 (MBBS, BDS) (STATE OF RAJASTHAN)

In continuation to the notification dated 18.12.2021, the schedule for registration and counseling process for first round shall be as below:

SCHEDULE FOR FIRST ROUND OF COUNSELING PROCESS

Application form for candidates who have not registered earlier during 20.12.2021 to 27.12.2021 Start date for filling of on-line application form and deposition of required application fee It is a mandatory step for subsequent process of allotments.	18.01.2022
Both the parts (Part 1 and Part 2) of the application form must be filled and completed. Candidates who could not complete both the parts (Part 1 and Part 2) of the application form earlier, may also complete the same.	
Last date for depositing the application fee at the website	21.01.2022 (4.00 pm)
Last date for submitting the on-line application form at the website	21.01.2022 (11.45 pm)
Publishing of provisional list for verification (PwD, Defence/PM, NRI)	22.01.2022
Document verification before the Board - Government Dental College (RUHS College of Dental Sciences), Subhash Nagar, Behind T.B. Hospital, Jaipur, for PwD, Defence/PM and NRI candidates as per the notification to be made available at the website	24.01.2022 (10.00 am)
Publishing of provisional merit list (State, PwD, Defence/PM, OBC-NCL, MBC-NCL, EWS, SC, ST, STA, NRI) and seat matrix	26.01.2022
Registration fee Deposition of registration fee amount as per forfeiture clause (applicable during choice filling for MBBS seats only, not applicable for BDS seats) For Govt., Govt. Society colleges, RUHS CMS - INR 10000 (5000 for SC/ST/OBC/MBC candidates) For private medical colleges - INR 1.0 lakh	26.01.2022 to 28.01.2022 by 4.00 pm
Choice filling On-line Choice filling (including filling up and saving of the choices / changing the filled choices multiple times)	26.01.2022 to 28.01.2022 by 11.55 pm (auto-locking of choices at 11.55 pm on 29.01.2022)
Printing of the on-line application form after auto-locking of the choices filled and saved by the candidates	29.01.2022
Processing of seat allotment (on-line) by Admission Board-2021	31.01.2022 and 01.02.2022
Publishing of First round allotment information on website (on-line)	01.02.2022
Printing of allotment letter, on-line, through website, by the candidates	03.02.2022 to 07.02.2022 by 5:00 pm
Reporting cum joining by candidates for Govt. / Govt. Society - Rajmeh, Jalawar / RUHS Medical colleges - at Academic Block, SMS Medical College, Jaipur All private medical colleges and all Dental colleges - at Govt. Dental College, Jaipur against first round counselling for deposition of original documents, prescribed fee through Demand draft / electronic mode and 2 copies of application form along with all relevant documents (self attested)	03.02.2022 to 07.02.2022 (9.00 am to 4.00 pm)
Further Processes	To be published later

- Refer information booklet, college information sheet and college fee structure etc. and other information at the website.
 - Detailed programme for further rounds will be announced later on website.
 - All PwD, Defence/PM and NRI candidates must present themselves physically for document verification before the admission board on 24.01.2022 as per notification to be made available at the website.
 - All candidates are required to deposit non-refundable application fee of Rs. 2000/- (Rs. 1200/- for SC, ST, ST-STA category candidate of Rajasthan state domicile as well as candidate of Rajasthan state domicile whose family annual income is less than INR 2.5 lacs) + applicable transaction charges.
 - The candidates are advised to visit these websites regularly for registration and other relevant information.
- Chairman
NEET UG Medical & Dental Admission / Counseling Board-2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an Application bearing CA.No.774 of 2020 in CP No. (IB) 408 (ND)/2015 (Inro Fivieriver Pvt. Ltd. Vs Mahesh Kumar Singh & Ors.) has been filed by Resolution Professional against the persons who have undertaken avoidable Transactions with M/s Inro Fivieriver Pvt. Ltd. ("Corporate Debtor") having registered Office at 310, Prakashdeep Building 7 Tollygunge New Delhi 110001 DL IN. The Hon'ble NCLT, Court IV, New Delhi Bench vide hearing dated 15.12.2021 issued notice to all respondents in CA.No. 774 of 2020 and directed the Monitoring Professional (Applicant) to send the notices to all the Respondents through registered post and by way of publication in the national newspapers.

Details of the aforementioned respondents who are put to notice are:

- Mr. Mahesh Kumar Singh (Respondent No. 1) Suspended Director, M/s Inro Fivieriver Pvt. Ltd., 24A, Ghora Mohalla, Aya Nagar, New Delhi 110047
- Bhupesh Bansal (Respondent No. 2) Suspended Director M/s Inro Fivieriver Pvt. Ltd. BN-40, West Shalimar Bagh, Delhi 110068
- Jai Bharat Aggarwal, Group CFO (Respondent No. 3) M/s Inro Fivieriver Pvt. Ltd. PU-66 The Palm Springs, Golf Course Road, Sector-54, Gurugram: 122011
- Anupam Nagalia (Respondent No. 4) Olive-1601, The Sakoon Verandas Sector-54, Golf Course Road, Gurugram 122002 Haryana
- Nitin Gupta (Respondent No. 5) C-4 1st floor, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017
- Lalit Goyal (Respondent No. 6) LCG 08, Court Greens, 6th Floor Laburnum Apartments, Sushant Lok-1, Gurgaon Haryana-122002
- Aman Gupta (Respondent No. 7) C-4 1st Floor Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017
- Satwant Singh Dosanjh (Respondent No. 8) 40 Burns, Houslow-TWS 98A United Kingdom
- M/s Abhishek Auto Services Pvt Ltd (Respondent No. 9) 1101 Surya Kiran Building Delhi 305, 3rd floor, Kanchan House, New Delhi
- Kuldeep Singh Saini (Respondent No. 10) H. No. 345, Second Floor Sector-15, Panchsala
- Madhukar Tulsil (Respondent No. 11) 313-B Terrace Heights, The Laburnum Sector-28, Gurgaon-122002
- Shailendra Kumar Aggarwal (Respondent No. 12) A-11 Neeti Bagh, New Delhi-110049
- Neelul Buildstate LLP (Respondent No. 13) Dharna Chamber 1st floor, Sarban New Delhi-110074
- Ajay Kumar Gupta (Respondent No. 14) D-205, 3rd Floor, Ashok Vihar, Phase-1, New Delhi-110052
- Rashmeet Arora (Respondent No. 15) H. No. 1201, Sector-44-B, Chandigarh
- Srinivas Kaur Saini (Respondent No. 16) H. No. 2215, Sector-15-C, Chandigarh
- May Smit Kumar (Respondent No. 17) Qr. No. Major Barak Padmarajon Enclave Aurangabad Cantt. Padgaon Road Aurangabad-431002
- Deepak Lohan (Respondent No. 18) 24A, Ghora Mohalla Aya Nagar, New Delhi-110047
- Chander Bhan (Respondent No. 19) 56 Amravati Enclave, Panchsala
- Rachna Krishan (Respondent No. 20) 56 Amravati Enclave, Panchsala
- Sunil Kumar (Respondent No. 21) P-05 PS Gyrini Enclave Bangwan Kalan, Uttar Pradesh-284126 India
- Puneet Jain (Respondent No. 22) House No. 1130, Sector-7, Panchsala
- Ankush (Respondent No. 23) 24A, Ghora Mohalla Aya Nagar, New Delhi-110047
- Maninder (Respondent No. 24) 24A, Ghora Mohalla Aya Nagar, New Delhi-110047
- Sukhinder Kaur (Respondent No. 25) #C-04, Ranjeet Nagar, Patna
- J.L. Malhotra (Respondent No. 26) #109, Sector-2 Panchsala
- Balvinder Kaur Toor (Respondent No. 27) #616, Phase-6 Mohali
- Anju Sethi (Respondent No. 28) H. No. 1158, Sector-23-B Chandigarh
- Mr. Shah Nawaz Rasool (Respondent No. 29) 64 Castle Oaks Crossing Brampton Ontario
- COL. Chaman Lal Maharia (Respondent No. 31) K-158, AWHQ MDC-4, Panchsala-134109
- Pawan Kumar Prashar (Respondent No. 32) C-34, Army Flats Marsa Devi, Panchsala
- Nareesh Pal Singh (Respondent No. 33) 24A, Ghora Mohalla Aya Nagar, New Delhi-110047
- Narjeet Kaur Kariboj (Respondent No. 34) Col A, HQ Western Command
- Chaitanya Kumar (Respondent No. 35) A-404, Kedar Apartments, New Delhi-110085
- Ashutosh Chander Sood (Respondent No. 36) H. No. 13, Sector-11-A, Chandigarh
- Dr. Monica Jain (Respondent No. 37) 1130, Sector-7, Panchsala
- Smt. Anand Varsha (Respondent No. 38) #137, Defence Colony, Hissar-125001
- Mrs. Saroj Bal (Respondent No. 39) #108, Gali No. 3, Karam Vihar, Karnal
- Anita Singhrao (Respondent No. 40) C-54, DCR University of Science and Technology, Murthal, Sonapat, Haryana-151039
- Charanveer Singh Rathore (Respondent No. 41) 24A, Ghora Mohalla Aya Nagar, New Delhi-110047
- Murti Hooda (Respondent No. 42) H. No. 365 Sector-21, Gurgaon-122016
- Uppender Rathore (Respondent No. 43) 24A, Ghora Mohalla Aya Nagar, New Delhi-110047
- Arnit Aggarwal (Respondent No. 44) A-4 Hazrat Khos New Delhi-110015
- Mayanka Aggarwal (Respondent No. 45) A-4 Hazrat Khos New Delhi-110016
- Suman Shrivastav (Respondent No. 46) 24A, Ghora Mohalla Aya Nagar, New Delhi-110047
- Rajesh Kumar (Respondent No. 47) C-40, Sector-4, M.D.C. Army Flats, Panchsala
- Roena Rathore (Respondent No. 48) C-40, Sector-4, M.D.C. Army Flats, Panchsala
- From Chand Sindhu (Respondent No. 49) 24A, Ghora Mohalla Aya Nagar, New Delhi-110047
- Hari Ram (Respondent No. 50) H. No. 1524, Urban Estate-E, Hissar-125001
- Balraj Singh (Respondent No. 51) #454, Sector-11, Panchsala
- Parveen Kumar (Respondent No. 52) H. No. 1919, Sector-26, Panchsala
- Sweetie (Respondent No. 53) #108, New Milkenum Apartments, Plot No. 02, Sector-23, Dwarka, New Delhi
- Ramphal Dhull (Respondent No. 54) 24A, Ghora Mohalla Aya Nagar, New Delhi-110047
- Dalip Singh (Respondent No. 55) H. No. 1950, Sector-17, HUDA, Jagadhri Yamuna Nagar
- Ritu Raj (Respondent No. 56) Sai Engineering Foundation Sai Bhawan, New Shimla-171009
- Meena Devi (Respondent No. 57) Flat No. 1, Block-A, GHS-3, Sector-17 Panchsala-134109
- Col. Gurinder Pal Singh (Respondent No. 58) Sector-A, Chandmandir Cantt. H. No. 180/6 (FAFA), Haryana
- Munish Sethi (Respondent No. 59) H. No. 1158, Sector-23B, Chandigarh
- Col. Sanjay Hooda (Respondent No. 60) CCL G.S. H.O. K&K Sub Area, Cuthbert Road Bangalore-560001
- Sanjay Sharma (Respondent No. 62) H. No. 250, Sector-11, Panchsala
- Urvashee (Respondent No. 64) H. No. 1413, Sector-21, Panchsala
- Rishi Raj (Respondent No. 65) Langston Gali Nala Road Patna-800004
- Mr. Rajesh Wer Dayal (Respondent No. 67) H. No. K-41, GHS-92, Sector-20, Panchsala
- M/s Sri Rama Enterprises (Respondent No. 68) BN-40, West Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110068
- M/s Hindustan Ispat (Respondent No. 69) S-54, Industrial Area, Jalandhar-110001
- Vijay Kaushik (Respondent No. 70) GHS-79, (Army Society), Sector-20, Flat No. 301, Block-D2, Panchsala
- Swam Singal (Respondent No. 71) H. No. 502, Mangal Jyoti Society, GH-34, Sector-5, MDC, Panchsala
- Jagdish Chander Singal (Respondent No. 72) H. No. 502, Mangal Jyoti Society, GH-34, Sector-5, MDC, Panchsala
- Deepak Gurmavjee (Respondent No. 73) H. No. 10213, Malviya Town, Sohna Road, Gurgaon
- Mr. Kuldeep Singh (Respondent No. 74) H. No. 171, Phase-7, SAS Nagar Mohali
- Dharam Pal (Respondent No. 75) H. No. 551, Sector-41-A, Chandigarh
- Keshav Pathak (Respondent No. 77) S-515, Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-110048
- Rakesh Kumar (Respondent No. 78) BN-40, West Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110068
- Ms. Gan. M. P. Singh VSM (Respondent No. 79) H. No. 240A, Sector-2, Panchsala-134112
- Manisha Saggi (Respondent No. 80) H. No. 318, Sector-4, Panchsala-134109 Raj Kumar Mittal 105, Bushma Elite Cross Old Ambala, Flat No. C-603, 6th Floor, Punjab
- Suman Devi (Respondent No. 81) H. No. 255, Sector-6P, Huda Hosi Dist Hissar
- Ms. Anjali (Respondent No. 84) VPO Surkhara Tehsil, Karnawa Dist. Jind-126116
- Arvind Kaupai (Respondent No. 85) 3057, U.G.F. Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi
- Smita Chandi (Respondent No. 86) BN-40, West Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110068
- M/s. Sneh (Respondent No. 88) Kothi No. 5 NAC Maniraja, Chandigarh
- Booth Raj Aggarwal (Respondent No. 89) H. No. 251, Shivaji Enclave, Maniraja, Chandigarh
- Neelam Aggarwal (Respondent No. 90) H. No. 251, NAC Maniraja Chandigarh
- GP. Capt Arun Bali (Respondent No. 91) Advance Headquarters Western Air Command IAF C/O HQ Western Command, Chandmandir Cantt
- Arvind Bali (Respondent No. 92) Flat No. 704, E-7, Gh-79, Sector-20, Panchsala
- Sukhinder Singh (Respondent No. 93) Village & PO- Dwana Tehsil Tonana Dist. Fatehabad
- Neelam Kumar (Respondent No. 94) H. No. 1294, Urban Estate Jind
- Nirmal Parghal (Respondent No. 95) Flat No. 50 GHS-104H, Sector-20, Panchsala
- Jugal Kishore Jain (Respondent No. 96) 7, Rose Avenue DLF, Chhatrapur Farm, New Delhi-110074
- Vinod Kumar (Respondent No. 97) H. No. 32 Sazhi Mohalla, Khara Dabur, South West Delhi-110073
- Shiv Kumar (Respondent No. 98) H. No. 32 Sazhi Mohalla Khara Dabur, New Delhi
- Ambika Narang (Respondent No. 99) B-44 Greater Kailash Part-I, New Delhi-110048
- Gursharan Singh (Respondent No. 100) H. No. 380, Second Floor, Sector-7B Mohali
- Vikram Joshi (Respondent No. 101) #7 Haldighati Lines Near Cavalry Mess, Khajipura Road, Jaipur-302012
- Shruti Sharma (Respondent No. 102) Coral 501, Verandas Sector-54, Gurgaon
- Vasundhara Khanna (Respondent No. 103) Golf Course Road 1410 B, Magnolia Sector-42, Gurgaon
- Ramesh Chander (Respondent No. 104) Shri Ram Real Estate SCO-240, S. F. Sector-20, Panchsala
- Inro Grace Realtech Private Limited (Respondent No. 105) C-4, 1st Floor Malviya Nagar, New Delhi Also at: 5th Floor Orchid Centre, Golf course Road, Sector-53, Gurgaon-122002
- Inro Private Limited (Respondent No. 106) C-4, 1st Floor Malviya Nagar, New Delhi Also at: B&F I, Inro Campus, Andrews Drive Rea City Golf Course Extension Road, Gurgaon-122101, Haryana
- Inro Waterfront Private Limited (Respondent No. 107) C-4, 1st Floor Malviya Nagar, New Delhi Also at: S.C.O. 16-17, Basement Fortune Chambers OPP. Ludhiana Stock Exchange Perceze Gandhi Market, Ludhiana-141001
- Puma Realtors Pvt. Ltd (Respondent No. 108) C-4, 1st Floor Malviya Nagar, New Delhi S.C.O. 6-8, Sector-4/D, 1st/2nd Floor Madhya Marg, Chandigarh-160009

Further Notice is hereby given that the next date of hearing of CA.No. 774 of 2020 in CP No. (IB) 408 (ND)/2015 before the Hon'ble NCLT, Court IV, New Delhi Bench is on 17.02.2022 and all the above mentioned respondents are advised to attend the aforesaid hearing on 17.02.2022 before Hon'ble NCLT, Court IV, New Delhi Bench.

For order of the Hon'ble NCLT, Court IV, New Delhi Bench, refer to link given below- nclt.gov.in

The undersigned can be contacted for any clarification and obtain the copy of application, order filed against the aforesaid respondents.

Jash Kumar Grover
Monitoring Professional
In the matter of Inro Fivieriver Private Limited
IB/174-03/1P-2020/2017-18/10300
Address registered with IB/1 & for correspondance,
SCO- 818, Second Floor, NAC Maniraja, Chandigarh-151001
Email: Regd. with IB-4-grover27@gmail.com
Email: For Correspondence- jashkumar@npsai.com
Mobile: +9175921403

Date: 17.01.2022
Place: New Delhi

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*Investments under NPS are subject to market risk and are prone to fluctuation depending on the state of the financial market.

4 THE CITY


**VACCINATIONS IN
LAST 24 HOURS**
23,577
**OMICRON
CASES**
549
**DELHI: TOTAL
CASES**
17,22,497

	Total	Vacant
HOSPITAL BEDS	15,498	12,753
ICU BEDS	4,439	3,624

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: 2,784
OXYGEN SUPPORT **769**
VENTILATOR SUPPORT **140**

	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Jan 16	18,286	21,846	28	65,621
Jan 17	12,527	18,340	24	44,762
Total	83,982	16,13,128	25,387	3,41,04,825

**Total active cases in Delhi*

NOIDA		
	Jan 16	Jan 17
Cases	1,498	2,154
Deaths	0	0

GURGAON		
	Jan 16	Jan 17
Cases	3,378	3,448
Deaths	1	2

'CAN'T RISK OTHER PATIENTS, HEALTHCARE WORKERS'

Despite ICMR guidelines, hospitals liberal with testing

ANONNA DUTT

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

SEVERAL HOSPITALS in Delhi are still testing patients for Covid-19 at the time of admission and before procedures to prevent in-hospital transmission, despite the new testing guidelines issued by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) stating that asymptomatic patients should not be tested. Doctors also fear that the surgical outcomes could be worse in patients with an active infection.

"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," the new guidelines read.

The number of Covid-19 tests in the capital has dipped sharply since the new guidelines did

away with testing on demand for asymptomatic patients, low-risk contacts of a positive patient, and asymptomatic persons in hospital for other procedures.

A senior official from the Delhi government told *The Indian Express* that sample collection by the government had dropped by two-thirds after the guidelines came into force.

At the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), a senior administrator said, "The guidelines have been issued by the ministry and we have to implement it."

Doctors from the hospital, however, said that tests were being conducted routinely before admitting patients, shifting patients to other wards, as well as before procedures.

"Unless it is an emergency life-threatening condition, we do test the patients before any procedures. The patients are also tested before they are moved



Doctors fear that the surgical outcomes could be worse in patients with an active infection. *Archive*

from one ward to the other. There is no work-around. Even an asymptomatic person can give the infection to the other sick patients in a ward and then we do not know who will get a severe disease. Not to mention healthcare workers getting exposed,"

said a doctor from the hospital, on condition of anonymity.

At Safdarjung Hospital, patients are tested using a rapid antigen kit during admission. They are moved to the isolation ward in the Super Speciality Block if they test positive; if they

are symptomatic but test negative they are sent to the suspect block in the same building; if they are asymptomatic and test negative they are admitted to other wards.

"Patients undergo so many tests when they have to get a procedure at the hospital. Adding a Covid-19 test doesn't increase the time and effort too much. Not doing it would mean exposing countless others to the infection. We do ask for the test when patients have to undergo any surgery or tests such as CT scan or MRI," a doctor from the hospital said.

Given how transmissible the new variant is, scores of healthcare workers have tested positive over the past few weeks, resulting in a shortage of manpower.

"Seventy one of our 380 nurses tested positive within three days of cases starting to increase. It was becoming very dif-

ficult to run the hospital. But that is not the only reason we get our patients tested before a planned surgery," said Dr Sumit Ray, medical superintendent of Holy Family Hospital.

He said, "There is no evidence so far to suggest that the surgical outcome will not be worse in those with an active infection. The outcomes for patients with Covid-19 were bad during the two previous waves. If it is an emergency life-saving surgery, of course, it needs to happen and is conducted without the test. But why take a chance with an elective surgery; they can just come back in 10 days or so and get it."

Another senior doctor from a prominent private hospital in the city said, "We are also answerable to the families. What if other people in a ward get infected or the outcome of a surgery is not good? We will be sued. We have to do the test."

Daily tests lowest since Nov-end, city sees 12k new cases

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

CONTINUING A downward trend, Delhi Monday reported 12,527 fresh Covid cases, over 6,000 fewer than seen the day before, as per the daily health bulletin. The positivity rate increased slightly to 27.99%. The city also saw 24 deaths on Monday, taking January's total toll to 280.

The decline in absolute number of cases, however, has been because of fewer tests conducted on Sunday as reported in the next day's bulletin. The number of tests conducted has been reducing in Delhi since the new ICMR testing guidelines were introduced, which do away with testing of asymptomatic persons on demand, low-risk contacts, and asymptomatic persons undergoing other procedures at hospitals.

Just 44,762 tests were conducted on Monday, the lowest since November 29 which saw 43,499 tests. There were 52,721 tests conducted on average every day in the last week of November, which went up to 62,276 in December last week when cases started increasing after remaining low for over six months.

In the week before the new guidelines kicked in on January 10, 87,792 tests were conducted on average each day. In fact, the highest number of RT-PCR tests ever

**REDUCTION IN TESTS
BID TO SUPPRESS
NUMBERS: DPCC CHIEF**

New Delhi: Delhi Congress chief Anil Kumar Monday criticised the drop in daily Covid tests, calling it an effort to suppress the number of cases. "The Delhi government has reduced the number of Covid tests it is doing... First of all, where will those people who need Covid reports go? Secondly, testing is reduced to reduce the fear of the wave," he said. **ENS**

conducted in the city (85,394) was on January 12 — it took a few days for the new guidelines to start reflecting in the number of tests.

"Yesterday was Sunday so that could also be a factor, but cases are going to be fewer today following the declining trend. There will be 4,000-5,000 cases fewer than yesterday," said Health Minister Satyendar Jain in an online briefing before the bulletin was out. "Cases are definitely reducing for four days now and the advance indicator for the peak was that the hospitalisations were not going up."

He said if the trend continues, OPD services will be restarted in two of its biggest hospitals.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

SPORTING BLACK bands on their arms, traders in Sadar Bazar Monday protested the imposition of the odd-even rule and weekend curfew in the capital and said it will "kill businesses". The traders said only one form of the restriction should be imposed.

Following a spike in Covid cases, the Delhi Disaster Management Authority had first imposed odd-even restrictions, followed by a weekend

curfew. This, traders said, only lets shops function for 10-12 business days a month.

Paramjeet Singh Pamma, vice-chairman of the Federation of Sadar Bazar Traders' Association, said: "Traders have been put on a ventilator. Due to night curfew, shops can't function after 10 pm and loading and unloading of goods is affected. With weekend curfew also in place, we are left with two to three days in a week to operate."

"What is the point of vaccination when the restrictions are even heavier? Pictures of the rush at markets shown in news-



Traders at Sadar Bazar held a protest against the restrictions on Monday. *Express*

papers are due to illegal hawkers and vendors. It is the government's duty to ensure that hawkers do not set up illegal shops," he said.

Ashok Randhawa, president of the Sarojini Nagar Mini Market Association, said, "We are already facing losses — our winter stock is usually sold out during this time, but is now piled up. If we can't make sales, our money will be stuck for a year. While we can open for fewer days, we still have to pay staff their entire salary. The crowd is already thin, so we hope that one of the restrictions

is withdrawn."

National Delhi Traders' Association (NDTA) president Atul Bhargava, who owns a shop in Connaught Place, said the odd-even rule is not a solution: "The real focus should be on crowd management. This is creating confusion and chaos for customers and sales have dropped drastically."

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had earlier said there will be no lockdown in the city and all Covid restrictions will be lifted gradually as cases decrease and the death rate comes down.

BRIEFLY

**Delhi nurses
body demands
relief for kin of
those who died
on Covid duty**

New Delhi: The Delhi Nurses Federation (DNF) has said it would go on strike over non-release of compensation to families of nurses who died while on Covid duty. According to DNF secretary general Liladhar Ramchandani, eight nurses working in Delhi government hospitals died during the second wave and their families have not yet received the Rs 1 crore ex-gratia compensation that was promised by the government in May last year. "Our demand is that it should be paid within 7 days or it will force us to go on an agitation/non-cooperation movement," read a letter by the nurses' body to the L-G's office.

**Man collapses
while being
taken to court**

Gurgaon: A 41-year-old proclaimed offender, who was taken into police custody to be produced in a district court, allegedly fell unconscious and had to be hospitalised. While his family alleged his condition deteriorated due to harassment by police, officers denied this and said the man had a history of a heart ailment. **ENS**

**Lodhi Garden
among four
parks set to
get upgrade**

New Delhi: The New Delhi Municipal Council will develop four of its major gardens — Nehru Park, Lodhi Garden, Talkatora Garden and Sanjay Jheel — into world-class facilities with smart lighting, upgraded nursery and walking tracks, among other things, officials said on Monday. **PTI**

PWD kicks off project to overhaul capital's drainage system

GAYATHRI MANI
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

THE PUBLIC Works Department (PWD) has started preliminary work on redeveloping the drainage system in a bid to resolve waterlogging woes that plague the capital every monsoon — beginning with the Najafgarh basin, which covers 123 drains.

It has also floated tenders for engaging a consultant to conduct a survey and come up with a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for redeveloping and re-constructing the drainage system. After finding the 'Drainage Master Plan' prepared by IIT-Delhi generic in nature, the Delhi government had last year appointed PWD as the nodal agency for the project.

A senior PWD official said: "Waterlogging and urban flooding are a perennial problem in the capital. The main reasons behind this are the city's topography, which restricts the gravity flow of stormwater; mixed flow in stormwater drains; intense rainfall much higher than designed capacity of stormwater drains; disposal of silt and construction waste; and ineffective desilting."

To address these problems, the government has decided to find drainage solutions for each of the three basins in Delhi at Najafgarh, covering an area of approximately 980 sq km, Barapullah, and Trans-Yamuna.

"We are kicking off work from the Najafgarh drain basin. The tender process to appoint a consultant has begun; they will study the entire basin area and the drains covered under it. The objective of the consultancy service is to provide solutions as per the framework of the drainage master plan and a system where no waterlogging occurs in the NCT of Delhi-Najafgarh Basin," said the official.

Tenders for appointing consultants for the two other basins will also be floated.

The official added: "The consultant will further provide solutions for individual drainage at the macro level and specific locations. Reasons for waterlogging, delay in drain of surface runoff, constraints and solutions, rainfall distribution, reuse of stormwater etc., will be covered in the feasibility report."

Besides, a hydraulic study to test soil and water, and a topographical survey of existing pipelines, drains, and other possible stormwater disposal systems at all probable waterlogging locations will be conducted.

Once the consultants are engaged, the DPR will be ready in 9 months and solutions will be implemented by the respective road, drain-owning agencies — PWD, MCD, DSIIDC, DDA, DJB and other departments concerned.

The city's entire drainage system will be redeveloped by 2025 under the master plan, said the official.



TAKING COVER

On Monday, Delhi's max temp settled at 16.1 degrees Celsius; minimum was 8.7. *Gajendra Yadav*

Told officials to try wheelchairs to assess ground reality: HC to SDMC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

STATING THAT engineers of the South MCD were required to travel in wheelchairs on Vasant Vihar's footpaths without any assistance to check their viability, the Delhi High Court Monday said the exercise was not ordered for submission of photographs to the court but to make the officers feel the situation on ground.

It also pulled up the authorities, including police, for not removing vehicles parked on footpaths outside houses in the area.

The court, which had in November directed SDMC engi-

neers to travel on footpaths on a wheelchair without any aid or assistance, after seeing photographs of the exercise, observed, "Pushing him on the wheelchair... is it a part of the duty of the gentleman who is pushing him? The court's order was not to be assisted by anybody. Let the MCD then depute one person everywhere wherever there are wheelchair-bound. Every house will have one-two people standing there."

Justice Najmi Waziri said there should be no necessity of pushing wheelchairs on the footpaths and asked authorities to take corrective measures for removal of obstructions. "I don't know what is the approach. How

do you empower a citizen or is this wheelchair-bound citizen a lesser citizen? They have equal rights," said the court.

The court also said advertisement boards on the footpaths need to be shifted. "What is important? Movement of people or advertisement board," asked the court.

The court has passed the order on a contempt petition which alleged that the area around hundreds of trees in Vasant Vihar has been concretised, and sought their preservation. The authorities, including SDMC and PWD, Monday told the court that corrective steps in this regard are being taken.

WILL BENEFIT 3-4 LAKH COMMUTERS

Ashram underpass to be ready by March, flyover will take a little longer


GAYATHRI MANI
 NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

AFTER MISSING several deadlines and facing delays due to the lockdown, construction work on the extension of Ashram flyover to Delhi-Noida-Delhi (DND) expressway has picked up pace. The 1.2-km, six-lane flyover, which was supposed to be completed by March this year, is now expected to be finished by August.

The project was approved in the cabinet along with the proposal to construct the Ashram underpass in 2019, and a foundation stone was laid in December the same year. But work was delayed due to Covid outbreak and because the traffic police did not give a no-objection certificate (NOC).

"Preliminary work started last February but was delayed again due to the second wave and lockdown. Now, work on the central portion has just begun after we received the NOC for phase 2, which was issued by the traffic police in September 2021," said a senior PWD official.



The underpass is 750 metres long. *Express*

"Widening of the road has almost been completed. Traffic police had initially denied the NOC

after ongoing construction work on the Ashram underpass caused heavy traffic snarls at Ashram

Chowk, Ring Road to Mathura Road, Sarai Kale Khan, and Maharani Bagh. They wanted the underpass to be finished first. The NOC was given in September and the flyover was scheduled to be ready by March 2022, but it was delayed again due to a construction ban. Work is in full swing now and will be completed by August 2022," said the official.

The flyover will provide smooth and signal-free commuting from the DND expressway till Lajpat Nagar as well as from Lajpat Nagar to Sarai Kale Khan. It will also have ramps for traffic coming from Sarai Kale Khan.

The PWD official added, "We are executing the work carefully keeping in mind the convenience of commuters who are facing problems on this stretch."

Officials added that 3-4 lakh commuters will benefit when work on the 750-m-long underpass is completed by February and it will be opened in March, if Covid cases are under control.

"Work on the underpass is going as per schedule and will not be delayed. The DTL cable line has also been removed and slabs and structures have been constructed. The wall and covering of the remaining portion of the underpass

will be completed in the next five days. After this, only flooring and some final touches are left. So, 99% work is done and will be completed by February-end. The government has to then give its approval and it will be inaugurated in the first week of March," said the official.

As of now, traffic to and from Sarai Kale Khan, DND, Bhogal, Badarpur, Mathura Road and Outer Ring Road is hit on the stretch. Due to diversions, commuters take inner roads of residential areas such as Kalindi Colony, Amar Colony, Lajpat Nagar, inconveniencing residents.

CORONA ISN'T OVER YET! REMEMBER TO GET VACCINATED



Children in the 15-18 age group must get the Covid-19 vaccine

(All those born before 31st December, 2007 are eligible)



Health care workers and front line workers must get the Precaution Dose of Covid-19 vaccine

(On completion of 9 months/39 weeks from the date of 2nd dose)

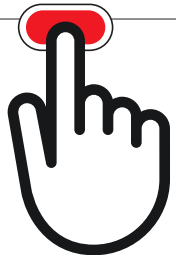


60 years + with co-morbidities must take the Precaution Dose of Covid-19 vaccine

(On completion of 9 months/39 weeks from the date of 2nd dose)

"According to experts, Omicron spreads very rapidly, but there is no need to panic. Continue to wear your mask, follow all covid norms and when it's time, remember to get your Precaution Dose of the Covid-19 vaccine"

- Arvind Kejriwal



BALLOTIN

Jolt to AAP as Ferozepur Rural candidate jumps ship to Cong

Chandigarh: The AAP's Ferozepur Rural candidate Amandeep Ashu Banger Monday resigned from the party and joined the ruling Congress in Punjab, alleging Arvind Kejriwal's outfit runs like a "multinational company" with only Delhi leaders calling the shots. After joining the Congress, Banger said: "I was feeling stressed in this environment, which was also hindering the so-called development agenda and welfare of Punjab by the party." Welcoming Banger into the Congress, Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi told reporters that the leader will contest the February 20 Assembly elections from the seat on the ruling party's ticket. He claimed that people are rejecting the Arvind Kejriwal-led outfit. "Their bubble has burst," said Channi.

ENS

Kejriwal slams Chidambaram

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and senior Congress leader and former Union minister P Chidambaram on Monday engaged in a war of words over the upcoming Assembly polls in Goa. Kejriwal hitting back at Chidambaram for his assessment that the contest in Goa is between the Congress and the BJP, and that the AAP will split non-BJP votes. "Sir, stop crying. Goans will vote where they see hope. Cong is (the) hope for BJP, not Goans.15 of your 17 MLAs switched to BJP. Congress guarantee - every vote to Congress will be safely delivered to BJP. To vote BJP, route through Congress for safe delivery," Kejriwal tweeted.

ENS



Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav (left), with fistfuls of rice and wheat, takes a pledge to stand by farmers, in Lucknow on Monday. Vishal Srivastav

BKU chief goes back on support to SP-RLD

AMIT SHARMA & MAULSHREE SETH

MEERUT, LUCKNOW, JAN 17

BHARTIYA KISAN Union (BKU) chief Naresh Tikait took back his earlier call to support the SP-RLD alliance in the elections. "Hum thoda sa faltu bol gaye. Hume aisa nahi kehna chahiye tha (I talked a bit silly. I should not have said so). We cannot go against the SKM decision or else they will expel us too," Naresh said.

The SKM had on Sunday snapped ties with constituents who had entered the election fray in Punjab.

Sources said Naresh made the U-turn on Monday because his younger brother and BKU spokesperson, Rakesh Tikait, had objected to extending support to any political party or alliance.

Naresh's comments followed a Monday morning visit by Union Minister and BJP MP Sanjeev Balyan to the Tikait's ancestral home in Sisauli.

Tikait's comments also came on a day when SP chief Akhilesh Yadav took an "anna sankalpa",

a pledge to stand by farmers and defeat the BJP in the upcoming elections in Uttar Pradesh.

With Tejender Virk, an SKM leader who was injured in the Lakhimpur Kheri incident on October 3, and other Lakhimpur Kheri farmers by his side, Yadav, who took fistfuls of rice and wheat in each of his hands, said, "The Samajwadi Party has decided we will take this anna sankalp to remove and defeat the BJP that is guilty of carrying out atrocities against farmers."

The SP chief also announced minimum support price for all crops, a fund to pay farmers' arrears and dues to sugarcane farmers, interest-free loans and Rs 25 lakh to each of the families of the farmers who died in Lakhimpur Kheri incident, among other farmer-centric promises will be part of the SP manifesto.

On Bhim Army chief Chandrasekhar, who accused him of "insulting" the Scheduled Castes after their alliance talks failed, Yadav said, "To defeat BJP, whatever sacrifice is required should be done. If he wants to help me as a brother, he can."

GAP OF 5,000 VOTES OR LESS

Narrow margins in 47 seats in UP in 2017, BJP won most

Every fifth seat in Punjab saw low gap, the Congress won 11 of 26 seats

HARIKISHAN SHARMA

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

A SWING of 5,000 votes can change the outcome of every fifth Assembly seat in Punjab and every 10th seat in Uttar Pradesh, shows an analysis of the 2017 results in both states.

As many as 26 of 117 seats in Punjab and 47 of 403 constituencies in Uttar Pradesh were decided by a victory margin of below 5,000 votes in the last polls.

The 5,000-vote margin is not big in view of the average size of an Assembly constituency in the two states — around 3.74 lakh voters in UP and about 1.83 lakh in Punjab.

In UP, of the 47 seats decided by a winning margin of less than 5,000 votes, the BJP won the most, 23, and came second on 15. The SP won 13 of the seats and was runner-up in 17. The BSP won 8 of the seats, while the Congress, Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) and Apna Dal (Soneylal) got 1 seat each.

In 8 of the 47 seats, the winning margin was less than 1,000 votes. Of these, the BJP won 5 (Doomariyaganj, Meerapur, Shravasti, Muhammadabad-Gohna (SC) and Rampur Maniharan); the BSP won 2 (Mant and Mubarakpur); and the SP 1 (Mohanlalganj). In fact, Doomariyaganj saw the

NUMBER OF SEATS WON BY A MARGIN OF BELOW 5,000 VOTES

PUNJAB		
Party		Seats won
AAP	<div><div></div></div>	6
BJP	<div><div></div></div>	2
INC	<div><div></div></div>	11
SAD	<div><div></div></div>	7
Grand Total		26
UTTAR PRADESH		
Party		Seats won
ADAL	<div><div></div></div>	1
BJP	<div><div></div></div>	23
BSP	<div><div></div></div>	8
INC	<div><div></div></div>	1
RLD	<div><div></div></div>	1
SP	<div><div></div></div>	13
Grand Total		47

lowest margin across the state, with the BJP's Raghendra Pratap Singh defeating the BSP's Saiyada Khatoon by just 171 votes.

The second lowest margin was recorded in Meerapur, where Avatar Singh Bhadana, who contested on a BJP ticket, defeated SP candidate Liyakat Ali by 193 votes. Bhadana left the BJP and joined the RLD earlier this month.

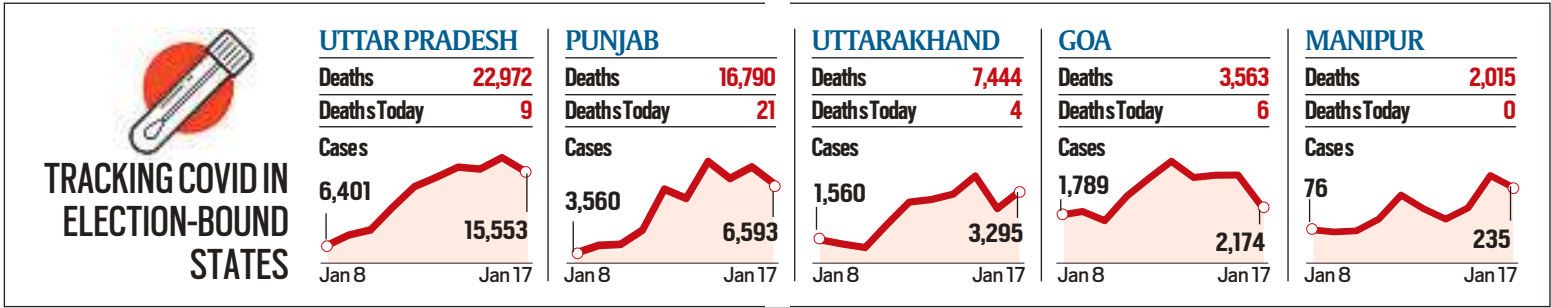
In nine seats — Duddhi, Bhadohi, Patti, Matera, Bansdih,

Tanda, Mahmoodabad, Unchahar and Bharthana — the winner was decided by 1,000-2,000 votes. The winning margin was between 2,000 and 3,000 in 10 seats — Najibabad, Lalganj, Gainsari, Kanth, Pharenda, Badlapur, Kannauj, Atrauliya, Sidhauri and Pratappur. And between 3,000 and 4,000 votes in 12 — Moradabad Nagar, Jangipur, Dhaurahra, Chillupar, Aonla, Dholana, Didarganj,



POLL HUDDLE

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath arrives for the BJP's core committee meeting on Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections at the party headquarters in New Delhi on Monday. Prem Nath Pandey



POLITICS & SEMANTICS

How and why a space station entered poll horizon in Uttar Pradesh

SHIVNARAYAN RAJPUROHIT

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

FORMALLY joining the Samajwadi Party after exiting the Uttar Pradesh government and the BJP, Swami Prasad Maurya made a reference that was unusual even by the standards of the state that has seen it all. Accusing Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath of neglecting backwards and Dalits, Maurya suggested he had been dropped into the chair like "Skylab".

The space station

America's first space station, Skylab, was launched by NASA on May 14, 1973, to monitor me-

teorology, solar activities, materials processing etc. From its launch until the return of its third and final crew on February 8, 1974, the Skylab programme proved that humans can live and work in outer space for extended periods. The first crew spent 28 days in orbit, the second 59 and the final 84.

The last crew undocked the station in February 1974 and pushed it into a higher orbit by attaching thrusters. The original plan was for the station to remain in space for another 8 to 10 years. To NASA's surprise, Skylab began de-orbiting faster than it had anticipated. The chief reason was a warmer atmosphere in the mid-1970s due to coronal mass ejections, or "small balls of fire",

emitted by the Sun. This created an atmospheric drag on Skylab and pulled it towards the Earth.

Multiple plans to push Skylab into a higher orbit came to a naught, and it became clear the station would re-enter the Earth in 1979, four years earlier than expected. The planned splash-down in the less populated southern hemisphere caused a frenzy across the world, from Canberra in Australia to Karimnagar in Andhra. Weighing 85 tonnes, Skylab was the heaviest space object till then, according to NASA.

As per media reports at the time, people in the coastal states of Andhra and Orissa (as it was called then) migrated to "safer places", and some even



The Skylab space station

took to wearing helmets. The issue of "reported panic among people fearing fall of Skylab splinters" was even raised in the Lok Sabha. The Union government was asked if it had taken appropriate measures to protect people. As his government reached the point of collapse,

then prime minister Morarji Desai told newsmen in July 1979: "Even if the Skylab falls here, I will remain unruffled." Eventually, during its "faster-than-a-bullet" descent, most of Skylab went up in flames due to atmospheric friction. The rest of its debris fell off south-western Australia coast. Bemused callers to ABC radio reported having seen "a meteoric shower" with a "sonic boom".



Spacecraft kill rare

"It is almost rare a spacecraft would hit populated areas because our deorbiting methods have improved over the years," says Sanat K Biswas, Assistant Professor and Head of Space Systems Laboratory of Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi. Biswas, who is developing an algorithm to predict collisions between satellites and space junk, said probability of space debris hitting a populated area was 1 in 3,200.

What Maurya said

At the event where he joined the SP along with other BJP leaders on January 14, Maurya said: "The BJP formed its state govern-

ment (in 2017) with support of Keshav Prasad Maurya (now UP deputy CM), Swami Prasad Maurya and the backward community. Discussions were held that the CM would either be Keshav Prasad or Swami Prasad Maurya. But an attempt was first made to drop a Skylab from Ghazipur. But that Skylab had a blast before reaching here. Another Skylab was picked from Gorakhpur and placed on CM's chair to hoodwink backward classes."

What he meant

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Maurya said he meant to convey that Adityanath's selection was a bolt from the blue. "The (2017) election was fought

under the leadership of Keshav Prasad Mauryaji, who was then the state BJP president. The other two CM contenders were Mahesh Sharmaji and Dinesh Sharmaji (also a Dy CM currently)... If any of the three had been chosen, there would have been no Skylab."

The BJP had delayed naming a CM for a week after its stupendous win, with Adityanath emerging as the surprise choice after a day-long meeting.

While the Gorakhpur Skylab reference was clearly to Adityanath, a four-time MP from Gorakhpur, Maurya did not specify what he meant by Ghazipur.

FULL STORY ON:
www.indianexpress.com



Akali leader Sukhbir Badal with party leaders hosting a live interaction on Facebook and YouTube. Express

80-yr-old on FB, live interaction on YouTube, hashtag hustle

DIVYA GOYAL GOPAL

LUDHIANA, JANUARY 17

"MAIN HUN Facebook chala taan laina haan, par oh gall nahin bandi (I can use Facebook now, but it is not the same thing)," says Tota Singh, the Akali candidate from Dharamkot of Moga, and an 80-year-old veteran of five decades of poll battles who has been forced this time to go digital.

Apart from smartphones and Facebook, Tota Singh, a three-time MLA, now has the hang of party meetings on Zoom, and bulk messages on WhatsApp. His children pitch in (including Moga Akali Dal candidate Barjinder Singh Makhn Brar), as do his grandchildren. His new team is running as many as 206 booth-level WhatsApp groups in his constituency. A new snappy tag he has acquired on Facebook is "Dharamkot da jathedar (The leader of Dharamkot)".

Yet, rues the 80-year-old, the impersonal social media can never substitute the connect of physical rallies. Tota Singh is also apprehensive that the Election Commission's ban on rallies due to rising Covid cases would hit the Akali Dal the most, with its voter base comprising farmers, daily wagers and rural households.

"They still cannot access the Internet or use social media. Each rally of the Badals would see gathering of thousands," he says.

Son Brar says he has hired a private agency to manage the social media campaigns of him and his father. "Photographers and videographers accompany us and they coordinate with our in-house team to update each activity on Facebook, Instagram and other platforms."

The EC ban on rallies till at least January 22 has forced most candidates in Punjab to go down the same route, with families and professional agencies helping generate content such as graphics, caricatures, videos, catchy one-liners etc.

Parties say if the ban is extended further, they would hold "virtual rallies" next and that the groundwork has started, with constituency-level social media volunteers mobilising supporters to join platforms such as Zoom, Facebook Live etc.

The Akali Dal contest is fo-

cused around party president and former deputy CM Sukhbir Singh Badal and ex-minister Bikram Singh Majithia, on bail in a drugs case. The party has hired poll analyst Sunil Kanugolu's Mindshare Analytics to manage the campaign overall, with an in-charge attached to each candidate. The firm designed the 'Gall Punjab Di (Let's talk about Punjab)' campaign for SAD.

On Monday, Sukhbir Badal with party's Kharar candidate Ranjit Singh Gill held the party's first live virtual interaction with the constituency on Facebook and YouTube. The party's IT head Nashattar Singh says, "We are using Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, ShareChat, Snapchat etc, but mainly it is the 23,000 booth-level WhatsApp groups which are the backbone of our digital campaign. We use 'WhatsApp Dashboard' to check if the posts are reaching the targeted voters."

The Aam Aadmi Party says its digital campaign is designed as per the target age group, with the central theme being Arvind Kejriwal — "Ik mauka Kejriwal nu (One chance to Kejriwal)".

The party's social media head for Punjab, Akashnoor Singh says, "After Kejriwal, our focus is on state president Bhagwant Mann as he is extremely popular among the voters. We are also using features such as Reels on FB and Instagram. Our focus is not on hashtags but content, to tell voters why they should vote for AAP."

About their age-wise strategy, Akashnoor says: "If we have to reach those aged 35 and above, then Facebook is key. For voters aged 18-35, we are pushing content on Instagram. In Punjab, Twitter is not very popular and it is mostly used by party volunteers for political posts and networking."

The social media war room of the Congress, headquartered in Mohali, is headed by party's national digital coordinator Gaurav Pandhi. Its campaign is focused on portraying Charanjit Singh Channi as the CM of the common people, with hashtags such as '11 Congress dubara (More of Channi's 111 days)', 'Lokkan da CM (People's CM)' and 'Lokkan di sarkaar (People's government)'.

FULL STORY ON:
www.indianexpress.com



CRACKING THE WHIP

SUPREME COURT on Monday asked lawyers to “avoid” using mobile phones for attending hearings through video conferencing and instead use laptops or desktops. A notice issued by the court’s Registry also advised them to use a stable Internet connection, preferably wired to avoid any disruption in the court proceedings and inconvenience to the judges. Earlier in the day, Chief Justice of India N V Ramana, while hearing matters, expressed annoyance at the lawyers using mobile phones to attend hearings and said the counsel were not visible and that it was also causing audio issues. “Listen, we cannot hear you and we cannot hear these cases like this. Why can’t you use laptop or desktop,” the CJ asked a counsel. In another case, the CJ said, “Lawyers are appearing from their mobile phones and are not visible. We may have to ban this mobile business.” He then told the counsel in the matter, “You are now practising in SC and appear regularly. Can’t you afford to have a desktop to argue?”

TABLEAUX COUNTER

THE GOVERNMENTS of Kerala, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu – all ruled by Opposition – have said that their tableaux for the Republic Day parade have been rejected. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Sunday wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue, saying the state’s tableau paid homage to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Incidentally, the CPWD’s tableau, which has been selected, also features Bose. The Centre has countered these charges by stating that an expert committee selects the tableaux, and of the 56 proposals this year, only 21 have been selected. It highlighted that each of these states have had their tableaux participate in previous Republic Day celebrations under Modi as the PM. Kerala had its tableaux in 2018 and 2021, Tamil Nadu had one in five out of six years, except 2018. West Bengal’s tableaux were on Rajpath in 2016, 2017, 2019 and 2021 Republic Day parades.

THE SIGNAL

AFTER THE BJP announced Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya as candidates in the first list itself, party circles are abuzz with speculation over Dinesh Sharma, the other Deputy CM. The names of Adityanath and Maurya were announced from Gorakhpur and Sirathu despite the constituencies going to polls in the sixth and fifth phases, respectively. Party leaders agreed that the move has elevated Maurya’s position and he is now being seen as a very significant figure, especially after the exit of another prominent OBC face, Swami Prasad Maurya. Keshav Prasad Maurya is also featured prominently in the campaign videos. But the party cadre, especially from the Brahmin community, are now keenly waiting to see what the party has in store for Sharma, who was also an MLC like Adityanath and Maurya.

With 75 aircraft, R-Day flypast this year to be largest ever

New Delhi: The flypast on the Republic Day will be the largest that the country has seen till now, with 75 aircraft from the three services participating to mark 75 years of Independence. The Air Force will also pay homage to its personnel and operations for the 1971 War, as India commemorates 50 years of victory over Pakistan. “The flypast this year will be the grandest and largest with 75 aircraft from IAF, Army and Navy flying during the Republic Day parade. This is in line with the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations,” IAF PRO Wing Commander Indranil Nandi said. Along with the Air Force jets, it will also include aircraft of the Navy and Army’s aviation wing. **ENS**

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CORRIGENDUM
Please refer our published Sale Notice, dated 15.01.2022 in Indian Express, Patna Edition **Sale Notice of Serial No. 4, Branch: Patnacity**. Please read **M/s Pratibha Food Industries** instead of **M/s Pratibha Food Enterprises**. Rest all the contents in the Newspaper regarding this will remain unchanged.

Authorized Officer
Date: 17.01.2022 Punjab National Bank

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS (Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction)
O.P. No. 637 of 2012
Ashok Surana ...Petitioner
-Vs-
Kavitha Jain ...Respondent
To,
Kavitha Jain
D/o. Late Mr. GajRaj Jain,
R/o. C-484, Yojna Vihar, 1st Floor, New Delhi-110 092.
New Address :
House No.558, 3rd Floor, Vishwas Nagar, Pandav Road, New Delhi- 110 032.
Subject: O.P. No.637 of 2012 - Ashok Surana v Kavitha Jain-pending before the Hon'ble Madras High Court, Chennai- Hearing on 02.02.2022- Reg.
Please take notice that the said case came up for hearing on 10.01.2022 and notice by paper publication was ordered. The case is now posted to 02.02.2022.
Kindly take notice and appear in person or through counsel at 10:30 am on 02.02.2022 before the Hon'ble Madras High Court.
Sincerely,
D.Geetha
Counsel for Petitioner

Uttarakhand Cong divided over return of Harak Singh

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

THE POSSIBILITY of the return of senior Uttarakhand leader Harak Singh Rawat, who was expelled by the BJP Sunday, to the Congress has divided the party’s state unit. Congress campaign committee chief Harish Rawat is said to be opposed to the reinduction of the former BJP minister into the party, but a section of Congress’s central and state leadership is pushing for it. Sources close to Harish Rawat, former Uttarakhand CM, said he has conveyed his view to the central leadership but at the same time he would not push his opinion beyond a point, given that he has the responsibility to lead the party to victory in the hill-state. Constant rumblings, sources said, could create a perception that Congress is a divided house. “If the Central leadership still insists on inducting him... then let them do it. He (Harish Rawat) has told them what he had to,” a source said. “Harak Rawat’s reinduction is not in the interest of the party, but it is also not in the interest of the party if there are rumblings every day. It doesn’t look good on



Harak Singh Rawat in New Delhi on Monday. Anil Sharma

Harish-ji.” But sources in Congress’s central leadership insisted that Harak Rawat’s induction is just a matter of time. “It could be tomorrow as well,” a senior leader said. There is no clarity on whether any other BJP MLA would join with him. Sources said one BJP MLA, considered close to Harak Rawat, had reached Delhi with him on Sunday night but left for Dehradun after a meeting with a senior Union minister. Sources said CLP leader Pritam Singh, who doesn’t share a very good equation with Harish Rawat, and AICC in-charge of the state Devendra Yadav are in favour of re-inducting Harak Rawat, who played a major role in destabilis-

EXPLAINED **Bone of contention**

AT THE heart of the opposition to Harak Singh Rawat’s return to Congress is the fact that former Uttarakhand CM and senior Congress leader Harish Rawat has not forgiven him for toppling his government in 2016. Rawat has made it clear that Harak Rawat will have to apologise for what he had done.

ing the Rawat government in 2016. And the former CM has not forgiven him for that. Harish Rawat said, “What happened on March 18 (2016)...people who brought down the government... are a blot on parliamentary democracy... Those responsible for that should apologise...” On whether he would welcome Harak Rawat, Rawat said: “I would not like to comment. Individuals are not important. Party will take a collective decision,” he said.

BEFORE BJP RELEASES GOA LIST

Opp rallies around Parrikar son

MAYURA JANWALKAR
PANAJI, JANUARY 17

WHILE THE BJP’s decision on whether or not to give party ticket to Utpal Parrikar may only be two days away, opposition parties appear to be rallying behind the son of late defence minister and former Goa chief minister Manohar Parrikar.

After Delhi Chief Minister and AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal said his party would welcome Utpal if he wished to join them, Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut on Monday said that all opposition parties – AAP, Congress, TMC and GFP – must back Utpal if he



Utpal Parrikar

contests the February 14 assembly polls as an Independent candidate. “Utpal Parrikar is being insulted... I am sure they (BJP) will have to give Utpal Parrikar (election) candidature. We are all putting pressure. Utpal Parrikar is not. But the way we have all backed him, the BJP is forced to think about him and it is thinking about him in Delhi. But if that does not happen, if Utpal Parrikar contests as an Independent then all politi-

cal parties must forget their differences and back him,” he said. “If Utpal Parrikar contests as an Independent... I propose all non-BJP parties... not field a candidate against him!” he tweeted. Goa BJP president Sadanand Tanavade said that the party will announce the names of 39 candidates on Wednesday. He, however, refused to comment on Raut’s remark.

The AAP has already declared Valmiki Naik as its candidate from Panaji. Naik, however, said he will withdraw his candidature if Utpal wished to contest on an AAP ticket. “Like Arvindji has said, we respect Manohar Parrikar-ji. If his son wants to join our party, he is welcome,” said Naik.

Top court on Himachal HC order: Is this Latin?

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

SUPREME COURT on Monday expressed dismay over the way in which a judgment had been written by Himachal Pradesh High Court and said it may have to return it for rewriting. Heading a two-judge bench, Justice KM Joseph asked Senior Advocate Nidhesh Gupta, who represented the appellant, what the High Court was trying to say.

“How do we understand this? Is this Latin,” Justice Joseph wondered to which Gupta responded that even he is unable to comprehend the same. The bench, also comprising Justice PS Narasimha, said it may have to return the judgment to the HC for rewriting. The senior counsel then told the bench that it was a dispute over property and that he could explain from the trial court decision, which was very clear, and from parts of the High Court order that he

could make out. The court then asked him to sit with the counsel for the other side and see if the matter could be resolved amicably in two weeks. This is not the first time that the top court has expressed dismay over “incomprehensible” HC verdicts. In March 2021, a two-judge bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and M R Shah made clear its annoyance with a Himachal Pradesh High Court judgment and observed: “We are at our wit’s end. This is hap-

Govt & POLITICS

PM to interact with 10k BJP workers from Varanasi

Lucknow: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will interact with over 10,000 BJP workers of his Lok Sabha constituency Varanasi on Tuesday, just weeks before the state goes to elections. The interaction will be held through

NaMo App. This will be the first time since the announcement of elections that the Prime Minister will interact with party workers from his parliamentary constituency. A party leader said the PM may give a message to BJP

workers regarding the poll campaign. Sources in the BJP said that a similar format may be taken for planning interactions of the PM and other senior leaders with party workers and voters across regions. **ENS**

As BJP hits out, Nana Patole says remarks not meant for PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 17

MAHARASHTRA STATE Congress president Nana Patole’s statement that he could “hit Modi” has set off a war of words between the Congress and the BJP. The BJP has accused the Congress of indulging in “politics of terror” even as Patole issued a statement that the man he referred to was someone else with the same surname, and not the PM.

“I have been in politics for the last 30 years. In five years, a politician can make enough to provide for his next generation. By building schools and colleges, they can provide for their future one or two generations. I have been in politics for so long yet I don’t own even one school nor have I taken any contracts. I help whoever comes to me for help. That’s why, I can hit Modi and abuse him and that is the reason why he came to campaign against me,” Patole can purportedly be heard in a video where he is addressing people in Bhandara.

BJP’s Opposition leader in state Assembly Devendra Fadnis accused the Congress of indulging in the politics of terror. “What is going on in Congress?... Should we address the Congress as a party which believes in democracy or an organisation that is spreading terror?” he said. Patole, however, said the man he was referring to in the video was not PM Modi but another person from his constituency with the same surname. “The man I am referring to is not the Prime Minister...” he said on Monday.

EXPRESS Careers

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Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,SIDDARTH SINGH, ADD-G-401,AMRAPALI PLATINUM SECTOR-119, NOIDA,GAUTAM BUDDH NAGAR U.P-201301, changed my Minor son name, SHRETHA KUMAR SINGH to SHRESTHA KUMAR SINGH,for all,future purposes.

I Shovibha alias Nain Shovibha Vijayendra Singh alias Nain Shovibha Vijayendra Vandana alias Shovibha Nain D/o Sh. Vijayender Singh R/o A-298, 2nd Floor, Derawal Nagar, Near Model Town, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, North West Delhi, Delhi-110009 have changed my name to Shovibha Nain for all purposes.

I Ravinder Kumar S/o Sh. Shiv Narayan R/o H.No.6, Gali No.2, Gautam Colony, Narela, Delhi-110040 have changed the name of my minor daughter from Deepanshi to Deepanshi Kumar for all purposes.

It is for general information that I,Sulakshana Yadav,D/o Yatendra Singh Yadav,R/o RZ-25,209,Street.No-4, J-Block, West Sagarpur,New Delhi-110046 declare that the my name has been wrongly-written as Ms Sulaxshana Yadav in official-record of my father.The actual-name of mine as per matriculation and other documents is Ms Sulakshana Yadav,which may be amended accordingly.

I,Yashika Salil D/o-Shri.Rajan Salil R/o-R-68-A,Third Floor, Near-Community Center, Ramesh Park,Laxmi Nagar, Shakarpur,Delhi-110092,inform that my ,correct name is Yashika,both name are one and same person.

I,Vivek Kumar Gupta,S/o Chhuni Lal Gupta,R/o-47A/2,Gautam Nagar,New Delhi-110049,have changed my name to Vivek Gupta.

I,Vidhan Chand Samajapati,S/O Anant Samajapati,R/O J-1288, 1300,Wali-Gali J-Block, Jahangirpuri,Delhi-110033, have changed my name Bidhan Chander Samajapati.

I,Shobha Rani Aggarwal,W/o Mr.Satish Aggarwal,R/o C-50,South xtension Part Ieechae us under-1, South Delhi,Delhi-110049,have changed my name to Shobha Aggarwal,for all,future purposes.

I,Sakshi W/o Rakesh Kumar Khanna,R/o H.No-4,Sector-2,Radha-Puran Estate, PO-Krishna-Nagar,Mathura,have changed my name to Rakhi Khanna.

I,Roshni Barml,D/o Jaspal Singh,W/o Amanpreet Singh,R/O D-110,FF, Mansarover Garden,Ramesh-Nagar Delhi-110015,have changed my name to Roshni Amanpreet Singh.

I,RITU YADAV,D/o Chandherjeet yadav,R/o C-274,yadav-motor market-Naharpur village, Rohini,sec-7,Delhi-85,inform that name of my mother has been wrongly-written as Shanti Devi in my CTET Documents,the correct-my mother name is Nirmal yadav,which may be amended accordingly.

I,Prabha,W/o-Manoj Prasad,R/o-RC-159, Shankar Vihar, Khora Colony, Ghaziabad, UP-201001,have changed my name,from Prabha Kumari,to,Prabha,for all,future purposes.

I,Pawan Kumar,S/o Sh. Om Parkash Agarwal,R/o C-502, M2K-Victoria Garden,Azadpur-Metro Station,Azadpur, Delhi-110033,have changed my name to Pawan Kumar Agarwal.

I Jagpreet Singh S/o Jatinder Pal Singh Anand R/o B-41, Ground Floor, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi-110018 have changed my name to Jagpreet Singh Anand

I,PRADEEP S/O BABU RAM R/O 139,AGROHA KUNI,SECTOR-13,ROHINI,DELHI-110085.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PARDEEP KUMAR.

I,No- 18007222M,NK- Navin Singh S/o Diwan Singh, R/O-Gallagaon, P/O- Gallagaon ,Tehsil- Lohaghat, District- Champawat (Uttarakhand) pin-262524. In my Service records name of my wife has been wrongly mentioned as Smt. Sonu instead of Sonu Bohra. It needs correction. Objections be filed to concerned authorities within seven days.

I,Nirmal Kumar Walia,Nirmal Kr Ahluwalia, Nirmal Walia,S/o Krishan Kumar Walia,R/o-205-D, DDA-LIG Flats, Jhilimil, Delhi-110095,have changed my name to Nirmal Ahluwalia.

I,Navjeet Singh,S/o Joginder Singh Chhabra E36/13,1st-Floor Rajouri-Garden Delhi-27, have changed my name Navjeet Singh Chhabra.

I,Mohini Malhotra W/o Parveen Kumar Khatri R/o EK/905 Shastri Nagar Delhi inform that Mohini Malhotra/Monia Malhotra and Monika Khatri both name are one person.

I,Meenu Sahni,W/o Late Pradeep Sawhney R/o-A-29, Bharat Apartment, S-1, 2nd-Floor, Rampuri,Ghaziabad, U.P.-201011,have changed my name to Meenu Sawhney.

I,Manoj Kumar Malhotra R/O D-109, Ground Floor, Sector-20, Noida have changed my minor daughter's name from PALAK to PALCHIN MALHOTRA.

I,Luxmi Singhal,W/O-Shri Arvind,R/O-227,Sri Nagar, Shakur Basti,Delhi-110034, inform that Renu Singhal and Luxmi Singhal both the names are one & the same person.

I,Harman Singh Mehta,S/o Tarlochan Singh Mehta R/o-A-85,Gali.No.4,East Nathu Colony Shahdara Nand,Nagri Delhi-110093,changed my name to Harman Mehta.

I,Ashok Kumar,S/o Shri Thakur Dass,R/o H.No.186, Sector-9, Gurgaon-122001,have changed my name to Ashok Kumar Shridhar for all future purposes.

I,Aiysha Siddiqua,D/o Maqsood Ahmad,R/o 16/746/1, Gali.No.10, Military Road, BapaNagar, KarolBagh,New Delhi-05,have changed my name to Aiysha Siddiqua, for all purposes.

I,AIESHWARYA ANAND,D/O NIRAJ ANAND,H.No-11,15, 2ND-FLOOR, WEST PATEL-NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110008, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO AASHNA ANAND, FOR ALL PURPOSES.

I, Zila Singh Sagwal S/o Shri Karam Singh R/o B2-68, First Floor, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi have changed my name to Zile Singh Sagwal

I, Vipin S/O Ganga Dhar Nautiyal, R/o 244/94, Gali No-3, School Block, Mandawali Fazalpur, Delhi-110092, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Vipin Prasad.

I,Vinit S/O Rajeev, R/o 240, Qumaspur, Sonipat, Haryana-131021. Declare that Name of My Father has been wrongly written as Rajiv Antil in my 10th Class Certificate No-1534766, that name of my father has been wrongly written as Rajeev Antil in my 12th Class Certificate No- 1147924. The actual name of My Father is Rajeev, which may be amended accordingly.

I,Hitherto known as Gaurav,son of,Shri Kamaljit,residing at,House.No.10,Village Maili, Tehsil-Garhshankar, Distt.Hoshiarpur Punjab-146102,have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Gaurav Kumar.

I,Vineeta Rajput/Vineeta Arora W/o Manoj Rajput, R/o 1672/2, Govindpur Extn. Kalkaji have changed my name to Vineeta Arora Rajput

I,TARUN, S/O LALIT CHAKARVARTI, R/O- H.No-217-R, Model Town, Rewari, Haryana-123401 Have Changed my name to TARUN KUMAR for all purposes.

I,Subhash S/o Harkishan Malik, R/o RZC-16,Top-Floor Gali.No.4, Syndicate Enclave, Dabri, Delhi-110045, changed my name to Subhash Malik.

I,Shubham Kumar alias Shubham S/O Sanjay Kumar, R/O Ck 39/66, Chowk Kundi Garh Tola, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh-221001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Vibhash Khattri.

I, Saurab S/o Yashbir Khari R/o 151, Village, Sultanpur, New Delhi-110030,have changed my name to Saurab Khari for all purposes.

I,Rajesh Jindal S/o-Hem Raj Gupta, R/O B-1/551 Janak Puri, New Delhi-110058, have changed my name to Rajesh Kumar Gupta.

I,Prabhat Rathi S/O Ramlal Lal Maheshwari, R/O House Number-3, Bansal Nagar, Tajnagi, Agra, Uttar Pradesh-282001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Prabhat Kumar Maheshwari.

I, Mannu Sachan S/O Dhyan Chandra Sachan, R/o Colony No- Type 2-8, Hospital Colony, HAMIRPUR, Uttar Pradesh-210301, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Divyam Sachan.

I,Kiran Bala D/O, S.S Bisht R/o 139- E Ravindra Garden, Sector-E, Aliganj, Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-226024, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Sonu Surendra Singh

I, Kapil Seth S/o Naresh Chand Seth Residence-868, Sector-5, Vaishali Ghaziabad, have changed my name Kapil Kumar Naresh Seth to Kapil Seth for all future purposes. Both names belong to the same person.

I,Hakeemuddeen Ansari S/O Sheikh Samad, R/o Village Hardaspur, Post Tarawa, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh-276123, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Hakeemuddin Ansari.

I,Deepak Kumar Singh S/O Harpal Singh, R/o 538 K/ 1331, Sitapur Road, Sri Puram, Triveni Nagar-II, Niralga Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh- 226020, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Deebek Harpal Singh.

I, Avishkek Vikki S/o Late. Shankar Saha R/o A-68-69, Flat No -303, Nanhey-Park, Uttam Nagar-ND-59,have changed my name to Abhishek Saha,for all future purposes.

I, AKASHDEEP SINGH, S/O. JAGPREET SINGH, ADD-A-18, FIRST-FLOOR KRISHNA NAGAR, EAST DELHI110051, Changed my name to AKASHDEEP SINGH WADHWA, permanently.

I,TEK CHAND GUPTA,S/O.RAM GOPAL GUPTA,H.NO.9, DAYANAND-BLOCK GALI NO.1 SHAKARPUR, EAST DELHI-110092. Changed my name to ANIL KUMAR GUPTA, permanently.

LOST & FOUND

Notice is here by given that H Form No.0000366 dt 15/3/17 for Rs.134000/- , issued by M/s Akshita International, Merut to M/s Mal Chand Aijt Kumar, Delhi, is lost. If found, please inform at M/s Mal Chand Aijt Kumar, 10 West Sadar Thana Road, Delhi-06 040599603-10

I, Shashanka Bhide, S/O Late Sri. G.N. Bhide, R/O J24, IndraprasthaApts, Plot 114, I.P.Extn, Delhi-110092 have lost my original FlatAllotment Letter and Possession Letter relating to my flat. If found, Please return at above address.

I,Shyam Khanna,S/O P.K.Khanna,Have Lost the Original-Property Documents Plot.No-1329,Pocket-5,Sector-34,Rohini,Delhi In Case Found Please Contact.No-9210338007.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our clients (1) Sh. Devender Kumar Verma S/o Shri Dayanand Verma, and (2) Smt. DarshanVerma W/o Sh. Devender Kumar Verma, both R/o H. No.1823, Pandav Road, Near Swaran Cinema, Bholi Nath Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110032, hereby downgar their Son Sh. Deepak Verma S/o Sh. Devender Kumar Verma and their daughter in Law Smt. Surbhi Verma W/o Sh. Deepak Verma and declare them from inheriting any movableor immovable property belonging to our clients. Any one dealing with the aforesaid Son and daughter in law of our clients shall be doing so at his own risk and consequences.

General Public is hereby informed that my client Sh. Rajpal Singh S/o Late Pt. Suraj Bhan and his wife Goma Devi both A-55, Mandi, Mehraula, Samaypur, Delhi -110042 have put an end to all their relations with their son Sh. Deepak Kumar due to his bad habits. Both of my above clients have also disowned and debarred his said son from all their movable and immovable properties. Anybody dealing with, Sh. Deepak Kumar will do so at his/her/his own risk, cost and consequences and my clients will not be responsible for any act, deed or dealing done by Sh. Deepak Kumar.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It if for general public information that my clients Mr. Shakti Narayan Sharma, Mr. Vikramaditya, Mr. Tribhuvan Narayan Sharma and Ms. Purnima Sharma are the co-shares of the property addressed A-46, Dayanand Colony, Lajpat Nagar IV, Delh-110024 for their undivided share of the aforesaid property and that without their consent or acknowledgement, and their third party right(s) or interest(s) created or intended would amount to civil and criminal proceedings against the parties and the parties being involved would be at their own risk.


Sd/-
Usha Kaushik
Advocate
Ch. No. 344, Patiala House
New Delhi-110001

OSBI

Networking & Communication Department, State Bank of India, Global IT-Centre, Sec-11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400614

CORRIGENDUM

Please refer to RFP No.SBI/GITC/NW&C/21-22/814 dated 23.12.2021 for procurement of 4G LTE Connectivity for Offsite ATMs. Corrigendum dated 17.01.2022 can be accessed under Procurement news at Bank's website <https://www.sbi.co.in> or <https://bank.sbi> or e-Procurement agency portal <https://etender.sbi/SBI/> Place: Navi Mumbai Sd/- Deputy General Manager Date: 18.01.2022 (Networking & Communication Dept.)

OSBI

CMP & SCF Department, State Bank of India, Global IT-Centre, Sec-11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai-400 614

CORRIGENDUM

Procurement of two offsite SAP professionals who will develop SAP utility in their own environment, for 3 years

Please refer to the RFP No. FY.2021-22/RFP/708 Dated 13.08.2021. In this regard Corrigendum dated 14.01.2022 is available under 'Procurement News' at <https://www.sbi.co.in> and e-Procurement agency portal <https://etender.sbi>. Revised Last date and time of Bid Submission- upto 2.00 PM on 28.01.2022.

Place: Navi Mumbai Sd/- Deputy General Manager Date: 14.01.2022 CMP & SCF Department

WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION

CONTRACT OF LEASING OUT SLR SPACES FOR A PERIOD OF 5 YEARS IN TRAIN COMPARTMENT



Tender No. DRM/Comm/55/2020-21

Tender Notice No. C78/1117/Tender/SLR/03/2021-22 Dt : 11.01.2022

The Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), Western Railway, Ahmedabad invites E-Tenders for the contract of leasing out 4/3.9 tonne SLR spaces for a period of 5 (Five) Years from the date of Registration of Leasedholders (in category 'A' or 'B') over Ahmedabad Division of Western Railway detailed below **"Separately" for Compartment-wise and Train-wise.**

Sr. No.	Train No.	Station		Days of Service or Days of Space Available	Space Available (In Tonne)		Reserve Price per Trip per (in ₹)
		From	To		FSLR/FSLR/RSR	SLR	
01	19031	Ahmedabad	Yog Nagari Rishikesh	Daily	3.9	-	3.9, 19,945/-
02	19409	Ahmedabad	Gorakhpur	Thur & Sat	3.9	-	24,024/-
03	12957	Ahmedabad	New Delhi	Daily	3.9	-	19,659/-
04	12915	Ahmedabad	Delhi	Daily	3.9	-	15,727/-
05	22468	Gandhinagar	Varanasi	Thur	3.9	-	15,516/-
06	19435	Ahmedabad	Asansol	Thur	3.9	-	21,118/-
07	19413	Ahmedabad	Kolkata	Wed	3.9	-	29,227/-
08	19489	Ahmedabad	Gorakhpur	Daily (Ex Mon)	-	-	16,837/-
09	12833	Ahmedabad	Howrah	Daily	04	04	29,227/-
10	22920	Ahmedabad	Chennai Central	Mon	3.9	-	25,512/-
11	19421	Ahmedabad	Patna	Sun	-	-	25,008/-
Total					09	01	09 -

Note: (a) To obtain information regarding Terms & Conditions of Tender, contract may please be made at the office of Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial)-Ahmedabad during all working days between 10.30 hrs to 17.30 hrs. (b) This is an Electronic Tender (E-Tender) and bids/offers shall be submitted online on IREPS Portal. Required information and documents are available on IREPS Portal (i.e. www.ireps.gov.in). Submission of manual bids/offers against E-Tender is not allowed, and any manual bids/offers received shall be summarily rejected. (c) Cost of Tender Form Fee: ₹ 1,000/- per SLR/LWLRML/SLRD Compartment should be paid online on through IREPS Portal and acknowledgement slip of payment must be attached with the offer/bid. (d) EMD: ₹ 1,00,000/- per SLR/LWLRML/SLRD Compartment, should be paid online on through IREPS Portal and acknowledgement slip of payment must be attached with the offer/bid. (e) Date & Time of Closing & Opening of Tender: 11-02-2022 (Friday) at 15:00 Hrs & 11-02-2022 (Friday) at 15:30 Hrs. respectively.

Like us on:  facebook.com/WesternRly - Follow us on  twitter.com/WesternRly

HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Act of Parliament No. 35 of 2002) Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India. Haj House, 7-A, M.R.A. Marg (Palton Road), Mumbai – 400 011.

(Civil Services Residential Coaching Institute)

Dated: 17th January, 2022

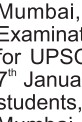
PRESS NOTE

Admission Notice for the enrolment of fresh batch for the academic year 2021-22, was uploaded on the website of Haj Committee of India, on 18th June, 2021. Due to pandemic, it was decided to hold Online Entrance Test for selection of candidates for the academic year 2021-22. However, due to relaxation of norms, it was decided to conduct written Test at eight (08) different centers throughout India for short-listing of candidates, before final selection was made. After holding Essay Writing & Personal Interview of short-listed candidates, 100 students as per Merit List, have been asked to report Civil Services Residential Coaching Institute, Haj House, Mumbai, from today i.e. 17th January, 2022. An induction programme for the newly enrolled students has also been fixed on 18th January, 2022, from 3.00 p.m. onwards. These students will be imparted training to appear for UPSC (Preliminary) Examination, scheduled to be held on 5th June, 2022. For the convenience of students, Haj Committee of India has made conducive environment for the students under one roof in the best possible manner.

Haj Committee of India is pleased to inform that, 36 students of Civil Services Residential Coaching Institute, Haj House, Mumbai, who have earlier cleared UPSC (Preliminary) Examination for the academic year 2020-21, have appeared for UPSC (Mains) Examination, which was scheduled from 7th January, 2022 to 16th January, 2022. Apart from above 36 students, 35 students of Maharashtra State, who had opted Mumbai as their Examination Centre for UPSC (Mains) Examination, were provided free accommodation in Haj House, Mumbai, from 1st January, 2022 to 16th January, 2022. Immediately after the results of UPSC (Mains) Examination, the successful students will be called for training, to appear for Personal Interview.

It may not be out of place to state that the training of students is a continuous process. Haj Committee of India is always committed to serve the community in the best possible manner.

Sd/-
(Mohd. Yakoob Shekha)
Chief Executive Officer

HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Act of Parliament No. 35 of 2002) Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India. Haj House, 7-A, M.R.A. Marg (Palton Road), Mumbai – 400 011.

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BRIEFLY

CHANDIGARH
AAP moves HC
against mayoral
poll result

Chandigarh: The AAP's Mayoral candidate, Anju Katyal, along with two others councilors, have moved the Punjab and Haryana High Court, challenging the Chandigarh Mayoral poll results. The matter will come up for hearing before the High Court on January 19. The petitioners – Anju Katyal, Prem Lata and Ram Chandar Yadav – have sought directions from the court to declare the election results for Chandigarh Mayor's post illegal, and also directions to the State Election Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, and other officials to hold fresh elections for the post. **ENS**

NEW DELHI
NCPCR seeks
action on fatwas

New Delhi: The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has asked the Uttar Pradesh government to "examine" and "investigate" fatwas by the Darul Uloom Deoband on education, adoption and other issues related to children, saying many of the Islamic seminary's rulings are in contravention of the Juvenile Justice Act. The NCPCR letter, sent to District Magistrate Sahranpur as well as to the UP Chief Secretary and DGP, is based on a complaint it received against the Darul Uloom Deoband's website and "unlawful and misleading fatwas" being issued by them. **ENS**

TRIPURA
5 injured in clash
over killing cow

Agartala: Five people, including a BSF trooper, were injured in a clash between BSF personnel and villagers over the slaughter of a cow in Sepahijala district, police said. They said the clash erupted at Tukkar Chowmuhani village in Matinagar, 50 km from Agartala, after some villagers allegedly slaughtered a cow in an open field. The BSF trooper was admitted to the Govind Ballabh Pant (GBP) Hospital in Agartala. The other injured were discharged after treatment at a local hospital, the police added. **ENS**

KERALA
Pinarayi urged to
freeze SilverLine

Thiruvananthapuram: A group of development professionals and writers, some of them known for their Left leanings, has urged Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan to put on hold his government's decision to proceed with the SilverLine high-speed rail corridor project. In an open letter, the signatories said citizens have the right to know about the project before it is given a go-ahead. They underlined as areas of concern the state's fragile public finance and increasing ecological vulnerability. **ENS**

KERALA

Local goon kills youth, goes to police station with body

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
JANUARY 17

A LOCAL criminal in Kottayam abducted a youth, thrashed him to death, and then carried his body to the police station where he confessed to his crime, police said. The accused, identified as Jomon Jose, 40, has been arrested. According to police, Jose, a history-sheeter, abducted Shan Babu, 19, from his home in Vimalagiri, Kottayam, at about 9.30 pm on Sunday. Jose and a few others came in an auto-rickshaw and forcibly took Shan away, said police. Shan's mother, Thressiamma, said she filed a

police complaint at 1.30 am, Monday. Hours later, at 3.30 am, Jose reportedly turned up at Kottayam East Police Station, in the heart of the city, with the youth's body. He left the body outside, woke up the policemen on duty, and told them he had killed the youth, police said. On November 29 last year, Jose was charged under the Kerala Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act (KAAPA) and banned from entering Kottayam district for one year. However, he moved an appeal before the KAAPA advisory board, saying that he was the only earning member in his family. The board ruled in his favour, said Kottayam

Superintendent of Police (SP) Shilpa D. "After the KAAPA advisory board lifted his externment, Jose returned to the district early this month. But he had lost his associates to rival gangs. He committed the crime to terrorise his rivals and regain lost ground," said the SP. "He abducted Shan to get details of his rival gang, as he suspected that Shan was close to rival gang leader Sooryan. He assaulted Shan and brought him to the police station; he claimed that he did not want to kill him. Shan had lost consciousness. We are investigating whether Shan was involved in any case; we haven't come across anything so

far," said the SP. The victim's mother, Thressiamma, alleged police laxity in tracking down her son. "After my son was abducted, I complained to the police at 1.30 am on Monday. They promised to find him and assured that nothing would happen to him... Why is the government allowing such criminals to move freely? Will the government give back my son," she said. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, Congress MLA from Kottayam and former state home minister, blamed the police for the incident. "He (Jose) should have been detained for at least six months as per Section 3 of KAAPA. Instead, po-

lice invoked only Section 15 of KAAPA, which envisages that a criminal should be kept away from a particular location (in this case Kottayam district) for a year. There is a serious lapse on the part of the Intelligence wing of the police, which failed to monitor the criminal on his return," he said. Opposition leader V D Satheesan said the incident reflected the law-and-order situation in Kerala. "Goons and criminals are roaming freely as police are controlled by CPI(M) area committees. The government is harbouring criminals; the sole responsibility for the current situation lies with Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan," he said.

SC upholds
NCLAT order to
wind up Devas

Fraud of a huge magnitude that can't be brushed under carpet, says court

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

THE SUPREME Court on Monday upheld the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) order winding up Devas (Digitally Enhanced Video and Audio Services) Multimedia Private Limited, which in association with ISRO's space arm Antrix Corporation aimed to deliver video, multimedia and information services via satellite to mobile receivers in vehicles and mobile phones across India. The court stated that it is a case of "fraud of a huge magnitude which cannot be brushed under the carpet, as a private lis (suit)". A bench of Justices Hemant Gupta and V Ramasubramanian dismissed the appeal filed by Devas. The court stated that the "finding of the Tribunal, (a) that a public largesse was doled out in favour of Devas, in contravention of the public policy in India; (b) that Devas enticed Antrix/ISRO to enter into a MoU followed by an Agreement by promising to provide something that was not in existence at that time and which did not come into existence even later; (c) that the licenses and approvals were for completely different services; and (d) that the services offered were not within the scope of SATCOM Policy etc. are actually borne out by records". Writing for the bench, Justice Ramasubramanian said, "If the seeds of the commercial relationship between Antrix and Devas were a product of fraud perpetrated by Devas, every part of the plant that grew out of those seeds, such as the Agreement, the disputes, arbitral awards, etc., are all infected with the poison of fraud". The National Company Law Tribunal had ordered winding up

of Devas on May 25, 2021 on a petition by Antrix. This was affirmed by NCLAT on September 8, 2021. In arbitral proceedings, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Arbitral Tribunal passed an award on September 9, 2015 directing Antrix to pay Devas \$562.5 million with simple interest at 18% per annum. Devas contended in its appeal before SC that the actual motive behind Antrix seeking winding up of Devas was to deprive Devas of the ICC Tribunal award, and that it would send a wrong message to international investors. The apex court said it found no merit in the argument. The judgement said that "a product of fraud is in conflict with the public policy of any country including India. The basic notions of morality and justice are always in conflict with fraud and hence the motive behind the action brought by the victim of fraud can never stand as an impediment." The top court said it does not know if the action of Antrix in seeking winding up of Devas may send a wrong message to the community of investors, but added that "allowing Devas and its shareholders to reap benefits of their fraudulent action may nevertheless send another wrong message... that by adopting fraudulent means and by bringing into India an investment in a sum of Rs 579 crore, the investors can hope to get tens of thousands of crores, even after siphoning off Rs 488 crore". Devas had managed to bring investment of Rs 579 crore into India, but Rs 488 crore was later taken outside the country for setting up subsidiary in the US. The apex court did not agree with Devas's submission that the FIR by CBI for offences punishable under Section 420, read with Section 120B IPC, has not yet been taken to its logical end.

TRIBAL OUTFIT SUSPENDS PROTEST STIR
20 protesters detained under
Arunachal UAPA released

DEBRAJ DEB
AGARTALA, JANUARY 17

THE LOCAL administration in the state capital region on Monday released 20 people detained under the Arunachal Pradesh Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, 2014. The detention was made on Friday during a 36-hour bandh called by the All Nyishi Youth Association (ANYA), a youth outfit representing the state's Nyishi tribe, at the state's capital region, including Itanagar, Nagarlugun and adjoining areas. On Monday, ANYA leaders said they have suspended a planned 48-hour strike in the capital region in protest, demanding release of their detained members. Addressing the media on Monday evening, Capital Deputy Collector Talu Potom said youths should discuss problems with the government instead of carrying out bandhs. "Sometimes we don't know things (issues at stake), and bandh calls are issued," he said. "The public suffers (as a result) more than the administration. Bandh calls are unconstitutional. No one should

entertain bandh calls." He appealed people to cooperate with the administration to avoid hassles such as blocking internet services and other means of communication. Reacting to the release of ANYA supporters and leaders, the organisation's general secretary, Bengia Tada, told *The Indian Express* that the 48-hour bandh called by them in protest has been suspended. "Our supporters were released. We will decide our next court of action in our executive body meeting later," he said. While releasing the detainees, Potom said they will not participate in bandhs in future and will work for development of the society. Earlier, in a video that emerged on social media, Potom, surrounded by the soon-to-be-released detainees, was heard purportedly saying: "We observed wisdom, strength of mind and positive mindset among them during interaction. We hope they will develop Nyishi society ahead and wouldn't participate in bandhs. In future, they will not participate in strike; they promised they will do good work for the society..."



MEN VERSUS BULL — THE TAME STORY

Bull tamers attempt to subdue a charging bull during Alanganallur Jallikattu, in Madurai on Monday. Around 700 bulls were released into the arena, and around 300 tamers, who had registered online to participate, sought to tame the bulls at the event. The owner of the bull best at dodging and the best tamer at the competition won a car each. *PTI*

Ujjain: Houses of 3 selling
banned kite string razed
day after woman's death

IRAM SIDDIQUE
BHOPAL, JANUARY 17

UJJAIN DISTRICT administration has demolished three "illegal" houses, days after police booked their owners for selling banned Chinese kite string. The demolition was carried out at short notice on Sunday, a day after Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan took note of the death of a 20-year-old woman and ordered strict action against those selling the "deadly kite strings". Although links between the owners of the demolished houses and the death were not immediately clear, district authorities said the demolition was aimed at stopping sale of the banned kite string. "We had circulated orders prohibiting sale of Chinese kite string but it could not stop the sale. Thereafter, going by the quantity seized and the fact that two out of three had previous history, we decided to take stringent action and their houses were demolished as a coercive action to stop sale of the banned kite string," Ujjain Collector Ashish Singh told *The Indian Express*. The immediate trigger appeared to be the death of Neha Aanjna, a college student, on Saturday. Neha was riding a two-wheeler, with her sister sitting pillion, over a flyover when a stray kite string got entangled around her neck. She fell off the two-wheeler, bleeding profusely, said an eyewitness. She was taken to a hospital but could not be saved. According to her uncle Mahesh Aanjna, Neha aspired to



Demolition was carried out allegedly at short notice on Sunday

become an IPS officer. From a village in Ujjain's Mahidpur tehsil, she lived with her aunt to pursue higher studies. The same day Chief Minister Chouhan tweeted about the death and ordered the district administration to take action against those selling the banned kite string. A day later, the houses of Abdul Jabbar, Vijay Bhavsare and Ritik Jadhav were demolished, allegedly within hours of receiving "backdated" notices. While Jabbar was booked under Section 188 on January 3, Bhavsare and Jadhav were booked on January 12 and 13 for selling the banned kite string. While Jabbar lived in Top Khana locality, Bhavsare and Jadhav lived in Shashtri Nagar and Indore Gate localities, respectively. Jabbar's son Mohammad Zubair said a notice was handed over, saying their house was illegally constructed and to stop further action they have to furnish relevant papers. "My mother, who is illiterate, was handed the notice,

backdated to January 12... Within an hour of the notice, three vans of police along with JCB machines arrived and began demolishing our house. When we objected, they asked us to sit quietly or we would be booked under NSA." "When my father was detained, I told the police that we had bought the kite string from a wholesaler called Narendra Jain but the police after bringing him in for 15 minutes, let him go without any action," Zubair alleged. City SP Pallavi Shukla, who oversaw the demolition of Jabbar's house, said the houses were razed as they were found to be illegal by the administration. When asked why the wholesaler, who sold the string to Zubair and others, was not booked, she said, "A search was conducted... but nothing was found during the search." Meanwhile, Congress MLA Anif Masood has written to state Home Minister Narottam Mishra demanding the arrest of main supplier of the kite string Virendra Jain.

Centre cites Covid-19 risk, tells SC
can't let plea to allow Parsi last rites

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

CITING RISK of transmission of coronavirus, the Centre has told Supreme Court that it will not be permissible to alter the standard operating procedure (SOP) for disposal of bodies of Covid-19 victims to allow the Parsi way of disposing their dead, which is by letting corpses decay in the open. The Union Health Ministry said this in an affidavit filed in the top court. The affidavit was filed in response to a plea by the Surat Parsi Panchayat Board, seeking permission to perform 'Dokhmenashini', or last rites in Dokhmas of its

EXPLAINED
Why letting bodies decay is risky
ACCORDING TO scientific evidence, the virus can survive on a dead body, in bodily fluids, secretions and moist cells of the body for up to nine days, according to the affidavit filed by the Centre in the apex court.

members who died due to Covid 19, as per their religious practices. The ministry pointed out that it had, in consultation with the

Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR), issued guidelines for disposal of bodies of Covid-positive persons. "The basic element of these guidelines is that the dead body will be fully covered and not exposed so that people who are handling the dead body, which may or may not include family members, must not come in contact with bodily fluids or secretions," it said. "A dead body will be considered as an inanimate surface and secretions from orifices will carry infected cells and will remain smeared on the body surfaces after death," the affidavit pointed out. The plea was filed against the July 23, 2021 judgement of Gujarat High Court.

SOFIAHSAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

THE CENTRE on Monday told the Delhi High Court that it would need some time to formulate and put a clear stand on marital rape before it in response to the case challenging Exception 2 in IPC Section 375 that protects men, who have forced non-consensual sexual intercourse with their wives, from criminal prosecution under Section 376 IPC. "We have to formulate our stand and place a considerate stand before your lordships. Considering that it is a 2015 matter, if your lordships can grant us a reasonable time. This might need a little consultation," submitted Solicitor General Tushar Mehta before the division bench of Justices

Rajiv Shakdher and CHari Shankar. Mehta had last week made a similar request before the court, which has decided to continue with hearing the arguments in the case. The court has been hearing the matter, which has remained pending for many years now, on a daily basis since last week. The Centre in its earlier response, filed in 2017, had opposed the petitions. In response to Mehta's submissions Monday, the court said since arguments in the case have started, it would like to conclude the matter. However, Mehta submitted that filing of "a less discussed or consulted stand" by the government may not be appropriate. "We will allow all other counsel to finish which will give you a little more time. Let me finish with what the counsel who are ready, let them argue whatever has to be argued,

you come back, we will then decide how much time to give you then," the court told Mehta. "In a matter like this, they [Centre] have to in principle say 'Yes' or 'No' because if they don't, however much we may deliberate, this is not going to come to an end," it said. It also said that there are some matters "for whatever reasons" the court ultimately decides "one way or other" and that is how they get resolved. Submitting that there has to be a consultative and considered view, Mehta submitted, "In fact a 'yes' or 'no' is the end product of a consultative process. I am seeking a reasonable time considering several intervening factors." The court had last week said it will not wait for the outcome of the government's "comprehensive exercise to make amendments in the criminal laws" as that consultative

process would take several years. Stating that what "may appear to be marital rape" to a wife "may not appear so to others", the central government in 2017 had submitted that striking down the exception "may destabilise the institution of marriage apart from being an easy tool for harassing the husbands". It had cited the "rising misuse of Section 498A of IPC" — cruelty by husband or husband's relative against a woman — to show how laws dealing with violence against women can be misused "for harassing the husbands". Senior Advocate Rajshankar Rao, an amicus curiae in the case, on Monday resumed submission of arguments in the case. Justice Shankar asked Rao to address the court on whether there are any court decisions where the statute has said that an act is not an of-

fence and same has been struck down by the court. "We have cases like 377 where the act was an offence, which has been struck down... I want to know whether we are in a tabula rasa here or is there any precedent in the past so that we get some guideline how courts have looked at such a situation where the statute does not categorise it as a particular offence and it has been struck down by a court," said Justice Shankar. He said he feels it is not that the "exception is carving out a difference between a married woman and unmarried woman.... (It) is carving out a difference between an act of sexual intercourse, committed without the willingness or consent of the woman, being committed within the parameters of a marital relationship and a non-marital relationship."

The Indian **EXPRESS**

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

YEAR OF THE JAB

Vaccination drive has achieved impressive successes. It needs to be scaled up in poll-bound states, made more expansive

SEVEN OUT OF 10 adults have received two shots of the Covid-19 vaccine. Even though this falls short of the government’s target of inoculating all adult citizens by the end of 2021, close to 160 crore shots being administered in a year, without the rural-urban divide significantly holding back distribution, is no mean achievement. The country’s scientific, regulatory, and administrative agencies under the Centre and the states, as well as the numerous vaccinators and healthcare workers in the frontlines of the battle against the unpredictable contagion, have impressively stepped up to the challenge. The imperative to protect lives and livelihoods demanded that every agency works on compressed timelines without compromising the safety and efficacy of the shots. It wasn’t always smooth sailing. The task of double jabbing nearly 100 crore adults in a year necessitated building capacities of vaccine manufacturers and surmounting the well-known deficiencies of the country’s public health system — both remain works in progress. The co-ordination mechanisms between the Centre and states came apart during the second wave and, for nearly two months, the states were left to fend for themselves to secure vaccine supplies. It required a course correction in June last year, on the Supreme Court’s prodding, for the vaccination drive to gather momentum again.

The task that lies ahead is to ensure speedy improvement in vaccine coverage in states that have made slow progress — Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, UP and Bihar. It’s a matter of concern that three of these states — UP, Punjab and Manipur — will be going to polls next month. As reported by this paper, an analysis by an expert panel of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare flagged the “high vulnerability” of districts in these states “to the emerging Covid pandemic due to the Omicron variant”. The Centre and state governments must give utmost priority to the committee’s recommendation of scaling up vaccination in these high-risk areas. Predictions by epidemiologists that the Omicron-driven surge will reach its peak in large parts of the country, including in the poll-bound states, in the next four to six weeks should push the authorities to quicken their efforts. Though the highly transmissible variant does cause breakthrough infections, evidence from the current surge shows that double vaccination protects people against a severe form of the disease. Therefore, even as the country rightly intensifies its search for a stronger shield against the virus, no time must be lost in completing the primary inoculation drive.

Reports of the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI) studying “data on mixing jabs” have raised hopes of more effective shots being added to the country’s vaccine basket. Such studies should be the first step towards expanding the ambit of the precautionary inoculation drive — currently, only frontline workers, healthcare professionals and people over 60 are eligible for the third dose. The NTAGI is also studying the possibility of inoculating children under 15. Efforts in laboratories and conversations amongst regulatory agencies must urgently translate into making the vaccination drive more expansive. The virus caught the country unprepared last year. No effort should be spared to blunt the scourge this year.

FOREST FINE PRINT

State of Forest Report’s conclusion of an increase in cover should not lead to complacency. Loss of natural forests is worrying

FOR THE BETTER part of the past 35 years, the Forest Survey of India’s State of Forest Reports (ISFR) have been showing a steady increase in the country’s forest cover. The 17th edition of the biennial report released last week showed that India’s forests have increased by more than 1,500 sq km between 2019 and 2021 and 17 states have a forest cover of more than 33 per cent. A closer reading of the report, however, shows areas of serious concern. The country has lost more than 1,600 sq km of natural forests in this period. The loss has been compensated by an improvement in the health of some of the protected areas and reserve forests. But a large part of the increase is due to more areas coming under plantations, which experts rightly argue are no substitute for natural forests when it comes to providing critical ecological services.

In 2017, the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) slotted all plantations, other than oil palm trees, in its definition of forests. The classification attracted much criticism and more than 200 scientific bodies, conservation agencies and NGOs shot off an open letter urging the FAO to “change how it defines forests”. Plantations are typically composed of even-aged trees of the same species. Such monocultures do have economic value and limited utility as carbon sinks. But they cannot be compared to natural forests in harbouring biodiversity or aiding pollination or as sources of water bodies. The loss of more than 1,000 sq km of natural forests in the Northeast, is, therefore, worrying. The ISFR attributes this loss to natural calamities as well as anthropogenic activities such as shifting agriculture, developmental activities, and the felling of trees. This could have a bearing on the health of aquifers in the region, where water scarcity is already a serious problem. The loss in the forest cover of some of the tiger reserves, including the Sunderbans, should also be a cause for concern.

The FAO has clarified that its definition of forests is an aid to data gathering and should not be seen as a conservation yardstick or as an indicator of ecosystem health. This caveat has not been totally lost on the authors of the latest ISFR. Policymakers should do well to read the report’s fine print and not be lulled into complacency by the report’s general conclusion of an increase in the country’s net forest area.

DANCE LIKE A MAN

Through his art, Birju Maharaj told stories, blurred gender lines, created a parallel universe

SAM KOPAKDO. Kathak mein sam tumhara ghar hai (Catch the first beat of the time cycle. In Kathak, that’s home),” the exacting guru in Pandit Birju Maharaj would say to his students. And when there was a mistake, he’d get up and go back to the basics — with that first lesson in tatkaar (footwork). With his hands held together in front, he’d begin, slowly raising the tempo, until his ghungroo and feet blurred together and he seemed to be in a parallel universe. And just when you least expected it, he was back to sam. The artist who inspired generations of men and women to take up Kathak, a temple dance form that thrived when it moved to the Mughal courts, passed away on Monday due to Covid and kidney complications at 83.

Maharaj began dancing when he was about four. His father, Achhan Maharaj, who was from the famed Kalka-Bindadin family of Lucknow, began his training at home. He was just about finding his feet, when his father passed away. But the precision in the footwork was his father’s gift. And the world of Braj and that of Krishna was his own, where he would be Radha trying to entice his beloved. Maharaj didn’t care about gender roles as he presented the sensuality and eroticism of Shringaar Ras. Male dancers have moved more towards Veer (heroism) Ras, among others that were seen as more male-oriented. Birju Maharaj created his own kathas (stories) and looked at social issues through dance.

When Satyajit Ray wanted to depict the world of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah in his film *Shatranj ke Khiladi*, he asked Birju Maharaj to deliver a piece that belonged to 19th century Awadh. Maharaj created the gentle, bhaav-oriented “Kanha main tose haani”. In a five-minute piece, Maharaj gave the crux of his world to the audience through the bandish, a world where the first beat of that time cycle began at home.

The more they remain same



FLAVIA AGNES

A READING OF the elaborate 289-page judgment delivered by additional sessions judge, Kottayam, G Gopakumar, acquitting rape accused Franco Mulakkal, former Bishop of Jalandhar diocese, makes it seem that time has stood still since the infamous Mathura judgment in 1978 (*Tukaram And Anr vs State Of Maharashtra*, AIR 1979 SC 185), which triggered the women’s movement in India. In that case, the Supreme Court had acquitted two policemen who had raped a 16-year-old tribal girl in a police station on the ground that there were no marks of injury on her body and hence she had consented.

During the last 40 years, sustained campaigns by women’s organisations have resulted in significant changes in the rape law. The latest of these was the amendments brought about in 2013, following the brutal gangrape and murder of the 23-year-old paramedic in Delhi in 2012.

Through these amendments, the definition of rape under Section 375 of IPC, was expanded from the rigid peno-vaginal penetration to insertion of fingers, tongue or objects into the woman’s vagina, anus, mouth, as well as forcing the victim to touch or fondle the penis of the accused and other sexual acts. The term “rape” itself was redefined broadly as sexual assault of various types. So how can the victim/survivor be faulted for failing to use the archaic term “rape”, while describing the humiliating sexual acts she was allegedly forced to perform, by the accused?

From page 44 onwards, for the next 10-15 pages, the judgment puts on record the victim’s testimony that contains graphic descriptions of all that she was subject to on the very first night on May 5, 2014, including the accused forcing his penis into her mouth, ejaculating on her face, inserting fingers into her vagina. Do these acts not amount to sexual assault under the amended Section 375 of IPC? The victim then describes the other sexual acts she was forced to perform, including anal sex, oral sex, finger penetration, peno-vaginal penetration, during subsequent sexual assaults, each of which constitutes offences under Section 375, IPC. Even if a single act among these is proved — the nun alleged 13 separate

Verdict that acquits former bishop is based on a regressive reading of rape law

The judgment goes into irrelevancies such as factionalism and infighting within the church institutions, and holds that the victim could have been instigated to file a false complaint by rivals of the former bishop. The verdict actually presumes that a nun, a Mother Superior at that, would risk her reputation, her credibility and her security to the extent of filing a false complaint at the instance of the bishop’s rivals. It seems to swallow the defence hypothesis without a doubt or question. It adds further that ‘infighting and rivalry and group fights of the nuns, and the desire for power, position and control over the congregation’ were evident in the case.

instances of alleged rape in a span of four years — the accused would be liable for punishment under Section 376 of IPC.

Further, since it was proved that he was a person in authority as the patron of her congregation, the Missionaries of Jesus, these acts would amount to aggravated sexual abuse as there is an unequal power relationship between them. This is clearly brought out in the judgment itself, that though she was the Mother Superior of her congregation, the accused could ask her to carry his luggage and iron his garments.

In what could be read as eagerness to discredit the victim, and paint her as an unreliable witness, the judgment fails to dwell on these crucial ingredients of the amended Sections 375-376 of IPC. Instead, it goes into irrelevancies such as factionalism and infighting within the church institutions, and holds that the victim could have been instigated to file a false complaint by rivals of the former bishop. The verdict actually presumes that a nun, a Mother Superior at that, would risk her reputation, her credibility and her security to the extent of filing a false complaint at the instance of the bishop’s rivals. It seems to swallow the defence hypothesis without a doubt or question. It adds further that “infighting and rivalry and group fights of the nuns, and the desire for power, position and control over the congregation” were evident in the case.

Several pages of the judgment are devoted to a complaint filed by a relative of the survivor. Though the relative subsequently testified in court that her complaint was fake, the judgment dwells on it to establish that the nun was a woman of easy virtue. When the medical report revealed rupture of her hymen, it weighs in for the theory that it was due to her illicit relationship with the husband of her relative. Further, totally extraneous comments are made about her anatomy, which have absolutely no relevance to her complaint against the accused. It appears that what is on trial is her moral character and not the sexual assault and abuse of power by the accused. This is a clear violation of the legal stipulation that the history of the victim cannot be used by the de-

fence to tarnish the image of the victim.

The judgment also totally disregards the fact that the complainant is a nun under the oath of chastity and the adverse impact the sexual assault would have on her psyche, and how that might explain her hesitation to directly refer to the incident of sexual abuse/rape. For instance, in September 2016, the victim made certain disclosures to two of her companions. When she appeared to be depressed after a retreat, they asked her the reason. The victim then confided that she was apprehensive about the arrival of the bishop in the convent. “If the bishop comes, I will have to share the bed with him,” she is quoted to have said.

When a person expresses despair that she will “have to share the bed” with another, implicit in this disclosure is the fear that it would end in one more incident of sexual assault, based on her past experience, and that she does not have the capacity to resist it. Lay people do not use technical legal terms and only obliquely refer to sexual abuse. But the judgement has drawn adverse conclusions from the use of such expressions.

It appears that the trial court adopted a hyper-technical approach and applied a wholly unrealistic standard while discarding the testimony of the victim. The judgement also failed to appreciate the constraints under which a nun lives and the power dynamics involved in the case. It ignored well-settled principles of appreciation of evidence and adopted an approach that did not take into account normal human failings.

It is interesting to note that the former bishop has not denied any of the incidents of sexual abuse mentioned by the victim. Though, according to the verdict, the offences have not been proved “beyond reasonable doubt” as required under the criminal law, can it be assumed that they did not take place?

The sad part of this judgment is that it will serve to silence hundreds of victims of abuse by the clergy, who might have received inspiration from this case to bring their abusers to.

The writer is a feminist legal scholar and a women’s rights advocate based in Mumbai



SATOSHI SUZUKI

THE YEAR 2022 marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and India. The entire year will be marked by celebratory events. This is an opportunity to reminisce, be mindful of the present and envision our future. It gives me pleasure that we can celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Independence of India and the 70th anniversary of Japan-India diplomatic relations together.

Formal relations between Japan and India began in 1952. After the Second World War, instead of signing the multilateral San Francisco Peace Treaty, India opted for concluding a bilateral peace treaty with Japan, considering that honour and equality should be ensured for Japan to rejoin the international community. This is the cornerstone of our long-standing friendship. But even before the establishment of diplomatic relations, the goodwill between the people of the two countries was deeply rooted through business, academic and cultural exchanges. In 1951, when India hosted the first Asian Games in New Delhi, it invited Japanese athletes. This was one of the first occasions where the Japanese flag was hoisted after WWII. This experience soothed the minds of Japanese people who were struggling to rebuild their country. After 70 years of multi-layered exchanges, the relationship between our two countries grew into a “Special Strategic and Global Partnership”. Our partnership is based on a deep respect for each other’s contributions in promoting peace, stability and development in Asia and beyond. I am proud that today, especially under the leadership of both prime ministers, we recognise each other as

A NATURAL PARTNERSHIP

India-Japan ties are based on a deep respect for each other

For long, Japan has been the largest ODA (Official Development Assistance) donor to India. One of the most recent and ongoing examples of our collaboration is the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail project. Japan is also one of the largest investors in India. Both countries have also promoted economic cooperation in other countries to enhance social infrastructure and connectivity.

natural partners to work together for a “Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)” and various other global issues.

We also have a long history of people-to-people exchanges that can be traced back to the sixth century. Buddhism was brought to Japan and, in 752, an Indian monk, Bodhisena, performed the consecration ceremony for the Great Buddha Statue at Todai-ji, which is one of the most important temples in Japan. Fast-forward to the Meiji Restoration in the late 19th Century — Japan needed natural resources to modernise its industry. Many Japanese travelled to India to purchase cotton, iron ore, etc. The exchanges among artists should also be mentioned. This includes an interaction between the Nobel Laureate in literature, Rabindranath Tagore and Okakura Tenshin, a Japanese philosopher.

The 70th anniversary is based on the theme “building a future for our centenary.” This is the mantra that will guide us this year. The message is that we will together create our future and propel ourselves towards the 100th-anniversary landmark and beyond. I strongly believe that the future offers enormous possibilities for our partnership.

First, we, as democratic countries in Asia, can cooperate to contribute to global peace and prosperity. We share political, economic and strategic interests based on the firm foundations of common values and traditions. We are continuing our efforts to build a rules-based free and open international order. There are a plethora of fields that we can cooperate in security issues including cyber security, outer space and economic security.

Second, our economic relations can be further augmented. For long, Japan has been the largest ODA (Official Development Assistance) donor to India. One of the most recent and ongoing examples of our collaboration is the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail project. Japan is also one of the largest investors in India. Both countries have also promoted economic cooperation in other countries to enhance social infrastructure and connectivity. Our economic partnership can further strengthen the economy of the Indo-Pacific, as well as the world economy.

Third, cultural exchanges including literature, movies, music, sports and academics are essential for our relations, enabling a better understanding. I am delighted to hear that the number of Japanese learners is increasing in India. I firmly believe that these young, ignited minds of our countries will be the foundation of an even stronger friendship in the future.

Despite the coronavirus pandemic, our ties continue to flourish. Even though the number of in-person interactions may have been impacted, this in no way does this imply that our ties have weakened. Our long history substantiates that. Our common vision for the future will never be affected. We can strengthen our partnership even during the pandemic by utilising digital technology as a facilitator of new and innovative methods to stay in touch with each other. I would like to conclude by extending my best wishes for this special year 2022. I hope it turns out to be memorable for our countries and people.

The writer is Ambassador of Japan to India

JANUARY 18, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

NSA AGAINST STRIKERS

TWO DAYS BEFORE the proposed industrial strike on January 19, at least four state governments began preventive arrests. In Andhra Pradesh, six persons, deluding’ state BJP president P Chalapathi Rao and Mayor of Visakhapatnam N S Reddy, were arrested under the National Security Act. The others arrested were Visakhapatnam BJP president K S A N Gaju, CPI leader M V Bhadram and CITU leaders P. Kashi Bushan Rao and S Gangadhar Reddy. The Jammu and Kashmir government arrested a large number of people including Qazi Abdul Lahid, general secretary of Jammu and Kashmir Panthers. A government

spokesman said that all arrangements had been made to ensure normal work in offices and factories.

AFTER ANTULAY

THREE DAYS AFTER she had secured the Maharashtra Congress-I Legislature Party’s authorisation to name A R Antulay’s successor as chief minister, the Congress-I president Indira Gandhi has failed to find a person either from the legislature party or from outside who would be acceptable to the defiant supporters of the ousted chief minister as well as his opponents. Till Sunday night, there was no official word on when she would take a decision.

TEXTBOOK CHANGE

HISTORY AND LANGUAGE textbooks for schools all over India will soon be revised radically. In a collaboration with various state governments, the Ministry of Education has begun a phased programme to weed out “undesirable textbooks” and remove matter prejudicial to national integration and unity. The criteria for evaluating history textbooks, laid down by the NCERT, is, however, bound to lead to a bigger controversy than the one which took place when texts written by well-known historians such as Romila Thapar, Bipin Chandra and R S Sharma were removed from certain courses.

THE IDEAS PAGE

The choice before Pakistan

Islamabad's new national security policy acknowledges the need for change as its multiple crises become more intense. Delhi should watch, be prepared to react positively



RAJA-MANDALA
BY C RAJA MOHAN

ONE OF THE most dangerous moments for a regime is when it wants to change course. When there is a significant alteration of internal or external circumstances, change becomes an urgent necessity. But in seeking major change, the sovereign takes considerable political risks. But not changing carries even bigger risks. That is the kind of moment that the Pakistani state finds itself in today.

The dominant sentiment in the Indian strategic community is that Pakistan can never change. But we do know that the only constant in the world is change. You could argue on when that change might occur, but not its eventuality. A small minority in India believes that Delhi must actively contribute to facilitating change in Pakistan by being generous on bilateral disputes. But sceptics would say India has no agency in shaping political outcomes across the western border and that the impetus for change must come from within Pakistan. Since India's stakes in a stable Pakistan are higher than anyone else in the world, Delhi must pay close attention to the internal debates within Islamabad on the imperatives of major change in Pakistan's national direction.

The national security policy statement issued last week by the government of Pakistan acknowledges the need for change. But as critics in Pakistan insist, it offers no clues on how to go about it. The classified version probably has a clear strategy on how to accelerate economic growth, build national cohesion, and revitalise its foreign and security policies. But it is not visible in the public version.

The crises that Pakistan confronts today are quite similar to those Delhi faced at the turn of the 1990s. India's post-Independence old economic model went belly up; the era of massive domestic political mandates yielded place to weak coalition governments; the heartland was caught in deep social conflicts involving caste (mandal) and religion (kamandal); India's periphery was on fire from Kashmir to Tamil Nadu and Punjab to the Northeast.

The Soviet Union, India's best friend in the Cold War, fell off the map and the Russian successor was more interested in integrating with the West. India found that its political ties with all other major powers — the US, Europe, China and Japan — were underdeveloped at the end of the Cold War. On the development front, there were relentless external pressures for sweeping domestic changes.

As India struggled to cope with multiple threats to its territorial integrity, the world wanted to see greater accountability on human rights. Pakistan, meanwhile, was running proxy wars in India even as it mobilised international pressures against Delhi on Kashmir. All the major powers agreed on the dangers of nuclear proliferation and wanted India to roll back its nuclear weapons programme.

Within a decade, though, India was on a different trajectory. Its reformed economy was on a high growth path. India was hailed as an emerging power that would eventually become the third-largest economy in the world



C R Sasikumar

and a military power to reckon with. It wrigled free of the international itch for Kashmir mediation; it did not pacify all the insurgencies, but got a better handle on most of them. Delhi also cut a deal with Washington to become a part of the global nuclear order on reasonable terms.

This involved a series of structural economic reforms, the recasting of foreign policy, and developing a new culture of power-sharing within coalitions and between the Centre and the states. Above all, it involved shedding many of the ideological certitudes that seemed so essential for India's existence.

India is not the only country in the Subcontinent that transformed itself. The economic transformation of Bangladesh has been equally impressive. At the dawn of the 1990s, Delhi put its head down to focus on economic transformation and manage multiple challenges confronting it. Bangladesh did much the same since Sheikh Hasina returned to power in 2009. It then focused on economic development, stopped support to terrorism, and improved ties with the larger of its two neighbours — India. But Pakistan chose a different path. It ended the Cold War on a high note. Having ousted the Soviet superpower from Afghanistan in the late 1980s, Pakistan was ready to apply the model of cross-border terrorism to shake Kashmir loose from India and turn Afghanistan into a protectorate. Supporting jihadi groups was seen as a low-cost strategy to achieve Pakistan's long-standing strategic objectives in the neighbourhood.

These grand geopolitical obsessions left little bandwidth for the much-needed economic modernisation of Pakistan. As a result, its economy in 2021 (GDP at \$280 billion) is well behind that of Bangladesh (\$350 billion). Islamabad, which relentlessly pursued parity with Delhi, now finds that the Indian economy at \$3.1 trillion is more than 10 times larger than that of Pakistan.

In the past, Pakistan had much success in pursuing a foreign policy that not only balanced India with the support of the West, but also carved out a large role for itself in the Middle East and more broadly the Muslim world. Today, Pakistan is upset that it does not get a call from US President Joe Biden since he has been elected in November 2020.

Barring the United Kingdom, Pakistan's securities in the West have steadily diminished.

Having ousted the Soviet superpower from Afghanistan in the late 1980s, Pakistan was ready to apply the model of cross-border terrorism to shake Kashmir loose from India and turn Afghanistan into a protectorate. Supporting jihadi groups was seen as a low-cost strategy to achieve Pakistan's long-standing strategic objectives in the neighbourhood. These grand geopolitical obsessions left little bandwidth for the much-needed economic modernisation of Pakistan.

Although its all-weather ties with China have gone from strength to strength, the unfolding conflict between Washington and Beijing has put Pakistan in an uncomfortable strategic situation. Meanwhile, it has squandered its traditionally strong ties in the Middle East with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Pakistan's support for violent religious extremism has also begun to backfire. Militant groups once seen as valuable instruments for Pakistan have now turned against the state. A permissive environment for terrorism has now attracted severe financial penalties from the international system.

Pakistan had a chance to change course in 2001, when the US intervened in Afghanistan after the 9/11 attacks on New York and Washington. But it focused instead on protecting the Taliban and its anti-India assets. Pakistan's triumph in bringing the Taliban back has had big costs in its relationship with the US. It is one thing to defeat the world's sole superpower, but another to endure its wrath. Meanwhile, the Taliban is signalling it is not a passive proxy in Pakistan's hands.

Continuous provocations of Pakistan's terror have seen India change the terms of engagement with Islamabad in the last few years. Delhi, which was prepared to make concessions on Kashmir in the 1990s and 2000s, has taken Kashmir off the table and is ready to use military force in response to major terror attacks. Delhi's attitude towards Islamabad now oscillates between insouciance and aggression. Unlike in the past, the West is no longer pressuring India to accommodate Pakistan on Kashmir. The US is eager for India's support in balancing China in the Indo-Pacific.

All these shifts together have compelled Pakistan to rethink its policies. But any attempt at change will inevitably divide the establishment and produce new contradictions. It is by no means clear if the Pakistan army is capable of navigating them. As its crises acquire greater intensity, change is inevitable in Pakistan. There is no guarantee that the change will be definitive and for the good. But if it is, Delhi should be prepared to respond positively.

The writer is Visiting Research Professor at the Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore and contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“A week that began with low expectations has ended with a still bleaker mood. No one believed that three rounds of talks between the US, Russia and others would magically resolve the Ukraine crisis.”
— THE GUARDIAN

Living with Covid, without panic

It's time to shift from viewing the virus as a one-time threat to seeing it as a part of daily life



C K MISHRA

IT HAS been a long time since January 2020, when the first case of Covid-19 was reported in India. We've come a long way since those early days of uncertainty, when there was no treatment and no vaccine. Things have changed in many ways since then, but they do not seem to be changing quickly enough.

Everyone is aware that the Indian government, the healthcare and frontline workers and doctors have done a commendable job. However, as we look back and take stock, there are a few questions we must ask. Have we done well? Yes. Have we learnt our lessons well? Yes and no. And last but not the least, have we anticipated challenges well? No. We were not the first country to bear the brunt of the virus — and it was possible to learn from other countries. In the first wave, for example, we managed to keep casualties low with the use of steroids — a lesson that Italy had learnt the hard way and we had learnt from them. But that is an exception rather than the rule. One can argue that we had meagre resources in terms of health infrastructure and while no one can ramp this up overnight, one can certainly look at prudent optimal utilisation. Facing a third wave now, we may need to act differently.

Despite good intentions and efforts, there were multiple times when we did not act swiftly despite adequate, reasonably accurate information available on what was headed our way. We came up rather short in our preparations for the second wave, whether we choose to admit it or not. Our vaccination related decisions always followed, and were taken, post the rising number of cases. This was the case before the second wave, when we tiptoed around with the vaccine against a raging super-cyclone or now with the vaccination decision on “precaution” doses. Policy and interventions have not had a reality check. Our interventions do not always match up to the changing on-ground situation, even though we are up against a virus that is a nimble operator and has already seen so many mutations.

Let us look at the evidence. Only masks and lockdowns have been conclusively proven to slow down transmission. Why this predilection of many states then with night and weekend curfews? If they were indeed effective — and given the number of times we have taken recourse to them — we should by now have generated enough data to defend or junk them. Our policies and actions have to be flexible and adjust to the changing face of the pandemic.

We should not resort to the same steps just so it appears we are doing. Responses that do not make any material difference,

and are yet repeated over and over again, create fatigue in people and precipitate violations. Particularly so when they impact daily lives and livelihoods. In our obsession with keeping people's spirits high and getting on with life, we trivialised the pandemic and failed to teach people to live with it safely. We oscillate between the two extremes of unreasonable panic and wanton carelessness. The path to follow is the middle one, and each state government should take a call on this based on their ground realities.

Even from an implementation perspective, night curfews make little sense. After all, how many late-night winter gatherings happen? If we can implement a curfew, would it not be easier to control gatherings rather than impose blanket restrictions that will inconvenience all and rob daily wagers of their daily bread? There are many who still refuse to wear masks, and are a threat to others and should be treated accordingly. We need to curb violations and not necessarily movement. But let us also pause for a while to think about why people are violating the rules. Where is our communication strategy?

We need to accept that we are way past the stage of containment and the need of the hour is mitigation. Instead of shouldering the entire responsibility, the government should shift the onus of keeping the pandemic at bay to the people but be prepared to step in when people need medical help. To do that the narrative has to change. The tone of communication has to be less patronising — we need to bring in a novelty of approach to get people to listen. If there was ever a time for innovative public health communication, it is now. We need to publicise the science — only what is proven beyond doubt.

We also need to recalibrate our testing strategy in line with changing realities. Or at least debate whether it is still “test, test and test”. We have done phenomenal work on vaccinations and 150 crore is a good number. This is the time to build on it. Full coverage (the second dose) is still some distance away in India while some countries are providing a fourth dose. There is enough vaccine availability. Why are we moving so slowly on boosters? We need to make them available for all and create an enabling policy environment so that people protect themselves and the government does not even have to pay.

The last couple of years have shown us that pandemic control decisions are critical. We really need to debate if now is the time to think of a policy de-control. Many epidemics end either with the disease being eradicated or the disease becoming endemic. We now know that we have to adapt to living alongside Covid-19, and we need to shift from viewing it as a one-time threat that defines society to seeing it as a part of everyday life. Vaccines are reassuring in preventing severe cases and will help in normalising life. And that is what we should aim for.

The writer is former secretary, Government of India and founder and co-lead, Partnerships for Impact



VIVEK MENEZES

Journeys of Maria Aurora Couto

Her writings reflected pluralistic underpinnings of an idealistic Indian identity

AT THE age of 43, several separate factors came together in the life of Maria Aurora Couto, with considerable impact on the trajectory of Indian literature. The late author, who passed away at 84 on January 14, is being widely — and justifiably — eulogised as the *grande dame* who reigned over the cultural affairs of Goa after retiring to her husband's ancestral home some 20 years ago. But that is only one part of her story. Earlier chapters are even more significant.

Those unacknowledged contributions came after the game-changing year of 1980, starting with Couto being awarded her doctorate from the Centre of French Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University (her thesis was entitled *François Mauriac et Graham Greene: Étude comparée (la thème de la humanisme religieux)*). The very next month, she moved to London with her husband Alban — an IAS officer deputed to the Commonwealth secretariat to work under Shridath Ramphal — and embarked on a remarkable journalistic career far ahead of its time.

Right until the Coutos left again, for Chennai in 1994, Maria, who added back her original childhood name of Aurora two decades ago, served as the pre-eminent champion of Indian writing in some of the most hallowed literary publications of the Anglophone west, like *Times Literary Supplement* and *Encounter*. She also appeared regularly to talk about books on BBC television, and wrote vividly for readers back home in *Economic and Political Weekly* and *Sunday Express* (where her

weekly *Letter from London* column was commissioned by Dom Moraes).

Couto's voice in development was intriguingly different from her eventual magisterial *ex cathedra*. In essays like *To be Black and in Brixton* (*EPW*, May 9, 1981) and *Voice of the Unheard* (*EPW*, July 11, 1981), she is veritably Naipaul-esque (but leaning to the Nobelist's more humane brother, Shiva), as she probes the same issues raised anew by Black Lives Matter: “The intransigence of the young towards structures of leadership is a sign of their understanding of their power. For them the riots presented not hope of change but an awareness of their own capacity to affect their circumstances and environment.”

That richly promising vein was unfortunately closed after Alban Couto, in a pattern that persisted with declining force in the following decades, felt that his wife should not risk being outspoken, in this case citing their status as diplomatic residents in the UK. Happily, the literary criticism did continue, with breakthroughs like the first review of Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children* for Indian readers.

From our 2022 perspective, after many Indian writers have written international bestsellers, it seems almost surreal to recall the 1980s. Our novelists weren't celebrities. Advances were meagre. The western establishment offered mostly radio silence. In that vacuum of attention, Couto was an invaluable lodestone of support, who would argue passionately for — and just as often,

with — their books.

Here, *Midnight's Children and Parents: The Search for Indo-British Identity* (*Encounter*, 1982) makes for especially fascinating reading. Salman Rushdie had already won the Booker, but Couto makes the case — no less impressive for being wrong — that his novel fails significantly, due to the author's “inability to encompass the contradictions in modern India”. By this point, of course, the two were good friends, and in 1995, the novelist's superb *The Moor's Last Sigh* featured Aurora Zogoiby as one of its main characters.

Couto's culminating avatar as the cultural eminence of Goa will be remembered for two fine memoirs, *Goa — A Daughter's Story* (2004) and *Filomena's Journeys: A portrait of a marriage, a family & a culture* (2013). Unlike her best writing from London, these are easily classifiable.

As the late historian Teotonio de Souza pointed out in his perceptive, characteristically elliptical 2005 review in *EPW*, they belong to the well-established Goan tradition of polemical histories (including his own excellent 1994 *Goa to Me*) that weave broader analysis with “lived experience of situations of anguish and opportunities [that] most other sons and daughters of Goa have gone through at different periods and contexts of history”.

Even if the form is centuries-old, Couto's writing stayed singular in one crucial aspect. Unlike other prominent examples of this genre — including de Souza's book and Dharmanand Kosambi's classic *Nivedan* — her writing is absent of rancour. Others settled scores. She

sought to understand.

In itself, that is an impressive legacy and tribute to Couto's tenacity. She imbibed an idealistic Indian identity under difficult childhood circumstances in Dharwad (where she made lifelong friends like Shashi Deshpande and Girish Karnad), and never backed off celebrating those pluralistic underpinnings. None of this is exactly unique — indeed Deshpande and Karnad are no different — but hers was certainly an unforgettable presence, with an uncommon capacity for dazzling polyglot charm. In later years, Couto's focus shifted home, where she perceived multiple threats. In 2015, she warned that “Goa's legendary secular ethos” was being subverted by “ugly polarisation between Goa's two major communities”.

Regrettably, she never regained optimism. In what is now poignant posthumous reading, Couto ended her last published essay (*Scrollin*, March 2021) with this lament: “The darkness falls on my verandah. It is very quiet here. I am shielded by the verdant greenery that surrounds my house, a protective carapace of peace and repose in the dwindling light. But night brings with it the immensity of sorrow, the grief of loss. Decades ago, [Graham] Greene presciently said that the human factor would not last in our Goa, in its villages and towns. How had he foreseen this? I am only glad that he is not here to witness the unbearable truth of his acuity.”

The writer is co-founder and co-curator of the Goa Arts + Literature Festival

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MIXED LEGACY

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘A Virat captaincy’ (IE, January 17). Virat Kohli was India's most pampered skipper who had a deciding role right from selection of the team to the way he utilised them on the field such as by changing established batting order. He utilised the freedom to build a strong team but he also made his players unsure of their selection. Rohit Sharma had to wait for a long time before he started as an opener in Tests and Ravichandran Ashwin had to sit on the bench for an entire series. His far too aggressive style of leadership on the field was awesome but lacked grace and mature temperament. His irresponsible outburst on the stump mic due to the rejection of his appeal after review provided the last straw.

Y G Chouksey, Pune

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘A Virat captaincy’ (IE, January 17). Under Virat Kohli's aggressive brand of captaincy, the one feature which stood out the most and gave handsome dividends to team India was “self-belief”. The bowling unit got its due under him, playing a crucial role in India's wins. Moreover, even Virat's batting continued to bloom irrespective of the captaincy's pressure. True to his style, Virat took the call to step down, living life on his own terms. It will be difficult to fill his big boots.

Vijai Pant, Hampur

HATE AND POWER

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Tighten the Net’ (IE, January 6). While one cannot disagree with Meeran Chadha Borwankar's views, I believe it deals with symptoms, rather than the malady. When the hate campaign, in various forms, is overtly and covertly being promoted by central ministers themselves, with the other arms of the state toeing the line, how effective will the FIR-investigation-conviction-punishment cycle be in curing the malady? The only way is not to send the hate mongers to the seats of power ever again.

Sukumar Damle, Delhi

CRYPTO VALUE

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘In the garb of crypto’ (IE, January 17). The votaries of the third generation of the internet or Web 3.0 perceive the future of the internet as more decentralised, and the entire digital ecosystem more transparent and democratic. The whole idea is to free up digital assets from the cronies of Web 2.0, as they have captured the entire internet experience in collusion with other actors. Cryptocurrencies functions with an underlying blockchain network, where, from minting new coins to exchanging them for a good or service is recorded in a decentralised ledger through a consensus mechanism. The value of exchange is estimated through the demand and supply dynamics, very much like any other fiat currency, but it is immune to inefficiencies of a monetary policy.

Sudip Kumar Dey, Barasat

TOP OF THE WORLD



Ukrainian former president Petro Poroshenko in Kyiv on Monday. *Reuters*

UKRAINE

Ex-president lands in Kyiv to face treason case

UKRAINE'S FORMER President Petro Poroshenko landed in Kyiv on Monday to face treason charges in a case he says was trumped up by allies of his successor, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. In a brief stand-off at border control after arriving on a flight from Warsaw, he accused the border guards of taking away his passport. He later emerged to a crowd of flag-waving supporters outside the airport. Poroshenko's return sets up a showdown with Zelenskyy's government in what critics say is an ill-judged distraction at a time when Ukraine is bracing for a possible Russian military offensive and appealing to Western allies for support. **REUTERS**

SWEDEN

Probe into drone sightings over 3 nuclear plants

SWEDEN'S DOMESTIC security agency said Monday it has taken over the preliminary investigation into drones that last week were seen hovering over or near the country's three nuclear power plants. At first, police said there had been drones over two nuclear plants — Forsmark, north of Stockholm, and Oscarshamn in the southeast. The intelligence service, known by its Swedish acronym SAPO, said a drone also was reported over a third nuclear power facility, Ringhals, which is the largest of them and sits on the country's western coast. Police have no suspects. **AP**

NORTH KOREA

Short-range missiles fired in 4th launch this yr

NORTH KOREA fired two suspected ballistic missiles into the sea Monday in its fourth weapons launch this month, South Korea's military said, with the apparent goal of demonstrating its military might amid paused diplomacy with the United States and pandemic border closures. South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the North likely fired two short-range ballistic missiles from an area in Sunan, the location of Pyongyang's international airport. The missiles were launched four minutes apart Monday morning. **AP**



'LAS LUMINARIAS' FEST BACK AFTER PANDEMIC BREAK

A man rides his horse through flames during the annual "Luminarias" celebration on the eve of Saint Anthony's day, Spain's patron saint of animals, in the village of San Bartolome de Pinares, northwest of Madrid, Spain, on Sunday. About a hundred horses jumped through bonfires in a purification ceremony during the festival, which was held for the first time since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. It was cancelled last year because of pandemic restrictions. "This comes from thousands of years ago. So that animals did not get unwell, the old priests would bless them with fires so that they would jump and be purified," said Fermin Abad, 64, a local resident. *Reuters*

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

China's Xi rejects 'Cold War mentality', pushes cooperation

JAMEY KEATEN
GENEVA, JANUARY 17

CHINESE PRESIDENT Xi Jinping called Monday for greater world cooperation against Covid-19 and pledged to send an additional 1 billion doses of vaccine to other countries, while urging other powers to discard a "Cold-War mentality" at a time of rising geopolitical tensions — a veiled swipe at the United States.

The Chinese leader touted his country's efforts to share vaccines, fight climate change and promote development at home and abroad as he delivered the opening speech of a virtual gathering hosted by the World Economic Forum. The online event is being held in place of its annual January meeting in Davos, Switzerland, because of health concerns linked to the coronavirus pandemic.

He touched on standard themes from his previous talks to international audiences, including responding to complaints by China's trading partners by prom-



Chinese President Xi Jinping delivers a keynote address for the 2022 World Economic Forum virtual session, on Monday. *AP*

ising to open its state-dominated economy wider to private and foreign competition.

"We need to discard Cold War mentality and seek peaceful coexistence and win-win outcomes. Our world today is far from being tranquil," said Xi, through a translator. "Protectionism and unilateralism can protect no one. They ultimately hurt the interests of others as well as one's own. Even worse are the practices of hegemony and bullying, which run counter to the tide of history.

"A zero-sum approach that enlarges one's own gain at the expense of others will not help," he added. "The right way forward for humanity is peaceful development and win-win cooperation."

Xi, who hasn't left China since the coronavirus emerged in early 2020, said China had already sent abroad more than 2 billion doses of its Covid-19 vaccines and plans to provide an additional 1 billion, including a donation of 600 million doses to Africa and an extra 150 million to Southeast Asia. **AP**

On MLK Day, Yellen says US economy is unfair to Black people

ASSOCIATED PRESS
ATLANTA, JANUARY 17

THE US economy "has never worked fairly for Black Americans — or, really, for any American of colour", US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said in a speech delivered Monday, one of many by national leaders acknowledging unmet needs for racial equality on Martin Luther King Day.

Monday would have been the 93rd birthday of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., who was just 39 when he was assassinated in 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee.



US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen

"He knew that economic injustice was bound up in the larger injustice he fought against. From Reconstruction, to Jim Crow, to the present day, our economy has never worked fairly for Black Americans — or, really, for any American of colour," Yellen said in remarks at the Rev. Al Sharpton's National Action Network breakfast in Washington.

TWO TEENAGERS DETAINED IN BRITAIN IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOSTAGE-TAKING IN TEXAS

Rabbi says he, 2 hostages escaped synagogue standoff

JAKE BLEIBERG
& ERIC TUCKER
COLLEYVILLE, JANUARY 17

THE RABBI of a Texas synagogue said Monday that he threw a chair at the gunman and then escaped with two other hostages after a 10-hour standoff, crediting past security training for getting himself and his congregation out safely.

Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker told "CBS Mornings" that he let the gunman in Saturday because he appeared to need shelter. He said the man was not threatening or suspicious at first. Later, he heard a gun click as he was praying.

Another man held hostage, Jeffrey R. Cohen, described the



At the Congregation Beth Israel synagogue in Colleyville, Texas, on Sunday. *AP*

ordeal on Facebook.

"First of all, we escaped. We weren't released or freed," Cohen said.

Cohen said the men worked

USA

THOUSANDS LOSE POWER AMID WINTER STORM

A strong winter storm left thousands without electricity across nine states in the US. As of Monday morning, 200,000 customers from Georgia to New York were without power. In the South, where some states declared emergency, some areas had received more than nine inches of snow, while parts of South Carolina had up to a half-inch of ice, the National Weather Service said.



FLU RE-EMERGES IN CONTINENT

Europe faces threat of prolonged 'twindemic'

FRANCESCO GUARASCIO
BRUSSELS, JANUARY 17

INFLUENZA HAS returned to Europe at a faster-than-expected rate this winter after almost disappearing last year, raising concerns about a prolonged "twindemic" with Covid-19 amid some doubts about the effectiveness of flu vaccines.

Lockdowns, mask-wearing and social distancing that have become the norm in Europe during the Covid-19 pandemic knocked out flu last winter, temporarily eradicating a virus that globally kills about 650,000 a year, according to EU figures.

But that has now changed as countries adopt less strict measures to fight Covid-19 due to widespread vaccination.

Since mid-December, flu viruses have been circulating in Europe at a higher-than-expected rate, the European Centre for Disease prevention and Control (ECDC) reported this month.

In December, the number of flu cases in European intensive care units (ICU) rose steadily to peak at 43 in the last week of the year, ECDC and World Health Organization data show.

That is well below pre-pandemic levels — with weekly flu cases in ICUs peaking at over 400 at the same stage in 2018, for example.

But it is a big increase on last year, when there was only one flu case in an ICU in the whole of December, data show.

The return of the virus could be the start of an unusually long flu season that could stretch well into the summer, the ECDC's top expert on influenza Pasi Penttinen told Reuters.

"If we start to lift all measures, the big concern I have for influenza is that, because we have had such a long time of almost no circulation in the European population, maybe we will shift away from normal seasonal patterns," he said.

The 2021 rate of 7.52 births per 1,000 people was the lowest since 1949, when the National Statistics Bureau began collating the data, adding further pressure on officials to encourage more births.

The natural growth rate of China's population was only 0.034% for 2021, the lowest since 1960. "The demographic challenge is well known but the speed of population aging is clearly faster than expected," said Zhiwei Zhang, chief economist at Pinpoint Asset management.



At a protest in Paris on Saturday against Covid restrictions. *Reuters*

EXPLAINED Even more pressure on hospitals

EVEN THOUGH the flu outbreak in Europe this year is not yet at the levels it usually got to in pre-Covid pandemic times, the uptick in influenza cases is worrying experts who fear it could put even more pressure on the already stretched health care systems in European countries. Further complicating matters, the dominant flu strain circulating this year appears so far to be the H3, which usually causes the most severe cases among the elderly.

This season, France has so far recorded 72 serious cases of flu, with six deaths.

Penttinen said it was too early to make a final assessment of flu vaccines because a larger number of ill patients was needed for real-world analyses. But lab tests show the vaccines available this year "are not going to be optimal" against H3 strain, which appears to be the dominant flu strain this year.

That is largely because there was very little or no virus circulating when the vaccines' composition was decided last year, making it harder for vaccine makers to predict which strain would be dominant in the coming flu season.

Flu vaccines are adapted every year to make them as effective as possible against ever-changing flu viruses. Their composition is decided six months before the flu season kicks in, based on circulation of viruses in the opposite hemisphere. **REUTERS**

BEIJING: SHOPPER'S OMICRON CASE DRAWS NATIONAL ATTENTION

Beijing: A 26-year-old woman in China's capital Beijing who contracted the Omicron strain of Covid-19 has drawn national attention on social media for her shopping trips. The woman, who has not been identified by name, reportedly visited high-end shops in the city before showing symptoms of having the virus. Her present condition hasn't been made public. The woman's case was widely discussed online and reflects the government's painstaking efforts to track down and isolate every virus case, along with identifying and testing anyone an infected person may have been in contact with. **AP**

MONTHLY FINES FOR UNVACCINATED OLDER PEOPLE IN GREECE

Athens: Greece on Monday imposed a vaccination mandate for people over age 60, as coverage remains below the European Union average and a recent spike in infections has sustained pressure on hospitals. Older people failing to get vaccinated will face penalties, starting at a 50-euro (\$57) fine in Jan and followed by a monthly fine of 100 euros (\$114) after that. About two-thirds of Greece's population is currently fully vaccinated. The rate of death and hospitalisations has increased following the recent spread of the omicron variant. **AP**

on their knees. Cohen recalled rearing up in his chair and slowly moving his head and mouthing "no". As the gunman moved to sit back down, Cohen said Cytron-Walker yelled to run.

"The exit wasn't too far away," Cytron-Walker said. "I told them to go. I threw a chair at the gunman, and I headed for the door. And all three of us were able to get out with even a shot being fired."

Authorities identified the hostage-taker as 44-year-old British national, Malik Faisal Akram, who was killed Saturday night after the last hostages ran out of Congregation Beth Israel around 9 pm.

The FBI on Sunday night issued a statement calling the ordeal "a

terrorism-related matter, in which the Jewish community was targeted" and said the Joint Terrorism Task Force is investigating.

Akram could be heard ranting on a Facebook livestream of the services and demanding the release of Aafia Siddiqui, a Pakistani neuroscientist suspected of having ties to al-Qaida who was convicted of trying to kill US Army officers in Afghanistan.

The investigation stretched to England, where late Sunday police in Manchester announced that two teenagers were in custody in connection with the standoff. Greater Manchester Police tweeted that counter-terror officers made the arrests but did not say if they faced any charges. **AP**

COMMUNICATIONS LINES TO THE COUNTRY WERE SEVERED AFTER THE ERUPTION

In Volcano's wake, agonising wait for news from Tonga

NATASHA FROST
JANUARY 17

TWO DAYS after a colossal volcanic eruption spawned a tsunami that struck the island nation of Tonga, severed communication lines left Tongans around the world waiting anxiously for news of their loved ones, while aid agencies and the country's Pacific neighbors struggled to assess the scale of the damage.

On Saturday night, an under-sea volcano about 40 miles north of Tonga's main island belched ash, gas and steam more than 12 miles into the air, creating a cloud of sulfur dioxide over the region, sending particles drifting



An image on social media showed the eruption of the volcano Hunga Ha'apai. *Reuters*

across the island and disabling a crucial submarine internet cable. It was believed to be the largest volcanic eruption in three decades, with the shock wave travelling thousands of miles.

Hours later, Tonga, a country of around 100,000 people, was pummeled by a tsunami. Waves of up to four feet hit Nuku'alofa,

the Tongan capital. Footage shared in the final moments before the internet connection was cut showed people running inland, searching desperately for higher ground in a very flat country.

The volcano, Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai, erupted again on Monday but did not trigger a tsunami warning.

Fatafehi Fakafanua, the speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Tonga, was able to send out a message on social media on Monday, describing the tsunami's impact as "devastating" and noting that the fall of volcanic ash had affected many areas of the country.

"The full extent of the harm to lives and property is currently unknown," he said. "What we do know is that Tonga needs immediate assistance to provide its citizens with fresh drinking water and food."

The loss of most communications, as well as a lingering ash cloud that had reached some 63,000 feet high, have made it difficult for the outside world to

get a picture of the situation in Tonga. Both Australia and New Zealand sent surveillance flights to the country on Monday but had yet to detail what they saw.

That left thousands of overseas Tongans to make do with piecemeal videos shared through the island's few satellite links.

Siniwa Valu Filise, who lives in Wales, is worried about her parents, 73 and 66, whose home is on the western side of Tonga.

A friend with a connection to the Tongan military was able to briefly confirm that her parents were safe, she said. But she is unsure about their access to clean drinking water and food after the eruption left the layer of ash across the country. **NYT**

Britain to freeze BBC funding, consider future of licence fee

REUTERS
LONDON, JANUARY 17

BRITAIN SAID on Monday it would freeze funding for the BBC for two years and begin a debate on whether a universal licence fee should continue in the modern television age, drawing Opposition complaints of "cultural vandalism".

Culture Secretary Nadine Dorries told the parliament that the corporation, at the heart of Britain's cultural life, needed to become a simpler, leaner organisation at a time when the British public were facing rising energy and tax bills.

Dorries said the tax on all television-owning households that



The BBC clashed recently with the UK government, with ministers accusing it of failing to provide impartial news. *Reuters*

funds the broadcaster would be frozen at 159 pounds (\$217) a year until 2024, before it can rise in line with inflation for the next four years.

Dorries said the new licence spending settlement would give the BBC around 3.7 billion pounds. However analysts have said a below-inflation budget will force the corporation to cut services.

The BBC, home to David Attenborough's natural history

programmes and entertainment shows like Strictly Come Dancing, has clashed in recent years with Prime Minister Boris Johnson's government, with ministers accusing it of failing to provide impartial news.

Lucy Powell, the Opposition Labour spokeswoman for culture, told Parliament that the funding freeze was an attack on one of the biggest institutions in British public life, and accused Dorries of "cultural vandalism".



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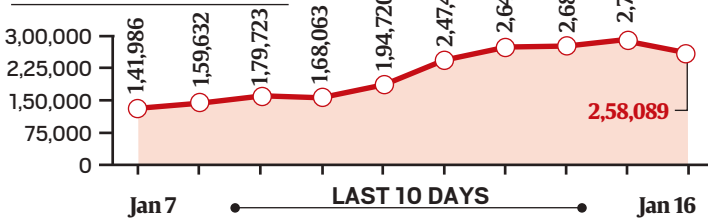
If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

DASHBOARD, AS ON JAN 16

686 DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN	New cases 2,58,089	Active cases 16,56,341	Deaths 385
Weekly CFR: 1.94% Overall CFR: 1.39% Total deaths: 4,86,451			

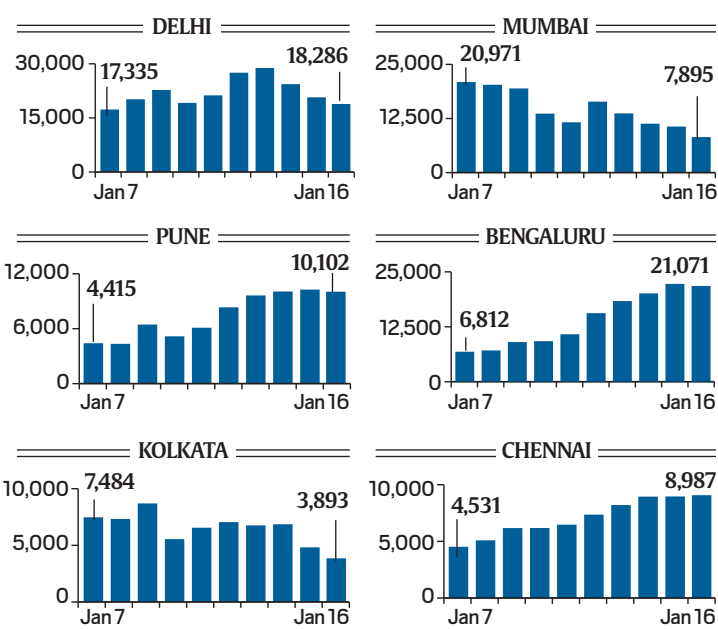
NEW CASES, DAILY



SURGE IN THE STATES

State	ON JANUARY 16			Weekly positivity
	New Cases	Active Cases	Deaths	
Maharashtra	41,327	265,346	36	20.41%
Karnataka	34,047	198,011	13	12.89%
Tamil Nadu	23,975	142,476	22	13.68%
Delhi	18,286	89,819	28	27.80%
Kerala	18,123	104,569	158	21.04%

SURGE IN THE CITIES, LAST 10 DAYS



TOTAL TESTS

70,37,62,282

TESTS ON JAN 16

13,13,444

WEEKLY POSITIVITY

13.72%

OVERALL POSITIVITY

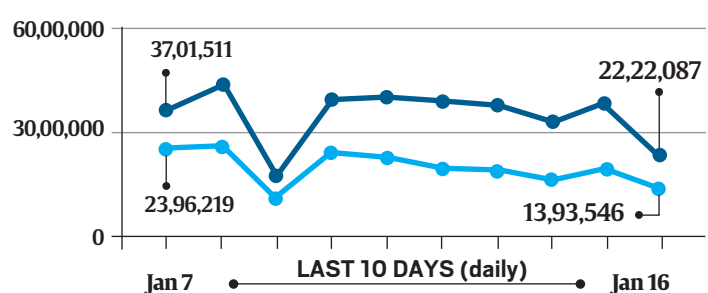
5.31%

INDIA TOTAL DOSES

157,20,41,825

(Adults 1st dose: **87,50,42,352**; adults second dose: **65,80,18,545**;
15-18 age group 1st dose: **3,45,32,745**; precautionary doses: **44,48,183**)

■ First dose ■ Second dose



SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

The Ravidassias of Punjab

The postponement of the Punjab elections will allow Ravidassias to travel to Varanasi for Guru Ravidas Jayanti. Why is it important for all political parties to woo this community and its largest dera?

ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHABA
JALANDHAR, JANUARY 17

THE POSTPONEMENT of the Assembly elections in Punjab to February 20 underlines the importance of the Ravidassia community in the state. Several political parties had urged the Election Commission for a postponement as the earlier date of February 14 would have clashed with Guru Ravidas Jayanti, an annual occasion during which Ravidassias travel to Varanasi in large numbers. Many of them take a special train organised by the Dera Sachkhand Ballan in Jalandhar, the largest dera of the Ravidassias.

In every election over the last two decades, political parties have made mindful of the large numbers of the Ravidassia community and the influence of the Dera Sachkhand Ballan, and have made an effort to woo them.

Who are the Ravidassias?

The Ravidassias are a Dalit community of whom the bulk — nearly 12 lakh — live in the Doaba region. The Dera Sachkhand Ballan, their largest dera with 20 lakh followers worldwide, was founded in the early 20th century by Baba Sant Pipal Das. Once closely connected with Sikhism, the dera severed these decades-old ties in 2010, and announced they would follow the Ravidassia religion.

The dera made the announcement on Guru Ravidas Jayanti in Varanasi. Guru Ravidas was a mystic poet saint of the Bhakti Movement from the 15th and 16th centuries, and founded the Ravidassia religion. From 2010, the Dera Sachkhand Ballan started replacing the Guru Granth Sahib with its own Granth, Amritbani, carrying 200 hymns of Guru Ravidas, in Ravidassia temples and gurdwaras.

How was the Dera Sachkhand Ballan established?

Its founder, Baba Sant Pipal Das, was originally Harnam Das from Gill Patti village in Bathinda. When his wife died, he left home along with his son Sarwan Das. They reached Sarmastpur near Jalandhar, and then Ballan village, where they settled in 1895. Dera officials said Baba Pipal Das and his son started living under a dry pipal tree. As they watered it, it gradually bloomed, earning the Baba the name Sant Pipal Das. Dera members said he was well versed in Guru Granth Sahib *bani*, and began to win followers, including those who followed the teachings of Guru Ravidas. He went on to establish the Dera Ballan.



Ravidassias prepare to board a train from Jalandhar to Varanasi in 2020, an annual trip organised by Dera Sachkhand Ballan on Guru Ravidas Jayanti. Anju Agnihotri Chaba

After the death of Sant Pipal Das, his son Sant Sarwan Das headed the dera from 1928 to 1972. There have been three more heads since, none chosen by heredity.

The third leader, Sant Hari Das, born at Garha village of Jalandhar, spent his entire life at Dera Ballan. The next dera head (1982-94), Sant Garib Das from Jalbhe village in Jalandhar, also spent his life at the dera, where he impressed Sant Sarwan Das. The current head, Sant Niranjana Das, born on January 5, 1942 at Ramdaspur village in Jalandhar, is the son of a couple who were devotees of Sant Pipal Das and who offered their son to Sant Sarwan Das, who gave him the name "Hawaigar" for the speed at which he performed his duties.

What is the significance of Guru Ravidas Jayanti?

During his tenure, Sant Sarwan Das undertook the work of establishing a memorial temple in Varanasi. After identifying the birthplace of Guru Ravidas at Seer Goverdhanpur village near Banaras Hindu University, the dera bought land there. The foundation stone for a temple was laid in 1965, and its first phase completed in 1970. NRI followers too contributed funds.

Several followers from Ballan started visiting the temple and, over time, it became a practice to observe Guru Ravidas Jayanti in Varanasi. Gradually, the dera in Ballan became the largest dera of the Ravidassias. Since 2000, the Dera Sachkhand Ballan has been taking followers

on the Begampura Train from Jalandhar to Varanasi on Guru Ravidas Jayanti every year.

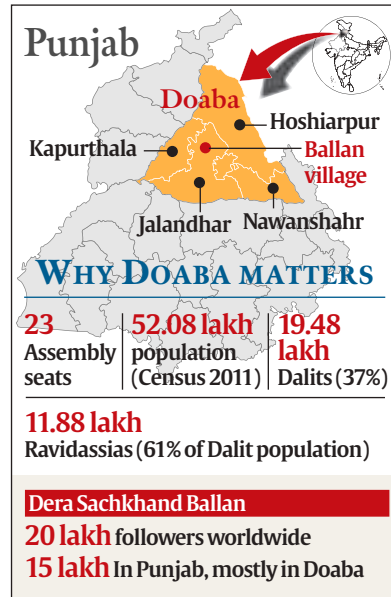
How significant is the dera politically?

Punjab has thousands of *deras*, small and big. Because of the numbers these command, political leaders having been visiting them for the last several elections. These include the Dera Sachkhand Ballan, where party leaders have visited and met its head.

The Dera Sachkhand Ballan has never openly supported any political party, but welcomed every visiting political leader. Visitors this time have included Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi (Congress), Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal (AAP), Punjab Congress president Navjot Singh Sidhu, Akali Dal chief Sukhbir Badal, and senior BJP leaders.

Of the dera's 20 lakh followers worldwide, around 15 lakh live in Punjab, mostly in the Doaba region that has 23 Assembly seats (out of Punjab's 117). Around 32% of Punjab's population comprises Dalits, whose concentration is highest in Doaba at 37% (19.48 lakh Dalits out of a regional population of 52.08 lakh). And 61% (11.88 lakh) of Doaba's Dalits belong to the Ravidassia community. Doaba has hundreds of *deras*, besides Dera Sachkhand Ballan.

That explains representations made to the Election Commission by several political parties seeking a postponement of the elections on account of Guru Ravidas Jayanti. CM Channi, who had written to the ECI seeking postpone-



ment, is a Dalit Sikh from the Ramdassia community, and his elevation had lifted all Dalit groups including Ravidassias.

How assertive are the Ravidassias?

They have been very assertive since 2009, following a deadly attack by fundamentalists on Shri Guru Ravidas Temple in Vienna on May 24 that year. Around 400 devotees had gathered for a religious service when the attackers struck, killing the Dera Sachkhand Ballan's then second-in-command, Sant Ramanand, and injuring 30 including dera head Niranjana Das. The alleged attackers were reportedly affiliated to a gurdwara in Vienna.

The Vienna attack triggered riots in Doaba, mainly in Jalandhar, where curfew was clamped for 15 days. The fissure it caused in relations between Sikhs and Ravidassias led to the dera severing its ties with Sikhism and announcing they would follow the Ravidassia religion. Ravidassias have demanded a separate column for their religion in the 2021 Census.

After the Vienna attack, Ravidassia singers composed special songs centred on their community and religion so that people of the community could play them at their events instead of playing songs composed by upper caste, Jat Sikhs. Last year, Jat Sikhs for the first time observed Guru Ravidas Jayanti together with Ravidassias, because it was important for both communities to stick together during the protest against the Centre's three farm laws.

Aafia Siddiqui, Pak woman linked to Texas terror

EXPRESSNEWSERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

MALIK FAISAL Akram, the British national who was killed during a standoff with United States federal agents in a synagogue in Fort Worth, Texas, where he had taken a rabbi and three others hostage on Saturday, was "singularly focused on one issue", and had demanded to see a woman who is serving a jail term in the US, according to law enforcement officials.

US media have reported that Akram was likely referring to Aafia Siddiqui, a highly educated Pakistani neuroscientist convicted on terrorism charges in 2010. Siddiqui is in a federal prison for women located less than 40 km from the site where Akram was killed. He had claimed he and the woman he wanted to meet would be "going to *jannah* after he sees her", the Texas Department of Public Safety has said.

'Lady al-Qaeda'

Siddiqui, who was at one time described as the "most wanted woman in the world" and



Aafia Siddiqui, AP

"Lady al-Qaeda", has been a motivating figure for Islamists for years.

In 2014, the Islamic State made separate offers to release journalist James Foley and an American woman — later identified as Kayla Mueller — in return for Siddiqui's freedom. The Taliban and Haqqani network tried to trade the US military deserter Bowe Bergdahl for her.

Siddiqui, now 49, was born in Karachi and studied in the US in the 1990s. She was trained at MIT, and earned a PhD in neuroscience from Brandeis University in Massachusetts in 2001. In 2002, according to the FBI, she opened a

post office box in the name of Pakistani al-Qaeda suspect Majid Khan, who is currently at the Guantanamo Bay detention facility.

In a profile published in 2010, *The New York Times* reported that Siddiqui married her second husband Ammar al-Baluchi, a nephew of 9/11 conspirator and Daniel Pearl's murderer Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and himself one of the financiers of the 9/11 attacks, in Pakistan in 2003, and then disappeared out of sight for about five years. Both Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and Ammar al-Baluchi are being held at the Guantanamo Bay facility.

Siddiqui was arrested in Ghazni, Afghanistan, in July 2008, and was allegedly found in possession of handwritten notes on a "mass casualty attack" at multiple sites in New York City, as well as on building "dirty bombs" and chemical and biological weapons. At an Afghan police station, she allegedly snatched a rifle and fired at US Army and FBI officials. She did not hit anyone, but was herself shot in the abdomen by the officials.

On February 3, 2010, Siddiqui was convicted on seven counts, including an attempt to

murder Americans. She was sentenced to 86 years in prison, and is slated for release in 2082 when she would be 110 years old.

'Pak's daughter'

The trial — and subsequent conviction — of Siddiqui greatly exercised Pakistanis. *The NYT* reported at the time that "she has become a national symbol of honour and victimisation so potent that politicians of all stripes, Islamists, the news media and an increasingly anti-American public have all lined up to champion her claim of innocence".

Then Pakistan Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani described her as a "daughter of the nation", and then opposition leader Nawaz Sharif declared he would do all that he could to secure her release.

The Pakistan government extended legal assistance to Siddiqui, and her sister, Dr Fauzia Siddiqui, a neurologist who studied and taught at Johns Hopkins University, led a high-profile public campaign in her favour. Pakistani media described her trial as a farce. This was a time of peak anti-Americanism in Pakistan.

How the Centre chooses the tableaux for the Republic Day parade

KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

WEST BENGAL Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday saying she was "profoundly shocked" that West Bengal's tableau for the Republic Day parade "was rejected without assigning any reasons or justifications".

She mentioned that the tableau commemorated the contributions of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and the INA on his 125th birth anniversary year.

Earlier, Kerala officials had said the state's proposed tableau featuring Sree Narayana Guru too had been rejected.

While the government is yet to announce the final list of tableaux selected for the parade, sources said there would be 21 — 12 from states and Union Territories, and nine from central government departments or independent institutions.

Officials of the Defence Ministry, which is responsible for the parade and is the co-ordinating body for the tableaux, said that

the selection is done by an expert committee, and denied that political motivations were involved.

When does the process to decide the tableaux start, and who can participate?

Around September every year, the Defence Ministry invites all states, UTs, central government departments, and a few constitutional authorities to participate in the parade through tableaux.

Letters for this year's parade went out to 80 union ministries and departments, all 36 states and UTs, and the Election Commission and Niti Aayog on September 16, 2021. Proposals were invited by September 27, and the process of shortlisting began in the second week of October.

Are there guidelines for building the tableaux?

The participants must showcase elements relevant to their state/UT/department, within the overarching theme for that year's parade. The theme given to participants this year was India @ 75 — Freedom



West Bengal's tableau during the 2019 Republic Day parade. Express Archive

struggle, Ideas @ 75, Achievements @ 75, Actions @ 75 and Resolve @ 75.

According to Defence Ministry guidelines, participating entities must engage "young qualified designers from renowned institutions", and have electronic display walls for bright display of images or content, moving elements using robotics or mechatronics, and 3D printing for certain elements. There should be use of augmented or virtual reality, and special effects to improve optics and the visual impact.

Tableaux of two states/UTs cannot be too similar, and the tableaux should together

showcase the diversity of the country.

The tableaux cannot have any writing or use of logos, except for the name of the state/UT/department, which should be written in Hindi on the front, English on the back, and a regional language on the sides.

The Ministry also asked participants to use eco-friendly material, and to avoid the use of plastic or plastic-based products.

How are the tableaux selected?

The Defence Ministry constitutes an expert committee of distinguished persons from the fields of art, culture, painting,

sculpture, music, architecture, choreography, etc, who help in drawing up a shortlist from the proposals.

The committee scrutinises submitted sketches or designs, and can make suggestions for modifications. The sketch is expected to be simple, colourful, and self-explanatory.

If a traditional dance is involved, it should be a folk dance — and the costumes and musical instruments should be traditional and authentic. A video of the dance must be included with the proposal.

In the next stage, selected participants must present three-dimensional models, which are again examined by the expert committee. In making the final selection, the committee looks at a combination of factors, including visual appeal, impact on the masses, idea/theme of the tableaux, degree of detail involved, accompanying music, etc.

The committee meets for around half a dozen rounds over a number of days, eliminating and shortlisting the proposals as they go along. Only those who are shortlisted, are informed about the next round.

The letter inviting participation clarified that even "final selection does not guarantee

movement on Rajpath in the final parade, if it has not been created in terms of the final approved version during selection round."

Must the tableaux be of a particular size?

The Ministry provides each participant with a tractor and a trailer, on which the tableau must fit. No additional tractor or trailer, or any other vehicle may be used. The participant is allowed to replace the Ministry-provided tractor or trailer with other vehicles, but the total number should not exceed two.

The tractor has to be camouflaged in harmony with the tableau's theme. Participants can add ground elements to some tableaux, considering the theme.

The Ministry stipulates a distance of around 6 feet between the tractor and the trailer for turning and manoeuvring. The dimensions of the trailer are 24 feet 8 inches long by 8 feet wide, and 4 feet 2 inches high. The trailer has a load-bearing capacity of 10 tonnes, and the tableau should not be more than 45 feet long, 14 feet wide, and 16 feet high from the ground.

GURU GOBIND SINGH INDRAPRASTHA UNIVERSITY
(Established by the Govt. of Delhi) Sector-16 C, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110078
Website : www.ipu.ac.in

TENDER NOTICE FOR INVESTMENT OF CPF FUNDS

Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University intends to invest its funds of CPF Trust approximately Rs. 17.36 Crores in fixed deposit in three spells during the period w.e.f 19th January 2022 to 5th February 2022. Investment of Rs. 8.81 Crores shall be finalized in the first spell on 19th January 2022 and the details regarding remaining investment shall be notified subsequently on the University website. Accordingly, competitive interest rate quotations are invited from the Nationalized Banks only by post or via Email on **Email Id:- investment@ipu.ac.in**. The validity of interest rates and other detailed information may be seen on the University website **"www.ipu.ac.in"** under the Head "Tenders" in Events & Notices during the aforesaid period.

(CONTROLLER OF FINANCE)

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, देवघर।

ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट सूचना (1st Call)

ई-निविदा प्रसंग संख्या -RCD/DEOGHAR/107/2021-22 दिनांक -17.01.2022

1.	कार्य का नाम	पथ प्रमण्डल, देवघर अन्तर्गत सारठ-बस्ती पालोजरी भागा कुकराहा-चितरा पथ (कुल लंबाई-27.50 कि०मी०) का मजबूतीकरण कार्य।
2.	प्राक्कलित राशि (रुपये में)	रुपये 17,72,74,056/- (सत्रह करोड़ बत्तर लाख चौहत्तर हजार छपन रुपये मात्र)।
3.	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	06 (छ) माह।
4.	निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	08.02.2022 (12:00 बजे दिन तक)
5.	वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशित होने की तिथि एवं समय	19.01.2022 (10:30 बजे पूर्वार्धन)
6.	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले का नाम एवं पता	कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, देवघर।
7.	प्रोक्योरमेंट अधिकारी का सम्पर्क नम्बर	06432-275640
8.	ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल का हेल्पलाइन नम्बर	0651-2401010

अतिरिक्त जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर देखें।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, देवघर

PR 261792 Road(21-22)#D

CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar
(Established by Parliament Act 16 of 1970)

TENDER NOTICE

CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar is inviting Tender for following equipments/items :-

For the purchase of following equipments/items

1. Purchase of One Fish Smoking Machine for the College of Fisheries Science, CCSHAU Hisar
2. Purchase of Biogas Analyser (including installation, Transportation charges and Taxes) for the dept. of RBEE.
3. Purchase of SC/ST training material i.e. (Category-A) Garments/Cutting & Tailoring/Soft Toy making: Sewing machine (Semi-Automatic) with accessories like measuring tape, seam ripper, brass handle scissor (10"), Steam Iron for Director Extension Education.

For detail information and e-tendering schedule, please visit the website <http://tenders.hry.nic.in> and University website <http://hau.ac.in>

Date of start of bid preparation and submission on 19.01.2022 (09:00 hours) and Closing on 08.02.2022 up to 17:00 hours. Opening of Technical Bid on 09.02.2022 at 11:00 AM. Opening of Financial Bid on 10.02.2022 at 11:00 AM.

Note: 1. All updates, amendments, Clarifications etc. (if any) will be posted only on the CCS HAU Website/Tender website. There will not be any publication of the same through Newspapers or any other media.
2. Interested bidders are advised to deposit bid security/EMD on or before 48:00 hrs of expiring date and time of bid online so as to get the payment verified.

Director (Store & Purchase)
CCSHAU, Hisar

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E- TENDERING TENDER NOTICE

E- Tender Notice No TMC/CPOH/PR/JY/21-22/10 Date:- 12.01.2022

CWM / CPOH / North Central Railway / Prayagraj for and on behalf of the President of India, invites "Open" E-Tender on prescribed form for the following work up to 15.00 Hrs. on 17.02.2022. The details of the Tender are as under:-

S. Tender N.	Name of Work	Approx. Cost (Rs.)	Completion Period	EMD	Tender Document Cost	Similar Nature of Work
1	TMC-CPOH/PR/JY-12-21-22 Repairing of wheel and axle assembly for various types of Track Machines as per schedule of work.	6902081.58	24 Months	138100.00	5000.00	Work related to wheel and axle of any railway track vehicle.

Date of Opening of Tender: 17.02.2022

Notes:- (1) The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders are available on Website www.ireps.gov.in up to 15:00 hrs. on the due date of tender opening. (2) Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. (3) Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form / letter head if attached by vendors shall be straightaway ignored and shall not be considered. (4) The tenderers shall submit a notarized affidavit on a non judicial stamp paper of Rs. 100/- as given in tender document in standard format, without which their tender will not be considered and may be rejected. (5) The supplier / contractor of goods and / or service would be subject to GST Act and Rules as applicable from time to time. (6) Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. (7) This tender notice has also been uploaded on www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in. (8) Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & Tender Document Cost (TDC) in respect of e-tendering shall be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. (9) In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. (10) Tender online can be submitted up to 15.00 hrs. on 17.02.2022 5/2/22 (AN)

[E] North central railways | www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in | [E] @ CPONCR

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED
(A State Government Undertaking)
"Press Tender Notice"
(E-tendering mode only)

ONLINE TENDERS are hereby invited on partial lumpsum basis (two part bid) by the undersigned for and on behalf of Managing Director, HPSEB Ltd., Shimla-4 from the Bidders' Joint venture firms/ Co-operative Societies of Retired Employees of HPSEB Ltd., having A-Class Electrical contractor license from Chief Electrical Inspector, for the following work:-

Sr. Tender No.	Description of Work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Documents Inclusive GST (Non-Refundable)	Completion Period
1.	Providing S.O.P. to Rts. MSHPMC & M/S. APMC 22 KV dedicated Feeder from 60/22 KV S/Sn. Saini, under ESD, HPSEBL, Saini, Under Operation Circle HPSEBL Shimla.	Rs. 85,50,558/-	Rs. 85,505/-	Rs. 1000/-	06 Months

Key Dates:-

1. Date of online Publication: 19.01.2022
2. Start date and time of Bid submission: 19.01.2022 (at 11:30 AM)
3. End date and time of bid submission: 27.01.2022 (up to 11:30 AM)
4. Date and time of opening of Techno-Commercial Bid: 28.01.2022 (at 11:30 AM)

The bid document is available online and bid shall be submitted online on website <https://www.hpbtenders.gov.in>. Bidders would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidders are required to have digital signature certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized certifying authority (CA). Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPSEBL may obtain the same from the website <https://www.hpbtenders.gov.in>. DSC is mandatory to participate in e-tendering. Bidders already possessing valid DSC issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.

Sd/- (Er. G.C. Shandiyal)
Chief Engineer, (OP) South, HPSEBL Ltd., Shimla-4

Follow COVID-19 Protocol

NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED
(A Govt. Of India Undertaking)
SIBIAN ROAD, BATHINDA - 151 003 (Pb)
Ph. 0164-2270261, 2760262, FAX: 0164-2270463

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-tenders in two-part bid system are invited from experienced and financially sound contractors for the following annual rate contract work

NIT No.	Work Description	Estimated Cost of work (Rs.)	Period of Contract	Cost of Tender (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Tender Issuing Authority/ Last date
NFR/ E-311/ RPO/ 2021-22	Purchase of REC's (Renewable Energy certificate) for the year 2021-22 at NFL Bathinda	Rs. 243.88 Lacs+ GST	One Year	Rs. 1000/-	Rs. One Lakh	DGM (J&E)/ 02.02.2022

For further details and compendium, if any visit our website: www.nationalfertilizers.com, www.tenders.gov.in and CPP portal www.eprocure.gov.in

Follow us: @nationalfertilizers @NFL_Kan @nationalfertilizers Limited

झारखण्ड सरकार
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, पाकुड़

शुद्धि पत्र - 01

इस कार्यालय के अति अत्यकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या- **DWSD/PKR/18/2021-22** दिनांक 12.01.2022 जिसका **PR No.- 261683 Drinking Water and Sanitation (21-22)** है, में निम्न संशोधन किया जाता है।

क्र०	विवरण	पूर्व प्रकाशित सूचना	संशोधित सूचना
09	बैंक गारंटी एवं परिमाण विवरण का मूल्य जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 04.02.2022, 3.00 बजे अपराह्न। 1. पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, पाकुड़।	दिनांक 04.02.2022, 3.00 बजे अपराह्न। 1. कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, पाकुड़। 2. अधीक्षण अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता दुमका अंचल, दुमका। 3. क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग दुमका क्षेत्र, दुमका।

* पूर्व में प्रकाशित सूचना को इस हद तक संशोधित समझा जाय एवं निविदा से संबंधित अन्य सूचनाएँ पूर्ववत् यथावत् रहेंगी।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, पाकुड़

PR 261768 Drinking Water and Sanitation(21-22)#D

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
e-Procurement Notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

1. The Executive Engineer HPPWD Jubbhal Distt Shimla H.P. on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system, in 2 Cover System for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD Department.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD	Cost of Tender	Time	Eligible Class of Contractor
1	Special repair to Jubbhal Kenchi to Santoshnagar Road Km 0/0 to 6/0 (SH: Providing 30mm thick Bituminous concrete in Km 0/0 to 6/0)	14078524	281570	Rs.5000/-	2 Months	Class C
2	Special repair to Jubbhal Kenchi to Santoshnagar Road Km 0/0 to 6/0 (SH:C/O Balance work of Bituminous Macadam,Steel Crash barriers,Edge lines,Delinators and Road Dividers etc at various RDs)	10604028	212100	Rs.5000/-	2 Months	Class C

Tender document and other instructions can be downloaded or viewed online from the portal <https://hptenders.gov.in> by the firm/individual registered on the website which is free of cost.

Key Dates:

1.	Date of Online Publication	07.02.2022 11:00 HRS
2.	Document Download Start and End Date	07.02.2022 11:30 HRS upto 14.02.2022 1730 HRS
3.	Bid Submission Start and End Date	07.02.2022 11:30 HRS upto 14.02.2022 1800 HRS
4.	Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of Tender Document	15-02-2022 1100 Hrs
5.	Date of Technical Bid opening.	15.02.2022 1130 HRS
6.	Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by Opening of Financial Bid.	Date to be announced

Executive Engineer,
Jubbhal Division HPPWD, Jubbhal.

6288/HP

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा

E-mail ID:- eercdchaibasa-jhr@nic.in

शुद्धि-पत्र

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित Short E-Procurement Notice (2nd Call) E-Tender Reference No.- RCD/CHAIBASA/14 Date :- 05.01.2022 तथा जिसका PR 261100 (West Singhbhum) 21-22 (D) है, में अपरिहार्य कारणवश निम्नलिखित संशोधन किया जाता है :-

क्रमांक	CLAUSE	पूर्व में प्रकाशित	संशोधित
1	RFP के Introduction and Clause 1.2.8 Deposit of Cost of Bidding & Bid Security, Page No- 9	Cost of bidding document and Bid Security shall be deposited in the office of the Chief Engineer (Communication), Road Construction Department, Dhurwa, Ranchi on all working days between 04/09/2018 to 24/09/2018 up to 12:00 Hrs either by registered post / Speed post or by hand. Only those applications will be entertained whose cost of bidding document and bid security is received before 12:00 Hrs on 24/09/2018. The Authority will not be held responsible for the postal delay, if any, in the delivery of the document or non receipt of the same.	Cost of bidding document and Bid Security shall be deposited in the office of the The Chairman, e-procurement cell, Room No.-330A, 3 rd floor, Road Construction Department, Jharkhand Mantralaya, Dhurwa, Ranchi on all working days between 11/01/2022 to 27/01/2022 up to 12:00 Hrs either by registered post / Speed post or by hand. Only those applications will be entertained whose cost of bidding document and bid security is received before 12:00 Hrs on 27/01/2022. The Authority will not be held responsible for the postal delay, if any, in the delivery of the document or non receipt of the same.
2	Schedule-I, Page No- 67	The Rate of Monthly Pass for local non-commercial vehicles will be Rs. 245	The Rate of Monthly Pass for local non-commercial vehicles will be Rs. 275

➤ Bidding Document (RFP) के Page No- 100 & 101 को रद्द किया जाता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा

PR 261804 West Singhbhum *(21-22)_D

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

1. The Executive Engineer, Nerchowk Division, H.P.PWD., Nerchowk H.P. on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the online bids on item rate in electronic tendering system in 2 cover system for the following work from the eligible and approved Contractors/Firms registered with H.P.PWD., Department.

Sr. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD	Cost of Tender	Eligible class of Contractor	Time Limit
1.	Construction of Govt. I.T.I. Balh at Nerchowk Mandi, Distt. Mandi (HP). (SH:-Construction of Building potion with W.S. & S.I., Septic Tank, Rain water harvest- ing system, Development of Site and Boundary wall etc.)	Rs.9,11,24,243/-	Rs.18,22,500/-	Rs.5000/-	"A&B"	One & Half Year

2. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website <http://hptenders.gov.in>. bidder would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPPWD may obtain the same from the website: <http://hptenders.gov.in> Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.

3. Key dates:-

1	Date of online publication	27-01-2022 at 11:30 A.M.
2	Document download start and end date	27-01-2022 at 11:30 A.M. up to 07-02-2022 at 10:30A.M.
3	Bid submission start and end date	27-01-2022 at 11:30 A.M. up to 07-02-2022 at 10:30A.M.
4	Date of technical bid opening	07-02-2022 at 11:30 A.M.
5	Physical submission of original documents i/c original EMD & Cost of Tender documents etc.	07-02-2022 at 11:00 A.M.

4. Tender Details:-
The tender documents shall be uploaded on line in 2 cover.

- Cover 1:** shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical Documents Eligibility" information.
- Cover 2:** shall contain "BOQ/Financial bid" where contractor will quote his offer for each item.

5. Submission of Original Documents: The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security/Earnest money Deposit (EMD) and other Technical Documents with this office as specified in key dates at Sr.No.5.failing which the bids will be declared nonresponsive.

6. Bid opening Detail: The bid shall be opened on **07-02-2022 at 11:30 HRS** in the office of **Executive Engineer, Nerchowk Division H.P.PWD., Nerchowk**. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bid as specified the bid will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

7. The bid for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 90 days after the deadline date for bid submission.

8. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The officer inviting tender shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

9. As per Govt. Notification No.PBW (B)(A)(31)/2020-1 dated 07.10.2021, in case the tendered amount of the lowest bidder comes more than 5% in 1st call the negotiation can be conducted with him but the negotiated amount should remain within 5% of the amount put to tender (on market rate) and tendered amount below 30% of the estimated cost will be summarily rejected.

Executive Engineer,
HP.PWD Division,
Nerchowk.

6303/HP

HIM SUCHNA AWAM JANSAMPARK

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr.Pc.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Azad S/o Mohd. Ismail** R/o Nawab Ka Makan, Near Jama Masjid, Laxmi Garden, Indrapuri Loni, Uttar Pradesh has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 670/13 U/S 363/365/120B/34 IPC** PS Gokalpuri, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Azad** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Azad** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Azad of FIR No. 670/13 U/S 363/365/120B/34 IPC** PS Gokalpuri, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on 21.02.2022.

By Order
Shri Nitish Kumar Sharma
Metropolitan Magistrate
Karkardooma Courts, Shahdara, Delhi

DP/1235/NE/2021

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male namely **Buddha Rai S/o Dil Bahadur Rai R/o Darjeeling (West Bengal)** **Age : About 30 years, Height : 5'6", Complexion : Wheatish, Build : Thin, Face : Long, wearing grey colour jersey and white colour lower, was found unconscious on 07.01.2022, he was admitted in LNJP Hospital, Delhi, during the treatment he died.** In this regard a DD No. 45-A dated 07.01.2022 u/s 174 Cr.P.C. has been lodged at P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this found person may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO : P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi
Tel. No. 011-23968730, 9990783560

DP/1889/N/22

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is here by informed that this boy (depicted in the photo) namely: **Suraj S/o Nandan Das R/o H.No. 104, Shahbad Daulatpur, Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped since 27.11.2021 accordingly. In this regard a FIR/DD No. 691/21 dated 27.11.2021 has been registered at **PS. Shahbad Dairy, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the boy but no clue has come to light so far.

His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, Age: 17 years, Height: 4'2"ft., Complexion: Black, Built: Thin, Face: Round, Wearing: Black Shirt and Black Pant and Black Shoes in Feet.

Any person is having information or clue about this missing/ kidnapped boy may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO
P.S. Shahbad Dairy, Delhi
Ph. No.: 011-27821047
Mob. No. 7065036322
DP/1501/ON/2022

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Where as complaint has been made before me that one accused **Yogender @ Rinku S/o Subhash Chand @ Shopal, R/o Village-Kasan, District-Gurugram, Haryana** has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 420/21 u/s 302/34 IPC & 25/27 Arms Act** has been registered at **P.S. North Rohini, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Yogender @ Rinku** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Yogender @ Rinku** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Yogender @ Rinku** of **FIR No. 420/21 u/s 302/34 IPC & 25/27 Arms Act** at **P.S. North Rohini, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 15.03.2022.

By Order
Mansi Malik
Metro Politan Magistrate
Room No. 107, 1st Floor
Rohini Courts, Delhi

Organic Farming Authority of Jharkhand (OFAJ)
(Department of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry & Cooperative, Govt. of Jharkhand)
Krishi Bhawan, Kanke Road, Ranchi
www.organicjharkhand.in

Important Dates

1	Name of Work	REQUEST FOR EMPANELMENT (RFE) (LIMITED TENDER) FROM THE INTERESTED CERTIFICATION AGENCIES FOR EMPANELMENT FOR CERTIFICATION OF HORTICULTURAL / AGRICULTURAL CROPS AS PER TECHNICAL GUIDELINES OF NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR ORGANIC PRODUCTION (NSOP) AND ACCREDITED BY APEDA IN VARIOUS DISTRICT OF JHARKHAND
2	Time of Completion	3 Years
3	Tender Form Cost	Rs. 10,000.00 (Ten Thousand)
4	EMD Amount	Rs. 50,000.00 (Five Lacs)
5	Date of Publication of tender on website	15.01.2022 at 06:00 PM
6	Pre Bid Meeting	21.01.2022 at 2:30 PM virtually
7	Document Download Period	16.01.2022 at 02:00 PM to 08.02.2022 at 01:00 PM
8	Online Bid Submission Period	17.01.2022 at 10:00 AM to 10.02.2022 at 01:00 PM
9	Hard Copy of Tender Documents, EMD and Tender Cost submission date	The hard copy of RFE documents cost and EMD should be submitted to the office of Directorate of Horticulture, 3rd floor- Krishi Bhawan, Kanke Road, Ranchi-834008 Jharkhand as on or before 10.02.2022 up to 05.00 PM. Please refer clause 3.1.H(iv) of RFE document for further details
10	Date and Place of Technical Bid Opening	11.02.2022 at 03:30 PM Chief Executive officer, "Organic farming Authority of Jharkhand", 3rd floor Krishi Bhawan, Kanke Road, Ranchi-834008 Jharkhand
11	Name and Address of the tender inviting Authority	Dr M.S.A Mahalinga Shiva Chief Executive officer, "Organic farming Authority of Jharkhand", Ranchi
12	Contact No. of e-procurement officer	9523693676 / 8709394856
1	Helpline No. of e-procurement cell	0651-2230691

Sd/-
(Dr. M.S.A. Mahalinga Shiva)
Chief Executive Officer,
OFAJ, Ranchi

PR 261819 (Agriculture) 21-22 (D)

SEARCH FOR MISSING WOMAN



Monika Oraon Kharia

General public is hereby informed that this woman namely **Monika Oraon Kharia W/o Roshan Oraon R/o Kohinur Tea Garden, Jalpaiguri Kohinor Estate, West Bengal-736206** **Age : 29 years, Height : 5', Complexion : Wheatish, Build : Thin, Identification:** Old burn mark on right leg, wearing cream colour suit, rani colour payjama and hawai chappal in feet, has been missing 25.12.2021 from shop No. 1967, Chandni Cowk, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 8-A Dated 26.12.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Kotwali, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this missing woman may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
Fax: 24368639,
Tel.: 24368638/24368641

SHO : P.S. Kotwali, Delhi
Tel. No. 011-23953442,
23977100, 9289815972

DP/1865/N/22

निविदा सूचना

केन्द्रीय विद्यालय न-2 ए.एफ.एस. हिंडन, गाजियाबाद, उत्तरप्रदेश, मुद्रण कार्य हेतु इच्छुक मुद्रकों से निविदा आमंत्रित करते हैं। इच्छुक मुद्रक 21 दिनों के अंतर्गत विद्यालय कार्यालय से प्रातः 10 बजे से 01 बजे तक 500 रुपये का भुगतान करके निविदा प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

संबंधित जानकारी <https://mo2hindhon.kvs.ac.in> पर उपलब्ध है।

SECTOR WATCH
BANKING

Parity with ELSS funds: IBA bats for cutting tax-free FD tenure to 3 years

BUILD UP TO
BUDGET
2022-23ENSECONOMICBUREAU
MUMBAI, JANUARY 17

AHEAD OF the Union Budget, banks have pushed for lowering fixed deposit (FD) tenure from five years to three years for availing tax benefits as applicable in the case of mutual fund products like equity-linked savings scheme (ELSS).

On the other hand, the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) has asked the government to allow the introduction of debt-linked saving scheme (DLSS) with tax benefits on the lines of five-year bank deposits.

In its pre-Budget proposal to the government, the Indian Banks' Association (IBA), the apex body of banks in India, said the five-year FD has become less attractive. As of now, the tax break is available on 5-year tax-saving FD schemes of banks. A depositor can claim income tax deduction by investing money in a five-year FD scheme under Section 80C of the IT Act, 1961.

"As compared to other financial products (such as ELSS) available in the market, the tax-saver fixed deposit (FD) has become less attractive and if the lock-in period is reduced, this would make the product more attractive and provide more funds to the banks," the IBA said in a

AMFI has asked the government to allow introduction of debt-linked saving scheme with tax benefits on the lines of 5-year bank deposits

pre-Budget proposal submitted to the government. The lock-in period should be reduced to three years from the existing five years, the IBA said. ELSS funds come with a lock-in period of 3 years.

Meanwhile, the AMFI has proposed that mutual funds should be allowed to introduce low-cost, lower risk tax-exemption-linked DLSS on the lines of ELSS.

In its Budget proposals for 2022-23 to the Finance Ministry, AMFI said investment of up to Rs 1.5 lakh under DLSS should be eligible for tax benefit, subject to a lock-in period of five years, as in the case of tax saving bank fixed deposits.

It also asked the government to bring uniformity in taxation on listed debt securities and debt MFs and bring parity in tax treatment between MFs and unit-linked insurance plans (ULIPs). Both MFs and ULIPs invest in securities. Currently, ELSS qualify for tax benefits under Section 80 CCC of the Income Tax Act for an investment limit of up to Rs 1.5 lakh in a fiscal year.

It has proposed to lower the minimum holding period for LTCG purposes in the case of gold and silver ETFs from three years to one year.

REPORT OPTIMISTIC ON NEAR-TERM PROSPECTS

Omicron a 'flash flood than a wave'; demand resilient: RBI

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
MUMBAI, JANUARY 17

WHILE THE recovery that has been underway in the Indian economy is encountering headwinds from a rapid surge in Covid cases in a third wave marked by the rapid transmissibility of the Omicron variant, expectations that the variant may turn out to be more of a "flash flood than a wave" have brightened near-term prospects, the RBI has said.

Mobility indicators exhibited a sequential moderation in January. Google mobility indices dropped below the baseline numbers for retail and recreation activities and around workplaces as offices made a quick transition to work from home protocols (up to January 8, 2022). The Apple mobility index tumbled across all major cities, although it remained above its pre-pandemic level. Electricity generation accelerated through January so far, reaching pre-pandemic levels, the RBI said in its 'State of the economy' report.

According to the central bank, as the world stepped into the new year, the path of the recovery in India as in the rest of the global

EXPLAINED
Inflation
holds key

THE RBI report noted that there are indications that supply chain disruptions and shipping costs are slowly easing, although the waning of inflation may take longer, which will be keenly tracked.

economy encountered headwinds from a rapid surge in infections due to Omicron. "Nonetheless, amidst upbeat consumer and business confidence and an uptick in bank credit, aggregate demand conditions stay resilient, while on the supply front, rabi sowing has exceeded last year's level and the normal acreage," the RBI said.

Manufacturing and several categories of services remain in expansion, it said. "Overall economic activity in India remains strong, with upbeat consumer and business confidence and upticks in several incoming high frequency indicators," the RBI said. On the vaccination front, India has made

rapid strides. On the Omicron variant, the recent data from the UK and South Africa suggest that such infections are 66 to 80 per cent less severe, with a lower need for hospitalisation, it said. The RBI said this has brightened near-term prospects and financial markets reflect this optimism. India's digital payment ecosystem is also expanding rapidly. In contrast, the global outlook remains clouded by considerable uncertainty. "Inflation continues to mount across geographies amidst disruptions in production, supply chains and transportation," the report said.

Consequently, the divergence between monetary policy stances across jurisdictions has widened, the RBI said. There are indications that supply chain disruptions and shipping costs are slowly easing, although the waning of inflation may take longer. This provides a window of opportunity to focus all energies on accelerating and broadening the global recovery, it said.

Meanwhile, as per a PFI report, an RBI article on farm sector challenges said the country needs a second green revolution along with the next generation of reforms to make agriculture more environmentally sustainable.

'Covid hit consumer confidence'

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
MUMBAI, JANUARY 17

THE COVID pandemic severely dented consumer confidence in India, which reached historic lows as the repercussions of the wave unfolded, the RBI said in a study.

"Sentiments of households across strata were influenced by the spread of infections and fatalities. There was enduring impact on consumers' sentiments on their own financial conditions as well as the general economic situation — with the latter increasingly driven by the former," the RBI study said.

It said consumers in cities severely hit by the pandemic expressed more negative sentiment as compared to respondents in the other cities. Respondents' expectations for the year ahead showed faith in economic recovery after subsidence of the pandemic, it said.

'High import tariffs making domestic electronics producers uncompetitive'

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

INDIA'S POLICY of keeping high tariff on import of electronic components to protect the domestic industries is proving counterproductive to its plans such as Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme and making the Indian electronics manufacturing industry uncompetitive compared to other electronics manufacturing nations, the Indian Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA) said in a report. Comparing the performance

Sebi plans revamp of investor charter, dispute resolution system

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

SEBI is examining introduction of an alternate dispute resolution mechanism, with an aim to provide an effective mechanism for settling disputes between investors and regulated entities (RE), a release said on Monday.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), in November last, published the 'Investor Charter' for securities markets to further strengthen its efforts to protect investor interests, promote transparency in markets and enhance awareness, trust and confidence among investors.

Efforts have been taken to enhance the effectiveness of investor grievance redressal mechanism. It has been publishing the status of disposal of investor grievances received in SCORES (Sebi Complaints Redress System) on its website on a monthly basis, Sebi said. Also, details of investor grievances pending for over three months with different intermediaries are being published.

In addition, "Sebi is also examining, in consultation with regulated entities, the possibility of introducing alternate dispute resolution mechanism in various agreements (wherever possible) between the regulated entities



Sebi building, Mumbai. The regulator is eyeing an effective mechanism to settle disputes between investors and regulated entities. File

and their clients," it added.

Meanwhile, Sebi has cut the timeline for filing settlement applications to just 60 days from the current 180 days in its effort to make the system more efficient.

Further, the regulator has relaxed pricing norms and lock-in requirements to make it easier for companies to raise funds through preferential allotment of shares. It has allowed pledging of shares allotted to promoter or promoter group under preferential issue during the lock-in period, according to a notification.

Sebi also put a cap on usage of initial public officer proceeds for unidentified future acquisitions and restricted the number of shares that can be offered by significant shareholders. WITHPTI

'More than 100 startups with over \$1-billion valuations by 2022-end'

The list of the new-age startups in the country valued at over \$1 billion will be at least 100 by the end of the year, a report by PwC India said

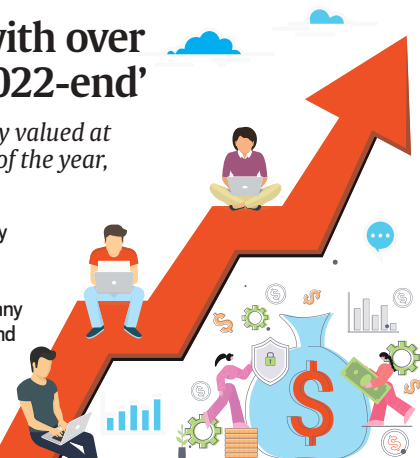
50 startups in India have the potential to achieve the coveted 'unicorn' status, i.e. valuation of \$1 billion, in 2022

43 startups were added to the list in 2021 and the number of

unicorns shot up to 68 by the end of the year

HUGE SPIKE in company valuations in the listed and unlisted space was witnessed last year

Source: PwC India/PTI



\$35 billion were raised by Indian startups in over 1,000 rounds of funding in 2021

Over \$10 billion was invested in Indian startup ecosystem in October-December

FROM 12 CENTRAL PUBLIC SECTOR ENTERPRISES

Govt gets ₹6,651 cr dividend

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 17

THE GOVERNMENT has received more than Rs 6,600 crore as dividend tranches from a dozen central public sector enterprises (CPSes), a senior official said.

In a tweet on Monday, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey said, "Government has received about Rs 972 crore and Rs 2506 crore

from Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited as Dividend tranches."

Hindustan Aeronautics, Bharat Electronics, HLL Lifecare Ltd, FAGMIL and NSIC have given Rs 351 crore, Rs 149 crore, Rs 19 crore, Rs 12 crore and Rs 31 crore as dividend tranches, respectively, he added. "Government has received about Rs 1605 crore and Rs 913 crore from NMDC and GAIL respectively as Dividend tranches," he said in another tweet.

2021 SEES FASTEST GROWTH IN A DECADE

China grows 8.1% on exports boost

REUTERS
BEIJING, JANUARY 17

CHINA'S ECONOMY rebounded in 2021 with its best growth in a decade, helped by robust exports, but there are signs that momentum is slowing on weakening consumption and a property downturn, pointing to the need for more policy support.

Growth in the fourth quarter

Q4 GDP GROWTH RATE

4%

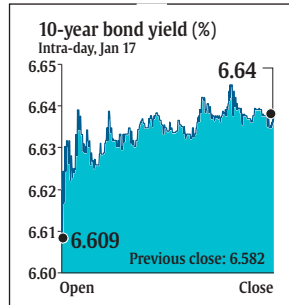
Gross domestic product grew 4 per cent in the final quarter, National Bureau of Statistics data showed

hit a one-and-a-half-year low, government data showed on Monday shortly after the central bank

About Rs 42 crore, Rs 26 crore and Rs 25 crore were received from Central Warehousing Corporation, National Highways Infrastructure Development Corporation and WAPCOS, the DIPAM Secretary further tweeted.

In aggregate, the government received Rs 6,651 crore as dividend on Monday from these 12 companies. With this, total proceeds from dividend from public sector enterprises reached close to Rs 40,000 crore for financial year 2021-22 so far. WITHPTI

Yield hits 2-year high



Mumbai: The benchmark 10-year bond yield hit a two-year high on Monday, tracking an uptick in US yields and a continued rise in global crude oil prices which has raised expectations of rate increases by the RBI.

The benchmark 10-year yield rose 6 basis points from Friday's close to 6.64 per cent, its highest since January 22, 2020, as per a Reuters report. US Treasury yields rose and stayed higher in Asia trade as soft consumer was seen as not enough to derail the Fed's path of tightening policy.

Market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies, as per a PFI report, jumped to an all-time high of over Rs 280 lakh crore. AGENCIES

BRIEFLY

Telecom licence

New Delhi: The DoT amended telecom licences to enable service providers to roll out machine-to-machine communication, a service considered a key driver of 5G adoption.

HCL Tech hiring

New Delhi: HCL Technologies CEO C Vijayakumar said he expects rising attrition rates to stabilise in future quarters. The firm, which plans to hire 20,000-22,000 freshers this fiscal, said it could double the number in FY23.

TechM buys

New Delhi: Tech Mahindra bought 100% in Europe-based Com Tec Co IT for €310 million and 25% in insurtech platforms SWFT Technologies and Surance platform for €20 million.

Chola Inv deal

New Delhi: Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company plans to buy 72.1% in fintech payment solutions provider Payswift Technologies for Rs 450 crore. PTI

Amazon UK, Visa

London: Amazon won't stop accepting UK-issued Visa Inc credit cards on its British website as it had proposed.

Credit Suisse

Geneva: Credit Suisse said its British-Portuguese chairman Antonio Horta-Osorio quit after an internal probe showed he allegedly violated quarantine rules.

Citiconsumer biz

Mumbai: Axis Bank is the frontrunner to buy Citic's consumer business in India, valued at around \$1.5 billion, two sources said. REUTERS

US airline CEOs warn 5G could ground planes, wreak havoc

REUTERS
WASHINGTON, JANUARY 17

THE CHIEF executives of major US carriers on Monday warned of an impending "catastrophic" aviation crisis on Wednesday when AT&T and Verizon are set to deploy new 5G service.

The airlines warned the new C-Band 5G service could potentially make a significant number of widebody aircraft unusable and "could potentially strand tens of thousands of Americans overseas." "Unless our major hubs are cleared to fly, the vast majority of the traveling and shipping public will essentially be grounded," wrote the chief executives of American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, United Airlines, Southwest Airlines and others. The letter went to White House National Economic Council director Brian Deese, Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, among others.

Recovery fragile, says UN chief

New Delhi/Davos: Asserting that the world economic recovery from the pandemic is very fragile and uneven, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Monday said in a special address at the World Economic Forum's online Davos Agenda 2022 summit that the global financial system has failed the low-income countries when they needed it the most.

The first 2 years of the pandemic saw income of 99 per cent of humanity fall and over 16 crore forced into poverty, said an Oxfam study. Another study said Indian billionaires saw combined fortunes more than double during Covid and their count shot up by 39 per cent to 142, while the wealth of the 10 richest is enough to fund education of children for 25 years. PTI



Borge Brende, WEF president, and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres at Davos Agenda 2022, in Cologne. AP

Billions still not on the Net: Mittal

New Delhi/Davos: Bharti Enterprises' Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal on Monday said billions are still not on the internet for which affordability is a key factor.

Speaking at a discussion at the

World Economic Forum's online Davos Agenda 2022 summit, he added the industry alone cannot reach the last mile and huge investments will be required in infrastructure to reach that goal. PTI

Jan: Omicron slows petrol, diesel sales

New Delhi: With the impact of the third Covid wave spreading, petrol and diesel sales fell in the first fortnight of January.

Diesel sales fell 14.1 per cent to 2.47 million tonne during January 1-15, over the same period last month, and 4.99 per cent over the year-ago period, as per preliminary data from state fuel retailers. Petrol sales was at 9,64,380 tonne, 13.81 per cent lower than the first fortnight of December and 2.82 per cent lower than a year ago.

Brent was up 28 cents, or 0.3 per cent, to \$86.34 by 1646 GMT. WTI was up 36 cents, or 0.4 per cent, at \$84.18. WITHPTI, REUTERS

RailTel
(A Government of India Undertaking)
CIN No. L84202DL2000GOI107905
Tender No.: RCIL_ER_2021-22_1346-1347, Dated 17.01.2022
RailTel/E. Region invites e-tenders from eligible bidders for the work of "Provision of Last Mile RF links including the required GBT/RTT/Pole in Central Coal Fields Ltd.'s Area in Jharkhand State for 5 years".
Tender Notice & Tender Document are available on www.railtelindia.com and <https://www.ireps.gov.in>. All future Addendum/corrigendum etc will be uploaded in RailTel website and IREPS Portal only.

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560064
FAX: 080-28460367, PH: 080-28072712
Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in
e-mail: smm.p3.rwf@gmail.com
Corrigendum dated 11/01/2022 to Tender Notice No. RWFS/004/2021-22 Dated 09/11/2021
The Tender due dates of Open Tender Number P2215743 viz. Auto Lancing System and P2215675 viz. PNG Pipeline to SPC Bay are postponed from 10/01/2022 to 09/02/2022 at 15:00 hrs. All the other terms and conditions remain unaltered.
Principal Chief Materials Manager

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No : 49/SE/PHC/TSR/2021-22. Jala Jeevan Mission 2021-22- Augmentation of CWSS to Nattika Farka-PHASE II - Providing Distribution Network and FHTC to Vadanappally Panchayath. EMD : Rs. 2,00,000. Tender fee : Rs. 11200. Last Date for submitting Tender : 28-01-2022 03:00:pm. Phone : 04872423230. Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in. www.etenders.kerala.gov.in. Superintending Engineer PH Circle, Thrissur
KWA-JB-GL-6-910-2021-22

SBI
Core Banking Technical Operations Department, State Bank of India, Global IT Centre, Sector-11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400614
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
RFP NO: SBI/GITC/Core Banking-Tech Operation/2021/2022/822 DATED: 15.01.2022
Bids are invited by State Bank of India from the eligible bidders for Procurement of Videowall processor, Pro-control processor, touch panel and procurement of AMC, FMS for operation and maintenance of video walls and other related equipment installed at GITC CBD Belapur. For details, please visit 'Procurement News' at <https://www.sbi.co.in> and e-Procurement agency portal <https://etender.sbi/sbi/>
Commencement of download of RFP: From 18.01.2022. Last date and time for submission of bids: 08.02.2022 up to 14:00 hrs. DGM (CB - Tech Operations)

SBI
Enterprise Integration Services, State Bank of India, Global IT-Centre, Sec-11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400614
CORRIGENDUM
PROCUREMENT, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE OF STORAGE
Please refer to the RFP NO. SBI/GITC/Enterprise Integration Services/2021/2022/816 Dated 27.12.2021. In this regard Corrigendum dated 17.01.2022 is available under 'Procurement News' at <https://www.sbi.co.in> and e-Procurement agency portal <https://etender.sbi/sbi/>
Place: Navi Mumbai
Date: 17.01.2022
Deputy General Manager
Enterprise Integration Services

BHARATIYA RESERVE BANK NOTE MUDRAN (P) LIMITED
(Wholly owned subsidiary of Reserve Bank of India)
P.O.: RBNML, Salboni - 721132, Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal.
Phone No.: 03227-280176 / 280317; Fax No. 03227-280744 / 280222
OPEN TENDER ENQUIRY (OTE)/NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB)
Tenders under Two Part bidding system are invited from experienced, resourceful, reputed and bonafide Suppliers/Service Providers/Agencies/Contractors (as applicable) for the following:
1. SUPPLY OF SULPHONATED CASTOR OIL AT BRBNMPL, SALBONI, TENDER NO. 057/SAL/MMD/2021-22. [ESTIMATED COST - ₹ 72 LAKHS]
2. SUPPLY OF CLOSED METAL BODY CONTAINERIZED TRUCKS & HIRING OF ESCORT VEHICLES ALONG WITH DRIVER (WITH YELLOW NUMBER PLATE) ON ANNUAL RATE CONTRACT FOR FIVE YEARS ON YEARLY RENEWABLE BASIS, TENDER NO. 058/SAL/MMD/2021-22. [ESTIMATED COST - ₹ 352.65 LAKHS]
Last date of submission of all the above tenders is 18.02.2022 by 11:30 Hrs. For downloading tender documents and other details, kindly visit our website www.brbnmpl.co.in. Further extension or amendment/s, if any will be uploaded on our website only. General Manager

PARADIP PORT TRUST
PARADIP-754142, ODISHA (INDIA)
(An autonomous body under Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Govt of India)
No. AD/RSC-II-21/10/06(Pt.)/119 Dated, the 13th Jan., 2022
Advertisement
Applications are invited from Indian Nationals for engagement of 01 (one) **Horticulture Consultant** on contractual basis in Paradip Port Trust.
For further details, visit our website www.paradiport.gov.in
Sr. Asst. Secretary
Dated: 17.01.2022
PPT/PR/140/21-22



SUDARSHAN SUCHI
CEO, SAVE THE CHILDREN, INDIA

Given that 40 per cent of our population is the youth, can we look for a budget with a dedicated section for children? Can we expect the government to come forward with a dedicated ministry for child welfare?

What needs to be said is when we serve the cause of children, do we limit it only to the Women and Child Development department? When we talk about the protection of children, we see a partnership between the Women and Child Development Ministry and the Ministry of Home Affairs and state governments. When we look at children in the tribal belts, we work actively with the Tribal Ministry. When we look at children with disabilities, we work with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. When we look at children from the Northeast, our engagement is strengthened with the department of DoNER. When we look at children from the health perspective, there are many flagship schemes that are now centralised in the Ministry of Health.

With regard to the budget, though the Women and Child Development Ministry has a budget that oscillates up to Rs 23,000 crore, one also needs to consider the budgets of other such ministries that equally serve the cause of children in our country.



RC SONI
INDIA ADVISOR, WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

There is a UNESCO report, a survey that says 47 million children in India drop out of senior secondary school and most of them are girls. What are you doing on this front?

I think that the numbers are to be revised given that now the Government of India gets UDISE numbers from the state governments. As far as the dropout of girls in the school system goes, there are two verticals under which this data is drawn — one under the school department, the other under the anganwadi system where the Govt now provides support to drop-out girls in the anganwadi system and that provision in fact entails that we match that data. There is a data gap of nine lakh women, which, now in collaboration with states, has been rectified. So the data may be dated as far as the UNESCO report goes. This is a 2016 report, which the MHRD did not fully support.

However, one has to agree that the transition of young women from schools to higher education institutions is still a challenge. More so, when it comes to technical and technological institutions. One of the challenges stems from the fact that more girls are not inclined towards STEM subjects because they have not been given that pronounced support in school.

Our intention needs to be to propagate the ownership of technology by more female-led enterprises. Even in terms of academic appointments, you see very few women leading institutions. As Minister of Education, I had the privilege of appointing the first-ever woman to lead the IIT council, Tessy Thomas, who's now leading DRDO. I also ensured that most of the NITs were led by them.



Scan the QR code to watch e.Adda

Smriti Irani was in conversation with Anant Goenka, Executive Director, The Indian Express Group, and National Opinion Editor Vandita Mishra



MONAL KABRA
FOUNDER, SOLAR DESK

How did you balance children and a demanding career? What are the initiatives you would have taken then and now for better childcare infrastructure?

I worked as a professional when there was a Congress government at the Centre and had no hopes of receiving any support. This government has pronounced 26 weeks of maternity leave. The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana provides for loss of wages when a woman needs to get inoculated during pregnancy. Institutional deliveries have gone up. The need to mandate a creche at work places is being pronounced by this government. The labour codes that were simplified speak for these kind of rights. Access to good transport systems under the Nirbhaya Fund have been supported by the Govt. We have women helpdesks across all police stations. On how did I manage between children and a job, that question itself smacks of gender disbalance.



DR. ANTONY KOLLANNUR
INDEPENDENT MONITOR, NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

There is no system for psychosocial stimulation for 0-3 years of age in ICDS. What is your plan for the same?

The Ministry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, is looking at a new module under early childhood education, which is a need in the anganwadi system. We are collaborating with the NCERT. We've also requested stakeholders to give their inputs. When you talk about psychosocial counselling, especially for children, in collaboration with NIMHANS, a year ago we started a counselling process across all childcare institutions, ensuring that duty bearers in such institutions have access to psychosocial counselling. Under the project called SAMVAD, we have given support to over one lakh such cases under the aegis of NIMHANS. We are hoping to expand these services.



V N DALMIA
DIRECTOR AND FORMER CHAIRMAN, DALMIA CONTINENTAL

When the marriageable age was 21 for males and 18 for females, there was an age gap. If it becomes 21 for both and someone wants to maintain the gap, the male will have to be older... Would women have a choice in a rural setting where there is parental insistence on an earlier marriage?

What is the insistence on having a man older than you and not of the same age when you enter into matrimony? Let it be a woman's choice... There will be a law for that insistence then to be illegally held. It will be a woman's right to choose in an urban or rural setup.

‘Earlier there were monologues. Now there is a voice talking back’

At the recent e.Adda, Union Minister for Women and Child Development, Smriti Irani spoke on the Bill to raise the legal age of marriage for women in India, polarisation in society and turning author with *Lal Salaam*

On her UP experience and the political situation in the state

I think those who are in the know of the politics and the mechanisms of how socially UP has evolved over the years, can ascertain for you a BJP victory in the forthcoming Assembly elections. My grandfather is from Moradabad, so my memories from the state are plenty. However, my political memories are also distinct. I've had the privilege of serving the Lok Sabha constituency of Amethi. I contested from Amethi in 2014 with just 20 to 25 days to contest. The BJP had never clocked more than 30,000 votes. But in those 20-25 days, our transition was from 30,000 votes to three lakh votes. For me, it meant as though there were people waiting for change. I'm grateful that my party considered me again as a candidate from Amethi, and we could bring victory to the party there.

On escalating polarisation in the campaign in UP

I don't know why you do not see polarisation when the Samajwadi Party leader speaks about seeing Lord Krishna in his dreams. Why you don't see polarisation when you have Mrs Vadra go and pay respects at a mosque. I don't see why you don't see polarisation when Mr Gandhi wears a *ajaneu* over his coat. Why is the taunt of polarisation or the question posed only to a BJP leader? The foundation on which the UP election is being fought is the issue of development.

On whether polarisation could drown out other issues

I don't think anything will deflect from the issue of development. Recently, the chief minister was in my constituency and we spoke about infrastructure, which was never built in a constituency which saw the Gandhi family for 50 years. The family had befriended every political organisation in UP — Samajwadi Party and BSP were extremely close to the Gandhi family and they were part of a coalition government. However, to keep the fruits of development away from people is something which is a matter of conversation among citizens. I don't think you can deny that this election is as much about development as it is about the bad legacy of governance with regards to the Samajwadi Party or the Congress Party.

On political parties increasingly seeing women as a vote bank

Women as vote banks have been considered only by those who have suddenly discovered that women have been more than aggressive about their political opinions, or for that matter, their vote. It's been heartening to see a PM who put women's agenda at the top of his priorities in terms of governance.

On whether women are voting independent of how their families do

One cannot disregard that there have been segments in our community where women

QUICK QUESTIONS

Sony and Zee merger: Good or bad for content creators?

I would stay out of the realm because I'm in a position where I'm governing certain aspects. I think content creators are most supported when there is democratisation of means.

HRD and Women and Child Development, which is your favourite? Both.

Tulsi in *Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu* Thi or *Sita in Ramayan*, which is your most cherished role?

Both. In *Ramayan*, I had the opportunity of working with BR Chopra, Yash Chopra and Ravi Chopra.

The one lesson India's favourite bahu will give to another?

Make sure that you live happily and give equal respect to your partner; make sure that you prosper.

What is something that you are proud of doing and that you feel was unfinished business or wasn't done the way you wanted?

I live a life of no regrets. As far as achievements, I have beautiful kids and for me, they are the hallmark of my success.

Achievement and regret as a mother?

No regrets. As for achievements, I have two children who have turned out to be amazing human beings.

Achievement and regret as an actor?

None. I have done television, theatre and films. So there isn't a realm, in terms of the media business, that I've not been a part of, including reporting for elections for Zee. I worked for Jain TV as well.

The one achievement closest to your heart as a politician.

The PM was more than kind to trust our capacities in textiles. A country which never manufactured a single piece of PPE suit, we managed, from March to May, to become the world's second-largest exporters in PPE.

You did not mention Amethi in this.

Amethi for me is not mere politics; it's a life process. I look at it as a journey with the people I care about. I look at it as a part of my personal journey.

Anything you would like to redo or you failed in during your political career?

I think in totality we are people who are an assimilation of our successes and failures. I'm here today irrespective of my failures and my successes.

have been compelled to vote in a particular way. But I think this new India is about women understanding their right to choose political parties on the basis of development.

On raising the age of marriage for women from 18 to 21 years

When I introduced the amendment to the Prohibition of Child Marriage, when I spoke about the need for women to have equal rights as men to enter into matrimony at the age of 21, there was support from across the nation, from women across all communities and all religions. The only naysayers were the men who were in that House, making that noise. I think

that when it comes to such issues, we have seen women congregate.

On criticism that the Bill proposes to criminalise a large section of marriages

I think that is one of the greatest rumours that has been spread. Those who seek to disenfranchise women with regards to the right to equality are those who are propagating this falsehood... The fact that after 75 years of our country's independence, women and men did not get to enter matrimony at the same age, is a matter of deep regret. That is why when I

Associate Partners



Eminent guests who participated in the e.Adda include Mannika Chopra, Managing Editor, Council for Social Development; Jaya Jaitly, Founder and President, Dastkari Haat Samiti; Kirit Parikh, Chairman, IRADe; Krishan Kant Rath, MD, First Bridge Fund Managers; Atul Choksey, Chairman, Apcotex Industries; Poonam Dabas, Executive Editor, Centre for Media and Strategic Studies; Ajai Kumar, Director, Indiabulls AMC; Pankaj Satija, MD, Tata Steel Mining; Urvashi Butalia, Director, Zubaan Books; K Sudarshan, Managing Director, EMA Partners India; Sevanti Ninan, Columnist, The Telegraph India; Meenakshi Gopinath, Chairperson, Centre for Policy Research; Vivek Jain, Managing Director, DCW; Mridul Shah, Managing Director, Aamara Capital



SUVIR SARAN
CHEF, AUTHOR AND EXPRESS COLUMNIST

Can a woman as gracious and generous as you really be what people call conservative?

What is a conservative? The PM gave the right to medical termination of pregnancy up to 24 weeks for women. This is an issue that is pronounced in the US as a liberal issue. There was no structured administrative protocol for

surrogacy in our country. It is the Modi government that brought about legislation that protects the rights of women, children and families under the aegis of surrogacy. It is the PM who, as part of a nationalist government, enhanced maternity leave to 26 weeks. These issues are normally presumed to be liberal issues. So how do I look at myself? I look at myself as a humanist and a nationalist.



PANKAJ CHADHA
CEO, JYOTI STEEL

Considering what you've stated about the development progress in UP, is there a need in the light of the third wave to have such an overdrive in the UP election by the BJP?

Even the issues that I have flagged today, some may say that I have been on an overdrive talking about my government's achievements.

If it is my desire to express the good work done, then the democratic setup that we are a part of affords us that right. I understand that the other side has not done much and, hence, cannot speak much on issues of deadlock, but that is a cause of concern limited to them. In so far as my party goes, I'm extremely proud that my party could do so much work that we speak so much about it.

18 SPORT

Bumrah ready to become Test captain

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
KOLKATA, JANUARY 17

PACE SPEARHEAD Jasprit Bumrah has said that if the opportunity comes, he is ready to take up the India captaincy. "If given an opportunity, it would be an honour. I don't think any player would say no. There's no bigger feeling than that," Bumrah said at a press conference on Monday.

The fast bowler has been promoted to the vice-captaincy of the Indian team for the three-match ODI series in South Africa that starts on Wednesday. KL Rahul is the stand-in captain for the series, as the regular captain Rohit Sharma hasn't yet recovered from a hamstring injury. After Virat Kohli gave up his Test captaincy at the end of the South Africa series, speculations are rife over who his successor will be. While Rahul and Rohit are said to be the frontrunners, former India captain and one of the game's influential voices, Sunil Gavaskar, had suggested the name of wicket-keeper Rishabh Pant. Now, Bumrah's name, too, can be added to the list.

Rarely has a fast bowler been picked to lead the side in Indian cricket. Kapil Dev was a glorious exception. As for Bumrah, he is one of only three players with an A+ central contract – the other two being Kohli and Rohit – and is indispensable in any format.

Globally also, the perception is changing. Pat Cummins became the first fast bowler in 65 years – since Ray Lindwall in 1956 – to lead Australia in Tests, presiding over a 4-0 hiding of England in the Ashes Down Under.

"Ready to do it if given an opportunity, but that's something I don't chase. In any leadership group, I always look at the situation in the same manner, not to take any extra pressure that now I have to be overcautious. Taking responsibility, talking to a lot of players, trying to help them out in the best possible manner has always been my approach and it will be my approach going further," Bumrah said.

The selectors had promoted Rohit to the Test vice-captaincy ahead of the South Africa tour, in place of Ajinkya Rahane. But the opener, being injury-prone of late, was ruled out of the entire tour. When a back spasm prevented Kohli from playing the second Test in Johannesburg, Rahul led the team and Bumrah was the vice-captain. A BCCI functionary told The Indian Express that for the moment, the selectors are set to appoint Rohit as captain across formats but beyond that, there remains a question mark.

Rohit's dodgy fitness record could be an impediment to making him long-term captain. Also, he will be turning 35 in April, and is a year-and-a-half older than Kohli. Bumrah's promotion as ODI vice-captain for the South Africa series is a clear indication that the selection committee sees leadership potential in him.

Bumrah, however, didn't play up the transition factor following Kohli's exit. "We understand the change and everybody is respectful (about) how the process is going. Change is the only constant.

All of us have played enough cricket to understand that this is the way the game goes and this is how you have to move forward. Everyone in the team is quite positive and quite eager to contribute," he said.

Ex-IPL & Ranji player alleges bribery offer to fix matches

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, JANUARY 17

A former Indian Premier League and Ranji Trophy player has alleged that he was offered Rs 40 lakh for match-fixing, and a complaint has been filed with Bengaluru Police in this regard.

Rajagopal Sathish hails from Tamil Nadu, and apart from his home state, has also appeared for Assam in the premier first-class competition in the country. He has been on the roster of Kings XI Punjab, Mumbai Indians and Kolkata Knight Riders in the IPL. He also played in the unsanctioned Indian Cricket League, and returned to the official fold after general amnesty. The 41-year-old now plays for Chepauk Super Gillies in the Tamil Nadu Premier League (TNPL) and it is believed Sathish was offered the money to compromise matches in this tournament.

Before approaching police, Sathish had also raised the matter with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). The International Cricket Council (ICC) has also been informed.

A police official said the formal complaint

Before approaching police, Sathish had also raised the matter with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). The International Cricket Council (ICC) has also been informed. A police official said the formal complaint with them was filed after directions from the BCCI.



with them was filed after directions from the BCCI. "A special team has been formed and we suspect that the accused, who claimed to be called Bunny Anand, is in Bengaluru," the official said.

As the BCCI Anti-Corruption and Security Unity (ACSU) doesn't have investigative, search and seizure powers, it relies on police in any case related to match-fixing, spot-fixing or any other form of corruption in cricket.

The police complaint has been filed by B Lokesh, who is with the ACSU, at Jayanagar police station in Bengaluru, the official said. According to it, "on January 3, a person named Bunny Anand contacted Sathish on Instagram and messaged him luring to pay Rs 40 lakh and told that two players have already agreed to the offer. Sathish said that he said 'sorry' to the offer." ACSU chief Shabbir Khandwawala confirmed that the matter is now with the police.

"The player approached us and ICC, and informed us that someone had approached him on Instagram. We took details of the case and told our ACU officer to file a police complaint in the matter. We are just a facilitator and now police will look into the case," Khandwawala said.

SANDIP G
JANUARY 17

From the foothills of Table Mountain, on a sun-lit January afternoon, South African cricket began another long journey. A journey of revival.

Written off before the series, ridiculed after the hammering in the first Test, stuck in an endless wheel of transition, afflicted by administrative chaos and coups, South African cricket seemed slipping down the slope of perdition, instilling fear that they would never be the unbendable force they once were. There were distant echoes of the decline of West Indies and Sri Lanka. There was fear and doubt that cricket would lose one of its historically strong teams, at a time when the chasm of standard between teams is getting wider than ever before.

In times to come, the afternoon they beat India to win the Test series could evoke different feelings. A false dawn perhaps. The last flicker of the flame before it dies out, or an illusion of revival. For now, it offers hope and light. It, now, has the potential to be an era-defining series for them, as it was for India in the famous 2001 win against the then World No. 1 team Australia, when they bounced back from a thrashing in the opening Test to win the series, heralding a fresh brand of Indian cricket. Or like how the Ashes win in 2005 altered England cricket.

There were abundant question marks when South Africa started the series. But as it wound up, they have found answers to many. They craved a leader, and found one in Dean Elgar. Understated and unassuming, ice-cool in crises and controlled in showing emotions, he has a streak of cussedness like one of his predecessors Graeme Smith, who himself assumed reins of a team in turmoil, and turned into marble. "I see captaincy as a privilege, not a burden or curse... I never ever run away from pressure," Elgar had told this newspaper prior to the series and has walked that talk ever since.

Elgar, in a sense, embodies the soul of this team. He is someone who has succeeded despite his technique, not because of it; he has known his limitations and worked within them. So has been this South Africa team – it's not without flaws, but worked a way around them. Not for once in this series, or since taking over a team depleted by retirements, and with persistent noise of administrative anarchy brewing behind it, has Elgar cribbed or carped. His unbeaten 96 in the successful fourth-innings chase in the second Test at Wanderers-like Graeme Smith's 277 at Edgbaston in 2003 – could be the flashpoint of a turnaround. Elgar's match-winning knock gave his colleagues and country the belief that they could win the series, that they could fight back from any dire situation.

Fighting back

There were several times in the Cape Town decider that the hosts were on the back foot and chasing the game, or as Elgar remarked "thrown under the sword", but they seldom surrendered, rather fought back. None as instructive as how they broke the Cheteshwar Pujara-Virat Kohli stand in the second session of the first day.

It was young Marco Jansen who terminated Pujara, who looked in total control. The beanpole left-arm seamer has been one of the discoveries of this series, and would no doubt



White-ball skipper Temba Bavuma impressed on and off the field at the T20 World Cup in the UAE and they were unlucky not to make the semifinals.

Reuters

50-OVER CALENDAR

- 1st ODI - Jan 19 at Paarl
- 2nd ODI - Jan 21 at Paarl
- 3rd ODI - Jan 23 at Cape Town

South Africa Squad: Temba Bavuma (C), Zubayr Hamza, Janneman Malan, Aiden Markram, David Miller, Rassie van der Dussen, Marco Jansen, Wayne Parnell, Andile Phehlukwayo, Dwaine Pretorius, Quinton de Kock, Kyle Verreynne, Keshav Maharaj, Sisanda Magala, Lungi Ngidi, Kagiso Rabada, Tabraiz Shamsi.

TV guide: All matches start from 2:00pm onwards on Star Sports and Hotstar.

make this Proteas pace pack deadlier. For a 21-year-old with limited first-class exposure, he has most tools in his repertoire. Awkward bounce that comes with his height, the skill to move the ball both ways (upright seam for the away-goer and scrambled one for the bend-backer) as well as make the ball hold its line, adeptness at interchanging lengths, and slipperiness. His steep bouncer reminded one of New Zealand's Neil Wagner, a player South Africa has lost.

Jansen's temperament impressed as much

as his craft – after the early nerves, he settled in smoothly and was barely overawed, quickly judged the lengths he needed to pursue on different wickets and make quick amendments in case he erred. Remarkably, nine times in 18 spells did he take a wicket in his first over.

Combine the left-arm quick with Kagiso Rabada and Anrich Nortje, and South Africa have a potentially world-beating bowling nucleus. Throw the ever-improving Lungi Ngidi into the mix, and South Africa could torment the finest of batsmen across conditions. All of them had their series-shaping moments, and would ripen in the days to come.

Rabada is still 26, Ngidi a year younger and Nortje 28. The best years might be ahead of them. Duanne Olivier wasn't his past self, operating at a lesser pace than before, but South Africa don't have to fret too much even if he doesn't improve as they are bound to get their fastest man Nortje back soon.

But pace bowling has seldom been a worry; it's batting that has been their tender spot. But a hero has risen – Keegan Petersen, who at 28 is not as young as Jansen, but could be their middle-order cornerstone for the next four-five years at least. His emergence has come at a time when they seemed drained of alternatives to replace retired stalwarts AB de Villiers and Faf du Plessis. It's presumptuous to compare him with the duo, but he seems the most compact batsman his country has produced in the last five years. Technical soundness, temperamental nous and stroke-making aptitude, he seems a complete package.

Together with Temba Bavuma, who finally seems to realise his potential, and Rassie van der Dussen, who has typical pugnacity of South

African batsmen like Ashwell Prince and JP Duminy, they could plug holes in the middle order. Quinton de Kock's heir, Kyle Verreynne, barely made a substantial score with the bat this series, but is highly rated and commands a domestic first-class average of 50.

Pieces falling in place

All of a sudden, South Africa seems a far more competitive team than it was thought to be. Or it's just that Elgar and the support staff have galvanised a bunch of largely unproven youngsters into a winning lot. "Got a young, talented group. Every day in this environment, we're gaining this experience. Unreal to see how a group that doesn't have the repertoire or names can gel together as one," Elgar said at the press conference, before he added with a faint grimace: "There's more work to be done."

There, indeed, is more work to be done. The series triumph is more like a foundation rather than a beautiful building, a start rather than a destination. They need their batsmen to start scoring hundreds – only Bavuma among their middle order has one – and they need the talented Aiden Markram to rediscover his touch. But the progress they have made in the series, the promise they had demonstrated in the last fortnight portends happier days for South African cricket.

As much as individual quality, they have found resolve and resoluteness, belief and togetherness, the virtues that would keep them on their path towards glory. And if they indeed realise their promise and build on their progress, retrace the steps to greatness again, they would reflect back on this sun-lit afternoon on the foothill of Table Mountain.

No vaccine, no French Open for Djokovic, says ministry

REUTERS
PARIS, JANUARY 17

DJOKOVIC COULD be barred from playing in the French Open as things stand now after the Sports Ministry said on Monday there would be no exemption from France's new vaccine pass law. World number one Djokovic, who has not been vaccinated against COVID-19, was deported from Australia on Sunday before the first Grand Slam tournament of the year after losing a court case to have the cancellation of his visa overturned.

France's vaccine pass law, approved by parliament on Sunday, will require people to have a certificate of vaccination to enter public places such as restaurants, cafes, cinemas and long-distance trains.

"The rule is simple. The vaccine pass will be imposed, as soon as the law is promulgated, in establishments that were already subject to the health pass," the ministry said.

"This will apply to everyone who is a spectator or a professional sportsperson. And this until further notice.

"Now, as far as Roland Garros is concerned, it's in May. The situation may change between now and then and we hope that it will be more favourable. So we'll see, but clearly there's no exemption."

Serbian Djokovic, who was barred from bidding to win a record 21st Grand Slam title at the Australian Open, has refused to vaccinate and was criticised for attending public events last month after testing positive for the coronavirus

A rousing welcome in Serbia

Novak Djokovic returned to a hero's welcome in Serbia on Monday after Australia deported the world men's tennis No. 1 for being unvaccinated against COVID-19, a stance jeopardising his quest for a record 21st Grand Slam title.

Most Australians had wanted him gone, but Serbian supporters waved national flags and lauded him on arrival at Belgrade airport.

"You are our champion, Novak!" and "We love you, Nole!" they chanted, using his diminutive name. He 34-year-old "King of Melbourne" had won nine previous Australia Opens, is level with Rafa Nadal and Roger Federer on 20 titles, and was top men's seed for the tournament that got underway on Monday.

But instead of beginning his title defence as scheduled at Melbourne Park, he flew to Belgrade via Dubai after being twice detained in a hotel with asylum-seekers and then unceremoniously booted out by Australian immigration.

"Whoever wins it now, doesn't really count," said Alek Drakovic, a member of the Australian Serbian community, disappointed to miss seeing him in Melbourne.

The Australian government's decision was in tune with majority public opinion, but authorities have been criticised for not resolving the issue before he arrived.



सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया
Central Bank of India

Regional Office, Mauryalok Complex, Patna-1

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

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

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section (13) of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the Branch	Name of the Accounts/ Borrowers/ Guarantor	Name of the owner & Description of the property mortgaged	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession Notice Affixed	Amount outstanding as on date of Demand Notice	Amount outstanding as on date of Possession Notice
Gulzar Bagh Branch	Borrowers: Mr. Vijay Kumar S/o Late Bajrangi Lal and Co-borrower/ Guarantor: Mrs. Sheela Chandra W/o Mr. Vijay Kumar	Description of the Immovable Property (Land & Building): Name of the Mortgagor: Mr. Vijay Kumar, S/o Late Bajrangi Lal and Co-borrower/Guarantor Mrs. Sheela Chandra, W/o Mr. Vijay Kumar. Address of the Mortgagors: Nal Band Toli Chandravanshi Gali, Near Alamganj Chowki, Gulzarbagh, Patna-800007. Full particulars of Property: Sale Deed No.-9402, Dtd.-16/12/2014, Area-15 dhur 18 dhurki, PO-Gulzarbagh, PS-Alamganj, District-Patna, Mouza/Moh-Nalband Toli Municipal Plot No.-2153 and 2155, Ward No.18/24 Holding No.97(N)/107(Old), Sheet No.154, Circle No.76. Location of the property: Mauza-Balband Toli, Mohallah-Nalband Toli, Thana-Alamganj, Registry & Sub-registry-Patna City, Dist.-Patna. Boundary: North-Corporation Lane, South-Part of Plot No.2153 and 2155, East-Part of Plot No.2153 and 2155, West-Umakant Choudhary.	04.05.2021	13.01.2022	₹9,99,322.26/- (Rupees Nine lac ninety nine thousand three hundred twenty two and paise twenty six only) with future Interest and incidental charges w.e.f 04.05.2021	₹9,99,322.26/- (Rupees Nine lac ninety nine thousand three hundred twenty two and paise twenty six only) and interest thereon.
Choudhary Tola Branch	Borrower/ Co-borrower/ Guarantor: Mr. Baban Kumar and Kanchan Kumari	Description of the Immovable Property (Land & Building): Name of the Mortgagor: Mr. Baban Kumar. Full particulars of Property: Sale Deed No.-Registered Mortgage Deed No.10041, dtd. 16/10/2014, Area-550 Sq.ft., Thana No.-2, Khata No.-54, Kheshra Survey Plot No.-82, Old Holding No.13, New Holding No.-37, Mauza-Chakmussalhapur, Thana-Kadamkuan, Registry & Sub-Registry-Patna. Location of the property: at Mauza-Chakmussalhapur, Boundary: North-Part Plot No.82 of Smt. Leela Devi, South-Part Plot No.82 of Smt. Sangita Devi and Smt. Priya Devi, East-Sri Hari Prasad, Basu Malik and Tarani Prasad, West-10' Feet Wide Road.	13.05.2019	15.01.2022	₹4,72,954/- (Rupees Four lac seventy two thousand nine hundred fifty four only) with future Interest and incidental charges w.e.f 29.04.2019	₹4,72,954/- (Rupees Four lac seventy two thousand nine hundred fifty four only) and interest thereon.

Date : 17.01.2022
Place : Patna

Authorised officer
CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA