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

The Indian EXPRESS

JOURNALISM OF COURAGE
SINCE 1932

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2022, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 26+4 PAGES

₹6.00 (₹8 BIHAR & RAIPUR, ₹12 SRINAGAR) WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Delhi CELEBRATES FREEDOM@75

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

Heartiest congratulations on India's 73rd Republic Day

DIP/Shabdarth/D/0195/21-22

"On this Republic Day, let's pay our tribute to all the brave patriots who have sacrificed their lives for our great nation. Jai Hind."

- Arvind Kejriwal

Directorate of Information and Publicity, Govt of NCT of Delhi

The Indian EXPRESS
Classifieds
FROM ANYTHING TO EVERYTHING.

CLASSIFIED AD DEPOT (CAD)

Book classified ads at your nearest Express Group's authorised Classified Ad Depots

EAST

PATPARGANJ : CHAVI ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9899701024, 22090987, 22235837, **PREET VIHAR :** AD BRIDGE COMMUNICATION, Ph.: 9810029747, 42421234, 22017210, **SHAKARPUR :** PARICHAY ADVERTISING & MARKETING, Ph.: 9350309890, 22519890, 22549890

WEST

JANAKPURI : TRIMURTI ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9810234206, 25530307, **KAROL BAGH (REGHARPURA) :** K R ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9810316618, 9310316618, 41547697, **KARAMPURA :** GMJ ADVERTISING & MARKETING PVT. LTD., Ph.: 9310333777, 9211333777, 9810883377, **NEW MOTI NAGAR :** MITTAL ADVERTISING, Ph.: 25178183, 9810538183, 9555945923, **MOTI NAGAR :** UMA ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9312272149, 8800276797, **RAMESH NAGAR :** POSITIVE ADS, Ph.: 9891195327, 9310006777, 65418908, **TILAK NAGAR :** SHIVA ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9891461543, 25980670, 20518836, **VIKAS PURI :** AAKAR ADVT. MEDIA Ph.: 9810401352, 9015907873, 9268796133

CENTRAL

CHANDNI CHOWK : RAMNIWAS ADVERTISING & MARKETING, Ph.: 9810145272, 23912577, 23928577, **CONNAUGHT PLACE :** HARI OM ADVERTISING COMPANY Ph.: 9811555181, 43751196

NORTH

TIS HAZARI COURT : SAI ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9811117748 **KINGWAY CAMP :** SHAGUN ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9818505505, 27458589, **PATEL CHEST (OPP. MORRIS NAGAR POLICE STATION) :** MAHAN ADVERTISING & MARKETING, Ph.: 9350304609, 7042590693, **PITAMPURA (PRASHANT VIHAR) :** PAAVAN ADVERTISER Ph.: 9311564460, 9311288839, 47057929

SOUTH

CHATTARPUR : A & M MEDIA ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9811602901, 65181100, 26301008, **KALKAJI :** ADWIN ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9811111825, 41605556, 26462690, **MALVIYA NAGAR :** POOJA ADVERTISING & MARKETING SERVICE, Ph.: 9891081700, 24331091, 46568866, **YUSUF SARAI :** TANEJA ADVERTISEMENT & MARKETING Ph.: 9810843218, 26561814, 26510090

NCR

FARIDABAD (NEELAM FLYOVER) : AID TIME (INDIA) ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9811195834, 0129-2412798, 2434654, **FARIDABAD (NIT, KALYAN SINGH CHOWK) :** PULSE ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9818078183, 9811502088, 0129-4166498, **FARIDABAD :** SURAJ ADVERTISING & MARKETING, Ph.: 9810680954, 9953526681, **GURGAON :** SAMBODHI MEDIA PVT. LTD., Ph.: 0124-4065447, 9711277174, 9910633399, **GURGAON :** AD MEDIA ADVERTISING & PR, Ph.: 9873804580, **NOIDA (SEC. 29) :** RDX ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9899268321, 0120-4315917, **NOIDA (SEC. 65) :** SRI SAI MEDIA, Ph.: 0120-4216117, **NOIDA (SEC. 58) :** JAI LAKSHMI ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9873807457, 9911911719 **GHAZIABAD (HAPUR ROAD TIRAHA, NR GURUDWARA) :** TIRUPATI BALAJI ADVERTISING & MARKETING, Ph.: 9818373200, 8130640000, 0120-4561000

EDUCATION (IAS & PMT ACADEMIES)

FRIENDS PUBLICITY SERVICE 23287653, 23276901, 9212008155

For CAD enquiries please contact :
ROHIT JOSHI 9818505947, **ABHINAV GUPTA** 9910035901
For booking classified ads, please contact 011-23702148, 0120-6651215, E-mail : delhi.classifieds@expressindia.com

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

The Indian EXPRESS

JOURNALISM OF COURAGE
SINCE 1932

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2022, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 26+4PAGES

₹6.00 (₹8 BIHAR & RAIPUR, ₹12 SRINAGAR) WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

THE STRENGTH OF OUR REPUBLIC
BY NIRMALA SITHARAMAN

WHAT'S AT STAKE
Each citizen constitutes republic but it is officialdom — thana, court, administration — that secures it or lets it down
PAGE 16

Lapsed FCRA licences: SC gives no relief to NGOs, says approach Govt

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

DECLINING TO grant interim relief to NGOs seeking extension of licences under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, which were not renewed by the Ministry of Home Affairs following their expiry in November 2021, the Supreme Court Tuesday asked them to "make representation to the authorities" who "can decide in accordance with law".

The bench of Justices A M Khanwilkar, Dinesh Maheshwari and C T Ravikumar said it did not intend to grant any interim relief after the Centre submitted that the licences of NGOs which had applied within the permitted time limit had been extended.

"We have heard the parties in the matter of interim relief. The
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

REPUBLIC DAY: OVERALL LIST OF 128

Padma Vibhushan for Kalyan, Gen Rawat; Cong Azad, CPM Buddha on honours list

Awardees include vaccine makers, musicians, sportstars, former officials

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

The GOVERNMENT on Tuesday announced the Padma Awards ahead of Republic Day 2022 and, in a bid to reach across the political divide, picked Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad and CPI(M)'s Buddhadeb Bhattacharya for the Padma Bhushan. Also on the award list were the country's Covid vaccine makers, leaders of US tech giants Google and Microsoft, and the late General Bipin Rawat, the first Chief of Defence Staff who, with his wife and 12 others, was killed in a helicopter crash last month.

Azad, ex-J&K chief minister and former Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha, thanked the Government for recognising his sacrifices although he was a
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

(Clockwise from top left) Gen Bipin Rawat, Ghulam Nabi Azad, Sundar Pichai, Krishna Ella, Cyrus Poonawalla, Satya Nadella

Rajpath lit up on the eve of Republic Day. *Tashi Tobgyal*

Rights, duties two sides of same coin: President

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

STATING THAT "rights and duties are two sides of the same coin", President Ram Nath Kovind on Tuesday said "the observance of the fundamental duties mentioned in the Constitution by the citizens creates the proper environment for enjoyment of fundamental rights".

"Democracy, justice, liberty, equality and fraternity... form the bedrock on which our Republic stands. These are the values that form our collective inheritance. These values have been accorded
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Bid to reach across the aisle: Buddha rejects, Azad welcomes

LIZ MATHEW, MANOJ C G & ATRI MITRA
NEW DELHI, KOLKATA, JANUARY 25

AT A time of bitter political faultlines, the presence of Congress veteran Ghulam Nabi Azad and CPM's Buddhadeb Bhattacharya in the awards list, ironically, also evoked a divided response.

Not told: Buddhadeb

The latter turned it down hours after the announcement
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Amid bilateral chill, India-China trade marks record surge in 2021

KARUNJIT SINGH
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

DESPITE INDIA'S efforts to reduce dependence on imports from China amid an increased emphasis on self-reliance as well as escalating tensions along the border, bilateral trade grew 43.3 per cent in 2021 — a year that marked a record high in exports to and imports from China, according to Chinese government data.

India's imports from China rose to $97.5 billion in the calendar year 2021, up 46.1 per cent from $66.7 billion in 2020, which was impacted by Covid restrictions, as per data from the China General Administration of Customs. Imports in 2021 were up 30.3 per cent over 2019.

India's exports to China also grew to a record high of $28.1 billion in 2021, up 34.9 per cent from $20.9 billion in 2020. Exports to China in 2021 were 56.5 per cent higher than in 2019.

According to the data, India's total trade with China in 2021 was worth $125.7 billion.
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

EXPLAINED

Eye on trade deficit

THE RECORD trade between India and China comes amid a border standoff. Delhi also has an eye on the rising trade deficit: in terms of value, India's imports from China are nearly four times its exports to the country.

Another 'Gen Next' Cong leader leaves for BJP

LIZ MATHEW & MANOJ C G
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

IN A MAJOR boost for the BJP ahead of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, senior Congress leader and former Union minister R P N Singh joined it on Tuesday, saying the Congress was no longer the party it used to be.

"I have been in one party for

R P N Singh with Jyotiraditya Scindia and senior UP BJP leaders at the BJP office in New Delhi, Tuesday. *Praveen Khanna*

DECISION 2022

the last 32 years, but today I must say that the party is no longer what it used to be, nor is its thought. Today, everyone knows that if there is one party that is working for the benefit of the people and is working on
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

BUSINESS AS USUAL
BY UNNY

The Indian EXPRESS
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

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

Indian Express ★★★★ 4.6

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE APP

WEB EXCLUSIVE

PUSHPA THE RISE, KGF, RRR: AS SOUTH INDIA EMERGES AS THE NEW CENTRE OF TENTPOLE MOVIES, WHAT IS AILING BOLLYWOOD?

The success of Allu Arjun's latest movie Pushpa The Rise in north India was not a fluke. It is a sign of fast-evolving dynamics, which has put mainstream Hindi filmmakers on the backfoot.

TECH

SHURE AONIC FREE REVIEW

Aims to beat no noise cancellation with superior audio

EDUCATION

BUDGET 2022: EDUCATION SECTOR

Experts are expecting government support on diversified issues

EXPRESS AUDIO

The Amar Jawan Jyoti controversy

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Today on the 3 Things podcast, we talk about why the Amar Jawan Jyoti was extinguished, and the reasons why military veterans are divided about it.

FROM PAGE ONE

Padma list

"hardcore Congressman". But Bhattacharya, in line with his party's policy, said in a statement: "If I have been given Padma Bhushan, I refuse to accept it."

Four Padma Vibhushans, 17 Padma Bhushans and 107 Padma Shri awards have been conferred this year.

Gen Rawat, former UP CM Kalyan Singh, Hindustani Classical vocalist Prabha Atre and Radheshyam Khemka of Gita Press have been named for the Padma Vibhushan. Apart from Rawat, Singh and Khemka get the award posthumously.

The overall Padma list of 128 also includes Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella, Google CEO Sundar Pichai, Serum Institute of India's Cyrus Poonawalla, Bharat Biotech's Krishna Ella and Suchitra Ella and Tokyo Olympics gold medallist Neeraj Chopra.

Chandrasekaran, Nadella, Pichai, the Ellas and Poonawalla have been conferred the Padma Bhushan. The Ellas are the founders of Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech that, in collaboration with the ICMR, introduced India's first indigenously developed Covid vaccine.

Poonawalla is the chairman of the Cyrus Poonawalla Group, which includes the largest vaccine manufacturer in the world, Serum Institute of India (SII).

Former Home Secretary Rajiv Mehrishi, who last served as Comptroller and Auditor General, including during the audit of the Rafale fighter jet deal, has also been conferred the Padma Bhushan.

Former IAS officer Guruprasad Mohapatra, who "carried out his assigned charge of ensuring oxygen availability during Covid, even from his hospital bed" has been conferred the Padma Shri. Mohapatra died of Covid in the second wave.

India's Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics medallists have made a mark on the Padma list, too. Three-time Paralympics medallist Devendra Jhajharia, who was conferred with the Padma Shri in 2012, was awarded the Padma Bhushan while Neeraj Chopra, only the second athlete from the country to win an Olympic medal, was among the eight Padma Shris.

Said Jhajharia: "Such awards bridge the gap between para-athletes, able-bodied athletes."

Hockey star Vandana Kataria, whose family was subject to casteist slurs while she was away at the Tokyo Olympics, was awarded the Padma Shri. Also on the list was former India football captain Brahmanand Sankhwalkar, from Goa.

Among the other winners were Tokyo Paralympics medallists Avani Lekhara, Sumit Antil and Pramod Bhagat, along with martial arts master Sankaranarayan Menon Chundayil from Kerala and martial arts coach Faisal Ali Dar from Baramulla in J&K.

Among artists, Hindustani classical vocalist Rashid Khan, veteran actor Victor Banerjee and Punjabi folk singer Gurmeet Bawa were conferred the Padma Bhushan. Chandraprakash Dwivedi, the creator of the popular TV serial *Chankaya*, Benaras gharana thumri singer Shivnath Mishra and playback singer Sonu Nigam got the Padma Shri.

Najma Akhtar, the first woman vice chancellor of Jamia Milia Islamia, is on the Padma Shri list, along with historian Raghavendra Tanwar, who was recently appointed as chairman of ICHR. Tanwar is well known for his works on modern Indian history, particularly the freedom movement and Partition. Dr J K Bajaj of Centre for Policy Studies, a think tank associated with the RSS, is among the recipients.

The Government also conferred the Padma Shri to 10 specialists in the field of medicine.

The list includes Dr Bhimsen Singhal, for his contribution in the treatment of multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease; Dr Narendra Prasad Misra (posthumous) for treatment protocols for Bhopal gas tragedy victims; Sunkara Venkata Adinarayana Rao, for his work in polio surgeries; Dr Veeraswamy Seshiah, for protocols and guidelines for pregnancy diabetes; British-Indian Prof Prokar Dasgupta, for robotic urological surgeries; and paediatrician Dr Lata Desai, for service to tribal communities.

Jagjit Singh Dardi, chairman of Chardikala group, was conferred Padma Shri in the media category.

FCRA licences

petitioner has sought directions that those NGOs who had FCRA approval in 2021 should be allowed to continue. On this, the Solicitor General submits that those who had applied within cut-off time, their previous registration will be considered. We do not intend to pass any orders," it said.

The bench was hearing a plea by Houston-based NGO Global Peace Initiative and its founder, K A Paul, an evangelist, challenging "the decision of the Ministry of Home Affairs vide which it has cancelled/refused to renew the registration under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 of close to 6,000 non-governmental organizations".

Appearing for the petitioners, Senior Advocate Sanjay Hegde cited the work done by NGOs during the Covid-19 pandemic and said a decision regarding their licences should not be enforced during the time of the pandemic.

However, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, said there is a time limit under the statute. He said the licences of 11,594 NGOs that applied for renewal within that period have already been extended. The government, he said, is conscious of this.

He also raised questions on the locus standi of the petitioner NGO, asking "How is the Houston-based NGO concerned with this?... I don't know what is the purpose of this PIL. Something is amiss."

The bench then said it was not considering any interim relief and that the petitioners should wait for its judgement on another petition challenging amendments made to the Act in 2020 -- a bench headed by Justice Khanwilkar had reserved its judgement on that petition on November 9, 2021.

Hegde then said licences of those organisations which apply within the next two weeks should be extended.

The bench told him: "Mr Hegde, make representation. If they want to consider, they will consider."

The petitioners submitted that "the FCRA Amendment Act, 2020 brought in a number of onerous conditions upon the registered entities under the FCRA, which has significantly hampered their activities and operations. In fact, most organizations that are facing non-renewal/ cancellation of their FCRA registration are doing so in light of their inability to meet the conditions imposed by the 2020 amendments".

The petitioners said the MHA, in its December 31, 2021 order extending the validity of registration of certificates of NGOs whose applications are pending before it, also stated that "in case of refusal of the application for renewal of certificate of registration, the validity of the certificate shall be deemed to have expired on the date of refusal of the application of renewal and the association shall not be eligible either to receive foreign contribution or utilise the foreign contribution received".

"It appears that the MHA has relied on the non-fulfilment of the same provisions which were under challenge" -- in the petition on which the court has reserved judgement -- "to cancel/refuse renewal of close to 6000 NGOs," the petitioners said.

President

primacy in our Constitution in the form of fundamental rights and fundamental duties of the citizens," he said.

Addressing the nation on the eve of Republic Day, Kovind said crores of citizens had fulfilled "the fundamental duty of rendering national service" by taking part in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and Covid vaccination drive.

"A great deal of credit for the success of such campaigns goes to our dutiful citizens. I am sure that our people will continue to strengthen the campaigns of national interest with their active participation and will demonstrate the same dedication," he said.

"In the fight against the pandemic, it has now become a sacred national duty of every citizen to follow the precautions suggested by our scientists and experts. We have to discharge this duty till the crisis is behind us," he said.

"As the pandemic is still widespread, we must remain alert and not let our guard down. The precautions we have taken till now have to be continued. Wearing mask and maintaining social distancing have been essential parts of Covid-appropriate behaviour," he said.

Saying that India became self reliant in the vaccination programme, despite being a developing economy with inadequate resources and high population density, he said: "It is only in such difficult times that the resilience of a nation shines forth. I am proud to say that we have shown an unmatched resolve against the coronavirus. In the first year itself, we raised the healthcare infrastructure and also reached out to help others. By the second year, we had developed indigenous vaccines and launched the world's biggest vaccination drive in history."

Besides lauding doctors, nurses and paramedics, he said: "The leadership, policy-makers, administrators and others at the central and state levels have made timely interventions. Due to such interventions the economy is on the move again. It is a testimony to India's spirit in the face of adversity that the economy is projected to grow at an impressive rate in this fiscal, after going through contraction last year."

He said the government has "shown relentless focus on reforming every economic sector and providing a helping hand wherever necessary."

"The impressive economic performance is made possible due to improvement in the agriculture and manufacturing sectors. I am happy to note that our farmers, especially young farmers with small holdings, are enthusiastically adopting natural farming," he said.

He had special praise for small and medium enterprises which, he said, have played an important role in providing employment and imparting impetus to the economy.

"Our innovative young entrepreneurs have set new benchmarks of success by making effective use of the start-up ecosystem. It is a testimony to the success of our country's massive and robust digital payment platform that millions of digital transactions are being done every month," he said.

Maintaining that "patriotism strengthens the sense of duty among citizens", Kovind said: "Whether you are a doctor or lawyer, a shopkeeper or office-worker, a sanitation employee or labourer, doing one's duty well and efficiently is the first and foremost contribution you make to the nation."

Citing the example of Sui village in Bhiwani district of Haryana, which, he said, was transformed by villagers under the Swa-Prerit Adarsh Gram Yojana, he said this "affection and gratitude for one's village or native land" is "worth emulating".

"There remains life-long love and reverence for their native land in the hearts of grateful people. This example strengthens my belief that a new India is emerging – a Strong India and a Sensitive India" he said.

He also narrated his own experience of going back to his birthplace -- Paraunkh in Kanpur Dehat district of Uttar Pradesh – which he visited last June. "On reaching there, I naturally felt the urge to express respect for the sacred soil of my village and applied it on my forehead because I believe that I have been able to reach Rashtrapati Bhavan only due to the blessings of my village.Wherever in the world I may be, my village and my country remain in my heart," he said.

"All of you must serve your place of birth and your country in whatever way you can. If all the successful people of India work sincerely for the development of their birthplaces, then the whole country will benefit from the outcome of such local development," he said.

"India is an ancient civilisation but a young republic. For us, nation-building is a constant endeavour," the President said. "I am confident that India is better placed today to meet the challenges of the future," he said.

The President also mentioned the move to empower women in the Armed Forces. "Our daughters have broken a glass ceiling, and permanent commission has now been allowed for women officers in new areas. Also, the talent pipeline for the forces will be strengthened with women coming through Sainik Schools and the prestigious National Defence Academy. Consequently, our Armed Forces will benefit from better gender balance" he said.

He paid tribute to late Chief of Defence Staff, General Bipin Rawat, his wife and others who were killed in the helicopter crash last month. "The entire country was deeply saddened by the tragic loss," he said.

Cong stunned

building the nation, it is the BJP," Singh told reporters after he was welcomed at the BJP headquarters here by a battery of BJP leaders, including UP Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Prasad Maurya and Dinesh Sharma, UP BJP chief Swatantra Dev Singh, as well as Union ministers Dharmendra Pradhan and Anurag Thakur.

Also present was Jyotiraditya Scindia who, like Singh, was once considered one of the Congress's Generation Next, backed by Rahul Gandhi. Scindia joined the BJP in 2020.

The exit of the CWC member and AICC office-bearer appeared to have come as a shock for the Congress, which just Monday featured Singh's name in its list of star campaigners for UP. Singh was a minister of state in the UPA II government.

BJP sources said that while not big in terms of electoral prospects, Singh's entry boosted the party's "optics and narrative" in the state. As a Sainthwar OBC face, the scion of the royal family of Padrauna is expected to get some respite for the party after high-profile exits of some leaders belonging to the community. This is expected to hit the BJP hardest in eastern UP, and Singh, who is from the region, is expected to soften the blow.

"It may not help the BJP in UP much. But it will add to the party's overall narrative. It will help project the Congress as an indolent party and its leadership as inefficient, in states where we are in a direct fight with it," said a BJP MP. Of the five states going to polls soon, the BJP and Congress are in direct contest in Uttarakhand, Goa, Punjab and Manipur.

BJP sources said Singh could be fielded against Swami Prasad Maurya, one of the BJP OBC leaders now in the Samajwadi Party. "Singh seems to be keen on entering the national scene through the Upper House. But the party wants to showcase its backward leadership line-up," a source said.

Maurya is a two-time winner from the Padrauna seat (once each on BSP and BJP tickets), from where Singh is likely to be fielded. Singh has also represented the seat thrice, and his sphere of influence is confined to the area, including the Kushi Nagar Lok Sabha constituency, which he represented in 2009. Padrauna is part of the Kushi Nagar Lok Sabha seat. Incidentally, Singh won in 2009 defeating Maurya from Kushi Nagar.

Hours after Singh joined the BJP, the Padrauna Congress candidate, Manish Jaiswal, resigned from the party. Kushinagar Congress president Rajkumar Singh also announced his resignation, telling PTI he was doing so as there is "no respect for R P N Singh in the party".

Lavishing praise on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Tuesday, R P N Singh said that as a native of UP's Purvanchal, "I have seen how a double engine government has initiated development works in UP, which is the heart of India... Now I would like to be part of nation-building with PM Modi, as a small worker". Later, he met Union minister Amit Shah and Adityanath.

The Rahul brigade in the Congress has been fast-depleting in recent years. Singh becomes the third member of it to join the BJP, after Scindia and Jitin Prasada, who is now a minister in the Adityanath government.

Reacting to Singh's exit, the Congress talked of "courage" and "battle of ideology". Spokesperson Supriya Shrinate said: "The kind of fight that the Congress is putting up all across the country, particularly in a state like UP, is a battle against the government's resources, against agencies, it is a battle of ideology, a battle for truth. And to fight a battle as strongly pitched as this one... you have to fight it with courage, with a lot of dedication. This is not meant for the coward, and like Priyanka (Gandhi Vadra) has said, you need to be on your toes, you need to be full of courage. You cannot be a coward and fight this battle."

However, behind the "brave" face, there was unease in the party on another prominent exit. "The party is withering away... People don't see much hope and many more will leave. When will the Gandhis wake up is the question... which, of course, nobody can ask," a senior leader said.

Another leader said: "The party is a ship adrift with many holes. And slowly sinking. Unless it goes to the dockyard for urgent repairs and puts steady hands on the deck, it is going to get worse."

One leader said decisions are now increasingly being taken by a "small coterie". "In Uttar Pradesh, it is Priyanka Gandhi Vadra who decides who will fight from where. Do you think the Central Election Commission (the apex decision making on candidates) discussed the names which were announced?... Do you think when Priyanka Gandhi comes with a list anybody discusses it?... There is no inclusive thinking, consultative process or collective leadership. The rest of us are mere employees."

In the evening, the Congress announced the appointment of Avinash Pande as the general secretary in-charge of Jharkhand. Pande was earlier in-charge of Rajasthan.

Azad welcomes

while the former welcomed it. Azad, former Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha, thanked the government for recognizing his sacrifices, and Bhattacharya said he "refused" to accept it.

Soon after the announcement, the CPM top leadership in New Delhi worked the phones and is said to have conveyed to Bhattacharya's family that the party's tradition is not to accept such honours.

In the 1990s, late CPM veteran and the first Chief Minister of Kerala E M S Namboodiripad had turned down the then P V Narasimha Rao's offer to award him Padma Vibhushan.

In a terse statement issued in Kolkata, an ailing Bhattacharya said: "I don't know anything about Padma Bhushan award, nobody told me about it. If I have been awarded the Padma Bhushan, I refused to accept it."

A senior Home Ministry official said that an attempt was made to contact Bhattacharya in the morning and his wife answered the call as he was unwell. "She was informed about the award," said the official, "there was a full day between the call and the announcement but we didn't hear anything."

Incidentally, it is a regular practice for the Government to inform the awardees in advance. "In accordance with the normal practice, willingness of the person proposed to be conferred Padma Awards is informally ascertained (to the extent possible) before the announcement of the Award," the Government had told Rajya Sabha in 2015 answering to a question.

In New Delhi, former CPM General Secretary Prakash Karat told The Indian Express: "We don't know how they could announce an award like this without his consent. And if they did that without his consent, it is a very bad thing. As far as we are concerned, our party does not accept any national award like this. That has been our standard policy. We don't accept any state awards."

Sources in the CPM said the party's West Bengal state secretary Suryakanta Mishra did discuss the award with Bhattacharya's family. "The government that nominated Buddhababu for the Padma award has been silent on the killing of Gauri Lankesh and on attacks on issues of temples, mosques and churches…there's no question to take an award from such a government. But Buddhababu's decision is his personal decision," said CPM leader Tanmoy Bhattacharya.

For Azad, the award was a vindication of his record in public office. Speaking to The Indian Express, he said: "I can only thank the present government that in spite of being a hardcore Congressman, they have recognized my sacrifices and work for over four and a half decades, particularly my fight against militancy in the mid-1980s when I resigned from the Union Ministry as Minister of State for Home and preferred to work to bring back normalcy in Punjab."

"I took over as AICC general secretary in charge of Punjab when militancy was at its peak. I undertook a four-year-long mass contact programme, during which many of my colleagues, at least 50 of them including MLAs, ex-MLAs and office bearers, accompanying me were killed in attacks. I escaped from the jaws of death on a dozen occasions," he said.

While the Congress's ties with the ruling BJP remain bitter and frosty, Azad shared a warm personal equation with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In February 2021, when Azad retired from Rajya Sabha, Prime Minister Modi had turned emotional. He broke down several times during his 13-minute speech as he recalled his close association with Azad. "At a personal level, I would request him to not consider that he is not in the House. My door is always open…I will always expect, and value, your views," Modi said. "I will not let you retire," he had told the Congress veteran.

His Congress party silent, his colleague Jairam Ramesh took a swipe at him by praising Bhattacharya's rejection. "Right thing to do. He wants to be Azad not Ghulam," he posted on Twitter.

However, another colleague Shashi Tharoor welcomed it. "Warm congratulations to (Ghulam Nabi Azad) on his Padma Bhushan. It is good to be recognized for one's public service even by a government of the other side," he tweeted.

The BJP government had conferred Padma Vibhushan on NCP chief Sharad Pawar in 2017 and awarded Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian honour to former President Pranab Mukherjee, a lifelong Congressman, in 2019.

In the past, a number of personalities, including P N Haksar (in 1973) and Swami Ranganathananda (in 2000), have refused to accept the award.

BJP's erstwhile traditional ally Parkash Singh Badal, who received the Padma Vibhushan in 2015, had returned the award in December 2020 in protest against the contentious farm laws, which were later withdrawn.

Awarding the Padma Vibhushan to former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Kalyan Singh, under whose watch the Babri Masjid was demolished, comes in the run-up to the UP elections and while the stage is being set for the construction of the Ram temple after the apex court cleared it in November 2019.

FULL REPORTS ON www.indianexpress.com

Amid tension, China data show India trade up 43%

The sharp uptick in imports on a large base has pushed India's trade deficit with China to a record high $69.4 billion in 2021, up from $45.9 billion in 2020 and $56.8 billion in 2019.

The record high trade numbers between India and China in 2021 come even as the militaries of both countries have been unable to resolve the protracted boundary dispute despite 14 rounds of border talks.

The widening trade deficit, with India's imports from China now nearly four times its exports in value terms, is a cause for concern, too, alongside the fact that India's export basket comprises mainly primary goods while imports from china are dominated by value added items.

According to data from the Union Commerce Ministry, China was India's second largest trading partner in the April-November period, after the US. The UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Hong Kong were the other top trading partners for India during the period. India's official statistics on bilateral trade with China are updated only till November 2021.

Some of India's key imports from China include smartphones, components for smartphones and automobiles, telecom equipment, plastic and metallic goods, active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), and other chemicals.

The sharp increase in imports has come despite moves by the Centre to hike tariffs on key imports from China, including components for electronic goods such as smartphones. The Government has, in the past two fiscals, hiked import duties on printed circuit board assemblies, mobile charger components, display assemblies and other components used in the assembly of smartphones in India.

Experts have pointed out that players in the Indian electronic goods space were still largely focussed on the assembly of products and did not have much discretion in sourcing of components.

Officials at the Commerce Ministry had said earlier this fiscal that growth in India's trade with other key trading partners, including the US, UAE and Australia, was even higher than that with China. India is currently in the process of negotiating Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the UAE, EU, UK and Australia.

Raw material exports constituted a significant portion of India's outbound trade with China, with iron ore, organic chemicals and cotton figuring among key export items. Other key exports to China included iron and steel, seafood and engineering goods.

The increase in trade comes despite moves by the Government to reduce India's dependence on Chinese imports after clashes between troops of both countries along the Ladakh border.

India has also tightened its watch on dumping of goods from China in the domestic market. In December 2021, India imposed anti-dumping duties on five Chinese products, including certain aluminium goods and chemicals, for five years to protect local manufacturers.

INDIA-CHINA TRADE (IN $ MN)

Year	Exports	Imports	Trade	Y-o-Y trade growth
2019	17,987	74,825	92,812	-2.8%
2020	20,858	66,727	87,585	-5.6%
2021	28,144	97,521	125,665	43.3%

Source: China Administration of Customs

Sabse Pehle Life Insurance

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Our pledge...

To empower all Indians
with financial security
and newer opportunities

LIC WISHES YOU
A HAPPY REPUBLIC DAY

LIC/RKS/2021-22/43/ENG

Remember: Update your PAN details with LIC • Open a DEMAT account

www.licindia.in | Call Center services: (022) 68276827 |
Download LIC Mobile APP "MyLIC"

Follow us: @LICIndiaForever

IRDAI Regn No.: 512

LIC
भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम
LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA
Har Pal Aapke Saath

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank
इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD

INDIAN BANK
Zonal Office,
Budh Marg, Patna

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVEABLE PROPERTY)

Notice is hereby given under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement(Security) Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) and 13(12) read with Rules 8 & 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer issued a Demand Notice on the dates noted against each Account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the under noted borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Sec 13(4) of the said Act read with Rules 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each Account.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Indian Bank for the amounts and interests thereon mentioned against each account herein below:

The attention of borrowers detailed hereunder is invited to the provision of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act,in respect of time available,to redeem the secured assets.

Sr. No.	Name of the Branch	Name of the Account	Name of The Borrower/ Guarantor (owner of the property)	Description of the charged/ Mortgaged property (all the part &parcel of the property consisting of)	Date of Demand Notice / Date of possession Notice / Amount outstanding as on the date of demand Notice
1.	Budh Marg Branch	M/S Pandey & Company (Pro- Shri Atul Kumar)	M/S Pandey & Company (Pro- Shri Atul Kumar) Shri Atul Kumar S/0 Shri Abhay Kumar Pandey ,Shri Abhay Kumar Pandey Shri Mukul Kumar Pandey S/O Shri Abhay Kumar Pandey & Shri Prit Raj S/0 Shri Abhay Kumar Pandey	Registered Mortgage: - All that Part and parcel of Residential Land Situated at Mauza-Dhakanpura, Pargana- Azimabad, P.S- Gardanibagh,Revenue Thana- 07,Tauzi No-388, Khata No-62, Survey Plot No-349, Cadestral Survey Plot No-1898 measuring an area of 1027.62 sqft within the Jurisdiction of District Registration Office, Patna and also within the limits of Patna Municipal Corporation in the District Patna vide Registered Mortgage Deed No-11626 dated 29/12/2015 in Book No-01, Volume No-272 on pages 432 to 451in favour of Indian Bank, Budh Marg Branch Patna which is butted and bounded as follows: North: Sri Ram Kumar Pandey, South: Sri Onkar pandey, East: Sri Madhusudan pandey etc, Wiest:10ft wide Rasta left by the Parties.	18.08.2021 / 20.01.2022 / Rs. 2630902.00 (Rupees Twenty Six Lakhs Thirty thousand Nine Hundred and Two Only) as on 18-08-2021 with interest, cost & charges till the date of realization.
2.	Patliputra Colony Branch	Shri Vidhyadhar Pandey & Smt Mannu Devi W/o Sri Vidhyadhar Pandey	Shri Vidhyadhar Pandey S/O Sri Madhusudan pandey, At Manudhar Bhawan, Hasanpura Beur, Patna-800002 Also at C/O Maharana Dry Cleaners, Ganga market, Shivpuri, Patna-800013 and Smt Mannu Devi W/O Sri Vidhyadhar Pandey At Manudhar Bhawan, Hasanpura Beur, Patna-800002	All that part and parcel of land & Building measuring an area of 16 dhur 15 dhurki (equivalent to 2.614 Decimals) over which pucca house constructed bearing khata no.36, Survey khesra plot No-328(P), Tauzi No-5146, Thana No-95, Survey Thana- Phulwari sharif at present Thana- Beur situated at Mauza- Dariyapur Hasan or Hasanpura, Pargana- Phulwari sharif in Patna under Sub & Sadar Registry Office- Patna purchased vide Sale Deed No-24550 dt 01/10/2011 recorded in Volume No-424 , stored in CD 65 of year 2011.Boundary (As per Deed): North: Present Purchaser, South: part Plot No-328 and Purchaser Smt Chandrawati Devi, East: 10 feet wide Road, West: Sri Amod Singh.	05.11.2021 / 24.01.2022 / Rs. 2195805.00 (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Ninety Five thousand Eight hundred five Only)) as on 05-11-2021 with interest, cost & charges till the date of realization.

Date : 24.01.2022
Place : Patna

(Authorized Officer)
Indian Bank

MCD polls: List of reserved seats out

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

AFTER MUCH deliberation, the State Election Commission Tuesday announced the list of reserved seats for elections to 272 wards of Delhi's three municipal corporations — East, South and North.

The MCD elections are scheduled in April. According to the order, 15 of 104 wards in the South Corporation, 20 of 104 in North and 11 of 64 wards in East have been reserved for Scheduled Castes, based on the 2011 Census. And, 50% of seats have been reserved for women.

While the number of reserved seats has not increased, the move is likely to throw up challenges for sitting councillors, whose seats may now fall in the category reserved for Scheduled Castes or women. This also includes the three sitting mayors.

A former mayor said now that his seat falls in the reserved category, he will ask the party to give him tickets from an adjacent ward. Similarly, seats of key political leaders now fall under the reserved category. In the North Corporation, seats of former Mayor and state BJP president Adesh Gupta, current Mayor Raja Iqbal Singh and former Mayor Jai Prakash seats are now in the reserved category. In the South Corporation, seats of current Mayor Mukesh Suryan and Mayor Narendra Chawla are now in the reserved category.

The move will affect the opposition too. Seats of Leader of Opposition in the North Corporation, AAP's Vikas Goel, South Corporation's Leader of Opposition Prem Chauhan and East Corporation's Leader of Opposition Manoj Tyagi have also been reserved.

Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management (AJNIFM)
An Autonomous Body of Ministry of Finance, Government of India
Sector - 48, Pali Road Faridabad-121 001 Haryana, India
Work with AJNIFM as a Part Time Analyst (Freelancer)!
AJNIFM proposes to create a panel of Scholars / Analysts for writing original researched content / articles on topical issues in the area of public finance, macroeconomics, political economy, Indian economy, financial markets, socio-economic issues, international relations, climate change, public policy, public procurement, etc. which will help provide policy inputs.
Research Scholars pursuing doctoral/post-doctoral programs, Faculty/Research Associates, Assistant Professors and above associated with Universities/Colleges, Analysts working in reputed Research Institutes/Think Tanks involved in policy making and Retired Civil servants with proven research/ academic pursuits may send their applications (in prescribed format) or before **10th February 2022** at **director-nifm@nic.in**.
For details visit the website **http://www.nifm.ac.in**

GitHub case accused told police he 'wanted to fight hate with hate'

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

Bishnoi told police he "started watching hacking videos on YouTube when he was 15 years old"

ENGINEERING STUDENT Neeraj Bishnoi (21), accused of creating an app using GitHub which used photographs of more than 100 Muslim women alongside disparaging comments, is learnt to have told police in his disclosure statement that he "wanted to fight hate with hate", "generate unimaginable seethe on Twitter", and "teach them (the women) a lesson".

Attempting to justify the alleged act, he is learnt to have told police that he "saw handles of several journalists, especially Muslim women, and believed that they spread baseless rumours on social media spewed hate against Hindu community and gods".

Sources told *The Indian Express* that Bishnoi, in his statement, said he "started watching hacking videos on YouTube when he was 15 years old". "He became active on Twitter since 2020 using Proton mail and also used burner emails for verification and a burner phone number from Poland for the one-time password. He also used a profile picture of a Sikh person," said a police source.

The Cyber Cell of Delhi Police has booked Bishnoi, arrested from Jorhat in Assam, under sections 153-A (promoting enmity between different groups on the ground of religion and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony), 153-B (imputations, assertions prejudicial to national integration), 354-A (sexual harassment), and 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman).

He has also been booked by the Mumbai police.

"In November last year, he created an account on Github. He allegedly downloaded around 100 pictures of Muslim women from their respective Twitter handles and edited their pictures using photoshop application installed on his laptop from open sources," said the source.

Delhi govt relief covers select healthcare workers, HC questions approach

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

QUESTIONING THE government decision to provide ex-gratia amount of Rs 1 crore to the next of kin of healthcare professionals who died of Covid while working at government or private hospitals requisitioned by the state to deal with cases, the High Court Tuesday said the government needs to reconsider its policy as the distinction – between such healthcare workers and those working at other hospitals – does not appear to be justified.

During the hearing of a petition filed by the wife of Dr Harish Kumar, who died of Covid while serving at New Life Hospital in GTB Nagar during the first wave in June 2020, the division bench of Justice Vipin Sanghi and Justice Jasmeet Singh asked the government, "It is not that the hospital of the petitioner's husband was not rendering service during Covid times. It was these small hospitals… the amount of load that they were taking together would far exceed the load even your government hospitals were undertaking or able to hand. Is it justifiable to draw the distinction?"

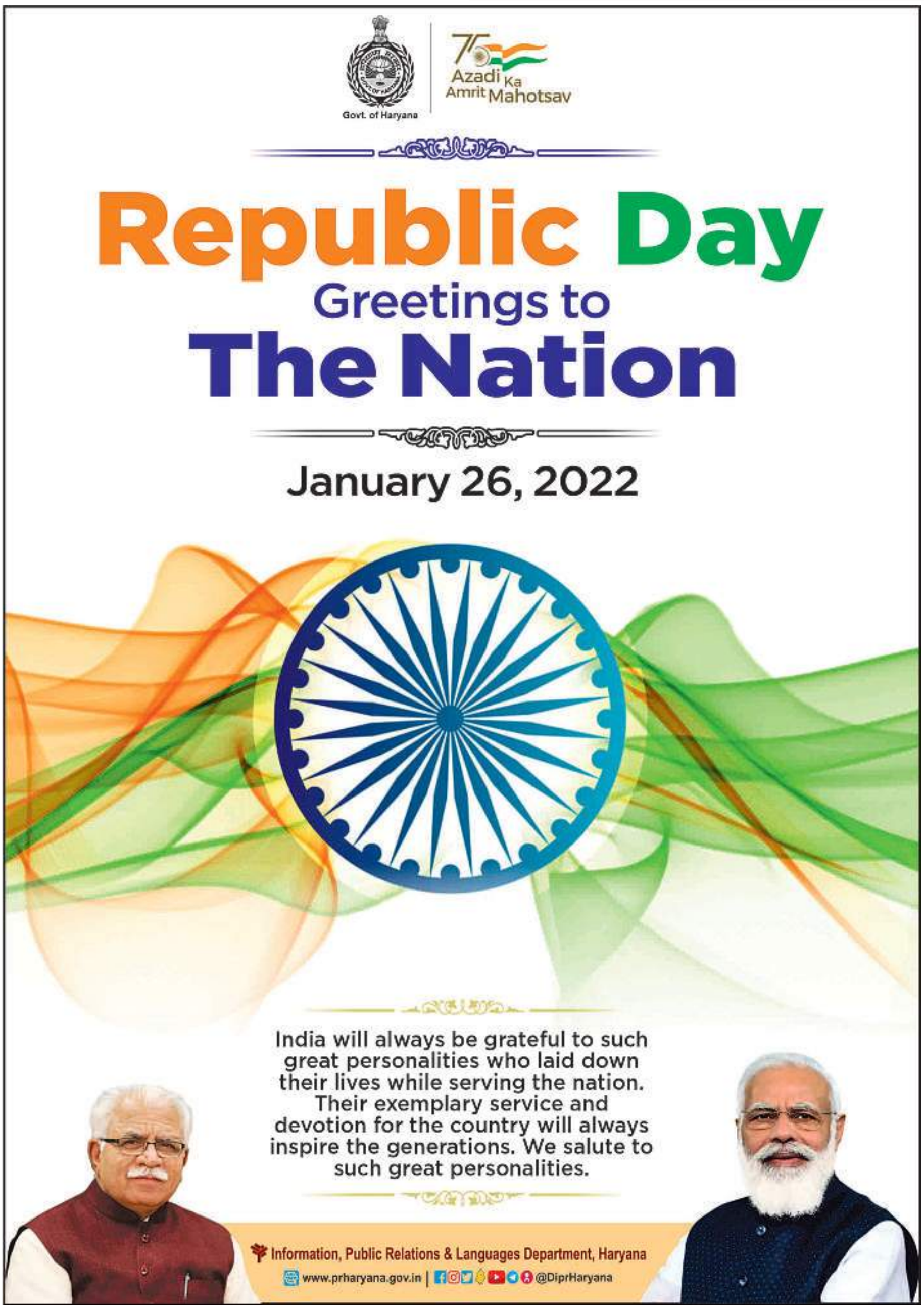
While the case pertains to the recovery of a loan and the proposed takeover of a mortgaged property, the court on January 7 had enquired from the Delhi government on the progress of the application made by the doctor's wife seeking ex-gratia amount announced by the government last year.

Advocate Gautam Narayan, representing the government, Tuesday apprised the court about the conditions in the policy and said Kumar's New Life Hospital was never requisitioned as a Covid hospital since it is a small nursing home and therefore the policy does not extend to the case of Kumar's wife.

In response to the court's observations, Narayan submitted that the decision was taken considering the financial impact. However, he told the court that the state will look at it again.

The court in the order noted, "Only because some nursing homes may not have been requisitioned on account of their capacity does not take away from the fact that the doctors and paramedic staff working at such nursing homes were also exposing themselves to the risk of contracting Covid and suffering death on that account."

While asking the government to place on record a copy of the cabinet decision on the policy, the court listed the matter for the next hearing on March 11.



GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EXCISE
L-BLOCK, VIKAS BHAWAN,
I.P.ESTATE, NEW DELHI

NO:F.10 (56)/96-97/IMFLIIEX/PF/ 193-210
Dated: 25-01-22

ORDER

In pursuance of the provisions of Rule 52 of Delhi Excise Rules, 2010, it is hereby ordered that the following date shall be observed as "Dry Day" in the National Capital Territory of Delhi by all the licensees of the Excise department and opium vends located in Delhi:

Sl. No	Occasion	Date	DAY
1	Republic Day	26.01.2022	Wednesday

The licensees shall not be entitled to any compensation on account of any changes effected in the above list.

The restriction of sale on liquor on dry day mentioned above shall not apply to the service of liquor to residents in case of hotels having L-15 license.

All the licensees shall exhibit this order at some conspicuous place of their licensed premises. The business premises of a licensee shall be kept closed on dry day.

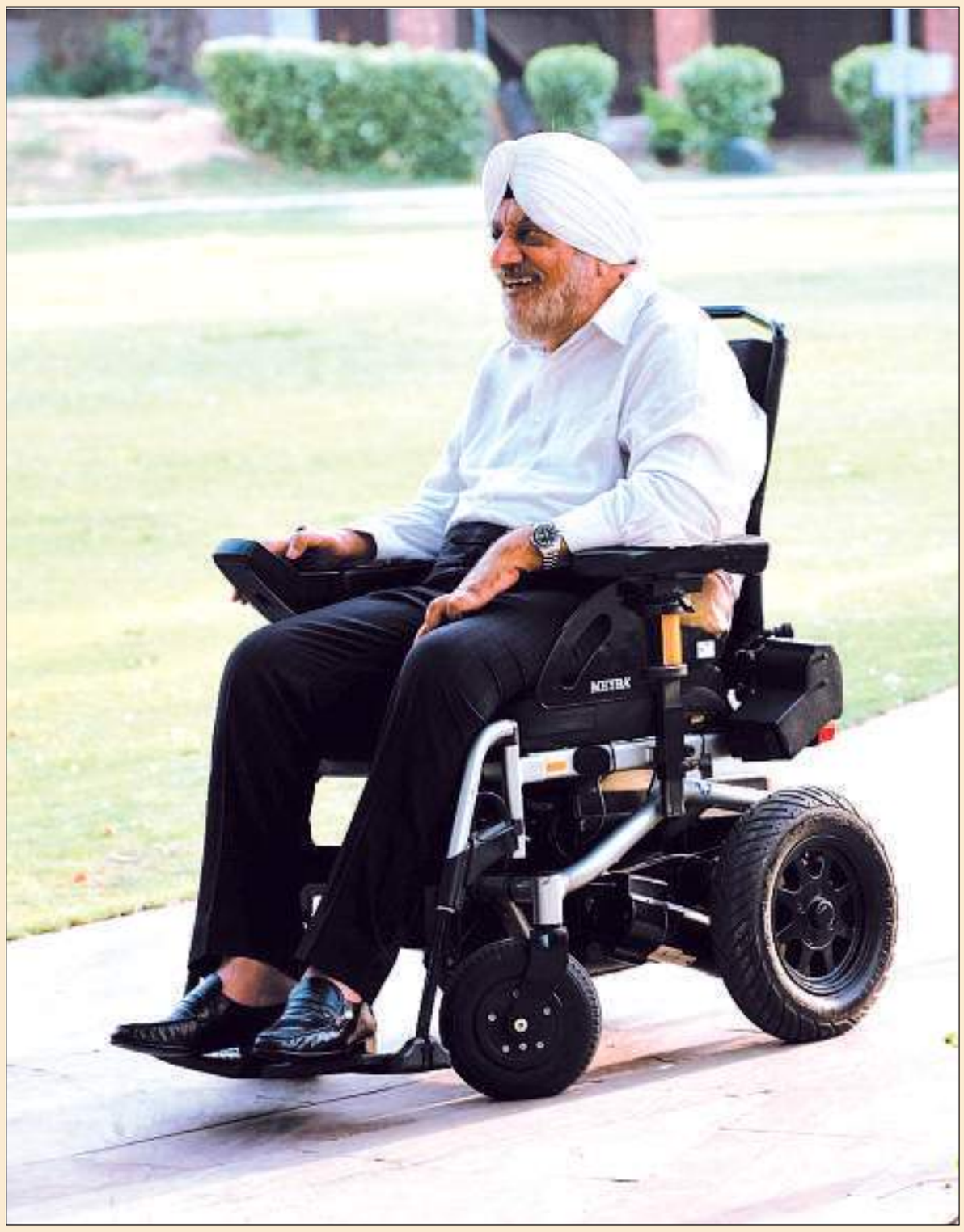
Sd/-
(ANAND KUMAR TIWARI)
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (EXCISE)

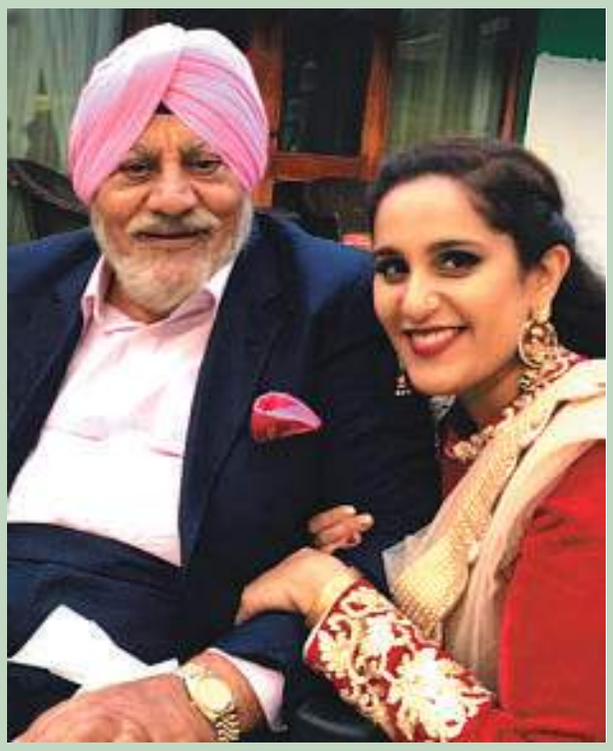
DIP/Shabdarth/0605/21-22

ADVERTORIAL

Dedicated to the Man of Many Talents and the Heart of Gold

Indian Spinal Injuries Centre
A SUPER SPECIALTY INSTITUTE





"He taught me the importance of family, of standing by each other through thick and thin, and the joy of togetherness. He taught me that barriers were only in mind, and to overcome them, you needed mental grit and determination. This lesson will guide me in times to come, for Pa has been my anchor and my lighthouse.

Hari, your love, your patience, your understanding, your wisdom, and your amazing sense of humour will live on inside us forever. You have given us gifts that are more precious than anything in this world, and for that, I am eternally grateful.

A great soul like you who has served others all his life lives on. You live on in our hearts and in our soul, and I know you will bring us together again and again."

Sugandh Ahulwalia, Daughter of Maj.HPS Ahulwalia and Board Member, ISIC

Remembering Major HPS Ahluwalia

THE FAMOUS Indian mountaineer, author, social worker and retired Indian Army officer, Major Hari Pal Singh Ahluwalia's love for life didn't come to an end with his demise. Major Ahluwalia passed away on 14 January 2022 at the age of 85, leaving behind a legacy of great achievements and many courageous stories.

The honors received by Major Ahluwalia throughout his life span, including the most prestigious awards in the country - Padma Bhushan, Padma Shri, the Arjuna Award and the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award, speak a great deal about his attitude and passion for life. It was this passion for life that enabled him to achieve the unachievable in the fields of adventure, sports, environment, disability, and social work.

Major Ahluwalia's pride was in his work, family, and efforts to make the world a better place. He was highly popular among the people for his lively spirit and for living his life to the fullest.

Sugandh Ahluwalia, Major Ahluwalia's daughter, shares her father's passion for hard work and working for the well-being of others. In an interview, she talked about Major Ahluwalia's life and achievements and her future plans for the Indian Spinal Injuries Centre.

Here are a few excerpts from the interview.

What can you tell us about the Indian Spinal Injuries Centre? How and when did the thought of opening it came to Major Ahluwalia?

This story goes as far back as 1965 when my father was injured, and there were no hospitals to treat spinal injuries let alone know the difference between quadriplegia and tetraplegia. So, he was shunted from hospital to hospital in Delhi, Pune, and Bombay. He spent the first few years being bedridden without moving any of his limbs.

Later on, Mr HC Sarin, who was his mentor and the Defense Secretary for the Government of India, got to know about Stoke Mandeville Hospital in the UK. Stoke Mandeville was a hospital that was set up for soldiers who suffered spinal cord injuries during the World War II. These soldiers were rehabilitated there to get them back into mainstream life. He was rehabilitated there for 6 months, and Mrs Indira Gandhi facilitated my father's visit.

So that's where the idea of opening a spinal hospital came from, as he had suffered so much, and no one knew about what to do at that point. After his treatment, he kept on visiting the hospital in the UK year after year. He became friendly with the Chairman of the hospital and his doctor, Dr Walsh and Sir Ludwig Guttmann, who was running the hospital and was also the founder. He had a lot of dialogues with them. And that's how the whole concept of opening the Spinal Injuries Hospital evolved. We are in our silver jubilee year now, and it's a 200-bed hospital. We are one of the very few hospitals in India where you have specialised units within a speciality. So, for example, in orthopaedics, we have a knee specialist, a hip specialist, a shoulder specialist, an ankle specialist, etc. Generally, the spine unit is clubbed with neuro or orthopaedic units in other hospitals. But in our hospital, we have a separate spine unit with different specialities within it.

What are the core specialities of the Indian Spinal Injuries Centre?

Our core competence is orthopedics, spine, and neuro. The spinal injuries patients generally don't get discharged, say within a week or ten days. They need a minimum of 3 months of rehabilitation or stay in hospital. During this course of time, if a patient suffers from a gastric problem or a neuro problem, then we have other specialities supporting spinal injuries. We are considering developing these as specialities down the line but we do not want to move away from our core strengths.

What was Major Ahluwalia's vision behind starting the centre apart from the difficulties that your family faced in getting him stabilised when he was injured? Was the fact that we didn't have a good spinal injuries centre back then in India the only reason?

My father was a very compassionate person. He also had this adventurous streak. The main reason behind the inception of the hospital was to help people in need because there was no other such hospital. He was also a great follower of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, so I think it was always in his mind to work for the public and the needy. And that's how this whole thing started. He just wanted to help people and create a mark in the disability sector because of his first-hand experience. We take pride in saying that ISIC is a hospital designed by a patient for the patient.

Ahluwalia's life journey - from his education to his mountaineering days to being the Chairman of the Indian Spinal Injuries Centre?

Major Ahluwalia was born in Shimla. He did most of his schooling in Dehradun and later moved to St. George's School in Mussoorie. After that, he went to the Indian Military Academy and then onto EME- the electrical mechanical engineering corps of the Indian Army. He also had a couple of stints in Gulmarg, Darjeeling, where he was an instructor for high altitude warfare school and other various mountaineering schools across India.

He always had an affinity towards the mountains; he was very adventurous and active in sports. He was in Pune when he received a call for the first Indian expedition that was scheduled to go in 1965.

He climbed Mt. Everest on 29 May 1965, after which in September, following the Indo-Pak war, he received a sniper bullet wound. The wound left him paralysed waist down, after which his rehabilitation started. He was given a job in the Ministry of Defense, and at the same time, he started working towards establishing the Indian Spinal Injuries Centre.

He was also the Chairman of the Rehabilitation Council of India for a few tenures. He changed the face of disability during that time. He was also a part of the Planning Commission for the Disability Act that the government introduced back then.

He had a major role in the disabled-friendly changes that you can see around the country, whether it is ramp bus stops or wheelchair signs or disabled people being able to go to malls and watch movies in the theatres. He was at the forefront of the activities for people with disabilities in India.

He was also the President of the Indian Mountaineering Foundation for two terms and had written 13 books. He was a very busy man and loved every bit of it. That's how I can sum up his professional life.

In his personal life, he was a family-oriented person. He was very fond of his dogs and gardening. He loved eating out and watching movies. He kept our family closely together.

In the present pandemic times, people are confined to their homes and might not be willing to visit the doctors at the hospital. How is the Indian Spinal Injuries Centre helping the patients with the necessary medical care at this time? Are the patients consulting the doctors online?

Yes, we have telemedicine and telerehab programs in place where in consultations are done online. I asked Pa a couple of years ago about his vision after having achieved so much. In return, he had asked me about my vision, being the youngest in the family.

Recently we had inducted four new young members into the Board of the hospital, and I was one of them. He had given us instructions to come up with a fresh strategy for the future that would increase the footprint of ISIC. He had been attending office through the pandemic and till his very last day. Most of our patient base is outside Delhi, so we roped in our doctors and have asked them to tie up with local partners in different regions of India.

Now, we are starting to hold OPD outside Delhi to increase the Indian Spinal Injuries Centre's scope of services and making them accessible to the masses beyond Delhi's borders. We are looking forward to expanding ourselves in times to come, he wanted that.

Now that you are going to carry forward your father's legacy, how do you plan to take it ahead, and what's your vision?

His shoes are too big for me to fill or anyone else for that matter but it will have to be a team effort. His better half who's stood by him through all his highs and lows, my mother, Bholi Ahluwalia will be the guiding force. She's also a Board Member at ISIC. Right now, we are still trying to come to terms with him not being there with us but, soon we will bounce back and continue with his work and unfinished goals.

What can you say in terms of your values, vision, and the plans you have for expansion?

We are one of the very few hospitals in India with doctors on the payroll. One of my first endeavours will be to continue maintaining the culture and environment of ISIC which everyone cherishes. We do not give any incentives, so we want to maintain the same ethical environment as before. That's why many people come to ISIC for a second opinion. Even if patients have been advised for surgery elsewhere, our doctors try that the patient doesn't need surgery and try the conservative approach first.

I still want to continue in the same way, even in times when the competition is so cutthroat. I want to maintain the same values and the philosophy that my father had started the hospital with. But, this is not going to be easy. So, maintaining the old values and principles for the hospital is going to be my first step. I guess the key will be in striking the right balance of the new with the old.

The second step as a part of his family is to ensure that his memories always stay alive. Even in our expansion plans, we want to ensure that his vision in terms of infrastructure, architecture, and facilities remains the same for ISIC. We will maintain the same openness, horizontal architecture of ISIC and will make sure that every patient is always surrounded by greenery.

And lastly, I want to ensure that the treatment we give to everyone is equal. We want to maintain equality through and through.

We know that Major Ahluwalia stayed passionate throughout his life despite all odds. But, what is that one thing that we do not know he was passionate about?

He was very passionate about reading, gardening, and eating out. He was also very religious. That is something that was imbibed in him from his mom.

He was very young at heart, and that's why he was able to connect with people of every generation - young and old.

I want to share a funny story with you. My father never used to carry money. It has always been my mom who used to do all the bookkeeping while my father stayed ignorant of the funds we had. So, at the end of each day, we used to get the list of his expenses from his staff. This is very unusual for someone of his stature, but he didn't have an affinity towards money. His philosophy was that 'Money will come and go'. He was a very content man not at all materialistic.

My last question would be to ask you to briefly talk about your family values. What memories do you have of your father today?

Not many people know that my parents married without the consent of my mom's parents after dating for six years. My father was a very loving, patient, and caring husband. In the house, my mom always called the shots. I never saw my father complain or get angry. His family was very important to him, and we used to have regular Sunday lunches where we used to go out and visit our cousins and other family members. He used to love travelling, road trips especially and eating at dhabas along the way.

He used to be very well informed about everything and had a great sense of humor. That is something we really miss about him. He was a larger-than-life personality.

Even though the Almighty God took him away from this world, Major Ahluwalia's loving heart has left a beacon of light for everyone in the mountaineering, adventure sports, and disability communities.

CORONAVIRUS IN THE CAPITAL

VACCINATIONS IN LAST 24 HOURS	OMICRON CASES
85,418	549

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: 2,304

OXYGEN SUPPORT	598
VENTILATOR SUPPORT	162

DELHI: TOTAL CASES 18,03,499

	Total	Vacant
HOSPITAL BEDS	15,420	13,208
ICU BEDS	4,451	3,628

	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Jan 24	5,760	14,836	30	48,844
Jan 25	6,028	9,127	31	57,132
Total	42,010*	17,35,808	25,681	3,45,76,746

*Total active cases in Delhi

NOIDA	Jan 24	Jan 25
Cases	501	1,046
Deaths	0	1

GURGAON		
Cases	2,057	2,030
Deaths	2	0

6,028 CASES IN CAPITAL

Take no pleasure in imposing restrictions, will lift curbs, ensure normalcy soon, says CM

EXPRESS NEWS SEVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

DELHI CHIEF Minister Arvind Kejriwal Tuesday said Covid restrictions imposed across the national capital will be eased soon so that people's livelihood and economic activities can return to normal.

"After receiving several requests from the market and traders' association to lift weekend curfew and odd-even, I assured them that we will lift the curbs as soon as we can. We sent a few proposals to the L-G on it. He accepted a few and deferred the rest. As soon as we can, we will lift these restrictions. We will work to ensure everyone's lives come back on track."

Last week, the L-G had rejected the Delhi government's proposal to lift the weekend curfew and odd-even system in markets and malls.

The Chief Minister further said, "I noticed that the people are showing resentment towards him on social media. I want to tell those people, our Lieutenant Governor has done this in his wise wisdom. He is a good man, he is concerned about public health and wants to protect all citizens. We all gain no pleasure in imposing restrictions. I request all of them to stay calm and have patience. Both L-G and the government are working to ease restrictions and bring back life to normal."

He added, "Currently, the country is facing a third wave, but Delhi is going through the fifth wave of Covid. No other state has faced and survived Covid pandemic like Delhi. Due to international flights and the arrival of travellers from abroad, cases increased rapidly and people had to suffer. But despite the severe situation, doctors, officials, frontline workers and the people fought against corona, and there is a 20 per cent drop in positivity rate today."

The CM said around 82% of Delhi's citizens are fully vaccinated

On January 13, the cases went up to 29,000 and the positivity rate was above 30 per cent, but only 2,500 beds were occupied in hospitals.

"Today, cases have dropped to 5,000 and the positivity rate is 11 per cent. I request all of you to follow the rules and keep wearing masks; restrictions will be eased soon," said Kejriwal.

"More than 100 per cent of the population is vaccinated with the first dose and 82 per cent of the citizens in Delhi are fully vaccinated. No other city or state… has achieved this much vaccination," he said.

According to officials, the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) will have a meeting on Thursday and a few restrictions may be eased.

On Tuesday, Delhi recorded 6,028 cases and 31 deaths, and a positivity rate of 10.55 per cent.

Ambedkar, Bhagat Singh photo in offices

The Chief Minister also announced that all offices will remove pictures of netas and the chief minister, and will only have photos of Dr B R Ambedkar and Shaheed Bhagat Singh.

"Today, I announce that every Delhi government office and department will have pictures of Baba Saheb Dr B R Ambedkar and Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh. There will be only two photos and that will be of these great leaders. Apart from these two pictures, offices will not have or put pictures of any politicians and chief ministers. The Delhi government will walk the path shown by Babasaheb and Bhagat Singh and their vision will forever inspire us. From now on, Delhi government and its staff will work on the principles of these two great leaders," said the CM.

He added: "We have fulfilled the pledge of Dr Ambedkar by providing education to all children. Delhi schools and education system have developed a lot in the last seven years. We have built schools, tied up with the International Baccalaureate board and have started the Deshbhakti curriculum. I want every child to soak in patriotism so that he/she should be ready to fight and die for the country."

8-yr-old hospitalised after being raped, 2 boys aged 11 and 12 apprehended by cops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

POLICE HAVE apprehended two juveniles, aged 11 and 12, in connection with the rape of an 8-year-old girl, who sustained serious injuries and had to be admitted to the ICU.

The Delhi Commission for Women had sent a notice to the police seeking immediate action against the accused.

Officials said the girl lives with her family in Northeast Delhi. On Monday evening, she went out to play with her friends, but a 12-year-old boy from her locality allegedly called her to his home on the pretext of playing. Police said he and his friend allegedly raped her there.

According to police, after the girl returned home, she complained of severe stomach pain, and her parents found that she was injured and bleeding. She was rushed to a hospital, where she is undergoing treatment.

Police said they received a complaint from the girl's mother and a medical examination was conducted. A case under sections of kidnapping, rape and POCSO Act has been registered.

Sanjay Sain, DCP (Northeast), said two boys, aged 11 and 12, have been apprehended. "The boys were identified with the help of local enquiry and CCTVs near the house. We are questioning them. The girl is still at the hospital," said the DCP.

"She has multiple injuries on her private parts and is bleeding profusely. This is a case of gang rape. Her parents called us on our helpline," said the DCW in a statement. DCW chairperson Swati Maliwal said, "The girl is in unimaginable pain as she is battling for her life in an ICU. Strongest punishment needs to be given…" Officials said she was later shifted to the general ward.

"The exact sequence of events is yet to be ascertained but prima facie, the boys planned to call her home and raped her. We found that the boy who allegedly lured her is from out of town and was planning to head back to hide from police. We are in touch with the child welfare committee to help us investigate the matter and help the victim," said an officer.

The girl's mother said, "My daughter was playing games on my phone, and when the battery died, she asked for Rs 10 to buy some chips. She returned home after an hour or so. She was crying and was unable to walk properly. I got worried and asked her what happened. She told me that one of the boys took her and then a group of 3-4 boys did this. She said they threatened her with a lit matchstick. I couldn't believe what she was saying. I found that she bleeding profusely and there were injuries on her private parts. I called my husband and we rushed her to the hospital."

Sharjeel spoke against Father of the Nation, says Delhi court

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

IN ITS detailed order framing sedition charges against JNU student Sharjeel Imam, a Delhi court has observed that his speeches were aimed at Muslims, to show they were facing an existential crisis, and to challenge the sovereignty of India and create hatred for State institutions.

Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat had Monday framed charges against Imam for allegedly making inflammatory speeches at Aligarh Muslim University and in Delhi's Jamia area against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).

While scrutinising Imam's speeches, the court said what has to be seen is whether "the 'Lakshman Rekha' is crossed or not, that is, the point where standpoint crosses the boundaries laid -down by the Statutes and judicial pronouncements, the law steps in."

The court said that it "appears that he is trying to convince them that Muslims as a community have been deprived because of the Constitution, and people who made the Constitution or who are required to protect it".

It said Imam made "vituperative utterances against even the Father of the Nation".

It held that there "appears to be a tendency to create public disorder and incitement to violence" in his speeches, and that they appear to "challenge the territorial integrity and and sovereignty of India" and "create hatred/contempt for the lawful institutions of the State and to challenge them by unlawful means".

"Prima facie, the religious groups are sought to be divided on emotive issues and one community is sought to be (mis)guided in a particular way of resentment, ill will and hatred towards others, which can then be remedied by a plan of action which will result in violence. The accused, by referring to the blockage/cut-off of 'chicken -neck' which joins mainland India to the North East, seems to remind everyone that the said land belongs to Muslims and the call to do it, by certain means, is indicative of his intention," the order read.

On Imam's speech given at AMU, in which he terms the Constitution as a document by pandits, the court said, "He is not only denigrating the Constitution and the idea that makes this country but also creating resentment and ill-will towards a particular caste in the minds of everyone."

ASJ Rawat said that at the outset, he would like to underscore the inalienability of Fundamental Rights granted to the citizens under the Constitution of India.

The court, however, cautioned that "such right is subject to reasonable restrictions".

Among invitees to Republic Day, nurses, safai karamcharis and autorickshaw drivers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

AMONG THE 565 'special invitees' to the Republic Day Parade this year are 250 construction workers, 115 safai karamcharis, 100 autorickshaw drivers and 100 healthcare workers.

Ashok Kumar, safai karamchari

The 52-year-old has been a safai karamchari with the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) for nearly 25 years now. He lives in Ghaziabad with his wife and three children, works at Connaught Place, and has never watched the Republic Day parade before. "We have worked hard through the Covid waves, and have done our duties as we were told to... We have kept the place clean, working non-stop," he said. On an average day, Kumar works from 6 am to 2 pm or from 2 pm to 10 pm, depending on the shift he is assigned. So far, he said, he has been able to keep Covid at bay. "*Bhagwaan ki kripa se theek-thaak duty kar raha hoon* (By god's grace, I'm fine)," he said.

Akshay Tanti, construction worker

Akshay Tanti, from Malda, West Bengal, works as a helper at the Central Vista construction site in the national capital. "I have been working at the site for around 50 days now. Before that, I was working in Vadodara, with a different company," he said.

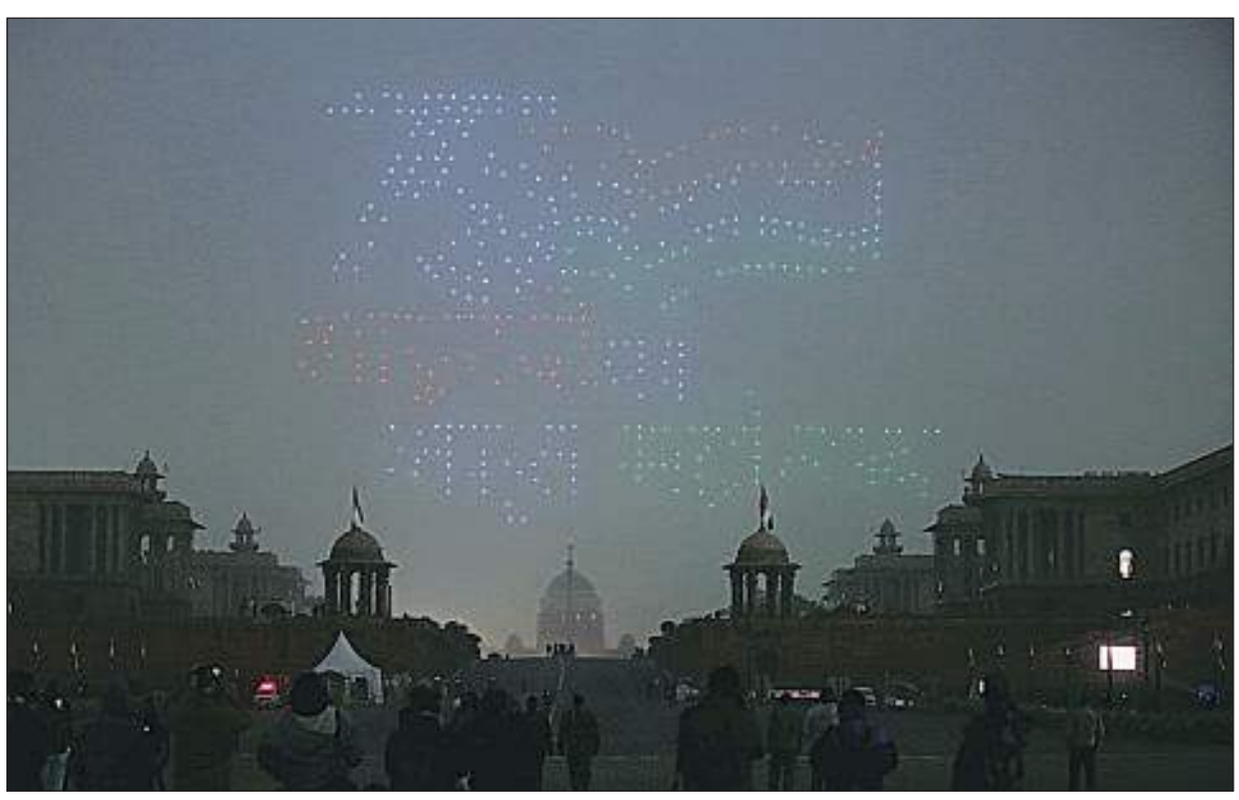
He spent the first Covid-induced lockdown at home in Malda, with no work. "We were not allowed to go out. Sometimes there was work and food, and sometimes there wasn't. It is difficult to find work when it rains," he said. He does odd jobs at the site, cleaning when he is required to. He has two toddlers back home in West Bengal.

Renu Nagar, nurse

Renu Nagar, 36, works with The Trained Nurses' Association of India, an organisation that focuses on the welfare of nurses. "This was a tough time. Nurses would reach out to us, asking for PPEs. We set up a grievance cell to handle complaints from nurses, and received many in terms of remuneration, availability of PPE kits and other problems they were facing. I used to take the grievance calls, and nurses were so apprehensive and anxious. We would then try to talk to the managements and help out," she said.

Sanghamitra Sawant, nurse

Sanghamitra Sawant, 42, is the assistant secretary general of Trained Nurses' Association of India. The past two years have been tough for nurses, she said. She said they had to face many issues during the pandemic like "job instability , working conditions, accommodation issues when nurses were quarantined, living away from families, psychological problems". "We want nurses to get recognised for their effort. Getting invited to these events is a privilege," she said.



Drones light up the sky at Vijay Chowk, on the eve of Republic Day. *Tashi Tobgyal*

Jamia V-C Najma Akhtar conferred Padma Shri

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

NAJMA AKHTAR, Jamia Millia Islamia university's current Vice-Chancellor and the first woman to have been a V-C of any Indian central university — has been awarded the Padma Shri in the field of Education & Literature. She assumed charge as Vice-Chancellor of the university in April 2019.

An alumna of Aligarh Muslim University and a PhD holder (Education) from Kurukshetra University, Akhtar's first administrative post was as the Controller of Examinations at AMU in the early 1990s her and later as the head of the Department of Educational Administration at NIEPA for 15 years before coming to Jamia.

Congratulating her, the official social media handle of Jamia Millia Islamia tweeted, "It is a matter of great pride for the @jmiu_official that Vice-Chancellor Prof Najma Akhtar has been selected for #PadmaShri Award for her distinguished services in the field of literature and education."

"I would like to thank everyone who has recognised and raised me to the level that helped me to win something like the Padma Shri. Especially our Prime Minister and our President — who is also our visitor — who gave me the responsibility of becoming the first woman Vice-Chancellor of Jamia. Perhaps I have met their expectations which is why I got this recognition. Jamia has also moved forward with me and is operating as a very well-known university. Me and my colleagues' responsibilities have increased. Now the Padma Shri has come to us, which I consider is not just for me…" said Akhtar.

Jamia Millia Islamia Vice-Chancellor Najma Akhtar

Within her first year as Vice-Chancellor, the anti-CAA protests had erupted and Jamia was at the centre of it.

On December 15, 2020, police had entered the university campus and videos purportedly showed them vandalising the premises and beating students. Police said they were chasing stone pelters.

Soon after, Akhtar had put out a video message saying she stood with her students, criticising police. The next day, Akhtar had called a press conference where, surrounded by senior officials, and had reiterated that police entry and action were without permission and condemnable.

Tara Jauhar, chairperson of Sri Aurobindo Ashram's Delhi branch, was also conferred with this honour.

She has authored two books — *Growing up with The Mother* and *Learning With The Mother* — and is a trustee of Mother's International School in Delhi.

27,000 police personnel deployed amid threat of 'France-type attack'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

AHEAD OF the Republic Day celebrations at Rajpath, Delhi Police said they have made multi-layer security arrangements, installed facial recognition software and deployed 27,000 police personnel to prevent any terror-related incident in the city.

Police said they have received threats online and from other sources about possibility of terror attacks. Senior police officials said they have received inputs that Islamic State (IS) operatives could plan to target roads or railway networks in the capital. As per the intel, the attack will be similar to a "France-type attack", where 86 people died after a truck was driven into crowds celebrating Bastille Day in Nice, France in 2016, officials said.

The Delhi Police also put up posters of suspected terrorists with Al-Qaeda links, near Janpath and Connaught Place this week. The facial recognition software and more than 500 CCTV cameras have been installed at 30 locations in Delhi. Sources said the software has a database of 50,000 suspected terrorists and criminals.

Officials said they have made significant arrests this year to stop terror attacks in the city. However, after an improvised explosive device (IED) was discovered at the Ghazipur flower market on January 14, police are on high alert. Police said the IED, concealed in a bag, was timed to "set off" at 11.40 am. The police and National Security Guard (NSG) teams discovered the IED before that and carried out a controlled explosion.

According to officials, last month, security agencies received inputs that the IS is planning to carry out an IED blast near Red Fort around Republic Day. "We have been told the person who will perform the said attack is already in possession of an explosive-laden car. IS has asked terrorists to use locally available material or IEDs to make bombs. We received intel that plastic lunchbox shaped IEDs are being made to carry out suicide bombings or lone attacks," said an official.

Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana said 27,723 police personnel, including 71 DCPs, will be manning Rajpath all day to prevent any incident. The force will be assisted by 65 companies of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs). "We have been working on this for two months now. We have intensified our anti-terror measures. It is also because Delhi has been a target for terrorists or anti-social elements.," said Asthana.

Counter-drone technology will be used by police to keep a check on security from air-space. Special teams are being deployed to check CCTVs and monitor social media for threats and posts every day, officials said. Amid rising Covid cases, a Delhi Police spokesperson said all guests at the Republic Day parade will have to produce their vaccination certificates at the entry points. "We have received guidelines stating that those who are unvaccinated and children below age 15 won't be allowed at the parade..," said the officer.

Gurukul-themed nature classes in all schools under NDMC

GAYATHRI MANI
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

IN A bid to bring students closer to nature and teach them how to preserve the environment, the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) is planning to conduct a 'gurukul' themed nature class in all its schools. Under this plan, the students will be taught about nature, Indian culture, to practice yoga and about eminent personalities including Swami Vivekananda and Subhash Chandra Bose.

These gurukul-themed classes will be developed on the NDMC school premises under trees, with bamboo sticks and wooden chairs.

According to NDMC vice-chairman Satish Upadhyay, these classes will help students get more sunlight and breathe fresh air. "One gurukul-themed classroom will be developed in all schools and students from nursery will have one class every week, when they will read about nature, Indian culture, personalities like Swami Vivekananda, Subhash Chandra Bose, Aryabhata."

He said, "What history are we are studying now? We have a rich culture and history, students should learn it."

These classes aim to develop children's sense of well being, knowledge about ecology and environmental conditions in their localities, instil knowledge, appreciation and concern for the environment and steps to be taken to mitigate environmental problems.

"These classes will also help them in applying what they learnt in classrooms practically. Shantiniketan classes take place under a tree, it is also good for the health of students," said an official, requesting anonymity.

"Nature classes have gained importance across the world. It should not be a norm for just areas that have nature in an abundance but for big cities like Delhi as well. This will also provide opportunities for the teachers to create planned learning experiences beyond the four walls of the classroom," said the official.

Classes will be held around trees. *Photo by NDMC*

Coldest Jan day since 2013

New Delhi: Delhi recorded this winter's coldest day on Tuesday with a maximum temperature of 12.1 degrees Celsius, the lowest so far this season. The minimum temperature recorded was 6.2 degrees Celsius, a degree below normal.

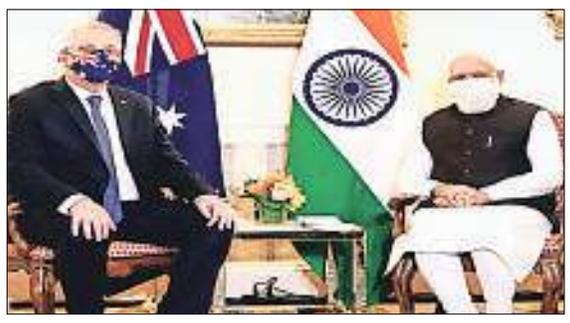
This is also the coldest day for the month of January since 2013, when the maximum temperature fell to 9.8 degrees Celsius on January 3, 2013, at the Safdarjung weather observatory. On Tuesday, the maximum temperature was 10 degrees below normal, and the city recorded a 'severe cold day' for the second consecutive day.

"From January 7 onwards, the daytime temperature has always been two to six degrees below normal. We recorded 11 days in January when the maximum temperature was below 17 degrees Celsius," according to R K Jenamani, senior scientist, IMD. 'Cold day' conditions remain on the forecast for Wednesday when the minimum temperature is likely to be 6 degrees Celsius and the maximum is likely to be 14 degrees Celsius. **ENS**

ADVERTORIAL

Together we prosper

The Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) between Australia and India is the right matrix of bilateral ties as it is based on mutual understanding, trust, common interests, shared values of democracy and rule of law



THE post-pandemic world has thrown up new strategic realities in the littoral region and India and Australia, as powerful democratic nations, have been working on commonalities, deepening bonds, expanding trade and economic relationships, benefitting from technology exchange, engaging in strategic security partnerships and strengthening people-to people relationships. Meanwhile, the Indian diaspora in Australia has been contributing robustly to its economy and multicultural landscape. The intent of this synergy is clear, a commitment to understanding opportunities where both can unite, tackle challenges together and emerge as a friendly bloc.

On June 4, 2020, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, participated in the Australia-India Leaders' Virtual Summit. Morrison's tweet of his *samosa* platter and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's response, "connected by the ocean, united by the *samosa*" could not have shaped a better atmosphere for its inaugural. At this meeting, the two Prime Ministers elevated the bilateral Strategic Partnership concluded in 2009 to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP). This is based on mutual understanding, trust, common interests and the shared values of democracy and rule of law. Through the CSP, both countries committed to work together across a range of areas.

QUAD: STRATEGIC DEPTH

The most perceptible manifestation of this new strategic cooperation has been India's firming up of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) with Australia, along with the US and Japan. In a post-pandemic world, which has been entirely the fallout of China's negligence and its neo-imperialism in a world flattened by the virus in more ways than one, new allies are realising that without standing together as a bulwark, there's no chance of standing up to China's expansionism. This is significant geo-politically because four of the biggest democracies with stakes in the region are collectively committed to preserving open waters and holding off misadventures to monopolise them ruthlessly. The initiative allows interoperability between the four partners, which means accessing and using each other's strengths and bases to pursue their common mission of maritime democracy. This makes Quad formidable.

And as mutual interests and concerns find congruence, over time both India and Australia could help Quad become what the US calls a NATO-like presence in Asia. Both could even strengthen the military alliance to forge an economic coalition of sorts, for example setting up a Quad Free Trade Agreement (FTA) to attract investment and set up an alternative supply chain and management network that would reduce the dependence on China. Challenging existing hegemony in the region, Australia has been looking to find allies where it can divert its exports and look to for support.

On its part, India has remained ever grateful for Australia's support to its entry into the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and securing a waiver from the group to enable uranium export to India and rid New Delhi of the nuclear outsider tag. Neither has it forgotten that following the terrorist attack that killed 41 Indian security personnel in Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir, bipartisan support came from PM Scott Morrison, Foreign Minister Marise Payne and Penny Wong, leader of the opposition in the Senate, castigating Pakistan for its role in nurturing cross-border terrorism.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The elevation of the Australia-India relationship to CSP status includes a commitment to encourage trade and investment flows to the benefit of both economies. Australia and India are re-engaging on a bilateral Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) and progressing in a range of areas including critical minerals, health, critical technology, science and agriculture.

Over the next 20 years, a growing India will need many of Australia's goods and services — including in education, agriculture, energy, resources, tourism, healthcare, financial services, infrastructure, science and innovation, and sport. There's no single major market till 2035 with more growth opportunities for Australian business than India.

The Australia India Business Exchange (AIBX) programme provides a range of services to support Australian businesses in entering and establishing units in India, from industry-specific insights to guidance on doing business with India and entering its online retail market. The Australia-India Council (AIC) is advancing Australia's foreign and trade policy interests with India.

PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE TIES

Australia and India are building strong and lasting ties through people-to-people links. India remains Australia's largest source of skilled migrants and the second largest source of international students. Hinduism is the fastest growing religion and Punjabi is the fastest growing language. This blending is best demonstrated in sports.

The connectedness has become more heart-felt as images of the charred flora and fauna by the raging bushfires had ordinary Indians extending help and support besides the Government and Bollywood celebrities. Indian cricketing legends Sachin Tendulkar and Yuvraj Singh flew down for a Bushfire appeal charity match and helped raise around A$ 7.7 million for fire-fighting, reconstruction and rehabilitation. IAIE's Goodwill Ambassador to India Matthew Hayden also played the match. These are powerful and compelling images of the humanisation of the Indo-Australian ties.

idp INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION SPECIALISTS

AUSTRALIA has always been a sought after study destination because of top-ranking universities, advanced curriculum, student-friendly cities, multiple career opportunities, attractive post-study work rights, and much more. In a nutshell, its Government has always promoted education and welcomed students worldwide to enjoy the many benefits Australia offers. To spread the country's message further, IDP South Asia has been helping aspirants study abroad for the past 50 years to fulfil their dream of studying in Australia among various other countries. On this Australia Day, I, on behalf of IDP South Asia, would like to pay our regards to the country and all the dreamers and wish everyone success and prosperity.

MR PIYUSH KUMAR
Regional Director
(South Asia)
IDP Education India Pvt. Ltd.

HIGH COMMISSIONER MESSAGE

A natural *dosti*

H.E. MR BARRY O'FARRELL
Australian High Commissioner to India

AUSTRALIA and India share a national day on January 26. But we share so much more than a day of celebration. Each day my experience as a High Commissioner in this incredible country reinforces why our countries are natural friends. A natural *dosti*.

The Australia-India story is a proud one, of shared cultures and history. It is a story of two nations intermingling and cooperating. Not just for the mutual benefit we offer one another but also because we approach the world in a similar way.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has at times increased our social isolation, it has also brought countries and people together. And I've had the privilege to support the phenomenal growth of ties between Australia and India since I arrived at the beginning of 2020. The pandemic impacted all supply chains and despite trade flows between Australia and India taking a hit, business ties show no sign of fracture – they are strengthening.

Success stories continue to emerge. In 2021, an Australian business launched its Nobel Prize-winning stomach ulcer diagnostics technology in India. Our partnership in science and research is just one of the many spheres in which Australia and India's cooperation is growing. Another important foundation for our *dosti* is shared values. We are both vigorous, constitutional democracies, working in partnership to confront common challenges. We share a commitment to securing a greener future for coming generations; utilising the power of new technologies to shape that future.

I saw this first-hand when I visited Varanasi last year. After experiencing a dawn *aarti* and seeing the sunrise from a boat on the Ganga, I visited the Sankat Mochan Foundation – funded in part through an Australian grant. It has developed a wastewater management solution for the Ganga and conducts water quality research to maintain the majestic river. Similarly, a consortium of Indian and Australian universities is working even more closely together in the new Australia India Water Centre, established in 2020.

The enduring core of our relationship is, of course, our people-to-people links. From the exponential diaspora growth — one in 35 Australians has Indian heritage – to the personal mateship or *maitri* shared by our Prime Ministers, individual relationships underpin our national ties.

The separations wrought by the pandemic have been hard to bear. But there is cause for joy, too, as we recover. Stories and images of families reuniting are truly heart-warming. Just last week, a friend of the High Commission met her new grandchildren in Sydney for the first time – one of nearly 40,000 Indian parents who have been approved to visit Australia since last October. Each of these stories underlines the truth at the heart of the important Sanskrit phrase, *vasudhaiva kutumbakam* – the world is one family.

Australia is very pleased to welcome back our Indian students, and I salute their dedication and commitment. The impressive arrival of more than 11,000 Indian students to Australia in the last two months and the speed with which they have settled back into their host cities speaks of their natural fit into the Australian community.

As I begin my third year championing our bilateral ties, I am confident that we will not rest on our laurels. There is much work yet to be done. We are prioritising cooperation in emerging and critical technology, we are pursuing reciprocal defence access and we will open a new Consulate-General in Bengaluru.

The ties that bind our countries have never been stronger. We have much to celebrate on January 26, and for many years to come.

Why study in Australia?

Australia has emerged as the top choice for Indian students pursuing higher education and there has been an exponential growth in the percentage of enrolments every year. That's because Australian universities provide a safe and comfortable student accommodation, great research facilities, a practical teaching module, ease of a quality life and most importantly, a "post-study work policy." The last means that a student can take up a job in his relevant sector up to four years on a case-specific basis.

The work policy is a major draw because Australia provides opportunities in various industries with the highest salaries. The employment rate in the country is at an all-time high and the unemployment rate is as low as 5%. Some popular career prospects are business and finance, engineering, health care, tourism, science and technology as well as mining.

When he had visited India in 2019, the visiting Minister Dan Tehan had said, "Indian students contributed close to $5.5 billion to the Australian economy through higher education and the country represents a growing opportunity." That optimism was perhaps dampened by travel restrictions during COVID 19 but now Australian universities have introduced some attractive scholarships for international students who choose destinations outside of Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney. According to the Project Atlas by IIE, a total of 463,643 international students enrolled in various Australian universities in 2020, out of which 90,918 enrolments were from India.

No matter what course you study or how long you want to study, Australia provides a high-quality and fulfilling study experience for international students. The average tuition cost for international students is between AUD 20,000 to AUD 38,000 (INR 11.2 lakh to INR21.1 lakh). With a valid student visa, you can work part-time for 20 hours a week aside from your college to support living expenses.

There are six types of universities in Australia: Public universities, private universities, institutes of technology/Australian Technology Network, technical education institutions, the "Group of 8" universities and private colleges. There are a total of 43 universities in Australia, out of which two are international universities and one private speciality university offering more than 29 courses.

You can apply for scholarships, grants and bursaries as the Australian govt spends over £200,000,000 on students

There are 36 Australian universities in the QS World University Rankings 2021. The top five of such universities are Australian National University (ANU), University of Sydney, University of Melbourne, University of New South Wales (UNSW), University of Queensland (UQ) and Monash University.

When you study in Australia, you get to choose from 22,000 courses available in 1,100 universities and institutions, acquire globally-recognised degrees, explore various scholarship opportunities and receive education from the best instructors in the world.

The common languages used in Australia are English, Hindi, Mandarin, Arabic, Italian and Cantonese, making for a cosmopolitan and absorptive campus. As an Indian student, blending in is not that difficult. New South Wales has 95,387 people of Indian descent, Victoria has 111, 787 and Queensland houses 30,259 Indian Australians. Other ethnicities you'll come across in Australia include Italians, Greeks, Arabs, and Chinese.

You can't beat Australia when it comes to implementation of rights and consumer protection. It has the most rigorous consumer protection for international students. As per the Australian Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000, all programmes that are offered to overseas students meet stringent government regulations.

As an Indian student, you can remarkably reduce your tuition fee costs by applying for ample scholarships, grants and bursaries, given that the Australian government spends over £200,000,000 annually on international scholarships. This ensures that even the students with humble backgrounds are able to experience a world-class education without having to worry about funds arrangement. While most scholarships cover tuition fee, students enrolling for research programmes may also be able to get their living expenses covered.

A good academic score is generally the most important factor but extra-curricular activities and volunteering can also be used to advantage.

Nothing could be a better testimony to Australia's superlative education system than the fact that 15 of its scientists have been awarded a Noble prize for their contribution in various fields. Over one billion people in the world are dependent on innovations and discoveries made by Australia. It is known for its research in IVF, cervical cancer vaccination, penicillin, ultrasound, the Bionic Ear, Black Box Flight Recorders and more. Indian students seeking research prospects can expect endless support from the Australian government for their projects in terms of funding, providing the best guides, labs and facilities.

All Indian students with subclass 500 visa are allowed to work for 20 hours per week and full-time during the weekend. Moreover, you can apply for a subclass 485 temporary graduate visa on completion of your studies that will allow you to remain and study/work further in Australia. When you choose to study in Australia, you choose excellent industry experience and an open work culture.

@ieExplained
#ExpressExplained
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

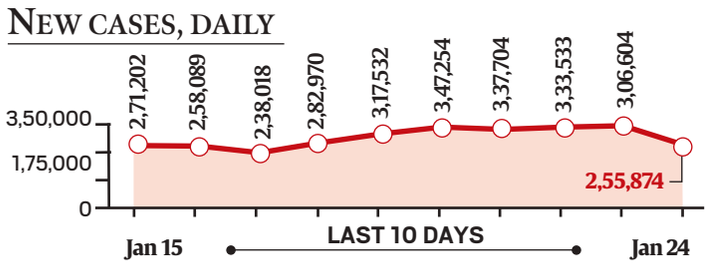
DASHBOARD, AS ON JAN 24

694 DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN

New cases	Active cases	Deaths
2,55,874	22,36,842	614

Weekly CFR: 0.40% | Overall CFR: 1.37% | Total deaths: 4,90,462

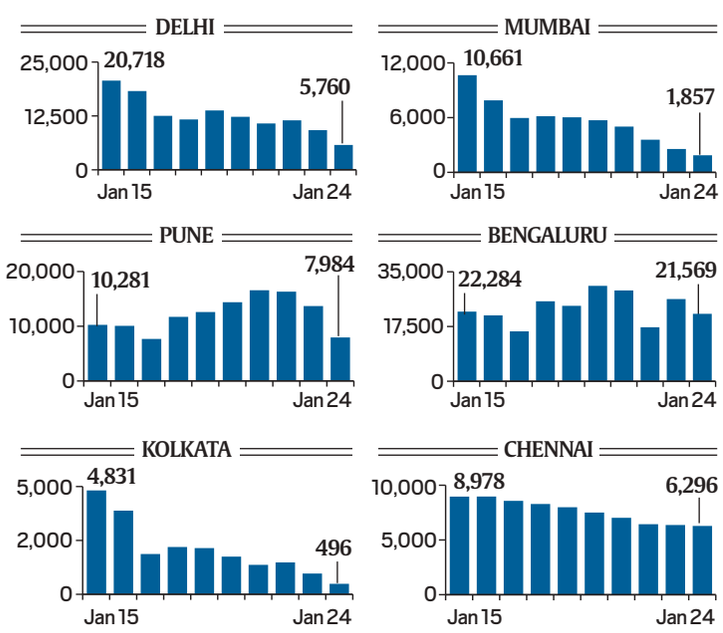
NEW CASES, DAILY



SURGE IN THE STATES

State	ON JANUARY 24			Weekly positivity
	New Cases	Active Cases	Deaths	
Karnataka	46,426	3,62,517	32	21.26%
Tamil Nadu	30,215	2,06,484	46	18.84%
Maharashtra	28,286	2,99,604	46	21.09%
Kerala	26,514	2,60,982	171	41.79%
Andhra Pradesh	14,502	93,305	7	28.03%

CASES IN THE CITIES, LAST 10 DAYS

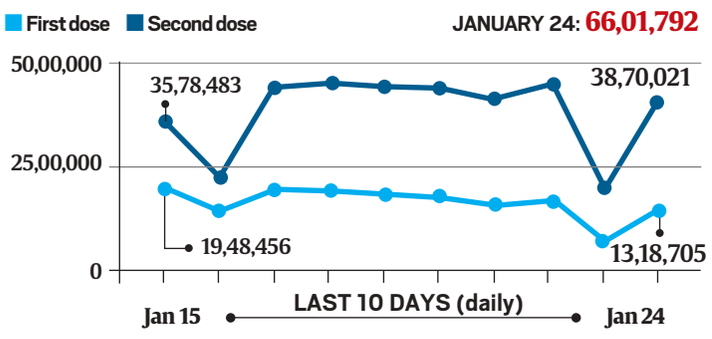


TOTAL TESTS 71,88,02,433

TESTS ON JAN 24	WEEKLY POSITIVITY	OVERALL POSITIVITY
18,07,100	16.29%	5.54%

INDIA TOTAL DOSES 162,92,09,308

(Adults 1st dose: 88,79,21,514; adults second dose: 68,97,62,152; 15-18 age group first dose: 4,27,23,464; precautionary doses:88,02,178)



SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

NGOs and foreign funding

Their FCRA registrations not renewed, several NGOs have failed to get relief from SC. How are they registered under the Act, what kind of foreign funding are they allowed, and when does govt cancel their registration?

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE SUPREME Court on Tuesday asked 6,000-odd NGOs to go back to the government for redressal of their grievances on non-renewal of their Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) registration. NGO Global Peace Initiative had petitioned the court that the NGOs should be allowed to continue receiving and utilising foreign funds until the pandemic is over.

The FCRA registrations of about 5,900 NGOs ceased to be active after December 31, 2021, owing to either the NGOs not applying for renewal before the due date or the MHA refusing their renewal for alleged violation of the Act.

On December 25 last year, the MHA refused to renew the FCRA registration of Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity, based on "adverse inputs". The registration was, however, restored on January 6, and Missionaries of Charity's FCRA certificate has now been made valid until the end of 2026.

What is the FCRA?

The FCRA was enacted during the Emergency in 1976 in an atmosphere of apprehension that foreign powers were interfering in India's affairs by pumping in funds through independent organisations. These concerns had been expressed in Parliament as early as in 1969. The law sought to regulate foreign donations to individuals and associations so that they functioned "in a manner consistent with the values of a sovereign democratic republic".

An amended FCRA was enacted under the UPA government in 2010 to "consolidate the law" on utilisation of foreign funds, and "to prohibit" their use for "any activities detrimental to national interest". The law was amended again by the current government in 2020, giving the government tighter control and scrutiny.

Broadly, the FCRA requires every person or NGO wishing to receive foreign donations to be registered under the Act, to open a bank account for the receipt of the foreign funds in State Bank of India, Delhi, and to utilise those funds only for the purpose for which they have been received and as stipulated in the Act.

They are required to file annual returns, and they must not transfer the funds to another NGO.

The Act also prohibits receipt of foreign funds by candidates for elections, journalists or newspaper and media broadcast companies, judges and government servants, members of legislature and political parties or their office-bearers, and organisations of a political nature.

FCRA REGISTRATION CANCELLATIONS, BY YEAR

Missionaries of Charity's registration, once denied exension, has since been renewed. *File*

16,885 Total FCRA-registered NGOs as on date

12,524 NGOs whose FCRA registration has been deemed ceased or expired (due to non-renewal)

YEAR	CANCELLATIONS
2011	4
2012	3922
2013	4
2014	59
2015	4004
2016	5
2017	4865
2018	1
2019	1808
2020	0
2021	3
TOTAL	20675

How is FCRA registration granted?

NGOs that want to receive foreign funds must apply online in a prescribed format. Registrations are granted to individuals or associations that have definite cultural, economic, educational, religious, and social programmes. The Home Ministry makes inquiries through the Intelligence Bureau into the antecedents of the applicant, and accordingly processes the application.

Under the FCRA, the applicant should not be fictitious or *benami*; and should not have been prosecuted or convicted for indulging in activities aimed at conversion through inducement or force, either directly or indirectly, from one religious faith to another.

The applicant should not have been prosecuted for or convicted of creating communal tension or disharmony; should not have been found guilty of diversion or misutilisation of funds; and should not be engaged or likely to be engaged in the propagation of sedition.

The ministry is required to approve or reject the application within 90 days. If it cannot, it is expected to inform the NGO of the reasons for the delay.

For how long is approval granted?

Once granted, FCRA registration is valid for five years. NGOs are expected to apply for renewal within six months of the date of expiry. In case of failure to apply for renewal, the registration is deemed to have expired, and the NGO is no longer entitled to receive foreign funds or utilise its existing funds without permission from the ministry.

The FCRA registration of close to 5,900 NGOs, including Oxfam India Trust and Indian Medical Association, lapsed on December 31 last year. According to sources, the registration of 5,789 NGOs had lapsed after they failed to apply for renewal before the due date. The rest, who had applied for renewal, were refused as the MHA found their operations or accounts to be in violation of the FCRA, sources said.

According to the MHA, NGOs failing to apply before the due date can petition the ministry with cogent reasons within four months of the expiry of registration, following which their applications can be reconsidered.

Many NGOs do not apply for renewal for reasons that include either completion of the project for which the FCRA registration had been taken or the NGO itself folding up.

On what basis is approval cancelled?

Registration can be cancelled if an inquiry finds a false statement in the application; if the NGO is found to have violated any of the terms and conditions of the certificate or renewal; if it has not been engaged in any reasonable activity in its chosen field for the benefit of society for two consecutive years; or if it has become defunct.

It can also be cancelled if "in the opinion of the Central Government, it is necessary in the public interest to cancel the certificate", the FCRA says. Registrations are also cancelled when an audit finds irregularities in the finances of an NGO in terms of misutilisation of foreign funds.

According to FCRA, no order of cancellation of certificate can be made unless the person or NGO concerned has been given a reasonable opportunity of being heard. Once a registration is cancelled, the NGO is not eligible for re-registration for three years.

The ministry also has powers to suspend an NGO's registration for 180 days pending inquiry, and freeze its funds.

All orders of the government can be challenged in the High Court.

Which NGOs have been accused of violating FCRA provisions?

Several well-known NGOs have come under the government's scanner for alleged violations of FCRA. Most have been accused of financial irregularities or "political activity".

Amnesty International was forced to shut its operation in India in 2020 following investigations by the Enforcement Directorate into its financial dealings.

Greenpeace India has scaled down its operations after its FCRA registration was cancelled in 2015 on grounds of opening multiple bank accounts, and movement of funds.

Lawyer Indira Jaising's NGO Lawyers' Collective is facing a CBI probe. In 2016, the Home Ministry had cancelled its FCRA licence for allegedly using foreign contributions for "political purposes".

Activist Teesta Setalvad's NGO Sabrang Trust had its FCRA registration cancelled in 2016 for allegedly mixing foreign and domestic funds, and for spending funds on publishing the *Communalism Combat* magazine.

In April 2015, the ministry put the Ford Foundation under the "prior approval category", which meant that all funds from the organisation to recipients in India would need government clearance by the government. The NGO was also put on the ministry's watch list for some time in the interest of "national security".

In 2016, Compassion International was barred by the government from funding NGOs in India over allegations of conversion.

Has the FCRA been used to target certain NGOs?

Until 2011, more than 40,000 NGOs were registered under FCRA in India. That number now stands at over 16,000.

The government has often faced allegations of targeting NGOs. Over the past seven years, the Narendra Modi government has cancelled the registration of more than 16,700 NGOs, over 10,000 of these in 2015.

The previous UPA government had cracked down on NGOs following protests against the Kudankulam nuclear power project. In 2012, the Manmohan Singh government cancelled the registration of almost 4,000 NGOs — up from just four the previous year.

It was under the UPA government that Greenpeace India had first come under the scanner.

Also, Amnesty International, first granted FCRA registration in 2000, was not allowed renewal by the UPA government. In fact, Amnesty had to once suspend its operations during the UPA regime too.

LONGER VERSION ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

A portable, non-invasive way to detect oral cancer

PAPER CLIP
NEW RESEARCH

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS
PUNE, JANUARY 25

SCIENTISTS FROM IIT Kharagpur have developed a portable, user-friendly, and non-invasive device for detecting oral cancer in resource-constrained clinical settings.

Experts from the Guru Nanak Institute of Dental Sciences and Research in West Bengal supervised the clinical trials, and have established the efficacy of the new method in differentiating cancerous and precancerous stages of suspected oral abnormalities, as verified by high-standard biopsy reports.

The research has been published recently in the prestigious *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (*PNAS*), USA. ('Portable, handheld, and affordable blood perfusion imager for screening of subsurface cancer in resource-limited settings': Arka Bhowmik, Suman Chakraborty, and others)

"This is a low-cost, handheld imaging device to screen oral cancer and precancer based on measured change in blood flow rate of the tissue from thermal imaging and analytics. The blood perfusion imager, which combines a miniature far-infrared camera and a humidity sensor, are electronically controlled and interfaced with a combined physics-based and data-driven software engine," Prof Suman Chakraborty of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at IIT-Kharagpur told *The Indian Express*.

"The handheld unit combines various sensors and controllers that feed the measured data to a computer simulation engine to classify normal, precancer and cancer cases in the oral cavity without needing referral to specialised medical centres for resource-intensive diagnostic procedures," he said.

Cancer of the oral cavity remains one of the major causes of morbidity and mortality in socially-challenged and underserved communities. There is an 80 per cent chance on average of a five-year survival rate if diagnosed early; the survival rate drops to 65 per cent or less in more advanced stages of the disease.

In reality, most oral cancers remain undetected until they have reached an advanced stage. In resource-limited settings, there is a serious dearth of accurate yet affordable diagnostic tools to arrive at a decisive recommendation during the first possible clinical examination of the patient, when the disease may otherwise be in precancer or early cancer stage.

"The new technology offers the possibility of detecting potential vulnerable cases early enough, during a first examination by a clinician in a community health centre. As an inexpensive co-option to standard and established clinical practices, this value-added tool is likely to strengthen the confidence of doctors in preliminary decision making," Prof Chakraborty said.

The technology is currently available for ready licensing to companies for commercial adaptation. It may be subjected to more extensive statutory field trials before clinical use, which could take about two years from now, Prof Chakraborty said.

The estimated cost per device is within $500, he said.

35k posts, 1.25 cr aspirants: rly recruitment process, and controversy

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR & IRAM SIDDIQUI
NEW DELHI, BHOPAL, JANUARY 25

ON MONDAY, thousands of candidates who had appeared for the Railway Recruitment Board's Non-Technical Popular Category (NTPC) recruitment exam blocked trains in Bihar in protest against the results released earlier this month.

Even as aspirants, mainly in Bihar and also on social media, continued to protest, the Railways said all processes took place as per rules and no one group of aspirants would get any unfair advantage over others in landing a railway job.

What posts was the examination for?

Railways is recruiting in 35,281 vacant posts in various categories ranging from junior clerk, train assistant, guard, time keeper etc to station master across its verticals in its zones. Around 11,000 of these vacancies require 10+2 (Class 12 pass) as the minimum qualification to apply. The rest are higher-pay posts that require graduation as the minimum qualification. The posts are spread across five pay grades— from level 2 to level 6.

For instance, Junior Clerk is a level 2 post (starting pay Rs 19,900) for which being a Class 12 pass is the minimum qualification. Station Master is a level 6 post (starting pay Rs 35,400) for which a candidate must be at least a graduate.

How were the tests conducted?

Since 1.25 crore candidates had applied for these jobs, Railways held a common test, called Computer Based Test-1 (CTBT-1), for all candidates as a screening process. Railways says that this was done since nothing would have legally stopped a graduate from sitting for an exam meant for a Class 12 pass anyway.

After these vacancies were announced in 2019, the exams were to be tentatively held in September 2019, but were postponed to March 2020 — and then the Covid-induced lockdown hit in. Eventually, CTBT-1 was held over 68 days in 133 shifts with two shifts each day between April-July 2020. The results for CBT-1 were declared on January 14, 2022.

The real test will be in the next stage, called CBT-2, scheduled in mid-February. Railways says CBT-2 will be as per "graded difficulty" wherein every level will have a separate exam fit for that level's qualification. For instance in Level 2, which has posts like Junior Time Keeper, Accounts Clerk etc, the exam will be of a difficulty level meant for Class 12 pass candidates. And for Level 5, which has posts like Senior Clerk, Goods Guard etc, the exam will be of a difficulty level meant for graduate aspirants.

So, what is the controversy?

To ensure more people compete for these jobs, Railways has this time made a rule that for each level, the number of qualifying candidates it shortlists for CBT-2 will be 20 times the number of available posts vacant. In the 2016 recruitment, it shortlisted 15 times the vacancy. Earlier than that, the rule was to shortlist 10 times the vacancy.

That's why this time, for 35,281 vacancies, the total number of "applications" shortlisted for the next round is over 7 lakh.

But the real number of candidates who have been shortlisted for second round is not really 7 lakh, but 3.84 lakh.

For example, a Class 12 pass candidate, based on his choice and test score, may have been shortlisted for both Level 2 and 3 vacancies. Similarly, a graduate candidate may have been shortlisted for all the vacancies in all levels. That's how the number of the shortlisted for CBT-2 stands at 7,05,446. The Railways say shortlisting would be based on applications, which means: if person A has applied for level 2 and also level 5, then, based on the person's scores, he or she will be counted in both categories when the shortlist is made with 20 times the number of posts.

The agitators are claiming that those with higher qualification will get a shot at cracking jobs meant for those with lower qualifications and spoil their chances.

What is the Railways' argument?

The Railways says it is not that simple. The Railways has decided that while someone shortlisted for CBT-2 at multiple levels may be able to sit for the tests, that will not translate into that person actually getting multiple jobs.

This is because in the final round, called document verification, Railways will hold the process for the top level posts, that is Level 6 first, followed by Level 5 and so on. No person who is empanelled to get a job at one level will be considered for the subsequent level. In effect, no one person can "hold" two confirmed railway job offers in two different levels at a time.

"We will hold the document verification for the higher levels first. That way, if someone qualifies for the job of, say Station Master, will no longer be considered for the subsequent lower level jobs, like that of a TTE or others," said the Chairman of an RRB who did not wish to be named. "But if someone says that he does not want a higher pay job and would rather go for a lower level job, then that's their choice, but that is highly unlikely."

How is Railways addressing the protesters' concerns?

Railways has taken to social media multiple times to explain that everything is happening according to the rules. Moreover, all the conditions governing the recruitment and screening are always published in the detailed notification for the recruitment drive concerned, it says.

To negate any controversy, Railways discloses the answered papers of the screening exam to all its candidates. Candidates are also allowed to raise objections which Railway Recruitment Boards clarify. It is only after this process is over that the result is declared and candidates are shortlisted for the next round.

In the earlier days, each Railway Recruitment Board would carry out its exam separately. That practice was stopped eventually to start centralised recruitment.

The last exam on this scale was held in 2016, when Railways set out to fill around 18,000 vacancies. But at that time, the posts being filled required graduation as the minimum qualification..

DECISION 2022

UTTAR PRADESH • UTTARAKHAND • PUNJAB • GOA • MANIPUR

Singh with new party colleagues on Tuesday. *Praveen Khanna*

Part of Team Rahul, R P N Singh deals the Gandhis a blow

MANOJ C G
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

MORE THAN harm in Uttar Pradesh, the exit of R P N Singh is another blow to the Congress as it hopes for resuscitation, and particularly to Rahul Gandhi as he makes his way back to the party president's post. Though 57, Singh was considered among the young leaders who would be part of Rahul's future Congress.

With the exception of a few like an unhappy Sachin Pilot, several of them have left the Congress over the past two years. They include Jyotiraditya Scindia, Sushmita Dev, Jitin Prasada, Priyanka Chaturvedi and Laliteshpati Tripathi – indicating that young leaders see no future for themselves in the party.

An OBC Kurmi leader, belonging to the erstwhile Sainthwara royal family of eastern UP, Singh's elevation as AICC in-charge of Jharkhand some years ago was seen as the party's signal that it was now giving weightage to OBC-centric politics. Both Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot and his Chhattisgarh counterpart Bhupesh Baghel also belong to the OBC community.

Now that Singh has chosen to leave, it signals that despite the tall claims made by the Congress and AICC general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, ground-level leaders of the party in UP sense that chances of its revival in the politically and electorally crucial state are bleak.

While there had been speculation for some time regarding Singh's exit, he had consistently dismissed them as "rumours". That the Congress believed he would stay was evident from the inclusion of Singh's name in the list of star campaigners released by the party for UP on Monday. Sources said even Tuesday morning, a senior leader told the party Singh would not leave.

A three-time MLA, Singh had been with the Congress for over three decades. Earlier, his father Kunwar Chandra Pratap Narain was an MLA and two-time MP and a minister in the Indira Gandhi government in 1980.

Singh began his electoral journey in 1996 when he contested the Lok Sabha election from Padrauna. He trailed in fourth, with the seat going to BJP's Ram Nagina Misra. However, the same year, he entered the UP Assembly from the Padrauna constituency.

In 1997 he was appointed president of the state Youth Congress. Singh was elected MLA from Padrauna again in 2002 and in 2007. He became an office-bearer of the AICC in 2003.

In 2009, Singh shifted to national politics when he won the Kushi Nagar Lok Sabha seat, in the election where the Congress left everyone surprised by picking 22 constituencies in UP. Singh was made Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways in the Manmohan Singh government. In 2011, he was given the charge of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Corporate Affairs. In 2012, he became Minister of State for Home Affairs.

However, in the Congress decline in UP since, Singh lost the next two Lok Sabha elections, in 2014 and 2019. His influence in the state is considered limited to Kushi Nagar and some areas around.

FULL STORY ON www.indianexpress.com

POWER TUSSLE

Battlefield Rampur: On SP turf, old rivalries meet new politics

Azam Khan and son take on father-son duo of erstwhile Nawab family

ASAD REHMAN
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 25

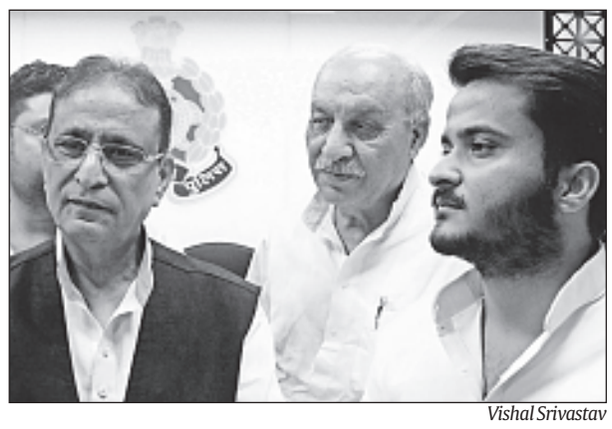
THE BATTLE for Rampur, the northwestern UP seat that is a known Samajwadi Party (SP) stronghold, is turning into an encounter between two families. On one side are the SP's Azam Khan and his son Abdullah Azam Khan, and on the other, another father-son duo from the erstwhile Rampur royalty.

In the Rampur Assembly constituency, Azam Khan is pitted against the Congress's Kazim Ali Khan (alias Naved Miyan), descendant of the erstwhile Nawabs of Rampur, while in the nearby Suar Assembly seat, Abdullah Azam Khan will face Kazim Ali's 30-year-old son Haider Ali Khan (alias Hamza Miyan), who is now the candidate of the Apna Dal (S), an NDA ally.

Though the Congress had earlier declared Haider, a Shia Muslim, as its candidate from Suar, he switched over to the Apna Dal (S), thus becoming the first Muslim candidate to be fielded by the NDA in UP since 2014.

While this is the first such election that has pitted the two Khan families against each other, people in Rampur say it's a familiar rivalry that goes back at least four decades to the time when Azam Khan pitchforked himself into Rampur politics as the "aam aadmi" who was up against the region's "Nawabs and feudal lords".

"Azam, whose father was a typist, used to invoke his humble background in his election speeches and would hit out at the family of the Nawabs. His style was very theatrical and he would level allegations against the Nawab family after he burst upon the scene in Rampur politics after completing his education from the Aligarh Muslim University," says a senior SP leader. "While the Nawab family never publicly took on Azam, he ensured he always invoked their names and sought to make it a David versus Goliath-type contest."



Vishal Srivastav

Azam will fight from Rampur, son Abdullah from Suar.

Kazim is the son of Begum Noor Bano, a two-time Congress MP from Rampur (1999 and 1996), who was married to the late Syed Zulfiqar Ali Khan (alias Mikky Mian), the son of Nawab Raza Ali Khan, who was the Nawab of the Rampur princely state before Independence.

Kazim was elected MLA from Suar three times -- in 2002, 2007 and 2012. In 2017, he lost to Azam's son Abdullah.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Kazim said he will contest the election from the Rampur seat on "local issues". "My campaign is focusing on Rampur. I don't want people to lose focus and make it a state-level affair," he said.

Asked about him contesting on a Congress ticket while his son is contesting as a BJP ally's nominee, he said, "It's not the first time this is happening. Madhavrao Scindia contested as a Congress nominee while his mother and sister were in the BJP. Mulayam Singh Yadav has made his daughter-in-law join the BJP."

The BJP's candidate against Azam Khan, Akash Saxena, who takes credit for lodging most of the criminal complaints against Azam and his family, said, "Azam should not contest this election on moral grounds because of the cases against him. It is just a matter of time before he is sentenced to jail. My fight is against the Congress candidate; Azam will be fighting for third place."

While Azam continues to be in jail, Abdullah was out on bail on January 15. The father and son have been facing multiple charges, including that of cheating, after Azam, his wife Tanzeen Fatima, a sitting SP MLA, and Abdullah surrendered before a local court in Rampur in February 2020 in connection with a case of alleged forgery of Abdullah's birth certificate. In December 2020, Fatima obtained bail.

According to police records, 81 cases have been filed against Azam and 32 against Fatima, while Abdullah faces 43 cases. While Azam dismisses these cases as "political vendetta" by the Yogi Adityanath government, the police and administration maintain that the cases were lodged based on complaints by local people.

Despite the cases against them, the family continues to hold considerable clout in Rampur, where many are "sympathetic" towards how the family was sent to jail under the BJP dispensation. Muslims form a majority in both Rampur and Suar seats.

After being released from jail, Abdullah had, while virtually addressing SP workers on January 19, broken down as he mentioned his father's health.

Kazim dismisses it as "natakbaazi" (drama) that the family "routinely does" in order to get public support. "His father used to do it. Now, his son is doing the same. People will not support them," he claims.

In 2017, Azam Khan won Rampur with 1.02 lakh votes, defeating BJP candidate Shiv Bahadur Saxena, who got 55,258 votes. Azam, who has won the seat nine times since 1980, was one of the most powerful ministers in the Akhilesh Yadav-led SP government of 2012-2017.

Azam vacated the seat after he got elected to the Lok Sabha in 2019. His wife Tazneen won the bypoll held on the seat.

Abdullah won the Suar seat in 2017 with 1.06 lakh votes, defeating the BJP's Laxmi Saini, who got 53,347 votes, while Kazim finished third with 42,233 votes.

TRACKING COVID IN ELECTION-BOUND STATES

	UTTAR PRADESH	PUNJAB	UTTARAKHAND	GOA	MANIPUR
Deaths	23,088	17,059	7,497	3,623	2,031
Deaths Today	15	36	6	8	4
Cases	11,529	3,910	3,893	1,794	461
	17,138	7,318	2,682	3,232	279
	Jan 16 – Jan 25	Jan 16 – Jan 25	Jan 16 – Jan 25	Jan 16 – Jan 25	Jan 16 – Jan 25

I HEREBY DECLARE

PANKHURI PATHAK
Congress candidate Noida

TOTAL ASSETS
₹6,31,14,016

MOVABLE ASSETS
₹86,52,941
Self: ₹41,82,087
Husband: ₹44,70,854

IMMOVABLE ASSETS
₹5,43,61,075
Self: ₹91,04,075
Husband: ₹4,52,57,000

LOANS
Self: ₹57,22,696
Husband: ₹26,74,981

CRIMINAL CASES:	NIL
PROFESSION:	LEGAL CONSULTANT
EDUCATION:	LLB (2018)

BALLOTIN

EC notice to minister after video shows son 'distributing' cash

Bulandshahr: After the video of the son of UP minister Anil Sharma, the BJP candidate from Shikarpur assembly segment, allegedly distributing money to people went viral, the returning officer for the constituency has sought the minister's explanation within 24 hours. The viral video purportedly shows Sharma's son Kush distributing Rs 100 notes to people amid the sounds of drum beats near his vehicle. It has been claimed that people taking money were drummers. In the notice to the minister, the Returning Officer has told him that his party worker or officer is distributing cash to the people of the area, which prima facie appears to be a clear violation of the model code of conduct. **PTI**

HASHTAG POLITICS

• Mayawati to hold rally in Agra

Senior BSP leader and Rajya Sabha member Satish Chandra Misra announced on Twitter that Mayawati will hold a public rally in Agra on February 2 following all Covid protocols. Timing and venue of the rally, he said, will be announced soon.

2.9K LIKES, 795 RETWEETS IN 12 HOURS

• Another '*UP main ka ba*' video out

Folk singer Neha Singh Rathore released part 2 of her song 'UP main ka ba' on Tuesday. Like the previous one, she takes a dig at the Yogi government over farmers issues and law & order situation in the state.

11.8K LIKES, 3.9K RETWEETS IN 17 HOURS

• 'BJP will only betray Goans'

AITC vice-president and former Finance Minister Yashwant Sinha appealed to 'Goenkars to not trust' the BJP. "They will only betray Goans, as they have done previously! It's time to vote for a new dawn," @AITC4Goa quoted him as saying.

155 LIKES, 85 RETWEETS IN 10 HOURS

Capt to fight mostly rural seats in tie-up with BJP

KANCHAN VASDEV
CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 25

AMARINDER SINGH'S Punjab Lok Congress will be fighting mostly rural seats in its alliance with the BJP. On Monday, the parties had announced that the BJP will be contesting 65 constituencies and the PLC 37 in the coming Assembly elections.

The BJP is largely contesting the urban seats. Its share includes all the 23 Assembly segments that it used to contest when in alliance with the Shiromani Akali Dal.

The urban constituencies in the PLC share are Amritsar South, Raja Sansi, Nawanshahr, Bathinda Urban, Ludhiana South, Ludhiana East, Atam Nagar, Patiala Urban, Samana and Malerkotla.

Almost all the seats in the PLC's share, 26 of 37, fall in the Malwa region — Budhlada, Mansa, Rampura Phul, Bathinda (Urban), Bathinda (Rural), Dharamkot, Nihal Singh Wala, Dakha, Ludhiana South, Atam Nagar, Ludhiana East, Patiala, Sanaur, Samana, Shutrana, Patiala (rural), Bhadaur, Amargarh, Ferozepur (rural), Zira, Kotkapura,, Bassi Pathana, Kharar, Gidderbaha, Malout and Malerkotla.

Most of these are predominantly rural seats. Amarinder's pocket borough Patiala is also a part of Malwa.

The biggest Punjab region, it gave the Aam Aadmi Party a foothold in the state and was the epicentre of farm protests.

However, the BJP has kept as many as four of the nine Assembly segments falling under Patiala Lok Sabha constituency, from where Amarinder's wife Preneet Kaur is a five-time MP. The five segments that have gone to the PLC include Patiala Urban and Rural seats, Sanaur, Samana and Shutrana.

Amarinder Singh's native Mehraj village falls in Rampura Phul constituency, part of Bathinda district.

In the Amritsar Lok Sabha constituency, the PLC will be fighting three seats. Amarinder had won the Lok Sabha seat defeating the late BJP heavyweight Arun Jaitley with a margin of over one lakh votes at the height of the 2014 Modi wave.

In the Majha region that includes Amritsar, the Punjab Lok Congress will contest from Raja Sansi, Amritsar (South), Jandiala, Ajnala, Khadoor Sahib, Patti, Fatehgarh Churian. The Majha region is called the Panthic belt and has usually favoured the Akalis.

Proximity to border also makes it a hotbed of drugs trafficking.

Why demands for Bhullar's release have come up this election season in Punjab

KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR
AMRITSAR, JANUARY 25

WITH PUNJAB heading into a crucial election, Sikh bodies and activists have been submitting memorandums to AAP candidates, asking questions on their long-pending demand for the permanent release of Davinder Pal Singh Bhullar, a death convict in the 1993 Delhi bomb blasts case. In jail since 1994, Bhullar's request for permanent release has been pending with the AAP-run Delhi government.

Bhullar's wife seeking his release last week. *PTI*

EXPLAINED

Death sentence to life term

In March 2002, the Supreme Court had dismissed Bhullar's appeal against the death sentence awarded by a trial court and endorsed by the Delhi HC. The following year, the apex court rejected Bhullar's curative petition, following which he filed a mercy plea before the President. With then president Pratibha Patil rejecting his mercy petition in May 2011, Bhullar's family again moved the Supreme Court seeking commutation of his death sentence to life imprisonment on grounds of delay in rejection of his mercy plea. The Supreme Court again rejected the plea in 2013. Finally, on March 31, 2014, the Supreme Court, while reviewing its 2013 order, commuted Bhullar's death sentence to life on grounds of inordinate delay in deciding his mercy petition.

Political 'untouchable' to rallying point

In August 2009, Bhullar's lawyer Navkiran Singh filed an application with the Home departments of Delhi and Punjab, requesting Bhullar be shifted to his home state as he was suffering from depression, hypertension and arthritis. However, the then Akali Dal-BJP government in Punjab had refused to accommodate Bhullar in Punjab jails. The government also filed an affidavit in the SC calling Bhullar "hardened and experienced criminal, with well-organized international support, and a terrorist."

However, as a campaign run by Bhullar's family and Sikh bodies to commute the death sentence started gaining popular support, in 2013, former Punjab CM and Akali veteran Parkash Singh Badal asked then PM Manmohan Singh to commute the death sentence of Bhullar. Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal also won praise from Sikh bodies for supporting clemency for Bhullar.

Finally, after the SC commuted Bhullar's death sentence to life term, in 2015, while the Congress objected, the SAD-BJP government in Punjab and the AAP government in Delhi coordinated to transfer Bhullar from Tihar jail to Amritsar Central jail. After 23 years, Bhullar got his first parole in April 2016 and has since frequently come out on parole.

Demand for permanent release

In October 2019, the Centre had issued a communique, on the 550th anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, for release of eight Sikh prisoners, including Bhullar. The Centre had asked the respective state governments/ UTs to carry out the remission in consultation with the Centre. However, in 2020, the Sentence Review Board of the Delhi government thrice rejected the permanent release request of Bhullar.

Recently, however, AAP's Bhagwant Mann had claimed that Bhullar's file for permanent release was pending with Delhi LG. He, however, later said the Delhi government would decide "once the legal process gets over".

PARTIES & RIVALS

A tough battle for both CM Dhami, contender Rawat

AVANEESH MISHRA
DEHRADUN, JANUARY 25

FOR THE last 21 years, since it was carved into a state, Uttarakhand's electoral behaviour has been clear: the government has alternated between the Congress and the BJP, and every incumbent Chief Minister has lost the election.

Having won the election in 2002, the state's first elected Chief Minister Narayan Datt Tiwari did not contest the next polls in 2007. In 2012, then CM, Maj Gen (Retd) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri, lost as well. And in 2017, the then incumbent CM, Harish Rawat, who had contested the Haridwar Rural and the Kichha, lost both seats.

This is what makes the coming elections in the state, particularly in Khatima and Ramnagar constituencies, interesting. In Khatima, the candidate is the incumbent Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, the BJP's face in the state polls. And Ramnagar is from where former CM and the Congress's campaign head for the polls, Harish Rawat, will contest.

Dhami and Rawat

VOTING ON FEBRUARY 14

KHATIMA

The Khatima seat comprises around 35,000 Hindu voters, nearly 20,000 Muslims and 10,000 Sikhs. The constituency has a significant number of Tharu tribe voters.

Dhami, who became CM last year, has won the seat in Udham Singh Nagar district twice so far. In 2017, however, the difference between him and the Congress runner-up, Bhuwan Chandra Kapri, was just 2,709 votes, nearly half of the 2012 margin, when he had defeated Congress's Devendra Chand.

Despite Dhami claims that he has developed Khatima and turned it into the state's 'most developed' assembly constituency, he faces the anti-incumbency factor.

The BJP's district incharge, Swami Yatiswarananda, hopes the saffron party will win all the nine Assembly seats in the district, including Khatima. However, given the high number of Muslim voters in the area, who are traditionally considered against the BJP, and the number of Sikh voters, who appear to have distanced themselves from the saffron party due to the recent farmers' agitation, the fight will not be easy for Dhami.

Belonging to the Thakur community, Dhami will face Congress candidate Bhuwan Chandra Kapri, a Brahmin and former state president of the Youth Congress.

In his debut state election in 2017, Kapri performed significantly well despite his party's numbers falling to 11 and the BJP riding high on the Modi wave.

RAMNAGAR

Ramnagar has around 50,000 Hindus and around 20,000 Muslim voters. In 2012, Congress candidate Amrita Rawat had defeated the BJP's Diwan Singh Bisht by 3,729 votes . In 2017, however, the fortunes reversed with Bisht defeating the Congress's Ranjeet Rawat by over 8,600 votes.

This year again, the BJP has fielded Bisht as its candidate. But, apart from that, there's further trouble for former CM and Congress candidate, Harish Rawat, coming from his friend-turned-foe, Ranjeet. Ranjeet has staked claim to the Ramnagar ticket and has even been criticising his party's decision vocally.

Party colleagues close to Harish Rawat say the 73-year-old leader, who might as well be fighting his last election, chose to contest from Ramnagar as he had spent part of his childhood here and still has followers in the area. Many, however, say the fight will be tough if Ranjeet goes against the party. "I have been preparing for the seat for a long time. I have been living here and working. I sowed the seeds and now someone else is trying to reap it," Ranjeet told *The Indian Express* on Tuesday.

FULL STORY ON www.indianexpress.com

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL

GIVING IT BACK

IT IS not everyday that Justice D Y Chandrachud of Supreme Court loses his calm. But on Tuesday, the judge appeared to be at his wit's end as a lawyer, who had filed an intervention application in two matters concerning Covid-19 vaccination, kept questioning as to why his submissions were not being recorded by the bench, which also comprised Justice Sanjeev Khanna. The upset lawyer told the bench: "What will the common man think... that court is not hearing those who are exposing the vaccine syndicate and hearing only those who are pro-vaccine?" Having tried to reason with him long enough that an intervenor's rights are limited, Justice Chandrachud responded, "We don't want a certificate from you... Our shoulders are broad enough to take all criticism, including from the Bar. We are fulfilling our constitutional mandate."

INDIA VISIT

PRESIDENT FOR COP26 and a Minister of State in the British Cabinet Office, Alok Sharma, is expected to visit India from February 10 to 13 – his first visit since organising COP26 in Glasgow. How his meetings pan out and what kind of reception Sharma receives from the government remains to be seen as he had squarely blamed India and China for diluting goals on the phasing out of coal at the end of the Glasgow meet. Sharma is likely to hold discussions on climate change targets and practices apart from holding meetings on energy transition and renewable energy ventures. He is expected to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, and other ministers and senior officials.

TRENDSETTER?

THE BSF on Tuesday released a video of its personnel wishing the nation on the occasion of Republic Day in 10 different languages. It used the services of its personnel from different states across east, west and north India for this. Given that its recent move of celebrating its raising day outside Delhi – on the India-Pakistan border at Jaisalmer – prompted Home Minister Amit Shah to ask all CAPFs to do the same, the buzz in other forces is that they may have to follow suit on this as well given the government's focus on promoting regional languages.

SURVEY COVERING CHHATTISGARH SCHOOLS

In India's most backward dists, Covid widens learning gap: report

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE PROPORTION of students in classes II, III, and VI in Chhattisgarh who are unable to recognise letters have doubled since 2018, coupled with a sharp drop in their basic mathematical skills, according to the latest Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), which captures Covid-related learning losses in one of the most backward states of the country.

According to the ASER survey, which covered 46,021 children aged 3-16 years across 33,432 households in 28 districts of Chhattisgarh in October-November 2021, the current foundational reading level among students in classes I-VII is "lower than at any time in the last decade".

"The proportion of children at 'beginner' level (unable to recognise even letters) in Std II, Std III and Std VI is roughly double the corresponding level in 2018: it increased from 19.5% to 37.6% for children in Std II, from 10.4% to 22.5% in Std III, and from 2.5% to 4.8% in Std VI," says the report.

The proportion of children in class III who can read standard II-level text fluently has dipped from 29.8 per cent in 2018 to 12.3 per cent in 2021, the report says, indicating that learning outcomes of younger children, particularly those in government schools, have been severely hit.

Numbers show that until 2018, learning abilities were rising among children of all age groups. For example, 70.7 per cent children in class II of government schools could read letters in 2014,; it rose to 77.1 per cent in 2016; dipped marginally in 2018 to 76.3 per cent; and in 2021 went down to 57 per cent.

In the case of mathematics, 14.2 per cent children in class III (government and private school combined) could do subtraction in 2014; the figure rose to 20 per cent in 2016; came down slightly in 2016 to 19.3 per cent; and in 2021 it stood at 9 per cent.

Among class V students, 18 per cent could do division in 2018; this rose to 23.1 per cent in 2016; 26.9 per cent in 2018; and fell to 13 per cent in 2021.

The survey also found that the proportion of children who are unable to recognise even single-digit numbers has increased across grades, and more so among students of classes I-V.

For example, the proportion of children at this level increased from 11.4 per cent to 24.3 per cent in class II, and from 1.7 per cent to 4.5 per cent in class V, the report states.

"Looked at over the previous decade, sharp drops in foundational arithmetic ability are visible among children in the primary grades (Std I-V), with children in government schools performing significantly worse than those in private schools," the report says.

Like in Chhattisgarh, ASER had captured the status of learning outcomes in Karnataka in a report released in September 2021. This report, based on a sample assessment covering 20,000 children aged 5-15, had also found "steep drops" in foundational skills, especially in lower primary grades.

In terms of availability of resources such as smartphones and television, the survey found that private school students are better off compared to their government school counterparts.

As many as 88.5 per cent surveyed students of private schools had smartphones available at home, as against 79.1 per cent government school students.

Moreover, children in private schools are far more likely (8.1 per cent) to take paid private tuition classes than those in government schools (3.2 per cent), the survey found.

The report of the National Achievement Survey (NAS) carried out by the central government in November last year to assess learning outcomes of children across the country is expected to be released in March 2022.

EDUCATION: ANOTHER COVID CASUALTY

Class I Children who can read at least letters

YEAR	GOVT	PVT
2014	40.1	79.4
2016	45.3	84.9
2018	44.0	78.7
2021	35.7	67.5

Class II Children who can read at least letters

YEAR	GOVT	PVT
2014	70.7	85.3
2016	77.1	94.8
2018	76.3	92.8
2021	57.0	86.2

Class III Children who can at least do subtraction

	GOVT	PVT
2014	9.6	31.1
2016	14.5	37.7
2018	16.0	30.7
2021	6.1	21.8

Class V Children who can do division

	GOVT	PVT
2014	14.1	35.7
2016	18.6	40.8
2018	26.1	30.2
2021	10.7	25.3

Class I Children who can recognise at least single digit numbers

	GOVT	PVT
2014	47.3	84.1
2016	52.6	87.7
2018	53.0	83.7
2021	44.1	73.5

Class II Children who can recognise at least single digit numbers

	GOVT	PVT
2014	78.2	88.2
2016	84.7	97.5
2018	86.3	95.6
2021	72.2	90.7

ASSAM ENCOUNTERS

Opp leader writes to rights panel, CM says action to go on

TORA AGARWALA
GUWAHATI, JANUARY 25

EVEN AS Leader of Opposition in state Assembly, Debabrata Saikia, on Tuesday wrote to Assam Human Rights Commission (AHRC) and requested the rights panel to ensure that the state government is made answerable on rising police encounters in the state, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said "action on criminals will continue" as long as he is the chief minister.

At least 30 people have been killed and more than 60 injured in police action since Sarma assumed office in May last year, the atest being the shooting of former student leader, Kirti Kamal Bora, on Saturday evening during an anti-drugs operation in Nagaon.

Citing Bora's injury, Saikia stated in his letter to AHRC that the developments are "very unfortunate" and have weakened the judicial system.

Citing specific incidents, Saikia wrote that a majority of those killed in police encounters belonged to ethnic and religious minorities — he mentioned that 14 of those killed belonged to the Muslim community, and 10 came from Bodo, Dimasa and Kuki tribes. "Assam has a history of secret killings, which scarred the society and similar things appear to be happening now," he wrote.

Saikia stated that the current practice of "shooting an accused even before his crime" could become counter-productive and go against public interest.

But addressing the media in response to Congress's criticism of police action under him, Chief Minister Sarma told the media that "police raj, military raj" will continue. "And," he added, "it should. How will there be law and order without police?"

Taking on the Opposition, Sarma said this is the first time he had seen a political party "supporting gundas and criminals". He said: "Instead of defending the drug mafia, the Congress should speak for many families destroyed by the mafia. If someone is caught with 3 kg heroin, are we supposed to felicitate them with a *gamosa* (towel) in Congress office?"

On Tuesday, an encounter took place in Kokrajhar district, when a suspected drug peddler was shot at as he allegedly tried to flee custody. The suspect is currently in hospital.

Earlier in the day, the state government failed to file an affidavit on the police encounters, as ordered by Gauhati High Court on January 11. The state's Advocate General, Devajit Lon Saikia, sought an extension of 10 days to file the affidavit. The court, which was hearing a PIL filed by advocate Arif Jwadder on the encounters, granted extension "in the interest of justice".

The high court will next hear the case on February 8.

"This is the first time we have asked for an extension," the A-G told *The Indian Express*. "The court had earlier asked us to prepare the affidavit but since we could not complete it, the court has given us an extension of 10 days," he said, adding that the Home and Political departments will prepare and file the affidavit.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma

Ensure 75% voting in your areas: PM Modi to BJP's panna pramukhs

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Tuesday urged BJP workers to ensure that voter turnout in their respective areas is recorded at at least 75 per cent to mark the 75th anniversary of India's Independence.

Addressing "panna pramukhs" (party workers in-charge of pages listing out voters in their respective areas) of BJP in Gujarat on the occasion of National Voters' Day, Modi asked them to ensure they are connected to every voter and her/his family members in their list. He urged them to get details of those who had "worked and sacrificed" for the party since the Jana Sangh days on Kamal Pushp (an initiative by BJP as part of the *Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav Parv* to collect stories of BJP and Jana Sangh workers), get every member on each voters' page to participate in the party's micro-donation campaign. Modi addressed selected BJP panna pramukhs on the NaMo app.

Pointing out that the Election Commission of India has become a model for other democratic nations, Modi said that voter turnout was 45 per cent in the first election, and went up to only 67 per cent in 2019. "All of you, in fact (workers from) every party, should think why the voter turnout is so low. Urban people, who are active on social media, do not come out and vote." This attitude, he said, needs to be changed.

"Can we take a pledge that our panna pramukhs will ensure that in this 75th year of independence they will see that there is 75-per cent voter turnout," he asked.

The PM also exhorted the audience to keep alive the debate on one-nation-one-election and one-nation-one-voters' list.

NATIONAL VOTERS' DAY ADDRESS

Those trying to discredit EC discrediting Indian democracy, says Rijiju

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THOSE TRYING to "discredit" the Election Commission of India are also discrediting the Indian democracy, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said at an event to mark the National Voters' Day on Tuesday.

The law minister also said that courts and judges can criticise the election watchdog, but they should keep "language in mind".

"Those elements who are trying to discredit the Election Commission of India are actually trying to discredit the democracy of India... In a democracy, everyone has the right to criticise but keep the language in mind. The court can criticise the Election Commission but the judges should also think about the language being used to criticise," he said in New Delhi.

The BJP leader also said he wanted to speak about The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021, in Parliament but the Opposition parties made it difficult to do so. The legislation – meant to link electoral roll data with the Aadhaar ecosystem among other changes -- was passed in Rajya Sabha last month even as the Opposition walked out. Rijiju was the guest of honour at the event organised by the Election Commission. Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu was also the chief guest, but could not attend the function in person after he tested positive for Covid-19. Instead, Naidu said in a voice message that India must arrive at a consensus to have simultaneous elections – a stand backed by the BJP-led Centre for years.

Kiren Rijiju (right) and CEC Sushil Chandra, New Delhi. *Courtesy: Twitter/Kiren Rijiju*

SC issues notice to Centre, EC on plea against freebies

Top court issued notice on freebies in 2019 too, the poll watchdog cited limitations of its powers in its response

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G.
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

SUPREME COURT on Tuesday issued notice on a plea seeking directions to Election Commission (EC) to frame guidelines to stop political parties from promising or distributing "irrational freebies from public fund".

A bench headed by Chief Justice of India N V Ramana and also comprising Justices A S Bopanna and Hima Kohli issued notice to the central government and EC on the plea by Advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay after Senior Advocate Vikas Singh, appearing for the petitioner, pointed out that states were already facing huge debt burdens and such freebies will only put stress on people more as the money ultimately has to come from them.

The bench agreed that the issue raised in Upadhyay's plea is "serious" and referred to the 2013 judgment in the S Subramaniam Balaji vs State of Tamil Nadu and Others case, in which the top court said that "although, the law is obvious that the promises in the election manifesto cannot be construed as 'corrupt practice' under Section 123 of Representation of People Act, the reality cannot be ruled out that distribution of freebies of any kind, undoubtedly, influences all people".

Noting that there is no law governing manifestos, the court had also asked the EC to frame guidelines and stressed the need "for a separate legislation to be passed by the legislature in this regard for governing the political parties in our democratic society". The CJI wondered what more could the court do but said "within limited scope, we can ask the ECI to respond" on what happened after its directions in 2013.

Incidentally, the apex court had already issued notice to the Centre, EC and some states on another plea against direct cash transfer schemes and freebies on July 2, 2019. The EC had responded to the notice on January 8, 2020. It said the court had held that its plenary powers under Article 324 of the Constitution with regard to conduct of elections "can be exercised only in areas left unoccupied by legislation". It said it "is bound to comply with existing statutory enactments including Appropriation Acts" and that it is, therefore, clear that it "may only regulate the manner of disbursal of cash subsidies to ensure that it does not skew the level playing field in any election".

The EC said it "has formulated and uniformly enforced... instructions which create constitutionally permissible checks on the schemes involving cash disbursal and other benefits".

The Centre is yet to file its reply to the petition by Pentapati Pulla Rao, who contested as a candidate of Janasena Party from Eluru constituency in Andhra Pradesh in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. The court, too, is yet to hear the matter after the notices were issued.

Rao's counsel Hitendra Nath Rath said the matter was last listed on January 10, 2020 when an SC Registrar directed that it be placed before the court for further hearing after four weeks.

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai

No discontent: CM Bommai on appointments of state ministers as districts in-charge

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, JANUARY 25

KARNATAKA CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai Tuesday said "there is no discontent" among his cabinet colleagues following the appointment of district in-charge ministers.

"They are all united and there is no discontent. It is the national policy of our party to assign the district which is not the native district of the ministers. We are all committed to work for the welfare of the people and run the government in the most appropriate way. The speculations regarding the issue are far from the truth," Bommai said.

Bommai on Monday allocated districts among the 28 cabinet ministers, of which they will be in-charge, while keeping the Bengaluru urban district with himself. Revenue minister R Ashoka, and law and parliamentary Affairs minister J C Madhuswamy have not been assigned any district, while three ministers – agriculture minister, BC Patil, minister of excise, K Gopalaiah, and minister of handlooms and textiles Shankar B Patil Munenakoppa – have been allocated two districts each.

Madhuswamy said that he would have been happy if he was made in-charge of Tumakuru, his home district, but added: "I myself opted out of being minister in-charge of any other district."

Responding to Karnataka Congress president DK Shivakumar's remarks that several BJP MLAs are preparing to join the Congress, the CM said, "There is no question of anyone from BJP jumping the ship."

In or out? Padma Bhushan comes as Azad, Cong keep each other guessing

MANOJ C G
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE CURIOUS case of Ghulam Nabi Azad keeps getting curiouser. Two months after the Congress dealt a snub to Azad, one of the Group of 23 leaders who had sought changes in the party, by dropping him from the disciplinary action committee, it named him as one of its star campaigners for Uttar Pradesh on Monday.

And on Tuesday, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led government announced the Padma Bhushan award for Azad, making him the first Congress leader to be honoured thus under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. (Pranab Mukherjee got the Bharat Ratna, but it was after having served as President, thus officially becoming above politics.) The two developments come even as speculation brews over Azad's plans since the Jammu and Kashmir leader set off on a series of rallies across the Union Territory, where his loyalists sought a change in the local party leadership. The rallies started after Azad's removal from the disciplinary panel, which itself came a day after at least 20 J&K Congress leaders considered close to him resigned from party posts.

Along with Azad, another G-23 leader, former Haryana chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, was included in the star campaigners' list of the Congress party for UP.

The grouping, that has been largely ignored by the leadership except for a few placatory gestures, is not sure what to make of the latest mixed signal. As former Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Azad was the senior-most leader in the group.

Azad's selection is explained partly by the fact that he has held charge of UP many times as AICC general secretary. He knows the state like the back of his hand, shares a personal rapport with almost all senior UP leaders, and has campaigned for the party often in seats in the state with sizeable Muslim populations.

As the AICC's pointsman during the last UP Assembly elections of 2017, Azad had bargained hard with the Samajwadi Party and secured a respectable deal where the Congress got 114 seats. It remains another matter that the Congress has been on an unchecked slide in the state.

Similarly, Hooda, the Congress's most prominent Jat leader, is expected to help the party in western UP, known as the sugarcane belt, with its significant Jat population.

However, if Azad's connect with the state or its Muslim population is the reason in UP, it made no such concession during the West Bengal Assembly elections last year. Azad did not figure in the star campaigners' list then, after having featured thus in the 2016 Bengal elections as well as the Bihar 2020 polls.

Just last month, Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut indicated the top Congress leadership's unhappiness with Azad, saying Rahul Gandhi had told him that he had asked Azad to go as J&K PCC president and that he could become the CM again, but he refused. In a Saamana column, Raut wrote: "Rahul said the party has given the seniors a lot. Today, the party needs them but they are taking a different stand. What can I do?... What disrespect have I shown to him (Azad)?"

Asked about the inclusion of Azad in the star campaigners' list, a G-23 leader said: "It is all a farce. How does it matter? Who is going to campaign? Phase I of UP polls will be over without any rally. Do you think the AICC makes programmes for any of these star campaigners? You may have a list of 30 star campaigners but nobody goes anywhere, except the two -- Rahul and Priyanka. Arrangements are made only for them."

The leader added that the "understanding" reached on December 19, 2020, had "fallen to pieces because there was lack of sincerity". He was referring to the five-hour-long meeting Congress president Sonia Gandhi had with the core team of G-23 leaders. "We can't keep on writing a letter and petition every day," the leader said.

Ghulam Nabi Azad during a press conference. *Anil Sharma/File*

India ranks 85 in Transparency International's corruption index

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

UNDERLINING THAT some of the mechanisms that could help reign in corruption are weakening, Transparency International ranked India at 85 among 180 countries in its Corruption Perception Index report released on Tuesday.

"The case of India is particularly worrying. While the country's score has remained stagnant over the past decade, some of the mechanisms that could help reign in corruption are weakening. There are concerns over the country's democratic status, as fundamental freedoms and institutional checks and balances decay," the report said.

The index, which ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption according to experts and business people, uses a scale of 0 to 100 to rank Corruption Perception Index (CPI), where 0 is highly corrupt and 100 is very clean. Transparency International gave India a CPI score of 40.

In 2021, India ranked 86th with the same CPI score of 40. The report highlighted concerns over the risk to journalists and activists who have been "victims of attacks by the police, political militants, criminal gangs and corrupt local officials." "Civil society organisations that speak up against the government have been targeted with security, defamation, sedition, hate speech and contempt-of-court charges, and with regulations on foreign funding," the report said.

Railways warns protesters: Conduct unbecoming, may lead to jobs ban

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR & SANTOSH SINGH
NEW DELHI, PATNA, JANUARY 25

A DAY after aspirants to Railway jobs blocked the arterial Delhi-Kolkata line for several hours, delaying important trains, the Indian Railways issued a strong statement against their "misguided" actions and threatened a lifetime ban on employment with the national transporter.

Thousands of people protested in Bihar on Monday against the alleged "inaccurate results" of the Railway Recruitment Board's (RRB) Non-Technical Popular Categories (NTPC) competitive exam, 2021.

The protests continued on Tuesday, with students clashing with police at various places in Patna and elsewhere in the state. Attempts were made to block trains on Tuesday as well, and a coach of a stationary train was set on fire in Ara, the headquarters of Bhojpur district about 50 km west of Patna.

On Tuesday, the Railways issued a general notice saying that by destroying railway property and disrupting railway services, the aspirants for railway jobs had displayed conduct that was unbecoming of a railway employee.

"Such misguided activities are highest level of indiscipline rendering such aspirants unsuitable for Railway/Government job. Videos of such activities will be examined…and candidates/aspirants found indulged in unlawful activities will be liable for police action as well as lifetime debarment from obtaining Railway job," the notice, issued on behalf of the RRBs, said.

Aspirants block railway tracks in protest against alleged erroneous results, at Muzaffarpur railway station in Bihar on Tuesday. *PTI*

The Railways brass have determined that some coaching centres and online tutorial services have been spreading misinformation among candidates, leading to the ongoing controversy.

Officials have reached out to some popular coaching centres, which are also influential on social media, and asked them to disseminate the correct picture on the rules and regulations that govern the screening process of the recruitment drive in NTPC, for which around 1.25 crore candidates had appeared, and whose results were declared earlier this month.

The Railways are seeking to fill over 35,000 vacancies for jobs from level 2 to level 6, with starting pay ranging from Rs 19,900 to Rs 35,400 per month. The minimum qualifications for the jobs differ, and the protesters claim that the recruitment process allows candidates with higher qualifications to unfairly compete for jobs that are meant for those with lower qualifications.

As violent protests continued for the second day, students threw stones at police in the Bhikhna Pahadi, Kadamkuan, and Saidpur areas of Patna. But no major injuries were reported from either Patna or Ara, where the train compartment was torched.

Students also protested the RRB-NTPC results in Nawada, Fatuha, Biharsharif, Chhapra, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, and Buxar. There were attempts to disrupt rail and road traffic. Police carried out mild lathicharges in Fatuha and Nawada. Over a dozen people suffered minor injuries in these places.

The protesters are demanding republication of the results of the first stage (CBT-1) of the RRB-NTPC exam, and abolition of the second stage (CBT-2) for Group D aspirants.

Roshan Kumar, an aspirant from Muzaffarpur, said: "Until the Railway authorities concede our demands, the protests will continue in some form or the other."

East Central Railway chief public relations officer Rajesh Kumar said at least a dozen trains had to be diverted between Buxar and Patna on Tuesday.

Sources at the Bihar Police headquarters said additional police deployment would continue at major railway stations for the next few days in view of anticipated protests by students."

RAIL EXAMINATION PROCESS EXPLAINED
PAGE 12

Rly recruitment: Police crackdown on protesting students in Prayagraj

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JANUARY 25

THE PRAYAGRAJ Police on Tuesday cracked down on a group of students who, while protesting against the railway recruitment process, allegedly tried to stop a train. Officers said that the train was not stopped but a search was on for those who tried to stop it in order to draw attention to issues related to recruitment under Group D for the railways. The incident happened in Chota Baghada area of Prayagraj.

Videos of policemen purportedly entering rooms of students went viral on social media, with the Congress as well as the Samajwadi Party tweeting about the incident. In the videos, the police are purportedly seen flogging students, breaking down their doors and taking them out.

Prayagraj ASP Dinesh Kumar Singh told mediapersons, "Some boys who live in a lodge came out on the road all of a sudden in a sizeable number. They reached the railway track and tried to stop a train. The train did not stop and reached the station on time. We have video evidence and we are looking for the same people and identifying them. Those involved will face strict action. This search operation will go on and will be done at each lodge."

On why the students tried to stop the trains, the ASP said, "The boys, six-seven of them that led the bunch, were demanding that recruitment be done in railways. We are questioning them. They are saying that Group D exams for railways has not happened for a while."

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra tweeted, "It is condemnable that policemen entered hostels and lodges of students, beat them up and indulged in vandalism. The administration should stop this repressive action. The youth have the right to talk about unemployment, and I am with them on this."

"It is condemnable that to remove students protesting about the results for NTPC, they were beaten up in a barbaric lathicharge. Innocent students were beaten up after police entered a lodge in Chota Baghada. The youth will reject the BJP, which suppresses them at every step. There will be a revolution by the youth, and there will be change in 2022," the Samajwadi Party tweeted on Tuesday.

Goa protests against bungalow, notice issued

Panaji: Authorities in Old Goa on Monday issued a showcause notice to the owner of a bungalow there, asking why the structure – which has been at the centre of a year-long protest – should not be demolished. "We have issued a show cause notice...The notice was issued on January 24, if they don't reply in seven days we will initiate the process for demolition," said Janita Madkaikar, sarpanch of Se Old Goa Village Panchayat. The notice was issued to Sumerlal Jain of Corus Urban Infrastructure Limited, a Mumbai-based construction firm. **MAYURA JANWALKAR**

Time to remember our hard-won rights to freedom and equality

From parades and air shows performed by men in uniform to cultural performances of various States, the Republic Day celebration at Rajpath, New Delhi is a must-see attraction for every Indian

REPUBLIC DAY is an important occasion to mark the adoption and implementation of our Constitution, and to celebrate the hard-won rights of freedom and equality. Other than celebrations at several schools, colleges and other institutions in various States, the grand Republic Day celebration is held at Rajpath in New Delhi. This is held in the presence of the President and Prime Minister of India, and several dignitaries, including those from other countries.

The R-Day event also showcases India's rich cultural heritage through colourful and striking performances. Every year, various States come together on one stage to showcase their rich cultural diversity through their dedicated tableaux, in turn, showcasing the great "unity in diversity" spirit of our country.

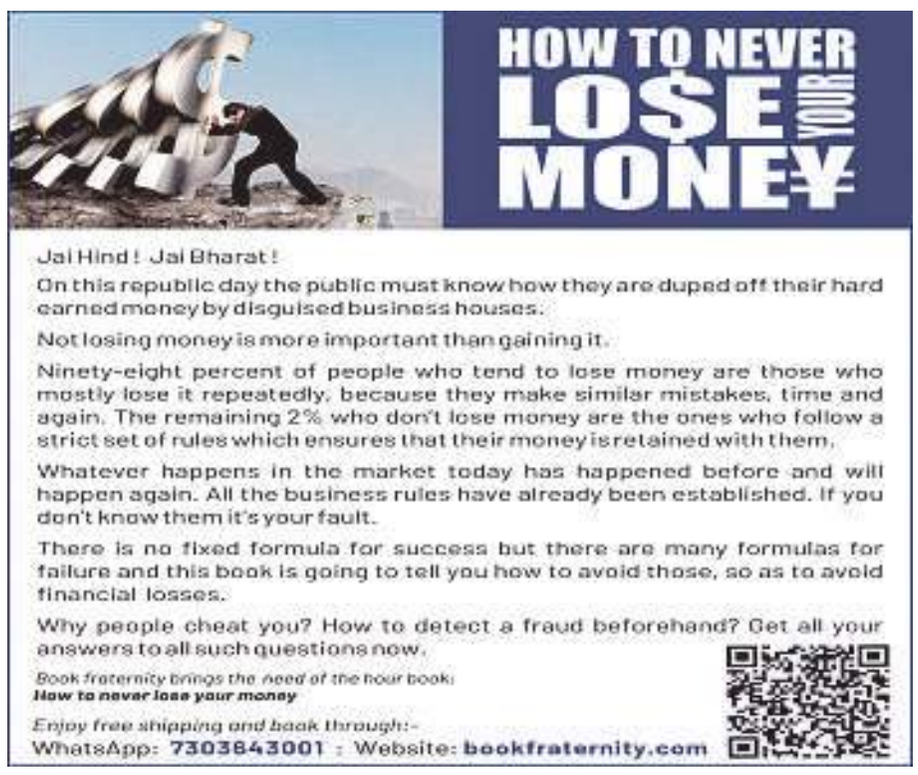
For Indians, the R-Day celebration is a sight to behold and feel proud of. On the one hand, we witness the country's armed forces displaying their might through air shows and annual parade down the Rajpath. On the other, people cheer and enthusiastically witness the cultural performances of Indian States depicted through their dedicated tableaux.

A tableau refers to a group of models or motionless figures representing a scene from a story or from history. During the Republic Day celebrations at Rajpath, States and different departments and ministries of the Government of India showcase their achievements through their respective tableaux with instruments, costumes and cutting-edge technology.

A total of 21 tableaux will be shown at this year's cascade, including tableaux of Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

Additionally, tableaux of nine ministries and departments of the Central government will also be showcased. These will be from the Education and Skill Development, Civil Aviation, Communications and Posts, Home Affairs, Housing, Textiles, Law and Justice, Jal Shakti and Culture ministries.

Besides the enormous scrolls depicting the stories of valour from India's first war of Independence fought in 1857, the Rajpath will witness an impressive fly-past and daredevil feats on motorcycles by a women's contingent of the Border Security Force (BSF) and much more. According to sources, 10 enormous scrolls measuring 750 metres, depicting important battles of the Revolt of 1857 will be displayed at the Rajpath to mark the 75 years of India's Independence. Prepared during the Kalakumbh artist workshops organised by the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi, during its Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, the scrolls boast a unique collaboration between the Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Defence, besides singing paeans to India's unity in diversity evident through the use of varied art forms from diverse geographical locations of the country. Meanwhile, more than 100 women daredevils of the Border Security Force (BSF) are expected to perform breath-taking stunts on motorcycles to salute the age-old spirit of bravery of Indian women, particularly those who played stellar roles in India's struggle for freedom. Yet nothing could lend greater significance to the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav than the integration of the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, who envisioned a united India. For public display, the tableaux will be parked at the Red Fort after the R-Day celebrations while the marching contingents will stop at the National Stadium.



Kerala to bring Ordinance to clip Lokayukta powers

Opposition protests move, urges Governor to not give assent

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JANUARY 25

IN A move that has drawn criticism from the Opposition, the CPI(M)-led Kerala government has decided to bring an Ordinance to amend the Kerala Lokayukta Act in a manner that gives it powers to reject the report of the anti-corruption ombudsman.

Last week, the state cabinet, in a meeting attended online by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan from the US, recommended to the Governor to issue the Ordinance to amend Kerala Lokayukta Act 1999. The amendment is aimed at giving powers to the government to "either accept or reject the verdict of the Lokayukta, after giving an opportunity of being heard".

According to the proposed amendment, Lokayukta would have only powers to make recommendations or send reports to the government, effectively making the powers advisory in nature.

In the previous LDF regime, Higher Education Minister K T Jaleel was forced to quit after the Lokayukta found that he had abused his office. Jaleel had faced a case pertaining to illegal appointment of a relative in the state minorities development corporation.

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan

The government's latest move comes at a time when complaints are pending before the Lokayukta against Vijayan and Higher Education Minister R Bindu. The complaint against Vijayan pertains to alleged anomalies in distribution of financial aid from the CM's Disaster Relief Fund.

Bindu faces a complaint made by senior Congress MLA and former Opposition leader Ramesh Chennithala to the Lokayukta in which he accused her of illegal interference in the re-appointment of the Kannur University V-C.

Justifying the government's move, state Law Minister P Rajeev told reporters on Tuesday that the decision to bring in the amendment was as per the advice of the Advocate General. "The existing Act denies natural justice as there is no provision for even an appeal. There have been two High Court verdicts which said Lokayukta has only recommendatory jurisdiction and not mandatory one. There was legal advice that Section 14 of the Lokayukta Act is against Articles 163 and 164 of the Constitution. The Lokayukta infringes upon the rights of a Cabinet." He said the proposed amendment has nothing to do with pending complaints against the Chief Minister and Higher Education Minister.

Chennithala said the government should reveal the urgency behind the Ordinance to dilute the Lokayukta's powers. "The CPI(M) has been always demanding to strengthen the Lokpal system to fight corruption. However, party politburo member Pinarayi Vijayan has taken the decision to clip the wings of the anti-corruption body. The government move to rob the powers of the Lokayukta is unprecedented." He said the government fears it would face adverse verdicts from the Lokayukta in the complaints against Vijayan and Bindu.

Opposition Leader V D Satheesan urged the Governor to refrain from giving assent to the Lokayukta Ordinance, which is intended to destroy the very institution. In a letter to the Governor, he said the Ordinance will curtail Lokayukta's powers to make it mere advisory in nature.

At national level, CPM always sought strong anti-corruption ombudsman

MANOJ C G
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE DECISION of the CPI(M)-led government in Kerala to bring an Ordinance to amend the Kerala Lokayukta Act is politically significant since the party at the national level had always advocated for "strong" and "effective" Lokpal and Lokayuktas.

EXPLAINED

In fact, CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury has often argued that the party had demanded a Lokpal as early as in the late 1980s when the Bofors scandal broke out and that the party ensured that it is included in the common minimum programmes of the United Front government in 1996 and that of the UPA in 2004.

In July 2011, as the then UPA government engaged with activist Anna Hazare on drafting of a Lokpal Bill, the CPI(M) issued a note, giving its stand on the issue in detail. The note said the "Lokpal should essentially be a fact-finding body that receives complaints, enquires, investigates and forward cases to Special Courts where prima facie there is a case of corruption" and that "it should have powers to recommend an enquiry and investigation suo motu".

The Lokpal, it said, should have powers to recommend executive action and to approach courts when these are not accepted. It should be entrusted with quasi-judicial powers and autonomy to fulfill these functions.

In the states, the party said, "Lokayuktas should be set up on the model of the Central Lokpal". Besides, it demanded that all state government employees should be brought under their purview. It wanted the PM under Lokpal's purview with safeguards.

On August 27, the party's stand was articulated by Yechury during a discussion in Rajya Sabha on Lokpal. "In 1996, when the United Front Government came, the Common Minimum Programme was drafted. We had a role to play in that...," he said. "What did we say in the Common Minimum Programme? I quote, 'The United Front is committed to provide a corruption-free administration. A Bill to set up Lokpal will be introduced in the first Budget session of the Eleventh Lok Sabha...'."

"In 2004, when the UPA-I Government was formed, we were party to the draft where we insisted that the Lokpal should be institutionalised... So, the Left has been consistently supporting and wanting this Lokpal," he said.

The Bill did not see the light of the day in 2011. Parliament passed The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act in December 2013. Days later, an editorial in party mouthpiece *People's Democracy* said, "The CPI(M)... has been a consistent votary of the Lokpal and for the establishment of the institution of the Lokayuktas at the state level."

"The scourge of corruption can only be effectively tackled when we as a people collectively raise the level of the social consciousness in our society. This requires a degree of political morality that is patently absent from the major existing political formations with the notable exception of the Left parties," it had said.

In 2016, when the BJP government brought amendments to the Act, exempting central employees from filing details of assets and liabilities of their spouses and children, the CPI(M) opposed it.

Driver of the speeding Mahindra XUV lost control of the vehicle, say police, after which it fell off a bridge. *Express*

7 MBBS students out for b'day bash die in car crash

Speeding led to crash in Wardha, say police; BJP MLA's son among the dead

JAYPRAKASH S NAIDU
MUMBAI, JANUARY 25

SEVEN MBBS students from Jawaharlal Medical college in Sawangi, Wardha, including BJP Tirora MLA Vijay Rahangdale's son Avishkar Rahangdale, died in a car crash after their vehicle fell 40 feet down from a bridge late on Monday night. No other vehicle is involved in the accident, the local police said. The police will register a FIR against one of the deceased, who was driving, for causing death due to negligence.

The incident took place near Selsura between 11pm and 12am on a bridge above the Bhadadi river on the Nagpur-Yavatmal highway on the stretch between Devli village and Wardha city. "We received the information from the control room around 12.30am... The Mahindra XUV was moving from Devli to Wardha and was on an overbridge when the driver lost control over the wheel, the car hit the boundary wall and fell over the bridge. All seven occupants of the car died. No other vehicle is involved in the accident," said Babasaheb Thorat, assistant inspector of Sawangi police station.

"The driver may have lost control over the wheel as there is a slight curve in the road where the accident occurred. Looking at the car wreck, it seems they were speeding. But it's not an accident spot. This is the first time such a big accident has taken place there," said Thorat.

It is not clear who was driving the vehicle as most of the occupants were thrown out due to the impact. With the help of villagers, a JCB machine was used to remove the car wreck from the river bed. The police said the car landed on the river bed filled with stones. A police official said six men were thrown out of the car but one was trapped inside. They were taken to government hospital in Wardha where they were declared dead. A post-mortem will be done and blood samples collected to find out if the victims were intoxicated.

The deceased have been identified as Niraj Chauhan, 22, a resident of Gorakhpur, UP, Avishkar Rahangdale, 21, from Gondia, Nitesh Singh, 25, from Odisha, Vivek Nandan, 23, from Gaya in Bihar, Pratyushsingh Harendrasingh, 23, from Gorakhpur in UP, Subham Jaiswal, 23, from Dindayal Upadhyay Nagar in UP and Pawan Shakti, 19 from Gaya in Bihar. Except for Nandan, all stayed in the hostel. "Their exams had finished in the afternoon. They informed the hostel authorities that they will be going towards Yavatmal to celebrate the birthday of one of the group members and said they will return soon," said Dr. Abhyudaya Meghe, Officer on Special Duty (OSD), AVBR Hospital, Wardha.

The hostel warden checked the attendance register at 10pm and found out that the men had not returned after which their parents were informed.

Expressing pain over the incident, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted on Tuesday morning, "Pained by the loss of lives due to an accident near Selsura in Maharashtra. In this hour of sadness, my thoughts are with those who have lost their loved ones. I pray that those injured are able to recover soon." The PM announced that Rs. 2 lakh each from PMNRF would be given to the next of kin of those who have lost their lives in the accident near Selsura. Those who are injured would be given Rs. 50,000. Devendra Fadnavis, BJP leader former chief minister of Maharashtra who knew Avishkar tweeted in Marathi, "I share the grief of all these families. MLA Vijay Rahangdale's son Avishkar was also among them. May God give strength to all the family members to bear this grief. Om Shanti."

ACTOR DILEEP AMONG ACCUSED

Abduction-sexual assault: Kerala HC grants more time to examine witnesses

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JANUARY 25

Actor Dileep

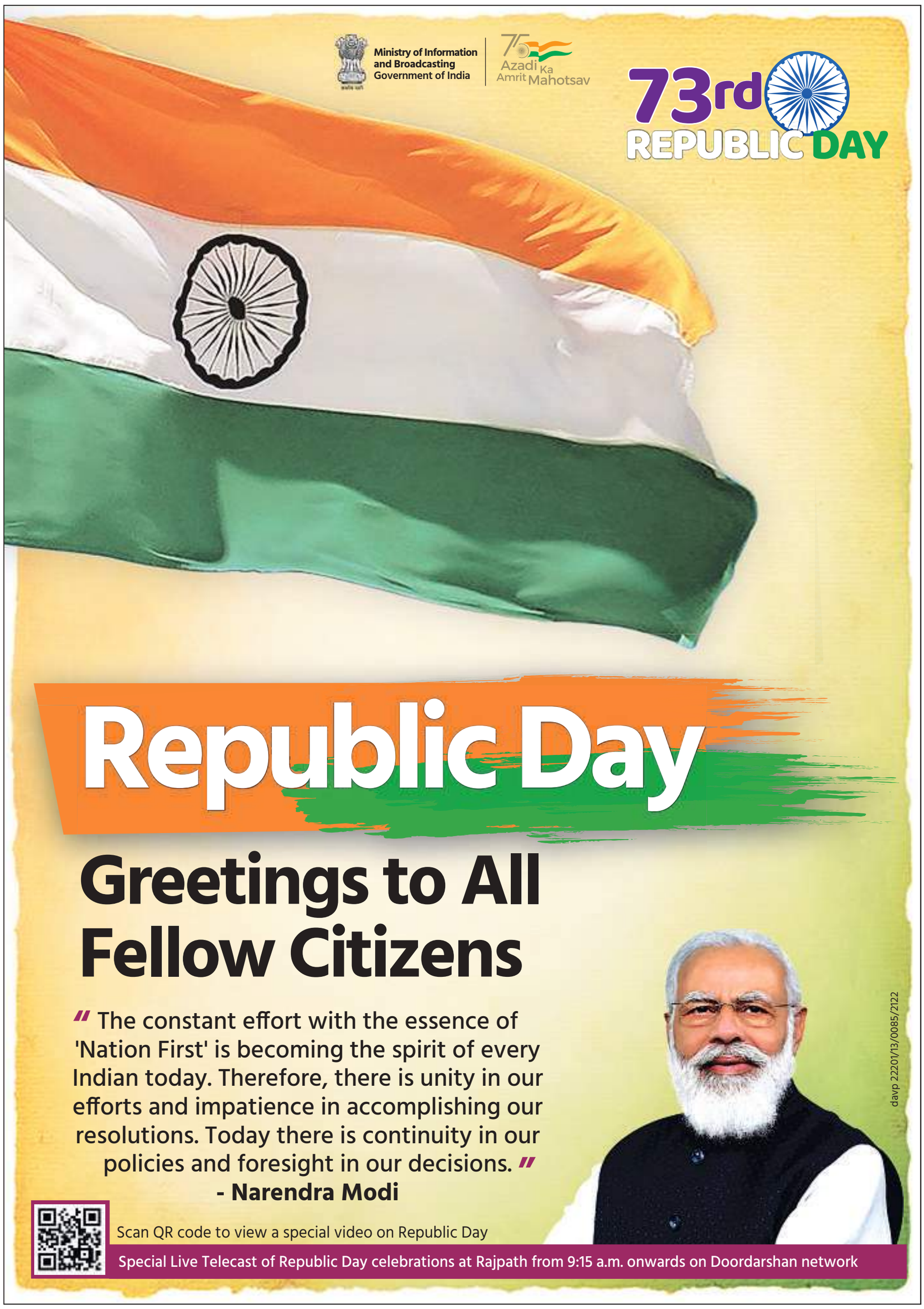
THE KERALA high court on Tuesday granted 10 days to the prosecution to complete the examination of witnesses in the case related to the abduction and sexual assault of an actor in 2017. Malayalam actor Dileep is one of the accused in the case.

The high court's directive to the prosecution came a day after the Supreme Court turned down Kerala government's plea to extend the time for completion of trial in the abduction and sexual assault case against Dileep. The court said it can do so only if the trial judge felt the need for more time, and not at the instance of the state. As per an earlier directive of the Supreme Court, the trial in the case at a special court in Kochi, has to be completed by February 16, 2022.

On January 17, the high court allowed the prosecution to examine additional witnesses, but wanted that exercise to be completed by January 27. However, the prosecution sought more time, pointing out that some of the witnesses who were based outside Kerala could not be served summons within the stipulated time. The HC granted 10 more days from January 27 to complete the examination of witnesses and gather all documents.

The case is related to the alleged abduction and sexual assault of a woman actor in Kochi in February 2017. Dileep, named among the 10 accused in the case, has been charged with offences such as criminal conspiracy, wrongful confinement, assaulting a woman with intent to outrage her modesty, and punishment for transmitting obscene material in electronic form under the IT Act, among others.

Separately, the Kerala Police crime branch on Tuesday completed questioning of Dileep and four others in connection with the alleged conspiracy to kill police officials who had probed the abduction-sexual assault case.



4 injured in grenade attack in Srinagar; one arrested

Srinagar: A day ahead of Republic Day celebrations, militants on Tuesday hurled a grenade at security personnel in Hari Singh High Street area of the city, injuring four persons including a police officer and two women, officials said. Later, IGP Kashmir zone Vijay Kumar tweeted: "Srinagar Police arrested grenade thrower who was involved in today's #terror incident at Hari Singh High Street ... in which a few civilians and one police personnel got injured. #Investigation is going on." **PTI**

Government of Jharkhand
Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute, Ranchi
Schedule Tribe, Schedule Caste, Minorities and OBC Welfare Department

Ref no.62 **Dated 25/01/2022**

Expression of Interest

Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Ranchi invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested ***Universities / Colleges / Department of Universities / Govt. Organizations / Educational Institutes / Research Institutes*** for undertaking a Research Project of TRI, Ranchi during the calendar year 2022.

TOPIC: **Evaluation of Performance and Outreach of Phoolo-Jhano Scheme**

Interested agencies are hereby requested to submit Expression of Interest (EOI) duly forwarded by **Registrar** (applicable to Universities / Colleges / Department of Universities only) or **Head of the Department** (for other organizations) along with technical bid giving relevant details of the organization necessary for evaluating the competencies on or before 11/02/2022 till 4.00 PM.

The intending agencies may submit their bid in sealed envelope clearly written in BOLD **"A TECHNICAL PROPOSAL FOR 'Evaluation of Performance and Outreach of Phoolo-Jhano Scheme'** on or before due date. These envelopes are to be addressed to the **Director, Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Morabadi, Ranchi-834008.** TRI will not be responsible for delay in transit or damages or loss of tender document sent by post.

Technical Bid will be opened on 14/02/2022 11a.m. in the office of the Director, TRI, Ranchi.

Only those agencies which fulfill technical criteria will be considered for presentation of project.

Agencies successful in technical criteria will be called for presentation preferably on 17/02/2022.

Terms of Reference (ToR) and other details can be obtained from the office of the TRI on any working day during office hour to meet concerned Nodal person and the same can also be downloaded from the website www.prdjharkhand.in or E-mail **tri.directorate@gmail.com** by specifying the topic & details of Institution / Organization Interested.

TRI, Ranchi reserves all rights to accept or reject all or any of the EOI's at any stage without assigning any reasons.TRI, Ranchi also reserves the right to engage/empanel one or more firm depending on requirements.

Sd/-
PR 262475 ST, SC, Minority and Backward Class Welfare Department (21-22)_D **Director**

GOVT. OF BIHAR
BIHAR COMBINED ENTRANCE COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION BOARD
I.A.S. Association Building, Near Patna Airport, Patna-14.

UNDER GRADUATE MEDICAL ADMISSION COUNSELLING (UGMAC)-2021 for MBBS/ BDS/ B.V.Sc. & A.H. in Govt. Medical / Dental / Bihar Veterinaty Colleges and Private Medical / Dental Colleges of Bihar

Adv. No.- BCECEB(UGMAC)-2021/04 Dated 25.01.2022 **Website : bceceboard.bihar.gov.in**

Online Counselling से सम्बन्धित आवश्यक सूचना

विज्ञापन संख्या- BCECEB(UGMAC)-2021/03 दिनांक 24.01.2022 के क्रम में UGMAC-2021 के आधार पर बिहार राज्य के निजी चिकित्सा / दन्त चिकित्सा महाविद्यालयों के MBBS / BDS पाठ्यक्रम की रिक्त सीटों पर Online Counselling हेतु UGMAC-2021 में सम्मिलित सभी पात्रता-प्राप्त अभ्यर्थियों / सम्बन्धित अभिभावकों / संस्थानों को निम्नवत् सूचित किया जाता है;

(1) सम्बन्धित सभी निजी संस्थानों के Fee structure पर्षद के website पर उपलब्ध है।

(2) (a) वैसे अभ्यर्थी जिनका सीट आवंटन निजी मेडिकल कॉलेजों में होता है और वे अपने आवंटित सीट से संतुष्ट हैं तो वे अपने Provisional Allotment Order पर अंकित Reporting / Nodal Centre पर मूल प्रमाण पत्र के साथ निर्धारित अवधि में निश्चित रूप से उपस्थित होंगे एवं निर्धारित Fee एवं सभी मूल प्रमाण पत्र जमा करते हुए document verification करा कर नामांकन लेंगे। परन्तु यदि वे 2nd round की कॉउन्सेलिंग के लिए upgradation हेतु इच्छा व्यक्त किये हैं तो भी वे प्रथम चक्र के provisional allotment order पर अंकित reporting / nodal centre पर मूल प्रमाण पत्रों के साथ निर्धारित अवधि में निश्चित रूप से उपस्थित होंगे एवं **"Controller of Examination, BCECE Board" Payable at "Patna"** के नाम से निजी Medical College के लिए 2,00,000/- (दो लाख) एवं निजी Dental College के लिए 50,000/- (पचास हजार) रुपये का Bank Draft जमा करते हुए अपना Document Verification करायेंगे तथा Document Verification उपरांत अपना मूल प्रमाण पत्र के साथ Document Verification Slip एवं Bank Draft जमा करने की रसीद ले लेंगे। यदि अभ्यर्थी उक्त राशि का Bank Draft जमा नहीं करते हैं तो उनका Document Verification नहीं किया जायेगा, जिसके फलस्वरूप पूर्व (1st round) की आवंटित सीट भी रिक्त हो जाएगी एवं अगले चक्र की कॉउन्सेलिंग के लिए वे पात्र नहीं होंगे।

(b) यदि 2nd round seat allotment में अभ्यर्थी का प्रथम चक्र का सीट ही Retain रह जाता है तो भी वे निर्धारित अवधि में Provisional Allotment Order पर अंकित Reporting / Nodal Centre पर प्रथम चक्र के Document Verification Slip, जमा किये गये बैंक ड्राफ्ट की रसीद एवं मूल प्रमाण पत्रों के साथ निर्धारित अवधि में निश्चित रूप से उपस्थित होंगे तथा Fee की शेष राशि एवं सभी मूल प्रमाण पत्र जमा करते हुए नामांकन लेंगे, अन्यथा उनका प्रथम चक्र का उक्त आवंटित सीट रद्द हो जायेगा।

(c) यदि 2nd round में उनका सीट upgrade होता है तो 2nd round में आवंटित सीट पर नामांकन हेतु निर्धारित तिथि में Provisional Allotment Order पर अंकित Reporting / Nodal Centre पर अभ्यर्थी प्रथम चक्र के Document Verification Slip, जमा किये गये बैंक ड्राफ्ट की रसीद एवं मूल प्रमाण पत्रों के साथ निर्धारित अवधि में निश्चित रूप से उपस्थित होंगे एवं सभी मूल प्रमाण पत्र एवं 2nd round में आवंटित संस्थान की निर्धारित शुल्क में से 1st round में Bank Draft द्वारा जमा राशि को घटा कर शेष राशि Reporting / Nodal Centre पर जमा करते हुए नामांकन लेंगे, अन्यथा इस 2nd round में आवंटित सीट को रिक्त मान लिया जायेगा जिसके फलस्वरूप पूर्व (1st round) की आवंटित सीट भी रिक्त हो जायेगी।

(d) उपरोक्त कंडिका- (b) से (c) के मामलों में Document Verification उपरांत नामांकन नहीं लेने अथवा Reporting Centre पर Report नहीं करने की स्थिति में Bank Draft द्वारा जमा की गयी राशि जब्त हो जायेगी।

3. पूर्व प्रकाशित विज्ञापन की शेष शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।

परीक्षा नियंत्रक

torrent PHARMA
CIN: L24230GJ1972PLC002126
Website: www.torrentpharma.com
Email: investorservices@torrentpharma.com

TORRENT PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED
Registered Office:
Torrent House, Off Ashram Road,
Ahmedabad - 380 009, Gujarat, India.
Ph. : + 91 79 26599000
Fax : + 91 79 26582100

Extract of Consolidated Financial Results for the Quarter and Nine Months ended 31-Dec-2021

[₹ in crores except per share data]

Particulars	Quarter Ended 31-Dec-2021	Nine Months Ended 31-Dec-2021	Quarter Ended 31-Dec-2020
	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited
Total Income from operations (net)	2108	6379	1995
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax and exceptional items	357	1313	357
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax and after exceptional items	357	1313	357
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax and exceptional items	249	895	297
Total Comprehensive Income (after tax)	261	896	297
Equity Share Capital	84.62	84.62	84.62
Other Equity excluding Revaluation Reserve*			
Earnings per share (of ₹ 5/- each)			
Basic	14.75	52.91	17.52
Diluted	14.75	52.91	17.52

* Other Equity excluding Revaluation Reserve as on 31-Mar-2021 was ₹ 5753 crores.

Notes :

1 Summary details of stand-alone audited financial results of Torrent Pharmaceuticals Limited :

[₹ in crores]

Particulars	Quarter Ended 31-Dec-2021	Nine Months Ended 31-Dec-2021	Quarter Ended 31-Dec-2020
Net income from operations	1588	5082	1616
Profit before tax	255	1121	339
Profit after tax	170	770	278
Total Comprehensive Income (after tax)	179	773	287

2 The Board of Directors in their meeting held on 25-Jan-2022, declared an interim equity dividend of ₹ 25/- per equity share.

3 The above is an extract of the detailed format of Financial Results for the quarter and nine months ended 31-Dec-2021 filed with Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the same, along with the notes, are available on www.nseindia.com, www.bseindia.com and on the Company's website www.torrentpharma.com.

Place : Ahmedabad, Gujarat
Date : 25-Jan-2022

Days after duo taken off train, man held for 'conversion bid'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BHOPAL, JANUARY 25

DAYS AFTER a man and a woman traveling to Jaipur were forcibly taken off a train and taken to railway police at Ujjain station, allegedly by Hiundutva activists who accused the man of trying to convert her, Indore police in Madhya Pradesh have booked and arrested the man on charges of forceful religious conversion and extortion based on a written application by the woman.

Asif Shaikh's arrest comes 10 days after he and a woman, identified as Shakshi Jain (25). were forcibly taken off train, and he was dragged to the railway police at Ujjain railway station.

Superintendent of Police , Ujjain GRP, Nivedita Gupta had then said the two were let go after their parents were called in and it was learnt they were family friends. "They were two consenting adults and there was no crime, (so) they were let go," Gupta had told *The Indian Express*.

In another video of the incident from inside the railway police station, the woman was seen shouting at the men who had brought them to police – she purportedlty said, "Your one misunderstanding will spoil my life. I work as a teacher..."

On January 24, a fresh FIR was registered against Asif at Mhow police station in Indore on charges of extortion and attempt to forcefully convert. According to station in-charge Arun Solanki, the FIR was registered based on a written application by Jain that day stating Asif is her husband's friend and had allegedly clicked objectionable photographs and was using them to blackmail her and demanding money. She also alleged that Asif is using these pictures to allegedly pressure her into marrying him, Solanki said.

Solanki said Jain's statement was recorded before the magisterate while Asif was issued a notice — he came to the police station and was then sent to jail.

Mandaviya asks states to focus on teleconsultation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

UNION HEALTH Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Tuesday held a Covid-19 review meeting with officials of nine states and UTs and urged them to focus on teleconsultation and efficient monitoring of patients in home isolation.

The review meeting comes at a time the country is battling a third wave of Covid-19 fuelled by the Omicron variant.

On Tuesday, Mandaviya held a detailed review meeting with state health ministers and principal secretaries of UP, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Chandigarh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, and Ladakh. "In view of a substantial number of Active Cases across the country recuperating from COVID19 in home isolation, it is important to focus on expanding the reach of teleconsultation services for providing timely quality healthcare to the beneficiaries," Mandaviya told the states.

The Minister underscored the need for states to adopt a model to scale up teleconsultation services as the outbreak, led by the Omicron variant, continues to surge in most parts of the country.

"This will prove to be a game-changer and will be of immense value and importance for the hard-to-reach and far-flung areas, and especially in the northern regions in the current winter season... States need to ensure that these (teleconsultation) centres work 24X7 and ensure convenience for both the common public and health experts. To ensure minimum travelling, such expert advice can be provided at the block, secondary or primary health centre levels too," he said.

He reiterated that the states should monitor Covid-19 patients in home isolation to ensure that those vulnerable to serious illness get adequate help.

K-DEPOSITS MAY TOUCH Rs 100 CR

Chhattisgarh eyes state entities' excess funds to shore up finances

GARGI VERMA
RAIPUR, JANUARY 25

IN WHAT IS being seen as a sign of the state's stretched finances, the Chhattisgarh government has asked for excess funds from the state's corporations to be deposited in the government's civil deposit account, the K-deposit.

A January 20 order released by the Finance Department, and signed by Special Secretary (Finance) Sharda Verma, asks CEOs and MDs of 20 different boards, authorities and corporations to deposit the surplus amount in their respective bank accounts into the government's K-deposit. These 20 corporations include the State Police Housing Corporation, the Khadi and Gramodyog Board, State Marketing Corporation, Beverages Corporation, the State Industrial Development Corporation, State Mineral Development Corporation, and the Chhattisgarh Madhyamik Shiksha Mandal, among others. While some of these boards are completely dependent on state government funds, others receive funding under various schemes of the Central government too. The state could be looking at a deposit to the tune of Rs 100 crore from these corporations, the sources said.

A K-deposit is a civil account maintained by state governments to keep funds without incurring any interest cost. Fund balance in the K-deposit helps states present a picture of solvency and creditworthiness.

Acknowledging the order, officials of the state government said the decision was taken for better regulation of funds. Maintaining that the state's financial condition "is very good otherwise", the Finance department said that "the board/corporation/authority can withdraw the money from K-deposit with the Finance department's approval as and when they need to make a payment". This move, officials believe, will ensure an additional check by the CM office on the corporations' utilisation of funds since CM Bhupesh Baghel also holds the Finance portfolio.

Responding to queries, the state Finance department told *The Indian Express*, "(The) Accountant General Chhattisgarh has pointed out to State Government that some of the public sector entities (board/corporation/authority) of State Government have drawn the funds from budget and have parked the money into bank accounts. This is violation of provisions of the Finance code, which clearly states that no money should be drawn from the Consolidated Fund in anticipation of expenditure and it should be drawn only when the payment has to be made in lieu of service, work, procurement etc. Drawal of money in advance adversely affects the finances of the State and should be avoided to maintain fiscal discipline. So the instruction has been issued only to ensure better compliance of rules and regulations."

Despite the Finance department stating otherwise, Chhattisgarh has been facing a financial crunch since 2020. In the pandemic year, the department levied strict restrictions on expenditure.

In a letter to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in November last year, Baghel had sought financial resources for Chhattisgarh.

According to an annual study of state finances by the Reserve Bank of India, Chhattisgarh's deficit saw a spike in 2019.

While the revenue deficit of the state was a negative 0.2% of the Gross Domestic State Product in 2018-2019, it rose to 2.8% of the GDSP in 2019-2020. Similarly, the gross fiscal deficit in the state rose from 2.7% of GDSP in 2018 to 5.2% in 2019. The state's problem is compounded by the continuously growing acreage of rice farming and an additional weight of Rs 700 per metric tonne that is being given as MSP to farmers under the Nyaya scheme. Officials say excessive costs towards various Cabinet-rank positions to accommodate factions in the ruling Congress party have also been a drain on the exchequer.

Meanwhile, the order has left officials of Boards, which are dependent on government grants, perplexed. "We anyway have not had much input due to the pandemic, and now this order means we will have to give up our fallback money... This money is not to keep the government solvent, but to give back to the public in terms of infrastructure and services," a member of one of the 20 Boards said on condition of anonymity.

To help states' in their finances, the Centre had shared two advance installments of their monthly devolution. On January 20, the Centre released Rs 3,239.54 crore, comprising one advance installment of tax devolution to the state government. In November, a similar amount was released against the monthly installment of Rs 1,619.77 crore.

WITH INPUTS FROM SUNNY VERMA, NEW DELHI

EXPLAINED

Utilising unspent funds

IT'S NOT usual for states to get corporations to park their funds in the K-deposit. While it does help the state tide over a cash crunch in the last quarter, it gives the finance department (the CM holds the finance portfolio here) full control over funds allocated to the entities.

भारत सरकार
रेल मंत्रालय
केन्द्रीकृत रोजगार सूचना सं. 01/2019 (NTPC)

सूचना

यह संज्ञान में आया है कि NTPC पदों पर भर्ती के लिए इच्छुक अभ्यर्थी दिनांक 14/15.01.2022 के रिजल्ट को लेकर विरोध–प्रदर्शन, ट्रेन संचालन में व्यवधान आदि गतिविधियों में संलिप्त हो रहे हैं। NTPC का रिजल्ट अधिसूचना की शर्तों के अनुसार है जो नीचे चार्ट से स्पष्ट होता है।

शॉर्टलिस्ट किए गए अभ्यर्थियों की संख्या

7वें सीपीसी में पे लेवल– न्यूनतम शैक्षणिक योग्यता	पद	आरंभिक वेतन (रू.)	प्रकाशित रिक्तियाँ x 20	शॉर्टलिस्ट किए गए अभ्यर्थियों की संख्या (≈)
लेवल–2 न्यूनतम शैक्षणिक योग्यता – 10+2	कनिष्ठ लिपिक सह टंकक, लेखा लिपिक सह टंकक, ट्रेन लिपिक, कनिष्ठ समयपाल	19900	5663 X 20	113301
लेवल–3 न्यूनतम शैक्षणिक योग्यता – 10+2	वाणिज्य सह टिकट लिपिक	21700	4940 X 20	98833
लेवल–4 न्यूनतम शैक्षणिक योग्यता – स्नातक	यातायात सहायक	25500	161 X 20	3223
लेवल–5 न्यूनतम शैक्षणिक योग्यता – स्नातक	गुड्स गार्ड, वरिष्ठ वाणिज्य सह टिकट लिपिक, वरिष्ठ लिपिक सह टंकक, कनिष्ठ लेखा सहायक सह टंकक, वरिष्ठ समयपाल	29200	17393 X 20	347676
लेवल–6 न्यूनतम शैक्षणिक योग्यता – स्नातक	स्टेशन मास्टर, वाणिज्य प्रशिक्षु	35400	7124 X 20	142413
		कुल	35281X20	705446

उपरोक्त से स्पष्ट है कि हर लेवल में रिक्तियों के 20 गुणा अभ्यर्थियों को CBT-2 के लिए शॉर्टलिस्ट किया गया है।

शैक्षणिक योग्यता, CBT-1 के मेरिट एवं अपने विकल्प के अनुसार पात्र होने पर एक अभ्यर्थी एक से अधिक लेवल के पदों के लिए CBT-2 के लिए शॉर्टलिस्ट हो सकते थे। अर्थात 10+2 शैक्षणिक योग्यता रखने वाले अभ्यर्थी तकनीकी रूप से अपनी मेरिट और Choice के अनुसार लेवल–2 एवं 3 दोनों के पदों के लिए तथा स्नातक अभ्यर्थी अपनी मेरिट एव Choice के अनुसार योग्य पाये जाने पर लेवल–2 से 6 के पदों के लिए CBT-2 में शॉर्टलिस्ट किए जाने के नियमानुसार पात्र थे।

उपरोक्त के अनुसार पूरी पारदर्शिता बरतते हुए NTPC के CBT-1 का रिजल्ट बनाया गया है। अभ्यर्थियों से अपील की जाती है कि वे गुमराह न हों एवं ऐसे तत्वों के प्रभाव में न आएं जो अपने स्वार्थ को पूरा करने के लिए उनका इस्तेमाल करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं।

दिनांक : 25.01.2022 **रेल भर्ती बोर्ड**

5G LAWSUIT

Will cut costs if Chawla serves public cause: HC

SOFI AHSAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

THE DELHI High Court on Tuesday said it will consider reducing the costs imposed on actor Juhi Chawla and two other plaintiffs by a single bench last year from Rs 20 lakh to Rs 2 lakh in a 5G-related suit — on a condition that she will do some service for a public cause, given her celebrity status.

Chawla's counsel later told the court that she was agreeable to the suggestion and grateful for it.

Chawla has filed an appeal against a single-bench order, which, in June 2021, dismissed her suit against the introduction of 5G technology in India. The bench had said the suit was filed to gain publicity and imposed a cost of Rs 20 lakh on the three plaintiffs, including Chawla, for "waste of judicial time". "We will reduce the costs. We will not completely waive it. We will reduce it substantially but that comes with another condition that considering your client is a celebrity, and she has a presence in the public, she should do some public work also. Her image and her position should be utilised by the society for some good campaign, for some good purpose," the division bench of Justices Vipin Sanghi and Jasmeet Singh said.

BOC DG gets National Award for enhancing poll participation

New Delhi: Satyendra Prakash, Principal Director General, Bureau of Outreach and Communication (BOC), was on Tuesday conferred with the National Award for enhancing electoral participation by the Election Commission of India.

The award was given to Satyendra Prakash by the Commission on the occasion of National Voters Day 2022 in presence of Kiren Rijiju, Union Minister of Law and Justice, Chief Election Commissioner, Sushil Chandra and other senior officials at the National Award function ceremony at the Ashoka Hotel in New Delhi. **ENS**

WORDLY WISE

HOW LONG SHALL WE CONTINUE TO DENY EQUALITY IN OUR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE?

— B R AMBEDKAR

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

WHAT'S AT STAKE

Each citizen constitutes republic but it is officialdom — thana, court, administration — that secures it or lets it down

WHEN 27-YEAR-OLD SHRIRAM Meghwal, flanked by policemen in khaki, became the first Dalit groom to ride a mare in Chadi village of Rajasthan's Bundi district on Monday, he was making a powerful Republic-day eve statement, or two. That it should still be remarkable for a Dalit groom to ride a mare to his bride's residence, in the manner that upper-caste grooms usually do, speaks of how much of the republic is still a work in progress. It illustrates the bold leap of faith undertaken by India's founding fathers and mothers. Through the Constitution of the newly independent nation, they were writing out their hopes and ambitions for democracy in a setting that had none of the pre-conditions deemed essential for democracies to succeed — India was seen as too illiterate, too poor, too caste-ridden, too diverse. But look again at the image of Meghwal on the horse and it is also saying something more to a nation celebrating its 73rd Republic Day. The picture is incomplete without the policemen who accompanied Meghwal, and all those who made that proud procession possible — as this paper reported, around 60 personnel from three different police stations were deployed for the wedding. They were part of the standstill that hadn't been broken all these years, but they also enabled Monday's breakthrough. The message in the image, then, is also this: A republic is made by the job done, every day, by men and women like the police personnel in Bundi.

If the police personnel of Bundi upheld, even if belatedly, the republican guarantee of freedom and equality to citizens, another republican promise — due process to all, without fear or favour — was broken by officials in UP trying to recover the cost of property damaged in the protests against a discriminatory citizenship law. They played not only prosecutor, but judge and jury as well, giving themselves sweeping powers to assess damage, estimate costs, and fix liability, with many of the accused not even getting a hearing. As this newspaper's investigation showed, a rickshaw puller, fruit seller, milkman and eight daily-wage earners, among others, were made to pay, and no one was even aware of how the arithmetic was done or by whom. These officers are also men and women whose job it is to uphold the constitution.

The police officers of Rajasthan and the administrators of UP who do their jobs, and fail to, are vital to the republic. They bring into sharper relief the fact that the voter is no solo actor, and elections are not the republic's only tryst with destiny. At the same time, it is also true that in a country that continues to make and remake itself through its politics, and where political power trumps the governing principles of all other domains, elected political leaderships often get to decide whether or not the district administrations, thanas and lower courts fulfill their mandate. Each citizen constitutes the republic but it is the citizen who wields power in its various forms — from registering an FIR to issuing a summons, weighing evidence to sitting in judgment — who secures it, or lets it down. That is why, as the nation heads into another important round of state elections, the 73rd R-Day celebration carries a valuable reminder of what is, again, at stake. Happy Republic Day.

SIGNS OF VOLATILITY

Global and domestic factors lie behind recent market weakness. US Fed, RBI meeting, Union budget are near-term triggers

AFTER FALLING SHARPLY during the early hours of trading on Tuesday, the BSE Sensex staged a recovery, ending the day up 0.64 per cent. A day earlier, the Sensex had fallen 2,000 points intraday, recovering marginally thereafter to end the day down 1,546 points. Over the past five days, the Sensex has fallen 4.37 per cent. The broader market is also witnessing considerable weakness. Over the last five days, the BSE mid and small cap indices have fallen 4.87 per cent and 5.37 per cent respectively. The India volatility index, a fear gauge, is up 18.11 per cent over the past five days, indicating heightened fear and uncertainty. Foreign portfolio investors have also been quick on their feet, turning consistent sellers. As reported in this paper, net outflows of FPIs over nine trading sessions, ending on Monday, stood at Rs 15,817 crore. But this weakness in the Indian markets is in line with what is being observed in other countries. Asia-Pacific markets have also been under pressure of late, as have US and European markets. This market volatility is unlikely to dissipate quickly.

Global and domestic factors are behind the current bout of volatility. The global factors centre around concerns over the US Federal Reserve's meeting on January 25-26 which is expected to provide some guidance on the trajectory of monetary policy. With inflation in the US having risen faster than expected, there are expectations of a more aggressive tightening of policy, with four rate hikes during the year now being factored in. Also expected is some talk on the options for reducing the Fed's balance sheet. Such expectations of a faster than previously anticipated tightening, and the withdrawal of liquidity, are souring investor sentiment. Then there are also geo-political concerns stemming from the prospects of a confrontation between Russia and Ukraine. Oil prices fell on Monday, amid a wider selloff in risky assets, indicating investor concerns.

On the domestic front, the mixed quarterly earnings have weighed down investor sentiment. The new age technology companies have also taken a beating. But broader market valuations remain elevated. The market capitalisation to GDP ratio is higher than its 10-year average, as is the price to earnings ratio. Looking ahead, the domestic factors that will have a bearing on the trajectory of markets are the upcoming Union budget, and the outcome of the monetary policy committee meeting a few days thereafter, which is expected to provide some clarity over the timelines for the normalisation of policy.

THE POWER OF EXCESS

Manfred Thierry Mugler's fashion, its vision of the exaggerated female form, is as timeless as it is spectacular

THE MOST ASTONISHING thing about Manfred Thierry Mugler's creative work wasn't the work itself. It was that it never collapsed under the weight of its own excess. Even in his most outré creations, the French fashion designer, who died on Sunday at the age of 73, displayed a control that seemed to contradict the exuberance of his vision. Imagining a fusion of insects and women, as he did in his 1997 collection 'Les Insectes', could have served as fodder for jokes about the impracticality of haute couture — in Mugler's hands, however, the wings of a butterfly folded elegantly down the back of a gown, the antennae of a ladybird, added playfulness to hats and the shiny carapace of a beetle was reimagined as a latex suit.

Mugler's work shaped and was shaped by the over-the-top sensibilities of the 1980s-90s, when he mounted theatrical runway shows and clothed the likes of Madonna, David Bowie and Diana Ross. His fashion was so opulent that it never went out of style — Mugler stepped away from the industry in 2002, but still remained a sought-after costumier for a younger generation of celebrities like Beyoncé, Cardi B and Kim Kardashian. The appeal his work has for those who live their lives in the public eye may have something to do with the fact that Mugler understood performance and fashion's role in it, having trained as a ballet dancer.

But he also understood that only an imagination tethered to a firm artistic vision can produce something truly spectacular. And Mugler's vision revolved around the exaggerated proportions of the female form, with its wide shoulders, waspish waist and billowing hips. Whether he worked with chrome or latex and whether he drew inspiration from queer subcultures, artworks or automobiles and machines, his creations flattered even as they enveloped the wearer in pure fantasy. As Mugler showed, nothing succeeds like excess.

The strength of our republic

Constitution has served us well. Its spirit is undermined by hypocritical values, selective silence of watchdogs

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN

A REPUBLIC IS made robust and kept alive by its people. In its current form, the Indian republic marks 73 years of maintaining a dynamic balance. This is often strained by the pushes and pulls of forces reflecting the plurality and diversity that India is known for. It is to the credit of our people that today we have a pyramidal three-layered elected representative system that governs us. With its warts and all, this system today has over 3 million elected representatives (a million of them women), over 4,000 elected to the state legislatures and over 500 in the Parliament. The Preamble envisaged the republic to be governed by the people through their freely-elected representatives. This scale of directly elected representation, perhaps, can be seen nowhere else in the world. It can be accused of being argumentative, noisy, a bit too much at times, but it continues to be full of life.

Before 1950, January 26 was celebrated as Independence Day, following the resolution for complete independence (Purna Swaraj) adopted at the Lahore Congress in 1929. Once independence from the imperial ruler was obtained and the Constitution was adopted, the day was marked as our Republic Day.

In *Pilgrimage to Freedom*, K M Munshi writes, "The Constitution is not merely a legal document, nor is it a political document either. True, it was drafted by lawyers with the help of the political leaders who had won the battle of freedom. Theirs was a historical role: That of building a framework within which our national unity and democratic way of life might flourish. Essentially, our Constitution has a moral background — to secure justice for every section of our society; as also a spiritual basis — to preserve and protect all religions in the exercise of their functions… The leaders of my generation have left in the Constitution a legacy of freedom, of the Rule of Law, freedom of speech and religion and above all integrity and stability which the country has never enjoyed for over 500 years."

There is no doubt that during the last seven decades, our Constitution has provided the integrity and stability that are critical for our republic. The challenges continue in securing justice for every section of our society. The Backward Classes, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and the poor across all categories clamour for better opportunities and affordable justice. Denial of constitutional rights over all these decades of our republic to SCs, STs and women in one region of India was corrected when Article 370 was abrogated.

Our Constitution is the most amended of all constitutions in the world. Rightly, successive governments have ensured that the Constitution keeps abreast of the times and the aspirations of our people. If there are more than 100 amendments made to the Constitution, there are more than 1,500 laws that have been repealed because they have outlived their times. These deadwood laws, by remaining on paper, occasionally became a weapon in the hands of rent-seekers. Their removal, as a part of administrative reform, has kept the role of the executive transparent and accountable. It is imperative that every change to the Constitution is done mindful of the objective that the original intent of the framers of the Constitution is not lost.

What Munshi calls the spiritual basis of our Constitution in having to preserve and protect all religions is also seen under stress. Perversion in practising the principle of secularism (introduced subsequently during the Emergency) through minority appeasement for electoral considerations had left women belonging to the minority community being denied their legitimate rights. The resistance to the Act making triple talaq null and void showed how the right given to women in many Islamic countries was being denied to Muslim women in India mainly for electoral considerations. Minority appeasement plays out again when the religious rights of some are upheld by denying similar rights of others. The issue of religious rights, in its intensity, may vary from state to state, but when the usual suspects paint it as a nationwide uprising, they are not being objective or fair. When the right to practise one's religion is denied or threatened, the silence of the thinking public or the media weakens that constitutionally embedded protection. The strength of the republic is undermined by hypocritical values and the selective silence of the watchdogs.

There is no doubt that communication technologies strengthen modern republics. Technology has brought down costs of information sharing among people and of awareness building. It is a powerful tool, now well democratised. An unforeseen fall-out of this democratisation is the generation and sharing of unverified news or even false news. Through the power of technology and its capacity to broadcast at mass scale, an otherwise useful tool, social media, has become a challenge and sometimes a threat to one or several of the rights enshrined in our Constitution. Curtailing them to protect the rights of citizens is seen as trampling upon the right to free speech. Without any action, the damage caused to social harmony by such rampant false news can result in people losing faith in the Constitution itself.

Subhash C Kashyap observes, "Our Constitution is a living, dynamic process, always evolving, constantly in the making through amendments, judicial interpretations, and its actual working." Our Constitution is the most amended of all constitutions in the world. Rightly, successive governments have ensured that the Constitution keeps abreast of the times and the aspirations of our people. If there are more than 100 amendments made to the Constitution, there are more than 1,500 laws that have been repealed because they have outlived their times. These deadwood laws, by remaining on paper, occasionally became a weapon in the hands of rent-seekers. Their removal, as a part of administrative reform, has kept the role of the executive transparent and accountable. It is imperative that every change to the Constitution is done mindful of the objective that the original intent of the framers of the Constitution is not lost.

That the Constitution is always evolving is best exemplified by the 101st amendment which rolled out the Goods and Services Tax. This amendment brought in a unified indirect tax regime by subsuming most of the indirect taxes of the Centre and the states. The GST Council was set up. It has the power to decide on issues related to GST and importantly the rates applicable to each item covered under it. Yet to complete five full years, the GST Council has stood the test of challenging times even in its initial years. It augurs well for cooperative federalism.

Our Constitution has served us well in these seven decades. Several republics in the post-imperial era have rejected their earlier constitutions and tested new ones. Babasaheb Ambedkar felt, "The working of a Constitution does not depend wholly upon the nature of the Constitution. The Constitution can provide only the organs of State such as the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary. The factors on which the working of those organs of the State depend are the people and the political parties they will set up as their instruments to carry out their wishes and their politics." So, it is the people who can keep the republic robust and alive.

The writer is the Union finance minister

R-DAY MEMORIES & GOOSEBUMPS

Holding the tricolour, on January 26 or after a sports win, is an inspiration

DUTEE CHAND

ONE OF my fondest childhood memories is that of Republic Day celebrations in my village Chaka Gopalpur, Odisha. The national anthem would be played and we would proudly stand at attention while looking at the tricolour. Sweets would be distributed to children — something all of us looked forward to. I enjoyed the mood in our village that day. January 26 was like a happy festival in the village.

As a child, I loved being outdoors and Republic Day was wonderful because once the official function was over, my friends and I would run around with the tricolour in our hands and people would cheer us. I would go through the lanes of not just our village but the adjoining villages as well. Holding the national flag always gave an extra spring to my steps.

A marathon was held in our village on January 26. I looked forward to the race; it was perhaps one of the first experiences of participating in a competitive event. At that point, I didn't imagine that I would win medals for India in track and field one day. Memories of those days give me goosebumps today because we were told how our great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Subhas Chandra Bose played a big role in the freedom movement.

I feel it is important that students of today are told about the sacrifices made by those who fought for Independence because only then will they value the freedom they have.

When I win gold at an international event, the first thing I do is look towards the coaching staff for a tricolour. I hold the flag over my head and run a lap of honour in the stadium with the crowd cheering. Other athletes also do this. It gives us a real high.

Looking back, I think the celebrations I took part in as a child, be it on Republic Day or Independence Day, is what made me determined to do something for the country.

When I started representing India, it was a proud moment for me. The feeling of wearing the India jersey at an international event is unmatched. In the early years of my career, small words of encouragement from coaches who said I had the potential to represent India helped. The first time I represented India was at the 2014 Asian Junior Championships in Taipei. I won gold medals in the 200 metres and the 4x400 metres relay. It was a proud moment for me when I stood on the podium and the national anthem was played. It brought back memories of Republic Day celebrations in my village.

When I win gold at an international event, the first thing I do is look towards the coaching staff for a tricolour. I hold the flag over my head and run a lap of honour in the stadium with the crowd cheering. Other athletes also do this. It gives us a real high.

On this Republic Day, I wonder if we as individuals are doing enough for the country. Or are we caught in our own lives? I am not saying that getting a good job and taking care of one's family is not important. But are we thinking enough about doing something outside our immediate circle to help our fellow citizens?

I remember a message from our teachers. It was about doing something that would make the nation proud. Even the songs we played in school and our village were patriotic songs. I hope the next generation of youngsters also retains a sense of duty to the nation whether it is in playing sports, in academics, social service, or defending the nation.

As a sportsperson, I would say facilities have improved over the past five or six years. The Sports Authority of India's training centres and boarding facilities are good and the diet we get has improved a lot. Young athletes are getting a chance to even go abroad for training and competition. Opportunities for athletes to showcase their talent are also more, an example being the Khelo India Games.

One area where we should focus on is tapping talent from rural areas. This would be possible if we start more training centres in villages and smaller towns. For those who live in and around a city, access to a stadium with a synthetic track is easier. Those who study in a village school should not have to travel to a city to train every day. We should take coaches to the villages to train these athletes in stadiums that are equipped with modern facilities. Only then can India's real untapped talent be discovered.

The writer is the 100m national record holder, an Asian Games medallist, and an Olympian

JANUARY 26, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

INDIAN EXPRESS

26th January

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ADDRESSING THE NATION on the eve of the 33rd Republic Day, President N Sanjiva Reddy expressed his concern over the recent instances of atrocities on the weaker sections and the disregard for moral values in public life. Reddy said he had chosen to speak on the disturbing features of the national scene as unless immediate action was taken to address the breakdown of moral values in public life, people's faith in the political system would be undermined with consequences too frightening to contemplate. He appealed to all political parties to do some heart-searching. The spirit prevailing in the country was the antithesis of the noble spirit that animated the nation two decades ago. He said people might be willing to put up with more hardship if they saw a climate of greater austerity.

MIRA BEHN FETED

MIRA BEHN, DAUGHTER of the British admiral who opted the life of austerity with Mahatma Gandhi, has been named for this year's highest Republic Day honour. Born Madeleine Slade, she is the only person to be awarded to be awarded the Padma Vibhushan this year. The 90-year old freedom fighter is reportedly ailing in a village near Vienna (Austria) where she settled down in 1958 after 10 years of work amongst the farmers of UP.

CLASH IN MP

SEVEN PERSONS WERE killed, three injured and two were reported missing following clashes between Satnamis and Yadavs at Keshtra village, Durg district.

BOAT TRAGEDY

TWO WOMEN WERE drowned when a boat capsized in the Yamuna as millions of devotees took a dip at the Sangam on the auspicious day of Somavati Amavasya, the highest Ardha Kumbha Parva.

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"A new war in Europe will be disastrous for the region, while also having geopolitical and economic impacts on the rest of the world." —DAWN

We, the women

To imagine a nation in which women really matter, we need to stop seeing them only in context of family relationships, and examine their lived realities of unequal pay, inferior work, lack of autonomy

MRINAL PANDE

"One man's word is no man's word; we should quietly hear both sides."
—Goethe

WHEN ALL IS said and done, reality is not made of laws and data, but the actual experiences of human beings. Real-life stories of women surfacing from time to time in our republic reveal how despite constitutional guarantees of equality, the state has seldom, if ever, intervened systematically to ensure that women are treated equally. We have a very progressive Constitution on paper. Article 14 guarantees equality before law to all the country's citizens. Article 15 prohibits discrimination on various grounds, including religion, caste, race and gender. Article 16 provides for equality of opportunity and equal pay for equal work to all in matters of public employment. But our laws have never seriously improved the unequal terms of male entitlement over women's labour and/or their bodies.

Some 200 years ago, the eccentric Raja Gangadhar of Jhansi had understood that if there is one universally accepted symbol of powerlessness, it is a woman. When asked by the British resident why he dressed in women's attire every few days, he replied that the British sarkar had effectively emasculated all native princes by divesting them of their power as regents. The British alone were men and erstwhile native rulers had been forced to wear bangles, he said. (*Maaza Pravas* by Vishnu Bhatt Godshe).

From Raja Gangadhar's point of view, law combines coercion with authority. In our time, one of the country's sharpest legal minds, Justice Leila Seth, raises the same point. In *Talking of Justice: People's Rights in Modern India*, she asks: "What at root is justice? When I speak to children about the Preamble to our Constitution, I explain justice as being fair. But how can one be fair if the laws are not adequate and the interpreters of the law not sensitive?"

Let's talk of concrete instances. Last year, an interim order was passed by the Supreme Court allowing eligible women to appear for the entrance exam of the National Defence Academy (NDA) and the Naval Academy conducted by the UPSC. The Government of India said that the implementation of the court's order in 2021 may be difficult. A year later, on January 18, the court revisited the subject and asked the state to explain why of the 1,002 women who had cleared the entrance test in 2021, only 19 women had been admitted to the prestigious NDA in 2022?

The usual approach taken by Indian men in authority towards working women remains protectionist at best and severely critical at worst. A cringe-worthy example of sexism is a recent comment by the health minister of Karnataka, who rued that too many women in India are westernised and wish to stay single. Even if they do get married, they refuse to "give birth", preferring surrogacy, he said.

This mindset repeatedly surfaces in electoral politics too. When it comes to ticket distribution, women — even those with a record of winning elections — must remain at the mercy of party bosses, mostly male. This is justified by pointing out biological factors — family responsibilities, child-bearing, etc. In UP, for instance, a sitting woman MLA is being challenged in her own constituency by her husband, a party post holder, for a ticket. An MLA's daughter, who had married against her father's wishes, has moved the High Court to ask for police protection for her husband and herself, and later released a video requesting her father to recall his goons who had roughed them up outside the court.

C R Sasikumar

As party workers, men have a clearly articulated agency for change and decision-making when tickets are distributed or portfolios are assigned. Women, by and large, remain abstractions with abstract rights and are deemed suitable mostly for the reserved categories men cannot fill. Even pro-women intervention by the state is made without seeking female opinion, though steps such as Ujjwala Yojana, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao and Jan Dhan Yojana are all glibly defined as a compassionate means for the "empowerment" of women. On addressing women's actual debasement by rape, pornography, and sex discrimination, factors that eat into their sociopolitical status, the state remains schizoid.

Since the Justice Verma committee's tweaking of the older rape laws, our judiciary has begun accepting a supposed distinction between sex and gender. But when the matter of female sexuality is discussed and adjudicated upon, women are seldom seen as having an agency of their own. If a menstruating woman enters a temple or a married woman denies her husband consent to have sex, their defiance becomes not a question to be debated under equality laws but as social questions, and are finally adjudicated upon not as a question of basic rights of a citizen but as a part of a certain social structure.

The Indian state has, so far, not fully confronted the relationship between state and society. The NDA echoes its bitter rival, the UPA, in the matter of keeping the bedroom out of bounds for India's rape laws. It stated (in an affidavit to the Delhi High Court): "What may appear to be marital rape" to a wife "may not appear so to others". And, that criminalising marital rape may "destabilise the institution of marriage apart from being an easy tool for harassing husbands."

> The Indian state has so far not fully confronted the relationship between the state and society. The NDA echoes its bitter rival, the UPA, in the matter of keeping the bedroom out of bounds for India's rape laws. It stated (in an affidavit to the Delhi High Court): 'What may appear to be marital rape' to a wife 'may not appear so to others'. And, that criminalising marital rape may 'destabilise the institution of marriage apart from being an easy tool for harassing husbands'. The point to note is that whether in a bedroom or in a cave, in a woman's experience, a rape is a rape.

The point to note is that whether in a bedroom or in a cave, in a woman's experience, a rape is a rape. What married men want from their wives may not always automatically be what wives also want from husbands. Why must the state, instead of protecting a woman's sexuality from forced violation and expropriation, continue to present or treat her merely as family property when a crime is committed against her?

If we truly wish to rethink the republic as one in which women really matter, we need to move beyond reflections about family relationships. The state needs to take the first step towards examining women's actual experienced reality in contexts of unequal pay, allocation of inferior work (compare numbers of men in the formal sector to women), and denial of rights over their minds and bodies.

Did we, the women, ever give our consent to be ruled by a toxic brand of masculinity that would treat us as merely a vote bank and/or second-class citizens? We may occasionally be handed crumbs of progressive or revised legislation, but what do they matter? Like the native princes of Raja Gangadhar's era, in the name of loyalty to the queen or Hindu Rashtra, we are still largely denied our essential status as independent and equal citizens. A feminist theory of state has barely been shaped much less articulated. But, as Ralph Waldo Emerson said, every reform was once an opinion.

The writer is former chairperson, Prasar Bharati

The shape of our freedoms

We may lose our way, but the fundamental rights promised by the Constitution will always remind us that we are born free

ANNIE ZAIDI

WHEN I WAS little, I watched a film called *Born Free*. It was about a lioness whose mother was killed, and who was then raised by humans. I have never revisited the film, but have never forgotten it. The title and the film's argument — that lions belong in forests, not in zoos — stayed in my head in the form of questions about identity and rights.

Is a lion truly born free, more than humans? Elsa, the film's protagonist, was more a giant cat than a lioness. When her adoptive "mother" decided to teach her how to live in the wild, she found that Elsa could not fend for herself. Not only was she reluctant to hunt, she was getting attacked by other beasts. It took several attempts at distancing her from humans before Elsa finally started hunting, eventually finding acceptance among other lions.

What did freedom mean to a lioness raised by humans? Does she really want to live in a forest? Elsa's early behaviour indicated that she would rather not. On the other hand, Elsa could not know what she wanted until she had actually experienced freedom and the full range of her own capabilities. She had her own cubs, and she did not look back once she had learnt to hunt. This didn't mean that she forgot the people who raised her. She remembered, but now she knew who she was.

Freedom is not simply a matter of being fed. The technical lack of a cage also does not define freedom. She may be trained to perform on stage through a judicious mix of fear, pain and food, but a lioness balancing on a chair and being ridden by a clown cannot be called free.

Hunting and killing also do not necessarily translate to freedom. A lioness must also be free to not hunt and not kill when she chooses. One who is expected to tear into a gladiator, or an unarmed Christian convert, is no freer than the human she will kill.

Freedom, then, is a form of self-determination. Being able to make one's own choices is vital to the process of achieving it, and inhabiting it. And what is the republic if not a human attempt towards self-determination?

A republic is not a landmass, after all. It is not a cluster of people contained within a landmass. A republic is a state that defines itself as being of the people, emerging from *res publica,* a matter that concerns the public.

Ancient Rome was one of the earliest republics in the world, with a complex system wherein free men had a say in electing representatives and the appointment of magistrates. But all men were not free. None of the women were truly free either, and did not rise to positions of power. Then there were immigrants, or communities that found themselves controlled by Rome after losing in wars, and they were not full citizens, and could not vote. Therefore, one may argue that the "public" in the word republic was a feint, a little fragment of truth that served as a cover for the bigger lie. People who lived in and served Rome — even those who literally gave birth to the senators and magistrates of Rome — remained unrepresented, their ideas unvoiced.

The heart of a republic is not elections and voting; it is freedom. This is why countries like modern India adopted a Constitution that, first and foremost, described the shape of our freedom: Our fundamental rights. The Constitution is our self-determination. We may lose our way, forget who we are, but a description of our fundamental rights will always remind us that we are born free. That we owe ourselves our liberties — of thought and belief, faith and worship — and equality, but before these words comes "justice". Without social, economic and political justice, equality is not possible, and without equality, justice is not possible. Indeed, without economic and political equity, freedom is not possible.

In ancient Roman, gladiators — trained warriors who fought each other or large beasts such as lions and bears — included freeborn men (a few women too) who pledged away their freedoms and agreed to submit to flogging, binding, and to being killed. They may have done this to secure food or for glory in the bloody "games" of the arena. However, if a man gives up his free-man status, effectively his right to life, in exchange for a regular supply of food, how free was he in the first place?

Free citizens don't choose between bread and fighting. The corollary to this is: If citizens can no longer participate, either as witnesses or as challengers to public policy, they risk losing their free status. If citizens cannot feed themselves, or if they cannot gather to freely exchange information and form new opinions without risking their lives, the republic itself is compromised.

We know that the Covid-19 pandemic severely limited people's mobility, their right to seek work, to gather and to confront their representatives, even if those representatives fail to hold themselves to the same safety standards. We now also know that many more Indians, hundreds of millions, are hungrier, have limited or no access to healthcare, have limited or no digital access. Can they still behave as free citizens do — hold the assemblies of representatives to account? How?

We must beware. Our freedoms were already fragmented, with the largest chunks affixed to the collars of the elite, the patricians, but we must pull back from a vision of the republic where freedom as represented by justice and equality before law, is no longer guaranteed. That way lies a republic leached of meaning, a "public" that doesn't necessarily translate into people.

The writer is a novelist and poet

Going forward, with empathy

Because the pandemic made us all pause and think about what really matters

TANYA DUBASH

SEVENTY-TWO YEARS is a reasonably short time in a republic's lifespan. Still, it is not just a moment for celebration but equally for unbiased introspection. There are pockets of excellence that we should be proud of, but there are important basics that we need to improve as well.

Recuperating from the impact of two years of a pandemic isn't easy. Some of our time-bound goals had to be extended as more pressing concerns engulfed our country. Despite the challenges, we have traversed a long journey — together as a nation, industry, and individuals. We now need to make a renewed effort towards achieving the objectives and laying the ground for our larger ambitions. India has a history of leapfrogging through phases of change. The revolution in the telecommunication industry, space science, and even digital payments are a few examples of India outperforming the world's expectations. I have no doubt that we will do so again.

The country's democracy and its demography are its significant strengths. While marching towards the goal of becoming a $5 trillion economy, being a stable democracy in the region, having a huge market and consumer aspiration, and an immense demographic dividend are great benefits. We need to strengthen "Brand India" through transitions across social, political and economic spheres. There are aspects within each of these spheres that we can be proud of, even as we acknowledge that there are others we must try to change.

The demographic dividend alone will be insufficient if enough attention isn't paid to both education and skill development. Over the years, the government and India Inc. have played critical roles in this. A certain level of education and imbibing a culture of skill learning are indispensable for attaining the sustained economic growth objectives of the future. Strengthening public-private partnerships to improve employability through policy interventions and supportive ecosystem development is critical. Moreover, policy measures must be initiated to arrest the declining female labour force participation rate, at a larger scale than at present.

For India to strengthen its position as a key global player, it is important to improve the ease of doing business here by measures such as liberalising policy to attract domestic capital investment and foreign investment and fast-paced but sustainable infrastructure growth.

Whilst the agricultural sector contributes close to 20 per cent of the country's GDP, it continues to employ most of the country's population. To double farmers' incomes and increase productivity, strong attempts must be made to develop a culture of agripreneurship. Working in tandem with industry, farmers and academia, the government needs to create the right interventions that will both boost farmers' morale and improve their productivity and per capita income. While policy is one part of the solution-seeking process, a combination of geospatial, technological and agricultural science can chart the path for innovative and sustainable solutions for several issues plaguing the sector.

The pandemic has also brought to light the need to provide universal access to basic healthcare. On a positive note, it also showcased the underlying capabilities and benefits of the PPP model in creating a robust mechanism to achieve this objective. There are definite learnings that can be collectively put into practice to improve the ecosystem over time.

Lastly, there is no denying that the pandemic made us all pause and think about what really matters. Historically, such moments have often triggered a change in people's mindsets. One key takeaway that must always be held close to our hearts is building an empathetic nation. During this tumultuous time, there were myriad positive rays of hope with people standing by each other, supporting each other, and increasingly becoming more sensitive to the idea of sustainability. Going forward, this is one lesson from the past two challenging years that we must carry with us.

We will be celebrating our 73rd Republic Day in a few years and what I wish to see most then is an innovation-driven, empathetic, and happy India.

The writer is executive director and chief brand officer, Godrej

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BALANCING ACT

THIS REFERS TO the article 'A power shift in the making' (IE, January 25). With belligerent China flexing its muscles in the Indo-Pacific, New Delhi has a tough task of containing Chinese hegemony. New Delhi has rightly embarked on a path of balancing China through its membership of the Quad, but that too seems insufficient. The EU's interest to play bigger role in the region can be to Delhi's advantage. The EU's vision document on the Indo-Pacific is the embodiment of group's interest, though calibrated in words considering economic its economic ties with China. On the Ukraine crisis, New Delhi has to tread cautiously. It should watch events carefully and calibrate its policy by giving careful importance to the West and Russia on the bilateral front as well as balance China.

Dewang Ganesh Thosar, *Raigad*

MATTER OF DIGNITY

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'A prison diary from Tihar' (IE, January 24). The first-hand account by the author of the despairing condition in the jails and the plight of its inmates should prick our conscience. The right to live with human dignity free from exploitation is the fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution. I was most affected by the part where the author points how they've "spent many heart-breaking days and nights listening to the shattering cries of little children". The only music that the inmates hear are the cries of little children. That's a telling commentary on the state of the nation.

Aerika Singh, *Chandigarh*

WRONG BAR

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Her right to wear' (IE, January 24). It is unfortunate that seven students of Udupi are not allowed to enter their educational institution because they wear hijab. It is a violation of the right to practice religion. It is difficult to fathom that these girls who have been otherwise wearing the proper uniform are not allowed entry just because of their hijab. Not only should this government college allow these seven girls to come back and study but it should apologise to the humiliation caused to these girls and their families.

Bal Govind, *Noida*

THE MESSENGER

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Spiritual activist' (IE, January 25). Thich Nhat Hanh was one of the world's most influential Zen masters, spreading messages of mindfulness and nonviolence. A prolific author, poet, teacher and peace activist, he was exiled from Vietnam after opposing the war in the 1960s and became a leading voice in a movement he called "engaged Buddhism," the application of Buddhist principles to political and social reform. Nhat Hanh was ordained as a monk as modern Vietnam's founding revolutionary Ho Chi Minh led efforts to liberate the nation from French colonial rulers. He was a major influence on Western practices of Buddhism, urging the embrace of mindfulness — the energy of being aware and awake to the present moment.

Sanjay Chopra, *Mohali*

The honour roll

From singers and artists to tech leaders and Covid vaccine-makers — this year's Padma awardees at a glance

PADMA VIBHUSHAN

PRABHA ATRE
ART (VOCALS-HINDUSTANI), PUNE, MAHARASHTRA

Atre, 89, belongs to the Kirana Gharana, which is among the most renowned lineages of classical music in the country.

GEN BIPIN RAWAT
(POSTHUMOUS)CIVIL SERVICE (ARMED FORCES) PAURI GARHWAL, UTTARAKHAND

Gen Rawat was the first Chief of Defence Staff and was responsible for integration of the forces. He died in a chopper crash in December.

RADHEYSHYAM KHEMKA
(POSTHUMOUS) LITERATURE AND EDUCATION (CULTURE) GORAKHPUR, UP

The late publisher and president of Gita Press, Gorakhpur. For 38 years, he was editor of the 'Kalyan' magazine. He died in April 2021.

KALYAN SINGH
(POSTHUMOUS) PUBLIC AFFAIRS (POLITICS) ALIGARH, UTTAR PRADESH

Singh was a significant face for BJP in Uttar Pradesh. The demolition of Babri Masjid took place during his tenure as Chief Minister.

PADMA BHUSHAN

GHULAM NABI AZAD, 72

PUBLIC AFFAIRS (POLITICS), DODA, J&K
Veteran political leader and former CM of J&K

VICTOR BANERJEE, 75
ART (ACTING-FILMS), KOLKATA
Three-time National Award winning versatile actor. Renowned for his work in Hindi, English and Bengali cinema

GURMEET BAWA
(Posthumous)
ART (VOCALS-FOLK), AMRITSAR
Internationally celebrated Punjabi folk singer credited with popularising folk instruments; famous as 'Lambi hek ki Malika'

BUDDHADEB BHATTACHARJEE, 77
PUBLIC AFFAIRS (POLITICS), KOLKATA
Veteran leftist leader and former chief minister of West Bengal. He has turned down the award.

NATARAJAN CHANDRASEKARAN, 58
TRADE & INDUSTRY (MANUFACTURING), MUMBAI

Senior business leader, Chairman of Tata Sons

KRISHNA ELLA, 51 & SUCHITRA ELLA, 58
TRADE & INDUSTRY (PHARMA), HYDERABAD
Founders of Bharat Biotech, pioneering the development and manufacturing of life-saving vaccines, including India's indigenous Covid vaccine Covaxin

MADHUR JAFFERY, 88
OTHERS (CULINARY), USA
Globally celebrated chef and food journalist; credited with popularising Indian cuisine across the world

DEVENDRA JHAJHARIA, 40
SPORTS (JAVELIN), CHURU, RAJASTHAN

Paralympic javelin athelete. Won medals across three Paralympic games

RASHID KHAN, 53
ART (VOCALS-HINDUSTANI), BUDAUN, UP
Acclaimed Hindustani classical vocalist of the Rampur Sahaswan Gharana

RAJIV MEHRISHI, 66
CIVIL SERVICE (IAS), JAIPUR
Veteran Civil Servant, former Comptroller and Auditor General of India

SATYA NADELLA, 54
TRADE & INDUSTRY (TECHNOLOGY), USA
Indo-American global technology leader, Microsoft CEO

SUNDAR PICHAI, 49
TRADE & INDUSTRY (TECHNOLOGY), USA
Indo-American global technology leader, CEO of Google and Alphabet

CYRUS POONAWALLA, 81

TRADE & INDUSTRY (PHARMA), PUNE
Founder of the world's largest vaccine manufacturer, Serum Institute of India, which played a crucial role in India's fight against Covid

SANJAYA RAJARAM
(Posthumous)
SCIENCE & ENGINEERING (AGRICULTURE), MEXICO
Wheat scientists who is credited with developing 480 high-yielding and disease resistant wheat varieties, now grown in 51 countries

PRATIBHA RAY, 77
LITERATURE & EDUCATION (LITERATURE-ODIA), KHORDHA, ODISHA
Internationally-acclaimed author, popularly known as the queen of Odia literature

SWAMI SACHIDANAND, 89
LITERATURE & EDUCATION (CULTURE), ANAND, GUJARAT
Philosopher, writer and social reformer. Known for his work in disaster relief

VASHISHTH TRIPATHI, 81
LITERATURE & EDUCATION (EDUCATION-LAW), VARANASI
Veteran jurisprudence scholar, specialising in Indian knowledge system Nyayshastra

PADMA SHRI

Shri Prahlad Rai Agarwala
Trade and Industry, West Bengal
Prof. Najma Akhtar
Literature and Education, Delhi
Shri Sumit Antil
Sports, Haryana
Shri T Senka Ao
Literature and Education, Nagaland
Ms. Kamalini Asthana and Ms. Nalini Asthana* (Duo)
Art, Uttar Pradesh
Shri Subbanna Ayyappan
Science and Engineering, Karnataka
Shri J K Bajaj
Literature and Education, Delhi
Shri Sirpi Balasubramaniam
Literature and Education, Tamil Nadu
Srimad Baba Balia
Social Work, Odisha
Ms. Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay
Science and Engineering, West Bengal
Ms. Madhuri Barthwal
Art, Uttarakhand
Shri Akhone Asgar Ali Basharat
Literature and Education, Ladakh
Dr. Himmatrao Bawaskar
Medicine, Maharashtra
Shri Harmohinder Singh Bedi
Literature and Education, Punjab
Shri Pramod Bhagat
Sports, Odisha
Shri S Ballesh Bhajantri
Art, Tamil Nadu
Shri Khandu Wangchuk Bhutia
Art, Sikkim
Shri Maria Christopher Byrski
Literature and Education, Poland
Acharya Chandanaji
Social Work, Bihar
Ms. Sulochana Chavan
Art, Maharashtra
Shri Neeraj Chopra
Sports, Haryana
Ms. Shakuntala Choudhary
Social Work, Assam
Shri Sankaranarayana Menon Chundayil
Sports, Kerala
Shri S Damodaran
Social Work, Tamil Nadu
Shri Faisal Ali Dar
Sports, Jammu and Kashmir
Shri Jagjit Singh Dardi
Trade and Industry, Chandigarh
Dr. Prokar Dasgupta
Medicine, United Kingdom
Shri Aditya Prasad Dash
Science and Engineering, Odisha
Dr. Lata Desai
Medicine, Gujarat
Shri Malji bhai Desai
Public Affairs, Gujarat
Ms. Basanti Devi
Social Work, Uttarakhand
Ms. Lourembam Bino Devi
Art, Manipur
Ms. Muktamani Devi
Trade and Industry, Manipur
Ms. Shyamamani Devi
Art, Odisha
Shri Khalil Dhantejvi (Posthumous)
Literature and Education, Gujarat
Shri Savaji Bhai Dholakia
Social Work, Gujarat
Shri Arjun Singh Dhurve
Art, Madhya Pradesh
Dr. Vijaykumar Vinayak Dongre
Medicine, Maharashtra
Shri Chandraprakash Dwivedi
Art, Rajasthan
Shri Dhaneswar Engti
Literature and Education, Assam
Shri Om Prakash Gandhi
Social Work, Haryana
Shri Narasimha Rao Garikapati
Literature and Education, Andhra Pradesh
Shri Girdhari Ram Ghonju (Posthumous)
Literature and Education, Jharkhand
Shri Shaibal Gupta (Posthumous)
Literature and Education, Bihar
Shri Narasingha Prasad Guru
Literature and Education, Odisha
Shri Gosaveedu Shaik Hassan (Posthumous)
Art, Andhra Pradesh
Shri Ryuko Hira
Trade and Industry, Japan
Ms. Sosamma Iype
Others - Animal Husbandry, Kerala
Shri Avadh Kishore Jadia
Literature and Education, Madhya Pradesh
Ms. Sowcar Janaki
Art, Tamil Nadu
Ms. Tara Jauhar
Literature and Education, Delhi
Ms. Vandana Kataria
Sports, Uttarakhand
Shri H R Keshavamurthy
Art, Karnataka
Shri Rutger Kortenhorst
Literature and Education, Ireland
Shri P Narayana Kurup
Literature and Education, Kerala
Ms. Avani Lekhara
Sports, Rajasthan
Shri Moti Lal Madan
Science and Engineering, Haryana
Shri Shivnath Mishra
Art, Uttar Pradesh
Dr. Narendra Prasad Misra (Posthumous)
Medicine, Madhya Pradesh
Shri Darshanam Mogilaiah
Art, Telangana
Shri Guruprasad Mohapatra (Posthumous)
Civil Service, Delhi
Shri Thavil Kongampattu A V Murugaiyan
Art, Puducherry
Ms. R Muthukannammal
Art, Tamil Nadu
Shri Abdul Khader Nadakattin
Others - Grassroots Innovation, Karnataka
Shri Amai Mahalinga Naik
Others - Agriculture, Karnataka
Shri Tsering Namgyal
Art, Ladakh
Shri A K C Natarajan
Art, Tamil Nadu
Shri V L Nghaka
Literature and Education, Mizoram
Shri Sonu Nigam
Art, Maharashtra
Shri Ram Sahay Panday
Art, Madhya Pradesh
Shri Chirapat Prapandavidya
Literature and Education, Thailand
Ms. K V Rabiya
Social Work, Kerala
Shri Anil Kumar Rajvanshi
Science and Engineering, Maharashtra
Shri Sheesh Ram
Art, Uttar Pradesh
Shri Ramachandraiah
Art, Telangana
Dr. Sunkara Venkata Adinarayana Rao
Medicine, Andhra Pradesh
Ms. Gamit Ramilaben Raysingbhai
Social Work, Gujarat
Ms. Padmaja Reddy
Art, Telangana
Guru Tulku Rinpoche
Others - Spiritualism, Arunachal Pradesh
Shri Brahmanand Sankhwalkar
Sports, Goa
Shri Vidyanand Sarek
Literature and Education, Himachal Pradesh
Shri Kali Pada Saren
Literature and Education, West Bengal
Dr. Veeraswamy Seshiah
Medicine, Tamil Nadu
Ms. Prabhaben Shah
Social Work, Dadra, Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
Shri Dilip Shahani
Literature and Education, Delhi
Shri Ram Dayal Sharma
Art, Rajasthan
Shri Vishwamurti Shastri
Literature and Education, Jammu and Kashmir
Ms. Tatiana Lvovna Shaumyan
Literature and Education, Russia
Shri Siddhalingaiah (Posthumous)
Literature and Education, Karnataka
Shri Kaajee Singh
Art, West Bengal
Shri Konsam Ibomcha Singh
Art, Manipur
Shri Prem Singh
Social Work, Punjab
Shri Seth Pal Singh
Others - Agriculture, UP
Ms. Vidya Vindu Singh
Literature and Education, Uttar Pradesh
Baba Iqbal Singh Ji
Social Work, Punjab
Dr. Bhimsen Singhal
Medicine, Maharashtra
Shri Sivananda
Others - Yoga, UP
Shri Ajay Kumar Sonkar
Science and Engineering, Uttar Pradesh
Ms. Ajita Srivastava
Art, Uttar Pradesh
Sadguru Brahmeshanand Acharya Swami
Others - Spiritualism, Goa
Dr. Balaji Tambe (Posthumous)
Medicine, Maharashtra
Shri Raghuvendra Tanwar
Literature and Education, Haryana
Dr. Kamlakar Tripathi
Medicine, Uttar Pradesh
Ms. Lalita Vakil
Art, Himachal Pradesh
Ms. Durga Bai Vyam
Art, Madhya Pradesh
Shri Jyantkumar Maganlal Vyas
Science and Engineering, Gujarat
Ms. Badaplin War
Literature and Education, Meghalaya

PARAM VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL FOR 29

Javelin star Neeraj Chopra, Northern Army Commander get PVSM

KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

IN THE list of 29 military personnel who have been awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal this year, 27 are three-star officers from the three services and one a two-star Army officer. One name that stands out in the list is that of a 24-year-old Subedar, who was awarded not for a military role but for laurels he won for the country in the field of athletics.

Subedar Neeraj Chopra, who became a household name after winning the javelin gold in the 2020 Olympics, has been awarded the PVSM, which recognises peace-time service of the most exceptional order.

The government announced the list of gallantry awards approved by President Ram Nath Kovind on Tuesday. Among the officers who have been awarded the PVSM is Lt Gen Y K Joshi, a Kargil war hero who served as Northern Army Commander since February 2020, during the entire period of the over 21-month long standoff with China in eastern Ladakh. Joshi is set to retire at the end of this month.

Neeraj Chopra has also won the Padma Shri

Others who have been awarded the PVSM are the serving Vice Chiefs of Navy and Air Force, Vice Admiral S N Ghormade and Air Marshal Sandeep Singh, and the incoming Vice Chief of Army, Lt Gen Manoj Pande, who will take charge on February 1, and is expected to become the next Army Chief after Gen M M Naravane.

Air Marshal Manavendra Singh, who headed the tri-services probe into the crash of the helicopter carrying Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat in December, has also been awarded the PVSM. The senior-most helicopter pilot in the Air Force, Singh is the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Training Command.

With the military stepping up to its responsibilities during the pandemic, two senior officers – both now retired – of the Army Medical Corps have also been awarded the PVSM. They are Lt Gen Madhuri Kanitkar, the only woman to get the award this year, and Lt Gen Joy Chatterjee.

Lt Gen P G K Menon, who led the Indian delegation for over a year in Corps Commander level talks with China to find a resolution to the Ladakh standoff, has been awarded the Uttam Yudh Seva Medal (UYSM), which is awarded for wartime distinguished services. It was during discussions with him that China agreed to disengage from the strategic north bank of Pangong Tso, the Kailash Heights in the Chushul sub-sector, and from Patrolling Point 17A in Gogra Post.

The President also approved 53 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals, 13 Yudh Seva Medals, 3 Bar to Vishisht Seva Medals, 122 Vishisht Seva Medals, 3 Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 81 Sena Medals (Gallantry), 2 Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry), 40 Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty), 8 Nao Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty), and 14 Vayu Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty).

SHAURYA CHAKRA

2 Armymen killed in J&K, CRPF officer who repelled Maoist attack among 12 awardees

KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

TWO SOLDIERS who were killed fighting infiltrators along the Line of Control (LoC) in J&K and a Rifleman who chased two insurgents into the jungles and killed them during an operation in Assam are among six Army personnel who have been named for Shaurya Chakras this year.

Shaurya Chakra is the country's third highest peacetime gallantry award. President Ram Nath Kovind approved the list of awardees – six from Army and six from CRPF – on the eve of Republic Day.

While five of the six from the Army have been awarded posthumously, for the CRPF, the number of posthumous awards is four. Two of the Army's posthumous awards have been given for the same operation. Naib Subedar Sreejith M and Sepoy Maruprolu Jaswanth Reddy, both from 17th Madras Regiment, were killed fighting infiltrators trying to cross the LoC in Sunderbani sector of J&K on July 8, 2021. They killed militants in face-to-face gunfights before they came under heavy fire and use of grenades.

Naib Subedar Sreejith M and Sepoy Maruprolu Jaswanth Reddy who died in J&K

Three others who were named for Sharya Chakra are Havildar Anil Kumar Tomar and Havildar Kashiray Bammanalli, both from 44 Rashtra Rifles, and Havildar Pinku Kumar from 34 Rashtra Rifles. They were killed in operations in the Valley in which each of them killed at least one militant before they were killed.

The only surviving Army person to get the Shaurya Chakra this year is Rifleman Rakesh Sharma, who during an operation on May 23 in an Assam village, chased two insurgents into the jungles and killed them despite coming under heavy fire.

Apart from them, six CoBRA commandos of the CRPF have been awarded the Shaurya Chakra. Deputy Commandant Dilip Malik, posted in 205 CoBRA, who led his men in a fierce gunfight with Maoists after they came under head fire during a search operation in a Bihar forest has been named for the award. He killed at least three Maoists during the operation.

Three CoBRA personnel also received the Shaurya Chakra posthumously for a separate Maoist operation in Irrapalli.

The President also awarded 'Mention-in-Despatches' to 44 personnel from the Armed Forces. Fourteen were awarded for the operations during the standoff in eastern Ladakh. Two of these are posthumous, awarded to Havildar Sudheesh Kumar S and Naik Ramarao Vanjarapu, both from Engineer Regiment.

POLICE MEDAL FOR GALLANTRY

Fighting terror in Valley to smugglers on Bangla border, 189 cops honoured

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

JAMMU AND Kashmir Police personnel who killed militants in the Valley without collateral damage, a CRPF head constable who died fighting militants in Kashmir, an SSB constable who kept firing back at Maoists in Jharkhand's Dumka even after sustaining bullet injuries, a BSF constable who took on a Bangladeshi cattle smuggler in West Bengal.

These are among 189 winners of Police Medal for Gallantry (PMG) this year.

The lion's share of the gallantry awards has once again been bagged by J&K Police (115 medals), followed by Chhattisgarh Police (10), and Odisha Police (9). Among Central Armed Police Forces, CRPF won 30 gallantry medals, ITBP and SSB bagged three awards each, and BSF personnel received two.

According to J&K Police, three of its operations in 2019-20 in Budgam, Baramulla and Pulwama stood out for valour shown by its men in killing six militants of different terror outfits. The most high-profile of these operations took place in Sopore, Baramulla, where a team comprising Constables Aijaz Ahmed Dar, Nazir Ahmed Lone and Jahangir Hussain Magray killed two "Pakistani LeT terrorists" along with a local operative.

The two PMG won by BSF were both for taking on cattle smugglers in the eastern theatre. Constable Anand Oraon was attacked by smugglers near Bangladesh border in Bengal. According to BSF, one smuggler got hold of his pump action gun and fired at Oraon in the abdomen, leaving him seriously injured. Oraon eventually overpowered the smuggler.

Constable Sunder Singh exhibited similar courage when surrounded by several cattle smugglers. According to BSF, the smugglers hit him on the head, but Singh fired to disperse them and eventually caught one.

Besides these, 88 President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service and 662 Police Medal for Meritorious Service were conferred upon police personnel and officers across the country.

Among this year's President's medal winners, fire fighter who died in line of duty

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

FORTY-TWO personnel from the fire services have won the President's medal this year. Among the winners is 32-year-old Balu Damu Deshmukh who died fighting a fire in a chemical company in Navi Mumbai.

Deshmukh, who received the President's Fire Service medal, was posted with the Ambernath fire station and died in December 2020.

Two personnel will be rewarded with the Fire Service Medal for Gallantry. The President's Fire Service Medal for Distinguished Service will be conferred upon nine personnel and Fire Service Medal for Meritorious Service will be given to 30 personnel.

The Ministry of Home Affairs also released a list of 51 persons who will receive the Jeevan Raksha Padak awards from the President. The President's Correctional Service Medal for Distinguished Service will be awarded to five jail officials.

HAPPY REPUBLIC DAY

An initiative by RED Read. Engage. Deliver.

ADVERTORIAL

Time to honour our martyrs

India will celebrate its 73rd Republic Day on 26 January, 2022. The Republic Day parade is held every year in the country on this day at Rajpath, New Delhi. This year, the Republic Day parade will start a half an hour later from the scheduled time of previous years. On this day, we remember and take inspiration from the sacrifices of the great men who had sacrificed their lives for our country and others who will be ready at all times to protect its honor and glory. It's a day to take a vow to not allow the country to be bound to the chains of slavery and take inspiration from these patriots and be ready to protect the country.

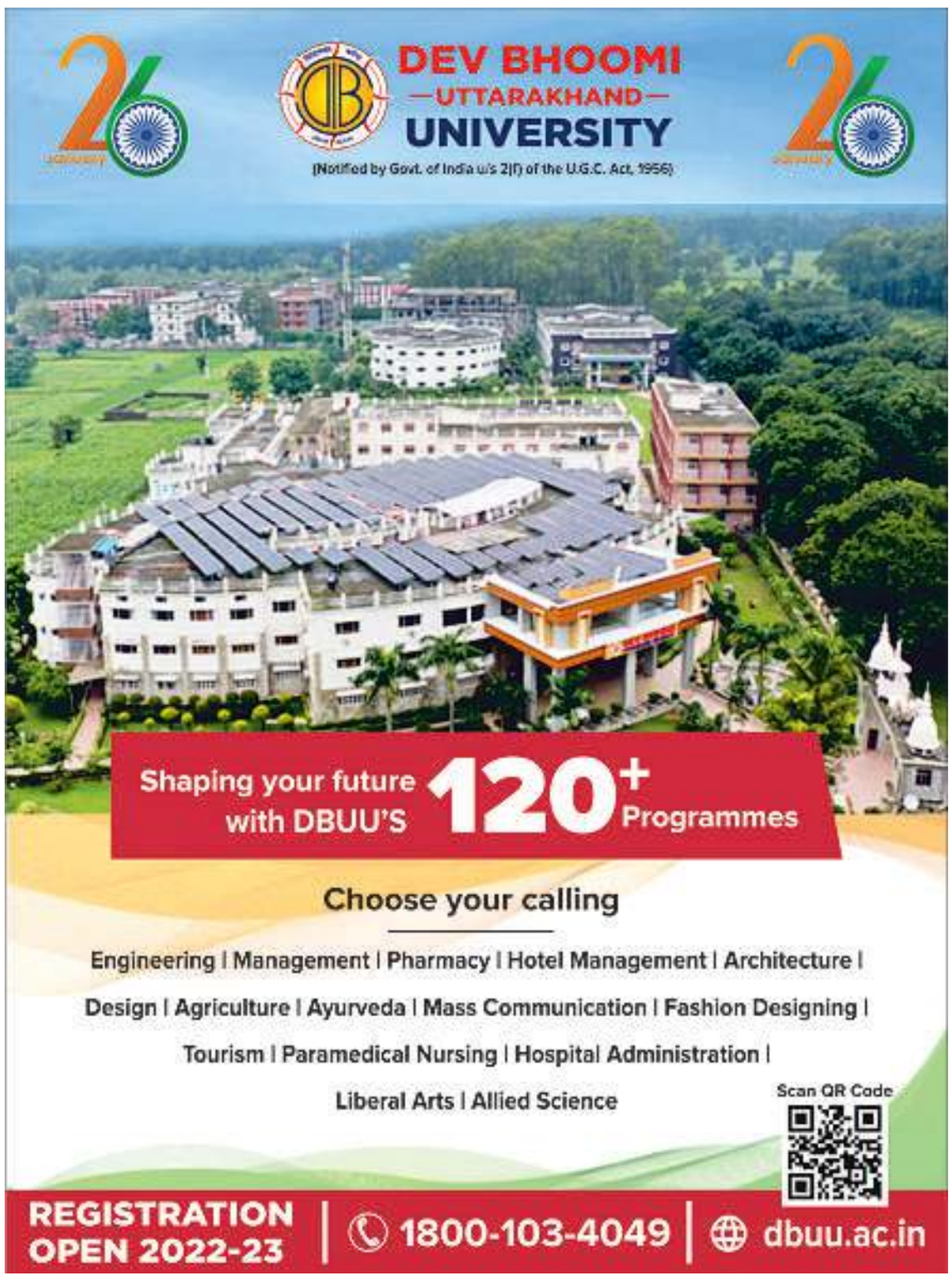
Every Indian should strive to take their country to new heights and contribute their fullest for the development of the country and to protect the country at all times.

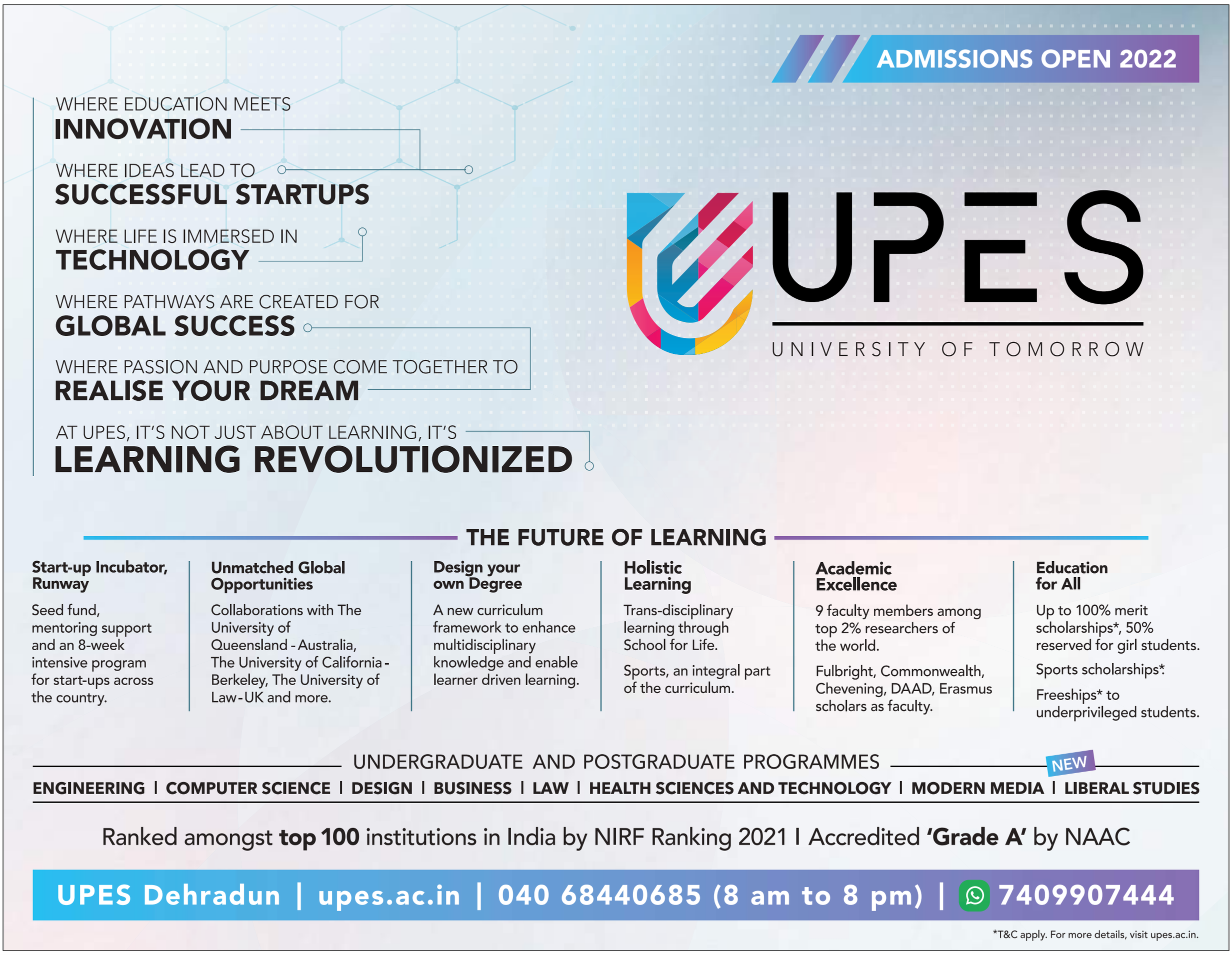
On the occasion of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the celebration of 75 years of the country's independence, the Republic Day parade at Rajpath this year will see the biggest ever flypast with a total of 75 aircraft of the Indian Air Force, Army, and Navy. This will be in line with the Amrit Mahotsav celebrations of Independence.

Kumaoni folk artists to accompany Uttarakhand tableau

This year, the tableau of Devbhoomi Uttarakhand will be seen at the Republic Day parade, which will be held on Rajpath. The tableau will showcase the grandeur and divinity of the main Sikh pilgrimage Hemkund Sahib, Tehri Dam, Dobra Chanthi bridge, and the temple of Lord Badrivishal.

According to KS Chauhan, Nodal Officer, and Joint Director Information, the Gurdwara Hemkund Sahib will be at the front of the tableau of Devbhoomi Uttarakhand, followed by Tehri Dam, Dobra Chanthi Bridge and the temple of Lord Badrivishal, which is the center of faith of crores of people. A cultural team of 16 people of Kumaon cultural folk art mirroring Lohaghat Champawat will be seen walking with the tableau. According to Chauhan, the tableau of Uttarakhand has been selected 13 times since the formation of the State.





GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE TIME	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL CORPORA-TION MANESAR	DRILLING BORING AND INSTALLATION OF 1NOS. TUBEWELL WITH DTH BORING MACHINE AT PARK IN HAYATPUR VILLAGE	24.01.2022 31.01.2022	6.20 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	8851125640

7132/HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

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

Government of India

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances

PRIME MINISTER'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION -2021
TO BE PRESENTED ON 21.04.2022

Applications are invited from District, State and Central Government authorities for the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration - 2021 under the following categories:

(A) Awards for holistic Development of Districts under the following categories;

(i) Promoting "Jan Bhagidari" or Peoples' participation in Poshan Abhiyan
(ii) Promoting excellence in sports and wellness through Khelo India scheme
(iii) Digital Payments and good governance in PM SVANidhi Yojana
(iv) Holistic Development through One District One Product Scheme

Eligibility
District authorities (DCs/ DMs) are eligible to compete for the Awards for the above categories.

(B) Awards for Seamless End to End Delivery of service without human intervention
Eligibility
District authorities (DCs/ DMs) as well as any service providing Department/ Organisation of Centre or State are eligible to compete for the awards under this category

(C) Innovation in Public Administration will be considered in the following fields:
"Environment conservation, water conservation, energy, education, health, women & child centric initiatives, sustainable farming (organic/ natural farming), promoting livelihoods, boosting economy, improving governance, Ease of doing business, faceless delivery of public services, promoting digital payments, disposal of public grievances etc.".

Eligibility:-Organisations of Central/State Governments/Districts are eligible to apply for the Awards in the Innovations category.

The application for PM's Awards can be submitted on the web-portal for Prime Minister's Awards (https://pmawards.gov.in/login) up to 04.02.2022.

Modalities and other details of the scheme are available on PM's Awards Portal (https://pmawards.gov.in/login) and the link of which is also available on website of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (https://darpg.gov.in/).

Contact person for further clarification
Deputy Secretary (AR & e-Gov)
Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances,
5th Floor, Sardar Patel Bhawan, Parliament Street,
New Delhi – 110001 Tele Fax : 011-23401429
Email:pmathew.edu@nic.in

(Rakesh Chandra)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Ph: 011-23401488

davp 32101/11/0003/2122

EXPRESS explained.Live

Are we really in the pandemic's endgame?

In conversation with

Anurag Agarwal
Director, Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology

Amitabh Sinha
Resident Editor, Pune
The Indian Express

About 100 million people have been infected with Covid19 virus in just the last two months, the most during any equivalent period during the pandemic. And yet, there have been suggestions this might be the beginning of the end of the two-year-old pandemic.

Is this really the endgame?
Is Omicron likely to be the last major variant of this coronavirus?
Is it possible to predict how the virus would mutate in future?
Or, do we need to reconcile ourselves to living with periodic, but regular, waves of infection in future?
Is there anything we can do to prevent future waves?
Or, are we helpless?

These, and many such, questions are the uppermost on the minds of everyone as India negotiates its third wave of infections. There are few people in the country who understand these questions better than Dr. Anurag Agrawal, director of Delhi-based Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, a CSIR research laboratory. As head of an institution that is currently involved in generating scientific information required to prepare response measures for the pandemic, Dr. Agrawal is one of the key voices in the government's decision-making apparatus.

27 JAN 2022 06:00PM To register, SCAN

To register, SMS - IEEXP <space> "IE" <space> "Your name and email ID" to 56161
Confirmation SMS will be your registration

Associate Partner YOJNA IAS

The Indian EXPRESS — JOURNALISM OF COURAGE —

IndianExpress.com/apps twitter.com/IndianExpress facebook.com/IndianExpress

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE
Peacekeepers of the Nation
SALUTES THE BRAVEHEARTS
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

36 GALLANTRY MEDALS TO CRPF ON 73RD REPUBLIC DAY 2022

SHAURYA CHAKRA

SHAHEED HC KULDEEP KUMAR URAWAN
SHAHEED HC AJEET SINGH
SHAHEED CONSTABLE VIKAS KUMAR
SHAHEED CONSTABLE PURNANAND
DILIP MALIK DY.COMDT.
ANIRUDH PRATAP SINGH ASSTT.COMDT.

POLICE MEDAL FOR GALLANTRY

SHAHEED HC DEEP CHAND VERMA
SHAHEED CONSTABLE KANAI MAJEE
LATE CONSTABLE ROHIT KUMAR
ROHIT TIWARI ASSTT.COMDT.
HC (Now ASI) GANESH HALDER
SANJEET KUMAR SINGH ASSTT.COMDT.
VINIT ASHOK MESHRAM ASSTT.COMDT.
HANUMAN RAM ASSTT.COMDT.
SUB INSPECTOR AJAY SINGH
SUB INSPECTOR SUDHIR KUMAR
HEAD CONSTABLE BALBIR KUMAR SINGH
CONSTABLE MUKESH KUMAR RANJAN
CONSTABLE ABHISHEK KUMAR
CONSTABLE VIJAY ORAON
CONSTABLE KAMTHE SOMNATH POPATRAO
CONSTABLE BHIM SINGH
CONSTABLE KUMBHAR NITIN SADASHIV
VISHAL KANDWAL COMMANDANT
CONSTABLE AJAY BARO
CONSTABLE CHANDAN KUMAR
AKHAND PRATAP SINGH ASSTT.COMDT.
HEAD CONSTABLE SWARNA GAYARY
CONSTABLE SATNAM SINGH (1ST BAR TO PMG)
CONSTABLE JAYANTA HAJONG
CONSTABLE SAROJ KUMAR PRADHAN
CONSTABLE RAKESH PATIL
JOHAN BECK ASSTT.COMDT.
CONSTABLE D.AYYAPPAN
CONSTABLE CHAWARE NILESH RAMESH
NARAPAT ASSTT.COMDT. (1ST BAR TO PMG)

davp19111/13/0131/2122

www.crpf.gov.in @crpfindia crpf_india CentralReservePolice CRPF -INDIA

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

INDIAN COAST GUARD

WE PROTECT...

READY, RELEVANT AND RESPONSIVE

PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS

73RD REPUBLIC DAY, 26 JANUARY 2022

IG Maneesh Vishal Pathak, TM
President's Tatrakshak Medal

Comdt Sundararaman Premkumar,
Tatrakshak Medal

Comdt(JG) Sumit Dhiman,
Tatrakshak Medal (G)

Dy Comdt Vikas Narang,
Tatrakshak Medal (G)

A Manikandan, PSE(R),
Tatrakshak Medal

Ardhi Pragati Kumar, P/Nvk(AH),
Tatrakshak Medal (G)

davp10147/13/0010/2122

EMERGENCY MARITIME SEARCH & RESCUE TELEPHONE NO-1554

To Join Indian Coast Guard, visit us: www.joinindiancoastguard.gov.in and www.indiancoastguard.gov.in

Follow us at : @IndianCoastGuard | @IndiaCoastGuard | @indiancoastguard_official

26th Death Anniversary
26th January 2022

Dr. B. V. Rao

~ 1935 - 1996 ~

"By fulfilling one's duty, and detaching one self from the fruits of action, one is liberated from the cycle of birth and death, and ascends to the Indestructible State that is free from all bonds..."

Bhagavadgita : Chapter II, Stanza 51

On his 26th Anniversary, we pay homage to the Karma Yogi, who brought happiness to the homes of millions of Poultry Farmers, and rededicate ourselves to his mission.

V H GROUP

Venkateshwara Hatcheries Group

NECC
NATIONAL EGG CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

INDIAN AIR FORCE
A CUT ABOVE

INDIAN AIR FORCE

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

PROUD OF ITS PRESIDENTIAL AWARDEES ON THE OCCASION OF THE REPUBLIC DAY 2022

PARAM VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL (PVSM)

Air Marshal Amit Dev AVSM VSM ADC
Air Marshal Manavendra Singh AVSM Vr C VSM ADC
Air Marshal Sandeep Singh AVSM VM ADC
Air Marshal Balabhadra Radha Krishna AVSM SC
Air Marshal Shashiker Choudhary AVSM VSM ADC
Air Marshal Vijay Pal Singh Rana VSM
Air Marshal Diptendu Choudhury AVSM VM VSM (Retired)

ATI VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL (AVSM)

Air Marshal Avinash Gopal Kshirsagar VSM
Air Marshal Sreekumar Prabhakaran VM
Air Marshal Chalapati Jonnalagedda VSM
Air Marshal Alok Singh VSM
Air Marshal Vikram Singh VSM
Air Marshal Ravi Gopal Krishna Kapoor VM
Air Marshal Narmdeshwar Tiwari VM
Air Marshal Prashant Bharadwaj VSM & Bar
Air Vice Marshal Kalvakuntla Shekhar Reddy VSM (Retired)
Air Vice Marshal Chakalayil Rajappa Mohan VSM
Air Vice Marshal Nagesh Kapoor VM
Air Vice Marshal Tejinder Singh VM

YUDH SEVA MEDAL (YSM)

Air Commodore Subroto Kundu VM
Air Commodore Devendra Parshotam Hirani VSM
Group Captain Manish Sharma

VAYU SENA MEDAL (GALLANTRY) [VM(G)]

Wing Commander Chinmaya Patro
Squadron Leader Suraj Nair

VAYU SENA MEDAL (VM)

Group Captain Ashok Raj Thakur
Group Captain Sandeep Chaudhary VSM
Group Captain Pranjal Singh
Group Captain Ajay Rathi
Group Captain Vivek Sharma
Group Captain Vivek Pradeep Naik
Group Captain Mandeep Chahal
Group Captain Jijo Jose Ovelil
Group Captain Vijay Krishnat Patil
Group Captain Abhiman Mohan
Group Captain Amit Dubey
Group Captain Dinesh Sabharwal
Wing Commander Girish Komar
Squadron Leader Ashak Hussain

VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL (VSM)

Air Vice Marshal Ashutosh Sharma
Air Vice Marshal Dinesh Singh Dagar
Air Vice Marshal Sharad Kumar Jain
Air Vice Marshal Manas Ranjan Mishra
Air Vice Marshal Rajesh Kumar Anand
Air Vice Marshal Kariat Vadukkoote Surendran Nair
Air Commodore Rama Shankar Singh
Air Commodore Biji Philip
Air Commodore Amit Goel (Retired)
Air Commodore Yalla Umesh
Air Commodore Bijo John Mammen
Air Commodore Shrawan Kumar Singh
Air Commodore Ashish Baduni
Group Captain Ratnesh Gupta
Group Captain Kalpa Ghosh
Group Captain Puneet Vig VM
Group Captain Damodaran Arun
Group Captain Vishwanath Singh
Group Captain Ajay Shankar Prasad
Group Captain Sushanta Biswas
Group Captain Manoj Kumar Mishra
Group Captain Sidharth Sankar Patnaik
Group Captain Nishant Singh VM
Group Captain Ashwin Prabhakar Deshpande
Group Captain Amit Singh
Group Captain Manish Agarwal
Group Captain Rajdeep Singh
Master Warrant Officer (Honorary Flying Officer) Jai Raj Sharma

IndianAirForce | iaf_mcc | IndianAirForce | https://www.youtube.com/c/indianairforce_MCC

davp 10802/13/0033/2122

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

भारत सरकार का उपक्रम
A Govt. of India Undertaking

सिंडिकेट Syndicate

Recovery & Legal Section, Circle Office,
3rd Floor, Luv-Kush Tower, Exhibition Road, Patna - 800001
Ph. : 0612-2320180, Email : npacopat@canarabank.com

PROPERTY FOR E-AUCTION

E-AUCTION Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / hypothecated/ Pledged / charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Canara Bank will be sold on **"As is where is", " As is what is" and "Whatever there is"** on **28.02.2022.** Details are as under :

Sl. No.	Name / Address Contact No. of the Branch	Name and Address of the Borrower(s)/Guarantor (s)	Outstanding in Rs.	Details of Property	Reserve Price (Rs.) / EMD/Bid Multiplier Amt./ A/c No./ IFSC Code
1	ARM Branch Patna Mob. : 9162640626	M/s Aparna Merchant, Prop. - Sri Jai Kumar Sharma, 17, Telegraph Colony, Kidwaipuri, Patna, Bihar	Rs. 1,27,43,224.62 as on 31.12.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	Detail of Property over which equitable mortgage was created by Smt. Anju Kumari in favor of applicant bank by depositing original registered sale deed no. 3405/2004 dated 05.04.2004 in her name. All part and parcel of the land standing in the name of Smt. Anju Kumari W/o Sri Jai Kumar Sharma situated at Mauza-Simri Murarpur, Thana-Malsalami Sub Registrar Office-Patna city sadar Registry Office & District-Patna, Thana No.-38, Bihar Sarkar, Khata No.-9, Survey plot No. 661, Area-02 Katha 10 Dhur **Boundary - North -** Pachu Gope, **South -** Chalitar Mahton, **East -** Bachchu Mahton, **West -** Vendor Judagi Gope.	Rs. 23,00,000/- Rs. 2,30,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 8361295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008361
2	ARM Branch Patna Mob. : 9162640626	M/S Jai Maa Durga Automobiles, Sri Raj Kumar Yadav@ Raiesh Kumar Yadav and Sri Raj Kamal Yadav S/o- Sri Bhagawan Das Yadav, Moh- Chilka Par, Opposite KisanCollege Sohsarai, PO + PS-Sohsarai, District-Nalanda	Rs. 92,86,434.03 as on 31.12.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	EMT of Land & Building in the name of Sri Raj Kumar Yadav @ Rajesh Kumar Yadav, Sale Deed No-10492 Dt.-07.08.1989, Khata No-26, Khasra No-626, Tauzi No-10119, Thana No-133, Mauza-Salempur, Dist-Nalanda, Bihar-803118 Extent of Land -14.5 Decimals. **Boundary - North -** Kameshwar Mahato, **South -** Shivcharan Mahato, **East -** Birju Mahato, **West -** Rajkumar Yadav	Rs. 38,00,000/- Rs. 3,80,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 8361295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008361
3	ARM Branch Patna Mob. : 9162640626	M/S Magadh Dairy, Prop. - Sri. Prakhar Sinha S/o Sri Prabin Kumar Sinha, Shop No. M – 10, Emarat Firdous, Exhibition Road, P.S. Gandhi Maidan, Patna - 800001	Rs. 2,18,46380.44 as on 31.12.2021 + interest & Other Costthereon	**Property - 1 - (a)** M/S Magadh Dairy situated at Mauza-Chapra Farid, Chandan Patti, Thana No. 941, Khata No.10, Chak No.123, Area-22 Decimals, P.S. Sakra,District-Muzaffarpur, bearing Deed No. 446 dated 12.02.2013 **Boundary - North -** Nij Monmokir, **East -** Nij Monmokir, **South -** Nala Bihar Sarkar, **West -** Rajendra Kumar Sinha & others **(b)** M/S Magadh Dairy situated at Mauza-Chapra Farid, Chandan Patti, Thana No.941, Khata No.10,Chak No.123, Area-40 Decimlals, P.S. Sakra, District-Muzaffarpur bearing Deed no. 3422, dated 13.02.2013 **Boundary - North -** Rajendra Kumar Sinha & Others, **East -** NijMonmokir, **South -** Nala Bihar Sarkar, **West -** Proprietor. **Property - 2 - Hypothecated Plants & Machinery** of Dairy Production Unit (M/s Maghadh Dairy) situated at Mauza-Chapra Farid, Chandan Patti, Thana No. 941, Khata No.10, Chak No.123, Area- 22 Decimals, P.S. Sakra, District-Muzaffarpur, bearing **Deed No.446 dated 12.02.2013 Boundary - North -** Nij Monmokir, **East -** Ni jMonmokir, **South -** Nala Bihar Sarkar, **West -** Rajendra Kumar Sinha & other and Mauza-Chapra Farid, Chandan Patti, Thana No.941, Khata No.10, Chak No.123, Area- 40 Decimals, P.S. Sakra, District-Muzaffarpur bearing **Deed no. 3422, dated 13.02.2013 Boundary : North -** Rajendra Kumar Sinha & Others, **East -** Nij Monmokir, **South -** Nala Bihar Sarkar, **West -** Proprietor.	Property-1 Rs. 44,00,000 Rs. 4,40,000 Property-2 Rs. 70,00,000/- Rs. 7,00,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 8361295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008361
4	ARM Branch Patna Mob. : 9162640626	M/S Pawansut Agrotech Rice Mill Pvt. Ltd., Industrial Plot No. C-1,2,3&4, Mauza-Hasali, Near FCI, Aurangabad, Bihar - 824101	Rs. 19,48,01,560.17 as on 31.12.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Propety - 1 -** All that part and parcel of the Property standing in the name of M/S Pawansut Agrotech Rice Mill Pvt. Ltd. Consisting of Plot No.C-1,2,3,&4 in Survey No./Khata No.96(P), 97(P), 17(P), 19(P) with in registration Sub-District Aurangabad and District Aurangabad. Extant – 39,000 SFT, Mauza – Hasali, Ajarkbe, Industrial Area, Thana – Aurangabad. **Boundary - North –** Industrial Road 50', **South –** Industrial Boundary Line, **East –** Industrial Plot No.M - 2, **West -** Industrial plot No.C-5 **Propety - 2 -** Hypothecated Plant& Machinery related to Rice Mill situated at Plot No. C-1,2,3,&4 in Survey No. / Khata No. 96(P), 97(P), 17(P), 19(P) with in registration Sub-District Aurangabad and District Aurangabad, Extant – 39,000 SFT, Mauza – Hasali, Ajarkbe, Industrial Area, Thana – Aurangabad. **Boundary - North –** Industrial Road 50', **South –** Industrial Boundary Line, **East –** Industrial Plot No.M-2, **West -** Industrial plot No.C-5.	Property - 1 Rs. 3,47,00,000/- Rs. 34,70,000/- Property - 2 Rs. 7, 10,000/- Rs. 71,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 8361295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008361
5	ARM Branch Patna Mob. : 9162640626	M/S Raghoji Hatchery and Farms Pvt. Ltd., At- Kataro, P.O- PatedhiBelsar, P.S-PatedhiBelsarGouraul, Dist.-Vaishali, Bihar- 844118	Rs. 3,41,81,532.50 as on 31.12.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Property - 1 - (a)** All the piece and parcel of Leasehold land situated at Mauza – Patedhi Belsar (Kataru), Rev Thana No. 215, Anchal- Vaishali S.R.O Lalganj, P.S- Patedhi Belsar O.P., Distt.- Vaishali acquired by M/S Raghoji Hatchery and Farms Pvt. Ltd., through its director Mr. Akash Kumar Sonu S/O- Sri Kaushlendra Singh through Lease Deed No. 2869, dated 12.04.2014. Khata No. - 313, Khasra No. - 1334, Extent (A-D) - 0-52, **Boundary - North -** Ram Sakal Singh, **South -** Self, **East -** Self, **West -** Road, Khasra No. - 1334/2884, Extent (A-D) - 0-02, **Boundary - North -** Self, **South -** Self, **East -** Self, **West -** Road, Khasra No. - 1335, Extent (A-D) - 1-03, **Boundary - North -** Ram Sakal Singh, **South -** Self, **East -** Chandraketu Singh, **West -** Self, Khasra No. - 1337, Extent (A-D) - 1-80, **Boundary - North -** Self, **South -** Raj Nar. Singh, Devendra Singh, **East -** - Nawal Kishore Singh, **West -** Road, Total - 3 Acre 37 Decimal, Commercial Land, **Boundary of Entire Plot, North -** Ram Sakal Singh, **South -** Raj Nar. Singh, Devendra Singh, **East -** Chandraketu Singh, Nawal Kishore Singh, **West -** Road **Property - 2 - (b)** Hypothecated Plant & Machinery Related to Flour Mills.	Property - 1 Rs. 35, 39,700/- Rs. 3,53,970/- Property - 2 Rs. 29, 07,900/- Rs. 2,90,790/- 10,000/- A/c - 8361295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008361
6	ARM Branch Patna Mob. : 9162640626	M/S Raghoji House of Distribution, Prop.- Akash Kumar Sonu, 1st Floor, Ram Sagar Singh Complex, Kachahari Road, Hajipur, Distt. Vaishali, Bihar – 844101	Rs. 42,20,459.21 as on 31.12.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	All that part and parcel of the bounded land standing in the name of Sri Akash Kumar Sonu S/O- Sri Kaushlendra Singh situated at MohallaYusufpur, Rev. Thana No.157, Survey ward No. 13, New Nagarparishad ward No. 26, Halka No. 10Under NagarparishadHajipur, Anchal- Hajipur, Distt. Vaishali, bearing Khata No. 16, Khasra No. 1942, Area 5 Decimal vide Deed no. 1982 dated 20.03.2014. Property **Boundary - North –** Pinki Sah present purchaser, **South –** Private Rasta, **East –** 10 feet Road wide Rasta, **West -** Rasta	Rs. 31,50,000/- Rs. 3,15,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 8361295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008361
7	Bikramganj Branch, Surya Complex, Ara Road, Bikramganj, Dist- Rohtas Bihar- 802212 Mob. : 8210998534	**Borrower -** M/s Maa Akshamini Traders, Prop. Sri Pankaj Kr Singh, S/O Sri Ram Chhabila Singh, Mahadev Market, Arra Road, Bikramganj, Dist - Rohtas – 802212 **Guarantor -** Smt Bina Kunwar, W/o Ram Chhabila Singh, Shyam takij, Sasaram Road, Bikramganj, Dist- Rohtas - 802212	Rs. 1584369.17 as on 17.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	EMT of land and building in the name of Sri Pankaj Kumar Singh, S/o Sri Ram Chhabila Singh. Khata No. 2, Plot No.-457, Thana-526, Mouza- Dharopur, Thana+ Anchal- Bikramganj, Dist-Rahtas, Total Area- 3.90 Dicimal/1.25 Katha **(As per deed no 4377 Dated 06.06.2015) Boundary - North -** Budhu Singh, **South -** Budhu Singh, **East -** Plot No 458 & 459, **West :** Rasta	Rs. 12,67,000/- Rs. 1,26,700/- 10,000/- A/c - 8359296000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008359
8	Nawada Branch, 1st Floor, Madhuri complex , Bank Road, Nawada - 805110 Mob. : 8210998558	**Borrower(s) - M/s Shree Balajee Trading, Prop:- Priyanka Kumari** W/o Rahul Ranjan , Village-uprawan, PO - Birawan, Kashichak, District-nawada, 805130. **Guarantor(s) -** Mr. Rahul Ranjan S/o Mr. Dharmendra Prasad, Village - Uprawan, PO - Birawan, Kashichak, District-Nawada - 805130	Rs. 5212415.19 as on 17.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**EMT of land and building in the name of Smt. Priyanka Kumari, W/o Sri Rahul Ranjan.** **EMT of Land and Building - As per Sale Deed No-4697, Dated - 07.06.2014** Mauza-Bahera, Thana No-556, Khata No-222, Khasra No-148 , District-Nawada, Area-3.75 dec **Boundary- North -** Nij Seller, **South -** Aandhi Choudhary, **East -** Aandhi Choudhary, **West -** Saler Niz	Rs. 5,75,000/- Rs. 57,500/- 10,000/- A/c - 8359296000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008359
9	Juran Chapra Branch, Main Road, Mahesh Babu Chowk, Muzaffarpur-842003 Mob. : 8210998501	**Borrower : Smt. Chulia Devi,** W/o Sri Jamun Sah, Vill: Chagan Neura, P.O. Jamalbad, PS Minapur, District – Muzaffarpur, Bihar – 842004 **Guarantor :** **1. Sri Ashok Sah,** S/o Sri Jamun Sah, Vill: Chagan Neura, P.O. Jamalbad, PS Minapur, District – Muzaffarpur, Bihar – 842004 **2. Sri Ramesh Sah,** S/o Sri Jamun Sah, Vill: Chagan Neura, P.O. Jamalbad, PS Minapur, District – Muzaffarpur, Bihar – 842004	Rs. 6,58,771/- as on 31.12.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Smt. Chulia Devi, W/o Sri Jamun Sah Khata No. 47, Plot No. 1152, 1153; Area: 1888 sq ft. **Boundary : North -** Smt. Veena Devi, **South -** Nij Manmokir, East - Kedar Sah, **West -** Road **Location :** Thana No. 513, Mohalla Chagan Neura, Muza Chagan Neura, PO Jamalbad, PS Minapur, Dist: Muzaffarpur, Bihar.	Rs. 18,64,000/- Rs. 1,86,400/- 10,000/- A/c No 8360295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008360
10	Saraiyaganj Branch, Sita Complex, Muzaffarpur-842001 Mob. : 8210998503	**Borrower :** Smt. Chanda Devi, W/o Sri Kaushal Kumar,107 Chaupar Bharat, Bochaha, District – Muzaffarpur, Bihar – 843103. **Guarantor :** Sri Kaushal Kumar ,107 Chaupar Bharat, Bochaha, District – Muzaffarpur, Bihar – 843103	Rs. 18,50,643/- as on 31.12.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Smt. Chanda Srivastava alias Chanda Devi , W/o Kaushal Kumar. **Property 1 -** Khata No. 14, Khesra No. 657 & 659, Mauza- Chaupar Bharat, Thana No.- 633, Anhcal & P.S.- Bochahan, Dist.- Muzaffarpur in the name of Smt. Chanda Devi, Area: 11 Decimals (Khesra No. 657) + 02Decimal (Khesra No. 659) = 13 Decimals. **Boundary of Khesra No. 657 - North -** Lt. Bishwanath Pd., South - Road, East : Mahesh Pd. Verma, West - Shyam Nandan Pd. & Mangleshwar Pd. **Boundary of Khesra No. 659: North -** Bishwanath Pd. & others, South - Nij Manmokir, East - Jagdish Narain Verma & Others, West - Nij Manmokir **Property - 2 -** Khata No. 92, Khesra No. 33,34, Mauza- Karanpur, Thana No.- 642, Anhcal & P.S.- Bochahan, Dist.- Muzaffarpur in the name of Smt. Chanda Devi. Area : 5.25 Decimals. **Boundary of Khesra No. 33, 34 - North -** Nij Manmokir, **South -** Lalbabu Thakur, East - Mahesh Pd., **West -** Mangleshwar Pd.	Rs. 16,79,000/- Rs. 1,67,900/- 10,000/- A/c No 8360295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008360
11	B.S.E.B. Ramdayalu Branch, Ramdayalu Nagar, Muzaffarpur-842002 Mob. : 8210998502	**Borrower :** Sri Chandeshwar Singh, S/o Late Sonelal Singh, Mauza Patiasa Jalal, Post: Mirzapur, PS Ahiyapur, Anchal Mushahari, District Muzaffarpur, Bihar- 843103 **Guarantor :** Smt. Deepika Devi, W/o Sri Chandeshwar Singh, Village – Patiasa Jala, Post: Mirzapur, PS Ahiyapur, Anchal Mushahari, Dist: Muzaffarpr, Bihar-843103	Rs. 14,78,628.59 as on 31.12.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Property - 1 -** All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Sri Chandeshwar Singh, S/o Late Sonelal Singh consisting of:-1.Khata No. 330, Khesra No. 2910 Part; Area: 7.00Dhur **Boundary - North -** Khesra No. 2911, **South -** Road , **East -** Nij Mokir **West :** Nij Mokir **Location :** Mauza Patiasa Jalal, Post: Mirzapur, PS-Ahiyapur, Anchal Mushahari, Distt: Muzaffarpur, Bihar-843103 **Property - 2 -** Khata No. 330, Khesra No. 2911 Part - Area: 18Dhur **Boundary - North -** Nij **South -** Khesra No. 2910, **East -** Nij Mokir, **West -** Nij Mokir **Location:** Mauza Patiasa Jalal, Post: Mirzapur, PS-Ahiyapur, Anchal Mushahari, Distt: Muzaffarpur, Bihar-843103	Rs. 21,70,800/- Rs. 2,17,080/- 10,000/- A/c No 8360295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008360
12	Juran Chapra Branch, Main Road, Mahesh Babu Chowk, Muzaffarpur-842003 Mob. : 8210998501	**Borrower :** Sri Munna Prasad, S/o Sri Mauje Lal Bhagat, Vill: Khemaipatti, PO Mustafaganj, PS Minapur, District – Muzaffarpur, Bihar – 843128 **Guarantor :** Sri Bhup Narayan Prasad, S/o Sri Nand Lal SIngh, Vill – Ali Neura, PO Daud Chapra, PS – Minapur, District – Muzaffarpur, Bihar–842004	Rs. 20,24,939/- as on 31.12.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of **Sri Munna Prasad, S**/o Sri Mauje Lal Bhagat Khata No. 150, Plot No. 1627 Part Area : 19½ Decimal **Boundary: North -** Road, **South -** Munna Prasad, **East -** Shekhar Prasad, **West -** Dashrath Prasad **Location -** Thana No. 528, Vill/ Mauza- Khemaipatti, PO Mustafaganj, PS Minapur, District- Muzaffarpur, Bihar- 843128.	Rs. 28,25,000/- Rs. 2,82,500/- 10,000/- A/c - 8360295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008360
13	Ramdayalu Nagar Branch, Ramdayalu Nagar, Bihar-842002 Mob. : 8210998502	M/s Meena Jewellers, Proprietor-Shri Kamlesh Kumar, S/o Shri Pramod Prasad Sahu, Rasoolpur Sayed Salem, PS-Ahiyapur, Anchal Mushahari, Uma Nagar, Distt: Muzaffarpur, Bihar-842004. b)Guarantors Sri Pramod Prasad Sahu S/o Late Yugal Sah.	Rs. 38,51,652.74 as on 31.12.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of of **Pramod Prasad Sahu , S/o Late Yugal** Sah consisting of:- Khata No.113, Khesra No.165 Part; Area: 04 Decimal **Boundary : North :** Manoj Kumar, **South -** Nij Manmokir, **East -** Nanki Paswan & Prakash Paswan, **West -** Road 10ft Wide Kachhi **Location:** Rasoolpur Sayed Salem, PS Ahiyapur, Thana No. 662, Anchal Mshahari, Distt: Muzaffarpur, Bihar-842004.	Rs. 23,43,600/- Rs. 2,34,360/- 10,000/- A/c - 8360295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0008360
14	Nadaon Branch, Near, Golambar, PO-Buxar-802101 Mob. : 8210998418	M/s Sri Chauhan Rice Mill Prop- Brameshwar Nath Chauhan s/o Sri Ram Darash Chauhan, vill +post Nadaon , Thana No 337, Dist Buxar, Bihar- 802101	Rs. 42,67,000/- as on 20.07.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	All the part and parcel of land measuring 15 decimal covered under thekhata No 312, Plot No 1382, Thana No 339 ,Village Nadaon and Post Nadaon, PS Buxar, District Buxar (Bihar) in the name of Shri Barmeshwar Nath Chuhan S/o Ramdarash Chauhan. **Boundary - North -** Subashlal &Others, **South –** Road, **East -** Sharer lalita Singh, **West –** Ram Dares Chauhan.	Rs. 38,82,000/- Rs. 3,88,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 6959295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0006959
15	Arrah Branch, Arrah Mob. : 7338537510	M/s Vishnu Trading Company Prop.- Sri Vishnu Shankar Sah Devi Asthan, Mirganj, Arrah- 802301	Rs. 88,35,000/- as on 14.07.2021 + interest & Other Cost thereon	All the part and parcel of Property Khata No- 555, Plot No- 1840, Khata No- 596, Plot No- 1839, Mauza Kritpura, Thana No- 141, Anchal Koilwar, Bhojpur. Area- 62.5 Dec. **Boundary - North -** Road, **South –** Haider Iqbal & Hamid Ahmad, **East -** Plot No.- 1838 Jitendra Singh, **West -** 15 ft wide Rasta. **Title holder - Sri Vishnu Shankar Sah S/o Late Dwarka Sah.**	Rs. 61,60,000/- Rs. 6,16,000/- 10,000/- A/c - 6959295000001 IFSC Code - CNRB0006959
16	1 St Floor, Ashok Astambh Chowk Sarwam, Bari Bazar Road, Munger-II, Bihar 811201 Mob. 8102915981	**Borrower(s) / Guarantor (s) :** **1. Akbar Khan** S/o Md Badruddin Khan, At Neelam Cinema Road, Gulzar Pokhar, At+ PO - Munger, District Munger, Bihar Pin – 811201 **2. Md. Shaheen** S/o Late S M Yahya, At Neelam Cinema Road, Ice Cream Plaza, Gulzar Pokhar, At+po –munger, District Munger, Bihar Pin - 811201	Rs. 12,25,279.08 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**SRM Deed No -700 Dated 09.03.2011** All That Part And Parcel Of Land Measuring 1450 Sq.ft. Situated At Mauja- Rampur Bhikhari (neelam Cinema Road), Khesra No 144 M, Jamabandi/holding No 38 , Tauji No -471, Ward No-14, District Munger Jamabandi No 38 In The Name Of Akbar Khan S/o Md Badruddin Khan **Boundary : North -** Md. Mohiuddin Khan, **South -** Heirs Of Late Moinuddin Khan, **East -** Muncipal Main Road, **West -** Municipal Lane & Nala	Rs. 52,92,000/- Rs. 5,29,200/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362
17	Anand Bazar Main Rd, Jalalgarh, Bihar 854327 Mob. 8210998599	Anguri Khatoon W/o Md Kaiyum, Harchanderpur, Jalalgarh, District Purnea, Bihar -854327	Rs. 9,62,546.20 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Sale Deed No -9642 Dated 18.08.2017** All That Part And Parcel Of Land Measuring 1 Decimal 470 sqr. Kari Covered Under R.S. Khata No. -162, R.S. Survey No. -919, Situated At Mohalla / Village - Harchandrapur, Mauja + Thana - Harchandrapur, Thana No. - 165, Tauji No. - 8/5, Anchal - Jalalgarh, Registry Office - Sadar Purnea, District - Purnea in The Name of Angoori Khatoon W/o Kaiyum, **Boundary - North -** Ramcharan Mandiwal And Road, **South -** Bibi Mustkeena Begum, **East-** Satyanarayan Dubey Etc. **West -** Md Jainul Mistri And Private Road 4 Feet.	Rs. 11,70,000/- Rs. 1,17,000 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362
18	1st Floor, Ashok Astambh Chowk Sarwam, Bari Bazar Road, Munger - II, Bihar 811201 Mob. 8102915981	**(a) Anil Kumar Malakar (Borrower / Mortgagor)** S/o Late Hari Prasad @chhote Lal, Basudeopur, Mali Tola, Near Durga Mandir, Munger-811201. **(b) Mrs Kunti Devi (Borrower)** W/o Anil Kumar Malakar, Basudeopur,mali Tola, Near Durga, Mandir, munger-811201. **(c) Md. Ejaz Ahmad (Guarantor)** S/o Md. Niser, Maszid Gali, Gulzar Pokar, Munger-811201	Rs. 14,86,792.87 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	All That Part And Parcel Of Landed Property Situated At : Mauza - Basudeopur, Thana - Kotwali, Sub Registrar & District - Munger, Tauzi No. - 1338, Ward No. -03 (old) 04 (new), Municipal Khesra No. - 504, Holding No. -4f95/560,jamabandi No-16,total Area-25 Dhur 15 Dhurki, Owner - Sri Anil Kumar Malakar. **Sale Deed No. - 217 Dated - 18.01.1954, Area - 15 Dhur, Boundary - North -** Hari Lla Das, **South -** Chhotelal Mali, **East -** Road, **West -** Shibudas & N iz **Sale Deed No. - 2396 / 1957, Dated 27.06.1957, Area : 10 dhur 15 dhurki, Boundary - North :** Niz, **South :** Chhotelal, **East :** H/o chhotelal, **West :** Mangal Chamar	Rs. 25,00,000/- Rs. 2,50,000/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362
19	Nariyal Bazar, Madhubani, Bihar Pin-847211 Mob. 8210998612	**M/s Aryan Rice Industries** **1. Shambhu Nath Thakur** S/o Shobhit Thakur, Vill + PO - Kothiya, Bhairabasthan, Jhanjharpur, Madhubani, Bihar – 847404 **2. Sharda Nand Thakur** S/o Shambhu Nath Thakur, Vill + PO - Sagauna, P.S - Rajnagar, Distt. -Madhubani,Bihar-847211	Rs. 97,74,403.85 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Deed No-7858 Dated 11.09.2012** Measuring 01 Kattha 07 Dhoor 12 Kanma, Khatta No-273, Khesara No. - 2653,2652 (O), 224,225 (N), Mauja Bhowara, Thana No-62, Tauzi No. - 6424 Hanuman Nagar Colony Ps And Dist-madhubani In The Name of Sh. Shambhu Nath Thakur **Boundary - North -** Praful Ch Jha **East -** Shobha Chaudhary, **South -** Dinesh Singh & Others **West -** Road Kharanja	Rs. 61,39,000/- Rs. 6,13,900/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362
20	1st Floor, Janardhan Market, Bangaon Road, Saharsa, Bihar - 852201 Mob. 8210998624	**M/s Barquat Garments** **1. Nafish Haider** S/o Md Noor Alam, Ward No-06, Mustafa Nagar, Saharsa - 852201 **2. Noor Alam** S/o Md Tashlim, Ward No-06, Mustafa Nagar, Saharsa - 852201	Rs. 15,19,872.61 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Sale Deed No: 15124 Dated 16.12.2008** All That Part And Parcel Of Land Measuring 4.368 Decimal Covered Under Khata No-662(old)/ 702 (new) , Khesra No- 739 (old)/1195 (new), Jamabandi No. - 2739, Situated At Mauza – Kahra Chakle Ratanpura, Nagar Parishad Ward No. - 4/13/6, Tauzi No. - 4968, Thana No. -195, Anchal – Kahra, District - Saharsa, in The Name of Noor Alam S/o Md. Tashlim **Boundary : North -** Private Soling Road, **South -** Ishlam And Md Sabbir**, East -** Niz Mokir, **West -** Sifait Ali	Rs. 21,58,000/- Rs. 2,15,800/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362
21	NTPC Road, Near S.D.O. Office, Rajkrishna Nagar, Kahalgaon, Bihar - 813203 Mob. 8210998602	**1. Bedanand Yadav** Near Petrol Pump, NTPC Road, Khuthari, Kahalgaon, District-Bhagalpur, Bihar Pin - 813203 **2. Urmila Devi** W/o Bedanand Yadav, Near Petrol Pump, Ntpc Road, Khuthari, Kahalgaon, District Bhagalpur, Bihar Pin - 813203	Rs. 8,96,681.84 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Sale Deed No. - 227 Dated 28.01.2011** All That Part And Parcel Of Land Measuring 3 Decimal Covered Under Khata No-18, Plot No-163, Situated At Mauja- Khuthari, Kahalgaon, Thana No - 528 Anchal Kahalgaon , Post & Thana – Kahalgaon , Jamabandi No - 438 In The Name Of Urmila Devi W/o Bedanand Yadav, **Boundary : North -** Sadak, **South -** Premlata Devi, **East -** Urmila Devi W/o Kriti Nath Chorasia, **West -** Rasta	Rs. 24,00,000/- Rs. 2,40,000/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362
22	Nariyal Bazar, Madhubani, Bihar Pin-847211 Mob. : 8210998612	**M/s Maa Lakhiya Drug Agency** **1. Sarita Kumari** W/o Santosh Kumar, Vill - Nabhat, PS - Pandaul Via - Lohat, Distt. - Madhubani, Bihar-847231 **2. Santosh Kumar** S/o Sri Satydev Yadav, Vill - Nabhat, PS - Pandaul Via - Lohat, Distt- Madhubani, Bihar - 847231	Rs. 35,33,667.55 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Sale Deed No 6852 Dated 30.07.2012** All That Part And Parcel of Land Measuring 2.18 Decimal Khesra No-5461,5462(old)/6 (new) Khata No-x, Thana No.-62,tauzi No.-6424, Situated At Singhiniya Chauk Locality Sangat Mohalla Ward No-23 Post & Dist-madhubani In The Name Of Santosh Kumar S/o Late Satydev Yadav **Boundary : North -** Niz Vendee & Road, **South -**Md. Iliyas Darji, **East -** Ram Chalitra Mishra, **West -** Road.	Rs. 20,03,000/- Rs. 2,00,300/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362
23	In Front of Nagar Parishad Main Road, Sultanganj S.O, Bihar Pin- 813213 Mob. : 8210998630	**M/s Manikant Jewellers** **1. Vashishtha Thakur** S/o Late Manikant Thakur, At Po Kolgama Tilakpur, Ps Sultanganj,District Bhagalpur, Bihar Pin – 813228 **2. Rina Devi** W/o Vashishtha Thakur, At Po Kolgama Tilakpur, Ps – Sultanganj, District Bhagalpur, Bihar Pin – 813228	Rs. 8,57,180.36 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Smt Deed No. 8766/2017 Dated 21/09/2017** **A)** All That Part And Parcel Of Land Measuring Khata No. -199,khesra No-811 (km) Area 0-02.50 Decimals, **Boundary - North -** Niz Executant, **South -** N H 80 Road, **East -** Milan Thakur, **West -** Amardeep Thakur **B)** All That Part And Parcel of Land Measuring Khata No. -154, Khesra No. - 810 (KM) Area - 0-01.00 Decimals **Boundary - North -** Niz Executant; Jai Ram Thakur, **South -** Kishan Thakur & Niz Executant, **East-** Kishan Thakur, **West -** Amardeep Thakur & Niz. Total Area - 0-03.50 Decimals **Location -** Village – Nawada, Mauza – Nawada , Thana No. - 6, Jamabandi No. 2532, Under Tilakpur Panchaiyat, North From N H 80, PO Tilakpur, PS - Sultanganj , Sub Registry & District - Bhagalpur In The Name of Vashishtha Thakur S/o Late Manikant Thakur	Rs. 11,00,000/- Rs. 1,10,000/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001, IFSC Code: CNRB0008362
24	Bandei Chowk, Block Road, Basopatti, Bihar Pin-847225 Mob. : 8210998580	**1. M/s Mishra Vastralaya And Readymade Center Proprietor- Naresh Mishra,** Main Road Basopatti, Post + PS - Basopatti, District Madhubani, Bihar Pin – 847225 **2. Ram Pari Devi,** W/o Late Jagdish Mishra, At Basopatti Bazar, Post + PS - Basopatti, District Madhubani, Bihar Pin - 847225	Rs. 11,73,150.86 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Sale Deed No -7445 Dated 20.12.2012** All That Part And Parcel of Land Measuring 4 Dhoor 2 Kanma Covered Under Khata No-239 (Old), 1205 (New), Khesra No. - 5122 (Old) 5997 & 5998 (New), Situated At, Mauja - Basopatti, Thana No. - 38 , Tauji No. -77c/18b, PS & Anchal - Basopatti, Dist. Madhubani, Jamabandi No.- 1238 In The Name of Rampari Devi W/o Late Jagdish Mishra, **Boundary - North -** Sitesh Kumar Jha, **South -** Ram Sobhit Gupta & Others, **East -** Ram Sobhit Gupta, **West -** Pitch Road	Rs. 31,28,000/- Rs. 3,12,800/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362
25	1st Floor, Simri Road, Bakhtiyarpur Market, Bihar Pin- 852127 Mob. : 8210998626	**1. M/s New Lucky Dresses Prop. - Md Mojahidul Islam,** At- Ranihat, PO – Simri, Bakhtiyarpur, PS-Bakhtiyarpur, District – Saharsa Bihar - 852127 **2. Md Mojahidul Islam** S/o Mohammad Fakhrudin, At – Tariyama, Ward No- 10, Anchal Simri Bakhtiyarpur, District – Saharsa Bihar-852127	Rs. 56,22,671.12 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Sale Deed No – 5081 Dated 08.11.2012** All That Part And Parcel Of Land Measuring 26.2 Decimal= 6 Kattha, Covered Under Khata No- 10, Khesra No -1907, Situated At Mouza- Tariyama, Thana No- 84, Tauji No-526, Circle / Block - Simri Bakhtiyarpur, Distt- Saharsha, Jamabandi No. - 1732 In The Name Of Md. Mojahidul Islam S/o Md. Fakhrudin. **Boundary - North -** Mohamadul Hasan, **South -** Road, **East -** Self Purchaser, Mustakim And Matin, **West -** Md Javed Akhtar E.t.c	Rs. 74,47,990/- Rs. 7,44,799/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362
26	Anand Bazar Main Rd, Jalalgarh, Bihar 854327 Mob. : 8210998599	**M/s Praveen Khad Beej Bhandar (Borrower)** Proprietor- Pankaj Kumar, S/o Ganesh Chaudhary, At Gauri Chowk, Sarsoni, Jalalgarh, District Purnea, Pin-854327, Bihar	Rs. 40,96,785.09 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Sale Deed No -13064 Dated 12.09.2011** All That Part And Parcel Of Land Measuring 8 Decimal 4 Kari=4 Kattha Covered Under Khata No-88, Survey No-1090,situated At Mohalla / Village - Jalalgarh, Mauja + Thana - Jalalgarh, Thana No-189, Tauji No. - 8/5, Jamabandi No. - 2670, Pargana - Haveli Nabaiyat Kayami, Anchal-Jalalgarh, District - Purnea in The Name of Pankaj Kumar S/o Ganesh Choudhary, **Boundary - North** - Srimati Champa Devi, **South -** Nij Seller, **East -** Nij Rasta, **West -** Kachchi Gramin Sadak	Rs. 33,00,000/- Rs. 3,30,000/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362
27	1st Floor, Munger Road, Dariapur, Jamalpur, Bihar Pin-811214 Mob. : 8210998600	**1. Sri Sai Shoe Store** **Prop.- Suman Upadhayay,** Near Sani Mandir, Sadar Bazar, Jamalpur, Dist-Munger, Bihar - 811214 **2. Suman Upadhayay** S/o Late Agendra Upadhayay, Ward No-26, Dharhara Road Loco Gate, Bajrangbali Piche Keshopur, Jamalpur, Munger, Bihar-811214 **3. Manoj Kumar Sah** S/o Brahmdeo Sah, Ward No-28 , Bari Keshopur, Jamalpur, Munger, Bihar-811214	Rs. 23,26,329.52 as on 14.01.2022 + interest & Other Cost thereon	**Sale Deed No: 1109/2019 Dated 26.04.2019** All That Part And Parcel Of Land Measuring 01.26 Decimal Covered Under Khata No. - 46, Khesra No. - 5053, Situated At Mauza – Daulatpur, Maruf Mohalla- Chhoti Daulatpur, Thana – Jamalpur, Anchal- Jamalpur, Dist - Munger, Tauzi No. - 6213, Thana No. - 07, Municipality Survey Seat No. - 46, Ward No. - 01 In The Name of Suman Upadhayay S/o Late Agendra Upadhayay **Boundary - North -** Mahesh Kumar Tanti, **South -** Nagarpalika Gali, **East -** Kachhi Rasta, **West -** New Purchaser Rohit Kumar	Rs. 13,69,000/- Rs. 1,36,900/- 10,000/- A/c- 8362295000001 IFSC Code: CNRB0008362

Last Date of EMD 23.02.2022 For Detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in www.canarabank.com

Date : 25.01.2022 **Place : Patna** **Authorised Officer Canara Bank**

हरियाणा सरकार

आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव

गणतंत्र दिवस की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

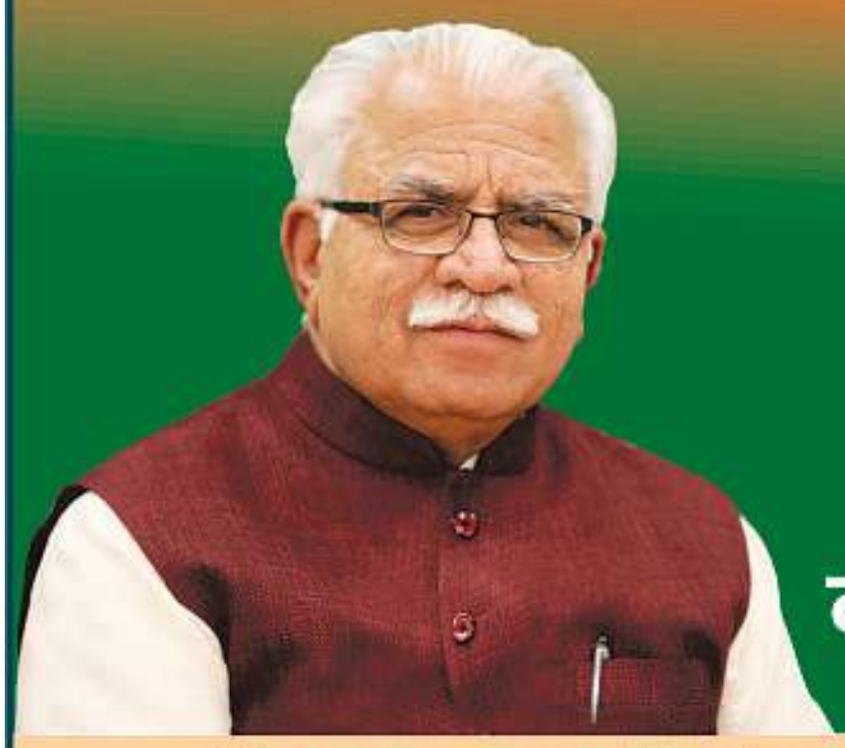
26 जनवरी, 2022

प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में नभशिखर की ओर अग्रसर हरियाणा

"आज भारत वर्तमान के साथ ही अगले 25 वर्षों के लक्ष्य को लेकर नीतियां बना रहा है, निर्णय ले रहा है। इस कालखंड में भारत ने तेज, सर्वस्पर्शी विकास के और योजनाओं के सैचुरेशन के लक्ष्य रखे हैं। विकास का यह कालखंड हरित भी होगा, स्वच्छ भी होगा, स्थाई भी होगा, विश्वसनीय भी होगा।"

- नरेन्द्र मोदी

- प्रधानमंत्री फसल बीमा योजना
- प्रधानमंत्री किसान सम्मान निधि योजना
- अटल भूजल योजना
- पशुधन किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड
- एक राष्ट्र-एक राशन कार्ड
- स्वामित्व योजना
- स्वच्छ भारत मिशन
- प्रधानमंत्री मातृ वंदना योजना
- बेटी बचाओ-बेटी पढ़ाओ
- प्रधानमंत्री उज्ज्वला योजना
- प्रधानमंत्री गरीब कल्याण अन्न योजना
- प्रधानमंत्री कौशल विकास मिशन
- प्रधानमंत्री जन-धन योजना
- प्रधानमंत्री जीवन सुरक्षा बीमा योजना
- स्टैंडअप इंडिया स्कीम
- अटल पेंशन योजना
- प्रधानमंत्री मुद्रा योजना
- प्रधानमंत्री जीवन ज्योति बीमा योजना
- जल जीवन मिशन हर घर नल से जल
- आयुष्मान भारत प्रधानमंत्री जन-आरोग्य योजना
- स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन
- प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना
- प्रधानमंत्री स्वनिधि योजना
- प्रधानमंत्री श्रम योगी मानधन योजना
- स्टार्टअप इंडिया स्कीम
- मुफ्त कोविड टीकाकरण अभियान
- डिजिटल इंडिया
- प्रधानमंत्री गति शक्ति योजना
- आयुष्मान भारत हेल्थ एंड वेलनेस सेंटर
- कचरे से कंचन अभियान



वायदे नहीं, बुलन्द इरादे

सूचना, जन सम्पर्क एवं भाषा विभाग, हरियाणा | www.prharyana.gov.in | @DiprHaryana

Made retirement announcement too soon: Sania

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MELBOURNE, JANUARY 25

INDIAN tennis star Sania Mirza, who recently announced that 2022 would be her last season, says she had made the announcement too soon and was "regretting" it since she was being asked about it all the time. Mirza's swansong appearance at the Australian Open ended with a quarterfinal loss to local pair Jaimee Fourlis and Jason Kubler in the mixed doubles event here.

"I am not actually thinking about that at every match to be honest very, I think that I made the announcement too soon to be very honest, I am kind of regretting it because that's all I am being asked right now," Mirza said when asked whether her outlook towards tennis and the Tour has changed considering it was her last season.

The 35-year-old, who is India's most accomplished woman tennis player, having won six Grand Slam titles, including three mixed doubles trophies told Sony.

Mirza, who hails from Hyderabad, maintained that she plays tennis to win matches. "I am playing tennis to win matches and until I play, I am going to try and win every match I play, so it (retirement) is not something that is on my mind constantly.

"I enjoy playing tennis, I have always enjoyed it, win or lose, and I still have the same outlook to it, I give my 100 (per cent), sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't but I am still in it 100 per cent for the rest of the year and I don't want to really think about what's going to happen at the end of the year," elaborated Mirza.

On the game, which she and Ram lost, Sania said that it wasn't the best of their matches.

"It happens, you don't have a great day once in a while and it is unfortunate when it happens in a (Grand) Slam. But I guess we were not able to string it together, both of us and in the end, we were in it in the second set but we didn't take our chances and that's it, at least I could have played better, but that's how it goes, it happens sometimes," said Mirza.

Mirza on January 19 this year had announced that she will hang up her racquet at the end of 2022 season as her body was "wearing down" and the motivation and energy for everyday grind was not the same anymore.

She had made the retirement announcement after losing the Australian Open women's doubles first round with partner Nadiia Kichenok. They lost to Slovenia's Tamara Zidansek and Kaja Juvan. Mirza has been on the circuit for close toa decade and won multiple Slam doubles titles, most notably in company of Martina Hingis.

Corrupters continue to escape legal net

With fixing not considered as cheating by Indian courts, those inducing cricketers towards wrong-doing keep evading punishment

NIHAL KOSHIE
JANUARY 25

RAVINDER DANDIWAL, one of the alleged masterminds of the fake Sri Lanka UWA Cricket League which was busted near Mohali, was out on bail 10 days after being arrested in July 2020. Dandiwal was charged under the Indian Penal Code's (IPC's) Section 420 that penalises cheating.

Over the years, several other Indians have figured in cases of cricket corruption, most like in the recent case involving Zimbabwe cricketer Brendon Taylor, as alleged bookies and match-fixers aimed to corrupt players, but none have received exemplary punishment. The lack of specific sports laws in India has helped those who made approaches to players get away lightly.

A year and half later, Dandiwal's lawyer RS Sarao revisits the case that had scandalised the cricketing world. By holding a cricket league, published to take place in Sri Lanka but actually happening in a village near Chandigarh, Dhandiwal had to pull a fast one on online punters. It was an elaborate con as unknown players wearing Covid-19 masks posed as international cricketers. It was only after *The Indian Express* broke the story of the fake league that Punjab Police arrested the kingpin. But they couldn't hold on to him for long.

Sarao says the court granted bail after the defence argued there was no grounds to prove cheating. "We countered with the question as to who was cheated. The complainant had alleged that he (Dandiwal) had organised fake matches. The court took a lenient view and granted bail," says the lawyer.

The fake league wasn't Dandiwal's first dubious venture. Earlier, The Sydney Morning Herald had reported that Victoria Police had named him as the "central figure" in a fixing scam. Had Dandiwal faced courts in Australia, the country's strict sports laws could have seen him face up to 10 years of prison time.

In India, the story is different. Recently an order of a bench of the Karnataka High Court upheld the argument of players and team officials, who were accused of match-fixing in the Karnataka Premier League, that the alleged corruption did not amount to cheating as defined under Section 420 of the Indian Penal Code. "For invoking offence under section 420 IPC, the essential ingredients to be present are deception, dishonest inducement of a person to deliver any property or to alter or destroy the whole or any part of a valuable security," the high court pointed out. "It is true that if a player indulges in match fixing, a general feeling will arise that he has cheated the lovers of the game. But this general feeling does not give rise to an offence," the judge had stated. The court also said the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is the authority to initiate disciplinary action.

(ABOVE) Zimbabwean international Brendan Taylor who reported the fixing approach to ICC which has led to the latest round of investigations and a return to the murky days of corruption in the sport.

(LEFT) The then-Mohali SSP Kuldeep Singh Chahal and the Mohali police team with notorious betting and fixing kingpin Ravinder Dandiwal after his arrest back on July 6, 2020. *(FILE pix)*

Lack of a law

Nandan Kamath, a sports lawyer who runs the firm LawNK, says the Karnataka High Court's order is not surprising and in line with precedent.

"The judiciary only interprets the laws that exist and match manipulation is not itself a crime. The court cannot designate something as a crime or expand interpretation of an offence like cheating just because the behaviour is morally abhorrent or unethical. The one big difference in what happened in the United Kingdom when Pakistan players Salman Butt and Mohammad Amir were prosecuted for spot-fixing is that betting is a legal and licensed activity in the UK. So, on the charge of cheating, they were convicted under the Gambling Act for dishonestly causing loss to people who were placing legal bets. In India, where sports betting is treated as illegal, persons placing bets are themselves breaking the law and cannot claim to be victims of cheating. On a related note, the Karnataka High Court did not accept the argument that those fixing matches were dishonestly inducing persons to buy tickets to watch the match as the loss was not direct in nature," Kamath said.

He gives an example of a law enacted closer home, in Sri Lanka, in 2019. The Prevention of Offences Related to Sports Act got the nod from Sri Lankan parliament in 2019. It criminalises betting and gambling with the intention to corrupt a sport, disclosing inside information and underperforming in exchange of money or reward.

There has been a push in India for punishing match-fixers by making it a criminal offence and legalising betting to weed out black money. The Lodha Committee, which was tasked with bringing in reforms to the BCCI had recommended that spot-fixing be made a criminal offence. Before that, the Justice Mukul Mudgal committee, which probed the 2013 IPL spot-fixing scandal, had recommended legalising sports betting.

Kamath says that making match manipulation a criminal offence must be on the regulatory agenda and not confused with legalising betting as a solution for sports corruption. "Fixing and sports betting are two separate issues that are co-dependent but not co-related. It is a betting fraud that is causing match-fixing. The argument often used is if you legalise betting, match-fixing will get fixed. But I do not agree. Legalising betting does not make the whole industry come under the legal market as much of the fixing-related betting is off the books and will remain so. In fact, it is probably the other way round. Making match-fixing an offence could probably pave the way for legalising betting," Kamath argued.

The International Cricket Council's (ICC's) then anti-corruption unit chief Alex Marshall's statement three years ago that 'it is mostly corrupt Indian bookies' who have been approaching players was not off the mark. In the absence of a strong law which can act as a deterrent, the connection between Indian bookies posing as businessmen, cricket and dirty money remains strong.

Indian bookies

The latest cricketer to take the bait from the corrupters based out of India is former Zimbabwe skipper Taylor.

Before Taylor, there was Zimbabwe great Heath Streak, a veteran of 65 Tests, whose legacy was forever tainted after he was banned for eight years for sharing team information with an 'Indian gentleman' and introducing him to players.

Earlier, another Zimbabwe cricketer, former skipper Graeme Cremer, had reported to ICC an offer to fix Test matches against the West Indies in 2017. Rajan Nayer, an official with the Harare Cricket Association, offered Cremer $30,000 from the pockets of three Indian businessmen who travelled to Zimbabwe. Their official reason to travel to the African country was to discuss sponsorship for a proposed T20 tournament. One of the businessmen Nayer had met was on the radar of the ICC anti-corruption unit.

The offer to Cremer came at a time when Zimbabwean players had not been paid their match fees for a few months because of a cash crunch. Taylor, in his statement on Twitter, talks about not being paid for six months at the time (October 2019) he was approached by the Indian businessman 'to discuss sponsorship and potential launch of a T20 competition'. An amount such as $15,000 to make a trip to India for a meeting proved to be too tempting for an unpaid cricketer who snorted cocaine.

There's a similar storyline in Streak's fall from grace. Streak, as head coach of Zimbabwe, had given up his salary along with the other support staff, to offset player pay cuts during the 2019 World Cup qualifiers, the Cricketer Monthly reported. Zimbabwe failed to qualify and Streak lost his job. The Indian businessman, who wanted to organise a T20 league in Zimbabwe, had got in touch with Streak when he was national coach. Two bitcoins worth $35,000 and an iPhone were some of the inducements the former all-rounder received. Streak is one of the few well-known players to pay the price for getting involved with the wrong people in cricket. But recent instances of bookie-player nexus revolve around lesser- known cricketers who represent Associate nations.

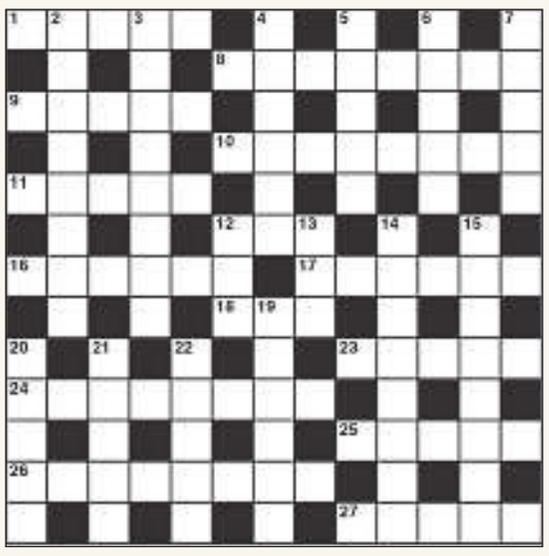
Business card a front

The poorly-paid cricketers are the ones bookies find easier to target because of their anonymity. ICC investigations have led to cricketers from the United Arab Emirates, Hong Kong and Oman being banned for corruption. Their names won't strike a chord like those of Taylor and Streak but some of their sins are graver. An Indian hand, a bookie that uses his business card as a front, is often the conspirator. Three Pakistani-origin Hong Kong players, who were charged for underperforming during the 2014 World T20 Qualifiers, were in contact with a jeweller of Indian origin based in Hong Kong.

Two of these players were regularly in touch with the jeweller who is referred to as 'P', telephone records obtained during the ICC investigation show. 'P' was in touch with 'X', a known match-fixer from Pakistan. Suspected Indian bookies are always lurking around the corner and on rare occasions, have even successfully targeted established players. Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan was first contacted by a suspected corruptor during the 2017 edition of the Bangladesh Premier League. Shakib was banned for two years, of which one year was suspended, for his failure to report approaches; during an ODI tri-series involving Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe in 2018 and during the Indian Premier League in the same year when he represented Sunrisers Hyderabad. The man who asked the Bangladesh captain for inside information and discussed bitcoins and dollar accounts over WhatsApp messages went by the name of Deepak Aggarwal.

(WITH INPUTS FROM NITIN SHARMA)

CROSSWORD 4647



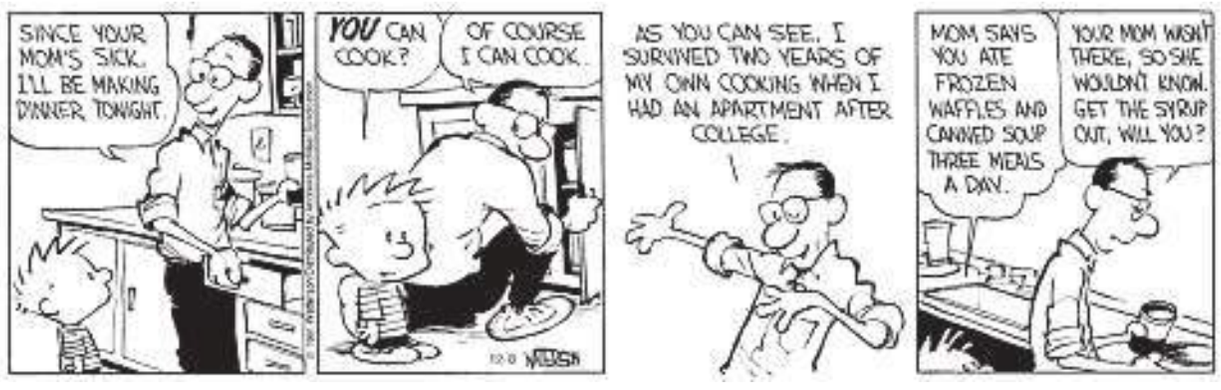
ACROSS
1 Time to take the air (5)
8 Olwen led fresh expression of approval (4,4)
9 Memorial for a terrier (5)
10 Turn a wench into a winch (8)
11 Hide away sound currency (5)
12 Indisposed one could put on pounds (3)
16 Fast movers by morning found at sea (6)
17 A new paper to be published (6)
18 Father quietly gets food for the baby (3)
23 Summonses arising out of a broken wrist (5)
24 Coy nurse as the centre of attraction (8)
25 Excitedly bares the sword (5)
26 Abandoned ship (8)
27 Some search in atlas for Eastern land (5)

DOWN
2 Call-up date wrongly issued (8)
3 Race and push in scramble to buy (8)
4 Servant turns in during dinner perhaps (6)
5 It cuts a dashing figure (5)
6 Alloy turns out to be dependable (5)
7 Five Gaelic lines of poetry (5)
12 I'm quiet - but he probably won't be (3)
13 Wash all round (3)
14 Near the avenue (8)
15 Car is not damaged being strong (4,4)
19 Continental ingredient of a fricassee (6)
20 Detectives get inside as they're sharp (5)
21 Ranks as a creature of Carroll's imagination (5)
22 An air of devotion (5)

Solutions Crossword 4646: Across: 1 Cat's cradle, 6 Talc, 10 Spare, 11 Centipede, 12 As it were, 13 Inter, 15 Riot act, 17 Sits out, 19 Aileron, 21 Care for, 22 Wrath, 24 Constant, 27 Timepiece, 28 Omega, 29 Rude, 30 Transposes. **Down:** 1 Cash, 2 Toadstool, 3 Crest, 4 Ancient, 5 Lancers, 7 Agent, 8 Clearstory, 9 Minister, 14 Tread water, 16 Airships, 18 Offenders, 20 Nuclear, 21 Canteen, 23 Aimed, 25 Troop, 26 Mass

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis

CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
A strange combination of planetary aspects today offers a brief respite from pressure and tension, although there's still plenty to deal with. The faster you act, the better you'll be in tune with the mood of the times. Oh, and don't forget to listen to older or more experienced friends.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
You may make careless assumptions when dealing with people you don't know so well. This could be the result of over-confidence and a tendency to take others for granted. You should shoulder your share of the responsibility for group enterprises. That's the least that faithful friends expect.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Out-of-the-ordinary experiences are around at the moment, probably involving a person of exceptional skills. You'll need moral support at work if colleagues come on strong about your lack of commitment in recent months. But, then, certain individuals owe you a favour.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Fresh information could certainly affect your plans. Unexpected news, perhaps concerning a financial or personal matter, could arrive today. You'll be able to see the good in a situation that may be alarming a close friend. In love, you will soon have cause to be proud of a partner.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
From now on, you may be seeing less of people who have both stimulated and disturbed you in the past. Personal issues which have been subject to unlikely twists and turns should soon be straightened out. Mind you, you may be surprised by the consequences.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
You're in for an amusing period socially and associates will no doubt have plenty of ideas for livening up an existence which has been rather too routine. You must be flexible, and should be prepared to fit in with the unexpected.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
Your best ideas are often triggered by chance discussions or encounters. Yet, when the unexpected does occur, it may be distressing. The secret is to remain flexible and open to suggestion. If you can possibly take your professional plans a significant step forward, then don't give in to doubts and unnecessary delays.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)
There is a great deal of uncertainty at the moment due to the unsteadiness and temporary nature of certain planetary movements. At all times you should be alert to emotional undercurrents. At the very least, you will soon be ready to tell a special person how you feel.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)
You should push ahead with all hopeful enterprises but bear in mind that, with the continuing friction between Saturn and Neptune, the financial implications remain fluid to say the least. Friction at work is likely, but could turn out to have positive consequences.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
It's difficult for you to be sure of just what is the best way forward at the moment, as the planets assume a formation whose results depend almost entirely on your ability to stay one step ahead of events. The best thing to do now might be to watch and wait until clarity is restored.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
Not everything is as it seems, as you have discovered. Imaginative get-rich-quick schemes always have hidden pitfalls but, as long as you take the trouble to discover and deal with these, there's no reason why you shouldn't proceed with hope in the future.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
Your confidence should be stronger than usual so, although you're a natural worrier, you can make use of current optimism to press ahead with ambitious plans. Financial help is on the way, and about time too, you might think. But, it must be said, you could have done more to assist your own situation.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

God helps those who help ___. - Benjamin Franklin (10)

IREEE

MALATE

ATSST

DIOSHV

SOLUTION: EERIE, STATS, TAMALE, DOVISH
Answer: God helps those who help **themselves**. - Benjamin Franklin

SUDOKU 4726

Difficulty Level 5s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

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

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4725

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

Rafa wards off Denis, favouritism charge

After entering Australian Open semis with four-hour, five-set win, Nadal rejects assertion that he gets special treatment; Barty advances

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MELBOURNE, JANUARY 25

WITH ANOTHER Australian Open semifinal spot secured after a four-hour, five-set victory, Rafael Nadal looked toward his support team in Rod Laver Arena and nodded his head.

It was like he was just confirming the plan: Five wins down, two to go in his bid for a men's record 21st major title.

On the other side of the net, 14th-seeded Denis Shapovalov broke his racket on the hard blue court after a frustrating 6-3, 6-4, 4-6, 3-6, 6-3 loss to Nadal, who later acknowledged he felt "destroyed" physically on a hot Tuesday afternoon.

There were plenty of momentum-shifting moments, including Nadal needing attention for a stomach ailment in the third and fourth sets after dominating the first two.

Shapovalov openly complained to chair umpire Carlos Bernardes during the quarterfinal match about Nadal getting longer breaks than players usually are entitled to, and taking too long between points.

He took a few shots at Nadal in his post-match news conference, too, saying he's "100%" convinced the 35-year-old Spaniard receives special treatment.

At a tournament where he's clinched the title only once (2009) and had lost seven of his previous 13 quarterfinals — by far his worst conversion rate at any of the four major tournaments — Nadal looked vulnerable in the third and fourth sets.

Seven-minute break

But following a seven-minute break — when Nadal left the court and went to the locker room — between the last point of the fourth set and his first serve in the fifth, he recovered sufficiently to save a break point with an ace, hold serve and then break Shapovalov for a 2-0 lead.

"I don't know, was a little bit of miracle," Nadal said of his revival. "I was destroyed honestly physically. But my serve worked well, and for me, every game that I was winning with my serve was a victory, no?"

He rejected any assertion that he gets any special treatment from umpires or referees, and added that Shapovalov was young and said he would get over it.

"I honestly feel sorry for him. I think he played a great match for a long time," Nadal said. "Of course is tough to accept to lose a match like this, especially after I was feeling destroyed and probably he felt that, and then I was able to manage to win. I wish him all the very best ... probably he will understand later on after he thinks the proper way that probably he was not right today."

Nadal shares the men's record of 20 major singles titles with Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic, and he's got an inside run with the absence of his long-time rivals at Melbourne Park. Federer continues to recover from knee surgery, and Djokovic was deported for failing to meet Australia's strict COVID-19 vaccination requirements.

'Got to be some boundaries'

"I respect everything that Rafa has done and I think he's an unbelievable player. But there's got to be some boundaries," Shapovalov said. "It's just so frustrating as a player. You feel like you're not just playing against the player; you're playing against the umpires, you're playing against so much more.

"Physically I feel fine. Just emotionally more, just sucks to lose that one," the Wimbledon semifinalist added. "Definitely felt like I had it on my racket. And towards third, fourth, fifth set I felt like I was the better player, had more chances. Just one bad game for me."

Nadal will get two days off before Friday's semifinal match against Matteo Berrettini. The Wimbledon runner-up, who became the first Italian man to reach the Australian Open semifinals, held on to beat No. 17 Gael Monfils 6-4, 6-4, 3-6, 3-6, 6-2. "I'm not 21 anymore!" said Nadal, who was sidelined with injuries after last year's French Open and then had to overcome Covid-19. "After this ... great to have two days off. I felt quite good physically in terms of movement. I really believe I'm going to be ready for the semifinals."

The women's quarterfinals were over in straight sets, with 2017 U.S. Open runner-up Madison Keys beating French Open champion Barbora Krejcikova 6-3, 6-2 in the Day 9 opener on Rod Laver Arena and top-ranked Ash Barty advancing with a 6-2, 6-0 win over No. 21 Jessica Pegula.

Barty is back in the semifinals at Melbourne Park for the second time in three years; Keys is back seven years after losing her first Grand Slam semifinal to Serena Williams in Australia.

Barty, who won the Wimbledon title last year and the French Open in 2019, wants to become the first Australian woman to win the Australian Open singles title since 1978.

In her best run to date, she lost in the 2020 semifinals to eventual champion Sofia Kenin.

"I've grown as a person. I've grown as a player," Barty said. "I feel like I'm a more complete player."

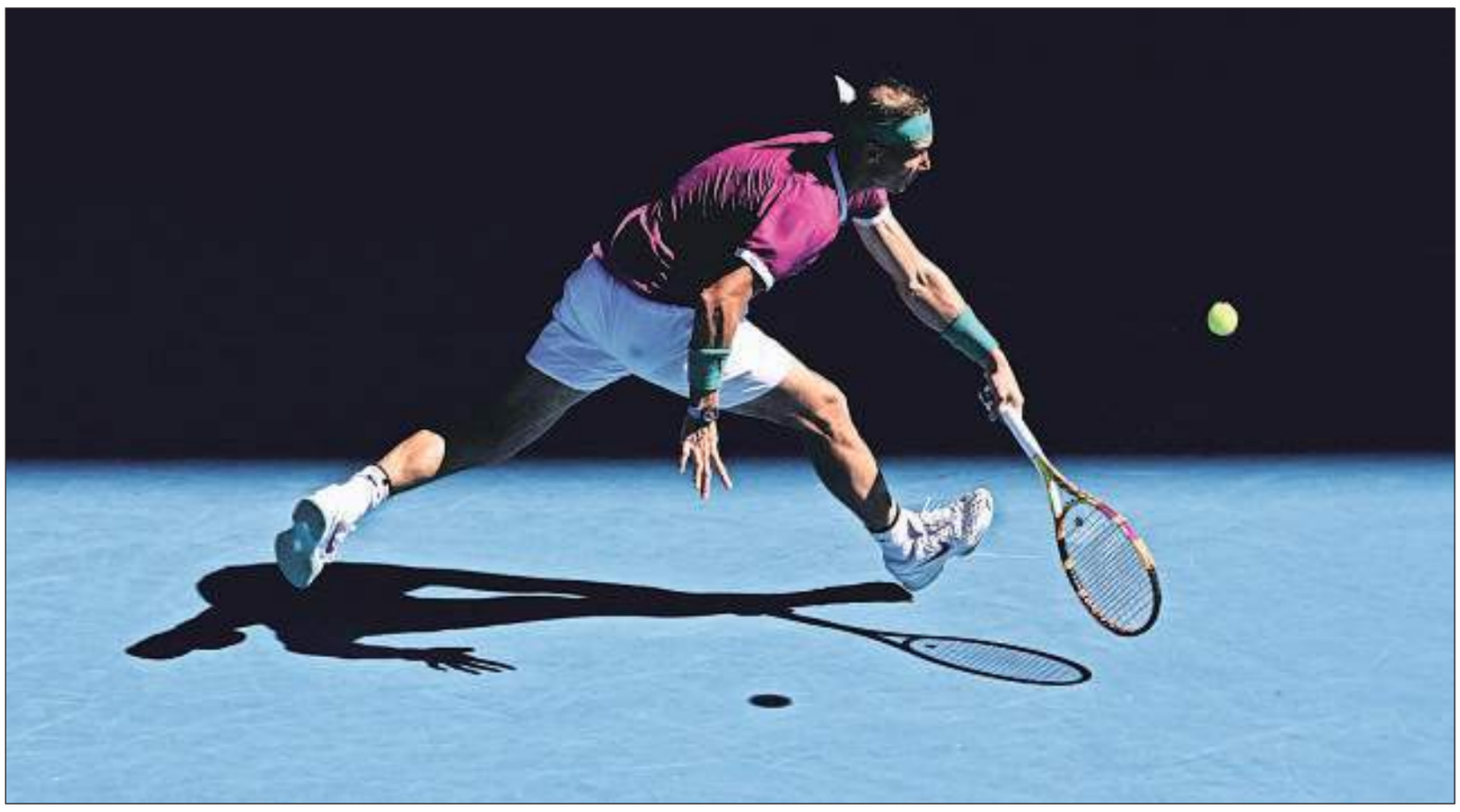
Keys continued her resurgent 2022 season, extending her winning streak to 10 matches, including a title run in a tuneup event, and 11 overall for the year. She only won 11 matches in total in 2021, when her year-end ranking slumped to 56th.

"I did everything I could to rest this off-season and focus on starting fresh and new ... starting from zero and not focusing on last year," Keys said. "I think it's going well so far."

Krejcikova took a medical timeout while trailing 5-2 in the first set, with the temperature heading toward 32 degrees Celsius (90 degrees Fahrenheit).

"It was the heat with some physical conditions that started to bother me after five games," she said. "I mean, from there on, you know, I just couldn't put it together."

QUARTERFINALS
Men's singles Rafael Nadal (6), Spain, def. Denis Shapovalov (14), Canada, 6-3, 6-4, 4-6, 3-6, 6-3; Matteo Berrettini (7), Italy, def. Gael Monfils (17), France, 6-4, 6-4, 3-6, 3-6, 6-2, **Women's Singles** Madison Keys, United States, def. Barbora Krejcikova (4), Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2, Ashleigh Barty (1), Australia, def. Jessica Pegula (21), United States, 6-2, 6-0; **Men's doubles** Nick Kyrgios and Thanasi Kokkinakis, Australia, def. Michael Venus, New Zealand, and Tim Puetz (6), Germany, 7-5, 3-6, 6-3



With the 6-3, 6-4, 4-6, 3-6, 6-3 win over Denis Shapovalov, Rafael Nadal drew within two wins of a record 21st Grand Slam. *Reuters*

> **"I honestly feel sorry for him. I think he played a great match for a long time. Of course is tough to accept to lose a match like this, especially after I was feeling destroyed and probably he felt that, and then I was able to manage to win. I wish him all the very best ... probably he will understand later on after he thinks the proper way that probably he was not right today."**
>
> **RAFAEL NADAL,** 20-TIME MAJOR CHAMP, ON DENIS SHAPOVALOV

'WHERE IS PENG SHUAI?' SHIRTS WELCOME, SAYS TILEY

FANS ARE free to wear "Where is Peng Shuai?" shirts at the Australian Open but they must not become "disruptive", Tennis Australia chief Craig Tiley said on Tuesday, amid criticism of the Grand Slam organisers' earlier stance on the issue. In response to a video posted on social media on Saturday of security officials instructing fans to remove shirts with the slogan on them, the governing body said the Melbourne Park tournament does not allow political statements. Martina Navratilova described that reaction as "cowardly" and said organisers were giving in to China and placing sponsorship money ahead of human rights concerns.

"Unfortunately I think there's a lot of miscommunication and lack of understanding on it, because it's not just a one line response," Tiley told *Reuters* by telephone. "Someone wearing a T-shirt saying something is not going to have any impact on the safety. But when they start getting together as a group, as a mob, and start being disruptive, in any way or form, that's a different thing. If they're coming in to do what everyone else is doing -- to enjoy the tennis -- and if they've got a T-shirt on that says, 'Where is Peng Shuai?', that's fine."

Australian Open chief Craig Tiley said it would be OK for people to wear the shirts at Melbourne Park, as long as they didn't cause problems for others. *Twitter*

BRIEFLY

Denmark's Eriksen starts comeback training with Ajax

The Hague: Danish footballer **Christian Eriksen**, who went into cardiac arrest at last year's European Championships, is training with Ajax as he seeks a new club, the Amsterdam side said Tuesday. Eriksen, 29, who has been fitted with a pacemaker, joined Jong Ajax, the reserve team of his former club after terminating his contract with Inter Milan by mutual consent in December. Italian league rules bar players with pacemakers. "Former Ajax midfielder Christian Eriksen is training with Jong Ajax this week. The Danish international is working to keep his fitness levels until he finds a new club," Ajax said in a statement. Eriksen joined Ajax at 16 in 2008, made his Eredivisie debut in 2010 and moved to Tottenham Hotspur in 2013. "I am very happy to be here. At Ajax I know the people, it feels like coming home because I was here for so long. All facilities are available here and with Jong Ajax I can train at a high level in a group," Eriksen was quoted as saying in the statement. **AFP**

Australia set to tour Pakistan with full-strength squad

Melbourne: Australia are set to tour Pakistan with a full-strength squad as no player has so far expressed any reservation about travelling to the country which did not get to host top-flight international cricket for nearly a decade due to security concerns. The last time Pakistan had an ICC event on its soil was when it co-hosted the 1996 World Cup along with India and Sri Lanka. The terrorist attack on the Sri Lankan team bus in 2009 ensured Test cricket remained out of bounds until 2019. Last year, before the T20 World Cup, New Zealand and England had pulled out of the tour of Pakistan citing security concerns, the Kiwis withdrawing at the eleventh hour. However, Australia appeared to be on track for undertaking their first tour of Pakistan in 24 years. **PTI**

Hugs discouraged but condoms available at Beijing Olympics

Beijing: Beijing Olympics organisers are keeping up with the tradition of making condoms available to athletes, despite detailed social distancing guidelines intended to curb the spread of COVID-19 within the "closed loop" in which the Games will take place.

"All Olympic-related units will provide appropriate quantities of condoms for free at the appropriate time to people who've checked in to stay inside the loop," organisers told *Reuters* by email on Tuesday. The Games are set to take place from Feb. 4-20 in Beijing and the nearby city of Zhangjiakou inside a bubble that strictly separates athletes and other Games personnel from the public.

Journalists who checked into the Guizhou Hotel, which is inside the closed loop, found five individually wrapped condoms in each room. They were individually packed in different-coloured envelopes decorated with an image of a Chinese lantern. Organisers did not immediately say how many condoms they would distribute. **REUTERS**

Condoms provided by a media hotel — inside the closed loop "bubble" designed to prevent the spread of the coronavirus disease — are seen ahead of the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing. *Reuters*

Vol XC- 66 Regd.No. DL-21046/03-05 R.N.I. No.506/57. Printed and Published by R.C.Malhotra on behalf of The Indian Express (P) Limited and Printed at The Indian Express (P) Limited Press, A-8, Sector-7, Noida - 201301 and D B Corp Ltd, Dainik Bhaskar Village Unan Tola, Near Danapur Cantt, Shivylya Road, Post Khagaul, Shahpur, Patna (Bihar) and Published at The Indian Express (P) Limited, Mezzanine Floor, Express Building, 9&10, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi 110002. Editorial office: The Indian Express (P) Limited, Mezzanine Floor, Express Building, 9&10, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, NewDelhi-110002. Phone: 0120-6651500. Advertising office: The Indian Express (P) Limited, B1/B, Sector-10, Noida-201301. Phone:01206651291. Chairman of the Board: Viveck Goenka, Chief Editor: Raj Kamal Jha, Editor: Unni Rajen Shanker, Editor (Delhi): Rakesh Sinha ** ** Responsible for selection of News under the PRB Act.
Copyright: The Indian Express (P) Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited. The Indian Express®

India@75: Ode to India's unity in diversity

Art scrolls and women daredevils are expected to add a new dimension to R-Day celebrations

Besides the enormous scrolls depicting the stories of valour from India's first war of Independence fought in 1857, the Rajpath will witness an impressive fly-past and daredevil feats on motorcycles by a women's contingent of the Border Security Force (BSF) and much more during the Republic Day parade on January 26, 2022. According to sources, 10 enormous scrolls measuring 750 metres, depicting important battles of the Revolt of 1857 will be displayed at the Rajpath to mark the 75 years of India's Independence.

Prepared during the Kalakumbh artist workshops organised by the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi, during its Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, the scrolls boast a unique collaboration between the Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Defence, besides singing paeans to India's unity in diversity evident through the use of varied art forms from diverse geographical locations of the country.

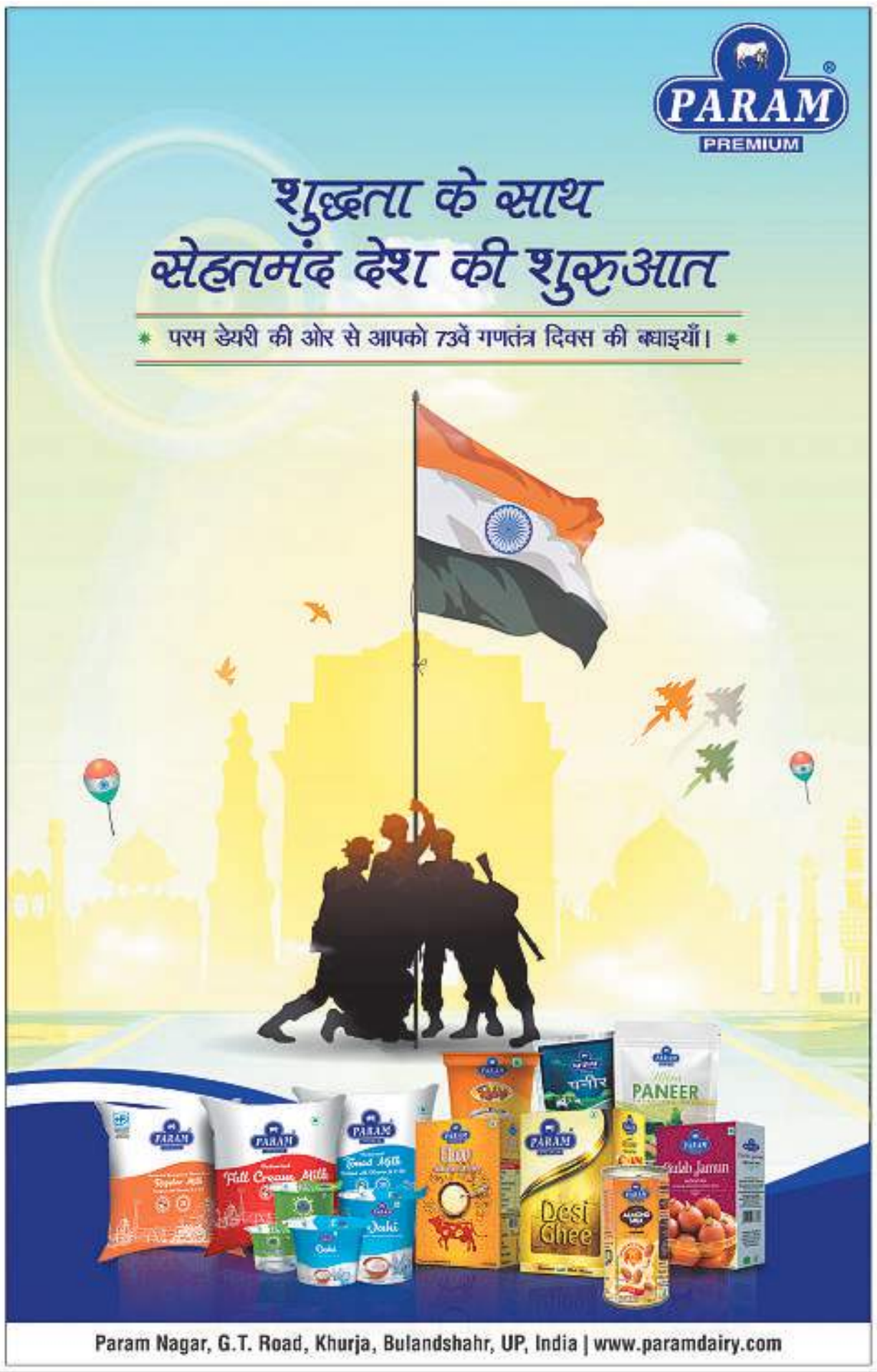
Meanwhile, more than 100 women daredevils of the Border Security Force (BSF) are expected to perform breath-taking stunts on motorcycles to salute the age-old spirit of bravery of Indian women, particularly those who played the stellar roles in India's struggle for freedom. Yet nothing could lend greater significance to the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav than the integration of the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, who envisioned a united India.

Observed as 'Parakram Divas', the birth anniversary celebrations of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose were on January 23 and marked the beginning of the Republic Day celebrations this year. The endeavour aims at highlighting the importance of Netaji's role in India's struggle for Independence.

Judging by the magnitude of the events mentioned above, patriotic fervour is expected to be quite high as the nation celebrates 75 years of its Independence, irrespective of the restrictions imposed on the gathering of people in the Republic Day commemorations at Rajpath and elsewhere in the country.

I feel proud to be an Indian. Today, India and Indians are respected across the globe. We are a young nation that's celebrating its 73rd Republic Day today. When writing the constitution, Dr Ambedkar took inspiration from the constitutions of other countries while keeping the spirit and diversity of India in mind. The aim was to make India a great nation, a vision that our present leaders are taking forward. As citizens of this great country, it is our responsibility to contribute to India's growth and development in whatever way we can. Through our hard work and dedication, we can build a strong, robust and prosperous India. So let us join hands and strive to take our nation to greater heights.

Namita kumar,
Director, Param Dairy



ADVERTORIAL

Stay Safe with India's first home-test kit, CoviSelf

With a soaring number of COVID cases and the rapid spread of the Omicron variant, most of us are anxious and fearful about contracting the virus.

We all need access to more convenient, simple and at-home testing method that can provide immediate answers, in order to protect ourselves. India's first self-test kit, CoviSelf by Mylab Discovery Solutions will do just that. It is an incredibly helpful and affordable tool at your disposal to keep yourselves and your loved ones safe especially with the ongoing third wave of pandemic. CoviSelf can detect major variants of coronavirus including Omicron. CoviSelf has been witnessing an increase in demand across the country amid the surge of coronavirus cases. It holds promise to be a key method to prevent the spread of infection and keep us safe.

What is CoviSelf?

CoviSelf, Covid-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) kit, empowers people to test themselves from the comfort of their home. Each unit contains a testing kit, instructions to use (IFU) leaflet and a bag to safely dispose of after testing. The kit uses a mid-nasal swab and a QR code to connect to a mobile app which reveals results in just 15 minutes.

Who can use it?

CoviSelf offers a comfortable, easy-to-use and accurate testing method that even an 80-year-old granny or an 18-year-old villager can use just by reading the instructions and watching demo videos. It can even be used by people residing in villages and rural areas, where there might not be a diagnostic centre, but have phones.

How much does it cost?

Priced at INR 250, it can be used by individuals with or without symptoms and immediate contacts of confirmed cases as per the ICMR guidelines.

Where can I find it?

One can buy it over-the-counter at pharmacies and drugstores, and does not require a prescription. One can buy it online as well.

For more information, please visit – **www.coviself.com**

GOLD	RUPEE	OIL	SILVER
₹48,555	₹74.78	$86.98	₹63,907

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of January 24

SENSEX: 57,858.15 ▲ 366.64 (0.64%) **NIFTY:** 17,277.95 ▲ 128.85 (0.75%) **NIKKEI:** 27,131.34 ▼ 457.03 **HANG SENG:** 24,243.61 ▼ 412.85 **FTSE:** 7,367.33 ▲ 70.18 **DAX:** 15,110.26 ▲ 99.13

International market data till 1900 IST

MARKETS WATCH
EQUITY INDICES

Sensex on a swing: Over 1,000-pt drop, then a 1,448-pt rally

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JANUARY 25

AFTER A five-day losing streak, domestic stock markets on Tuesday staged an intra-day comeback as uncertainties over the US Federal Reserve's policy and geopolitical tension eased and US markets had made a sharp turnaround on Monday. The Sensex, which plunged to a low of 56,409 at one stage, rallied 1,448 points intra-day to close with a gain of 367 points, or 0.64 per cent, at 57,858.15 while the Nifty50 rose 129 points, 0.75 per cent, to 17,277.95 on bargain hunting.

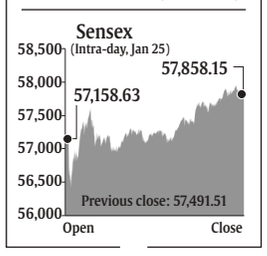
The Sensex, which plummeted 1,546 points on Monday, had lost 3,817 points over the last five sessions as foreign investors pulled out funds. The market opened weak on Tuesday and the Sensex soon plunged by over 1,000 points before staging a recovery.

The recovery was led by telecom, bank, auto, utilities and power stocks which gained over 2 per cent.

The rupee declined by 18 paise to close at 74.78 against the US dollar.

" ... volatility is expected to linger as investors await the Fed's final policy statement, providing clarity on the timeline of rate hikes," said Vinod Nair, head of research at Geojit Financial Services.

UP 366 PTS (0.6%)



Dow slides 2%

New York: US stock indices slid amid a selloff in tech stocks ahead of the Federal Reserve's policy meeting. At 10:06 am ET, the Dow was down 764.89 points, or 2.23 per cent, at 33,599.61 and the Nasdaq was down 395.35 points, or 2.85 per cent, at 13,459.78. Brent futures rose $1.14, or 1.3 per cent, to $87.41 a barrel by 10:56 am ET. **REUTERS**

CENTRAL BANK BATS FOR ACQUISITION, RESOLUTION TO BE UNDER 1 ENTITY

Almost a year on, bad bank yet to take off: RBI not in favour of dual structure

GEORGE MATHEW & SUNNY VERMA
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI, JAN 25

SIX MONTHS after the setting up of the National Asset Resolution Company Limited (NARCL), the proposal for setting up a 'bad bank' — a key reform measure of this fiscal year's Budget — is yet to take off. The impediments include issues arising from the ownership structure and operational mechanism, with the proposed setting up of two separate entities — the NARCL and the India Debt Resolution Company Limited (IDRCL).

The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) approval for the implementation of this dual structure is still awaited, banking industry sources said. The RBI has now indicated that both the acquisition and resolution should be housed under the same legal entity. Accordingly, the NARCL and the IDRCL are reworking the arrangement under which both the processes will be under the former's control.

The NARCL has been set up and issued a licence by the RBI to conduct business as an Asset Reconstruction Company. Simultaneously, a separate company has been set up to function as an Asset Management Company, named IDRCL, which will provide management and resolution of assets and also help in the operational aspects, relating to price discovery and aim at evolving the best possible recovery and the resolution process. The NARCL is majorly owned by public sector banks with 51 per cent ownership but in the case of the IDRCL, 51 per cent shares are in private hands.

Normally, a single entity to be held accountable as owner, and for recovery of the assets, is the practice followed across geographies. Possibly a 'Principal and Agent mechanism' or similar arrangement may evolve to resolve this issue. The Indian Banks' Association is learnt to have wanted to a dual structure, with the AMC as a privately held entity, to be out of the purview of the regulatory entities. However, the RBI is yet to agree to this dual structure. "An early decision in the matter is expected and shall be welcome considering the crucial role of the proposed bad bank," said a banking source.

A senior government official said the government expects this issue to be resolved soon and the first batch of resolutions should kick in before March-end. The first batch of Rs 90,000-crore NPAs were supposed to be acquired by the NARCL in January. "We cannot let it linger on because the delay has a cost and it dents recovery. Dual structure has been common in the capital market where Sebi is the regulator, and this is the best possible solution. The RBI will see how best to regulate it," the official said.

BUILD UP TO BUDGET 2022-23

Tarun Bhatia, MD and head, Kroll South Asia, said, "The delay appears procedural and hopefully should get resolved soon. As per previously agreed process, NARCL was going to acquire the NPAs and IDRCL would have driven the resolution process. "One believes this should get resolved soon as the government is keen for NARCL to initiate the process at the earliest," he said.

As a proactive and sustainable solution deal with NPAs in the banking sector, the Finance Minister had, in this year's Union Budget, announced setting up the NARCL to take over stressed debt of banks and manage these in a market-led way.

"The intent was to acquire large value non-performing assets (NPAs) from banks and put them under the ownership of an entity that will take suitable steps to affect recovery/resolution. This would in turn also help the banks to concentrate and focus on their primary functioning of fresh landing. Takeover of assets worth Rs 2 lakh crore was envisaged in a phased manner," said Jyoti Prakash Gadia, MD, Resurgent India.

With a combination of post-Covid moratorium and recoveries, there was an actual decline in NPAs from Rs 8.4 lakh crore in 2020 to Rs 7.8 lakh crore in 2021. "However, the pandemic has adversely impacted some sectors like tourism, aviation, entertainment and private employment/wages. The retail NPAs are, thus, expected to go up besides the worst affected sectors, which may require a special package for revival," Gadia said.

The government approved a 5-year guarantee of up to Rs 30,600 crore for security receipts to be issued by the NARCL as non-cash consideration on the transfer of NPAs. This will address banks and RBI concerns about incremental provisioning, said an analyst.

Banks that transfer their stressed assets will get 15 per cent of value in cash and 85 per cent as tradable security receipts. The government guarantee will cover the gap between the face value of the security receipts and realised value of the assets when eventually sold to prospective buyers. Government guarantee, valid for five years, helps in improving the value of security receipts, their liquidity and tradability. A form of the contingent liability, the guarantee does not involve any immediate cash outgo for the Central government.

"NARCL has commenced operations, and the sale of banks' stressed debt to NARCL is expected to have a positive impact on the books and business of the banks. The impact would be seen by PSBs in FY23, and a positive proposition in terms of government guarantee/fund infusion into the bad bank can be expected in the upcoming budget," Brickwork Ratings said in a report.

With so many ARCs being around in the private sector, the reason for a separate National ARC was the painfully slow process of the sale to private ARCs due to valuation issues, slower and longer resolution given fragmented ARC holdings/legal hurdles and potentially huge upfront capital/cash required to buy large NPAs, he said.

Bankers were also questioned by auditors and Central agencies on the deals, which largely clogged decision-making process and hurt the transfer/resolution of NPAs. Thus, a national ARC, with a different legal and operational structure and government backing, dispensations and funding support, was essential to break the chain.

OMICRON IMPACT

IMF lowers FY22 growth forecast to 9% from 9.5%

AGENCIES
WASHINGTON, JANUARY 25

THE INTERNATIONAL Monetary Fund (IMF) on Tuesday cut India's economic growth forecast to 9 per cent for the current fiscal, with its Chief Economist Gita Gopinath saying that the point downgrade is mainly due to the impact of the spread of the Omicron variant.

"If you look at the 2021-22 fiscal year, we have a slight downgrade of -0.5 percentage points and for the next fiscal year 2022-23 we have a slight upgrade of 0.5 percentage points. So, growth for the previous fiscal year is now nine per cent and for this year now is at nine per cent. We moved it up slightly," she told reporters. For India, data and forecasts are presented on a fiscal year basis, with FY22 starting in April 2021.

The IMF also lowered its 2022 growth forecasts for the US, China and the global economy, amid uncertainty about the pandemic, inflation, supply disruptions and risks posed by US monetary tightening. "We project global growth this year at 4.4 per cent, 0.5 percentage point lower than previously forecast, mainly because of downgrades for the United States and China," Gopinath said. The IMF cut its forecast for the US by 1.2 percentage points to 4 per cent and for China by 0.8 percentage point to 4.8 per cent. **PTI & REUTERS**

Future Retail seeks SC protection from defaulter tag by lenders

INDU BHAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 25

FUTURE RETAIL (FRL) on Tuesday moved the Supreme Court seeking protection from being declared a defaulter for failing to pay loan dues of Rs 3,494.56 crore to its 26 lenders. The matter will be mentioned for urgent hearing by FRL's lawyers on January 28.

The company — while making the RBI and 26 banks including SBI, IndusInd, DBS, HDFC, Union Bank of India, as respondents in its petition — has told the SC that despite being aware of the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on its business/stores and also the freeze on the sale of its small-format stores due to its ongoing dispute with Amazon, the lenders sent default notices to it earlier this month.

FRL apprehends that apart from its account being declared as non-performing asset (NPA), the lenders would also publish its and its board of directors' names as wilful defaulters, thereby reducing its credit rating and consequently compromising its ability to raise any further finance.

Pursuant to the declaration of NPA by any of its 26 lenders, its account would stand classified as NPA by other lenders as well and would also adversely affect its other group companies which have availed the one-time restructuring (OTR) facility, it told the apex court.

FRL had missed the due date for payment of Rs 3,494.56 crore to banks and lenders as it could not sell assets due to its ongoing litigation with Amazon, impacting its monetisation plans. **FE**

'Amazon bailout offer rejected'

New Delhi: Independent directors of Future Retail have turned down Amazon's offer of financial support to the company through a deal with private equity firm Samara Capital, saying the offer is "plainly an attempt to buy FRL assets on the cheap". **PTI**

'Rental income of 23 malls in 9 cities may fall 24% in Q4'

Rental income of 23 shopping malls in 9 cities may decline 24% to around ₹300 crore in January-March over ₹400 crore the previous quarter, as per an Icra report

Survey details: The estimate is based on the sample of 23 malls, covering 14.2 million square feet, across nine states

Footfalls and businesses in malls have declined this month due to restrictions imposed by various state governments to curb the spread of the Omicron variant of coronavirus

Pre-Covid-19 peak rental income for the 23 malls was at around Rs 470 crore in Q3FY20

Rental income in Q1FY21 of these 23 malls fell to Rs 85 crore due to the nationwide lockdown during the first wave

Gradual improvement was seen in rental recovery in Q3 and Q4 of FY21, with easing of restrictions along with a decline in the fresh infections

Source: Icra Ratings/PTI

Net sales flat but costs rise: Maruti Q3 net skids 48%

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JANUARY 25

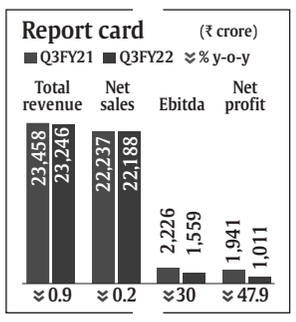
LOWER SALES volume, high commodity prices and lower non-operating income on account of mark-to-market pulled Maruti Suzuki's net profit down by 48 per cent at Rs 1,011 crore during the October-December quarter. While non-operating income fell 67 per cent on a year-on-year basis, purchases of stock-in-trade rose 23 per cent during the quarter.

Net sales during the period was down 0.2 per cent at Rs 22,187 crore, as production was constrained by a global shortage in the supply of electronic components. As a result of this, 90,000 units could not be produced. However, the quarter was a marked improvement compared to the preceding quarter during which the company could not produce 1.16 lakh vehicles.

The earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (Ebitda) at Rs 1,559 crore was down 30 per cent. Margins declined 278 basis points y-o-y to 6.7 per cent. Maruti sold 4,30,668 units during the December quarter, which was 13 per cent lower on a Y-o-Y basis. In the domestic market, the sales declined nearly 22 per cent Y-o-Y to 3,65,673 units versus 4,67,369 units in Q3FY21. The company clocked its highest ever exports at 64,995 units, nearly 2.5x as compared to 28,528 units in the third quarter of last financial year. This was also 66 per cent higher than the previous peak exports in any Q3.

"There was no lack of demand as the company had more than 2,40,000 pending customer orders at the end of the quarter. Though still unpredictable, the electronics supply situation is improving gradually. The company hopes to increase production in Q4, though it would not reach full capacity," the statement said.

Maruti Suzuki's shares on Tuesday, surged as much as 6.9 per cent on BSE to close at Rs 8,600.60 — their highest levels since September 2018. **FE**



EXPLAINED

Chip availability improving

THOUGH DEMAND remained intact, the supply side situation was uncertain, even though the availability of semi-conductors continued to improve gradually.

BRIEFLY

Cairn retro tax

New Delhi: Cairn Energy said it has complied with all rules of the retro tax repeal law to be eligible for about ₹7,900 crore tax refund that were collected from it to enforce a retrospective tax demand.

'OYO listing nod'

New Delhi: Travel tech firm OYO's parent Oravel Stays Ltd got in-principle nod of BSE and NSE to list on these bourses, sources said.

ESIC payroll

New Delhi: Around 10.28 lakh new members joined the ESIC-run social security scheme last November.

Appointments

New Delhi: Sebi said a person rejected by shareholders at a general meeting can be appointed or re-appointed as a managing director or whole time director or manager, only after providing detailed justifications and ensuring compliance. **PTI**

Nvidia, Arm deal

Bengaluru: Nvidia Corp is preparing to abandon its purchase of Arm Ltd from SoftBank Group Corp after offering about $40 billion for the British company in 2020. EU antitrust regulators have resumed investigation of the deal for British chip designer ARM, setting a new deadline of May 25 for their decision, a European Commission filing showed. **REUTERS**

'Akasa Air takeoff likely in late May or early June'

New Delhi: Akasa Air is aiming to start flights in late May or early June after getting its first Boeing 737 MAX aircraft in April.

Despite Covid clouds continuing to cast a shadow on the airlines, Akasa Air CEO Vinay Dube is more than optimistic as he asserted that "if you look at the long term future of commercial aviation in India, it is as exciting as anywhere in the world". Interacting with *PTI* on a video call, Dube said the Indian aviation pie is growing and the idea of Akasa Air is to look through what we are currently facing.

"This is temporary. This too shall pass," he said. **PTI**

PMC Bank amalgamation with Unity SFB gets govt nod

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JANUARY 25

THE CENTRAL government on Tuesday sanctioned and notified the scheme for the amalgamation of Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative Bank Ltd (PMC Bank) with Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd. (USFBL).

The amalgamation will come into force with effect from the date of the notification of the scheme — January 25, 2022. All the branches of the PMC Bank will function as branches of Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd with effect from this date, the RBI said.

"USFBL is making necessary arrangements to implement the provisions of the scheme," it said. Unity SFB is a joint venture between Centrum Group and BharatPe. It commenced operations as a small finance bank (SFB) with effect from November 1.

All the branches of the PMC Bank will function as branches of Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd

The Scheme of Amalgamation notified on Tuesday envisages takeover of the assets and liabilities of PMC Bank, including deposits, by the USFBL in terms of the provisions of the scheme.

Following the amalgamation, depositors of PMC Bank will get their money back over a period of 3-10 years. It said the transferee bank (Unity) will first make the payment of up to Rs 5 lakh or less received from DICGC to eligible depositors.

For the remaining amount, the bank will pay up to Rs 50,000 above the payment already made at the end of two years, followed by an amount of up to Rs 1 lakh at the end of three years, Rs 3 lakh at the end of four years and Rs 5.5 lakh at the end five years.

The RBI said the entire remaining amount will be paid after 10 years.

LIC H1 profit after tax rises to ₹1,437 cr

New Delhi: Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) on Tuesday reported a profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 1,437 crore for the first half of ongoing fiscal against Rs 6.14 crore in the year-ago period.

The IPO-bound insurer said new business premium growth rate stood at 554.1 per cent in H1FY22, against 394.76 per cent during the corresponding period of FY21. Its overall total net premiums rose Rs 1,679 crore to Rs 1.86 lakh crore in April-September 2021, from Rs 1.84 lakh crore in the year-ago period. LIC posted a jump of Rs 17,404 crore in overall premiums and income from investments was Rs 3.35 lakh crore in H1FY22. **ENS, WITH PTI**

Unilever to cut 1,500 jobs globally

AGENCIES
LONDON/NEW DELHI, JAN 25

UNILEVER WILL cut about 1,500 management jobs and reshape its business to focus on five main product areas as it tries to boost growth after a failed acquisition and with an activist investor to appease.

The maker of Dove soap and Magnum ice cream, which employs about 1,49,000 people worldwide, said on Tuesday it would focus on beauty and well-being, personal care, home care, nutrition, and ice cream, as per a *Reuters* report. The move, which Unilever said had been in the works for a year, echoes the reshaping by rival Procter & Gamble (P&G) three years ago, which at the time also had activist investor Nelson Peltz's Trian Partners as a shareholder. "Moving to five category-focused business groups will enable us to be more responsive to consumer and channel trends," Unilever CEO Alan Jope said.

Unilever factory in Lagos, Nigeria. *Reuters file*

Meanwhile, Sanjiv Mehta retains executive leadership of Mumbai-headquartered subsidiary Hindustan Unilever, while Unilever chief operating officer Nitin Paranjpe will take on a new role as chief transformation officer & chief people officer, leading the business transformation and heading the HR function for the transformed organisation, as per a *PTI* report. The company said Sunny Jain, president of Beauty & Personal Care, has decided to leave Unilever to set up an investment fund in technology megatrends.

The move is seen as a response to shareholders' concerns about performance in the business and followed a failed takeover bid for GlaxoSmithKline's consumer healthcare division. All costs related to setting up the new organisation will be managed within existing restructuring investment plans, it said. **REUTERS & PTI**

'India among top 5 nations to ask Twitter to remove content'

REUTERS
NEW YORK, JANUARY 25

TWITTER SAID governments around the world made requests to remove content from a record number of user accounts between January and June last year, in data to be released by the social media company on Tuesday.

The platform said governments made 43,387 legal demands for the removal of content from 196,878 accounts in the six-month period, according to data in its latest transparency report seen by *Reuters*.

THE TOP 5

- Japan
- Russia
- Turkey
- India
- South Korea

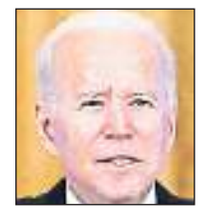
Twitter said this was the largest number of accounts ever targeted with government removal requests in a reporting period since the company started releasing transparency reports in 2012. It was also the largest number of government removal requests in a reporting period.

Ninety-five per cent of these legal demands came from five countries, with the most coming from Japan, followed by Russia, Turkey, India, and South Korea, it said. The site is blocked in several countries including China and North Korea.

Twitter said it either "withheld" access to content in certain countries or required account holders to remove some or all of the reported content in response to 54 per cent of the global legal demands in this period.

"We're facing unprecedented challenges as governments around the world increasingly attempt to intervene and remove content," Twitter's vice president of global public policy and philanthropy Sinead McSweeney said in a statement. "This threat to privacy and freedom of expression is a deeply worrying trend that requires our full attention."

The number of accounts specified in the legal requests was up almost 50 per cent from 131,933 accounts from the previous six months, according to the data. The number of government removal requests increased 14 per cent from 38,524 in the last reporting period and was up about 2.8 per cent year-over-year, Twitter said.



MEANWHILE

BIDEN CAUGHT ON MIC SWEARING AT REPORTER

President Joe Biden responded to a question about inflation by calling a Fox News reporter a vulgarity. Fox News' Peter Doocy asked Biden about inflation, which is at a nearly 40-year high and has hurt the President's public approval. Biden responded with sarcasm, "It's a great asset — more inflation." Then he shook his head and added, "What a stupid son of a bitch."

TOP OF THE WORLD

Television footage of earlier missile launch in North Korea. *AP*

SOUTH KOREA

N Korea tested cruise missiles, say officials

Seoul: North Korea on Tuesday test-fired two suspected cruise missiles in its fifth round of weapons launches this month, South Korean military officials said, as it displays its military might amid pandemic-related difficulties and a prolonged freeze in nuclear negotiations with the US. One official said South Korean and US intelligence officials were analysing the launches, but didn't provide further details. Another military official said the tests were conducted from an inland area, but didn't specify where. North Korea has been increasing its testing activity recently in an apparent effort to pressure the US over the stalled diplomacy after the pandemic unleashed further shock on the country's economy. **AP**

PAKISTAN

Govt raises $1 bn through Islamic bond

Islamabad: Pakistan has raised a whopping $1 billion loan through the Sukuk bond at a record 7.95 per cent interest rate, the highest cost that the cash-strapped country has agreed to pay in its history on an Islamic bond, and has also agreed to pledge a portion of the Lahore-Islamabad Motorway in return for the much-needed loan, media reports said on Tuesday. The Ministry of Finance said the country had to raise the loan to keep the official foreign exchange reserves at their levels ahead of some major foreign loans' repayments, *The Express Tribune* reported. **PTI**

SRI LANKA

Court frees 56 Indian fishermen

Colombo: A Sri Lankan court ordered the release of 56 Indian fishermen who were detained for allegedly fishing in the island nation's territorial waters on Tuesday, a verdict that sets free all the remaining Indian fisherfolk languishing in the country's jails. The court in the northern Jaffna peninsula ordered the release of the fishermen who were detained by the Sri Lankan Navy in mid-December in the seas south of Mannar. "Happy to learn that a Court has ordered the release of 56 #Indian fishermen," Indian High Commission in Colombo said. **PTI**

UK police to probe lockdown parties at Downing Street

Inquiry launched into 'a number of events' at PM's residence breaching Covid rules

DANICA KIRKA
LONDON, JANUARY 25

LONDON POLICE said on Tuesday they were investigating Downing Street lockdown parties in 2020 to determine if UK government officials violated coronavirus restrictions, putting further pressure on Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

The Metropolitan Police Service has launched an inquiry into "a number of events" at Downing Street because they met the force's criteria for investigating the "most serious and flagrant" breaches of Covid-19 rules, Commissioner Cressida Dick told the London Assembly, the capital's local government council.

Johnson is facing calls to resign amid revelations that he and his staff attended a series of parties during the spring and winter of 2020 when most social gatherings were banned throughout England, forcing average citizens to miss weddings, funerals and birthdays as friends and relatives died alone in hospitals. The gatherings are already being investigated by a senior civil servant Sue Gray whose report, expected this week, will be crucial in determining whether Johnson can remain in power.

The Cabinet Office said Gray's investigation would continue. But it wasn't immediately clear whether Gray would have to delay the announcement of her findings because of the police investigation.

In the latest revelation, *ITV News* reported late Monday that Johnson attended a birthday party in his Downing Street office and later hosted friends at his official residence upstairs in June 2020.

His office denied that the gathering violated lockdown regulations, saying that the Prime Minister hosted a small number of family members outdoors, which was in line with rules at the time.

London Mayor Sadiq Khan welcomed the police investigation. "The public rightly expect the police to uphold the law without fear or favour, no matter who that involves, and I have been clear that members of the public must be able to expect the highest standards from everyone, including the Prime Minister and those around him," Khan said.

Police have previously faced criticism for suggesting that they wouldn't investigate the "partygate" scandal because they don't routinely investigate historical breaches of Covid regulations. But Dick told the assembly that an investigation was warranted in this case because there is evidence that those involved knew or should have known that what they were doing was illegal, not investigating would "significantly undermine the legitimacy of the law". **AP**

Johnson has apologised for attending a party in the garden of his Downing Street offices in May 2020. *NYT*

EXPLAINED

What's ahead for Johnson?

THE CRISIS over parties in Downing Street now looks likely to paralyse the government and hit the Conservative Party in the polls. The main question for Johnson now is whether his own lawmakers are willing to wait for the outcome of the police investigation, or whether the latest twist will prompt enough of them to write formal letters of protest to trigger a motion of no-confidence in him.

Pfizer opens study of Covid shots updated to match Omicron

ASSOCIATED PRESS
JANUARY 25

PFIZER HAS begun a study comparing its original Covid-19 vaccine with doses specially tweaked to match the hugely contagious Omicron variant. Pfizer and its partner BioNTech announced the study on Tuesday.

Covid-19 vaccine makers have been updating their shots to better match Omicron in case global health authorities decide the change is needed.

While Omicron is more likely than previous variants to cause infection even in people who've been vaccinated, it's not yet clear that a change to the vaccine recipe is needed.

The original vaccines still offer good protection against severe illness and death. Studies in the US and elsewhere have made clear that adding a booster dose strengthens that protection and improves the chances of avoiding a milder infection.

"We recognise the need to be prepared in the event this protection wanes over time and to potentially help address Omicron and new variants in the future," Kathrin Jansen, Pfizer's vaccine research chief, said.

The new US study is enrolling up to 1,420 healthy adults, ages 18 to 55, to test the updated Omicron-based shots for use as a booster or for primary vaccinations. Researchers will examine the tweaked vaccine's safety and how it revs up the immune system in comparison with the original shots.

Ukrainian soldiers in a trench on the frontline on Monday in Popasna, Ukraine. *NYT*

UKRAINE: RUSSIAN INVASION NOT IMMINENT

Russia: Watching US actions over Ukraine with great concern

REUTERS & AP
MOSCOW, JANUARY 25

RUSSIA SAID on Tuesday it was watching with great concern after the United States put 8,500 troops on alert to be ready to deploy to Europe in case of an escalation in the Ukraine crisis.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov accused Washington of fuelling tensions over Ukraine - repeating Moscow's line that the crisis is being driven by US and NATO actions rather than by its own build-up of tens of thousands of troops near the Ukrainian border.

Ukraine's leaders, meanwhile, sought to reassure the nation that a feared invasion from neighbouring Russia was not imminent, even as they acknowledged the threat is real and prepared to accept a shipment of American military equipment Tuesday to shore up their defenses.

Russia has denied it is planning an assault, but it has massed an estimated 100,000 troops near Ukraine in recent weeks, leading the US and its NATO allies to rush to prepare for a possible war.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said late Monday that the situation was "under control" and that there is "no reason to panic."

Peskov said President Vladimir Putin would talk this week to his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron, who is also planning to speak with Ukrainian President. Russia is awaiting a written US response this week to its list of security demands it has presented, some of which Washington has dismissed as non-starters.

Johnson says UK won't hesitate to toughen sanctions on Moscow

REUTERS & NYT
JANUARY 25

BRITAIN WILL not hesitate to toughen sanctions on Moscow and will look to contribute to any NATO deployment if Russia invaded Ukraine, Prime Minister Boris Johnson said on Tuesday.

"We in the UK will not hesitate to toughen our national sanctions against Russia in response to whatever President (Vladimir) Putin may do and the House (of Commons) will soon hear more on this," Johnson told parliament.

After speaking with leaders from the US and Europe on Monday night, he said there was agreement to "respond in unison to any Russian attack on Ukraine, in unison, by imposing coordinated and severe sanctions, heavier than anything we have done before against Russia."

Meanwhile, leaders of western nations continued to press for a diplomatic solution on Tuesday as the crisis over Ukraine escalated. European Union foreign ministers issued a statement repeating their call for Russia to de-escalate tensions, in advance of a scheduled meeting in Paris this week. Britain's foreign minister, Liz Truss, said that she would visit Ukraine next week in a show of solidarity.

Israeli expert panel advises 4th vaccine dose for adults

Jerusalem: An expert panel on Tuesday advised the Israeli government to begin offering a fourth vaccine dose to everyone over the age of 18, citing research showing it helps prevent Covid-19 infection and severe illness.

The advisory committee said research shows a fourth dose provides three to five times the level of protection against serious disease and double the protection against infection compared to three doses. The Health Ministry's director must approve the recommendation.

Israel is already offering a second booster to everyone over the age of 60 and those at high risk as it struggles to contain a wave of infections fueled by the highly contagious omicron variant. It began offering third doses to the general population last summer.

Figures from Israel's Health Ministry show there are currently some 580,000 active patients, with just 845 listed as seriously ill. Nearly half the population has received a third dose and more than 600,000 have gotten a fourth. **AP**

Crowd march in Burkina Faso to show support for new junta

Ouagadougou: Hundreds of people marched through the streets of Burkina Faso's capital on Tuesday in a show of support for the new military-led junta that ousted democratically elected President Roch Marc Christian Kabore and seized control of the country.

"Today's events mark a new era for Burkina Faso. They are an opportunity for all the people of Burkina Faso to heal their wounds, to rebuild their cohesion and to celebrate what has always made us who we are: integrity," said Capt. Sisdore Kaber Ouedraogo.

On Tuesday, Ouagadougou was packed with people cheering, singing and dancing and there were reports of celebrations in other parts of the country. The coup came after several demonstrations were held against the Kabore government, which was criticised for its ineffective response to Islamic extremist violence.

The junta closed the borders, imposed a curfew, suspended the constitution and dissolved the parliament and said it would return Burkina Faso to constitutional order, but did not specify when. The soldiers said the overthrown president is safe, but did not reveal where he is being held. A resignation letter signed by Kabore said he was quitting his office in the best interest of the country. **AP**

ISTANBUL, ATHENS HIT BY SNOWSTORM

Rescue crews in Istanbul and Athens scrambled on Tuesday to clear roads that came to a standstill after a massive cold front and snowstorms hit much of Turkey and Greece, leaving countless people and vehicles in both cities stranded overnight in freezing conditions. Highways and roads in and around Istanbul became clogged after the storm pounded the city of about 16 million people — accumulating over 31 inches of snow in some areas. *AP*

Pak Opp slams govt for its 'policy of appeasement' towards terror outfits

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, JANUARY 25

PAKISTAN'S OPPOSITION has slammed the Imran Khan-led government for what it called "a policy of appeasement" towards terror outfits, after interior minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed said that the government is ready for talks with the outlawed Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP).

Opposition leaders took the government to task during a discussion in the Senate, upper chamber of Parliament, on Monday, saying that the idea of talks with those challenging the state had emboldened extremists groups, *the Dawn* reported.

Pakistan PM Imran Khan

They voiced concern over talks with TTP, which were being held through the Afghanistan government that was not recognised by any country of the world, the report said.

The Opposition Senators said the recently unveiled National Security Policy be discussed in Parliament and that an internal security policy, as well as the Afghan strategy, should be framed in light of that discussion, *the Dawn* reported. **PTI**

SAT will go completely digital by 2023

STEPHANIE SAUL
JANUARY 25

THE SAT will soon be taken exclusively on a computer, the College Board announced on Tuesday, ending an era in which high schoolers have had to make sure their No. 2 pencils were sharpened and their answer bubbles were completely filled in.

The exam, which students will complete on laptops or tablets at testing centers, will also be shortened from three hours to two hours. The changes will begin in 2024 in the US and in 2023 in other countries.

The College Board is trying to retool the exam that has stressed out millions of students in the face of questions about whether college admissions tests are fair, or even necessary.

A growing number of colleges have eliminated the requirement that applicants submit scores from the SAT or the competing ACT, and the trend of "test-optional" admissions accelerated greatly during the coronavirus pandemic. More than 1,800 schools did not require standardised test scores for 2022 admissions, according to the nonprofit organization FairTest.

The number of SAT test takers declined from 2.2 million high schoolers who graduated in 2020 to 1.5 million in the class of 2021, according to the College Board.

In addition to its transition to a digital test, the College Board will also allow calculators on the entire math section, shorten reading passages and reflect a wider range of topics. In pilot runs that were conducted last year, 80 percent of students said they found the digital tests less stressful, according to the College Board, which said laptops or tablets would be provided for students who need them. **NYT**

China slams Germany's ex-Navy chief for his call to delink Beijing-Moscow ties

K J M VARMA
BEIJING, JANUARY 25

CHINA ON Tuesday accused former German Navy Chief Vice Admiral Kay-Achim Schonbach of "fomenting antagonism" for his call to delink Beijing's close ties with Moscow by giving due respect to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Schoenbach's "remarks are the typical radical religious remarks. Today, peace and development are the trend of the times. Calling openly for different camps based on religion and fomenting antagonism and hostility is historically back-pedalling," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told a media briefing.

"This is not only ridiculous but also extremely dangerous and should be condemned by the international community. I have noted that he has resigned," Zhao said, replying to a question on Schonbach's comments calling for rapprochement with Putin by the US and the EU over the current Ukraine military crisis to delink Russia from China.

Schoenbach's comments identifying China as a bigger enemy than Russia caused consternation in Beijing as Putin is due to make his first visit to China after the Covid-19 pandemic to attend the opening ceremony of the Beijing Winter Olympics on February 4 and meet Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Putin's presence is being highlighted as the US, EU and a number of western countries have announced diplomatic boycott of the opening ceremony of the Beijing Winter Olympics to underline their allegations of human rights violations. **PTI**

TELESCOPE'S SAFE ARRIVAL IS A RELIEF TO SCIENTISTS WHO PLAN TO SPEND NEXT 10 OR MORE YEARS USING IT TO STUDY ANCIENT GALAXIES

After million-mile journey, James Webb Telescope reaches destination

JOEY ROULETTE
JANUARY 25

AFTER TRAVELING nearly 1 million miles, the James Webb Space Telescope arrived at its new home on Monday. The spacecraft's arrival checks off another tricky step as scientists on Earth prepare to spend at least a decade using the observatory to study distant light from the beginning of time.

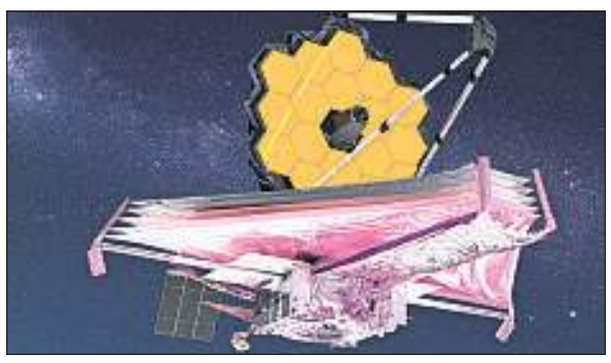
The telescope launched to space Dec. 25, with astronomers all over the world holding their breaths. But the $10 billion telescope still needed to power through the first leg of its setup phase. Earlier this month, astronomers resumed breathing when the observatory unfurled its heat shield and deployed its mirrors and other instruments with few surprises — a remarkable feat given the telescope's novel design and engineering complexity.

And Monday around 2:05 p.m. Eastern time, engineers confirmed that the James Webb Space Telescope successfully reached its final destination.

The telescope arrived at a location beyond the moon after a final, five-minute firing of the spacecraft's main thruster, sweeping itself into a small pocket of stability where the gravitational forces of the sun and Earth commingle. From this outpost, called the second Lagrange Point, or L2, the Webb telescope will be dragged around the sun alongside Earth for years to keep a steady eye on outer space without spending much fuel to maintain its position.

"We're one step closer to uncovering the mysteries of the universe," Bill Nelson, administrator of NASA, said in a statement. "And I can't wait to see Webb's first new views of the universe this summer!"

The James Webb Space Telescope, named after a former NASA administrator who oversaw the formative years of the Apollo program, is seven times more sensitive than the nearly 32-year-old Hubble Space Telescope and three times its size. A follow-up to Hubble, the Webb is designed to see further into the past than its celebrated predecessor in order to study the first stars and galaxies that twinkled alive in the dawn of time, 13.7 billion years ago.



An artist's impression of the James Webb Space Telescope, which arrived at the second Lagrange point. *NYT*

Webb's launch on Christmas morning capped a risky 25-year development timeline dotted with engineering challenges, mistakes and cost overruns that made its voyage to space all the more nerve-wracking for astronomers and space agency administrators. The telescope, tightly bundled up to fit inside a European Ariane rocket, unfurled dozens of mechanical limbs and instruments. These included five layers of a thin foil-like plastic that were stretched taut to the size of a tennis court to shield Webb's instruments from the sun's heat. Later, the telescope unfolded a 21-foot-wide array of 18 gold-plated mirrors that will help bounce light from the cosmos into its ultrasensitive infrared sensors.

The instrument side of the telescope, facing away from the sun, will be cloaked in frigid darkness, while the other side, or the outermost layer of the sun shield, will deflect temperatures as hot as 230 degrees Fahrenheit. This helps accomplish a key challenge in Webb's design of keeping the telescope's sensors cool so that stray heat doesn't interfere with its infrared scans of ancient galaxies, distant black holes and planets orbiting other stars.

Deploying the telescope to the L2 neighborhood also helps keep the temperatures low while providing enough sunlight for the Webb's solar panels, which generate electricity. But the telescope isn't parked at precisely L2 — it will revolve around the point's center once every 180 days in an orbital ring some 500,000 miles wide to expose its solar arrays to sunlight.

"If we were perfectly there, we would be blocked by the Earth, such that we wouldn't get our electricity," said Scott Willoughby, the telescope's program manager at Northrop Grumman, the primary contractor for the observatory. "So we do this halo orbit."

Stationing the spacecraft at this distance from Earth will also help conserve its limited fuel supplies. **NYT**

RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, KARNATAKA

4th 'T' Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru – 560 041.
Ph No.080-26961928 Fax-080-26961929

No.RGU/ENG/EOI/MP/ARC/RAM/18/2021-22 Date: 25/01/2022

TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

Expression of Interest invited for Preparation of Master plan to Establish RGUHS Campus at Archakarahalli, Ramanagara by Reputed Architectural Firms vide Tender No: RGU/ENG/EOI/MC/RAM/18/2021-22 dated: 14.01.2022 is hereby cancelled due to Administrative reasons.

Sd/-
REGISTRAR

DIPR/3020/2021-22

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DEN/II/MB acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders against **Tender No.** 178-DRM-MB-21-22 closing date 17.02.2022, 16.00 hrs. **Name of work:** Construction of type 04 nos IV quarter at Malhiabad, Sandila, Balamau and Hardoi station and Office cum store at Hardoi and Sandila station for S & T staff in the section of SSE/W/HRI under ADEN/HRI-I. **Tender closing date/time:** 17.02.2022, 16.00 hrs. **Cost of work:** Rs. 88,17,740.38/-, **Earnest Money:** Rs. 1,76,400/-, **Tender Cost:** Rs. NIL, **Bidding Start Date:** 03.02.2022 and **Perlod of Completion:** 06 Months. Bidders will be able to submit (their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. For detail information please log into **www.ireps.gov.in**.

Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

No.:178-DRM-MB-21-22 Dated: 24.01.2022 165/2022

Serving Customers with a Smile

OFFICE OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PHED, JAIPUR REGION-I, JAIPUR

Jyoti Nagar, Sahakar Marg, Jaipur-302005
Phone: 0141-2740170 (o) **e-mail: ace1.jpr.phed@rajasthan.gov.in**

No.: F/ACE/PHED/Ar. Dausa/ NIT 158/JJM/2021-22/19176-196 Date: 18.01.2022

(CORRIGENDUM e-NIT Nos. 158/2021-22)

On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan online tenders were invited from eligible bidders vide this office NIT Nos. 158/2021-22. Corrigendum regarding Bid Security deposit after 31.12.2021 and extension in closing date of bid submission (Corrigendum No. 1) is being issued under these NITs. Please check details on website https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in & http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in

NIT No.	NIB No.	UBN No.	Last Date of Bid Submission
158/2021-22	PHE2122A4968	PHE2122WSOB10858	01.02.2022

SAVE WATER - SAVE LIFE

Sd/-
(Arun Srivastava)
Addl. Chief Engineer
PHED, Jaipur Region-I, Jaipur

DIPR/C/719/2022

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED WOMAN

SUMAN

General public is hereby informed that this woman namely Suman W/o Harikesh R/o B-1220, Mangol Puri, Delhi **Age :** 38 years, **Height :** 5'3", **Face :** Oval, **Complexion :** Shallow, wearing yellow & green colour saree and chappal in feet, has been missing/kidnapped since 22.11.2021 from the area of P.S. Raj Park, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 77-A dated 22.11.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Raj Park, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this missing/kidnapped 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. Raj Park, Delhi,
Ph. : 011-27910070, 27910071

DP/1397/OD/21

NORTHERN RAILWAY

NOTICE

Registration of Panel of Authorized Stockist

Applications on prescribed Performa are invited from **Authorized Stockist located within 12 Km from Northern Railway Central Hospital, Basant Lane, New Delhi-110055,** for **Registration of Panel of Authorized Stockist for Supply of Generic Branded Medicines at Northern Railway Central Hospital.**

The application form along with copy of terms and conditions can be obtained from and deposited in Room No. 26, between 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM on payment of Rs. 500/- to be deposited in cash with Divisional Cashier Baroda House New Delhi or by way of Bank Draft in Favour of FA & CAO (E) / Northern Railway or can be downloaded from Northern Railway website **www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in** under head tenders. The last date for receiving the application form is **21.02.2022 at 11.00 A.M.** The application can be deposited in Room No. 26 on all working days between 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm.

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

173/22

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Jharkhand Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited (CIN : U40108JH2013SGC001702)

Regd. Office : Engineering Building, H.E.C., Dhurwa, Ranchi -834004,Telephone :-0651-2400799 & Fax : 0651-2400799
https://www.jbvnl.co.in Email- rts.jbvnl@gmail.com

2nd Extension with corringendum Notice of NIT No. 194/PR/JBVNL/2021-22

e-tender invited for "Empanelment of Agencies for Design, Manufacture, Testing, Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Grid connected Rooftop SPV Power Plants of different capacities Including five years Comprehensive Maintenance Contract (CMC) on Turnkey basis for Residential Electricity Consumers aggregating capacity to 25 MW in Market Mode anywhere in the state of Jharkhand" is hereby extended as per the schedule given below: -

Sl. No.	Revised Calendar of Events : :	
i	Online bid uploading/submission closing date and time	15-02-2022 upto 17:00 Hrs
ii	Last date & time for receiving / submission of tender fee and EMD	16-02-2022 upto 17:00 Hrs
iii.	Date and Time for Opening of Technical bid	17-02-2022 at 17:00 Hrs

Note 1:-Due to COVID protocal, Bidders have optional to submit their tender fee & EMD through courier/ Regd. Post before the due date and time failing which Tender shall be treated as cancelled.

Note 2:-Further bidders are requested to go through the replies of Pre – Bid queries raised during the pre-bid meeting held on dated-14.12.2021 alongwith Corrigendum/ amendments. The details of the same can be seen on website http://www.jharkhandtenders. gov.in through JSEB organisation Chain. Contact person Mobile No. –9431708983 / 9801063475. NIC Helpline No.-06512400178. Email rts.jbvnl@gmail.com

PR No. 257771

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचावें। कृपयृा अपनी शिकातों को 18003456570 (कॉल सेन्टर) पर दर्ज करायें।

Sd/-
General Manager (Coml.

PR 262439 Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd(21-22)#D

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE WORKS DEPARTMENT

B-1010

E-mail: ceworldbankprojects@gmail.com

1st corrigendum to Bid Identification No. CE-W.B.P. (O) - 27/2021-22
File No - P-IM-Misc/10/2008 (Pt.)

Following changes are made for the work at Sl. No. 01 to Sl. No. 20 of IFB vide Bid Identification No. CE-W.B.P. (O)- 27/2021-22.

Reference Sl. No. of IFB	Items	Original	Revised as
1	2	3	3
Para -04	The Bid documents will be available in the website: https://tendersodisha.gov.in from	12.01.2022 at 10.00 Hours	28.01.2022 at 10.00 Hours
Para -06	Bids shall be received only "online" on or before	31.01.2022 upto 17.00 Hours	14.02.2022 upto 17.00 Hours.
Para -07	Bids received on line shall be opened at	11.30 Hours on 01.02.2022	11.30 Hours on 15.02.2022

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
World Bank Project, Odisha

OIPR-34003/11/0045/2122

DELHI JAL BOARD DELHI SARKAR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (T)/A.C.E.(M)-4 LUCKNOW ROAD, TIMAR PUR, DELHI - 110054

Short NIT. No. 69 (Item no.1) (2021-22) E.E.(T)/A.C.E(M)-4

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	Earnest Money	Tender Fee (Non-refundable)	Last date/time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solution
1.	Intercepting waste water flowing in drain at Shah Alam Bandh Road in SPS Jahangir Puri for treatment at STP Coronation Pillar under ACE(M) 04. (Re-invite). I.D 2022_DJB_215299_1	3,74,57,187/-	24.01.2022 05 P.M. onward	7,49,200/-	1500/-	Technical bid will be received 04.02.2022, 3:00 PM & opening of Financial bid after completion of technical bid & confirmation of EMD from Bank.

Further details in this regard can be seen at **https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in**
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 1047(2021-22)

Sd/- **(S.K. SINGH)**
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER-T(M)-4

"STOP CORONA: *Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE SRINAGAR KASHMIR

Tel-0194-2474234 Fax -2482032 – email: - kashflori@rediffmail.com
Gist of e-Tender Notice No. 45 of 2022
Dated: - 25/01/2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT, e-tender is invited from interested parties/persons for **Outsourcing of entry ticketing system of Wazir Bagh Park, Anantnag** of Floriculture Department Kashmir as per details given below: -

The participants have to quote their bid amount in the concerned BOQ: -

S.No.	Period of contract	Reserve Bid (Rs. in Lakhs)	Value of security deposit	Cost of tender document
1.	01 year from the date of award of contract	**8,22,000/-**	**82,200/-**	1000/- in the shape of e-challan

The bidding document (s) consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded through the Departmental website www.dirflorikmr.in / www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Period of downloading of bidding document	25.01.2022 from 03.00 PM to 15.02.2022 up to 02:00 PM
2.	Bid submission Start Date	25.01.2022 from 03:30 PM
3.	Bid submission End date	15.02.2022 up to 02:00 PM
4.	Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	18.02.2022 at 02:00 PM

The security deposit money exceeding 2% shall be adjustable towards approved bid amount in favour of the successful bidders. The CDR's of the bidders who offer below the reserve bid shall be forfeited.
In case of any eventuality, the date of opening will be considered on any other convenient working day.

Sd/-
Accounts Officer,
Member Secretary

DIPK-17175

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR DIRECTORATE OF HANDICRAFTS& HANDLOOM, KASHMIR EXHIBITION GROUNDS (KASHMIR HAAT), SRINAGAR

ABBREVIATED E-TENDER NOTICE

E-tender Notice No: - 16 of 2021-22 **Dated: - 22 -01-2022**

On behalf of the Director Handicrafts & Handloom Kashmir (DHHK), online tenders are hereby invited from principal manufactures or authorized dealers for supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Scanning Electron Microscope (S.E.M) in PTQCC Srinagar, J&K.

S. NO	Name of Work	Class of Contract	Bid Security Declaration/EMD	Cost of tender document	Tender inviting Authority
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Scanning Electron Microscope (S.E.M) in PTQCC Srinagar, J&K.	Principal manufactures or authorized dealers/ firms having GST registration with TIN No.	General Tenderers shall have to furnish Bid Security Declaration. However, the successful bidder shall have to furnish performance security of 3% of the value of the Contract.	Rs1000/- only in the form of Demand Draft	Directorate of Handicrafts& Handloom, Kashmir

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q),Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

1	**Publishing Date**	**22 -01-2022**
2	**Document download/ Sale start Date**	**22 -01-2022 from 2.00 PM upto 07 .02.2022 (4.00PM)**
3	Seek clarification start date	22.01 .2022 (2.00 PM)
4	Seek clarification end date	29 .01.2022 (2.00 PM)
5	Bid/ Tender submission start date	22.01. 2021 from 2.00 PM
6	Bid/ Tender submission closing date	07.02.2022upto 4.00 PM
7	Bid / Tender opening date (online)	Technical bid will be opened on 08.02.2022 at 11.00 am in the office of Director Handicrafts & Handloom, Kashmir. The financial bid of the successful tenderers shall be opened on 09 .02.2022 at 02:00 pm in the office chamber of Director Handicrafts & Handloom, Kashmir.

No: HD/DDT/ 54-57 /2022
Dated: - 22 . 01.2022 **DIPK-17106**

Sd/-
Director Handicrafts & Handloom, Kashmir

झारखण्ड सरकार पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गुमला

ई–प्रोक्योरमेंट निविदा सूचना
(2nd Call)

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0 - DWSD/Gumla/Sisai/10/2021-22 दिनांक – 24.01.2022
PR No. 257329

1	कार्य का नाम :– Detailed survey, designing and drawing, construction of R.C.C Intake Well cum Pump House, Weir, R.C.C Gangway 140 M long and 3.00 M wide, 16.0 MLD capacity conventional Water Treatment Plant, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir -15 nos, RCC Ground Service Reservoir-1 no, Staff Quarter, compound wall, N.H Crossing, Approach road, Supplying and laying Raw and Clear Water rising main and Distribution network, House Connection, Supplying and Installation of VT and Centrifugal pump motor, Five years operation & mainte nance with allied works etc. All complete job for **Sisai Block Rural Water Supply Scheme**under D.W & S Division Gumla on turnkey basis'**Head-JJM** 2021-22	
2	प्राक्कलित राशि :–	14107.41 लाख रूपये
3	अग्रधन की राशि :–	141.08 लाख रूपये
4	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि :–	30 माह + 3 माह for Trial Run for Rectification of defects etc.
5	वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि :–	27.01.22, 04.00 बजे अपराहन तक।
6	प्री बीड मीटिंग की तिथि :–	31.01.22, 12.30 अपराहन में अभियन्ता प्रमुख, का कार्यालय, नेपाल हाउस, राँची
7	बीड प्राप्ति की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय :–	08.02.2022, 5.00 बजे अपराहन तक।
8	बैंक गारंटी एवं परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि, समय एवं स्थान :–	09.02.2022, 5.00 बजे अपराहन तक, (1) कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल गुमला के कार्यालय में (2) अधीक्षण अभियन्ता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता अंचल गुमला के कार्यालय में (3) क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियन्ता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रक्षेत्र राँची के कार्यालय में
9	निविदा के तकनीकी बीडों के खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :–	10.02.2022, 11.30 बजे पूर्वाहन से
10	निविदा के वित्तीय बीडों के खोलने की तिथि :–	बाद में सूचित किया जाएगा
11	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी एवं कार्यालय का पता :–	कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, गुमला।
12	प्रोक्योरमेंट कार्यालय का सम्पर्क नं0	06524–223058
13	ई प्रोक्ययोरमेंट सेल का हेल्प लाईन नं0	7488491963

नोट :– वैसे संवेदक जो पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग में समुचित श्रेणी में निबंधित नहीं हैं, वे भी निविदा में भाग ले सकते हैं परन्तु कार्यावंटन के 60 दिनों के अन्दर पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग में समुचित श्रेणी में निबंधन करवा लेना अनिवार्य होगा। ऐसी स्थिति में उन्हें विभागीय पत्रांक 676(CDO) दिनांक 20.10.2012 के अनुसार इस आशय का शपथ–पत्र देना अनिवार्य होगा कि राज्यान्तर्गत किसी भी थाने में उनके विरूद्ध कोई अपराधिक मामला दर्ज नहीं है और वे निविदा के अन्य सभी शर्तों को पूरा करते हैं। प्राक्कलित राशि घट या बढ़ सकती है तदनुसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी।
विस्तृत जानकारी वेबसाइट http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल गुमला

PR 262366 Drinking Water and Sanitation(21-22).D

RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, KARNATAKA

4th 'T' Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru – 560 041.
Ph No.080-26961928 Fax-080-26961929

No.RGU/ENG/EOI/MC/RAM/19/2021-22 Date: 25/01/2022

TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

Expression of Interest invited for Preparation of Master plan to Establish Medical College at Archakarahalli, Ramanagara by Reputed Architectural Firms vide Tender No: RGU/ENG/EOI/MC/RAM/19/2021-22 dated: 14.01.2022 is hereby cancelled due to Administrative reasons.

Sd/-
REGISTRAR

DIPR/3021/2021-22

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E- TENDER NOTICE

E-TENDER NOTICE No. AGC-M-WRP-AGC-2022 **Date: 24.01.2022**

Sr.DME (C&W)/North Central Railway, Agra acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites **"Open Tender"** through on Line only (E-Tendering) for the following work:

Sr.	Item	Details of Work
1.	**Name of work with its location**	Operation & maintenance of Water recycling plant at AGC coaching Depot for three years.
2.	**Approx. Cost of the work**	Rs. 20,88,587.76/- (Rupees Twenty Lakh Eighty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Seven and Paisa Seventy Six only).

For Full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railway Website **www.ireps.gov.in.** Bidders will be able to submit their bids through web portal **www.ireps.gov.in** upto **15.00 hrs.** on **15/02/2022.** Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. 86/22(AN)

North central railways | www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @ CPRONCR

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED

(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)
3RD FLOOR, PRAGATI SADAN, KUTCHERY ROAD, RANCHI-834001, JHARKHAND.
Ph No.: +91-651-2225878, e-mail Id-pdt.juidco@gmail.com
CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752

NIT No. JUIDCO/DPR PMC/SWM- Mahagama/2925/2021/433
Tender ID. 2021_UDD_54677_1 **P R No.: 260244**

CORRIGENDUM-03

All bidders are hereby announced that corrigendum 02 is released for tender of NIT Ref No:- **JUIDCO/DPR PMC/SWM-Mahagama/2925/2021/433** and **Tender ID 2021_UDD_54677_1** for **"Request for Proposal (RFP) for selection of Consultant for providing Consultancy services for Preparation of DPR of Solid Waste Management (SWM) Project and Project Monitoring Consultancy (PMC) at Mahagama"**. The bidders are advised to take in to account the same before submission of their bids against the tender.
NOTE: Corrigendum-03 (including date extension) and all other information can be referred from the e-tender site of Govt. of Jharkhand i.e. **(http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in)**

Sd/-
Project Director (Technical)
JUIDCO Ltd.

PR 262467 Urban Development (21-22)_D

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED

(Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)
3RD FLOOR, PRAGATI SADAN, KUTCHERY ROAD, RANCHI-834001, JHARKHAND.
Ph No.: +91-651-2225878, e-mail Id-pdt.juidco@gmail.com
CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752

NIT No. JUIDCO/DPR PMC/SWM- Barharwa/2928/2021/431
Tender ID. 2021_UDD_54672_1 **P R No.: 260248**

CORRIGENDUM-03

All bidders are hereby announced that corrigendum 02 is released for tender of NIT Ref No:- **JUIDCO/DPR PMC/SWM- Barharwa/2928/2021/431** and **Tender ID 2021_UDD_54672_1** for **"Request for Proposal (RFP) for selection of Consultant for providing Consultancy services for Preparation of DPR of Solid Waste Management (SWM) Project and Project Monitoring Consultancy (PMC) at Barharwa"**. The bidders are advised to take in to account the same before submission of their bids against the tender.
NOTE: Corrigendum-03 (including date extension) and all other information can be referred from the e-tender site of Govt. of Jharkhand i.e. **(http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in)**

Sd/-
Project Director (Technical)
JUIDCO Ltd.

PR 262460 Urban Development (21-22)_D

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

Santosh Kumari

General public is hereby informed that a lady namely **Santosh Kumari, W/o: Arjun, R/o: H. No. 294, Main Kanjhawala Road, Village Pooth Kalan, Delhi has been reported missing/ kidnapped since 07.12.2021 from the area of P.S. Sultan Puri, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 70 A dated 14.12.2021 has been registered at P.S. Sultan Puri, Delhi.** The description of missing/kidnapped lady is as under:

Name: Santosh Kumari, Age: 27 Years, Height: 5', Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Suit & Salwar and Black Colour Sandal in Feet.

If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped lady please inform P.S. Sultan Puri, Delhi

Web: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
Police Station Sultan Puri, Delhi
Ph: 011-25472166, 7065036134

DP/1459/OD/2022

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, साहेबगंज

अल्पकालीन ई–प्रोक्योरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
(2nd Call)
निविदा सूचना संख्या– DWSD/SAHIBGANJ-18/2021-22दिनांक :– 25.01.2022

Sl. No. **Name of Work** :- Construction of Cluster wise Single Village Water Supply Scheme based on Solar Energy Based Mini Rural Pipe Water Supply Scheme in different Blocks of Sahibganj District which are not included in MVS/Other Schemes to supply water and house connection with 05 years Operation and Maintenance works on "Turn Key Basis" under D.W.&.S, Division, Sahibganj for the year 2021-22(JJM Head).

Sl. No.	Cluster No.	Sub Cluster No.	Block	No. of Scheme	No. of FHTC	Estimated Cost (in Lakh)	Earnest Money (in lakh)	Cost of BOQ (in Rs.)	Time of Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	1A	Pathna	96	2754	824.16000	8.25	10000.00	09 months
2	2	2A	Pathna	110	2930	897.18000	8.98	10000.00	09 months
3	3	3A	Pathna	121	2215	966.07000	9.67	10000.00	09 months
4		3B	Pathna	107	2583	831.44000	8.32	10000.00	09 months
5	10	10A	Barhet	115	2859	916.27000	9.17	10000.00	09 months
6	12	12A	Barhet	128	2692	937.76000	9.38	10000.00	09 months
7	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय						28.01.2022, 05:00 बजे अपराहन तक		
9	निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय						07.02.2022, 05:00 बजे अपराहन तक		
10	अग्रधन की राशि एवं परिणाम विपत्र का मूल्य जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय						08.02.2022, 05:00 बजे अपराहन तक कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, साहेबगंज, /अधीक्षण अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता दुमका अंचल दुमका, क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, दुमका प्रक्षेत्र दुमका।			
11	निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय						09.02.2022, 05:00 बजे अपराहन तक		
12	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी एवं कार्यालय का पता						कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, साहेबगंज।		
13	निविदा खोलने वाले पदाधिकारी के कार्यालय का पता						कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, साहेबगंज।		
14	प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क नं०						9006611698		
15	ई– प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल का हेल्पलाईन नं०						0651-2480345		

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल साहेबगंज

PR 262388(Drinking Water and Sanitation)21-22*D

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

E-Tender Notice No. 61 of 2021-22 (Open)-Engg/DDU

On line (through e-tendering) for the following work is invited by DRM/Engg/DDU for and on behalf of the President of India from experienced and financially as well as technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD, BSNL, MES, PWD and other public sector undertakings.

Tender No.-37-DDU-DEN-HQ-21-22
(i) Name of work with its location : Supply of 63000 cum of 50 mm size Machine Crushed track stone ballast as per Railway specification and loading the same into any types of Railway wagon including all sorts of incidental charge F.O.R. Pakur Quarry under ECR . **(ii) Approx. cost of the work :** ₹ 85684410.00 **(iii)** Earnest Money : ₹ 578400.00 **(iv)** Closing Date & time for submission of e-tender : 15.02.2022, Up-to 12:00 hrs. **(v)** Website particulars of e- tendering: **www.ireps. gov.in.**

Divisional Railway Manager
East Central Railway,
Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Division

PR/01556/DDU/ENGG/T/21-22/40

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

e-tender is invited on behalf of the President of India for the under mentioned works :

e - Tender No. : ECR-CAO-C-S-ETEN-59-21-22 in Two Packet System, Name of work : Providing additional opening with RCC Boxes, development work of existing LHS, extension of bridges, diversion of approach road of Level Crossing, Earthwork, Blanketing, extension/raising of existing platforms to high level, passenger amenities works and other ancillary works in Islampur-Natesar and Daniawan-Bihar Sharif sections. **Approx cost of the work in (Rs.) :** 20,21,72,331.19, **Earnest Money :** 11,60,900.00 **Period of work completion :** 12 (Twelve) Months Date and time for closing of tender 11.02.2022, 15.30 hrs.

Any e-tenders which is sent by Post/Courier/Fax or by hand will not be accepted. All such manual submission of tender even if it is on firm's letter pad or received in time will not be accepted. The above e-tender document alongwith full information is available on websie **http://www.ireps.gov.in. Note:** In case of any descripencies found in tender notice, English version will be final. Tenderers are requested to visit the website **http://www.ireps.gov.in** atleast 15 days before last date of closing, for latest corrigendum/corrections etc in connection with this e-tender.

CAO/Con/South
E.C.Rly., Mahendrughat, Patna

PR/01554/CON/Engg/T/21-22/52

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

e-tender is invited on Behalf of the President of India for the under mentioned works:

S.No. 01, Name of the work with its location : Design, fabrication, supply, installation, erection, testing & commissioning of 3 Phase 11/0.433 KV power supply arrangement and associated electrical works at T-18 Depot at Shakurbasti in connection with Setting up maintenance Depot for Trainsets at Shakurbasti, Northern Railway. E-tender No. WP/Elect/Trainsets-SSB-WT-01(Open), Sl No. 02, Approx. Cost of the work : Rs. 63610352/-, **S.No. 03 Earnest money to be deposited :** Rs. 468100/-, **S.No. 04 Date and time for closing of tender :** 03.03.2022 up to 13.00 hrs, **S.No. 05** Website particular and notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. : Tender can be down loaded from IREPS website: **www.ireps.gov.in** and detailed can be seen from the notice board at office of CAO/WP, Chamber Bhawan, J.C. Road, Patna-800001.

Any e-tenders which is sent by Post/Courier/Fax or by hand will not be accepted. All such manual submission of tender even if it is on firm's letter pad or received in time will not be accepted.

The above e-tender document along with full information is available on website **http://www.ireps.gov.in**.

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/WP
Workshop Project Organisation, Patna

PR/01555/WPO/Elec/T/21-22/56

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,VIPIN KOTIA,S/O PRAHLAD KUMAR, ADDRESS-1391,CHOEK SHAH MUBARAK SITA-RAM BAZAR-AJMERI GATE,NORTH DELHI-110006.Changed my name to VIPIN KOTIYA, permanantly. 0040600439-9

I Ajeet Singh S/o Amrit Singh R/o WZ 283/293 Maddi wali gali, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi-110018 have changed my name to Ajit Singh 0040600406-1

I Heena alias Heena Gaba D/o Sh. Inder Pal R/o 407/24, Jagdish Colony, Rohtak, Haryana-124001 have changed my name to Heena Gaba for all purposes. 0040600366-3

I Meenu Chaudhary alias Manmeet Gill D/o Sh. Ravinder Chaudhary W/o Sh. Ashish Gill R/o House No.23/184, Double Storey Quarter, Kabool Nagar, Near Mother Dairy, Rohtash Nagar, Shahdara, North East Delhi, Delhi-110032 have changed my name to Manmeet Gill for all purposes. 0040600366-4

I Namrata Sahni@ Namrata Singh D/o Sh. Gurkirat Singh R/o D-825, Second Floor, New Friends Colony, Delhi—110025 have changed my name to Namrata Singh for all future purposes. 0040600371-1

I Vani Singh Chauhan W/o Sanjeev Chauhan R/o A-3A "Dev Ghar", Ramprasath, Ghaziabad- (U.P.) have changed my name from Vani Singh Chauhan to Apoorva Chauhan for future Purposes. 0040600397-1

I am Nandmani Verma, S/o Jai Singh Verma, R/o B-658, Vidyapati Nagar, Gali No-2, Mubarakpur Dabas, Delhi-110081, have changed my name to Nikhil Verma for all purposes. 0070769921-1

I,Tambe Rita Devidas W/o Umesh Bansraj Yadav R/o-Flat. No-1403, Tower-B06 Woodshire, Sector-107, Gurgaon-122006 Haryana, have changed my name to Reeta Umesh Yadav Permanently. 0040600394-2

I,Shubham Tomar S/O Bijender Tomar R/O,B-408,Rohini Height Sector-29,Hig FLats Pehladpur-Bangar,Delhi-110042,have changed my name to Shubham. 0040600439-1

I,Shashikala Singh W/o Ashish Goel,R/o A-12/B,Khanpur Extn., M.B.Road, Khanpur, Delhi-110062,have changed my name to Shashi Goel. 0040600414-4

I,SHAMSHAD ALI,S/O ISHTIYAQ ALI,R/o-10020,GALI NALWALI NAWAB GANJ,AZAD MARKET, DELHI-110006 HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO SYED SHAMSHAD ALI,FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040600414-10

I,Rajeshwar Prasad/Rajeshwar Chaudhary,S/O Ram Raj R/O, Gali.No-11, Surender-colony part-2 jharoda-Majara Burari, Delhi-110084,have changed my name to Rajeshwar. 0040600439-2

I,Pushkinder Khalsa,S/o Onkar Singh Khalsa R/o-7/18, West Patel-Nagar Delhi-8,have changed my name to Pushkinder Singh Khalsa. 0040600439-3

I,Priya W/o-Maneesh Kakar,R/o-6554,IInd Floor,Gali.No.2,Block-9,Dev Nagar,Karol-Bagh,New-Delhi-110005,have changed my name to Parveen Kaur,for all future purposes. 40600414-9

I,Poonam Goswami D/o, No.6924831Y SEP Vijay Kymar R/o,BE-32/4,Harinagar, Mayapuri,Delhi-64 have changed my name to Poonam Kumari. 0040600451-2

I,Parvesh Maggo W/o Naresh Kumar Maggo R/o-K-7/67 4th-Floor, DLF City,Phase-II Gurgaon-122002, Haryana,have changed my name to Parvesh Magoo Permanently 0040600394-1

I,Parul Kodan Hooda W/o,Amit Hooda R/o-CGB035, 3rd-Floor, DLF-Capital Greens, Shivaji-Marg, Moti-Nagar, New-Delhi-110015 have changed my name to Parul Kodan. 0040600414-5

I,PRAHLAD KOTIA, S/O.PRATAP SINGH,ADD-1391,CHOWK SHAH-MUBARAK, SITA-RAM BAZAR AJMERI-GATE NORTH-DELHI-110006.Changed my name to PRAHLAD KUMAR, permanantly 0040600439-8

I,Harkrishan Singh Bedi,S/O Varinder Singh Bedi,R/O.WZ-181,Gali.No-12 Krishna-Puri, Tilak-Nagar,New-Delhi-110018,Have Changed my Name to Harkishan Singh. 0040600414-3

I,DASTAGIRI BASHA SHAIK,S/O: SHAIK NABI SAHIBR/O:B-107, AMRAPALI GREEN,1/3, VAIBHAV-KHAND, INDIRAPURAM, GHAZIABAD, U.P-201014, Changed my name to SHAIK DASTAGIRI BASHA. 0040600439-4

I,Kabeer Narang, S/o Rajinder Narang,R/o B1/133, Ashok-Vihar Phase-2, Delhi-110052, have changed my name to Kabir Narang. 0040600414-8

I, Ruchika, W/O Surender Jindal, R/O H.No.-C-50, Vikas Puri, Delhi-110018, Change My Name to Ruchika Jindal. 040600414-7

I, Trilok Bhalla, S/o Nanak Chand Bhalla, R/o- E-17, Jeevan Park, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Trilok Nath Bhalla. 0070769979-1

I, Dinesh Kukreja s/o Dev Dutt Kukreja r/o D-206, Pujari Apartments,Shiv Vihar,Rohtak Road, Delhi-110087,have changed my name to DINESH KUMAR KUKREJA permanently. DINESH KUMAR KUKREJA and DINESH KUKREJA both are same and one person. 0040600367-1

I, Paankaj Sethi, S/o Devinder Pal Sethi, R/o 6C, Tower 12, Central Park ll- Belgravia, Sector-48, South City-ll, Gurgaon, Haryana-122018, have changed the name of my minor daughter Pierah Sethi aged about 13 Years and she shall hereafter be known as Pierra Sethi. 0070769989-1

I, Neeru Sethia, W/o Rakesh Sethia, R/o H.No 2114, Sector-9, Faridabad, Haryana-121006, have changed my name to Niral Sethia for all future purposes. 0070769949-1

I, NIRMAL WALIA alias NIRMAL KUMAR WALIA alias NIRMAL KR AHLUWALIA, S/o Krishan Kumar Ahluwalia, R/o House No-205 -D, DDA FLAT LIG, JHILMIL COLONY, JHILMIL H.O., EAST DELHI-110095, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as NIRMAL AHLUWALIA. 0070769991-1

I, MOHD SAHID,S/O.ABDUL RAJJAK, ADD-D-190-A,ABUL-FAZAL ENCLAVE PART-1,THOKAR NO-3,JAMIA-NAGAR OKHLA SOUTH DELHI-110025. Changed my name to MOHD SAEED, permanantly. 0040600439-5

I, MOHD AQIL S/o. SH. MOHD SAYEED R/o.Flat No-3, Zakir Bagh, OPP. Hotel Surya, New Delhi-110025 have changed my name from MOHD AQIL ALIAS SHEHZAD to MOHD AQIL for all future purposes. 40600377-1

I, Gurmeet Singh Madharu,S/o Dharam Singh,R/o WZ-G-33, 2nd-Floor,Sant-Nagar Extn. Tilak-Nagar, Delhi-110018, changed my name to Gurmeet Singh. 0040600414-2

I, Chhaya, D/o Narendra Tokas, R/o A-18, Rajpur Khurd, New Delhi-110068, have changed my name to Chhaya Tokas. 0070769973-1

I, Ankit Jindal,S/o-Ashok Kumar, R/o-H.No.93, Punjabi Colony, Narela, Delhi-110040,have changed my minor,son's name,from Moksh Jindal,to Mridul Jindal, for all future purposes. 0040600410-1

I, Amit Surena, S/o- Moti Lal Surana R/o-65, 2nd-floor old Geeta Colony Delhi-110031, have changed my name to Amit Surana 0040600410-3

I, Ambika Khatoon, W/o Mannan Ahmad Khan, born on 01/01/1973 residing at Haldoni Kulesara, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201306, shall henceforth be known as AMBIYA KHATOON. 0070769956-1

I,BOBBY, W/O.MOHD SAEED, ADD-D.190-A, ABUL-FAZAL ENCLAVE PART-1, THOKAR.NO-3,JAMIA-NAGAR, OKHLA,SOUTH DELHI-110025. Changed my name to BOBBY SAEED QURESHI, permanantly. 0040600439-6

I,Anita Nagyal alias Anu Nagyal,daughter of,Late Col.Jai Singh Chaudhary, resident of, 206,Saral Apartment Plot,No.15 Sector-10,Dwarka,New Delhi, are the same person having my correct.Date-of-Birth as-17/07/1975. 0040600414-6

I,Jogesh S/o-Sh.Ascharaj Lal R/o-House.no.322/14, Jacobpura,Gurugram, Haryana -122001,have changed my name to Jogesh Sahni,for all future purpose. 0040600451-1

I,IMANUAL MASIH,S/o JAGDISH MASIH, ADDRESS:G-139,OKHLA INDUSTRIAL AREA PHASE-1, HARKESH-NAGAR, DELHI-110020, Changed my name to EMMANUEL MASIH. permanantly. 0040600439-10

I,Anil Kumar,S/o Sheotaj Singh, R/o J-53, First-Floor, Mayfield-Garden, Sector-51, Wazirabad (75), Gurgaon(Haryana),have changed my name to Anil Kumar Yadav. 0040600451-3

I,ARUN KUMAR CHAUHAN S/O ZILAY SINGH CHAUHAN R/O FLATNO.B-1404, M2K,VICTORIA-GARDENS, AZADPUR,DELHI-110033, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ARUN CHAUHAN. 0040600414-1

I,ANSAR AHAMAD, S/O. MOHAMMAD RAZA, ADD- G-53/14,F/F BATLA HOUSE SIR SYED-ROAD JAMIA-NAGAR SOUTH-DELHI-110025. Changed my name to ANSAR AHMED ANSARI, PERMANANTLY. 0040600439-7

I, Simran d/o Mohan Lal Gupta r/o B-5/333, Vivekanand Apartment, Sector-8, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to SIMRAN GUPTA. 0040600383-1

I, Ritu Nanda Tandon,W/o-Anurag Tandon, residing 214, Pocket-D, Mayur Vihar Phase-2, Delhi,have changed my name to Ritu Tandon,for all purposes. 0040600410-2

I NAMITA GUPTA D/O PARKASH SACHDEVA R/O B-156A, GROUND FLOOR DERAWAL NAGAR DELHI-110009 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO NAMITA SACHDEVA. 0040600101-4

NAME CHANGE

I, Mutum (O) Surbala Devi, wife of No. 13004317M, Rank LNK Mutum Ningthem Singh presently residing at Pourabi Makha Leikai, PO- Lamlong, PS - Lamlai, District- Imphal East, Manipur have changed my name from Mutum (O) Surbala Devi to Hijam Surbala Devi vide affidavit dated 11/01/2022 before the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Imphal West, Manipur

LOST & FOUND

Lost Original-Property Document-perpetual sub lease-deed of Property.No.A-122,Surajmal-Vihar,Delhi-110092,favouring Mohinder Kaur Sethi,W/o Late.Man Mohan Singh Sethi founder may inform,Navinder Singh Sethi and Harvinder Singh Sethi#9811337524, 9871188336. 0040600451-6

SERVICES

OLD AGE HOME

@500/- perday with meal at Kamshet Pune in scenic environment, for Peace of mind, also blind, Paralysis, Dedridden Elderly, first admission. Wanwadi Contact Patiltai, 9545540076/ 9545540078. 0090297817-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients JASWANT SINGH S/O LT. SANT SINGH AND HIS WIFE NAMELY SMT. MANDEEP KAUR R/O H. NO. A-18, G.T. ROAD, ADARSH NAGAR, N. S. MANDI, MODEL TOWN NORTH/WEST, DELHI- 110033, have severe all relations disowned/debarred their DAUGHTER-IN-LAW "SMT. GURVINDER KAUR W/O RAMINDER SINGH" from all movable/immovable property & assets due to her misbehavior and out of control. Anybody dealing with her shall do at his/her own risk.

Sd/- **A. SHINGAL** (Advocate)
CH. NO. 223, 2ND FLOOR, LAWYERS CHAMBER ROHINI COURT DELHI-85

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to public that my clients Smt. Santosh and her husband Sh. Dharmvir R/o H. No- RZ-21, A Block, Sabzi Mandi Jharodha Road Gopal Nager, Najafgarh, West Delhi 110043, have severed all relations and debarred their son namely Deepak, his wife Neha Dabas and their legal heirs, from their all movable-immovable properties for their misconduct. My clients shall not be liable/responsible for any acts of their Son and daughter-in-law.

Sd/-
Anand Kataria
Advocate
D/5178/2017
CH. NO. K78-A,
1st FLOOR, K-BLOCK,
TIS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Satish Chandra Tyagi Son of Late shri Ramesh Chandra Tyagi and Kusum Tyagi Wife of Satish Chandra Tyagi Resident of A43. New Clear Park, Near Pushpam Tenament, Subanpura, Vadodara, Gujarat-390023. The public at large herein informed through this Public Notice. That my client debarred and disown their son Ashish Tyagi and his wife Nikki Tyagi D/o Late Atul Tyagi (My client daughter in Law) from their movable and immovable Properties and severe their relation forever due to vicious, Bad and unlawful behaviour and conduct of Ashish Tyagi and his wife Nikki Tyagi (My client daughter in Law). My Client will be not responsible for any act and Liabilities of Ashish Tyagi and his wife Nikki Tyagi, Whosoever deals in any manner with them may do so at his own Risk & responsibilities.

Ravinder Tyagi (Advocate)
Ch. No. 335, Lawer Block, Sector-12, Faridabad

PUBLIC NOTICE

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL THAT MY CLIENT SHRI NAND KISHORE JAGGI SON OF LATE SHRI B.L. JAGGI OWNER/RESIDENT OF F-128, MANSAROVAR GARDEN, NEW DELHI-110015, HAS EXECUTED GIFT DEEDS IN FAVOUR OF HIS SON SHRI GOPAL KRISHAN JAGGI RESIDENT OF F-128, G.F., MANSAROVAR GARDEN, NEW DELHI-110015, IN RESPECT OF GROUND FLOOR, SECOND FLOOR AND THIRD FLOOR. 1. REGISTERED AS DCOUMENT NO.7404 IN BOOK NO.1, VOLUME 19749 AT PAGES 9-16 ON 24.03.2012 (2) REGISTERED AS DCOUMENT NO. 7754 IN BOOK NO.1, VOLUME 25663 AT PAGES 185-193 ON 07.08.2021 WITH O/O SUB-REGISTRAR, NEW DELHI. (3) REGISTERED AS DCOUMENT NO. 2031 IN BOOK NO.1, VOLUME 25372 AT PAGES 181-189 ON 19.02.2021 WITH O/O SUB-REGISTRAR, NEW DELHI. THE GIFT DEED DATED 19.03.2012 REGISTERED AS DCOUMENT NO.7032 IN BOOK NO.1, VOLUME 19736 AT PAGES 182-187 WITH O/O SUB-REGISTRAR, NEW DELHI, IN FAVOUR OF MY CLIENT'S OTHER SON, SHRI SANJAY JAGGI WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ANNULLED UNDER PROVISIONS OF PROTECTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS ACT. MY CLIENT HAS MADE THESE GIFT DEEDS AS WELL AS WITHDRAWAL ON HIS FREE WILL AND IT HOLDS GOOD. MY CLIENT HAS HIS DESIRE THAT NONE FROM HIS FAMILY CHALLENGE THESE DEEDS AND HIS DESIRE IS HONOURED. MY CLIENT HAS ALSO DETERMINED HIS SHARE IN ALL HIS OTHER PROPERTIES, AND MY CLIENT WISHES THAT NONE SHOULD HAVE ANY OBJECTION BEING MY CLIENT THE ABSOLUTE AND EXCLUSIVE OWNER OF HIS PROPERTIES.

VIJAY MALHOTRA
ADVOCATE
Y-3, CIVIL SIDE,
TIS HAZARI COURTS,
DELHI-110054.

"IMPORTANT"

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

JAIPUR VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

प्रभास्मि शशि सूर्ययोः

office: Vidyut Bhawan, Janpath, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur 302005
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM-II)
MM Building, Old Power House Premises, Near Ram Mandir, Banipark Jaipur-302006
Tel. 0141-2202607, E-Mail id:- semm2@jvvnl.org
Website: www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jvvnl E-mail: jaipurdiscom@jvvnl.org

e-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

e-tenders are invited for purchase of 25 KVA Single phase Aluminium wound Distribution Transformers BIS Level - 2 with ICB **(TN-2704, UBN-VVN2122GLOB00619)** and 16 KVA Single phase Aluminium wound Distribution Transformers BIS Level - 2 with ICB **(TN-2705, UBN-VVN2122GLOB00620)**. All the details regarding tenders are available at web site **www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jvvnl**, **www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** and **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**. In future, corrigendum/ extension, if any, shall be published only at above web sites.

JPR-2673 (2022)
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM-II)
Raj.Samwad/C/21/10993
For Electricity complaints Toll free No. 1800 180 6507

बीड नगर परिषद, बीड

ई-निविदा पा.पु./2/2021-22 (पहिली वेळ)

बीड नगर परिषद, बीड यांचेकडून पाणी पुरवठा विभागाकरीता **Monthly Charges for running water supply scheme for year 2022-23** या कामाकरीता योग्य त्या वर्गातील नोंदणीकृत ठेकेदार, जे पूर्वअर्हता अटी पुर्ण करतील अशा ठेकेदारांकडून फक्त ऑनलाईन पध्दतीने निविदा मागविण्यात येत आहे. या निविदेच्या पूर्वअर्हता अटी व सविस्तर निविदा सुचना तसेच सदर कामाबाबतचे वेळापत्रक शासनाच्या **https://mahatenders.gov.in** या संकेतस्थळावरुन दि.24/01/2022 रोजी सकाळी 11.00 वाजले पासून दिनांक 23/02/2022 रोजी सायं 16.00 वाजेपर्यंत पाहता व भरता येईल.

"Say No To Single Use Plastic"

स्वा/-
मुख्याधिकारी,
नगर परिषद, बीड

राजस्थान विश्वविद्यालय, जयपुर

कार्यालय विश्वविद्यालय अभियन्ता

ई–निविदा सूचना संख्या 28/2020–21

राजस्थान विश्वविद्यालय, जयपुर में विभिन्न कार्यों के लिये राजकीय/अर्द्ध–राजकीय विभागों के सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से विभिन्न कार्यों की **कुल संख्या 02** हेतु कुल राशि **रुपये 292.62 लाख** की सील बन्द निविदाऐ आमंत्रित की जाती है। कार्य की अनुमानित लागत, निविदा देने एवं प्राप्त करने की दिनांक, समय, एवं शर्तें आदि सम्पूर्ण विवरण की जानकारी विश्वविद्यालय की वेबसाईट **www.uniraj.ac.in** एवं **http://sppp.raj.nic.in** पर उपलब्ध है, जिनका यूबीएन नम्बर **URA2122WSOB000133, 134** and **URA2122A0035** है।

विश्वविद्यालय अभियन्ता

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

TENDER NOTICE

L. No. JHS-ELG-W-T-10-2021-22 Date: 21.01.2022

For and on behalf of President of India, the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (Gen) North Central Railway, Jhansi invites open tenders through online (E-Tendering) for the following work:-

Tender No.	Name of work	Tender value	Earnest money	Cost of tender Document	Completion period	Closing date of tender
JHS-ELG-W-T-10-2021-22	Replacement of HT/LT electrical switch gears assets & cable work over Jhansi division.	₹ 55,55,434/- only	₹ 1,11,200/- only	₹ 0/-	06 months	21.02.2022 (upto 15:00 Hrs.)

Note:- ● Tenderer will submit the tender online upto 21.02.2022 (upto 15:00 Hrs.) ● Complete details & for submission of tenders can be seen in Indian Railway website http://www.ireps.gov.in. 79/22(R)

North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRO NCR

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Tender Notice No.SIG/WS/Contract/556 Date:10.01.2022

Tender Notice

Dy Chief Signal & Telecomm Engineer/Construction/North Central Railway/ Prayagraj, GM Office, Betwa Building, Subedar ganj, Prayagraj for and on behalf of President of India invites E - tenders on the prescribed form upto 15:00 Hrs. on 02.02.2022 for the under noted work, which will be opened on the same day at 15:30 Hrs.

Tender No.	SIG/WS/Contract/556
Name of work	Design, Manufacturing, supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Electronic Interlocking System with all Indoor & Outdoor signaling gears at Rooma, Chakeri and Chandari stations in connection with Rooma-Chakeri-Chandari 3rd line work of Prayagraj division of N. C. Railway.
Approx Cost of Work (Rs)	₹ 143971005.34/- (Fourteen Crores thirty nine lacs seventy one thousand five and thirty four paise only)
Earnest money (Rs.)	₹ 869900.00 (Rs. Eight lakh sixty nine thousand nine hundred only)
Cost of Tender form (Rs.)	₹ 0.0
Completion period	12 months
Date & Time of closing/ opening of tender	Upto 02.02.2022 15:00 Hrs. and will be opened at 15:30 Hrs. on the same day.

Web site particulars and Notice Board location where complete details of tender can be seen. Web site www.ireps.gov.in. Notice Board provided in the office of the Dy Chief Signal & Telecomm Engineer/Construction/North Central Railway/Prayagraj, GM Office, Betwa Building, Subedar ganj, Prayagraj

90/2022 V

North Central Railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRONCR

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Pulikeshinagar Division, BBMP
Office Building, Robertson Road, Frazer Town, Bengaluru.

No.:EE/PN/TEND/12/2021-22 Date:25.01.2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only) (Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer, Pulikeshinagar Division, invites tenders from eligible tenderers for the works detailed in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Value of Work (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
1.	Improvements of Roads & Drains in Hanifiya Masjid Road & Surrounding area in Ward No. 31, Kushalanagar.	100.00	2,00,000/-
2.	Improvements of Roads & Drains in Ganesha Block Athmananda Colony & Surrounding area in Ward No. 32, Kaval Byrasandra.	100.00	2,00,000/-
3.	Improvements of Roads & Drains in Vishweshwaraiah Layout & Muneshwara Temple back side & Surrounding area in Ward No. 48, Muneshwaranagar.	100.00	2,00,000/-
4.	Improvements of Roads & Drains in Muneshwaranagar Main Road & Dubai Layout Surrounding area in Ward No. 48, Muneshwaranagar.	100.00	2,00,000/-
5.	Improvements of Roads & Drains in A.K. Colony & Surrounding area in Ward No. 61, S.K. Garden.	100.00	2,00,000/-
6.	Construction of New Ambedkar Samudhaya Bhavana at N.C. Colony Borebank Road in Ward No. 61, S.K. Garden.	100.00	2,00,000/-

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from GoK e-procurement portal from **01.02.2022, 4:00 p.m. onwards.** **2)** Last date for submission of tenders: **14.02.2022 upto 4:00 p.m.** **3)** Opening of Technical Bids: **16.02.2022 at 11.00 a.m.** Further details can be accessed from GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or e-procurement helpdesk : 080-25481112 or contact the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Pulikeshinagar Division.

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.

Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Delhi

4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

O.A. No. 460/2021 Dt. 24-01-2022

UNION BANK OF INDIA (E-Cor. Bank) **Applicant**

Versus

M/s Gardenia Aims Developers Pvt. Ltd. & ORS. Respondent

To,
Defendants

(1) Gardenia Aims Developers P. Ltd., 69, Basement Floor, Mausam Vihar, Near Parwana Road, New Delhi-110051, East Delhi **Also at**: C56/5 4th Floor Mantec Building Sector 62, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301, **Also at:** Main Road Golf City, Sector 75, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201301

(2) Mr. Malook Nagar S/o Late R D Nagar, R/o D3/10 Vasant Vihar South West, Delhi-110057 **Also at:** C-4/17 Safdarjung Development Area New Delhi, Delhi - 110022

(3) Mr. Ajay Kumar S/o Mr. N K Sharma, E 47 Sector-40 Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201301 **Also at:** H3, Ist Floor Laxmi Nagar, East, Delhi - 110092

(4) Mr. Sanjeev Kumar S/o Jagdish Prasad Sharma, R/o C 164 Manu Apartment Mayur Vihar, Phase-I, East, Delhi - 110091, **Also at:** B-43, 1st Floor, Kailash Colony, New Delhi, Delhi - 110048

(5) Mr. Manoj Kumar Ray S/o Mr. Narender Prasad Ray A 504 Vardhman Apartment MV Extension Phase-I, East, Delhi - 110091, **Also at:** Flat No. 604 Tower 4 Common Wealth Games Village New Delhi, Delhi - 110090, **Also at:** A 218 Mangal Apartments Vasundhara Enclave East, Delhi - 110096

(6) M/s Gardenia India Limited, 69 Ground Floor, Mausam Vihar East, Delhi - 110051, **Also at:** Shop No. 61 Second Floor Shiv Arcade, Acharya Niketan Mayur Vihar Phase I, East, Delhi - 110091, **Also at:** R19 3rd Floor Main Shakarpur Vikas Marg East, Delhi - 110092, **Also at:** Plot No. 9, Sector 75, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201301

(7) M/s Aims Promoters Pvt. Ltd., D3/10 Paschim Marg Vasant Vihar South West, Delhi - 110057, Also at: R 10, 11 and 12 Ansal Chamber Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi, Delhi - 110029

(8) M/s Maxblis Construction Pvt. Ltd., S 378 School Block Shakarpur East, Delhi-110093, **Also at:** C 67 First Floor Opposite Mother Dairy Ganesh Nagar, East, Delhi - 110092, **Also at**: GH 17 Golf City Sector 75, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201307

Whereas the above named applicant(s) has / have instituted a case for recovery of **Rs. 122,67,34,404.70 (Rs One Hundred Twenty Two Crore Sixty Seven Lacs Thirty Four Thousand Four Hundred Four and Seventy Paisa Only)** against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on **24-02-2022 at 10.30 A.M.**

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

Due to ongoing Pandemic situation, all the matters will be taken up through Video Conferencing and for that purpose:-

(i) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the "Cisco Webex" application / software;

(ii) Meeting ID and Password for the date of hearing qua cases to be taken by Registrar/Recovery Officer-I/and Recovery Officer-II shall be displayed in the daily cause list itself of DRT Official Portal i.e. drt.gov.in.

(iii) In any exigency qua that, the Advocate/ Litigants can contact the concerned official at **Ph. No. 23748478.**

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the **24th day of Jan., 2021.**

By order of the Tribunal
Assistant Registrar, DRT-II, Delhi

The Indian EXPRESS Classifieds
FROM ANYTHING TO EVERYTHING.

CLASSIFIED AD DEPOT (CAD)

Book classified ads at your nearest Express Group's authorised Classified Ad Depots

EAST

PATPARGANJ : CHAVI ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9899701024, 22090987, 22235837, **PREET VIHAR :** AD BRIDGE COMMUNICATION, Ph.: 9810029747, 42421234, 22017210, **SHAKARPUR :** PARICHAY ADVERTISING & MARKETING, Ph.: 9350309890, 22519890, 22549890

WEST

JANAKPURI : TRIMURTI ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9810234206, 25530307, **KAROL BAGH (REGHARPURA) :** K R ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9810316618, 9310316618, 41547697, **KARAMPURA :** GMJ ADVERTISING & MARKETING PVT. LTD., Ph.: 9310333777, 9211333777, 9810883377, **NEW MOTI NAGAR :** MITTAL ADVERTISING, Ph.: 25178183, 9810538183, 9555945923, **MOTI NAGAR :** UMA ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9312272149, 8800276797, **RAMESH NAGAR :** POSITIVE ADS, Ph.: 9891195327, 9310006777, 65418908, **TILAK NAGAR :** SHIVA ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9891461543, 25980670, 20518836, **VIKAS PURI :** AAKAR ADVT. MEDIA Ph.: 9810401352, 9015907873, 9268796133

CENTRAL

CHANDNI CHOWK : RAMNIWAS ADVERTISING & MARKETING, Ph.: 9810145272, 23912577, 23928577, **CONNAUGHT PLACE :** HARI OM ADVERTISING COMPANY Ph.: 9811555181, 43751196

NORTH

TIS HAZARI COURT : SAI ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9811117748 **KINGWAY CAMP :** SHAGUN ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9818505505, 27458589, **PATEL CHEST (OPP. MORRIS NAGAR POLICE STATION) :** MAHAN ADVERTISING & MARKETING, Ph.: 9350304609, 7042590693, **PITAMPURA (PRASHANT VIHAR) :** PAAVAN ADVERTISER Ph.: 9311564460, 9311288839, 47057929

SOUTH

CHATTARPUR : A & M MEDIA ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9811602901, 65181100, 26301008, **KALKAJI :** ADWIN ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9811111825, 41605556, 26462690, **MALVIYA NAGAR :** POOJA ADVERTISING & MARKETING SERVICE, Ph.: 9891081700, 24331091, 46568866, **YUSUF SARAI :** TANEJA ADVERTISEMENT & MARKETING Ph.: 9810843218, 26561814, 26510090

NCR

FARIDABAD (NEELAM FLYOVER) : AID TIME (INDIA) ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9811195834, 0129-2412798, 2434654, **FARIDABAD (NIT, KALYAN SINGH CHOWK) :** PULSE ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9818078183, 9811502088, 0129-4166498, **FARIDABAD :** SURAJ ADVERTISING & MARKETING, Ph.: 9810680954, 9953526681, **GURGAON :** SAMBODHI MEDIA PVT. LTD., Ph.: 0124-4065447, 9711277174, 9910633399, **GURGAON :** AD MEDIA ADVERTISING & PR, Ph.: 9873804580, **NOIDA (SEC. 29) :** RDX ADVERTISING, Ph.: 9899268321, 0120-4315917, **NOIDA (SEC. 65) :** SRI SAI MEDIA, Ph.: 0120-4216117, **NOIDA (SEC. 58) :** JAI LAKSHMI ADVERTISERS, Ph.: 9873807457, 9911911719 **GHAZIABAD (HAPUR ROAD TIRAHA, NR GURUDWARA) :** TIRUPATI BALAJI ADVERTISING & MARKETING, Ph.: 9818373200, 8130640000, 0120-4561000

EDUCATION (IAS & PMT ACADEMIES)

FRIENDS PUBLICITY SERVICE 23287653, 23276901, 9212008155

For CAD enquiries please contact :
ROHIT JOSHI 9818505947, **ABHINAV GUPTA** 9910035901
For booking classified ads, please contact 011-23702148, 0120-6651215, E-mail : delhi.classifieds@expressindia.com

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer / Colony, N.E. Railway, Gorakhpur for & behalf of President of India Invites "OPEN" E-Tenders through online (e-tendering) for the following work:- **Tender Notice No. & Description of work:- 1. 01-2022-Colony, Name of work:-** Provision of Solar Geyser in MSTC hostels for development of Quarantine facilities of 54 beds isolation wards., **Approx Value ₹ :-** 703000.00, **E.M.D. Money ₹ :-** 14100.00, **Cost of Tender Form :-** Zero, **Completion time / period from the date of issue of acceptance letter :-** 60 Days, **Tender Notice No. & Description of work:- 2. 02-2022-Colony, Name of work:-** Electrical work for Gorakhpur - Proposed widening and Improvement of Road No. 16 from Durga Mandir to SSE Electrical Out door., **Approx Value ` :-** 2190279.10, **E.M.D. Money ` :-** 43800.00, **Cost of Tender Form :-** Zero, **Completion time / period from the date of issue of acceptance letter :-** 06 Months, • E-tender online will be submitted upto 15:00 Hrs on dated 15.02.2022., • Manual offer are not allowed against these tenders and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railway IREPS official website **www.ireps.gov.in**.

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Colony
CPRO/EL-94 Gorakhpur

About any passenger amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No.: 09794845955

Do Not Smoke Bidi/Cigarette in train

For All Advertisement Booking
Call : 0120-6651214

Rajasthan State Road Development And Construction Corporation Ltd., JAIPUR

No. NIT/2021-22/20098-20107 ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 305/2021-22 **Date: 25.01.2022**

निम्नलिखित कार्य के लिए केन्द्र/राज्य सरकार के अभियांत्रिकी विभागों द्वारा पंजीकृत एवं अनुभवी संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

कार्य का विवरण	अनुमानित लागत (रु.)
SITC of LAN, CCTV and Digital Communication work in Construction of Medical College Building at Sirohi. **UBN: RRC2122WSOB00587**	288.00 Lakh
ऑनलाईन निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड करने की अवधि दिनांक 24.01.2022 प्रातः 9.00 बजे से 14.02.2022 को सायं 6.00 बजे तक	

निविदा से सम्बन्धित प्रपत्र में निविदा शुल्क, धरोहर राशि, डाउनलोड करने व खोलने की तारीख सहित सम्पूर्ण विवरण एवं संशोधन वेबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.nic.in तथा http://roads.rajasthan.gov.in/rsrdc पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर रजिस्टर्ड करवाना आवश्यक है। महाप्रबंधक

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD (R&B) DIVISION KATHUA

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

e-NIT No. 178 of 2021-22/12438-47/G Dtd-17-01-2022

For and on behalf of the **Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir** e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union **Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments** for each of the following works

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimated Cost (₹ in lacs)	Cost of document (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in ₹)	Time Allowed for complete-on	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Construction of Hostel for Senior/ Junior Residents (Boys and Girls) at Associated Hospital of Govt. Medical College, Kathua.	PWD (R&B) Division Kathua	1015.00	6000.00	2% of E/Cost	24 Months	(1100 Hrs) on or after 02-02-2022	"A" Class

Position of AAA :- Accorded
Major Head :- Under State Capex (Health)

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website **http://jktenders.gov.in** as per below schedule:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	12-01-2022
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 14-01-2022 at 1000 Hrs to 01-02-2022, 1600 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	24-01-2022 at 1200 Hrs. in the Office of the Chief Engineer PW (R&B) Department jammu.
4	Bid submission Start Date	15-01-2022 at 1000 Hrs
5	Bid Submission End Date	01-02-2022 up to 1600 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids **(Online)**	02-02-2022 on or after 1100 Hrs in the Office of the Chief Engineer PW (R&B) Department Jammu.
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids **(Online)**	Will be intimated later to the technically qualified bidders

(Er. Vinod Kumar)
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division ,
Kathua.

DIP/J-2195

"IMPORTANT"

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