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AIR

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**9**  
AIR

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**DELHI: 20 SEP, 1 PM | 30 AUG, 9 AM | 19 AUG, 1 PM**

HYDERABAD: 8<sup>th</sup> Aug | AHMEDABAD: 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug | PUNE: 20<sup>th</sup> June  
LUCKNOW: 25<sup>th</sup> Aug | CHANDIGARH: 25<sup>th</sup> Aug | JAIPUR: 16<sup>th</sup> Aug

**DELHI: 15 NOV, 5 PM | 11 OCT, 5 PM** | AHMEDABAD: 16<sup>th</sup> Feb, 8:30 AM | CHANDIGARH: 18<sup>th</sup> Jan, 5 PM | PUNE: 21<sup>st</sup> Jan, 8 AM  
JAIPUR: 15<sup>th</sup> Dec, 7:30 AM & 5 PM | LUCKNOW: 18<sup>th</sup> Jan, 5 PM | HYDERABAD: 10<sup>th</sup> Oct

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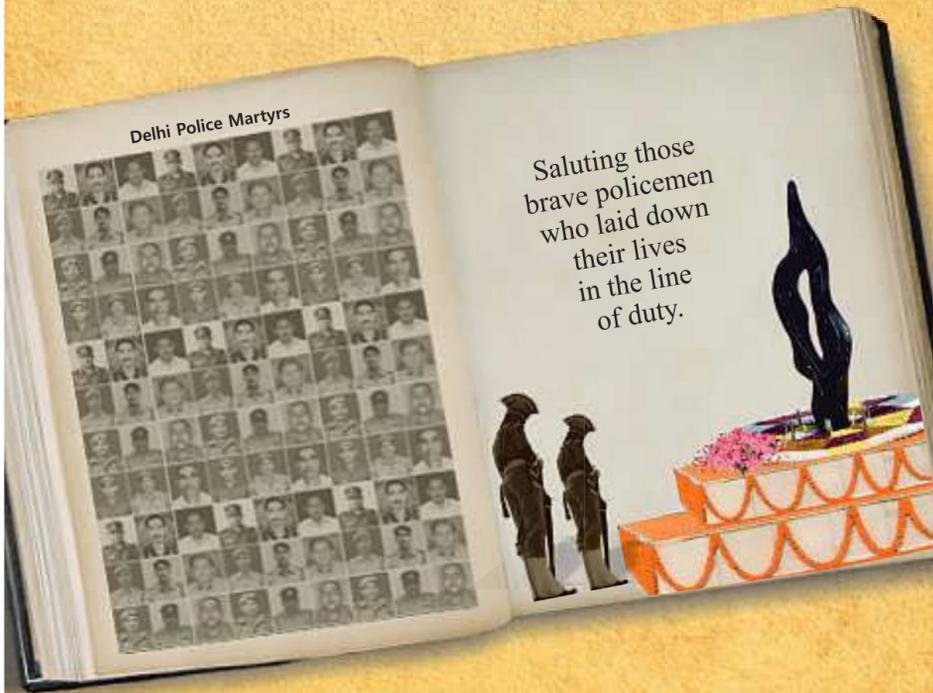
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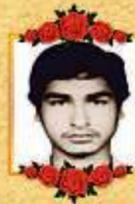
**HC Yashpal**  
Date of Martyrdom: 24.08.2012



**Const. Vinod Kumar**  
Date of Martyrdom: 28.12.2013



**Const. Mana Ram**  
Date of Martyrdom: 14.06.2014



**Const. Shiv Raj Singh**  
Date of Martyrdom: 14.07.2014



**Const. Dharampal**  
Date of Martyrdom: 27.09.2014



**Const. Jagvir Singh**  
Date of Martyrdom: 13.10.2014



**ASI Nagendra Pal Singh**  
Date of Martyrdom: 14.12.2014



**Const. Sawkar Pralhad Ramrao**  
Date of Martyrdom: 14.12.2014



**Const. Karmveer Singh**  
Date of Martyrdom: 13.01.2015



**Const. Yogesh Kumar**  
Date of Martyrdom: 19.04.2015



**HC Ram Kanwar Meena**  
Date of Martyrdom: 23.12.2015



**Const. Anand Kumar**  
Date of Martyrdom: 06.01.2016



**Const. Anand Singh**  
Date of Martyrdom: 19.08.2016



**ASI Vijay Singh**  
Date of Martyrdom: 01.05.2017



**Const. Beenesh Kumar**  
Date of Martyrdom: 16.09.2017



**ASI Jitender Singh**  
Date of Martyrdom: 13.11.2018



**HC Guljhari Lal**  
Date of Martyrdom: 08.01.2019



**HC Rattan Lal**  
Date of Martyrdom: 24.02.2020



**HC Nawal Kishor Meena**  
Date of Martyrdom: 14.10.2021



**ASI Om Prakash**  
Date of Martyrdom: 08.11.2021



**Const. Abhishek Kumar**  
Date of Martyrdom: 21.12.2021



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## SPORTS



**CAN'T BE DICTATED TO, SAYS THAKUR AFTER PAK THREAT TO SKIP WORLD CUP**  
PAGE 20

## THE CITY

**2017 MURDER IN SCHOOL: ACCUSED GETS INTERIM BAIL**  
PAGE 11

## HER TURBULENT TERM SHORTEST IN BRITISH HISTORY

## Liz Truss crashes out as Britain's PM in 45 days, Rishi Sunak is back in the fray



Liz Truss announces her resignation on Thursday. Reuters

Conservative Party set to elect its new leader by next week

ELIZABETH PIPER,  
ANDREW MACASKILL  
& ALISTAIR SMOUT  
LONDON, OCTOBER 20

LIZ TRUSS quit on Thursday after the shortest, most chaotic tenure of any British prime minister, forced out after her economic programme shattered the country's reputation for financial stability and left many people poorer.

The Conservative Party, which holds a big majority in Parliament and need not call a nationwide election for another two years, will now elect a new leader by October 28 — Britain's fifth prime minister in six years.

That contest is likely to pit former finance minister Rishi Sunak against former defence minister Penny Mordaunt, but could also see the return of Boris Johnson, who was ousted as

## EXPLAINED

**FIVE REASONS WHY TRUSS HAD TO GO** P 18

## THE WORLD

**NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR NEW PM** P 21

prime minister in July when his ministers resigned en masse to force him out of office.

The sight of yet another unpopular prime minister making a resignation speech in Downing Street — and the start of a new leadership race — underscores just how volatile British politics has become since the 2016 vote to leave the European Union.

Speaking outside the door of her Number 10 office just 45

days after taking over as Prime Minister, Truss accepted that she had lost the faith of her party and would step down next week. The pound rallied as she spoke.

"I have therefore spoken to His Majesty the King to notify him that I am resigning as leader of the Conservative Party," said Truss, who was supported only by her husband with her aides and loyal ministers noticeably absent.

Allied leaders said they would continue to work with her successor and emphasised the importance of stability.

One of the most contentious issues facing the Conservatives is how they elect a new leader, after the party's 170,000 members chose Truss over the wishes of its elected lawmakers at Westminster. Groups within the party have battled over the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## India-Russia trade soars to record high as imports of oil and fertiliser drive surge

HARIKISHAN SHARMA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

FUELLED BY a surge in import of oil and fertilisers, India's bilateral trade with Russia has soared to an all-time high of \$18,229.03 million in just five months (April-August) of this financial year (2022-23), according to the latest data available with the Department of Commerce.

In contrast, the total annual bilateral trade between the two countries stood at \$13,124.68 million in 2021-22, and \$8,141.26 million in 2020-21. Pre-Covid, it was \$10,110.68 million in 2019-20, \$8,229.91 million in 2018-19, and \$10,686.85 million in 2017-18.

With the sharp spike in trade, Russia has now become India's seventh biggest trading partner — up from its 25th position last year. The US (\$57,632.37 million), China (\$50,792.83 million), UAE (\$36,820.33 million), Saudi

## INDIA'S TRADE WITH RUSSIA

Trade in \$ million



Arabia (\$23,995 million), Iraq (\$18,822.27 million) and Indonesia (\$18,816.58 million) were the six countries which recorded higher volumes of trade with India during the first five months of 2022-23.

Of the total \$18,229.03 million bilateral trade in April-August, India's imports from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## Kheda public flogging: HC issues notice to police, victims seek action

SOHINI GHOSH  
AHMEDABAD, OCTOBER 20

A DIVISION bench of the Gujarat High Court issued notice Thursday to state authorities including police personnel who were allegedly involved in the public flogging of Muslim men in Undhela village of Kheda district following a stone-pelting incident during Navratri earlier this month.

Making submissions before the bench of Chief Justice Aravind Kumar and Justice A J Shastri, Senior Advocate I H Syed, representing the petitioners, said, "The policemen themselves made the videos and put them on social media. In a police van, they (the flogging victims) were brought from the police station, each person was taken out, beaten and was then put in the police vehicle... in full public view, this is what happened. This is a complete violation (of Supreme Court guidelines for police while making detentions and arrests)."

The bench issued notice to 15 respondents, returnable on December 12.

The petitioners — Jahirmiya Malek (62), Maksudabanu Malek (45), Sahadmiya Malek (23), Saklimiya Malek (24) and Shahidraja Malek (25) — said the men were publicly flogged by police on October 4.

They have moved the High Court against 15 police personnel — the offices of IG (Ahmedabad range) and Kheda SP, 10 Constables of Matar police station and the local crime branch (LCB) at Kheda, an Inspector of the LCB, and two Sub Inspectors.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



## FOR A JOB IN THE ARMED FORCES

Agniveer candidates wait to submit documents ahead of exams, in Kanpur, early Thursday. PTI

## Teach in mother tongue until age 8, new language can undo learning: NCF

SOURAV ROY BARMAN  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE NATIONAL Curriculum Framework (NCF) for foundational stage education, released by Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday, has recommended that the mother tongue should be the primary medium of instruction for children till eight years of age, in both public and private schools, saying a new language "reverses the entire learning process" in the early years. It adds that English could be one of the second language options.

The previous NCF, released in 2005, had also stated that the language of interaction and communication in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) would "normally be the

**EXPLAINED**  
In line with NEP

THE FIRST part of the NCF seeks to institutionalise a key aspect of the National Education Policy-2020, that the medium of instruction should be in the mother tongue until at least Class V. The NEP states that children must be exposed to different languages early on, but mother tongue should receive "particular emphasis".

child's first language, or home language". However, it also said that in the light of socio-political

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## ANDROID MOBILES

Pay Rs 1,337 cr for abusing dominance: CCI to Google

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE COMPETITION Commission of India (CCI) has imposed a provisional penalty of Rs 1,337.76 crore (\$162 million) on Google for "abusing its dominant position" in multiple categories related to the Android mobile device ecosystem in the country.

The anti-trust watchdog said Google had abused its dominance in the licensing of its operating system for smart mobile devices, app store market for Android smart mobiles, general web search services, non-operating system specific mobile web browsers, and online video

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## PM to hand out appointment letters to 75,000 new Govt employees tomorrow

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

IN LINE with his June 16 announcement to provide 10 lakh government jobs over 18 months, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hand out appointment letters to 75,000 newly-inducted appointees at different levels in 38 ministries



PM Narendra Modi with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres in Kevadia. PTI P 16

and departments on Saturday, a couple of days ahead of Diwali.

In a statement Thursday, the Prime Minister's Office said this will be the first tranche of new appointments that Modi will launch in a Rozgar Mela at 11 am on October 22 via video conferencing. He will also address the 75,000 appointees.

"This will be a significant step

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## THE WORLD



UKRAINE'S UTILITIES THREATENED BY RUSSIA IN WAR'S NEW PHASE PAGE 21

## When a ghost gets a voice, the absurd tell Sri Lanka's real stories of love, loss

PAGE 1  
ANCHOR

PAROMITA CHAKRABARTI  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

OFF THE top of his head, Shehan Karunatilaka can think of at least three plot lines for a potential novel from the massive people's protests that the economic crisis in Sri Lanka triggered earlier this year against its political leadership: "There can be one in a petrol queue. There are so many characters in there, definitely a potential drama; *Aragalaya* (Sinhalese word for struggle) went on for three months. You can do an *aragalaya* love story.



Queen Consort Camilla presents Shehan Karunatilaka with the trophy for the Booker Prize, in London. Reuters

And because it's so well-documented, your research is already there, you can do a story about a

family. Suddenly, they are the finance minister, the prime minister and the president, and

within three months, they are neither," he tells *The Indian Express* in a Zoom interview.

The 47-year-old Sri Lankan, the winner of this year's Booker Prize for his second novel, *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida* (Penguin), however, is unlikely to be the one writing those stories.

"I don't like writing about contemporary stuff. That's why I don't do journalism very well. I feel very uncomfortable because, what do I know? I like having the space of time, so your imagination can be more free," says the Colombo-based Karunatilaka, the second Sri Lanka-born writer, after Michael Ondaatje, to win the prestigious £50,000 annual award.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10




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**दीपोत्सव का भव्य आयोजन**

# 7 THE CITY

## CM HITS BACK, ASKS BJP NOT TO MAKE EXCUSES

# 'AAP nirbhar or atmanirbhar?': Amit Shah's salvo at Kejriwal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah Thursday launched a scathing attack on the Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and said it wanted Delhi to be 'AAP nirbhar' (dependent on AAP) while the BJP wanted the national capital to be 'atmanirbhar' (self-reliant). Hitting back at Shah, Chief Minister Kejriwal asked the BJP not to make excuses for its failure in running the civic bodies for 15 years.

Inaugurating the Municipal Corporation of Delhi's (MCD) waste-to-energy plant in Tehkhand near Okhla landfill, Shah said: "Kejriwal ji gives a press statement every day... he has believed... people can be misguided. This could work for five or seven years but slowly people come to know. I am here to say that AAP wants to make Delhi 'AAP nirbhar' and we want to make them 'atmanirbhar'."

Shah also took on the AAP over civic issues and MCD funds, giving a clear indication that the corporation polls could be announced soon.

He said: "People of Delhi have to decide if they want 'AAP nirbhar' Delhi or 'atmanirbhar' Delhi. I want to ask you, Kejriwal ji, Delhi corporations were three, why did they have to be unified? (It is) because you did not give



Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the MCD's waste-to-energy plant in Tehkhand (left), Thursday. Tashi Tobgyal

more than Rs 40,000 crore due to them..."

"I want to ask you, should MCD funds be given or not? Is it the responsibility of the Delhi government or not? But you should not worry, though there is an AAP government in Delhi, the Narendra Modi government (is in power) at the Centre... none of your work would stop,"

Bharat Abhiyaan for inculcating a "swachhata sanskar" or culture of cleanliness among people. "In eight years, it has started showing results. Landfill sites are slowly getting removed," he said. A scientific network for waste collection has been started from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from Gujarat to Assam, Shah said.

Responding to Shah's allegations that AAP had meted out to "step-motherly treatment to civic bodies", Kejriwal remarked, "How much money did the Centre give the MCD in 15 years? A BJP government was at both the Centre and in MCD. Double engine? Don't make excuses for your failures. Tell the government what you did in 15 years. I challenge you to tell me about even one thing you did."

On Shah's statement that BJP will ensure 100% daily waste is processed by 2025, Kejriwal said, "You need three years more to do what you could not do in 15 years? Why should people trust you? Let it be. You will not be able to do it. Now, we will make Delhi garbage free."

Meanwhile, a senior MCD official said that with the commissioning of the waste-to-energy plant, Delhi now has the capacity to process more than 2,000 metric tonnes of garbage daily. "This multi-dimensional plant has a capacity to process 2,000 metric tonnes of garbage, which will generate green energy," the official said.

## For new Janakpuri-RK Ashram Metro corridor, CM nod to clear 316 trees

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

AS MANY as 316 trees are set to be removed to make way for the Janakpuri-RK Ashram stretch of Delhi Metro's phase-4.

According to a communication from Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's office, 316 trees at a park in Derawal Nagar will be removed. Of these, 185 will be transplanted and 131 will be cut. In lieu of the trees being removed, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) will now have to plant 3,160 trees.

"The DMRC must ensure that for all transplanted trees that do not survive, indigenous tree species 15-feet-high and with at least 6-inch diameter are planted in 1:5 ratio," according to the communication from Kejriwal's office. The Chief



The 29-km line will connect the Janakpuri West Metro station on the magenta line and the RK Ashram station on the blue line. Archive

Minister has given his approval for the removal of the trees. Transplantation is to be completed in six months.

The area where the park is located is where the elevated and underground sections of the metro will meet.

The 29-km line will connect the Janakpuri West Metro station on the magenta line and the RK Ashram station on the blue line. The Janakpuri-RK Ashram stretch will run through Haiderpur, Sadar Bazar, Azadpur, Bhalswa, Pushpanjali Enclave, Mangolpuri and Paschim Vihar.

Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena had written to the Chief Minister twice in the past three months on projects being "held up for an unreasonable period of time" since they are awaiting permissions for tree felling or transplantation.

Delhi metro phase-4 projects had been listed then among those waiting for such approvals, along with the redevelopment of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, phase II of the Dwarka Expressway and the Urban Extension Road-II.

## Elderly couple 'assaulted' by 5 cops in Gurgaon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
GURGAON, OCTOBER 20

FIVE POLICEMEN were suspended after they allegedly beat up an elderly couple following an argument over wanting to smoke a hookah at their house in Fazilpur village Wednesday night, said police. Three of the accused were arrested, while two are absconding, said police.

According to the complainant, Rahul Bedi, around 10.30 pm, he was parking his car near his house when he heard his parents shouting. "As my brother and I reached the house, we saw five men... were assaulting my father and mother. Two of the accused were carrying weapons and threatening them. On seeing us, two of them escaped while we caught three men. They claimed to be police personnel and were threatening us," he alleged in the FIR.

He alleged that after being caught, the three men, who were in plainclothes, tried to pressure them claiming they were from the DCP's office.

Speaking to the media, Bedi alleged, "... The policemen arrived and said they wanted to smoke a hookah kept near the house and demanded the tobacco be filled. When my family refused and told them they appeared drunk, they started misbehaving with my mother and attacked my father. My father... suffered injuries. He was admitted to a hospital and discharged today afternoon."

In a statement, Gurgaon police spokesperson Subhash Boken said, "On Wednesday night, a dispute occurred at the house of a resident in Fazilpur village over smoking a hookah, in which some policemen were involved. After a probe, five policemen have been suspended and a departmental enquiry has been initiated against them."

The three arrested accused — head constable Manoj Kumar, sub inspector Shri Bhagwan and constable Ravinder — have been named in the FIR, while two others have been identified, said police.

On whether the policemen were inebriated, ACP Sanjiv said, "A medical examination has been conducted and further probe is on."



Dr H S Chhabra  
Spine Surgeon, Chief  
MBBS, MS, New Delhi

KEEP YOUR BONES  
YOUNG AS YOU AGE

As age catches up, a condition called **Osteoporosis** develops that causes **porous and weak bones**, increasing the risk of fractures. Osteoporosis **develops gradually**, and individuals may not realize they have it until they suffer a fracture as a result of a minor incident, such as a fall. **Bone density peaks** in a person's late twenties and begins to **decline after the age of 35**. Bone breaks down faster than it rebuilds as a person ages, if the decline starts at an early age or if break down occurs faster, osteoporosis may develop. It can affect both men and women, but it is **more common in women after menopause** due to the sudden decrease in estrogen. Estrogen usually protects women from osteoporosis. Only sign or symptom that the affected individual may develop is **low**

**back pain or joint pain** which often goes unnoticed. Several risk factors for osteoporosis have been identified. Some are modifiable like **sedentary lifestyle, excessive alcohol consumption and tobacco use**, but others cannot be avoided like **old age, female gender, genetic risk factor like low BMI**.

People may also notice a decrease in height or that their clothes no longer fit as well as they did previously. Treatment aims to slow or prevent the progression of osteoporosis, maintain healthy bone mineral density and bone mass, prevent fractures, reduce pain, and maximize the person's ability to do their daily activities without pain.

**Preventive lifestyle changes, dietary supplements like calcium & vitamin D3**, and specific medications can help people who are at risk for osteoporosis and fractures reach these outcomes. **Calcium is essential for bone strength**. Post menopause women should consume at least **1000mg calcium daily**. **Vitamin D** also plays a key role in preventing osteoporosis as it **helps the body absorb calcium**. Doctors may also prescribe medications to prevent future bone loss and reduce the risk of fractures.

Issued in public interest by Alkem Laboratories Ltd.

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RERA REGISTRATION NO.:  
RC/REP/HARERA/GGM/374/106/2019/68  
DATED 12.09.2022  
(www.haryanarera.gov.in)

Applications are invited from general public for booking of Residential Apartments in the Affordable Group Housing Project proposed to be developed as per terms and conditions of the policy prescribed by the Town & Country Planning Department, Government of Haryana vide notification no. PF-27/48921 dated 19.08.2013 & amendment thereof (details available at the Department website, ie. tcharyana.gov.in).

### PROJECT DETAILS

1. Coloniser/Developer	Signatureglobal (India) Limited
2. Project Approval	Additional Licence No. 40 of 2020 dated 11.12.2020 in addition to already granted Licence No. 69 of 2019 dated 26.06.2019. Revised Building Plan approved on 27.09.2021 Memo No. ZP-1336/AD(RA)/2021/24247. Amendment in the RC/REP/HARERA/GGM/374/106/2019/68 dated 14.11.2019 after additional area of 0.74375 acres of which registration approved vide agenda no RC/REP/HARERA/GGM/374/106/2019/68 dated 12.09.2022
3. Location	Sector 63A, Gurugram, Haryana
4. Provisions Project Area	103 no. of apartments available out of total 103 number of units in additional phase in addition to 714 units in Original Phase in the housing scheme spread over revised area of 6.4875 acres. As per Policy, 5% of total apartments are available for management quota and 95% of total apartments are for public. Community Facilities: One Community Hall of 2000 sq.ft. and One Anganwadi-cum-creche of 2000 sq.ft.

Category (Type)	No of Units	Carpet Area sqm (approx)	Carpet Area sqft (approx)	Balcony Area sqm (approx)	Balcony Area sqft (approx)	Allotment Rate of Apartment (all inclusive)*	With application Booking Amount 5%	On Allotment 20%
2BHK TYPE-1	25	53.29	573.54	8.42	90.59	2499458	120443.4	504421.1
2BHK TYPE-2	25	54.88	590.66	8.2	88.26	2569032	124038.6	518219.4
2BHK TYPE-3	21	53.71	578.13	7.1	76.42	2504566	121407.3	504734.2
2BHK TYPE-4	25	53.65	577.41	8.21	88.4	2513522	121256.1	507124.4
3BHK TYPE-5 (5 UNITS FORMO)	7	59.97	645.46	9.43	101.53	2810932	135546.6	567186.4

\*Rate mentioned above does not include GST and other charges such as Stamp Duty, Registration Fees etc.

Balance amount payable shall be equivalent to the amount payable as per the construction link payment plan of the project as applicable in terms of construction stage at relevant point of time

6. Parking	Two-wheeler parking with each apartment
7. Broad Specifications of the Apartment	• Flooring: Rooms Vitrified Tiles, Kitchen Vitrified / Ceramic Tiles, Toilet Anti-Skid Ceramic Tiles, Balcony Anti-Skid / Matt Finish Ceramic Tiles. • Windows: M.S. Sections as per IS Codes / Aluminium Powder Coated / UPVC • Doors Frame: Red Merandi / Mild Steel/ Aluminium Powder Coated / UPVC • Wall Tile: Ceramic Tiles till 4 Feet / 7 feet high & Oil Bound Distemper Above. • Kitchen Counter Top Green Marble / Granite • Wall: Oil Bond Distemper • Sanitary fitting: ISI marked CP Fittings, W.C & Washbasin • Electric Fitting: ISI Marked. Structure: RCC Frames Structure designed for SEISMIC forces as per latest IS code and NBC Recommendations.
8. Applications Timelines	(i) Apply Online at TCP website (https://edraw.tcharyana.gov.in/tcp-dms/home) for submitting application for allotment of dwelling units by e-Draw, starting from date 21.10.2022. For more information, call 7053-121-121 (ii) Last Date of submission of Applications is 04.11.2022.

**Eligibility:** 1. The applicant should not be debarred from entering into legally binding contract under any prevailing law. 2. Any person can apply, however, the PMAY beneficiaries, which include their spouse or dependent children, identified by the Urban Local Bodies Department, Haryana under "Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna-Housing for All" programme shall be granted preference in allotment. First priority shall be given to the identified beneficiaries of the said town followed by other PMAY beneficiaries of the State of Haryana. Thereafter, for the remaining flats, persons which include their spouse or dependent children who do not own any flat/plot in any HUDA developed colony/sector or any licensed colony in any of the Urban areas in Haryana, UT of Chandigarh and NCT Delhi shall be given next preference in allotment of flats. 3. An applicant can make only one application. Any successful applicant under this policy shall not be eligible for allotment of any other flat under this policy in any other colony. In case, he/she is successful in more than one colony, he/she will have choice of retaining only one flat. 4. Supportive Affidavit and certificate suggesting eligibility are mandatory to be uploaded at TCP website while submitting application for allotment. Applicant shall also upload ID Proof & Address Proof i.e. Aadhar Card & Pan Card. **Allotment Criteria:** 1. The allotment of apartments shall be done through draw of lots in the presence of a committee consisting of Deputy Commissioner or his representative (at least of the cadre of Haryana Civil Services), Senior Town Planner (Circle office), DTP of the concerned district and the representative of coloniser concerned. 2. After fixation of date for draw of lots, an advertisement shall be issued by the Developer informing the applicants about the details regarding date/time and venue of the draw of lots in the same newspapers in which the original advertisement was issued. 3. For detailed criteria and time-frame to be adopted for scrutiny and allotment, the applicants may also refer to the details in the Affordable Group Housing Policy 2013 vide no. PF-27/48921 dated 19.08.2013 & amendment thereof (available at the Department website, i.e., tcharyana.gov.in).



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Corp. Office: Ground Floor, Tower A, Signature Tower, South City -1, Gurugram, Haryana-122001 | www.signatureglobal.in

7053-121-121

Disclaimer: Promoter urges every applicant to inspect the project site and shall not merely rely upon any architectural impression, plan or sales brochure and, therefore, requests to make personal judgment prior to submitting an application for allotment. Unless otherwise stated, all the images, visuals, materials and information contained herein are purely creative/artistic and may not be actual representations of the product and/or any amenities. Further, the actual design may vary in the fit and finished form, from the one displayed above. Journey time shown, if any, is based upon Google Maps which may vary as per the traffic at a relevant point of time. \*Rate mentioned above does not include GST and other statutory charges, if applicable. T & C Apply. 1 sq. mt. = 10.7639 sq. ft.

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ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

# CHINA WATCH

CHINA DAILY 中國日報

It took two years for the World Bank and Chinese authorities to identify the drivers behind China's poverty alleviation over the past 40 years. It took Kenneth Quinn 40 years to conclude that building roads paved the country's way to prosperity.

Earlier this year the 189-member global lender and the Development Research Centre of China's State Council published a joint report, "Four Decades of Poverty Reduction in China: Drivers, Insights for the World, and the Way Ahead", looking at what is behind and beyond the "historically unprecedented" feat of lifting close to 800 million people out of poverty.

The report was a result of more than two years of field visits and workshops in which researchers said China's success derived from rapid economic growth, with broad-based economic transformation that opened opportunities and raised incomes of the poor.

The country's success was also built on effective governance that ensured implementation of both the growth strategy and targeted poverty-reduction policies, the report said.

For Quinn, president emeritus of the World Food Prize Foundation in Des Moines, the United States, China has been the most dramatically transformed country since 1978, mostly because it has virtually eliminated the lowest level of poverty for individuals.

Last year China declared that it had eradicated extreme poverty according to the national threshold, lifting 770 million people out of poverty since 1978 and accounting for nearly three-quarters of the global reduction in the number of people living in extreme poverty.

The eradication of absolute poverty in the world's most populous country just 42 years later is a "truly extraordinary" achievement, said Quinn, former US ambassador to Cambodia, who had chaired the World Food Prize Foundation for 20 years since 2000.

"The most essential lead element in China's poverty-alleviation was the construction/improvement of farm-to-market roads that were repaired and rebuilt everywhere," Quinn said.

Over 40 years, Quinn said, he has visited China many times to observe the country's poverty-reduction processes and to talk with key participants and decision-makers.

On his first trip to China in October 1979 as part of a delegation of US state governors, Quinn said, he found widespread poverty.

He recalled meeting then-Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, who emphasised the importance of the two steps China had just taken: its new policy of "opening to the world" and the establishment of diplomatic relations with the US.

Quinn said he then had the "remarkable opportunity" in October 1979 to travel widely throughout the country, including to Shanghai, Guangdong province and Guilin in Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, to observe the economic situation firsthand.



## The roads that led to lifting millions out of poverty

A China observer of 40 years says he has put his finger on the reasons for a success of historic proportions. **Zhao Huanxin** reports



Clockwise from top: Abuluoha, a village in Liangshan Yi autonomous prefecture, Sichuan province, became China's last village to connect to the country's paved road system in 2020. YIN GANG / FOR CHINA DAILY Workers promote the sale of fruits through livestreaming at a village in Tangshan, Hebei province, in May 2021. MOU YU / XINHUA Farmers at Aobei village in Huichang county, Jiangxi province, harvest tangelos in December 2020. ZHU HAIPENG / FOR CHINA DAILY

About 750 million Chinese citizens were mired in poverty, and there were no signs of the modernisation that is now ubiquitous across the country, he said.

In the 1960s Quinn served as a rural development adviser in the Mekong Delta, where he found that "where the (improved) road ends, poverty, hunger, and malnutrition all begin".

In China's case it was where the road started that poverty began to recede.

"A comparison of 1980 Chinese highway maps with those of 2020

would demonstrate the clear linkage between the improvement and upgrading of rural roads and the reduction of poverty throughout the country," Quinn said.

For one thing, the upgrading of all-weather roads was the means by which new agricultural technologies, enhanced nutrition and expanded educational opportunities became available throughout the country, he said.

Sustained public investment in infrastructure, particularly in transport, was a catalyst for China's domestic market integration,

providing the poor with improved access to markets to sell their produce and for their own consumption needs.

It also allowed the gains from China's export-led development and managed urbanisation to be shared with interior provinces and with rural areas, according to the joint study of the World Bank and China's State Council.

Just how heavily the country invested in intercity expressways can be gauged from the fact that the total length of expressways rose 44 per cent annually from 147 kilometres in

1988 to 25,130 km in 2002. By 2021 that had stretched to 169,100 km, according to the Chinese Ministry of Transport.

In many areas, public investment in building rural roads or irrigation infrastructure was designed to benefit local low-skilled workers by incorporating local employment requirements in bidding documents, the joint study said.

The researchers estimated that in the mid-1990s every 10,000 yuan (Rs 114,600) of public spending on roads may have moved three people out of poverty, compared

with two people for the same spending on access to electricity and telecommunications.

Compared with other parts of rural China, the effects were much larger in the less developed west of the country, where 10 people moved out of poverty for each 10,000 yuan spent on rural roads.

Other researchers also highlighted the role played by building roads, which was supported by government policy.

"China's state is endowed with high administrative capacity, and the government used this to provide public goods and overcome collective action failures," Maria Ana Lugo, senior economist at the World Bank, wrote in a blog with two colleagues.

The article was published on the Brookings Institution's website in September last year.

"This is most evident in the expansion of public infrastructure that helped integrate rural areas with urban economies, and in the co-ordination of stakeholders in the targeted poverty reduction," they said.

Quinn said other factors that have contributed to China's rapid rise out of poverty include widespread increased educational opportunities; the large-scale integration of women into the workforce; and the creation of a well-trained administrative, public service structure that successfully implements programmes throughout the country.

The challenge for China now will be how to maintain domestic economic growth while dealing with significant international issues, including animal, crop and human pandemic diseases, climate volatility, water insecurity and maintaining a peaceful regional and international environment to facilitate a stable global trading system.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals 2022 report, published in early July, estimated that up to 95 million more people could fall into extreme poverty this year.

Jorge Chediek, the UN secretary-general's former envoy on South-South co-operation, said China's policies to reach the most disadvantaged populations allowed for the targeting of resources and opportunities to those who are generally the most difficult to reach in the development process.

He was referring to when China's poverty headcount dropped below 10 per cent of the rural population around 2012, and targeted poverty-alleviation and social-security systems started playing a more important role to "reach the last mile" of the remaining pockets of the poor.

China has set a powerful example for other developing countries, Chediek said.

"The first reason is that China has shown that strong development can happen, starting from a very low base. Secondly, that this process can be undertaken in a relatively short period of time. Third, that you do not need to follow some of the traditional prescriptions coming from the Global North."

## Country's foreign direct investment prospects shine

By LIU ZHIHUA

Halma plc, a company operating in safety, environment and analysis, and healthcare sectors, announced in September its latest investment on an integrated production, research and development base in Shanghai.

Upon completion, the base will be the largest single integrated site and a critical part of the global supply chain for Halma, a FTSE 100 global group whose headquarters is in the UK and that has more than 30 companies operating businesses in China.

That is an example of the bright foreign direct investment outlook for China, especially in high-tech and services sectors, against a backdrop of numerous external and internal challenges.

"China continues to remain a long-term growth driver for Halma in the next 10 to 15 years," said Aldous Wong, executive board member of Halma and president of Halma Asia Pacific.

"We see China not only as a market, but also a source of innovation. The integrated site will

be a valuable step of enhancing our R&D capability and agile supply chain for products that best serve the China and Asia Pacific market."

Experts and business leaders forecast that China will attract more foreign investment in the future as its supersized domestic market continues to expand while its weight in global supply and industrial chains continues to rise with its steady economic upgrades and high-level opening-up.

That means more of China's development dividends will be shared with foreign companies, which in turn will facilitate cross-border business interaction and China's economic growth, they said.

The actual use of foreign capital in China reached 892.74 billion yuan (Rs 10,230 billion) in the first eight months of the year, 16.4 per cent more than in the corresponding period last year, the Ministry of Commerce said.

Inbound investment used in the services sector rose 8.7 per cent year-on-year to 662.13 billion yuan. Growth in the high-tech sector was 33.6 per cent — in high-tech manufacturing 43.1 per cent and in

high-tech services 31 per cent.

"Apart from its huge domestic market, China also has a systemic advantage in the industrial and supply chain system to attract foreign investment, thanks to its stable and comprehensive capabilities in various aspects such as manufacturing, logistics and talent," said Liu Ying, a researcher at the Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies at Renmin University of China in Beijing.

"Despite pressure from anti-globalisation sentiments and political considerations, most foreign investors remain committed to the China market because they are aware it will continue to outperform others in providing business opportunities and development dividends."

Zhang Jianping, head of the centre for regional economic co-operation at the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Co-operation, said that while many foreign companies are increasing investment in China to tap the market potential, a rapidly growing number of foreign companies are also investing more in the country

because they are impressed by the country's rising position in the global supply and industrial chains.

Ingredion Incorporated, a US global ingredient solutions provider, is one of the multinational companies attaching greater importance to supply chains in the country.

The company recently opened a factory called Shandong South in Dezhou, Shandong province, to double its starch production capacity in China. It now has three manufacturing plants in China.

Jacques Guglielmi, vice-president and general manager of North Asia and Asia-Pacific Commercial at Ingredion, said: "With this investment we are positioned for customer success in a world where supply chain resilience and sustainability are more crucial than ever."

The company has witnessed a lot of innovations in China and expects strong growth in the country within the next five years, he said.

Over the years China has deepened reform and expanding opening-up to broaden market access for foreign investors,



A model of an Embraer aircraft is on display at the 22nd China International Fair for Investment and Trade in Xiamen, Fujian province, on Sept 8. LIN SHANCHUAN / XINHUA

improve the business climate and promote implementation of major foreign investment projects through concrete actions, while transitioning the economy towards the higher value-added end to ensure stable economic upgrade and growth.

Liu, of the Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies, said China is seen to be expanding high-level opening-up through institutional innovations to attract more FDI, such as those deepening reforms in pilot free trade zones, improving government services, and enhancing negative-list-based foreign investment regulations.

To increase FDI the country is also expected to bolster infrastructure construction, improve government policy-formulation to better meet the needs of companies, and nurture new drivers for economic upgrades and high-quality development, she said.

Although facing protectionist measures and thus being exposed to the likes of sanctions and additional export tariffs, FDI into China has continued to set new records in recent years, making the country the world's second-largest FDI recipient for four successive years since 2017.

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW  
**CHINA WATCH**  
CHINA DAILY 中國日報

# China forges ahead with climate action

Commitments on issue honoured at home and overseas.  
**Hou Liqiang** reports

**A**n intriguing cross-shaped skylight sits atop Hangzhou West Railway Station in the capital of Zhejiang province, giving the structure a truly modern appearance.

The skylight, covering 12,500 square metres, allows sunlight to reach a subway station under the 57-metre-high building, significantly reducing the consumption of electricity for lighting.

Although overshadowed by the blue skylight, the black section of the complex's huge roof does much more than just keep the wind and rain out. Comprising 7,540 photovoltaic modules, it can generate more than 2.3 million kilowatt hours of electricity a year, helping avoid 2,300 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions.

Moreover, thanks to a type of high-tech material, the roof can reflect heat, reducing consumption of electricity in the complex, which has a floor area of 510,000 square metres, equivalent to more than 71 standard football pitches.

Designed and built by adopting a low-carbon philosophy, the structure is an official top-level green building.

President Xi Jinping announced in September 2020 that China aims to reach a peak of carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060.

At an international event in 2020 he stressed that China always honours its commitments. "We will take solid steps to implement the targets just announced, and contribute even more to tackling the global climate change."

China's actions at home and abroad show that it has kept its word.

Hangzhou West Railway Station, which opened last month, is just one project to hit the headlines as numerous policies are introduced at national and regional level to cope with the global climate crisis.

Climate action has not only been taken in bustling urban centres such as Hangzhou, but also in the country's vast offshore areas, sparsely populated mountainous regions, and even remote deserts. Overseas, pragmatic co-operation programmes have been introduced to help other developing countries with their climate endeavours.

Liu Dechun, an official at the National Development and Reform Commission, the country's top economic planner, said: "Over the past two years, under the strong



Workers inspect a solar thermal power station in the desert in Hami, Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, in November last year. CAI ZENGLI / FOR CHINA DAILY

**The nation faces huge challenges to realise its climate targets, but systematic low-carbon transition will create huge market and investment opportunities for technological development and innovation."**

**Xie Zhenhua**  
CHINA'S SPECIAL ENVOY FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

leadership of the Communist Party of China Central Committee with Xi Jinping at its core, the country has got off to a good start for its dual climate targets thanks to the efforts of different regions and government bodies in pragmatically promoting related work."

Liu cited China's top-level design for these targets, dubbed the "1+N" policy system, as an example of such progress.

The "1" refers to a master guideline issued by the CPC Central Committee and the State Council as an overarching guide for the targets, and the "N" refers to a series of specific plans for various industrial sectors and supporting policies.

"Government bodies have hammered out implementation plans for different sectors and

industries, as well as supporting policies," Liu said. "Provincial-level regions have also worked out their implementation plans to reach peak carbon dioxide emissions."

For example, one of the plans concerns the low-carbon transition in the construction industry, a major carbon dioxide emitter nationwide. The plan, issued by the National Development and Reform Commission and the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development in July, sets out key specific targets for energy conservation and the use of solar energy generation in buildings.

Energy-saving transformations are expected to be completed in all public buildings in major cities across China by 2030, typically increasing energy efficiency by at least 20 per cent.

By 2025 photovoltaic panels will be installed on half of all newly constructed public buildings and factories nationwide, the plan says, and such panels will be added to more existing buildings.

China has also been endeavouring to tap the potential of renewable energy in offshore areas and deserts. For instance, the National Development and Reform Commission said in May that the country plans to build 450 million kW of solar and wind power generation capacity in the Gobi and other desert regions.

As one of the supporting policies for climate action, the People's Bank of China, the central bank, introduced a monetary policy tool

late last year to back projects that reduce carbon dioxide emissions. It enables financial institutions to benefit from cheap loans.

At the end of last year, the country's domestic and foreign currency green loan balance stood at 15.9 trillion yuan (Rs 182.6 trillion), 33 per cent more than in 2020. Following a rise of 180 per cent from 2020, more than 600 billion yuan of green bonds were issued in China last year, making it the world's second-largest green bond market.

Xie Zhenhua, China's special envoy for climate change, said at a recent symposium: "The nation faces huge challenges to realise its climate targets, but systematic low-carbon transition will create huge market and investment opportunities for technological development and innovation."

He stressed that climate actions will also help synergic efforts to bolster the economy, employment, energy development, food production, healthcare and environmental conservation.

China's carbon emission intensity, the amount of carbon dioxide emissions produced per unit of GDP, fell 3.8 per cent last year compared with 2020, the Ministry of Ecology and Environment said.

While promoting climate action at home, China has also announced a series of actions to shoulder its responsibility for building "a global community with a shared future".

In September last year President Xi said China would step up support

for other developing countries in advancing green and low-carbon energy, and would not build new coal-fired power projects overseas.

To further promote green development as part of the Belt and Road Initiative, the Ministry of Ecology and Environment and the Ministry of Commerce updated a 2013 guideline earlier this year on environmental protection in overseas operations. Chinese companies were asked to adhere to environmentally friendly approaches for their projects from start to finish.

With climate change one of the major concerns, the document includes environment-related requirements for wide-ranging procedures in companies' overseas operations. For example, before overseas mergers and acquisitions, Chinese companies should assess environmental risks caused by target companies, and greenhouse gas emissions should be given priority in the assessment.

The country has also been helping other developing countries with their climate actions through South-South co-operation.

China has reached 43 agreements with 38 countries through South-South climate collaboration, the Ministry of Ecology and Environment says. Apart from allocating 1.2 billion yuan for such collaboration, China has offered training programmes to about 2,000 officials and technicians working in climate-related positions in 120 countries.

## In world of consumption, green is the new black

By ZHENG YIRAN

Low-carbon consumption is the new catchphrase among China's energy industry experts, thanks to the country's twin goals of achieving peak carbon emissions by 2030 and achieving carbon neutrality by 2060.

The phrase cropped up again and again at the China International Fair for Trade in Services held in Beijing in September, as hundreds of thousands of visitors realised the benefits of bamboo-made disposable tableware, neon signs that glow without being plugged in, and hydrogen fuel cells that drain only water, which were all on display.

Bamboo, the crowd realised, can not only serve as a meal for pandas or as raw material in making furniture but also be transformed into tableware, including knives and forks, spoons, straws, cups and even napkins.

Fu Jinhe, director of Host Country Affairs of the International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation, or Inbar, an intergovernmental development organisation that promotes environmentally sustainable development using bamboo and rattan, said: "Bamboo is a green, low-carbon, fast-growing and degradable biomass material. It can replace plastics in many fields. There are more than 10,000 types of bamboo products, covering basic necessities of life."

According to a recent report by the global accounting firm PwC, the green consumption style has found wide acceptance in many areas, including food, clothing, living, transportation and tourism.

Cai Xiaoying, environmental, social and governance managing partner of PwC China, said: "The consumption sector, as a fundamental propeller of economic development, is leading industrial revolution in a greener, more convenient and more innovative direction."

A report on green consumption published by China's e-commerce platform JD showed that last year, 93 per cent of surveyed consumers paid attention to a healthy lifestyle, among which the number of consumers born in or after 1990 rose 134 per cent year-on-year.

"Sustainability has become a new communication context between consumers and society," the report said.

He Jingwei contributed to this story.



A visitor tries out a rocking chair made of bamboo during the China International Fair for Trade in Services in Beijing last month. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

## For those who live at high altitudes, things are looking up

By XU HAOYU

Located in the heart of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau in southern Qinghai province, Sanjiangyuan (Three-River-Source) National Park, which stretches for 123,100 square kilometres, is the first and largest national park in China.

Since the pilot programme for the park's management system was launched in 2016, more than 20,000 local residents have taken part in ecological management and protection work in the area, fulfilling a policy aimed at finding one job for each household.

Smiling broadly, Tongde, 44, a member of the Tibetan ethnic group from Madoi county, Qinghai province, who first joined a park patrol in 2013, said: "On the day I received my employee ID card and the armband that proves I'm officially a park custodian, I felt happy and thrilled to work as a protector of nature. This feeling has never faded, and remains to this day."

As the name suggests, Sanjiangyuan is the origin of the Yangtze, Yellow and Lancang rivers.

At an average altitude of more



Two male Tibetan antelopes wander in the Sanjiangyuan National Park in Qinghai province. SONG ZHONGYONG / XINHUA

than 4,500 metres, Sanjiangyuan is a broad and sparsely populated area with little interference from humans. It is the perfect habitat for species such as the Tibetan antelope, the Tibetan gazelle, the snow leopard, the white-lipped deer and the black-necked crane.

As a result of diligent patrolling by local custodians, and a general increase in environmental awareness, vegetation in the area has risen by about 30 per cent compared with more than 20 years

ago, local authorities say.

Another Tibetan custodian, Tashi, 51, joined the park patrols in 2016.

Because custodians maintain a clean and safe environment daily and prevent the grassland from becoming contaminated with rubbish, the grass looks lush and bright, he said. The number of wild animals is also rising because they are guaranteed a healthy food supply.

Tashi added that wild animals such as Tibetan donkeys used to

hide from humans, but now they can be seen everywhere. Since hunting was banned in the area, the animals no longer turn and run as they used to.

Tsering Gyal, 49, has worked as a custodian for seven years and said he gained more experience with the work. "I was a little worried when I saw wild animals in the first few years of my work," he said.

He thinks that humans and animals are getting closer. "I stay calm now, as I'm sure that they have no interest in chasing and harming me," he added.

Animals are regaining freedom and custodians have stable incomes and a roof over their heads.

Tashi used to live in a tent with his wife and children in Golog Tibetan autonomous prefecture in Qinghai. He earned no more than 5,000 yuan (Rs 57,000) a year from selling the 20 yaks and 100 sheep that he raised, and sometimes had to work on construction sites to support the family.

The situation changed in 2007 when herders were encouraged to quit grazing their livestock to return the grassland to wild animals. The government subsidised those

responding to this call.

With Tashi's family members receiving an annual subsidy of 9,600 yuan each, their standard of living has greatly improved. The family is also provided with a 95-square-metre urban apartment with free water and electricity.

"I don't have to worry about the wind and rain as much as I used to, and I can sit peacefully at home to appreciate the beautiful scenery," Tashi said.

Tongde enjoys beautiful furniture and listening to music, and his steady income as a custodian allows him to pursue both hobbies. Music can be heard coming from a record player, which looks brand-new and is embedded in a cabinet in Tongde's living room. The cabinet, bought from a local furniture shop in 2020, cost a month's salary, he said, and he polishes it with great care every day.

Tashi has a bigger dream. He said he hopes his children can enrol in universities before they return home to contribute to environmental protection and economic development in the area. As he said this he smiles and gazes into the distance at the grassland, the lake and his home.

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WEB EXCLUSIVE



**'THE SCHOOL FOR GOOD AND EVIL' REVIEW: NEW NETFLIX FILM THINKS IT'S HARRY POTTER, BUT IT'S ACTUALLY BRAHMASTRA**

Despite a stacked cast, director Paul Feig's fantasy film is like a headless chicken scurrying across a CGI wasteland.

LIFESTYLE

**WHAT IS YOUR AYURVEDIC DOSHA?**

What is your Ayurvedic dosha — vata, pitta, or kapha?



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EXPRESS AUDIO

**Billis case convicts; BJP lacks CM faces; a new climate warning**

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Billis Bano case convicts' time out of jail, BJP lacking strong regional leaders, and the most serious climate warning in recent times.

**PLEA TO GET LICENCE CANCELLED**

**Excise commissioner disallows complaint against Silly Souls cafe**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

THE COMMISSIONER of Excise, Goa, on Thursday disallowed a complaint seeking cancellation of the licence given to Silly Souls Café and Bar in Goa, holding that the documents submitted for renewal of the licence were valid.

A complaint was filed before the Office of the Commissioner of Excise seeking suspension of the licence and an inquiry on the grounds that the documents submitted to renew the excise licence were fabricated.

The complaint had said that the licence was in the name of one Anthony D'Gama and it was renewed this June in his name, although he had died on May 17, 2021. Following the complaint, a show-cause notice was issued to D'Gama's wife, Merlyn, and son, Dean, under the Goa Excise Duty Act and Rules.

The Excise Commissioner allowed Merlyn to transfer the liquor licences from her late husband's name to her name 'in principle' until proceedings before a civil court are completed. The order also directed that the actual transfer of licences can take place only after production of a complete police antecedent report by Merlyn.

The order said whether a fine has to be issued for certain 'procedural lapses' will be decided at the time of the actual transfer.

In its order, the Commissioner of Excise has said that application for renewal was made on June 22, 2022, by Dean on behalf of his mother on the basis of a valid Power of Attorney issued in his name in 2017. The commissioner held that the power of attorney was not submitted at the time of the original application made for the licence, nor subsequently for renewal of the licence nor did Excise officials insist on it.

Calling it a "procedural lapse", the order stated, "Nevertheless, this procedural lapse of either not submitting the Power of Attorney by the applicant or not obtaining the same by Excise officials from the applicant does not warrant cancellation of excise licence. Some penalty/fine can be imposed for this negligence at appropriate time," the order states.

CHHATTISGARH NAN SCAM  
CM did not meet HC judge, govt tells SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE CHHATTISGARH government on Thursday denied the Enforcement Directorate charge that Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel had met a judge of the High Court few days before some of the accused in the Nagrik Apurti Nigam (NAN) scam were granted bail.

Appearing before a Supreme Court bench presided by Chief Justice of India U U Lalit, Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal referred to what Solicitor General Tushar Mehta had told the court on the last date of hearing. "A statement was made that somebody had met the CM. We took instructions. The CM never met a judge in any pending matter," Sibal told the bench also comprising Justices Ajay Rastogi and S Ravindra Bhat.

Mehta was quick to counter and told the bench, which was hearing the Enforcement Directorate's plea to transfer the trial in the case out of the state, "I did not make a statement. I read a WhatsApp chat of Chief Minister's close officer..."

The exchange happened after the court decided to leave hearing of the matter to the discretion of the next CJ who will be taking charge on November 9 after both sides contended that they may not be able to complete their arguments on Thursday and urged the court to post it when the court reopens after Diwali recess.

CJ Lalit, who is retiring on November 8, said it will be difficult to have the same combination of judges then and decided to release the matter from the bench and directed that it be listed before the appropriate court after taking instructions from the next CJ in the week commencing November 14.

The NAN scam concerned large scale corruption by various officers and employees of the State Civil Supplies Corporation.

**FROM PAGE ONE**  
**Liz Truss resigns as Britain's PM in 45 days**

FULL REPORTS ON  
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direction of the country since the Brexit vote.

In previous contests the candidates were whittled down to two through a number of lawmaker votes over weeks, before the membership selected the winner. Many Conservative lawmakers say that cannot be allowed to happen again.

While he has been proven right in his warnings that Truss's fiscal plan threatened the economy, he remains deeply unpopular with some Conservatives after he helped to trigger the summer rebellion against Johnson.

Organisers said that any candidate would need the backing of 100 lawmakers, and that if only one candidate passes that threshold by 1 pm GMT on Monday they will automatically become prime minister. If two candidates remain, party members will get an online vote.

Among those expected to run for the role are Sunak, the former Goldman Sachs analyst who became finance minister just as the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in Europe.

While he has been proven right in his warnings that Truss's fiscal plan threatened the economy, he remains deeply unpopular with some Conservatives after he helped to trigger the summer rebellion against Johnson.

Penny Mordaunt, a popular former defence minister, could also run, with other possible hopefuls such as Suella Braverman, the interior minister who quit on Wednesday, and

trade minister Kemi Badenoch unlikely to reach the 100 nominations. Johnson, who still faces an investigation into whether he misled parliament after he and his staff held a string of parties during Covid-19 lockdowns, may also be a candidate.

A poll of party members earlier this week showed most wanted Johnson to return, but betting odds put Sunak as the favourite, ahead of Mordaunt, defence minister Ben Wallace and Johnson.

Truss was elected in Sept to lead the Conservative Party by its members, not the broader electorate, and with support from only around a third of the party's lawmakers.

She had promised tax cuts funded by borrowing, deregulation and a sharp shift to the right on cultural and social issues.

But within weeks she was forced to sack her finance minister and closest political ally, Kwasi Kwarteng, and abandon almost all her economic programme after their plans for vast unfunded tax cuts crashed the pound and sent British borrowing costs and mortgage rates soaring.

Approval ratings for her and the party collapsed.

On Wednesday she lost the second of the government's four most senior ministers, faced laughter as she tried to defend her record to Parliament and saw her MPs openly quarrel over policy, deepening the sense of chaos at Westminster.

—REUTERS

• CCI to Google

The CCI also issued cease and desist directions to the tech giant on a number of its business practices. For instance, it said that Google should not deny access to its Play Services plugins to "disadvantaged" original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), and the licensing of Play Store to OEMs should not be linked to the requirement of pre-installing Google search, Chrome browser, YouTube, Google Maps, Gmail or any other Google application.

The CCI also said that Google will have to allow users to choose their default search engine during the initial device setup. It asked Google not to restrict the ability of app developers to distribute their apps through side-loading — offering their apps outside of Google's Play Store. The CCI has given Google 30 days to provide the requisite financial details and supporting documents — the final penalty may increase.

Google is facing a series of antitrust cases in India. The competition watchdog is also looking into Google's business conduct in the smart TV market and its in-app payments system.

In 2019, the CCI had ordered a detailed probe following complaints by consumers of Android-based smartphones.

According to CCI, Google manages the Android operating system as well as other licences, which gives it advantage over its competitors to pre-install most prominent search entry points such as search apps, widget and Chrome browser on Android devices. Further, Google also secured a significant competitive edge in relation to its other revenue earning apps like YouTube in the Android devices, it held.

"The competitors of these services could never avail the same level of market access which Google secured and embedded for itself through MADA (Mobile Application Distribution Network) effects, coupled with status quo bias, creating significant entry barriers for competitors of Google to enter or operate in the concerned markets," CCI said in its order. Google did not respond to requests for comment.

• The absurd tell Lanka's real stories of love, loss

The *Seven Moons of Maali Almeida* was first published in the subcontinent as *Chats with the Dead* in 2020, two years before its international release. A portion of the novel appeared as a short story in *The Indian Express* Sunday magazine fiction-special issue in December 2019.

The ethnic violence between the country's Sinhalese and Tamil population that sparked off in 1983 looms large over Sri Lanka's literary landscape, in the works of Romesh Gunasekera, Shyam Selvadurai, Carl Muller and others.

When Karunatilaka began work on *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida* in 2010-11, it was in the aftermath of the nearly three-decade-long civil war or what the writer calls, "the war we thought would never end".

"My initial idea or conceit was for it to be a ghost story. If the silenced voices of Sri Lanka's many conflicts were allowed to speak and speak freely, what would they sound like? Would they argue? What stories would they have to tell? What was freshest in mind was 2009. We knew there were huge civilian casualties, the numbers kept getting pushed around. There was no truth or reconciliation, at least not enough. They were arguing about whose fault it was rather than looking at why so many people died. And so, I thought a ghost story would be a neat way of getting these victims to speak. But I wasn't comfortable, because it was contemporary history. In South Asia, you always worry about offending the wrong people," he says.

Karunatilaka set his absurdist noir in 1989 instead, at the peak of the conflict, removed from the immediacy of 2009. Maali Almeida, murdered war photographer, punter and still-in-the-closet gay man wakes up dead and has to figure out who his killer could be.

He is also running against a deadline — the cruel irony of even the afterlife — within which to deliver a cache of unseen photographs for the world to discover what really is going on in Sri Lanka. "As a teenager, I wasn't aware of much of the politics but I remember how uniquely messed up it was for Sri Lanka. We had the LTTE, the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP), the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party in Sri Lanka), the Indian Peacekeeping Force on the ground. This book is a whodunit, with a bit of politics

mixed in it. But within that framework of a typical murder mystery, I got to explore this period I wasn't that aware of at 14-15 (years of age). It's only later that I read about it and found out that it was more absurd than I ever thought it was," he says.

The freedom-of-speech debate has only intensified since the attack on writer Salman Rushdie in New York in August this year. As a writer, though, Karunatilaka admits, he has always preferred to err on the side of caution. His new collection of short stories, *Birth Lottery and Other Surprises* (Hachette India), has just been published.

"Those were a lot of stories collected over 20 years of writing. During the pandemic, I picked the best and I did exclude a few stories, because I thought, maybe this might offend certain political or religious interests. Look, I'm not a hero. I'm not an activist. I know we speak of freedom of speech. But, in some countries, it is not something you take for granted. We have had periods in our history where it's been very dangerous to speak out. I've got young kids, I'd like to live a long and healthy life. And it's only a short story," he says.

• PM to hand out appointment letters to 75,000

An analysis of data shows there were 8.72 lakh vacant posts across 77 ministries and departments as on March 1, 2020. Of this, just five ministries or departments — Defence (Civil), Railways, Home Affairs, Posts and Revenue — accounted for 90 per cent.

Data shared by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions to the LS on March 30, 2020, shows that 31.32 lakh regular employees were in position across 77 ministries/departments against the sanctioned strength of 40.04 lakh as on that date. Further, almost 87 per cent of the total vacancies of 8.72 lakh were in Group C (Non-Gazetted) category. Given that a fresh Group C employee draws about Rs 40,000 a month, sources said the exchequer would need to budget for an extra Rs 4,500 crore a month once all 10 lakh positions are filled.

• India-Russia trade soars to record; imports of oil, fertiliser drive surge

Russia accounted for \$17,236.29 million, while New Delhi's exports to Moscow were only worth \$992.73 million, leaving a negative trade balance of \$16,243.56 million.

In 2021-22, India's exports to Russia stood at \$3,254.68 million, while imports from Moscow were valued at \$9,869.99 million.

In the past, there have been only two occasions when bilateral trade between the two countries crossed the \$10 billion mark — in 2017-18 (\$10,686.85 million) and 2019-20 (\$10,110.68 million).

An analysis of the data shows that Russia's share in India's total

trade has increased to 3.54%, up from 1.27% in 2021-22. While Russia's share in India's total trade was 2.1% in 1997-98, it has hovered below 2% for the last 25 years.

The record level of bilateral trade between India and Russia is mainly due to a sudden jump in imports from Moscow, which began to surge earlier this year. There was an over 500% increase in three months — 561.1% in June, 577.63% in July and 642.68% in August — as compared to the same months of the previous year.

Petroleum oil and other fuel items (mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation;

bituminous substances; mineral waxes) accounted for 84% of India's total imports from Russia in April-August, adding up to \$14,476.52 million as compared to \$1,593.58 million last year. Fertilisers were second, with imports from Russia surging by 666.24% to \$1,236.96 million in April-August, up from \$161.43 million during the same period last year. Fertilisers and fuel together account for over 91% of the total imports from Russia this year.

On the other hand, pharmaceutical products (\$176.51 million) and organic chemicals (\$117.29 million) were the two

main items shipped to Moscow. India had a positive trade balance with Russia from 1997-98 (the most recent year for which comparable data is available) to 2002-03. But from 2003-04, New Delhi's trade balance with Moscow has remained negative.

In 1997-98, India had trade with 224 countries and regions and Russia was its 16th biggest trading partner. However, Russia's position gradually fell, slipping to 34th in 2013-14. It began climbing up from 2014-15, and was India's 23rd biggest trading partner in 2017-18. After that, it remained between 25th to 30th.

• Teach in mother tongue: NCF

realities, English has to be introduced early as a second language, either in Class I, as several states have already done, or at the pre-school level.

The new NCF, which deals with pre-school and classes I-II, steers clear of any detailed instruction on a timeframe for introducing English. It states that English can be one of the second languages taught at the foundational level, but doesn't specify which grade.

Instead, it emphasises the virtues of the mother tongue as the primary medium of instruction, saying that by the time children join pre-school, they acquire significant competence in the "home language".

"If the child is taught with a new or unfamiliar language as the medium of instruction, the three-four years of experience that the child comes with gets completely disregarded, as a new language is taught from the beginning, at the cost of negating the foundational experiences, skills, and learning that the child has already accumulated, thus reversing the entire learning process," it states.

"Since children learn concepts most rapidly and deeply in their home language, the primary medium of instruction would optimally be the child's home language/ mother tongue/ familiar language in the foundational stage. This should be the approach in both public and private schools," it adds.

"For young children to acquire skills of speaking fluently in their language 2 or language 3 (which could also be English), a natural, communication-focused approach that also uses scaffolding of their language 1 (primary medium of instruction) needs to be adopted," it says.

The previous NCF had observed that language teaching is a complex issue in a multilingual country like India, where teachers may be required to cope with a number of languages in a classroom. "Any Indian language used as a medium of instruction in pre-schools, especially in towns and cities, poses problems for children coming from different language backgrounds and dialects," it had said.

The NCF will set the stage for changes in school syllabus, starting with the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). The NCF for the foundational stage will be followed by its editions for higher classes, as well as teacher and adult education, over the next few months.

The NCF's foundational stage edition, however, is not so much about revision of textbooks, but about changes in teaching and learning process. While the medium of instruction forms an integral part, it also focuses on play-based pedagogy and addressing delayed learning.

Pradhan said he expects the NCERT to complete the new syllabus and textbooks for the foundational level by "Basant Panchami" next year. In other words, the government is keen on implementing the recommendations of the report by February 2023.

"And in many cases, textbooks are not required at this level, states the report. It is understandable as most things will be play-based, story-based. The method of teaching will be very important. The report has suggestions not just for students, but teachers as well. We will work on war footing," he said.

The report underlines that "children in this age group should not be burdened with textbooks". In the last two years of the foundational stage, or ages 6 to 8 years, simple and attractive textbooks can be considered, it says.

The report acknowledges that currently "there is a learning crisis in India", as children are enrolled in primary school but are failing to attain basic skills such as foundational literacy and numeracy.

Kheda flogging: HC issues notice

The petitioners have sought that the police personnel be "punished for contempt and non-compliance" of the directions issued by the Supreme Court in the case of D K Basu versus the State of West Bengal — it provides for guidelines to be followed by police during arrest and detention. They have also sought adequate compensation for the flogging victims.

The police personnel made respondents in the petition are: AV Parmar, Inspector, LCB; D B Kumavat, Sub Inspector, LCB; HM Rabari, Sub Inspector, Matar police station; Kanaksinh Laxmansinh Dabhi, Head Constable, LCB; Mahesh Rabari, Head Constable, LCB; Jayesh Rabari, Head Constable, LCB; Raturajsinh Gopalsinh Parmar, Head Constable, LCB; Ashwin, Head Constable, LCB; Vanrajsinh Bhagubhai, Head Constable, LCB; Arjunsinh, Head Constable, LCB; Vishnu Harjibhai Rabari, Constable, Matar police station; Rajubhai Rameshbhai Dabhi, Constable, LCB; Mahipatsinh Bhagwatsinh Chauhan, Constable, Matar police station; and the offices of SP Kheda and the IG (Ahmedabad range) whose jurisdiction includes Kheda district.

The petitioners have sought that the court direct the SP Kheda "to immediately seize the original DVRs, cameras of the SOG office, toll plaza and all such CCTV cameras along the route".

The petitioners have said that at around 11 pm on October 3, an altercation, arising out of garba festivities, took place in Undhela village in Matar taluka of Kheda district after the arrival of the Matar MLA, Kesarisinh Solanki, and his entourage. Thereafter, 11 police personnel, who have been named as respondents in the petition, reached the site and de-

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**VACCINATIONS IN  
LAST 24 HOURS**  
1,553

**PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL:** 51  
**OXYGEN SUPPORT:** 9  
**VENTILATOR SUPPORT:** 2

**DELHI TOTAL  
CASES**  
20,05,329

	Total	Vacant
HOSPITAL BEDS	8,819	8,764
ICU BEDS	2,083	2,067

**Total active cases in Delhi**

	Cases	Recoveries	Deaths	Tests
Oct 19	107	119	0	6,535
Oct 20	118	130	0	6,652
<b>Total</b>	<b>476*</b>	<b>19,78,347</b>	<b>26,506</b>	<b>4,03,56,863</b>

	Oct 19	Oct 20
<b>NOIDA</b>		
Cases	N/A	N/A
Deaths	N/A	N/A
<b>GURGAON</b>		
Cases	19	36
Deaths	0	0

## DU ADMISSIONS: HIGHER COMPETITION IN ARTS PROGRAMMES

# Over 60k students say yes to DU's offer

**SUKRITA BARUAH**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

MORE THAN two-third of seats allocated by Delhi University for its undergraduate admissions have been accepted by candidates, as of Thursday evening.

While there are around 70,000 undergraduate seats on offer, the varsity has made 80,164 allocations in the first round, the results of which were shared with candidates Wednesday evening. As of 7 pm Thursday, 60,863 candidates have accepted these allocations.

Because of the apparently different levels of difficulty in the CUET in arts, commerce and science papers, the competition for seats in arts programmes is taking place at a much higher range of marks than in the science programmes.

This is best illustrated with the example of the most popular arts and science programmes at Miranda House. In unreserved seats, the highest CUET score against which a candidate has been allotted a seat in its BA (Hons) Political Science programme is 800/800 — in fact, 8 candidates who have been allotted seats in that programme have that perfect score — while the lowest score against which an allotment has been made is 787/800. In its BSc (Hons) Physics programme, the highest score against which a seat has been allotted in the unreserved category



### THE NUMBERS

**Around 70,000**  
Seats on offer in DU

**80,164**  
Allocations in first round

**60,863\***  
No of candidates who have accepted seats

\*as of 7 pm, Thursday

is 518/600 and the lowest is 401/600. In percentage terms, that would mean that seat allotments closed at 99.38% in BA (Hons) Political Science and at 66.83% in BSc (Hons) Physics. Among other popular courses, in BA (Hons) English, the highest score in unreserved seats was 800/800 and lowest was 760/800. In BA (Hons) Economics, where candidates compulsorily had to have Math as a CUET paper, the highest was 753/800 and the lowest was 715/800.

Analysis of scores candidates received to be placed in the 95 percentile for different subjects in the CUET reflect that science papers were much harder to score in: in Mathematics, the requisite score was 103.7/200 or 51.8%; in Chemistry, it was 129.2 or 64.5%; in Physics, it was 105.05 or 71.3%. On the other hand, in History, it was 165.4 or 82.7%; in Economics, it was 175.8 or 87.9%; in Psychology, it was 190.9 or 95.45%.

This can be similarly seen in Kirori Mal College where in BA (Hons) Political Science, the lowest score against which an allotment has been made is approximately 774/800 (96.75%) and in BSc (Hons) Physics, it is approximately 358/600 (59.66%).

KMC's admissions convener Siddhartha Lahon, who teaches Physics, remarked that the completely different marks ranges for these two popular programmes indicates that competition is likely to be out of reach for students who were in the science stream in school and want to switch to an arts or commerce programme now: DU required that candidates only write CUET in subjects they studied in school. The lowest marks against which unreserved seats were allotted in the college in BCom (Hons) is approximately 772/800 and 738/800 in English.

Data shared by other popular colleges indicates that allotments

in unreserved seats in popular arts and commerce colleges have closed well above 700/800: B.Com in Ramjas College — which the highest number of candidates had selected as one of their preferences at 57,642 — closed at approximately 764/800, their B.Com (Hons) course at approximately 771/800 and their BA (Hons) Political Science programme at approximately 781/800.

At Sri Venkateswara College, allotments for unreserved seats closed at 769 for both BCom (Hons) and BA (Hons) Political Science, at 754 for BA programme and at 742 for BA (Hons) History.

In some lesser known or off-campus colleges, admissions even for these popular courses have happened in the 600-700 range. For example, in Aryabhata College, seat allotments stopped at 692.62/800 in BA (Hons) Political Science; at 654/800 in BA (Hons) English; and 638.5/800 in BA (Hons) Economics. In Ramanujan College, it closed at 674.02/800 for BA (Hons) Political Science; at 688.8/800 for B.Com (Hons); and 633/800 for BA (Hons) Economics. However, for popular courses offered in limited colleges, they have closed high at these too. At Aryabhata College, allotments for BA (Hons) Psychology stopped at 744.7/800 and at Ramanujan College, it closed at 728/800 for BA (Hons) Applied Psychology.

## DU hopes to fill all seats in first round

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE DELHI University administration is hoping to fill all its undergraduate seats in the first round of seat allocations itself.

The university has 70,000 undergraduate seats on offer across all courses and colleges and in the first round, it has made 20% extra allocations for each programme in each college for unreserved, OBC and EWS categories and 30% extra allocations for SC, ST and PWB categories. The result is that it has allocated 80,164 seats. A day before the window for acceptance closes, more than 60,000 candidates have accepted their allocations. After this, colleges will have to 'approve' or 'reject' applications after verification of their documents.

"The extra allocation had been made in the expectation that the final intake should stabilise around the final number after withdrawals and rejections and because there have been issues in the past with filling seats in some reserved categories. It doesn't seem as if there are many reasons for students to withdraw their admissions since medical



The varsity has made 80,164 allocations in the first round

admissions have already been done. What is likely is that if seats remain vacant after this round, they are likely to be in courses which a very small number of students opt for in the first place, for example, Sanskrit," said Registrar Vikas Gupta.

While universities were not able to share numbers on how many applications have been approved or rejected so far, Gupta said he has been informed of cases of rejections where candidates wrote the CUET in subjects they did not have in class XII. "The central admissions team will also review some of the rejections to see whether these are being done for valid reasons," he said.

## 2017 Gurgaon school murder: SC grants interim bail to accused

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE SUPREME Court Thursday granted interim bail to the accused in the 2017 murder of a class 2 student at a private school in Gurgaon, while making it clear that he or his parents should not create any hindrance in the trial or try to communicate with the witnesses.

A bench of justices Dinesh Maheshwari and J K Maheshwari noted that the accused who was a class 11 student of the same school at the time of arrest spent five years in an observation home. The court also said he would continue to be under the supervision of a probation officer or any other person appointed by the sessions court.

"... By way of interim measure, the petitioner appellant be released on bail on conditions as may be imposed by sessions judge Gurugram. It is, however, specifically provided that the petitioner appellant shall continuously remain under supervision of a probation officer or any other person appointed by the sessions judge. It is also made clear that the petitioner and his parents would be expected not to create hindrance in the trial of the case and for that matter will

not try to contact or communicate with any of the witnesses," the bench said.

Citing vulnerabilities of witnesses, the father of the victim opposed grant of interim bail and urged the court to consider the relief only after material witnesses were examined. He contended that the father and uncle of the accused were powerful people. But the court pointed out that the father had already been "taken to task" in an earlier order. The bench said while "the crime is barbaric and horrifying, still the law must have balance".

The victim was found with his throat slit in the school bathroom on September 17, 2017. Though local police claimed the crime was committed by the school bus conductor after the boy tried to resist his attempts of molestation, the CBI, which was entrusted with the investigation following public pressure, zeroed in on his school senior.

As per the prosecution, he did it allegedly to get the examinations postponed and a scheduled parent-teacher meeting cancelled. On December 20 2017, the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) had held that the teenager would be tried as an adult and directed his production before the Gurgaon sessions court.

### BRIEFLY

#### Man killed, friend injured in hit and run

**Gurgaon:** A 25-year-old labourer was killed while his friend suffered injuries after their motorcycle was allegedly hit by an unidentified vehicle on Sukhrali flyover in Gurgaon Wednesday, police said. The accused driver is yet to be arrested. Police said the deceased has been identified as Shivam Bhagat. His friend is undergoing treatment and his condition is reportedly critical, said police.

#### No more fines for not wearing mask

**New Delhi:** The Delhi government has withdrawn the fine of Rs 500 for not wearing a mask in public places in the national capital, said an order released Thursday. According to the order issued by S K Jain, Special Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, no penalty will be imposed on people who were not wearing masks in public places after September 30. Before this, the compulsory fine of Rs 500 for not wearing masks in public places in the national capital was removed in March. However, it was re-imposed within a few weeks after a rise in the number of Covid-19 cases in April. **ENS**



## DIWALI BUZZ

A Diwali mela in Dilli Haat where recipients of the National Award in traditional handicrafts have arrived to sell their wares — everything from wall decorations to diyas to handmade textiles — on Thursday. *Gajendra Yadav*

## Jain's wife Poonam implicated due to mistaken identity: Defence lawyer to court

**ANAND MOHAN J**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate's allegation that AAP leader Satyendar Jain's wife Poonam Jain was a member of a trust which is under a money laundering investigation was based on mistaken identity with a Rohini-based woman with the same name, the defence counsel for two co-accused in the case told a Delhi court Thursday.

The ED had accused Satyendar Jain of being the president of Lala Sher Singh Trust, which is under investigation in the money laundering case against him. The agency had earlier told the court that Poonam was a member of the trust. It was alleged that co-accused Vaibhav

Jain was appointed to this trust instead of Jain after he decided to become a minister, but still had effective control.

Advocate Dr Sushil Kumar Gupta, who appeared for co-accused Vaibhav and Ankush Jain, told Special Judge Vikas Dhull that the trust member is a resident of Rohini. "This is (a woman by the same name) from Rohini. Poonam Jain, wife of Satyendar Jain, is an architect. They share the same name. She (Jain's wife) has been implicated by the ED on this basis... They did not even verify the address. This was the basic thing that they could have done as part of their investigation," Gupta said.

The ED has alleged that accommodation entries were made from Lala Sher Singh Trust to Vaibhav and his mother

Sushila Jain, which in turn were used for transfer of land in the name of Swati Jain, wife of Vaibhav Jain, and Sushila.

The agency has alleged that the president of Lala Sher Singh Trust, G S Matharu, in his statement, had stated that entries provided by the trust in favour of Vaibhav and Sushila were against the cash provided by Satyendar Jain.

Gupta had reiterated that accommodation entries could not be counted as proceeds of crime and questioned how Satyendar Jain was in control of the four companies under investigation by the ED. "If you come to the effective conclusion that he was not in effective control over the company, the whole case falls flat," Gupta argued.

Gupta told the court one

statement of Vaibhav recorded on June 16 by the agency was not truthful and not videographed, violating due procedure. He told the court that if the agency had confronted him with Satyendar Jain in a video recording, the "whole case would have fallen".

On ED allegations that Vaibhav would threaten witnesses in this case, Gupta argued that it was the agency issuing threats to his client.

He wrapped up his arguments by stating, "Since they were not getting the answers, they said we gave misleading information. Because they had bias in their mind since the beginning... Just because at some point in time there was an association with Satyendar Jain before 2013, I have been booked," Gupta told the court.

## IAS officer alleges harassment by man posing as govt official

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

A SENIOR IAS officer has lodged an FIR with the Delhi police alleging that an unidentified person had been harassing and threatening her by posing as a senior government official and trying to get confidential information from the department where she is posted.

In the complaint, the IAS officer said that for the past three-four weeks, she has been receiving WhatsApp calls and messages from a number and a person has been trying to get confidential information related to her department and threatening and harassing her using foul language.

"When I confronted the person stating that I shall be filing a police complaint, he replied that he was using a SIM card acquired using fake/false documents and that police would not be able to trace him. The said person tried to impersonate a senior government official when he talked to me. He keeps changing his assumed name on WhatsApp while trying to impersonate someone else to cheat the person he calls," read the complaint.

Police sources said the accused is a 'stalker' who has been harassing the officer for some time. "We have found his location and will soon nab him. He is from the Delhi-NCR area. His motives are not clear yet," said a source.

An FIR was registered under IPC sections 507 (criminal intimidation) by an anonymous communication and 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) and sections of the IT Act, said police.

## 'Am I a Naxal or terrorist?': Shrikant Tyagi is back home



Tyagi at his home in Grand Omaxe Thursday. He was arrested in August for allegedly assaulting a woman. *Gajendra Yadav*

**ARNAV CHANDRASEKHAR**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

RETURNING TO his home in Noida's Grand Omaxe society after being released from Luksar jail on Thursday evening, following his arrest in August for misbehaving with a woman in the residential complex, Shrikant Tyagi received a warm welcome from his family and well-wishers. Door frames were decked up with flowers, sweets were distributed by members of the Tyagi community, and slogans like "Tyagi Ekta" rang in the air.

His wife Anu said, "We will welcome my husband home for Diwali just as Ram was welcomed home... he is like God in our household." Shrikant was granted bail Tuesday in a case involving the Gangster Act, having previously obtained bail in three other cases filed against him. The reaction in the rest of the society to his return was fairly muted.

Among those present at his home was Mange Ram Tyagi, BKU (A) and "Tyagi Samaj" leader, who had led the community's earlier protest in front of Grand

Omaxe. The family garlanded him, praising his role in their "struggle".

Speaking about his arrest, Shrikant said he regretted using foul language in the scuffle but said the action against him was disproportionate: "The Gangster Act was applied, so many labels were applied against me and a reward was announced for my arrest... am I a Naxal or a terrorist for all this to be done?"

Speaking to the press about what he would do going forward, he said, "There are maybe 7-8 lakh members of the Tyagi community in Gautam Buddha Nagar alone and many more across Uttar Pradesh. My strategy will be to see what I can do for members of my community and to fight on their behalf."

He was also critical of BJP MP from Gautam Buddha Nagar Mahesh Sharma, saying, "He has pushed away the Tyagi community, who voted almost 90% in favour of the BJP..."

On UP CM Yogi Adityanath's administration, he said, "We will try to meet Yogi ji and give him the information about this conspiracy... we hope for justice..."

## ANALYSIS BY CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENT SHOWS

# A Diwali warning: 'Conditions are ripe for severe smog episode'

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

RECENT WINTERS show a 20% improvement in winter air quality compared to the pre-pandemic years from 2015 to 2018, according to an analysis by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE). However, Diwali this year may trigger yet another smog episode, the analysis shows.

At the 10 oldest air quality monitoring stations in Delhi for

which data is available, the average PM 2.5 level in the 2015-16 winter was 193 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. At these 10 stations, which include the ones at Anand Vihar, Mandir Marg, Punjabi Bagh, Dwarka and R K Puram, the average PM 2.5 concentration in the 2021-22 winter was 151 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, while it was 162 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in the 2020-21 winter, and 153 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in the 2019-20 winter. The period from October 1 to February 28 is taken as winter.

For all 37 monitoring stations for which data is available from



This year, the average PM 2.5 level of 37 µg/m<sup>3</sup> during July, August and September was the second lowest in 8 years

**EXPLAINED**  
Last year's winter smog

THE CITY'S first winter smog episode last year was around Diwali, from November 4 to 13. A 'smog episode' is when the PM 2.5 levels remain in the 'severe' category for three consecutive days. Last winter recorded three smog episodes and 20 smog days.

2018-19 onwards, the average PM 2.5 level last winter was 157 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, which is down from 179 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in the winter of 2018-19.

CSE's analysis notes that the winter PM 2.5 levels "improved during the pandemic but stagnated post pandemic". This year, the average PM 2.5 level of 37 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in Delhi during the monsoon months of July, August and September was the second lowest in eight years after 36 µg/m<sup>3</sup> recorded in the monsoon of 2020 which was preceded by a clean summer brought by lockdowns.

With rainfall extending into October, the city has also seen the "cleanest start" to the winter since 2018. The average PM 2.5 level for the first two weeks of October this year was 43 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, lower than the 59 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2021, 92 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2020, and 72 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2019.

However, with air quality now beginning to deteriorate and farm fires in Punjab and Haryana rising, "Diwali might yet again trigger a deadly smog episode," according to the analysis. Though Diwali is falling earlier in the sea-

son when warmer conditions persist and winds might help dilute pollutants, Diwali night can add 300 to 600 µg/m<sup>3</sup> of PM 2.5 to Delhi's air if it's business as usual, CSE's analysis shows. With fires from crop residue burning also set to increase, "conditions are ripe for a severe smog episode to start from Diwali night".

Last year, the PM 2.5 concentration on Diwali night was 747 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, the highest figure from 2017 onwards. This was higher than 613 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2020, and 445 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2019 on Diwali night.



## DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



### WRITING A MAJOR PAPER

WHILE THERE is still uncertainty on whether he will get promoted in his political career as chief minister of Rajasthan, Sachin Pilot is hoping to get a promotion in his military career. Pilot, now a Captain in the Territorial Army, sat for a three-hour examination over two days this week for a promotion to the rank of Major. The subjective papers were for 500 marks each, and the topics ranged from military law to the Army Act.

### TRADITION MAN

BJP GENERAL secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya takes an annual tradition very seriously — he mans the counter of the family's grocery store in Indore on the day of Dhanteras. Earlier, people from nearby localities came to the shop, popularly known as 'Kakiji ki dukaan', to buy everyday items, but now there is a new demand: he has to oblige customers with requests for selfies. Vijayvargiya never missed the tradition of sitting at the shop counter even during hectic days of electioneering in states he was in charge of for the party. But with no election-goat state directly under his charge now, the BJP leader reached Indore on Wednesday afternoon to be part of another tradition: joining the family for its annual shopping before Diwali. Dhanteras this year will be marked on Saturday-Sunday.

### UPHILL IN HILL STATE?

WITH RAHUL Gandhi leading the Bharat Jodo Yatra, Congress general secretary and sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is set to lead the Congress campaign for the Assembly elections in Himachal Pradesh. Priyanka addressed one rally a few days ago and is set to address at least half-a-dozen more, as well as hold a road show in the coming days. The Congress has deputed Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel as the senior observer for the hill-state. It is another matter that the Priyanka-Baghel duo had come a cropper in Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha polls earlier this year. Baghel was the party's senior observer for UP, too.

### FIR against Uddhav Sena MLA for remarks against Rane, sons

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PUNE, OCTOBER 20

PUNE police have registered an offence against MLA Bhaskar Jadhav, a member of Shiv Sena-Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray, in connection to the alleged objectionable remarks he recently made while criticising Union Minister and BJP leader Narayan Rane and his two sons.

An FIR was registered late Wednesday by Yogesh Shingte (37) — a BJP worker based in Pune. The FIR pertains to statements allegedly made by Jadhav at a rally at Kudal in Sindhudurg district on Tuesday to protest the

action taken by state Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) against Kudal MLA Vaibhav Naik, another member of the Shiv Sena (UBT).

"Objectionable comments by Bhaskar Jadhav have maligned the image of union minister Narayan Rane, former MP Nitesh Rane and MLA Nilesh Rane and have hurt the sentiments of the BJP members," Shingte said in the FIR. In connection to these comments, similar FIR has already been registered at Kudal and also in Mumbai by local BJP workers.

Senior inspector Murlidhar Karpe, in-charge of Deccan Gymkhana police station, said the FIR was registered on Wednesday evening.

### Adityanath meets Bhagwat in Prayagraj

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 20

A DAY after the all India executive meet of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) concluded in Prayagraj with discussion on a range of issues including population imbalance and conversions, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday met RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat and other senior functionaries of the organisation there. The meeting was held at the same venue in Prayagraj where a four-day meeting of RSS's Akhil Bharatiya Karyakari Mandal (ABKM) concluded on Wednesday.

According to sources, the closed-door meeting went on for nearly an hour and the CM later had lunch along with other senior RSS functionaries.

Adityanath returned to Lucknow later in the day. Sources said the CM has invited the RSS chief to Deepotsav at Ayodhya on October 23, preparations for which are underway at a grand scale. Deepotsav celebrations will begin in Ayodhya on Friday.

Bhagwat and other top RSS functionaries have been camping in Prayagraj from last week where they attended the ABKM meet and discussed issues including population imbalance, conversion, infiltration, women empowerment etc.

### Move against Sourav to benefit someone: Mamata

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, OCTOBER 20

WEST BENGAL Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday said that former Indian cricket captain Sourav Ganguly was deprived of a second stint as president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in an attempt to benefit "a particular person".

On her return from north Bengal, the CM, in a veiled reference to BCCI secretary Jay Shah, said, "Real sportspeople have

# Invest in defence industry, assure good returns: Rajnath at DefExpo

AVINASH NAIR  
GANDHINAGAR, OCTOBER 20

ASSURING "GOOD returns", Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Thursday invited investment from the domestic industry and foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) in the Indian defence sector and urged them to take advantage of the opportunity to integrate global supply chains.

Speaking at the 'Invest for Defence' outreach event at the DefExpo 2022 in Gandhinagar, Singh said the Indian defence industry will be "a sunrise sector in the years to come".

"By the year 2025, the government plans to increase defence production from USD 12 billion to USD 22 billion. The possibility of this figure exceeding the USD 22 billion cannot be ruled out. You can just imagine the opportunities that will be available for the industry, with this kind of growth," he said.

"Earlier, the doors of the Defence ministry used to remain closed. Defence ministers and officials in the Ministry used to hesitate (to agree) for a meeting. The concern was that someone might point an accusing finger. We are not worried about this. If the investors have a problem, the doors of my officials and mine are always open," he said.

"Usually, the strength of a country stands on two pillars.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at DefExpo 2022 in Gandhinagar on Thursday. PTI

The first is the GDP, and the second is its defence capability or its ability to keep itself secure. These two factors decide the development of knowledge, science, agriculture, trade, etc. A prosperous country can bear the cost of security for a longer time. The more secure a country is, it can make better economic progress."

"For a long time, there was a line of thought in the country that defence and development were opposite poles. It meant that if we concentrated on our social-economic development, then we would have to compromise on our defence capabilities; and if we increased our defence

capabilities, then we had to compromise with socio-economic development. It is surprising that despite gaining Independence, we could not gain independence from this point of view," he said, adding that a long time was spent in balancing economic growth and defence capabilities.

"To increase the participation of domestic industry in the defence sector, the government has reserved 68% of the defence capital acquisition for domestic procurement for the year 2022-23, which is approximately Rs 85,000 crore and 25% of this has been reserved for the domestic private industry," he said.

"We have been able to create such an environment for our investors. It will not only provide them good returns, but will also create an image for them in domestic and global markets," Singh said.

Later, while addressing a seminar organised by the US-India Business Council (UIBC) and Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM), Singh invited US companies to set up manufacturing units in India and develop technology collaborations with Indian industries to create a global supply chain free from vulnerabilities and uncertainties.

### CHARGES, COUNTER FLY AFTER CONG PRESIDENT ELECTED

## One face before me, different one in media: Mistry to Tharoor team

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

A DAY after he denied charges of irregularities leveled by the Shashi Tharoor campaign team on the polling process in Uttar Pradesh during voting for the party president's election, Congress central election authority head Madhusudan Mistry on Thursday sent a strongly worded reply, rebutting the allegations.

He also accused the Tharoor team of showing two faces: one before the party election authority and another before the media.

In his letter to Tharoor's chief election agent Salman Anees Soz, Mistry also accused them of having tried to create "a mountain out of a mole (hill) by creating an impression that the entire exercise was unfair to your candidate".

Referring to several letters from the Tharoor team, Mistry said the party's poll authority had



Congress poll authority head Madhusudan Mistry

"satisfied you on every complaint you made to us and you agreed to all of them and expressed that you're satisfied". Even thereafter, Mistry pointed out, "you raised all those points in the media before bringing them to our notice."

Mistry wrote: "...We showed you the list of all the voters two days before your candidate filed their nomination. Subsequently, we gave you the list of all voters along with their telephone numbers. You alleged in the media that you did not receive phone numbers for 3000 voters despite the fact that you and Mr. [Mallikarjun] Kharge both received approximately 9400 phone numbers which were available with us."

He also referred to the authority acceding to the Tharoor campaign's demand to change the requirement of writing '1' against the preferred candidate's name on the ballot, as Kharge's serial number was '1' and Tharoor's '2'.

"We accommodated your request and changed it to tick-mark...and despite that you went to the media alleging that the Authority was conspiring against you. I am sorry to say that you had one face before me which communicated that you're satisfied with all our answers and action and a different face in the media which made all these allegations against us," Mistry stated.

The senior Congress leader rebutted the charges made by the Tharoor campaign in the context of UP — among them use of unofficial seals for ballot boxes, presence of unauthorised persons in polling booths, voter fraud, and presence of AICC secretaries in charge of the state in polling areas.

### BHARAT JODO YATRA'S ANDHRA LEG



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with cotton farmers in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh on Thursday. PTI

## Special package for Rayalaseema if Cong comes to power: Rahul

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 20

CONTINUING HIS Bharat Jodo Yatra through Andhra Pradesh's Kurnool district, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi Thursday promised that the Rayalaseema region in which the district falls will receive a special development package if the Congress comes to power in the state.

Rayalaseema was a strong base for the party before Andhra Pradesh's bifurcation under UPA rule at the Centre in 2014.

At street corner meetings Thursday, Gandhi said that all the commitments and assurances made by the UPA government during the state's bifurcation in 2014 would be fulfilled by the Congress when it comes to power. Gandhi said that the response

### EXPLAINED For a sunrise sector

RAJNATH'S CALL for investments in the defence industry, which he says will become a sunrise sector, follows the unveiling of the 'Fourth Positive Indigenisation List' of 101 defence products. The items to be produced over the next seven years range from frigates to surface-to-surface missiles and simulators for the light combat aircraft.

### INDIGENISATION KEY TO SURPRISE ELEMENT IN STANDOFF: RAJNATH

Citing his experience from the India-China standoff, Defence Minister Rajnath Thursday said indigenisation of defence equipment was key in ensuring a "surprise element". "During the Indo-China stand-off, I had to travel abroad three times in nine months. During such times, the uniqueness of the equipment does not stay. In such a situation, there is no alternative other than developing indigenous defence industry."

### TELANGANA BYPOLL

## EC removes officer who cancelled candidate's symbol

REENIVAS JANYALA  
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 20

THE ELECTION Commission replaced the returning officer in Telangana's bypoll-bound Munugode Assembly constituency on Thursday after he cancelled a candidate's symbol. The symbol, that of a road roller, was one of those the ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi wants disallowed over a "resemblance" to its car symbol.

The commission's action against Jagannath Rao came after Yuga Tulasi Party candidate Kolisetty Shiva Kumar approached it, and a local court, against Rao's decision past Wednesday midnight to cancel the symbol he had been allotted through a lottery system.

TRS minister K T Rama Rao objected to the action and pointed the finger at the BJP. "The BJP is misusing its powers and constitutional bodies and this is the latest example," he said, adding that "road roller" had been removed from the list of symbols in 2011 but was recently introduced to hurt his party.

The commission replaced Jagannath Rao, who is the revenue divisional officer of Nalgonda, with B Rohit Singh as the new returning officer. It also sought an explanation from Rao and reallocated the road roller symbol to Kumar.

The commission, which wrote to state chief electoral officer Vikas Raj seeking a compliance report on its action, said in a statement that as per rule 10(5) of the Conduct of Elections Rules, only the commission is empowered to revise allotted symbols.

## Kalyan has no achievement to show, TDP chief incited him: Jagan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 20

PAWAN KALYAN has "no achievements to show", Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy said Thursday, hitting back at the actor-turned-politician for threatening to beat ruling YSRCP leaders "with slippers" if they made disparaging remarks against him.

Reddy also alleged that Kalyan, who heads the Jana Sena Party (JSP), had been instigated to make the threat by former CM and Telugu Desam Party leader Chandrababu Naidu.

Speaking at an event at Avanigadda in Krishna district, Reddy said while his government is going ahead with the three-capitals formula "keeping in mind the decentralisation and equal development, self-proclaimed leaders are shamelessly resorting to abusive language and showing slippers on TV."

"Such leaders, who have nothing great to claim about themselves, cannot guide people and the society", the CM added, without naming Kalyan

lier requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to allow Ganguly to run for the ICC post.

The removal of Ganguly, a popular figure in West Bengal, from the BCCI has led to a political slugfest between the TMC and the BJP. Banerjee had on Monday said, "The Supreme Court had given a three-year extension to both Ganguly and Amit Shah's son Jay Shah who, for reasons not yet known, is still continuing as the BCCI secretary. We believe injustice has been done to Ganguly."

## Cong backroom hero in hill state gets recognition with poll ticket

AMIL BHATNAGAR  
SHIMLA, OCTOBER 20

KULDEEP SINGH Rathore is one of the few fresh faces fielded by the Congress for the Himachal Assembly elections, in a list that mostly contains previous winners and children of former MLAs and ministers. But, although this is Rathore's first election, he is by no means a new face for the party.

The 58-year-old leader holds the unique distinction of being the president of the Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee without having fought a single election. In the forthcoming polls, Rathore has been given the ticket



Kuldeep Singh Rathore

from Theog, a VIP seat that had been the bastion of Vidya Stokes, the scion of the state's pioneering apple horticulture family. In the previous elections, Stokes had vacated the seat for CM Virbhadr Singh, who decided to fight from Arki at the last moment. The ticket was then given to a youth leader.

This time, Congress awarded Rathore the ticket from the seat in Shimla district as acknowl-

edgement of his long-standing contribution to the party.

Rathore's journey in politics began during the students movement in Himachal in 1979, when he led a month-long protest against the Janata Party government. He was Himachal NSUI president from 1981 to 1987. He also served as Himachal Congress secretary and then general secretary in-charge of organisation. Rathore is credited to have been instrumental in the party's victories over the years, especially in the Kumarsain region, where he hails from.

He is known to be closely associated with the Gandhis. Locals claim Rahul Gandhi is regularly in touch with him.

OM PRAKASH THAKUR  
SHIMLA, OCTOBER 20

AN OPEN revolt has erupted in the ruling BJP in Himachal Pradesh with several ticket aspirants, who found their names missing from the candidate list, either quitting the party or announcing they will contest as Independents. A few leaders filed nomination papers as Independents for the November 12 Assembly election even as the party began firefighting by replacing its Chamba candidate.

The BJP replaced Indira Kapoor from Chamba with Neelam Nayyar, wife of incumbent MLA Pawan Nayyar who

was denied a ticket. The party had named Kapoor on Wednesday, drawing protests from the current MLA who had called a meeting of his supporters.

Party sources said Kapoor was convicted in a corruption case by a local court.

The BJP also announced candidates for the remaining six seats for Himachal Pradesh polls, a day after it declared 62 names for the contest. Of the six, the BJP renominated Maheshwar Singh from Kullu and Ramkumar from Haroli and interchanged seats of Ramesh Dhawala and Ravinder Singh

Ravi. This decision angered the supporters of both leaders.

The BJP has denied tickets to 11 of its sitting MLAs, sparking a rebellion. The party's media co-charge from Mandi Sadar, Praveen Sharma announced that he will contest as Independent.

Vandana Guleria, the daughter of Jal Shakti Minister Mahender Singh Thakur, resigned as general secretary, BJP Mahila Morcha, after party allotted the ticket from Dharampur to her younger brother. In Nalagarh, BJP's former MLA KL Thakur filed his nomination as an Independent after the

APPOINTMENT OF PUNJAB AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY VICE CHANCELLOR

# Latest in Punjab tussle: CM says Governor is waging a proxy war

KANCHAN VASDEV  
CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 20



Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann; Governor Banwarilal Purohit

STATING THAT the appointment of the Punjab Agriculture University vice chancellor was according to law, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann Thursday accused Governor Banwarilal Purohit of indulging in a "proxy war" and asked him to stop "interfering" in the functioning of the elected government. Mann also shared a letter written in Punjabi and addressed to the Governor on his Twitter handle. However, the Raj Bhavan said the letter they received from the CM was in English and its contents were "materially different" from the one circulated in the media.

His appointment in August was done without following University Grants Commission norms and approval of the Governor as the Chancellor of PAU.

In the letter to Purohit, Mann told the Governor that the agriculture university's V-C is appointed according to the Haryana and Punjab Agricultural Universities Act, 1970. "The V-C is appointed by the Board of the PAU. There is no role of a chief minister or Governor in it," wrote

the CM, while citing examples of previous appointments of Baldev Singh Dhillon and MS Kang as V-Cs of the agriculture university.

He said no approval of the Governor was sought in appointing any of the previous V-Cs. "Therefore, Dr Gosal has also been appointed as per law, like it used to be done earlier. Dr Gosal is a scientist of repute. He is a respected Sikh. Your orders of his removal has left the Punjabis across the world very upset," Mann said.

He also mentioned the recent run-ins that the Raj Bhavan had had with his government in the recent past.

"For the past a few months, you have been constantly interfering in the functioning of the government, which was elected with a huge mandate. First you created an obstacle in convening the Punjab Assembly session, then you cancelled the appointment of the vice chancellor of Baba Farid University of Health

Sciences, Faridkot, and now you have ordered the cancelling of the appointment of PAU VOC," said Mann.

In a statement, a Raj Bhavan spokesperson said, "There is a letter in circulation in media which is in Punjabi, alleged to have been written by Chief Minister, Punjab to the Governor, Punjab about the appointment of Vice Chancellor of PAU, Ludhiana. This letter has not been received in Punjab Raj Bhavan till this moment."

"However, the letter received in Punjab Raj Bhavan is in English and the contents of both the letters are materially different," the spokesperson added.

The Governor's Office has sought clarification from the CM as to which of his two letters is authentic and why the letter written in Punjabi has been circulated to the media before and without sending it to the Punjab Raj Bhavan, said the statement.

## PM in Kedarnath, Badrinath today, to lay foundation stone of projects

Dehradun: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Kedarnath and Badrinath on Friday to offer prayers at the two shrines and lay the foundation stone of connectivity projects worth more than Rs 3,400 crore, including the ropeway projects of Kedarnath and Hemkund Sahib.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami visited the two shrines and reviewed the preparations ahead of the PM's visit.

The Prime Minister will reach Kedarnath temple around 8.30 am and offer prayers. Around 9 am, he will lay the foundation stone for the Kedarnath ropeway project. From there he will go to Badrinath temple. He will then review the progress of the development work of the riverfront, followed by laying the foundation stone of road and ropeway projects at Mana village. ENS

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

POST GRADUATE MEDICAL ADMISSION COUNSELLING (PGMAC)-2022  
for MD / MS / PGD / DNB (Degree & Diploma). In Govt./ Private Medical Colleges of Bihar

Adv. No.- BCECEB(PGMAC)-2022/08 Dated : 20.10.2022 [bceceboard.bihar.gov.in](http://bceceboard.bihar.gov.in)

**Important Notice for 2nd Round Online Counselling in the light of NBEMS Notice dt. 20.10.2022**

Pursuant to the public Notice of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India letter No.-V.11025/379/2022-MEP dated 17.10.2022 followed by NBEMS, New Delhi notice dt. 20.10.2022 regarding lowering down the qualifying cut-off percentile for NEET-PG - 2022, fresh Online registration and submission of Application form are invited from such qualified, eligible and interested NEET-PG 2022 candidates for admission in Govt. as well as Pvt. Medical Colleges of Bihar on vacant seats of MD / MS / PGD / DNB (Degree & Diploma) Courses after admission on the basis of PGMAC-2022 Round-1 Counselling which is going on from 18.10.2022 to 21.10.2022 vide Adv. No.-BCECEB(PGMAC)-2022/06 dated 09.10.2022.

The new qualifying cut-off percentile for admission in MD / MS / PGD / DNB (Degree & Diploma) courses are as follows:

S.No.	Category	Revised Qualifying Percentile	Revised Cut-off Score (out of 800)
i.	General (UR/EWS)	25th	201
ii.	UR-PwD	20th	186
iii.	SC / ST / OBC (Including PwD of SC/ST/OBC)	15th	169

2. In view of above, the earlier fixed date for choice filling for 2nd round online counselling (From 23.10.2022 to 26.10.2022) is hereby postponed.

3. The online Registration and submission of Application Form will start from 22.10.2022 and close on 25.10.2022 (10:00 P.M.).

4. Detailed programme and process for Round-2 Counselling of PGMAC-2022 (MD / MS / PGD / DNB (Degree & Diploma) Course) has been published through Adv. no. BCECEB(PGMAC)-2022/07 dt. 20.10.2022 which is uploaded on Board's website : [bceceboard.bihar.gov.in](http://bceceboard.bihar.gov.in). All concerned are requested to go through the advertisement uploaded on Board's website and act accordingly.

Controller of Examination

## 'Aren't Muslims rich or wise': BJP MLA on deity worship

SANTOSH SINGH  
PATNA, NOVEMBER 20

A BJP MLA in Bihar has sparked a controversy over his statements on the worship of Hindu deities.

Pirapinti legislator Lalan Paswan was speaking to reporters on why he did not organise a "mrityu bhoj" (13th-day feast) for his recently deceased mother. A viral video, shot five days ago, shows a tanned Paswan saying: "It is held that Saraswati is the goddess of learning. Muslims do not wor-

ship her, but are they not wise? Don't they become IAS and IPS officers? It is held that Lakshmi is the goddess of wealth. Muslims do not worship her, but are they not millionaires and billionaires? Lord Bajrangbali is the god of strength. Muslims and Christians do not worship him... is not America a superpower? It is all about belief."

He said: "It is all about your faith. There is a soul and god so long as you believe in it. Once you start reasoning and your thoughts are scientific, you start asking questions rationally."

About the ritual of the feast, Paswan called it a "kuriti" (wrong practice).

The MLA Wednesday stood by his statement: "One should understand the context in which I said what I said. I am not against religion but I only talked about scientific thought processes and being rational."

BJP National General Secretary of OBC Morcha, Nikhil Anand, told *The Indian Express*: "Paswan wanted to express his viewpoint on the 13th-day ritual of mass feast after the demise of his mother. Among the Hindus,

even Arya Samaj and many other beliefs do not organise these 13th day rituals. We understand his emotion as an MLA while replying to the query on this. In order to make others understand his decision, he may have said something else."

BJP sources claimed Paswan, a first-time MLA, could be laying the ground to quit the BJP as the social combination might well be in favour of the Grand Alliance now. Paswan had crossed over from RJD to BJP in 2015. He contested as BJP nominee successfully in the 2020 polls.

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**Publication of Notice regarding Possession of property u/s 13(4) of SARFAESI Act 2002**

Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, a demand notice was issued on the dates mentioned against each account and stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

The Borrower/Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Act on the dates mentioned against each account. The Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the **STATE BANK OF INDIA** for an amount and interests thereon.

**The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.**

S. No.	Name of Account Borrower or Address	Name of Proprietor/ Partners/Guarantors/ Owners of Property etc	Description of Property mortgaged/charged	Date of Demand Notice	Amount Outstanding
1.	M/s Riddhi International	Smt. Priti Prakash, W/o Shri Raj Ranjan Bhaskar and Smt. Rita Devi, W/o Late Rajendra Prasad Mandal	Description of the Immovable property: All that part and parcel of land and building in the name of Smt. Priti Prakash, W/o Shri Raj Ranjan Bhaskar and Smt. Rita Devi, W/o Late Rajendra Prasad Mandal situated at Mauza- Madhopara, Mohalla - Chatth Pokhar, ward number 26 (new) / 6(old) Pargana - Haveli, Thana - Khajanchi Hat, Thana No - 108, Tauji No - 8/5, Khata No - 775, Khesra No - 1150&945, Area - 2 decimal 6 kadi i.e. 1 kattha 5 dhur, Sub-Registry - Sadar, Dist - Purnia vide sale deed No - 7306 dated 25.04.2012, Boundaries : North - Asha Devi, South- Nij Lekhyakari, East - Sanjay Kumar Verma, West - Private Rasta 10 feet	05.08.2002	Rs . 61,89,692.85 as on 31.07.2022 plus accrues interest, charges, other miscellaneous expenses etc.
2.	M/s G S MOTORS, C/o Md Shamshad Alam, Ibrahim Complex, Zero Mile, Bazaar Road, Araria - 854311	Md. Shamshad Alam, (Partner - M/s G S Motors), S/o Md Ibrahim, At - Pachaili, Po - Balwa Dahori, PS - Palasi, Araria - 854333	Equitable mortgage of all that part and parcel of Land and Building: 1. In the name of Md Shamshad Alam, S/o Md Ibrahim, Vide Sale Deed No. 6616 Dated 27.08.2007, Mauza- Sisouna, Sulatanpur Thana vo Registry Office Araria Thana No 303, Tauzi No-8/1, Khata No-415, Khesra-1595, Area-6.625 Decimal, Boundary: North : Upendra Gupta vo Yogendra Gupta, South : Kharidar, East : Pakki Sadak, West : Khesra Haza 2. In the name of Md Shamshad Alam, S/o Md Ibrahim, Vide Sale Deed No. 7756 Dated 29.10.2007, Mauza- Sisouna, Sulatanpur Thana vo Registry Office Araria Thana No-303, Tauzi No 8/1, Khata No-415, Khesra-1595, Area-6.0 Decimal, Boundary: North : Upendra Gupta vo Yogendra Gupta, South : Kharidar, East : Kharidar, West : Eent Soling Sadak,	15.10.2022	Rs. 21,75,927.00 as on 30.11.2021 plus accrues interest, charges, other miscellaneous expenses etc.

Date: 17.10.2022  
Place: Patna

Authorized Officer  
State Bank of India, SARB, Patna

ADVERTORIAL

# BlueRose Bookshelf

## 20 Books That Deserve to Be on Your Must-Read List

*Akin to chance encounters, some books leave an ineffaceable impression on us. Introducing 20 such engrossing must-reads published by BlueRose Publishers – India's most trusted self-publishing company.*

In her book, **Sit Like a Girl - The Untold Stories**, Prisha Garg wonderfully shines a light on the obvious issue of gender inequality. The ten-chapter story crafts a riveting narrative that highlights gender equality, women's independence, and women's empowerment, as well as the urgent need to right society's regressive, patriarchal mindset and abolishes gender inequity.

With his expertise in Public Health and over two decades of Field Epidemiology experience, Dr. Amitav Banerjee has once again succeeded in conveying an important public health message in an interesting and easily understandable body of well-written essays that educate the readers through fascinating pieces of evidence and entertain them with witty analogies in his **COVID-19 Pandemic: A Third Eye**. The book highlights weaknesses in our public health system and its regulation, as well as the endemic corruption and partisanship that hamper scientific advancement.

Dipavali Sen's **Subhadra** is a unique fictional rendition of the story of the Hindu Goddess of the same name, who is mentioned in various ancient Hindu scriptures. Subhadra, with a fascinating plot that crosses nonlinearly numerous locales in time and space, beautifully portrays the timeless notions of love, limits, depression, freedom, and bliss.

Tanvi Agarwal's **Unveil Life's Secret** will delight and enlighten you if you enjoy reflecting on the enriching journey of life, complete with its twists and turns. It is a collection of short stories that have at their core life, lessons, and a plethora of situations that constantly mold perspectives. This self-help book, which everyone can relate to, takes readers on a journey down memory lane and helps them appreciate those terrible mistakes that hold the key to incredible growth.

**So Who Was I?** by Shriya Nanda is a roller coaster of a book that goes into the unfathomable depths of the whole gamut of emo-

tions that love colored the lives of people who find themselves in the throes of it. The book is solely a representation of two seasons - Spring and Autumn; one teaches us how to cherish while the other teaches us how to let go. Shriya Nanda makes us understand that even love, the mightiest emotion, has severe consequences.

In **VanavlyachyaGappa**, Dr. Arati Suryawanshi demonstrates an innate understanding of her craft, stringing together fascinating anecdotes and interesting incidents from her childhood and painting a vibrant picture of life in a small town in Maharashtra, transporting readers to a world where local customs take center stage.

**Wonderful Life**, Tej Kumar Baxla's poetry collection, is a treasure trove of poems for people of all ages that enrich the readers with life insights and vital teachings. People have many experiences throughout their life, which might include delight, grief, hardship, success, and so on. Everything in life is determined by one's point of view. These poems will undoubtedly introduce the concept of love to a wide range of people.

**Understanding Joseph** by Arjun Tandon introduces readers to the world of Joseph, an adventurous adolescent with enormous potential, limitless dreams, and, in contrasting contrast, massive insecurities. The dramatic plot gently engages readers as it takes them on a whirlwind trip, shedding light on teenagers' ordinary worries - body image, mental health, and platonic love - through a unique narrative.

**Entrepreneur with The Fire Within** by Piyush Somani, a small-town boy from Maharashtra rolled through the tough path of success and became a first generation Entrepreneur. This is his journey to show that there are small moments that make you a great person, an important journey to show how much 'jazba' he has in him to become who he is today.

How can a love story founded on a lie play out, especially when it takes place against the backdrop of a highly sensitive subject - religion? **The Girl in Burqa** by Sachin Malik provides a unique opportunity to explore the path of true love when religion stands in the way.

**Wah Aurat**, Ramendra Shekhar Singh's soul-stirring debut novel is an extraordinarily captivating page-turner that impresses readers with its lucid writing, rich language, and depth of thinking. The novel covers a wide range of perceptual and emotional experiences that are both soul-stirring and thought-provoking. With all-encompassing mysticism and celestial phenomena, you will experience a range of emotions, from awe to fear, horror to romance.

**Kriti Don't Remember the Name** by Kriti Ashish is an unforgettable story and an awe-inspiring masterpiece that describes a girl's tremendous transforming journey through several dismal periods of despair and her ultimate triumph over the vicious cycle that it causes.

Aadiya Chauhan's **Heroes & Villains** is an enigmatically written novel where she breaks the stereotypes of heroes and villains that have been created by us. She conveys that villains don't wish to be how they are, the situations they live in just change them for something worse. While for many it would be considered a bad deed, to them a way to protect their soul.

Tejinder Pal Singh Walia, the author of **From Darkness to Light (Disease to Addiction)**, is a ray of hope for many drug users. In this gripping book, his inspirational words take readers through the arduous life journey of a heroin addict, his terrible struggle with addiction, and his unwavering determination to conquer it. The story powerfully emphasizes the importance of love, care, empathy, support, and womanpower in the recovery of an addict.

**The Scientific Naturopath** by Dr. Pradeep Nair provides a wealth of information on the science of naturopathy and its beliefs. The Scientific Naturopath is a blessing to both health

seekers and healthcare providers since it completely covers the essence of this remarkable holistic system of treatment and explains its relevance in modern times.

SamruddhiGhumare's **'Am I the Silent Poet?'** is an enigmatic compilation of raw thoughts that often strike us. Those alluring thoughts demonstrate how creativity and comprehension of every moment connect as the author quotes - "Everything Connects, Eventually!". The silent poet speaks louder with her words and creates an unshakeable impact.

One of the most enigmatic reads for filmy book lovers, **Manik er Khata - Manik's Notebook** by Ujjaini Dutta. This book is a sincere dedication to one of the greatest visionaries of India - Satyajit Ray and Rabindranath Tagore. The story starts from creating different worlds with just pen and paper to an illustrated journey to how it was in the golden era of our film industry.

Asha Rani's inherent writing talent shines through in **Band Aankho Me Anshu**. The author's distinct, unorthodox writing style propels the plot and places the book in a class by itself. The simple approach to writing is what makes her book different, she has let the story fall on its path naturally.

**Fear to Fauladi** - Our SSB Journey by Agrim Sharma, a compilation of live events with a rollercoaster of emotions, some will make you the happiest while some will make you sob - getting rejected in the NDA prelims didn't make him sad, it just fueled him to do better and best.

Sun is the center of our small universe, the biggest star - there are mysteries to the big star though. Mysteries that we, humans, are trying to find and live by. **Living in Harmony with the Sun** by Piyush Somani is an incredible divine effulgence that he shares through his personal experiences and thoughts, his opinions, and beliefs as to how we can maintain the harmony between us and the sun.

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## The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

## DEATH OF A WORKER

Qatar deaths should prod a reorienting of public policy to better address concerns of India's migrant workforce

IN NOVEMBER, AS fans from across the world arrive in Qatar to watch arguably the greatest soccer spectacle in the world at eight state-of-the-art stadiums, few are likely to remember the thousands of labourers, a large number from India, who built these stadiums and paid a price for it. An investigation by this newspaper has found that at least 40 people have died in Qatar since 2010 when FIFA awarded World Cup 2022 to the Gulf kingdom. However, the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, the Qatari organisation in charge of delivering the event, has said only three of these deaths were work related. This newspaper tracked down the families of nine of the dead and found they have not received any compensation and their questions concerning the death of loved ones remain unanswered. The Supreme Committee has admitted that there is "room for improvement" in enhancing standards of welfare, but a part of the responsibility also lies with the Indian government — Union and state — for ensuring the well-being of the migrant workforce.

Migrant workers constitute a large chunk of the Indian diaspora — over 8 million Indians live and work in the Gulf countries and their annual remittances constitute over \$25 billion. A majority of them are semi-skilled or unskilled and hence vulnerable to exploitation by employers. Many of them are recruited through the visa sponsorship system that ties a foreign worker's residency permit to a sponsor. This system is exploited by agents and sponsors/employers to recruit labourers desperate for employment under lopsided conditions. That the administrations in Gulf nations are non-transparent, do not recognise labour rights nor allow unionisation makes a fraught situation worse. The availability of cheap and footloose global labour also reduces their bargaining power. In this backdrop, issues of labour welfare do not have easy solutions. Measures such as pre-departure (from India) training may help inform migrant workers about their rights and equip them to deal with crises at labour sites and camps, especially when contractual obligations are dishonoured by the employer. Indian embassies need to prioritise the concerns of migrant workers. The Centre could start a conversation with governments in the Gulf on improving oversight in contract enforcement and labour welfare. These migrant workers are Indian passport holders and their well-being must be a priority for the Indian state.

States such as Kerala, the pioneer in exporting labour to Gulf countries since large-scale emigration started in the 1970s, have created institutional checks and systems to build a safety net for migrant workers. For instance, the nodal agency for non-resident Keralites — NORKA ROOTS — offers personal accident insurance cover upto Rs 4 lakh and critical care coverage of Rs 1 lakh besides liaising with Gulf-based community organisations and the government in critical situations, including for repatriation of people. Outward migration from India is unlikely to subside in the near future even though wages in Gulf nations are no longer competitive. Public policy must factor in these trends and include measures to address migrants' concerns.

## AN UNABATED PROBLEM

Global economic environment remains challenging. Policy makers must proceed with caution, be mindful of the risks

ON WEDNESDAY, THE Indian rupee fell 66 paise, breaching the psychological level of 83 against the dollar. While the fall continued during early trading on Thursday, the currency thereafter pared down its losses. Since the beginning of this year, the currency has fallen by around 12 per cent against the greenback. However, the Indian rupee is not an outlier as currencies of most advanced and emerging economies have fallen. In fact, as some analysts have pointed, broadly speaking the fall has been more severe among currencies of developed economies. The euro and the pound have fallen sharply, while the Japanese yen is hovering around 150 against the dollar — a level not seen in decades. This weakness is unlikely to abate in the near term.

The latest data suggests that inflation is likely to persist in advanced economies. In September inflation stood at 8.2 per cent in the US, 9.9 per cent in the Euro Zone and 10.1 per cent in the UK. While volatile energy prices are in part to blame, core inflation has remained elevated. This would suggest that inflation pressures are unlikely to fall quickly. Central banks in these countries are thus likely to continue to tighten aggressively which will likely lead to further capital outflows from emerging markets. The selling by foreign portfolio investors can be seen in Indian markets as well. For India, a deteriorating current account balance will only complicate matters, exerting further pressure on the currency.

So far, the Reserve Bank of India, like central banks in some other developing economies, has been actively intervening in the currency markets to support the currency. Part of the decline in its foreign exchange reserves — they have fallen from \$633 billion at the beginning of the year to \$532 billion at the end of October 7 — can be attributed to its interventions. While the pace of decline in the reserves is worrying, they remain "robust" as per global rating agency Fitch, covering 8.9 months of imports in September, higher than during the taper tantrum. The rating agency also argued that the current account deficit will be "contained at a sustainable level". However, considering that the global economic environment will remain challenging over the near term, policy makers must continue to exercise caution, be mindful of the risks to the economy.

## THE YOSSARIAN TYPE

A subset of the paranoid and self-obsessed have been proven right — mosquitoes do target them over others

EVERYONE KNOWS AT least one person who takes everything a little too personally. Even a mosquito bite is attributed by such people to having particularly "sweet blood". Even the less-than-intelligent vampiric insect is given malicious powers of discretion by the self-obsessed. Call it the Yossarian phenomenon. The main character in *Catch-22* — an American fighter pilot during World War II — refuses to fly a mission. There are, after all, thousands of Germans trying to kill him. "But they're trying to kill everyone!", his commander insists. John Yossarian, though, made it about himself.

Yossarian's self-obsession was a way to deal with the absurdity of war. Most people, though, insist on acting the part without context. There are those who blame their clumsiness on being "accident-prone". Or (and the pandemic has made this worse) insist that their WebMD-fuelled hypochondria be taken seriously by everyone around them. Then there are people who think a bad relationship or a poor increment is the fault of the stars — money is spent on soothsayers and pendants to assuage this paranoia. But, before we judge them too harshly, remember, it's not paranoia if they're really after you. A new study at Rockefeller University in New York, published in the journal *Cell*, has found that some people are, in fact, mosquito magnets. It's all in the smell, apparently. The dengue and malaria hosts do target some people more than others as a result of certain chemicals secreted by their skins.

Given the inordinate amount of research now being carried out across the world, isn't it possible that, like the "meetha khoon" types, all the others who think they are in destiny's cross-hairs, too, could be right? Perhaps they deserve a sympathetic ear. But, till science proves it so, their constant "I-am-such-a-victim" drone is only slightly less annoying than that of the mosquitoes.

# How not to measure hunger



SONALDE DESAI

Global Hunger Index is riddled with inadequate and poorly described data and a lack of conceptual clarity

THE WORLD SEEMS to have gone index-happy. Happiness Index, Ease of Doing Business Index, Calmness Index, you name it. The problem with this mini-industry of index creation is that it has the potential to both influence government action and generate aggressive pushback. The experience with the Global Hunger Index provides a salutary lesson in the latter.

Recently, Concern Worldwide released the Global Hunger Index. India ranked 107 out of 123 countries, dropping from the rank of 101 in 2021. The government has responded sharply to the publicity surrounding this, rejecting the methodology employed by the researchers and noting the substantial efforts made by the government to improve access to foodgrains by India's poor. The rebuttal by the government rests on valid grounds — about a third of the index rests on the Food and Agricultural Organisation's estimates of the proportion of undernourished in the population. Digging deep, we see that these estimates are based on Gallup World Poll's survey of 3,000 households in India (and 1,000 households in smaller countries).

In addition to its small size, the Gallup sampling methodology does not follow the usual processes used in India. This suggests a need to evaluate the representativeness of the sample. Unfortunately, we cannot easily do this because the underlying data are located behind a paywall. To ensure transparency, it is essential that international agencies only use data that are freely available in the public domain along with key characteristics such as education, residence and age of the respondents. In this case, the uncritical use of questions is particularly problematic because FAO has not released standard errors for their estimates, making it difficult for us to evaluate whether the growth in the proportion of households experiencing hunger in India, from 14.8 per cent in 2013-15 to 16.3 per cent in 2019-21, is statistically significant. This is very important given the difficulties in collecting data during the pandemic.

However, quibbles about this one indicator obfuscate the larger question: Is this index genuinely measuring hunger, or is it lumping together various indicators with only a weak relationship with hunger? The index

rests on four indicators: Proportion of undernourished in the population, under-five mortality rate, prevalence of stunting (low height-for-age) and wasting (low weight-for-height) in children under five. The last three indicators come from the National Family Health Survey for India. Proportion undernourished and child mortality contribute 1/3 each to the index, while stunting and wasting contribute 1/6 each.

How good are these indicators in picking up on hunger? While the first, if well collected, could presumably identify the proportion experiencing hunger, the latter three are only partially related to hunger.

Child mortality depends heavily on a country's disease climate and public health systems. Today, 40 of 1,000 children in India die before their fifth birthday; 27 of these deaths occur in the first month of life. This suggests that many child deaths are associated with conditions surrounding birth, congenital conditions, or delivery complications. These are not necessarily markers of hunger.

Similarly, the relationship between stunting (low height-for-age), wasting (low weight-for-height), and hunger is not apparent. As UNICEF notes in an article titled 'Stop Stunting', poverty is not a clear cause of stunting as there are stunted children even among the wealthiest households. Various factors contribute to stunting, such as infant and child care practices, hygiene, dietary diversity and cultural practices surrounding maternal diet during pregnancy. Food insecurity contributes to child stunting, but its relative importance in determining stunting is not established. Wasting is associated with both recent illnesses and low food intake. The two are closely related; children suffering from diarrhoea are less likely to eat, and poor nutritional status makes them more susceptible to disease.

Thus, while all three indicators of child health are related to poor food intake, none of them is solely determined by hunger. Moreover, trends in all three reflect somewhat different patterns. Between 1998-99 and 2019-21, National Family Health Survey 2 and 5 show that the child mortality rate fell from 95 deaths per thousand to 40 per thousand. This is a significant improvement attributable to improved immunisation coverage and increased hospital delivery. Child

stunting decline was also substantial, from 51.5 per cent to 35.5 per cent, possibly due to improved water and sanitation systems. Wasting has not changed, barely budging from 19.5 per cent to 19.3 per cent.

Despite this progress, we need to continue our effort to reduce child mortality and find ways of reducing stunting and wasting. However, whether the reduction in hunger is either necessary or sufficient to improve nutrition remains unclear.

In an intriguing article published in 2009, Angus Deaton and Jean Dreze try to reconcile these puzzles and find that average caloric intake has severe limitations as a nutrition indicator. They argue that "close attention needs to be paid to other aspects of food deprivation, such as the intake of vitamins and minerals, fat consumption, the diversity of the diet, and breastfeeding practices." My research using data from the India Human Development Survey, organised by the National Council of Applied Economic Research and the University of Maryland, supports this. This study found that holding household incomes constant, with access to the public distribution system, skewed consumption towards cereals, reduced dietary diversity, and failed to improve anthropometric outcomes.

Thus, the Global Hunger Index is riddled with inadequate and poorly described data and a lack of conceptual clarity. The problem with indices of this type is that it directs governmental attention to cross-national comparisons, sometimes resulting in the rejection of underlying issues and sidetracking the public discourse. In a way, this episode illustrates the concern that Amartya Sen, one of the principal consultants to the Human Development Report, 1990, expressed. He has argued that concentrating too much on the Human Development Index or any other index would be a great mistake. The Global Hunger Index is one example in which the weapon has backfired, detracting attention from the very real challenges of improving nutrition and reducing child mortality.

The writer is a professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland and professor and Centre Director of the National Council of Applied Economic Research. Views are personal

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C F JOHN

## SUNFLOWERS IN THE FIELD

Some acts of protest can open up spaces for critical thinking

WHEN TWO YOUNG activists from the climate protest group, Just Stop Oil, threw soup on Vincent Van Gogh's 'Sunflowers' at the National Gallery in London, according to *The Guardian*, "there were gasps, roars, and a shout of 'Oh my gosh!'". The women asked, "Are you more concerned about the protection of a painting or the protection of our planet and people?"

Art and poetry can throw light on a realm of life that is free from the narrow measures of time. This is a realm of mystery. But these days, this realm often functions differently, because of practices that seem to alienate or distance it from life. A work of art may appear to speak of life, but it takes the viewer away from it. So Van Gogh's painting of a peasant girl's shoe can either point us to the hard work and sufferings of peasant life or one can be captivated by the painting itself. In this regard, I recall what Malayalam writer, the late T P Sukumaran said: "With many of our cultural forms, we speak of rivers, trees and birds, and do not allow the trees, rivers and birds to speak for themselves. Our art and poetry do not take us to the tree or river. But we find the trees and rivers within their fashioned forms".

This has to do with professionalisation of art, establishing "specialists" for cultural production. The widespread commodification of culture has created an aesthetic sensibility

of its own, setting itself above the processes of life. One may ask what is wrong with this. The concern comes when we see certain engagements in life as the most honoured in a society, and they become the most coveted of all. This may result in ignoring functions that we ought to be holding dear in our life on earth.

It is in this context that I would like to look at the act of the two young climate activists at the National Gallery. Is it wise to be dismissive of the action? Can it be seen as a powerful performance, in line with the "direct action" strategy of many non-violent movements? With this strategy, if there is destruction, it is minimal and symbolic, done only to property and not intended to harm anyone. The action is intended to provoke. In the "performance" at the National Gallery too, there was no destruction. The act was intended only to draw attention to something grave. The *Guardian* reported, "The gallery has confirmed the painting was not harmed... the canvas of the painting is protected with a glass screen, a factor Just Stop Oil said they had taken into account."

In the 1990s, activists of a movement in Britain called GenetiX Snowball, created to slam the brakes on the production of genetically engineered crops, regularly selected fields that grew GM seeds, informing the police and media that on a given day and time,

they would destroy those crops. The group would end up destroying less than 10 square metres of the crop out of many hectares. This was a strategy adopted to generate discussion in Britain. A similar strategy was adopted by anti-globalisation activist M D Nanjundaswamy against agriculture patenting by multi-national firms.

In art practice too, there are forms that provoke and open up spaces for critical thinking, such as therukoothu in Tamil Nadu or chakyar koothu in Kerala. At one level, they provoke people to think aloud. On another level, they serve as a safety valve for people's repressed anger and anxiety. In a democratic society, these forms serve in ways that go beyond the obvious. So to sit and reflect on them is a moral responsibility.

As long as humans exist, art will too. This is because to be make art is an inner necessity for humans. Art lives alongside our hunger, pain and joy. The journey of a creative mind is like the flowing of water. It travels in all possible ways — penetrating, soaking, filling, overflowing, refilling and travelling endlessly — and not stopping for a moment, experiencing every emotion, whether it is love, joy, agony, anger, helplessness or hope, making one capable of recognising the mystery and enchantment of the world.

The writer is a Bengaluru-based artist



## OCTOBER 21, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

### KHALISTAN IN UK

THE BOW COURT Magistrate acquitted the Khalistan movement founder Jagjit Singh Chohan of the charge of trying to burn the Indian National Flag and a copy of the Indian Constitution and creating public disorder outside the Indian High Commission but gave three years' suspended sentence to two of his associates.

### LANKAN EMERGENCY

SRI LANKA WAS put under a state of emergency soon after polling for the election of the country's executive president concluded.

This is the fourth spell of emergency proclaimed by the Jayawardene government since it came to power five years ago.

### CONGRESS DISSENTERS

THE AICC (I) general secretary, G K Moopanan, said that disciplinary action would be taken against its Maharashtra MLAs if reports that they had met to intensify the anti-Bhosale drive were found true. He said that the central disciplinary action committee was inquiring into the reports to ascertain facts.

### AKALI'S NEXT PHASE

THE AKALI DAL president, Harchand Singh Longowal, appealed to all Panthic workers and sympathisers of Punjab all over the country to reach here on November 4 for the announcement of the next party programme of launching a "dharanyudh" for the implementation of the Anandpur Sahib resolution.

### NOBEL FOR STIGLER

PROFESSOR GEORGE STIGLER of Chicago University won the 1982 Nobel memorial prize for economics for his work on the market effects of regulatory policies, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced.

# Election as portent

No matter which way you look at it, the Congress presidential poll is a breakthrough moment for Congress and for the party system. New president faces large organisational, ideological and tactical challenges



ZOYA HASAN

THE CONGRESS PARTY'S presidential elections have triggered huge interest as political parties in this country rarely conduct internal elections. The dominance of elections in India's democratic system doesn't extend to the parties contending in it, which are always run top-down. Most parties are subservient to one or two supreme leaders. Electoral defeat does not loosen their control or hold over the party.

Comparative evidence from other democracies, however, shows that the general trend is toward greater internal democracy, decentralisation, transparency and accountability within parties. Parties in Europe and North America have made strong moves to democratise nomination and leadership selection processes to make them open to broader electorates. The process of choosing a new leader for the Conservative Party in Britain and the widely publicised debates between Liz Truss and Rishi Sunak exemplify this template.

Congress has not held internal elections for decades; neither have other parties. There have been only five elections in the party's 137-year-old history. The high stakes contest between Mallikarjun Kharge and Shashi Tharoor was only the sixth. Not surprisingly, it drew a massive turnout of electors with close to 96 per cent of Pradesh Congress Committee delegates casting their ballot. Kharge won the election, beating Tharoor 7,897 to 1,072 in terms of votes.

Although Tharoor lost the election, his decision to contest and post a spirited campaign despite the odds being stacked against him provided enormous credibility to the election process. Besides, his candidature may already have stirred things up: The need for change and for more effective inner party democracy has moved centre stage.

The significance of the election cannot be overstated. As the chairman of the Central Election Authority of the Congress, Madhusudan Mistry, put it, "Congress party has shown what internal democracy is and other parties that want to take a lesson from it can do so." This signals two things: One, other parties, especially its principal rival, have to live up to the standards it expects of others; two, Congress itself will need to democratise the party at various levels and not limit itself to holding elections for the top post. Parties in India generally lack inner party democracy and don't hold elections. Top positions are often decided by consensus, and not election. For example, the BJP extended JP Nadda's tenure as president again till 2024, but there's no clarity about the process followed in taking such decisions.

No matter which way we look at it, the presidential election in Congress is a breakthrough moment for Congress and for India's party system. It has addressed the most critical question about its leadership by electing its first non-Gandhi president in 24 years, marking a significant break from the past. Kharge will replace Sonia Gandhi who has been at the helm for over two decades. Also,



C R Sasikummar

his election sends a larger message given his social profile as a Dalit leader who has risen from the ranks. Hence, his election has the potential to alter the dispensation at the top, diluting to some extent the dynasty plus elitism charge.

Unsurprisingly, it will not stop its principal rival and the media from mocking the party. For the media, the Congress election was a charade. Media talk was dominated by predictable tropes — "unofficial official candidate", "rubber stamp", "remote control", "cosmetic change", "family in control" — epithets that deride and delegitimise the election process. However, the media's search for internal democracy is seldom extended to other parties and their "election" and "selection" processes.

Media misgivings aside, the new president faces seemingly insurmountable organisational, ideological, and tactical challenges within the party and outside it. Establishing the authority and autonomy of the office of the president, while forging a healthy relationship with the Gandhis, will be the foremost challenge. At the same time, the party's organisational reforms must be expedited to arrest its political decline.

The absence of democracy at the bottom, together with the all-pervasive nomination culture, has resulted in a weak, ineffectual and strife-torn organisation. Kharge will also have to deal with dissensions and factionalism within Congress to stop further exits from the party. Lastly, the new president must perform the herculean task of forging creative links with non-BJP parties. Congress needs to forge strategic alliances with like-minded Opposition parties to put forth a credible challenge to the BJP in the next general elections.

The colossal task that awaits the Congress president is to reverse the organisational dis-

The absence of democracy at the bottom, together with the all-pervasive nomination culture, has resulted in a weak, ineffectual and strife-torn organisation. Kharge will also have to deal with dissensions and factionalism within Congress to stop further exits from the party. The new president must perform the herculean task of forging creative links with non-BJP parties. Congress needs to forge strategic alliances with like-minded Opposition parties to put forth a credible challenge to the BJP in the next general elections.

repair and the vote share slide of the party, which appears to be in permanent decline. He must hit the ground running — given that several assembly polls are scheduled in the coming months before the next general elections are due in just a little over 18 months. These include the Himachal Pradesh polls, which have already been announced, and the elections in Gujarat and later in Karnataka, Telangana, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh. Congress is a key player in most of these states and needs a credible performance which is crucial for its survival.

The presidential elections and the Bharat Jodo Yatra (BJY) are notable signs of change. The BJY from Kanyakumari to Kashmir has shown that the party can work unitedly in a mass contact programme and that it has the organisational bandwidth to pull off a massive and difficult exercise such as this yatra. The yatra has drawn huge crowds in the southern states. But the public support it has generated has to extend to mobilisation for elections.

For this process to go forward, the Congress needs to revamp its organisation and propagate a clear alternative vision to fight the BJP ideologically. The BJY has articulated a narrative of unity, equity, and diversity, but this must translate into an economic and political blueprint, communicated in imaginative ways, to make it acceptable to the vast numbers of people enchanted with the rhetoric of division and divergence.

Hasan is Professor Emerita, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Distinguished Professor, Council for Social Development, New Delhi. She is the author of *Ideology and Organisation in Indian Politics: Polarisation and the Growing Crisis of the Congress Party (2009-19)*

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"A restart in cricketing ties can be a solid confidence-building measure that can open the doors to engagement on other outstanding matters as well. It is precisely what two nuclear-armed neighbours need in these uncertain and fraught times."

— DAWN, PAKISTAN

# The climate front

During its G20 presidency, India should apply pressure on developed countries to meet their financial commitments to the developing world



AJAY TYAGI

CLIMATE CHANGE is a global concern and requires a well-coordinated global approach to address it. In simple terms, what needs to be done is to assess and monitor the net stock of GHG (greenhouse gases) present in the atmosphere at any given time, and work out ways to contain/reduce it.

Unlike many pollutant gases that have a relatively shorter life span once emitted, GHG can remain in the atmosphere for a fairly long time. For instance, carbon dioxide, the major constituent of GHG, can remain in the atmosphere for as long as a thousand years.

Another aspect of this is the distance up to which GHG can travel from the emitting source in the atmosphere. As compared to pollutant gases like sulphur dioxide, which can at best travel up to a few hundred kilometres, carbon dioxide can travel up to thousands of kilometres. So, while excessive sulphur dioxide emissions could cause acid rain (rainwater containing sulphuric acid) in areas near the emitting source, GHG could potentially impact climate in places far away from the source.

The Industrial Revolution in the 19th century and industrialisation in the world added to great volumes of GHG in the atmosphere over time. Unfortunately, the realisation of their adverse impact on climate came quite late. International climate change negotiations amongst different countries under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) framework started only in 1994. In some ways, the damage had already been done by then. Surprisingly, many sceptics still don't believe in the adverse climatic impact of GHG.

GHG targets discussed in COP meetings under the UNFCCC framework largely focus on containing inflows of new emissions, which would add to the GHG stock already in the atmosphere. While the commitment to check inflows is important, what is equally or more important is to reduce the already existing huge stock.

To address this, substantial financial resources and the latest technologies are required. Developed countries, which are responsible for creating this mess in the first place and have the better financial capacity and technological capability, have to bear the major burden for this. They need to provide funds to developing countries and facilitate technology transfers. This is the basic philosophy behind the "common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities" principle.

Unfortunately, despite all the talk, this is not happening. In the COP meeting in Copenhagen in 2009, developed countries pledged to channel \$100 billion a year to developing countries by 2020 to help them adapt to and mitigate climate change. This pledge is nowhere near being honoured. Developed countries have tried to further confuse the matter with accounting issues. Many have come out with various win-win

solutions trying to obfuscate the need for financial transfers. If everyone was indeed winning, there would have been no point in wasting time, energy and resources of 197 countries in annual COP meetings.

Some sympathisers of developed countries cite the prevalent global macroeconomic conditions as difficult and feel that it may not be the right time for them to meet their financial commitments. Such arguments must be rubbish. This is the debt developed countries owe to developing countries. In accounting parlance, repayment of debt has been accorded the top priority in the waterfall mechanism for meeting liabilities. In fact, \$100 billion per year is a minuscule amount considering that trillions of dollars will be needed to meet the 2015 Paris COP goals.

Climate change is a tragedy of the commons. The concerns can be addressed only if all jurisdictions collectively stick to the script and perform their allocated role honestly and with integrity. This is wishful thinking. In fact, international climate change negotiations have become game theorists' delight.

Excessive hot weather, untimely and excessive rains, flooding and extreme climatic conditions this year have affected people across the world. It is, however, the poor and developing countries in Africa, South Asia and Latin America which suffer the most due to a lack of resources to deal with the problem. Even if these countries were to follow the emissions discipline strictly individually, they might still suffer the climate change consequences.

When it comes to survival, there is little option for anyone but to take required precautionary or adaptive measures to the best of their capabilities. No one wants to hear a lecture on this from developed countries. What is fundamentally and ethically wrong is that developed countries hold developing countries responsible for emission inflows when they aren't honouring their own commitments.

India with 17.7 per cent of the world's population, 30 per cent of the world's cattle population, 2.4 per cent of the world's surface area, 4 per cent of the water resources, 55 per cent of energy needs met by coal and only a \$2,200 per capita per annum income, has its back against the wall while participating in international forums on climate change negotiations. It is advisable to commit less in these negotiations, retain the domestic policy space, and deliver more than committed.

India has shown leadership in declaring voluntary, ambitious NDCs in Paris, followed by bold commitments in COPs thereafter. This is likely to motivate others, especially developing countries, to follow. But this is certainly not enough and may only serve a limited purpose.

India should use its global stature, lobbying power and leadership to take the bull by its horns — make developed countries do what they should rightly be doing, be it during the COP meetings on climate change or in other forums like G-20. As India takes over the G-20 presidency, this should be our main agenda. The developed country members of G-20 routinely corner developing countries over the subsidy issue in these meetings. It is time now to show them the mirror.

The writer is a former IAS Officer and a former chairman of SEBI



TAHIR MAHMOOD

# The pursuit of justice

In several judgments, D Y Chandrachud has upheld primacy of citizens' rights

IT IS the "worst way" to spend one's birthday, said a lawyer to a vacation judge of the apex court after an all-day hearing of an urgent bail matter. "No, this is actually the best way to spend it, I am in court judging and it is my life, I love it," replied the judge. This dialogue took place in mid-November 2020 and the judge who had so responded to the counsel wishing him for his birthday was Dhananjaya Chandrachud. He is slated to be sworn in as the 50th Chief Justice of India around the same time this year.

I have known Dhananjaya for over four decades, since his student days at Delhi University's Faculty of Law which I joined as a young teacher in 1974. With his learned father, the Chief Justice of the time, the late YV Chandrachud, I was in touch since 1980 when he sent me an inspiring message for my newly launched journal of Islamic law. Just before demitting office in 1985, he had honoured me by citing two of my works in his celebrated judgment in the renowned Shah Bano case on divorced Muslim women's maintenance rights. With these personal associations in the background, I keenly watched Dhananjaya's phenomenal rise through higher legal education at the prestigious Harvard Law School in the US, followed by vibrant days of practice at the Bombay Bar, and eventual assumption of the mantle of a judge. After initially serving on the Bombay High Court bench he took over as the Chief Justice of my

state, Uttar Pradesh, and was eventually elevated to the country's highest temple of justice.

Dhananjaya has now been in the apex court for over six years, charming people with his debonair disposition and impressing the legal fraternity with exceptional jurisprudential acumen. Remarkably, in some important cases, he has overruled a couple of the apex court's old decisions, which his late father had either personally written or endorsed as a member of a larger bench deciding the case. The first of these was the infamous Habeas Corpus case (ADM Jabalpur, 1976) of the notorious Emergency days decided by a Constitution Bench of the court, with the majority decision in which his father had concurred. On becoming the 16th CJL two years later, he had done his best to wash away the blemish by pronouncing a commendably liberal ruling in *Minerva Mills* (1980) on the inviolable basic structure of the Constitution. After retiring from the court he had once frankly acknowledged, in an academic event where I was present that the decision in *ADM Jabalpur* was conspicuously wrong.

Nearly half a century after it was pronounced, *ADM Jabalpur* was deservedly overruled. Expressing his views on it in the *K S Puttaswamy* case of 2017 relating to people's fundamental right to privacy, Dhananjaya Chandrachud called it a "seriously flawed" verdict, adding that "when his-

stories of nations are written and critiqued, there are judicial decisions at the forefront to liberty. Yet others have to be consigned to the archives, reflective of what was, but should never have been."

Next year in 2018, Dhananjaya pronounced revolutionary decisions on two different provisions of the Indian Penal Code relating to sexual offences. In *Joseph Shine*, he dissented from his learned father's 33-year-old verdict on the constitutional validity of Section 497 of the Indian Penal Code relating to adultery (Sowmithri, 1985). The son's judgment overruling the father's on this issue reflected the proverbial generation gap. Dhananjaya's viewpoint that adultery by a married woman, being an issue of family law, should not fall in the domain of criminal law was abundantly logical. The other case was *Navtej Johar* in which the court, forsaking its earlier stand on the issue involved, had agreed to the attempted decriminalisation of homosexuality. In his concurring judgment, Dhananjaya held that the related provision of the Penal Code (Section 377) was an "anachronistic colonial law", which violated people's fundamental rights to life and privacy.

Also in 2018, Dhananjaya had a chance to express his views on individuals' freedom of marital choice. In the *Shafin Jahan* case from Kerala, decided by the apex court going against its initial response, he referred to the law on matrimonial remedies and said:

"These remedies are available to the parties to a marriage, for it is they who decide best on whether they should accept each other into a marital tie or continue in that relationship. Society has no role to play in determining our choice of partners."

And then came Dhananjaya's decision in the *Rahna Jala* case of 2020 under the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act 2019, which had been passed in response to the apex court's views in *Shayara Bano* (2017) on the horrendous practice of what is commonly known among the Muslims as triple talaq. Overruling a Kerala High Court decision that anticipatory bail was not available to a husband accused of the offence under the Act, he held that "the power of the court to grant bail is a recognition of presumption of innocence and of the value of personal liberty in all cases" and the 2019 Act does not override the CrPC provision for anticipatory bail.

In the case referred to above, incidentally also a bail matter, Dhananjaya had cautioned the custodians of State authority that if they "target individual citizens they must realise that the apex court is here to protect them". This enthusiastic commitment of the incoming CJL to the primacy of citizens' fundamental rights carries a ray of hope for all justice-seekers, now and in future.

The writer is former chair, National Minorities Commission

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### PRESIDENT KHARGE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'New in the jaded' (IE, October 20). Mallikarjun Kharge's victory in the Congress presidential election was a foregone conclusion. The not-so-covert blessings of the Gandhis had sent a signal to the voters. To imagine the new party president to strike an independent course and bring the required changes in Congress would be wishful thinking, at least, for now. Whether the veteran Dalit leader is able to gradually build his own team without looking up to the Gandhis, only time will tell.

Vijai Pant, Hempur

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'New in the jaded' (IE, October 20). No one expects Mallikarjun Kharge to immediately work wonders for the Congress. But the organisational elections and Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra have undoubtedly injected life into the party. Congress' presidential elections present multiple challenges to the BJP. First, it stands as a marker of internal democracy within the party. Second, it takes the party away from BJP's perpetual critique of being a Gandhi-led organisation. How the Kharge-led party performs in the Gujarat and Himachal Assembly elections later this year will have a bearing on its prospects in the 2024 General Election. It will be a massive challenge for Kharge to exercise

control over the Congress to prove that he is not merely a figurehead.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee, Faridabad

### LESSER EVIL

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'What DC doesn't get' (IE, October 20). Historically, American decision makers have never hesitated putting their nation's interests over all else. The so-called liberal lobby in the US has done an excellent job at spinning their self-interest as an ideological issue. By sanctioning China, DC is serving American interests. It is for the rest of the world to adjust to this ground reality and choose the lesser evil. China's rise has, at least, disabused one popular liberal yarn: open borders, trade and material progress do not necessarily translate into open societies.

H N Bhagwat, Chiplun

### A PLAN FOR CHINA

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Under Beijing's shadow' (IE, October 18). The world, particularly India, needs to understand that China can never be trusted. Its unpredictability and deception are going to be integral parts of a "strong system of strategic deterrence" — a phrase used by Xi Jinping at 20th CPC Congress recently. All China-centric policies need to be appropriately tweaked by India.

Manish Mishra, Bhopal

# 16 EXPRESS NETWORK

## BRIEFLY

### JAMMU & KASHMIR Five OGWs held under PSA in Ramban: Police

Jammu: The J&K Police on Thursday detained five alleged overground workers (OGWs) under the Public Safety Act in Ramban district. The District Magistrate ordered the detentions based on police dossiers alleging their involvement in anti-national activities, officials said. OGW is a term that refers to people who provide logistical support such as food, shelter and money to militants. Officials said the detained persons are: Nazir Ahmad Pala of Doligam, Banihal; Usman of Pogal Kunda Ramsu; Fardious Ahmad Khan of Krawa; Ab Hamid Khan of Tether, Banihal, and Anyatullah Wani of Gund Adalkoot in Banihal. **ENS**

### MADHYA PRADESH 4 die in blast at Morena house storing crackers

Bhopal, Morena: Four people were killed and six others injured after a house, where firecrackers were stored by a tenant, came crashing down following a powerful blast in Banmore town of Madhya Pradesh's Morena district on Thursday, police said. The impact of the blast was so severe that the ground-plus-one-storey structure was reduced to rubble, while two nearby houses were also damaged. The tenant's wife, their eight-year-old daughter and two more persons, including a seven-year-old boy, died in the explosion that occurred around 11 am, they said. **PTI**

### KERALA Accused of rape, Cong MLA gets anticipatory bail

Thiruvananthapuram: Congress legislator Eldose P Kunnappillil, who has been accused of rape, got anticipatory bail from an additional sessions court in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday. Eldose, who represents Perumbavoor in the Assembly, went into hiding after police registered the case on October 13 on a complaint lodged by a teacher. The court directed Eldose to turn up before the investigating officer between October 22 and November 1. **ENS**

### KARNATAKA Woman gets divorce notice, dies by suicide

Bengaluru: A 34-year-old woman died, purportedly by suicide, after her husband sent her a legal notice for divorce. The woman left behind a note where she alleged torture by the husband. Upasana Rawat, who worked as an HR manager, lived with her husband Nihar Ranjan Routray, a software engineer. They had been married eight years. **ENS**

## MODI, UN SECRETARY GENERAL LAUNCH MISSION LIFE

# Reduce, reuse and recycle for a sustainable future, says PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
VADODARA, DELHI, OCT 20

MAINTAINING THAT all countries must learn from "mistakes of the past" to pave way for a sustainable future, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said that there should be an emphasis on "reduce, reuse and recycle" and a circular economy, "which has been a part of Indian lifestyle for thousands of years".

Circular economy is a model of production and consumption, which involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing products as long as possible.

Modi and UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Thursday launched Mission LIFE (Lifestyle for Environment), a global plan of action that aims to save Earth from consequences of climate change, at the Statue of Unity in Kevadia, Gujarat.

Quoting the 'Atharvaveda', Modi said, "Mata Bhumi Putroham Prithvii, which means the Earth is our mother and we are her children... India has a tradition of worshipping nature for thousands of years. The Vedas mention the importance of the elements of nature such as water, earth, land, fire and wind... Mission LIFE will include every lifestyle related to nature conservation, which our forefathers adopted and can be made a part of our lifestyle today."

Highlighting the global campaign of One Sun, One World, One Grid, Modi said India now wants to increase its partnership with the world even more while strengthening its resolve towards such goals. "By leading the creation of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, India has conveyed its concept towards environmental protection to the world. Mission LIFE is the next



PM Narendra Modi with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres in Kevadia, Thursday. **PTI**

step in this series," he said.

He said people today are experiencing the effects of climate change in their surroundings, given the unexpected calamities seen in the last few decades. "This makes it clear that climate change goes beyond only policy-making; people themselves are finding out that they should contribute as an individual, families and as communities toward the environment," he said.

Congratulatory video messages on the launch of Mission LIFE by heads of 11 nations, representing all regions of the UN, were also relayed.

Guterres said Mission LIFE will be essential and promising to save the Earth from this period of crisis. Warming against over-consumption, which he called is at the root of the triple crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, he urged communities to be a part of the solution to protect the planet.

## Cong makes fun of tribal culture, says PM in Tapi

KAMAAL SAIYED  
SURAT, OCTOBER 20

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Thursday accused the Congress of "making fun of tribal culture for political gain" and said that when the time came, the tribals "always settled the scores".

Speaking at Gunsada village of Songadh taluka in the tribal-dominated district of Tapi in South Gujarat on Thursday, where he inaugurated and dedicated projects worth Rs 2,192 crore, Modi said, "These Congress governments were never concerned about your bright future, their mind was only on the elections... make false promises before the elec-

tions, then forget about it. On other hand, for the BJP government, welfare of the adivasi brothers is a priority."

Alleging that the Congress "took delight in making fun of tribal traditions", Modi said, "If I wore a tribal turban, or a jacket, they would make fun of me in their speeches. I want to tell these Congress leaders... for your political gains you have made fun of the adivasi traditions, my adivasi brother does not forget and when the time comes, he settles the score."

The PM also said that the money spent on the projects that were launched or initiated during his two-day Gujarat tour was "equal to the budget of the past 12 months of the Gujarat government".

## Chandrayaan-3 launch in June: ISRO chief

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE INDIAN Space Research Organisation plans to launch Chandrayaan-3, its third mission to the moon, in June next year with a more robust lunar rover onboard, which is crucial for future inter-planetary explorations. The space agency has also lined up the first test flight of the 'abort mission' for Gaganyaan, the country's first human spaceflight, early next year.

"Chandrayaan-3 (C-3) launch



ISRO chief Somanath

will be in June next year onboard the Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LV-M3), said ISRO chairman Somanath while interacting with media personnel on the sidelines of an event here. He said the ISRO plans to fly Indian astronauts into orbit by the end of 2024 after carrying out successful abort missions and un-

crewed test flights.

India's maiden attempt to land a rover on the moon ended in failure after the Vikram lander onboard the Chandrayaan-2 mission crashed on the surface of the moon in September 2019.

"C-3 is ready now. It is not a replica of C-2. The rover is there. The engineering is significantly different. We have made it more robust so that it does not have problems like last time," Somanath said. "There are many changes... in case something fails, something else will take over," he added.

## RAJASTHAN

### ED attaches assets worth Rs 8.53 cr of drug dealer

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached assets worth over Rs 8.53 crore of a deceased Rajasthan-based narcotics dealer, who allegedly had links with an African drug lord, his family members and associates in connection with a money laundering probe.

According to ED, the action was taken against Subhash Dudani in a case linked to manufacture and sale of methaqualone tablets, a prohibited substance under the NDPS Act. "Dudani, along with his associates, ran an international drug racket, partnering

with the late Ronny Jonny Smith, an African drug lord. A provisional order has been issued under PMLA to attach 18 properties in Mumbai and Udaipur," the ED said. "It has been established that Dudani and others generated proceeds of crime through the sale of illegal drugs while simultaneously setting up CDRs/DVDs manufacturing unit and other trading entities at Dubai, Hong Kong, Kenya and London..." the ED said, adding the proceeds of crime were introduced to various companies floated by him in the UAE and Hong Kong. **ENS**

## Second witness links shooter to Kalburgi murder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 20

A SECOND independent witness in the murder of M M Kalburgi has identified the man who shot the 77-year-old Kannada literary scholar outside his house in Dharwad in 2015.

The witness, who was working at an apartment complex located opposite Kalburgi's home, identified Ganesh Miskin, 29, who was affiliated with a right-wing outfit in Hubballi city, as the shooter. The witness also identified Amol Kale, 39, a former convener of the Sanatan Sanstha-affiliated Hindu Janajagruti Samiti, as a man who was seen moving around the house. Kale allegedly plotted the execution of the murder.

The second independent witness identified both people during the trial in a district court in Dharwad on Thursday.

In August, another independent witness — who had a store opposite the Kalburgi home — had identified the motorcycle rider who brought the shooter to the scholar's house on August 30, 2015. This rider, who had allegedly waited outside before escaping with the shooter after the murder, was identified as Praveen Chatur, 29, a Hindutva activist from the neighboring Belagavi region.



M M Kalburgi was shot outside his house in 2015. **File**

In March, Kalburgi's daughter Roopadarshi K, who was present at her father's home on the day he was murdered, broke down in the court after identifying Miskin as the shooter.

She also identified Chatur as the man who was waiting on the motorcycle outside the house. The scholar's wife Umadevi also identified Miskin in March. The four witnesses who have identified Miskin, Chatur and Kale had earlier identified them during test identification parades conducted during the investigation phase of the case.

The second independent witness is set to be cross-examined next month by defence advocates following the chief statement made in court on Thursday by the witness.

Miskin is also accused in the shooting of the journalist Gauri Lankesh in Bengaluru on September 5, 2017. Kale, too, is accused in the Gauri Lankesh case.

## SC dismisses TMC leader's petition against arrest by ED in PMLA case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday rejected a plea by Trinamool Congress leader and former chairman of West Bengal Board of Primary Education, Manik Bhattacharya, challenging his arrest by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on money laundering charges in connection with alleged irregularities in recruitment of primary school teachers through the Teachers Eligibility Test, 2014.

In a series of orders in June this year, a single judge of Calcutta HC had allowed CBI to interrogate Bhattacharya in the scam, and if necessary interrogate him in custody if he did not cooperate. This was subsequently affirmed by the HC division bench.

But the SC, on appeal, directed



Manik Bhattacharya

that no coercive action should be taken against the accused. The ED subsequently arrested Bhattacharya on October 10.

Urging the SC to declare the arrest illegal, the TMC leader contended that the top court had already protected him from arrest in the case registered by CBI, and thus the ED taking him into custody during this period in the "same offence" is "unwarranted".

Dismissing his applications, a bench of justices Aniruddha Bose and Vikram Nath said, "We cannot hold the arrest... illegal, as the

## 3 tribal teenagers beaten, tonsured on suspicion of theft; one held

ASAD REHMAN  
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 20

THREE CHILDREN belonging to a tribal community were allegedly beaten up and their heads tonsured after a shopkeeper suspected them of stealing metal scrap from his shop in UP's Auraiya district Wednesday.

The children, in their teens, were also paraded through a market with the accused using casteist slurs against them, it was alleged.

Police have arrested one of the accused, Rajiv Gupta, after lodging an FIR against three people over the alleged incident. The two other accused, identified as Sudeep Shalkya and Raju Shalkya, are absconding.

The victim told *The Indian Express*, "Three people beat me and two of my friends. They said I have stolen metal from a shop. They called a barber and shaved our heads. We were paraded through the village and the market. They beat us up also and then took us to the police station where they handed us to the cops."

The complaint, lodged by the mother of one of the victims, reads, "On Wednesday, my son had gone to collect scrap with his two friends. They were beaten up by the accused, and half their heads were shaved. The accused used casteist slurs against the children and paraded them through the local market."

Auraiya SP Charu Nigam said the case is being investigated.

issue of money laundering, or there being proceeds of crime, had not surfaced before the single judge or the division bench of HC."

The court said, "While testing the legality of an arrest made by an agency... against whom such agency considers subsistence of prima facie evidence of money laundering, we do not think a general protective order directed at another investigating agency could have insulated the petitioner from any coercive action in another proceeding started by a different agency, even if there are factual similarities [in] the allegations."

The bench said that under PMLA, 2002, money laundering is an "independent offence". "In the event there is any allegation of the ED having acted beyond jurisdiction, or their act of arrest not authorised by law, the petitioner is entitled to apply before the appropriate court independently."

## Dengue patient dies in Prayagraj, kin allege mosambi juice injected instead of plasma; probe panel set up

ASAD REHMAN  
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 20

AN INVESTIGATION was launched after a 32-year-old dengue patient died during treatment at a private hospital in Prayagraj district Wednesday with his family alleging he died after being injected with mosambi (sweet lime) juice instead of plasma or platelets.

The patient, Pradeep Pandey (32), was a sand contractor. Prayagraj CMO Nanak Saran said a three-member panel has been formed. "The probe is on.

The family has made some allegations. They said that there was no issue till three units of platelets were administered on the patient. Then they sourced some platelet units through someone at the hospital following which the patient's condition deteriorated. The patient died the next day," he said.

"The family has one unit of platelets left with them which as per them caused the complication. Oversight happened at some level. The last unit of platelets which is with the family will be checked. The hospital was sealed on Thursday evening in order to en-

sure a fair probe," the CMO added. Prayagraj SSP Shailesh Pandey said, "We are trying to zero in on a gang involved in the illegal supply of blood and platelets. Earlier, we had sent 12 people to jail on charges of illegal supply of blood and platelets."

Pradeep Pandey's brother-in-law Saurabh Tripathi said, "He fell ill on October 14 and was admitted to a private hospital in Pipalgaon area of Prayagraj. We were told he has dengue after tests were done. On October 16, we were told that he needed eight units of platelets. We managed to arrange three units from

within the family. Someone told us that the hospital building owner's son could arrange platelets for us. We got in touch with him and paid him Rs 25,000 for five units. When the four units of platelets were given to my brother-in-law, his condition worsened. Then we took him to another private hospital. The doctors there said there was some blood clotting in the body and he died on Wednesday."

"It was mosambi juice that was given to my brother-in-law instead of platelets. I have the fifth packet which has the juice. I will give it to officials concerned."

## Few in favour of views against govt, 'offensive' ideas on social media: Survey

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

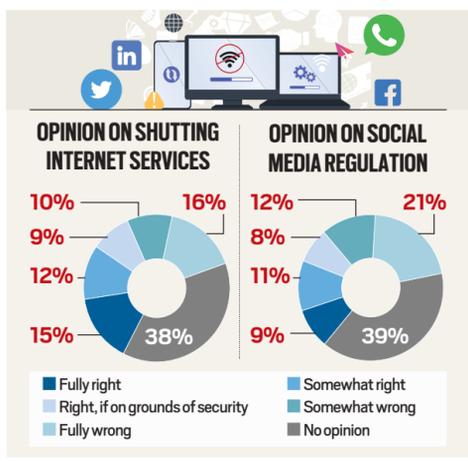
THE FINDINGS of a nationwide survey by the Centre for Developing Societies (CSDS) show that there are not many takers for the principle that people should be free to express their views against the government or ideas that are deemed "offensive" on social media platforms.

These were part of a media consumption behaviour survey, which also found that even though television is the main source of news for most, newspapers and the public broadcaster Doordarshan enjoy far more trust among the people than private news channels. "Most of the survey respon-

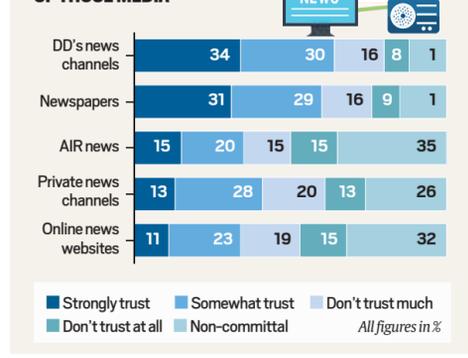
dents were found to carry what could be considered as conservative or illiberal opinions on the issue of free speech and expression on social media," states the survey, carried out by the Centre for Developing Societies in partnership with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS).

There were 7,463 respondents, aged 15 and above, in 19 states, across rural and urban areas. Asked if a person should be free to express an idea, even if it is offensive, 26 per cent said they fully disagree, while 14 per cent said they somewhat disagree. Nine per cent spoke in complete favour, while 15 per cent said they somewhat agree.

The responses to the question on whether a person should



TRUST IN VARIOUS NEWS MEDIA AMONG CONSUMERS OF THOSE MEDIA



have the freedom to express opinion against the government on social media, however offensive or objectionable it may be, also threw up similar trends.

Consider this: 20 per cent of all respondents said they fully disagree with the idea that there should be complete freedom to express opinions against the government on social media. Sixteen per cent said they somewhat disagree and an equal number said they somewhat agree and 11 per cent said they are in complete agreement.

A spillover of the similar sentiment could be seen on the question of government surveillance as well, which the report pointed out, was acknowledged but not considered immoral by many, as the same people responded they

see nothing wrong with it. "Social media users were far more likely to be against than in favour of the idea of the government determining what can or cannot be posted on social media or WhatsApp," notes the report.

On the specific aspect of modes of media consumption, it emerged in the survey that the gap between the number of consumers of newspapers and TV news channels have "widened further", with TV "nearly seven times more dominant".

Newspapers, however, fare better than news websites, according to the survey, which based its conclusion on the fact that half of all respondents reported reading a newspaper, while two-fifths said they browse news and current affairs websites.

## SC asks Centre, states for reply on plea against hate speech

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday sought response from the Centre and the states to a plea seeking directions for taking appropriate steps to stop hate speeches against the Muslim community.

A bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and C T Ravi Kumar issued notices to the Centre and all states while tagging the matter with other pending petitions on the issue pending before another bench.

Petitioner Shaheen Abdullah has moved the top court also seeking direction to the Centre and states to initiate independent, credible and impartial probe into the incidents of hate crimes and hate speeches across the country.

At the outset, senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for the petitioner, said something needs to be done to tackle the problem and action must be taken against those making hate speeches or indulging in hate crimes.

The bench said the prayer in the plea is very vague and no specific instances have been mentioned. It said cognizance can be taken where an FIR has been lodged in a case.

Sibal, however, submitted the prayer in the petition is not vague and mentions recent incidents of hate speeches. He added several petitions have been filed in the last six months to stop hate crimes but such incidents are still continuing.

In his petition, Abdullah has also sought invoking the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) and other stringent provisions to curb hate crimes and hate speeches.

He has said the Muslim community is being "targeted and terrorised" by the participation of the members of the ruling political party in delivering the hate speeches.

## 'PHONE-TAPPING' CASE

# Maharashtra rejects police proposal to prosecute Shukla

SAGAR RAJPUT  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

THE MAHARASHTRA government on Thursday rejected the Colaba police's proposal to prosecute senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Rashmi Shukla in an alleged phone-tapping case registered in Mumbai. The move comes days after the Pune Police filed a closure report in a first information report against Shukla, in which they had accused her of illegally tapping phones of some leading politicians.

The Colaba police had registered a case against Shukla in March for allegedly tapping the phone conversations of NCP leader Eknath Khadse and Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut and in April, the investigators filed a chargesheet against her.

However, after the formation of the Eknath Shinde-led government, the police wrote to the Esplanade Court, informing them that they are seeking permission under Section 197 of CrPc. As per provisions of Section 197 of CrPc, sanction is required from the competent authority to prosecute public servants if an act they are alleged to have committed directly concerns their official duty. The sanctioning authority is required to consider all the material put before it to decide on whether a sanction to prosecute the person can be recommended.

"We took the opinion of the law and judiciary, and police departments. The report was that the sections applied (against her) were wrong. It has also emerged that the officer who should be tried, if at all, as per the law, is not Rashmi Shukla. Additionally, there is no evidence apart from the photocopy of a paper. Therefore, nobody can be prosecuted for the sake of victimisation. The state government's decision is based on the opinion from law and judiciary," said Deputy



IPS officer Rashmi Shukla

Chief Minister and state Home minister Devendra Fadnis.

"The state Home department's order shall soon be submitted in court," said a senior police official.

An FIR was registered against Shukla at the Colaba police station in the first week of March under the Indian Telegraph Act. The case was registered on a complaint by Additional Commissioner of Police Rajiv Jain, in which Shukla was accused of having put the phone numbers of NCP leader Eknath Khadse and Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut under surveillance.

The FIR read that the alleged illegal phone tapping had taken place when Shukla headed the State Intelligence Department during the rule of the previous BJP-Sena government. Subsequently, sections of forgery under Indian Penal Code (IPC) were added after the Colaba police recovered some letters that were used to seek permission from the then additional chief secretary (home) for tapping phone conversations. In the letters, permission to tap phone calls of S Rahate (Raut) and Khadse (Khadse) was sought and the approval for the same was granted.

In April, the Colaba police filed a chargesheet that included statements of 18 witnesses and other documentary evidence. Witnesses in the case include Khadse, Raut, the former additional chief secretary and other personnel who worked in SID when Shukla was in charge.



## SNOW WHITE

The higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir, including Gulmarg and Sonamarg, received fresh snowfall on Thursday while rain lashed the plains, bringing wintry conditions earlier than usual in the Valley, officials said. While orchardists are worried that the weather change will affect the coming apple harvest, the early snowfall has renewed hope among the UT's tourism players of good business this winter. *Shuaib Masoodi*

## Rs 1.27 cr seized from Attari drug haul suspect

New Delhi: The NIA on Thursday recovered Rs 1.27 crore cash during searches at the premises of Amritpal Singh, a key suspect in a case of smuggling of 102-kg heroin through the Attari border in April. The heroin had been concealed in a consignment of licorice roots (Mulethi) by suppliers based in Afghanistan.

The case was initially registered by the Custom Department, Amritsar. It was later transferred to the NIA and a case was re-registered on July 30 to probe the role of multiple companies and individuals. During the searches at the premises of Singh, a resident of Tarn Taran in Punjab, the agency also recovered digital devices and documents. The NIA had also detected financial transactions between accused Razi Haider Zaidi and Singh. **ENS**

# People fed up of Covid, vaccines: Adar on Covishield production halt

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS  
PUNE, OCTOBER 20

CONFIRMING THAT Serum Institute of India (SII) has stopped production of Covishield vaccine in December 2021, the firm's CEO Adar Poonawalla said on Thursday that people are "fed up" of Covid and vaccines.

Speaking with mediapersons on the sidelines of the 23rd three-day annual general meeting of the Developing Countries Vaccine Manufacturers' Network (DCVMN) inaugurated in Pune, Poonawalla said, of the total stock available at that time, around 100 million doses had already expired.

The vaccine manufacturer said developing new vaccines against emerging sub-variants of Omicron will take time. Though, on a positive note, he said his firm has completed trials for Covid vaccine Covovax as a booster dose and was expecting approval within the next 10-15 days. "We have completed the trials as part of the DCGI (regulator) requirement," Poonawalla said at the event that was inaugurated by Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya.

The global event brought together over 400 leaders, researchers and scientists from



Adar Poonawalla, CEO, SII and Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, WHO, at the inauguration event in Pune. *Arul Horizon*

several global public health organisations and vaccine manufacturing industries and research institutes.

When asked by *The Indian Express* about an update on Covishield, which is also being used as a booster, Poonawalla said the company had stopped production of Covishield in December 2021. "At least a 100 million doses have expired and we have stopped its production in December 2021," Poonawalla said.

He acknowledged that there was a lethargy in taking booster doses. "People are fed up of Covid and vaccines. However, maybe people can take a flu shot annually along with a Covid booster," Poonawalla noted. The

experience, though, has not been promising and Poonawalla pointed out that, unlike in the West, there is no culture in India for taking flu shots. "We did attempt during the H1N1 pandemic, but to no avail," he said. Poonawalla, meanwhile, also expressed hope about intranasal vaccines that have a potential to reduce transmission.

Earlier, at the inaugural session, Dr Mandaviya said 70 per cent of the country's population has been fully vaccinated against Covid-19. "When the power of government, scientists and industries is combined with national and global organisations, all health challenges can be faced and resolved," he added.

## Global rollout of vaccine largest in history, but stark inequities in access: WHO chief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PUNE, OCTOBER 20

THE GLOBAL rollout of more than 12 billion Covid-19 vaccine doses is the largest and fastest in history with an estimated 60 per cent dose produced by manufacturers from developing countries, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, World Health Organisation (WHO), said in a video message that was relayed at the inaugural session of the



23rd annual general meeting of the Developing Countries Vaccine Manufacturers Network in Pune.

Tedros, though, said despite this achievement, stark inequities in terms of access to vaccines remained. These inequities are partly due to the fact that

globally, vaccine production is too concentrated. "To address this, WHO and our partners have established mRNA Tech Transfer hub in South Africa to facilitate the knowhow in low and middle-income countries," he said.

Key topics at the meeting co-hosted by Serum Institute of India (SII) included commemoration of unprecedented global collaboration during the pandemic, global equity and timely access of vaccines, and future pandemic-preparedness and response.

## Govt: Enough buffer stock of pulses

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE GOVERNMENT has 43.82 lakh tonnes of buffer stock of various pulses and there is no need to worry, Union Consumer Affairs Secretary Rohit Kumar Singh said on Thursday.

"In fact, we are telling the states that you should take pulses from us for schemes like Mid-Day Meal. The Cabinet has already decided to provide gram for states' schemes like ICDS at Rs 8 per kg lower than the market price..." Singh said, adding that based on the indent received from Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, 88,600 MT of chana has been allocated to these states till date.

In a statement, the Consumer Affairs department said, "In order to augment the buffer stock, the government has started procurement of 1 lakh tons of imported tur and 50,000 tons of imported urad."

## Covid not over, few nations may see wave of infections: WHO chief scientist

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS  
PUNE, OCTOBER 20

THE COVID pandemic is not over yet, Dr Soumya Swaminathan, chief scientist at World Health Organisation (WHO), said on Thursday, adding that the WHO is tracking all Omicron subvariants and it is likely that a few countries may see a wave of Covid infections because of XBB—a recombinant. "We, at WHO, are also tracking derivatives of BA.5 and BA.1, which are more transmissible and immune evasive," she added.

"Every three months, there is a meeting of the emergency committee and globally, around 9,000 deaths are reported every week. Also, just recently, the WHO director general announced that Covid-19 continues to be a public health emergency of international concern and all tools need to be used wisely — the most important being vaccines," Dr Swaminathan said. "There are over 300 sub-variants of Omicron and among those of concern now are XBB sub variants and a few others. The virus will evolve to become more transmissible," she added. However, Dr Swaminathan said, there is no data from any country to suggest these new sub-variants are clinically more severe and cause an increase in hospitalisations.

"Testing and genomic surveillance, though, has gone down in the last few months and strategic sampling is needed so that these new variants can be tracked," the chief scientist told mediapersons on the sidelines of the three-day annual general meeting of the Developing Countries Vaccine Manufacturers Network (DCVMN) and Serum Institute of India (SII) in Pune.

## With deck at Mumbai's Nariman Point, unhindered view of Arabian Sea soon

PRATIP ACHARYA  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

THE ICONIC southernmost tip of Nariman Point will soon have a sea-viewing deck for visitors to enjoy an unhindered view of the Arabian Sea as the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) is set to create a sea-side plaza at this location.

The spot is located at the extreme south of the Marine Drive promenade opposite the National Centre for Performing Arts (NCPA) and extends towards the sea from the mainland. Till the middle of the 2000s, the place was frequented by visitors and saw the shooting of several films at the location.

However, following a few accidents at the spot, the Mumbai Police stopped the entry of people into this place.

BMC officials said that no new construction will take place at the spot, only basic features of the existing structures will be upgraded with the addition of new elements.

The project was conceived by



An artist's impression of the sea-side deck.

the speaker of the state assembly, Rahul Narwekar, who is also the local MLA from Colaba and is being backed by Harshita Narwekar, former BJP corporator from Cuffe Parade.

"The Marine Drive promenade gives recognition to Mumbai. The upkeep, improvement and sustainable development of this precinct are paramount to the city. Keeping this in mind, we have now undertaken beautification of this promenade," Rahul told *The Indian Express*.

BMC's planning department is in charge of executing the project.

"The primary objective of this project is to upgrade the beauty of this spot and to ensure that the charm of the entire Nariman Point and Marine Drive is reflected since this is a heritage precinct," said Harshita.

"The main objective behind taking up this project is to make it visitor friendly. This is one of the iconic landmarks of Mumbai and entry for people is currently restricted, since there are no railings or gates, and the place is also

poorly lit. Therefore, alongside beautification, we will be illuminating this place to make sure the spot remains safe for visitors and there is no blind spot. Continuous CCTV surveillance will also be carried out in that spot," said Prashant Sapale, in charge of BMC's planning department.

As part of the beautification project, the entire 60-meter stretch will get new railings on both sides of the promenade as a precautionary measure. A cast-iron gate will also be set up at the entry point to bolster security. The sea-facing promenade will also get vintage-styled electric poles to reflect the old-world charm of the Marine Drive.

The BMC will also create seating arrangements for visitors and tourists. Considering the plaza is located by the seaside, the flooring will be done with rough granite to reduce erosion and ensure easy maintenance.

"The existing seaside walls will be inspected to check the structural stability. If there is any damage or erosion, we will repair it, but no new construction will be taken up," said an official.

## HC cancels anticipatory bail to activist Civic Chandran

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCT 20

THE KERALA High Court on Thursday cancelled the anticipatory bail granted to author and social activist Civic Chandran in a case pertaining to the alleged sexual harassment of a woman from the Dalit community.

The HC acted upon petitions moved by the state government and the complainant woman, who challenged the order of the Kozhikode district sessions court granting anticipatory bail to Chandran in August this year. The court said if Chandran is arrested, he should be produced before a court, which should then consider his bail application the same day.

Chandran faced two sexual harassment cases in Kozhikode

earlier this year. The cases hit the headlines over the district sessions judge's observations while granting him anticipatory bail.

District judge S Krishna Kumar had said that offences under SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act will not prima facie stand against the accused because it is "highly unbelievable that he will touch the body of the victim fully knowing that she is a member of Scheduled Caste". The district court further said, "In order to attract the offence under the Act, it has to be established that the act of the accused was with the knowledge that the victim belonged to a member of SC/ST."

The observations had sparked outrage, leading to transfer of the judge. Kumar had challenged the transfer in the High Court, which recently stayed the order.

## Buildings show crack, life off track as Metro bores through

SWEETY KUMARI  
KOLKATA, OCTOBER 20

MOTILAL SHAW, who runs a small business in the narrow Durga Pithuri Lane of Bowbazar in Central Kolkata, has been shuttling between hotel rooms and his home for the last three years. He has been displaced twice — first in 2019 and then again this year — after his house developed cracks when work on building an underground metro tunnel started.

The 10.8-km tunnel, with a small section running below the Hooghly, will be part of the 165-km East-West corridor connecting Sector V in Salt Lake City with Howrah Maidan.

The Shaws are among several such families in Bowbazar area who, over the last three years, have had to vacate their houses after the structures developed

cracks, ostensibly due to the tunneling work in the area. Since 2019, evacuation orders have been issued thrice to the residents by the metro authorities.

*The Indian Express* spoke to some of those displaced, and they alleged that they were uprooted and made to live out of hotels and flats far away from Bowbazar, disrupting their daily lives and forcing hardships.

"It is unfortunate that despite every caution and best experts on board, such incidents took place. So far, nearly 1,000 people have been displaced, but several families have returned after repair work was carried out. By the end of this month, a tender will be issued to rebuild houses that were demolished. We are hopeful the work will start by February. We have set aside Rs 14 crore as compensation," Chandeshwar Nath Jha, MD, Kolkata Metro Rail



Metro workers repair cracks on houses last week. *Partha Paul*

Corporation Ltd (KMRL), said.

The first time Shaw had to vacate his house was in September 2019 when 25 buildings in Durga Pithuri Lane developed cracks after the tunnel boring machine hit an aquifer. More than 700 residents of 72 families were told to leave and shifted to hotels.

"In December (2019), metro authorities gave our homes a 'fitness certificate' and returned. Then the pandemic struck and work stopped. It resumed in 2022, and on May 11, our building again developed cracks, which were wider than before. We moved back to a hotel," he said.

Bharat Jaiswal's house in Durga Pithuri Lane partially collapsed in 2019 and he was allotted a two-bedroom flat by metro authorities in Beliaghata, about 5 km away. With no direct bus connecting Beliaghata to Bowbazar, Jaiswal struggles to travel to his shop daily.

On October 14, ten buildings in Bowbazar's Madan Dutta Lane developed cracks during the construction of a cross passage, forcing evacuation of 136 people. Metro officials said that as a preventive measure they plan to move 400 more residents soon.

Vinod Kumar Singh, 54, an LIC agent, was shifted to hotel Qinn on Creek Row after his house in Madan Dutta Lane developed cracks on October 14. Vinod had stayed at the same hotel for five days in May too. Singh said political squabbling in the state has led to realignment of the metro route.

Bowbazar was not part of the original route when it was sanctioned by the then UPA government in 2008. While the Opposition in West Bengal alleges that the ruling TMC got the route altered to benefit land developers and safeguard interests of businessmen, TMC ministers and leaders have refrained from commenting on the issue, blaming the KMRL instead for its "lapses".

Asked about realignment, KMRL officials did not comment. Residents of Madan Dutta Lane, whose houses suffered damage on October 14, have been asked to submit declaration forms for claiming compensation.

Bimal Pramanik, 75, said: "It surprises me that they have the audacity to ask us to stand in the queue for compensation. Do we deserve this? Every time the metro resumes work, there is leakage. The soil is very soft here..."



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

# Five reasons why Liz Truss had to resign as UK Prime Minister

**UDIT MISRA**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

LESS THAN a month after the newly minted Liz Truss government presented its now infamous "mini-Budget", the Prime Minister has been forced to resign following a rebellion within her Conservative Party. Truss is now the shortest-serving PM in British history.

To be sure, Truss took office at a precarious time. The UK has been facing long-term economic stagnation on the one hand and double-digit inflation in the wake of the war in Ukraine, on the other. Here are five reasons why Truss had no option but to go.

**1 THE MINI-BUDGET** After the Tories were looking for a leader to replace Boris Johnson, Truss ran on an agenda of reviving growth through widespread tax cuts as well as providing energy price guarantees against rampaging inflation. Her main rival, former chancellor of the exchequer Rishi Sunak, repeatedly warned that her agenda of unfunded tax cuts and spending hikes were a recipe for disaster.

On September 23, Truss's chancellor and

long-time friend, Kwasi Kwarteng, presented a mini-Budget that essentially ramped up spending while also cutting tax revenues. This set in motion a chain of events that ultimately caused her downfall.

As Sunak had predicted, the budget meant that the government's borrowings were set to spiral. At a time when the UK is facing historically high inflation, this was the worst thing that could have happened.

**2 MARKET REACTION** The mini-Budget spooked market participants because a sharp rise in borrowings at a time when the UK's growth prospects have been iffy at best implied that the government may not be able to repay the debts it accumulated. In a panic reaction, investors started selling all possible UK assets. As such, the pound sterling fell to historic lows against the US dollar, worsening the imported inflation in the process because it made imports costlier.

Similarly, investors, unwilling to lend money to the UK government, started selling gilts (government bonds). As the price of gilts fell, their yields (or the effective interest rate that the markets charge for lending money) skyrocketed. The Bank of England

rushed to step in to stop a financial collapse.

**3 CRISIS IN PENSION FUNDS AND MORTGAGE RATES** A direct result of the mini-Budget and the fall in gilt prices (and a rise in gilt yields) was the crisis in the pension funds in UK. Several pension fund managers had hedged against interest rates going up sharply. But the sudden spurt in gilt yields meant that they were on the wrong side of the bet; worse, their assets, the gilts, were losing value. This created massive panic and genuine doubts over the viability of the pension funds.

A sharp rise in market interest rates also meant that those with home loans had to either refinance or risk losing their homes; prospective owners found that a new loan was considerably costlier within no time. And all this happened at a time when millions in the UK are struggling with the cost of living crisis, worried about how to stay warm in the coming winter in the wake of high energy prices.

The opposition Labour Party went to town with the message that every home owner's mortgage rate had gone up because of flawed Trussomics.

**4 U-TURN UPON U-TURN** As it became clear that the markets would continue to punish UK assets unless Truss realised her mistake and made efforts to reverse them, the PM reluctantly started announcing U-turns. One by one, she reversed her marquee ideas such as reducing the tax on the super-rich. The biggest blow came when she sacked her chancellor.

While this was seen positively by the markets, it led to the obvious political question: Why did Truss deserve to stay in office when she fired Kwarteng just for voicing Truss' economic plans? There was no real answer to this question.

**5 THE NEW CHANCELLOR** The last nail, as it were, came in the form of the actions of the chancellor that she appointed to replace Kwarteng, Jeremy Hunt. In the lead-up to the leadership battle, Hunt had sided with Sunak. As soon as he took charge, Hunt ripped apart everything that was left of Truss's economic agenda. British media noted that while Truss was in the Prime Minister's office, it was Hunt who was in power. From that point on, it was only a matter of time before she went.

## How will Britain's new PM be chosen?

**HER SUCCESSOR** would be chosen within a week, outgoing Prime Minister Liz Truss announced on Thursday. Truss herself had got the top job after a process that lasted a couple of months, and involved several rounds of voting among the Tories.

**WHEN THE LEADER** of the Conservative Party resigns, the replacement is chosen by an election. The rules of the election are decided by the 1922 Committee, the Tory parliamentary group in the House of Commons consisting of all 'backbench MPs' who are legislators not holding a government office.

**THERE IS NO CLARITY** on the specifics of holding the election yet. But in the normal process, party members choose between two

'finalist' candidates after a series of elections involving a wider field. While this process usually takes longer, the election this time is to be concluded by October 28.

**IF ONE OF THE TWO** candidates in the final round drops out, the need for voting is eliminated. In other circumstances, removing party members from the voting process could require a change to the Conservative Party's constitution, the BBC said. Whoever is chosen as the Tory party leader will be invited by King Charles III to become PM.

**ELECTIONS WILL NOT HAPPEN** unless the new Prime Minister calls for it. The next general election is scheduled for January 2025 or after.

## EXPLAINED YOUR MONEY

### Promoter shares in lock-in period not 'quoted' for gift tax purpose: what SC said

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

LAST WEEK, while passing its order in the 30-year-old matter of BPL Ltd vs DIT over gift tax in a share transaction, the Supreme Court ruled that shares within the lock-in period are not 'quoted shares', and thus they need to be valued as 'unquoted shares' to determine the gift tax liability.

The matter related to the transfer of shares of a listed company held as part of the promoter's quota that was subject to a lock-in period of three years. Experts said that the order in a way clarifies the legal position on such share transfers, and will ease transactions of this type in the future without attracting legal troubles.

#### What was the matter?

The issue related to whether the gifting of the promoter's locked-in shares should be treated as quoted or unquoted shares for the purpose of valuing the gift for taxability under the Gift Tax Act, 1958.

In March 1993, 29,46,500 shares of BPL Sanyo Technologies and 69,49,900 shares of BPL Sanyo Utilities and Appliances were gifted by the respondent-assessee, BPL Limited, to Celestial Finance. The shares of both the companies were listed and quoted on the stock exchanges. However, these gifted shares, being promoter-quota shares, allotted to the assessee between November 1990 and July 1991, were under a lock-in period up to November 1993 and May 1994 respectively.

The question arose that the shares were not valued as per the quotation of these shares on the stock exchange. The tax authority characterised such a transfer as having been effected for an inadequate consideration, and hence treated it as a "deemed gift" chargeable under the Gift Tax Act. The tax authority valued them by treating them as 'quoted shares'.

#### What did the SC say?

Dismissing the appeal by Revenue, the Supreme Court held that the equity shares of a listed company that form part of the promoter's quota within a lock-in period are not 'quoted shares', and hence they have to be valued as 'unquoted shares'.

"These equity shares being under the lock-in period could not be traded and, therefore, remained unquoted in any recognised stock exchange. There, therefore, would be no current transactions in respect of these shares made in the ordinary course of business," the court said.

The SC noted that when equity shares are in the lock-in period, as per guidelines issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), there is a complete bar on transfer, which is enforced by inscribing the words "not transferable" in the relevant share certificates.

"This position is accepted by the Revenue, which, however, has relied upon a general circular issued by SEBI, wherein it is stated that the shares under the lock-in period can be transferred inter se the promoters. This restricted transfer, in our opinion, would not make the equity shares in the lock-in period into 'quoted shares'."

#### What are quoted and unquoted shares?

According to the Wealth Tax Act, 'quoted share' in relation to an equity share or a preference share means a share quoted on any recognised stock exchange with regularity from time to time. The quotations of such shares are based on current transactions made in the ordinary course of business. An 'unquoted share' is simply a share that is not a quoted share.

So according to the SC order, if the locked-in shares of the promoter falls in the 'unquoted share' category, their price treatment can't be that of the 'quoted shares', and so gift tax will not be applicable.

**NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN**

THE EXIT of Liz Truss as Prime Minister of the UK after just 45 days in office only adds an extra element of uncertainty in a region that was already in deep crisis. For the 27 heads of European Union nations gathered in Brussels on Thursday for a two-day meeting, post-Brexit Britain's continuing woes—which they see as just desserts for its decision to leave the EU—are a side show. On their agenda is the war in Ukraine, and the energy crisis that has sent their own economies reeling.

#### Massive economic pain

Since the beginning of the war, Europe has undergone a massive strategic evolution, unthinkable nine months ago. European nations buried deep differences and stood united as liberal democracies against Vladimir Putin's aggression. They are now more committed to strengthening NATO and its premise of collective security and to the transatlantic partnership with the US than at any other time after World War II. Finland and Sweden are set to join the security grouping.

The decision by Berlin to shed seven decades of pacifism to strengthen its army, make more weapons, and send arms to Kyiv was a turning point. The EU has relaxed its immigration laws to accommodate refugees from Ukraine. Britain, one of Ukraine's most vocal supporters, is an important member of the western alliance—but it is Eastern European EU members such as Poland, which usually do not have a voice, that are playing a proactive role.

The war has had serious consequences across the continent. The economic pain is increasing daily, and with no end in sight to the fighting, Europe is staring at a dark winter of energy shortages, high inflation, and swelling masses of angry, hurting people.

Forty per cent of Europe's gas comes from Russia—Germany is the biggest consumer—and even after the sanctions, EU countries were continuing with gas imports. Punitive cuts by Putin have, however, reduced supply by nearly 90 per cent. European leaders accuse Moscow of having "weaponised" gas supplies. Nord Stream, the 1,200 km gas pipeline

## EXPLAINED DIPLOMACY, FOREIGN POLICY, STRATEGY

# War and the crisis in Europe

European economies are hurting badly. The Western coalition is battling stresses within. The war appears to be stalemated—but apparently not badly enough to force the warring sides to the negotiating table

**France's President Emmanuel Macron (left) and Germany's Chancellor Olaf Scholz ahead of the EU leaders' two-day summit that began in Brussels on Thursday. AP**

under the Baltic Sea, has remained unoperational since August, when Russia closed it down for maintenance work. In late September, there were leaks from the pipe after explosions, and a Danish investigation—the area falls in Denmark's exclusive economic zone—revealed a 50-metre hole in the pipe. EU countries around the Baltic Sea fear the war may be moving geographically closer.

In Germany, inflation is riding at 10 per cent. Chancellor Olaf Scholz recently said his government would do "everything so that [gas] prices sink". Earlier this month, Germany announced it would immediately implement a 96 billion euro-plan to ease pressure on consumers from surging gas prices.

Four German think tanks—ifo Institute in Munich, Kiel Institute for the World Economy, Halle Institute for Economic Research, and RWI-Leibniz Institute for Economic Research—that make joint twice-yearly forecasts on the German economy, cut their April growth projections from 3.7 per cent to 1.4 per cent, and for 2023, to -0.4 per cent from 3.1 per cent. The institutes said soaring gas prices would push Germany into recession.

#### Stern test for alliance

There is concern that economic pressures could reduce—and perhaps end—Europe's staying power against Russia. The meeting in Brussels on October 20-21 hopes to fire-wall the alliance against this strain. "Division is not a luxury we can afford," European Council President Charles Michel tweeted on Wednesday. "On our agenda: the energy crisis. We must intensify our three lines of action with the utmost urgency: reducing demand, ensuring security of supply, and

containing prices."

Some EU countries have been discussing a price cap on gas imports so they do not bid against each other for supplies. But others have reservations about a Europe-only mechanism, which could nudge suppliers to sell to those in other regions who are willing to pay more. Some want the price cap to be applied only to Russia; others want it for all gas suppliers. Michel expressed confidence that despite "differing national constraints", Europe would approach the energy debate "constructively, mindful of our urgent collective interest".

European diplomats insist that "the people are much ahead of their governments in their support for Ukraine", and that they are prepared to sacrifice their comforts for the democratic and international principles they hold dear. That claim is likely to be tested soon—and the possible passage of one or both houses of the US Congress into Republican hands after the November midterms could add another moving part to the mix.

#### Putin's nuclear threats

In a survey conducted by the European Council on Foreign Relations in 10 EU countries in May, most respondents blamed Russia for the war, and backed all round support to Ukraine—however, they were divided into what the Council called the "peace camp" and the "justice camp".

The former wanted the war to end quickly, even at the cost of concessions by Ukraine. The latter camp believed that Russia must be punished severely. A third of all respondents were in the peace camp. A little more than a fifth were of the view that only

Russia's clear defeat could bring peace in Europe.

But Ukraine's recent battlefield victories, and the Russian bombardment of Ukrainian cities that have killed many civilians this month, have contributed to shaping the public mood. Chancellor Scholz is under immense pressure from coalition partners to step up weapons supplies to Kyiv at what is being seen as a turning point in the war. Last week, Germany rushed air defence systems to Ukraine as Russia rained missiles on its neighbour.

Putin's nuclear rhetoric may also work as a unifier. His threat to use "all means available", and the reference to "various means available" to defend Russian territory, have been understood as references to nuclear weapons. While opinion is divided on whether he would go as far as to actually use them, the threats have stoked more fear and insecurity in Europe, making it likely NATO will become even more relevant. The n-word also helps keep the US attention from wandering towards China.

#### Absence of peace efforts

There is no clarity or consensus on the war's outcomes. The minimum perhaps is that Ukraine should get back all its territory, but does that include Crimea? What should a Russian defeat look like?

In their joint statement after a virtual meeting last week, the leaders of the G7 said they "welcome[d] President [Volodymyr] Zelenskyy's readiness for a just peace", which should include "respecting the UN Charter's protection of territorial integrity and sovereignty; safeguarding Ukraine's ability to defend itself in the future; ensuring Ukraine's recovery and reconstruction, including exploring avenues to do so with funds from Russia; pursuing accountability for Russian crimes committed during the war".

Any mediated diplomatic effort to end the war should be able to give all sides a sense of having "won" something, if not the war. Europe should know this from experience. But all attempts so far have begun with the premise that Ukraine cannot be allowed to lose and Russia cannot be allowed to win. This is perhaps why diplomacy has failed to make any contribution.

The most serious efforts at bringing the two sides to the table were made by Turkey in March, when the Russian and Ukrainian foreign ministers met in Ankara, but that effort ended in failure. At this point, the war might be said to have stalemated—but it is not yet the hurting stalemate that usually brings the warring sides to the table.

# October storm in Bay of Bengal after 3 yrs: When, where it is likely to hit

**ANJALI MARAR**  
PUNE, OCTOBER 20

THE FIRST tropical cyclone of the post-monsoon season of 2022 is likely to form in the Bay of Bengal on October 24, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has said. If realised, this will be the first cyclone to develop in the Bay of Bengal in October since 2018, and will be called Sitrang, as named by Thailand. The last October cyclone in the Bay of Bengal was Titli in 2018.

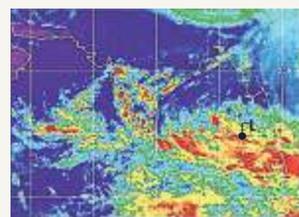
#### Why storms in October

October-November and May-June see storms in the North Indian Ocean—comprising the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea—with an average of five developing in

a year. In the past 131 years, October saw 61 storms in the Bay of Bengal, as per the Regional Specialised Meteorological Centre (RSMC). The east coast, notably Odisha, has faced many of its severest storms in October, including the Super Cyclone of 1999.

"After the withdrawal of the southwest monsoon, there is a rise in ocean heating, which leads to rise in sea surface temperatures over the Bay of Bengal. The atmospheric moisture availability over the ocean, too, is higher. So, when remnant systems from the South China Sea reach the Bay of Bengal, they get conducive conditions, aiding the formation and intensification of cyclones in October," said Umashankar Das, IMD scientist from Meteorological Centre, Bhubaneswar.

In certain years, ocean-atmospheric factors hinder this phenomenon. For instance,

**Low pressure (indicated as L) formed in Bay of Bengal on Thursday. IMD**

in 2020, weak La Nina conditions along the equatorial Pacific Ocean prevented a cyclonic formation near India's coasts.

#### Cyclone Sitrang

On Thursday, IMD officials said the cyclonic storm will reach close to the coast of West Bengal-Bangladesh by October 25.

The name Sitrang has been given by Thailand, and features in the list of tropical cyclone names prepared by the RSMC being followed since April 2020.

#### States likely to be affected

The IMD is yet to release the probable cyclone track, but as per the latest updates, the prevailing low pressure system will strengthen and move towards India's east coast in the coming four days. Gale winds and enhanced rainfall are expected mainly over Andaman and Nicobar islands, Odisha, West Bengal and Bangladesh, particularly the coastal districts.

Weather models as on Thursday suggested that the low pressure system (wind speed of 31 km/hr) will strengthen into a depression (wind speed of 31 to 50 km/hr) by October 22 and into a deep depression (wind speed of 51-61 km/hr) by October 23.

Thereafter, it will most likely re-curve northeastwards, thus skirting past the Odisha coast. As it progresses, it will intensify into a cyclonic storm (windspeed of 62-87 km/hr) by October 25. The storm is expected to reach close to the West Bengal and Bangladesh coasts in the north Bay of Bengal on October 25.

Winds with speeds of 40-45 km/hr gusting to 55 km/hr are likely over the Andaman Sea and Andaman and Nicobar islands on Friday. Here, light to moderate rainfall (15.6 to 64.4 mm in 24 hours) will

continue till Saturday.

As the storm is expected to come close to the Odisha shore, heavy to very heavy rain (64.5 to 204.4 mm in 24 hours) would lash Puri, Jagatsinghpur and Kendrapara districts during October 22-25. The IMD has issued a 'yellow' alert for these districts.

Districts in Gangetic West Bengal, too, will experience moderate rainfall on October 24 and 25.

#### Cyclones in the Arabian Sea

In comparison to the Bay of Bengal, only 32 storms have developed in the Arabian Sea in October since 1891. Climatologically too, the IMD states that out of the five storms that are formed in the North Indian Ocean in a calendar year on average, four are in the Bay of Bengal.

# Ronaldo not in United squad for Chelsea trip

REUTERS/AP  
OCTOBER 20

MANCHESTER UNITED forward Cristiano Ronaldo will not be in their squad for Saturday's Premier League game at Chelsea, the club said in a statement on Thursday.

Ronaldo, an unused substitute in Wednesday's 2-0 win over Tottenham Hotspur, walked down the tunnel with a few minutes of the match remaining after being left on the bench again by manager Erik ten Hag. "Cristiano Ronaldo will not be part of the Manchester United squad for this Saturday's Premier League game against Chelsea," United said. "The rest of the squad is fully focused on preparing for that fixture."

This came after Ten Hag said he would "deal with" Ronaldo.

Ronaldo's services weren't used on Wednesday as United produced arguably its most complete performance of the season. Ten Hag sought to avoid controversy when questioned about the incident after the match, but it places fresh question marks over the future of the Portugal international. "I don't pay attention today," the Dutchman said. "We deal with that tomorrow. I want to keep the focus on this team. It was a magnificent performance from all the 11 players."

Ronaldo was criticized by his manager in the summer for leaving a preseason game against Rayo Vallecano at halftime. Ten Hag described it as unacceptable but later clarified that his comments were not solely aimed at the 37-year-old Ronaldo.

Ronaldo has struggled to establish himself under Ten Hag this season and has scored just two goals in 12 appearances. There have been questions about his ability to fit into his new manager's high-pressing system — and his place on the bench on Wednesday appeared to be further evidence of Ten Hag's doubts, with Marcus Rashford starting at center forward.

"Against this Tottenham we need good pressing," he said. "We need good counter-press because from there you can create chances. We needed good pressing players. Offensive-wise you need dynamic, so that is what Marcus can bring."

Second-half goals from Fred and Bruno Fernandes secured the win for United, which moves it to within one point of the top four.

Despite Ten Hag's attempts to avoid the subject, Ronaldo still prompted debate afterward. "I understand his frustration, but if you look at the bigger picture his team has put in a really good performance," retired player Alan Shearer said on Amazon Prime Video.

"The manager had a big decision and it's been proven right. You're talking about maybe the best player we've ever seen, but it makes things difficult for the manager. He'll be asked about that, but he should be talking about the players on the pitch tonight." Amazon pundit Patrice Evra attempted



Cristiano Ronaldo was an unused substitute in Man Utd's 2-0 win over Spurs. He walked down the tunnel with a few minutes left to play. Reuters

## EPL STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Arsenal	10	9	0	1	14	27
Man City	10	7	2	1	23	23
Spurs	11	7	2	2	10	23
Chelsea	10	6	2	2	5	20
Man Utd	10	6	1	3	0	19

to steer the conversation away from his former United teammate. "Everyone is different," he said. "I want to stay on the United performance, not to protest Cristiano. He might have said to Ten Hag, I am going in, and we are going to make a story just showing him walking? Maybe he said he needed some treatment. I don't want to find any excuse, but I want to be focused on the story of United and we have to stop talking every day about Cristiano."

## Nunez wins it for Liverpool

Darwin Núñez is finally finding his scoring touch in his first season at Liverpool — just in time for the World Cup, too. With his first-half goal in a 1-0 win over West Ham in the Premier League on Wednesday, the Uruguayan striker has now netted in three of his last four games for his best scoring run since joining Liverpool from Benfica.

Núñez is showing he has the ability to score different types of goals, his latest seeing him get in between defenders to rise and glance home a fine header from a left-wing cross by Kostas Tsimikas in the 22nd minute. Núñez also struck the post with a dipping shot in the first half as Liverpool returned to Anfield and recorded another 1-0 win.

# Silent juggernaut rolls on

Satwik-Chirag continue impressive run with a win over All England champs in Odense; Aaron-Soh next

SHIVANI NAIK  
OCTOBER 20

IF THERE'S been a silently rumbling juggernaut in Indian sport this year, it is the doubles pairing of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy. Thomas Cup champions. Commonwealth Games gold. World Championship bronze. It's not stopped raining in Shetty's Mumbai and he and his partner haven't stopped winning and ticking the boxes of big titles.

In a singles-less world — alternately, the late 90s and early Noughties of Indian tennis — the duo would've been as stratospheric in Indian sportsdom as Leander Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi were. As things stand, the two quietly go about their jobs, plodding away in search of the Paris Olympic medal which will be their ultimate prize. It starts with slaying a particularly obstinate demon — Malaysians Aaron Chia — Soh Wooi Yik.

The Indians have an unflattering 0-6 record against the Malaysian World Champions. This includes the World Championship that ended Aaron-Soh's own search for a world title, where they quelled the Indians in three sets in a 77-minute long semifinal.

Four of the six faceoffs have been three-setters. More importantly, Aaron Chia is a master of the big occasion — lordling over the four tournament quarterfinals and two semifinals. Satwik-Chirag beat back All England champions, Muhammad Shohibul Fikri — Maulana Bagas, 21-14, 21-16 on Thursday at the Denmark Open to set up a seventh meeting with Aaron-Soh, and are looking very sharp. For a rivalry that's bristled, brewed and boomed over the Thomas Cup (where Malaysians split their lead pair and lost), the CWG (beat Indians in the team final) and Worlds (edged them out narrowly in semis), their Odense quarters is relatively low-key. Cue: Indians play freely, and try break the 6-0 voodoo.

## Below the radar

Satwik-Chirag's Worlds bronze, though historic, remained below the radar, as bronze medals do — after the semis loss. It is also a testament to the high-quality badminton they play day in, day out — for four years now, if you will — that the Worlds exit in August was seen as a disappointment, rather than India's pathbreaking first doubles medal. But only the duo know how tough it is to break through the Indonesian and Malaysian maze of men's doubles in badminton — the smashes, like rain, never stop pouring. "15-20 strokes both ways with dozen smashes, and then you can start thinking of a point," jokes India's doubles coach at the camp, Arun Vishnu. "The winner in these matches is who can maintain quality of attack when tired."



Satwiksairaj Rankireddy (L) and Chirag Shetty defeated Muhammad Fikri and Maulana Bagas, 21-14, 21-16 in Denmark Open.

The opponents typically play flat drives at very high speed, don't lift the shuttle — knowing the tall Indians will pounce — and are singularly relentless. Indians face this barrage every day — by definition, doubles is that — and have emerged as one of the world's best — the

45 minutes after everyone is finished, and practice service, receiving, variations. Even after good results, these two haven't gotten carried away. They keep working towards the next goal," he adds.

The next year is the qualification for Paris, but the pairing has had a stupendous 2022 and the hunger to be the best has gone nowhere. "May be it was the Tokyo medal they missed that hurt. But they just don't stop working hard," Arun says.

The Aaron factor The Indians will see their appetite reflected from across, with Aaron Chia, the formidable, frenetic, fabulously creative and forceful Malaysian. He is very consistent, plays high standards through a rally, and everything comes back. Indians use the change of pace extremely cannily to deny the Malaysians a continuous stream of birds, though the World Championships strangely saw short rallies, and Indians were put under the pump in the third. Aaron has epic control of the shuttle, creates clever openings for Soh, boasts a masterful serve with variations, and brings pristine quality shot-making at the clutch. Soh cops the bullying that weak links do, but he's done it so often he's gotten very good at parrying attacks off. "If Indians get the first game,

they'll not let go. I'm confident they'll break through the Malaysians," says former doubles Olympian, Manu Attri.

He senses a win around the corner, adding that the Indians who morph their defence into attack, are looking good to put one across. "Satchi have gotten consistent. Earlier, they would give away 3-4 points. Now they give 1, take 3-4. Boe's guiding them very intelligently," he says.

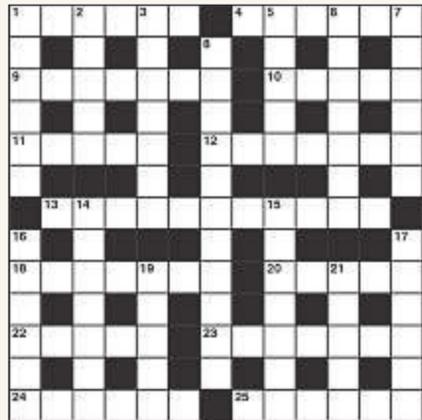
"It has to break at some point. It could be tomorrow," avers his partner Sumeeth Reddy, adding Indians carry the venom of being able to break any defence, and the Malaysians will remain wary of taking them on at the net, despite the CWG team event loss.

"Chirag has to shoulder the burden of creating wise setups against Aaron-Soh," Reddy says, believing a win is on the anvil. "I don't think Malaysians are ahead of Indians. They are equal. If we can just control the nerves, then we can win."

Arun Vishnu reckons playing fearlessly will help Indians on Friday, even if copping the smash assault can be mentally and physically draining. The Indians can give it back as good as they get, and it's why former players mark the contest 50/50.

Indian attack variations — not only do they tenor and key the pace, they mix their drops and half smashes happily to break the frenetic rhythm the Malaysians like — mean the 6-0 wall can break anytime now. "It's about one win. Just one. Then the floodgates will open," Arun promises.

## CROSSWORD 4878



- ACROSS**
- Run off at outset of disturbance (6)
  - Rush to see the ruins of Athens (6)
  - One who loves being unhappily married (7)
  - Peers out for a lively frolic (5)
  - Compel payment to be precise (5)
  - It's not pleasant to see a damaged rose (7)
  - It's a total loss all right (7,4)
  - One who enjoys distinction without power? (7)
  - Push a boat (5)
  - Tea rose (5)
  - Recoils from psychiatrists (7)
  - Pin inserted into a joint (6)
  - What the champagne did when little Florence got married (6)
- DOWN**
- States times for customs (6)
  - With spirit a sailor gets up to dance (5)
  - Mark's quite rough-and-ready (7)
  - A detached area in church (5)
  - Leave the road and stop (4,3)
  - Soundly worked with the hands as required (6)
  - Safe deacons constructed without ceremony (4-3-4)
  - One must do it to survive (7)
  - No mean party? (7)
  - They will be less than the normal fare (6)
  - Let out the smallest amount say (6)
  - Two in support (5)
  - Were upset about a point but start again (5)

Solutions Crossword 4877: Across: 1 Abounds, 5 Pipit, 8 Hot on the trail, 9 Swell, 10 Melanie, 11 Clause, 12 Campus, 15 Lie-abed, 17 Apart, 19 Infant prodigy, 20 Gates, 21 Slight. Down: 1 Ashes, 2 On the face of it, 3 Nompus, 4 Scheme, 5 Patal, 6 Plain speaking, 7 Tellers, 11 Calling, 13 A la mode, 14 Adepts, 16 Banns, 18 Tryst

## JUMBLER 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.

Nature is the master of \_\_\_\_\_ is the master of nature - J.G. Holland (7,6)



Answer: Nature is the master of nature - J.G. Holland SOLUTION: NATURE, AERIE, COSIS, LINNER, FUNGUS

## OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



## CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



## MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



## Difficulty Level 2s

Instructions To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

## Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



## SOLUTION SUDOKU 4993



## DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

### ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Watch out for a spot of bother as a partner picks up the wrong end of the stick. Although only some of you will be affected, there is no knowing what, or who, will wind you up. Always give others the benefit of the doubt, and you'll soon find that they soften their stance.

### TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

There's still a shortage of significant planetary patterns, so this is a time for you to make your own choices and not to be pushed by circumstances. Actually, it's a sociable period, and you'll be happy to mix with friends — and avoid any feeling that you're stuck with family members.

### GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

You want only the best — and you deserve an improvement in your circumstances. It's one thing having high hopes, though, and another to make sure that they can be put into practice. You may be able to rely on people who already have done what you're planning. If they don't offer advice first, then swallow your pride and ask.

### CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Today's stars favour practical steps to make your nest more harmonious and comfortable, but if you don't take other people's wishes into account all your actions will have the reverse effect. You need their help, so you may have to tailor your desires to theirs.

### LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Sometimes you get the feeling that the real action is elsewhere. If you're still wondering where the excitement is, give it a little longer. The whole situation changes before long, allowing all of you to go out and hunt for your heart's desire. And about time too.

### VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

There is a great deal to be said for indulging yourself today. You also deserve a reward for all those times you have put yourself out for other people. You may not receive the thanks you're expecting, but appreciation could arrive in other ways.

### LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

You still seem to have enough energy to keep your own plans on the go — and inspire other people with your example. As you've discovered, though, if you don't pace yourself and slow down as soon as you hear the warning signals, then you could end up completely burnt out and exhausted.

### SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

You're still not happy for other people to find out everything that you're doing, so you'll have some fine judgements to make, letting some folk into your confidence, but treating warily with others. And, if you can find some time to day-dream, then go ahead.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)

Any desire to travel widely, perhaps to far-away places, should now be taken a major step forward. If life in foreign parts doesn't suit you, at the very least you should take steps to make your accommodation more airy and spacious. A little extra luxury wouldn't come amiss, either.

### CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Expect a surprise of sorts. It seems that the consequences of the last few months' actions could be extremely important and will be here sooner than you expect. It is also clear that whatever happens may bring back memories of something that took place around this time last month.

### AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Discretion is vital. Yet it is amazing how much you can give away without telling anyone what is really going on. You have everything to gain from keeping a secret a little while longer. That way the surprise, and a partner's pleasure could be all the greater.

### PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Social influences are strong, perhaps because you feel more confident and ready for an unusual encounter, on the look-out for strange coincidences. If you're on a short fuse, someone is bound to try and wind you up. A laugh and a smile should see you through.



## GREEN IN AUSTRALIA SQUAD

Explosive all-rounder Cameron Green on Thursday replaced injured reserve wicketkeeper-batter Josh Inglis in Australia's T20 squad. The 27-year-old Inglis sustained an injury in a freak accident while playing golf when his six-iron snapped and cut his hand. **PTI**

## BRIEFLY

## IOC in talks with 10 countries for hosting 2036 Olympics

**Seoul:** The IOC is in talks with 10 potential candidates to host a future Summer Games, the global group of national Olympic leaders was told Thursday. India is among the countries to have expressed interest in hosting the 2036 Olympics, apart from Egypt, England, Indonesia and Qatar. "We are currently working with 10 interested NOCs and regions across four continents," International Olympic Committee director general Christophe de Kecker said at the Association of National Olympic Committees meeting in Seoul, South Korea. That Olympics is the next Summer Games available to be awarded in a mostly secretive process led by IOC officials to avoid both expensive public campaigning and a vote contested by multiple candidates. The system that picked Brisbane as the 2032 host 11 years in advance was introduced after French-led investigations of alleged vote-buying in the 2016 and 2020 Olympics bidding. **AP**

## Patil loses MCA presidential polls

**Mumbai:** Former India batter Sandeep Patil on Thursday lost the presidential election of Mumbai Cricket Association to Amol Kale. Kale, who had the backing of BJP MLA and new BCCI treasurer Ashish Shelar, defeated Patil by 25 votes. Kale got 183 votes as compared to Patil's 158. Kale was vice-president in the previous regime. The 66-year-old former cricketer had decided to contest the MCA polls last month. Patil was earlier director at the National Cricket Academy and also served as chairman of the BCCI selection committee. He represented India in 29 Tests and 45 ODIs. He also has a lot of coaching experience with stints with the Indian, Kenyan and Oman teams. **PTI**

## U23 Worlds: India win three medals

**Pontevedra:** Ankush settled for a silver after being overpowered by formidable Yui Susaki but Vikas (72kg) and Nitesh (97kg) won their bronze medal play-offs with ease as India's Greco Roman wrestlers cherished their best ever show at a global event by winning three medals at the U-23 world championship, here. Ankush had a herculean task at hand as she was up against reigning Olympic and world champion and eventually she proved no match to Susaki as the Japanese pinned the Indian in less than two minutes in the women's 50kg final on Thursday. **PTI**

## India to tour Bangladesh

**Dhaka:** India will tour Bangladesh for the first time since 2015 for three ODIs and two Tests beginning December 4, the country's cricket board (BCB) announced. Dhaka's Mirpur Stadium will host all the three ODIs on December 4, 7 and 10 and the series will then move to Chattogram for the first Test from December 14 to 18. The teams will be back in Dhaka for the second and final Test from December 22 to 26, Bangladesh Cricket Board president Nazmul Hassan said in a statement. The two-match series will have crucial World Test Championship points at stake. **PTI**

## Thakur says he expects Pakistan to come to India for World Cup

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

REACTING TO PCB's threat that India's refusal to travel to Pakistan for next year's Asia Cup could trigger a tit-for-tat response at the 50-over World Cup, sports minister Anurag Thakur said that he expected all teams to participate in the mega ICC tournament.

BCCI secretary Jay Shah, after the Board's annual general meeting on Tuesday, had said that India won't travel to Pakistan for the Asia Cup, and the tournament will be held at a neutral venue. Incidentally, Shah is also the president of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC). The Pakistan Cricket Board was left peeved at the comment and said such an eventuality will affect their team's participation at the World Cup to be hosted by India.

But Thakur, also a former BCCI president, said teams from Pakistan have played in India on several occasions in the past, but Indian teams going across the border was a matter on which the government had to take a call. The minister said India cannot be threatened

"All teams who qualify for (the World Cup) are invited (to compete on Indian soil). Many times, Pakistan teams have come to India and played. I feel India is not in a position to be dictated (by someone) and there is no reason for anyone to do that. I expect all countries to come and compete."



ANURAG THAKUR  
SPORTS MINISTER

in this matter. He expected Pakistan to play the World Cup in India. Thakur, however, said that the probability of India travelling to Pakistan "aren't much".

"All teams who qualify for (the World Cup) are invited (to compete on Indian soil). Many times, Pakistan teams have come to India and played. I feel India is not in a position to be dictated (by someone) and there

"That (Going to Pakistan) is not the BCCI's call. We need the government's clearance to leave the country. Whether we leave the country or teams coming into the country, we need clearance. Once we get clearance from the government, we go with it. We can't make decisions on our own."



ROGER BINNY  
BCCI PRESIDENT

is no reason for anyone to do that. I expect all countries to come and compete," Thakur told reporters on Thursday.

Top-level international cricket has returned to Pakistan after a hiatus of more than a decade. Touring sides had avoided Pakistan after the Sri Lankan team was attacked in Lahore in 2009, but England, Australia and West Indies, among other teams have played

in Pakistan over the last few years. However, India hasn't done so, and Thakur hinted there was not much chance of it happening in the near future.

"Possibilities (of India playing in Pakistan) are always there. Who thought there would be COVID-19? Anything can happen but the chances (of the Indian team travelling to Pakistan) are not much.

"...It's a decision that will be taken by the home ministry. Overall, players' safety and security is an important matter."

When pointed out that other teams had toured Pakistan in the recent past, Thakur refused to budge.

"That is a security concern. The government will take a call on that. Let the time come, let us see the situation at that time," he said at an event to announce the fifth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games, which will be held across eight cities in Madhya Pradesh from January 31 to February 11.

New BCCI president Roger Binny also said that the Board will have to go by the government directive when it comes to series against Pakistan.

"That (Going to Pakistan) is not the BCCI's call. We need the government's clearance to leave the country. Whether we leave the country or teams coming into the country, we need clearance," the former all-rounder said.

"Once we get clearance from the government, we go with it. We can't make decisions on our own. We have to rely on the government. We have not approached them yet."

Shah's comment had 'disappointed' the PCB, who have demanded an emergency meeting of the ACC. "Such statements (like Shah's) can split the Asian and international cricket communities," and impact Pakistan's visit to India for the 2023 World Cup, the PCB had said in a statement.

India haven't travelled to Pakistan since the 2008 Asia Cup, and after the Mumbai terror attack on November 26 that year, the scheduled bilateral series in early 2009 was cancelled. Pakistan did travel to India for a short six-match white-ball series in 2012, but in the last 10 years, there hasn't been any bilateral cricket with the two teams playing each other at only ICC and ACC events.

## Dealing in carrom balls

Ashwin can trouble the best with his off-breaks, but scarcely uses them in T20s. Will this approach work in the World Cup?

SRIRAM VEERA  
OCTOBER 20

FORMER PAKISTAN skippers Shoaib Malik and Misbah-ul-Haq have stressed on the big role finger-spinners play in T20 cricket in Australia. Malik spoke of a moment from his Big Bash League days, when his captain George Bailey asked him to bowl at two set batsmen.

"I gave him a stare, as if to say what is he doing," Malik laughs on A Sports, adding, "Bailey told me 'no, no, finger spin will help take wickets and check runs here (Australian conditions)."

Misbah then rationalised the decision: "It's difficult to sweep on those tracks with the extra bounce, or even pull. It's not like Asia where you can rock back and pull a short ball from a spinner easily."

India, under Rohit Sharma, have shed Virat Kohli's disinclination to use Ravichandran Ashwin, bringing him back into the white-ball fold. But it also presents an interesting conundrum: Would Ashwin bowl more of his finger-spun off-spin or will he, as he has done in the Indian Premier League, resort to his carrom balls more?

It begs the question: Why doesn't Ashwin bowl more off-spin in T20s? All through the IPL, he kept rolling out the carrom balls. The lengths and lines varied, some spun, some skidded on, some came in, some went out, but largely they were carrom balls and its variations.

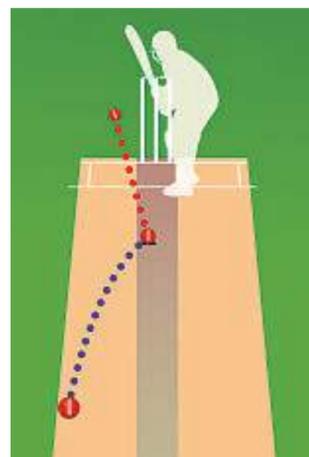
Rajasthan Royals head coach Kumar Sangakkara was watching from the dugout. After the tournament, the Sri Lankan legend would offer this: "Even for him [Ashwin], there will be lots of thinking and improvements to do, especially with his off-spin and bowl more of it".

As of now, Ashwin seems to have decided to bowl more skidding carrom balls in T20s, and the off-spin in Tests.

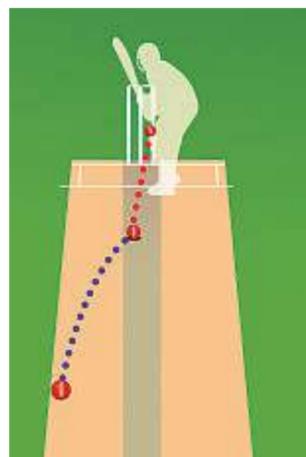
In the IPL, he has harassed the likes of Rohit Sharma with his off-breaks. But these days, he seems to be using it selectively, with left-handers getting it more.

On his YouTube channel, Ashwin has often talked about his approach in T20s. How he likes to create pressure through tight lines. The variations aren't used to lure a batsman into a big shot but to defeat an intended big shot. Most of the time, he will flick, side-arm, squeeze out the ball between the forefinger and the thumb, or skim his fingers on the belly of the ball to undercut, create angles by jumping to the sides of the crease. And use his reverse carrom ball that he has now mastered.

Ashwin's off-break is not a simple deliv-



**CARROM BALL:** In IPL, Ashwin mostly bowled carrom balls. Some skidded on, some came in, some went out.



**REVERSE CARROM BALL:** It drifts sharply into the right-hander and veers away from the left-hander.

Ravichandran Ashwin could prove to be effective in Australian conditions due to the bounce in pitches.

ery, turning in from outside off-stump into a right-hander. Ashwin, the tinkerer, has tweaked his release positions, the way he loads up - at times from front of his face to stay upright at release when he wants more over-spin.

Or get it up to his right shoulder when he wants more side-spin. In the way he arches his upper body after loading at times when he seeks more dip and turn. In the way, he presses on the front foot, the weight leaning forward on a longer stride, when he wants the ball to go slower without changing his arm speed.

He has corrected the flaw of his early years of over-relying on his fingers, and has got his body more into the action. Circa 2012 and 2013, the late Australian off-spinner Ashley Mallett and Ashwin's then coach Sunil Subramaniam had talked about how "there was no body in the action", and an over-reliance on "clever fingers" (as Mallett termed it). From about 2015 or thereabouts,

Ashwin has been a bowler on the ascent. So, why does he then have not as much trust on a ball that he has so assiduously worked on to perfect?

It doesn't fit in with his philosophy of strangling the runs. In T20s, without the luxury of a spell to work on, and drawn in to bowl an over here and there, Ashwin's method is to squeeze in the pressure through restricting runs.

Once, the late Martin Crowe had dismissed off-spinners, while talking about his methods against spin. "I never really rated off-spinners. They just came into the hitting zone, which was legside for me." Perhaps, the harsh comment reveals something about the off-spinners he came across during his career but in theory, as a general perception about spin, Crowe's professional assessment comes close to the gully-cricket theory about off-spin. The way Ashwin is currently bowling in T20s, it seems he buys into that theory, not as a reflection on his skills, but its inherent effectiveness in the frenetic format.

## Ashwin thinks differently

Maybe, the man with the most experimental headspace in world cricket doesn't want to be labelled as an off-spin bowler at all in T20s? While batting, he has numerous bat-swings and tweaks in his stance, depending on the conditions, pitch, bowler, bounce, swing.

Maybe, the reverse carrom ball has allowed him to not use the off-break too much. It drifts sharply into the right-hander and veers away from the left-hander.

Ashwin started to use it because he felt batsmen were picking his finger-flicking carrom balls. "Usually seeing the way it comes out of my hand, the (right-handed) batsman started to set up to play it to the offside. But now I have tried to get the ball to drift into the batsmen," he once told Sky Sports, and dated its origin to 2019.

So in his mind, it's not a "defensive" move by any stretch, for the cut-and-dried purpose of saving runs and ratcheting up the pressure.

When nothing else but a wicket is needed, can Rohit turn to Ashwin? That question presupposes that Ashwin is underselling himself in the carrom ball-flicking avatar though it's what got him back into the team. The current carefully-thought-out philosophy is what has given him a go at another white-ball World Cup.

That may be so, but until he tastes success at the T20 World Cup with this approach, the likes of Sangakkara will still wonder. Until then, they will continue to ponder whether Ashwin has undersold himself.

## ROUND ONE

## On day of fluctuating fortunes, Sri Lanka and Netherlands enter Super 12

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
OCTOBER 20

ON A topsy turvy final day of Group A qualifying games in Geelong, Sri Lanka first sealed a spot in the Super 12 of the T20 World Cup with a somewhat tense win over Netherlands. The disappointed Dutch, their fate now in the hands of the already knocked-out United Arab Emirates, would break into a frenzied team celebration a few hours later when Namibia were edged out by seven runs.

So the team that had shaken up the tournament on the very first day with a humbling of the Lankans ended up going home; Namibia's exit also meant Sri Lanka finished as Group A toppers and progressed to Group 1 in the Super 12, with India's Group 2 avoiding the Asia Cup champions and happily welcoming second-placed Netherlands instead.

In the afternoon, Kusal Mendis seemed to have put it beyond Netherlands with a cal-

culated 79 off 44 deliveries. Wiser after the Namibia rout, and ravaged by injury in soft, slow conditions, Sri Lanka posted 162 for 6.

A direct hit by Dhananjaya de Silva and two strikes by Wanindu Hasaranga reduced Netherlands to 109 for 8 after 17 overs. But there was to be a revival led by opener Max O'Dowd, born and raised across the Tasman Sea in Auckland.

Binura Fernando kept hurling it on O'Dowd's pads, with fine leg and square leg in the circle, and was swung for three successive boundaries - six, four and four. Skipper Dasun Shanaka made it nine down with a direct hit at the non-striker's end but O'Dowd survived a review for lbw next, and was on strike for the 18th from Maheesh Theekshana.

Theekshana had bowled superbly until then (3-0-16-2) but the pressure was to get to him now. He served up a full toss that was carted for six and also called a no-ball for height. The attempted free hit was pushed wide once and wide a second time;



Kusal Mendis top-scored for Sri Lanka with 79 off 44 balls against the Dutch.

Theekshana had conceded nine runs without bowling a single legal delivery, and the equation had plummeted to 30 needed off 12. Theekshana managed to recover his control and although he gave away another six - a mighty slog-sweep by O'Dowd - he left Lahiru Kumara with a steep 23 to defend in the last over.

Kumara can so often be a hit-or-miss bowler, but this time, he got the ball to climb awkwardly off his hard lengths and thwarted O'Dowd comprehensively for a 16-run win.

"They're just cut-throat tournaments, aren't they," Netherlands captain Scott Edwards said after his team's first defeat in three matches ahead of the Namibia-UAE game. "We think we've played a lot of good cricket in all three of the games. But yeah, the nature of these tournaments, one little slip-up, 15-20 runs and you can be knocked out. Hopefully, UAE can get up and we're still going tomorrow."

In the evening game, UAE had learnt from how Mendis and Sri Lanka had built their in-

nings, and gave the first half to the conditions: Sri Lanka were 60 for 2 after ten overs, UAE made 58 for 1. Sri Lanka accelerated to 162, UAE took 21 off the last over from JJ Smit to reach 148.

Namibia crumbled to 69 for 7 by the 13th over and the Dutch could see themselves in the Super 12 already. Only the imposing figure of David Wiese, the 37-year old South African-Namibian dual international, stood in between the Dutch and agony-turned-ecstasy. The long-haired veteran all-rounder started powering the ball away, through gaps, through fielders' legs, into the rope, over the boundary. No 9 Ruben Truempelmann helped himself to a couple of massive slogs. From 64 off 30, Namibia suddenly needed just 20 off 12.

Zahoor Khan came up with an excellent 19th over of yorkers and low full tosses, which went for only six runs. Still, Namibia were only a couple of hits away, and UAE were allowed only four men on the boundary, having exceeded their allocated time.

## TOP OF THE WORLD



Suhail, a male Panda, sent by China. AP

QATAR  
Pandas sent by China arrive ahead of WC

*Al Khor:* A pair of giant pandas sent as a gift from China arrived in Qatar on Wednesday ahead of next month's World Cup. They will take up residence in an indoor enclosure in the desert nation designed to duplicate conditions in the dense forests of China's mountainous Sichuan province. Eight hundred kgs of fresh bamboo will be flown in each week to feed them. Jingjing, a 4-year-old male weighing 120 kg has been given the Arabic name Suhail, and 3-year-old female Si Hai, at 70 kg has been named Thuraya. The pandas will quarantine for 21 days before visitors will be allowed to see them. Qatar is expecting 1.2 million visitors for the World Cup beginning November 20. AP

SYRIA  
WHO official accused of graft, fraud

*London:* Staffers at the World Health Organization's Syrian office have alleged that their boss mismanaged millions of dollars, plied government officials with gifts and acted frivolously as Covid swept the country. Over 100 confidential documents, messages and other materials obtained show that the agency's Syria representative, Dr Aljamel Magtymova, engaged in abusive behaviour, pressured WHO staff to sign contracts with high-ranking Syrian politicians and mispent WHO and donor funds. Magtymova declined to respond and described the accusations as "defamatory." AP

USA  
Trump deposes in defamation suit

*New York:* Former President Donald Trump answered questions under oath Wednesday in a lawsuit filed by E Jean Carroll, a magazine columnist who says he raped her in the mid-1990s in a department store dressing room. The deposition gave Carroll's lawyers a chance to interrogate Trump about the assault allegations, as well as statements he made in 2019 when she told her story publicly for the first time. Trump has said Carroll's rape allegation is "a hoax and a lie." AP

## TAX PLAN SET OFF REVOLT AGAINST PRIME MINISTER

## Nominations open for new UK PM to replace Truss, cut-off set at 100 MPs

ADITI KHANNA  
LONDON, OCTOBER 20

THE NOMINATIONS for Conservative Party members planning to contest in the leadership election to replace Liz Truss as Tory leader and British PM officially opened on Thursday evening, with a high threshold of 100 MPs set for the final shortlist.

Graham Brady, chair of the 1922 Backbench Committee in charge of Tory elections, said potential candidates are expected to file their nominations by 2 pm local time on Monday for a final two contestants to be shortlisted. Unless there is parliamentary consensus struck around a single candidate, the final two will be put up for an expedited online voting process before the wider Tory party membership to be concluded by October 28.

"It [100 MPs] should be achievable by any serious candidate, who has a realistic prospect of going through," said Brady, as he confirmed the likelihood of three possible candidates emerging, given the 357 Tory MPs in the House of Commons.

"It is up to the MP whether we have one or two candidates. If there are two candidates acting in the national interest, our members can make their views known," said Tory Party chairman Jake Berry. In case only one candidate emerges for the 2 pm deadline, the party would have a new leader in place later that day. If there is a clash between two, the leader would be in place by next Friday.

Rishi Sunak, who had garnered the support of 137 MPs in the last round of voting, was the clear frontrunner of the race among his colleagues. PTI



Liz Truss and husband Hugh O'Leary outside 10 Downing Street in London. AP

## Liz Truss promised UK a shakeup — but was forced out instead

AGENCIES  
LONDON, OCTOBER 20

LIZ TRUSS became prime minister on a promise to open a new era of growth by shaking up Britain's economy. But the tumult that resulted was not exactly what she had in mind: Markets recoiled, the pound currency dived, her party revolted — and, in the end, she announced her resignation just 45 days after taking office.

Truss, 47, was forced to quit after an ill-conceived economic stimulus plan she drew up

caused economic and political chaos and wiped out her support in the Conservative Party.

Truss, a libertarian who fervently believes in small government and free-market economics, came to office on September 6 after 172,000 Conservative Party members voted in an internal leadership contest to pick a successor to the scandal-plagued Boris Johnson.

Truss was in many ways the opposite of the populist, people-pleasing Johnson. Serious and stiff as a public speaker, she called herself a "disruptor," ready to upend existing economic "orthodoxy."

In the first days of her premiership, she gave a taste of things to come when she said she wasn't afraid to make "unpopular" decisions — such as removing a cap on bonuses for bankers — to boost the U.K.'s competitiveness. In recent days, Britain's lively, partisan press was unusually united in the opinion that Truss was doomed, some even called a "ghost PM".

Truss stuck to her guns — for a while. She will stay PM until the party chooses a replacement in the coming week and will have the dubious distinction of being the shortest-serving British prime minister in history.

## Our lettuce outlasted Truss: UK paper

REUTERS  
LONDON, OCTOBER 20

TO THE strains of Britain's national anthem, a national newspaper on Thursday declared a lettuce the victor in a race to see if it could outlast Liz Truss, after the under-fire prime minister resigned.

The tabloid *Daily Star* set up a live feed on Friday showing the unrefrigerated iceberg next to a

photo of Truss, asking readers: "Which wet lettuce will last longer?" It later expanded the tableau, adding a wig, a face and grasping hands to the vegetable, as well as two British flags, a pasty on a plate and a red mug bearing the legend "Keep Calm and Carry On", a slogan used to raise morale in Britain during World War Two.

More than 12,000 Twitter users were watching the feed as Truss announced her resignation

## WORLD REACTS

"The US and the UK are strong allies and enduring friends, and that will never change. I thank PM Liz Truss for her partnership on a range of issues, including holding Russia accountable."

—JOE BIDEN  
US PRESIDENT

"We want, above all else, stability... On a personal level, I am always sad to see a colleague go."

—EMMANUEL MACRON  
FRENCH PRESIDENT

"Britain has never known such a .... PM. The helmet onboard the tank, the catastrophic illiteracy, and the Queen's funeral right after the audience with Truss will be what's remembered of her."

—MARIA ZAKHAROVA  
RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESWOMAN

## Ukraine's utilities hit by Russia in war's new phase

People told to charge devices before outages

THE NEW YORK TIMES  
KYIV, OCTOBER 20

NATIONWIDE CURBS on electricity usage came into force across Ukraine early Thursday, after more than a week of Russian aerial attacks have pummeled the country's energy infrastructure and prompted rolling blackouts.

Ukraine's energy system has suffered more attacks over the past 10 days than during the previous eight months of the war, according to Ukrrenerg, the country's electric utility.

The government has ordered Ukrainians to minimise their electricity use from 7 am to 11 pm, signalling a new phase of the war in which people could lack basic services as winter approaches.

Ukrrenerg warned in a statement on the Telegram of rolling outages lasting up to four hours on Thursday and urged Ukrainians to charge their electrical devices. "Please make sure that you have charged phones, power banks, water, flashlights and batteries by 7 am tomorrow," it said. Most of Kyiv's electric tram lines were replaced with buses on Thursday in an attempt to help conserve electricity, Vitaly Klitschko, the city's mayor, said.

The city also turned on its heating network on Thursday, Klitschko said.

## UK sanctions Iran over drones supply to Russia

REUTERS  
LONDON, OCTOBER 20

BRITAIN ON Thursday slapped sanctions on three Iranian military figures and a defence manufacturer for supplying Russia with drones to attack civilian and infrastructure targets in Ukraine.

Senior Iranian military officers Mohammad Hossein Bagheri, Seyed Hoojatollah Qureishi and Saeed Aghajani will be subject to an asset freeze and travel ban, Britain's foreign office said.

The three individuals were "personally responsible" for providing the drones used in strikes in Ukraine, it added. "Iran's support for Putin's brutal and illegal war against Ukraine is deplorable," British Foreign Secretary James Cleverly said. "This is clear evidence of Iran's destabilising role in global security."

Russia has launched dozens of "kamikaze" drones on Ukraine on hitting energy infrastructure and killing five people in the capital of Kyiv. Ukraine says they are Iranian-made Shahed-136 attack drones. Tehran denies supplying the drones to Moscow.

## Lanka House debates Bill to trim President powers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
COLOMBO, OCTOBER 20

THE MUCH-ANTICIPATED Parliamentary debate for the adoption of the 22nd Amendment to Sri Lanka's Constitution aimed at empowering Parliament over the executive president started on Thursday after two previous postponements due to strong opposition from the ruling SLPP party.

The debate was earlier fixed for October 6 and October 7, but it was deferred as Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena told the House that the government will have more discussions to seek views of the opposition to make

it a "meaningful" exercise.

The vote on the Amendment will now take place on Friday, parliamentary officials said on Thursday. President Ranil Wickremesinghe had pledged constitutional reforms to appease the demand from the protesters who ousted Rajapaksa.

The 22A was to restore the powers of Parliament, which were taken under the executive President by Rajapaksa through the 20th Amendment of 2020. Rajapaksa had reversed the 19A which had empowered parliament over presidency. The amendment must be passed by 150 votes for it to be enacted. It was not clear if the SLPP would vote to provide the 150 votes required.

## Pak court sends Hindu girl forcibly converted to Islam to safe home

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
KARACHI, OCTOBER 20

A HINDU girl, who was allegedly abducted in broad daylight two months ago from Pakistan's Hyderabad city, forcibly converted and married to a Muslim man, was on Thursday sent to a safe home by a court.

The court initially had not allowed the girl to go with her parents and admitted the marriage certificate produced by her husband's lawyer, but after her videos went viral where she was seen crying and clinging to her mother after the court ruling, the judge ordered that she should be sent to a safe home and can meet

her parents. The court ordered that her medical examination should also be conducted.

The girl, who worked in a mill with her elder sister, was returning home on August 12 when four men allegedly abducted her from Fateh Chowk in Hyderabad. According to her parents and lawyer, the girl was forcibly converted and married to one of the kidnapers.

Though her parents rushed to the police station and insisted she would be forcibly converted and married off, police did not file a case until September. The girl was later recovered from Balochistan province and brought back to Hyderabad and kept at a shelter home as her husband filed a case

in the court against her parents.

He also submitted a medical and marriage certificate, which claimed the girl was 19 years old. But her parents told the court on Thursday that she was a minor.

The court initially admitted the marriage certificate, but after outrage on the social media, the judge ordered she be sent to a safe home. He also refrained the alleged husband from having any contact with the girl or her family until the medical report was confirmed.

The abduction and forcible conversion of Hindu girls have become a major problem in the interior of Sindh province which has a large Hindu population in Thar, Umerkot, Mirpurkhas, Ghotki and Khairpur areas.

## Google sued for capturing biometric data of millions without consent

REUTERS  
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 20

TEXAS HAS filed a lawsuit against Alphabet's Google for allegedly collecting biometric data of millions of Texans without obtaining proper consent, the attorney general's office said in a statement on Thursday.

The complaint says that companies operating in Texas have been barred for more than a decade from collecting people's faces, voices or other biometric data without advanced, informed consent.

"In blatant defiance of that law, Google has, since at least 2015, collected biometric data



Google in Texas has been barred from collecting data without advanced, informed consent. Reuters

from innumerable Texans and used their faces and their voices to serve Google's commercial ends," the complaint said. "Indeed, all across the state, everyday Texans have become

unwitting cash cows being milked by Google for profits."

The collection occurred through products like Google Photos, Google Assistant, and Nest Hub Max, the statement said. Google said it would fight the lawsuit, saying that users of the services had the option to turn off the biometric collection feature.

"AG Paxton is once again mischaracterising our products in another breathless lawsuit," said Google spokesman Jose Castaneda. "We will set the record straight in court."

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton said in a statement that the "indiscriminate collection" of such data "will not be tolerated."



Elnaz Rekabi

## Iran's Olympic chief claims climber won't be punished

KIM TONG-HYUNG  
SEOUL, OCTOBER 20

THE PRESIDENT of Iran's national Olympic committee claimed Thursday that competitive climber Elnaz Rekabi will not be punished or suspended after competing in South Korea over the weekend without wearing her nation's mandatory headscarf.

Speaking to The Associated Press in the South Korean capital of Seoul, Mahmoud Khosravi Vafa said there was no reason to take disciplinary measures against Rekabi because not wearing a hijab, was an "unintentional" act on her part.

An Instagram account associated with Rekabi also described the decision as "unintentional," and she did as well after reaching Tehran early Wednesday. It's a small issue. I'm surprised that it is being talked about so much," Khosravi Vafa said. "In our view it was not a big issue." "I talked to her and told her that you are talented and you should continue down this path to maybe qualify for the Paris Olympics and you'll be supported by the Iranian Olympic committee".

## New PET scan can detect earliest signs of Alzheimer's

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 20

SCIENTISTS HAVE developed a new positron emission tomography (PET) imaging technique that can detect one of the earliest signs of Alzheimer's and help in timely diagnosis of the disease.

The technique involves an agent, a radiotracer named 18F-SMBT-1, that can detect the presence of overexpressed monoamine oxidase-B (MAO-B) enzyme in cognitively unimpaired individuals with high beta amyloid (Aβ), which is one of the earliest signs of Alzheimer's.

This allows for a better understanding of the role of inflammation in the disease, thereby, enabling more accurate staging

and prognosis at earlier stages.

The 18F-SMBT-1 agent is selective for MAO-B enzyme and as a result has an increased binding to reactive astrocytes, which are cells that overexpress MAO-B. Brain inflammation that accompanies Alzheimer's involves reactive astrocytes. "This increased binding suggests that 18F-SMBT-1 can potentially be used as a surrogate marker to detect reactive astroglialosis in Alzheimer's disease," said Victor Villemagne, lead author of the study, from the University of Pittsburgh, US.

Study participants included three clinical groups: 57 cognitively unimpaired controls, 12 subjects meeting criteria for mild cognitive impairment (MCI), and eight subjects meeting criteria for Alzheimer's disease.

INFRARED EYE FINDS OUT WHAT'S GOING ON WITHIN CLOUDY COSMIC NURSERY  
Webb Telescope captures new view of 'pillars of creation'DENNIS OVERBYE  
OCTOBER 20

YES, IT'S full of stars, and stars to be. Twenty-seven years ago, in 1995, the Hubble Space Telescope wowed the world with a cosmic landscape called Pillars of Creation. The image revealed towering mountains of gas and dust in the Eagle Nebula, one of the most productive star factories in the Milky Way galaxy. It was high art from deep space and a visual triumph for the newly repaired and reborn Hubble, which had been marred by a blurred lens that prevented it from recording clearer scenes of the cosmos.

Now the James Webb Space

Telescope, Hubble's successor, has turned its infrared eyes to see through those same columns and inspect the newborns still in their dusty cribs. In the new view of the Pillars released on Wednesday, cherry-red streaks and waves are jets of material squeezed from globs of gas and dust — baby protostars — as they collapsed and heated up toward stardom.

After 20 years and some \$10 billion the Webb telescope launched on Christmas Day last year into an orbit around the sun and a million miles from Earth. The launch was stupendously successful, as was the complex unfolding procedure in space that put the telescope into operational mode. The Webb is designed to



'Pillars of Creation' captured by Webb Telescope's near-infrared view. NYT

see infrared light, electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths longer than visible light — colours no human eye has ever seen.

The telescope has proved its worth. In the last few months it has dazzled astronomers with new views of a universe that they thought they knew: galaxies and stars at the edge of time, only a few hundred million years after the Big Bang; spooky pictures of planets like Neptune and Jupiter; delicate probes of the atmospheres of exoplanets that are possible lairs of alien life-forms; a view of detritus from a small asteroid just after the NASA DART spacecraft, practicing planetary defence, intentionally smashed into it; and cosmic landscapes

like the Pillars of Creation or the cosmic cliffs of the Carina Nebula, emphasising the immense scale and fragile drama of the cycles of creation and destruction that characterize the seasons of existence in our galaxy.

The Eagle Nebula is about 6,500 light-years from Earth and is in the constellation Serpens, from the Latin word for "serpent." The nebula, known also as Messier 16, is starlight that can be barely glimpsed by the naked eye on clear evenings in July and August.

Enjoy it while you can: In a few million years, the nebula will be gone, evaporated by its fierce stellar progeny like a fleecy windblown cirrus cloud on a summer afternoon. NYT

NORTHERN RAILWAY	
Invitation of Tender through IREPS	
128-W/269/OET/22-23/NRCH/NIT 07 Dated 20.10.2022	
N.I.T. No.	07-22-23-NRCH Dated 20.10.2022
1	Name of work with its location Washing of used linen and supply of new linen for the period of one year in the section of ADEN/NRCH under Director/ Administration/NRCH.
2	Approx. Cost of work Rs. 6093918.33
3	Earnest Money Rs. 121900
4	Completion period of Work 12 Months
5	Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender Upto 15.00 hrs on 15.11.2022 Opening of tender at 15.00 hrs. On 15.11.2022
6	Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender can be purchased etc. Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
Director Admln, Northern Railway For & on behalf of President of India 2816/22	

## SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY  
NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Freight, Delhi Division, Northern Railway, in terms of Railway Board letter no. 2022/TC(FM)/10/04 dated 13.06.2022, invites bids through e-Auction (www.ireps.gov.in) for leasing of parcel space of SLR compartments and Parcel Vans (on round trip basis) for a period of two years as per detail and schedule given below:-

S.No.	Date & time of e-Auction	Assets to be auctioned
1	27.10.2022 at 11:30am	01 LVPH (24 tonnes) in each train - 12425/12426, 12432/12431, 12438/12437, 12442 /12441, 12454/12453 & 22414/22413
2	02.11.2022 at 11:30am	12013 (F1), 12015 (F1), 12031 (F1), 12448 (F1), 12459 (F1), 12497 (F1), 12958 (F1), 14035 (F1, F2 & R1), 14212 (F1), 20506 (F1), 20840 (F1), 22210 (F1)
3	03.11.2022 at 11:30am	12060 (F1), 12566 (F1), 12754 (F1), 12963 (F1), 14164 (F1, F2 & R1), 14681 (F1), 15116 (F1), 20938 (F1 & R1), 22463 (F1), 22485 (F1), 22806 (F1)
4	04.11.2022	01 LVPH (24 tonnes) in each train -12226/12225, 12284/12283, 12445/12446, 12488/12487, 14033/14034, 20408/20407, 22412/22411, 22420/22419, 22428/22427, 22434/22433 01 VP (23 tonnes) -22418/22417
5	07.11.2022 at 11:30am	12457 (F1, F2, R1), 12524 (F1), 14507 (F1, F2, R1), 19338 (F1), 20914 (F1, F2, R1), 20946 (F1), 22479 (F1), 22654(F1), 22824 (F1)
6	09.11.2022 at 11:30am	12036 (F1), 12066 (F1), 14011 (F1, R1), 14731 (F1, R1), 15060 (F1, R1), 20473 (F1, R1), 22168 (F1, F2, R1), 22950 (F1), 22986 (F1)
7	10.11.2022 at 11:30am	12005 (F1), 12038 (F1), 12481 (F1, F2 & R1), 12646 (F1 & F2), 14812 (F1), 22421 (F1, F2 & R1), 22482 (F1, F2 & R1)

Important notes: 1. For more information, requirement and various aspects regarding these e-Auctions, interested bidders are advised to visit <https://www.ireps.gov.in/html/helpdesk/learningcentre.html>. (e-Auction leasing section). 2. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD); 5% of the total contractual bid value to be deposited online during the auction. EMD of the successful bidder will be retained as Security Deposit. 3. Railway Administration reserves the full and absolute rights to short terminate these contracts at any point of time and/or for taking any decision regarding the discontinuation/continuation of these contracts with modified/additional terms and conditions depending upon the continuation/discontinuation of these trains or commencement of new train services. 2819/2022

## SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

FORM G INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR M/S SHIV SAI METAL PRODUCTS PRIVATE LIMITED	
Operating in Contractor for APL Service Connection with LT line extension at Patna (Under Regulation 38A (3) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016)	
RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1. Name of the corporate debtor along with PAN/CIN/LLP No.	M/S Shiv Sai Metal Products Private Limited CIN No: U31909Bihar2019PTC018549
2. Address of the registered office	Mansar, Patna Bihar, India. Pin Code 801126
3. URL of website	The information eligibility criteria are mentioned in the detailed Expression Interest process document, a copy of which can be sought by email to: <a href="mailto:crp.ssm@gmail.com">crp.ssm@gmail.com</a>
4. Details of place where majority of fixed assets are located	Mansar, Patna Bihar, India. Pin Code 801126
5. Installed capacity of main products/ services	Waxal conductor 40 km per day / Rabbit conductor 30 km per day / Dog conductor 20 km per day. Since, the plant is not operational. Products are outsourced from outside vendors
6. Quantity and value of main products/services sold in last financial year	332.78 Lakhs as per draft financial for year ended 31st March 2022. 20 Lakhs as per audited financial for year ended 31st March 2021
7. Number of employees/workmen	22
8. Further details including last available financial statements (with schedules) of two years, list of creditors, relevant dates for subsequent events of the process are available at:	The required details can be sought by email to <a href="mailto:crp.ssm@gmail.com">crp.ssm@gmail.com</a>
9. Eligibility for resolution applicants under section 25(2)(h) of the Code is available at:	The information eligibility criteria are mentioned in the detailed Expression of Interest process document, a copy of which can be sought by email to: <a href="mailto:crp.ssm@gmail.com">crp.ssm@gmail.com</a>
10. Last date for receipt of expression of interest	05/11/2022
11. Date of issue of provisional list of prospective resolution applicants	15/11/2022
12. Last date for submission of objections to provisional list	20/11/2022
13. Process email id to submit EOI	<a href="mailto:crp.ssm@gmail.com">crp.ssm@gmail.com</a>

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA  
PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION, AMRAVATI  
(e-mail- amravati.ec@mahapwd.com)  
TENDER NOTICE NO. 32 OF 2022-2023  
(No. 8718/TC/Dt.20.10.2022)

TENDER NOTIFICATION UNDER e-PROCUREMENT  
E-Tender for the following work in "B-1" (Percentage Rate) form is invited via online e-tendering system from Registered/Unregistered Contractor by the Executive Engineer P.W.Division Amravati on behalf of Government of Maharashtra. Tender Documents are downloaded from Government of Maharashtra portal <http://mahatenders.gov.in>. Rights to select or reject is reserved by Executive Engineer P.W.Division Amravati. Tender with condition is never accepted.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (in Lakhs)
1	Imp. to Kund Sarjapur Sukali Lalkhadi Amravati SH-309 Km. 16/00 to 22/00 & Construction of Slab Drain in Km. 16/700 & 18/800 Tq. & Dist. Amravati.	736.37

The tender documents can be downloaded from e-tendering portal of Public Works Department i.e. <http://mahatenders.gov.in> From Dt. 21.10.2022 to 15.11.2022 upto 18.55 Hours.

Tender Opening- Dt. 17.11.2022

- Note:**
- Please note the further changes regarding this work will not be published through corrigendum by press notice. The changes will be available on electronic tendering system of Government of Maharashtra which is available on the Portal <http://mahatenders.gov.in>.
  - The Bidder shall submit the Hard Copy in "Sealed Envelope" of Technical and Financial Bids as specified in NIT after the online submission of Bid ("Bid Lock") within 72 Hrs. i.e. on Dt. 15/11/2022 to 15/11/2022 during office hours. The Bidder Shall Submit his Bid online as per the procedure laid down on the e-Tender Portal. The Bidder shall submit Bid in Hard copy This Hard Copy will be opened only if any problem arises.
  - कंत्राटदरं नी ई-निविदा ऑनलाईनद्वारे भरताना E.M.D. ही ज्या नावाने जसे (वैयक्तिक संस्था/भागीदारी संस्था/केपनी) निविदा भरली आहे त्याच्याच बँक खात्यातून सादर करणे आवश्यक आहे. तसेच E.M.D. भरल्यास ई-निविदा उघडण्यात येणार नाही याची कुप्या दक्षता घेण्यात यावी.
  - प्रमाणित करण्यात येते की, या कार्यक्रमाकडून सादर करण्यात आलेली निविदा सुचना प्रकाशित करण्याकरिता होणाऱ्या खर्चाची त्रुटुद सासन संदेश प्रसार नियमावली-2018 सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग, सासन निर्णय क्र. मावज-2018/प्र.क्र.348/34/दि. 20.12.2018 अन्वये करण्यात आलेली आहे.

Sd/-  
(C.O. Mehatre)  
Executive Engineer  
Public Works Division, Amravati.

3534

NORTHERN RAILWAY Tender Notice	
The Dy. Chief Engineer/Const., Northern Railway, Shakurbasti, Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tender under single Packet System for the under noted work:-	
Name of work and location	Construction of stainless steel Foot over Bridge in lieu of L-xing no. 579-C at km 1512/31-33 and allied works on New Delhi-Palwal section of Northern Railway.
Completion period of the work	06 (six Months)
Approx. cost of work	Rs.295.59 Lacs
Earnest Money amount (to be deposited Online)	Rs.297800.00
Sale/availability of tender document on Railway Web side	Tender documents will be available on IREPS web site i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> from 27.10.2022 to 17.11.2022 upto 11.30 hrs.
Last date/Time of upload of tenders	17.11.2022 upto 11.30 hrs Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS web site w.e.f, 03.11.2022 to 17.11.2022
Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender	17.11.2022 at 11.30 hours (immediately after closed of uploading of tender).
Opening of tender	17.11.2022 at 11.30 hours (immediately after closed of uploading of tender)
Tender Notice No.386-ACS-SSB Dated : 19.10.2022 2805/2022	

## SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Government of Odisha  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER  
CUTTACK (R&B) CIRCLE, CUTTACK  
(e- PROCUREMENT NOTICE)

Bid Identification No. CCE.Ctc.(R&B)13/2022-23.

- The Chief Construction Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Circle, Cuttack on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites on Percentage rate basis bid in double Cover System in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors Road and Building work as mentioned below.
- No. of work :- 6 Nos.
- Nature of work :- Road & Building works.
- Class of Contractor :- 'B', 'A' & Special Class
- Tender Paper Cost :- Rs. 10,000/-(online)
- Available of bid documents :- From 03.11.2022 to 16.00 Hours of 18.11.2022
- Date of opening of bid :- Dt. 19-11-2022 at 11.00 Hours.
- The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website <https://tendersorissa.gov.in> Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said web site.

Sd/- P.K. Pradhan  
Chief Construction Engineer,  
Cuttack(R&B)Circle  
OIPR-340121/11/0015/2223

ZONAL OFFICE, GAYA ZONE  
Railaxmi Complex Opposite Vishal Mega Mart,  
A.P Colony, Gaya-823001, Tel. 0831-220129/700449138  
Email: zo.gaya@bankofindia.co.in  
APPENDIX - IV, Rule 8(1)बैंक ऑफ इंडिया  
Bank of India

## Possession Notice (for Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the BANK OF INDIA under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002 issued a demand notice as detailed in the table hereunder written calling upon the below mentioned borrowers to repay the amount shown in the respective notices mentioned against their names in the table, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers/guarantors mentioned below having failed to repay the amount shown in the respective notices issued u/s 13(2) within the stipulated time, notice is hereby given to the aforementioned borrowers/guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property/ies (Secured Assets) described in the table given below in exercise of powers conferred on me under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on the date(s) mentioned against the respective property.

The aforesaid borrowers/guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies mentioned in the table hereunder written and any dealings with the said property/ies will be subject to the charge of the BANK OF INDIA for the amount shown in the respective column of the table and interest thereon.

Name of Borrower/ Guarantor	I. Branch, II. Date & Amount as per Notice u/s 13(2)	Details of property	Date of Possession of Assets
M/s Hari Om Khadi Bhandar	(i) Mohania Branch (ii) Demand Notice Date: 29.06.2022, ₹ 20,36,077.07 and Interest @ 12.80% p.a. with monthly rests from 22.05.2022	(i) All that part and parcel of the property and building constructed thereon at G.T Road, Mohania, Khata No. 221, Plot No. 1265, Area: 2.5 Decimal by Sale Deed No. 8018 dated 10.07.1991, Bounded:- North: Kewaladar, South: G.T Road, East: Krishna Pratap Singh, West: Niz Mamnoki & Khata No. 221, Plot No. 1265, Area: 1.0 Decimal by Sale Deed No. 8017 Both Belonging to Parmendra Mishra S/o Sri Vijay Shankar Mishra, Village: Mohania, P.S. Mohania, Dist.: Kaimur, Bounded:- North: Rajmati Devi, South: Kewaladar, East: Krishna Pratap Singh, West: Kamla Devi.	15.10.2022

\* With further interest at applicable rate till repayment.

Date: 15.10.2022 Authorized Officer  
Place: Mohania Bank of India

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक  
punjab national bank  
...मरोसे का प्रतीक ! ...the name you can BANK upon !CIRCLE SASTRA, ARA  
1st Floor, Mahuli Kothi, Near Peer Baba More, Ara-802301  
Email- cs8187@pnb.co.in  
POSSESSION NOTICE  
(For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Punjab National Bank, Circle SASTRA Ara, 1st Floor, Mahuli Kothi, Near Peer Baba More, Ara-802301 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under Section 13 read with rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 12.05.2022 calling upon the Borrower M/S Mourya Galla Bhandar, Prop. Sh. Satyendra Singh, S/O Sh. Jagdish Singh, R/O- Vill + PO - Rupsagar, Thana- Nawanagar to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 16,69,497.11 (Rupees Sixteen lakh Sixty Nine Thousand Four Hundred Ninety seven & Paise Eleven only) and interest thereon from 01.05.2022 within 60 days from the date of notice/date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 18th day of October, 2022.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Punjab National Bank of Rs. 14,47,572.07 (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Forty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Two & Paise Seven only) as on 30.09.2022 along with future interest and expenses from 01.10.2022 until payment in full.

The Borrower's/Guarantor's/Mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of subsection (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect to time available to redeem the secured assets.

**Description of Immovable Property**

All that part and parcel of the property situated at: Mauza- Lohai, Thana No-01, Anchal- Piro, Dist- Bhojpur, Ara, Khata No-66, Plot No- 14, Area-03 decimal, Sale Deed No- 2839 dated 13.08.13, Owned/Mortgaged by Sh. Satyendra Singh, S/O Sh. Jagdish Singh, Bounded:- North- Hal Baidar, Anuradha Kumari, South- Nij Manmoki, East- Mudrika Sah & others, West- Rasta.

Date : 18.10.2022 (Authorised Officer)  
Place : Arrah Punjab National Bank

Regional Office :  
Krishna Honda Building,  
Akharaghat Road,  
Muzaffarpur-842001

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of the BANK OF BARODA under the securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the borrower(s)/Guarantor 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 Borrowers/Guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub section (4) of section 13 of the Act with rule 8 of the said rules.

The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the BANK OF BARODA for the amount and further interest there of the contractual rate plus, charge and expenses till date of payment.

The Borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub section (8) of section 13 of the SARFAESI Act 2002, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the Branch/ Name & Address of the Borrower/Guarantors	Description of the Immovable Properties	Demand/ Possession Notice Date	Outstanding Amount
Bank of Baroda, Siwan Branch Borrower :Dr. Bindra Ray, S/o Ram Lakhani Ray, CO-Borrower :Ms. Nirmala Ray, W/o- Bindra Ray, both are at- Mahadeva Nai Nasti, Anchal- Mahadeva, PO- Siwan, PS-Siwan, Dist.- Siwan-841226 Guarantors : Mr. Shrinivash Yadav C/o Mahesh Yadav, at Belavar, Town- Belava, Anchal- Raghunathpur, Dist.- Siwan, Pin-841504.	Immovable property being double storied (G+1) residential building belonging to Mrs. Nirmala Ray, W/o- Dr. Bindra Ray vide Sale Deed No- 2295/2012 situated at Mauza- Chaksamda, Ward No.-10, PS- Siwan, Dist.- Siwan, appertaining to Plot No.- 06, Tauzi No.-1124, Thana No- 248, Khata No.-52, Total Area being 1Katha 07 Dhoor i.e. 4.98 Decimal (As Per Deed). Boundaries :N: Municipality Road, S: Nij, E: Nij Rasta, W: Khesara No.-05.	01-07-2022 / 15-10-2022	Rs. 3,72,751.74/- as on 29.06.2022 together with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus all cost charges & expenses till date payments

Place : Siwan Authorised Officer  
Date : 20.10.2022 Bank Of Baroda

**SBI State Bank of India**  
STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH  
2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna- 800001  
Ph. No. (Office): 0612-2219043, 2219385, Fax: 0612-2219385, E-mail: sbi.05176@sbi.co.in

## SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

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 proviso 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/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic Possession of which have been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" on 29.11.2022 (Tuesday) for recovery of ₹43,65,155.00 (Rupees Forty Three Lac Sixty Five Thousand One Hundred Fifty Five Only) as on 16/05/2022 with further interest, Cost Charges, Other miscellaneous expenses etc. less deposit/recovery made after 16/05/2022, if any, due to the secured creditor from Borrower, M/s Jai Mata Dee Stores, Prop.-Shri Manoj Kumar Singh; Shri Manoj Kumar Singh S/o Shri Ram Vilash Singh & Guarantor: Smt. Manju Devi W/o Shri Manoj Kumar Singh.

Sl. No.	Description of the property (Property ID for e-auction: SBIN88374336098)	Reserve Price
		EMD Amount Bid Increment Amt
1.	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of land, building & structures as per details hereunder: Land & building in the name of Shri Manoj Kumar Singh alias Manoj Singh S/o Shri Ram Vilash Singh vide Sale Deed No.-5191 dated 25/04/2012 located at Mouza-Dhanpurwa, Mohalla-New Area, Thana-Sasaram, Thana No.-137, Nagar Palika-Sasaram, Ward No.-6A(Old/34/27(New), Holding No.-429(Old)/494(New), District-Rohas, Bihar corresponding to S Khata No.-162/MS Khata No.-6, S Plot No.-830 & 836/MS Plot No.-137,138,195, Area-1629 Sq.Ft. Bounded By: North-Gali 5 Feet Kachchi, South-Gali Nala 5 Feet Kachchi Niji, East-Vijay Kumar Singh & West-Ajay Kumar Taitler.	₹50,00,000.00 ₹5,00,000.00 ₹20,000.00

## e-Auction Terms and Condition

1. Date of e-auction: 29.11.2022 (Tuesday), Time: 12:00 Minutes from 12:00 Noon to 02:00 P.M. with unlimited extension of 10 Minutes each.  
2. Website/portal for e-auction: <https://mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/lbapi/index.jsp>.  
3. The General Terms & Conditions are available on- <https://sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices/sarfaesi-and-others>.  
4. Mobile No. for property related inquiry/verification: 9507591883/6200121513.  
This publication is also a 30 days notice to all the borrower/guarantors require under Rule 8(6) of Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002. NB: 30 days Sale Notice to Borrower/Guarantors has already been sent by Regd. Post at their last known address. In case they do not receive the said notice, this E-auction Sale Notice may be treated as substituted mode of service.

Date : 20.10.2022 AUTHORIZED OFFICER  
Place : Patna STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, PATNA

भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान भोपाल  
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Bhopal

## RECRUITMENT NOTICE FOR NON-TEACHING POSITIONS

IISER Bhopal, an Institute of National Importance, established by the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India is committed to foster quality Education and Research.

The Institute is looking for dedicated and committed citizens of India to fill up the following vacancies on Direct Recruitment basis / Deputation with a provision for subsequent absorption/ Composite method of recruitment including promotion of internal regular employees etc.:-

S. No.	Name of the Post(s)	Pay Level	Group	No. of Vacancies					PWD	
				SC	ST	OBC (NCL)	UR	EWS		Total
1	Librarian	14	A	-	-	-	1	-	1	
2	Superintending Engineer	13	A	-	-	-	1	-	1	
3	Deputy Registrar	12	A	-	-	-	1	-	1	2-PwD [Sub-categories: a & b]
4	Executive Engineer (Civil/ Electrical)	11	A	-	-	-	2	-	2	
5	Assistant Registrar	10	A	-	-	2	5	1	8	
6	Sports Officer	10	A	-	-	-	1	-	1	
7	Medical Officer	10	A	-	-	1	-	-	1	
8	Senior Superintendent	7	B	-	-	-	3	-	3	
9	Physical Education Instructor	7	B	-	-	-	1	-	1	
10	Superintendent	6	B	-	-	1	4	-	5	2-PwD [Sub-categories: a & b]
11	Junior Engineer (Civil/Electrical)	6	B	1	-	1	2	-	4	
12	Technical Assistant (Lab)	6	B	-	-	-	2	-	2	
13	Technical Assistant (IT)	6	B	-	-	-	1	-	1	
14	Jr. Library Superintendent	6	B	-	-	-	1	-	1	
15	Office Assistant (MS)	5	C	-	-	-	1	-	1	
16	Jr. Technical Assistant (Lab/IT)	5	C	-	1	-	8	-	9	2-PwD [Sub-categories: b & d]
17	Jr. Office Assistant	4	C	-	-	-	2	-	2	
18	Junior Assistant (MS)	3	C	3	-	3	7	1	14	
19	Lab Assistant	3	C	1	1	1	2	1	6	
20	Attendant (Lab/IT)	1	C	2	-	3	5	1	11	
Total				7	2	12	50	4	75	

For full advertisement with details of qualifications, experience etc. as per Uniform Recruitment Rules of IISERs (Annexure-I) and General Terms and Conditions, Recruitment Methodology (Annexure-II) & submission of application through online mode, please visit Institute's website (Rec



GOLD

₹50,516



RUPEE

₹82.76/₹



OIL

\$88.68



SILVER

₹56,451

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of October 18

SENSEX: 59,202.90 ▲ 95.71 (+0.16%) NIFTY: 17,563.95 ▲ 51.70 (+0.30%) NIKKEI: 27,006.96 ▼ 250.42 HANG SENG: 16,280.22 ▼ 231.06 FTSE: 6,927.39 ▲ 2.04 DAX: 12,687.77 ▼ 53.64

International market data till 1900 IST

WEBSITE WATCH  
CONDUCT IN ROOM LISTINGS'Special treatment':  
Why the CCI fines  
on MakeMyTrip  
Goibibo and OyoSOUFYARENDRA BARIK  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE COMPETITION Commission of India (CCI) has fined online hotel booking sites MakeMyTrip and Goibibo, and IPO-bound budget hotel chain Oyo a total of \$47 million for anti-competitive conduct in hotel room listings. The former two platforms have been fined \$27 million while Oyo has been ordered to pay \$20 million.

The competition watchdog had been investigating the companies since 2019 after a complaint by the Federation of Hotel & Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI) that MakeMyTrip gave "special treatment" to SoftBank-backed Oyo on its platform. It had also complained that a listing agreement between the companies was creating a dominance in the online hotel booking market, and that MakeMyTrip used deep discounting methods.

FHRAI welcomed CCI's decision, and in a statement said, "This is by far one of the biggest wins for the hospitality industry against the dominance of the aggregators. We also see this as a major verdict that will go a long way in disciplining the online travel agents (OTAs) and saving the industry."

## What did the CCI say in its order?

In a redacted order made public on Wednesday, the CCI said that MakeMyTrip and Goibibo will have to fix their "market behaviour". Apart from the monetary penalty, it said, "MMT-Go [MakeMyTrip] is directed to suitably modify its agree-

ments with hotels/chain hotels, to remove/abandon the price and room availability parity obligations imposed by it on its hotel/chain hotel partners with respect to other OTAs". This essentially means that MakeMyTrip cannot force hotels it has partnered with to offer identical or higher prices on other platforms.

"The Commission is of the view that the commercial arrangement between Oyo and MMT-Go which led to the delisting of FabHotels, Trebo and the independent hotels, which were availing the services of these franchisors, was anticompetitive," the CCI said in its order.

## What next?

Oyo and MakeMyTrip are likely to appeal the CCI's order. In a statement, Oyo said, "Most Oyo customers book directly through our app, website and other channels in India. We continue to work with all OTAs as distribution partners. OYO believes that our business practices and conduct comply with all applicable laws and will take all necessary steps to explain our position in the appropriate forums."

MakeMyTrip said it is a "pureplay marketplace" with no supply side leaning. "We are currently reviewing the (publicly available copy of the) CCI order. We anticipate that the order will have a negative impact on the level of competition and growth of the e-commerce market in India. The CCI's order is appealable before the National Company Appellate Tribunal within 60 days. We will determine the future course of action as per advice of our legal counsels," it added.

## WEB-BASED REGISTRATION OF GOODS FOR FASTER CLEARANCE

## Govt now mulls single-window clearance system for exports

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

IN LINE with the existing clearance system for imports, the government is now planning to introduce a single window clearance system for exports. A system is in the works where web-based registration of goods, including from special economic zones, would be allowed to facilitate integration of Customs systems with other regulatory agencies to ensure faster clearances for consignments, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) Chairman Vivek Johri said on Thursday.

"Currently, we still have physical process for registration on exports side... but we are actually working on a system where web-based registration of goods is possible which would mean that there's no need for any broker or exporter to actually travel to a port to submit their documents to cus-



The average release time of export cargo has been halved. File

tomers for initiating processes" "You are familiar with the single window on the import side. We are trying to introduce something similar on the export side. There are export consignments that require regulatory intervention from control agencies, say drug controller, other agencies. We are trying to integrate Customs ICEGATE with these agencies. This will further compress time taken to release export consignments,"

Johri said at CII National Exports Summit. Indian Customs Electronic Gateway (ICEGATE) is the national Customs portal of CBIC that provides e-filing services including electronic filing of the Bill of Entry (import goods declaration), Shipping Bills (export goods declaration), e-payment of Customs Duty, Common Signer utility for signing all the Customs Documents, to trade, cargo carriers and other trading partners electronically. At present, about 43,542 users are registered with ICEGATE who are serving over 12.5 lakh importers/exporters. Customs is also trying to integrate SEZs to the ICES portal.

Johri also said that the average release time, which is measured by the time of arrival of goods to the port and their actual departure, of export cargo has been halved. The Trade Facilitation Action Plan, which ends in 2023, has set a target of average release time of 24 hours and 12 hours for exports

through sea port and airport, respectively. "There is a need for further compression in release time taken by regulatory agencies... The target is quite steep... We are very consciously working on reducing the average release time," Johri said. He also said that 80-85 per cent of the average release time of export cargo is on account of the time taken after Customs clears the consignments.

There is a need to share real time information with exporters, such as the time when the vessel is docking at port for taking the consignment, which will also help cut down on the time to release export consignments, he said. "India has set an ambitious target of reducing the average release time of exporting cargo through sea and air to 24 hrs and 12 hrs respectively. The average release time has been reduced to half of what it used to be, but still a lot of work is still needed to meet the target level," he said.

## Mum-Dubai, Delhi-Dubai top ten busiest routes in 2022: OAG

Mumbai-Dubai and Delhi-Dubai are the top ten routes across the globe in 2022, according to an OAG report



NO.	ROUTE
1	Cairo - Jeddah
2	Dubai - Riyadh
3	New York (JFK) - London (Heathrow)
4	Dubai - London (Heathrow)
5	Kuala Lumpur - Singapore
6	Dubai - Jeddah
7	Orlando - San Juan
8	Mumbai - Dubai
9	Cairo - Riyadh
10	Delhi - Dubai

## At Rs 5,330 cr, Axis Bank Q2 net profit rises by 70%

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

PRIVATESECTOR lender Axis Bank Thursday reported a 70 per cent growth in its standalone net profit at Rs 5,330 crore in the second quarter ended September 2022 compared to Rs 1,526 crore in the year-ago period. ENS

margin (NIM) stood at 3.96 per cent in the reporting quarter. The bank's gross non-performing assets (GNPA) ratio declined to 2.5 per cent from 3.53 per cent and net NPA reduced to 0.51 per cent from 1.08 per cent. Its loan loss provisions for the second quarter dipped 19 per cent to Rs 751 crore from Rs 927 crore in the year-ago period. Net advances grew 18 per cent to Rs 7,30,875 crore.

The bank's managing director

and CEO Amitabh Chaudhry said the transaction is expected to complete by the end of the fourth quarter of fiscal 2023.

In March, Axis Bank said it would acquire Citibank's consumer business for Rs 12,325 crore. "The progress on customer communication, operational readiness and the performance of existing Citibank's consumer business is trending in line with our expectations," he said.

## BRIEFLY

## Union Bank net

Mumbai: State-run Union Bank of India posted a 21 per cent jump in its net profit at Rs 1,848 crore in the second quarter ended September 2022 compared to Rs 1,526 crore in the year-ago period. ENS

## Coal import

New Delhi: Coal minister Pralhad Joshi on Thursday said that the import of dry fuel which has declined considerably will be stopped by 2024. The minister said commercial coal mine auction which was institutionalised by the present government has made the auctioning process totally transparent. PTI

## Hurun 2022 list

New Delhi: Nikhil Kamath, 36, of Zerodha is the youngest philanthropist as per the EdelGive Hurun Indian Philanthropy List 2022, released on Thursday. He and his brother, Nithin Kamath increased their donation to Rs 100 crore - up 300% - this year for different philanthropic causes. ENS

## Export push

New Delhi: There is a huge scope for India to move in the global value chain systems and have high value-addition in global exports, Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said on Thursday. "We can easily aim for doubling our exports and increasing our exports (share) to 10 per cent over a period of time," he said at a CII summit. PTI

## CCI clears 2 pvt equity players' stake purchase in Yes Bank

PRESSTrust OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 20

THE COMPETITION Commission of India (CCI) on Thursday approved the proposed Rs 8,900 crore deal wherein two entities will buy stakes in Yes Bank.

CA Basque Investments, part of the Carlyle Group, and Verventa Holdings, an affiliate of funds managed by Advent International are to acquire 10 per cent stake each in the private sector lender.

The proposed combination involves the acquisition of up to 10 per cent each of the total paid up share capital and voting rights of Yes Bank by CA Basque Investments and Verventa Holdings, according to official releases.

In July, Yes Bank announced raising of equity capital of Rs 8,900 crore from funds affiliated with two private equity investors -- Carlyle and Advent International.

Deals beyond a certain threshold require approval from the regulator, which keeps a tab on unfair business practices in the market place.

## RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LIMITED

Suratgarh Super Critical Thermal Power Project, Suratgarh-335805

## E-TENDER NOTICE

E-tenders are invited for Annual contract for 86(RVU2223WLB01371) Work of complete operation maintenance and housekeeping of automated PLC based coal handling plant, including wagon unloading operation and maintenance of heavy machineries and other equipments, Electrical & C&I works of CHP area and other related works as specified in the scope of work for 2x660 MW Units 92 (RVU2223WSOB01376) Routine, Breakdown Maintenance Works of complete CA System & 93 (RVU2223WSOB01366) Routing, breakdown maintenance work and providing assistance in operation of complete Ash Handling System. Tender details are available on websites <http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in> (for e-tender), [www.energy.rajjasthan.gov.in](http://www.energy.rajjasthan.gov.in) (for e-tender), [www.sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in](http://www.sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in) (for e-tender), [www.sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in](http://www.sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in) Chief Engineer (SIPS-5)

## INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PACKAGING

E 2 MIDC ANDHERI EAST, MUMBAI 400 093

## CANCELLATION OF TENDER

The tender notice No. IIP/HO Mumbai/2022/01 dated 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022 inviting bids for Expression of Interest (EOI) For Project Management Consultant (PMC) to Construct a World-Class Laboratory at the Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP) Mumbai to work on a turnkey basis stands canceled due to administrative reasons. Sd/- Asst. Director Admin

## OSBI

State Bank of India, SB Global IT Centre, IT-RRBs &amp; FO Tech Ops Department, 3rd Floor, Kapas Bhawan, Nirmala Devi Marg, Sector 10, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400614

## Procurement of Support for Infrastructure and Services of Applications of Foreign Offices (FO) of SBI for Period of Three Years

State Bank of India has issued a corrigendum 2 dated 20.10.2022 to the RFP vide Ref No: SBI/GITC/ITFO/2022/887 dated 19.09.2022 for Procurement of Support for Infrastructure and Services of Applications of Foreign Offices (FO) of SBI for period of three years. Kindly visit 'Procurement News' at <https://www.sbi.co.in> and e-Procurement agency portal <https://etender.sbi/sbi/> for detailed corrigendum 2 to the RFP. Deputy General Manager (IT-RRBs & FO Tech Ops) Date: 20.10.2022

## JAIPUR VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

Office of The Superintending Engineer (TW), Old Power House Premises, Near Ram Mandir, Jaipur-302006, TELE FAX NO.0141-2201022 Regd. Office: Vidyut Bhawan, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur 302005

## E-TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are hereby invited in two parts (Techno-commercial bid and Price bid) from eligible bidders for Supply, erection, installation, testing and commissioning of material/equipment for the various activities of DEVELOPMENT/DISTRIBUTION/INFRASTRUCTURE/13 circles of Jaipur Discom of Rajasthan State UNDER REVAMPED REFORMS-BASED AND RESULTS-LINKED/DISTRIBUTION/SCHEMATIC (RDS) on turnkey basis against TN-525 to 537. Participating bidders can download complete set of bidding documents from e-procurement portal <http://www.eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in> from 21.10.2022 (3:00 PM) onwards. Last Date/Time for receipt of online bids through e-procurement portal is 21.11.2022 up to 05:00 PM. For further details regarding Works, Tender Notifications & Specifications please visit website <http://www.eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://www.sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in> & <http://energy.rajjasthan.gov.in> UBN: VVN2223WLB00459, VVN2223WLB00460, VVN2223WLB00461, VVN2223WLB00462, VVN2223WLB00463, VVN2223WLB00464, VVN2223WLB00465, VVN2223WLB00466, VVN2223WLB00467, VVN2223WLB00468, VVN2223WLB00469, VVN2223WLB00470, VVN2223WLB00471

JPR 2755 (2022) SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (TW) Raj.samwad/C/22/9467 For Electricity Complaints Toll Free No. 1800 180 6507

## राजस्थान सरकार

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता (या) इन्दिरा गांधी नहर परियोजना बीकानेर

क्रमांक:- 1070 दिनांक :- 14/10/2022

निविदा सूचना संख्या ACE (M) / 03 वर्ष 2022-23 निम्न हस्ताक्षरित द्वारा राजस्थान के राजस्थान को और से लिफ्ट नहरों के पंपिंग स्टेशनों पर Replacement and fixing of trash racks at various PS के कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त सूचना, नियम व शर्तें सूचना एवं जन समर्थक विभाग राजस्थान, जयपुर को वेबसाइट [www.eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in](http://www.eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in) तथा [www.sppp.raj.nic.in](http://www.sppp.raj.nic.in) पर दिनांक 14/10/2022 को सवेरा 6 बजे से देखा जा सकता है। NIB Code: IGB2223A0109 UBN No.-IGB2223WSOB00651

हस्ता.- अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता (या) इन्दिरा गांधी नहर परियोजना, बीकानेर MOB-9079893570, 8306500325

DIPR/C/3439/2022

## Malegaon Municipal Corporation, Malegaon

Public Work Department

Tender Notice No.16/2022-23 (Retender, Third Call)

The Administrator and Commissioner, Malegaon Municipal Corporation Invites Online Tender In B-1 Format, For the Proposed work for Mosam River Development, Restoration and Beautification for Malegaon Municipal Corporation under the "State River Conservation Scheme" ("राज नदी संवर्धन योजना अंतर्गत") For Malegaon Dist Nashik in the state of Maharashtra. Cost of tender Rs.13,14,34,230/- and for all relevant information that is scope of work, time table will be made available on website <http://www.mahatenders.gov.in> from 21/10/2022 to 11/11/2022 for detailed information.

Administrator and Commissioner Malegaon Municipal Corporation

## SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PHED

CIRCLE NCR ALWAR

PHED CAMPUS, MANU MARG ALWAR (RAJ.) E-Mail- [sencr.alw.phed@rajasthan.gov.in](mailto:sencr.alw.phed@rajasthan.gov.in)

No- 3522-3540 Date- 10/10/2022

## NOTICE INVITING BID (NIT No. 302-323/2022-23)

Bids for Works of Construction of Source, PLI of Rising Main & Distribution Pipe Line with FHTC, Construction of Reservoir for Various villages under Rural Div. I NCR Alwar are invited from interested bidders upto 05:00 PM on Date 17.11.2022. Other particulars of the Bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state and (<https://phedwater.rajjasthan.gov.in> departmental website.

UBN: PHE2223WSOB08152, PHE2223WSOB08153, PHE2223WSOB08154, PHE2223WSOB08155, PHE2223WSOB08156, PHE2223WSOB08157, PHE2223WSOB08158, PHE2223WSOB08159, PHE2223WSOB08160, PHE2223WSOB08161, PHE2223WSOB08162, PHE2223WSOB08163, PHE2223WSOB08164, PHE2223WSOB08165, PHE2223WSOB08166, PHE2223WSOB08167, PHE2223WSOB08168, PHE2223WSOB08169, PHE2223WSOB08170, PHE2223WSOB08171, PHE2223WSOB08172, PHE2223WSOB08173

DIPR/C/13442/2022 Superintending Engineer

## Rupee recovers on RBI intervention

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

THE INDIAN rupee on Thursday recovered on suspected Reserve Bank intervention after hitting a record low of 83.29 against the dollar during the day's session.

The rupee pared all its losses to end at 82.75, registering a gain of 27 paise over its previous close. The central bank reportedly sold around \$one billion via state-run banks after worries over surging US Treasury yields pushed the currency to a record low.

The rupee opened weak at 83.05 against the greenback but later lost ground to quote at 83.29. It also touched an intraday high of 82.72. In the previous session, the rupee had settled at an all-time low of 83.02 against the dollar.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, slipped 0.17 per cent to 112.79. On Wednesday, US yields surged on disappointing response to a 20-year bond auction. Yields have spiked 13-14 bps across the curve with 2y at 4.57

per cent and 10-year at 4.14 per cent, both multi-year highs.

Kaustubh Chaubal, Senior Vice President, Moody's Investors Service, said, "The negative credit implications of the Indian rupee's depreciation will be limited for Moody's-rated companies in India. Nearly half of 23 rated companies have natural hedges against rupee weakness, while another four have global operations that enable them to match foreign-currency debt service with foreign-currency cash flows, often at the subsidiary level."

"The remaining companies use financial hedges to manage their exposure to US dollar debt costs, have low exposure to rising US dollar debt costs, or have a combination of these factors to help limit the strain on cash flow and leverage," Chaubal said.

Higher than expected inflation data in the UK and Eurozone reaffirmed fears that Central Banks will maintain their aggressive stance. Weaker than expected employment gains in Australia also showed the impact of aggressive monetary policy tightening.

## Sebi allows brokers registered under debt segment to deal in Request for Quote platform

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 20

MARKET REGULATOR SEBI has allowed stock brokers registered under the debt segment of the stock exchanges to place or seek bids on the Request for Quote (RFQ) platform on behalf of clients.

This is in addition to the existing option of placing bids in a proprietary capacity, the regulator said. The new norm that will come into effect from January 1, 2023 is expected to result in enhanced participation by the public at large

## The move is in addition to the existing option of placing bids in a proprietary capacity

as well as in the deepening of the secondary market in corporate bonds. RFQ is an electronic platform that enables multilateral negotiations to take place on a centralized online trading platform with straight through processing of clearing and settlement to complete trades. In February 2020, pur-

suant to approvals from the SEBI, both National Stock Exchange and BSE launched RFQ platforms as an extension of their existing trade execution and settlement platforms. This is aimed at bringing in transparency in over the counter deals in corporate bonds, which were negotiated bilaterally.

According to the SEBI, the platform provides participants a range of options to seek a quote and to respond to a quote, while keeping an audit trail of all interactions i.e. quoted yield, mutually agreed price, deal terms etc. The quotes are bilaterally negotiated between

the counterparties. "Presently, the RFQ platform runs as a 'participant-based' model wherein all regulated entities, listed corporate bodies, institutional investors and all India financial institutions are eligible to register, access and transact," the regulator said.

In order to enhance liquidity on the RFQ platforms of the stock exchanges, SEBI has mandated registered mutual funds and portfolio management services to undertake a specified percentage of their total secondary market trades in corporate bonds through RFQ platform of stock exchanges.

## कार्यालय नगरपालिका मण्डल नावां

जिला नागौर (राजस्थान)

टेलीफोन :- 01586-263157, ई-मेल :- [npnawa@gmail.com](mailto:npnawa@gmail.com)

क्रमांक :- न.पा.नावां/निर्माण/2022-23/936 दिनांक :- 14.10.2022

## ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या (02/2022-23)

नगरपालिका नावां (नागौर) द्वारा नगर निकाय नावां एवं राजस्थान सरकार के समुचित वर्ग के सूचीबद्ध ठेकेदारों/संवेदकों एवं केन्द्रीय सरकार/राज्य सरकार व उनके अधिकृत संगठनों में पंजीकृत संवेदकों जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के विभिन्न उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, उनके निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन-लाइन निविदा दिनांक 17.10.2022 को प्रातः 9 बजे से दिनांक 26.10.2022 को सायं 6 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा दस्तावेज एवं डिमांड ड्राफ्ट दिनांक 27.10.2022 को मध्यरात 12:00 बजे तक नगरपालिका कार्यालय में जमा करवाने होंगे व निविदा खोलने की दिनांक 01.11.2022 करे सायं 4:00 बजे तक खोली जावेगी। निविदा फार्म एवं ई-निविदा से संबंधित विवरण व शर्तें वेबसाइट <http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in> एवं कार्यालय समय में उपलब्ध है। NIB Code :- DLB2223A5738 UBN CODE NO. DLB2223WSOB18510, 514, 517, 521, 523, 524, 525, 527, 528, 530, 532, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 554, 555, 556, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 78

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
e-Procurement Notice  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER**  
CENTRAL MINOR IRRIGATION CIRCLE: BHUBANESWAR  
A-635  
Phone/Fax (0674)2540559 cmic.bbsr@gmail.com  
No. 2159 Dt. 14.10.2022  
e-Procurement Notice  
**BID ID. NO.SECMIC-02/2022-23.**

1. Name of the Work	Construction of Kaliamba MIP(Res.) in Nuagoun Block of Nayagarh District under completion of incomplete project for the year 2022-23
2. No. of Works	: 01 No.
3. Estimated Cost	: Approximately 229 Lakh
4. Class of Contractor	: A & B
5. Period of Completion	: 11(Eleven) Calendar Months.
6. Date and Time of Availability of Bid Document and Receipt of Bid Cost on online Payment mode in Portal	From 25.10.2022 (10.00 A.M.) to 09.11.2022 (05.00PM) in Website (www.tendersodisha.gov.in)
7. Last Date/Time for receipt of Bids in the Portal	: 09.11.2022 (Upto 05.00P.M.) through online only.
8. Date of Opening of Technical Bid	: 11.00Am Onwards on 10.11.2022 in the O/o-SE, Central M.I. Circle, Bhubaneswar
9. Name and Address of OIT	: Superintending Engineer, Central M.I. Circle, Bhubaneswar Plot No.-A-8/2, Po: Bhoingar, Bhubaneswar PIN: 751022 Dist: Khurda. Ph: 0674-2540559

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement market place <http://tendersodisha.gov.in>

Sd/-  
Superintending Engineer  
Central M.I. Circle, Bhubaneswar  
OIPR-32047/11/0002/2223

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**Tender Notice**  
**Invitation of tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)**

N.I.T. No.	24 (A,B,C,D,E)22-23/WE
Name of work with its location	(A) Repair to leaky Roofs, Renovation of kitchen lav and bathroom, Verandah Sheet Sheds, steel gates and other allied works in Centre Plaza E1 To E21 and Babar Road 115 To 129 in the S/O SSE/W/MNTB under ADEN/E-II
	(B) Repair to floor, courtyard, balcony, safety doors, windows, kitchen, bathroom & toilet at PK Road under SSE/W/PG under ADEN-E-I.
	(C) Improvement to Toilet, Kitchen, Water Supply, Drainage System and other Misc. works in DKZ II Colony in the S/O ADEN/E-IV
	(D) Provision of Improvement to sewer system and leaky roofs, Down pipes and other misc works in TKJ Railway colony in the s/o SSE/W/BH under ADEN/E-III
	(E) Provision of Improvement of drainage system in TKJ Railway colony in the s/o SSE/W/BH under ADEN/E-III
Approx cost of work (A)	8696601.27 (B) 7231263.46 (C) 7231286.46
(D)	8677526.07 (E) 8677394.05
EMD amount (A)	173900.00 (B) 144600.00 (C) 144600.00
(D)	173600.00 (E) 173600.00
Completion (A)	08 Months (B) 06 Months (C) 06 Months
period of work (D)	06 Months (E) 06 Months
Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Closing date of tender on 15.11.2022 at 15:00 hrs.
Website particular notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.	Above tender available on website i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>
128-W/269/OET/22-23/WE/NIT/24(A,B,C,D,E) Dated : 19.10.2022	2814/2022

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation Limited (KUIDFC)**  
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)  
Nagarabhivruddhi Bhavan, # 22, 17<sup>th</sup> F Cross, Old Madras Road, Indiranagar 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage, Near BMTCS Bus Depot, Bengaluru-560 038  
Website: [www.kuidfc.com](http://www.kuidfc.com) e-Mail: [info@kuidfc.com](mailto:info@kuidfc.com)  
No.In-KUIDFC-316226-CS-QCBS Date: 20.10.2022

**Selection of Consulting Services for Providing the Consultancy Services for the Mid Term Review in Three cities Hubballi-Dharwad, Belagavi and Kalaburagi in Karnataka State under the Karnataka Urban Water Supply Modernization Project (KUWSMP).**

KUIDFC is implementing 24x7 Continuous Pressurized Water Supply Scheme under World Bank assisted "Karnataka Urban Water Supply Modernization Project" (KUWSMP) in the cities of (i) Belagavi (ii) Kalaburagi and (iii) Hubballi-Dharwad. KUIDFC intends to procure below mentioned consultancy services: Name of the Assignment: **Selection of Consulting Services for Providing the Consultancy Services for the Mid Term Review in Three cities Hubballi-Dharwad, Belagavi and Kalaburagi in Karnataka State under the Karnataka Urban Water Supply Modernization Project (KUWSMP).** Mode of Applying: **Through e-Portal <http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>** Last date & time for Submission: **16.00 Hrs on 14.11.2022.** Interested Agencies may apply online as per details available. Details and other information on the proposed assignment is available on the Karnataka e-Procurement Portal <http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> from 20.10.2022. For any clarifications, the Task Manager (KUWSMP), KUIDFC may be contacted. Telephone: +91 080 25196124; Email: [info@kuidfc.com](mailto:info@kuidfc.com).

Sd/- Task Manager, KUWSMP, KUIDFC

**New Okhla Industrial Development Authority**  
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida-201301 (U.P.)  
Website : [www.noidaauthorityonline.in](http://www.noidaauthorityonline.in)

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

E-Tenders are invited from firms/contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened / downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: [www.noidaauthorityonline.com](http://www.noidaauthorityonline.com) & <https://tender.up.nic.in> Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

- 22/SM(Jal)-II/ET/2022-23, Name of work: M/o W/s (Maintenance of Water Line Network at Sector-28, 29, 37, 75, 79, 99 & 100) Noida (For Two Year). Cost-Rs. 95.02 Lacs.
- 30/SM(Jal)-II/ET/2022-23, Name of work: M/o Sewerage (Searching, Raising, Cleaning of Sewer Manholes, P/F Manhole Cover Frames and P/L of Damaged Sewer Line at Network Sector- 32, 32A, 33, 34, 35, Village- Morna and Cleaning of S.P.S Well-10/33). (For Two Year) Cost-Rs. 54.91 Lacs.
- 35/SM(Jal)-II/ET/2022-23, Name of work: Maintenance and Development of Village (Replacement of old choked sewer line in Sh. Bhajanlal wali Gali, Puneet Ata Chakki wali gali, Chouhan ki choupal, near DSR school, near Nobel Co-operative bank and P/L water line in Sh. Pramod wali gali in village Chaura, Sadatpur and Raghunathpur) Noida Cost-Rs. 44.15 Lacs.
- 38/SM(Jal)-II/ET/2022-23, Name of work: M/o W/s (Maintenance of Water Line Network at Sector-52, 53, 61, Village- Gijhore, Momnathal, Bandauli) Noida (For Two Years) Cost-Rs. 95.60 Lacs.
- 17/SM(Jal)-II/ET/2022-23, Name of work: M/o W/s (R/o V.T./Submersible motor, Transformer and other electrical allied work on UGR/TWRs in Sec-52, 53, 61 & Gijhore) Noida (For Two Year) Cost-Rs. 37.31 Lacs.
- 19/SM(Jal)-II/ET/2022-23, Name of work: M/o W/s (Cleaning of OHT, UGR for Two year in Sector-20, 25, 37, 38, 52, 53, 75, 100 & Village- Gijhore) Noida Cost-Rs. 71.03 Lacs.
- 16/PGM/OA/SM(JAL-OA)/2022-23, Name of work: O/M of sewer line and MSPS/IPS at Expressway (Cleaning and removal of existing Desilting/Debris/Silt/rubbish/Bio mass/ Grit and Sediment Material from Open Inlet Chamber and well upto Bottom Invert Level IPS-4, Sec-44 and IPS-3, Sec- 93A at Noida Gr. Noida Expressway) Noida, Cost- Rs. 34.04 Lacs.

Which can be uploaded by date 27.10.2022 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 28.10.2022 at 11.00 AM.  
Office : Sector-5, Noida Dy. General Manager(Jal), Noida

**CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA**

**M.P. STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD**  
26, Kisan Bhawan, First Floor, Arera Hills, Bhopal-462011  
Website : [www.mpsbb.nic.in](http://www.mpsbb.nic.in), Email : [mpsbb@mp.gov.in](mailto:mpsbb@mp.gov.in)  
Phone No. : 0755 - 2554549 / 2554539  
No. MPSBB/(C&D)/RFP/2022/3518 Bhopal, Dtd. : 19.10.2022

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**

Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (MPSBB) invites Request for Proposal (RFP) for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the establishment of "Biodiversity Park at Shahpura, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh". The detailed information is available on e-tender portal [www.mptenders.gov.in](http://www.mptenders.gov.in) and MPSBB website [www.mpsbb.nic.in](http://www.mpsbb.nic.in).

M.P. Madhyam/106951/2022 MEMBER SECRETARY

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Name of work and its location:-	30-Elect-45-T-2022-23-E3 Electrical work in connection with renovation of 3rd floor D-wing (room no. 301 to 313) & A-wing (room no. 346 to 375) Including corridor at Rall Bhawan.
Approx cost of the works in:-	Rs. 214.72 lacs
Address of the office :-	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delh.
Bid Security :-	Rs. 257400.00
Date & time of submission of tender :-	14.11.2022, 12.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender :-	14.11.2022, 12.00 Hrs.
Website & notice board :-	<a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

2811/2022

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, WATER RESOURCES CIRCLE BARAN**  
क्रमांक: F/SEWR/Circle/ NIT-3/2022-23/1503 दिनांक:-29.09.2022  
**E-NIT No.-03/2022-23**

Bids for "1-Construction of anicut across Anta Siswali Khadi near village Mandpur Tehsil Anta District-Baran (Rs. 258.06 lac) and 2-Renovation and Strengthening of Sorkhand Kalan Talab near village Sorkhand Kalan Tehsil Anta District Baran (Rs. 247.88 lac) are invited from interested bidders (registered in appropriate class) from 30.09.2022 (9:30 AM) to 20.10.2022 till 18:00 Hr. Other particulars, terms & conditions may be seen on the procurement portal [eproc.rajasthan.gov.in](http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in), [sppp.rajasthan.nic.in](http://sppp.rajasthan.nic.in), [dipronline.rajasthan.gov.in](http://dipronline.rajasthan.gov.in) and [www.water.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.water.rajasthan.gov.in).

NIB No. : WRD2223AO386  
UBN NO: (1) WRD2223WSOBO1420  
(2) WRD2223WSOBO1421

Sd/-  
(Hemant Sharma)  
Superintending Engineer,  
Water Resources Circle Baran

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**TENDER NOTICE**

The Dy.Chief Engineer/TMC/Line, S.E.Road, New Delhi, for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender under Single Packet System for the under noted work:-

1 Name of work and Location	Overhauling of Tamping Bank of 09-3X (Tamping Express) Machine Qly-01 Set (04 Units) under Dy.CE/TMC/Line, Northern Railway .
2 Completion period of the work	135 Days
3 Approx. Cost of Work	Rs. 1,15,45,000/-
4 Cost of Tender Document	Nil
5 Earnest Money Amount (to be deposited online)	Rs. 2,30,900.00
6 Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender	Tender bid may be uploaded upto 15.00 hrs. on 18.11.2022 on IREPS website i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> The bidders can participate in the e-tender, the tender will be opened soon after 15.00 hrs. on 18.11.2022.
7 Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document:	The detailed e-tender notice and tender document is available on Railway website i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> Above tenders document will be available for submission of offer on IREPS website i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> from 04.11.2022 to 18.11.2022. The bidders who desire to participate against e-tenders, are advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which, they would require to, obtain class III digital certificate (if already not obtained) issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of the above office.

Tender Notice No.- 1-W-DyCETMCL-TU-09-3X-07-22-23 Date. 20.10.2022 2809/22

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**ODISHA STATE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING BOARD**  
Plot No.1800 (P), Baramunda, Post-Khandagiri, Near Indian Oil Petrol Pump Bhubaneswar Ph. No.0674-2952416, Fax: 0674-2952410, Email: [osamboard99@yahoo.com](mailto:osamboard99@yahoo.com), Website: [osamboard.org](http://osamboard.org)  
CAD-2237

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

No. 03 Dated.20.10.2022

Expression of Interest (Eoi) in sealed covers are invited for "Empanelment of Agencies for Establishment and Management of Integrated Pack Houses". The detailed terms and conditions can be obtained from <https://coop.odisha.gov.in> from 21.10.2022 to 07.11.2022. The cost of the Eoi document is Rs.10,000.00+ 18% GST. The Eoi Documents / Tender Papers can be downloaded from the website as mentioned above. The applications duly filled in the appropriate format along with the Demand Draft for Rs.10,000.00+ 18% GST drawn in favour of the OSAM Board, Bhubaneswar and payable at any Nationalized Bank in Bhubaneswar should reach the Office of the undersigned on or before 3.00 PM of 07.11.2022. The Eoi Documents / Tender Papers can be submitted by Registered Post / through Courier or in person. Bids received after the due time will be rejected. The cost of the bid documents is non refundable.

The bid documents will be opened on 09.11.2022 at 11:00 AM in presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd  
General Manager  
OSAM Board, Bhubaneswar  
OIPR-01444/11/0015/2223

**GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
**DRINKING WATER & SANITATION DIVISION, JAMTARA.**

**e-Procurement Notice**

Tender no- DWSD/EE/JAMTARA - 11/DWSD/JMT/2022-23 Dated 18/10/2022

1 Name of the Work	केन्द्र प्रायोजित योजना "जल जीवन मिशन" के अन्तर्गत :- Details survey , designing and drawing, Construction of R.C.C. Intake Well cum Pump House ,R.C.C. Gangway, Unconventional water Treatment Plant, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir, Staff Quarter, Compound wall , 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 and Five Year Operation & Maintenance with allied works etc . All Complete job for Dalabar and Mahesh Munda Panchayat Adjoining villages Rural pipe Water Supply Scheme under D.W. & S. Division Jamtara on Turnkey basis.
2 Estimated Cost	Rs. 23,94,22,500.00 (Rs Twenty Three Crore Ninety Four Lakh Twenty Two Thousand Five Hundred ) only
3 Earnest Money	Rs. 23,95,000.00 (Rs Twenty Three Lakh Ninety Five thousand ) only.
4 Cost of BOQ	Rs. 10,000.00 ( Rs Ten thousand ) only
5 Time of Completion	18 Month + 3 Month( Trial and Run )
6 Date of publication of Tender on Website	07.11.2022 up to 4.00 P.M.
7 Date , Time and Place of Pre Bid meeting	16.11.2022 up to 12.30 P.M. at the office of Engineer in chief , D.W. & S. Department , Nepal house , Ranchi.
8 Last date /Time for receipt of Bid	29.11.2022 up to 4.00 P.M.
9 Last date for receipt of EMD & cost of BOQ.	30.11.2022 up to 1.30 P.M.
10 Date of opening of Tender	30.11.2022 up to 4.00 P.M.
11 Name & address of office inviting tender	Executive Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Jamtara..
12 Name and Address of Opening Officer	Executive Engineer Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Jamtara.
13 Contact no of Procurement office	Sunil Bakhta 8084325805
14 Helpline no of e-procurement cell	0651-2480345

Further details can be seen on website.

नोट:- प्राकृतिक राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है। परिमाण-विषय में अंकित प्राकृतिक राशि के आधार पर परिमाण विषय का मूल्य एवं अग्रघन की राशि देव होगी।

Executive Engineer  
Drinking Water & Sanitation Division  
Jamtara

PR 280516 Drinking Water and Sanitation (22-23)\_D

**The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport Undertaking**  
(OF THE BRIHANMUMBAI MAHANAGRALIKA)

**TENDER NOTICE**

**E-tender is invited for the supply of following item.**  
(1) Policy for licensing of spaces for installation of Telecom Towers / Masts is available on BEST Undertaking's Website.

**RE-INVITED E-TENDERS**  
(2) 73747, (3) 74604, (4) 74802.

Note : For more details, log on to website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>  
PRO/AAM(M)/114/2022 GENERAL MANAGER

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Name of work and its location:-	30-Elect-27-T-R1-22-23-E3 Comprehensive annual maintenance contract (CAMC) of 04 nos. Escalators of Autometer make installed at FOB-2 Ajmer Gate side & Paharganj side at New Delhi Railway station for three years.
Approx. cost of the works in:-	Rs. 41.97 lacs
Address of the office:-	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delh.
Bid Security:-	Rs. 84000.00
Date & time of submission of tender:-	14.11.2022, 12.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender:-	14.11.2022, 12.00 Hrs.
Website & notice board:-	<a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi

2813/2022

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**OPEN-E-TENDER NOTICE**

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work.

1 Name of work	Annual Zone for maintenance of Track work in the section of SSE/Pway/SSB under ADEN/DLI.
2 Approx cost of work	Rs. 1,10,01,606.45/- (Rupees One Crore Ten Lakh One Thousand Six Hundred Six & Forty Five paise Only)
3 Earnest Money to be deposited	Rs. 2,05,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh Five Thousand Only)
4 Cost of tender document	Rs. 0.00/-
5 Date & Time of submission of tender bld and opening of tender	15.11.2022 @ 15:00 Hrs.
6 Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	<a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>

The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for participating in the e-tender system. For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. No manual offers are acceptable. Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only. No. No. 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/NIT/4/2022-23/W-3 Dated:-18.10.2022 2808/2022

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**e-Procurement Cell**  
**BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT,**  
**JHARKHAND, RANCHI**  
**e-Procurement Notice**

**e-Tender Reference No.-BCD/Ranchi-1/09/2022-23 Date-20-10-2022**

1 Name of Work	Proposed Construction of Guest House at Rajbhawan Campus, Ranchi.
2 Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Rs. 17,92,03,216/- (Rupees Seventeen Crore Ninety Two Lacs Three Thousand Two Hundred Sixteen ) only.
3 Time of Completion	12(Twelve) Months
4 Date of Publication of Tender on Website	04-11-2022 at 11:00 A.M.
5 Last Date/Time of Submission of Bids	23-11-2022 upto 5:00 P.M.
6 Last Date/Time of Submission of Bid Security Money and Tender Fee	25-11-2022 upto 11:30 A.M.
7 Date/Time of opening of Bid	04-11-2022 at 12:00 P.M.
8 Name & Address of office inviting tender	e-Procurement Cell , Building construction department , Jharkhand, Ranchi-834004
9 Contact no. of Procurement officer	0651-2446166
10 Helpline Number of e procurement Cell	0651-2446166

Any Change can be seen on <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>  
Any other information can be seen on <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

Nodal Officer e-Procurement Cell  
Building Construction Department,  
Jharkhand, Ranchi.

PR 280509 Building (22-23)D

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA**  
**DIRECTORATE OF BORDER AREAS DEVELOPMENT**  
**MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG.**  
NOBRD/D/123/2022/85, Dated Shillong the 19th October, 2022.

**NOTICE**

The Director, Border Areas Development, on behalf of the Governor of Meghalaya invite Bids for the 4 (four) nos. of Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) of the World Bank assisted Meghalaya Integrated Transport Project (MITP). The list of works can be seen in the website of the Border Areas Development <https://megbad.gov.in>. Interested bidders may download the bidding document from 20th October, 2022 and participate in the bidding process on website <https://meghalayatenders.gov.in> under Organisation Meghalaya Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation (MIDFC)-World Bank Tenders. For any clarification may also contact the authority mentioned below during office hours.

(V.R. Syiem)  
Director  
Border Areas Development,  
Meghalaya, Shillong.  
M.I.P.R. No.-1167  
Dt 20/10/22  
E-mail: [dir-bad-meg@nic.in](mailto:dir-bad-meg@nic.in)

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE NO. 22/72 DT. 18.10.2022**

On behalf of the President of India, The Principal Chief Materials Manager, North Central Railway, Prayagraj, (An ISO 9001:2015 certified unit) invites the following E-Procurement Tenders.

SN	Tender No.	Short Description	Qty.
1	40223188(e-RA)	SET OF 120 AH VRLA BATTERIES	355 Set.
2	20223660	SET OF ROTOR STAMPING FOR ZIRCONIUM TYPE SHAFT MOUNTED DESIGN ROTOR	20 SET
3	20221375B	SAFETY EARTHING SWITCH [HOM]	05 NOS
4	30222624B	ARTICULATED LOCK ASSEMBLY	2500 Nos.
5	30222716A	SPRING KIT FOR KEO TYPE DISTRIBUTOR VALVE	4500 Set.
6	30222425B	BUFFER PLUNGER	295 Nos
7	30222452C	SOLE BAR	410 Nos.
8	40223138A	LED Light Fitting for Entrance doorway	2200 Set

**Tender Opening Date : SI No. 1 Dt. : 14.11.2022, SI No. 2 & 4 Dt. : 09.11.2022 SI No.3 Dt. : 07.11.2022, SI No. 5 to 7 Dt. : 16.11.2022 & SI No.8 Dt. : 10.11.2022**

Note: The complete information of above tenders can be seen and downloaded from IREPS website i.e. <https://www.ireps.gov.in> 1427/22 (AN)

North central railways [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in) @CPRONCR @northcentralrailway

**LONAVLA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**  
**e-Tender Notice for 2022-2023**

Lonavla Municipal Council, Lonavla, Tal. Maval, Dist. Pune invites e-Tender for the work in Water Supply Department with Tender Notice LMC-7/e-Tender Notice No. 3/2022-23/2012, Dated 20/10/2022 in State of Maharashtra.

Please visit website [www.mahatender.gov.in](http://www.mahatender.gov.in) (Tender by Location- Lonavla) for the more details published on Date 21/10/2022.

Sd/-  
Yashwant Munde  
Engineer  
Water Supply  
Department

Sd/-  
Pandit Patil  
Chief Officer and  
Administrator  
Lonavla Municipal  
Corporation

**WESTERN RAILWAY**  
**E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE NO.S/33/2022**  
**DATE 20.10.2022**

	Short Description of Items	Quantity	T.O.D.
529	Complete Assembly of Swing Door	400 set	31-Oct-22
530	T 524 F, Application for Reservation Form, Size-8.5 X 12 inches / A-4 Size	8005200 Nos	02-Nov-22
531	Flex Ball Cable	55 Nos	02-Nov-22
532	K Type Non Asbestos Composite Brake Block	28030 Nos	03-Nov-22
533	Drug Eluting Coronary Stent System-Cobalt Chromium Alloy With Sirolimus All Sizes	125 Nos	07-Nov-22
534	Kit for Speed Sensor	298 Nos.	08-Nov-22
535	Bounded Rubber Sandwich Mounting	1266 Nos	08-Nov-22
536	Modified Elastomeric Pad for Casnub Bogies	24080 Nos	08-Nov-22
537	6 Yearly Maintenance Kit For W.W.Govern	202 Set	09-Nov-22
538	Manual Metal Arc.	232176 Mtr	11-Nov-22
539	Industrial Compressed Oxygen Gas	121496 Cum	17-Nov-22
540	Leather Duct Air Bellows Assembly-Flexible For Traction Motor Air Duct to DLW pt No. 17452260	105 Nos	18-Nov-22

Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) and [www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in).

For Principal Chief Materials Manager

Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly) Follow us on: [twitter.com/WesternRly](https://twitter.com/WesternRly)

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, P.W.D. (ROADS)**  
**ONGSTOIN DIVISION, ONGSTOIN**  
Email: [eepwongstoin@yahoo.in](mailto:eepwongstoin@yahoo.in)  
Dated Nongstoin, the 20th October 2022

No. ND/PW/CERC/2880

**TENDER NOTICE**

The Executive Engineer, PWD (Roads), Nongstoin Division, Nongstoin, Meghalaya on behalf of the Governor of Meghalaya, re-invite Bids for to be implemented under Meghalaya Integrated Transport Project (MITP) funded by the World Bank. The list of works are as follows:-

Sl. No	Name of Work	Tender Value
1	FDR to Nongdaju-Darrang Road for the year 2022-23 (Permanent restoration- Construction of Retaining wall 4th km) under CERC- World Bank funding. Location- At 4th km	₹ 1,150,000.00
2	FDR to Nongstoin to Sangriang Road for the year 2022-23. Permanent restoration work including construction of Retaining wall to protect the washaway D/S side slopes of the road under CERC- World Bank funding. Location-At 2nd km	₹ 5,00,000.00

Interested bidders may download the bidding document and participate in the bidding process on website <https://www.meghalayatenders.gov.in> under organization Meghalaya Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation- World Bank Tenders.

For any clarification may also contact the authority during office hours.

Sd/-  
M.I.P.R. No.-1166  
Dt 20/10/22  
Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (Roads)  
Nongstoin Division, Nongstoin

**झारखण्ड सरकार**

## Classifieds

### PERSONAL

**I,nikhil Sharma,s/o sh.Ashwani Sharma,R/o-133,ground-floor,gali.no.10,garhwalli mohalla,Laxmi-nagar-East-delhi-110092,declare that my father name Ashwani Sharma and Ashwani Kumar both name are the same-person.**

**I,Vedparkash S/o Ramesh SinghR/o Ratanthal (180)Rewari,Rattanthal -123301 (haryana),have changed my name to Ved Parkash,for all Purposes.**

**I,VANDANA GUPTA/VANDANA DEVI, W/O.SHASHI RANJAN,ADD-A-4 PANDAV NAGAR,PATPARGANJ,DELHI-110092.Changed my name to VANDANA,for all future Purposes.**

**I,Taranjeet Singh Makkar, R/o,108, Gujranwala Town,Part -2,Delhi-110009,inform that my minor daughter Preena Makkar & Preena Kaur Makkar is one and the same person.**

**I,Tara Dutt S/O-Ram Chandher Joshi,R/O C-124,Shiv Durgavihar,Lakkarpur,Suraj Kund,Faridabad,Haryana-121009,have changed my name to Tara Dutt Joshi,for all future purpose.**

**I,Sudheer Kumar Sharma, S/o Narendra Kumar Sharma,R/O C-223, Gama-I, Greater Noida, Rampur Majra, Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P.,have changed my name to Sudhir Kumar Sharma.**

**I,Service No 15148896L Rank Hav (GNR) Maan Singh unit of 60 Medium Regiment C/o 56 APO have changed my son's name from Aniket to Aniket Singh vide affidavit no. BF909120 dated19-10-2022 Before Notary Public Suratgarh (Raj.)**

**I,Sarojani D/o Govind Singh W/o Kamal Singh Rawat R/o,H.No.48/2, I.P.Colony, Gali-No.2, Part-1,Burari, Delhi-110084,have changed my name to Saroj Rawat.**

**I,Sania,D/o-Jai prakash,R/o-J-38,Chanakya place,Part-1,New Delhi-110059,have changed my name to sania singhal.**

**I,SURAJ VATI/SURAJ WATI,W/O KUNDAN LAL,R/O HNO.221,BAPROLA,NAJAFGARH ,DELHI-110043.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SURAJ MUKHI.**

**I,SIBI P.P.,S/O JOSEPH PAILY,R/O PUTHUPARAMBIL, Manvettom, Manjoor, Kottayam,Kerala-686611,have changed my name to SIBY PAUL PUTHUPARAMBIL,for all future purposes.**

**I,SHAHZAD AHMED,S/O Abdul Ghani,R/O 1201,Power Tower Seven Lamps Vatika India Next Gurgaon,Haryana-122004,have changed my name to Shahzad Ahmad.**

**I,SAMIYA W/O.MOHAMMAD RIZWAN,ADD-2968/70,KUCHA NEEL KANTH DARYAGANJ, CENTRAL-DELHI-110002, Changed my name to SAMIA, for all future Purposes.**

**I,Shripal, S/o Ramchandra Singh, R/o B-120, Sector-51, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P., have changed my name to Shripal Bhati.**

**I,Ranvir Dahiya,S/o Ram Karan Dahiya R/o 188,Sec-5,Gurgaon(Haryana)-122001,have changed my name to Ranbir Singh Dahiya,for all Purposes.**

**I,Raju kanojija,S/o Ram Karan Dahiya R/o 188,Sec-5,Gurgaon(Haryana)-122001,have changed my name to Raju kanojija.**

**I,Raj Kumar, S/o Ompal Bansal, R/o A-2, Sector-49, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P.,have changed my name to Raj Kumar Bansal.**

**I,RAJESH SAHU,S/O DHANIK SAHU,R/O 249,MANGOLPUR KALAN,ROHINI,DELHI-110085, have changed my name to RAJESH KUMAR SAHU.**

**I,RAJEEV/RAJEEV KUMAR,S/O RAM MURTI CHAUHAN R/O HNO.65,SAINIK VIHAR, PITAMPURA,DELHI-110034. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RAJEEV CHAUHAN.**

**I,Pakhee D/o Richa Kulshrestha R/o 147, Sahyog Apartments, Mayur Vihar Phase-1, Delhi-91, have changed my name to Pakhee Kulshrestha.**

**I,Ompal, S/o Mukandi Lal, R/O Q-6, Sector-12, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P., have changed my name to Ompal Bansal.**

**I,Neha D/o Suresh R/o 37/24 Gali.No. 7 Gautam Colony, Narela, Delhi-110040 have changed my name to Akansha.**

**I,Muzayiana,D/o Mohd Nasir R/o-1784 Turkman Gate Delhi,have changed my name to Muzayiana Ahmed for all purpose**

**I,Mauji Lal S/O Chittar Presently residing at 8/180, Trilok Puri, Chilla Saroda Khadar, Delhi-110091 and Permanent residing at Village Patwari, Post Office Bistrakh, Gautam Budha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-200301, have changed my name to Mauji ram**

**I,MukunJ S/o-Pawan Kumar Mundhra,R/o 1851/35,Ashok Puri Ext.New Railway Road,Gurgaon(Haryana)-122001,have changed my name to Mukunj Mundhra,for all Purposes.**

**I,Mohd Mansoor Ahmad,S/O Manzoor Malik,R/o-B-4 DDA Flat,Turkman Gate Delhi,have changed my name to Mansoor Malik,for all purpose**

**I,Mohammed Zahid S/o,Mohammad Ahsan R/o.7248, second floor,Kuch Chellan, DaryaGanj,Delhi-110002,Have Changed my name,from Mohammed Zahid to Mohammad Zahid, permanently**

**I,Mahender Kumar Aggarwal S/O Ram Chandher R/O C-2/16,Prashant Vihar Delhi-110085,have changed my name to Mahender Kumar.**

**I,LAXMI CHAKARBORTY W/O HARAKINKAR CHAKRABORTY R/O 61C,EA, UDYOY VIHAR SEC-82 NOIDA,GAUTAM-BUDDHA NAGAR,UP-201301,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO LAKSHMI CHAKRABORTY.**

**I,LAIBA D/O-MOHD CHAND,R/O-736,3RD FLOOR KATRA FAZAL PURA,SUIWALAN,DARYA GANJ,NEW DELHI-110002,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO LAIBA KHAN.**

**I,Km Pooja D/o-Balwant Singh,R/O.2324-A/14,Block L-1,Sangam-Vihar,Deoli, South Delhi-110062,have changed my name to Pooja Rawat,for all Purposes.**

**I,Kamleshwar Matho S/O Paras Nath Mehta R/O-F-25/2, Rajapur Kalyan, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Kamleshwar Mehta.**

**I,HARAKINKAR CHAKRABORTY/S.O.HEMENDRA CHAKRABORTY R/O-61C,EA,UDYOY VIHAR SEC-82 NOIDA,GAUTAM-BUDDHA NAGAR,UP-201301,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO HARAKINKAR CHAKRABORTY.**

**I,Rajni W/o-Raju kanojija,Add-5.470 alaknanda -road Don Bosco -school greater Kailash-2,New-Delhi -110048,Changed my name to Rajni kanojija.**

**I,Govind Pal,S/o Kishan Singh,R/o-Flat No.229,DDA Flats,Sunrise Apartment,Pkt-6, Nasirpur,Dwarka Sec.1A, Delhi-110045,have changed my name to Govind Pal Dhangari,for all purposes.**

**I,Gagandeep Singh S/o Kulwant Singh Bagh R/O-324 Indira,Vihar Delhi-110009 have changed my name to Gagandeep Singh Bagga for all purposes.**

**I,Diksha Bansal W/O Himanshu Singhal R/O A-26 Nanda Road Adarsh Nagar Delhi-110033,changed my name to Diksha Singhal.**

**I,Bramhanand Rajendraprasad Dube,S/o Rajendraprasad Dube,R/o,H-303,Maple Height-Apartment Sushant-Lok-1, Sector -43, Kanahi (73), Gurgaon(Haryana)-122003,have changed my name to Bramhanand Rajendraprasad Dube.**

**I,Baby Simran D/o Pradeep Kumar Dahiya R/O A-136 Gali.No.6 Swaroop Nagar Delhi-110042,changed my name to Kaushal.**

**I,BANTY CHAKARBORTY D/O-HARAKINKAR CHAKRABORTY R/O 61C,EA, UDYOY VIHAR SEC-82 NOIDA,GAUTAM-BUDDHA NAGAR,UP-201301,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO BANTY CHAKRABORTY.**

**I,Asha Devi W/o-Rajesh Kumar Jaiswal R/O-Qtr no-17/1, OCL Sadar Bazar Delhi Cantt, Pin-110010,have changed my name to Asha Jaiswal.**

**I,Anita Ro,W/O,Dimbeswar Roy R/O,Flat-No.102, Harmony-Apartments, Pocket-1, Sector-4,Dwarka, New-Delhi-110075,that my date-of-birth is wrongly-mentioned in my husband's service records as 03/08/1965 whereas my correct date-of-birth is-05/08/1965.**

**I,Amit S/o Satpal Dua R/O-Flatno-459, Second Floor,Pocket-1, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-63,changed my name from Amit to Amit Dua.**

**I,Sunita Kumari spouse of N 14738241N Rank HAV (OPR) Vishan Singh resident of VPO Vill.Derdu, PO Kapahi, Tehsil-Sundar Nagar, DistT-Mandi (H.P.) PIN-175002 have changed my name from Sunita Kumari to Sunita Devi vide affidavit no. BF909119 dated 18-10-2022 before Notary Public Suratgarh.**

**I,Shankar S/o Daulat Ram R/o 8357-B, FF Apna Ghar Society, Near Lal Kotli, Sector-52, Sanjay Colony, Faridabad, Haryana-121005, have changed my name to Shankar Kashyap, for all purposes.**

**I,Sanjay Kumar Sali,S/o Bharat Prasad Singh R/O 102,Ridgewood Tower, Omaxe Forest Apartment, Sector-92,Noida, UP-201301,have changed my name to Sanjay Sali.**

**I, Davinder Kumar S/o Sh. Raja Lal R/O H.No.H-158, H-Block, Vikas Puri, West Delhi, Delhi-110018 have changed my name to Davinder Singh for all purposes.**

**I,Shankar S/o Daulat Ram R/o 8357-B, FF Apna Ghar Society, Near Lal Kotli, Sector-52, Sanjay Colony, Faridabad, Haryana-121005, have changed my name to Shankar Kashyap, for all purposes.**

**I,Sanjay Kumar Sali,S/o Bharat Prasad Singh R/O 102,Ridgewood Tower, Omaxe Forest Apartment, Sector-92,Noida, UP-201301,have changed my name to Sanjay Sali.**

**I, SHEIKH IQBAL AHMED, S/O.ABDUL GHAFFAR ADD-5,COURT-LANE CIVIL-LINES NORTH DELHI-110054,Changed my name to IQBAL AHMED,for all future Purposes.**

**I, SHASHANK BHUSHAN, S/O BHARAT BHUSHAN KHATTAR, R/O- H No. 2423, TERRACE FLOOR, D2, VASANT KUNJ, SOUTH WEST DELHI-110070 have changed my name to SHASHANK KHATTAR for all purposes.**

**I, Rohit Rajendra S/O Rajendra Chitrangatha, R/O H.N, F-120, DDA Flats Bindapur, Uttam Nagar, West Delhi-110059. Declare that Name of My Father and My Mother has been wrongly written as Rajendra C and Pankily C in my 10th Class Certificate and 12th Class Certificate. The actual name of My Father and My Mother are Rajendra Chitrangatha and Pankily Gopidas, which may be amended accordingly.**

**I,Reema Sharma W/O Mr. Pawan Kumar R/O House No-1436, Street No. 03, Naval Park, Alipur, North West, Delhi-110036 have changed my name to Reena Kaushik for all future purposes, as per affidavit No. IN-DL03769853892902U Dated 19-Oct-2022**

**I, Rajbeer Singh S/O Bharat Singh Sikarwar, R/O 5-A,First Floor, Khosla Apartment, Gagan Vihar Ext, East Delhi-110051, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Rajveer Singh Sikarwar.**

**I,Om Prakash R/o-D-10 Flat.No.7 Paryavaran Complex IGNUO Road Saket, Delhi-30, have changed my daughter's name from Omanshi Dwivedi to Omanshi Sharma for all purposes**

**I, Jitender, S/o Ramesh Kumar, R/O Bajina (47), Bhiwani, Haryana-127111, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Jitender Singh.**

**I, Irfan S/o Shri Mustaf R/O C-133, Gali No. 14 & 15, Subhash Vihar, North Ghonda, Seelampur North East Delhi-110053, inform that in my paytm my name is Modh Ansari that Modh Ansari & Irfan are the name of one and same person.**

**I,hitherto known as Sakib Alias Aayan Khan S/O Idrish residing at House No-626, Gaddho Wall Basti, Fatheullapur, Meerut City, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh-250002, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ayan Khan.**

**I,Yashpal Singh Panwar S/o Balbir Singh, Husband of Rakesh Panwar R/O D-108, D-Block, Mahendur Enclave, Delhi-110033, Date of Birth 01/01/1959 have changed my name to Yashpal Singh for all purposes. Yashpal Singh & Yashpal Singh Panwar is the same person.**

**I,Vino Sathyan W/o M. R. Sathyaseelan R/O 185, C-Pocket-C, Sidhartha Extension, Jungpura S/O South Delhi-110014, have changed my name to Vinu Arangath Velayudhan**

**I,Savitry Anand W/O Satish Prakash Anand, R/O H No 31, Second Floor, Happy Homes, A Block, Omaxe City, Sector 15, Bahadurgarh, Haryana-124507 have changed my name to Savitri.**

**I,Divinder,S/O-Baljinder Singh Residing at,Kh.No-165, Gali.no-4,Kapil Vihar,Mukund Pur,Delhi-110042,have changed name Davinder Singh.**

**I,Mohamed Asad Khan,S/O-Mohamed Ayub Khan,R/O,Flat-1202,Tower -3J, Orris Aster Court,near-IRIS Broadway, Sector-85, Sikanderpur-Badha(109),Gurgaon (Haryana)-122004,have changed my name to Asad Khan.**

**I, SALMA BEGUM, W/O.SYED MUJTUBA NIZAMI, ADD-126/96,BASTI HAZRAT NIZAMUDDIN, SOUTH EAST-DELHI 110013,changed my name to SYEDA SALMA NIZAMI,for all,future Purposes.**

**I,SUNIL THAKUR, S/O CHATUR BHARILAL THAKUR, R/O- H.No. A-11, XU-3, Greater Noida, Dadrri Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201310 have changed my name to SUNIL KUMAR THAKUR for all purposes.**

**Rohit Kumar Rajak S/O Moti Rajak R/O House No-89, Nayagram, Ghatsila, Singhbhum, Jharkhand-832303, have changed my name to Rohit Kumar**

**I, Mirnal S/O Gopal Prasad Thakral S/O Flat 3b, Ag 271, Majherpara, Kestopur, West Bengal 700102 have changed my name to Mirnal Thakur for all purposes.**

**I, AMIT KR. GAHLOT possession 1650 Sq.Ft., Block-F, Indiabulls Central Park Super at Village Daultabad, Sector-103, Gurgaon, Haryana. Accordingly, Police complaint has already been lodged dated 16/10/2022 in P.S. - Crime Branch Delhi, Vide LR- No. 894494/2022 and the same is under investigation. And now Mr. Jatin Chauhan and Mrs. Bharti Chauhan has approached the KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK for loan against mortgage of above said property, if any person has found/information /possession /knowledge of above said missing pages of above sale deed dated 16/10/2022 or has any claim/right/title of any kind over the above said property, then submit intamate within 7 days in writing to Vikas Shokeen, Advocate, AB-18, Mianwali Nagar, PO Sunder Vihar, Delhi-110087. Thereafter any kind of claim will not be acceptable.**

**I, SUNIL THAKUR, S/O CHATUR BHARILAL THAKUR, R/O- H.No. A-11, XU-3, Greater Noida, Dadrri Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201310 have changed my name to SUNIL KUMAR THAKUR for all purposes.**

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### LOST & FOUND

**Have lost my original Possession letter of my Flat. No. B-802, Galaxy Vega, Sector Tezhone-4, Greater Noida West, U.P. Sadhana Sahu W/O Sushant Sahu 007809200-1**

**Have lost my original documents (Allotment letter, allocation letter, lease deed, possession certificate and occupancy certificate), of F-273, Sector-36, 90 sqmtr. Greater Noida U.P. Sudesh Bajaj W/O Shadi Lal Bajaj R/O A-165, Sector-26, Noida G.B.Nagar, U.P. 007809199-1**

**I Selvi W/O Late A Radha Kishan have lost one original property Document chain from Vijesh to Daya Kishan containing power of attorney, possession letter, Receipt, Affidavit, Sale agreement etc. of property No.3 (New No.6), second floor khasra. No.15/15/1, & 16/1, Sainik Nagar Block-E, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059. If anybody found contact9205423257. 70809201**

**RE: Ground Floor "said floor" part of Property bearing No.126, area measuring 129 sq. yds. in Block-C situated in East of Kashi Residential Scheme, New Delhi, heretofore referred to as "said property".**

**Notice is hereby given to the general public including Banks, Financial Institutions, etc., that our clients, Shri Anandesh Singh S/o Shri Harjinder Singh and Mrs Balinder Kaur W/o Shri Harjinder Singh R/o H.No. 62, 1st and 2nd Floor, Ring Road Lajpat Nagar, Delhi 110024 (hereinafter jointly called the "Purchaser") intend to purchase the said floor from Mrs. Soni Talwani W/o Late Mr. Lal R/o C-128, Ground Floor, East of Kailash Delhi 110065 (hereinafter called the "Seller"). In this connection, the seller has informed the purchaser that she is the owner of the said floor. She also informed the purchaser that the said floor of the said property was owned by her husband, late Shri Sohan Lal, in terms of Final Order/Decree dated 15.01.2019 in CS No.58876/2016 passed by the Court of Sh. Sumit Kishan AD-01, New Delhi District Court, Patiala House Court, New Delhi, titled as Mr. Kamal Talwani Vis Mr. Manohar Lal and others in respect of the said property. The seller further informed the purchaser that the said property was purchased by Mrs. Devi Bai via Conveyance Deed registered as Document No.11091 in Book No. I, Volume No. 1642, pages 8-10, on 10.08.2005 (SRG-VII) and executed by POI through DDA. After her death and death of her husband, dispute arose amongst family members in respect of the said property and other properties. The dispute was settled in Mediation as per Compromise dated 07.01.2019 and finally a Final Order/Decree dated 15.01.2019, as aforesaid, was passed and late Shri Sohan Lal, became owner of the Ground Floor of the said property. Shri Sohan Lal also expired and after his death, the said floor of the said property devolved on his legal heirs viz., Mrs. Soni Talwani (wife), the seller, and Mrs. Varsha Shukla (daughter). Mrs. Varsha Shukla executed a Relinquishment Deed in favour of Mrs. Soni Talwani in respect of her share in the said floor. Thus, Mrs. Soni Talwani (the seller) became absolute owner of the said floor. The said Relinquishment Deed was registered as Document No. 6152 in Book No. I, Volume No. 2205, pages 103-111, on 10.12.2022 in the office concerned Sub-Registrar (SRG-VI). The seller has also informed the purchaser that the said floor is not mortgaged anywhere and there is no dispute or dispute or any litigation pending regarding the said floor. Any person including Banks, Financial Institution's, relatives having any claim, right, title or any interest of any nature, whatsoever into or upon the aforesaid floor is hereby called upon to make the same known in writing, with documentary evidence, by Registered AD Post, to the undersigned at the address mentioned herein below within 10 days of publication of this notice and in the event of no response being received to the notice, the title of the seller to the said floor shall be deemed to be clear of any charge or encumbrance of any nature whatsoever and any subsequent claim shall not bind our clients/Purchaser, in any manner whatsoever.**

**Public at large are hereby informed that below mentioned documents have been misplaced / lost: (1.) Original Allotment letter issued by MS Selene construction Ltd in favour of Kusum Mittal (2) Original possession letter issued by MS Selene construction Ltd in favour of Kusum Mittal. (3) Original Buyer agreement issued by MS Selene construction Ltd in favour of Kusum Mittal. (4) Original Possession letter issued by MS Selene construction Ltd in favour of Kusum Mittal in respect of Apartment No. F-041, 4 th Floor, Super Area Adjoining 1650 Sq.Ft., Block-F, Indiabulls Central Park Super at Village Daultabad, Sector-103, Gurgaon, Haryana. Accordingly, Police complaint has already been lodged dated 16/10/2022 in P.S. - Crime Branch Delhi, Vide LR- No. 894494/2022 and the same is under investigation. And now Mr. Jatin Chauhan and Mrs. Bharti Chauhan has approached the KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK for loan against mortgage of above said property, if any person has found/information /possession /knowledge of above said missing pages of above sale deed dated 16/10/2022 or has any claim/right/title of any kind over the above said property, then submit intamate within 7 days in writing to Vikas Shokeen, Advocate, AB-18, Mianwali Nagar, PO Sunder Vihar, Delhi-110087. Thereafter any kind of claim will not be acceptable.**

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