



Awadhपुरी Raghunandan Aaye Ghar-Ghar Nari Mangal Gaaye



Celebrating the arrival of Maryada Purushottam Bhagwan Shri Ram along with Mata Sita and Lakshman Ji to Ayodhya

- Shobha Yatra/Tableau based on the life of Shri Ram
- Exhibition on Ramayana
- Ramleela staging of 8 countries and 10 states
- Ramayana based projection mapping and musical laser show
- 3D Holographic Show • Green & Digital Firework
- Cultural Programme

Saryu Aarti with Chanting of Mantras

Grand Celebration of Deepotsav

in the august presence of

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Anandiben Patel
Governor, Uttar Pradesh

Yogi Adityanath
Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Keshav Prasad Maurya
Deputy Chief Minister
Uttar Pradesh

Brajesh Pathak
Deputy Chief Minister
Uttar Pradesh

Jaiveer Singh
Minister of Tourism &
Culture, Uttar Pradesh

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Date : 23rd October, 2022 | Time : 4:30 PM | Venue : Ayodhya

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TECH INDEPTH: HOW NIGHT MODE ON SMARTPHONES MAKES DIWALI PICTURES POP

The one camera feature you're likely to use while taking pictures during Diwali parties and celebrations is the Night Mode, which is now part of most smartphone cameras. Ever wondered how Night Mode helps your phone take better low-light photos? Find out in today's edition of Tech InDepth.

ENTERTAINMENT



CAN RAM SETU TURN TIDE FOR AKSHAY?

Akshay Kumar has tried all genres in 2022. Nothing has worked

LIFESTYLE



LIFE IN A FOREIGN UNIVERSITY

'MS in Mechanical Engineering from Italy was life-changing'

EXPRESS AUDIO

Game Time: Fireworks set off as India face Pakistan in World Cup

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Discussing the latest statements by BCCI secretary Jay Shah, and the factors that will determine the result of the India-Pakistan T20 World Cup match tomorrow.

ISRO's dedicated commercial satellite mission lifts off

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
SRIHARIKOTA, OCTOBER 22

THE HEAVIEST rocket of the Indian Space Research Organisation, the LVM3-M2, blasted off from Sriharikota on Sunday to place 36 broadband communication satellites into the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) for a UK-based customer.

ISRO scientists have rechristened the launch vehicle its present name from GSLV-MkIII.

NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), a central public sector enterprise under the Department of Space, had earlier signed two launch service contracts with the London-headquartered Network Access Associated Limited (OneWeb) for launching OneWeb LEO satellites on board ISRO's LVM3.

OneWeb is a private satellite communications company, in which India's Bharti Enterprises is

ISRO launches LVM3-M2

a major investor and shareholder.

On Sunday, the 43.5 metre tall rocket lifted off at 12.07 am from the second launch pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre here at the end of the 24-hour countdown.

The vehicle is also one of the heaviest for its ability to carry satellites upto 8,000 kg.

The mission assumes significance as this was LVM3's maiden commercial mission and also NSIL's first with the said launch vehicle.

THOOTHUKUDI POLICE FIRING

Probe report finds then chief minister EPS was 'indifferent', 'lethargic'

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, OCTOBER 22

THE REPORT of the Justice Aruna Jagadeesan Commission of Inquiry that probed the 2018 Thoothukudi police firing and the killing of 13 anti-pollution protesters raises serious charges against the then chief minister, Edappadi K Palaniswami or EPS. The report, tabled in the state Assembly on Tuesday, held 17 police personnel, the district collector and three deputy tehsildars responsible.

The commission also recommended a compensation of Rs 50 lakh to the kin of the deceased.

The report said days before the protesters picketed the Thoothukudi collectorate, and the police firing that followed, the then state intelligence chief K N Sathiyamurthy had specific information about the worsening situation, and of the fishermen community joining the protest that had been organised

by leftist organisations.

Sathiyamurthy travelled from Chennai to Salem to meet EPS in person to brief him about the emerging situation in Thoothukudi, and suggested that EPS take steps to initiate dialogue with the fishing community, citing information that more fishermen families were joining the protest. The suggestion was to deploy the secretary of the fisheries department to dissuade the community from plunging into the protest.

"It is baffling to note how a message with a potential for grave law and order situation remained unattended, even though the relevant intelligence had been promptly conveyed to the CM. It would appear to be a classic instance of indifference and lethargy, and had this grave issue been seriously attended to, it is quite likely that the issue would have been tackled effectively at the initial stage," the report said.

FROM PAGE ONE Now CAG works to red-flag freebies

FULL REPORTS ON
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liabilities of states in the next six years. "We have seen most of the states will have a real issue — repayment. Whatever they have borrowed earlier, the repayment burden is so much that half of their budget will go, in many places, in only repaying. That is not sustainable," a source said.

The CAG has been highlighting issues related to subsidies and other expenditures in the states' budgets but in the proposed mechanism it will also focus on off-budget borrowings, discounts and write-offs.

Sources said the audit body

has compiled the "relative status of debt, borrowings, subsidies — whether they are freebies or not — guarantees, and their sustainability."

The source said, "We are going very strictly from the current year... We are saying that this is not sustainable. Whatever you are doing, your financial management will go haywire. You will not be able to sustain this and the state will have a problem."

Audit authorities, at present, look into subsidies but remission and relaxations do not get cap-

tured in subsidies.

For instance, interest subvention on loans, money given to discoms, loan waiver, are among some elements that are captured by the CAG "occasionally but not systematically," said an official.

There was also a suggestion at the meeting to look into the range of freebies on offer. "States are distributing things like TV, laptops, bicycles, grinder, mixer... There are things which do not get reflected in the subsidy... So we have to develop parameters as to how to capture them," the

source said. Besides, there was a discussion on financial resources of the states.

Asked what options the CAG has, the source said, "We plan to show a red flag. We are strengthening our observations from time to time and after this Audit Advisory Board's submissions, we will look into what we can do more."

It is learnt that "almost 80 per cent work of the accounts for financial year 2022-23 has already been done," said a source. "So we will see what we can do at this stage."

Reforms, policies over 8 yrs made India 5th largest economy: PM

shield the impact so far with everyone's efforts. And that has been possible because over the last eight years, we have removed the economic shortcomings that created hurdles," he said.

Due to its economic policies over the last eight years, he said, India has jumped five places from being the world's 10th largest economy to the 5th largest.

He listed various schemes that generated jobs, including the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, and said that to generate employment, the government is working on multiple fronts.

Over the last few years, Rs 20 lakh crore worth of credit, he said, has been availed through the Mudra scheme. "Over 7.5 crore beneficiaries started their businesses for the first time with Mudra loans. Seventy per cent

beneficiaries are women. Over 8 crore women connected with self-help groups, and are now selling what they make," he said.

He said innovators, entrepreneurs, industrialists, farmers and people from the fields of manufacturing and services have a crucial role in making India self-reliant. Highlighting the importance of Sabka Prayas, the Prime Minister said that everyone's effort is critical and Sabka Prayas is possible only when all important amenities reach everyone.

Modi said the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) data indicates the success of employment policies. "In the month of August 2022 alone, 17 lakh people joined the EPFO, in the formal economy. In that, around 8 lakh are in the age group 18-25," he said.

He linked the NDA government's push for infrastructure projects with job creation, saying that globally it is accepted that infrastructure creates jobs.

"Thousands of kilometres of roads are being built, rail lines are being doubled, converted, electrified... airports being constructed... The government is working with a target of Rs 100 lakh crore investment in infrastructure. All this will create lakhs of local jobs and will also develop the tourism sector," he said.

Through Digital India, 5 lakh Common Service Centres alone have provided jobs to lakhs of youth, he said. "With the expansion of 5G, employment opportunities are going to increase even more in the digital sector."

Identifying manufacturing and tourism as the two big creators of jobs, Modi said processes are being simplified for global companies to come to India, set up their factories and fulfil global demands. "The Production Linked Incentive (scheme) is India's policy. The more the production, the more the incentive. The benefits of this policy have

started showing in many sectors," he said.

On the recruitment drive, Modi said it is meant to provide basic services to people faster. He said the drive itself is an example of the changing times. "Eight years ago, applying for a government job itself was the start of many problems. Over the years, we have removed those problems and simplified the processes. We have abolished interviews for Groups C and D," he said.

Modi urged the new employees to always remember their "kartavya path" (duties) towards people while doing their jobs.

Those being given appointment letters will join at various levels in Group A and B (Gazetted), Group B (Non-Gazetted) and Group C. The posts on which appointments are being made include the Central armed force personnel, sub-inspectors, constables, LDC, stenop, PA, income tax inspectors and MTS among others.

China

In closing remarks, Xi said the revision to the constitution "sets out clear requirements for upholding and strengthening the party's overall leadership."

Li was among four of the seven members of the party's all-powerful Politburo Standing Committee missing from its new 205-member Central Committee, which was formally elected at the closing session.

That means they won't be reappointed to the Standing Committee in a leadership shuffle that will be unveiled Sunday. Xi is widely expected to retain the top spot, getting a third term as general secretary.

The three others who were dropped were Shanghai party chief Han Zheng, party advisory body head Wang Yang, and Li Zhanshu, a longtime Xi ally and the head of the largely ceremonial legislature.

Li Keqiang will remain as premier for about six more months until a new slate of government ministers is named.

If he had stayed on the Standing Committee, it would have indicated some possible pushback within the leadership against Xi, particularly on economic policy. Li had already been largely sidelined, though, as Xi has taken control of most aspects of government.

Former Chinese President Hu Jintao, Xi's predecessor as party leader, was helped off the stage a little more than two hours into the 3.5-hour meeting without explanation, sparking speculation about his health. Hu, 79, spoke briefly with Xi, whom he had been sitting next to in the front row, before walking off with an assistant holding him by the arm.

Only 11 women were among the 205 people named to the Central Committee, or about 5% of the total. Members of minority groups made up 4%.

Kids read, an entire village is quiet and pleased

Said Sujata Hajare (33), a teacher and mother to Tirth (9) and Rugveda (4): "Now it has become a force of habit. Kids come back home from school, eat and rest or help with some homework and then go out to play. When the alarm goes off, they come back home on their own and take their books out. We don't even need to remind them anymore because every child in the village is doing the same thing. What else will they do? No one watches TV, no one plays outside. It was tough initially, but all of us (mothers) got together and decided to be strict about this, and now it is such a relief. We have stopped bothering about homework and studies, the kids do it on their own," she said.

13-year-old Sneha Suryavanshi, the eldest of three siblings, said the digital blackout has made her task of getting her younger sisters to do their homework easier.

"Earlier whenever we would sit down to study, their friends would come and call them or someone would switch on the TV and they would run away from books. Sometimes, I do my homework too or I sit and paint while they study," said the Class 8 student of Kheradewangi village.

Jayshree Vitthal Kharade, a mother of two from nearby Hinganrao Budruk village in Kadegaon taluka, another village observing the digital blackout, said the change is not just in the students.

"Even the elders get together and read religious books. Sometimes they go for a walk. Earlier, we could only hear TV in their houses. Now the entire village is so silent at this hour. It has made a lot of difference in overall positivity. Besides, we see the impact on children's performance in school. They are now so regular with their studies and have a dedi-

icated daily hour. We don't skip this routine even on Sundays," she said.

Sudheer Pore, teacher at the Zilla Parishad school in Kheradewangi, one of the few 'model' schools in the district, said it has made a difference in learning outcomes.

Zilla Parishad schools in Sangli have been running a "learning-improvement programme" spearheaded by the district administration. Under this, learning levels were assessed and strategies devised to improve these. "In six months, there has been considerable improvement in that but at the same time, when the village runs an experiment such as the digital blackout, it bolsters our work. Kids are reading on their own, without a single day's break and dedicatedly for an hour. Consistency makes a lot of difference and the results are showing now," he said.

Schoolgirls who worked on satellite get ready for second launch

For Simran from Amritsar, learning about space and space technologies opened up new avenues.

"I don't want to be an engineer, I don't like Maths. I want to become a doctor. But what can a doctor do in space?" she wondered aloud. When she realised that India would soon be sending astronauts to space, she was overjoyed. "I can be a space doctor!" she said.

Not liking Maths, however, did not stop Simran from coding. "The team from Space Kidz India (Chennai-based aerospace organisation) took online classes initially, then our Sir explained everything. All of us together were able to code the chip that was sent to us," she said. She studies in Class 11 at Government Girls Senior

Secondary Smart School, Amritsar.

She started taking an interest in space after she worked on the project earlier this year, and now she wants to know whether there could indeed be life on Mars.

Simran, whose father is a plumber and mother a housewife, dreams big now. "I met so many big scientists when I went for the launch. Now, I know I want to do something big," she said.

Hari Vaishnavi, who is in Class 10 at Government Girls Higher Secondary School in Thirumangalam, Tamil Nadu, was amazed that the sensor they coded — after several hits and misses — could detect the temperature and moisture from her palm when she placed her hand over it. She wants to work to develop

space technology.

The sensors developed by the girls were then integrated by a team of students from Space Kidz India.

"We want to change the image of rural India. We do not want people to think of girls working in their homes or farming, we want to create an image of children who are sending satellites to space," said Dr Srimathy Kesan, founder and CEO of Space Kidz India.

The students mentored by her and team went to Sriharikota to witness the August launch, and even though they learnt that the satellite could not remain in orbit the next day when they were in Chennai, she kept their morale up. "She did not look sad at all. She said that we learn from our mistakes. Now, we will get to work on

the second satellite. I know, that we cannot achieve success every time — we can control what happens on Earth, but once a satellite is in space we cannot do anything," said Tanvi Patel, who is in Class 11 at Shree B S Patel Kanya Vidyalaya in Ladol village, Mehsana, Gujarat.

The students in Tanvi's school worked on two sensors — one that captured temperature and humidity data, and another that kept track of the altitude and velocity of the satellite. "These micro-controllers were like the brain of the satellite — giving directions and storing data. Through the project we learnt something new, something that was never a part of our syllabus. If possible, I would like to study engineering and work in ISRO," said Tanvi.

EC pulls up Gujarat: Waiting for compliance report on transfers

On the EC's letter, a Gujarat government functionary, who did not wish to be identified, said, "This is nothing new. They write to other states too. The Election Commission is doing its job. The letters will be responded to as desired."

On October 12, the Gujarat government transferred 23 IAS officials including the municipal commissioners of Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar. The district collectors of Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Bhavnagar, Anand, Dangs, Tapi, Kutch, Mahisagar and Morbi were among those transferred.

New Delhi

ALMOST 57 LAKH ARE ELIGIBLE

32 lakh have opted for power subsidy so far

GAYATHRI MANI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

AROUND 56% or 32 lakh electricity consumers across the national capital have 'opted' for the Delhi government's power subsidy scheme so far, said officials.

People receive a 100% subsidy for consuming less than 200 units and a 50% subsidy up to Rs 800 for consuming up to 400 units. The Delhi government recently made it mandatory for people to opt-in for the subsidy to continue getting benefits. Those who don't ask for it, will not get it.

According to officials, till October 22, about 32 lakh people applied for the scheme. A break-up of data with the government of people who applied until October 19 shows that BRPL received 14,38,355 applications,

BYPL 7,62,335, and TPDDL 9,11,509. The NDMC, which covers the Lutyens' Zone under its jurisdiction, received 9,851 applications.

"People still have time to apply. They can apply till October 31 and get a subsidised bill for the October billing cycle. There is a helpline number — 7011311111 — on which people can give a missed call and apply. Besides, opt-in forms are also being sent to consumers along with the electricity bill both off-line and online," said an official.

The decision to make the scheme optional came after Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal came under criticism over giving "freebies" to the public. "Some people questioned why they were being given subsidies when they could pay electricity bills; they de-

mandated that they should be given the option of accepting or declining the subsidy. Under the old scheme, everyone will get the electricity subsidy till September 30, but starting from October 1, only those who opt-in will get it," Kejriwal had said.

Consumers can opt for subsidy by filling a form either online or in-person at the discom office. If they miss the October 31 date, consumers can apply in the next month before the billing cycle. Once a person applies for a subsidy, their option will have to be renewed once every year.

There are 56,98,180 domestic consumers in Delhi who are eligible for a power subsidy under the government's scheme. Before the opt-in scheme, 47 lakh got the subsidy — 30 lakh got zero bills and 16-17 lakh got half the bill.

Gujarat University Ahmedabad-380009.
Amendments in Notification No. Non-Teaching-01/2022
Gujarat University has made amendment in the recruitment rules and some other changes in its advertisement Notification No. Non-Teaching-01/2022 Published on 08-10-2022 for various non-teaching/technical Posts. For the detail information regarding amendments in recruitment rules and other changes, please visit our Website: www.gujaratuniversity.ac.in
Note: The Last date for filling online application form is extended upto 15/11/2022 for the amended Posts only.
Place : Ahmedabad (Dr. P.M. Patel)
Date : 21/10/2022 Registrar

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खोरी झुग्गी बस्ती लकड़पुर्, फरीदाबाद, हरियाणा के जिन 1009 योग्य पाए गए आवेदनकर्ताओं को अप्रैल 2022 में डबूआ कालोनी, फरीदाबाद में ई0डबल्यू0एस0 फ्लैट आर्बंटि किए गए हैं, उनमें से जिन आर्बंटियों ने अभी तक अपने आवेदन पत्र प्राप्त नहीं किये हैं, ऐसे सभी आर्बंटियों को माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायलय के आदेश दिनांक 13.10.2022 के अनुसार इस सार्वजनिक सूचना के माध्यम से पुनः सूचित किया जाता है कि वे दिनांक 11.11.2022 तक बी0के0 चौक एन0आई0टी0 के नजदीक स्थित नगर निगम कार्यालय की समदा शाखा (मोबाइल नं 7981963154, 7082324771, 9748705757) से किसी भी कार्यदिबस में आकर अपने आर्बंटन पत्र प्राप्त करें तथा फ्लैट का कब्जा लें। इसके अतिरिक्त अन्य सभी आर्बंटियों को भी पुनः सूचित किया जाता है कि वे नियमानुसार आर्बंटि फ्लैट का कब्जा लें।
आदेशानुसार
आयुक्त नगर निगम फरीदाबाद

DU admission round 1 ends, 72k candidates accept allotted seat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

WITH 72,865 candidates accepting their allotted seats, the window for acceptance for the first round of admissions at Delhi University came to a close Saturday.

There are a total of around 70,000 seats open for admissions across colleges and courses in DU. In its first round, the administration made 80,164 allotments. Colleges will have till Sunday afternoon to approve or reject applications of candidates who have accepted their allotments. Once an application is approved, a candidate has to pay their fee by Monday evening to finalise their admission in this first round.

The number of candidates who have accepted their admissions in this round does not necessarily mean there will be no vacant seats for the next round of seat allotments: As the university 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 PWD categories, there might be more acceptances in some programmes than in others amounting to 72,865 candidates. The University will release the list of vacant seats on Tuesday.

On Saturday, DU also announced it would extend one more opportunity — with conditions — to candidates from reserved categories who could not produce the correct certificates in this round of admissions after allotments. Candidates who are unable to produce certificates in the prescribed format will have



Colleges will have until Sunday afternoon to approve/reject applications

their applications rejected by colleges in this round.

"All such candidates shall be considered in the Unreserved Category in CSAS Round-II subject to availability of seats in the UR category and other allocation policies subject to meeting the merit of the UR category and preference order submitted by candidates," said Registrar Vikas Gupta.

Anti-ragging measures in place

Women police personnel in plainclothes, police pickets outside colleges, vigilance squads in every college and patrolling are among measures Delhi University will enforce from the academic session soon to begin with the stated aim of stopping ragging activities. These were decisions taken in a meeting of the University's Proctorial Board with Delhi Police officials to "ensure maintenance of discipline and prevention of ragging" in the University and its constituent colleges. The new academic year for newly admitted students is set to begin on November 3.

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Gurgaon reports 337 dengue cases, highest in six years

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, OCTOBER 22

WITH 337 dengue cases being reported till October 22 this year, Gurgaon has reported the highest number of dengue cases in the district in the past six years. No dengue-related fatalities have been reported so far, said officials. The district health department, however, said cases are likely to subside with winter season approaching.

According to data from the district bulletin, in 2016, Gurgaon had reported 86 cases of dengue. Cases had reduced to 66 in 2017, followed by a marginal rise to 93 in 2018. Only 22 cases were reported in 2019 followed by 51 cases in 2020. Last year, Gurgaon reported 327 cases of dengue.



Health department officials said most affected areas come under primary health centres in Wazirabad and Gurgaon village. Areas under community health centres (CHCs) in Farrukh Nagar have reported 248 cases followed by 54 cases in CHCs in urban areas. Pataudi and Ghangola areas have reported 35 cases of dengue.

Of the total cases in the district, 17 patients are undergoing treatment at hospitals — 16 are admitted at government hospitals while one patient is being treated at a private hospital. So far, 176 dengue patients have been discharged, said health department officials, adding that 144 cases did not require hospitalisation.

Health department officials said cases were already past the peak and the spike in recent weeks earlier this month was due to late seasonal rains and consequent waterlogging.


Virender Yadav, chief medical officer, Gurgaon, said, "With the lowering of temperature, we expect cases to subside soon. On average, only five cases a day have been reported this week and rate of increase has come down marginally. Still, we are taking all precautions. Teams are conducting fogging and screening for vector borne diseases and house-to-house anti-larval and source reduction activities are still continuing. One ward and 25 beds at district civil hospital have been reserved for dengue patients. Gambusia fish has been released in about 176 water bodies this season."


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- Khoya, Paneer and Milk preparations are generally adulterated with starch, which may be checked by Iodine Test, by taking a small sample mixed with water and bring to boil. Allow this to cool and add few drops of iodine in the solution if turns blue, then it is adulterated with Starch.
- Dry fruits & Nuts should be checked for contamination and colour before purchase. Pista pieces can be checked for presence of added synthetic colour by putting and pressing on moist filter paper. The synthetic colour used on pista will reach out on moist filter paper.
- Consumers are advised to buy sweets only from FSSAI licensed shops, by checking FSSAI Logo and License number displayed in the shop.
- DART (Detect Adulteration with Rapid Test) available on the citizen corner of the department website: www.foodsafety.delhigovt.nic.in may be seen.

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New Delhi

BRIEFLY

3 arrested for conspiring to cheat during police exam

Gurgaon: Three men were arrested Friday for allegedly conspiring to cheat during an exam for the recruitment of constable in the police force at a test centre in Farrukh Nagar. Police said probe found that a candidate, Lalit Yadav, who was appearing for the exam had roped in an associate, Jaiveer, who hid in the washroom of the exam centre and wrote the exam on the candidate's behalf, but the duo was caught before they could escape. Police have arrested the two as well as an official at the exam centre, Tarun Shukla, in connection with the case.

SC extends interim bail of Amrapali ex-CMD

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Saturday extended the interim bail granted to Anil Kumar Sharma, former Chief Managing Director of the beleaguered real estate firm Amrapali Group of Companies, so as to enable him to undergo treatment for cataract and glaucoma. A bench of Chief Justice UU Lalit and Justice Bela M Trivedi, which held a special sitting Saturday said the interim relief granted to him on August 8 for surgery for issues arising out of hernia complications shall continue to operate for 8 more weeks. **ENS**

Delhi Police increases security for Diwali

New Delhi: Delhi Police has increased security arrangements in markets, malls and heavy footfall areas to ensure a smooth and safe Diwali, officials said Saturday. Elaborate security arrangements have been made, especially in markets, malls, vital installations and places likely to draw large crowds, they said. Police visibility has been enhanced through intensified patrolling and deployments of extra pickets. Special Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Sagar Preet Hooda said, "In view of festival season, we have intensified patrolling in market areas, extra police pickets have been installed and personnel deployed." **PTI**

DIWALI AND DAY AFTER

3 factors that could come together to make Delhi's air quality 'severe'



On Saturday, Delhi's AQI was 265, in the 'poor' category. *Praveen Khanna*

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

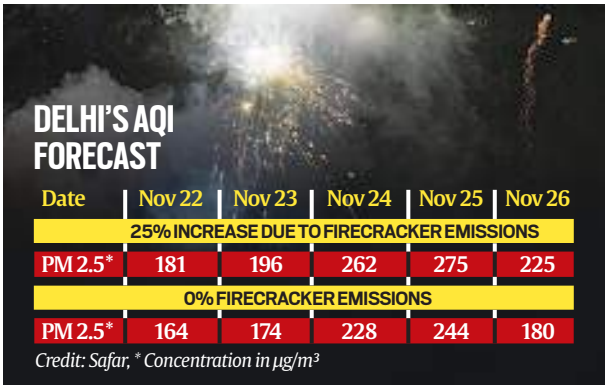
ADDITIONAL FIRECRACKER emissions on Diwali day could push the air quality into the 'severe' category on Monday and the day after, according to a forecast issued by SAFAR (System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research).

Three factors that are crucial in determining air quality around this time of the year are likely to "act together" resulting in deterioration of air quality — wind speed and direction that favours transport of stubble burning smoke from the northwest, calm local weather conditions that trap pollutants, and firecrackers, if any.

The contribution of stubble burning-related emissions in Delhi is likely to increase from October 24 onwards, the forecast indicates. The forecast has been issued considering current fire counts and trend recorded over past years, as per Gufran Beig, founder project director, SAFAR.

According to the forecast, "even a smaller increase in additional local emissions due to firecrackers is likely to have a significant deterioration impact during October 24-25 and may put AQI in the severe category on October 25 if stubble fire is not controlled."

Since stubble burning fire counts have remained low so far and transport level winds have been slow and unfavourable for carrying the smoke into Delhi, contribution



of crop-residue burning to Delhi's air has remained low — below 5% — so far this season. However, the fire count in Punjab has been on the rise. On Saturday, Punjab recorded the highest single-day fire count of 582 so far this harvest season, according to the Indian Agricultural Research Institute's monitoring system based on NASA satellite data.

Transport level winds from Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh towards Delhi are set to pick up from October 24 onwards, as per the forecast, and the contribution of stubble burning to PM 2.5 levels in Delhi could rise from around 5% on October 23 to 8% on October 24, and 16% to 18% on October 25.

To add to this, calm conditions and little ventilation are expected over the next three days, making dispersion of pollutants difficult. Stable conditions trap pollutants near the surface.

Even if there are no firecracker emissions, the city's PM

2.5 level could be in the 'very poor' category on Diwali day, the forecast says. However, if weather conditions bring firecracker-related emissions from "surrounding regions of Delhi" and there are zero firecracker emissions in Delhi, the AQI could still hit the lower end of the 'severe' category on October 25 with around 15% to 18% of contribution from stubble burning. If there are firecracker emissions in Delhi as well similar to what was seen last year, the AQI is set to be in the 'severe' category on Diwali day and the day after, according to the forecast.

Beig added that the forecast has been issued without factoring in any measures that may be imposed to "put a break" on the way that pollution levels are rising. The forecast also mentions that the impact of control measures has not been factored in and that if fire counts reduce, AQI may improve.

On Saturday, Delhi's AQI was 265, in the 'poor' category.

Do 'green' crackers pollute less, where are they allowed?

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

THE DELHI High Court Thursday refused to entertain a plea filed by sellers of 'green firecrackers' challenging the ban on manufacture, storage, sale and bursting of all types of firecrackers in Delhi. Separately, the Supreme Court also declined an urgent hearing of a petition filed by BJP MP Manoj Tiwari challenging the firecracker ban. Emissions from firecrackers intensifies air pollution in Delhi-NCR. Last year, bursting of firecrackers on Diwali, in violation of the ban in Delhi, resulted in a steep spike in pollution levels.

What are green crackers, what is their impact on pollution?

Dipankar Saha, former head of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)'s air laboratory, explained, "If meteorological conditions are not favourable, whatever you burst will have a big impact. The meteorology (around this time of the year) does not allow pollutants to disperse and dilute, it will accumulate in the atmosphere. Green crackers are mainly barium free and heavy metal free. But if you burn something, there will be emissions and it will have an impact on the environment."

Saha added that measures adopted for Delhi need to be adopted for all of NCR since the entire airshed is to be managed. "It's a public health issue," he said.

According to CSIR-NEERI, which developed formulations for such crackers, green crackers are made with a reduction in size of the shell and use of raw materials. Flowerpots, sparklers and

bombs are among the crackers made with 'green' composition.

Green crackers may also involve use of dust suppressants to reduce emissions of particulate matter, sulphur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide. Green crackers lead to a minimum particulate matter reduction of 30% compared to conventional ones, as per NEERI's definition.

The Supreme Court had banned use of barium salts in manufacture of crackers. It also banned the use of antimony, lithium, mercury, lead and arsenic in the manufacture of firecrackers. Barium compounds produce the green colour in crackers and can be hazardous to health, with fumes likely to irritate the respiratory tract, as per CPCB.

Where are green firecrackers allowed in the NCR?

Manufacture, sale and bursting of green firecrackers is permitted in Haryana. The Haryana State Pollution Control Board has banned manufacture, sale and use of all firecrackers except 'green' ones. What is likely to be permitted in Noida this year is still unclear since orders are yet to be issued. Praveen Kumar, regional officer, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Noida, said an order on the matter has not yet been issued by the State government. "Last year, green crackers were permitted," he said.

In Delhi, all types of firecrackers, including green ones, are banned. At a press conference recently, Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai said he appeals to the Union Environment Minister to implement a ban on firecrackers in NCR as well.

Woman who 'faked' rape and assault complaint arrested by Ghaziabad police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

GHAZIABAD, OCTOBER 22

WITH THE woman who allegedly fabricated allegations of being gangraped and assaulted by five men being discharged from the hospital, Ghaziabad Police arrested her Saturday evening. She has been charged under several IPC sections, including cheating, forgery and criminal conspiracy as well as provisions of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act.

Police are also probing the role of a journalist in connection with the case, with officers saying she was allegedly paid Rs 5,000 to spread "exaggerated news of the rape". CO (Sihani Gate) Alok Dubey said, "The woman has been arrested in connection with the case after being discharged from GTB Hospital today. Earlier, she was under medical observation. The journalist in this case is currently absconding."

Police have also arrested three men detained earlier, Azad, Gaurav and Afzal, for allegedly "conspiring" to falsify a case to try and resolve a property dispute. Police say they have recovered evidence of payments made via Paytm from Azad, allegedly to the woman journalist, to spread misinformation.

In the aftermath of the FIR, the woman's brother had claimed she had been abducted on her way back to Delhi after attending his birthday on October 16, raped by five men, and found in Ghaziabad in the early hours of October 18.

However, police probe found several discrepancies, and eventually concluded the case had been falsified to try and resolve a Rs 53 lakh property dispute.

Meanwhile, the Delhi Commission for Women sent a letter to UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, urging an investigation into the matter and calling for strict action against the woman if she is found guilty. The commission, led by its chief Swati Maliwal, had earlier issued a showcase notice to Ghaziabad police.

On October 19, Maliwal had said the woman had been violated with an iron rod and was fighting for her life. "This case is just like the Nirbhaya case... at least in this case, my appeal is (it) should be fast tracked and these men given severe punishment," she had said.

Sources at GTB Hospital, where the woman was then taken, had said she sustained no internal injuries, though she had some bruises, and that a 5-6 cm foreign object removed from inside her had been sent for analysis. Investigators have not divulged more details on this.

On Saturday, Maliwal wrote in the letter to the UP CM: "This is very serious, shocking... I urge your honourable self to kindly set up a high-level committee to investigate the case in depth... It must be examined as to who inflicted injuries on the woman... In case it is proved beyond doubt the girl was actively involved in hatching a conspiracy... I would urge you to ensure strong action is taken against her."

Hidden cams used to record couples in hotel rooms, police arrest 4

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NOIDA, OCTOBER 22

FOUR MEN have been arrested by Gautam Buddh Nagar police for their alleged involvement in planting hidden cameras at a hotel linked to OYO Rooms to blackmail couples, police said, adding that the accused also ran illegal call centres. Police identified the accused as Vishnu Singh, Abdul Wahav, Pankaj Kumar and Anurag Kumar, and said they had busted three different gangs in Noida with their arrest.

According to police, Vishnu and Abdul were involved in secretly recording couples in different rooms of the hotel, and later blackmailing them for money by threatening to make the videos public. If the couples failed to cough up the money, they would also threaten them with violence, police said.

A SIM card and bank account used for the extortion was provided to them by Pankaj for Rs 15,000, said police, adding that his partner, Saurabh, is currently absconding. Police said they also

provided a SIM card and a bank account to Anurag.

Anurag, police said, had set up illegal call centres to cheat victims on the pretext of selling iPhones at low prices through online marketplaces. Police said Anurag had been doing this for nearly two years, and used to run three 'call centres'. Police estimate he has cheated people of crores.

ADCP (Central Noida) Saad Miya Khan said, "We received information that a person recently stayed in a room with his female friend and, a few days later, a video of their private moment was sent to him along with demands for money. The accused had booked the same room a few days earlier and installed the camera. Whenever a couple was seen on the camera, they would profile them and send them their intimate videos on their social media accounts and phones."

A case has been filed under IPC sections 420 (cheating), 386 (extortion by fear of death/grievous hurt) and 506 (criminal intimidation).

OYO Rooms did not respond to attempts seeking a comment.

FORMALLY OPENED ON FEBRUARY 17, 1916

How LHMC, Delhi's first medical college, drew women into medicine

ANKITA UPADHYAY

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

ON A visit to India in 1911, King George V announced that the British government would be transferred from Calcutta to Delhi on April 1 the following year. When the then viceroy of India, Baron Charles Hardinge, and his wife Winifred Selina Sturt, Baroness Hardinge of Penshurst, moved to Delhi, she observed that there was no medical college in the city. While men who wanted to pursue medicine went to cities like Agra, Calcutta and Chennai, there were no options for women looking to study medicine.

According to a history journal published for the National Medical Journal of India (NMJI), a publication of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, it was realised that because women students had to be given education in the mixed classes at men's colleges, "conservative" Indian women of the "right type and

class" were not coming forward in sufficient numbers to become medical practitioners.

"Only 89 women were receiving medical education in medical colleges of Madras, Bombay, Calcutta and Lahore at that time. Of these, 73 were Christians and 9 were Parsis or Jews," states the journal written by Dr N N Mathur, former director of Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC).

It was then decided by Lady Hardinge that the capital's first medical college will be opened in Delhi — and exclusively for women. A 50-acre plot near Shahjahanabad, next to Raisina village, where Rashttrapati Bhawan now stands, was selected for the construction of the hospital.

On March 17, 1914, the foundation stone of the medical college was laid by Lady Hardinge and the college was named Queen Mary College and Hospital after Queen Mary, wife of King George V. The training school for nurses was to be named after Lady Hardinge and the medical

college was to be affiliated to a recognised university. "Post the foundation stone ceremony, Lady Hardinge became actively involved in collecting funds for the college from princely states and the public. Maharaja of Jaipur, Maharaja of Patiala, Nizam of Hyderabad, Maharaja of Baroda, and many others made their contributions," said Dr Mathur.

Rs 1 lakh was spent in building the outpatient department. The architects of the building were Messrs. Begg and Glenn and the construction contract was given to one Sardar Narain Singh. It took almost two years for the construction to finish.

Before the launch, Lady Hardinge passed away on July 11, 1914, and on the suggestion of Queen Mary, the college and the hospital was named after her.

According to the hospital website, the college and hospital was formally opened by Lord Hardinge, the then Viceroy of India, on February 17, 1916, days before his departure from India.



When the college and hospital was launched, the building consisted of three blocks

Speaking with *The Indian Express*, Dr Mathur said that Lord Hardinge had also said later in his memoirs that the opening of Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital for women was his most satisfying achievements as the Viceroy. The inaugural function was attended by Maharajas of Gwalior, Bikaner, Patiala, Jhind

and Kota, General Baber Shumsher Jung Rana Bahadur of Nepal, the hospital committee and the Viceroy's staff.

The college was started under the leadership of Dr Kate Platt, first Principal of the college and also handled the internal management and the College Council. According to Dr Mathur, at the

time of inauguration, it was decided to get grants of Rs 1 lakh per annum from the Government of India, Rs 20,000 from the Countess of Dufferin's fund, and Rs 3,500 from the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir towards recurring expenditure. "The Countess of Dufferin's fund Council had started an All-India Women's Medical Service and was providing medical help to women and children of India at that time," said Dr Mathur.

Initially, the duration of MBBS course covered a period of seven years, including two years of pre-medical intermediate science course. However, the premedical science departments were closed in 1935, thus reducing the course in the college from seven years to five years. In 1960, a rotating internship was introduced for six months.

According to the LHMC website, the MBBS course was reduced from five years to four and a half years in 1969, and along with it a compulsory internship of one year was introduced. The number of admissions to the first year was increased gradually from 16 per year in 1916 to 60 in 1956. In 1961, admissions were increased to 100 and were further raised to 130 in 1970.

Until the 1980s, only women patients were allowed to be checked in the hospital, but later men were allowed too.

The hospital also remained the only medical college till 1958, after which other medical colleges including Maulana Azad Medical College came up.

To implement the Central Educational Institution (Reservation In Admission) Act 2006, LHMC increased under-

graduate admissions to 150 in 2008 and 200 now. Since 1950, the college has been affiliated to the University of Delhi. Post-graduate courses were started in 1954 in affiliation with Punjab University and later on with University of Delhi.

According to the NMJI journal, when the college and hospital was launched, the building consisted of three blocks — a central block and two science blocks on either side: "The central block consisted of a large lecture theatre — the Convocation Hall, a library which was there till 1989 when it was shifted to a new building, a museum, offices and rooms for students and professors. This block had the main entrance to the college with a sun-clock at the top. The convocation hall in the central block was once visited by Gandhiji where he addressed students, who had invited him during the Satyagraha movement. The students spun *khadi* thread with their *takkis* (spinning wheels) in the hall."





DIRECTOR GENERAL

Ahead of polls, key Patidar leader meets Modi in Delhi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
RAJKOT, OCTOBER 22

PATIDAR LEADER and chairman of the Shree Khodaldham Trust Naresh Patel met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Delhi on Saturday. State BJP chief CR Paatil said the meet will help the party's prospects in the coming elections.

Ramesh Tilara, a trustee of Khodaldham Trust who accompanied Patel, said they paid a "goodwill visit" to Modi.

Asked about the meeting, C R Paatil told reporters, "BJP workers are themselves very strong. But if the head of an important social and religious institution like Khodaldham Trust has met the PM, I believe the target set by BJP for the elections will be achieved." Shree Khodaldham Trust, a prominent social-religious institution, manages the temple of Ma Khodiyar at Kavag in Rajkot district. Ma Khodiyar is the patron deity of the Leuva Patel community.

Patel is believed to have considerable influence with the numerically significant Patidar community in Gujarat.

PM's Rozgar Mela launch comes amid Opp heat on jobs in Gujarat, Himachal

SOHINI GHOSH & AMIL BHATNAGAR
AHMEDABAD, SHIMLA, OCTOBER 22

ON SATURDAY, Prime Minister Narendra Modi kicked off a Rozgar Mela, with 75,000 handed over letters across the country for various government jobs, at a time when unemployment remains a major concern and is set to figure in the elections to Gujarat and Himachal. Back in the two states, only new-bie AAP has included job promises in its poll pitch in Gujarat, while in Himachal, it is one of the main narratives for all parties.

AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal first laid out the party's detailed roadmap on the topic in Gujarat, beginning with addressing the problem of paper leaks in competitive exams for government jobs, to making a promise to provide 10 lakh jobs, and to provide jobs to all youths in the state in five years, at a public address in Bhavnagar in August this year. He also promised interim unem-



During the Rozgar Mela in Chandigarh, Saturday.

ployment allowance for youths who did not get jobs. Besides, he announced a policy to provide 80 per cent reservation in private jobs for Gujarat domiciles.

As per the quarterly bulletin of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), while Gujarat had among the lowest rates of unemployment in urban areas, Himachal had among the highest.

Gujarat Congress hasn't made any job promises so far, though in September, Rahul Gandhi, while addressing Congress booth workers in Ahmedabad at a 'Parivartan Sankalp' rally, made a slew of promises, including 10 lakh jobs for the state. Stating that employment can't be provided by "few multimillionaire busi-

nesses", and that small and medium enterprises form the backbone of job creation, he had said, "We will be fully focused on ensuring employment for Gujarat youths, and will give jobs to 10 lakh youths."

CMIE's monthly time series data shows that between January 2018 and September 2022, the state's peak unemployment rate was in April 2020 (18.7%). It stood at 1.6 per cent in September 2022.

Meanwhile, the ruling BJP in Himachal wants state voters to believe there are enough jobs following the 'double-engine' development. But the Opposition is unimpressed.

As per government labour figures, up until March this year, there were 8 lakh youth who had registered themselves as unemployed. Several of them were college graduates with degrees in both technical and non-technical fields.

As per the Periodic Labour Force Survey, unemployment rate in Himachal varied from 8.6 per cent in July-Sept 2020 to 7.8

per cent in January-March 2021. But it rose sharply to 12.4 per cent between July and September 2021. With horticulture being the state's economic backbone, a majority of the workforce is involved in trade, storage and transport of apples. Another key form of employment is the service industry, since the state draws a large chunk of its income from tourism.

Himachal CM Jai Ram Thakur has repeatedly highlighted the appointments to official posts his government has been making. He has also emphasised schemes such as Mukhyamantri Swavalamban Yojana, under which new entrepreneurs reportedly received 35 per cent subsidy.

The Congress, though, has already promised it will set aside Rs 680 crore to promote start-ups in the state. Citizens with a start-up proposal will be given an interest-free Rs 10 crore corpus as seed money. This will incentivise people to set up new businesses, the party stated.

Drive is cover-up for failure in job creation, says Opp

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

AS PRIME Minister Narendra Modi launched a Rozgar Mela handing over appointment letters to 75,000 people, the Opposition tore into the government accusing it of indulging in "eventbaazi" and a "publicity stunt" to cover up its failures on job creation.

Pointing out that the BJP had promised two crore jobs every year, the Congress asked the government to disclose when the promised 16 crore jobs would be provided to the youth.

The recruitment drive, the Congress said, was an impact of the Bharat Jodo Yatra. The yatra has merely moved in four states and the government "had to admit" that unemployment is the biggest problem the country faces, AICC general secretary Randeep Surjewala said.

"At least, the 'jumla king' was forced to admit that unemployment is the biggest problem the country and the youth face," he said in tweet. He said what the youth the country needs ka employment and not "eventbaazi".

The PM, he said, should tell "by when would you provide 16 crore jobs as you had promised to provide two crore jobs every

year in the last eight years".

"By when would these 16 crore jobs be provided and by when would 30 lakh vacancies in government departments be filled up. The prime minister would have to answer the youth of the country," he said.

"Things would not move by giving merely 70,000 appointment letters and the youth of the country want jobs and the prime minister would have to answer them. Rahul Gandhi and the Congress would continue to raise this question from the prime minister during the Bharat Jodo Yatra," he said.

The Trinamool Congress too attacked the government.

"Jumla Raja Prime Minister Modi had promised 16 crore jobs to youth and failed to deliver. Data given by the Modi government inside Parliament shows that 22 crore people applied for government jobs since 2014, and only seven lakh got jobs," Derek O'Brien, the leader of the TMC in Rajya Sabha, said.

"While there has been a 45 per cent decrease in employment in the country, the figure for employment in West Bengal has risen by 40 per cent. Young people want jobs and Modi has failed badly. All he continues to do to cover up his failures, is organize these publicity stunts", he added.

BJP battles revolt, Cong lacks leadership; AAP, CPM X-factor

MANRAJ GREWAL
SHIMLA, OCTOBER 22

"RIVAAZ BADAL raha hai" (The tradition is changing)". That's the buzz in the BJP circles in Himachal, where power has alternated between Congress and BJP for the last three decades. The ruling party has been urging voters to break this routine and return it to power for a second consecutive term on November 12.

While party leaders in Delhi are upbeat, long-time observers of the state's politics are more cautious. "It's early days. Congress is still in the game, and there is anger among the people on governance issues. Also, the entry of newcomer AAP could influence the results in a state where victory margins tend to be

slim," said a veteran journalist.

The saffron party, which dropped 11 sitting MLAs, is gripped by rebellion. One of the revolts took place in CM Jai Ram Thakur's home district of Mandi, where Praveen Sharma, the party's media co-in-charge, announced to contest as an independent from Mandi Sadar. In Nalagarh, former BJP legislator K L Thakur has filed his nomination as an independent. In Dharamshala, too, around 200 supporters of sitting BJP MLA Vishal Naihariya quit over ticket to Congress turncoat Rakesh Chaudhary.

Infighting within political families is also coming to bite the BJP. Vandana Guleria, daughter of Jal Shakti minister Mahender

Singh Thakur, quit her Mahila Morcha post when ticket was allotted to her brother Rajat Thakur. Hiteswar Singh, a Kullu royal, is also threatening to contest from Banjar.

The party also faces charges of poor governance. The CMO, for instance, has seen six chief secretaries in the last five years. A number of government initiatives did not stand scrutiny of the courts. The draft Shimla Development Plan-2041 was stayed by the NGT.

Prof Harish Thakur, a political scientist at HP University, says, "Many central schemes, Ayushman Bharat for instance, have proved to be godsend for many. Also, Modi's nationalist approach resonates in a state where

EXPLAINED

Photo finish on the cards in Himachal

WITH PM Modi as its mascot, the ruling Jai Ram Thakur government is hoping to make history in Himachal Pradesh, which has never returned a sitting government to power. But infighting and governance deficit may upset its calculations. Even though Congress is facing a crisis of leadership, it's no walkover. Add newcomer AAP and a confident Left to the equation and you have a poll battlefield where a few votes here or there could swing the fortunes of any of the two traditional parties.

a large number of youngsters join the armed forces."

The Congress, on the other hand, is facing a leadership crisis as it fights its first Assembly election without Virbhadra Singh, the six-time CM who died in July

2021. "Virbhadra had a mass following. It was believed that he had at least 4,000 votes in every constituency," says Prof Kamal, a retired HPU professor.

Although the party has appointed his widow Pratibha Singh

as the state chief, many see her as part of the problem and not the solution, even though she won the Mandi parliamentary seat in the October 2021 bypolls. Infighting continues to roil Congress, which is banking on anti-incumbency, anger against price rise and mis-governance to make a comeback.

The state seemed poised for its first three-cornered contest, as Aam Aadmi Party cast its net on Himachal. But their state unit has been in a shambles, with senior leaders joining either Congress or BJP. However, the party list has some interesting names.

Buoyed by its win on the Theog seat in 2017, the CPM(M) has fielded 11 candidates, one against the CM, in Seraj. Political observers say the two parties (AAP and CPM) could queer the pitch for the two traditional rivals.

Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda is celebrating 7th Ayurveda day

In continuation with this moto, this year ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India is celebrating 7th Ayurveda Divas on 23rd Oct 2022. Under the umbrella of this auspicious day celebration, various pan India activities were planned by the ministry - to promote Ayurveda into mainstream globally; to explore the potential of Ayurveda in to National Health programmes; to Reduce the burden of disease and related morbidity and mortality by utilizing the potential of Ayurveda; to focus on strengths of Ayurveda and its unique treatment principles; to enhance confidence in public for Ayurveda; to create a sense of awareness in today's generation and promote Ayurvedic principles of healing in society; and



to create awareness that Ayurveda is evidence based scientific medical system.

Milestones and Achievements of ITRA: First and only Institute designated as the Institute of National Importance (INI) under AYUSH.

- A pioneer in the Ayurveda field to introduce Ayurveda pharmacy (offering diploma to PhD level courses); M.Pharm (Ayu.) & M.Sc. (Medicinal Plants); PhD degree courses and short-term regular Ayurvedic courses for Foreigners.
- Hospital accredited by NABH.
- Clinical laboratory accredited by NABL
- Designated as WHO Collaborating Centre

for Traditional Medicines (Ayurveda).

- Introduced and established Pharmacovigilance for ASU drugs as 'National Pharmacovigilance Resource Centre (NPRC) for ASU Drugs' in 2007 and 'Intermediary Pharmacovigilance Centre for Ayurveda (IPVC for Ayurveda)' by in 2017
- Recognized as "Scientific & Industrial Research Organization (SIRO)" by Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Govt. of India.
- Publishing peer-reviewed "AYU" Journal (PubMed indexed) since 1964.
- Conserved more than 7500 ancient manuscripts (digitalized > 500).
- Digitalized PG theses database and released full script of PG theses in electronic format (2000-2014)

Hospital: ITRA Hospital is situated opposite to city B division police station, Jamnagar

Research:

- Undertaking high quality researchs with the help of all modern facility available with ITRA.
- More than 200 research papers per year being published in peer review research journals.
- Having well-equipped Animal house for various preclinical drug studies

Ayurveda teaching:

For all India students:

B.Pharm (Ayu), D



Pharm (Ayu), BAMS, MD (Ayu.), MS (Ayu.), M. Pharm, PhD (Ayu.), and various short courses are running with all its level best academic environment.

To International scholars: Ayurveda seekers from all over the globe come to Jamnagar

WHO collaborative centre:

ITRA had played a pivotal role in various WHO activities like in preparing Health Promotion Guidelines of Ayurveda, Life Style Guidelines of Ayurveda for Health Promotion, Clinical Research Methodologies in Traditional Medicine, Benchmarks for Practice documents for Ayurveda, Unani and Panchakarma, and standard terminology documents of Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha systems of medicine.

International Students from 65 Countries	
BAMS	152
MD	33
PH.D.	6
THREE MONTH	162
SHORT COURSE	152
TOTAL	505

NAVRATNAS of AYURVEDA	
1	निरद्रयं सुखं दुःखं पुष्टिं कार्यं बलाबलम् ॥ Pleasant sleep is a good source of health and pleasure.
2	अभ्यङ्गमाचरेत् नित्यं स जराश्रमवातहा ॥ Delay your ageing by daily massage.
3	आरोग्यं चापि परमं व्यायामादुपजायते ॥ Exercise for better health.
4	तैलमेव च नस्यार्थं नित्याभ्यासेन शस्यते शिरसः ॥ श्लेष्मधामत्वात्स्नेहाः स्वस्थस्य नेतरे ॥ Nasal application of Oil daily keeps you healthy
5	आहार विधि विधानं अरोगार्णं ॥ Good Dietetic Practices keeps you away from diseases.
6	न वेगितो अन्यकार्यः स्थान्निजित्वासाध्यामामयम् ॥ Attending Natural urges appropriately will prevent you from many diseases
7	सुखं च न विना धर्मात् समादधर्मपरो भवेत् ॥ Follow code of conduct to lead happy and comfortable life
8	लाभोपायो हि शस्तानां रसादीनां रसायनम् ॥ Promote your health by rejuvenators
9	ऋतुविशेषवशाच्च आहारविहारसेवान् प्रतिपादनार्थं ऋतुचर्यायाः ॥ Follow Seasonal Regimen to sustain seasonal variations.



Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India is working for the betterment of the health status of India through 'Indian traditional system of medicine' to promote make in India, Heal in India, Heal by India and Atmanirbhar Bharat. It is high time to bring back rich Indian heritage with special reference to wellness and health care to keep healthy individuals in healthy state and to cure the diseased one with indigenous remedies.

Padmashree Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush



Har Din Har Ghar Ayurveda

Ayurveda science considers an individual as a mixture of a soul, mind, senses and body; and these all tends to interacting with nature. It is thus a matter of adjusting a treatment according to the individual characteristics of each patient. The approach of P5 medicine as Predictive, Preventive, Promotive, Personalized & Participatory is well incorporated in Ayurveda principles and not merely curative alone. Hence ITRA had executed various activities as a part of celebration of Ayurveda day to provide benefit to the maximum people.

- Awareness camps
- Wellness camps
- Nidana Chikitsa camps at interior places and villages
- Camps on Yogabhyasa for Mental Well-being
- Training programs for Anganvadi workers, School teachers, NSS students
- Nukkad Natak - To spread the health awareness to every strata of the society
- LED display
- Radio Jingles
- Pamphlet distribution - Amla candy preparation, Dincharya, Ritu Charya, Kshudra Dhanya - millets, Shami Dhanya, Phala Varga etc..
- Demonstration of Home remedy to common people.

Through the Ayush sector India will go to the whole world and the entire world will come to India.

– Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, WHO

Route all broadcast activities through Prasara Bharati: Centre

DIVYAA
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

THE CENTRE has issued an advisory to Union ministries, state governments and Union Territories (UTs) to not enter into any broadcasting activities directly, and go only through Prasara Bharati.

The advisory, issued on October 21, and circulated among all secretaries to various government departments and ministries, state chief secretaries and UT administrators, says, "No ministry/department of the

Central government and state/UT governments and entities related to them shall enter into broadcasting/distribution of broadcasting activities in future."

It added that in case any of these entities are already broadcasting the content, "it shall be done through the public broadcaster". And wherein these entities are already distributing the broadcasting content, they will be required to extract themselves from the distribution activities by December 31, 2023, the advisory stated.

The move is likely to impact the broadcasting activities of

several state-run mediums, including some operating in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry is the nodal ministry for all matters relating to broadcasting. The official communication said, "As per Article 246 of the Constitution, only the ministry can legislate on these subjects."

It was in 2012 that the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), the broadcast regulator, had suggested that the Central and state governments, their related entities, undertakings, joint ventures with the pri-

ivate sector and entities funded by the governments should not be allowed to enter the business of broadcasting.

The advisory noted that the TRAI's recommendations have been considered by the I&B Ministry. In this regard, the advisory says that TRAI had relied on the spirit of the Sarkaria Commission's recommendations and the Supreme Court's observation that "state control really means governmental control, which in turn means control of the political party or parties in power for the time being and has further observed that public

service broadcasting should be in the hands of a statutory corporation...to ensure their impartiality in political, economic and social matters and on other public issues".

Stressing on the key role and importance of Prasara Bharati, "as an independent statutory body", the TRAI had suggested that it should fulfil the legitimate aspirations of government entities as regards broadcasting activities, while at the same time recommending the 'arm's length' relationship between Prasara Bharati and the government be further strengthened.

The advisory said that the entry of central and state governments and UT administrations into the business of broadcast for educational purposes should be done through suitable agreements between Prasara Bharati and the governments concerned, it said. However, this doesn't affect the existing policy guidelines regarding the setting up of community radio by government universities, colleges, schools, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Central/ state universities, including autonomous bodies and agricultural universities, the ministry states.

One of their own as party chief, Cong's Karnataka leaders weigh pros and cons

JOHNSONTA
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 22

IN THE run-up to the election of the veteran Mallikarjun Kharge as the president of the Congress this week, some BJP leaders suggested that his victory will result in the emergence of a third faction in the Congress in Karnataka.

Apart from the Siddaramaiah (former Congress CM and Leader of Opposition) faction and the D K Shivakumar (Karnataka PCC chief) faction, there would now also be a Kharge faction, the BJP's state in-charge for Karnataka, Arun Singh, said at a Jana Sankalpa rally of the party on October 16 in the Dharwad region of the state.

While that remains to be seen, the Congress in the state has mixed feelings over the re-emergence of Kharge — a Karnataka CM candidate in 2008 and 2013 — as a power centre in the party after over a decade in central politics.

Many seem to see Kharge — with his vast knowledge of Karnataka politics, his 40 years of experience therein, and his familiarity with the footsoldiers of the party in the 224 Assembly



Cong chief Mallikarjun Kharge

constituencies in the state — playing the role of a buffer between the Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar factions and preventing the Congress from imploding under the weight of internal rivalries in the 2023 Assembly elections.

But others see Kharge posing a threat to the primacy established in the Karnataka Congress by the leader of the Congress Legislature Party (Siddaramaiah) since 2013 and by the KPCC president (Shivakumar) since his appointment in 2020. The election of Kharge as the national president of the All India Congress Committee is bound to "make the big two in Karnataka nervous", said a mid-level Congress leader and former state legislator.

The rivalry between Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar is the Congress's biggest concern right now, and could come to a head during candidate selection in 2023.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

YATRA'S KARNATAKA LEG ENDS TODAY, NEXT STOP TELANGANA



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in Karnataka's Raichur district on Saturday. PTI

Cong show of strength in Raichur as workers from 4 dists join Rahul

AKRAMM
RAICHUR, OCTOBER 22

THE PENULTIMATE day of the Karnataka leg of Bharat Jodo Yatra was a massive show of strength by the Congress as party supporters from four districts reached Raichur on Saturday.

Party workers and supporters from Bidar, Kalaburagi, Yadgir, Raichur and other surrounding districts of Kalyana Karnataka region participated in the yatra, which started from Yeragera village in the morning.

Congress working president Saleem Ahmed claimed the

number of participants exceeded one lakh.

At the rally, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi continued to target the BJP state government over corruption charges and listed out alleged irregularities committed by the government. "Only scams are happening in Karnataka, not administration," he said.

Earlier in the day, Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president DK Shivakumar told reporters that the yatra was a major boost for the party's prospects.

A group of Army veterans also participated in the yatra during the first half of the day.

Former MP and actor Ramya's presence, too, surprised many.

Interactions were held with representatives from minority communities, and NREGA workers and Devadasi women.

Several participants from Muslim community spoke of the fear felt by the community in the past few years. Zafar, an architect and theatre artiste, said there was a need to ensure more minority representation in the state legislature and Parliament.

The Karnataka leg of the march will end Sunday and will enter Telangana. There will be a three-day break before the yatra resumes.

OPP SEEKS POLICE ACTION

Swapna Suresh accuses senior CPM leaders of harassment

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER 22



Smuggling case accused Swapna Suresh

SWAPNA SURESH, the key accused in the 2020 gold smuggling case, has accused three prominent CPI(M) leaders in Kerala of sexual harassment, prompting the Opposition Congress and BJP to seek police action against the three leaders named.

Leaders of the two parties also asked the CPI(M)-led LDF government in the state to shed its silence on the issue.

Interviews with Malayalam TV channels over the last two days, Swapna alleged that former state Finance minister Thomas Isaac, former Temple Affairs minister Kadakampally Surendran and former Speaker of Assembly P Sreeramakrishnan sought sexual favours from her. Isaac and Surendran had served in the LDF government led by Pinarayi Vijayan from 2016 to 2021.

The Sunday Express tried to call the three leaders for comment but they did not answer. The CPI(M), too, has not reacted to the allegations.

According to Swapna, Surendran had allegedly invited her to a hotel room in Kochi during a function, while Isaac had allegedly asked her to come to the hill station Munnar. Sreeramakrishnan, she told channels, allegedly wanted her to go to his official residence.

With the CPI(M) maintaining silence, Swapna has dared them to file a case against her.

She alleged that Surendran "had behaved with sexual intention". She also alleged: "He said he would come home or take (her to a) hotel room. He had done nothing wrong.

sent several sex messages and compelled me to come to (his) hotel room."

Isaac "(mis)behaved in such a way, sending signals" when she met her, she alleged. "Later, he invited me to Munnar," Swapna asked. Sreeramakrishnan, she alleged, misbehaved with her at his official residence during a party. "He behaved like a student, sent me 'I love you' messages. He wanted me to come alone to his official residence," she alleged.

Swapna claimed that the then principal secretary to the chief minister, M Sivasankar, was informed about these incidents.

State Congress chief K Sudhakaran and Leader of Opposition in state Assembly V D Satheesan said an FIR should be registered against these leaders. Satheesan said, "Let the accused prove their innocence. We are not saying they are guilty, but if there is an allegation, it should be investigated. The government and police should be ready for that."

Union minister and BJP leader V Muraleedharan said Swapna's "revelations" before the media should be considered legal evidence and immediate action should be taken against the accused. "Why are CPI(M) and the Chief Minister not reacting to the charges? Swapna Suresh is talking with evidence. A case should be registered and the charges should be probed. There is absolutely no doubt about it," he told the media.

Gujarat's huge leap in Energy Sector

With Double Engine government working in tandem, Gujarat has taken a huge stride forward in the renewable energy sector. Today it is the top Indian state in generating solar energy with the highest rooftop solar installation, second highest in wind power installed capacity, and second highest transmission lines installed, thus transforming the lives of people in a positive way.

Gujarat's renewable energy capacity stands at 10,648 MW. This is due to the dedicated efforts and progressive policies of the state government.

Gujarat contributes nearly 12% to the total renewable energy capacity of India. A slew of measures taken by the state government have set the right momentum for Aatmanirbhar Gujarat to Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

"Like the light of the sun that does not discriminate, the light of development also reaches every house and hut" the Prime Minister's vision for developing self-reliance in the energy sector for the people of the State.

Previously the scenario was grim as one had to pay huge power bills. But the Government of Gujarat,

over the years, has come up with policies that allow people to install solar panels at their houses and fields. This has not only reduced their bills but they can also sell the surplus power and earn from it. Installing solar pumps for irrigation has become a reality now.

Gujarat became the first state in the country where all 18,065 villages had access to a three-phase uninterrupted electric supply. Jyotigram Yojana was an initiative of the then Chief Minister Narendra Modi. Now With the Central and State Government in double force, Gujarat is also the top Indian state in rooftop solar installations. Gujarat is the most recent state to have reached its 2022 renewable energy target.

Gujarat to become Global hub for Renewable Energy

Gujarat is taking rapid strides in the renewable energy (RE) sector, with a slew of mega green energy projects enlisted until 2030.

Gujarat is one of the leading states in the country with the total renewable energy installed capacity at 19,414.87 MW by now. The state government has decided to allot 60,000 hectares of land for the development of a mega

size renewable energy park. "I am happy that Gujarat has once again taken the lead in fulfilling the Prime Minister's vision of generating clean energy. We are committed to fulfill his resolve of producing 50% of India's energy requirements through renewable energy by 2030," Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel said. Solar energy accounts for around 6,310 MW of Gujarat's total renewable energy production of 17,041 MW.



"In the wind power sector, Gujarat stands second in the country with a 22% share. In solar energy, Gujarat is the third with a 13% share," Out of the total solar rooftop capacity in India, 25% is in Gujarat.

- Shri Bhupendra Patel, Hon'ble Chief Minister

ADVERTORIAL

Gujarat is building World's Largest Hybrid Solar-Wind Power Park

Approximately 30 km from the last point accessible to civilians in the Rann of Kutch, an area roughly the size of Singapore — 72,600 hectares or 726 square km — has been set aside for the World's Largest Hybrid Solar-Wind Power Park.



Modhera: India's First Solar Powered Village



Modhera is the first village in India to become a net renewable energy generator. Solar Power project integrated with Battery Energy Storage System at Sujapur, near Sun Temple will provide solar energy to the people of Modhera all day. People will save 60% to 100% on electricity bills with this project.

Largest Solar Park in India

To establish a 4,750 MW renewable energy park at Khavada, which is expected to be the country's largest solar park. Gujarat Solar Park-1 is a solar power plant near Charanka village in Patan district of Gujarat. It is spread over an area of 2,000-hectare.

Diu is first city in India to run completely on solar

The power comes from its two solar parks — spread over 0.2 sq km — and the rooftop panels on 112 government establishments.

PM Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)



- To provide free gas connections to rural women to get rid of harmful smoke from woodfire stove. Around 29 lac gas connections in PMUY 1.0 and 5.56 lac gas connections in PMUY 2.0 have been registered.

Kisan Suryodaya Yojana to meet Power Demand of Farmers

- Aimed at providing daytime electricity to farmers in Gujarat for irrigation and farming purposes
- Construction of 1 substation and 737 circuit km new transmission line.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and dedicated various projects worth over ₹3,900 crore to the nation in Modhera and Mehsana. He declared Modhera as India's first 24x7 solar-powered village. Modhera will always figure in any discussion about solar power anywhere in the world", he said. The Prime Minister attributed the successes in the area of solar energy and electricity coverage to the confidence shown by the people of Gujarat in the Double Engine governments.

Jyotigram Yojana - A boon for Rural Gujarat

- To supply 24 hours continuous three-phase electricity to the villages and suburban areas of the state for non-agricultural activities and at least 8 hours of uninterrupted power supply for agricultural activities.
- A total of 1,879 Jyotigram feeders, 4,557 farm feeders were established in the state. Around 78,453 km of new power lines, 18,724 new transformers and over 17 lac electric poles were installed at cost of ₹1,290.30 crore.
- Increased consumption of electrical appliances used by housewives and students, new employment opportunities for localities.



Solar Rooftop Subsidy Scheme for residential consumers under 'SURYA Gujarat' scheme.

Agricultural Electricity Connection Scheme
• Agriculture-related electricity connections have been provided to 7,65,681 farmers with an expenditure of ₹11,815.86 crore.

• To increase agricultural production, reduce imports, save foreign exchange, and make farmers financially sufficient

• Share capital to provide reliable power supply through high voltage distribution systems in the agriculture sector

• 1,03,112 low-capacity transformers installed at a cost of ₹1,286 crore.

Gujarat is at the top in the country in terms of solar rooftop system installation

- Residential consumers will get 40% subsidy of fixed price for the first 3 kW for installation of a solar rooftop system and 20% subsidy for more than 3 kW and up to 10 kW. Group Housing Society, Residential Welfare Association will be eligible for 20% subsidy for 10 kW per house.
- 2,72,075 solar installations with a capacity of 1056.60 MW

Adijati Vistara Peta Yojana

In the last 20 years, 3,29,207 Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries have been provided with household electricity connection.

Construction of Power Lines in Tribal Area



- Gujarat Energy Transmission Corporation Limited has installed 268 new substations in the last 20 years for tribal areas.
- Agriculture related electricity connections provided to 7,974 scheduled caste farmers
- In the last 20 years, household electricity connections provided to 3,29,207 ST tribal beneficiaries.



MEERUT

19-year-old, who jumped off varsity building over molestation bid, dies: Police

AMIT SHARMA
MEERUT, OCTOBER 22

A 19-YEAR-OLD student of a private university in Meerut died on Friday evening, two days after she jumped off the fourth floor of the institute following an alleged molestation attempt by a male student of the same institute. The 20-year-old accused was arrested on Friday and sent to judicial custody. The woman's burial rites were done Saturday, police said.

Police said the woman was a student of Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS). "The accused tried to molest her and when she resisted, he slapped her twice in the presence of a few other students. Humiliated, she took the extreme step," reads the FIR registered on the basis of a complaint filed by the woman's father.

"We arrested the accused on Friday and he has been booked for abetment to suicide. He was produced in a court that sent him to judicial custody for 14 days," said Meerut Superintendent of Police (Rural) Keshav Kumar.

"My daughter was a meritorious student. We want the accused to be given stringent punishment...for the maximum possible years," the woman's father said on Saturday.

UP: Five girls drown collecting soil from drain

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
SULTANPUR, OCTOBER 22

FIVE GIRLS drowned Saturday while collecting soil from a drain in an area under Motigarpur Police Station here, police said.

While the bodies of four girls were pulled out shortly after the incident, divers recovered the body of the fifth girl in the evening.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, expressing grief over the deaths, directed the District Magistrate and senior police officers to go to the spot and conduct relief work.

Five teenagers, who had gone to the drain in Kaliganj Bazar on Saturday to extract soil, drowned in the deep water, police said.

New J&K quota rule: Ethnicity, not language, to be criterion

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, OCTOBER 22

THE BENEFITS of reservation to Pahari-speaking people in Jammu and Kashmir will be given on the basis of "ethnicity" and not language as the UT administration has amended the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Rules-2005, replacing the word "Pahari Speaking People" with "Pahari Ethnic Group" in it.

Quoting directions from UT's Lt Governor Manoj Sinha for carrying out amendments in the Reservation Rules, a notification dated October 19, 2022, issued by Commissioner-Secretary Social Welfare Department, Sheetal Nanda, stated that "in the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Rules-2005, words 'Pahari Speaking People' (PSP), wherever appearing, shall be substituted with 'Pahari Ethnic People'.

It also expanded its social caste category list by adding 15 more classes to it, besides renaming a

Kerala woman hacked to death; man held

Kannur: A 21-year-old woman was hacked to death at her home near Panur in Kannur district of northern Kerala on Saturday, police said. A man said to have been in a relationship with her was arrested hours later.

The deceased, identified as Vishnupriya, was found dead in a pool of blood with a slit throat and deep wounds on her neck and hands at her residence in Vallyyail, police said.

The arrested accused was identified as Shyamjith, a 25-year-old native of nearby Mananthery.

The woman had allegedly ended the relationship with the accused, which caused a dispute between the two, police said. PTI

ROW OVER 'BHOOTA KOLA' BEING PART OF HINDU RITUALS

Cops book actor for comments on *Kantara* after Bajrang Dal leader files complaint

KIRAN PARASHAR
BENGALURU, OCTOBER 22

THREE DAYS after Kannada actor Chetan Kumar said that 'Bhoota Kola' was not part of Hindu customs, and that Adivasis had practiced it even before Hinduism spread in the region, Bengaluru police on Saturday registered a case against the actor for allegedly trying to promote enmity with his statement.

Seshadripuram police registered the case on the basis of a

complaint by Bajrang Dal convener of Bengaluru (north), Shiv Kumar. The police have invoked IPC Section 505 (2) (statements creating or promoting enmity, hatred or ill-will between classes).

Chetan's remarks came in response to a recent statement by Rishab Shetty, director and actor of Kannada blockbuster film *Kantara*, that Bhoota Kola is part of Hindu tradition.

The *Sunday Express* tried contacting Chetan over phone, but he did not respond to calls.

'Bhoota Kola' is a spirit worship ritual practised by people in coastal Karnataka and is depicted in the film.

Recently, Rishab Shetty, in an interview, had said that Bhoota Kola was part of Hindu culture — that the spirit which takes the form of a wild boar is part of Hindu tradition.

In response, Chetan addressed the media on Wednesday and said, "It was wrong to state that Bhoota Kola was part of Hindu religion — it was practiced by Adivasis; there was no Brahminism in Bhoota Kola. The

worship of forest and environment was practiced by Adivasis even before Hindu religion came into existence in India."

The actor had also said, "Like the way we cannot accept imposition of Hindi, we cannot accept Hindutva imposition."

Hindutva activists have been vocal against Chetan's statement. Sri Rama Sene chief Pramod Muthalik had said that the actor is among the "intellectuals" who criticise the culture of the land. The Hindu Jagarana Vedike had filed a complaint.



The illuminated Ram Ki Paidi on the banks of Saryu river ahead of the Deepotsav, in Ayodhya on Saturday. PTI

On Diwali eve, Ayodhya to be lit up with 18 lakh diyas; PM to attend Deepotsav

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
AYODHYA, OCTOBER 22

AROUND 18 lakh earthen lamps will be lit on Sunday here as part of Deepotsav, the Diwali celebrations that will include fireworks, a laser show and the staging of Ramliyas.

The sixth edition of the Deepotsav will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Ayodhya Divisional Commissioner Navdeep Rinwa said over 15 lakh earthen lamps will be lit by more than 22,000

volunteers at Ram ki Paidi near the Saryu bank.

The rest will be placed at important intersections and spots, officials said.

People in large numbers visited Ram Ki Paidi Saturday evening to have a feel of the Deepotsav. The earthen lamps placed there were not lit and volunteers were seen urging the public to watch their steps.

Excited youngsters were busy taking selfies and uploading these on their social media accounts.

Volunteers have been told to

arrange 256 earthen lamps in a square and the distance between two squares will be approximately two to three feet, Deepotsav organisers said.

Rinwa said there will also be a laser show, 3D projection mapping show and fireworks.

Ramlila will also be staged by cultural troupes from other countries and states, he said.

At the Ram Katha park, Lord Ram, Goddess Sita, Lord Lakshman and Lord Hanuman will be shown descending from a "pushpak vimana".

An aarti of the Saryu river will

also be performed on this occasion, he said.

"October 23 being a Sunday will see Ram Lalla wearing a red-pink dress and a new set of dresses is being stitched for Lord Ram and his brothers," said Acharya Satyendra Das, chief priest of the Ram temple here.

Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath in a tweet in Hindi said, "Shree Ayodhya ji is ready for a grand and divine Deepotsav. All of you are welcome. Jai Shree Ram." Adityanath also tweeted the new logo of the event.

Firecracker ban aimed at hurting sentiments, says RSS affiliate SJM

DEEPTIMANT TIWARY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

RSS-AFFILIATE Swadeshi Jagaran Manch has opposed the ban announced by many states, including Delhi, on firecrackers during Diwali, calling it "unscientific" and a step that is aimed at "hurting sentiments". The organisation has argued that air pollution was caused earlier due to Chinese firecrackers which have been banned and the ones made in India do not cause as much pollution.

"Swadeshi Jagaran Manch strongly opposes a complete ban on firecrackers by Delhi government during the festival of Diwali, which is inappropriate, aimed at hurting the sentiments, apart from causing a blow to the employment of millions of workers and others engaged in the production and distribution of firecrackers in the country," SJM convener Ashwani Mahajan said.

The SJM had urged states to avoid a complete ban on firecrackers based on "propaganda".

"We need to know that pollution caused by firecrackers was primarily due to illegally imported ones from China and not India-made green crackers," Mahajan said.

The SJM argued that while states such as Delhi, Haryana and Punjab had failed to curb stubble burning, they were misguiding people by banning firecrackers.

"It's a matter of great regret that government agencies have failed to solve the problem of stubble burning in various parts of the country, including Punjab, Haryana and Delhi. Stubble burning remains the biggest source of air pollution in the national capital and surrounding northern states, and on Dipawali, they try to misguide people by banning firecrackers, diverting attention from real cause of pollution," Mahajan said.

Techie gangraped in Jharkhand, SIT formed

Cops round up 12 suspects; BJP demands CM's resignation

ABHISHEK ANGAD
RANCHI, OCTOBER 22

A SPECIAL Investigation Team (SIT) was formed on Saturday to probe into the alleged gangrape of a 26-year-old software engineer in Chaibasa area of West Singhbhum district, which is 180 km from state capital Ranchi.

Twelve people were detained for interrogation in connection with the incident, Sub-Divisional Police Officer (Sadar) Dilip Khalko said.

According to the police, The engineer was allegedly raped by around 10 men near the old aerodrome in Chaibasa on Thursday evening when she was out with a male friend on a two-wheeler.

West Singhbhum Superintendent of Police Ashutosh Shekhar said a case has been registered at the Muffasil police station and an investigation is underway to identify the accused. Sub-Divisional Police Officers (SDPOs) of Chaibasa Sadar, Jagganathpur, and the officer-in-charge of Mufassil police

station are members of the SIT, Shekhar said.

He said: "The woman works for a Bangalore-based IT company and was here as she was working from home. We have rounded up some suspects from neighbouring villages. There is a possibility that the accused may know the girl. We are investigating the case."

The police said the accused had beaten up the woman's friend and allegedly raped her after taking her to a secluded spot. They also took away her belongings, including phone, they said.

The woman managed to reach home and told her family about the incident after which they filed a police complaint.

The BJP demanded Chief Minister Hemant Soren's resignation over the incident.

"Soren's government is absolutely insensitive towards the incidents of rape that have happened in the state over the last three years," former Chief Minister Raghubar Das of the BJP told PTI.

A sense of insecurity was prevailing among the people of the

state as law and order had completely broken down, he claimed.

"Soren, who is also facing corruption charges with uncertainty looming large over his tenure, should immediately resign on moral ground as Jharkhand is becoming the rape capital," he added.

The ruling JMM said those accused of the gangrape would not be spared and the police were working to ensure stringent punishment to them.

"The state government has been taking prompt action in such cases and will do it in the Chaibasa incident as well," JMM spokesperson Mohan Karmakar said, rejecting the BJP's allegations as an attempt to tarnish Soren's image.

The BJP is nervous over the overwhelming support the Soren government is getting for its welfare programmes, he claimed.

"The government is making all possible efforts to further strengthen the police department," Karmakar added.

WITHPTIINPUTS

Cyclone expected to hit Bangladesh on Tuesday morning

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, OCTOBER 22

THE INDIA Meteorological Department (IMD) on Saturday said that the low pressure prevailing over the Bay of Bengal has intensified into a depression (wind speeds between 40 km/hr and 50 km/hr — gusting to 60 km/hr).

This storm, which is expected to turn into a cyclone in the "severe" category — to be called as 'Sitrang' — with wind speeds of 90-100 km/hr on Monday (October 24), will move towards Bangladesh and cross near Tinkona Island and Sandwip early Tuesday (October 25) morning. On Saturday evening, the depression was located over east-central Bay of Bengal, 370 km northwest of Port Blair, 860 km south-southeast of West Bengal's Sagar Island, and 940 km south of Bangladesh's Barisal.

Coastal districts of Odisha and West Bengal will receive widespread heavy rainfall till Tuesday, with moderate to heavy rainfall likely over south-

ern Assam, east Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur and Tripura on Monday, the IMD said. Further, extremely heavy rainfall will lash Tripura and Mizoram on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Rough sea conditions with squally wind speeds ranging between 45 km/hr and 55 km/hr — gusting to 65 km/hr — would prevail off Odisha and West Bengal coasts on Monday. As the storm inches closer, maximum packing wind speeds of 90-100 km/hr is likely to cross off the Bangladesh coast. Wind speeds between 80 km/hr and 90 km/hr — gusting to 100 km/hr — would prevail along and off North and South 24 Pargana districts, and wind speeds around 80 km/hr are expected around Medinipur district of West Bengal on Tuesday.

Entire Mizoram, and Tripura along with Balasore district in Odisha will experience squally wind with speeds between 60 km/hr and 70 km/hr — gusting to 80 km/hr — on Tuesday, the IMD has said.

Rajasthan revises pay of contract workers and para teachers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAIPUR, OCTOBER 22


THE RAJASTHAN government has revised the pay scale of over 31,000 contractual workers, gram panchayat assistants, education workers and para teachers, Education Minister B D Kalla said.

They will now get salary based on the length of their service period.

"The pay scale of contractual workers, gram panchayat assistants, education workers and para teachers — whose estimated number is 31,473 — has been revised. They will now get a salary of Rs 18,500 after nine years of service and Rs 32,000 after 18 years of service," Kalla said in a tweet on Friday.

He also shared a copy of the official order dated October 21.

According to the order, these posts have been brought under the purview of 'Rajasthan Contractual Hiring to Civil Post Rules'. The designations of education workers, para teachers and gram panchayat assistants have been changed.



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
PETROLEUM & EXPLOSIVES SAFETY ORGANISATION (PESO)
(Formerly Department of Explosives)

WARNING

It is brought to the notice of all Public that Government of India vide Notification No. G.S.R.682 (E), dated 05-10-1999 has prohibited the manufacture, sale or use of Fire Crackers generating noise level exceeding 125 dB(A) in cluding Joint fire crackers (Garland). The manufacture, sale or use of such fire crackers is illegal and anyone found violating is liable for necessary action under the Statutory Rules.

For Safety during deepavali festival, observe the following precautions:

DO'S

- * Buy the fireworks, manufactured in compliance with Hon'ble Supreme Court directives from the reliable sellers possessing licence.
- * Always an adult should supervise the use of fireworks.
- * Safety precautions marked on the fireworks should be strictly followed.
- * Use a candle or an agarbathi to ignite the fireworks.
- * Always keep a bucket of water at hand to extinguish an incipient fire.
- * Aerial fireworks should be used in a safe landing zone.
- * Dispose off fireworks properly by soaking them in water.

DON'Ts

- * Manufacture, Sale or use of fireworks generating noise exceeding 125 dB (A) or 145 PK at 4 mtr distance from point of bursting is prohibited. For individual fire cracker constituting the series (joint crackers) the above-mentioned limit to be reduced by 5 log10 (N) dB where N is equal the number of crackers jointed together.
- * Do not burst sound emitting firecracker between 10 pm and 6 a.m. Never ignite fireworks while holding them. Keep the fireworks at ground level, ignite and walk away.
- * Don't light fireworks by keeping them inside any containers.
- * Never ignite aerial fireworks where overhead obstructions, viz. trees, leaves, wires, etc. may distract the trajectory into open air space. Never ignite aerial fireworks close to a building, so as to avoid entry of Fireworks through the door, window, etc., which may cause fire inside the building.
- * Never use fireworks inside the house.
- * Do not use fireworks on the public thoroughfare.
- * Never experiment or make your own fireworks.
- * Never re-light a "dud" firework (wait 15 to 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water).
- * Do not use spurious / illegal fireworks.
- * Do not allow children to use fireworks alone.

Government of India
Petroleum & Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) I
(Formerly Department of Explosives)
Issued in the interest of Public Safety.

44961525019100002022

Office of the Executive Engineer,
Provincial Division, P.W.D Rampur

Letter No:- 2467 /E-Tender Notice /22-23
(E-Tender Notice)

Date : 18-10-22

1. On behalf of Governor of UP, tender for following work are invited by the Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, PWD Rampur from registered Road contractors from Dated 25.10.2022 at 10.00 am to Dt.02.11.2022 at 5.00 pm. Technical bid/ Prequalification of tenders shall be opened on 3.11.2022 at 12.30 noon..

2.

Sl. No	Name of Work	Estimated cost (Rs. In Lakhs) (Ex.GST)	Bid Security (Rs. In Lakhs)	Cost of Bid Documents	Time of Completion including rainy season	Address of Executive Engineer	Address of Superintending Engineer	Contractors Registration Category For Road Works
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sanctioned Works in the Financial Year 2022-23 in Pro.Div., PWD, Rampur :-								
1	Repair of Athro Bangali Colony to Dhurnal Link Road	8.50	0.85	766.00 (500+25+ GST 18%)	03 Months including rainy season	Prov. Div., P.W.D. Rampur	Rampur Circle P.W.D Rampur	A, B, C & D
2	Repair of Rampura Bujurg Narsua Road to Begmabad Link Road	25.30	2.53	854.00 (500+300+ GST 18%)	03 Months including rainy season	Prov. Div., P.W.D. Rampur	Rampur Circle P.W.D Rampur	A, B, C & D
3	Repair of Svar to Dhanori Road via Alnagar Link Road	28.50	2.85	854.00 (500+300+ GST 18%)	03 Months including rainy season	Prov. Div., P.W.D. Rampur	Rampur Circle P.W.D Rampur	A, B, C & D
4	CC and Drain work of Mursena Azeemangh Milakhanam Road to Jatpura Link Road in part of Abadi under Special Repair	25.25	2.53	854.00 (500+300+ GST 18%)	03 Months including rainy season	Prov. Div., P.W.D. Rampur	Rampur Circle P.W.D Rampur	A, B, C & D
5	Special repair of Parivartan Chalk Bispapur Gate to Kesarpur Road	12.36	1.23	766.00 (500+225+ GST 18%)	03 Months including rainy season	Prov. Div., P.W.D. Rampur	Rampur Circle P.W.D Rampur	A, B, C & D
6	Special repair of Begmabad Bampurua Road to Khandia Road	30.00	3.00	854.00 (500+300+ GST 18%)	03 Months including rainy season	Prov. Div., P.W.D. Rampur	Rampur Circle P.W.D Rampur	A, B, C & D
7	Supply of all size Grit and stone dust for Renewal/Repair work under PD PWD Rampur in Year 2022-23 at Simariya Plant in working area of AE 2	30.00	3.00	854.00 (500+300+ GST 18%)	03 Months including rainy season	Prov. Div., P.W.D. Rampur	Rampur Circle P.W.D Rampur	A, B, C & D
8	Supply of all size Grit and stone dust for Renewal/Repair work under PD PWD Rampur in Year 2022-23 at Simariya Plant in working area of AE 2	30.00	3.00	854.00 (500+300+ GST 18%)	03 Months including rainy season	Prov. Div., P.W.D. Rampur	Rampur Circle P.W.D Rampur	A, B, C & D
9	Supply of all size Grit and stone dust for Renewal/Repair work under PD PWD Rampur in Year 2022-23 at Panwariya Plant in working area of AE 2	30.00	3.00	854.00 (500+300+ GST 18%)	03 Months including rainy season	Prov. Div., P.W.D. Rampur	Rampur Circle P.W.D Rampur	A, B, C & D
10	Laying of Bituminous mix for Renewal and repair work for Departmental HMP at Simariya (Labour Only)	7.00	0.70	766.00 (500+225+ GST 18%)	03 Months including rainy season	Prov. Div., P.W.D. Rampur	Rampur Circle P.W.D Rampur	A, B, C & D
11	Laying of Bituminous mix for Renewal and repair work for Departmental HMP at Panwariya (Labour Only)	7.00	0.70	766.00 (500+225+ GST 18%)	03 Months including rainy season	Prov. Div., P.W.D. Rampur	Rampur Circle P.W.D Rampur	A, B, C & D

3. The Rate adopted in the BOQ are inclusive of all taxes but excluding GST.

4. Bid security and tender cost should be deposited online by Net Banking as per Column 4 and 5 in the table.

5. All terms & conditions can be seen on website <http://etender.up.nic.in>. The bidders have to login on Prahari U.R.L. <http://wms.uppwd.gov.in/Prahari/> to upload required documents as per Government Order No. 879(1)/23-7-2020 dt. 25-08-2020 & E.N.C./HOD's uppwd Order No. 4859/4M-LC/2020 dt. 27.08.2020.

(Abdul Sattar/Girish Kumar)
Assistant Engineer
Pro.Div., PWD, Rampur

UPID-180562 dt. 20.10.2022
www.up.gov.nic.in

उत्तर प्रदेश पावर ट्रॉन्समिशन कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड

अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा आमंत्रण- निविदा सूचना संख्या-17/वि0जा0पा0म0/आगरा/2022-23

1. ई-निविदा निविदा संख्या-25/वि0जा0पा0म0/आ/2022-23:-

132 के0वी0 उपकेन्द्र पिनाहट जनपद आगरा पर मै0 सनस्योर सोलक पार्क हेतु 01 अद्व 33 के0वी0 बे के जानपदीय निर्माण कार्य, समय अवधि 01 माह, धरोहर धनराशि रु0 10000/-, निविदा मूल्य रु0 590+250, अन्तिम तिथि 10.11.2022, PR NO-1300003104. निविदा का विस्तृत विवरण, विस्तारीकरण शुद्धिकरण इत्यादि की सूचना ई-टेंडर की वेबसाइट <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है, जिसको वेबसाइट के माध्यम से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। बैंक खाता अधिशासी अभियन्ता (जानपद) आगरा A/C No.-30065294923, IFSC Code-SBIN0005717 Payable at S.B.I. Foundry Nagar (Agra), अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत जानपद पारेषण मण्डल, ककरेटा रोड (निकट अमर उजाला प्रेस.) 220 के0वी0 उपकेन्द्र सिकन्दरा आगरा।

“राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचाये” पत्रांक: 721-वि0जा0पा0म0आ0 /दिनांक:22.10.2022

Moradabad Municipal Corporation

Pili Kothi, Jalkal Compound, Moradabad-244001 (U.P.)

E-Procurement Tender Notice

Ref. No: 169/Ex. Eng./Env./NNM/2022-23 Date 22.10.2022

Tender reference: 87/Ex. Eng./Env./NNM/2022-23 Date 29.06.2022

Name of Work/Description of Item: "Design, Supply, Construction, Installation & implementation of 100 TPD Construction and Demolition waste processing plant with Operation & Maintenance of Ten years period in Moradabad City (U.P.) on EPC Contract mode"

Cost of RFP: Non-refundable/Non-adjustable fee of INR 6,000/-+18% GST=7,080/-(INR Seven Thousand Eighty Only). The payments to be made in the form of RTGS/NEFT from any nationalised bank to the account details as mentioned below; Beneficiary Name: NAGAR NIGAM MORADABAD E-TENDERING, A/c No - 27050100020717, IFSC code - BARBOLYMOR (5th Character is Zero)

Earnest Money Deposit (E.M.D.): Earnest Money Deposit (E.M.D) Refundable amount of Rs. 5,33,000.00 (Five Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Rupee Only) The payments to be made in the form of RTGS/NEFT/FDR/ NSC/ Bank Guarantee from any nationalized bank/Scheduled bank of India in favour of the "Municipal Commissioner, Moradabad Municipal Corporation, Moradabad" payable at "Moradabad"

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Uttar Pradesh e-Procurement Portal <https://etender.up.nic.in> from 23/10/2022 at 10:00 Hours (IST) onwards. Online bids are invited for the following works up to 07/11/2022 at 16:00 hours. Technical Bid will be opened on same day at 17:00 hours at Office of the Municipal Commissioner, Nagar Nigam, Pili Kothi, Moradabad.

For more details on the tender and bidding process you may please visit the above mentioned portal.

NOTE:- 1- All eligible/interested consultants are mandated to get enrolled on e-Procurement portal (<https://etender.up.nic.in>) 2- Contractor can contact Help Desk for any clarification of their doubts regarding the process of Electronic Procurement System.

(Rajeev Kumar Rath) Ex. Eng./Environment Engineer Nagar Nigam Moradabad

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

E-TENDER NOTICE

No. COS/CRJ/PUB/E-Tender/19/0162 Date: 20/10/2022. The following e-tenders can be accessed under the link www.irops.gov.in. Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link www.irops.gov.in → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy.CMM/HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 0341-252594 or SMM/CON/HQ, 0341-2535631. Office Address: Office of the PCMM /CLW/Chittaranjan. SL No.: [1]. Tender No.: 83220875A. Brief Description of Item: Asbestos Tape 0.4 mm Thick X 25 MM wide (33 Mtrs. Per Roll) Specn. No. IS No: 6230 70 or latest, C & D No.5716/061. Qty.: 2963600 Metre. Earnest Money Deposit (₹): 0.00. Tender Closing Date & Time (IST): 17/11/2022 at 11:00 AM.

PR/4/262 PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways

WESTERN RAILWAY - VADODARA DIVISION

BALANCE SCOPE OF WORK OF THROUGH SLEEPER RENEWAL & OTHER WORKS

e-TENDER NOTICE NO. DRM-BRC 077 OF 2022-23

Sealed Tenders for and on behalf of the President of India are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (W A/C) Western Railway, Pratapnagar, Vadodara-390 004 for the following works. Sr. No.1: Tender No. DRM BRC 077 of 2022-23. Name of Work: Surat-Vadodara Section (Up and Dn Lines) :- Balance scope of work of Through Sleeper Renewal at isolated locations 16.053 Kms. on Dn line & 3.947 Kms. on Up line by PQRS method, Total 20.000 Kms and other associated works under jurisdiction of Senior Divisional Engineer (South)-BRG in connection with increasing speed to 160 KMPH. Approximate Cost of the work (in ₹): 2,63,52,097.21. Bid Security to be deposited (in ₹): 2,81,800.00. Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender: Tender is to be submitted on 11-11-2022 before 15:00 Hrs. and is to be opened on same date at 15:30 Hrs. Website particulars and notice for localities where complete details can be seen & Address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased: Website @ www.irops.gov.in Divisional Railway Manager (W A/C), Western Railway, Pratapnagar, Vadodara-4. BRC-154 Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

झारखण्ड सरकार

मेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, सरायकेला

“शुद्धि पत्र”

P.R. No-279958 Drinking Water and Sanitation (22-23)_D

एतद द्वारा सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि ई0 निविदा सूचना संख्या:- DWSD/SKL/MVS/30/2022-23 दिनांक:-12.10.2022 को निम्नवत् तिथि को इस हद तक संशोधित समझा जाय।

(Situ, Tikar & Lepatand Adjoining Villages Rural Water Supply Scheme)

	पूर्व में	संशोधित
वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 22.10.2022, अपराह्न 05.00 बजे तक	दिनांक 02.11.2022, अपराह्न 05.00 बजे तक
ग्री बीड मीटिंग की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 02.11.2022, 12-30 बजे अपराह्न। अभियंता प्रमुख का कार्यालय मेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, नेपाल हाउस, झारखण्ड, राँची	दिनांक 07.11.2022, 12-30 बजे अपराह्न। अभियंता प्रमुख का कार्यालय मेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, नेपाल हाउस, झारखण्ड, राँची
बीड प्राप्त की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 09.11.2022, 04.00 बजे तक।	दिनांक 16.11.2022, 05.00 बजे तक।
बैंक गारंटी एवं परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य जमा करने की तिथि, समय एवं स्थान	दिनांक 11.11.2022, 02.00 बजे अपराह्न तक 1.कार्यपालक अभियंता मेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला। 2.अधीक्षण अभियंता मेयजल एवं स्वच्छता अंचल, चाईबासा। 3.क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, मेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, राँची प्रक्षेत्र राँची।	दिनांक 17.11.2022, 02.00 बजे अपराह्न तक 1.कार्यपालक अभियंता मेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला। 2.अधीक्षण अभियंता मेयजल एवं स्वच्छता अंचल, चाईबासा। 3.क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, मेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, राँची प्रक्षेत्र राँची।
निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 14.11.2022, 04.00 बजे तक।	दिनांक 17.11.2022, 04.00 बजे तक।

पढ़ा जाय। शेष यथावत रहेगी।

PR 280859 Drinking Water and Sanitation (22-23)_D

कार्यपालक अभियंता मेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला

झारखण्ड सरकार

ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग

मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय

102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी रोड, राँची

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

दिनांक :- 22.10.2022

मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र0 सं0	आईडैन्टी फिकेशन संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राकालित राशि (रुपये में)	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि
			अंक में	अक्षर में
1.	RWD/ DHANBAD/ 06/2022-23	दलुडीह जी0टी0 रोड से महादुपुर तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं- 4.070 कि0मी0)	4,06,13,000.00	18 माह
2.	RWD/ DHANBAD/ 07/2022-23	लेटाटोड से बेल्मी भागा कामता, हिरकटोड तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं- 3.900 कि0मी0)	3,76,37,200.00	18 माह
3.	RWD/ DHANBAD/ 08/2022-23	रघुनाथपुर रैन रोड से आर्यमंदत कोलेज होते हुए विश्वकर्मा चौक तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं- 3.000 कि0मी0)	2,95,95,300.00	15 माह
4.	RWD/ DHANBAD/ 09/2022-23	बलिगापुर-सिंदरी मुख्य पथ मुर्तेटोड बस्ती से भागा खंडवन, कुम्भेश्वरी, गरियामण्डू, होते हुए आसननरी तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण एवं चौकीकरण कार्य (लं- 4.550 कि0मी0)	2,91,13,800.00	15 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 03.11.2022

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- 14.11.2022 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।

4. (क) मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी, राँची अथवा (ख) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, राँची अथवा (ग) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, धनबाद में से किसी भी कार्यालय में निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि जमा करने की तिथि:- 22.11.2022 पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक।

5. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- 23.11.2022 पूर्वाह्न 11.30 बजे।

6. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी चौक, राँची, झारखण्ड, पिन- 834001

7. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0- 0651-2207818

8. निविदा शुल्क झारखण्ड राज्य में अवस्थित भारतीय स्टेट बैंक / अन्य राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निविदाकार के नाम / अकाउंट से ही निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, धनबाद के पक्ष में एवं धनबाद में भुगतने होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

PR 280804 Rural Work Department (22-23)_D

नोडल पदाधिकारी ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट सेल

झारखण्ड सरकार

ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय

102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी रोड, राँची

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

दिनांक :- 22.10.2022

मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र0 सं0	आईडैन्टी फिकेशन संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राकालित राशि (रुपये में)	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि
			अंक में	अक्षर में
1.	RWD/ SIMDEGA/ 03/2022-23	ननेसेरा मिशन चौक से टिम्बा टोली होते हुए घेनाबारी मुख्य पथ तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं- 3.200 कि0मी0)	2,82,01,300.00	15 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 03.11.2022

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- 14.11.2022 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।

4. (क) मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी, राँची अथवा (ख) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, राँची अथवा (ग) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, धनबाद में से किसी भी कार्यालय में निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि जमा करने की तिथि:- 22.11.2022 पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक।

5. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- 23.11.2022 पूर्वाह्न 11.30 बजे।

6. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी चौक, राँची, झारखण्ड, पिन- 834001

7. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0- 0651-2207818

8. निविदा शुल्क झारखण्ड राज्य में अवस्थित भारतीय स्टेट बैंक / अन्य राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निविदाकार के नाम / अकाउंट से ही निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, सिमडेगा के पक्ष में एवं सिमडेगा में भुगतने होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

PR 280788 Rural Work Department(22-23).D

नोडल पदाधिकारी ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट सेल

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

The Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Const./Northern Railway, 4th Floor, DRM Office, New Delhi-110001 invites e-tender under single Packet System for the under noted work:-

1. Name of work and location Design, Supply, erection, testing & commissioning & modification of 25 kV AC single phase OHE for the Electrification work of : Redevelopment and Major up gradation of Faridabad Station.

2. Completion period of the work 12 (Twelve Months)

3. Approx. Cost of work Rs. 3.07,12,912.71

4. Earnest Money amount (to be deposited online) Rs. 3,03,600.00

5. Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender Tenders may be uploaded 11:30 hrs on date 23.10.2022 on IREPS website i.e. www.irops.gov.in. The bidders can participate in the e-tender, the tender will be opened at 11.30 hrs on 15.11.2022

6. Detailed Tender Notice & Tender Document The detailed e-tender notice is available on Northern Railway web site i.e. www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in and tender document is available on www.irops.gov.in. Above tender document will be available for submission of offer on IREPS web site i.e. www.irops.gov.in from 01.11.2022 to 15.11.2022. 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.

No. 332-Dy CEE/C/NDLS/2022-23 Dated: 22.10.2022

2839/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

झारखण्ड सरकार

ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय

102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी रोड, राँची

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

दिनांक :- 22.10.2022

मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र0 सं0	आईडैन्टी फिकेशन संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राकालित राशि (रुपये में)	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि
			अंक में	अक्षर में
1.	RWD/ DUMKA/05/2022-23	पाटनपुर स्कूल से मुनरो भागा बड़ासुरिया तुवाबेल तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं- 5.500 कि0मी0)	5,92,64,000.00	18 माह
2.	RWD/ DUMKA/06/2022-23	सोपनला से बनबाद तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं- 4.180 कि0मी0)	4,88,67,100.00	18 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 03.11.2022

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- 14.11.2022 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।

4. (क) मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी, राँची अथवा (ख) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, राँची अथवा (ग) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, दुमका में से किसी भी कार्यालय में निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि जमा करने की तिथि:- 22.11.2022 पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक।

5. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- 23.11.2022 पूर्वाह्न 11.30 बजे।

6. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी चौक, राँची, झारखण्ड, पिन- 834001

7. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0- 0651-2207818

8. निविदा शुल्क झारखण्ड राज्य में अवस्थित भारतीय स्टेट बैंक / अन्य राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निविदाकार के नाम / अकाउंट से ही निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, दुमका के पक्ष में एवं धनबाद में भुगतने होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

PR 280806 (Rural Work Department) 22-23 (D)

नोडल पदाधिकारी ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट सेल

झारखण्ड सरकार

ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय

102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी रोड, राँची

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

दिनांक :- 22.10.2022

मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र0 सं0	आईडैन्टी फिकेशन संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राकालित राशि (रुपये में)	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि
			अंक में	अक्षर में
1.	RWD/ DHANBAD/ 10/2022-23	पंथवाल जिरुनगोड़ा में गोसाइंडीह से जोरिया, नन्दाग्रम होते हुए मी0 कांथी बट्टा लालगंजला तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं- 3.000 कि0मी0)	2,50,64,400.00	15 माह
2.	RWD/ DHANBAD/ 11/2022-23	बरोरा से मण्डल केन्दुआडीह तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं- 2.400 कि0मी0)	2,13,74,900.00	12 माह
3.	RWD/ DHANBAD/ 12/2022-23	आसननरिया आदिवासी टोला औगनबाडी से भागा बड़ा लावब होते हुए कुल्बोना तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं- 1.600 कि0मी0)	1,56,79,300.00	12 माह
4.	RWD/ DHANBAD/ 13/2022-23	गोविन्दपुर प्रमण्डल अर्न्तगत पण्डुकी पंचायत सिमलार्डीह महती टोला से मुर्ते टोली तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं- 2.230 कि0मी0)	1,50,56,400.00	12 माह
5.	RWD/ DHANBAD/ 14/2022-23	महुदा बस्ती से तेवुलिया तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं- 1.750 कि0मी0)	1,28,30,900.00	09 माह
6.	RWD/ DHANBAD/ 15/2022-23	नावाडीह बगुला समीमोडा से बगुला बस्ती तक पथ निर्माण एवं सुदृढीकरण कार्य (लं- 2.720 कि0मी0)	1,24,17,300.00	09 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 02.11.2022

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- 14.11.2022 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे।

4. (क) मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी, राँची अथवा (ख) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, राँची अथवा (ग) जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, धनबाद में से किसी भी कार्यालय में निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय:- 17.11.2022 पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक।

5. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- 18.11.2022 पूर्वाह्न 11.30 बजे।

6. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी चौक, राँची, झारखण्ड, पिन- 834001

7. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0- 0651-2207818

8. निविदा शुल्क झारखण्ड राज्य में अवस्थित भारतीय स्टेट बैंक / अन्य राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निविदाकार के नाम / अकाउंट से ही निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, धनबाद के पक्ष में एवं धनबाद में भुगतने होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

PR 280801 Rural Work Department(22-23).D

नोडल पदाधिकारी ई-प्रोक्युरमेंट सेल

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

Advertisement for 02 Nos. old serviceable Diesel Locomotives for Sale

02 Nos. of old serviceable Diesel Locomotives (01 no. WDM3A-3100 HP & 01 no. WDM6-1400 HP) aged 31 & 36 years respectively, are available in Diesel loco shed, Pt. DDU for sale. Interested Organisation may please contact :- Office of the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRS, Diesel loco shed, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Division, East Central Railway, District : Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh, Email : mgssdmed@gmail.com, Mobile No. : 9794848409

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRS), East Central Railway, DDU

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

OPEN TENDER Batch No. 143/22 dated -21.10.2022

E-Tender Notice for supply of materials "participation in through" web portal of IREPS - www.irops.gov.in offers are invited for supply of the following materials. The closing time for all tenders is at 14.00 hr.

Sr.No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Published on/time	Closing on
1	04220421	Drift gear assembly	37 Nos.	14.10.22/16:14:21	14.11.22
2	04224835	Ball joint Traction lever	4047 Nos.	20.10.22/15:52:11	21.11.22
3	03227562	Finger contact with flexible	659 Nos.	20.10.22/23:50:06	21.11.22
4	14221531	Electronic rectifier cum regulator	25 Nos.	21.10.22/15:44:19	

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS, OCTOBER 23, 2022

13 THE WORLD

TOP OF THE WORLD



Italian President Sergio Mattarella with Giorgia Meloni. **AP**

ITALY

Meloni becomes Italy's first woman PM

Rome: Giorgia Meloni, whose political party with neo-fascist roots secured the most votes in Italy's national election last month, was sworn in Saturday as the country's first far-right premier since the end of World War II. She is also the first woman to serve as premier. Meloni, 45, recited the oath of office before President Sergio Mattarella, who on Friday formally asked her to form a government. Her Brothers of Italy party will rule in coalition with the right-wing League of Matteo Salvini and the conservative Forza Italia headed by former Premier Silvio Berlusconi. Meloni signed a pledge to be faithful to Italy's post-war republic, and Mattarella counter-signed it. **AP**

PALESTINE

Teen suspected of stabbing attack shot by police

Jerusalem: Israeli police on Saturday shot a Palestinian suspected of carrying out a stabbing attack in Jerusalem, and Palestinian officials said the teenager was critically wounded. Police said the teen wounded an Israeli pedestrian before fleeing to an east Jerusalem neighbourhood. Police identified the attacker and shot him when he turned toward an officer with an "object" in his hand. The statement did not say how police identified him, what kind of object he was holding or how close he was to the officer. **AP**

TALIBAN

Six IS members killed in Kabul raid

Kabul: Taliban security forces killed six Islamic State members in an overnight operation in Kabul, a spokesman for the ruling group's administration said on Saturday. The IS members killed in the raid on their hideout were involved in two major attacks in recent weeks, said the spokesman, Qari Yusuf Ahmadi. "They were the attackers of the Wazir Akbar Khan mosque and Kaaj Institute." **AP**

CANADA

New handgun sales banned

REGULATIONS PROHIBITING the sale, purchase or transfer of handguns within Canada took effect on Friday, as Canadian PM Justin Trudeau said the measure builds on earlier efforts banning handgun imports. "We have frozen the market for handguns in this country," Trudeau said at a news conference. **REUTERS**

ITALY

300 migrants reach south port

Rome: Nearly 300 migrants disembarked in the southern Italian port of Taranto on Saturday after their rescue at sea in five different operations. About half of the 293 rescued passengers on the Geo Barents were unaccompanied minors, according to the operators of the mission. **AP**

AFTER XI ASSERTS STRATEGIC DETERRENCE

China may ramp up nuclear arsenal: Experts

K J M VARMA

BEIJING, OCTOBER 22

CHINA IS expected to boost its nuclear arsenal after President Xi Jinping's remarks at the key Congress of the ruling Communist Party for the first time that Beijing will establish strong strategic deterrence, experts have said.

"We will establish a strong system of strategic deterrence," Xi, who is expected to be endorsed for a record third five-year term by the Congress, told its opening session.

In the 63-page report, Xi, who also heads the Central Military Commission (CMC) - the overall high command of the two million-strong People's Liberation Army (PLA) - devoted a special section to the military titled Achieving the Central Goal of the PLA and Further Modernising National Defence and Military.

He also called for accelerated development of unmanned, intelligent combat capabilities, promotion of coordinated development and application of the network information system.

Analysts said Xi's mention indicated China would improve its nuclear deterrence capability amid its increasing rivalry with the US, which is a major nuclear power. Song Zhongping, a former PLA instructor, said the statement meant China would "strengthen its development of strategic nuclear forces" to safeguard its national security.

Song said PLA must strengthen its "nuclear triad" forces and its second-nuclear strike capability to respond to a nuclear attack. "All of these require the PLA to have a modern nuclear-armed force ... and to moderately increase the nuclear arsenal," he said. **PTI**

Disqualification: Imran challenges Pak EC ruling

SAJJAD HUSSAIN

ISLAMABAD, OCTOBER 22

FORMER PAKISTAN prime minister Imran Khan on Saturday challenged in Islamabad High Court the top election body's decision to disqualify him from holding public office for five years in the Toshakhana case for hiding proceeds from the sale of gifts he received from foreign leaders.

The 70-year-old cricketer-turned-politician lost membership of the parliament, as well as, barred from contesting elections for five years after the Election Commission of Pakistan on

Friday found him guilty of hiding the proceeds from the sale of precious gifts. He filed an appeal in the Islamabad HC through his counsel Barrister Ali Zafar.

Zafar appealed to the court to take up the case immediately for a hearing on Saturday. The IHC accepted the appeal but observed that the matter was not urgent on the same day as the application was filed and set the hearing on Monday. The PTI chief in his appeal said the ECP had no power to make decisions on corrupt practices or disqualify people, requesting the court to suspend the ruling until the final decision on the appeal. **PTI**

US court halts Biden's loan forgiveness plan for students

REUTERS

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 22

A US appeals court on Friday temporarily blocked President Joe Biden's plan to cancel billions of dollars in college student debt, one day after a judge dismissed a Republican-led lawsuit by six states challenging the loan-forgiveness programme.

The 8th US Circuit Court of Appeals granted an emergency stay barring the discharge of any student debt under the programme until the court rules on the states' request for a longer-term injunction while Thursday's

decision against them is appealed. The St Louis-based appeals court also ordered an expedited briefing schedule on the matter.

US District Judge Henry Autrey in St. Louis ruled on Thursday that while the six Republican-led states had raised "important and significant challenges to the debt relief plan," he threw out their lawsuit on grounds they lacked the necessary legal standing.

Nebraska, Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas and South Carolina said Biden's plan skirted congressional authority and threatened the states' future tax revenues and money earned by entities that invest in the loans.

Who is in and out of the CPC Central Committee

Over 2,000 delegates at the congress of CPC elected a new 205-person Central Committee on Saturday. Here's a list of a few newly elected members

PSC members

■ Wang Huning

■ Zhao Leji

Politburo members

CAI QI, Party Chief of the Municipality of Beijing

LI XI, Party Chief of Guangdong Province

LI QIANG, Party Chief of Shanghai

CHEN MINER, Party Chief of Chongqing

DING XUEXIANG, one of the four vice-premiers

HU CHUNHUA, one of the four vice-premiers

Others

WANG YI, State Councillor and Foreign Minister

HE LIFENG, Head of the National Development and

Reform Commission

Those omitted

LI KEQIANG, China's Premier

WANG YANG, PSC member previously

GUO SHUQING, Party Chief of People's Bank of China

YI HUIMAN, Head of the China Securities and Regulatory Commission

YI GANG, Governor of the People's Bank of China

Xi Jinping



Chinese President Xi Jinping and other officials at the closing ceremony of the 20th National Congress. **Reuters**

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WANG YANG, PSC

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS, OCTOBER 23, 2022

14 ECONOMY

‘INFLATION MAY SEE RESURGENCE IN 2023’

Energy prices a concern but economy on strong footing, says FinMin report

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

THE FINANCE ministry on Saturday said global energy prices and supplies continue to remain sources of concern and geopolitical conflicts may yet intensify, reigniting supply-chain pressures that have eased recently.

“If so, inflation may yet see a resurgence rather than a decline in 2023,” the department of economic affairs said in its report for September, as it cautioned against any premature celebration. Retail inflation in September hit a five-month high of 7.41%.

Nevertheless, it asserted that growth and stability concerns for India are less than that of the world at large halfway into FY23 and the country’s medium-term growth rate is likely higher than 6%. According to the International Monetary Fund, India’s real

EXPLAINED

‘Growth, stability concerns less than the world at large’

THE REPORT said growth and stability concerns for India are less than that of the world at large halfway into FY23 and the country’s medium-term growth rate is likely higher than 6%. According to the International Monetary Fund, India’s real growth could be 6.8% in FY23 and 6.1% in FY24, way above the G-20 levels.

“A long-awaited domestic investment cycle that had started will accelerate once current external shocks – geopolitical conflicts and monetary tightening – fade. Corporate and bank balance sheets in India are ready for it,” the ministry said in the report. “Further, recent developments

elsewhere in the region further bolster the relative attractiveness of India as an investment destination.”

Economic activity, as measured by the PMI composite index, was higher for India at 56.7 in the first half of this fiscal, way above the global level of 51. Retail inflation for India in the first half of FY23 stood at 7.2%, lower than the world inflation of 8%, as repre-

sented by the median inflation of major economies, the report said. Similarly, the rupee weakened by 5.4% against the greenback during this period, much lower than the depreciation of 8.9% of six major currencies in the dollar index. The government’s thrust on the productive capital expenditure remained uninterrupted this fiscal, as capex until August was 46.8% higher than a year earlier. The ratio of revenue expenditure to capital outlay, in fact, dropped to 4.5 from 6.4 in the last year, reflecting an improvement in the quality of spending, according to the report.

Rising capital expenditure of the Centre also induced capital formation in the private sector, mirrored in the “robust performance” of the manufacturing industry in the last six months, the report added. Business sentiment also rose as input cost inflation fell to a 23-months low on the back of de-

clining prices of industrial metals, leading to an increase in profits of the private corporate sector, it said. However, the report flagged upside risks to inflation, the trajectory of which remains dependent on geopolitical factors. “Even though commodity prices have softened as recessionary risks continue to rise in the advanced economies, elevated imported inflation is expected to be an upside risk with the outlook for crude oil remaining uncertain and significantly tethered to geopolitical conditions,” it said.

The risk is further amplified by an appreciating dollar. Moreover, adverse climatic conditions pose a threat to the outlook on food inflation. Core inflation continues to remain sticky at 6% in September and its trajectory will depend on the extent of pending pass-through of rising input costs to the final consumer, the report said. **FE**

15.75 CR FINE ON 8 INDIVIDUALS, 2 ENTITIES

Sebi bars Nusli Wadia, sons from capital markets for 2 yrs

Accused of inflating sales, profits of Bombay Dyeing

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 22

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has barred Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Company (BDMCL) and its promoters — Nusli Wadia and sons, Jehangir and Ness — from accessing the capital markets for up to two years for alleged misrepresentation of financial statements.

It has also imposed a penalty of ₹15.75 crore on eight individuals and two entities, who have been directed to pay the fine within the next 45 days.

As per the Sebi order issued late Friday, BDMCL had allegedly indulged in dubious real estate transactions with its as-

Bombay Dyeing to challenge order

Mumbai: A Bombay Dyeing statement on Saturday said the company will be exercising its statutory right to appeal the Sebi order and “believes it would get justice and stand vindicated”. **ENS**

sociate, real estate entity Scal Services. The market watchdog’s investigation into BDMCL’s affairs for FY 2011-12 to FY 2018-19 is said to have found ‘misrepresentations’ of the financial statements of BDMCL.

“BDMCL is alleged to have

inflated Scal’s revenue and profit by ₹2,492.94 crore and ₹1,302.20 crore, respectively, during FY 2011-12 to FY 2017-18,” Sebi said in its show-cause notice, adding that BDMCL is alleged to have control over Scal.

“Also, the net amount received till date with respect to memorandum of understanding (MoUs) entered into with Scal was ₹186 crore, which was 7.46% of the revenue recognised by BDMCL during FY 2011-12 to 2017-18. BDMCL is alleged to have deliberately deferred the billing and actual receipt of revenue to the extent of 92.54% by creating a schedule of billing in the MoUs in a manner that adversely affected the interest of shareholders of the company,” the order said. **FE**

Forex reserves decline by \$4.5bn: RBI data

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 21

THE COUNTRY’S foreign exchange reserves declined by \$4.5 billion to \$528.36 billion in the week ended October 14, RBI data showed.

In the previous week ended October 7, the reserves rose to \$532.86 billion after an accretion of \$204 million.

During the reporting quar-

The fall in the forex reserves was mainly on account of a decline in foreign currency assets (FCA) and gold reserves

ter, the fall in the forex reserves was mainly on account of a decline in foreign currency assets (FCA) and gold reserves, the Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI)

weekly data showed on Friday. While FCA, which is a major component of the overall forex reserves, declined by \$2.82 billion to \$468.66 billion, gold reserves dipped by \$1.5 billion to \$37.45 billion.

So far, in the current financial year, the forex reserves have declined by \$78.108 billion.

The Reserve Bank’s Governor Shaktikanta Das, last month, had said that around

two-thirds of the decline in reserves in the current fiscal is due to valuation changes arising from an appreciating US dollar and higher US bond yields.

However, the fall in the reserves is also due to RBI’s intervention in the foreign exchange market to curb the volatility in rupee, which has depreciated by close to 10 per cent between April 4 and October 21, 2022.

At Rs 153 crore, Yes Bank’s Q2 net down 32%

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 22

PRIVATE-SECTOR lender Yes Bank’s net profit declined by 32 per cent at Rs 153 crore in the second quarter ended September 2022 from Rs 225 crore in the year-ago period.


This fall in profit was due to ₹750 crore of non-performing asset (NPA) ageing related provision predominantly in two accounts.

Net interest income stood at Rs 1,991 crore, up 32 per cent, from Rs 1,512 crore in the same quarter of the previous fiscal.

Net interest margins (NIM) improved to 2.6 per cent from 2.2 per cent. Gross non-performing asset (GNPA) ratio reduced to 12.9 per cent from 15 per cent and net NPA declined to 3.6 per cent from 5.5 per cent.

In the reporting quarter, slippages were lower at Rs 896 crore from Rs 1,072 crore. Recoveries and upgrades were at Rs 1,586 crore during the quarter. Provision coverage ratio improved to 83.5 per cent in Q2 FY23.

Advances increased by 11.3 per cent and deposits grew by 13 per cent.



GUJARAT URJA VIKAS NIGAM LIMITED
Sardar Patel Vidhyut Bhavan, Race Course,
Vadodra-390007 PBX : (0265) 2334751,
Web : www.guvnl.com

NOTICE REGARDING TENDER

It is to inform that Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (GUVNL) has invited bids for procurement of 3000 MW power on long term basis (15 years) through Tariff based Competitive Bidding process as per Ministry of Power Guidelines dated 06.03.2019 for Procurement of electricity from Thermal Power Stations set-up on DBFOO Basis and sourcing coal allocated under SHAKTI Policy. The tender documents (RIQ, RFP and PSA) are available at www.mstcecommerce.com (DEEP Portal) & www.guvnl.com from 21.10.2022.

Date: 23/10/2022 General Manager (Commerce)

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग प्रथम जोधपुर

क्रमांक: 2997 दिनांक: 19,10,2022

निविदा सूचना संख्या : 23 वर्ष 2022-2023
NIB No.PWD2223A2448

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से विभिन्न सड़क निर्माण कार्यों हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं रास सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ढाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के सम्पन्न हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में कुल 1 कार्य विनवी लागत राशि रु.1121.00 लाख है के लिए ईश्वरशक्ति प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है।

ऑनलाइन निविदा आवेदन डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की तारीख : 01 नवम्बर 2022, 9:30 बजे से 21 नवम्बर 2022, सार्व 06:00 बजे तक

निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेब साईट <http://dipr.raajasthan.gov.in> व <http://sppp.raajasthan.gov.in> व <http://eproc.raajasthan.gov.in> पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया <http://eproc.raajasthan.gov.in> पर ऑनलाइन सम्पादित की जायेगी। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट पर <http://eprocraajathan.gov.in> पर रजिस्टर्ड करवाना आवश्यक है। कार्यालय यू.बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।

[I. PWD2223WLOB09582]

हस्ता./- (देवीलाल अर्वा)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता,
सा.नि.वि. संभाग प्रथम, जोधपुर

DIPR/c/13604/2022

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, जल संसाधन वृत्त बारा
क.सं. : 1670 दिनांक : 19.10.2022

—:: सशोषण ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 03 वर्ष 2022-23 ::—

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 1503 दि० 29.09.2022 से ई-निविदा सूचना सं० 03 वर्ष 2022-23 द्वारा निर्माण कार्य "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)" के लिये आमन्त्रित की गई है। निविदा दि. 30.09.2022 प्रातः 9:30 बजे से दि. 20.10.2022 को सार्व 18:00 बजे तक डाउनलोड / अपलोड करने व दि. 21.10.22 को सार्व 03:00 बजे निविदा खोली जानी निर्धारित थी। अब कार्य की निविदा दि. 30.09.2022 से दि. 31.10.2022 तक समय 18:00 बजे तक डाउनलोड / अपलोड की जा सकेगी एवं ई-ग्रास चालान आदि समस्त दस्तावेज दि. 01.11.2022 को समय 13:00 बजे तक इस कार्यालय में जमा कराये जायेंगे। निविदा दिनांक 01.11.2022 को समय 15:00 बजे से ऑनलाइन खोली जायेगी। शेष शर्तें निविदा अनुसार यथावत रहेगी।

NIB: WRD2223A0386
UBN Item No.-1 WRD2223WSOB01420
UBN Item No.-2 WRD2223WSOB01421
DIPR/C/13640/2022

हस्ता./- (हेमन्त शर्मा)
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता,
जल संसाधन वृत्त बारा

कार्यालय उप वन संरक्षक, चित्तौड़गढ़ (राज०)
ई-निविदा सूचना 07/2022-23
UBN:FOR21221WSOB00830

PROVIDING AND FIXING RCC TREE GUARD को आवश्यकता के लिये ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा को दिनांक 09.11.2022 दोपहर 12:00 बजे खोली जायेगी।

कार्य का विवरण	मात्रा	कार्य की अनुमानित लागत	कार्य की अमानत राशि 2 प्रतिशत	निविदा शुल्क राशि	MDRISL PROCESS FEE
PROVIDING AND FIXING RCC TREE GUARD (चौ-शिष्टावत अनुसार)	13500 RCC Tree Guard	210.00 लाख समस्त करों सहित	4.32000 लाख/- का डी.डी. कार्यालय उप वन संरक्षक चित्तौड़गढ़ के नाम पर	1000/- रुपये	1000/- रुपये

निविदा से संबंधित समस्त विवरण वेबसाइट www.sppp.raajasthan.gov.in & <http://eproc.raajasthan.gov.in> पर देखा जा सकता है। निविदा के विस्तृत नियम शर्तें एवं गाल/सेवा से संबंधित मात्रा/संख्या एवं विशिष्टता आदि निविदा प्रपत्र में अंकित है।

हस्ता./- उप वन संरक्षक, चित्तौड़गढ़

DIPR/c/13642/2022

Rajasthan State Road Development And Construction Corporation Ltd., JAIPUR
No. NIT/2022-23/18083-92 अद्यकालिन ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या-356/2022-23
Date: 21.10.2022

निम्नलिखित परिचयनाम पर पक्कर सुले हेतु ई-निविदा प्रक्रिया से ऑनलाइन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

कार्य का विवरण	अंशित राशि (रु.)
Collection of Toll Tax (Form Commercial and Private Vehicles) on "Dudu-Malpura-Chhan Road SH-37A and Toderasingh-Baghara-Kerkri Road a period of 90 Days.	203.53 Lakh

निविदा से संबंधित प्रपत्र में निविदा सूचना, निर्माण शर्तें, दस्तावेज करने व खोजने की जाति सहित समस्त विवरण एवं संश्लेषण वेबसाइट <http://eproc.raajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raajasthan.nic.in> तथा <http://roads.raajasthan.gov.in/rsrcd> पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट <http://eproc.raajasthan.gov.in> पर रजिस्टर्ड करवाना आवश्यक है।

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, जन स्वा. अभि. विभाग, वृत्त उदयपुर
फोन एवं फैक्स नं. 0294,2940419 E-Mail :- secircle.uda.phed@rajasthan.gov.in

क्रमांक : एसई/उदय/अके जिला/2022-23/6058-6108 दिनांक : 18/10/2022

निविदा सूचना संख्या 17 से 20/2022-23

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल की ओर से अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा निम्न लिखित निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है।

1. NIT No. 17 (UBN No. PHE2223WSOB08322) अर्जु लागत रु0 202.54 लाख
2. NIT No. 18 (UBN No. PHE2223WSOB08323) अर्जु लागत रु0 198.19 लाख
3. NIT No. 19 (UBN No. PHE2223WSOB08324) अर्जु लागत रु0 182.81 लाख
4. NIT No. 20 (UBN No. PHE2223WSOB08325) अर्जु लागत रु0 157.98 लाख

निविदा का विस्तृत विवरण व शर्तें वेबसाईट <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>, www.raajwater.gov.in and www.eproc.raajasthan.gov.in पर देखी जा सकती है।

हस्ता./- (विपिन जैन)
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता,
जन स्वा.अभि. विभाग, वृत्त उदयपुर

DIPR/c/13646/2022

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION
Office of the Commissioner, Palace Road, Bengaluru-560001. Phone: 080-22204928

No: DTE-PLAN0SPS1/58/2022 Date: 21-10-2022

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Commissioner for Collegiate and Technical Education, Bangalore hereby invites bids in Two-Cover system through e-Procurement portal from eligible bidders for the following tenders. The Tender Documents with detailed terms and conditions may be obtained from the website <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>.

Tender Schedules are as below:

Tender Name	Date & Time of Pre-bid meeting	Last date & Time for bidding through e-Procurement portal.
1.Tender No: DTE/2022-23/IND548 "Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Physics & Chemistry Lab Equipment's".	28/10/2022 03.00 PM	19/11/2022 05.00 PM
2.Tender No: DTE/2022-23/IND546 "Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Food processing & Preservation Lab Equipment's".	28/10/2022 03.00 PM	19/11/2022 05.00 PM
3.Tender No: DTE/2022-23/IND547 "Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Robotics & Automation Lab Equipment's".	28/10/2022 11.00 AM	19/11/2022 05.00 PM
4.Tender No: DTE/2022-23/IND551 "Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Physics & Chemistry Lab Equipment's".	28/10/2022 03.00 PM	19/11/2022 05.00 PM
5.Tender No: DTE/2022-23/IND545 "Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Physics & Chemistry Lab Equipment's".	28/10/2022 11.00 AM	19/11/2022 05.00 PM
6.Tender No: DTE/2022-23/IND "Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Physics & Chemistry Lab Equipment's".	29/10/2022 11.00 AM	22/11/2022 05.00 PM
7.DTE/ADMIO/BLD/43/2022 Providing for Housekeeping service (with materials) & Maintenance to DTE Building & premises.	29/10/2022 11.00 AM	22/11/2022 05.00 PM
8.DTE/ADMIO/BLD/43/2022 Providing for Annual maintenance for Electrical equipment & CAMC to Diesel generator at DTE Building.	29/10/2022 11.00 AM	22/11/2022 05.00 PM
9.DTE/ADMIO/BLD/43/2022 Providing annual Maintenance for fire fighting equipment's at DTE Building.	29/10/2022 11.00 AM	22/11/2022 05.00 PM
10. DTE/PLANO/ATS/11/2022 Providing Vehicles to DTE head office on Rental Basis.	29/10/2022 11.00 AM	22/11/2022 05.00 PM

The Department reserves the right to cancel or reject the tenders without any notification. Details in this regard may be obtained in the website <https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in>

Sd/-
Joint Director (Admin), Technical Education

DIPR/CP/2772/MAA/2022-23

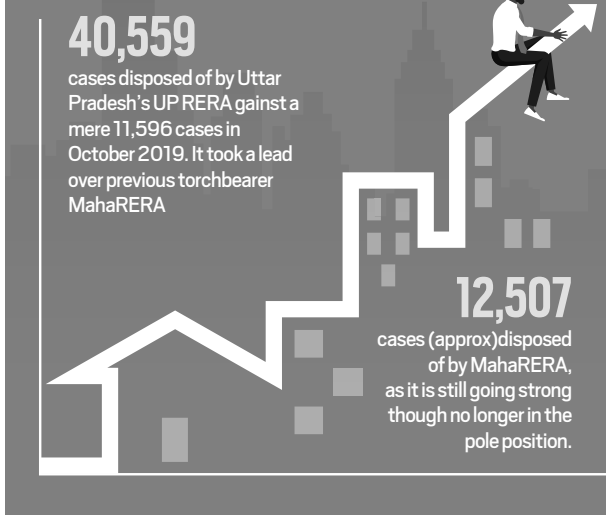
CRUDE WATCH

SHALE FIRMS DISCOUNT INADEQUATE To LIFT OIL OUTPUT

New York: U.S. shale oil executive Matt Gallagher this week took a poll on Twitter to gauge sentiment toward President Joe Biden’s offer to stock the U.S. emergency oil reserve at prices around \$72 a barrel, to give producers an incentive to drill more. The result: nearly 80% of respondents said they did not expect oil futures next year will fall to a level that would trigger any U.S. purchases. **REUTERS**

TN sees big jump in RERA registrations, UP just 22%

Data available with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs indicates that so far, 1,00,949 cases filed under the various state iterations of RERA have been disposed of by them as of 8 October 2022



20539 cases (approx) disposed of by Haryana against just 2,480 cases in the corresponding period of 2019. It came a distant second.

22% lowest growth in RERA project registrations seen by UP in the past three years. However, it leads in terms of disposal of cases.

3304 registered projects (approx) in UP, up from 2,710 in October 2019. It indicates that the primary focus in UP has been on project completions rather than new launches.

AMONG THE top 7 states, Jharkhand has seen the highest three-year growth of 855% in project registrations – from 103 in October 2019 to approx. 984 projects today.

TAMIL NADU recorded a 828% jump with 10,711 projects.

(Source: Anarock Property Consultants)

ICICI Bank’s Q2 net profit jumps 37%

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 22

PRIVATE SECTOR lender ICICI Bank Saturday reported a 37 per cent jump in its standalone net profit at Rs 7,558 crore in the quarter ended September 2022 as against Rs 5,511 crore in the year-ago period.

On a consolidated basis, the lender’s net profit increased by 31 per cent year-on-year to Rs 8,007 crore from Rs 6,092 crore in the second quarter of FY2022. Net interest income (NII), the difference between interest earned and interest paid, grew by 26 per cent to Rs 14,787 crore as against Rs 11,690 crore.

Its net interest margin (NIM) improved to 4.31 per cent from 4 per cent.

Non-interest income, excluding treasury income, rose 17 per cent to Rs 5,139 crore. Fee income witnessed a growth of 18 per cent year-on-year to Rs 4,480 crore.

The bank booked a treasury loss of Rs 85 crore in the September 2022 quarter compared to a gain of Rs 397 crore in the same period of the previous fiscal.

The gross non-performing asset (NPA) ratio declined to 3.19 per cent from 4.82 per cent. Net NPA ratio reduced to 0.61 per cent from 0.99 per cent. During the quarter, there were net additions of Rs 605 crore to gross NPAs.

Recoveries and upgrades of NPAs, excluding write-offs and sale, stood at Rs 3,761 crore. The lender wrote-off gross NPAs worth Rs 1,103 crore.

The provisioning coverage ratio on NPAs was 80.6 per cent at September 30, 2022. The bank held contingency provisions of Rs 10,000 crore as at September 30, 2022.

On a standalone basis, total capital adequacy ratio stood at 18.27 per cent and tier-1 capital adequacy ratio was 17.51 per cent as at September 30, 2022.

ENERGY PRICES HAVE DRIVEN INFLATION

Inflation protests in Europe threaten political turmoil

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LONDON, OCTOBER 22

IN ROMANIA, protesters blew horns and banged drums to voice their dismay over the rising cost of living. People across France took to the streets to demand pay increases that keep pace with inflation. Czech demonstrators rallied against government handling of the energy crisis. British railway staff and German pilots held strikes to push for better pay as prices rise. Across Europe, soaring inflation is behind a wave of protests and strikes that underscores growing discontent with the spiraling cost of living and threatens to unleash turmoil.



Protestors hold flares during a demonstration for salary raise, in Paris. File

With British Prime Minister Liz Truss forced to resign less than two months into the job after her economic plans sparked chaos in fi-

nancial markets and further bruised an ailing economy, the risk to political leaders became clearer as people demand action. Europeans have seen their energy bills and food prices soar because of Russia’s war in Ukraine. Despite natural gas prices falling from record summer highs and governments allocating a whopping 576 billion euros (over \$566 billion) in energy relief to households and businesses since September 2021, according to the Bruegel think tank in Brussels, it’s not enough for some protesters.

Energy prices have driven inflation in the 19 countries that use the euro currency to a record 9.9%, making it harder for people to buy what they need.

THE SUNDAY PROFILE

Governor in the ring

Barely a day goes by when Kerala Governor Arif Mohammad Khan and the Kerala government aren't taking on each other. MANOJ C G, LIZ MATHEW & SHAJU PHILIP on the man who famously spoke his mind many years ago — in the Shah Bano case — and hasn't held back ever since

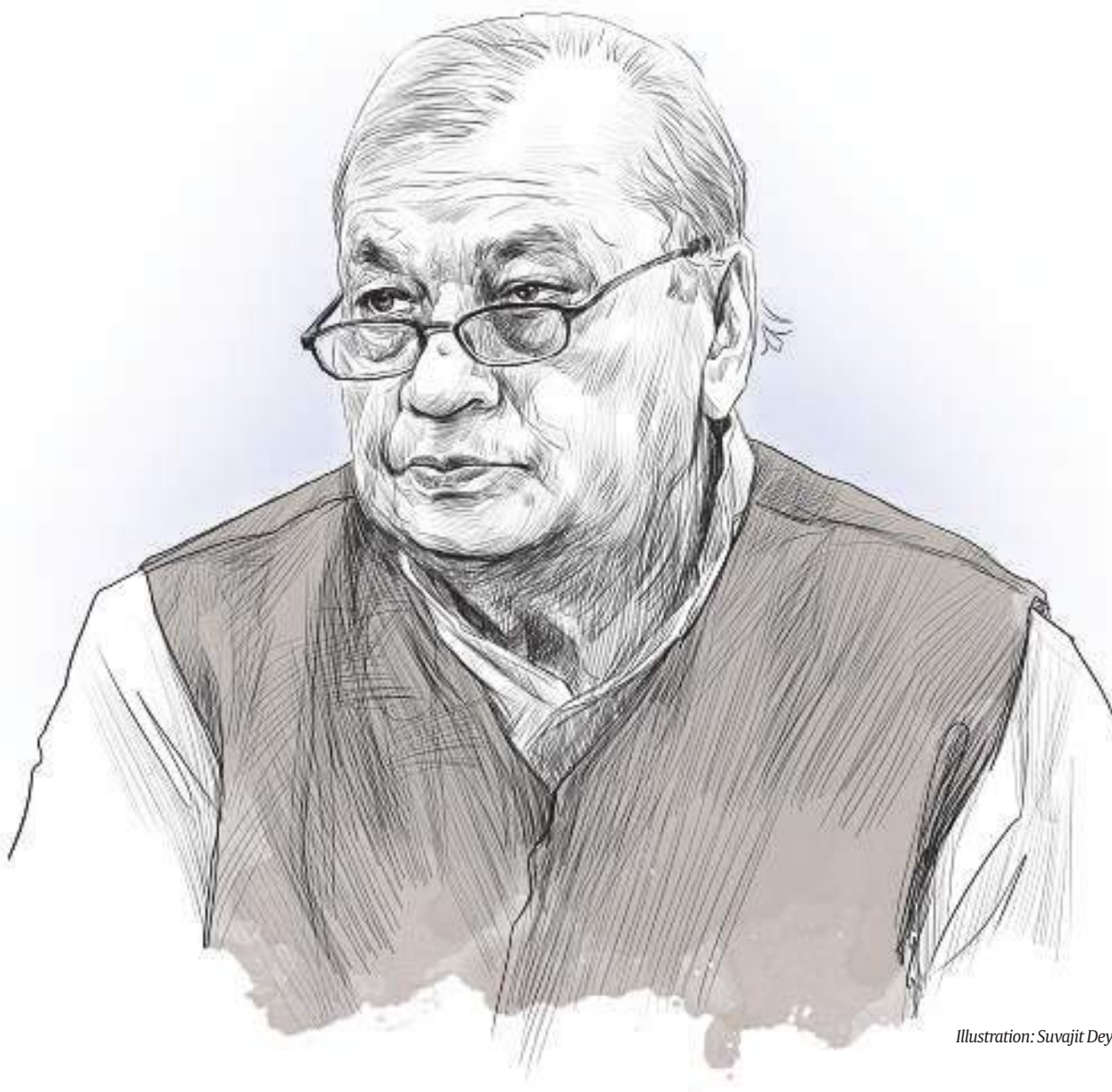


Illustration: Suvajit Dey

IT WAS a tweet that shouldn't have surprised anyone who has followed the running feud between Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan and the CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front (LDF) government.

"The CM and Council of Ministers have every right to advise the Governor. But statements of individual ministers that lower the dignity of the office of the Governor, can invite action including withdrawal of pleasure," Khan said in a tweet earlier this week.

Yet, even by the recent standards of Governor-government spats and Khan's own pugnacious record, his remarks — a thinly veiled threat to ministers who took him on that they would be sacked — were seen by many as having crossed the limits of propriety and gone beyond his constitutional jurisdiction.

Since Khan assumed office in Kerala in September 2019, the tussle between the Governor and the government has been a recurring theme — from disagreements over appointments of vice-chancellors to Khan alleging that he was physically targeted during the Indian History Congress in December 2019.

But unlike the open rancour of a Jagdeep Dhankar vs CM Mamata Banerjee fight in West Bengal or the one between Delhi L-G V K Saxena and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, Khan has on occasions taken even his detractors by surprise by reaching out — earlier this month, when CPI(M) politburo member Kodiyeeri Balakrishnan died, Khan travelled to Kannur to pay his respects to the veteran leader.

Those close to him say it's this adaptability that has been a recurring theme of Khan's career as a politician and now a constitutional authority, a trait, they point out, that came in handy as he switched parties with during his decades-long political career — from the Congress to the Janata Dal, BSP and BJP.

Khan was 26 when he became an MLA on a Janata Party ticket from Siana in Uttar Pradesh, a few years after he began his political life as a student activist. As president and general secretary of the Aligarh Muslim University Students' Union in the early 1970s, it is said that Khan refused to invite Islamic clerics to the university.

As a debutant MLA, Khan was made deputy minister in charge of Excise, Prohibition and Wakf in the Janata Party government but resigned months later over its handling of the Lucknow riots between Shias and Sunnis. He later joined the Indira faction of the Congress. In 1980, Khan — who was then an AICC Joint Secretary — entered Parliament for the first time and soon found a place in the Indira Gandhi Cabinet too — as Deputy Minister in charge of Information and Broadcasting.

What stuck was a position he took in his early days as a young Minister of State in the Rajiv Gandhi-led Congress government.

Khan, who held the portfolios of Energy, Industry and Company Affairs and Home, resigned in 1986, after the government decided to overturn the Supreme Court judgment in the Shah Bano case by bringing a legislation in Parliament.

Khan's stand was to endear him to those on the Right and a section among the progressives, but angered the Muslim clergy and his own party colleagues.

After Rajiv expelled Khan from the

Congress, he joined hands with V P Singh and became an MP on a Janata Dal ticket. After the fall of the short-lived V P Singh government, Khan joined the BSP and became its general secretary. But in the wake of the Gujarat riots of 2002, he resigned from the BSP when it became clear that the party would join hands with the BJP to form the government in UP.

"Since I stand committed to fight against communalism and the BSP has de-

cided to align itself with the BJP, I see no moral way out but to part company, so that I can devote myself totally to the cause of fighting against divisive forces," Khan reportedly said in a letter to then BSP president Kanshi Ram.

"When the practitioners of hatred are indulging in the most barbaric, unprecedented and perverse violence in Gujarat, and defending the same in the name of reaction, the BSP choosing to make common cause with

them has given many people including me a chilling shock," Khan reportedly said in the letter.

Two years later, Khan joined the very party he had so bitterly criticised — in 2004, he unsuccessfully contested the Lok Sabha election from Kaiserganj seat on a BJP ticket.

However, three years later, he quit the BJP, accusing the party of giving tickets to "tainted" leaders in UP.

If Khan's principled position on the Shah Bano case was the pinnacle of his career, turning him into a mascot for the 'progressive Muslim', many say he has been stuck in that mould since then.

Those who have interacted with Khan say he "lives in his past glories". "He still runs on the political investment he made in the past — the way he took on Rajiv Gandhi and the clerics in the Muslim community," said one of them.

They say Khan believes his revolt against Rajiv Gandhi and criticism of his policies sowed the seeds of the anti-Congress sentiment that led to the party's electoral failures in later years.

In the meetings he holds — the Kerala Governor is known to be a generous host who enjoys long conversations — Khan is known to often talk about how his advocacy for 'reforms' among Muslims prepared the ground for the Narendra Modi government to go in for measures such as the ban on triple talaq.

Those close to him say that right from his days as a student politician, Khan had a penchant for being noticed — as the suave, English-speaking, 'progressive' Muslim face known to speak his mind. If his candour has defined the man and his moves, his critics wonder if it's a misplaced virtue for someone holding a constitutional post.

Over the last three years, every time Khan has faced off with the Kerala government, leaders of the ruling CPI(M) have accused him of speaking for the Sangh. From the CAA to the farm laws, as the Governor took sides with the Centre, the CPI(M) managed to shape their tussle with him as the Left Front's fight against the Sangh Parivar.

CPI(M) central committee member and former state minister A K Balan says, "Kerala has had several other Governors appointed by the BJP government. But so far none has taken such a confrontational approach as Khan. He called on RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat at the house of an RSS leader in Thrissur. No constitutional body in the country should have taken such a stand. He has not only shown his RSS leanings, but demonstrated the same publicly."

Despite the spats with the government, Khan has worked hard on his "people's Governor" image, lending his name to social causes and practices. He is often spotted wearing the *mundu* (dhoti) and uses every given opportunity he gets to praise the Muslims of Kerala for "staying away from the clergy, unlike in the north".

== TAKE 5 ==
BHARAT JODO YATRISRIKRISHNA HARI, 31
YOUTH CONG NATIONAL SECRETARY

"Now we feel something amiss if we don't walk 20 km a day"

'Unlike Bihar, politicians in the South have more room to work on long-term solutions'

The Youth Congress national secretary, Hari is one of the yatriis walking the entire 3,500-km length of the Bharat Jodo Yatra with Rahul Gandhi, from Kanyakumari to Kashmir. A resident of Saran in Bihar, he says he left a job at a bank after demonetisation to join politics

AKRAM M

1 How has your experience with the Yatra been?

The first week was challenging and took a toll on the health of many yatriis. Some had blisters that lasted for a month. Now, it is better. In fact, we feel something is amiss if we don't walk 20 kilometers a day. I feel like I am climbing Mount Everest.

2 What are your key learnings?

I had some misconceptions about South Indian politics, but I now understand why it has strong leadership values. In Bihar, we take on leaders aggressively for developmental projects and they end up pushing for short-term projects. In South India, there is more room for leaders to provide long-term, sustainable solutions. Some examples are wind farms and drip irrigation systems.

3 Have you been home since the Yatra began?

No, I have not. God willing, I won't be back home until March next year, when the Yatra finishes.

4 What is your daily schedule?

My day starts at 4.30 am. We gather for flag-hoisting at 5.30. The first leg of the yatra — which is around 10 to 13 km — starts by 6.30 am. We reach the resting spot by 10.30 am. Lunch is served around noon, after which we rest for a bit. I speak to my mother during this time. The second leg of the march starts around 4 pm and ends by 6.30 pm. We then freshen up, do our laundry and other chores. Dinner is served around 8 pm. Once a week, there is a meeting at 9.30 pm.

5 Do you have a strict diet and exercise regimen?

Walking itself is an exercise for me. I have lost 6 kg since the march started. I have taken up meditation and have also started drinking a lot of water.

NUMBER PLATE



7.6%

THE RATE of unemployment (according to current weekly status) in the urban areas of the country during April-June 2022

DURING THE first quarter of the current financial year, the unemployment rate was

7.1% Men 10.1% Women

FIRST QUARTER OF 2022-23

3.3% THE RATE of unemployment in the urban areas of Gujarat, the lowest among all states in the country.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WAS RECORDED AT

3% Men 4.5% Women

11.1% The unemployment rate in the urban areas of Himachal Pradesh during April-June 2022 -- among the highest in the country. The unemployment rate for men and women was reported at 8.1 per cent and 19.1 per cent respectively during the April-June quarter of 2022-23.

Source: as per the quarterly bulletin of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) published by the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

Residents of India's first 24X7 solar-powered village are saving 60 to 100% on electricity bills

AVINASH NAIR
MODHERA (GUJARAT)

WITH THE festive season at the doorstep, Manjulaben Prajapati wants to buy an electric two-wheeler for her daughters.

Manjulaben lives in Modhera, India's first solar-powered village in Mehsana district of Gujarat, also known for its iconic Sun Temple, built by the rulers of the Chalukya dynasty.

Her house is among the 1,300 dwellings in the village having rooftop mounted solar power systems, or solar rooftops as the villagers call them, which supply electricity to the households during the day. The solar panels are linked to a battery storage plant, which provides power at night. For several Modhera residents, the solar rooftops have helped bring down power bills by 60-100%.

"The last bill shows that I have Rs 800 as credit in my account. This means we have generated more power than we consumed. Earlier, we used to pay about Rs 2,000 every two months," says Manjulaben, adding that she has bought a brand-new refrigerator and a domestic flour mill with the savings.

With electricity freely available, she adds, "I want to replace our Honda Activa scooter with an electric two-wheeler. That way we will save on fuel cost too."

The solar rooftops with 1kw capacity are being installed free of cost by the Gujarat government as part of a "demonstration project" at Modhera, which was declared India's first 24X7 solar-powered village by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 9. A total of Rs 80.66 crore have been spent so



Vajaji Solanki displays his bill which shows that he has earned Rs 1,325 selling solar energy from his rooftop at Modhera. Kashiba Solanki (right) needs money to strengthen her roof before panels can be put. Nirmal Harindran



far, with the Centre and state splitting it, with Modhera generating 2 MW of solar power. Around 400 households in the village though are yet to get solar panels, among

them Kailashba Solanki, a neighbour of Manjulaben.

"Our roof is weak and it will not sustain the weight of the solar panels. Strengthening the roof will cost Rs 50,000 and we do not have the money," says Kailashba, who has to support six members in his family.

Inspecting the ongoing work in the village, Rajendra Mistry, an official from Gujarat Power Corporation Limited and the chief project officer of the solar project in Modhera, says: "Seventy-eighty percent of the households are financially very weak. It was not prudent to charge them for the solar rooftops. We are trying to make it more financially viable to replicate in other villages."

The Modhera project is India's first grid-connect battery energy storage system, Mistry says. "It is a net power generator during the daytime. In the evening, when solar panels stop working, it becomes a net power consumer and uses the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Sujjanpura."

"PM Modi wanted Modhera to draw inspiration from the Sun Temple. Solar power also represents the deity inside the temple,"

says Pradeep Gadhvi, an official of Gujarat Energy Research and Management Institute, who is also associated with the project.

The power generated also helps recharge the electric vehicles at the temple. "A bus, a couple of cars as well as two-wheelers can be charged. This is being provided for free now," says Mistry.

The project, which began in the first half of 2020, was delayed due to Covid-19 and then it took time to convince the villagers. In the first phase, only 37 houses were roped in. The solar panels are connected to a smart meter that sends the data directly to the electricity supply company.

Several villagers too remain wary, and report voltage fluctuations which, they fear, could damage their electrical appliances. Some complain that the solar panels are difficult to clean.

A few complain their bills have not come down, among them Elaben Prajapati, who works as a farm labourer. "We were told the solar panels would reduce our electricity bills. PM Modi came and went, but our bills have remained the same."

Across
THE AISLE



PCHIDAMBARAM

Website: pchidambaram.in
Twitter: @Pchidambaram, IN

The controversy is between ‘Choice’ and ‘Rule’. ‘Choice’ represents freedom, dignity, diversity. ‘Rule’ is often a product of majoritarianism, drive for uniformity. ‘Choice’ will yield to ‘Rule’ in certain situations — public order, decency, morality and health... Absent such grounds, ‘Choice’ must prevail

inside
TRACK
COOMI KAPOOR



LONG-TERM VISION

At a meeting at his home in Ahmedabad to discuss the impending Gujarat Assembly elections, Amit Shah focused only on the challenge from the Aam Aadmi Party. A BJP leader foolishly interjected to remark that AAP was no great threat and would in fact simply divide the Opposition’s vote (*vote katva*). The Home Minister pulled him up and remarked that unlike him, he was not thinking three months ahead, but three years ahead. AAP was the only Opposition party gaining momentum all over the country as it has no baggage from the past to answer for. He warned that AAP should be contained and not permitted to cross 24 per cent of the vote or the BJP could be in trouble. He cited the example of the phenomenal rise of the Shiv Sena in Maharashtra once Sharad Pawar merged his Congress(S) with the Congress(I) in 1986. Earlier, the Shiv Sena’s influence was restricted to Mumbai and the surrounding districts, but as soon as Pawar re-joined the Congress, there was a vacuum which was filled overnight by the Shiv Sena, allied with the BJP. He added that he was thinking of AAP’s prospects not just in 2024 but also 2029.

SECOND THOUGHTS

Raman Singh, who was chief minister of Chhattisgarh for 15 years, has begun touring the state with an eye on the Assembly elections which are due late next year. But BJP organising secretary B L Santhosh put a spoke in his plans recently by warning him not to chalk out his tour programme unilaterally but to do so in conjunction with the party organisation. An admonition which suggests that Singh may not be the party’s choice for chief minister candidate in 2023.

Upset by Santhosh’s remarks and still carrying the grudge for his son Abhishek Singh being denied ticket for the parliamentary polls back in 2019, Singh let off steam while speaking to a few chosen journalists from the state. He muttered that he was a Rajput and did not take an insult lying down. Later, when he had cooled down, Singh feared that he might have spoken out of turn and he hastily got his media adviser to ensure that the scribes did not report his candid comments.

She
SAID
SHALINI LANGER

shalini.langer@expressindia.com



IT’S THAT time of the year again, when everywhere you turn, you are reminded of things that you could, would, should do. Cleaned that corner yet? Dusted those books? Hung up lights? Made some sweets? Bought the gifts? Done the check-lists? Forgot that one, didn’t you, buying *dias* in time and then soaking them and drying them, just like your parents did, to save up on precious oil (well, the oil does remain as costly)?

Yes, it is Diwali, and beyond those twinkling lights, there hides the well-known secret. While the world, or rather their male counterparts sleep, women are

Hijab: Point and Counter point

THE *HIJAB*: To wear, or not to wear, that is the question.

The question was answered by two Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court but, at the end of the day on October 13, there were two Opinions, but no Answer. As a result, Ms Aishat Shifa and Ms Tehrina Begum, born and raised in a small town called Kundapura, district Udupi, Karanataka, are unable to resume their studies in Government Pre-University College, Kundapura.

Both students were in the second year. Since the day they had joined the college in the previous year, they had worn the *hijab* — a scarf that covered the head and neck but left the face visible. The *hijab* was worn in addition to the prescribed uniform.

On February 3, 2022, they were stopped at the gate and told that they would have to remove the *hijab* before entering the college. They refused, they were denied entry, and that is where the matter stands eight months later.

HIJAB IS NO DIFFERENT

A woman wearing the *hijab* causes no offence to anybody. It is not against public order, decency, morality or health. Irrespective of the religious significance, a woman wearing the hijab is not very different from women in India who cover their head with the *pallu* of their sari or a *duppatta*. Men wear *turbans*. Sikh men cover their heads with a *pagari*. Many states of India have distinctive

headgear worn on special occasions (eg. the Mysuru *peta*).

What is the central issue of the controversy? Amidst the screaming headlines, the cacophony on television, the flood of comments, trolls and memes in the social media and the lofty pronouncements of worthy leaders, the central issue has been lost. In my view, the issue boils down to one word: CHOICE.

FASCINATING
FENCING

There are two approaches to the question of ‘choice’ concerning wearing of the *hijab*. I may illustrate the two approaches by quoting from the opinions of the two honourable judges, Justice Hemant Gupta and Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia:

■ **Justice Gupta**: “The practice of wearing of *hijab* may be a ‘religious practice’ or an ‘essential religious practice’ or it may be social conduct for the women of Islamic faith...The religious belief cannot be carried to a secular school maintained out of state funds.”

■ **Justice Dhulia**: “Whether wearing *hijab* is an essential religious practice or not is not essential for the determination of this dispute. If the belief is sincere, and it harms no one else, there can be no justifiable reasons for banning *hijab* in a classroom.”

■ **Justice Gupta**: “... the decision of the state government mandating the College

Development Committee to ensure the students wear the uniform as prescribed does not violate the freedom guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a), rather reinforces the right to equality under Article 14.”

■ **Justice Dhulia**: “Asking a pre-university schoolgirl to take off her *hijab* at her school gate is an invasion of her privacy and dignity. It is clearly violative of the Fundamental Right given to her under Articles 19(1)(a) and 21 of the Constitution.”

■ **Justice Gupta**: “Therefore, the Preambular goal of justice, liberty, equality or fraternity would be better served by removing any religious differences, inequalities, and treating students alike before they attain the age of adulthood.”

■ **Justice Dhulia**: “This is the time to foster in them sensitivity, empathy and understanding towards different religions, languages and cultures. This is the time when they should learn not to be alarmed by our diversity but to rejoice and celebrate this diversity.”

■ **Justice Gupta**: “If they choose not to attend classes due to the uniform that has been prescribed, it is a voluntary act of such students and cannot be said to be in violation of Article 29 by the state.”

■ **Justice Dhulia**: “If she wants to wear *hijab* even inside her classroom, she cannot be stopped, if it is worn as a matter of her choice, as it may be the only way her conservative family will permit her to go to school, and in those cases, her *hijab* is her ticket to education.”

CHOICE OR RULE

Some commentators have complained that when there is a movement for shedding the *hijab* in conservative Iran, it is surprising that a section of the Muslim community should defend the right of girls to wear the *hijab* in classrooms in modern India. The criticism is completely misplaced. On a closer look, the controversy is the same in both Iran and India: it is about ‘choice’. It is like the controversy in America over the woman’s choice of abortion.

The controversy is between ‘Choice’ and ‘Rule’. ‘Choice’ represents freedom, dignity, privacy and diversity. ‘Rule’ is often a product of majoritarianism, intolerance and drive for uniformity. ‘Choice’ will yield to ‘Rule’ in certain situations that attract the grounds contained in Article 19(2) or Article 25(1) of the Constitution — public order, decency, morality and health — and in certain other provisions of Part III of the Constitution (fundamental rights). Absent such grounds, ‘Choice’ must prevail.

Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia upheld ‘Choice’ because the *hijab* may be the girls’ only ticket to education. Justice Hemant Gupta upheld the ‘Rule’ although the state showed no compelling necessity.

Let the larger Bench of the Supreme Court lay down the law. Meanwhile, each one of you must decide whether you stand with ‘Choice’ or ‘Rule’.

Fifth
COLUMN

TAVLEEN SINGH

Twitter: @tavleen_singh



Of Good and Evil

IT IS Diwali and the festive season ordains that I write about good things and think happy thoughts. This Diwali this is more needed because it is the first one in three years that we can celebrate without the evil shadow of the coronavirus looming over all festivities. I am celebrating Diwali this year in the Maharashtra village by the sea where I spent the lockdowns. The lockdowns and endless stories of death and disease turned this little village into a zone of gloom, so it is doubly delightful this year to see the lights, the lanterns, the busy shops, and crowded beaches.

This village’s economy is built around fishing and tourism. This year the fishermen are back with baskets of freshly caught fish and prawns. And the tourists are back. So, the little beach shacks that fell to ruin have come back to life as restaurants and there are coconut sellers, horseback rides, jet skis, and beach buggies that rattle noisily up and down the beach. All these things make a happy change from last Diwali when the country was still reeling from the horror of the Delta wave. This Diwali is happier than the last but no matter how hard I try not to remember those bodies in the Ganga, those shallow graves on its banks and those queues outside crematoriums, I find it hard to forget.

Having said that, I would like to acknowledge that Narendra Modi rectified his mistakes quickly and launched a very successful vaccination programme. This revived confidence in Modi and in the BJP so completely that it became possible for Yogi Adityanath to win a second term in the state that was among the worst hit by the Delta wave.

Polls indicate that voters have forgiven Modi enough for him to continue being the most popular leader in the world. This despite the rupee falling to its lowest point against the dollar. This despite the price of food and other necessities having risen alarmingly. This despite unemployment being the biggest problem for young Indians. In a determined effort to prevent unemployment from becoming the biggest issue in imminent elections in Gujarat and Himachal, the Prime Minister announced a ‘Rozgar Mela’ during which 75,000 lucky people will get jobs on the spot. If this becomes more than just a grand gesture to win the coming elections, it will matter. Or it will fade from memory.

In the past few weeks, we have seen the Prime Minister praying in the sanctum sanctorum of two major temples. In Ujjain he entered the sanctum in the robes of a Hindu priest and TV cameras covered every moment of the *pooja*. Then changing into more political attire, he inaugurated a grand extension of the Mahakaal temple that will allow pilgrims to find places to rest and to soak up stories of their religion. In Kedarnath, he posed for TV cameras in robes that made him look like a lost Himalayan Prophet, after inaugurating a ropeway that will make it easier for pilgrims to reach the temple.

This is harmless religiosity. It would have drawn kudos from this columnist if the Prime Minister had opened his mouth once to condemn the ugly religiosity that has left deep scars since last Diwali. When you light up your homes tonight, say a prayer for those Muslims whose homes have been reduced to rubble because they were suspected of attacking public property and Hindu processions. Spare a thought for Bilkis Bano whose rapists, and the murderers of her family, have been released from jail and revived memories of her gangrape and images of her baby girl having her head smashed in with a rock. These despicable criminals should be condemned to spend the rest of their miserable lives in jail. Instead, they have vanished without a trace.

There is now proof that these monsters were released on the orders of the Home Minister. Did he do this at the behest of the Prime Minister? Was it done because the BJP’s senior leaders believe elections in Gujarat can only be won by dividing Hindus and Muslims? Speaking of poisonous religiosity, can someone explain why Gurmmeet Ram Rahim, a convicted rapist and murderer, has been given a longish holiday from jail just before municipal elections in Haryana?

In this season of festivals that celebrate the victory of good over evil, it is important to remember those who have made such a huge contribution to spreading evil. At the top of my list are the Hindu preachers who continue to routinely pop up to demand that all Muslims be killed. Close behind come those jihadi fanatics who killed innocent men supposedly to avenge their Prophet being insulted by a BJP spokeswoman, who has been forced into hiding. At number three on my list of evil doers are those officials who ordered the demolition of homes of people who have not been convicted of any crimes. In countries where the rule of law matters more than it does in our dear Bharat Mata, these officials would be in jail for showing such utter disdain for the rule of law.

My personal wish this Diwali is that the Prime Minister finally discovers the necessity to speak out, before Diwali next year, against those of his ministers, party colleagues and supporters who have perpetuated without qualm the ugliest form of religiosity. Meanwhile, a very Happy Diwali.

history
HEADLINE

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India’s maritime history runs deep and long here



An aerial view of Dholavira archaeological site in Kutch district. UNESCO has declared Dholavira a World Heritage Site. PTI

settlement. The ruins, including the cemetery, cover over 70 hectares, half of which is appropriated by the fortified Harappan settlement alone.

The mounds are located less than a kilometre northwest of Dholavira village. The groundwater reserve here in its soft sedimentary limestone deposits did not

fail it even during the severest droughts in Gujarat in the ‘80s.

This Harappan city was discovered in 1968 by former ASI director general Jagat Pati Joshi and excavated for 13 field seasons between 1989 and 2005 led by Ravindra Singh Bisht.

Dholavira is unique because remains of a complete water system have been found here. The people who lived there for an estimated 1,200 years are noted for their water conservation system using rainwater harvesting techniques in an otherwise parched landscape.

Evidence of inter-regional trade with other Harappan cities, as well as with cities in the Mesopotamia region and the Oman peninsula, have also been discovered. Ten large inscriptions, carved in the Harappan Valley script, were found which was billed as the world’s earliest signboard.

The site comprises two parts: a walled city and a cemetery to the west of the city.

A LITTLE OVER 70 km from Ahmedabad lies Lothal, one of the prominent cities of the ancient Harappan Civilization, dating to 2600 BCE to 2000 BCE, located close to the Gulf of Khambhat.

Earlier this week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while reviewing the National Maritime Heritage Complex coming up at Lothal, spoke about how Lothal and Dholavira were part of India’s rich maritime history.

Lothal and Bet Dwarka, also in Gujarat, were excavated by the late Archaeological Survey of India director Dr Shikaripura Ranganatha Rao. Dating back over 4600 years, the dockyard in Lothal is the oldest man-made dockyard, built of burnt bricks, roughly 240 m long, 37 m wide and 4 m deep, with a warehouse located next to it.

The Lothal site lay on a trade route between the Harappan cities in Sindh and the Saurashtra peninsula, when Kutch was part of the Arabian Sea. Lothal flourished with advanced technological marvels that initiated India’s rich maritime history, but declined mysteriously. The evidence from Lothal suggests that the Harappans were highly disciplined people who believed in orderliness, visible in the planning of towns and cities, uniform system of weights and measures, enforcement of trade regulations, efficient administration and standardization of goods and services to facilitate production.

The noteworthy artefacts found in Lothal include models of boats, Persian Gulf seals, bangles, a model of a terracotta mummy, a terracotta pyramid, Sumerian head, precious and semi-precious stones like carnelian, lapis lazuli.

Being a port town, Lothal hosted traders from different parts of the world and civilizations. Along with trade products, their cultural beliefs and values, ideas and innovative techniques also transferred to Lothal, making it the hub of the culture and economy of the world.

Dholavira in Kutch district lies on the Khadir Bet island, surrounded by the salt waste of the Great Rann of Kutch. It is also known locally as *Kotada timba*, and is one of the largest sites where the remains of the Harappan civilization have been found. Two monsoon channels — the Menhar and the Mansar — embrace the

Being a port town, Lothal had traders from different parts of the world. They brought along with them their cultural beliefs, values and ideas to Lothal

Happy Diwali! From the other side

at work making festivals — including this one — happen.

No one expects us to — which is only partly true — but who else is going to get onto the kitchen counter and clean the grease off the chimney, unless the sulking help can spare the time? Your husband and children perhaps go through life, certainly your life, not noticing things like that.

Who else will feel the hurt when your son turns around and asks, “You didn’t make sweets *again* this year?”

Every patchwork on the walls meanwhile tells a story. Of another Diwali gone without that nightmare whitewash.

And finally no one expects us to, but when all those photos pop up on your WhatsApp groups of well-dressed, smiling families, you better have cajoled,

pleaded, run around, made the effort with your own for that perfect shot.

Numerous surveys, books and reports tell us women bear the brunt of festivals. As per a survey by the American Psychological Association, nearly half of all women in the US experienced heightened stress during the holidays, at risk to the health of their minds, not to speak bodies.

In her book *The Christmas Imperative: Leisure, Family and Women’s Work*, Leslie Bella talked about how women are under pressure to mount the “perfect Christmas”, which involves long hours recreating things from a bygone era of large families with women confined to home. We now have nuclear set-ups, women juggling office and home, tackling the traffic mess of festival seasons, re-

turning exhausted to a messy home, and doing a 360-degree turn when in.

And, after all this, come D-Day, it may be still upon the women to get a reluctant family to appreciate — if not share — that vision of perfection.

Even the fact that all festivals are associated with food is no coincidence. We are again coming from a time when people had lesser means, fewer occasions to have feasts, and hence looked forward to those rare times when the table was laden with goodies, without guilt. Now, food is both centric to our lives — and isn’t. We keep talking about it, have all kinds around us at all times, and appreciate it less and less. Still, come a festival, at least some part of our day is spent juggling ladies and a sari over a stove.

A friend recently, a male, said they had

liberated themselves from all this some years back. With his wife also working, they order in their meals, the full course of it, and enjoy their day instead. The thought was so revolutionary that I couldn’t get it out of my head a long time.

So, come Monday, what will it be? Having done some rudimentary cleaning to satisfy my heart, if not my eyes, made the *laddoos* that the teens are still children about, bought the gifts, brought out the *dias* from last time, hung up the lights, dealt with the fact that the help is celebrating her own Diwali, I will probably be found in the kitchen early to do my bit.

Revolutions take time. Maybe next year.

National Editor Shalini Langer curates the ‘She Said’ column



POINT OF VIEW

Down to Earth

Filmmaker-actor Rishab Shetty speaks about the making of *Kantara*, the importance of being rooted, and being open to making mistakes



BOOKS

- Interview with Booker Prize-winning Sri Lankan writer Shehan Karunatilaka
- Review of Anirudhya Mitra's *Ninety Days*
- Review of Daniel Ladinsky's *The Gift*

WE ARE ALL BANARASI

For centuries, Varanasi and the festival of lights have been uniquely bound by tradition, *ganga-jamuni tehzeeb*, and the famed Purabiya lilt that wafts in its sacred and secular identity

Suanshu Khurana

ONCE, WHEN shehnai maestro Ustad Bismillah Khan was asked about his routine in and affections for Varanasi — the city he'd lived in most of his life — he'd said, with a *beedi* between his fingers, "I roam the world, but it is Benares where my heart is... *Ganga hai saamne, yahan nahayiyee; iske masjid hai saamne, yahan namaz padiye; phir Balaji mandir chale gaye, vahan riyaz kiya... Ye aur kahin nahi milta* (There is Ganga ahead, bathe here; there is a mosque across, read the *namaz* here, then one would go to Balaji temple for practice. I don't get this anywhere else in the world)." His unconditional love for the city and its varied colours and deities surfaced in the famed *Ram dhun*, Tulsidas's *Raghupati raghav raja ram*, and manifested in the dulcet delivery on the shehnai. It also had within its gentle notes an understanding that while Varanasi's ghats and gullies, music and food made space for religion, it was never entrenched in rigidity.

Khan's statement about Varanasi, a place where people come to die and believers seek redemption, alludes to its syncreticity, its music, its culture and its people such as Khan. It echoes the *ganga-jamuni tehzeeb*, which, currently, in many other parts of the country, seems to be in peril or drowned in the din of debates and disputes over religion.

But come Diwali, Varanasi, soused in its Ganga *maiyya* refrain and the Purabiya lilt, comes alive with thousands of lamps and strains of music — *bhajans*, *chaitis*, *thumris* and *ka-jiris*, which can be heard in various parts of the city. "It is not celebrated by one community. Diwali in Banaras is a festival for the Banarasis. You can go to any house in the city, and it will be bustling with activity around the festival," says author and tabla player Pandit Kameshwar Nath Mishra, who accompanied Varanasi's *thumri* matriarch, Girija Devi, for decades.

In a city that so doggedly holds on to the past, there are many lessons for the present. "Banaras has its own *racha huya mahaul* (quixotic ambience). Everything is done after immersing oneself in things. Nothing is on the surface. There is a saying: *Humhu Banarasi, tumhu Banarasi* (I'm a Banarasi, you are a Banarasi).

"On Diwali, this spirit is on display even more," says *thumri* singer Sunanda Sharma, who lived in Varanasi for over a decade, learning under the tutelage of Devi. "As musicians, while our day begins with praying to one's instruments, a lot of our songs are about Ram and Sita, since the festival celebrates their return to Ayodhya. I significantly remember *Siya sang jhoole bagiya mein Ram lalaina*, a *jhula* (a folk form from Banaras, usually sung to describe scenes of Krishna and Radha on a swing). Then there are classical *bandishes*, as well, such as *Beech nagariya, bhooli re dagariya, ab sudh lo mere Ram*," says Sharma, who recalls the shimmering *diyas* on the *ghats* and their reflection in Ganga, while in a boat with "Appa ji (Devi)". It's hard to miss the amalgamation of light, life, death and music all at once in a boat ride. "In that boat, there is a natural urge to sing of what you see. And the boatman, who mostly knows too much, will join you and invariably know the *bhajan* or *chaiti*, as well. There is something mesmerising about the whole experience. This, while the city continues its rhythm of life and death," says Sharma.

When Mark Twain exclaimed that Varanasi is "older than legend, older than tradition... older than all of these put together," it's likely that it stemmed from the magic he experienced of the city, its sights and sounds, and this unique rhythm. "When you celebrate Deepavali here, it's an extension of the experience of the city itself. Together, it just multiplies," says Mishra, who adds that 15 days after Diwali, Varanasi also celebrates Dev Deepavali, Diwali of the gods. It's in memory of Shiva defeating Tripurasura, a trio of demon brothers. It's believed that the gods took a dip in the Ganga — the heart of Varanasi — and then lit *diyas* everywhere. For over three decades now, people have been lighting *diyas* on the *ghats*. Varanasi's *ghats* are lit up with lakhs of lamps on the steps of the *ghats* that are yoked to those narrow, yet absolutely enchanting lanes. It's in these slivers of streets where one is served the tastiest malaiyyo and the finest paan, besides, of course, kachori and jalebi.

One of the finest ways to "feel" Diwali is through a Diwali bandish — *Pujat diwali, jagmag ujiyari...* in raag Hamsadhvani, sung in *kirana* style, by Varanasi-based Pandit Chhannulal Mishra, who usually sings this ode to the festival of lights in concerts he attends around Diwali.

In November 1993, about a week after Diwali, Khan performed at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London on the invitation from sitar maestro Ustad Vilayat Khan. In his speech, after the concert, describing the power of the seven notes and how they surpass every caste and creed that our nation concerns itself with, he spoke of his favourite city that he wasn't born in, but lived and loved all his life. "*Hum aisi jagah se aate hain jahan ras paida hota hai* — Banaras (I come from a place, where *rasa* is born)," he said. Today, his soul and his shehnai rest under a neem tree in this city.

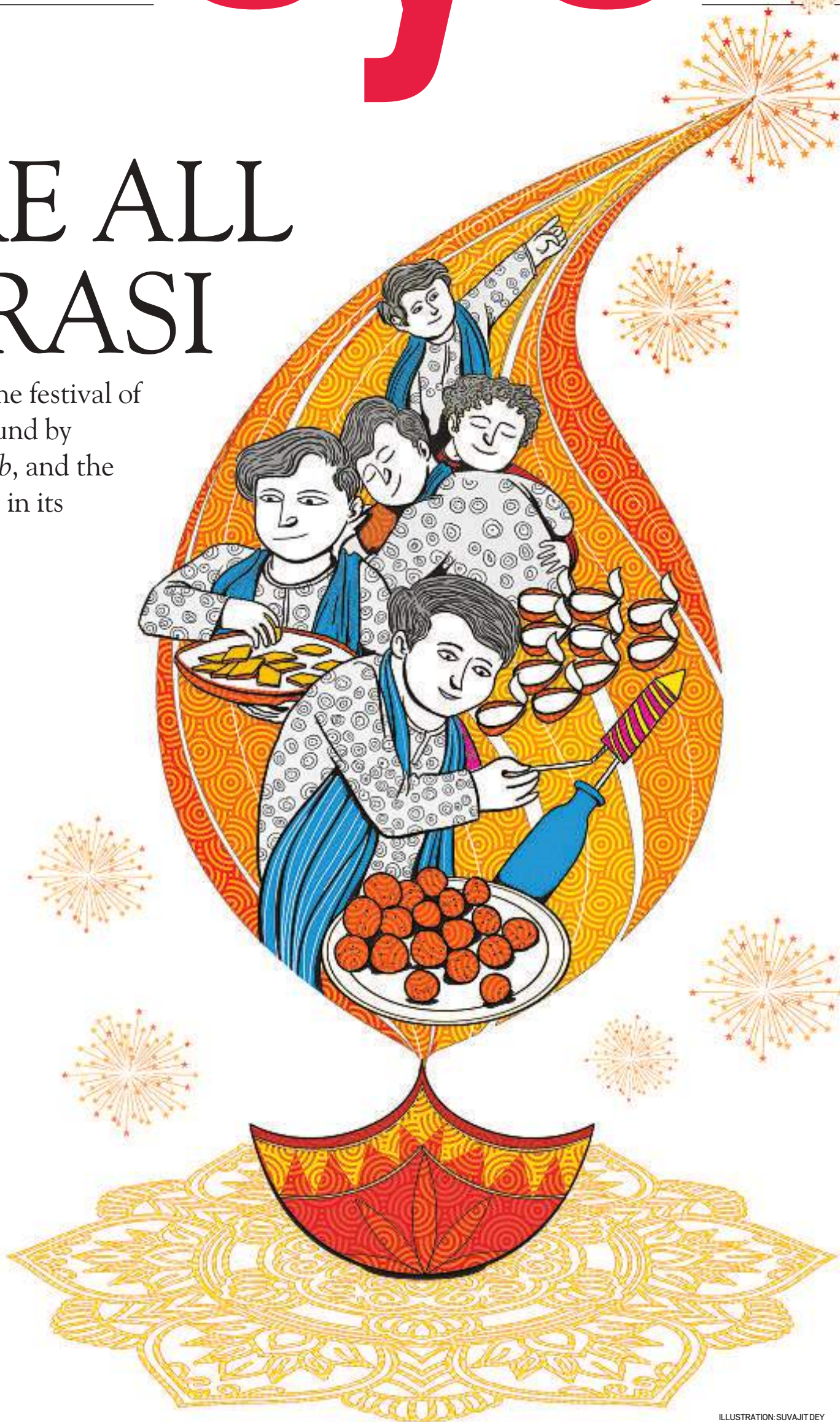


ILLUSTRATION: SUVAJIT DEY



ANAND SINGH

IN ONE ACCORD

Dev Deepavali on Kartik Purnima during the Ganga *arti* at Ganga Ghat, Varanasi

THE LIGHT OF LIFE

How Diwali became a festival of food and memories, history and culture

Sadaf Hussain

THERE WAS a time when *diyas* were in the spotlight, *rangolis* were drawn on thresholds and greeting cards were handmade. Food, prepared at home, was shared among neighbours and relatives, and we walked in and out of homes unannounced. Even today, there are festivals that cut across religions and regions. These include Eid, Diwali and Christmas. Markets are dressed up like newly-wedded brides and homes are lit with many time-honoured traditions.

Call it Diwali, Deepavali or *Jashn-e-Chiraghan*, they all meant the same to me while growing up in the small town of Ramgarh, Jharkhand. Being the youngest and, perhaps, the most-excited kid in our society, during the festival, my tiny legs could never sit still. I would leap and hop into homes within the society, particularly of my two immediate neighbours — one was a family originally from Kerala, while the other was from Bihar. Wearing my white chikan kurta, still brand new from Eid, I would participate in the Lakshmi *puja*, collect *prasad*, grab some food, and move on to inspect the *rangolis* that decorated our streets.

While I was given *carte blanche* to walk into my neighbours' homes and eat anything, there was one condition: I had to lay out the *diyas* around the house, in the front and on the *chappa* (terraces/covered tops). But my Hobson's choice was just as sweet. I would decorate their homes, but I would take the line of *diyas* down to my house as well, and the larger *diya* formation, after the *puja*, would be in front of my house. All those 21 years, the tradition continued. Meanwhile, assisting the mothers in keeping the house clean was part of the celebration.

The markets were another favourite haunt. On Diwali, I would rush to buy *batashe*. For a 10-year-old, these designer sugar drops were delightful. They came in various shapes, of houses, animals, birds, and in a variety of colours, including pink, green, yellow, and white. With puffed rice and *muri*, it was the *prasad* served to the goddess. I'd buy these for the *puja* at my neighbours. Very early, I had learnt that it was wiser to spend money on food than waste them on firecrackers. It's all about priorities; people may argue otherwise.

While the elders went about meeting and greeting one another, the children only had eyes for the food. Some sweets like soan papdi got labelled as "travel mithai", which went from house to house, with barely any takers.

The most common snack in many homes though was dahi vada. It's been a favourite in our home and gets made for every festival, be it Eid, Diwali or Christmas. There's a trick to making good vadas. It lies in incorporating air into your batter and then dipping it in water. This makes the vada really soft. Beat the curd well and season it right, and don't forget the tamarind-and-coriander chutney along with roasted cumin powder. Skip any of these and you won't get the best vada. Atleast not like the ones that have people claim: "It's just like my mother's".

Nowadays, when you visit homes, it's a buffet of online-ordered goodies, be it noodles, kebabs, mithai or other snacks. In the '90s, it was shakkarpare, pidakiya, maalpua, sharbat, and a mixture that came from Gupta ji's shop, in a newspaper bag with visible oil spots. Over time, Diwali parties have included alcohol and playing cards, unlike Ramgarh's chai, sharbat or jal jeera. Today, Diwali cards are bought from Archies; my favourites are the pop-up ones.

But even today, Diwali is about lights and families coming together. Poet-musician Amir Khusrau called it *Roshni-e-Zeest* in a *taslees* (a verse of three lines) in the Pahalavi language. He writes: *Zee astin rang-e-zeest. Zee astin roshni-e-zeest. Barmala mee azghaf jashn-e-durai* (One festival bespeaks the colours of life and another one enumerates the light of life. Ergo, these two festivals are so dear to me).

Diwan Gautam Anand, veteran hotelier and founding trustee, Cuisine India Foundation, a platform that celebrates Indian food globally, remembers his Diwali festivities from the 1960s. Before travelling for work, he would walk around the house, chanting: *Deep Deep Diwali, Vadiya Chotiya Vaali* (Celebration of both small and main day of Diwali). Part of the rituals included bringing home statues of Lakshmi and Ganesha. Every year, his grandfather would write the names of all his ancestors on scraps of paper using saffron as ink. This was his way of seeking blessings from the elders who had passed on. These names would be written in Urdu, Farsi, or English. A young Gautam would receive Rs 101 from his grandfather, and before one knew it, all the children would be out to light crackers (this is before air and sound pollution became a national concern). Men would congregate to down some whiskey, while women would clink glasses of Wincarnis (or khuraq, as his grandmother would say), followed by *baith bazi* (verbal duel of Urdu poetry), singing, and dancing, complemented by a beautiful spread of mutton pulao, kofte, rilli milli sabzi, dal, pinni, aate ka halwa, and other delicacies.

Food has a way of retaining memories, histories and stories. Even today, Gautam Anand continues these traditions. As for me, I take boxes of kaju katli for friends and family to celebrate the zeest, the light of life.

Sadaf Hussain is an author, chef, and culinary chronicler



New Delhi



BRIEFLY

U 23 Worlds: Aman wins 57kg gold



Pontevedra : Free style wrestler Aman grabbed India's first gold medal of the on-going edition of the U-23 World Championship

when he outplayed Turkey's Ahmet Duman in the 57kg title clash here on Saturday. Aman scored all his points in the second period while his opponent got his points with a couple of two-pointers in each period. It is Aman's fourth medal this season, having won a gold in Almaty, silver at Dan Kolov and a bronze at Yasar Dogu.India signed off with six medals with only nine wrestlers taking the mat.

Mumbai, Punjab in Mushtaq Ali quarters

Rajkot: Mumbai, Punjab, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh and Bengal finished as toppers in their respective groups to directly qualify for the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 quarterfinals on Saturday. Uttarakhand opener Avneesh Sudha's 66-ball 96 went in vain as Mumbai bowlers held their nerves to pull off a two-run win here at the Saurashtra Cricket Stadium. Mumbai finished with 24 points to top group A and make the quarters directly. **Brief scores: Mumbai 174/5; 20 overs (Yashviji Jaiswal 45; Akash Madhwal 2/23) b Uttarakhand 172/9; 20 overs (Avneesh Sudha 96; Shams Mulani 2/26, Mohit Avasthi 2/45) by two runs.**

Kusale bags third Paris Olympic quota

Cairo: Swapnil Kusale bagged the third Paris Olympics quota place for India after finishing fourth in the men's 50m rifle 3 position final of the ISSF World Championships here on Saturday. The first quota was won by Bhowneesh Mendiratta in the men's trap shooting event and the second was claimed by Rudranksh Balasheh Patil in the 10m air rifle event where he won the gold medal. Rhythm Sangwan missed a quota place narrowly in the women's 25m pistol as India also picked up two more medals on the day with a 1-2 finish in the 10m air pistol mixed team junior competition.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Finn-tastic start for Kiwis

New Zealand stun defending champs for first win in Australia in over a decade

ABHISHEK PUROHIT
OCTOBER 22

SO LONG USED to being roughed up by the bullies from across the Tasman Sea, New Zealand crushed defending champions Australia by a massive 89 runs in the opening Super 12 match of the T20 World Cup in Sydney.

It was the Kiwis' first win over Australia in Australia in any format since as far back as 2011. Set 201 to win, Australia crumbled to 111, their lowest T20I total at home.

The flying Finn

The last time New Zealand faced Australia in Australia in an ICC tournament was in the 2015 World Cup final. Even then, the tone was set in the first over of the match from Mitchell Starc. Brendon McCullum tried to charge and clobber Starc out of sight, but after a couple of futile attempts, had his stumps rattled for a duck. New Zealand retreated into a shell and crawled to 183 all out in 45 overs.

For the T20 World Cup Super 12 opener, they chose aggression over experience, with the 23-year-old Finn Allen preferred over veteran Martin Gupthill. Allen had played only 18 T20Is before Saturday's biggie against the big-brother neighbours but came in highly rated with a T20 career strike rate above 170. Starc started with five successive full deliveries, presumably in search of swing, which he wasn't to find. Allen - who'd once said that his game was about watching the ball closely till as late as he could - set himself up around off stump, and smashed Starc for three boundaries between the sight screen and wide long-on.

"We talked about throwing the first punch and not letting them settle early. It was just committing to that and being fearless," Allen would say at the innings break. Starc can go for runs with his fuller lengths, but Josh Hazlewood is an altogether different type with his awkward, in-between Test-match line and length. It is not easy to put him off his zone, but New Zealand were in no mood to let him settle. Both Allen and Devon Conway stepped out to take him for a four each in his opening over.

Pat Cummins got the same treatment from Allen, who kept charging and hammering it cleanly. When Cummins bounced him, Allen made good use of the shorter boundary to swat a six over square leg. The three premier pacers had gone for 46 in the first three overs, and for once, in a role reversal, the Kiwis' aggression had rattled Australia.

By the time Allen finally missed a yorker from Hazlewood, he had blitzed 42 from 16, eight of which were boundaries, including three sixes.

Conway carries on

The frenetic start allowed New Zealand the space for skipper Kane Williamson to plod to a run-a-ball 23, but Conway wouldn't let the



Opener Finn Allen scored a quick-fire 42 off 16.

AP

momentum flag. The left-hander hit Adam Zampa for a boundary in each of his four overs, nicely using his feet against the leg-spinner.

"(They play) complementary roles - Finn at the top is super aggressive and hits the ball really, really hard and looks to take it on, which has been great. And it complements Dev really well," Williamson had said of his openers recently.

Australia had realised that the slower ones and hard lengths were working on the dry pitch. Hazlewood banged one in, and the ball climbed at Glenn Phillips to take a top edge that the bowler settled under. At the other end, Conway continued to produce the odd boundary, helping New Zealand progress at between nine and ten runs an over. A punchy drive past mid-off, a squeezed slap past extra cover; just when Australia seemed to have plugged the leak for a bit, he would find an opening.

A couple of powerful heaves into the crowd from James Neesham had New Zealand touching 200 off the last ball of the innings, with Conway returning unbeaten on 92 off 58. According to Cricviz, the par score was 173, so Australia had quite a stiff chase on their hands.

Australia annihilated

Starc may not have swung the new ball, but Trent Boult did. Boult began with a series of away curlers to David Warner, the fourth of which produced the outside edge and flew past slip. Warner had some words to say to

Boult in response, but fell to a freak dismissal off Tim Southee's first delivery, under-edging it onto pad and then edging the ricochet into his stumps.

Aaron Finch then blasted Mitchell Santner straight to Williamson at extra cover. Australia couldn't afford any more freak dismissals, even as the asking rate surged. Mitchell Marsh tried to make the most of what remained of the Powerplay, but the wily Southee was running his fingers over the ball often, and Marsh picked out deep midwicket.

Warner's early departure had meant the New Zealand spinners Santner and Ish Sodhi, both of whom turn the ball away from the right-handers, had a succession of them to target. They sent down seven overs in tandem, and Sodhi bowled his four on the trot, for a collective return of 4 for 60 in eight overs. The ball was holding up off the pitch, and there was some turn as well. Marcus Stoinis failed to clear the longer boundary, falling to a sensational diving catch from Phillips, and Tim David failed to clear the shorter one, both off Santner.

Glenn Maxwell, intent on switch-hitting the spinners over extra cover, succeeded for a while but eventually lost his leg stump to Sodhi, extinguishing Australia's slender hopes.

Brief scores: New Zealand 200 for 3 (Conway 92*, Allen 42) beat Australia 111 (Maxwell 28, Southee 3-6, Santner 3-31) by 89 runs

Catching, Curran fifer save the day for England

PRATYUSH RAJ
OCTOBER 22

England batters looked scratchy in a modest chase of 113 against Afghanistan yet their brilliant catching and fine bowling led by medium Sam Curran were takeaways for Jos Buttler's team. Curran ran through the lower order to extinguish hopes of Afghanistan using the long handle in the death overs. England's acrobatic fielding was a standout feature of their time out in the field during this Group 1 Super 12 game.

It looked like England fielders were competing with each other to win the catch of the tournament prize.

Livingstone took a blinder after making tremendous ground, then produced a full-length dive to dismiss Hazratullah Zazai.

Moeen Ali ran backwards at extra cover and held his nerve under the lights to get rid of Ibrahim Zadran.

Adil Rashid ran back towards long-on and pouched the ball in his fingertips after leaning forward to take the catch of Najibullah Zadran. Jos Buttler might have pulled off the best catch of the night with a one-handed dive down the leg-side. He leapt to his left to gather at full stretch after Nabi tickled Wood's short ball behind.

On the other hand, Afghanistan dropped two catches with only 112 on the board. Alex Hales was the batter on both occasions. However, Hales soon ran out of luck, with Fazalhaq Farooqi taking an excellent running catch.

Curran five for

Mark Wood (2/23) bowled the fastest four-over spell in the T20 World Cup. Every ball bowled by Mark Wood was above 140 kph. His average speed of 149 kph, which is also a new record. Wood struck with the first ball, which nipped away at 146kph to Rahmanullah Gurbaz, who edged behind to Jos Buttler. He welcomed Ibrahim Zadran with a 154 kph thunderbolt, the quickest of the match.

Curran finished with career-best figures of 5/10, the best for England's men in T20 internationals. In the span of 12 balls, Afghanistan lost five wickets for just three runs, with Curran being their destroyer-in-chief. His previous best was 3/25 against Australia in Canberra in the lead up to this tournament.

Curran came to bowl in the eighth over and was welcomed with a boundary by Usman Ghani. He returned to claim the wicket of Ibrahim Zadran in the 12th over and then came back at the death to pick up four wickets and complete his five-for.

Curran was on a hat-trick after removing Azmatullah Omarzai and Rashid Khan off the last two balls of the 18th over. But he did manage to claim three in four when Ghani



Sam Curran finished with career-best figures of 5/10 - the best for England's men in T20 internationals.

AP

slapped one straight to Liam Livingstone at the deep point in the 20th over. He then rounded up the Afghanistan collapse by dismissing Fazalhaq Farooqi, who ended up slicing one to David Malan at a backward point.

Not a perfect chase
Defending a modest total, the Afghans made a game out of it but England eventually completed the task in 18.1 overs. England never looked in a hurry to complete the chase. Jos Buttler and Alex Hales looked to hit everything but never got their timing right. Ben Stokes looked out of touch with the bat during his brief stay at the crease. However, he bowled his full quota for the first time in 12 T20 international games, going back to February 2020.

David Malan took up too many deliveries during his 30-ball 18. Liam Livingstone remained unbeaten on 29 to see his team through.

Brief Scores: Afghanistan: 112 all out in 19.4 overs (Ibrahim Zadran 30, Usman Ghani 30; Sam Curran 5/10, Mark Wood 2/23, Ben Stokes 2/19) lost to England: 113 for 5 in 18.1 overs (Liam Livingstone 29 not out; Rashid Khan 1/17, Mohammad Nabi 1/16, Mujeeb Ur Rahman 1/22)

BRIDGE

Dealer: South Vulnerable: North/South

NORTH		WEST		NORTH		EAST		SOUTH	
♠ 8				1♠		Pass		Pass	
♥ QJ643									
♦ Q86		Pass	1NT	Pass				2H	
♣ Q8674		Pass	Pass	Pass					
EAST									
♠ AJ742									
♥ A5									
♦ K942									
♣ K2									

West leads the nine of hearts and East plays two round of hearts, dummy winning the second, West following with the eight. So South has four hearts and most likely, five spades. At the next trick dummy leads the singleton eight of spades. How are you going to get the maximum number of tricks? The Westhand: S-103H-98 D-J753C-AJ1065 The Southhand: S-K965H-K1072D-A10C-93 Your best play is to play low. Do not take your ace. I imagine that more than ninety percent of defenders would take the ace and ninety percent would be wrong.

It is likely that South has the king and queen of spades. If he does, he gets one of his high spades if you play low and he gets both of his high spades if you take your ace. It is likely that South has the king and queen of spades. If he does, he gets one of his high spades if you play low and he gets both of his high spades if you take your ace. Say, hypothetically, that your partner has the K3 of spades. If you take your ace declarer will ruff a spade in dummy later and your partner's king will drop, setting up South's queen. This is just one of the many layouts where taking your ace will cost you. Does playing low always gain you a trick?

Not necessarily, but playing low does gain you a trick more often than not.

If East does NOT take his ace, South will end up with: One spade trick. Four heart tricks in dummy. One diamond trick. Two ruffs in the South hand. A total of eight tricks. If East DOES take his ace, South will end up with: Two spade tricks. Four heart tricks in dummy. One diamond trick. Two ruffs in the South hand. A total of nine tricks. On this hand you can not defeat 2H but you can hold it to two instead of three. Dealer: East Vulnerable: None

NORTH		EAST	
♠ 652		♠ 109	
♥ Q3		♥ AJ10942	
♦ 7632		♦ 65	
♣ J8643		♣ 743	
WEST		NORTH	
5♥		2H	
Pass		6♦	
		Pass	
		Pass	

East opened an aggressive weak twobid in hearts, a bid I would not object to since the hearts are so good. South bid 3D and West raised to 5H. West is up to something but whatever it is, North was not daunted. He bid 6D. East has no reason to do anything and passes to allow West to make the last decision. West passes and leads the six of hearts and dummy plays low. What happens next?

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip. It ain't as bad as you think. It will _____ in the morning. -Colin Powell (4,6)

NPEER	BEMULT
<div></div>	<div></div>
BROOT	CDEEBK
<div></div>	<div></div>

Answer: It ain't as bad as you think. It will look better in the morning. - Colin Powell

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2396

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- Propensity (10)
- Gun shop purchase (4)
- Voluntary (10)
- Exultation (4)
- Enfeebling or weakening (12)
- Portal (7)
- Grade or level (7)
- Tract of tableland (7)
- The French mansion (7)
- Noble (12)
- Charged particles (4)
- Flat and even (10)
- Meeting point (4)
- Deftly (US) (10)

DOWN

- Clothes-pins (4)
- Harem rooms (4)
- Classical emblem of victory (6,6)
- Convert into glass (7)
- Having to do with bulls (7)
- Increased in number (10)
- Oil (10)
- Russian pianist and composer (12)
- Adjustment (10)
- Politically neutral (10)
- Reveal (7)
- Pertaining to the skull (7)
- Web-site language (4)
- Do in (4)

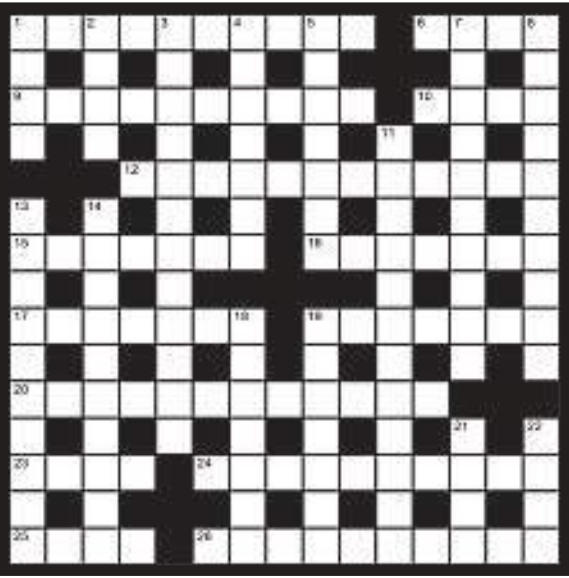
CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- There's drawing room in there (10)
- The bench reveals a criminal record (4)
- Best to have gained from corporal punishment? (10)
- Will the last electrically charged atom be used by the Jewish nation? (4)
- A poem about their marriage might make Paul hate Mimi (12)
- Save for this, the cone is broken - dear me! (7)
- Hidden danger that may trap miners (7)
- Game requiring select players to hold an ace (7)
- Directs one to put an E in 'jackets' (7)
- Postponing a mistake on the green

DOWN

- Old King, cunning, endlessly hoarding gold (4)
- German banker emerges from hotel bedroom (4)
- Pride of the navy in competition (12)
- To have a sly bet is far from nice (7)
- Make light of palm air (3,4)
- It started with girl meets boy at rio-perhaps (10)
- A Menshevik of note - a heel (10)
- A swift bottle drunk, then keen debate (6,2,4)
- Print piece that can be made to show understanding (10)
- Viewers should hold on to catch "The Poets" (10)
- Unusually enraged (7)



- 7 (7,2,3)
23. Put down three points, about five days before (4)
24. High-fibre cereal served up with a flourish! (10)
25. Time to request job (4)
26. Clearly not schoolboy teams (5,5)

19. Somehow I learnt that it pertains to ocular membrane (7)
21. Wearing boots, pressing hard into turf (4)
22. Said differently when belonging to the girl? (4)

Solutions to 2395

QUICK CLUES Across: 1 Catastrophic, 10 Oersted, 11 Estonia, 12 Taboo, 13 Standard, 15 Recognised, 16 Atul, 18 Heel, 20 Desolation, 22 Virology, 24 Expel, 26 Ganesha, 27 Iceberg, 28 Solzhenitsyn. Down: 2 Aerobic, 3 Although, 4 Tide, 5 Over the top, 6 Hit on, 7 Contact, 8 Doctor Zhivago, 9 Daddy-long-legs, 14 Mimeograph, 17 Easement, 19 Errands, 21 Impiety, 23 Lysol, 25 Lion. CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 1 Emeraldgreen, 10 In-crowd, 11 Reissue, 12 Acerb, 13 Hitherto, 15 Poetic vein, 16 Glut, 18 Alps, 20 Antagonism, 22 Attested, 24 Jason, 26 Campani, 27 Line-out, 28 Club together. Down: 2 Machete, 3 Rhomboid, 4 Ludo, 5 Germicidal, 6 Erith, 7 Nostril, 8 Disappearance, 9 Decontaminate, 14 Evangelist, 17 Conjoint, 19 Potomac, 21 Inshore, 23 Snafu, 25 Slug.

If it's your Birthday

Sunday October 23

A personal commitment can be relied upon, even if it comes from someone you have known for a short time. It's all about having faith in your own judgement.

Monday October 24

The next twelve months could see you altering your professional perspectives, expanding your family horizons and developing your global contacts.

Tuesday October 25

This is an extraordinary moment, a time to review your life, looking at how you can avoid repeating your mistakes.

Wednesday October 26

You are in a better position to take the most of the coming year. Your strength is the determination, your weakness, to put all your eggs in one basket.

Thursday October 27

Passions could run high. You'll soon be looking far afield for your thrills. The coming year holds out the prospect of two new developments. One finds you searching for adventure.

Friday October 28

Financial matters are crucial and agreements, purchases and choices you make now will shape your prosperity over the coming year. You must make a final choice in a personal matter.

Saturday October 29

Saturnine alignments are advising you to be sensible in every area of life. According to all current indications, you will be pursuing a practical path over the coming twelve months, with excellent results.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD



ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
Your principle planetary patterns still focus on money.

There are no indications of long-term changes so, if you're coping with major personal or professional complications, these are almost certainly a hang-over from the past.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

At last you're coming out of your shell, and when your confidence is at its height, you may surprise friends by your willingness to take the lead. Your mood is generally lively and yet you are still keeping your desires to yourself.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

You can afford to take a fairly laid-back approach. After all, everything - or almost everything - is going your way. You will soon have a spring in your step and a winning way with words. You may, though, forget the facts, especially as Friday approaches.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

You have to lay down the law at home, but you can't actually make other people obey your every word. All you can do is rely on the power of persuasion - and hope against hope that it succeeds. If you're chasing a new job, a friend will point you in the right direction.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

You may press on with professional and other worldly ambitions and don't listen to people who seem determined to undermine you. And if you can get away from your usual environment for a few days, you'll do yourself a power of good.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

Sometimes you feel as if you're in danger of being left behind. You probably imagine that other people are making all the running, which doesn't seem particularly fair. However, you may actually benefit by hanging back and letting partners take the lead.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Marital matters look light and bright, but are heading for passion towards the end of the week. And when that happens you really can't say whether the simplest matters will work out as planned. The Moon, which heightens your emotions, is heading straight for sensitive regions of your chart.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

Positive financial news is on the way, and you'll soon hear the details. There might be a few surprises, although by and large, the results should be as expected. At work, though, you may have to wait another month for a decision on that new responsibility.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)

Those two tough planets, Jupiter and Saturn, are pulling you in two directions. So, you can't really be blamed if you feel stuck between irreconcilable options. Good, solid family relationships are a priority in the meantime.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

This week is almost perfect for leisure, pleasure and love. All you have to do is clear your diary and make sure that you're in the right place at the right time. At home, there's still a chance of a surprise party or a little extra colour and comfort.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Nothing stays the same for ever. In fact, you're coming up to rush hour in the romantic department. But why exactly are partners so impatient or irritable? Mars, planet of war, is also stirring up hidden feelings, encouraging you to stand up for yourself.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Hope springs eternal. At least that's what we're told! But never forget that simple motto when you feel weighed down by the cares of the world, or just plain worn out. This is not an easy moment for all you delicate souls, but faith in the future will now definitely see you through

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Spreading Smiles This Deepawali

State Govt Opens Doors To Regularise Contractual Personnel



“Heartiest Deepawali greetings and good wishes to the people of the State. May this festival bring happiness and prosperity in everyone’s life. Our government had made promises to the people and adopted the Manifesto as a Policy Document. One of the important promises was – **bringing the contractual personnel working with various departments within the ambit of the Rajasthan Contractual Hiring to Civil Post Rules, 2022. We took a historical decision to open doors to regularise them.** This decision, taken with a humanitarian approach, will ensure social security of about 1,10,000 contractual personnel. I congratulate all the contractual personnel who will benefit from this decision and I wish them a bright future.”

Ashok Gehlot, Chief Minister, Rajasthan

1.10 lakh contractual personnel are going to be regularised

- In Budget 2021-22, announced to make department-wise cadre for contractual personnel
- In Budget 2022-23, honorarium was hiked by 20%
- **For the first time, Rajasthan Contractual Hiring to Civil Post Rules, 2022 implemented**
 - ▶ Transparency in recruitment of contractual personnel
 - ▶ Complete compliance with reservation rules
 - ▶ After completion of 5 years, confirmation of contractual employee when posts are regularised
 - ▶ Honorarium of contractual employees will be determined considering the post as equivalent to a permanent post
 - ▶ Provision of Special Pay Protection

Old Pension Scheme benefit on regularisation

Department of Education – 41423 (Education personnel, para teachers, gram panchayat assistants, English medium teachers)

Rural Development and Panchayati Raj – 18326 (Rajeevika, various posts in MGNREGS)

Department of Minority Affairs – 5697 (Madarsa para teachers)

Medical & Health Department and Medical Education Department (Various posts including N.H.M. personnel)

Total 1,10,279 Contractual Personnel

Department of Information and Public Relations, Rajasthan

I don't want to use the word pressure... I want to use that word challenge a little more. This Pakistani team is a very challenging team. All the Pakistani teams that I've played from 2007 until 2022, they've been a good team

ROHIT SHARMA, INDIA CAPTAIN

The big one at the G

Team India went back to the drawing board after the loss to Pakistan at last year's T20 World Cup but big test is today



EXPRESS IN MELBOURNE

DEVENDRA PANDEY
OCTOBER 22

SINCE SHAHEEN Shah Afridi bowled KL Rahul, trapped Rohit Sharma in front and finished off the job when he had captain Virat Kohli miscue a bouncer to the keeper last October in a Group game of the T20 World Cup, a lot has changed in Indian cricket.

Kohli's reign as captain ended soon, Rohit Sharma was handed the reins, Rahul Dravid took Ravi Shastri's place in the coach's hot seat. A slew of experiments followed, in terms of personnel, batting posts but India have stuck to the tried and tested and the few changes have been brought about because of injury.

What has changed though is the Indian team's batting approach – from keeping wickets in hand and waiting to accelerate towards the second half of an innings to going all out from the word go.

Over the past year, what has also changed is the shift in balance of power, ever so



The India camp during their net session in Melbourne on Saturday.

BCCI

slightly in Pakistan's favour.

Pakistan's 10-wicket win in last year's edition was their first in World Cups against India. The two teams played twice at the Asia Cup and finished 1-1. Both were close contests – India won the first match with two balls to spare, Pakistan crossed the line with a delivery left. But by reaching the final, where they lost to a spirited Sri Lanka, Pakistan came off looking better. A third contest between the teams in less than two months is a fan's delight. On Sunday, India and Pakistan will face off at the 100,000 capacity Melbourne Cricket Ground in a sold-out game of this edition of the T20 World Cup.

Captain Sharma, tasked with ending

India's trophy drought at ICC events, spoke about India's failure to reach the semi-finals a year ago making the team think tank get back to the drawing board. "We addressed what went wrong for us in the last World Cup and kept everything in mind whatever happened in the last World Cup, all leading up to the last World Cup. We wanted to address all the situations, all the problems, all the issues. But we managed to get some of those right for sure. So pretty much standing in a good position right now," Sharma said on the eve of the game.

The Indian team prepared a roadmap for ending the trophy drought. The team meetings not only became longer but also more frequent; powerpoint presentations and data

analysis became a norm. Batsmen and bowlers spoke to each other to share ideas.

The players were also asked to move out of their comfort zone. Suryakumar Yadav was asked to open against West Indies four times. He was promoted to keep him prepared in case he had to open at any point in time. Yadav was not the only one being challenged. Rishabh Pant and Deepak Hooda too were asked to open. Ahead of the game, Sharma said the key was to back players.

"Giving the boys the freedom and security was very important. To let them know that they can do the job for us, without them worrying about their place in the team. If your mindset is right, you can go out there and

perform fearlessly. Winning wasn't as important as that for us in the lead up to this World Cup," Sharma said.

Post India's exit from last year's T20 World Cup, the team management took a conscious decision to fly early to Australia while a second-string side played South Africa in the One-Day Internationals at home.

Sharma said the team management wanted to give players as much time as possible in Australia ahead of the World Cup. The team landed in Australia two weeks in advance and played warm-up games. "This was a conscious decision from the BCCI and team management after the last tournament. We knew where the World Cup was happening, so we wanted to come here (early) and get used to the conditions. A lot of the guys in the team had not played before in Australia. That was a key decision. Getting acclimated to the time zone. I thought the way we prepared in Perth, we were lucky enough to get that time," the Indian opener said. The Indian captain also said that he was open to changing the playing XI as the tournament progresses. "I certainly want to keep my mind open on playing XI. We don't want to get stuck with one particular way of making your playing XI. We want to be open about it. If we have to change one or two players in every game, we've got to be ready for it," Sharma said.

The changes could be made depending on how a player stacks up against a particular player from the opposition. "That's how we have prepared all our guys as well. The message was given long before we came here that if we need to change one or two players for the match-ups, for what sort of conditions we are playing in, guys will be ready for it. So, it's not a last-minute thing where we are changing the players. This is the talk that has happened in the team long way back, and guys are ready for it."

CUP BRIEFS

Cricket WI chief promises 'thorough postmortem'

Cricket West Indies (CWI) president Ricky Skerritt has slammed the batters for their "untimely shot selections" and promised a "thorough postmortem" of the team's humiliating early exit from the T20 World Cup in Australia. "I am deeply disappointed with the performance results of our team in Australia and I appreciate the sense of utter frustration that is being experienced by many," said Skerritt in a statement posted on CWI's website. "The ongoing inability of our batsmen to prevail over opposing slow bowling continued to be an obvious weakness in Australia, and untimely shot selections seem to be deeply embedded in the T20 batting culture of our senior team." **PTI**

Stokes criticises 'stupid' boundary markers after injury

England all-rounder Ben Stokes has slammed the "stupid" size of boundary marking sponges at stadiums after seamer Reece Topley was ruled out of the Twenty20 World Cup having suffered a leg injury by stepping on one during a fielding drill. "It's stupid. Unfortunately, it's taken one of our players to be ruled out ... to make people notice," Stokes said. "I'm pretty sure it's something they can look at but you know what it's like - everybody wants to get their names on somewhere. But you look at player safety and the fact he's stood on it and it's ruptured ligaments and now he's out of the World Cup - it should be looked at. I'm devastated for him. We're all just absolutely gutted for him that he's missed out ... because he would have been one of the first names on the team sheet." **REUTERS**

Moments that can decide the game: Afridi's opening spell, hard length from pacers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
OCTOBER 22

INDIA-PAKISTAN games aren't for the faint-hearted. It is not just the players' skills, but temperament also plays a significant factor in the outcome. There will be match-ups and The Indian Express argues about the crucial moments which might play a big role in the T20 World Cup clash between India and Pakistan. If the rain gods stay away, we will have another cracker at the MCG on Sunday.

Shaheen's first over

There are lots of questions regarding Pakistan's ace speedster Shaheen Shah Afridi, who is making a comeback after a long injury layoff. Is he back to his best? Will he have the same impact as he had in the last T20 World Cup against India in the UAE? The simple answer is to ask Afghanistan's Rahmanullah Gurbaz.

In the warm-up match against Afghanistan, Afridi trapped Gurbaz with a brute of an inswinging yorker and the batter was carried off by the substitute fielders and was later taken for a scan. Very next ball, he almost took the wicket of Ibrahim Zadran, with the ball missing the off-stump by a whisker.

Exactly a year ago, in Dubai, Pakistan ended their winless streak against their arch-rivals, thrashing India by 10 wickets. And it was Shaheen Shah Afridi who set the tone for Pakistan's famous win. Rohit Sharma will never forget the unplayable delivery he faced. KL Rahul was done in by another in-ducker, the ball shaping in and going through the gate. It was Afridi's frontal assault that forced India on the back foot.

Come Sunday, the showstopper Afridi will again test the Indian openers. Shaheen's intensity in their pre-match warm-up served as an indication that the lanky pacer is back at his pomp and is ready to fire on all cylinders.

The hard-length experts

In stark contrast to Shaheen Afridi and Haris Rauf, another in-form bowler to watch out for in the middle and at the death, Bhuvneshwar Kumar looked pedestrian in Dubai. Indian bowlers hardly bowled on a good length and were thwarted by a heady mixture of Babar Azam's class and Mohammed Rizwan's smash.

The pitches in Australia will be different from Dubai. Bowlers who can bowl hard lengths will play a key role. For Pakistan, all their six pacers – Shaheen Afridi, Haris Rauf, Naseem Shah, Mohammad Hasnain, Mohammad Wasim Jr, and Shahnazwaz Durrani - can trouble the batters with pace and bounce. For India, Mohammed Shami and Hardik Pandya will enjoy the Australian conditions. Pandya and Bhuvneshwar Kumar had bounced out Pakistan batters in the first game in Asia Cup, and would be looking to



Last year, when Pakistan defeated India in the T20 World Cup in Dubai, it was Shaheen Shah Afridi who set the tone with his spell early on. PCB

exploit chink in the opposition's armor. In the recent series, England, in particular Mark Wood, did harass the Pakistani batters with his searing short-ones.

In India's warm-up match against Australia, KL Rahul and Suryakumar Yadav scored fluent half-centuries but the duo also got the taste of the extra bounce as both were hit on the helmet. Mitchell Starc bounced out Virat Kohli. Haris Rauf, who considers MCG as his home, will be looking forward to making life difficult for the Indian batters.

The finger spin arsenal

"In Australia, they attack with the finger spinners," former Pakistan captain Shoaib Malik had recently said on A Sports. "The left-arm orthodox spinners do well in Big Bash; they also get wickets. My BBL captain George Bailey used to use my off-spin even against two set batsmen. I gave him a stare once (laughs) and he said, 'no you have a better chance of taking wickets, run rate will drop automatically'."

In Mohammed Nawaz, Pakistan have just the arsenal Malik mentioned. With India having one too many right handers in their batting lineup, a spinner who can turn the ball away from them will be a big asset for Babar Azam and co. This, especially with the boundaries at the Melbourne Cricket Ground not the smallest ones to clear without pace on the ball.

The pitch being fresh would also mean more bounce being generated from the surface and sweep/reverse sweeps tougher to execute. Once considered owners of god-gifted wrists to easily manoeuvre spin bowling, India batters have found it hard to face them compared to pacers. Since 2021, spinners have had an economy of 8.06 against

Indian batters in the shorter format, whereas the pacers have conceded more (9.17).

Death bowling

Jasprit Bumrah averages one perfect yorker in two balls in T20, according to a CricViz stat. Injury to him made things complicated for India in the death bowling department. The bowling has been leaking a lot of runs at the death. Especially the 19th over which is the most crucial over of the innings.

In the recently concluded Asia Cup, the ever-reliable Bhuvneshwar Kumar gave away 19 and 14 runs against Pakistan and Sri Lanka in the 19th over in pressure situations. Which eventually cost the team the games that eliminated them from the tournament in the Super 4 round.

Harshal Patel, the specialist death bowler since coming back from injury, hasn't been great either. He has conceded more than 50 runs in his quota of four overs five times since his return most in a year by any Indian bowler. And in theory, his slower-ones are going to find it difficult to grip on bouncy Australian surfaces. For some reason, he is yet to show confidence on the dipping slower ones he possesses ala Dwayne Bravo, which could work even in Australia.

Both Bhuvni and Harshal have an economy of 9.54 and 10.73 at death respectively. The left-arm Arshdeep has been doing well with the ball but he alone cannot handle all the burden. The young Punjab bowler has an economy of 8.85 in the final phase of the innings.

On the other hand, Pakistan's death bowling is looking solid. Haris Rauf has been lethal. Rauf has a good yorker and slower ball up his sleeve. He hits the 150 kmph mark regularly and since 2020, Haris Rauf has had a death bowling economy of 7.78. Left-arm seamer Shaheen Afridi has an economy of 9.45 at death.

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